

THURSDAY

July 2,
2009

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers

Volume 123
Number 91

75 CENTS

Happy Independence Day

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

online at hometownlife.com

Have a blast

Fireworks you can
watch in your area
Filter, B7

PIPELINE

Holiday hours

Residents with business at either Plymouth City Hall or Plymouth Township Hall will have to wait until Monday to conduct it.

Officials in both communities announced offices at both places will be closed Friday, July 3, in observance of the Fourth of July holiday. Both halls will resume normal operating hours Monday.

The *Plymouth Observer* will also observe the holiday by closing its offices on Friday. However, readers can still reach us 24/7 on the Web at hometownlife.com to submit press releases, letters to the editor or e-mail customer service.

Hot chili



Organizers are bringing the Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook-off and Motorcycle Bike Show back to Plymouth.

The 14th annual event is set for Sunday, Oct. 4, and organizers are promising a cook-off that's "hotter than ever."

The Chili Cook-off will feature a traditional Red Chili, a Green Chili and a Salsa competition. This portion of the cook-off is recognized by the International Chili Society and will follow all ICS rules. The winners in each category will advance to the 2010 World Championship Chili cook-off next fall.

A fee is charged to participants wanting to try their best to create a winning pot-of-chili.

Top winners receive trophies and prizes.

People's Choice Chili samples will be available at noon, competition samples at 1:30 and 3 p.m. for a \$1 donation per sample.

The GLR Chili Bike Show is a ride-in show with 17 different bike categories, including Harley and non-Harley classes.

There is a \$10 fee to enter a bike and all first place winners will receive a trophy with judges choice winning cash.

Anyone interested in cooking in the Red/Green/Salsa or Restaurant Chili Challenge should contact Annette Horn at (734) 776-9669.

For event information, go to www.greatlakeschili.com.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fred Hill and the Briefcase Drill Team are always a popular attraction for the Plymouth Fourth of July parade, set for Saturday morning.

Party time

CITY'S PARADE TO GREET JULY 4 HOLIDAY

• Plymouth will greet Independence Day bright and early on Saturday with the annual Kiwanis Good Morning USA Fourth of July Parade.

• The parade, which is growing in popularity according to organizer Fred Hill, will feature more than 1,000 participants, including a military color guard, marching bands, musket-firing Civil War re-enactors, sword fighters from Ring of Steel Action Theatre, veterans from World War II and, of course, the Fred Hill Briefcase Drill Team.

• The parade begins at 7:30 a.m. at Main and Theodore streets and proceeds along Main to Hartsough. • Main Street will be closed in the area of the parade route; downtown parking areas and the central parking deck will be available via Harvey Street.

• The theme for this year's parade is, America: The Dream Lives On. "That one just seemed to fit the times," Hill said.



Rebecca Giroux chased soap bubbles blown by her mom, M.C. Giroux, at last year's Plymouth Township picnic.

Fireworks, picnic to mark Independence Day

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth area residents will get more bang — for zero bucks — with a pre-Fourth of July community fireworks show Friday night.

The half-hour, \$20,000 pyrotechnics extravaganza, by the Pennsylvania-based Zambelli Fireworks Internationale, is set to start at 10:15 p.m. Friday; free public viewing is at Plymouth Township Park at Ann Arbor Trail and McClumpha. The park will open for fireworks traffic beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Township treasurer Ron Edwards, who is coordinating donations and volunteer efforts for the fireworks, said sponsors are coming through to do something positive for the community even in a tough economy. He said Zambelli's planned show would have

cost \$30,000 if it were on July 4, but that because the company will have personnel in the area for other shows, it's able to offer a \$10,000 discount for Friday night. Edwards expects a crowd of roughly 20,000; pop and water will be available for a donation.

The fireworks actually go off at Hilltop Golf Course, adjacent to the park, but the course will not be open to the general public.

The Friday fireworks will be followed the following day by the township's annual picnic, also at Plymouth Township Park, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Picnic-goers will be offered hot dogs, chips and drinks for a free-will offering (or just for free). Edwards said the picnic is also made possible through contributions, and through

Please see **FOURTH, A3**

Chevy dealer remains optimistic

Township's Lou LaRiche fights to keep selling

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lou LaRiche Chevrolet in Plymouth Township, which survived an initial round of dealership cuts by the struggling General Motors Corp., is now fighting to continue selling Chevys for a new, post-bankruptcy, GM.

Scott LaRiche, vice president and executive general manager of the dealership on Plymouth Road, said he's optimistic about the dealership's chances. "We are turning over every stone and we are working extremely hard" with GM, said LaRiche on Tuesday. He would not divulge details about the process, saying he did not want to jeopardize the dealership's position.

LaRiche said the dealership is profitable, well-capitalized and has high customer satisfaction ratings — and has picked up market share during current tough economic times.

Lou LaRiche, which employs about 70 people, was not among the nearly 1,100 GM dealers nationwide that were informed on May 14 that GM planned to cease doing business with them. But, following its June filing for federal bankruptcy protection, GM announced plans to drop hundreds more dealerships.

GM is also scrapping its Pontiac brand, and plans to sell its Saturn, Hummer and Saab brands — and has pending offers for all three, a corporate spokeswoman said Wednesday.

Spokeswoman Susan Garontakos said that while she couldn't comment on the specific situation at LaRiche, the process of winnowing dealerships was thorough and complex.

"There isn't a single factor. There is a combination of factors that we look at," Garontakos said.

She said individual markets across the country were studied, and then individual dealers, with their sales, profitability, customer satisfaction, capitalization and brand image adherence all closely examined.

Some dealerships, she cautioned, "may have fallen into a category where there were a large number of like dealerships" in a given market.

"We're really overdealt," she said. "We've been talking about this for a long time."

Garontakos said she understands dealership cuts are painful, but a lot of other workers across the corporation are also affected by GM's restructuring.

"It's been very, very tough. There were a lot of tough decisions that had to be made, but we had to do them, and we had to do them quick," she said.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

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Union awaits grievance on the reassignment of band director

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The school year is over, but the drama over the reassignment of a popular band teacher continues.

Plymouth-Canton Education Association officials have filed a grievance regarding the reassignment of band director Amy Boerma, and are contemplating a second grievance over the paid administrative leave that ended Boerma's school year some eight weeks early.

District administrators removed Boerma from her post leading the wind ensemble and varsity bands and said she would be reassigned to another teaching position within the

district. While the district hasn't announced where Boerma will teach next year, she is expected to be at the middle school level teaching choir. The administration has already replaced her at the high school level.

"I don't know how much good the first grievance is going to do, because they've already hired her replacement," said PCEA president Chuck Portelli. "But you still have to stand up for (Boerma) and make (the district) explain themselves."

The grievances stem from the district's decision in late April to reassign Boerma and put her on paid administrative leave.

District officials have declined to comment on the decision, but

a copy of the letter from human resources chief Ray Bihun to Boerma, written April 9, makes clear the decision was made because district officials claim Boerma has "acted in an inappropriate and unprofessional manner as a teacher in the district."

POOR CONDUCT

The letter cites several incidents where administrators believe Boerma acted inappropriately, claiming Boerma talked down other candidates for the district's director of bands position, for which she had also applied; talked disparagingly

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

'Whimsical' Wednesdays

After enjoying Music in the Park in Kellogg Park on a hot summer Wednesday, visitors can cool off the kids with a children's story read aloud by the local author.

"Whimsical Wednesdays" at the Plymouth Historical Museum began Wednesday. Each "Whimsical Wednesday" starts at 1:30 p.m. and features an exciting children's story with one Wednesday dedicated to a book on fun history about the city of Plymouth.

The schedule:
 • On July 8, Peggy Price Heiney reads her book about a teddy bear experiencing his own adventures after his companion Elizabeth forgets to take him back home with her to Seattle following a vacation at her Grandpa's house in northern Michigan. Heiney's book, *Lonely Teddy*, is available on Amazon.com.

• On July 15, first-time children's book author Beth Conway shares Rachel's story in her book *Rachel and the Magic Beads*. While on vacation with a dear friend and her family, the idea to write a book about Rachel, her friend's child with Down syndrome, was born. While Rachel's brother Johnny watched as his sister danced around with her beads, the author and he decided they wanted to capture her fun in this little book. Twenty percent of the proceeds of the sale of the book go to an organization called the "Belle Center" in Chicago, which mainstreams children with disabilities.

Other Whimsical Wednesday adventures are being planned. The cost of admission to Whimsical Wednesdays is \$5 for adults, \$2 for kids 5-17, and \$10 for families. After each book reading, attendees can tour the Museum and see the "In the Presence of Lincoln" exhibit.

For more information, call the museum, (734) 455-8940.

Spotlight auditions

The Spotlight Players are getting ready to present *Oliver*, written by Lionel Bart and directed by

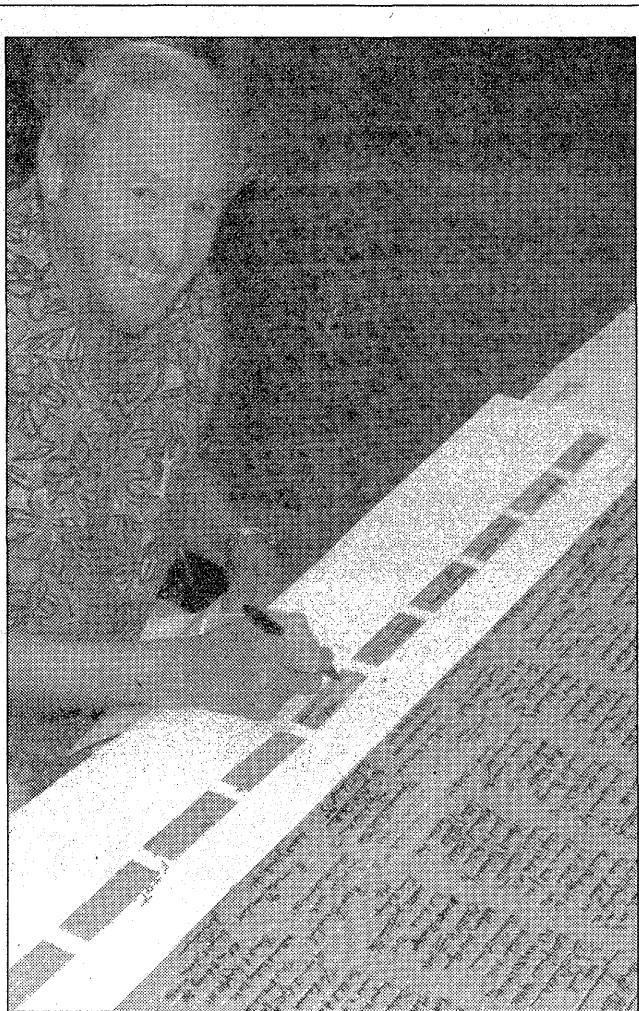


PHOTO BY DAVID L. MALHALAB

Last but not least

Henry Malec of Plymouth, a World War II 3rd Army-90th Infantry veteran, was the last of at least 400 veterans, including U.S. Senator John Dingell and Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey, to sign a tribute photograph recently taken at historic Willow Run Airport, to celebrate D-Day 65-plus years and their years of service. The photograph was sponsored by the Yankee Air Museum and Visionalist Entertainment Productions.

Barbara Bloom.

Auditions take place Sunday, July 12 (for youth up to age 16). Registration begins at 4:30 p.m. Auditions for all adult roles (age 16 and over) are Monday, July 13, and Tuesday, July 14, registration each night begins at 6:30 p.m. Performance dates are September 18-20, 25-27 at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 504300 Cherry Hill in Canton.

Follow Oliver, an orphan, from the workhouse of his birth to an upper class neighborhood in London and meet all the strange, wicked, miserly and nice people that enter his life including Fagin, Nancy and the Artful Dodger through wonderful songs and a light hearted approach to a very dark Dickens tale.

For more information contact (734) 480-4945 and leave a message for Barbara Bloom and visit www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

Wrestling camp

The Salem high School wrestling team is holding a camp 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, July 13, through Friday, July 17.

The camp has two levels - one for Beginner/Intermediate and one for Advanced/Elite.

Please go to www.wrestling.salemrocks.com for camp brochure and sign up information.

Tiger trip

The Plymouth Historical Museum is selling tickets to the Detroit Tigers vs. Kansas City Royals baseball game at Comerica Park on Monday, July 6. The tickets are in the upper deck behind the first-base dugout.

A luxury coach will pick up fans at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main Street, at 5 p.m., with a 5:15 p.m. departure for the ballpark. The game starts at 7:05 p.m. The coach will leave for Plymouth shortly after the game ends. The \$40 ticket price includes one upper deck seat and a round-trip luxury coach ride to the ballpark and back from the Museum. If July 6 doesn't work, the museum also has tickets and a luxury coach reserved for the Tigers vs. Cleveland Indians game Tuesday, Sept. 1.

The Museum's hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. There may be someone in the administrative office on Mondays, but call (734) 455-8940 before coming to the Museum on that day. Tickets can

also be purchased through PayPal from the Museum's website at <http://www.plymouthhistory.org/Events.html>.

Soccer camp

Midwest Soccer Academy is bringing its popular soccer training camps to the growing soccer community of Plymouth.

The week-long camp offers two and a half hour sessions twice daily. The camp will run Monday through Friday and each child will be coached by a member of the MSA Staff flown to the USA exclusively to perform a series of summer soccer coaching clinics.

The camps will be held at Hines Park and prices and times for the camps are as follows:

Players attend both sessions \$159 (full day) 9-11:30 a.m. and 5:30-8 p.m.

For more information on this camp and to register contact Midwest Soccer Academy at (810) 714-5575 or toll free at (877) 714-5575 or e-mail info@midwestsoccer.net or sign up on-line at www.midwestsoccer.net

Grief seminar

Ward Presbyterian Church sponsors a one-day grief seminar, "From Grief to New Hope," 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 18.

This workshop will be presented by Cathy Clough, 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 or visit our website at www.newhopecenter.net.

Crafters wanted

The Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters (PCMB) is hosting its Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Ensemble on Saturday, Nov. 21. Exhibitors who hand-craft their own items are invited to submit an application to exhibit at the fundraising event to be held at Plymouth High School in Canton, Mich. The juried art event is produced twice each year by the PCMB to help support the band and color guard programs at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Artists and crafters who are interested in applying for consideration to exhibit should visit www.pcmb.net/artcraft to download an application and submit with photos by June 26th for the first wave of jurying. For more details, contact exhibit coordinator Carol Rosati at (734) 455-0714. Only 100 exhibitors will be permitted to exhibit at this

artistic event. Over the last four years, over 7000 attendees have visited the PCMB Arts & Craft Ensembles.

"The Arts & Craft Ensembles are two of the most successful fundraisers we host each year," stated Dennis Carnevale, president of the 2009 Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters. "The money raised helps the Concert and Marching Bands, Color Guard and Percussion programs that provide students with a one of a kind arts experience. Our craft shows have built a reputation for being some of the best run arts and craft events in the area."

Plymouth High School is located at 8400 Beck Road in Canton, Mich. The Holiday Arts & Craft Ensemble will be held from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Nov. 21. In addition to over 100 exhibits, there will be food, a raffle, and entertainment by local musicians and artists throughout the day. Admittance is \$2.

Call for crafters

The Delta Kappa Gamma Education Society hosts its annual juried, handmade-only Craft Show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at West Middle School in Plymouth.

The event will feature some 1,500 customers, food and drawings.

Call Sandy Downs at (734) 340-4229 or e-mail Judy Stone at JBSTONE716@COMCAST.NET

Ice cream social

The Plymouth Community Council on Aging hosts the annual Ice Cream Social on Monday, July 13 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Plymouth Township Park on Ann Arbor Trail between Sheldon and Beck Roads. Ticket prices are \$1 for PCCA Members and \$3 for guests.

Call (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236 for information and ticket purchase.

Tour of hope

New Hope Center for Grief Support is offering a one-hour Tour of Hope in their new home at 315 Griswold in Northville.

This tour will give insight into how New Hope was started, the types of grief support services they offer, testimonials from people who have been helped, and the vision of the future from the founder and CEO, Cathy Clough of Plymouth.

Tour dates include 5 p.m. July 15; 9 a.m. Aug. 21; 6:30 p.m. Sept. 16; and 9 a.m. Oct. 16.

To attend one of the tours, RSVP to New Hope at (248) 348-0115 or e-mail griefhelp@newhopecenter.net.

Senior Olympics

The 2009 Western Wayne County Senior Olympics are set for Aug. 17-21, to be co-hosted by the City of Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Redford Township.

Registration packets are now available at the Plymouth Council on Aging office in City Hall, The Plymouth Cultural Center and the Friendship Station. You can also pick up them up at all other community senior centers.

Opening Day festivities will include Opening Ceremony, Breakfast with Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano and Opening Day Expo in Hines Park (Nankin Mills) on Aug. 17. The week long games close with a Banquet Luncheon and Awards Ceremony at Schoolcraft College - Vista-Tech Center.

Registration deadline is Monday, July 27. For more details call Plymouth Council on Aging at (734) 453-1234, Ext. 236, or the Redford Township Senior Center at (313) 387-2788.

Good Grief golf

The New Hope Center for Grief Support hosts its 11th-annual "Good Grief" golf outing Saturday, Sept. 12, at Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon with a shotgun start at 10:00 a.m. The proceeds from this outing will benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, a bereavement outreach center located in Northville.

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 meteorologist 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 our website at www.newhopecenter.net.

Corriveau hours

State Representative Marc Corriveau (D-Northville) invites residents to talk with him about any issues or concerns during his new office hours.

Corriveau's new office hour schedule is set to begin on July 6. He will hold office hours on the first Monday of each month at the following times and locations:

- 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St., in Northville
- 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Wayne City Hall, 3355 S. Wayne Road
- 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main St., in Plymouth
- 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 129 W. Liberty St. in Plymouth

Corriveau also holds coffee hours and other events throughout the 20th District to talk with as many residents as possible about any issues or concerns. If your business or organization would like to schedule an event with Corriveau, please contact his office toll-free at (877) 20TH-REP, or send an e-mail to MarcCorriveau@house.mi.gov.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
 COUNTY OF WAYNE
 CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

REPEAL OF CABLE FRANCHISE ORDINANCE

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. C-2009-06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BY REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. C-98-09, CODIFIED AS CHAPTER 71, CABLE FRANCHISE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF THE ORDINANCE.

This section provides that Chapter 71, Cable Franchise Ordinance adopted as Ordinance No. C-98-09, be and is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.

This section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance.

SECTION 3. REPEAL.

This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

This section provides that adoption of this Ordinance does not affect proceedings, prosecutions for violation of law, penalties and matured rights and duties in effect before the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. PUBLICATION.

This section provides that the Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This section provides that this Ordinance shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the Clerk's office of the Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, during regular business hours.

Joe Bridgman, CMC
 Clerk

Introduced: June 9, 2009
 Adopted: June 23, 2009
 Effective: July 2, 2009

Published: July 2, 2009

STATE OF MICHIGAN
 COUNTY OF WAYNE
 CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

REPEAL OF FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. C-2009-07

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BY REPEALING CODIFIED ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 90, FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. REPEAL OF THE ORDINANCE.

This section provides that Chapter 90, Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance of the Charter Township of Plymouth Code of Ordinance, be and is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.

This section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance.

SECTION 3. REPEAL.

This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

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LEGAL NOTICE

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, July 21, 2009
Secure-24, Inc.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider the request of Secure-24, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for land and building improvements, machinery, equipment, furniture, and fixtures located at 44675 Helm Ct, Metro-West Industrial Park, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

The request of Secure-24, Inc. is on file in the Clerk's Office at Plymouth Township Hall where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. During the public hearing any resident of Plymouth Township or members of the Legislative Board of any affected taxing unit in the Township shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments addressed to the Clerk will be considered.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:00 p.m., will be held in the Town Hall Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, July 21, 2009. Phone Number 734-354-3224. Following the public hearing, the Board may decide on the request by resolution.

Joe Bridgman, CMC
 Clerk
 Charter Township of Plymouth

Published: July 2, 2009



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

FOURTH

FROM PAGE A1

in-kind donations, such as bottled water from Absopure and hot dog buns from Aunt Millie's Bakeries.

The picnic will also feature games and contests for children, including a bicycle-deco-

rating contest, a pie-eating contest sponsored by Grand Traverse Pie Co., and a fishing contest. There will also be hula-hooping, Frisbee-tossing and water balloon-tossing, and a free 1:30 p.m. magic show by John Sturk, a Chicago magician who grew up in the township and graduated from Michigan State University.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

GRIEVANCE

FROM PAGE A1

about colleagues and administrators to students and parents, "involving them in personnel issues"; and slandered former director of bands Marc Whitlock, largely over what she saw as inequities in the marching band's instrument inventory (Whitlock declined comment; Boerma referred questions to Portelli).

Boerma and her father, David Wolter, himself a long-time music/band teacher and administrator, say there are nearly 100 band instruments, worth some \$257,000, missing.

Wolter, who has been vociferous in his criticism of the district's handling not only of Boerma, but of the band program in general, provided a list of 98 instruments, ranging from a variety of clarinets and flutes to bassoons and euphoniums.

According to Wolter, those instruments are valued at some \$257,000. In an e-mail sent to a variety of people, including the *Observer* and Portelli, Wolter acknowledged the value was an estimate.

"The figure for the replacement of the missing instruments is a moving target," Wolter wrote. "My original \$250,000 estimate became \$257,000-plus if small student instruments were eliminated and the conservative price was used."

INVENTORY ISSUE

The inventory became an issue a couple of years ago when Whitlock's computer, where the inventory was stored, crashed, and a replacement had to be culled from paper sources. Wolter said his daughter spent "nearly a month of evenings" trying to recreate the inventory.

However, district officials claim there are no major numbers of instruments missing. Julie Kaminski, who was in charge of the inventory in her position as assistant principal at Plymouth High School, where the instruments are stored, declined to talk to the

Observer. She has since left for a position in the Farmington school district.

But Frank Ruggirello, the district's director of community relations, said the district is satisfied all instruments are accounted for.

"Do we lose instruments or are they stolen? Absolutely, that happens," Ruggirello said. "You lose an instrument here or there, but there's been no mass loss. Nobody here believes anything strange is going on."

The district has an arrangement with Meridian Winds in Ypsilanti for repair services, and that some 60 instruments with a value of some \$6,000 went to Meridian. In an e-mail dated Sept. 19 from Meridian Winds' Eric Satterlee to Whitlock, Satterlee said "probably 60 instruments were salvaged and they were all given in trade for the repair and improvement of your inventory."

Wolter, however, said none of the instruments were included in his \$257,000 estimate.

FIX COMING

Ruggirello said the problem would become moot next year, when the new director of bands, David Arnbruster, begins putting bar codes on every instrument.

"You update with technology," he said. "It will make the inventory process much easier."

In the meantime, Portelli said the union will wait to see how the first grievance filed on Boerma's behalf plays out before deciding whether to file the second one. In his letter to Boerma, Bihun said the reassignment and paid administrative leave were "not disciplinary action, but is being issued to relieve any further potential dissidence."

Portelli questioned that logic.

"They're saying it wasn't discipline, but they sent her home with eight weeks left (in the school year)," Portelli said. "In 20 years on this job, they've done that twice, and (Boerma) is one of them."

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ellen Elliott thanked supporters and husband Joe Elliott threw the switches to relight, step by step, the new marquee on Plymouth's Penn Theater, which was rebuilt to resemble the 1941 original. A crowd of more than 500 people gathered for the event.

Penn ceremony marks marquee's debut

BY MATT JACHMAN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Storms threatened and the accompanying Plymouth Community Band concert in Kellogg Park was canceled, but with thank-yous and the throw of some switches, an old look became new again at the Penn Theatre on June 25.

In a relighting ceremony after an evening showing of the 1962 musical *The Music Man*, Ellen Elliott, executive director of the Friends of the Penn, thanked donors and sponsoring businesses and service groups while renovations manager Joe Elliott threw

switches for the theater's marquee and auxiliary lights, including the lights for the 5-foot letters spelling PENN on top of the building.

The marquee and lighting had been redone, at a cost of about \$90,000, to resemble as closely as possible its original 1941 look.

"The Penn is an irreplaceable part of our history and we are doing everything that we can to ensure that it remains here for generations to come," said Ellen Elliott during the ceremony, which she said was attended by more than 500 people.

The work was done by the Wagner

Electric Sign Co. of Elyria, Ohio.

The nonprofit Friends of the Penn leases the theater for \$1 a year and regularly shows movies, both classics from years past and recent releases, at just \$3 a ticket. The group is dedicated to the complete restoration and continued operation of the theater; past projects have included a new concession area and a new air-handling system.

Seat and auditorium improvements, Joe Elliott has said, will probably be the Friends of the Penn's next big project.

mjachman@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2405

Starfish invites families to Fun Fair



Youngsters will find plenty of things to do at Starfish's annual Family Fun Fair July 10.

Starfish Family Services invites parents and caregivers to bring their children to a fun-filled day at the agency's fourth annual Family Fun Fair 2-6 p.m. Friday, July 10.

The Family Fun Fair is free and will feature games, food, activities and an opportunity to learn about the services and programs that Starfish offers to benefit children and their families living in Westland, Garden City Livonia, Plymouth-Canton and Redford.

Children of all ages will enjoy such activities as a caricature artist, face painting, inflatable bouncers, train rides, disk jockey, a Teen Zone with basketball contests and hip hop clinics, free food and refreshments, and visits from local police and fire departments.

In addition, parents and caregivers will have an opportunity to explore Starfish Family Services programs and services including its free preschool and after-school programs, counseling services, teen shelter and crisis center, family success programs and parenting classes.

"The Family Fun Fair has become a tradition for our clients and community where they can spend a quality day with their families," said Ann Kalass, CEO of Starfish Family Services. "It's a wonderful afternoon when families can enjoy games, food and activities together. It also gives them a chance to discover how Starfish programs can help them create a brighter future for their children."

The Family Fun Fair will take place at Starfish Family Services, 30000 Hively Road, south of Cherry Hill and west of Middlebelt in Inkster. For more information, call (734) 728-3400.

Starfish Family Services offers programs to help educate and empower vulnerable families and children in western Wayne County. The agency serves more than 9,000 children and their families at its numerous service sites each year.

Starfish is celebrating its 45th anniversary this year. More information can be found at www.starfishonline.org.

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YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN#
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1990	Chevy	Van	2GCCG15Z5L4150053
1990	Chevy	Lumina	2G1WL54T4L9247253
1993	Chevy	Lumina	2G1WN54T7P1150269
1993	Dodge	Shadow	1B3XP6830PN672330
1994	Ford	Tempo	1FAPP36X5RK213971
1994	GMC	Safari	1GKDM19W1RB547044
1994	Ford	Taurus	1FALP5246RG223949
1995	Suzuki	Motorcycle	JS1RJ16A7S210
1997	Lincoln	Continental	1LNLM82W5VY747700
1997	Ford	Thunderbird	1FALP62W0VH159953
1997	Pontiac	Grand Prix	1G2WP12K7VF259457
1997	Ford	Explorer	1FMDU35P6VUA60468
2000	Ford	Taurus	1FAPF53U0YG61445
2004	Dodge	Neon	1B3ES46C41D294183
1998	Dodge	Intrepid	2B3HD46R1WH173701

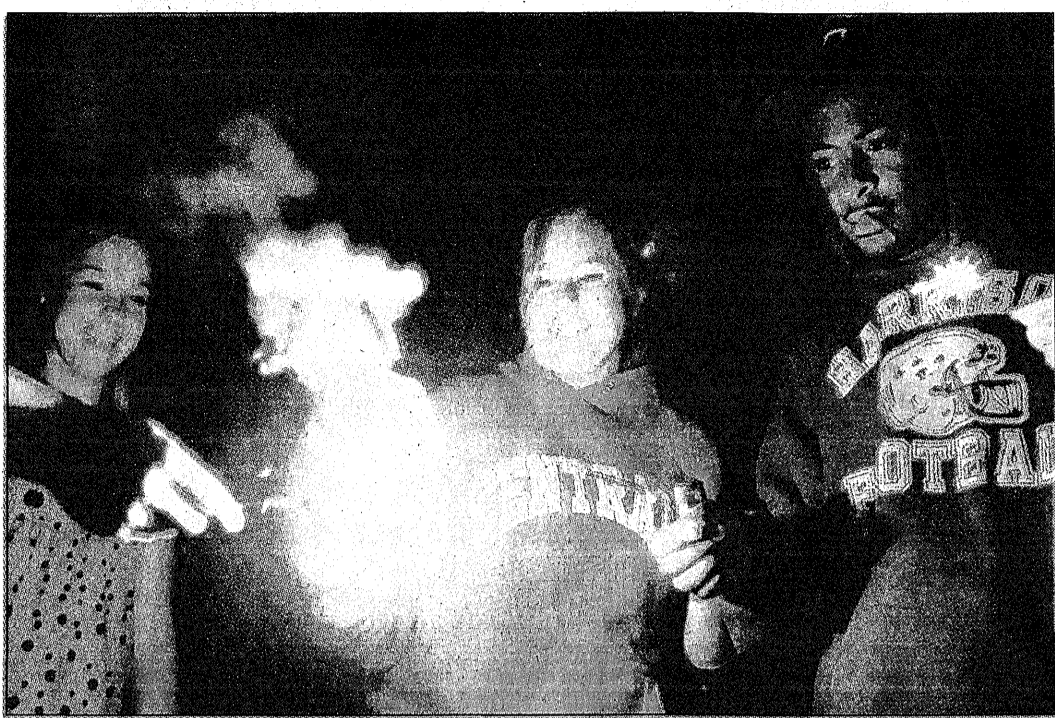
Published: July 2, 2009

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Raid on patio furniture lands woman in cuffs



Sparklers are one of the few legal fireworks in Michigan.

FILE PHOTO

Don't let fireworks land you in emergency room

The Fourth of July holiday is Saturday and many people are thinking about the excitement of fireworks displays.

For millions of adults and children, fireworks are a staple of the festivities. Before celebrating, it is important that everyone remembers the importance of fireworks safety. "Fireworks can turn an enjoyable evening into a night in the Emergency Room when children and adults are injured while using fireworks," said Sanford Vieder, D.O., an Emergency physician at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety

Commission, fireworks were involved in an estimated 9,200 injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms in 2006. An estimated 6,400 injuries were treated during the one-month period surrounding the Fourth of July.

Vieder says, "Hands and face, including the eyes, are the most commonly injured body parts."

"The best way to protect your family is not to use any fireworks at home," added Vieder. "Attend public fireworks displays and leave the lighting to the professionals."

If you are going to light fireworks, he offers the following safety tips:

- Only use fireworks out-

doors.

- Obey local laws and purchase only legal fireworks.
- Have a bucket of water to discard all used fireworks.
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks; soak them in water and throw them away.
- Spectators should keep a safe distance from the shooter and the shooter should wear safety glasses.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a "designated shooter."
- Only persons over the age of 21 should be allowed to handle sparklers of any type.

A 56-year-old woman was arrested on a theft charge Saturday, minutes after eight cushions for patio chairs were taken from an outdoor display at the Kroger store on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth Township.

The suspect, found at her house in Plymouth after the truck used in the shoplifting was tracked there through its license plate, initially denied being involved but, when pressed by an officer, opened her garage to show the officer where the cushions had been put, a Plymouth Township Police Department report said.

Police said a store manager went to the suspect's house and identified her as the person involved.

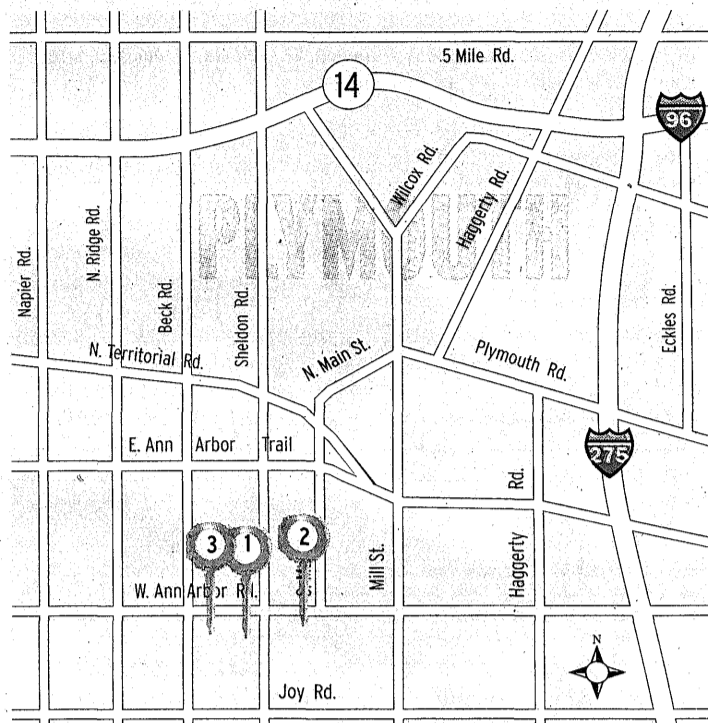
The shoplifting occurred about 3:15 p.m. A woman reportedly took the eight cushions from an outdoor display of chairs, put them into the back of a white GMC pickup and drove from the scene, and a witness was able to get the truck's plate number.

The manager told police the cushions had not been paid for.

Cigarettes stolen

A man swiped three cartons of cigarettes from the Pilgrim Party Store on Ann Arbor Road after distracting a clerk there on Saturday afternoon.

The man walked in shortly



CRIME WATCH

Vandalism at church

A garage door at the Plymouth Church of the Nazarene on Ann Arbor Road was vandalized late Friday or early Saturday.

The metal door was pushed in by about a foot, its frame bent and a door guide wheel pushed off its track, the report said. The damage, discovered and reported by a church groundskeeper, occurred some time after 6 p.m. Friday and before about 8 a.m. Saturday, the report said.

Nothing appeared to have been stolen from the garage.

By Matt Jachman

before 2 p.m., went to the counter and asked for three cartons of Newports, according to a township police report. The clerk got the cigarettes and set them on the counter, and the man then asked for the price of something else, the report said.

When the clerk turned to check the price of the item, the report said, the man grabbed the cigarettes and ran from the store.

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Marcy Brontman of Buddy's Pizza and organizer of Dining with the Stars (front row left) and the staff of Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills take a bow for a fabulous season of Dining with the Stars.

Class act Blaha hosts Dining With Stars finalists

Dining With the Stars closed out the 2009 spring season with George Blaha, a familiar voice in the broadcast and sports world in metro Detroit. "George Blaha — what a gentleman. He represents whatever a star should be," said Marcy Brontman of Buddy's Pizza and organizer of Dining With the Stars sponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

"He couldn't pick just one winner — he invited all six finalists to lunch," said Brontman. Two finalists — Jonathan Marlin of Livonia and Carol Owczarzak of Westland — attended the June 26 lunch celebration. Four other finalists were out of town and Blaha has offered to host another luncheon in September.

The two finalists who attended divided up contest spoils — Owczarzak got the limo ride to lunch from All Class Transportation and a mini makeover from Christine from The Beauty Salon in Birmingham while Marlin received the \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield.

"George Blaha shared the other finalists' stories with Jonathan and Carol," said Brontman. "They all walked

our mini red carpet, ate pizza, soup and salad and just talked with the star. Afterwards, dancers Carla and Vadim from the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills wowed the crowd at Buddy's."

"It is the best part for the fans to have that moment when they can ask as many questions as they want," added Brontman. Buddy's donated a check for \$500 to the Detroit branch of the Michigan Anti-Cruelty Society.

A local broadcasting icon and one of the most recognizable personalities in Detroit and the NBA, Blaha recently completed his 33rd consecutive season as the television and radio play-by-play voice of the Detroit Pistons. The "Voice of the Pistons" is the longest tenured play-by-play announcer in the state of Michigan following the retirement of legendary Detroit Tigers broadcaster Ernie Harwell.

He has handled play-by-play duties for Michigan State football since 1971. In 2002, he was made an honorary alumnus of Michigan State University.

Born in Detroit, Blaha graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics from Notre Dame University and earned an M.B.A. from the University of Michigan.

Flag sales down with the economy

BY KAREN SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Fewer and more worn U.S. flags may be flying this Fourth of July.

Flag sales are down or flat from a year ago, according to flag shops in Livonia and Clawson.

Bill Miles, owner of American Flag and Banner Co. in Clawson, estimates sales there are down 25 percent because of Michigan's economy. A lot of his customers are Big 3 auto suppliers, he said.

"It's not a decrease in patriotism; it's a decrease in the amount of people buying them," he said.

Amy Spahr, owner of the Flag Shop in Livonia, said sales at her shop are "probably comparable" to last year, but have been slowly trickling down each year since Sept. 11, 2001, when they reached unprecedented numbers.

"I just think it's something people have cut back on with the economy," Spahr said.

Both stores sell mostly to businesses, and businesses are either going without or not replacing their flags as frequently as they once did, they said. "If you drive around, there

are a lot of people (businesses) with flagpoles" but no flags, Spahr said.

Flags flown daily need replacing every six months to a year or more, depending on weather conditions.

The time between Memorial Day and Fourth of July is their busiest for sales, they said.

The most popular size flag for businesses is 5 feet by 8 feet, suitable for a 30-foot pole. A flag that size retails for about \$60-\$80. For residents, it's 3 feet by 5 feet. They pay \$14.90 to \$50, depending on the quality.

While people can get U.S. flags made in China from big-box stores, the two local retailers sell only American-made flags.

"All our flags are made here in the United States. I think that's important," Spahr said.

Despite overall sales being lackluster, Spahr said she's seen a spike in sales from some U.S. car dealerships that want to replace flags advertising new and used car sales with Old Glory.

"I think they are proud of being American and an American company and they want to display that with the flags," she said.

Here's how to treat Old Glory

Federal law stipulates many aspects of flag etiquette, according to www.usa-flag-site.org. The section of law dealing with American flag etiquette is generally referred to as the Flag Code. Here are some general guidelines from the Flag Code:

- The flag should be lighted at all times, either by sunlight or by an appropriate light source.

- The flag should be flown in fair weather unless the flag is designed for inclement weather.

- The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing.

It is flown upside down only as a distress signal.

- The flag should not be used for any decoration in general. Bunting of blue, white and red stripes is available for these purposes. The blue stripe of the bunting should be on the top.

- When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag, it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.

- The flag should be cleaned and mended when necessary.



Bill Bresler | Staff Photographer
Amy Spahr manages The Flag Shop on Levan Road just north of Plymouth Road in Livonia.



NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 2009 SUMMER TAXES

Summer taxes are due July 1, 2009 and payable through August 10, 2009 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. 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 2 & July 5, 2009

OE0863138 - 2&2.5

Attention Plymouth Township residents living in close proximity to waters (e.g., rivers, creeks, lakes)

The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued a Preliminary Flood Insurance Study (FIS) and Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) identifying flood risk in Wayne County, including Plymouth Township. These documents include proposed changes to base flood elevations that may impact flood insurance requirements and rates for Plymouth Township residents living in close proximity to waters (e.g., rivers, creeks and lakes).

Township residents living in close proximity to rivers, creeks, or lakes are encouraged to review the proposed base flood elevations. A detailed listing of the proposed base flood elevations and further information on the statutory period provided for appeals are provided on FEMA's website at https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/Scripts/bfe_main.asp, or call the FEMA Map Assistance Center toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

Township residents may submit comments and/or file an appeal to the proposed base flood elevations. FEMA requests all comments and/or appeals be submitted to the Township. The Township will consolidate and forward all comments and/or appeals to FEMA by the statutory deadline. Final determinations on all appeals and/or comments will be made by FEMA.

All comments and/or appeals shall be submitted to the Township at the following address by September 4, 2009 to meet the statutory deadline:

Attn: Mr. Mark Lewis, Chief Building Official
Plymouth Township Hall - Building Department
9955 N Haggerty Rd
Plymouth, MI 48170

Please note comments and/or appeals submitted to the Township after September 4, 2009 may not be received by FEMA before the statutory deadline.

A copy of the Preliminary FIS and FIRM are available for review at Township Hall, Building Department, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170 from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

Publish: July 2 & 30, 2009

OE0863437 - 2&6

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BROWNFIELD PLAN OF THE PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, the 21st day of July, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time in the Township Hall located at 9955 Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan, to consider the adoption of a resolution approving the Brownfield Plan for the Plymouth Township Brownfield Redevelopment Authority pursuant to Act 381 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1996, as amended.

The property to which the proposed Brownfield Plan applies is the Plymouth Township Park and Golf Course property located at 46644 Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth Township.

Maps, plats and copies of the proposed Brownfield Plan are on file at the office of the Township Clerk for inspection during regular business hours.

At the public hearing, all interested persons desiring to address the Township Board shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Brownfield Plan for the Plymouth Township Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. All aspects of the Brownfield Plan will be open for discussion at the public hearing.

FURTHER INFORMATION may be obtained from the Township Clerk, 9955 N Haggerty Rd, Plymouth MI 48170

This notice is given by order of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Plymouth, Michigan.

Joe Bridgman, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: July 2, 2009

OE0863439 - 2&5

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. C-2009-08

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR THE DEFINITION OF TERMS; PROVIDING FOR SCOPE; PROVIDING FOR EVIDENCE OF VACANT PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR REGISTRATION OF VACANT PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR OWNER'S REGISTRATION FORM CONTENT; PROVIDING FOR REGISTRATION FEE; PROVIDING FOR REQUIREMENT TO KEEP INFORMATION CURRENT; PROVIDING FOR MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION; PROVIDING FOR SECURITY REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR MONITORING PROPERTY AND FEE; PROVIDING FOR OPEN PROPERTY AND SECURING FEE; PROVIDING FOR FIRE DAMAGED PROPERTY; PROVIDING FOR UNPAID FEES AND ASSESSMENT; PROVIDING FOR CRIMINAL PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

SECTION I. ORDINANCE.

Sec. 1. Purpose.

This section provides that the purpose of this ordinance is to help protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens by preventing blight, protecting property values and neighborhood integrity, avoiding the creation and maintenance of nuisances and ensuring the safe and sanitary maintenance of dwellings, commercial and industrial buildings.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

This section provides definitions for terms used in this ordinance.

Sec. 3. Scope.

This section provides that the provisions of this ordinance shall apply to all existing residential, commercial and industrial structures and all vacant land.

Sec. 4. Evidence of vacant property.

This section provides that evidence of vacancy shall include any condition that on its own, or combined with other conditions present, would lead a reasonable person to believe that the property is vacant.

Sec. 5. Registry of vacant properties.

This section provides that the Township Building Department has created a registry of vacant properties.

Sec. 6. Vacant properties to be registered.

This section provides that all vacant properties must be registered.

Sec. 7. Owner's registration form: content.

This section provides for the content of the Vacant Property Registration Form that is provided by the Township Building Department.

Sec. 8. Registration fee.

This section provides that the registration fee shall be set by the Township Board.

Sec. 9. Requirement to keep information current.

This section provides that the information contained on the registration form must be kept updated.

Sec. 10. Maintenance and security requirements.

This section provides the maintenance and security requirements for property that is subject to this ordinance.

Sec. 11. Monitoring of property: fee.

This section provides that upon violation of this ordinance the building department is authorized to monitor the condition of any property required to be registered under this ordinance and a monthly monitoring fee shall be set by the Township Board and may be assessed against the property/owner.

Sec. 12. Open property: securing fee.

This section provides that property subject to this ordinance that is left open and/or accessible shall be subject to entry by the Township in order to ensure that the property has not become a nuisance and to ensure that the property is locked and/or secured.

Sec. 13. Fire damaged property.

This section provides that if a building regulated under this ordinance is fire damaged, the owner has 90 days from the date of the fire to apply for a permit to start construction or demolition.

Sec. 14. Unpaid fees: assessment.

This section provides that all fees hereunder that remain unpaid after 14 days written notice to the owner/management company shall be assessed against the property as a lien and included on the tax roll.

Sec. 15. Criminal penalties: civil infraction.

This section provides that except as otherwise provided, a violation of this ordinance shall be a misdemeanor and a strict liability offense regardless of intent and failure to file the required registration form, or failure to maintain the registration form containing current information shall be a civil infraction and subject to a \$100 fine.

SECTION II. REPEAL.

This section provides that all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION III. SEVERABILITY.

This section provides that any unenforceable section can be severed from the rest of the Ordinance.

SECTION IV. SAVINGS CLAUSE.

This section provides that adoption of this Ordinance does not affect proceedings, prosecutions for violation of law, penalties and matured rights and duties in effect before the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION V. PUBLICATION.

This section provides that the Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION VI. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This section provides that this ordinance shall take full force and effect upon publication.

Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the Clerk's office of the Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, during regular business hours.

Joe Bridgman, CMC
Clerk

Introduced: June 9, 2009
Adopted: June 23, 2009
Publish: July 2, 2009
Effective: July 2, 2009

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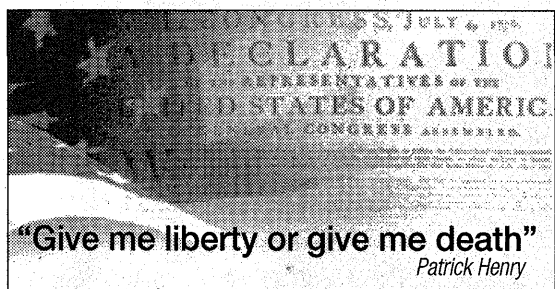
LOCAL OPINION

online at hometownlife.com



Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

OUR VIEWS



Be rightly proud of our democracy

It took a lot of derring-do to author the Declaration of Independence, but its signers knew exactly what they were doing.

In the final graphs of the document, signed July 4, 1776, by members of the Second Continental Congress, they proclaim the British as "Enemies in War, in Peace Friends."

Clearly they had worked to resolve their differences with the British. The list of disputes in the document is extensive.

But given the alternative, the document declares, the signers have the gumption to go to war. That's pretty tough talk, but it is also thoughtful and well-reasoned.

All people have rights, unalienable rights, Thomas Jefferson reasons in the document he authored. That means those rights come from a higher order and can't be abolished by any person, like a king of England - or president of Zimbabwe. Nor can any group of men - whether the British Parliament or Al Qaeda - disband those rights.

"Look, we tried," says the document in so many words. "But you folks are taking away our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Our safety is threatened, so it seems better to just go our own way."

That we did and the rest is history, but it is a living history that is being renewed daily, whether by citizen groups such as the League of Women Voters or by men and women serving in Afghanistan and Iraq.

It's been 233 years since 56 men from 13 states put pen to paper. But we still carry that independent streak declared July 2, 1776, as the British fleet entered the New York harbor. It was declared again on paper two days later.

Independence is inbred in us, part of our genetic makeup.

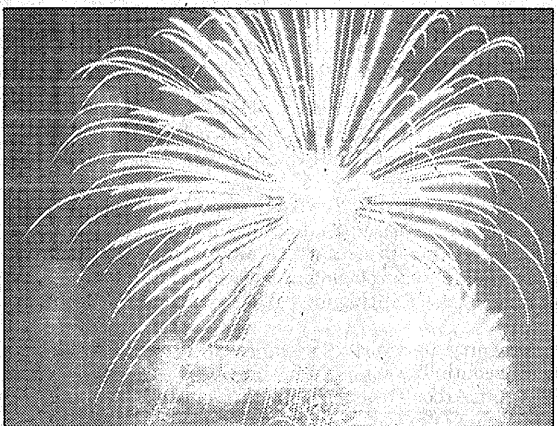
That's why we bolt upright at attempts to abridge our civil liberties, and growl over things like foreclosures and the price of gas that threaten our happiness.

But our independence must be nurtured aggressively, if it is to continue. That doesn't mean agreeing with everything that comes out of Washington; it does mean passing along the memories and the message of the Declaration of Independence.

What better way to do so than by taking time on the Fourth of July to celebrate what we have achieved and to renew our will to protect it.

From parades to flying the U.S. flag, there are ample ways to renew our patriotic spirit. Parents will want to go to www.usa.gov for everything from recipes from First Ladies to activities for children and teachers.

We have another right - the right to be proud of who we are as a country. It's the best democracy around, and our history proves it.



CANTON OBSERVER



Brad Kadrich
Community
Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor

Grace Perry
Director of
Advertising

COMMUNITY VOICE

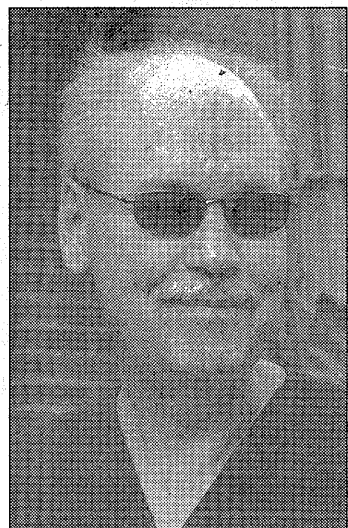
"How are you going to spend your Fourth of July holiday?"

We asked this question outside the Plymouth post office on Penniman.



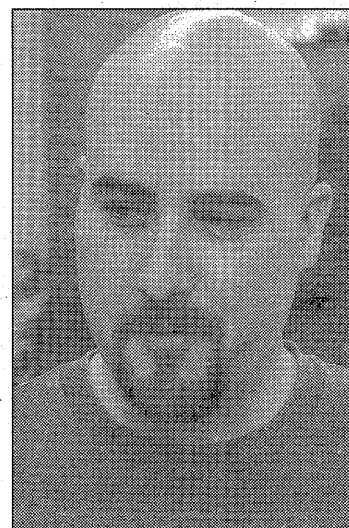
"I'm going to spend it at the (Plymouth) parade, and then at the picnic out at Plymouth Township Park."

Tammy Nolty
Plymouth



"I'm working in the emergency room at Henry Ford Hospital in Wyandotte."

John Collop
Plymouth



"I'm probably going to be working at Jerrod the Galleria of Jewelry in Novi."

Ben Karmann
Plymouth



"We're going Up North. My in-laws have a cottage in Higgins Lake, and we've got a lot of family up there."

Amy Rinke
Canton

LETTERS

Old Village 'secrets'

Seems like Old Village is a mystery to some. Well, I am here to fill in the blanks. Here are 10 Old Village "secrets," in no logical order:

1. Old Village probably has the oldest home in Plymouth. Which one? Nobody knows for sure! Two best candidates are the William Starkweather home at 557 N. Mill St. built about 1830 or the Lyons-Holbrook-Guenther home on Holbrook at Wilcox. Starkweather was the founder of Plymouth in 1825, his first home was where the Mayflower Center stands today.

2. The "Bumpers, Bikes and Blues" event has doubled each year. This year, Starkweather Street will be closed to accommodate the extra cars and motorcycles in this show, which is Sunday, July 19, 1-9 p.m. Many shops and restaurants will be open special hours. Both cars and bikes can enter to win prizes the day of the event. Live bands on three stages. Cars enter at Station 885. "Bikes" on Liberty Street. The poster for this event was done by Carl Lundgren, a famous Detroit rock and roll poster artist. See his Web site for the BBB poster as well as a great selection of vintage Detroit rock posters. <http://www.carllundgren.com/>

3. Old Village has become a sidewalk dining destination! Mill Street Gourmet Pastries on Mill Street at Pearl is a VERY good little bakery ... with incredible cookies. Free coffee, too, if you tell Jennifer I said so. Crawford's Kitchen in the old "Shelly's Chicken" location has established itself as a breakfast and lunch cafe for the health-minded. The Lawash bread wraps are their specialty but nearly anything there is really good. Right next door is the Plymouth Fish Market and Vince there will make nearly any fish any way you want ... whatta guy!

4. Old Village has the City of Plymouth's only Brewpub! The Liberty Street Brewery opened last fall and is growing more popular every week ... the live bands and trivia nights are super.

5. Hermann's Old Town Grille has a celebrity. Nikki Hermann appeared on "Wheel of Fortune" in May and won!

6. Over 23 street trees and a dozen bushes have been planted by a group of volunteers using monies raised through the revived Old Village Association that meets the first Tuesday of every month. The tornado of early September 2008 blew over many larger trees in the area north of the railroad.

7. Station 885 is located where the baggage building once stood for the old passenger station (passenger ceased in 1969). The baggage building was moved north across the tracks and houses offices today. Station 885 has a new dining patio right by the tracks. A new antiques shop called "Good And Plenty Antiques" has opened in the old station-master's building on Division Street off Starkweather.

8. There is a secret cemetery in Old Village.

9. There are over 90 businesses in Old Village. Quite a mixture of shops, restaurants, services and little odd things like the Midwest Rabbit Rescue. The Old Village Association produced a new map guide of Old Village that can be

What do you think?

Mail comments to the Canton Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226 or e-mail to bkadrich@hometownlife.com.

found at most of the area shops.

10. Old Village is supposedly the only area where railroad tracks cross within a town's boundaries in Michigan.

Next time you would like a stroll, have a walk around Old Village see what "secrets" you can uncover!

Mark Oppat

25-year Old Village resident

Missing the point

This letter is in response to Mr. Voiles article, "Officers are trustworthy."

Mr. Voiles, you missed the entire point of my letter. In my letter, I simply stated that I hope Canton was not falling into the trap of other local communities using traffic violations as a source of indirect taxation. For example, July 18, 2008, a Warren police officer made \$21,000 in overtime for court appearances directly resulting from tickets being written at the same stop sign. He was writing 10-20 tickets per day, saying that drivers were not coming to a full stop - yet when that stop sign was replaced with a yield sign - the number of accidents was reduced.

Warren made half a million dollars from such fines in one year. Forgive me if I don't automatically assume that all traffic laws are written and enforced merely for safety. Here's a statistic for you: three years ago, there were no robberies in my neighborhood, now there have been three.

Another point you missed was that I would rather see officers patrolling neighborhoods, as opposed to writing a ticket to a driver who doesn't wear a seat belt.

I also mentioned in my first letter that I respect our officers more than most, although you failed to mention that in your letter. Mr. Voiles, you should not make assumptions about someone you do not know. I have never received a ticket - not a parking ticket, speeding ticket, accident or anything else that you could conjure up. I am sure that I have missed a no turn on red sign, but luckily I have not hurt anyone else or myself.

If an officer was there and did give me a ticket, I am sure that it would of made my community much safer.

Thank you for standing up and voicing your opinion, as ridiculous as it was.

Angela Skaff

Canton

Protection from tyranny

There is no doubt times are changing. Many honest, hardworking citizens wonder "what has become of the individual freedom to choose our own path through life, in search of the happiness guaranteed under our Constitution?" To this question, one must answer, when was the last time you actually read the Constitution?

The U.S. Constitution was written and adopted under the principle of

"positive grant." What this means is quite simple. The federal government is authorized to exercise only those powers which are "positively granted" to it by the Constitution. If a power is specifically listed in the Constitution, the federal government can do it - if not specifically listed, the federal government has no power. This principle was so important to the founding fathers that they codified it in law as the 10th Amendment.

The language of the 10th is clear and concise: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited to it by the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people." Thus, the federal government's powers are limited to a specific set of activities - the rest is to be handled by the state government, or locally, by the people themselves.

Each of the sovereign states has, through its own legislature, adopted a State Constitution and set of regulations, based upon issues important to its own citizens. It has always been the right of the people to decide under which set of rules they wish to be governed, simply by choosing which state in which to live. Those searching for certain employment may migrate to states with "right to work" laws. Entrepreneurs look for states with the lowest business tax burden. Parents seek states providing the best educational opportunities for their children. Gun owners choose states with strong Second Amendment protections. The sovereignty of each state to govern itself has, in turn, provided this diversity of choice.

The federal government's attempt to impose legislative mandates meant to override State Constitutions and statutes is clearly unconstitutional, and has been ruled such by the U.S. Supreme Court in New York vs. United States, 112 S. Ct. 2408 (1992), "... Congress may not simply commandeer the legislative and regulatory processes of the states."

When the federal government oversteps the powers "positively granted" to it by the sovereign States and We the People, the possibility for tyranny grows. It becomes incumbent upon the States, and the people, to rein in their servant government.

The State of Michigan, through its legislators in Lansing, is attempting to do just that. Rep. Paul Opsommer has introduced legislation in the Michigan House (HCR 004) which will serve to remind our federal government of the meaning of the 10th Amendment. Similar legislation (SCR 004) has been introduced in the Michigan Senate by Sen. Bruce Patterson. Both Concurrent Resolutions have been referred to Committee, where they will be agreed to and sent to the floor for debate and adoption by the whole body, or simply die of inaction.

Now is the time for the people of the sovereign state of Michigan to raise their voices and be heard all the way to Washington. Please call, write or visit your state representative and senator, urging them to co-sponsor and support these Concurrent Resolutions. The last protection from tyranny rests with the People. The time to act is NOW.

C.J. Schuman

Belleville

Local artists get expressive over footwear

Pink Pump will celebrate the dual grand openings of its new Birmingham and Royal Oak locations with an art opening entitled, "Sweet Feet" featuring a bevy of both well-known, and up and coming female artists depicting their own takes on fashionable footwear.

All mediums will be represented from 6-9 p.m., Thursday, July 23, at the new Birmingham location, 150 W. Maple, with an opening for the artists all work will be for sale.

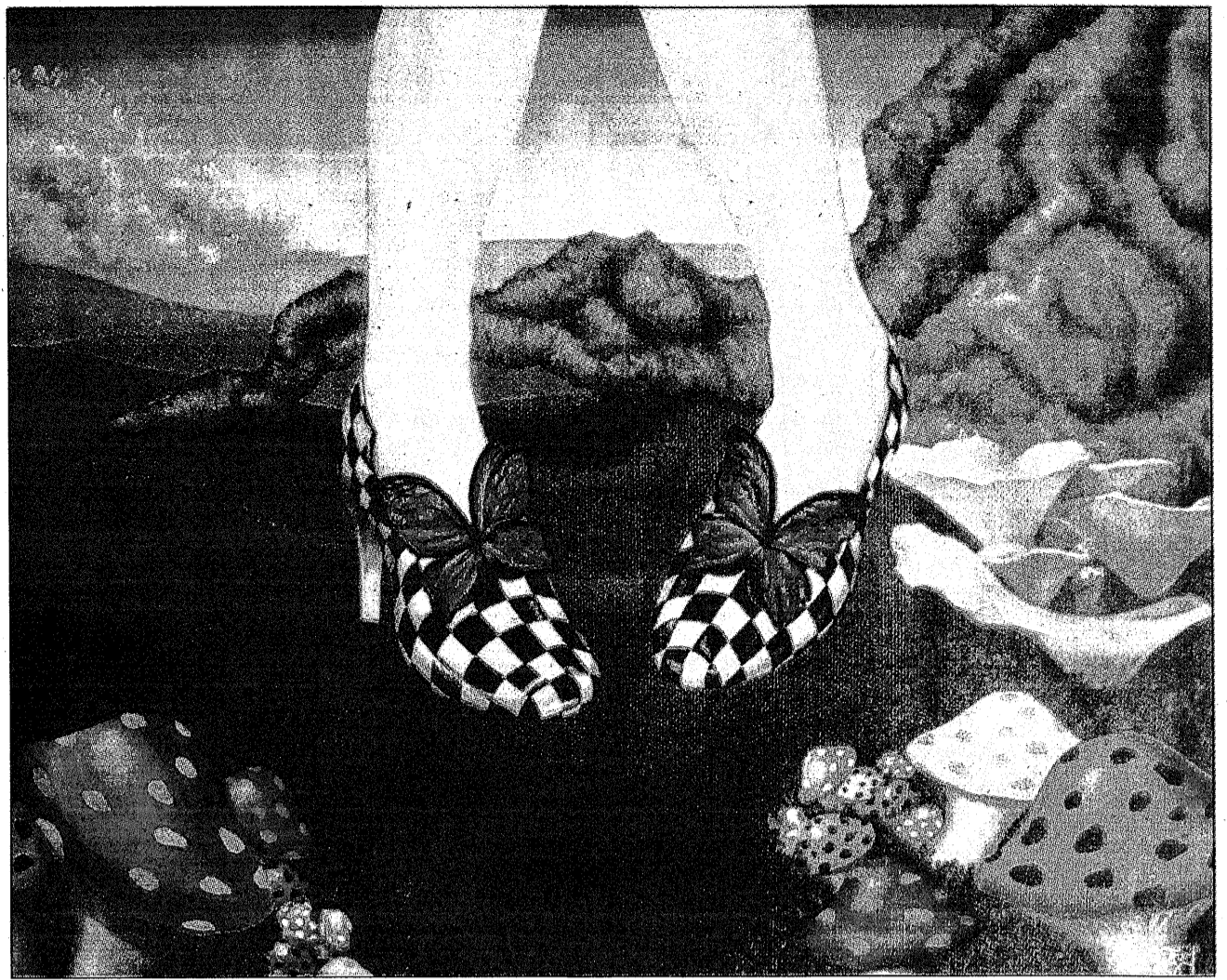
Complimentary pink champagne and light foods will be available for attendees.

Pink Pump (formerly Shoe Envy) has expanded its shoe and accessory boutique in Bloomfield Hills to two new locations in Birmingham — open now — and Royal Oak — open August 2009 — and is now franchising the Pink Pump brand. Pink Pump is owned Tawny Thieu, 28.

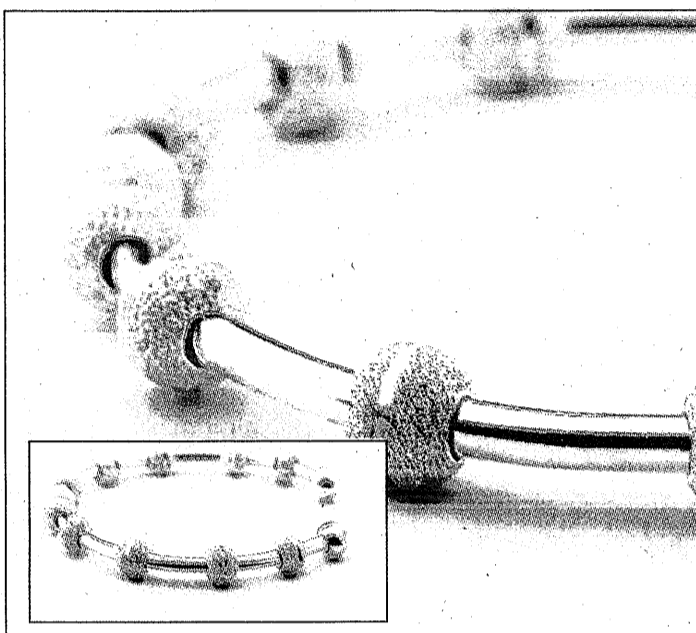
Cristin Richard, Laura Barnhard, Tracee Mae Miller, Gwen Joy, Jaxx, Molly Jacques, Audrey Pongracz, Allison Vince, Lisa Goedert, Sunny Maniaci, Michell Danel, Joell Krista, and Nicole Jarecz will show their works. DJ Jenny LaFemme will be on hand and then will host the official after party at The Corner Bar in The Townsend Hotel at 10 p.m..

The exhibit will remain up for two weeks.

In addition to its Birmingham location, the Pink Pump is at 6606 Telegraph, Bloomfield Hills. Its Royal Oak store will be at 309 Main. www.shoppinkpump.com; (248) 539-9260



Art by Laura Barnhard will be on display in the "Sweet Feet" exhibit at Pink Pump.



Keep track of your health goals in style

A former Michigan native, now living in Memphis, Tenn., has created a jewelry line that helps women keep track of anything from health goals to diet points to spending.

Oakland University graduate Chelsea Gossett's County Me Healthy bracelet is like a journal for the wrist. She created the piece to help women manage their health in style.

By assigning a value to each bead, based on a goal of the wearer's choice, women can manage their daily progress by sliding beads from one side of the bracelet to the other. The patented Jump Ring at the top of the bracelet prevents the beads from traveling back over to the other side unless pushed or pulled by the wearer.

At the end of the day the bracelet comes off and the wearer jots down her progress. Health Count Cards are available to keep track of goals. The bracelet becomes a constant reminder of one's well-being.

The Count Me Healthy bracelet has been seen on *The Today Show* and in *Shape* magazine.

It's available at Todd's Room in Birmingham and the Live Well gift Shoppe at Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital. It costs \$88 online at www.countmehealthyjewelry.com.

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Donation deadline

Summit Sports in Farmington Hills is collecting gently used inline skates through July 31 for a youth summer camp program.

Underprivileged children who attend YMCA Camp Boomerang in Flint, will wear the refurbished skates.

Donated skates must be in useable condition. Both adult and child-size skates are being accepted.

Customers interested in buying new inline skates at Summit Sports, will receive \$10 off their purchase if they donated their used pair.

YMCA Camp Boomerang sits on 30 acres and places special emphasis on experiencing new things, imaginative play, learning, outdoor skills, and making friends. The camp includes a paved nature trail where campers can either walk or inline skate through the woods. It also plans to develop an inline hockey program.

"During these tough economic times, we are grateful for partners, like Summit Sports who step-up and allow us to provide the children new experiences we couldn't afford without them," stated Richard J. Engelmann, Director of Partnerships, Community Day Camps, Events & Conferences, YMCA. "We are looking at new and exciting programs for the children attending Camp Boomerang and this donation of inline skate will allow us to add two new activities to our schedule." Summit Sports has four locations, including a store at

28942 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills.

Buy Michigan Festival

Learn about local products and Michigan-based companies in the upcoming Buy Michigan Now Festival slated for July 27-Aug. 2 in downtown Northville.

The week-long festivities will include various Michigan entertainment, educational seminars and products.

Launched in 2007 by Lisa Diggs, Buy Michigan Now is a statewide initiative to inform, educate and encourage Michiganders, organizations and consumers alike, to support the local economy by purchasing products and services made in Michigan and from Michigan companies.

"The Buy Michigan Now campaign is about heightening awareness and revitalizing our state's economy one product, one purchase, and one business at a time," Diggs said.

"Partnering with the Buy Michigan Now campaign is the perfect fit as we continue our own efforts to support local merchants and the local economy," added Lori Ward, director of the Northville Downtown Development Authority.

For information on vendor opportunities, call Vicki Howard at Ta-Dah Productions at (248) 548-2324 or e-mail to ContactUs@Ta-Dah.com. Michigan vendors interested in participating in the Buy Michigan Now Week can also download an application form at www.Ta-Dah.com.

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In God We Trust

Presidents

"It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor."

GEORGE WASHINGTON
Commander-in-Chief in the American Revolution; Signer of the Constitution;
First President of the United States

"We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

JOHN ADAMS
Signer of the Declaration of Independence; One of Two Signers of the Bill of Rights;
Second President of the United States

"Before any man can be considered as a member of civil society, he must be considered as a subject of the Governor of the Universe."

JAMES MADISON
Signer of the Constitution; Fourth President of the United States

"And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that His justice cannot sleep forever."

THOMAS JEFFERSON
Signer and the principal author of the Declaration of Independence;
Third President of the United States

"Is it not that in the chain of human events, the birthday of the nation is indissolubly linked with the birthday of the Savior? - that it forms a leading event in the progress of the Gospel dispensation? Is it not that the Declaration of Independence first organized the social compact on the foundation of the Redeemer's mission upon earth? - That it laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity?"

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS
Statesman; Diplomat; Sixth President of the United States

Founding Fathers

"An appeal to arms and to the God of hosts is all that is left us... Sir, we are not weak if we make a proper use of those means which the God of nature hath placed in our power... Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us... Is life so dear, or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!!!"

PATRICK HENRY
Patriot and Statesman

"To the kindly influence of Christianity we owe that degree of civil freedom, and political and social happiness, which mankind now enjoys... Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican forms of government - and all blessings which flow from them - must fall with them."

JEDEDIAH MORSE
Patriot and Educator, called "The Father of American Geography"

"I've lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: That God governs in the affairs of men. If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We've been assured in the sacred writings that unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it. I firmly believe this, and I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel."

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
Signer of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution

Supreme Court Justices

The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next. Continue therefore to read it and to regulate your life by its precepts.

Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation, to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.

JOHN JAY
Co-author of the Federalist Papers; First Chief-Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court

Human law must rest its authority ultimately upon the authority of that law which is Divine. ... Far from being rivals or enemies, religion and law are twin sisters, friends, and mutual assistants. Indeed, these two sciences run into each other.

JAMES WILSON
Signer of both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution;
Original Justice on the U. S. Supreme Court

One of the beautiful boasts of our municipal jurisprudence is that Christianity is a part of the Common Law... There never has been a period in which the Common Law did not recognize Christianity as lying at its foundations... I verily believe Christianity necessary to the support of civil society.

JOSEPH STORY
U. S. Supreme Court Justice; "Father of American Jurisprudence." Placed on the Court by President James Madison

Congress

"We are a Christian people... not because the law demands it, not to gain exclusive benefits or to avoid legal disabilities, but from choice and education; and in a land thus universally Christian, what is to be expected, what desired, but that we shall pay due regard to Christianity?"

[Senate Judiciary Committee Report, January 19, 1853]

"At the time of the adoption of the Constitution and the amendments, the universal sentiment was that Christianity should be encouraged... In this age there can be no substitute for Christianity... That was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants."

[House Judiciary Committee Report, March 27, 1854]

Education

"Let every student be plainly instructed and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life (John 17:3) and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning. And seeing the Lord only giveth wisdom, let every one seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of Him (Proverbs 2, 3). Every one shall so exercise himself in reading the Scriptures twice a day that he shall be ready to give such an account of his proficiency therein."

HARVARD
1636 Student Guidelines

"All the scholars are required to live a religious and blameless life according to the rules of God's Word, diligently reading the Holy Scriptures, that fountain of Divine light and truth, and constantly attending all the duties of religion."

YALE
1787 Student Guidelines

Supreme Court Rulings

There is no dissonance in these [legal] declarations... These are not individual sayings, declarations of private persons; they are organic [legal, governmental] utterances; they speak the voice of the entire people... These, and many other matters which might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that this is a Christian nation.

Church of the Holy Trinity v. U. S., 1892
Unanimous Decision Declaring America a Christian Nation
Significantly, the U. S. Supreme Court cited dozens of court rulings and legal documents as precedents to arrive at this ruling; but in 1962, when the Supreme Court struck down voluntary prayer in schools, it did so without using any such precedent

Why may not the Bible, and especially the New Testament, without note or comment, be read and taught as a divine revelation in [schools] - its general precepts expounded, its evidences explained and its glorious principles of morality inculcated?... Where can the purest principles of morality be learned so clearly or so perfectly as from the New Testament?

Vidal v. Girard's Executors, 1844
Unanimous Decision Commending and Encouraging the Use of the Bible in Government-Run Schools

Foreigners

The Americans combine the notions of Christianity and of liberty so intimately in their minds that it is impossible to make them conceive the one without the other.

Upon my arrival in the United States, the religious aspect of the country was the first thing that struck my attention; and the longer I stayed there, the more did I perceive the great political consequences resulting from this state of things, to which I was unaccustomed. In France I had almost always seen the spirit of religion and the spirit of freedom pursuing courses diametrically opposed to each other; but in America I found that they were intimately united, and that they reigned in common over the same country.

ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE
French observer of America in 1831, author of Democracy in America

There is no country in which the people are so religious as in the United States... The great number of religious societies existing in the United States is truly surprising; there are some of them for everything; for instance, societies to distribute the Bible; to distribute tracts; to encourage religious journals; to convert, civilize, educate;... to take care of their widows and orphans; to preach, extend, purify, preserve, reform the faith; to build chapels, endow congregations, support seminaries;... to establish Sunday schools;... to prevent drunkenness, etc.

ACHILLE MURAT
French observer of America in 1832

BLESSED IS THE NATION WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD

PSALM 33:12A

IF MY PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME WILL HUMBLE THEMSELVES, AND PRAY AND SEEK MY FACE, AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN, AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN AND HEAL THEIR LAND.

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

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SECTION B

HOMETOWN LIFE

Brad Emmons, editor (313) 222-6051
bemmons@hometownlife.com



Heptathlete Wade earns spot on world stage

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Bettie Wade admits she can be her own worst critic at times.

But after the former Farmington High standout earned a third-place finish with a personal best 5,908 points in the women's heptathlon at last weekend's USA Track and Field Outdoor Championships — along with the spot in the IAAF World Championships next month in Berlin — even she found some solace in what can be described as a trying year.



Wade

"I'm very excited," said the recent University of Michigan grad. "But it's been a rough season in my eyes because I've had high hopes and lofty goals. But I also feel thankful and blessed to qualify."

The women's heptathlon, consisting of seven events over two days, was made famous by American Jackie Joyner-Kersey.

But after Friday's opening day of events at the University of Oregon's historic Hayward Field in Eugene, Wade questioned whether it was time to move on to a different life.

"I had a couple of bad events — the javelin, the high jump and the hurdles," Wade said. "I talked, and I was about 95 percent sure this meet would be my last, and that I was going to go into college coaching."

"But overnight I prayed to God about it and I went out there the next day with the attitude that I was glad I was blessed and had the opportunity to compete. I've got extremely high standards and I get down, but God showed me there was a plan, and that I would

be a part of the weekend."

Wade finished a disappointing 13th overall in three events — the 200-meter dash (24.76 seconds), 100-meter hurdles (14.05) and javelin (110 feet, 4 inches). She also added a fifth in the high jump (5-7.5), but it was well below the 5-10 mark she set last month en route to a second-place finish in the NCAA Midwest Regional.

Her remaining marks came with a first place in the shot put, 45-10.5 (793 points); a second in the long jump, 21-0.5 (973); and an eighth in the 800, 2:19.37 (832).

"I would not say I had a good meet (at the USAs), but I had a P.R.," Wade said. "And whenever I can get it, then I'll take it."

Hyleas Fountain, an Olympic silver medalist at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, dropped out of the competition when she re-aggravated a neck injury with two events to go after leading the competition with 5,193 points.

That opened the door for Diana Pickler and Sharon Day, both representing Asics, to place one-two with IAAF World A qualifying standard point totals of 6,290 and 6,177, respectively.

Wade, who met the B standard by a mere eight points, set a personal record of 5,908 to beat her U-M school record and career best total of 5,876 set just two weeks earlier at the NCAA Outdoor Championships in Fayetteville, Ark. (where she placed third).

"This year I wanted to become a Big Ten champion (she was second) and a national (NCAA) champion," Wade said. "But after the last meet (where she finished third), I lost all my motivation and questioned whether I'd even go to the USAs. I questioned myself about a lot of things. I doubted

Please see **WADE, B3**



GOPHERTRACKSHOTS.COM | BECKY MILLER

Farmington High and U-M grad Bettie Wade, shown in the long jump, placed third in the USATF Outdoor Nationals last weekend in Eugene, Ore., and will represent the U.S. at the IAAF World Championships next month in Berlin, Germany.

SIDELINES

Lion DB at camp

Detroit Lions defensive back and Farmington Hills Harrison grad Chris Roberson will take part Tuesday in the Detroit Lions Youth Football Camp at Central Middle School in Plymouth.

The former Eastern Michigan University standout, originally selected in the seventh round of the 2005 NFL draft by the Jacksonville Jaguars, also spent time with the Miami Dolphins before being picked up as a free agent by the Lions in October of 2008.

He will attend the camp to work with the participants in the defensive back station, discuss life in the NFL, and also sign autographs.

The non-contact and fundamental camp is open to boys and girls ages 6-14.

The camp cost is \$159 and is limited to the next 20 to register.

Interested participants may register by phone, fax, or mail. For more information, call (313) 262-2248; or visit www.DetroitLions.com/youthfootball.

You can also e-mail youthfootballcamps@detroitlions.com.

Cieslak All-Academic

Northwood University junior track and field distance runner Kylen Cieslak (Livonia Churchill) has been named an Academic All-American by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Cieslak, who maintains a 3.93 grade-point average, was placed on the Women's Track and Field Collegiate Division's third team.

Earning Academic All-America honors is the latest in a long line of accomplishments for Cieslak, who became the first women's track All-American at Northwood since 1987 by placing sixth in the 3,000 meter run at the 2008 NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships. This year, Cieslak became a two-time All-American at the 2009 Outdoor championships in the 10,000 meters. She also was the first NU runner to earn first-team All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference honors in cross country, finishing second at the conference meet.

She currently owns a total of nine NU school records (two in cross country, three in indoor track, and four outdoor track).

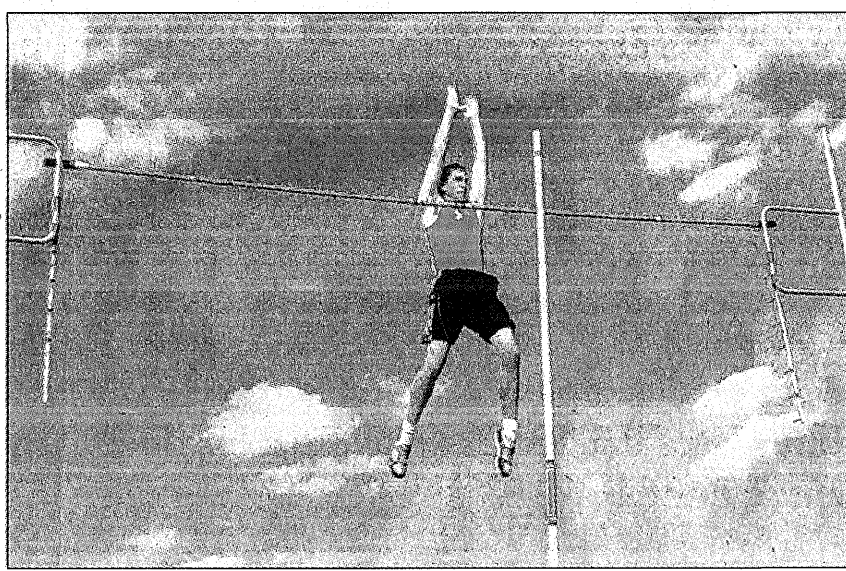
Benson earns invite

Oakland University's Keith Benson (Farmington Hills) was one of 14 collegiate big men to be invited to the Amar'e Stoudemire Skills Academy June 28-30.

The former Detroit Country Day High standout was one of five mid-major players selected for the camp.

The rising junior averaged 14.3 points and 7.8 rebounds per game last season for the Golden Grizzlies. He broke the single-season OU school record with 87 blocks and also holds the all-time record with 127.

Benson also finished fourth in the nation with a .622 field goal percentage and was named second-team All-Summit League.



PHOTOS BY VERN WILLIAMS

Max Babits cleared 16 feet during Saturday's Livonia Spree Vault competition at Ford Field.

Age no barrier as Spree vaulters raise the bar

BY BRAD EMMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The first-ever Livonia Spree '59 pole vault competition Saturday provided plenty of fireworks of its own that crossed several generations.

Vaulters from across the state converged on Ford Field in the inaugural USATF-sanctioned event that was the brainchild of Livonia Churchill High multi-events coach Vern Williams.

"It went great," said Williams, who brought his portable custom-built 130-foot wooden runway to the Spree softball diamond. "We started at 5 a.m. and didn't finish until 5 p.m."

The oldest vaulter in the competition was 72-year-old Jim Roth of Pinckney, who cleared 7 feet, 6 inches.

And it was a grand day for 56-year-old Patrick Theut, who set a new personal best with a 9-6. Canton High multi-events coach Matti Kilpelainen, 63, also cleared 12 feet.

One of the highlights of the meet was a friendly family vaulting duel between 48-year-old Paul Babits, a former Redford Union High standout, and his nephew, Max Babits, who will be a senior next year at Fowlerville H.S.

"Max and Paul both cleared 15



Canton multi-events coach Matti Kilpelainen, 63, attacks the portable runway during Saturday's Livonia Spree Vault competition.

feet and they both decided to pass to 16 feet," Williams said. "They were flawless up until this height (16-0), missing it three times. Now, the rules state that if both competitors are tied for first place, they both get one extra attempt at the same bar."

Please see **SPREE, B3**

Weinger, Costello win Farmington awards

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jordan Weinger and Shannon Costello were voted the top male and female athletes in the Farmington High School Class of 2009.

Costello received the John K. Cotton Award, which is given each year to the girls honoree, and the Aschenbrenner Award went to Weinger as the boys winner.

The Cotton Award is named for longtime Farmington Public Schools athletic director Jack Cotton, who was instrumental in starting the girls sports program.

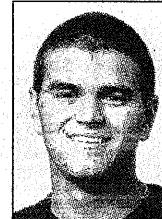
The boys award was established in 1948 in honor of Dr. Zae Aschenbrenner, who donated his time and medical skills to the athletic teams.

Senior athletes are nominated by their coaches, and the winners are determined by a vote of the varsity coaches and school administrators.

"Shannon is an exceptional person as is Jordan," Mary Sheltrown, the athletic coordinator at Farmington High, said. "Both winners are fabulous young people. They're very mature; they make good decisions. They're dedicated to their activities and to their academics."

"They've done volunteer work in various areas. Both have spent a lot of time in community service."

Costello played No. 1 doubles in ten-



Weinger



Costello

nis and was an all-division defender in soccer. She served as a team captain in both sports.

Costello, who had a 3.97 GPA and graduated Phi Beta Kappa, will attend Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas, and plans to study athletic training. She received a partial academic scholarship and will play soccer.

"Since the MHSAA switched seasons, Shannon has played soccer and tennis in the same (spring) season

the last two years and has been able to maintain high academics, as well as being looked upon as one of the leaders on each team," Sheltrown said.

Weinger was a four-year standout on the golf team, earning all-state honors twice. He made the Dream Team this year as chosen by the coaches association.

Weinger was the medalist in the Oakland County Division I and second OAA Division II tournaments. He averaged 37.67 strokes per nine-hole match and 74.17 in tournaments.

Please see **AWARDS, B3**

Cardinals soar past diamond foes

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Not bad for a first go-around. The Garden City Cardinals, members of the Garden City Youth Athletic Association, proved unbeatable during the recently completed regular season as they dominated their opponents from start to finish to register an unblemished 14-0 Pee Wee Division mark. In the process, the Cardinals outscored their foes by a combined 214-49.

"They loved to hit," Cardinals head coach Bill Main said. "We took a lot of batting practice and it was a great accomplishment by these girls. We had a great group of girls who always came to practice and worked hard on fundamentals."

The Cardinals, ages 11-14, put an exclamation point on their season in ensuing league tournament play by drubbing their two opponents by scores of 11-1 and 13-9.

Please see **CARDINALS, B3**

TEE TIME Your local golf guide

Are you dreaming of a perfect golf course?
Online Poll: Which public course on the U.S. Open rotation would you most like to play?

Go online to www.hometownlife.com/section/sports26 to take part in our online poll. We'll compare your choices with other readers on July 30!

Examining Rule 20: Lie of ball altered or spot not determinable

By Jeanne Myers

There are two small sections in Rule 20 that are vitally important but cause most golfers grief. They deal with replacing a golfer's ball when it has been moved and his lie has been altered or when his ball has been moved and he doesn't know exactly where it had been.

Lie of ball altered

If a golfer's lie has been altered in some way and he knows what the original lie of his ball was, he can proceed in this manner: Except in a hazard (water or bunker), he places the ball in the nearest lie most similar to the original within one club-length of the original lie, not nearer the hole and not in a

hazard. For example, if another player plays your ball, taking out a large divot, he has altered your lie. You do not have to place your ball in that divot. You place it in the nearest most similar lie within one club-length of the original lie. If this has occurred in a water hazard, the procedure is the same, but you must place the ball in the water hazard. In a bunker, if your lie has been altered, you have to recreate your original lie and place the ball in that lie.

For example, your ball and another player's ball lie close together in the bunker. You have a perfect lie. He asks you to mark because your ball interferes with his shot. You mark and lift your ball (not cleaning it) and he plays. He has now blasted a hole where

your ball had been. You get to recreate your lie by raking or smoothing the sand, and then place your ball in that lie.

Since 2008, a player receives a penalty for hitting a wrong ball out of a bunker or water hazard. Therefore, it is now necessary to lift a ball in a bunker or water hazard to identify it before playing. If the lie of the ball is altered in the process of lifting to identify the ball, this Rule applies to the replacement.

Spot Not Determinable

If your ball gets moved, and you don't know what the original lie was, the procedure is different. Suppose your ball is driven over by a golf cart and pops up in the air.

You have no idea exactly where it had been. Through the green, you will drop the ball as near as possible to the spot where it lay, but you cannot drop it in a hazard or on a putting green. Since you don't know the exact spot, you do your best to estimate.

The same process is followed if this happens when your ball lies in a hazard, except the ball must be dropped in the hazard. On the putting green, if you do not know the exact spot to replace your ball, you will place it as near as possible to where it lay, and again you do your best to estimate that position. An example of this is when your ball lies on the putting green and another player plays to the green. His ball hits and moves your ball, which now has to be replaced.

Suppose you mark your ball on the green and step aside while another group plays through. By mistake one of them removes your ball-marker. You will now have to proceed under the "spot not determinable" Rule and place your ball as near as possible to where it lay on the green, without penalty.

Many of the Rules of Golf, such as these, are there to help the golfer. It will lower your scores if you know them!

Jeanne Myers is currently an Assistant Tournament Director of the Golf Association of Michigan and also served as the Chairmen of the USGA Women's Committee and is a Past President of the GAM.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B4

Marion Professional Building at St. Mary's Hospital, 14555 Levan at Five Mile, Livonia. (313) 387-9797. www.oa.org

St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets at 10 a.m., the first and third Friday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care is provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. for this weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322.

Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group meets 7-9 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January, July and August, at Farmington Hills Baptist Church, 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. Enter at rear of church.

Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling, 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday in Room 202 at Detroit World Outreach, 23800 W. Chicago, Redford. For more information, call (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244.

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville offers Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.ward-church.org/celebrate.

Thrift store
Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Worship
Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills: 6 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., Saturday, 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., Sunday and 6 p.m., week days. (248) 851-5100.

Anglican Church of Livonia: 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia, 10 a.m., service at Livonia YMCA, 14255 Stark, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive. www.hischurch.us.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, just north of I-96, Livonia: 9:45 a.m., Sunday, contemporary multimedia service is informal, using modern and praise music, led by vocalists and various instruments, and occasionally dramas; 8:15 a.m. and 11 a.m. traditional services; 9:45 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sunday school and youth and adult Bible classes. (734) 522-6830.

Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland: 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Sunday worship, 9:45 a.m., Sunday school, 7 p.m., Wednesday prayer and Bible study. Youth fellowship 7 p.m., every other Friday.

Due Season Christian Church holds services at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, in Livonia: Nondenominational, multicultural, full gospel church services at 10 a.m. Sunday, with 7:15 p.m., Tuesday Bible study. (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia: 9:30 a.m., Sunday, 8:15 a.m., learning hour is at 8:15 a.m. for all ages. Visit www.livonfaith.org.

Garden City Presbyterian Church, Middlebelt one block south of Ford Road: 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music; 10 a.m., youth Sunday school and nursery care; 8:30 a.m. adult Sunday school; 6 p.m., informal gathering with scriptures and discussion every Sunday. Call (734) 421-7620.

Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school followed by 10:30 a.m. worship service with communion each Sunday; Bible study 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. (734) 427-3660.

Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton: 8 a.m. traditional Sunday service, and 10:30 a.m., contemporary; Sunday school and adult Bible study at 9:15 a.m. (734) 637-8160.

Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Sunday, 9 a.m., Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Sunday School, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday worship in the chapel. Call (734) 427-1414.

New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford: 10:30 a.m., Sundays. (313) 255-6330.

New Life Community Church, 42200 Tyler, Belleville: 11 a.m., Sunday. (734) 846-4615 or www.newlifecommunitychurch4u.com

Plymouth Baptist Church, 42021 Ann Arbor Trail, west of Haggerty: 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., Sunday worship. Both services feature contemporary and traditional worship music and in-depth Bible teaching. Full nursery and preschool programs available at both services. (734) 453-5534.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland: 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour from 9:30-10:40 a.m. Social hour follows each service. (734) 722-1735.

Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia: Non-traditional service designed to touch all the senses, 6:30 p.m., every second and fourth Sunday of the month at the church. Step into the light with relevant messages and modern music in a casual atmosphere. (734) 464-0990.

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, Livonia: 9 a.m., last Sunday of the month features a contemporary service with church members presenting a short drama on a theme relevant to the season, a church event, or current newsworthy situation. For more information, call (734) 422-0494.

St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Sunday; traditional worship at 9 a.m., Sunday, and contemporary service at 11:15 a.m. Sunday. Call (248) 474-0584 for additional information.

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia: contemporary service, 11:30 a.m., fourth Sunday of the month. (734) 422-6038.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia: 10 a.m., Sunday. (734) 422-1470.

Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, four miles south of Michigan Avenue: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Sunday, 6:15 p.m., Wednesday, 6 p.m., Sunday Bible studies and worship center for all ages includes dinner, child care. Call (734) 699-3361.

Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads: 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., Sundays. (734) 421-1760.

Westwood Community Church, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland: 10-11:15 a.m., Sunday. Come as you are. Coffee and doughnuts, children's church every Sunday.

Find music, food, fun at Garden Family Hootenanny

Rockin' moms, the Mydols, will perform at Garden Family Hootenanny, Sunday, July 12, at The Whitney, 4421 Woodward, in Detroit.

The event will run 3-5 p.m., and will include Cello-Bella!, a Music Together demonstration, and plenty of fun for children of all ages. As parents dig into food and drink at the outdoor cafe, kids will discover bubbles, games and crafts blooming along the garden path.

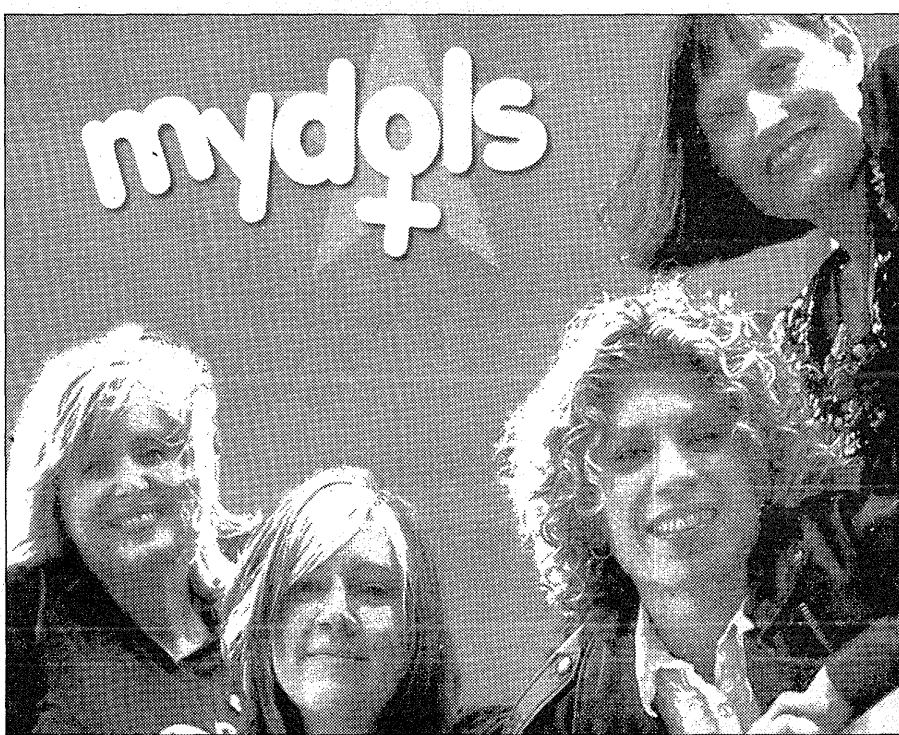
A "hootenanny" is defined as a social gathering or informal concert featuring folk singing and dancing. The Garden Family Hootenanny is the latest in a series of Hootenanny concerts and CDs organized by April Boyle, lead singer of the Mydols, to celebrate music both children and parents can enjoy.

Since 2001, Detroit Family Hootenannies have brought together talented musicians to jam with full audience participation. Acts have included Dan Miller, Pas/Cal, The Sirens, Loretta Lucas, Jawbone and Liz Mitchell. The concerts gave rise to two critically-acclaimed compilation CDs, *Detroit Family Hootenanny: Detroit Folks Playing Old and New Music for Kids* in 2006, and *Holiday Hootenanny* in 2007.

The Mydols is an all-mom band that entices kids to join in on songs like *Run Crazy Baby* and *Three is a Magic Number*. Cello-Bella! will play family favorites like *On the Good Ship Lollipop* and *You've Got a Friend in Me* on cello and acoustic guitar.

Parents and children can join Melissa Regan and Merrily Gechter exploring rhythm instruments, songs, chants and dance during a joyful, energetic demonstration of the Music Together classes they conduct in Birmingham, Plymouth and Canton.

The Whitney will provide garden fare, cocktails and mocktails for purchase. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 for parents, free for children 12 and under. Call Emily Driscoll at (313) 832-5700 to reserve tickets. www.thefamilyhoot.com.



The Mydols, an all-mom band, will perform July 12.

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<p>CATHOLIC</p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p>
<p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200 Mass Schedule: First Fri. 7:00 p.m. First Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>Redford Aldersgate United Methodist 2 blocks South of Plymouth 10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170 9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch. 11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship www.redfordaldersgate.org</p>	<p>St. James Presbyterian Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford, (813) 534-7730 Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette</p>	<p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96 734-522-6830 Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413 Staffed Nursery Available Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden</p>
<p>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p., Wed., Thurs. 9 a., Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a., Sat. 6 p., Sun 9a</p>	<p>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149 Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 am Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 Friends in Faith Service 8:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs</p>	<p>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP. Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p>
<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia • Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRD-AM 560 The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org</p>	<p>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA (734) 261-1380 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org</p>
<p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p>	<p>GREEK ORTHODOX</p>	<p>GREEK ORTHODOX</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p>
<p>Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Heather, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)</p>	<p>NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr. George Vaparis Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygochurch.org</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p>

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: dhart@dmps.com

Local Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

Local marketing firm earns honors from business communicators association

Markit Strategies and PR, LLC, a Canton-based integrated strategic marketing and public relations firm, is the recipient of three 2009 Renaissance Awards from the Detroit Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators.

Markit earned top honors with two prestigious Awards of Excellence in media relations and marketing communications (for direct marketing). A third Award of Honor was received for the event marketing work performed for Plex System's 2008 PowerPlex user conference in Grand Rapids.

The prestigious business awards honor the effectiveness of Markit Strategies' integrated marketing communications program on behalf of technology client Plex Systems, Inc. (Auburn Hills, Mich.). The judge's comments indicated Markit Strategies received a perfect score for effective implementation of the marketing communications/public relations project in terms of budget, time, and other key resources.

They also commented on how well the project's goals and objectives were met for the client. Other key achievements include improved media awareness, increased target publication coverage, speaker placement, and industry accolades received by the client company. All of these programs have helped Michigan-based Plex Systems grow their business an average of 40 percent annually the last three-plus years.

"We are very pleased with Markit Strategies and the excellent support they provide our team," said Plex Systems Vice President of Marketing Patrick Fetterman. "Their professionalism, diligence and alignment with our strategic initiatives make them an integral part of our efforts in telling the story about our product and services and the successes our customers enjoy."

Judges comments were also glowing for the Award of



Peggy Fenwick of Markit Strategies of Canton with her client, Patrick Fetterman, vice president of marketing at Plex Systems.

Excellence bestowed on the direct marketing program developed by the Markit Strategies/Plex account team. "Excellent results; shows the impact of your marketing plan in great detail; a value added project that showcased the return on investment of good marketing communications," as written on the final entry form from the judges.

This year's judges were from the IABC chapters in St. Louis, Phoenix, Texas and Sacramento.

"We're especially proud of this significant recognition as it honors our effective teamwork we have at Markit Strategies. In fact, this exceptional teamwork is the fuel that allows Markit Strategies to attain truly noteworthy results for its clients, even in a difficult economy like this one," noted Markit Strategies' founder and principal Peggy Fenwick. "We applaud the clients who recognize that now

is the best time to implement creative and effective marketing programs."

The award recognizes the efforts of the entire Markit Strategies' public relations and direct marketing team including: Julie Rogier, Patrick McLaughlin, Karen Manardo, Paula Turner, Margaret Johnson, Peggy Fenwick, Julie Metea, Valerie Valentine, Opal Ritchie, Terry Maternowski, Colleen Sullivan Leh, and Debra Schoonfield.

Markit Strategies and PR, founded in early 2005, assists many manufacturing, technology, and professional services companies and organizations with strategic market development, planning, web and collateral development, press release writing and establishing productive relationships with the media. For more information, visit www.markitstrategies.com or call (734) 516-6490.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

'Plymouth Rocks' day

Last week, Hug Center for Hearing had a "Chamber Rocks" day at their office where Dr. Gerald Hug and his staff dressed in our T-shirts. You can also see these shirts on the staff at the Penn Theatre, at Ross Mortgage and on staff members at Citizens Bank on Fridays. We thank these members for helping us promote the Chamber's "Plymouth Rocks" community marketing campaign.



Wes Graff

These shirts can be purchased from the Chamber for \$8 or discounted for group orders. Shirts can also be ordered to co-brand.

Business/Community News

Full slate of activities planned 4th of July week

The Fourth of July is a busy time in the Plymouth Community with many great family events. Here is an overview of the week's July 4th activities:

- July 2: Plymouth Community Band, 8 p.m., Kellogg Park. Enjoy a selection of patriotic music.
- July 3: Music in the Park, 7-9:30 p.m., Kellogg Park. Hear the band Fifty Amp Fuse then head over to the fireworks!
- July 3: Plymouth Township Fireworks, 10 p.m., Township Park, Ann Arbor Trail and McClumpha.
- July 4: Good Morning USA Parade, 7:30 a.m., Main Street in Downtown Plymouth. This is the country's first 4th of July parade of the day.
- July 4: Farmers Market, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., In The Gathering next to the Penn Theatre. Once the parade ends, go the Farmers Market for fresh produce to enjoy at the Good Old Fashion Picnic.
- July 4: Good Old Fashion Picnic, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Township Park, Ann Arbor Trail and McClumpha. The picnic features drinks, hotdogs, and chips for just five cents each, along with children's games and family activities.

New management

Sean O'Callaghan's, at 821 Penniman, is under new management and has lowered the prices on their menu.

The Irish pub is featuring a Farmers "Make-It" Salad for \$7.95 where patrons choose as many items as they would like from an extensive list.

Stella open house

Stella Contracting celebrates over fifty years of service in the Plymouth community. In honor of this accomplishment Stella Contracting is hosting an Open House on July 4 on the parade route, at 747 S. Main Street, Plymouth. Beginning at 7:30 a.m. join them for breakfast treats, refreshments and fun.

As a thank you to the Plymouth Chamber for years of support they are offering Chamber members and their friends and family 51 percent off any installed bathroom countertop with the completion of a bathroom remodel. This offer is good through August of 2009. For more information, please contact Jeff Stella at (734) 459-7111.

Free theater tickets

Free tickets for Chamber members are available for the July 16 exclusive "sneak preview" of Barefoot Production's "Comedy Double Feature." The shows start at 7 p.m. at their theatre on 240 North Main St. featuring Steve Martin's "Picasso at Lapin Agile" and Tim Harris' "The Adventures of Captain Neato Man."

Tickets can be picked up at the Chamber office at 850 West Ann Arbor Trail starting on Friday of this week. There are only 40 tickets available on a first-come-first-serve basis. The production will run July 23 through August 2.

E-Newz sponsorships

The Chamber is now offering members the ability to sponsor our popular E-Newz letters. Members can be a sponsor by placing an advertisement at the top of the newsletter that will include a link to their web site. To sponsor the E-Newz for an entire month, the cost will be \$150. If you are interested in sponsoring, please contact Teri Fry at teri@plymouthmich.org or call (734) 453-1540. We will not accept more than one sponsor per month.

Web Site of the Week

American House Westland II - To help members see other web sites in the community and get ideas they could use for their own sites, we will feature a different member's site each week. This week we are featuring the Web site from the American House Westland II: www.american-house.com.

Wes Graff is executive director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce. He can be reached by calling (734) 453-1540.

CANTON CHAMBER CHAT

Photo gallery

The Canton Chamber of Commerce has added a new and exciting feature to the Chamber Web site at www.cantonchamber.com

"We now have a Photo Gallery, that covers all of our Chamber Events," said Dianne Cojei, President of the Canton Chamber of Commerce. We have photos from all of our 2009 Ribbon Cuttings as well as our Luncheons, After Hours, Networking Coffees, Auction, Consumer Expos and much more.

The Chamber Web site offers a complete Directory listing of our members by category and/or by company name. We also offer easy access to other Web sites including Shop Canton, Canton Township, Canton DDA, Leisure Services, S.C.O.R.E. and much more. The Chamber Web site offers coupons and discounts for members, residents and visitors. Looking for a place to hold a meeting? Looking for a good place to eat? The Canton chamber Web site has it all... just go to www.cantonchamber.com

The Canton Chamber of Commerce is a member driven organization dedicated to stimulating positive business growth, fostering community leadership and acting as an advocate for the business community. For more information, log onto www.cantonchamber.com.

Grub Crawl

Canton Chamber of Commerce, Charter Township of Canton and the Downtown Development Authority will be co-hosting Canton's eighth annual Grub Crawl 6-10 p.m. Tuesday, July 21. This event is open to the public and participants must be 21 years of age or older.

The Grub Crawl is an opportunity for area restaurants to showcase their establishment as well as promote Canton's diversity while having fun. Participating restaurants in this year's event include: 4 Friends Restaurant, Applebees, Antonio's Cucina Italiana, Bailey's Pub & Grille, bd's Mongolian Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Carrabba's Italian Grill, Chili's, Crow's Nest, Max & Erma's, Rose's Grill & Bar, Shark Club, Shish Kabob Cafe, T.C. Gator's Sports Page, and T.G.I. Friday's.

"The Grub Crawl is an event for the community and businesses. It's really important that we continue to have functions that include our entire community, and the Grub Crawl gives us this opportunity," said Dianne Cojei, President of the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

According to Cojei, last year almost 600 people attended this event. Tickets (T-shirt) are \$35 each and include transportation to and from participating restaurants. T-shirts are on sale now and can be purchased at the Chamber office. T-shirt sizes are on a first come first serve basis so reserve yours early. If you are interested in participating in the Grub Crawl, please contact the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

Major Sponsors are National City Bank, Approved Mortgages, Waltonwoods of Canton.

For more information on the Canton Chamber of Commerce, log onto www.cantonchamber.com.

Golf outing

Each year the Canton Chamber of Commerce hosts an annual Golf Outing. This year the classic will take place on Tuesday, Aug. 19, at Pheasant Run Golf Club of Canton. This event is open to the public, and there are various packages available for purchase.

Golf for Four Package, \$550- Includes golf with cart for four, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, Buffet dinner, prizes, gift package and more!

Golf for Four Sponsorship Package, \$650- Includes golf for four with cart and a Tee or Green Sponsorship, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, Buffet dinner, prizes, gift package, signage at the course, recognition at the dinner, and a plaque.

Individual Golf, \$150- Includes golf with cart, continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, beverages on the course, Buffet dinner, prizes, gift package, and more!

Dinner Only, \$35. Tee and Green sponsorships are available and affordable. If you are interested in purchasing a sponsorship, contact the Chamber at (734) 453-4040.

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NEW PATIENTS

Fun on the Fourth

From water play to fireworks gazing, there's plenty to do this weekend

The laundry and mowing can wait. Declare your independence from the mundane and create some fun this holiday weekend. There's something for everyone happening in the metro area. You just need to get out and enjoy it:

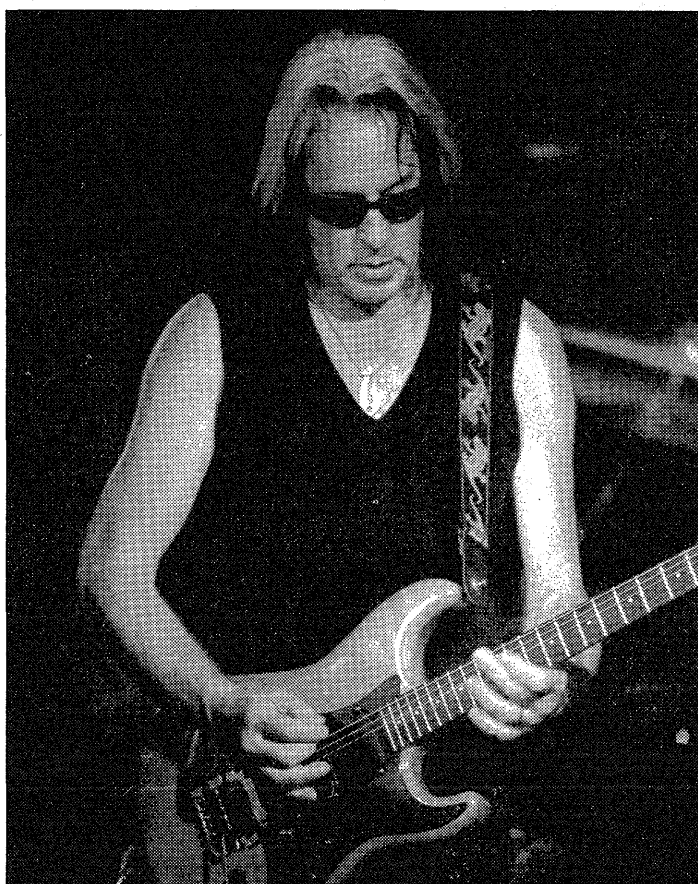
IN THE SKY

- **Ooh and aah at Plymouth Township's fireworks**, at 10 p.m. at Township Park, Ann Arbor Trail at McClumpha roads.
- **Westland ends its annual summer festival with fireworks** at 10 p.m., Sunday, July 5.
- **The Clinton-Huron Metroparks offer fireworks** at 10 p.m. on July 3 at Hudson Mills Metropark near Dexter and July 4 at Willow Metropark near Belleville. (800) 477-2757
- **See fireworks on July 4 at Camp Dearborn in Milford.**
- **Catch fireworks on Friday, July 3 at Lincoln Hills Golf Course in Birmingham** and on Saturday, July 4, at Clawson City Park in Clawson and Rackham Golf Course in Huntington Woods.

ON THE WATER

You don't have to own a yacht - or even a rowboat - to enjoy gentle waves and beautiful scenery on the this weekend.

- **Sea Grant Michigan's Discovery Cruises**
Take an educational tour of the lower Detroit River, leaving from Lake Erie Metropark, 38421 W. Jefferson, in Brownstown. The cruises are open to the public, ages 6 and up. This weekend, look at fish ecology, commercial fishing history and hear fish tales on the "Fish Story Cruise," 10 a.m., Friday, July 3; journey to the north end of Grosse Isle and into Canadian waters during the four-hour "Big River Meander," 2 p.m., Friday, July 3; hear stories about the river's geologic past during "River of Time," 10 a.m. Saturday, July 4, and 2 p.m., Sunday, July 5; learn rope work, pirate skills and sailor jargon at "All Board Kids," 2 p.m., Saturday, July 4; focus on the natural history of the river during the Eagle's Eye Nature cruise, 6 p.m., July 4 and 2 p.m., July 5; and revisit the days when rum-runners ruled the river during "Whiskey River," 6 p.m., July 5. The two-hour cruises cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for children,



Rundgren

age 6-17; add \$5 for the Big River Meander. Make reservations at www.discoverycruises.org or call Lake Erie Metropark at (734) 379-5020.

- **The Island Queen II**
Sails every hour from noon-6 p.m., daily at Kensington Metropark, in Milford. Cost is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children, 3-12 and senior citizens. Kensington Metropark is located off exit 155 on I-96. (248) 685-1561. Entry fee for the park is \$4 daily.

IN THE WATER

Can you really ever get enough of water slides, squirting playscapes and fountains?

- **Splash Park in Canton**
Slip into your water shoes and head for splash fun, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday-Sunday, July 3-5, at Heritage Park, located west of Canton Center, south of Cherry Hill, in Canton. Children 12 and under must be supervised by adults and no pets are allowed in the water. Afterward, grill a picnic lunch, play sand volleyball or fish off the pier. (734) 394-5360 for Canton Leisure Services.

- **Splash 'n' Blast at Kensington Metropark**
Take the plunge down two, 250-foot twisted water slides or frolic in the water spray park amid cannons, palm trees and serpents that squirt. Water slide riders must be at least 48 inches high. Admission to the water park is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children, 15 and under, and senior citizens. The twilight - 5-7 p.m. - rate is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and seniors. Open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Entry for Kensington Metropark is \$4.

- **Splashpad at Capitol Park**
The squirt park at 26650 Capitol, Redford Township, is open daily from 11 a.m.-7 p.m., through Labor Day. Water shoes and adult supervision for children, 12 and under is recommended. Call (313) 387-2650, Parks and Recreation, for more information.

- **Plymouth Township Sprayscape**
All ages can cool off at Township Park, 46640 Ann Arbor Trail, just east of Beck. The sprayscape, open from 10 a.m. to one hour before park closing, offers 24 sprays, including 12 ground sprays.

- **Swim in Livonia**
Take a dip in one of Livonia's three outdoor pools, 1-7:45 p.m. Friday and noon-6:45 p.m., Saturday-Sunday this weekend. They're open at 19444 Lathers, (248) 476-9700; at 9999 Harrison, (734) 421-9800; and at 3123 Van Clout, (734) 524-0649. Resident fees are \$4 for adults, \$3 for age 3-17 and senior citizens. Non-residents pay \$7.50 for adults and \$5.25 for seniors, children and teens. Or head indoors at the Livonia Community Center, 15100 Hubbard, for fun in the leisure pool with its lazy river ride, water slide and sprayscape. Check online at www.ci.livonia.mi.us for day to day class and open swim times. Or call (734) 466-2900. A daily adult pass to the recreation center is \$7 for residents and \$14 for nonresidents. Youth fees vary, depending on age, from \$4 to \$7 for residents and \$8 to \$14 for nonresidents.

ON PARADE

- **In Plymouth**
The Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth sponsors the Good Morning USA 4th of July Parade that begins at 7:30 a.m., on Main street from Theodore to Hartsough.
- **In Northville**
Check out the Independence Day Parade at 10 a.m., in downtown Northville.

FESTIVALS

- **Plymouth Township**
The Independence Day Good Old Fashioned July 4th Picnic, runs 11 a.m.-4 p.m., in Township Park.
- **Westland Summer Festival**
The festival runs noon-dusk, July 3-5, at Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, in Westland. Midway rides and games, food, children's area, racing pigs, musical entertainment and more. (734) 335-7943; www.westlandfestival.org
- **Comerica CityFest**
The mid-town Detroit bash celebrates its 21st birthday, through Sunday, July 5. Includes four music stages, food, merchant area, kids' activities. Hours are 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday and 11:30 a.m.-8 p.m., in Detroit's Historic New Center. Admission is free. "Taste" tickets in the outdoor dining area are \$10 for 16 tickets. Musical headliners include Todd Rundgren, The Veronicas and Buddy Guy. www.newcenter.com/city-fest/2009
- **Camp Dearborn**
Annual Beach Bash, a family event, starts at 7 p.m., July 4 in Milford. Free open-air concert by Fifty Amp Fuse followed by spectacular fireworks. Food and beverages available for purchase.

CONCERTS

- **In Northville**
Randy Brock Group plays from 7-9 p.m., July 3, in Town Square, located on Main between Center and Hutton streets. Admission is free. (248) 349-0203

- **In Dearborn**
Hear the Detroit Symphony Orchestra play patriotic favorites at 6 p.m., July 3-4 at The Henry Ford's Greenfield Village. Fireworks follow "17th Annual Salute to America." Concert admission is \$12-\$50. (313) 576-5111; www.detroitssymphony.com
- **At Metroparks**
Square Pegs and The Mainstreet Drive perform 5:30-11 p.m. perform July 4 at Willow Metropark, Belleville; (800) 477-3182. Catch Billy Mack and Juke Joint Johnnies from 7-11 p.m., Friday, July 3, at Hudson Mills Metropark near Dexter/Ann Arbor; (734) 426-8211. Teen Angels take the stage at 6 p.m., July 3 at Lake Erie Metropark in Brownstown; (734) 379-5020.

- **ARTISTIC FUN**
In Northville
Art galleries and arts and crafts stores will be open 6-9 p.m., July 3 for First Friday Art Walk. Sponsored by the Northville Central Business Association.

- **NATURE LOVERS**
Metroparks
Learn about snakes and turtles during "Beasts on the Beach," Friday-Sunday, July 3-5, at Kensington Metropark in Milford. Take a bird hike at 7:30 a.m., July 4 at Hudson Mills Metropark near Ann Arbor. Bring binoculars and a field guide for observation. Fee is \$2 per person. Pre-registration required for bird hike at (734) 426-8211.

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Declare your independence from mundane cookout fare

The Best of Relish Cookbook, released last month by The Countryman Press, aims to make your Fourth of July celebration "so much more" than hot dogs, chips and potato salad this year.

Compiled by the editors of Relish Magazine, the book offers 150 recipes for newfound and favorite home-cooked dishes, covering everything from light soups to sides, hearty pastas, classic main dishes, hearty breakfasts, delectable desserts, and vegetarian entrees. The recipes run the gamut from down-home to upscale, with innovative replacements for the "same old" side dishes. Here's a sampling from the book, a \$24.95 hardcover:

MANDARIN PUNCH

- 1 large ripe banana
- 1/2 cups pineapple juice
- 1 quart fresh satsuma, tangerine or orange juice
- 1 cup gold rum
- 1/2 cup orange-flavored liqueur, such as Cointreau
- 1/2 cup dark rum, such as Myers
- 1/2 cup lime juice
- 2 tablespoons grenadine
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Put a little more "punch" in this punch by adding a splash of ginger ale right before serving.

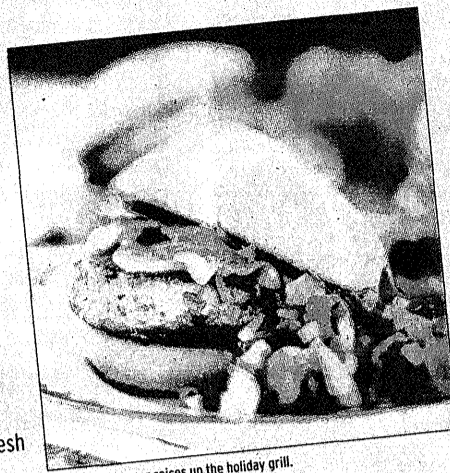
Combine banana and pineapple juice in a blender or food processor; process until smooth. Pour into large pitcher. Stir in remaining ingredients. Pour over ice. Serves 8. Calories 250; fat 0g; chol. 0mg; prot. 0g; carbs. 35g; fiber 0g; sodium 110 mg per serving.

THAI TURKEY BURGERS

There are times when we all need a new way to season ground turkey. Thai ingredients were the inspiration for this juicy burger that serves four.

- 1 pound ground turkey (not breast meat)
- 4 green onions, minced
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro
- 2 teaspoons low-sodium soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon minced peeled fresh ginger
- Coarsely ground black pepper
- 4 hamburger buns

1. Combine all ingredients except buns in a large bowl; mix gently. Divide meat mixture into 4 equal portions, shaping each into a patty.



Thai Turkey Burger spices up the holiday grill.

2. Grill, broil or pan-fry until thoroughly cooked. Serve on hamburger buns. Calories 330; fat 14g; chol. 90mg; prot. 25g; carbs. 23g; fiber 1g; sodium 570mg per serving.

ORANGE MERINGUE PIE

A seasonal spin on this classic pie, perfect with a strong cup of tea. Serves eight.

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- Cooking spray
- 3 eggs, separated, room temperature
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, divided
- 2 1/2 cups fresh Satsuma, tangerine or orange juice, divided
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 1/4 cup finely grated tangerine or orange rind
- 1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 6 tablespoons powdered sugar

1. Preheat oven to 350F.
 2. Combine cracker crumbs and butter; toss with a fork until moist. Press into bottom of a 9-inch pie pan coated with cooking spray. Bake 10 minutes; cool.
 3. Increase oven temperature to 375F.
 4. Whisk egg yolks, 1/2 teaspoon vanilla, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/2 cup juice in a medium bowl until smooth.
 5. Combine 2 cups juice, granulated sugar, cornstarch and rind in a medium saucepan; whisk in egg yolk mixture. Cook over medium heat, whisking constantly, until thick and bubbling, about 5 minutes. Pour

into crust.
 6. Beat egg whites, cream of tartar, and 1/4 teaspoon salt in a large bowl with a mixer at high speed until foamy, about 1 minute. Beat in powdered sugar 1 tablespoon at a time; continue beating until soft peaks form. Beat in 1/2 teaspoon vanilla.
 7. Spread meringue over warm pie, sealing to crust's edges.
 8. Bake about 15 minutes, until lightly browned and set. Cool to room temperature on a wire rack before serving. Calories 290; fat 10; chol. 95mg; prot. 4g; carbs. 47g; fiber 1g; sodium 340mg per serving.

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Livonia woman shares recipe for holiday salad

Diane Meakin of Livonia loves spaghetti salad because "it's bursting with flavor" and tastes "even better" the next day. She offers the recipe to readers for Fourth of July weekend, but says she plans to make the salad at an annual backyard bash in August, celebrating her birthday and her husband's birthday. She calls it "Rick's Spaghetti Salad" after the friend who gave her the recipe.

RICK'S SPAGHETTI SALAD

- 1 pound spaghetti
- 1 seedless cucumber
- 2 medium tomatoes
- 1/2 purple onion
- 1 regular size Kraft zesty Italian dressing
- 1 bottle Durkee salad seasoning.

Cook spaghetti. Let cool. Dice tomatoes, cucumber and onions. Mix all ingredients and refrigerate for one hour. Enjoy!

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