

# 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. 6

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## THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 130, No. 6

Tony D'Onofrio was elected as president of the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library for the fourth time during the annual meeting last week.

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## THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 6

A 24-year-old Canton Township man is facing charges in the breaking and entering of two Jet's Pizza stores and an attempted break-in at a third.

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## THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

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Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, State Rep. Julie Plawecki, and State Sen. David Knezek will be hosting monthly meetings in Inkster.

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## THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

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Students throughout the Northville Community Schools District celebrated the life and teaching of Dr. Martin Luther King throughout the month of January.

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## THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

Vol. 15, No. 6

A Plymouth Township resident said he has been forced to resort to the court system to settle a dispute regarding an incorrect water bill.

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## THE ROMULUS ROMAN

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The City of Romulus will spend most of the Community Development Block Grant funding on recreation staffing and economic development in the downtown area.

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## THE WAYNE EAGLE

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Members of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Board of Education elected new officers to serve for the next year at their last meeting.

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## THE WESTLAND EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 6

Home values have increased by about 12.06 percent in the City of Westland according to the Wayne County Assessment and Equalization department.

See page 4.

## County to help fund township street repairs

Nine areas in Plymouth Township may be eligible for a little help from Wayne County in repairing the roads in their neighborhoods.

The township is eligible for about \$750,000 of county funding to be used for local road improvements, according to an announcement from Wayne County officials. In Canton Township, the county will spend \$1.5 million in the first round of improvements to local roads.

The grant money is part of the Wayne County Local Roads Initiative program, a \$14 million program which includes all nine townships within the county boarders. Counties are responsible for road repair within their boundaries and do not receive state gas tax revenue to pay for road improvements. In Plymouth, several communities have expressed an interest in creating a special assessment district, or SAD, a tax mechanism that allows property owners to pay for road improvements over time with a dedicated amount added to their property tax bills. The program is administered by the township which usually borrows the funds to pay for the improvements and then bills the property owners a portion of the amount based on the cost and amount of roadway on respective properties. The

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The grant program  
was announced  
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township usually charges an administrative fee for the service and interest on the loan. To form a SAD, a majority of the homeowners in the area must agree to pay the costs and the plan must be approved by township officials.

In Canton, 20 neighborhoods groups requested funding for street repairs under the program. Township officials requested that homeowner associations submit their requests, including the cost of the improvements, for a lottery-type drawing. Supervisor Phil LaJoy drew 13 applicants during the lottery, using the entire amount allocated to Canton.

Amounts of aid in each of the townships was determined by population data in both Plymouth and Canton Township and was announced as a two-year program.

Plymouth Township officials discussed the use of the grant money during a regular meeting and said that the five neighbor-

hoods with paved roads in poor condition and four areas where roads are gravel-covered would receive first consideration. Possible areas would be Plymouth Colony, Plymouth Gardens, Eastlawn and Finch subdivisions and the Woodlore, Deer Creek, Plymouth Commons and Ridgewood Hills West subdivision and Litchfield Road.

In Canton, the areas expected to see use of the funds are: Forest Brook, Meadowbrook, Century Farms, Oakvale/Stonegate, Fairways West, Willow Homes, Nowland Estates, Canton Country Acres, Huntington Place No. 1, River Woods, Salem Manor, Royal Pointe and Glengarry I.

To utilize the grant funding, the areas would need to form a SAD, and property owners would likely pay the majority of the costs. The fewer such districts formed, the larger the amount of county money would be available for others, according to Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, who said it was unlikely that homeowners in all nine areas would be willing to take on the cost of the road repairs through a SAD.

The grant program was announced as a two-year effort and township officials said they are hoping there will be additional funding available for street repairs next year.

## Lights, camera...

## KABOOM

### Belleville alumni's movie features local 'celebrity'

Some familiar local faces can be seen in a new movie available now in Christian bookstores across the state.

Not all of them human. Kaboom, a 2½-year-old Belgian Malinois trained by Michael Burkey of Michigan Dog Training in Plymouth, portrayed a misunderstood wandering dog and had four scenes in the film which was written by Alan Maki, a 1968 Belleville High School graduate.

Maki, who was elected to the Belleville Distinguished Graduate Hall of Fame in 2001, also stars in the 90-minute family movie titled “Mr. What,” filmed in Canton Township and Tecumseh.

The storyline is about a man named Mattiesko Wuopio (Mr. What) who has spent 22 years in prison for a crime he did not commit. Upon apprehension of the real criminal, Mattiesko is released, only to find continued harassment everywhere he turns. He seeks redemption through his ailing father, who is suffering from Alzheimer's disease, a stray dog (Kaboom), and an endearing little boy, portrayed by 12-year-old actor Mikah Scott Carter.

Burkey was the on-set animal trainer as well as the stuntman taking the bite from Kaboom in one scene when the canine actor had to use his teeth to protect Mr. What.

Kaboom, whose real name is Kaboom Du Loups Du Soleil, was only about 7



Writer and lead actor Alan Maki, left, director and cinematographer Shaun Maki, dog trainer and animal behaviorist Michael Burkey, Kaboom, assistant animal trainer Annie Zhao Yang and Josh Tuberville, who plays a deadbeat dad, on the set of Mr. What.



Canine actor Kaboom poses for a publicity photo.

months old when the filming took place. Burkey said Kaboom was cast in the movie after Maki saw photos of the pup on the Michigan Dog Training website practicing protection techniques with Burkey.

“All his (Kaboom's) basic training was in place but when we would get to the set to find out what it was he needed to do that



Kaboom in his final scene during the winter shoot in Canton Township.

day, I had about 10 minutes to figure out how to use those basic commands to make it happen. It was like putting a puzzle together,” Burkey said. “I shouldn't have worried. He nailed it every time.”

In one scene, the dog meets a stranger

See Movie, page 3

## Mobile home fire claims one life in Canton

The cause of an early morning fire at a mobile home park which claimed the life of a woman last week does not appear to have been caused by any suspicious circumstances.

Following a 911 call at about 4 a.m. last Wednesday, Canton Township Fire Department personnel and equipment were dispatched to the Wagon Wheel Mobile Home Park.

Initial reports from the neighbor who made the emergency 911 call indicated that flames were visible from a mobile home in the park.

When fire department personnel arrived, they reported a

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The initial investigation revealed  
there were no working  
smoke detectors in the home...

portion of the mobile home was engulfed in flames, according to fire department reports of the incident.

Firefighters initiated an aggressive attack on the flames and entered the back of the mobile home to perform a primary search for occupants. Entering the home, the firefighters encountered heavy fire conditions, according to the reports,

and due to the rapidly deteriorating conditions and the instability of the structure, the firefighters were forced to exit the home and begin a defensive attack against the blaze.

After the fire was extinguished, firefighters removed a portion of the roof to gain entry for a secondary search through the rubble during which the victim was discovered. The body

was so badly burned that fire officials could not determine the sex of the victim at the scene.

The female victim was later identified but at the request of the family, no further information is being released. It was unclear as to whether the woman was a resident at the mobile home or a frequent visitor. It appeared she was alone in the home when the fire occurred.

The initial investigation revealed there were no working smoke detectors in the home, according to Canton Fire Chief Joshua Meier.



# BELLEVILLE - NORTHVILLE

## Northville students celebrate legacy of Dr. King

Fifth graders from Amerman Elementary School in Northville and students from Roberto Clemente Learning Academy in Detroit joined forces Jan. 21 and 23 to act on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s principle of service to others.

The students participated in food packing events to help feed hungry schoolchildren in Detroit as part of the district-wide "Building Bridges: Dream. Dialogue. Service" program of student activities and initiatives throughout January.

Gathering at the Gleaners Community Food Bank in Detroit, the more than 200 Amerman and Roberto Clemente students worked together through the Kids Helping Kids program to assemble 4,500 "SmartBites" snack bags during the two days. The "SmartBites" bags will go to students participating in after-school programs across the City of Detroit. Northville and Roberto Clemente students also took part in several learning experiences at Gleaners and in their classrooms to build an understanding of the challenges surrounding poverty and hunger.

Food for the Kids Helping Kids packing events was provid-

ed in part through a \$500 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service Mini Grant awarded to Amerman for 2015 by the Michigan Community Service Commission, Michigan Nonprofit Association and Volunteer Centers of Michigan, with support from the Connect Michigan Alliance Endowment Fund, Sara Ballard Volunteer Fund, Youth Service of America and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Transportation and other related costs for the packing events were paid for through support of numerous business sponsors (including Gold Sponsors Patti Mullen & Associates Remerica Hometown One and the Rotary Club of Northville), school organizations, school families, and students. The sponsorships help make Kids Helping Kids and Kids Against Hunger food packing experiences possible each school year for students across all six Northville elementary schools in partnership with students from inner-city Detroit schools, according to Amerman Principal Deborah Madeja.

"Dr. King saw himself as a servant of humanity, and he wanted his life to be remembered as a life of service to oth-

”

*Dr. King saw himself as a servant of humanity, and he wanted his life to be remembered as a life of service to others.*

ers," said Madeja. "Our goal by scheduling these packing events in conjunction with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service is to bring together students with different life experiences to work side-by-side to make Dr. King's dream a reality.

"We know that long-term change is rooted in the relationships that are at the heart of this effort," Madeja added. "Students learn that hunger is a world problem and that we have a responsibility to contribute to its solution. Building relationships between the city and the suburbs helps children understand similarities and celebrate differences. "Working together for a common purpose is an important way to learn this lesson. Most important, these children experience the joy of hands-on giving - a lesson we believe will influence a lifetime of thinking and behavior."

In addition to the Kids Helping Kids packing events,

students and teachers in classrooms across all 10 Northville school buildings took time throughout January to reflect on Dr. King's message of peace and equality through teacher-led activities. This included a range of experiences aligned with curriculum standards that include book talks; reading and listening to selected Dr. King speeches; writing reflections; art projects; sharing poetry and music; playing friendship games and making kindness cards to share with others; and classroom discussions about the impact of Dr. King's message on our world, a spokesperson added.

Along with classroom lessons, several buildings planned school-wide and grade-level activities during January to reinforce connections with Dr. King's messages of peaceful problem solving and strengthening community through service. At Silver Springs Elementary School, students heard grade-

level presentations from a storyteller focused on "building bridges." The storyteller led discussions about Dr. King's powerful messages. Meads Mill Middle School students heard passages from Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech read during homeroom morning announcements and the Meads Mill Choir visited classrooms throughout the school and sang songs relevant to Dr. King's work and the Civil Rights Movement.

At Northville High School, Principal Tony Koski shared examples of Dr. King's positive impact via the school-wide announcement system and first-hour teachers followed up with classroom discussions with their students. A group of Northville High School students also created a video celebrating Dr. King that will be shown in every classroom during morning video announcements, and social studies classes took part in activities based around the life and impact of Dr. King. Students at the district special education center program at Cooke School viewed video clips about Dr. King and his "I Have a Dream" speech, made posters about how they can build bridges, and visited interactive websites, read books and wrote about Dr. King.

## Friends of Belleville Library elect 2015 officers

Tony D'Onofrio was elected as president of the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library for the fourth time during the annual meeting last week.

D'Onofrio had planned to seek a term as vice-president of the group, but when Nakenya Lewis Yarbrough announced she was unavailable for a second

year as president, D'Onofrio accepted the leadership role. Yarbrough agreed to serve as vice-president, Katerina Tyner was chosen as treasurer and secretary duties will fall to Rick Cichewicz.

Cichewicz, who served as treasurer last year, reported that the group spent about \$11,000

last year on items such as a new outside book drop and 10 replacement office chairs.

According to a report from Book Chairman Carol Schank, the four book sales and donations in 2014 generated \$1,376.65.

Books sold at the library entryway and the book room,

plus more donations, brought a total of \$7,367.33.

Membership Chairman Marty Wilson said \$692 was generated in membership sales and another \$2,650 collected in donations. In 2015, he said, \$253 has been paid for memberships.

Members of the audience were urged to take copies of the

library survey to their friends and neighbors to complete before the March 31 deadline by Library Director Deb Green who said that 300 surveys have been completed.

According to Cichewicz, the Friends of the Library account balance at the end of 2014 was \$14,361.87.

## Library programs announced

New programs at the Belleville Area District Library began this week.

Monday Night Family Story Time began at 7 p.m. earlier this month and will continue through Feb. 23.

Tuesday Morning Terrific Toddlers began at 11 a.m. this week and will continue through Feb. 24 and Thursday

Morning Terrific Toddlers began at 11 a.m. today and will continue through Feb. 26.

Registration for any of these programs is available at the library circulation desk.

The Write Stuff Writer's Group meets from 1-3 p.m. the last Saturday of every month. All aspiring writers are welcome.

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# CANTON - PLYMOUTH

## Fiddler on the Roof comes to Village Theater

Local performers will bring the Broadway version of *Fiddler on the Roof* to the Village Theater in Canton this weekend, Feb 6-8.

*Fiddler on the Roof* is the story of Tevye, the father of five daughters, and his attempts to maintain his Jewish religious and cultural traditions, as outside influences encroach upon his family members' lives. He must cope both with the strong-willed actions of his three older daughters who wish to marry for love and the edict of the Tsar that evicts the Jews from their village.

“This show is timeless and great for the entire family,” said director Connor Rhoades, a Plymouth Community Educational Park graduate now studying theater education at Eastern Michigan University. “I am so excited to bring such a time-honored show to Canton on its 50th anniversary. With 18 musical numbers and a cast of more than 50 talented performers ranging in age from 6 to 22, this show has a little something for everyone in the family,” he added.

More than 100 performers from throughout metro Detroit auditioned for the production in November. Brandon Waldenmayer of Canton Township won the role of Tevye. “I’m honored to be part of such an extraordinary cast,” Waldenmayer, a junior at Eastern Michigan University double majoring in Children’s Theater and Public Administration, has performed in more than 50 shows including *The Cowardly Lion (the Wizard of Oz)* and Felix Ungar (*the Odd Couple*).

In addition to the public performances, Forever After Productions will present two performances for local students. “The school shows are an important part of what we do bringing this level of theater performance to young people who may not otherwise have the opportunity to attend a touring production” said show producer and choreographer Debby Ash. Forever After Productions is a community theater company based in Plymouth. Since 2009, they have produced 25 full-stage musical and dramatic productions throughout metro Detroit including the Power Center in Ann Arbor, The Berman Center in West Bloomfield, and The Village Theater in Canton. Tickets are \$17 and are currently on sale. Tickets can be purchased at [www.iheartforever-after.com](http://www.iheartforever-after.com) or by calling Forever After Productions at (734) 547-5156. Groups of 15 or more are \$15 per ticket. The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton.

## Resident sues Plymouth Township over water bill

Don Howard  
Staff Writer

A Plymouth Township resident said he has been forced to resort to the court system to settle a dispute over his water bill after a faulty meter created what he described as a 200,000-gallon error.

Romeo Savoy, who lives in the Trailwood subdivision, said he was shocked to receive an invoice for 261,000 gallons of water; enough to fill 10 swimming pools, at a cost of more than \$2,000 last year.

Savoy said he felt he had no recourse other than the court system after township officials and township Treasurer Ron Edwards refused to settle the matter. Savoy said he offered to pay half the disputed amount to avoid further action but his attempts were refused by Edwards.

Savoy filed an affidavit and claim in the Plymouth District Court last August to recover \$2,152, the amount the township said he owed because of a water leak. Shortly thereafter, township attorneys filed paperwork with the court demanding a formal hearing before a judge, a step necessary to provide Edwards, the named defendant, legal representation in the matter. Edwards, as the township treasurer, is responsible for collection of residential and commercial water bills.

Savoy, Edwards and Plymouth Township attorney Kevin Bennett were in the 35th District Court last Wednesday before Judge Ron Lowe when Savoy, also an attorney, said he informed the court that he wanted a jury trial.

Savoy claims he previously met with the two township technicians who replaced his water meter; their supervisor and water board official Mary Bruce, who is also named in the suit. All were insistent “the problem was caused by a water leak,” he said. Savoy said when he took the matter to Edwards, he was told, “No. You have to pay the whole thing.”

Savoy represented himself at the court hearing.

“I have no recourse, I paid the entire bill, \$2,800,” he said. He said he again presented an offer to Bennett in the courtroom to settle for \$1,500.

After a brief break in the court proceedings to confer with Edwards, Bennett returned and told him, “We’re not out to get our citizens,” Savoy said.

Court records show Lowe, who adjourned the hearing for one month to allow the township to investigate the cause of the abnormal bill, ruled Savoy may file an order for a jury trial after the township completes the investigation into the cause of the charges.

Lowe scheduled a settlement conference among the parties for March 4.

“I just want my money back,” said Savoy.

Bennett was not available for comment.

## Suspect in Jet’s Pizza break-ins facing charges

A 24-year-old Canton Township man is facing charges in the breaking and entering of two Jet's Pizza stores and an attempted break-in at a third.

Spencer Jurcak Hall is facing felony charges in the incidents which took place in the early hours of Dec. 26.

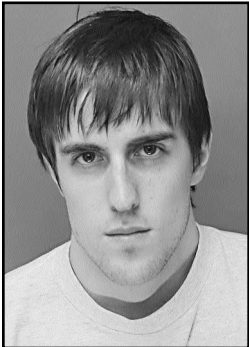
According to reports from the Canton Police Department, officers were dispatched to an alarm at the Jet's Pizza on Palmer and Haggerty Road at about 1 a.m. Dec. 26. When they arrived at the location, officers discovered a glass window had been smashed to gain entry into the business and cash taken from the store. About two hours later, Plymouth Township Police officers responded to an alarm at the Jet's Pizza on Ann Arbor Road where the glass door to the business had been shattered and cash taken, according to police reports.

According to police, Canton patrol officers began watching area Jet's locations and at about 4 a.m. a patrol officer near the Jet's Pizza located on Cherry Hill at Canton Center Road observed a man walk up to the building and then run away. An audible alarm was sounding and upon investigation, the officer discovered that the storefront glass had been broken. Canton officers quickly responded to the area and were able to locate and apprehend the suspect hiding in a wooded area nearby, according to police accounts of the situation.

Hall now faces two counts of breaking and entering a building with intent, a felony which carries a 10-year prison sentence upon conviction. He also faces one count of attempted breaking and entering a building with intent, a felony which carries a 5-year sentence upon conviction.

Hall was arraigned by video at 35th District Court on Jan. 27 in front of Judge Ronald Lowe. A not-guilty plea was entered on

H a l l ' s b e h a l f a n d L o w e s e t h i s b o n d a t \$ 5 0 , 0 0 0 c a s h . A p r e l i m i n a r y c o u r t e x a m i n a t i o n o n t h e c h a r g e s i s s e t f o r F e b . 1 3 .



## Youth theater group seeking sponsorships for season

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is seeking local community sponsorship for the Plymouth Uptown Players (PUPS) Youth Theatre Program. The Plymouth Uptown Players is an actor-centered experimental theatre group that is made up of elementary and middle school aged children, ages 5-13. Non-readers and special needs actors are welcome as part of the casts.

“Although the City of Plymouth is a great supporter, we are not a city-funded organization, so strong community partnerships have always been an essential part of the PCAC’s non-profit programming.

“Everything we do is paid for by memberships, tuition, grants and business sponsorships. One of our goals this year is to have a sponsor for each of our programs. These relationships not only help us to purchase supplies and pay our amazing staff, but also provide local businesses a unique marketing opportunity.

A one-year Plymouth Uptown Players sponsorship costs \$600 for two consecutive seasons, Fall (September-December) and Winter (January-April). Sponsors will get a full color, full page ad in the PUPS performance program for each of the two seasons. Sponsors will also have their business name mentioned in all social media and press announcements, on our facebook page and website and on The “Home of the Plymouth Uptown Players” sign in the lobby.

Businesses interested in sponsoring the PUPS Youth Theater or any other PCAC program can email [lisa@plymoutharts.com](mailto:lisa@plymoutharts.com) or call the office at (734) 416-4278.

## Movie

FROM PAGE 1

(Mr. What) on the road and Kaboom had to run uphill about 50 yards, off leash.

That shouldn't have been a problem, Burkey said, except that all Kaboom's off-leash training had been inside the training building, and he had never been off-leash outdoors.

“He was great. We did it about four times so they could get all the angles and he was perfect every time.”

Burkey, who spent 22 years in law enforcement, was in the police canine unit for a decade where he honed his dog training skills. He's obviously very proud of Kaboom and says, “He's a very smart dog. Very focused.”

Burkey now trains high-energy dogs and family pets at his Cherry Street location in Plymouth where he and Kaboom commute from the family home in Westland. Kaboom is now working on learning narcotics detection and continuing his training in IPO, the German protection sport that concentrates on obedience, protection and tracking.

“Mr. What” recently received the highest possible Five Dove movie review from The Dove Foundation. Maki, who serves as the pastor of First Baptist Church in Tecumseh, co-produced the movie along with his son, Shaun Maki, who was the director and cinematographer for “Mr. What,” and together in 2014 they founded Sun and Paw Films, LLC.

“Mr. What” is the second film which Maki has written. He starred, too, in his first production, “Sidewalk Singer” which was released in January, 2014.

The DVD of “Mr. What” is currently available for purchase in all Family Christian bookstores and online at [www.gobmg.com](http://www.gobmg.com) and [christianbook.com](http://christianbook.com), Maki said.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, March 5, 2015 for the following:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SERVICE PROVIDER

Proposals may be picked up at the Finance & Budget Department, on our website at [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org), or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish 02/05/2015 EC020515-1058 2.5 x 2.062

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, February 26, 2015 for the following:

INTERNET PERIMETER FIREWALLS REPLACEMENT

Proposals may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org), or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish 2/05/2015 EC020515-1059 2.5 x 2.062

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, February 26, 2015 for the following:

LEGAL NOTICES AND CLASSIFIED PUBLICATIONS

Proposals may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org), or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish 02/05/2015 EC020515-1060 2.5 x 2.062

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, February 19, 2015 for the following:

LIQUID CALCIUM CHLORIDE DUST CONTROL APPLICATION

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org), or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: 734/394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

Publish 2/05/2015 EC020515-1061 2.5 x 2.062



# Wayne - Westland

## Home assessments increase in Westland

Home values have increased by about 12.06 percent in the City of Westland according to the Wayne County Assessment and Equalization department.

A recently-completed sales and appraisal study by the assessment group determined the level of change for 2015 assessed values in the city.

Based on this data, in addition to the increase in value of residential properties, commercial structures will increase by 5.33 percent and building categorized as industrial will decrease by 7.27 percent.

The Department of Assessment will use this data to analyze the 2015 assessments on all properties, according to a prepared report from the office of Westland Mayor William Wild. A thorough review is conducted on each neighborhood to determine the level of change for that area, he said.

While the overall assessed value of residential properties in the City of Westland is set to increase by 12 percent, the individual percent of change may be higher or lower depending on the neighborhood analysis, the statement explained.

Additionally, the State of Michigan has determined the rate of inflation (or CPI) for 2015 is 1.6 percent. This means that while property assessments may increase by more than 1.6 percent, the taxable value, that is the amount on which tax bills are calculated cannot increase by more than 1.6 percent unless the home was purchased 2014 or improvements were added. Improvements such as a garage or addition may be taxed at a higher rate.

The review of assessments will not be finalized until mid-February and then an assessment notice will be mailed to all property owners in the city which will include the assessed and taxable values from 2014 and 2015.

“This 12 percent rise on top of last year’s 5 percent rise is welcomed by Westland homeowners who took a beating during the recent recession and is indicative of the strong local home market,” commented Wild.

Wild suggested that residents with questions contact the Department of Assessment at (734) 467-3160.

In addition, the Michigan State Tax Commission will also be auditing the assessing records in Westland, along with several other Wayne County communities.

The new procedural audit titled an Audit of Minimum Assessing Requirements, replaced the 14-Point Review and Mini Review previously used to ensure the compliance of local municipalities with state policies.

The Westland audit will be performed by Tax Management Associates, hired by the state, and should be complete by the end of this summer. Auditors may visit properties or homes in the community as part of the procedure to review assessments. They will have identification and letters will be sent to residents

## School board chooses officers

Members of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Board of Education elected new officers to serve for the next year at their last meeting.

Thomas Buckalew, the former vice-president of the board, was chosen to serve as president for the upcoming year.

“I want to thank the board for the faith it has in me,” Buckalew said. “I will see that I give the best service that is expected of me.” He replaces Shawna Walker as president.

Chosen as vice-president was Frederick Weaver, while Carol Middel was elected secretary of the board and Walker chosen to serve as treasurer.

Superintendent of Schools Michele Harmala presented Walker with a plaque honoring her term as president of the group.

“I’ve enjoyed sitting on the board with all that’s been going on,” Walker said. “I’ve enjoyed every bit of it and my fellow board members made it easy.”

Middel will also serve as the board representative for the Wayne County Association of School Boards and board member Melandie Hines will represent the Wayne Westland schools with the Michigan Association of School Boards.

The board members opted to continue the annual elections to the positions rather than adopt a policy suggested by board member Sally Madison.

Madison had suggested in a letter to the board that each board member serve in each board officer position during their six-year term in office.

“I would like to change the process of how I vote for fellow board trustees for annual school board positions,” she said. “This decision is to encourage growth, support and unity within our complete board, meaning every board trustee. We are only as strong as our weakest link and it would be refreshing to implement forward thinking.

“My thought is to move forward with fellow board trustees mentoring, supporting and sharing duties/positions to encourage mutual respect, equality,” she added.

Madison also expressed confidence that “we all would find it beneficial in many aspects for trustees to rotate in each board position in some facet rather than controlling a board seat.”

The board members took no action on Madison’s suggestion.



### Among the elite

Two Westland employees have successfully obtained the difficult state S-1 water distribution license. Foreman Michael Dittmar, a 14-year employee, and Christopher Payzant, a 22-year employee, have successfully passed the rigorous examination requiring information in a number of areas related to water distribution systems and earned their S-1 licenses. "The City of Westland is fortunate to have employees with this advanced level of training. I am confident they can help provide oversight of the city's vital water distribution system and ensure compliance with state regulations," commented Mayor William R. Wild. "Further, considering that in the entire State of Michigan there are only 560 individuals with an S-1 license, Westland is fortunate to have employees with the knowledge and expertise required of an S-1 operator in charge helping provide oversight of this essential service to the residents and businesses in the city," Wild concluded.

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#### Obituary



**Camille Howard**  
Sunrise: July 2, 1952  
Sunset: Jan. 17, 2015

Camille Howard died Jan. 17, 2015. Among her survivors left to cherish her memory are her granddaughter, Mileena Howard; her fiancée, Treas Johnson; a brother Jess Lee (Jennie) Howard of Inkster; sisters, Evvie (Andrew) Graves also of Inkster and Victoria Steward of Charlotte, NC; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives, and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Thomas Frank and Jessie Mae Howard; brothers, Thomas Frank, Jr., Walter, George Michael, Terry and Golden Howard; sisters, Louise Hawk and Bernice Hampton, and her daughter, Jessica Howard in 2011.

Ms. Howard was employed at General Motors in Ypsilanti for 10 years. Funeral services took place at Gethsemane Baptist Church on Eton Street in Westland with the Rev. Dr. John E. Duckworth officiating.

Interment was at Sunset Hills Cemetery in Ypsilanti. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster.

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**Emma F. Beenum**  
Sunrise: Feb. 20, 1916  
Sunset: Jan. 24, 2015

Emma Flora Beenum died Jan. 24, 2015 surrounded by her loving family. Among her survivors, left to cherish her memory, are loving daughters, June Beenum Carter and Dianne (William) Acklin; a son, Gilbert (Helyn) Beenum of California; a sister-in-law, Clara Beenum Williams of Romulus; 11 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; her niece-caregiver, Diane (Jesse) Meriweather; a host of nieces and nephews; one cousin, and many friends.

Mrs. Beenum worked at the J.L. Hudson Co. for 15 years and was a member of the volunteer auxiliary at Annapolis Hospital in Wayne and volunteered at the Romulus Soup Kitchen. She also worked with the Girl Scouts and was an election poll worker in Romulus. She won several awards from the Children's Aid Social and Michigan Foster Care Services for her work on their behalf and was recently honored as a lifetime member of the American Progressive Association community outreach organization in Romulus.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Isaac Beenum and a son, Michael.

Funeral services took place at New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church on Inkster Road in Inkster with the Rev. Dana L. Darby officiating.

Interment was at United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth.

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



**The Rev. Eleanor Miller**  
Sunrise: May 5, 1928  
Sunset: Jan. 25, 2015

The Rev. Eleanor Miller died Jan. 25, 2015. Mrs. Miller was ordained as a minister in April of 1987 at First Baptist Church in Romulus.

She was born in Romulus, the daughter of Patrick and Dorothy Vaughn, and graduated from Romulus Senior High School in 1944 and attended Cleary College. She was employed with the Internal Revenue Service before leaving there help with the family restaurant business, the Oasis Grill in Inkster.

She and her husband, Tucker Zanal Miller, Jr., were members of the National Traveling Bowling League during the 70s and 80s.

Mrs. Miller was widowed in 1994 and her brothers, Gerald P. Vaughn and Kenneth P. Vaughn, preceded her in death, as did her parents.

She traveled to Jerusalem in 1994 where she was baptized in the Jordan River. She visited Israel again in 1997, accompanied by her daughter.

Among those survivors left to cherish her memory are her daughters, Geraldine Green of Wayne and Linda A. Freeman of Flower Mound, TX; a grandson, Reuben Green of Ann Arbor; a granddaughter, Sonia Green of Lutu, NV; two great-granddaughters, Ayanna Cooper of Pontiac and Amber of Nevada; a sister, Evelyn (William) Campbell; a sister-in-law, Ardena Vaughn; two special extended family members, Regina Jackson and Tony Butler, both of Inkster; a host of nieces, nephews and cousins, and many

friends.

Funeral services took place at First Baptist Church in Romulus with the Rev. Charles P. Woolridge officiating.

Interment was at United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth.

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

**6. Legal Notices**

**STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate**

**FILE NO.**

Estate of Gordon S. Ford  
Date of birth 12/24/29

**TO ALL CREDITORS:\***

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Gordon S. Ford, died 1/23/2015. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to David L. Ford, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 706 Drahnner, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

2/2/2015  
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#### 33. Notice to Creditors

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# INKSTER - ROMULUS

## Romulus to spend federal funds on city programs

The City of Romulus will spend most of the Community Development Block Grant funding (CDBG) on staff for the parks and recreation department and on a new program to help bring economic development to the downtown area.

The city will receive about \$144,000 in CDBG funds, said Maria Lambert, director of the Romulus Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and coordinator of the CDBG program. The block grants are federal dollars administered through Wayne County. The grants are dedicated to helping low-to-moderate income areas of the city in the form of public improvements or programs.

"It's a little less than we received last year," she said.

Of the funds, \$73,600 will be earmarked for one full-time and two part-time employees in the parks and recreation department. About \$21,000 will go toward senior services to fund programs like the senior chores program and to provide transportation.

The city will allocate \$35,000 to a new downtown façade/commercial rehabilitation program that could bring new businesses to the city.

"The intent is for us to try to make some improvements to the buildings within the downtown area to bring in tenants or potential purchasers," said Tim Keyes, director of economic development for the city. He said the city is targeting two buildings under its control: the former Whistlestop Diner, which the DDA purchased through tax reversion several years ago, and the former fire station/animal shelter.

"There are also other buildings in the downtown that may qualify," Keyes said. "The bigger purpose of this is to try to get tax-paying individuals in there that will drive retail business into the downtown area."

Keyes said both buildings have drawn some interest from potential tenants or purchasers. The fire station, although it would require more investment, has drawn more interest, he said.

"It's open space with open rafters-there's more of an industrial feel to it that restaurateurs are looking for," Keyes said. "They like the charm of it, but there's also a big cost in that for developers, as well. With the Whistlestop, there's the existing walk-in cooler, there's hoods for the grills, which the fire station doesn't have. It's all expense."

Lambert said the improvements to the old diner would be accentuated by the streetscape project scheduled this year, which will provide a significant aesthetic boost to the overall downtown.

If there are funds from the CDBG façade improvement program left over, Lambert said downtown businesses would be apply for them.

"If we can drive business downtown-that's our main objective," said Keyes.



Students performing after the Soul Food Dinner at one of the past celebrations.

## Annual Soul Food Dinner set

Romulus Community Schools and the Romulus Ministerial Alliance are partnering for the Annual Black History Month Soul Food Community Dinner. This event, which has taken place for more than two decades in the community, will begin at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 10 in the Romulus High School Cafeteria. Southern style soul food, is the theme cuisine and all the food will be prepared by local churches and volunteers. Traditionally, the menu includes items such as chicken, rib tips, greens, macaroni and cheese, black eyed peas, corn-

bread and desserts like banana pudding.

The dinner will be followed at 7:30 p.m. with a special Black History Month presentation in the Romulus High School Auditorium. There will be featured performances from students, Romulus High School drama and choir programs, and local churches.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend both events. Donations are accepted and all proceeds go to benefit the Romulus Middle School Student Activities Fund.

## Comedy Night tickets on sale

The Greater Romulus Chamber of commerce will present a Comedy Night, including an auction and dinner from 6-10 p.m. March 13 at the Marriott Hotel at Detroit Metro Airport.

There will be several auction, three comedy acts and a dinner along with a cash bar.

A chamber spokesperson noted that seating is limited and the event usually sells out quickly so early purchase of tickets is suggested.

Tickets, priced at \$45 per person, can be purchased from chamber Executive Director Betsey Krampitz at (734) 893-0694.

## Library offers programs

Events planned at the Leanna Hicks Public Library in Inkster include a family movie at 1 p.m. this Saturday when Rio 2 will be shown.

The presentation will include popcorn and drinks, according to a library spokeswoman.

Lego Nights will continue at 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays which include Duplos for younger builders.

Starfish Family Services hosts Stay and Play at 10:30 a.m. Mondays. Miss Daisy has story and craft time for the very young.

Story Hour takes place at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

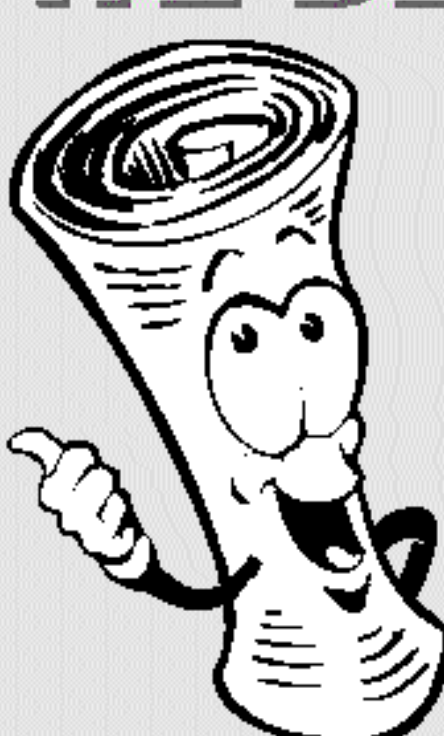
The teen movie will be shown at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21. The movie this month will be Divergent, and refreshments will be served.

In celebration of Black History Month, the musical group Straight Ahead will present Celebrate! The Music of African Americans at 1:30 p.m. Saturday Feb. 28. Straight Ahead is widely recognized for their eclectic and soulful approach to creating music, the spokeswoman said and their sound ranges from mainstream jazz, contemporary jazz, Latin, and jazzy hip hop.

"These Grammy-nominated recording artists have traveled extensively in the US, Caribbean, and Europe garnering rave reviews. The library is proud and excited to present their performance," she added.

The library is located at 2005 Inkster Road. For more information, call (313) 563-2822.

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Calendar of events

Hygiene items needed

Plymouth Community United Way is asking agencies, businesses, groups, and residents of the Plymouth-Canton community to donate new travel size toiletry items including toothbrushes/paste, shampoo/conditioner, soap/body wash, deodorant, hand sanitizer, tissues, shaving cream, feminine products, razors, combs, and hair brushes. Donations will be used to create hygiene kits for individuals and families in crisis.

Collections will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 28. All donations can be dropped off at Plymouth Community United Way, 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2 in Plymouth.

For more information, e-mail randi.williams@pcuw.org or call (734) 453-6879 x7.

Food drive under way

Plymouth Community United Way and Chuck E. Cheese are sponsoring a month-long food drive at the restaurant, 42001 Ford Road in Canton. The effort will continue through Feb. 28.

Customers will receive 20 tickets for each nonperishable food item that is brought into Chuck E. Cheese. Tickets can be used toward the purchase of prizes. All nonperishable food items will go to local pantries serving Plymouth, Canton and Western Wayne County communities.

For more information, email randi.williams@pcuw.org or call (734) 453-6879 x7.

Soup Swap returns

Soup Swap returns to Plymouth for the third year to benefit the Salvation Army. This year, the Rotary Club of Plymouth A.M. is teaming up with the Belleville Rotary Club and the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth to offer the art project.

The art portion of the festivities will begin, at the Plymouth Salvation Army Church located at 9451 S. Main St., Participants will paint their favorite design on a bowl that they have chosen from a large selection of shapes and sizes. Members of the Village Potters Guild will then glaze and fire the bowls for the Soup Swap. Sessions are scheduled Feb. 5, 7, 12, 14 and 16 at several different times

The cost of the painting session is \$15 per person or for the first two members of the family and \$10 for each additional family member. The cost is \$10 for each additional bowl (limit of four bowls).

The Over the Grill Gang Chefs' Club along The Plymouth Canton Educational Park Culinary Team will again be providing soup for the "Swap" on March 7 to support this event.

On Soup Swap day, the Over the Grill Gang Chefs' Club and the PCEP Culinary Team will be serving soups for participants when they come to pick up their bowl, also at the church

Participants are asked to bring a canned food item to help restock the shelves at the pantry when they come to pick up their bowl and swap it for some

soup, and all proceeds benefit the Salvation Army food pantry

To register or for more information, call Sandy Kollinger at (734) 453-5464.

Tax preparation available

Tax return preparation will be available from 9 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays through April 14 at the Summit on the Park.

The service is provided in cooperation with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

Complicated and/or joint return appointments must be scheduled for morning appointments. Schedule an appointment by phone at (734) 394-5485.

Colonial records is topic

Karen Krugman will be the speaker at the February meeting of the Northville Genealogical Society.

Krugman has been researching since 1990, and professionally since 1998. Since 2002 she has been speaking to genealogy groups in the metro Detroit area as well as other areas of Michigan and Ohio. Her planned topic includes a look at colonial records in early America, what they are and where to find them.

The public is invited to attend, free of charge, this meeting of the Northville Genealogical Society from 1:15 until 4:30 p.m. Feb. 8 at the Northville District Library, 212 West Cady, in Northville. The roundtable Cemetery Tips from Oakwood will begin at 1:15 p.m., a business meeting at 2:15 p.m., followed by Krugman 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. Mondays and also by appointment.

For more information contact Mary Hazlett at (734) 459-5493.

Library hosts book discussion

A discussion of the biography, "I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World," by Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai is planned for 7 p.m. Feb. 9 at the Northville District Library.

The discussion of the book which covers Yousafzai's inspiring stand against the government of Pakistan for the education of women is open to the public. Yousafzai was shot by the Taliban and survived to tell her story.

The library is located at 212 West Cady St. in Northville. For more information, call (248) 349-3020

Casting call

Auditions for the Spotlight Players production of The New Mel Brooks musical, Young Frankenstein, are set for 6:45-10 p.m. Feb. 9 and 10 at The Village Theater, 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton Township.

The performances at set for April 17-19 and 24-26.

More information is available at www.spotlightplayersmi.org.

Free Legal presentation planned



Burg Eltz' by Jennifer Helner (watercolor)



'Banff ' by Elizabeth Oliver (watercolor)

Northville Art House members on exhibit

The Northville Art House will the 9th Annual Member Exhibition in February showcasing more than 70 works of art in an all-media, non-juried member show.

"This exhibition was developed to showcase local talent and to say thank you to everyone who is supporting the growth and creativity of the arts in our community," according to organizers. "New, emerging and experienced artists come together to present some of their favorite works of art in this highly anticipated exhibition," she added.

The exhibit will open with an artist reception from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, and will continue through Feb. 27 during Art House Gallery hours; noon until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and noon until 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

For additional information, call 248-344-0497 or visit www.northvilleart-house.org. The Art House is located at 215 W. Cady St. and is a facility of the Northville Arts Commission. Admission to Art House exhibits is always free and open to the public.

Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services will offer a presentation on legal services for those 60 and older at 1:30 p.m. Feb. 11.

Presenters will discuss topics including guardianship, wills, trusts, power of attorney, assisted living and others.

Reservations are requested by calling Wayne Senior Services at (734) 721-7460.

The program will take place at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road in Wayne.

Seniors play bingo

Wayne Senior Services will offer bingo games beginning at 1 p.m. Feb. 12 and 26 .

There is a \$50 jackpot. Players must be 18 or older:

The games will take place at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe road.

For more information, call (734) 721-7460.

3D Photographers to meet

The only 3D photography club in Michigan will meet from 7-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11, 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 February 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 conclude the evening.

All meetings are free to attend, and visitors are always welcome.

For more information, visit www.Detroit3D.org, or call Dennis Green at (248) 398-3591.

Valentine's high tea served

Club 55+ will present a Valentine's High Tea from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11 in the Summit on the Park Maple Room, located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

This is a special Valentine's afternoon tea party, which will feature finger sandwiches, cream scones, tasty desserts and delicious tea - all provided by Victoria's Tea Salon.

Registration for the Valentine's Day High Tea is \$18 for Canton residents and \$23 for non-residents. Sign up today at www.CantonFun.org or by calling (734) 394-5485.



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