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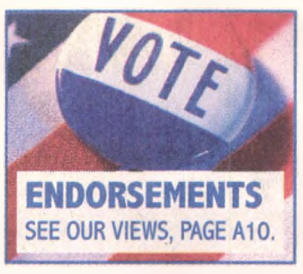

ENDORSEMENTS

SEE OUR VIEWS, PAGE A10.

GOLDEN GIRL

SCHMITT DELIVERS SMASHING PERFORMANCE IN LONDON, B1

WAYNE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CANDIDATES FACE PRIMARY RACE

SEE PAGE A9

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Board choice

Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed four people to the Michigan Board of Audiology, including Melissa Lewis of Plymouth.

The nine-member committee assists the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs in overseeing the practice of more than 500 Michigan audiologists.

Lewis is an attorney with Bodman PLC in Detroit. She brings diverse legal experiences, including work in banking, business and real estate. Lewis is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association. She holds a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and a law degree from the University of Michigan. Lewis will represent the general public and replaces Steven Kauffman.

Hepatitis scare

The state health department issued a public alert Monday following an investigation into a former Michigan health care worker — and former Canton resident — who has been charged with infecting at least 30 patients in New Hampshire with hepatitis C, a chronic disease that can cause liver failure.

Michigan's health department is urging patients to be tested for the disease if they received injectable narcotic medicines when the man, former Canton resident David Kwiatkowski, worked at four metro Detroit hospitals between 2005-07. The hospitals, according to Gannett News Service reports, included Sinai-Grace in Detroit (June-October 2005); Harper University Hospital (October 2005-September 2006); U-M Health System (Sept.11-Dec. 8, 2006); and Oakwood Annapolis in Wayne (Jan. 15-Sept. 15, 2007).

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Friends, fans cheer hometown hero to Olympic gold medal

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Tuning out — mostly — the day's news from London, friends and fans of swimmer Allison Schmitt tuned in Tuesday night to see the former Canton High School star cruise to Olympic gold.

Schmitt, a 2008 CHS graduate, dominated the women's 200-meter freestyle at the Summer Olympics on Tuesday, taking first with an Olympic record of 1 minute, 53.61 seconds. It was her fourth Olympic medal; she had won a bronze Saturday, a silver Sunday and had also won a bronze in 2008 at the Beijing Games.

Supporters, a number of whom had deliberately avoided learning the outcome of the race, gathered at the Rock Bar and Grill in downtown Plymouth to cheer on Schmitt during the delayed television broadcast. Their excitement building as Schmitt, 22, swam to a commanding lead, they exploded in celebration as she touched the pool wall at the London Aquatic Centre.

"I couldn't be more excited and happy for her," said Sue Heinzman, a co-athletic director at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Heinzman teared up as she hugged other Schmitt fans in the room.

Please see GOLD MEDAL, A2

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Peggi Bica (in the foreground) and the rest of the crowd cheers as Allison Schmitt wins the gold medal.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A fashion show featuring cars such as this Hupmobile with models was one of the highlights at the Concours d'Elegance of America at the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth.

Crowds thrill to car show classic

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

One thing Suzanne Thomas-Hughes learned growing up with a father who was a car nut and a Ford Motor Co., employee: Car shows make for great photo opportunities.

That's why Thomas-Hughes, a former Plymouth resident now living in Wolverine Lake, knew her dad's Facebook page would be loaded with pictures from the 34th Concours d'Elegance, staged Sunday at Plymouth Township's Inn at St. John's.

"It's an amazing show you can't see anywhere else," said Thomas-Hughes, herself now an avid

Please see CONCOURS, A5

BEST OF THE BEST

What: Best in Show-Domestic
Winner: 1933 Chrysler Imperial Dual Cowl Phaeton by LeBaron
Owner: Joseph & Margie Cassini, III., West Orange, N.J.
What: Best in Show-Foreign
Winner: 1933 Delage D8S Coupe Roadster by de Villars
Owner: Jim Patterson, The Patterson Collection, Louisville, Ky.
More Concours coverage, A3, A6

Cadillac fins and crowds were everywhere.

Business to bring Art About Town

8

2

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

Got art?

Visit downtown Plymouth on Saturday, Aug. 11, and you will.

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is joining with downtown businesses on that day to sponsor Plymouth's first Art About Town, a strolling art gallery and workshop gallery that will introduce visitors to painters, potters, photographers and other artists and their works.

Art About Town will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at downtown businesses. The event is free; works by participating artists will be on sale.

"We're promoting local arts and we're promoting local artists, so it's creating sort of an art crawl through the downtown businesses," said Matt Allen of Dearborn Jewelers, one of the participating businesses.

Dearborn Jewelers will be hosting portrait and landscape artist Kathleen Ericson and her work. Also participating are photographers, potters, chocolate-makers, caricaturists and other artists, and crafts will be available for children, said Wes Graff, the chamber president.

Graff said many of the artists will be working at their art during the event and will be available to speak with visitors. Live music on the streets is also planned.

Graff said the idea came from downtown business owners themselves, as many have customers who are interested in the art world. The event gives people an extra reason to visit downtown on a Saturday, Graff said, and perhaps combine it with the farmers market, lunch out or shopping.

Participating business will have "passports" available for Art About Town visitors, Graff said, and passports stamped with a minimum of 12 art locations can be turned in for a later prize drawing. There will be three prize packages awarded, he said.

Other expected Art About Town participants include Basket Kreations, Bed & Boutique/Little Black Heart,

Please see ART, A2

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AROUND PLYMOUTH

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

CLASS REUNION

Date/Time: Friday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m. to midnight

Location: Laurel Manor, 3900 Schoolcraft, Livonia

Details: Combined 1982 Plymouth Canton/Plymouth Salem 30-year reunion. Deadline to order tickets is Aug. 1. Tickets can be ordered thru: https://sitesgoogle.com/site/cantonsalem1982, or www.facebook.com/groups/cantonsalem1982 or cantonsalem1982@gmail.com for $45 per person. Dinner, dancing, D.J. provided.

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.

GOOD GRIEF GOLF

Date/Time: Saturday, Sept. 8, shotgun start at 10 a.m.

Location: Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon

Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support hosts the 14th annual" Good Grief" golf outing will be held. The proceeds from this outing will benefit New Hope Center for Grief Support, a bereavement outreach center located in Northville. New Hope provides free grief support services and resources to men, women, teens, and children throughout southeastern Michigan. The cost for this four-person scramble, which includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch, dinner, contests, and prizes, is $125. Dinner only is $35 per person.

Contact: For information about sponsorship opportunities or registration information, contact Carol Spennachio at (248) 348-0115 and visit www.newhopecenter.net.

KIDZ KAMP

Date/Time: Aug. 16-17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: Mill Race Village, 215 Griswold, Northville

Details: New Hope Center for Grief Support presents the third annual KIDZ KAMP, a safe place for a grieving child to come share his or her own unique story with other grieving children. Knowing they are not alone offers them hope. Sharing their story helps with their healing. Music, games, crafts, lunch—a time of healing and fun. The camp will have adult supervision with approximately one adult for every five children. Children ages 4—12 are invited to attend but 4-year-olds must be accompanied by an adult. The camp (including supplies and lunch) is free, but space is limited.

Contact: To register or get more information, contact New Hope Center for Grief Support at (248) 348-0115 or www.newhopecenter.net.

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.

TINY TOTS

Location: The Salvation Army Plymouth, 9451 S. Main

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

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Retired first-grade teacher Joanne Kokoszka and Canton football coach Tim Baechler wait for Allison Schmitt's shot at Olympic gold.

GOLD MEDAL

Continued from page A1

"It just gives you chills," she said, adding that she is making plans for an Allison Schmitt Day at the school.

"I've seen her do that so many times," CHS grad CarolAnn Sexauer said of the way Schmitt pulled ahead of 17-year-old phenom Missy Franklin, who was ahead of Schmitt early but ended up with a bronze medal. "I'm really happy for her."

Sexauer, who will be a sophomore at Central Michigan University, played basketball at Canton with Schmitt's sisters Kari and Sarah, twins who are now at Ohio State University on hockey scholarships.

"It's just so whole cool for the whole family," she said. In addition to Allison, Kari and Sarah, Ralph and Gail Schmitt have an older daughter, Kirsten, and an older son, Derek.

Many Schmitt fans at the Rock were parents of athletes who had played on Chiefs teams with Allison Schmitt or her siblings. Heinzman, who helped organize the party, said the group had pledged to avoid learning the outcome of the race so it would be a surprise.

Heinzman said her cell phone "blew up" with calls and messages Tuesday afternoon, but that she avoided it.

"You kind of felt like you were there," she said of watching the race. "It was terrific."

'I didn't go online. I didn't watch the news," said Greg Cottrell, who has a daughter who played basketball for CHS.

The parents — they jokingly call themselves the Book Club — are "a little, tight-knit group" that sprang from their children's involvement in Canton athletics.

"All the families kind of grew real close as friends and they kind of watched the kids grow up," said Cottrell, who drove the Schmitts — except for Allison, who had traveled earlier — to the airport as they headed to London last week.

Schmitt on Wednesday captured another gold medal as a member of the U.S. 4 x 200 relay team.

Vivi Sexauer, Donna Cottrell, Peggy Bica and P-CEP Athletic Director Sue Heinzman celebrate after Allison Schmitt wins a gold medal.

Six-year-old Emma Samulski signs a poster for the Olympic gathering that will be given to gold medal winner Allison Schmitt.

Allison Schmitt loosens up before the race.

ART

Continued from page A1

Bella Mia, Candy Trail, Creatopia, Dazzling Daniela's, the Downtown Development Authority, Focal Point, Genuine Toy Co., Hands on Leather, Isabella's Copper Pot, Jill Andra Young Photography, Kelly Dobson Photography, Kilwin's, KP Sweets, La Casa Plymouth, Magnolia Fresh Flower Market, Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio, Milano, Old World Olive Press, Panache 447, Perfectly Sweet, Salon/That's Awesome, Spa Agio, Sun & Snow, Three Dog Bakery, Tranquilitea, the Village Potters Guild and Yogurt Palooza.

Old Village Crawl

Tickets are still on sale for the 14th annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl, a one-price tour of eating and drinking establishments in the historic Plymouth neighborhood.

The event is 5:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday at five different places: Hermann's Olde Town Grill, JoJo's Treats & Sweets, Liberty Street Brewing Co., Plymouth Fish & Seafood and Station 885.

Only 250 tickets are available. The crawl is usually well-attended, and last year's event sold out.

Participants will be treated to a sampling of the fare, be it food, drink or dessert, at each of the five stops. Tickets are $15 each for adults and $5 for children under age 12.

Tickets are available at any of the participating locations, or at the chamber office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail. The hours there are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tickets can also be reserved by calling the chamber at (734) 453-1540.

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Plymouth couple's Spyder spins to best-in-class honor

By Matt Jachman
Observer Staff Writer

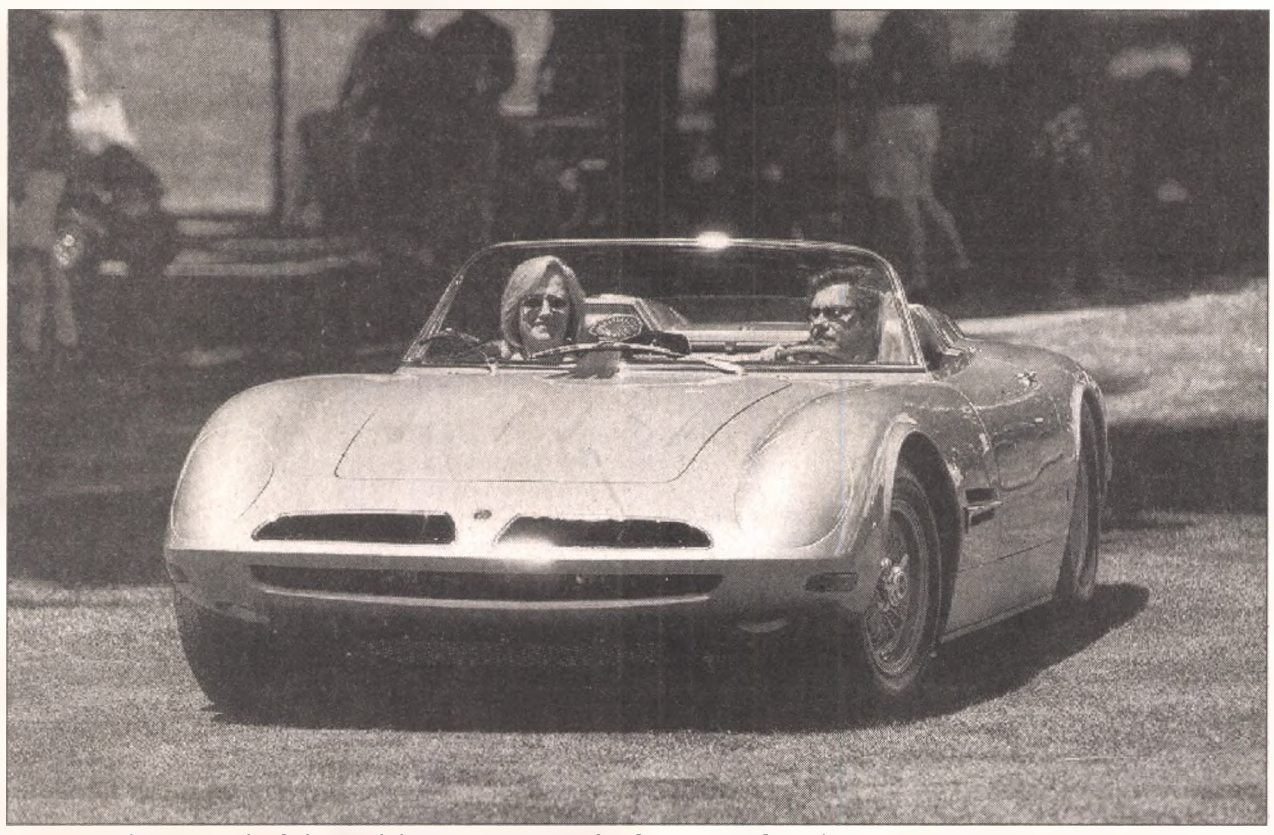
A Plymouth couple's sports car raced away with the top prize in its class Sunday as one of the country's major exhibitions of rare and collectible automobiles made its second successful trip to the area.

More than 10,000 people visited the 34th annual Concours d'Elegance of America Sunday at the Inn at St. John's, where more than 300 cars, from pioneering pre-1900 models to glamorous Mercedes-Benzes, Duesenbergs and Rolls Royces to newer sports cars and racers, were on display. It was the event's second time at St. John's; it had been at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills for decades.

Mark and Allison Sassak, longtime city residents, took first place in the post-war sports car category with their 1966 Bizzarrini 5300 Spyder S.I. The car, designed by famed Italian designer Giotto Bizzarrini, was a prototype for a model that saw only two production cars built, one of which the Sassaks also own, before Bizzarrini went bankrupt.

Mark Sassak was thrilled with the win. He had purchased the car, banged up and repainted, in Italy in 1999 and had it completely restored.

"To be in a class like that and to take best in class was pretty phenomenal," he said Wednesday morning. The cars in the category included classic Aston Martins, Maseratis and Ferraris, and Sassak estimated the entire category of about 20 cars was worth $30 million.



Mark and Allison Sassak of Plymouth have reason to smile after getting first place in the post-war sports car category with their 1966 Bizzarrini 5300 Spyder S.I. at the 34th annual Concours d'Elegance of America Sunday.

The Sassaks already have their Concours d'Elegance of America honors in a place of honor at home.

The Sassaks, who had been to the Concours at Meadow Brook, were also thrilled with St. John's, and the community's, handling of the event.

"We thought the show was phenomenal. We could not believe the turnout," Mark Sassak said.

This year's Concours benefited from good weather, a good location and its proximity to Plymouth, he said.

"What a day. You couldn't ask for anything better, Sassak said, noting the location's link to the Detroit area and Michigan, the heart of the domestic auto industry.

"That could be one of the biggest events Plymouth has for years to come," and an increasing number of events will likely be planned around it in the future, he said. "We need this, and it helps our economy and helps people out."

The Concours saw awards in more than 50 categories; the best-in-show winners were a 1933 Chrysler Imperial Dual Cowl Phaeton (domestic) owned by Joseph and Margie Cassini of West Orange, N.J., and 1933 Delage D8S Coupe Roadster (European) owned by Jim Patterson of the Patterson Collection in Louisville, Ky.

"The caliber of the cars, I've never seen before," said Sassak, who frequents upscale auto shows around the country. "I mean even at Pebble Beach (in California, considered the top Concours in the country), you don't get that kind of caliber."

The slate of Concours-related events included a Friday auction at St. John's, where a 1930 Duesenberg Model SJ Convertible Victoria brought a top price of $957,000. The entire auction field of 74 vehicles brought a total of $6.8 million, according to RM Auctions.

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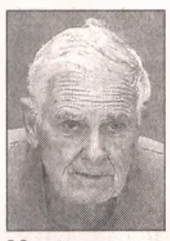
Plymouth man charged in fatal motorcycle accident

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A Plymouth man is facing two felony charges stemming from an accident that killed a motorcyclist and critically injured his wife.

Robert John Montgomery, 79, was arraigned July 26 on charges of operating while impaired causing death and operating while impaired causing serious injury. Police said he had a .10 blood alcohol level at the hospital following the accident. The legal limit for drunken driving in Michigan is .08.


Montgomery

Gary West, 56, of Garden City was killed in the July 24 accident at Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Park Drive. His wife Susan, 54, remains hospitalized in critical condition after being transported by helicopter to the University of Michigan Hospital.

A not guilty plea was entered for Montgomery at his arraignment in Westland's 18th District Court. Held in lieu of $200,000 cash bond, Montgomery is scheduled for a preliminary examination today (Thursday).

The accident happened just before 9:30 p.m., Police said the motorcycle ridden by the Garden City couple was southbound on Hines Drive.

As the motorcycle approached Ann Arbor Trail, police said a four-door sedan traveling northbound attempted to make a left turn onto Ann Arbor Trail.

The motorcycle dropped to the pavement and began sliding. Police said the motorcycle struck the turning vehicle causing both rider and passenger to be ejected.

"I don't have the autopsy results but I would say he (Gary West) died as a result of multiple trauma," said Westland Police Officer Kevin Yudt of the Traffic Bureau.

Unlike his wife, Yudt said that Gary West was not wearing a helmet. Susan West sustained multiple injuries in the accident, Yudt said.

Montgomery has no prior alcohol-related offenses, according to police.

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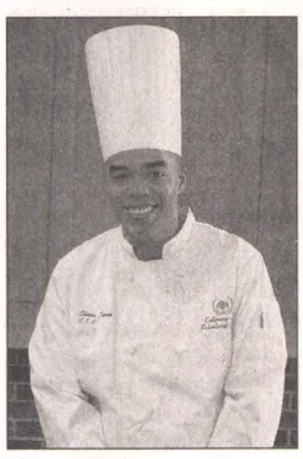
Schoolcraft instructor to take certified master chef exam

Shawn Loving, culinary arts department chair/instructor at Schoolcraft College in Livonia, will join six other chefs from across the country in the kitchens at The Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y., for the test of a lifetime Aug. 4-11 — the American Culinary Federation's eight-day Certified Master Chef exam.

The last CMC exam was held two years ago, and there are currently 66 CMCs and 11 Certified Master Pastry Chefs in the United States. In order for a chef to apply for the CMC exam, the candidate must show documentation that he/she is a CEC or Certified Culinary Educator, provide two letters of recommendation from current CMCs and meet rigorous education and experience requirements. The cost for the examination process is $3,800. In addition, all other expenses associated with taking the exam (food for practice, travel, room, board, etc.) are the responsibility of the candidate.

Loving is a Farmington resident and a 1991 alumnus of Schoolcraft College's culinary arts program. He has served as department chair and an instructor since 2007. He began his career in several Michigan restaurants, including Salvatore Scallopini, Detroit; Radisson Hotel Pontchartrain, Detroit; Franklin Hills Country Club, Franklin; and Les Auteurs/Madison's, Royal Oak, before becoming a chef for The Walt Disney Company and Epcot, Orlando, Fla.;


Shawn Loving

and EuroDisney, Marne-la-Valle, France.

Loving also worked as corporate executive chef at Race Rock International, Orlando, and as proprietor and chef at Loving Spoonful, Farmington Hills. In addition, Loving was personal chef for the Detroit Pistons' Richard Hamilton and Chauncey Billups, and was the contracted in-flight caterer for the team. In 2008, he was selected as the executive chef for the U.S. Men's and Women's Olympic Basketball Teams during the Olympics in Beijing; however, he declined the position for the 2012 Olympics in London to take the CMC exam. Loving has won numerous awards and medals from ACF. He is a member of ACF Michigan Chefs de Cuisine Association.

"This chapter in my life allows me to truly give aspiring culinarians and chefs that I teach, mentor, work with or associate with a genuine belief that being passionate about your craft has no limits in achieving the top honor," said Loving. "Ultimately, giving back to the profession has given me so many rewards and makes my mission complete."

On Wednesday, three days before the exam, candidates received the protein for their healthy cooking segment. Within 24 hours, they had to return a nutritional analysis, menu and ingredient list approved by a registered dietician. The practical exam is administered in eight segments: healthy cooking, buffet catering, classical cuisine, freestyle cooking, global cuisine, baking and pastry, continental and northern Europe cuisines and market basket, demonstrating that the chef is well-rounded. Each category is graded in two parts: kitchen skills and presentation, and tasting. The minimum passing score for the entire exam is 75 points out of 100. If a candidate fails along the way, he/she is ineligible to continue.

"To earn the Certified Master Chef designation is one of the most notable accomplishments of a chef's career. It bears witness to the commitment, hard work and consummate skill that candidates bring to this most challenging of tasks — the CMC exam," said ACF Certification Commission Chair Ronald DeSantis. "Shawn Loving and these six other chefs have chosen to undergo an intensive eight-day test of culinary skills and knowledge, and they have our good wishes. If successful, they will join 66 CMCs throughout the U.S. who proudly hold this prestigious certification."

Canton grandma falls victim to money scam

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

An 84-year-old Canton woman was bilked of $1,960 after a scam artist posing as her grandson phoned her twice to say he was in Spain and needed money wired to him.

"That's a very common scam that's going around," Canton Deputy Police Chief Robert Kerr said Tuesday.

The victim became suspicious when she received a third call for money, and she notified local police in late July after she learned her grandson was actually in Chicago and not vacationing in Spain as the caller indicated.

The latest hoax started when the Canton victim received a phone call, supposedly from her grandson, saying he had received a free plane ticket to Madrid, Spain, from a friend. The caller said he had gotten into trouble because a woman traveling with his group had been caught with marijuana, a police report said.

The caller claimed he needed money for bond and turned the phone over to a supposed police officer who confirmed the scenario.

The Canton grandmother sent $980 through Western Union and later received another phone call indicating her grandson needed an additional $980 for court costs. She again wired the money, the police report said.

"All these scams seem to originate from outside the U.S.," Kerr said.

The victim became suspicious after she received yet a third call indicating her grandson had missed his flight home and needed another $900 wired to him. She asked him to call back later and, in the meantime, contacted her actual grandson and learned he hadn't been to Spain.

The grandmother contacted a credit card company and was urged to contact her local police department.

She did, and that's exactly what Kerr said potential victims should do if they have any doubts about the authenticity of a caller asking for money.

"If they think there's any validity to the call, they should first contact other relatives and confirm it," he said. "They shouldn't send any money without confirming it."

Anyone who has become the victim of such scams is encouraged to call their local police department. Kerr said authorities can steer the victims to the proper agencies if they need to take further action.

AARP, the American Association of Retired Persons, offers the following tips to help protect grandparents from scams like the one involving the 84-year-old Canton woman.

- Don't fill in the blanks with information to a caller. Instead, ask questions to try to verify whether the call is really a grandchild or other relative.
- Even if a caller gives proper identification, ask for family details such as the name of a family pet, a favorite vacation spot or an important anniversary — assuming this information isn't already on a Facebook account or similar location.
- Ask for a callback number for the police station or other place where the caller is supposedly located — then verify the number with an online search or other method.
- Volunteer to return the call to a grandchild or other relative's cell phone, but don't ask for the number. Get it from a trusted family member who has it.
- Don't give out account numbers. Although fake grandchildren usually request wire transfers, some may ask for bank or credit card account numbers.
- If possible, verify claims of a grandchild in trouble with a parent.

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(734) 459-4821

The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.

F213	**Katrina Binns**
A005	**Loraine Stanton**
I315	**Bethany Tucker**

Purchases must be made with **cash only** and **paid at the time of sale.** All goods are sold as is and must be removed at the time of purchase. Extra Space Storage reserves the right to bid. Sale is subject to adjournment.

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CONCOURS

Continued from page A1

car enthusiast. "Dad goes to car shows all over the country, and he said this was the best he'd ever been to. That's saying a lot. His Facebook page will be overflowing."

It's not like Thomas was alone, either. Huge crowds took advantage of excellent weather to ride one of several shuttle buses out to the showing of classic and rare automobiles and motorcycles in the world.

Following the theme, "Genius of the Automobile," the show featured cars ranging from dragsters to racers, Duesenbergs and Delahayes and even a no-wheel hovercraft-style propelled vehicle.

Cameras were in great supply as spectators moved around some 300 automobiles and motorcycles on display.

Ron Radtke of Novi said he goes to Concours "whenever I can." His camera was whirring.

"You don't see these kinds of cars anywhere else but these kinds of shows," said Radtke, who himself owns a 1979 Chevy Van. "I love taking these kinds of pictures."

Of course, while the show is just that — a show for the spectators — it's also a show for the exhibitioners, who compete for "Best in Show" honors in a variety of categories.

Terence Adderley of Bloomfield Hills brought three cars to Concours, and one of them — a 1929 Duesenberg Beverly Sedan — won "Best in Show" for the Duesenbergs.

Adderley said he's been involved in Concours for more than 30 years.

"You never know for certain if certain kinds of cars are going to be there," Adderley said. "You learn something every year. It's very interesting ... it's fun."

While Radtke and Adderley come every year, Sunday's show was a first for Bob Richardson of Wayne. Richardson said he thinks about going every year, but that work often gets in the way.

Not this year.

"A lot of the vintage and classic cars are here," said Richardson, who said he's owned a 1955 Belair and a 1973 Barracuda. "I'm a muscle car man myself. Here you get to see all the classics."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
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Playing music in the back seat of a Lincoln are Michigan Philharmonic musicians Joe Deler from Dearborn and Brandon Cota from Ypsilanti.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Heidi Ragainis from Plainwell, Mich., looks at a 1966 Mercury Cyclone NASCAR.

A 1955 Messerschmitt KR 200.

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VOTE NEW TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES!
Vote out the long time Incumbents:
RON EDWARDS, KAY ARNOLD, BOB DOROSHEWITZ, and MICHAEL KELLY!
– March, 2012 – Those 4 Board Members voted to close Fire Station #2 in Lakepointe on Wilcox Road near Haggerty. (Where an EMS vehicle normally had been ready for service)
– June, 2012 – A Grandmother at the pool with her grandchildren in Bradbury Coop. on Haggerty Road & Joy Road suffers a heart attack and falls under water. The EMS vehicle, now located at Fire Station #3 on Beck Road. must travel across the township for rescue, and arrives 10 minutes after the 911 call.
– Grandmother dies of drowning.
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Paid for by the Citizens Action Group of Plymouth Township.
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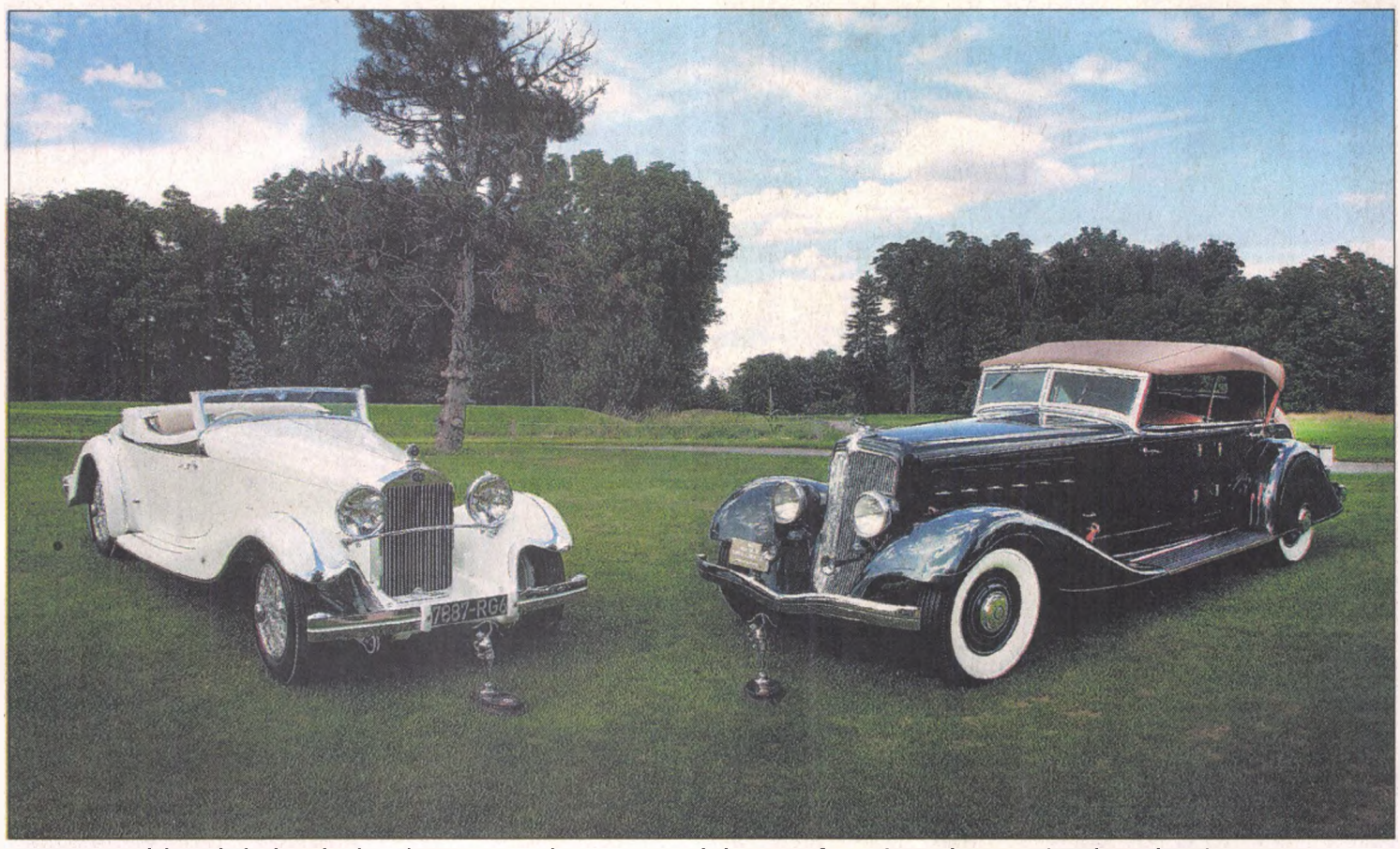

Two 1933 models took the best-in-show honors at Sunday's Concours d'Elegance of America at the Inn at St. John's. The winners were a Delage D8S Coupe Roadster (left, European class) and a Chrysler Imperial Dual Cowl Phaeton (domestic class).

Classic show impresses the crowd

By Brad Kadrich
Observer Staff Writer

Cindy Ash was everywhere over the weekend as the Concours d'Elegance descended on the Inn at St. John's in Plymouth Township.

At one point, Ash was working the office/media room. On Sunday, she was outside in the sun, helping direct traffic at the shuttle bus stops.

She was one of hundreds of volunteers on hand to help out with the classic car show, hosted by St. John's for the second straight year. Ash was one of more than two dozen volunteers organized by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce to help with the event.

"I just love Plymouth," Ash said. "I want the event to go as well as it can, and I want to do whatever I can to help."

This 1960 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz convertible was a popular view.

PHOTOS BY STEPHEN CANTRELL | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chamber president Wes Graff said helping out only serves to enhance Plymouth's image. That's why the 16 chamber volunteers were giving some 170 hours to the effort.

"It fulfills the mission of the chamber, because Concours brings us a lot of prestige here," Graff said.

Those efforts paid off, if the reaction of the spectators was any indication. Huge crowds filled the St. John's grounds for the 34th annual show.

Paul and Carol Dawson came in from Kitchener, Ontario, and left impressed by the show.

"It's extremely well done," said Paul Dawson, who said he particularly enjoyed viewing the Duesenbergs on hand. "It has an interesting number of categories. The show really exceeded our expectations."

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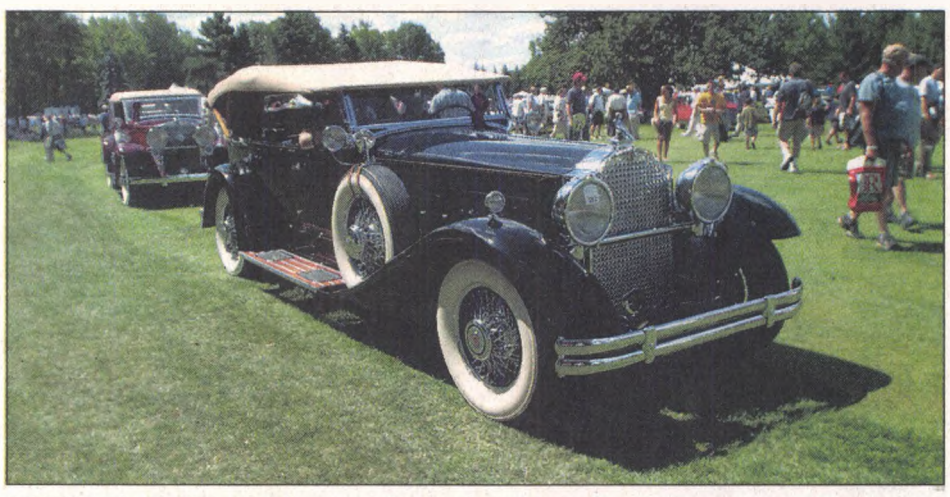
Hood ornament on a 1927 Minerva AFS Roadster.

Car fans came by the thousands.

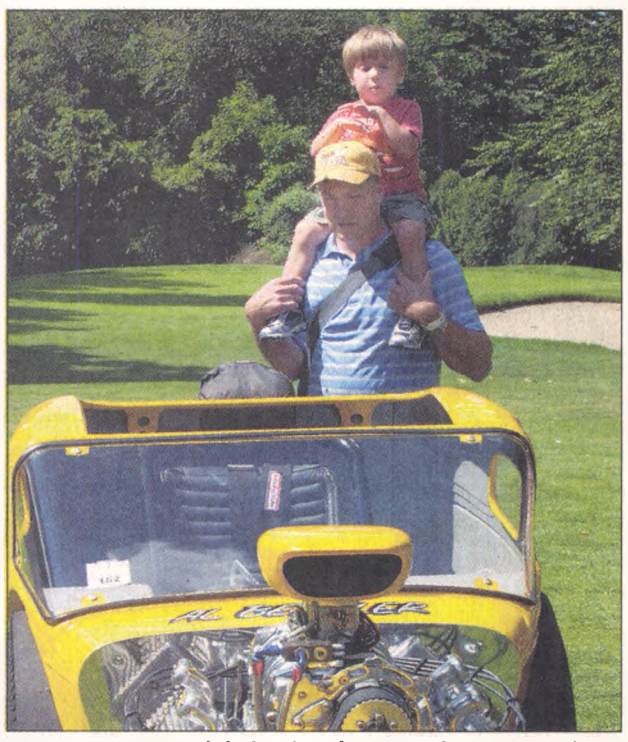
Brian VanConat from Auburn Hills checks out a 1965 McLaren M1-B.

Jim Austin from Northville takes a short nap before getting back to viewing the cars.

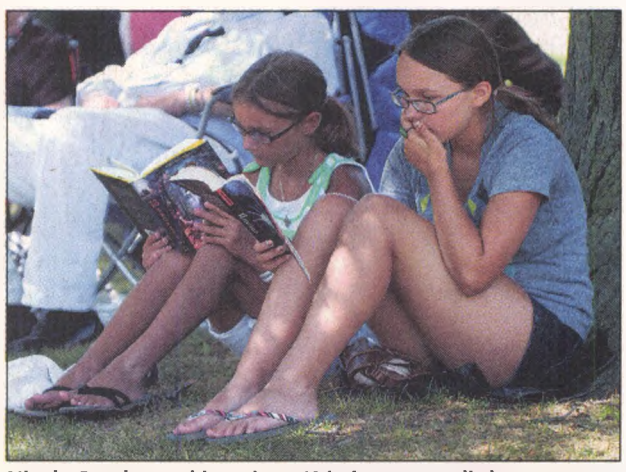


A 1930 Packard 745 makes its way into the show.

Marnie McFadden from Toronto gets a close up shot of a 1934 Morgan Wheeler Super Sport.



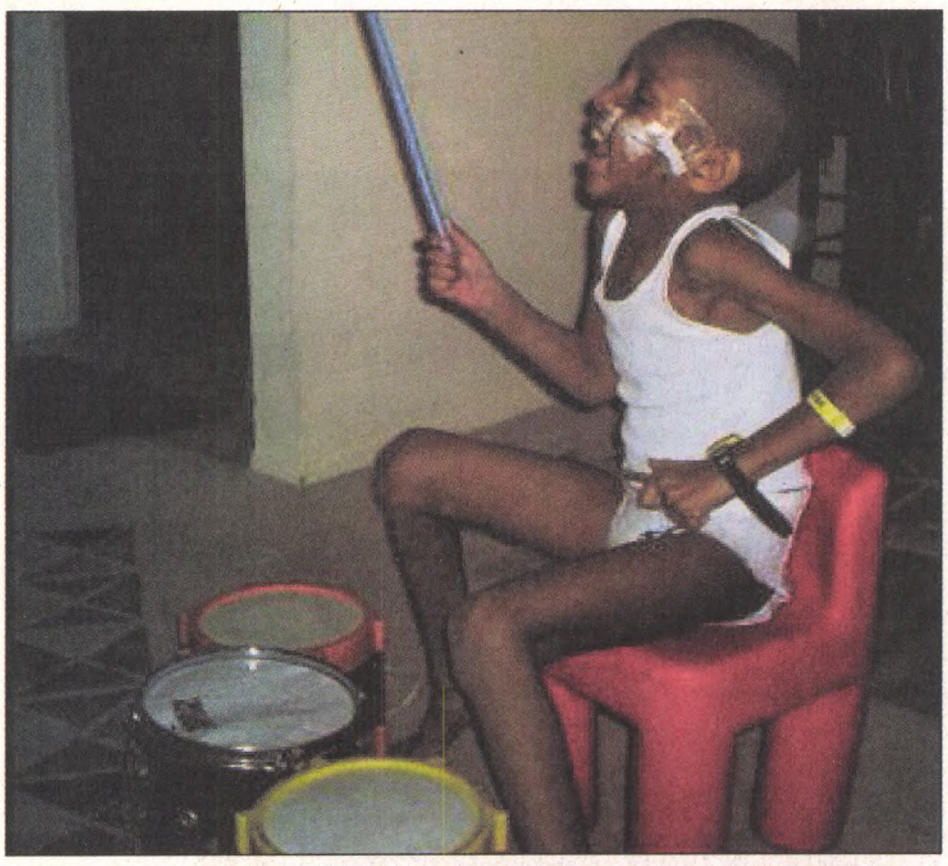
Tommy Lemere and dad, Brian, from Dearborn, get a close look at a 1964 Competition Dragster.



Nicole Snyder and her sister Kristine came all the way from California with their parents, but weren't that interested in the cars. They preferred to read their favorite books, "13 Secrets" and "Unwind."

CHERISHED MEMORIES

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



In spite of his disabilities, Tyler Ruffin always has a smile on his face, according to his mother Robin Joyce.

Paragon company helps tenant care for seriously ill son

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Everyone has someone who inspires them. For Robin Joyce, it's her son Tyler Ruffin. He smiles and never once has questioned why he isn't like other children his age. For Stacy Berninger, it's Robin Joyce because she always smiles.

Tyler is a wheelchair bound, legally blind and speech impaired 7-year-old, suffering from what doctors believe is a rare form of a neurological dystrophy. But Joyce can't be sure, since she can't afford to pay for the genetic test that would confirm their diagnosis. Medicaid won't pay for it, and the single mom doesn't have the $3,000 to $10,000 that it costs.

But she does have her faith and she believes in miracles like the one that happened last week when she received a check for $3,212 from Paragon Properties, the property management company for Westwood Village Apartments where she lives.

"I'm so thankful," said the Westland resident. "When I need help and people see it and help, it helps my heart. I reached out to a lot of people for help and Paragon was the first to answer."

The money matched the amount raised by Team Paragon as part of the Make-A-Wish-Foundation's Walk for Wishes event at the Detroit Zoo in May. Tyler, his mother and 12-year-old sister participated in the event as a way of saying thank you to Make A Wish for sending the family to Walt Disney World.

"Robin is a single mom and the care she provides for her son is amazing," said Berninger, Paragon regional manager. "The Make-A-Wish charity is something dear to my heart due to family circumstances. I do the walk every year and decided to see if we could do something with Paragon."

Berninger talked with Paragon Vice President Justin Dunkel and the decision was made to match dollar for dollar the amount the team raised. Berninger sent out a proposal for donations to other Paragon properties. She was thinking they would collect $1,500 to $2,000 and was pleased to see it top $3,000.

The money is going in the Tyler Ruffin Charity Hope Fund. It might not be enough for the genetic test, but it's more than enough to cover the cost of the $300 vest Tyler needs to help with his posture.

At age 7, Tyler Ruffin is in a battle with his mother, Robin Joyce, to win over a rare form of a neurological dystrophy.

Tyler was once a healthy, playful and vibrant little boy, but at about age 3½, his mother began to notice that he seemed clumsy and fell down frequently. She mentioned to the pediatrician that she thought his equilibrium was off. The doctor noticed he walked with a wide gait and referred her to a neurologist who found the youngster had low muscle tone.

An MRI showed that his cerebellum had shrunk, and the doctor at Children's Hospital determined that he had a degenerative condition, but wasn't able to a give a specific diagnosis. Joyce took Tyler to doctor after doctor and even four neurologists. Last November, the doctors began testing him for a specific chronic degenerative condition known as juvenile neuroaxonal dystrophy, but they can't say for sure that's what he has without the genetic test.

"My son went from stumbling when he walked to crawling, he went from not being able to crawl to being wheelchair bound," said Joyce. "He had no balance, no coordination, and he couldn't feed himself. As it went on, it affected his vision. The doctors said he had macular degeneration due to atrophy of his brain."

Tyler's speech also became garbled and he drooled because of weak muscles in his mouth. He had difficulty eating and swallowing and it was determined he was at a high risk for choking, so he was given a feeding tube. He came home from the hospital with five cans of milk.

"It was very emotional to see him deteriorate. He was so small, he was only 39 pounds," said Joyce. "I couldn't sit at the table and eat and see him being fed by a tube, so I prayed and now he's eating some soft foods and no aspirating. His speech is more clear and he isn't choking as much. I see progress."

Joyce has done a lot of research. She now knows the condition is irreversible and that currently there is no treatment plan. The life expectancy for a child with the condition is 10 years.

"Every day I tell Tyler I love him more than yesterday, and I tell him we're in this together and we're going to win," Joyce said. "As long as I have the support of others, I can keep going."

The goal of the Tyler Ruffin Charity Hope Fund is to raise money to cover the cost of genetic testing that is not covered by Medicaid and provide funding for his medical needs and adaptive equipment. Because of his illness, Joyce hasn't been able to work, so gifts like what she received from Paragon are greatly appreciated.

"Words can't ever express how much I appreciate Paragon for stepping up to the plate for me," she said. "They're my family."

Admittedly, the past four years have been a journey of faith and believing. Joyce has faith God will help Tyler and direct her to people and agencies that will help her. She also believes in miracles. After all, she is "fighting for Tyler's life."

"I wrap his pinkie around mine and ask him what he promises and he tells me he'll never give up," said Joyce. "I tell him this is a fight, and he says we're in it to win. I don't focus on what could have been. I believe Tyler's life is in God's hands and every day I trust in God."

Berninger said Paragon is now looking to do other things like something for the Michigan Humane Society in August or September and do the Make-A-Wish walk again next year.

"Robin and her family are so positive," said Berninger. "Robin takes it day by day and always smiles. She's inspired me to do something for others."

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751

HELPING TYLER

People interested in helping Tyler Ruffin can send checks, made payable to the Tyler Ruffin Charity Hope Fund, to P.O. Box 851408, Westland, MI 48185.

For more information, contact fund coordinator Elizabeth Johnson at (313) 862-7554 or fund administrator Robin Joyce at (313) 330-6609.

Yankee Air Museum ready for Thunder Over Michigan air show

The roar of airplane engines will fill the sky over Willow Run Airport this weekend as the Yankee Air Museum presents its 2012 Thunder Over Michigan air show.

The air show, a fundraiser for the Yankee Air Museum in Van Buren Township, runs Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 4-5. It's expected to attract 40,000-45,000 people who will be treated to a view of the only privately owned Sea Harrier F/A2, and FiFi a Boeing B-29 Superfortress.

This year's theme is "Mustang Mania" and honors the P-51, today's most recognized World War II warbird. Twenty P-51 Mustangs, including Jack Roush's "Gentleman Jim" P-51D Mustang, will perform at the air show.

The battle reenactment will bring to life the sights sounds and smells of ground and air warfare over World War II Europe. Using realistic historical re-enactors and restored vintage aircraft, tanks, half-tracks and other equipment, the reenactment will bring history to life.

According to show director Kevin Walsh, visitors will get to see U.S. and German troops square off in a battle that feature authentic armor and reenactors in historically accurate dress. The P-51 Mustangs will provide tactical air support for the embattled American ground forces.

Show goers will be able to speak with the pilots, tour some aircraft and see exhibits. There will be a kid's zone, a beer garden and food available.

But the show stopper will be the Sea Harrier F/A2. Originally designed for the Royal Navy, the Harrier is known for its vertical takeoff and landing aircraft and was made famous for its service during the Falklands War. Art Nalls, a retired and decorated Marine Corps pilot, purchased the Sea Harrier in 2005 and spent two years restoring the aircraft to flying condition.

Nalls, 58, of Lusby, Md., flew seven different planes while in the Marines in 1976-1998, and the Harrier was his favorite for how it handles. The Harrier can lift like a helicopter, hover in mid-air, fly at the speed of sound and even backwards.

The show grounds will open at 9 a.m. both days as does the Ford Mustang car show, grandstands, Bomber Club, Fighter Club and Officers Club and the Kid Zone play area. The ground and air battle reenactment will be at 10:30 a.m.

The air show will be 11:40 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will include a P-51 Mustang demo with Vlado Lenoch, a World War II Primary Trainer Flight (two PT-17's and PT-19), BT-13 Valiant demo with Michael Kennedy, a T-6 Texan Formation Flight with seven aircraft, HH-65 Dolphin demo, the B-29 Superfortress, F-86 Sabre demo, the air and ground battle with an A-36 and 17 P-51 aircraft, a P-51 Mustang Formation Flight , MH-60 Knighthawk demo, a World War II fighter and bomber flight with a P-38, two P-47's, B-17 and three B-25's and the Sea Harrier demo.

The air show grounds will close at 5 p.m.

Airplane buffs can get a ride in the P-D Mustang "Gunfighter," which is selling $1,500 for a 20-minute once-in-a-lifetime ride. People interested in a ride can contact Larry Lumpkin at captainltl@cox.net.

Art Nalls will fly his plane, the only privately Sea Harrier jet, at the Thunder Over Michigan air show at Willow Run Airport this weekend.

THUNDER OVER MICHIGAN

What: Thunder Over Michigan Air Show
When: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 4-5
Where: Willow Run Airport, 47884 D St., Van Buren Township. Directions can be found of the Yankee Air Museum website at www.yankeeairmuseum.org/air-show
Cost: $30; $25 if purchased before noon Aug. 5. No charge for children age 15 and younger. On-site parking is $10.

Ruby Tuesday benefits helps United Way

Ruby Tuesday in Plymouth is supporting Plymouth Community United Way by donating a portion of the proceeds to the nonprofit Friday through Sunday, Aug. 3-5.

For every diner who brings in a flyer, Ruby Tuesday will donate 20 percent of the cost of the meal. To print a flyer, visit www.plymouthunitedway.org.

Serving the Plymouth and Canton community since 1944, the Plymouth Community United Way focuses on basic needs, education and stability. It continues to see an increase in requests for food and rent assistance in Plymouth and Canton due to the economy.

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BUSINESS

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PLYMOUTH CHAMBER CHAT

Old Village crawl

This year's Old Village Restaurant Crawl will take place Aug. 8 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Participating this year are Hermann's Olde Town Grille, JoJo's Treats & Sweets, Liberty Street Brewing Co., Plymouth Fish & Seafood and Station 885. Tickets are $15 for adults and $5 for children 12 and under, and can be purchased at the Chamber office. The Chamber partners with the Old Village establishments to host the event.

Art About Town

Downtown Plymouth's Art About Town is a free exhibit of local artists set for 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 11.

More than 30 artists will be located in stores and restaurants displaying their art. Visit the participating locations and fill out a provided "passport-to-art" to qualify for prize drawings. A few types of art that will be featured include painting, pottery, photography, caricature, chocolate-making, plus crafts for kids.

Participating locations include Basket Kreations; Bed & Boutique/Little Black Heart; Bella Mia; Candy Trail; Creatopia; Dazzling Daniela's; Downtown Development Authority; Dearborn Jewelers of Plymouth; Focal Point; Genuine Toy Co.; Hands on Leather; Isabella's Copper Pot; Jill Andra Young Photography; Kelly Dobson Photography; Kilwin's; KP Sweets; La Casa Plymouth; Magnolia Fresh Flower Market; Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio; Milano; Old World Olive Press; Panache 447; Perfectly Sweet; Salon/That's Awesome; Spa Agio; Sun & Snow; Three Dog Bakery; Tranquilitea; Village Potters Guild; and Yogurt Palooza.

For more information, call the chamber, (734) 453-1540.

New name, same sweets

Owners Karen Pearson and Ken Juday, their staff, family, Plymouth Downtown Development Authority staff and members of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors christened KP Sweets recently. KP Sweets was formerly Sweets 21 on Main Street. They are now located at the end of Forest Avenue (580 Forest) in downtown Plymouth. Aside from a full selection of candy and baked treats in the store, they also specialize in sweets tables and wedding cakes. Karen Pearson actually has more than 5,000 candy molds she uses to make her sweets.

Scholarship award

Michael Robertson, a Home Health Aide at United Home Health Services, was recently awarded the 2012 Michigan Home Health Association/Kitch, Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook Allied Health Scholarship Award. Robertson became interested in rehabilitation and health care after he sustained a knee injury and had to go through a long and painful rehab process himself. He decided to become a Physical Therapy Assistant.

Summer camps

The Plymouth Community Arts Council has a wide selection of summer camps for kids of all ages and interests. Included are classic art camps, music camps, theater camps and more.

For more information, visit www.plymouthartscom.com.

Every Friday 7:00 - 9:00 PM
from August 3rd - August 24th
2012 Canton Color Tour
JAZZ SERIES

Date	Artist	Location	Color Block
August 3	John E. Lawrence	Willow Creek Shopping Center Ford between Lilley & Haggerty	
August 10	Kimmie Horne	Super Bowl Ford between Canton Center & Sheldon	
August 17	Randy Scott	IKEA Ford & Haggerty	
August 24	Lin Rountree	Home Depot Ford & Lotz	

JAZZY CARRY OUT SPECIALS
Mention "ShopCanton" at participating restaurants to get the specials from 6 - 8 PM on concert Fridays. For details on carry out specials contact the restaurant.

Antonio's Cucina Italiana- 734-981-9800
Applebees- 734-455-7510
Bailey's Pub and Grille- 734-844-1137
Carrabba's Italian Grill- 734-844-7400
Chili's- 734-844-9050
Elite Pizzeria- 734-335-6716
Hayden's Grill and Bar- 734-895-3388
Jimmy John's- 734-844-6112
Leo's Coney Island- 734-981-5483
Palermo's- 734-455-5210
Parthenon Coney Island- 734-981-0200
Real BarBQ- 734-667-3996

Visit ShopCanton.org for updates and details
facebook.com/ShopCanton
twitter.com/ShopCanton
#JazzColorTour

Every week, the first 25 people who turn in receipts for $25 or more from a Canton merchant will receive a FREE personal cooler.

In the event of inclement weather, all concerts will be held indoors at Super Bowl 45100 Ford Rd.

Brought to you by the Canton Downtown Development Authority
In cooperation with Canton Leisure Services and the Canton Chamber of Commerce

ShopCanton.org SHOPCanton

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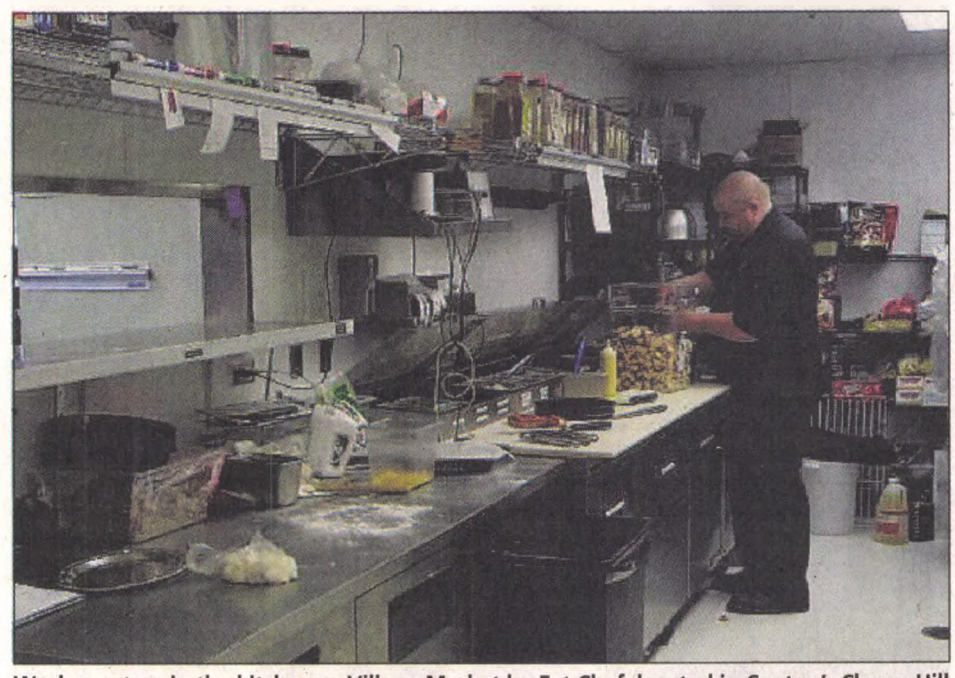
IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Work went on in the kitchen as Village Market by Fat Chef, located in Canton's Cherry Hill Village, got ready for Saturday's grand opening.

New market makes freshness a priority

VILLAGE MARKET BY FAT CHEF

Business name and address: Village Market by Fat Chef, 50419 Independence, Canton
Your name: Steven Hulett, general manager, and Chef David Hulett (co-owners and brothers)
Your hometown: Canton
Business opened: We actually started 5 years ago this month as Fat Chef in a Little Coat Catering, LLC - with a 5 year plan to open a store front. With that said - Village Market by Fat Chef had its Grand Opening this past Saturday, July 21.
Number of employees: 15
Hours: 5 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 5 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday; 8-8 Sunday.
Your business specialty: Food and Services! We are a family-based company and love people. We pride ourselves on the freshness of each product we sell whether it is a small home cooked meal for a family, or the large wedding receptions or backyard BBQ. Our Village Market will carry a huge variety of coffee drinks, great pastries made by our newest employee Tracey of Back Home Bakery, lunches are always freshly made when you walk through the doors, and the PIZZA's are the best.
Contact: (734) 394-0137 or (734) 394-0147 | www.fatchefcatering.com

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature?

Village Market: Our business is all about the people. What are their likes and needs in the Cherry Hill Village. Great coffee and pastries for those that have to leave early in the morning, sandwiches, salads and pizzas for lunch, take out home cooked meals for dinner. There are grocery and dairy items, paper products, and fresh produce as well. Soon we will also be carrying Michigan Beers and Wines. We are continuing our catering business from small intimate dinners with full service, to the larger wedding receptions, open houses, birthday and anniversary parties.

Observer: How did you come to open your business?

Village Market: When David graduated from Scottsdale Culinary Institute, Le Cordon Bleu in Scottsdale, Ariz., we decided to open a catering business. The love of the movie "Tommy Boy" prompted us to name the company - Fat Chef in a Little Coat Catering. It just took off from there! We set a business plan that in 5 years we would have a store front to serve more customers. Finding the location in Cherry Hill Village just felt like home to us. We have both been in food industry combined over 30 years. We love food and people.

Observer: Why did you choose Canton?

Village Market: Our family moved to Canton 26 years ago from Saginaw. Canton is home and we love the community. We have been involved in Canton activities. We have been blessed and love to give back through our time and talents.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

Village Market: We love fresh food! There is nothing like fresh vegetables or the taste of fruit fresh from the market. We were raised by a family that loves to eat and serve others.

Observer: How has it changed since you opened?

Village Market: It's amazing how wonderful people truly are. We have support from our friends, family, neighbors, and so many businesses throughout the Detroit Metro Area - especially Canton. We have been voted #1 for Catering for the WDIV Channel 4 Best of the Best for 2010, 2011 and are in the running again this year.

Observer: How has the recent economy affected your business?

Village Market: The economy has been hard on many businesses, but it has prepared us to be more aware of the values provided.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner:

Village Market: Explaining are self-depreciating business name to everyone is a blast! We truly enjoy creating a fun work environment and the name represents our personalities completely.

Observer: Any advice for other business owners?

Village Market: If you have a dream, follow it. Set goals and stay focused on them. Be realistic when setting your goals too. Although we knew it would be a lot of sweat, time, and lack of sleep to accomplish what we have to this point, it was worth it all. You have to work hard. Above all, as our Aunt Sharon has told us many times: "Don't forget the little guy."

Observer: What's in store for the future of your business?

Village Market: We are hoping to grow with the Canton Cherry Hill Village. We love the people, the community, and their hospitality. We feel like we are finally home.

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS BRIEFS

New agent

Marc Nocera of Plymouth has joined Farm Bureau Insurance as a new agent serving this area from 137 Cady Center, Northville.

Nocera recently completed an extensive career development program for new agents, which prepared him for the state licensing examination and provided instruction in all areas of property/casualty and life/health insurance.

Nocera

Nocera also attended training at the Farm Bureau Insurance home office in Lansing. Farm Bureau Insurance agents are licensed to sell all lines of insurance, including life, home, auto, farm, retirement, and business.

Prior to joining Farm Bureau Insurance as an agent, Nocera had a career in financial services.

Nocera joins a statewide force of over 400 Farm Bureau Insurance agents serving nearly 500,000 Michigan policyholders.

Genisys award

Genisys Credit Union recently won a 2012 Communitas Award in the People Focused Community Volunteerism and Philanthropy category.

"It's an honor to be recognized for our involvement in the community," said Jackie Buchanan, CEO. "One of our core values is to be people focused, and we strive to make a difference in each of the communities where we are located."

Tom Healy, Board of Directors Chairperson, and Jackie Buchanan, CEO, accept the 2012 Communitas Award on behalf of Genisys.

Communitas Awards recognize exceptional businesses, organizations and individuals who are unselfishly giving of themselves and their resources. Nominees are evaluated based on the extent and effectiveness of their program.

Wayne County Circuit Court candidates face primary race

ELECTION 2012

Eleven candidates are vying for three open positions on the Wayne County Circuit Court bench. Six candidates will advance to the November election. The term is six years. Judges are paid $139,919 annually. Candidates Rohn Mitchell and David Whitaker did not respond to the Observer questionnaire. Readers seeking more information leading up to Tuesday's primary can also read questionnaires and resumes submitted to the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association. Go to www.detroitlawyer.org/judicialcandidateevaluationcommittee.html. Come back Sunday to the Observer for responses from candidates Brian L. Morrow, Kelly Ann Ramsey, Mark Somers and John Joseph Sullivan.

Karen Braxton

Karen Braxton of Canton Township holds a bachelor's in economics and political science from the University of Rochester and a juris doctor from Case Western Reserve University Law School. Her professional affiliations include Board of Trustees ReTOOL, Wayne County Criminal Defense Bar Association, Black Women Lawyers Association and the NAACP. ReTOOL is a program that serves the needs of young people that are in the juvenile justice system or homeless. Braxton works directly with female youth in the program offering tutoring, mentoring and professional and personal guidance.

Braxton

She is married to Thomas Braxton. The couple has two children, Aaron and Maya, who attend Plymouth-Canton Schools. The family attends El Bethel Baptist Church in Redford.

State the nature of your current practice (member of a firm, independent, etc.).

I am currently a trial attorney in a solo practice. I handle a wide variety of cases, including cases in criminal, probate, juvenile, landlord-tenant and family law. I am dedicated to providing excellent legal representation to each client, including those who may not otherwise be able to afford quality legal counsel. I practice primarily in the Wayne County Circuit Court, giving me extensive knowledge of the court system in which I seek to serve.

Why are you running for circuit court? What are your particular qualifications for this job?

I want to be judge of the Wayne County Circuit Court because I am confident that I can bring equality, efficiency and effectiveness to the Court. Equality by ensuring that everyone is treated equally regardless of their race, sex or socioeconomic status; efficiency by taking the bench on time and expediently yet thoroughly handling each case before me; and effectiveness by using established programs in Wayne County (like ReTOOL) to help underprivileged youth.

Describe your trial experience.

I have tried over 100 cases in my solo practice, including criminal (felonies, misdemeanors, capital and non-capital) and juvenile cases (delinquency and neglect). Of those, approximately 50 percent have been jury trials.

Describe your judicial philosophy.

Regardless of what division assigned, I intend to serve everyone who comes into the Wayne County Circuit Court with integrity, fairness and respect. Many people come to court for different reasons: they may be victims, party to a lawsuit, defendants, jurors, attorneys, etc. I intend to listen with an open mind to any party before me and make a decision based upon the law and not my personal beliefs. I also intend to make decisions that, if applicable, will benefit the community as a whole, not just a small segment of the community.

Pick two endorsements that you are most proud of in this race and tell us why they are meaningful.

I am most proud of my UAW endorsement because my father was a member for 26 years and I am elated to have the support from an organization that was very important in my upbringing.

I am also proud of my endorsement from the Community Democrats. I am a member of this organization and it is always a privilege and an honor to be supported by members of your hometown.

How can you make a difference on the court?

I intend to use my role as a judge to help others, specifically underprivileged youths, in the county. While I am appreciative of every opportunity that I have been afforded, I wish to share my knowledge and experiences with others that may not have had the same opportunities. In addition, by focusing on the youth in Wayne County, I am able to target an impressionable group and possibly give them an alternative to a life of crime.

What expertise – in business or law – gives you an edge over your opponents?

Over the years, I have practiced in each division of the circuit court where I could be assigned. In my private practice, I interact with judges, court staff and the thousands of people who visit the courts each day. It is important to have practiced in each area because judges are randomly assigned to their divisions and you must be prepared to serve. I am ready and eager to serve.

Kevin Cox

Cox, 52, lives in Livonia. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Michigan and a juris doctor from Wayne State University Law School. He is married to Elizabeth Cox. The couple has four children: Kiefer, 23; Kasey, 20; Jack, 17 and Brian, 14. His community activities include St. Edith Parent Association, St. Edith CYO Athletics Board of Directors and coach, Catholic Central Dad's Club, fundraiser for the Salvation Army, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries and the Capuchin Soup Kitchen.

Cox

State the nature of your current practice.

Assistant attorney general in the labor division of the Office of Attorney General. I represent the State of Michigan in state courts and administrative hearings. I prosecute businesses and individuals who have defrauded the state in tax matters.

Why are you running for circuit court? What are your particular qualifications for this job?

My decision to seek judicial office is due in large part to the way in which I was raised by my parents. My parents were blue-collar immigrants. We did not have lawyers and judges in our neighborhood. My parents taught my brothers and I that judges were the glue that held together all that was just and fair in our society and that there was no higher calling than to serve the public as a judge.

I am highly qualified to serve. I have extensive experience as a trial attorney for over 27 years and have had the benefit of watching and learning the qualities that make judges effective and efficient. Prior to practicing as an AAG, I was in private practice for 25 years. My practice was comprised of complex injury litigation throughout the state. I owned and managed a law firm of 12 attorneys and over 20 employees for several years. Although 75 percent of my cases were in Wayne County, I have litigated cases in over 40 counties in Michigan resulting in several successful jury verdicts and hundreds of settlements. In addition, I have handled several cases that have been heard in the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court.

Describe your trial experience.

I have had extensive experience trying cases in front of juries for over 25 years. I have tried over 30 complex civil jury trials for my clients and have tried cases to verdict in eight different counties in Michigan. Many of my trials have been reported in professional journals, trial reporting services and in the news media. Virtually all my trial experience has required the use of sophisticated technical, medical and scientific expert witnesses in addition to extensive legal research and brief writing. I have also litigated hundreds of other cases that have settled on the eve of trial.

Describe your judicial philosophy.

A judge must serve the community with integrity. I believe that our system of justice works only if judges are committed to seek the truth and treat all citizens fairly and with respect.

Pick two endorsements that you are most proud of in this race and tell why they are meaningful.

I received the highest rating for skill and ethics as determined by my peer attorneys throughout my career and I was rated "Well Qualified" in the recent judicial ratings issued by the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association (DMBA). The DMBA Committee evaluated the fitness of each candidate for judicial office based on the candidate's legal ability, trial experience, integrity, honesty, judicial temperament and reputation. The "Well Qualified" rating is the highest rating given to any candidate in this race.

I am also proud I received the endorsement of three Michigan Attorneys General and the Police Officers Association of Michigan because law enforcement leaders want a judge who knows how to deal with crime in our community.

How can you make a difference on the court?

I know I will make a difference on the court because I worked and studied very hard to become a successful trial attorney and my work ethic will not change as a judge. I know that to become a great judge, I must work and study hard and be prepared for all cases on my docket. I also have a great respect for our system of justice, which is obligated to protect all citizens who participate in the legal process.

What expertise – in business or law – gives you an edge over your opponents?

I believe that I am the candidate with the most courtroom and trial experience and thus most capable of running an effective and efficient court. Because I have appeared in front of hundreds of judges over the past 27 years, I feel quite confident that I have learned the qualities necessary to preserve the integrity of our legal system, protect our rights and uphold our laws.

Jane Ellen Gillis

Jane Ellen Gillis, 49, holds a bachelor's of science from Western Michigan University and a juris doctor from the Detroit College of Law/Michigan State Michigan State University. She is a member of The Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers, and State Bar of Michigan, Criminal Law Section. A life-long resident of Wayne County, she is married and the mother of two children.

Gillis

In 1993 she received the Spirit of Detroit Award for her work at the Dominican Literacy Center where she taught reading to high school dropouts, "many of whom were left behind by the system as a result of learning disabilities."

State the nature of your current practice (member of a firm, independent, etc.).

For the past seven years I have worked as a Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor and I have been assigned to the trial division for over four years. Previously I worked as a solo practitioner for 13 years specializing in probate, criminal, collection, family and juvenile law. In 1995, I was appointed to be a Special Assistant to the Attorney General Frank Kelley to handle collection cases in Wayne County in addition to my regular practice.

Why are you running for circuit court? What are your particular qualifications for this job?

I have always been dedicated to my community, becoming a judge would allow me to further that commitment and to continue working as a public servant.

In addition having worked as a prosecutor for the past seven years and a solo practitioner for over 13 years has given me a wide variety of experiences. I have represented defendants, juvenile delinquents and families on both sides of the law, which makes me a well rounded candidate.

Describe your trial experience.

For over 20 years I have handled hundreds of jury and bench trials. I am currently assigned to the Auto Theft Unit which is part of the Trials Division at the Wayne County Prosecutors Office.

Describe your judicial philosophy.

I believe it is important for trial court judges to follow the law, be impartial and treat everyone with respect. Trial court judges are supposed to follow the law, not make law. In addition I believe it is very important that every litigant receives a fair and impartial trial. If elected, everyone, regardless of who they are, will be treated with respect. In other words, attorneys, staff, litigants, jurors should all be treated with the same respect.

Pick two endorsements that you are most proud of in this race and tell us why they are meaningful.

As an Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor I am proud to receive the endorsement of my boss Prosecutor Kym Worthy and all other law enforcement officials and organizations. To me this means I have gained the respect of my boss and the law enforcement agencies I work with in the past 20 years.

How can you make a difference on the court?

My experience and commitment to our community makes me an excellent candidate for circuit court. As a judge I will be able to have positive effect on people in our community.

What expertise – in business or law – gives you an edge over your opponents?

There are several factors that give me an edge over my opponents:

I have been a trial attorney longer than most of my opponents

I believe my legal background is more diverse than most of my opponents. Traditionally new judges are put in the criminal, juvenile or family divisions. I have many years experience working in each of these divisions

Also, having managed my own practice for 13 years I obtained excellent management and organizational skills. Therefore, I will be good at keeping my docket within time standards outlined by the Supreme Court.

Adel Harb

Adel Harb, 47, is a Dearborn resident. He received his juris doctor from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. He is a member of the Michigan State Bar, Wolverine Bar, and Texas Bar.

Harb

Harb is married and the father of three daughters. He is the a member of the executive board member of the Great Lakes Counsel for Boy Scouts of America.

State the nature of your current practice (member of a firm, independent, etc.).

I have been in private practice for over 20 years with emphasis on family law and criminal. I have been a licensed family law mediator and facilitator for 12 years.

Why are you running for circuit court? What are your particular qualifications for this job?

I believe I can make a difference.

Describe your trial experience.

I have extensive trial court experience in both District and Circuit Courts for over 20 years.

Describe your judicial philosophy.

Know the law, apply the law, and never be afraid of making decisions.

Pick two endorsements that you are most proud of in this race and tell us why they are meaningful.

Fannie Lou Hamer and 13th Congressional District

How can you make a difference on the court?

I would bring a diverse personal history to the bench, professionally and culturally.

What expertise – in business or law – gives you an edge over your opponents?

Being an attorney, magistrate, and a mediator has given me the appropriate temperament.

Dana Margaret Hathaway

Dana Margaret Hathaway lives in Grosse Pointe Farms. She holds a degree in chemistry from the College of Charleston, and juris doctor from the University of Detroit Law School where she was associate editor of the Law Review. She is a member of State Bar of Michigan, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association, Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers, Illinois State Bar Association

Hathaway

Hathaway is married and the mother of two daughters, Riley and Mackenzie. She is a member of St. Paul Church in Grosse Pointe Farms. She has been active and served on the general citizen's committee in youth assistance organizations devoted to the prevention and reduction of juvenile delinquency, child abuse and child neglect, by providing positive alternatives to children and families.

State the nature of your current practice (member of a firm, independent, etc.).

As a Wayne County prosecutor, I handle felonies and misdemeanors that are charged in Wayne County. I work hard daily to ensure that justice is done on behalf of crime victims. I know how to efficiently move a court's docket because that is what I do everyday. Before joining the prosecutor's office, I worked for a national trial law firm where I specialized in high-stakes litigation for seven years. Primarily, I defended product liability and personal injury actions and litigated commercial actions across the country. I represented Ford, General Motors, and many other international clients.

Why are you running for circuit court? What are your particular qualifications for this job?

A judge is a public servant and I am running for circuit court judge because it is critically important that we elect competent judges who have shown an unquestionable commitment to public service. I've been awarded by Legal Aid and Defender Association for providing quality pro bono legal services to people who otherwise could not afford competent legal representation.

Judges also analyze and apply the law. I've won the Excellence for the Future Award in legal reasoning and analysis and I was named a Michigan Super Lawyers - Rising Star for my litigation experience.

Describe your trial experience.

I've handled close to 100 trials and evidentiary motions during my career in both civil and criminal law. As a prosecutor, I've also handled countless felony preliminary examinations. Preliminary exams are essentially "mini-trials" where the state has to put forth sufficient evidence at an early stage in the proceeding. I handle preliminary examinations in Wayne County courts on a daily basis, in addition to jury and bench trials.

Describe your judicial philosophy .

Be fair and follow the law. Judges must apply the law equally and fairly to every person appearing before the court.

Pick two endorsements that you are most proud of in this race and tell us why they are meaningful.

I am honored to have received endorsements from *The Detroit News* and Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy. The *Detroit News* endorsement was thorough, well informed and free from partisan agenda. It recognized my "strong work ethic," competence and ability to move a court's docket swiftly. I am also grateful to have received the endorsement of Prosecutor Kym Worthy because she is a no-nonsense prosecutor committed to keeping our county safe. Prosecutor Worthy's endorsement recognizes my knowledge of criminal law and procedure as well as trial experience. I appreciate her recognition of my qualifications for judicial office.

How can you make a difference on the court?

The Third Circuit Court is one of the busiest courts in the state. However, the court is currently operating with limited judicial and financial resources. I'd like to improve the delivery of court services to the public by implementing specialty courts. I'd seek to expand the scope of the mental health court and implement a veterans court. Specialty courts reduce criminal recidivism rates while effectively using taxpayer dollars and ultimately save taxpayer money. Also, while I will always follow the law, I won't hesitate to advocate for improvement in the law where it is necessary, pursuant to the judicial canons.

What expertise – in business or law – gives you an edge over your opponents?

I have an unusual background for an attorney. While I was in law school, I worked full-time as a forensic chemist at the Wayne County Medical Examiner's office. The Medical Examiner's office ranks among the top five in the country and handles a significant case load. As such, the laboratory analysis requires extreme attention to detail. My analysis of biological specimens aided in criminal investigations and thousands of cause of death determinations. The non-incumbent judges elected this year will likely preside over criminal matters. My scientific background and criminal law experience make me uniquely qualified for a position Wayne Circuit bench.

OPINION

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

OUR VIEWS

Time to move

Board begins critical superintendent search

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Board of Education started looking last week at the process it will use to replace Dr. Jeremy Hughes, who is entering his second — and final — year as the district's superintendent of schools.

It might not be possible to overstate the importance of this decision, given all the board has been through the last couple of years.

While Hughes' steadying hand has stabilized things in his tenure, the board will still have to fight its combative reputation as it tries to find a permanent leader willing to come in and steer the ship.

And, while the current board is working to smooth its operating procedures and meld its governing philosophies, these trustees are likely to be saddled in professional circles with the dysfunction the previous board exhibited toward the end of its tenure.

Having said that, there are things to like about the process this board will follow in choosing Hughes' replacement.

They understand the importance of the search firm to the process, a lesson certainly Barry Simescu and Judy Mardigian, the lone trustees who were on the board for the last superintendent search, learned back then. No one seemed completely satisfied with the field of finalists brought to them by Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates, the Glenview, Ill, firm charged with the last search. Particularly unsettling was the firm's inability to find a Michigan-based candidate who might have been more familiar with local funding and other issues.

Board members also seem in tune with getting the community involved, something the board has actually been fairly good at when considering major decisions.

And the idea of forming a secondary process to choose an interim leader, while on the surface seeming prepared for failure, is actually — intended or not — an acknowledgement this might not be the easiest position in the world to fill right now. Having a process to find a temporary chief gives board members a chance to make certain they've got a quality candidate pool for the permanent job.

Perhaps the board should have started sooner, because the timeline as it exists leaves precious little room for error. But it also gives the board a good chance at finding someone to provide the kind of stability and leadership the district very much needs.

Yes on jail millage

Voters will be asked to renew 0.9381 mills to support the Wayne County Jail system on Tuesday, Aug. 7.

The millage is a 10-year renewal and money is used to operate the jail and fund other programs such as juvenile detention programs and facilities, work release programs, home detention and youth drug counseling.

While there is a lot of grumbling about how Wayne County manages tax dollars, most suburban leaders (of both parties) and all law enforcement officials, admit that this is a necessary renewal. The issue is how to make sure suburban communities are receiving their fair share of services.

This is not a new millage, it is a renewal (0.9381 mills or 94 cents per thousand dollars of taxable value). Retaining the millage means keeping more than 2,000 accused felons off the streets.

The jail millage renewal is estimated to generate approximately $39 million in property tax revenue in 2012.

Michigan statute requires counties to provide jail facilities to house pre-trial felons and certain criminals sentenced to one year or less of incarceration.

Vote **yes** on Proposal J to continue funding the Wayne County Jail System.

PLYMOUTH OBSERVER
A GANNETT COMPANY

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

Election fever

Candidate signs are everywhere these days in Plymouth Township in anticipation of Tuesday's primary election. Some think signs litter the landscape, however, they do represent a vital part of democracy – the right to be seen and express an opinion. The Plymouth Observer encourages citizen participation and voter support, however, we urge candidates to pick up their signs after the election – especially those on easements leading into subdivisions, at schools and on right-of-ways throughout the township. If signs are any indication of citizen engagement, Tuesday's primary has captured the interest of voters.

LETTERS

Supporting Conzelman

We are proud to say that we have been residents of Plymouth Township for 33 years. During this time, we have seen many changes in our community, yet it still continues to be a great place to live.

We would like to encourage our friends, neighbors and fellow citizens to vote for Nancy Conzelman for clerk in next week's election Tuesday, Aug. 7. Nancy's background, experience and integrity make her a perfect match for this important position.

An intelligent woman, she cares deeply for our community, and we guarantee that she will go out of her way to work for us as a member of the Plymouth Township board.

Pat and Jim Conzelman
Plymouth Township

Conzelman has integrity

I received some campaign literature on behalf of Nancy Conzelman for Plymouth Township clerk which included the words "absolute integrity." What a perfect descriptor for her!

I have known Nancy for almost 10 years and have had opportunities to work with her both professionally and on community-related projects. Nancy is smart and hard-working and approaches problems in an insightful and thoughtful manner. I know her positions are well-researched and considered. There is never a hidden agenda.

Nancy's long career as an attorney makes her well-qualified to perform the duties of the clerk's office and with her significant management experience she will make a positive contribution as a member of the township board.

I will vote for Nancy Conzelman and ask that you consider doing the same. If elected, you can rest assured that her decisions will be in the best interest of our community.

Stephanie Goecke
Plymouth

Supports father

Once again the smear campaigns are taking over this election. They've thrown out tons of questionable "facts" trying to get you to vote hastily without looking deeper into what the truth really is.

Well, I have a few facts for the community that I want to put out there. Ron Edwards is the only elected official in Wayne County that is both a CPA and a certified public financial officer. He created the 4th of July picnic and brought fireworks back to Plymouth Township. His financial work has received great reviews along with many awards over his time in office.

While emergency financial managers are being hired around the state by the busload, Plymouth Township is in great shape financially because of my father and his willingness to do what is necessary to prevent a financial disaster from occurring here.

When you go to vote Aug. 7, I ask that you look at all the facts and I believe after doing so, you will see the most important fact of all: My father, Ron Edwards, has made Plymouth Township a better place for all of us and he deserves re-election to the office of treasurer.

Mark Edwards
son of Ron Edwards,
Plymouth Township treasurer

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.

Supporting Price

I am writing in support of Shannon Price for county commissioner in the Republican primary Aug. 7.

As a former Canton Township attorney, I have worked with the county on issues relating to parks, property taxes and infrastructure projects. It is clear to me that a strong new voice is needed on the county commission.

Shannon understands the issues facing Canton and Plymouth as donor communities on parks, roads and jails. Shannon will fight for us and fight to bring our tax dollars back into our communities.

Audrey Robinson
Plymouth

Career politician

Dear Cassis for Congress Committee:

I am using the *Observer* letters to the editor as I cannot find who you are; I only can find what you keep sending to my mail box.

What you send is what I and other Republicans who believe in the principles of our party disdain. You seem to be bent on bashing the only legitimate Republican candidate for Congress for the 11th District. Your candidate, whom I believe is a lovely person, did not go through the district process to get to be a candidate of the district, but instead has a well-financed committee whose members I cannot locate.

You believe that Mr. Bentivolio is not enough of a career politician to represent the 11th Congressional District. Ms. Cassis has been a career politician and her endorsements are from other career politicians. So a vote for Ms. Cassis then is a vote to have career politicians continue to run our government. It is because of your yellow journalism-type mailers, which your well-financed committee continues to send, that I have decided to work to ensure that Mr. Bentivolio wins the 38th Precinct Aug. 7. I hope all other Republicans who are tired of letting career politicians try to tell us how to live, what to believe and how to vote do the same.

Ron Berglund
Precinct 38 delegate, Canton

Daisy wall solution

The solution to the future of the former Daisy Air Rifle Factory wall seems very simple and straightforward to me, which leaves me baffled over all of the arguing that has gone on for the last several years.

As a 20-year resident of the Plymouth-Canton community and a former resident of Northville for 25 years, where I spent my childhood, I am well aware of the history behind that factory. In fact, I had a Daisy air rifle myself as a kid and spent many a day shooting at cans in my back yard.

However, considering that the building was torn down and a condominium complex was put in its place, bearing the name of the factory, I see no need to preserve that entire wall, especially considering that due to the economic downturn, there is no way that another condo will be built in the next five to 10 years at that site.

Therefore, in order to further honor the memory of the factory, I believe the wall should be taken down, with the exception of an approximately eight- to 10-foot high by 10-foot wide section that preserves a window frame or two. This remnant should be reinforced and finished off using the removed bricks, a nice sign should be placed in front of it on a bronze plaque with a brief history of the site and flowers should be planted around it.

The rest of the area should then be finished off with grass seed, a nice brick or stone pathway with benches and some additional flower gardens and trees. This would provide the Daisy Village owners, and the people of Plymouth, with a very nice little park, and the added attraction of the wall remnant and sign.

The current eyesore, and the danger that this unstable wall presents, would be gone in a short period of time I suspect, and like the Veterans Park in front of Central Middle School, we would have a nice place to visit where we can enjoy the present and learn something about our past. I will even donate to make it happen. Who will join me?

Robert J. Chapman
Plymouth Township

CRIME WATCH

Vehicles vandalized in township

A pickup truck and a motorcycle belonging to the same man were both vandalized while parked outside his Plymouth Township workplace in June or July, police report.

The vandalism occurred in a parking lot at McLane Foods, on Pilot Drive south of Five Mile and east of Beck Road, according to a Plymouth Township Police Department report.

Chrome trim on the complainant's 2006 Ford pickup had been scraped in several places, police said, and a stereo speaker on his motorcycle had been cracked.

The incident occurred between June 24 and July 20, the complainant told police.

Laptop theft

A laptop computer was reported stolen from a house on Gold Arbor Road, north of Ann Arbor Road and east of Mill Street, on July 26.

The computer had been left on a table, the complainant told police. The theft occurred between midnight and 3 a.m.; it is unclear if the door had been locked.

Truck theft

A company work truck was reported stolen July 25 from a business on Galleon Drive, south of Five Mile and west of Beck Road.

The 2007 Ford flatbed was taken from TriStar Fire Protection some time between 6 p.m. July 24 and 4:30 a.m. the next day, a police report said. The truck had a white cab with the letters TSFP painted in blue on both doors. The bed of the truck carried a winch.

The complainant told police the keys had not been left with the truck.

Scrappers strike?

A truck cap and a scrapped condenser unit were reported stolen July 23 from the back lot at a business on Ann Arbor Road between Sheldon and Main Street.

The theft took place between the evening of July 20 and earlier that morning, a police report said.

School window smashed

A window at Fiegel Elementary, on Joy Road east of I-275, was discovered broken on the evening of July 26.

Officers dispatched to the area on a report of a loud crowd of people found the window broken, but police say it doesn't appear as though the building had been entered.

Police talked to two different groups of people in the area and both denied having broken the window. One group said the window was broken when they arrived at the school playground to play basketball, police said.

— By Matt Jachman

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SPORTS

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Schmitt's a humble, driven American idol

As I walked out of the Canton High School natatorium following my first meeting with Allison Schmitt seven years ago, I wasn't sure what had impressed me more about the emerging high school swimming star — her incredibly long limbs or her unassuming humility.

Although I peppered her with questions regarding the individual state records she had recently collected, Schmitt was politely insistent on talking about the Chiefs' relay teams she was a part of and how her teammates deserved equal billing in the article I was putting together.

Ed Wright

Much like her talent, Schmitt's smile was ever-present and radiant.

I could tell from the get-go that this young lady had a heart of gold.

Now she has a medal to match, which surprises me about, oh, zero percent.

Saw it coming

Four years ago this summer, I interviewed Schmitt about her recent experience at the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. She talked exuberantly about meeting Kobe Bryant and President Bush; sharing a pool with the likes of Michael Phelps and Dara Torres; and winning a bronze medal as a member of a relay team.

While the pride she felt in the medal she carefully held in her hands that day was evidently abundant, there was something in the tone of her voice and the look in her eye that convinced me she wasn't completely satisfied with a single medal.

When the subject of the 2012 London Olympics came up, Allison flashed a 50-meter-wide smile and, in so many words, expressed how excited she was to begin working toward those games, which at the time seemed such a long, long way away.

1 in a million

It's easy to get chills when you think about what Schmitt has accomplished

Please see WRIGHT, B3

ROB SCHUMACHER | USA TODAY

Canton's Allison Schmitt is all smiles after setting an American and Olympic record in the women's 200-meter freestyle (1:53.61) Tuesday at the London Summer Olympic Games.

CANTON'S GOLDEN GIRL

Schmitt delivers smashing performance in London

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Canton's Allison Schmitt proved Tuesday she's in a world of her own.

The 22-year-old just didn't take a gold medal. She devoured it.

Swimming in Lane 5, Schmitt took charge from the start and didn't let off the gas to capture the women's 200-meter freestyle at the Summer Olympic Games at the London Aquatic Centre.

In a dominating performance, the 2008 Canton High grad set both an Olympic and American Record in 1 minute, 53.61 seconds with Camille Muffat of France, the Olympic champ who beat Schmitt for gold on Sunday in the 400 freestyle, taking second in 1:55.58.

Australian Bronte Barratt took third in 1:55.81, edging American 17-year-old Missy Franklin (1:55.82), who was slight ahead of Schmitt at 50 meters, for the bronze. Reigning Olympic champion and world record holder Federica Pellegrini placed fifth in 1:56.73.

Schmitt, who flirted with world record pace, shattered Pellegrini's Olympic record of 1:54.08 and broke her own American mark of 1:54.40 set in last month's Olympic Trials.

"I couldn't be happier," Schmitt told USAswimming.org. "I couldn't see anything other than the racer next to me, so I didn't know where I was or what the time was.

"I just tried to keep focused and to keep calm. Mike (Phelps) and I were joking before the race, and he said: 'As soon as you get on the blocks, it's time to start focusing.' "

Ironically, Schmitt took charge out of the blocks, hit the water first and never looked back.

"In (Olympic) trials I was a little heavier in the legs and I could feel it coming home," she said. "My strategy today was to lay off the legs so I could bring it home stronger. I knew I was taking it out fast but I knew the last three 50s (meters) I would have to work the legs hard."

Schmitt now has a total of four Olympic medals to her credit including a bronze for the U.S. in Saturday's 4 x 100 freestyle and a silver on Sunday in the 400 freestyle. She also captured a bronze in the

Please see SCHMITT, B3

80-somethings are a hit on area softball diamonds

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

Ed Wayne carefully aligned his knuckles on the handle of his silver-barrelled Easton softball bat Tuesday morning as he stepped into the batter's box on the northwest diamond at Redford Township's Claude Allison Park.

Feasting on the first high-arcing delivery he saw from the opposing team's pitcher, Wayne laced a sizzling ground ball to the right of the shortstop, who couldn't get a grip on the fluorescent-yellow ball, giving Wayne a well-deserved infield single.

Even if the Metro Detroit Signs defender had fielded the ball cleanly, it would have taken an Ozzie Smith-caliber play to throw out Wayne, who possesses good wheels for a catcher — not to mention uncommon swiftness for a man who is just a few days shy of blowing out 87 candles on his birthday cake.

"I've still got some speed," said a grinning Wayne, who, unlike a few of his over-70 Redford Grill teammates, refuses the luxury of a pinch-runner.

When he took the field a few moments later, Wayne snagged a couple of warmup pitches from his younger battery mate: 86-year-old Bobby Richardson, who keeps hitters at bay with a deceiving mixture of curve balls and spin balls.

While the dynamic pitcher-catcher duo came up a little short in their quest to lead Redford Grill to a victory Tuesday morning, they continued to defy Father Time.

"Hopefully when the angels do come down to take me away," Richardson quipped, "I'm out there on that softball field. I love playing that much. I eat it. I live it. I sleep it."

Like clockwork

Although they're both well into their seventh decade of playing baseball or softball, Wayne and Richardson display Cal Ripken-esque qualities. Both octogenarians rarely sit out an inning, let alone miss a game, for their Redford-based team, which plays a 30-game schedule that runs from April through August.

And both refuse to take

Please see SOFTBALL, B4

ED WRIGHT PHOTO

Over-70 Redford Grill softball players Ed Wayne (left) and Bob Richardson form one of the most-experienced batteries around. Both players are 86-years-young.

Hole-in-one

Bob Sitkauskas, 59, of Livonia, used a pitching wedge to ace the 140-yard, No. 6 hole Sunday at the Coyote Preserve in Fenton.

The Bentley High grad shot 90 for 18 holes. The hole-in-one was witnessed by playing partners Jim Brady and Tom Cook.

GC tennis tryouts

Tryouts for the Garden City High School boys tennis team will be held 9-11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 13, at the school's tennis courts.

For more information, contact head coach Ron Pummill at pummilr@gardencityschools.com.

RU soccer tryouts

Open practices for the 2012 Redford Union boys soccer teams will be begin 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8, at McGowan Elementary School in Redford.

Any RU student interested in playing varsity or junior varsity soccer should attend. Players are encouraged to bring water bottles.

Official tryouts will be held 5:30-7:30 p.m. Aug. 13-15 at the same site.

For more information, contact head coach Jim Gibbs at onemeancamino@yahoo.com.

GC volleyball tryouts

Tryouts for the Garden City High School volleyball teams will be held Aug. 6-10 in the school's gymnasium.

Signups and measuring will take place Monday (5 p.m. for varsity and 6 p.m. for junior varsity); conditioning will be held Tuesday and official tryouts will be held Wednesday through Friday (JV will start at 5 p.m., varsity at 7 p.m.)

For more information, contact head coach John Pace at gardencityVB@yahoo.com.

Need cheer coach

Livonia Clarenceville High School is currently accepting applications for its varsity girls cheerleading coach position.

To apply, send a resume, letter of recommendation and references to Clarenceville athletic director Kevin Murphy at kmurphy@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

13-U baseball

• The Michigan Bulldogs will be holding tryouts for their 13-and-under baseball team from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, August 5 at Bicentennial Park's (Field No. 8), located off Seven Mile and Wayne roads in Livonia.

Players are asked to show up by 1:45 p.m. to get warmed up and fill out a tryout form.

Email Scott Coughlin at *scott.coughlin@yahoo.com* for more information.

• Tryouts for the 2013 Northville Cubs, a 13-and-under baseball team in the KVBSA travel league, will be from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, July 29; and 6-8 p.m. Monday, July 30 and Wednesday, Aug. 1, at Maybury State Park, located off Eight Mile Road (one mile west of Beck Road).

For more information, e-mail Jim Marshall at *jim@northvillebaseball.com*.

12-U baseball

• Open travel baseball tryouts for the 12-and-under Dearborn Heights Knights will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 7 and 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 18 at the Canfield Arena/Central Park, located south of Ford between Beech Daly and Inkster Roads.

Interested players must be 12-years-old prior to May 1, 2013 and only need to attend one of the two tryout sessions.

For more registration information, call head coach Brad Ebben at (248) 924-0489; or e-mail *bebben1.att.net*.

• Tryouts for the Livonia Longhorns, an under-12 baseball team, will be from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4 at Livonia Franklin High School.

For more information, call coach Matt Fournier at (734) 968-0499.

11-U baseball

Tryouts for the 2013 Motor City Chiefs under-11 travel baseball team will be at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5 at Massey Field, 790 Plymouth Road, Plymouth; and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8 at Castle Gardens, 14501 Hix Road, Livonia.

Players are asked to arrive 30 minutes prior to tryout time to register and warm up. (If unable to attend, a player evaluation can be scheduled upon request.)

For more information, call Dan Sheahan at (734) 377-3123; or Ken Gaffney at (734) 395-4058.

You can also e-mail *motorcitybaseball@gmail.com*.

U-11 baseball

•The Livonia Lakers will hold under-11 baseball tryouts from 1-3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 4-5, at Livonia's Rotary Park (Diamond No. 4).

Tryouts are open to residents of Livonia schools (public or private only).

For more information, email Aaron Rumberger at ccrumberger@yahoo.com

U-9 baseball

Tryouts for the Livonia Bats, an under-9 baseball team, will be from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 5 at Livonia Franklin H.S.

For more information, call coach Bill Schaffer at (734) 891-3896.

Plymouth High hockey camp

Plymouth High School hockey players interested in trying out for the varsity team this fall are encouraged to participate in a summer mini-camp that begins Tuesday, Aug. 7, with a 90-minute skate at the Canton Arctic Edge Arena starting at 7:30 p.m.

A second skating session will be 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 9.

The Plymouth varsity hockey mini-camp is a series of on-ice sessions and off-ice workouts for three weeks.

For more information, call Wildcats head coach Gerry Vento at (313) 215-3394, or visit the team's website: *www.hockey.plymouthwildcats.com*.

Salem Rockettes set golf outing

The 12th annual Salem Rockettes Golf Outing is slated for Sunday, Aug. 5 at Fox Hills Golf Club, 8768 N. Territorial Road in Plymouth.

Cost is $100 per golfer for 18 holes of golf (scramble format) on the Premium Classic Fox course, followed by a buffet dinner and silent auction.

Also on tap will be contests with prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive and much more.

Register on-line at *www.golfoutingpro.com/event/salemrockettes*.

Golf classes

Late summer youth and adult golf classes are available during the month of August at Hickory Creek Golf Course, 3625 Napier Road, Superior Township.

For more information or to book a lesson, contact PGA professional Tami Bealert at *TrainwithTami@yahoo.com*; or call (734) 731-0238.

Meteors hold golf outing

The Westland Meteors youth football and cheer program will stage a golf outing Sunday, Aug. 5 at Fellows Creek Golf Course, 2936 S. Lotz Road, Canton.

Check-in for the four-person scramble begins at 9:30 a.m. The cost is $75 (includes golf, cart, lunch and dinner). Prizes include best team score, longest drive, closest-to-the-pin, 50-50 raffle and other raffle items.

For more information, call Meteors unit director Don Gibbs at (734) 740-0069; or e-mail *unitdirector@westlandmeteors.com*.

You can also call booster president Daniel McNea at (734) 781-5253 or e-mail dmnea@ymail.com.

Hawk golf outing

The Farmington Harrison High School Football Boosters Club will have its annual golf outing Sunday, Aug. 5, at Cattails Golf Club in South Lyon.

The event will be a Texas Scramble starting at 2 p.m. The cost is $100 per player or $400 per foursome. A steak dinner will follow the golf outing.

A registration form is available at *www.gohawks.org* or people may register by calling Dave Race at (248) 376-1535.

Hawks girls hoops

Free tryouts for the Livonia Junior Athletic League Hawks, a sixth-grade girls basketball team, will be from 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 7, at the Churchill H.S. Fieldhouse (Court No. 2); 7:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12 and Thursday, Aug. 23, both at the Livonia Community Recreation Center (Main Gym No. 2).

Tryouts are open to anyone who reside in the Livonia Public School district regardless of school.

For more information, contact coach Jennifer Sopko at jennifer_sopko@hotmail.com; or call (248) 854-4207; or coach Doug Freed at um24osu12@hotmail.com; or call (734) 634-5134.

Farmington girls swim tryouts

The Farmington High School girls swim and dive team is looking for interested girls to join the team. There are no tryouts, and everyone will get a chance to compete.

Practice officially begins Wednesday, Aug. 8, at Farmington High. For more information, contact coach Driska McCullough at (248) 561-2090.

Meet the team night at Churchill

Livonia Churchill High athletics will stage a Meet the Team Night beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15 at the Carli Auditorium.

All Churchill athletes from all three seasons, along with their parents, are urged to attend.

For more information, call (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

Charity bowl

The seventh annual Bowl-4-Animal Rescue will take place 7-10 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11, at Country Lanes in Farmington Hills.

All proceeds benefit the Friends For the Dearborn Animal Shelter and the Michigan Animal Adoption Network.

Whether you bowl or not, you can help animals in need by becoming a sponsor, making a donation, donating an auction item or by getting pledges (donations).

The event has raised nearly $100,000, and organizers are hoping to surpass that figure this year. Participants can earn V.I.B. (Very Important Bowler) status by raising $300.

The event includes bowling, food, music, auctions, raffles, karaoke and more. For more information, email *michelle@yourbowlingcoach.com* or call (248) 615-9060.

Triple Threat hoop program

Triple Threat Training is hosting a developmental club for young basketball players at High Velocity Sports in Canton, running from Sept. 9 through Oct. 22. The six-week club is for boys and girls of all ages

The club ($250) is designed for those entering grades 3-8 who are interested in taking their game to the next level. Training will focus on improving individual skills, basketball IQ, strength, conditioning, speed and agility.

In addition to age-appropriate workouts will be instructional scrimmages with referees on Sundays from 3-6 p.m. A jersey will be included.

High Velocity is located south of Michigan Ave. west of Canton Center/Belleville Road in Canton. Call (734) 341-1336 or e-mail Troy Coleman at *tcoleman@tttsports.net* for more details.

GCYBSA tryouts

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball Softball Association will be hosting several tryouts for travel and competitive teams in the coming weeks.

All of the tryouts will be held on Saturdays at Canton High School's varsity field and a $10 fee will be required.

The tryout schedule is as follows: Aug. 4: 9-10U (noon-2 p.m.), 11-12U (2:15-4:15 p.m.), 13-14U (4:30-6:30 p.m.); Aug. 11: 9-10U (noon-2 p.m.), 11U (2:15-3:35 p.m.); Aug. 25: 9-14U players will take part in a makeup session between 9 a.m. and noon. Times will be assigned.

Pre-registration is strongly suggested and info can be found at *www.gcybsa.com*. For more information contact *dankrafft@hotmail.com* or *cott@canton-mi.org*.

GC novice hockey

The Garden City Hockey Association will be offering a novice hockey program for kids who would like to learn to play the sport. The eight-week program, which begins in September, costs $40. Rental equipment is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information on the program, visit *www.leaguelineup.com/gcha*; or contact Darlene Henessey at *shortdog@wideopenwest.com*; or (313) 917-4173.

ED WRIGHT PHOTO

Kirsten Smith works on her hurdling technique during a workout session Friday afternoon at Westland John Glenn High School.

Westland hurdler fits right in on national track stage

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

Westland's Kirsten Smith didn't have to face Usain Bolt during her debut appearance at last week's National Junior Olympics track and field meet in Baltimore, Md.

But the rapidly-improving 16-year-old hurdler faced off against plenty of competitors who possessed lightning-bolt speed.

"There were some *crazy* fast girls there," Smith said, recounting her first visit to the prestigious meet. "Overall, I was pretty proud of the way I ran, especially since I've only been running track for two years."

Smith quickly proved she belonged among the nation's elite high school-aged hurdlers as she qualified for the semifinals in the 400-meter hurdlers with a personal-best time of 1:04.62 in the preliminary round.

"I ran OK in the semis, but I wanted to make it to the finals so bad that I think I put a little bit too much stress on myself," she said.

Competing in the talent-rich 100-meter prelims, Smith posted a time of 15.31 seconds, which was two-tenths shy of her previous best.

"It was fun talking to some of the other girls about hurdling," she said. "But most of the time everybody was pretty focused, so it was pretty serious out there."

Smith said the experience of competing against elite competition — athletes trekked in from as far away as Hawaii — will only make her better once she laces up the spikes next spring for Westland John Glenn's track and field team.

"This will definitely help," she said. "And I want to get back here next year, so I know what to expect."

Smith said a lot of her away-from-the-track time last week was spent checking out sights in nearby Washington, D.C.

A month away from the track awaits Smith, who was hampered at times by a back injury she suffered during her days as a competitive gymnast.

"I'm going to take all of August off to help my back get better," she said. "Next year at this time, I want to be running in the low 60s (seconds) in the 400."

Smith's future is bright — both on the track and off.

Owner of a 4.0 grade-point average, she aspires to pursue a degree related to sports medicine upon her high school graduation.

In addition to training for the National Junior Olympics this summer, Smith has helped tutor elementary-aged kids in math.

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ED WRIGHT PHOTOS

Off and running

Like most area youth football teams in the Observerland area, the Plymouth-Canton Steelers kicked off pre-season practices this week at Central Middle School in Plymouth. In the above photo, members of the junior-varsity Steelers run end-of-practice sprints. At right, a member of the junior-freshmen contingent completes a ball-secure drill as water from a nearby sprinkler keeps him cool. Check out Sunday's Observer for a story on how area youth football programs place a major emphasis on safety.

ROB SCHUMACHER | USA TODAY

Canton High grad Allison Schmitt led from start-to-finish in the 200-meter freestyle to capture her first gold medal in women's swimming Tuesday at the London Summer Olympic Games.

Silver lining for Schmitt's great effort

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Canton swimmer Allison Schmitt earned a new colored medal with a runner-up finish in the women's 400-meter freestyle Sunday at the London Summer Olympic Games.

The 22-year-old Canton High grad took the silver after being nosed out for the gold by Camille Muffat of France, who set an Olympic mark with a time of 4 minutes, 01.45 seconds.

Schmitt, meanwhile, established a new American record with a clocking of 4:01.77, breaking the mark of 4:02.20 set by Katie Hoff. It was Schmitt's third career Olympic medal. Muffat and Schmitt each beat the Olympic mark of 4:02.19, set by Federica Pellegrini of Italy at the 2008 Games in Beijing.

Great Britain's Rebecca Adlington finished third and took the bronze in 4:03.01, while Denmark's Lotte Friis finished fourth in 4:03.98.

In the final, Schmitt, who swam in Lane 5, next to Muffat in Lane 4, was second behind the French champion after the first turn. She stayed on Muffat's shoulder throughout the race. She made a charge in the final 50 meters but couldn't gain enough to make a move for the lead.

"I knew it would be close," Schmitt told USA Today. "It was tough. I could feel it, the pain coming in, but I was just hoping for the finish. Just kicking hard. Just like we do in practice every day."

A smiling Schmitt accepted her medal in a gray Nike jacket and black pants, a standard look for the U.S. team, which won four medals in four finals Sunday. All three 400 freestyle medalists hugged before France's national anthem was played.

Both swimming in Heat 5 during the morning prelims, Muffat and Schmitt posted the two fastest times in 4:03.29 and 4:03.31, respectively.

"The goal is always a gold medal, but I couldn't be happier right now," Schmitt told USAswimming.org. "I'm proud to bring home the silver medal for the U.S., and I'm looking forward to competing again tomorrow."

Relay bronze

On Saturday, Schmitt collected her second Summer Olympic Games bronze medal as the U.S. squad placed third Saturday in the women's 4 x 100-meter freestyle relay.

Australia took home the gold medal with an Olympic record time of 3:33.15 followed by silver medalist Netherlands (3:33.79) and the U.S. (3:34.24, also an American record).

In 2008 following her high school graduation, Schmitt captured a bronze medal in the 4 x 200 freestyle relay in Beijing.

Schmitt swam the anchor leg for the American quartet on Saturday.

Lead-off leg Missy Franklin got the U.S. off to a flying start and second leg Jessica Hardy held the lead through the halfway mark, but the U.S. fell behind by split second at the end of Lia Neal's third leg.

Australian anchor Melanie Schlanger then brought home the gold by overhauling both Schmitt and Ranomi Kromowidjo of defending Olympic champion Netherlands.

Swimming the first three legs for the Australians were Alicia Coutts, Cate Campbell and Brittany Elmslie.

Schmitt swam a leg during the preliminary heat that the Americans won in 3:36.53. Australia captured the other heat in 3:36.34.

200 free heats

On Monday, recorded a semifinal heat time of 1:56.15 in the 200 freestyle. The time was second-fastest among qualifiers, trailing only Australia's Bronte Barratt (1:56.08) and three-hundredths of a second ahead of medal rival Muffat.

Earlier in the day, Schmitt also posted the second fastest time of the five preliminary heats (1:57.33) with only Pellegrini going faster (1:57.16).

"I feel like I've been preparing for this race all year," Schmitt said after her first prelim heat. "I definitely feel ready to swim. I've been swimming well all year."

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SCHMITT

Continued from page B1

4 x 200 freestyle at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

Schmitt will now try for another medal – perhaps gold again –in the 4 x 200 freestyle relay on Wednesday. The prelim heats start at 5:26 a.m. (EDT) with the final set for 5:04 p.m. (EDT) or 9:04 p.m. (London time).

She now has three different colored medals in her possession.

"I got a whole collection of them now," Schmitt said. "Right now, they're somewhere in my room, a secret place, I kind of stashed them."

Schmitt took a year off to train for the Olympics from the University of Georgia to train under coach Bob Bowman at the North Baltimore (Md.) Aquatic Club. The NCAA champion plans to return to Athens and swim for the Bulldogs her senior year.

"I am still the same person walking out of here with the gold medal or walking out of here in eighth place," she said. "I am excited to go back to school after being away for a year."

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Schmitt earns 2nd career bronze

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Canton High grad Allison Schmitt collected her second Summer Olympic Games bronze medal in women's swimming as the U.S. squad placed third Saturday in the women's 4 x 100-meter freestyle relay in London.

Australia took home the gold medal with an Olympic record time of 3 minutes, 33.15 seconds followed by silver medalist Netherlands in 3:33.79 and the U.S. in an American record time of 3:34.24.

The 22-year-old Schmitt, who captured a bronze medal in the 4 x 200 freestyle relay in Beijing, swam the anchor leg for the American quartet.

Lead-off leg Missy Franklin got the U.S. off to a flying start and second leg Jessica Hardy held the lead at the halfway mark, but the U.S. fell behind by split second at the end of Lia Neal's third leg.

Australian anchor Melanie Schlanger then brought home the gold by overhauling both Schmitt and Ranomi Kromowidjo of defending Olympic champion Netherlands.

Swimming the first three legs for the Australians were Alicia Coutts, Cate Campbell and Brittany Elmslie.

Schmitt, who took a year off from the University of Georgia to train under coach Bob Bowman at the North Baltimore Aquatic Club (Md.), swam a leg during the preliminary heat that the Americans won in 3:36.53. Australia captured the other heat in 3:36.34.

Natalie Coughlin, who swam in the preliminary heat, but was lifted from the final for the U.S., picked up her 12 Olympic medal of her career with the third-place bronze.

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WRIGHT

Continued from page B1

— and how high her ceiling is if she continues to pursue competitive swimming in the years to come.

When you consider how many people in the world swim (billions, right?), how many swim competitively beginning at a young age (millions, easy), how many are good enough to earn a college scholarship for swimming (thousands every year, I'd guess) and how many survive the pressure-packed Olympic Trials — just a precious few — it shines a ray of perspective on her remarkable feats.

All of us non-Olympians can only attempt to imagine the daily drive, the unyielding focus, the unthinkable sacrifice and the painful training the path to gold requires.

American idol

I was a little disappointed in the degree of props the national media was giving Schmitt heading into Tuesday's 200-meter freestyle final. Every headline on every website I visited — ESPN.com, SI.com, CNN.com, to name three — alluded to the emergence of teen sensation Missy Franklin, the decade-long dominance of Phelps or the disappointing performance of gymnast Jordyn Wieber.

There was barely anything on Schmitt — even though a national magazine had picked her to win gold in the 200 free a couple of weeks ago.

A few minutes after she blew away the competition in the 200 freestyle with an Olympic-record effort, a cbssports.com writer started his column like this: "There is a swimmer we all need to get to know a little bit better."

Amen, brother, I whispered to myself.

For all of us with sons or daughters who possess sky-high aspirations — whether their dreams include becoming a brain surgeon, an NBA point guard or an Olympic swimmer — we now have a feel-good story we can share with them about someone who grew up literally right around the corner; someone who used hard work, humility and high morals to defy astronomical odds.

That someone's name is Allison Schmitt.

And she is a true hometown hero.

Ed Wright is sports editor for the Redford and Garden City Observers. He can be reached at (734) 578-2767 or ewright@hometownlife.com.

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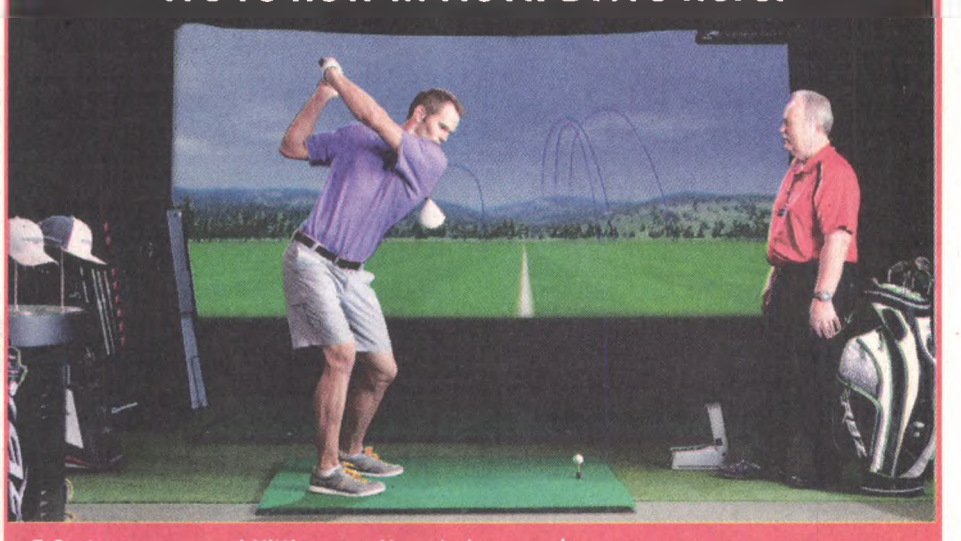
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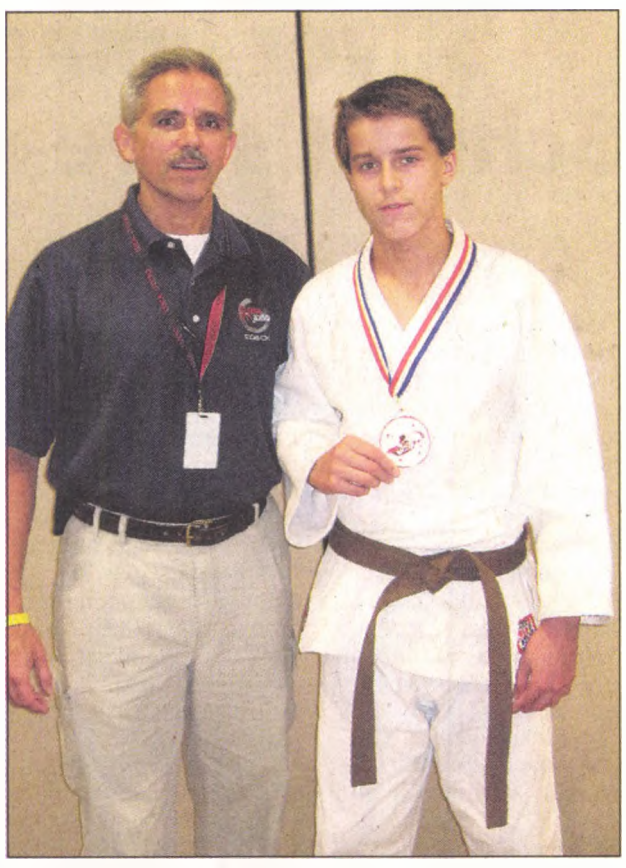
Livonia judo standout kicks it into high gear

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer



Livonia's Nick Joseph (right), standing with his father, Rick, displays his bronze medal after finishing third last month in the USA Judo Junior Olympic National Championship.

Nick Delpopolo, Marti Malloy and Travis Stevens may not be Olympic household names.

But for up-and-coming Livonia judo competitor Nick Joseph, they're as important as Team USA basketball players LeBron James, Kobe Bryant and Kevin Durant.

Joseph, who has Olympic dreams himself, earned a pair of bronze medals last month in two major junior tournaments competing in the 58-kilogram class in the Juvenile A division (birth years 1997-98).

At the recent USA Judo Junior Olympic Nationals in Irving, Tex., Joseph overcame a first-round defeat with five straight victories before losing to the eventual runner-up.

Joseph bounced back to take third, but learned a valuable lesson after falling in the opening bout.

"I really wasn't aggressive enough is what my coaches told me," Joseph said. "I didn't have a bye, so I had to fight an extra match. I had to win five straight to get to the medal rounds. If I lost, I'd be done."

After his successful trip to Irving, Joseph headed to Fort Lauderdale, Fla. to attend a three-day international training camp put on by two Olympians. He then competed against participants from 27 different countries in the Junior U.S. Open Judo Championships where he finished 2-2 and took home another bronze.

According to Joseph, there are number of factors which make a good judo competitor.

"You have to have good cardio, good stamina," he said. "You have to have good strength, be flexible and be a good athlete. You have to have good technique and be able to focus. A lot of it is mental."

Joseph, who will be an alternate for the U.S. Junior team at the Pan Am Games this fall in Brazil, had to meet the 127.6-pound weight limit to compete.

"I had to cut a little bit of weight, not too much," said Joseph, who stands 5 feet, 8 inches. "Just had to watch what I eat."

Joseph has been training the past five years under coach Noburo Saito at Saito-Wee Judo Club in Birmingham.

"Conditioning is a big part of it," he said. "I work out at the three or four days a week where I run, lift and do strength training."

Judo, meanwhile, has been a big part of Nick's life since an early age.

"My dad (Dr. Rick Joseph) and my sister Alexandra (now 18) both did it," Nick said. "And I said, 'Whoa, this looks cool,' so I started doing it."

Combined with his silver medal at the Scholastic National Judo Championship in March, Joseph has secured the No. 2 ranking in his age and weight class.

"I'd say it's been one of my best years," Nick said. "Every event coming into nationals I took first in every tournament (including the Can-Ams in New York and Midwestern Championships in Chicago)."

Joseph will be starting his freshman year later this month at Novi Detroit Catholic Central High where he plans to play soccer.

"I still want to stay in shape, not the same training I did before nationals, but because soccer is coming up, and in case I get that call and go to Brazil," he said.

And he'll be keeping a close eye on his Olympic heroes Delpopolo, Malloy and Stevens during the London Games.

But Nick knows there's always a price to pay in more ways than one.

"It would be nice to go there," Nick said of his Olympic aspirations. "But it's hard because you need a lot of funding for stuff like that."

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Rams dominant in Ohio

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

It was a dominating performance to say the least for the Michigan Rams in last weekend's All-American Amateur Baseball Association regional in Zanesville, Ohio.

The 20-and-under Livonia Collegiate Baseball League representative capped a 3-0 regional run with a 14-0 five-inning mercy-rule victory over Buffalo (N.Y.) at Gant Stadium.

Outscoring their opponents 27-1 over a three-game span, the Rams advance to AAABA National Tournament for the eighth time under manager Rick Berryman beginning Aug. 5 in Johnstown, Pa.

The Rams jumped out to a 5-0 lead after three innings and put it away with nine runs in the top of the fourth.

Miles Sorise, who went 2-for-2 with three RBI, belted a 3-run homer in the third inning.

Also pacing the Rams' 14-hit attack were J.P. Maracani (2-for-3, two RBI) and Matt Priebe (2-for-3, one RBI).

Justin Sherman also knocked in two runs, while Brandon Katta, Garrett Gordon and Donnie Eaton added one RBI each as Buffalo starter Mike Wagner was roughed up for nine runs on five hits and five walks in three innings.

Winning pitcher Mitchell Patterson worked the first 3.2 innings, allowing seven hits and a walk while fanning four. Reliever Josh Payzant (Livonia/Jackson Community College) retired the final five batters allowing one hit.

The Rams also got a boost defensively from Gordon, who threw out runners at the plate from his center field position both in the second and fourth innings.

Buffalo, which lost 5-1 to the Rams on Saturday, got two hits apiece from Mike Wagner and Vinnie Perricelli.

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Ex-Spartans propel Rams

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Former Livonia Stevenson High pitchers Evan Piechota and Jeff Sorenson figured prominently in the Michigan Rams' 2-0 start in Saturday's All-American Amateur Baseball Association Regional tournament at Gant Stadium in Zanesville, Ohio.

Both threw complete games as the Rams defeated Buffalo, 5-1, and the host Zanesville Junior Pioneers, 8-0.

"I'm proud of my kids from Stevenson because I coached both of them – they did a bang-up job and both threw very well," said Rams manager Rick Berryman, who just completed his eighth year as Stevenson varsity coach.

Piechota, a redshirt freshman from Madonna University, threw a three-hitter in tournament opener in the Rams' four-run win over Buffalo (N.Y.) The right-hander struck out four and walked only three in going all seven innings for the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League 20-and-under qualifier.

Offensively, Donnie Eaton led the Rams' 11-hit attack going 3-for-3 with an RBI, while Michigan Cobras' pick-up Matt Priebe went 2-for-4.

Also knocking in runs for the Rams were J.P. Maracani, Garrett Gordon and Miles Sorise.

In Game Two, Sorenson also went all seven innings allowing just two hits and a walk in the shutout over the Pioneers..

The sophomore from Wayne State struck out 11 and got plenty of run support as Priebe led the way going 2-for-4 with three RBI.

Gordon also went 2-for-4 with an RBI, while Brandon Katta scored three runs.

Sorise, Dominic Jarrett and Cobras' pick-up Logan Curtis each added an RBI for the Rams, who will face Buffalo at noon Sunday at Gant Stadium.

Berryman said he plans to start left-hander Mitchell Patterson (Spring Arbor) in Game Three as the Rams will try and clinch an automatic berth in the AAABA National Tournament, Aug. 6-12, in Johnstown, Pa.

Buffalo, which eliminated host Zanesville, needs two wins over the Rams Sunday to advance to the AAABA Nationals.

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SOFTBALL

Continued from page B1

the senior league's performance-enhancing drug of choice: ibuprofen.

"Every once in a while, my wife will offer me a Tylenol for my arthritis, but I don't need that stuff," Richardson said. "I'll drink one cup of coffee in the morning and I'm ready to go."

In an era when Major League Baseball players miss multiple games with health issues as minor as a torn cuticle, Wayne and Richardson are virtual iron men.

"It's hard to keep them out of the lineup; they come to play every day," Redford Grill co-manager Bob Mosher said. "Bob and Ed are really an inspiration to us younger guys, even though most of us are in our 70s. We hope that we're in the kind of shape — in mind, body and spirit — that they're in when we're their age."

ED WRIGHT PHOTOS

Ed Wayne, 86, takes a rip at a belt-high pitch during Tuesday's slow-pitch softball game against Metro Detroit Signs.

Bob Richardson delivers a pitch during the second inning of Tuesday's game at Claude Allison Park in Redford.

Young fans

A passion for baseball engulfed both men at an early age, when they idolized members of the 1930s Detroit Tigers teams.

"When I was 9 years old, I was playing center field in a game on the sandlot near my house and somebody hit one over my head," Wayne recalled. "I ran back, back, back and caught it, and thought to myself, 'I want to play in the majors someday.'"

After perfectly reciting the Tigers' entire 1934 starting lineup, Wayne revealed his favorite player as a youth was Tigers third baseman Marvin Owen.

"He was 6-foot-5 and he only hit about .205, but I liked him," Wayne said. "He was a great fielder. His hands were so big, he could hold seven baseballs in one hand."

"I always liked Charlie Gehringer and Hank Greenberg," Richardson added. "Really, I liked all of the Tigers."

Both players can't get enough of the sport, particularly Richardson, who pitches for a pair of teams once he migrates to Florida every October.

"My family thinks I'm crazy for playing so much," Richardson said. "My two sons, who live in Tampa, ask me, 'When are you going to quit, dad?' I tell them, 'You love golf and I love softball. I'll keep playing until I can't.'"

Richardson figures he's played some form of competitive baseball or softball for 71 of his 86 years.

"I played from the time I was 9 until I was 59," he said. "The only reason I quit playing then was because we were running out of guys to play. Then I picked it back up when I was 64 and haven't stopped since."

Wayne's softball career hit a speed-bump in 2007 when he suffered a stroke.

"I used to play the outfield before then, but now I can't throw it as far anymore," he said. "I didn't miss any games, though."

The two men then packed up their equipment bags, slung them over their backs and walked down an asphalt path toward their cars.

By the looks on their faces, the anticipation was already building for their next game two days later.

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Check us out on the Web every day at hometownlife.com

Students learn math, reading at church

Faith Community Wesleyan Church in Livonia will offer a summer learning enrichment program for students, 4:45-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8, 15 and 22.

C.L.E.A.P. Frog is designed to help sharpen skills in math, reading, science and other disciplines, within a Christ-centered learning environment. The free community program encourages parents and guardians to get involved with what their children learn and to get to know others in the community. A variety of classes will be available to students going into grades 1-5. Special classes will be available for teens and tots, 4-5.

Pre-registration deadline is Aug. 3. No walk-ins will be accepted. Call Mary at (248) 471-1322, Melissa at (734) 466-8694, or Angela at (313) 377-0840.

The church is located at 14560 Merriman, Livonia.

RELIGION CALENDAR

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

August

CLASSIC CARS

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4

Location: St. Matthews United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Classic Car Show celebrates 50 years in Livonia. Goodie bags for the car owners and games for the kids

Contact: Rod at (248) 982-6502

CLOTHING BANK

Time/Date: 5-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8 and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25

Location: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 41920 Joy Road, Canton

Details: Free clothing available to anyone in need

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

KIDS CAMP

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, Aug. 6-9

Location: Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Designed for kids, 5-12, the camp will include nightly themes with related activities presented by church members. Monday is dance night; Tuesday is soccer night; Wednesday focuses on photography and drama rounds out the week on Thursday. Fee is $5 per student or $10 per family. Register at www.christoursavior.org

Contact: Linda Hollman at (734) 522-6830

MASS, CARDS

Time/Date: 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18

Location: St. Valentine Church, 14841 Beech Daly, Redford

Details: After Mass, participants will enjoy light refreshments in the school meeting room, along with cards and socializing. Sign up to bring food items such as veggie tray, dip, chips, salad, cheese and crackers. Drop off your dish by 4 p.m. at the school meeting room. RSVP by Aug. 10

Contact: Ann Marie at (248) 477-6167, Donna at (734) 420-0461 or Laura at (734) 942-3866.

RUMMAGE SALE

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 11 and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12

Location: St. Sabina Church, 25605 Ann Arbor Trail, just east of Beech Daly in Dearborn Heights

Details: Includes craft and bake sale. Donate items at gym door #10. Craft table rental costs $20 for parishioners and $25 for non-parishioners. Sponsor tables are $50

Contact: maryloujaniga@yahoo.com

SEEKING CRAFTERS

Time/Date: Show is Oct. 6

Location: St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, located on Five Mile one block west of Inkster Road, in Livonia

Details: An 8- by 10-feet space can be rented for $30. Tables are available for $5 and electricity for $5. Crafts must be handmade; no resale. Profits will go to mission work in the community

Contact: (248) 478-4708 or e-mail jsinc2436@yahoo.com

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Aug. 6-10

Location: Emanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia

Details: SPLASH VBS is for kids entering preschool (potty-trained) through 6th grade in the fall of 2012. Registration fees are $5 for one child, or $10 per family and will include crafts, games, singing, Bible stories, science, snacks, and more. Pick up an application at the church or register by phone

Contact: Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 6:30-8:45 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Aug. 19-23

Location: Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge Road, Canton

Details: "Adventures on Promise Island," is designed for children, 4 years-5th grade and will include Bible stories, crafts, snacks, games, music, skits, and more. Registration on or before Aug. 12 is $5 per child or $10 maximum per family; after Aug. 12 is $8 per child or $15 maximum per family

Contact: (734) 495-0035

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25

Location: Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City

Details: "Rocky Point Lighthouse" is designed for children, 5-11 or in K-5th grade. It will include stories about Jesus, crafts, music, games, snacks, lunch and more. $5 donation per child. Sponsorships are available to families in need

Contact: Register at (734) 427-3660

Passages

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CROTEAU, MICHELLE MARIE

Age 53 of West Branch, passed away Sunday, July 29, 2012 at her home. Michelle had lived in West Branch since 1998, formerly of Livonia. She enjoyed her computer, the food network, music and chat rooms. Michelle is survived by her daughter, Faye Croteau of Chicago, her son Eden Croteau of Livonia, her father John P. Young of Livonia and West Branch, her mother Shirley Janisse of Cheboygan, her sisters, Vicki (Dan) Estes of Biloxi MS, Cheryl (David) Wallman of Livonia and Amy Young of Spring Hill, FL and her brothers, David Young of Redford and Michael Young of Indiana and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her brother John A. Young. Per her wishes, cremation has taken place. Arrangements by Steuernol & McLaren Funeral Home, West Branch, MIchigan.

May peace be with you in this time of sorrow.

GEDDES, LORETTA J.

Age 83, July 29, 2012. Dear wife of the late Jim. Loving mother of Dan (Cindy), Bill (Jeannine), Tim (Terry) and Mary (Tom) Laundroche. Proud grandmother of Dan, Luke, Elizabeth, Lauren, Tommy, Jimmy, Kenny, Amanda, Katie, Tabitha and Josephine. Loving sister of Gee (Jim) Meloche and Marilyn (Al) Smith. Also loved by nieces, nephews, extended relatives and friends. A generation of neighborhood children in Garden City and 35 years of St. Raphael catechism students felt her love. She touched lives in remarkable ways. Please no flowers. Make donations to the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, www.ccfa.org. Services were held Tuesday. Arrangements by Santeiu & Son Funeral Home. Share memories at www.santeiufuneralhome.com

HAUK, JANITA O.

Conductor Emeritus of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, passed peacefully surrounded by her family at her Lake Suzy, Florida home on Sunday, July 29, after a courageous battle with cancer. She was 79. After college Mrs. Hauk taught elementary music and vocals in the Wyandotte and Wayne school districts in Michigan, and played in the Detroit Women's Symphony, the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, and the Dearborn Symphony. Her first conducting assignment was with the Livonia (Michigan) Youth Orchestra. Mrs. Hauk and her late husband Marvin Hauk relocated from Michigan to Charlotte County in 1987. She leaves a son, Todd Hauk, of Westland, Michigan; a daughter, Alea Hauk DeNeau of Seattle, WA; a brother, Jan Riedel, of Tiffin, OH; two sisters, Karen Riedel of New York, NY, and DaLee Miller of Pittsburgh, PA; David Bewernitz of Wesley Chapel, whom she raised with her husband as a son; and three grandchildren, Amber Hauk, Natasha Bewernitz, and Jeremy Bewernitz. Visitation hours are on Wednesday, Aug. 1, from 5 to 8 p.m., at Kays-Ponger Funeral Home, 635 East Marion Ave., Punta Gorda. Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 2, at the funeral home. Burial will be in Royal Palm Memorial Gardens, 27200 Jones Loop Road, Punta Gorda. In lieu of flowers, friends may make donations in Mrs. Hauk's memory to the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, PO Box 510476, Punta Gorda, FL 33951-0476; Visiting Angels Home Care Services, 25166 Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL 33950; or Tidewell Hospice, 917 N. Arcadia Ave., Arcadia, FL 34266

May you find comfort in Family and Friends

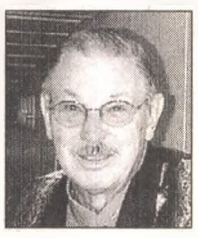
VATCA, SAM

Age 86, suddenly, July 29, 2012. Beloved husband of Connie. Loving father of Dawn (Todd) Tillman, Shelly (Dan) Buszka, Cindy (Don) Murphy and the late Kimberly Ahola. Dear grandfather of Ashley, Jordan & Mackenzie, Preston & Parker and Cade & Connor. Dear great-grandfather of Angelina. Brother of Helen (John) Gasperetto. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Visitation was held at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, Livonia. A Funeral Mass for Sam was August 2, 2012 at St. Colette Catholic Church, Livonia. Memorials may be directed to the Crohns and Colitis Foundation of America. Please share a memory at www.rggrharris.com

WIK, TERRY I.

Age 70, of Farmington Hills, MI, passed away July 27, 2012. arrangements; Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

In memory of



IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM C. FERMAN, OD

November 29, 1928-August 31, 2007 of Clermont, Florida, formerly of Plymouth, passed away from complication of Parkinson's disease. He was born November 29, 1928 in Detroit. He was a member of the Air Force Reserve attaining the rank of Captain; member of and past president of Wayne County Society of Optometrists, Metropolitan Detroit Optometrists Society and Michigan Optometric Association. He was president of the Plymouth Rotary and past master of the Masons. Dr. Ferman Maintained optometric offices in Detroit and Plymouth for 43 years. Surviving is his wife, college sweetheart and the love of his life for 57 years, Ora Lee Ferman; children Gregory Ferman and wife Christine of Plymouth, MI, Susan Gordon, Westland, MI, and Ted Ferman and wife Debra, Canton, MI as well as grandchildren and great-grandchildren. "You are loved beyond forever."

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ENTERTAINMENT

Band plays original blues, rock tunes in Farmington Hills

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

The Delta Twins are Bob Young (left) and Tom Kozanecki (right). Also playing with the group are Bob's son, Josh, (left background) on bass guitar, Jake Burdock on lead guitar and Leland McCann on drums.

Bob Young will make his dream come true when the Delta Twins band takes the stage Thursday, Aug. 2 at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills.

"Heritage Park is almost in my backyard," said Young, who makes up the core of the band along with Tom Kozanecki, also of Farmington Hills. Young, married and the father of four children, grew up in Redford and lived in Livonia before moving to Farmington Hills 10 years ago.

"When we moved here and we took the kids to Heritage Park, I saw the amphitheater. It's been my dream for 10 years to play in that amphitheater. Now it's coming true."

Young and Kozanecki, who's also married and has two grown children, will perform as the Delta Twins, along with a back-up band, during the weekly "Stars in the Park" concert series in Heritage Park, located at 24915 Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. The show will start at 7 p.m.

The Delta Twins logo

Young plans to make sure the show is as unforgettable for the audience as it will be for Delta Twins.

"We saw Shout!, the Beatles tribute band several weeks ago to get a feel for the site. That was a great audience and it gave us an idea what to do to make the evening special for people — not just a bunch of guys standing on stage but engaging the crowd and making them a part of the show," Young said.

"This is a showcase event for us and we're going all out."

With wireless equipment, they'll have the capability to walk among listeners, encouraging the audience to sing along or clap their hands to the Twins' bluesy Americana "rock music for the soul."

Young also is looking into getting swing dancers to perform during a few songs.

"I can't promise it, but my hope is to get two to four couples. We want to make this more than just watching people stand in position in front of a mic. This is going to be a big event for us."

The band will record the performance as it does most of its shows. Songs from previous appearances at clubs in the metro area landed on two CDS, *King-Size Plan*, recorded in 2010 and *Skyline*, recorded last year at the Skyline Club in Southfield. Both will be sold at the Heritage Park concert, along with Delta Twins gear.

Meaningful lyrics

Young and Kozanecki began playing together in 1998 at church. Three years ago they started performing at secular venues, hoping to make a positive impact "on the world" with their music.

"Delta Twins implies Delta blues, but it's really more about delta, the difference," he said, referring to the triangle-shaped Greek symbol.

He describes their song lyrics as having depth without being pretentious.

"We're not promoting a religion," he said. "I'm influenced by the philosophy of Jesus. One of the last things he said to his disciples was to love one another. We need to be willing to go that far as a society. If the world were to follow the 'golden rule' it would be a different place."

Although that notion underpins many of Delta Twins' original songs, their approach has always been to "get toes tapping, heads bopping and bodies involved."

"If you get the body involved, you might get the head involved. If you can get the head involved you might get the heart involved. And that is when you make a difference."

Young began writing songs at age 13, after exploring the poetry of Simon and Garfunkel in an English class. During college he took music theory and piano, later teaching himself guitar and working with music and computers. Young is self-employed as a software developer.

Kozanecki, who works as an analyst at a financial firm, learned violin from his grandfather. That led to playing bass guitar, mandolin, autoharp and just about "anything with strings," Young said.

"He's good with hand percussion. Self-taught."

Around town

Delta Twins has performed at Callahan's Music Hall in Auburn Hills, Dick O'Dow's in Birmingham, Trinity House Theatre in Livonia, Liberty Street Brewing Company in Plymouth and many other clubs. Outdoor venues have included Campus Martius Park, the Buy Michigan Now Festival and Victorian Festival in Northville, IaRT Festival in Redford, Founders Festival and ThriveFest in Farmington and Stars & Stripes Festival in Mount Clemens. They've been involved with the Canton firefighters' charity fundraiser at Liberty Fest the past three years.

"We love being associated with stuff like that. That's making a difference."

The band will perform at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4 on the main stage at the Buy Michigan Now Festival in downtown Northville. Young and Kozanecki also will play at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16 at the Mentobe Cafe, 33336 Grand River Ave., east of Farmington Road.

For more information, visit www.deltatwins.com.

Learn about river on Rouge cruise

There's still time to register for the Friends of the Rouge 4th Annual Rouge Cruise that will feature narration by John Hartig, refuge manager of the Detroit International Wildlife Refuge.

Cost is $45 for the event aboard the Diamond Belle, 5:45-9 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 7. Registration deadline is Friday, Aug. 3.

The route will take the boat past Zug Island and as far into the Rouge River as the turning basin at the Ford Rouge Complex. Participants may bring binoculars for a chance to spot great blue herons, red-tailed hawks, kestrels, killdeer, belted kingfishers, spotted sandpipers, green herons and other native Michigan birds. For this dinner cruise, each ticket covers the cost of one meal (veggie option available). A cash bar with snacks also will be open throughout the evening.

Space is limited. Register at (313) 792-9900 or register online at www.therouge.org. Admission is non-refundable and the event will take place rain or shine. Attendees will board the boat at Stroh's River Place near the intersection of Atwater and Joseph Campau in Detroit.

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Art

CITY GALLERY

Time/Date: Through Aug. 24

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, through Jan. 6, 2013

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

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, Aug. 3-25; artist reception 6-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 3

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville

Details: "Thoughts With Thread" exhibit features art quilts, woven tapestries, embroidery, paper, baskets, felted wool and figurative work

Contact: (248) 344-0497

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

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: 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

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

STARS OF RUSSIAN BALLET

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18

Location: Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher, Ann Arbor

Details: Stars of the Russian Ballet gala performance features dancers from Mariinsky Theatre, National Ballet of Ukraine, the Bolshoi Ballet and other international companies Tickets are $48-$68 available from the Michigan Union Ticket office

Contact: (734) 763-8587

Bob Cox (left) and Conner Rhoades, both of Plymouth, work puppets in "Avenue Q." Farmington Players presents the show Aug. 10-25.

Lynn Krawczyk's collage will be among the works on display at the "Thoughts With Thread" exhibit, Aug. 3-25 at Northville Art House.

Film

COMPUWARE ARENA DRIVE-IN

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

Location: 14900 Beck, Plymouth

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

Contact: (734) 453-8300

PENN THEATRE

Time/Date: 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 2, 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 3 and 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 4-5

Location: 760 Penniman Ave., Plymouth

Details: "The Avengers," $3

Coming up: "Men in Black 3," 7 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 10-11 and 4:45 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12

Summer Cinema: All shows screen at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. "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

Stars of the Russian Ballet gala is set for Aug. 18 at the Power Center in Ann Arbor. The performance will include dancers, such as Keenan Kampa, from top international ballet companies.

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

REDFORD THEATRE

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Aug. 10 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Aug. 11

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

Details: Abbott & Costello double feature, "Buck Privates," and "Abbott & Costello meet the Killer," $5

Coming up: "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

Music

THE ARK

Time/Date: Maia Sharp, Aug. 2; The Makem & Spain Brothers, Aug. 3; Riverfolk Festival Finale Concert with Christine Baffa & Friends, Bob Black & His Bluegrass Boys, Songwriting Contest Finalists & The Raisin Pickers, Aug. 4; Harpeth Rising, Aug. 6; The Persuasions, Aug. 7; Open Stage, Aug. 8; The Appleseed Collective, Aug. 9; Candye Kane, Aug. 11; JJ Grey & Mofro, Aug. 12

Location: 316 S. Main, Ann Arbor

Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org

JAZZ AT THE ELKS

Time/Date: 7-10 p.m. last Tuesday of the month

Location: Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780, 41700 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth

Details: There is a $10 donation at the door which includes hors d'oeuvres. Proceeds from Jazz at the Elks goes toward special needs and disadvantaged children and veterans

Contact: (734) 453-1780 or e-mail to plymouthelks1780@yahoo.com

TRINITY HOUSE THEATRE

Time/Date: Most shows start at 8 p.m., doors open at 7:30 p.m.

Location: 38840 W. Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Dave Carter Tribute featuring Potter's Field, Aug. 3; Julie and John Pennell, Aug. 9; Ronny Cox, Aug. 10; Beth Wood, Aug. 17. Most shows tickets are $15, and $12 for subscribers. Only cash and checks are accepted

Contact: (734) 464-6302

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Monday, Friday, Saturday

Location: 884 Penniman, Plymouth

Details: Open mic on Monday; live music Friday-Saturday. Americana, folk, rock, pop, country and soul by solo singers, duos and bands

Contact: (734) 454-0178

Something different

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Time/Date: 5-9 p.m. Aug. 6, 13, 20 and 27

Location: Italian American Banquet & conference Center, 39200 Five Mile, between Newburgh and Haggerty, Livonia

Details: "Cruise for a Cause" classic car show. Classic cycles welcomed. Proceeds of 50/50 raffle benefit Go To Light of Life Foundation

Contact; (734) 953-9724 or (734) 953-1137

DETROIT ZOO

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, with extended hours — 8 p.m. — Wednesday

Location: I-696 service drive and Woodward, Royal Oak

Details: Admission is $11 for adults 15 to 61, $9 for senior citizens 62 and older, and $7 for children ages 2 to 14; children under 2 are free. Reduced admission is $5 for all guests after 5 p.m. Wednesday

Wild Summer Nights: Concerts take place 6:30-8 p.m. in the main picnic grove and are free with zoo admission. Performers are Jill Jack, Aug. 8; Gemini, Aug. 15; Sun Messengers, Aug. 22; Playdate and Friends, Aug. 29. Guests may bring blankets, lawn chairs and picnic baskets. Food, snacks, beer, wine and soft drinks are available for purchase from Zoo concessions

Zoomance: The after-hours, 21-and-older event will take place 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23 Admission is $10 in advance and $12 at the gate. Parking is free for Detroit Zoological Society members and $5 for non-members. Includes live entertainment at the Horace H. Rackham Memorial Fountain, and food and adult beverages available for purchase. Guests can view animal habitats, experience the Wild Adventure Ride and take a ride on the carousel

Contact: (248) 541-5717

TINY TOT OLYMPICS

Time/Date: 10-11:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 3

Location: Heritage Park Amphitheater, south of Cherry Hill, west of Canton Center, in Canton

Details: Children, 2-6, can participate in Olympics-inspired activities and games. The fee is $3 and no advance registration is required

Contact: www.cantonfun.org or (734) 394-5460

Theater

FARMINGTON PLAYERS

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Aug. 10-11 and Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 16-18 and 23-25; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12 and 19

Location: Farmington Players Barn, 32332 12 Mile, between Orchard Lake Road and Farmington Road, in Farmington Hills

Details: The edgy musical, "Avenue Q" draws inspiration from the format and characters of "Sesame Street," but is designed for adult audiences. The characters occasionally spew profanity as they grapple with adult themes. Tickets are $18 for adults, students pay $16 and seniors get a $2 discount on Aug. 12. "Thrifty Thursday" discounts are $2 for Aug. 16 and 23

Contact: www.farmingtonplayers.org or (248) 553-2955

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FOOD

SHARON DARGAY, EDITOR
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Sweet, Spicy and Smoky Spareribs

Are you ready for ribs?

When it's time to fire up the grill, go beyond the bun this season with succulent pork ribs. Armed with these juicy tips and a great recipe, you'll be ready to grill with the best — and that could mean big prizes for you.

Need a rundown on ribs? The National Pork Board has the tips and tricks you need to know to take your grilling game to the next level:

• Back ribs originate from the blade and center section of the pork loin, which is known for the "finger meat" between the bones. Back ribs also are referred to as "baby" back ribs because they are smaller than spareribs.

• Spareribs, usually larger and heavier than back ribs, are known for their delicious, meaty pork flavor.

• Dry rubs are a mixture of herbs and spices applied to ribs just before barbecuing to create an intensely flavorful, smoky crust.

• Ribs are often basted with sauces during the barbecuing process to enhance flavor and to create a sweet and savory glaze. For best results, brush ribs generously during the last 30 minutes of cooking.

• Always use tongs, not a fork, to turn ribs as they cook — piercing the meat causes juices to escape.

• When grilling ribs, adding aromatic wood chips like hickory, apple or oak to the preheated coals infuses the meat with the distinctive smoky flavor prized in authentic barbecue.

Think you have a winning rib recipe? Enter the "Dibs on My Ribs Pork Recipe Cookoff." Visit www.porkbeinspired.com/dibsonmyribs and enter your original sparerib recipe before Aug. 12. All entries must use a minimum of three ingredients, including pork spareribs, at least one McCormick spice or seasoning product, and at least one Kraft Foods BBQ sauce (if recipe requires a sauce).

Two Grand Prize winners will receive a one-year supply of groceries and the chance to attend the 2013 Memphis in May BBQ Event in Memphis, Tenn. Visit the website for complete rules and entry form.

Sweet, Spicy, and Smoky Spareribs

Serves 6
Prep Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 2 hours

5 pounds spareribs, cut into 4-rib slabs
1 tablespoon smoked sweet paprika
1 tablespoon kosher salt
2 teaspoons dried oregano
2 teaspoons cumin, ground
1 teaspoon ground chipotle chiles, or chili powder
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon onion powder
½ cup honey, heated until liquid

Mix paprika, salt, oregano, cumin, chipotle or chili powder, garlic powder and onion powder together in small bowl. Sprinkle generously over both sides of ribs. Let stand at room temperature while preparing grill.

Prepare outdoor grill for indirect medium-hot grilling. For a gas grill, remove cooking grates. Preheat grill on High. Turn 1 burner off. Place disposable aluminum foil pan over off burner and add 2 cups water to pan. Replace grates. Adjust heat to 350°F. For a charcoal grill, place disposable aluminum foil pan on 1 side of charcoal grate. Build fire on opposite side, and let burn until coals are coated with white ash. Spread coals in grill opposite pan and let burn 15 to 20 minutes. Add 2 cups water to pan. Position cooking grate in grill.

Lightly oil cooking grate. Place ribs over foil pan and cover grill. Cook, adding water to pan as needed, until ribs are browned, fork-tender, and meat pulls away from end of bone, about 2 hours. (For charcoal grill, add 10 briquettes to fire every 45 minutes to maintain heat.) During last 20 minutes, occasionally brush both sides of ribs with warm honey.

Let stand 5 minutes, cut into ribs, and serve hot.

— Courtesy of Family Features

Great gluten-free grilling

Cookouts, picnics and barbecues mean sharing food and good fun with family and friends. For those living gluten-free, whether due to dietary restrictions or personal choice, these gatherings can cause added stress, because finding foods they can eat may prove difficult. Likewise, gluten-free eaters may worry they'll be perceived as picky or difficult.

But with today's great-tasting gluten-free options, such as cookies and brownies, hotdog and hamburger buns, and even pizza crusts, gluten-free individuals can now join in the hot-off-the-grill goodness.

Hosting your own backyard barbecue? Here are some simple tips to make gluten-free grilling deliciously easy and safe for all your guests:

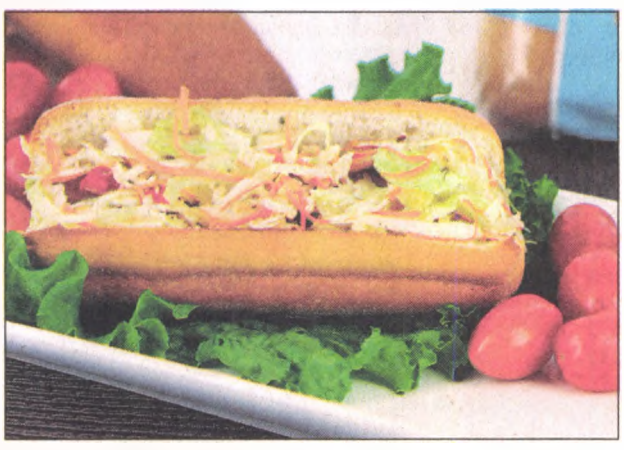
• Always check the labels. Gluten shows up in some surprising places, including marinades, condiments and even some processed meats.

• Many grilling side dishes are naturally gluten-free, so set out plenty of potato salad, grilled vegetables, corn on the cob, melon and other fruits, and baked beans.

• Grill any gluten-free foods first — that way you'll avoid the possibility of cross-contamination with foods that do contain gluten. You can also grill individual meals inside foil or parchment packets and prevent cross-contamination that way, too.

• If you're going to someone else's party, bring your own crackers and snacks, and even your own gluten-free buns.

And, try this recipe for Spicy Slaw Dogs which is completely gluten-free, from the hot dogs and condiments to the tangy slaw and tender buns. You can find more great gluten-free recipes for grilling — and anytime — at www.udisglutenfree.com.



Spicy Slaw Dogs

Spicy Slaw Dogs

Preparation time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 15 minutes

1 pack gluten-free hot dog buns such as Udi's
2 tablespoons butter, softened
2 tablespoons stone ground mustard, (gluten free)
2 tablespoons ketchup
1 tablespoon soy sauce, (gluten free)
½ teaspoon vegetable oil
1 large garlic clove, minced
1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon honey
1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon sherry vinegar
6 cups finely shredded green cabbage, (about ½ head)
3 fresh red or jalapeno chiles, (seeded and thinly sliced)
Salt to taste
Gluten-free hot dogs

To prepare hot dog buns:

Mix together butter and mustard; spread on buns. Lightly toast buns on grill.

To prepare hot dogs:

Mix together ketchup, soy sauce, vegetable oil and garlic in a small bowl. Cut cross-hatches in hot dogs. Pour mixture onto a plate and roll hot dogs in it. Grill to desired doneness.

To prepare slaw:

In large bowl, stir honey with sherry vinegar until honey is dissolved. Add shredded cabbage and chiles; season with salt and toss. Let stand until cabbage is slightly softened, tossing a few times, about 15 minutes.

Place grilled hot dog in hot dog bun and top with slaw.

— Courtesy of Family Features

Meandering smorgasbord of coffee geekness

By Dan Dean
Staff Writer

I recently visited Port Austin over the Independence Day holiday and I can report that according to my coffee-loving extended family (who all thought someone else was bringing the coffee) there is not a good cup to be found anywhere in the Thumb. Thankfully for them, coffee is always part of my pretrip checklist and I made a last-minute purchase on the fly at an unexpected gem in downtown Rochester. The Dessert Oasis features fresh roasted coffee from the teenage son of owner Jamal Hamood. Here is a thumbs up from the Thumb-traveling Dean clan to Nathan for saving the day with his batch of fresh beans from Rwanda.

Coffee Preacher

Dan Dean

Speaking of traveling, what do you do when you go on vacation? In this day of smart phones, it is easy to look for places online. And while it is fun to check out new places when traveling I typically do not leave my coffee drinking in the hands of such intuitive reviews as "Has great hot chocolate" or "Love the atmosphere."

I have a couple standard solutions depending on where I am going. Of course it always starts with planning to buy fresh roasted beans before leaving. For camping trips I take a small manual burr grinder and a one-cup plastic dripper and boil water in a pan on the camp stove.

A trip to the Thumb was saved with a last-minute stop on the way at Downtown Rochester's Dessert Oasis where I found a great Rawandan coffee.

If I am hoteling it, I will take along a small electric water kettle, and if I have room, I will take a Chemex brewer and smaller blade grinder to replace the dripper and hand grinder. I will usually dial in the amount of coffee before leaving, either parcelling out beans in one-serve baggies or taking along a scoop of some sort, with a predetermined mark for the amount of beans needed per serving.

Smart ideas

I read an article recently that rated the best iPhone apps for coffee geeks. I am a total rookie when it comes to smart phones but I have checked out a couple of the recommended apps that are pretty cool. Bloom Coffee Timer ($1.99) is a timer you can use at home for brewing coffee using a number of different devices such as Beehouse and Hario V60 drippers, Chemex and French press among others. You can edit and save new profiles when you dial in a coffee and want to save the details. The other is Smart-Coffee (free). I have not tried out all the functions like using the camera in your phone to evaluate coffee beans you might want to purchase, but it is full of great information that could help determine what coffee you will like to drink based on parameters you choose.

Reuse

I love fresh vegetables and one of the things on the fall "to do" list is building a composting bin. We are the proud producers of our first garden — one whopping 4-foot square garden with two tomatozilla plants crowding out the two cucumber, three corn, two pepper and an assortment of carrots and onions. Every time I trim celery stalks and cut up carrots to munch on at work, I cringe when I have to throw the ends into the garbage. I also cringe when throwing away coffee grounds as they are a great addition to a compost pile.

Oregon State University Extension Service, which has been composting literally tons of coffee grounds collected from local coffee shops since 2001, has found that used grounds make an excellent addition to a compost pile. In a 2008 *Science Daily* article I read online, the folks at the OSU Extension say that coffee grounds contain up to two percent nitrogen and should be balanced with one part carbon material such as brown leaves or twigs. Paper coffee filters are OK to add as well. OSU also noted that coffee grounds seem to attract earth worms.

My favorite is back

Jeff Taylor at PT's Coffee calls it a great transitional coffee. I call it "simply awesome" and it is back in stock at ptscoffee.com ($18.20 for a 12 oz. bag). It is Panama Elida Estate, the first coffee that I tasted that made me a believer when I was previously a skeptic. Drinking this coffee you understand when coffees are described as: bright and juicy fruit forward with a floral tea rose aroma. The bright acidity resembles that of a pineapple. Sweet strawberry notes compliment the creamy body with a honey finish. Try some, you will not be disappointed.

Dan Dean is a former independent coffee shop owner and Assistant Managing Editor for Presentation at the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers. He can be reached at ddean@hometownlife.com.

REAL ESTATE

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Improve your curb appeal with a few outdoor painting projects

Summer is finally here, and with warmer temperatures and longer days, it's the perfect time to brighten up your home with a few outdoor painting projects. You can add the right amount of color and increase your curb appeal in just one weekend, leaving you the rest of the season to enjoy the finished product.

BEAU LARK | CORBIS

Your home, your style

Before rushing to pick out a new paint color or even accessories, first determine what will complement your home's existing exterior features. By keeping in mind your house's style factors — like its design, size and age — you'll be able to make updates that add value to your home. Next, look for inspiration by browsing through home catalogs, online or even by driving through a few nearby neighborhoods. Make note of the color combinations you like on homes that are similar to yours.

Once you have your new palette in mind, you're ready to get to work. The fastest way to make an impact? Apply a fresh coat of paint or stain to outdoor areas like doors, shutters, trim and fencing.

To achieve professional-looking results, be sure to use a high-quality painting tool. If you're looking for a brush that can get nearly every job done, try the new XL Elite brushes from Purdy. These are great for interior and exterior projects because they provide ultimate performance with any paint or stain by delivering the perfect finish on any surface. Plus, they work great in all environments, but best with heavy-bodied and fast-drying coatings. Also, when properly cleaned and cared for, Purdy brushes will last for a number of years.

Doors, shutters and trim do more than just accessorize your home; they also make a big impact on its overall impression. Unfortunately, they take a beating from exposure to the elements, causing them to become faded and dingy. By repainting them, you can quickly make your house look more polished and refined. As with any painting project, surface preparation is the first important step. Make sure the surface is clean, dull and dry before starting to paint or stain. It is also important to remove loose or peeling paint so that you are starting with a smooth and uniform surface.

Now that the house looks refreshed, don't neglect wood fencing and latticework. Update these surfaces with a new coat of paint or stain. Not only will it keep your entire property looking impeccable, it will help protect and extend the life of your fence or latticework. Surface preparation is also key for these projects. After cleaning the surface, remember to replace any broken or failed wood and replace any nails or screws that have failed before you start applying the paint or stain.

Be sure to add a few finishing touches to your lawn to really make it look pulled together. Planter boxes can add color and interest to your curb appeal, and can be rearranged whenever you're looking for a change. Freshen up yours with a new coat of paint to add additional color and fun to your space; consider using a bold shade to brighten things up. When picking out plants and flowers for the boxes, include a variance in size, color and texture for optimal results.

With these new summer projects, it's easy to increase your curb appeal, especially with the right painting tools and tips. Adding fresh colors to the outside of your home will make it more inviting for anyone who visits.

— Courtesy ARA

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS/WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of April 16-20, 2012, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON
41461 Bobcat Ct $126,000
1991 Brookfield St $135,000
3976 Brookstone Dr $185,000
1054 Holbrooke Dr $351,000
1416 Ledgewood Dr $158,000
43090 Ryegate St $155,000
1937 W Franklin Dr $69,000
1128 Whittier Dr $165,000
GARDEN CITY
32673 James St $84,000
31457 Sheridan St $19,000
LIVONIA
36515 Ann Arbor Trl $175,000
38160 Ann Arbor Trl $29,000
11498 Cardwell St $60,000
29959 Curtis Rd $130,000
36264 Dover St $84,000
32827 Fargo St $13,000
19351 Hillcrest St $135,000
15545 Merriman Rd $145,000
37478 N Laurel Park Dr $111,000
29168 Rayburn St $65,000
31553 Scone St $140,000
NORTHVILLE
16795 Country Knoll Dr $244,000
16065 Pine Valley Dr $565,000
PLYMOUTH
424 Adams St $132,000
1676 Cassady Place Dr $149,000
304 Pinewood Cir $62,000
136 S Union St $317,000
784 York St $102,000
REDFORD
14213 Breakfast Dr $125,000
9976 Farley $24,000
17309 Fox $25,000
19420 Kinloch $21,000
20102 Kinloch $38,000
24645 W Chicago $19,000
WESTLAND
34205 Aztec Dr $72,000
8320 Emerald Ln E $141,000
31510 Fairchild St $60,000
32132 Glen St $16,000
32326 Glen St $53,000
8355 Rickie Ln $80,000
1132 S Carlson St $100,000
369 S Norma St $91,000

HOMES SOLD/REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS-OAKLAND

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

BINGHAM FARMS
23910 Greenglen Ct $260,000
30865 River Crossing St $250,000
BIRMINGHAM
1748 Graefield Rd $94,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS
229 Barden Rd $120,000
5250 Brookdale Rd $745,000
4459 Chamberlain Dr $377,000
2651 Colonial Way $180,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
3390 Burning Bush Rd $770,000
831 Highwood Dr $1,875,000
4876 Keithdale Ln $315,000
4597 Kiftsgate Bnd $685,000
1580 S Hill Blvd $65,000
4592 Wagon Wheel Dr $303,000
2860 Whittier Dr $320,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP
5026 Birkdale Dr $282,000
1720 Fenwick Dr $50,000
4110 Forest Edge Dr $220,000
3109 Ivy Hill Dr $300,000
634 Sherbrooke St $122,000
1957 Tiley Cir $155,000
FARMINGTON
28805 E King William Dr $218,000
FARMINGTON HILLS
27900 Berrywood Ln $27,000
26262 Dundalk St $180,000
24482 Martel Dr $110,000
28499 Orchard Lake Rd $200,000
28807 W King William Dr $275,000
22974 Willowbrook Dr $235,000
FRANKLIN
25675 Dennison Rd $285,000
26415 Scenic Hwy $160,000
MILFORD
2250 Applewood Ln $200,000
861 Byron Dr $128,000
1164 Riverside St $268,000
NOVI
21772 Chase Dr $430,000
29740 English Way $250,000
22890 Ennishore $359,000
26392 Fieldstone Dr $259,000
40562 Lenox Park Dr $251,000
27869 Middleton Dr $152,000
47330 Scarlet Dr N $207,000
21899 Shadybrook Dr $200,000
1127 South Lake Dr Unit 219 $42,000
24343 Venice Dr $236,000
23361 Whitehall Dr $460,000
SOUTH LYON
335 Gibson St $105,000
22290 Quail Run Cir $120,000
26451 Shumans Way $50,000
252 University Ave $65,000
SOUTHFIELD
25827 Arrowhead St $66,000
30575 Old Stream Cir $74,000
27461 Sutherland St $87,000
WHITE LAKE
935 Aglaia Dr $136,000
9694 Cedar Island Rd $50,000
830 Sunnybeach Blvd $150,000

REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

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. Email Georgia@addedvaluerealty.com or visit FreeForeclosureTour.com.

Finance seminar

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

Seminar on Tuesdays

A free Reverse Mortgage Seminar is 6:30 p.m. each Tuesday at Colonial Mortgage Corp., 33919 Plymouth Road, Livonia.

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

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. each 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 Wayde Koehler at (313) 277-4168.

Come & learn all about "flipping" notes

This is a seminar about buying financial notes secured by real estate at a discount and re-selling the note for a higher price for a profit. Sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland from 5:30-9:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 9, at Club Venetian, John R Road, just north of 12 Mile Road, Madison Heights. Seminar is free to members and $20 for nonmembers.

Call (800) 747-6742 or visit online at www.REIAofOakland.com.

Shopping for Investment Property

This is Class No. 3 in a series of 10 classes sponsored by Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland. The 3 1/2 hour class will take place from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Aug. 4, at the Royal Oak Senior Center, 3500 Marias, Royal Oak, (north off 13 Mile, between Crooks and Main). The class teaches "What & Where" to buy investment property. Cost is $49, plus materials.

For more information, email to OREIAClass@AddedValueRealty.com or call (248) 787-7325.

Investing options in Asia

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: I travel to Asia and spend several months out of the year there. I am wondering if housing costs and/or the cost of living is less expensive in Cambodia than say Hanoi or other parts of Vietnam.

A: Generally speaking, upscale housing is generally more expensive in Cambodia. Every house usually has what is referred to as a "spirit house" separately attached which is designed to keep out the bad spirits and protect the family. The American dollar and English is widely accepted and there is a new high rise condominium under construction now in Phnom Penh. The units will range from $150k U.S. to close to $800k for a penthouse unit on the 20th floor or above. Condos in Hanoi generally are much more expensive per square foot in the city but as always, it depends on the location and the amenities.

Robert Meisner

Q: I hear Thailand offers a great climate for residential investment and/or living. What briefly can you tell me?

A: Bangkok has many condominium high-rises that foreigners can invest in. Of course, the closer to the river, where many of the five star hotels are located, the more expensive in this capital city. Indeed, condominiums are literally twice as expensive here than in Thailand's second largest city, Chiang Mai, which has no public transportation, unlike Bangkok, which has subways and buses. The economy is growing, but real estate is much cheaper than, for example, in Singapore, although the cost of living and currency is favorable to the U.S. dollar. It is best to consult with several different real estate agencies before making a purchase.

Q: I am interested in the residential opportunities for purchase in Seoul, Korea, because our company is planning on building a factory in the area. What do you know about Seoul?

A: Like most major cities in Southeast Asia, Seoul has a number of high rise apartments which they utilize as condominiums in the center or around the center of the City. Again, the cost of land in the center of the City is at a premium and is very expensive. However, Seoul has the opportunity to develop certain underutilized areas with respect to high rises, and new condominium apartments are being built at relatively modest prices. Transportation in Seoul is much better than, by way of example, Vietnam, as there are many more cars, with fewer restrictions in terms purchasing, as well as the fact that there are at least two major auto manufacturers in South Korea. I would contact an Americanized broker to assist you in the purchase of an apartment near the core of the City.

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. This column shouldn't be construed as legal advice.

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GARDEN CITY: 3 bdrm brick home w/ bsmt. Very nice neighborhood, $1,000/mo + utilities. **Call: (734) 260-1645**

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WESTLAND: 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath ranch, hardwood floors, fin bsmt, fenced yard w/patio, 2 car gar. Livonia schools. $1090/mo. (734) 658-4783

WESTLAND: Super cute updated 2 Bdrm, C/A, bsmt, appli, deck, new paint, carpet, hdwd. $700/mo. Sect 8 welcome. Agent, **734-646-4957**

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Rummage Sale/Flea Market

NORTHVILLE Huge Rummage Sale! At/to benefit Thayer's Corner Nature Area Park. 8250 Napier Rd. (N/6 Mi). Fri - Sat., Aug. 3-4, 10-3 in barn.

Estate Sales

Another Bernard Davis Estate Sale: 313-837-1993 Aug. 2-4, 9-4pm. 53356 Whitby Way, Shelby Twp. 48316. For more info go to: **estatesales.net** SEE YOU THERE!!!

COMMERCE TWP. Estate/Moving Sale. Thurs-Sat. Aug 2-4, 9am-4pm. 4488 Ravinewood Dr. Lake Sherwood. Furniture, home decor, collectibles, household, patio furniture, exercise/sports equip & much more. CASH ONLY.

NOVI ESTATE SALE
Fri 8/3 & Sat 8/4, 9-4pm. 22897 Renford, Novi 48375. Lakewoode Park Homes, Cranbrooke btwn 9 & 10 Mile. Furniture, household, media/electronics, TRAINS, etc. 248-245-3916

PLYMOUTH ESTATE SALE
13775 Ridgewood Dr. Aug. 2-4, 9-4. Huge Sale! Beautiful furniture, piano, oriental & hand loomed rugs, antiques & primitives, flat screen TV, treadmill, Winston patio furniture, folk art, pottery & decor, tools, more. Pics & details **www.TLC-estatesales.com**

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DINING RM TABLE- 35" x 54", with one leaf seats 10-12. 6 chairs. Wooden table with white inlaid tiled top. $300. Call: (248) 851-0510

DINING ROOM TABLE/CHAIRS
Gorman Special glass top dining table (4'x7'), w/2 imported pedestals; 8 upholstered chairs & 1 glass accent table. $1600/best. g-jason@sbcglobal.net for photos or to contact.

SINGER 401A Sewing Machine, $75 Port-a-Crib, $10. Ruby Red cups & saucers, $30. Oak rolltop desk $200. 248-563-6617

WINGBACK: Medium height chair, excel cond, $325. Antique dining room set, 6 chairs, incl. two end chairs, mahogany stained wood w/ flair legs, leaf, $800 as is. Dining room table, traditional pine wood, excel cond., 3 chairs, 1 leaf, $350 Queen size bed, canopy, white wash, very good cond., must see, price can be arranged. 2 bookshelves, $30 for both. Call: (313) 492-1115

Appliances

DOUBLE WALL OVEN - GE: Self clean, 27 inch model, black, excel cond, $250. **Call: (248) 207-8846**

Appliances

STOVE: GE Electric stove, flat top, 31" wide x 27" deep, black & white. Clean. $75. Call: 313-585-0789

Bicycles

BIKE: 10 speed, ladies Schwinn World Tourist model, burgundy color with front/rear fenders, $120. 248-207-8846

Tools

POWER WASHERS- Incl recycle systems and other extras. Call Kevin 734-536-9088

Cats

CATS - RESCUES
Fixed, need loving homes. 248-738-4901, 248-214-9898

Dogs

BULLDOG PUPPIES
AKC, 4 mos., health check, shots, micro chip, potty trained. Wonderful Pets! $2000. 734-635-6422

SHIH TZU PUPS, AKC
Vet checked, shots, females, highly socialized. $400. **(734) 699-9525**

STANDARD POODLES, AKC
Amazing family pet. Hypho-Allergentic. **248.636.5133**

Found - Pets

FOUND: MALTIPOO
White, 11 lbs. 9 yrs. Redford area. 734-721-0145

FOUND: POODLE. Hamtramck area. 17 lbs. Light brown or white. Female. **734-721-0145**

Lost - Pets

MISSING: 2 dogs, Dolly, white Maltipoo 6 lbs, 8 yrs old & Jet, black Yorkie mix, 2 yrs old. Reward offered. 734-721-0145

GARAGE SALES

hometownlife.com

Garage/Moving Sales

BLOOMFIELD HILLS ESTATE SALE:
2454 Middlebelt, Thurs-Sat, Aug 2-4, 10-4pm. House is packed. Pottery, art, china, collectibles, nice furniture, tools & more. No early birds and reasonable. Pics on estatesales.net

CANTON ESTATE SALE 50888 Warren Rd. Thurs-Fri-Sat., 10am-5pm. Custom furniture, entertainment center, collectibles, queen bedset, clothing, home decor & more!

CANTON- MOVING SALE: Furniture, baby items, aquarium. 8/3 - 8/5, 9-5pm. 43156 Lancelot, off Palmer btwn Lilley & Sheldon.

DEARBORN Moving: Must Sell! Solid Wood New Single Bed w/Mattress and Bedding; Floor to Ceiling Wood Cabinet-3 Large Shelves and 1 Large Door; Oak Large Roll-Top Desk; Singer Cabinet Model Electronic Sewing Machine. Call 313-271-2658 or 313-580-8031 for pricing info.

FARMINGTON - 2-FAMILY Aug. 2 & 3, 9am-4pm, 23650 Oakland, off Drake, btwn Grand River & Freedom. Bookcases, chairs, Noritake & Georgian china, collectibles, electronics, golf clubs, household items, beanie babies & more!

FARMINGTON HILLS
Sub-Wide Garage Sale
Aug. 2-4th, 9am-4pm.
Independence Hills,
11 Mile & Drake.

GARDEN CITY: Sat-Sun, Aug. 4-5, 9-5. 30632 Beechwood, N of Ford Rd., btwn Merriman & Henry Ruff. Lots of books, toys & more!

LIVONIA 10218 Laurel St. - Kid's convertible crib w/mattress, toys (Little People, riding toys, kid's bikes, baby gates, infant toys etc), outdoor climbing structures, clothes, tools-planer (new), table saw, plus more! Everything must go! No reasonable offer denied! 9am-4pm. Tues 31st. Wed. August 1st, Thurs., 2nd.

LIVONIA Garage Sale - 15951 Oporto Household items, Toys, CDs, DVDs, Adult/Kid Clothes, Books, and more! Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 9am-5pm.

LIVONIA Huge Sale! Teaching items, new household, crafts, kid's items. Thurs-Fri., Aug 2-3, 8:30-3:30pm. 17726 Levan

LIVONIA- 8/2-8/4, 8-5pm. Glassware, 3 yr white crib w/mattress, black TV stand w/TV, Big Wheels, children's play desk & more! 39145 Lyndon, btwn Newburg & Haggerty off 5 Mile.

LIVONIA- Huge sale! Toro lawnmower, new Genie garage opener, antique steamer trunk, Singer sewing machine, holiday stuff, household items, tools & more. 8/2-8/5,9am. 31101 Westfield

LIVONIA- Multi family! Baby clothes, kitchen items, household, antiques & more! 8/2-8/5, 9-5pm. 33229 Oregon, N of Joy, E of Farmington.

Milford Aug 2nd, 3rd & 4th. 9am to 4pm. North of Buno, east of Milford Rd. 1195 Hunter Ct.

NORTHVILLE 965 Grace St., North off 8 Mile. Fri. & Sat., 9am-4pm. Washer & Dryer, stove, drywall lift, furniture, household items.

NORTHVILLE- Moving sale. 8/3 9-6, 8/4 9-3pm. Antiques, furniture, household items. Timber Ridge sub, 9 Mile & Novi Rd, 43508 Scenic Lane

hometownlife.com

Garage/Moving Sales

NORTHVILLE- Moving. Furniture, household items, tools & more! Aug 3-4th, 9-4pm. 44280 Deep Hollow Circle, NE corner of 6 Mile & Sheldon

NORTHVILLE-Garage Sale Multi-Family - 860 Scott, 48167. Thurs., August 2nd & Fri., August 3rd 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

NOVI- Moving sale. Piano, washer/ dryer, Sony TV, TV cabinet, couch, 2 chairs. 8/4, 10-4pm. 21928 Worcester Dr; 9 Mile & Taft

PLYMOUTH Moving Sale - Thurs. & Fri., Aug. 2 & 3rd, 9:00 -6:00pm. Furniture, Household items. 1742 Old Salem, New England Village.

PLYMOUTH Toys, kid's clothes, household goods & furniture. August 2, 8am-3pm. 1320 Ann Arbor Trail, btwn Sheldon and Main St.

PLYMOUTH TWP: Garage & Moving Sale. Aug. 3 & 4, Garden Tools, household items, etc. 11524 Aspen. Near Ann Arbor Trail & 275.

PLYMOUTH-2 FAMILY SALE Fri-Sat, Aug. 3-4, 9-? 9999 Fellows Hill Ct., Country Club Village, off Ann Arbor Rd., W. of Ridge. Crafter retiring!

PLYMOUTH: 42315 Hammill Ln., Northville Rd. Boy's & twin girl's infant clothing, misc infant items, 2 table & chair sets, window unit a/c, misc items. Aug. 2-4, 8-4pm.

REDFORD GAR/ESTATE SALE: Tools, cabinets, desks, households, kitchen, owl items, clothing. Thurs-Tues, August 2-7, 9-6pm. 16731 Norborne.

SOUTH LYON - MULTIFAMILY August 3rd & 4th; 9am-5pm. 809 Stoney Dr., in Eagle Heights Sub @ 11-Mile & Martindale. Primarily kid's outdoor toys/play items; crib/toddler bed; pack & play; changing table; diaper pails; baby gates; car seats; girls clothes; etc.

SOUTH LYON: Multi-family. Fri-Sun, 9am-4:30pm. 1318 Buckboard Circle, Carriage Trace Sub, 11 Mile & Pontiac Trail. Furniture, sporting goods & electronics.

TROY Huge Estate Sale Antiques, Mid Century & Vintage Collectibles, Furniture, Silver, Porcelain, Lead Crystal, Depression & Milk Glass, Clocks, Mirrors, Bedroom sets, German Christmas Decorations and MUCH MORE! A Collectors Sale! Photos and Inventory list at: www.ESTATECLICKS.com August 4 & 5, 2012 (10 AM to 4 PM) 1817 Lakewood St. Troy, MI 48083

WAYNE: Clothes, toys, household goods, swing set, Band flex, CDs, 66 Mustang parts, more. Thurs. 1-7, Fri. 9-7, Sat. 12-8. 33745 Clinton St. E/Howe Rd., S/Michigan Ave.

WESTLAND- Yard sale! 35140 Florence, N of Cherry Hill, E of Wayne Rd. Sat & Sun 10-6pm. Clothing, computer desk, toys, old games, and misc items.

WESTLAND: Estate Sale 405 Ravinecrest Lane. Aug. 2-4, 9-5. Household items, tools, toys, X-mas decor, Med supplies. Cherry Hill/Newburgh.

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted-General

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATE
In Minority Outreach/ Gift Planning Departments in metro Detroit. Right to Life of Michigan, a prolife organization, (www.rtl.org). Managerial experience, communication skills, financial aptitude, assist with fundraising, community events; working from a home office. Full-time salaried position; benefits package. Resumes, with cover letter, to Personnel Director, PO Box 901, Grand Rapids, MI 49509-0901; Email: jscudder@rtl.org.

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
hometownlife.com
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES
We're looking for customer –centric, energetic, aggressive account executives for the below territories:
• Milford area
• Farmington area

If you who can follow a solutions-based strategy of sales with clients, have a proven ability to close sales and can think big to take their place as part of our Advertising team with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, South Lyon Herald, Novi News, Northville Record and Milford Times.

•College degree or equivalent work experience in field sales.
•Proven sales track record.
•Have impeccable communication skills.
•Outstanding computer skills.

We offer base + commission and benefits in a work environment that is stimulating and fast-paced along with opportunities for career growth with Gannett Co. Inc.

Email resumes to
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Attn: Sales
EEOC

CASHIER
FT & PT
Southfield. Call Sid:
(248) 860-4499

CHILD CARE ASSISTANT
Full & Part-Time.
Christian Center in Plymouth.
(734) 455-3196

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL(7355)

Help Wanted-General

CHILD CARE FACILITY
looking for Preschool Teacher & Assistant.
Call: (734) 459-9920

Clarenceville School District is seeking qualified individuals for: **•Food Service Cook •Food Service Cashier/ Helper •Transportation Sub Driver & Aides**
Interested individuals send resume to: Personnel Dept., 20210 Middlebelt, Livonia, MI 48152, call Ms. Amber Moran Food Srv 248-919-0219 or Dave Bergeron Assistant Superintendent 248-919-0253

CLEANERS NEEDED
F/T, M-F from 4:30pm to 1:00am in the Farmington Hills area $9.00 per hr.
Call (734) 642-0081

Covenant House Michigan A Human Service Agency serving homeless & at-risk youth in Detroit has the following position:

Development Officer– Donor Database Management/ Donor Retention:
FT Person in this position is responsible for planning, developing, implementing and evaluating the donor database management system and donor retention program to strengthen and support the fund-raising goals and objectives of CHM. Responsible for maintaining Raiser's Edge database of CHM donors and potential donors. Also will assist in fund raising efforts of the Development Department and work closely with the Development Team to implement and execute the goals of the Development Department's strategic plan. Bachelor degree, 2+ years exp, MS Office & Raiser's Edge proficiency required. $35-40k + excellent benefits.

Please send resume to:
Attn: HR. CHM
2959 Martin Luther King
Detroit, MI 48208.
Fax: 313-463-2222.
No phone calls please
Email: dherndon@covenanthouse.org
EOE

CUSTODIANS
Needed for local schools. $9+/hr. to start. 2nd shift. Part-Time. Mon-Fri. with some weekends. Must have reliable transportation, pass FBI/state finger print/background check & drug screen. E.O.E.
Apply online at: www.grbsinc.com

CUSTODIANS
Needed for local schools. $9+/hr. to start. 2nd shift. Part-Time, Mon-Fri. with some weekends Must have reliable transportation, pass FBI/state finger print/background check & drug screen. E.O.E.
Apply online at: www.grbsinc.com

Reach even more potential employees with an *Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Recruitment Package!*
For details call 1-800-579-7355

Help Wanted-General

CUSTOMER RELATIONS REP.
If you describe yourself as an individual with a strong work ethic who possesses excellent customer service skills, then we would like the opportunity to speak with you! This position is with a well-established leading ground transportation company serving Detroit Metropolitan Air-port. Position provides constant variety involving customer service, sales, dispatch and inspection. Did we mention there is potential to earn fabulous tips (this is where your excellent customer service skills, professional appearance, and great personality come into play!). We offer a dynamic work environment with a starting wage between $9.00 and $10.00/hour. Being able to work a flexible schedule is key, especially weekends and holidays. If you believe that the customer is always right, please submit resume to:

METRO CARS
Attn: H.R./QC
24957 Brest Road
Taylor, MI 48180
Fax: (734) 946-6040
EOE

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Ideal for anyone who can't get out to work. Work from home PT, schedule pick-ups for Purple Heart. Call Mon-Fri 9-5: 734-728-4572 or email: phoneworkinfo@aol.com

DIRECT CARE WORKER
PT positions avail. Positive attitudes a must. Must have clean driving record. Starting $7.61/hr. **(734) 394-5620**

DRIVERS
Local Transportation co. looking for professional drivers to drive sedans and vans . All shifts Available. A valid MI Chauffeur license or CDL. Exc. driving record. Must be able to pass a criminal background check and drug screen. Must have exc. customer service skills and a professional attitude. Apply in person anytime: **ABC Transportation 13420 Wayne Rd., Livonia MI 48150**

GENERAL LABORERS
Travis Contractors, LLC
Duties: cleaning work areas and digging when required. No education or exp. needed. Transportation from central location to Job Sites provided. 40hrs/wk. $11.67. Email resume: employer.travis@gmail.com Attn: Ulices Sanchez, Office Manager

GENERAL SERVICE
Change oil, mounting tires, clean shop, etc. Experience preferred. Full-Time. Apply at:
Goodyear Store
35235 W. Warren, Westland.

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Garage/Moving Sales

THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MORTGAGE MONITOR

		30 Yr.	Pts.	15 Yr.	Pts.	Other
1st Choice Mortgage Lending	(734) 459-0782	3.375	0	2.75	0	J/A
Accurate Mortgage Solutions	(800) 593-1912	3.5	0	2.75	0	J/A
AFI Financial	(877) 234-0600	3.375	0	2.75	0	J/A/F
Ameriplus Mortgage Corp.	(248) 740-2323	3.375	0	2.75	0	J/A
BRINKS Gold Star Mortgage	(888) 293-3477	3.25	0.75	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Client Services by Gold Star	(800) 991-9922	3.25	0.75	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Co-op Services Credit Union	(734) 466-6113	4	0.25	3.125	0	J
Dearborn Federal Savings Bank	(313) 565-3100	3.875	0	3.25	0	A
Fifth Third Bank	(800) 792-8830	3.875	0	3.125	0	J/A/V/F
Gold Star Mortgage	(888) 293-3477	3.25	0.75	2.75	0	J/A/V/F
Group One Mortgage	(248) 282-1602	3.625	0	3	0	J/A/V/F
Mortgages by Gold Star	(888) 293-3477	3.375	0	2.625	0	J/A/V/F

Above Information available as of 7/27/12 and subject to change at anytime. Rates are based on a $200,000 loan with 20% down & credit score of 740 or above. Jumbo rates, specific payment calculation & most current rates available Fridays after 2:00 P.M. at **www.rmcreport.com**.

Key to "Other" column - J= Jumbo, A = Arm, V = VA, F = FHA & NR = Not Reported.

All Lenders are Equal Opportunity Lenders.Lenders to participate call (734) 922-3032

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JOBS

careerbuilder.com

Help Wanted-General

GOURMET MARKET OPENINGS!!
Now accepting applications for the following positions:
- Grocery Manager
- Closing Store Manager

Produce exp. preferred
- Bakery Manager
- Deli Managment
- Floral Designer

Interested candidates please email resume to: **livoniamarket@yahoo.com**

HOUSEKEEPING ASSISTANT
$9/hr. Novi area. Mon-Fri. Hrs. vary. Exp. a must. Background check. **Resume: luvcali69@gmail.com**

HVAC Service Technicians Or Installers & Residential Journeyman Electricians, experience needed.
- Better Working Conditions
- Better Pay
- Better Benefits
- Full-Time Work Year Round (3 LOCATIONS)

FAMILY HEATING, COOLING & ELECTRICAL INC. Main office: (734) 422-8080

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is Expanding!
We will soon be opening our newest store in Auburn Hills & we are hiring for the following positions:
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- CUSTOMER SERVICE
- STOCK
- HOUSEKEEPING

Join us for our Auburn Hills Job Fair
Mon, Aug. 6, 11-7.
Immediate Interviews will be available!
4445 North Atlantic Blvd. (Located off of Brown Rd., East of Joslyn Rd.)
Or apply online at http://www.gardner-white.com/about_us/careers.php

JANITORIAL WORK
Starting at $10/hr.
Please call: 248-310-9377

JOE'S PRODUCE/ GOURMET MARKET
is currently taking applications for the following positions; Experience preferred but not necessary.
- DELI COUNTER
- WEEKEND DEMO'S
- GROCERY STOCK
- NIGHTS & WEEKENDS
- PHONE PERSON

Please apply in person at: 33152 W. 7 Mile Rd., Livonia

LAWN MAINTENANCE (experience) Full time, Please mail (ONLY) resume: 2850 Potter Rd., Wixom, 48393 or email: fredslandscape@aol.com

Plating Manager: Must have extensive experience in production nickel-chrome decorative plating line. Knowledge of waste treatment, DEQ, ISO. Exp. w/Detroit Water Sewage dept a plus. **Resume to: mary@gardner-westcott.com**

PRESS HELPERS
Steel Industries Inc., located in Redford, MI is currently looking for Press Helpers /Drivers to work on the day and afternoon shifts. These positions will be working with the press crew in assisting in making open die forgings and seamless rolled rings. Must be able to operate a hi-lo. Also must have basic math skills and be able to read a ruler.
We offer a competitive salary and benefit package. If interested, please apply at: Steel Industries Inc., 12600 Beech Daly Rd., Redford, MI 48329. AAP/EOE

SOCIAL WORKER
Nonprofit seeks part time medical Social Worker. MSW or BSW a must. Email resume ONLY to: sueb@alsofmi.org

STOCK & CLEAN UP, FT/PT
For carry out deli. Southfield. **Call Sid or Harry at: (248) 860-4499**

Teacher, FT preschool in Redford, least 1 yr. exp. teaching in the classroom. Bring resume. **313-541-1318**

TRAVELING CLEANER
Must have reliable transportation within 90 miles of home Pass background check. $10/hr. plus paid travel time, bonus mileage. Second shift Mon-Fri. E.O.E. Call our HR Hotline for **IMMEDIATE** consideration: **800-410-1181**

ZAMBONI DRIVER
Part Time
The City of Birmingham is seeking individuals to perform Zamboni operations, ice-making duties, and janitorial duties for the Birmingham Ice Arena, 2300 East Lincoln, Birmingham, MI. This position requires ice rink experience, a valid driver's license, an availability to work morning, evening, and weekend shifts and a demonstrated ability to operate Zamboni machinery preferred. The starting wage is $12.00/hr depending on experience. **Application materials will be accepted until positions are filled.**
Applications available at **www.bhamgov.org**
The City of Birmingham is an equal opportunity employer seeking qualified applicants, without regard to race or other protected status.

Help Wanted-Office Clerical

LEGAL SECRETARY
Experienced.
Needed for law firm in Livonia.
Email resume: pattfitz222@gmail.com

Help Wanted-Dental

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Part Time. Exp required.
Fax resume: 734-453-8223

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Mature, exp'd dental assistant with expanded duties desired for practice in Plymouth. Send resume to office@allenbermandds.com.

DENTAL HYGIENIST
12 Mile btwn Evergreen and Southfield. 20-25 hrs/wk. Thurs., Fri., and Sat. 2-5 yrs. exp. preferred. X-ray certified; Eaglesoft and digital x-rays a plus. Join our newly remodeled, patient centered practice. **Call Toni: 248-353-4747**

HYGIENIST
Part Time. Exp required.
Fax resume: 734-453-8223

Help Wanted-Medical

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
With X-ray, venipuncture and vital signs experience. Full time. Benefits, Mon-Fri, no eve. or weekends. **Fax resume: (248) 538-4949, attention administrator**

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
With X-ray, venipuncture and vital signs experience. Full time. Benefits, Mon-Fri, no eve. or weekends. **Fax resume: (248) 538-4949, attention administrator**

MEDICAL ASSISTANT
Full-Time in Troy. 3+ yrs exp in internal medicine. Must have exc. computer skills.
Call: 248-649-8060
Fax: 248-649-8062

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST
Experience required for Garden city area Surgeon. 20-30/hrs per week. Fax resume to: 734-427-6846

Ophthalmic Assistant
For patient oriented private practice. Duties include: direct patient care & admin/computer skills. **Please call Val at: (734) 421-5454**

RECEPTIONIST/ SURGICAL SCHEDULER
Exp'd. for busy surgical office with knowledge of Mysis Computer, Champs & Web Denis. Exp. personnel only. **Fax resume: (248) 478-5727**

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage

LINE COOK - EXP. ONLY
Apply at Ginopolis BBQ: 27815 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills

Help Wanted-Sales

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Observer & Eccentric Hometown Weekies
We're looking for customer –centric, energetic, aggressive account executives for the below territories:
- Milford area
- Farmington area

If you who can follow a solutions-based strategy of sales with clients, have a proven ability to close sales and can think big to take their place as part of our Advertising team with the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, South Lyon Herald, Novi News, Northville Record and Milford Times.

- College degree or equivalent work experience in field sales.
- Proven sales track record.
- Have impeccable communication skills.
- Outstanding computer skills.

We offer base + commission and benefits in a work environment that is stimulating and fast-paced along with opportunities for career growth with Gannett Co. Inc.
Email resumes to **ldranginis@hometownlife.com**
Attn: Sales
EEOC

INSIDE SALES
A leader in the construction equipment industry is seeking an intelligent, energetic individual to join our team. Ability to manage multiple tasks with good follow up and interact with people a must. Full time with good wages, Blue Cross, 401K with company match, vacation, holiday & sick pay. Great work environment with advancement opportunities. Please send resume in confidence to: **jobs@aisequip.com**

SALES MANAGER
Used Clothing and Shoes Company looking for an energetic, self-motivated sales manager to join our team The candidate must have proven abilities to source materials and close sales.
- College degree or equivalent work exp. in field of sales.
- Proven Sales Track Record
- Have Excellent Communication Skills
- Excellent Computer Skills
- Willing to Travel within the continental U.S.

We offer an excellent salary package with benefits, positive work environment along with opportunities for career growth and advancement.
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Hometown Weekies
www.hometownlife.com
CONTACT US AT:
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www.hometownlife.com
oeads@hometownlife.com
DEADLINES:
Fri. at 4 pm for Sunday
Tues. at 3 pm for Thursday

NEWSPAPER POLICY
All advertising published in this Newspaper is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. (Copies are available from the advertising department: Observer & Eccentric/ Hometown Weekly Newspapers, 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170, 866-887-2737. We reserve the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper & only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ad(s) the first time it appears & reporting any errors immediately. The Newspaper will not issue credit for errors in ads after THE FIRST INCORRECT INSERTION. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, only the first insertion will be credited. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (FR Doc, 724983 3-31-72). Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter & spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage & support an affirmative advertising & marketing program in which there are no barriers.
OE06747742

Help Wanted-General

Angela Hospice
Learn more about our caring programs, volunteer and employment opportunities.
www.angelahospice.org
734-464-7810
14100 Newburgh Rd.
Livonia, MI 48154
OE08762067_v2

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WANTED LIFE AGENTS: Earn $500 a Day. Great Agent Benefits. Commissions Paid Daily. Liberal Underwriting. Leads, Leads, Leads. Life Insurance License Required. Call 1-888-713-6020.

HELP WANTED-DRIVERS ATTENTION CDL-A DRIVERS! Averitt is Hiring in Your Area. Great Benefits & Hometime. 4 Months T/T Experience Required – Apply Now! 888 362 8608. Visit AVERITT.careers.com. Equal Opportunity Employer.

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GORDON TRUCKING, CDL-A, DRIVERS NEEDED! $1,000 Sign On Bonus! Regional & OTR positions. Full Benefits, 401K. EOE. No East Coast. Call 7 days/wk! 8[illegible]

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ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE FROM HOME. *Medical, *Business, *Criminal Justice, *Hospitality. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV certified. Call 877-895-1828. www.CenturaOnline.com.

AIRLINES ARE HIRING - Train for high paying Aviation Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified - Job [illegible] assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 877-891-2281.

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PIONEER POLE BUILDINGS - Free Estimates. Licensed and insured-2x6 Trusses-45 Year Warranty. Galvalume Steel-19 Colors-Since 1976-#1 in Michigan-Call Today 1-800-292-0679.

SAWMILLS FROM ONLY $3997.00 – MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill. Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD. www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363

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I BUY ANY JUNK CAR $250 Flat Rate 1-800-277-1969

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OE08783473

Call to place your ad at: 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

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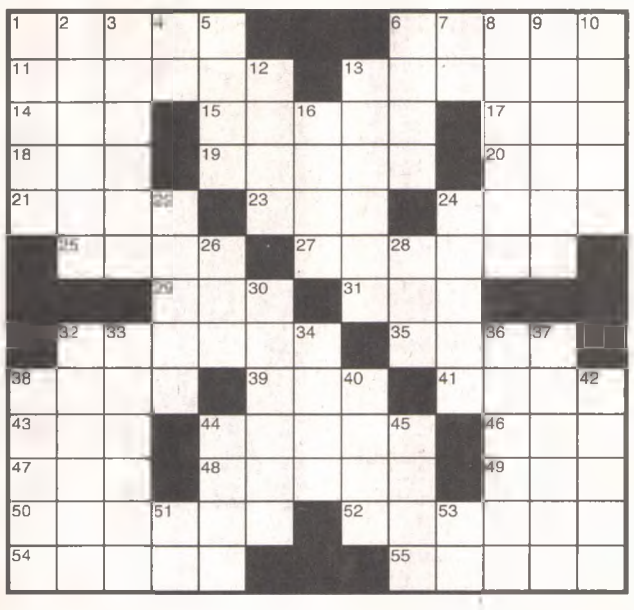
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 Guitar sound
6 Notre Dame
11 Sell chances on
13 Cheese dip
14 Boston hockey great
15 "Ghosts" playwright
17 Be mistaken
18 Numerical prefix
19 Bundles of hay
20 Way back when
21 Jiffies
23 "Futureworld" name
24 Two fives for — —
25 Table salt, to a chemist
27 Wish granters
29 Catchall abbr.
31 Disencumber
32 Healed, as a bone
35 — majeste
38 Trellis coverer
39 Pond maker
41 Crewmate of Uhura
43 Addams Family cousin
44 Copland or Spelling
46 Velvety surface
47 Rumor, perhaps
48 Fountain in Rome
49 Sassy talk
50 Pole vault and javelin
52 Daimler invention
54 Exorcist's quarry
55 Made a choice

DOWN
1 Runs slowly
2 Billionaire Buffett
3 Where the Nile is
4 Labrador prov.
5 Facile
6 Charged particles
7 ER staffer
8 Form a thought
9 Groundswells
10 "Great blue" bird
12 Online auction
13 Bug's antenna
16 Phony coin
22 What hams try to steal
24 Staff members
26 Inc. cousin
28 Goose egg
30 Fragrant trees
32 Reason why
33 Have great respect for
34 Be bold enough
36 Bright
37 Galahad's mother
38 Incited to anger
40 Change residences
42 Hiked the price
44 Envelope abbr.
45 El — (ocean current)
51 Thumbs-down
53 JAMA reader



Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	B	U	T		B	L	U	E		G	A	M
R	A	S	H		R	O	M	E		A	P	O
T	H	O	R	E	A	U		R	A	Z	E	D
			I	C	Y		G	I	B	E		
C	E	L	L	O		W	R	E	S	T	L	E
O	P	A	L		V	I	E	S		T	A	M
I	S	M		F	I	L	E	T		E	S	C
F	O	P		A	B	E	T		F	E	T	E
S	M	O	K	I	E	S		W	O	R	S	E
		O	A	R	S		L	I	I			
A	N	N	I	E		P	I	G	S	K	I	N
N	E	E		S	I	A	M		T	A	R	A
T	A	D		T	A	L	E		S	N	A	G

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Want more puzzles?
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SUDOKU

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

Level: Beginner

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

SUMMERTIME WORD SEARCH

H	S	I	R	P	A	C	E	O	I	T	A	P	E	L	C	Y	C	I	B
U	N	D	E	R	T	O	W	P	J	E	G	A	R	I	M	J	B	E	P
N	O	I	T	A	C	A	V	Y	M	T	N	W	Y	E	A	I	A	B	M
L	D	H	F	E	F	I	K	R	K	D	I	J	A	F	O	W	S	J	I
B	S	B	Y	M	C	K	A	M	N	S	N	N	A	H	T	B	E	W	L
S	T	R	O	H	S	W	G	A	E	U	C	E	B	R	A	B	B	D	N
D	K	S	V	A	F	I	S	H	S	A	N	D	A	L	S	U	A	O	W
F	E	I	G	N	I	M	M	I	W	S	V	Y	L	U	J	S	L	W	A
A	W	H	E	M	U	M	B	R	E	L	L	A	L	I	A	J	L	A	L
J	E	Y	A	S	A	N	D	C	A	S	T	L	E	S	V	D	B	T	B
P	G	G	K	M	D	U	O	E	K	R	E	V	H	P	F	G	Y	E	L
M	N	I	U	H	C	A	E	B	R	H	C	I	N	C	I	P	T	R	U
A	I	W	H	U	M	F	B	E	S	E	H	O	U	G	N	A	U	S	E
C	T	J	D	W	E	J	M	I	N	S	E	C	T	S	N	E	A	K	H
C	A	W	A	F	S	W	F	I	S	U	N	S	C	R	E	E	N	I	R
H	O	F	Y	D	I	M	U	H	M	V	O	L	L	E	Y	B	A	L	L
U	B	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	I	F	L	D	S	U	N	B	T	G
W	O	C	E	A	N	L	M	Y	S	I	O	B	A	I	L	L	O	T	V
G	A	P	R	O	T	E	C	T	I	O	N	T	A	N	K	H	U	U	R
P	W	M	E	D	A	W	F	I	P	G	G	D	S	R	U	I	T	V	W

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

WORDS

Barbecue, Baseball, Beach, Bicycle, Blue, Boating, Camp, Capris, Day, Fish, Hot, Humid, Ice cream, Insects, July, Lawn, Mirage, Ocean, Patio, Picnic, Pool, Protection, Sand, Sandals, Sandcastles, Sea, Shell, Shorts, Sky, Sun, Sunscreen, Swimming, Tan, Tank, Umbrella, Undertow, Vacation, Volleyball, Wade, Warm, Waterski

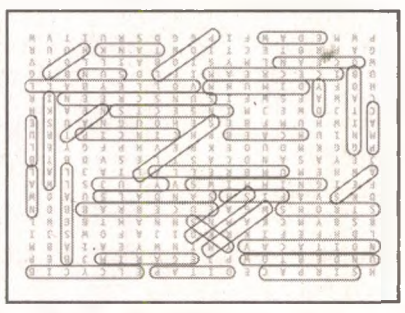
CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Sudoku

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

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS HERE

Word Search



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