



### SPRING FLING 5 K RUN

On May 4, 2007, the 18th annual Mason Spring Fling 5 K Run was held. This is an event sponsored by the Mason State Bank, with many other local businesses providing goods and services. The end goal is to raise money for the Mason Schools Foundation. This year, to that end, \$18,952.00 was raised; and after expenses, approximately \$9,750.00 was donated to the Foundation. This is a volunteer effort, and there are no “administrative fees”—all the profit goes to the Foundation. The Mason Police Department provided five police vehicles and five officers for the night of the event. The event requires “hours and hours” of night meetings (which have already begun for the 2008 race), which is donated time. The race is now listed on the “Capital Area Race Circuit,” and this year, drew the attention of Governor Granholm and her husband, who came unannounced to Mason and ran the race with all the other 947 paid entrants. The race is an event which Mason Police Department’s Detective has been involved with for the past 15 years; participating in the planning, road closures, placement of over 75 race volunteers, and the actual races.



*Mark your calendar for  
Friday, May 2, 2008, at 7:00  
PM for the 20th Annual Mason State Bank 5 K Race.*

### SHOP WITH A HERO PROGRAM

For the past four years, the Mason Police Department staff members have volunteered to be a part of the Shop with A Hero program. This is a program in which deserving youngsters from the community are referred to a central location to shop on a designated evening at the Mason Meijer for Christmas gifts for their family members. Meijer Incorporation generously provides a substantial donation to the children in the form of a gift card and groceries for the family. Each child is paired with a uniform officer or firefighter and the pair does their shopping together. This year, Chief John



Stressman, Detective-Corporal Lynne Mark, and Officer Todd Thie donated their time to this endeavor. The Shop with A Hero program is a two-way exchange—we believe the officers get just as much from this program as the children.

### POLAR PLUNGE - FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS



In February of 2007, Officer Todd Thie participated in the Polar Plunge along with over 100 other brave souls. He performed a back flip into the freezing water, and won a trophy for “The Best Individual Original Plunge.” Most importantly, he was able to raise \$470 for Special Olympics.



Future Leader Dog Trivet, Jann, and Judah, collecting money for “White Cane Week” in association with the Mason Lions Club.

## ANIMAL RESCUE FOR SERVICE WORK

Secretary Jann Lifsey has been rescuing animals on her off-work hours for the past 18 years. During that time she and a few friends have rescued approximately 800 dogs (mostly from shelters) who have been accepted into training at Leader Dogs for the Blind, U.S. Customs, Paws with a Cause, the Michigan State Police, and several other police agencies. In addition, two of their rescued dogs were trained to detect drugs at Lansing Public Schools, and one became Lansing Fire Department’s first Search and Rescue dog. Lifsey also rescues stray and abandoned cats. She placed 53 of these in 2007.



## HAYES PARK AND PINK SCHOOL HOUSE BEAUTIFICATION

Everyone who enjoyed the beautiful flowers massed around the Hayes Park entrance sign during the summer and fall of 2007 can thank Officer James Duthie. As part of his Mason Gardener Class at Michigan State University, he spent many volunteer hours planting and caring for them. Officer Duthie could also be seen at the Pink School House during the fall, planting flower bulbs. The results of his hard labor should be apparent in the spring of 2008.