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WEEK OF JANUARY 21 - JANUARY 27, 2016



TELEGRAM

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National Guard arrives in Flint to help with water crisis

By Shelby Jefferson – Telegram Staff Writer



A resident compares water quality in Flint to water from Detroit

Last week, Governor Rick Snyder summoned the National Guard to assist with the Flint water crisis. Services will be rendered through an Executive Order, utilizing the force to distribute supplies at five different resource sites. The announcement comes a week after Snyder declared a national emergency to increase aid efforts throughout the city. "As we work to ensure that all Flint residents have access to

clean and safe drinking water, we are providing them with the direct assistance they need in order to stretch our resources further," he said in a press release. "The Michigan National Guard is trained and ready to assist the citizens of Flint." National Guard representatives arrived last Wednesday, and could soon be joined by various federal agencies like

Flint water - Page 7A

Detroit Teachers' action are a cry for help



Teachers, parents and community members support the Teacher's Sick Out with Rally at Cobo Hall. Over 90% of DPS schools closed on Wednesday

DETROIT—Statement by Ivy Bailey, interim president of the Detroit Federation of Teachers, on today's teacher

actions: Cities need thriving, safe and welcoming public schools, and

Detroit is no different. Educators, parents and the com-

Detroit Schools- Page 6A

Explosion at Ecorse restroom caused by gas leak

By Shelby Jefferson – Telegram Staff Writer



A public restroom at Dingell Park in Ecorse exploded last Thursday

A public bathroom explosion at Dingell Park in Ecorse was caused by a gas leak, officials confirm. The explosion occurred around 7 AM last Thursday, causing a shutdown of surrounding roads until 3 PM.

According to Ecorse Sgt. Narda Bruno, police received a call from residents reporting a gas smell in the early morning hours of January 14th. The Ecorse Fire Department responded, in addition to DTE Energy, though the com-

pany reported that no issues had been found prior to the incident. "[DTE] was called out at approximately 3 AM, but didn't find any issues. The leak was

Explosion - Page 7A

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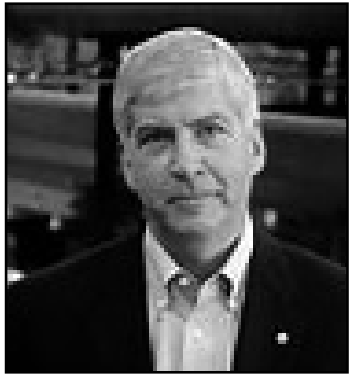
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NEWS FROM LANSING

Governor Rick Snyder releases all emails sent, received on Flint



LANSING, Mich. - Gov. Rick Snyder today released all emails he sent and received regarding Flint from Jan. 2014 through Dec. 2015.

On Tuesday evening, he said during his State of the State address:

"Tomorrow I will release my 2014 and 2015 emails regarding Flint to you, the citizens, so that you have answers to your questions about what we've done and what we're doing to make this right for the families of Flint. Anyone will be able to read this information for themselves at Michigan.gov/Snyder. Because the most important thing we can do right now is to work hard and work together for the people of Flint."

A timeline of 2014 and 2015 actions on Flint water is available here.

For more information on the governor's speech, Snyder - Page 3A

Wayne County Democrats Respond to Snyder's State of the State Address



State Rep. George T. Darany (D-Dearborn) attended the 2016 State of the State address at the state Capitol on Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016, with special guests Wayne County Commission Chairman Gary Woronchak and his wife, Vivian Woronchak.

The lawmakers said Michiganians are struggling because of the decisions and priorities of Gov. Snyder and the Republican Legislature.

"Since taking full control of state government in 2011, Republicans in Lansing have underinvested in education, leaving local schools in distress and pricing many students out of a college education," said state Rep. Frank Liberati (D-Allen Park). "We need to give our kids every chance to succeed, and that starts with adequately supporting education at every level."



State Rep. Kristy Pagan (D-Canton) attended the 2016 State of the State address at the state Capitol on Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016, with special guest Adrienne Quinn, a teacher at Discovery Middle School.

"Bills that would guarantee equal pay for women and

earned sick leave for workers have languished in committee for nearly a year — legislative Republicans have refused to even grant them a hearing," said state Rep. Kristy Pagan (D-Canton). "We need to focus on what matters most to our recovery as a state: supporting the men and women who work hard every day to provide for their families."

Rather than continuing a legislative agenda that prioritizes big corporations over working families and small businesses, House Democrats prioritize legislation that would make college more affordable, improve education for all Michigan children and reduce taxes on families and seniors.

"When middle-class families don't have to pick up

Dems speak - Page 9A

Oversight Vice Chair Calls For Criminal Prosecution In Flint Water Crisis



more serious than that."

"I think there should be criminal prosecution," Robinson said.

Robinson labeled the situation in Flint "unconscionable."

"We have irreversibly damaged the lives of children in their mothers' wombs and little children. There's no way we can take it back," she said.

"They shouldn't get away with this," she added. "The Governor shouldn't get away with this."

Asked if she believes Gov. Rick SNYDER should be prosecuted, as some activists have suggested, Robinson responded, "I don't give a damn about the Governor."

Robinson then continued that ultimately, "the buck stops there in the Governor's Office."

The second-term lawmaker said she's thought about writing a personal letter to the U.S. Department of Justice about Flint.

The department is already looking into the water crisis.

As for Oversight Committee hearings in the House, Oversight Chair Ed MCBROOM (R-Vulcan) has said his committee will hold a hearing on an upcoming audit of the state's Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance (See "House Oversight Panel Planning Hearing On Audit Of Water Office," 12/30/15).

Rep. Rose Mary ROBINSON (D-Detroit), the minority vice chair of the House Oversight Committee, says there should be criminal prosecution in the fallout of the Flint water crisis.

Today, Robinson, a defense attorney by trade, said the U.S. Department of Justice should look into who put the 2014 switch of Flint's water source in motion and "hold them responsible."

The handling of that switch, which moved the city's water source to the Flint River from the Detroit water system, had led to increased lead levels in city water and more individuals with elevated lead levels in their blood.

"I think it's a crime by omission," Robinson said. "Public officials have a duty to act and protect the public, including the Governor."

Robinson said it wouldn't hurt for the House Oversight Committee to begin some preliminary inquiries about what happened in Flint. But she added that she believes "it's

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Michigan poisons poor to save a few bucks

By Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr. - NNPA News Wire Columnist



Flint, Michigan is impoverished. The auto plants have closed. Forty percent of the city's 100,000 residents live below the poverty level. It is majority minority. It's been in fiscal crisis since 2011, with the state taking over budgetary control and a state-appointed "emergency manager" driving policy focused on cutting spending.

Flint residents are Americans, but like many impoverished Americans they are forgotten. And state officials led by Gov. Rick Snyder have shown that they consider the residents disposable.

In Flint, the water supply has been poisoned by lead. Police are now delivering bottled water from door to door. But it may be too late for hundreds of kids who are already suffering from elevated levels of lead in their blood. The damage done is irreversible with lifelong consequences, including lowered intelligence and long-term mental and emotional damage.

How did this happen? The emergency manager — accountable only to the governor and state officials — decided to save money by switching Flint's water supply from Lake Huron to a cheaper source, the Flint River. Only the river had been poisoned by waste from nearby factories for generations. The toxic wastes not only turned the water brown, it corroded the aged pipes of Flint's water system, unleashing lead into the water. Federal law required that the water be treated, but that would have cost \$100 a day, so it was not done.

Parents began to complain of rashes and hair loss. The state's environmental quality agency denied there was a problem. High-level state officials knew that the water supply was lead poisoned for six months before declaring an emergency. Finally, a Flint pediatrician tested the blood of children and discovered lead levels double and even triple the prior amounts. State officials denounced her work be-

fore realizing the truth could no longer be hidden.

Finally, Gov. Snyder ended the denial. He declared an official emergency, and four days later called for delivering bottled water. The head of his environmental agency resigned. Snyder apologized for the catastrophe, but calls for him to resign continue to build.

Flint is not alone. Across America, in ghettos and barrios, reservations and rural valleys, the poor are isolated and too often forgotten. Systems basic to civilization — plumbing, water systems, school houses, garbage collection and treatment, roads and public transport — are in squalor, lacking even the investment to keep them up to minimum standards. Impoverished neighborhoods often lack hospitals, grocery stores, and decent public spaces. The poor are left to fend for themselves, rising to attention only when violence breaks out, when innocents are shot, when tragedies like Flint become public.

The cost of this callousness — in lives lost, disease, mental damage, crime, drugs, hopelessness — are immense. This isn't about money. We pay more on the back end — in prisons and emergency rooms, cops and guards, prisons and addiction centers — than we would have to spend on the front-end investments that would give every child a chance.

Conservatives continue to call for dismantling environmental regulations. They slash budgets for policing violations by corporations or cities. They want to slash support for poverty programs and block-grant them to the states and localities. The next time you hear that rap, think of Flint, its poorest children betrayed by state officials. Think of Flint deprived even of safe water in order to save a few bucks.

Think of Flint and investigate your own community — the horrors of Flint are not exclusive to that city.

Snyder

From Page 2A

visit mi.gov/stateofthestate.

To learn how to help Flint, or for residents who need water resources, visit www.helpforflint.com.

To download and read the emails, please click here. Note: Due to its size, this document may take extra time to download.

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Just a few things

By Jim Abeare - Telegram Columnist



Jim Caldwell
Detroit Lions Coach



Hillary Clinton
Presidential Candidate

A few things on my mind this week.

First, new Detroit Lions General Manager, Bob Quinn, decided to keep head coach Jim Caldwell.

Some really hate the move. They wanted Caldwell gone.

Question is, who would've replaced him?

There wasn't really a coach out there to hire.

You don't really want to start all over again with a new scheme and a lost season, though some think we are going into a lost season with Caldwell as head coach.

Give Caldwell a chance with the new G.M. I am sure if 2016 starts like 2015 did, Quinn will pull the trigger and fire Caldwell.

In my mind the Lions did better than I thought they would. I had them at 6-10.

Has anyone else asked why the Democratic debates are on Broadcast tv and the Republicans are on cable?

Though it does seem that the Republicans are pulling higher ratings. The Democrats have been stuck on weekend evenings.

The Democrats are a more diverse bunch, all of them being rich and white, but one of them is a Socialist.

The Flint water crisis is a tragedy but comparing it to Hurricane Katrina is a bit of a stretch.

Also, why are people chiming in, Hillary Clinton, and trying to turn the tragedy into a racial problem? Hillary Clinton.

Instead of putting in a problem that isn't there, why not try and solve the problem that is there

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ARE YOU YOUR BROTHER'S KEEPER?

Uniform

by Janine Folks By Janine Folks - Religion Columnist



When you're playing a team sport or a part of an organization, people need to be able to identify you as a part of the team. It like a trademark that we integrated it into almost everything and it became a part of our identity.

In order for a game to be played effectively, teammates wear uniforms. This allows you to easily identify your teammates for support and you can easily spot your opponents. Without uniforms, there would be lots of confusion and probably pandemonium.

In society, we often assess people by their uniform. But since people generally don't wear uniforms as normal attire, we judge by outer appearances. Whether intentional or not, consciously or not, we tend to make some determinations about people based on what they are wearing.

We also assess according to behaviors and other obvious attributes. What kind of message are you conveying? According to your own persona and attire, whose team are you identifying with? What does it make people think about you?

We often say we don't care what people think about us. But whether we care or not, some people notice, and sometimes it matters. This is why for the most part, you wouldn't wear dirty smelly clothes to a job interview or celebratory event. Generally, we try to dress for the occasion we are attending.

In the Bible, I imagine that soldiers who fought in armies wore similar amour designs and colors. This would have helped them to know who to kill and who not to kill. Other than that implication, the Bible does not speak on uniform wearing.

However, the Bible does tell us how we can recognize each other: "You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles? A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit (Matthew 7:16-18NLT). This was pointed out because 'false prophets were coming disguised as harmless sheep but are really vicious wolves.' They were told to beware (v.15).

With that in mind, mind your fruit. It's your uniform so to speak. Uniforms are a sign of solidarity and cohesion. Be mindful of who and what you are representing. What's your uniform?


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BLACK HISTORY FACT**

Constance Baker Motley was the first black woman to be appointed as a federal judge?



Selected by President Lyndon B. Johnson at the advisement of Senator Robert Kennedy, Motley became head of the Southern District of New York in 1966. A child of Caribbean immigrants/community activists, Motley was drawn to civil rights issues at an early age—attending Fisk University and later the Columbia School of Law.

Serving as Thurgood Marshall's law clerk upon graduation, Motley eventually joined the NAACP's Legal Defense and Educational Fund where she drafted the original Brown v. Board of Education complaint. As the lead attorney in several civil rights cases, she became a key legal strategist who represented student activists, Freedom Riders and even Martin Luther King, Jr. In 1962, Motley became the first African American woman to argue before the U.S.

Supreme Court, gaining a victory in Meredith v. Fair which allowed James Meredith to become the first black student admitted to the University of Mississippi.

Four years later, Motley reached the historical high-point of her career as a federal judge, ultimately becoming senior judge in 1986 – a position she held until her death in 2005. Most remembered as a chief legal voice during the Civil Rights Movement, Motley also championed for women's rights – demonstrated through her notorious 1978 ruling that allowed a female reporter to enter the New York Yankees' locker room.

In the end, Motley's life stands best summarized by her famous quotes: "Something which we think is impossible now is not impossible in another decade."

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Romulus - Page 12A

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Former Police Officer Sentenced to Over 260 Years For Raping Black Women

Daniel Holtzclaw found guilty on 18 out of 36 counts of sexual battery, rape and other offenses

By BlackEnterprise.com



Former Oklahoma City cop, Daniel Holtzclaw, was found guilty on 18 out of 36 counts of rape and sexual battery, and sentenced to over 260 years in prison. (Source: NBC news)

A jury found former Oklahoma City police officer Daniel Holtzclaw guilty Thursday of some of the most serious charges against him, including sexual battery, forcible oral sodomy and rape.

Holtzclaw faced 36 counts. He was found guilty on 18.

The former officer cried openly in the courtroom and rocked in his chair as the verdict was being read. Jurors deliberated for more than 40 hours over four days.

The Oklahoma City Police Department welcomed the verdict. "We are satisfied with the jury's decision and firmly believe justice was served," it said.

Sentencing is set for next month.

His trial touched upon the explosive intersection of race, policing and justice in America.

Holtzclaw, whose father is white and mother Japanese,

saying justice can't prevail, but we can be suspicious of it being (run) in a manner."

Benjamin Crump, president of the National Bar Association, was also monitoring the case. He represented the families of Trayvon Martin and Michael Brown. Martin, a black teenager, was fatally shot by George Zimmerman, who was acquitted of charges in 2013. Brown was killed by an officer in Ferguson, Missouri, in 2014.

"We will be here to make sure that this is not swept under the rug," Crump told reporters after attending a portion of the trial last month. "We come here to stand with these 13 victims of rape, who happen to be African-American women, to say that their lives matter, too."

In the first pool of 24 potential jurors, there were three black men, but they were not picked for the jury. Two alternates have Spanish surnames. About 70 potential jurors were initially called in for the case, the affiliate reported. Prosecutors would not comment on the jury composition.

At the center of the case was how all victims, ages 17 to 50s, had criminal histories of drug use or prostitution, according to The Oklahoman newspaper.

was accused of assaulting or raping 13 women, all black, while he was on the job. Court records identify his race as "Asian or Pacific Islander."

The jury was all-white, composed of eight men and four women.

These racial dimensions energized civil rights and women's activists to draw attention to the case. Before the verdict was read, Oklahoma City NAACP President Garland Pruitt was concerned about the jury in the case, he told CNN affiliate KOCO.

"We're very disappointed, very, very disappointed, that we don't have any minorities on there," Pruitt said. "We're not

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Detroit Schools

From Page 1A

munity are fed up with Lansing's inaction on the abysmal conditions that permeate Detroit public schools. No one has confidence in Gov. Rick Snyder or Emergency Manager Darnell Earley, who have the power to do something to fix the schools. Today's action by teachers, though discouraged by the Detroit Federation of Teachers, was a cry for help. People are yearning for someone to pay attention, and with President Obama coming to the Detroit auto show, they didn't want to miss an opportunity to let him know how deep the frustration is over what's happened to the schools for 47,000 kids.

"Teachers want safe and healthy school conditions, local—not state—control of their schools, and a fair and good contract that includes equitable pay and that shows respect for the work they do every single day. Teachers are the glue holding the Detroit schools together, yet they took a 10 percent pay cut, have had no pay increases for a decade and have had constant cuts in their health care benefits."



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Flint water

From Page 1A

the Department of Health and Human Services, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Army Corps of Engineers. American Red Cross volunteers also remain active throughout the city, venturing door-to-door to inform residents of where they can find free bottled water, filters, and home water testing kits.

In recent months, the Flint crisis gained national attention, with many activists calling for Snyder to resign or be removed from his position as governor. Nevertheless, the issue dates back as far as April 2014, when the city's water source was switched from the Lake Huron system in Detroit to the Flint River. Today, Snyder remains under fire for initiating the changes despite knowing its potential dangers – actions that exposed Flint residents, mainly children, to toxic lead levels in the drinking water (some estimates report that quantities measure more than 900 times the EPA limit, leading to numerous cases of juvenile lead poisoning).

Adding fuel to the fire, the city and surrounding areas have reported a recent rise in Legionnaire's disease. 10 out of 87 cases have been fatal in Genesee County, though details on whether the outbreak can be linked to the water remain unconfirmed.

In a statement last week, Flint Mayor Karen Weaver approved state efforts to bring resources to the area, but maintains that more assistance will be needed "to cope with this man-made water disaster." U.S. Congressman

Explosion

From Page 1A



The bathroom facility at Dingell Park will be torn down

definitely there though because our officers and the fire department smelled it," said Bruno. "They left the scene around 5 AM, and the building blew up a couple hours after that."

No injuries were reported following the explosion, though hundreds of residents and business owners were forced to evacuate, in addition to students at Grandport Academy to ensure that everyone remained safe.

It remains unclear as to when the issue will be fixed, though DTE officials maintain that an investigation will soon determine what caused the explo-

sion. According to Bruno, costs of repairs are also unconfirmed.

Dingell Park, located at West Jefferson Avenue and Southfield Road, is currently locked and closed for the winter months. The park will likely reopen as scheduled this spring, though the restroom facility impacted by the explosion will remain inaccessible to visitors. "We don't know when the leak will be fixed, but the park will probably reopen on schedule during the spring," said Bruno. "However the construction has been compromised. The building will have to be torn down."

Dan Kildee – a Flint native – echoes Weaver's thoughts, further expressing that Michigan has a "moral obligation" to immediately repair the crisis in Flint.

"The residents of Flint have suffered a terrible tragedy and I will tirelessly advocate to get them the resources to deal with this crisis," he said. "I was able to talk with President Obama after the State of the

Union...and reiterate my call for federal assistance. I encourage Governor Snyder to request additional resources from the federal government, and I stand ready and willing to work with him to get Flint the help it needs."

For up to date information regarding the Flint crisis, please visit [www. http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater](http://www.michigan.gov/flintwater).

CRIME ALERTS

RIVER ROUGE

January 11th, 2016

At 0551hrs, officers were dispatched to the 1st Block of East Great Lakes Street to investigate a report of someone trying to kick in doors. Officers arrived and observed a 33 year old male through an up stairs window above the front entrance wearing a black hooded over his head. The male was trying to kick the door in to apartment #4 and when he seen police he attempted to run down the stairs and then ran into a basement apartment. Officer went around the back of the building trying to gain entry and observed a basement window broken. Ecorse PD was notified and came to assist and secure the perimeters while the officer made entry. Officers apprehended the suspect and placed him under arrest for Breaking & Entering. Officers observed a back pack sitting just inside the apartment under the broken window. The bag contained 2 outdoor security motion lights, screw driver and a pair of pliers. All the property was later identified and returned to the owner.

proached the vehicle and requested the license, proof of insurance and Registration. The driver gave the officer a Michigan Identification Card. A check with LEION showed the driver's license was expired. The 23 year old male was asked to exit the vehicle and officers could smell a strong odor of "Marijuana" and upon a inventory of the vehicle officers observed a black bag in the glove compartment that contained 10.7 grams of Marijuana and a digital scale and small plastic bag containing remnants of cultivated "Marijuana" The male was placed under arrest and transported to the police station.

January 16th, 2016

At 1633hrs., Officers were dispatched to the 2nd Block of Stoner on a Domestic Disturbance call. The 44 year old female told officer the 57 year old male is her former boyfriend of 6 years. She states they have been broke up over one year, and he became angry about food missing from inside the refrigerator. So he started throwing food out on the floor and when she told him to stop he took a large pot of rice out and hit her with it. The male stated his foot was cut because she hit him with a garbage can. He told officers he could do anything he wanted to do. He was offered medical treatment but refused.

January 17th, 2016
At 1930hrs, an officer was north bound on patrol at Genesee & Oak when he observed a silver 2016 Jeep Patriot disregard the Stop Sign at Pine & Genesee. The officer conducted a Traffic Stop and ap-

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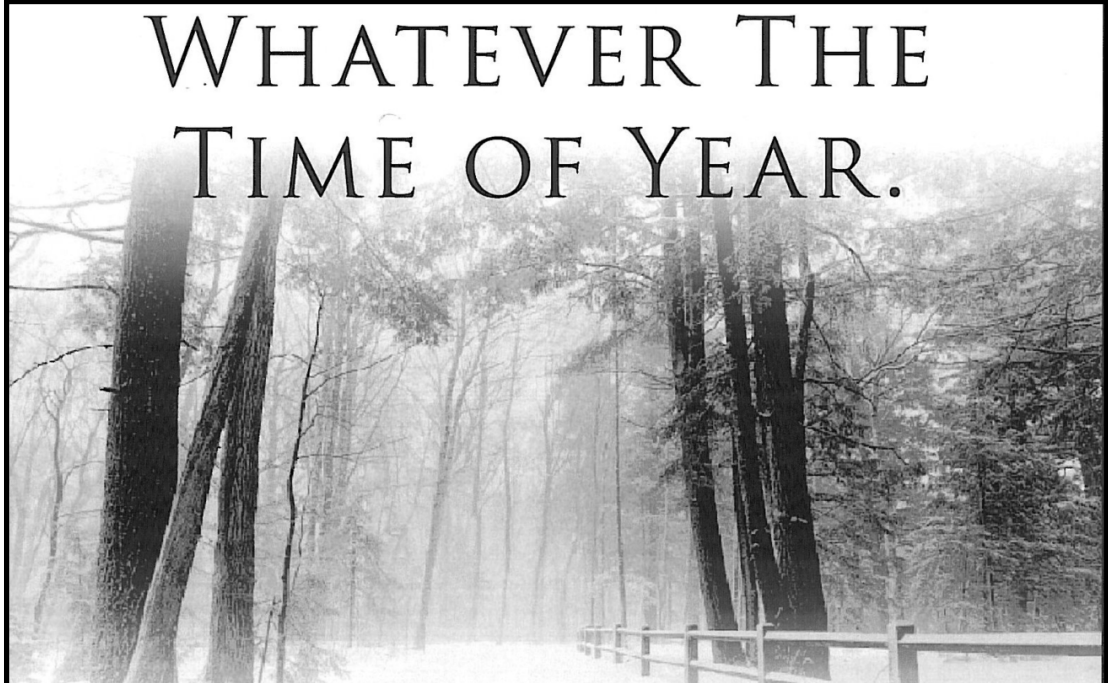
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All Saints volunteers prepare to feed members of the community

For the past 25 years, the All Saints Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry has worked to alleviate hunger in the community. The faith based organization is an extension of All Saints Catholic Church in Detroit, living by the motto: "In the interaction with our brothers and sisters, we are providers of nourishment to both body and soul." Run by community members and volunteers from local parishes, the All Saints Food Pantry is open to the public Tuesdays 10 AM - Noon, and Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:30 PM - 3 PM. Clients will usually find fresh produce, canned goods, frozen and refrigerated foods – much of which is provided by Gleaners

Community Food Bank and Forgotten Harvest.

Overall, All Saints serves specific zip codes, but residents from outside zones will be serviced on a one time emergency basis (they will then be referred to a facility in their region where they can receive future food). Per pantry policy, no one is turned away; though patrons are required to bring proper documentation in order to receive food.

"Those who come in do need to provide proof of identification, as well as proof of residency," said All Saints member Kathy Katalina. "Kids can bring a birth certificate, their Medicaid card, etc. That's

it, we don't require that they have a referral to come. Everyone is welcome." Additionally, the All Saints Soup Kitchen is open every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM. Meals include a main meat, vegetable, salad, bread, fruit, dessert, and a choice of a hot or cold drink. The organization successfully feeds 100-200 people per day through their soup kitchen, and remains dedicated to answering "the call to feed Christ's lambs." For additional information, please visit www.asskdetroit.org.

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Dems Speak

From Page 2A



State Rep. Julie Plawecki (D-Dearborn Heights) attended the 2016 State of the State address at the state Capitol on Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2016, with special guest Inkster Mayor Byron Nolen.

the tab for corporate tax cuts, they can spend more at local businesses, help their kids pay for college and invest in their retirement," said **State Rep. Julie Plawecki** (D-Dearborn Heights) "This is the way our economy will truly thrive — rebuilding from the middle class out will help everyone, not just the wealthy and well-connected. The path to a better Michigan is paved through focusing on policies that benefit all of our state's residents — not just a select few."

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DETROIT, MI – This Valentine’s Day, the incomparable Iyanla Vanzant will converse with a select group about the power of self-love surrounding the world’s most popular romantic holiday over an intimate lunch with only 250 people. She will discuss why singles are unfulfilled because of who they don’t have, why others are unhappy with who they do have, and how our ability to love others is affected by how deeply we love ourselves.

selling author, inspirational speaker, and host of OWN Network’s number one show, Fix My Life, will also answer questions after her presentation. Do not miss this opportunity to hear from and chat with one of our nation’s foremost thought leaders on self-love and healthy relationships. Enjoy Iyanla Vanzant in an intimate sitting at the Big Rock inside The Reserve on February 13, 2016 – 12noon to 4pm at The Big Rock (The Reserve) 245 S. Eaton St. Birmingham, MI. The Big Rock Reserve has a host of conveniences

such as valet parking, award-winning menus and state-of-the-art audio and video capabilities, renowned four-star restaurant and exquisite banquet facility. This event is proudly sponsored by PW Media and StJOHN Providence. Tickets for the event are available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/loves-holidayweekend-whos-loving-you-a-conversation-with-ianla-vanzant-tickets> For more information please call Marli Blackman at 313-790-1076

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Tigers Transformation Continuing

By Butch Davis - Sports Reporter



Tiger's new left-fielder Justin Upton

The transformation is continuing for the Detroit Tigers as new Vice President and general manager Al Avila who replaced the fired Dave Dombrowski last season is working overtime to bring winning back to the states professional baseball team. As this past late Monday night, free agent outfielder Justin Upton has agreed to terms with the Detroit Tigers on a six-year deal worth \$132.75 million, per Bob Nightengale of USA Today. Upton hit .251 with 26 home runs, 26 doubles and 19 stolen bases in 150 games for the San Diego Padres in 2015. He also adds to a need in left field a position the Tigers finally fill before going to spring training in February. Upton was ranked as the seventh-best free agent in base-

ball this offseason by many covering major league baseball including yours truly. The Tigers will be Upton's fourth team in the last five seasons, however, at 28 years old, Upton is one of the youngest free agents on the market. The No. 1 overall pick in 2005 has played in at least 149 games in each of the last five years. For the last seven seasons he has averaged 30 doubles, 25 home runs, 16 steals, 89 runs and 80 RBI in 148 games per year while hitting .275 during that span. After a disappointing 74-88 campaign in 2015, owner Mike Ilitch has again opened up his wallet this offseason, having also signed pitcher Jordan Zimmermann to a five-year, \$110 million contract. Upton and Zimmermann will join a

Tigers team that will expect to have a bounce-back seasons and in the running for a Central Division title and a playoff spot as Miguel Cabrera, Victor Martinez and Justin Verlander, all who battled through injuries in 2015. Yes, the Tigers finished last in the AL Central in 2015, which was a disappointment as they'd won the previous four division titles in the seasons past.

Tigers have now added Upton, Cameron Maybin and Mike Aviles on the offensive side. They signed starters Jordan Zimmermann and Mike Pelfrey, and aided a chronically poor bullpen by acquiring Francisco Rodriguez, Mark Lowe and Justin Wilson. The effectiveness of the pitching staff was dreadful in 2015 nevertheless will be a plus in some portion with a healthy return of Justin Verlander, who, indeed, was excellent in the second half of last season. In addition, the team has also sign catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia to a contract to give the team a pretty good backup to James McCann who has prove to everyone that he is a full time player. By the way, Bryan Holaday is still on the 40-man roster, however, time will tell if he remains on the team, be trader to other team or be sent down play for the Toledo Mudhens the Tigers minor league AAA club.

Oscar experts on 'whiteout' boycott: Academy needs to fix itself



Director, Spike Lee, won't attend the event

Last year's Academy Awards brought harsh words for its all-white field of acting nominees. This year's repeat is finally bringing action.

A "heartbroken and frustrated" Academy president Cheryl Boone Isaacs issued a lengthy missive Monday night that called for "big changes" and outlined a plan for "dramatic steps to alter the makeup of our membership," which include reviewing recruitment. But that "was like putting a Band-Aid on a gunshot wound," says Shawn Edwards, film critic for Kansas City's Fox 4 and co-founder of the African American Film Critics Association. "It is the right thing to do, but it's not really going to help anything."

As the nation celebrated Mar-

tin Luther King Day, Spike Lee announced via Insta-

gram that he would boycott the Feb. 28 ceremony — though he was given an honorary Oscar by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences last November. Jada Pinkett Smith followed suit with a Facebook video: "We are a dignified people and we are powerful — let's not forget it," she said of the lack of inclusion.

While the Oscars have suffered from these kinds of complaints before, this is the most high-profile threat of retaliation, O'Neil says.

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This Week in Varsity High School Basketball

By Butch Davis

The action for the Girls and Boys basketball is going to be hot and heavy as some of the best games will be taking place and yes league playoffs will commence along with offering and often producing some of the best competition of the season. In addition, it is less than five weeks away from districts for the Girls (Feb. 29, March 2) and six weeks away in support of the Boys (March 7, 9 & 11).

The tournaments are a fresh start for all athletes to square off once more against local rivals to win a ticket to the big house at the Breslin Center, East Lansing. Here is this week's high school varsity basketball action for the Girls and Boys.

Fans get out and enjoy.

Varsity Basketball (Boys)

- 01/21 7:00 PM Lutheran Westland at Ann Arbor Greenhills
- 01/21 7:30 PM Taylor Baptist Park at Brighton Livingston Christian
- 01/22 7:00 PM Southgate Anderson at Allen Park
- 01/22 8:30 PM Novi Franklin Road Christian at Allen Park Inter-City Baptist
- 01/22 7:00 PM Lincoln Park at Brownstown Woodhaven
- 01/22 7:00 PM Redford Union at Dearborn
- 01/22 7:00 PM Belleville at Dearborn Edsel Ford
- 01/22 6:45 PM Dearborn Heights Crestwood at Dearborn Fordson
- 01/22 7:00 PM Garden City at Dearborn Heights Annapolis
- 01/22 7:00 PM Livonia Clarenceville at Dearborn Hgts Robichaud
- 01/22 6:00 PM Detroit Old Redford at Dearborn Henry Ford Academy
- 01/22 6:30 PM Warren Michigan Collegiate at Dearborn Hts Star International
- 01/22 7:30 PM Melvindale Academy for Business & Tech at Detroit Allen Academy
- 01/22 7:00 PM River Rouge at Detroit Henry Ford Academy
- 01/22 7:30 PM Dearborn Divine Child at Detroit Loyola
- 01/22 4:00 PM Detroit Cass Tech at Detroit Martin Luther King
- 01/22 4:00 PM Detroit Western International at Detroit Pershing
- 01/22 7:00 PM Taylor Trillium at Ecorse
- 01/22 7:30 PM Taylor Baptist Park at Newport Lutheran South
- 01/22 7:00 PM Romulus at Redford Thurston
- 01/22 7:00 PM Milan at Riverview
- 01/22 7:00 PM Wyandotte Roosevelt at Taylor Kennedy
- 01/22 7:00 PM Taylor Truman at Trenton
- 01/22 7:00 PM Westland John Glenn at Wayne Memorial
- 01/23 1:00 PM Detroit Collegiate Prep at Melvindale
- 01/23 7:00 PM Allen Park Inter-City Baptist at Taylor Truman
- 01/26 7:30 PM Dearborn Advanced Tech at Allen Park Cabrini
- 01/26 7:00 PM Ann Arbor Greenhills at Allen Park Inter-City Baptist
- 01/26 7:00 PM Garden City at Dearborn
- 01/26 7:00 PM Redford Thurston at Dearborn Edsel Ford
- 01/26 6:45 PM Belleville at Dearborn Fordson
- 01/26 7:00 PM Dearborn Heights Robichaud at Dearborn Heights Annapolis
- 01/26 4:00 PM Detroit Cass Tech at Detroit Cody
- 01/26 7:00 PM Romulus Summit Academy at Detroit Old Redford
- 01/26 6:45 PM Dearborn Hts Star International at Detroit University Prep
- 01/26 4:00 PM Detroit Mumford at Detroit Western International
- 01/26 7:00 PM Taylor Baptist at Lutheran Westland
- 01/26 7:00 PM Taylor Kennedy at Melvindale
- 01/26 7:00 PM Riverview at Monroe Jefferson
- 01/26 7:00 PM Hamtramck at River Rouge
- 01/26 7:00 PM Dearborn Heights Crestwood at Romulus
- 01/26 7:00 PM Dearborn Henry Ford Academy at Southfield Bradford Academy
- 01/26 7:00 PM Trenton at Southgate Anderson
- 01/26 7:00 PM Lincoln Park at Taylor Truman
- 01/26 7:00 PM Allen Park at Wyandotte Roosevelt

Varsity Basketball (Girls)

- 01/21 6:00 PM Taylor Baptist Park at Brighton Livingston Christian
- 01/22 7:00 PM Novi Franklin Road Christian at Allen Park Inter-City Baptist
- 01/22 7:30 PM Detroit Cristo Rey at Austin Catholic Academy
- 01/22 7:00 PM Dearborn Heights Annapolis at Belleville
- 01/22 7:30 PM Warren Regina at Dearborn Divine Child
- 01/22 7:00 PM Dearborn at Dearborn Heights Crestwood
- 01/22 5:30 PM Detroit Cass Tech at Detroit Martin Luther King
- 01/22 6:30 PM Dearborn Henry Ford Academy at Detroit Old Redford
- 01/22 5:30 PM Detroit Western International at Detroit Pershing
- 01/22 6:00 PM Taylor Preparatory at Hamtramck
- 01/22 7:00 PM Detroit Henry Ford Academy at River Rouge
- 01/22 7:00 PM Dearborn Heights Robichaud at Romulus
- 01/22 5:00 PM Romulus Summit Academy at Southfield Bradford Academy
- 01/22 7:00 PM Allen Park at Southgate Anderson
- 01/22 7:00 PM Bloomfield Hills Roeper at Taylor Baptist Park
- 01/22 7:00 PM Trenton at Taylor Truman
- 01/23 5:30 PM Allen Park Inter-City Baptist at Taylor Truman
- 01/25 7:00 PM New Boston Huron at Riverview
- 01/26 7:00 PM Wyandotte Roosevelt at Allen Park

| | | |
|-------|---------|--|
| 01/26 | 7:00 PM | Lutheran Westland at Ann Arbor Greenhills |
| 01/26 | 7:00 PM | Dearborn Fordson at Belleville |
| 01/26 | 7:30 PM | Dearborn Divine Child at Bloomfield Hills Marian |
| 01/26 | 7:00 PM | Romulus at Dearborn Heights Crestwood |
| 01/26 | 7:00 PM | Dearborn Edsel Ford at Dearborn Heights Ro-bichaud |
| 01/26 | 6:00 PM | Southfield Bradford Academy at Dearborn Henry Ford Academy |
| 01/26 | 4:30 PM | Detroit University Prep at Dearborn Hts Star International |
| 01/26 | 6:00 PM | Taylor Preparatory at Detroit Consortium |
| 01/26 | 7:00 PM | Taylor Truman at Lincoln Park |
| 01/26 | 7:30 PM | Allen Park Cabrini at Macomb Lutheran North |
| 01/26 | 7:30 PM | Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard at Riverview Gabriel Richard |
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CITY OF RIVER ROUGE PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF RIVER ROUGE, MICHIGAN
 At a special meeting of the City Council of the City of River Rouge held on December 31, 2015
 The following Commissioners were present:
 Present: Campbell, Cooney, Perry, Pierce, Ward
 Mayor Bowdler in the Chair
 Excused: Pruneau
 15-312 Approval for emergency repairs to sewer main
 15-313 Motion to adjourn
 A complete copy of the minutes can be obtained at the City Clerk's office (313) 842-5604.
 Patricia Johnson City Clerk

HAVING AN EVENT?
THE TELEGRAM CAN HELP YOU INFORM THE COMMUNITY.
SEND US AN EMAIL OR DROP THE

HELP WANTED * HELP WANTED

CITY OF INKSTER
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT COORDINATOR
 City of Inkster is seeking a qualified candidate to fill position in the Community Development department. Interested Candidates, please visit our website at www.cityofinkster.com/services/humanresources to apply.

CITY OF RIVER ROUGE PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF RIVER ROUGE, MICHIGAN
 At a special meeting of the City Council of the City of River Rouge held on December 18, 2015
 The following Commissioners were present:
 Present: Campbell, Cooney, Perry, Pierce, Ward
 Mayor Bowdler in the Chair
 Excused: Pruneau
 15-310 Approval to amend the budget to allow for Police Inspector
 15-311 Motion to adjourn
 A complete copy of the minutes can be obtained at the City Clerk's office (313) 842-5604.
 Patricia Johnson City Clerk

CITY OF RIVER ROUGE PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF RIVER ROUGE, MICHIGAN
 At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of River Rouge held on December 2, 2015
 The following Commissioners were present:
 Present: Campbell, Cooney, Perry, Pierce, Ward
 Mayor Bowdler in the Chair
 Excused: Pruneau
 15-291 Approval of the 2015 Liability and Property Insurance
 15-292 Approval to amend budget to include the Captain position in the Fire Dept.
 15-293 Approval to re-instate 1/5 pay for dept. heads and elected officials back to 07/01/2015
 15-294 Approval of pay raises for Dept. Heads
 15-295 Approval of the sale of 35 W Pleasant
 15-296 Approval of the minutes of 11/17/2015
 15-297 Voucher approval
 15-298 Building permit approval
 15-299 Approval of \$11.00/hr raise for non-union employees
 15-300 Approval of one-time in lieu of overtime payment to executive secretary for 2015
 15-301 Motion to adjourn
 A complete copy of the minutes can be obtained at the City Clerk's office (313) 842-5604.
 Patricia Johnson City Clerk

CITY OF RIVER ROUGE PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF RIVER ROUGE, MICHIGAN
 At a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of River Rouge held on December 15, 2015
 The following Commissioners were present:
 Present: Campbell, Cooney, Perry, Pierce, Pruneau, Ward
 Mayor Bowdler in the Chair
 Excused: None
 15-302 Approval of minutes from Dec. 2, 2015
 15-303 Approval of AFSCME 1391 Labor contract
 15-304 Approval to purchase hand held meter reading devices
 15-305 Voucher approval
 15-306 Approval to increase the hours for the Animal Shelter Asst. to 15 hours/week
 15-307 Approval to let alley crew go at end of shift on 12/30/2015
 15-308 Approval to sell property at 131 & 133 Pine
 15-309 Motion to adjourn
 A complete copy of the minutes can be obtained at the City Clerk's office (313) 842-5604.
 Patricia Johnson - City Clerk

Romulus Mayor Burcroff gives look back at 2015 successes during State of the City Address



ROMULUS – Mayor LeRoy D. Burcroff gave his third State of the City presentation on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at the Romulus Athletic Center in front of an audience comprised of residents, business people, City boards and commission members and other community leaders. The Mayor, making his entrance accompanied by Romulus High School varsity cheerleaders and football players, gave a football-themed/"halftime report"-style talk highlighting the accomplishments made over the first two years of his four year term in office.

Some of the most significant highlights of 2015 included:

Local Neighborhood Streets

Every quarter this year has included a component of addressing the issue of crumbling local streets. The Mayor reported that a committee made up of local residents have assessed the condition of the streets and are now holding town hall meetings for those that want to learn more about the issue and solution.

Enhanced Communication

Improving communication and awareness of City programs and events has been a consistent theme of the Burcroff Administration. Some communication highlights of 2015 have been the purchase of a new cable studio, news updates during the Mayor's Report at City Council meetings and implementation of a monthly e-newsletter, as well as the creation of a mobile app for residents to be rolled out early this year.

BS & A Conversion

When Mayor Burcroff was elected in 2013, the City was using two different financial management software systems. In 2015, City programming was overhauled to use only one primary program called BS&A. Efficiencies were gained through this transition and residents are now able to access their water and tax bills online via a link under the "How Do I..." section on the City's website (www.romulusgov.com).

34th District Court Proposal

The City of Romulus is the host community for the 34th District Court. City and Court administrators have been working over the last year to create a renovation plan to expand the current Court building. Romulus City Council recently approved a resolution allowing the City to sell bonds to fund the Court expansion project.

Fun Committee & New Community Events

Mayor Burcroff instituted a committee of employees and residents representing a diverse range of interests and demographics to evaluate current events and programs offered by the City, how they could be expanded to attract larger audiences and suggest new, "fun" events and activities. This group submitted their report and were able to spearhead the creation of a few new events in 2015 including theme nights at Sounds in Downtown, Free August Youth Days at local parks and the re-instating of an adult co-ed summer softball league at Elmer Johnson Park, as well as many other fun initiatives.

Re-Opening of St. John's Lodge Park (Formerly Park #1)

Park #1, located near the intersection of Beverly and Henry Ruff roads on the north side of the City, was re-opened and re-named "St. John's Lodge No. 44 Park" in honor of the fraternal organization, St. John's Lodge No. 44 Free and Accepted Masons, Price Hall Affiliation. The Lodge has a long standing history of service in the community and assisted in the painting and reconditioning of the park.

Creation of US Ecology Dog Park in Elmer Johnson Park

This is the second dog park opening within the City, both during the Burcroff Administration. Romulus-based business, US Ecology sponsored the project that repurposed an old, closed and dilapidated tennis and roller hockey court by using City staff to remove the old surface and install new sod and canine exercise equipment which, along with top soil and a walking path, was all purchased by US Ecology.

Paint the Town Project with Westside Beer Distributors

Another example of a public/private partnership is with Westside Distributors, who sponsored supplies and had employees volunteer to help repair and paint the home of a local resident and veteran. Rolling Thunder Chapter 5 members, city employees and members of local St. John's Lodge #44 were out for two weeks prior to the painting removing extensive and overgrown brush which covered most of the home's exterior, power washing to remove old paint, and repairing and replacing rotten wood on the structure. On the day of the final painting, Westside Distributors had over 40 employees volunteer on their own time to complete the project.

In addition to these major city-wide accomplishments, Mayor Burcroff also gave an overview of his five "special teams" and their primary projects from the year:

Economic Development

Progress in Romulus' economic development in 2015 included major development such as Spirit Airline's selection of Romulus as the site of their new maintenance hangar and PackSpec developing in Romulus using credits from the newly reinstated Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. The Mayor gave updates on the proposed Outlets of Michigan outlet mall and local grocery store. Holding off-site department head meetings continued with six local

businesses and the Mayor also went out and did five special visits to other local businesses on his own.

A big push to networking for the community came with the Mayor's involvement in many regional authorities and local partnerships that enhance the City and allow Romulus to gain from learning best practices.

Public Services

The Mayor was proud to have the completion of two large-scale projects in 2015: the Downtown Streetscape and Goddard Road construction and the Wayne Road Sidewalk. Both make our community more safe, walkable and pedestrian-friendly. Also the implementation of a new rubbish and recycling contract with Waste Management that included a substantial long-term cost savings, improved services and has resulted in a 40% increase in residential recycling.

Community Services

Many new community programs have been added during the last year including Brunch with the Bunny, Fall Family Fun Festival, the Downtown Scarecrow Contest, Dinner with Santa and a new location for the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, Free Movies in the Park utilizing a newly purchased, state of the art, 30-foot inflatable movie screen, and enhancements to existing events such as a Black Month Bus Tour of the City and Eco-Fair and Farm Tour during Earth Day. The Senior Center held fundraisers to build a salon and they won a record number of medals at the Downriver Senior Olympics. Beautification Awards were given out to homeowners who had exemplary landscaping during the spring and

summer and for outstanding light displays and decorations during the Christmas season.

Public Safety

The annual Hometown Heroes awards ceremony that was started by the Public Safety Department were expanded to include residents and community members. Public Safety officers partnered around the community on school projects and were out doing Random Acts of Kindness. Citizens Academy was started and graduated two cohorts of residents and business owners that now have a more inside look and appreciation at our Public Safety operations within the City. Crime statistics overall are down and 2015 also saw a large increase in neighborhood safety patrols. Cost savings were realized with creative purchasing for two rescue vehicles and one animal control vehicle.

Financial Services

Successes for the City's finances included the approval of a long-term Teamsters labor contract with savings and improvements in customer service through the elimination of Furlough Days. Keeping a balanced budget with a modest fund balance, underspending what the City was budgeted for, and an increase in property values show a positive financial trend for the City.

Legendary football coach, Bear Bryant, was quoted by the Mayor to lead in to what he and his team want to accomplish in the "3rd Quarter" (2016 year), "Don't give up at halftime. Concentrate on winning the second half."

CITY OF ECORSE PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ECORSE COMBINED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON INCREASING PROPERTY TAXES AND 2016-2017 BUDGET

A Public Hearing has been scheduled for February 2, 2016 at the Regular Council Meeting held at 7:30 PM within the Council Chambers, 3869 W. Jefferson Ave, Ecorse, MI. The City Council of the City of Ecorse will hold a public hearing on a proposed increase of 8.4687 mills in the court ordered debt millage rates and ad valorem special assessments to be levied in 2016 and the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Budget. **THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL ALSO BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.** A copy of the budget is available for public inspection in the Clerk's Office at 3869 W. Jefferson Ave, Ecorse, MI. The total number of mills to be levied and the purposes for the each millage are:

| Purpose | Authority | Millage to be Levied July 1 | Millage to be Levied Dec.2 |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Operating | Charter | 18.6713 | |
| Rubbish | PA 298 | 2.9481 | |
| Pension | Charter | 0.25000 | |
| Longevity | Charter | 0.4913 | |
| Library | Charter | 0.2456 | |
| Bond Debt | Court Order | 5.0716 | |
| EPA Debt | Court Order | | 3.6183 |
| Pension Debt | Court Order | | 8.9721 |
| Police Operating | PA 33 | 2.0000 | 20.2997 |
| Fire Operating | PA 33 | 2.0000 | 6.2877 |
| Library | Charter | 1.0000 | |
| Lighting | Charter | 2.6892 | |
| Total | | 35.3671 | 39.1778 |

The total revenues and expenditures by fund are:

| Fund | Revenues | Expenditures | Net Income |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| General | \$10,574,953 | \$10,552,176 | \$22,777 |
| Major Street | \$381,957 | \$357,462 | \$24,495 |
| Local Street | \$193,634 | \$186,150 | \$7,484 |
| Rubbish | \$608,228 | \$604,500 | \$3,728 |
| Library | \$240,500 | \$232,458 | \$8,042 |
| CDBG | \$93,000 | \$93,000 | \$0 |
| Stabilization Bond | \$446,999 | \$446,999 | \$0 |
| Judgement Bond | \$773,000 | \$768,710 | \$4,290 |
| <u>Water & Sewer</u> | <u>\$6,170,555</u> | <u>\$6,143,804</u> | <u>\$26,751</u> |
| Total | \$19,482,826 | \$19,385,259 | \$97,567 |

Public comments, either oral or written, are welcome at the Public Hearing, Handicapped persons needing assistance or aid should contact the City Clerk's Office during regular working hours forty-eight hours prior to the meeting.

Dana Hughes
City Clerk
Published: January 21, 2016

TELEGRAM

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at City Hall located at 6045 Fenton, there will be a city council meeting beginning at 8:00PM.

DETROIT

Yoga (Patton)

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 from 6:00-7:00PM the Patton Recreation Center (2301 Woodmere) will be holding group yoga for members. Youth ages 12-17 must be accompanied by legal guardian and have a signed consent form. For more information, please call (313) 224-1100 or (313) 628-2000.

Yoga (Adams/Butzel)

Thursday, January 28, 2016 from 6:00-7:00PM the Adams Butzel Complex (located at 10500 Lyndon, 48238) will be holding group yoga for members. Youth ages 12-17 must be accompanied by legal guardian and have a signed consent form. For more information, please call (313) 224-1100 or (313) 628-0990.

7th Precinct Community Meetings

Friday, January 22, 2016 from 6:00-7:30PM there will be a DPD 7th Precinct meeting at 5100 E. Nevada, 48234. These meetings are held the fourth Friday of the month. For more information, call 313-596-5700.

ROMULUS

Free Blood Pressure Checks

Wednesday, January 27, 2015 at 10:00AM the Corpore Sano Home Health Care, Inc. is providing free blood pressure checks at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36525 Bibbins St, 48174.

Haircuts

\$5 haircuts at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36525 Bibbins St, 48174.

Potluck Birthday Bash

Visit the Romulus Senior Center (36525 Bibbins St, 48174)

for the monthly Birthday Bash. There will be bingo & potluck before the presentation of a birthday cake & the singing of "Happy Birthday."

Teen Writing Club

Monday, January 25, 2016 from 4:00-5:00PM there will be a meeting for teens to share their creativity with others. This event will extend from January 25 to February 29 and take place at the Romulus Public Library, located at 11121 Wayne Rd., 48174. For more information, please call 734-942-7589.

City Council Meeting

Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7:30PM there will be a city council meeting held in the Council Chambers of the Romulus City Hall, located at 11111 Wayne Rd., 48174.

ESL Conversation Group

Monday, January 25, 2016 from 6:30-7:30PM. Free event for 18+. Any native language welcome. Beginners to advanced are welcome. REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Please call 734-955-4518. Located at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Rd., 48174).

TAYLOR

Taylor on Watch visits Gilead Baptist Church

The Taylor on Watch program, featuring Neighborhood Watch, will hold an informational meeting at Gilead Baptist Church, 12501 Telegraph, at 7 p.m. January 28. Everyone is welcome to attend and the event is free to the public. Make sure your family and neighborhood is protected! Attend a meeting of Taylor on Watch.

WESTLAND

Dinner and a Movie

Friday, January 22, 2016 from 6:00-9:00PM at the Westland Public Library (6123 Central City Pkwy, 48135). Join us for Dinner and Movie. The restaurant will be announced soon.

The movie will be "The Martian." Snacks and refreshments are provided on a donation basis. Each week also features a trivia contest with small prizes handed out after the movie. No sign-up required. Please call 734-326-6123 for more information.

Career Fair Pontiac

Thursday, January 28, 2016 from 9:00AM-3:00PM at the Marriott Hotel (3600 Centerpointe Parkway, Pontiac, MI). Over 500 Jobs. Hiring: Engineers Technology Banking Marketing Advertising Teachers Management CDL Drivers Factory/Manufacturing Mortgage Call Center Restaurant/Retail Healthcare Executives Holiday Military Vets/Skilled Trades General Labor Sales! You can Submit your resume online today at www.JobFairGiant.com. Employers & Job Seekers looking for information please call 734-956-4550 or visit www.JobFairGiant.com.

Attend Free Job Workshop on January 28

10:00 am - 10:15 am How to write the perfect resume & cover letter
10:15 am - 10:30 am Questions to ask employers in an interview
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm Mystery Shopping the new part-time career
2:15 pm - 2:30 pm Meet recruiters using twitter

WYANDOTTE

Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7:00PM there will be a city council meeting in the Council Chambers of the Wyandotte City Hall located at 3200 Biddle Ave, Suite 300, 48192.

List compiled by Estefania Arellano Telegram Intern

City of Taylor host 'OPERATION FLINT'



Water donations are being collected for Flint residents

"Operation Flint" -- the City of Taylor's campaign to collect cases of donated bottled water and truck it to Flint -- is underway and moving along at break-neck speed.

According to Home Depot West, 11100 Telegraph Road, 14 pallets full of cases of bottled water have already been donated to the campaign. Mayor Rick Sollars announced this morning that Masco has agreed to donate 500 cases. A second tractor-trailer has already been requested from Load One, given the heavy interest in the program.

Fox 2's Roop Raj did a report live from Home Depot this morning.

The City, in cooperation with Home Depot West and Load One, is holding the bottled water drive (cases only) to benefit the beleaguered City of Flint through Friday, January 19-22. Home Depot is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

President Barack Obama declared a state of emergency Saturday in response to the water crisis in Flint, where thousands of residents have been exposed to toxic amounts of lead. The action enables FEMA to provide up to \$5 million in federal aid to help provide water, filters and other items for up to 90 days to residents whose water has been contaminated since the city switched water supplies in 2014. But we know the FEMA help isn't going to be enough.

Taylor's campaign is simple: Residents can donate cases of bottled water by either dropping them off or buying them directly from the Home Depot West location near the corner of Goddard and Telegraph Roads. Anyone interested can purchase the water at Home Depot for \$3.74 per case and employees there will stack it in

a Load One truck located in the parking lot for transport to the Red Cross in Flint.

Businesses or organizations can want to contribute more can buy cases of water by the pallet for \$291.48. Load One estimates that one semi-tractor trailer can hold about 26 pallets. Interested residents can purchase cases of bottled water anywhere else and just drop them off at the location.

Taylor still plans on making a huge "final push" in this campaign on Friday (January 22) when elected officials and interested residents spend the entire day at Home Depot helping collect donations and load the truck. They will begin about 8 a.m.

The idea for the drive was started by a staff member at the City of Taylor's Department of Public Works and relayed to elected officials, who got on board and immediately started coordinating the details of the campaign.

"We just want to be a good neighbor," Mayor Sollars said. "This campaign isn't about blame. This is about helping someone who needs help. We want to challenge every resident, business and organization in Taylor to get involved. In fact, it would probably be a great idea if other communities got involved, too."

From celebrities like Cher and Michael Moore all the way down to a school in Detroit -- all of whom sent donations to Flint -- individuals and organizations have been attempting to help during this crisis. The Red Cross in Flint is coordinating the water distribution through the communities' local fire stations.

For further updates on "Operation Flint," click on www.cityoftaylor.com.



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- Adult Medicine
- Family Practice

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(734) 941-4991

25650 W. Outer Drive, Lincoln Park, MI 48146
(313) 383-1897

*Subject to Availability



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Movie Review: Ride Along 2

By Dwight Brown - NNPA News Wire Film Critic



From left to right: Ice Cube, Olivia Munn and Kevin Hart star in "Ride Along 2." (Universal Pictures)

Too soon. As the opening credits start to roll, you wonder why the producers didn't give moviegoers a real break between "Ride Along" (2014) and "Ride Along 2" (2016). Two years is not enough time to make audiences yearn for more, not enough time to take this franchise to the next level.

Bad Boys premiered in 1995. Eight years later in 2003, Will Smith and Martin Lawrence teamed up again and the vacation did everybody a world of good. Though this series is not nearly as slick as the aforementioned, the Hart and Cube duo have similarities. Awkward cop buddies. Hap-hazard, unorthodox crime-fighting. Oh, and there's the setting. Hart and Cube have taken their show to South Beach, where the sun shines on everything, except the script.

The goofy, annoying Ben Barber (Hart), who once patrolled the streets of Atlanta with his curmudgeon brother-in-law-to-be police detective James Payton (Cube), has been sidelined. Payton and his new partner (Tyrese), who are undercover, are on the verge of arresting a drug dealer. When the tables get turned on them, and James has the barrel of a gun stuck in his gut, it is the flighty, silly Ben who rescues him. And so it goes, time after time, James degrades Ben, but in the end the scamp comes through.

James finds a flash drive with data that can't be unlocked. He tracks the encrypted drive to a geek/hacker in Miami, named AJ (Ken Jeong, of The Hangover se-

ries). As they hunt him down, they're helped by tough-as-nails Miami homicide detective Maya (Olivia Munn of "X-Men: Apocalypse"). Clues lead to a local, wealthy, well-respected entrepreneur, Antonio Pope (Benjamin Bratt of "Miss Congeniality"), who is secretly a crime lord moving lots of drugs and guns. Can the boys make him pay for his crime? We all know the answer.

There was something so fresh about the original Ride Along. The cocky, buffoonish, diminutive comedian Hart played against the dour bad-attitude ex-NWA member. The pairing was box office gold and vaguely reminiscent of Abbott and Costello.

Screenwriters Phil Hay (Clash Of The Titans) & Matt Manfredi (Clash of the Titans) have failed miserably at reinventing the comedy crime genre. Their script is feeble and formulaic. Plot pieces fit together too easily and subplots don't amount to much (Barber is in the midst of planning his wedding and Sheri Shepherd plays a wedding planner who is a bully.)

There isn't one memorable line of dialogue worth passing on. And that's a shock considering Hart is a master improviser. The screenplay's one engaging gimmick: Barber, who is a champ at playing Grand Theft Auto, uses his video game driving skill when he and Payton are being chased by hoods with guns. Barber commands the steering wheel, and speeds off like Mario Andretti. Some of these sequences are

shot in a digital mode, and that's about as inventive as the film gets.

Director Tim Story ("Barbershop," "Think Like a Man") brought verve to the first Ride Along. It was edgy, funny and outrageous at points. It's almost as if he has run out of fresh ideas, minus the chase scenes. Most of the time, Hart and Cube look flat, are poorly choreographed and staged, and they stare into the lens like they're hoping for direction. Once in a while, Cube sucker punches a guy, or Hart shoots the wrong person. You chuckle, maybe laugh for a hot second. But you want more, steady, hilarious humor.

Cube's performance is dry like the character. Sherri Shepherd, as a domineering and emasculating wedding planner is obnoxious, but not funny. Tika Sumpter is sweet as the impending bride and deserved more screen time. It's almost painful to watch an actor of Benjamin Bratt's caliber in a throwaway movie like this. Yes he brings gravitas to his villainous character, but it's clearly a waste of his talent. Maybe it's time to find a new agent?

Granted Hart is the comedian of the hour. He singlehandedly has made comedy buddy movies a cottage industry, and he's the common denominator. That said, it might behoove him to take a hiatus, work on his craft and bring his game up a notch. He has the potential to rise higher. Now, before he gets a reputation for being another Adam Sandler.

Count on this comedy to find a loyal audience. Hart has 21M followers on Facebook, 24.6M follow his Tweets. His fans will support him. But they deserve better

The "Bad Boys" and the "Beverly Hills Cop" series too gave their franchises room to breathe. Maybe the Ride Along team doesn't have to wait eight years for the next installment. But two years is cramping everyone's style.

Ride Along 2 was #1 at the box office on its opening weekend!

ASK ALMA

My lady said 'I was like her son'



Dear Alma,

I am 35 and my sweet lady is 57. I love her and she loves me. Although we don't go out much, we show our affection to each other in many ways. She and I both are homebodies. We live in different states, so our time together is special. She has a beautiful, spacious home. We have dinner, dance and watch movies. I'm a great cook, and I fix things around the house. We're both avid readers and it's a real nice relationship.

Here's the problem. We were at the bank and she was taking care of some business. At first I was in the car but noticed she forgot something, so I took it to her. As I was walking away, I overheard her tell the teller that I was like a son to her. When I asked her about it, she said she lives in a small town and she really didn't want the woman in her business. She said she really didn't mean anything by it and asked me to drop it. I can't get it off my mind. How do I confront her about this again?

Dang! That was wrong...and kinda creepy. Maybe she didn't mean it. Ok - aaah, maybe she did. That's worse than calling your second husband by your first husband's name. Ok, that was me, LOL. She owes you an

apology and a decent conversation at the very least. I'm sure hearing her describe you that way was shocking and downright disrespectful. I know you've been bruised, and I can understand. You're right; she needs to clarify.

Now, lets cross this bridge for a minute and see what's on the other side. Depending on where you live, older men with younger women are still more acceptable than older women with younger men. Older women are perceived to be improper or even desperate when taking on a younger suitor. Some view a few years as ok, but over ten is pushing it. (I don't think Tina Turner would agree with this part of our conversation, since she just married her boo, 16 years her junior.)

It sounds to me like you guys have a great companionship going on. Anything beyond that is questionable. Your personalities are similar, and if you believe that men and women hit their physical peaks at different times, age wise you two are perfectly suited for one another.

Like any relationship, it works as long as the two of you work at it. In my opinion, people are allowed to have various types of relationships. Some are meant to last forever and some are meant to last for right now. Which one are you involved in? If you're enjoying this journey, by all means, stick with it.

Tell her how you feel. Tell her how uncomfortable you were to hear her describe you that way, and after your conversation, if she's still embarrassed, that's your cue to keep it moving. Unfortunately, unlike Stella, she's just not ready, publicly, to get her groove back.

Alma

WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEARS RESOLUTION?

NUMEROLOGY

HOT PICKS

| | | |
|------|------|------|
| 483 | 520 | 111 |
| 377 | 334 | 009 |
| 2016 | 7342 | 7664 |
| 7599 | 5078 | 1500 |

BIG MOMMA'S HITS

| | |
|-----|-----|
| 435 | 224 |
| 009 | 658 |
| 675 | 086 |

BIG RAY'S PICK 4

| | |
|------|------|
| 7224 | 0115 |
| 6139 | 7134 |
| 5007 | 1662 |

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President Obama Tours NAIAS, Gets Firsthand Look at World Debuts



President Barack Obama is one of three U. S. Presidents to visit the Detroit Auto Show

President Barack Obama visited the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) today and saw a show floor filled with innovation in transportation technology – technology that will help drive the future of the global automotive industry.

In his first-ever visit to NAIAS, President Obama toured the show with 2016 NAIAS Chairman Paul Sabatini and UAW President Dennis Williams, making stops at several exhibits, including Chevrolet, FCA, Ford and ZF. Prior to his tour, President Obama met privately with Sabatini, NAIAS Co-Chair Sam Slaughter and the auto show's Executive Director Rod Alberts.

"NAIAS is honored to have President Obama visit our great city and our international show," Sabatini said. "His presence here underscores the importance of NAIAS and highlights the vehi-

cles and technologies on display that made their world debut last week at Press Preview."

Alberts added, "The announcements coming out of NAIAS not only impact the automotive community, but are also relevant to the U.S. and world economy. We're privileged to have the President visit today as NAIAS continues to draw the attention of government leaders and officials across the globe."

As he toured the show floor, President Obama reviewed a sampling of autonomous vehicles and advanced powertrain technologies on display, as well as a number of the new production and concept vehicles unveiled at NAIAS.

In announcing his visit to NAIAS, President Obama said, "I believe that every American should be proud of what our most iconic industry has done." He also noted that he wanted to see the industry's progress "firsthand."

President Obama is one of three U.S. Presidents to visit the auto show in Detroit. President Bill Clinton visited NAIAS in 1999 and President Dwight Eisenhower toured the then-Detroit Auto Show in 1960. Over the years, a long list of distinguished government officials from White House Cabinet members and U.S. Congressional members to United Nations delegates and top officials from nations around the world have attended NAIAS.

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