

THE EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 01

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 131, No. 01

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THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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John Glenn High School senior Brandon Allen has become a familiar face to thousands of viewers of the popular TED Talks.

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Van Buren bans coal tar sealants

The use of coal tar sealants has been officially banned in Van Buren Township.

The township is the only municipality in the country to have officially restricted the use of products which contain the carcinogen, used primarily in sealants on driveways, playgrounds and other surfaces.

The new resolution, limiting the use of coal tar products, was unanimously approved by members of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees at their Dec. 15 meeting. The new regulation became effective Dec. 24. The use of sealants must now be included on any site plans submitted to the township and no plans using coal tar materials will be approved. Officials said the plans of Acheson Ford for a new project will be the first to include details of the sealants

proposed for use. Township representatives will meet this spring with companies that use or apply sealcoatings in the municipality to explain the new regulations, officials said. The ban on coal tar sealants included voluntary compliance.

De David Wilson and Rebecca Esselman, of the Huron River Watershed Council, were cited as the main proponents of the new ordinance and their efforts were recognized by members of the board of trustees. Wilson, a member of the township Environmental Commission, worked to prepare the ordinance

hanning the carcinogen PAH (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) present in coal tar sealants. Esselman told the members of the board that the watershed council hopes to "get your neighbors on board." Both she and Wilson said their hope is to have the coal tar sealants banned throughout the country, although Wilson said that his efforts to convince Belleville officials met with no response. He compared his efforts to throwing a stone in a deep well and never hearing it hit the water.

Students in the tech program at Belleville High School will produce a commercial video regarding the dangers of coal tar sealants that will be shown on the township cable channel, according to Planning and Economic Director Mathew Best.

Chairman of the Environmental Commission David Brownlee said it was crucial that the information about carcinogens in coal tar sealants reach the public. To that end, the watershed council will be producing new brochures which contain the information and the limit of PAH considered safe and the names of products which contain coal tar.

"Eventually, coal tar sealant won't be used anywhere in the country - and that starts with municipalities like us," Brownlee said.

Cool city Ice Festival promotes spirit of community

There are men and women, bundled up in cold weather gear, wielding chain saws, special chisels and a variety of kitchen implements throughout downtown Plymouth and in Kelllogg Park today, preparing for the 34th Annual Plymouth Ice Festival.

The events and attractions that have brought crowds to the City of Plymouth for the past three decades will be part of the celebration again this year noted James Geitzen, the director of the Ice Festival, along with enhanced exhibits and sculptures, thanks to new premier sponsor Ford Motor Co.

"Ford will not only have the largest exhibit where you will be able to interact with staff and new Ford vehicles, they will also have the largest ice carving in the park, featuring the new Ford GT," he added, "but they have also brought something new to the event that we have been trying to accomplish for a few years."

Geitzen said that the festival had been looking for an opportunity to provide community service in addition to the ice attractions and this year, with the participation of Ford and Gleaners, along with two other major charity events, United Way and Habitat for Humanity, the Ice Festival will present a real spirit of community involvement along with the expected attractions.

Marisa Bradley, Ford Motor Co. consumer and broadcast media communications manager, said that the Plymouth Ice Festival seemed a perfect fit for the automaker, a major supporter of the Gleaners Food Bank.

During the event, festival visitors can text

See Festival, page 2



Voting precincts are consolidated in Northville

Only the number of the precinct in which they vote will change for the majority of voters affected by the consolidation and most voters will continue to vote at the same location where they previously voted.

and substantially reduce the township's financial obligation to replace the election equipment, which will be required in 2017, the statement reads.

Only the number of the precinct in which they vote will change for the majority of voters affected by the consolidation and most voters will continue to

vote at the same location where they previously voted," according to the statement.

The Kings Mill voting location has been eliminated, however, and residents of Kings Mill are now assigned to vote at Northville Township Hall. The Kings Mill area is still designated as Precinct number five.

Township Clerk Sue Hillebrand, urged voters to watch for important election information which will be mailed to voters early this month. The mailing will contain the new voter identification cards and a letter explaining the changes which will take effect in 2016. Hillebrand reminded voters, too, of the availability of the township Permanent Absentee List (PAL) which will allow them to receive an application for an absentee ballot prior to every election in the township. Anyone can sign up for the PAL.

See Precincts, page 4

PLYMOUTH

Trustee rescinds resignation from commission

Bob Doroszewitz will remain on the Plymouth Township Zoning Board of Appeals.

Doroszewitz rescinded a letter of resignation from the board he submitted Nov. 13, noting that he "didn't think it through" during a recent meeting of the township board of trustees.

Doroszewitz had served on the zoning board for about 11 years and said he assumed that another member of the board of trustees would be appointed to fill the vacancy his resignation

would create. When Supervisor Shannon Price suggested replacing Doroszewitz with Steven Bassett, who has served as an alternate on the zoning authority rather than a member of the board of trustees, Doroszewitz reconsidered leaving the zoning board.

"I assumed one of my colleagues here would fill in, and that was a bad assumption," Doroszewitz said. "I apologize for that. ... I didn't think that through."

"I assumed one of my colleagues here would fill in, and that was a bad assumption."

Price suggested Bassett as Doroszewitz' replacement and the reappointment of Michael Carlin and chairman Harry Jachym to three-year terms on the zoning board. He suggested

John Badeen and Stephanie Goecke as alternates to the board.

Doroszewitz position was supported by Trustee Steve Mann who said he felt it was

important to have a board trustee on the Zoning Board of Appeals as the township has had for many years. He added that since the trustees had not officially accepted Doroszewitz' resignation, he was still a member of the zoning board.

Trustees reapportioned Jachym and Carlin unanimously to three-year terms, reapportioned Bassett as an alternate and took no action on Doroszewitz' resignation, keeping him in place until his term expires next year.

Festival

FROM PAGE 1

the word FORD to 41444 and Ford will match their donation to Gleaners, Getzen said.

"We also have the Plymouth Community United Way doing a winter clothing drive. The local Habitat for Humanity Resale Store accepting donations and scheduling pickups during the event this year," he said, "and, as in the past, the cover charge at the Party Lot on Friday and Saturday is donated to the Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans."

This year the weekend event, originally designed to bring crowds into town during the cold weeks of January, will begin tomorrow and continue Saturday and Sunday.

"The Plymouth Ice Festival has a long-standing history of being the largest free ice festival in Michigan and remains dedicated to the art of ice carving," Getzen said, "and this year the event brings new excitement with new sculptures, those charity events and the premiere sponsorship of Ford Motor Co."

Ford will also sponsor the dueling chainsaw competition which always draws a huge crowd, Getzen said.

"These guys have 15 minutes and a chainsaw to create a piece of art. You know it is exciting. Those guys are running, ice is just flying everywhere. What they do is pretty amazing," he added.

The annual Collegiate Ice Carving competition is presented by Genesis Credit Union and pits student carving competitors in two separate carving competitions. The individual contest will start at 9 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 9 and the carvers will have 3 hours to complete their entries. The team competition will begin at 8 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 10 when the sculptures will be completed by team of carvers. The winners will be announced and trophies presented at 1 p.m. each day.

"People love that event, too," Getzen said.

For those who need to take a break from the competitions or viewing the more than 100 sculptures this year, there are warming stations set up throughout town to welcome crowds.

Getzen said the Hot Spot, heated by Ebers Heating and Cooling near the Gathering will welcome folks. The library is offering a free American Songbook performance by two celebrated artists Saturday, the Plymouth Arts and Recreation

Complex (PARC) is offering a warming center with activities for children during the event, and several businesses are welcoming visitors with warmth, some even with hot chocolate.

Kroger has sponsored an all-new attraction this year with the Ice Playground, packed full of interactive ice carvings with plenty of opportunity for pictures while children play with the ice. Getzen said this is simply a "must see" at the festival this year.

Families can also enjoy learning how to ski together at the Blue Care Network Cross-Country Skiing Zone presented by Sun and Snow. Seasoned professionals will explain the gear, help visitors suit up and set off on the cross-country skiing trail in Kellogg Park.

North American Van Lines, University Moving & Storage and the area Habitat ReStore resale outlet are teaming up with the Plymouth Ice Festival to bring the Race2ReStock donation event this year. Visit The University Moving booth in the "Hot Spot" and drop off gently-used household items or schedule a donation pickup. Receive a coupon for extra savings at your local Habitat ReStore. Take a picture with a Richard Petty Motorsports showcar and enter to win an RPM VIP XFINITY Race Day Experience for two. Visit university-moving.com/icefest for more details, Getzen said.

Getzen said the opening ceremony and ribbon cutting will take place at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8 and the DFCU sponsored Ice Garden which bathes the sculptures in Kellogg Park in light will be switched on for the first time.

Getzen said the sponsors of the Ice Festival make the event and the attractions possible.

"This event is completely free to the public, but visitors will see that it is obviously an expensive event to produce. I want to stress that no tax money is used for the event. None. Everything the public sees and enjoys is all courtesy of the sponsors, the businesses, the people in this community. The event costs about \$100,000 to produce, which is completely funded by our sponsors."

"And now, with the involvement of Ford Motor Co. and the other charities participating this year, the Ice Festival has evolved into an essential part of what makes the Plymouth community unique," Getzen said. "I am very proud to be a part of it."

(A complete guide to the Plymouth Ice Festival events and attractions is included with this edition of The Eagle.)

High school is honored

Plymouth-Canton High School has been named to the 2016 Elite 50, an annual selection of the top 50 secondary school hospitality programs in the nation.

The Elite 50 list recognizes high schools as well as career and technical centers that have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in hospitality education. These schools set the standard for secondary school training in culinary arts, baking and pastry arts, and/or hospitality management, according to a prepared statement from the group. These elite programs are also marked by strong enrollment and a dedication to community outreach. Many of this year's Elite 50 programs have won state and national competitions for ProStart, SkillsUSA and Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCLCA).

More than 350 schools designated as Hospitality Programs of Distinction were invited to apply for the honor of being named to the Elite 50 list. Criteria for the schools selected for the Elite 50 included: an original recipe with photos or a restaurant management design; two student essays on the topic "Why I want to pursue a career in hospitality"; and informational materials such as videos or brochures about the school's program. Further consideration was given to schools that operate a restaurant or catering service as part of their culinary and hospitality training.

The National Center for Hospitality Studies at Sullivan University oversees the selection process for the Elite 50 list. The National Center for Hospitality Studies is known as one of the finest post-secondary hospitality training institutions in the nation and offers programs in culinary arts, baking and pastry arts, hotel and restaurant management, event management and tourism; and hospitality management. Every year, graduates from the National Center for Hospitality Studies pursue successful careers in virtually every corner of the globe and every aspect of the hospitality industry. Sullivan University has campuses in both Louisville and Lexington, KY.

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BELLEVILLE - ROMULUS

Actions of first-responders lauded by chief

The actions of members of the Belleville Public Safety Department in a recent fire which claimed the life of a teen were commended by Van Buren Township Public Safety Director Greg Laurain last month.

Laurain appeared at the regular meeting of the members of the Belleville City Council to publicly recognize the actions of the city firefighters and police officers during the 4 a.m. Dec. 13 house fire on Denton Road

which also injured six residents, four of them children.

Laurain said that while four Belleville police officers, Ofc. Mark Aldrich, Reserve Ofc. Matt Raich, Ofc. Kenra Rose and Reserve Ofc. Dennis Moberg, were first to approach the fire, and could see a small child inside the front door of the blazing home, they could not get to her because of the intense heat. When Van Buren Township Firefighter John Henderson arrived in full protective gear,

”
They couldn't go in,
but they brought timely resources.”

the officers immediately directed him to the child and he was able to pull her from the burning home.

“They couldn't go in, but they brought timely resources,” Laurain said in his praise of the public safety workers.

Laurain also noted that two of the police officers were just going off duty when the fire was reported and could have gone home but instead responded to the emergency. He said that their timely response saved vital seconds in getting to the child

and saving her from the blaze.

Laurain presented an official letter of recognition to the city and said that he hoped that it would be included into the personnel files of those involved. Belleville Police Chief Hal Berriman said that the officers has already been awarded life-saving ribbons from the department.

The police officers and the entire fire department will be officially honored at a meeting of the city council this month.

Success Holiday Food Drive helps area

Students in the Romulus schools demonstrated the spirit of giving last month during the Annual Holiday Food Drive in the district.

Students from the middle and high school demonstrated their generosity by donating more than 2,000 non-perishable food items. Individual groups within the district including the Middle School Youth Leadership group and the High School Bowling Team spread the valuable life lesson of giving to those in need throughout the entire student body, noted district officials.

“This is a great district and a giving district,” said Mark Edwards, coordinator of school relations and Youth Leadership advisor said “The best part about this

food collection is that it helps people in our community.”

The collected food goes directly to the Helping Hand Thrift Shop which distributes it to local families in need.

Rose Scharbonneau, a volunteer at Helping Hand, said that this has been a special year and many have stepped up to help make it possible for more families to get food assistance for their holiday meals.

“Without the schools, city and organizations like the Boy Scouts our work would not be possible,” Scharbonneau said.

Donations are always welcomed and needed at Helping Hand. For more information, to donate or ask for assistance, call (734) 941-5223.



Students display some of the 2000 items collected during the recent food drive in Romulus schools.

Officer is injured in fight outside high school

A Belleville police corporal was treated at a local hospital for injuries he sustained while attempting to break up a fight outside Belleville High School.

Police reports indicate that Belleville Police Cpl. Todd Schreengost suffered a laceration on his forehead after being head-butted by a 17-year-old student from Ypsilanti Lincoln schools on Dec. 15 following a home basketball game between Dearborn and Belleville at Belleville

High School. According to police reports, officers broke up two separate altercations between students, all from the Ypsilanti schools. Schreengost and Cpl. Kris Faull initially broke up one fight between two male students who began exchanging blows in full view of the officers. The officers separated the teens and while placing them in the squad car when another physical altercation broke out. It was during the second fight that one of

the teens head-butted Schreengost, injuring him.

All four 17-year-olds were transported to the Van Buren Township Police Department. One teen was issued a ticket

and released; one posted bond on the charges and was released and the other two are facing felony charges of assault on an officer, pending a review by the Wayne County Prosecutors office.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon a two week notice to the Charter Township of Canton. These services include signers for the hearing and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:

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CANTON - WAYNE - WESTLAND

Talking TED Westland student featured in 2 national computer 'talks'

John Glenn High School senior Brandon Allen has become a familiar face to thousands of viewers of the popular TED Talks.

Allen, who is part of the Eastern Michigan University Bright Futures program at John Glenn, was selected to speak at the national TED Youth Conference in New York last fall.

That wasn't his first brush with fame, however. Through the college program, he did a TED-Ed Talk two years ago titled Debunking the Black Male Stereotype. He was selected from students around the world to present his platform at the national TED Youth Conference where he spoke in front of a few thousand teens, and his presentation was broadcast around the world.

The Eastern Michigan University Bright Futures program facilitated the TED-Ed Club at John Glenn High School.

TED-Ed is a way to celebrate the ideas of students, 8-18, around the world. Students can identify and research ideas that matter to them and then work on their storytelling

and communication skills. Then they frame their idea and present it in a TED Talk. The talks are uploaded to the TED-Ed YouTube channel and some, like Allen's, are selected to be featured on the TED-Ed website.

More than 1,000 students in more than 20 countries participate in TED-Ed Clubs.

In addition to public speaking, Allen currently holds a state office in DECCA, a founding member of the Male African American Scholars (MAAS) group, participates in the Champions of John Glenn mentoring program, has a 3.5 career GPA, is taking three Advanced Placement classes and would like to attend Syracuse University in New York to study broadcast journalism.

His first TED Talk can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KX4tyDIXwP0&app=desktop> and his presentation at the New York TED Youth Conference can be found at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/bd16tnf91d1tu/Brandon%20Allen%20-%20NYC%20TEDYouth%20-%20091016.mp4?dl=0>



John Glenn High School student Brandon Allen has participated in two TED-Ed talks worldwide.

Wayne Chamber of Commerce honors businesses

The Wayne Rotary Club was honored as the Service Organization of the Year by the Wayne Chamber of Commerce at an awards presentation earlier this month.

The honor, a new award for the chamber, was presented along with the annual selections of Business Person of the Year which went to Don Nicholson, the owner of Don Nicholson Enterprises LLC and the Business of the Year awarded to the Wayne Dairy Queen, owned by Michael and Jean Petrou.

The Rotary Club nomination for the honor came after a review of the club

web page which detailed the activities of the group during the year. Among the many activities and civic contributions listed were the delivery of 278 dictionaries to local elementary schools; the installation of free libraries at several locations in the city; scholarships presented to local students; the community picnic at Rotary Park; sponsorship of free concerts in Goudy Park; the donation of video equipment to the police department; more than \$1,500 in warm clothing donated to the Wayne Westland Family Resource Center and the organization of the Holiday Night at the

Museum event.

Chamber President Pastor Dave Furno strongly recommended the Rotary Club award to the selection committee.

Nicholson was also named as Westland Business Person of the Year earlier this year. His company organizes several automotive events and car cruises in the area, including the recent All American Cruise in Westland. He also does a lot of volunteer work in Wayne and serves on 16 boards and commis-

sions. He was nominated by Community Living Services in Wayne.

Nicholson said he was not expecting the award and thanked his wife, Gayle, for her help in his efforts.

The Petrous succeeded Anna and Michael Petrou, Michael's parents, as owners at the 55-year-old Dairy Queen. They have remodeled the building and "beautified the city" and have continued to employ local students and donate to community schools and organizations.

Cyclist killed in crash

Canton Police are continuing to investigate the traffic accident that took the life of a 78-year-old bicyclist Monday morning.

According to police reports of the incident, dispatchers received a call at approximately 7:51 a.m. Sunday, and officers responded to reports of a traffic accident on Canton Center Road south of Cherry Hill Road. The bicyclist was severely injured and was immediately transported to St. Joseph's Mercy a local

hospital by the Canton Fire Department.

The cyclist was pronounced dead at the hospital, according to police reports of the incident.

The motorist was released at the scene and has provided full cooperation with investigators, police said.

The Canton Police Department Accident Investigation Team is continuing the investigation into the incident, police said.

State appointments announced

Gov. Rick Snyder has appointed Lisa Gray, of Northville, and Kaushik Nag, of Grand Rapids, and reappointed Jamie Hsu, of Troy, and Toshiki Masaki, of Canton, to the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission.

The 21-member commission, housed in the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, advances the full and equal participation of Asian Pacific Americans in Michigan.

"I thank these individuals for their willingness to serve on this important commission and look forward to their contributions on behalf of Michigan's Asian Pacific American community," Snyder said.

Appointees will serve four-year terms expiring Nov. 30, 2019. Their appointments are not subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

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Calendar of events

Soccer registration is under way

Plymouth spring soccer registration will take place during the entire month of January at the recreation office from 11:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday on online 247. Last day of registration is Jan. 31 on the last day of in-office registration is Jan. 29.

To register online, players or parents must have an email address on file, a username, and a password; for first time users this can be set-up by the recreation department by email at recreation@ci.plymouth.mi.us [mailto:recreation@ci.plymouth.mi.us], or call (734)455-6820, or visit the Soccer Webpage, which has registration forms and a link to online registration at: www.ci.plymouth.mi.us/ind ex.aspx?NID=653.

The recreation office is located at 535 Farmer in Plymouth.

Hot Reads for Cold Nights

The Adult Winter Reading Program will be under way at the Romulus Community Library from Jan. 11 through March 30.

Readers should register at the front desk to receive a reading log and record each book read by March 30 when a reception including food, hot cocoa and prize drawings will take place at 6:30 p.m.

The library is located at 11121 Wayne Road in Romulus. For more information, call (734) 942-7589.

Museum seeks volunteers

The Wayne Historical Museum is seeking volunteers to help with various jobs including tour guides, display assistants and promotions.

Training will be provided and volunteers can choose their schedules and hours.

Applications are available at the museum from 1-4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. For more information, call (734) 722-0113.

Blankets are needed

Plymouth Community United

Way is hosting a Blanket Drive in support of the homeless community through Jan. 15.

Blankets must be new, or handmade, and can be dropped at the Plymouth Community United Way office. The address is 960 W Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2, 960 W Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2, Plymouth, MI 48170.

For more information, call Randi Williams at (734) 453-6879, ext. 7 or e-mail randi.williams@pcuw.org.

Fill the truck at festival

In addition to the ongoing collection of new blankets for the homeless and needy, the Plymouth Community United Way, Blackwell Ford and the Plymouth Ice Festival are hosting a Fill the Truck event during the Jan. 8-10 downtown ice festival.

Organizers hope to fill the bed of a new Ford pickup truck from Blackwell Ford with the largest amount of new winter wear to be collected for those in need during the event.

Organizers said they hope to set a record for donations of new or handmade hats, gloves and scarves.

The items will be given to agencies serving the homeless and low income throughout the area.

The United Way booth will be located on Penniman Avenue during the festival for donations. United Way is also hosting a free cocoa bar from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 9 at the office, 960 W Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2.

Legislator hosts coffee hours

State Rep. Julie Plawecki (D-DeARBorn Heights) announced today the schedule for her January coffee hours. Plawecki invites residents to join her to discuss their thoughts and ideas about how she can best represent and address the needs of her constituents.

Coffee hours in January will take place: from 9-10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 11, at Mr. Mike's, 6047 N. Wayne Road in Westland; from 10:30 until 11:30 a.m. at the Maplewood Community Center,

in Garden City and from noon until 1 p.m. Jan. 11 at the Inkster Public Library, 2005 Inkster Road in Inkster.

Residents can call Plawecki toll-free at (844) 347-8011 or email her at julieplawecki@house.mi.gov.

Blood drive planned

The American Red Cross has planned a blood drive from 11 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. Jan. 12 at Plymouth City Hall, 201 South Main St. in Plymouth.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, visit www.redcrossblood.org with the sponsor code PCH or call (313) 549-7022.

Bricks for sale

Memorial bricks to be installed at the veteran's memorial in the City of Romulus are for sale, to honor those who have served in the armed services of our country.

Bricks on the veteran's wall are priced at \$125 with two lines of text and bricks on the walkway with two lines are \$75. Larger size walkway bricks are available for \$100 and include four lines of text.

Orders for the bricks are being accepted at the treasurer's office in Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road in Romulus, the Romulus Chamber of Commerce office at 11189 Shook Road in Romulus or the Romulus VFW Post 9568, 38270 W. Huron River Dr. in Romulus.

For more information, contact the treasurer's office, (734) 942-7589.

Trolley history is topic

Brian Golden will be the featured guest speaker at the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12. The title of his presentation is "Farmington Junction: A Trolley History." Golden is the author of five local history books, and conducts historical tours in Farmington. He is also a member of the Plymouth Living History Troupe and is president of the

Farmington Historical Society and the Oakland County Historical Society. He is an accomplished percussionist and has performed with numerous orchestras in southeast Michigan. The talk is free and open to the public.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main St., one block north of downtown Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 455-8940 x1.

Casting call announced

The Plymouth Uptown Players have scheduled auditions for the winter 2016 musical theater season on Sunday, Jan. 10 and Wednesday, Jan. 13 at arts council building, 774 North Sheldon Road in Plymouth. For more information, access plymoutharts.com.

Storytimes begin at library

Family Storytime for children 4-10 years old will take place at 6:30 p.m. Mondays Jan. 11 through Feb. 22 at the Belleville District Library.

Toddler Times Storytime for children 2-4 years of age will take place at 11 a.m. Tuesdays Jan. 12 through Feb. 23 and Thursday Toddler Times Storytime is scheduled for 11 a.m. Thursdays Jan. 14 through Feb. 25.

The library is located at 167 Fourth St. in Belleville. For more information, call (734) 699-3291.

School planning sessions set

Wayne Westland school administrators are developing a strategic plan to guide the direction of the district through the next 5 to 10 years.

That plan will include the aid of local residents in shaping those dreams for the future of students in the district.

A series of 2-hour meetings has been scheduled through the end of January and will culminate in a presentation to members of the board of education in spring 2016.

Meetings are set for: • Jan. 11, 7 p.m., Community Meeting (open to all community members), Westland City Hall,

36300 Warren, in Westland.

• Jan. 14, 1 p.m., Seniors (open to all community members), Dyer Senior Center, 36745 Marquette, in Westland.

• Jan. 19, 1 p.m., Community Meeting (open to all community members), Jefferson-Barns Community Varsity Center, 31250 Dorsey, in Westland.

• Jan. 19, 6 p.m., Community Meeting (open to all community members), Wayne City Hall, 3335 S. Wayne Road, in Wayne. • Jan. 28, 6 p.m., Parent Meeting (all parents welcome), Taft-Galloway Elementary School, 4035 Gloria, in Wayne.

Suggestions can also be submitted to <http://www2.net/home/strategic-planning-information/>.

More information about the meetings and the process is available from Cheryl Watson or Sue Rawson at (734) 419-2010.

Painting classes offered

Acrylic Painting Classes for adults with Denise Cassidy Wood will take place from noon until 2 p.m. beginning Jan. 14 and continue for six weeks.

The cost is \$100 for members of the Plymouth Community Arts Council and \$110 for non-members.

Classes will take place at the arts council building, 774 North Sheldon Road in Plymouth. For more information, access plymoutharts.com.

Wild game dinner planned

The Wayne County Fair Association, Inc. Will host a Wild Game Benefit Dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 23 at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road in Belleville.

Dinner will be served at 6:15 p.m.

Presale tickets are priced at \$30 and tickets purchased at the door are priced at \$55. There will be door prizes and raffles and all proceeds will be used for the upkeep of the Wayne County Fairgrounds.

For more information, call Mary Zellner, (734) 942-1884 or Tina Basenbark, (734) 999-3892.

2016

Happy New Year!
from all of us at

May the New Year
bring you
only good news


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