

THE EAGLE

A PUBLICATION OF ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF MICHIGAN

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. 2

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 130, No. 2

Officials in Belleville have agreed to proceed with upgrades to Horizon Park, a project first proposed in October of 2012 and prepare bids for the planned improvements.

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THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 2

Their barking dog alerted a Canton Township family to a fire in their home on New Years Day and may have saved their lives.

See page 3.

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

Vol. 68, No. 2

The women accused of attacking a 30-year-old Inkster resident with a gun and a chain both entered guilty pleas Dec. 12 to the charges against them.

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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

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Joel Stone, senior curator for the Detroit Historical Society, will speak at the next meeting of the Northville Genealogical Society.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

Vol. 15, No. 2

About 3,000 Plymouth residents will be receiving a late holiday gift during the next few weeks from Republic Services, the trash hauler who serves the community.

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 130, No. 2

A driver crashed into a Romulus Fire Department rescue truck while it was on call at the scene of a rollover hit and run accident in the early morning of Jan. 1.

See page 4.

THE WAYNE EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 2

Members of the Wayne-Westland board of education recently approved the promotions of two veteran employees of the district.

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THE WESTLAND EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 2

Mayor William R. Wild has reformed the benefit package offered to his staff to more closely match that of union employees who recently agreed to concessions in contracts.

See page 5.

Pair face murder charges in shooting

During the five-hour preliminary hearing, 11 witnesses, including Nutt's father and brother, testified.

A man and woman accused in the shooting death of a Plymouth Township senior citizen will face murder charges in Wayne County Circuit Court March 2.

The pair, Andrew J. Nutt, 22, of Westland, and Miriah N. Pisarski, 20, of Wayne, were ordered to stand trial by 35th District Court Judge James Plakas during their preliminary hearing on the charges in November.

They were arrested two days after Kenneth LaBita, 76, was found shot to death Oct. 27 in his home on Gilbert Street in Plymouth Township. LaBita had lived in his home for more than 40 years and was well

known in the community. He lived alone following the death of his wife and, later, his daughter, according to reports from neighbors. His neighbors called police when his garage door was left open and his dog outside for two days, an unusual occurrence, they said.

Responding Plymouth Township Police officers discovered LaBita in his living room, shot once in the back of the head, according to police

reports.

Nutt and Pisarski are accused of going to LaBita's home to buy guns he was selling along with other items in a planned move. During the five-hour preliminary hearing, 11 witnesses, including Nutt's father and brother, testified. Nutt's father said his son told him he shot LaBita when the gun purchase "went bad," according to court records. More than \$4,000 was found in

Nutt's home by investigators at the time of his arrest, money prosecutors allege he took from LaBita's home after shooting him.

Nutt is charged with premeditated murder, felony murder, larceny and using a gun during a felony. Plakas dropped the premeditated murder and felony firearm charges against Pisarski after evidence submitted during the preliminary hearing. She now faces felony murder and larceny charges.

The pair remains in the Wayne County Jail awaiting trial before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Mark Slavens, now scheduled for March 2.

Cutting edge College carving team set for ice festival competition

When the Henry Ford Community College Ice Carving team takes to the competition area in Kellogg Park on Sunday, audiences may be in for some surprises.

While each of the Ice Carving team members is a student at Henry Ford, not all of them may be students in the hospitality or food service curriculum.

Instructor Jeff Lao said there is no requirement for the students to be in any particular discipline at the college, only that they are interested in ice carving and that they are very, very skilled in their art.

He explained that the Ice Carving class is an actual elective at the college that is open to everyone, no matter what they may be studying as a future career.

"We've had people from nursing on the team and from many other classes," noted Lao, who leads the competitive ice carving team.

To enter the competition team level, however, students must take advanced ice carving classes to learn how to perfect their skill.

"To get to this competition level, the student has to submit a design and have it approved by me. The design has to be executed and they have to do

this three times, then they can begin to enter competition carving," he said.

Lao, who learned his craft at Henry Ford, graduated from Michigan State University and was pursuing a career in advertising when he realized that what he really wanted was a career in cooking. He changed his career plan at the urging of family and friends who praised his cooking skills, enrolled in culinary classes at Henry Ford where he became interested in the art of ice carving.

"It was something I fell into. I had no idea what it was," he said, "but 6 years later, I'm instructing the team."

Two weeks after the Plymouth Ice Festival, that team, Robert Speeks, 25, of Detroit, Steve McCormick, 41, of Flat Rock, Mark Tempakes, 31, of Canton Township and Green Bell, 36, of Detroit, will travel to Frankenmuth for the National Collegiate Championships where Lao expects they will do very well.

"By the time the students get to this level of competition, to appear in Plymouth, they have been traveling and competitive carving every weekend since November. They travel all over Michigan, Ohio and even Canada," Lao said.

Lao, 28, of Dearborn, spends



The championship carving team from Henry Ford Community College will return to the Plymouth Ice Festival this weekend.



his summers when classes are not in session working at his dream job of cooking with a catering operation and restaurant.

"It keeps me sharp," he said.

This year, he said, the Henry Ford students would carve some tongue-in-cheek sculptures at the Ice Festival, most titled as a play on words.

"The turtledove is just that, half turtle, half dove," he said. "The same with the dragonfly, half dragon, half fly and a rat king, wearing a crown," he said. He added that the team is also

planning a flying fish sculpture and perhaps some surprises.

He's not too worried about the weather, he said, although warm temperatures can make forcing the huge blocks of ice together for large sculptures little more difficult on the carvers.

"They know what they're doing, though," he said, "this team is well trained. They know how to handle it."

(The official guide to the Plymouth Ice Festival is included in this week's editions of The Eagle.)

Back to the future \$2 million historic renovation includes tools of tomorrow

The newest step into the future of doing-it-yourself has taken a lesson from the past in Northville

where three entrepreneurs are almost ready to open The Village Workshop, where equipment of

just about every type and size is available for public use. The newest and latest in futuristic tools will be housed in a recently renovated 26,000 square-foot building originally built in 1875.

Power saws that will cut huge sheets of wood or lathes that can complete the most delicate of micro-miniature wood carving? No problem. Want to experience the capabilities of a \$50,000 3-D printer or need a hoist to do car repairs? Welcome.

Need a welding tank to complete your art project or repair a fender on your 1963 Triumph? No problem.

Need to replicate that out-of-date, no longer made part for one

of your favorite devices? Use the 3-D printer and in two hours, you'll be good to go.

Brian Donovan, Chris McDonald and Dennis Engerer, all of Northville, have taken a step into the future with an eye to the way things were done in the past when repairs and prototypes for start-up businesses were usually configured in the family garage or basement. They have renovated the historic Belanger building on Cady Street and are installing more than \$1 million in machinery, tools and equipment designed to meet the requirements of just about any project or

See Workshop, page 2



Northville residents Brian Donovan, Dennis Engerer and Chris McDonald will open the Village Workshop this month. Photo by Sean Rhaesa

NORTHVILLE

Workshop

FROM PAGE 1

invention.

Don't know how to operate a table saw, quilting machine, machine hoist or welding torch? They've got you covered. There will be experts available to demonstrate every piece of machinery and explain the proper use to get the desired result. For those who know what they want done, but aren't too sure about doing it themselves, there will be a job board where the task can be listed so another Village Workshop user, more skilled in the necessary machinery, can offer to help or complete the project.

"These are called 'Makers' Spaces' and they are springing up across the country," explained Donovan, 50. "When we saw this building, we knew it was a perfect site. Most of these in other states are located in industrial complexes, but people often don't feel welcome in industrial parks. This is a great spot for a workshop like this. It's far more accessible and welcoming," he said.

"Every child is an inventor. Life beats that out of you by high school, people forget about creating," he said. "This is a place where those inventions can become real.

"If you can conceptualize it, you can build it here."

McDonald, 41, has extensive experience in setting up equipment and workspaces and has been overseeing equipment installations in the woodworking, metalworking, paint shop and other areas of the renovated building. The three have come up with what they refer to as a COW, or cubicle on wheels, which can house a computer, printer and other office machines along with paperwork,

files and supplies.

"It's a business office on wheels, and you can rent one or buy one," McDonald said.

The Village Workshop will also offer classes for business start-ups, including advice and lessons from patent attorneys and business experts.

"We can provide an address and mailbox and you can operate a business right from here," Engerer, 63, the owner of Northville Physical Rehabilitation, said.

"This is an emerging movement," Donovan said. "Schools are getting rid of shop classes and young people no longer know how to build things. At the same time, manufacturing is starting to come back to the U.S. By next year, analysts claim it will be as financially sound to manufacture in this country as in China. To do that, we need vocational skills."

The three agreed that during the more than \$2 million (and counting) renovation of the historic building, the subcontractors they hired were working seven-day weeks, because there simply were not enough woodworkers and other skilled craftsman for hire.

"We are going to offer job retraining classes, classes in Computer Aided Design and entrepreneurship," McDonald said.

Every piece of equipment at The Village Workshop is the latest in technology and safety. The new SawStop table saws will drop the saw blade in a nano-second to prevent the possibility of injury to the operator.

"Those were invented by three lawyers, and there is no way you can get cut," McDonald said. "It's an amazing piece of technology."

Insurance premiums were a huge expense, but the three philosophically agreed that there are businesses that provide clients the opportunity to jump out of airplanes, too. "Insurance is all part

of the cost of the business," McDonald said.

The three have experimented with the 3-D printer, which will soon be enhanced with a computer program that will eliminate the need for hand-entered specifications into the machine. The Star-Trek-like machine currently produces hard plastic replicas of whatever the user might enter into the program, like the new blade McDonald made for a weed-whacker, "just as a test," he said with a smile.

The Village Workshop will include a market where supplies for projects can be purchased on-site and a coffee shop where the new owners hope people will come to simply spend some time and share ideas with others working on projects.

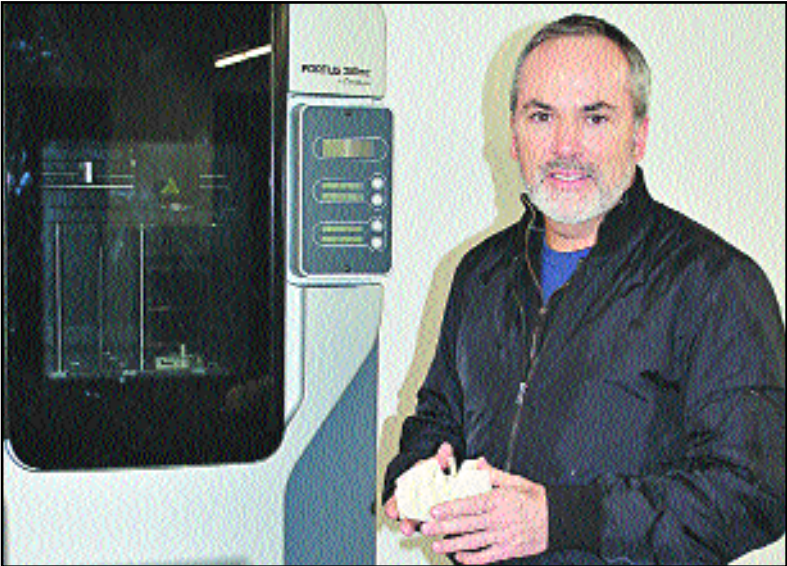
Corporate scholarships to The Village Workshop are something the three owners are hoping to offer in the future so that students can come for retaining or trades groups can utilize for training members in the large conference rooms.

Engerer stressed that the facility is open to everyone, men, women and teens.

"This is a place for everybody," he said. "Inventors, artists, builders or hobbyists. We've got the equipment to help you complete your project. Get in here and make something," Engerer said.

Costs for utilizing The Village Workshop are based on annual or monthly fees on a sliding scale. There are grand opening special membership prices available along with per-visit prices. Members receive discounts on classes and full, unlimited access, depending on the membership level chosen. The Village Workshop is expected to open this month and be fully operational within a few weeks.

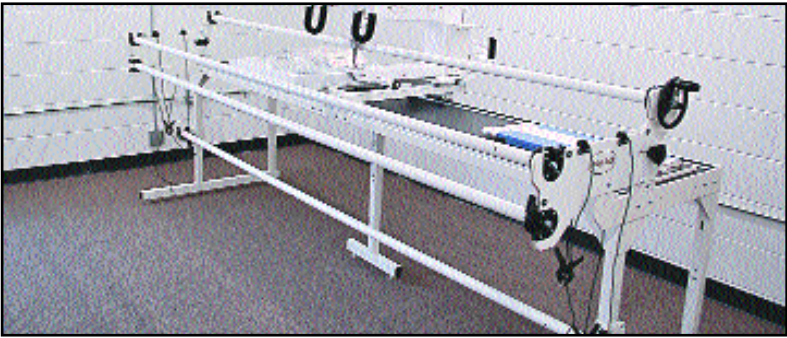
"The possibilities here are endless," Donovan said.



Brian Donovan displays a part completed in the 3-D printer at The Village Workshop.



A futuristic table saw that drops the blade in a nano-second upon contact with skin is among the \$1 million in equipment at The Village Workshop.



Crafters will appreciate the long-arm automatic quilting machine available for use at The Village Workshop.

Complete membership pricing and hours are available at www.TheVillageWorkshop.com. More information is also available at (855) 777-3836. The facility is located at 455 E. Cady St. in Northville, next to The Tipping Point Theater.

Genealogy club to meet

Joel Stone, senior curator for the Detroit Historical Society which oversees the Detroit Historical Museum, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, and a quarter million artifacts in the City of Detroit collection, will speak on Detroit: Boom Town of the Roaring 20s at the next meeting of the Northville Genealogical Society.

From the dust and smoke of the 19th century, Detroit burst into the national spotlight in the early 20th century. The automobile business was at full throttle, resulting in a city that grew faster than any other on the continent. Adding to the excitement, national Prohibition created a demand for alcohol that Canadian neighbors gladly addressed.

Rum running became the region's second largest industry. Conventions loved Detroit, and so did organized crime. Boom town meets the Wild West.

The public is invited to attend, free of charge, the meeting of the Northville Genealogical Society which will begin at 1:15 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 11, at the Northville District Library, 212 West Cady in Northville. Stone will speak at 3 p.m.

Individual help on genealogy is offered in the Local History Room at the Northville District Library from 1-3 p.m. on Mondays and also by appointment. For more information, contact Mary Hazlett at (734) 459-5493.

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 impaired 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:

Gwyn Belcher, ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-5260

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BELLEVILLE - CANTON - PLYMOUTH

Board agrees to accept park project bids

Officials in Belleville have agreed to proceed with upgrades to Horizon Park, a project first proposed in October of 2012.

The project, including a canoe/kayak launch, a floating dock system, landscaping and signage, will cost about \$172,000. A grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund will pay \$121,000 of the cost and the remaining \$51,000 will be paid by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Belleville City Council members recently approved the use of \$40,400 in federal Community Development Block Grant funds for the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) portions of the project.

Members of the DDA agreed at their meeting last month to proceed with the bidding process on the new launch and other improvements to the park, despite the need for approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The project would be part of the Huron River Water Trail, a 104-mile inland water trail, a project of the Huron River Watershed Council to connect residents to the natural environment.

The project has been subject to evaluation and inspection from the state environmental authorities and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Because of the proximity to the dam at French Landing, operated by federal authority as a power source, permits from both state and federal agencies, including input from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Authority, is required, along with agreement from Van Buren Township, where the dam is located.

The final approval necessary from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is expected this spring or summer, according to Belleville officials, who agreed to bid the project in February. They said they expect to award the bid in March although the federal permit may not yet have been approved.

Construction on the project is expected to take two to three weeks and included will be an ADA compliant floating dock system, kiosk and signage improvements, benches and trash receptacles, a new concrete pad for a picnic table, also ADA compliant. Plans also include docking space for eight watercraft. Docks will include spaces for 10 watercrafts. Landscaping plans include a clean up of trash along the shoreline and planting of wildflowers.

Belleville officials said they hope to have the project complete for the Aug. 20 Taste of Belleville this year when local dignitaries and residents could have a ceremonial launch of canoes and kayaks from the new site to inaugurate the facility.

School board to discuss offer for Central site

Members of the Plymouth Canton Community Schools Board of Education will discuss an offer from PARC (Plymouth Area Recreation Complex) for the purchase of the Central Middle School property.

An offer presented to the board members by Don Soenen, representing PARC, to extend exclusive negotiations for the property was not approved by the board members last month. The district can now negotiate the sale of the property to any interested buyer and is not restricted to negotiating with the PARC group or the individual buyer Soenen represented. The property would have been transferred to the new owner until the plans for the new PARC complex could be finalized.

Apparently, board members wanted more details regarding specific terms and conditions of the offer Soenen presented. Board members said the sticking point was not the actual offer, but the extension of exclusivity beyond the Dec. 31 deadline.

Board members agreed to continue negotiations with Soenen and PARC, but will not do so exclusively.

Soenen told the board that he is concerned about the user groups, like the Steelers youth football program and the Plymouth-Canton Cruisers swim team who need to know soon whether they will have a base this year. Soenen said the groups need to know where they can practice by the middle of January.

Details of the offer were not revealed by either side. The property in question, appraised at \$4 million last year, includes 4.25 acres currently used by the Plymouth Cultural Center; 1.15 acres used as the special needs baseball fields by the Miracle League of Plymouth, 9.79 acres of athletic fields and tennis courts and 6.41 acres for the Central Middle School building and grounds.

Officials said that the Cultural Center and Miracle League property would most likely not be included in the sale.

New mechanical rubbish bins arrive this week

About 3,000 Plymouth residents will be receiving a late holiday gift during the next few weeks from Republic Services, the trash hauler who serves the community.

The new, 65-gallon carts are part of a new automated program being implemented on Republic trucks picking up recyclables at the curb in residential neighborhoods. The new blue carts will hold about three times the amount of recyclables and are similar to the gray-colored garbage bins currently being used throughout the city.

The new carts should be placed at the curb on regular pick-up days with the arrows facing the street. The cart should be at least 3 feet from cars, trees or other impediments to the automated pick up arm on the truck.

Officials said the orange bins currently being used for recyclables will not be picked up by Republic after Jan. 7. The carts have hinged lids to prevent the contents from blowing throughout the neighborhood, keep the recyclable material dry and prevent animals from foraging in the bins. Each has a serial number assigned to an address so that Republic can keep a record of the distributed bins.

The new automated recycling is included in the \$2.15 million contract between the city and Republic.

For more information about the new carts and procedures, call (734) 453-7737, Ext. 0.

Family of 5 escapes New Year's Day house blaze

Their barking dog alerted a Canton Township family to a fire in their home on New Years Day and may have saved their lives.

All five family members were saved from the blaze which destroyed the two-story home in the 600 block of Pickwick Street after the barking of their two dogs awoke the family at about 8 a.m. One of the two family dogs died from smoke inhalation while the other suffered a broken leg, according to reports of the incident. A firefighter at the scene also suffered minor injuries, but was treated at a medical facility and released, according to official reports.

Firefighters and rescue workers were called to the home, near Lilley and Hanford roads, after an 8:05 a.m. call to 911. Firefighters reported heavy smoke conditions visible while en route to the home and upon arrival found the attached garage at the home fully engulfed in flames which extended into the house.

All five family members were already outside the home when firefighters arrived, according to reports.

The cause of the fire, which apparently started in the garage, remains under investigation, but was believed to be accidental, according to officials.

THIS PUBLICATION CORRECTS AN OMISSION TO THE TEXT OF THE ORDINANCE PUBLISHED ON DECEMBER 18, 2014

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WAYNE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

CHAPTER 70

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 70, VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO ADD A NEW SECTION 70-6 REGULATING PARKING ON THE STREETS OF CANTON TOWNSHIP.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT TO CODE

Chapter 70 of the Charter Township of Canton Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to add a new Section 70-6 to read as follows:

Sec. 70-6. Stopping, standing or parking.

(a) Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic control device, no person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle:

(1) On a sidewalk;

(2) Within an intersection;

(3) On a crosswalk;

(4) On any railroad tracks;

(5) Within 300 feet of any accident at which police officers are in attendance;

(6) In front of a public or private driveway;

(7) Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant;

(8) On a street or highway within 15 feet of a mailbox, or in any other way to obstruct the delivery of the mail to a mailbox by a carrier of the United State Postal Service, between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00 pm on scheduled mail delivery days.

SECTION 2. VIOLATION AND PENALTY

Any person or entity found responsible for a violation of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a civil infraction and may be fined a civil not more than \$100.00, plus any costs and fees that may be imposed by the court.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY

If any clause, sentence, section, paragraph or part of this Ordinance, or the application of thereof to any person, firm, corporation, legal entity or circumstances, shall be for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, said judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to the legislative intent of this body that the Ordinance is severable, and that the Ordinance would have been adopted had such invalid or unconstitutional provisions not have been included in this ordinance.

SECTION 4. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

All Ordinance or parts of Ordinance is conflict herewith is hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE

All rights and duties which have matured penalties which have been incurred, proceedings which have begun and prosecution for violations of law occurring before the effective date of this Ordinance are not affected or abated by this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. PUBLICATION

The Clerk for the Charter Township of Canton shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance, as amended, shall take full force and effect upon publication as required by law.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted by the Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton at its regular meeting called and held on the 9th day of December, 2014, and was ordered to be given publication in the manner required by law.

Terry G. Bennett, Clerk

Introduced: November 25, 2014
Adopted: December 9, 2014
Originally Published: December 18, 2014
Correction Published: January 8, 2015
Effective: January 8, 2015

EC010815-1046 2.5 x 9.227

CITY OF ROMULUS INVITATION TO BID

ITB 14/15-07 48 MONTH LEASE - DIGITAL MAIL MACHINE & FOLDER/INSERTER MACHINE

ITB 14/15-10 THREE MOTORCYCLE RADIO KITS

ITB 14/15-14 TWO PANASONIC TOUGHBOOK 19

ITB 14/15-15 FOUR 2015 - 4WD EXPLORER XLT SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES

ITB 14/15-17 2015 FORD TRANSIT 250 MR VAN

ITB 14/15-18 4 DOOR-4WD 1 TON DUMP TRUCK W/DUMP BODY AND SNOW PLOW

ITB 14/15-19 TWO - ZERO RADIUS RIDING LAWN MOWERS

(1) The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified companies for the above items

(2) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit a bid ***must use the forms provided by the City.*** Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the MITN system @ <http://www.mitn.info/>.

(3) Two (2) copies of the bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the ***City Clerk's Office*** no later than 2:30 P.M., Tuesday, January 20, 2015. At approximately 2:45 p.m., local time all timely received bids are to be publicly opened and read.

RESPONSE ENVELOPES MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE ITB NUMBER AND NAME AND BE ADDRESSED:

ITB # _____

CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE

1111 Wayne Road,

Romulus, Michigan 48174

(4) The City reserves the right to postpone the opening without notification and also reserves the right to reject all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

(5) For additional information contact Lynn A. Conway, City of Romulus, Purchasing Director, by calling (734) 955-4568 or by emailing lconway@ci.romulus.mi.us.

Please Publish: Thursday, January 08, 2014, The Eagle or The Associated Newspapers of Michigan

CITY OF INKSTER, WAYNE COUNTY

2015 - 2016 PROPOSED FINAL STATEMENT AND PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Wayne County Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

In compliance with federal guidelines, the City of Inkster will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at 7:30 pm** to consider submission of the 2015-2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. The hearing will be held at Inkster City Hall in Council Chambers located at 26215 Trowbridge, Inkster, Michigan 48141. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comment and approve final projects and funding level for Inkster's allocation of the 2015 - 2016 Wayne County CDBG Program funding as follows:

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	FUNDING
Administration	City-Wide	20,948
Code Enforcement	City-Wide	142,112
Housing Rehabilitation	City-Wide	15,000
Public Services (Neighborhood Clean Up)	City-Wide	31,422

Total Estimated Request Allocation

\$209,482

This estimated amount is based on the 2014 - 2015 funding allocation. The above activities meet HUD's National Objectives by benefiting low and moderate income persons and aiding in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight. To submit comments, please contact M. Jeannie Fields at 313.563.7709.

Posting Date: January 6, 2015

Publication Date: January 8, 2015

Romulus

Council discusses revamped recreation plan

The City of Romulus is on the cusp of updating its Recreation Master Plan.

The city council hosted a study session Monday night to discuss details of the plan, as well as gather some feedback into the goals and direction of the department.

The plan outlined what has been done to gradually bring the parks and recreation department back on line after budget cuts forced closures, as well as some general goals for the parks and open space within the city limits.

Mayor Leroy Burcroff said it's designed to be a sort of wish list, a collection of things that could happen.

"If it's in the plan, there's a possibility that we will do it," he said. "It doesn't mean it has to happen. If it's not in the plan, we can't do it."

Having an approved recreation master plan is a requirement to receive many grant funds from the State of Michigan or federal government.

There are nine parks in Romulus encompassing about 81 acres, including the 35-acre Elmer Johnson Park and Historical Park, which has become a centerpiece of the greater downtown area.

The plan suggested several improvements, including updating pay structures and the ground cover at most of them to bring them in line with current standards. Other suggested improvements included: resurfacing the basketball court and replacing the backboards at Beverly McAnally Park, replacing the slide and climber at Mary Ann Banks Memorial Park, installing a basketball half-court at Oakbrook Neighborhood Park—which was recently redeveloped to include a dog park and re-opened-expanding Historical Park and more.

The plan also spelled out the need for additional parkland in the northern and western portions of the city and allow the residents who would be most likely to use those parks to have input on their design. There are 15 vacant acres behind the Romulus Senior Center currently being used by the Romulus Little League Football Association that the city should try to acquire, according to the plan. It has an existing walking track as well as 3 to 5 acres of woods.

Elmer Johnson Park could benefit from a 24-acre expansion, a path system to connect the various activity areas and new restrooms.

The former Henry Ruff Park could be enhanced in the short term by clearing the brush that separates the northern and southern sections and in the long term by constructing baseball fields and related amenities.

Julie Wojtylko, director of community services for the city, said grant funds would be crucial because of the limited resources the city has.

"We have a very limit budget for recreation, but we're happy to have recreation at all, so we won't complain," she said.

The Recreation Master Plan is available on the city web site. The city council will formally adopt the document next year.

On-call rescue vehicle struck by speeding car

The New Year didn't start on a good note for members of the Romulus Fire Department who were called to the scene of a rollover hit and run accident in the early morning of Jan. 1, only to have another driver crash headlong into a rescue truck.

According to official reports of the incident, the Romulus Fire Department was dispatched to eastbound I-94 just west of Wayne Road at about 3 a.m. Jan. 1 after a report of a rollover hit and run accident.

Emergency medical workers treated the driver of one of the vehicles involved in the accident at the scene, while the driver of the other vehicle, which had apparently crashed into the first car, causing it to rollover, had fled the scene.

The treated driver was not transported to the hospital.

Michigan State Police apprehended and arrested the other driver within hours of the incident.

At about 4 a.m. while Romulus Fire Department crews were at the scene of the accident attempting to clear the area of debris and collect evidence, another driver crashed into one of the rescue vehicles at a high rate of speed.

Officials said there were no firefighters or rescue personnel in the vehicle at the time of the impact and no injuries were sustained by any of the fire crew.

The driver of the vehicle, however, was trapped in the wreckage of his car and unconscious after the accident. Romulus firefighters extricated him from the vehicle and he was transported to University of Michigan hospital via Survival Flight Helicopter. He was in critical condition upon transport.

The investigation of the accident has been referred to the Michigan State Police and all of the vehicles involved have been impounded, awaiting the results of that probe.

Officials said that at this point, there is an ongoing criminal investigation.

Goodfellows report aid to 110 families this year

Romulus Fire Chief David Allison had some good news for members of the city council during their last meeting before the Christmas holiday.

Allison reported the Goodfellows organization had raised more than \$30,000 this year through contributions, paper sales and donations. He said that there were still contributions coming in from local businesses, too.

"This is a great city to live in. I am truly thankful to live in this city," Allison told the officials.

He added that with the funds, and a small balance from last year, the Goodfellows used more than \$37,000 to help families in the program this year.

"We agreed, with the small balance, to give that to the participant in the program. We were able to help 110 families this year with food vouchers, gift certificates. We were able to help twice the number of children this year. We helped 245 children in December with gift cards and toys donated by companies," he said.

Allison said the gift cards were generous and in amounts of \$50 and that each of the children in the program also received a hat and mittens. He added that the Goodfellows also helped with seven adopted families this year and were also able to help several seniors.

"My heartfelt thanks to everyone who donated or participated in any way, whether selling or buying papers or donating or volunteering," he said. "This is a great community."

There was more good news from the police department where interim Public Safety Director Jadie Settles explained that Trustee R. P. Lilly from Huron Township had called to notify him that the township had been given 50 bicycles from the U.S. Marines Toys for Tots program and that 25 were available to the Romulus Police Department.

"We delivered the bikes to needy kids, some to honor roll kids at schools some to kids with perfect attendance at school. We have a couple in police cars for officers to use," Settles said. "We are really grateful."

Councilman William Wadsworth noted that Lilly always has his heart in Romulus and does whatever possible to help the community.

"He always says he lives 100 feet from the city," Wadsworth said, "and he does."

At the suggestion of Mayor LeRoy Burcroff, the council members unanimously agreed to a resolution of gratitude to Lilly for his help during the holiday season.

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OBITUARIES



William R. Riley
Feb. 5, 1934
Dec. 25, 2014

William R. Riley died Dec. 25, 2014.

Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his devoted wife, Mablene; three sons, Otis Roger (Faith) of Detroit, William Earl (Shirley) of Portage and Donald (Kimberly) of Lillington, NC; a daughter, Sandra Robinson of Inkster; three brothers, Tom (Martha) Riley, Ruben (Artenia) Riley, all of Chicago, IL and Charles Riley of Detroit; four grandsons, Otis, II, Ian, Christian and William Riley; three granddaughters, Ikeshia, Natasha and Airyelle Riley; a step-granddaughter, Ilesha Blanchard; one great-granddaughter, Aralynn Riley; five step great-granddaughters, Carleah, Carreon, Courtney, Micharri and Cah'marri Blanchard; a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives, and many friends.

Funeral services took place at the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster which was entrusted with the final arrangements. Pastor Henry L. McClendon, Jr. officiated at

the service.

Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery on Michigan Avenue in Wayne.



Calvin Dwayne Bridgeforth
Sunrise: June 26, 1979
Sunset: Dec. 22, 2014

Calvin "Calvie" Dwayne Bridgeforth died Dec. 22, 2014.

Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his three children, Shaniah, Calvin Jr. and Dailen; his father, Anthony; his grandmother, Regina; a great-aunt, Denise; a sister, Jonique (Corey); three brothers, Michael (Rosalyn), Reggie (Troschonia) and Darnell; his significant other, Dominique; three nieces, Dajion, Avoince' and Faith; four nephews, Daivion, Draden, Ze'brien and Alex; two special siblings raised by his mother, Kelly and Tyriss; two very special mother figures, Joyce and Cherry; four god-brothers, Maurice, Nezarre, Ty and Herman; four dear friends, Fred, Eric G. Ralph C. and Thomas C.; a host of aunts, uncles cousins and other relatives, and many friends.

Funeral services took place at Pentecostal Temple Church of God In Christ in Inkster with Pastor David

Roberts officiating.

Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.



Anita Louise Smith
Sunrise: July 18, 1956
Sunset: Dec. 23, 2014

Anita Louis Smith died Dec. 23, 2014.

Among those survivors left to cherish her memory are her father, Jimmie Lee Smith, Sr.; her loving sisters, Veronica Broom and Dena Leaster-Wheeler; her only brother, Jimmie Lee Smith, Jr.; her three very special children, Tiffany Nicole Smith, Shaun Paul Jasper Smith and Felicia Mone't Louise Smith; her three grandchildren, Dreshaun Mauldin, Nicholas Smith and Cherish Jemison; a host of nieces, nephews and other family members, and many friends.

Final arrangements were entrusted by her family to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster.

Serenity Cremation Services, Inc. accorded final rites.

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Willie Mae Bradley
Sunrise: Feb. 17, 1942
Sunset: Dec. 24, 2014

Willie Mae Bradley died Dec. 24, 2014.

Among her survivors left to cherish her memory are her loving mother, Johnnie Mae Boone of Romulus; three sons, Lamar Bradley, Sr., Elder Walter (Darlene) Bradley, Jr. and Rodney Bradley of Westland; six sisters, Evangelist Catherine (David) Williams of Ypsilanti, Betty Graves of New Hebron, MS, Norma Harris of Livonia, Vonja Mae Hill and Wendy Ann McIntosh, both of Romulus and Jacquelyn Coleman of Southfield; five brothers, Alger (Delores) Boone, Jr. of Southfield, Paul Boone of Romulus, Duane Boone of Ypsilanti, Ezzard Fannin of Livonia and Alger (Layla) Lucky of Westland; 22 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; her aunts, Annie Pearl Carrker, Willene Paschal, Lillian Morgan, Sue Morgan, Janet Morgan and Paulene Morgan of Columbus, OH; her best friend, Mary Lewis; a god-daughter, Star'Lica Boone, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other family members, and many friends.

Funeral services took place at Christ Temple Apostolic Church in Westland with

Suffragan Bishop Luke A. McClendon, Jr. officiating.

Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster.

Interment was at Knollwood Memorial Park in Canton Township.

6. Legal Notices

Death Notice

Be it know to all men and/or any interested parties, the Inkster Housing Commission gives proper and due notice that any and all possessions belonging to

ARCHIE WIDEMAN
2000 Inkster Road
Inkster, MI 48141

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School board promotes 2 veteran employees

Two veteran employees of the Wayne Westland Community Schools were recently promoted to new positions.

Members of the board of education approved the promotions of Angela Szalai and Kurt Miles at a recent meeting.

Szalai, a graduate of the Wayne-Westland schools, has been named as an assistant principal at Stevenson Middle School in Westland.

She has been an employee of the district since 2008 and has worked as a match intervention specialist. Previously, she was

employed as a fourth-grade teacher at the Academy of Southfield and as a fifth grade teacher in Taylor.

She earned her bachelor of science degree in elementary education in mathematics and science from Eastern Michigan University and two master of

arts degrees in education from the University of Phoenix.

Miles, who joined the Wayne-Westland district last year, was promoted to supervisor of transportation. He was formerly the director of transportation in the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools where he had worked

since 1990. During his tenure with Plymouth-Canton, he worked as a mechanic, fleet service manager, transportation coordinator and transportation supervisor.

Both promotions were approved by unanimous vote of the board members.

2 plead guilty to assault of Inkster woman

The women accused of attacking a 30-year-old Inkster resident with a gun and a chain both entered guilty pleas Dec. 12 to the charges against them.

Antoinette Hope Boone, 37, of Canton Township, and her cousin, Alyah Chaurice Tooson-Boone, 19, of Inkster were both initially charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, felony firearm and carrying a concealed weapon. In exchange for a guilty plea to the assault with a dangerous weapon charge, the more

serious charges were dismissed against Boone. Tooson-Boone was charged with only a single count of assault with a dangerous weapon.

The two were charged after the 30-year-old Inkster woman called Canton Township police at about 11 p.m. Aug. 14 to report that the pair had followed her car from her place of employment in Ypsilanti and continued to swerve into her lane, throw objects at her car and yell insults at her. She drove into the

McDonald's parking lot on Michigan Avenue where Boone and Tooson-Boone followed in the vehicle in which they were riding with another man. The two women allegedly left their car and began to threaten the victim, Boone brandishing a 40 caliber handgun and Tooson-Boone threatening her with a chain.

The victim told police she believed the motive for the attack was her involvement with a man who formerly dated Boone. Apparently, several of those

involved work at the same business in Ypsilanti.

No shots were fired and no one was injured, according to Canton police, who arrested Boone and Tooson-Boone at the scene. The man at the scene was not arrested or charged as he did not leave the vehicle. Officers retrieved the handgun and chain from the car in which the two women had been riding. The victim told officers she was meeting a friend at the McDonald's and that woman corroborated her

story and told police that she, too, felt threatened by the pair. The victim told officers that she retrieved a baseball bat from her car to protect herself in the dispute which ended when police arrived at the scene.

The two women have been free on bond since charged in the incident and were ordered to stay away from the victim. They will be sentenced Jan. 15 in Wayne County Circuit Court and could face up to four years in prison on the assault charges.

Mayor implements benefit cuts for appointees

Members of the mayoral administrative staff in Westland will be sharing in the cuts made to benefits to city workers.

Effective Jan. 1, Mayor William R. Wild has reformed the benefit package offered to his staff to more closely match that offered to union employees in the city who have recently agreed to concessions in contracts.

Addressing legacy costs and retention efforts, these changes build upon the pension and healthcare employee cost shar-

ing begun in 2012 and the 8 percent lower starting wage tier begun in 2014 that also included new hires receiving a health care savings program instead of traditional retiree healthcare and a 401 (K)-style retirement program instead of the traditional pension, Wild said.

Retired appointees hired prior to 2014 will receive the same health coverage and cost sharing as active employees but will be removed from the city health insurance at age 65. At that time, retirees will receive

”
...we must always be mindful
of the need to control costs and show
that management is willing to share in the same
sacrifice we ask of our union employees.

an annual cash stipend used to purchase supplemental health coverage or to pay for other unreimbursed medical expenses. These changes will positively impact the City's unfunded li-

bility for legacy costs such as retiree healthcare and will enable better financial planning, Wild said.

“While I believe my executive team does a great job for the res-

idents of Westland, we must always be mindful of the need to control costs and show that management is willing to share in the same sacrifice we ask of our union employees," Wild said. "The changes proposed mirror concessions recently negotiated with city unions yet provide the city the ability to attract and retain talented professionals who can provide leadership over the many services our residents and business owners deserve and expect of Michigan's 10th largest city," he concluded.

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Calendar of events

Library to show movie
The William P. Faust Westland Public Library, located at 6123 Central City Parkway, will show Guardians of the Galaxy as the Friday Night Movie at 7 p.m. tomorrow, Jan. 9.
The movie is (Rated PG-13). Snacks and refreshments are provided on a donation basis and there will also be trivia with small prizes. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the movie begins promptly at 7 p.m.
The library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway in Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123

World champion to visit
Thomas “The Hitman” Hearns, a five-time world champion boxer will appear at the grand opening of the Norwayne Boxing Gym from noon until 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10. The new gym is located at 32150 Dorsey Street inside the Jefferson Barns Recreation Center.
The boxing gym was founded by undefeated professional boxer Jeff Styers and former top contender Erskine Wade and will offer daily training sessions.
Also making an appearance is current Light Middleweight Champion Cornelius “K9” Bundrage and former World Champions Jimmy Paul and Hilmer Kenty.

Register now for Plymouth Daddy-Daughter dances
The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is sponsoring the 4th Annual Daddy Daughter Dances from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30 and Saturday, Jan. 31 at the Cultural Center.
Dads, uncles and grandfathers can accompany their little ladies to an evening packed with dancing and memories. There will be a DJ from Dramatic Dimensions and light refreshments and snacks will be served. Semi-formal, dressy-casual attire recommended. Advance ticket purchase is required because space is limited. No walk-ins will be accepted. The Cultural Center is located at 525 Farmer, in Plymouth. The dances are open to all ages and the cost is \$10 per person. More information and registration is available at (734) 455-6620 or www.ci.plymouth.mi.us/recreation [<http://www.ci.plymouth.mi.us/index.aspx?NID=21>]

Legislator hosts meetings
State Rep. Kurt Heise will meet with residents during three scheduled district office hours at separate locations Jan. 12
From 10 to 11 a.m., Heise will be at the

Parthenon Coney Island, 39910 Ford Road (east of I-275), Canton; from noon until 1 p.m. he will meet with residents at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St., Northville and from 3 to 4 p.m. he will meet constituents at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main St., Plymouth.
Heise will host coffee hours from 7:30 to 9 a.m. Jan. 16 at Panera Bread, located at 400 S. Main St. in Plymouth.
Beginning this month, Heise's office hours will be on the second Monday every other month rather than every month; however, he will continue coffee hours on the third Friday of every month.
Heise is also available to meet with constituents by appointment either in the district or at his Lansing office. Residents are invited to call toll free 1-855-REP-KURT or e-mail KurtHeise@house.mi.gov to schedule an appointment.

Clothing give away planned
Middlebelt Baptist Church will host another in a series of Clothing Give Aways from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 10.
Organizers said there will be items for all ages available.
The church is located at 943 Middlebelt Road in Inkster.
For more information, phone (734) 728-3838.

Job Fair set in Westland
Mayor William R. Wild's “Westland Works” Team is helping to put residents to work with an upcoming job fair for employment opportunities with Advanced Engineering. The job fair will take place from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday, Jan. 10 at the Westland City Hall Grande Ballroom, 36300 Warren Road in Westland.
Advanced Engineering specializes in stamping and is located in Canton. Open positions include a variety of different opportunities, and the company is looking to hire 30 individuals immediately.
Applicants must have attained a GED or graduated high school, be able to pass a drug test, and applicants should bring a resume and valid driver's license.
Interested individuals will be able to fill out an application at the event and possibly be interviewed that day.
For more information visit www.adveng.net

Library offers warm ups
The Plymouth District Library will offer visitors to the Ice Festival warm

cider and a Disney sing-along from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11 during the Plymouth Ice Festival.
The family-friendly event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.
The Plymouth District Library is located at 223 S Main St. in Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 453-0750.

Philharmonic concert set
The Michigan Philharmonic brings back its popular “Miniature Masterpieces” chamber concert at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11 at the Inn at St. John's Chapel in Plymouth.
The concert will showcase select musicians as soloists, with chamber concert repertoire ranging from classical favorites by Mozart and Bach, to a revolutionary piece by Lou Harrison, reminiscent of exotic Bali: Suite for Violin, Piano and Small Orchestra. Michigan Philharmonic musicians will be joined by special guest composer Nancy Bloomer Deussen, of California, with her Peninsula Suite, inspired by life along the shore of the San Francisco peninsula.
Soloists scheduled to perform in the concert concertmaster, violinist Joseph Deller, pianist, Patrick Johnson and flutists Dennis Carter and Shelly Rouse-Freitag.
For tickets and more information, visit www.michiganphil.org or call (734) 451-2112.

Blues performance planned
Chris Canas and his band will perform from 7-10 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13 Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge in the very first Blues at the Elks presentation of the New Year. There will be a full cash bar, pizza, and free lighted parking.
There is a \$5 admission price at the door. This series has been ongoing once a month for almost two years. It and has attracted a wide range of music lovers of all ages throughout Southeastern Michigan, organizers said.
The performance is a co-production of the Elks Lodge and the Detroit Blues Society.
The Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge is located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, ½ mile west of I-275. Call the lodge at (734) 453-1780 for directions or more information.

Heritage Trail is topic
The Wayne Public Library will present

a free program about Michigan's US-12 Heritage Trail: The Nation's Second Highway at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 14.
From river fords to Henry Ford, from mastodon's footprints to Barbie Dolls, from Detroit architecture to artwork by itinerant Mexicans, the stories weave a tapestry. Communities are strung all along Michigan; their common stories connected by the highway that links them all.
Join author Gladys Saborio for a book signing and discussion of what is arguably Michigan's most famous highway.
To register for this free program, call the Wayne Public Library at (734) 721-7832 or visit the Adult Reference Desk.
The library is located at 3737 S. Wayne Road in Wayne.

3D Photography Club meets
Members of the only 3D photography club in Michigan will meet from 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14 at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, just south of Five Mile Road.
Meetings include a 3D program, refreshment break, and a competition among members. Stereo cameras, 3D movies and educational videos are available for members to rent.
The January meeting will feature 3D images from stereo clubs around the world. Also, members can win free photo items in a “Freebie” drawing. A 3D image competition will also take place.
All meetings are free to attend, and visitors are welcome.
For more information, visit www.Detroit3D.org, or call Dennis Green at (248) 398-3591.

Tips for seniors offered
The Wayne Public Library and Walgreen's will sponsor a free one-hour presentation for seniors entitled, Tips To Avoid Being Scammed at 1 p.m. Jan. 15.
For more information, contact Jon Stevens at (734)595-9956.
The library is located at 3737 S. Wayne Road in Wayne.

Emergency food distributed
The Plymouth Community United Way Emergency Food Assistance Program's next distribution takes place from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 15 at St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth. For more information and to register call (734) 453-6879, ext. 7 or send email to randi.williams@pcuw.org.

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