



**Service Notes**

Mrs. Walter Schweizer, Sr., has received word that her son, Pvt. Walter Schweizer, has arrived safely in the Philippines.

Hubert Richard McKerracher, 21, husband of Mrs. Stella McKerracher, 23651 Middlebelt Road, has just entered the Navy, and is now at Great Lakes, Illinois.

One hundred and fifty-five states, the District of Columbia, Canada, and Hawaii, have enrolled at the Pennsylvania State College for instruction under the Army Specialized Training Program. The majority of trainees, all of whom will study engineering, came to



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the College from infantry replacement training centers. Among them is Thomas R. Woodley of 17443 Louise Street, Farmington.

LST 512, now docked in Detroit, is of unusual interest to Farmington people, for it was on this ship that one of Farmington's service men, Donald Kosmiesky, spent four months in training. Don had hoped to come to Detroit with the boat, but he is now on patrol duty in the Pacific. The Kosmiesky family went to Detroit on Saturday and visited the ship, closely observing the living quarters where their son had spent part of his training period.

Private Mildred B. Pot, WAC, has been transferred to McGuire General Hospital in Richmond, Virginia, for a month's training in the ward. She writes that all the boys at this hospital are so cheerful that it makes one wonder how some people who are not ill, can find so much to grieve about.

Several hundred more survivors from U.S. warships sunk by enemy aerial action off Okinawa have logged in at Receiving Ship, Treasure Island, with graphic eyewitness accounts of how their ships fell prey to the last ditch aerial campaign the Japs have launched in a desperate attempt to maintain their dwindling hold on the strategic island. The latest group of survivors, now home on leaves, included those from the USS Swallow, a minesweeper with a long gallant record in Pacific warfare, and a large support landing craft, the USS LCS (L) (3) 33.

James H. Everly, PM 1/C, a member of the crew of the Abele, is now on leave at his home, 23724 Middlebelt Road. It was on this same ship that Tom Finn lost his life. The Abele, her survivors said, went down in a few minutes after receiving two hits from enemy planes while on patrol about 75 miles off the northern coast of Okinawa. The attacking planes were from a squadron of about 20 which was operating in the area. The attack took place on an April afternoon, the men reported. The weather was good and visibility

excellent. Most of the survivors floated around in the water for several hours before being picked up by nearby boats and a mine sweeper operating in the vicinity. Some of the Mannert L. Abele's men said Jap planes flew low to strafe the men in the water and one bomb was dropped resulting in several casualties among the helpless bluejackets struggling to save their lives.

The Abele was commissioned in July of 1944 and previously had served with distinction in the Iwo Jima operation. It was at Iwo, her men said, that the ship went so close to cover the advance of our troops that they told the captain "to put wheels on her and we'll take her right up on the beach."

Corporal Albert C. Sexton, originally from Georgia, and North Carolina, was in the Army for seven years, spending six years overseas, and is now discharged and will be living in Farmington for some time with an uncle, Nelson Sexton, of Griggs Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Wilson of Lakeway Drive have received word from their two sons, Pfc Amos and Pfc Victor Wilson, that they met in Germany and spent a day together. Victor is waiting for transportation home. He has 92 points.

William G. Fuller has advanced to aviation chief radio technician, USNR, at the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Virginia. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gen E. Fuller, 3871 North Road, and his wife, the former Dorothy E. Stahl, resides at 2619 Cadillac Boulevard, Detroit. Before entering the Navy, Fuller was employed by the Gar Wood Industries, Inc., of Detroit.

At least one medic in the Rail splitter Division—the 84th Infantry—knows how to grab a weapon, even if he's not allowed to use it. Eleven members of the 309th Medical Battalion's Company C, riding in jeeps along a country road near the River, passed through an area where they observed enemy soldiers on both sides of the road. Watching carefully, Sgt. Warren Kenyon of Chico, California, spotted a German heading for his rifle. Kenyon leaped from the jeep, ran to the German and quickly disarmed him. Others in the column included Private First Class Ernest Puerest of 20310 Shadyside Avenue.

Schwetzingen, Germany June 9, 1945  
Hello Folks:  
We will write to you for the first time together from this country, and you can bet your last dollar that it won't be the last time that we write together as we are only 25 miles apart and we can spend our evenings together if we are not busy.  
Well I guess that it is time to tell you what I am talking about. You see while I was in the show last night I had one of the boys

come in and tell me that my brother was here, and that was that. I needed so I went and found that it was Victor and he had come over on his motorcycle, and we spent the night together and then I went back with him so that he could get off for today and then we came back, so now we are writing this letter together so that it will be something new for you to hear from us both at the same time in one letter, but it will not be the last time.  
I got a letter from him yesterday at four and then at nine last night he was here, so you see that's around very fast when he beats the mail like that.  
Well if Clyde was only here our little family in Germany would be complete, but I guess that he is well and should be nearly ready to come home. I know that Victor is waiting for you to see the necessary points and is only sitting around waiting and I sure hope that he doesn't have to wait very long as he has been over here long enough now.

Well we have to close for this time as you call that I'm running out of space, so we say so long for now, and we send our love.  
As always, your sons,  
Victor and Amos.

The above letter was received on Tuesday by Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Wilson, 23918 Lakeway, from their two sons, who had just met in Germany.

Thirty one men of a veteran infantry regiment, including Technical Sergeant Walter C. Garchow; Company K, whose mother is Mrs. August Garchow of 2972 Seven Mile Road, received the Silver Star for gallantry and intrepidity in action at a formal regimental review just before embarking on the second Mindanao campaign. The awards were made by Major General R. H. Woodruff, division commander.

The number of decorations given at this ceremony was the highest presented at any since the regiment left the home port for overseas duty on December 16, 1941. In its nearly three and a half years in the Pacific theatre the regiment has seen the hardest sort of service from Australia through Goodenough Island, the Tanamerah Bay-Hollandia, New Guinea, operations to the Philippines. Already combat veterans when the regiment landed on Leyte Beach on October 20, 1944, the regiment had 78 days of continuous combat in that campaign to relieve the first island of the Philippines, a record that stood until eclipsed by the 6th Division in the Luzon campaign.

Some of the decorations were won in the Luzon operations of the outfit where it spearheaded the 8th Division in its landing at San Anonio, Zamboaleg Province, and its assault at the top of Bataan Peninsula through the terrific fighting at Zig Zag Pass. Other awards were earned when elements of the regiment made a successful landing at Merivatae at the southern tip of Bataan and made an assault landing on Corregidor a day later in support of the 502nd Paratroopers. Other awards and decorations are pending.

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**Don't Split Wood**  
To avoid splitting wood when driving a nail, file or grind point of nail to a chisel edge and drive the nail with flattened side parallel to the grain.

**LIVONIA COMMUNITY SCOUTING NEWS**

Information about Scouts or Scouting may be obtained by calling Walter E. Dixon, Farmington 1128.

The Boy Scouts of America conducted a very successful Camporee at Riverside Park, Plymouth, on June 16th and 17th. All of the Scouts were from district seven, which is the northwest section of Wayne County west of Inkster Road and north of Joy Road. Thirteen troops were represented. One hundred fifty-one scouts and forty-one scouters registered. Ten others were served as directors, judges and cooks making a total of two hundred and two men and boys in attendance.

The tents were set up Saturday under rather difficult conditions. There were plenty of wet spots in the park.

Several projects were on the program, some of which were building of a Campfire Circle, the putting up of a permanent flag pole, and the making of Totem Poles. All worked on the Circle and Flag Pole project and each patrol worked on patrol Totem poles.

Saturday evening's Camp fire program was attended by a large number of friends and families of the scouts and scouters. An impressive Indian Camp fire lighting ceremony started the program. This was followed by a talk given by the Old Traveller of the A.A.A. Auto Club. This held adults as well as Scouts spellbound. Mr. John Dargore played several selections on the accordion, then each troop entertained with a skit and a session of Community singing was enjoyed by all.

The Master of Ceremonies was Mr. S. Strong of Plymouth whose troop, led by him, presented the Campfire Lighting Ceremony.

Sunday's program began with a Flag raising followed by Church services. The Catholic boys went to Mass at the Felician Sisters, and Rev. Sanders of the Methodist Church in Plymouth came out to the Camp and conducted services for the Protestants.

Breakfast after Church was followed by a Nature Study contest. Each patrol was given a list of twelve trees and they had an hour to go out and find such trees and bring back a leaf and identify it. The Lion and Panther patrols of RG-1 and the Flaming Arrow patrol of JG-1 of Livonia community each had eleven of them and the Flying Eagle Patrol P-4, Plymouth Community and the Hawks of JG-1, Livonia, each had ten.

Dinner was followed by Project time and then games conducted by Mr. Adams and Mr. Charter. While the games were in progress the judges under the leadership of Mr. Adams, checked the camps for camping.

The awards were S-1 first, RG-1 second. Both of these were from Livonia Community. P-4 of Plymouth was third and E-1 of Livonia was fourth.

Presentation of the awards followed the games and each boy

**SCHWEIZERS ENTERTAIN FOR VISITING SAILOR**

Mrs. Walter Schweizer was hostess to a gathering of relatives and friends on Saturday, June 16, honoring her nephew, Paul Maxian, S 3/c, who is in Detroit with the L.S.T. 512.  
Mr. and Mrs. Schweizer and son, Allen, Mrs. Irene West and daughter, Julia Marie, visited the ship and were personally escorted through by Seaman Maxian. Among the interesting features was a replica of the Pacific Junco and both American and captured Japanese equipment.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Ross were Sunday guests at a family dinner at the home of their daughter, Mrs. F. O. Fernstrom in Detroit. Other guests were Rev. and Mrs. William Loveloy of Standish and Mr. and Mrs. John McClelland of Lake Orion and their families.  
Mr. and Mrs. John Westfall were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Westfall.

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