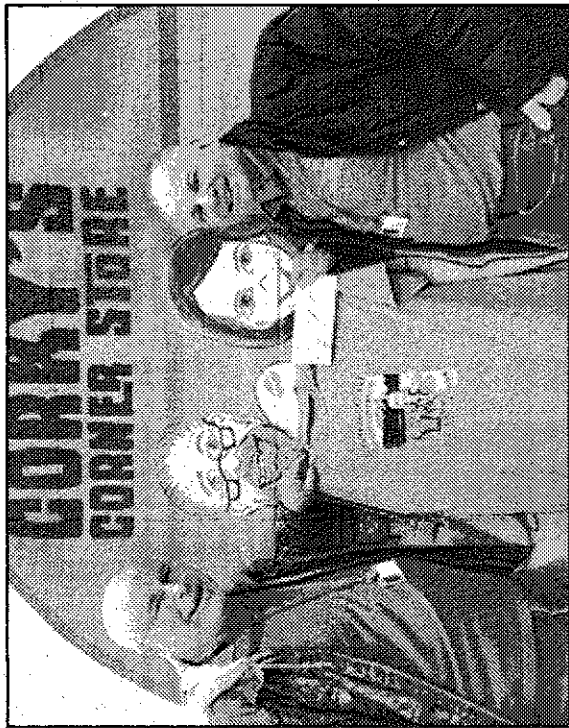
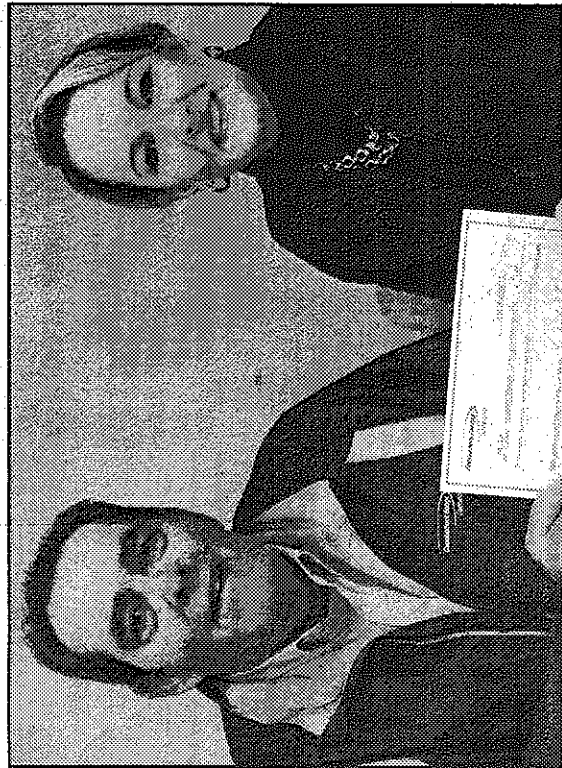


**BUSINESS NEWS**

**Donates to Special Olympics**



*Courtesy photo*  
Special Olympics Area 31 coaches Ed Fischer, left, and David Matale, right, receive a \$1,400 donation from Corky's Corner Store of Hale, as a result of its Wintry Swim fundraiser.



**FVOP adds staff in northeast Michigan**

GRAND RAPIDS - F&V Operations and Resource Management, Inc. (FVOP) of Grand Rapids announced last week the hiring of two new employees for northeast Michigan.

Operations specialists Adam Johns and Oscoda native Zach Smith will assist the FVOP team in operating and maintaining water and sewer systems including repairing water and sewer main breaks and making residential and business customer service calls. In addition, they will be operating a backhoe and vector truck and reading water meters.

Johns, a Grayling native who relocated to Northeast Michigan, is a certified U.S. Army mechanic. Smith, an Oscoda Area High School graduate, has an associate's degree from Alpena Community College in concrete technology.

"Adam and Zach are bright and enthusiastic," said Cath Garnham, FVOP's regional manager in East Tawas. "They will be mentored by local seasoned utility profes-

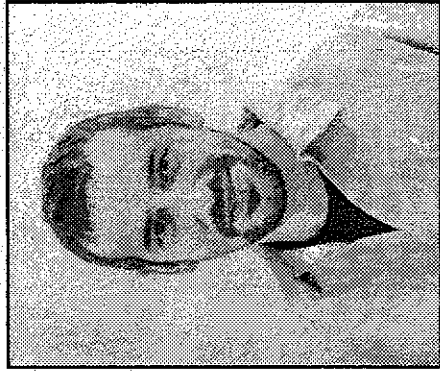


*Courtesy photo*  
**Adam Johns**

sionals and hopefully grow into a leadership role for FVOP in northeast Michigan."

FVOP, which has its headquarters in Grand Rapids, provides operations assistance, management and training throughout Michigan and Indiana for municipal, industrial and environmental systems.

FVOP's goal is to provide a partnership with their clients in



*Courtesy photo*  
**Zach Smith**

operating their facilities safely and efficiently. FVOP supports its staff through training and on-going certifications to enhance their professional development.

The northeast team services Oscoda, Au Sable and Baldwin Townships, Tawas City and East Tawas facilities.

**Ascension Mid-Michigan leaders expand roles**

TAWAS CITY - The hospital foundations of Ascension Mid-Michigan - Genesys Health Foundation, St. Mary's of Michigan Foundation and St. Joseph Health System Foundation - are regionalizing their functions under the leadership of Karen Stiffler, who has been named vice president of the Ascension Mid-Michigan hospital foundations.

She also will oversee the volunteer services' programs at each

