

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

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It is not too late for members of the class of 2015 to apply for the Senior Art Scholarship awarded by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts.

See page 4.

THE CANTON EAGLE

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The man accused of breaking and entering several garages in a Canton Township subdivision has been arrested and charged.

See page 2.

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR

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One of the Michigan State Police officers patrolling the streets in Inkster will be a lot safer thanks to an anonymous donor who paid for a bullet and stab proof vest.

See page 5.

THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE

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Senator Patrick Colbeck will host a public healthcare forum featuring some of the most prominent healthcare March 30 at the Northville Township Hall.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE

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Earlier this month, eight students at the Plymouth Canton Community Schools radio station were honored by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Foundation.

See page 2.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

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The final stage of Goddard Road construction in Romulus will resume next month at the intersection of Wayne and Goddard roads.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE

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Current elected officials in Wayne were evenly divided on the question of voting by precinct or ward for each council seat, a charter amendment voters approved last year.

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THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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Recently, members of the Westland, Inkster and Garden City police department were honored for their heroics during a fire at Westland Presbyterian Village in January.

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Supervisor to be named on Tuesday

Don Howard
Staff Writer

Residents of Plymouth Township willing to become the municipal supervisor have until 7 p.m. tomorrow to notify the board of trustees of their interest in the job vacated by Richard Reaume last week.

Candidates need only be a township resident and a registered voter, according to a legal opinion rendered to the board of trustees. Included with a letter of interest should be a resume and any other qualification documentation appropriate to the position.

Reaume, who sent a formal letter of resignation to the board and Township Clerk Nancy Conzelman from one of his Florida homes last Sunday, will

officially retire April 6. State law allows the board of trustees 45 days from that date to fill the vacancy by appointment. After that time, the Wayne County Clerk would call a special election to fill the top job in the township.

Following township charter procedures, the board met in a special session last Saturday and unanimously elected first-term clerk Conzelman as the interim president pro-tem of the board. In that capacity, she chaired the standing-room-only meeting and facilitated the discussion of the procedures and process to name a new township superintendent, which was somewhat contentious.

Kurt Heise, the current Republican state representative has publicly declared his inter-



State Rep. Kurt Heise, who has announced his interest in the supervisor's post, listens to the discussion at the meeting Saturday. Photo by Don Howard

est in the job, while former township and city police chief and Republican Party activist Carl Berry told the 11th Republican District representatives at a meeting last week that he "would be willing to serve"

and said he has had "many phone calls" urging him to take the job. Heise has said that the township "is in crisis" and needs leadership. Berry told his party

See Supervisor, page 2

Memories Alumni hope to preserve high school artifacts

The large brick structure stands empty on Michigan Avenue, soon to be razed to the ground like so many other empty buildings in the area. Unlike many others, however, this is a special building to many residents who walked the halls, attended classes, cheered their sports heroes and walked across the stage to receive their diplomas from Inkster High School.

The hallways at the school are filled with memories even though most all the fixtures and furniture was sold off at auction last year. The school was closed, along with the others in the Inkster School District, by the State of Michigan in 2013, due to the dire financial condition of the district. The 940 students at the high school were assigned to neighboring districts along with the buildings and property. Inkster High School has become the responsibility of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service (RESA).

"They can destroy the building but they can't kill the spirit," said Dee Richardson, a former member of the Inkster District Board of Education and the Inkster City Council.

Richardson, along with a group of



Inkster High School, built in 1952, will be demolished by order of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency.

about 25 alumni of the school, is working to establish an Inkster High School museum to preserve the memorabilia and artifacts from the school, built originally in 1952, according to 40-year district veteran and former Superintendent of Schools and CEO Manuel Wilson. Richardson and her husband, James, who was also on the Inkster board of education for many years, Wilson and Norma McDaniel are leading the new Inkster High School Viking Alumni Foundation, a 501 c 3 organization, working to preserve the history of Inkster High School.

Richardson said she was unclear as to when the high school would come down but knew that attempts to sell the building had been futile. Most of the equipment and furnishings went up for auction last May in a sale ordered by RESA officials.

"We're told the high school and the other school buildings are coming down," Richardson said.

The new group is hoping to find a suit-

able building to house the artifacts and memorabilia along with funding to continue the preservation of the items from the school that have already been collected.

"It is so disheartening to see the schools coming down," Richardson said. "We want people to remember that we had a school district. We had a good school district at one time and a lot of famous people from Inkster graduated from that high school."

Richardson said the group is now looking for alumni of the high school to help establish the museum.

"We're reaching out to representatives of each graduating class," she said, "hoping to get them interested in helping."

Richardson said the destruction of the high school building will be another loss to the community.

For more information or to help with the effort, contact Richardson at (734) 595-6593, McDaniel at (734) 658-7363 or Wilson at manuelwilson197@hotmail.com.

Northville schools to ask for millage renewal

Voters in the Northville Public Schools district will be asked to renew a 0.9978 millage at the polls May 5.

The school district is asking voters to renew the Building Site and Sinking Fund millage originally approved in 2011 and used to make repairs across the 10 district school buildings and other facilities. The 0.9978-mill request is a renewal and will not result in a tax increase for school district homeowners, a district spokesperson stressed.

If approved, the millage renewal will provide the district with about \$2.5 million for each of the next five years from 2016 through 2020 - the current sinking fund millage, also for five years, which will expire on Dec. 31.

"Strong schools are the foundation of a strong community and maintaining optimal learning facilities is a key piece of the puzzle in preparing our students to live and work in the 21st century world," said Northville Superintendent Mary Kay Gallagher. "We are grateful for the incredible support of our school families and community members who recognize the relationship between

Strong schools are the foundation of a strong community.

exemplary schools and strong property values, and who make the education of our young people a top priority."

During the past decade, severe cuts in state funding for public schools has forced the school district to delay necessary repairs to school buildings in order to protect the learning that takes place in the classroom, she added. Since the 2008-09 school year, the district per-pupil allocation from the state - which is the primary source of funding for ongoing operations - has been reduced from \$8,538 to \$8,099, a \$3 million loss in annual revenues.

"If approved, the sinking fund renewal funds will help preserve general fund dollars to accomplish the district's core mission of instruction and student learning; enable students to learn in a safe, secure and healthy environment; protect the community's investment in our school district build-

ings; and maintain appropriate learning facilities that make Northville a place that families want to live, work and have their children go to school," Gallagher said. "And, it will keep Northville taxpayer dollars in Northville!"

All but three Northville school buildings are 40 or more years old, and like residential and commercial structures reaching this age, major building system and site repairs are needed to maintain the district's facilities, she added.

"These projects that would be paid for through the sinking fund renewal represent the same sorts of regular repairs and improvements we do around our homes in order to protect our investment and keep our families safe and healthy," said Northville Board of Education President Cyndy Jankowski. "Our community has invested a great deal in our school district and the May 5 sinking fund renewal election is an opportunity for the community to protect that investment."

A Facility Condition Assessment was con-

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