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Kyla Imani McMillan, a 13-Year-Old Inspiration

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**WEEK OF MAY 7 - MAY 13, 2015** 



# 1000 GRAM

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

# New Attorney General Tackles Police Brutality Case

By Freddie Allen NNPA Senior Washington Correspondent



Loretta Lynch sworn inas U. S. Attorney General

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – On the same day that Loretta Lynch was sworn-in as the 83rd United States Attorney General, the chief law enforcement officer in the nation, about 40 miles north of Washington, D.C., pockets of "Charm City" descended into lawlessness in response to decades of police corruption

and brutality in poor, Black communities in Baltimore.

The violent riots, confined to a few scattered city blocks despite media reports, included the burning of police vehicles and the looting of a CVS chain at the corner of Pennsylvania

Police Brutality- Page 13A

# **Bikes invade Downriver**

**Downriver Delta host 2nd Annual Roll Along the River By: Gina Steward Special to the Telegram** 



Many of the Roll Along the River bikers pause at the River Rouge Historical Museum on the return trip of the 12 mile ride back to Wyandotte

The Downriver Delta CDC, in collaboration with River's Edge Gallery in Wyandotte, hosted the 2nd annual "Roll Along the River" bike ride on Sunday, May 3rd. This 12-mile recre-

ational ride was FREE and open to all age groups and experience levels. Riders began gathering well before 12noon in anticipation of the bike ride. They met near Tongue's Cof-

fee at 2958 Biddle Avenue in Wyandotte. Bikers of all ages and across the downriver communities came one by one and by families to register for the

Bike Ride - Page 8A

# Inkster welcomes new police chief;

## Two suspended in Floyd Dent case

By Shelby Jefferson – Telegram Staff Reporter



Joseph Thomas Interim police chief of Inkster,

This week, the City of Inkster announced that two police officers were suspended without pay in connection to the Floyd Dent beating in January.

During a brutal traffic stop, dashcam recordings show Of-



William Melendez
Former Inkster Police officer
ficer Chuck Randazzo repeatedly kicking Dent, resulting in a
15 day suspension for the use
of excessive force. Police
precinct footage later captured
Randazzo and other officers
mocking the detained Inkster

New chief - Page 6A

# Life Build graduates first class

Preparing young men for the work



Mentors from the group are pictured with the graduates as they display their certificates

The African adage, "It takes a Village to Raise a Child" proves to be a key statement for the first Life Build Class as they graduate seven young men with skills to make it in the

world. According to Chuck Pottenger, for four years they began having meetings with other business to help find jobs for young people in the community." Then one Saturday

one of many 'Look at God Moments' happened.

A group of men came together to teach the young men to overcome their fears. Not only Life Build - Page 9A

Informing \* Educating \* Empowering \* Uplifting

# Westwood School District conducts Strategic Planning and Survey

They want to hear from you



Westwood Community School District, Strategic Planning Committee has been working diligently to develop a plan for the district's future. The Strategic Plan is used to serve as a guide for the district and its schools, specifying its vision, mission, performance goals, objectives, benchmarks, and the policies and strategies to achieve each strategic objectives.

Our planning process has engaged all stakeholders, students, parents, administrators, faculty, and staff, as well as, board members and community leaders.

The Strategic Planning committee members have worked on the frame work for our district and student's future. We are focusing our frame work around Literacy, Numeracy, Finance, and Graduation Path. The focus categories will enc o m p a s s :

- o Curriculum and Instruction
- o College and Career Readines s s
- o Technology in Learning
- o Professional Development

- \* F i n a n c i a l o Parent and Community In-v o l v e m e n t
- o Climate and Culture
  Our Strategic Planning committee has solidified a new mission and vision statement for our district.

Mission Statement: Education with C.A.R.E (Commitment, Accountability, Respect, Excellen c e).

Vision Statement: Our vision is that children leave Westwood Community School District: Academically Prepared, Socially and Emotionally Engaged, as well As Agents of Change.

This "living plan" will provide guidance to the Westwood Community School District and all of its stakeholders for the next five years. It will have the adaptability to change with our global society, so that our children become contributing members.

The survey is on the school district's website: <a href="http://www.westwood.k1">http://www.westwood.k1</a>
<a href="mailto:2.mi.us">2.mi.us</a>



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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.

## MEMBERSHIPS



Michigan Minority Press Association National Newspaper Publishers Association

# Citizens speak - Proposal 1 fails

SEMCOG statement on Proposal 1 election results



SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, releases the following statement on the results of Proposal 1, the ballot proposal to increase road funding.

"SEMCOG is deeply disappointed, but not surprised, that Proposal 1 was defeated at the polls on Tuesday," said SEMCOG Executive Director Kathleen Lomako.

Prior to the election, SEMCOG made many presentations at educational forums on Proposal 1 across the region, attended by hundreds of citizens. "Everyone who attended the public forums agreed that our roads are in deplorable condition," noted Lomako. "This election was not a referendum on the condition of the state's roads; it was an indictment of an overly complicated plan that failed to stick to the core mission – fix the roads. There are times when public policy collapses under the weight of the political process and, in this case, the public rejected the outcome."

During the campaign, SEMCOG

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6726 Metroplex Rd Romulus, MI 48174 734-895-1761 Gdanzy@farmersagent.com and its partner organization, the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition (MAC), promoted a nonscientific poll on transportation issues. Of the nearly 600 people who expressed their opinions, two out of three were opposed to the ballot proposal. However, the poll also explored what those who opposed the ballot proposal thought should be done about our roads. Some of the results:

- 60 percent of those who opposed Proposal 1 indicated support for an increase to the gas tax.
- 35 percent indicated a willingness to pay increased vehicle registration fees.

"These are not the responses of people just saying "no," they are the responses of people who don't want road funding proposals that stray from the intended

purpose," stated Lomako.

The SEMCOG/MAC survey allowed those who opposed Proposal 1 to select from several alternatives and choose more than one option.

- 26 percent of the people who took SEMCOG's poll supported cuts to state operations in order to fund transportation.
- 21 percent did not support increased transportation funding.

"The most interesting result was that the least favorite option was diverting money from the state school aid fund and municipal operations. I believe the citizens view this as taking a state problem and simply shifting it to someone else," Lomako explained.

Lomako concluded, "Those who voted vesterday rejected an overly complicated transportation plan. It is time for the legislature to finish what they started. They need to step up and take responsibility for the condition of our state's roadways and transit systems. A straightforward solution must be found quickly. The longer we wait, the more it will cost all of us to improve roads. We believe, along with the majority of citizens who took our survey, that the final solution does not involve shifting the problem on to our local governments and schools."

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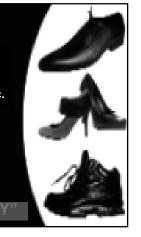
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# No Better Time to End **Racial Profiling**

By Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. - NNPA Columnist



Freddie Gray, 25, was racially profiled and then chased down by the Baltimore police officers. He subsequently died as result of police action taken after what the mayor called an unjust arrest. But the Gray tragedy is not an isolated case. It is symptomatic of a criminal justice system gone mad with racism and bigotry.

This deadly scenario of racial profiling and the use of fatal police force against Black Americans continue to increase across America with blatant disregard for precious value of life. Yes, Black Lives Matter all the time everywhere.

Congressman John Conyers (D-Mich.) and Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.) have once again introduced a bill designed to make racial profiling a federal criminal offense. It's called The End Racial Profiling Act of 2015 (H.R. 1933). If police officers knew that they could face federal imprisonment for committing acts of racial profiling, this law would have a definite impact toward reducing these racist practices.

The growing public demonstrations in Baltimore and across the nation are indications that something substantive needs to change. Even with the calls for better police training and the proposed transition to more community based policing will not work effectively as long as racial profiling by police officers is openly permitted without punitive consequences.

temic issue plaguing men of Cardin bill. Racial profiling color in America, stigmatizing them from youth throughout adulthood. The bill introduced by Sen. Cardin and I would make for the first time, use of racial profiling a federal offense. By ending use of racial profiling in police tactics and prioritizing community relations, we can cultivate community focused; smart policing that rebuilds trust in law enforcement."

Of course with a Republicanled Congress, it will take significant bipartisan support to get the Conyers' bill passed.

Senator Cardin represents the state of Maryland and this is the state that the whole world is now watching and waiting to

see what will be the outcome in Baltimore of the Freddie Gray case. Cardin emphasized, "Tragic events in Baltimore and New York, North Charleston and Ferguson, and elsewhere around the country have shown us that federal legislation finally ending racial profiling is essential."

It has been 50 years since the infamous Watts riots in Los Angeles that were also triggered in part by racial profiling and hideous acts of police brutality. So have we learned anything about this issue in the past 50 years? The direct answer is that our society is still in a state of denial of its racial problems that are deep seated and rooted in the systems of racial injustice, poverty and economic inequality.

The current attempts to divert attention away from the unjust racial profiling actions and deadly brutality of the police in Baltimore against Freddie Gray to speculation about whether Gray broke his own spine and crushed voice box in a so-called self-inflected rage is a classic example of how the police always criminalizes their victims. Police officers guilty of brutality always in the aftermath attempt to demean the character of those they have brutalized. Keep in mind Gray was deemed suspicious at first by the police only because of how he looked. In other words, the fact that Gray was racially profiled ultimately led to his death at the hands of police.

We must, therefore keep marching and keep demanding equal justice. We must continue without apology to shout as loud as we can that "Black Lives Matter." The case of Freddie Gray as well as all the other recent cases of raciallymotivated police brutality must remain in our collective national consciousness and activism until justice is done.

We should definitely express Conyers stated, "This is a sys- our support the Conyersshould not be tolerated and must be made a crime by law. Changing laws and enacting The End Racial Profiling Act, however, are the right steps to be taken, but that will not be the complete journey towards equal justice and fairness. All forms of racial injustice must continue to be challenged. The ultimate goal is to have a nonracial society and an inclusive democracy where race or ethnicity will not be a discriminating factor. We still have long ways to go.

> Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. is the President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and can be reached for national advertisement sales and partnership proposals at: dr.bchavis@nnpa.org; and for lectures and other professional consul-

# Six officers now face criminal charges in Baltimore

Justice has yet to be served for Freddie Gray

By Shelby Jefferson – Telegram Staff Reporter



Last week, State Attorney Marilyn Mosby made an announcement that sparked mass celebrations throughout the neighborhoods of Baltimore, and in various cities across the nation: Criminal charges had been filed against six police officers for the mysterious death of 25-year-old Freddie Gray.

Following the events of April 12th, where Gray suffered fatal spinal damage after being handcuffed, shackled and placed in a police transport van as officers ignored his pleas for medical attention, mass demonstrations and eventual rioting commenced as protesters demanded justice for yet another black male killed at the hands of law enforcement. Now on the heels of Mosby's decision to prosecute those responsible for Gray's death, a more relieved, celebratory atmosphere remains in effect. And while this widespread sigh of relief is certainly warranted, significant question lingers: Does a decision to file charges against officers in Baltimore truly indicate that justice has been served for Freddie Gray?

Absolutely not. Because while these new developments grant an overdue sense of relief for those fed up with police violence disproportionately waged against African Americans and other persons of color, recent instances demonstrate that black lives can be taken with impunity in America—from grand jury failures to indict officers in the deaths of unarmed black men in Ferguson and Staten Island, to the fact that charges have yet to be filed against the officer who gunned down 12-year-old Tamir Rice as he played with a toy rifle in Cleveland.

Now someone may ask: What about the South Carolina officer recently indicted for shooting a fleeing motorist eight times in the back, or the reserve deputy in Tulsa, Oklahoma charged with manslaughter after fatally wounding a black suspect he allegedly meant to tase? Does this not signify justice?

Absolutely not. Why? Because

we've been here a thousand times—from Rodney King in Los Angeles to Amadou Diallo in New York City, Oscar Grant in Oakland and Trayvon Martin in Sanford. In each instance, charges were filed; in each case, acquittals followed (with the exception of the Rodney King beating where all four officers were acquitted, with two eventually serving light time for federal civil rights violations. Also, in the 2009 shooting death of a handcuffed Oscar Grant, the police officer who pulled the trigger received minimal sentencing/time served). And now we have Freddie Gray in Baltimore.

There's no doubt in my mind that Mosby will do a dynamic job in prosecuting these officers to the fullest extent of the law. Still, history continues to prove that American justice is blind, and that when it comes to black lives, our perpetual distrust towards the criminal justice system is well warranted. For these reasons, we must remain cautiously optimistic in regards to the developments in Baltimore until convictions are handed out to every officer involved in this case. Then and only then can we be rest assured that justice has truly been served for Freddie Gray.

Shelby Jefferson is a staff reporter for the Telegram Newspaper, and currently serves as an online contributor for cultural websites like Atlanta Blackstar and xoJane.com. She can be reached at srjefferson@telegramnews.net.

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## **Foresight**

By: Janine Folks - Telegram Religion Columnist



When I'm driving, I always wonder why some driver like to pass other drivers and there is a red light up ahead. I think they are just in a hurry, they think the person in front of them is too slow and in that moment, they just want to get around the slow driver.

These drivers become so focused on passing the slow driver, that they fail to notice if there is a red light ahead or a reason to slow down. Not only is this bad on brakes, it seems to be a a symptom of stressful living. I have always believed that the way a person drives, says a lot about them as a per-

These impatient drivers are not using foresight. They are only thinking about the moment. Then what's ahead of them catches them by surprise and they have to make a sudden stop, which can be harsh or dangerous. It is so important to look ahead and observe the environment.

Another group of people who have no foresight, is bullies. Bullies like to feel powerful in the moment. They do not think about the long term affects of their actions. They don't stop to think about the likelihood of them reaping what they are sowing. Bullies don't think about the possibility of their victim one day saying, 'enough is enough' and possibly retaliating. Bullies only see the now and don't use foresight. Any time you premeditate hurting someone without considering consequences, you're setting yourself up for trouble.

In life, we have to make sure we see more than 'the now.' We have to look ahead and be proactive about what is to come. Life is full of risks, and we must take some, but we must not forget to 'count up the costs.' Counting up the costs requires foresight as you explore possible outcomes and try to prepare for them.

One of the seven habits of highly effective people is to 'live with the end in mind', as Steven Covey so eloquently put it. This principle lines up with the biblical idea of thinking more about our eternity over present gratification. We have to think about consequences of our present actions.

"...For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it? Otherwise, you might complete only the foundation before running out of money, and then everyone would laugh at you. They would say, 'There's the person who started that building and couldn't afford to finish it.' (Luke 14:28-30 NLT)

Pay attention. Do your homework. Look around. Count up the cost. Use some foresight! God bless you.

Janine Folks Minister. Writer. Author. Chaplain www.janinefolks.com Inspired to write; Writing to inspire

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It is with sadness that we announce the passing of

## Ms. Madeline Tate Flowers.

She passed on Sunday, May 3, 2015. Her arrangements are as fol-

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Monday, May 11, 2015 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

New Mt. Hermon Missionary Baptist Church 3225 S. Deacon Street Detroit, Michigan 48217

## Service:

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We can't ignore her advices. Mother is the nurturers & custodian of their kids and families. It is harder these days for mothers to be capable to be with their kids to the extent that they utilized to be because generally two parents require working full-time jobs just to stay alive or survive. Mother's always our very close and best friend and she is only person in the world who never deceives to their children.

Mother is always deserved for everything. If our mother's are does everything for us then it's

our responsibility to do everything for her. She keeps a very important place in our life. Without mother our life is black & white.

We should be friendly with mothers. We should respect her. Mother pravers always makes us successful person. We know mother's day come once in the year and on this special day we wish to our mothers and make mother's day special.

Mother heart is always very soft and patient. Mother heart is like a rare jewel. They love their kids during the worst (trouble) & best of times. All mothers are not same but all mothers love their children and want to see them happy. Mother is a great gift for us from God. No one can take place of mother.

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Rev Darryl Bynum, Pastor Phone: 313 516-2482 -Email:

Pastordbynum@yahoo.com

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## **HELP WANTED**

Organist Position: The Fews Memorial **Christian Methodist** Episcopal Church at 456 Palmerston St., River Rouge, MI is seeking to hire an organist. You may submit your resume to the above address. The telephone number at the church is (313) 382-2811.

## Mt. Nebo Baptist Church 4411 5th Street Ecorse

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## **BIBLE VERSE** II Timothy 1: 3-5 NIV

I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

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Rev. Dr. Alford D. Sample

II Timothy 2:25 Study to show thyself approved unti God;

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Mid-Week:	

Tuesdays- Bible Class ......9:00a.m. & 6:00p.m. Wednesday - Worship Service ...... 7:00 p.m.

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# CONNECTING THE DAST AND THE DRESENT

News from the Historical Museums

## LINCOLN PARK HERITAGE PLAZA DEDICATION



To recognize the city of Lincoln Park's 90th anniversary in 2015, the Lincoln Park Historical Society is establishing a Heritage Plaza on the grounds of the historical museum located at 1335 Southfield Road. Dedication of Phase One of the newly-installed brick plaza will take place on Saturday, May 16 at 5:00 P.M. on the museum grounds, near the U.S. Flag and State of Michigan historical marker.

The dedication ceremony will feature speakers from the Museum, the City of Lincoln Park, Wayne County Commissioner Ilona Varga and other government officials. The Reverend Bill Clark, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Park, which is celebrating its 90th anniversary also this year, will give the invocation.

A reception with light refresh-

ments will follow inside the museum, where the museum's temporary exhibit: "1925: A City Begins" will be on view.

The new plaza includes engraved bricks which have been individually designed to commemorate, memorialize or honor those from the Lincoln Park community's past and present day. Forms to order engraved bricks for the Plaza project will continue to be available, with bricks installed at any time after dedication.

Proceeds from the Heritage Plaza project, beyond initial installation costs, will go toward the ongoing maintenance, future expansion and additional landscaping. Please contact the Lincoln Park Historical Museum for more information: 3 1 3 - 3 8 6 - 3 1 3 7 , Ipmuseum@gmail.com. 1335 Southfield Rd, Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146

## DRINKING WATER WARNING

City of River Rouge on Boil Water Alert



The River Rouge Water System lost pressure and contamination may have occurred **BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING** 

Due to a drop in pressure in the River Rouge water supply, bacterial contamination may have occurred in the water system. Bacteria are generally not harmful and are common throughout our environment. Corrective measures are currently being undertaken to correct the situation.

What should I do?

DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FI RST. Bring all water to a boil, let it boil

for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth, washing dishes, and preparing food. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water. Continue using boiled or bottled water until further notice.

## What happened? What is being done?

These precautionary actions are being taken due to the loss of water pressure in the water distribution system caused by a main break at Pleasant and Jefferson Ave. on May 5, 2015. Whenever a water system loses pressure for any significant length of time, precautionary measures

> SHOP LOCAL !!

KEEP THE **MONEY** IN THE **COMMUNIT** 

recommended.

The River Rouge Water Department is working to get pressure restored, and water staff will be taking other remedial actions such as flushing and collecting bacteriological samples from around the system. The samples will be collected to determine that the water quality meets the state drinking water standards. We will inform you when tests show no bacteria and vou no

longer need to boil your water. We anticipate resolving the problem by Saturday, May 9, 2015.

This boil water notice shall remain in effect until results from the sampling verify the water is safe to drink. Customers will be advised when the boil water advisory has been lifted.

For more information, please contact Mark Gaworecki of Hennessey Engineers, Inc. at 7 3 4 - 7 5 9 - 1 6 0 0 , mfgaworecki@hengineers.com, 13500 Reeck Road, Southgate, MI 48195. General

guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those

who may not have received this notice directly.

## **New Inkster** Police chief

From Page 1A

resident, who suffered serious injuries during the encounter. In addition, Sergeant Shawn Kritzer—seen tasing Dent multiple times on film—received a 30 day suspension for improperly administering medical attention.

Details on this case first emerged after video footage showed Officer William Melendez punching the 57-year-old sixteen times in the head and face. The former Inkster officer was fired, and now faces criminal charges that include assault and misconduct. Melendez attended a probable cause hearing on Wednesday, with a preliminary examination date set for May 28th.

On the heels of Vicki Yost's recent resignation, Inkster also introduced Joseph Thomas as its new interim police chief. With more than thirty years of police experience, Thomas remains confident that local law enforcement can reestablish an atmosphere of trust throughout the Inkster area.

"Responsibility and accountability are the name of the game," he said during a press conference on Tuesday. "My job is to follow up and follow though; I will do just that."

## **COMMUNITY MEETINGS**

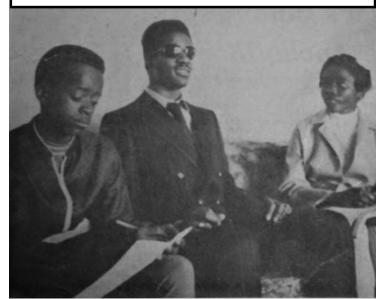
National Action Network Weekly meeting - 10:00am 6100 14th St Detroit, MI 48208 **JOIN US** 

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 **Christian Faith Ministries** 27500 Marquette Garden City, MI **Everyone** is welcome

# PHOTO FROM THE PAST



Donated Photo - STEVIE WONDER, a nationally known recording artist (center) was in River Rouge last week and was interviewd by Darwin Payton and Madelin Tate editor and assistant editor of the Northrup Elementary School newspaper.

## HAVING AN EVENT?

THE TELEGRAM CAN HELP YOU INFORM THE COMMUNITY.

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Print, Internet & Mobile Call 313-928-2955

# She's been there since day one.

From kissing boo-boos to making sure you got your homework done... even now, she still tells you to dress warm when it's cold out. This Mother's Day, we give tribute to the one person whose debt can never be repaid.





Two Locations to Service You: Stinson Chapel 16540 Meyers Stinson-Diggs Chapel

1939 S. Fort St. www.stinsonfuneralhomes.com

(313) 386-8200

(313) 863-7300

Page **7A** WEEK OF MAY 7 - MAY 13, 2015

# **Ecorse High School introduces Nurse's Aide Program for students and families**

By Shelby Jefferson - Telegram Staff Reporter



Ecorse Community HS Seniors Verronda Randolph, Antanisha Wilson, Anthony Jones IV, Daja' Boatwright participating in the Nurse's Aide Program.

Last week, a new nurse's aide course began at Ecorse High School for students ages sixteen and older, in addition to their parents and immediate family members. Sponsored by Wayne State University's College of Nursing C2 Pipeline Afterschool Program, participants receive six weeks of instruction/hands on training to become a qualified nurse's aide. In the end, students leave the class prepared for the state required Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) exam.

Eight students and seven family members officially began their first week of coursework at the end of April, with three hours of instruction, five days a week. For C2 Pipeline Site Coordinator Mershawn Gayden, this is an exciting time because no nurse's aide class has ever been offered at the high school.

"It's a pretty unique story of how this all came about," he said. "Anthony Harris is a graduate of Ecorse High School, and serves as a clinical instructor and registered nurse at Wayne State University. He wanted to do a Nurse's Aide Program to give back to his city by helping students and their families, so we decided to do the pilot program here because it's very much close to his heart. [Harris] is the main instructor for the class we now offer at the high school."

Ecorse is one of fifteen local schools participating in the C2 Pipeline Program. Funded by 21st Century Community Learning Center via the Michigan Department of Education, C2 Pipeline's mission evolves around college and career readiness through the creation of S.T.E.M enrichment programs and project based learning in science, technology, engineering, math and healthcare. With that, C2 Pipeline strives to reach students beyond the school year and into the summer months to effectively prepare them for the fu-

"We have a plethora of summer programs," Gayden said. "There are opportunities for rising seniors to do a two week residential camp where they stay on campus to get a feel of university life, take pre-college courses, etc. The Nursing Experience is a day camp for students who want to learn about the profession from WSU teachers, and the College of Engineering teaches interested participants how to create Android apps and video games. We really try to expose them to different careers because we ultimately want to pipeline our kids to college."

Ecorse High School's Nurse's Aide Program is scheduled to run through June 8th, and will mostly likely kick back off in the fall. For more information, please visit

www.c2pipeline.wayne.edu/.

# Lisa's Creative Pieces We Do All Occasions Call Me for Your Next Event (313)978-6989 follow me on instagram @lisascreativepieces CHARACTERS DJ CANDY REAT CANDY REAT CHARACTERS

# Telegram Events Calendar

Lincoln Park
Exchange Club hold 90th Anniversary Program at Historical Museum

To help recognize the city of Lincoln Park's 90th anniversary in 2015, the Lincoln Park Historical Society is presenting a special evening on the history of the Lincoln Park Exchange Club, the city's oldest service organization, and an early chapter of the National Club founded in Detroit in 1911.

The Lincoln Park Exchange Club was chartered in 1925 the same year that Lincoln Park became a city. The name describes its mission: "Exchange" was selected because the group wanted to exchange ideas and information with likeminded individuals about how to better serve their communities. "Unity for Service" continues to be the group's motto, and the Club today serves the community through many programs including their national efforts in child abuse prevention.

The Historical Society program will be held on Wednesday,

May 13 at 7:00 P.M. and is open to the public. Lincoln Park Mayor Tom Karnes is the featured speaker. Karnes currently serves as the President of the National Exchange Club. On this evening, the Exchange Club will be honored with the Historical Society's 'Legends of Lincoln Park' distinction.

Contact the Lincoln Park Historical Museum for more information: 313-386-3137, lpmuseum@gmail.com. 1335 Southfield Rd, Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146

## River Rouge High School 1965 Class Reunion

The River Rouge High School Class of 1965 will hold their 50th reunion on July 11, 2015. It will be held at Portofino Restaurant Banquet room in Wyandotte from 6:00pm to 11:00pm.

For more information call Barbara Sichak Meloche at (734) 282-7548

# **REGISTER TO VOTE-**

# GRAND OPENING May 20, 2015

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Page 8A WEEK OF MAY 7 - MAY 13, 2015

# Roll along the River

From Page 1A



Bikers in Wyandotte preparing to start the ride

2nd Annual Roll Along the River. Paul Draus from Downriver Delta and Jeremy Hansen Historical Museum before heading back to Wyandotte to end the 12 mile ride.

new trend and the quality of life in these communities is now improving.



Bikers at Dingell Park in Ecorse, one of the stops along the Roll Along the River Bike Ride

from River's Edge Gallery took turns on the bull horn to give instruction and prepare the participants for the ride. There were riders from Dearborn, Ecorse, Riverview, Wyandotte, Melvindale, Detroit, Canada, Lincoln Park, Grosse Isle, Southgate, Novi, Taylor, Ann Arbor, Farmington Hills, Clawson, Brownston, Allen Park, Romulus, Ecorse and River Rouge. The initial ride last year went from Dingell Park in Ecorse down Jefferson Ave until Memorial Park in River This year's route started at Bishop Park in Wyandotte and went long Jefferson to Dingell Park in Ecorse, past Memorial Park in River Rouge, down the Industrial Hwy to Belanger Park in River Rouge (off the Detroit River) then to the inoperable Jefferson Bridge. The riders stopped by the River Rouge

For many riders, this was their first experience with this part of the Downriver area. They were excited about their new found parks and points of inter-"When is the next ride?....was asked over and over. For members of the Downriver Delta CDC Board those were words of confirmation. Their goal was to expose this jewel of the region of Southeastern Michigan to people who were unfamiliar with scenic riverside parks and historic sites. The 167 online registrations along with the excitement along the ride proved that their goal was suc-

Traveling through the communities on non-motorized transportation has been catching on in many Metropolitan cities throughout the country. The Downriver community can now say that they are part of the



# Mother's Day

Find the words below. Read the remaining letters from left to right and top to bottom will spell out something to learn an interesting fact about Mother's



BREAKFAST LOVE CARD MAY CARNATIONS MOMMY CELEBRATE MOTHERHOOD CHILDREN MOTHERS DAUGHTERS MUMMY FAMILY SECOND

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# Mother's Day Brunch Gunday, May 10, 2015

Scrumptious Pastry & Salad Display Smoked Salmon & Shrimp Cocktail

Croissants & Danishes Pasta Salad Caesar Salad



## Delicious Hot Buffet

Eggs Benedict Chicken Piccante Broiled Whitefish Carved Sirloin & Bone-In Ham

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Ice Cream Sundae Bar

And So Much More....

# Call 734-238-7109 for Reservations

Adults: \$26.95 Seniors: \$23.95 Children 5-12: \$12.95 Under 5: Free



Page **9A** WEEK OF MAY 7 - MAY 13, 2015

# LIBRARY NEWS

## Romulus Public Library Presents a series of Programs Scheduled in May

Second Monday Book Club will be reading The Widow's War by Sally Gunning

Monday May 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Detroit Institute of Arts Presents "To Die Upon a Kiss", scientists have proven that when experiencing "love", brain cells release dopamine, a natural stimulant, to many regions of the brain that affect human behavior. View a selection of works that explore the variety of behaviors associated with "love."

Monday May 18, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Computer Class Kindle for Beginners – Learn how to use your Kindle's basic features, set up amazon account, download overdrive app onto device. To attend you MUST have a Kindle & Active Library Card.

Saturday May 9, 2015 at 9 a.m. to 11a.m.

Computer Class Overdrive E-Books/Kindle – Learn how to use Overdrive Download Destination to download E-books to you Kindle. To attend MUST have Kindle, Active Library Card and Amazon Account.

Saturday May 23, 2015 at 9a.m. to 11a.m.

All Programs subject to change. Please register by visiting the Library or by phone (734) 942-7589. Space is Limited. Romulus Public Library 1121 Wayne Road Romulus, MI 48174

## Happenings at the Inkster Library

Saturday May 9, the library will celebrate Mothers Day by showing "Brave" at 12 noon. You can also make MOM a card!

Saturday May 16 at 1:00 pm we will show "Pitch Perfect." Come join us for movies and a snack, on Saturdays!

On Saturday May 16, 2015 at 11 am, the library will have a Friends of the Library meeting. Come support your library at the Friends meeting.

On Mondays at 10:30 am join Miss Daisy for Stay and Play Toddlers storytime.

In May, Book club will discuss "The Art Forger" by B E Shapiro, on Monday May 11 at 6:30 pm!

And the library will begin GED Skills Workshops on May 13, 2015 at 5:30 pm. This series of four workshops will assess your skills and have GED practice tests. Please Register in advance by calling 313-563-2822 or emailing

dbe arre@ink sterlibrary.org.

Inkster Public Library is located at 2005 Inkster Rd -Inkster, MI 48141. For more information call 313-563-2822

# Look for your copy of the

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

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## Life Build Graduation

From Page 1A



Chuck Pottenger one of the directors of the Life Build Program with one of the graduates, Anton Thompson with new gear

did the 'Look at God Moments' affect the young men, it also impacted the mentors. They all learned much needed building skills and they built a shed in two days that is behind the

church. The young men also learned roofing to be able to get construction jobs. The graduation ceremony was held on April 2, 2015 and was attended by many supporters

and people from the community. One of the participants, Anton Eugene Thompson from Detroit said that now that he has completed this session, "I want to build houses, build roofs, rip them up and rebuild them."

Rev. Eric Burr, Pastor of Second New Hope Missionary Baptist Church said. "This is not a one-time deal. We want men and women in the next class, whether it is the next seven or ten or twenty young people. "We want them to be productive parts of society." He also said, "This couldn't have been successful without the mentors that participated by sharing their time and knowledge with the young men. Rev. Burr said, "When churches partner together as brothers and sisters in Christ, there is nothing that we can't

The young men were grateful for the relationships that they developed with their mentors, the skills they learned and the bond they built with the other team mates. Each young man was presented with a certification of completion, a hard hat, a tool belt and a tool kit that they can use on their next new job.



# The Impact of the 2015 Class A Champs

By Butch Davis- Sports Reporter



1)TEAM PHOTO CAPTION: Use First and Last Names, beginning with Front Row, and moving toward the Back Row: Front Row Left to Right :Coach Michael Eaton, Brailen Neely, Karim Murray, Greg Burris, Aaron Austin, Demonies Whitney, Kheri Maxwell, Julius Palmer, Gerald Blackshear, Antwan Smith, Jaye Patrick, Josh McFolley, Armanti Tinsley, Kyree Boynton, Coach Derrick McDowell, Coach Chuck Back Row Left to Right: Coach Greg Burris Sr., Coach Jesse Bunkley

Many has known Detroit Western International High School as a baseball power, it's multicultural student enrollment, the many diverse scholarship programs, and the extra curricular Journalism, activities like Drama, Dance Classes and Soccer, however the recent success of the schools basketball teams undefeated season (26-0, 11-0 conference) in which materialize into the crowning of the 2014-15 Class A MHSAA State Basketball Championship that has caught many sports fans in the State of Michigan by surprise. Nevertheless, the impact of the rechampionship brought attention to the school across the street from historic Clark Park has jogged many memories of the schools past and present.

Yes, in the past it was the school of my friend and teammate for three years in the Detroit Police Athletic League and the Class C recreational traveling league in Metro Detroit, Todd Cruz (1955-2008) a 1973 Western graduate who played six seasons of Major League Baseball including taking part in the 1983 World Series with the Baltimore Orioles. Additional chatter brought up Ron Simpkins a 1976 graduate of Western High School when to play for Bo Schembechler at the University of Michigan and later played in a Super Bowl XVI as a member of the Cincinnati Bengals in front of classmate, friends, fan at the Silverdome in Pontiac, Michigan. Although losing to Joe Montana and the San Francisco 49ers, Simpkins continue to win as a teacher and head coach in football as he returned Detroit Western International to teach and mentor for an additional 18 years.

This past Tuesday I had the opportunity to chat with Ter-

rence Butler Athletic Coordinator and Teacher at Detroit Western International. mentions the impact that the student athletes' of the basketball team had on the students and school staff, as it was an eye opener to watch. The expectation of keeping track of their regular school classroom duties, practicing and playing the games staying focus everyday displayed I give Coach MacDowell credit for in teaching mental toughness throughout the streak of their championship journey. Athletic Coordinator Butler said as well, " It did not hurt for the players on the team to start the season thinking positive from the very beginning that their team was the best in the state." However, the wonderful achievement beside the winning the 2014-15 Class A MHSAA State Basketball Championship is that out of the 15 players on the team, all seven seniors and one junior are all been exceptive already to go to college. Those follow students are Joshua McFolley, Senior, Detroit Mercy, Gerald Blackshear, Senior, Detroit Mercy, Aaron Austin, Senior, Ranger College J.C. in Texas, Gregory Burris, Senior, Michigan State, Antwan Smith, Senior, Michigan State, Charles McCoy, Senior, Michigan State, Julius Palmer, Senior, TBA and Kheir Maxwell, Senior, TBA. Brailen Neely their junior point guard just last month is committing early to go after his 2016 graduation to Oakland University. In addition, fellow student at Western International High junior shortstop/pitcher in baseball, Aaron Betancourt, who is coach by **Detroit Western Internationals'** Juan Sanchez, was recently named Detroit Public School

League Proud Strong Learner of the Week. The Proud Strong Learner of the Week award is representative of the league's top boys' and girls' athletes in the Detroit Public School League. In briefly, talking to Seniors Josh McFolley, and Gerald Blackshear, both stated were glad they transfer to Detroit Western International for the schools academic and scholarship program from the City of Mount Clements as both excelled in basketball as well in the classroom will attend Detroit Mercy on basketball scholarships after this years graduation.

In visiting Detroit Western International I also had the privilege of talking to the career and college counselor Ms. Brenda Henry who also serves the high school as the Track Coach and celebrating almost 30 year of service in the DPS commented on pleased she how pleased she was in the turnover of the students that number over 1500

street from historic Clark Park; however, the staff in addition to the community at large is just as ecstatic of not only serving the children in the neighborhood, nevertheless, servicing students that travel from Melvindale, Lincoln Park, River Rouge, Ecorse, Allen Park and beyond to have programs just as the testimony people give about Detroit Cass Tech. By the way, Detroit Western did beat Cass Tech in this year

on campus. "I am honor to be

here for the years I been at

Western to help so many stu-

dents be a part of the scholar-

ship program to further the

education and careers of so

many. My utmost joy is when

some students I had in the past

come back to warn her that

they are enrolling there chil-

dren to the program here at es-

championship brought atten-

tion to the school across the

Indeed, the recent



Districts.

Aaron Betancourt, junior shortstop/pitcher in baseball was recently named Detroit Public School League Proud Strong Learner of the Week. The Proud Strong Learner of the Week award is representative of the league's top boys' and girls' athletes in the Detroit Public School

# **Lions Rookie Mini Camp Friday**

By Butch Davis



**Detroit Lions first-round** pick selection, Guard Laken Tomlinson

The Detroit Lions will hold the team's rookie minicamp Friday, May 8-Sunday, May 10 at the Lions Headquarters and Training Facility in Allen Park. Rookie Detroit Lions selection, Guard Laken Tomlinson, their firstround pick (28th overall) that was acquired the 28th-overall pick via a trade with the Denver Broncos for the 23rdoverall slot. The team also acquired G/C Manny Ramirez, a 2015 fifthround pick (143rd overall) and a 2016 fifth-round pick in exchange for the Lions' original first-round pick will be in attended. Here are the rest of the Detroit Lions Draft Picks; Round 2 - Pick No. 22 (54) - RB Ameer Abdullah (Nebraska), Round 3 -Pick No. 16 (80) - CB Alex Carter (Stanford), Round 4 - Pick No. 14 (113) - DT Gabe Wright (Auburn), Round 5 - Pick No. 32 (168) - FB Michael Burton (Rutgers), Round 6 - Pick No. 24 (200) - CB Quandre Diggs (Texas), Round 7 - Pick No. 23 (240) - OT Corey Robinson (South Carolina).



# Telegram Newspaper Classifieds

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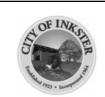
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## **HELP WANTED**



## **CITY OF INKSTER** WATER/SEWER **MAINTENANCE PERSON**

City of Inkster is seek-

ing to fill position in the Department of Public Service for Water/Sewer Maintenance Person (s). Interested Candidates please visit our website at www.cityofinkster.com/s ervices/humanre-

## **HELP WANTED**

sources to apply.



Full time Drivers wanted! Holland is hiring Drivers ir Detroit. Drvs w/ 1 year or 50k miles exp, w/ tanker & hazmat. The recruiter will be on site May 19, 20, 21

from Noon to 5pm at 27411 Wick Road, Romulus, MI 48174. Apply at Hollandregional.com/careers

EEO/AAE Minorities/Fe males/Persons with Disabil ities/Protected Veterans

## CITY OF ROMULUS PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF ROMULUS INVITATION TO BID ITB 14/15-25 DEMOLITION LIST 14-01 ITB 14/15-26 Water System Repair Parts

- (1) The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids/proposals from qualified companies for the above
- (2) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit a bidl must use the forms provided by the City. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the MITN system
- (3) Two (2) copies of the bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerk's Office no later than 2:30 P.M., Monday, June 01, 2015. At approximately 2:45 p.m., local time, all timely received bids are to be publicly opened and read.

RESPONSE ENVELOPES MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE ITB/RFP NUMBER AND **NAME AND BE ADDRESSED:** 

ITB/RFP #\_ CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE 11111 Wayne Road,

Romulus, Michigan 48174

- (4) The City reserves the right to postpone the opening without notification and also reserves the right to reject all bids and to waive irregularities. (5) Bids shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) calendar days after the
- date for submitting bids. (6) The successful Bidder will be required to submit proof of all insurance required by the ITB docu-
- ments and all required endorsements.
- (7) For additional information contact Lynn A, Conway, City of Romulus, Purchasing Director, by calling (734) 955-4568 or by emailing <a href="mailto:lconway@ci.romulus.mi.us">lconway@ci.romulus.mi.us</a>.

Please Publish: Thursday, May 07, 2015, The Telegram Newspaper

## **CITY OF ECORSE PUBLIC NOTICE**

## **PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE CITY OF ECORSE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING** REGARDING THE PROPOSED 2015-2016 CITY BUDGETS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Tuesday May 12, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. a public hearing will be held at the City of Ecorse City Hall Council Chambers located at 3869 W. Jefferson Ave., Ecorse, Michigan. The purpose of this hearing is to present the proposed 2015-2016 millage rates required to support the Ecorse municipal budget. All citizens attending the hearing will have the right to provide written and oral comments, and to ask questions regarding the Budget Document. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's office during normal business hours at 3869 W. Jefferson Ave. Ecorse, Michigan.

- Act 33 Police Millage Rate to be levied in full. 20.0647 mills based on special assessment.
- Act 33 Fire Millage Rate to be levied in full. 4.9488 mills based on spe-

This notice is given by order of the Ecorse City Council.

Dana Hughes City Clerk

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## RIVER ROUGE HOUSING PUBLIC NOTICE

## **INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

The River Rouge Housing Commission request bid proposals for the services list below for its 300 Public Housing dwelling units, Hyacinth Court II Community Center and its Main Office.

Bid packages will be available Friday, May 8, 2015 at the River Rouge Housing Commission, 180 Visger, River Rouge, MI. 48218. Sealed bids will be received for the list below by the River Rouge Housing Commission until 2:00pm June 5, 2015 and will be opened. Bids received after 2:00 pm on June 5, 2015 will be rejected and returned unopened to the bidder. For more information contact us during normal business hours from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. at 313-382-1414.

INVITATION TO BIDDERS: Non-Refundable fee of: \$75 Dollars per packet:

- 1. Lawn Care Services
- 2. Snow Removal
- 3. Plumbing Services
- 4. Heating & Cooling
- 5. General Labor 6. Comprehensive Maintenance
- INVITATION TO BIDDERS: Non- Refundable fee of: \$50 per packet:
- 1. Pest Control
- 2. Janitorial Services
- 3. \*NOTE: No fee for Locksmith & Screen, Door & Glass Repair Packets Interested person may obtain bid documents from the River Rouge Housing Commission.

All Bids must be addressed to:

River Rouge Housing Commission, 180 Visger Road River Rouge, MI. 48218 Attn: Mr. Michael J. Sloan, PHM **Executive Director** 

NOTE: ALL AWARDED CONTRACTS WILL BE FOR ONE YEAR \*\*\* (Pre-Bid Meeting information in packets)

All Bids must be submitted on prescribed forms.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employment Agency

## **INVITATION TO BIDDERS** FOR THE BIDS TO BE ACCEPTABLE ALL BIDS MUST INCLUDE THE **FOLLOWING:**

## **ADDENDUM NO. 1**

- 1. Non Collusive Affidavit (On bidders Letterhead)
- 2. Representations, Certification and Other Statements of Bidders (HUD Form 5369-A (completed by bidder)
- 3. Contractor's Qualification Statement (AIA Documents A305) (Completed by bidder)
- 4. Certification of Non Segregated Facilities (completed by bidder)

## **CITY OF ROMULUS PUBLIC NOTICE**

## MINUTES OF REGULAR ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING April 13, 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

Excused: William Wadsworth.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

LeRov D. Burcroff

Ellen L. Craig-Bragg, Clerk

Stacy Paige, Treasurer

Moved by Abdo, seconded by Makowski to accept the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-112 2A. Moved by Crout, seconded by Makowski to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held on April 6, 2015.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

3. Petitioner: None.

## 4. Chairperson's Report:

15-113 4A1. Moved by Abdo, seconded by Crout to table 35606 Bibbins from Demolition List 14-01 for sixty days, owner is in the process of bringing the structures up to co

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

Motion Carried Unanimously

15-114 4A2. Moved by Abdo, seconded by Makowski to approve the demolition of structures and removal of all debris from 7385 Colbert, 35960 Vinewood, and 6219 Cordell. (Demolition List

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-115 4A3. Moved by Roscoe seconded by Makowski to recognize Pearl Varner as the 30th

Romulus Chamber of Commerce Person of the Year.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Moved by Choate, seconded by Crout to accept the Chairperson's Report.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None

Motion Carried Unanimously.

## 5. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Burcroff voiced appreciation to all who helped with the Hometown Heroes event. He presented certificates to Roger Staten, Sr. (labor and trades employee of the month) and Kim Burton, (administrative employee of the month) for March, 2015. Rendell Wooden, Elections Clerk in the City Clerk's office won the Star Program award.

15-11 5A1. Moved by Crout, seconded by Makowski to recognize Roger Staten, Sr. as the labor and trades employee of the month for March, 2015. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-117 5A2. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Choate to recognize Kim Burton as the administrative employee of the month for March, 2015.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-118 5A3. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Crout to authorize the mayor to send letters of support regarding "open fair skies" to Secretary of Transportation, Anthony Fox, and Secretary of State, John Kerry.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Navs - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-119 5A4. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Roscoe to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Bill Clark.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-120 5A. Moved by Choate, seconded by Crout to adopt the Amendment to Agreement for the pavilion work at the Thomas J. Coleman Center Park through 2014/2015 CDBG funds.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-121 5B. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Roscoe to concur with the administration and authorize the mayor and clerk to enter into an agreement with DTE for the street lighting LED Upgrades in Phase 1 of the Goddard Road reconstruction project from Romaine to the railroad tracks in the amount of \$129,438,00.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

15-122 5C. Moved by Abdo, seconded by Crout to concur with the administration and approve the appointment of Diane Banks Lambert and the re-appointment of Chris Dunn, Charles Lindenmuth, Edna Talon-Jemison, Heather Mahon, Doug O'Leary and Samer Sulieman to the Beautification Committee with terms to expire on June 2, 2016.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-123 5D. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Crout to approve the appointment of Daniel McAnally to the Officer Compensation Commission with a term to expire on June 24, 2018 and Carole Bales with a term to expire on June 24, 2022.

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-124 5E. Moved by Crout, seconded by Abdo to concur with the administration to appoint Durice Green and re-appoint Chris Dunn to the Romulus Housing Commission with terms to expire on

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-125 5F. Moved by Choate, seconded by Makowski to approve the appointment of Lucinda Rhoton to the Romulus Historical Commission with a term expiring December 29, 2015. Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Navs - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-126 5G. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Abdo to authorize free dumping of non-hazardous trash at the DPW for Romulus residents on Thursday, May 28, 2015 and Friday May 29, 2015 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday, May 30, 2015 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Roll Call Vote: Aves - Abdo. Barden. Choate. Crout. Makowski. Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

6A. Clerk's Report:

15-127 6A1(a). Moved by Makowski, seconded by Roscoe to approve the demolition of structures and removal of all debris for three of the four tabled properties on Demolition List 14-01. The properties approved for demolition are: 7385 Colbert, 35960 Vinewood, and 6219 Cordell.

## CITY OF ROMULUS PUBLIC NOTICE

The property excluded from demolition is 35606 Bibbins.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

6A1(b). Moved by Makowski, seconded by Roscoe to let for bids for a demolition con-15-128 tractor to demolish and remove all debris for the following properties on Demolition List 14-01: 7385 Colbert, 35960 Vinewood, and 6219 Cordell. (Excluded from demolition is 35606 Bib-

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - Abdo, Choate.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-129 6A2. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Crout to schedule a study session on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:30 pm to discuss state-mandated changes to the City's F.O.I.A. Policy and also, changes to the entertainers and Dancers Ordinance to raise the age of applicants to 21 years of age. The meeting will be held in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

15-130 6A3. Moved by Abdo, seconded by Makowski to schedule a study session on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:00 pm to discuss amendments to zoning ordinances - industrial districts. The meeting will be held in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road.

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

## 6B. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Stacy Paige announced that the lock box is no longer in place and that any water or tax bill payments are to be mailed to the City of Romulus. 7. Public Comment:

Jan Lemmon, Cemetery Board of Trustees Chairperson, expressed appreciation for the Hometown Heroes award she received for her volunteer work for the Romulus Memorial Cemetery. Ms. Waters, from the Sisters Network (breast cancer survivors) announced a walk benefitting the organization will be held on Saturday, April 25th at Chene Park, telephone 313-438-3639. Virginia Williams, Romulus Citizens for Social Change, asked for help to distribute water to the residents of Flint.

### 8. Unfinished Business:

## 9. New Business

10. Communication:

15-131 11. Moved by Choate, seconded by Makowski to approve Warrant 15-07 in the amount of \$1,858,191.76

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

Navs - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Moved by Makowski, seconded by Crout to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Abdo, Barden, Choate, Crout, Makowski, Roscoe.

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 April 13, 2015.

## CITY OF ROMULUS PUBLIC NOTICE

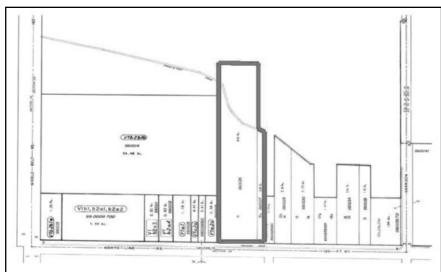
**CITY OF ROMULUS BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING** Northfield Trucking Co. - Northline Road May 22, 2015

Notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus will hold a public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2015 for the purpose of considering a variance request for BZA-2015-005; Northfield Trucking. The public hearing will be held at the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus MI 48174-1485.

Romulus Zoning Ordinance as follows: 1. Natural Features Setback Variance (Section 8.04(b)(7)) to allow encroachment into the 25-

The Board of Zoning Appeals has set the public hearing to consider a variance from the City of

foot setback requirement from MDEQ regulated wetlands. The applicant is proposing the construction of a trucking company and truck/trailer repair facility and the pavement area encroaches into the 25-foot natural features setback.



The subject property is located at on the north side of Northline between Middlebelt and Harrison. DP #82-80-095-99-0026-000 and 82-80-095-99-0027-000. The property is zoned M-1, Light Industrial District. Copies of the application are available for review at City Hall during reqular business hours (8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

All interested parties are encouraged to attend and will be given an opportunity to comment on said request. Written comments may be submitted until 4:00 p.m., May 21, 2015 and should be addressed to Carol Maise, City Planner, Planning Department, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

Ellen Craig-Bragg, City Clerk

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

Page 13A WEEK OF MAY 7 - MAY 13, 2015

# Ecorse Mayor Lamar Tidwell and Attorney Isaac Robinson hosting Emergency Downriver Foreclosure Prevention Counseling

Learn how to save your home



Denise Bearre of the Inkster Public Library, Attorney Isaac Robinson, State Rep. Julie Plawecki, Inkster Council Member Kim Howard, Inkster Council Member Tim Williams and Ruth Williams volunteered at the April 27th Counseling Session in Inkster. The next session is in Ecorse on May 14th.

Ecorse, MI - As of May 6, 2015, according to Wayne County Treasurer's office, there were still 92 owner occupied homes in danger of tax foreclosure in the city of Ecorse. Thousands of residents downriver and across Wayne County remain on the foreclosure list. In response, Mayor Lamar Tidwell will welcome volunteer counselors from the United **Community Housing Coalition** and Michigan Legal Services to the Ecorse City Council Chamber on Thursday, May 14th at 5:30 pm. This session will inform residents on new tax relief programs and provide individualized counseling.

Attorney Isaac Robinson, who has organized foreclosure prevention sessions in Garden City and Inkster, is now working with Mayor Tidwell and local leaders to bring resources directly downriver. The downriver foreclosure prevention steering committee includes Mayor Tidwell, Mayor Stacy Striz, Daniel M. Geb of Allen Park, Tyrone Carter of Detroit, Casondria Walker-Keith of Ecorse, Vicki Dobbins of River Rouge, Gina Steward of the Telegram and a growing

"There are new programs offered by the Wayne County Treasurer that can lower interest rates and taxes for those facing foreclosure or who owe back property taxes," Attorney Robinson told the Telegram. "Downriver residents, tenants and owners, will be able to learn about their rights and options. We want those facing foreclosure to know there is still hope. Counseling is also available for residents with probate, mortgage or land contract issues."

Residents facing foreclosure or who owe back property taxes in River Rouge, Detroit, Ecorse, Romulus, Inkster and every Wayne County city are encouraged to attend and meet one on one with a free housing counselor. The new programs created by Michigan state legislation adopted in late 2014 have the potential to reduce interest rates on past due property taxes from 18% to 6% and cut hundreds or in some instances thousands from delinquent tax bills.

"People should connect with the free counseling as soon as possible. Some of these programs have deadlines. They need to pick up the phone or show up on Thursday in Ecorse. Information is power. We need people to step forward." Robinson emphasized.

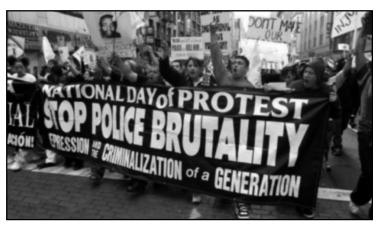
Robinson's foreclosure prevention outreach downriver and in western Wayne County is inspired by Detroit Councilman Gabe Leland's Defend our Neighbors program in Detroit's District 7

Free help is available for residents who cannot make the session every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 am to Noon at 220 Bagley, Suites 224 and 900 in Detroit, MI. The free services are made available through the United Community Housing Coalition and the Michigan Legal Services at 313-963-3310 and 313-964-4130.



# **Police Brutality**

From Page 1A



Avenue and W. North Avenue, were sparked by the tragic death of Freddie Gray, a 25 year-old Black man, who was chased and arrested by Baltimore city police officers on April 12. Parts of the event were recorded on personal cell phone cameras and the videos showing Gray screaming in anguish as he is dragged to a paddy wagon, have gone viral. During the arrest, Gray suffered a severe spinal cord injury and died a week later.

In a statement following the riots, Lynch, the first African American woman to be confirmed as attorney general of the United States, condemned the acts of violence that resulted in the destruction of property and injury to Baltimore city police officers.

"Those who commit violent actions, ostensibly in protest of the death of Freddie Gray, do a disservice to his family, to his loved ones, and to legitimate peaceful protestors who are working to improve their community for all its residents," she said in the statement.

In the aftermath of the riots, the Justice Department sent Vanita Gupta, the head of the Civil Rights Division, and Ronald Davis, the director of Community Oriented Policing Services ,to Baltimore to meet with civic and community leaders about the case.

Less than two weeks after Gray's death, Maryland State's Attorney, Marilyn J. Mosby, who is also an African American, filed charges, including second-degree murder, manslaughter and assault, against six police officers involved in Gray's arrest including the driver of the police paddy wagon.

"To the youth of this city, I will seek justice on your behalf," Mosby said during a press conference announcing the charges.

The Justice Department also continues to investigate the Gray case.

Pamela Meanes, the president of the National Bar Association, a predominately African American network of more than 65,000 lawyers, judges, educators and law students, said that Lynch is no stranger to prosecuting police when they break the law, noting her

work as a New York City prosecutor on the Abner Louima case in New York City.

Louima, a Haitian immigrant was brutally assaulted by several N.Y.P.D. officers following a wrongful arrest in 1997. Officer Justin Volpe admitted to sodomizing Louima with a broken broomstick, causing severe internal injuries. Volpe was later sentenced to 30 years in prison and Louima received \$8.7 million in damages from New York City and the police union and moved to Florida.

Hilary Shelton, the Washington, D.C. bureau chief for the NAACP, said Lynch has a proven track record for providing law enforcement protections and taking on terrorism, racial profiling and organized crime and gangs.

Shelton said that Lynch is someone who has earned the respect of the civil rights community and that she'll the civil rights and voting rights battles that Attorney General Eric Holder started during his tenure.

"She clearly has her own style and ability, but she shares those common civil rights, voting rights and justice values that were so clearly articulated and demonstrated by Eric Holder," said Shelton. "We have to make sure that we secure the opportunity for all Americans to cast an unfettered vote and have it counted even in wake of the Shelby County vs. Holder Supreme Court decision, where the Supreme Court stripped away a crucial provision in the Voting Rights Act.

Meanes noted that although Attorney General Eric Holder received a lot of media attention for filing law suits against states such as Texas and North Carolina over their restrictive voting laws following the Supreme Court decision in Shelby County v. Holder, and his outspoken views on race relations, he also tackled other issues, including corporate malfeasance on Wall Street.

During Holder's tenure, the Justice Department won settlements against Bank of America for nearly \$17 billion and J.P. Morgan for \$13 billion in mortgage fraud lawsuits.

"[Lynch] is not going to shy away from making sure everyone's civil and political liberties are protected," said Meanes.

And as the Internet continues to connect people all over the world, Shelton said that the Justice Department officials also needed to make sure that they're focusing on cyber security.

Meanes said that if state and local civic leaders, community stakeholders and law enforcement officials don't deal with the elephant in the room, which is police brutality, the nation will see the protests surrounding Gray's death as just another moment and not a movement adding that it would be "excellent" if Lynch traveled to Baltimore, Md., making a trip similar to Holder's visit to Ferguson, Mo., in the aftermath of the unrest that followed the death of Michael Brown, an unarmed Black teenager who was shot and killed by Darren Wilson, a White police officer.

"What we see in Baltimore, is not a fight for Baltimore it is a message to the rest of country on how we handle police brutality," said Meanes. "The National Bar Association would be pleased if Lynch made a commitment to Baltimore, because it would send a message to the nation that this is an issue that America now has to deal with."

Follow Freddie Allen on Twitter @freddieallenir.

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Publisher Founder

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Page 14A **WEEK OF MAY 7 - MAY 13, 2015** 

# **Inkster Crisis Center continues to provide** a safe haven for area youth

By Shelby Jefferson - Telegram Staff Reporter



Youth gather to play card games at the Starfish Family Services Crisis Shelter

The Starfish Family Services Crisis Center functions as a safe haven for various youth living in Southeast Michigan and other surrounding areas. Located in the original Starfish headquarters on Inkster Road, the recently renovated shelter provides support for homeless, runaway and throwaway youth from the ages of 12-17 years old. Operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, youngsters are offered temporary housing, counseling services and life skills training with an ultimate goal of family reunification at the end of their stay.

"We currently offer three different residential programs," said David Cardinal, Starfish Family Services Youth Service Manager. "The Basic Center Program is designed to assist at risk youth with a family in crisis. We also offer a Community Mental Health Rescue Program for kids who need weekhousing, and end Transitional Living Program that helps young people ages 16-20 become self-sufficient so that they can eventually support themselves. Guardians come to us when they need help, so we try our best to work towards getting the youth and their families through specific barriers in their time of crisis." Youth currently "in crisis and at risk, or who have been asked to leave home/have run away" are eligible for services. Nevertheless, all participants must voluntarily agree to enroll at the shelter, and may leave at any time. Once admitted,

youngsters assist staff members in the development of individualized service plans, and follow a daily schedule that includes psychoeducational/life skills groups, homework support, educational workshops and free activity times. In addition, young people learn how to prepare all meals at the shelter, while receiving important lessons on personal hypractices appropriate table etiquette.

Also partnering with three other agencies to form the Southeast Michigan Runaway and Homeless Youth Regional Alliance, the crisis center continues to provide mental health services for at risk youth and their families on a preventative basis. Described by Cardinal as "a program reflecting the legacy of Starfish Family Services", the shelter aims to hone in on the underlying causes of troubled behavior by providing individual and group counseling sessions for families. Ultimately, the center remains focused on sending youngsters home better off than they were before.

"Obviously there's two sides to every story, so we conduct case management through traditional counseling sessions to reach our goal of family reunification," Cardinal said. "Our metric system has shown that 85% of youth in our care leave here with very noticeable improvements. We also have a 98% reunification rate, and only a 5% recidivism ratewhich means that it's very rare to see a youngster come back to our center. I attribute this to the fact that we have an educated, well trained staff who continues to work towards making sure that we're successful, and that we're making a major impact in these kids'

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# **HOROSCOPES**

## **APRIL 29 - MAY 6, 2015**

## **ARIES**

The link that you've established with your spiritual self will be strengthened by the people who come into your life this week. This week is a week for seriousness about a relationship. Discuss your deepest thoughts

with others. They'll understand and thank you for sharing intimate parts of yourself.

Soul Affirmation: Faith keeps me calm in the storms of life. **Lucky Numbers: 44, 49, 5** 

## **TAURUS**

You've done some of your own love homework. Hopefully you've had an opportunity to learn a new way of seeing the world and in that way you've be. Spend it meditating on all found a way of loving that is that God has given you. This more natural for you. The combination of sexiness and joyful form of worship. Curtis Mayfocus can create you a wonderful love experience.

Soul Affirmation: I get joy from giving good things.

**Lucky Numbers: 11, 17, 37** 

Share in the glory of your friend who has been recognized for outstanding work. Plan a small gettogether to celebrate the occasion. Your time will come, and you will be placed on the pedestal. Your intimacy radar is sensitive. Watch out for a new romance that might come along. Expect the unexpected! You will be pleasantly surprised! Soul Affirmation: Love is easier than breathing.

Lucky Numbers: 16, 30, 50

## **CANCER**

You've done a lot of things in life that no one has agreed with at the beginning. Finding agreement this week will be difficult, but it should not deter you from moving forward. Feeling sorry for your loneliness will discolor what you are doing. Be happy that you are alone.

Soul Affirmation: I get joy from giving good things.

**Lucky Numbers: 2, 10, 31** 

Eternal optimist, eternity is now. AQUARIUS Get in touch with your hopeful- You'll be full of good ideas this ness and be a beacon to others. week, so make sure you write Try not to be taken in by prom- down the ones you don't have ises made by others or prom- time to put into action. You'll ises you've made to yourself. Concerning your own affairs, avoid contemplating lofty sub- will seem truly universal to jects and seeking long ranged solutions.

Soul Affirmation: Time is the greatest peacemaker of them

Lucky Numbers: 14, 28, 39

Some say optimism is fantasy. Suppose the good thing you're optimistic about never comes. This week you'll know that the joy of anticipating it is joy enough. Just the certainty of coming goodness is present pathy. Give it with sensitivity. goodness. The joy of tomorrow Soul Affirmation: My life itself is is available this week

Soul Affirmation: This week is Lucky Numbers: 30, 37, 44

the week the Lord has made. I rejoice in it.

**Lucky Numbers: 22, 36, 38** 

## **LIBRA**

You might be looking into the buying or selling of a piece of property, and this week seems to be a favorable week for this type of negotiation. Be careful with the intricacies of the matter. Pay attention to details or it could cost you a great deal

Soul Affirmation: I care deeply about the feelings of others. **Lucky Numbers: 11, 21, 35** 

## **SCORPIO**

What a blessed week this will week think hard about some field wrote a song called "Who Do You Love?" Someone should write one called "How Do You Love?" For your love lesson, the second song would be the one you should sing. Soul Affirmation: New intuitions create new plans and a new cast of characters.

**Lucky Numbers: 7, 16, 25** 

## **SAGITTARIUS**

Your self-discipline helps you to do more this week. People will be watching as you zip around with style and grace! Broaden your cultural horizons by trying new foods and meeting new people. You'll be pleasantly surprised!

Soul Affirmation: I am patient with all that comes my way this

Lucky Numbers: 3, 4, 14

## **CAPRICORN**

The urge to chase off on a tangent may be strong this week. Take a few minutes to study the big picture and make sure any whims serve the bigger purpose. It's a good week to do what needs to be done. Soul Affirmation: Luck is my best friend this week.

**Lucky Numbers: 5, 10, 15** 

want to share your thoughts on a grand scale, and your mind you. Try to be patient with those who are staggered by your brilliance.

Soul Affirmation: Light from my soul shines in many directions. Lucky Numbers: 2, 3, 9

## **PISCES**

This week let your gentle spirit shine through. Your rough and tumble side is not appropriate for the relationships that you'll encounter. Someone will need your understanding and symmy greatest creation.

# Kyla Imani McMillan, a 13-Year-Old Inspiration

by Olayemi Odesanya Special to the NNPA from the New York Amsterdam News



Young Kyla McMillan showing off her musical ability

Kyla Imani McMillan, 13, is set for big things. This teenager's resume is already impressive. She is being called "a developing quintuple threat," with her songwriting, instrument playing, singing, dancing and acting.

Only a few months ago, Beyonce released her hit song "7/11." Along with the song, she released a music video of her and a group of friends dancing and seeming to have a lot of fun. As the video went viral, many of her fans started to mimic her and create their own versions of the music video. But only a few of her fans have gotten thousands of views, and one fan who accomplished over 1 million views was 13-year-old McMil-

This young lady is so gifted. She performs. She writes songs. She dances. She's a young gymnast who also plays the guitar and the piano. She acts. She performs. "I felt really excited," said McMillan, "to see all those people who en-

Western Wavne

Family Health Centers www.wwfhc.org

joyed my video. I didn't really expect such a great response."

McMillan also has her own YouTube channel, where she displays her singing ability. With the guidance of her parents, she creates her own songs. "My friends and family are my major supporters, and they are my most inspirations!" She's also inspired by great musicians and singers such as Michael Jackson India.Arie. During the month of May, she will be releasing a single.

Meanwhile, as she increases her fan base, she has some other big things going on. The native New Yorker is now in junior high school and will become a high school freshman this fall. "I am looking forward to going to high school," she told the AmNews. "I would like to attend to a performing acts school so I can pursue a career in music."

Most ninth-graders do not have a huge fan base to contend with, but this delightfully modest young lady laughed and said, "I don't feel like a celebrity. I just feel like a normal girl who got a couple of views on a video."

Her father, Londell McMillan, a famed entertainment lawyer and publisher of the Source magazine, gushes like the proud papa he is. Talking to his supporters, he said, "Thank you for your support and well wishes for my daughter Kyla. You have been amazing. Late last year, we released Kyla's first music video. She wants to perform and act, but we don't live in L.A. So after she turned 13 and by keeping her grades up, I honored my promise to start building her viewership. We are on our way (thanks to you) ... Kyla has gone viral with millions of views, via Facebook and YouTube. Her Beyonce video is the standout so far, and we are grateful to Ms. Carter. It has all been in good fun."

The AmNews asked the young phenom about her songwriting plans. "I would love to make more prominent adult song covers, where I can make them more children friendly," McMillan said, beaming, "so we as the youth can enjoy it

The creator of the song "Top of the World" is set to release her debut album later this summer. "The music is fantastic, if I must say so," said McMillan, "as I made sure songs and production were ... age appropriate."

The Beyonce "7/11" remake video has exceeded 20 million views on social media. Find her on Instagram and Twitter @Kylalmani and Facebook at Facebook.com/KylalmaniMc.

# **ASK ALMA**

# Not a Bridezilla



Dear Alma,

Hey, Alma – My friend is getting married, I'm in the wedding and I couldn't be happier for her. She's not a "big wedding" type of person, so her mom is taking the reins to plan a giant ceremony. She went shopping for wedding dresses with her mom, and they picked out a Cinderella-style ball gown - so not her style. As bridesmaids we went shopping together and found the perfect dress for her - it's simple and understated, and she wants to wear flowers in her hair. But this dress doesn't really go with the formal-style wedding her mother has planned. How does she tell her mom she found a "better" dress? I think she looks beautiful regardless, and I want her to feel happy and comfortable on her wedding day, but I also know that picking this other dress will cause so much drama with her mom (and my friend is already trying to avoid as much wedding drama as possible!). Help, Alma! How do I be a good bridesmaid in this situation?

Hey Bridesmaid, my advice: stay out of it. This is not your red wagon to pull. Even if your friend is not a "wedding type" person, it's still her wedding. She needs to clarify a few things. Now's the time she needs to let her mama know, she's no longer wearing her training bra. She has to be truthful with herself and have an honest conversation with her mother. Oh wait, here's something you can do. After you greet her with a box of tis-

sue or a glass of red wine, depending on her mother's reaction. Candidly speaking, she should never have allowed her mother to purchase a wedding dress she didn't like nor wanted to wear. What was that about? There's something a little bit deeper here that we're not privy to. But anywho, after the discussion with her mom, she needs to immediately gather her troops. Your friend can call a meeting and tell every one of her wedding day wishes. Yep, she's gotta be bold, stand tall in her wedding pumps or bare feet and lead her wedding party to what will be one of the most important days of her life. If she's ready to get married, she's ready to have hard, honest adult conversations that clearly express her wedding day desires. Honestly though, I'm happy to hear that she's not a Bridezilla, neither was my niece Leah. She was what you'd also call a low-key bride as well. My dear sister Kim passed away when she was a teenager, so when Leah allowed me to step into the MOB role, you better bet I wore that crown and girl I wore it well, LOL. Ain't nobody got more mouth than me, I'm just sayin, LOL. Leah let me have my MOB fun until we came to a point in the planning process that was make or break important to her. During our meetings, when I bulldozed, she sternly guided me back to my lane. Not in a mean way, not loud, not argumentative, just firm and sweet. A firm and sweet that required respect and reminded me she was a grown woman. Don't get me wrong, when we mothers are on a roll, it stings like a honeybee when we are challenged by our adult children. But, don't you fret sweetie pie, her mama can handle it and will secretly applaud it. She'll recognize, this is where her baby girl's childhood ends and her adulthood begins. Bottom line, all her mother really wants, is to see the joy on her daughters face that day. Everytheir discussion, make sure thing else is just icing on the wedding cake!

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# It's Mother's Day: Surprise her with a home improvement gift



Are you tired of giving Mom the same old bouquet of flowers year after year for Mother's Day? How about thinking outside the box and surprise her with a DIY home improvement project. It doesn't have to be anything major or overly expensive. Just a little of your time and love will make the project priceless to Mom.

Keep in mind your expertise on what you plan to do. Almost anyone can paint, and there is probably a room or some trim that your mom would love to have "freshened" up. Of course, don't rush out and buy the paint of your color choice. Mom probably has her own ideas.

Bring the subject up in a casual conversation. Even a little chiding of, "If I was you Mom, I'd

paint this room yellow." If Mom doesn't like yellow, she will most certainly tell you. Once you have her color ideas, you can purchase the paint, put a big bow on it, and then set a day that you will be over to paint the room for her.

If painting is not to your liking, pay attention to some of the other things Mom says. Perhaps she has mentioned she'd like to replace the porch railing, or put up shutters. There are many things homeowners would like to "eventually" do. Don't think in terms of general upkeep, but perhaps "upgrade."

If Mom enjoys sitting in her yard, consider surprising her with a new rock garden, bird bath or even a pond or water

fountain. Again, use a tactful conversation to find out where she would put a pond, bird bath or fountain, if she had one. If you want to make it a big surprise, you'll need to enlist the aid of a friend or family member

Get someone to arrange to take Mom out for lunch and shopping for an afternoon. Make sure you have everything you need to install the pond, fountain, or rock garden, in advance of the outing. Having to run get something you've forgotten can mess up your timing and your surprise.

Once Mom is safely squired away, get over to her house and get busy! If you are prepared and have looked at how everything is installed, you can easily do any of these outdoor projects in an afternoon. Most DIY stores such as Lowes or Home Depot will have everything you need, and their employees will even advise you on how to do it.

Your Mother will appreciate the thoughtfulness you put into a DIY gift, and she will be able to enjoy it for many years to come. These are but just a few ideas for Mother's Day that any mother would love. Look around your Mom's house; I'm sure you can find many more.

# PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Students learn about Mother Earth



Photo by Richard Warren

Ralph J. Bunche Academy celebrated Earth day April 22nd by doing multiple hands on crafts throughout the building for the students to engage and incorporate through classroom learning. The students were able to do hands on activities with using recycled materials to make birdfeeders, wind chimes, and planted plants in milk cartons. The students had a school wide celebration at the end our day showing off costumes they made with recycled material and did a balloon release (eco-friendly with seeds).



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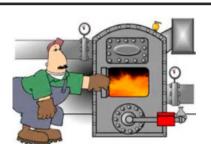
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