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THURSDAY  
July 15, 2010

The Observer & Eccentric  
Newspapers

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# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## PIPELINE Cruisers walking

Members of the Plymouth Community Council on Aging "Cruisers Walking Club" are not only walking for their health, but will now be dedicating their "Walking Miles" to the "Wounded Warrior Project" to endeavor to honor and empower wounded warriors.

Each mile walked helps to bring awareness and public support for the needs of injured service men and women. Join in the cause at 9 a.m. Thursdays at Plymouth Township Park (Ann Arbor Trail, between Nelson and Bevel). There are no costs involved.

For more information, call (734) 453-1234, ext. 236.

## Treasure trove

What treasures are stashed around Plymouth? Locals are about to find out.

The Treasure Hunters Roadshow is on a worldwide treasure hunt and will be digging in town July 20-24 at the Comfort Inn, 40455 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

During this free event, the Treasure Hunters are expecting to see more than 1,200 residents bringing in their rare and unusual collectibles.

During this event at the Comfort Inn, treasure hunters are hoping to see items such as coins and paper currency issued prior to 1965, toys, dolls, trains, vintage jewelry, old and modern musical instruments, war memorabilia, gold and silver jewelry, costume jewelry, advertising memorabilia, swords, knives, daggers and the unusual.

For further information, call (217) 726-7590.

## Money management

The Plymouth District Library, along with the Michigan Office of Financial & Insurance Regulation and the Investor Protection Trust, hosts guest speaker Mark Robinson at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 21, to define IRAs and 401(k) plans, how these plans work in accumulation and withdrawal plans, asset allocation and diversification, life-cycle and lifetime funds.

This free money management program does require advance registration, which can be done by contacting the library at (734) 453-0750, ext. 4, or online at [http://plymouthlibrary.org/regist\\_friends.htm](http://plymouthlibrary.org/regist_friends.htm).

# Threatened with layoffs, police OK pact

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Police officers in Plymouth Township have apparently averted layoffs with the approval Monday of a new contract proposal that includes employee concessions.

The township's 21 officers will see their pay cut by 5 percent in exchange for furlough days, pay more out of pocket for medical care and contribute 1 percent of their gross annual wages toward health insurance premiums under the new deal, which expires at

the end of next year.

Health insurance benefits for retiring officers will also be affected, and officers who work holidays will get paid their flat hourly wage (in addition to holiday pay) instead of time-and-a-half.

"We took the concessions to save seven jobs. There's not much more you can say," said Officer Bill Fetner, vice president of the Plymouth Township Police Officers Association. "With the way the economy is and the threat of layoffs, members voted it in."

Fetner declined to reveal the out-

come of the vote, except to say the plan was ratified. A June vote on concessions by the officers failed.

The plan is expected to be approved Tuesday by the township Board of Trustees.

The township and the officers union had been negotiating for months as township officials sought concessions to offset falling property tax revenue and cuts in state aid. Other employee unions — clerical workers, public safety dispatchers and public works employees — have made similar concessions.

Township Supervisor Richard Reaume estimated the new contract will save the township between \$140,000 and \$150,000 a year.

"We wanted more, but this is a very difficult group and they come with a lot of public support," Reaume said. "Nobody wants to have less officers. We didn't want to have less officers."

The contract includes some protection against layoffs: If any officers are laid off during the contract period, the concessions are voided.

Please see **POLICE, A3**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Ya gotta have art

Helena Bryans and Alyssa Bryans (above), both of Northville, and Emily Chapski of Livonia meet George Tait, known as The Living Statue at last weekend's Art in the Park in downtown Plymouth. Exhibitor Jade Weber (below), of Plymouth, owns the Stick Nymph. For more coverage of the event, see page A7.



# Doctor sent to prison for drunken crash

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The man who caused a January crash that left a Canton Township woman partially paralyzed and in need of long-term care will spend the next 31 months behind bars.

Jason Choos, 46, was sentenced Monday to two years in prison and seven months in jail, plus five years on tightly supervised probation, by Judge Daniel P. Ryan in Wayne County Circuit Court. The sentence had been called for in a plea agreement.

A podiatrist who practiced in Westland, Choos last month pleaded no contest to four felony and two misdemeanor charges in the Jan. 29 crash in Plymouth Township that severely injured Dawn Hengesbaugh, 41. Police and prosecutors said Choos was drunk and had marijuana in his system when he crashed his Lincoln MKX, a sport-utility vehicle, into a Chevrolet Trailblazer carrying Hengesbaugh and her family. The crash occurred at Ann Arbor Road and I-275.

Hengesbaugh spent several weeks in a coma and, paralyzed below the waist and unable to remember the crash or anything before it, remains at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. Family members, including her husband, Larry, their 12-year-old son, Zachary, and her mother, Claudette Hays, attended the sentencing.

Choos, also of Canton, was remorseful in a statement he read before being sentenced. He said he had made a "terrible mistake" and acted with "complete recklessness" and that he

Please see **PRISON, A3**

# Hopefuls say bringing in business key to recovery

Whyman: Last 8 years 'intolerable'

Osterman: 'Unpopular' solutions needed

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The first time she served in the state Legislature, Deborah Whyman spent time with her party in the minority, and time with her party in the majority.

As such, she said, she learned to work on both sides of the aisle to try and get things done. It's a talent, said

Whyman, who served in the state House from 1993-1998, that would work well for her if she's sent back to Lansing.

Whyman, 52, of Canton, is one of four Republicans — along with Patrick Colbeck, Dan Osterman and Abe Munfakh — seeking

Please see **WHYMAN, A4**

BY BRAD KADRICH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Dan Osterman thinks state government is broken, an administration that has become dependent on Washington to solve its problems.

And he thinks he's the right candidate to help fix the problem.

Osterman, 55, of Van

Buren Township, is one of four Republican candidates — along with Deborah Whyman, Patrick Colbeck and Abe Munfakh — seeking the Republican nomination in the Aug. 3 primary for the state Senate seat in the 7th District, a seat being vacated by term-limited Sen. Bruce Patterson. The

Please see **OSTERMAN, A4**



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## INDEX

APARTMENTS ... .. C2	CROSSWORD PUZZLE ... .. C2	REAL ESTATE ... .. C2
AUTOMOTIVE ... .. C4	HOME & SERVICE ... .. C2	SPORTS ... .. B1
CAREER BUILDER ... .. C3	OBITUARIES ... .. B9	STRICTLY BUSINESS ... .. A5

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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 [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com)

**Business 2 Business**

The next Business 2 Business mixer takes place 5:30 p.m. Thursday, July 15, at the Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, in downtown Plymouth.

There are no fees, no groups to join - just "Business 2 Business" mixing. Participants should bring business cards for exchanging with fellow business owners in the Plymouth, Canton and Northville areas.

For more information, call (734) 455-8722.

**Lotus exhibit**

Lotus Arts Gallery announced the opening of a new exhibition, Paint it Bold, which will be on display at the gallery through Friday, Aug. 13.

The Paint it Bold exhibit is a small group show featuring the work of artists Peggy Kerwan (mixed media), David Austin (acrylic/canvas), Diane Whitehead (acrylic & graphite/wood, watercolor & graphite/paper), Jeri Fellwock (acrylic/canvas or paper, mixed media) and Jeanne Poulet (acrylic/canvas).

An opening reception is set for Friday, July 16, from 6-9 p.m. Enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages and conversations with the artists. Lotus Arts Gallery is located at 995 West Ann Arbor Trail (corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Harvey Street) in downtown Plymouth. The public is welcome to view the exhibit during gallery hours between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. There is no fee.

For more information, contact the gallery toll free at (888) 889-4ART or at (734) 453-5400.

**Christian concert**

Plymouth First United Methodist Church hosts "Heart Beats 2010, Music With A Message," a free outdoor music event in Kellogg Park 5-9 p.m. Saturday, July 17.

Featured artists include Bethesda, Chosen, The Cast and Crew and Please Promise. These young, energetic Christian-based bands will be performing a variety of musical styles, including rock, punk, independent and praise.

You can check them out in advance on Myspace: [www.myspace.com/bethesda](http://www.myspace.com/bethesda)

[www.myspace.com/chosenworshipband](http://www.myspace.com/chosenworshipband)

[www.myspace.com/thecastandcrewband](http://www.myspace.com/thecastandcrewband)

[www.myspace.com/pleasepromise](http://www.myspace.com/pleasepromise)

In conjunction with the entertainment and in an attempt to create greater awareness of community services and other churches in the area, First Step and Cass Social Services will be present along with several local churches and various service groups within our church. Each will have a display table set up for your perusal.

The local Kiwanis Club will be on hand with their Snack Wagon selling popcorn, candy bars, water and soda pop. Should you desire a full meal the park is surrounded by a variety of restaurants.

For more information contact PFUMC at (734) 453-5280 or visit the church on the web at [www.pfumc.org](http://www.pfumc.org).

**Fall Fest crafts**



**Scholarship winner**

Bill and Amy Piepsney, with scholarship recipient James Middleditch (center), endowed a Canton Community Foundation scholarship in honor of their son, Dustin, who passed away in December 2008. The \$650 scholarship was designed this year to go to a wrestler, and the Piepsneys say eligibility criteria may be expanded for future scholarships to include student athletes in other sports. Dustin played football and wrestled in school.

The Plymouth Fall Festival is accepting applications for the Craft Show, which takes place during the Fall Festival Sept. 10-12.

The show will be on Union Street north of Ann Arbor Trail; 10-foot-by-10-foot spaces will cost \$75 per day or \$200 for the weekend. The jewelry vendor application deadline has passed. All other vendors are awarded spots on a first come-basis.

Applications can be downloaded at [www.plymouthfall-festival.com](http://www.plymouthfall-festival.com) or for more information call or e-mail Colleen Brown at (734) 455-1614 or [cbrown57@comcast.net](mailto:cbrown57@comcast.net).

**Matinee series**

Community Financial Credit Union, Packaging Corporation of America and the Plymouth

District Library sponsor the Summer Cinema Matinee Series at the Penn Theatre in downtown Plymouth throughout the summer.

The schedule of movies includes "Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo," July 22; "Back to the Future," July 29; "The Wizard of Oz," Aug. 5; "American Tail 2: Fievel Goes West," Aug. 12; "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World," Aug. 19; and "Muppet Treasure Island," Aug. 26.

Shows are at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.; the box office opens a half-hour before each showing. All seats \$3. The Penn Theatre is located at 760 Penniman in downtown Plymouth.

For more information, call (734) 453-0870 or visit [www.penntheatre.com](http://www.penntheatre.com)

**Jazz at the Elks**

Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780 presents "Jazz @ The Elks" with the Sven Anderson Trio on Tuesday, July 27, from 7-10:30 p.m.

Sven Anderson will be on piano and John Barron on bass with other musicians joining in. Don't miss an evening of great jazz from Cole Porter to Salsa in a beautiful club setting.

There is no cover charge but donations are appreciated. The Plymouth Elks Lodge No. 1780 is located on Ann Arbor Road, west of Haggerty, in Plymouth. Call (734) 453-1780 for more information.

**Pottery painting**

New Hope Center for Grief Support, in cooperation with the Plymouth Community United Way, is offering an evening at Creatopia in downtown Plymouth July 27.

This event is for parents with children who are interested in painting a pottery piece in memory of someone who has died. Dinner will be at Subway (next to Creatopia) starting at 6:15 p.m. After some brief instructions, painting will begin at 7 p.m. and will conclude at 8:30.

The event is free, but space is limited. Call New Hope at (248) 348-0115 to register.

**Art, theater camps**

Summer Art Camps are in full swing at the Plymouth Community Arts Council! Half-day camps for ages 5-12 are offered in a wide variety of themes, ranging from the traditional favorites; Drawing, Painting, Pottery and Performing Arts to some new camps, including Diva Art, Camp Earth, Construction-Destruction Art and Musical Theater. Also new this year are the Littlest Artist Studio and the Celebration Art Camp, intended for the 4 1/2 - 6 year old first time camper.

Camps are offered either in morning or afternoon sessions. For families looking for an all day camp, lunch care is available between the two sessions. Prices vary for PCAC members and non-members. For specific dates, times and prices

of the camps, or to register for any of the camps, please visit the Plymouth Community Arts website: [www.plymoutharts.com](http://www.plymoutharts.com) or call (734) 416-4278.

**Class reunion**

The Plymouth Canton/Plymouth Salem Class of 1990 hosts its 20-year reunion Saturday, July 17.

For more information, e-mail [pcpsclassof1990reunion@gmail.com](mailto:pcpsclassof1990reunion@gmail.com)

**Golf outing**

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is holding a golf outing Aug. 12 at the Inn at St. John's, and golfers are needed.

The cost is \$125 per person or \$500 for a foursome. It is a 9:30 a.m. shotgun start and all the proceeds go to recreation programs, supplies, equipment, and facility improvements.

For more information or to sign up go to [ci.plymouth.mi.us/index.aspx?nid=1111](http://ci.plymouth.mi.us/index.aspx?nid=1111), or call the Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620.

**Evoking summer**

The Plymouth Community Arts Council's new exhibit, which began July 6, is a celebration of summer and its many pleasures, featuring Ypsilanti artist Bill Knudstrup, who spent his childhood on the beaches and dunes of Lake Michigan's eastern shore.

The memories of that experience are the impetus behind "Children of Summer." The subject matter of the work plays on timeless memories. Knudstrup has a Fine Arts degree from the University of Michigan and has had many solo and group shows in the area.

The exhibit runs through Aug. 5 and can be viewed Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The public is invited to an Ice Cream Social on Friday, July 23 from 6-8 p.m. to meet the artist and celebrate summer. The Plymouth Community Arts Council is located at 774 N. Sheldon Rd. at Junction in Plymouth. Contact the PCAC at (734) 416-4278.

**2010 Plymouth Music in the Air**  
7pm Fridays...  
...Thru Sept. 3rd  
in Plymouth's Kellogg Park

**Wednesday Children's Concerts At Noon Downtown...Starting July 7**

**BEVERLY MEYER, THE MUSIC LADY...**  
Wednesday, July 21, noon, downtown Plymouth.

Since 1996, Beverly Meyer has been performing to children and families in the Great Lakes region known as The Music Lady. Providing The Music Lady Program for over 50 preschool and kindergarten programs each month, Meyer keeps busy in the Michigan area. Her past experiences have led her to this calling including fronting for Top 40 Cover bands in the 1980s, teaching preschool, studying Music Performance and Music Therapy and obtaining her degree in Child Development.



The past ten years has allowed her the opportunity to sing for crowds of thousands of children under the age of 8. Six CD recordings, concert dates at libraries, music in the park and at preschool events keep her performing up to four times a day. That combined with The Music Lady Program keeps this gal with a guitar and a smile a very busy lady.

Meyer uses her boundless energy and beautiful voice to entertain all who encounter her. With an arsenal of childhood classics and mind-sticking originals, songs seem to flow from her effortlessly. Beverly's vast experience aids to seamlessly bring everyone to a dancing frenzy and calm them back down to join in a rousing sing-a-long sitting right next to her. Music and childhood laughter will fill every inch of your venue. Audiences will leave your event smiling and humming and ready to return again. Not bound by category, this singer/songwriter, educator and modern day piper is the perfect fit for true family entertainment.

Find more about her on her website at [www.themusiclady.net](http://www.themusiclady.net)

Be sure to look for this article in the Observer every Thursday to find more information about each week's "Plymouth Music in the Air" performance.

**Friday, July 16 in Kellogg Park... The Crutches (pop/rock/funk)**

**THE CRUTCHES...Friday, July 16, 7 p.m., Kellogg Park.**  
"The Crutches...Funkin' Up Your Favorite Songs"  
Playing a mix of pop and rock, The Crutches blend classic and modern songs with funk and dance beats. Their energetic shows and unique spin on popular hits, from the Beatles and Rolling Stones to the Red Hot Chili Peppers, have been entertaining Michigan audiences since 2006. The Crutches are Dave Feltnr (Vocals), Adam Phelps (Guitar & Vocals), Vito Biliti (Keys & Vocals), Brian Wolfbauer (Bass) and Marcus Bearss (Drums). Check out their website at [www.thecrutches.com](http://www.thecrutches.com)



**Save the Date For These Future Friday Performances of Plymouth Music in the Air:**

- July 23 Gia Warner (pop/rock/R&B)
- July 30 Trilogy (variety)
- Aug. 6 Shawn Riley Band (Irish/Celtic)
- Aug. 13 Randy Brock (Classic Rock/R&B)
- Aug. 20 Bluescasters (blues)
- Aug. 27 Mass Transit Band (country)
- Sept. 3 Lady Sunshine & the X Band (R&B)

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**POLICE**  
FROM PAGE A1

Under the furloughs, patrol officers will work 12-hour shifts while take nine days off a year without pay. Those, such as detectives, who work eight-hour shifts will take 13 furlough days a year. Furlough days can't be scheduled in a way that would cause overtime, Reaume said.

Officers at the top of the pay scale currently earn about \$64,000 a year, plus any overtime.

The union did win a couple of bonuses — the ability of those who retire to add children to their health-care plan (only the retiree and his or her spouse were covered previously) for a flat \$100 a month and an incentive to earn an extra paid day off by using less sick time.

Township officials are still negotiating over concessions with the Plymouth Township Command Officers Association, which represents the department's six sergeants. Another meeting is planned for Wednesday.

Reaume said some sergeants could face demotion if the group does not approve concessions.

"If they're not willing to do the savings, we would have to demote a sergeant or two" to get the savings, he said.

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

**PRISON**  
FROM PAGE A1

would do whatever he had to do to remain sober.

"I cannot conceive of any time in the future that my thoughts will not be consumed with what I have done and how it could have been prevented," Choos said. "However inadequate it may be, I am truly sorry for what I have done."

Larry Hengesbaugh also read a statement, expressing anguish at his wife's condition and the hardship the crash caused his family.

"I wish I could truly put into words what Dawn has meant to all of us," he said. "She was the center of the family and has always been the one to hold us together."

He added later: "In an instant, everything has changed."

Larry Hengesbaugh also expressed anger at a legal system that allowed Choos to be free on bond while awaiting resolution of the case, and urged Ryan to reject the plea agreement and impose more prison time.

He said he was not able to forgive Choos.

"There is no need for him to apologize unless he can undo what he has done," he said. "There is nothing that he can say or do that will ever allow us to forgive him for this tragedy."

Choos, who had no supporters in the courtroom,



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At right, Larry Hengesbaugh, husband of Dawn Hengesbaugh, reads a statement about the impact the crash had upon the family. Defendant Jason Choos, Wayne County Sheriff Deputy Shelly Milton and prosecuting attorney Robert Moran listen.

signed court papers and left with Sheriff's Department deputies.

He had pleaded no contest last month to two counts of causing an injury while driving drunk, one count for injuries suffered by Dawn Hengesbaugh and the second for injuries suffered by Zachary Hengesbaugh. He had also pleaded no contest to one charge each of using a gun during a felony, drunken driving, carrying a concealed weapon and marijuana possession. Police found both

a pistol and marijuana in Choos' Lincoln.

Choos was actually sentenced to more time, but the additional sentences run concurrently with the 31 months, meaning his actual incarceration time was not increased. His medical license could be suspended, Michigan Department of Community Health spokesman James McCurtis Jr. said, but no complaints had been received as of Tuesday.

Outside the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit,



Jason Choos was sentenced Monday to 31 months in prison for driving drunk and causing the crash that left Canton resident Dawn Hengesbaugh in need of long-term care.

has memory problems and often has trouble making sense when speaking. Sometimes, she said, she cries out in frustration.

But Dawn Hengesbaugh's gradual improvement since the crash offers hope for further improvement, Hays said. Like her son-in-law,

Hays sees Choos' sentence as inadequate.

"He should suffer what my daughter suffered — the loss of everything," Hays said.

Though automobile insurance has covered Dawn Hengesbaugh's medical bills, the family is accepting donations to cover other expenses. Checks, written to Dawn Hengesbaugh, can be sent to her at PNC Bank, 7219 North Canton Center Road, Canton MI 48187.

Larry Hengesbaugh said he anticipates filing a civil lawsuit against Choos.

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## WHYMAN

FROM PAGE A1

the Republican nomination for the state Senate's 7th District seat being vacated by the term-limited Bruce Patterson. The district includes Belleville, Brownstown Township, Canton, Flat Rock, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile, Huron Township, Northville Township, part of the city of Northville, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Rockwood, Sumpter Township, Trenton, Van Buren Township and Woodhaven.

"Part of the problem (now) is a lack of willingness to do what's necessary," said Whyman, now an attorney in Canton. "We had to learn to work together."

Whyman said she got into the race because "the last eight years with (Gov.) Jennifer Granholm have been intolerable." She said some 400,000

### THE WHYMAN FILE

**Who:** Deborah Whyman, 52

**What:** Republican candidate, 7th State Senate District

**Residence:** Lived in Canton since 1983

**Related experience:** House of Representatives (1993-1998)

**Profession:** Attorney

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in information systems (1980), Central Michigan University; master's degree in administration (1987), Central Michigan; Juris Doctorate (2002), University of Detroit

**Hobbies:** Active "behind the scenes" in community theatre. Assisted in costume room with many shows. Costume chair for "Dial M For Murder" and "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown." Tutor for adult literacy; photography; sailing

**E-mail:** dkwhyman@comcast.net



jobs have left the state and, while acknowledging the sagging national economy "is partially responsible," Whyman believes the current administration bears the bulk of the blame.

"The 'solution' was a major income tax increase for

those who remained in the state," Whyman said. "Other industrial states have not suffered as deeply as Michigan. The poor leadership of both Governor Granholm and the legislature are primarily responsible."

Whyman, who has bach-

elor's and master's degrees from Central Michigan University, said the state has to start attracting diverse businesses using a "combination of tax cuts and eliminating burdensome regulations." She'd start, she said, by eliminating the Michigan Business Tax.

"It was hard to imagine there would be a more onerous tax than the Single Business Tax," Whyman said. "Lo and behold, we found one."

Whyman believes that, rather than hike taxes, the state should cut the fat she said is in the government. She would press for a reduction in both the number of state employees and in employees' level of compensation. While she wants to protect funding for K-12 education, Whyman believes the Department of Education bureaucracy could be trimmed. She also believes there is a lot of fat in the state's social service budget.

"We can't continue to social engineer on the backs of the taxpayers," Whyman said.

Whyman also would:

- Improve education by "consolidating school services, holding teachers and administrators accountable for poor performance."

- Privatize most state services. "I support health care savings by pooling all government employees into one system," she said. "I also want to re-evaluate what is considered to be a 'key' service, cutting many unneeded services and reducing the need to fund them in the first place."

- Look at the possibility of lowering the state sales tax, though she would not spread it to services. "Sales tax is one of the big three stable sources of revenue," Whyman said. "Any change would have to grant the same stability."

Whyman doesn't favor offering tax incentives to attract various businesses to

Michigan, preferring instead to make sure Michigan is an attractive place to stay for current businesses.

"The best incentives are across-the-board tax cuts," she said. "The history of tax incentives in Michigan has been mixed. I'm not willing to pick winners and losers with targeted tax incentives. We need to raise all boats. Lower taxes are just one important piece to improving the business climate in Michigan."

Whyman said her experience makes her the best candidate for the job.

"I learned to work in a bipartisan fashion," she said. "Serving in different capacities taught me several lessons. Among them, I developed an understanding of how to translate public policy ideas into legislation, and how to work to get a bill passed."

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## OSTERMAN

FROM PAGE A1

district includes Belleville, Brownstown Township, Canton, Flat Rock, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile, Huron Township, Northville Township, part of the city of Northville, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Rockwood, Sumpter Township, Trenton, Van Buren Township and Woodhaven.

Osterman said he belongs to a grass-roots organization, Campaign for Liberty, members of which approached him about running.

"Lansing is broken," said Osterman, an engineer by trade. "Lansing is looking to Washington for a solution. We're not going to get a solution out of Washington. We've got to look to ourselves."

He said he has a three-point plan to fix the state's

### THE OSTERMAN FILE

**Who:** Dan Osterman, 55

**What:** Republican candidate, 7th state Senate District

**Family:** Wife of 12 years, Marguerite; children Brandon, Adam, Amy, Renee

**Residence:** Lived in Van Buren Township for 12 years

**Community involvement:** County coordinator, Grassroots activist organization.

**Hobbies:** Golf, fishing, hunting

**Profession:** Engineer

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in engineering

**E-mail:** osterman2010@gmail.com

**Website:** www.ostermanforsenate.com



problems: Fix the tax system, fix education and reform labor law. "(The state) has to be fixed by doing unpopular things," he said.

To fix the tax system, Osterman proposes doing away with both income and property taxes and replacing them with a broad-based consumption tax on sales and some services. Tax incentives, he said, are "arbitrary and

favor particular segments of the economy. Tax incentives should be across the board for all businesses."

"Government shouldn't be picking winners and losers, and they certainly shouldn't be doing it with taxpayer money," Osterman said. "If you went to a broad-based consumption tax, you wouldn't need incentives. What attracts business is predictability. When the line

keeps moving, that's what discourages business."

Osterman, who owns a bachelor's degree in engineering, advocates the use of a K-12 voucher system for education in Michigan. On his website, Osterman said the state "must undertake the legislative development of a K-12 voucher program which allocates statewide education tax dollars equitably among all students, regardless of which educational institution they attend."

Osterman said such a system — which he said has been done in places like Cleveland and Milwaukee — could rescue students in districts like Detroit Public Schools.

"What's going on in Detroit is tragic, and the only way to fix it is to give parents a choice," Osterman said. "I believe it will work. It gives parents the choice."

On other issues, Osterman would:

- Eliminate the Michigan Business Tax, which he said is "strangling" businesses. "They're struggling to survive," he said. "Why are we smothering them? We could fold that into the consumption-based tax system."

- Privatize services such as inspection services and regulatory agencies.

- Eliminate the Michigan State Police. "You could put their responsibilities under the county sheriffs," Osterman said.

- Leave term limits the way they are. "I'm OK with term limits. ... We need citizen legislators who do the job and go home," he said. "I don't see any evidence a part-time Legislature is any better than a full-time Legislature. There's so much work that needs to be done."

- Stand up to the federal government, which he believes is whittling away citizens' rights by requiring conces-

sions (such as the helmet law for motorcycle riders and the seat belt law for drivers) in order to qualify for federal programs.

"I'm frustrated we don't have legislators who stand up against the federal government," he said. "They're bargaining away our civil rights to get federal funding."

Osterman said he's been getting to know the large 7th District by speaking to community groups, taking part in local parades and festivals and going door-to-door. He said the people supporting his campaign are all "grass-roots" supporters who believe he can do the job.

"We're in a crisis," he said. "Lansing is completely dysfunctional and they're even admitting it. I understand how the system works. If we don't get people in office with some common sense, we're in trouble."

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# STRICTLY BUSINESS

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## HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor, Brad Kadrich

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Comment online at hometownlife.com



Patty and Eric Uram needed projects for their master's degrees, and so was born the business plan for Plymouth Popcorn Co., which started in April and has been largely focused on the farmers markets in Plymouth and Canton.

## New business 'pops' out of college class

BY JULIE BROWN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Patty and Eric Uram needed projects for their master's degrees, an idea just popped into their heads.

"We just graduated with our dual master's from Kettering University in Flint," she said, standing at the Plymouth Popcorn Co. booth at a recent Plymouth farmer's market Saturday morning. The Plymouth husband and wife are engineers who earned M.B.A. degrees both in business administration and engineering management.

The capstone class they took required development of a business plan. "Mine was Plymouth Popcorn Co.," she said, noting Eric did another project and joined her later in the real business venture.

"We said, 'Hey, Plymouth does not have this,'" she said. They started the business in April and concentrate now on the local farmer's markets Saturdays in Plymouth and Sundays in Canton.

"We manufacture in Old Village" in Plymouth, she said.

Their flavorful popcorns are sold at the Candy Trail on Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth and at Mill Street Gourmet Pastries on Mill in Old Village. They're also sold at a new business, Meat Local Grown Sustainably, on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth by the "muscleman" sign. That business is open now, with a full-scale opening set for fall.

Plymouth Popcorn Co. has over 40 handcrafted selections, many of them caramels such as Plymouth Popfetti and Banana Bread. Savory selections range from Chicago Style to Smoky BBQ to Honey, Pass the Mustard! There are also many chocolate/specialty selections, including Plymouth Party Mix (a twist on Chex Mix), White Chocolate Trail Mix and Strawberries 'N' Cream.

"We do the Music in the Air" Friday nights in Plymouth. "The Civitans carry our products" there at the concerts, she said.

They were married in September 2008 and laid off from engineering jobs in January 2009. They wanted to stay in Plymouth.

"I worked at Big Boy, he

worked at Kroger," she said. They found full-time work in their field which continues, with Plymouth Popcorn Co. on the side with its over 40 varieties "from the mild to the wild."

They have a popcorn stand for weddings and parties, as well as doing favors and baskets. They'll ship, and can be found online at [www.plymouthpopcorncompany.com](http://www.plymouthpopcorncompany.com), by e-mail at [info@plymouthpopcorncompany.com](mailto:info@plymouthpopcorncompany.com), or by phone at (734) 904-8829.

"Business is going well," Patty Uram said. "This is our first season at the markets. We really didn't know what to expect."

They'd like a storefront business but it's too early to take that leap. It was June of last year they were hired back into industry.

Eric had to do his own Kettering class project, and they joined forces for the second half. "This is really our trial summer to see how it goes," he said, noting they have a strong following on Facebook.

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## Perfect time for mid-year financial housekeeping



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

It's that time of year — to do some housekeeping when it comes to personal finances. At the midway point of 2010, it is important to take a step back and examine the year to date.

I recommend consumers do a little financial housekeeping at least once every six months. Two things everyone should do this time of year include a cash flow statement and a personal family balance sheet.

In the new economic realm, it is more important than ever for everyone to have a handle on where their money is going. After all, everyone needs to monitor expenses and look for ways to control them.

It is sometimes very difficult to increase revenue, but it's much easier to control expenses. The key is to know your expenses. This is one of the reasons to do a cash flow statement — so you can be more efficient when it comes to expenses.

A cash flow statement is nothing more than a list of revenues and expenses. The first step in the process is to list what revenues came in over the last six months. Whether it is wages, dividends or interest, whatever money comes in should show up on your cash flow statement. One of the reasons you do a cash flow statement at this point in time is that it is easier because you are receiving a variety of financial statements over the next week or so.

The other end of the cash flow statement, which is much more difficult to complete, is the expense side. You should know where all the money

coming in is going, whether you need to look at your credit card statements, your bills or whatever else, you should be able to account for where your money is going.

If you can't,

you know you have a problem. In addition, regularly doing a cash flow statement allows you to monitor what is happening with your expenses. What people find incredibly frustrating is that when they first start doing a cash flow statement, there are sometimes large sums of money they can't account for. As time goes on, doing a cash flow statement will help you be able to account for more and more of your expenses.

The other important document to do this time of year is a balance sheet, which is nothing more than a listing of all your assets, less your liabilities. Because you will be receiving statements from your mutual funds and other financial institutions, those assets are relatively easy to account for. The difficult tasks are the ones that are not valued on a regular basis, such as your home and collectible-type items.

I tell the great majority of people to forget about accounting for the collectibles. Most people overvalue their collectibles, making the assumption that just because you like it someone else will. Therefore, if you're going to include collectibles in your

balance sheet, don't use the value that you think something is worth; rather, use the value that it's worth if you sold it.

Obviously in today's world, homes are difficult to value. If you are going to include your home on your balance sheet, the valuation is what the home is worth on the open market. What you paid for the home or what your next-door neighbor says your home is worth is immaterial. Your home is worth what it would sell for and if you want a true and accurate representation of your home value, you need to look at what similar homes in your area have sold for.

The other element of a balance sheet that is essential is debt. For balance sheet purposes, you do need to list all your outstanding debt. However, you should take it one step further and look at what interest rate you are paying and what interest is tax-deductible or not.

Cash flow statements and balance sheets can be a pain; however, they are important. In today's difficult economic environment, we never know what the future is going to bring. However, one thing I can assure you is the fact that people who have a hold on their personal financial affairs would be in better shape than those who put their head in the sand and hope that things turn out OK.

Good luck!

**Rick Bloom** is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at [moneymatters@hometownlife.com](mailto:moneymatters@hometownlife.com). For more information, visit his website at [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com).

## BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

### Plymouth relocation

Diamond Home Health Care, a Medicare certified home care company providing skilled nursing, therapy and private duty services to patients in their homes, recently moved their offices to Plymouth.

Diamond Home Health care is now located at 851 Penniman in Plymouth. For more information, call (248) 349-9595.

### Grub crawl

Canton Chamber of Commerce, Charter Township of Canton and the Downtown Development Authority will be co-hosting Canton's ninth annual Grub Crawl Tuesday, July 20, from 6-10 p.m. The 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, Antonio's Cucina Italiana, Bailey's Pub & Grille, bd's Mongolian Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Carrabba's Italian Grill, Chili's Grill & Bar, Crow's Nest Bar & Grill, Rose's Grill & Bar, Shish Kabob Cafe, Super Bowl Pizzeria, T.C. Gator's Sports Page, and T.G.I. Fridays.

"The Grub Crawl is an event for the community and businesses. It's really important that



### Dance craze

The Dance Connection's Competition Dance Team recently traveled to Myrtle Beach, S.C., to take part in the Kids Artistic Review National Dance Competition. The team had several solo, duet/trio, small group and large group numbers placing in the top five of their category among their peers. More than 20 studios participated in the week-long competition, where TDC disco divas won top super line award, and were invited back to perform as the closing number in the Star Showcase on the final day of competition. The Dance Connection also had one group from each category including primary, secondary, intermediate and elite place in the top five scores and compete for National Grand Champion of their category at the Star Showcase. TDC's secondary group 'Dock of the Bay' was adjudicated as the National Grand Champions. For further information on taking classes at the studio contact (734) 397-9755 or go to [www.the-dance-connection.com](http://www.the-dance-connection.com) to review the 2010-2011 summer and fall schedule.

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.

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, go to the chamber's website at [www.cantonchamber.com](http://www.cantonchamber.com) and click on forms/flyers to print a ticket order form and drop it by the Chamber office at 45525 Hanford Road. You can also call the Canton Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-4040.

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## Old Village hosts annual Bumpers, Bikes & Bands

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's largest annual festival — Art in the Park — has come and gone, but the season is still revving up.

Next up is Bumpers, Bikes & Bands, a free one-day fair in Old Village that showcases classic cars and motorcycles, muscle cars, local bands and a variety of vendors. The festival is noon to 5 p.m. Sunday on Starkweather between Division and Farmer streets.

The event attracted thousands of visitors and more than 100 show cars last year, and organizer Scott Farmer, chairman of the Old Village Association, expects up to 150 cars this year, nearly as many motorcycles, and more visitors.

Bumpers, Bikes & Bands, in its fourth year, was formerly called Bumpers, Bikes & Blues, but the name was changed to get away from pigeonholing the types of bands that perform, Farmer said.

This year, Baked Potato will open for the Twistin' Tarantulas on the Liberty Street stage. Tentative show times are noon for Baked Potato and 3 p.m. for the Twistin' Tarantulas. A bit further south, in front of Old Village Market, The 11th Hour will be performing throughout the afternoon.

In a separate but related event, Station 885 will host two acts, The Wiley Coyote Band and Danny Cash, at a beer tent in its parking lot.



Baked Potato returns to the Old Village Bumpers, Bikes & Bands, a free one-day fair in Old Village that showcases classic cars and motorcycles, muscle cars, local bands and a variety of vendors.

The restaurant lot will also play host to show cars from local Camaro, Mustang and Corvette clubs.

Bumpers Bikes & Bands will also feature some 20 vendors and a silent auction that will offer everything from light-up beer signs to salon visits.

The event is a fundraiser for the Old Village Association, which puts the money toward projects such as neighborhood beautification. Farmer said the goal this year is to raise enough money to buy streetlight banners that can promote the neighborhood.

For more information, including information on registering a car or motorcycle for the show, visit the Website [www.oldvillage-plymouth.com](http://www.oldvillage-plymouth.com).

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# Friends: Angelo Plakas was giving of time, self

BY LEANNE ROGERS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

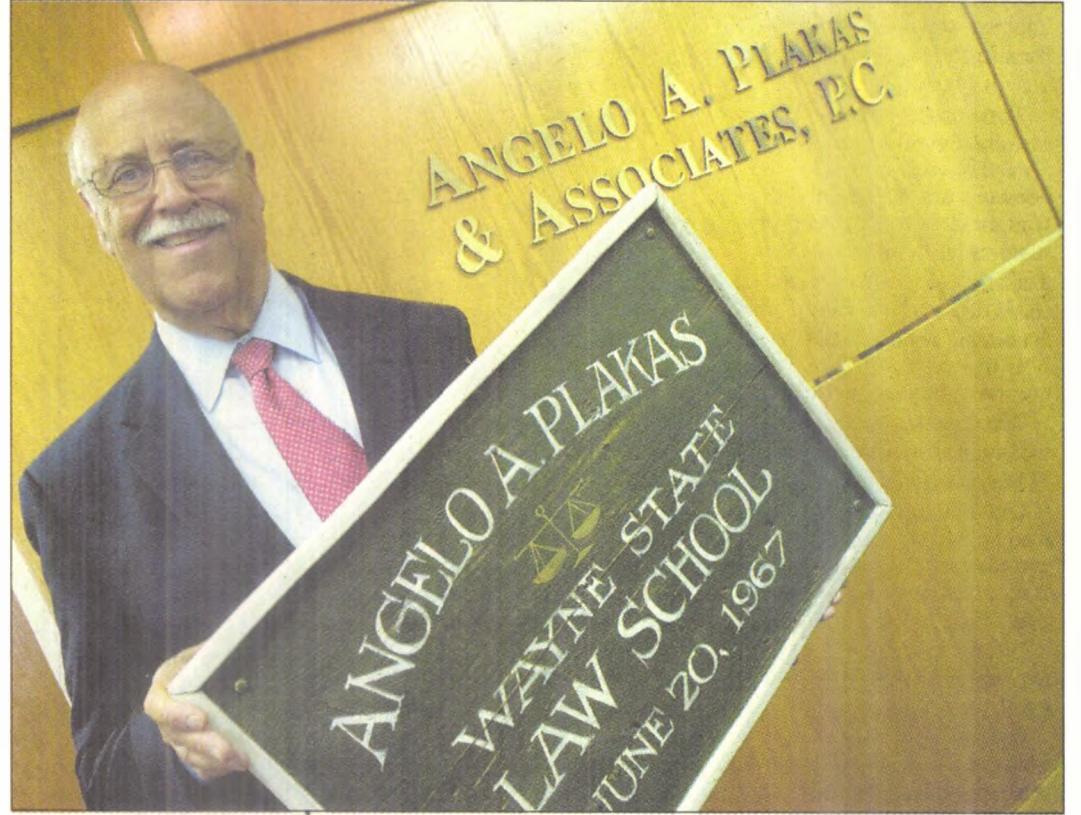
Long-time Westland City Attorney Angelo Plakas is being remembered as an ethical, skilled attorney and someone who was giving of his time and himself.

A Livonia resident, Mr. Plakas, 70, died Tuesday morning following a nearly year long battle with cancer.

"Angelo lived in the city of Livonia but you'd think that he was from Westland. He just adopted the city," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "He had just such a positive influence on the city for over 20 years. He fought tirelessly for the city and helped many of us. He helped me personally."

A 1960 University of Detroit graduate, Mr. Plakas was a high school teacher in Plymouth before studying law. He graduated from Wayne State University Law School in 1967. In addition to more than 30 years representing Westland, Mr. Plakas had also served as attorney for Southgate and Plymouth Township as well as providing legal services to other communities, including River Rouge, Riverview and Lincoln Park.

When first elected to the Westland council, Wild recalled that he asked to be seated next to Mr. Plakas when then-Council President



FILE PHOTO

One of Angelo Plakas's favorite photos was taken when he was honored as Westland's Business Person of the Year for 2008.

Charles Pickering was assigning seats at the council table.

"(Fellow new Councilman) Bob Stottlemeyer wanted the same seat, he's still mad that Chuck gave me the seat," said Wild.

Wild's American Cancer Society Relay for Life team walked laps in honor of Mr. Plakas - Paces for Plakas - during the annual event, held

in May.

Mr. Plakas's law firm has been a kind of university for judges, Wild said. Former 18th District Court judge C. Charles Bokos and current Judge Mark McConnell both practiced with Mr. Plakas, whose son, James Plakas, left the firm to become judge in Plymouth's 35th District Court. Wayne County Executive Robert

Ficano also was a former member of the firm.

"We did everything we could do as brothers. If I was off course, he'd straighten me out and I would do the same, if he was off course," said Mr. Plakas' brother Jim, a former state representative and Garden City mayor and council member. "If he asked me why I was doing something, I'd say I was older. I didn't say I was wiser. He would do anything for me."

Like others, Jim Plakas said he couldn't ever recall hearing his brother speak ill of anyone.

Beyond his work as an attorney, Mr. Plakas was also involved in community service working with the Westland Community Foundation. An alumni of Detroit McKenzie High School, Mr. Plakas gathered friends to form the Friends of McKenzie to help raise money need to continue athletic programs. Mr. Plakas also was honored in 2008 as Westland Business Person of the Year.

"Some people may give you the shirt off their back, but my dad's generosity went way beyond that," said his daughter, Elaina Kielbaso. "He would give to anyone in need and never ask for a thing in return. He was an extraordinary man."

Mr. Plakas was best known for his detailed storytelling, Kielbaso said, adding that her father was extremely proud of his Greek heritage and the traditions of his culture. He adored his grandchildren and loved teaching them new things through fun adventures, she said.

Mr. Plakas is survived by Sandra, his wife of 47 years; children Jim (Pam) Plakas and Elaina (Jim) Kielbaso; grandchildren Cameron, Braden, Drew, Emma and Jack; and brother Jim (Dorothy).

Visitation will be 4-9 p.m. today (Thursday) and 1-9 p.m. Friday with a Trisagion at 7 p.m. at the Neely-Turovski Funeral Home, 30200 Five Mile, Livonia between Merriman and Middlebelt.

Mr. Plakas will be in state 9:30 a.m. Saturday until a 10 a.m. service at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 36375 Joy, Westland.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church; C.S. Mott Children's Hospital or Angela Hospice.

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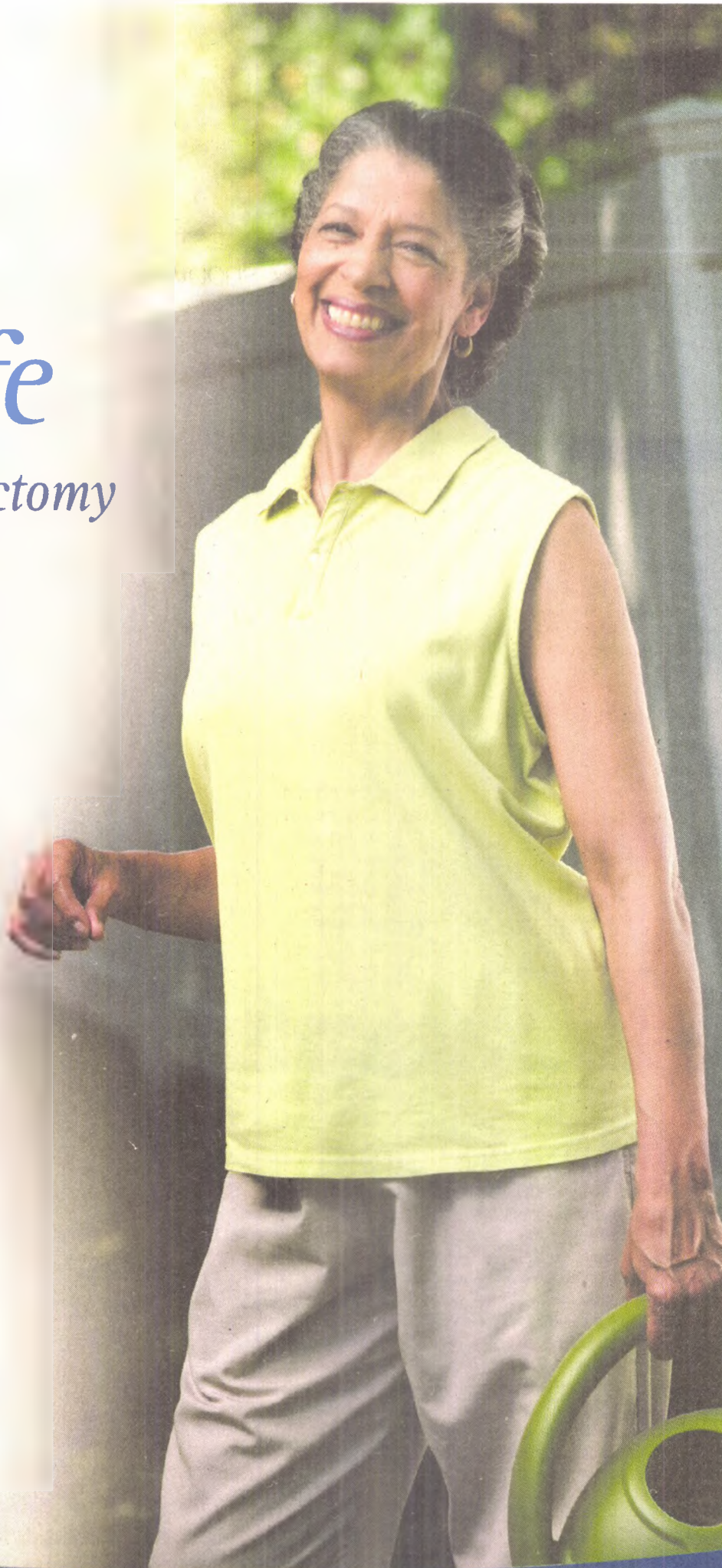
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# Art in the Park marks its best attendance ever

BY MATT JACHMAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Brief rain showers bookended what organizers are calling the best-attended Art in the Park in the event's 31-year history in Plymouth.

Thousands of people streamed downtown Friday, Saturday and Sunday to browse some 400 exhibitors, nosh on food from street vendors and view art in the making — live music, sidewalk chalk drawings, a mime performance and the painting of a "living art" mural that incorporated a human model.

"The crowds were great," said organizer Dianne Quinn. "The crowds were just thick."

City Manger Paul Sincock said he had no official crowd estimates, but that he was certain attendance was the most ever.

"We had, definitely, the largest crowd we've ever had," he said.

Quinn, to illustrate the point, said having three buses providing shuttle service between downtown and a parking lot on Sheldon Road proved inadequate, and that she had to call up a fourth full-sized bus, on Sunday, for the first time ever. In part, that was also due to not wanting to have people waiting for a bus in hot weather for an extended time.

"We don't want the people to stand out there too long, and you don't know when the line's going to get long," she said.

Area hotels she works with, said Quinn, reported being packed during the event, which drew artists and crafters from around the country.

"For me, it's the best show I do all year, and I do show pretty much every weekend," said jewelry-maker Karin Ware of Williamston, Mich.



The 2010 Art In The Park once again drew thousands of people to downtown Plymouth.

Ware said her Art in the Park sales were up from last year — and up last year from 2008 — despite the poor economy. "The attendance is always fantastic. ... It just can't get any better than it was."

Larisa Zimin, also a jewelry-maker, agreed the crowds were large, but said her sales were down. She blamed the economy. "Not like we used to," said Zimin, exhibiting for the fifth time at Art in the Park.

In another attendance gauge, Quinn said, Kraft Foods Inc., handed out 37,000 single servings of a macaroni and cheese dish, plus 12,500 family-sized macaroni and cheese mixes.

Several people were treated by Huron Valley Ambulance paramedics for heat-related conditions, Sincock said, and some were taken to a hospital. HVA had crews stationed downtown during the event.

Rains came shortly after Art in the Park opened Friday and shortly before closing Sunday, Quinn said, but overall were not that disruptive.

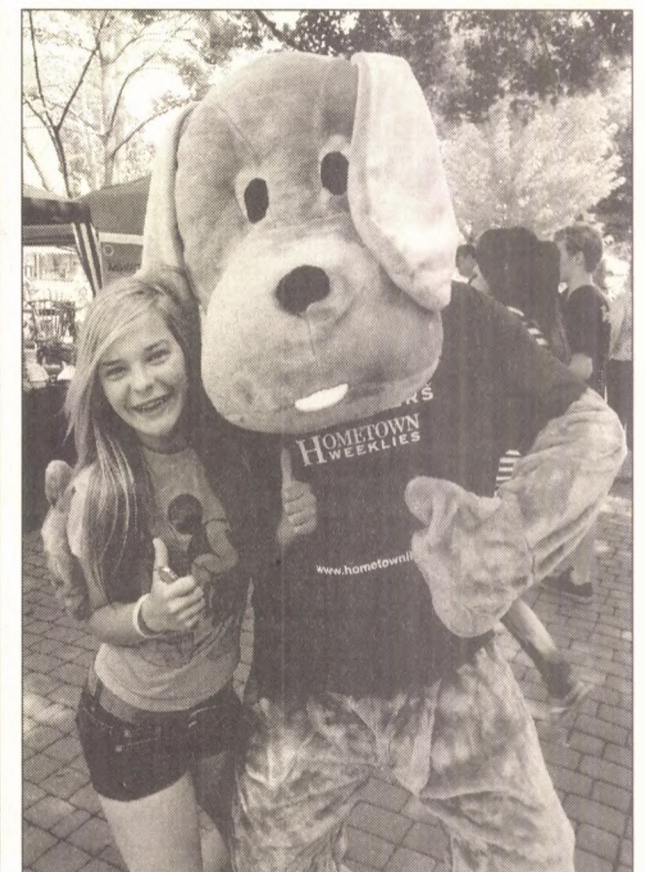


PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Friday's crowds are good for Art In The Park.



Katie Bahu of Canton and her 1-year-old son Johnny splash in the Kellogg Park fountain during Art In The Park.



Observer mascot Scoop the Newshound meets Erika Roschinsky of Plymouth.

## PLYMOUTH CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PLYMOUTH, MI 48170

SECTION 00010

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the Alternative Energy Solutions Projects for Plymouth Canton Community Schools' Bid Package #1 consisting of:

- CANTON HIGH SCHOOL PLUMBING FIXTURE REPLACEMENT
- SALEM HIGH SCHOOL PLUMBING FIXTURE REPLACEMENT
- CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL POOL HEATER

will be received until 10:00 A.M. local time on Wednesday, July 28, 2010 at which time they will be opened publicly at Plymouth Canton Community School, E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

Faxed packages will not be accepted.

This Bid Package will consist of a separate sealed bid for the following Bid Divisions:

**Bid Division Description**

- 140: Plumbing
- 142: HVAC
- 143: Electrical

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Associates, Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI, 48335; FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit; Builders Exchange, Grand Rapids; Construction News Service, Grandville; and Reed Construction Data, Novi, MI.

Bidders may obtain one (1) set of bidding documents by contacting the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith Inc.**, at (248) 427-8400. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith Inc.** The bid division being bid is to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

All bids should include 2 copies (1 original, 1 copy) of the Proposal Pricing Form (Section 00300) and the Proposal Execution Form (Section 00400). **The Proposal Execution Form provides a space for the bidder to disclose any familial relationship as required by the State of Michigan and this form must be signed and notarized in order for the bid to be accepted.**

There will be a pre-bid meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 21, 2010 in the Salem High School construction trailer, located at 46181 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the bidding requirements, schedule, project scopes of work, and to answer any question that bidders may have. Bidders are strongly encouraged to attend.

Any and all questions in regards to the bidding or the Bid Package Documents should be addressed in writing to the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith Inc.** Questions or clarifications will be promptly answered and returned to the bidder/bidders.

The Board of Education for the Plymouth Canton Community Schools reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

**This project is to be bid and the work performed at the Prevailing Wage Rates.**

Board of Education  
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools  
Nancy Eggenberger, Secretary

Publish: July 15 and 18, 2010

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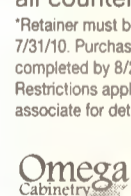
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Get the most from your membership present your card when you shop Visit [www.shopyourwayrewards.com](http://www.shopyourwayrewards.com) or the great indoors store to enroll. Members earn Rewards on Qualifying Purchases. Rewards earned on purchases before sales tax. Subject to full program terms available at [shopyourwayrewards.com](http://shopyourwayrewards.com).

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get inspired at our remodeling seminar Saturday, 7/17 1:00-2:00 PM

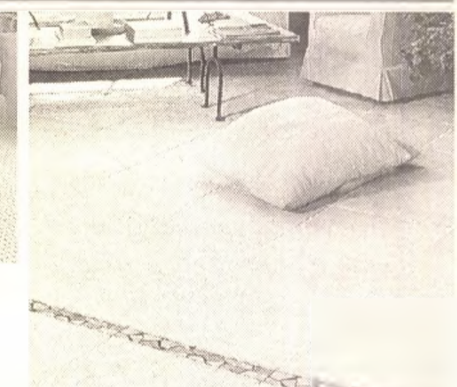


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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

**Brad Kadrich,**  
Community Editor  
**Susan Rosiek,**  
Executive Editor  
**Grace Perry,**  
Director of Advertising

## OUR VIEWS

# Our pick in the 7th Munfakh gets nod in GOP primary

When Republican voters go to the polls for the Aug. 3 primary in the state Senate 7th District, they'll have a variety from which to choose.

The ballot will include two candidates (Patrick Colbeck and Dan Osterman) connected with the Tea Party movement, one former state representative (Deborah Whyman) who is the only candidate with legislative experience, and a local businessman (Abe Munfakh) who has managed a local business and grown his own.

In this primary race we recommend **Abe Munfakh** of Plymouth Township. The district includes Belleville, Brownstown Township, Canton, Flat Rock, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile, Huron Township, Northville Township, part of the city of Northville, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Rockwood, Sumpter Township, Trenton, Van Buren Township and Woodhaven.

Munfakh has political experience, though he's painting himself as an "outsider." He's served three terms on the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees, and he's active in the Wayne 11th Republican Committee.

He advocates lower taxes, spending cuts and job creation. He believes the state should be run like a business, and that his experience will help that happen. He has the business credentials. He managed Ayres, Lewis, Norris & May and is CEO of his own engineering consulting firm, Munfakh & Associates, which he grew to more than 150 employees.

He was elected to three terms on the Plymouth Township board and has served on the Plymouth Township planning commission and on the executive committee for the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

Munfakh believes the Legislature should be budgeting with a two- or three-year plan rather than the year-to-year haggling it does now, and he thinks each budget year should start at "zero," and build from there, rather than simply starting at whatever number the previous year ended.

He'd eliminate the surcharge on the Michigan Business Tax and change the formula to lower the tax. He does not support expanding the state sales tax to include services and he thinks the state shouldn't necessarily focus on particular industries — such as the film industry — but should be advocating for all business to come to the state.

Among the four candidates in this primary, Abe Munfakh has the best chance to go to Lansing and be an effective lawmaker for the 7th District.

## Someone needs you to donate blood this summer

It's the middle of summer, and vacation time is in full swing. But while we're off enjoying fun in the sun, someone somewhere may be in need of something you have — your blood.

According to the American Red Cross, some 32,000 pints of blood are used every day in the United States. It could be a child battling cancer, a person having emergency surgery, a mother giving birth or a young man injured in a car accident who needs that blood, but unfortunately only 5 percent of the 60 percent of adults eligible to give do so.

You can donate at a Red Cross Blood Donation Center or stop by a mobile blood drive. Need a few locations? Here's a sampling of blood drives taking place over the next few weeks. Call the Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule an appointment.

- American Red Cross Donor Center, Farmington Hills Blood Donation Center, 31150 Haggerty Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48331. Open most days.

- July 18 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. St. Alexander Catholic Church, 27835 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills, MI 48335.

- July 19 from 2-8 p.m., North Congregational Church, 36520 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48331.

- July 19, from 1-7 p.m., at the Livonia Marriott, 17100 N. Laurel Park Dr., Livonia.

- July 23 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., American Concrete Institute, 38800 Country Club Dr., Farmington Hills, MI 48331.

- July 23 from 1-7 p.m., at the Italian American Club of Livonia, 39200 Five Mile, Livonia.

- July 29 from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Merrill Lynch Tri-Actra Building, 32255 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

- July 30 from 2-8 p.m., Antioch Lutheran Church, 33360 West 13 Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

We urge readers to make for a blood donation. It only takes about an hour, not much time when you think about three people you'll be helping. Call the Red Cross at 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule an appointment.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

"Who do you like at this point in Michigan's gubernatorial race?"

We asked this question outside the U.S. Postal Service substation in downtown Plymouth.



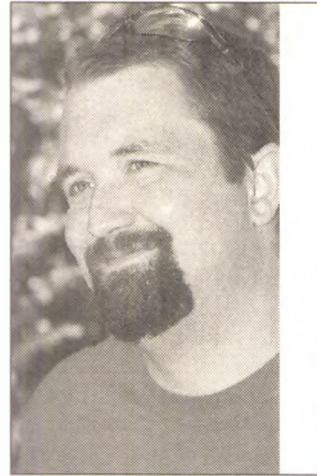
"Gosh, I'm kind of waiting to see — waiting to see what pans out. I typically vote Democratic but, who knows, I might change affiliation this time around."

**Tom Frey**  
Plymouth



"Any Republican. ... I've been a staunch Republican all my life."

**Ken Zylich**  
Plymouth Township



"I have no idea. .... I haven't done the research to make the decision."

**Dan Allen**  
Ypsilanti



"I have absolutely no input. ... Not so far."

**Brynn Good**  
Plymouth

## LETTERS

### No ghost trains?

I have found it amazing that in the year since the five teenagers were killed at the railroad crossing in Canton that the gates have not once signaled a ghost train. That is when the crossing gates come down and there is no train in sight.

This was a common occurrence at this intersection prior to the incident, yet the train company did not find a malfunction. Very interesting. Did unbiased inspectors research the switches or did we rely on the train company to give an honest assessment?

Also, why is the entire intersection of every train crossing in Michigan not protected? Why are the train companies getting away with this?

**Tom Leib**  
Canton

### Check the record

If I received a 29 percent when, had I simply attended regularly, I would have earned a 100 percent, I'd be embarrassed. I'd be even more embarrassed to then ask my neighbors to place me in a position of leadership which calls on me to perform on their behalf this very action I avoided doing 71 percent of the time. Nevertheless, Patrick Colbeck is asking us to do this very thing.

Mr. Colbeck is asking us to vote for him Aug. 3 for the 7th state Senate seat when he couldn't even show up in 12 of the past 21 elections. Now, think about that for a minute; 71 percent of the time he could not be bothered, had more important things to do, and/or merely did not take the time to drive up to the corner and exercise the most fundamental freedom and, in my view, duty we have as Americans. Stuningly,

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: [bkadrich@hometownlife.com](mailto:bkadrich@hometownlife.com).

Read or comment online:  
[www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

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

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

Colbeck now wants us to do for him (vote) what he was not willing to do (vote) for us, as his neighbors and fellow citizens, to whom a duty is owed.

Fortunately for us, Mr. Colbeck has a challenger. His name is Mr. Abe Munfakh. Unlike Colbeck, Abe Munfakh actually shows up and exercises his right to vote, and does so consistently. Abe Munfakh does so not only because it is his duty, but also because he actually understands that our republic is one where power is derived from the consent of the governed.

Abe Munfakh, like the patriots of our past, understands that liberty, while both precious and rare, is not self-maintaining. Mr. Colbeck does not seem to

understand this ideal. If Patrick Colbeck can act so cavalier with his own vote, how do you think he'll act with your vote? For me, the answer is pretty clear. Times are far too serious and I have neither the time, nor interest, to vote for someone like Mr. Colbeck.

For the above reasons, and many more, I will be voting for Abe Munfakh for senator from our 7th District, and I hope you will do the same.

Lastly, even though Mr. Colbeck's website is already overflowing with quotes from past patriots, I would add one more, "To sin by silence when they should protest makes cowards of men" — Abraham Lincoln.

**Jeff Thomas**  
Canton

### Price and Cox

Shannon Price is tied too closely to Mike Cox to benefit Wayne County.

Mike Cox has proven over and over again that he does not support Wayne County in his speech and tirades against us. Shannon Price fully supports Mike Cox despite Cox's bullying Wayne County leaders. Wayne County residents need wise leaders to bring Wayne County prosperity and stability. We need federal, state and local leaders who will work together in reasonable and clever ways.

I doubt that any hard-core supporter of Michael Cox is willing to work with the city of Detroit and its neighbors. Remember that Canton Township is in Wayne County and Detroit is our neighbor. We need leaders who will be good neighbors, not bullies.

**Clare Barwick**  
Canton Township

## We all scream for ice cream at community picnic

Sometimes, ice cream isn't everything, it's the only thing.

With apologies to Vince Lombardi, who was talking about winning, that's what I learned on the Fourth of July after spending part of the afternoon doling out Dibs, Edy's Fruit Bars, Nestle Crunch ice cream bars and other frozen confections during Plymouth Township's annual community picnic.



**Matt Jachman**

The venue — Plymouth Township Park — was crowded, the weather was hot and the ice cream — at a suggested donation of 25 cents — was nearly free. Those facts made for long lines at the two freezers set up in a shelter at the park.

I had been convinced to join the picnic by Ron Edwards, the township treasurer. Having nothing better to do this Independence Day — and, truthfully, what could be better? — I ventured out.

Surprised at the size of the crowd (officials say, however, that attendance was down), I parked on the grass near a distant ballfield. Hundreds — thousands — of people were out with Frisbees, volleyballs, coolers and footballs, eating hot dogs, slamming pop

and listening to live music. I tracked down Trustee Bob Doroshewitz, who was overseeing picnic operations in his inaugural year as chairman, and he shipped me, via golf cart, to the ice-cream station, where I spent the next two hours plus.

From the moment I snapped on the plastic food-service gloves and got a quick lesson from the volunteer I was spotting (grab requested treat, tear wrapper at seams, hold by wrapper, hand over, toss wrapper, repeat), I was busy. Opening the packages was a bit of a trick (those Fruit Bar wrappers were especially balky), and I bobbed a couple of treats, but managed to find some flow.

At first, I wondered if I could classify people by the type of ice cream they chose — Fruit Bars for healthy eaters, Drumsticks for traditionalists. But that involved too many generalizations (what do you do with the oft-heard "my uncle needs one, too?") and proved unhelpful.

I did notice a couple of basics: Drumsticks were the most popular (we ran out twice). People who asked for chocolate were happy with vanilla Nestle Crunch (chocolate-dipped). And even though no one under age 20 knows what Dibs are (bite-sized ice cream bars covered in chocolate), they're darn

good. One middle-aged man who had to have Dibs explained to him walked away raving about them.

With up to four of us at the freezers, and each serving taking just a few seconds, we must have been dishing out ice cream at the rate of 20 pieces a minute at times. It was an efficient operation — when the trash was full, someone emptied it, when new shipments arrived, the freezers were restocked.

But the crowd! The lines were steady, the donation box was stuffed, the requests came with increasing eagerness, and there was a run on everything but the lonely Push-Ups (a vanilla-orange mixture on a plastic stick). Once, the crowd swelled suddenly and I feared we'd be overwhelmed, but it was only the start of the pie-eating contest, which had attracted fans of its own (you'd think they were giving away ice cream).

The hours flew by, and before I knew it the picnic was officially over. I left a few ice-cream latecomers to township Supervisor Richard Reaume and headed back to my car.

Time to break out the Tofutti.

**Matt Jachman** is a staff writer for the Plymouth Observer who has paid his share of visits to Dairy King, Kiiwin's and other local ice-cream shops.



# Party helps local woman celebrate 90th birthday

Ann Dondzila of Westland will celebrate her 90th birthday on Saturday, July 17, 2010 (her actual birthday), at the Summit in Canton, with family and friends at a "birthday bash" given by her children. After a buffet luncheon, guests will enjoy the music of one-man band, singer, entertainer and pianist, Rennie Kaufman.

Ann was married to Walter Dondzila of Grand Rapids on Oct. 5, 1941. Walter passed away 10 months before they would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Ann and Walter moved to Westland in 1948, and she has been a resident ever since. She has been a member of St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church in Redford for over 60 years.

Ann is the mother of five children: Laurie (Ralph)



Dondzila

Lake; and Ronald Dondzila (Kathryn Silardi) of Canton.

Ann is the grandmother of 10: Ralph (Rob) Robinson of North Hollywood, Calif.; Jeffrey Robinson of Plymouth; Rachael Lea Dondzila of Springfield, Va.; Katie Ann Dondzila-Meek (Josh) of Edgewood, Md.; Erik Dondzila of Canton; Kristen Dondzila of Canton; Kory Dondzila of Canton; and Jake Dondzila, Meghan Dondzila and Melissa Dondzila, all of Walled Lake. Ann has been a Detroit

Robinson of Plymouth; Judy (Eugene) Borio of Canton; Walter Dondzila (who passed away in 2006); Joseph Dondzila of Walled

Tigers fan for many, many years. She looks forward to each and every game and knows all of the players and their stats.

Ann's favorite song is "You Are My Sunshine," which Walt would sing to her while playing his guitar.

Ann's favorite movie is "Gone With the Wind;" her favorite movie star is Robert Taylor.

She enjoys playing bingo with the Westland seniors at the Westland Senior Friendship Center.

Ann loves to travel and has been to California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, D.C. and several places in Canada.

# Man who exposed himself ordered to treatment center

BY AILEEN WINGBLAD  
STAFF WRITER

A Plymouth man who pleaded guilty last month to exposing himself in Milford's Central Park is out of jail and headed to an alternative residential treatment center.

Thomas Henry Werry, 60, was sentenced July 13 to spend 30 days in the treatment center for "life adjustment" counseling as an alternative to a 40-day jail sentence by 52-1 District Judge Dennis Powers. Werry was given credit for eight days already served in jail following his arrest June 16 by Milford police. If he completes his treatment, the remaining two days of the sen-



Werry

nothing but shoes and socks. After he was confronted by the teens, Werry reportedly got dressed and walked a couple blocks north to a church near Detroit and Main Streets in Milford. When police caught up with him, Werry reportedly said he had taken off his clothes in the park because he wasn't feeling well and was trying to defecate near the

tence will be dropped.

Two teen boys called police and said they had seen Werry in the Milford park around 8 p.m. wearing

Dumpsters.

Werry was convicted of indecent exposure in 2007 in Charlevoix County. Police said he also was charged with a sex offense in Birmingham in 1977, which was dismissed.

After Powers issued his sentence on Tuesday, Werry was released from custody and instructed to return to the 52-1 District Court in Novi the following day. From there, he would report to the residential treatment center.

Werry will be listed on the sex offender registry and take medications as prescribed. Following his treatment, he will be on probation for 24 months.

awingblad@gannett.com | (248) 685-1507, ext. 261

# No one hurt in Canton garage fire

A Canton Township garage suffered extensive fire damage, but the home was spared and there were no injuries as Canton firefighters battled a house fire on Ridgefield Friday.

Firefighters responded to the home shortly after 7 a.m. and found the garage ablaze. Fire department officials said firefighters, concerned there were still occupants inside the

house, began simultaneous suppression and rescue efforts. The homeowner, who had made it safely to a neighbor's house, approached the on-scene commander and let firefighters know all occupants had gotten out.

Firefighters then focused on suppression and brought the blaze under control.

Fire officials said the garage suffered extensive damage, but

that firefighters were able to keep the fire from spreading to the home, although the house did suffer "moderate smoke damage." Fire officials had no immediate estimate of the monetary damage done in the blaze.

Members of the Fire Investigation Team determined the fire to be accidental, saying it originated in the area of a freezer being used in the garage.

# Social media can come with a cost

Have you finally given in to all the pressure or do you find yourself trying to remain one of the last holdouts like myself?

Does all the hype about Social Media and Social Networking have you wondering who needs all that exposure? If it does, then you are not alone.

If you watch the local news from time to time or keep an eye on the newspaper you'll find it hard to miss all the unsavory stories associated with sites like MySpace and Facebook, and now Twitter has joined the mix. Some are beginning to wonder if we're opening ourselves up to too many strangers.

In April 2009, Asia, a young talented college student who attended Henry Ford Community College, was stalked and later murdered in a murder/suicide plot, planned and carried out by someone who followed her on Facebook. If stories like this don't make you pause with caution, then I wish it would.

Recently, the television show "The Insider" broadcast a story of a young woman who posted on her Facebook page that she was going to a concert, and a half-hour later her house was broken into by one of her so-called Facebook friends. She knew it was someone from



Bobbie Jones

Facebook because the hidden camera she had set up in her home captured the intruder's image clearly.

After its inception the Internet was never deemed to be a safe haven, but some people are still under the delusion that because they are sitting behind a computer screen they are untraceable. It's a delusion that we have to free ourselves from. A few of my friends wondered out loud "Why is it so important to us for someone whom we do not know to follow our every move?" In the time it takes to read this article someone has updated their Facebook or Twitter page at least five times.

Do we really need that much attention from others and, if so, why? How much of our lives are we willing to expose and do we know who we are exposing it to? I am not a psychotherapist but I do know this: If we are not happy with ourselves regardless of who is looking at us all the Facebook and Twitter in the world won't help us.

My plea to you is this: Don't be afraid to take your life back.

You don't have to be a slave to Social Media and it can be a constructive tool in your

life if used with great care. Of course, many good things have occurred because social media and networking was used responsibly. People have obtained jobs, and many have even gone on to local stardom and beyond. Still, we have to play it safe.

Here are some things you can do to help yourself:

- Don't spend every waking hour parked in front of your computer screen.
- Face book and Twitter and all the others can wait put your self and family first.
- Use Social Media, don't let it use you - find yourself a better job or tennis partner.
- Never put home address, phone numbers or banking information on any site. Common sense is the key.
- Help your fellow human beings and do some good in the world - take a page from Conan O'Brien's book and pay it forward as he did on Twitter.

Remember keeping yourself safe and sane in this tech savvy world is important and if you can do some good in the world with social media, do that, too. But you are the one in control of your life don't ever let yourself forget that.

Bobbie Jones is a Belleville resident and occasional contributor to the Observer. She can be reached via e-mail at workhard36@aol.com.

# WOULDN'T YOU LOVE TO GET MONEY FOR THE JEWELRY THAT YOU NO LONGER WEAR?



You are invited to  
**TAPPER'S GOLD EXCHANGE**  
Estate Buying Event

Laurel Park Place  
Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>  
and Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>  
11am - 7pm

There are many reasons for letting go of your previously enjoyed jewelry - whether it be a past relationship, an inheritance, lowering your insurance costs, or you've simply replaced your oldies with new goodies.



Bring in your estate jewelry, watches or diamonds and our knowledgeable Estate Buyer will gladly sit down with you to discuss your options. There is nothing more important to Tapper's Gold Exchange than your satisfaction when it comes to price, service and integrity.

*Your jewelry box may be worth more than you think!*

If you are interested but not able to attend this weekend, please join us at any of our upcoming Estate Buying events.

Briarwood Mall, July 23 & 24 | Orchard Mall, July 30 & 31  
Great Lakes Crossing, August 6 & 7

To make an appointment, contact our Estate Buyer at 248.865.6262 or [estate@tappersgold.com](mailto:estate@tappersgold.com)



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Fairlane Town Center | Orchard Mall | Briarwood Mall  
Great Lakes Crossing | Oakland Mall

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## Canton girl awaits title race

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It hasn't been an easy time for Canton's Samantha Howell. Both of her grandfathers died over a nine-month period.

But the East Middle School student is using the loss of Michael Zinda (who died in June 2009) and Walter Howell (who died this March) to give her just a little extra push when she gets into her Soap Box Derby car — recently painted purple and nicknamed the "Bad Apple."

"She knows that her grandfathers are watching," said James Howell, Samantha's dad and crew chief. "... She says it's powered by angels." Maybe so, but Samantha Howell is doing quite a bit on her own.

In mid-June, she won the All-American Soap

Box Derby Race in Saginaw and qualified as a result for the world championships set for July 23-24 in Akron, Ohio.

Box Derby Race in Saginaw and qualified as a result for the world championships set for July 23-24 in Akron, Ohio, described by her dad as "the great big one."

"I think it's a very great chance," Samantha said. "I get to race with people (from) all over the country. ... I'll just race my hardest and hopefully win."

In addition, the soon-to-be eighth-grader

Please see **RACE, B2**



Canton's Samantha Howell (left) and Michael Sheko celebrate after recently earning first- and fourth-place trophies, respectively, at the Saginaw All-American Soap Box Derby Race. With that win, Samantha qualified for the July 24 race in Akron, Ohio, where she will compete for the world championship.

## SIDELINES

### State games recap

The Metro West region hockey team competed late last month at the first annual Meijer State Games of Michigan in Grand Rapids.

Following opening ceremonies patterned after the Winter Olympics, the team comprised of players from Plymouth, Canton, Salem, North Farmington, Livonia Churchill and Livonia Stevenson defeated Metro North 5-4 on June 24 in a Griffins Division clash.

But the offense dried up in the next three contests.

On June 25, Metro West dropped a 3-2 decision to Team West and fell 4-2 on June 26 to Team North in Griffins Division matchups.

Although Metro West did not reach the June 27 medal rounds, the team did play a cross-divisional semifinal against Team East — dropping a 5-1 decision to finish 1-3 in the tournament.

### Just for kicks

Redford Soccer Club's Summer Soccer Camp will be held July 19-23 at Bell Creek Park for players U6 through U19. Cost for the weeklong camp, which runs from 5:30-8:30 p.m. daily, is \$130. Waza FC's professional coaches will instruct youngsters in various aspects of the game. Participants are asked to bring shin guards, a soccer ball and a water bottle.

For more information, call Jim Gibbs at (313) 995-4234.

### Cougar camp

The Garden City High School Cougar football coaching staff will host its youth football camp for 8- and 9-year-olds July 19-22 from 5:30-8 p.m. and for 10- and 13-year-olds July 26-29 from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Cost for each camp is \$55 and all campers will receive a t-shirt.

For more information, visit [www.gccougarcountry.com](http://www.gccougarcountry.com) and click on the 'camps' section to print a registration form.

### Holes in one

Suzanne Gamache of Canton had a hole-in-one on the 3rd hole of the Michaywe Pines Course in Gaylord. She used a 5 wood on the 97 yard par 3.

Bob Brocius, 62, from Plymouth aced the 129-yard 13th hole at Redford's Glenhurst Golf Course on Sunday. He used a 9 iron for his hole-in-one, which sparked a score of 77. It was the sixth ace of his 40-year golf career.

Hoon P. Lee of Farmington Hills, 48, collected a hole-in-one on July 5 at Mystic Creek Golf Club in Milford. Lee aced the 128-yard 4th hole.

## Reault hooked on battling the best anglers

BY JIM TOTH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's summertime in Michigan and it's a good bet you can find Livonia native Dave Reault aboard his reliable 20-foot Ranger Bass Boat determined to come away with the biggest and most talked about catch of the day.

Broker by day and fisherman by all other remaining hours, Reault, 53, will again put his skills up against the best anglers and co-anglers around when he travels to the East Coast and Lake Champlain to take part in the 2010 Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Northern Open July 22-24. Normally, Reault would be a participant in this weekend's FLW Bass Fishing League on the Detroit River, but the close scheduling of the two tournaments wasn't going to allow the veteran angler to give his best at both sites.

"I like to fish them all, but this time I just had to make a choice," said Reault, who estimates he takes part in some 15-20 fishing tournaments each year. "I'm competitive and I enjoy fishing, so it's a pretty good match."

"I've been fishing in tournaments for about 20 years — back when Red Man (chewing tobacco) was sponsoring them," Reault continued. "I won my first tournament back probably 40 years ago on Newburgh Lake."

Reault said he enjoys competing in the BFL sanctioned events because it is the "top level local trail" fielding various divisions ranging from novices to grizzly veterans.



Livonia resident Dave Reault proudly displays his catch from recent tournament action.

Please see **FISHING, B2**

## Local players spark 14U Dodgers to district title, feature local flavor

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Sparked by Observerland-area talent and many players new to travel baseball, the Concealed Security 14U Dodgers are one step closer to reaching the American Amateur Baseball Congress pinnacle.

Concealed — featuring a near perfect game by pitcher Austin Stevens of Livonia Stevenson — went 5-0 July 7-10 at the 14U Sandy Koufax District Tournament in Coldwater.

That propelled the team to this week's regionals in Rockford, Ill., against teams from Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa and Michigan. The Dodgers were slated to open the double elimination tourney with a Thursday game.

If the Dodgers (coached by Stevenson's Rick Berryman and assistant Lou Pironello) get through the regionals, they will move on to the AABC World Series.

In the championship game Saturday, Concealed (18-13) rolled to a 10-2 romp over the Kalamazoo Storm behind a 17-hit attack.

Leading the charge with a 3-for-4 performance was Kevin Nisun (Livonia Franklin), who batted .615 for the districts.

Stevenson's Rodney Bies went 2-for-3, while Mitch Sykes (Livonia/Novi Catholic Central) and Brandon Waack (Plymouth Canton) each registered one hit and two RBI.

Picking up the win was starter Brett Davis, with 1 1/2 scoreless relief from Alex Deyonker (Franklin).

Stevens' no-hit gem Friday against Coldwater keyed an 18-0 victory in Round 4, advancing the Dodgers into the district final.

Only a walk on a full count came between Stevens and a perfect game. Ball four came on a sharp bender that the umpire later told Pironello clipped a corner of the plate and should have been a strikeout.

"The umpire said he blew the call on a 3-2 pitch that fooled him," Pironello said.

Nisun had a 3-for-3 day, scored three runs and drove in two to again pace the offense. Sykes tripled in

Please see **DODGERS, B2**



Celebrating after capturing the AABC Sandy Koufax districts last weekend in Coldwater are the Concealed Security 14U Dodgers.

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**RACE**

FROM PAGE B1

has amassed 405 points in the National Derby Rally Series, good for first place in the United States. She tacked on points during recent visits to Iowa (Sioux City, Des Moines) and Kansas City, Mo.

"They say she's the one to watch," her dad said. "... It's nice to hear that. She's had several people comment that in the four years she's been racing she's come from a nobody to one of the top five drivers in the country.

"That's saying something. She is determined to come out a winner."

Samantha said the trip to Akron is nothing new, having participated in previous national competitions. But this year's Michigan champion has fine tuned her technique, which could spell trouble for opponents.

"I think I've improved by being able to drive straight and get lower in my car," Samantha noted. "And to be more focused at races."



Samantha Howell gets ready to roll at last month's All-American Soap Box Derby Race in Saginaw. Her car now sports the nickname "Bad Apple" and was repainted purple by Canton High School students. The paint job earned second place at the recent Detroit Autorama.

James Howell said his daughter is able to do that because "she's stretching, so she gets lower in the car and gets better aerodynamics."

He added that when Samantha won the All-American race in Saginaw, "we didn't have the fastest car of the day. But she outdrove the other driver. Experience

took over and experience won the race for her."

Meanwhile, the Howells hope there will be many more races around the corner, which is why they are looking for a sponsor to help their "Bad Apple" soap box derby entry continue competing.

[tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com)

**Riverside skaters roll into nationals**

Eight local figure skaters from Riverside Arena Skating Club in Livonia have qualified to compete at the 2010 USA Roller Sports Figure Skating National Championships to be held in Lincoln, Neb. from July 25 through Aug. 8.

These skaters represent Riverside Arena Skating Club and practice at Riverside Arena in Livonia. Qualification for the national championship occurred from June 26-30 at the Great Lakes Regional Championships held in West Chester, Ohio. The Great Lakes region represents Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

The skaters who have qualified and will be competing in the national championships are:

- Pirro Marko, gold medalist in Primary Boys Figures and silver medalist in Primary Boys Free Skating.
- Jayanthesh Kalmat, silver

medalist in Primary Boys Figures and bronze medalist in Primary Boys Free Skating.

• Valentyna Stadnik, silver medalist in Juvenile/Elementary 'B' Team Dance (with partner, Ryan Heersink).

• Ian Heersink, gold medalist in Juvenile 'A' Boys Figures, bronze medalist in Elementary Boys Loops and qualifier in Juvenile/Elementary Boys Free Skating.

• Ryan Heersink, gold medalist in Juvenile 'B' Boys Figures and silver medalist in Elementary 'B' Team Dance (with partner Valentyna Stadnik).

• Jillian Heersink, qualifier in Sophomore 'A' Women's Figures and Freshman/Sophomore 'B' Women's

Figures. • Alexei Castillo, gold medalist in Open 'A' Inline Creative Solo Dance.

The 2010 USA Roller Sports Figure Skating Championships will be available for viewing live online. More details on the live broadcast will be available on <http://www.usarollersports.org>.

Skaters enter events in one or more categories (Singles, Pairs, Figures, Solo Dance, Team Dance, Precision, or Show skating) and are judged on content and manner of performance.

This includes the skater's ability to do identifiable, difficult content items, like jumps, spins, and footwork, while utilizing those movements in an artistic interpretation of accompanying music.

Skaters may choose to skate in a variety of categories or concentrate on only one.

**FISHING**

FROM PAGE B1

"You make quite a few friends out on the water meeting people from all over, and I really enjoy that social part," Reault said. "The reason so many people like coming over here is because we have so many great places to fish. Lake St. Clair is stocked with fish

and the Detroit River is always enjoyable."

Reault said he has four BFL titles to his credit, including a pair of wins on the Detroit River. The others have come on Lake St. Clair and the Grand River.

This past May, Reault hitched up his trusty Ranger Bass Boat and headed down to Arkansas and DeGray Lake to participate in the BFL All-American Tournament. It was

the second time Reault qualified for the prestigious event, and even though his finish was less than stellar, the experience will be treasured forever.

"Sometimes when you win and do well things just end up going right," Reault said. "It seems to be just destiny. Other days don't go so well and it's not that you did something wrong, but it just wasn't going to happen that day. All of it is self-enjoyment."



**Hot Hawks**

The U13 State Cup Champion Michigan Hawks girls youth soccer team can now add Midwest Region Champs to their resume. Teams from 14 states recently traveled to Beavercreek, Ohio to compete for the coveted title of Midwest Regional Champions. The girls defeated teams from Minnesota, Ohio, South Dakota and Kansas to make it to the finals against Missouri which resulted in a 2-0 win. While the older age groups will travel to the National Championships, this is the highest level this age group can achieve. Front row (left to right): Taylor Lambouris, Lexie Shamoun, Olivia Hartman, Erin Emmanuel, Shannon Magnan and Claire Allen. Middle row (left to right): Nickie Zuckerman, Sydney Kettlewell, Rylee Jayson, Mackenzie Travis and Courtney Petersen. Back row (left to right): Coach Dave Hicklin, Holly Hermans, Kylie Knight, Kelly Sweeney, Cassie Phillips, Laekyn Jaciuk and Assistant Coach Tony Phillips.

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**DODGERS**  
FROM PAGE B1

two runs, while Waack chipped in with a 2-for-2 performance along with two runs and three RBI. Commerce Township's Brett Davis (five RBI) homered among three hits.

Concealed's earlier wins in the districts were 4-1 over Kalamazoo, 21-5 over Fremont, Ind., and 12-7 over Olivet.

In addition to Nisun, locals who stung the ball throughout the districts included Stevens (.538), Waack (.417) and Deyonker (.333).

No matter what happens at the regionals, Pironello said it has been a rewarding season of "overachievement" because of all the first-year travel players.

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Kylie Miller (left), shown from the 2010 season playing for the Plymouth-Canton-Salem girls lacrosse team, took part in the June 19 GLAM Hall of Fame game at Detroit Country Day. She also received a \$1,000 college scholarship from the PCS Boosters Board and will attend Michigan State University in the fall. At right is Lady Warriors' teammate Sarah Coleman.

## Kudos cap Lady Warriors' swan song

BY TIM SMITH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Steve Nyquist is slowly getting used to the idea of the Plymouth-Canton-Salem Lady Warriors combined girls lacrosse team closing up shop. Beginning next season, separate varsity squads will represent each of the three high schools located at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. But Nyquist said the swan-song season featured plenty of things to remember, including a very competitive record (10-9, including 1-1 in the regionals. PCS defeated Northville 11-10 in double overtime for the team's first-ever regional win). "The 2010 season was fairly successful," Nyquist noted. "As with most teams, unless you go undefeated, we could have won a few more games. "But we were competitive in most of the games this year." Others noticed, too. For example, seniors Kylie Miller,

Lauryn Ebersole and Jennifer Herzfeld represented the Lady Warriors in the Girls Lacrosse Association of Michigan Hall of Fame Game. The GLAM showcase took place June 19 at Detroit Country Day. Miller, meanwhile, was named recipient of the PCS Booster Board's annual scholarship award. She will use the \$1,000 award toward her college career at Michigan State University, where she is considering a career in the medical field. "While many times we judge a successful season by the wins and losses," Nyquist emphasized. "I think that awards such as All-Conference, team recognition, Academic All-Conference, Hall of Fame (Game) participation and academic scholarships are what truly indicate a successful season." Four members of the team were named to the All-KLAA team, including Ebersole,

Katie Hill, Stephanie Bower and Lauren Allard. Meanwhile, Miller, Lauren Manner and Taylor Birman were honorable mention picks. The solid season and individual achievements have Nyquist excited about the growth of lacrosse on campus in 2011, even though the Lady Warriors are no more. "Next year we will have three teams, Plymouth, Canton, and Salem," he continued. "Each team will hopefully also have a JV team as well. We are hoping for a big turnout in the spring to for this exciting sport. "This year we had over 80 girls on the (Lady Warriors) team and next year we are hoping for at least 40 to 45 at each of the three schools." For updates about the girls lacrosse program, please visit <http://www.eteamz.com/pcsladywarriors/>. [tsmith@hometownlife.com](mailto:tsmith@hometownlife.com)

## Rams climb to top of league standings

BY JIM TOTH  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Michigan Rams surge to the top of the Michigan Collegiate Baseball League standings has certainly been spearheaded by pitching. It was a little more than one week ago that right-hander Brandon Sinnery tossed a no-hitter in a thrilling 1-0 triumph by the 20-and-under Rams over the 22-and-under Blue Knights. And now Monday evening, Rams hurler Tyler Higgins proved nearly as unhittable as he allowed only one hit and no earned runs in six innings of work in the Rams 8-1 victory over the 20-and-under Thunder. Sixteen of the 18 outs Higgins recorded were on strikeouts. The Rams staked Higgins to a quick 2-0 lead with a pair of runs in the first inning off loser Javon Bean. Four more in the second upped the margin to 6-0 and gave Higgins all the run support he would need to lead his teammates to their 20th win of the season.

Offensively, the Rams (20-6-1) were paced by Brad Guenther and John DiLaura with three hits apiece. DiLaura drove in four runs and Guenther knocked in two and scored three times. Aaron Cieslak, Sam Ott, Cam Walker and Evan Piechota each added a hit to the Rams 10-hit attack. On Sunday, the Rams took both ends of a doubleheader with the 22-and-under Bulls, squeaking out a 4-3 triumph in the opener before needing just five innings to capture the nightcap 10-0. In game one, the Rams pushed across the tying and winning runs in the top of the seventh inning. Down by one at 3-2 heading to the seventh, the Rams got a lead-off double by Cam Walker, who promptly moved to third on a ground out by Jeff Sorenson, and came home with the tying run on a single by Scooter Williams. Following a walk to Brett Mazmanian, Brad Guenther delivered the winning RBI with his second hit of the day, a dou-

ble down the rightfield line. Starter Mike Schypinski made the lead stand up as he tossed a hitless seventh to help the Rams to their 18th win of the season. Schypinski scattered seven hits, fanned 10 and did not yield a walk in the complete-game performance. Game two saw the Rams snap a scoreless tie with four runs in the fourth inning. That outburst was too much for the Bulls to handle as they yielded six more in the fifth to hand the Rams the mercy-shortened victory. Walker, Cieslak and Bobby Thomas were the hitting stars for the Rams as they each cracked two hits in three trips to the plate. Walker drove in two runs and scored once, Cieslak scored two runs and Thomas chipped in with one run scored and one RBI. Sorenson, Williams, DiLaura and Piechota all contributed to the heavy-hitting Rams attack. Sinnery notched the victory on the mound, tossing five innings of three-hit baseball. He struck out seven and walked none.

### SPORTS CAMPS

**Youth grid camp**  
Powerhouse Gym of Farmington Hills will sponsor a youth football camp from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 24, at Harrison High School. The camp is part of an effort to re-establish ties between the Farmington Rockets and Harrison football programs, according to Tim Mumford, manager of Powerhouse Gym and a former Harrison player. The camp is open to all players in the 7-14 age group, however. The cost is \$35. Lunch and a Powerhouse Gym T-shirt are included. Instructors will include the Harrison coaching staff, former Detroit Lion Ron Rice and former MSU and Harrison star Mill Coleman. There will be a cheerleading camp the same day. For more information and registration, contact Mumford at 248-875-9962.

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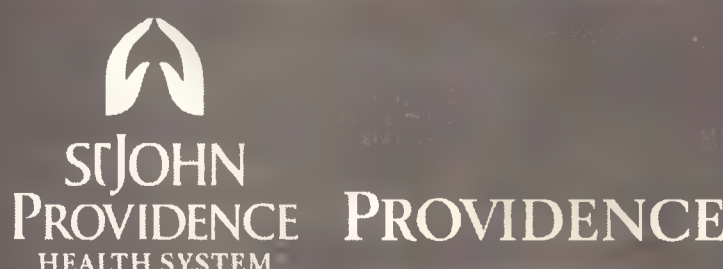
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# ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday, July 15, 2010



PHOTO GALLERIES

hometownlife **HL** .com

## Take a step back in time at Founders Festival

BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Fairy hoop toss and ball-in-a-cup will be all the rage this weekend at Warner Mansion in Farmington.

If you visit, you'll get a chance to play the two games, along with the "big hoop roll," and the more easily recognized badminton, croquet and horse-shoes.

"They were popular in Victorian times, in the late 1800s and early 1900s," said Sharon Bernath, a docent at the former home of Michigan's Governor Fred Warner. She's also in charge of the vintage lawn games, one of several activities held during Founders Festival at the Farmington landmark.

"This is the second year we're doing them. We did them on Sunday last year, but we're going to do it all three days this year because they seemed popular. They are nothing real spectacular but I think people enjoy them and they are something different."

Just because they're "simple" games, it doesn't mean they're easy to master or aimed solely at children. Bernath encourages adults to visit the various game stations that dot the mansion lawn during the festival, which began today, Thursday, July 15 and runs through Saturday, July 17, in downtown Farmington and at the mansion, located on Grand River Ave., northwest of the downtown district.

Miss Oakland County and her court will assist with the games on Saturday and anyone who tries all six can take home a prize.

Bernath said some of the games aren't as easy as they look. "The big hoop roll — you try to roll the hoop as far as you



Youngsters play with a vintage game during Founders Festival at Warner Mansion in Farmington.

can without it falling down. You use a stick and you have to run with the hoop, keep it balanced. I enjoy trying the hoop roll but I'm not very successful. It takes a lot of energy."

Fairy hoop toss consists of two sticks and two ribbon-decorated hoops, about 12 inches in diameter. Players toss their hoops to one another, catching them on their sticks.

The wooden cup was a popular toy for boys in the mid-1800s. The objective is to place the ball in the cup without touching it.

"I tell them to hold cup in hand and with the ball on the string hanging down, to try to lift it up and get the cut under the ball. That way it won't bounce out," Bernath said. "The amusements of the time are simple, but they are kind of fun."



The Warner Mansion is decked out in red, white and blue during Founders Festival in Farmington.

### CAKE AND PARASOLS

In addition to the games, the mansion will be open for tours, a flea market will be held Friday-Saturday, and birthday cake, celebrating Gov. Warner's 145th birthday, will be served Thursday.

Storyteller Rosie Chapman will bring history to life at 1 and

2 p.m. Saturday. Maria and Annika Taylor will take on the roles of Warner's daughters in vignettes they've written about the family at 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. at the mansion gazebo.

The parasol drill team, Warnerettes, will march in the Botsford parade at 10 a.m., Saturday, along Grand River Ave. from Brookdale to Liberty.



The fashion show is the centerpiece of activities at Warner Mansion during Founders Festival.

Bernath created the group specifically for the parade last year. "It's just to get together, be in the parade and have a good time doing something different. Sometimes we twirl our parasol, open and close it, point it this way and that."

Members dress in long black skirts and white blouses and sport Gov. Warner buttons and straw hats.

Mansion volunteers have considered using vintage clothing in their Founders Festival fashion show, but opted for contemporary styles to save on cost. The second annual fashion show will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, in front of the mansion. City clerk Sue Halberstadt said the show will take on a "home grown" twist this year by showcasing fashions from Dress Barn and hair and make up styling from Beyond Salon.

"Rachel Willnus will provide derby hats. They are incredible," added Halberstadt, who will join other local women to model the fashions. "It was a stunning fashion show last year, but this year we decided

we wanted to do something for Farmington businesses."

In addition to the activities at Warner Mansion, events will be held throughout downtown Farmington. A sampling:

- Crafter's Marketplace will offer works by more than 135 artists.

- A four-mile run starts at 9 a.m., at Shiawassee Park, located at Power and Shiawassee roads.

- The Meijer Go Playground, located on State Street and adjacent parking lots, offers family-oriented interactive entertainment, playground, crafts and more.

- Uprizing Steel Band, Killer Flamingos and Infinity Hour are among the bands scheduled to play.

- Thousands of rubber ducks will float down the river at 3 p.m., Saturday, in Shiawassee Park. The Rubber Duck Race is a fund-raiser for the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation.

For more festival information and schedules visit [www.foundersfestival.com](http://www.foundersfestival.com).

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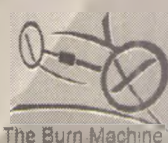
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# See fiber, ceramics, painting and more at Ann Arbor fairs

Two Farmington Hills artists will exhibit their works July 21-24 at the Ann Arbor Art Fairs.

Andrea Anderson weaves all of her own material — some of it is made from recycled plastic — and will be on hand with fiber art. Sandra Happel of Farmington Hills will exhibit ceramics.

The Ann Arbor Art Fairs is actually four art fairs in one taking place simultaneously throughout the city. Each is independently juried and has its own character. They are the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, located in the streets surrounding Burton Carillon Tower at North University; the State Street Area Art Fair located in the center of the action; the Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair with two locations on State Street and Main Street; and the South University Area Art Fair filling out the entire South University area.

There will be children's supervised art activities throughout the art fairs. The Ann Arbor Street Art Fair will host the Art Activity Zone with hands on projects for adults and children at the north end of the Ingalls Mall Lawn and The State Street Area Art Fair will offer the Art Activity Zone on Maynard and Jefferson.

Stages with continuous entertainment will be located at the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair under the tent on the Ingalls Mall Lawn. Street performers also will be scattered throughout the Street Art Fair. Ann Arbor's South University Art Fair will host

the 107.1 Main Stage at Church and Willard and the The Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair's performance stage will be on Liberty between Main and Ashley.

Art demonstrations will take place throughout the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair and Ann Arbor's South University Art Fair. Look for the emerging artists areas in the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, Ann Arbor's South University Art Fair and the Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair.

Art fair hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, July 21-23 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, July 24. For visitor information call (800) 888-9487 or visit [www.a2art-fairs.org](http://www.a2art-fairs.org).

New at this year's art fairs are the A2 Art Trolleys presented by VisitAnnArbor.org. The fleet of authentic trolleys will travel a loop between all of the four art fairs. The trolleys will run from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and will have eight different stops. A one-day wristband for the trolley is \$1. Children 12 and under ride for free.

Also new this year is a fourth park and ride shuttle giving fairgoers the opportunity to park conveniently and ride to the art fairs in air conditioned comfort. The new shuttle will be located at The Maple Village Shopping Center at Jackson and Maple Roads, just off of M-14. Parking is free and the round trip cost for the shuttle is \$4.

Other park and ride shuttles are located at Pioneer High School, across from U-M Stadium, on Main Street near Stadium Boulevard



Wearable art by Andrea Anderson of Farmington Hills

and at Briarwood Mall, near Sears, on State Street and Eisenhower Parkway.

Shuttle service hours are

9 a.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday-Friday and 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday. Shuttles run every 10 to 15 minutes.



Fiber artist Andrea Anderson of Farmington Hills will show her works at the annual Ann Arbor Art Fairs.

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**Costick Center**  
**Time/Date:** Through Aug. 2; gallery hours are noon-4 p.m.  
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**Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle**  
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**Location:** 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak  
**Contact:** (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

**CONCERTS**

**The Ark**  
**Time/Date:** Rani Arbo & daisy mayhem, July 15; Cherryholmes, July 16; Carrie Newcomer, July 17; Bill Kirchen CD release party, July 25; Tift Merrit & Dawn Landes & the Hounds, July 29; Finvarra's Wren, July 30; Harry Manx, July 31  
**Location:** 316 South Main, Ann Arbor  
**Contact:** (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

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

**Magic Bag**  
**Time/Dates:** Sarah Harmer, July 15; Half Light Music record release party, July 16; Natives of the New Dawn, July 17; Louder than Love, July 23; The Mood Elevator and Fletcher Pratt, July 30  
**Location:** 22920 Woodward, Ferndale  
**Contact:** (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com

**Stars in the Park**  
**Time/Date:** 7 p.m., July 22  
**Location:** Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, north of 10 Mile, Farmington Hills  
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**Trinity House Theatre**  
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**FAMILY**

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**Detroit Zoo**  
**Time/Date:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Labor Day  
**Location:** I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak  
**Details:** Admission is \$11 for adults 15 to 61, \$9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and \$7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free.  
**Contact:** (248) 541-5717

**FILM**

**Penn Theatre**  
**Time/Date:** 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., July 15

**Location:** 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth  
**Details:** "Pee-Wee's Big Adventure," \$3 admission  
**Coming up:** "Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo," 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. July 22  
**Contact:** (734) 453-0870, www.penn-theatre.com  
**Redford Theatre**  
**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. July 23 and 8 p.m. and 2 p.m., July 24  
**Location:** 17360 Lahser, Detroit  
**Details:** "The Postman Always Rings Twice," tickets, \$4  
**Contact:** www.redfordtheatre.com

**MUSEUMS**

**Cranbrook**  
**Time/Date:** 2 p.m., Thursday through Sunday  
**Location:** 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills  
**Details:** Docent-guided public tours of Saarinen House, a rare integration of art, architecture, design and nature, depart from Cranbrook Institute of Science front desk. The tours are about 90 minutes long and take place rain or shine.  
**Coming up:** 9th Annual Batfest, July

30-31, at the Cranbrook Institute of Science. Zoologist Bill Schutt presents at 7 p.m. July 30; tickets \$5 per person. Live bat programs, live nocturnal animal exhibit, educational exhibits, bat-themed activities for kids, story time, and presentations by bat experts from around the Great Lakes region run 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday. Watch bat experts catch wild insect-eating bats while they forage for food, 8-10 p.m. Saturday. Batfest tickets are \$9.50 for adults, \$7.50 for children, 2-12, and senior citizens, 65 and over. Festival is free

to Cranbrook Institute of Science and Bat Conservation members and **Contact:** (248) 645-3200 for house tours; (248) 645-3232 for bat festival information; http://science.cranbrook.edu  
**Plymouth Historical Museum**  
**Time/Dates:** Opened June 26  
**Location:** 155 S. Main, Plymouth  
**Coming up:** "Margaret's 1910" honors philanthropist Margaret Dunning's 100th birthday  
**Contact:** (734) 455-8940, www.plymouthhistory.org

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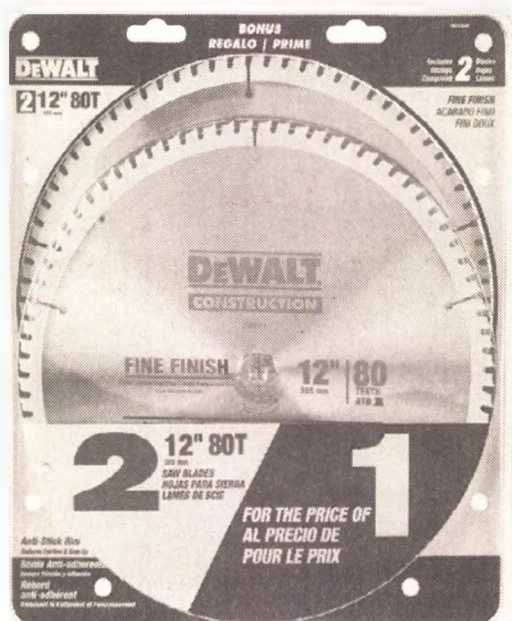
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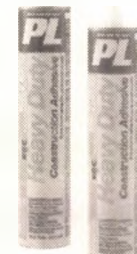
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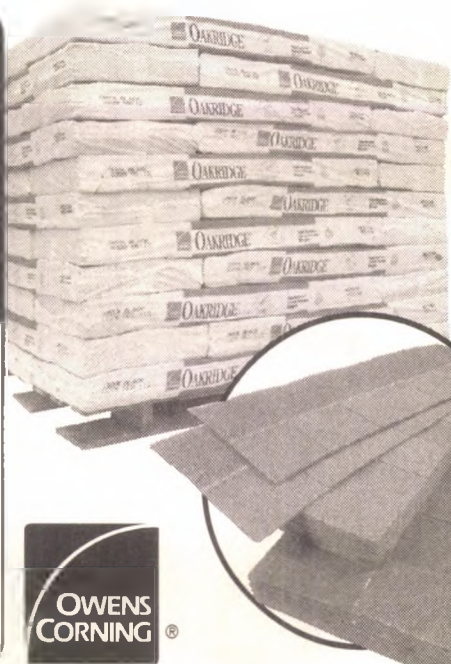
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# Hear Christian rock music at outdoor concert

Four Christian bands will perform a free concert Saturday, July 17, in downtown Plymouth.

Plymouth First United Methodist Church will present "Heart Beats 2010, Music With A Message," from 5-9 p.m. in Kellogg Park, located on S. Main between Penniman and W. Ann Arbor Trail.

Featured artists are Bethesda, Chosen, The Cast and Crew and Please Promise. These young, energetic Christian-based bands will perform a variety of musical styles, including rock, punk, independent and praise. Their music is geared for the young and young at heart.

First Step and Cass Social Services will be on hand along with representatives from several local churches, as well as service groups from Plymouth First United Methodist Church. Each will staff a display table.

The local Kiwanis Club will sell popcorn, candy bars, water and soda pop from its Snack Wagon.

For more information call the church at (734) 453-5280 or visit [www.pfumc.org](http://www.pfumc.org).



Chosen is one of four bands that will play in a free concert Saturday, July 17, at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

# Church fills backpacks for needy students

Kenwood Church of Christ in Livonia is collecting school supplies for families that need a little economic help this fall.

"As the economic conditions are still difficult for some families, we want to find as many ways to help as possible," said the Rev. Todd Lackie, pastor.

The church partnered with Webster Elementary School, a Livonia Public School, the past year by giving backpacks to kids, supplies to teachers and Christmas presents to needy families. Members also cleaned the school grounds, donated books for March is Reading month and brought ice cream to the school's end-of-the-year party.

"We feel very fortunate to have a partner in the community like Principal (Shellie) Moore and Webster Elementary," Lackie said.

The church is collecting pencils, paper, spiral bound notebooks, erasers, pencil sharpeners, rulers, glue sticks, colored pencils, markers, and small Kleenex packs. The collected items will go to needy students in the Livonia Public Schools and Webster Elementary.

Donations can be placed in boxes located under the canopy near the entrance of Kenwood Church, 20200 Merriman, Livonia.

For more information, call (248) 476-8222.

## JASSEM

Japanese American School of South East Michigan

### OPEN ENROLLMENT 2010-11 SCHOOL YEAR

JASSEM is a TUTION-FREE Public School Academy authorized by the Livonia Public Schools according to the Michigan Revised School Code, serving students and their families starting with an academic program for Kindergarten. JASSEM has an open enrollment policy and does not discriminate on the basis of intellectual or physical abilities, achievement or aptitude, religion, race or gender.

**Enroll in person at:**  
 9101 Hillcrest, Livonia, MI 48150  
 (off Joy Road, between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads)  
**July 26 through August 13 • 9am – 3pm**  
 or contact JASSEM at [info@jassem.org](mailto:info@jassem.org)

**Our Mission:**  
 To create a nurturing two-way immersion global learning community that uses the best practices of both Japanese and American schools to provide students a successful dual education in both Japanese and English.

In the event student enrollment applications exceed available space, a random selection drawing will be administered on August 16 starting at 6:30pm at 9101 Hillcrest, Livonia, MI 48150. The random selection drawing, in accordance with the Michigan Revised School Code and the chartering contract provisions with Livonia Public Schools, will be conducted under the direction of a third party administrator not affiliated with JASSEM. If required, the third party administrator will be a representative from Plante Moran, PLLC.

## SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.



Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

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

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibly applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice. [www.ssdfighter.com](http://www.ssdfighter.com)

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.

In addition to practicing only Social Security Disability law Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the subject. He also has been interviewed on various radio and television programs and has given speeches to many groups.

Bieske's office staff consists of paralegals and secretaries who are also highly experienced in assisting him with Social Security Disability cases. And they are extremely helpful in answering questions with regard to the status of clients' cases and administrative procedure.

# Your Invitation to Worship

**CATHOLIC**

**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 & 10:30 a.m.  
 Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass  
 Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions  
 Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

**UNITED METHODIST**

**ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills  
 www.orchardumc.org  
**248-626-3620**

**Worship:**  
 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
 10:00 a.m. Christian Education for all ages  
 Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter

**PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)**

**ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**  
 9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI  
 (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)  
**(734) 422-0494**  
 Friends in Faith Service  
 9:00 am  
 Traditional Service  
 10:30 am  
 Visit [www.rosedalegardens.org](http://www.rosedalegardens.org)  
 For information about our many programs

**LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**

**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

*Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ*  
 Senior Pastor: Rev. Dean Davenport  
 Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

**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

**GREEK ORTHODOX**

**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. Demetrios Sean Govostes.  
 Parish Office 734-420-0131  
 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
[www.nativitygochurch.org](http://www.nativitygochurch.org)

**EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN**

**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 WRDT-AM 580  
 The WMUZ Word Station  
 For additional information visit [www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org)

**LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD**

**St. Paul's Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**  
 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD,  
 LIVONIA (734) 261-1360  
 WORSHIP SERVICES  
 SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.  
 THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.  
 website: [www.stpaulsivonia.org](http://www.stpaulsivonia.org)

**PRESBYTERIAN**

**Fellowship Presbyterian Church**  
 Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
 Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.  
 Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire  
 Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church  
 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road  
 Nursery provided • [www.fellowship-presbyterian.org](http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org)

**CONGREGATIONAL**

**North Congregational Church**  
 36520 12 Mile Rd.  
 Farmington Hills  
 (bet Drake & Halsted)  
 (248) 848-1750  
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*Faith - Freedom-Fellowship*  
 Ministers  
 Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron

**LUTHERAN-ELCA**

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA**  
 Farmington Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 248-474-0584

**Saturday Worship • 5:30 PM**  
 Sunday Worship & Sunday School

9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE  
 10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES  
 11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE  
 NURSERY AVAILABLE  
 BILL & LAUREN KIRSH-CARR, PASTORS

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



## Olive oil makes summer dishes sizzle

## The emphasis is on olive at new oil and vinegar store

Italian food tops the list of favorite cuisine for many individuals — and for good reason. Chef Fabio Viviani, a contestant on the Bravo network's



Chef Fabio Viviani

*Top Chef* and owner and executive chef of Firenze Osteria Italian Restaurant and Martini Bar in Los Angeles, Calif.,

knows that the combination of fresh ingredients, flavorful herbs and healthy, high quality olive oil makes Italian cuisine a go-to choice for al fresco summer dining.

To bring families together for a summer meal, Chef Fabio has created delicious summer recipes that can be made indoors or on the grill. All of them include olive oil, which is revered for its taste and has long been a part of healthy cooking.

Because olive oil is low in saturated fat and is naturally cholesterol-free, it adds flavor while boosting nutritional value.

You can swap it out for butter or margarine and cut fat in recipes by 25 percent. Use three-quarters of a teaspoon of olive oil for every one teaspoon of butter or margarine.

Olive oil is rich in antioxidants, also known as polyphenols, which have cancer-fighting properties, especially when consumed as extra virgin olive oil.

Enjoy the classic Italian taste of olive oil every day:

- Serve a simple appetizer of fresh bread with extra virgin olive oil. Pour the oil in a bowl for dipping and season with cracked pepper or fresh herbs.

- Create a simple yet flavorful marinade of classic pure olive oil combined with either lemon juice or wine vinegar to flavor meats, poultry and fish.

- Toss your favorite unsalted nuts in a sandwich bag with extra light tasting olive oil to coat lightly, then add a sprinkle of salt for an extraordinary taste.

For more recipes created by Chef Viviani, visit [www.BertolliOliveOil.com](http://www.BertolliOliveOil.com).

### ROASTED TOMATO & ZUCCHINI SALAD

by Chef Fabio Viviani

Serves 4

- 6 Roma tomatoes
- 4 zucchini
- Extra virgin olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- Salt and pepper (to taste)
- 2 6-ounce balls of buffalo mozzarella, cut into 1/2-inch slices
- Approximately 10 large leaves of fresh basil
- Shaved Parmesan cheese
- Dressing
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika

Cut tomatoes into 1/2-inch slices, and zucchini lengthwise into 1/4-inch ribbons. Season both with minced garlic, salt and pepper and drizzle with olive oil. Roast on grill with cut side up for about 10 minutes, or until nice and evenly roasted.

To assemble the salad: Place the tomato, zucchini (folded) and mozzarella on top of each other, like a tower, with a basil leaf in between layers. Season layers with salt and pepper and a drizzle of dressing. Sprinkle with shaved Parmesan on top.



Grilled Chicken Skewers with Sausage and Pancetta



Roasted Tomato & Zucchini Salad

### GRILLED CHICKEN SKEWERS WITH SAUSAGE AND PANCETTA

by Chef Fabio Viviani

Serves 4

- 3 chicken breasts (cubed)
- 5 to 6 sausages
- 8 to 10 thin slices of pancetta
- Sauce
- 20 cherry tomatoes (cut in half)
- Handful of fresh basil (chopped)
- 4 tablespoons extra light tasting olive oil
- Salt and pepper (to taste)

Alternate pieces of chicken and sausage on metal or bamboo skewers and brush with olive oil. Wrap skewers with slices of pancetta, approximately two pieces per skewer.

Place on grill. Grill until chicken is cooked, approximately 5 to 10 minutes.

In a cast iron pan on grill, place cut tomatoes, basil and olive oil. Saute until tomatoes are almost stewed. Season with salt and pepper.

Place the cooked skewers on a plate and top with cherry tomato sauce. Garnish with fresh chopped basil.

Note: If using bamboo skewers, soak skewers in water for one-half to one hour, to avoid burning on the grill.

### FILET WITH FARRO SALAD

by Chef Fabio Viviani

Serves 4

- 1 8-ounce filet mignon
- 8 ounces farro or couscous
- 10 cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 1 zucchini, diced
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 5 to 6 leaves basil, sliced in half lengthwise
- 1 cup shaved Parmesan
- 1/2 cup pine nuts
- Salt and pepper

Season filet with salt and pepper and grill to medium rare. Let the meat rest. Slice meat when you are ready to serve.

Prepare farro by cooking in salted boiling water for 12 min-

utes and drain.

Mix farro with the remaining ingredients in serving bowl. Serve on plate and place sliced filet on top.

— Courtesy of Family Features



BY SHARON DARGAY  
O&E STAFF WRITER

Shelve the fudge sauce and hold the butter.

Shasta Fase can introduce you to healthful, tasty alternatives for your ice cream sundae, that next stack of pancakes and everything in between.

Fase and Cory Delong, opened their second Old World Olive Press store in downtown Plymouth last week. Both the new location and their existing store in Rockford, located north of Grand Rapids, carry cooking oils — with the focus on olive — balsamic vinegar, spice blends and rubs.

“People come in and have various levels of experience with olive oil,” Fase said. “Some have a little knowledge and some are more expert. We pride ourselves in working within their realm of knowledge.”

Chefs may know exactly what they want, with little assistance needed. Others rely on the store owners’ expertise.

“We ask what types of foods they like to eat. It helps in choosing an olive oil. If they make a lot of sauces, for example, there is one oil I know that is specifically good for sauces,” she said.

The store’s owners work with an importer to obtain oils and vinegar from around the globe. They look for “first press” oils from quality olives.

“Commercial grade oil is often pressed two or three times. They’re just looking at how much oil they can get out of the olive. What we want is, we press that olive one time, so we get the purest, freshest oil.”

Fase said one of her favorite oils is made in central California from arbequia olives.

“It’s exciting when you get

people in the store and you say, try this. It’s from the U.S. Oil from each country has its own flavor because of how the olives are cultivated and grown, how it’s pressed. All of those factors determine how the oil tastes.”

Fase also sells flavored oils and vinegars, including a chocolate vinegar and a natural butter flavor oil.

“I’ve used the natural butter flavor on pancakes in place of butter. The chocolate vinegar is wonderful over fresh strawberries or ice cream.”

Fase encourages customers to taste the store’s products.

“It’s like a tasting room, with cups out for sampling.”

The Old World Olive Press is located at 467 Forest; (734) 667-2755. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday; and noon-5 p.m., Sunday.

The Olive Grove, 23622 Farmington Road in Farmington, also offers natural olive oils, vinegars and artisan pasta; (248) 476-4460

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\*Sale ends May 31st or while supplies last. See store for details.

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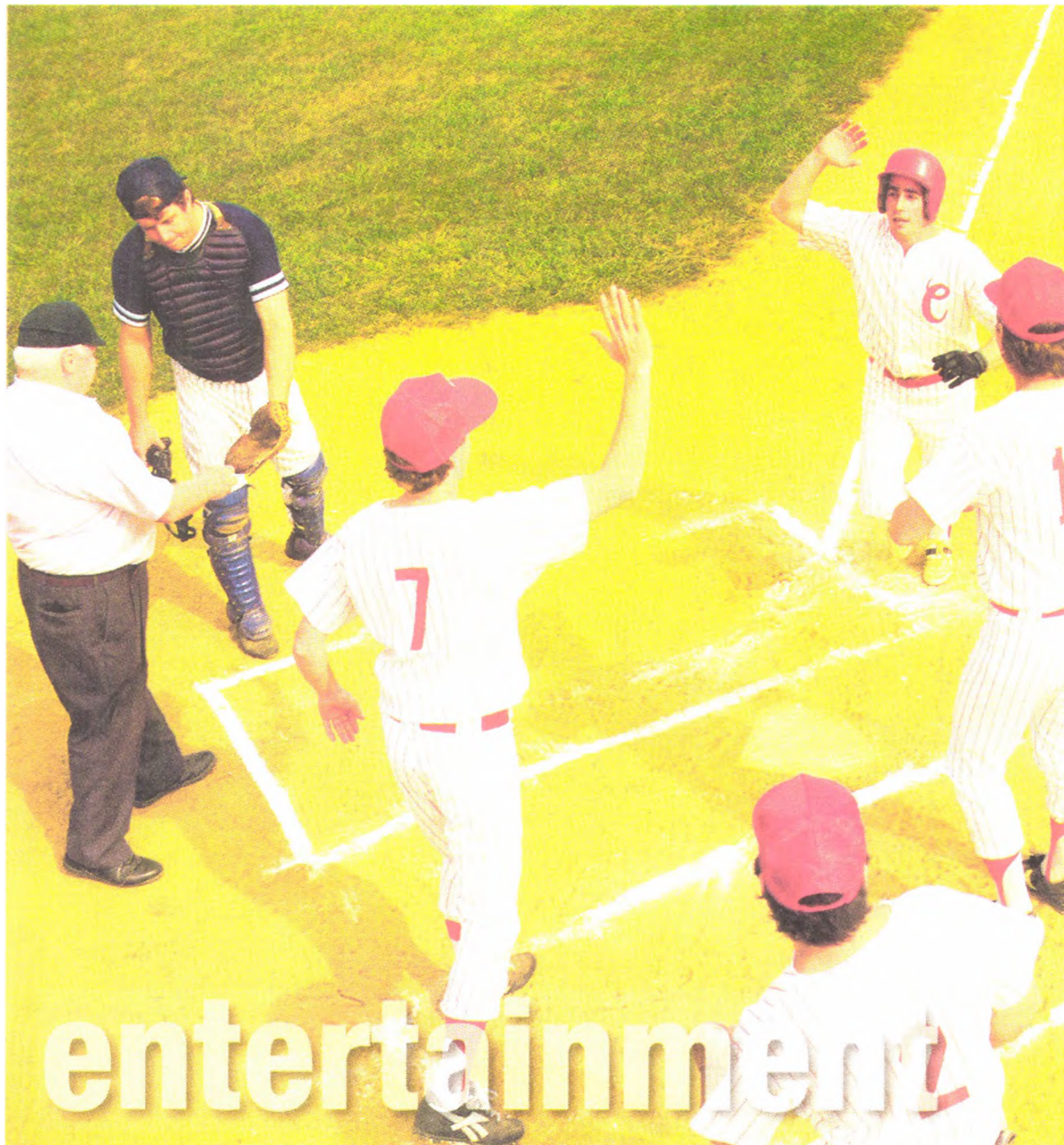








## Landscaping/Hardscaping tips



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**Play Ball!**  
*Cheer on Michigan's pro and minor league baseball teams*



16

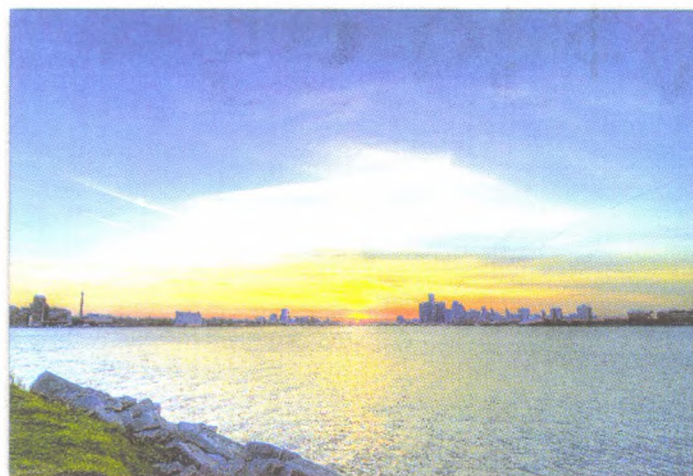
**Food**  
*S'mores, please*

20

**Entertainment**  
*New books, local music events, DVDs and what's playing in theaters*

22

**Home**  
*Make your own pond or landscaping project*



6

**Tech Savvy**  
*Take better vacation photos*

Photo by Tin Tin Yu  
Canton Photographer  
**Belle Isle Park in Detroit.**

**Plus**

**Top 5 muscle cars 10**

**Save energy at home checklist 12**

**Porch renovations 18**

**Scenic ponds 22-23**

**Simple summer recipes 24**



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## Summer reading and plenty of activities to *Inspire* you

What does summer in Michigan mean to you? Baseball, vacations, concerts in the park and smores?

If you've said yes to any of these, this edition of *Hometown Life Inspire* is one you will want to read cover to cover.



As I write this, the Detroit Tigers are in first place in the AL Central, and fans are loving the home games at Comerica Park. It's a great place to watch a game — and it's always fun to see the home team win. But if you like baseball and can't get enough when

the big cats go on the road, buy a ticket to the Mudhens, the Whitecaps or the Lugnuts. Toledo, Grand Rapids and Lansing offer great minor league parks. The price is right, the food is good and the minor league experience is lots of fun.

Contributing Writer Jon Gunnells writes about "For the Love of the Game" in this month's cover story.

And if you're heading off on a vacation, Tech

Savvy Contributing Writer Mike Hogan talks to local photographers and offers up tips for taking great photos.

If it's a Staycation you're enjoying this summer, check out the list of local concerts in communities throughout the area. Local businesses, chambers of commerce and DDAs have joined together to offer a great lineup of summer music and entertainment.

If it's a DIY project you're looking for, read how Caren Collins and her husband, Tim Eifer, spruced up their historic Novi home with a landscaping makeover and porch redo.


Finally, don't let summer pass by without enjoying smores. The chocolatey, marshmallow concoction is not just for camping anymore. See inside for tips on making the perfect smores anytime, anywhere.

As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions for future editions of *Hometown Life Inspire*. E-mail your DIY projects, comments or story ideas to inspire@hometownlife.com.

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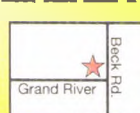


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Photo courtesy of ARA

Pet owners feel confident that they know what's on their pups' minds, even without the benefit of words.

# A wag is worth a thousand words

Ever get the feeling that your dog knows what you're thinking, without saying a word? Many canine parents report that they've had an entire conversation with their dogs despite the obvious language barrier. From "can I have a treat" to "let's go for a walk," dogs have a special way of sharing their feelings. According to a new survey, it's the wags, not words that tell the story when it comes to canine communication.

The survey, conducted by Kelton Research for Pup-Peroni dog snacks, revealed that most canine pet parents believe that they can communicate with their dogs even though they don't speak the same language — giving a new twist to the old adage, "silence is golden."

Pet owners feel confident that they know what's on their pups' minds, even without the benefit of words. Almost three in four (74 percent) respondents believe their dogs body language or facial expressions better indicate how their pet is truly feeling than barks or other sounds. They also estimate that they know what their dog is thinking nearly half (49 percent) of the time.

Seven in 10 (70 percent) respondents say there have been times when they shared a meaningful look with their canine companions.

"Dogs have an uncanny ability to pick up

on even the subtlest cues from their owners, enabling them to read humans like few other animals can," said body language expert Patti Wood. "Even something as minute as a glance from their owner has meaning for a dog."

Wood also points out that our modern dogs ability to communicate with us seems to be a product of millennia of interaction. "Research shows that, over time, there has been a deliberate selection of dogs with the ability to pick up on cues from humans," she said. "It shows just how important nonverbal communication between dogs and people has always been."

For many pet parents, the special bond they share with their pooch is one of the most important relationships in their lives. Without ever having to say a word, their pups are there for them through the good times and the bad, acting as confidants, therapists and most importantly, their best friends. Maybe it's because of that unspoken connection between canines and humans that people feel their dogs are just as good a source of comfort and companionship as their human friends — or maybe even more so. With a smile and a wag, dogs just know — how many people can say that about their best friend or significant other?

— Courtesy of ARAcontent

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Lake Bellaire by James Weaver, Northville.

# Take better vacation photos

By MIKE HOGAN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Sharing vacation photos used to be considered a punishment, but recently photography has become a well-respected skill that many people have been able to develop. Locally, young photographers have taken up the hobby and are sharing their vacation photos in beautiful ways.

James Weaver is studying earth systems science at the University of Michigan. He lives in Northville, but chances are high that — as these words are being read — Weaver is off on an adventure.

"I travel often, usually multiple times per month," Weaver said. "Most of my trips are short backpacking trips in the Midwest. I love these trips because they are cheap, often only the cost of gas and food, and afford plenty of opportunities for great scenic and wildlife photography."

Weaver uses a Canon 40D, a mid-level DSLR, or digital single-lens reflex camera. DSLRs are mainly used by experienced photographers who are more familiar with advanced camera settings. While Weaver might have the equipment and eye for great photos, his better shots can be attributed to his inspiring environment.

"In Michigan, I love visiting the entire north-west corner of the Lower Peninsula, and I'm looking forward to visiting Pictured Rocks and Isle Royal in the U.P." Weaver said. "It's amazing how much my photos improve when I have no constraints or distractions and can focus fully on photography."

To share photos, Weaver uses Flickr, a popular website where users can share photos and videos. Novice photographers can use the site to upload pictures and share them with friends and family. More professional users enjoy the ability to tag photos with information and upload high-resolution images that allow better quality. Flickr also allows the capability of licensing photos, so photographers can share images without fear of being copied.

"I use Flickr because I like the user interface, wide audience and low price compared to hosting my own site," Weaver said. "I mainly share photos with family and friends across the company."

In Canton, software engineer TinTin Yu shares his photos on Flickr as well. The 27-year-old just started taking photos as a hobby within the last three years. On his Flickr page, Yu has uploaded photos ranging from places like Hong



Photo by Tin Tin Yu : Canton Photographer

Bridge over Portage Lake, Michigan.



Photo by James Weaver | Northville Photographer

Teton National Park, Wyoming.

Kong, China to Belle Isle.

"I only started recently taking this seriously, because I just started working and now have the money to buy stuff," Yu said about his camera equipment. "But there are a couple photos that I took from Belle Isle that are pretty good."

Yu first began taking photos after his academ-

ic adviser at Michigan Technological University lent him a camera. He's looking forward to taking more photos of landscapes this summer.

"This August I'm going to Las Vegas and the Grand Canyon," Yu said. "I'm hoping to visit some national parks, I'm hoping to get some landscape stuff."

## TECH SAVVY RECOMMENDS:

### Choosing a camera

While DSLRs can certainly produce high-quality photos, it might as well be a typical camera if the user doesn't know how to use the advanced settings.

### Capture the experience

Photos are meant to freeze moments in time, so take candid shots. It will probably work out better than trying to force a great picture.

### Right memory for your memories

Some cameras require an additional SD or Flash card. A card with more memory allows you to never miss a moment.

### Keep camera close

Some great photos happen unexpectedly. Always be prepared to capture a great moment.

### Where to share

Websites like Facebook set a limit for photo resolution, so your photos might not turn out as clear as they should be. Other websites like Shutterfly and Flickr allow users to save their photos with full resolution, although Flickr requires an annual fee.

Yu uses photo-editing software like Aperture and Adobe Photoshop. Although he's been able to buy some impressive cameras and equipment along the way, Yu thinks the camera doesn't always make the photographer.

"The thing is, focus on the composition," Yu said. "Just learn from doing it. I see lots of good pictures that are just from point-and-shoot cameras, even phone cameras."

To create great photos, James Weaver tries to look at photography in a different way than most.

"I tend to think of photography as a series of experiences rather than a collection of snapshots," Weaver said.

Local schools like Schoolcraft College and Wayne State University provide photography classes for those who want to learn more about photography.

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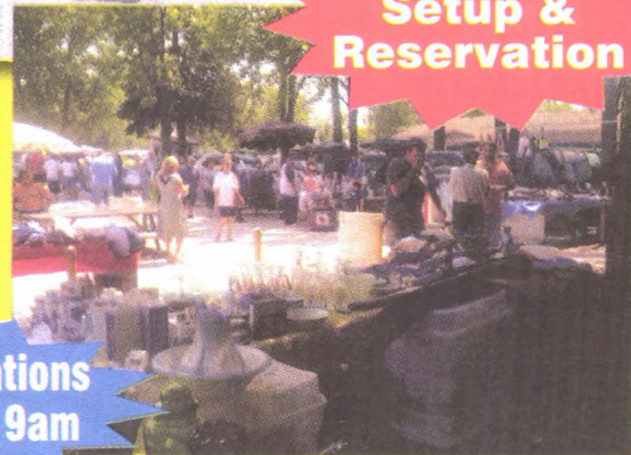


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Photo courtesy of Fotolia

For easy traveling, buy a laptop bag that produces a clear and unobstructed image of the laptop when undergoing X-ray airport screening.

## Gadgets on the Go

### MUST-HAVE TECH FOR YOUR NEXT TRIP

Are you planning a quick weekend getaway, a family vacation or a business trip? Here's a roundup of some nifty gadgets that can make traveling easier, more efficient and just plain fun.

#### LUGGAGE SMARTS

- **Weigh, Don't Pay:** If you can never seem to pack light or you plan on shopping during your trip, get a small digital scale to help you stay under the carry-on weight limit. The Travelon Ergonomic Digital Scale, for example, shows baggage weight up to 75 pounds on a backlit readout. It also includes a tape measure so you know when you're within carry-on size limits.

- **Find It Fast:** Keep track of your luggage with electronic luggage locators. With the Luggage Locator Pro Deluxe, you put a receiver on each bag and keep the remote on your keychain. Touch a button on the remote and the receiver will beep and light up when you are within 60 feet.

#### CAMERA WIZARD

- **Steady Shots:** Keeping your camera steady is important for taking better pictures. The Gorilla-pod, by Joby, is a mini tripod with flexible, multi-jointed legs that let you balance it just about anywhere — on hills, tree branches and more. The original is suitable for compact cameras. A

larger version can handle the weight of an SLR and a magnetic version lets you attach the camera to metal surfaces.

- **Simple Sharing:** Transfer your travel shots and videos to your computer and sharing sites with the Eye-Fi wireless memory card. Using Hotspot Access, you can upload media from tens of thousands of AT&T Wi-Fi hotspots across the U.S.

#### BUSINESS TOOLS

- **Keep the Connections:** Having a reliable cell phone signal is a must to stay in touch with the office or loved ones. Cell phone signal boosters like zBoost allow customers to take full advantage of voice, data and Internet services on mobile phones and data devices, including 3G high-speed data and video, instant messaging and pictures. zBoost travel units ([www.wi-ex.com](http://www.wi-ex.com)), including the zPocket and zboost Dual Band Car Unit, help you take advantage of your smartphone's voice and data capabilities on the road.

- **Capture Comments:** Take better meeting notes with a smart pen. The Livescribe 2GB Pulse Smartpen records audio and links it to

*continued on next page*

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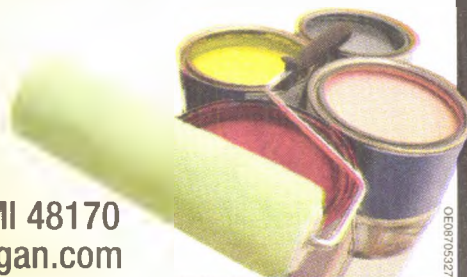






Photo courtesy of zBoost

Cell phone signal boosters like zBoost allow customers to take full advantage of voice, data and Internet services while traveling.

*continued from previous page*

what you write. If you miss something, tap on your notes or drawings with the tip to hear what was said while you were writing. You can transfer your notes to the computer, organize them, search for words and share the finished project with others.

- **Keep Them Close:** If you've got toddlers that like to roam, you need a way to find them easily. The Giggle Bug Toddler Tracker clips onto your child's clothing. To find your wandering little one, press a button on the hand-held unit and the Giggle Bug emits a loud beep until the child is located and you release the unit. The range is 75 to 100 feet indoors and 100+ feet outdoors, depending on environment and obstructions.

- **Keep Them Entertained:** If you have movies or TV shows on your iPod or DVDs, everyone can watch them on a bigger screen. The iLuv i1166 portable multimedia player has a 9-inch widescreen display. It can work as a standalone player or you can use an adapter to plug it in to the car for drive time viewing. It also functions as a digital photo frame, iPod charger and music player.

Whether taking your laptop for work or play, make sure it clears security screening

with a minimum of hassle. You can buy laptop bags that will produce a clear and unobstructed image of the laptop when undergoing X-ray screening. A design that meets this objective will enable Transportation Security Administration officers to allow laptops to remain in bags for screening.

Using one of these bags doesn't guarantee that you can leave your laptop in your bag for screening. If a Transportation Security officer finds that the bag does not present a clear and distinct image of the laptop separate from the rest of the bag, the laptop must be screened separately.

If you intend to use a checkpoint-friendly laptop bag, make sure to check that:

- Your laptop bag has a designated laptop-only section that you can lay flat on the X-ray belt.
- There are no metal snaps, zippers or buckles inside, underneath or on-top of the laptop-only section.
- There are no pockets on the inside or outside of the laptop-only section.
- There is nothing in the laptop compartment other than the laptop.
- You have completely unfolded your bag so that there is nothing above or below the laptop-only section, allowing the bag to lie flat on the X-ray belt.

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Photos courtesy of ARA

Pontiac built a total of 40,149 GTOs in 1970, a mere 3,784 were convertibles. This Orbit Orange hardtop is ready to make a 12-second pass at the drag strip.

# Hot wheels: The top five muscle cars of summer

Baseball, barbecue, pool parties — when you're rallying ways to celebrate summer, don't overlook one uniquely American invention that some devotees say is the epitome of summer fun — the muscle car.

"Summer and muscle cars go together perfectly," says Steven Magnante, former technical editor of "Hot Rod" magazine. Magnante will be SPEED's on-the-block reporter during the Inaugural Barrett-Jackson Orange County Collector Car Auction in Costa Mesa, Calif., this summer. "Summer is a time for enjoyment. Winter snow and frigid temperatures become distant memories when you're motoring along

in a high performance car on a sunny summer afternoon."

Here are Magnante's picks for the top five muscle cars of summer:

- 1983-93 Mustang GT Convertible
- 1968-1974 Big Block Corvette Roadster
- 1968-1975 Plymouth Road Runner
- 1965-1970 Mustang High Performance Convertible
- 1964-1971 Pontiac GTO Convertible

To see more amazing muscle cars, classics and great vehicles, log on to [www.speed.com](http://www.speed.com) to learn more.

— Courtesy of ARAContent



Just one of 7,643 built, this 1984 Mustang GT convertible rates fifth place in a summer time muscle car roundup.

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# Cooling your house and saving energy



## HOMEOWNER'S CHECKLIST

By LON GROSSMAN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER



Most everyone is energy conscious these days — if not to save the environment, than at least to save money.

There are literally hundreds of energy/money saving tips that also add to your comfort. Many are common sense, but worth mentioning.

We've compiled a partial list of tips for you to consider:

If you have air conditioning, keep the furnace or window unit filters clean and replace as needed.

Turn off the power and periodically hose off to clean the compressor. A condenser that is plugged with grass clippings, cottonwoods, leaves, weeds, etc. is operating at less efficiency than designed.

If you have central air, dial up. Keep your thermostat at 76 degrees in the daytime and move it up a couple of degrees at night.

Keep your refrigerator coils and fins clean so it doesn't have to work as hard.

Remove all shrubs and vegetation within six to eight inches of the air conditioning condenser.

If you have an older air conditioning system upgrading it will improve savings, since the minimum Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating (Seer) is R-13.

Close your blinds or shades on the south and west sides of the house when the sun is coming from those directions.

Turn off lights when leaving a room. Incandescent bulbs generate heat.

Install and use ceiling fans.

Replace incandescent bulbs with cooler energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs or the LED type.

If considering replacing your roof, replace it with white or light colored shingles.

Use the microwave instead of the stove when possible.

Only do full loads in your dishwasher or laundry machines.

Let your dishes "air dry."

Tape and seal all joints, seams and gaps in all ductwork throughout. Don't use grey cloth duct tape, use UL-approved silver duct tape. It won't crack and come loose.

continued on page 26



West Michigan Whitecaps fans cheer during a T-shirt toss at Fifth Third Field.



Submitted photo

Fifth Third Field, home of the Toledo Mud Hens, opened in 2002. The right field upper deck seats nicknamed "The Roost" were named the best seats in minor league baseball by ESPN.

# For the Love of the Game

## CHEER ON MICHIGAN'S PRO AND MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAMS THIS SUMMER

By **JON GUNNELLS**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The crack of the bat, fresh cut grass, a hard ball slapping a leather glove — the sounds and smells of baseball were meant to be experienced in person. And there's no better place to experience live baseball this summer than in Michigan, home to some of the best major and minor league baseball venues.

### DETROIT TIGERS

Comerica Park, home of the Detroit Tigers is considered one of the finest modern baseball parks in the nation. Featuring home run fountains, carnival rides, party porches and plenty of baseball history, Comerica Park can impress even the most casual fans.

The Tigers play through September and Comerica Park offers plenty of promotions, including kids' day on Sunday, frequent college night events, giveaways, weekend fireworks and more.

Although prime seats, suites and all-you-can-eat packages can cost more, upper deck and bleacher seats for Tigers games can be purchased for less than \$15.

With a heavier emphasis on interaction and

promotions and not ticket prices, minor league games are known for excitement and fan friendliness. Virtually any seat at a minor league game can be found for \$10 and, with smaller stadiums, nearly every seat has a great view of the playing field.

"If you are looking for elite level competition, major league games can't be beat," tigstown.com Managing Editor Paul Wezner said. "But everything from parking to ticket prices to concessions are drastically cheaper at minor league parks."

Wezner, who runs a website devoted to Detroit Tigers minor league baseball, contends baseball is as much about the stadium experience as the game.

The stadium experiences from Wuerfel Field, home of the Traverse City Beach Bums, to Fifth Third Park, home of the Toledo Mud Hens, are as unique as the names of the teams that play there.

### (Triple-A, Toledo, Ohio)

Fans have swarmed Fifth Third Field since it opened in 2002, but not just because of the promotions and celebrity races. Fifth Third Field features a one-of-a-kind viewing experience, especially from the outfield upper deck named "The Roost" which was named the best seating area in minor league baseball by ESPN.

The Roost is connected to Fifth Third Field

via a renovated office building. Fans must walk through the old building to find their right field seats — but the view of the game and in-game events are unrivaled in baseball.

"At each Mud Hens game, instead of watching a video board race, they have an actual race between three mascots based on local Toledo celebrities," Wezner said.

The punny-named celebrities include Jim Flealand, named after Tigers manager Jim Leyland, and Kitty Holmes, named after actress Katie Holmes.

The Mud Hens also have a pair of mascots — Muddy and Muddona, who Wezner said, are more likely to stop by and say hello to kids, or sign autographs than mascots at major league sporting events.

Toledo is a common destination for minor league veterans and major league players rehabilitating from injuries. Tigers stars Carlos Guillen, Rick Porcello and Armando Galarraga have each played for the Mud Hens this year.

### (Single-A, Comstock Park, Mich.)

Not to be confused with their farm system brothers playing at Fifth Third Field, the West Michigan Whitecaps, who play at Fifth Third Park, are known almost as much for their baseball

as they are for their outrageous ballpark food.

The Whitecaps offer the Fifth Third Burger, a 4,800-calorie burger that was featured on the television show "Man vs. Food." The five-patty sandwich is topped with chili, cheese, salsa, corn chips and more total toppings than there are innings in a game.

"If a single person can finish the entire thing, they receive a free T-shirt," Wezner said.

The Whitecaps roster is usually stacked with young prospects and emerging stars within the Detroit Tigers farm system.

### (Single-A, Lansing, Mich.)

Located near the biggest law school in the nation (Cooley Law School) and one of the biggest universities in the nation (Michigan State University), it is no surprise the Lugnuts are known for rowdy baseball games. Surrounded by bars, and featuring "Thirsty Thursdays" with cheap alcoholic beverages, the Lugnuts are the choice venue for fans more interested in drinking than watching baseball.

Michigan is also home to the Single-A Great Lakes Loons, who play at Dow Diamond in Midland, and the independent Traverse City Beach Bums, who are not affiliated with Major League Baseball.



File photo

The Eclipse Base Ball Club of Northville is a group of baseball and history enthusiasts who play other "vintage" teams by the rules and gentlemanly conduct of the 1860s, often coinciding with historic re-enactments, festivals and tournaments. Visit <http://eclipse-baseball.com>.

### THE OLD BALL GAME

Give new meaning to the term "Old Ball Game" this summer by catching a throwback game of historic baseball around metro Detroit. Greenfield Village in Dearborn will host old-fashioned baseball games, played by the rules of 1867, Aug. 8, 21 and 22 at 1:30 p.m. The game is free with admission to the park.

Old-fashioned baseball games can also be found this summer in Northville, home of the Northville Eclipse Baseball Club. The vintage team plays according to 1860s rules and manners at Ford Field next to Mill Race Village in downtown Northville. The Eclipse also travel across Michigan for away games, occasionally playing squads in other venues around Detroit. For a complete schedule, visit [www.eclipsebbc.com/index.htm](http://www.eclipsebbc.com/index.htm).

## GUIDE TO MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Team	Affiliation	Class	League
Toledo Mud Hens	Detroit Tigers	Triple-A	International
West Michigan Whitecaps (Comstock Park)	Detroit Tigers	Single-A	Midwest
Great Lakes Loons (Midland)	L A Dodgers	Single-A	Midwest
Lansing Lugnuts	Toronto Blue Jays	Single-A	Midwest
Traverse City Beach Bums	Indep.	Indep.	Frontier



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food

# S'mores



**The right activity for more than just camping**

Americans have a love affair with that classic campfire treat, s'mores. The good news — s'mores are no longer reserved just for campfire cooking. Did you know you can enjoy the chocolate, marshmallow and graham cracker goodness every day, inside and out?

S'mores have been helping families create memories since the delicious campfire recipe was first published in the Girl Scouts handbook in 1927. According to recent research, 79 percent of consumers polled believe s'mores are as much fun to make as they are to eat.

To help families make everyday s'mores moments this summer, Hershey's and Kraft Foods offer the following s'mores "snackivity" ideas.

**S'mores time, any time** — S'mores are the perfect summer campfire companion, and they offer a great "snackivity" for after school, a ball game or family dinner. Incorporating s'mores into your regular summer activities allows you to create a memorable Monday or tasty Tuesday that the family will all enjoy.

**Turn your back yard into a fun get-together** — Get the family, friends or neighbors together for an impromptu backyard party at the fire pit. Tell them all they need to bring is their appetite — you'll be serving s'mores.

**Grilling up sweet treats** — Sweeten your next backyard barbecue by adding s'mores to the menu. As an alternative to toasting a marshmallow on a skewer, simply preheat the grill to medium-hot. Build the s'mores to your liking and wrap in aluminum foil. Place the wrapped s'mores on the grill and cook one to two minutes on each side or until the marshmallow is gooey and the chocolate is slightly melted between the graham crackers. In other words, build it, wrap it and grill it. Grilled s'mores are also always a win at tailgate parties.

**Tasty play for a rainy day** — When bad weather strikes, keep the fun going by making s'mores in the microwave. Top each of four graham squares with one chocolate piece and one marshmallow. Place on microwaveable plate. Microwave on high 15 to 20 seconds or until marshmallows puff and chocolate begins to melt. Carefully remove plate from the microwave and then cover each s'mores with a remaining graham cracker square. Microwaved s'mores are also perfect for family game nights, sleepovers and afterschool treats.

You can visit [www.smoressmiles.com](http://www.smoressmiles.com) to create more s'mores and more smiles and for a chance to win one of more than 1,000 family fun prizes including fire pits, indoor s'mores kits, backyard game sets and much more. No purchase necessary, game ends Sept. 7. See the website for official rules.

— Courtesy of ARAcontent

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**Sive**



# Spinal Stenosis? Back Pain? Sciatica? Herniated and/or Bulging Discs?

## No back surgery. No neck surgery. Just Relief.

By Shane L Stanley, D.C.

Imagine how your life would instantly change if you discovered the solution to your back pain. Well there's good news. Through the combination of proven scientific principles and the latest technological developments, if you are a candidate, you now have a non-surgical option for your herniated discs or back pain. Finally, forget about struggling through exercise programs or undergoing a potentially risky surgery, because with this technology – for most people – there is a better option.

You are about to discover the most powerful technology available for: back pain, sciatica, bulging discs (single or multiple), degenerative disc disease, a relapse or failure following surgery or facet syndromes.

Best of all you can receive a free consultation to determine if you are a candidate with no obligation for care, absolutely free.

### What is the treatment about?

After being fitted with an automatic shoulder support system, the DRX 9000 slowly lowers you to a horizontal position. You are lying face up. The automatic shoulder support system helps to stabilize your upper body.

The advanced computer system automatically adjusts to the proper angle of distraction (gentle computerized pulling; not what most people think of traction) then an air bladder system acts as a fulcrum to angle the pull, allowing us to target your specific disc that may be causing your pain and symptoms.

The distractive forces utilize a logarithmic curve to avoid proprioceptor response, which would create a muscle spasm. The split table design decreases friction and allows separation of the vertebra, minimizing the effect of gravity.

Basically, you lay face up and the amazing DRX 9000 computer simulates an antigravity effect on your back that helps herniated material return to its normal position and stop the pain.

Patients describe the experience as a gentle, painless, intermittent pulling or gentle stretching of your back... Many patients actually fall asleep during the treatment!

### Here's what people who have experienced what you are now going through want you to know...

"My story begins as a 24-year-old woman having my first child. The pressure that a woman has carrying a child is indescribable. All that weight can do a lot of damage. After 13 years and three kids, my body, discs and sciatic nerve were shot! I had an MRI and discovered that I had a herniated disc. The pain came and went for years but this time it lasted for seven months of pure agony. Going to Dr. Stanley's office has helped me incredibly. The staff is wonderful and they make you feel so welcome. I've done my research on the cost of the treatment and literally have saved thousands on the cost of the treatment by choosing his office. Today, I feel great! Before, I couldn't move and I was always in pain – ALL the time. My family is so happy to have the real me back. To sum it all up, it really works!"

~ Y. K., Northville, MI

"...my back was so bad that I could not even sleep. If not for Dr. Stanley and the DRX 9000, I would have undergone surgery." ~ T. J., Roseville, MI



"I am 57 years old and I have been having back pain since I was 29 years old. Thus far, I have had three surgeries and was on my way to a fusion. I was in a lot of pain and I was taking a lot of medication. Getting spinal decompression from Dr. Stanley was the best thing that ever happened to me. I can now work everyday. I am an electrician and also work in construction. Dr. Stanley made it possible for me to continue my trade and work in construction."

~ G. D., Rochester Hills, MI

"I was not able to stand for more than five minutes and when I stood up after sitting, my back would lock. As a last resort, I was ready to go in for back surgery, and then my husband saw the ad in the Free Press by Dr. Stanley. I thought it could not hurt to try it. (The best thing I ever did). I am very agile again, back to my old energetic self. I can not recommend this procedure enough to those who qualify and need it. Thank you very much Dr. Stanley!"

~ I. S., Northville, MI

"I have suffered with neck and back pain for years that started dramatically decreasing the quality of my life. In addition, the radicular pain and numbness that went into my arms and legs prevented me from having a good night's sleep for over a year. I first heard of the DRX 9000 over six months ago and decided to check it out. I visited another clinic and was astounded by the price. I then consulted with Dr. Stanley. He performed an exam and reviewed my MRI. I was very impressed with how thorough he was without pressuring me to become a patient. To make a long story short, I decided to undergo treatment. I am now pain free and I saved thousands of dollars in the process. I could not give this procedure and his office a higher grade of approval."

~ P. C., Canton, MI

My back started to feel sore when I was 23. At that time, I came in to see Dr. Stanley. After he shot an X-ray, he informed me that my 5th lumbar disc had a very advanced degree of degeneration for someone my age. After a series of adjustments, I was back to feeling good

for a couple of years. Less than two years ago, while performing yoga, I felt a terrible pain in my back unlike anything I have ever experienced. I was informed that I had a disc herniation. The pain was bringing me to tears. I went back to Dr. Stanley and he informed me that I was a good candidate for the DRX9000. After the 10th treatment, the pain was 60-70% better and by the completion of the 20 sessions, I was pain free. I highly recommend this treatment to anyone suffering back pain. It is by far the best thing I've ever done."

~ L. D., Northville, MI

### SPECIAL OFFER

YOU HAVE 2 OPTIONS:

**OPTION #1** - Call Dr. Stanley's office at 248- 476-7775 and mention that you want a FREE back pain/ DRX 9000 qualification consultation. It's absolutely free with no strings attached. There is nothing to pay for and you will NOT be pressured to become a patient.

### Here is what you will receive:

- A consultation with me, Shane L. Stanley, D.C., to discuss your problem and answer ALL the questions you may have about back pain and the DRX 9000.
- A DRX 9000 demonstration so you can see for yourself how it works! Due to current demand for this technology, I suggest calling today to make your appointment. The consultation is free. We are staffed 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week. Call 248-476-7775 right now!

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# Sudoku

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

1	7	6	5	9				
	4	9			2		1	
			6	2		7		5
	6	4						
8	5		7	1				4
		1	2		7	8		9
5	2		9			4	3	1
				5	6	2		

Level: Beginner

		4				9		8
					3	2	6	
8				5		1		
	1			3			4	
			8					1
		7			4			5
		5						
							9	
4	2	9	6			5		7

Level: Intermediate

	3			9				
	4				2			8
7							1	2
							5	7
		6		8				
4	9							
3	8							6
				8	9			5
	2		7	3				

Level: Advanced

Answers found on page 24



## Curb appeal

Photo by Megan Swoyer

A new porch, deck seating and colorful plant containers create a pretty oasis for homeowner Caren Collins. Here, she enjoys a cup of tea al fresco before heading to work.

## NOVI COUPLE UPDATES THEIR HISTORIC HOME

By MEGAN SWOYER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It was some old gnarly bushes that inspired Caren Collins and her husband, Tim Fifer, to undergo a landscaping makeover in the front of their historic Novi home.

"We were out doing yard work one day, and Tim and I looked at each other and said, 'Ugh!' those 1960s bushes just ruin the appearance of our home," Collins recalled. At that moment, the couple, who lives in a former schoolhouse built in 1900 (it still has the original chalkboard), started cutting away at the bushes and contemplating a pretty, deck-style porch in their place.

Collins and Fifer, who have two children, launched the project by creating a design that complements their lifestyle. "The front of our home faces south, so we wanted to make the most of that direction's great light," said Collins. The design basically blends the look of a deck with the practicality and appeal of a front porch. "And we added what I've always wanted: French doors (which replaced a window)," Collins said.

The couple also incorporated into the design



Before: Old unsightly bushes veiled the front of this historic Novi home.

a paved grilling area, just off the porch. Their 16-year-old son, Collin, added the finishing touch by staining the entire porch. "That was a good job for him," said Collins, who is executive director of the Farmington-based Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission (she oversees television productions for the cities of Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi).

In about two weeks, the home's curb appeal went from tired to admired. Now a perfect spot for morning coffee and evening gatherings, the new area welcomes with pots of hydrangeas and geraniums, and two inviting rocking chairs.

"Our back deck is private and that's nice," said Collins, "but it's also nice to sit out here in the front and get a new perspective."



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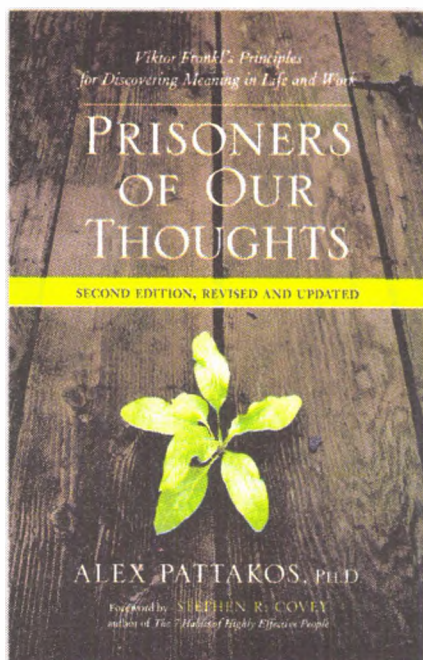
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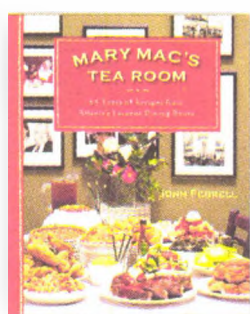


### JULY NEW RELEASE » PRISONERS OF OUR THOUGHTS

By Alex Pattakos, Ph.D., Stephen R. Covey | Berrett-Koehler Publishers  
Release Date: July 9 (second edition)

World-renowned psychiatrist Viktor Frankl's Man's Search for Meaning was named by the Library of Congress as one of the 10 most influential books of the 20th century. Frankl's personal story of finding a reason to live in the most horrendous of circumstances — Nazi concentration camps — has inspired millions.

In his international best seller, Prisoners of Our Thoughts, Pattakos — who was urged by Frankl to write this book — shows how Frankl's philosophy and approach can help readers find meaning in every moment of their lives. This revised and updated second edition features new stories and examples of people who have applied the principles in the book or who exemplify them; new practical exercises and applications; and a new chapter, "The Meaning Difference."®

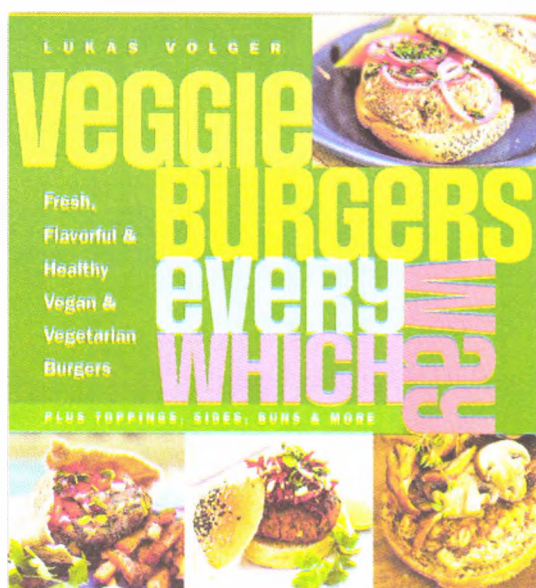


### JULY NEW RELEASE » MARY MAC'S TEA ROOM: 65 YEARS OF RECIPES FROM ATLANTA'S FAVORITE DINING ROOM

By John Ferrell | Andrew McMeel Publishing  
Release Date: July 13

When Mary Mac's opened in 1945, it was one of 16 tea rooms around Atlanta, Ga. More than 60 years later, it stands alone in carrying on the tradition of bringing great Southern cooking to everyone from blue collar workers to celebrities.

In Mary Mac's Tea Room, author and owner John Ferrell brings together over 100 classic recipes from this venerable institution of Southern comfort food.



By Lukas Volger | Experiment  
Release Date: July 1

"Veggie Burgers Every Which Way" presents 32 delicious alternatives to the rubbery, over-processed frozen burgers sold in cardboard boxes, including Corn Burgers with Sun-Dried Tomatoes and Goat Cheese, Spinach-Chickpea Burgers, Thai Carrot Burgers and many others! More than half the burger recipes are vegan and/or gluten-free, as are many of the extras, which include buns, sides, toppings, and condiments. Everyday ingredients ensure that all the burgers and extras are a breeze to assemble with ingredients from any modern grocer, and dozens of full-color photographs show that tasty veggie burgers can look good too.

## «LOCAL MUSIC EVENTS»

### THURSDAY • JULY 15

**Boyz II Men/En Vogue** » DTE Energy Music Theatre, Clarkston  
**Chuck Bradley Band** » Mediterranean Bistro, Livonia  
**Mary Wynn** » Westland Public Library, Westland

### FRIDAY • JULY 16

**7 Million Jigawatts** | White Lake Inn, White Lake  
**Concerts in the Park: Baked Potato** » McHattie Park, South Lyon  
**Daniel Harrison & the \$2 Highway** » Bullfrog Bar & Grill, Redford  
**Friday Summer Concert Series: Global Village** » Town Square, Northville  
**Music in the Air: The Crutches** » Kellogg Park, Plymouth  
**Sting w/ The Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra** » DTE Energy Music Theatre, Clarkston

### SATURDAY • JULY 17

**7 Million Jigawatts** | White Lake Inn, White Lake  
**Demetri Martin** » Meadow Brook Music Festival, Rochester Hills  
**Iron Maiden w/ special guest Star Dream Theatre** » DTE Energy Music Theatre, Clarkston  
**Ventana** » Token Lounge, Westland  
**Summer Sidewalk Series: Trio Organic** » Twelve Mile Crossing, Novi  
**Wally Gibson & Denny Cox** » Station 885, Plymouth

### SUNDAY • JULY 18

**Goo Goo Dolls w/ special guest Switchfoot & The Spill Canvas** » DTE Energy Music Theatre, Clarkston  
**Killer Kon** » Bullfrog Bar & Grill, Redford  
**O.A.R. with special guest Citizen Cope** » Meadow Brook Music Festival, Rochester Hills

**Benny & the Jets** » Wayne Road Pub, Westland

**Chris B Acoustic Show**

» Uptown Grille, Commerce Township  
**Jack Johnson w/special guest G. Love and ALO** » DTE Energy Music Theatre, Clarkston  
**Spirit of Detroit Chorus** » Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills

### WEDNESDAY • JULY 21

**The 2010 Lilith Tour** » DTE Energy Music Theatre, Clarkston  
**Double Take** » JB Bamboozles, Farmington Hills  
**Highland DDA Concert Series** » Veteran's Park, Highland  
**MI Battle of the Bands Round 4** » Bullfrog Bar & Grill, Redford  
**No Lookin' Back Open Jam Session** » Uptown Grille, Commerce Township

### THURSDAY • JULY 22

**Chuck Bradley Band** » Mediterranean Bistro, Livonia  
**Concerts in the Park: Dave Bouttete** » McHattie Park, South Lyon  
**DSO "Oh What a Night"** » Meadow Brook Music Festival, Rochester Hills  
**Huey Lewis and the News** » DTE Energy Music Theatre, Clarkston  
**Krista Detor** » Trinity House, Livonia  
**Peter "Madcat" Ruth** » Westland Public Library, Westland  
**Stars in the Park Concert Series** » Heritage Park, Farmington Hills  
**Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers w/Drive-By Truckers** » The Palace of Auburn Hills, Auburn Hills

### FRIDAY • JULY 23

**Daniel Harrison & the \$2 Highway** » Bullfrog Bar & Grill, Redford  
**DSO - "Italian Carnival"** » Meadow Brook Music Festival, Rochester Hills  
**The Fab Four** » DTE Energy Music Theatre, Clarkston  
**Friday Summer Concert Series: Lebanese Festival** » Town Square, Northville  
**Music in the Air: Gia Warner** » Kellogg Park, Plymouth  
**Rhythmz in Riley Park** » Walter Sundquist Pavilion & Riley Park, Farmington

**An Evening with Lucille Ball: Special Theatrical Tribute**

» Meadow Brook Music Festival, Rochester Hills  
**Summer Sidewalk Series: County Bracey & The Pleasuretones** » Twelve Mile Crossing, Novi  
**Wally Gibson & Denny Cox** » Station 885, Plymouth

## DVD RELEASES

Brooklyn's Finest  
A Single Man

Our Family Wedding  
The Losers

The Runaways

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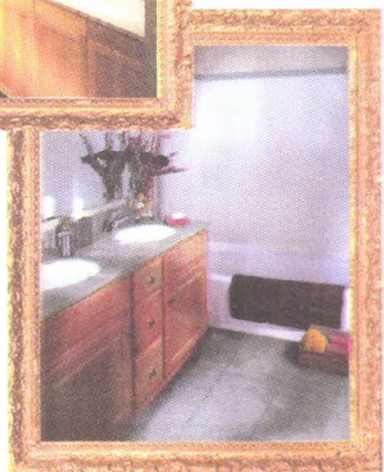
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Submitted Photo

The focal point of Paul and Pam Baresi's backyard in Pleasant Ridge is the 9-by-15-foot 1,000-gallon koi pond and 250-gallon corner goldfish pond. The yard is divided into four garden rooms with paths that lead to hostas, ferns and other plants.

## Ponders never tire of water gardens

By LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Do-it-yourselfers' work never seems to be done when it comes to their ponds. Most start with a small water garden, only to add another or expand the first.

As far as Joe Barson can tell, the love of ponds goes back to at least the 1930s, when cement ponds were poured in backyards of stately homes in the area. Like an archaeologist, he uncovered these dinosaurs while digging up then installing modern-day ponds lined with materials from Barson's Greenhouses in Westland.

Local water garden suppliers are a wealth of information for weekend do-it-yourselfers. Barson and his wife, Debbie, have several indoor and outdoor ponds on their business property and a 16,000-gallon water garden on the grounds of their home next door to the greenhouses.

Koi fish more than a foot in length swim in the 1,500-gallon indoor pond edged by canna and rocks. An outdoor pond features a waterfall.

Debbie recommends going on garden and pond walks for anyone considering a project.

"People who put in ponds like to fiddle with it," she said. "It's relaxing, a good hobby. We just love to sit out and watch the fish, the sound of a waterfall running, the frogs at night.

"There are just as many women as men build-

ing ponds. With the fish, kids get into it."

One of the mistakes people make when constructing a pond is starting small. Planning, in most cases, depends on the budget. Do-it-yourselfers should count on spending at least \$1,000 for the liner, plants, filters and pump to aerate the water. For those planning to over-winter fish, the depth should be at least three feet.

Barson's only sells liners not pre-forms. Liners allow do-it-yourselfers to create a pond of any size or shape.

"They can use the garden hose to design the shape then bring in the two longest points," Barson said. "You want to have it visible where you're going to sit and enjoy it."

Two greenhouses full of aquatic plants sit in pots full of water. Among the greenery are hardy and tropical lilies, lotuses, papyrus and a wooden half-barrel with cattaills.

"Anything that blocks sun like water hyacinth and fairy moss that floats on the surface helps control algae. Two-thirds should be covered by plants," Barson said.

Spring and fall seminars on water features increase ponders' knowledge. Watch the Barsons' website for dates ([www.barsons.com](http://www.barsons.com)).

Joe Barson attends classes, conferences and koi health workshops throughout the U.S.

*continued on next page*

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## HOW TO BUILD A POND

- Barson's Greenhouses, 6414 N. Merriman, Westland. Call (734) 421-5959 or online at [barsons.com](http://barsons.com). Check the website for fall seminar date.
- Landscape Magic in Milford. Call (248) 866-4887 or [landscapemagic.net](http://landscapemagic.net).
- The Pond Place, 3505 W. Highland Rd., Milford. Call (248) 889-8400 or [pondplace.com](http://pondplace.com). Classes to learn how to design and build a pond, stream or waterfall take place from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays, July 24 and Aug. 21 and 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 5.

continued from previous page

### WATERLESS PONDS

Kurt Kilroy of Landscape Magic in Milford has seen an increase in requests for waterless ponds. Waterfalls remain popular as well. He recently installed ledgerrock stone 4 to 5 feet wide for the water to fall down on a bed of stone. While ponds should never be installed in front yards because of liability, waterless ponds can accent the front of a home or even the inside of a building. Costs for installation range from \$3,500 for a waterless pond to a traditional pond from \$6,500 to \$7,000.

"It's totally safe because if a child walks up to it, they won't drown," Kilroy said. "The pump is concealed in stone, water collected into a lined basin, the water recycled and pumped back up. I'm finding more and more people who want that. It's less expensive and no maintenance. You don't have to worry about algae and keeping the fish fed."

The Pond Place in Milford sells liners and pre-forms along with fish, plants and products to maintain the water. Manager Erin Reiner admits pre-forms have fallen out of favor. She encourages do-it-yourselfers to perform maintenance weekly, no matter which construction method is used.

"It's not hard, but if you fall behind, algae and fish waste builds up," said Reiner, who has a 500-gallon pond at her home in Highland. "These are beautiful, so soothing and calming, so nice to sit on the deck and watch. If you have a stressful day

at work, you sit by the pond and all your stress is relieved."

Around 12 water features on The Pond Place property inspire with ideas for design.

"Hyacinths are a big seller, lilies and fish, mostly koi," Reiner said. "It's the color of them and they get huge. People buy a four-inch fish and within a year it's eight inches. With a lot of our customers, the fish are part of the family. It's like having a dog."

Ron and Sue Kardynski treat their 14 koi as part of the family. When the Westland couple decided to expand their pond, they relocated the fish to a small swimming pool on the deck.

"It's extremely relaxing," Ron Kardynski said. "You can sit in your yard. Fish are very friendly, feed right out of your hand. I can put my hand in the water, pick it up and pet it. Different breeds are friendlier than others."

As a member of the Michigan Koi and Pond Club, Kardynski has learned a lot about fish, especially during the events hosted on the third Saturday of the month. Annual dues are \$25 per couple. Call (734) 646-7607.

A premium koi, four to five inches long, can cost \$100, full grown 36 to 40 inches a thousand dollars and up. The flamboyant fish vary in color from the common orange and white to the bold red or orange, and red, black and white.

"When you get into it, it's like endless knowledge," Kardynski said. "February we had a dome tour where people put domes over the pond so we can enjoy koi all year long. We bring in speakers, veterinarians who specialize in koi to educate members on treatment and care of koi."

### POND TOURS INSPIRE DO-IT-YOURSELFERS

Ponding seems to breed ideas. Ron Kardynski started with a 1,000-gallon water garden in the back yard of the Westland home he shares with wife Sue. They are avid ponders.

On Saturday, July 17, the couple is looking forward to solidifying plans for the new pond while touring 10 homes with water features in the Royal Oak, Oak Park and Pleasant Ridge communities.

The Kardynskis are members of the Michigan Koi and Pond Club (MKPC) presenting the walk from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$5 children ages 5-15 with an adult. Call the Kardynskis at (734) 646-7607 for tickets.

KOI Cops (MKPC members) will be at each location to answer questions.

Tour wristbands and booklets can be purchased on the day of the tour at the Royal Oak Senior/Community Center at 3500 Marais, two blocks north of 13 Mile, between Crooks and North Main.

For information about the club and walk, visit [www.mkpc-se.com](http://www.mkpc-se.com).

— By Linda Ann Chomin

## Hardscapes add natural appeal

Brick paver walkways, walls, patios, porches and driveways are a few of the projects for which homeowners are using stone to create hardscapes in yards.

Shaun Breuer admits natural and rock-like materials cost more than cement, but add an architectural element to the environment. Global Landscape Center in Livonia specializes in selling the supplies to do-it-yourselfers and contractors.

"Homeowners are building outdoor entertainment areas, including kitchens," Breuer said. "Our Rosetta product is made in Michigan, a newer product, that allows creativity, design, texture."

Breuer recently purchased a home and plans to remove the old concrete patio and build a two-tiered space with pavers and a retaining wall. Four pillars will accent each corner. A gazebo provides the focal point. Global Landscape Center walks do-it-yourselfers through projects like the one designed by Breuer for his backyard.

"We help with design and idea for hardscapes, tell them step by step the installation, help with measuring and select all the right material for their project," Breuer said. "If somebody's looking to do a curvy retaining wall,

some products are very user friendly, others take more sweat and effort."

Kurt Kilroy and his crew at Landscape Magic in Milford have been replacing rotted wood steps and retaining walls with stone.

"You can be very creative," Kilroy said.

"Brick pavers seem to be the popular thing still, flagstones, once in a while an outdoor fireplace, but they're pricey and could cost \$10,000. We're doing a lot of relatively inexpensive upgrades, pillars, typically four feet high with limestone caps to dress up the yard."

One of Kilroy's most popular requests is for outdoor lighting.

"We're installing lighting so they can enjoy their yard year-round. Homeowners upright trees and water features," Kilroy said. "Even in this economy, people find that they need to do outdoor lighting near steps. From a safety point, they should put a light or two on it."

Contact Global Landscape Center, 12600 Stark Rd, Livonia. (734) 422-5000 or [www.globallandscapecenter.com](http://www.globallandscapecenter.com).

Contact Landscape Magic in Milford, (248) 866-4887 or [landscapemagic.net](http://landscapemagic.net).

— By Linda Ann Chomin

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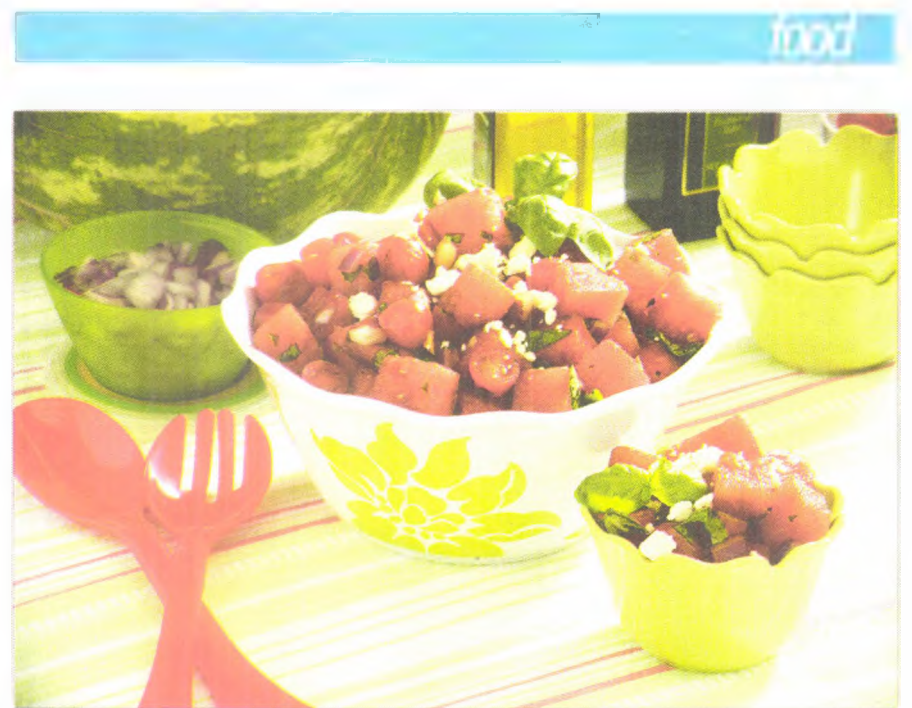


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Summertime entertaining should be easy and fun. And it can be — with some simple solutions and fresh recipes.

Holly Clegg, the "Queen of Quick," is a best-selling cookbook author who knows how to keep things sweet and simple. She's teamed up with the American Chemistry Council's Plastics Make it Possible<sup>SM</sup> campaign to offer helpful tips and recipes to make your summer entertaining a breeze.

**SIMPLE RECIPES**

- For this tropical dessert pizza, make the cookie crust the day before. Mix the filling and store it in an airtight plastic container, then cut up fruit and store in individual resealable plastic bags. Be creative and substitute your family's favorite fruits. Kids will have fun arranging the sliced fruit on this yummy dessert pizza!

- Three ingredients plus three minutes equals one tasty marinade. Let the kids help pour the ingredients into a resealable plastic bag to flavor juicy pork tenderloins with a subtly sweet, spicy marinade.

- The combination of crisp watermelon, juicy tomatoes and fresh basil with balsamic vinegar creates a fantastic and refreshing light salad. Just cut up ingredients and store in separate plastic containers, then toss together right before the party to keep the flavors fresh.

**SIMPLY ENTERTAINING**

- For picnics on damp ground, placing an inexpensive plastic tablecloth under a blanket helps keep dampness from reaching picnickers — and keeps your blanket cleaner, too.

- Wash, chop, measure and prepare your ingredients one-two days before an event or party. They can be stored in resealable plastic bags or airtight containers in the refrigerator to make putting together recipes much easier the day of the party.

- Save plastic grocery bags to send guests home with leftovers. Placing an empty plastic grocery bag in a picnic basket is also a great solution for collecting trash after a picnic in the park — it doesn't take up much room and will act as a waterproof barrier to prevent spills.

- Create a dipping station for barbecue and grill sauces using reusable plastic storage containers with lids. Guests can spoon sauces onto their plates; when the party is over, simply place the lids back on the sauces and store in the refrigerator. They come in all different shapes and sizes and even fun colors.

- Use resealable plastic bags for marinades. Put meat in the bags with marinade and refrigerate overnight. It helps save space in the refrigerator and clean up is easy. This also works for coating and breading.

For more tips on ways to make summer entertaining a breeze, visit [www.plasticsmakeitpossible.com](http://www.plasticsmakeitpossible.com).

**SEE RECIPES NEXT PAGE**

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**Sudoku Answers**

**Beginner**

1	7	6	5	9	3	2	4	8
2	8	5	4	6	1	9	7	3
3	4	9	8	7	2	5	1	6
9	1	3	6	2	4	7	8	5
7	6	4	3	5	8	1	9	2
8	5	2	7	1	9	3	6	4
6	3	1	2	4	7	8	5	9
5	2	7	9	8	6	4	3	1
4	9	8	1	3	5	6	2	7

**Intermediate**

2	3	4	7	6	1	9	5	8
7	5	1	9	8	3	2	6	4
8	9	6	4	2	5	7	1	3
5	1	8	2	3	7	6	4	9
9	4	2	8	5	6	3	7	1
3	6	7	1	9	4	8	2	5
6	7	5	3	4	9	1	8	2
1	8	3	5	7	2	4	9	6
4	2	9	6	1	8	5	3	7

**Advanced**

8	3	2	1	9	6	5	7	4
6	4	1	5	7	2	3	9	8
7	5	9	8	3	4	6	1	2
2	1	3	6	4	9	8	5	7
5	7	6	3	8	1	2	4	9
4	9	8	2	5	7	1	6	3
3	8	4	9	1	5	7	2	6
1	6	7	4	2	8	9	3	5
9	2	5	7	6	3	4	8	1

## Tropical Fruit Dessert Pizza

Makes 12 servings

- 1 18-ounce roll refrigerated ready-to-slice sugar cookie dough
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup sugar
- 1 8-ounce package fat-free cream cheese
- 1 teaspoon coconut extract
- $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoons grated orange rind
- 1 cup fat-free frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 26-ounce jar mango slices, drained, or 2 fresh mangoes, sliced
- 1 16-ounce can pineapple slices, drained, or 1 fresh pineapple, sliced
- 1 11-ounce can mandarin orange segments, drained
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup apricot preserves
- 2 tablespoons orange liqueur or orange juice
- 2 tablespoons coconut, toasted, optional

Preheat oven 350°F.  
Press cookie dough into a 12 to 14-inch pizza pan coated with nonstick cooking spray. Bake 12 minutes, cool completely.

In medium mixing bowl, blend together sugar, cream cheese, coconut extract until well



mixed. Stir in orange rind and whipped topping, mixing until smooth. Spread cream cheese mixture on top of cooled crust.

Arrange mango slices around edge of iced pizza. Then, arrange pineapple slices around edge. Next, arrange mandarin orange slices in another ring to fill center of pizza.

In small saucepan or in microwave, heat apricot preserves and orange liqueur just until melted. Spoon glaze over fruit. Sprinkle with toasted coconut, if desired. Refrigerate until serving.

**Terrific Tidbit:** Go ahead and grate more orange rind than you'll need for the recipe — you can grate a whole orange or lemon and freeze the rind in a plastic freezer bag until needed.

## Watermelon and Tomato Salad

Makes 10 (1/2-cup) servings

- 4 cups scooped out watermelon balls or chunks
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup chopped red onion
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped basil
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- Salt to taste
- $\frac{1}{3}$  cup crumbled reduced fat feta cheese, optional

In bowl, combine watermelon, onion, tomatoes and basil. Whisk together oil and vinegar and toss with salad. Season to taste. Refrigerate until serving.

## 3-Ingredient Marinade for Pork

### Tenderloin

Makes 6 to 8 servings

- 2 1-pound pork tenderloins, trimmed of excess fat
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup reduced sodium soy sauce
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup roasted garlic seasoned rice vinegar
- 2 tablespoons honey

Preheat oven to 350°F.

In bowl, combine all ingredients except tenderloins. Place meat in dish or large resealable plastic bag, pour marinade over meat. If time permits, refrigerate overnight, turning meat several times.

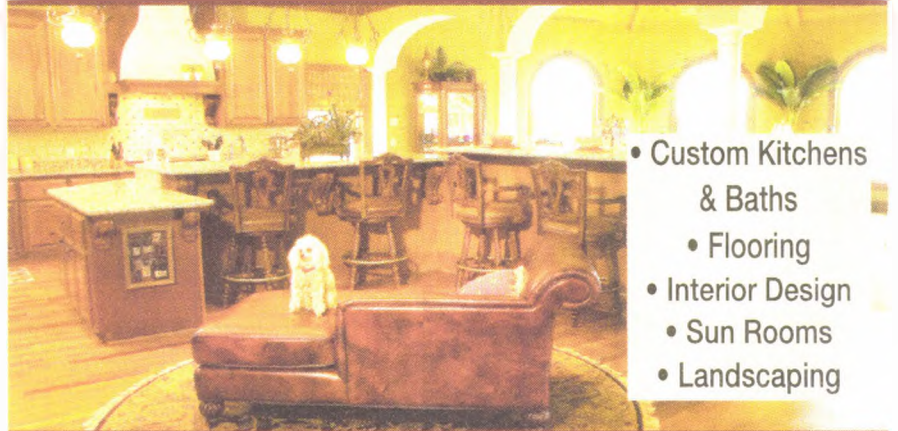
Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until meat thermometer inserted into the thickest portion of the tenderloin registers 160°F. Slice tenderloin, serve.

**Quick Tip:** Tenderloins come two to a package. If one will be enough for you to serve, halve recipe, freeze other tenderloin in freezable plastic bag.



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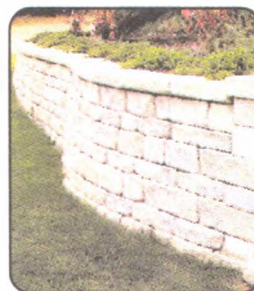
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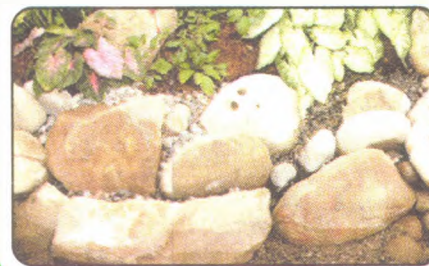


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## Energy checklist

*continued from page 12*

- ✓ Caulk and seal all openings into the house where conditioned air can escape. If you total up all the caulking and weather stripping needed around many homes, it would total up to about a 3-foot by 3-foot opening. That's equivalent to leaving a window open all year.
- ✓ Add insulation to the attic. You may think you have enough, but you don't. You should have R-60.
- ✓ Add roof and attic ventilation. A properly insulated and vented attic will make the attic cooler. If the attic is cooler, the shingles will last longer and the house will be cooler. Adequate insulation and ventilation will save you money on air conditioning costs in addition to reducing chances of ice dams in the winter.
- ✓ If shopping for any new appliances, buy only energy star rated models.
- ✓ Wash clothes in cold water only.
- ✓ Turn down the temperature on the hot water tank to 120 degrees.
- ✓ Add ceiling fans in every room.
- ✓ Insulate your water heater to help keep the heated water from dissipating into the surrounding area.
- ✓ If you have one or two rooms that are rarely or never used, close them off. Close the register, block off the return and close the door.
- ✓ If you have ductwork that runs through an attic or crawl space, make sure the ductwork joints are properly taped and sealed. Insulate the ductwork in those areas.
- ✓ Try to do heat-providing chores such as baking and laundry in the early morning or late evening when the outside temperature might be a bit lower. Your air conditioning won't have to try as hard to keep up with the demand.
- ✓ Turn off window air conditioners when you are leaving a room for several hours.
- ✓ Never boil water in an open pot. "Put a lid on it."
- ✓ Match the size of all pots and pans to the amount of cooking needed and match the pot/pan to the proper size stove burner.
- ✓ Don't continually open the oven door to check on progress. Use a timer. Opening the oven door allows heat to escape and uses more energy.
- ✓ Take showers instead of baths. It takes approximately 30 gallons of water to fill the average tub. The average person uses about 20 gallons per shower. Reverse those figures and double the amount per shower if you have a teenage daughter.
- ✓ Turn off televisions, radios, etc. when not being used.

*Lon Grossman of Bloomfield Hills is president of Technihouse Inspections Inc. See more at [www.technihouse.com](http://www.technihouse.com).*

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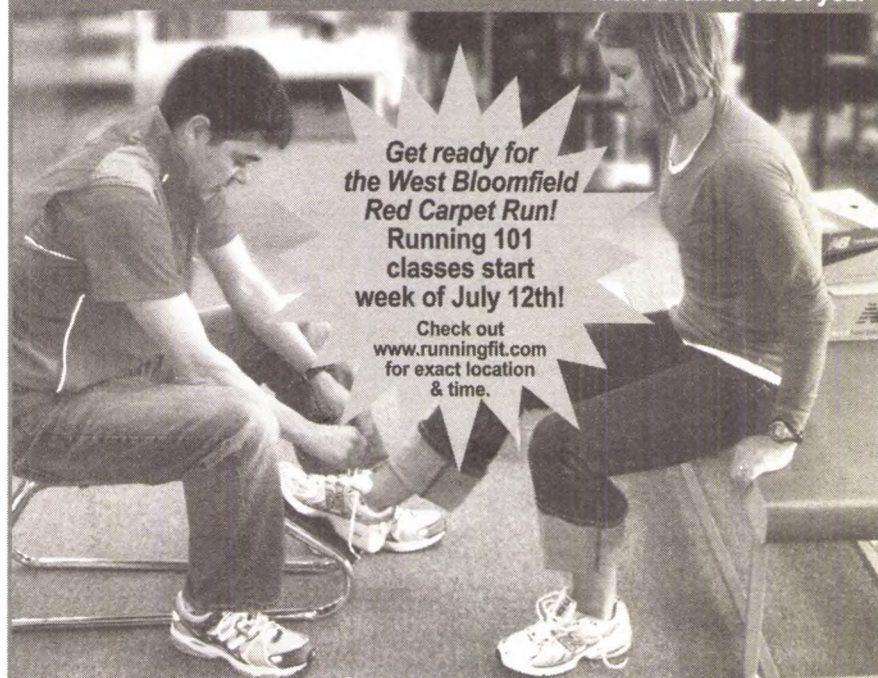
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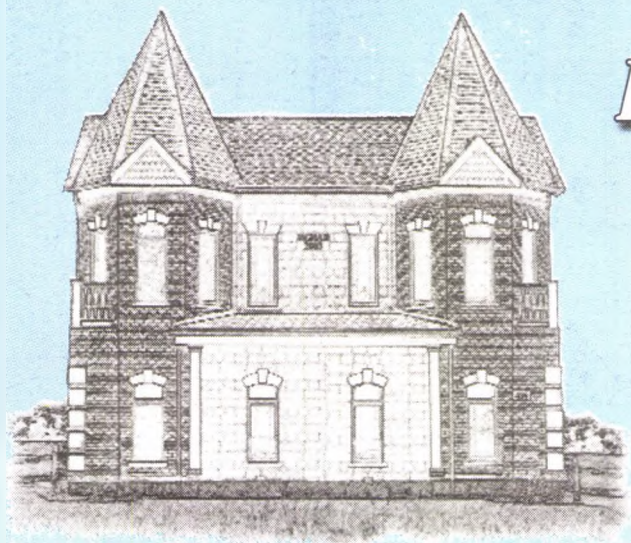
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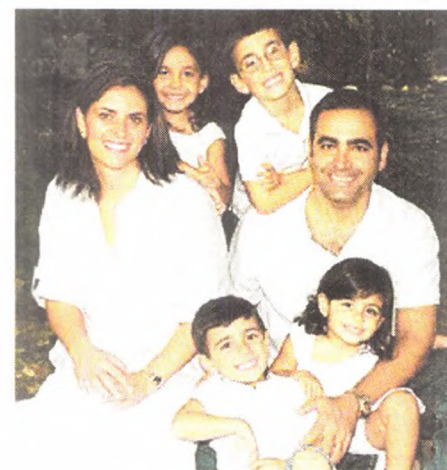
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**Jeffrey Jaghab, D.D.S.**  
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**Office Hours:**

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Thursday 7am-4pm

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