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Christmas in July is back this year inside **Hometownlife INSPIRE** published Thursday, July 19.

List the pages where you spot the holiday and enter with the form

inside the print edition of **INSPIRE** or online at hometownlife.com.

All entries must be received by midnight July 31. Winners will be selected at random from all correct entries.

You could win \$250, \$125 or \$75 to go on a Christmas in July shopping spree.

Chamber board

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is looking for "dedicated chamber members" to fill four open seats on the chamber's Board of Directors.

The nomination form can be found on the chamber's website at www.cantonchamber.com. It can be returned via email (tpaden@cantonchamber.com), fax (734-453-4503) or postal service to the chamber office at 45525 Hanford, Canton, MI 48187. Deadline for nominations is July 20.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 453-4040.

DIA for free

As part of a partnership between Canton Township and the Detroit Institute of Arts, Canton residents get free admission to the DIA Sunday during museum hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The free admission is being offered to thank patrons for their support of the museum's Inside/Out program, an outreach program which places replicas of some of the DIA's most famous works in unique settings throughout participating Metro Detroit communities, including Canton.

Canton residents simply need to present their driver's license or state ID and receive four complimentary general admission tickets to the DIA (the deal doesn't extend to special exhibitions).

The DIA is located at 5200 Woodward Avenue, in Detroit.



Canton Chamber of Commerce officials are hoping to attract some 600 participants for the 2012 Grub Crawl, which takes place Tuesday with 16 participating restaurants.

Eat here and here and ...

Grub Crawl gives diners a chance to choose

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

If early ticket sales are any indication, the 11th annual Canton Grub Crawl is on its way to setting a participation record when it hits area restaurants Tuesday night.

And Tom Paden believes it will get there. The Canton Chamber of Commerce president said he fully expects to hit 600 tickets before the annual dining extravaganza, a number that would top all others for attendance.

"We're shooting for 600 tickets, and we believe we're going to hit that," Paden said. "This year is really bigger and better. As of right now, we've had more participants than we've ever had before. We've had more support from sponsors than ever before. It's really turned out to be a great event."

The crawl, which runs 6-10 p.m., is open to the public. Participants must be 21 or older. The \$35 tickets come in the form of a T-shirt, designed each year for the crawl. Last year,

GOOD EATIN'

What: 2012 Canton Grub Crawl
When: 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, July 17
Where: Sixteen participating restaurants around Canton (transportation provided)

Sponsors: Athlison Ford Sales, Inc., Central City Dance, Conrad Insurance Agency, Jack Demmer Ford, Inc., Jade Child Development Center, Sunrise Family Dental Care, Republic Services, Schoolcraft College and TDS Metromark. Tickets: \$35 (still available)

Contact: Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040 or www.cantonchamber.com



Sixteen restaurants will be part of the 2012 Canton Grub Crawl 6-10 p.m. Tuesday.

nearly 500 people took part in the crawl, according to Paden.

"The Grub Crawl is an opportunity for area restaurants to showcase their cuisine as well as promote Canton's diversity while having fun," Paden said. "The Grub Crawl is an exciting and fun event for the Canton community and businesses."

This year's crawl features 16 restaurants, who provide samples of their best menu items. Transportation to and from the participating eateries is pro-

vided by the chamber. Restaurants taking part in the crawl include Antonio's Cucina Italiana, Bailey's Pub & Grille, Buffalo Wild Wings, Carraba's Italian Grill, Carvel Ice Cream, Chili's Grill & Bar, China Garden, Crow's Nest Bar & Grill, Hayden's Grill & Bar, Olga's Kitchen, Real Bar BQ, Rose's Grill & Bar, Super Bowl Pizzeria, Sze Chuan Restaurant, TGI Friday's and T.C. Gators Sports Place.

Please see CRAWL, A3

Loud Fourth followed by new ordinance

By Brad Kadrich and Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writers

Canton residents took advantage of legislation put together by the state Legislature and Gov. Rick Snyder that eased the restrictions on the sale and use of commercial-grade fireworks to dot the skies and throw the ear drums of their neighbors celebrating the Fourth of July holiday. While no serious injuries were reported, Canton Police did say there were more noise complaints than normal, though nothing too out-of-control.

"There were more, but I wouldn't say it was a dramatic increase," Canton Police Sgt. Dave Schreiner said. "There was nothing out of the ordinary."

It likely won't be an issue next year. The Canton Board of Trustees took the first official step Tuesday toward restricting use of commercial-grade fireworks, hearing the first reading of a new ordinance that bans them on all but the day before, the day of and the day after holidays on which they're allowed in the new state law.

Board members have cited concerns about fires, injuries and neighborhood noise while discussing the ordinance, which prohibits the use of Roman candles, bottle rockets and other fireworks that shoot into the air.

"I just have these visions of badly burned people and badly damaged property," Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin said. Canton Supervisor Phil LaJoy said while the township is moving forward with the ordinance, prevailing thought is that many people are dissatisfied with the new law. He said he's even heard some legislators who supported the new law aren't sure about it.

"This is a start to address the issue, but we're getting a sense the majority of the community is not happy with the state law," LaJoy said. "There's some question about whether the legislators think they did the right thing. As the state

Please see ORDINANCE, A2

Busch's brings 100 jobs to Canton market

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer



A new, \$4,000-square-foot store in Canton will complement Busch's in nearby Farmington, Plymouth and Livonia, among the market's 16 southeast Michigan locations.

By this time next year, Canton residents are going to have another popular place to shop for groceries.

Ann Arbor-based Busch's Fresh Food Market, an independent family super-market chain, announced plans to open a new \$4,000-square-foot store in Canton. The announcement was made by CEO John Busch.

The store will anchor the shopping plaza located at 225 S. Canton Center (where Farmer Jack used to be). Busch said the store is expected to open by summer 2013 and will employ approximately 100 full- and part-time associates.

The Canton location will mark the

16th Busch's supermarket in Michigan. Busch's also has a location in Plymouth.

"We've wanted to bring Busch's to the Canton community for several years, and finally the timing and opportunity are right," Busch said. "We look forward to serving our new neighbors in this wonderfully diverse and family-friendly community with the finest quality products and personal service every shopper deserves."

Busch's real estate entity purchased the Canton location building and the accompanying multi-tenant building. Busch said the chain got help completing this transaction through support from Canton Township Supervisor Phil

Please see BUSCH'S, A3

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Hoekstra: 'Put people back to work'

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

To his way of thinking, Pete Hoekstra thinks President Barack Obama is steering the U.S. down the wrong road in nearly every area, and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow is riding shotgun.

That's why the Holland Republican, who served in the House of Representatives from 1993-2010, is running in a four-way battle in the August primary for the right to challenge Stabenow. He faces Clark Durant, Randy Heckman and Gary Glenn.

One of the keys to getting the country back on the right track, Hoekstra stressed Tuesday on a trip through Plymouth, is creating jobs.

"You need to put people back to work," Hoekstra said after visiting Sealant Equipment & Engineering, Inc., in Plymouth Township. "The stimulus didn't work, and Washington is blocking (job growth) right now, and the president is leading it. You have tremendous uncertainty in Washington now. Businesses see that and say, 'We're just going to sit on the sideline.'"

That was, at least in part, part of the message



Sealant Equipment & Engineering President Nick Schultz (left) shows U.S. Pete Hoekstra some of the items Sealant Equipment manufactures for the global market during Hoekstra's tour of the Plymouth Township facility Tuesday.

Hoekstra heard when he toured Sealant Equipment. Hoekstra toured the manufacturing facility, met with workers and listened to questions and answers during a brief visit.

Reaching out

Nick Schultz, Sealant Equipment's president, said he was glad to see Hoekstra reaching out to the business community. "I thought it was a good visit," Schultz said. "He saw we are a legitimate company that manufactures things sent around

the world. We actually make things here."

Hoekstra said to accomplish economic growth, the country needs "to go back to the basic fundamentals we had when a Republican Congress worked with a Democratic president" to produce a balanced budget in the mid-to late 1990s: reform tax policy and reform entitlements.

Hoekstra said he thinks Gov. Rick Snyder is on the right track in Michigan, and he wants to be a partner in Washington "that helps move the state

forward. "Too often, (Snyder) is running into barriers (in Washington) to getting the state moving," Hoekstra said. "(Snyder) wants less government intervention. I'm all for that. I'd rather put power in the hands of the people and not in the hands of Washington bureaucrats."

Schultz said Hoekstra is "able to understand" the expenses and pressures small businesses face. Schultz said "taxes are a burden, and the ramifications and the unknowns

of Washington weighs heavily," particularly on small businesses.

Better understanding

"I think he understands there are certain forces that weigh heavily on our businesses as far as being profitable," Schultz said. "If jobs are priority one, we need to be a healthy entity so we can employ more people, and government regulations and the intrusiveness into the operating of any company... (Hoekstra) understands that a little bit better, because he got it first-hand by coming out and meeting the people."

On other issues, Hoekstra believes... "The Affordable Care Act, dubbed 'Obamacare,' needs to be repealed. While disagreeing with the Supreme Court's ruling, he said Chief Justice John Roberts got it right by calling it a matter of policy.

"Policy is one of the reasons we have elections," Hoekstra said. "Obamacare is now a key part of the November elections."

Hoekstra has posted seven basic policies he believes could be the start of a solution to replacing Obamacare with an affordable, accessible substitute.

"It's not the end-all list, but if you do something with them, it'll drive us toward affordability and accessibility," he said.

• Gridlock, he said, is worse than ever in Washington, with both sides paralyzed by partisan bickering. He said the inability to get much done is driving business people "crazy."

"The uncertainty with taxes and health care... (people) say, 'Get this done. We're ready to invest, we think we can compete globally,'" Hoekstra said. "They may not like what's coming, but if they're at least know what it is, they can deal with it."

• President Obama's foreign policy has made the U.S. "more vulnerable," particularly in the Middle East. He embraced policies as president — such as a military surge in Afghanistan — he criticized as a senator.

"The Middle East is scary," Hoekstra said. "It's hard to quantify whether we're safer. I won't say as a country we're not safe, but the threats are very real. I think we're a country that's still vulnerable."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com (734) 222-8899

AROUND CANTON

"Around Canton" is designed to announce upcoming events taking place in the community. Items will run on a space-available basis. Send details to bkadrich@hometownlife.com

WRESTLING CAMP

Date/Time: July 16-19, 5:30-8 p.m.

Location: Salem High School

Details: Salem Wrestling is holding a summer wrestling camp for all 7-12th graders that are attending and/or going to be attending Salem High School. The cost is \$25 which includes a camp T-shirt. All current Salem wrestlers are required to attend and

will concentrate on technique and conditioning. It will be run by current Salem Assistant Varsity Coach and High School State Wrestling Champion Jeremy Henderson.

Contact: Coach Henderson at jhendy189@gmail.com or visit www.wrestling.salem-roads.com for more information.

SLAVENS COFFEE

Date/Time: Monday, July 16, 5-6 p.m.

Location: Daydream Cafe, 47192 Michigan Ave., in Canton

Details: State Representative Dian Slavens (D-Canton) invites residents to join her for

a cup of coffee and conversation at one of her upcoming coffee hours. Slavens hosts regular coffee hours and town hall meetings throughout Canton Township, Belleville and Van Buren Township.

Contact: Call toll free at (888) 347-8021 or send an email to DianSlavens@house.mi.gov.

TINY TOTS

Location: The Salvation Army Plymouth, 9451 S. Main in Plymouth

Details: The Plymouth Salvation Army is taking registration for its Tiny Tots Preschool and Young 5s program. Classes range from 2-4 days a week, depending on the child's age. A four-day Young 5s program is new for 2012/13.

Contact: Sheila Johnson, preschool director,

(734) 453-5464, Ext. 27, or email sheila_johnson@usc.salvationarmy.org

MOPS MEETINGS

Date/Time: First-Friday Fridays, 9:15-11:30 a.m.

Location: St. Kenneth Catholic Church, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth

Details: The St. Edith's, Kenneth Catholic Parishes' Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group invites all mothers with children aged newborn through kindergarten to join. The group provides the encouragement, nurturing, and support and features a schedule of activities that include speakers, crafts, and group discussions.

Contact: Heather at (734) 437-9517 or email stelmops@gmail.com, or visit www.stelmops.org

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

ORDINANCE

Continued from page A1

changes, of course, we'll modify our ordinances."

Canton joins a growing number of Michigan communities adopting restrictions. The Grand Rapids City Commission enacted a ban last month, despite claims from supporters the change will bring millions of dollars in new revenue from licensing fees and sales taxes as retailers cash in on the changes.

Canton Deputy Fire Chief Joshua Meier cited U.S. statistics from the National Fire Prevention Association indicating that fireworks caused 15,500 fires — some of them to homes and vehicles — in 2010. Those fires resulted in eight reported deaths, 60 injuries and \$36 million in



BILL BREZLER
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Board of Trustees Tuesday approved the first reading of a new fireworks ordinance dealing with commercial-grade fireworks.

property damage.

That same year, Meier said, some 8,600 people sought help in hospital emergency rooms for fireworks-related injuries.

Township Attorney Kristin Kolb said Canton cannot ban the fireworks the day before, after, or on national holidays, including New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the third Monday in January, George Washington's Birthday, observed the third Monday in February, Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day, Columbus Day, the second Monday in October, Veterans Day, Nov. 11, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Canton's new ordinance does, however, place time restrictions even on those holidays, banning fireworks for a nine-hour period starting at 1 a.m. The ordinance also allows the more powerful fireworks for events such as weddings and cultural celebrations, as long as they obtain a permit and pass a fire inspection.

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McCotter resignation forces special election

By Ken Abramczyk and Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writers

A special election to fill the vacated Congressional seat created by the resignation of Thaddeus McCotter will cost counties and local governments \$650,000, according to state elections officials.

Residents in the current 11th District will be voting in a special election on Wednesday, Sept. 5, and again on Nov. 6 to fill the unexpired term.

And local municipalities aren't very happy about it.

Canton Township Clerk Terry Bennett said the special election will likely cost the township between \$65,000 and \$75,000.

"The biggest piece is we may have to buy some supplies we wouldn't have needed, because the (special) election overlaps the August primary," Bennett said.

"We have to make sure we have what we need in terms of retention of ballot boxes, etc."

Bennett said the election is expected to increase the workload in the clerk's office to the

SPECIAL ELECTION DEADLINES

July 20: Last date for Democratic and Republican candidates to file nominating petitions. Candidates must file nominating petitions with 1,000 signatures.

July 23: Withdrawal deadline for Democratic and Republican candidates.

Aug. 7: Last date for candidates without party affiliation to file qualifying petitions. Also the last date for minor political parties to hold a caucus or convention to nominate candidates. (Note: Names and addresses must be certified and submitted.)



McCotter

extent that non-election related services, such as passports, will have to be curtailed until after the election.

"It's just twice as much work," Bennett said. "There's a certain amount of work to an election cycle... as a result you've got overlapping tasks, such as absentee ballots. We're going to have to go out with all the usual processes in a compressed time period. You only have so many hands in the office and so many staff hours in a day."

Election call

McCotter resigned Friday, ending his term six months early after what he called a "night-marish month and a half" in apparent reference to his duplicated signatures on petitions turning over the Secretary of State that resulted in an investigation by state Attorney General

Bill Schuette. The duplicate signatures were invalidated, so he fell short of the minimum signatures required to run.

On Tuesday, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, acting in Gov. Rick Snyder's absence, called for a special election in the 11th Congressional District to fill the vacancy created by McCotter's resignation.

Calley said he would have preferred to "save local tax dollars and spare election officials a significant burden" by conducting the special primary election in conjunction with the regularly scheduled Aug. 7 primary. However, the timing of McCotter's resignation makes that "impossible," Calley said in a press release issued by Snyder's office, as primary ballots already were printed and absentee ballots were mailed when McCotter made his announcement.



The shaded portion represents the 11th Congressional District as it is currently drawn. Voters in this district will cast ballots in the Sept. 5 special election.

In addition, ballots must be sent to Michigan voters who are overseas or serving in the military at least 45 days before an election, which means the special primary election must be held on a different date than Aug. 7.

"It is extremely disappointing that the district is forced to have a special election that is neither cost-effective nor efficient," Calley said in the prepared statement. "Taxpayers deserve better. We will move forward so that district residents have full representation

in Congress for the remainder of the term. I have every confidence that the outstanding election officials throughout the district will get the job done in spite of this challenging timeline."

Extreme expense

Calley cited Michigan election law, which states that the governor "shall" call a special election in this circumstance, as well as Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, which contains similar language requiring a special election as the reason for his decision.

On Nov. 6, some district voters will see the 11th Congressional race listed twice on their ballot. Voters will decide which candidate serves the remainder of McCotter's term, which expires in January 2013. They also decide which candidate wins the full two-year term that begins in January 2013.

Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy said the whole mess could have been prevented had McCotter simply stayed put.

"I'm very disappointed in the way (McCotter) has handled it all," LaJoy said. "It has caused some extreme unnecessary expense at a time when (municipalities) simply can't afford it."

BUSCH'S

Continued from page A1

LaJoy and Terry Bixler of ROC Real Estate.

LaJoy said he's been talking to Busch "for a long time" about filling that building, which has been vacant since Farmer Jack left. He said filling a vacant building, particularly in such a prime location, is vital.

"We work every day to fill vacant buildings," LaJoy said. "This one is in a very important location, with a lot of people, and it's a grocery store. Busch's is going to be a tremendous partner. It's going to be great for the community."

In addition to Canton and Plymouth, Busch's other locations throughout southeast Michigan include markets in Ann Arbor, Carleton, Clinton, Dexter, Farmington Hills, Livonia, Novi, Pinckney, Rochester Hills, Saline, South Lyon, Tecumseh and West Bloomfield.

Busch's Fresh Food Market, which celebrates its 37th anniversary this year, is a locally-owned Michigan company that blends the best of today's freshness, selection and quality with the personal service and wholesomeness of a neighborhood grocer.

In addition to fresh produce, local and organic choices, deli and bakery items made from scratch, USDA Choice meat, fresh seafood and an extensive beer and wine collection, Busch's offers popular national brands, imported specialty foods and convenient meal solutions.

Busch's supports charitable organizations and school children in the communities it serves. In addition, Busch's offers MyWay, a personalized shopping program that provides online ordering and advance notice of sale prices.

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CRAWL

Continued from page A1

Hayden's, China Garden, Real Bar BQ and Sze Chuan are first-timers, although Hayden's did do the post-crawl afterglow last year.

Ken Gao's family just opened China Garden in

March, and Cao is looking forward to the restaurant's first Grub Crawl.

"We want to help the local community," Cao said. "It'll be a good promotion for the restaurant."

Paden said while he expects attendance to reach the 600-person plateau, whatever size the

crowd turns out to be will include a record number of new residents who will be first-time participants.

He said that new-resident participation has helped the event transition from a chamber event to a "community event."

"It gives residents an opportunity to try some

restaurants they may not have chosen in the past," Paden said. "It's a really fun night for the residents to come out and see what the community has to offer. It really brings the community together."

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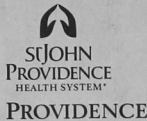
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Fiems: Ficano must go, commission must step up

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Matthew Fiems advocates a simple first step toward solving what he calls the "absolute paralysis" gripping Wayne County government: Robert Ficano must go. "I believe, for the good of Wayne County, Robert Ficano should resign. It's just that plain," said Fiems recently of the county executive, who has been under fire since last September, when a \$200,000 severance check for former economic development director Turkia Mullin, later returned, was revealed. Ficano, while apologizing for missteps, has said he did nothing illegal and has refused calls for his resignation. He is under

THE FIEMS FILE

Name: Matthew Fiems
Hometown: Canton Township since October 1997; born in White Lake Township 1970.
Family: Married to Wendy since 1996.
Profession: Real Property Appraiser for Wayne County for the last eight years.
Education: Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan; major in history and a minor in political science.
Previous public-sector experience: I have previously worked for the Washtenaw County Prosecutors Office in the Civil and Criminal Divisions. I have previously held elected office as a trustee for the White Lake Library.
Community involvement: Friends of the I-275 Metro Trail, Friends of the Rouge River, Clean Up the "D" volunteer.
Phone/website: (734) 502-0872; www.Fiems2012.com



up of Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township. He faces James Amar, a retired labor mediator, in the Tuesday, Aug. 7, primary. The Canton resident says he's not afraid to tackle issues he sees as holding the county back; among these issues, he listed a budget deficit that he said is inhibiting economic growth, a top-heavy county administration, and a "rubber-stamp commission" that will not exercise power. "Ficano isn't leading, so the commission has to step up and lead," Fiems said. He said his eight years on the job with the county board, is a Democrat candidate for the county Board of Commissioners in the new 10th District, which is made

Fiems said it is urgent that the county reduce an estimated \$155 million budget deficit. "If you want to bring businesses, you have to get the deficit down," he said. Fiems said some functions of county government should be consolidated for cost-savings. The register of deeds office, for example, could be folded into the clerk's office, he said. "Wants the county to get more active in lobbying for federal funding to help ease traffic congestion along Ford Road in Canton." "Said the Aerropolis people are willing to take a second look" for a business park near Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run airports — is outdated and no longer

viable. With changes in the automobile industry, he said, the demand is not there. "Advocates removing Ficano from office, if he does not leave on his own, through a charter amendment that would allow for an impeachment process and include safeguards against witch hunts. "Let's solve the problem. Let's not kick that can down the road," he said. Despite a daunting list of problems in the county, Fiems said, the crises have shaken things up and increased the desire among the public for change. "When you have a crisis people are willing to take a second look," he said, adding, "This is just something I feel absolutely passionate about and feel compelled to do."

Amar: Resolve county budget issues, spur growth

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Wayne County must take difficult steps to correct its finances while investing in programs and incentives to spur development and job creation. That's James Amar's take on how the county should address years of mounting budget problems and a slow or stagnant economy. And the Plymouth Township resident, who has more than 40 years' experience mediating labor disputes, says he's someone who can help get that done. "You've got to spend something to get the wheels going," said Amar, a Democrat vying to represent Plymouth and Canton townships on the county

THE AMAR FILE

Name: Jim Amar
Hometown: Plymouth
Family: Single
Profession: Retired Labor Mediation Supervisor
Education: Master of Labor and Industrial Relations, Michigan State University, Bachelor of Science, Eastern Michigan University, Political Science Major, Economics Minor
Previous public-sector experience: Worked for the State of Michigan
Community involvement: Treasurer, Father Clement H. Kern Foundation; President, Community Democratic Club; City of Highland Park, Mich.; Citizens Participation Coordinating Council; Recreation Task Force; Neighborhood Development Action Program.



degree in labor-management relations led to his work as a mediator. He said his experience should give him an advantage in reaching out to both unions and management. The county must, Amar said, address its long-term pension obligations. Along with health care, county legacy costs have been estimated at about \$2 billion over 30 years. Amar acknowledges the going won't be easy when many workers have already taken contract concessions. "The options aren't pleasant," he said. Future pay increases may have to be frozen, he said, and the county work force may have to be trimmed through attrition. "Fewer people have to do more," he said. Administrative staffing may also have to be trimmed, he said. Amar has several ideas

he says could improve the economy: a drive to increase tourism, similar to the Pure Michigan campaign; incentives for the movie industry, which he said brought work to the region when they were more generous at the state level; and the further promotion of the Aerropolis business park, which aims to take advantage of its proximity to Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run airports. Perhaps the business community could be encouraged to promote the Aerropolis concept, he said. Unlike Fiems, and the two Republicans also running for the 10th District seat, Amar isn't calling for the departure of County Executive Robert Ficano, who has been under fire for his management style since the disclosure of a \$200,000 severance check for former economic devel-

opment director Turkia Mullin, who later returned the money. Ficano's office is under investigation by the FBI, and Amar said the controversy will resolve itself through existing processes. Amar is endorsed by Commissioner Kevin McNamara, D-Canton, who is moving out of the district after district lines were redrawn. He said he faces a tough fight against the Republican nominee in a district that will be more conservative than McNamara's, but that he believes the seat is winnable. Amar said that, if elected, he would stay more in touch with people in the district. A lack of contact with the county is one of the complaints he hears on the campaign trail, he said. "No one's ever come to their door before," Amar said.

Board of Commissioners. "We've got to have economic growth and development." Amar is running in the commission's newly created 10th District and faces Matt Fiems, who works in the county's management and budget office, in the Tuesday, Aug. 7, primary. Amar started his career as a firefighter in Highland Park, and his union activism and a master's

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Cruisers get ready to take over Michigan Avenue

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Four days before the fifth annual Michigan Avenue car cruise, promoter Don Nicholson was busy delivering 25,000 programs to businesses and sponsors along the more than 14-mile route. His goal was to get the information in the hands of car enthusiasts to participate in the cruise and frequent the businesses that are involved in it.

"The numbers we had last year was 20,000 to 25,000 cruisers. I'd be happy with that this year," the Westland resident said. "I've gotten word that people are coming from the west side of the state, from Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. There's even five car clubs coming from Canada."

The cruise will be from noon to 9 p.m. Saturday and stream in from the city of Wayne on the west to Dearborn on the east and includes Westland, Inkster and Dearborn Heights. In between, it'll feature food and entertainment at businesses along the route, mini car shows and, of course, classic cars cruising along U.S. 12.

Village Ford, 23535 Michigan Avenue, in Dearborn will once again host the Southeast Michigan Mustang Car Club with 100 cars on display. Mark Chevrolet in Wayne will hold an open house with a concert and food. Jack Demmer Ford, also in Wayne, will have a band and food and do a fundraiser for the Wayne Recreation Department.

Polk's Auto Service and Sales, also in Wayne, is inviting customers back for a day of food, music and inflatable bouncers



Cruisers take in the sights along Michigan Avenue in Wayne during the 2011 Cruisin' Michigan Avenue event.



Classic car buff shows off their rides on Michigan Avenue.

for the kids.

"It's just a fun day," Nicholson said. "They've been a sponsor since day one, this is like an invitation for the whole family."

There also will be an Emergency Response Vehicle Show from noon to 5 p.m. at the Dearborn Heights Justice Center at 25637 Michigan Avenue.

Missing this year will be the Inkster Jazz Festival, which was cancelled due to a lack of funds. However, the Inkster Cruisers always have "a nice display and at a few other places along the

route clubs and businesses are doing their own thing," Nicholson said.

"Inkster has always been a great city to work with," he added. "I found out a month ago there would be no jazz fest and tried to work with them in doing a concert or car show, but couldn't. There wasn't enough time."

While the cruise officially starts at noon, Nicholson fully expects cruisers to be out much earlier. Last year, people were out at 6:30 a.m. A Cruisin' Michigan Kick-Off "Show & Shine" will be held 6-9 p.m. Fri-

day at the Automotive Hall of Fame on Oakwood Boulevard, south of Michigan Avenue. The party is free and open to the public. The first 100 cruisers will receive goodie bags. The museum with have food available for sale and, according to Nicholson, the event offers the opportunity to "come down and talk to the folks."

Nicholson is hoping Cruisin' Michigan Avenue will eventually become Wayne County's answer to the Woodward Dream Cruise. That and his second annual Hines Park Cruise in August are his "big" cruise events.

The Hines Park Cruise will be Sunday, Aug. 26. Hines Drive will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. to only classic cars and bicyclists.

Nicholson had hoped 4,000-5,000 would sign up for the inaugural event, but had 24,371 cars register the day of the event. "Twenty-four thousand is just phenomenal and totally unexpected," Nicholson said.

For more information about Cruisin' Michigan Avenue, the Hines Park Cruise and other car shows events, go online to

www.cruisimichigan.com or www.donnicholson.net.
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The employees listed from left to right are: Bob Zetelli, General Manager, Lou Galoreau, Store Manager, Dan Cohn, Lead Technician and not pictured Manny Martinez, Assistant Manager.

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No Plymouth parade is complete without the Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps.

Final look at the Fourth



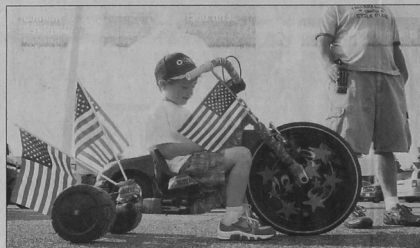
Twins Kenny and Isabella Lashaway march with the Plymouth Garden Club.



The ladies from Jazzercise shake it on down Main Street.



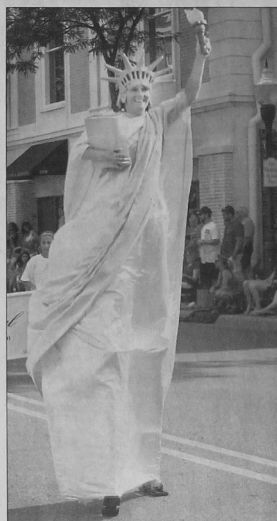
Born on the Fourth of July, Jaxson Schiller is the son of Lindsey and Eric Schiller.



Owen Smothers, six years old, and dad Mike Smothers, wait for the bike parade to begin.



Director Ruth Tabeling leads members of the Still Small Voice Singers in "My Country 'Tis Of Thee." Choir members are Grace Spybrook, Grace Tabeling, Olivia Myers, Anna Tabeling, Charlotte Lawrence, Regina Kozmalski and Veronica Bonanni. Lucy Sumerton (not pictured) is also a choir member.



Miss Liberty has a good view from way up there.



John Noss and Mary Mason flipped pancakes at the Plymouth-Canton Marching Band pancake breakfast on the Fourth of July.



Alice and Larry Mishler have lived in Plymouth Township since 1962. They love the picnic and when the call went out for volunteers, they signed up and had a great time. It was their first time but both said they'll be back again next year.



Taking a break from wrapping hot dogs for hungry eaters at the Fourth of July Good Old Fashion picnic at Plymouth Township Park are (front from left) volunteers Andrew Justus, Jari Heitman and Linda Auwers (back) Bette Herriman, Evan Childs, Kristen Childs and Tony Bruscatto.

These photos and others in photo galleries at hometownlife.com are available for purchase, contact Web Editor Larry Ruelen at lruelen@hometownlife.com.

GM buyout offer still causing consternation

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Over the last few weeks, I've held numerous meetings with existing clients and new clients, regarding the General Motors buyout. What has become clear is that there is still a lot of confusion over the General Motors offer. I thought I would take this time to clear up some of the misconceptions.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

The first misconception is that General Motors is trying to take advantage of its retirees. I do not believe that is the case. I've looked at the General Motors has done the calculations with regards to the lump-sum buyout and although it is not generous, it is certainly fair. When General Motors offered employees buyouts in the past, some of those offers were very generous and it was almost a no-brainer for most of those people to accept the offer. Currently, that is not the case. There is no one right answer that applies to everyone.

Your individual situation is the key which governs this decision. People who accept the lump-sum buyout should recognize that they are receiving a fair offer for their pension.

A number of people believe that if they do not accept the buyout, somewhere down the line their pension will dry up. I see no evidence of this. For those who decide to retain their pension, the main difference will be that Prudential will manage. Prudential is a very good company and is financially strong. At this point, I see no evidence that Prudential will not be able to meet all of its obligations to General Motors pension-

ers. Therefore, I believe the people who think they should take the lump sum because they feel their pension will dry up down the road are wrong. Of course, under the new pension, that amount will not be covered by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.

There has also been some confusion with regards to the tax consequences if you accept the lump-sum buyout. In that regard, if the money is directly transferred into a Roth IRA without tax consequences. If you transfer your lump-sum distribution directly transferred into a Roth IRA. The preferred method would be to transfer it into a traditional IRA and then later do a Roth conversion.

My view is you wouldn't want to do a Roth conversion in one year. You would spread it out over a number of years. The key point to keep in mind is that if you have the money from the lump sum directly transferred into a traditional IRA, that transaction alone does not have any tax implications.

In analyzing whether to accept the buyout or one of the other options, the key is to focus on your individual situation. What is good for your neighbor or best friend is not necessarily what is good for you. Yes, this is a financial decision. However, what allows you to sleep at night is also an extremely important factor.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at money.matters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his website at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.



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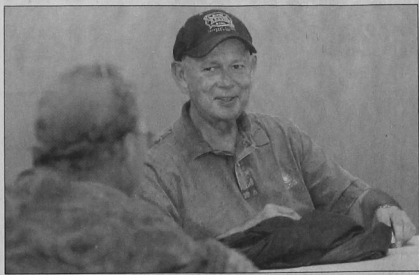
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Author in right place to meet Sparky Anderson



Dan Ewald, author of "Sparky and Me," talks with members of the audience before his presentation at the Straight Farmhouse.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

George "Sparky" Anderson, a memorable character in Detroit Tigers baseball history, continues to ignite interest.

And his longtime friend, writer Dan Ewald, is helping to keep Anderson's memory alive with *Sparky and Me*, his recently released book.

Ewald recently spoke at a program presented by the Garden City Public Library in partnership with Bookbeat bookstore in Oak Park. It was held at the Straight Farmhouse in Garden City.

Ewald, who did public relations for the Detroit Tigers, called himself "blessed" for being in the



Kathy Deron and son Zarek, Garden City residents, listen to how Detroit Tigers manager Sparky Anderson worked with the players.

right place at the right time when he met Anderson.

Shortly before Anderson's death in 2010, the author sat at Anderson's

kitchen table for three days and reminisced with Anderson as they had done so often over the course of a 32-year friendship. Out of these conversations Ewald developed a portrait of an extraordinary person.

"It was a bittersweet experience," Ewald said of those final conversations.

There was no doubting Anderson's managing abilities — three World Series championships and a plaque in the Hall of Fame. From Anderson, Ewald learned a more simple lesson, that each person has dignity and deserves respect and compassion.

Ewald was the team's public relations director when Anderson arrived in 1979. They soon became inseparable friends until the end.

"He was a special person in my life and probably had the most influence on my life than anything," Ewald said. "He loved regular, everyday people like we all are."

Although he rubbed elbows with the rich and famous, blue collar people were those he felt most comfortable with.

'Regular guy'

"He was a regular guy and lived modestly," Ewald said. "He took care of his family. He was a very fair person."

Anderson also demanded honesty. He did business with a handshake and disliked contracts.

"He never cheated me out of a penny and I never cheated him out of a penny," Ewald said. "We understood what that handshake meant."

The two shared families and vacations together.

While the book has a lot of baseball stories, Ewald doesn't consider it a baseball book. In fact, the book has been described as a charming, heartfelt memoir.

"If you love baseball, the best books aren't about baseball but books which lead you to it," Ewald said.

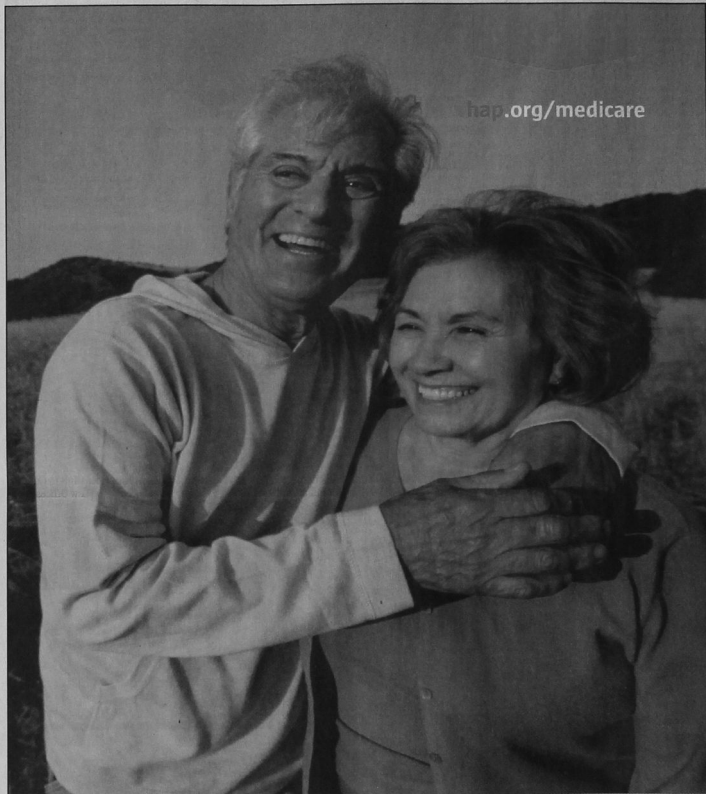
Anderson reached out to others who needed help, including street people who came for help to the church across the street from old Tiger Stadium. Anderson also encouraged Tiger players to do the same for the homeless.

"Some of them were just hanging on to life one day to the next," Ewald said.

Warren Flagg, a Plymouth resident, asked about the baseball strike which started in 1994. Replacement players from a variety of areas and ages were used.

"It was a black mark in baseball history," Ewald said. "We opened our doors and said, 'come on in.' It was comical."

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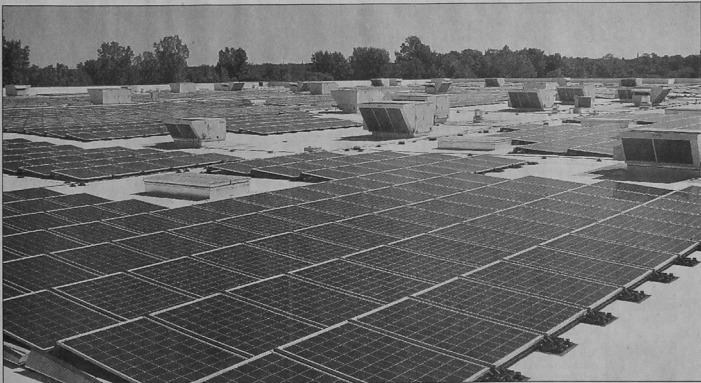
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IKEA plugs in largest solar array

IKEA this week officially plugged in the solar energy system installed at its Detroit-area store in Canton, the state's largest such photovoltaic array.

The 122,200-square-foot PV array consists of a 977.6-kW system, built with 4,160 panels. IKEA Canton's program will produce approximately 1,114,943 kWh of clean electricity annually, the equivalent of reducing 769 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂), eliminating the emissions of 151 cars or powering 96 homes yearly (calculating clean energy equivalents at www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html).

This investment by IKEA reinforces the company's long-term commitment to sustainability and confidence in photovoltaic technology. IKEA owns and operates each of its solar PV energy systems atop its buildings — as opposed to a solar lease or power purchase agreement — and this Canton installation represents the 20th completed solar energy project for IKEA in the United States, with 19 more locations underway. Among the branches of U.S. solar presence of IKEA, nearly 89 percent with a total generation of



IKEA this week officially plugged in the solar energy system installed at its Detroit-area store in Canton, the state's largest such photovoltaic array.

38 MW.

For the development, design and installation of the Canton store's customized solar power system, IKEA contracted with SoCore Energy, one of the largest commercial solar developers in the Midwest and developer of more than 65 U.S. com-

mercial PV installations.

"We are thrilled at how this solar energy system furthers our commitment to sustainability at IKEA Canton," said Anton van Dongen, store manager. "IKEA has a never-ending job where most things remain to be done that encourages us always

to ask ourselves how we can improve what we do today for a better tomorrow. We appreciate the support of the Canton Township, Detroit Edison and SoCore Energy, our partners in this project."

IKEA, drawing from its Swedish heritage and respect of nature,

believes it can be a good business while doing good business and aims for its operations to minimize impacts on the environment. Globally, IKEA evaluates all locations regularly for energy conservation opportunities, integrates innovative materials into product

design, works with Global Forest Watch to maintain sustainable resources, and flat-packs goods for efficient distribution.

Located on 21 acres along Ford Road off I-275 at the intersection with Haggerty Road, the 311,000-square-foot IKEA Canton opened in June 2006.

CANTON BUSINESS BRIEFS

Paws visits

Monroe Bank & Trust announced that Paws, the official mascot of the Detroit Tigers, will visit the Plymouth branch on Wednesday, July 25, from 1-3 p.m., for a meet and greet with fans and friends.

The branch is located at 705 South Main Street and the event is open to the public.

Light refreshments, coloring pages and more will be available.

BarBQ crawl

RealBarBQ of Canton (located at Ford Road at Lilley) will be part of the Canton Grub Crawl on Tuesday, July 17, from 6-10 p.m.

For only \$35 per person you can visit some of the top restaurants in Canton and sample delicious food at Canton's best spot for BBQ. Officials at RealBarBQ, a Michigan-owned and operated restaurant, said they're "excited to be part of the Grub Crawl."

Diners will be able to sample RealBarBQ ribs, brisket, pulled pork and chicken. Canton residents will have been flocking to RealBarBQ in droves since its opening in April.

The Canton Chamber of Commerce, which is sponsoring the Grub Crawl, is the place to buy tickets. Call the chamber at (734) 453-4040 or visit their office at 4525 Hanford Road in Canton.

Platinum car show

A summer tradition roars into Canton, featuring some glitzy bling and bumpers next month. The Power and Platinum Car Show, hosted by the Showroom of Elegance and the America's Most Wanted Car Club, rolls into Showroom's parking lot at 6018 North Canton Center July 19. The event will offer lots to look at, food and entertainment from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

"This car show is free to the public, and we'll be offering some great discounts throughout the event on some great jewelry pieces," said Linda Robin, owner of Showroom of Elegance. "We're also donating partial proceeds of all jewelry sales to the Autism Society of Michigan."

Some of the vendors



Cancer benefit

Clover Salon, located in the Charleston Square Plaza, hosts a Children with Hair Loss of Michigan fundraiser Saturday, July 14, to benefit kids struck with cancer. Children With Hair Loss of Michigan provides gifts and support to families who have children with diseases related to hair loss. They provide these things at absolutely no cost to the families. Clover Salon hosts a raffle and cut-a-thon at the salon 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact Holt at (734) 338-8950 any day prior to the event for more information. Find Clover Salon on the web at www.mycloversalon.com.

will also be donating a percentage of their food sales to the charitable organization which offers educational resources and materials, workshops, seminars and other services to Michigan families coping with Autism.

For more information, contact Sheryl O'Neil, Executive Director of Elegance at (734) 207-1906 or at info@showroomofelegance.com.

Marketing honor

Plex Systems Inc., provider of Plex Online, Cloud ERP for manufacturers, today announced it received two Renaissance Awards from the Detroit chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC).

Plex Systems and its agency of record, Markit Strategies & PR, were recognized with an Award of Honor in Communication Management in the categories of Integrated Marketing Communication and Media Relations during a ceremony on June 21 in downtown Detroit.

IABC Detroit's 31st Annual Renaissance Awards honored the top business communicators and their programs from the Metro Detroit region. Submissions were reviewed by IABC members from around the country — this year, from St. Louis, Columbia, Ohio, Sacramento, Calif., and Richmond, Va. — and awards were presented in the areas of Communication Management, Communication Skills and Communication Creative.

"This award illustrates what can be accomplished when a comprehensive, long-term marketing campaign is jointly undertaken between an agency and a technology company with a sophisticated understanding of marketing like Plex Systems," said Markit Strategies Founder and CEO Peggy Fenwick. "We are very grateful for the recognition by IABC, but are most proud of helping Plex Systems succeed in the competitive manufacturing ERP marketplace."

CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

Networking coffee

The Canton Chamber of Commerce sponsors its networking coffee 7:30-9 a.m. Thursday, July 12, in the Community Room at Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center, 1600 S. Canton Center, in Canton.

There is no charge for members; a \$10 fee is required for non-members. Hosting and presenting sponsor is Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Center.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling the chamber office at (734) 453-4040 or email admin@cantorchamber.com.

Family Fun Fest

The Canton Chamber of Commerce presents Family Fun Fest 1-4 p.m. Sat-

urday, July 28, at Arctic Edge Ice Arena, 46615 Michigan Ave., in Canton.

The free skate with Artie event features music by DJ Roman, games on ice, balloon sculptures, face painting, raffle prizes, a sports silent auction (to benefit local families in need through Open Door Ministry, Canton's Food Pantry) and more.

Chamber golf

The Canton Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing takes place Thursday, Sept. 13, at Pleasant Run Golf Club in Canton.

Sponsors include Barone Law Offices, Bovitz CPA, P.C., Jack Demmer Ford, Lou LaRiche Chevrolet and Plumbing Professionals.

For details on how to register or for more information, call the chamber, (734) 453-4040.

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OUR VIEWS

11th Congressional District

Cassis, Taj best choices for primary election

Voters in the 11th Congressional District will nominate a Republican and a Democrat in the Aug. 7 primary election.

After careful consideration and interviews with all of the candidates, we recommend **Nancy Cassis** as the Republican nominee and **Syed Taj** as the Democratic nominee.

Cassis has a proven track record as a state senator, state representative and Novi City Council member. During her 12 years in state government, she helped to bring transparency and accountability to Michigan Economic Growth Authority and the film credits program, among other accomplishments.

Taj, a medical doctor and a member of the Canton Township Board of Trustees, is a good listener who would be able to compromise and work across the aisle. He is well-versed on health care and would work to improve the Affordable Care Act. He believes education will help the United States compete globally. Taj supports increasing border patrols to stop illegal immigration, but wants to improve the immigration process so that foreigners who want to work professionally in this country can get here, just like he did.

Cassis' name won't be on the ballot. Voters will have to write her name in and fill in the circle next to it. She came out of retirement to become a write-in candidate after longtime Republican Congressman Thaddeus McCotter failed to turn in enough valid signatures by the deadline to get his name on the ballot and then decided against running as a write-in himself.

Cassis' opponent, Kerry Bentivolio, is the only name that appears under the Republican Party Section of the ballot for the 11th Congressional District.

Party leaders interviewed Cassis and other potential write-ins, but not Bentivolio. They consider him to be an extremist based on his web site. We believe Bentivolio deserved an interview from party leaders.

However, going forward, it's now up to voters to decide whom they think will best represent them in Congress. It's likely other write-in candidates will emerge before the July 27 deadline to declare a write-in candidacy.

But Cassis is a committed candidate running a serious campaign, saying she wants to help ensure a more secure future for the next generations.

Besides her extensive experience and reputation as a hard worker, Cassis is knowledgeable about the issues and holds the same conservative values as most mainstream Republicans in the district. She would work to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act and bring fiscal restraint back to the federal government. She has experience serving on tax committees in the state House and Senate so she knows Michigan's tax structure and what she believes needs to be fixed.

We think she would best represent Republicans in the 11th District, which covers her hometown of Novi, and communities of her former district of Highland, Milford, White Lake, South Lyon and others, and extends eastward to Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Troy, and south into the city of Farmington and the western Wayne County communities of Canton Township, Livonia, Novi and Northville Township, Plymouth and Plymouth Township.

Taj is the lone Democrat on the Canton board. His ability to work well with his Republican colleagues has earned him their respect. His priorities would be aiding the economic recovery, supporting growing industries in Michigan, improving the health care system and the ACA, supporting veterans, and reducing hyperpartisanship in Washington.

His opponent, Bill Roberts, is a political organizer who supports Lyndon LaRouche and advocates the impeachment of President Barack Obama.

We think Taj's moderate views would best represent the Democrats in the 11th Congressional District.

Democrats and Republicans in the 11th District have a clear choice in their respective primary on Aug. 7. We recommend Taj and Cassis. They will provide voters with spirited debate, leading up to the November general election.



Dr. Syed Taj



Nancy Cassis

COMMUNITY VOICE

What is your favorite summertime memory?

We asked this question at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.



"I was in Greece on my grandparents' farm. They had a little piggie that was tied up, so I was chasing and teasing the piggie."

Irina Borydn
Plymouth Township



"I think mine is riding the pontoon boat at our little cottage. Cedar Lake."

Kristen Grube
Plymouth Township



"Going muskie fishing with my dad and uncle Frank. Harsens Island, Lake St. Clair. ... Three hours of the best fishing you ever saw in your life. ... These were 65- to 80-inch muskie."

Steve Faiman
Plymouth



"Going to band camp at Interlochen. Tuba. ... Four years in a row."

Jim Dyer
Canton Township

LETTERS

Attacking religious freedom

Everyone, of course, has a right to their own opinion, that is the beauty of living in America. However, I do not see the health care mandates violating religious freedoms.

It seems most take issue with the word "mandate" as it relates to "telling every religious institution that there must be mandatory coverage for contraceptives, sterilization and abortion inducing drugs." This is an insurance coverage which can be utilized as a health care benefit of the individual's own choosing. It is the individual's choice, not a mandate to use.

I was educated in a private Catholic school and do not feel any of my religious freedoms have or will be violated. I practice the way I choose, the church mandates via its teaching what it believes is morally right and wrong.

I have been employed in the past by a large Catholic health care institution. Health care benefits included contraceptives. They also employed non-Christians and still do; they deserve the freedom

of choice as it relates to health benefits. It is not for us to judge another's use of contraceptives, etc. My religious freedom is not under attack by the government, but it is under attack by religious conservatives.

Kay Vincent
Canton

Feed the monster

All I can do is shake my head as I see individuals giving more and more of our personal freedoms away to government.

I am not in particular meaning the recent disastrous decision involving Obamacare. No, the thing that has me muttering to myself this time is my phone/cable/Internet bill. This month's bill has eight (yes, eight) taxes applied — sales tax, franchise fee, public education government access fee, county 9-1-1 surcharge, state 9-1-1 surcharge, federal universal service fund, federal/state user fees and FCC phone fee. Only thing missing is a fee for China to fund our record national debt.

The ever-expanding monster known as our government in all forms — local, state, federal

— must be fed. Who is going to be left standing to feed it? Our aging populace and the entitlement generation? Hardly. A harsh reality indeed, and is the country prepared for the needed antidote — self-reliance and forced weaning off of government for our very survival? In November, we will get a glimpse of the answer. Let's hope votes are cast wisely.

G. Gordon
Canton

Thank you note

My staff and I, of Parkwood Orthodontics, are grateful to all who attended our Start-of-Summer Drive-in Movie Party.

Held at the Plymouth Community Arena last Thursday, we received an extra bonus of a brilliant double rainbow lasting 20 minutes. Our younger patients — and my 4-year-old son — enjoyed magic and face-painting before the first movie, *Madagascar 3: Remember your health this summer*. Visit your dentist and orthodontist before Labor Day.

Dr. Ross Anderson
Canton

GUEST COLUMN

See past the smokescreen thrown up by 'Obamacare' opponents

By Delphine Palkowski
Guest Columnist

The Supreme Court's ruling on June 28 was a victory for all Americans. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, is known as ACA or "Obamacare." The term Obamacare was coined to defeat it, just as calling Hillary-care defeated the health care reform bill under President Clinton. There are more than 50 million Americans without any health insurance and another 25 million are under-insured. The ACA will improve the health and economy of the entire country.



Delphine Palkowski

Benefits for all of us

No one can be denied coverage because of a pre-existing condition. The insurance companies can no longer impose a lifetime cap on your coverage.

Your insurance cannot be cancelled when you become sick. It provides free wellness care for babies and children.

Young adults can now stay on their parents' plan until age 26.

The law improves health insurance for 50-64 year olds, who will now have improved access to health care coverage.

It strengthens protections for nursing home residents. And provides resources to combat Medicare fraud and abuse.

Women

Remember, by law, the gov-

ernment must project revenues and costs up to 10 years. The Joint Committee on Taxation estimates the health law will bring in more than \$437.8 billion by 2019. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates additional revenues to be \$525 billion between now and 2019.

The insurance companies are now required to spend 80 cents out of every premium dollar they take in on actual reimbursement for your health care — not on profit or "administrative costs" (some companies have been taking over a 31 percent cut). Medicare's total percentage of their budget for administrative costs is 2 percent.

Starting in 2013, Medicare payroll taxes will increase 0.9 percentage points for people with incomes over \$200,000 (\$250,000 for couples filing jointly). Also, those at that 3.8 percent tax on investment income. The 10 year revenue is projected at \$210.2 billion.

Small businesses

Some 132,000 small businesses in Michigan alone are eligible for temporary tax credits, worth up to 35 percent of an employer's contribution to help provide insurance to workers.

Women

The law guarantees women direct access to OB/GYN providers without referrals, and it ends discriminatory practices of charging women higher premiums. Some women were charged up to 150 percent more than men of the same age and

health. It also gives women access to birth control without co-pays by Aug. 1, 2012.

Seniors

God willing, most of us will become seniors. Since 2010, the ACA has helped 3.6 million on Medicare to save \$2.1 billion on their drug costs, or an average of \$604 per person. In 2011, more than 32 million received at least one new free preventive care benefit.

Under the new law, seniors do not have to pay for mammograms, diabetes or cancer screenings.

In 2012 Medicare beneficiaries in the Part D prescription drug program who fall into the "donut hole" will automatically receive a discount on prescription drugs.

Commentator Rush Limbaugh prevaricates when he calls ACA "the largest tax increase in the history of the world." It's simply not true. The annual cost, \$600 saved by a family on contraceptives alone, will equal the purchase of five weeks of groceries for a family of four; nine tanks of gas in a minivan, or one semester of college textbooks.

ACA has proved itself in the Supreme Court. Now, it will prove itself to Americans with more robust health while assisting middle class and those with lower incomes a boost in their economic health. Thank you, Supreme Court — justice is alive!

Delphine Palkowski of South Lyon is a volunteer with AARP serving as a Michigan legislative advocate. She is also heavily involved with the Michigan Alliance to Strengthen Social Security and Medicare and the Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice.

Kids of all ages get down and dirty at Mud Day

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Lydia Slim made no bones about it. Her goal was to be the muddiest girl at the Wayne County Parks' annual Mud Day. Turns out she didn't have as much mud piled on top of her head as some of the contestants, but she was the only one with grass sticking out of it.

"My mom decided to put it in my hair," said the 9-year-old Dearborn resident who was crowned Queen Mud.

"I tried to make it look like a crown," said her mother, Monic.

For Lydia, besting the 20 or so girls who had slathered their bodies with mud and piled it high on their heads in hopes of winning was a dream come true.

"I dreamed I would be queen," she said. "I told my mom I wanted to win Mud Day. I tried my best."

"I'm so happy she won," said her mother. "She was recently diagnosed with hemophilia. She's been through a lot, summer has been really hard on her until now."

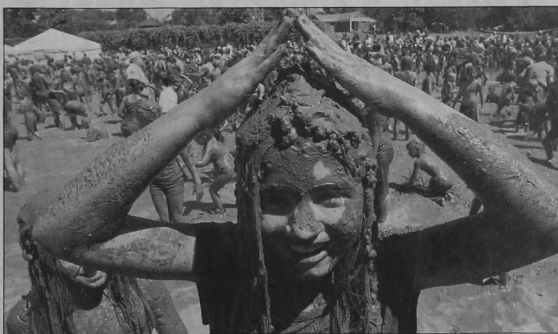
Her counterpart was 7-year-old Daniel Werling of Southgate, who said it felt "really good" to be King Mud.

"It's the best ever being king," he said, pausing to take off his crown and dump the mound of mud on top of his head.

"He was like, 'I want to win,'" said his father, Dan. "I tried to give him mud shoulder pads but they kept sliding off."

"Where else can you play in the mud and not get in trouble," Daniel's mother, Jeanette, added.

It was hard to say who had more fun as more than 1,000 adults and children flocked to the annual event held in the Nan-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Underneath all that mud is Megan Blair of Westland.



Three generations of mud fans. Grandmother Ann Paquin, 80, came from Wyndham, Maine, to play in the mud with daughter Lori O'Dell and granddaughter Katie-Ann O'Dell, 8, of Westland.

kin Mills area of Hines Park in Westland. Toddlers to teens to grandparents went into the pit, created with thousands of bags of dirt mixed with a healthy

dose of water. Michael Kirk of Northville didn't care that he was muddy because "dads have to have fun, too," he said.

"I wanted to come," he said. "It's our first time coming, it just sounded like a whole lot of fun. I saw it on YouTube and it looked like fun. Only



Ben Rojewski, 11, of Livonia, lays in the mud as his sister Sarah, 13, pours a little more mud on his head.

Betty Scofield was managing to keep herself clean. The Livonia resident was there with her great-grandchildren.

"I think it's hilarious, but you won't catch me in the mud," said Scofield, watching the Western Wayne County HazMat Team hose down the muddied crowd. "I grew up on a farm and had all kinds of mud."

But that wasn't the case for grandmother Theresa Rutkowska of Polk City, Fla. She was as muddy as her daughter Jo Ann McBay of Canton and her grandchildren Breanna McBay, 8, and Gabriel McBay, 15.

"I'm here on vacation and going home tomorrow," she said. "I think they took me out for a last hurrah. I never heard of anything like this, it's fantabulous. I keep telling the kids once I get rid of the mud, I'll be beautiful."

"We came last year and had a blast," said her daughter. "We just had to bring her."



John Melady and daughter Chloe, 5, of Livonia, head for the showers.

two out of the six kids are scared."

Sam Gad didn't want anything to do with the mud, but his twin sister Hannah was more than willing to take the plunge, said their mother Amanda of Canton.

"I grew up in Westland, and I never knew about this," she said.

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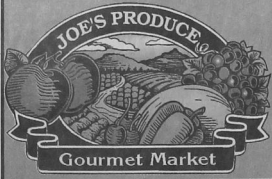
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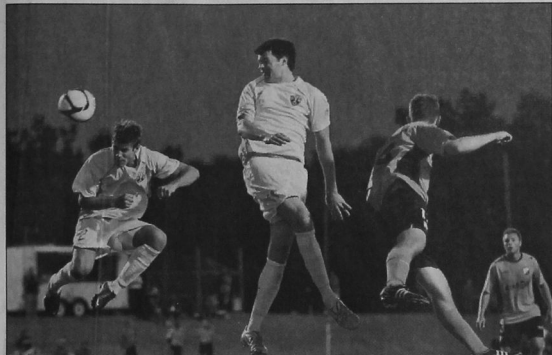
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DAVE MCCAULEY | BUCKS PHOTO

Salem High grad and Michigan State captain Kevin Cope (far left) spent a week training with the MLS Sporting Kansas City and has been a standout defender this summer from the Premier Development League Michigan Bucks.

Cope-ning with success

Possible pro career awaits former Salem soccer standout

By Brad Emmons
Observer Staff Writer

Kevin Cope spent a productive week as an apprentice last week in Kansas City.

The Salem High grad and 2008 Michigan Mr. Soccer, now a captain and standout center back for the Michigan State men's soccer team, got an and up-close and personal look at what could be his future life as a professional soccer player with Sporting KC of Major League Soccer.

Cope missed the Michigan Bucks' 5-1 victory Saturday night over the Cincinnati Kings, which locked up the Great Lakes Division title in Premier Development League's Central Conference.

But Cope was grateful the Bucks loaned him out for a week. "I had my end-of-the-year meetings with my Michigan State coaches, and one of the big plans for the summer was to get an opportunity to go



Cope

train with (a MLS) team, gain some experience and kind of see it first hand," said Cope, who played only two games last fall for the Spartans after going down with a season-ending injury.

"They (the Bucks) got me in touch with a couple of assistant coaches, and they said, 'Sure, come in for a week.' So this week worked best as far as the Bucks scheduling and just everything else that I planned. It worked out great for all of us."

The first day of Sporting KC's practice proved to be an eye-opener for Cope, who was the 6-foot-2, 185-pound defender. "One of the biggest differences is the speed of play," said the 2009 Big Ten Freshman of the Year and a second-team All-Big Ten selection in 2010.

"The first session I was

a little slow and I had to get used to it, but since then I think I've been playing pretty well.

"The other thing is just the professionalism of everybody. I came to the club and the first day I was kind of expecting to be off by myself a little bit, and not really interacting with the guys, but they went out of their way to make me feel so comfortable and that's the reason I've played so well here."

Cope has been playing well this summer for the Bucks, too, who are riding a 12-match unbeaten streak, including an upset victory earlier in the season in the Lamar Hunt US Open Cup against the MLS Chicago Fire.

Cope was a member of the Bucks' squad in 2010, but opted to play for the

PDL's Chicago Fire in 2011.

"We didn't have him last year — he was with Chicago — we had him the year before, and he got hurt in the early part of the season," Bucks coach Gary Parson said. "The difference between when we first had him and when we have him now is quite significant. He's matured, very good defensively in the air and also on the ground."

Cope was glad to be back playing for his hometown team for the summer.

"The reason I headed to Chicago was to get just another experience that I could put on my personal resume," Cope said. "I don't regret my decision at all for getting. I think it was a beneficial summer for me, but when it came down to making a decision for this summer, I had to look at what my personal plans were and what would benefit me the most, and I

Please see COPE, B4

Ex-gridiron star White court-bound

By Brad Emmons
Observer Staff Writer

Facing a three-count felony stemming from an arrest in April in Mount Pleasant, former Livonia Stevenson all-state running back Austin White will be getting his day in court soon.

The 20-year-old White, who never played a down for either the University of Michigan or Central Michigan University, returned Monday to Isabella County Trial Court when chief assistant prosecutor Risa Scully filed a motion to revoke White's bond because of an unrelated case following his arrest June 25 in Livonia on charges of home invasion and larceny.

"We're headed to trial. We don't have a trial date, but that's where we're going," said Lansing-based attorney and White family friend Mary Chartier. "He's out on bond on both cases. Two totally separate cases. One has really no effect on the other. He's out on bond and we're preparing for the Mount Pleasant case."

Chartier said White will appear next week in Livonia's 16th District Court and will face a preliminary exam after reportedly pleading not guilty to both charges.

On April 18, White was arrested by CMU Police, who alleged White was selling and growing hallucinogenic mushrooms in his terrace level dorm room in Celani Residence Hall.

White, along with former teammate Joe Sawicki, was alleged to have been growing and selling mushrooms containing the narcotic psilocybin. White pleaded not guilty to each count, while Sawicki pleaded



White

Please see WHITE, B4

Locals shine in MWGA event

Several local golfers registered scorching scores at the Michigan Women's Golf Association Individual Stroke Play Tournament held July 8 at Lake Forest Golf Club in Ann Arbor. The tournament was a United States Golf Association handicapped event.

Garden City resident Lisa Bishop won the Flight 1 low gross title by firing a four-over-par round of 76, three shots lower than runner-up Debra Horning of Bloomfield Hills.

Plymouth's Jane Kersjes placed second in the Flight 1 low-net competition.

Farmington Hills resident Yvette Johnson took second in the Flight 2 low-net category after carding a 76.

The Flight 3 low-gross title went to Canton's Judy Petere, who fired a 92. Plymouth's Barbara Coury was second in the third flight low-net standings with a 73.

Canton's Lu Stockton also took home second hardware and placing second in the Flight 4 low-gross competition with a 98.

For more information on the MWGA, visit www.mwga.org.

Free sports physicals

Lincoln Behavioral Services will be offering free high school sports physicals on Tuesday, July 17, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Marquis of Redford, located at 15145 Beech Daily Road in Redford.

Student-athletes under the age of 18 must have a signed permission slip. Student-athletes are must bring an official sports physical card.

For more information, contact Anne Marie Allen at (313) 937-9500.

Hawks golf outing

The Farmington Harrison Football Boosters Club will host its annual fundraising golf outing 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5 at Cattails Golf Club, located at 57737 Nine Mile Road in South Lyon.

Cost is \$100 per player and \$400 per foursome in the Texas Scramble format.

There will be a steak dinner following the golf.

Registration forms are available at www.gohawks.org or those who are interested can contact David Race at (248) 376-1535.

Garden City teen sparkles in national spotlight

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

Asked to describe her recent five-day, mid-summer whirlwind that included shagging fly balls hit by future hall-of-famers, talking face-to-face with 2011 World Series hero David Freese and sitting in prime time seats at the 2012 Major League Baseball All-Star Game, Garden City teenager Hannah Vera-Burgos thought for a second before delivering a one-word home run. "Amazing," the 14-year-



old Garden City High School sophomore-to-be replied Tuesday afternoon during a rare 15-minute slice of down time in Kansas City.

While Vera-Burgos's Saturday-through-Wednesday trip to America's heartland — and every young baseball fan's dreamland — was all-expenses-paid, it didn't come easy.

The three-sport athlete used her sharply honed

softball/baseball skills to beat out close to 650,000 other participants in the nationwide Aquafina Pitch, Hit & Run competition.

The event's three-tiered skills challenge includes a pitching-accuracy test; a hitting stage that demands both power and accuracy; and a base-running phase that requires participants to complete a second-base-to-home-plate sprint.

Points were awarded based on accuracy, distance and speed.

Please see TRIP, B4



DAVE VERA-BURGOS

Garden City 14-year-old Hannah Vera-Burgos was all smiles earlier this week when she arrived in Kansas City for the 2012 Aquafina Pitch, Hit & Run finals. Of the 650,000 youngsters who registered for the competition, only 24 advanced to this week's national finals.

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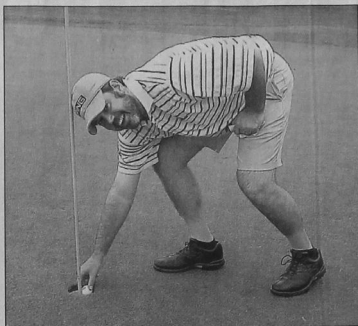
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SPORTS BRIEFS

GC spike camp
The Garden City High School volleyball program will host an advanced-skills camp July 16-20 in the high school gymnasium. The camp will run from 5-8 p.m. each day. Each participant will receive 15 hours of training as well as a camp T-shirt. The cost is \$100. For more information, send an e-mail to gardencityvb@yahoo.com.

Hole-in-one club grows
Someone scoring a hole-in-one at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth continues to be a regular occurrence this year, with the latest coming Monday. That's when 90-year-old Ray Martin of Northville used a 9-iron to ace the 112-yard 6th hole at the Hills course. Martin sank a Srixon.

It was the second time in two weeks that a hole-in-one took place at the Hills' No. 6. On June 26, Plymouth resident Kathy Ruggles, 58, sank a 99-yarder from the front of the tee box. Also on June 26, Ann Arbor's Fred Lewis, 55, aced the 162-yard 2nd hole at the Hills course. Lewis used a 5-iron to sink a 116-yard birdie at the first hole-in-one of his life.



Redford Township resident Jeremy Byrnes reaches into the cup on the ninth hole at Glenhurst Golf Course to pull out the ball that helped him record his second career hole-in-one.

Pair of aces
Redford golfer notches second career hole-in-one

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

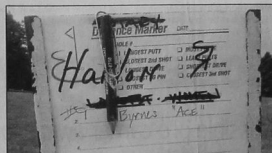
It happens every seven years or so, almost like clockwork: Redford Township resident Jeremy Byrnes tees up a golf ball on a par-3 hole at Glenhurst Golf Course, takes a couple of practice swings, then knocks the ball into the bottom of the cup, igniting a series of joyous high-fives from his playing partners.

Byrnes' latest odds-defying effort unfolded June 21 while playing in his weekly two-man Hanlon Engineering Golf League at Glenhurst.

Gripping an 8-iron, the 34-year-old Livonia native sent a high-arcing shot on a perfect line toward the pin, 161 yards away.

"The pin was located in the left-center part of the green," Byrnes said. "The ball hit close to the front of the green, rolled about 20 feet over a hill and right into the cup."

"I was kind of in disbelief. I looked at my partner and said, 'Did that ball just go in?' Using a couple expletives, he joked, 'Where do you think it went?' Then we shared some high-fives and made a little noise."



With his ace, Jeremy Byrnes won that night's 'closest-to-the-pin' competition in the Hanlon Engineering League at Glenhurst Golf Course.

According to a recent article in Golf Digest, the odds of a medium-handicap player recording a hole-in-one are roughly 12,000-to-1.

The amazing angle to Byrnes' story is that his most recent ace was his second. His first one came on Glenhurst's 17th hole in 2005.

"This one came on my last hole of the night, which was a good thing because I don't know how I would have done if I would have had to keep playing," he said, chuckling, referring to the adrenaline rush the shot created.

Coincidentally, Byrnes' ace came on the league's weekly closest-to-the-pin hole. "I won about \$40 for

winning the closest to the pin," he said. "And I spent about \$50 in the clubhouse buying drinks for the guys, so it worked out pretty well."

Byrnes, who became a father for the first time in September, said he had no desire to mount his most recent hole-in-one ball for sentimental reasons.

"My friends said I should have kept it and put it on a plaque or something," he said. "But I kept playing with it and I've probably lost it by now."

No worries; there will probably be another one coming in, oh, about seven years or so.

wright@hometownlife.com (734) 578-2767



Great effort, great cause

The Plymouth-Canton Chargers, a 9-and-under competitive baseball team, captured first place in the 2nd Annual Matthew Bittker Foundation Tournament held June 22-24 in Franklin. Proceeds from the event were donated to the Matthew Bittker Foundation, a charity that raises money for pediatric cancer research. Pictured are (bottom row from left) Joseph Loricchio, Tanner Locke, Nick Rockefeller, Andrew Iaquanello, Logan Hill, Evan Berger, (middle row from left) Joe Godi, Ethan Krafft, Scott Harber, Owen Carapellotti, Kyle Demarco, Luke Nader, (back row from left) coach Dan Krafft and coach Don Harber.

Area netters fare well at USTA event

While Roger Federer was stroking his way to another Wimbledon tennis title on the other side of the Atlantic this week, several young area netters excelled at the 14th Annual Jud Kingsbury Junior Memorial USTA Tournament that was held July 6-8 at the Livonia Family YMCA and Livonia Stevenson High School.

The event featured 81 amateur tennis players between the ages of 10 and 18 from throughout the United States who were looking to compete in the Southeast Michigan District Level 4 and a Midwest Section Level 6 standings. The lone area champion was Plymouth resident Matthew Decker, who placed first in the Boys

14's division. Livonia's Jonathan Martin was the runner-up in the Boys 16's bracket, losing only to champion Jack Martin-Dyer of Ann Arbor. Livonia's Aimee Moccia also performed well as she was the consolation champion in the Girls 18's division, which was captured by Bloomfield Hills resident Kerry Hu.



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Rams fight off Cobras' comeback

The Michigan Rams held off a final-inning rally from the Cobras on Sunday to register a 5-4 collegiate Baseball League game played at Ford Field.

The victory improved the Rams' record to 12-1. The Cobras slipped to 13-12.

Donnie Eaton earned the mound triumph after relieving starter Mitch Patterson with two outs in the fifth. Josh Payzant

notched a save by recording the final out of the game with the tying run on base.

Eaton yielded two runs, a hit and four walks in two innings of work. Patterson struck out five during his 4.2-inning stint.

Starter Justin Hicks suffered the setback for the Cobras after giving up three runs, three hits and four walks in six innings. Jake Paulson finished up on the mound for

the Cobras, yielding two runs in the seventh.

J.P. Maracani had a solid night at the dish for the winners, going 1-for-4 with two RBI and one. Garrett Gordon and Zach Zott also knocked in runs for the Rams.

Swinging potent sticks for the Cobras were Brett McDonald (2-for-4, two RBI) and Matt Priebe, who ripped two hits and knocked in a run. Christian Holder scored twice for the Cobras.



Cards BPA champs

The Canton Cardinals, a 13-and-under travel team, are headed to the Baseball Players Association World Series, July 25-29, in Owensboro, Ky. After capturing the state championship recently in Pottsville with a 6-0 record allowing just nine runs thanks to stellar pitching and defense, The Cardinals also took a state qualifier in Davison with a 4-0 record. Team members include (first row, from left) Evan Voyles, Jacob MacBrien, (middle row, from left) Brandon Knorr, Andrew Napolitano, Justin Dolney, Jason Arnold, Cody Zidick, Luke Hirschman, Jimmy Walkinshaw, (back row, from left) coach Alan Zidick, coach Greg Voyles, Brennan Brookes, coach Bob Hirschman and coach John Knorr. (Not pictured is Noah Spencer.)

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Wade looks to future in track and field

By Dan O'Meara
Observer Staff Writer



Wade

In the aftermath of the U.S. Olympic Trials, Bettie Wade will assess her performance, begin to regroup and go back to work.

The former Farmington High School and University of Michigan standout just missed making the team in the women's heptathlon June 30.

Wade finished fourth with 6,018 points. She trailed third-place Chante McMillan by 170 and was 132 off the Olympic A standard.

"My coach (Cliff Rovetto) and I planned on me

making the team," she said. "Unfortunately, that didn't happen. My technical events were not too off, but the running — that's where I really took a hit.

"At the end of the day, my coach and I were a little confused, because the training was so good and everything was supposed to be on point. It was a little disheartening to come out below our expectations."

Wade, who has resumed training and will attempt to win her third straight

Thorpe Cup July 21-22 in Germany, has begun to put the Olympic disappointment behind her.

"Everybody will have an off meet, and it happened to be an off meet for me," she said. "It is what it is. I'm looking to the future."

"I had a lot of fun competing with the other girls. The three who made it (Hyleas Fountain won; Sharon Day was second) had good meets, and it would have been hard to beat them even if I had been on."

"It would have been nice to be a part of (the Olympic team), but it was not meant to be; so

I guess I have to be fine with that."

In technical events, Wade was second in the shot put and long jump, and she was fourth in the high jump. But her performances were less than what she expected of herself.

Wade finished 10th in the 100-meter hurdles; she was second in 14th and 18th in the javelin, 200 dash and 800 run.

"The long jump was a little above average; the high jump was average if not a little below," she said. "Nothing was by any means good or spectacular."

"At the Olympic Tri-

als, when you're trying to make the U.S. team, you want things to be spectacular, and that was just not the case for me."

Being on the same stage with other elite athletes at the Olympic Trials was a great experience in itself, according to Wade.

"They treat the athletes well," she said. "Eugene (Ore.) is a phenomenal place to go and compete. The spectators appreciate you and they're well informed about the sport. It's exciting to compete in front of that kind of crowd."

"I made sure I had fun the entire time. That's

one thing I've learned through competing is to have fun, because that's where the memories come from."

Wade, 25, will return to Kansas State University and train in Rowlett's post-grad program. She plans to take things a year at a time and, hopefully, make another Olympic run in 2016.

"I'm so much stronger mentally, spiritually and physically than I was before this year," Wade said. "I'm going to maintain all those progressions, and they're going to fuel me to continue to train hard and just get better."

Metro West icers win silver at Meijer games

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

There's no denying that the Metro West team of high school hockey players had an unforgettable experience late last month at Meijer State Games of Michigan in Grand Rapids.

But the squad comprised of players from 11 area high schools came within one period June 24 of winning the gold medal a second consecutive year.

Instead, a silver medal will have to do.

Metro West and Metro East — both teams from metropolitan Detroit — were deadlocked 2-2 after two frames, but Metro West gave up three unanswered goals in the third to lose 5-2 in the gold medal game at Griff's Ice House. One of those goals was an empty netter.

"We kind of ran out of steam," Metro West head coach Ryan Ossenmacher said. "I thought we played pretty well up to that point."

"Metro East is a pretty good team, they were probably the quickest team we played."

Solid showing

That loss gave Metro West an overall record of 3-2 over four days at the Meijer State Games of Michigan's High School Hockey Showcase, an Olympic-style round-robin tournament involving eight teams from around the state.

"It was a good weekend," said Ossenmacher, Salem's head coach. "We played some pretty good hockey. All in all, we only had what I would consider to be two subpar periods through the whole tournament."

Leading the squad

offensively was the top forward line of Livonia Stevenson's Dominic Lutz (team-leading nine goals), Salem's Jake Seely (two goals, five assists) and Orchard Lake St. Mary's freshman Cooper Marody.

"For the most part when those three were together they played pretty well," said Ossenmacher, noting that he reworked lines on occasion during the tournament mostly due to injuries.

A poor first period cost Metro West in the June 21 opener (a 7-6 loss to Metro North at Grand Rapids Edge Arena).

Metro West trailed 4-0 early before making a comeback bid.

But the team bounced back the next day with a 6-2 trouncing of Team West (also at Grand Rapids Edge). Then came a 4-3 victory over Team South on June 23, in the

final game of pool play.

That advanced Metro West to a semi-final cross-divisional game later that day.

Offensive spark

In the latter contest, at Grand Rapids Edge, Ossenmacher's team won 5-3 over Team North to make it to the medal round. The game was 1-1 entering the third, when Metro West built a 5-1 edge.

"We kind of jumped on them, especially in the third period when we scored four of our five," he said. "... That was a good game, pretty good pace."

Sparking that win was the top line. Lutz scored a goal and assisted on two while Seely (two assists) and Marody (one goal, one assist) also tallied multiple points.

Earning the win in net was Lakeland goaltender

Trevor Kalinowski, who went 2-1 in the tourney (including the gold medal game). Novi's Patrick Carney split his two decisions.

Ossenmacher praised his team for following the puck-possession script.

"Our guys really did a nice job the whole weekend," he said. "We took a group of guys that we all thought had the ability to hang on to the puck and move the puck."

"I could probably count on one hand the number of times we dumped the puck in over the weekend."

Another plus was being able to use his entire roster with no worries.

"We were happy with anybody, it didn't matter who we put on the ice," Ossenmacher continued. "They all played well, everybody assumed a role and did it."

Overland teams

were well represented on Metro West. Other local players included Plymouth's Mitch Claggett and Kyle Bauer, Salem's Kyle Downey and Evan Patton; Livonia Churchill's Drew Pushies and Matt Sinclair; North Farmington's Reece Burnett, Steven Coulter and TJ Zak.

Assisting Ossenmacher behind the bench were coaches Ken Anderson of Farmington Unified and Dan Whitterer of Waterford Kettering.

The veteran Salem coach added that the four-day trek wasn't just about hockey.

"I've been involved all three years with the state games and I don't think there's any question that this group of guys was the closest-knit group of guys off the ice," Ossenmacher said.

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'All-Park' girls lacrosse team boasts top talent

By Tim Smith
Observer Staff Writer

Girls lacrosse at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park is still in its relative infancy, but the rise of individual talent continues to rise as underscored by the 2012 All-Park Girls Lacrosse Team.

Coaches from the Canton Chiefs, Salem Rocks and Plymouth Wildcats got together following a collective 23-29 record to choose deserving players for the squad.

All three programs are still growing. After several seasons as a unified team, the 2012 season marked just the second as independent varsity teams for the Chiefs, Rocks and Cats.

Plymouth — spearheaded by senior midfielder and All-State first teamer Katie Hill's 89-goal output — enjoyed the most success this spring, posting a 10-6 record. And off the field, the Wildcats received All-State Academic Team honors with a 3.52 grade point average with nine players qualifying for individual honors.

"One of our goals was to have a strong showing in our conference and challenge some of the more elite teams in the state. Plymouth coach Bob Hill said, "And I felt the girls continued to get better as the season wore on."

Canton improved by two victories over the 2011

inaugural season, finishing with an 8-12 record.

All-state players Stephanie Bower and Cassidy Tucker led the way, while the team set or tied 16 records and advanced to the second round of the state playoffs for the first time.

The Chiefs also boasted six MHSAA State Athletes while 12 earned academic honors from the KLAAs.

Although Salem went just 5-11, the record was an improvement over the first season.

Earning all-state honorable mention were Jenna Carter, Lauren Harber and Kiersten Vala.

Swanson while their counterparts from the two other Park teams, a number of Salem players were honored for KLAAs academic excellence (13 KLAAs scholastic awards).

At a glimpse

Following is a look at the members of the All-Park team as selected by coaches Bob Hill (Plymouth), Dave Bowers (Canton) and Dave Medley (Salem).

Melissa Neal, G, Plymouth: The sophomore and team MVP set team records for most saves in a game (16), most saves in a season (194), and save percentage (.68 percent).

The senior captain, she was awarded for toughness and looks to keep improving on her way to a hopes for career in college lacrosse.

Julie Dottavio, D, Plymouth: The junior was outstanding in her first season with the team, among team leaders in



The 2012 All-Plymouth-Canton Educational Park girls lacrosse team includes: (front row, from left) Jenna Dottavio, Plymouth; Kaitlyn Allard, Canton; Lauren Harber, Salem; Melissa Neal, Canton; Shannon Lubin, Plymouth; Jenna Carter, Salem; Cassidy Tucker, Canton; (back row, from left) Leah Schrauben, Salem; Haley Swanson, Plymouth; Annelle Niernann, Canton; Kaitlyn Hill, Plymouth; Kiersten Vala, Salem; Stephanie Bower, Canton; Julia Roberts, Plymouth. The players were chosen by three Park coaches.

goal balls (29) and draw controls (11).

Academic honors for All-State and KLAAs Scholastic Athlete.

Lauren Harber, D, Salem: The senior earned All-State Honorable Mention and First-Team All-KLAAs honors with a strong all-around season — highlighted by 23 draws, 32 ground balls and eight goals.

She will attend Bowling Green University, where she will play lacrosse.

Lauren Roberts, D, Plymouth: Roberts had a splendid senior year, with 33 ground balls and 26 draw controls (second in each category). She received a conference scholarship and she plans to attend Lawrence Technological University in the fall.

Leah Schrauben, D, Salem: The Rocks' reliable junior co-captain led on D but also helped out when needed as a draw control (second in each category).

Shannon Lubin, MF, Plymouth: Lubin also excelled in her senior season, voted the squad's best offensive player while collecting All-KLAAs honors.

The co-captain also received all-state and conference

academic awards and will continue her lacrosse career at Triffin, Lake Hill, she plans to study Forensic Psychology.

Annelle Niernann, MF, Canton: The junior led the Chiefs in takeaways (18) and was named the squad's top midfielder despite missing nine games due to injury.

She won all-state and conference academic honors (3.9 GPA) and plans on pursuing a college degree in medicine or business.

Cassidy Tucker, MF, Canton: Tucker's junior season was strong enough to be chosen the Chiefs top midfielder. She led the team with 46 ground balls, and was second with 26 goals.

She won all-state and conference academic honors (3.9 GPA).

"Cassidy is considering multiple offers to play Division I hockey after she graduates next year," Bower said.

Kaitlyn Allard, A, Canton:

She took 60 draws, caused eight turnovers and collected 21 ground balls.

Schrauben also earned academic and athletic honors from the KLAAs.

Katelyn Hill, MF, Plymouth: When the Wildcats needed goals, senior co-captain Hill obliged with 89 of them along with 123 draw controls, 75 ground balls and 48 forced turnovers.

Her efforts were rewarded big time with selection to the All-State first team along with all-conference, team MVP and KLAAs Scholastic Athlete honors.

She will continue playing lacrosse at Triffin University where she plans to study forensic psychology.

Stephanie Bower, C, Plymouth: Bower was the team's leading scorer with 55 goals and 13 assists.

She was named to the All-State honorable mention list.

She will attend Wayne State University in the fall, where she will study pre-med.

Her plans are to attend Wayne State University in the fall, where she will study pre-med.

Jenna Carter, A, Salem: Only 17 years old, Carter was a spark and poise as an attack player with 39 draw controls, 27 ground balls and 18 goals.

She earned all-state honorable mention and first-team all-conference honors.

Jenna looks forward to adding to her lacrosse career over the next two seasons," Medley said.

Haley Swanson, A, Plymouth: The junior led the Wildcats with 46 assists and was second in goals with 46.

She led the team in scoring percentage.

Swanson received the Wildcat Award for best team spirit and also received all-state honorable mention honors as well as recognition as a KLAAs Scholar-Athlete.

Kiersten Vala, A, Salem: The sophomore attacker led the Rocks with 36 goals and chipped in with 19 ground balls.

She was named to the All-State honorable mention list.

She will attend Wayne State University in the fall, where she will study pre-med.

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TRIP

Continued from page B1

Leading off

Vera-Burgos' incredible journey started in — of all places — Holt, a city located just south of Lansing that hosted one of several state-of-the-art round PHAR qualifiers.

"Hannah was so busy with softball (the ninth-grader played shortstop and catcher for GC's junior varsity squad), we missed the local competition near us, so we drove to the one in Holt," said Dave Vera-Burgos, Hannah's dad. "We're very

proud of her. She's done an outstanding job under some pretty pressurized circumstances."

The first-place finisher in each of the pitching, hitting and running competitions at each local event advanced to sectional competitions.

Vera-Burgos placed first in all three events in the mid-Michigan area, she posted another clean sweep in all three events to earn a spot in the "team" finals at Comer-

ica Park.

K.C. masterpiece

Needing another sterling effort to move on to the coveted national finals (only the top three "team" champions in each age group advanced to K.C.), Vera-Burgos racked up 1,074 points on the field that Yerlander, Cabrera and Fiedler call home to punch her hard-earned ticket to Kansas City.

Shrugging off the intense pressure, she aced the pitching-accuracy event by hitting a tail from 35 feet away on all six of her attempts.

Accompanied by her dad, mom Sherri and older brother Jeremiah, Vera-Burgos received royal treatment Saturday when she reached Kansas City.

"Everything about this experience has been fun," she said. "Being on the field for the home run derby was great and seeing all the major leaguers has been amazing."

"I'd have to say the best part so far was getting to talk to (St. Louis Cardinals third baseman) David Freese. He was really nice. He told me he wished they would have had something like this when he was a kid."

On Monday, Vera-Burgos sparkled on the biggest stage when she placed second nationally in the girls 13-14 age group. Her prize? A slick baseball glove, trophies and enough golden memories to last a lifetime.

"The pitching event is usually my best one, but I only got two out of six (in the national finals)," she said. "I was kind of nervous at first; they had an announcer and everything. But it's been a lot of fun."

On Monday night, Vera-Burgos and the other 23 finalists got to take turns chasing down baseballs during the Major League Baseball All-Star Game Home Run Derby, which was televised nationally

by ESPN.

"I caught two balls," she said. "I could have gotten a few more, but I let a couple of the younger kids get some."

Hannah was the second member of her family to reach the national finals. Her older brother Zach made it to the 2007 All-Star Game in San Francisco.

"He just had to me relax and do my best," she said, referring to Zach's pre-Kansas City advice. "He told me just get out there and play. That was the hardest part."

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WHITE

Continued from page B1

gully and is serving 12 months probation.

On Monday, Isabella County Judge William T. Ervin denied Scully's motion to revoke White's bond following his arrest late last month in Livonia.

In the charges against him in Isabella County, another judge (Mark Dutchie) denied a motion by White's attorney June 29 which would have allowed him — while on bond — to leave the state with his family. CM Life also reported

during Monday's motion by the prosecutor to revoke White's bond that Livonia police Detective Tim Chalk had taken the stand. Chalk reportedly said a photo of White took a picture of White leaving the Livonia home which he is alleged to have entered June 14 and stole the prescription drug Adderall from a residence in the 16000 block of Grandview.

Charter refuted the charges after Chalk said White did not have the drug in his possession when he was arrested 11 days later; White also pointed out that a witness failed to identify

White in a suspect lineup, according to the CM Life. "This flies in the face of the presumption of innocence," Charter told the campus newspaper.

"We're not going to let his bond, and he has made every court appearance,"

Meanwhile, White's father Michael recently retired as principal at Ann Arbor Pioneer High School. White and his father have similar jobs as principal at Bolingbrook (Ill.) H.S. in suburban Chicago.

"Right now our focus, and I believe the family's focus as well, is just on resolving these criminal matters," Charter said. "And then he (Austin)

definitely wants to continue his education and he's certainly planning on doing that. But I think getting this behind him is the most important thing," he says. He agrees with that.

"Right now Austin is staying in Michigan to resolve these cases, so his mom is staying here as well. And I know this about Myles and Mitchell) we believe in resolving. Once the cases are resolved, I definitely believe he'll be moving out of state and go to school probably out of state and just getting a fresh start."

White, who along with his twin brothers Myles (a wide receiver with Louisiana Tech) and Mitchell (a defensive back at Michigan State), are all on the 2017 MHSAA Division 1 state finals before losing 41-21 to Macomb Dakota.

Austin White, who rushed for more than 4,700 yards and scored 79 touchdowns in his final three prep seasons, was a highly prized recruit who was signed by Michigan coach Rich Rodriguez. But White left the U-M program during the press conference in August 2010 after graduating from Stevenson a semester

early and enrolling in January of the same year. White then transferred to play for CMU, but had to sit out the 2011 season because of NCAA rules. While sitting out that season, White was "suspended indefinitely" from the program that October for undisclosed reasons by head coach Dan Enos.

Enos later stated he was suspended again prior to CMU's 2011 spring game. White was then dismissed from the team by Enos following his April 18

dismissal.

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COPE

Continued from page B1

thought Dan (Duggan) runs Bucks organization very well.

"It was option for me and the team — what players were coming in and what I could do for the team — and as it turns out, it was a great decision by me. I think it will pay off in the long run."

The Bucks are currently 11-0-2 in the Great Lakes Division with three regular season matches remaining before the playoffs start. They are currently fighting for home field advantage against the Heartland Division-leading Thunder Bay (Ontario) Chill.

"I would say I click on all cylinders," Cope said of his current Bucks team. "We have a solid backbone that's been pre-

ty consistent throughout. We've had a number of shutouts and a goal-keeping (from Michigan's Adam Grinwis) has been outstanding when he has been able to break through our outback line.

"The midfield has been a combination of all that. It makes for a fun midfield to watch and our forwards have been doing their job all year. They finish the ball when they're supposed to, which is scoring early. And our defenders have done an excellent job of holding that early lead. Our game plan has been working thus far and I hope to carry it throughout the playoffs."

Parsons believes Cope brings the total package to the table.

"I just think he's a tough defender, and that's what you need to get you to the next level," the for-

mer Oakland University coach said. "And he's not a good job when he doesn't have the ball. Too many defenders now worry about being offensive players, but he's a good one."

And Parsons said Cope brings many intangibles to the club.

"Just a lovely guy," the Bucks coach said. "He can have a good time, but he's level-headed and takes it seriously, it's so easy to have him. No issues."

Cope, however, has some unfinished business left at MSU, which finished a disappointing 7-8-4 last season. Although he is a senior academically, Cope picked up a medical redshirt year after going down in the second game of the 2011 season against UConn when he broke an orbital bone, while also fracturing a sinus bone and fracturing

another.

"He is eligible to play for MSU two more seasons — unless the MLS comes calling. "The expectations are definitely high," Cope said. "We have a good core of guys that are coming back and we've got some good transfers coming in as well as a great freshman class from what I hear. I'm really looking forward to the guys coming back."

"I'm actually started contacting everybody — just kinda to see what everybody is doing over the summer — and from what it sounds like everybody is ready to go for the fall and everyone is excited as am I. I'm really looking forward to it and hopefully the Bucks can make a run in the playoffs." "I'm excited for that, but I'm especially excited for the fall."

ter early and enrolling in January of the same year. White then transferred to play for CMU, but had to sit out the 2011 season because of NCAA rules. While sitting out that season, White was "suspended indefinitely" from the program that October for undisclosed reasons by head coach Dan Enos.

Enos later stated he was suspended again prior to CMU's 2011 spring game. White was then dismissed from the team by Enos following his April 18

dismissal.

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great role model for me to look at. I've been doing it for while and it's gotten me here. I definitely want to thank him for everything he's done for me."

"I am admits he often thought about becoming a pro as a youth, and now he's on the precipice. "I was hoping one day it would come about, but I really never knew how much a reality it would be and the chance it would actually be happening," he said. "And now that I'm here, I think it's another step on where I want to be eventually. It's a good feeling. I'm using this week as a personal benchmark more than anything and so far I've exceeded my expectations. It's definitely been a homecoming."

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Church seeks donors for blood drive

St. John Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills will hold its second of three blood drives for the year on Tuesday, July 17.

"Usually we do two blood drives per year," said Catherine Federspill, St. John's blood drive coordinator. "The need is so urgent right now that the Red Cross asked us to do another drive."

Federspill said each unit of blood donated can save the lives of up to three individuals. One of four individuals will need a blood transfusion at some time in their lives.

Debbey Pothoff, a St. John member and a Farmington Hills resident, knows about the importance of donation from personal experience. Seven

months ago, the church musician began to feel tired and weak. She couldn't walk far without gasping for breath.

"I had no idea what was wrong with me, but it finally got so bad, we went to the emergency room," she said. She was diagnosed with AML leukemia. "The doctor said if I'd waited a couple more days to come in, I would have been dead."

Pothoff received 21 bags of plasma and 11 bags of platelets since January. She has undergone four week-long rounds of chemo, and is expecting a bone marrow transplant as soon as a donor is found.

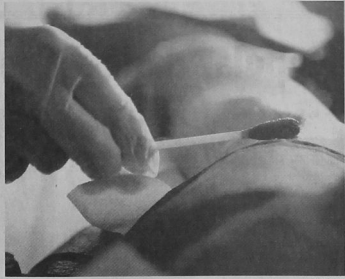
"I thank God every day for those strangers whose blood

saved my life. You never know when you or a loved one will need blood. It will only be available for them if healthy people are willing to donate regularly."

To donate at the St. John blood drive, bring your driver's license or two other forms of identification with you to the donation. Also consider taking along a list of any medications you are taking.

The blood drive will run from 1-7 p.m. at the church, 23225 Gill, south of Grand River Ave., two blocks west of downtown Farmington.

Call the church at (248) 474-0584 to make an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome until 6 p.m.



The St. John Lutheran Church blood drive is set for Tuesday, July 17 at the church, in Farmington Hills.

RELIGION CALENDAR

Send items for the religion calendar to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

July

ADULT ACADEMY

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Monday-Thursday, July 30-31 and Aug. 1-2

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: The Rev. Paul Stunkel will lead adult learning. The series is "Theology for the Fearless: Who is God? What do we mean by 'incarnation' and other Conversations"

Contact: (313) 422-1470

BIBLE TALK

Time/Date: 4 p.m. Sunday, July 15 and 22

Locations: Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: These one-hour meetings will emphasize the life and teachings of Christ. No collections will be taken. Ministers are Matthew Jensen and Jason Mdally

Contact: (515) 851-2939

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 28

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy, between Lilley and Hagerty, Canton

Details: Free clothing and shoes to anyone in need

Contact: (734) 927-6586 or (734) 404-2480.

COMMUNITY FUN DAY

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, July 28

Location: Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, Westland

Details: Free food, bouncy houses, Westland Fire Truck, face painting, games, silent auction and more

Contact: (734) 536-1210

CONCERT

Time/Date: 7 p.m. July 19

Location: St. Michael Lutheran Church & School, 3003 Harman, Wayne

Details: Spoke Folk Christian music concert; free will donation

Contact: (734) 728-3151

FAMILY AND FRIENDS NIGHT

Time/Date: 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 18

Location: Grace Church, 31133 Hively, Westland

Details: Beverages and a light meal (sandwiches or pizza) and outdoor games such as volleyball, ring toss, and water balloons, and indoor board games such as dominoes, Scrabble, Monopoly, and cards will also be provided. Participants may bring their favorites. All are welcome. Adults, 18 and up, pay \$2; children, 6-17, pay \$1 each; and children, 5 and under, are free.

Contact: Cheryl at (248) 756-3592

FREE LUNCH

Time/Date: Noon-2 p.m., July 14

Location: First Baptist Church of Detroit, 21200 Southfield Road, (northbound Southfield service drive), north of Eight Mile, in Southfield

Details: This is a free luncheon and all are welcome

Contact: (248) 569-2972

GUEST SPEAKER

Time/Date: 7 p.m. July 14 and 11 a.m. July 15

Location: Detroit Laestadian Lutheran Church, 290 Fairground, Plymouth

Details: Emmanuel Ametsife, a lay minister from Lome, Togo will speak at the Detroit Laestadian Lutheran Church about the history and activities of the Laestadian Lutheran Church of Togo. Ametsife has been involved with Laestadian Lutheran Church mission work in both Togo and Ghana since it began in November 2000. In addition to serving as a lay minister, he serves on the national board of the Laestadian Lutheran Church of Togo, and as a translator on Laestadian Lutheran Church mission trips. The event is open to the public

Contact: (734) 459-8292 or (248) 875-7011

MOVIE NIGHT

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 18

Location: Bieman Hall at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: "The Way" will be screen. A brief discussion will follow the film. Admission is free and refreshments will be served

Coming up: See "Monsignor Quixote" at Summer Movie Night, 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 25 at the church

Contact: RSVP at (734) 425-5950

Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



BUZUVIUS, MARTHA I.

Age 96, of Plymouth, passed away with her family at her bedside on July 8, 2012. Born in Richmond, Virginia to parents Charles and Nora Anderson. Moved to the Plymouth from Detroit in 1968. Loving wife of the late John. Beloved mother of the late Barbara Williams, John (fiance Cynthia King) Buzuvius Jr., Dennis (Eather) Buzuvius and Deborah (Mark) Stevens. Proud grandmother of Timothy Williams, Gregory (Kathleen) Williams, Donna (Peter) Lee, Natalie (Bill) Farrell, John (Shannon) Buzuvius III, Dennis (Jamie) Buzuvius Jr., Eather (Doug) LeMaster, Joseph (fiance Shannon Bishop) Buzuvius, Scott (Jen) Stevens and Jennifer Stevens. Great-grandmother of the late, Dear sister of Mouty (Jane) Anderson. Also survived by son-in-law Richard Williams. Preceded in death by daughter-in-law Betty Buzuvius. Martha enjoyed cooking, working in her flower garden and the especially loved to travel. Funeral service Wednesday 11:00am from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 290 South Main St., Plymouth Visitation Tuesday from 1-9pm. Internment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 24445 Northwestern Hwy, #100, Southfield, MI 48075. Share memories at schrader-howell.com



KERNEN, PATRICK "PAT"

July 9, 2012, age 68, of Plymouth. Loving husband of Barbara. Beloved father of Julia (Collin D'Alelio) Kernen. Proud grandfather of Brian and Gabriel. Dear brother of Richard, Tom, John, and Jim Kernen and Janice Redinger. Visitation Thursday 3-9 p.m., with the Funeral Service at 7:30 PM Thursday at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth (between Sheldon & Beck). Memorials may be made to the American Stroke Association or the Alzheimers Association. To share a memory please visit www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com

McCREERY, VIOLET W.

Age 85, formerly of Detroit and Canton, died July 8, 2012, in Newport News, VA. She taught English at Cody High School and retired from the Detroit Board of Education in 1992. Survivors include a daughter, Roslyn McCreey of Hampton VA, a son, Scott (Melissa) McCreey and two grandchildren, Cameron and Max McCreey, all of Bellingham WA; and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul E. McCreey in 1996 and daughter, Julie Lynelle McCreey-Moon in 2006. Funeral services will be held Friday, 11:30 AM, at Westminster Church of Detroit where the family will receive friends from 10:00 AM until time of service. Burial will follow in the Hawley Cemetery, Mason, MI, at 4:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association, Westminster Church of Detroit, or the charity of your choice.

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regarding this Directory, please call
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kmarzolf@hometownlife.com

FOR INFORMATION

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Popular chalk art returns to downtown Plymouth

By Sharon Dargay
Q&E Staff Writer

You'll find Manet underfoot. Monet on a life-sized canvass and unique works in more than 400 artist booths at Art in the Park this weekend in downtown Plymouth.

Artists from across the United States and Canada will sell glass, ceramics, metal sculpture and jewelry, art wear, fiber creations, photography, calligraphy, paintings, mixed media works and more. Youngsters with a flair for art will peddle their works near the fountain in Kellogg Park.

Young festival visitors will get a chance to paint portions of a children's mural, get glittery tattoos and henna body art, and watch a performance by My Adventure Theatre.

One Love will play reggae music throughout the weekend. George Tate will be on hand to portray a "living" statue and a photo booth will be open for picture-taking, with free download from the Internet.

Canton artist Sharon Dillenbeck and her two daughters, Kristin and Erin, will return to the art fair with their signature performance art pieces. Kristin Dillenbeck-Anderson, of New York City, will paint a "living mural" on canvass, with portions of the scene also painted on model Amy Ladenberger. Erin Dillenbeck will supervise the chalk version of Edouard Manet's *A Bar at the Folies-Bergère*, that depicts a Victorian-era woman at a club in Paris.

Sharon Dillenbeck said teachers Bethany Grysko

ART IN THE PARK

Show hours: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, July 13, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, July 13, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 15

Location: Downtown Plymouth

Shuttle: Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, and 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday.

Board a shuttle at ACH, 13325 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. Drop off is at Plymouth City Hall.

Details: More than 400 artists sell their works; food, music by One Love reggae band from noon-4 p.m. Friday, 1-6 p.m. Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday; children's shows by My Adventure Theatre, a children's mural, photo booth and more.

Contact: (734) 454-1314; www.artinthepark.com

and Rachel Bissonnette, from her D&A Art Studio in Canton, will sketch the piece on the ground. Daughter, Erin, is expecting and won't get down on hands and knees to help chalk the scene.

Dillenbeck said Picasso works initially were planned for both the living mural and the chalk piece.

"My chalk artists were antsy. They thought Picasso chalk art isn't enough," she said. "They wanted to showcase their talent. Picasso, a lot of his paintings are flat colors. These guys want to shade and shadow and show what they can do. That's what performance



Here's how the chalk art appeared at last year's Art in the Park. This year, look for — but don't step on — a recreation of the 1882 masterpiece, "A Bar at the Folies-Bergère" by Edouard Manet.



Kristin Dillenbeck-Anderson's living mural last year incorporated a model into a Van Gogh scene.

art is — making a masterpiece come alive on the ground."

She sent the art fair organizers pictures from

didn't showcase the talent of my teachers."

Dillenbeck said the pair took art classes at her studio for years and now teach.

"I've had both girls since they were young. Now they are running my camps."

Chalking at parties

Dillenbeck, her daughter and teachers began working on the fair's chalk project six years ago when an out-of-state artist was hired to create the street art. Eventually, Dillenbeck and her crew took over the work. They regularly get commissions for chalk art at graduation parties and baby showers.

At Art in the Park, they'll use a grid to guide

their sketching.

"We don't do patterns. For us to draw a pattern and trace around it would take longer. We grid it out and we free-hand in it."

Dillenbeck said her artists will work with a soft, bright chalk, sometimes spraying on water to turn the medium into liquid.

"It's hot," Dillenbeck described the process. "The black asphalt will be like canvass, hot textured canvass. At night we will cover it."

Dillenbeck said the Manet scene "is a good one" that she hopes passersby will recognize.

"That's what performance art is all about, letting people know art is not just in a museum. Art can be anywhere."

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www.artinthepark.com



Dave Bennett will perform a tribute to Benny Goodman at the Michigan Jazz Festival, Sunday, July 15, at Schoolcraft College, in Livonia.

Hear jazz at Schoolcraft

The Michigan Jazz Festival returns Sunday, July 15 to Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

More than 25 bands will perform on six stages noon-9:15 p.m. Parking and admission are free.

Schoolcraft's food service team will provide a full service cafeteria. Wine and beer will be available for consumption in the VisTA Tech Center.

Performers include Demetrius Nabors Trio, Terry Lower Quartet, Dave Bennett with a Tribute to Benny Goodman,

Jerry McKenzie Just Jazz, Paul Keller's Quintet, Walter White's Big Band, Schoolcraft Jazz Band, Metro Jazz Voices, Johnny Trudell's Big Band, and more.

A "Future of Jazz Stage" will feature up-and-coming jazz musicians, including students from Ann Arbor Public Schools and Charlie Miller WSU Combo.

For more information about the Michigan Jazz Festival visit michiganjazzfestival.com.

Family concert features art work in Livonia

Zak Morgan and Duke Otherwise will present a family performance at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 14 at Trinity House Theatre in Livonia.

The concert also will feature the debut of art work submitted by local children for the theatre's Summer Fun Art Contest.

Morgan performs more than 200 shows a year, using music, magic, theater and comedy to encourage children to read books and exercise their imaginations. His unrestrained stage presence always leaves a lasting impression.

Morgan's *When Bullfrogs Croak* landed a Grammy nomination in 2004, and the latest, *The Candy Machine* is a poetic concept album for the entire family in which the precocious Suzy and her timid younger brother Joe embark on a selfish search for the elusive Island of Sugar, but discover the Golden Rule instead.

As a child's performer, Otherwise likes to play with words and put them to outlandishly fun, artful music. He tells the tales, in a variety of musical style, of various vibrant and eccentric personages and extraordinary animal characters.

Besides his songwriting and unique singing voice, Otherwise is a showman in other rights as a tap dancer, guitarist, drummer, storyteller, and actor. Otherwise has an alter ego — Noah Riemer. Riemer was the frontman of the nationally touring band, Ticklenperny Corner, who shared the stage with artists such as Andrew Bird, Over the Rhine, Victoria Williams, and Vigilantes of Love, among others.

Tickets for the concert are \$12, \$9 for theater members. Make reservations at (734) 464-6302.

Art

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: Through Aug. 20; artist reception is 5-8 p.m. Friday, July 13
Location: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: "Fire and Ice" exhibit features photos by Royal (Roy) Severs. Severs was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2001. His now-limited mobility, however, has not put a damper on his love for photography. He often uses a vehicle to get him to his subjects, whether on land or water.

Contact: (248) 473-1800

DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

Location: 5200 Woodward, Detroit
Family Sundays: 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performances; free with admission
Exhibits: Patti Smith: Camera Solo, shows performing Patti Smith's photographs, through Sept. 2; Five Spanish Masterpieces features works by Picasso, Goya, Velazquez, El Greco and Dalí, through Aug. 19; Picasso & Matisse exhibits all of the museum's drawings and prints by the two artists, July 11-July 6, 2013

Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: Exhibit runs through July
Location: 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

Details: "Behind the Lens 6" includes more than 100 photos taken by Pioneer Middle School 8th graders during a trip to New York City.

Contact: (734) 416-4267

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, through July 31
Location: 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton

Details: Photos by Bruce Giffin, former staff photographer at "Detroit Metro Times"

Contact: (734) 394-5300

Comedy

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, Livonia

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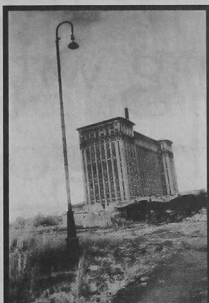
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GET OUT!



Photos by Bruce Giffin are on exhibit through July 31 at the Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton.

Details: Nate Fridson, through July 14; Mike Dambara, 18-21; Dwayne Gill, July 25-28

Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kickerscomplex.com

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Michael McDaniel, July 5-7; Kevin McCaffrey, July 12-14; Mike Baldwin, July 19-21; Andy Woodhull, July 26-28; Shen Wang, Aug. 2-4; James Ervin Berry, Aug. 9-11; Mike Bonner, Aug. 16-18; KT Tataru, Aug. 23-25

Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

Dance

FAIRLANE BALLROOM DANCE CLUB

Time/Date: 7:30-10:30 p.m. every Thursday

Location: Lyskava V.F.W. Hall, 6840 Waverly, east of Telegraph, south of Warren in Dearborn

Details: Singles and couples dance to live bands on a hardwood dance floor. Admission is \$7 for members and \$8 for nonmembers. Free refreshments

Contact: Jean Orleans at (313) 516-0500

MOON DUSTERS

Time/Date: 8:30-11:30 p.m. every Saturday; dance lessons 7-8 p.m.

Location: Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Singles and couples; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests. \$5 for participants and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

Contact: Joe Castrodale, club president, (248) 968-5197

Film

COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

Time/Date: Gates open at 7:30 and movies start at dusk; open nightly through Sept. 2

Location: 14900 Beck, Plymouth

Details: Listen to the film through a battery-operated FM radio or your car radio. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$6 for ages 4-12 and free for ages 3 and under. Students with ID pay \$7 Sunday-Thursday

Contact: (734) 453-8300

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 13-14 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 15

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "Bernie," \$3

Coming up: "Ducks" 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 20-21; 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday, July 22; "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel," 7 p.m. and 9:20 p.m. Friday-Saturday, July 27-28 and 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, July 29; "The Avengers," 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 2, 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 3, and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 4-5; "Men in Black 3," 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 10-11 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12

Summer Cinema: All shows screen at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. "Shrek," Thursday, July 12;

"Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius," Thursday, July 19; "The Rookie," Thursday, July 26; "Raiders of the Lost Ark," Thursday, Aug. 2; "Batteries Not Included," Thursday, Aug. 16; "Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit," Thursday, Aug. 23; and "Muggs from Space," Thursday, Aug. 30. Tickets cost \$3

Contact: (734) 453-0870; www.penntheatre.com

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. July 13 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 14

Location: 17360 Lahser, just north of Grand River Ave., in Detroit

Details: "The Wizard of Oz," tickets \$4

Coming up: "Cool Hand Luke," 8 p.m. July 20 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 21; "Abbott & Costello double feature," "Buck Private," and "Abbott & Costello meet the Killer," 8 p.m. Aug. 10 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 11, \$5; "North by Northwest," 8 p.m. Aug. 24 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 25

Contact: (313) 537-2560

Museums

CHARLES H. WRIGHT TIME/DATE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday

Location: 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

Details: Regular museum admission is \$8 for adults, 13-61; and \$5 for youth, 3-12, and seniors, 62 and over. Members and children 2 and under are admitted free.

Exhibits: "The Chris Webber Collection: Exceptional People During Extraordinary Times, 1755-Present," includes rare artifacts collected by Detroit native Chris Webber, through September;

"Witness: The Art of Jerry Pinkney," through Sept. 9

Contact: (313) 494-5800

PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Time/Date: 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Friday-Sunday through Nov. 7

Location: 155 S. Main, Plymouth

Details: "Inaugural Gowns of the First Ladies" is the new exhibit, featuring 14 reproduction inaugural gowns.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17

Contact: (734) 455-8940

LIVONIA 18U FALL BASEBALL LEAGUE

Starts Aug 17th Weekend

- All games at Rotary Park (fenced)
- 12 games (8 weeks of doubleheaders)
- BBCOR bats or wood
- \$1200 a team/limit 8 teams (no individual sign ups)
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- Game balls and umps will be supplied

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- William Lis South Lyon
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- Gina Pargoff Livonia
- Raymond Marotta Northville
- Walter Mazur Plymouth
- Gordon Petersen Redford
- William Rankin Southfield
- Stephen Schram Novi
- Larry Flores Westland

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OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

Playing with your food can be good for you

Summer time means plenty of play time — so why not play with your food? Finding creative ways to enjoy healthy foods like watermelon is a great way to encourage the whole family to eat well — and have fun while doing it.

Here are three ways you can get the whole family in on some fun and healthy eating:

• **The wetter, the better** — Playing hard on a hot summer day can take a lot out of you. In addition to drinking plenty of water, look for foods that can help you keep hydrated. Watermelon is 92 percent water, so keep some slices or cubes in the refrigerator for a handy, hydrating snack. For a fun, kid-friendly twist, use cookie cutters to cut watermelon into fun shapes.

• **Get colorful** — For a real nutritional boost, serve plenty of colorful, deeply pigmented produce. For example, red peppers, carrots, broccoli and grapes are packed with minerals, vitamins and antioxidants. In addition to vitamins A and C, watermelon has a higher level of the antioxidant lycopene than any other fresh fruit or vegetable. Let the kids use an ice cream scooper or melon baller to scoop out watermelon, cantaloupe and honeydew to make a colorful and nutritious dessert.

• **Think outside the recipe box** — Look for fun and unusual ways to serve healthy foods. These recipes from the National Watermelon Promotion Board, for example, are creative enough to appeal to kids and grownups, and easy enough for just about anyone to make.

Healthy eating doesn't have to be boring at all. It just takes a little creative thinking to get everyone in the family playing with their food.

You can find more deliciously fun ways to enjoy watermelon, and sign up for a free newsletter, at www.watermelon.org.



PICKING A GOOD WATERMELON

1. Look the watermelon over. You are looking for a firm, symmetrical watermelon that is free from bruises, cuts or dents.
2. Lift it up. The watermelon should be heavy for its size. Watermelon is 92 percent water.
3. Turn it over. The underside of the watermelon should have a creamy yellow spot from where it sat on the ground and ripened in the sun.



Watermelon Pizza Supreme

- Serves 6
- 1 slice watermelon (8 to 10 inches around and 1 inch thick), drained to remove excess moisture
 - 1 cup strawberry preserves
 - ½ cup white chocolate chips
 - ½ cup raisins
 - ½ cup chopped walnuts
 - 1 cup sweetened shredded coconut
- Place watermelon slice on a serving platter and cut into 6 wedges, leaving them in the shape of a pizza. Spread preserves over watermelon and sprinkle toppings over the top.

Ice Cream Cone Sundaes

- Serves 8
- 8 ice cream cones of choice
 - 8 tablespoons pineapple cream cheese frosting
 - ½ cup dried Craisins
 - ½ cup vanilla yogurt
 - 8 scoops seedless watermelon (use an ice cream scooper)
- Additional toppings of your choice: sprinkles, pineapple chunks, chocolate chips or coconut flakes

Pipe a tablespoon of the frosting into the bottom of each cone. Divide Craisins over frosting. Top Craisins with yogurt. Place an ice cream scoop of watermelon on top of each cone. Top with additional toppings as desired and serve.



Ice Cream Cone Sundaes

Courtesy of Family Features

Watermelon Strawberry Shake and Frozen Smoothie Pops

Makes 4

- Strawberry Shake:
- 1 container (8 ounces) lemon nonfat yogurt
 - 2 cups cubed, seeded watermelon
 - 1 pint fresh strawberries, cleaned and hulled

- 1 medium banana, peeled and sliced

In blender or food processor, process yogurt, watermelon, strawberries and banana until smooth and frothy. Serve immediately.

- Frozen Smoothie Pops:
- Strawberry Shake
 - Small paper cups
 - Popsicle sticks

Pour prepared Watermelon Strawberry Shake into small paper cups. Freeze, inserting popsicle sticks or plastic spoons when mixture is partially frozen. Or, pour Watermelon Strawberry Shake into ice cream machine. Set and enjoy.

Surf Wave

- Oval or round shaped watermelon
- Kitchen and paring knives
- Cutting board
- Green dry-erase marker (preferably washable)
- Large bowl and spoon
- Brown sugar or raw sugar
- Small dolls or beach themed toys

1. Wash watermelon under cool running water and pat dry.
2. On a cutting board, place watermelon on its side and cut off ¼ to ½ inch from the stem end, being careful not to cut too deep into the white part of the rind. This will provide a sturdy base.
3. Using the dry-erase marker, draw a wave from the top of the watermelon halfway down, similar to a backwards C. Repeat on the other side to form a wave.
4. Use the knife to carefully cut away the parts of the watermelon that you will not be using. Use the spoon to hollow out the inside watermelon to cut up and serve.
5. Place the carving on a serving platter covered with brown sugar. Decorate with toys and shells and fill your carving with fruit.



Helpful Carving Hints

- Read through the directions before you start.
- Have the watermelon at room temperature when you carve. That makes it easier to cut.
- Drain cut watermelon and other fruit before placing it in the carving.
- When removing excess flesh, try to leave it in big pieces. It's easier for making melon balls or cubes.
- Use a green dry erase marker, then wipe off excess marker after making cuts.

REAL ESTATE

Southfield woman with MS stays in her home thanks to kind volunteers

Ron Jedwab, president of Lincorp Construction, and longstanding member of the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan, recently led a group of over a dozen tradespeople who donated their time, expertise, labor and materials to help a Southfield woman live barrier-free in her home.

Jackie Weiss, a mother of four, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis several years ago. By last year, the disease had progressed to the point that she was confined to a wheelchair. This made normal daily living activities more difficult. She could no longer cook in her kitchen, as the counters were too high. Both of her bathrooms became hard to navigate.

Like many families in Southeastern Michigan, the Weiss family was hard hit by the depressed economy and could not afford to pay for home renovation to make the home barrier-free. The family is grateful for help from Project Build!, a partnership between the BIA and Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit.

Jedwab, a Project Build! Steering Committee member, volunteered to serve as general contractor for the renovation and went on to plan and complete the work, that would have cost \$20,000, with almost entirely donated labor and materials. After several weeks of extensive work, Weiss



The Weiss family of Southfield is grateful for the modifications to their home, making it usable by Jackie Weiss, who had multiple sclerosis.

now finds herself in a brand new barrier-free kitchen and with access to two new barrier-free bathrooms that make her daily living much easier.

"Volunteering through Project Build! has been incredibly rewarding,"

said Jedwab. "Coordinating this extensive project to help a lovely woman to live fully in her home was one of the greatest experiences in my professional career. It was a great opportunity to give back and help others."

On June 27, there was a reveal for the home renovation.

The mission of Project Build! is to provide home repairs for older adults, people with disabilities, and low-income individuals and families to allow them

to live in safe, functional and barrier-free homes. At this time, Project Build! services are available only to clients of Jewish Family Service.
<http://www.jfsdetroit.org/volunteers/project-build>

Heed fair housing laws

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: What common fair housing problems arise from community restrictions or rules?

A: In general, community restrictions or rules trigger fair housing problems in one of two ways, either the rules are enforced unfairly or the rules themselves are unfair. For example, if a condominium association faces potential liability if members of a protected class are singled out for strict enforcement of rules while enforcement against others is lax. An example is that it would be unlawful to come down hard on African American residents for breaking the rules while ignoring similar infractions by white residents.

The second relates to the fairness of the rules. For example, communities have legitimate reasons to govern resident behavior in common areas, such as hallways, parking lots and outside spaces, but rules that unreasonably target children or limit their behavior in common areas could lead to a complaint of discrimination based on familial status. Of course, rules that have no reasonable relationship to the operation of the condominium would similarly be suspect. The Federal Housing Act bans discrimination in housing because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status or disability. Check with your attorney regarding the nature and extent of your rules.

Q: We live in a planned unit development and the zoning restrictions do not prohibit running a day care business in their home. However, a restrictive covenant in our declaration does. Do we have an out to allow us to run the home?

A: Probably not. Based upon a recent decision where an appellate court indicated that the PUD ordinance had no effect on the association's authority to enforce its private restrictive covenants. The court reasoned that the creation of a Planned Unit Development is a legislative act and PUD provision or zoning ordinances. However, the restrictive covenants and zoning ordinances, including PUD ordinances, are tools to use to restrict the use of property. It clarified that a restrictive covenant is an agreement between a grantor, such as the association and a grantee such as the members in which the grantor agrees to refrain from using his property in a particular manner. In fact, the court was saying that the restrictive covenant existed independent of the PUD ordinance and that established the community and could be enforced by the association pursuant to the terms of the Declaration.

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

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 2-6, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON

148A Aberdeen St \$165,000
40268 Chatsworth Ct \$139,000
5207 Ringridge St \$150,000
2457 Cranbrook Rd \$140,000
7266 Haverhill Ct S \$450,000

42686 Keystone Ln \$161,000
45224 Lemont Rd \$1185,000
44750 Leslie Ln \$153,000
2570 Liberty St S \$305,000
44283 Nowland Dr \$226,000
7802 Oxford Dr \$400,000
6530 Fairfield St \$79,000
6742 Harrison St \$49,000
28431 Block St \$173,000
26845 Kathryn St \$165,000
63303 Fairfield St \$65,000
37333 Curtis Rd \$297,000
18758 Filmore St \$118,000
33421 Hathaway St \$80,000

8914 Hillcrest St \$106,000
20076 Laurel Dr \$258,000
15585 Parklane St \$157,000
30955 Richland St \$84,000
18288 University Park Dr \$49,000
19001 Westmore St \$95,000
41801 Ladywood Dr \$224,000
39562 Village Run Dr \$220,000
20359 Woodcreek Blvd \$435,000
1410 Junction St \$72,000
40407 Newport Dr \$73,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd \$27,000
385 Windmill Dr \$170,000

REDFORD
19488 Beech Daly Rd \$25,000
9088 Dale \$36,000
11423 Nathaline \$49,000
5075 Seminole \$55,000
26924 W Seven Mile Rd \$78,000
12963 Wormer \$25,000
WESTLAND
38158 Caron Blvd \$23,000
7400 Cochise St \$73,000
8336 Ingram St \$64,000
1152 Michael Dr \$116,000
208 N Hawthorne St \$38,000
107 Shotka St \$17,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of March 12-16, 2012, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS

7194 Birchwood Ave \$163,000
31436 Fairfax Ave \$123,000
BIRMINGHAM
1555 Chapin Ave \$109,000
1604 Mansfield Rd \$195,000
475 S Adams Rd \$63,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
7281 Kingswood Dr \$152,000
3954 W Orchard Hill Dr \$142,000
3954 W Orchard Hill Dr \$140,000

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
3072 Heron Pointe Dr \$1,350,000
3650 Larkwood Ct \$252,000
2554 Norwood Rd \$424,000
1169 Park Place Ct \$350,000
3610 South Blvd \$110,000
3141 Woodcreek Way \$540,000
COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
2740 Ivy Hill Dr \$230,000
2363 Watonga Dr \$99,000
FARMINGTON
23900 Pickett Ave \$265,000
33244 Slocum Dr \$152,000
33246 Slocum Dr \$145,000
FARMINGTON HILLS
35664 Bradford Ct \$290,000
30384 Cartierford Ct \$172,000
23198 Colgate St \$54,000
26860 Drake Rd \$29,000
30145 Finey Dr \$50,000

29423 Glen Oaks Blvd E \$88,000
39321 Lilly Ct \$252,000
21654 Middlebelt Rd \$54,000
20831 Orchard Lake Rd \$85,000
20965 Sundynale Dr \$155,000
27495 W 12 Mile Rd \$130,000
LATHRUP VILLAGE
28691 Somerset Pl \$128,000
MILFORD
805 Bishop St \$85,000
1315 Maryland \$510,000
2368 Tanbarck \$320,000
NOWI
22635 Chestnut Tree \$141,000
23579 Dunston Rd \$342,000
26247 Fieldstone Dr \$211,000
211 Henning St \$31,000
40621 Lenox Park Dr \$251,000
20117 Sterling Dr \$293,000
SOUTH LYON

1329 Coach House Ln \$310,000
237 Cuyahoga Ct \$298,000
37363 Edgewood Dr \$25,000
54897 Genelefe Cir W \$60,000
59729 Mallory Ln \$343,000
205 Maplewood Ct Unit 8 \$55,000
23579 Spy Glass Ln \$305,000
52881 Trailwood Dr \$2,000
SOUTHFIELD
21180 Glenmorra St \$121,000
16381 Harden Cir \$92,000
22131 Wanhook Ln \$105,000
23788 Plumbrook Dr \$39,000
25398 Saint James \$66,000
28095 Sekirik St \$18,000
29320 Willowick Ct \$127,000
WHITE LAKE
9511 Portage Trl \$95,000
9743 Shelby Dr \$200,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Seminar on Tuesdays

A Free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia. No obligation.

Learn about reverse mortgages. RSVP with Larry Brady at (800) 260-5484, Ext. 33.

Investors

Michael Jeffreys will speak Thursday, July 12. Sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland 5:30 p.m./9:30 p.m. at Club Venetian, John R just north of 12 Mile, Madison Heights. Seminar free to members; \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747-6742 (www.REIAofOakland.com).

Career Seminar

Learn about the \$50,000 income guarantee Thursday, July 19, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Keller Williams Realty, 40600 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100, Plymouth. For more information,

contact Mike Workman at (734) 459-4700 or mworkman@kw.com.

Investors

The Real Estate Investors Association of Wayne will have an open forum. Participants will discuss what they have learned. Investors will answer questions and offer a market update.

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster on Eureka in Southgate. Members are free, guests \$20, which will be applied to their membership.

Any questions or concerns, call Wayne Koehler, (313) 277-4168.

Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every second Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail Georgia@addedvalue Realty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

On Facebook

RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKRE/MAX and get clear, expert answers in real time.
[Visit www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX.](http://www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX)

Finance Seminar

Learn how to finance your purchase and rehab projects in and around Detroit. Hear from an expert in the lending business. Trent Dalrymple, who has more than 25 years of experience. Real estate and investment professionals are welcome. Seating is limited so call (248) 547-3006, or sign up at www.metro-mi.com. These free one-hour seminars will be 6-7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of the month at Metro Mortgage Investments, 26711 Woodward Ave., Suite 301, Huntington Woods.

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REDFORD-1355 HAZELTON The home has 4 bdrms. 1 1/2 baths, finished front 110 car garage, hooded grill & a front covered porch. 3750/mo. Showings Wed. Sat & Sun 4-8pm. 313-923-9996

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Handyman M/F
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Hines Park Ford is seeking ambitious and motivated individuals to join our Service team! We are in need of individuals to fill a Heavy Engine Tech position and a Service Porter position. Individuals must have prior Automotive service, technical automotive knowledge, organizational skills, and a strong work ethic. We offer a great work environment, medical, dental, and the insurance. All skill and paid training and a 401K plan! Email resume to: jobs@hinespark.com

Help Wanted-General
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DUS BLACKTOP DRIVEWAYS Paving Patch Seal Coating Free est. www.dpaving.com 734-337-2157, 734-397-0811
Pavement Seal Coating Call 734-420-1631 for a free est. 10% off with members of Servicing since 1973.

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COMPLETE LANDSCAPING BY LANSO SERVICES Clearing, sodding, grading, sodding, hydro-seeding, retaining walls, brick walls, brick walls & patios, drainage & lawn irrigation systems, tree foundations built up. Weekly lawn maintenance. Flat area landscaped lawns, Comm. Res. 30 yrs exp. Lic. & Ins. Free Est. www.lansoservices.com 248-489-9565, 248-521-2615

Help Wanted-General
Asphalt Specialist "ROLLER OPERATOR" "ASPHALT MAKER" "SEWER MAN" Construction Company in Farmington Hills. Excellent pay & benefits. wilmora_jobs@yahoo.com

Help Wanted-General
AUTO MECHANIC General Repair. Mon-Fri 7:30-5:30. No Sat. Job benefits. Call 313-532-8598 or apply in person 10148 Ford Rd. at North's Frame Shop Inc. 25909 W. Mile Rd. Redford

Help Wanted-General
COPER & PRINTER TECHNICIAN Full-Time. Some experience required. Good pay & medical. Send resumes to: coper@mccommerce.com or fax (734) 451-1550 or call: 734-763-5564
CUSTOMER SERVICE Ideal for anyone who can get out to work. Work from home. PT schedules. Pickups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 8-6. 734-728-4372 or email: phoenixr@red.com

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REDFORD-1355 HAZELTON
The home has 4 bdrms. 1 1/2 baths, finished front 110 car garage, hooded grill & a front covered porch. 3750/mo. Showings Wed. Sat & Sun 4-8pm. 313-923-9996

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	30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending (734) 459-0782	3.375	0	2.875	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions (800) 593-1912	3.5	0	2.875	0	J/A
AFI Financial (877) 234-0600	3.375	0	2.75	0	J/A/F
Ameripus Mortgage Corp. (248) 740-2323	3.5	0	2.875	0	J/A
BRANKS Gold Star Mortgage (888) 293-3477	3.25	1	2.75	0.125	J/A/F
Client Services by Gold Star (800) 991-9922	3.375	0	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union (734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.125	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank (313) 565-3100	3.875	0	3.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792-6830	3.875	0	3.125	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage (888) 293-3477	3.375	0	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage (248) 262-1602	3.625	0	3	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Gold Star (888) 293-3477	3.25	1.25	2.625	1	J/A/V/F

Above Information available as of 7/6/12 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a \$200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. from www.rmrcorp.com.
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DIRECT CARE STAFF Work with developmentally disabled adults. Westland (734) 722-4839-09
DIRECT CARE WORKER PT positions avail. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. SOARING \$7 k/yr. (734) 384-9629

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OFFICE MANAGER
For extremely busy Livonia non-medical service home care agency for our rapidly growing business. Must possess strong managerial, organizing, financial, customer service, communication skills. Email resume and salary history to livonia2010@hotmail.com

Help Wanted-Dental
DENTAL ASSISTANT
Full time Exp. Ed/Dent Hyg. Licensed in Farmington Hills. Fax 248-335-9273 Email dentist@homedent.com

Help Wanted-General
Glass Installer-Commercial
Exp. only, Crystal Glass. Send resume to glassinstallers@earthlink.net Fax: 248-650-8448 or Fax: 248-645-8220

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Experienced only for friendly Farmington office. Online response a plus. Email resumes to broncofrank@yahoo.com or Fax: 248-415-9338

MAINTENANCE PERSON
needed for Woodlark apartment complex. Some benefits available. Contact Wayne South Apartments Please apply in person at 4377 W. Warren Ave.

Help Wanted-Medical
RN, LPN or MA
With experience, demand for GROWING nursing home/retiree in Ann Arbor! Plymouth area. Full-Time, excellent pay & benefits.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANT
Part Time
The City of Birmingham is seeking qualified candidates to assist the Police Dept. in enforcing parking ordinances up to 20 1/2 hours. Duties include patrolling by foot & vehicle, issuing citations, notices, & assisting in other activities. Applications must be submitted by email to: pdh@birmingham.org

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FRONT AND BACK HOUSE EMPLOYEES
Full time, 10 hours and over. Applicant must have flexible schedule to cover lunch and weekend shifts. Apply online at: www.antonios.com

More information at www.hometownlife.com

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Tickets
SURFANGAL TICKETS
Sat. Aug. 4, 2012 5:30 PM
Seat location: section 11, 10 row 15, seats 36-37, DTE Energy Music Theatre, Farmington Hills, MI 48334-4052

Garage/Moving Sales
LIVONIA: 31132 Milton. Thurs-Sun July 12-15. Off at Ann Arbor, Mich. 48102. Livonia Household items, furniture, baby toys & adult clothes, toys & misc. Fri. & Sat. July 13 & 14. 9-4. 24180 Barton Dr. 48152

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Home Sale
LIVONIA HOUSE SALE
Emotional Livonia Church. 3460 W. Farmington Rd. Thurs-Fri. July 13-15. 9-4. Sun. 10-12. 248-445-2300

LIVONIA: Estrada garage sale Furniture, Leovyay organ, Beth Roop collectibles & much more 2041 Berkeley Park Dr. N. of Harrison & 5 Mile Thurs-Sat. 2:30-4:30pm

SOUTH LYON: Stran, Cambridge Ct. Interiors Furniture, Thurs-Sat. 7/12-14, 10am-6pm, 4850 W. Warren, Mt. Morris, Michigan, home goods.

WAYNE: Estate Sale. 35247 Dorrier, S. of Ann Arbor, E. of Wayne Rd. Sun. July 8. 7-11. 248-241-2300

Garage/Moving Sales
CANTON: July 13 & 14. 9-4pm. 4907 Plymouth Way, Revue Lane, Mt. Morris. Taylor auto Warren & Ford.

CANTON: MOVING SALE
July 15, 9-4pm. 4243 Rochester Warren & Lillian

FARMINGTON HILLS: HUGE SALE. cons. cabinet, water, vintage baby carriage, picture dress-up. July 13, Sun. 10-12. 12m 13:30m 2200 Cliffsterfield Ct.

GARDEN CITY YARD/SALE: SALE. 2425 Allen in Garden City on 7/11 & 7/12 from 10am-6pm. tools, household goods, firearms, small appliances, etc. Mail or after an EVERYTHING

HOUSE SALE BY JAMIE'S ATTIC
18113 Bowers Dr Livonia, Thurs-Sat. 10-4. Farmington, off 8 Mile. Toys of Sesameville, Woodbury, elegant glass, household, some Victorian, antique, silver/gold coins, jewelry, clocks, and Quaker box, Hitchcock 1920s Pennsylvania house furniture, WWI Era Lorain 'Wam sat, vintage puzzles, cons. silver pieces, Michan Romo. Home packed!

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Challenging fun for ALL ages

Thursday

PUZZLE CORNER

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 Haul along
2 From or to
3 Scoote
4 Minute
5 opening
12 Soho co.
13 Dry, in combos
14 Piny's bear
15 Site near Everest (2 wds.)
16 Places the engine
18 A moon of Jupiter
19 Vote to accept
20 Household
23 Ostrich kin
24 Clay pot
25 Legendary kingdom
26 Clapton
29 Peter in Panama
32 Cousins of "Um"
33 Muir locale
35 Big umbrella
36 Brewery tank
37 Downfall's run
38 Scoote
42 Oliver Twist's request
43 Colonial dance
44 Sliced thinly, as carrots
46 Heyerdahl book "Um-Hva"
49 Burn soother
50 Matted lock of wool
51 Oxford or
52 Uruguay
53 condition
54 Cable network

DOWN
1 Attorney's deg.
2 Me, Hagen of films
3 Mdsd.
4 Break a record
5 All geared up
6 "La Douce"
7 PD member
8 Indiana University
9 Popular cookie
10 Host's plea
11 Maine, from UK
12 Director Kazan
13 Hunter's need
14 Fussy dressers
15 Kyrzstan mountains
16 22 Ft. miss
17 Meadows Aerie
18 GOMEZ CEMENTS
19 AUTOMIZER FIAT
20 STUWODELLA
21 HOE GOES LEST
22 Fm miss
23 Flor for music
25 Boombox platters
26 Where poi is served
27 Units of resistance
28 Sugar dressers
30 Request earnestly
31 Have a meal
34 Insulation mass. (hyph.)
35 Clarified butter
37 Rectal pieces
38 Calls out
39 Dog's barks
40 Roy Orbison song
41 Artemis
42 Wagon-train puller
44 Toast spread
45 Last degree
46 Pynch, in a way
47 Id companion

Answer to Previous Puzzle

HOSE	MINT	EVIL
URLS	ETAS	AIL
TALE	LEGHORN	
SLEEKER	GLIO	
REAMS	ATTEMPT	
URN	ODE	EOS
MEADOWS	AERIE	
ION	PRY	
GOMEZ	CEMENTS	
AUTOMIZER	FIAT	
STUWODELLA		
HOE GOES	LEST	

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SUDOKU

3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
			13				14	
15		16				18		
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20	21	22		23	25		26	27 28
29			30	31			32	
33			34				36	
						37	38	
39	40	41					44	45 46 47
43							48	50
51							52	53

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love Sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Word Search — Family Reunion

G	U	Z	N	R	A	C	B	N	M	F	H	T	T</
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