



# THE CORNER INFORMER

*The Newsletter of The Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association*

Volume 26 Issue 1 March 2020

## OUR PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

SEMVMA welcomed the new decade in style with the Membership Celebration on January 8th at the Townsend Hotel. This annual event provides a great opportunity for all SEMVMA members to catch up with old friends and welcome new members to the organization. If you haven't joined us for the Membership Celebration yet, you should really try to attend next year. It is a free member benefit and you can bring a guest for the evening. Dinner was lovely and it was followed quickly with the installation of new SEMVMA officers and recognition of those members of the Council completing their terms. Dr. Lucy Henney was recognized for her outstanding contributions to SEMVMA and the veterinary community as a whole. Major Justin DeVanna was our invited guest speaker and provided the assembled members with an invitation to explore "their why." His message was an important reminder that what makes each of us unique as a veterinarian does not define us exclusively as who we are. We should all remember that we are much more than our job description dictates.

I would like to thank Dave Smith for his leadership and the enthusiasm that he provided as president of SEMVMA over the last year. He kept us on track during Council meetings and helped to generate new ideas to keep our association relevant as we enter the phase of required continuing education in Michigan. Dr. Colleen Beach and Dr. Dave Balaj are retiring from their SEMVMA duties and we also thank them for their years of contribution to the association. I would be remiss if I failed to mention the efforts of Ms. Barb Locricchio in keeping the communication line open between the Council and Membership as she is the glue that keeps SEMVMA moving forward.

I am truly honored to be able to serve as president of SEMVMA this year; I am grateful for the wonderful colleagues who I have the opportunity to work with on the SEMVMA Council. There are many unrecognized hours each month that go into the planning

for SEMVMA's busy calendar year. Your Council spends numerous hours researching and contacting potential speakers to fill out the upcoming Continuing Education calendar. SEMVMA continues to strive to bring top quality nationally recognized experts in their fields to speak directly to our members in our excellent continuing education programs. Additionally, there is a lot of behind the scenes effort in finding program sponsors to help defray the cost of the quality CE that we enjoy as a result. All of our CE sessions count towards your state Continuing Medical Education requirements, so don't miss out on these local opportunities to learn from the best without the travel. Additionally, SEMVMA offers quality CE for your support team in the evening of each veterinarian seminar. The cost is nominal, but the benefits are immense when you can also support their educational enrichment.

This year brings another amazing line up of educational opportunities starting with an all day Abdominal Ultrasound Seminar with Dr. Anthony Pease on March 22, 2020. Our

Ultrasound Seminars are second to none and very reasonably priced, so lock in your spot as the email reminders have already gone out. Closely after that, we will conclude the 2019-2020 series with Dr. Holly Brown discussing Clinical Pathology on March 25, 2020. The topics up for the 2020-21 Veterinarian CE season will include: immunization science, internal medicine with rounds, veterinary physical therapy/rehabilitation, dermatology, and ophthalmology. Your veterinary teams will also have evening CE opportunities, so watch for the final schedule releases to be mailed out soon. You are always welcome to check the SEMVMA website for the upcoming schedule of events.

2020 is shaping up to be a wonderful year with SEMVMA and I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events. Again, I thank you for the opportunity to serve the association and welcome any suggestions that you have to improve your SEMVMA.

— Tari



*Tari Kern*

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Veterinary Medical  
Association**

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## SEMVMA VETERINARY CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM

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03/25/2020 – Dr. Holly Brown: Clinical Pathology  
Sponsored by Idexx

### 2020/2021 CE Program

10/28/2020 – Dr. Richard Ford: Immunology and Vaccinations  
Sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim

11/11/2020 – Dr. Michael Schaer: ER Rounds, Internal Medicine Pearls  
Sponsored by Zoetis

12/16/2020 – Dr. Kristin Kirkby: Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation  
Sponsored by Elanco

02/24/2021 – Dr. Douglas DeBoer: Dermatology

03/24/2021 – Dr. David Williams: Ophthalmology

Sign-in for the conference begins at 8:15 am, with the seminar beginning at 9:00 am. Continental breakfast and full lunch are included. The seminars will conclude at 5:00 pm.

## SEMVMA TECHNICIAN CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM

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03/25/2020 – Dr. Holly Brown: Clinical Pathology

### 2020/2021 CE Program

10/28/2020 – Dr. Richard Ford

11/11/2020 – Dr. Michael Schaer: Fluid Therapy

12/16/2020 – Dr. Kristin Kirkby: Physical Therapy/Rehabilitation/Orthopedics

02/24/2021 – TBA

03/24/2021 – Dr. David Williams: Eye Anatomy and Physiology

Sign-in and dinner for the conference begins at 5:45 pm with the starting at 6:30 pm. The seminars will conclude at 8:30 pm. For each SEMVMA member in your practice, one technician or staff member can attend each of the seminars at no expense. The cost for additional staff members or for the staff of non-SEMVMA members is our regular charge of \$35. You must RSVP to ensure a meal and proceedings.

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For more details, please visit our website at [www.semvma.vet](http://www.semvma.vet).

Congratulations to **Michelle Meyer** (Serenity Animal Hospital). She was elected as president-elect for the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP).



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Our goal of this section is to let members know what is occurring in our lives outside of veterinary medicine. Please notify us of your recent family additions, graduations, honors, achievements, fund raising activities, civic group associations, outdoor activities and the like. Please call us at 248-651-6332 or email us at [adminsevmma@sevmma.com](mailto:adminsevmma@sevmma.com)

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

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Please join us in welcoming the following new members to SEMVMA...

**Amy Oberstadt**, DVM, Western University of Health Sciences, 2015, OVRs, Bloomfield Hills, MI

**Matthew Hynes**, DVM, MSU, 2009, Advanced Animal Emergency, Clinton Township, MI

**Jordan Roux**, DVM, Ross University, CVM, Veterinary Emergency Services West, Plymouth, MI

**Elizabeth Weymouth**, DVM, MSU, 2008, Affiliated Veterinary Emergency Services, Allen Park, MI

The 2020 membership committee is composed of 3 members:

Michelle Meyer, DVM (Chair) [michellemeyerdvm@gmail.com](mailto:michellemeyerdvm@gmail.com), Tim Duncan, DVM,

[Duncan@oaklandanimal.com](mailto:Duncan@oaklandanimal.com) and Tari Kern, DVM [tkerndvm@yahoo.com](mailto:tkerndvm@yahoo.com). Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions. If you know of a veterinarian in the area who is not a member but may be interested in joining, please contact any member of the membership committee of the SEMVMA office and we will be happy to send them information.

# SAVE THESE DATES! UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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## **Beginner/Intermediate Abdominal Ultrasound**

More details and how to register in this issue



## **27th Annual SEMVMA Golf Outing**

Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon.

Four person scramble - all proceeds benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind.



## **49th Annual Holiday Party for the Southeastern Veterinary Community**

Some exciting changes are in the works for the big day, so mark your calendars!

## **-2019 ACADEMY MEMBERS-**

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Steve Bailey, DVM, DABVP – Exclusively Cats Veterinary Hospital  
Michelle Carter, DVM – LaFond Veterinary Hospital  
Grace Chang, DVM – Southfield Veterinary Hospital  
Kathy Christy, DVM – Oakland Hills Veterinary Hospital  
Jill Crisp, DVM – VCA Beech Road Animal Hospital  
Melissa Doolin, DVM – Serenity Animal Hospital  
Judy Duderstadt, DVM – Cahill Veterinary Hospital  
Ashley Elzerman, DVM, MS – Oakland Veterinary Referral Services  
Marj Field, DVM – Furever Friends Veterinary Services  
Tari Kern, DVM, CCRP, CVMA, CVSMT – Pawsitive Steps Rehabilitation & Therapy for Pets  
Laura Kulinski-Masell, DVM – Levan Road Animal Hospital  
Molly Lynch, DVM – Country Cat Clinic  
Michelle Meyer, DVM – Serenity Animal Hospital  
Karen Michalski, DVM – Serenity Animal Hospital  
Shelby Motoligin, DVM – Animal Emergency Center  
John S. Parker, DVM – Briarpointe Veterinary Hospital  
Cheryl Rice, DVM, DACVIM, GDVWHM – Oakland Veterinary Referral Services  
Julie Sherman, DVM – Serenity Animal Hospital  
Dave Smith, DVM – Leader Dogs for The Blind  
Sandy Smith, DVM – Animal Health Clinic of Fenton  
Emily Socks, DVM – Oakland Hills Veterinary Hospital  
Melissa Theyyunni, DVM – Animal Emergency Center  
Stephen Steep, DVM – Oxford Veterinary Hospital  
Kelly Wilson, DVM – Leader Dogs for The Blind  
Andrea Zelten, DVM – Jeffrey Animal Hospital



## Abdominal Ultrasound

### Beginner / Intermediate Level

*by Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association*

Register today! Space is limited.

Ultrasound Lectures and Wet Lab

Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

One day seminar 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Location: Macomb Community College

Instructor: Anthony Pease, DVM, Diplomat ACVR  
Chief Veterinary Medical Officer, WVC, Las Vegas, NV

Cost: \$600 SEMVMA members and Universal clients  
\$700 Non-members

**Easy online registration: [universalimaginginc.com](http://universalimaginginc.com)**

Questions? Contact Tim Duncan, DVM, (248) 651-0303 [duncan@oaklandanimal.com](mailto:duncan@oaklandanimal.com)

Registration cost includes lunch, light breakfast, and all lecture and wetlab materials.

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## 2020 MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION DINNER

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Our Membership Celebration Dinner was held January 8, 2020 at the Townsend Hotel. A gathering of new and old acquaintances reflected on the previous year and events to come. Dr. Justin DeVanna spoke on "Discovering your Why," relating personal experiences in veterinary medicine and his current and previous roles in military service. We thank him for his service and for his thoughtful presentation. The Membership Celebration Dinner occurs each January to honor existing members, induct new members and install the newly elected Board and Council. All SEMVMA members and a guest are encouraged to attend at no charge. Please mark your calendars for a similar event next January.

Incoming President Tari Kern presented a plaque for 'Outstanding Service as President' to David Smith, who graciously accepted. Newly inducted SEMVMA members, Drs. Jennifer Zimmer, Amy Oberstadt, Kate Levey, and Krysta Haggins were sworn in and welcomed by President Tari Kern. The Veterinary Technician Scholarships were again presented to the winners: First Place - Kelly Holguin (Macomb Community College), Second Place - Alexis Kain (Macomb Community College), and Third Place - Kaitlyn Snarski (Baker College). Dr. Lucy Shields Henney was presented the outstanding Contribution to SEMVMA award for her many years of dedication and devotion to SEMVMA. We all appreciate her longstanding contribution to SEMVMA and our veterinary community. Her devotion to our organization behind the scenes as the Treasurer and Chairman of the Education Committee often goes unnoticed.

Once again, Faithful Companion provided sponsorship of the cocktail hour. It was greatly appreciated.



*Tari Kern, Incoming President, presenting Dave Smith, Outgoing President, his award for Outstanding Service As President.*



*Newly inducted SEMVMA members, Drs. Jennifer Zimmer, Amy Oberstadt, Kate Levey, and Krysta Haggins with President Tari Kern*

*Veterinary Technician 2020 Scholarship Winners. First Place: Kelly Holguin (Macomb Community College), Second Place: Alexis Kain (Macomb Community College), and Third Place: Kaitlyn Snarski (Baker College) with President Tari Kern*



*Dr. Norman Bayne presenting the Outstanding Contribution to SEMVMA award to Dr. Lucy Shields Henney for her many years of dedication and devotion to SEMVMA.*

*Dr. Michelle Meyer with her veterinary school classmate and the speaker for the evening, Dr. Justin DeVanna.*



# WHERE'S FIDO?

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One question that I routinely get in the exam room is, "Do they have doggie GPS? I want to look at my phone to see where my pup is at whenever I want to." Which I usually follow up with, "Uhhhhhhhhhhhhhh, no, not really." Which kind of stinks, because this would be a great thing for our canines (and felines, potentially). Well, my lovely yellow Labrador is aging quickly, and decided to go on a walkabout the other day. He went right through our electronic fence and took a tour of Rochester. So, my wife and I decided it was time to try something.

First, a bit of background as to why I am writing this article. Many of you know me as a "techie" (aka "nerd"), and, as such, I have been tracking (pun intended) the developing technology on these products at the Consumer Electronics Show on a yearly basis. Every year, the units keep getting better and better. So, let's talk GPS.

The GPS units available fall into three categories: QR coding, satellite GPS, and cellular GPS. I will tackle each of these separately:

QR coding: the least expensive option, this little dog tag has a QR code on it. When someone finds your wayward pooch, they scan this code with their phone, and up pops a webpage with your contact information on it so they can choose to call you (or not). The reason why I added this product to this article is that behind the scenes on the webpage that just opened up on that person's phone, the page itself just requested a GPS position from the phone that scanned the QR code, and then sends that GPS location directly to you, telling you where your pet is. Pretty cool, huh? A bit creepy too. Remember when your phone asked for all those permissions to send information out to webpages, etc. during set-up? Yep, neither do I, but, it did, and you okayed it (unless you live in an electronic security box, which means you may need to talk to someone else other than me for, um, professional help). Two major issues with this little doo-dad, it requires someone to physically catch your pet, and for that person to have the know-how and wherewithal to scan a QR code. Not perfect, but cheap, and effective.

Satellite GPS units: the most expensive units, these are professional level products that send live location updates to a hand-held device, usually specifically built and matched to a collar. These units use GPS satellites directly, which, from an efficiency standpoint, makes these the most accurate devices out there. The problem with them is the battery life. Most of them do not last longer than 24 hours. Which makes them relatively impractical for your regular run-of-the-mill dog owner, but pretty cool for hunting animals.

Cellular GPS units: somewhere in the middle in terms of cost, these units hook onto a cellular phone carrier, and use that carrier's GPS systems to relay back to you where your pet is. These units are where the technology has been developing rapidly. And, it is this option that I chose to use for my rebel Labrador. I have been tracking a company called 'Fi' for a while, and decided to try their collar. Here is my experience:

- ▶ It uses AT&T's cellular network, which, while not perfect, works very well in my area (if you are reading this article, it means that AT&T probably works well (southeast Michigan)). Cost comes out to be \$7 per month for the cellular connectivity, which, while not cheap, is pretty good for what you get. And before anyone asks, no you can't text your dog with this collar (my wife was pretty upset after finding this out), it only uses the GPS aspect of AT&T's network.

- ▶ The collar is pretty slim, and weighs about the same as an Invisible Fence collar. While still not perfectly sized for a cat, I would imagine you can use it on a larger critter of the feline variety without too much trouble. I don't have one of said specimens for trial, so you are on your own if you want to try it.

- ▶ Fi claims that the battery life on the unit is about three months. Which, in my experience, I have been getting about 4-6 weeks. An explanation for that relates to how the unit keeps the battery drain to a minimum. The unit keeps in contact with a "home base" unit, using Bluetooth low energy (BLE). This wireless technology has decent range,



## WHERE'S FIDO? (CONTINUED)

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and dramatically improves battery life by using that connection (when available) versus the cellular GPS signal (if a BLE connection is unavailable). The “home base” unit is plugged into the wall, and relays to your phone app that your dog is in the house, where he/she should be. The issue is walls / floors / etc., which interfere sometimes with the BLE signal, dropping the connection and using more of the cellular GPS signal, hence using more battery life. If you live in a modest house, and can centralize the home base, you shouldn't have too much trouble. I have been playing with the location of my home base within my home, but it still loses connection if he decides to go to one of the outermost walls to take a nap. So, my battery life is not what is advertised, but it still lasts a long time (4-6 weeks) and charges quickly (2 hours to full charge).

► Location reporting is pretty good, usually about every three minutes while he is out and about (walks, etc.). You can ramp this up dramatically by tapping the “Lost Dog” icon on the app, which immediately increases reporting (based on movement), and illuminates a red blinking LED on the collar (very helpful for midnight strolls). Doing so increases battery drain pretty significantly, but it still should give you plenty of time to find your pup and herd them back home.

► The app is available for Android and iPhone. Both are pretty good, and both can be used as an activity tracker (maps of previous walks, step counts, etc.). The information is compared with all the other creatures of the same breed connected to the network, so you can see how your pup is doing relative to the rest of the population. I was pretty excited that my 11 year old mostly blind Labrador (he has

oculoskeletal dysplasia) ranks around the 70th percentile, and meets his step goals pretty much daily. In addition to activity tracking, it uses notifications to alert you when your pet leaves home, and if he is walking with an owner or not (I have two owners set up on my Lab's collar). The notifications can be abundant, but you can customize them (or turn them off), depending on which notifications you would like to receive. One final note on the app, you can set up multiple safe zones, and add additional “home bases” for multiple homes, or vacation areas. Pretty customizable, and you can increase or decrease the size of the safe zones (using Google maps satellite imagery), depending on need.

So, there you have it. To answer the question, no, I did not receive a ‘Fi’ collar for free, and am not on their payroll. I probably should have reached out to them for a unit to test, but decided that the tech built into this device has matured over the past few years to make it worth the investment. Hopefully, they will continue to develop this device with future capabilities (I see a potential for digital geofencing, where it can give feedback to the dog (not just the owner) when they go outside of their “controlled area,” much like an electric fence without the wire).

Probably a lot more information than you ever wanted about GPS devices, but I hope this helps you answer that question that invariably comes up in the exam room. So, instead of “Uhhhhh...,” it turns into “Yep, I have some options for you.” Happy winter everyone, stay warm, and enjoy the season.

**Tim Duncan, DVM**



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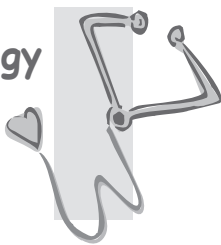
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# OPPORTUNITIES

## VETERINARIANS

Serenity Animal Hospital is a small animal practice in Sterling Heights, MI, seeking a full time veterinary associate to join our growing family! Proficiency in preventative medicine, small animal surgery, and dentistry is required. A fully licensed technical staff is available to assist you at all times. Endoscopy, laparoscopy, digital radiography, and ultrasound are also located within the practice. Most importantly, we are looking for an easy-going, energetic, fun-loving soul who works well with others and can multi-task. Our clients will challenge you with their pets, and allow you to practice the high-quality, progressive medicine you desire! Serious inquiries may provide their resume in person, via email, greyhounddoc@comcast.net or fax 586-264-9381 to Dr. Karen Michalski.

Pawsitive Steps Rehabilitation & Sports Medicine is growing! We seek the rare unicorn, a compassionate veterinarian, ideally certified in rehabilitation and/or acupuncture, to join our fantastic rehabilitation team, which includes 3 rehabilitation certified LVTs. Our newly expanded, 4500 sq ft, well-equipped facility is dedicated exclusively to providing premier level rehabilitation therapy and integrative medicine in beautiful Rochester Hills, Michigan. Learn more about us at [www.pawsitivestepsrehab.com](http://www.pawsitivestepsrehab.com). For more information, contact Dr. Tari Kern at [frontdesk@pawsitivestepsrehab.com](mailto:frontdesk@pawsitivestepsrehab.com) or 248-564-0309.

If you are a cat person, you should apply for this job! Kitty's Doctor, an exclusively feline practice in Grosse Pointe, MI is looking for a full or part-time veterinarian. Opportunity to buy-in for the right person. Will consider new graduates. Send Resume to: [kittysdoctor@comcast.net](mailto:kittysdoctor@comcast.net)

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## CLINICS FOR SALE

Michigan, Charlevoix County: Double-Digit Growth the last 3-years! Hidden gem in a beautiful destination area of Northern Michigan. This practice is poised to grow in the next year! Gross income 600K in 2018. Estimated after-debt income to a new owner is 169K. Seller will hold promissory note for down payment! Practice is 2,000 sq. ft. on approximately 1/3 acre. 3 exam rooms, organized reception area, doctor's office, waiting room, laboratory area equipped with Idexx equipment, surgery room with a surgical laser, Cornerstone software, digital x-ray and 6 kennels with outside run. Contact: PS Broker, 800-636-4740 [info@psbroker.com](mailto:info@psbroker.com) [www.http://psbroker.com](http://psbroker.com)

Are you ready to buy or sell a veterinary practice? Valuations, consultations. Buying or selling, I can help. Call or text Dr. Fred Zydeck, Broker, at: 248-891-3934 or email: [fzydeck@aol.com](mailto:fzydeck@aol.com)

## TECHNICIAN WANTED

Creekside Animal Hospital is seeking an LVT for part time work, in our busy 4 doctor small animal clinic. Our technicians fully utilize their knowledge and skills in a fun, team based environment. We are dedicated to providing old fashioned TLC enhanced by modern technology. We strive to expand our knowledge of veterinary medicine while upholding a high level of compassion and dedication towards animals and their families. Prospective candidates should have a love for animals, excellent communication and a true value of team work. We utilize Avimark, IDEXX, digital x-ray, ultrasound, dental x-ray and prophylaxis, and laser therapy. Job related tasks include: Anesthesia monitoring, teeth cleaning, assisting in surgery, venipuncture and IV catheter placement, laboratory skills, client communication, help maintain cleanliness and organization. Prospective candidates please send resume to: [Creeksideah@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Creeksideah@sbcglobal.net) or fax to 586-226-4402 Attn: Becky

## NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT POLICY

In order to preserve the educational and informative purpose of the SEMVMA newsletter, the SEMVMA council adopts the following policy regarding advertising. Ads should be submitted to Barb at [adminsemvma@semvma.com](mailto:adminsemvma@semvma.com)

Practices or businesses with a common owner shall be treated as one business or practice for the purpose of this policy (referred to as "Common Owner Business or Practice"). A common owner is a person or entity which owns 5% or more of an entity or practice. Shareholders or sole proprietors of an entity or practice shall be considered an owner along with the entity that holds an interest in the business or practice.

Corporate ¼ page ads are limited to one business, owner or corporation for each issue of the SEMVMA newsletter. This is in the interest of having the newsletter inform the association and not overwhelm them with ads. The SEMVMA council may modify or waive the application of this policy

on a case by case basis at the discretion of the council.

Ads will run only once unless a request is submitted to the Administrative Secretary to run longer. Classified ads are \$15 for 60 words or less and \$25 for 61–100 words. Corporate ¼ page ads are \$135 per issue or \$500 for four issues. Payment is due at the time of the initial ad placement.

SEMVMA Members interested in providing Relief Veterinary Services can advertise in the newsletter at no charge. The classified ads must follow the same guidelines regarding number of words and deadline restrictions as all other classified ads. If you are a SEMVMA member interested in placing a classified ad, please contact Barb at 888-SEMVMA-5 or [www.adminsemvma@semvma.com](mailto:www.adminsemvma@semvma.com).

Newsletters are published quarterly: on March 15th, June 15th, September 15th and December 15th. All ads should be submitted to the SEMVMA office by the 15th of the month preceding publication.




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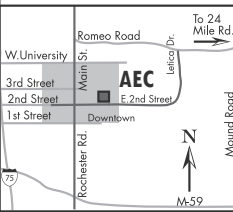
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