

FAMILY FOCUS

NEWS FROM WEST MIDLAND FAMILY CENTER



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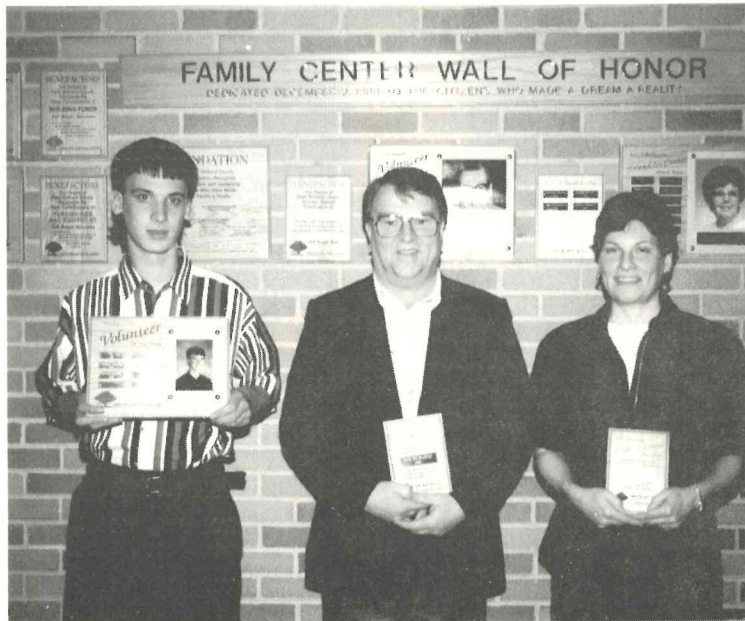
WMFC honors three at annual awards ceremony

New United Way grant supports T'NT program

WMFC has received a 1994 Venture Grant from United Way of Midland County which will help make possible a brand new summer program for teens.

Known as "T'NT" (Teens in Training), this program will reach a group of 30 youth ages 13-17 who are in need of a sense of direction for their future. T'NT will encompass a wide spectrum of learning activities, including the value and importance of volunteer work.

(See "Venture," page 4)



Proud recipients of the 1993 Achievement Awards were, left to right, Jason Simmons, Youth Volunteer of the Year, Gene Wejrowski, Orin Barrett, Volunteer of the Year, and Julie Arbury (representing Herbert H. Dow), Phyllis Breedlove Friend of the Center Award. More than 100 volunteers attended the ceremonies.

On Sunday, April 10, 110 loyal volunteers and benefactors shunned the beautiful spring weather to celebrate their efforts for the past year and to pay tribute to a few, special individuals.

WMFC's highest annual awards went to Herbert H. Dow, president of the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation; Jason Simmons, a seventh-grade student at Bullock Creek Middle School, and Gene Wejrowski, Quality Assurance manager at The Dow Chemical Co. Michigan Division.

Herbert H. Dow was the recipient of the Phyllis Breedlove Friend of the Center Award. "As president of The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, he lead the building project list of contributors with nearly \$1 million of support," said WMFC Executive Director Greg Dorrien. "But the story doesn't end there. The foundation has offered a \$600,000 challenge grant if the center (See "Achievement" page 3)

Sun-sational Program Benefits

Letter Carriers' effort benefits food pantry

Midland city letter carriers recently contributed their efforts in a food drive that benefitted the Emergency Food Pantry Network, of which the West Midland Family Center is a member. Residents of the city of Midland were asked to leave non-perishable food items in their mailboxes, which were picked up by the letter carriers. Once collected, the items were distributed to various Food Pantries, which help families in need of emergency food supplies.

We would like to extend a big "thank you" to everyone who contributed to this effort, and especially to the United States Postal Workers who made this drive such a success.

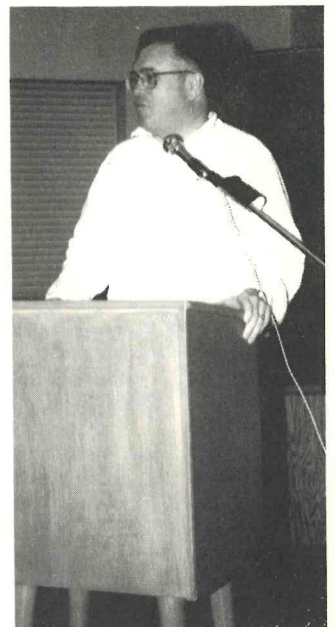
community sale raises \$2,000

If you needed a \$10 bicycle, a 1956 calendar or a jig saw puzzle with almost all of the pieces, then you missed your opportunity. The first annual Community Rummage Sale, co-sponsored by the Midland Daily News, was held May 20 & 21 and raised \$2,000 with all of the proceeds benefiting the Sun-sational Summer Program.

"While the original goal was to make as much as possible, I came to view the event as a wonderful way of redistributing goods to many of our regular users," said program director Gail Crosby. "So many people got terrific clothes and household appliances, that I began to view the event as a fund-raiser and a community service. It turned out to be a very nice event for all the volunteers who helped organize and supervise this event, especially the kids who helped with the mammoth job of cleanup," Crosby added.

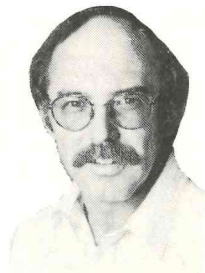
Center Director Greg Dorrien had pledged to shave his head if the event raised \$5,000. When asked if further fund-raisers would be planned he said he would "seek assistance from church groups and civic organizations. One thing we don't want to do is cut the Summer Program. It is very beneficial to the children, so we will use every avenue at our disposal to make sure the program is directed as planned."

He also thanked the Midland Daily News for their excellent cooperation in promoting the sale.



President's Corner

Ralph E. Wirtz



We, as a community, have at our fingertips the ability to change the lives of people for the better.

Sometimes, one person caring is all it takes.

And we have that. There were more than 110 caring people at the center in April for the Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony.

Sometimes, having the ability to help another person is all it takes.

And we have that. We have a marvelous center that is rich in resources provided by the community. The board and staff at the center feel there is nothing that can't be done if the need is recognized.

But, there is always a need to be filled, recognized or not. And we need people to help fill those needs.

Some people already are helping and with them they bring a wealth of experience, talent and training that WMFC could not buy.

Others, such as some of our teen-agers, are just beginning to know the meaning of caring.

Still others need a little nudge to get them going.

Fred Honorkamp, a vice president at Dow Corning Corp., got that nudge a few years back in Vietnam.

Fred, the keynote speaker at the volunteer awards dinner, was a helicopter pilot in

Vietnam and anyone who knows anything about Vietnam knows that the lifespan of helicopter pilots was measured in seconds, not years.

I'll let him tell you his story, someday. It's fascinating. Let's suffice it here to say that 26 times after his helicopter was shot down in a rice paddy in Vietnam, he should have been dead. He counted them; he still can remember those times, vividly.

He faced death 26 times, but won each time. When he was rescued, wounded, he could have wallowed in self-pity.

Yet he chose not to. He chose to live, to care about others, to balance work, family, religion, charity, whatever it is he does. And he chose to help others gain a balance in their lives.

Fred touched some lives at dinner that night in April. He cares and he has the ability to help other people.

Some people may not think that's much, but I do.

Sometimes that's all it takes.



Bubble Hockey is the newest game in the activity room, thanks to the generosity of ReMax of Midland.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Summer Program Registration	June 2
Senior Sunday Dinner	June 5
Martial Arts Class Starts	June 6
Sand Volleyball League Mgrs. Mtg.	June 6
SUNsational Summer Program Starts	June 21
Teens in Training Program Starts	June 21
Immunizations	June 22
Senior Monthly Potluck Dinner	June 27
Senior Sunday Dinner	July 3
Sand Volleyball League Starts	July 8
Commodities Distribution	July 20
Senior Monthly Potluck	July 25
Immunizations	July 27
Special Marathon Charitable Games	July 31

Grant provides opportunities for WMFC

The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation believes in the mission of the center. To demonstrate their commitment, they have offered a challenge that, if fulfilled, will go a long way towards making sure funding is always available for youth, adult and senior citizen activities. The center will receive \$3 for every \$2 that is given to our Programs Endowment Fund, up to a maximum of \$600,000. The challenge is for us to raise \$400,000.

WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT FUND?

An endowment fund is where the original value of the gift is never spent. It is held permanently and invested. The earnings off the fund are used to provide program activities annually. The beauty of the challenge grant can be seen in the following

example. Teacher Jane donated \$100 to the Programs Endowment fund. The contribution is tax deductible. It is matched with \$150 from the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation grant and that \$100 contribution is worth \$250 to us. We invest it and assume it earns 5 percent.

The earnings that are available to provide activities would be \$12.50 each year from now until the center ceases to exist. Over the next 20 years it will have provided \$250 program support. Over the next 100 years it provides \$1,250. It's easy to see why many people believe an endowment is the most enlightened gift a person can give. After 8 years, we will have spent an amount equal to the original \$100 contribution, yet we still will be receiving \$12.50 every year — forever.

If this type of gifting is logi-

cal to you, you may want to give to the Programs Endowment Fund. If you do, you will be ensuring that our mission — "To develop a sense of individual worth ... and strengthen the family" will be continued in good economic times as well as in bad economic times.

HOW WE STAND

Individuals and organizations who have pledged or contributed to support the Programs Endowment Fund Challenge Grant goal of \$400,000:

Mrs. Dorothy Arbury	\$206,900
The Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation	40,000
Vada B. Dow Trust	20,000
Herbert & Junia Doa Foundation	2,000
Consumers Power Co.	1,000
Anonymous gift	100
Total	\$270,000

WMFC Directors and Staff

OFFICERS

President	Ralph E. Wirtz
Vice Pres.	Joe Dufort
Secretary	Jim Burlingame
Treasurer	Richard Furlow
Trustees	Linda Kellogg

DIRECTORS

Jim LaBean	Sue Thumma
Jim Burlingame	Orrin Barrett
Charles Infante	
Joe Vanderkelen	

STAFF

Exec. Dir.	Greg Dorrien
Prog. Dir.	Lisa Panepento
Off. Mang.	Kahren O'Brien
Maint. Sr.	Gerald Burkett
Bldg Sr.	Diane Dauer
Fam. Dir.	Gail Crosby
Teen Dir.	Jennifer Holcomb
Rept./Sec.	Judy Wirtz
EAL Prog.	Tracy Meister



Jennifer Holcomb, Teen Director at WMFC, gives special instruction to one of our "Tiny Tumblers" while another eagerly awaits her turn on the mat. This is one of the most popular programs with small fry.



The Tuesday Red All-Star team defeated the Wednesday Night White All-Star team in an exciting triple overtime game 88-86. The Red Team is pictured "on top," with the White team below.

GM Masonry, Bushey's Bar and Domino's Pizza shared the Wednesday Night League title. Domino's finished second in the post-season tournament.



Zacharias and Norisez named Honorary Directors

Achievement...

(Continued from page 1)

can raise \$400,000 of matching funds." These funds will be restricted in the center's Endowment Fund and will help assure that there always will be some money available for programs regardless of the community's economic condition. "Mr. Dow has a keen interest in supporting activities that go well beyond the city limits and West Midland Family Center is very fortunate that he does," Dorrien said.

Jason Simons received the **Youth Volunteer of the year Award**. Anyone visiting the center is liable to see Jason busy sweeping or shoveling the walks, cleaning the yard or help individuals with donated food or clothing. Jason has never said "no" to a volunteer project and he is an excellent role model for other youth who use the center.

Gene Wejrowski was the recipient of the **Orrin Barrett Volunteer of the year Award**. Gene has been the co-chairman of the EAL College Opportunity Board of Control since its inception in 1988. "Gene has given nights, weekends and taken time away from work to help organize and show support for the program. Gene has worked diligently to set up processes so that when he does eventually end his volunteer role, the program will be

able to run efficiently. Win Zacharias and Charles Norisez also were made honorary members of the Board of Directors for their combined 18 years of service. Zacharias was president of the board from 1988 through 1992 and is best remembered for putting together the team of professional volunteers who led the new building project. Norisez joining the board in 1983 and has led numerous committees but is best known as "Mr. Bingo." In 10 years of operating the weekly bingo program Norisez only missed a half a dozen times. "When Norisez stepped down as bingo chairman, it took eight people working as a committee to replace him," Dorrien said.

Honorkamp, a Dow Corning vice president, delivered his "You've Only Just Begun" talk, which is Dow Corning Speaker's Bureau's most requested speech. His message about taking charge of your own life by living with a purpose and a plan was well received by all.

If you missed this year's Appreciation Awards celebration, make a commitment to attend next April. It is a rewarding experience for everyone.

Celebrating You program Initiated



Celebrating You program a success

WMFC played host and co-sponsor to a very successful program for adolescent girls (11-15 years old) called "Celebrating You."

The Midland Adolescent Pregnancy Committee of the Midland County Child Protection Council initiated a pilot program that paired adolescent girls with college-age mentors and conducted eight group meetings to provide a variety of educational and fun activities. The goals of the program were to help improve self-esteem, teach life skills and help adolescent girls make important life decisions.

WMFC staff members Gail Crosby, Jennifer Holcomb and Diane Dauer helped recruit 32 program participants, while 11 college mentors vol-

unteered their time to help. Other important co-sponsors included Catholic Family Service, Church Women United, Kiwassee Kiwanis, Midland County Health Department, Midland Rotary Club, Mitten Bay Girl Scout Council and the Children's Trust Fund.

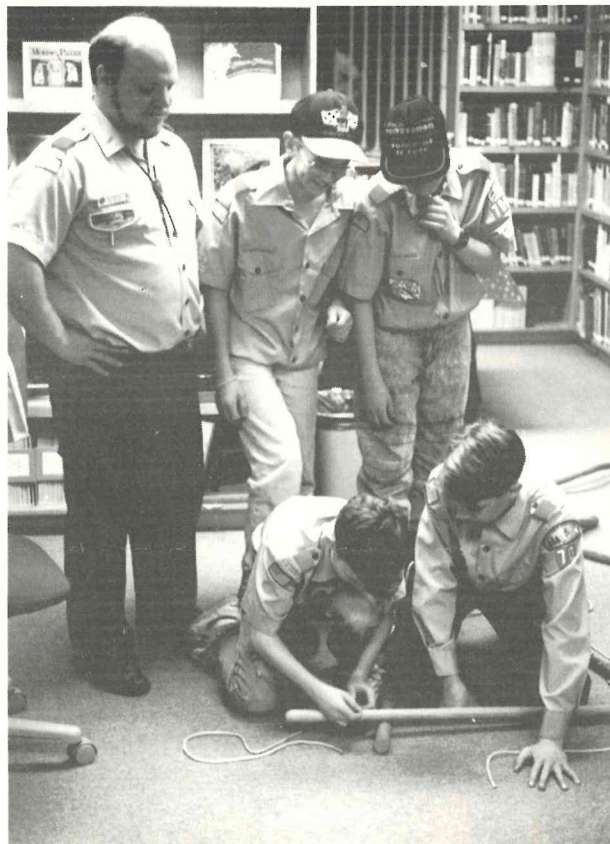
Venture ...

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To enter the program, teens will go through an application process and an interview, which will simulate a job interview. There will be numerous team and self-esteem building exercises throughout the program, including a weekend trip to Eagle Village.

Teens will receive two

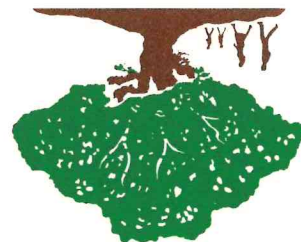
Scouts prepare for camping trip



weeks of special training, during which they will learn about volunteer services in the summer program at WMFC for youth ages 7-12. They will then serve as role models and program assistants during the summer for the younger children's program, while receiving on-going exposure to various career and educational options in the mid-

Michigan area. The highlight at the end of the program will include a trip to Cedar Point as a reward for a summer of hard work and dedication!

Applications for the program are available. Thanks to the United Way for the funding that will help make this program possible.



Non-profit organization

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