

THE EAGLE

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

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 132, No. 47

Belleville Community Chorus members will present their 12th annual holiday concert, *It's Time For Caroling*, beginning at 7 p.m. Dec. 9.

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THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 70, No. 47

Two Canton police officers, Lt. Scott Hughesdon and Ofc. Michael Kowalski, have retired from the public safety department.

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THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

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Police are confirming the investigation into the shooting of a 17-year-old Inkster resident in Romulus last month.

See page 4.

THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

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Aaron Baughman, formerly of the Wayne Westland district, has been named assistant superintendent of instruction for Northville Public Schools.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

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The Plymouth Uptown Players Youth Theater Program will present 35 local actors, ages 7-18, in the classic Dickens' story, *A Christmas Carol*, for the holidays.

See page 2.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 132, No. 47

Members of the city council unanimously agreed to enter into a contract for a grant writer to seek out funding for a variety of public safety issues.

See page 4.

THE WAYNE EAGLE

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The investigation into vandalism at a Michigan Avenue church in Wayne is still under way, according to Wayne police.

See page 5.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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Three Cities Art Club will present the 6th annual juried artist's exhibition at Westland Gallery at City Hall through Jan. 30.

See page 5.

Businesses awarded training grants

This week, the Michigan Talent Investment Agency (MTIA) announced the approval of \$2.6 million in Skilled Trades Training Funds to 61 businesses in Wayne and Monroe counties. Among the recipients were several Romulus businesses, including: Environmental Testing and Consulting, Inc. \$68,798; National Metal Sales, Inc. \$3,000; Rapid Response EMS \$30,925 and YAPP USA-Romulus \$16,746.

The talent investment agency encourages employers to design

Training new and incumbent employees is essential to the continued economic growth in Michigan.

training models that are adaptable in real time to the ever-changing skill requirements of employers. Training must be short-term in duration and lead to a credential for a skill that is transferable and recognized by

industry. Employers who request funding must actively participate in the development of the training and must commit to retaining individuals who successfully complete the training.

"Training new and incumbent

employees is essential to the continued economic growth in Michigan. We are fortunate that the Governor and the Legislature have made this a funding priority," said Charlie (Charlotte) Mahoney, chairperson of South East Michigan Community Alliance (SEMCA) Workforce Development Board.

"SEMCA Michigan Works! has done an outstanding job providing assistance to employers in Wayne and Monroe County

See Grants, page 4

Season's greetings Local student creates card

The annual Christmas card from Catholic Central High School this year may help one student decide on his educational future.

The card was created as part of an art class competition at the high school by 17-year-old Christian Johnson of Canton Township. Johnson, a junior said he has not decided on whether to pursue an edu-

cation in art, but the honor of having his work chosen for the "official" card of the school might help him decide.

Johnson has attended Catholic Central since 9th grade after attending Allen Elementary School in the Plymouth-Canton district.

"I really enjoy it," he said of his school. "It's really cool here."

Johnson said his favorite art medium is pencil, with which he created the selected card, using images he researched online and elsewhere for inspiration.

"I like to draw realistic things," he said, "and I enjoy using colored pencil to work."

Johnson said that the school may announce that he created the drawing for the card when they are printed but there really was no prize awarded for the work, other than the satisfaction of being chosen from about 20 other student entries.

He said he has been drawing since he "was a little kid"



Christian Johnson



Christian Johnson's drawing, above, was chosen for the Catholic Central High School holiday card this year.

and that he really enjoyed the art classes at the Plymouth Community Art Center,

although he admitted, with his

See Card, page 2

Officials donate holiday food to veterans

For the fourth consecutive year, elected officials will be providing holiday meals for area veterans who may be in need.

The program is headed by Westland Mayor William Wild, State Rep. Robert Kosowski and Vic Barra, president of the Wayne-Ford Civic League. They will be joined in the effort to provide groceries for a traditional holiday meal for veterans this year by Westland City Council President James Godbout and Councilman-elect Jim Hart.

"I have always been an advo-

It is an honor and privilege for me and my family to roll up our sleeves, shake their hands, and show our thanks.

cate for our veterans. We have men and women who ask for nothing in return for all they have given for us. This is a very small gesture that we all can and should get behind," Hart said.

"It is an honor and privilege for me and my family to roll up

our sleeves, shake their hands, and show our thanks," he added.

The officials will provide veterans in need with a choice of either a turkey or ham, along with mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, sweet potatoes, corn, green beans, cranberry sauce

and heat-and-serve rolls.

Westland veterans should call Wild's office at (734) 467-3200 or Kosowski's office at (517) 373-2576 to register for the groceries. Requests will be taken until Wednesday, Dec. 20.

Food will be distributed from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 23.

"I am thrilled to be able to participate with my colleagues in such an incredible program this year," commented Godbout.

See Meals, page 6

Trains continue to block Plymouth roads

Don Howard
Staff Writer

On the heels of formal complaints to government officials by area community leaders, a CSX Railroad crew again blocked intersections and upset motorists in Plymouth when they strategically parked the train across four major intersections: Mill, Ann Arbor Trail, Farmer and Main streets Dec. 2.

Informed sources said they suspected the Saturday morning stoppage, which continued from about 10 a.m. could have been a union response to comments during a Nov. 28 meeting, organized by Senator Debbie Stabenow, before representa-

Vorva said he learned there are only three railroad detectives in all of Michigan to respond.

tives from Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Canton Township, Huron Township and Livonia along with CSX railroad officials.

The area leaders, CSX North Region Superintendent Robert Dales and Federal Railroad Administration officials connected by a conference call, talked about the dangers of delayed public safety response times and constant blocked crossings. Stabenow did not attend the

meeting.

Plymouth Township Clerk Jerry Vorva who represented the township at the meeting, said railroad officials blamed scheduling problems and union issues for the ongoing delays. Vorva said he had doubts Stabenow's office would foster any new legislation that would help the problem.

Over past months Plymouth officials have posted signs at var-

ious city crossings urging motorists to report emergencies to CSX and the federal railroad administration. Vorva said he learned there are only three railroad detectives in all of Michigan to respond.

In a news release, Dales stated he has "adjusted some train schedules" and has "installed underground air compressors" in three locations to recharge the cars' air braking systems more quickly. Dales stated computer malfunctions caused the recent nine-hour blockage in Plymouth last month and are still a possibility.

CSX Regional Vice President

See Railroad, page 3

BELLEVILLE - CANTON

2 veteran officers retire from force

Two veteran officers of the Canton Public Safety Department have recently retired.

Police Lt. Scott Hughesdon ended his 27-year public safety career in November and Police Ofc. Michael Kowalski will leave the department where he has served for 23 years this month.

Hughesdon was hired by the department in 1990 and was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 2006 and to lieutenant in 2013. Early on as a police officer, Hughesdon participated in numerous special units including assignments as a detective in the Western Wayne Criminal Investigations Unit, a motor officer in the selective enforcement unit, a range instructor and as a field training officer. In his most current

position as lieutenant, he served as a platoon commander in the patrol division, overseeing the day-to-day operations of his shift consisting of sergeants, patrol officers and public safety service officers. He was also responsible for providing training, direction and motivation to his shift, enhancing their level of performance while on patrol, police officials said.

Throughout his career, Hughesdon received numerous awards and citations, as well as written compliments from citizens who were recipients of the kindness and professionalism he displayed during every shift, according to an official statement from the department.

Kowalski was hired by the Canton department in 1994, starting his 23-year career as a

police officer. During his career, Kowalski participated in numerous special assignments including the bicycle unit, evidence technician unit, fire investigation unit, and the accident investigation unit. He also served as a field training officer, working with the newest department officers. Kowalski most notably left his mark with the department as an undercover officer, working one-third of his career assigned as a detective with the Western Wayne Criminal Investigations Unit, a consortium of area police departments, led by the Michigan State Police. In this assignment, Kowalski was able to use his street-smart policing instincts and techniques to assist in high-level criminal investigations and arrests, according to police officials.



Scott Hughesdon



Michael Kowalski

"The police department is losing two valuable members of the organization," said Canton Township Public Safety Director Joshua Meier. "Scott

and Mike both made significant contributions to the organization and to the Canton community-their presence will be notably missed."

Community Chorus to present annual holiday concert

Belleville Community Chorus members will present their 12th annual holiday concert, It's Time For Caroling, beginning at 7 p.m. Dec. 9.

The free concert will take place at Belleville United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St.

The production will be directed by Sue Hiser and Steve Ko, with accompaniment by Kevin Shay and a variety of

instrumentalists. The concert will include songs of the season along with performances by the Belleville Community Children's Chorus.

The concert is free although donations to help support the group are welcome.

For more information about the chorus, or joining the group, contact Pete Jones at (734) 731-0829 or email to

Plrmj@msn.com.

The Belleville Community Chorus offers opportunities for performance of mixed voice chorus music in a variety of styles. The chorus strives to improve its musical quality through education and commitment to a rehearsal and per-

formance schedule. The generosity of donors and sponsors supports community activities including education, rehearsal, performance and entertainment.

The Belleville Community Chorus is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

Card

FROM PAGE 1

schedule he hasn't been there in awhile.

He spent about four weeks on the creation of the chosen drawing, he said. The youngest of four children of Steve and Sheila Johnson, he added that neither of

his brothers or his sister shares his interest in art.

That doesn't mean his talent is unappreciated, though. His parents, he said, have ordered about 300 of the cards to send to family and friends to celebrate the holiday season.

"I'm still undecided about going to school for art. But, maybe," Johnson said.

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Steve Johnson
Dad
National Realty Centers
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steve@nationalrealtycenters.com

CITY OF WESTLAND
INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 34300 Wixom Road, Westland, MI 48187, on **Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made for late filings) for the following:

OFFICIAL CITY NEWSPAPER

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at www.CityofWestland.com. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Public: December 7th, 2017

David J. Adams
City Council

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
PLANNING COMMISSION
2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

At the Meeting of November 28, 2017, the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton adopted the following meeting schedule for 2018:

06/08/18 02:05 PM, 06/08/18, 06/08 PM, 06/08 PM, 07/08/18, 08/12 PM, 09/10 PM, 10/08 PM, 11/08 PM, 12/08 PM

The meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Administration Building, 1159 S. Canton Center Road.

Greg Greene - Chairman
Public: December 7, 2017

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1159 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed bids at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, December 21, 2017 for the following:

BATTERIES POWERED HYDRA-LIFT AMBULANCE CO-STRETCHER

Bids may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at www.cantonmi.org, or you may contact Mike Shagard at 734-394-5225. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposed name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of proposed 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 in the provision of services.

MICHAEL SEGREST, CLERK

Public: 12/7/2017

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1159 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, December 21, 2017 for the following:

LICENSE PLATE READER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE

Proposals may be picked up at the Finance and Budget Department, on our website at www.cantonmi.org, or you may contact Mike Shagard at 734-394-5225. All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposed name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of proposed 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 in the provision of services.

MICHAEL SEGREST, CLERK

Public: 12/7/2017

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/forums open to the public in the Charter Township of Canton.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Charter Township of Canton will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of their service, program, or activity.

Employment: The Charter Township of Canton does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices and complies with all regulations promulgated by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission under Title II of the ADA.

Effective Communication: The Charter Township of Canton will, upon request, provide appropriate aids and services needed to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities to ensure they participate equally in the Charter Township of Canton's programs, services, and activities, including qualified sign language interpreters, documents in Braille, and other ways of making information and communications accessible to people who have speech, hearing, or vision impairments.

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The Charter Township of Canton will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all of its programs, services, and activities. For example, individuals with service animals are welcomed in the Charter Township of Canton's offices, even where pets are generally prohibited.

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of the Charter Township of Canton should contact the office of Beth Brundage, Human Resources Coordinator, Charter Township of Canton, 1159 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48185, (734) 394-5280 on or before ten (10) business days before the scheduled event.

The ADA does not require the Charter Township of Canton to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services, or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a program, service, or activity of the Charter Township of Canton is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to Beth Brundage, Human Resources Coordinator, Charter Township of Canton, 1159 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48185, (734) 394-5280.

The Charter Township of Canton will not place a surcharge on a particular individual with a disability or any group of individuals with disabilities to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids or reasonable modifications of policy, such as removing from their location that are not open to the public, but are not accessible to persons who use wheelchairs.

Public: 12/07/2017

Calendar of events

Veterans post needs new home

The American Legion Westland Post 251 is in need of a temporary building or home the veterans could maintain including minor repair work, if needed, painting, maintenance of a parking lot and yard work.

The group would also pay utility bills at the home or building.

Anyone who may be able to help the veterans group is asked to contact Post Commander Bill Acton at (734) 776-5491. Acton noted that the veterans are in need of assistance in finding a location for the post operations.

Shopping day celebrates city

Christmas in Plymouth shopping day is planned for 5-9 p.m. today, Dec. 7, throughout downtown Plymouth. There will be carriage rides, wagon rides, caroling, music and a festive holiday atmosphere along with plenty of special holiday sales at both merchants and restaurants.

Santa and his live reindeer will appear along with his elves.

For more information, visit plymouth-mich.org.

Christmas at the Capitol planned

State Sen. David Kneezek will host Christmas at the Capitol for Inkster residents tomorrow, Dec. 8.

Visitors will check in at the Booker T. Dozier Recreation Complex at 8 a.m. and the bus will depart for Lansing at 8:30 a.m. Arrival back at Inkster is expected at about 4:30 p.m.

The trip is free and includes transportation by chartered bus, a personal tour of the Michigan State Capitol with Kneezek, photographs on the Senate Floor, lunch and a t-shirt.

Those interested should RSVP to Denise Champagne at (313) 651-2332 and include their t-shirt size.

Children's workshops planned

The Belleville Area Museum will offer Children's Christmas Ornament Workshops and photos with Santa at noon, 1:15 and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday Dec. 9 and again on Saturday, Dec. 16. Reservations are strongly encouraged and required for groups. The cost is \$2 per child.

The Belleville Area Museum, serving the communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren, is located at 405 Main St. in Belleville.

For reservations or information, call the museum at (734) 697-1944 or email kds@bavm.org.

Goodfellows serve chicken dinner

The Inkster Goodfellows will host a Baked Chicken Dinner from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9 at the Booker Dozier Recreation Center.

The center is located at 2025 Middlebelt Road in Inkster.

The cost is \$10 and all proceeds go toward the Goodfellows No Child "Without a Christmas," campaign.

The menu includes baked chicken, green beans, yams, stuffing, cranberry sauce, rolls and cake.

veterans become aware of the effort is extremely rewarding. I appreciate the continued support of our local elected officials and this year's sponsors D&B Grocers and Heartland Market.

"This is the fourth year that we have partnered on this cause that is very important to us," said Kosowski. "We want to ensure that every veteran in our district has everything they need for a delicious meal around the holidays to show our thanks for their service."

"The veterans of our community have given the ultimate sacrifice by putting their life on the line to defend those here at home. It is our duty to take care of those distinguished members who have served our country," commented Wild.

"Providing free turkeys for the holiday is our way of honoring the veterans of Wayne and Westland."

Foundation hosts holiday reception at Inspire Theater

The Westland Community Foundation will host the annual Christmas Reception at Westland Performing Arts Inspire Theater. The Ultimate Christmas Show will have the audience crying (from laughter). The play is about An Annual Holiday Variety Show and Christmas Pageant at St. Everybody's Non-Denominational Universalist Church, where all faiths are welcome because "we'll believe anything." But there's a problem: None of the acts scheduled to perform have arrived, so the three members of the organizing committee are pressed into service to perform the entire Variety Show and Christmas Pageant by themselves.

The reception is planned for 6-7:30 Thursday, Dec. 14, followed by the performance at 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres prepared by Chef Tony and the students from the Culinary Arts Department of William D. Ford Career Technical Center will be provided.

The cost is \$25 per person plus two unwrapped new toys as a donation for the children of the Westland Salvation Army.

Tickets for only the reception are \$20, plus two unwrapped gifts.

Limited seating is available and early reservations are suggested. To reserve a seat, call Lynette Holyak (734) 295-7227. Cash, check and credit cards are accepted.

Inspire Theater is located just East of Wayne Road at 34455 Warren Road in Westland.

Business casual dress is suggested.

Photographers to meet

Members of the only 3D photography club will meet from 6:30 until 9:30 p.m. Dec. 13 at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, just south of Five Mile Road.

The meeting will begin with the annual group holiday potluck dinner with live musical performances from some members. There will also be an exhibition of stereoview cards made by members, and many 3D items on display and for sale.

The meeting will conclude with a 3D image competition on the theme 'Anything Fun'.

Meetings are free to attend and visitors are always welcome. Stereo cameras, 3D movies, and educational videos are available for members to borrow or rent.

For more information, visit www.Detroit3D.org, or call (248) 398-3291.

Holiday Pops concert set

The Michigan Philharmonic Orchestra will present the annual yuletide musical celebration, Holiday Pops with the Phil from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14 at the Penn Theatre in Plymouth.

The theater is located at 720 Penniman in downtown Plymouth.

Tickets are priced from \$10-\$30. For information or to purchase tickets, call (734) 451-2112 or info@michiganphil.org.

Church hosts dinner

Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church will host the Annual Christmas Community Dinner from 3-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16.

The church is located at 29066 Eton St. in Westland.

For more information, call (734) 721-2557.

The event is open to the public.

Senior Book Club meets

The Senior Book Club will meet at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 19 at the Romulus Senior Center.

Adults 55 are welcome to join the free sessions.

Copies of the books for discussion include Rules of Civility by Amor Towles and Mrs. Tom Thumb by Melanie Benjamin.

Both books are available at the Romulus Public Library, 11121 Wayne Road.

For more information, call (734) 942-7389.

Meals

FROM PAGE 1

"There are many ways to help this wonderful cause, like helping to get the word out to veterans and their families or by donating. Every bit really does help."

Donations can be made online by visiting the Wayne Ford Civic League Facebook page or in person at the Wayne Ford Civic League, located at 1661 N. Wayne Road. Donations are also being accepted at Wild's office in Westland City Hall on Warren Road.

"As a veteran I was proud to begin this tradition with Mayor Wild and State Rep. Kosowski 4 years ago," commented Barra. "Every year we are able to help more and more people and to see it grow as more



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