



▶ Latest Neighborhood News report

SEARCH
detnews.com

Home Page
Essentials
CyberSurveys
Forums
Photo Galleries
Weather
Horoscope
Lottery
Giveaways
Crossword
Advanced Search
Contact Us

Autos
Autos Insider
Drive
-- New Car
Photos
-- Car Reviews
-- Latest Deals
-- Model Reports
Joyrides
Business
Business
Money & Life
Careers
-- Find a Job
Real Estate
-- Find a Home

Metro
Metro/State
Wayne
Oakland
Macomb
Livingston
Commuting
Obituaries
-- Death Notices
Schools
Special Reports
Editorials
Columnists
Detroit History
Nation/World
Nation/World
Politics/Gov
Census
Health
Religion
Technology
Sports
Sports Insider
Lions/NFL
Pistons/NBA
Red Wings/NHL
Tigers/MLB
Shock/WNBA
MSU
U-M
More Colleges
High Schools
Golf

News from Wayne, Westland, Garden City, Inkster, Romulus

Wednesday, November 9, 2005



Laura Little / The Detroit News

Abel Philips, 25, of Dearborn Heights holds the clues as his teammates, Shiny Mathew, 22, of Sterling Heights, from left, Dimple Cheruvil, 25, of Troy, and Anu Thomas, 23, of Sterling Heights watch their maps closely during the second Detroit Synergy scavenger hunt in Detroit.

Scavenger hunt highlights Detroit

Metro Detroiters scour downtown's historical markers to learn about the city and win prizes.

By Santiago Esparza / The Detroit News

DEARBORN HEIGHTS -- Abel Philips looked over a sheet of clues as he helped to plan his team's strategy for Detroit Synergy's Nov. 5 scavenger hunt in Detroit.

The 25-year-old Dearborn Heights man was on a team with buddies Anu Thomas, Shiny Mathew and Dimple Cheruvil.

Philips' teammates figured he would be good with strategy but he would not handle a map of the scavenger hunt area, which included downtown Detroit, Greektown and the Eastern Market.

Detroit Synergy

The organization is dedicated to organizing events in Detroit and showcasing cool things around the city. The group will hold a general meeting from 6:30-8:30 Nov. 10 at a site to be determined. For information, visit

www.detroit synergy.org.

- ▶ [Comment on this story](#)
- ▶ [Send this story to a friend](#)

Marketplace Detr

- [Browse the Class](#)
- [New & Used Cars](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Homes or Apartm](#)
- [Shop Online](#)

Home Delivery C

- [Start home delivery](#)
- [Renew subscriptio](#)
- [Customer service](#)

Neighborhood N

- [Neighborhood Ne index for Wednesda November 9, 2005](#)
- [Habitat builds dre family of six](#)
- [Doctor empowers figured women](#)
- [Hardware store s groove](#)
- [Commissioner re out to seniors](#)
- [Kids to put spirit season on paper](#)
- [Contest puts teer behind the camera l](#)
- [Scavenger hunt highlights Detroit](#)
- [Milestones: Peop News](#)
- [News briefs](#)
- [School briefs](#)
- [Faith calendar](#)
- [Meetings calend](#)
- [Reunions calend:](#)

Sections for this

Thursday, November 7

Select index

[Motor Sports](#)
[Outdoors](#)
[More Sports](#)
[Scoreboards](#)
[Entertainment](#)
[Entertainment](#)
[Rant/Rave](#)
[Events](#)
[-- Event Finder](#)
[-- State Fair](#)
[Movies/TV/DVD](#)
[-- Movie Finder](#)
[-- TV Listings](#)
[Eats & Drinks](#)
[-- Restaurants](#)
[-- Wine Report](#)
[Books](#)
[CD Reviews](#)
[Escapes](#)
[Casino Guide](#)
[Michigan's Best](#)
[Living](#)
[Lifestyle](#)
[Homestyle](#)
[Fitness](#)
[Forums](#)
[News Talk](#)
[Faith Talk](#)
[Autos Talk](#)
[Wings Talk](#)
[Lions Talk](#)
[Pistons Talk](#)
[Tiger Talk](#)
[Big 10 Talk](#)
[High Schools](#)
[Movie Talk](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Weblogs](#)
[Photo Blog](#)
[Politics Blog](#)
[Pistons Blog](#)
[Tigers Blog](#)
[NFL Blog](#)
[Rant/Rave](#)
[Entertainment](#)
[RSS](#)
 [Feeds](#)

His teammates did not want to take the chance Philips might get them lost and be too proud to ask for directions. Philips' teammates joked men never ask for directions when lost.

[▶ Get Home Delivery](#)

"We have the map," said Cheruvil, 25, of Troy, laughing.

The hunt was the second one sponsored by Detroit Synergy, an organization dedicated to finding or providing cool things in the city to showcase. Detroit Synergy also organized one in June.

Philips thought the hunt would be fun because his teammates had participated in other Detroit Synergy events.

But the hunt also was difficult. Forty-three teams of up to four people scoured the hunt area looking for clues. Each correctly answered clue got a team points. Teams with the most points won prizes such as tickets to Detroit Red Wings games and grandstand seats and breakfast at the Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The hunt required participants to answer more than 80 questions, such as where historical markers are located, what is written on the sides of certain buildings and other facts about the city. Thomas was surprised by the difficulty of some clues. "They are harder than I thought; a lot harder than I thought," the 23-year-old Sterling Heights resident said.

In addition to answering questions, participants completed skill competitions, such as stacking four vegetables atop one another for at least 10 seconds at an Eastern Market stop and drumming at a Campus Martius stop. The entire team had to participate or they risked losing points.

The most points a team could get was 7,330, which no one got.

Contestants had to walk, bike, skate or use shuttle buses within the hunt territory. Organizers thought that would make it more fun.

"We want to introduce people to new things downtown and around town," said Cheryl Bartholomew, a project leader for Detroit Synergy. "We want to get them out on the streets and give them good things to say about Detroit."

Each team had its own strategy. With a three-hour time limit, planning was critical. But plenty participated because they thought it would be fun.

"I like 'The Amazing Race' television show," said 24-year-old Julia Gregory of Detroit. "I wanted to do something like it."

You can reach Santiago Esparza at (734) 462-2673 or sesparza@detnews.com.

Copyright © 2005
 The Detroit News
 Use of this site indicates
 agreement to the [Terms of Service](#)
 Service (updated 12/1/05)



Laura Little / The Detroit News

Forty-three teams of up to four people get ready for the hunt. Teams with the most points win prizes such as tickets to Detroit Red Wings games and grandstand seats and breakfast at the Thanksgiving Day Parade.