

Senior Living - Inside

Shelby • Utica • Macomb • Washington

Gazette

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September 13, 2019

Vol. 3, No. 39

Fork & Cork Festival to feature Sherwood Brewing Company

Sherwood Brewing Company is one of several local breweries that will be serving up suds at the Fork & Cork Festival on September 20-22 in Downtown Utica.

Sherwood is a full-service microbrewery, founded in 2006, that offers beer, wine, mead, hard cider, and hard seltzer, in addition to a full food menu.

Ray Sherwood said that keeping things as local as possible was important to Sherwood Brewing because it's a local company.

"We're a local company ourselves," he said. "We know how important it is to get people focused on local businesses."

On top of Fork & Cork's local connection, Ray Sherwood said the brewery was glad to be able to help support the Humane Society of Macomb because the humane society is a local charity and the Sherwoods are animal lovers.

"We definitely wanted to be involved, and on top of that it supports a great cause," he said.

Sherwood Brewing hosts several events throughout the week, including trivia and game nights, a walking club, and performances for local musicians.

"We're just trying to be the local neighborhood bar in a place where people aren't used to that," he said.

Sherwood Brewing Company is located at 45689 Hayes Rd. in Shelby Township. To learn more, go to Sherwoodbrewing.com or call 586-532-9669.



TURNING POINT MACOMB will host the 12th Annual Tara's walk on Saturday, September 28 at 9 a.m. at Freedom Hill to help raise proceeds and awareness of domestic violence in our community. Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel is pictured above with Turning Point supporters.

Turning Point ready for 12th Annual Tara's Walk

Turning Point is gearing up to celebrate the 12th Tara's Walk on Saturday, September 28 at 9 a.m. at the Freedom Hill Amphitheater in Sterling Heights.

Tara's family began this event in 2007 to raise awareness about domestic violence and prevent other families from experiencing the tragedy and loss of a loved one as they did with Tara.

Proceeds from this event go to the Tara Liberation Fund, which provides emergency cash assistance for survivors fleeing a domestic violence situation.

Tara's sister, daughter, mother and other family members

attend the event each year. Tara's daughter, Lindsey, said, "This event is so important to my family and lets people know what domestic violence does to families."

Turning Point is seeking sponsors and teams to participate in the Walk. Sponsorships run from \$5,000 to less than \$150. Sponsorships and other information are available by contacting Karan Bates-Gasior at 586-463-4430 ext. 226 or emailing kbgasior@turningpointmacomb.org.

Discounted advance registration is available at Turningpointmacomb.org/.

Walkers and runners can also register onsite beginning at 9 a.m. Fees for adults are \$25. Teams of six or more are \$20 per person, which includes a course sign with custom messaging.

Turning point provides emergency, support, and prevention services for domestic and sexual violence survivors for over 38 years. Services consist of an emergency shelter, individual and group counseling, advocacy, and much more.

Visit Turningpointmacomb.org for more information.

UCS increases focus on early elementary literacy

Utica Community Schools is intensifying the focus on reading this school year by increasing the number of literacy consultants at elementary schools.

Scores on the Michigan Test of Educational Progress, known as the M-STEP, show that 44.3% of Michigan students in grades 3-7 meet reading standards.

This year, ensuring students meet those standards has become increasingly important due to a new Michigan law requiring third graders who can't meet reading proficiency standards to repeat the grade.

On average, 55.24% of third graders at UCS schools scored proficient on the M-STEP in 2019.

UCS literacy consultants will provide professional development for teachers and support their colleagues in Language Arts strategies. The consultants will also work with students individually and in small groups.

The UCS literacy program focuses on five key areas including phonemic awareness, vocabulary, phonics, fluency, and comprehension. In class, students build experience with both print and digital material.

To learn more about reading proficiency scores or to see how an individual school ranked, go to Mischooldata.org/.

Inside This Issue

5 & 6

Senior Living

7

Classifieds



PETER J.

LUCIDO

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SAVE THE DATE

FREE SENIOR EXPO

Monday

October 28, 2019

9:00 a.m.-Noon

The Palazzo Grande

54660 Van Dyke Ave, Shelby Charter Twp, MI 48316
(South of 25 Mile on the East Side of Van Dyke)



USPBL championship weekend review

A record number of fans attended Championship Weekend, presented by OUR Credit Union, at Jimmy John's Field and the Utica Unicorns came-from-behind to capture their second United Shore Professional Baseball League title. Unicorns' catcher Jimmy Latona was named Championship Game MVP.

took a 5-0 lead into the eighth inning. The Beavers responded with a three-run home run in the eighth, and put runners on first and second in the ninth, but Hensley pitched out of the jam to throw his first-ever complete game since becoming a professional in 2012.

After a stellar semifinals game, the Championship Game



The weekend began with the Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers advancing to the semifinals after a 7-3 victory over the Eastside Diamond Hoppers, led by right-handed pitcher Garrett Christman who earned his league-best seventh win of the season.

The Unicorns took on the two-time defending champion Beavers on Saturday night for the right to play for the championship on Sunday. RHP Ty Hensley threw seven scoreless innings as Utica

looked like it was going to be a run away for the top-seeded Westside Woolly Mammoths. Sonny Cortez homered in the first and the Mammoths took a 5-1 lead into the seventh inning before the Unicorns scored three and added the go ahead run in the eighth to win the title.

Nolan Clenney broke the single-season record with his eighth save of the year, retiring all six batters he faced. The game featured a record attendance of 4,926.



LOCAL STATE REPRESENTATIVES welcomed first responders to the State Capitol for a September 11 memorial service. Above, State Rep. Diana Farrington of Utica hosted Utica Mayor Thom Dionne. Below, State Rep. Jeff Yaroch of Richmond hosted Macomb Township firefighter Joseph Warne and his wife Kristie. The observance memorializes Michigan first responders and military members who died in the line of duty during the past year.



Fall listening tour to focus on auto no-fault insurance

State Rep. Jeff Yaroch of Richmond has announced dates for his 'Fall Listening Tour.' Rep. Yaroch says he will also be visiting local boards and councils to promote a good working relationship between state and local government.

On Monday, September 16 from 7-8 p.m. and Saturday, October 5 from 10-11 a.m., Rep. Yaroch will be at Clinton-Macomb Public Library North Branch, 16800 24 Mile Road in Macomb Township. On Tuesday, November 19 from 7-8 p.m. and Saturday, December 7 from 10-11 a.m., he will again visit the Clinton-Macomb Public Library North Branch.

"Talking to my neighbors and listening to their concerns about state government continues to be one of the most important parts of my job," Yaroch said. "This fall's listening tour is a great opportunity to directly hear your thoughts and questions about state government, and to discuss the recent auto no-fault changes. I hope you will join me."

Yaroch has also announced dates in Lennox and Richmond.

For a full list of scheduled event, and more information, residents may contact Rep. Yaroch's office by calling 517-373-0820 or by emailing JeffYaroch@house.mi.gov.

Friend of the Court enforcement sweep

Sheriff Anthony Wickersham and the Macomb County Friend of the Court have announced a week-long bench warrant "sweep" in an effort to arrest individuals with outstanding warrants for non-payment of child support.

The week-long sweep will begin Monday, September 16.

"We encourage individuals with bench warrants for non-payment of support to appear at the Friend of the Court between the hours of 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to resolve their warrants. If an individual appears with a good faith effort, we will work with them for a positive resolution," said Thomas Blohm, Director of Friend of the Court.

Any individuals who voluntarily appear will be given the opportunity to have their circumstances reviewed to determine if they qualify for a special program that can help substantially reduce state-owed arrearages. The Macomb County Friend of the Court Office is located at 10 N. Main St in Mt. Clemens.



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Two killed in industrial accident at granite shop

The Sterling Heights Fire and Police Departments responded last Tuesday to the report of an employee that had become trapped under slabs of granite at the Stone Warehouse located at 7235 19 Mile Road. The report was made to 911 at 2:33 p.m. Upon arrival, first responders determined a 30-year-old man from Warren as well as a 53-year-old man from Shelby Township had suffered fatal injuries.

Dozens of large slabs of granite had shifted and broke, and there were many more slabs that needed to be moved to reach the victims. First responders said they sought the help of neighboring businesses with employees who had both the equipment to move granite slabs and the expertise and experience to do it safely. Macomb County Technical Rescue Team also provided highly skilled personnel and equipment capable of stabilizing the slabs of granite at the scene.

After a few hours of a coordinated effort, the bodies of the victims were recovered. Representatives from MIOSHA and The Macomb County Medical Examiner's Office were on scene to begin their investigations, and

the Sterling Heights Fire and Police Departments also conducted investigations. The building was turned back over to management of Stone Warehouse when the recovery operation was complete. It is unknown when the company will resume operations.

Preliminary investigations show the employees were using an overhead crane to move several slabs of granite. When those slabs were lifted off their storage rack, several other slabs

of granite shifted, causing a cascade of several more slabs of granite shifting. Both employees were pinned, immediately suffering fatal injuries.

"This was a tragic day for everyone involved, so please keep them in your thoughts as they all try to deal with this tragedy," said Sterling Heights Fire Chief Chris Martin. Grief counseling has been offered to the family, co-workers, and those who responded to the rescue effort.

Man from Washington Twp. missing

Charles Askia, an 89-year-old black man out of Washington Township, was reported missing by his guardian on Monday, September 9. Askia was last seen walking alone that day at 1:30 p.m. in the area of Van Dyke Ave and Stanford Blvd. Askia does not have a vehicle and is not believed to have a cell phone with him. Askia is 5'9, 180 lbs, bald and wearing glasses. Askia was last seen wearing a beige coat and a beige hat. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Macomb County Sheriff's Office at 586-469-5151.



CHARLES ASKIA, 89

St. Padre Pio 51st Feast Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, September 21, 2019
3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

St. Fabian Catholic Church
32200 Twelve Mile Road,
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(W. of Orchard Lake Rd.)

(Can access from I-696 Orchard Road Exit)

In Social Hall

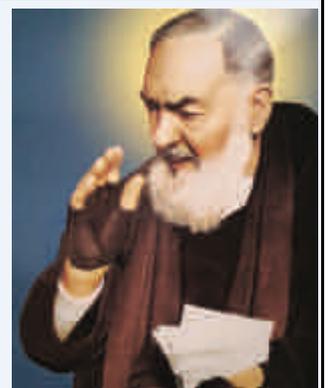
3:15-4 pm Confession

4-4:45 pm Rosary, Veneration Relics from the Capuchins: pair of St. Pio's gloves, a bandage, and a Vatican medal for St. Pio's Beatification. Big-screen video of 2016 Pope Francis' private audience with worldwide Padre Pio Prayer Groups and relics in St. Pio's Museum in Rome.

In Church

5:00 pm We will join Sunday Vigil Mass

6:45 pm at Steven Lelli's Inn On the Green, 27925 Golf Pointe Blvd. Located in Copper Creek Golf Course in Farmington Hills for a Feast Celebration Italian dinner to honor St. Pio's Italian heritage. Please RSVP at 248-996-9061 before September 18th. Diners will pay for their dinner orders. No phone calls to St. Fabian's Parish Office please.



Saint Padre Pio 1887 - 1968

A miracle healer, a confessor, a bilocator, Saint Padre Pio (Father Pio) was an Italian priest who bore 50 years the 5 wounds of Jesus before he died in 1968. He was also spiritually gifted with reading souls and the presence of fragrance.

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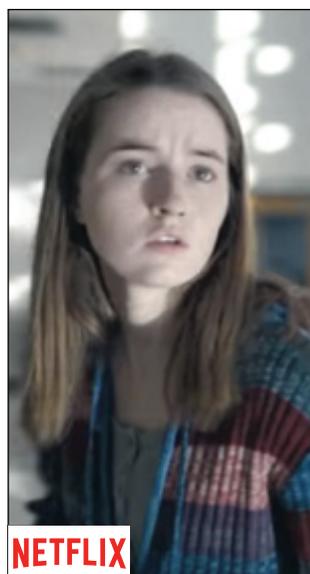
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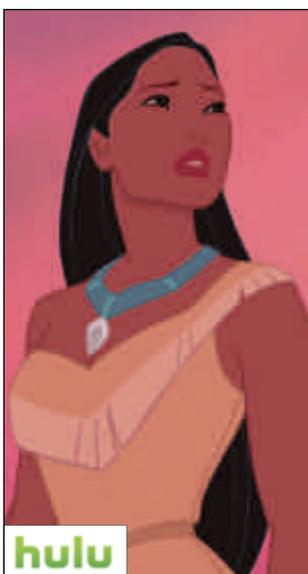
Arts & Entertainment



HUSTLERS
R, Drama



UNBELIEVABLE
TV-MA, Netflix original Drama



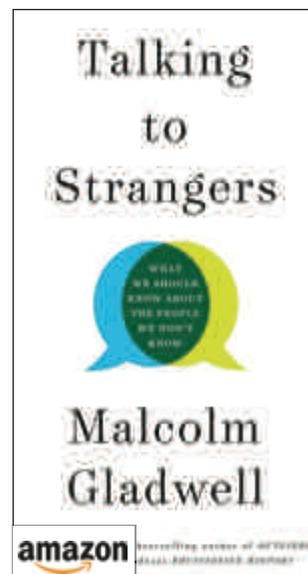
POCAHONTAS
G, Disney cartoon



JOHN WICK 3
R, Thriller



HOLLYWOOD'S BLEEDING
Post Malone



TALKING TO STRANGERS
Malcolm Gladwell

Music

Whiskey Fixx Friday, September 13, 8 p.m. Coyote Joes, Shelby Township

Jukebox Junkies Saturday, September 14, 9 p.m. Thee Office Pub, Romeo

Karaoke Thursday with Kyle Thursday, September 19, 8 p.m. McClenaghans Irish Pub, Shelby Township

Fork & Cork Festival September 20-22, Downtown Utica

Locash Friday, September 20, 7 p.m. Coyote Joes, Shelby Township

Momford & Sons Friday, September 20, 9 p.m. Hamlin Pub, Shelby Township

Open Mic Night Saturday, September 21, 6 p.m. Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea Lakeside, Shelby Township, Michigan

Arena Rock Saturday, September 21, 7:30 p.m. Youngers Irish Tavern, Romeo

ON STAGE

Mamma Mia! Now through September 21, Avon Players, Rochester Hills – Sold out, but call the box office in case of last-minute cancellations.

Ragtime Now through October 6, Stagecrafters, Royal Oak

AROUND TOWN

Monarch Madness Festival - Butterfly Release Saturday, September 14, 11 a.m. Ray Wiegand's Nursery & Garden Center, Macomb

8th Annual Glow Run Saturday, September 14, 5:30 p.m. Jimmy John's Field, Utica

Euchre Night Monday, September 16, 7 p.m. Sherwood Brewing Company, Shelby Township

Euchre Tournament Monday, September 16, 7 p.m. Sherwood Brewing Company, Shelby Township

Round Robin Cornhole Tournament Tuesday, September 17, 6 p.m. One Eyed Jacks Bar, Shelby Township

Cheese and Wine Tasting Event Wednesday, September 18, 6 p.m. Unwined Winery, Shelby Township

Bites And Brews Friday, September 20, 6 p.m. Steampunk Tap Room & Bottle Shop, Utica

Fall Fun Fest Saturday, September 21, 11 a.m. Macomb Corners, Macomb

Batman Day Event Saturday, September 21, 2 p.m. Barnes & Noble, Shelby Township

Friends Trivia - Sporcle Live Sunday, September 22, 6 p.m. Ciccarelli's Sports Bar, Shelby Township

LIBRARY

Volunteering in Retirement: Discover Your Passion Tuesday, September 17: 7 p.m. Clinton Macomb Library North Branch

KLM's Tuesday Night River Ride Tuesday, September 17, 6:15 p.m. Utica Public Library

Author Night with Karen Dionne Wednesday, September 18, 7 p.m. Shelby Township Library

Estate Planning Monday, September 23, 7 p.m. Clinton Macomb Library North Branch

KIDS & TEENS

Shadow Locker Box Monday, September 16, 6 p.m. Clinton Macomb Library North Branch

Baby Lapsit Storytime Wednesday, September 18, 10 a.m. Utica Public Library

Library Lego Day Saturday, September 21, 1:30 p.m. Shelby Township Library

Paws for Reading Thursday, September 26, 4:30 p.m. Utica Public Library

Pokemon Hangout Saturday, September 28, 1:30 p.m. Shelby Township Library

SAVE THE DATE

The Chainsmokers Thursday, October 3, 7 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, Detroit

Matt and Kim Monday, October 21, 7 p.m. Royal Oak Music Theatre

The Get Up Kids Sunday, December 15, 7 p.m. The Loving Touch, Ferndale

To submit an event, email News@gazettemediagroup.com. Submissions run in the paper, space permitting. To advertise an event, email Advertising@gazettemediagroup.com.

GAZETTE RECOMMENDS...

FORK & CORK FESTIVAL

FORK & CORK FESTIVAL

The Fork & Cork Festival descends upon Memorial Park in downtown Utica next weekend, September 20-22. The free event will feature over 20 live bands throughout the weekend on two stages. Headliners include Big Sherb, Paddlebots, The Sun Messengers, and Laura Rain & The Caesars. Proceeds from local craft beer and wine sales benefit the Humane Society of Macomb.

– Andrew Neal, Editor

Gazette

Senior Living

Enjoy a Day-Trip to the Village of Franklin with Step on Bus Tours

Fall in southeastern Michigan is indeed a fabulous and colorful time. Enjoy it even more with a Step On Bus Tours Country/Urban day trip on Monday, October 21 in the Village of Franklin – close by, but still country quaint.

Step On Bus Tours has mapped out a unique scenic route for travelers to see all the trees in all their different gorgeous fall colors. It all begins in Franklin Village, the hub of the trip, a community known for large, estate-style homes situated on dramatic ravines, as well as its vintage downtown, and all framed with foliage putting on a great autumn show, changing from their deep summer greens to red, orange, yellow and sometimes even shades of pink and purple.

Aside from the glorious colors and the 18th-century charm of Franklin Village, travelers will also enjoy learning about the area's history as a station on the legendary Underground Railroad. It's a special treat on the tour, according to Step On Bus Tour's,

Trip Planner and Guide Rose Szwed.

The tour will also showcase several historic locations to explore the city's past, as well as its architecture. Franklin still has the appearance and atmosphere of an early Michigan village, of course, and Szwed will delve into its history and mystery. There will be time for travelers to walk amid stores and historic markers in the quaint downtown. That will include:

Franklin Cider Mill travelers will be greeted by the cider mill staff, as they are toured around the property, seeing how apples are pressed and made into an aromatic and tasty cider. The cider is neither filtered nor pasteurized and does not contain any form of preservative. It is a pure apple juice and must be kept refrigerated. And of course, only Michigan apples are used for cider.

What's cider without a donut? The Franklin Cider Mill donuts come in a great variety are made

fresh throughout the day. Their unique donuts are an old German recipe brought to this country many years ago.

Your tour of the Village will include a scenic drive amid hills of historic and simply gorgeous homes, punctuated by State of Michigan history markers and the story of and behind them. For example, the Huda School & Montessori, a private, Muslim school located in Franklin has 324 students in grades PK, K-8 with a student-teacher ratio of 8 to 1.

Your tour guide will point out several key places and explain the history to the travelers. Tours are presented in an informative and professional manner, accurate, historic and factual, complete with newspapers, letters, and pictures from the era of each tour.

Luncheon at Beans and Cornbread, which has been serving up the heart and soul of southern cooking since 1997. The award-winning soul food restaurant fuses southern roots with an epicurean influence in

traditional favorites and country cuisine, according to the restaurants rave reviews.

The day subsides with a private tour at Park West Gallery the largest privately-owned art gallery in the world.

The cost of attendance for the tour is \$72 per person, complete, and includes all entry fees, meals, snacks, docent fees, and roundtrip motorcoach costs. Step On Bus Tours will provide pick up

locations at Walmart, M-59 and Mound Rd. in Sterling Heights and Lowe's, 12 Mile between John R and I-75 in Madison Heights at 8 a.m. and will drop guests off after the tour at the same locations at 5 p.m.

Step On Tours are licensed and insured. For more information on Step On Bus Tours, call 248-619-6692, email steponbustours@gmail.com, or visit Steponbustours.com/.



Time to take an Adventure with
Step On Bus Tours

Sept 16 – Beyond Chop Suey – We'll visit stores with "meat" frogs, bakeries with "lucky" cakes, beautifully decorated cutlery, and more. **\$60pp**

Sept 27 – Magic & Mystery & Mayhem – The hills come alive. Historic manors. A winery. Good meal. **\$68pp**

Oct. 5 – Hocus Pocus – Reserve your seat now. **\$60pp**

Oct. 8 – Resale Shopping **\$45pp**

Oct. 11 – Country Urban Fall Color **\$72pp**

Oct. 11 – CraneFest – Sandhill Crane and Art Festival **\$68pp**

Oct. 21 – Crypts, Coffins & Cemeteries – Unique & unusual. Lunch included. **\$69pp**

Oct. 24 – Shop & Taste, Bon Appetite! **\$48pp**

Nov. 2 – Day of the Dead – The Mexican Legend & Holiday. **\$65pp**

Nov. 8 – Piquette – Parades and Pizza **\$85pp**

Nov. 15 – Salvage – Reuse, Recycle, Reuse **\$68pp**

Dec. 3 – A Bavarian Christmas & Holiday Show **\$98pp**

Dec. 8 – Brunch and concert at the Detroit Institute of Arts **\$70pp**

Dec. 9 – Frederick Meijers Christmas Trees and Unique Lunch and Special Venue **\$80pp**

Dec. 11 – Christmas with the Amish **\$85pp**

Dec. 13 – Holiday Lights **\$80pp**

Dec. 23 – Festive Churches **\$75pp**

2020

Feb. 8-16 – Miami & Key West, Florida **\$995pp** double occupancy

Feb. 21 – Polish and Proud Downriver Paczki & Pierogi - **\$68pp**

Pick ups: Walmart, M-59 & Mound, Sterling Heights; Lowe's, 12 Mile & John R, Madison Heights

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Oakleigh of Macomb's boutique-style approach to senior living

Senior citizens are individuals with unique lives and experiences. A new senior facility coming to Macomb thinks its residents should be treated that way.

Oakleigh of Macomb opens this October and will be ready for residents as soon as November. The guiding philosophy of Oakleigh is to provide residents with a rich and vibrant senior living community that offers care specific to each person's needs.

"We're more about customizing the way seniors can take charge of their own care," Oakleigh Community Relations Director Kelly Brent said.

Oakleigh describes the community as a "boutique-style" approach to senior living. Residents receive the personal care they want or need in a location that's still close to their families. They're also still near the stores and places they've been going most of their lives.

The senior community will offer assisted living and memory care housing. Oakleigh develops programs and services based on a restorative program called RENEW, which offers rehabilitation, education, nutrition, enrichment, and wellness opportunities. To help make things easy for residents, Oakleigh also offers concierge

services, which provide daily support for things like booking appointments, making reservations, and sending correspondence.

As part of the Oakleigh experience, residents can enjoy freshly prepared meals in the restaurant, which offers an open dining option. The kitchen is open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., according to Brent, so residents can structure their day the way they want. Oakleigh also offers a private dining space where residents can host celebrations. The chef will even work with residents to plan a special menu, which can include homemade meals and theme dinners.

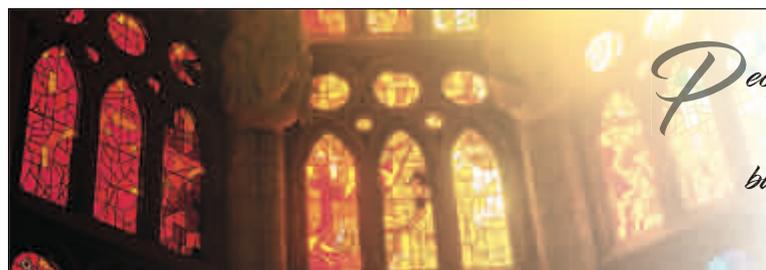
For seniors with memory loss, Oakleigh offers Impressions, a

memory care program designed to partner with families to meet the needs of residents with dementia.

"Every diagnosis is similar to a fingerprint," Brent said. "Not everybody is the same."

The Impressions program features two specialized and secure neighborhoods designed to fit the needs of residents with memory loss. The memory care team at Oakleigh also ensures that seniors have meaningful activities.

Oakleigh of Macomb is at 49880 Hayes Road in Macomb. Models are now open for tours. To learn more about the facility and how to become a resident, call 586-997-8090 or go to oakleighmacomb.com/.



People are like stained glass windows.

*They sparkle and shine when the sun is out,
but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed
only if there is a light from within."*

– Elisabeth Kubler-Ross



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Call 586-997-8090 to schedule your tour
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*The information center is located on the
north end of the Randazzo parking lot.*

www.oakleighmacomb.com

49880 Hayes Road • Macomb



Navigating the Holiday Season

For many people, the holiday season is a fun and exciting time of the year. There are parties to attend, family get-togethers to plan, gifts to exchange, and other fun activities to enjoy. However, while enjoyable, festivities can cause stress – especially for seniors. Often, seniors have established routines, restricted diets, and medication schedules. And holiday activities can greatly disrupt any or all of these things. Yet, with the right planning, you can safely navigate the holidays and enjoy the many wonderful things the most joyful season has to offer.

As a senior, you can stay healthy and sane during the holidays by following a few simple tips. In general, always keep in mind that your friends and family mean well even when it feels like they are trying to pull you in a million directions. And always remember that it is never impolite to say “no” to any invitation when activities get overwhelming.

Make healthy food choices

It can be all-too easy to compromise a normally healthy diet during the holiday season but remember that you are in control. Sure, it is typically okay to let yourself indulge in an occasional treat during this special time of the year, but now is not the time to throw caution – and your health – to the wind. Also, try to stay as hydrated as possible and keep alcoholic beverage consumption to a minimum.

Stick to your regular fitness routine

Yes, there is likely a lot going on during the Season of Giving but give

yourself the gift of a strong and healthy body by carving out time for your normal exercises. Then, when cold and flu season hits hard, you will be ready to fight off colds and viruses and you will maintain the mobility and flexibility that you have worked so hard to keep as it gets closer to spring cleaning time.

Downsize your gift-giving practices

Speaking of the Season of Giving, the holidays can cause a great deal of stress for seniors on fixed incomes. So, this year, trim your list down to include only those who are the closest to you. Or, if you have a lot of grandchildren, nieces, nephews, etc., limited the amount you spend per recipient. An alternate plan is to talk to your family about drawing names this year to really keep gift-giving costs low.

Take plenty of breaks

While at parties or enjoying other activities, do not hesitate to step away from the action for a while to take some time for yourself. Even if you are hosting the event, attendees should understand that you may need an occasional breather to regroup. Then, you can come back refreshed and ready for more family fun. Also, if a family member or friend tries to pack too much into a day, politely let them know that you may want to eliminate an activity or two.

Finally, no matter what, do not allow the holiday season to stress you out. It should be a group effort and everyone will enjoy themselves even more if everyone does their part.

Taking steps to improve your retirement confidence

(NAPSI) A recent study by the Insured Retirement Institute found that only 25 percent of baby boomers believe they will have enough money in retirement and just 28 percent believe they did a good job financially preparing for their retirement years.

This decline in retirement confidence has taken place in spite of healthy market conditions and rising interest rates for most retirees’ investments.

Fortunately, the news doesn’t have to be so bad if seniors allow this news to serve as a wake-up call for them to take action.

Reassess priorities. Take stock of your available resources and prioritize your needs vs. your wants, based on where your life is now and what is most important to you in the years ahead.

Raise cash. Consider options that may be available to you for boosting your savings, such as a

part-time job or perhaps selling off some possessions you no longer need.

Generate interest. Re-evaluate where your money is sitting today and consider moving as much as you can out of cash accounts, which are paying depositors more than they have in several years.

Look for hidden assets. Inventory all your assets that might create cash flow, including those you may have overlooked in the past, such as a life insurance policy. A life insurance policy is your personal property and, if you no longer need or can afford it, you may be able to sell it.

Leverage your house. If you own your home, consider a reverse mortgage or a home equity line of credit as a way to free up cash that you can use to pay off health care bills or other expenses.

Gazette CLASSIFIEDS

September 13, 2019



Shelby • Utica • Macomb • Washington
Gazette

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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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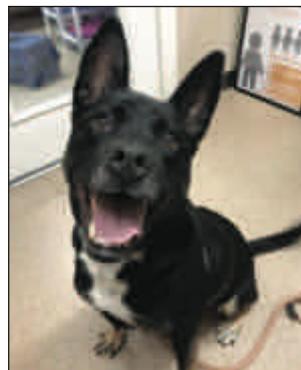
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Gazette Media Group is a media and events company based in Troy, Michigan. Originally established in 1980 by Claire Weber as the Troy-Somerset Gazette, GMG now publishes three local newspapers and hosts a variety of events throughout the metro Detroit 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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FORK & CORK FESTIVAL

SEPT 20, 21 & 22 • UTICA

Volunteers Needed

The 2019 Fork & Cork Festival returns to downtown Utica for three days of music, food, and fun September 20-22. Volunteers are needed to assist the non-profit Humane Society of Macomb in festival operations.

For more information on volunteering for the Humane Society of Macomb at the Fork & Cork Festival, email HSOMVolunteer@gmail.com.

Find Out More About Fork & Cork at www.ForkAndCorkFestival.com

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

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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.

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REVIEW: Take a chance on “Mamma Mia!” for nonstop fun at Avon Players

Reviewed by Suzanne Angeo (member, American Theatre Critics Association) and Greg Angeo (Member Emeritus, San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle)

Surely you've heard of “Mamma Mia!,” unless you've been living in a monastery in Nepal for the past 20 years. Since

man of her dreams is coming up, but she has no dad to walk her down the aisle. After some snooping, she discovers three likely paternal candidates her mom had flings with - two Americans and a Brit - and invites all three to her wedding without telling mom. Big surprises, lots of drama, and laughs ensue, all to

interesting off-stage chorus effects, directed by Deierlein, that nicely complement the performers onstage. The set by Brad Holoday is spartan and consists of two revolving pieces made to resemble small Mediterranean guest houses. It depends on effective lighting by the many-talented Deierlein to help change the scenes.

The success of this show rests squarely on the capable shoulders of the cast, who display talents of varying degrees, but the result is nothing short of delightful. The real standouts are Tracy Murray as Donna and Johannah Steinbrecher-Booker as her snarky gal-pal Tanya. Also highly watchable: Salvatore Sbrocca as Sophie's beloved Sky, Mackenzie McIlroy as Sophie, and Bill Davenport as Bill Austin, one of the would-be dads. Some of the better numbers include: “Chiquitita,” “Dancing Queen,” “Voulez-Vous,” “Does Your Mother Know,” and the flashy finale, which has everyone on their feet.

Will we ever know who Sophie's father is? Who cares? They are all having so much fun up there and are so enthusiastic. There's something about the music and the story that just



PHOTOS BY BRYAN CLIFFORD

this crowd-pleasing juggernaut of a show opened in 1999 on London's West End, it's been seen by over 60 million people in 50 countries and grossed more than \$2 billion worldwide. It's also the longest-running jukebox musical in history.

How to explain its enduring appeal? The story is an irresistible mashup of soap-opera-meets-sitcom laced with hilarious high jinks, sweet romance and a few moments of serious reflection. The book is by British playwright Catherine Johnson, with music by ABBA songwriters Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus, who worked with the producers from the very beginning of the show.

Many, if not most, of the superstar pop group's biggest hits form the sparkly framework around which the gossamer-thin storyline is loosely draped. This show is a real love-fest and feel-good nostalgia trip for fans of pop music of the 70s and 80s.

You could say this is another version of My Big Fat Greek Wedding, as told by single mom Donna, an independent-minded American who has lived for many years on a Greek island with her 20-year-old daughter Sophie. The two run a successful taverna that caters to tourists and scuba divers. Sophie's wedding to the

the danceable beat of 25 ABBA tunes. It's silly. It's absurd. And it's fun.

Director JD Deierlein keeps the pace fast and furious, richly textured with elements of slapstick and farce. Maritoni Harte's choreography consists mainly of simple disco-style dance moves, with the possible exception of the dancing Flipper Men (!) which has to be seen to be believed. Costumes by Anne Curtis and Michelle Kaiser range from sleekly colorful to downright gaudy. The eight-piece orchestra led by Matt Kush is more than up to the task. There are also some

reaches out to the audience and invites us to join in the singing and dancing. Heads-up: Non-ABBA fans may be overwhelmed by the disco-pop and dizzying cuteness.

There must be a lot of ABBA fans in Oakland County, though. The entire run of this show, through September 21, is sold out. There may be a chance for tickets if there are cancellations, so it's worth a call to the box office.

Avon Playhouse is located at 1185 Washington Rd in Rochester. For more information about Avon Players, call 248-608-9077 or visit Avonplayers.org/.



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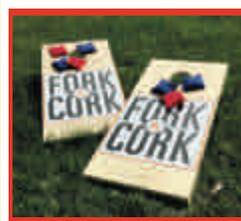
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