

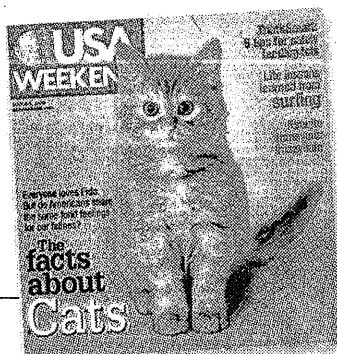
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## Music From the Garage

Hometownlife, C1



**USA WEEKEND**  
Everyone loves Fido. But do Americans share the same fond feelings for our felines?  
Inside today's Observer



# PLYMOUTH Observer

**SUNDAY**  
July 6, 2008

75 cents

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The fireworks light up township park; the horizontal streak of light is a small airplane, one of several that flew around enjoying the show. For more photos, please visit [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) and click on galleries.

## Patriotism on parade

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The grin widened across Tim Strietzel's face as he pondered the reason hundreds of people were up before 7:30 a.m. Friday to watch the annual Plymouth Good Morning USA Parade on the Fourth of July.

It's not a site Strietzel, an exchange student from Cologne, Germany in the U.S. as an intern for a local company, is used to seeing. But in Plymouth, it seemed just right.

"It's early, but it's impressive," said the 26-year-old Strietzel, who admitted he's normally more prone to sleeping at that hour. "I was surprised by how many people there are. It says they're very proud of their country, and they want to celebrate it."

And celebrate it they did, lining Main Street as they do every year to watch more than 80 entries make the march from

For more photos and story, see Page A2.

Theodore to Hartsough. Acts featured Steve King and the Dittilies and Mark Randisi, high school band members, pom pon teams, veterans groups and a host of others.

It's the kind of parade Heather Gruenhagen has been watching since she was a young child growing up in Plymouth. She watched it again with her husband, Drew, and the three children - Ian, 6, Emilia, 4, and Callum, 2.

"I've come to see this since I was a little girl," said Gruenhagen, who recently moved to Westland. "We lived up north (St. Helen) for awhile, and it just wasn't the same."

Drew Gruenhagen expressed exactly the sentiment organizer Fred Hill hopes to inspire when he puts the parade together.

"The Plymouth parade still has the sense of community," he said. "It's a celebration."



Six-year-old Abigail Wood watches the Plymouth Fourth of July parade. She's with her younger sister Emily, 4, and mom and dad, Mary and Bob Woods.

## Canton swimming sensation Schmitt headed to Beijing

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton has its own version of a pool shark.

It's 18-year-old Allison Schmitt, who earned a spot Wednesday night on the U.S. Olympic women's swim team with a second-place finish in the 200-meter freestyle, clocking a personal best 1:55.92 in Omaha, Neb.

Schmitt, headed next month to Beijing, China, will also be given an opportunity to swim a leg on the 4 x 200 freestyle relay, where former Livonia Stevenson High and University of Georgia All-American Sheila Taormina captured a gold medal at the 1996 Atlanta Summer Games. (Taormina is also making history of her own this summer competing in her fourth Olympic Games in the modern pentathlon after qualifying twice in the women's triathlon.)

Schmitt has made a meteoric rise through the world swim rankings after graduating a semester early from Canton High. She has been doing high-performance training at Club Wolverine in Ann Arbor, the only high school swimmer that Bob Bowman, Michael Phelps' coach, has guided among his elite women's group.

After finishing one place out of earning a spot Monday night with a third place in the 400 freestyle, Schmitt came back Wednesday night at the Olympic Trials and qualified in the 200 freestyle by shaving



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton High School graduate Allison Schmitt qualified for the Olympics.

two seconds off her semifinal time, only to be edged out at the wall by the meet's star, Katie Hoff, of the North Baltimore (Md.) Aquatic Club. Hoff, who captured her third and fourth Trials events Wednesday night, was clocked in an American record time of 1:55.88, breaking her own mark of 1:56.08 set back in February.

Schmitt, a 4.0 honor student bound for the University of Georgia, is a two-time MHSAA Division 1 state champion in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle for the Chiefs. She is the current Division 1 state record holder in both events.

For a more on Schmitt's memorable night, see today's sports section or visit [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

## Clerk, former trustee among supervisor hopefuls

Employee morale among reasons for campaign

Challenger touts experience as key campaign factor

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill progressed through what was supposed to be her final term in elective office over the last four years, two problems began nagging at her:

■ Morale among employees at Plymouth Township Hall, where she's worked since 1969, was, she believes, sagging badly.

■ What was she, always an active woman, going to do with all that free time, considering you can only garden so many hours in a day?

In discussions with friends and employees, Massengill believes she found a solution to both problems: Run for township supervisor.

That's why Massengill's is one of four names on the ballot in the Aug. 5 Republican primary, along with incumbent Richard Reaume and challengers Dianne Gonzalez and K.C. Mueller.



Massengill

"One of the main reasons for getting into the campaign is (employee) morale is so bad it makes me sad," said Massengill, who has served four terms in office. "I think the employees know I'd be fair. I think you could get so much more out of them if they were happier."

The township has trimmed jobs the last few years, she said, and so expects more work out of fewer employees. Many of those employees, she said, encouraged her to run.

"I said 'yes' because the employees were happy (about her candidacy) and I thought, 'Maybe this is a good thing,'" Massengill said. "If they can respect their boss, they'll be even more productive."

Please see **MASSENGILL, A6**

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Former Plymouth Township trustee K.C. Mueller left the board eight years ago to take care of her mother, but since then has stayed active, including a stint on the township's planning commission.

Now, Mueller not only wants back on the board, she wants its top job: Plymouth Township supervisor.

That's why Mueller, a Realtor by trade, put her name on the ballot for the Aug. 5 Republican primary. She's there with incumbent Richard Reaume, current Clerk Marilyn Massengill and Dianne Gonzalez.

Mueller said she was approached to run by township insiders because "of the current administration's micro-managing style." She believes her previous experience would help her straighten that out.



Mueller

"I know there was a problem with morale among the township employees, and it seemed to be getting worse," Mueller said. "I know things a (newly elected) supervisor wouldn't know."

Mueller was elected to the township board in 1996 and served two terms before electing not to seek re-election. She served a term on the township planning commission under former Supervisor Steve Mann.

Mueller said there are a range of issues facing the township, including:

■ The budget: Mueller believes the township, though currently in good financial shape, faces a potentially dark future because of declining property values, plus other demands on the

Please see **MUELLER, A6**

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Volume 122  
Number 92

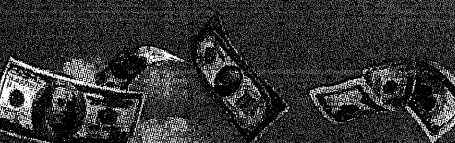
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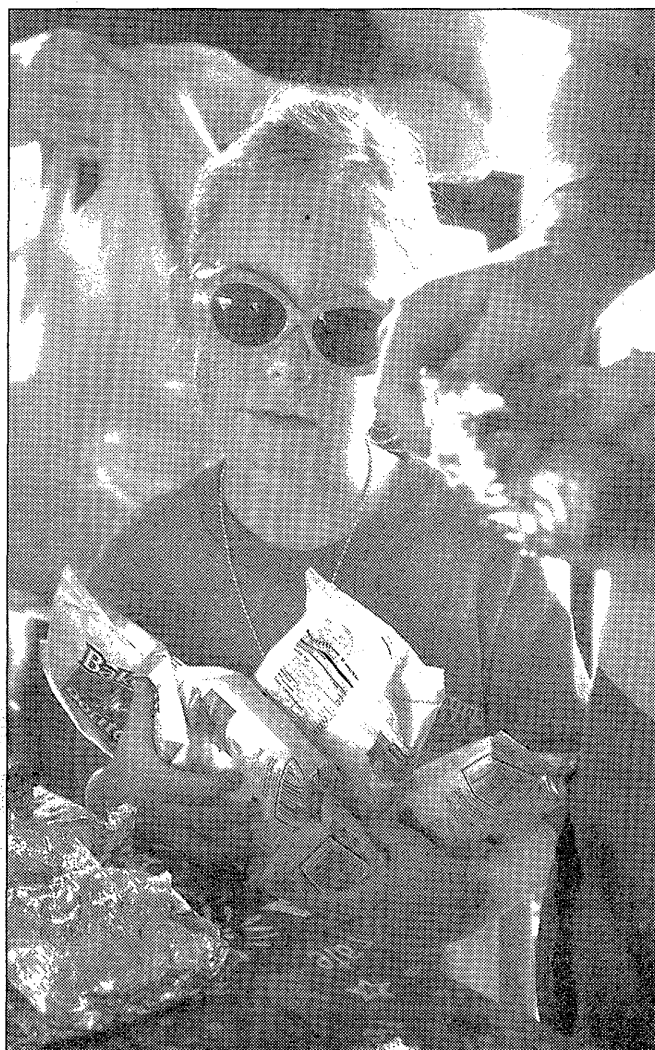
### INDEX

APARTMENTS	D2
AUTOMOTIVE	D5
HEALTH	B5
HOMETOWNLIFE	C1
JOB	C7
NEW HOMES	D1
OBITUARIES	C4
OPINION	A7
REAL ESTATE	D2
SERVICE GUIDE	D3
SPORTS	B1

Coming Thursday  
in filter



Plymouth gets crafty with Art in the Park



Five-year-old Olivia Henson carries the chips as her dad, Kip Henson, fixes hot dogs.

# Family fare

## Fireworks, picnic highlight Fourth of July fun

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ron Kasperski heard the noise when Plymouth Township officials were running a test of the community's first fireworks display in some 10 years a couple of weeks ago, though he didn't know at the time what it was.

When he stepped into his yard, which backs up to Hilltop Golf Course, he saw the final remnants of the practice fireworks.

That's why Kasperski, his friends and his family knew exactly where to sit to watch the actual display Thursday, the first of three events the Plymouth community used to celebrate the Fourth of July. And he was glad to be in them.

"It brings excitement to the community," Kasperski said of the fireworks. "People like to enjoy things like that. They haven't done it in awhile, so it was nice to see."

The 45-minute show excited the hundreds of people who crowded into Plymouth Township Park to see it, and served as one bookend to the community's Independence Day celebration. The other bookend came Friday, when the annual Good Ol' Fashioned Picnic followed the Good Morning USA parade.

The picnic featured the usual fare - the bike decorating contest, fishing derby and hot dogs, chips, pop and ice cream for a nickel - plus new attractions such as pie- and hot dog-eating contests.

"You think about going to a picnic, but you never really get to go," said Blaize Buzas of Ypsilanti, who was at the picnic with her aunt. "Here, everything's set up for you. It's fun."



The fireworks begin Thursday about 10:20 p.m. There's still a glow in the sky even at this hour. Several shells burst at nearly the same moment and another is on its way up.



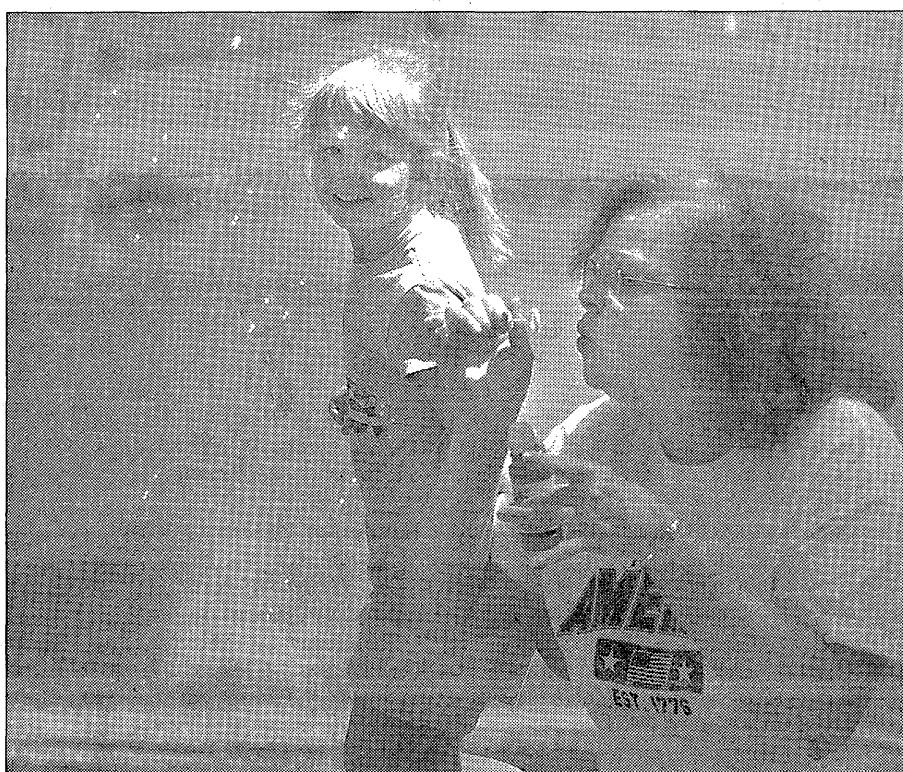
The Plymouth Canton Stars shine as they make their way along Main Street during the Plymouth Fourth of July parade.

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2153

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



State Rep. Phil LaJoy, (R-Canton) sponsored the giant American flag.



Rebecca Giroux, 6, chases soap bubbles blown by her mom M.C. Giroux, as the pair enjoys the annual picnic.

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### Teen driver charged for fatal accident

A 17-year-old Plymouth girl has been charged with negligent homicide, a two-year misdemeanor, in the April 22 crash that killed motorcyclist Diane Arlene Eickmeyer.

Elizabeth Ann Koet's preliminary exam is scheduled for Aug. 8 and she was released on a \$5,000 personal bond.

Canton Sgt. Rick Pomorski said Koet was traveling in a minivan south on Ridge Road when she came to Ford Road, stopped,



and then proceeded through the intersection. She apparently did not see Eickmeyer, 48, of Gregory, Michigan. Eickmeyer died of her injuries on April 25. Pomorski said alcohol, drugs or speeding wasn't a factor in the accident.

- By Tiffany L. Parks

**PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP SENDS OUT WATER QUALITY REPORT**

The Plymouth Township Water and Sewer Department has sent out its annual drinking water quality report to consumers. Among other things, the report discloses the amount of various materials in the water, including microbial and inorganic contaminants, and pesticides and herbicides.

The annual report has been required by law since the U.S. Congress passed the 1996 Safe Drinking Act Amendments. Most of the Detroit metro area, including Plymouth Township, gets its drinking water from the Detroit River. The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department operates the water treatment facilities and pumping stations that supply water to the township, which operates the pipeline infrastructure and acts as the retailer to area businesses and residents.

Residents or business owners who have not received the report or have further questions can contact the Plymouth Township Water and Sewer Department at (734) 354-3270.

Publish: July 3, 2008 & July 6, 2008

**PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR July meeting Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tape of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary  
Plymouth District Library  
223 S. Main Street  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
734-453-0750  
X217

Publish: July 6, 2008

**NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 2008 SUMMER TAXES**

Summer taxes are due July 1, 2008 and payable through August 10, 2008 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH.

Payments can be made at City Hall during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office, temporarily located on the 2nd floor near the elevator. After hours, payments can be placed in the DROP BOX located in the Church Street lobby of City Hall or use the DROP BOX located next to the book return behind the Library.

Teresa Cischke, CPFA  
City Treasurer

Publish: July 3 and 6, 2008



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rose Hance, of Canton fills her car with discount gas at the Plymouth Super Center on Ann Arbor Road. The 30 cent discount is courtesy of Living Word Church.

## Motorists line up for a heavenly break at the gasoline pump

TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Motorists seeking a break from rising gasoline prices received a 30-cent-per-gallon reprieve when they filled-up at the Plymouth SuperCenter on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Friday afternoon.

For several hours a steady stream of cars twisted around the SuperCenter parking lot as motorists waited to pump regular gasoline for \$3.89, thanks to members of The Living Word Church on North Territorial in Plymouth Township. The congregation donated enough money to sell 10,000 gallons of gas at the reduced price.

"I had an hour to kill for lunch, so the 20-minute wait wasn't so bad," said Terry Anderson, an employee of Tonquish Creek Manor in Plymouth, who filled her Ford Taurus. "I was on 'E' so the 30-cents helped out. Last week it cost me a little over \$50 to fill up, and today I got it for \$41. It was worth it."

Members of The Living

Word Church helped customers by washing their windows.

Micki Nguyen, 38, of Canton Township and her daughter, Ryan, 12, were handing out church literature.

"We always look for practical ways to reach out to the community and show in practical ways God's love," said Micki Nguyen. "It's about doing kind things for others."

"I don't know if people realize that doing simple acts of kindness would make them happy, as well," she said.

Ervin Miller, 51, of Plymouth Township pumped just-over 17 gallons into his Chevy Trailblazer, costing him \$68.21. He said it generally costs \$80-\$90 for a fill-up.

"We don't drive as much and plan our trips carefully," said Miller of his family's reaction to higher gasoline prices. "It's taken quite a bit more (of our income) and we're not buying a lot of things we used to buy. We're very careful on how we spend our money."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2172

TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Craig Fiegel laughed out loud when asked if he had reservations leaving his job Tuesday as superintendent of a 1,900-student elementary district in Illinois and taking over Wednesday as the CEO of Plymouth-Canton's nearly 19,000-student district.

"It's a little overwhelming," said Fiegel, the new superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Schools. "You certainly think about that as you're leaving familiar surroundings and getting hugs and tears and realizing I won't be back tomorrow."

"It's felt comfortable, it's felt like the right time and the right place," he added. "It's good to stretch yourself and do more unfamiliar things and grow from that."

In his first two days, Fiegel has begun interviews to hire a new business manager and learn the administrative systems in place at PCCS.

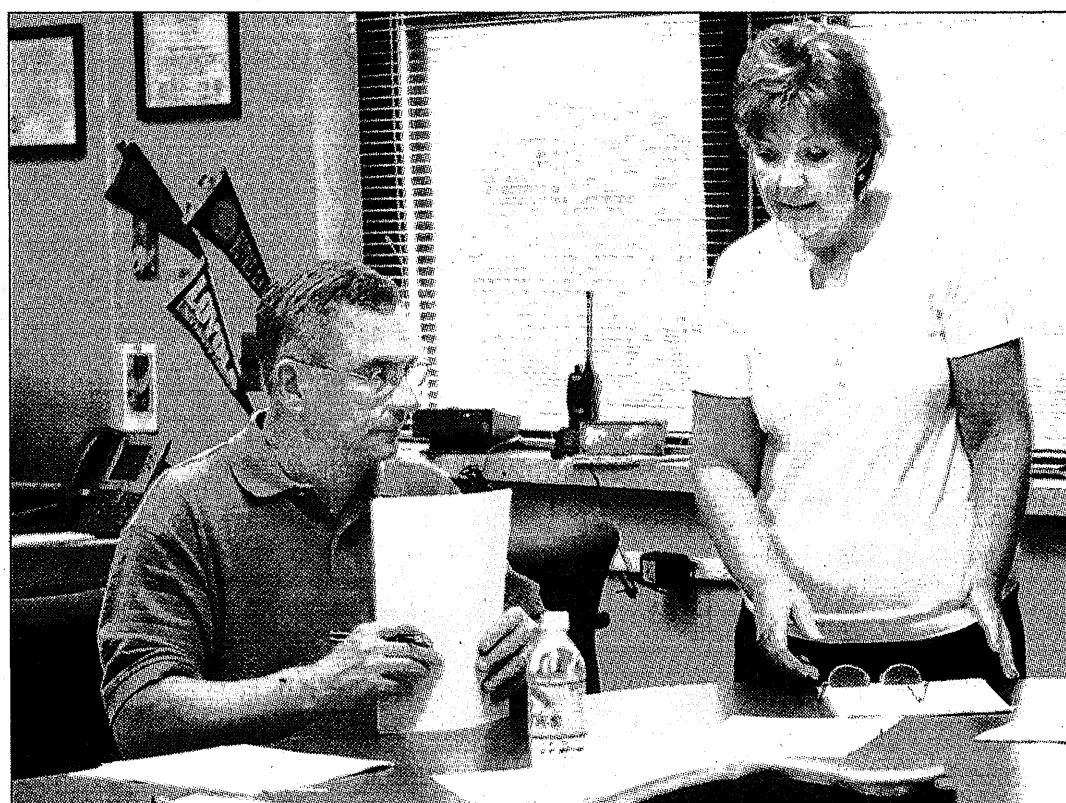
"I'm not coming in with sweeping changes, just learn what we do and why we do them," Fiegel said. "Realistically, you get involved right away, but it takes a year or two to truly understand all that goes on."

"It's a big system, but there are a lot of good people here and they've been very helpful in helping me understand what we're doing," he added.

As a former assistant

# A new era begins

## New school district superintendent hits the ground learning



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

New Plymouth-Canton Schools Supt. Craig Fiegel works with executive secretary Elizabeth Adams on Thursday afternoon.



Fiegel

superintendent of business in Lawrence, Kan., where he worked on tight budgets, Fiegel said he understands the concerns from some who question why the Board of Education paid \$195,000 to hire him

during tough economic times. And he knows there will be many eyes watching to see how he handles Plymouth-Canton, a district nearly 10 times the size of Evergreen Park.

"I think time will have to prove that out," Fiegel said. "I'm hoping they will understand the same things that happened in Evergreen Park happen in Plymouth-Canton,

just more of the same things because it's larger.

"You have some different things, but you see new things everywhere," he added.

Fiegel said he and his wife, Lisa, plan to buy a home within the district. However, like many homeowners, he will have to wait until he can sell his home in Illinois.

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### ON STAGE

Wednesdays at noon.

The schedule:

- July 9 - Gemini
- July 16 - Like Water

Drumworks

- July 23 - Jan Krist
- July 30 - Zak Morgan
- Aug. 6 - elmoThumm
- Aug. 13 - Guy Louis, Chautauqua Express

■ Aug. 20 - Matt Watroba & Friends

Music in the Air

Here's the schedule for the Music in the Air concert series, sponsored by the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority and Blue Cross/Blue Shield:

■ July 18: Mass Transit Band

■ July 25: Bluescasters

■ Aug. 1: Paul King's Rhythm Society

■ Aug. 8: Trilogy Band

■ Aug. 15: Sean Riley Band

■ Aug. 22: Fifty Amp Fuse

■ Aug. 29: Lady Sunshine and the X Band

### Music in the Park

The Music in the Park "kiddie" concert series, hosted by the Plymouth Community Arts Council and sponsored by Main Street Bank, Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M., and Huron Valley Ambulance, takes to the Kellogg Park stage

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**Car-buying workshop**

Catholic Parishes Federal Credit Union hosts a free car-buying workshop 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 23, at the credit union, 8817 Sheldon (northwest corner of Sheldon and Joy).

Car buyers can arm themselves with information before setting out to buy their next new or used vehicle; receive a car inspection and test drive check list to evaluate the condition of the vehicle; determine how much car you can afford. Plus, hear some negotiating tips to get you the best car price and learn how to decipher financing options and warranties.

Handouts and light refreshments will be provided. For more information and to RSVP, call (734) 432-0212, Ext. 203 or e-mail member-service-cpfcu@twmi.rr.com

**Blood drives**

There will be a Red Cross blood drive 2-8 p.m. Monday, July 7, at St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth.

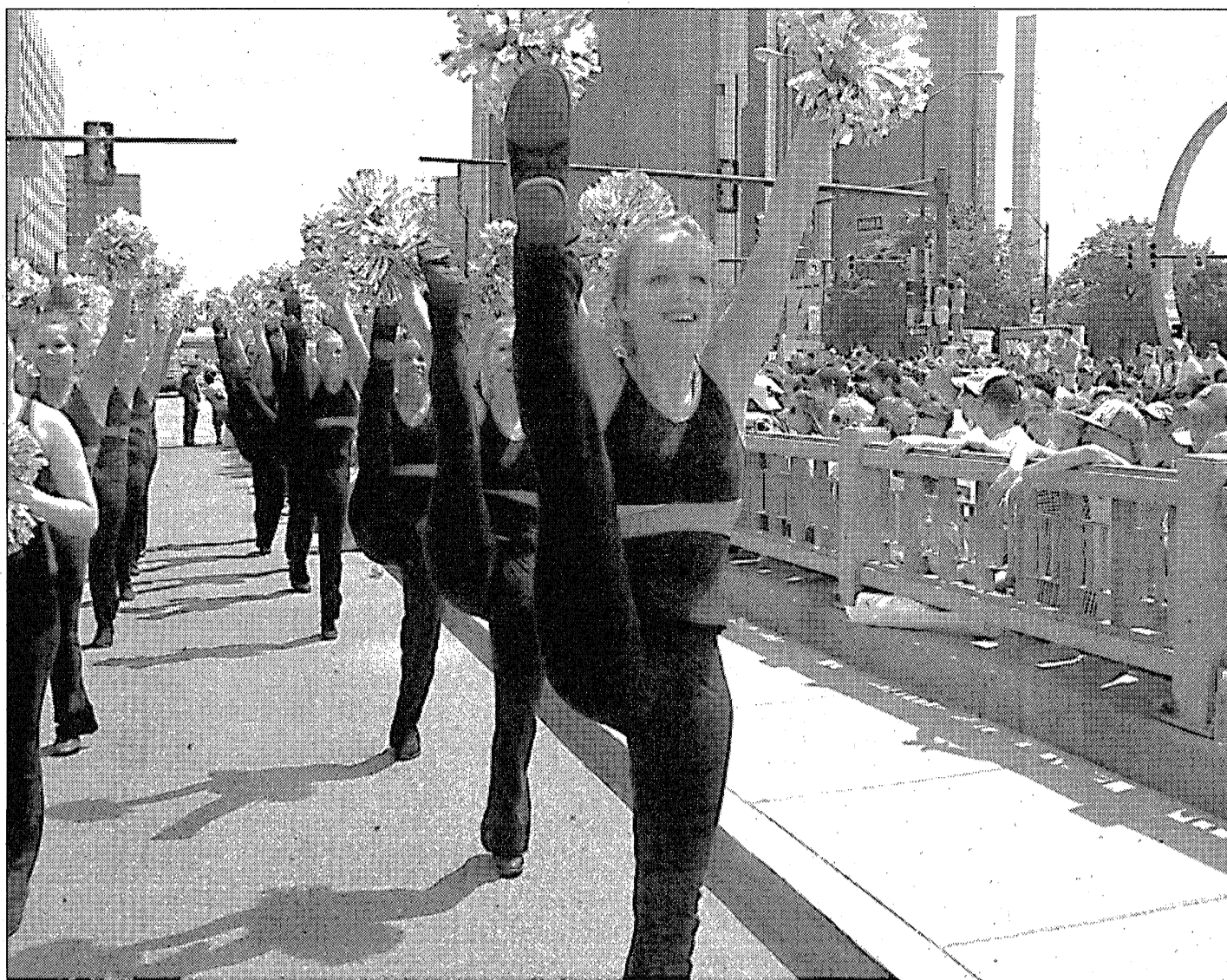
The church is located at 574 S. Sheldon. To make an appointment, call Carolyn Libeau, (734) 455-5395.

The Plymouth Post Office sponsors an American Red Cross blood drive 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 16 at the Clipper Street post office.

Appointments are available, but walk-ins are welcome. To make an appointment, call Barb Mitchell, (734) 453-6111.

**Ice cream social**

Plymouth Community Council On Aging will host the annual "Ice Cream Social" 1:30-3 p.m. Monday, July 14, at the Plymouth Township Park, 46640 Ann Arbor Trail in the Pavilion overlooking the pond. Tickets are available at the PCCA Office, 201 Main Street. Edy's will again donate the ice cream for this event. Ticket prices are \$1 for PCCA members and \$3 for non-



**Honoring Lord Stanley**

The Mid American Pompon All Star Team was selected to participate in the Detroit Red Wings' recent Stanley Cup Victory Parade. The team includes Erica Beitz, Ashley Chiedo, Alyse Ruark, Mandy Schroeder, Kaseigh Zebari and Erica Caudillo, all of Plymouth High School. "We were honored to be a part of this historic day in Detroit sports," said Karen Blazaitis, president and owner of Mid American Pompon. "The All Star Team takes pride in performing at community events and celebrating victories and traditions both locally and nationally."

members and guests. For any additional information please call (734) 453-1234 Ext. 236.

**Chorale fund-raiser**

The BeckRidge Chorale is selling the 2009 Entertainment Books in order to raise funds to support local charities and to provide vocal music scholarships to talented local high school students.

Special fund-raising price for the book is \$20. Supplies are limited; call (734) 459-6829 to order. Books will be available Aug. 5.

**Grief support workshop**

Ward Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a one-day grief

seminar, "From Grief to New Hope," 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 19.

The workshop will be presented by Cathy Clough of Plymouth, director of New Hope Center for Grief Support. All adults who are learning to cope after the death of a loved one are encouraged to attend. There is no charge for the seminar. Ward Church is located in Northville at 6 Mile and Haggerty Roads. Registration is not necessary, but if further information is needed call Barb Brace at Ward Church at (248) 374-5943.

For information about New Hope Center for Grief Support's other age and loss

specific groups call (248) 348-0115.

**Summer movie series**

The Penn Theatre hosts the "Summer Cinema Matinee Series," through the end of August, with free passes available at Michigan Made & More and Westchester Barber Shop.

Sponsored by the Packaging Corporation of America and the Plymouth District Library, the schedule includes: July 10, *Hans Christian Andersen*; July 17, *Charlotte's Web*; July 24, *The Wizard of Oz*; July 31, *National Velvet*; Aug. 7, *Life Begins for Andy Hardy*; Aug. 14, *The Yearling*; Aug. 21,

*Swiss Family Robinson*; Aug. 28, *The Muppet Movie*.

Showtimes are 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.; the box office opens 30 minutes before each showing; all seats \$3. The Penn Theatre is located at 760 Penniman in downtown Plymouth. For more information visit the theater's Web site at www.penntheatre.com or call (734) 453-0870.

**King Gemba exhibit**

The exhibit, play and book of "King Gemba - Legends of Leadership" is coming to the Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC) this summer. Written by local author Jeanne Swanson and illustrated by

PCAC drawing and painting instructor Pamela Grossmann, the children's book weaves a story about principles of leadership.

The original watercolor illustrations created for the book by Grossmann, and a synopsis of the book will be on exhibit 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday at the PCAC through Aug. 29. Works by PCAC pottery instructor Jeffrey Burda are also included in the exhibit.

Call (734) 416-4278 for more information or click on www.plymoutharts.com

**HVA 9-1-1 camps**

Huron Valley Ambulance conducts its free two-day annual Camp 9-1-1 day camps for 8- to 12-year-olds at two locations in western Wayne County, where space has been donated. All camps are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days.

The camp is scheduled July 17-18 at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, in Plymouth, and July 10-11 at the Michigan Boathouse at Belleville Lake, 50745 Van Buren Park in Belleville.

The day camp's activities include touring an ambulance, learning CPR, and visiting a local emergency room. HVA Paramedics and EMTs serve as "camp counselors," teaching campers about safety at home and at play, how to perform lifesaving skills on injured victims, and all about Emergency Services careers. Registration is first-come, first-served and enrollment is limited to 30 participants. There are limited spaces available.

For a registration form or more information, call Jason Trojan, Camp 9-1-1 Coordinator, at (734) 477-6781 or e-mail him at jtrojan@hva.org

**'Memory Lost'**

Plymouth Community Council on Aging will host "Memory Lost" presented by Four Chaplains in Westland. The presentation will be held 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 23, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer Street in Plymouth. Everyone is invited, its free. RSVP required at (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236.



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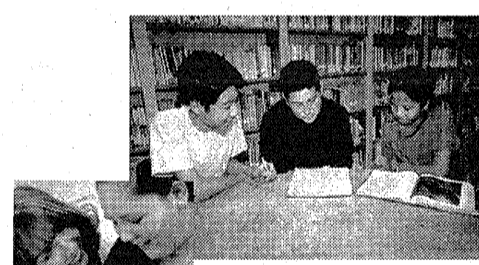
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# Workin' on some night moves

## Couple bring Bob Seger's wheels to Grand Cruise

BY SUE BUCK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The song *Night Moves* has a special meaning for Farmington Hills residents Dennis and Mary Koss.

Their 1961 Pontiac Catalina Convertible bears a front license plate with the song title, which is only appropriate considering where they acquired the car.

"We just bought the car from Bob Seger," Dennis said.

*Night Moves* is the title song from the ninth album by Ann Arbor rocker Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band, released in 1976.

"We have loved Seger forever and loved the car," Dennis said. "We had to get it."

Mary loves the fact that she sits in the same seat where Seger sat.

"It feels really good," she said.

She also loves that the car has an automatic transmission because she can't drive a car with a "stick," a manual transmission.

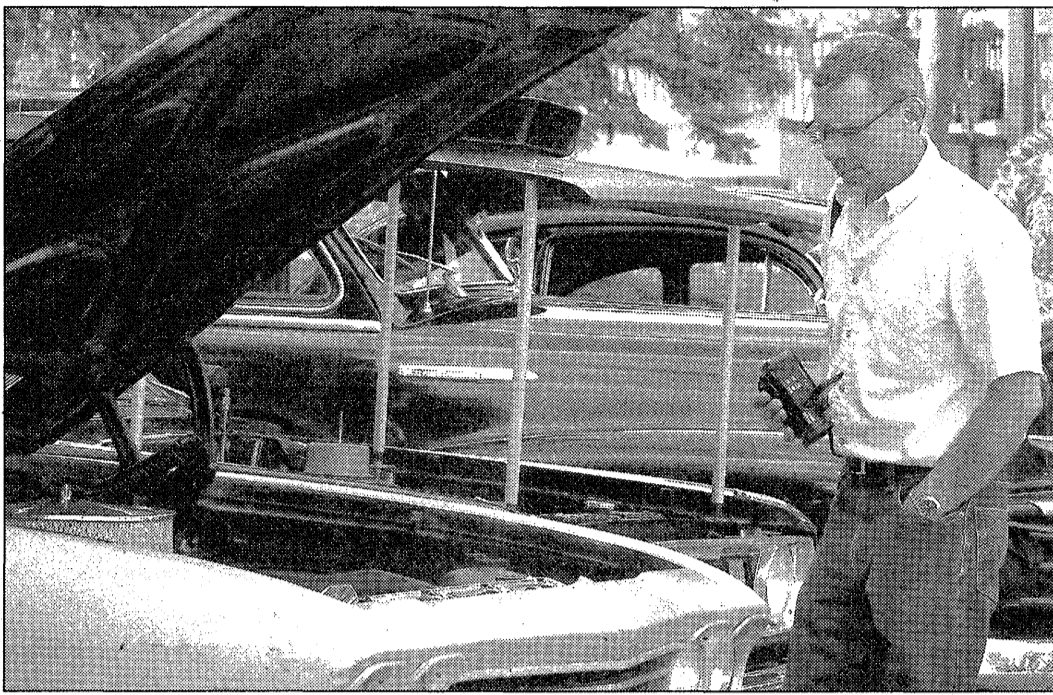
But, best of all, the car brings back memories.

"This brings you right back to your youth," Mary said.

"We had cars just like this from the time we started dating," Dennis said. "We had a 1966 Pontiac GTO when we dated."

The Kosses are regulars at the Cruisin' The Grand Cruise-In Car Show.

Every Monday they head out for the show that starts at 5 p.m. and goes until dusk. The show will continue through September on Grand River, east of Farmington. In addition to the Seger



Mike Abraham of Redford takes a look under the hood as he walks along the cars on display during the Cruisin' the Grand Cruise-in Car Show Monday night.



Car enthusiasts stroll among the classic cars on display during the Cruisin' the Grand Cruise-in Car Show held Monday night in the Village Commons parking lot in Farmington.

Catalina, The Kosses also own a Royal Pontiac Bobcat. They keep the classic cars in a heated garage.

For their daily jaunts around town, they drive twin, silver 2008 Hummers.

The June 30 show featured live entertainment by The Copycats who played '60s and '70s rock and pop hits.

The cover band is known for its harmonies. They feature everything from Johnny Cash to Led Zeppelin to The Beatles.

The show is located in front of Bellacino's on Grand River.

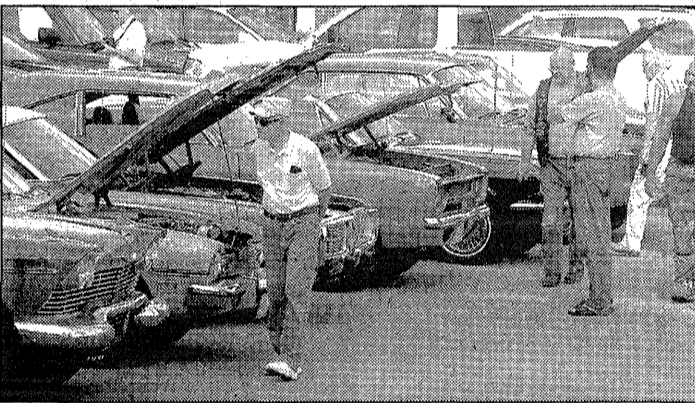


Gerald Moore, left, and Marian Iannello take a look at a 1948 Chevrolet on display at the Cruisin' the Grand Cruise-in Car Show Monday night in Farmington.

Bellacino's co-owners Joe Takla, a Farmington resident, and Keith Valcom, a Plymouth resident, have helped to organize the show with Harvey Ettinger, who invites the car owners to participate.

The restaurant offers 15 percent off the food bills of those who participate and come in for dinner.

"The show is good for all the tenants in this plaza," Takla said. "It's great to see the community stopping by to see the old cars and to see the parking lot full. It's a good time. You see all ages."



Spectators browse the rows of classic cars during the Cruisin' the Grand Cruise-in Car Show Monday night.

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# 'Mrs. Pauli' retires after 22 years of hugs and stories

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Pauli Green is retired. The concept still hasn't sunk in for the former Plymouth-Canton Montessori School teacher but she expects it to hit her in September. "That's when I will feel the separation," she says. "I think it's going to be sad and I may find my car driving here." Green, who is known as Mrs. Pauli, has been with the school for 22 years and said she will miss the energy that comes along with a group of 3- to 6-year-olds. "If you are having a low day, you come here and the next thing you know, you are happy," she grins. "And the spontane-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pauli Green recently retired after 22 years of teaching at the Plymouth-Canton Montessori School.

ous hugs and the stories. The kids just make you happy." Green became a teacher at the Montessori school, located in Canton at 45245 Joy Road, after enrolling her two children and becoming a parent volunteer. "The director asked me was I interested in teaching and I told her that I would think about it," the Plymouth resident said, noting that when she had her children, Shannon and Sean, now adults, she put her career as an administrative assistant on hold. "Being here gave me more time to be with my children and I believe it made me a better parent, too."

Throughout the years, Green has taught hundreds of students and been a part of the school's relocations. She says she made the decision to retire in order to spend more time traveling with her husband of 43 years, Larry. "He's been retired for two years and I wanted to give him a little time to himself," Green said. "But if you ask him, he probably would have preferred that I stop a little earlier. But when you are having fun, it is hard to leave." So hard, in fact, that Green has plans to be an occasional substitute teacher once the school year rolls around.

## MASSENGILL

FROM PAGE A1

It isn't surprising Massengill still wants to serve her community; she's been doing it since being hired into the building department in 1969. Her nearly 40 years also included a stint in the township Planning Department sandwiched between two jobs in the clerk's office. She ran for, and was elected, clerk in 1992. On other issues: ■ Water rates: Massengill said she favors eating part of the double-digit increases passed on to the township by Detroit Water & Sewer, as long as the water/sewer fund is viable. "I don't want to get to a point like the city did a few years ago (when it had to pass on a huge increase)," Massengill said. "I don't want to get to a point where we dig a

### THE MASSENGILL FILE

- Who: Marilyn Massengill
- What: Running for Plymouth Township supervisor
- Now: Plymouth Township clerk
- Family: Children Jerilyn Hindman, Richard Massengill Jr., Tamara Jo McLaughlin and Michael Massengill; eight grandchildren
- Education: Some college ("No degrees, but a lot of common sense," she said)
- In the community: First United Methodist Church; charter member, Plymouth Canton Kiwanis Breakfast Club; Plymouth Study Club; Plymouth Business and Professional Women's Club

well together. She thinks the township could have handled some things better, though. Discussions over the fire agreement got contentious, for instance. "You shouldn't go into negotiations with the city with attitude," she said. "It just won't work." ■ Township manager: Massengill said the thought of reducing the supervisor to part time and hiring a township manager — an idea that has been floated as a campaign issue — is one she thinks merits at least some consideration. "I think it might work if you got a professional manager the employees could relate to," she said. "I'd like discussion on the board about it. This is just discussion; by the time you talk with six other board members and hear their thoughts, maybe I'd change my mind."

bkdrich@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2153

## MUELLER

FROM PAGE A1

budget, such as union contracts. "This is the wrong time to ask for more money (as the fire union recently did), it just sends the wrong message," Mueller said. "We're going to have to find creative ways to provide services and even enhance them." ■ Planning flexibility: Mueller thinks the township is too stringent on its planning requirements and procedures, a fact she believes has caused at least some businesses to reconsider settling here. "Plymouth Township doesn't always understand we're supposed to help our citizens, and new citizens coming in," Mueller said. "Planning con-

### THE MUELLER FILE

- Who: K.C. Mueller
- What: Running for Plymouth Township supervisor
- Now: Realtor
- Family: One daughter
- Education: Bachelor's degree, Thiel College (Pa.)
- In the community: Past president, Plymouth Woman's Club; past president, Plymouth Symphony Society; originator, Symphony Home Tour; created scholarship awards program

idea of reducing the supervisor to a part-time position and hiring a professional township manager has been floated during the campaign, but Mueller doesn't think it's a good one. "The system we have now works fine if the three elected officials (clerk, supervisor, treasurer) work in harmony, but when one becomes a cog, nothing gets done," Mueller said. "I prefer it the way we have it, because it keeps government 'hometown.' The people who get elected have a feel for the community." Mueller said the knowledge she's gained, both on the board and in the community, make her the right choice. "I bring history," she said. "I understand the work force, where they've been and what they have to go through."

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**WALL • E (G)**  
11:00, 12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 7:20, 9:00, 9:40  
FRI/SAT LS 11:30, 12:00

**WANTED (R)**  
11:45, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25  
FRI/SAT LS 11:50

**THE LOVE GURU (PG-13)**  
9:15 FRI/SAT LS 11:20

**GET SMART (PG-13)**  
11:50, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30  
FRI/SAT LS 11:55

**THE INCREDIBLE HULK (PG-13)**  
11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55

**KUNG FU PANDA (PG)**  
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 6:45

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### AROUND TOWN

**Ice cream social**  
Plymouth Community Council On Aging will host the annual "Ice Cream Social" 1:30-3 p.m. Monday, July 14, at the Plymouth Township Park, 46640 Ann Arbor Trail in the Pavilion overlooking the pond. Tickets are available at the PCCA Office, 201 Main Street. Edy's will again donate the ice cream for this event. Ticket prices are \$1 for PCCA members and \$3 for non-members and guests. For any additional information please call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236.

**Good Grief golf**  
New Hope Center for Grief Support hosts its 10th annual "Good Grief" Golf Outing Saturday, Sept. 6, at St. John's Golf & Conference Center in Plymouth with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. The proceeds from this outing will benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, a bereavement outreach center located in Northville. New Hope provides free grief support services and resources to men, women, teens, and children throughout southeastern Michigan. The cost for this four-person scramble, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, dinner, contests, and prizes, is \$125 per golfer. Dinner only is \$35 per person. Channel 4's newest weatherman, Eric Braate, will be special guest and emcee. For information about sponsorship opportunities or for registration information, contact Pattie Bingham at (248) 348-0115 and visit New Hope's Web site at www.newhopecenter.net

**'Memory Lost'**  
Plymouth Community Council on Aging will host "Memory Lost" presented by Four Chaplains in Westland. The presentation will be held 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 23, at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer in Plymouth. Everyone is invited; it's free. RSVP required at (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236.

**Summer Peace Camp for Kids**  
Kirk of Our Savior Peace Camp takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24 (lunch will be served). The camp is open to children of all ages and religious backgrounds. Spend a few hours learning to work together in order to achieve success. Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information or to sign up, please contact Jenny at (313) 532-4310.

**Remote-controlled race day**  
Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church hosts "Remote-Controlled Race Day," 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6. Racers can bring their R.C. vehicle and race it on the church's large oval track, complete with hill and jump ramp. Ribbons will be awarded to winners. No sign-up necessary. Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. If you need more information, contact Jenny at (313) 532-4310.

**HVA 911 camps**  
Huron Valley Ambulance conducts its free two-day annual Camp 9-1-1 day camps for 8- to 12-year-olds at two locations in western Wayne County, where space has been donated. All camps are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. both days.

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The camp is scheduled July 17-18 at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, in Plymouth, and July 10-11 at the Michigan Boathouse at Belleville Lake, 50745 Van Buren Park in Belleville. The day camp's activities include touring an ambulance, learning CPR, and visiting a local emergency room. HVA Paramedics and EMTs serve as "camp counselors," teaching campers about safety at home and at play, how to perform lifesaving skills on injured victims, and all about Emergency Services careers. Registration is first-come, first-served and enrollment is limited to 30 participants. There are limited spaces available. For a registration form or more information, call Jason Trojan, Camp 9-1-1 coordinator, at (734) 477-6781 or e-mail him at jtrojan@hva.org

**Girl Scout camp**  
Space is still available in day camp or overnight camp for girls ages 5-17 at Camp Linden, the premier camp property of Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council. Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council has a variety of exciting programs at Camp Linden, 400 minimally developed acres of woodland in northern Livingston County. Kayaking, swimming, exploring nature, sports, horseback riding and arts and crafts — all these experiences and more await girls at Camp Linden this summer. All girls can attend, whether they have been Girl Scouts or not. To enroll your daughter today, call (800) 49-SCOUT.

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## OUR VIEWS

# Time running out to register to vote

Who among us hasn't griped at one time or another about our political leadership, whether it be at the local, state or federal level?

When things aren't going well economically, or when government does something you don't agree with, our elected leaders are easy targets, and sometimes they deserve to be. In such cases, "Throw the bums out," is a general consensus.

In some places around the globe, in Zimbabwe for example, there is nothing that can be done about corrupt or incompetent government officials — save for a military coup.

Fortunately, in our style of government, we don't have to take up arms to install new political leaders. We elect them in the voting booth. It is a right that countless soldiers have fought to maintain for all Americans — a pertinent point considering there are American soldiers engaged in two wars as you read this.

Unfortunately, not enough Americans take advantage of that right. Too many of us stay home during elections, and therefore have no say about the people who ultimately dictate the policies that govern much of our lives.

The Aug. 5 primary election is quickly approaching. Depending on where you live, the election will determine many important local and state races. If you are not registered to vote, it is not too late to participate in the election. But you don't have much time. The deadline to register is tomorrow (July 7). You can do so at all Secretary of State branches or at your local clerk's office.

To register, you must be at least 18 years old by Aug. 5 and be a U.S. citizen. You must also be a resident of Michigan and of the city or township in which you wish to register.

Additional voting information is available on the Department of State Web site at [www.Michigan.gov/sos](http://www.Michigan.gov/sos). Michigan residents can also visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at [www.Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote), where they can find information on voting by absentee ballot, using voting equipment and contacting their local clerk. The site also includes maps to local polling places.

If you're not registered, don't miss this opportunity to be a participating member in our democracy. It isn't enough to complain about the leaders you don't like. Voting speaks so much louder.

**Fortunately, in our style of government, we don't have to take up arms to install new political leaders. We elect them in the voting booth. It is a right that countless soldiers have fought to maintain for all Americans — a pertinent point considering there are American soldiers engaged in two wars as you read this.**

Letters supporting candidates or issues can be e-mailed to [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com).

### Endorsing Gonzalez

I had the pleasure of working with Dianne Gonzalez on a Homeowners Association and our Community Association Board.

Dianne has an inexhaustible work ethic. When she joined our homeowners association board, she was instrumental in turning our neighborhood around. She fired our management company, saving the neighbors \$10,000 per year in management fees, and recruited interested neighbors to help take over the management operations.

Even though she is no longer on the board this year, she continues to help with our neighborhood and our community. She is a natural leader. It was a pleasure working with her and I think she will make an excellent township supervisor.

**Thomas Sternfels**  
Plymouth Township

### Prchlik for clerk

Plymouth Township has the opportunity to nominate an exceptional person for Plymouth Township clerk — Mary Ann Prchlik.

We have had the pleasure of knowing Mary Ann and her husband, Dan Herriman, for over 30 years. I was best man in their wedding 25 years ago. We worked together for many years at Loisel & Herriman accounting, tax and property management company. Mary Ann has demonstrated leadership and professionalism running the accounting function of our firm.

Fran and Mary Ann were both elected and served on the Plymouth Community Library Board. Mary Ann has demonstrated a long-term dedication to the Plymouth community and would be a great addition to the Plymouth Township Board as the Plymouth Township clerk.

**Ron and Fran Loisel**  
Plymouth

### Prchlik right choice

We are writing to express our unrestrained recommendation of Mary Ann Prchlik, candidate for Plymouth

Township clerk.

Officers of local government need to be qualified to handle the challenges that are currently facing our municipalities. Mary Ann Prchlik is educated (graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and B.B.A. from U-M Business School); experienced in accounting; committed to Plymouth Township as evidenced by her many years of service on numerous boards and committees.

Her personal skills include communication and enthusiasm, qualities most valuable in addressing issues and making positive decisions.

Mary Ann has a vested interest in this community. This is where her daughters are growing up and where her husband, Dan Herriman, also contributes much of his time and talent.

We would ask for your endorsement of this most qualified woman.

**William Jr., and Wilhelmina Lawson**  
Plymouth

### Supporting Prchlik

On Aug. 5, voters in Plymouth Township will elect a new township clerk. We are supporting Mary Ann Prchlik because we know she has the experience, community involvement and dedication necessary to serve as our township clerk.

Mary Ann is an outstanding and active community member who will continue the progress we have made. She has been married to Dan Herriman for 25 years and they have three daughters. Mary Ann has been a township resident for over 18 years, she has a degree from the University of Michigan School of Business and has worked in the accounting profession for 28 years (in addition to overseeing elections, state statute requires the township clerk to keep the book of accounts and "detailed accounting records" of the township).

Mary Ann has served on the Plymouth District Library board, the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Educational Excellence Foundation and the Plymouth Historical Society, is currently active in a number of local community organizations and holds the professional designation of Certified Manager of Community Associations.

Please join us in supporting Mary Ann

## LETTERS

Prchlik for township clerk and making sure that we do all we can to keep Plymouth Township the best place to live, work and relax.

**Richard Reaume**  
**Ron Edwards**  
**Steve Mann**

Plymouth Township board members

### Prchlik the pick

My husband and I are business owners in and are also residents of Plymouth Township. We hope you will consider endorsing Mary Ann Prchlik for township clerk.

We need our elected officials to be qualified leaders who really care about our community. Mary Ann has proven herself as that over many years.

Not only does she have the education necessary and the many years of accounting experience needed, she has given countless hours in community service through the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, the Plymouth Library, the Historical Society and many other causes.

Those are just a few of the reasons Mary Ann would be an exceptional clerk for Plymouth Township.

**Mark and Jeanne Baldwin**  
Plymouth Township

### Barone for judge

I am writing to endorse Joe Barone for 35th District judge.

Joe Barone is a good, honest man whereby his professionalism, integrity and hard-working efforts are what we need for our next judge. He is well-educated, loyal, committed to his family and has made great efforts to make our community the best place to live. His accomplishments in the Plymouth and Canton communities are impressive, not to mention his compassion and caring attitude.

I feel Joe is more than qualified to fill the available judgeship position for the 35th District Court. I would encourage anyone to look into his background and vote for him. I hope you will join me in supporting Joe.

**L.A. Morrison**  
Canton

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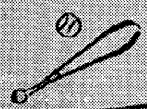
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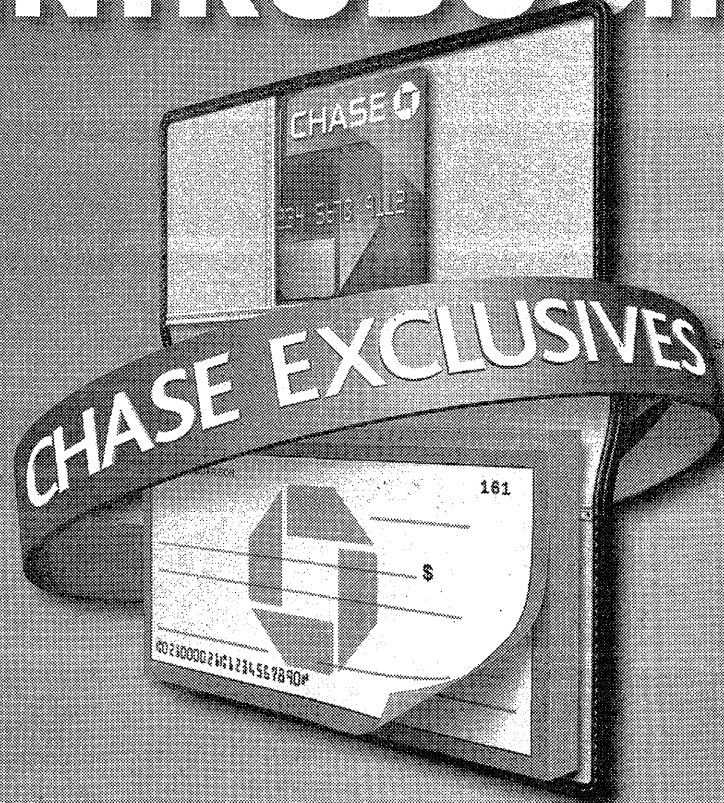
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tions where a little knowledge can cause lots of trouble. Your nephew is correct. The bank's options against him are limited. However, if he thinks it won't impact you if he files for bankruptcy (because he is the primary signature on the loan), he is incorrect.  
 If there is a default on the loan and your nephew files for bankruptcy, the bank does not have to go through bankruptcy proceedings against your nephew. It can go after you for the full amount of the loan.  
 In the majority of loan documents, there is nothing that requires the bank upon default to go after the primary debtor. The bank can seek to collect the debt directly from you. If that happens, you have a claim against your nephew. However, if he has filed for bankruptcy, you are still subject to the bankruptcy court's jurisdiction.  
 Before co-signing on a debt, you need to understand your responsibilities to the lender, which are typically outlined in the loan document. You will realize that those loan documents are drafted by the bank for the benefit of the bank. It is also important to recognize that there is a reason why the bank wants a co-signer. The individual who is borrowing the money, in the bank's view, may not have the financial wherewithal to repay the debt. It gives the bank additional security that the debt will be repaid.  
 I don't recommend people co-sign for a loan. However, I do recognize that the reason people do co-sign for loans is to either help a family member or a friend in need. Obviously, we shouldn't make every decision based upon dollars and cents. But before you co-sign, consider the consequences of the default before signing on the dotted line.



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# Local blood supply at low levels

The Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region of the American Red Cross is facing alarmingly low blood levels and is struggling to meet the requests of local hospitals. Monday morning began with 5 of the 8 blood types below minimum inventory standards and none of zero O-, the universal blood type. In order to meet the needs of patients in 43 local hospitals, the region should maintain a minimum three-day supply of all 8 blood types.  
 The need for blood is surpassing those who are coming to donate. In summer it becomes more difficult to reach blood donors with schools not in session and families traveling on vacation.  
 Neighboring Red Cross Regions in Cleveland, Columbus, Fort Wayne, Lansing, and Toledo are also experiencing low blood supply levels. This causes concern since these regions are often called upon when the Southeastern Michigan Region needs assistance.  
 Platelets, a component of blood used to help cancer patients, for example, are also needed. Platelets must be transfused within 5 days of collection and the Red Cross depends on dedicated donors to continuously replenish the supply.  
 Eligible blood and platelet donors are asked to call (800) GIVE-LIFE or visit [givelife.org](http://givelife.org) to find a drive. Blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, be in general good health and present a valid state-issued photo ID or Red Cross donor card upon donation.

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# SPORTS

# B

Sunday, July 6, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Brad Emons, editor (734) 953-2123 . bemons@hometownlife.com

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## Canton's Schmitt seizes Summer Games slot

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

Canton High's Allison Schmitt has punched her ticket to the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

The 18-year-old swimmer secured her spot on the U.S. squad Wednesday night by finishing runner-up in the 200-meter freestyle, touched out by only 0.04 seconds by Katie Hoff, who captured her third and fourth events of the U.S. Olympic Trials meet being held in Omaha, Neb.

Hoff, a 19-year-old from Towson, Md. representing the North Baltimore Aquatic Club,

held off the hard-charging Schmitt over the final 20 meters to post an American Record time of 1:55.88, breaking her own mark of 1:56.08 set back in February in Columbia, Mo.

Hoff built a lead over the first 100 meters, but Schmitt closed the gap dramatically following the turn on the final lap.

"I think it took a lot of heart, it could have gone either way," said Hoff afterwards in a USA



Schmitt

Network television interview with NBC's Andrea Kremer. "I just tried to put my head down and put my hand on the wall first."

Representing Club Wolverine, Schmitt was clocked in 1:55.92, just 4-10ths off Australian Laure Manudou's World Record time of 1:55.52, set in March of 2007 in Melbourne. Schmitt shaved exactly two seconds off her semifinal heat clocking of 1:57.92 and was seeded second going into the finals.

"Tonight I was just racing, get to the wall first and go as hard as I possibly could," Schmitt said. "I was racing

Katie side-by-side. I saw her the last 15 meters. I put my head down and reached for the wall.

"I just went into the race thinking I can't control what others do, it's just how I place and finish. There's nothing I could do other than work as hard as I could and I went in with the attitude that I'm excited to be here."

Schmitt, who will also be ticketed to swim a leg of the women's 4 x 200-meter freestyle relay in Beijing, got a congratulatory hug afterwards from her parents, Ralph and Gail, who were in attendance with her two aunts, an uncle,

and family friends.

"We went out dinner, came back to the hotel and now I have to get ready for my heat tomorrow (11:30 a.m. Thursday) in the 100 (freestyle)," said Schmitt, who went 55.87 (26th overall) and will also compete Saturday in 50 freestyle prelim heat.

On Monday, the University of Georgia-bound Schmitt was seeded second going into the finals of the 400 freestyle and finished third behind Hoff (4:02.32) and 20-year-old Kate Ziegler (4:03.92) of Great Falls, Va.

Please see **SCHMITT, B6**

## Redford runner Macks qualifies for AAU Juniors

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

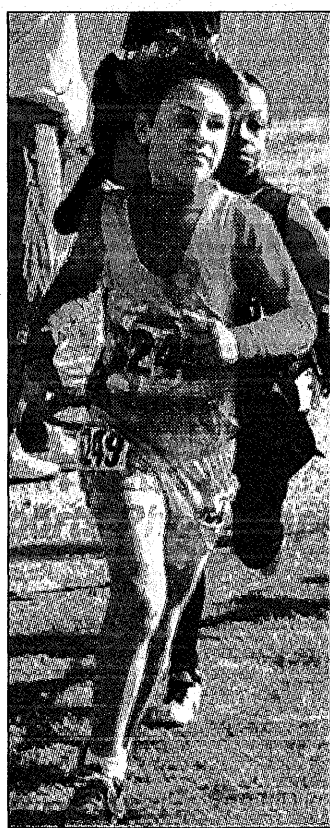
Redford's Daniel Macks started running at age 4 and quickly got the nickname "Bugaloo" from his coach Greg Dukes of the Motor City Track Club.

Five years later, 9-year-old "Bugaloo" is still going strong, advancing to the 2008 AAU Junior Olympic Games, which will held throughout the Detroit area beginning next month.

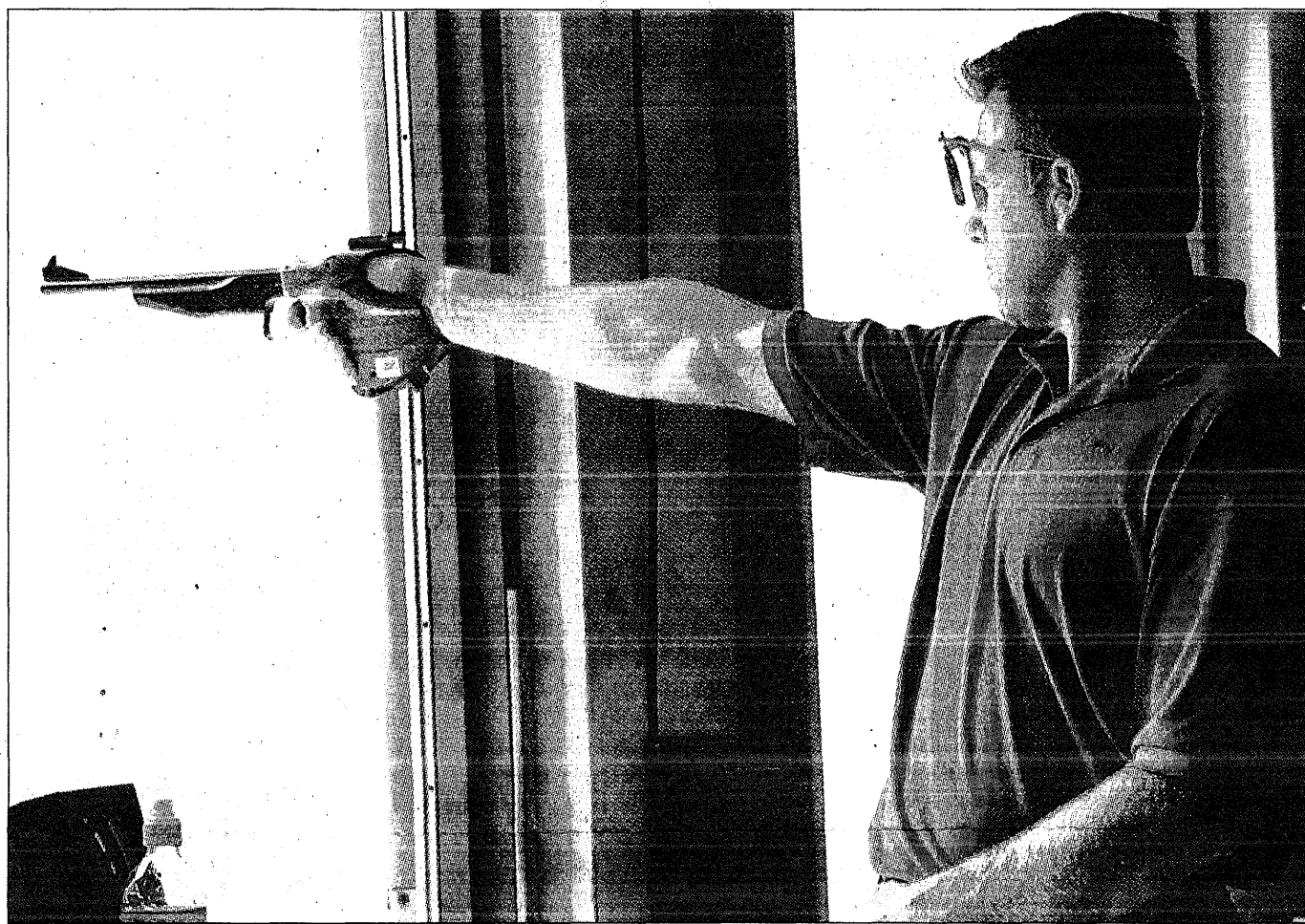
Macks, who is home-schooled, captured a highly-contested sub-bantam division 800-meter race Saturday at Southfield High School for his second state AAU title.

Macks won in a photo finish with a time of 2:52.84, nipping second-place finisher and last year's state champion Cameron Cooper of Detroit, who was clocked in 2:53.09. It was the first time Macks beat his nemesis and it guarantees him a spot to compete in the AAU Junior Olympic Games track and field competition, which is scheduled to start Monday, July 28 at Eastern Michigan University's Olds-Marshall Track.

Please see **RUNNER, B6**



Daniel Macks, 9, of Redford will be competing in the 2008 AAU Junior Olympic Games.



USA SHOOTING PHOTO

John Zurek, a 1981 Livonia Bentley High grad, shows his form in free pistol shooting.

## Gave it his best shot

### '81 Livonia Bentley grad Zurek just misses Olympic berth

BY BRAD EMONS  
OBSERVER SPORTS WRITER

Most Olympians are well past their prime by the time they turn 40.

For 44-year-old free pistol shooter John Zurek, Jr., he now believes he has enough ammunition to continue pursuing his dream well into his 60s.

Zurek, a Livonia native now residing in Chandler, Ariz., agonizingly finished one place away from pulling off an upset to earn a spot on the U.S. Olympic team, which is headed to Beijing next month for the 2008 Summer Games.

Jason Turner (Rochester, N.Y.) and Saginaw's Daryl Szarenski, both two-time Olympians, garnered the two available berths with the 1981 Bentley High grad narrowly behind in third place.

Szarenski, who won by a razor-thin margin, is in the marksmanship unit and stationed in Fort Benning, Ga., which hosted the U.S. Olympic Trials in mid-May.

The three-day Trials featured a total of 200 shots, 50 meters away while competitors aim for a target the size of a silver dollar.



USA SHOOTING PHOTO

John Zurek, formerly of Livonia, just missed out making the U.S. Olympic squad in free pistol. He currently resides in Chandler, Ariz.

In the 10-shot finals, Zurek scored a 7.8 on his ninth attempt, while Szarenski overhauled him with a 10.7 on his final shot. Shooters at the Trials are not notified about their final standing

until the event is completed.

The 6-foot-2 Zurek, who works as a contractor, turned in a performance which surprised many. He was eighth in air pistol at the 2004 Olympic Trials and took 11th in the same event during the Trials last March in Colorado Springs.

"It still hurts a month later that I was only 1.4 points and one shot away from going to the Olympics," said Zurek, who trains at the Phoenix Rod and Gun Club. "It came down to the last two shots. It was a good match and Daryl (Szarenski) had to work for it."

Zurek's competitive gun odyssey began at age 16 when his mother Bernice, now residing in Evart, bought him marksmanship junior rifle for his 16th birthday. He took an introductory class in smallbore rifle at the Livonia Sportsman's Club, which was housed inside Eddie Edgar Arena.

"I did really well, we shot from the full-prone position," Zurek recalled. "I worked my way up the levels and I kept going back."

Please see **ZUREK, B6**

## Sidelines

### GC All-Star softball

Division 1 state champion Garden City will have three representatives in the Michigan High School Softball Coaches Association All-State game Saturday, July 19 at Holt H.S. (starting times will be announced at a later date).

Coach Barry Patterson, who guided the Cougars to a 32-6 record, will be joined by two of his players, pitcher Hallie Minch and Kristina Susalla.

Patterson, now in his 22nd season, surpassed the 500-victory plateau.

Minch, headed to Madonna University, went 28-3 with an 0.76 earned run average and hit .440, while Susalla, the senior class valedictorian, batted .419 and is headed to Wayne State as a walk-on.

### Boxing benefit

Westland's Dynamic Boxing Club will stage its first annual Bowling for Boxers benefit starting at 7 p.m. Friday, July 11 at Garden Lanes, located at 29145 Warren Road, Garden City.

The cost for the fund-raiser for youth boxers is \$25 (includes three games of bowling and shoes).

There will be a raffle for prizes and a 50-50 drawing for cash.

Spots are limited. To reserve a spot, call Paul Soucy at (734) 422-3277.

### Wolter sweeps

Plymouth's Kyle James Wolter was the Boys 9-10 age-group winner last week at a pair of Meijer Junior Players Tour events.

On Tuesday, Wolter carded a nine-hole round of 42 to edge Canton's James Piot by a stroke at Tanglewood Country Club.

In the Girls 13-14 age division, Kelsey Murphy of Plymouth took first with an 18-hole round of 91.

Meanwhile, Plymouth's Brandon Duprey tied for runner-up honors in the Boys 13-14 with an 18-hole round of 80.

On Monday, Wolter shot a 43 to win the Meijer Tour stop at Edgewood Country Club.

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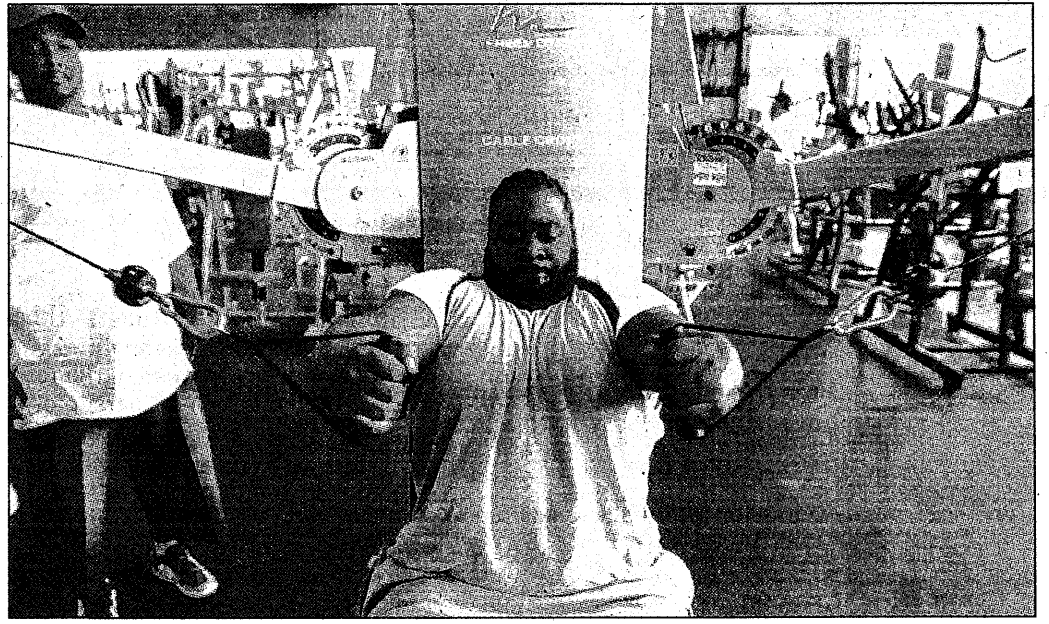
# Paralyzed weight lifter turns tragedy into worthy triumph

BY DAN O'MEARA  
OGE STAFF WRITER

John McKinney is today a champion athlete. That's something he never thought he would be four years ago when tragedy struck and changed his life. The 33-year-old Farmington Hills man had played football in his youth and was an avid athlete until he was paralyzed by a stray bullet. Through the Rehabilitation Institute of Michigan, he found he could still compete in sports and has become a champion weight lifter. McKinney won a gold medal in the bench press at the Michigan Wheelchair Games in May, and he finished third in the national competition last month in Edmond, Okla. After some reluctance, McKinney became a member of RIM's SportsAbility Team for athletes with disabilities in 2007. As part of his rehabilitation, McKinney was required to do weight training, something he had done as a football player at Detroit

Cody High School and later Graceland College in Iowa. But competitive lifting didn't interest him at first, and it was just last year that he began training to be a wheelchair athlete. "It was something I didn't think I wanted to get involved in," McKinney said. "I always liked lifting weights. Once I realized it was OK, it wasn't that bad; it was pretty fun. It's competition; you get to compete, and I really took a liking to it. I personally believe that if I had never gotten involved in sports after my injury I would be a homebody. Wheelchair sports has definitely changed my life in a positive way." On the day he was injured in 2004, McKinney and a friend had gone to Rouge Park after work to play basketball when gunfire erupted. "The next thing you know we see two cars chasing each other and they're shooting," McKinney said. "At first, when you see something like that, you're like 'Wow!' "The next thing the bullets weren't far from you. We turned to take off, and one struck me right

in the back. A female happened to catch one, too, in the leg." McKinney said the injury and how it impacted his life was beyond devastating. "You're getting off work; you're not expecting anything like that," he said. "It's a major blow to your life. You think I'll never be able to do anything again." McKinney credits his wife, Karla, for pushing him to do more in his rehabilitation and getting involved in competition for disabled athletes. The couple has a 12-year-old daughter, Jakyla. "Karla really promoted it to me, to get into it," McKinney said. "I would work out but, after that, for the rest of the day, I'd stay home and sit there." "She'd say, 'You need to keep going and to do something more.' 'Well, I worked out.' 'No, you need to do more.' Once I did, I was glad that she did (encourage him)."



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Farmington Hills resident John McKinney trains on the cable press as his friend, Leroy Pearson, stands ready to lend a helping hand if needed during a workout at the Powerhouse Gym in Farmington Hills.

petes only in the one lift. Each athlete gets three lifts and is overseen by a three-judge panel. "First, you take it off the bar and hold it till the judge tells you to bring it down," McKinney said. "When it touches your chest, you have to hold it steady, to make sure you have control of it. Then, you go straight up with the lift until your arms lock out." McKinney competed against 30 others at the national meet and nearly twice that many in the state

competition. Before his injury, McKinney said he played a lot of basketball, and he might look into the possibility of adding wheelchair basketball to his activities. In the meantime, he looks forward to attempting to defend his state title in weight lifting, and he hopes to qualify again next year for the national event. "The judges said they were really impressed with me," McKinney said. "They said I could probably lift a little more. You really have to

have a technique to judge you on. I was freestyling and working out on my own. "One of the judges wanted to send me a workout plan. If I started on his plan, he said I would really improve my bench." McKinney was the 2008 recipient of the RIM's Tim Codd SportsAbility Fund, which provides financial assistance to local athletes with disabilities and made it possible for McKinney to attend the national competition.

# Michigan Open is moving venue to Orchard Lake

The Michigan Open golf tournament is coming to the Lakes Area. The 2009 and 2010 events will be played at historic Orchard Lake Country Club. Orchard Lake CC played host to the Michigan Open in 1944. That event was won by Sam Byrd, a PGA Tour player who also played professional baseball for the New York Yankees. "This move will certainly make it more convenient for a

large number of professionals and amateurs to participate," said Michigan PGA Executive Director Kevin Helm. "The Detroit area provides a greater number of players the opportunity to play more affordably and to be closer to home and work. "These elements along with an outstanding golf course should really generate a lot of interest and excitement for the Michigan Open."

Golfers will face an entirely different golf course than what they've tried to conquer on The Bear. Orchard Lake CC is a classic golf course designed by the famous British Architectural firm of Colt and Alison and opened in 1927. "The players won't find many flat spots that's for sure," said Brian Dice, Head Professional at Orchard Lake CC. "The

course covers rolling terrain and we are continually complimented on having PGA Tour quality greens." The course will play close to 7,000 yards and Dice said most players will need to play every club in their bag. One of the state's longest running events, the Michigan Open began in 1916. It's been played at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa, in Acme, for the past

27 years. The tournament has been played on the The Bear, a Jack Nicklaus designed course, since 1985. An expanded field allowed the use of Grand Traverse Resort and Spa's Wolverine Course, designed by Gary Player, the past two years. "I've seen the past 20 of the 28 years Grand Traverse Resort and Spa has been host to the Michigan Open, and it has

been a wonderful experience" said Tom McGee, the resort's Director of Golf Operations. "We've seen many changes through the years and have watched the Michigan Open grow into what has become a multi-course four-day event. ... I am confident the Michigan Open will continue to be a successful event and we wish the Michigan PGA and all future sites the very best."

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### WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE

One of the keys to maintaining good oral health involves removing daily accumulations of plaque, the sticky, bacteria-laden layer of film that coats teeth. This entails not only brushing teeth regularly, but flossing between teeth to get to the places where the toothbrush cannot reach.

Under normal circumstances, flossing does an adequate job of scraping away plaque and accumulations of food that collect between teeth. However, patients who have bridge work may find it difficult to get the floss directly into the crevices where it needs to go.

The use of floss with a "floss threader" is usually recommended to clean under bridges. Dentists often recommend that patients with crowns, bridges, and implants use a dental water jet oral irrigator to effectively clean hard-to-reach areas with a concentrated stream of water.

Carefully performed home oral hygiene can be the deciding factor in keeping your mouth and teeth healthy. We'll be happy to demonstrate good brushing and flossing techniques as well as inform you about products that we know will help you maintain a healthy smile between routine dental checkups.

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## Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind

**Dr. Sheldon Smith fits special glasses to help those with macular degeneration and other eye conditions keep reading and driving.**

*By Elena Lombardi*

Most of us take things like reading, watching TV or playing cards for granted. But poor vision from conditions like macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetes or cataracts makes these tasks difficult or even impossible. When people have insufficient vision to do the things they want to do, they have low vision.

Today Michigan Optometrist Dr. Sheldon Smith has the answers many of these people have been seeking. Dr. Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people with these types of eye diseases see better. A Fellow of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, Dr. Smith is one of a select group of doctors serving the visually impaired.

"People don't know there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care," says Dr. Smith. "Many people are told by their own doctors that nothing more can be done for their eye condition, but there are ways to improve vision" says Dr. Smith. "We fit special devices to help patients meet their various visual goals."

Patients often end up using weak, clumsy hand-held magnifiers trying to help themselves see better. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands-free devices that are easier to use. "We use the same telescopic devices surgeons

use during operations," says Dr. Smith. "That's how powerful and convenient they are. Special prismatic reading glasses and microscopes help make reading a little easier. Telescopic glasses primarily focus on distance objects like TV, passing neighbors or scenery. Telescopes can also be adapted to closer tasks like playing cards or computers. "Telescopes can even help people meet the driver vision requirement" Dr. Smith explained.

Michigan is one of 46 states that allow bioptic telescopic glasses for driving.

Mr. Leo Hakola, age 85 of Livonia, Michigan saw Dr. Smith last May. Macular degeneration, cataract, stroke and double vision were causing reading and driving problems. Dr. Smith prescribed a complete low vision system which included telescopic glasses for driving and special prismatic glasses for reading. The entire cost was \$2789. Leo said "the telescopic driving glasses really help me see traffic lights and street signs down the block. And reading is much easier and single now with these special reading glasses. I am glad I found you, Dr. Smith."

In addition to the spectacle vision aids, Dr. Smith offers training to help people accomplish their daily activities. Visual aids help patients use their remaining vision to its fullest capacity while rehabilitative training improves the patient's

Leo Hakola wearing telescopic driving glasses

ability to carry out necessary independent activities. And of course safeguarding present vision levels is crucial. Sun filters and nutritional supplements can improve vision and prevent further loss.

"Each patient has a unique amount of vision and their own goals," says Dr. Smith. "I am committed to helping patients do what matters most to them and improving their quality of life."

Special reading glasses start at \$600 and custom telescopes can cost from \$1800 to \$2,500.

If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Dr. Smith to find out how low vision care can help. There is help available. You just need to know where to find it.

You can reach Dr. Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at **1-877-677-2020**. Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, Warren, Shelby Township and the Lansing area.

Visit Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at [suburbaneyecare.com](http://suburbaneyecare.com) or find out more about the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists at [ialvs.com](http://ialvs.com).

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**ZUREK**  
FROM PAGE B1

Zurek joined the Marines following high school and served four-and-a-half years of active duty stationed in Camp Pendleton, Calif. where he continued his shooting. Zurek also gained spot on the Marine pistol team competing at a national level.

"I trained marines in marksmanship training in the secondary unit," Zurek said. "After I got out I wanted to re-enlist at the Quantico (Va.) base, but I suffered a fall rock climbing (in California) and shattered my right wrist.

"Being the team captain I had to shoot with my left hand and I was not there mentally. I had a hard time doing it."

Zurek put his guns down and spent three years in Christian ministry before re-enlisting with the Marine Corps Reserves.

"They said 'come shoot with us in San Diego,'" Zurek said. "I hadn't shot in three-and-a-half years and it did not affect my wrist. I shot really well."

Zurek competed nationally and internationally for six years (1988-94) before taking a hiatus.

"I really liked the international part," he said. "But then California changed its gun laws and I could not own my Olympic caliber rapid-fire guns. I gave up my dream in 1996."

Zurek found a new life, however, when he moved out of the California to "more gun friendly Arizona" in 2001.

"My dreams went unfulfilled, but I always had a burning desire," said Zurek, who earned a spot on the 2003 USA Shooting Team in air pistol.

Zurek, who works in the construction remodeling business, took time off of work before the 2008 Olympic Trials to train exclusively.

"I have to regulate the work I do before a competition," he said. "No construction for a month. When you run a saw and use a hammer, your hands swell up. I also use swimming as a tool for shooting."

During the three-day Trials in Fort Benning, Zurek went through a roller coaster ride. He tinkered around with a new gun and unfamiliar trigger points, but was able to persevere.

"With a new gun my mind was little befuddled," he said. "I was working hard on each shot. When you step to the line you give everything you've got. All that matters is to push hard."

Despite missing an Olympic berth by just over a point, Zurek plans to get started shooting once again after he returns from a summer-long trip to Alaska with his wife Cathy.

"I'm changing my attitude," he said. "I'll start practicing in September and compete in the (Arizona) state championships in October. I want to be more

active. It (shooting) was a low priority, but this year it's higher. I want to compete (internationally) in the Bavarian Air Games in January."

His shooting career has been revitalized by 1980 Olympic team member Steve Reiter, a five-time national champion who serves a valuable mentor.

"He comes down and shoots every month in Phoenix, he's shot free pistol at our club," Zurek said. "He's been able to help me out. We've shot shoulder-to-shoulder and it's really amazing how a champion thinks and how to win a match. It's different when you talk to a champion. He had me believing (at the Trials) that I could walk away winning the whole thing."

And it doesn't hurt as well that Zurek's wife Cathy is in his corner.

"She's been very supportive and helps me stay focused when I'm down," Zurek said. "She's been fabulous."

Zurek, meanwhile, seems more determined than ever to reach his Olympic dream, which is four years away in London (2012).

"I think I have two more Olympics in me," Zurek said. "I'll continue into the next Games. I'll change my strategy, be more active internationally. Steve Reiter is 65 and he's still going strong. I think I can go until I'm 65."

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**RUNNER**  
FROM PAGE B1

"The race started out at a scorching pace with the leader running the first 200 meters in 36 seconds," said Harold Macks, Daniel's father. "Daniel was dead-last at the 200 running it at 43 seconds. At 400 meters he was still in last place coming around at 1:26, but passed the eight other contestants by the 600-meter mark running 2:09. From 700 meters to the finish line was a dead heat with Daniel and Cameron pulling ahead in the final meters."

"Both my wife and I couldn't tell who run. He was locked in to 43-second splits and he ran the perfect race. He had never beaten him before."

Daniel Macks just finished his baseball season with the Rangers in the Redford-American Little League. He also plays football and basketball.

"It's hard, but I like track the best," said Daniel, who competed last summer in the AAU Junior Olympics in Knoxville, Tenn. "I like to go to the track with different people. The Junior Olympics is fun."

Daniel is following in the footsteps of his older brother Josh, who will be an eighth-grader this fall at Southfield Christian. Josh, who now concentrates on football, was a state bantam champion in the 800 and 1,500 and competed in the 2004 AAU Junior Olympics held in Des Moines, Ia.

Daniel Macks normally trains five days per week under the guidance of his father.

"Two days we'll do cardio, speed work doing stuff like 1,000-meter repeats," said Harold, who played football and coached at Royal Oak Shrine before moving over to Southfield Christian two years ago. "The third day is an easy day, usually a couple of miles at his own pace. We take one or two days off a week, but he normally trains five

days per week."

Daniel Macks has modest goals when he hits the track at EMU for the AAU Junior Olympics.

"I'd like to come in the top 50," he said.

**Area venues host**

Competition for the 2008 AAU Junior Olympic Games in Detroit get underway Thursday, July 24 with boys basketball competition hosted by Lutheran High Westland and next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran. Action continues through Monday, July 28 with the finals.

Football will also be on the docket Friday through Sunday, July 25-27, at the Livonia Junior Athletic League's Bentley Field adjacent to the Livonia Community Recreation Center.


Baseball will also be featured July 26-Aug. 2 at Redford's Capitol Park. Other sites for baseball include Henry Ford Community College, Lincoln Park, Saline, Chelsea, Flat Rock and EMU's Oestrike Stadium.

The Rock Financial Showplace in Novi will host cheerleading (July 27-28); gymnastics (July 24-26); jump rope (July 30-Aug. 2); karate (July 26-27); powerlifting (July 26-27); table tennis (July 24-26); TaeKwonDo (Aug. 1-2); trampoline and tumbling (July 30-Aug. 2); weight lifting (July 26-28); and wrestling (July 28 - Aug. 1).

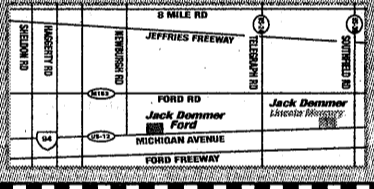
Also scheduled is baton twirling, July 29 - Aug. 1 at Novi Middle School; dance, July 28-30, at Allen Park Center for the Arts; field hockey, July 30-Aug. 2, Ann Arbor Huron H.S.; girls basketball, July 25-31 at Lake Orion H.S., Scripps M.S. and C.E.R.C.; multi-events, July 26-27, at EMU; swimming, July 29 - Aug. 1 at EMU's Jones Natatorium.

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**SCHMITT**  
FROM PAGE B1

Ziegler knocked three seconds off her semifinal time to beat out Schmitt for the Olympic berth.

"I put it behind me because Katie Hoff and Kate Ziegler are really good and deserving swimmers, and overall I was really happy with my performance," said Schmitt, who posted a personal best of 4:05.05. "I was just a little bit disappointed to get third, but I knew I would have some more events in the meet."

Schmitt, who graduated

early from high school in January, has been training with Bob Bowman's high performance group in Ann Arbor. Bowman, who coaches U.S. men's star Michael Phelps, recently left Club Wolverine and returned to his original club in North Baltimore.

Schmitt credits her training and the support from her Club Wolverine teammates, such as Katie Carroll, a 2007 graduate of Notre Dame and a native of Toledo, Ohio who reached the semifinals of the 200 freestyle and placed 15th overall in 1:59.85.

"It (the training) has been very intense and the people I train with all have the same

common goal," Schmitt said. "There's eight of us. We push each other and all go through the same pain."

With her Olympic spot now secured, Schmitt can now relax. She has been placed in the same 50 freestyle heat with Hoff and 41-year-old Dara Torres, who has been to four Olympics winning nine medals including four gold.

"I'm not really expecting anything, just be competitive and do my best," said Schmitt, who is seeded 15th in the 100 freestyle and 47th in the 50 freestyle.

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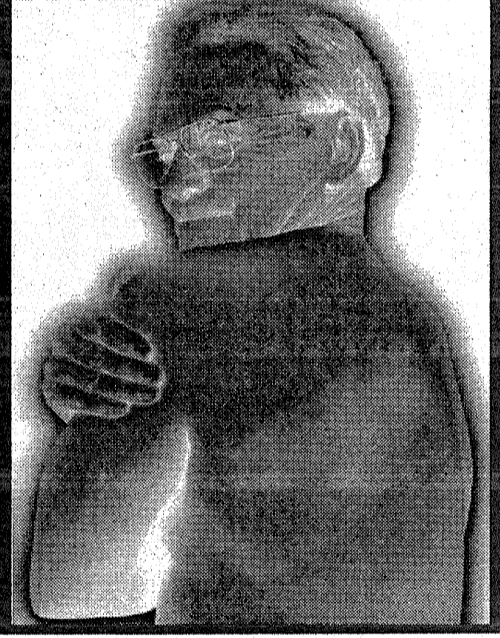
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## Finding 'me' time, and the right school

**Why do my kids (and husband) always need me when I am in the bathtub? It's gotten so bad at my house that I haven't had a decent bath in months.**  
Sue, Canton

**Why do my kids interrupt me whenever I'm talking to someone?**  
April, Redford

**My daughter always needs to ask me a million questions when she's supposed to be in bed. She calls me to go into her room for an hour before she finally goes to sleep. What's going on with her?**  
Worried, Livonia

The answer to all of these questions is the same: the children want your immediate and undivided attention. Most children, as any parent can attest, are used to being the center of attention and when this attention is removed, or at least put on momentary hold, the child will act to regain their central position in the universe. This action can take the form of interrupted baths, bugging you while you're on the telephone and seeking connection well after bed-time. Usually children will grow out of this need to be the



**Chat Room**

Terry Wilamowski

center of attention and the associated behaviors will diminish over time. However, there are some children that never seem to be comfortable relinquishing their central role or the desire for undivided and undiluted parental adoration and concentration. Sometimes these children go on to become great actors or celebrities ... but more often than not they simply make it hard for you to get a moment's peace. To help your children overcome this dependence on your attention you will find it necessary to help them develop a sense of self-efficacy. Simply stated, this is the belief one has regarding him or herself as a successful, independent and capable person. Any parenting in which they learn to rely on themselves and resolve their own issues, with parental guidance available but not imposed unless necessary, will help them develop self-efficacy and rely less on direct and undivided maternal focus and effort. It's a win-win situation for all involved.

**Are private schools better than public schools?**  
John, Garden City

**How do you feel about home schooling?**  
Carmen, Redford

**Is a Montessori school better than a regular pre-school program?**  
Sara, Livonia

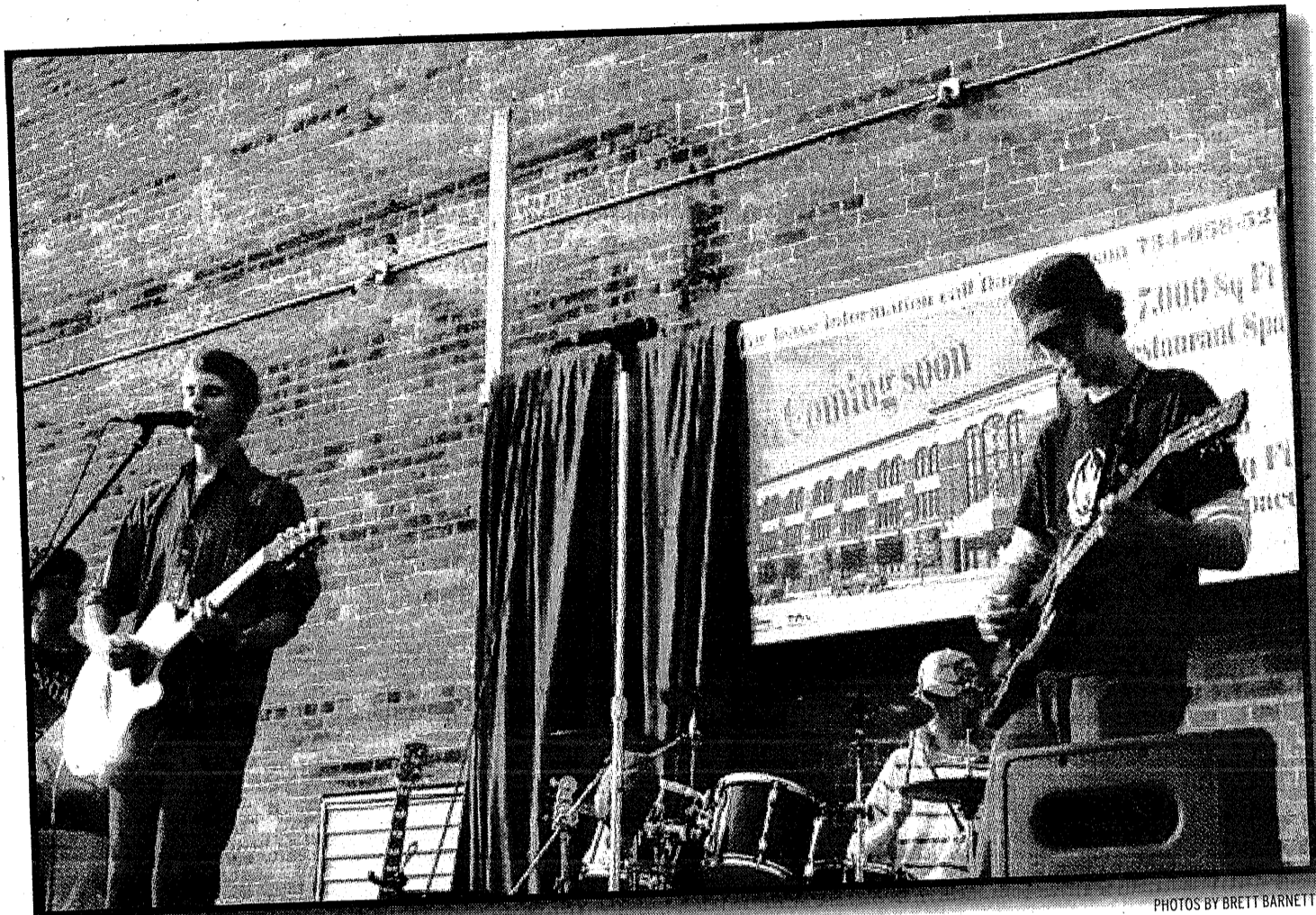
It depends on the child. Each type of program offers something unique that may benefit the potential student at the same time that they may be unable to provide some other service or quality. For example, a parochial school may offer the opportunity for religious instruction but may not be able to offer an extensive athletic program. A home schooled child may gain from the individual and liberal lesson plans but miss out on the social aspects of a more traditional school experience.

In order to make these kinds of educational decisions, a parent and student need to assess their academic needs and desires.

Once this is completed, a search of programs can begin until the most appropriate school can be identified. This process can take a while and may get frustrating, but in the end, you will stand a better chance of locating the program that best suits your goals.

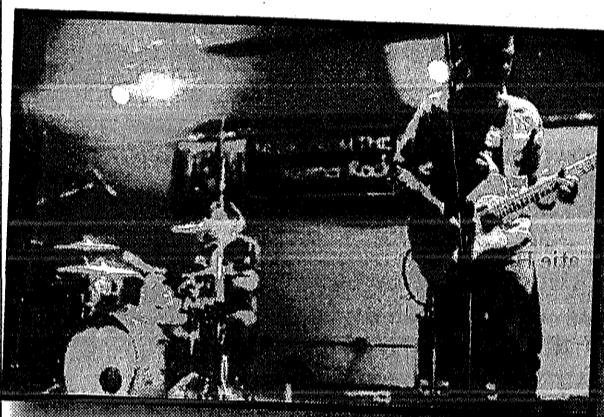
You will find that the key to a positive educational experience is the interaction between student and teacher and environment. Some teachers are too rigid to allow for freedom of self-expression and some are too liberal to provide appropriate guidelines and limits.

Terry Wilamowski is a clinical therapist specializing in the treatment of children, adolescents and their families at Heron Ridge Associates in Plymouth. Questions and comments should be sent to [terrywilamowski@yahoo.com](mailto:terrywilamowski@yahoo.com).



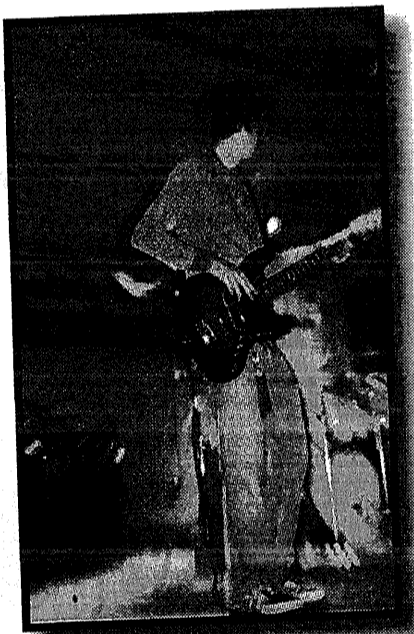
PHOTOS BY BRETT BARNETT

Knockturne plays the Music From The Garage series on July 26. The concerts are sponsored by the Livonia Arts Commission.



Only three bands played on each concert last summer. This year five groups take to the stage in Music From The Garage.

Last year was the first time garage bands played a series of concerts at Livonia Civic Center Park.



## Garage bands

Arts commission music series targets youth

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
O & E STAFF WRITER

Graham Liddell doesn't care if his band Knockturne is paid for their gigs, he just wants to play for an audience. While practicing in the garage or basement helps hone their sound, they don't receive any feedback except from the amplifiers.

Young up-and-coming bands like Knockturne are always looking for venues to showcase their talent.

When Frank Petersmark's son was looking for somewhere to play three summers ago, he decided to create a second series of summer concerts sponsored by the Livonia Arts Commission. Now in its second full year, Music From The Garage takes over the stage in Livonia Civic Center Park on Saturdays July 12 and 26, and Aug. 16, featuring five bands at each show. The good news for bands is they'll receive \$150 each for playing 20 to 30 minutes for an audience that gets in for free.

Music From The Garage is an offshoot of the Livonia Arts Commission series Music from the Heart which begins 7 p.m. Thursday, July 10, with the soul/blues band Union Avenue and continues with established

### MUSIC FROM THE GARAGE

**What:** Livonia Arts Commission sponsors a series of concerts featuring local up-and-coming bands  
**When:** 7 p.m. Saturdays, July 12 and 26, and Aug. 16  
**Where:** Livonia Civic Center Park, Five Mile and Farmington roads  
**Admission:** Free. For more information, visit [www.musicfromthegarage.com](http://www.musicfromthegarage.com) and [www.myspace.com/musicfromthegarage](http://www.myspace.com/musicfromthegarage)

groups playing rock, oldies, bluegrass, classical music, and a Moody Blues tribute. All concerts take place in Livonia's Civic Center Park except for the Livonia Symphony Orchestra concert Aug. 28, at the Livonia Recreation Center. The arts commission gives budding classical musicians of the Livonia Youth Philharmonic the opportunity to play Aug. 14.

"We wanted to broaden the reach to give younger bands and kids, teens from tweens to twenty somethings, something to do and to play, to gather and enjoy music by, in most cases, kids they know in bands," said Petersmark, a Livonia Arts Commissioner

Please see **BANDS, C3**

## Evening introduces audiences to Shakespeare

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
O & E STAFF WRITER

If you know very little about the work of William Shakespeare or wondered how it could remain popular with audiences for four centuries, Geoffrey Kopp has the ticket for you. An Evening of Shakespeare is a quick review of more than a dozen scenes from the dramatist's 38 plays.

The original intent was to produce a Shakespeare Festival with two full length plays that would run in rotating repertory for two weeks but the concept was scaled back when Kopp, the artistic director, realized the magnitude of the project. Instead he and the cast opted to spotlight two evenings of poetic language by the English writer

### AN EVENING OF SHAKESPEARE

**When:** 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 1-2  
**Where:** In the Biltmore Studio at Village Theater of Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge, Canton  
**Tickets:** \$5. Call (734) 394-5300

Friday-Saturday, Aug. 1-2, in the Biltmore Studio at Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton. On Monday evening they were well on their way to memorizing their lines as Kopp directed them in technique.

"The actors will be dressed in black and will add a hat or coat. It's going to be simply done so the focus is on the language," said Kopp who serves as the narrator in addition

Please see **SHAKESPEARE, C4**



Richard Holland (left), Rick Eva III, Geoffrey Kopp, Susan DeStefanis, Mark Henke, and Lisa Brawley stand outside the stage door at the Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton.

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# Bowling for dollars

## Fund-raiser benefits breast cancer 3-Day Walk

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Melissa Compton doesn't care if she has to sell pink rubber duckies or light-up lapel ribbons of the same color. The Canton woman is determined to raise enough money so her team can participate in the 3-Day Walk to fund breast cancer research through the Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Although the event isn't until late September, she and the other four members of Team Believers need to raise \$2,200 each.

On Saturday, July 12, they're inviting family, friends and the public to a bowling benefit at Merri-Bowl Lanes in Livonia. In addition to the \$20 ticket, everyone can help by purchasing raffle tickets for a chance to win baskets of goodies and gift certificates, or bid on silent auction items including a dining set donated by Chris Furniture in Livonia. For those unable to make the benefit, Compton asks they make a donation by visiting [www.the3day.org](http://www.the3day.org) and clicking on Team Believers.

"We're all very passionate about this," said Compton of Canton. "I have family members who are survivors. I wanted to do it when my daughter was born, but always found out about it too late. This year I heard about it early enough. In the past I worked at my children's preschool fund-raisers. My dad is Sen. Glenn Anderson (D-Westland) so I have a lot of phone experience and working with people."

"It's very important to all of us because every single one of us has been touched by breast cancer or cancer and would like for there to be a cure



Melissa Compton (left), Tricia Ulman and Amanda Richmond sold pink rubber duckies at the Canton Liberty Fest. The money goes to pay fees so the five members of Team Believers can participate in the Komen 3-Day Walk to raise money for breast cancer research through Susan G. Komen For The Cure.

because everyone deserves a lifetime."

Chris Newell, owner of Chris Furniture, is doing her part to raise money. When a customer bought the first set she donated, Newell promised to write a check for the \$3,600 purchase price plus donate another dining set.

Tricia Ulman is not only helping with fund-raisers but walking as one of the Team Believers Sept. 26-28, along with Compton, Amanda Richmond and Jennifer Saucedo of Canton, and Tracy

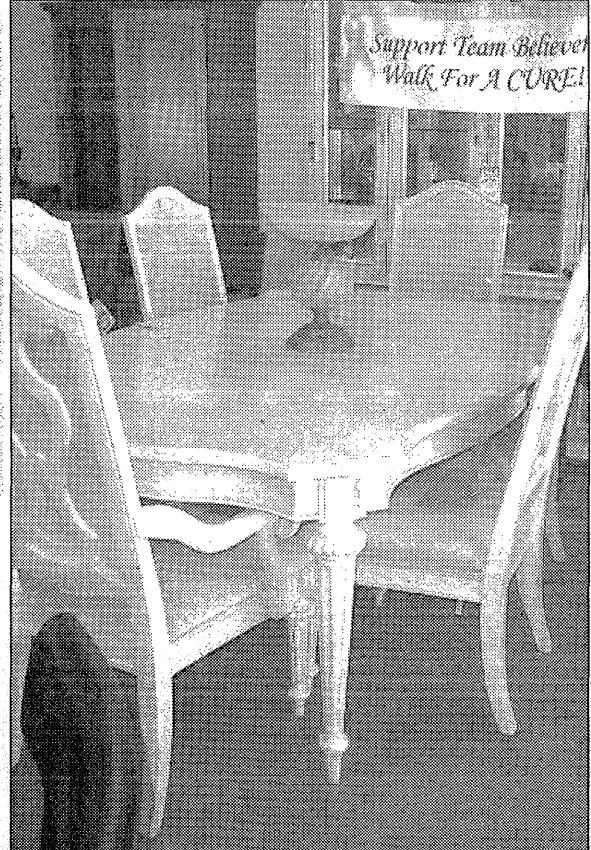
Dennis, Chelsea. That's no easy task because over 3 days they'll walk 60 miles.

"The best way to train for a 60-mile walk is to walk," said Ulman, a Livonia resident who works 40 hours a week at the YWCA Head Start program in Inkster. "This is the first time for all of us. We get a virtual trainer sent to us through our e-mail and I've mapped out 5 and 10 mile walks in evenings and weekends."

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### TEAM BELIEVERS BENEFIT

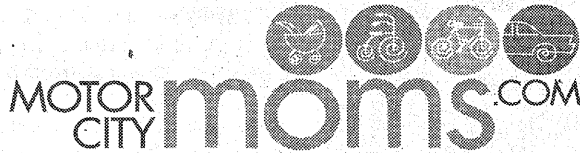
**What:** A bowling fund-raiser to raise money for breast cancer research and treatment  
**When:** 6:30 p.m. Saturday, July 12  
**Where:** Merri-Bowl Lanes, 30950 Five Mile, Livonia  
**Tickets:** \$20, includes two games of bowling, pizza, pop. Shoe rental is an additional 99 cents. Tickets must be purchased by July 7. Call (248) 721-2705



Chris Newell, owner of Chris Furniture in Livonia, has donated this dining room set for the Team Believers fund-raiser on July 12.

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Publish: June 29, 2008

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# Spotlight Players to hold auditions for 'Hello, Dolly!'

Spotlight Players will hold auditions for *Hello, Dolly!* 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, July 21-22 (registration begins at 6:30 p.m.) at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge, Canton. The musical comedy tells the story of a gregarious widow,

Dolly Gallagher Levi, a match-maker who secretly has designs on one of her customers for herself. *Hello, Dolly!* was first produced on Broadway by David Merrick in 1964, winning the Tony Award for Best Musical plus 9 other Tonys.

It was nominated for 7 Academy Awards for the 1969 film version that starred Barbara Streisand. A fairly large cast is needed for the production. For more information, call (734) 480-4945 or visit [www.spotlight-players.net](http://www.spotlight-players.net).

## BANDS

FROM PAGE C1  
who played in bands in junior high and high school. "The cool thing is we made T-shirts for the show last year and listed all the bands' names and made laminated passes from them. For the kids, they might as well be playing Madison Square Garden."

Petersmark with the help of son Chris, used MySpace.com to get the word out about the series and connect with the bands. "The band had to be a serious band with original music and couldn't have just gotten together yesterday," said Petersmark. "They had to send me an e-mail with MySpace sites which had three to four of their songs loaded. We tried to focus on Livonia or local bands. We have bands from Farmington, Ann Arbor, East Lansing, St. Clair Shores, and many other surrounding communities."

Although Chris, 19, isn't playing this year because he's between bands, Petersmark did reach dozens of 16- to 24-year-olds like Liddell, who writes all of Knockturne's originals with band mate Blake Morgan.

The two have been friends since seventh grade at Riley Middle School where they discovered both were really into music and started playing together. By 2005 they were performing in coffee

houses. At the time they had an acoustic sound but wanted to go electric so they added Teddy Roberts on drums and Matt Ryan on bass.

Morgan sings lead vocals and plays acoustic guitar. Liddell is the lead guitarist and does backup vocals. Roberts, Morgan and Liddell will all be seniors at Churchill High School this fall. Ryan is a student at Stevenson High School.

For a listen, visit [myspace.com/knockturnemusic](http://myspace.com/knockturnemusic).

"As a genre, Knockturne's alternative," said Liddell, 17, of Livonia. "We try to associate different styles of music into it, We really like jazz and Latin music. We try to merge different genres into alternative sounds. Our lyrics come out of experiences we've had, like feeling hopeless and coming out of that."

"A lot of bands right now it's sort of hard to hear their lyrics. They're hard core. I guess we could be called a softer sound for a lot of our stuff and we have acoustic guitar which is different."

So far the group has played at a battle of the bands at NorthRidge Church where Liddell and Morgan worship, an all-nighter at Ward Presbyterian Church for high school youth groups, and the Strawberry Festival in Belleville. Their schedule has been cut back this summer as Morgan is on tour in Europe as part of the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp's International Program.

"We would like to tour with this band over the summer next year. The whole band has been recording in the studio," said Liddell. "We have all the songs in production and it should be done at the end of summer. We're looking forward to playing shows and selling the CD, which is full length with 11 tracks."

Although their religious beliefs are reflected in the music, Knockturne is not a Christian band but named after a verse in Matthew in the Bible.

"Why Knockturne? We thought it sounded cool," said Liddell. "We found this verse 'knock and the door will be open, seek and you will find.' It's like turning the door knob into a new life. Music is a representation of our lives."

Last year Knockturne was scheduled to play Music From The Garage but the power went out so they're especially looking forward to performing July 26.

"I'm extremely excited. We haven't played a show this summer," said Liddell. "Music is our passion. We love playing shows. We're excited to be playing with ShiRock from Nashville, Search the City on a different night, Never Turn Back which is now MePlusYou. It's an opportunity for local bands to come out and anybody into this kind of music. It give us an audience and also gives us a stage."

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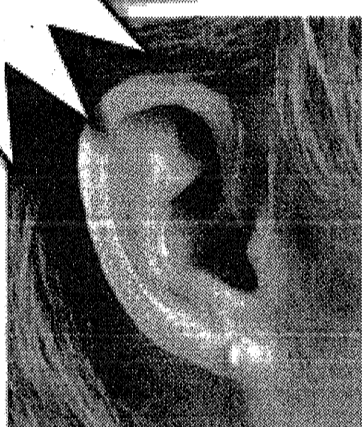
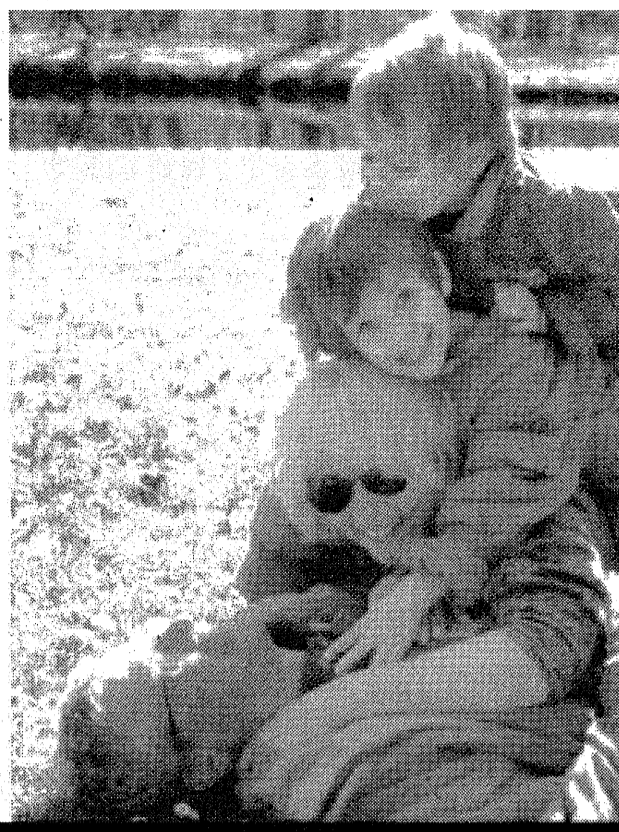
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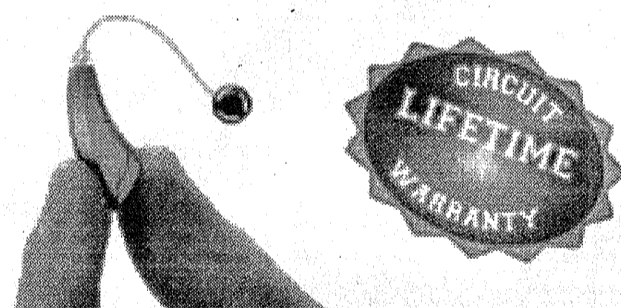
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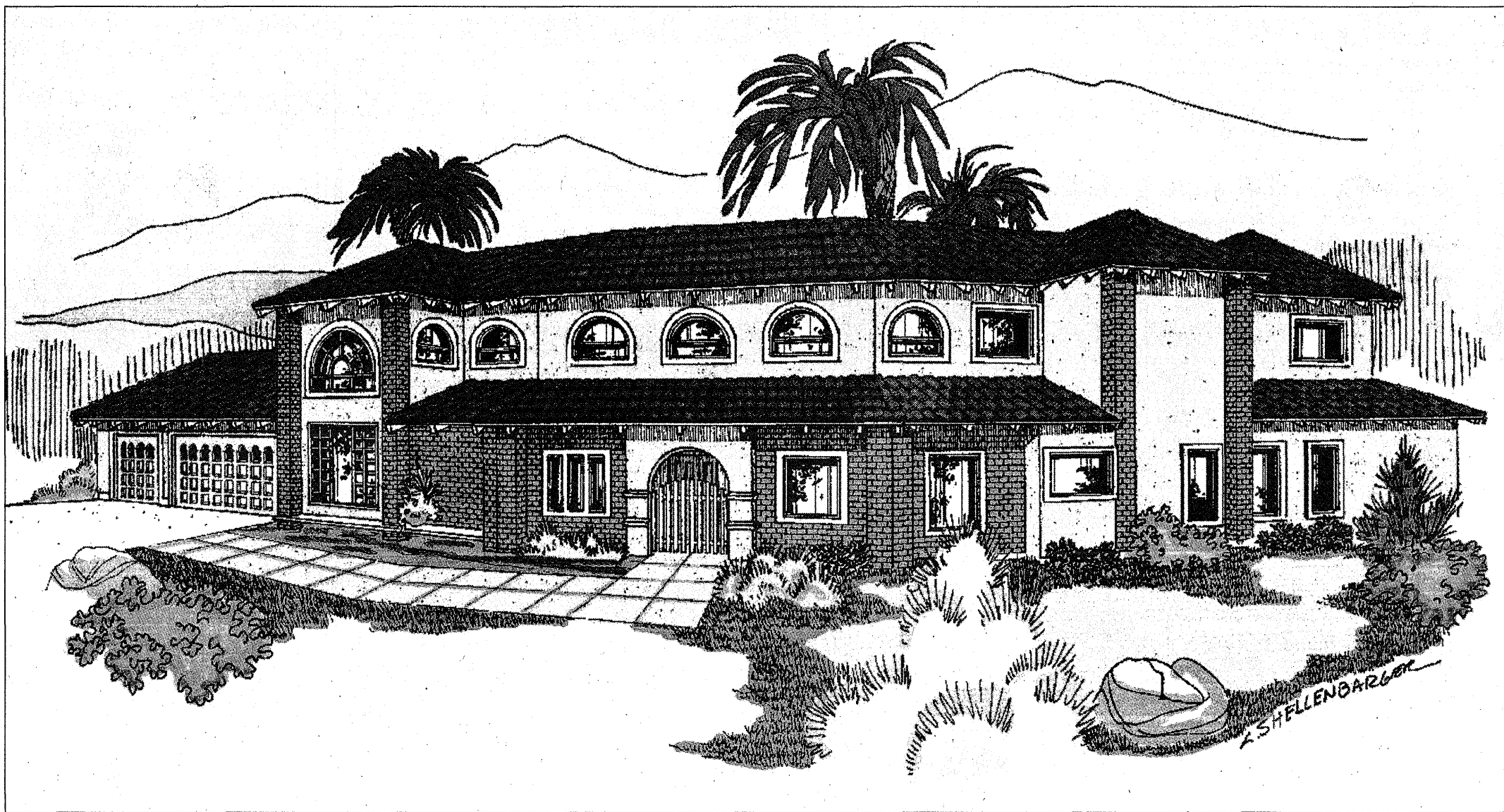


Sunday, July 6, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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## Jones home design special, keeps up with your lifestyle

While Jones is a common name, the Jones (407-01) is far from being a common type home. It has a south-western look with its tile roof and stucco and brick exterior. It is unique in that there is an inner courtyard surrounded by a covered patio. Masses of windows provide light and an air of openness to this large 4,256 square foot home.

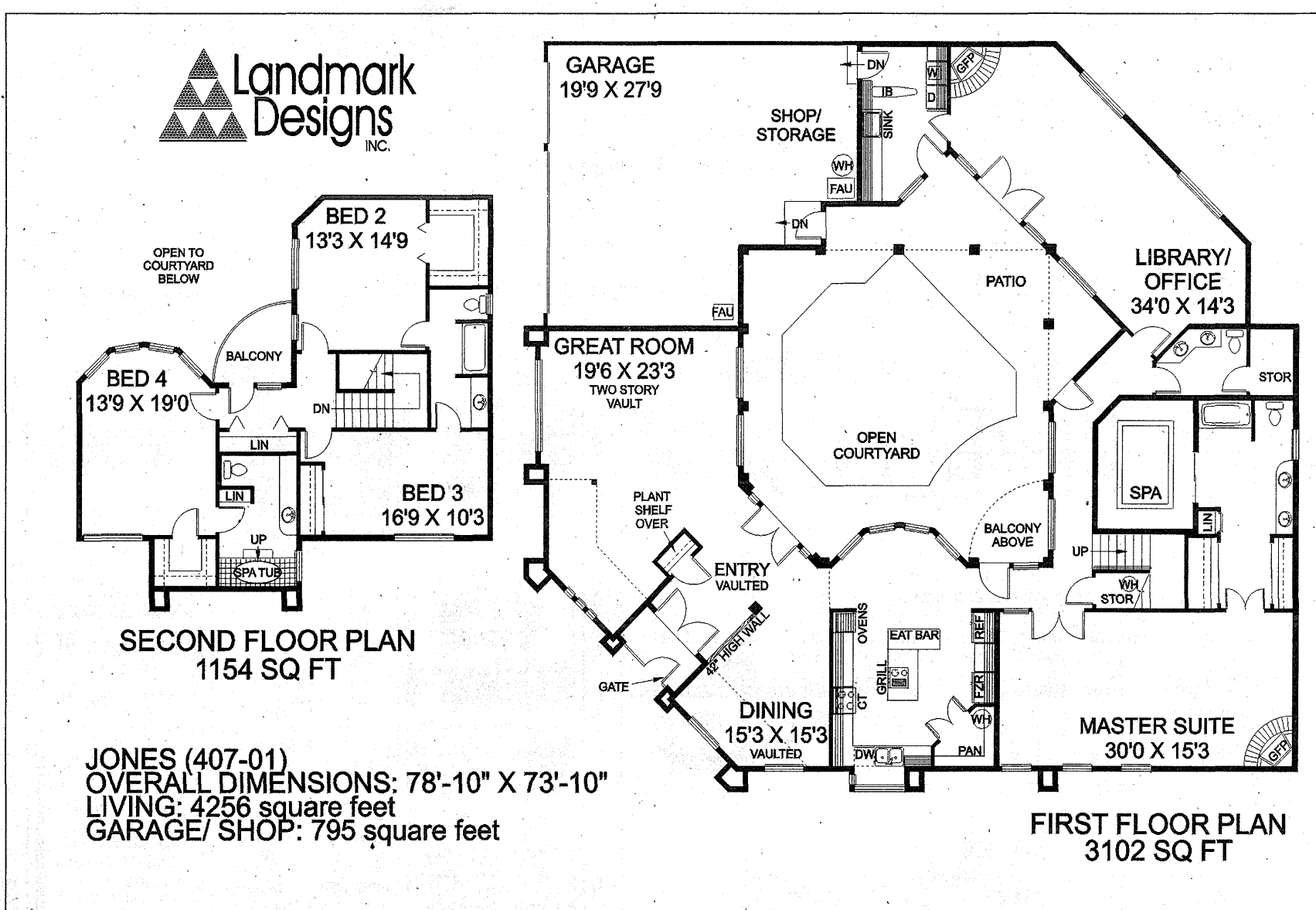
A wrought iron gate secures the entry to the Jones. Double doors open into an entry with a great room on the left and the dining room on the right. This entire area has a two-story vault with arched windows

A wrought iron gate secures the entry into the Jones. Double doors open into an entry with a great room on the left and the dining room on the right. This entire area has a two-story vault with arched windows along the roofline. The kitchen is situated between the dining area and the master bedroom. It is U-shaped with an island eating bar in the center.

along the roofline. The kitchen is situated between the dining area and the master bedroom. It is U-shaped with an island eating bar in the center. A garden window over the sink provides an area to grown herbs and spices.

The master bedroom has a gas fireplace in the corner of the elongated room. There are double doors opening into a walk-through closet and bath area. A built-in spa for private use in the master bedroom is one of the many extras of this spacious home.

There is a half bath between the master bedroom and the library.



Again, the library is narrow but extremely long with a gas fireplace in the corner. French doors open off the library onto the courtyard patio. Next door, the utility room opens directly off the patio, adjacent to the garage. It has a sink and a built-in ironing board. The garage is large enough to have a shop on one side for the do-it-

yourself. Upstairs are three bedrooms and two baths. One bedroom is large enough to be used as a guest suite with a large walk-in closet and a raised tub. The other two bedrooms share a common bathroom. One bedroom has a wall closet while the other larger bedroom has a walk-in

closet. The inner windows of these three bedrooms all look out over the courtyard. For a study plan of the JONES (407-01), send \$15 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Rd. E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or call (800) 562-1151. Be sure to specify plan name and number. Compact

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Oakland on Thursday, July 10, at 5:30/9:30 p.m. at MSU Management Education Center, 811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy. Seminar free to members. \$20 nonmembers. Call (800) 747 6742, www.REIAofOakland.com.

#### BIA

■ Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) presents Green Built™ Training Introduction on Wednesday, July 9, from 9-10:30 a.m. at 879 Benjamin, Troy 48098 (house built by Wake-Pratt Construction).

Chris Pratt of Wake-Pratt Construction discusses building with materials and methods that result in Green Built™

certification. Building Green offers a change from selling cost per square foot to making a positive environmental statement. This is the first in a series of five trainings. The training is free for BIA members. For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.

■ The Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan (BIA) will host its "Macomb County Golf Spectacular" on Thursday, July 17, at Cherry Creek Golf Club, 5200 Cherry Creek Drive (24 Mile and Van Dyke), Shelby Township.

Registration and continental breakfast will take place from 9-10 a.m. Shotgun start

is at 10 a.m. Steak dinner is at 3 p.m. The complete golf package includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, three drink tickets, dinner, golf competition contests and door prizes.

Registration fees are \$130 for a complete golf package for BIA and Apartment Association of Michigan members, guests and nonmembers or \$45 for dinner only.

For registration information, call (248) 862-1033 or register online at www.builders.org.

#### If I had a hammer ...

State Sen. Tupac Hunter, Rep. Richard LeBlanc and Rep. Gino Polidori will

join efforts of Habitat for Humanity of Western Wayne County on July 10 in Inkster. They will take up a hammer to help Habitat build a house at 26110 Dunning St.

"Legislative Build 2008 is an opportunity for legislators to see what is going on in the area of affordable housing and community improvement right in the districts they serve," said Alice Dent, Habitat executive director.

The legislators will perform construction work on a house being built for a family with five children.

As part of the Legislative Build 2008, nearly 90 percent of the Michigan Legislature signed on to work on an affordable housing or commu-

nity development project in or near their district sometime this summer.

The Legislative Build 2008 is a partnership between many statewide groups who work for affordable housing, neighborhood improvement and community development. The partners include Habitat for Humanity of Michigan, Community Economic Development Association of Michigan, Community Economic Development Association of Detroit, Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness, Michigan Association of Home Builders and Michigan Community Action Agency Association and Michigan Housing Council.











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Featuring...automatic transmission, air  
 conditioning, AM/FM/CD/MP3,  
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 windows, AM/FM/CD/MP3 Sound  
 system, speed control.

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 audiophile with subwoofer, remote start.

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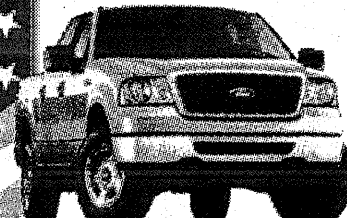


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 seat, 3rd row seat, conv. group, speed  
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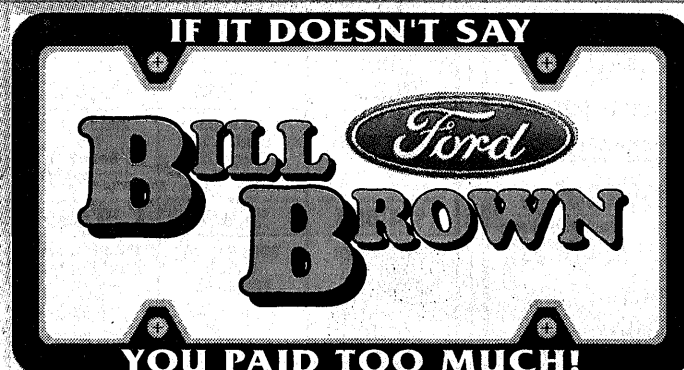
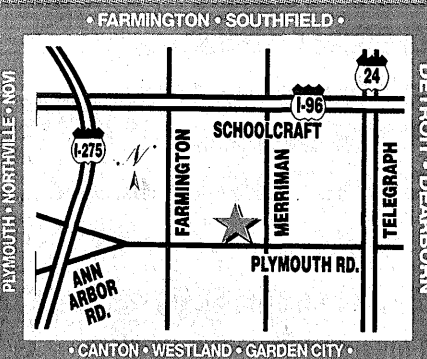
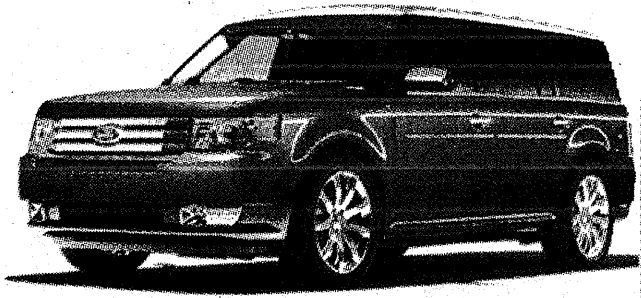
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