

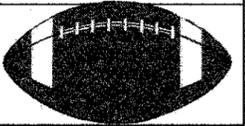
Banking on Rock and Roll

OBSERVER LIFE, SECTION C



ants take time out for yoga — Health, C6

Prep sports week 4
Catch all the action in sports — Section B



9/18

SUNDAY
September 18, 2005

WESTLAND Observer

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Vandals go on shooting spree in north end

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Shots rang out in a north Westland neighborhood early Thursday as vandals drove along three residential streets and opened fire on parked vehicles and street signs, police confirmed.

Bullets struck at least one house, but authorities said no one was injured as shots were fired on

Fremont, Beatrice and Gladys — usually quiet streets near Middlebelt and Ann Arbor Trail.

Gunfire started about 4 a.m. and then subsided until shots rang out again close to 6 a.m., according to police and residents.

"They were mostly shooting up signs and cars," police Lt. James Ridener said.

Valerie Wash, her husband and their two children, ages 11 and 14,

were asleep when they heard gunshots near their north-end home. "I literally fell out of bed," she said. "We heard a car go by, but it didn't have any lights on. The shots were loud, like they were close to our window."

"The kids were scared. They were like, 'Mom, we live in a good neighborhood.' It was very frightening," Wash said.

Police came to the neighborhood

after residents reported hearing a first round of shots. After officers left, vandals later resumed their gunfire.

"I heard five shots and then a pause, then three shots and another pause, and then three more shots," Wash said.

Shots were fired in the 8200 and 8300 areas of Fremont, the 8600 block of Beatrice and the 30000 area of Gladys, Ridener said.

Investigators have no suspects, but

they are urging anyone with information about the incident to contact the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600.

Police believe that the vandals were riding in a 1990s-model, gold-colored car, possibly a Mercury Cougar or a Ford Thunderbird, Ridener said.

It appeared that the shots were fired randomly rather than at any particular target, authorities said. dclem@oe.hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Katrina aftermath

Helping a friend in need

MHS takes in hurricane's furry victims

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Wagging their tails and showering their rescuers with kisses, 18 dogs arrived in Westland on Wednesday after narrowly surviving a hurricane that separated them from their owners.

One by one, these dogs — a German shepherd, a poodle, a golden retriever, a collie mix, a worried-looking Chihuahua and other survivors — exited a Michigan Humane Society vehicle that rolled in from storm-ravaged Louisiana.

"Our hope is to eventually reunite them with their owners," MHS spokeswoman Nancy Gunnigle said.

MHS employees Debby MacDonald and David Williams rescued a near-death Rottweiler just outside of New Orleans' historic French Quarter.

"She probably would have been dead the next day," Williams said. "She was really dehydrated. She was wandering aimlessly alongside the road, teetering on her feet."

Rescuers gave fluids to the Rottweiler and took her to a Louisiana State University veterinarian who gave her the medical attention she desperately needed.

"We are calling her Katrina," MHS rescuer Marta Diffen said.

A six-member team of MHS employees drove three rescue vehicles to Louisiana for a 10-day trip to save animals ranging from dogs to cats to chickens to goats.

They brought 18 dogs to the MHS Berman Center for Animal Care in Westland from a temporary animal shelter in Gonzales, La., where more than 2,000 pets were being housed.

However, MHS officials and the Michigan Partnership for Animal Welfare hope to raise \$35,000 to charter a cargo plane that would help them get many more animals out. To help, call (866) MHU-



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lisa McIntosh of Garden City, technician at the Michigan Humane Society's Berman Center in Westland, gets a welcome kiss from one of 18 dogs brought to Michigan from hurricane-ravaged Louisiana.

PLEASE SEE MHS, A2

Days long, nights short for firefighters working with FEMA

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Weary from long work hours and little sleep, two Westland firefighters worked Friday in Baton Rouge, La., to help distribute food to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

"While we're feeling tired and a little displaced, it's just a great feeling to be able to help," Fire Chief Michael Reddy said, speaking on his cell phone from a food distribution point.

Reddy and Westland firefighter Kelly Eggers had been unloading food from trucks, putting it in a warehouse and helping to prepare it for distribution to emergency shelters that house hurricane evacuees.

Any day, they expect they will be assigned to flood-ravaged New Orleans, where they will likely distribute food as evacuees start to return.

"It's a lot bigger in scope here than what I expected," Reddy said. "But, it's a great learning experience. We want to learn as much as we can and bring that experience back to our town."

Reddy and Eggers have been working 14 hours or more each day to help with hurricane relief efforts. They left Westland on

PLEASE SEE FIREFIGHTERS, A5

Mall starts fund-raiser to help Katrina victims

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland Shopping Center — usually in the business of making money — has initiated a fund-raising campaign to help the Hurricane Katrina relief effort.

Shoppers who want to help those devastated by the hurricane are encouraged to visit the mall's customer service area to give money or personal checks to the American Red Cross, said marketing manager Denise Mills.

"We just want to show our support for the people in that area," she said Friday.

The mall initiated its relief effort on Thursday. Donations of household goods, such as pots and pans, laundry detergent, towels and washcloths and other items, also will be accepted, she said.

The customer service area is in the mall's east court. In another development, the hair salon inside the Marshall Field's store has announced its own fund-raising effort.

Premier Salon will donate proceeds from haircuts that are done during a "Katrinathon" scheduled for 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 3, said salon manager Lisa Podina.

Appointments aren't necessary, she said, and the salon is located on the store's second level.

Meanwhile, Mills said the mall's fund-raising effort will continue until further notice. Donations will be accepted during mall hours of 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays.

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Number 33



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Coming Thursday
in Filter

Free, non-stop music for 24 hours at Marshall Field's Day of Music

2 teens face charges in robbery

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland police had two local teenagers in custody Friday for an armed robbery that occurred at Colonial Estates condominiums, on Newburgh south of Joy.

The 18-year-old suspects - one from Westland and one from Wayne - will likely face charges of armed robbery and first-degree home invasion, police Sgt. Steve Borisch said.

The teenagers are suspected in a robbery that occurred about 9 p.m. Wednesday when a Westland woman was robbed after she pulled her car into her garage.

"She pulled into her garage and one suspect ran up to her

and told her to open her door," Borisch said. "He had what appeared to be a black pistol, and he robbed her of her purse."

Police later learned that the weapon was only a pellet gun, the detective said.

The Wayne teenager is accused of taking the woman's purse while his alleged accomplice waited nearby in a get-away van, Borisch said.

The Ford Freestar van had been stolen late Tuesday or early Wednesday from a driveway on residential Hively Street, police said.

After the robbery at Colonial Estates, police spotted the get-away van at a gas station at Joy and Newburgh. Officers chased the suspects to Westwood

Village Apartments at Joy and Newburgh, where the pair jumped from the van and escaped on foot, Borisch said.

The woman's purse was found in the van.

Police Lt. James Ridener confirmed that investigators found paperwork in the stolen van that helped lead them to the two suspects.

Early Friday afternoon, Westland police were awaiting a warrant from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office before formally arraigning the teens on criminal charges.

If found guilty of armed robbery, the teens could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

dclcm@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2100



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stephanie Findley of Westland, a Michigan Humane Society evaluator, holds a puppy that MHS volunteers relocated from shelters in Louisiana.

AROUND WESTLAND

Flea Market

Booth space is available for an outdoor flea market at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Saturday, Sept. 24. The flea market will be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$25 per parking space. For more information, call Richard Eberhart at (734) 812-7978.

Music for children

Children in the second-sixth grades are invited to join the afterschool music and choir program at Kirk of our Savior Church on Cherry Hill in Westland.

The program meets 5-7 p.m. Thursdays, beginning Thursday, Sept. 29. It includes singing, music theory, piano keyboard skills, games, crafts and activities and a dinner.

No musical experience necessary, and all Christian faiths are welcome. There is weekly \$2.50 charge to cover the cost of the meal.

For more information, call Timothy Falk at (734) 718-8733.

Benefit concert

A group called Musicians for Relief will sponsor a \$10-per-person fund-raising concert 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, in Central City Park behind

Westland City Hall on Ford south of Wayne Road.

Rare Earth will headline the concert. The lineup also includes the Howling Diablos, guitarist Joey Gados Jr. from the movie School of Rock, Power Source, The Ride, 6 Peace, the Eddie Leighton Project, Crossover and Red Hill.

Admission is \$10 per person, \$5 for students with identification.

Battle of Bands

Skateland West at 37550 Cherry Hill will showcase local musical talent from around southeastern Michigan when it hosts a Battle of the Bands 7-11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24.

Featured will be The End of Heartache, Significant Victim, All Lies Aside, Closed For Winter and Glib.

Admission will be \$6. For more information, call (734) 326-2801 or visit Skateland's Web site at www.skatelandwest.com.

Have it a new way

The Burger King Restaurant at 237 N. Wayne Road, has a new look, but patrons can still have their food their way.

The restaurant recently underwent extensive remodeling, closing for only 10 days during the more than one-

month effort. The 70-seat dining area has new tile, tables, booths, wall treatments and lighting fixtures.

The building's old solarium was removed, and landscaping improvements also were done.

"We anxious to welcome back our Westland guests," said Dave Bagwell, Detroit Region manager for Quality Dining Inc. "We know they are going to enjoy the beautiful new dining room, improved drive-thru, and of course, great food and friendly service."

Food distribution

The city of Westland will be distributing federal surplus food 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, for residents living north of Michigan Avenue.

Residents living south of Michigan should pick up their commodities on the third Monday for the month at St. James United Methodist Church at 30055 Annapolis between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers should call their building manager for their day of distribution.

For September, residents will receive canned chicken and cranberry juice. For more information call the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

Blood drive

Hayes Elementary School will hold an American Red Cross Blood Drive 1-7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, at the school, 30600 Louise, Westland. Call (734) 427-2810 for an appointment. Walk-ins are always welcome.

MHS

FROM PAGE A1

MANE. MHS employees will soon place the canine evacuees in foster homes as they try to reunite the pets with their owners, using whatever information they can obtain from dog tags or from such Web sites as www.petfinder.com.

Some companies, such as Farmington Hills-based Pet Supplies Plus, already have helped the animal-rescue effort by collecting donations in store canisters.

"We really feel like we made a significant difference by helping these animals," said Cal Morgan, MHS executive director.

Diffen and MHS employee Linda Reider worked in the temporary animal shelter in Gonzales, bathing animals and providing them with food and their own crates.

Robert Fisher, MHS director of clinics, accompanied a medical team into hurricane-ravaged areas of Louisiana, treating sick and injured animals and getting them to the shelter.

MacDonald and Williams helped locate and rescue some of the 1,000-plus animals that owners left behind as they fled their homes. In one day, alone, the pair found 78 pets in the French Quarter, knocking down doors in some cases to help the abandoned pets.

"People gave us permission to break into their



Betsy Weakland, operations coordinator at the Michigan Humane Society's Berman Center in Westland carries one of the rescued dogs into the shelter.

houses," Williams said.

The team rescued one cat that had been without food and water for a week and managed to find its owner in Baton Rouge.

MHS animal evaluator Jan Ramos accompanied a team that searched for animals by boat. She provided immediate care to pets that were pulled from floodwaters.

Meanwhile, MHS officials offered several ways in which potential donors can help animal-rescue efforts:

- Donate on a secure Web site by logging onto www.michiganhumane.org.
- Call (866) MHUMANE 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to donate using a credit card.
- Make checks payable to the Michigan Humane

Society and send them to the Michigan Humane Society, Attn: Hurricane Katrina Animal Relief Fund, 26711 Northwestern Highway, Suite 175, Southfield, MI 48034. On the check, please note that it is for the Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

■ Drop off checks at MHS shelters or veterinary centers in Westland, Detroit or Rochester Hills.

■ Drop off monetary donations at any metro Detroit Pet Supplies Plus store.

Any money that exceeds the amount needed by rescue team efforts will be donated to animal welfare organizations in hurricane-stricken areas.

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CITY OF GARDEN CITY

To all residents and interested parties, The Council minutes will be available for review on the internet at www.gardencitymi.org

You can access this information at the Garden City Library or City Hall during regular Business hours or in the Police Station Lobby 24 hours a day.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS, Treasurer/City Clerk

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FR/SAT LS 11:35

VALIANT (G) (11:15) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15

THE CONSTANT GARDENER (R)
(11:05) 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45

ARISTOCRATS (NR)
7:50, 9:50, FR/SAT (S) 11:50 A

BROTHERS BRIMM (PG-13)
1:25, 3:55, 6:45, 9:15
FR/SAT LS 11:45

RED EYE (PG-13)
1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
FR/SAT LS 11:00

FOUR BROTHERS (R)
(12:10) 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
FR/SAT LS 11:45

CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY (PG) (11:00)

MARCH OF THE PENGUINS (G)
(11:20) 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20
FR/SAT LS 11:20

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Determination - and God - help her save her husband's life

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Elizabeth Walling doesn't see herself as a hero, just a wife who decide she wanted to have more than 20 years with her husband, Roland.

In the wee hours of Monday morning, Walling, ignoring the screams of witnesses to run, stayed put and succeeded in getting her husband out of his burning 1968 Chevy Camaro.

"I tried to get him out, but I couldn't get to his seat belt," said Elizabeth, who suffered first- and second-degree burns to her right arm, face and hands. "I knew it was going to explode, I could hear it. People were screaming run, run, run."

Sitting in the yard at Westland Car Care, the rear end of the custom car is charred and twisted metal. The front end, however, still sports a checkered flag that flows across the hood and onto both front quarter panels.

It's a stark reminder of the severity of the accident Roland was in at Cherry Hill and Sheldon in Canton around 1:30 a.m. Monday. The Westland residents were on their way home after attending an open house in Milford about 1:30 a.m. Monday when Roland's car was hit by a Toyota Sienna northbound on Sheldon.

The impact of the crash spun the car around in the intersection where it was struck a second time in the rear by a Ford F-150 heading west on Cherry Hill.

Walling doesn't recall the accident. He was knocked unconscious almost immediately after striking on his forehead on the roll bar.

RUSHING TO HELP

Elizabeth, who was following her husband in her red 1968 Camaro, watched in horror as her husband's car burst into flames as soon as it was hit. She stopped, grabbed a small fire extinguisher and rushed to help her husband.

She sprayed the interior of the



Sporting two black eyes and 60 stitches, Roland Walling stands with his wife, Elizabeth, beside the burned out remains of his 1968 Chevy Camaro. Elizabeth suffered first- and second-degree burns to her arms, hands and face while getting her husband out of the burning car, following an accident Sept. 12.

car and tried to reach his seat belt to free him, all the while onlookers yelled at her to leave the car.

"I thought, 'I can't leave my girls without parents,' so I ran," said Elizabeth who made it three feet from the car before falling. She looked at the burning car. Married for 20 years, she decided she wanted her husband around for 70 years. She went back, spraying him and the interior of the car with the fire extinguisher.

She was screaming his name when he lifted his head and was able to release the lap belt, just what Elizabeth needed to pull him from the car. They made it to the curb, where Roland collapsed, bleeding profusely from a four-inch gash on his forehead. Seconds later the car exploded.

"When he picked his head up, it was the greatest feeling," she said. "I knew we were going to make it. I was determined not to leave him in the car, but it wasn't me, it was God who got him out."

Fans of the '60s muscle car, the Wallings had spent more than two years restoring the Camaro which they planned to take to the 2006 Autorama. That custom car show played a part in the rescue. The fire extinguisher Elizabeth used was in her car because they had earned points for having one

when they showed it at Autorama for the first time in 2003.

Another lifesaver was the sound proofing and fireproof carpeting she had spent 16 hours installing two months ago. It kept the flames from reaching Roland although they shot out from underneath car, burning Elizabeth. His only burn is a small patch on the back of his head.

The car from the dashboard back is gutted and the Wallings aren't sure what the insurance company will do, but none of that is important right now, according to Elizabeth.

"That can be replaced, only my husband couldn't be replaced," she said. "Nothing is that important anymore when you come that close to losing your husband."

The crash has reminded the Wallings and their friends and family about the things that are truly important to them, according to Elizabeth's close friend, Lynn Sackett-Hodge of Canton.

"It sent a chill up and down my spine when I heard about her heroism," Sackett-Hodge said. "It just reminds us that nothing else is a big deal, just that you have your health and your family. That's all that matters."

Staff writer Carol Marshall contributed to this story.

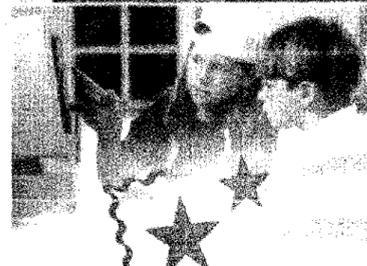


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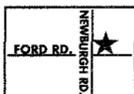


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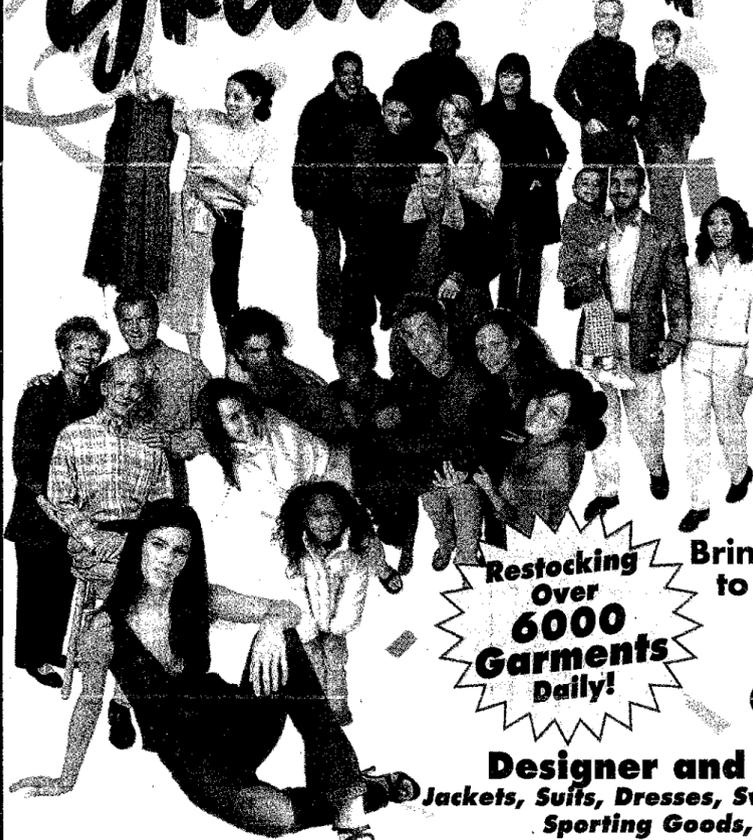
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FOR THE RECORD

A
Sister Mary Adria
 Adria, 91, of Farmington Hills, died Sept. 12.
Priscilla K. Arcure-Eastman
 Arcure-Eastman, 85, of Rochester Hills, died Sept. 6.
Marjorie E. Arnold
 Arnold, 96, of Rochester, died Sept. 4.
Lloyd Ayotte Jr.
 Ayotte, of Clarkston, died Sept. 14.

B
David Watt Barton
 Barton, 82, of Bloomfield Hills, died July 13.
Clarice Bruce
 Bruce, 88, of Martin, Tenn., died Sept. 9.

C
Thelma E. Cameron
 Cameron, 77, of Rochester, died Sept. 8.
June M. Cassidy
 Cassidy, 78, of Shelby Twp., died Aug. 31.
Floyd "Bud or Curly" Curtis
 Curtis, 75, of Rochester Hills, died Aug. 27.

D
Robin G. Daniels
 Daniels, 36, of Troy died Sept. 13.

E
Earl "Ray" Eckert
 Eckert, 81, of Madison Heights, died Aug. 28.
Sallie Hoppin Eckert
 Eckert, 90, of Waterford, formerly of Birmingham, died Sept. 7.

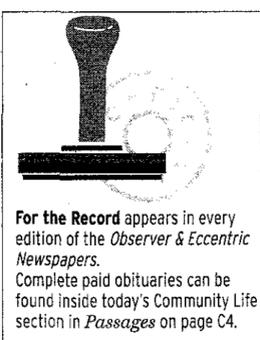
F
Warren C. Forester
 Forester, 88, of San Antonio, Texas, formerly of Clawson, died Aug. 27.
Alice D. Fuller
 Fuller, 94, of Clarkston, formerly of Rochester, died Sept. 3.

G
James R. Graham
 Graham, 84, of Rochester Hills, died Sept. 5.

H
Leroy Chenault Hamilton
 Hamilton, 88, formerly of Birmingham, died Sept. 6.
Rosemary Brady Hayes
 Hayes, 85, died Sept. 10.

K
Vitold Kaminskis
 Kaminskis, 86, of Rochester Hills, died Sept. 12.
Lorraine Kanava
 Kanava, 84, of Birmingham, died Sept. 7.

M
Chester Ray Macer
 Macer, 79, of Howell, died Sept. 15.



For the Record appears in every edition of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's Community Life section in *Passages* on page C4.

Barbara Helen McKelvey
 McKelvey, 87, of Plymouth, died Sept. 2.
Melanie Meenen
 Meenen, 55, of Harlingen, Texas, formerly of Livonia.
Edna Moorman
 Moorman, 87, died Sept. 8.

N
Thomas F. Norton Jr.
 Norton, 71, of East Sandwich, Mass., formerly of Plymouth, died Sept. 12.

P
Maria G. Pagano
 Pagano, 89, of Royal Oak, died Aug. 27.
Florine M. Phillip (nee Steintrage)
 Phillip, 89, of Farmington Hills, died Sept. 10.

R
Neil W. Robert
 Robert, 63, of Canton, died Aug. 11.

S
Glada E. Sartor
 Sartor, 99, of Rochester Hills, died Aug. 31.
Joan A. Simmons
 Simmons, 75, of Port Charlotte, Fla., died Sept. 2.
Ralph M. Stanifer
 Stanifer, 58, of Sioux City, Iowa, died Aug. 29.
Aurelia "Irene" Szumanski
 Szumanski, 94, of Warren, died Sept. 11.

T
Bertha Emilienne Tanner
 Tanner died Sept. 8.
Carla Watkins Trousdale
 Trousdale, 56, of Troy, formerly of Birmingham, died Sept. 14.

V
Annette Vettrano
 Vettrano, 87, of Birmingham, died July 8.

W
Mary Lou Warner
 Warner, 55, of Rochester, died Aug. 24.
Ellen D. Wheeler
 Wheeler, 59, of Rochester, died Aug. 29.

Businesses swap cards and products at expo

BY SUE MASON
 STAFF WRITER

"Anything you want to put your logo on, we can do," Jerry Kutek said to anyone who stopped and looked at the assortment of pens, pocket mirrors and a dart board sitting on the table.

The sales manager at Advertising Accents, Kutek and owner Tom Krause worked the crowd passing their table like carnival barkers, telling anyone who stopped about the Redford-based business.

"We've been in business 20 years," Krause said. "We do embroidery, vinyl graphics, custom silk screening. We do all of them."

Advertising Accents was one of 76 businesses that set up as part of Networking Across the Borders, a twice yearly event hosted this time by the Westland, Garden City, Redford, Wayne and Dearborn Heights chambers of commerce.

Networking Across Borders is aimed at letting chamber members make contacts with members of other chambers who may have a service they need. It was held Tuesday at Hawthorne Valley in Westland.

"Every time we do this, it grows," said Lori Brist, Westland chamber president and CEO. "This is for businesses and the cost is \$15 for the luncheon ticket."

At one time the five chambers sponsored a Five Star Expo that included a luncheon and networking among participants and then opened to the general public. That concept was abandoned several years ago and out of its ashes rose Networking Across the Borders.

"This is a great networking opportunity to get business together," said Linda Long of UPS in Livonia. "It maximizes people's time and exposure."

Dick Isham of C&M Printing and Imagining in Westland offered visitors a free pen and note pad as well as a business card. A member of the Livonia, Westland and Inkster chambers, it was Isham's third or



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Garden City businesswoman Wendi Sparks of Arbonne International explains their skin care products to Shirley Jean Long, owner of Long's Mobile Home Court, located in Redford. At left, Amber Watkins of Prestige Eyewear in Garden City looks at the display.

fourth appearance in the expo.

"I try to support all of the chamber's activities; networking is how we built our business," he said.

Business cards swapped hands freely, with many of them ending up in boxes in hopes of winning a prize of a gift basket. Barb Frye of Ashford Road senior residence on Joy Road in Westland was gathering entries for a prize of candles.

"It's a great event, it generates publicity," she said. "Having all these businesses in one room, you learn a little bit about each one. It gets your name out there and puts a face with a name."

It was working for the folks at Best Bank, which has 45 locations inside supermarkets like Kroger and Farmer Jack throughout the metropolitan area.

Kathy Anderson greeted those who stopped, explaining that she worked in the Wayne branch that had been in a Food Basic, which is about to become a Spartan store.

"We've been in Michigan three years in October," she said. "It's really good for businesses to get out and mingle. Some have seen us and seen where we've been and some haven't."

Tucked in one corner of the room, Michael Fearon of Prestige Eyewear was making sure people who wore eyeglasses got up close and personal with the latest styles.

"Silhouette three-piece, it disappears on your face," he



Urban Utopia's Angela Davis explains her product line of flowers, balloons and cakes to Neil Crawford of Westland Lock and Key.

said holding up a pair. "The three pieces are the two ear pieces and the bridge. When you get the anti-glare coating, it's the closest thing to not having glasses comfort-wise and appearance-wise."

It was Fearon's first time with an expo table. He had attend the spring event, but signed up too late to get a table, so he signed up early this time.

"I think it's a great thing to get to talk to these people," he said. "I think it's one of the most useful things a chamber can do. To stand up at a lunch-

eon and talk about your business is one thing, but when you can bring your product, it's more beneficial."

The five chambers directors aren't resting on their laurels. While members were enjoying their lunch, they were looking to the future.

Their plan? Alternating the expo with a luncheon with a guest speaker.

"We want to offer a little change," said Amelia Oliverio, Garden City chamber director. "It never hurts to try something new." smason@oe.hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

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INFORMATION CENTRAL

On Sept. 15, 1971, 12 Canadian members of the newly formed organization Greenpeace set sail in an effort to stop the U.S. from setting off a nuclear bomb on a small island near the Arctic Circle by anchoring their boat in the testing zone.

The bitter cold and dwindling food supplies forced them to turn back, but thanks to the daily reports sent to newspapers and radio stations, by the time they returned home public sympathy had enabled money to be collected for a better boat and 400 people had volunteered to be crew members.

The new boat was still 700 miles away from the test site when the U.S. detonated the bomb, but the public outcry was so huge that within three months the island was abandoned as a testing site and turned into a bird sanctuary.

Now, more than 30 years later, Greenpeace has offices in more than 30 countries. To find out more about one of the leading environmental protection agencies, read *The Greenpeace Story* by Michael Brown and John May. Younger readers may want to look at *Greenpeace* by Paul Brown. More information can also be found on the Internet at www.greenpeace.org.

For information on the current state of the U.S. environment, look through *America's Environmental Report Card* or for a more global view, try *State of the World*. It's also hard to ignore the political side of environmental protection, and Robert S. Devine's book *Bush Versus the Environment* is the most current on the topic, earning praise from Martha Marks, president of Republicans for Environmental Protection.

There are plenty of books for people looking to take action. One such book is *One Makes the Difference* written by Julia Butterfly Hill, best known for living in a giant redwood tree for more than two years in order to protect it from loggers.

Two more books that everyone can

use are *Choose to Reuse* by Nikki and David Goldbeck which gives ways to reuse items from eyeglasses to construction materials, and *The Consumer's Guide to Effective Environmental Choices* by Michael Brower and Warren Leon which gives tips for personal, government, and media responsibility.

For those looking to help make a difference at work, *50 Simple Things Your Business Can Do to Save the Earth* may be helpful. It describes how to start an office paper recycling program, how to save electricity, and even how to make sure your company gets credit for the good things it does for the environment.

Part of the same series, *50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Recycle* has some great ideas to help kids understand their impact on the environment and gives practical suggestions on how they can help the earth.

These books are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to learning about the environment. Please come by the library for any of the books listed above or to see some of the other ones we have to offer. You might be surprised how easy it is to make a difference.

The William P. Faust Library is open seven days a week.

Internet 101: 10:30 a.m. Sept. 17.

For the very beginner, what the Internet is, and how to get there.

Microsoft Word: 2 p.m. Sept. 17. Learn the basics of a word processing program that lets users create a variety of documents, including letters and resumes.

Adult Book Discussion: 7 p.m. Sept. 20. In the Land of Second Chances by George Shaffner.

Get Organized: 7 p.m. Sept. 27. Come to a workshop on organizing your home, office and family.

The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Rotary Club gala has Halloween theme

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

It's a given. Westland Rotary's "A Black Cat Affair" will draw many people in Halloween costumes on Saturday, Oct. 29.

"We hope to have 200 people," said Todd Blevins, club president.

The charity dinner dance - Halloween costumes are optional - will feature a silent auction and reverse raffle. The dinner dance will be held at Joy Manor, on Joy east of Middlebelt in Westland, with doors opening at 6 p.m. The dinner buffet will be at 7 p.m.

"It's going to be absolutely wonderful," said chairwoman Ann Elliott. "This is our sixth year, and it's a lot of fun."

The gala supports Rotary charities, and the club is still seeking donated items, she said. For information on donating or obtaining tickets, call Blevins at (734) 425-7766 or Mary Carlson

at (734) 729-5401. Price is \$100 for dinner for two and a raffle ticket.

Gift certificates, sports memorabilia and tickets to games would be appreciated, Elliott said.

The club already has Pistons suite tickets, dinner prepared by a chef at your home and Red Wings tickets and more, Blevins said. And this is the second year for the reverse raffle with the \$2,000 grand prize.

Gift baskets will be on display that evening for bidding as well.

"We're trying to raise funds to help out our charities," Blevins said.

Rotary supports local college students with scholarships and provides school supplies to needy children, among other efforts. Some money raised will go to Hurricane Katrina relief, Blevins said.

FIREFIGHTERS

FROM PAGE A1

Sept. 6. "We might get four or five hours of sleep a night," Reddy said.

Mayor Sandra Cicirelli has said that Reddy and Eggers will bring back knowledge that could prove useful here in the event that Westland should ever be involved in a disaster, whether natural or otherwise.

The firefighters are on a 30-day assignment to the Gulf Coast area. They flew into Atlanta on Sept. 6 and began training for their role in the hurricane relief effort.

Reddy and Eggers received immunizations and training as federal employees. They were sent to a command center in Austin, Texas, on Sept. 11, and from there they were deployed to an evacuee shelter that housed more than 60 families in Ennis, Texas.

Reddy, Eggers and others

helped the families get out of the shelters and into apartments and houses.

Their work allowed the temporary shelter in Ennis to be closed.

By Tuesday morning, Reddy and Eggers had arrived in Orlando, Fla., for two days for intense hurricane relief training. Then, they headed to Louisiana to help in the hardest-hit areas that, by then, still hadn't had much contact from FEMA (the Federal Emergency Management Agency).

On Friday, Reddy said he and Eggers expect any day to be sent to New Orleans, although their assignments are subject to change.

Earlier, they had expected to be sent to Jackson, Miss., to help set up a "tent city" for evacuees, but those plans changed as they ultimately ended up in Louisiana.

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Madonna University Faculty Awardees with college administrators (top, left to right) are Monika Kimball; Ernest Nolan, vice president for academic administration; (bottom) Therese Jamison; Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, president; and Sharon Meldrum. Not pictured is Boguslawa Gatarek.

Madonna honors 4 of its faculty members

Selected by their peers for outstanding contributions to the teaching-learning environment, four faculty members received the 2005 Madonna University Faculty Excellence Awards at a conference on August 29.

"The Faculty Excellence Awards recognize professors who demonstrate a standard of professionalism that their colleagues admire and aspire to," said Ernest Nolan, vice presi-

dent for academic administration. "The awards have a special meaning because they represent commendations from their peers."

Monika Kimball, associate professor of English as a Second Language, was selected for the Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching Effectiveness and Innovation. Kimball has been teaching at the university since 1991.

"I accept this award with

genuine humility," said Kimball, a South Lyon resident. "I thank God for this experience. Teaching at Madonna has gone beyond all my expectations."

The recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award for Service to the Community was Sharon Meldrum, a deaf assistant professor of Sign Language Studies (SLS). Meldrum has been teaching at Madonna University since 1976 and is a

Livonia resident.

"It's an honor to receive this award," Meldrum said using American Sign Language. "I want to thank the SLS department and staff for their support and thank the deaf community. In the deaf community, MU is very well known - locally, nationally and internationally."

Boguslawa Gatarek, adjunct associate professor of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, was recognized with the Adjunct Faculty Member Award. She has been teaching at the University since 2000 and resides in Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada.

The Faculty Award from Graduating Seniors went to Therese Jamison, associate professor of Nursing and a Farmington Hills resident. All graduating seniors were sent nomination forms and asked to identify faculty members who best personified the mission of Madonna University.

"It is an honor and privilege to receive this award from graduating seniors," said Jamison. "We have many blessings in our life - family, friends and professions. To be a nurse has greatly enriched my life. MU is another blessing."

Schoolcraft students raise money with beads

A coalition of student organizations, working through the Student Activities Office will use a famous New Orleans tradition to raise money to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. This is one of number of programs the college is initiating to help Katrina victims.

All donations will be passed on to relief agencies providing direct support to displaced individuals and families.

The 'One for One' campaign encourages each student and employee to give one dollar. Donors receive a string of Mardi Gras beads to wear as a means of promoting the campaign to others. Students are selling beads at locations throughout campus and at events, ranging from a soccer game to the School Daze welcome back activities Sept. 20-22.

Other activities are in the planning stages for October, November and beyond. Coats, hats and mittens will be collected to provide displaced families with the proper clothing for a northern winter. Efforts to collect non-perishable food items and personal care kits are also under discussion.

The residency status of students displaced from colleges in the Gulf Coast region is now in a state of flux. To address this issue, Schoolcraft is offering the resident tuition rate of \$65 per credit hour to displaced students. Normally, out-of-state tuition is \$143 per credit hour.

Although the fall semester opened Sept. 1, there are more than 100 courses that start in September or October.

Schoolcraft is also part of a statewide effort to open online courses for displaced students, and there are nearly 350 continuing education and professional development courses in the fall schedule, including many with start dates from September into December.

All student service departments are prepared to expedite the registration process to get displaced students into the classroom as soon as possible. And as always, there are no application or late registration fees at Schoolcraft College.



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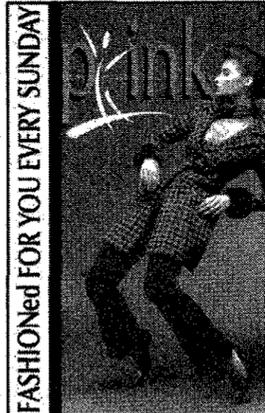
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Global village images reveal problems deeper than water

Marshall McLuhan once wrote that electronic media was creating a "global village." In *Understanding Media*, he wrote, "Today, after more than a century of electric technology, we have extended our central nervous system in a global embrace, abolishing both space and time as far as our planet is concerned."

As the world watched over the last couple of weeks, the tragic story of the Gulf Coast confirmed how right McLuhan was. Day after day, we've

watched poor people pleading from roof tops, slogging through chest-deep fetid waters, crowding into steamy convention halls and sprawling on steps waiting in fear and danger for food and buses that took forever to arrive. We watched small-town residents walking shell-shocked through the ruins of what had once been "home." Over the shoulders of posturing cable reporters, we could see the unbearable agony of people who

Hugh Gallagher

had lost what little they had to lose.

We watched and we responded. Private charities have raised millions for relief. Thousands have volunteered their services, their schools, their homes to those whose lives have been changed forever by Hurricane Katrina and the flood left in its wake. Congress passed what will be the first of several emergency spending bills.

Yet, those images showed us how little we know and how little we care.

Long before Katrina sent waves crashing into its levees, New Orleans was a poor city. It was poor, black, crime-ridden, surrounded by white middle-class suburbs. When visitors went to the famous New Orleans, the Bourbon Street New Orleans, they were always warned not to wander too far from the French Quarter. New Orleans had the nation's highest murder rate last year.

It came as a shock when suddenly homeless residents took the opportunity to loot stores and young gangs fired on rescuers and committed heinous acts against fellow flood victims. It came as a shock that people didn't just get in their cars and get out of there. It came as a shock that New Orleans wasn't exactly the fun city that the tourist board had portrayed.

And when some evacuees were moved to Houston, former first lady Barbara Bush looked about and said, "What I'm hearing, which is sort of scary, is they all want to stay in Texas.

Everyone is so overwhelmed by the hospitality. And so many of the people in the arena here, you know, were underprivileged anyway, so this is working very well for them."

How nice, and scary.

And some arch conservative Web sites, another connection in the global village, are saying Katrina is God's way of "purifying" America.

While we sat engrossed by the images from the

Perhaps in answer to this, the Republican leadership in the state legislature proposed easing Michigan's financial burden by shifting it on to the poor (maybe because there are so many more of them now).

Gulf Coast, on Aug. 30 the Census Bureau released a report showing that in 2004 Detroit was the poorest city in America with one-third of its residents living below the poverty line. The report also showed that child poverty in Michigan increased from 15 percent in 2003 to about 18 percent in 2004. But in Oakland County those living in poverty actually declined from 8 percent in 2003 to 5 percent in 2004, while in Wayne County it increased from 17 percent to 20 percent.

Perhaps in answer to this, the Republican leadership in the state legislature proposed easing Michigan's financial burden by shifting it on to the poor (maybe because there are so many more of them now). They proposed dropping families from welfare after four years, reducing the payment from the lavish \$499 a month to \$409 and cutting Medicaid benefits. They settled for a review of the Medicaid and welfare rolls to track down those who could be cut.

On Thursday President Bush gave a remarkable speech in which he conceded that, yes, all levels of government had failed in Katrina but that, "The system at every level of government was not well coordinated and was overwhelmed in the first few days. It is now clear that a challenge of this scale requires greater federal authority and a broader role for the armed forces. Americans have every right to expect a more effective response."

But it isn't just the destruction of New Orleans that we witnessed, but its ongoing suffering made visible. To that Bush acknowledged, "As all of us saw on television, there is also some deep, persistent poverty in this region as well. And that poverty has roots in a history of racial discrimination, which cut off generations from the opportunity of America."

"We have a duty to confront this poverty with bold action. So let us restore all that we have cherished from yesterday, and let us rise above the legacy of inequality."

It shouldn't take a storm to suggest that we need to address these same problems here in Michigan at the local, state, federal and personal level.

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Affirmative action necessary, effective in advancing opportunity

Although the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of affirmative action and scholarly studies such as that by former Princeton President William Bowen and former Harvard President Derek Bok have shown the benefits of enrolling a diverse range of qualified students, opponents of the programs continue to make misleading arguments.

Even as universities in California and Florida report troubling declines in the number of African American, Latino and Native American students, UCLA law professor Richard Sander is attracting publicity with the argument that it is African Americans themselves – not whites – who are harmed by racially conscious admissions policies. His claims are neither new nor persuasive.

Sander asserts that affirmative action leads to African Americans attending law schools where they cannot compete. According to him, they either flunk out or drop out. Those who graduate aren't likely to pass the bar. He concludes that "a race-blind system" will produce more black lawyers – a goal he says he shares.

If law schools – and by extension other professional and graduate programs – were to adopt the system Sander advances, there is little doubt that these institutions would quickly become re-segregated. There would be schools that were virtually all white, with a handful of Asian Americans; there would be other schools that could boast a modest racial mix; and there also would be many African American students who would lose access to higher education. The top law schools, those that are the beginning of the pipeline to lucrative jobs with prestigious firms, powerful positions in the judiciary, as well as business opportunities and influential roles in academe, would be largely drained of African American students.

After a year that saw countless celebrations of the 50th anniversary of school desegregation, ordered in the profound case of *Brown vs. Board of Education*, such an outcome would be as ironic as tragic.

Leaders in higher education recognize that considering race as a factor in high-stakes decision making alters the composition of the classroom. Law schools, which enjoy an abundance of terrific applicants for every open seat, look at many criteria in determining how to best serve the myriad aspects of an academic mission. Without exception, law schools give substantial weight to the Law School Admissions Test and undergraduate grade point average.

Law schools, which enjoy an abundance of terrific applicants for every open seat, look at many criteria in determining how to best serve the myriad aspects of an academic mission.

That is only the beginning of the process, not the end. There are many other measures, such as background and life experiences, that have proven useful in predicting a student's drive, commitment, civic engagement and other traits vital to the success of lawyers and law schools.

Ignoring other factors, Sanders states there is a "powerful" correlation between LSAT/GPA and bar exam performance. Just as a statistical matter, aside from the policy implications, his analysis is flawed. According to the data he relies on, LSAT scores and GPA account for less than 10 percent of the disparity in bar exam results. In other words, he ignores the 90 percent of the difference that cannot be explained.

He also uses old data. His 2001 data suggest that without affirmative action, there would be a 14 percent decline in African American admittees. The 2002-03 data show that there would be a 35 to 45 percent decline and, incidentally, a 25 percent increase in white admittees.

Racial disparities have long existed and unfortunately continue to persist – for a complex range of reasons, including the vestiges of past discrimination. It isn't clear why anyone who, like Sander, insists he wishes to help African American students would want to abolish a proven means of doing so.

Writing for the majority of her colleagues, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor articulated a principle which since the civil rights movement Americans of all races have consistently said they believe in: "In order to cultivate a set of leaders with legitimacy in the eyes of the citizenry, it is necessary that the path of leadership be visibly open to talented and qualified individuals of every race and ethnicity."

Affirmative action is not only necessary but also effective.

Frank H. Wu of Canton is dean of Wayne State University Law School. He testified in the trial of the Grutter vs. Bollinger affirmative action case.

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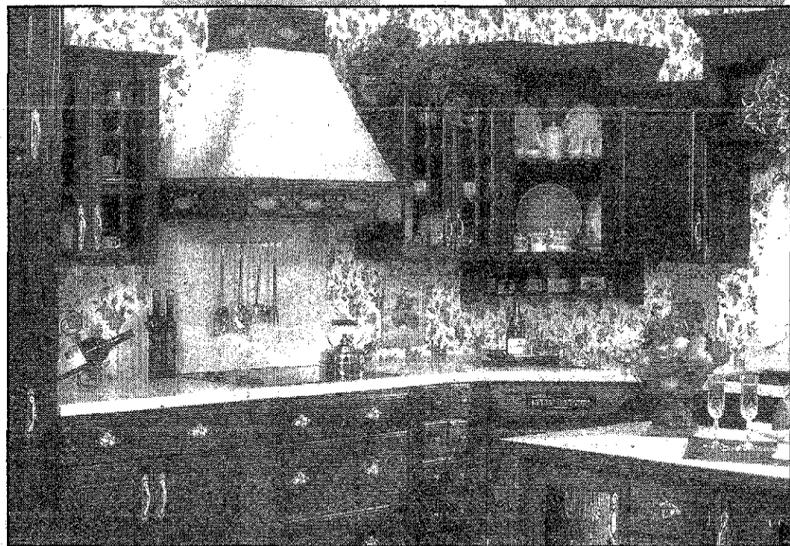
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Sheriff, deputies return from mission to New Orleans

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans and a contingent of deputies arrived back in Westland after nearly two weeks of helping the Hurricane Katrina relief effort in New Orleans.

Evans' quick, and officially unauthorized, response to an SOS for help, won him favorable mention in last Sunday's *New York Times* but, more importantly, gave him a renewed respect for the officers under his command.

On Aug. 31, Sheriff Edmund M. Sexton of Tuscaloosa County, Ala., and president of the National Sheriffs' Association, sent out an alert asking for members to help.

"Like everyone, we'd been watching national media coverage and getting a good idea that it wasn't good," Evans said Friday.

Evans said he realized that the effort needed more than just added police presence. He began to organize a convoy to take needed supplies down to the Gulf Coast.

"We started the planning process and wanted to leave in 24 hours from the time we started and to call all the contacts we had to get the things we needed to go down there, the donations of water and toilet paper and all those essential items," he said.

The Teamsters Union supplied drivers and six tractor-trailers. Big Boy restaurants set up collection sites and the word went out for people to drop off items. Greater Grace Temple in Detroit was gathering items for its own mission to an Alabama church and joined the convoy. Steve Radden of Steve's Soul Food also joined with his restaurant on wheels as did an ambulance from Hart Medical and a big rig from Boulevard and Trumbull Towing. Walt Michaels RV supplied living quarters for the 33 deputies who volunteered to make the trip.

The deputies agreed to be paid for eight hours of straight time for the time they were there.

"Most would have gone with no pay," Evans said. "They were committed to do something."

Evans said he hopes to be reimbursed through the Federal Emergency Management Agency but is concerned that there might be a problem because he left without authorization from Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

"From my perspective we had a request from another police agency or group of police agencies," he said. "When we were gearing up, we were in constant contact with them. We knew there would be some kind of coordination that would make sense. We started down based on that."

Evans said one of the problems in the slow response to



JOHN ROACH

Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans tries to get a little rest from his duties on relief work in New Orleans.

the mounting flood was that government officials were afraid to act based on budget concerns.

"I think the sad things people need to review in this is that many conscious decisions to wait said, 'Human life, repayment?' I think when you peel back the layers I don't think anyone consciously said repayment was more important than human life. I think they got confused about what the hold up was all about," he said.

SURREAL CITY

After stops in Mobile, Ala., for Grace Temple and Baton Rouge, the deputies arrived at Gonzales, La., the staging area for New Orleans relief. Evans said everything seemed to be under control and well organized. His deputies were sworn in and immediately deployed to the ravaged city.

Their first job was to relieve tired and shell-shocked New Orleans police officers. There was still sniper fire which prohibited night patrols.

"National media did a good job of showing it, but what they couldn't show was the smell. It couldn't show the lack of infrastructure - no hospitals, no jails. When you ran into something you had to ingenious," Evans said.

The flood waters actually helped mask the smell of bodies floating in the water. Emergency medical care had to be given on the spot.

"It was kind of surreal," Evans said.

The sheriff said bureaucracy was a major problem in responding to the disaster. Too many levels of government were waiting for somebody's authority.

"Regardless of what it is, if it needs first responders for immediacy, then people just have to go," he said. "That doesn't mean willy-nilly. There is an idea that we would go in like the Lone Ranger and say, 'We'll fix this, no I've been in this business too long, you coordinate, use the telephone,

talk with officials and ask how we can help."

He said a system needs to be developed to identify first responders and then a second tier to handle the more complex follow up.

"Any police officer who wants to save lives can wade through water to get people out and on to higher ground. It's not rocket science," he said. Evans did come away with a renewed respect for his own officers.

"The thing that stands out for me is that they were all excited to help," he said. "There was no sniping. They would give the shirts off their backs for New Orleans police officers. ... It's good for the department. They can say, 'I worked hard, I did the best I could. I was a credit to my community. I am extremely proud of the whole group.'"

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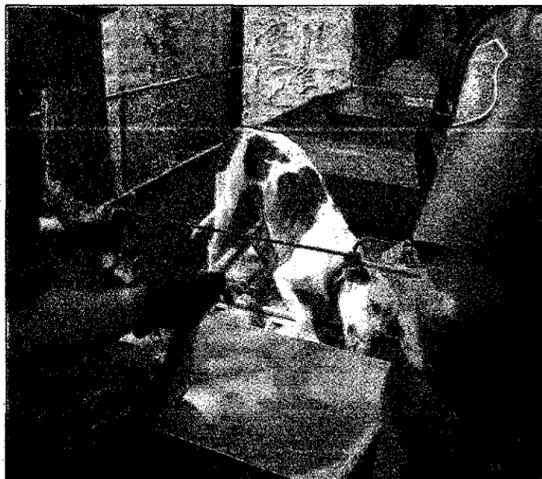
JOHN ROACH

Wayne County sheriff's deputies look over the flooded streets of New Orleans.



Wayne County sheriff's deputies are sworn in by a Louisiana law enforcement officer.

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DONALD FARRIS

Wayne County Sheriff's Lt. Douglas Outlaw and Officer Kristyn Montgomery help a thirsty dog in New Orleans.

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