



### Win shopping spree!

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

List the pages where you spot the holiday icon and enter with the form inside the print edition of *INSPIRE* or online at [hometownlife.com](http://hometownlife.com).

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

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

### Trail cleaning

Join the Friends of the I-275 Metro Trail for a trail work day 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, July 26.

Despite the hot, dry weather, organizers said vegetation is growing out of control, so volunteers will be beating back the brush on the section of trail near Five Mile. Volunteers will meet on the trail or in the parking lot of Oasis Golf Center on the north side of Five Mile east of Haggerty (39500 Five Mile).

Bring clippers, pruners, loppers, scythes/sickles, rakes, brooms and anything else that would be helpful for trimming the brush.

For more information, call Dave Duffield at (248) 994-3074 or visit [www.I-275.michigantrails.org](http://www.I-275.michigantrails.org).

### Emergency food

The next distribution of emergency food by Plymouth Community United Way is scheduled Thursday, July 19. All recipients must be pre-registered. Bridge Card holders automatically qualify, but need to pre-register. Recipients not currently on governmental assistance must provide documentation, including proof of income and residency.

Distributions continue 9:30-11 a.m. the third Thursday of each month at St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth. For information and to register, call Pat at Plymouth Community United Way (734) 453-6879, ext. 2, or send email to [pat.vandusen@pcuw.org](mailto:pat.vandusen@pcuw.org).

# PLYMOUTH OBSERVER

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## Township, voters group at odds over forum venue

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

Plymouth Township officials and a voters group that provides information about candidates at all levels of government appear to be in a standoff over the use of Plymouth Township Hall for a local candidate forum.

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County had scheduled a forum for 7 p.m. Monday in the township

hall board room, inviting the 21 candidates for township offices: supervisor, clerk, treasurer and trustees. Chapter vice president Paula Bowman said the group got permission to use the room July 2 from Clerk Joe Bridgman.

But three days later, Bowman said, Supervisor Richard Reaume called to rescind permission, citing a policy that prohibits the use of township facilities for political purposes. Records indicate the Board of Trust-

ees, in July 2008, unanimously approved such a motion, forcing the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, which had been planning a forum for the next evening, to find another venue.

Contacted Friday, Bridgman backed the League, Bowman said, and Reaume later called her again to ask that the group withdraw. She refused — but said Tuesday the League is exploring other options and can-

didates have been told the forum plans are in limbo.

### Voter prevention

"It's very disappointing to us that the township would take this position, to prevent voters from hearing from their future leaders," Bowman, a township resident, said Tuesday.

The group has held other candidate forums at township facil-

Please see FORUM, A3

### Getting ready



Kristin Dillenbeck-Anderson works on a living mural as she prepares for the annual Art in the Park festival, which returns to downtown Plymouth Friday. For more on the festival, please turn to page B6.

## Young hopefuls commit to township, politics

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

College-educated 20-somethings are supposed to be leaving Michigan in droves, but Alanna Maguire and Andrew Justus are bucking that trend.

The Plymouth Township residents say they're here for the long haul, and their bids for local office perhaps bear that out: Maguire, a Democrat, and Justus, a Republican, are both running for a four-year term on the township Board of Trustees, and are by far the youngest of the 15 candi-

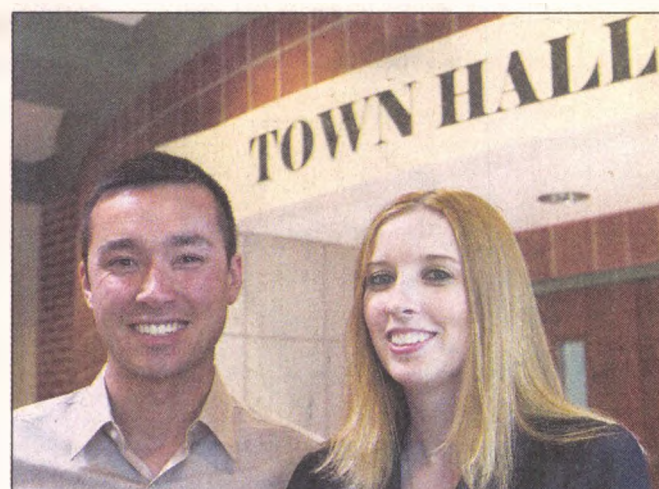
dates on the primary ballot for the four part-time board positions.

"Plymouth is just home," Maguire, 27, said Tuesday at the Plymouth Coffee Bean. "I want to stay here. I want to make it better."

The two say they're getting a positive reception on the campaign trail, from both younger residents who identify with them as well as older residents who might see in them their children or grandchildren.

Younger voters might see his youth and say, "That's

Please see HOPEFULS, A2



Andrew Justus and Alanna Maguire are bucking the notions that young people are both disinterested in politics and leaving the state for better prospects.

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

## Hoekstra: 'Put people back to work'

By Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writer

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

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

One of the keys to getting the country back on the right track, Hoeks-

tra stressed Tuesday on a trip through Plymouth, is creating jobs.

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

That was, at least in part, part of the message Hoekstra heard when he toured Sealant Equipment. Hoekstra toured the manu-

Please see HOEKSTRA, A2



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## HOEKSTRA

Continued from page A1

facturing facility, met with workers and listened to questions and answers during a brief visit.

### Reaching out

Nick Schultz, Sealant Equipment's president, said he was glad to see Hoekstra reaching out to the business community.

"I thought it was a good visit," Schultz said. "He saw we are a legitimate company that manufactures things sent around the world. We actually make things here."

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

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

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

Schultz said Hoekstra is "able to understand" the expenses and pressures small businesses face. Schultz said "taxes are a burden, and the ramifications and the unknowns of Washington weighs heavily," particularly on small businesses.

### Better understanding

"I think he understands there are certain forces that weigh heavily on our businesses as far as



U.S. Senate hopeful Pete Hoekstra talks with James Britcher, technical service manager at Sealant Equipment & Engineering, during Hoekstra's tour Tuesday.

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

On other issues, Hoekstra believes:

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

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

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

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

accessibility," he said.

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

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

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

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

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## Worker foils fraud attempt

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

An alert employee at the Kmart on Ann Arbor Road steered a Plymouth Township woman from falling for a con scheme last week, police said.

The woman was about to wire \$830 to a location in California on July 3, according a Plymouth Township Police Department report, when the employee, working at a wire transfer service within Kmart, told her it seemed suspicious and she should contact police.

The woman told police she had received a call earlier in the day from a man who said he was an attorney and that her grandson, who lives in California, had been at fault in an accident.

The caller said he needed \$830 and told her she would be charged with a felony if she didn't give the money, she said.

The woman withdrew cash from her bank and went to wire it to California when the employee told her to get advice.

Police later spoke to the woman's grandson in California, who said he hadn't been in an accident and didn't know anyone by the name the "attorney" had given.

### Vehicle burglaries

Cash was reported stolen recently from one vehicle and a laptop computer from another at a house on Maple Valley Drive, south of Powell and west of Ridge Road.

Both vehicles, a Nissan Altima and a Ford

Escape, had been left unlocked, police said. One was in the driveway, the other in the garage, which one of the victims said may have been left open.

The incident occurred between 11:30 p.m. July 4 and 9 a.m. the next day, police said.

### Golf clubs stolen

Golf equipment, including several clubs, gloves and golf balls, was reported stolen one night last week from a Ford Taurus parked in the driveway of a house on Lakewood Drive, east of Northville Road and north of M-14.

The equipment had been in the car's trunk, the victim told police. He couldn't remember if the Taurus had been locked; police found no damage to it.

## HOPEFULS

Continued from page A1

cool," while some of the older ones tell him, "We need some new blood," said Justus, 22.

"Just having some people know someone's actually listening to them, it goes a long way," he said.

### State schooling

Justus graduated this year from Grand Valley State University with a bachelor's degree in journalism. He is a reporter for the television show *Autoline This Week*, which is aired on the Public Broadcasting System (and can be seen on line at [www.autolinedaily.tv](http://www.autolinedaily.tv)).

Maguire earned a master's degree in public policy from Michigan State University in 2011 and earned her bachelor's degree in political science and psychology from the University of Michigan in 2007; she also has graduate certificates in homeland security and intelligence analysis. She is a political consultant who last fall started her own firm, Maguire Consultants; her clients include Sayed Taj, the Canton Township trustee and Democratic candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives.

Neither Justus nor Maguire saw themselves as potential candidates until very recently. Things going on at the township level — Maguire pointed specifically to changes in the Plymouth Community Fire Department, which she said could have been handled differently — pushed

them in that direction.

"Admittedly, I'm a little less comfortable being a candidate

than being in an advisory role," Maguire said.

But politics was an extension of their interests and backgrounds: Maguire is from a family of politically active Democrats and co-founded the Plymouth Democratic Club in 2009, while Justus, who described his family as only mildly political, said his interest is an evolution of his media consumption as a self-described news junkie.

"Everything has to intersect with government in some way," Justus said, speaking about the perspective his automobile reporting job offers into government. At the GVSU newspaper, he covered university and local politics.

### Party lines, or not

Maguire said her family's politics and working-class, union roots, plus her education and experience at public universities with excellent resources, shaped her views as a Democrat; Justus said his education, experience, his family's views as moderate Republicans and family experience in small businesses — his father is a dentist and his mother's family owned a restaurant — shaped his.

But for people from



Justus



Maguire

opposing parties, the two agree on quite a bit when the conversation centers around

the nature of the political battlefield rather than specific policies. Both said they don't see the need for partisanship — candidates running with party affiliation — at the township level.

"I think these party labels distract people," Maguire said, making it too easy for voters to judge candidates based on the way they perceive the parties, instead of on the candidates themselves. Nonpartisan township races, she said, "would make people actually take the time to learn about us."

With only one other Democrat, Joanne Lamar, on the ballot, Maguire is sure to make it through next month's primary, while Justus among 13 Republicans, including three incumbents, on the ballot, faces pretty steep odds. Only the top four Republican primary voters will move on to the general election.

Both Justus and Maguire say they're enjoying going door to door, walking neighborhoods, meeting voters and getting to know the township.

"It's a lot more fun than I thought it would be," Justus said. "I sort of thought it was going to be drudgery."

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# McCotter resignation forces special election

By Ken Abramczyk and Brad Kadrich  
Observer Staff Writers

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

Residents in the current 11th District will be voting in a special election on Wednesday, Sept. 5, and again on Nov. 6 to fill the unexpired term. And local municipalities aren't very happy about it.

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

"The biggest piece is we may have to buy some supplies we wouldn't have needed, because the (special) election overlaps the August primary," Bennett said. "We have to make sure we have what we need in terms of retention of ballot boxes, etc."

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

## SPECIAL ELECTION DEADLINES

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

**July 23:** Withdrawal deadline for Democratic and Republican candidates

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

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

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

### Election call

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

### Extreme expense

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

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

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

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

## FORUM

Continued from page A1

ities, she said, and regularly has similar programs in neighboring communities. "I look at this as my township hall that was paid for partly with my tax dollars," she said.

Reaume, however, said the policy stems from concern that allowing township facilities to be used by candidates would violate campaign finance laws, and that opening township hall to one political group would mean opening it to all.

"You have to allow everybody to use the township facilities or no one to use the township

facilities, for a campaign purpose," Reaume said Wednesday.

It's not a matter of stifling political discourse, he said.

"If they want to go rent a room, if they want to get on a soapbox in Kellogg Park, go for it," Reaume said.

Bowman pointed out township hall was used recently by Michigan Rep. Kurt Heise, R-Plymouth Township, for a town hall meeting; Reaume responded that Heise regularly uses township and other public facilities and that campaign finance law carves out exceptions for elected officials who are performing their jobs. "I think she's reaching," Reaume said.

### No need to meet

Reaume said Tuesday he was considering calling a special board meeting to further define the policy. But Wednesday, he said the board vote of four years ago was all that was needed, and he wasn't planning a special meeting.

"I don't see the need," he said. "The board's already met, passed the motion."

If people show up at

township hall for the League forum Monday, Reaume said, they will likely find the building locked.

Bowman also said she expects that to be the case.

"This has riled up a lot of people," she said. The nonprofit League chapter doesn't have a lot of money to rent a facility, she added, and the Plymouth District Library may not have a big enough space

available very soon.

"We depend on public buildings, and it's usually just fine. ... The effort they're going to to silence the challengers is very upsetting."

Bridgman acknowledged the July 2008 vote, but said he doesn't view a League forum as a campaign event. "You're not going to be actively campaigning, you're going to be answering questions," he said. But, he added,

"That's for lawyers to determine, I guess."

Bridgman said he got township attorney Tim Cronin's OK before approving the League's request; Reaume said Cronin hadn't immediately remembered the 2008 discussion of the issue and the board's decision. Cronin did not respond to a request for clarification.

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## Plymouth Y conducts survey

The Plymouth Family YMCA is conducting a community-wide online survey to find out the current and future needs and interests of the community and how the Y can improve to best serve the community.

The survey, which will take 5-10 minutes to complete, is a great oppor-

tunity to help shape the future of the Plymouth Y, officials said.

Access the survey at the Plymouth Y website [www.ymcadetroit.org/plymouth](http://www.ymcadetroit.org/plymouth) or at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/YCommunity> through July 31. The Y wants to hear from everyone in the communities it serves.

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# Fiems: Ficano must go, commission must step up

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

Matthew Fiems advocates a simple first step toward solving what he calls the "absolute paralysis" gripping Wayne County government: Robert Ficano must go.

"I believe, for the good of Wayne County, Robert Ficano should resign. It's just that plain," said Fiems recently of the county executive, who has been under fire since last September, when a \$200,000 severance check to former economic development director Turkia Mullin, later returned, was revealed.

Ficano, while apologizing for missteps, has said he did nothing illegal and has refused calls for his resignation. He is under

## THE FIEMS FILE

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



FBI investigation and the target of a recall attempt. Fiems, a property appraiser in the county's management and bud-

get office, is a Democratic candidate for the county Board of Commissioners in the new 10th District, which is made

up of Plymouth, Plymouth Township and Canton Township. He faces James Amar, a retired labor mediator, in the Tuesday, Aug. 7, primary.

The Canton resident said he's not afraid to tackle issues he sees as holding the county back; among these issues, he listed a budget deficit that he said is inhibiting economic growth, a top-heavy county administration, and a "rubber-stamp commission" that will not exercise power.

"Ficano isn't leading, so the commission has to step up and lead," Fiems said.

He said his eight years on the job with the county have given him an inside look at what is happening.

"It's a real shame," he said. "There is a paralysis in the county."

Fiems said it is urgent that the county reduce an estimated \$155 million budget deficit.

"If you want to bring businesses, you have to get the deficit down," he said.

Fiems said some functions of county government should be consolidated for cost-savings.

The register of deeds office, for example, could be folded into the clerk's office, he said.

Fiems also:

- Wants the county to get more active in lobbying for federal funding to help ease traffic congestion along Ford Road in Canton.

- Said the Aerotropolis concept — the vision for a business park near Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run airports — is outdated and no longer viable. With changes in the automobile industry, he said, the demand is not there.

Advocates removing Ficano from office, if he does not leave on his own, through a charter amendment that would allow for an impeachment process and include safeguards against witch hunts.

"Let's solve the problem. Let's not kick that can down the road," he said.

Despite a daunting list of problems in the county, Fiems said, the crises have shaken things up and increased the desire among the public for change.

"When you have a crisis people are willing to take a second look," he said, adding, "This is just something I feel absolutely passionate about and feel compelled to do."

# Amar: Resolve county budget issues, spur growth

By Matt Jachman  
Observer Staff Writer

Wayne County must take difficult steps to correct its finances while investing in programs and incentives to spur development and job creation.

That's James Amar's take on how the county should address years of mounting budget problems and a slow or stagnant economy. And the Plymouth Township resident, who has more than 40 years' experience mediating labor disputes, says he's someone who can help get that done.

"You've got to spend something to get the wheels going," said Amar, a Democrat vying to represent Plymouth and Canton townships on the county

## THE AMAR FILE

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



Board of Commissioners. "We've got to have economic growth and development."

Amar is running in the commission's newly created 10th District and faces Matt Fiems, who

works in the county's management and budget office, in the Tuesday, Aug. 7, primary.

Amar started his career as a firefighter in Highland Park, and his union activism and a master's

degree in labor-management relations led to his work as a mediator. He said his experience should give him an advantage in reaching out to both unions and management.

The county must, Amar said, address its long-term pension obligations. Along with health care, county legacy costs have been estimated at about \$2 billion over 30 years.

Amar acknowledges the going won't be easy when many workers have already taken contract concessions. "The options aren't pleasant," he said.

Future pay increases may have to be frozen, he said, and the county work force may have to be trimmed through attrition. "Fewer people have to do more," he said. Administrative staffing may also have to be trimmed, he said.

Amar has several ideas

he says could improve the economy: a drive to increase tourism, similar to the Pure Michigan campaign; incentives for the movie industry, which he said brought work to the region when they were more generous at the state level; and the further promotion of the Aerotropolis business park, which aims to take advantage of its proximity to Detroit Metropolitan and Willow Run airports.

Perhaps the business community could be encouraged to promote the Aerotropolis concept, he said.

Unlike Fiems, and the two Republicans also running for the 10th District seat, Amar isn't calling for the departure of County Executive Robert Ficano, who has been under fire for his management style since the disclosure of a \$200,000 severance check for former economic devel-

opment director Turkia Mullin, who later returned the money. Ficano's office is under investigation by the FBI, and Amar said the controversy will resolve itself through existing processes.

Amar is endorsed by Commissioner Kevin McNamara, D-Canton, who is moving out of the district after district lines were redrawn. He said he faces a tough fight against the Republican nominee in a district that will be more conservative than McNamara's, but that he believes the seat is winnable.

Amar said that, if elected, he would stay more in touch with people in the district. A lack of contact with the county is one of the complaints he hears on the campaign trail, he said.

"No one's ever come to their door before," Amar said.

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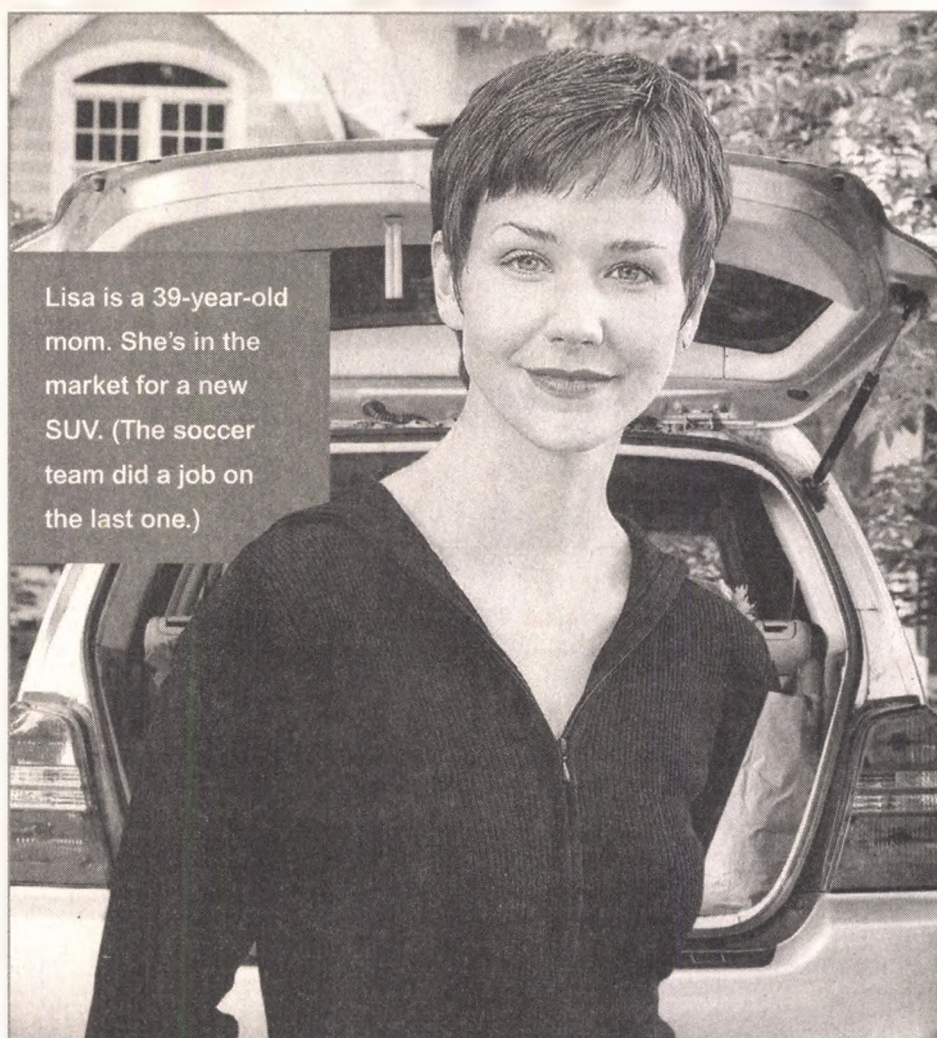
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**WRESTLING CAMP**

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

**Location:** Salem High School

**Details:** Salem Wrestling is holding a summer wrestling camp for all 7-12th graders that are attending and/or going to be attending Salem High School. The cost is \$25 which includes a camp T-shirt. All current Salem wrestlers are required to attend and will concentrate on technique and conditioning. It will be run by current Salem Assistant Varsity Coach and High School State Wrestling Champion Jeremy Henderson.

**Contact:** Coach Henderson at jhendy189@gmail.com or visit www.wrestling.salemrocks.com for more information.

**TRAIL CLEANUP**

**Date/Time:** Thursday, July 12, 6:30-9 p.m.

**Location:** Meet on the trail or in the parking lot on the north side of Hines Drive just east of Northville Road.

**Details:** Join the Friends of the I-275 Metro Trail for a trail work day. Despite the hot, dry weather, the vegetation is growing out of control, so volunteers will be beating back the brush on the section just north of Hines Drive. Bring clippers, pruners, loppers, scythes/sickles, rakes, brooms and anything else that would be helpful for trimming the brush. Make sure to wear protective eye wear, work gloves, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt; poison ivy is always a concern. Water and light snacks will be provided.

**Contact:** For more information call Dave Duffield at (248) 994-3074, or visit us on Facebook or our Webpage: http://www.I-275.michigantrails.org.

**TINY TOTS**

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

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

**Contact:** Sheila Johnson, preschool director, (734) 453-5464, Ext. 27, or email sheila\_johnson@usc.salvationarmy.org

**GRIEF SUPPORT**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, July 28, 9 a.m. to noon

**Location:** Room C-319 at Ward Church, 40000 Six Mile in Northville

**Details:** Ward Presbyterian Church sponsors a one-day grief seminar, From Grief to New Hope, presented by Cathy Clough, founder/executive director of New Hope Center for Grief Support and co-author of "Grieving Forward: Death Happened, Now What?" All adults who are learning to cope after the death of a loved one are encouraged to attend. There is no charge for the seminar.

**Contact:** Call New Hope at (248) 348-0115.

**POLISH DANCE**

**Date/Time:** July 21-28

**Location:** Orchard Lake Schools campus

**Details:** The Polish Centennial Dancers from the Plymouth, Canton, Livonia (Western Wayne County and Oakland County) area hosts a Polish Youth Course at Orchard Lake Schools where students between the ages of 10 through 14 study from a curriculum that includes Polish language, history, song and dance. Study about the Polish culture from Polish instructors and make friends from all over the United States. The \$300 includes lessons, swimming, sports, room and board for the entire week.

**Contact:** For information and application, call or email Ron or Barb Martin at (734) 634-7780 or email PNA53Martin@hotmail.com.



**Leadership change**

The Rotary Club of Plymouth installed a new president for the 2012-13 year at its June 30 meeting. Outgoing president Art Pisani (left) of Plymouth Township handed over the reigns to Art Butler of Plymouth Township.

**POM CLINIC**

**Date/Time:** Saturday, Aug. 25, 9-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** Canton High School North (Phase 3)

**Details:** The Canton Chiefettes host their pom pon clinic for potential cheerleaders ages 5-14. Students will learn pom pon techniques and a short dance routine. Parents will be treated to a performance at 11:30 a.m. Participants will also perform at the Canton High School varsity football game Aug. 30. Cost is \$45 for pre-registration, \$50 at the door.

**Contact:** Pre-register at www.cantonchiefettes.com; call (734) 397-1782 for more information.

**HOSPICE SUPPORT**

**Date/Time:** Third Saturday of the month, 10-11:30 a.m.

**Location:** Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Canton

**Details:** Compassionate Care Hospice conducts a grief support group, "Compassionate Words," providing emotional support to any adult grieving the loss of a loved one. The group focuses on the various stages of grief, and incorporates basic journal writing as a way to express feelings. The program is free of charge.

**Contact:** To register, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at (888) 983-9050, or email achristensen@cchnet.net.

**MOPS MEETINGS**

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

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

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

**Contact:** Heather at (734) 437-9517 or e-mail stekmops@gmail.com, or visit www.stekmops.org.

**HEISE COFFEE**

**Date/Time:** Friday, July 20, 7:30-9 a.m.

**Location:** Panera Bread, 400 S. Main in Plymouth

**Details:** State Rep. Kurt Heise is sponsoring coffee hours to give residents a convenient opportunity to meet with him locally. **No appointment is necessary.** Heise is also

available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office.

**Contact:** Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail kurtheise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

**DIABETES SUPPORT**

**Date/Time:** 2nd Thursday of the month (first meeting March 8), 2-3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main in Plymouth

**Details:** The Plymouth Lions Club is sponsoring a new Adult Diabetes Support Group. Fern Vining, a registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and Plymouth Lion, will be the group facilitator. There is no charge to attend. Topics for discussion will focus on understanding diabetes and self management strategies.

**Contact:** Call Fern Vining at (734) 454-0859.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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

# Final look at the Fourth



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



The ladies from Jazzercise shake it on down Main Street.



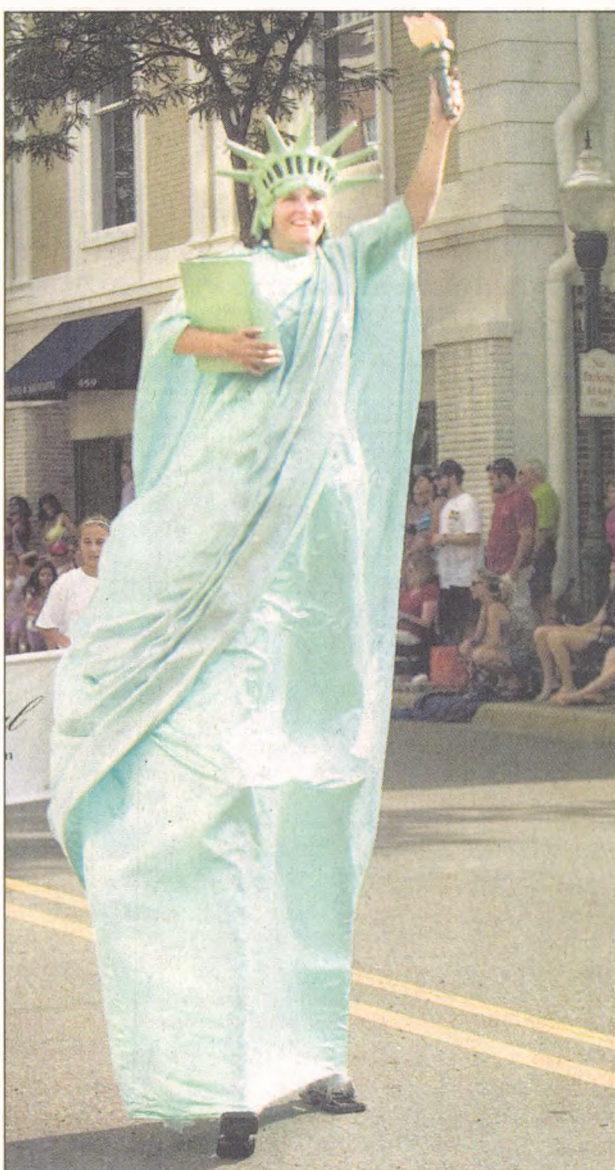
Born on the Fourth of July, Jaxson Schiller is the son of Lindsey and Eric Schiller.



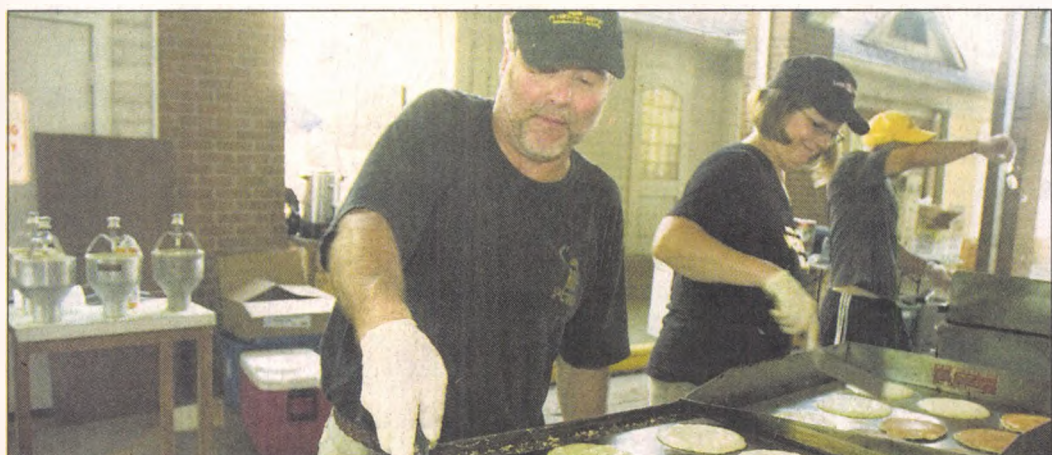
Owen Smothers, six years old, and dad Mike Smothers, wait for the bike parade to begin.



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



Miss Liberty has a good view from way up there.



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

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



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



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

# GM buyout offer still causing consternation

By Rick Bloom  
Guest Columnist

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



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

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

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

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

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

There has also been some confusion with regards to the tax consequences if you accept the lump-sum buyout. In that regard, if the money is directly transferred into a traditional IRA, there are no tax consequences. However, you cannot have the money directly transferred into a Roth IRA without tax consequences. If you transfer your lump-sum distribution into a Roth IRA, that money becomes immediately taxable to you. It would only be in a very rare case that anyone would want their lump-sum distribution directly transferred into a Roth IRA. The preferred method would be to transfer it into a traditional IRA and then later do a Roth conversion.

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

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

Good luck!

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

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# Author in right place to meet Sparky Anderson



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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

By Sue Buck  
Observer Staff Writer

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

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

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

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



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

right place at the right time when he met Anderson.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### 'Regular guy'

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

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

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

The two shared families and vacations together.

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

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

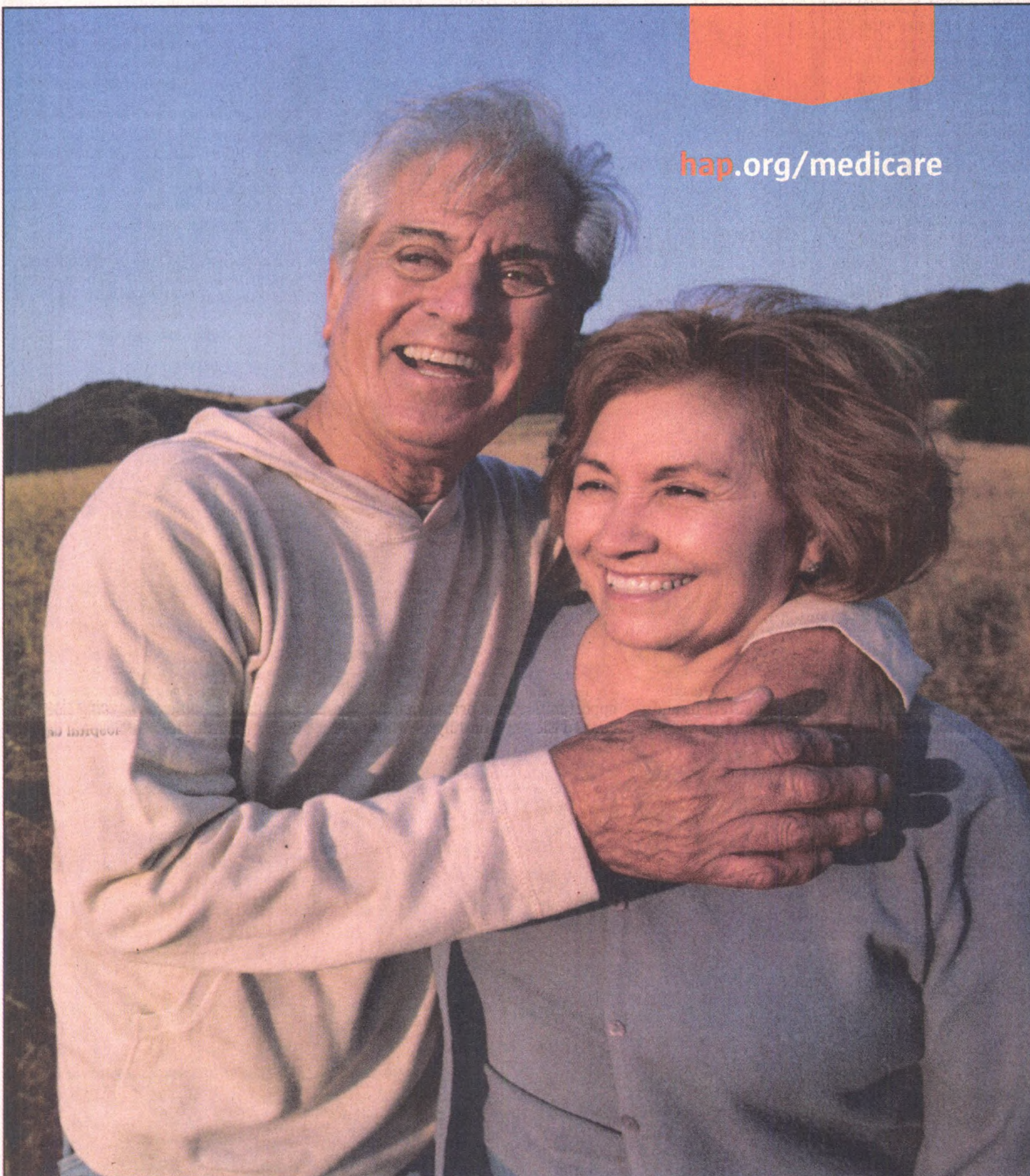
Anderson reached out to others who needed help, including street people who came for help to the church across the street from old Tiger Stadium. Anderson also encouraged Tiger players to do the same for the homeless.

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

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

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

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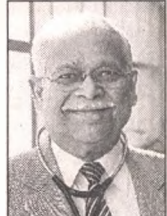


### OUR VIEWS

## 11th Congressional District Cassis, Taj best choices for primary election

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

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



Dr. Syed Taj



Nancy Cassis

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### COMMUNITY VOICE

## What is your favorite summertime memory?

We asked this question at Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.



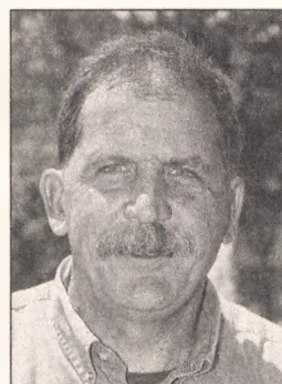
"I was in Greece on my grandparents' farm. They had a little piggie that was tied up, so I was chasing and teasing the piggie."

**Irina Bordyn**  
Plymouth Township



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

**Kristen Grube**  
Plymouth Township



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

**Steve Faiman**  
Plymouth



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

**Jim Dyer**  
Canton Township

### LETTERS

#### Supports Curmi

I have known Charles Curmi in excess of 20 years, and have found him to be well-educated and well-spoken, thoughtful and analytical in his thought process.

During his tenure as a past Plymouth Township trustee from 1992-2008, I always felt that he was the strength of the board year in and year out. Every decision he made was well-researched and its conclusion always seemed "on the money" with the resident/taxpayer's best interest the primary concern.

This year finds a vast field of candidates running for the open trustee slots. I very strongly endorse the election of Charles Curmi and suggest others check out what he'll "bring to the table" and elect him to the 2012 Plymouth Township board.

As a re-minted township

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters by the following formats:

**Web:** www.hometownlife.com  
**Mail:** Letters to the Editor, Plymouth Observer, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226  
**Fax:** (313) 223-3318  
**E-mail:** bkadrich@hometownlife.com

**Blog:** You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com.

**Deadline:** Letters should be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

trustee, Charles Curmi will have the best interests of all township residents in hand.

**Roger L. Kehring**  
Plymouth

#### Work for average people

I find it amusing, but pathetic, that our protector, Sen. Patrick Colbeck, is quoting our Constitution to the U.S. Supreme Court ("Reaction mixed to court's health care ruling," *Observer*, July 1).

This man, and his Tea Party-backed, right-to-life zealots, are bought and paid for by the rich and powerful. Mr. Colbeck should spend more time working for the average people in our state instead of the Matty Morouns and intolerant religious leaders.

I once wrote that these (people) made the Taliban look like a bunch of flaming liberals; however, the Taliban threatened to sue if I dared to compare them to these people.

**James Huddleston**  
Canton

### GUEST COLUMN

## See past the smokescreen thrown up by 'Obamacare' opponents

By **Delphine Palkowski**  
Guest Column

The Supreme Court's ruling on June 28 was a victory for all Americans. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, is known as ACA or "Obamacare."

The term Obamacare was coined to defeat it, just as calling Hillarycare defeated the health care reform bill under President Clinton. There are more than 50 million Americans without any health insurance and another 25 million are under-insured. The ACA will improve the health and economy of the entire country.

#### Benefits for all of us

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

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

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

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

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

#### Economics

Remember, by law, the govern-

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

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

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

#### Small businesses

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

#### Women

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

It also gives women access to

birth control without co-pays by Aug. 1, 2012.

#### Seniors

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Kids of all ages get down and dirty at Mud Day

**By Sue Mason**  
Observer Staff Writer

Lydia Slim made no bones about it. Her goal was to be the muddiest girl at the Wayne County Parks' annual Mud Day. Turns out she didn't have as much mud piled on top of her head as some of the contestants, but she was the only one with grass sticking out of it. "My mom decided to put it in my hair," said the 9-year-old Dearborn resident who was crowned Queen Mud.

"I tried to make it look like a crown," said her mother, Monic. For Lydia, besting the 20 or so girls who had slathered their bodies with mud and piled it high on their heads in hopes of winning was a dream come true. "I dreamed I would be queen," she said. "I told my mom I wanted to win Mud Day. I tried my best."

"I'm so happy she won," said her mother. "She was recently diagnosed with hemophilia. She's been through a lot, summer has been really hard on her until now." Her counterpart was 7-year-old Daniel Werling of Southgate, who said it felt "really good" to be King Mud.

"It's the best ever being king," he said, pausing to take off his crown and dump the mound of mud on top of his head. "He was like, 'I want to win,'" said his father, Dan. "I tried to give him mud shoulder pads but they kept sliding off."

"Where else can you play in the mud and not get in trouble," Daniel's mother, Jeanette, added. It was hard to say who had more fun as more than 1,000 adults and children flocked to the annual event held in the Nan-



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Underneath all that mud is Megan Blair of Westland.



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

smason@hometownlife.com  
(313) 222-6751



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

two out of the six kids are scared."

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

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

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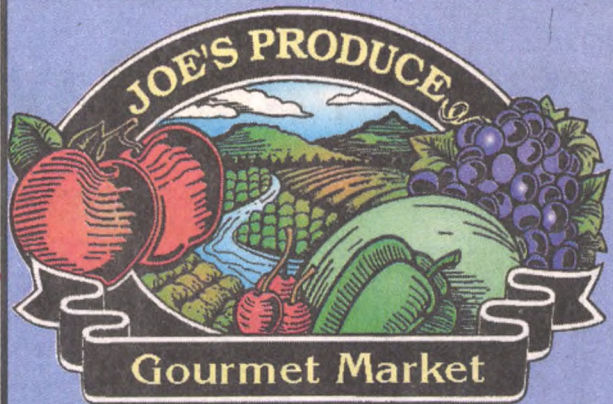
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# SPORTS

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DAVE MCCAULEY | BUCKS PHOTO

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

## Cope-ing with success

Possible pro career awaits former Salem soccer standout

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

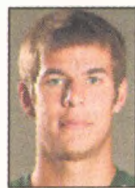
Kevin Cope spent a productive week as an apprentice last week in Kansas City.

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

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

But Cope was grateful the Bucks loaned him out for a week.

"I had my end-of-the-year meetings with my Michigan State coaches, and one of the big plans for the summer was to get an opportunity to go



Cope

train with a (MLS) team, gain some experience and kind of see it first hand," said Cope, who

played only two games last fall for the Spartans after going down with a season-ending injury. "They (the Bucks) got me in touch with a couple of assistant coaches, and they said, 'Sure, come in for a week.' So this week worked best as far as the Bucks scheduling and just everything else that I planned. It worked out great for all of us."

The first day of Sporting KC's practice proved to be an eye-opener for Cope, who was the 2009 Big Ten Freshman of the Year and a second-team All-Big Ten selection in 2010.

"One of the biggest differences is the speed of play," said the 6-foot-2, 185-pound defender. "The first session I was

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

"The other thing is just the professionalism of everybody. I came to the club and the first day I was kind of expecting to be off by myself a little bit, and not really interacting with the guys, but they went out of their way to make me feel comfortable. I just think that shows how the organization is set up and it's run very well, and the guys that they have in the clubhouse are good guys. They made me feel so comfortable and that's the reason I've played so well here."

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

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

PDL's Chicago Fire in 2011.

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

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

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

Please see COPE, B4

## Ex-gridiron star White court-bound

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please see WHITE, B4

## Locals shine in MWGA event

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

Garden City resident Lisa Bishop won the Flight 1 low gross title by firing a four-over-par round of 76, three shots lower than runner-up Debra Horning of Bloomfield Hills. Plymouth's Jane Kersjes placed second in the Flight 1 low-net competition.

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

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

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

For more information on the MWGA, visit [www.mwga.org](http://www.mwga.org).

## Free sports physicals

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

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

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

## Hawks golf outing

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

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

There will be a steak dinner following the golf.

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

## Garden City teen sparkles in national spotlight

By Ed Wright  
Observer Staff Writer

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



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

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

The three-sport athlete used her sharply honed

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

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

Points were awarded based on accuracy, distance and speed.

Please see TRIP, B4



DAVE VERA-BURGOS

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



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SPORTS BRIEFS

GC spike camp

The Garden City High School volleyball program will host an advanced-skills camp July 16-20 in the high school gymnasium. The camp will run from 5-8 p.m. each day. Each participant will receive 15 hours of training as well as a camp T-shirt. The cost is \$100.

For more information, send an e-mail to gardencityvb@yahoo.com.

Hole-in-one club grows

Someone scoring a hole-in-one at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center in Plymouth continues to be a regular occurrence this year, with the latest coming Monday.

That's when 90-year-old Ray Martin of Northville used a 9-iron to ace the 112-yard 6th hole at the Hills course. Martin sank a Srixon.

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



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

Pair of aces

Redford golfer notches second career hole-in-one

By Ed Wright  
Observer Staff Writer

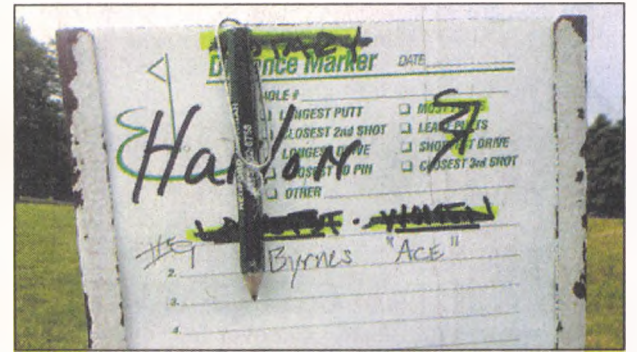
It happens every seven years or so, almost like clockwork: Redford Township resident Jeremy Byrnes tees up a golf ball on a par-3 hole at Glenhurst Golf Course, takes a couple of practice swings, then knocks the ball into the bottom of the cup, igniting a series of joyous high-fives from his playing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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Coincidentally, Byrnes' ace came on the league's weekly closest-to-the-pin hole.

"I won about \$40 for

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

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

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

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

wright@hometownlife.com  
(734) 578-2767



Great effort, great cause

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

Area netters fare well at USTA event

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

The event featured 81 amateur tennis players between the ages of 10 and 18 from throughout the United States who were looking to compile points in the Southeast Michigan District Level 4 and a Midwest Section Level 6 standings.

The lone area champion was Plymouth resident Matthew Decker, who placed first in the Boys

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



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Rams fight off Cobras' comeback

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

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

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

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

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

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

the Cobras, yielding two runs in the seventh.

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

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



Cards BPA champs

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

To advertise in this directory, call Jim Sabatella at 313-223-3246 For more about golf in Michigan www.TeelUpMichigan.com







# Church seeks donors for blood drive

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"I thank God every day for those strangers whose blood

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

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

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

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



FILE PHOTO

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

## RELIGION CALENDAR

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

### July

#### ADULT ACADEMY

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

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

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

**Contact:** (734) 422-1470

#### BIBLE TALK

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

**Location:** Plymouth Historical Museum, 155 S. Main, Plymouth

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

**Contact:** (515) 851-2939

#### CLOTHING BANK

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

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

**Details:** Free clothing and shoes to anyone in need

**Contact:** (734) 927-6686 or (734) 404-2480.

#### COMMUNITY FUN DAY

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

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

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

**Contact:** (734) 536-1210

#### CONCERT

**Time/Date:** 7 p.m. July 19

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

**Details:** Spoke Folk Christian music concert; free will donation

**Contact:** (734) 728-3315

#### FAMILY AND FRIENDS NIGHT

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

**Location:** Grace Church, 31133 Hiveley, Westland

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

**Contact:** Cheryl at (248) 756-3592

#### FREE LUNCHEON

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

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

**Details:** This is a free luncheon and all are welcome

**Contact:** (248) 569-2972

#### GUEST SPEAKER

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

**Location:** Detroit Laestadian Lutheran Church, 290 Fairground, Plymouth

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

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

#### MOVIE NIGHT

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

**Location:** Bixman Hall at the church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

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

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

**Contact:** RSVP at (734) 425-5950

# Passages

Obituaries, Memories & Remembrances

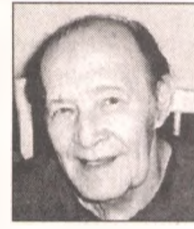
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Deadlines: Friday 4:15 p.m. for Sunday • Wednesday 9:45 a.m. for Thursday



**BUZUVIS, MARTHA I.**

Age 96, of Plymouth, passed away with her family at her bedside on July 8, 2012. Born in Richmond, Virginia to parents Charles and Nora Anderson. Moved to the Plymouth from Detroit in 1968. Loving wife of the late John. Beloved mother of the late Barbara Williams, John (fiancee Cynthia King) Buzuvis Jr, Dennis (Esther) Buzuvis and Deborah (Mark) Stevens. Proud grandmother of Timothy Williams, Gregory (Kathleen) Williams, Donna (Peter) Lee, Natalie (Bill) Farrell, John (Shannon) Buzuvis III, Dennis (Jamie) Buzuvis Jr, Esther (Doug) LeMaster, Joseph (fiancee Shannon Bishop) Buzuvis, Scott (Jen) Stevens and Jennifer Stevens. Great-grandmother of ten. Dear sister of Monty (June) Anderson. Also survived by son-in-law Richard Williams. Preceded in death by daughter-in-law Betty Buzuvis. Martha enjoyed cooking, working in her flower garden and she especially loved to travel. Funeral service Wednesday 11:00am from the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 South Main St., Plymouth. Visitation Tuesday from 1-9pm. Interment Riverside Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 24445 Northwestern Hwy, #100, Southfield, MI 48075. Share memories at schrader-howell.com



**KERNEN, PATRICK "PAT"**

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

### McCREERY, VIOLET W.

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

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## Popular chalk art returns to downtown Plymouth

By Sharon Dargay  
 O&E Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

Sharon Dillenbeck said teachers Bethany Grysko

### ART IN THE PARK

**Show hours:** 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, July 13, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, July 14, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, July 15

**Location:** Downtown Plymouth

**Shuttle:** Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, and 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sunday. Board a shuttle at ACH, 13325 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. Drop off is at Plymouth City Hall

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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

She sent the art fair organizers pictures from

doesn't showcase the talent of my teachers."

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

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

#### Chalking at parties

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

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

their sketching.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Hear jazz at Schoolcraft

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

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

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

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

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

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

For more information about the Michigan Jazz Festival visit [michigan-jazzfestival.homestead.com](http://michigan-jazzfestival.homestead.com) or call Pat Minnick at (734) 462-4403.

## Family concert features art work in Livonia

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Art

### CITY GALLERY

**Time/Date:** Through Aug. 24; artist reception is 5-8 p.m. Friday, July 13

**Location:** Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

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

**Contact:** (248) 473-1800

### DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

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

**Location:** 5200 Woodward, Detroit

**Family Sundays:** 2 p.m. Sundays; storytelling, performances; free with admission

**Exhibits:** Patti Smith: Camera Solo, shows performer Patti Smith's photographs, through Sept. 2; Five Spanish Masterpieces features works by Picasso, Goya, Velazquez, El Greco and Dali, through Aug. 19; Picasso & Matisse exhibits all of the museum's drawings and prints by the two artists, July 11-Jan. 6, 2013

**Contact:** (313) 833-7900, [www.dia.org](http://www.dia.org)

### PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

**Time/Date:** Exhibit runs through July

**Location:** 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth

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

**Contact:** (734) 416-4267

### VILLAGE THEATER

**Time/Date:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday-Friday, through July 31

**Location:** 50400 Cherry Hill, Canton

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

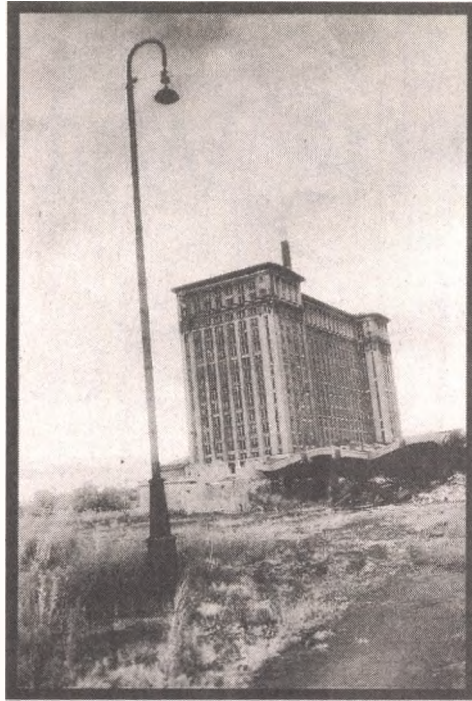
**Contact:** (734) 394-5300

## Comedy

### JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

**Time/Date:** 8 p.m. Mondays, open mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

**Location:** 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia



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

**Contact:** (734) 261-0555, [www.kickerscomplex.com](http://www.kickerscomplex.com)

### MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

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

**Location:** 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak

**Contact:** (248) 542-9900, [www.comedycastle.com](http://www.comedycastle.com)

## Dance

### FAIRLANE BALLROOM DANCE CLUB

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

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

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

**Contact:** Jean Orleans at (734) 516-0500

### MOON DUSTERS

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

**Location:** Livonia Civic Center, 15218 Farmington Road, Livonia

**Details:** Singles and couples; free refreshments. Dance lessons cost \$6; dance and lessons are \$11; dance only is \$7 for guests, \$6.50 for associates and \$6 for Moon Dusters members

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

## GET OUT!

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

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

**Contact:** (734) 453-0870; [www.penntheatre.com](http://www.penntheatre.com)

### REDFORD THEATRE

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

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

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

**Coming up:** "Cool Hand Luke," 8 p.m. July 20 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. July 21, \$4; Abbott & Costello double feature, "Buck Privates," and "Abbott & Costello meet the Killer," 8 p.m. Aug. 10 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 11, \$5; "North by Northwest," 8 p.m. Aug. 24 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 25

**Contact:** (313) 537-2560

## Museums

### CHARLES H. WRIGHT

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

**Location:** 315 E. Warren Road, Detroit

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

**Exhibits:** "The Chris Webber Collection: Exceptional People During Extraordinary Times, 1755-Present," includes rare artifacts collected by Detroit native Chris Webber, through September; "Witness: The Art of Jerry Pinkney," through Sept. 9

**Contact:** (313) 494-5800

### PLYMOUTH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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

**Location:** 155 S. Main, Plymouth

**Details:** "Inaugural Gowns of the First Ladies" is the new exhibit, featuring 14 reproduction inaugural gowns. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, 6-17

**Contact:** (734) 455-8940

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## Playing with your food can be good for you

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

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

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

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

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

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

You can find more deliciously fun ways to enjoy watermelon, and sign up for a free newsletter, at [www.watermelon.org](http://www.watermelon.org).



### PICKING A GOOD WATERMELON

1. Look the watermelon over.

You are looking for a firm, symmetrical watermelon that is free from bruises, cuts or dents.

2. Lift it up.

The watermelon should be heavy for its size. Watermelon is 92 percent water.

3. Turn it over.

The underside of the watermelon should have a creamy yellow spot from where it sat on the ground and ripened in the sun.



### Watermelon Pizza Supreme

Serves 6

1 slice watermelon (8 to 10 inches around and 1 inch thick), drained to remove excess moisture  
1 cup strawberry preserves  
½ cup white chocolate chips  
½ cup raisins  
½ cup chopped walnuts  
1 cup sweetened shredded coconut

Place watermelon slice on a serving platter and cut into 6 wedges, leaving them in the shape of a pizza. Spread preserves over watermelon and sprinkle toppings over the top.

### Ice Cream Cone Sundaes

Serves 8

8 ice cream cones of choice  
8 tablespoons pineapple cream cheese frosting  
½ cup dried Craisins  
½ cup vanilla yogurt  
8 scoops seedless watermelon (use an ice cream scooper)

Additional toppings of your choice: sprinkles, pineapple chunks, chocolate chips or coconut flakes

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

Ice Cream Cone Sundaes

Courtesy of Family Features

### Watermelon Strawberry Shake and Frozen Smoothie Pops

Makes 4

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

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

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

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

### Surf Wave

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

1. Wash watermelon under cool running water and pat dry.

2. On a cutting board, place watermelon on its side and cut off ¼ to ½ inch from the stem end, being careful not to cut too deep into the white part of the rind. This will provide a sturdy base.

3. Using the dry-erase marker, draw a wave from the top of the watermelon halfway down, similar to a backwards C. Repeat on the other side to form a wave.

4. Use the knife to carefully cut away the parts of the watermelon that you will not be using. Use the spoon to hollow out the inside watermelon to cut up and serve.

5. Place the carving on a serving platter covered with brown sugar. Decorate with toys and shells and fill your carving with fruit.



### Helpful Carving Hints

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

to live in safe, functional and barrier-free homes. At this time, Project Build! services are available only to clients of Jewish Family Service.

<http://www.jfsdetroit.org/volunteers/project-build>

## Heed fair housing laws

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

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

A: In general, community restrictions or rules trigger fair housing problems in one of two ways, either the rules are enforced unfairly or the rules themselves are unfair. For example, a condominium association faces potential liability if members of a protected class are singled out for strict enforcement of rules while enforcement against others is lax. An example is that it would be unlawful



Robert Meisner

to come down hard on African American residents for breaking the rules while ignoring similar infractions by white residents.

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

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

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

Robert M. Meisner is a lawyer and author of Condominium Operation: Getting Started & Staying on the Right Track, second edition, available for \$9.95 plus \$1 shipping/handling. He also wrote Condo Living: A Survival Guide to Buying, Owning and Selling a Condominium, available for \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Call (248) 644-4433 or visit [bmeisner@meisner-law.com](mailto:bmeisner@meisner-law.com).

This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-WAYNE

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

#### CANTON

1844 Aberdeen St \$165,000  
40268 Chatsworth Ct \$139,000  
50438 Coolidge St \$150,000  
2457 Cranbrook Rd \$140,000  
7266 Haverhill Ct \$450,000

42685 Keystone Ln \$161,000  
45224 Lemont Rd \$185,000  
44750 Leslie Ln \$153,000  
2570 Liberty St S \$305,000  
44283 Nowland Dr \$226,000  
7802 Oxford Dr \$40,000

#### GARDEN CITY

28431 Block St \$11,000  
6530 Fairfield St \$79,000  
6742 Harrison St \$49,000  
28445 Kathryn St \$65,000

#### LIVONIA

37333 Curtis Rd \$297,000  
18758 Filmore St \$118,000  
33421 Hathaway St \$80,000

8914 Hillcrest St \$106,000  
20076 Laurel Dr \$258,000  
15585 Parklane St \$157,000  
30955 Richland St \$84,000  
18298 University Park Dr \$49,000  
19001 Westmore St \$95,000

#### NORTHVILLE

41801 Ladywood Dr \$224,000  
39562 Village Run Dr \$220,000  
20359 Woodcreek Blvd \$435,000

#### PLYMOUTH

1410 Junction St \$72,000  
40407 Newport Dr \$73,000  
1199 S Sheldon Rd \$27,000  
385 Windmill Dr \$170,000

#### REDFORD

19488 Beech Daly Rd \$25,000  
9088 Dale \$36,000  
11423 Nathaline \$49,000  
9075 Seminole \$55,000  
26924 W Seven Mile Rd \$78,000  
12963 Wormer \$25,000

#### WESTLAND

38158 Carolon Blvd \$23,000  
7400 Cochise St \$73,000  
8336 Ingram St \$64,000  
1152 Michael Dr \$116,000  
208 N Hawthorne St \$38,000  
107 Shotka St \$17,000

### HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

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

#### BEVERLY HILLS

17194 Birwood Ave \$163,000  
31436 Fairfax Ave \$123,000

#### BIRMINGHAM

1555 Chapin Ave \$109,000  
1604 Mansfield Rd \$195,000  
475 S Adams Rd \$63,000

#### BLOOMFIELD HILLS

7261 Kingswood Dr \$152,000  
3954 W Orchard Hill Dr \$142,000  
3954 W Orchard Hill Dr \$140,000

#### BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

3072 Heron Pointe Dr \$1,350,000  
3650 Larkwood Ct \$292,000  
2564 Norwood Rd \$424,000  
1169 Park Place Ct \$350,000  
3610 South Blvd \$210,000  
3141 Woodcreek Way \$540,000

#### COMMERCE TOWNSHIP

2740 Ivy Hill Dr \$230,000  
2563 Watonga Dr \$99,000

#### FARMINGTON

23900 Pickett Ave \$265,000  
33244 Slocum Dr \$152,000  
33246 Slocum Dr \$145,000

#### FARMINGTON HILLS

35604 Bradford Ct \$290,000  
30384 Castleford Ct \$172,000  
23198 Colgate St \$54,000  
26860 Drake Rd \$29,000  
30145 Fink Ave \$50,000

#### LATHRUP VILLAGE

29423 Glen Oaks Blvd E \$88,000  
39321 Lilly Ct \$252,000  
21654 Middlebelt Rd \$54,000  
20831 Orchard Lake Rd \$85,000  
20965 Sunnydale St \$155,000  
27435 W 12 Mile Rd \$130,000

#### MILFORD

28691 Somerset Pl \$128,000  
805 Bishop St \$85,000  
1315 Maryland \$510,000  
2368 Tanbark \$320,000

#### NOVI

22635 Chestnut Tree \$112,000  
23579 Dunston Rd \$341,000  
26247 Fieldstone Dr \$211,000  
211 Henning St \$31,000  
40621 Lenox Park Dr \$251,000  
30117 Sterling Dr \$293,000

#### SOUTH LYON

1329 Coach House Ln \$310,000  
237 Cuyahoga Ct \$298,000  
53763 Edgewood Dr \$25,000  
54897 Grenelefe Cir W \$60,000  
59729 Mallory Ln \$343,000  
205 Maplewood Ct Unit 8 \$55,000  
23579 Spy Glass HI N \$305,000  
52581 Trailwood Dr \$2,000

#### SOUTHFIELD

21180 Glenmorra St \$121,000  
16381 Harden Cir \$92,000  
22131 Ivanhoe Ln \$105,000  
23758 Plumbrooke Dr \$39,000  
25398 Saint James \$66,000  
28095 Selkirk St \$18,000  
29320 Willowick Ct \$127,000

#### WHITE LAKE

9511 Portage Trl \$95,000  
9743 Shelby Dr \$200,000

### REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

#### Seminar on Tuesdays

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

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

#### Investors

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

#### Career Seminar

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

mation, contact Mike Workman at (734) 459-4700 or [mworkman@kw.com](mailto:mworkman@kw.com).

#### Investors

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

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

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

#### Free Foreclosure Tours

Free Foreclosure Tours are 1 p.m. every other Sunday. Meeting place is Panera Bread on the southeast corner of Middlebelt and I-96. E-mail [Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com](mailto:Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com) or visit [FreeForeclosureTour.com](http://FreeForeclosureTour.com).

#### On Facebook

RE/MAX has launched a new Facebook page for customers and the public to get direct answers for their real estate questions from RE/MAX experts. The new site is a chance for the public to ASKRE/MAX and get clear, expert answers in real time.

Visit [www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX](http://www.facebook.com/ASKREMAX).

#### Finance Seminar

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**REDFORD: 11355 HAZELTON**  
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Dearborn Federal Savings Bank (313) 565-3100	3.875	0	3.375	0	A
Fifth Third Bank (800) 792-8830	3.875	0	3.125	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage (888) 293-3477	3.375	0	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
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