

# 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. 9

www.associatednewspapers.net

## THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 129, No. 9

Members of the Belleville City Council unanimously approved a St. Patrick's Day Party organized by Egan's Irish Pub that will continue from 7 a.m. March 17 until 2 a.m. March 18.

See page 3.

## THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 67, No. 9

Veteran broadcaster Raymond Rolak will showcase historical anecdotes from the Michigan hockey landscape at the Canton Public Library March 2.

See page 2.

## THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

Vol. 67, No. 9

Inkster and Wayne may have found a way to help each other financially and improve public safety service in both communities.

See page 5.

## THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

Vol. 14, No. 9

Northville Township officials appeared cool to the request of Livonia City Clerk Terry Marecki for their endorsement of her for the Wayne County Commission.

See page 4.

## THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

Vol. 14, No. 9

Plymouth Township, again, is the subject of gossip and criticism after submitting an application for state funds full of inaccurate and outdated information.

See page 6.

## THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 129, No. 9

Sandra St. Andre, 50, the wife of former Romulus Police Chief Michael St. Andre, was sentenced last Thursday to 7-20 years by Circuit Court Judge Michael Hathaway.

See page 3.

## THE WAYNE EAGLE

Vol. 67, No. 9

The City of Wayne Recreation Advisory Board is now accepting nominations for the annual James J. Poplin Distinguished Service Award.

See page 5.

## THE WESTLAND EAGLE

Vol. 67, No. 9

A 76-year-old Westland man is facing charges of first-degree murder in the shooting death of his 72-year-old wife last Thursday.

See page 5.

## Canton chosen for \$148 million research lab

*The federal government will invest more than \$70 million in the research facility...*

A new, \$148 million high-tech manufacturing research institute to be headquartered in Canton Township is expected to bring 10,000 jobs to this area and Ohio, according to an announcement from the University of Michigan.

The new facility, expected to be open this spring, will provide jobs in Michigan and Ohio in the metal stamping, metalworking, machining and casting industries, according to a college statement. One of the goals of the institute will be to add 100 more metal-related engineering professionals per year and 1,000 more skilled trade work-

ers annually.

The institute is designed to establish an ecosystem to support the production of advanced lightweight metals. It will enable research and development projects as well as education and training programs to prepare the workforce, according to the university.

The Canton-based consortium will be called LM31 and will bring together makers of aluminum, titanium and high-strength steel with universities and labs doing research on new technology. The consortium includes 60 members led by EWI, an Ohio-based company that specializes in developing technology for mid to large manu-

facturers in aerospace, automotive and other industries. Among the members are Wayne State University, Michigan State University, Michigan Tech, the University of Michigan, ALCOA, Boeing, General Electric, Honda North America and Lockheed Martin.

The federal government will invest more than \$70 million in the research facility during the next five years and the consortium partners will provide another \$78 million in matching funding. The

See **Jobs**, page 2

## Acts of Kindness Students, officers offer help to area residents

It was the random act of kindness that kept on giving.

For the third straight year, members of the Romulus Police Department participated in Random Acts of Kindness Week. The first two years, officers stopped motorists driving safely in Romulus and rewarded them with Subway restaurant gift cards. This year, during one of the most snow-filled winters ever, they devised a different random act of kindness.

Ofc. Keith Haynes invited student members of the Family Community and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) at Romulus High School to join officers in shoveling snow at the homes of residents who could not do it themselves.

FCCLA is a nonprofit national career and technical student organization for young men and women. Members' goals are to make a difference in families, careers and communities.

Five students volunteered: seniors Gabrielle Miller, Alyx Johnson, Dionshay Baker and Taryn Garrison and junior Sarah Wadsworth. Teaming up with them were Haynes, Sgt. Roger Salwa, Cpl. Matt Krol and Ofc. David Brooks.

The nine drove to homes, grabbed snow shovels and did their best to clear driveways and sidewalks that had been packed down due to weeks and months of snow, adding rock salt where necessary. Residents who benefited included senior citizens, military veterans and others recommended to Haynes by area mail carriers.

"It's refreshing to get out and serve the people in incidents where there are no victims and no

See **Kindness**, page 3

Romulus resident Jerry Edwards, was delighted when police officers and volunteer students showed up at his door to shovel snow during Random Acts of Kindness in the city. Ofc. Keith Haynes (left), Taryn Garrison, Cpl. Matt Krol, Sarah Wadsworth, Sgt. Roger Salwa, Edwards, Ofc. David Brooks, Alyx Johnson and Dionshay Baker took a break for a photo. Photos by Roger Kadav



Volunteer students Dionshay Baker (left), Taryn Garrison, Gabrielle Miller and Sarah Wadsworth shoveled snow and ice during Random Acts of Kindness in Romulus.



Cpl. Matt Krol (left), Ofc. David Brooks and Ofc. Keith Haynes shovel the heavy snow off a driveway during Random Acts of Kindness in Romulus.

## Northville Township to seek public safety millage

*If the millage is approved, a homeowner with a \$400,000 home would see an increase of \$310 annually...*

Northville Township voters will be asked to approve 1.550 mill tax hike in November.

Northville Township trustees approved the ballot question last week, citing an anticipated \$2.1 shortfall in the township budget next year.

The proposal calls for an additional dedicated millage of 1.550 mills for the next 7 years of which 1.250 mills would be designated for public safety and 0.300 mills for

parks-recreation and senior adult services. If the millage is approved, a homeowner with a \$400,000 home would see an increase of \$310 annually, according to Township Financial Manager Marina

Neumaier. She explained that the new millage total of 7.1250 mills would replace the existing voted millage of 5.5750 mills which expired in 2013 and would raise approximately \$13,071,000 the first

year.

Neumaier said the anticipated budget shortfall was caused as the taxable value of homes in the township dropped 13.8 percent between 2007 and 2013 which resulted in a reduction of property revenue of \$300,000 per mill. That was a \$1.5 million loss in revenue for the public safety fund. The actual 2014 taxable value for the township will be

See **Millage**, page 4

## Plymouth Township grant application riddled with errors

An application for state funding submitted by Plymouth Township in January was riddled with falsehoods and erroneous information.

The application for Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP) funding is administered through the Michigan Department of Treasury and awards funding based on fulfillment of three criteria-Accountability and

Transparency, Consolidation of Services and Employee Compensation.

According to the certification required by the state, any applicant applying for Consolidation of Services payment must, among other criteria, make the plan available for public viewing in the clerk's office on posted on a publicly accessible Internet site. The township application can be

found at www.plymoutytwp.org and highlighted the Plymouth Area Recreation Complex (PARC) as a new program under the Consolidation of Services category. According to township records, officials notified the PARC committee on Nov. 27, 2013 that the municipality would not be participating in the feasibility study or the project, contrary to the filing.

After the second visit of PARC representatives to a township trustees meeting Jan. 14, the Nov. 27 decision was confirmed by 5-2 vote of the members of the board. Township Treasurer Ron Edwards spoke heatedly following the request of PARC representatives to join in a feasibility study and reiterated his determi-

See **Grant**, page 4



# CANTON

## Hockey history to be topic

The hockey chronicles of both peninsulas of Michigan will be celebrated at the Canton Public Library at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 2. Veteran broadcaster Raymond Rolak will showcase historical anecdotes from the Michigan hockey landscape.

This multi-media presentation will show the timeline of college hockey, including the explanation for the Big Ten hockey championship being awarded to Michigan State in 1959. Longtime Plymouth Township resident Tom Mustonen, now a retired educator, was a contributing member of that team. Other local connections to international hockey will be discussed.

The event is part of the Hockey Weekend Across America promotion sponsored by USA Hockey. The effort has two objectives, to promote hockey on both a local and national level.

There is no charge and audience members are encouraged to wear their favorite jerseys. The Canton Public Library is located at 1200 S. Canton Center Road. For more information, call (734) 397-0999.

## Home Expo is this weekend

The annual Canton Home Improvement Expo will take place from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 1 and from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 2 at the Summit on the Park in Canton.

Highlights include free parking and refreshments; live broadcasts form special guest stars Murray Gula, Host of "Your Home with Murray Gula" on FTRradio.com and Joe Gagnon "The Appliance Doctor" from 1600 WAAM; how-to workshops on a variety of topics; live wood carving demonstrations; a hands-on children's project center; and multiple raffles throughout the weekend.

For more information, visit [www.canton-mi.org/homeexpo.aspx](http://www.canton-mi.org/homeexpo.aspx) or call (734) 394-5200.

## Jobs

FROM PAGE 1

Michigan Economic Development Corp. will provide \$10 million and Ohio will also invest funds in the project, according to the University of Michigan..

The institute will be the newest facility in the National Network of Manufacturing Innovation, a White House initiative to help manufacturers become more competitive. The concept came from the federal Advanced Manufacturing Partnership which began in 2011. Jack Hu, the interim president of research at the University of Michigan and college President Mary Sue Coleman both served on the group that recommended the new network of research labs.

“Companies from around the country will come here not only because of our technological capabilities, but also because we have the workforce they need in their efforts to revitalize and transform domestic manufacturing,” Coleman said in a prepared statement.

An announcement from the White House said the Michigan-based consortium won a competition to be one of the first three manufacturing innovation institute in the nation.

The others are based in North Carolina and another will be in Chicago.

The White House statement described the laboratory as a “teaching factory” and said it will “provide an opportunity for education and training of students and workers at all levels, while providing the shared assets to help companies, most importantly small manufacturers, access the cutting-edge capabilities and equipment to design, test and pilot new products and manufacturing processes.”

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. 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

Published: February 27, 2014

EC022714-0889 2.5 x 1.557

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Charter Township of Canton, Division of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Charter Township of Canton, Division of Public Works, 1150 S. Canton Center, Canton, Michigan 48188. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Division of Public Works at 734/394-5150 for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

THANK YOU  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS  
EC022714-0894 2.5 x 1.605

Published: February 27 and March 06, 2014

Charter Township of Canton Board Proceedings -February 18, 2014

A regular study meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Canton held Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 1150 Canton Center S., Canton, Michigan. Supervisor LaJoy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. **Roll Call** Members Present: Bennett, LaJoy, McLaughlin, Sniedeman, Williams. Members Absent: Anthony, Yack. Staff Present: Director Faas, Building Official, Weyer. Guests Present: Phillip Neuman, Esq., Forrest Wall, VP Apartment Association of Michigan, Michael Tobin Group Five Mgmt. **Adoption of Agenda** Motion by Bennett, seconded by Williams to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. **STUDY SESSION TOPIC** Item 1. Rental Unit Inspection Program (MSD) The Board received a PowerPoint presentation on a rental unit inspection program for which Municipal Services Department would request Board input on before finalizing the recommended program. The presentation covered the Objectives of a Rental Inspection Program, Performance Bench Marks and Standards, Current Township Inspection Programs, a Rental Inspection Program outline, Projected Revenues, Steps to Implement the Program, an Ordinance Draft, Survey of Other Communities Fees, PA 167 of 1917, and SB N. 31. If the Board desires staff to proceed with implementation, numerous Board actions will be required throughout the year. **Adjourn** Motion by Bennett, supported by Williams at 8:15 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried by all members present. - Philip LaJoy, Supervisor - Terry G. Bennett, Clerk - Copies of the complete text of the Board Minutes are available at the Clerk's office of the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton, MI 48188, during regular business hours and can also be accessed through our web site [www.canton-mi.org](http://www.canton-mi.org) after Board Approval. Publish: February 27, 2014

EC022714-0895 2.5 x 2.009

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE TO PUBLIC  
BOARD OF REVIEW APPOINTMENTS

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned, Terry G. Bennett, Clerk of the Charter Township of Canton, County of Wayne, State of Michigan to all residents of the Charter Township of Canton: that all persons protesting their assessment must complete petitions prior to appearing before the Board. A personal appearance is not required. All petitions must be received in the Assessor's office by March 13, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

The Board of Review will be held in the Canton Township Hall on the first floor, at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Entry into the building can be accessed through the front doors of Township Hall. Please come prepared, as an eight (8) minute limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

The following is the schedule for March Board of Review.

Tuesday, March 4, 2014	Organizational Meeting - 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (No Appointments)
Monday, March 10, 2014	Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Tuesday, March 11, 2014	Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Wednesday, March 12, 2014	Hearings from 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. (Appointments Only)
Thursday, March 13, 2014	Hearings from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m. (Appointments Only)

Please be advised that on Tuesday, March 11 after 4:30 p.m. and Wednesday, March 12 after 4:30 p.m. entry to the building can only be accessed through the front entrance of the Township Hall.

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call Jamie Rohraff, Secretary to the Board of Review (734) 394-5111.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK  
Charter Township of Canton Township

Published: The Eagle  
February 13th, 20th, 27th 2014

EC022714-0891 2.5 x 4.645

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
2014 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM  
HEARING OF NECESSITY FOR SIDEWALK REPLACEMENTS  
IN THE FOLLOWING SUBDIVISIONS:  
Aziz Estates Sub #1  
Aziz Estates Sub #2  
Camden Park  
Cherry Blossom Estates  
Dasher Heights  
Hidden River Estates  
Maple Ridge Woods  
Pheasant Creek  
Pheasant Creek North  
Pheasant Woods  
Sierra Heights #1  
Sierra Heights #2  
Sunflower North  
Villa Maria  
Westfield Estates  
Miscellaneous Locations  
Metro Act Locations

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Public Act 80 of the Public Acts of 1989 of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the findings of necessity; assessment against owners of property; hearing; exceptions; notice of the Charter Township of Canton that the Board of the Charter-Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 25, 2014 at the Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room for the proposed sidewalk replacements.

Publish: The Eagle 02/27/14 & 03/20/14

EC022714-0890 2.5 x 20.5



# BELLEVILLE - ROMULUS

## Drug drop off box installed at police department

A prescription drug collection receptacle has a permanent location in the lobby of the Romulus Police Department, 11165 Olive St. The MedReturn Drug Collection Box was unveiled by representatives of the City of Romulus and the Romulus Community Schools. Community members can use the device to safely dispose of unused, unwanted or expired prescriptions and over-the counter medications.

The Romulus Police Department is one of only 20 in the State of Michigan to host a permanent prescription drug drop-off site.

The Romulus Middle School Leadership Youth Movement, the Police Department and the Southeast Michigan Community Alliance teamed up to secure federal funding to purchase the box.

The venture follows the overwhelming community response to the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day hosted by the Romulus Rotary Club and Police Department last spring. Promoted by the Drug Enforcement Agency, the one-day effort collected 3 gallons of pills and capsules at the police station.

Romulus Police Cpt. Joshua Monte said department representatives are pleased to provide the permanent opportunity to assist in preventing pill abuse and theft by ridding homes of potentially dangerous prescription

drugs.

Monte said the initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse, he said. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States are alarmingly high, as is the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to the drugs.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including home medicine cabinets. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing unused medicines - flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash - both pose potential safety and health hazards.

Residents of Romulus and other communities are invited to bring medications (no liquids) for disposal to the Police Department. The service is free, anonymous and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Police Ofc. Keith Haynes worked with students from the middle school and their prevention advisors, Betty Santos and Marc Edwards. Mayor LeRoy Burcroff, members of the city Drug Task Force and other city officials were on hand for the unveiling.

“It is great to partner with the schools and the community on such an important issue,”



On hand for the unveiling of the MedReturn Drug Collection box at the Romulus Police Department are Romulus Drug Task Force members the Rev. Bill Kren (left) and the Rev. Arthur Willis, City Treasurer Stacy Paige, Romulus Middle School seventh-graders Kayla Leonard and Kayla Wood, Police Ofc. Keith Haynes, middle school prevention specialists Betty Santo and Marc Edwards, Mayor LeRoy D. Burcroff, Councilwoman Kathleen Abdo, Mayor Pro-Tem John Barden and City Clerk Ellen Craig-Bragg. Photo by Dave Gorgon

Edwards said. “It is a fact that the prescription drug epidemic is rising in our country, especially among our youth - not only in Romulus but also in the surrounding area.”

Edwards urged everyone to spread the word about the availability of the medication drop box.

“It will ultimately play a huge role in saving lives,” he added.

For more information on the prescription disposal box, contact Monte at (734) 955-8858. For more information on how to handle unwanted medications, visit the website [www.medreturn.com](http://www.medreturn.com).

## Former police chief’s wife sentenced to 7-20 years

Sandra St. Andre, 50, the wife of former Romulus Police Chief Michael St. Andre, was sentenced last Thursday on felony charges by Circuit Court Judge Michael Hathaway.

St. Andre was sentenced following a jury verdict of guilty on all charges rendered Jan. 27. She will serve 7 to 20 years on the first charge of Continuing Criminal Enterprise; 7 to 20 years on the second charge of Continuing Criminal Enterprise, 2-5 years on the charge of Filing Fraudulent Tax Returns and 2 to 10

years on the charge of Receiving and Concealing Stolen Property.

The judge ruled that all the prison sentences are concurrent and said that restitution will be determined at a later date.

The charges against St. Andre stemmed from the 3-year corruption investigation by the FBI, the Michigan State Police and the office of the Wayne County Prosecutor into the Romulus Police Department. During that investigation, it was determined that St. Andre knowingly received embezzled drug forfei-

ture funds from the Romulus Police Department Special Investigations Unit which was overseen by her husband. Investigators said that she deposited the funds into her joint personal bank account with her husband and that the deposits were far in excess of the combined incomes of the couple.

Prosecutors proved that she used the forfeiture funds to purchase and operate a tanning salon in Westland and for personal expenses.

The investigation began in January of 2009 after a Romulus

police official alleged misconduct, corruption and embezzlement funds in the Special Investigations Unit.

Former chief Michael St. Andre, Det. Sgt. Richard Allan Balzer, Det. Richard Bruce Landry and Det. Donald Ralph Hopkins were also charged with felony racketeering and several other felony violations. Also charged were Dt. Jeremy James Channells and Dt. Larry Droege.

A jury trial for Channells and Droege was scheduled to begin last Monday and trials for St. Andre,

Landry, Balzer and Hopkins are scheduled for July 7.

They are accused of making or assisting others in making material misrepresentations of fact in connection with expense reports in an effort to obtain improper reimbursement; creating fraudulent documents to support improper expenditures of drug forfeiture funds; obstruction of justice, making false statements in police reports and misusing City of Romulus funds for their own personal gain.

## Belleville OK’s use of city square for St. Pat’s party

Belleville will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day March 17 in a big way.

Members of the Belleville City Council unanimously approved the use of the Fourth Street Square for a St. Patrick's Day Party organized by Egan's Irish Pub. The event will continue from 7 a.m.

March 17 until 2 a.m. March 18 in a tent that will close off the square, with the exception of the walkway next to the Bayou Grille.

The tent will house a stage for Irish bands and a bar. There will also be a public address system and Porta-potties on site for the event.

Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor said a permit from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission would need to be obtained once the city approves the event. Taylor said the state would require a diagram of the site and a barricade in place to ensure that party-goers could not enter and

leave by rolling up the sides of the tent. Organizers said they also plan to heat the tent if necessary and have already explored the possibility of a snow fence. There will also be hired security during the celebration to ensure that no one younger than 21 attends.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer

told the council that the DPW, police chief, and fire chief have all approved the plans.

After some discussion regarding the precedent of selling alcohol on city property and any possible interference with other businesses in the area, the vote was unanimous to approve the event.

## Kindness

FROM PAGE 1

downside to the incident,” Haynes said.

Resident Jerry Edwards came to his front door to inquire about the unexpected visit and was delighted to learn of the volunteerism. Edwards, a disabled truck driver, served in the Army in both Korea and Vietnam. He said his health suffered from the effects of Agent Orange, a chemical herbicide used in South

Vietnam. He also suffered a massive heart attack in 1990 and was just released from the hospital after receiving a second pacemaker.

“I saw the police cars and all the kids and wondered what it was all about,” Edwards said. “I think this is wonderful. I really appreciate it.”

It was also Edwards' birthday and the group sang “Happy Birthday” to him.

“This is the best birthday present I've had in a long time,” he said.

The Romulus leadership group had made donations to treat the volunteers to lunch and

fun at the new Dave & Buster's in Livonia. In fact, Mayor LeRoy D. Burcroff visited one of the homes, helped the volunteers shovel snow and thanked the students and police officers. He then contributed more funds for the outing.

When Dave and Buster's Assistant General

Manager Mike Gold learned of the random acts of kindness, he paid for the lunch and games.

Haynes said he will use the available funds to challenge the students to come up with another project to keep the random acts of kindness rolling.

**CITY OF ROMULUS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**RFP 13/14-15 UPFITTING FOR SIX FORD POLICE VEHICLES**

(1) The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking proposals from qualified companies for the above item/items and/or services.

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

(3) Proposals must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the ***City Clerk's Office*** no later than 2:30 P.M., Tuesday, **March 18, 2014**. 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:**  
CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE  
RFP 13/14-15 UPFITTING FOR SIX FORD POLICE VEHICLES  
11111 Wayne Road,  
Romulus, Michigan 48174

(4) The City 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](mailto:lconway@ci.romulus.mi.us).

Please Publish: Thursday, February 27, 2014, The Eagle or The Associated Newspapers of Michigan

**CITY OF ROMULUS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**ITB 13/14-13 WATER HYDRANTS AND GATE VALVES**

(1) The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified companies for the above item/items and/or services.

(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) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the ***City Clerk's Office*** no later than 2:30 P.M., Tuesday, **March 18, 2014**. 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:**  
CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE  
ITB 13/14-13 WATER HYDRANTS AND GATE VALVES  
11111 Wayne Road,  
Romulus, Michigan 48174

(4) The City 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](mailto:lconway@ci.romulus.mi.us).

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**CITY OF ROMULUS INVITATION TO BID**  
**THE CITY OF ROMULUS ALONG WITH THE DOWNRIVER CONSORTIUM**  
**ITB 13/14-14 JCM 161 (OR EQUIVALENT)**  
**FABRICATED LUG ALL STAINLESS STEEL CLAMP COUPLINGS**

(1) The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified companies for the above item/items and/or services.

(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) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the ***City Clerk's Office*** no later than 2:30 P.M., Tuesday, **March 18, 2014**. At approximately 2:45 p.m., local time all timely received bids are to be publicly received.

**RESPONSE ENVELOPES MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED:**  
CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE  
ITB 13/14-14 JCM 161 (OR EQUIVALENT)  
FABRICATED LUG ALL STAINLESS STEEL CLAMP COUPLINGS  
11111 Wayne Road,  
Romulus, Michigan 48174

(4) The City reserves the right to reject all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

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Please Publish: Thursday, February 27, 2014, The Eagle or The Associated Newspapers of Michigan

**CITY OF ROMULUS**  
**NOTICE**  
**2014 BOARD OF REVIEW**

To the taxpayers of the City of Romulus: The Board of Review will meet in the Romulus City Hall, (Lower Level) Community Room, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 on the following dates and times by **APPOINTMENT ONLY** for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll. Please come prepared, as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.

**Meeting dates are as follows:**

March 10, 2014:	9:00 am to 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
March 11, 2014:	2:00 pm to 5:00 pm & 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
March 13, 2014:	9:00 am to 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Residents and Non-Residents may appeal by (1) making an appointment to appear before the Board **OR** (2) in writing (personal appearance is not required). The Board of Review **MUST** receive all written appeals/documentation no later than March 13, 2014 at 3:00 pm.

Property owners may appoint and authorize a representative to appear on their behalf. According to Ordinance, all Representatives or Agents **MUST** submit an original, notarized, current proof of authorization to act on behalf of the property owner as a prerequisite to appeal to the Board of Review.

To schedule an appointment, please call the City of Romulus Department of Assessment at 734. 942.7520.

Publish:	02/20/2014 02/27/2014 03/06/2014
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# NORTHVILLE - PLYMOUTH

## Livonia clerk requests Northville endorsement

Northville Township officials have excellent, and long, memories.

They proved that during their regular meeting last Thursday when Livonia City Clerk Terry Marecki appeared at the meeting to ask for their endorsement of her candidacy for the Wayne County Commission 9th District seat.

The 9th District includes the City of Northville, Northville Township and the City of Livonia.

Trustee Fred Shadko asked Marecki, "After being passionately behind an annexation move to take our land, do really think you could represent our constituents fairly?"

Shadko was referring to the effort in 2008 by the City of Livonia to annex 414 acres of Northville Township property. The effort followed a protracted battle with a developer who had purchased the land at Haggerty and Seven Mile Road, once the site of the Northville Psychiatric Hospital.

In 2006 when agreement could not be reached between the township and the developers.

”

*The board members did not offer Marecki any formal support or respond to her request for their endorsement.*

Bloomfield Hills based Real Estate Interests Group (REIS) and Livonia Schostak Bros filed a lawsuit against Northville Township.

A year later, REIS installed mobile homes on the property and the township reluctantly approved occupancy permits for the stated purpose of having “guards” live on the site. These “residents” then filed legal paperwork to have the property annexed to Livonia.

Marecki told Shadko and the other trustees that she was only following the wishes of her city council members at the time of the

attempted annexation. She said she understands the attempt may have left a few hard feelings.

“I don't see any problem with that,” Marecki told Shadko.

The board members did not offer Marecki any formal support or respond to her request for their endorsement.

Republicans Marecki and Livonia City Councilwoman Laura Toy will vie for the seat currently held by Laura Cox who is hoping to win the seat being vacated by State Rep. John Walsh.

## Grant

FROM PAGE 1

nation not to participate in the project. Township Clerk Nancy Conzelman also voiced strong objections to the PARC plan. The board members also banned any participation in any joint authority with the City of Plymouth by a 4-3 vote at that meeting. Such an authority is crucial to the funding necessary for the PARC project, according to organizers. The Plymouth Township ban is effective until the end of the current terms of elected office in 2016.

The application for state funding was not due until Feb. 1, 2014, but was filed Jan. 2, “2013,” a date the state has called “a typographical error.” The application states, “Plymouth Arts Recreation Complex-a collaboration of the city, township and school district to repurpose a middle school into a community arts and recreation facility.”

The application lists the start date of the PARC project as October of 2013 and projects a 2015 completion date. Following the November notification of non-participation, some board members were admonished for using their official elected titles on informational materials about the PARC project, according to one township trustee.

The application also cites savings achieved by eliminating the “Township Parks and Recreation Director.” Records show there was no parks and recreation director in the township in 2013.

Township records indicate that the board of trustees approved a budget line item of \$100,000 in December to create a new recreation department.

The application states that the Plymouth Community Fire Department provides shared services to the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township when in fact that joint service agreement has not been in effect for more than two years. The City of Plymouth application for the same program does not include any mention of these shared services. In addition, the township application states that the township is “Reviewing and analyzing the option for a three-community local joint fire department including the City of Plymouth, the City of Northville and Plymouth Township” citing a \$400,000 estimated annual savings and estimating an implementation of January, 2015. The ban on joint authority agreements with the City of Plymouth approved Jan. 14 would prevent such an arrangement. The application for the same state funding from the City of Plymouth makes no mention of any such combined fire department.

According to the Department of Treasury documents, “Any local unit that falsifies certification documents shall forfeit any future economic vitality incentive program payments and shall repay the state all economic vitality incentive program payments it has received.”

That apparently will not be the case in Plymouth, however, as a state spokesperson said that he was unsure if the penalties would be imposed if the errors were corrected before the actual checks were sent to the municipality.

The application containing the misinformation was signed by Chief Administrative Officer Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume. The township received \$10,584 from the program in 2013, according to township records.

## Millage

FROM PAGE 1

available after Board of Review is completed the end of March.

Township police and fire projected budget expenditures are \$1.2 million in excess of anticipated revenue for 2014.

Northville Township Manager Chip Snider said the ballot initiative will be in November 2014 and that the ballot language will be published by May 28.

Snider said the board reviewed the budget forecast in 2010 to continue to provide public service at the same level and agreed to use monies in reserve and adjust the millage amounts without asking voters for a tax increase.

“In 2010 voters approved a renewal...we didn't want to burden the taxpayers in a recession.”

Snider and Township Supervisor Robert Nix said the 1.2550 tax increase, if approved, will be dedicated and can only be used for public safety.

Public Safety Director John Werth said, “We've done everything we could do” referring to cost savings within the police and fire departments and changes he implemented to

maintain the same level of service without layoffs. If the millage is not approved, Werth said he would have to “re-evaluate the service (levels).”

Werth said furlough days in the department have been implemented to help cut costs, mileage has been extended on vehicles before replacement, outsourcing of professional training has been minimized and the township has cooperated in buying apparatus with other communities to cut costs.

“Our volumes are up, our population is up, our runs are up, and our costs are up,” Werth said. Township records indicate that in 2007, the department had 15, 815 runs while in 2013, that total had increased to 16,190. Werth said that the department has been down by as many as seven officers at some times during the past three years. He said that on an average, each officer will handle about 550 complaints.

Northville Township fire and police services are staffed with full-time paid professional police officers and firefighters certified by the state.

Township officials said their goal is to maintain the current high public safety service Northville residents expect.

“We just want to maintain status quo,” Snider said, referring to the current service and staffing levels.

Send us your letters

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# INKSTER - WAYNE - WESTLAND

## Sale of Wayne fire truck to Inkster OK'd

Inkster and Wayne, neighboring cities each struggling with serious budget deficits, may have found a way to help each other and improve public safety service in both communities.

Wayne-Westland Fire Chief Michael Reddy, who is also acting as the fire chief in Inkster, suggested that Wayne sell the city aerial fire truck to Inkster, where grant funding is available to pay off the debt.

Inkster has an unused \$800,000 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant which will expire next month if not used.

Wayne still owes about \$800,000 on the aerial truck and a sale to Inkster could clear that debt and improve cash flow in the city. Terms of the loan on the fire truck require payments of \$53,000 twice a year to Chase Bank, which financed the purchase at a cost of just over \$1 million.

"The note left on the truck is just over \$800,000," Reddy said. "With the FEMA grant, this will just about be revenue neutral," he told members of the Wayne City Council last week when he proposed the sale. Reddy, who is overseeing the Inkster department while determining the feasibility of bringing the community into a proposed fire authority, said the sale would not prevent the City of Wayne from using the equipment.

"The truck will be available to Wayne at any time," Reddy said. "You will not see any lag in service."

The truck is a 2007 E-One 134-foot Bronto and Inkster firefighters would have to be trained to use the apparatus. Reddy said that training would not be any problem and would not take long to complete. He also explained that the truck would be moved and housed at the Inkster Fire Station, but that it would be available to Wayne and Westland as part of Mutual Aid within the communities.

Wayne City Council members approved the sale while Inkster Council members were to discuss the use of the FEMA grant money for the truck at a meeting this week.

Reddy also told the Wayne City Council that the situation could change with the implementation of a fire authority, a conglomeration of local communities all utilizing one fire-safety entity, sharing administration, equipment and personnel. Wayne and Westland have been moving toward such an authority since they combined the city departments last year. Reddy, who will serve as the Inkster Fire Chief until June 30, will assess the feasibility of including Inkster in the proposed fire authority.

Reddy said the proposed sale is a "win-win" situation as Inkster can take advantage of the grant, provided through the Department of Homeland Security, and Wayne will not have to make the payments on the truck.

"Even if there is not authority, it keeps the truck in the area," Reddy said.

## Ex-council woman named to city planning commission

Westland City Council members have confirmed two new appointments in the city.

Former City Councilwoman Meriem Kadi was appointed to the Planning Commission at the Westland City Council Meeting last week.

Kadi served on the Westland City Council for four years from 2010 to December 2013. She served on the planning commission in the city from 2003 to 2010, when she was elected to city council.

She has lived in Westland since 1978, and has been an active resident. Kadi served as president for the Friends of the Westland Public Library for eight years, and was named Westland's "First Citizen of the Year" in 2009.

Kadi currently serves as the event chair for the Wayne-Westland Relay for Life, in addition to volunteer work with the Westland Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club, and Community Foundation.

Kadi also has a background in real-estate, with 20 years of experience and currently works at the National Realty Centers. In addition, she served on the Board of Directors for the Western Wayne - Oakland County Association of Realtors from 2000-2006.

"Meriem Kadi will be a great asset to the Planning Commission," said Mayor William Wild of her appointment. "She has a track record of civic responsibility and leadership, and always has the best interest of Westland and its residents at heart."

At the same meeting, William Tremper was reappointed by Wild to the Municipal Services Bureau (MSB). Tremper's tenure was renewed, as his last term ended in late 2013.

"Mr. Tremper has been a valuable member of the Municipal Services Board, and I look forward to his continued success in this next term," said Wild. "The MSB does great work for the community, and we're happy to keep Bill on board."

The MSB is a five-member board appointed by the mayor that functions as a non-profit organization. Board operations include the Mike Modano Ice Arena, the Westland Municipal Golf Course, a home chores program, and a crossing guard unit.



Meriem Kadi

## Westland man, 76, faces murder charge in wife's death

A 76-year-old Westland man has been charged with the murder of his wife.

Marvin Jones is facing charges of first-degree murder and a felony firearms charge following the death of his 72-year-old wife in their home last Thursday.

Police were called to the home on the 8100 block of Melvin after a neighbor called, reporting that Jones told him that his wife had been shot. The neighbor spotted Jones on another neighbor's porch, knocking at the door.

When he asked Jones about his welfare, according to police, Jones told the neighbor, "My wife has been shot."

Police were dispatched to the home and upon entering, found Sandra Jones dead in a bed at the home. Detectives at the scene also found gunshot holes in walls and floors throughout the house.

Marvin Jones was arrested immediately and investigators removed several guns and other evidence from the home. Neighbors and witnesses told police that Jones had been exhibiting signs of mental illness or dementia, according to police.

The Wayne County Medical Examiner determined that Sandra Jones' cause of death was a gunshot wound to the head.

Jones was arraigned last week in 18th District Court before Judge Mark McConnell. A not-guilty plea was entered on his behalf. He is being held without bond and will appear for a preliminary hearing March 6.

## Nominees for Poplin Award sought

The City of Wayne Recreation Advisory Board is now accepting nominations for the annual James J. Poplin Distinguished Service Award.

The award is presented to an individual who is an outstanding recreational supporter for the City of Wayne Department of Parks and Recreation programs, according to a prepared release from Director of Parks and Recreation Nathan Adams.

To qualify for the award, the candidate must have spent at least five years in a volunteer capacity in one or more recognized activities of the Wayne Parks and Recreation Department.

All nominations must be submitted by April 1 to Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne, MI 48184, Attention: Recreation Advisory Board.

Required information includes the name of the nominee with their full address and phone number and a brief and accurate description of the candidate's achievements in recreation. More information is available at [www.ci.wayne.mi.us](http://www.ci.wayne.mi.us) or by calling (734) 721-7400.

PLANNING COMMISSION  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 17, 2014 in the *First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.* on the following proposed special land use request as provided in Section 27.03 of the Canton Township Zoning Ordinance:  
  
**CDE COLLISION CENTER SPECIAL LAND USE** - CONSIDER REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL FOR AN AUTOMOBILE REPAIR GARAGE AS REQUIRED IN SECTION 22.02B.4 FOR PARCEL NO. 132-99-0010-007 (4985 BELLEVILLE ROAD) Property is located south of Michigan Avenue and east of Belleville Road.  
  
Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, March 13, 2014 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.  
  
SEE ATTACHED MAP  

Greg Greene, Chairman  
Publish: Newspaper-- February 27, 2014

EC022714-0892 2.5 x 8.35

CDE Collision Centers 132-SLU-1981

CREATED BY:  
CANTON TWP. PLANNING SERVICES  
1150 S. CANTON CENTER ROAD  
CANTON, MI 48186  
(734) 394-5170  
CREATED ON:  
February 11, 2014

PLANNING COMMISSION  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.  
  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 17, 2014 in the *First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m.* on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance:  
  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX A - ZONING, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, MICHIGAN, BY AMENDING ARTICLE 8.00 - AMENDING THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES ON THE ZONING MAP AS FOLLOWS:**  
  
**WEST CANTON PROPERTIES IV REZONING** - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PART OF PARCEL NO. 069 99 0010 700 (THE SOUTH 61 ACRES) FROM R-2 SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO R-3, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located north of Cherry Hill Road between Ridge and Napier Roads.  
  
Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, March 13, 2014. in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.  
  
SEE ATTACHED MAP  

Greg Greene, Chairman  
Publish: Newspaper-- February 27, 2014

EC022714-0893 2.5 x 9.439

West Canton Properties IV, LLC Rezoning 069-RZ-2007

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CREATED ON:  
February 19, 2014



# OPINION

## Fire truck sale is example of good management

One of the best examples we've seen of community cooperation is taking place between two financially distressed cities, Inkster and Wayne.

This month, Michael Reddy, the Wayne-Westland Fire Chief and the interim chief in Inkster, suggested the Wayne City Council members approve the sale of one of the city fire department aerial trucks, thereby satisfying an \$800,000 debt on the city books. He suggested that the aerial truck be sold to Inkster where there was an unused Federal Office of Emergency Management (FEMA) grant for \$800,000 sitting unused and ready to expire if not spent by the end of March.

Reddy also explained that Wayne would not even be denied the use of the truck, although it would be moved to the Inkster fire station, but because of the Mutual Aid agreement in place, the truck would remain available if needed in their city. As Reddy said, this is a win-win situation for both communities.

It's no secret, either, that with the merger of the Wayne and Westland fire departments last year, there have been few glitches and much improved service. The departments merged almost seamlessly, despite dire predictions of egos and territorial alliances having a detrimental effect on department morale. It wasn't seamless, there were some

”  
*The departments  
merged almost seamlessly,  
despite dire predictions ...*

small bumps and initially, some firefighters had a sense of unease about the merger. Those were soon put to rest and the firefighters involved proved themselves to be professional adults who not only accepted the change, but made it work.

That merger, as most know, was the first step in the formation of a fire authority, a joint fire department throughout the area encompassing and servicing several municipalities. Reddy's assignment in Inkster was made primarily to determine the feasibility of bringing that community into the planned authority. These authorities have proven successful because rather than eliminating fire protection and staffing in communities, it is increased. There are professionally-trained, experienced firefighters on duty and on hand when an emergency strikes, ready to take the most effective and efficient action. Advanced Life Support, experienced EMTs and paramedics are also more available to the community and can be where they are needed in minutes. With an

authority, a Westland emergency might receive service from a neighboring community, simply because the resident in need was closer to a fire station in another city. These authorities have proven efficient and much more cost effective for communities involved in them—simply because the combined staffing, equipment and management is a cost savings.

To be clear, these authorities are not the “tiered response” and “new-model” of public safety sending police officers to medical emergencies and outsourcing emergency medical care and transport. They are, rather, the combination and best use of community resources to provide the highest level of professional public-safety service to the communities involved. They continue to have full-time, professional fire and medical personnel on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It simply costs taxpayers a lot less.

We think Reddy and the men and women who staff the Wayne-Westland Fire Department have proven how well this type of merger can work in the hands of dedicated professionals. Reddy has also, with his proposed sale of the Wayne fire truck, proven the benefit of having good managers with access to information in place.

We also think he has clearly demonstrated during these past years how fortunate the communities are to have him.

## Shoddy report is a disgrace

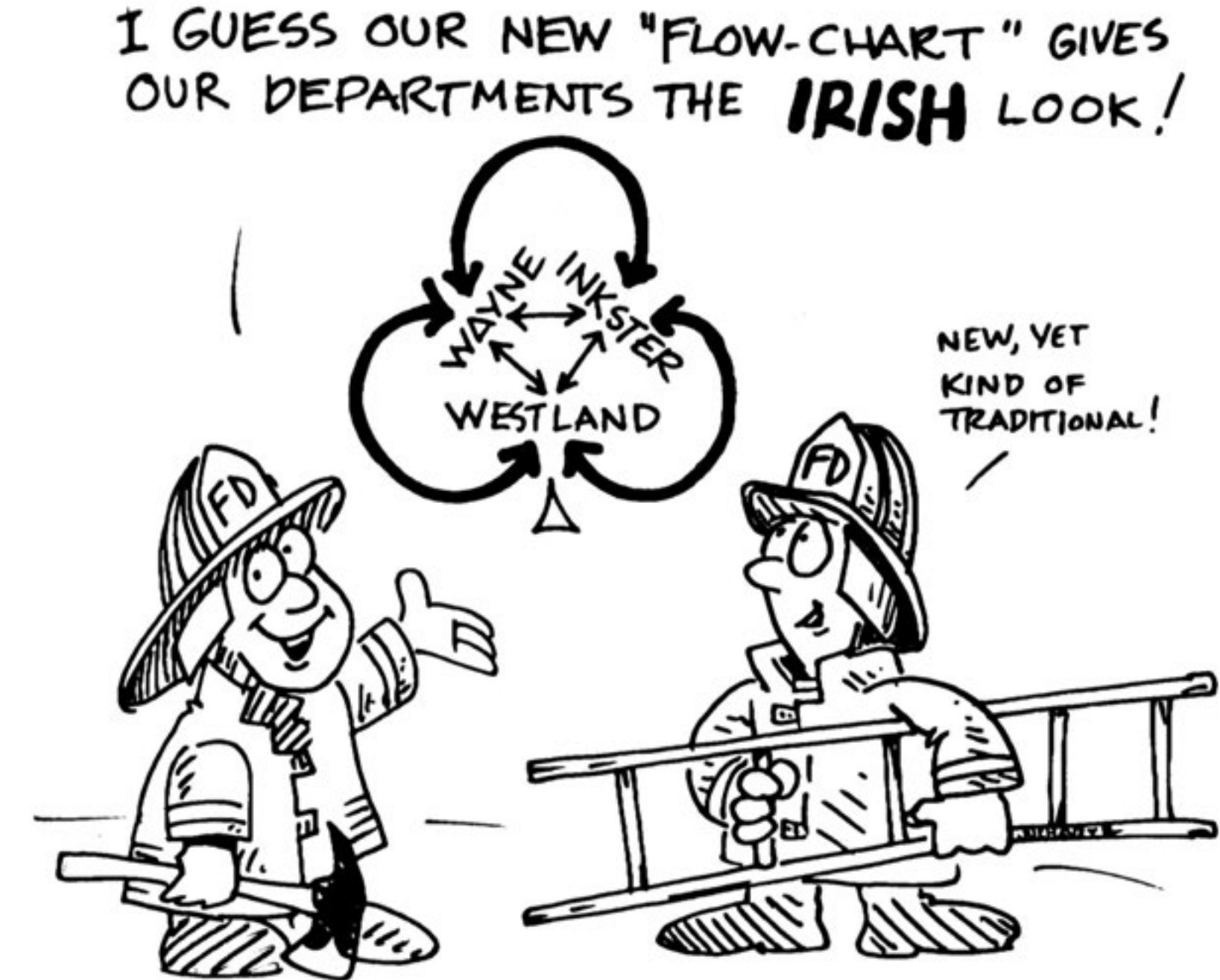
What did he know and when did he know it?

Plymouth Township, again, is the subject of a great deal of conjecture, gossip and even ridicule after submitting an application for state funds full of inaccurate and outdated information. If the Michigan Department of Treasury were to abide by the rules stated on the application, the township would have to return about \$10,000 received from the program last year, based on the false statements.

That is obviously the least of the worries of Township Supervisor Richard Reaume, who as the chief township official, signed the application, vouching for the accuracy of the statements it contained. He has stated that the application is an ongoing document and that updates to erroneous or outdated information are expected.

If the situation weren't so serious and so indicative of the pervasive arrogance of officials in Plymouth Township, it might almost be amusing. That is, if it weren't taxpayers' money that is going to fund these grants based on false information. That, we think, makes it a very sad situation, indeed.

That the application is so outrageously erroneous is a matter of public record and while Reaume can contend it is fluid and can be updated, we would have to then ask why it wasn't corrected and updated before it was submitted. The township had rejected, in writing we're told, the Plymouth Arts and Recreation Complex plan for Central Middle School on Nov. 27. Yet, on Jan. 2, Reaume signed a grant application claiming the renovation by the township, the city and multiple community



## Like inefficiency, there are no time limits on bureaucracy

The first few letters, I think I threw away, assuming they were more of the junk mail that everybody receives.

So imagine my shock, when I finally opened one of these beauties, to discover that an insurance company somewhere in Illinois, or was it Idaho, had tracked me down searching for the beneficiary of an insurance policy on my mother and stepfather. See, here's the thing. My stepfather died 14 years ago and my mother has been gone for 12. In that time, I have moved at least twice and my name is no longer the one listed as the beneficiary on the policies.

But the intrepid investigators managed to find me and sent me a few letters telling me that the policy existed and asking if I were, in fact, the person they were looking for. Well, sure, I responded on the handy little questionnaire they sent me. That's me alright. When will you send the money?

OK, I admit it, that might have been a little hasty, but heck, it had been 14 years, right? I mean anybody would have been over their grief by then.

Even so, the next letter said, you need to prove to us that you are the daughter and stepdaughter we are looking for, so send us this document, that document and a sworn, notarized statement, with at least three witnesses, that you are the person you now claim you are. Oh, and have the witnesses

”  
*OK, I admit it, that might have been a little hasty,  
but heck, it had been 14 years, right?*

sign a sworn affidavit, too, if you don't mind.

Well, I thought to myself, my mother and her husband were not what anyone, by any stretch, would describe as well-off or even comfortable. If they purchased life insurance, it had to have been for a very, very small amount, and this is way too much trouble.

Did you read the part about how it had been 14 YEARS?

In addition to everything else, the requirements included my sending an original death certificate for each of the insured. Seriously, an original death certificate after this amount of time? How much did you say this policy was for?

“Well, we can't tell you that because you might not be the person to whom we are communicating.”

Huh? Look, fella, you tracked me down. You sent me the letters. I didn't know anything about this. How did you guys find me, anyhow, there in Idaho or Illinois or wherever you are?

“My name is Avil, mam and I am located in India, Bombay city. And I did not find you, that is another department. I cannot tell

you the amount of the policy because that, too, is another department. I can only review the application for benefits to insure that all the correct paperwork is here. So, did you send the death certificates? Each must have the official seal, mam. No copies can be accepted.”

Now, I consider myself an organized sort of person. I can usually find records and important paperwork when I need it, but you read the part about the 14 YEARS, right? But I tried. I contacted the city and county clerks where the deaths occurred, I contacted the funeral homes that handled all the arrangements, I talked to the nursing homes, to the doctors and to just about everybody who was ever involved in the medical care of my mother and stepfather.

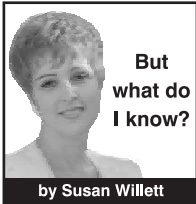
I kept mailing in more and more paperwork, and they kept mailing me letters saying they only needed one more thing or that what I sent wasn't quite right and this document or that one needs to be notarized again. Finally, after four or five long months of communication, haggling phone calls to my friend Avil in India, I went to the mailbox last week to find two

checks from the life insurance people.

One was for \$500 and change, including interest and the other for a little more. Also in the mail was a letter from the IRS asking me for some added paperwork and detail on my tax return from 2004.

YEP, two thousand and four; but they did thank me for my correspondence from last July regarding the matter.

I'm thinking of giving them Avil's number.



But what do I know?  
by Susan Willett

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# Annual Camp Fair set for next Saturday

From sports to space adventures, the best camp options available this summer for children of all ages can be found during Canton Leisure Services annual Camp Fair: The free event is scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday, March 8 at the Summit on the Park, located at 46000 Summit Parkway.

This historically well-attended annual Camp Fair will provide busy parents with valuable information regarding camp availability, daily and weekly activities, cost and more. Whether parents are looking for day camps or camps with special themes, they'll be able to talk directly with camp organizers and register their children for plenty of summer fun, according to Jennifer Girard, a recreation specialist with the township.

Registration for most Canton Leisure Services summer camps begins at the Camp Fair and online at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 8. Early registration is the best way to avoid spending the summer on a lengthy waitlist, Girard said.

Some of the summer camps offered this season include: Camp Canton - Award-winning Youth Summer Camp Leisure Services

Preschool Camps - Princess Camp, Grossology Mini Camp, Kindergarten Boot Camp Therapeutic Recreation - Special Needs Camps for both youth and adults Canton Sports Center - Lacrosse, Baseball, Volleyball, Basketball, and Tennis Camps Bricks 4 Kidz - Ninjago Camp, Space Adventures, Minecrafter Camp and Remote Control Mania Camp D&M Art Studio - Art Camps for preschool and youth Super Science Camp - Fun topics and hands-on experiments Magic Camp - Engineering of Pirates Camp - Design pirate ships and retrieve sunken treasure The BLOCK - Road trips and summer hang-outs for teens.

There will also be face painting, a bounce house, and other games and activities to keep children occupied. Representatives from 25 different camps will be onsite to answer questions. Take advantage of the early Bird Pricing for Camp Canton - register for nine weeks and get the 10th week free. The offer is only available in-person at the Camp Fair or online on March 8.

For more information on Canton Leisure Services annual Camp Fair, visit [www.cantonfun.org](http://www.cantonfun.org) or call (734) 394-5460.

## Calendar of events

**Final weekend for the Golds**

Barefoot Productions will present the last three performances of the dark-comedy The Twilight of the Golds by Jonathan Tolins at 8 p.m. tomorrow, Feb. 28, and Saturday, March 1 and at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 2.

The ensemble cast presents a play that examines family ties and family separations. All seats are \$15 and can be reserved by calling (734) 560-1493 or visit the website at [www.justbarefoot.com](http://www.justbarefoot.com). Following the Sunday matinee, there will be an audience participation talk-back with a social worker to discuss the 'differences of raising a different child'. Barefoot Productions Theater is located at 240 N. Main St., Plymouth, 48170.

**Free tax preparation offered**

The Westland Friendship Center, located at 1119 Newburgh Road, will be assisting residents by offering free tax preparation.

This program was developed for those in the low to middle income brackets and they also provide the Home Heating Credit.

Clients must present photo ID at the times taxes are done. Joint returns are done in the morning, individual returns in the afternoon.

To make an appointment, call (734) 722-7632.

**Art House members exhibit work**

The 8th Annual Members Exhibit at the Northville Art House will continue through

March 1.

The exhibition will continue from 1-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. This yearly show was designed to say thank you to everyone who has supported the growth and creativity of the arts in Northville as the artist members exhibit their various techniques and styles.

For additional information, call (248) 344-0497 or visit [www.northvillearthouse.org](http://www.northvillearthouse.org).

**Church offers Saturday Night Live**

Grace Community Church in Belleville is offering Saturday Night Live gatherings beginning at 6 p.m. every Saturday.

The services include fellowship, refreshments and worship and will take place at The Comfort Inn Belleville on the south I-94 Service Drive in Belleville.

For more information, call (734) 740-4230 or [www.gracecommunitychurch4u.com](http://www.gracecommunitychurch4u.com).

**Try Hockey Free day set**

Boys and girls ages 4 to 9 can try hockey for free during Hockey Weekend Across America presented by CCM, The Michigan Amateur Hockey Association, and The City of Plymouth.

The free skate will take place from 2-3 p.m. March 1 at the Plymouth Cultural

See **Calendar**, page 8

## Report

FROM PAGE 6

groups of the current school into an arts and sports center as a viable and ongoing project demonstrating the consolidation of services required as a condition of the grant.

We cannot help but recall the virulent and saliva-fueled shouts of Township Treasurer Ron Edwards at a meeting in January complaining about the PARC plan and the vote to ban any joint agreement with the city of Plymouth until 2016.

According to the grant application, however; the city and township currently share a fire department which hasn't been the situation for more than two years. The township also claims to have eliminated a recreation director in an effort to consolidate expenses, too. That must have been easy, since they didn't have such an employee. The grant application doesn't mention the nearly \$100,000 township officials set aside to start a new recreation department, something that is the opposite of the stated grant criteria.

Maybe a clerk prepared the application and simply copied an old one...but in that case, shouldn't someone have reviewed it

for accuracy? We don't know who prepared it and suspect that there will be several conflicting answers to that question, but whoever did, and whoever allowed it to go to the state in that form deserves some serious censure, despite the claims of allowable updating.

If Reaume, or any other official knew this application was faulty and included these falsehoods, the word fraud comes immediately to mind.

If Reaume didn't know or only found out later; the terms that spring immediately to mind are mismanagement and malfeasance.

But apparently, only to lay people like

us. Officials at the state level appear to have no problem being handed applications like these and there seems to be no plan or procedure to disallow the tax money that will flow into Plymouth Township based on this misinformation and lack of accuracy.

Or perhaps, enforcing the rules as stated on the application is simply too much work for the overburdened folks in the state treasury department. Perhaps, like whomever prepared this latest work of fiction that is the Plymouth Township application, they are just way too busy to be burdened with accuracy.

After all, it isn't their money. It's yours.

## Classified

### 1. Obituaries



**Dr. Mary L. Aplin**  
**Sunrise: July 17, 1950**  
**Sunset: Feb. 11, 2014**

Dr. Mary L. Aplin died Feb. 11, 2014. Among her survivors left to cherish her memory are her devoted husband of 45 years, William Aplin, Sr.; two daughters, DeShawndra (Leonard) Aplin-Holmes and Sheenah (Terrance) Sapp; a son, William Aplin, Jr. and his fiancé, Mia McDonald; five grandchildren, Mary LeAsia, Terrance, Jr., Sheena, Jasmine and Leonard; two brothers, Jimmy Clark of Inkster and James Clark of Forrest, MS; two sisters, Eula Clark Harris of Philadelphia, PA and Minnie McElroy Hawthorne of Rochester, NY; her special mother, Gwendolyn P. Aplin; one brother-in-law, Claude Aplin; a host o nieces, nephews, cousins and the New Jerusalem Baptist Church family. Dr. Kenneth Pierce of Beuthal Baptist Church in Westland offered the eulogy at the funeral services. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster. Interment was at Untied Memorial Gardens in Plymouth.



**Renty James Rollins, Dr.**  
**Sunrise: Aug. 3, 1940**  
**Sunset: Feb. 18, 2014**

Renty James Rollins, Sr. died Feb. 18, 2014. Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his brothers, Charles (Darlandez), James, Carl, Ernest (Evelyn) and Denzell (Sherlise) Brown; sisters, Rosetta Perkins and Laurethia (Drexel) McClenden; children, Renty, II, Eric (Monica), Charles, Venise, Jawann, Angela, Renty, III; his special friends, Robert Clark and Hank

Harrison; many nieces, nephews, cousins, an a host of friends. Mr. Rollins was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Laurethia Brown; a brother, Anthony Brown and a sister, Pearlina Walters.

Funeral services took place at Climbing Jacobs Ladder International Ministry in Inskter with Pastor Nick Edwards, Jr. officiating. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster road in Inkster.

Tri County Cremation Services accorded final rites.



**Ronald Eugene Fowler**  
**June 16, 1951**  
**Feb. 12, 2014**

Ronald Eugene Fowler died Feb. 12, 2014. Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his mother, Evelyn J. Smoot; two sons, Damon D. (Melinda) Fowler and Darius G. (Ciara) Fowler; a sister, Denise G. Fowler; two brothers, Michael J. (Diane) Fowler and Gerald R. (Regina) Fowler; his grandchildren; a host of cousins, nieces and nephews, and many friends. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster. Tri County Cremation Services accorded final rites.



**Lloyd Hillman McMillon**  
**Sunrise: April 14, 1940**  
**Sunset: Feb. 8, 2014**

Lloyd Hillman McMillon died Feb. 8, 2014. Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his six children, Loretta (Oliver) Brenda (Larry), Nannetta, Lloyd Jr. (Janet), Iris and Kim (Mike); 14 grandchildren, Byron (Chelsey), Iyanna, Iris, Sharday, Kymberly, Dameon (Kim), Tiffany, Dakeila, Chartese, Cierra, Diontay, Nakits, Destiny and Urijah; 11 great-grandchildren, Arianna,

Tameyah, Niya, Ahzhanae, Shamiyah, Jerrold, Jr., Aliya, LaBria, Mikalyn, Melody and Jace; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives, and many friends. Funeral services took place at the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster with Pastor Phillip Farrell officiating. Final rites were accorded by Tri County Cremation Services.



**Thomasene Broadnax Daniels**  
**Sunrise: March 27, 1950**  
**Sunset: Feb. 11, 2014**

Thomasene Broadnax Daniels died Feb. 11, 2014. Among her survivors left to cherish her memory are her husband, Robert Daniels; a sister, Charlene (Paul; a brother, Cleotris; four nieces, Valerie, Vanessa (Lawrence, Jr.); Charrie and Cristo; four nephews, Vincent, Albert, Jr. (Alexis), Donald, Jr. and James; seven great-nieces; six great-nephews, two great-great-nephews; an uncle, Robert (Madelon); an aunt, Charlie Mae; a host of cousins, and many friends. Funeral services took place at the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster with the Rev. Dr. Arthur Willis officiating. Final rites were accorded by Tri County Cremation Services.



**Gregory Henry Pipkin**  
**April 9, 1957**  
**Jan. 29, 2014**

Gregory Henry Pipkin died Jan. 29, 2014. Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his companion of 23 years, Iris McPhail; his stepfather, John G. Goodman; two brothers, Michael J. Pipkin and Dwayne Pipkin; three nieces, Shirita Pipkin, Sharonda Pipkin and Cassieen Pipkin; a great-nephew, Lashawn S. Luke; many distant relatives, and a host of friends who

loved him. Funeral services took place at the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster with the Rev. Derrick Walton officiating. Interment was at Untied Memorial Gardens in Plymouth.



**Delores Jordan**  
**June 15, 1944**  
**Feb. 10, 2014**

Delores Jordan died Feb. 10, 2014. Among her survivors left to cherish her memory are her husband of nearly 50 years, Eddie; children, Carolyn (Roy), Edward, William (Nancy) and Eddie, Jr. (Daniela); her mother, Rosie; siblings William and Vera; seven grandchildren, Gregory, Ebony, Joshua, Caleb, Noah, Delores Elena and Sarah Rose; a host of other relatives, and many friends. Funeral services took place at Peoples Community Baptist Church with Pastor Vincent Matthews officiating. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster. Interment was at Sunset Hills Cemetery in Ypsilanti.



**Georgia Mae Brayboy**  
**Oct. 16, 1928**  
**Feb. 10, 2014**

Georgia Mae Brayboy died Feb. 10, 2014. Among those survivors left to cherish her memory are her sister, Mary Louise Cottrell of Birmingham, AL; a brother, Clarence Stewart of Montgomery, AL; a host of special loving nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives, and many special loving friends. Funeral services took place at Beulah Missionary Baptist Church on Middlebelt Road in Westland with the Rev. Kenneth C. Pierce officiating. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster

Road in Inkster. Interment was at Untied Memorial Gardens in Plymouth.



**Stephanie Shundri Rozier**  
**Sunrise: Oct. 12, 1968**  
**Sunset: Jan. 31, 2014**

Stephanie Shundri Rozier died Jan. 31, 2014. Among those survivors left to cherish her memory are her uncles, Freeman Self and Clarence Greer, Jr.; aunts, Desiree Watkins, Laura Williams and Ella Mae Crawley; a very special cousin, Savannah (Bae) Brown; a host of nieces, nephews and cousins, and many friends. Funeral services took place at Kings and Queens Hall in Dearborn with Pastor Sidney Hampton officiating. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster. Tri County Cremation Services afforded final rites.

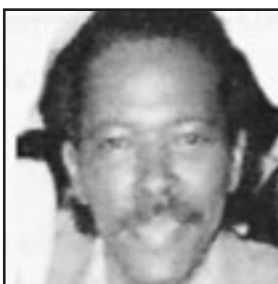


**Willie Benjamin Knox**  
**Nov. 3, 1930**  
**Feb. 6, 2014**

Willie Benjamin Knox died Feb. 6, 2014. Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his devoted children, Kevin Knox, Autra Maholmes and Karen (Joseph) Knox Gary; stepchildren, Derrick Beverly, Deroy Dinwiddie and Elizabeth Clemmons; sisters, Ernestine Thompson and Nola Jean Hitchens; a brother, Raymond (Quvellar) Knox; grandchildren, Yolanda, Natalie (Anthony) Williams and Lawrence; eight great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; a host of beloved nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends. Mr. Knox was preceded in death by his parents, his brother George Knox and his wives. Funeral services took place at New Christ Temple in Inkster with the Rev. Walton Johnson officiating. Final arrangements were

entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster.

Interment was at Detroit Memorial Park East.



**Eugene Rivers O'Neal**  
**Sunrise: May 12, 1943**  
**Sunset: Feb. 4, 2014**

Eugene Rivers O'Neal died Feb. 4, 2014. Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his significant other, Sheryl Ann Burns; his daughters, Alisa of Detroit and Gina Anderson of Belleville; his sons, Terrance (Diantha) Golden of Inkster, Eugene Jr. (Gwen) of Raleigh, NC and Robert Marth of Florida; a devoted sister, Pauline Murray; his best friend, Leroy Murray of Detroit, nine grandchildren, Courtney, Christelle, David, Trevion, Jordan, Lauren, Amber, Terrance, Jr., Dajanay, Steven, Jr., Joshua and Elijah; four great-grandchildren, Ayden, Bryan, Asia and Keontay; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other family members, and many friends. Funeral services took place at High Praise Cathedral in Inkster with Bishop Clarence Haddon officiating. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster. Interment was at Untied Memorial Gardens in Plymouth.

### 32. Help Wanted Drivers

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# Calendar

FROM PAGE 7

Center Ice Arena, 525 Farmer, Plymouth.

Skaters, who should arrive at the rink by 1:30, will receive free hockey instruction from Gordon Bowman and Plymouth Canton Hockey Association coaches, no prior experience is required.

Pre-registration at least 7 days prior to the clinic is required at [www.maha.org/TryHockey.aspx](http://www.maha.org/TryHockey.aspx) [[www.maha.org/TryHockey.aspx](http://www.maha.org/TryHockey.aspx)], space is limited to the first 50 participants registered.

Equipment is available for use, however the Cultural Center has a very limited number of skates. Skaters should try to bring equipment if possible.

## Storytime continues at library

Preschool Storytime for children ages 3 1/2 to 5 will continue at the Romulus Public Library at 6:30 March 4, 11 and 18.

The sessions include stories, songs and crafts. Register by call the library at (734) 942-7589.

Toddler Storytime for children 2 to 3 1/2 takes place at 10:15 a.m. March 6, 13 and 20. No registration is required.

The library is located at 11121 Wayne Road in Romulus.

For more information, call (734) 942-7589.

## Library offers health care help

Free enrollment and information sessions staffed by Bridges Management will be available for those with questions about the health insurance marketplace from noon until 3 p.m. March 6 and from 3-6 p.m. March 12 at the Leanna Hicks Inkster Public Library.

The library is located at 2005 Inkster Road in Inkster.

For more information, call (313) 563-2811.

## Blues Brothers Revue set

Jake and Elwood Blues will appear live on stage in a Blues Brothers Revue at 8 p.m. March 7

at the Wayne County Community College District Downriver Campus Heinz C. Prechter Performing Arts Center. The auditorium is located at 21000 Northline Road in Taylor.

Wayne Catania will perform as Jake and Kieron Lafferty will perform as Elwood.

Tickets are priced at \$35

For more information, or to purchase tickets, call the box office at (734)374-3200.

## Genealogy for beginners is topic

Beginning genealogists can learn the basics of researching ancestors and creating a family tree during a Genealogy for Beginners class set for 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. March 8 at the Northville District Library.

Students will learn how to chart a tree, understand vital records and discover the wealth of information contained in census records, with an introduction to software. Genealogy experts will help with hands-on research online. A limited number of computers will be available and students can bring personal laptops, along with their library card.

This class is presented by the Northville Genealogical Society. Space is limited and reservations are required. Call (248) 349-3020 to hold your place. The class is free of charge and open to the public. Bring your own lunch.

Northville District Library is located at 212 W. Cady St. in Northville.

## Mad Hatter Tea at museum

The annual Mad Hatter Tea will take place from 2-4 p.m. March 10 at the Plymouth Historical Museum.

The event celebrates the wearing of hats and Sandy Root, a Civil War reenactor and period milliner will present Mad About Hats—100 years of Wearing Hats, 1860-1960.

Before the presentation, delicacies from Joe's Deli of Plymouth and "Mary's Blend" tea—a taste bud tingling cherry and almond black tea in honor of Mary Todd Lincoln, will be served. The tea is a signa-

ture offering of the museum and is available for purchase in the museum store.

Tickets for the Mad Hatter Tea are \$20 for Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum members and \$25 for non-members, if purchased by March 1 (add \$5 to the ticket price after that date), and can be purchased at the Plymouth Historical Museum during open hours, or on the website at <http://www.plymouthhistory.org/Events.html> using PayPal.

Ticket holders who come early that day are also invited to enjoy the Museum's special exhibit, "Made in America."

Ticket holders are also encouraged to wear their craziest hat to the Mad Hatter Tea.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main St., a block north of downtown Plymouth. Hours are 1-4 p.m. Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. For more information, call (734) 455-8940.

## Ives of March concert planned

The Ives of March will be presented by the Michigan Philharmonic at 2 p.m. March 9 at First Methodist Church in Plymouth.

Soloists Martha Sheil and Stephen Luseman will perform along with the Plymouth Oratorio Society.

For more information regarding ticket prices and availability, call (745) 451-2112 or visit [www.michiganphil.org](http://www.michiganphil.org).

## Dueling Pianos to perform

The Wayne Rotary Club members are planning a St. Patty's Dueling Piano Party beginning at 6:30 p.m. March 14 at the Wayne Community Center.

Admission is \$20 or a table of 10 for \$180 and includes the performance of the famous dueling pianos. The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Rotary Club Holiday Parade of Lights.

Food will be available for purchase and there will be a cash bar.

# Clothing Give Away set

Middlebelt Baptist Church in Inkster will once again be the site of a clothing give away, proving free clothes for those in need.

The event is planned from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, March 8 at the church.

The church has been offering the clothing giveaways for several years and often there are housewares and other items available at the same time. A spokesman said that the

clothing and other items are donated by members of the church and others to help those in need.

There will be clothing for children, women and men available Saturday and there is no charge for any of the items which are clean and in good repair.

The church is located at 943 Middlebelt Road in Inkster.

For more information, call (734) 728-3838.

For tickets or more information, contact Gayle Rediske at [gaylerrediske@gmail.com](mailto:gaylerrediske@gmail.com) or call (734) 502-3202.

## Comedy Night planned

Tickets are now on sale for the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce Comedy Night Auction and Dinner set for 6-10 p.m. March 14 at the Marriott Hotel at Detroit Metro Airport.

There will be three comedy acts featured along with live and silent auctions and a Chinese raffle. Performing will be comics Steve Lott, Kate Brindle and David Luther.

Tickets are \$45 per person and can be ordered from Grater Romulus Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bill Kren at (734) 893-0694.

The Marriott Hotel is located at 30559 Flynn Drive in Romulus. Seating is limited, Kren said, and the event will sell out quickly.

## St. Patrick's Day Run set

The Kona St. Patrick's Day Run, formerly the ShamRocknRoll Run, will take place beginning at 8 a.m. March 16 through Plymouth.

Registration will take place at Central Middle School and the 10K will begin at 8 a.m., the 5K run will start at 9 a.m. and the Hard Rock Mile will begin at 8:15 a.m. New this year is the Dublin Double, a 10K and 5 K event.

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