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June 7, 2019
Vol. 3, No. 25

FBI determines Macomb Township victim of “extortion and bribery” in Bucci investigation

Macomb Township received approval to be granted \$66,000 that was held by the U.S. Department of Justice as a result of extortion and bribery charges against former township trustee Dino Bucci.

The petition of remission was submitted to recover the amount forfeited to the government by Bucci on December 10 last year. After an investigation by the FBI, the Department of Justice determined Macomb Township was the victim of “extortion and bribery” related to a business transaction. This remission of funds represents a full and complete recoupment of the money lost.

Bucci was indicted in November 2017 by a federal grand jury. He is accused of conspiracy, bribery, theft, extortion, mail fraud, and money laundering in connection with public contracts. Federal officials allege that as part of the conspiracy, Bucci directed contractors to give him tens of thousands of dollars in cash, checks, and gift cards in exchange for contracts with the township and county.

Bucci’s case has been delayed several times, but he is scheduled to stand trial on July 17 before U.S. District Judge Robert H. Cleland in federal court in Port Huron.

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SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE SHELBY TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT were the recipients of Police Officer of the Year awards by Police Officers Association of Michigan at its annual convention this year. Pictured above, Officer Dennis Washburn, Officer Jason Hansen, Chief Robert Shelide, Officer Joseph Wojcik, Officer Justin Goebel, and Officer Scott Phelps.

UCS Science Olympiads dominate county competition

Elementary students in Utica Community Schools have taken the top honors at the Macomb County Science Olympiad.

At the elementary level, UCS schools earned four of the top six spots in the K-6 division, held May 18 at Macomb Community College.

The all-day competition consisted of a series of 16 individual events that fell under the three main categories of Science Concepts and Knowledge, Science Processes and Thinking Skills, and Science Application and Technology.

UCS teams earning awards include: First place, Messmore Elementary; Second Place, Morgan Elementary; Third Place, Roberts Elementary; and Sixth Place, Flickinger Elementary.

Students who placed 1st in their event also won an “Einstein Award” receiving either a family membership to the Michigan Science Center or a Detroit Zoo award.

Beacon Tree Elementary
Emilio Oddo, Jared Lamb

Ebeling Elementary
Isaac Kellogg, Joshua Vigel

Harvey Elementary
Alissa Sulik, Linh Cherry, Lelia Buzenski, Madeline Pittel

Messmore Elementary
Ansh Malhotra, Michael Oommen, Anay Hapani, Dhara Ruwala, Adiv Patel, Annika Sreedhar, Bhavik Panati, Raghav Ganti

Morgan Elementary
Ella Adermatt, Seth Bartley

Roberts Elementary
Andrew Wiseman, Jack Maddigan, Madelynn Wood, Mikayla Pietraszkiwicz

Schwarzkoﬀ Elementary
Kimberly Chan, Sophia Gibala

Shelby Township introduces new DDA ordinance

by ELENA DURNBAUGH

The Shelby Township Board of Trustees voted to introduce a new Downtown Development Authority Ordinance that will expand the DDA boundaries and adopt and amend a new DDA Plan.

Although Shelby Township does not have a downtown like other places in the metro area, like Utica or Rochester, Director of Planning and Zoning Glenn Wynn explained that the DDA in Shelby would serve as a financing mechanism to capture taxes and use the money for improvements.

“Calling it a downtown is a misnomer,” Wynn said. “We’re not trying to be something we’re not. We’re trying to use this as a tool.”

Shelby Township previously had a DDA boundary extending from the Utica city limits to 25 Mile Road. Approximately 10 years ago, Shelby Township DDA funds were used to extend the

See SHELBY TWP, page 2



UCS SCIENCE OLYMPIAD students from Messmore Elementary dominated county competition on May 18 at an event held at Macomb Community College.

Shelby board set to adopt new DDA ordinance

SHELBY TWP, From page 1

sewer system south of 22 Mile Road. According to Wynn, now that there's a new sanitary system, new development is able to take place on the south end of Van Dyke.

The new DDA ordinance will increase the boundary to 26 Mile. Wynn said that the area was better thought of as a corridor rather than a downtown. In addition to expanding the DDA boundaries, the new ordinance will reset the base property values.

"In 2008, we all know, the economy went under, so the

values took a real dive. The DDA is underwater and they're not collecting any money. There's no taxes to collect," Wynn said.

Adopting and amending a new DDA plan will allow the township to start over so that property values accurately reflect what they are today.

"We're resetting the values so we don't have to keep catching up," Wynn said.

Earlier this year, the township sent notices to all property owners within the new boundaries as well as the taxing jurisdictions that will be affected by the DDA tax capture. These included

Macomb County Board of Commissioners, the County Executive, Department of Public Works, and the Treasurer, the Macomb Intermediate School District, the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority, S.M.A.R.T, and Utica Community Schools. Each taxing jurisdiction had the opportunity to opt out. Only the Huron Clinton Metropark passed a resolution to be exempted from DDA tax capture.

The Township Board of Trustees plans to adopt the ordinance at the June 18 board meeting.



USPBL week in review

The Utica Unicorns have won eight of their last nine games and are riding a three-game winning streak to highlight This Week in the USPBL. The Unicorns currently hold a three-game lead in the standings at 9-2.

The Diamond Hoppers had a six-run ninth inning last Sunday to rally past the Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers, 8-7. The Hoppers have won four of their last five games and are currently in second place.

The Woolly Mammoths' Sonny Cortez took over the batting lead and is currently hitting .432 on the season. Local player and Diamond Hoppers standout Pat Adams ranks second in the league with a .405 average, and Eastside's right-handed pitcher Noah Gotsis leads the league with a 1.29 earned run average.

USPBL games are played at Jimmy John's Field and fans can purchase tickets as low as \$6 (lawn seats) or \$12 (grandstand tickets at uspbl.com/).

Turning Point to host golf outing fundraiser

Turning Point Macomb is hosting their annual Survivors Golf Outing at the Sycamore Hills Golf Club on Friday, June 21.

The event will start at 1:30 p.m. and feature scramble format golf play between four-person teams along with course games, prizes, and a \$10,000 amateur hole-in-one contest. The cost to play is \$150 per golfer or \$500 for a team of four.

Registration runs from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Turning Point is a sexual assault and domestic violence advocacy group based in Michigan.

"We depend on the generosity of sponsors ... to help 'Break the Cycle' of sexual assault and domestic violence," said CEO Sharman Davenport.

Sponsorship opportunities up to \$2,500 are available. Tickets are available at Turningpointmacomb.org/event/golf/.

Former Utica Unicorns Pitcher Randy Dobnak in AAA

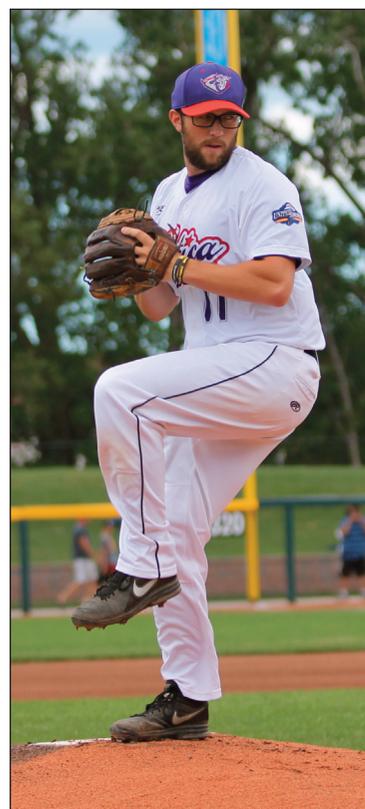
By MIKE SCOTT
USPBL Contributor

Sometimes, all you need is an opportunity. Just ask Randy Dobnak.

The Pittsburgh native and former Utica Unicorn is one step away from the major leagues just two years after mowing down opponents in the USPBL.

Dobnak has advanced from High-A ball, to Double-A, to Triple-A in less than two months of pitching for the Minnesota Twins organization. As of June 3, he has started in 10 games across the three levels, pitching to a 2.23 ERA with a 1.10 WHIP. He's now with the Triple-A Rochester Red Wings. In April, the scouting reports and fantasy baseball rankings website ProspectsLive.com said this about the righty:

"Undrafted free agent that went from small Division II school to Independent league. Up-tempo, repeatable delivery. Gets plus extension to get most out of his size. FB sat 92-94 T95 with good arm side run. Used splitter at 84-



86 to run in and jam batters. Both pitches generated constant groundballs. Pitches to contact. Showed slider that showed average at times. Always had a plan on the mound. Potential back-end starter piece."

Dobnak played at Alderson Broaddus, a small college in West Virginia and signed with the USPBL in 2017. It didn't take him long to show his stuff there, as he went 3-0 with a 2.31 ERA and 0.80 WHIP, allowing just 22 hits and six walks in 35 innings with the Unicorns, capped off by a complete game, four-hitters on July 22, 2017. He was signed by the Twins organization shortly thereafter.

Dobnak is one of 27 USPBL players that have been signed by MLB organizations. The 6-foot-1 inch right-hander tossed 6.0 scoreless innings in his most recent outing on June 3 in AAA for the Rochester Red Wings and is just one step away from reaching his Major League dream.

Sen. Lucido to host coffee hour in Romeo



State Sen. Peter Lucido will host a coffee hour in Romeo on Monday, June 17.

Lucido will meet with constituents at the Four Corners Diner from 9 to 10:30 a.m. to take questions, provide information, and listen to suggestions on issues affecting residents.

"It is my honor to serve the people of Romeo in the state Senate," Lucido said in a

statement. "And it will be my pleasure to serve them coffee as they dine on a delicious breakfast at one of the area's great establishments, the Four Corners Diner. I look forward to a vibrant discussion."

To learn more or to contact Lucido, visit senatorpetelucido.com or call 517-373-7670. The Four Corners Diner is at 231 E. St. Clair St. in Romeo.



THURSDAY, JUNE 6
Thirsty Thursday
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Swipe Right Night
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First Pitch 7:05PM, Gates Open 6:00PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 7
Meet the Hoppers
Fireworks Spectacular
First Pitch 7:05PM, Gates Open 6:00PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 8
WCSX Classic Rock Saturday
Band: Laughing Madmen
Girl Scouts Night
First Pitch 7:05PM, Gates Open 6:00PM

SUNDAY, JUNE 9
Turtle Ninja Party
First Pitch 1:05PM, Gates Open Noon

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Shelby Music Society monthly meeting June 8

The Shelby Music Society meets this Saturday, June 8, at the Shelby Township Community Center.

Open mic begins at 6:30 p.m., and this month's theme is Father's Day. Songs should be about dad or

mention a man's name. People are invited to enjoy an evening of music, fun, and special drawings for the men in attendance.

Coffee, cold drinks, and snacks will be provided. There is a \$3 donation at the door.

Those who would like to learn more about the meeting or the Shelby Music Society should contact Carlene at 586-262-4061 and leave their name and number. People can also send an email to shelbymusicsociety@yahoo.com.

Operation Ghost Rider cracks down on distracted drivers

If you got pulled over for distracted driving on Thursday, April 25, you were far from the only one. In a 12-hour period, over 290 people were issued citations and five arrests were made.

Operation Ghost Rider was in effect, and officers in unmarked spotter vehicles were radioing officers in marked cars to pull people over if their eyes were off the road or their hands were off the wheel.

Police departments across the region, including Utica Police Department, Shelby Township Police Department, and the Macomb County Sheriff's Office participated in the crackdown.

The extra enforcement was

announced early Thursday morning in a tweet by the Michigan State Police.

Operation Ghost Rider was launched in Macomb County in 2017. That year, an 18-hour enforcement period resulted in 726 citations and 34 arrests, and in 2018, 440 citations were issued and nine arrests were made in a 6-hour period.

Michigan has had a law prohibiting texting while driving since 2010, but it's difficult to enforce as the officer must see the driver typing on their phone and the activity is easily denied in court. A driver's first offense costs them \$100, and all subsequent offenses cost \$200.

Utica elementary schools celebrate UCS graduates

Utica Community Schools elementary schools have invited Class of 2019 graduates back to celebrate where their educational journeys began.

Several elementary schools in the district are hosting special events to celebrate their alumni including assemblies where graduates address the students and clap-outs, where current students line the halls to recognize this year's graduating high school students.

The program is designed to show elementary students the importance of education and inspire them to continue through high-school into post-secondary education. The events also give alumni the chance to reconnect with former teachers and reflect on their accomplishments.

Next week, events will be held at several elementary schools. On Monday, June 10, Dresden Elementary will host an assembly at 9:15 a.m. Beacon Tree Elementary, Burr Elementary, and Morgan Elementary will all host events on Tuesday, June 11. Beacon Tree will host a school wide assembly at 9 a.m., Burr will host an alumni walk out at 8:15 a.m., and Morgan will host a clap-out at 2:45 p.m. On Wednesday, June 12, Ebeling Elementary will host a clap-out at 3 p.m., and on Thursday, June 13, Flickinger Elementary will host and assembly at 8:45 a.m. Havel Elementary will round out the week of celebrations with an assembly for alumni on Friday, June 14, at 9:30 a.m.

To learn more about the events or to find out if a particular elementary school is hosting an

alumni celebration, visit the school's website through uticak12.org/, or contact the specific elementary school the student previously attended.

All good things: Signing off for the last time

PERSPECTIVES



Op-Ed by
PETE MAURER

I first started writing for the Gazette nearly 30 years ago, as a letter to the editor regarding the inane ramblings of a columnist whose ultra-conservative views were too extreme for some. My rather tongue-in-cheek retort to that columnist led to a weekly column. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Through the years, politics, economics, education, and reminiscences have graced the pages of the Gazette, sometimes humorous, sometimes informative, and occasionally controversial, but like I wrote some 29 years ago in my first official column, it didn't matter to me whether you agreed or not, only that it made you think, and perhaps respond. And boy, did

they respond.

Most were positive in nature, some nasty, and some were threats – with no veil whatsoever. I once had to report a letter to the police, so extreme was the response. But most people who wrote or emailed me were supportive and encouraging.

I never suffered from writer's block, and found that even weekly columns were not often enough to satisfy that inner desire within me to opine on matters of significance. I found that my reminiscences, particularly those of summer antics or the holidays were the best received. Growing up in Saginaw in the 1960s and 70s provided me with lots of anecdotes and stories that could only happen in a mid-Michigan, mid-sized town, to a middle child.

I have had the opportunity to write well in excess of one thousand columns, some of which have found their way onto refrigerators, work message boards, and in one bizarre instance, the counter of a drug store in Scottsdale, Arizona that I was visiting for a late-night snack. I have even had people from

several U.S. states email me about something I'd written that they had read in the Gazette they'd found in a restaurant or bar in their town, undoubtedly left behind by people who had been in Michigan earlier.

It would seem the circulation of the Gazette might be a tad more than they think.

But like all good things, my time with the Gazette is over. My life is in the midst of some rather big changes right now, and the time feels right for me to embark on other journeys, ones that I hope will be as rewarding as my time writing for the Gazette.

For those of you interested in continuing to read my work, I would have you visit my blog at Gobluegrad.wixsite.com/website/.

And for those of you interested in my photography, you may wish to follow me on my Instagram account, @pjmphotography_.

Who knows what the future holds, but I know that I've enjoyed the time spent at the Gazette and with its weekly readers.

Signing off for the last time.

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A fun musical romp at Meadow Brook with “The IT Girl”

PLAY REVIEW

by
SUZANNE ANGIO (member, American Theatre Critics Association) and
GREG ANGIO (Member Emeritus, San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle)

If you need a break from the serious stuff of life, Meadow Brook has just the ticket: “The IT Girl”, a lighter-than-air confection of spun sugar and flaming youth. The Roaring Twenties setting lets everybody wear cool period clothes, dance the Charleston and escape, from time to time, into the black and white world of silent film. And of course, our heroine gets her man.

Speaking of silent film, fans will no doubt recall the movie “IT”, a breezy 1927 star vehicle for the Brooklyn Bombshell, Clara Bow. She was known forever after as “The IT Girl” for her role as Betty, a lively young lingerie clerk with plenty of pizzazz in the world’s biggest department store. The musical of the same name, which appeared off-Broadway in 2001, follows pretty much the same cutesy-clichéd plotline as the film but is set to jazzy music by Paul McKibbins, carefree lyrics by BT McNicholl and book by McNicholl and Michael Small. Set in New York City, there’s love at first sight, bootleg booze, romantic rivals, a

silly contest, some moments of pathos and lots of spirited singing and dancing in between.

Sara Kmiec brings high-wattage charm and nonstop perkiness to the role of Betty and delivers an equal measure of song-and-dance talent. Jonathan, Betty’s love interest and son of the Waltham department store owner, is played with sincere warmth and a touch of class by Nathan Cockroft. Vying for Jonathan’s attention is the dazzling Jackie Raye as Adela Van Norman, the local social climber. Dan Fenaughty as Jonathan’s sidekick Monty is splendidly goofball and also aptly double-cast as a clown. As the leads, only Kmiec and Cockroft have single roles to play. The rest of the talented cast have multiple roles, some as many as five. They include Larissa Klinger, Ron Williams, and Stephanie Wahl.

True to form, Travis Walter brings boundless affection and razor-sharp pacing to his direction. The action stays at a breakneck pace, soaring like a rocket from start to finish. There are some really interesting shadow effects in a few dance numbers (reminiscent of the effects in some of Fred Astaire’s filmed sequences), enhanced with jaunty choreography by Jeremy Benton. Standout songs include “Step Into Their Shoes”, “Why Not” and “A Perfect Plan” which showcase the exceptional voice and dance talent

of the performers.

Scenic design by Jen Price Fick attempts to strike a balance between the needs of the script (the real world of Betty vs the “black and white world” of silent film) and the stagecraft at hand. The mixed result: drab, grayish set pieces are called upon to serve as a lingerie department, a yacht and a couple of different domiciles. They also provide the background for several intervals of black and white “silent movie” action performed by the cast, realized with clever strobe lighting effects by Matthew J Fick. This really livens up the proceedings and is a very cute narrative device, but the slightly ghoulish white face paint and black lips worn by the cast, even when they aren’t in “black and white movie mode”, is a little disturbing. Wardrobe by Corey Collins is likewise in the grayscale color range, although the clothing is fun and perfectly reflects the period.

The cast, individually and as an ensemble, not only have a first-rate vocal talent and dance moves, but also the chops for broad comedy, so essential for pulling something like this off with such panache. And playing right along is the excellent six-piece orchestra led by Heidi Joosten. Everyone is clearly having a great time, and so will you.

The IT Girl is playing now through June 23. Tickets cost \$30-45 and can be purchased at mbtheatre.com/.

Avoid bidding wars by building new

LOMBARDO HOMES

Southeast Michigan is currently experiencing a seller’s market, which means there are more buyers seeking to purchase homes than there are available homes for sale. When multiple buyers are interested in a single home, bidding wars erupt, which can often drive up the price of the home.



This is great news if you’re selling, but can lead to frustration and heartbreak if you’re a buyer and lose the opportunity to purchase your dream home.

Bidding wars aren’t a problem when you build a new home. At Lombardo Homes, our homesites are available to reserve on a first come, first served basis, which means you don’t have to outbid your neighbor for the homesite of your dreams. If you fall in love with an available homesite, all you have to do is put a reservation on the site and sign a purchase agreement within the next two weeks. No frustration, and definitely no heartbreak.

Lombardo Homes is a family-owned homebuilding company that has been in business for almost 60 years. We build homes in more than 20 communities across Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw, Wayne, and Livingston counties, as well as in the greater St. Louis, Missouri area. We also offer Anywhere Lombardo, our build-on-your-lot program, where we build a Lombardo home on your land. We feature a variety of home styles in our communities, from ranch and townhome condominiums to single family home first-floor master plans, ranches, or open two-story layouts.

There has been a recent resurgence in the condominium market with many baby boomer homeowners choosing to downsize. These homeowners are typically still looking for a

spacious home with a basement, but without all the outdoor maintenance. Featherstone at the Retreat in Macomb Township is the perfect option for these homeowners. Besides offering three maintenance-free ranch plans, ranging from 1,500 sq. ft. to over 2,000 sq. ft., Featherstone also offers amazing community amenities including community sidewalks, a community clubhouse and pool, as well as a plethora of scheduled community social events.

Our millennial buyers have also been instrumental in determining homes and communities we offer. While many millennial customers are happy in our traditional, single family home communities, others have expressed a desire for less maintenance in homeownership as well as more opportunity for social interaction with neighbors. From that idea, our community Keystone at the Retreat came to be. This offers spacious, maintenance-free townhomes offering 2,000 sq. ft. of living space, 3 bedrooms, and 2 ½ bathrooms. This community also shares the same amenities as Featherstone at the Retreat, so Keystone homeowners also enjoy the conveniences of a community clubhouse and pool, as well as scheduled community social events.

What’s a common benefit of buying new? Our homeowners tell us it’s that their homes are uniquely theirs. You might fall in love with a resale home, but there’s usually something in the home you’re not thrilled with. Maybe the home has enough bedrooms and bathrooms for your family, but you’re stuck sharing the upstairs bath with the kids again. Maybe the deck in the backyard will need to be replaced in the next few years. Or maybe the kitchen has good bones, but the avocado-green cabinets have got to go.

When you build a new home, you select features and finishes that complement your tastes and lifestyle. Our sales team will meet with you to discuss how your family lives in your home today and how it will change in the future. From that meeting, we can make recommendations for the best floor plan and structural options to fit your family’s needs and lifestyle. At your selections appointment, our trained Design Consultants will help you select colors, features, and finishes that best show off your style.

For information on Lombardo Homes’ communities, locations, pricing, floorplans, and more, visit LombardoHomes.com/.

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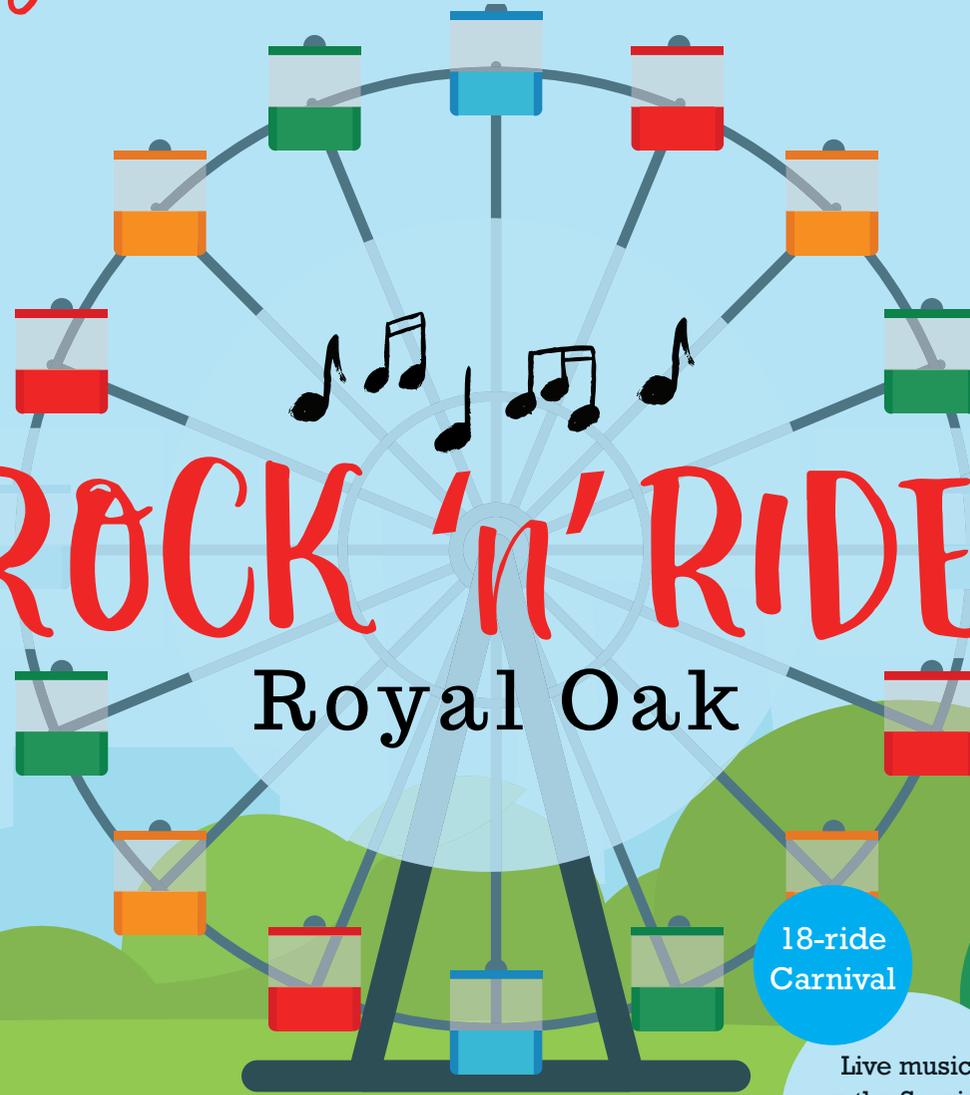
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Friday, June 21: 11am – 11pm

Saturday, June 22: 11am – 11pm

Sunday, June 23: 11am – 10pm

A portion of the proceeds benefits over 20 local non-profits, schools and churches!

Friday, June 21

- 2:00pm: Wood & Grain (American Roots Rock)
- 3:00pm: Ameera and The Undertones (Funk/Alternative)
- 4:15pm: The Strangers (Rock/Indie)
- 5:30pm: Christian Vegh (Blues/Rock)
- 7:00pm: Dave Hamilton Band (Rock)
- 8:30pm: Ulterior Motive (Rock and Roll)
- 10:00pm: The Persuasion Band (Party Music)

Saturday, June 22

- 12:00pm: Banjolectric (Global Electro-Folk)
- 1:30pm: WØLFDARLING (Alternative)
- 3:00pm: Rock Steady (Classic Rock)
- 4:30pm: Corktown Popes (Americana/Rock)
- 6:15pm: Nina & The Buffalo Riders (Rock & Roll & Soul)
- 8:00pm: The Ruiners (Garage Rock/Punk)
- 9:45pm: Stone Clover (Paddy Slag/Rock)

Sunday, June 23

- 12:00pm: Al Bettis (Pop/R&B)
- 1:30pm: Ali McManus (Soft Rock/Pop)
- 3:00pm: Maiyana Davis (Blues Rock)
- 4:30pm: Overdrive Orchestra (Rock)
- 6:00pm: The Reefermen (Rock)
- 7:30pm: TAVISTOCK (Rock/Classic Rock)
- 9:00pm: The Gia Warner Band (Rock/Americana)

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Gemini: Success is a good thing; Maybe sit back and enjoy it for once?

YOUR JUNE HOROSCOPE

by
PAULA LYNDE

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Prepare to be busy this month, Gemini. It is likely that you are trying new things right now and constantly adding items to your agenda. Life is a whirlwind, and you are loving every minute of your newfound (ordered) chaos. Why? You feel more accomplished and fulfilled than ever and there is just no stopping your forward momentum. Just remember to pause briefly every now and then to enjoy your victories – you have earned the right to bask in the glow of your success.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): Things may get a little topsy-turvy with your love life this month, Cancer. And this could be good news or bad news, depending on your situation. For example, if things seem great, you may suddenly notice something

that gives you second thoughts about the stability of your relationship. Or, if you had nearly given up on a person or situation, a sudden, silver lining might cause a spark that ignites a new passion. Either way, take heart, because everything will work out alright in the end.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug 22): Now is a great time to add a new skill to your repertoire, Leo. Your mind is open and ready to learn, and there is a good chance that investing a little time – and possibly a little money – will yield positive results down the road. So, go ahead and take that class that might lead to a promotion at work or even a new career path. Or, pick up a hobby that appeals to you. Even if it does not lead to monetary gain, this hobby will likely enrich your life, provide opportunities for exercise, or help you make friends.

♍ VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 22): There is likely something your life that is causing unnecessary negativity and stress, Virgo. And now is the time to walk away. This could be a situation, a job, a relationship, a habit, or

something else, but it is consuming too much of your mental space and energy. So, make plans to cut ties this month, even if it involves making a difficult decision. After getting over a temporary rough patch, you should feel an incredible sense of relief, inner peace, and renewed energy.

♎ LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 22): Let's be honest for a moment, Libra. Sometimes you take on a little too much – too many responsibilities at work, too many projects at home, and too many social obligations. In all fairness, your intentions are always but, but the resulting stress is not. However, this month, for you, there is no such thing as too much. Extreme multitasking is easy and even fun right now, so take advantage of your new and improved juggling skills to tackle your ever-growing to-do list.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): For better or for worse, relationships are all about surprises this month, Scorpio. For example, if you are single and recently experienced a bad date, the individual whom you have probably written off may reappear in a much more appealing light. Conversely, that new friend whom you immediately liked may reveal a side of themselves that isn't so charming. Luckily, these unexpected revelations will ultimately make your life easier by allowing you to only devote energy to the relationships that are likely to last.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): Good news, Sagittarius. It looks like travel and adventure are on the horizon. June, in fact,

may take you out of state or even out of the country. But even if you stay within just a few miles of your home, you will likely have opportunities to explore and discover new things. You will also have some time to devote to building new relationships or rekindling existing connections. Take advantage of these opportunities because even the most independent Sagittarius sometimes needs a travel buddy.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): Uh-oh, Capricorn, indecision has allowed a situation at work or at home get out of hand. Naturally, you have delayed potential actions to preserve the feelings of someone else or several other people, but your feelings and goals matter too. So, suffer in silence no more. Instead, take a deep breath and make your move. Initially, you may step on some toes. But, when the smoke clears, everything should start to settle down, and the situation will likely be resolved before the end of the month.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): Here is the good news, Aquarius: It is likely that a big opportunity has presented itself. However, the bad news is that seizing this opportunity may require some uncomfortable life changes. In addition, certain obstacles in your path may challenge your stamina. But don't be deterred. You have more strength and resiliency than you realize. And if you tackle your obstacles and problems head-on to meet your goals and take advantage of this opportunity, you will be a much happier Aquarian down the road.

♓ PISCES (Feb 19-March 20): Right now, Pisces, there is a good chance that friends, coworkers, and family members are offering you unsolicited help and advice. And, while you know they mean well, a large part of you is taken aback by their gestures. After all, you are a strong and capable individual who doesn't need anyone's help to meet goals and meet the daily challenges of living. Yet, you must remember that there is no shame in accepting assistance, especially when it comes from wise and experienced individuals who have your best interests at heart.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): Right now, you may be getting a strong urge to be your own boss, Aries. This urge could inspire your entrepreneurial spirit enough to make take the first steps toward starting your own business. Or, you may find that it is enough to speak out more at your existing job, finding your voice and creating better opportunities for yourself. Another possibility is that this take-charge attitude will lead you to take back control and power in a relationship that was previously one-sided.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): At some point this month, Taurus, you will likely determine that you cannot fix every person, situation, or relationship. At some point, something must give, and it should not be your sanity. Now is the time to remove toxicity from your life. This realization may lead you to make some tough decisions. However, taking these actions to eliminate negativity will pay off in the end.

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Free outdoor summer fun this weekend

This weekend marks the 33rd annual free fishing weekend in Michigan, and Sen. Michael MacDonald is reminding Macomb County residents that they can enjoy a favorite outdoor summer pastime at no cost.

"Fishing has long been one of Michigan's premier outdoor activities, and this weekend families can head out and experience our state's tremendous fishing opportunities—completely free," MacDonald, R-Macomb Township, said in a press release.

Since 1986, Michigan has celebrated the free fishing weekend to promote awareness of the state's aquatic resources and to give families a chance to get outside and pass along the joy of fishing. The event concludes

Michigan Boating Week, which provides people with opportunities to start boating, get back on the water, or learn new skills.

On June 8- June 9, all fishing license fees will be waived, though all fishing regulations will still apply. The state will also waive the regular vehicle entry fee for vehicle access to Michigan's 103 state parks and recreation areas. Families can also enjoy the first of the state's two summer free ORV weekends on Saturday and Sunday. Off-road enthusiasts will be able to ride on designated routes and trails without an ORV license or trail permit.

Across the state, several events are being held to help people take advantage of the free

weekend.

"I encourage everyone to take advantage of the free weekend to enjoy time in Michigan's great outdoors," MacDonald said.

Shelby Township Parks and Recreation is hosting a Youth Fishing Derby on Saturday, June 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Heritage Garden. The event is free and open to kids 15 and younger. Heritage Garden is at 52700 Van Dyke Avenue.

To learn more about the Summer Free Fishing Weekend, including a list of activities across the state, visit michigan.gov/freefishing/. People can also get more information about the free off-roading weekend by visiting michigan.gov/ORVInfo.

Gazette CLASSIFIEDS

June 7, 2019



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Gazette

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GARAGE SALE

Emerald Lakes Subdivision, east of Rochester, north of Square Lake. Dozens of homes. June 7-8, some open on June 6. 9am-4pm.

RUMMAGE SALE

Church Rummage Sale
Korean United Methodist Church
42693 Dequindre Rd, Troy MI 48085

June 6th (Th) & June 7th (Fri) 8am-8pm
June 8th (Sat) 8am-3pm

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Beginner & Intermediate guitar lessons taught by teacher with 10 years in-studio experience (references available). Great with kids (ages 7+), teens, and adults of all skill level and musical interests. Lessons taught at office studio in Troy.

Lessons \$25/half-hour once a week. Call Andrew at 248-842-1828 and get \$10 off your first lesson!

VOLUNTEER

Forgotten Harvest is a non-profit organization that collects surplus food and redistributes it to local charities, providing families in the metro-Detroit area with fresh and nutritious food.

Not only do their efforts benefit those in need in the community who need it most, they also help reduce food waste in the area by collecting large quantities of food from restaurants, wholesalers, and caterers.

Forgotten Harvest is always in need of monetary donations and volunteers. Visit ForgottenHarvest.org for more information on how to donate your time, energy, and efforts to this worthy cause.

VOLUNTEER

Hope Not Handcuffs is an initiative started by Families Against Narcotics (FAN), aimed at bringing law enforcement and community organizations together in an effort to find viable treatment options for individuals seeking help to reduce dependency with heroin, prescription drugs, and alcohol.

A person struggling with any drug addiction can come to any of the participating police agencies and ask for help. They will be greeted with support, compassion and respect. Hope Not Handcuffs volunteer 'Angels' help with paperwork and provide compassionate support until a treatment option is found. Angel's can choose their own time slot by signing up to be on call for just 2 four hour blocks per month.

To sign up and learn more, visit familiesagainstnarcotics.org/volunteer

ADOPT A PET

The Humane Society of Macomb works to prevent cruelty to animals, and place adoptable pets into good, permanent homes with responsible owners and promote spaying and neutering to prevent overpopulation. The Humane Society of Macomb has many cats, dogs, puppies and kittens waiting for a new home. They are open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.- 3 p.m. for adoptions. Give them a call at 586-731-9210, and visit them at 11350 22 Mile Road in Utica.

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Bunny



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GET YOUR GAZETTE

Gazette Media Group is a media and events company based in Troy, Michigan. Originally established in 1980 by Claire Weber as the Troy-Somerset Gazette, GMG now publishes three local newspapers and hosts a variety of events throughout the metro Detroit area. The Gazette creates and curates hyper-local content and distributes free weekly newspapers throughout businesses in the community. Go to GetYourGazette.com to read past issues and to find the nearest pick-up location. The Gazette is always looking for news, photos, and tips from around the community. Email News@GazetteMediaGroup.com or call 248-524-4868 for editorial submissions.



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Sudoku

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

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15 words for \$12.00, each additional word 25¢ • Phone numbers and hyphenations count as 2 words, abbreviations count as 1 word

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Deadline for ad placement is 10 a.m. Wednesday, the week of publication.

Gazette Media Group reserves the right to revise, classify, or reject in whole or in part, any advertisement in this newspaper. Errors / Corrections: The Gazette is committed to correcting errors that appear in the newspaper. Those interested in contacting the paper for that purpose can email: News@GazetteMediaGroup.com or call 248-524-4868. Please note, the Gazette is not responsible for errors in advertising.

Moving beyond graduation

HOME MATTERS



by
PAULA REA

We are in the midst of graduation season, and the celebrations are in full swing. This is an exciting time for both high school and college graduates. While most high school grads may not be thinking of purchasing their first home, college graduates might be considering this purchase as a part of their next chapter in life. There are several items to consider for either during this time.

will be able to create a list of must-haves for their next house. For those who have the financial resources to purchase a home, this can feel like an exciting time, and it is! It can also feel overwhelming and scary, but it doesn't have to be.

Hiring a trusted, experienced real estate team is key to a successful first-home buyer experience. Our knowledge of local real estate, neighborhoods, parks, and schools will help you make your final decision. We will walk you through open houses and help you think long term when viewing each home. Probably most important to any buyer, is making a competitive offer that is within your budget.

Do you know what you can afford and what price point you must stay below? Did you know there are amazing credits



First, and most importantly, will be the buyer's financial history. As a high school graduate, for the majority, traditional financing will not be available as no credit history has been firmly established. Of course, there will always be exceptions to this rule. However, for both type of grads, renting a home, condo, or apartment offers the benefit of helping build a strong credit history.

Thecollegeinvestor.com shared, "A lot of college grads are asking themselves a very important question which, if not answered correctly, will have them battling poor financial health for anywhere between 5 to 10 years, or much longer depending on the choice they make. Your first home will provide you with countless memories that can last you a lifetime. However, the question of whether you should buy, or rent is one that needs careful consideration."

We agree and know that outside of financial considerations, renting will allow future buyers to explore a variety of home or condo styles and they

available to first home buyers? There are, and we will make sure you don't miss out on any of them! Visiting a mortgage broker before your search begins will save you the heartache of finding your dream home only to find out it is way beyond your means.

We recommend contacting John Adams Mortgage Company at 248-813-4925 to learn more about finance options available to your unique situation. Hiring Paula Rea-Johnston of The Linda Rea Team to work alongside John Adams Mortgage Company will guarantee your first home buying/leasing experience is a success.

Congratulations to the Class of 2019 in Utica and surrounding areas! We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you success in all future endeavors.

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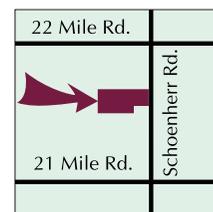
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