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to African Safari Wildlife Park in Port Clinton, Ohio (maximum of six people per car). Scoop will pick his favorite picture every day. All artwork will be on display at the event.

Scoop will be on hand 3-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday to meet and greet young readers and pass out his stickers. Stop by and meet the Newshound. Scoop will also be giving out treats to Art in The Park's canine visitors.

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chance to win.

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Senior Olympics

Senior Ulympics

Area seniors are invited to enter the sixth annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics, which are scheduled to take place in various communities Aug.16-20. A variety of fun and challenging activities for men and women age 50 and older will be available throughout the competition week from which to choose. For more information or to confirm event times and locations for these Olympic events, contact the Canton Senior Center at (734) 394-5485.



The Zygmunt family — April (from left), Abigail, 11, Konner, 6, Olivia, 10, and Craig — pose with their 2006 Ford Mustang GT convertible they It take to the Crusin' Michigan Avenue July 10.

Car shows, cruising a family affair

Cruising is a family affair for Craig and April Zygmunt and their three children. The Canton couple and Konner, 6, Abigail, 11, and Olivia, 10, spend every weekend of the summer and some weeknights involved with car shows and activities like Cruisin' Michigan Avenue on Saturday.

The Zygmunts and other classic car lovers will be getting a jump start on the Woodward Dream Cruise by Cruisin' Michigan Avenue, a daylong event is expected to draw 20,000 cars and 150,000 spectators to five communities along the route that includes Westland.

April bought their bright yellow 2006 Mustang convertible with black racing stripes in memory of her daughter, Collette, a special needs child who died at age 3.

"I enjoy car shows, cruises. It's not all a guys' sport anymore. If guys can do it, why can't we," said April Zygmunt. "We enjoy having fun as a family. We go to car shows. The kids help detail the car and make a little bit of money on the side doing other people's wheels."

Zygmunt is continuing a family tradition. Her father had a '56 Chevy that he restored when she was growing up in Alma.

"We'd go to car shows and had friends," said April. "I want to share that with our kids. My son wanted a yellow Mustang for his birthday. He



Working on the third annual Cruising Michigan Avenue are Anthony J. Rzucidlo (from left), director of the Emergency Vehicle Show, Gayle Napolitano-Nicholson, vice-president, and Don Nicholson, president, of Don Nicholson Enterprises, LLC.

Don Nicholson, president, or uon Nicholson now has his (toy) show car."
Craig grew up in Livonia surrounded by the history of the car companies in the Detroit area.
Today, he and April serve on the board of the Mustang Owners Club of Southeastern Michigan.
"We particularly enjoy Mustangs," said Craig Zygmunt. "You can go to a car show and have 20 Mustangs and no two are alike. It's interesting to see what they do to personalize the cars. I'm 44. I grew up in '60s and '70s. It's nice to see those cars. It's a classic now.
Like April, Craig enjoys the camaraderie of the car clubs, shows

and cruises. They recently drove to Pennsylvania with seven couples for a car show. April is social director for the Mustang club. She's also involved with promoting the Telegraph and Michigan Avenue cruises when she isn't working part time as a vet tech at Westland Veterinary Hospital.

Th's a good way to connect with friends," said Craig. "We've met a lot of people through involvement with clubs. We have parties and go on overnight trips. The cars are what we have in common."

Please see CRUISING, A2

Flodin Park hot for new splash pad

BY DARRELL CLEM

A scorching heat wave has residents of the Flodin Park neighborhood eagerly awaiting the day when Canton's new splash playground will unleash water and usher in a summer cooldown.

Similar but slightly smaller than a popular splash playground at Summit on the Park, the Flodin Park structure could be ready for use by late July or early August, said Brad Sharp, Canton parks manager. Outdoor water facilities have ranked second, just behind recreation trails, as a priority cited by township residents on Canton Leisure Services surveys, he said. Now that children can see the newly built splash playground off Saltz Road near Morton Taylor, they're ready — and waiting, "They're excited," Sharp said. He stood near the splash playground on a warm Tuesday morning. Though no children or parents had yet made their way to Flodin Park, the new amenity appears certain to stir interest.

The new splash pad, complete with a yellow pagoda to shield the toddler area during peak-temperature afternoon hours, was built by Miracle of Michigan and Indian, a growing company formerly known as Miracle Recreation of Michigan, said the company's general manager, Cory Anderson.

Flodin Park's splash area becomes the



The splash pad in Flodin Park should be open so

Battle heats up for GOP senate nod

Price believes he's right for state | Levi: 'Common sense' will right state

BY DARRELL CLEM OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

and suppressing job growth, and he supports reeling in a bloated, inefficient state government he blames for excessive spending. "We need to shrink the size of state government and cut taxes," Price, 39, said during an interview. Price, a consultant

Please see PRICE, A3

BY DARRELL CLEM

prosperity.

Lawmakers should cut

business taxes, simplify regu-lations, improve Michigan's infrastructure, spend less money and reduce govern-ment's role, allowing the fre-market and entrepreneurial spirit to thrive, she said. "We can't even think about bringing in new businesses until we do that," Levi, 43,

Please see LEVI, A2





INDEX

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CRUISING

Mel Gutherie especially enjoys cruising in his Monkee Mobile, a 1966 GT convertible, one of two surviving from *The Monkees* television show. The Northville car buff even drives it to work at the Gutherie Lumber Co. in Livonia. The car is rumored to have been used in *I Dream of Jeannie* before it became the Monkee Mobile.

before it became the Monkee Mobile.

"Ever since I was a kid I loved watching The Monkees and The Monkee Mobile," said Gutherie, who grew up in Plymouth. "I was at a parade and saw a Batmobile go by and thought if someone can own that I can own The Monkee Mobile. I started looking into it and found there were only two Monkee Mobiles. I thought I'd never own it."

Then one night at a party Gutherie ran into a friend who had a catalog for a car auction. Before long, he was on his way to Scottsdale, Ariz., for the Barrett Jackson car auction.

That was 2½ years ago.

"I drive it," said Gutherie, 50.
"I drive it," said Gutherie, 50.
"I'm going to have as much fun as I can."

In January, Gutherie had the

car trailered to Tecumseh for an event with Davy Jones, The Monkees lead singer. Gutherie also had drummer and vocalist Mickey Dolenz autograph the car about two years ago at a comic convention.

Although Gutherie also owns a purple '68 Chatger, '72 Ford Mustang convertible, '67 GTO, '78 Trans AM, and '74 AMC AMX, he'll be driving The Monkee Mobile to Cruisin' Michigan Avenue.

"The cruise keeps getting better every year. You get to visit friends and see all the cool cars, "said Gutherie." Don Nicholson puts on a good show. Most of them can't believe it's a real Monkee Mobile."

Mike Rey, president of the

believe it's a real Monkee Mobile."

Mike Rey, president of the Mustang Owners Club of Southeastern Michigan (www. mocsem.com), is excited about the cruise as well. He'll be driving his 2005 Mustang GT.

"I have been the last couple of years. Last year, we had 91 cars. We usually have 40 to 60 cars show up," said Rey of the club members who live as far away as Tennessee and Ohio. He's also looking forward to the club's 22nd annual car show with about 500 cars in August at Ford World Headquarters.

Levi is a Republican state
House candidate in the 21st
District, which includes
most of Canton, Van Buren
Township and Belleville. She's
campaigning against Shannon
Price, a consultant for nonprofits and municipalities, in
the Tuesday, Aug. 3, primary.
The winner faces incumbent
Dian Slavens, D-Canton, in
the November general election.

the November general election.

Levi, a Canton resident, cited her "solid, conservative principles," her "strong grassroots connection with citizens and local business owners" and her own small-business background as reasons she is ready for the job.

Influenced by a hard-working mother after her father died when she was a mere teen, Levi embarked on an auto sales career and was involved in a family sand-and-gravel trucking business before she started her own company, Levi International, a private-franchising, Internet-based company that helps entrepreneurs start and market online businesses. She also

THE LEVI FILE

Who: Lori Levi, 43
What: Republican candidate, 21st state House district
Family: Husband of 12 years, Brian; stepsons Jeffrey (19) and Jeremy (18), daughters Porscha (9) and Brietta (4)

Residency: 16 years
Community Involvement: Chamber of Commerce,
Rotary participation (not member), Northridge
Church. Volunteer for Canton Township events
– Christmas in Action, River Cleanup, Open Door
Ministry Food Bank, Northridge Church security
team and book store. Provides multiple community
safety programs mainly for women and children.
Hobbles: Snowmobiling, boating, traveling, self-defense training and
community safety programs.
Related Experience: Subcontractor HB Trucking Co. Family business
– Great Lakes Sand & Gravel. Fifteen years top sales and customer se

Related Experience: Subcontractor HB Trucking Co. Family business – Great Lakes Sand & Gravel. Fifteen years top sales and customer service award recipient at North Brothers Ford.

Profession: St. Levi International (private franchising, Internet-based) and owner of Porscha Enterprises rental management company.

Education: High school graduate, some college. Pursued entrepreneurial pursuits, motivational and self-development training.

E-mail: iori@lorilevi.com

Website: www.lorilevi.com

owns Porscha Enterprises, a rental management company. Levi describes herself as "conservative first, Republican next." She is a pro-life, pro-Second Amendment, National Rifle Association member who enjoys snowmobiling, boating, traveling, self-defense training and community safety pro-

grams.
Levi said she strongly believes in accountability, personal responsibility and free enterprise — beliefs she says can make her an effective state legislator. She has been involved in multiple grassroots activities, such as the Tea Party, and she said she she has stayed away from inner political circles.
"I come from outside the

cat circles.

"I come from outside the political world," she said. "I'm a grass-roots activist, and I believe in connecting with the people."

Levi called for

people."
Levi called for phasing out
the Michigan Business Tax,
saying it hinders business, and
she envisions what she called
a fairer, flat corporate tax that
would "create a stable playing

field."

She opposes select tax subsidies for certain groups or industries, saying a lower overall tax structure and the free market are the best means for moving Michigan

means we forward.

Levi called for reducing what she considers a bloated, big-spending state government.

ment.

"We need to cut government drastically," she said, adding later, "The only way to shrink government is to starve it."

Levi believes that Michigan still has manufacturing opportunities, including building military components, and she also said the state could make gains in advancing technology.

Levi said the state should dramatically trim its spending and bring state health-care and pension benefits more in line with the private sector.

Among her priorities for funding key state services:

Security and safety, including police, fire, emergency medical services and support for veterans.

Improving infrastructure, which she said is critical to long-term stability and growth.

Education funding, which

cal to long-term stability and growth.

• Education funding, which she said must be equitable for all children to compete in a global economy. Simply throwing more money at failing school districts "will not fix the problems," she said.

Levi herself is a high school graduate who has had some college studies.

Levi opposes increasing the state's 6-percent sales tax, and she also is against expanding it to other services to raise money.

it to other services to raise money.

"We need to look at a simple, efficient tax structure that eliminates political posturing and special interest handouts," she said. "We must cut the size and scope of government, spending and waste."

Levi described herself as "open to the idea" of a parttime state Legislature.

On a broader level, she said she opposes what she views as threats to free speech and religious freedom, and she strongly supports a constitutionally limited government.

"I believe in faith, free enterprise and family," she said.

Levi said she envisions a

said.
Levi said she envisions a business-friendly Michigan with an efficient infrastructure that boosts the economy and brings jobs. She said the state needs "common sense business people such as myself" to get it done.
Her goal: Jobs first. Jobs fast.





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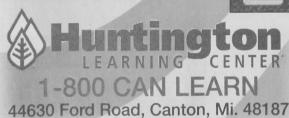
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PRICE

for nonprofits and municipalities, is campaigning in a state House race in the 21st District, which includes most of Canton, Van Buren Township and Belleville. He is running against GOP hoperful Lori Levi in the Tuesday, Aug. 3, primary. The winner faces incumbent Dian Slavens, D-Canton, in the November general election.

"This is the most important election of our life," Price said. "Rome is burning. We don't have time for on-the-job training."

ing."

In just 10 years, he said, Michigan plunged from among the top three U.S. states to near the bottom for locating a business. Moreover, he said, Michigan has become a leading state for unemployment, though its jobless rate formerly ranked below the national average.

Price said.

Though he adheres to
Republican goals — cutting
taxes, slashing spending,
reducing the size of government — Price said his consulting job has helped him forge
relations with people across
the political spectrum. It's an
accomplishment he believes
would serve him well in
Lansing.
A former partners

A former partner in a soft-ware, marketing and consult-ing business, Price supports eliminating the 2007 personal income tax increase and scrap-ping the Michigan Business Tax — moves he said can help

the state regain its competitive edge.
Price has worked with
Canton officials on projects
designed to ease traffic congestion along Ford Road, and he helped Schoolcraft College in filling nearly 12,000 nursing vacancies in Michigan.
He also has served as director of constituent relations for the state Attorney General's office, responding to com-

THE PRICE FILE

Who: Shannon Price, 39
What: Republican candidate, 21st state House district.
Family: Wife of 14 years Jacki Price; children Maddie, 7, and Brady, 4.
Residency: Wayne County, 39 years; Canton, 5 years
Community involvement: Leadership Canton
Graduate, Canton Chamber, Livonia Jaycees, and
Sons of the American Legion.
Hobbies: Boating, 6olf, Softball

Related Experience: Served both as Republican County and District Chair, served as the Senior Vice Commander of the Sons of the American Legion post 396 and PTO dad (Miller School PTO Secretary).

post 39 and 170 dad (milet School 170 Secretary).

Profession: As a consultant for nonprofits and municipalities

Education: Bachelor of Computer Science

E-mail: Shannon@ShannonPrice2010.com

Website: www.ShannonPrice2010.com

plaints and meeting with local business, community and political leaders across the state. Calling himself a grassroots activist, Price has served as the Republican IIth District chair and the Wayne County Republican Party's first vice chair. He received a bachelor's degree in computer science

chair and the Wayne County Republican Party's first vice chair. He received a bachelor's degree in computer science from Baker College. He enjoys spending time with his family, and his hobbies include boating, golf and softball.

Price cited efforts such a so-called aerotropolis — a potential jobs-growth area roughly between Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports — as one promising way to boost the economy by bringing in new businesses.
"Aerotropolis is a no-brainer to me," he said.

Price also said alternative energy could play a role in turning Michigan's economy around.

He cited the state corrections system for wasteful spending and said money can be saved by privatizing food service and, if necessary, transportation. He also called Democrat Andy Dillon's plan for pooling state employee health care "a great plan."

Price opposes expanding the state sales tax, saying

Price opposes expanding the state sales tax, saying Michigan needs lower — not more — taxes. The husband of a teacher, Price said education also ranks

as a priority of his but, again, he said the education system needs to become more efficient. He said money should be directed toward smaller class sizes and raising minimum standards — and away from bureaucracy.

"I think we need equal funding across the board," he said. Price called Plymouth-Canton schools "a great model" and, when asked if smaller school districts should be consolidated, he said, "I think it has to be on the table." Price described himself as "pro-gun, pro-life, and I love the Constitution," but he said his key focus would be improving the state's economy by overhauling the tax structure and luring new business.

Though he supports spending cuts, Price said essential services such as police and fire protection should be a priority. "We've got to make sure we keep boots on the ground, so to speak," he said.

By cutting taxes, Price said, state lawmakers can send a strong message that matches his vision.

"I have a vision where Michigan is once again a lead-

his vision.
"I have a vision where
Michigan is once again a leader in the nation to live, work
and play," he said. "In order for
us to be successful, we must
send a message to the world
that Michigan is open for business."



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SPLASH

85th such water playground the Okemos-based company has built in Michigan alone, including the Summit on the Park facility, Anderson said.
Officials now are waiting for the final touches from DTE Energy to power up the playground, which Anderson said produces 150 gallons of fresh water a minute from a ground-water well.
Sharp said the use of

water well.
Sharp said the use of groundwater slashes costs by an estimated 90 percent.
The heat-dousing, \$180,000 play structure was built using tax revenues from a Wayne County parks millage paid by residents in Canton and other communities.

"It's important to know that



Brad Sharp talks about the splash playground at Flodin Park.

the dollars they send out are coming back," Sharp said.

The splash pad joins numerous other amenities in 28-acre Flodin Park, including tennis and basketball courts, soccer and baseball fields, a playscape, an inline skating rink and the Fellows Creek wetland nature trail.

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Payments can be made at City Hall during regular business hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office. After hours, payments can be placed in the DROP BOX located in the Church Street lobby of City Hall or use the DROP BOX located next to the book return behind the Library MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO. CITY OF PLYMOUTH. For additional payment options, please check the City's website @ci.plymouth.mi.us.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a proposal for Basic Life/AD&D Insurance (current inforce coverage). Contacting Disability Canton Insulative Long Term Disability, and Voluntary Lafe/AD&D, Voluntary Short Term Disability, and Voluntary Long Term Disability, Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Chris Keller at (248) 502-1125. Technical questions should also be directed to Chris Keller. Sealed proposals are due to the PCCS-E.J McClendon Educational Center (Attn. Raquel Hunter –Life/Disability Proposal Bid located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI on before 11.00 a.m., EST, Thursday, July 15, 2010 where they will be opened and publicly read. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

Notice is hereby given that on July 19th, 2010 TATE & CO. Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Extra Space Storage, will be offering for sale under the judicial lien process, by public auction, the following storage units. The goods to be sold are generally described as household goods. The terms of the sale will be cash only. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be at the following location: Extra Space Storage, 6729 N Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI @ 9:00 A.M.

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Snyder wins over voters at town hall

Jan Schimmel of Livonia dragged her sister to guberna-torial candidate Rick Snyder's town hall meeting Tuesday at the Italian-American Banquet & Conference Center in Livonia.

town hall meeting Tuesday at the Italian-American Banquet & Conference Center in Livonia. Her sister, Mary Jane Larson, also of Livonia, liked what she heard. "I will be taking my Hoekstra sign down," she said after the meeting, "The ethical component is the one that really moves me." Snyder, an Ann Arbor venture capitalist, is running for the Republican nomination for governor in the Aug. 3 primary against U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox, Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard and state Sen. Tom George. He was in Livonia for the first time during his campaign Tuesday, said communications coordinator April Aretz, also a Livonia resident. Earlier this year, he also made a campaign appearance in Canton.

Kay Arnold, a member of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees, called Synder "very refreshing."

Jerry Vorva of Plymouth, a Realtor who formerly served on the Plymouth City Commission and in the state House, introduced Snyder as the "reinvented Michigan wizard."

Vorva said he, too, is tired of career politicians. "For years

ard."
Vorva said he, too, is tired of career politicians. "For years and years I voted for them," Vorva said. "Their promises sounded good, but what about the results? I feel blown up, not blown away."
He said Snyder offers a plan, not promises.

He said Snyuer of the said Snyuer of promises.

Schimmel has supported Snyder since January, when she first heard him speak on radio station WJR-AM (760) because he is the only candidate who isn't a career politician. She said she wants voters o "kick them all out and start brand new."

If think people need to per-



Rick Snyder, the only candidate for governor who isn't a career politician, has a 10-point plan for reinventing Michigan.

sonally meet Rick," she said, explaining why she brought her sister and daughter, Mary Lytle, also of Livonia, to the town hall. Lytle was already a

Lytle, also of Land.
town hall. Lytle was already a
Snyder supporter.
Larson said she was
impressed with Synder's plan
to restore ethics, accountability and transparency to
state and local government.
She asked him during the
question and answer session of the meeting how he
would surround himself with
people with an ethical core if
elected.
Snyder said his campaign
workers carry around a card

elected.

Snyder said his campaign workers carry around a card with a code of ethics printed on it. "If you don't live these, you're not involved in our campaign," he said.

Snyder, former chief operating officer of Gateway computers, highlighted components of his 10-point plan to reinvent Michigan, including reducing the tax burden on businesses so they can hire more people. He envisions Michigan entering a new era, one of innovation that provides a globally diverse economy, a high quality of life and keeps Michigan's young people in the state.

Snyder asked attendees to get involved, not just in his

get involved, not just in his



Jerry Vorva of Plymouth introduces gubernatorial hopeful Rick Snyder to people gathered at the Italian-American Club in Livonia.

campaign, but in helping to reinvent Michigan during the next few years. This isn't about me; it's about we, 'he said.

"I'm here tonight to provoke you. We let this happen. We dropped the bar too far on our government."

He said it's time for a customer-service government that answers to residents and where the annual State of the State address is a report card, not a cheerleading session.

Noreen and Don Maahs of Livonia attended the town hall to start learning about the candidates after return-ing home from being out of town. They read about the town hall in the *Livonia* Observer.

Observer.

"I'm very impressed," Noreen Maahs said as she held one of Snyder's yard signs on her way out. She liked how Snyder talked about his plans for Michigan instead of criticizing his opponents. "He wasn't putting people down," she said.

Canton man shot at Westland festival

BY LEANNE ROGERS

A Canton man is recovering from a gunshot wound to his leg as Westland police search for a man who opened fire at the Westland Summer Festival carnival.

The shooting occurred at approximately 11 p.m. Sunday just as the fireworks, which draw a large crowd, were finishing.

"What we know so far, is that there were large numbers of young people at the carnival at that time," Westland Police Chief Alan Ramsden said. "A fight broke out, possibly more than one. We're still trying to determine that. One man was shot in the leg. It was a fight that escalated."

Police weren't releasing a description of the suspect, who was reported to have fired three shots from a semi-automatic handgun. The victim was apparently the person the gunman was intending to shoot, Ramsden said.

"The victim says he doesn't know anything. He's not the most cooperative witness — he's not talking or really doesn't know anything," Ramsden said.

"We've got good leads and we're pursuing them."

With hundreds of people at the carnival, Ramsden said, the shooting incident could have resulted in more injuries. The fireworks display, which traditionally

closes the festival, draws crowds estimated in the hundreds of thousands. "Most people don't watch the festival fireworks in the carnival area. There is no place to sit," Ramsden said. "The carnival seems to attract people who are not interested in the fireworks." Following the shooting, Ramsden said the carnival operator cooperated with police by shutting down about 45 minutes earlier than planned. There hadn't been any earlier problems at the festival, which began Wednesday, Ramsden said. There were no major problems at the festival last year, but there were stabbing incidents in 2007 and 2008, both occurring in the carnival area located in the parking lot between City Hall and the police department. "Residents should know

Hall and the police department.

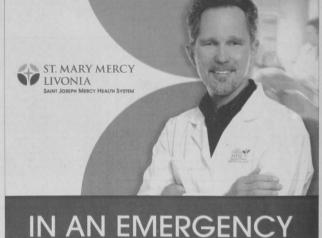
"Residents should know that every single officer who wasn't working the day shift was ordered in to work and three-quarters of them were there for the fireworks, up to and including the chief — I was there in uniform," Ramsden said.

"I don't think we could do anything different. The fact is, we're there as visible as can be. I was no more than 50 yards from the shooting with hundreds of people around. It's a reactive situation," he said.









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Online retailer rewards employees

Lively music, a giant inflatable and a delicious picnic meal were on hand on a beautiful June day in Canton as online appliance parts retailer, RepairClinic, celebrated another successful year of business, honoring its employees with a day of food, family and fun.

The outdoor event, dubbed the "Family Fun Day," included awards for employees for years of service in addition to an afternoon of fun for employee families.

afternoon of fun for employee families.

The company was founded in 1999 with an overall business philosophy that, according to president Chris Hall included "treating employees the way you would like to be treated." Both Hall and CEO Larry Beach saw this philosophy not only as the right way to do business, but believed it to be an important part of a successful business plan, which has proven to be true, based on the consistent growth of the company over the last eleven years.

Jennifer Petersen, customer care representative at RepairClinic, has experienced this 'Golden Rule' business approach firsthand.

"The culture here at RepairClinic is very positive;

overall, most employees are very happy," she said. "The culture that is cultivated is one of respect for and helping others, of treating others as you would want to be treated. When this happens, you naturally have a pleasant work environment."

Distribution supervisor Jayce Ostrowski said she also appreciates the employee-friendly environment at RepairClinic. "Upper management is family-oriented," Ostrowski said. "If the company has success, the management team makes everyone feel like they played a part — they try to include everyone. If you work hard, you will be taken care of. The Family Fun Day event ... they [management] didn't have to do that, but they wanted the employees to feel appreciated." Many years ago, RepairClinic established something called the "Heroes" Program" which allows individual employees to for something they've done that is more than what was expected. This includes Good Samaritan acts of kindness such as helping another employee change a flat tire, covering a shift for someone who has a special family event. Each year, dozens

of employees are nominated for the Hero award, and a monthly drawing is held for a gift certificate to reward those who take the extra time to look out for others. According to Ryan Huntley, Call Center Supervisor, "Too many businesses these days only focus on the negative things people do and not enough on the positive things which should be rewarded. The Heroes Program is a good way to ensure people are praised for going the extra mile and working hard."

Many of RepairClinie's employees have been with the company from the very beginning. Warehouse picker Shielda Burga is one of the original few from 1999. She said she remembers the very first order that was placed by a customer and the excitement surrounding it.

"We all wanted to be a part of it; everyone touched that order before it went out," she recalled, pointing out that tradition of teamwork has continued over the years. "We are all asked what we think and for our opinion."

Founded in Canton in 1999, Fassir Clinic sean is a com-

asked what we think and for our opinion."

Founded in Canton in 1999, RepairClinic.com is a comprehensive online resource for do-it-yourself home appliance repair help, parts and information. Visit www.RepairClinic.com for more information.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Business News

Business News

• The Chamber will be cutting the ribbon on July 16 at 4:30 p.m. at Eclectic Attic. The new consignment shop is located at 550 Forest Ave. in downtown Plymouth.

• Sun & Snow raised more than \$500 for the Plymouth A.M. Rotary's Field of Dreams, a baseball field designed for children with mental and physical disabilities. The Backyard Decathalon last Saturday in Kellogg Park consisted of games and activities, plus Sun & Snow donated a portion of the day's sales.

• The merchant cost for Kidpaloozal has come down from \$175 to \$125. Thus far, according to Plymouth DDA officials, response has been sparse. Confirmations must be made by Friday, July 9.

• Downtown retailers will be hitting the sidewalks on July 23-24 for the annual Sidewalk Sale. Look for great bargains inside and outside the shops. Hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

and outside the stops. How is are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

*WDIV's Vote 4 the Best Contest is going on through Labor Day. Many Plymouth businesses have been nominated including Genuine Toy Company—Best Toy Store; Dairy King. Best Ice Cream; Plymouth Historical Museum—Best Museum; Plymouth Historical Museum—Best Museum; Plymouth Yoga Room—Best Yoga Studio; Art in the Park—Best TranquiliTea—Best Tea House; Penn Theatre—Best Theater; Magnolia's—Best Flowers; Fiamma Crill—Best Brunch; Spa Julianna—Best Day Spa; Sideways—Best Gift Shop; and many more. Go to WDIV's website—clickondetroit.com—and search "Plymouth" to find out all the local entries and vote for your favorites.

Board president

Board president

The Planned Giving Roundtable of Southeast Michigan held its annual meeting and election on June 17, and elected Plymouth resident Christopher Kelly, Comerica Charitable Services Group, as president.

The purpose of the Planned Giving Roundtable of Southeast Michigan (PGRTSEM) is to increase the use of planned gifts as tools for support of charitable organizations through the dissemination of information regarding the advantages and techniques of planned giving.

Membership is made up of professionals in legal, financial, and allied fields as well as fundraising professionals whose focus is planned giving. Through educational and information exchange opportunities and cooperative



Tom Sweeney, president of the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., Joey Sweeney and volunteer Steve Booher take part in the Backyard Decathlon, sponsored by Sun & Sports to benefit the Miracle League of Plymouth. The event raised more than \$500.

networking, members of PGRTSEM offer an organized voice which raises the consciousness of donors and their advisors about planned gift methods.

Resource workshop

Resource workshop

In an effort to help communities diversify industry, move the region forward and create jobs, Wayne County, in partnership with the University of Michigan's Community Economic Adjustment Program, is hosting a Community College to give businesses an edge on economic recovery.

"This workshop will directly link Wayne County's local communities and community agencies with representatives from the state and federal government, which helps the region continue to move forward, diversify and grow," said Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano. "Together, participants and businesses will discuss projects, funding opportunities at the state and national level, and subsequent proposals for development."

The workshop will be held on July 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Henry Ford Community College, located at 5101 Evergreen Road in Dearborn. Wayne County Executive Robert A. Ficano will give opening remarks. For more information on Wayne County's Community Resource Workshop and to register, contact Carmen Wells Quigg at (734) 998-7016.

Struggling economy can't mask overall optimism

he last few weeks are a reminder that the global economic crisis is far from over. Ongoing problems in the European community and high unemployment here in the United States are symptoms of a troubled economy.

U.S. economy will once again flourish.

My confidence in the U.S. economy is not based upon our elected representatives in Washington or Lansing but, rather, the American people. Our country and our economy have been through difficult times in the past and each time we have risen to the challenge and have overcome our difficulties. I have no doubt that will happen once again.

Earlier this week, we celebrated our country's 234th birthday. There is no doubt we are faced with numerous problems and challenges. Whether it is nearly double-digit unemployment, abnormally high foreclosure rates or falling home prices, the economy is struggling. However, we should never forget that despite our difficulties, we are still the largest and strongest economy in the world. No other economy comes close to ours. We are still, despite everything, the envy of the world.



As Americans, we have much to be proud of — we are the freest and richest country in the history of the world. We also are a beacon of liberty and freedom to the rest of the world. Does anyone have any doubt that if people could choose to move anywhere in the world, there would be a rush to our shores? There is a reason why freedom-loving people throughout the world want to come to the United States.

In this 24/7 news-media world, a focus on the negative may just be human nature. However, take a step back and focus on the positives. If nothing more, focus on the fact that throughout our history, we are still the land of opportunity. Our society is full of people who entered life without certain advantages and have achieved greatness here. Look at every level of our society, from business, arts and politics, and you will see large numbers of people who overcame difficulties to reach unprecedented levels. As Americans, we are the cando people. We have proven it time and time again and I have no doubt that we will overcome our present difficulties and once again reach new

neights.

I believe that America's bes' days are still to come.
There is no doubt that we have real problems in this country — high unemployment, high foreclosure rates and, probably worst of all, a lack of confidence in our future. For those who are unemployed or who have lost their homes, a doom and gloom feeling is understandable and nothing anyone says can relieve the anxiety they feel.

However, don't forget that

However, don't forget that However, don't forget that our country has been through numerous turbulent times. Whether it's been world wars, depressions or recessions, this country's resilience is unmatched in the annals of the world.

On the heels of this Independece Day holiday, I believe all citizens deserve a pat on the back for a job well done.

There is no doubt there's

done.
There is no doubt there's plenty of work ahead.
However, Americans can and should look forward to the future knowing that there are better days ahead. Never forget how lucky we are to live in the land of the free and the home of the brave.
Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric read-ers can submit questions at mon-eymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanage-ment.com.

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OUR VIEWS

Our picks for primary

Heise, Price get nods in GOP races

Voters in the 20th state House district (Plymouth, Northville, Wayne and a small portion at the eastern end of Canton) will elect a new state representative following the decision by Democrat Marc Corriveau not to seek re-elec-

decision by Democration.

The process starts with the Aug. 3 Republican primary, where Plymouth Township attorney Kurt Heise and political newcomer Steve Booher Jr., a manufacturer's representative from Plymouth Township, vie for the right to face Northville Democrat Joan Wadsworth in the general electric started.

tion this fall.

In the 21st District, which covers Canton, incumbent Democrat Dian Slavens will face a November challenge from long-time political activist Shannon Price or newcomer Lori Levi, a Tea Party supporter from Canton, who will do battle in the Aug. 3 primary.

In the 20th District GOP race, we recommend Kurt

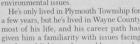
In the 21st District, we believe **Shannon Price** should be echoice for those voting in the Republican primary.

the doise for those voting in the Republican primary.

20TH HOUSE DISTRICT

Heise is the clear choice in the Republican primary.

While he's not a career politician — his only other run for public office was a failed bid for the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education a couple of years ago — he's spent the majority of his adult life dealing with governmental issues. He spent 15 years representing various communities on local ordinances and state laws, and he's been a leader in regional environmental issues. He's only lived in Plymouth Township for a few years, but he's lived in Wayne County most of his life, and his career path has given him a familiarity with issues facing southeast Michigan that could prove valuable in Lansing.



able in Lansing.

On the issues, Heise wants to eliminate the Michigan Business Tax, look at privatizing services in areas such as corrections, social services and mental health, and cut legislators pay in half and limit in-session days to 75 a year. He is articulate, believes he can work with Democrats across the aisle (Heise worked well with Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, a Democrat) and appears passionate about the idea of serving.

A race against Wadsworth, a longtime trustee on the Northville school board, could prove to be an interesting, competitive campaign.

21ST HOUSE DISTRICT

The race for the chance to unseat Slavens comes down to an age-old political battle of experience vs. spunk. Price is a longtime political analyst, former chairman of the Wayne County Republicans and a campaign organizer. He ran the campaign of Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo a few years ago, when Abbo lost to Corriveau. This, time, Price – for the first time in his career — is putting his own name on the ballot.

He supports reducing taxes, the size of government and spending — many things

his career — is putting his own name on the ballot.

He supports reducing taxes, the size of government and spending — many things voters want to hear these days.

He supports the idea of the aerotropolis — a potential jobs-growth area roughly between Detroit Metro and Willow Run airports — and believes alternative energy could be a factor in turning Michigan around.

He believes the state corrections system has wasteful spending and said money can be saved by privatizing food service and, if necessary, transportation. He also called Democrat Andy Dillon's plan for pooling state employee health care "a great plan".

Price opposes expanding the state sales tax, saying Michigan needs lower — not more — taxes.

Though he's built a career in politics, he's not a career politician in the sense that he's run for office at every turn.

Price knows the issues and has experience in how the legislative process works. He is the better candidate in this GOP primary race.

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



 In response to the story. 'Parade, picnic help freedom ring:"

"Parade, picnic help freedom ring:

"All of the activities were very nice. It was great to see a good showing by the citizens and at all of the events. It was just as nice to see that they were all well protected by the public safety officers of both the city and the township. Too bad that protection is about to end. Seven officers from the township (1/3 of the patrol officers) will be receiving their pink slips, probably this week, now that the holiday is over. Township Supervisor Reaume gave the order to the police chief last Friday."

Gimmeabreak1961

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you more likely or less likely to visit the Gulf Coast after the BP oil spill?

We asked this question at the Canton Public Library.



'We wouldn't go because of the things we see on

Lata Shah



"Less likely, because I envision the entire area being covered with oil."

Ellen Dedrick



'Less likely, because of all the oil and I wouldn't want to get in their way. Quovadis Askins



"Less likely, because of the oil spill."

Larry Sendow

LETTERS

Saving Tiger field

On a day when 77 parks were only narrowly saved from closure by Detroit's City Council last week, a group of 12 adults from around Detroit and its suburbs were threatened with arrest by a Detroit police officer for mowing and weeding the playing field at Old Tiger Stadium.

The officer drove his natural vahicle into challow.

playing field at Old Tiger Stadium.

The officer drove his patrol vehicle into shallow center field and herded the would-be grounds crew off the field, warning them through his loudspeaker that if he saw them there again they would be promptly arrested for trespassing. There

entry.
It escapes me why the Detroit Police
Department finds it objectionable for a group of
individuals, who would otherwise have no need
to come to Detroit, to cut grass and lapk baseball
where Ty Cobb and Al Kaline once played. Since my
first trip to post-demolition Tiger Stadium, following Ernie Harwell's viewing at Comerica Park, the
condition of the field has been steadily improving
from the previously weed-infested and barely recognizable field, into a respectable urban sandlot.
The individuals at the field June 29 said this
was the first time all summer they had been

was the first time all summer they had been threatened with arrest and that most of their experience with the police had been cordial. Still, there needs to be consistency within the DPD; officers should not be picking off respectable citizens

trying to play basebaii.
According to those I spoke with at the field,
groups as large as 60 have been seen at the
corner of Michigan and Trumbull playing ball and
maintaining the field. I would think, having any maintaining the field. I would trink, having any extra people come to Detroit with the prospect that they might spend some money or at least ge more comfortable with the city would be a good thing. This is something the city should be inter-ested in taking advantage of, not resisting.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

E-mail: bkadrich@hometownlife.com

Read or comment online

Deadline: Letters must be received by 10 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

those playing baseball at Old Tiger Stadium as upstanding citizens or common delinquents, it will not deter myself or the others who play there from doing so as often as we can manage.

For more information on when others are playing baseball at Old Tiger Stadium and what you can do to help, search "spirit of Tiger Stadium" on

Backing Colbeck

The August primary is quickly approaching and it is important for all of us to vote for strong candidates who have integrity and will take back our government from professional politicians and party insiders. And I know such a candidate.

I am fortunate to have volunteered with District 7's state Senate candidate Patrick Colbeck over

the past year on a local school board and respect his principles and integrity. Patrick Colbeck is a small business owner with strong faith in the Michigan state Constitution. He respects our g ernment's constitutionally prescribed boundar

Michigan's government into a smaller, more effi-cient authority.

Bruce Patterson will be leaving behind some big

shoes to fill in Lansing this year. Patrick Colbeck is the perfect fit for those shoes. I encourage all to learn more about Patrick Colbeck and what he is working for before the August primary at www.

Taking control

Taking control

YES, legislators, go, go, go
It's about time we the people took total control
of the money and spending of the PlymouthCanton Community Schools board. The school
board has been totally irresponsible and unaccountable for their spending, MO step raises
are needed; in fact, salaries need to be cut back
immediately. Why is it that everyone is taking concessions, and administrators and teachers refuse
to take any concessions?

Administrators and teachers have the best pensions period. Like the rest of us, have the administrators and teachers put into their own 401s, why
are we funding them? As far as health care costs,
administrators and teachers need to pay into their
health care and have higher deductibles to lower
health care cost.

Yes, total cost will raise; however, if both the res, total cost will raise, lowever, in both the administrators and teachers start contributing today, there will be NO shortfall tomorrow. Yes, the Plymouth-Canton school board worked very hard for this budget, however, it was only for their benefit, and will not benefit the citizens or the children

Keith Martin

Plymouth celebrates successful Fourth

Emptying out the notebook from another Fourth of July celebration in Plymouth:

• When they arrived, many an hour or more before the 7:30 a.m. start of the annual Good Morning USA parade in downtown Plymouth, people were still raving about Plymouth Township's fireworks display, which had taken place the night before



ing about Plymouth Township's fireworks display, which had taken place the night before.

Say what you want, but the fireworks display, in its first few years, has proven to be a popular addition to the Independence Day holiday in Plymouth. Sure, there were some hiccups — reportedly some traffic snars in the Plymouth Township Park are — but you never hear about major problems. In Westland, for instance, someone got shot after a fireworks display. Nothing remotely like that happens here.

The parade. Once again organized by Fred Hill, the long-running, crack-of-dawn parade drew huge crowds that lined Main Street all the way from Hartsough down to Theodore. Some 150 floats/participants — most of them old faves — included a couple of new acts, among them Shrek the Ogre and a very entertaining acrobatic team bouncing on curved stilts, back-flip-

people gathered with their families to watch the parade.

• Speaking of politics, it was difficult not to think of them when the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education marched in the parade. Only four — Treasurer Judy Mardigian and Trustees John Jackson, Dianne Gonzalez and Adrienne Davis — took part.

No word on where the remaining members — President Steven Sneideman, Vice President Barry Simescu and Secretary Nancy Eggenberger — spent their holiday. With his review Coming later this month and rumors swirling about his future, the presence of the four who did march and the absence of the three who didn't might have made school Superintendent Craig Fiegel a little nervous.

• The township picnic was, as always, fun. They've made some changes the last couple of years that make moving through that huge line of people waiting to get hot dogs, chips and pop a lot easier. A dozen or so kids signed up for the bike decorating contest, which I had the privilege of judging. The toughest part? Deciding on which was cuter — the bikes or the kids.

Brad Kadrich is community editor of the Plymouth

Letting freedom ring

Plymouth puts patriotic pride on parade

Jan Kavulich remembers bringing her son, now 22 years old, to the Plymouth Fourth of July parade as a youngster, and she's come every year since.

Jim McKeon figures he hadn't been to the annual parade, a staple of Independence Day fun in downtown Plymouth, since the mid-1970s.

Both were on hand Sunday as spectators once again lined the streets for the Good Morning U.S.A. parade, which featured some 150 entries that included all the standard favorites — marching bands and the Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps, Lady Liberty and veterans groups. There were also newer acts, like Shrek the Ogre. And they all added up to one thing: Yet another successful parade.

onsensus.

"It's a great parade," he said.
Face-painter Shelly Lampshire of Shelly
Lampshire Originals was doing brisk
business, as usual, from her perch at Ann
Arbor Trail and Main.

"Plymouth is my favorite town," said
Lampshire, a West Bloomfield resident
who bills herself as a "one-woman art
show." "There's a vibe here that's awesome."

dogs, chips, pop and ice cream were the attractions and family fun was the result. The annual picnic again drew thousands of people to the park for the annual Independence Day rite. Plymouth Township residents Mario and Michelle DeSantis brought their kids, 9-year-old Alexia and 6-year-old Dylan, and entered them in the bike decorating contest, one of several activities designed to make the picnic fun for the youngsters.

Dylan and Alexia both won prizes in the contest.

Dylan and recontest.

Tit's fun for everyone, and you bump into friends and neighbors," said Michelle, who was excited at the addition of a concert (Steve King and the Dittilies played).

"They have contests and games ... you can do everything here. It's fantastic."

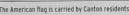


Michael Pilotto marches with the Special Olympics group





PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER





lexander Stopford and his dad, Rob Stopford, eat their ice cream before it lelts at Sunday's Plymouth Township picnic.





Matthew Hirvela is one of the volunteers grilling hot dogs in 90-degree hear



Allison Doroshevitz, 6, enjoys her hot dog at Plymouth Township's annual Fourth of July picnic.





The 24th Michigan fires a volley during their performance at the Plymouth Good Morning U.S.A. parade Sunday

Kids, adults wallow away the time at County Parks' Mud Day

What do you get when you mix 20,000 gallons of water with 200 tons of dirt and add hundreds of kids?

20,000 gallons of water with 200 tons of dirt and add hundreds of kids?

The Wayne County Parks' annual Mud Day, which attracted mud aficionados Tuesday from as far away as Grand Blanc to the Nankin Mills area of Hines Park for several hours of glorious, wallow-in-the mud pleasure.

"You're never too old," said 34-year-old Tracey Risch of Garden City. "The best part is getting down and getting dirty. It's a great exfoliation."

Risch and her children were among newbies like Christopher Salutes of Livonia, who rolled in the mud, crawled in the and coated every square inch of their bodies with mud. For Christopher, being the muddiest kid around came with a crown.

"I just kept piling on the mud. It wasn't that hard," said the 11-year-old Livonia youth, who was named king of Mud Day.

Not one square inch of his body showed through the sticky layer of mud. Even his ears were filled with the brown goo. According to Christopher, the idea of getting so muddy was his mother's.

"It sounded like it would be fun," a mudless Sheryl Salutes said. "Tve meant to do it in the past and it worked out this year."

Kids looking for parents and



parents looking for kids made their way to the stage to get help, but counselors for the Livonia Family YMCA had another way of doing buddy checks. They held up signs.

checks. They held up signs.
"We came with 100 kids and there's probably 25 of them in the mud and all, of the counselors," said camp director Danielle Haase of Westland, who knew the job came with a layer of mud. Standing beside her was counselor Conor Mahinske of Redford, who proud



"I'm going over there to get clean so I don't have to wait in line," he said, nodding toward the rins-

the wes.
County Hazmat
Team.
"We have a lot of
Homeland Security
equipment and this
gives us a chance
to use it. We have
to see if it works,"
said Farmington
Hills Fire Lt. Steve
Biebel, who counted the number of
children and adults

who came through the area. "We were here last year and did 400 per hour. We were here three hours and did 1,300-1,400 people. If something were to happen at a Detroit Tigers game or at a U-M football game, we have to see what we can handle."

The Hazmat team hosed most of the mud off the participants before sending them to the portable showers.

Harmony Carribeau of Westland made it through the rinse-off without shedding any mud. Her 15-month-old son, Scott David didn't like it.

"It was ice cold, so he didn't want to do it," Carribeau said. "He loved the mud, he sat right down and started playing. He got mommy muddy."

It was about the same reaction Beth Aneed of Garden City got from her 2-year-old granddaughter Izzy.

"She hated it, she cried," Aneed said. "She hates getting muddy, but that's OK, we had fun."

Aneed also had a post-Mud Day game plan. She had brought her three children and a niece and nephew, whom she sent to get hosed off. She planned on wearing her mud home.

"I'm gong home and take a nice shower so I can get the mud off," she said, adding that "I'll have the kids clean the car while I'm in the shower."

8 Weeks of Jazz Every Friday 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. from July 9th - August 27th

2010 Canton Color Tour

JHZZ SFRIFS

Date	Artist	Location Co	Color Block	
July 9	The Kimmie Horne Show	Centre Village at Bailey's Pub Ford Rd. and Canton Center	19	
July 16	Terrance Palmer	New Towne Plaza at Kohl's Ford Rd. Between Sheldon and Canton Cent	er $\sqrt{2}$	
July 23	John E. Lawrence	Lowe's Ford Rd. Between Morton Taylor and Sheldo	on M	
July 30	The Kris Johnson Group	JC Penney Ford Rd. Between Morton Taylor and Shelde	on 🎉	
August 6	RYZ Featuring Gerard Gibbs	Willow Creek at Michael's Ford Rd. Between Haggerty and Lilley	7	
August 13	Randy Scott	IKEA Ford Rd. and Haggerty	195	
August 20	Thornetta Davis	Sam's Club Ford Rd. and Lotz		
August 27	The Brothers Groove with Chris Codish	Home Depot Ford Rd. and Lotz		

Participating Merchant Specials in each Color Block

In the event of inclement weather, all concerts will be held indoors at Super Bowl 45100 Ford Rd.

Watch for updates at ShopCanton.org

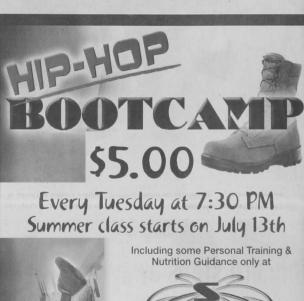
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 Edison's Low Rate Meter Breakers Installed
- Install Ceiling Fans, Light Fixtures, Stove Hoods
 Violations Corrected Wiring Furnaces, Hot Water Heaters, Air Conditioning, Hot Tubs & Appliances

SECTION B

THURSDAY, July 8, 2010

hometownlife



Horsepower

'Little guy' Rehagen Racing stands tall against the big guys



Westland's Dean Martin is a driver, partner and manager of racing programs for the Livonia-based Rehagen Racing that competes in the Grand-Am and American Iron series.

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As advertised, driving a Ford Mustang is "anything but the typical go-around."

That slogan holds true for the Rehagen Racing operation, which is housed just off Industrial Road in Livonia.

Its 14,000-square foot warehouse is typically jam-packed with Mustangs being overhauled and prepped for both professional and customer club racing teams, along with performance upgrades for street vehicles. The business also serves as Ford parts distributor for racing teams.

As a Ford Powertrain Systems Analysis Technical Specialist, Larry Rehagen is entering his 34th year with the company. And the Livonian



PHOTOS BY WES DUENKEL | MOTORSPORT PHOTOGRAPHY

The Livonia-base Rehagen Racing No. 52 car, driven Ken Wilden, enters "the keyhole" during a recent event held at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio.

hows no signs of retiring from work or racing – a

in 2003. Martin, who oversees five full-time employees and up to

30 team and crew members on racing weekends, directs Rehagen Racing's Grand-Am Continental Tire Sports Car Challenge and NASA American Iron Series teams. In 2009, Rehagen Racing realized a dream by capturing the Grand-Am Koni Challenge title. Ken Wilden of Oakville, Ontario was also overall driver

points champion.

Not bad for a low budget operation, which competes against the giants such as Roush Racing, which ironically leases its warehouse to Rehagen.

"We're definitely the little guy," said Martin, who resides in Westland and also doubles as a driver. "And we've always

been the little guy. It started out that we were just a bunch of engineers getting together on the weekends and racing. on the weekends and racing. We've put together a good group of guys – all dedicated, all want to win. And they're all really intelligent and talented guys, That's our strength. The

Please see RACING, B2

Woodard steps away quietly as Wayne basketball coach

OBSERVER STAFF WAILER

Wayne Woodard always
displayed a grace and reserved
demeanor on the bench as
Wayne Memorial boys varsity
basketball coach.

And sticking to his personality, Woodard quietly resigned
early last month without little
fanfare after 10 seasons. He
compiled a
respectable
127-91 overall
127-91 overall
127-91 overall
vector, which
included two
Western Lakes
Association
Alwerf gravers

one W.I.A.A Wayne Woodard regular sea-son championship and three divisional titles (including his past two seasons in the KLAA South). Woodard was named Observer Coach of the Year in 2003-04 after guiding Wayne to a 17-6 record and a W.I.A.A crown. His 2007-08 team finished 19-3 and won the W.I.A.A as well. Woodard coached several

Woodard coached several outstanding players during his stint including guard Gary Johnson, who led the University of Central Florida to two NCAA Tournament berths and is still playing professionally in Europe.

Woodard, whose full-time teaching responsibilities for next fall will move him from Wayne to rival Westland

ies instructor, thought the timing was right to decline another season as the Zebras

iming was right to decline another season as the Zebras' coach.

"I enjoyed my times at Wayne," Woodard said. "We played for five conference championships and in four district finals. I met a lot of great people and I enjoyed kids. It's the kids I'll miss the most." Woodard, however, has not removed himself entirely from coaching seene.

This fall he'll take over the John Glenn varsity tennis team where he'll be coaching his sons Wayne, Jr., who will be a junior, and Michael, an incoming freshman.

"I'll be able to watch my kids play and I'll still catch (basketball) games here and there," Woodard said.

A replacement his not yet been named for Woodard, who is a former Glenn player.

Recently named Wayne-Westland dual athletic administrator Greg Ambrose, who took over his new duties on Tuesday, could not be reached available for comment.

Former John Glenn boys and girls basketball coach Mike Schuette, who served as Woodard's JV coach, confirmed Tuesday he has applied for the Wayne varsity cage post.

"I hope he gets it," Woodard and I'll add a woodard said. "I'll add a wood id and sill "Eladid's wood id and sill "Eladid's wood id and sill "Eladid's wood id sill" "Hope he gets it," Woodard sill "Eladid's wood id sill "Eladid's wood id sill" "Hope he gets it," Woodard sill "Eladid's wood id sill "Eladid's wood id sill" "Hope he gets it," Woodard sill "Eladid's wood id sill "Eladid sill" "Hope he gets it," Woodard sill "Eladid's wood id sill "Eladid sill" "Hope he gets it," Woodard sill "Hope he gets it," Woodard sil

"I hope he gets it," Woodard said. "He did a good job for

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CYO champs

Garden City's St. Raphael School recently captured the 2010 CYO Softball championship with a 5-2 victory over St. Patrick of White Lake in eight innings. The squad, made up of seventh- and eighth-graders, defeated All Saints of Canton, St. Damian of Westland and St. Edith of Livonia en route to gaining the CYO championship. Pictured above are team members (bottom row, left to right) Lauren Hamann, Halee Warren, Taylor Jones, Taylor Bejma, Stassie Wickett, Rikki Yroom, Abby Joseph, (standing, I-r) Meghan McHugh, coach Bob Warren, coach John Watson, Gabby Quintana, Hanna Warren, Katlyn McIntosh, Rachel Spellman, Haley Merriman, coach Kevin McHugh and Gary Joseph.

Nagengast, Anthony are top FHS athletes

Lynn Nagengast and
Charles Anthony were named
the top female and male athletes in the Farmington High
School Class of 2010.
Nagengast received the
John K. Cotton Award
and Anthony the Dr. Zae
Aschenbrenner Award.
The late "Jack" Cotton was
the first Farmington Public
Schools athletic director and
was instrumental in starting
a girls sports program.
The Aschenbrenner Award
was established in 1948 in



honor of the team doctor who donated his time and medical skills to the school's sports

Nagengast was a four-year andout in volleyball and the field events in track and field. She also played basketball for three years, including two varsity seasons.

In track and field, she received the Bettie Wade Award as the most outstanding athlete as a junior. She was the team MVP this year. As a sophomore, she was named Trackwoman of the Year.

Nagengast was the city and league champion in the discus, shot put and high jump.

Please see ATHLETES, B2

SIDELINES

Dayton bags Bucks

There's a logism atop the Great Lakes Division of the Premier Development League following the Michigain Bucks '2-1 men's socres estback Saturday to the host Dayton (Ohio) Dutch Lions at Miami Valley South Stadium

Uziogwe's ninth goal of the season off an assist from Stewart

Givens.

It appeared that things might get a bit easier for the Bucks to hold the lead when defender Evan Schwartz was shown his second yellow card of the day, leaving

final half hour.

But the Dutch Lions countered with a pair of counter-attack efforts against the depleted Bucks' defense starting in the 67th minute on Hans van deHarr's goal followed by Bas Ent's gamewinner in the 75th minute.

The Bucks would throw everyone forward the last 10 minutes in an effort for the equalizer. A ball fell to the feet of Uzoigwe from five yards out and his half volley sailed over the bar.

Bucks goalkeeper Mitch Hildebrandt (Livonia Stevenson/Oakland University made seven saves, while Dutch Lion counterpart Oscar Moens had six stops, After a date Wednesday in Cincinnati against the host Kings, the Bucks' next home match will be Saturday, July 10, at Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontliac when But the Dutch Lions countered

be saturday, July IV, at Unimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac when they play the biggest match of the season against the Chicago. Kickoff is at 7:30 p.m. and tick-ets are on sale at Ultimate Soccer or by visiting www.buckssoccer.

Falcon car wash

The Farmington High cross country teams will have a car wash fund-raiser noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 10, at the Silver Dairy on Grand River, between Power and Orchard Lake roads. A donation is requested.

Youth grid camp

Youth grid camp
Powerhouse Gym of
Farmington Hills will sponsor a
youth football camp Saturday,
July 24, at Harrison High School.
The camp is part of an effort
to re-establish ties between the
Farmington Rockets and Harrison
football programs, according
to Tim Mumford, manager of
Powerhouse Gym and a former
Harrison player.
The camp is open to all players
in the 7-14 age group, however.
The camp is 551 Lunch and a
Powerhouse Gym T-shirt are
included. The camp hours are 9
am, to 3 pm. The camp instructors will include the Harrison
coaching staff, former Detroit
Lion Ron Rice and former MSU
and Harrison star Mill Coleman.
There will be a Cheerleading
camp the same day at Harrison,
too. For more information and
registration, contact Mumford at
248-875-9962.
Fall ball signup

Fall ball signup

Fall ball signup
Registration is continuing
for returning teams looking to
participate in the Redford Leisure
Services fall softball leagues.
Registration for new teams wanting to sign up will begin Monday,
Aug, 9.
All teams are guaranteed a 12game (doubleheader) schedule.
Fees are \$350 per team, plus all
umpires will collect \$14 per team
at the field before the start of
each game. Each team will need
to supply a new ball before each
game. Games begin the week of
Aug, 30. For more information,
contact Redford Leisure Services
at (313) 387-2650.

Sinnery hurls no-hitter as Rams win thriller

The cover of the current edition of Sports Illustrated pro-claims: Pitchers Rule.

Brandon Sinnery of the
Michigan Rams is another
example on why the balance of
power has shifted to the mound.
The 6-60-60-4, 160-pound
sophomore right-hander from
the University of Michigan faced
the minimum 21 batters Monday
evening and threw a no-hitter as
the 20-and-under Rams edged
the 22-and-under Rams edged
the 22-and-under Blue Knights,
1-0, in a Livonia Michigan
Collegiate Baseball League game
at steamy Bicentennial Park.
The Rams, who improved to
16-4-1 in the Collegiate League,
tallied the game-winning run
in a bottom of the fourth inning



on RBI single by Sam Ott (Salem/Eastern Michigan) single scoring Alex Pierse, who earlier had singled. Sinnery Sinnery's bid for a perfect game was dashed when Blue Knights lead-off batter Pat Schlenke reached base on an infield error in the first inning, but the runner was quickly erased when he was caught stealing following one Sinnery's 11 strikeouts on the night. No other Knight runner reached base the rest of the game. "Brandon's got a fastball, curveball, cutter and changeup," Rams manager Rick Berryman said. "He throws highs 80s

(MPH) and mixes speeds on

(MPH) and mixes speeds on fastball very well."
In 21 appearances, including eight starts this spring at U-M, Sinnery went 4-0. The Worcester (Mass.) Academy grad pitched 55 innings with an earned run average of 4.55.
In attendance for Sinnery's summer league gem was new U-M pitching coach Matt White. "Brandon's built like a fungo, but he can pitch," Berryman said. "He's a very competitive young man. It was a very dominant pitching performance."
So far this summer, Sinnery is 3-1 for the Rams with his only loss a 1-0 setback to the 22-and-under first-place Michigan Bulls. In 27 innings, Sinnery has allowed just two runs (both unearned) on just six hits and five walks. unearned five walks

"He's in unbelievably in good shape," Berryman said. "He's staying in Ann Arbor this summer lifting weights, getting stronger and still maturing." Meanwhile, Blue Knights starter Brady Cooper was sterling in defeat, allowing just the one run on five hits in seven innings He struck outsix as the Blue Knights fell to 7-10.

Brett Mazmanian, Jeff Sorenson (Livonia Stevenson) and Bobby Thomas collected the other hits for the Rams.

The Rams return to Collegiate League action at 8;15 p.m. Friday at Livonia's Ford Field to face Advanced, which was start at sixgame set in just four days.

"That's really going to test our pitching staff," Berryman said.

Farmington hosts 4-mile Founders Fest road race

The annual Farmington
Founders Festival Road Race
will take place Saturday,
July 17, on the streets of
Farmington.
The four-mile run is
scheduled for a 9 a.m. start
at Shiawassee Park, which
is located at the corner of
Power and Shiawassee.
Awards will be given to the
men's and women's overall
and master winners, as well
as the top three in each age
group.

as the Groups are 12-and under, 13-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79 and 80-

plus. Results will be posted on runmichigan.com. The entry fee is \$16 (no refunds) for those who pre-register by Friday, July 9. The cost is \$25 for race-day registration (cash or check only).

The entry fee includes a T-shirt, which is not guaranteed to race-day registrants. Register at the Recreation Office-Costick Center or mail to: Farmington Hills Recreation Division, 28600 Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, M 48336.

Make checks payable to Farmington Hills Special Services. For more information call 248-473-1800.

RACING

need some help with. If we had a budget, we'd be pretty unbeatable."
Rehagen Racing, fielding three different teams with the FR500C Mustang this season, has recorded 10 top ten finishes in seven different events on the Continental Tire circuit.
Two of the Rehagen Racing's major sponsors, Stay-Nu Oil and Bizrate.com, do help defray the operation costs.
Rehagen Racing's best result this season came April 10 in the Barber 200 at the Motor Sports Park in Birmingham, Ala. when Martin and codriver Bob Michaelian (Seal Beach, Calif.) captured the 76-lap event.
Meanwhile, Michaelian and Wilden are coming off a sixthplace finish (June 19) at Mid-Ohio averaging 75.389 MPH.
Rehagen racing also recorded the best speed during the January Test Days (107.44 MPH) at Daytona, Fla.
"Races are typically two-and-half hours with a mandatory driver change every 30 minutes," Martin said. "We run on road courses, but also on street courses, too."

The Continental Tire Series

The Continental Tire Series has three races remaining with the next stop July 16-17 at the New Jersey Motorsports Park. That is followed by a trip to Trois-Rivieres, Quebec (Aug. 13-14) and the season finale at the Miller Motorsports Park in Toocle, Utah (Sept. 10-11).

Rehagen Racing is currently fifth in the manufacturers points standings with Roush Performance in third and Fall-Line Motorsports in the lead.

Michaelian is seventh in driver points followed by teammates Ryan Winchester of Mason City, Ia. (15th) and Martin (33rd).

"It's tough," Martin said. "This season, the biggest challenge we have is the rules changes. The sanctioning body makes the rules, and our biggest challenge we have is the tules changes. The sanctioning body makes the rules, and our biggest challenge is trying to create parity between the Mustang and like the BMW and the new Porsche.

"Right now the BMW really has an advantage on us. They've made a slight rules adjustment recently that will help us, but that's the biggest uphill battle we have is basically the rules package. The rules, to be honest, are just a floating target. They make adjustments through the course of the season to create

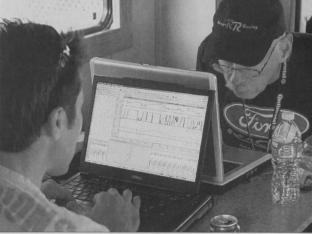
parity through between all the different makes because we've got the Porsche 997, the new Borsche Cayman, the new Camaro is out there. They've got the new Mustang, and we are now the old Mustangs."

Leveling the playing field is always the goal with the circuit's sanctioning body. "They're trying creating a new rules package that basically gives each make an opportunity to win," Martin said. "We're fighting a little bit, the rules package, and we're also fighting the Roush car. Roush is driving the same year Mustang that we are With all the development they've done, on their car, they've stepped it up a bit and I'll say they're the Mustang to beat, for sure."

It's like the small market Kansas City Royals trying to stay up with the huge conglomerate called New York Yankees.

"We're a little bit behind in

stay up with the nuge conglomerate called New York Yankees.
"We're a little bit behind in the fact that we don't have the resources that those guys do," Martin said of Roush. "And rumor has it they've thrown a lot of resources at it (this season). We're doing the best we can with what we've got. We're



Rehagen Racing boss and partner Larry Rahagen (right) of Livonia and driver Bob Michaelian analyze car data on their computers during a recent Grand-Am Road Racing Series race in Lexington, Ohio.

looking forward to getting into the new (2011) Mustang and trying to be more competitive with that."

Tough economic times have also changed the land-scape for all sports car racing teams in general.

"The economy, oddly enough, was better last year," Martin said. "It seems like the racing industry trails a little bit behind what a market does. Realistically, this genre of racing is fueled by a more wealthy guys. And those are the guys that got hit the hardest in the past few years. They had their budgets

already in place over the last aiready in place over the last few years, so when last year hit, they've kind of taken a step back this year. You saw a little bit of it last year, but it's really more significant this year.

year.
"It targets more the guys that had that \$5 million to \$50 million network that were out there. And throwing \$300,000 to \$400,000 a year to play in racing was O.K. back then. Now we've seen that their perceived wealth has gone down with the market, so they're kind of holding back. When the market comes back and the

perceived wealth on paper starts to come back, those guys you'll see will be back and playing a little bit more. But while finances are always a concern, Rehagen Racing has come a long way from its infant stages and first podium victory at Road America in 2000.

"We're still doing well," Martin said. "We're beating the factory teams. We're nipping on the heels of the Roush team. It's a significant accomplishment considering the resources."





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ATHLETES

She was undefeated in the OAA White Division in the throwing events.

At the regional, she scored in all three events, qualified for state in the discus and placed 14th at the Division 1

meet.
Nagengast led the Falcons to back-to-back OAA and Stafford Relays championships and a first-place finish in the Ambrose Relays.
A three-year varsity volley-ball player, she holds school records for kills and digs. She

was Farmington's Player of the Year as a senior and an all-league selection.

Nagengast, who will attend Michigan State University, and Anthony are OAA and FHS scholar athletes.

Anthony was a track and field standout, too. A fourtime, all-state sprinter, he finished fifth in the state in the 100-meter dash and made the All-Observer first team.

He was the school's Trackman of the Year twice and won the Rex Cawley Outstanding Athlete Award the last two years.

Anthony, who earned a track scholarship to the University of Detroit

Mercy, was a member of Farmington's all-state sprint relay teams, and he also excelled in the long jump. He led the Falcons to three consecutive OAA White championships and helped win a seventh straight city title in May.

Anthony played two years of varsity basketball, averaging 8.5 points and six rebounds last season. He is fourth all-time in blocked shots. He won the Trevor Gaines Award for rebounding twice, and he also received the Matt Mikel Award for free throw shooting this year.

Anthony also won the team's Falcon Award, which includes athletics, academics and attitude. As a running back, he played four years of football, too.





Area's top soccer players thrive on toughness

FIRST TEAM

Marissa Williams, Jr. GK,
Plymouth: The third-year starting
goalkeeper brought aggressiveness,
brashness and agility to the position,
giving up just 0.50 goals per game
and nabbing 16 shutouts
Williams really put on a show during the state tournament, winning
three of five games by prevailing in
shootouts and carrying the Wildcats
to the Division I final against Novi (a
hitter loss in overtime).

"Her confidence in the pipes,
especially when we got to the PK
shootouts those three games in
the playoffs, she was phenomenal,
Plymouth coach Jeff Neschich said.
The first one (a 1-0 district win over
top-ranked Northville) might have
been the best one, where she stopped
the first two PKs against Northville.
That was just huge."
She also was a force against
defending state champion Portage
Central in the D-1 semifinal, prevailing 2-1 in a shootout.
Williams was named All-KLAA,
All-District, All-Region and thirdteam Division I All-State.
Kayla Kimble, Sr. Def., Liv.
Stevenson: The Division I thirdteam All-State selection and twotime first-team All-Area selection
was once again the backbone of the
Spartans' defense.
Kimble, headed to NCAA Division
II national champion Grand Valley.

"Kayla was asked to do a lot for
the Spartans this year," Stevenson

sesion.

Kayla was asked to do a lot for the Spartans this year," Stevenson coach Chris Grodzicki said. "We counted on her to organize the backline, mark the other team's best player, and be the catalyst for starting our attack.

She did all those things and more. Kayla is a great complement te any soccer team. Our returning players are going to realize what a hard game soccer can be, next year, when Kayla is gone."

any soccer team. Our returning pays ers are going to realize what a hard game soccer can be, next year, when Kaylais gone."

Kelsey Shapiro, Sr. Def., N. Farmington: An outstanding defense was largely responsible for the Raiders having a 12-5-4 record, and Shapiro was a driving force behind that. A repeat member of the all-artist team, she will continue playing at Ball State University. With Shapiro in the lineup, North had a goals-against average of less than one per game over four years. With a knack for turning corner kicks into header goals, Shapiro had seven goals and two assists this year. She is an academic all-state player and a D-1 honorable mention. "She's a tremendous player, but what sets her apart is she works so hard," coach Tim Russell said. "One of her goals this year was to score more goals, and she made a commitment to that. Defensively, she's always been great. "It's not that tasy to defend a good dribbler one-on-one, but she was a freshman. If she's not the best defender I've seen in our division, she's one of the best."

Hallee Kansman, Jr. Def., N. Farmington: Kansman, who made a verbal commitment to the best defender. I've seen in our division, she's one of the best."

Hallee Kansman, Jr. Def., N. Farmington: Kansman, who made a verbal commitment to play at Eastern Michigan University, is another reason North was so good on defense. The Raiders had a 12-game unbeaten streak (9-0-3) the second half of the season with eight shutouts.

Kansman, who had six goals and one assist also has the ability to

Kristina Nüssek, Jr. Def., Salein Kelsey Rothermell, Jr. Def., Liv. Churchill Allyson Krause, Soph., Mr. Canton Kirsten Evans, Jr. Mf. Farmington Pagie Brenann, Soph. Mf. Liv. Ladywood Jess ich aleck, Sr. Mf. Plymouth Kelly Capoccia Soph. F. Liv. Ladywood Alex. Johnson, Sr. F. Garden City Jessikah McClendon, Sr. F. Carden City Jessikah McClendon, Sr. F. Canton SECOND TEAM Maddle Reed, Jr. Gr. Liv. Ladywood Kristen Jolly, Sr. Gk. Clarenceville Kate Moss, Jr. Def. Plymouth April Messick, Sr. Def., Erram. Mercy Mall Zarate, Sr. Def., Liv. Stevenson Madeleine Valla, Jr. Mf. Salem Sami Roumayah, Soph. Mf. N. Farmington
Rachel Szczembara, Sr. Mf. Garden City Lindsey Winters, Sr. Mf. Carden Chry Lindsey Winters, Sr. Mf. Carden Salei Wheeley, Soph. Mf. Liv. Churchill Alejandra Mesa, dr. Mf. Liv. Franklin Emily Lundh, Soph. F. Salem Melssa Nordhoff, Sr. F. Farm. Harrison McKenzie Hengesh, Jr. F. Flymouth McKenzie Hengesh, Jr. F. Flymouth McKenzie Hengesh, Jr. F. Wayne COACH O'T HE YEAR

COACH OF THE YEAR

Pickert kept trouble in Canton's end of the pitch to a minimum, making the job easier for goalkeepers Samantha McPartlin and Kayla Bridges.
In 2010, she was a key part of a defense that featured 16 shutouts and a paltry 0.30 goals-against average.

thructean and sophomore.
Rothermel had two goals and added three assists.
Kelsey has started every game for three years," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said. "She's excellent as far as position sense and great at winning balls on the defensive end.
She's a captain, a leader for us on-

of her."

Allyson Krause, Soph. MF, Canton:

"Another All-State first-team

of her."

Allyson Krause, Soph. MF, Canton:
The Another All-State first-team honoree, Krause showed poise and solid all-around ability in just her sophomore year and was an offensive force with 10 goals and 11 assists for the Chiefs.

In addition to the All-State selection, Krause was named to the All-Conference, All-District and All-Region teams.

"She is a dynamic and a dangerous player," formasso said. "Ally is already proven to be one of the most creative players in Canton's history. Her on the ball skills and her off the ball knowledge rates her as one of the state's best as a sophomore."

With two more seasons to go in her high school career, Krause has a chance to be part of a real power-house before all is said and done.

Kirsten Evens, Jr. MF, Farmington.

a chance to be part of a real powerhouse before all is said and done.
Kirsten Evans, Jr. M.F. Farmington:
A repeat member of the all-area
first team, Evans led the Falcons in
scoring with 16 goals and 12 assists
from her center midfield position. In the last two seasons, she
has accounted for 35 goals and 53
points. A three-year varsity player,
Evans received a Division I all-state
honorable mention from the coaches association. She's also a member
of the Michigan Hawks club team
and the Olympic Development
Program.

"Kirsten is a tremendously skilled
athlete with a great competitive
spirit," coach Matt Gasparotto said.
"She has the ability to change a game
when she has possession of the ball."

and a paltry 0.30 goals-against aver-age.
"She has been a solid defender for our program for the last three years,' Canton coach George Tomasso said. "She helped maintain over 40 shut-outs in her high school career so far." Pickert was named to the first-team Division I All-State, All-KLAA, All-District and All-Region

KLAA, All-District and All-Region honors.

Meeghan Hughes, Sr. Def.,
Plymouth: Hughes, like her fellow co-captain Jesseia Heek, brought leadership and on-field abilities to the table as the Wildcats went on a 5-0 run in the postseason to reach the DI final against Novi at Michigan State University (a 2-1 loss on an overtime penalty kick).

"What an incredible season Meeghan had," Neschich said. "She held our back line together all four years of her high school career.
"As the season went on and the games got more intense, and as we got in the playoffs, she just stepped up her game. She was just solid." She was named to the All-Conference and All-District teams and deservedly earned All-State honorable mention honors.

Kitchia Witter's Ir Med Salem:















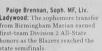


Jessikah McClendon





Jeff Neschich Plymouth Coach of Year



season at center-back. For her contributions, she picked up third-team Division All-State honors and was named to the All-KLAA, All-District and All-Region teams.

"Her work ethic is outstanding and she is one of the most competitive players I've ever coached," Rocks coach Joe Nors said. "Kristina is a big part of why our defense played so well together. Her communication and direction got better all season and direction got better all season and competitive players I've ever communication and direction got better all season and competitive players and the perfect time, like her goal against Pinckney in the districts that got us back in the game."

Kelsey Rothermel, Jr. Def., Liv. Churchill: The junior defender earned All-KLAA, All-District and All-Region honors after making third-team Division I All-State as a sophomore.

Rothermel had two goals and Paige Brennan, Soph. MF, Liv.
Ladywood: The sophomore transfer
from Birmingham Marian earned
first-team Division 2 All-State
honors as the Blazers reached the
state semifinals.
Brennan scored nine goals,
including five game-winners, and
added a team-leading 21 assists for
the regional champions. Her biggest goal came in overtime in the
catholic League semifinals against
state-ranked Ann Arbor Gabriel
Richard.
What Paige brought to our
program this year can't be
matched," Ladywood coach
Ken Shingledecker said of the
All-District, All-Region and
All-Catholic League pick. "Her

Jessica Heck, Sr. MF, Plymouth:
The senior leadership provided by co-captain Heck was instrumental to the outstanding postseason run for the Wildcats, who came within a whisker of winning the Division 1 state championship.
Heck scored three key goals during the state tournament playoffs, and also was strong and steady in the midfield, earning All-Conference and All-District accolades.
"She was just the vocal leader of our team and really had a fantastic senior season," Neschich said. "She was one of the keys to our success this year."
Heck will continue her soccer career at Grove City College (Pa.), an NCAA Division III Christian school.

Kelly Capoccia, Soph. F, Liv. ns." Jessica Heck, Sr. MF, Plymouth:

an NCAA Division III Christian school.

Kelly Capoccia, Soph. F, Liv.
Ladywood: The sophomore forward enjoyed a breakout season in 2010 with a team-best 16 goals to go along with 10 assists.
Capoccia earned second-team Division 1.41l-State honors along with All-Catholic, All-District and All-Region laurels.
Her game-winning goal in the regional final against Ann Arbor Skyline put the Blazers in the Final Four for the first time since 2003. She also had all four goals in a 4-0 win over Central Division rival Warren Regina.

"Through hard work and determination, Kelly has developed into a premier goal scorer." Shingledecker said. "Every time she steps onto the field, her goal is to improve."

Alex Johnson, Sr. F, Garden
City: A mainstay in the Garden
City incept the past four seasons,

improve."

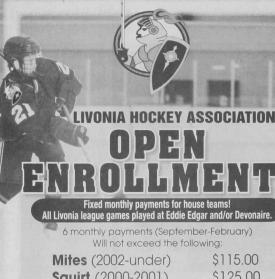
Alex Johnson, Sr. F, Garden
City: A mainstay in the Garden
City lineup the past four seasons,
Johnson registered 18 gods and
picked up 10 assists in earning
All-District, All-Region and AllState Honorable Mention accolades. Splitting duties at midfield
and forward, Johnson was the
"go-to girl" much of the season
as the Cougars finished 11-6-4
overall.

"She scored most of our goals
and was a quarterback back
there feeding a lot of people,"
Garden City coach Bill Torni said
of Johnson, who will continue
her soccer playing days at the
University of Wisconsin-Parkside.
"She gained more confidence this
year and really took charge being
able to score goals."

peen an important asset to our program."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jeff Meschich, Plymouth:
Preaching a defensive "break-don't bend" posture, veteran coach Neschich enjoyed the most-successful season of his career as he led the Wildcats to the Division 1 state finals against Novi at Michigan State University.
Plymouth went on a 5-0 tournament run to get there, beating topranked teams such as Northville, Canton and Portage Central. The bid for a title came up short only because of a disputed penalty kick in overtime against Novi, but Neschich couldn't have been prouder of the way his team (16-5-4) competed all year long.
"I think it started off with a great group of girs," said, Neschich, who praised his senior leaders (Meeghan Hughes, Jessica Heck, Katie Krajewski and Carley McQuiston) for their positive influence on the younger players.
"And I've got to give a lot of credit to our assistant coach, Mario Ramirez. But the girls bought in to what we were telling them to do... and they really had great desire. I think it was fantastic."
Neschich has been a longtime soccer coaching presence at Plymouth—Canton Educational Park, going back to 1986-96 when he was coach of Canton's boys and girls junior varsity teams. After a 1997-01 stint as Redford Thurston's head boys coach, he became the first boys varsity coach at new Plymouth—High School in 2002 and added girls varsity duties in 2005. He currently is still coaching both the boys and girls



Squirt (2000-2001) Peewee (1998-99) Bantam (1996-97)

\$125.00 \$145.00 \$190.00

Midget B & BB (1992-95) \$205.00

(Payments include: league supplied practices & games, league game referees, as many as 3 tournament entry fees, limited scrimmage ice, some LCAHL fees-if applicable and funds for other misc team events. USA Hockey registration and jersey costs not included.)

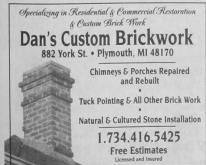
Initiation Program

(2004-under) \$260 (\$130 due in October & \$130 due in November) Payments include: league supplied practices & games, jersey & socks and trophies.

Enrollment fee of \$150.00 for resident, \$175.00 for non-resident. This non-refundable fee guarantees a spot on a team.

For more information please call the **L.H.A.** Office at 734.422.5172 www.livoniahockev.org





ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, July 8, 2010 hometownlife com

Go to hometownlife.com for a chance to win a VIP car pass to the African Wildlife Safari Park in Port Clinton, Ohio.



Art in the Park has something for everyone at every price

OLE STAFF WRITER

It's called "shabby chic" and you'll see a lot of it at the 31st annual Art in the Park, slated for Friday-Sunday, July 9-11, in downtown Plymouth.

"A trend is definitely re-used and recycled," said Raychel Rork, president of Art In The Park Inc. "It's that shabby chic kind of thing. You'll definitely see it in clothing — jeans with all kinds of crazy things sewn on — and jewelry. Jewelry might incorporate typewriter keys or Scrabble pieces. There's something unique and funky about that. People are going to garage sales and remaking things into art."

to garage sales and remaking things into art."

More than 80 new artists will join the show that features work from more than 400 painters, potters, photographers, weavers, sculptors, woodworkers and other artists. Thousands of pieces — from folksy to fine art — will be available for sale. "My mom's philosophy — she's Dianne Quinn — is that we want to have something for everyone. That also means the price," said Rork, who along with Quinn, founded, directs and manages the fair. "We know everyone can't afford a \$2,000 painting for living room, but we want everyone to be able to take something home."

home."

The show is juried, meaning that everyone who wants to exhibit must submit photos of both their art and their booth. Some artists return from year to year, but "just because they got in last year doesn't mean they'll get in this year," Rork said.

"It's pretty strict. It's about quality but we still want it to be affordable."

ART. FOOD

ART, FOOD

A judging panel votes on the submissions from artists as well as gourmet food exhibitors.

"We have gourmet food. It must be made by the person selling it. We have all kinds of stuff, canned foods, dips, jellies. It's not art, but it adds something different to the fair."

Visitors can browse the art and try homemade fudge or sample a dip, at the same time.

Or they can listen to jazz band Zamar, watch street artists chalk several versions of Andy Warhol's Marilyn Monroe images on concrete and then saunter over to the "living"

ART IN THE PARK

What: 31st annual street art fair When: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, July 9; 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, July 10; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 11. Where: Main, Forest, Ann Arbor Trail,

Penniman and Kellogg Park in downto

Details: More than 400 artists will exhibit their works, including original pieces of art including paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, fiber, fine glass, woodwork, mixed media, photography, and folk art. The show includes a special section of art by youngsters and teens, as well as live entertainment, food, kids' activities, chalk murals and "living" murals.

Shuttle: Visitors may park at the ACH Shuttle: Visitors may park at the ACH Plant (formerly Visteon Plant) located at 14425 Sheldon, just off of M-14 in Plymouth and take the free round trip shuttle service. The shuttle will run continuously all weekend. The drop off point is Plymouth City Hall, located in the heart of the art fair. Shuttle hours are 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. July 9, 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. July 10 and 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 n.m. July 11

Contact: www.artinthepark.com or call the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce at



Allendale fiber artist Stephanie stevens, will include handmade purses at her booth during Art in the Park, July 9-11.

ral." which is new to the fair this

Kristin Dillenbeck, the daughter



A glass piece by Ruth Bolles of Muskegon

of Canton's D&M Art Studio owner Sharon Dillenbeck, will incorporate human figures into her canvas.

"These are live models in front of the mural." She paints on their bodies or they blend in with the mural."

Local artists will reproduce two of the Warhol images "in vibrant colors" on the street each day.

The fair also will add a butterfly tent and bird aviary to its children's activities this year. Both are interactive and will include live creatures.

"It's not art, but it's something for the kids to do," Rork said.

She said the variety of activities,

along with quality items that range in price from a few dollars to several hundred, set the fair apart from other outdoor art festivals. Art in the Park is the second largest art fair in Michigan, held a week before the Ann Arbor fairs.

"Some people get overwhelmed by Ann Arbor and they prefer to come to Art in the Park instead," she said, adding that many artists exhibit at the Plymouth show before heading to Ann Arbor.

"You could come and spend not him."

Arbor.

"You could come and spend nothing spend \$10 or thousands of dollars and have a great day at Art in the Park."



Suzanne Beavis of Perrysburg, Ohio, will show jewelry, like this necklace, at Art in the Park, in downtown Plymouth.



ooney Kadou's photography includes ocal landmarks, like this picture of the mbassador Bridge. The Huntington Wood rtist will display work at Art in the Park, owntown Pumouth.



A ceramic vase by James Johnson of Fulton, Ill. He's one of more than 400 artists who will display their work at Art in the Park in downtown Plymouth.







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\$10.00 Per Vaccine! tary Nail Trim

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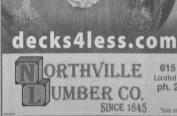


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ds May 31st or while supplies last. See store for



th Wonder Theatre rehearses a new musical

8th Wonder Theatre stages musical by Michigan native

The classic tale of Orpheus and Eurydice takes a 20th century twist in Blackwater Ballad, performed by the 8th Wonder Theatre July-23-25 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, in Canton.

The new musical, set in the bayous of New Orleans in 1932, is written by award-winning Michigan playwright Joseph Zettelmaier and musician Brian Lillie. It tells the story of traveling musician Orlandus Duval, who arrives in the small town of Blackwater Creek and captures the heart of Euralie, the daughter of the local sheriff. Their plans to wed in secret are dashed by betrayal and murder, forcing Orlandus to make the hardest of choices.

Lillie provides the music for the production. He was one of 15 writers from around the U.S. chosen to attend ASCAP's prestigious Lester Sill Songwriting Workshop in Los Angeles, Calif., and also is a founding member of The Michigan Artists Music Alliance (MAMA), which is the official Folk Alliance affiliate of Michigan Lillie performs around Michigan and Ohio at such popular venues such as The Ark and the Gypsy-Cafe, opening for notable acts. Joseph Zettelmaier, a playwright and Michigan native, wrote both the book and lyrics. He recently saw his plays Dr. Seward's Dracula and All Childish Things

produced at the Planet Ant Theatre. All Childish Things went on to be nominated for the American Theatre Critics Association Award. Zettelmaier's other plays include: Language Lessons, The Stillness Between Breaths and Point of Origin, all produced at the Performance Network. The Stillness Between Breaths also went on to be performed at the National New Play Network's Festival of New Plays in 2005. Zettelmaier also wrote Night Blooming, which was performed at the Blackbird Theatre, and Fever Dreams at the Treetown Festival. He is an adjunct lecturer at Eastern Michigan University, where he currently teaches dramatic composition, and the playwright mentor for Pioneer High School in Ann Arbor as well as an associate artist at the Performance Network.

Curtain times for Blackwater Ballad are 8 p.m. July 23-24 and at 2 p.m. July 24-25. Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$15 for seniors and students, and \$10 for groups of 15 or more. They're available at www.cantonvillagetheater. org or by calling (734) 394-5300.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 (Cherry Hill Road.

For more information about \$th Wonder Theater, visit www.8thwondertheatre.com or call (734) 394-5300.

ENVIRO RAIN BARREL TRUCKLOAD SALE

Join us Saturday, July 10th, 2010 from

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Enviro Rain Barrels will be available in the parking lot at the following location:

Leo Snage **Public Services Building Redford Township** 12200 BEECH DALY Redford, Michigan (1/2 Mile North of Plymouth Road)



- 55 gallon/208 litre capacity
- 34" Height x 24" width
- Easily accommodates existing down spouts
- 4' long overflow hose can be linked to another rain barrel or can be directed away from the house
- Installation

GET OUT Havens, July 10; Mat Kearney &

Havens, July 10; Mat Kearney & Jane Carrey, July 11; Kenny White, July 13; Loudon Wainwright III, July 14; Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem, July 15; Cherryholmes, July 16; Carrie Newcomer, July 17; Bill Kirchen CD release party, July 25; Tift Merrit & Dawn Landes & and the Hounds, July 29; Finvarra's Wren, July 30; Harry Manx, July 31

Location: 316 South Main, Ann

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.

Detroit Institute of Arts Time/Date: Friday Night Live concerts, 7 and 8:30 p.m. Location: 5200 Woodward Ave Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.

ART

Art & Ideas

Art & Ideas
Time/Date: Through July 31
Location: 15095 Northville Road,
south of Five Mile, Plymouth
Details: "Inner Worlds & Animals"
paintings by Charles Aimone and
sculpture by Joan Painter Jones,
Contact: (734 420-0775
Costick Center
Time/Date: Through Aug. 2; gallery
burs are popped by

hours are noon-4 p.m. Location: 28600 W. 11 Mile,

Farmington Hills

Details: Dean Rogers shows colored

Contact: (248) 473-1856

COMEDY

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays Location: 261 E. Nine Mile,

Details: Improv most nights. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays
Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.

JD's House of Comedy

JD's House of Comedy
Time/Date: Various show times
Wednesday-Saturday evenings
Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside
Star Theatre complex, Southfield
Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m.
Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m.
Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur
night, 8 p.m. Wednesday
Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.
ticketmaster.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays Location: 36071 Plymouth Road,

Details: Comedy festival July 7-10; Bill Bushart, July 14-17; Greg Lausch, July 21-24; BT, July 28-31 Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
Time/Date: Steve Bills, July
8-10: Heywood Banks, July 15-17;
Greechy Guy, July 22-24; L.A.
Hardy, July 29-31
Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal
Oak

Contact: (248) 542-9900, www

CONCERTS

The Ark
Time/Date: Dailey & Vincent, July
8; The Lucky Stars, July 9; Richie

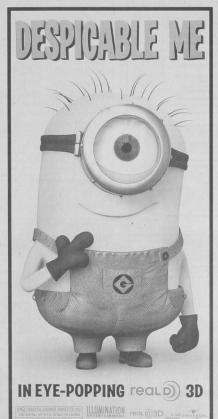
Magic Bag
Time/Dates: Scott Morgan & The
Irrationals with Howling Diablos, July
9; James McMurtry, July 10; Roger
Clyne & The Peacemakers, July 11; Lez
Zeppelin, July 13; Sarah Harmer, July 15;
Half Light Music record release party,
July 16; Natives of the New Dawn, July
7; Louder than Love, July 23; The Mood
Elevator and Fletcher Pratt, July 30
Location: 22920 Woodward, Ferndale
Contact: (248) 544-3030, www.
themagicbag.com

Trinity House Theater

Time/Date: Rachele Eve with the Shams Band, July 10, Krista Detor, July

Location: 38840 West Six Mile,

Contact: (734) 464-6302, www.



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RELIGION CALENDAR

JULY 8-14

JULY 8-14
Canton Christian Fellowship
Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 14
Location: 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty
Details: Clothing Bank will be open. Clothing is free
Contact: (734) 927-6686, (734) 404-2480 or visit CantonCF.org
Christ the King Lutheran
Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. July 12-16
Location: 9300 Farmington Road, Livonia
Details: Vacation Bible School, "Baobab Blast," for preschool through
grade six. No registration fee
Contact: (734) 421-0749 or register at www.ChristTheKingLivonia.com
Concordia Lutheran School
Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. July 13 and Aug. 11

Contact: (734) 421-0749 or register at www.ChristTheKingLivonia.com
Concordia Lutheran School
Time/Date: 6-8 p.m. July 13 and Aug. 11
Location: Orades K-4, 20805 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills; grades 5-8,
9600 Leverne, Redford
Details: Open house for the school, a fuition-based, congregationsupported, association school that offers Christian education. The
school is accepting enrollment now for grades K-8
Contact: (313) 937-2233 or (248) 474-2488
Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: 12:30-2 p.m. July 10, 17 and 24
Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield
Details: "Back to the Sources," lunch and study series will explore
the world of Rabbinic text, including Torah commentaries, Talmud,
Midrash, and Aggadah. Each session will be self-contained and can
be attended separately. To help plan for food and seating and ensure
enough copies of study materials for Back to the Sources, advance
registration is requested. However, walk-ins will be accommodated
Contact: (248) 851-6880 or e-mail director@cbahm.org
Orchard United Methodist Church
Time/Date: 9:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., July 12-16
Location: 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills
Details, Vacation Bible School, "High Seas Expedition, "is open to all
children, age 4 through those who have completed fifth grade. Each
day includes singing, games, yummy snacks, experiencing Bible
adventures, crafts and more. The fee before July 1 is \$25 per child
(family maximum of \$65) and includes a CD and an iron-on transfer
for a solid color T-shirt
Contact: Julie Wright at (248) 626-3620 or (248) 626-3620
St. James Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., July 8-10
Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford

St. James Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 9 a.m.-2 p.m., July 8-10
Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford
Details: Thrift store clearance sale; all items, except those marked
"firm," that are \$1 or more are half off. Kathy's Bake Sale also will be
open during the sale
Contact: (313) 534-7730
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
Time/Date: 7 p.m., July 12 and Aug. 16
Location: 30900 Stx Mile, Livonia
Details: Workshops are designed to belo people in employment trans-

Details: Workshops are designed to help people in employment tran-sition build a network and use their resources to find that next good job. Workshop leaders are available to work one-on-one with anyone

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For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnps.com

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FOOD

Thursday, July 8, 2010

hometownlife

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Sharon Dargay Voice Mail: (313) 222-8883 E-mail: sdargay@hometownlife.com Comment online at hometownlife.com

Simple, sophisticated snacks and drinks for summer

Summer is the season for entertaining, but there isn't any reason you have to slave away in a hot kitchen in order to throw a sophistication and seasonality, and it will be easy to host smashing summer party.

Opt for simplicity, sophistication and seasonality, and it will be easy to host smashing summer soirces with less time and work involved in preparation. Ingredients like fresh fruits and veggies play to the best tastes of summer, while familiar flavors like coffee can lend an air of sophistication to even the easiest summer treats.

"Convenience is key to making the summer months enjoyable - whether you're organizing a fun afternoon for yourself or having an adult gathering at your house," says Robin Miller, a nutritionist and author of "Robin Rescues Dinner" and "Quick Fix Meals," which is also the title of her show that airs on Food Network. "Having healthy fresh snacks that incorporate seasonal fruits and vegetables to keep everyone refreshed, or fruity drinks mixed with coffee to give a sophisticated and adult flavor, will help make your event fantastic and memorable."

One way to keep things simple is to blend refreshing and tasty, yet convenient, items like Starbucks VIA Ready Brew into your snacks, drinks and even grill rubs for a fresh take on old favorites.

For a quick and delicious start to your next party, here are a couple of recipered for drinks, snacks and great-tasting foods on the grill:

CUCUMBER MINT GIN LEMONADE

- ½ cup cucumber, peeled, seeded and grated

Dissolve coffee with a tablespoon of hot water in a pitcher. Add lemonade, sugar, cucumber, gin and mint. Chill for several hours. Serve over ice.

SPICY COCKTAIL NUTS

- SPICY COCKTAIL NUTS

 I cup cashews

 I cup almonds

 I cup almonds

 I tablespoons butter

 I tablespoon red vinegar

 'k cup honey

 I packet Starbucks VIA Ready
 rew
- ½ teaspoon salt

Brew

** teaspoon salt

** teaspoon cayenne pepper

1 teaspoon Chile powder

** cup dried papaya

** cup dried mango

** cup dried mango

** cup dried mango

** cup dried pineapple

Toast nuts on a sheet pan
for 10 minutes at 300 F.

While nuts are toasting, combine all ingredients together,
except dried fruit, in a heatproof microwave container.

Microwave for 20 seconds to
melt and combine the mixture. Remove nuts from oven
and turn temperature down
to 225 F. Add toasted nuts
to mixture and stir to coat.

Spread in an even layer on
a baking sheet. Bake for 45
minutes. Stir nuts to evenly
coat and bake on all sides.

Spread and press dried fruit
onto nuts and place back in
the oven for 15 minutes. After
cooling, break up the mixture
and store in an air-tight container.

HIGH OCTANE APPLE-TINI

HIGH OCTANE APPLE-TINI

- Makes two martinis
 1 packet Starbucks VIA Ready
 Brew
- rew
 1 cup apple juice
 3 tablespoons vanilla vodka
 ½ cup ice
 ½ lime chopped
 1 apple, sliced into thin wheels
 r garnish (core is in the center of
 e wheel)

the wheel).
Dissolve coffee with a tablespoon of hot water in a shaker. Add apple juice, vodka, limes and ice. Place lid on top of the shaker and shake vigorously for 20 seconds. Strain liquid into martini glasses. Place a thin apple wheel on top.



Cucumber Mint Gin Lemonade



SWEET AND SPICY COFFEE GRILLING

RUB 2 packets Starbucks VIA Ready Brew 1 tablespoon salt 2 tablespoons black pepper 2 tablespoons black pepper 2 tablespoons brown sugar Stir coffee, salt, pepper and sugar together. Coat it on the meat and grill. For stronger taste, let the coated meat sit up to an hour in the refrigerator before grilling. - Courtesy of ARAcontent



Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be

In a recent radio interview attorney Bleske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work, record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied Or if you are thinking of possibly of applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.





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to Michigan. Our
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products are imported
to capture the flavor
and tradition of
Florence, Italy.

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EAL ESTA

AUTOS

SECTION C (*) Thursday, July 8, 2010

hometownlife

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES:

BBB: Beware of air conditioning scams

As summer temperatures heat up, your local Better Business Bureau is advising consumers not to get burned by air conditioning inspection and repair scams. While most air conditioning service and installation companies are reputable, as the humidity increases there are always a few companies that emerge each season with the goal of taking consumers money for unnecessary repair work or equipment sales. BBB encourages consumers not to give in to high-pressure sales tactics and to always do their homework before committing to spend any money. "Air conditioners can be one of the more complicated aspects of maintaining your home," said Melanie Duquesnel, president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau Serving Eastern Michigan. "As such, scam artists will leverage that unfamiliarity of air conditioning to take advantage of the consumer. The best way to defend your pocketbook is by being an educated consumer. Always check out a company with your local Better Business Bureau before accepting any offers and never leave anyone servicing your air conditioning system unattended while at your home."

Advertisements for "free" air conditioner cleanings or tune-ups tend to pop up this time of year. BBB recommends that consumers be cautious of these opportunities. Complaints received by the BBB show a trend in these circumstances regarding recommendations for more costly repairs than are actually required, high-pressure sales pitches to replace existing units with brand new models, or significantly marking up the price for replacement parts. In other situations, dishonest repair people will remove parts or allow coolant to escape causing the air conditioner to not work properly so that the consumer believes a costly repair or the purchase of a new unit is needed. "If someone is advertising an offer to clean or service your air conditioner for fere they are most likely planning on trying to sell you something else while they are in your

home," said Lee Weinstein, general manager for H A Sun Heating & Cooling Inc., a BBB accredited business since 1987. "There is a difference between sending a technician out to provide a free estimate or quote as part of the sales process, which many reputable businesses do, and trying to trick a consumer by allegedly offering a free service with the overall intent of gaining access to their home in order to defraud them or make a high pressure sales pitch. Anytime someone is faced with a pricey repair or new air conditioner purchase, we recommend getting at least three quotes before you make a final decision."

BBB recommends consumers take the following steps to ensure they are getting the proper service for their air conditioner problems:

• Troubleshoot: Before calling for service, check a few basic things out yourself first. Is your thermostat operating properly? Has the electrical breaker powering the unit tripped? Does your system have a winter power shut off switch that needs to be flipped? Are the air intake screens or filters on your outside unit dirty or blocked and need to be cleaned? Sometimes there are minor, inexpensive things you can do yourself to alleviate a problem and avoid paying for a service call or repair.

Air conditioners are complex machinery, don't take them apart or try to repair them on your own or you could end up doing more damage which could result in a more expensive repair. Leave the servicing of your air conditioner still under manufacturers' warranty? Sometimes using unauthorized service companies or replacement parts can void your warranty. Be sure to check your owners' manual or warranty for any special conditions to avoid unnecessarily paying for any future repairs that might otherwise be paid for under the warranty.

• Start With Trust: Check out service contractors with your local



Better Business Bureau at www.bbb.
org or by calling (248) 223-9400.
Make sure to use a BBB accredited
business or at the very least, one
that has a good rating with BBB.
Written Estimates: Don't be
satisfied with verbal promises.
Demand a written estimate that
notes what is wrong with your air
conditioner, what the entire cost to
repair or replace the unit will be,
and the printed and signed name of
the repair person. If they are recommending purchasing a new system,
also require the estimate include its
make, model, serial number, and
system capacity.

also require the estimate include its make, model, serial number, and system capacity.

• Obtain Multiple Quotes: Obtain more than one written quote before you allow work to be completed on your air conditioner or purchase a new one. Quotes should include a full description of the services and materials to be used so you can adequately compare them; this includes the air conditioner's size and units of energy (BTU) as well as the calculated cooling capacity of your home. Also compare all available warranties. Not all warranties are the same so they should be included in your evaluation process.

• Be Vigilant: Protect your home and your valuables by never leaving unknown workers alone in your home. Keep valuables out of sight and locked up when you have a contractor doing work. Avoid paying cash and write checks out to the name of the business rather than payable to the employee or another individual. Some unethical employees and subcontractors steal from consumers by convincing them to write checks directly to them rather

than the company that was hired. Consumers are than still liable to pay the company they hired to do the work or face a lien against their property. A canceled check is a useful form of evidence to prove you actually paid your bill.

Make sure the business has a mechanical contractor's license with the State of Michigan. You can check to see if someone is licensed online at http://www7.dleg.state.mi.us/bcclicense/ or by calling (517) 241-9288. Additionally, check that the company is insured against claims covering worker's compensation, property damage, and personal liability in case in accident occurs on your property. Call to verify the contractor's insurance coverage after obtaining the name of the carrier and agency. Ask the provider to send you proof of coverage for your records.

• Annual Inspections: Paying for an annual inspection with a

rier and agency. Ask the provider to send you proof of coverage for your records.

• Annual Inspections: Paying for an annual inspection with a qualified repair shop to check the compressor, moving parts, coolant levels, filter, and furnace blower can identify and resolve problems before they become expensive. Having work done before the peak summer busy season can be less costly than when air conditioning service technicians are in high demand.

The Better Business Bureau
Serving Eastern Michigan is a nonprofit organization that fights fraud and promotes ethical business practices in the local marketplace through its business accreditation, consumer education, and dispute resolution programs. Contact your local BBB by calling (248) 223-9400 or by visiting www.bbb.org.

Find an agent vou can work with well

Q: Do you have any suggestions on how I can hire the best real estate agent for buying or selling my home?

A: Sometimes it is more difficult to find out about a real estate agent than other professionals. But there are some things you can find out about your agent before you hire him or her.



First, ask the agent to provide a list of what they have listed and sold in the last year with contact information. Before you start calling the names, ask the agent if anyone will be "particularly pleased or particularly disappointed." When you contact these past clients, ask what the asking price was and then ask what the sales price was. If you are the seller, ask if these past properties are similar to yours in price, location and other salient features. Obviously, you want someone who specializes in exactly what you are trying to sell. Another good question for sellers is "How long has the home been on the market?" Also, check to see whether the person that you are considering is licensed and if there have been any disciplinary actions or complaints. You may also want to check to determine whether they are a "Realtor and/or a member of the National Association of Realtors," and, whether they have received any awards as such. See if they have any additional credentials meaning they have taken additional classes or training such as a CRS (Certified Residential Specialist) mor an ABR (Accredited Buyer's Representative). There is also such a thing as an SRES (Seniors Real Estate Specialist) which means that they have completed training aimed at helping buyers and sellers in the 50+ age range. Keep in mind that a "Realtor" means that he/she is a member of the National Association of Realtors and pledges to support its Code of Ethics.

Further, make sure that your real estate agent or broker is not a new boy on the block and has been in the bousiness at least five years. You can check with the state in that regard. Obviously, you are looking for someone who is actively engaged in a particular area and price range, and, you want to know what knowledge of those two factors they can demonstrate and what kind of market presence they have. Check out your proposed agent's listings on line, either at their old site or at realtor.com, and whether they recommend you obtain an attorney. Finally, make sure you can communic

Q: I am, of course, trying to find out when the bottom will reach in terms of buying property in the Naples area. Do you have any later or additional information?

Do you have any later or additional information?

A: The number of house closings and real estate sales in Naples has increased substantially over last year (2009). However, there are still a number of foreclosed properties that are enticing investors at very cheap prices. Typically, the foreclosed property is not in the best of condition and that, of course, brings down the "comparables" for real estate pricing in the neighborhood and/or the other units of the development. Some brokers speculate that this will be the last summer where bargains can be obtained in Naples and, for that matter, Southeast Florida, but that still is only a prognostication.

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and the author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition. It is available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling, He also wrate Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping and handling. For more information, call (248) 644-4433 or wist bmeisner@meisner-associates.com. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential	
real estate closings recorded	the
week of March 22-26, 2010, at	the
Oakland County Register of De	eds
office. Listed below are cities,	
addresses, and sales prices.	

Auburn Hill	5
954 Bloomfield Village Blvd	\$22,000
2311 Dexter Rd	\$14,000
Birminghan	1
800 Arlington St	\$790,000
1295 E Lincoln St	\$335,000
736 Graefield Ct	\$60,000
180 Pilgrim Ave	\$455,000
1764 Stanley Blvd	\$495,000
505 W Frank St	\$723,000
Bloomfield Town	nship
3280 Berkshire Dr	\$265,000
4387 Dorian Dr	\$295,000
1556 Ledbury Dr	\$170,000
6697 Valley Spring Ct	\$210,000
Clarkston	
8003 Caribou Lake Ln	\$407,000
4833 Harding Ave	\$184,000
7220 Hillside Dr	\$450,000

4105 Newcastle Dr	\$165,000
5558 Northcrest Village Dr	\$135,000
8416 Peaceful VIv	\$315,000
4715 Pelton Rd	\$60,000
8713 S Shore Dr	\$330,000
Commerce Towns	hio
4516 Darlene Dr	\$205,000
1972 Portlock Ave	\$128,000
2455 Trillium Hills Dr	\$218,000
Davisburg	
4968 Ormond Rd	\$128.000
Farmington Hil	
31914 Bella Vista Dr	\$128,000
37622 Dorchester Dr	\$221,000
28977 Forest Hill Dr	\$237,000
28211 Green Castle Rd	\$134,000
22047 Inkster Rd	\$55,000
22580 Purdue Ave	\$125,000
21965 River Ridge Trl	\$130,000
31915 W 14 Mile Rd	\$86,000
22092 W Brandon St	\$127,000
28751 Wintergreen	\$490,000
Lake Orion	
2402 Brabant St	\$145,000
88 Franklin Wright Blyd	\$210,000
3687 Hidden Forest Dr	\$233,000
	4550,000

8772 Hunters Creek Dr 8945 Minne Wanna Rd

3864 Kossuth Rd	\$238,000
3827 Lakeleaf .	\$255,000
3133 Sandoval Dr	
3867 Seguoia Dr	
3044 Voorheis Lake Ct	\$215,000
3341 Yosemite Dr	\$190,000
Lathrup VIII	age
18950 Hampshire St	\$59,000
Milford	
3151 Central Blvd	\$79,000
Northville	9
21943 Parkwood Ln	\$250,000
Novi	
40423 Franklin Mill St	\$175,000
51137 Hallfield St	\$240,000
24455 Olde Orchard St	\$67,000
25518 Portico Ln	
Oakland Township	
5119 Belmonte Dr	
670 Canyon Rd	\$193,000
296 Oakbridge Dr	
2975 Shannon Dr	\$271,000
Orchard La	ke
4358 Pine Tree Ln	\$135,000
Oxford	
839 Hemlock Dr	
1141 Olympic Ct	\$190,000
Rocheste	r

10	821 Cumberland Rdg Ct	\$55,000	1446 Hartland Dr	\$265,000
0	Rochester Hills		2770 Lenox Dr	\$249,000
0	179 Bowdoinhill Ct	\$205,000	3602 Old Creek Rd	\$105,000
0	1244 E Horseshoe Ct	\$230,000	4101 Penrose Dr	\$260,000
0	1435 Galena	\$95,000	2673 Rhodes Dr	\$150,000
	1506 Galena	\$500,000	3339 Upton Dr	\$181,000
	864 Snowmass Dr	\$274,000	3948 Wayfarer Dr	
	1121 Tienken Ct	\$29,000	Walled Lake	
	2148 Wentworth Dr	\$266,000	, 30202 Chesapeake Cir	\$122,000
	South Lyon		454 Conway St	\$95,000
	26601 Daria Cir E	\$80,000	Waterford	
	342 Hampton Ct	\$82,000	3845 Hazelett Dr	\$54,000
	Southfield		2706 N Lake Dr	\$237,000
	29590 Bermuda Ln	\$145,000	3170 Sashabaw Rd	\$79,000
	29819 Chelmsford Rd	\$39,000	4741 Sherwell Dr	\$81,000
	27043 Lincolnshire Dr	\$78,000	West Bloomfield	
	23349 N Chanticleer Dr	\$108,000	2015 Bordeaux St	\$150,000
	27274 Nantucket Dr	\$90,000	5132 Chestershire Ct	\$170,000
	25378 Saint James	\$74,000	6951 Long Ave	\$272,000
0	25275 Southwood Dr	\$165,000	7154 Nottingham	\$150,000
	20810 Stahelin Rd	\$13,000	6655 Pinnock	\$312,000
	15609 Stone Crossing Dr	\$39,000	5533 Stanhope St	\$150,000
	27590 Vermont St	\$90,000	6620 Tamerlane Dr	
	22400 W 12 Mile Rd		2580 Walnut Lake Rd	\$113,000
	20516 Westhampton Ave	\$19,000	White Lake	
	Trov		8344 Fox Bay Dr	\$128,000
	1127 Beaver Run		Wolverine Lake	
	4945 Carlson Park Dr	\$306,000	729 Laguna Dr	\$135,000

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 22-26, 2010, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

47079 Eastbourne Rd	\$305,00
7044 Foxridge Dr	
50001 Geddes Rd	\$119,00
43818 Hanford Rd	\$190,00
44679 Heather Ln	\$218,00
4142 Kristine Ct	\$168,00
42436 Majestic Ct	\$155,00
50197 Monroe St	\$80,00
5777 N Beck Rd	
Garden City	
28971 Alvin St	
534 Belton St	\$87,00
1232 Helen St	
29834 Hennepin St	\$10,00
29584 Rush St	
30120 Rush St	\$65,00
29146 Sheridan St	\$87,00
Livonia	
38244 Ann Arbor Trl	\$60,00
12121 Cavell St	
30135 Fairfax St	\$82,00
30481 Grandon St	\$113,001

19326 Hillcrest St
11667 Jarvis St
20169 Merriman Rd
18360 N Laurel Park Dr
29824 Pickford St # 0
18581 Westmore St
Northyi

16406 Mulberry Way 50199 Teton Ridge Rd 628 W Main St 46401 W Main St 46551 W Main St Plymouth

10088 mothree up 10088 meddord 17430 Indian 9380 Salem 23235 W Chicago 23235 W Chicago Westland 1026 Edwin SI 13550 Hazelwood SI 13550 Hazelwood SI 13550 Hazelwood SI 14565 Mulrifield pt 8046 Merriman 8d 3760 W Rhead Cir 5615 Wildwood SI 14560 W Read Cir 5615 Wildwood SI 1450 Million SI 14560 W Rhead Cir 5615 Wildwood SI 1450 Million SI 14560 W Rhead Cir 5615 Wildwood SI 1450 Million SI 14560 W Rhead Cir 5615 Wildwood SI 1450 Million SI 1450 Million SI 1450 W Rhead Cir 5615 Wildwood SI 1450 Million SI 145

Career Seminar

Career Seminar

Keller Williams Realty is looking for people that are: positive minded, highly ethical, service-based, self-starting, eager to learn and professional in appearance.

Candidates would benefit from previous experience or successes in: service industries, account management, retail sales, small business operations, marketing or event planning. Candidates should have: good people/communication skills, some computer knowledge, a strong work ethic, an optimistic "can do" attitude and a strong desire to achieve results through helping others.

A Career Seminar will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15, at 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. To reserve a seat, call (734) 459-4700.

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Seminar includes: cost vs. income potential, training, company profit share, commission struc-tures.

Property management

Learn how professional property managers run their businesses to produce cash flow. Sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland on Thursday, July 8, 5:30–9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, 29310 John R, north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members, \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742.

New agents

Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel has recently wel-comed a number of new

agents.
They are: Jacquelyn
Hasenfratz, Teresa Stovall
and Darla Niewoit-

Hartline — Birmingham/Bloomfield North;
Susan Maczko and Sara
Reppke — Birmingham/Bloomfield South; Jane
Haun, Tom Klimkowski
and Eric Schulte — the
Grosse Pointes; Virginia
Galambush and Scott
Rivard — Macomb
Center; Carol Ambrose,
Brian Gaughan and
Stacey Hasenau
— Northville/Novi;
Kim Juszczyk, Jason
Soble, April Nugent
and Matthew Keith
— Plymouth/Canton;
Lisa Virkus and Mark
Kowal — Rochester; and
Michael Kummer — Troy,
"We are happy to have
such talented people
joining our team," said
Kelly Sweeney, CBWM
CEO, "Our customers
can be assured that these
agents will deliver the
superior level of service
that CBWM is known
for."



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- 39 Square accounts
 42 Reaches across
 44 Jack, in cards
 46 Wan
 48 Bird's beak
 50 Soon, to a poet
 51 Bleachers level
 52 Web addr.
 53 Hard benches
 54 "Who —
 knows?"
 55 Devotee
 56 Hairpin curve
 - DOWN

SUDOKU

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- Victor Hugo
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 Microscopic animals
 Diagram

- 23 in vogue 25 Friction easer 26 Ginger 27 Summer in Quebec 28 Playful activity 29 IV squared 30 Unburdened 31 Embarrases 32 Hold account-able for 33 Moo compan-ion 35 Penny pinch-ers

 - as Penny pinchers ers 37 Nile god 38 World-weary feeling 39 Window parts 40 Swears to 41 Urges 43 Ceremonial fire

 - fire 45 Ponytail site 46 Had a snack 47 vous plait 49 Quick lunch

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