



ON FREEP.COM

Vote again for My Beautiful Backyard

We experienced technical difficulties on the first day of voting. So we thought it only fair to start over. Go to www.freep.com/backyards to see photo images of the finalists' yards and then cast your vote. Voting ends Aug. 24. We appreciate your patience.

RUTH TO THE RESCUE

When it comes to toys, put safety first

After more than one recall of toys, the Chinese government vows to investigate, and assures U.S. parents that the safety of children is a top priority. However, if any entity has lost your trust, you have a right to avoid their product. - RUTH SPENCER, LOCAL 4 NEWS



TECH TIP Broadcast images live with new Sony camcorder

The pocket-size MPEG4 Net Sharing Camcorder automatically formats video clips for Web-sharing sites. It also has a sharemark button that lets you tag images for Web sharing, and menu buttons that can be programmed for quick posting to a favorite Web site.

Available in September. \$200. www.sonystyle.com/netsharingcam.

- DEBORAH PORTERFIELD, GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

SATURDAY JUMP START

OVERHEARD

"You can change a student's whole life."

PATRICIA GAMBLE, mother of a Cornerstone Schools student, on the value of a scholarship fund. STORY, 7A

IN TODAY'S FREE PRESS

Federal Reserve credit move surprises all

BUSINESS, 10A

Judge orders hearing in **Hackel case**

LOCAL NEWS, 3A

Young people learn about working world

BUSINESS, 10A

Getting it straight

The Free Press corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please call the newsroom at 313-222-6600.

CLARIFICATION: In some Friday editions, in the front-page article about Chrysler's new chief executive, Bob Nardelli, a portion was unclear. Where it said Nardelli responded, "Yes, I was," he was referring to a quote a dozen lines earlier in the article, where a Chrysler employee said, "You tell them you were a Prowler guy long before you got the job.

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NEWS2USE

Don't let thieves pull a fast one

nn Rutland's heart sank last Saturday night. The Detroit resident of 26 years had parked her 2006 Chrysler Pacifica in a shopping center lot at Grand River and Fenkell, where she met a charter bus for a day trip to Cedar Point amusement park.

At least 20 other drivers had done the same thing, but when Rutland came back that night she found a pile of shattered glass where she had parked her vehicle. It was one of the last gifts her husband, Matthew, gave to her before he died in March. "I couldn't believe it," she said with a sigh. "I was very

hurt, and I was angry.'

Here are some tips to thwart car criminal greed.

GENTLE REMINDERS

Don't be

It's tough

to defeat a

determined

and skillful

the harder

time and

trouble it

looks like it

would take

to break into

your vehicle

will choose

some other

wheels.

- the more likely a thief

you make it

- the more

car thief. But

an easy

target

Think of your vehicle as the money you paid for it. You wouldn't leave \$27,000 in an unlocked room, would you?

Don't leave your vehicle's doors unlocked either — no matter how short a time you expect to be away.

If you park inside a garage, lock the garage and your vehicle's doors.

Roll up all your windows and close your sunroof. Thieves can use even the smallest cranny to push down an open window or reach inside to unlock your doors.

Carry your vehicle registration and driver's license in your wallet or purse. File the title at home. Don't leave valuable items — keys, cell phone or CDs — in clear view.

Use VIN etching. A special paste can mark your car's vehicle identification number on the windshield, which makes the car easier to trace if stolen.

Consider upgrading your vehicle's security with a tracking system and an aftermarket alarm. Systems that shut off fuel supply are recommended.

Many police departments recommend tips offered by a program called Help Eliminate Auto Thefts, or HEAT, which is fund-

ed by automobile insurers in Michigan. Check out www.miheat.org. There's also a form on the site to report auto theft.

HOW TO PARK IT

These days, car thieves are bold enough to tow your vehicle. You may want to park a certain way to make it harder for them:

- Turn your vehicle's wheels toward the curb.
- Put on the emergency brake.

FREE THEFT DETERRENTS

Detroit Police Sgt. Vernal Newson helps facilitate the Lock-n-Layer program, which offers free steering wheel locks to Chrysler product owners. The freebie is only for people who live or work in De-

troit's eastern district, he said. The city's east side holds some of the hottest spots for auto thefts, and Chrysler products are No. 1 on car thieves' wish lists in Michigan, he said. Lock-n-Layer also offers free wheel locks and VIN etch-

ing to all Detroit residents for any make of car.

'The thefts are not so much to satisfy the appetite of the chop shop, but mainly for the wheels, airbags and radios" to be pawned, Newson said. "Wheels and tires are a big business in Detroit. Time is a car thief's biggest fear, and wheel locks are a deterrent.'

Call 313-596-2555 after noon weekdays for more information on the Detroit program.

IF IT HAPPENS TO YOU

Whether your police department requires you to show up in person to report a stolen vehicle or allows you to do it by phone, generally you need to know:

- Vehicle make, model, year and color. License plate number.
- The vehicle's VIN.

So store these in a place you can find when needed and not in your car, of course.

Take some precautions or your car might just take a ride without you





Today's News2Use is by Erin L. **Hill,** Free Press copy editor and staff writer. Got an idea for news you can use? E-mail it to elhill @freepress.com or call 313-223-

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CATCH MARK PHELAN'S CAR REVIEWS THURSDAYS IN MOTOR CITY

Detroit Free Press

Lottery results

Michigan Friday Daily 3 and 4

Midday921 and 7962

Mega Millions......2, 8, 33, 38, 53 Mega Ball.....12

Friday Pick 3 and 4 Midday.....**855** and **3041** Evening......**657** and **3734** Ten-Oh Numbers

Midday 5, 8, 9, 10, 25, 26, 27, 31, 36, 43, 44, 46, 50, 53, 56, 61, 65, 72, 75, 76

Evening .2, 11, 14, 15, 23, 25, 27, 32, 33, 38, 39, 44, 47, 50, 52, 55, 70, 73, 76, 77 Rolling Cash 5......**5, 7, 11, 22, 23**

The Classic Lotto jackpot.......\$6.1 million

Find previous Michigan numbers on the Web at www.michigan.gov/lottery

Find previous Ohio numbers on the Web at www.ohiolotttery.com

