

www.telegramnews.net

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HAPPY WOMEN'S

HISTORY MONTH

'HIKGRA

**CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF SERVING DETROIT AND THE DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY\*** 

By Heather Gray

## The Origins of Women's History Month

## Selma-to-Montgomery March in 1965 Black Farmers Made it a Reality



Women's History Month in the United States grew out of a weeklong celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California, in 1978. Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a "Real Woman" essay contest and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa.

Did You Know?

To coincide with Women's History Month 2011, the White House issued a 50year progress report on the status of women in the United States. It found that younger women are now more likely than their male counterparts to hold a college degree and that the number of men and women in the labor force

Women's - Page 10A

The 50th anniversary of the devastating 1965 "Bloody Sunday" event in Selma, Alabama that preceded the 54mile march from Selma-to-Montgomery, not long after, to demand voting rights for African Americans, will be commemorated this year in Selma, Alabama. It is generally not known, however, that Black farmers in Alabama played a central role in the Selma-to-Montgomery March.

In fact, it is likely that the March could not have taken place as it did, without the assistance of Black farmers who owned land along Alabama's Highway 80 the route from Selma to Montgomery.

But first, I want to share a comment from the Reverend Jesse Jackson. In the early 2000's, he spoke in Atlanta at an event organized by Harry Belafonte and others to hear from the elders of the movement. Jackson referred to a conversation he'd had with former Alabama Governor George Wallace quite a few

Selma - Page 8A

Holder Slams Ferguson Cops for Racist, Money-Grubbing Practices National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day





erguson, Missouri, police fostered a "highly toxic environment" of racism and misconduct that turned the city into a "powder keg" that was ready to explode after the fatal shooting of unarmed teenager Michael Brown last year, Attorney General Eric Holder said Wednesday — even though the officer who shot Brown was determined to have committed no crime.

In a lengthy explanation of the Justice Department's two investigations in Ferguson — of police in general and of former Officer Darren Wilson's shooting of Brown in August specifically — Holder agreed with a local grand jury that declined to indict Wilson, stressing that "the facts do not support the filing of criminal charges."

"Michael Brown's death, though a tragedy, did not involve prosecutable conduct on



### SHARE KNOWLEDGE TAKE ACTION National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

March 10th marks the annual National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is a nationwide observance that encourages women to take control in the fight against HIV/AIDS and raise awareness

by offering support, encouraging discussion, and teaching women and girls about prevention, testing for and the management of HIV/AIDS.

It is estimated that 1 in 32 African American women will HIV - Page 2A

# Informing \* Educating \* Empowering \* Uplifting

# From Page 1A

## **BOARD OF REVIEW** Information for property tax questions

What is the March Board of property taxes. Other rea-**Review?** 

The Board of Review reviews the assessment roll received from the Assessor to check to see it is complete, accurate, uniform and valid. They conduct public hearings in March to hear appeals from property owners.

Should I Appeal to the **Board of Review?** 

Each year, prior to the March meetings of the local board review, assessment of change notices are mailed. These informational notices include State Equalized Value, Taxable Value, the percent of exemption as a Principal Residence or Qualified Agricultural Property, and whether or not an Ownership Transfer has occurred. If you believe the Assessed Value is more than half the value of your property, you may appeal the Assessed and/or Taxable Values at the March Board of Review. You can obtain information about the specific meeting dates and schedule an appearance with the Board of Review by contacting your local assessing office. The Board has no control over millage rates or

sons to appeal to the Board of Review would include:

**CLASSIFICATION: Indicates** the use of your property. There are six classifications, Agricultural, Commercial, Developmental, Industrial, **Residential and Timber Cu**tover.

**STATUS: Certain properties** are tax-exempt.

**EQUITY: All properties** within the jurisdiction are to be assessed at the same ratio; 50% of True Cash Value.

HARDSHIP: Poverty stricken property owners can request tax relief from the Board of Review through a hardship. Household financial documentation will be necessary.

Am I Required to Attend the March Board for a Commercial/Industrial Real Property?

No. As of the year 2007 Commercial and Industrial Real properties no longer have to petition to the March Board of Review. These appeals can be made directly to the Michigan Tax Tribunal on or before May 31st.

be diagnosed with HIV infection at some point in their lifetime. Women accounted for almost 25 percent of people living with HIV infection in the United States in 2010. Only about half of women who are diagnosed with HIV are in care, and even fewer (4 in 10) have the virus under control.

HIV

Generally, women are at a greater risk of heterosexual transmission of HIV. Biologically, women are two times more likely to become infected with HIV through unprotected heterosexual intercourse than men. In the United States, heterosexual transmission accounts for approximately 84 percent of new HIV infections in females.

HIV and AIDS continue to be one of the top causes of death among all groups in many states. In recent years, younger women of color have seen an increase in mortality rates associated with HIV/AIDS. Get vourself tested. talk about it and be aware! Knowing your HIV status and that of your partner's is one vital step in helping to stop the spread of HIV. Research shows that starting HIV treatment and care earlier increases your chances of a healthier and longer life. Individuals at risk for acquiring or transmitting HIV infection are critical in the prevention of new cases and increased attention to early testing among women and other at-risk populations is needed.

Voices of Detroit along with the Telegram Newspaper and Wayne County Health Department will provide confidental testing and information about living with HIV on Friday, March 13 at the Telegram Building located at 10748 W. Jefferson Ave in River Rouge. For more information call 313-928-2955.

For more information about National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and general HIV and AIDS facts, please visit http://health.nv.gov/HIV-CarePrevention.htm or

### **Mayor Hampton Launches Stop Foreclosure Campaign in Inkster**

Residents will be connected with resources and educated about their rights



On Saturday March 1, 2015, Isaac Robinson was one of 75 door to door volunteers that participated Gabe Leland's Defend our Neighbors Foreclosure Walk in Detroit. The Campaign is coming to Inkster.

INKSTER - On Monday, March 2, 2015 during the Inkster Council Meeting, Mayor Hilliard Hampton invited Attorney Isaac Robinson to make a presentation on new state laws and resources that can help keep those facing foreclosures in their homes.

After the meeting, Mayor Hilliard Hampton announced to the Telegram News he will launch a grassroots foreclosure prevention campaign in Inkster throughout the month of March. Inkster Council Members Tim Williams and Kim Howard both signed on to help spread the word in their council districts. The outreach campaign will call on community partners including local Churches, non-profits, block clubs and volunteers to educate neighbors about their housing rights and connect residents facing foreclosure with the help they need.

Robinson summarized some of the options for those facing foreclosure at the meeting:

If you own and occupy your home and do not owe taxes prior to 2012, you should seek a Distressed Owner Occupant Extension (DOOE) to have your home removed from tax foreclosure for 2015.

If you own and occupy your home should inquire about SEVSPA or an IRSPA (Interest Reduction Stipulated Payment Agreement) from the Wayne County Treasurer to lower your taxes and obtain an affordable payment plan.

ers, residents with probate issues, tenants and those with mortgage or land contract problems.

Robinson informed residents there is free counseling available through the United Community Housing Coalition and the Michigan Legal Services at 313-963-3310 and 313-964-4130. The Tax Foreclosure Hotline: 313-405-7726 Free help is available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 am to Noon at 220 Bagley, Suites 224 and 900 in Detroit, MI.

"My Outreach efforts in Inkster and Western Wayne County are inspired by the "Defend our Neighbors" campaign in Detroit launched by Detroit City Council Member Gabe Leland. Councilman Gabe Leland has launched an aggressive door to door campaign and Church outreach program working with local residents to educate them about their rights. Leland is using old school grassroots methods and they are working. Through door to door communication Leland is helping residents get on plans to save their homes, lower their taxes, and lower their interest rates," said Attorney Isaac Robinson.

Leland's grassroots campaign in Detroit is supported by the Partnership for Tax Foreclosure, a broad coalition which includes Rock Ventures, the United Way for Southeastern Michigan, Michigan Legal Services, and the United Housing Coalition.

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#### DEADLINE

All news item and advertising copy submitted for publication on Thursday must be at the office of The Telegram no later than 4:00pm on Friday.



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If you need help probating your home to obtain ownership, free help is available.

If you are a tenant you may stay in your home after foreclosure on April 1st and not be evicted.

If you have mortgage or land contract problems you should get free counseling. There are situations where you could still lose your home even if the taxes are paid.

During his presentation, Attorney Robinson encouraged residents to get free help if they owe back taxes. There is counseling available for own-

"Now with the help of Mayor Hampton, Council Members Williams and Howard and a fast growing coalition of community partners, we are jump starting the process of getting more resources connected to the residents of Inkster, downriver and Western Wayne County."

If you would like to volunteer for the stop tax foreclosure campaign please call Attorney Isaac Robinson at 313-739-5093.

### OPINION

Ferguson

## Selma's Lessons and Challenges

By Jesse L Jackson, Sr. NNPA Columnist



This week, the nation will mark the 50th anniversary of Selma's Bloody Sunday, and the march from Selma to Montgomery that led directly to passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965. The movie 'Selma' has reminded millions of that momentous moment.

President Obama and his family will join the commemoration on Saturday, along with George W. Bush and his wife, Laura. Ninety-five 95 from both parties have already signed up to join in the threeday remembrances. Last week, Congress voted to give a congressional gold medal to the thousands who marched on Bloody Sunday 50 years ago. In this age of bitter partisan division, the vote was 420 to 0 in the House and similarly unanimous in the Senate.

Much has changed in 50 years. As President Obama has said, he stands on the shoulders of the many who sacrificed so much 50 years ago. Selma now has an African American mayor and is represented in Congress by an African American representative.

We should acknowledge this progress, but not be blinded by it. Much has changed, but the struggle even to secure the basic right to vote continues. Two years ago, the Supreme Court struck down Section 4 of the Voting Rights Act. States like Mississippi and Texas with a history of discrimination were no longer required to submit any changes in voting procedures to prior review by the Justice Department or a federal judge. Selma marchers won't face blue uniforms. Their roadblock is clothed in black robes.

In the House of Representatives, legislation to repair the damage done by the Supreme Court got co-sponsors from both parties. But Republicans would not support its passage, and in the Senate; no Republicans would even join in cosponsoring it. The two Alabama Senators, Republicans Jeff Sessions and Richard Shelby, now applaud the demonstrators at Selma, but they won't join to mend the Voting Rights Act - i.e., marching in Selma but praising the Shelby decision.

Our democracy is still deeply flawed. There is no explicit right to vote in the Constitution. States still have the power to set the rules. As a result, registration and voting is easy in some states and constrained in others. Big money has too big a vote. Partisan gerrymandering has given us more elected official but less power. The minority is again not protected from the tyranny of the majority. And now, in the wake of the misrule of the Supreme Court's five reactionary judges, voting rights are once more under assault.

Equal justice remains an unfulfilled promise. As shown in Ferguson and New York and elsewhere, young Black and Hispanic men are at risk in a criminal justice system that remains deeply biased against them. And the goal of equal opportunity for all, Dr. King's final struggle for economic justice, grows more distant in an economy scarred by extreme inequality and a declining middle class.

It is fitting that the commemoration of Selma will be bipartisan. Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement transformed the South and made America better. But that bipartisan spirit must not be limited to merely looking out of the rear view mirror, it must also look out the windshield and address the obstacles of the present. Love

Jim Abeare

What do you do when someone you love is sick? I mean really sick.

They are in the hospital

with tubes attached and taking anti-biotics.

You feel helpless, knowing that there is nothing you can do. You want to take their pain away, but you can't.

You just hold them and hope that it isn't any more serious than it is..

When it does happen you try to be strong and not show how afraid you are. You hold their hand and show courage.

That is when you realize how much you love your spouse. You would do anything to help them.

You don't want to be in that position but everyone is at one time or another.

Then you are relieved when they are better and get to go home even if it's for the second time in two weeks.

Then you love them and try to protect them, making sure they don't go back in.

Love your spouse for as long as God gives you to be together.

You don't know what may happen in the futre.

### Look for your copy of the

### TELEGRAM NEWSPAPER

in: Dearborn Hts, Delray, Detroit, Ecorse, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, River Rouge, Romulus, Taylor, Wayne , Westland and Wyandotte the part of Officer Wilson," Holder said.

From Page 1A

A visibly disturbed Holder said "it is not difficult to imagine how a single tragic incident set off the city of Ferguson," which he described as "defined by mistrust and resentment, stoked by years of bad feelings and spurred by illegal and misguided practices."

Those illegal practices included constitutional violations and excessive and dangerous use of force disproportionately targeted against African Americans, Holder said.

St. Louis County Prosecutor Robert McCulloch, who was widely criticized by activists and critics of local law enforcement, told reporters later, "I don't feel any need to be vindicated," saying it was Wilson who was vindicated by the physical evidence and the consistency of witnesses' statements.

"Those who say that, well, charges should be filed just so we can have a trial — we don't operate that way in this country," McCulloch said.

McCulloch said he had not had a chance to read the second report, documenting misconduct by Ferguson police. But "we've all got a long way to go to restore and to build that trust in the community."

In his remarks, Holder said the systemic problems in Ferguson went far beyond just the police department. A trove of work emails from not only police but also other city officials revealed "racist comments or gender discrimination, demonstrating grotesque views and images of African Americans in which they were seen as the 'other,' called 'transient' by public officials and characterized as lacking personal responsibility," he said.

The Justice Department report further denounced the emails as unequivocally derogatory, dehumanizing and demonstrative of impermissible bias." It found that none of the officers or court clerk employees who wrote them was ever disciplined. Senior Justice Department officials said some of them, in fact, were still employed by Ferguson. types, using a story involving child support. "I be so glad that dis be my last child support payment!" one read. "Month after month, year after year, all dose payments!"

•An April 2011 email depicting Obama as a chimpanzee.

•A May 2011 email stating: "An African-American woman in New Orleans was admitted into the hospital for a pregnancy termination. Two weeks later she received a check for \$5,000. She phoned the hospital to ask who it was from. The hospital said, 'Crimestoppers." •A June 2011 email describing a man seeking to obtain "welfare" for his dogs because they are "mixed in color, unemployed, lazy, can't speak English and have no frigging clue who their Daddies are."

•An October 2011 email including a photo of a bare-chested group of dancing women, apparently in Africa, with the caption, "Michelle Obama's High School Reunion."

•A December 2011 email including jokes that are based on offensive stereotypes about Muslims.

Holder said the flagrant bias was coupled with determination to squeeze every possible penny out of overzealous enforcement of minor violations — "to use law enforcement not as a public service, but as a tool for raising revenue."

Holder said the Justice Department found that the unconstitutional practices extended to nearly every level of Ferguson's law enforcement system. Ferguson police issued nearly 50 percent more citations in the last year than they did in 2010, even though there was no rise in crime, he said. Holder said that the Justice Department "reserves all of its rights" to force change in Ferguson, suggesting a federal

"It is time for Ferguson's leaders to take immediate, wholesale and structural corrective action," he said.

lawsuit could be in the future.

In a statement, Brown's parents, Lesley McSpadden and Michael Brown Sr., said they were disappointed that Wilson would not be "held accountable for his actions." But they said they were "encouraged that the DOJ will hold the Ferguson Police Department accountable for the pattern of racial bias and profiling they found in their handling of interactions with people of color."

The result was a flood of legislation from North Carolina to Mississippi to Texas, all designed to make it harder for the poor, for people of color, for students to vote. Like the old South, new barriers were erected that would disproportionately impact minority voters: new forms of required photo ID, fewer days for early voting, fewer hours for open polls, elimination of same day registration, racially skewed districts and more. For all the protests of innocence, like federal troops withdrawn from the South in 1877, the court has now withdrawn federal legal protection of our vote. Today's

Dr. King taught us that "the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice." But he knew that bend was not inevitable. It occurred because people got tired of being tired, and stood up to reclaim the promise of "liberty and justice for all." What Selma reminds us is that justice isn't handed down by the powerful. It isn't the gift of the mighty. Justice is forged by the constant struggle of ordinary heroes; citizens who decide to make history, not merely commemorate it. And surely, we need a new generation of citizens to march again.

or stop by the Office located at 10748 W. Jefferson in River Rouge For more info -Call (313) 928-2955

Mayor James Knowles said later Wednesday that one police employee had been fired and two others were on administrative pending an investigation of the emails, which included:

•A November 2008 email stating that President Barack Obama would not be president for long because "what black man holds a steady job for four years?"

•A March 2010 email mocking African-Americans through speech and familial stereo"If that change happens, our son's death will not have been in vain," they said.

Joel Seidman of NBC News contributed to this report.

### **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

## Life Is Too Short

#### By: Janine Folks - Telegram Religion Columnist



A few years ago, I eulogized a 29 day old infant girl. I wanted to say that her life was too short. Then I realized that even if she had lived two years, ten years, twenty years, thirty-six, fifty or even sixty-six, it still would have been too short. When I lost my grandmother who died at nearly age 85 a few years ago, I still want her to have more time.

No matter what one's age is at death, life is too short. David reflected in a Psalm saying, "... You made my life short, so brief that the time means nothing to you. Human life is but a breath, and it disappears like a shadow..." [Psalm 39:5,6]

Anytime someone we love dies, a part of us wishes they could have had more time to be with us. Unless they were about 120 years old, then maybe we would say, 'they've had enough of this place." The way we experience time is so different from how time is to God. To Him, a thousand years is like the passing of a day, or like a few hours in the night (Psalm 90:4).

With that said, I imagine that life was short even when people were living for hundreds of years in Genesis. I wonder how the aging process worked back then. Methuselah, the oldest person recorded in the

5:27). That's almost a day to God. Then shortly after Methuselah died, the Lord said, "My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. (Genesis 6:3)." So God put a cap on our lifespan. Then David, in Psalm 90:10 says, "The days of our years are threescore years and ten [70 years]; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years [80 years], yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away." Some people fall somewhere in between. But it seems like these days, more and more younger people are being diagnosed with diseases that used to primarily affect the elderly. More young people are dying, so it's difficult to gauge what life expectancy should be.

The bottom line is, life is too short to be proud, making trouble or being jealous (Galatians 5:26). We need to spend our precious time being loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle and selfcontrolled (Galatians 5:22,23). Life is too short to procrastinate. Life is too short to waste on foolishness. Life is short, so love the Lord and be the best you can be. Do the best you can with what you've been blessed with. We don't know how many days we have, so let's make our days count. Live life in all its fullness, that's why Jesus came (John 10:10). May God bless your life. Visit www.janinebooks.com or email Janine@janinebooks.com.

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BIBLE

VERSE

16 For God so loved the

world, that he gave his

only begotten Son, that

whosoever believeth in

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Word" Matt 4:4

#### WEEK OF MARCH 5 - MARCH 11, 2015

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## St. Marks

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**DEATH NOTICES** 

### **JASPER BULL**

SEPT. 1. 1955 - JAN. 27. 2015

Jasper Bull, affectionately known as Benny or The Budweiser Man, was born on September 1, 1955 in Williamsburg County.

"The Budweiser Man" enjoyed BBQ'ing over the years, with his sister Catherine Bull Tisdale. He enjoyed the company of his friends-Roy Scott, Gary Love, Bobbie Joe McFadden, and his pet dog, Smokie, who followed his every move.

Jasper was a member of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church.

Loved ones left to cherish his memories are: his siblings-Willie Edward Bull, Oliver Bull (Mary), Walker Bull (Tawanda), Catherine Tisdale (Levern), Al-Bull, Theron Bull berta (Dorothy), Earnest Bull (Rosetta); Rosa Lee Chandler Thomas; Leola Brown; and Maggie White (Matthew); a sister-in-law-Lucilla Bull of Kingstree, SC; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, devoted neighbors and friends.

Final arrangements were entrusted to Chapel of the Chimes Funeral Home. (chapelchimes.com)

MARTHA DELORIS THORPE Aug. 22, 1933 - Jan. 27, 2015

Martha Thorpe was born in Philadelphia, PA and she attended Philadelphia Public Schools where she met and later married her childhood sweetheart, Lawrence Thorpe. Martha and Lawrence would eventually have a daughter, Darlene, who was their only child.

Martha made a career working in a laundry in Ann Arbor and later at Monarch Laundry in Romulus, where she worked until her health began to fail.

Martha leaves to mourn her passing, brother, William Johnson (Sanddra); grand daughter, Veatrol Thorpe; grandson, William Ridley (Keyco); nine great grandchildren, goddaughter, Erica Davis; nieces and nephews, Jala, Andrea, Tonya, Ferris, Tony, Binky and

Jahrod; a special cousin Delores Turner; three very special friends, Brenda Lewis, Anita Glaab and Bryon Poet; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Final arrangements were entrusted to Chapel of the Chimes Funeral Home. (chapelchimes.com)

> NATHANIEL THOMAS JONES II

May 30, 1956 - Feb. 3, 2015

Nathaniel Thomas Jones, Jr., ("Petey") was born on May 30, 1956 in Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Nathaniel graduated from Robichaud High School in 1976, after which, he enlisted in the United States Navy and received an honorable discharge in 1980.

Nathaniel met Fay Fletcher and was united in holy matrimony on January 26, 1980, in Long Beach, California.

Nathaniel worked several jobs throughout his life, but retired in 2012 after 20 years of service working as a Maintenance Supervisor at Wellesley Townhomes in Romulus, Michigan.

Nathaniel had many passions which included his love of Jazz and attending concerts on the river. One of his favorite places of leisure was Elizabeth Park. He also like collecting and watching movies, traveling, and bike riding, but his most rewarding passion was cooking for family and friends.

He leaves to celebrate his life through precious memories; his wife, Faye Jones; mother Marian Robinson; one brother, Clifton Hawkins, Sr.; one sister, Olivia Ross; two nephews, Clifton Hawkins, Jr., and Shel-Hawkins; two great ton nephews, Antwuan Hawkins and Shelton Hawkins, Jr. Final arrangements were en-

trusted to Chapel of the Chimes Funeral (chapelchimes.com)

him should not perish, but have everlasting life John 3:16 **King James Version** Home. (KJV) PRAY FOR OUR

**CHILDREN** 



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## Nina Hicks initiates comprehensive reform at Ecorse High School

#### By Shelby Jefferson – Telegram Staff Reporter



When you walk into Nina Hicks' personal office, you can't help but notice the massive "To Do Board" filled with written goals and objectives for the coming school year at Ecorse High School. On the high wall rests a pictorial collage of numerous former students who have crossed her path throughout her 27 year tenure with Detroit Public Schools. Both of these factors reflect the noticeable ways in which Hicks-who became Ecorse High's new principal last November-brings a radiance and dedicated outlook that has touched lives for almost three decades.

"Believe it or not, my best experiences as a principal have always come from being there during graduation; I probably enjoy it more than the students," she laughed. "And I say this because I enjoy watching the personal development in a young person, and I know that as an educator I can help to develop options to assist them in exploring whatever avenue or career path they decide to go in. You can't replace parents, but hopefully I can have some kind of positive impact on their journey into adult hood."

For Hicks, major development in this journey begins at the

that factored into the acceptance of her current position. Despite Ecorse's current place on the School Improvement Grants "priority" list for lower achieving public schools, she has eagerly accepted the challenge of working towards a remedy to these problems through the introduction of rigorous professional staff development, research/educational reform for parents and newly implemented strategies and models for classroom instruction to elevate students academically. While Hicks acknowledges that change cannot be instigated overnight, she recognizes that by the end of the 2014-2015 academic year and into next fall, Ecorse High School will be moving full force into the next level.

"What we're doing now is double dosing where students get two hours of English and two

hours of Math in order to narrow down where our deficiencies lie," she said. "In terms of electives, we are applying for career and technical education programming. After school, we'll be working with fine arts, dance and drama with our own mass media and production studio. So students will have fun opportunities to engage in throughout the educational process because we want to create options for our kids, but the main priority is to become solid academically so that we can come off of that list."

Other prospective additions on the horizon for Ecorse High School include the implementation of a dual enrollment program, and the launch of Project Excel as an extension of the current module offered at Grandport Elementary Academy. For Hicks, acknowledging Ecorse as "a school in transition, with goals to ultimately create a culture of college and career readiness" is greatly important, while also assessing the need to retain the legacy of Raiders pride throughout the area.

"I am astonished by the community pride here; it spans generations from grandparents to parents and to our current students," she said. "This place has such a rich history, so we must ramp up our game and reform the system in order to build a seamless pipeline for our kids to go from Bunche to Grandport, and then eventually to Ecorse. We have to make it so that we're the only option of choice in terms of education within this community; we can't have our kids going anywhere else."



# HOROSCOPES



### FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 4, 2015

#### ARIES

Beware of financial pitfalls that you've set for yourself. Strengthen all your relationships by understanding motivations of others. Spend time at home. Enjoy what you already have. Soul Affirmation: Often it's not what I say but the way I say it that gets the message across. Lucky Numbers: 4, 6, 47

#### TAURUS

Don't expect to win every battle, especially with your lover. This week winning is losing. Backing down is winning. Shyness produces a bold result. It's easy to collect that long-standing debt. Soul Affirmation: I keep money on my mind this week. Lucky Numbers: 18, 25, 39

#### GEMINI

Possibilities of hearing good news about home are greatly expanded. Savor the news rather than thinking about other annoyances. Travel is on the horizon. Plan the trip this week.

Soul Affirmation: Jewelry reflects the beauty of my feelinas

about myself. Lucky Numbers: 26, 44, 52

#### CANCER

Feather the nest. Stock up on stuff for the long haul. Cement relationships. A friend needs your support. Enjoy giving it. You will receive good news about a pal. Soul Affirmation: Cheerfully handling what comes at me is the test of who I am. Lucky Numbers: 13, 22, 31

#### LEO

Be cautious and conservative with money. You are extremely witty this week. Allow others to enjoy your good humor. Your leadership skills are very high, and others will follow. Soul Affirmation: Luck is my best friend this week. Lucky Numbers: 14, 20, 44

#### VIRGO

This is a good time for you to seek agreement on a plan that involves a relative. Take the time to remind your lover how much you care. Get a little sentimental if you have to. Don't be too critical of that softer side of your personality. Soul Affirmation: Self confidence

wait. Wait for the feedback about the impact it had on the people around you. Be careful of those who don't celebrate with you. They feel the impact and are resisting the positive effects. Soul Affirmation: Before goodness

can come I must expect goodness.

### Lucky Numbers: 5, 16, 23

### **SCORPIO**

Be sharp! All of your needs will be met in indirect ways. Gifts will come from unexpected sources. They will be carefully packaged to go unnoticed. Unwrap everything and look inside. There will be empty boxes, but there will also be a prize in an unanticipated situation.

Soul Affirmation: I look for the good in all that comes to me this week.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 10, 41

### SAGITTARIUS

Push. Now is a good time to push. Your energy is higher than ever. Someone might get offended, but you can't please everyone. Hire a pro for something that you planned to do yourself, especially if a expertise is involved.

Soul Affirmation: Success is mine because I feel successful. Lucky Numbers: 5, 7, 12

### CAPRICORN

Review your "to do" list again. You may need to slow down to discover something that you didn't realize while you were in the flow of events. Your lover is going to be a little difficult to understand. Soul Affirmation: To live is to love

Lucky Numbers: 5, 16, 23

### AQUARIUS

Back off if an argument arises. You're probably the one who is too busy. Forgiving yourself is often harder than getting someone else to forgive you. Go easy on yourself Soul Affirmation: Two hats fit well on my big head. Lucky Numbers: 3, 20, 32

### PISCES

Make a special effort to spend

high school level-an aspect

STAY

**INFORMED SUBSCRIBE** TO THE **TELEGRAM** NEWSPAPER

TODAY! 313.928.2955 is the key to my success this week.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 9, 19

#### LIBRA

You've made your point. Now

all week with your lover, husband or wife. Your sense of the importance of relationships is keen and this is a good time to strengthen your passionate partnership. Take your lover to a party. Devote attention. Soul Affirmation: Change is my middle name. Lucky Numbers: 12, 51, 52

## HAVING AN EVENT?

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### **EDUCATION**

## FAFSA Primer: How to Navigate Through the College Aid Maze

By Jason Alderman



If you're worried about paying for your child's college education, keep this statistic in mind: during the 2011-12 school year, the U.S. Department of Education reported that 85 percent of all full-time, four-year college students were receiving some form of financial aid.

Consider planning way ahead of time to develop a college savings strategy that fits with your finances. If you need more resources to cover additional costs, get to know the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, better known as FAFSA (https://fafsa.ed.gov).

FAFSA is the universal application for current and prospective U.S. college students to receive college financial aid. It is the gateway to grants, student loans and work-study programs on the federal and state level.

If you have a kid headed for college, it's a good idea to learn about the FAFSA as early as possible. The universal form is the first step for any current or prospective student who needs help paying for higher education. For the 2014-15 academic year, the College Board reported that annual tuition, room and board (http://trends.collegeboard.org) averaged \$18,943 at in-state public universities, \$32,762 for out-of-state students and \$42,419 at private, nonprofit schools.

Students fill out the FAFSA, but if your child is a dependent student, you should gather the information together. Dependent students are generally under 24, unmarried and not working full-time, and they will need your financial data to complete the filing. Students with special family circumstances (including absent parents) may still qualify for federal and state aid under certain conditions, but should check directly with financial aid representatives at target schools for specific op-

pro- tions.

The process starts with the student choosing a personal information number (PIN) that gives them multi-year access to the financial aid system. They will follow up with their own Social Security, contact and address information. Parents will submit their most recent federal income tax data and other proof of income; Alien Registration Numbers are required from parents who are not U.S. citizens. More detail is available on the FAFSA site.

FAFSA filing opens after January 1 every year with June 30 as the final deadline. Keep in mind, though, that a student's current or target school financial aid deadlines (https://fafsa.ed.gov/deadlines.htm) can be significantly earlier based on the state in which they plan to attend college.

Before this process begins however, tax and financial advisors should be consulted to discuss the full range of savings and investing options that can minimize the need for student borrowing. For assistance in completing the FAFSA form, parents and prospective students should consider contacting financial aid administrators at prospective schools or where the student has been accepted for admission. Some schools offer workshops in filling out the form and organizations like College Goal Sunday (http://www.collegegoalsundayusa.org/) offer that assistance in 39 states.

Parents and students should also check their own networks for help. Employers, professional organizations (related to the student's field of study), fraternal societies and private foundations are great potential resources for no-strings scholarships and grant money. If a dependent child works a summer job at a major company (fast food, retail and beyond) he or she can check if the employer offers scholarships or education benefits to part-time workers. It is also important to keep an eye on the news for the latest changes to federal and state financial aid and student loan rules.

St. Patrick's Day

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 34 letters spell a secret message.

| s A  | A S | S | Е | Ν | Ν |   | U | G | Е | V | Е | Ν | Т | S | Ρ |
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## HAPPY WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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10193 W. Jefferson Ave River Rouge, MI 48218 Bottom line: Knowing as much as possible about college financial aid now can help parents and students make the best plans for coverthose expenses. ing Whether college is months or years away, it's never too early to start planning and saving. Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/Practical-Money.

### National Women & Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

We invite Grandmothers, Mothers, Aunts and Daughters out to an uplifting day of empowerment , education and fun!! 11am - 5pm Free Event! Free Food! Free Giveaways! Free Fun!

> Friday, March 13, 2015 Telegram Newspaper Bldg 10748 W. Jefferson Ave River Rouge, MI 48218

Have you and your partner been tested?

## Selma

From Page 1A



years after the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery March.

Wallace ordered the Alabama State Troopers to the Selma's Edmund Pettus Bridge on that fateful day - March 7, 1965 - to stop the marchers from proceeding to Montgomery. Jackson asked Wallace "Why did you send the Alabama State Troopers to the bridge that day?" Wallace responded by saying that he'd heard that whites along Highway 80 were going to accost the marchers and he didn't want that to happen.

The ironic reality of the situation is that instead, the Alabama State Troopers accosted the marchers rather than whites along Highway 80. The New York Times reported the following:

Alabama Police Use Gas and Clubs to Rout Negroes

Selma, Ala., March 7 - Alabama state troopers and volunteer officers of the Dallas County sheriff's office tore through a column of Negro demonstrators with tear gas, nightsticks and whips here today to enforce Gov. George C. Wallace's order against a protest march from Selma to Montgomery.

At least 17 Negroes were hospitalized with injuries and about 40 more were given emergency treatment for minor injuries and tear gas effects.

The Negroes reportedly fought back with bricks and bottles at one point as they were pushed back into the Negro community, far away from most of a squad of reporters and photographers who had been restrained by the officers.

A witness said that Sheriff

was "If the whites along Highway 80 were reportedly plan-

on accosting ning the marchers on their way to Montgomery, why didn't Wallace instead have the State Troopers go after those potentially violent whites rather than against the marchers who were demanding their rights under the U.S. Constitution?" If Jackson did ask this question of Wallace, I would assume that Wallace would have found it hard to answer or would not have answered.

After the disastrous Bloody Sunday event on March 7, 1965, finally, on March 17, Federal Judge Frank Johnson ruled in favor of the marchers to allow them to continue to Montgomery. Recognizing that Wallace was not going to protect the marchers, President Lyndon Johnson sent one thousand military policeman and two thousand army troops to escort the marchers from Selma to Montgomery. The policemen and troops were to be supervised by Deputy U.S. Attorney General, Ramsey Clark.

The March down Highway 80 took the marchers through three Alabama counties: Dallas (where Selma is located), Lowndes and Montgomery.

The Judge allowed for only 300 to march on the 2-lane portion of Highway 80 through the renowned Lowndes County.

Some of the voting history of Lowndes County gives the sense of the gargantuan struggle for voting rights:

At the time of the march, the population of Lowndes County was 81% black and 19% white, but not a single black was registered to vote. There were 2,240 whites registered to vote in Lowndes County, a figure that represented 118% of the adult white population (in many southern counties of that era it was common practice to retain white voters on the rolls after they died or moved away) (Wikipedia: Selma to Montgomery Marches).

### Representative Conyers holds briefing focusing on violations of the human right to access water in Detroit, Toledo and across America



WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Thursday, February 26, Congressman John Conyers, Jr. (MI-13) held a briefing organized by faith-based human rights group Unitarian Universalist Service Committee focusing on the affordability of water to the nation's poorest and most vulnerable. The briefing, held in the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill, was organized in the context of soaring costs of water to consumers nationally, the continuation of the widely-criticized water shut off policy in Detroit, and the implications of these trends for America's urban and rural water and wastewater services. In addition to Rep. Conyers, Reps. Debbie Din-(MI-12), Brenda gell Lawrence (MI-14), Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX-18), Charles Rangel (D-New York), and Earl Blumenauer (OR-3), were also honorary hosts of the event.

Panelists included: Detroit attorney Alice Jennings, a lead attorney in a federal class-action lawsuit brought on behalf of community organizations and Detroit residents affected by the city's mass water shutoffs; Economist Roger Colton, the developer of the original Detroit Water and Sewer Affordability Plan who testified as an expert witness in the city's 2014 bankruptcy case; David Gatton, the director of the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Council on Metro Economies; and Patricia Jones, the Senior Program Leader for Environmental Justice at the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, who is an international expert on the human right to water and coordinated the 2011 and 2014 United Nations missions of the Special Rapporteur to Detroit. Noted writer and scholar Michael Shank, Director of Media Strategy of Climate Nexus, moderated the briefing.

In his remarks, Rep. Conyers emphasized that ensuring the human right to water is "an economic, social, and health issue that we can all get behind. It doesn't have any partisan aspect to it." In an op-ed published earlier this week, Rep. Conyers advocates for the full implementation of the "water affordability plan passed by Detroit's City Council in 2006 to account for residents' financial need in water billing and to prevent discrimination in access." He also stressed the need for "need strong local, state, and federal investment in infrastructure around the country."

During the briefing, Jennings stated that "just last year, there were 33,000 homes shut off, and only 18,000 restored. That means that 15,000 potential homes are without water." Patricia Jones called on federal agencies "to provide immediate assistance to the thousands in Detroit in harm's way today."

Michael Shank highlighted that Detroit's water system is not alone in facing challenges in covering its costs. "A survey last month of 368 water utility companies in America suggested that two-thirds of the utilities have insufficient funds to cover their costs and will likely increase fees to make up for the shortfall," he said.

James G. Clark and a handful of volunteer possemen were pushed back by flying debris when they tried to herd the angry Negroes into the church where the march had begun.

[In Washington the Justice Department announced that agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Selma had been directed to make a full and prompt investigation and to gather evidence whether "unnecessary force was used by law officers and others" in halting the march] (New York Times, 1965).

The question Jackson had, that he seemingly did not ask Wallace but that he wisely mentioned at this gathering, Lowndes County is also legendary in U.S. Civil Rights history for its significant organizing work. Both Kwame Ture (the former Stokely Carmichael) and Jamil Al-Amin (the former H. Rap Brown) played a leading role in Lowndes in the 1960s in their leadership roles in the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).



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\*Subject to Availability

### February 2015 Romulus Employees of the Month:

During this week's City Council meeting Mayor Burcroff presented two employees with the Employee of the Month award that recognizes employees that have gone over and above their responsibilities.



Labor/Trades: Joe Sylvester

-Began working for City of Romulus in July 1998 -Served as mechanic/welder for the Department of Public Works

-Saved City money by working overtime during recent snow storms to fix damaged snow plows, fabricating reinforcements for the snow plows using raw materials already in stock.



Administrative Staff: Merrie Druyor

-Began as part time staff in Human Resources in October 2002 -Went full time in December 2002

- -Teamsters Union employee as Clerk I in the Finance Department in 2003
- -Promoted to Senior Secretary in Community Development in August 2010
- -Countless hours of volunteering with the Romulus Pumpkin Festival Committee and Goodfellows



## Women's History Month March 2015: Facts And Figures About US Women In The 21st Century



Nancy Pelosi, Michelle Obama and Katheryn Bigelow: these are just a handful of women who have made history in the 21st century. Women have made great strides in the U.S., in the more than 40 years since the beginning of the American feminist movement. However, women have yet to enjoy true parity with their male counterparts in careers, in pay and in government representation. The idea for a national Women's History Month was born this

month more than 158 years ago and became federally recognized in 1987. Here are several important facts about modern U.S. women:

Women outnumber men in the U.S. There were 161 million females in the U.S. as of December 2013, compared to 156.1 males, according to the latest U.S. Census Bureau data. Women outnumbered men 2 to 1 at age 85 and older.

Women in the U.S. earned 78 cents for every currently hold 104 of the

dollar than men earned in 2013. The median annual earnings of women 15 or older working fulltime was \$39,157, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The median annual earnings for men was \$50,033.

Women held a record number of chief executive positions in the fourth quarter of 2014. In September, 25 of the "Fortune 500" company CEOs were female, the highest level ever reached, according to the research organization Catalyst. At 5 percent of all chief executives, that achievement was small compared to women's 47 percent share of the overall workforce, based on data from the last full U.S. Census count.

Women hold more positions of elected office in the federal government than ever before. Women



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certification in Process Technology (PTEC). These scholarships are available through Henry Ford College.

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See back for more details on scholarship application process...

## Women

From Page 1A

has nearly equalized.

A few years later, the idea had caught on within communities, school districts and organizations across the country. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week. The U.S. Congress followed suit the next year, passing a resolution establishing a national celebration. Six years later, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

#### International Women's Day

International Women's Day, a global celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women, took place for

1911. Many countries around the world celebrate the holiday with demonstrations, educational initiatives and customs such as presenting women with gifts and flowers. The United Nations has sponsored International Women's Day since 1975. When adopting its resolution on the observance of International Women's Day, the United Nations General Assembly cited the following reasons: "To recognize the fact that securing peace and social progress and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms require the active participation, equality and development of women; and to acknowledge the contribution of women to the strengthening of international peace and security."

the first time on March 8.

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## City of Inkster hosts Open House for new Justice Center

By Shelby Jefferson – Telegram Staff Reporter



On Tuesday, the City of Inkster hosted an Open House to commemorate the opening of the municipality's new Justice Center. Highlighted by a brief program, light refreshments and group tours of the facility, an assembly of public figures stopped by to support the event, including Chief Counsel to the Governor James Redford, Wayne County Commissioner Richard LeBlanc, Inkster Mayor Hilliard Hampton and 22nd District Court Judge Sabrina Johnson. In addition, countless community members, local clergy and elected officials came out to celebrate the occasion as a demonstration of pride within the City of Inkster.

The newly constructed Justice Center opened its doors in December. The facility currently houses the Inkster Police Department and the 22nd District Court.

## Daylight Savings Time is Sunday

In the U.S., clocks change at 2:00 a.m. local time. In spring, clocks spring forward from 1:59 a.m. to 3:00 a.m.; in fall, clocks fall back from 1:59 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. In the EU, clocks change at 1:00 a.m. Universal Time. In spring, clocks spring forward from 12:59 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.;

In the United States, Daylight Saving Time commences at 2:00 a.m. to minimize disruption. The second Sunday in March is the designated day. However, many states restrict bars from serving alcohol between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. At 2:00 a.m. in the fall, however, the time switches back one hour. So, can bars serve alcohol for that additional hour? Some states claim that bars actually stop serving liquor at 1:59 a.m., so they have already stopped serving when the time reverts to Standard Time. Other states solve the problem by saying that liquor can be served until "two hours after midnight." In practice, however, many establishments stay open an extra hour in the fall.

### A safety reminder

Many fire departments encourage people to change the batteries in their smoke detectors when they change their clocks because Daylight Saving Time provides a convenient reminder. "A working smoke detector more than doubles a person's chances of surviving a home fire," says William Mc-Nabb of the Troy Fire Department in Michigan. More than 90 percent of homes in the United States have smoke detectors, but one-third are estimated to have dead or missing batteries.



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### **PROBATION AND TRAFFIC TICKET AMNESTY**

From January 5, 2015 - March 30, 2015, the court will WAIVE all default fees, 20% late fees and warrant fees on TRAFFIC and PARKING TICKETS

For probation violators who have bench warrants for failure to pay fines and costs, the court will set aside the warrants and allow those persons to pay in full without being subjected to arrest.

The court is located at 26279 Michigan Avenue Inkster, MI 48141





### THE TELEGRAM NEWSPAPER

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|---|---|--|---|
| APT FOR RENT                                  | Report any                              | SERVICES                                       | CITY OF INKSTER PUBLIC NOTICE   |
| Across the Park<br>Apartments                 | <u>illegal</u>                          | Down River                                     | CITY OF INKSTER   |
| NEWLY REMODELED                               | <u>scrappers,</u>                       | Xpress   | In accordance with the City of Inkster City Charter Chapter 7, Sec. 7.9; an   |
| APARTMENTS                                    | car thefts,                             | Non Emergency                                  | abstract of the proceedings of  |
| Spacious 1 bedroom<br>apartments              | breaking and                            | Transport                                      | the March 2, 2015 Regular Council Meeting is hereby published.  |
| Available for 62 and                          | entering or<br>taggers.                 | Transport For All!                             | APPROVED:<br>Approval of the agenda.  |
| older or Handicapped & Disabled.              | <b>b</b> d                              | Any Where,<br>Any Reason                       | Approval of Consent agenda.<br>Approval of amendments to various Deficit Elimination Plans.   |
| COME SEE OUR                                  | SMALL ADS<br>WORK                       | Call Us For A Ride To                          | Approval of FY 2015 budget amendments.  |
| MODEL   |   | Your Next Destination                          | Approval of an offer to purchase three vacant residential lots.<br>Approval of the Michigan Main Street Community Agreement.  |
| Rent is based on in-<br>come.                 | OFFICE                                  | Flat Rates Available                           | Approval of changes to the Poverty Income Standards Guideline.  |
| Heat & water included.                        | SPACE FOR                               | 15% Senior Discount                            | Felicia Rutledge  |
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| M-F 8-5                                       | YOUR OFFICE AWAY                        | Licensed & Insured                             | CITY OF ROMULUS   |
|   | FROM HOME<br>RENT INCLUDES              | Reliable Transportation<br>Courteous & On Time | 2015 BOARD OF REVIEW  |
| PHINOT SCARE                                  | VIRTUAL OFFICES                         | 313-757-5024                                   | To the taxpayers of the City of Romulus: The Board of Review will meet in the Romulus City Hall, Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 on the following dates and               |
| Equal Housing Opportunity                     | AVAILABLE TOO                           | 313-978-8450                                   | times by APPOINTMENT ONLY for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll. Please come prepared, as a ten (10) minute time limit before the Board will be strictly adhered to.                 |
| CO-OP   | CALL<br>313.469.5755                    | SERVICES                                       |   |
| AVAILABLE                                     | HOMES FOR SALE                          | Got Bed Bugs?                                  | March 09, 2015:         9:00 am to 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm           March 10, 2015:         6:00 pm to 9:00 pm   |
| WELLESLEY<br>TOWNHOUSES                       | OR RENT                                 | Call us we                                     | March 11, 2015: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm  |
| COOPERATIVE                                   | 3 Bedroom,                              | can help.<br>313-843-3011                      | Residents and Non-Residents may appeal by (1) making an appointment to appear before the Board OR (2) in writing (personal appearance is not required). The Board of Review MUST re-            |
| 1 BEDRM RANCH<br>TOWNHOMES                    | bath, living room<br>partially finished | BUSINESS                                       | ceive all written appeals/documentation no later than March 11, 2015 at 3:00 pm.  |
| \$490/Month                                   | basement, in Ecorse                     | OPPORTUNITY                                    | Property owners may appoint and authorize a representative to appear on their behalf. Accord-<br>ing to Ordinance, all Representatives or Agents MUST submit an original, notarized, current    |
| 2 BEDRM TOWNHOMES<br>STARTING FROM            | \$750.00 including water.               | Can You  | proof of authorization to act on behalf of the property owner as a prerequisite to appeal to the Board of Review.   |
| \$505/Month<br>For more information call      | 313-728-2140                            | Copy & Paste<br>Earn up to                     | To schedule an appointment to appeal to the March Board of Review, please call the City of Ro-  |
| (734) 729-3328                                | To have your                            | \$10 - \$50 a day                              | mulus Department of Assessment at 734.942.7520.   |
| Equal Housing Opportunity                     | business                                | with Ebay & Amazon                             | For the purpose of addressing clerical errors, mutual mistakes of fact, poverty exemptions, vet-<br>eran's exemptions, and principal residence exemptions, the Board of Review will meet in the |
|   | highlight                               | (248) 213-7188                                 | Romulus City Hall, Council Office, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174 on:  |
| SPHOR HOURING                                 | listed in the                           | <\$2   | July 21, 2015:         9:30 am           December 15, 2015:         9:30 am   |
| HOMES FOR RENT                                | Telegram                                |  | All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".  |
|   | Newspaper                               |  | Publish: 02/19/2015<br>02/26/2015   |
| Comfortable 3-Bedrm<br>Ranch style Home,      | ·                                       | BEL  | 03/05/2015  |
| Newly Remodeled,<br>Carpet thru out.          |   | en beens                                       |   |
| Fenced in Yard.                               | 313-928-2955                            | Are you looking for                            | CITY OF ECORSE PUBLIC NOTICE  |
| Immediate Occupancy<br>\$750.00/month.        | SPACE FOR RENT                          | an affordable babysit-                         | ATTENTION ECORSE TAXPAYERS  |
| Section 8 - OK                                | STORE FRONT                             | ter that won't break                           | PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE ECORSE BOARD OF REVIEW WILL BE MEETING IN   |
| 313.561.9352                                  | 3409 W.                                 | the bank? Look no further.                     | THE ALBERT B. BUDAY CIVIC CENTER-3869 W. JEFFERSON ECORSE MI IN THE ON THE 2ND FLOOR ON:  |
|   | Jefferson Ave.                          | For more information                           | MARCH 9, 2015 9:00 A.M. TO NOON AND 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M<br>6:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M  |
| HALL FOR RENT<br>Baby Showers,                | \$450/month<br>313-231-0860             | contact  | MARCH 12, 2015 11:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.  |
| Birthday Parties,                             | SMALL ADS                               | Alexandria,<br>ECE Specialist                  | FOR THE PURPOSE OF HEARING APPEALS ON 2015 ASSESSED AND TAXABLE VAL-  |
| Meetings                                      | WORK                                    | 313 704-5243                                   | UES. PLEASE NOTE IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW PROPOSALA; TAXES ARE<br>BASED ON THE TAXABLE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY.   |
| 313-469-5755                                  | 313-928-2955                            |  | FURTHER STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT ALL APPLICANTS FOR HARDSHIP REDUC-  |

## CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY WITH THE TELEGRAM BY GETTING HOME DELIVERY Telegram Newspaper

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Look for your copy in: Dearborn Hts, Delray, Detroit, Ecorse, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Melvindale, River Rouge, Romulus, Taylor, Wayne, Westland and Wyandotte or stop by the Office located at 10748 W. Jefferson in River Rouge For more info - Call (313) 928-2955

FURTHER STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT ALL APPLICANTS FOR HARDSHIP REDUC-TIONS MUST SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING BEFORE THE BOARD CAN GRANT A HARD-SHIP:

- 1. COMPLETED HARDSHIP APPLICATION (AVAILABLE IN ASSESSOR'S OFFICE)
- 2. COPY OF FEDERAL AND STATE INCOME TAX RETURNS/HOMESTEAD PROPÉRTY TAX OR POVERTY EXEMPTION AFFIDAVIT(AVAILABLE IN THE ASSESSOR'S OF-FICE)
- 3. PROOF OF INCOME (W2, SOCIAL SECURITY STATEMENT ETC)
- 4. ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU WISH THE BOARD TO CONSIDER
- 5. MUST BE CURRENT ON PROPERTY TAXES:

HARDSHIP APPLICATIONS MUST ALSO MEET THE FOLLOWING INCOME GUIDELINES

ONE PERSON TWO PERSONS THREE PERSONS FOUR PERSONS FIVE PERSONS SIX PERSONS SEVEN PERSONS EIGHT PERSONS NINE OR MORE  $\begin{array}{c} 13,000.00\\ 16,460.00\\ 20,800.00\\ 24,000.00\\ 27,500.00\\ 31,900.00\\ 35,200.00\\ 39,600.00\\ 43,300.00\end{array}$ 

ROBERT LEWIS HELLAR ECORSE, ASSESSOR

Published: 2/19/2015 2/26/2015 3/5/2015

### **CITY OF ROMULUS PUBLIC NOTICE**

MINUTES OF REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING February 9, 2015 Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Rd. Romulus, MI 48174

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem, John Barden. Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Kathleen Abdo, John Barden, Linda Choate, Harry Crout, Sylvia Makowski, Celeste Roscoe, William Wadsworth.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

LeRoy D. Burcroff, Mayor

Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, City Clerk

1. Moved by Crout, seconded by Makowski to accept the agenda as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth. Nays - None.

#### Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-046 2A. Moved by Wadsworth, seconded by Abdo to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on February 2, 2015.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth. Navs - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

3. Petitioner: None.

#### 4. Chairperson's Report:

Mayor Pro-Tem John Barden asked two representatives from the Romulus High School National Honor Society to speak about their efforts to raise awareness for pediatric cancer research. They have raised \$900 for this cause so far. They were inspired by the story of Chad Carr, grandson of former U of M football coach and nephew of Ms. Carr, a teacher at Romulus Community Schools. Hazardous waste collection will be held on April 4, 2015 at city hall from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. For more information, please call 734-326-3936

4A. Moved by Roscoe, seconded by Makowski to accept the chairperson's report. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth. Navs - None.

#### Motion Carried Unanimously.

5. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Burcroff read a letter he received from a mail carrier praising the DPW workers for the great job they did clearing the roads during the recent snow storm. The Romulus mail carrier was able to deliver the mail to residents with no problems.

15-047 5A. Moved by Wadsworth, seconded by Abdo to adopt a memorial resolution for the familv of John Hadvniak.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth. Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

- 15-048 5A1. Moved by Choate, seconded by Wadsworth to authorize the mayor and clerk to enter into a 48 month lease with MailFinance, Inc. for a Neopost IN-700 digital mail machine and a Neopost DS-35 folder/inserter machine at a cost of \$307.55 per month for months one through twelve and \$453.03 per month for months thirteen through months forty-eight, pending final approval of the contract language by the City attorney. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth. Nays - None.
  - Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-049 5A2. Moved by Choate, seconded by Makowski to authorize the purchasing director to dispose of the City's current mail machine, as salvage, under the guidelines of the City's Disposal of Obsolete, Worn or Surplus Property Policy. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-050 5B. Moved by Wadsworth, seconded by Crout to award Bid 14/15-10 for the acquisition of three motorcycle helmet radio systems for the Police Department to the lowest bidder, Cynergy Wireless Products, in the amount of \$3,811.47. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth Navs - None

Motion Carried Unanimously.

- 15-051 5C. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Roscoe to award Bid 14/15-17 for the purchase of a 2015 Ford Transit 250 MR Van for the Department of Public Works to the lowest bidder, Jorgensen Ford Sales, Inc., in the amount of \$27,500. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth Nays - None
  - Motion Carried Unanimously.
- 15-052 5D. Moved by Abdo, seconded by Makowski to award Bid 14/15-18 for the purchase of one 2015 four door, four wheel drive, one ton dump truck with dump body and accessories for the Department of Public Works to the lowest bidder, Red Holman Buick GMC, in the amount of \$47,032.00.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-053 5E. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Crout to award Bid 14/15-19 for the purchase of two zero radius riding lawn mowers for the Department of Public Works to the lowest bidder, Weingartz Equipment, in the amount of \$19,358.00. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth

Nays - None Motion Carried Unanimously.

- 15-054 5F. Moved by Wadsworth, seconded by Abdo to authorize the mayor and clerk to enter into a professional services agreement with Orchard Hiltz & McCliment for engineering services for the City of Romulus. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth
  - Nays None

on February 13 and February 14, 2015 at the Romulus Athletic Center (RAC). Treasurer, Stacy Paige, announced the city-wide free yard sale dates: Thursday, May 14th through Sunday, May 17, 2015. Councilwoman Makowski announced that the library will hold a Black History program on Feb. 17 at 6:00 p.m. regarding the underground railroad. For more information about this and other events happening at the library, information is on the library's website. Councilman Wadsworth reminded residents that in order to sign up for city park rentals, contact the Recreation Dept. at City Hall. 11. Moved by Choate, seconded by Makowski to approve Warrant 15-03 in the amount 15-057

of \$1,137,381.83. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth. Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Moved by Wadsworth, seconded by Roscoe to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth. Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

I, Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on February 9, 2015.

#### **CITY OF RIVER ROUGE PUBLIC NOTICE**

ASSESSOR OFFICE CITY OF RIVER ROUGE ASSESSOR LISA K. GIVENS 313-842-5602

#### Attention River Rouge Taxpayers

Please take notice that the River Rouge Board of Reviews will be meeting in the Assessor's office, Room 205, at 10600 W. Jefferson, River Rouge, MI 48218. Date and times the board will be meeting.

MONDAY MARCH 9TH 2015

**TUESDAY MARCH 10TH 2015** WEDNESDAY MARCH 11TH 2015 THURSDAY MARCH 12TH 2015

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM 1:00PM - 4:00PM 9:00AM - 12:00 PM 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

This meeting is for the purpose hardship applications and errors. Further, State law requires that all applicants for poverty reductions must supply the following information to the board before the board can grant a hardship reduction

Complete poverty (hardship) application (available in the Treasurer's Office. Hardship applicants must meet the income guidelines.

The Board requires that all persons applying for a hardship reduction must have completed their application and returned to the Treasurer's office by March 6th 2015. Hardship reductions cannot be granted by telephone.

#### **POVERTY EXEMPTION INCOME STANDARDS**

NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDING IN HOMESTEAD POVERTY **INCOME THRESHOLD** 

| One (1) person   | \$12,000 |
|------------------|----------|
| Two (2) people   | \$15,000 |
| Three (3) people | \$18,310 |
| Four (4) people  | \$22,050 |
| Five (5) people  | \$25,790 |
| Six (6) people   | \$29,530 |
| Seven (7) people | \$33,270 |
| Eight (8) people | \$37,010 |
| Nine (9) people  | \$42,000 |

River Rouge Board of Review: published

#### **CITY OF RIVER ROUGE PUBLIC NOTICE**

City of River Rouge The City of River Rouge is currently accepting applications to create an eligibility list for Part-Time Fire Fighters.

\*\*Starting pay \$15.86 per hour plus incentives

Minimum qualifications of applicant:

Minimum of 18 ve



|        | Motion Carried Unanimously.   | Minimum of 18 years of age   |
|--------|---|--|
| 15-055 | 5G. Moved by Roscoe, seconded by Choate to concur with the administration and au-         | Legally employable in the United Sates   |
|        | thorize the mayor and clerk to enter into a two-year fixed rate natural gas supplier con- | No criminal history  |
|        | tract with CenterPoint Energy for the term beginning April 1, 2015 through March 31,      |  |
|        | 2017.   | value of Michigan unver sincense with a  |
|        | Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth           | good driving record  |
|        | Nays – None   | High school diploma or G.E.D. certificate                                      |
|        | Motion Carried Unanimously.   | State of Michigan Firefighter II certification                                 |
|        | 6. Clerk's Report:  | **Special pay incentives will be given to applicants with a Pump Oper          |
|        | City Clerk, Ellen Craig-Bragg, presented some history regarding the beginnings of         |  |
|        | Black History Month.  | ators certification and/or either an Emergency Medical Technician,             |
| 15-056 | 6A1. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Roscoe to schedule a study session for Mon-           | Specialist, or Paramedic license   |
|        | day, Feb. 23, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss amendments to city ordinances. The meeting     | All applicants must pass a background investigation, physical and psychologi-  |
|        | will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road.                         | cal exams, and drug screening.   |
|        | Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe, Wadsworth.          | Applications may be picked up and returned, along with copies of all of the    |
|        | Nays – None.  |  |
|        | Motion Carried Unanimously.<br>6B. Treasurer's Report:                                    | qualifying documents, at the address below:                                    |
|        | Treasurer, Stacy Paige, reminded everyone that taxes are due on Tuesday, Feb. 17,         | City of River Rouge  |
|        | 2015.   | Office of the City Clerk- Rm.101   |
|        | 7. Public Comment:  | -  |
|        | None.   | 10600 West Jefferson   |
|        | 8. Unfinished Business  | River Rouge, MI 48218  |
|        | 9. New Business:  | Monday-Thursday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.                   |
|        | Councilman Wadsworth announced that Saturday, February 28, 2015 is the annual dogs        |  |
|        | and cats shots at the Animal Shelter and Friday, May 8, 2015 will be the annual animal    | If you would prefer to have an application emailed to you, please send request |
|        | shelter fund raiser bowling event.  | email to: sjoseph@cityofriverrouge.org   |
|        | 10. Communication:  | The Other & Diversity on Environmentarity Environment                          |
|        | Councilwoman Roscoe announced that Romulus Little League registration will be held        | The City of River Rouge is an Equal Opportunity Employer.                      |
|        |   |  |
|        |   |  |

## March Madness in progress for the Girls

By Butch Davis - Sports Reporter



Dearborn Heights Annapolis earned a spot in semifinal with a 49-27 win over River Rouge in this past Monday's second game at Dearborn Heights-Robichaud High School. A threepoint play by Jamesha Gully in the final minute of the first quarter helped give the Cougars a 13-3 first-quarter lead. A basket by Dawnielle Dixon gave the Cougars a 17-5 lead in the second quarter. However, Rouge didn't quit, getting a basket by Shannell Gordon to make it 17-8. Annapolis led 21-10 at halftime. The Cougars took over in the third quarter. A basket by Alora Fleenary gave Annapolis a 25-10 lead and they never looked back. Gully, senior, led Annapolis with 12 points. Fleenary and Brianna Coffman each scored seven for the Cougars. Gordon led Rouge with 11 points. In the first game of the District 40 playoffs, Dearborn Divine Child beat Melvindale 65-17. Here

Boys District Playoff Lineup No. 14-A Southgate Anderson Brownstown Township-Woodhaven Gibraltar-OA Carlson **Riverview Community** Southgate Anderson Trenton Wyandotte-Roosevelt

No. 15-A Westland-John Glenn Belleville Romulus Taylor-John F Kennedy Taylor-Truman Wayne Memorial Westland-John Glenn

are the rest of the results of Monday Girls High School varsity playoff action and also the district match-up for the MHSAA Boys tournament play starting this up coming Monday.

Girls MHSAA tournament playoff results are as follow; District 14, Brownstown Woodhaven 62, Trenton 39, Wyandotte Roosevelt 42, Riverview 31. District 15, Belleville 52, Westland John Glenn 38, Romulus 60, Taylor Truman 24. District 16, Allen Park 51, Dearborn 38, Dearborn Edsel Ford 46, Dearborn Heights Crestwood 28 District 72, Taylor Preparatory HS 50, Melvindale Academy for Business & Tech 30. District 39, Allen Park Cabrini 52, Monroe Jefferson 27, New Boston Huron 66, Romulus Summit Academy 14. District 101, Taylor Baptist Park 66, Huron Westland Valley Lutheran 56.

North

No. 40-B Dearborn Heights-Robichaud **Dearborn Heights-Annapolis Dearborn Heights-Robichaud Dearborn-Divine Child** Dearborn-Henry Ford Academy Melvindale River Rouge

No. 41-B Detroit-Frederick Douglass Dearborn-Advanced Technology Academy Detroit-Cesar Chavez Academy **Detroit-Consortium College** Prep **Detroit-Frederick Douglass** Detroit-University Prep Academy Detroit-University Prep Science & Math Detroit-West Side Academy No. 71-C Ypsilanti-Arbor Preparatory Ann Arbor-Greenhills Dearborn Heights-Star International Academy Lutheran HS Westland Whitmore Lake **Ypsilanti-Arbor Preparatory** No. 72-C Riverview-Gabriel Richard Dearborn-Riverside Academy-West



By Butch Davis - Sports Reporter

Last month, general manager Martin Mayhew said he was optimistic about getting a deal done with Ndamukong Suh, other than the franchise tag may have been the team's best source of leverage, and actually using it could have come at a too expensive cost. So now let tell you how the franchise tag is used. A team must present the player a one-year contract for a figure based on the average of the five highest salaries at his position - or for 120 percent of the player's prior year's salary, whichever is higher. It's the final provision that pushed Suh price tag so high, making it difficult for the Lions to use the franchise tag. In the end the \$26.8 million tag number proved too rich for the Lions' brass. Suh will be the rare Hall-of-Fame-caliber player to hit free agency in his prime. Jockeying for his services should thrust his contract north of the six-year, \$100 million deal J.J. Watt signed. So now here is the deal, Martin Mayhew and the Detroit Lions brass have until the end of the week (Saturday) or Suh's

**Detroit Cristo Rey** Ecorse Melvindale-Academy for Business & Tech **Riverview-Gabriel Richard Taylor Preparatory** 

No. 101-D Taylor-Baptist Park Allen Park-Inter-City Baptist Canton-Plymouth Christian Academy Inkster-Peterson Warren Academv Newport-Lutheran HS South Taylor-Baptist Park Taylor-Trillium Academy Westland-Huron Valley Lutheran SCAN AND **GO DIRECTLY TO OUR** WEBSITE WWW. telegramnews.net

agent can talk to any team in the league. Ndamukong Suh can test the open market when free agency begins March 10 after the Detroit Lions did not use the franchise tag on the star defensive tackle. The deadline for teams to designate franchise or transition players came and went Monday, and the Lions did not say anything publicly about their decision. There was only a report early in the day on the team's website saying the franchise tag's price of around \$27 million for Suh proved too daunting.

The Meter is Ticking for the

Lions to Sign Suh

Detroit has become competitive again recently because of Suh, quarterback Matthew Stafford and wide receiver Calvin Johnson - all of whom came to the Lions via high draft picks. That trio helped Detroit reach the postseason twice in the last four years.

The Lions were able to secure Stafford and Johnson on longterm deals beyond their rookie contracts, but so far they've been unable to sign Suh. It's been obvious all along that Suh's status would shape the

rest of Detroit's off-season, in terms of the team's free agent needs and perhaps its approach to the draft.

There is no secret that Ndamukong makes his home in the off season in good old Portland Oregon so would it be possible that he can honor a deal to play in up north interstate I-5 in the city of the Seattle Seahawks for less money, or sell his services down south interstate I-5 to his childhood favorite team and a team that can easily afford a mega deal with him, yes you guest it, the Oakland Raiders.

In the end, the Detroit Lions have determined that the franchise tag, at a price of \$26.9 million, is just too expensive to spend on All-Pro defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh. The Lions have declined to place the tag on Suh, which means he'll become an unrestricted free agent and is free to sign with any club he chooses starting March 10.

That could still end up being Detroit, however Suh is likely going to test the free agent market and assess his value, and is expected to have plenty of suitors.

By the way if you care to know, Lions defensive tackle Nick Fairley is also a pending free agent. The offense is coming off an uneven season in which the line struggled to protect Stafford. Detroit released running back Reggie Bush last week, so the Lions may try to add a significant player at that position. Nevertheless, signing Ndamukong Suh is the priority so let pray that the Detroit Lions management staff can get it done.





No. 16-A Dearborn-Fordson Allen Park Dearborn **Dearborn Heights-Crestwood** Dearborn-Edsel Ford Dearborn-Fordson Lincoln Park

No. 20-A Detroit-Cass Technical

**Detroit-Cass Technical Detroit-Martin Luther King Detroit-Pershing Detroit-Western International** Hamtramck

No. 39-B Grosse Ile Allen Park-Cabrini Flat Rock Grosse lle Monroe-Jefferson New Boston-Huron Romulus-Summit Academy



## Theatre & Dance at Wayne to Host "A Conversation with Apple Award Recipient Garth Fagan"



DETROIT - Garth Fagan, Tony Award winner for "Best Choreography" in The Lion King, founder and artistic director of Garth Fagan Dance, is receiving the Apple Award from Wayne State University's Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance. "А Conversation with Apple Award Recipient Garth Fagan" will be hosted at the Berman Center for the Performing Arts on March 28 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Fagan will appear in an "actors studio" style interview and question-and-answer session. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at wsushows.com, at

313- 577-2972 at the Wayne State University or at the Berman Center for the Performing Arts Box Office.

Fagan, a Wayne State Universitv alumni, began his career when he toured Latin America

with Ivy Baxter and her national dance company from Jamaica. Baxter and two other famed dance teachers from the Caribbean, Pearl Primus and Lavinia Williams, were major influences on Fagan. In New York City, Fagan studied with Martha Graham, Jose Limon, Mary Hinkson, and Alvin Ailey, who were all central to his development. Fagan was director of Detroit's All-City Eastside Dance Company and principal soloist and choreographer for Detroit Contemporary Dance Company and Dance Theatre of Detroit.

Garth Fagan was awarded the prestigious 1998 Tony Award, England's 2000 Laurence Olivier Award, and Australia's 2004 Helpmann Award for his path-breaking choreography in Walt Disney's The Lion King. He also received the 1998 Drama Desk Award, 1998 Outer Critics Circle Award, 1998 Astaire Award, 2001 Ovation Award for his work on the Broadway production, which opened in fall 1997 to extraordinary critical praise

The Apple Award, named for Sarah Applebaum Nederlander, is given by the Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance at Wayne State University on behalf of the Nederlander family. In 2001, the Nederlander family formed a partnership with the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts at Wayne State University, establishing the Sarah Applebaum Nederlander Award for Excellence in Theatre; an annual theatre award and visiting artist fund in their mother's name. The Apple Award brings a nationally prominent theatre professional to Detroit and the Wayne State University campus as a guest lecturer to interact with and educate the rising stars of the Department of Theatre and Dance through master classes and a question-and-answer style forum. Previous Apple Award winners include Neil Simon, Carol Channing, Stephen Schwartz, Mandy Patinkin, Patti Lupone, Marvin Hamlisch, Elaine Stritch, and Tom Skerritt.

About Theatre & Dance at Wayne Wayne State University's Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance serves nearly 300 students as a nexus of performance, production, management, and research. The dance program is one of the longest-running in the U.S., tracing its beginning to Ruth Lovell Murray's founding of the Dance Workshop in 1928.

### STAY INFORMED ABOUT HAPPENINGS GOING ON IN YOUR CITY GOVERNMENT READ THE TELEGRAM NEWSPAPER

## **ASK ALMA** Mama moved in but won't move out!



Dear Alma, My mother and I have a decent relationship. She was on drugs when I was growing up, but she's stopped and is doing fine. She is healthy and able. She lives with me and my kids. She doesn't pay rent or help with the kids. I'm 36 and she's 55. When she moved in, I thought it was temporary and wanted to help her get on her feet. Now she says she should be able to stay as long as she wants and not have to pay any bills because she's my mother. I love my mother and I want the best for her, but I feel guilty that I want her to leave. What should I do?

Confused daughter

#### Dear Confused daughter,

Unfortunately, there's some sweet and sour in your "mama drama" soup. The sweet is obvious – your mom was able to quit her habit and the two of you have a good relationship. What a blessing! The sour is obvious, too - your mama is taking advantage of you. She's introduced you to the "quilty club" as if it's a Girl Scouts meeting. Mama's gotta lotta nerve and knows exactly what she's doing. She's playing on your heartstrings, and it's time to stop the music. Tell her, point blank: "Mama, you gotta go. I'll help you find a place, but you need to leave within the next 90 days." This is a tough conversation to have. and I don't envy you at all, but you've got to do it. Right now you're enabling her. Do you know what that is? That's when a well-meaning loved one helps to the point that they strip the other person of all responsibilities and the person become completely reliant upon you. That's not what you intended, I know, but that's how it unfolds. You're mom is still a healthy, young woman. She can find her own place and move out of your space. Remind her that you'll be there when she's well seasoned and aged, but for right now she's on her own. If you feel the need to continue to help her in some way, add her to your cell phone plan and pay the bill. There are many ways to help besides having her live with you. Don't feel guilty. You're doing the right thing - for you and for your mama.

Alma

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## Sculptor M. Scott Johnson brings Afro Futurism/Surrealism home to Detroit

spirit with a triplicate that plays

with three separate shadows at

By Shelby Jefferson – Telegram Staff Reporter



M. Scott Johnson has made a name for himself as an acclaimed sculptor with featured collections around the world. Last month, he debuted his one-man show "Shadow Matter: The Rhythm of Structure – Afro Futurism to Afro Surrealism" at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, marking his first exhibition to go on display within the State of Michigan.

Heavily shaped by Johnson's time in Zimbabwe as an apprentice under distinguished sculptor Nicholas stone Mukomberanwa. "Shadow Matter" presents dozens of sculptures saturated with Zimbabwean Shona ideologies, in addition to aesthetics of traditional and contemporary African carving and concepts of Afrocentricity/non-Western cosmologies. Naturally, each piece distinctly unveils Johnson's intellectual brilliance as an artist—an attribute perhaps most deeply manifested in compound figures like 'The Mind of Benjamin Banneker'.

"I got to complete this particular piece as a young sculptor at the New York African Burial Ground project, and I thought to myself, 'How do we recreate our ancestors abstractly while also putting images out there that we can be proud of?" he said. "People rightly describe Banneker as a genius, but when I read his letters to Thomas Jefferson I also found that he was incredibly fearless. I tried to achieve high beauty that compliments African features with big round noses and very large lips, but I also wanted to capture his inner

the top of the head because, of course, the Bible indicates that the spirit shows up in threes. It's really an abstract work with figurative qualities about it." Also of note: the local influences that helped to shape Johnson's art-the first being a connection to his hometown of Inkster. Visual photographs like 'Dawn', in addition to the "Family" segment of the exhibit housing a series of colorful sculptures dedicated to his father, sister and great grandmother encapsulate the spirit of a city described by Johnson as "a womblike environment that nurtured my ability to step out on my own and make this kind of statement." The other driving point of inspiration: De-

troit house and techno music which to some extent, also affected his desire to bring the show home to the metropolitan area. "Techno taught me how to organize abstraction in my mind; the repetition starts to open up corridors of your conscious thought," Johnson said. "Working with stone in Africa, you see how rhythm manifests itself physically. If your beat is

erratic, the stone will respond erratically which makes it harder to carve, but if you're doing it more rhythmically, it opens up and allows you to work in harmony with what your medium is. Music is a huge part of the process.

"People often talk about the correlation between graffiti and hip hop music, but for me I was





always wondering: What is the visual response to techno music for African American artists? I happened to have grown up at a time when techno was born, so one of my objectives in bringing this to the area was to allow for black people from similar backgrounds to identify with these connections in my sculptures." With that, it can be guaranteed that Johnson-whose collections have been featured everywhere from the National Gallery of Zimbabwe to Harvard University and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture-will forge a genuine connection with art lovers from all around. Whether you're interested in abstract interpretations of black culture, or if you simply enjoy savoring in the essence of contemporary art, you can be assured that "Shadow Matter" will provide an unforgetthat table experience comprehensively reflects the beauty of the African diaspora, while also boasting the promise of talented artists like Johnson who hail from the Detroit Metropolitan region-intermingling factors that make this exhibit all the more powerful. Johnson's work will be featured at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History through August 30th. For more information, please

visit TheWright.org.

# TELEGRAM EVENTS CALENDAR

### 13th Annual Cigar Fest 2015

When: March 7th at 5:00 PM Where: Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland.

Cost: \$50, or tickets with (2) cigars are \$60. Advanced tickets only.

Includes Buffet dinner and full bar, silent auction, live entertainment, raffles and door prizes. Benefiting the Westland Police Department's Tactical Response Unit.

### Dearborn Heights Craft Fair

When: March 7th from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

### Ariana Grande

When: March 7th at 7:30 PM Where: Joe Louis Arena Cost: \$69.50, \$49.50, \$39.50, \$29.50

### Ledisi wsg Raheem Devaughn and Leela James

When: March 13th at 8:00 PM Where: Sound Board at MotorCity Casino Hotel Cost: \$45, \$35, \$32

9th Annual Motor City Blues Festival feat. Lenny Williams, Clarence Carter and more When: March 13th at 8:00 PM Where: The Masonic Temple Cost: \$75, \$55.50, \$45.50, \$39.50

#### Alvin Ailey American Dance

When: March 19th – March 22nd Where: Detroit Opera House Cost: \$83, \$68, \$48, \$38

### Marcus Miller wsg Yellowjackets

When: March 15th at 7:00 PM Where: Detroit Music Hall Cost: \$75, \$55, \$45

### **COMMUNITY MEETINGS**

National Action Network Weekly meeting - 10:00am 6100 14th St Detroit, MI 48208 JOIN US

For more information Nandetroit@gmail.com 313-312-5287 or 313-492-6774

Western Wayne NAACP General Membership Meeting 2nd Monday of each month - 7:00pm

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