

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. 10

www.associatednewspapers.net

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 130, No. 10

Current Library Director Debra Green submitted her letter of resignation to the Belleville Area District Library Board last month. She will officially retire May 15.

See page 4.

THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 10

The Canton Township Police Department will offer some very special training April 23 through May 28 during the new Citizens Police Academy.

See page 3.

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

Vol. 68, No. 10

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

See page 5.

THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

Vol. 15, No. 10

Northville Township was recently notified that the financial reporting in their community has been awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

See page 3.

THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

Vol. 15, No. 10

While voters in the city turned down the request for a public safety millage township voters approved both requests for public safety funding by a landslide last week.

See page 2.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 130, No. 10

The 11th Annual Romulus Animal Shelter Bowling Fundraiser is planned for 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 8 at Romulus Lanes. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m.

See page 5.

THE WAYNE EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 10

A mistrial was declared last Wednesday in the trial of Christopher Sanders accused of identity theft in circumstances surrounding the HalloWayne event.

See page 4.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 10

Mayor William R. Wild, along with his Westland Wild Wings, is once again getting ready for the Annual Red Wing Alumni Charity Hockey game.

See page 5.

Judge returns township land to Detroit

Don Howard
Staff Writer

Plymouth Township has been ordered by Wayne County Court Chief Judge Robert J. Colombo to return a 190-acre parcel of farmland purchased from Wayne County to the City of Detroit, the rightful owners of the property.

The parcel of land, located at Five Mile and Ridge roads is the site of the former Detroit House of Correction, also known as DeHoCo, which closed in 1986. Plymouth Township obtained the land, which includes an uncontested portion, in September 2011 for \$606,150, according to Wayne County Chief Deputy Treasurer David Szymanski. The land, along with the uncontested portion, had been on the tax assessment rolls at

\$15 million at one time. The county sold the land to the township at a tax foreclosure sale after township officials reported unpaid taxes on the parcel. In fact, according to court records, ownership of the land had been erroneously recorded in the township assessor's office and Detroit, the legal owner of the land, was never notified of taxes due.

Township resident Richard Sharland, who owns land near the contested property,

became curious about the actual ownership of the land when a friend told him it had been sold. Sharland's research proved that Detroit was actually the legal owner of the land and he subsequently called the erroneous transaction to the attention of Detroit City Council members with the help of Beverly Kindle-Walker a legislative assistant to Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen.

Sharland said his impression at that time was that Detroit representatives would attempt to "work things out" with Plymouth Township rather than have to pursue legal redress.

Detroit attorneys initially filed a lawsuit April 2013 after attempted negotiations with

See LAND, page 2

Historic choice Romulus names Pearl Varner as Person of the Year 2015

Mark Lewkowitz
Special Correspondent

Members of the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce person of the year selection committee surprised Pearl Varner Dec. 14 when they announced that she had been selected as the 30th Romulus Person of the year.

Committee members who made the selection on behalf of the membership knew exactly where they would find Varner in order to let her know of her selection for the honor. She was at the Romulus Historical Museum where she has served as the museum director since she was appointed to that position in 1996 and where she ensures that the museum is open from 1-4 every Sunday. Varner receives no financial compensation for her work and has often commented that her family knows right where to find her on Mother's Day.

Varner was selected for her

commitment to the growth and preservation of the Romulus Historical Society. The museum artifacts occupy two buildings, an 1839 Romulus School House (District #1) which was moved to the park in 1986, opening to the public in 1991, and The Historic 1855 Kingsley House. The Kingsley House is a unique duplex structure, which was moved to the park in 1995, and opened to the public in 2002. Varner's father, Frederick W. Hay, and her late mother, Helen, led the efforts to save both the historic buildings. Without their backing, neither of these projects may have come to fruition, according to many members of the historic society.

Varner utilizes an all-volunteer staff to man both of the buildings for public visits. She also supervises individuals supplied by the 34th District Court Work Program. Current and former Romulus residents, visitors, history buffs, and those



Pearl Varner

researching family history and genealogy are able to access a wealth of information that is contained in the archives of the two buildings. Varner established the archives in 2001, and they continue to grow as the museum receives more material.

There are a total of five historic structures on the property that is known as Romulus Historical Park, located in the downtown area. Varner's father was serving as the first chair-

man of the Romulus Historical Commission when the park was dedicated in the fall of 1992. The other three structures, considered by many as vital to Romulus history, are a circa 1900s Wabash Railroad Freight House, which is the only surviving railroad building in the city along with a circa 1940s caboose, which traveled the railroad tracks through Romulus, and a windmill that

See Varner, page 5

Northville expels student for false threat

A 15-year-old Northville High School student has been permanently expelled from the district for his part in a threat of violence at the high school in December.

Members of the Northville Board of Education voted unanimously to expel the student during a Feb. 10 meeting.

The threat took place Dec. 18 following a call to the State of Michigan "Ok2Say" tip line about a threat at the high school. Northville Township Police said at the time the, "threat was deemed credible; due to

naming specific students, weapons, explosives and a specific time frame. A lock down of the 2,500 students and staff was initiated to ensure their safety."

The school liaison officer was notified and followed up on leads at the school, interviewing two students at the time. Township police, Michigan State Police and the FBI participated in a more detailed investigation which led to the arrest of the 15-year-old on Jan. 6. He was charged with making false terroristic threats, and a false report or threat of

bomb or harmful device by the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office on Jan. 7. If convicted of those criminal charges, the student could face 20 years in prison on the threat charge and four years in prison on the false report charges. He faced a judge during a preliminary hearing on the charges on Jan. 7.

The student had an attorney present during the board hearing regarding his expulsion and an appeal to the decision was filed and considered by the members of the school board.

Canton OK's tax abatement for 2 expansions

Members of the Canton Township Board of Trustees approved the requests of two expanding manufacturers for tax abatements last week.

Greenfield Die & Manufacturing Corp., a company that makes automotive doors for General Motors and Chrysler, was granted a 50-percent, 4-year tax abatement on costs for some of the construction at the Haggerty and Warren factory. The company has plans to invest \$1.1 million in renovations at the plant and will hire 35 new employees, according to Canton Economic Development Manager Kristen Thomas who presented the requests to the members of the board last week.

POOF-Slinky, a toy manufacturer, was granted a 50-percent, 3-year tax abatement on costs of a planned \$1.4 million expansion

The board members voted unanimously to approve the two abatement requests.

at the distribution center and offices near Haggerty and Michigan Avenue. The company plans to expand by 215,000 square feet and will hire six new employees.

The company will double the office space in Canton and will also add equipment including storage racks and forklifts, according to a company spokesman.

The industrial facilities exemption certificates approved from the board members for any tax abatement to be effective.

Thomas said the expansions and finan-

cial investments the companies were making were compliant with the board efforts to boost the economy in the township.

Township Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin referred to the tax abatements as necessary to promote economic growth but she and other members of the board were mindful that such tax breaks could impact local revenue. Trustee Tom Yack, who joined the rest of the board in the vote to approve the proposed abatements, said a larger concern was the number of businesses appealing property assessments at the state level which often cost local governments tax revenue. He said the practice was unfair and had cost local municipalities across the state "millions if not billions" in tax revenue.

The board members voted unanimously to approve the two abatement requests.

PLYMOUTH

City voters reject millage, township gets OK

While voters in the City of Plymouth turned down the request for a public safety millage by 44 votes, township voters approved two requests for public safety funding by a landslide last week.

In the city, voters were asked to approve a property tax of up to 1.5 mills, or about \$1.50 for every \$1,000 of taxable value of property. The tax would have generated about \$708,000 annually. Only 1,203 votes were cast, with 594 against the new millage

and 550 in favor of the tax. The total votes represented only 16 percent of total registered voters in the city, according to the office of the city clerk.

City officials asked for the new funds to add two new officers to the force and pay for other public safety expenses. Currently, the City of Plymouth has 16 officers, one hired last month. The millage, if approved, would have helped fund the expense of the newest officer and paid for one more toward

the goal of reaching a total of 17 officers. City officials said the new officers would allow the current force to spend more time on patrol in local neighborhoods rather than spend as much time in the downtown patrolling establishments that sell liquor.

Officials said the new officer would be funded through the general fund and money from the Downtown Development Authority.

In Plymouth Township, how-

ever, voters took an entirely different approach and approved the first proposal, a 20-year renewal of 0.5631 for police and fire funding, was approved by a resounding 83.88 percent of the votes cast. According to results posted from the office of the township clerk, 3,138 voters cast yes votes on the question while only 603 voted no. The second police and fire public safety millage, a 20-year renewal of 1.6348 mills, proposal in the township was approved by 79.87

percent of the votes with 2,987 voters saying yes and only 753 voting no on the question. The proposals will allow the current levels of staffing in the police and fire departments to remain at current levels. The two questions will cost a township property owner about \$2.20 per thousand dollars of taxable value of their property. The taxes are expected to generate about \$3.7 million annually, or about 40 percent of the public safety budget of \$8.9 million.

Land

FROM PAGE 1

the township were unsuccessful. In January, attorneys for both the City of Detroit and Plymouth Township filed for summary judgment and motion calls were heard last Friday before Colombo.

After three years of continuing investigation and legal wrangling, Colombo ruled in favor of the City of Detroit. In his ruling, Colombo rejected the Plymouth Township motion and granted summary disposition to the City of Detroit based on their argument that state laws forbid the foreclosure of public land. Attorneys also argued that the City of Detroit was never correctly notified of the tax arrearage.

Also named as defendants in the suit were the Wayne County Treasurer's Office and Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz.

"Detroit was not given an equal opportunity," Colombo said in his summation.

Colombo continued, citing a Supreme Court ruling, "An individual needs to be given reasonable effort to be heard."

Wayne County attorney Jack Ghannam said the county relied completely on information received from Plymouth Township regarding the foreclosure proceedings.

Timothy Becket, former supervising assistant corporation counsel in the Detroit Law Department Real Property and Tax Appeals section, filed an affidavit in January 2013 in the Wayne County Register of Deeds in hopes of reversing

the transfer of the property without legal action. Detroit attorneys said that at that time the Law Department representatives met with Plymouth Township Supervisor Richard Reaume and Clerk Nancy Conzelman but were unable to reach any reasonable resolution.

With the court ruling the township now owns only the 133-acre portion of the 323-acre parcel and nearly 77 acres of that land are in a flood plain or are wetlands and unsuitable for construction, according to property records.

Township officials have been actively involved in the proposed Five Mile Technology Park which includes Northville Township. Sources close to the project reacted negatively to the decision Friday and noted of Plymouth "...they would have little to bring to the table for participation," in the proposed development.

The township borrowed the purchase price of \$606,149.98 from Bank of Ann Arbor and continues to make monthly payments of \$17,691.90. As of December 2014 the balance on the bank loan was \$429,269.30 at 3.10 percent interest with 27 payments remaining.

Kindle Walker said she was pleased and called Colombo's ruling, "...a correct assessment of the law."

Sharland said he was elated at the court decision.

"I think the whole plan from the beginning was to steal the property from the city," he said. "I was confident it would turn out this way. I'm very pleased to see justice prevail."

Pair takes plea deal in shooting death

The Westland man accused of murdering a 76-year-old Plymouth Township resident has accepted a plea deal which will send him to prison for 25 to 60 years for the killing and another two years for using a gun in the commission of a felony.

According to police reports, Andrew J. Nutt, 22, of Westland, entered a guilty plea last Thursday in Wayne County Circuit Court admitting responsibility in the death of Kenneth LaBita who was found shot to death in his Gilbert Street home on Oct. 27. Nutt was charged with one count of second-degree murder and using a gun during a felony in LaBita's death.

Police said that LaBita had been shot in the back of the head when discovered in his living room by police officers who had gone to his home following calls from his neighbors concerned that his dog had been outside for two days and his garage door open, an unusual situation for LaBita.

LaBita, who had lived in his Gilbert Street home for more than 40 years, became a widower in 2012 when his wife, Myrtle, died. He had grown up in the area, according to neighbors and was a retired

employee of Dunn Steel.

Police said that Nutt, who was acquainted with LaBita, had gone to his home in the company of Miriah N. Pisarski, 20, of Wayne, on Oct. 24 to purchase firearms and other items LaBita was selling as he prepared to move out of state. Prosecutors alleged that the guns and other items, including cash, were taken from LaBita's home after he was killed.

In exchange for the guilty plea, prosecutors agreed to drop charges of first-degree murder, felony murder and larceny of firearms against Nutt.

Pisarski entered a guilty plea to single counts of accessory after the fact in the killing and larceny of firearms. The plea agreement stipulates that Pisarski spend two to five years in prison for her part in the incident. In exchange for her guilty plea, charges of felony murder were dropped by prosecutors.

Nutt is scheduled for sentencing March 12 by Circuit Court Judge Mark Slavens who is also expected to sentence Pisarski the next day.

Both remain in police custody.

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, March 19, 2015 for the following:

PAINTING SERVICES FOR THE BARTLETT-TRAVIS HOUSE

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at 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 3/05/2015

EC030515-1081 2.5 x 2.106

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 19, 2015 for the following:

CONSULTING SERVICES TO DEVELOP PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE FIVE YEAR MASTER PLAN

Proposals may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at 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 3/05/2015

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CANTON - NORTHVILLE

Canton will host Citizens Police Academy

The Canton Township Police Department will offer some very special training April 23 through May 28.

The department is planning a new Citizens Police Academy for individuals who are interested in acquiring insight and knowledge on how the police department works to serve the Canton community, according to Canton Public Safety Director Todd Mutchler.

Individuals attending the academy will be educated on the policies and operational procedures of the department through presentations, demonstrations and hands-on activities, Mutchler said. Students' personal knowledge on

law enforcement's role in the criminal justice system will be enhanced, as well as their understanding of the training and education required for police officers to effectively handle the challenges of police work, he said.

"Academy participants will gain insight into the difficult challenges law enforcement personnel face on a daily basis through interesting and informative instruction," said Mutchler.

The overall mission of the Citizens Police Academy is to develop positive relationships between citizens and police officers, enhancing cooperation, understanding, and general good

"We recognize the value of transparency in police work, and believe in the age-old concept of the police are the public and the public are the police."

will. "We recognize the value of transparency in police work, and believe in the age-old concept of the police are the public and the public are the police," said Mutchler.

"The department conducted several well-received Citizen Police Academy classes in the

early 1980s, and we feel the timing was right to reinstate this educational program for a cross-section of citizens of our community," he added.

Canton Police Department Citizens Police Academy will continue for six weeks from 6-9 p.m. Thursdays April 23 - May 28, with one Saturday morning session on

May 23. Class size is limited for this free program. Applicants must be 21 or older, live or work in Canton Township and have no felony convictions and no misdemeanor convictions in the past three years. Applicants will be subject to a background check.

Applications are available online at www.cantonpublicsafety.org, or in person at the front desk of the Canton Police Department located at 1150 S. Canton Center Road. Applications will be accepted until March 15. Questions can be directed to Staff Operations Sgt. James Harrison at (734) 394-5411.

Northville Township wins honors for budget plan

Northville Township was recently notified that the financial reporting in their community has been awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the government Finance Officers Association.

The honor was awarded to Treasurer Marjorie F. Banner after a careful examination of the 2015 Budget and Financial Plan. Municipal financial professionals carefully reviewed the presentation to assess how well the community budget serves as a policy document; a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device, according to a prepared release from the association office in Chicago.

Banner will receive a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation as the individual designated as being pri-

marily responsible for having achieved the award.

"The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation, the release stated.

To achieve the award, the Northville financial presentation had to be rated as proficient in all four of the relevant categories and satisfy another 14 mandatory criteria within those categories.

Finance Director Marina Neumaier said that this was the second consecutive year the township had received the accolades for financial reporting presentations.

"The board's vision to set in writing the framework for the overall fiscal management of the township was instrumental in assuring the highest standards of financial stewardship are followed. The board sets the bar for excellence and promoting transparency in public finance. This national award represents the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting," Neumaier said in a prepared statement. "The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program is the only national awards program in governmental budgeting," she added.

The Government Finance Officers Association serves the needs of more than 18,000 appointed and elected local, state and provincial-level government officials and other finance practitioners.



School lost to fire

Firefighters from Northville Township and Livonia Fire Departments use an aerial ladder truck to battle a blaze that destroyed the Northville Montessori Center School on Tuesday morning. The private school, which sits on 5 acres on Haggerty Road near Five Mile has been a landmark since 1982, serving 90 students. The cause of the fire is under investigation according to Northville Township Public Safety Director John Werth. Township Fire Chief Richard Marinucci said the fire started in the early morning hours and was not immediately detected. Marinucci said the building is a total loss. There were no reported injuries. Photo by Don Howard

Classified

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Obituaries



Jacob Baskett
May 31, 1934
Feb. 20, 2015

Jacob Baskett died Feb. 20, 2015. The son of the late Freddie and Marion Baskett, he married Annette Lowrance in 1953 at the two were the parents of 10 children. Mr. Baskett worked for Ford Motor Co. prior to his retirement in 1996 after 50 years of service. He enjoyed restoring and driving classic cars in his spare time. Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his children, Bernard Baskett, Sherri Walker, Freddie Baskett, Deborah Shelton, Marion Kirkland, Stanley Baskett, Jeanette Baskett, Anthony Baskett, Dwayne Baskett, Connie McGee and Theron McGee; a host of grandchildren; many great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many friends. Memorial services took place at the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster. Thomas Paden was the memorial speaker. Serenity Cremation Services in Taylor accorded final rites.

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Denise Howard
May 4, 1961
Feb. 19, 2015

Denise Howard died Feb. 19, 2015. She was the daughter of Andrew and Avvie Howard. A graduate of Inkster High School, she attended Virginia Farrell Beauty School. She retired from Macy's Salon at Fairlane Mall in 2009. Among those left to mourn her passing are her parents, Andrew and Avvie Howard; her grandmother, Marie Washington; sisters, Elaine (Richard), Debra (Kenneth) and Shirley; brothers, Anthony, Andre and Raynaldo (Tywanda); nieces, Jayla, Aleseya, Jayvynn, Tiana (Quarry), Eric, Anthony, Cornelius, Andre, Kevin, Terrell and Thomas; many grand-nieces and grandnephews; a host of aunts, cousins and other family members, and many friends. Funeral services took place at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Inkster with Brother Woodrow Barthwell officiating. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster. Interment was at Westlawn Cemetery in Wayne.

**BOLD
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Betty L. Steward
Sunrise: April 23, 1933
Sunset: Feb. 15, 2015

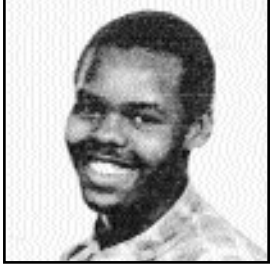
Betty L. Steward died Feb. 15, 2015. Mrs. Steward retired from Detroit Metro Airport where she had worked after she and her husband moved to Inkster from Mississippi. Mrs. Steward was preceded in death by her parents, Odis and Pearlie Watson; her beloved husband, Guy G. Steward; a son, Vincent Steward; a daughter, Jeanette Steward; a sister, Annie Pearl Sutton and four brothers, Luther Watson, Robert Lee Watson, Odis Watson, Jr. and Robert Watson. Among those left to mourn her death and treasure her memory are her two devoted sons, Michael (Rebecca) and Gregory; three sisters, Ollie Robinson, Annie (William) Scott and Jessie B. Williams; three brothers, John Williams, Ira (Rose) Watson and Willie T. (Ann) Watson; 10 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; a host of other family members including in-laws, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins, and many beloved friends. Funeral services took place at the Penn Funeral Home with the Rev. Nathaniel Bishop, Sr. officiating, assisted by Minister Louise Dixon and the Rev. Eddie Watson. Interment was at Sunset Hills in Ypsilanti.

To advertise
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734-467-1900.



Shara Kaline Newell
Sunrise: June 4, 1977
Sunset: Feb. 16, 2015

Ms. Newell graduated from Robichard High School in 1995 and worked as a certified caregiver and hair stylist. Among those left to mourn her death and treasure her memory are her mother, Gwendolyn Baker; five sons, Bobby Lee Harris, Davonte Newell, Servio Newell, KeyShawn Newell and Jamal Newell; a sister, Salina G. L. Newell; nieces, Shara Imai Newell; a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews; cousins, Harriet Hicks, Odell, Judy Henderson, Twanna, Robert, Kiesha, Carlito, Carlos, Mareo Jr., Mareo Newell, Darrin Curray, Sean Hicks and Tyus Newell; a host of great nieces and great nephews, Kennady McDuffie, Curtis McDuffie and JaKovier, and many friends. Funeral services took place at the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster.



Cornell Richard Jackson
Sunrise: May 15, 1982
Sunset: Feb. 15, 2015

Cornell Richard Jackson died Feb. 15, 2015. Mr. Jackson was a life-long resident of Inkster and attended the Inkster Schools, later earning his GED. Mr. Jackson, who worked

in several small factories, was also known as Nell, Corn, Corny-Goose, Bra-Bra, He-man and Face. Mr. Jackson was preceded in death by her paternal grandparents, Johnny and Rose Cooper and his maternal grandfather, Samuel Douglas Christian, and his mother, Belinda Diane Jackson. Among those survivors left to cherish his memory are his loving father, James A. Cooper, a sister, Mietta M. (Yoseph) Jackson; three nieces, Nijah and Nakie Jackson and Marielle Williams; a loving and supportive grandmother, Linda Jackson; his life-long friend, Christina Afful; a host of aunts, uncles and cousins, and many friends. Homegoing services took place at New Birth Baptist Church with the Rev. Dr. Joseph Stephens offering the eulogy. Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster. Interment was at Metropolitan Memorial Park in Belleville.

6. Legal Notices

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
CLINTON COUNTY

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 14-25207-NA

In the matter of
ALAYNA JONES,
DEP. & NEG.
DOB 03/28/2014

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including * ROBERT CARL JONES

whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 1:00

p.m. at Clinton County Family Court, 100 E. State St., St. Johns, MI before Hon. Lisa Sullivan P51265

for the following purpose: a Termination of Parental Rights Hearing, due to a Petition being filed with the court.

WARNING: FAILURE TO ATTEND THE HEARING WILL CONSTITUTE A DENIAL OF INTEREST IN THE MINOR, A WAIVER OF NOTICE FOR ALL SUBSEQUENT HEARINGS, A WAIVER OF RIGHT TO COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY, AND COULD RESULT IN TERMINATION OF ANY PARENTAL RIGHTS.

Clinton County Prosecutor's Office
100 E. State Street, Suite 3100
St. Johns, MI 48879
(989)224-5260

02/26/2015
Clinton County Department of Human Services
105 W. Tolles Drive
St. Johns, MI 48879
(989)224-5500

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Holland

Local & Linehaul Drivers wanted! Holland is hiring Drivers in Romulus, MI. Drvs w/ 1 year or 50k miles exp, w/ tanker & hazmat. See the Recruiter on Feb 23rd & 24th between 3pm and 6pm at the terminal 27411 Wick rd in Romulus or apply Hollandregional.com/careers.EEO/AE Minorities/Females/Persons with Disabilities/Protected Veterans

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Bowlers aid shelter

The 11th Annual Romulus Animal Shelter Bowling Fundraiser is planned for 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 8 at Romulus Lanes. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The event is a 9 Pin No Tap Tournament dedicated to the memory of Frank Ayers and will include handicap doubles or singles events. There will also be prizes and a 50/50 raffle all to benefit the animal shelter

in the community.

The cost is \$25 per bowler and includes ladies and men's mystery games, snacks and cash prizes. There are only 72 spots available so early registration is encouraged by organizers.

To register for the event, call Romulus Lanes, (734) 941-6200, Councilman Bill Wadsworth, (734) 941-0616 or Joe Ozog, (734) 941-3466.

Varner

FROM PAGE 1

was located on the Mach family farm north of the airport. The progress that occurred in this area has spanned a period of around 30 years.

In 1978, the State of Michigan recognized the Merrill-Morris house located on Huron River Drive, as a Michigan Historical site. This house was owned by Pearl Morris, Varner's aunt, and is the home in which Varner grew up.

The recognition of this house by the State of Michigan created an idea to start a local Historical Society. Mayor William Oakley called a meeting to see if he could obtain at least 10 interested people to form the society. It became a reality in 1979. Varner is one of the 20 charter members, and served as the first president. She served in this capacity for 14 years, and served as vice-president for three years.

Varner attended Romulus Community Schools and graduated in 1960 as the valedictorian of her class. She continued her education and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Science and

Math from Michigan State University. She taught high school for several years. Then she worked at Parke-Davis Pharmaceutical Co. in Ann Arbor as a research assistant. She currently teaches piano and is a math tutor.

She married Virgil L. Varner on Dec. 26, 1964. He ran his own electrical contracting business, and is also retired from General Motors. They reside in the adjacent community of Van Buren Township, but the couple spends a great deal of their time in Romulus. They have two sons, Darius and Lloyd, both residents of Romulus, living on the original family homestead property. Varner's grandchildren, Hanna and Asa, continue to participate in many historical events and activities.

Varner will be honored at a dinner at the Detroit Marriott Hotel beginning with a reception at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 25. The cost is \$35 per person, and there will be a cash bar. The event is open to the public but reservations and tickets are required. To purchase tickets or for more information, contact the chamber office at (734) 893-0694 or e-mail at info@romuluschamber.com.

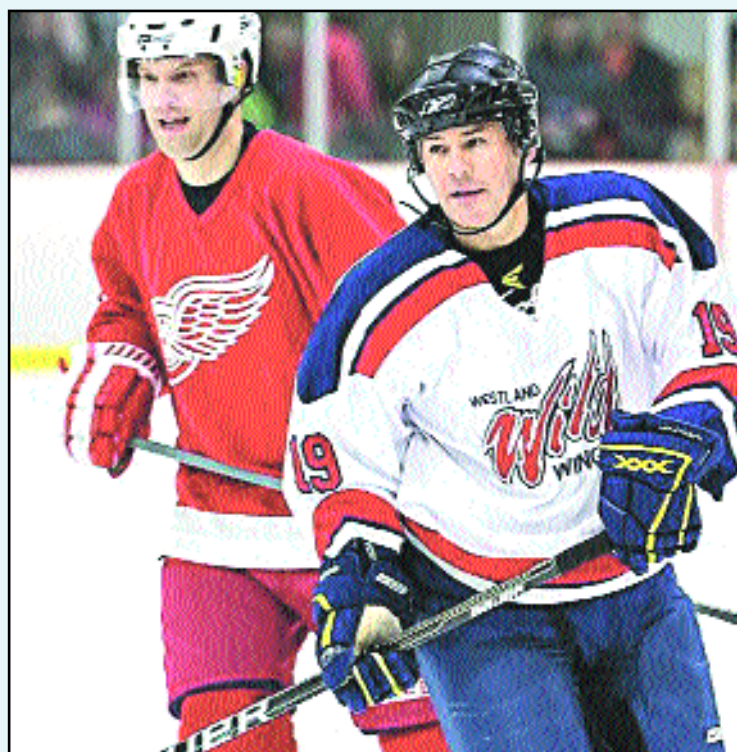
Annual charity hockey game set

Mayor William R. Wild along with his Westland Wild Wings, is once again getting ready to lace up his skates for the 6th Annual Red Wing Alumni Charity Hockey game.

The game will take place at 7 p.m. Friday, March 20 at the Mike Modano Ice Arena located at 6210 N. Wildwood in Westland. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

"This annual event draws more than 800 spectators and has raised thousands of dollars to benefit improvements to the Mike Modano Ice arena," said Wild.

The annual hockey game is one of the most anticipated events in the community, organizers said. Tickets, \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, are on sale now and can be purchased at the mayor's office, the Mike Modano Ice arena and Wayne-Westland Federal Credit Union, 500 S. Wayne Road. Tickets can be purchased online at <http://westland.ticketleap.com/hockeynight/>. Seating is limited and the event is always



Westland Mayor William Wild has participated in the Red Wing Alumni charity hockey game with his team of Wild Wings for six years. The event is a fundraiser for the Mike Modano Ice Arena in the city.

sold out. Children younger than 3 are admitted at no cost.

In addition to the hockey game, evening activities will include "score-o" and

"chuck-a-puck."

There will also be several raffles. For more information got to www.cityofwestland.com.

Legislators set Inkster meeting

Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, State Rep. Julie Plawecki, and State Sen. David Knezek will be hosting monthly coffee hour events in Inkster on the second Monday of each month. The meetings will take place from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Leanna Hicks Public Library, located at 2005 Inkster Road. The next coffee hour will take place on Monday, March 9.

Residents are encouraged to attend and discuss issues of importance to them. Citizens who have questions or concerns in the meantime are encouraged to contact any of the elected officials by mail, telephone, or email:

Senator David Knezek
Mail: PO Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: (855) 347-8005
Email: sendknezek@senate.michigan.gov
Representative Julie Plawecki
Mail: PO Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: (517) 373-0849
Email: julieplawecki@house.mi.gov
Commissioner Richard LeBlanc
Mail: 500 Griswold St., 7th Floor, Detroit, MI 48226
Phone: (313) 224-8855
Email: District12@waynecounty.com

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Calendar of events

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 your appointment by phone at (734) 394-5485.

Home Expo is Saturday

The annual Canton Home Improvement Expo will take place from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday, March 7 and from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Sunday, March 8 at the Summit on the Park.

Highlights of the event include free parking and refreshments; a live broadcast from special guest star 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, including wood projects made by Canton Construction along with the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters.

To view a complete list of the vendors, obtain the Expo layout, and download the workshop schedule visit www.cantonmi.org/940/Canton-Home-Improvement-Expo. The Expo is free of charge.

For more information call (734)394-5200.

Cruise raffle tickets on sale

Tickets for the 6th annual Michigan Philharmonic Cruise Raffle are now on sale. This year, the raffle prize is a Viking River Boat cruise - "The Danube Waltz" - sailing through European cities of Passau, Vienna, and Budapest Aug. 16-23 with an optional three-day pre-tour in the city of Prague. The raffle winner wins the Viking River Cruise for two in addition to round-trip airfare for two.

Tickets for the Cruise Raffle are \$50 and only 400 will be sold.

The drawing will take place April 11 at the Michigan Philharmonic Springtime Swan Song concert at the Village Theater. For cruise and raffle information, contact the Michigan Philharmonic at (734) 451-2112 or www.michiganphil.org or Kate Rosevear and ask for MicPhil Cruise at Travel Leaders, 44427-B W. Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, (734) 455-5810 or 1 800 874-6470.

Film entries sought

Entries are now being accepted for the 5th Annual Reel Michigan Film Festival planned for downtown Northville in June.

The event is part of the Arts and Acts Festival and will feature a diverse collection of Michigan-made short films beginning at 5 p.m. followed by a question and answer session with filmmakers.

Reel Michigan will accept Michigan-made or Michigan-themed short films, less than 20 minutes in length until the deadline April 17. All film genres are eligible, from student films to the experimental, organizers said. The entry form is available at <http://northvillearthouse.org/special-events/reel-michigan/>

Tax preparation offered

AARP tax preparation will be offered free to Westland residents at the Friendship Center. This is a E-file service only and appointments are necessary.

Generally, the tax return service offered through AARP is for simple returns. Those individuals with lengthy returns, many rental properties or investments are encouraged to have a CPA or professional firm complete their returns. There is no age or income requirement. The site manager has discretion over what returns they are willing and able to complete.

Taxes this year will be done on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Call (734) 722-7628 for an appointment. Preparers are only on site during the day the center offers the service so any tax question regarding a return must be taken by a staff person, and

returned by a preparer at their convenience.

Foundation plans gala

The Canton Community Foundation will host the Project Give Gala from 6:30-11:30 p.m. March 7 at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn.

The evening will include music from both the Michigan Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and Steve King and the Dittilies.

The evening will include a tribute to a philanthropic community member who recently passed away. The award will be presented in his name annually.

Tickets are priced at \$175 per person or \$1200 for a table of eight.

The Henry Ford Museum is located at 20900 Oakwood Blvd in Dearborn.

For tickets or more information, call (734) 495-1200.

Free books available

Grace Community Church will sponsor the 2nd Annual Read-in from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. March 7 at the Wayne County Community College District Western Campus.

The event will celebrate African American Literacy, according to Pastor Bill Hales. Free books will be available for children in kindergarten through 8th grade and local youth will read and perform original writings and literature of well-known African-American writers.

Also planned are book signings by local published African American writers and book displays and reading lists of African American literature will be available.

For more information call Hales at (734)740-4230 or visit www.gracecommunitychurch4u@yahoo.com.

Pancake breakfast served

A pancake breakfast to benefit the Sgt. Stanley Romanowski VFW Post 6896, will take place at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, March 7, at the Sgt. Stanley Romanowski VFW Post 6896, Westland (east of Middlebelt on Joy Road).

The fundraiser will allow the VFW to continue assisting veterans from Southeastern Michigan in need.

The benefit pancake breakfast will be catered by Chris Cakes of Michigan. Based in Clare, Chris Cakes has earned a spot in the Guinness Book of World Records for flipping the most pancakes in an hour. The company has been featured on the Food Network and even served President Barack Obama.

The morning includes an all-you-can-eat full pancake breakfast, family activities, raffles and more.

Admission is \$10 per person and \$5 for children 5 years of age and younger. There is no charge for active service personnel. Parking is free.

For advance tickets, call Melissa Downey (248) 541-1576. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Book drive under way

Plymouth Community United Way and Chuck E. Cheese will hold a month-long drive for new children's book at the restaurant in Canton. The event runs through March 31.

March is Reading Month and Plymouth Community United Way is collecting books in an effort to get children to read this summer to prevent the 'summer slide.' Studies show that children, especially those from low-income families, lose up to two months of reading skills over the break.

Customers will receive 20 tickets for each new children's book that is brought into Chuck E. Cheese, the drop off site for the drive at 42001 Ford Road. Tickets can be used toward the purchase of prizes.

All of the new children's books will go to children in the community.

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

Legislators sets office hours

State Rep. Kurt Heise of the 20th district will host local office

hours this month.

He will meet with constituents from 10 until 11 a.m. Monday, March 9 at the Parthenon Coney Island, 39910 Ford Road; from noon until 1 p.m. at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St.; and from 3-4 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main St.

"I always look forward to meeting with the members of our community so that I can listen to every voice that needs to be heard," said Heise, R-Plymouth. "The most important job I have is to be a productive liaison between my neighbors and Lansing."

No appointments are necessary for these office hours. Residents who are not able to attend can contact Heise's office by phone at 1-855-REPKURT, or by email at KurtHeise@house.mi.gov.

State Rep. Julie Plawecki (D- Dearborn Heights) will also have local office hours on March 9.

Plawecki will host coffee hours from 9-10:30 a.m. at Mr. Mike's, 6047 N. Wayne Road in Wayne and from 1-2:30 at the Inkster Public Library, 2005 Inkster Road in Inkster. Additional coffee hours will be scheduled at a later date. Plawecki encourages residents who are unable to attend the coffee hours but would like to discuss matters with her to contact her office toll-free at (844) 347-8011 or email her at julieplawekki@house.mi.gov.

Blues series continues

RJ's Blues Gang will perform from 7-10 p.m. March 10 at the Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge as part of the ongoing Blues at the Elks series. The Plymouth Elks Lodge is located at 41700 Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth, one half mile west of I-275. The Plymouth-Ann Arbor Elks Lodge features free, lighted parking, pizza slices and a full bar. Admission is just \$5 at the door.

For more information, call (734) 453-1780 for more information.

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