**MONDAY** 

Partly cloudy and cool

High 69 Low 41

## October 4, 2004 RAMS TOP 49ER **ST. LOUIS IMPROVES TO 2-2** SPORTS D1



BABY BLOGS **PARENTS SHARE STORIES, ADVICE LIFESTYLE C1** 

### **\$.99 A BULB ACE BRACED FOR** LIGHT-BULB SALE

WALLY SPIERS B1

# BELEVILLE NEWS-DEMOCRAT www.bellevillenewsdemocrat.com 50 cents **Serving Southwestern Illinois**

### **Bring on the Dodgers**

What you need to know about Game 1 of the Cardinals' Division Series:

Who: Los Angeles at St. Louis When: 12:09 p.m. Tuesday at Busch Stadium Pitchers: Odalis Perez (7-6, 3.25 ERA) vs. Woody Williams (11-7, 4.18 ERA) **Tickets:** It's a sellout **On TV: ESPN, WB-Channel 11** 

PLEASE SEE SPORTS, D1

**Coming Tuesday** A YEAR TO REMEMBER, A TITLE TO WIN: Recap the Cards' season

# More women seeking help

Domestic violence awareness on the rise

By JENNIFER A. BOWEN jbowen@bnd.com

On the 10th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act last month, Attorney General John Ashcroft said domestic violence in the United States has declined 59 percent over the last 10 years.

However, in the metro-east, the number of victims of domestic violence taking advantage of victim services has increased.

"This year, we have just been inundated," said Jane Lee, executive director of Violence Prevention Center of Southwestern Illinois. "Our numbers aren't going down. The Violence Against Women Act gave us a little more money for services, and because of that, we are able to do earlier intervention with the victims. Because we can do that, our numbers are going up.'

October is Domestic Violence Prevention Month. The violence prevention center has planned several events and educational outreach programs to inform people about domestic violence and how to end it. Lee has been the executive director of the shelter and program for 15 years, which celebrated its 25th anniversary this year.

In 1993, there were 1.2 million victims of domestic violence in the United States,

Please see HELP, A2

#### **Calling for help**

In St. Clair, Monroe and Randolph counties: Violence Prevention Center of Southwestern Illinois 24-hour crisis hot line: 235-0892 Web site: www.vpcswi.org

In Madison County:

**Oasis Women's Center** hot line: (800) 244-1978 Phoenix Crisis Center hot line in Granite City: 451-1008

# SURVIVING AIDS IN THE METRO-EAST **PRAYING FOR A MIRACLE** STAYING ON THE MEDS



# **New homes** could burden storm drainage

Neighbors oppose development

BY JENNIFER KAPIOLANI SAXTON jsaxton@bnd.com

EDWARDSVILLE - Sharon and Ted Hancock moved to the Dunlap Lake subdivision 16 years ago for the solitude and its resort-like qualities

But the days of watching deer wander through their back yard or hummingbirds feed from their back porch may be numbered.

"It's been a well-kept secret," Sharon Hancock said as she took a break from working in her back yard at West Lake Drive. Her husband

oreed

Neighbors are concerned about the planned Prairie Oaks subdivision (143) UI 2 Dunlap

ZIA NIZAMI/News-Democrat

Bill Michaelree prays during Mass at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Belleville. He attends Mass several times a week to cope with AIDS.



#### SUNDAY

LIVING ON **A PRAYER:** The Rev. Harold Lawary of East St. Louis has stopped taking medications. He

credits his continued health to his strong spiritual life.

**AVAILABLE AT** Bellevillenewsdemocrat.com

#### TODAY

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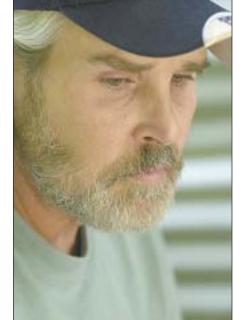
STRUGGLING: Bill Michaelree takes his drug cocktail every day and attends Mass regularly, but AIDS is taking a toll on his body.

A SECTION

A4 Opinion

A5 Nation/World

A10 Local Flashes



Bill Michaelree learns that as a result of his declining health he has to go into Hospice care and leave **Bethany Place.** 

**C** LIFESTYLE

C2 Dear Abby

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**B BUSINESS** 

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B1 Business

B2 Obituaries

BY MIKE FITZGERALD mfitzgerald@bnd.com

If Bill Michaelree's life has a theme these days, it's to hang on.

Michaelree, 49, of Belleville, has lived with AIDS for more than two decades. And he's determined to hang on a little longer because of his mother.

She has already buried a son and daughter. Michaelree doesn't want her to endure another round of anguish over his grave.

"I have a goal to outlive my mother," Michaelree said. "I can vividly remember the pain on her face (when his brother died in a motorcycle crash). And I'm doing everything I can to outlive her."

So Michaelree bides his time. He makes do with the one-room apartment he lives in at Bethany Place, an AIDS group home in Belleville. It's in a rehabbed World War II-era

**D** SPORTS NEWS

D2,3 Baseball

B6-7, C7-9 CLASSIFIED

D6.7 NFL

D4,5 Scoreboard

Quonset hut, filled with stuffed teddy bears, religious books and Cardinals baseball memorabilia.

Unlike others who are choosing not to stay on their mix of AIDS drugs, called drug cocktails, Michaelree continues to take them, plus dozens of other pills each day to offset the side effects. He tries to eat the right foods, even if on some days his appetite has vanished.

He'll cook himself a dinner, and "It'll take me two or three days to eat it," he said. "I have to force feed myself."

He meditates to keep the stress to a minimum, prays and attends Catholic Mass regularly.

Most of the time, he can only move with the help of a cane or a four-wheel walker, which he pushes with obvious strain. His fingers feel

FOR MISSOURI

Pick 3-Midday: 5-6-5; Evening: 4-1-3

Show Me 5-Evening: 29-32-37-41-42

Show Me 5-Midday: 1-6-8-13-43

Pick 4-Midday: 0-3-6-1; Evening: 7-1-1-6

Please see MIRACLE, A8

LOTTERY FOR ILLINOIS

Pick 3-Evening: 7-1-8

Pick 4-Evening: 6-1-3-3

Jackpot: \$3.5 million

Little Lotto: 13-16-18-28-32

"It's kind of like living in a resort, and just having to do the maintenance,' said Ted Hancock, whose house overlooks both the Dunlap



Lake and a densely wooded area.

Last month, the Edwardsville City Council approved the preliminary plat for Prairie Oaks subdivision despite the concerns of Dunlap Lake residents. The 22-lot development would be located off West Lake Drive on 7.55 acres, once a part of the Stulken Family Trust. The property is being developed by Sean Feco of Edwardsville, who plans to live in the new neighborhood.

Feco has been meeting with residents of the existing neighborhood, which was established 1946. West Lake Drive is about a mile long and has 47 houses. The close-knit community fears a new subdivision will change the atmosphere of the neighborhood.

"It will have an incredible impact on the ambiance," said Pat Henderson of West Lake Drive, who said she moved to the area eight years ago for the peace and quiet.

Her husband, George Henderson, said the proposed 850-foot-long street that would branch off West Lake Drive with a cul-de-sac will have a big impact on the neighborhood.

"Right now, it's very slow and very quiet," George Henderson said. "That's going to change.

Plans include a 15-foot conservation easement between the two subdivisions to serve as a buffer zone to help preserve much of the area's green space, Feco said.

"That's a big parcel of land sitting in the middle of Edwardsville, eventually someone was going to put something there," Feco said. "It's just a matter of developing it responsibly and not causing any problems.'

Residents also fear the effect stormwater runoff from the new subdivision might have on their aging storm drains.

The culvert between the Hancocks' home and the neighboring home has rusted out over the

Please see HOMES, A2



>Knight Ridder>