

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. 51

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE

Vol. 130, No. 51

The appointment of John Delaney to the Local Development Finance Authority in Van Buren Township met with some controversy from the township board members.

See page 3.

THE CANTON EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 51

An experimental theater production is planned at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill which will include every aspect of a play production, all within all in 24 hours.

See page 3.

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

Vol. 68, No. 51

An Inkster man remains in police custody after crashing his vehicle into a state police patrol car in the early morning hours last Wednesday.

See page 4.

THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

Vol. 15, No. 24

Santa and his elves will be welcoming visitors to Maybury Farm on his antique sleigh in the Maybury Farm Welcome Center Saturdays and Sundays.

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THE ROMULUS EAGLE

Vol. 15, No. 51

Two township trustees last week said they were aghast to discover that holiday lights installed at Fire Station No. 3 cost more than \$16,000, plus the cost of installation.

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 130, No. 51

A 17-year-old Romulus man was identified as the suspect in a murder investigation by members of his family and the Romulus High School Police Resource officer.

See page 3.

THE WAYNE EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 51

The two newest members of the Wayne City Council have some things in common: neither has reached their 30th birthday and both want to help revitalize the city.

See page 4.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE

Vol. 68, No. 51

The Goodfellows and Toys For Tots donation boxes are back at Independent Carpet One inviting contributions to help children during the holiday season.

See page 4.

House fire claims teen, injures 6

A seventh occupant of the home, believed to be Belleville High School freshman Savion Robinson, perished in the blaze.

Firefighters and rescue workers from four area departments responded to an early morning house fire last Sunday which took the life of 14-year-old Savion Robinson and injured five others.

According to reports from the Van Buren Township Fire Department, emergency crews responded to the home at 47499 Denton Road at about 3:50 a.m. Dec. 13 and found the home completely engulfed in flames.

Fire Chief Dan Besson said that his crews were told seven occupants were in the home at the time of the blaze. Five people escaped the house but sustained serious injuries. A sixth occupant, an 18-month-old girl,

was rescued by Van Buren firefighters who entered the home rapidly under extreme heat and fire conditions, Besson said, and pulled the child to safety.

Huron Valley Ambulance reported sending five ambulances and a paramedic supervisor to the scene and four children were rushed to University of Michigan Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. Three of the children were reported in critical condition and one

child was reported to be in stable condition. Ambulances also transported one adult to the University of Michigan Hospital who was also reported in stable condition.

A seventh occupant of the home, believed to be a teen family member, Besson said, perished in the blaze.

In addition to firefighters and police from Van Buren, the City of Belleville sent police and fire personnel and equipment to the scene. Fire department

personnel from Sampter Township and the Fire Marshal Unit from the Michigan State Police also responded to the blaze.

The body of the deceased teen was placed in the custody of the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office for further investigation.

Besson said that the cause of the fire had not been determined at press time and that the incident will remain under investigation.

Reports indicated that the home was foreclosed on by Bank of America four years ago and that the two women and five children, were living in the house without permission, using illegal utility hookups.



Sounds of the season

Continuing an annual tradition, more than 115 students who participate in the various music programs at the Plymouth Canton Educational Park presented a holiday concert at the meeting of the noon Rotary Club in Plymouth last week. The students from the Symphony Strings group under the direction of Catherine K. DePantia performed along with the Festival Singers directed by Jennifer Neumann. Carole DeHart provided accompaniment for the concert of traditional Christmas music.

Photos by Dave Wilcox



Murder suspect found incompetent for trial

The man accused of murdering his step-grandfather in his Wayne back yard has been found not competent to stand trial on charges of first-degree murder.

Jesse Wayne Gunderson, 26, is accused of bludgeoning Danny Dart, 58, with an ax on Sept. 28. The incident took place at Dart's home on the 4500 block of Chamberlain in Wayne. Dart was killed instantly, according to police reports.

Gunderson was remanded without bail to the Wayne County Jail upon his arrest at the scene of the crime. He appeared Dec. 8 by video for his competency hearing at 29th District Court in Wayne.

Judge Laura Mack accepted a report from The Center for Forensic Psychiatry which determined that Gunderson is not competent to stand trial and is not able to understand the proceedings or assist with his defense.

The report stated, however, that Gunderson might be competent at a future date and suggested treatment at the center for his mental condition.

Mack assigned Gunderson to the custody of the Michigan Department of Community Health for treatment at the Center for Forensic Psychiatry.

The first-degree murder charge carried a mandatory sentence of life in prison without

parole upon conviction.

Gunderson was living with Dart and his wife in Wayne for several weeks prior to the attack. He reportedly showed up at their home unexpectedly from California where he worked in a medical facility. Dart's wife is Gunderson's grandmother.

Gunderson allegedly told police investigators that he was unable to recall the attack on Dart.

Proposed water sale goes down township drain

Plans to sell water and sewer services to Salem Township went down the drain in Plymouth Township last week and the board of trustees voted unanimously to reverse their approval of a feasibility study for the project.

After heated discussion at the regular meeting Nov. 17, the board members had approved a feasibility study to determine whether Plymouth Township had enough water and sewer capacity to sell those services to

a mixed use development called Salem Springs to be located in the area of M-14 between Napier and Gottfredson roads in Salem Township. The developer, Schostak Bros., would have funded the proposed feasibility study for the project which includes up to 528 housing units on 336 acres.

Public reaction to the proposal had been negative with residents claiming the development would devalue their property, increase traffic in the area and even reduce water pressure in

the township. At the meeting last week, residents brandished signs that read, "Stop the Salem Top Water & Sewer Scam".

Township Supervisor Shannon Price said that Salem Township Supervisor Gary Whittaker indicated that he was not amenable or interested in a 425 Agreement. That legal document would allow Plymouth to share tax revenue with Salem resulting from any new development.

Township Clerk Nancy

Conzelmann said that without that agreement Plymouth would not have any leverage and would have no input into the size or type of development for which the community would be supplying water and sewer services.

The board members voted 6-0 to rescind approval of the feasibility study with Trustee Steve Mann absent. Mann had abstained from the original vote on the study as the law firm where he is employed also represents Salem Township.

PLYMOUTH

Expense of holiday lights questioned by trustees

Don Howard
Staff Writer

Two township trustees who peppered Plymouth Township Treasurer Ron Edwards with questions during a budget workshop last week said they were agast to discover the cost of new holiday lights installed at Fire Station No. 3.

Edwards referred the questions from Trustees Bob Doroshewitz and Chuck Curni to Township Fire Chief Dan Phillips. The chief said the cost to decorate the fire station located at the corner of Beck and Territorial roads was \$36,000.

An audible gasp was heard from residents in the audience, prompting a laugh from Edwards.

Phillips said that former Township Supervisor Richard Roanne purchased the new LED lights last January which included a 20-foot long commercial scroll

that reads "Happy Holidays."

Trustee Bob Doroshewitz asked how Roanne was able to "pull-off" the purchase when officials who hold credit cards are supposed to be limited to \$15,000 per transaction.

Neither Edwards nor Supervisor Shannon Price responded to his question although the audience' reaction was again audible throughout the meeting room.

Phillips said that when he recently inquired about the lights, he was told by officials, "You might as well use 'em."

Invoices included with the March and June board information packets detailed separate payments made to Bronner's, a Christmas store in Frankenmuth. The cost for the LED lighted scroll alone was \$5,429.

Phillips said the shipments were placed in the DFW building when they



were received.

After the meeting, Phillips said it took him and his working staff two and a half days to put up the display and there were

extra lights which were not used. He said that all employees installing the display were being paid during the time of the work.

Plymouth man accused in retirement fraud scheme

Don Howard
Staff Writer

Former Wayne County Airport Chief Operating Officer and ex-Wayne County Sheriff Deputy Daniel Ogden Kerber pleaded not guilty to charges of fraud at his arraignment last week before 25th District Court Judge Ronald Lowe in Plymouth.

Kerber, 66, a Plymouth Township resident who was the airport Chief Operating Officer under county executive Robert Picano, faces a maximum penalty of 20 years after being charged with one count of larceny by false pretenses over \$100,000 and one count of larceny by conversion of over \$20,000, which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison.

Kerber retired from the county airport in September of 2009

and began receiving a monthly pension of \$11,837.46.

When Kerber retired, he had a separation agreement that specified that his defined contribution assets of \$340,166, held by Prudential, would be transferred into the Wayne County retirement system," said Wayne County Prosecutor Kim Wortley in a prepared statement.

"It is alleged that on April 27, 2011, in violation of his separation agreement, Kerber contacted Prudential for a check for his Plan 5 funds. The request was approved by an employee of the Wayne County Retirement System. On May 5, 2011, a check with income tax taken out, for \$277,481.40 was deposited in Kerber's credit union account."

Wayne County Employee's Retirement System didn't discover the scheme until last April,

four years after the fact.

Jolly Kettler, assistant Wayne County prosecuting attorney, asked the court for a reasonable cash bond stating that Kerber had a home outside of Michigan and could be considered a flight risk. Kettler also requested that Kerber surrender his passport. Kerber has homes in Plymouth Township, Glenade and Sarasota, FLA.

Kerber's attorney, Jamil Akhtar, argued that Kerber was not a flight risk as he was a 30-year township resident and has, "a home one mile away from this courthouse."

Akhtar asked to be excused from the case saying he's a labor and employment attorney and asked for more time. Lowe agreed to a personal recognizance bond and set the dates for a probable cause hearing to Dec.

18 and a preliminary exam on Dec. 28.

Lowe cautioned Akhtar about the court appearances, "Those two dates are rock solid. Better make sure an attorney is available on those dates."

Lowe allowed Kerber to return to his home in Florida, where he has lived for five years, under the condition he turn in his passport to the court.

"I'm not a trial lawyer," Akhtar said after the hearing. "I believe there are political motivations behind the charges. They're (the pension system) 100 percent funded."

"This has no effect on the mismanagement of the Wayne County pension plan," he said.

Akhtar, who referred to himself as a 40-year personal friend of Kerber, acknowledged that they both at one time worked for

the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. "Kerber worked for me... he was a sergeant and worked there until he was laid off."

A record search shows Kerber was at one time Deputy Director of Wayne County Airport Police. Akhtar's website states that before starting his law practice he worked for the Wayne County Sheriff's Department for 20 years.

"This case is the ultimate example of why the Wayne County Retirement System is not properly funded. The alleged facts in this case will show that the defendant's greed allowed him to net hundreds of thousands of dollars he was not entitled to, all while he received over \$11,000 a month in a pension from the county," said Prosecutor Kim Wortley in her statement.

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INKSTER - WAYNE - WESTLAND

Wayne names 2 to vacancies on council

The two newest members of the Wayne City Council have been named. Both reached their 20th birthday and both want to help revitalize the city where they were raised.

Members of the council selected Ryan Gabriel, 25, and Richard Sutton IV, 24, fill the two vacancies currently on the council.

After interviewing seven candidates during a special meeting last week, Gabriel and Sutton were chosen to fill the vacancies created by Councilwoman Susan Rowe was elected mayor and James Hawley, who resigned as he is leaving the state. Each will serve until the 2017 election.

In their letters of intent sent to the council regarding the vacancies, each stressed their interest in helping the city grow and succeed and mentioned the financial problems the city has faced. Both suggested this is a time of opportunity for Wayne and explained their sincere desire to serve, along with outlining their education and credentials.

Gabriel and Sutton were chosen from a field that included Jacob Johnson, former Councilman David James, mayoral candidate Robert Boertje, former planning commission member Ernestine Carter and Michael Smith, vice-president of UAW Local 900 at the Ford Wayne Assembly Plant.

Sutton, the youngest man to be appointed to the city council, is a paramedic with Beaumont Oakland Hospital who works in the emergency room. He and his wife bought their home in Wayne two years ago, and he told the council members that they both believe in being active in the community.

"The community is ready for a change and I want to help with that. I live and work here," said Sutton. "I know how truly great the city was and what the council has done to restore that greatness."

He added that he felt the timing is right for Wayne to achieve its "great potential" which would include attracting a more diverse tax base.

Gabriel, only a year older than Sutton, earned a finance degree at Oakland University. He is currently employed as a mortgage broker with Quicken Loans. After living outside his home town, he said that since he returned to Wayne he has seen a lot of opportunity in the community.

"We have an opportunity to grow and thrive," he said. "I can relate to millennials, I want to see the city flourish. I like being involved," he added. "If you find a concern, you have got to find a way to improve it," he said. "We need more community involvement. People being happy with where they live helps the community," he added active in the community.

Gabriel was appointed by a unanimous vote to replace Rowe and Sutton was appointed by a split vote to replace Hawley. Councilmen John Rhaesa and Tom Porter voted against Sutton.

Rowe, who chaired the meeting, thanked all the candidates and the audience members who attended the interviews.

"I think we have some very good prospects. We will keep all of your names. We will need people for (upcoming) task forces,"

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Inkster driver crashes into state police patrol car

An Inkster man remains in police custody after crashing his vehicle into a state police patrol car in the early morning hours last Wednesday.

According to state police reports, troopers assigned to the Metro Post were on patrol on Ford Road near St. Mary's in Detroit when they were involved in a traffic crash.

Police said that a preliminary investigation revealed that the 31-year-old Inkster resident was driving his 1995 GMC southbound on St. Mary's when he apparently disregarded a flashing red light and struck the side of the Michigan State Police patrol car traveling eastbound on Ford Road Avenue.

Police said that an identification check

showed that the driver had four warrants and three current driver license suspensions. It was also determined, police said, that he might have been under the influence of narcotics at the time of the incident.

One trooper, with two years of service, was transported to a local hospital for back and neck pain and was treated and released, according to police reports. The at-fault driver was also treated for injuries and will be lodged on his outstanding warrants pending further investigation.

The second trooper in the patrol car was not injured, police said.

The investigation into the incident will continue by troopers from the Metro Post.

Charity boxes are returned

The Goodfellow and Toys For Tots donation boxes are back at Independent Carpet One awaiting contributions to help children during the holiday season.

The boxes were picked up in an apparent misunderstanding by another local charity last week, prompting some serious concerns at the business.

Catherine Buchanan of Carpet One was upset when she discovered the boxes had been taken without authorization from either the Goodfellow or Toys For Tots. She said she had been collecting toys for the holiday charities for more than 15 years and was appalled at the apparent theft.

While her concerns were justified, according to a press release from the

U.S. Marine Corps Toys For Tots program, which detailed unauthorized pick-up of the collection boxes in other areas, this incident proved to be without malicious intent.

A representative of the charity whose workers mistakenly picked up the boxes called the Westland Police Department to report that the boxes were in the possession of her group, and would be returned. The boxes from her charity look very similar to the Goodfellow and Toys For Tots boxes, she told police, which added to the confusion when two workers went into Independent Carpet on Wayne Road last week and retrieved what they thought were boxes belonging to her charity group.

Classified

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 01. Dollars 02. In Memoriam 03. Cards of Thanks 04. Monuments 05. Cemetery Photos 06. Personal Announcements 07. Legal Notices 08. Attorneys 09. Moving to Live 10. Music Lessons 11. Lost & Found 12. Coming Events 13. Help Wanted | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Help Wanted Sales 15. Help Wanted Drivers 16. Child Care 17. Specialized Services 18. Stations Wanted 19. Business Opportunity 20. Health and Fitness 21. Money to Loan 22. Music Lessons 23. Lost & Found 24. Private Schools/Instructors 25. Moving/Real Estate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26. Pets & Supplies 27. Running Sales 28. Estate Sales 29. Real Estate 30. Antique 31. Garage and Yard Sales 32. Auctions 33. Moving Sales 34. Misc. Items 35. Building Supplies 36. Business and Office Equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 37. Lawn & Garden Supplies 38. Tools Service 39. Landscaping / Nurseries 40. Garden Plant / Supplies 41. Masonry / Brickwork 42. Cleaning Service 43. Musical Merchandise 44. Sporting Goods 45. Books / Accessories 46. Remodeling / Renovations 47. Remodeling Vehicles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 48. Hunting / Fishing 49. Wanted to Buy 50. Duplexes for Rent 51. Apartments for Rent 52. Condos/Theatres for Rent 53. Business Properties for Rent 54. Farm & Acreage for Sale 55. Mobile Homes for Sale 56. Houses for Sale 57. Condos/Theatres for Sale 58. Lake and Resort 59. Income Property | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60. Manufactured/Mobile Homes 61. Poles for Rent 62. Room for Rent 63. Wanted to Rent 64. Storage 65. Business Properties for Sale 66. Mobile Homes for Sale 67. Houses for Sale 68. Condos/Theatres for Sale 69. Lake and Resort 70. Income Property | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 71. Lots for Sale 72. Out of State Property 73. Commercial Leases 74. Real Estate Wanted 75. Auto Accessories 76. Autos for Sale 77. Antique & Classic Cars 78. Trucks & Vans for Sale 79. Real Estate 80. Auto Repair 81. Motorcycles 82. Auto Wanted |
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1. Obituaries



Freddie George Bishop, Sr.
Sunrise: Aug. 4, 1937
Sunset: Nov. 28, 2015

Freddie George Bishop, Sr. died Nov. 28, 2015. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Florence Bishop, and four siblings preceded him in death.

Among those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Dorothy, a daughter, Peggy (Jonathan) Jordan; sons, Freddie Jr. (Angela) and Lamar; five grandchildren, Freddie III "Bo", Mariah, Noah, Nolan Bishop and Alisha Jordan; one great-grandson, Josiah; a sister, Vienna McChay; his friend and caregiver, Carol Watson; a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives, and many friends.

Funeral services took place at Romulus Community Baptist Church in Romulus with Pastor Charlie Knight officiating.

Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

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Patricia Marie Hunter Singleton
Sunrise: Jan. 15, 1947
Sunset: Nov. 12, 2015

Among her survivors left to cherish her memory are her son, Troy Singleton, Sr.; grandchildren, Ashley (Aaron) Williams, Troy Singleton, Aaron Singleton, Tiana (David) Neal, Aarria Springer and Jerome Singleton; nine great-grandchildren; siblings, Jerome Hunter, Ernest Hunter, Clavetta Pethway; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives, and many friends.

Final arrangements were entrusted to the Penn Funeral Home in Inkster Road in Inkster. Cremation rites were accorded.



Leggett Knight
Oct. 13, 1937
Nov. 28, 2015

Leggett Knight died Nov. 28, 2015. He was preceded in death by his parents, Emory and Sammie and a younger brother, Wally Stevens.

Among those left to cherish his memory are his husband, John Knight, Jr. "Boon"; sons, Eric (Marilyn) and Keith (Sherry)

Knight; grandchildren, Mignon (Raymond), Amber, Alicia, Savannah and Kaelon; great-grandchildren, Eric, Dionne, Deondra, Marcell, Deana, Bianca, Emonee and Naveah; siblings, Dora, Emory Jr., Cordia Mae, Calvin, Michelle, Michael, Deborah (Toni), Renee, Valerie, Carmen and Kathy; dozens of nieces, nephews and other relatives, and many friends.

Funeral services took place at New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in Inkster with Pastor Dora DeBerry officiating.

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



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host of friends and many associates.

Funeral services took place at Penn Funeral Home on Inkster Road in Inkster with Pastor John Pitts officiating.

Interment was at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.



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NORTHVILLE - ROMULUS

Teen charged in robbery, death of 91-year-old man

A 17-year-old Romulus man was identified as the suspect in a murder investigation by members of his family and the Romulus High School Police Resource officer.

Detroit police arrested 17-year-old George Stewart after he was identified by two of his aunts and the police resource officer as the suspect seen on surveillance video released by police investigating the death of 91-year-old Paul Monchik. Monchik was found in his burning home Nov. 21.

Police said they believe the perpetrator was caught on surveillance cameras buying gasoline at a nearby station, and then used the fuel to set the house ablaze and cover his tracks after burglarizing the home.

Stewart had only been living next door to Monchik on the 20300 block of Bentler Court for a few days. He had moved from his Romulus address to stay with his grandfather, George Stewart, Jr., who was Monchik's next-door neighbor.

The elder Stewart had also called police regarding his grandson's possible involvement in the robbery and arson at his neighbor's home. He said that he had

been hoping and praying that his grandson was not involved in the crime.

The victim's son, Scott Monchik, 66, of West Bloomfield, testified in court Dec. 10 during a preliminary court examination of Stewart on the charges. He said his father, a retired TV repairman, was thriving, despite his age and kept himself groomed and was reading newspapers to keep himself informed.

Arson investigators testified that Monchik was found near the front door of his home and that the fire, believed to have been started using gasoline as an accelerant, radiated out from his body. The fire investigator told the court that he could see visible physical trauma not caused by the fire on Monchik's body.

Police said that Monchik had suffered severe head trauma prior to the fire.

"The alleged facts in this case are that the defendant killed his elderly neighbor by beating him and attempting to burn the evidence," Wayne County Prosecutor Ryan Worthy said in a news release. "The word heinous does not even begin to describe this crime."

Stewart is facing first-degree felony murder and arson charges.



Santa visits Maybury Farm

Santa and his elves will be welcoming visitors to Maybury Farm from noon until 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 18 and 20. Santa will be waiting to meet with children of all ages on his antique sleigh in the Maybury Farm Welcome Center.

Santa's elves have decked the halls of the Welcome Center with all kinds of Christmas cheer and the fire in the wood stove will keep everyone toasty and warm. Children can bring their wish list and sit with Santa on his sleigh, a great photo opportunity.

The Welcome Center shelves will be stocked with unique holiday gifts, too,

including Maybury Farm honey, jams, jellies, popcorn and other treats. There are excellent options for stocking stuffers, hostess gifts, and gift baskets.

Admission is just a smile and a small donation. All donations help to care for the animals at Maybury Farm throughout the winter months.

Maybury Farm is located at 50165 Eight Mile Road, between Beck and Napier roads. Visitors should not enter at the state park. Parking is complimentary. For more information, visit www.northvillecommunityfoundation.org, call (248) 374-0200.



Perfect score

Romulus Councilman William Wadsworth, back row, center, congratulated members of the Wagie family, featured in a front-page article in The Eagle, for their success in reopening the local bowling alley originally started by their family more than 70 years ago. Sylvia Parecki, front row, left, her daughter, Stephanie Wagie, front right, Rob Wagie, back row, left, Wadsworth and Matthew Wagie on hand to help hang up a copy of their story in the restored and reopened facility. Photo by Dave Willett

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

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Published: December 17, 2015

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Legal Notice

Charter Township of Plymouth 2015 Winter Taxes

Winter Taxes are due December 1, 2015 and payable through February 16, 2016 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH. Payments can be made at the Township Hall during regular working hours, Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., at the Treasurer's Office. After hours payments can be placed in the 24 hr. WHITE DROP BOX located along the civic lot drive. The Treasurer's Office will be open December 31, 2015 from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

RON EDWARDS
Treasurer
Charter Township of Plymouth
9901 Haggerty Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48176

Published: December 17, 2014

PFT121715-0018 2.0 x 2.081

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Calendar of events

Red Ryder Christmas on display

The Plymouth Historical Museum is showcasing a new exhibit, "A Red Ryder Christmas Story." The exhibit draws its inspiration from the popular 1980s movie, "A Christmas Story," in which the main character, Ralphie, longs for a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas.

The exhibit includes period toys, clothing, and other artifacts. Visitors familiar with the movie will get a chuckle from the vignettes showing the Parker's living room, complete with "FRA-GREE-LAY" lamp. Pick getting his tongue stuck on a metal pole; the window at Higbee's Department Store and other memorable moments.

Each Saturday until Dec. 19, Santa Claus has promised to be present for visiting children. The museum is open 1-4 p.m. on Saturdays, as well as Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays.

The museum is located at 155 S Main St. in downtown Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 455-8940.

Kalamazoo on stage

Tipping Point Theatre will present Kalamazoo by Michelle Khols Brooks and Kelly Younger through Dec. 20 with a special New Year's Eve performance.

Kalamazoo curtain time is 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, with matinees at 3 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday.

On New Year's Eve, the performance of Kalamazoo will include an afterglow provided by Becky's of Northville, and a toast to the New Year with beer, wine, and champagne. Tickets: \$85 (\$40 tax deductible) and \$45 for SeasonPASS Ticket holders (\$40 tax deductible).

The theater is located at 361 E. Cady St. in Northville. Tickets are \$30 to \$33 for adults, \$25 to \$31 for students and senior citizens. For tickets or more information call the box office at (248) 347-0005.

Blankets are needed

Plymouth Community United Way is holding a Blanket Drive in support of the homeless community through Jan. 15, 2016.

Blankets must be new, or handmade, and can be dropped at the Plymouth Community United Way office. The address is 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 2, Plymouth, MI 48170.

For more information, call Randi Williams at (734) 453-6879, ext. 7 or e-mail randi.williams@pcuw.org.

Museum seeks volunteers

The Wayne Historical Museum is seeking volunteers to help with various jobs including tour guides, display assistants and promotions.

Training will be provided and volunteers can choose their schedules and hours.

Applications are available at the museum from 1-4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. For more information, call (734) 722-0113.

County Lightfest is open

The 4-mile Wayne County Lightfest holiday display is now open.

Lightfest features more than 47 giant animated holiday-themed displays. The entire light show has been converted to environmentally beneficial LED lights.

Lightfest is open from 7-10 p.m. Monday - Thursday; from 6-10 p.m. Friday - Sunday through Dec. 31. The exhibit is closed Christmas Day, Dec. 25.

Visitors enter Lightfest at Hines Drive and Merriman Road in Westland and exit onto Warren Avenue near Telegraph Road in Dearborn Heights. There is a \$5 fee per vehicle. Hines Drive closes to traffic at 6 p.m. Monday - Thursday and at 5 p.m. Friday - Sunday.

Santa's Workshop at Warendale Park at the end of the Lightfest drive will be open through Dec. 23, concurrent with the Lightfest hours of operation.

Letters to Santa can be mailed in the giant mailbox outside Santa's Workshop.

For more information, call (734) 261-1900 or visit www.parks.waynecounty.com.

Dream Creatures on exhibit

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill will present "Dream Creatures," a mixed media solo exhibition featuring the works of Toon Gallagher through Jan. 31, 2016 in the Gallery@VT.

Displayed works include collages, plaster cloth sculptures, and hand sewn items turn into dreamlike creatures based on the images the artist has seen emerge from the layers of paper, paint, and cloth that were used in his pieces.

Gallagher is a self-taught artist whose inspiration comes from many sources, including song lyrics, fairy tales, dreams, and misheard snippets of passing conversations, according to a prepared release.

This multi-media art exhibit at the Gallery@VT is free and open to the public from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Monday - Friday and during public performances at the theater. The Gallery@VT is closed on hol-

idays.

The Village Theater at Cherry Hill is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. For more information, call (734) 394-5300 or visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org.

Daddy Daughter dances set

Come dance the night away at the City of Plymouth Recreation Department 5th annual Daddy Daughter Dance.

The dances will take place from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 5 and Feb. 6 at the Cultural Center Reception Room.

Music will be provided by a DJ from Dramatic Dimensions Entertainment. Light refreshments and snacks will be served. Semi-formal, dressy-casual attire is recommended and the event is suitable for all ages. Advance ticket purchase is required because space is limited and no tickets will be sold at the door.

Register with the City of Plymouth Recreation Department, 525 Farmer Plymouth, www.ci.plymouth.mi.us/recreation.

For more information, call (734) 455-9530.



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