

Fun series stars kids entertainer

From traditional songs to humor by a moose named Max, the musical program by increasingly popular children's entertainer Marc Thomas captures the third week of the second annual Farmington Summer Fun Series on Wednesday, July 1.

Thomas, a Farmington resident, weaves a theme of self-esteem into a motivational music program to create a performance that is fun and inspiring. The performances, which encourage participation by both children and adults, will include original music and traditional songs selected to inspire the positive values of life, with particular emphasis on self-esteem.

His musical performance will be accompanied by humor by his puppet sidekick, Max the Moose. Thomas' musical career began to flourish in 1991 when he formed a record company "Joyful Heart Unlimited" and produced his first album, "Max the Moose-Happy Songs for Kids." His performance credits include

the 1991 Detroit Tastefest, the Michigan Festival 1991, Rochester Arts-n-Apples, and numerous nursery/elementary school performances.

Thomas said he linked his love of music with self-help issues after attending a 1989 National Self-Esteem convention in Ohio.

"I really want to be part of the self-esteem movement," he said. "I want to make this my business."

Thomas' elementary self-esteem program, "Give Yourself A Star" is presently being performed at elementary schools throughout Michigan.

The performances will begin at 10:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m., and 1 p.m. and are part of the Farmington 10-week "Summer Fun Series," a program of activities which include a variety of performances and interactive experiences for families held every Wednesday throughout the summer.

Activities are free and take



Marc and Max show: Entertainer Marc Thomas and his friend Max the Moose will perform for youngsters in downtown Farmington Wednesday.

place under the gun Center parking lot on Grand River, one block east of Farmington Road. The series is sponsored by the Farmington Downtown Development Authority, an agency of the city of Farmington committed to maintaining a vigorous downtown district while retaining a small community atmosphere.

Area man not hurt in rush-hour crash

By PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

Rush-hour traffic was snarled, but nobody was seriously injured, when a truck pulling a mobile office unit collided with a car driven by a West Bloomfield man about 7:30 a.m. Friday on rain-slickened Orchard Lake Road at Northwestern Highway.

There was extensive damage to the car driven by Herbert Kaufman, said John P. Balgigan, West Bloomfield traffic officer, but Kaufman was not injured and his vehicle remained drivable after the crash.

All the vehicles were southbound on Orchard Lake, said Balgigan, noting that some early radio reports about the accident saying the mobile unit overturned onto another

car were incorrect.

There was, however, a potential for serious injury when the mobile unit separated from the truck pulling it and continued south on Orchard Lake Road for almost 50 feet, he said.

Balgigan said two citations were issued. The driver of the mobile office unit, Milton Baumgardner of Clarkston, was cited for failure to stop within an assured clear distance.

Baumgardner was towing a unit, about 12 feet wide and 40 feet long, for R.J. Taylor Co. of Clarkston. The company was also cited for not adequately attaching the mobile trailer unit to the tow truck, the officer said.

Local grad on prime-time TV

Joe Hickey, a 1985 graduate of Farmington High School, is one of nine former valedictorians from the Detroit area who will be featured on a prime-time television special.

"The Brightest and Best: A Search For Excellence" will air 8:30 p.m. Monday, June 29, on

WXYZ-TV, Channel 7.

The show will offer a historical perspective of the educational system as seen through the eyes of local valedictorians who have graduated since 1980. That year the TV station began its annual salute to high school academic excellence.

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