

Show Program Inside

Oakland Spring Home Show
Inside. Outside. Everything For Your Home.

SATURDAY
MAY 5th 10am-6pm | **SUNDAY**
MAY 6th 10am-4pm
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY O'RENA
569 Pioneer Drive, Rochester

Friday, April 27, 2018
Vol. 2, No. 19

Oakland vs. Macomb Battle of the Badges

On Wednesday, May 16 at 6 p.m., Sedona Stone will be sponsoring the Battle of the Badges at Jimmy John's Field in Utica.

The Oakland County Sheriffs will take on the Macomb County Sheriffs in a charity softball game to raise funds for the local Police Athletic League.

The event promises a good and spirited game, with special guest Mojo of Mojo in the Morning and live music from Bulletproof. Children will be invited to join the fun between 6-7 p.m. before the game starts at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 each and children 12 and under are free. To learn more, visit the event page at [eventbrite.com](#).

Trunks to Treasures

The Friends of the Ray Township Library and Historical Society will host "Trunks to Treasures," a community yard sale and flea market, on Saturday, May 12 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Ray Township Park at 64255 Wolcott, just north of 29 Mile Road.

Individuals with items to sell, including crafters, vendors, and businesses, can reserve a 10 x 10 foot space in the park with one vehicle for just \$20. Proceeds benefit the Ray Township Public Library's renovation project including the Children's Room. A \$5 discount can be applied for those paying by May.

The Friends group is accepting donations of smaller household goods, tools, toys, and other garage sale items to sell during the event. Items can be dropped off on Friday, May 11 from 2- 7 p.m. at the Ray Township Center at 64255 Wolcott.

For more information, visit the FRTLHS and Library's websites, [rayhistory.org](#) or [raylibrary.org](#), or call 586-749-7130.

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Shelby-Utica-Macomb GAZETTE

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THE UNITED SHORE PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL LEAGUE will kick off its third season Friday, May 11 at Jimmy John's Field in Downtown Utica. USBPL has built a reputation as being both family and community oriented— bringing new development to the city and garnering numerous awards. USPBL CEO Andy Appleby says a second ballpark is in the works for the near future.

Summer Begins with Baseball at Jimmy John's Field

By ELENA DURNBAUGH

The crack of the bat and the roar of the crowd. Warm sunshine. The sleepy, contented pace of an inning that can burst into a frenzy with a single pitch. For many baseball fans, the sport is synonymous with summertime.

Summer returns to Jimmy John's Field in Utica with Opening Day for the United Shore Professional Baseball League on Friday, May 11.

Four teams make up the league and call the field home— The Birmingham Bloomfield Beavers, the

Eastside Diamond Hoppers, the Utica Unicorns, and the Westside Wooly Mammoths. The teams face off every weekend from May through September in what USPBL owner and CEO, Andy Appleby, calls "the best weather Michigan has to offer."

The Beavers will look to defend their championship title in the season opener, a rematch of last year's final game against the Wooly Mammoths.

"Opening Day is always super fun," says Justin Orenduff, executive director of baseball operations. "The energy is going to be big."

USPBL is a professional baseball league comprised mostly of top college players passed over by the MLB draft and players released from major league organizations. The league serves as a developmental training ground for players who want to make it to the big league.

In addition to baseball, fans can look forward to give-aways, face painting and live music from American Band on Opening Day. A new bat-dog, JJ The Field General, will also make his

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See UCS, page 2

Saturday, May 5th • 10am-6pm & Sunday, May 6th • 10am-4pm

All Your Home Improvement Projects Start Here!

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569 Pioneer Drive, Rochester
Admission \$5 • Children 12 & Under Free

For More Information Visit [GazetteEvents.com](#)



UHS Arrow Inducted into Press Hall of Fame

The Utica High School student newspaper, the Arrow, has been inducted into the Michigan Interscholastic Press Association's Hall of Fame for reaching the highest level of publication excellence over nearly ten years.

"Utica High School is a leader in student publications and the Hall of Fame award is a fitting recognition for its long history of excellence," Superintendent Dr. Christine Johns said. "The Arrow is a professional level publication, and its students are developing important communication and problem solving skills that will open career doors for them well into their future."

The MIPA student Media Hall of Fame was established in 2002 to recognize student publications with a long track record of quality.

"The Hall of Fame award shows we are a consistently excellent publication and I am really proud of all of the staffs over the years," said senior Elizabeth Cetnar, the paper's Editor in Chief. "I think we have a dedicated staff led by a great advisor (UHS teacher Stacy Smale). She is always pushing us, and I think that as a staff we always want to be the best we can by writing the stories that inform the student body."

Newspapers are eligible for MIPA's Hall of Fame if they have nine years of earning the group's highest rating – the Spartan Award – within a ten-year period. Spartan Awards are granted by MIPA judges on every aspect of the publication, including layout, writing and editing.

Utica High School Newspaper Inducted into MIPA Hall of Fame

UCS, From page 1

"I'm really proud of the kids because they try their hardest and are always looking to do new things," Smale said. "They always want to do better than they did the previous year."

The Arrow traces its roots back to its first publication in the 1930s.

In addition to its history of state honors, the publication is also regu-

larly honored at national levels through the Columbia Press Association's annual publications awards. This year, the Arrow earned a Silver Crown, placing it among the best student publications in the nation.

For students, entry into the Hall of Fame caps a long legacy of success and allows them to push harder for future success.

"It is awesome to just say we are in the Hall of Fame - you kind of feel like a football player," said junior Evan Grey, the paper's Online Editor. "Everyone here works well together and loves what they do."

The Utica High School yearbook – The Warrior – was a charter member of the MIPA Hall of Fame in 2002.



USPBL: Plans for Second Ballpark Coming Soon

USPBL, From page 1

debut. JJ spent 14 months training for his position in the ballpark. The night will end with a fireworks show.

The 2018 season is only the third year of competition for the USPBL, but it has already had some big success. In the first two years, 20 players from the league have signed MLB contracts.

"To have 20 players is really a fantastic thing," Appleby said. "Most would not be playing baseball today if not for the advent of our league."

Some of that success can be attributed to the one-of-a-kind development program the league has for its pitchers. The Delivery Value System, or DVS, is a model and scoring system built on statistics to measure pitching delivery and assess individual risk in pitching a baseball. The system was developed by Orenduff, who was a pitcher in the Los Angeles Dodgers organization before becoming involved with the USPBL.

DVS helps pitchers improve their shoulder motion and recovery time. Orenduff said they've seen correlation between improved DVS scores and higher velocity throws, some-

thing essential for pitchers in today's major league.

The USPBL is the only league currently using this system. "Because the league is independent, we have the ability to put these things into use and keep building on them," Orenduff said.

Pitcher development is not the only area of innovation for the USPBL. Jimmy John's Field contains "every good idea I've seen in the last 30 years," Appleby said.

The park boasts suites 30 feet away from the catcher, the closest in baseball, as well as summer picnic areas right on the field. The park can seat 4,500 fans per game, but has only 2,000 seats in the grandstands, giving the games an intimate feel.

"Every day is a party there," Appleby said. "Every seat's a great seat."

The field has new areas for fans this year, including a beer garden and a new deck over the lawn.

Jimmy John's Field and the USPBL have built a reputation as being family and community oriented. Located in Utica's historic downtown, the field has brought new development to the area. The organization has won numerous awards, including the 2017 Phoenix Award for Community Impact.

More than 600 charities have leveraged USPBL and Jimmy John's Field for fundraising. The field has also hosted camps for the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, family movie nights, and different community festivals.

Moving forward, the league hopes to grow in size and prestige.

A second stadium is in the near future. A new ballpark will mean a chance to expand the number of teams competing in the league and replicate the success they've had in Utica. Appleby expects there to be more details within the next six months.

This year, ESPN3 will feature some of the USPBL's games as a part of the network's "Game of the Week" series. Ten games will be broadcast across the country, giving the league and its players exposure on the national level.

"That was a great milestone for us. We're becoming more and more legitimate," said Appleby of the TV spot. The USPBL is the only professional baseball organization to feature games on ESPN3.

The league is anticipating a sell-out crowd for the season opener, and excitement and energy will drive the season forward.

"We want to create that energy in year three that we can bring forward into 2019-2020 and potentially to a new site," said Orenduff.

The season starts with the first pitch thrown out at 7:05 p.m. Appleby said the atmosphere will be "electric." Tickets are still available online at uspbl.com, and prices start at just \$6 for a seat on the lawn.



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Words from a few of our practice members:

"Yes, I lost the weight, but I also greatly decreased my anxiety level, gained so much energy, my digestive issues gone, lowered my cholesterol number by 85 points in just three months." – Diana Kelly

"Eating healthy and natural has had real side effects like a 40 pound weight loss. I feel better, sleep better and have more energy than ever before! I am off my cholesterol and triglyceride medication and my numbers remain great!" – Bill Herman

"If you would have told me six months ago I could lose 26lbs, drop my A1C score, eliminated diabetes medication, and run up a flight of stairs without stopping to catch my breath, I would have thought you were crazy." – Janice Schulte

State Bill Paves Way for Electronic Notarization

State Rep. Diana Farrington, of Utica, this week offered testimony before the House Financial Services Committee on her call to implement the use of electronic notarization.

House Bill 5811 requires the Secretary of State and the Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB) to review and approve the use of at least one remote electronic notarization program. There is no language in current law that allows for electronic notarization and the requirement is a notary must be physically present to witness a signing.

"Almost all of the documents that are notarized can be electronically signed by individuals, so this is a com-

mon-sense measure that extends to a notary," said Farrington, who chairs the committee and is also a licensed notary in Michigan. "There are certain instances where advancements in technology must be accompanied by advancements in our laws and this is one of those instances."

Any approved programs would be reviewed at least every four years to ensure standards established by the state are still being met. Nearly 30 states currently allow some form of electronic notarization.

HB 5811 remains under consideration in the House Financial Services Committee.



THE 4TH ANNUAL CHARITY BASKETBALL & TASTEFEST was held last week at Parkway Christian. The Sterling Heights Fire and Police departments took on Shelby and Utica's departments. Sterling Heights prevailed in the friendly rival game, with proceeds benefiting the Henry Ford Cancer Institute. Shelby Township Supervisor Rick Stathakis congratulated Sterling Heights "for a game well-played."

Unrest Screening on Michigan ME Day

The Clinton-Macomb Public Library will host a free screening of the film "Unrest" on Saturday, May 12 from noon to 3 p.m. with a Q&A and light refreshments.

Over 2.5 million Americans suffer from Myalgic Encephalomyelitis or Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS). This event is meant to educate, raise awareness, and encourage action.

May 12 is also International ME/CFS day. Michigan Governor Rick Snyder recently signed a proclamation declaring May 12 as ME day in Michigan.

The event is hosted by the CFS/ME/Fibro/Lyme Support of Southeastern Michigan. Clinton-Macomb Public Library is located at 40900 Romeo Plank Rd in Clinton Township. To learn more, call 586-662-6469 or email KOSobka@outlook.com.

Mother's Day Gift Idea: Summer Foot Care

Warmer weather means women will be wearing more open toed shoes, sandals, and flip-flops, which can lead to dry, rough, and cracked skin. Now is the time to start rejuvenating the feet to avoid these problems and Choices Organic Bath & Body in Shelby and Grosse Pointe has foot care products perfect for a thoughtful Mother's Day gift.

"This is a great way to pamper moms for Mother's Day," says Helga Soave, Chemist and Founder of Choices Organic Bath & Body. "No other time of the year are our feet so visible, and now is the best time to get your feet into prime condition. We also have an array of Mother's Day baskets or can make specialized ones for any mom."

Choices Organic Bath & Body has two locations, one at 45633 Hayes Road in Shelby Township and one at 17112 Kercheval in Grosse Pointe.

To learn more, call 586-2626288, or visit choicesbathandbody.com.

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Treat Mom to a special day at our annual Mother's Day brunch and have a great time with family!

Buffets

Kids Buffet

Let your children enjoy brunch from their own special buffet

Breakfast Buffet

Twin Lakes full Breakfast Buffet featuring our Omelet Station, along with our other breakfast options

Lunch Buffet

Enjoy our Carving Stations, Seafood & Salad buffets, and full lunch selections

Extras

Our full Candy Table is back alongside the Grand Sweets Table featuring a Chocolate Fountain

Sunday, May 13th

Seating 1: 10:30am
Seating 2: 1:30pm
(Breakfast and lunch buffets will be available during both seatings)

Cost

Adults: \$34.95++
Age 5-12: \$16.95++
Ages 4 and under: Free

Reservations

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THE GRIZZLY BOYS**
THU, MAY 3 - 10 p.m.
Coyote Joes, Shelby Twp

DR. DOG
FRI, MAY 4 - 8 p.m.
Majestic Theatre, Detroit

ON STAGE

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
SAT, APRIL 28 - 7 p.m.
Stoney Creek High School

**THE MAD TEA PARTY &
I HATE SHAKESPEARE**
THU, MAY 3 - 7 p.m.
Eisenhower High School

THE KING AND I
TUE, MAY 8 - 7:30 p.m.
Fox Theatre, Detroit

LIBRARY

COMIC CON
SAT, APRIL 28 - 10 a.m.
Clinton-Macomb Main Branch

MUSIC & MOVEMENT
TUE, MAY 1 - 10 & 11 a.m.
Clinton-Macomb North Branch

FREE COMIC BOOK DAY
SATURDAY, MAY 5
Shelby Township Library

EVENING BOOK CLUB
TUE, MAY 8 - 6:30 p.m.
Shelby Township Library



**SUPER
TROOPERS 2**
Comedy, R

PSYCHOKINESIS
Action, PG-13

DUDE
Comedy, TV-MA

**THE GREATEST
SHOWMAN**
Biography/Drama, PG

**AVENGERS:
INFINITY WAR**
Action, PG-13

SUPER TROOPERS 2

Vermont Highway Patrol Officers Thorny, Farva, Rabbit, Foster, and Mac get a shot at redemption from Captain O'Hagan and Governor Jessan. The group's unconventional methods soon get put to the test in this comedy sequel.

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

Iron Man, Thor, the Hulk and the rest of the Avengers unite to battle their most powerful enemy yet – the evil Thanos. On a mission to collect all six Infinity Stones, Thanos plans to use the artifacts to inflict his twisted will on reality.

Students Embrace DSO Concert Series

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO) this week concluded a trio of Educational Concert Series performances titled A Symphony of Science. The concerts, conducted by Associate Conductor Michelle Merrill and hosted by Detroit Public Television's D.J. Oliver, are entertaining and informative programs meant to familiarize students with classical music and introduce scientific concepts like sound waves, vibration, pitch, and volume.

Approximately 6,000 students, teachers, and chaperones attended the concerts in Orchestra Hall, and an estimated 55,600 students tuned into the webcasts directly from their schools and classrooms. Educators were also provided free curriculum guides and additional learning materials to keep the musical conversation going after the concerts ended.

New this year is the Berman Teacher of the Year Award, designated to two Detroit teachers. This year's winners are music teacher Samar Atallah of Munger Elementary and classroom teacher Kimberley Whittaker of Foreign Language Immersion and Cultural Studies. Atallah and Whittaker will receive a cash prize, four visits by DSO musicians to their classrooms in the 2018-2019 school year, invitations to appear on a future Classroom Edition webcast, and classroom highlights in upcoming DSO publications. Their classrooms were also able to attend Wednesday morning's ECS concerts free of charge.

For more than 80 years, the DSO's Educational Concert Series has introduced children to classical music. Learn more about the Educational Concert Series at dso.org/ECS.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland



The Macomb Center for the Performing Arts presents "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" Friday and Saturday, May 4-5.

Leap into Spring with Alice on her whimsical journey into Wonderland. Based on Lewis Carroll's classic fairy tale, the Macomb Ballet Company will take you on a magical journey through quirky characters, captivating music, enchanting costumes, and fascinating special effects. This classical tumble down a rabbit hole is sure to mesmerize and delight!

Performances are Friday, May 4 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. as well as Saturday, May 5 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Tickets range from \$12-15 with \$5 tickets for Friday's 10 a.m. performance. Tickets for shows can be purchased online at macombcenter.com or by visiting the Macomb Center box office during business hours. Call the ticket office at 586-286-2222.

Macomb Center for the Performing Arts is located at 44575 Garfield Rd (At Hall Road) in Clinton Township.



DAKOTA CHOIRS mixed and women's varsity groups performed at the State Choral Festival Tuesday, earning first-division ratings and rave reviews. An extra congratulations goes to women's varsity, who earned a perfect score.

Macomb Children's Chorus Spring Concert

Macomb Children's Chorus will perform their Spring concert at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts on Monday, April 30 from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Experience the joy of music-making in a county-wide choral program.

Macomb Children's Chorus is comprised of three choirs: Treble, Symphonic, and Troubadours. Join the Children's Chorus for an evening of music. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. For tickets and more information, visit

Home & Garden Digest

For Outstanding Remodeling Pick Performance

Perhaps you bought your home in the '70s or '80s and now it's looking a bit tired. Perhaps you grabbed a fixer-upper that needs some TLC. Maybe the color has faded from your siding or the shingles on the roof are looking wavy.



MAKE A STATEMENT ON YOUR HOME with a great front entrance. Performance Residential Remodeling has many options from which to select.

There's help in bringing your home back to a house with picture-perfect curb appeal.

Performance Residential Remodeling in Shelby Township is dedicated to providing Michigan homeowners with the latest technology in energy-efficient home improvements.

Among the home improvements Performance offers are windows, roofing, garage doors, entry doors, bath and shower installations, and attic installation. The company serves all of Southeast Michigan, but is particularly active in Oakland and Macomb counties.

What sets them apart is the huge selection of high-quality products and their certified installers who will see

that the products you select are done just as you imagined. "We have options for every budget; all of them are quality products and we have something to fit every customer's needs," says Performance's General Sales Manager Jason Sawinski. "We have good products for everyone's needs."

Performance Remodeling works with four different banks that can offer dozens of plans to make your renovation a reality.

They also will guide you through the entire remodeling adventure with complete project management. From your first visit to their showroom or talk with a salesman, Sawinski promises they are "never finished until the last nail is completed."

If you have several projects you would like to undertake, Sawinski observes that new siding will make the most dramatic impact on a home. If you're a bit worried about your heating bill, he says to consider efficient, new windows; that is where most heat loss occurs in a home. Of course, if you see water dripping anywhere in your ceiling, start with a new roof.

Not sure what you want the home to look like, what styles or colors work together? Performance Residential Remodeling has the software you'll want to use. It will tell you exactly what your home will look like when it's renovated, complete to the color of the siding, roof and even the garage door. They want to know you'll be happy with the finished product and there are so many styles to choose from today that deciding on choices for your home with this software will make you feel more confident about your selections.

Check out all their great customer referrals and learn more about remodeling options on their website at PerformanceFiber.com. Or visit with Jason Sawinski in person at the Oakland Spring Home Show at Oakland University O'rena, 569 Pioneer Drive, in Rochester. It all happens on Saturday, May 5 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday, May 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 and children 12 and under are free.

Three Frequently Asked Spring Lawn Questions

by DANIEL ROBERTS, Sand River Landscaping

As Spring begins to bloom, questions about your lawn may start to grow in your mind as well. I've picked a few questions that I get asked every year around this time.

When is the right time to apply the first application of fertilizer?

The first fertilizer application of each year is typically a blend of both food (for the lawn) and 'pre-emergent' (for the crabgrass). Your lawn is hungry, and it benefits greatly from a complex slow release fertilizer each Spring. The pre-emergent forms a chemical barrier in the soil that stops virtually all the crabgrass seeds self-planted last year from germinating. Crabgrass seeds begin germinating as soon as the soil temperature has reached 50 Fahrenheit for three consecutive days.

So, the best time to apply that first lawn treatment is after Mother Nature has stopped giving us snow, and before the soil reaches that crucial temperature. If you've waited until the soil has warmed however, don't worry – it takes 14-21 days for the germination process to com-

plete, so you still have plenty of time.

When should I aerate my lawn?

While it may seem like everyone aerates in the Fall – that does not mean that Fall is the de facto answer. Fall is a decent time to perform this vital lawn remedy, but it is not the optimal season. The best time to aerate a lawn is actually in the Spring, after April sends its showers. May-June is a crucial time for your lawn, and a core aeration during this season will give your lawn a massive increase in its ability to retain water, maximizing both rainfall and sprinkler system watering. It will break up old matted root systems, letting new roots grow into the holes left by the process.

Aeration also top dresses your lawn as the cores, or 'plugs' dissolve in the rain, and the microbes, tiny insects, that live in those cores eat their way through any thatch present as they travel back into the earth. So don't wait until the Fall, when most of these beneficial actions will not have had enough time to take effect; schedule an aeration for this spring instead.

How much should I be watering?

Think about the rain. It doesn't come

every day. Sometimes it doesn't come for weeks. While I don't advocate waiting that long – we can learn from nature, and the lesson here is, you should water like it rains – deeply and infrequently. This 'teaches' your lawn to dive down, and develop deep and complex root systems.

Five minutes a day is too short, and too often. This will lead to shallow roots unable to withstand long, hot droughts. Every lawn is a bit different, as some benefit from filtered shade, and others have none, but on average, your lawn needs about 1-1 1/2" of water a week. That means you should water 3-4 times per week, for about 25 to 30 minutes at a time. This will both help keep your lawn thick and healthy, and teach it how to survive those inevitable summer droughts.

Sand River Landscaping is a family-owned and operated landscaping company serving the Southeast Michigan area for nearly 30 years. If you have questions about your lawn, or would like to schedule an appointment, visit SandRiverLandscaping.com or call Daniel Roberts and his team at 586-414-8062.

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Gardening Day at Utica Public Library

Calling for Volunteers! The Utica Public Library will be having a gardening day on Saturday, May 12 beginning at 9:30 a.m., to clear and prepare the flower beds for spring planting.

Donated plants and flowers for the beds will be accepted the week of May 21. Utica Public Library is located at 7530 Auburn. Call at 586-731-4141 for more information.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS



UTICA JV BASEBALL defeated Port Huron with a score of 11-0. Junior Ethan Schuermann threw five shutout innings, only giving up three hits and tallying eight strikeouts. —Photo by Diann Bailey O'Connor



EISENHOWER BOYS VARSITY GOLF took first place in the Evans/Gill Invitational held at Gowanie Golf Club. The Eagles were led by Matt Haist who fired a six over par 77.

—Sports page curated by Jacob Rogers

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DAKOTA VARSITY SOFTBALL defeated Chippewa Valley 8-7 in the first game in history held under the lights.



13-2

BOYS LACROSSE
APRIL 21 vs ANCHOR BAY (W)

Next Game: May 1 at 7 p.m. vs. GROSSE POINTE NORTH

16-6

GIRLS LACROSSE
APRIL 23 vs ANN ARBOR HURON (L)

Next Game: May 1 at 7 p.m. at GROSSE POINTE NORTH



3-0

GIRLS SOCCER
APRIL 23 vs L'ANSE CREUSE NORTH (L)

Next Game: May 1 at 4:30 p.m. vs. LAKEVIEW



4-3

BOYS BASEBALL
APRIL 25 vs PORT HURON (W)

Next Game: April 30 at 4:30 p.m. vs. WARREN MOTT

10-6

BOYS LACROSSE
APRIL 24 vs L'ANSE CREUSE NORTH (W)

Next Game: May 4 at 7 p.m. vs. WARREN MOTT

8-7

GIRLS SOFTBALL
APRIL 23 vs CHIPPEWA VALLEY (W)

Next Game: May 1 - 4 p.m. vs. UTICA FORD

Shelby-Utica-Macomb
GAZETTE
CLASSIFIED

April 27, 2018



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GAZETTE**

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2/2

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3/3

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3/3

VOLUNTEER

HOPE NOT HANDCUFFS

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. Angels 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

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Baisley



Giggles



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- Ability to work at our office in Troy

FREELANCE WRITERS

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Sudoku

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

To place a classified advertisement, Call 248-524-4868, fax to 248-524-9140, or email classifieds@gazettemediagroup.com

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

Single line of caps 75¢ • Bold single line of caps \$1.00 • Double line of caps \$1.50 • Bold double line of caps \$2.00

Payable by credit card or mailing a check to GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS, PO. Box 482, Troy, MI, 48099. Please make check payable to Gazette Media Group.

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

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States Need to Make it Easier to Vote

PERSPECTIVES



Op-ed by
NATHAN INKS

America is often referred to as a beacon of democracy, yet we have one of the worst voter turnout rates among the developed world. Considering the sacrifices made by so many men and women to ensure that citizens of every race, color, and gender can vote in American elections, it is a shame that more people do not turn out to vote. While some of the blame lies with individuals who choose to stay home on Election Day, states should be doing more to make it easier for more people to vote.

In 2015, Michigan joined the vast majority of states by eliminating the straight-ticket voting option from the ballot. This was a good move overall—unlike many countries with a parliamentary government system, American elections tend to focus on individual candidates instead of just political parties, and eliminating the provision for straight-ticket voting forces voters to do more research on individual candidates. Unfortunately, eliminating straight ticket voting also means that voters have more selections to make, which means more time in the voting booth and longer lines at the polls—especially in high-density precincts.

The state legislature had the option to alleviate some of these problems when it passed the bill eliminating straight-ticket voting, but the bill that would have allowed no-reason absentee voting was never passed.

A majority of states now allow for no-reason absentee voting, and a number of states also allow for early voting. Michigan should join those states and

Packard Proving Grounds 2nd Annual Mother's Day Brunch

Celebrate Mom's special day in a historic way; have brunch at the Packard Proving Grounds Historic Site (PPG) in Shelby Township, May 13.

The first seating begins at 11 a.m. and the second at 1 p.m., with food provided by Vince and Joe's Gourmet Catering.

"There's always room for some Gelato," said Event Coordinator, Mary Anne Demo.

Purchase tickets online at PackardProvingGrounds.org for either seating. The cost is \$42 and \$15 for children 6-12 (free for children five and under).

The 17-acre site is rich in Detroit's automotive history and other events pertaining to the 1920's, 30's, 40's, and 50's, and includes several impressive buildings designed by renowned Architect, Albert Kahn.

enable all voters to vote via absentee ballot and prior to Election Day if they so desire. There is little reason to oppose no-excuse absentee voting—especially when voters have the ability to change their vote prior to the close of the polls; this gives voters flexibility without locking them into a bad decision should something surprising happen at the last minute. Other states have shown that such a system works, and it could very easily work here in Michigan.

With increased access to absentee ballots and early voting, some may be concerned about voter fraud. Although instances of in-person voter fraud are rare, protecting the integrity of our elections is important, and Michigan should pursue stricter voter ID laws. Photo identification is required to ensure

security for many things, and voting should be one of them. However, doing so must not come at the cost of making it more difficult for minorities and low-income individuals to vote, and any strengthening in the state's voter ID laws should be accompanied by a program to offer free and easy-to-obtain forms of identification that can be used for the purpose of voting.

The ability to vote in free and fair elections is a freedom too precious to squander, and states need to be doing more to make it easier to vote. Increasing voter turnout can be accomplished without sacrificing the integrity of our election process. Enabling no-reason absentee voting, combined with a fair voter ID law, would be a good first step in the right direction.

Higher Hopes Expands Food Distribution

Good news from Higher Hopes! The charity has expanded its food donation program from four to seven months – April through October – and this year will distribute 8,000 35-pound meal kits to families in dire need in Detroit with kids enrolled in the Early Head Start, Head Start, and Great Start Readiness programs. This doubles the amount of food donated from 140,000 pounds to 280,000 pounds.

Each nutritional meal kit includes 10 pounds of chicken or beef, whole grains, fresh fruits and vegetables, juice, and canned goods – enough to make 15 to 20 meals.

Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Program Location Directors determine which families within each individual program are most in need of the assistance and they provide the 100

family list for each of their designated food Mobile Pantry Distribution locations.

"The outpouring of support and donations for this program continues to flourish, which is incredible," says Bill Birndorf, Founder of Higher Hopes. "So far this year we've already raised in excess of \$110,000 to purchase the food from Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeast Michigan. Gleaners' mobile pantry program delivers 3,500 pounds of food to each of the 10 locations each month."

Higher Hopes is a registered 501 C3 founded by Birndorf in 2014. Corporate and individual contributions are always welcome. For more information, call 248-360-9300, email volunteer@higherhopesdetroit.org, or visit higherhopesdetroit.org.



Bickford
assisted living
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48251 Schoenherr Rd
Shelby Township, MI 48315
(between 21 & 22 mile rd)

586.685.5800

A Special Invitation ...



enrichinghappiness.com/shelbytownship

A premier Assisted Living & Memory Care community opening Summer 2018!

BICKFORD OF SHELBY TOWNSHIP
Cupola Raising Ceremony

DATE: Monday, May 7th

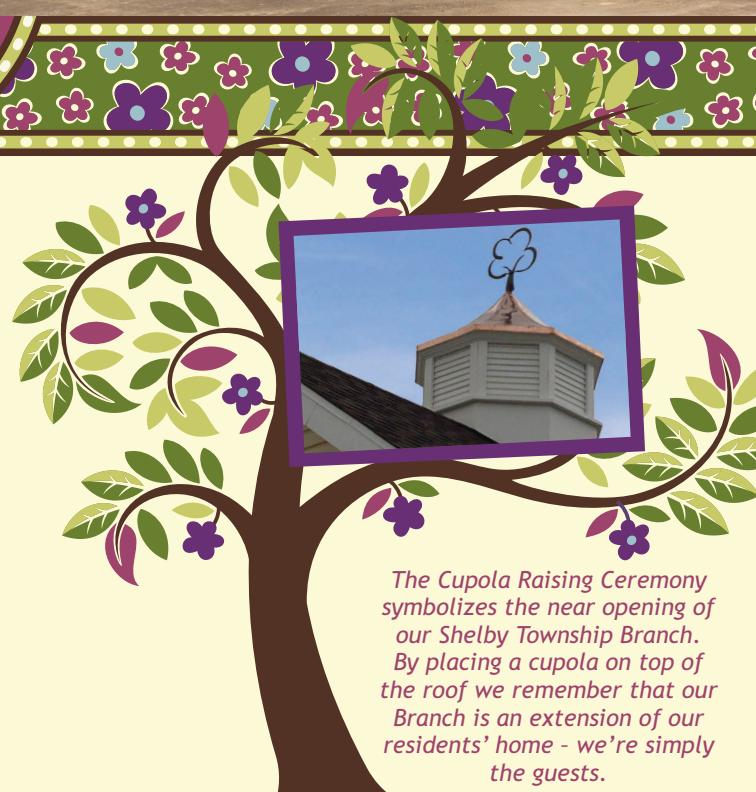
TIME: 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Cupola raising ceremony followed by model apartment tours

*Parking at St. Therese Church

Please RSVP by Friday, May 3rd!

laura.smigelski@enrichinghappiness.com
or call 586.685.5800





The Cupola Raising Ceremony symbolizes the near opening of our Shelby Township Branch. By placing a cupola on top of the roof we remember that our Branch is an extension of our residents' home - we're simply the guests.