

IN THE PAPER TODAY



Strawberry social: Michelle Campbell and son Niklas enjoy cold ice cream on a warm day during the 40th Anniversary celebration at The Servant Church of St. Alexander on June 24. A brief history of the parish and additional photos are in our Hometown Life section. /C5

ARTS & LEISURE

Heading to Heartbreak Hotel: ElvisFest brings impersonators to Ypsilanti's Depot Town July 14-15. /B1

History buff: Author David Poremba revisits the Motor City's memorable moments in his new book. /B1

British Invasion: Britpop band Travis heads to DTE Energy Music Theatre on the bill with pop princess Dido. /B3

INDEX

Apartment/G4 HomeTown
At Home/C1 Life/C5
Automotive/G11 Jobs/G6
Classified/E,F,G,H Obituaries/A10
Classified Opinions/A8-9
Index/G2 Real Estate/E1
Crossword/G3 Service Guide/G9
Entertainment/B1 Sports/D1

REPORT WRITER
Trainee position. Full- or part-time. B.A. is a plus in English or Psychology.

So many resumes to look through. Thank!

Luana Bloomfield Hills

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Gun requests soar under new law



While a court decision sent a rush of applicants to local police departments seeking concealed weapons permits, supporters of the new law say the 'gloom and doom' picture painted by opponents won't come to pass.

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A rush of people seeking applications to carry a concealed weapon made their way this week to local police stations and sheriff's offices.

A recent Michigan Supreme Court decision cleared the way for the new CCW law to go into effect on July 1.

The Farmington Hills Police Department gave out close to 80 application packets by 6 p.m. on Monday, while Farmington Police distributed 20 applications. Kay Williams, supervisor of records at the Oakland County Sheriff's Office, said her office issued approximately 500 applications and took over 200 sets of fingerprints.

"Everybody was very good and very patient," she said.

A records clerk at the Farmington Hills Police Department said, "We've lost count of the number of calls we've received."

Farmington Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer is worried about the implications of the new law.

"I take it very seriously. I have 39 years in law enforcement."

Dwyer issued a statement as president of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police expressing concern about the implementation of the CCW law.

The new law exposes the state's citizens to a greater potential of handgun related violence," he said.

The new law takes a "shall issue" stance, meaning that all persons over 21 years of age have a right to a concealed weapons permit unless they are disqualified by certain exemptions, Dwyer said.

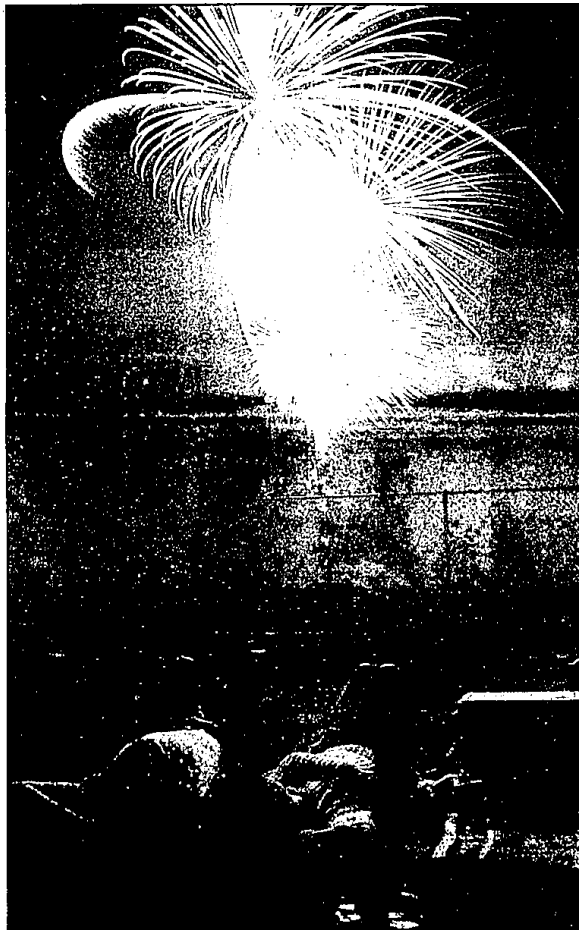
"There are some exemptions, but not enough," he said.

"As a result of this law taking effect, we can anticipate an increase in the number of accidental and unintentional shootings involving people legally carrying concealed weapons," Dwyer said.

He also cites an increased risk to

Please see CCW, A2

Fabulous Fourth



The Big Ooh-Aah

Thousands of area residents crowded in and around Founders Sports Park on 8 Mile in Farmington Hills Wednesday evening for three hours of rockin' hits courtesy Steve King and the Ditties, followed by a spectacular Fourth of July fireworks display set to music.

Police and city staff directed pedestrian traffic out of the area fairly quickly; vehicles parked in the Founders lot and across the street waited a bit longer at the end of the night.

Pictured far left, Richard Beder and Angela Throop brought a blanket and cooler, kicked their shoes off and enjoyed the show. Guillian Yatooma, Lindsay McKenna, Jodi Amowitz and Erin Miller danced to Sam and Dave's "Soul Man," played by Steve King and the Ditties (top).

Like many other children—and some adults—Abby Zmenda sparkles before the big show begins (center), and Katie Knighton (right) sports a patriotic chaparral.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BAEZLER



Moo-ving gift: Erin Cook, a Livonia Stevenson junior, holds up a gift that an unknown customer of the Silver Dairy on Grand River gave to the business after the first cement cow named Betsy was decapitated. A replacement put in place last week has also been damaged, and the ice cream stand's owner doesn't plan to find another.

Silver Dairy owner gives up after an-udder cow disaster

BY SUZ DUCK
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It's utterly frustrating. Robert Ahn, owner of the Silver Dairy on Grand River in Farmington, has finally given up on the idea of having a cow statue in front of his Grand River business.

He recently bought a replacement for one that was decapitated by vandals months ago. She was in place about a week July 1, when she was tipped on her side and her concrete rebar legs were damaged. Ahn thinks someone jumped on her legs.

The original cow had her head and legs chopped last October.

"The cow doesn't make me any money, but it's a landmark," Ahn said. "I'm very distraught. People have told me, 'I've measured my kids' growth on that cow.'"

Because of its weight, taking the cow in for the night wasn't feasible. Nor did he consider putting wheels on her and turning

her into a Trojan horse.

Ahn's employees didn't even have enough time to name the new cow, which weighed about 50-100 pounds more than the original cow.

"Now we can name her Scrap," he said.

When Ahn purchased his new cow, he alerted the Farmington Public Safety Department, asking them to keep an eye on the faux bovine. The incident occurred in the wee hours of the morning.

Betsy, the original three-foot-high, novelty statue was a mainstay at the front of the

'People have told me 'I've measured my kids' growth on that cow.'

Robert Ahn
Silver Dairy owner

Please see COW, A3