

# HOPCROFT FUNERAL HOMES

ART HOPCROFT, *Founder*

HAZEL PARK MADISON HEIGHTS  
23919 John R. 31145 John R.  
248-543-6687 248-585-7770

DAVID HOPCROFT, *Owner*

DANIEL FINLEY, *Director*

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED  
PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY  
FOR OVER 50 YEARS



Mary  
Zalewski

## GERALD'S FLORIST

29131 DEQUINDRE  
MADISON HEIGHTS, MI  
48071

**248-398-2322**

OPEN MON.-FRI.: 10-6



Commercial and Residential  
Carpet Repair  
Carpet and Upholstery Cleaning

**BLASÉ RAONA**

**Cell: 248-895-5714**

Phone: **248-547-5440**

Fax: **248-547-7073**



# THE SHIELD



Place  
Stamp  
Here

Official Publication of Fr. James B. Heary, O.P. - Council 7239 Knights of Columbus

30191 Dequindre, Madison Heights, MI 48071 - Phone: (248) 588-3430 - www.kofc7239.org

VOLUME XXX, NO. 6

JUNE, 2015

## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE *Ron Thompson*

Vivat Jesus! I had the honor to present the Knight and Family of the Year awards at the Madison Heights Community Round Table Award Luncheon. At the luncheon, I witnessed how so many people volunteer in the City in all the different groups. We do make a difference in this community and it was recognized. Keep up the good work. We will be holding elections during the June meeting. While this is a mid-term election, it is still important to show your support for our current officers. I will be going to the State Convention and will have good things to bring back to the council for the June meeting. Enjoy the summer and God Bless.

## Program Director Report

*By Darren Gray*

I hope that everyone can make it to the Annual Officers Appreciation Steak Dinner on FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2015. This is a wonderful dinner to show our appreciation for the Officers of our council. Everyone is invited. However, in order to have enough steaks, if you plan to attend, please let Norm or Ken Podgorski know by the fifth of June. Other than that, I have nothing else to report for programs, however, we do have the Garage Sale and Council Picnic coming up in August, so clear out those garages/basements/attics.



EDWARD SWANSON &  
SON  
FUNERAL HOME  
30351 Dequindre  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Edward C. Swanson  
Dennis C. Swanson

248-588-5120



**Marlow  
Family  
Dental**

1905 Marlow, Warren, MI 48092  
(East side of Dequindre and 12 1/2 Mile Road)

*"Come and experience  
a true Family Practice"*

Christopher T. Gorecki, D.D.S.  
Michele M. Tulak-Gorecki, D.D.S.

**586-751-7777**

*Marchesi Printing Co.*

25329 Virginia Drive  
Warren, MI 48091-1343

*Letterheads - Envelopes  
Business Cards*

*Our Specialty:*

Holy Cards and Tickets

**586-757-0944**

**Fax: 586-754-4709**

Email: scm04@wowway.biz

## THE SHIELD - JUNE, 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Happy Birthday G. Meerschaert	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Happy Birthday James Linn	<b>6</b> Happy Birthday James Linn
<b>7</b> Coffee and Donuts After 8 & 10 Masses	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Happy Birthday Michael Bernardo Darren Gray	<b>11</b> Happy Birthday Chris Bliss	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Happy Birthday Ron Thompson	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Happy Birthday Gary Puchalski	<b>20</b> Happy Birthday J. Wojciechowski
<b>21</b> Coffee & Donuts Happy Birthday Mark Smith Sue Landry	<b>22</b> Shield Deadline	<b>23</b> Happy Birthday Rev. Thai Nguyen Jean Witkowski	<b>24</b> Happy Birthday Joe Schanbeck M. Mandarino	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Happy Birthday Paul Halkey	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				

## LADIES AUXILIARY *By Janice Polan, President*

On behalf of the re-elected officers for next year, I would like to extend our thank you to each and every Lady member of our Auxiliary for your support and friendship. And a special thank you to our officers for your past and future service: Yvette Ploskonka, Vice President, MaryLou Stema, Treasurer, Bernie Turchin, Secretary, and myself, Janice Polan, as President. Looking forward to another successful year with a great leadership team!!

Our last Ladies' meeting for this year will be on Thursday, June 11th, and will be a Potluck Dinner and Chinese Auction. The Potluck will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. and each Lady is asked to contribute a food item. If you did not attend our May meeting to sign up, or need a reminder, please contact Janice at 248/585-1573. The Chinese Auction will be held immediately following the dinner. Please remember to bring a small (but new) wrapped gift to auction off. Lady members and their Knight or spouse and Officers of the Knights with their spouses are invited to attend.

Happy June birthday to Sue Landry (6/21) and Jean Witkowski (6/23).

*There will be no summer meetings, but please remember to support our Knights with their House Area Clean-up, June 6, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Ice Cream Social, Garage Sale and Picnic.*

Our meetings will resume in September with the officers as hostesses. Look for details in the August Newsletter.

## CALENDAR FOR FUTURE EVENTS

**Building Corporation Meeting**  
Monday, June 1, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.  
**Membership Meeting**  
**OFFICER ELECTIONS!!**  
Monday, June 1, 2015 - 8:00 p.m.

**Ladies Auxiliary Potluck Dinner**  
Thursday, June 11, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.

**Officers Appreciation Steak Dinner**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**  
FRIDAY, JUNE 12 - 5:30 p.m.  
**At the Council**  
**\$7.00 per person for Non-Officers**

**SHIELD DEADLINE: JUNE 22, 2015**

**COFFEE and DOUGHNUTS**  
Sunday, June 7th & 21st  
After 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Masses

**Officers Meeting**  
Monday, June 29, 2015 - 7:30 p.m.

## OFFICERS ROSTER

Sate Deputy: Robert W. Fox .....  
District Deputy: Harry Deneweth ..... 1-586-772-5463  
Chaplain .....  
Grand Knight: Ron Thompson ..... 248-398-7331  
Deputy GK: Glain C. Guilmette..... 586-419-4641  
Financial Sec'y.: Darren Gray, PGK ..... 248-302-8918  
Chancellor: Ron Bertolini ..... 248-399-9261  
Warden: Tony Szeliga ..... 248-399-3574  
Advocate: Lynn Figg, PGK ..... 586-202-9628  
Treasurer: James Morrison, PGK, FDD..... 248-585-2324  
Recorder: Silvio Marchesi ..... 586-757-0944

### GUARDS

Ernie Scheid ..... 248-544-2739  
Bob Brunk..... 248-583-1942  
Dave Tupiak..... 248-506-1550

### TRUSTEES

Donald Bessler, 2 Years ..... 248-548-1098  
Frank Meister, PGK, 3 Years..... 517-552-9514  
Duane McLaughlin, 1 year ..... 248-885-3153  
Program Director: Darren Gray, PGK ..... 248-302-8918  
Membership Chairman: Ron Bertolini ... 248-399-9261  
Church Activities Director: Joe Miller ... 248-399-0262  
Boysville Chairman: J. Turchin, PGK, FDD 248-547-0854  
Vocation Public Relation Director: .....  
Youth Director: Darren Gray, PGK ..... 248-302-8918

### Mentally Impaired Drive Chairmen

Joe Schanbeck, PGK, PFN ..... 248-379-9812  
Jim Morrison, PGK, FDD ..... 248-585-2324  
Norm Podgorski, PGK, FDD ..... 248-546-3730

### RIGHT-TO-LIFE CHAIRMAN

Jim Morrison, PGK, FDD ..... 248-585-2324

### THE SHIELD EDITOR

Silvio Marchesi ..... 586-757-0944  
E-mail: scm04@wowway.biz

### AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Janice Polan ..... 248-585-1573

### FIELD INSURANCE AGENT

Tony Bliss ..... 248-224-4396

### BUILDING CORPORATION

R. Carlisle, *President* ..... C: 248-703-4136 248-585-8069  
Richard Witkowski, *Vice President* ..... 248-546-0867  
Norm Podgorski, *PGK, FDD, Treasurer* ... 248-546-3730  
Mike Higgins, *PGK, FDD, Treasurer* ... 248-546-3730

Ron Ploskonka, Jim Morrison, Ken Podgorski  
Don W... Joe Schanbeck, Lynn Figg  
**PAST GRAND KNIGHTS**  
Frank Meister, Norm Podgor- Darren Gray  
ski

## RESOLUTION 2015

**We hereby resolve to take \$2,000.00 from the General Fund to be given to the Building Corporation for recent repairs to the basement and sump pump, due to recent flooding.**

*Signed,*  
**Norm Podgorski, PGK, FDD**  
**James Morrison, PGK, FDD**

## THE CHURCH ON CREMATION

*By Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR*

Catholics have loved relics for centuries. Although you may not realize it, the altar where Mass is celebrated usually contains an altar stone with the relic of a saint in it. It's common on saints' feast days to visit their graves or venerate their relics and be blessed with them. Is it possible to connect this adoration of relics to how we commemorate the death of our loved ones?

- Upon my entry to greet a third grade class, a little girl's hand shot up with a sense of urgency. I couldn't avoid calling on her. "My grandma died," she reported matter-of-factly. Stunned, I responded with, "I'm sure she's in a good place, and one day you'll see her again." The girl answered instantly: "I know she is. I saw her this morning. Her ashes are on our kitchen table."

- Siblings are in turmoil over the sale of their childhood home. A few years ago they fulfilled their mother's dying wish by spreading her cremated remains in the backyard flower garden. They never dreamed they would have to sell the family home; should they tell the prospective buyers?

- Another family placed their mother's ashes in small lockets on gold chains that can be worn. They distributed them to their mother's dearest relatives and friends at her memorial service.

- A father's cremated remains were divided between his two children. He has two burial plots, one in a cemetery in Philadelphia and one in Brazil, his home country.

I'm sure you've heard similar stories about cremations and the distribution of a loved one's ashes. Reactions are either extremely positive or negative. It seems no one is indifferent on the

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Gary Meeschaert – 06/03  
Michael Bernardo – 06/10  
Darren Gray – 06/10  
Christopher Bliss – 06/11  
Ronnie Thompson – 06/14  
Gary Puchalski – 06/19  
James Wojciechowski – 06/20  
Mark Smith – 06/21  
Rev Thai Nguyen – 06/23  
Joe Schanbeck – 06/24  
Michael Mandarino – 06/24  
Paul Halkey – 06/26

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Benny Guc – 07/01  
Carmello Mandarino – 07/01  
Lee Sharp – 07/01  
Mel Szlag – 07/03  
Gordon Szlag – 07/09  
Richard Salloum – 07/11  
Donald Bessler – 07/13  
Ronald Ploskonka – 07/13  
Warren Broglin – 07/16  
Michael Studebaker – 07/16  
Rev Steven Koehler – 07/31

subject. What does the Church say?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "The Church permits cremation, provided that it does not demonstrate a denial of faith in the resurrection of the body" (CCC 2301). Furthermore, the Church usually has clear instructions reflecting the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' guidelines about the placement of the cremated remains in a cemetery or place of respect, such as a mausoleum.

The Catholic News Service reported in October that "Catholic cemeteries have lost ten percent of their potential business each year since the Second Vatican Council relaxed burial and cremation restrictions? Many parishes have opened their own columbarium. More and more, it seems cremation is prevailing over the tradition of burial. This is a leap, but maybe our fascination with relics has predisposed us to this latest trend. If we desire to be close to saints we've never met, how much more will we desire to stay close to those we love and have known for a lifetime, even when they've gone home to God? It's important that we understand and uphold the Church's teaching on the subject.

## Knights of Columbus "BENEFITS NEWS" Six Great Reasons To Have Insurance on Children

**Protecting Insurability:** With a Guaranteed Purchase Option (GPO) rider attached, Knights of Columbus plans guarantee the child the opportunity to purchase more protection at various dates in their future **without having to prove insurability.** Our GPO rider allows children to increase their insurance up to seven times between the ages of 17 and 40, regardless of health. The GPO rider also enables them to get coverage with one of the top rated insurance companies in the world. They don't have to join the Knights or (in the case of a female) marry a Knight. They do it through your membership.

**Financial Protection:** When we lose a loved one, especially a child, the financial loss is often not just the cost of a funeral. It's not uncommon for parents to lose time from work to care for a dying child and to lose even more time after the child's death because of a bereavement period. Many companies limit bereavement periods to three days. Also, medical expenses incurred during an illness oftentimes cause financial stress. Beyond paying funeral costs, a policy on a child can help to supplement income while loved ones deal with this devastating loss.

**Lower Cost:** The rates will never be any better than they are right now. Plus, if you consider the amount of coverage that your children will likely need given inflation, a juvenile policy could literally save them thousands of dollars.

**Encourages Saving:** Knights of Columbus plans offer terrific cash and dividend values to help supplement cost of future likely expenses, such as the purchase of a home or a wedding. Plus, with more and more companies no longer offering pension programs, the cash values can help supplement the child's retirement.

**Qualifies for Orphan Benefit:** If the father is in good standing with his local council and at least one of the parents is insured with the Knights by a policy of at least \$5,000 permanent coverage (minimum coverage required may be higher for new plans) or \$150 annual premium, each insured child would receive a monthly benefit of \$80 to age 19 (age 23 if they attend college) if both parents were to die.

**Creating a Legacy:** The plan is also in place to protect your child's future family – your grandkids!

**Life Insurance for your child is truly a lasting gift, which they will look on later in life as one of their most cherished assets.**

**\*Receive a complete Family Needs Analysis at my expense.  
Ask about our GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITIES  
LONG TERM CARE & DISABILITY INSURANCE**

*In Christ,*

**ANTHONY BLISS, FIC, Knights of Columbus, Field Agent**  
**750 Pine Ridge Lane, Madison Heights, MI 48071**  
**Cell 248-224-4396 FAX 586-591-6500**  
**Email Anthony.Bliss@kofc.org**

## PRAYER LIST

Valleria Alexander, Glenn Bessler, Gerald Bliss, Bea Boutillier, Mike Briggs, Nan Brown, Ann Brunk, Bobby Carlisle, Mark Carlisle, Betty Cookets, Noah Cranston, Derek Dinkins, Ray Dulecki, Dee Figg, Barbara Fisher, Wallis Flynn, Ed Galczynski, Frederick Greaves, Benny Guc, Mary Jane Guc, Paul Halkey, Rose Halkey, Shirley Jurek, Catherine Lesniak, Patti Lobos, Aldo Marchesi, Edna Marchesi, Silvio Marchesi, Chris McCoy, Sharon McCoy, Rachel McLaughlin, Marge Moore, Barbara Olevnick, Leona Peklo, Helen Piana, Stella Ploskonka, Pat Podgorski, Norm Podgorski, Dick Roeske, Judie Schanbeck, Joe Schanbeck, Patricia A. Scheid, Patricia M. Scheid, Marilyn Shaub, Mark Smith, Robert Stack, Lori Stack, Ronnie Thompson, GK, Tyler Tupiak, Ann Tupiak, Lee Ventimiglia, Matt Ventimiglia, Ilene Wagely, Marian Welsh, Regis Welsh, Jean Witkowski. And please pray for all of the men and women of our Armed Services.

**NOTE: Just a reminder. Please make sure to write names clearly so that I can add them correctly to the sick and deceased list**

## GARDEN ANGELS NEEDED!!!

Got a green thumb and/or a free hour to help beautify our K/C Council house? Please join some of the members of the Ladies Auxiliary to help clean, weed and plant flowers around the Council grounds on Saturday, June 6th, from 11:00 a.m. to about 1:00 p.m. Bring your gardening tools and perhaps a flower or two to plant and enjoy the outdoors and some friendship. Refreshments, courtesy of Janice Polan, will be provided. Members, families and friends are welcome. **Let's show our pride in Council #7239!!**

## COFFEE and DONUTS

Coffee & Donuts will be held on June 7 and June 21. There are no Pancake Breakfasts in June, July and August. Monday, July 20 is the date for the Ice Cream Social. Remember the Garage Sale in August. If you have items to donate, please set them aside for the sale.