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Chelsea Standard

Vol. 139, No. 9

75¢

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2012

Council votes to draft chicken ordinance

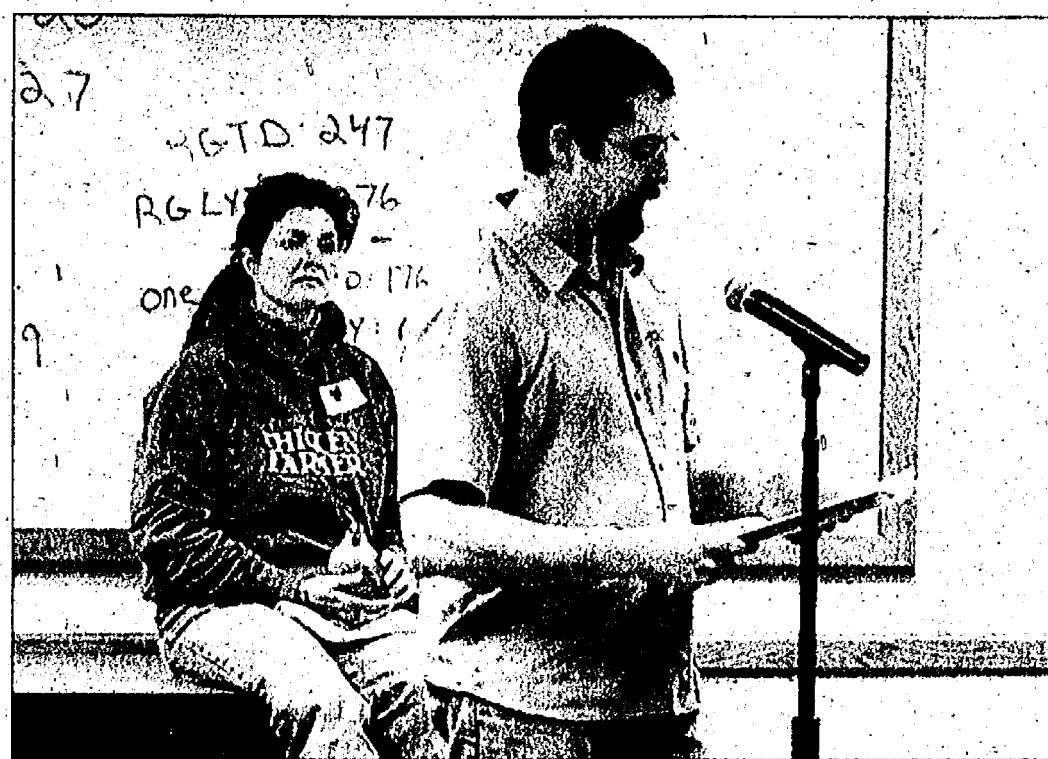


Photo by Erica McClain

Chris Felesky, spokesman for Chelsea Backyard Chickens, speaks to the Council about the group's proposed ordinance while Ana Hotelling, a member of Chelsea Backyard Chickens looks on holding an old English game hen.

By Erica McClain
Heritage Media

Backyard chickens in Chelsea may have a chance at legality after a Feb. 27 Chelsea City Council meeting.

The Council vote 4-2 in favor of having city manager John Hanifan draft an ordinance permissive of the keeping of backyard chickens. Councilmember Rod Anderson and Mayor Jason Lindauer voted against the motion while Councilmember Frank Hammer was absent.

While the drafted ordinance would by no means make keeping chickens in Chelsea legal, it's another step toward an official answer from the Council as they will have to vote on the first read of the drafted ordinance.

The motion comes after two work sessions with Chelsea Backyard Chickens, a local

advocacy group, but the meetings, which were held several months ago, fell off.

The issue picked up steam recently after the city sent a letter to one Chelsea family that had backyard chickens at their home, just a few blocks from the Chelsea District Library.

Roen Montalva and Tim Farmer, along with their three children, gave their four hens to a family friend after the city issued the letter that stated the family needed to remove the chickens within 10 days or face not more than \$500 in fines and/or 90 days of jail time.

The city currently bans chickens and other certain agricultural land uses in lots less than 5 acres in size.

The Chelsea Backyard Chickens, which includes Montalva and Farmer, attended the Feb. 27 Council meeting as

PLEASE SEE CHICKENS/3-A

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Cressman featured at gallery

By Sheila Pursglove
Special Writer

River Gallery will host artist Larry Cressman in a solo exhibition of his installation drawings. His show, "Ground Cover/Covering Ground", will run from March 10 to April 22, with an opening reception from 5 to 8 p.m. on March 10.

"The River Gallery is a wonderful space to exhibit art," Cressman said. "Over our years of living in Ann Arbor, Chelsea has always been an enjoyable place to visit. The River Gallery is just another good reason to make the short trip from Ann Arbor."

Cressman is an artist and associate professor of art at the University of Michigan, holding a

joint appointment in the Residential College and School of Art & Design. He has also taught in art programs at the University of Rhode Island, University of Toledo and at Washtenaw Community College, as well as on the U of M Summer Study Abroad Program in Italy.

Originally from Pennsylvania, Cressman has made Ann Arbor his home since arriving in 1965 as a freshman at the U of M, where he earned a bachelor's degree in design and a master of fine arts degree in printmaking and drawing.

During his graduate studies, he received several Rackham Fellowships, and his work was included in regional and national print and drawing exhibits

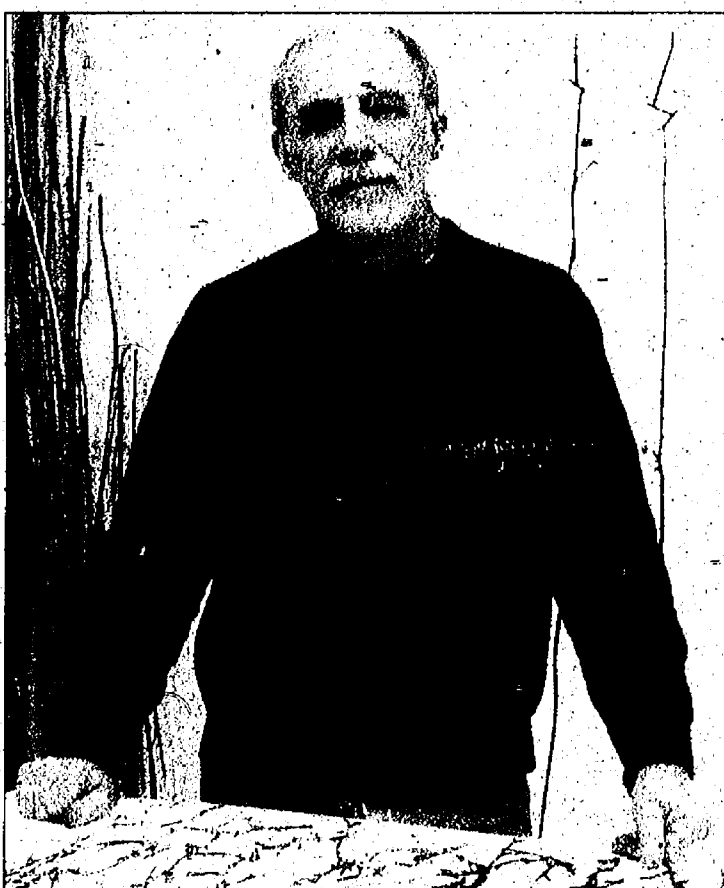
throughout the country. He has received numerous awards, including Michigan Council for the Arts Creative Artists grants.

"I've essentially been working as an artist and teacher since 1975 - more than 35 years," he said. "With all this time, my curiosity and interest in art has not diminished. I look forward to every day I can spend in my studio."

Over the years Cressman's work has evolved away from the two-dimensional as he has explored drawing as a three dimensional form of expression.

His work has been showcased around the country, and locally at the U of M

PLEASE SEE ART/3-A



River Gallery will host Ann Arbor artist Larry Cressman in a solo exhibition of his installation drawings.

Soup's on!

Chelsea dinner event to fund microgrants to creative projects

By Erica McClain
Heritage Media

A new way to help fund a good idea is on its way with Chelsea Soup, set for March 11.

Lucy Silverio, a volunteer representative with Chelsea Soup, said the event is based off Sunday Soup, which is "a grassroots model for funding small to medium sized creative projects through community meals," according to its website.

The funds raised by the meals then go toward funding a winning proposal, which can be drafted by just one person or an entire organization, and the proposals are voted on by those who attend the dinner.

The 5 p.m. dinner, held at the Friends Center Building, 7748 Clark Lake Road, will be a suggested donation of \$5 to

PLEASE SEE SOUP/3-A



Molly Todd and Deb Harrington, two Chelsea Soup volunteers, pose for a photo. Harrington, who has done work with Yellow Door, will be the head chef for the first three months.

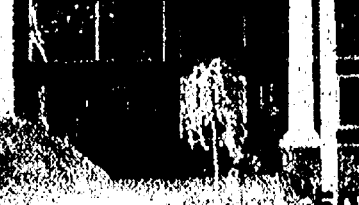
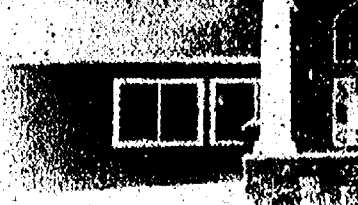
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Performance Network Theatre restructures, adds posts

Move thought to add growth, sustainability

By Sean Dalton
Heritage Media

In the midst of celebrating 30 years of operation, the board of directors of Performance Network Theatre has decided to add a managing director and artistic director position to

the company.

Current Executive Director Carla Milarch will assume the newly created role of associate artistic director once the two new posts are filled.

The restructuring is intended to add "greater capacity and to support both (the theater's) artistic and management areas," as many such organizations operate with dual directorships to keep management and artistic direction handled in a distinct fashion.

"This relationship will be highly collaborative, but will divide responsibilities, with David Wolber (Performance Network's artistic director),

responsible for all artistic and technical programs, and the managing director responsible for marketing, development and financial management oversight and general business operations," said Chelsea Sadler, Performance Network Theatre's spokeswoman.

Milarch will be tasked with literary management and oversight of the company's Fireside Festival, The Mosh Pit Series, the Children's Theatre Network and all education and outreach programs. In addition to her new duties, Milarch's new post will also mark her return to regular artistic participation as a director,

sound designer, and actress, for which she has won numerous awards.

"I'm looking forward to working with Carla as her participation with our programming increases. We've been working together for years, as staff members and as artists, so it's exciting to think about what we'll be able to accomplish together, more great theater, no doubt, as well as increased educational outreach and artist development programs," Artistic Director David Wolber said.

"Board and staff are united in their belief that this will provide for exciting growth and sustainability

in artistic programming as we head into the next 30 years," Board President Ron Maurer said.

Performance Network Theatre will begin the search for a managing director immediately. Milarch will serve as interim managing director.

Performance Network Theatre was founded in 1981 and attracts 40,000 theatergoers to Ann Arbor's down-

town each year.

Staff Writer Sean Dalton can be reached at 734-429-7380. sdalton@heritage.com or on Twitter @seankdalton. Text HERNews and HERWeather to 22700 to receive news and weather alerts to your cellphone. Msg and data rates may apply. Text HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel.

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Districts get MEAP scores

By James David Dickson
Heritage Media

Statewide reading and mathematics scores in the Michigan Education Assessment Program were up compared to last year, the Michigan Department of Education has reported.

State education officials had warned of a "dramatic decline" in the scores relative to last year's numbers.

The State Board of Education approved new, tougher cut scores for the MEAP test, which is given to third- through ninth-graders as gauge of proficiency, and the Michigan Merit Exam, which is given to juniors as a gauge of college readiness. Whereas answering roughly 40 percent of questions correct had been enough to be deemed proficient under the old scoring scale, proficiency now requires answering about 65 percent correctly.

But compared year over year, by the same cut scores, numbers are up statewide and in a number of Washtenaw County school districts. Ann Arbor and Saline consistently came out near the top, and Chelsea had a strong showing.

"When broken out by grade, all grades saw an increase in mathematics, and all saw an increase in reading except grade three, which had a nominal decrease (less than 1 percent)," according to a Michigan Department of Education report.

Science scores were down for fifth-graders in the majority of Washtenaw County school districts, including Ann Arbor (39.7/37.1), Chelsea (30.1/19.7), Dexter (16.1/20.5), Lincoln (11/9), Manchester (17.6/13.6), Milan (24.3/10.7) and Willow Run (6.4/4.1).

Only in Whitmore Lake (14.3/23.1) and Ypsilanti (5.4/5.5) did science scores improve for fifth-graders.

The story was the exact opposite for eighth-graders who took the science exam. Scores improved in Ann Arbor (29.8/35.7), Dexter (30.1/34.5), Lincoln (12.8/10.6), Milan (12.5/25.1), Saline (20.5/26.7) and Ypsilanti (7.9/8.2). Scores were down for eighth-graders in Chelsea (37.3/36.1), Manchester (23.3/21.6) and Whitmore Lake (12.9/12.3),

and flat in Willow Run (2).

Writing scores were down for fourth-graders in Ann Arbor (70.5/64.2), Manchester (61.2/42.7) and Willow Run (32.1/22.1), and up for fourth-graders in Chelsea (43.6/50.9) and Dexter (59.2/63.3).

Many math scores were within a percentage point, year over year, but were up in Chelsea (54.3/60.15), Manchester (47.8/51.27), Milan (37.68/38.48) and Whitmore Lake (34.43/36.57), and down in Ypsilanti (19.37/16.68).

Among ninth-graders, social studies scores were down significantly in Chelsea (54.6/50.5), Dexter (56.6/48.2), Lincoln (29.7/21.3), Milan (38.7/20.3) and Willow Run (19.7/4.1). Scores were up in Ypsilanti (12.7/14.6) and Whitmore Lake (33.7/35.2).

Social studies scores were up for sixth-graders in Ann Arbor (43.7/50.2), Manchester (26.6/34.2), Milan (26.3/36.6), and Whitmore Lake (24.6/31.9). They were down in Lincoln (21.2/18.2), Saline (47.6/44.6) and Willow Run (10.9/7.8).

Reading scores were up for students in Ann Arbor (72.12/80.92), Chelsea (71.25/78.97), Dexter (79.1/81.92), Lincoln (55.58/58.13), Milan (59.77/63.55), Whitmore Lake (65.18/70.13) and Willow Run (37.4/40.1).

Some school districts came out below state averages.

In writing, the fourth- and seventh-graders of Willow Run (22/22.8), Ypsilanti (29/25.3), Lincoln (37.7/34.2) and Manchester (42.7/43.8)

came out below state averages (44.5/47.3), while Milan's fourth-graders (36.5) also lagged the state average. Year over year, writing scores are down both locally and statewide.

In math, the statewide average proficiency across third through eighth grades was 36.58. Lincoln (23.48), Ypsilanti (16.68), Whitmore Lake (36.57) and Willow Run (11.73) came in below.

Willow Run was the only Washtenaw County district to lag the statewide average in reading (64.35), posting only a 40.1 proficiency rate.

On the science exam, the statewide average was 15.3 for fifth-graders and 16.5 for eighth-graders. Willow Run (4.1/2) Ypsilanti (5.5/8.2) and Lincoln (9/10.6) all fell behind the state, as did eighth-graders in Whitmore Lake (12.3).

Statewide, fifth-grade science scores were down compared to 2010 (17.4) and eighth-grade scores up relative to 2010 (14.9).

The social studies exam is given to sixth- and ninth-graders, whose proficiency rates are 27.7 and 28.7 statewide. Students in Lincoln (18.2/21.3), Ypsilanti (6.9/14.6) and Willow Run (10.9/4.1) performed below that average, as did ninth-graders in Milan (20.3).

The writing exam is given to fourth- and seventh-graders, and their statewide proficiency rates were 22.1 and 22.8 percent. Lincoln (37.7/34.2), Manchester (42.7/43.8), Ypsilanti (29.6/25.3) and Willow Run (22.1/22.8) came in below the state average, as did fourth-graders in Milan (36.5).

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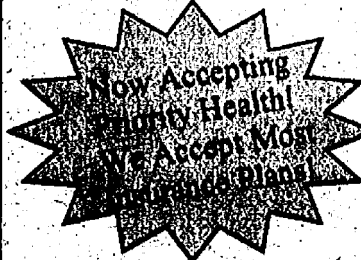


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Local vocal sensation to perform at benefit

By Sean Dalton
Heritage Media

Local singing sensation, Lottie Prenevost, a senior at Chelsea High School, spends many of her weekends on stage these days, and this coming weekend will be no exception.

Prenvest will be performing once again at this year's Jazz and Chocolates, a fundraiser for Chelsea Center for the Arts' Scholarship and Tuition Assistance Program. The event, now in its fifth year, is a celebration of all things jazz, and encompasses free workshops for children, performances by CCA students and instructors, and a spectacular headliner event featuring Michigan's Royal Garden Trio.

"The aim," says Sue Whitmarsh, external relations Manager at CCA, "is for the proceeds from these events to replenish our much sought-after

scholarship fund, which, since 2008, has awarded almost \$25,000 to deserving music and visual arts students. Our hope, this weekend, is for people of all ages to come together and enjoy jazz in all its guises."

Charlotte started taking voice lessons at the age of 12, with U of M grad student named Colleen Stano. A year later, she became a student of Lisa Hinz Johnson, CCA's co-founder, director of music and voice instructor.

Lottie accredits Lisa with enabling her as a singer and performer, saying, "Lisa has really helped me unlock as a performer. I used to literally just stand and sing a song, without thinking about what I was singing at all - there was no connection between me, the song and the audience."

Dozens of performances later, and as her audiences will attest, this is no longer the case.

Lottie will sing both at Friday's Jazz & Chocolates event at Silver Maples which showcases CCA's music students and instructors, and at the headliner event on Saturday when she will be performing both with CHO and The Royal Garden Trio.

"Jazz and musical theatre are some of my favorite genres to perform because they are the most challenging for me," says Lottie, whom, at the weekend, works at The Earle in Ann Arbor, where she sometimes has the opportunity to sing with the resident jazz trio.

Charlotte's repertoire, though, is hugely versatile, and she cites Eva Cassidy as one of her principle influences.

"The vocalists who have influenced me the most are those people who I feel sing naturally. I don't really have a lot of appreciation for singing that has been made flawless through technology. Eva Cassidy was famously a

perfectionist, and worked incredibly hard at her art, paying so much attention to the tiniest vocal details, as well as putting tons of emotion into every single song she sang. She was, and still is, an inspiring artist and person."

"Charlotte, herself has been a recipient of scholarship assistance, and appreciates the value of having benefited from that support: 'I definitely would not have even thought about lessons if scholarships hadn't been available,' she says. 'And I'm immensely honored that CCA asked me to represent them at this event. I'm very excited to perform with both CHO and The Royal Garden Trio, although I have to say I am a little nervous about singing alongside such seasoned professionals. I very much look forward to hearing and sharing so much good music with so many people.'

Jazz and Chocolates, is sched-

uled for March 2 at Silver Maples from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 from CCA, Chelsea Pharmacy or at the door.

Jazz Jam Jr. is a free workshop series for kids at Chelsea District Library on Saturday March 3 at 11 to 11:45 a.m. and noon until 12:45 p.m.

The Royal Garden Trio and Friends will be at CHS, Saturday March 3, at 7 p.m.

Visit www.chelseacenterforthearts.org or call 734-433-2787 for more details.

All proceeds benefit Chelsea Center for the Arts Scholarship and Tuition Assistance Program. Chelsea Center for the Arts is a 501c3 whose mission is to enrich the quality of community life through programs that foster the creation, understanding and enjoyment of the arts.

Staff Writer Sean Dalton can be reached at 734-429-7380 or sdalton@heritage.com. Follow him on Twitter @seankdalton.

SOUP

FROM PAGE 1-A

\$10, with all funds beyond the cost of dinner going toward the microgrant.

Proposal presentations will be at 5:15 p.m., and the dinner, consisting of soup, salad and bread will be at about 5:40 p.m. with water, decaf coffee and tea. Afterward, diners will be able to vote on which proposal they think should

win.

The Chelsea Soup volunteers hope to keep the event ongoing with a dinner every month, and Silverio said the Chelsea Soup organizers are hoping to raise \$300-500 for the winning proposal.

For the first three months Deb Harrington, a professional chef with 18 years of experience under her belt, will head up the cooking. Harrington is known for her work as a

chef with Yellow Door, a similar Chelsea initiative where funds are raised through community meals served with local food.

Silverio said Chelsea Soup will also keep its food as local and organic as possible, and the group is also looking for food donations.

While there have been several proposals that Silverio has heard mentioned, but she said none have been officially submitted just yet. Proposed ideas

so far include a hiking trail addition in the Waterloo-Pinckney Trail and funding scene sets for a local play.

To submit a formal proposal or for more information email chelsea.mi.soup@gmail.com or call 734-719-0107.

There is no minimum age for presenters - just a great idea, according to Silverio.

"It's hard for people with just an idea to get the

needed money for it, and this is that place for those people," she said.

Chelsea Soup also has a great need for volunteers for the event; those who wish to help out can email or call the above number.

"It's a great opportunity volunteer and to meet really interesting people," Silverio said, "and it will be really fun to see what interesting ideas come in and to meet people who are thinking about things."

Copy editor Erica McClain can be reached at 734-429-7380, emccclain@heritage.com or Twitter @eamccclain.

CHICKENS

FROM PAGE 1-A

part of the agenda with a sample ordinance for the Council.

"We tried to construct an ordinance for people who have no interest in chickens to feel comfortable," said Chris Felesky, Chelsea Backyard Chickens spokesman.

The sample included lot requirements for the allowable number of chickens as well as a host of violations that would require the city clerk to revoke a proposed license for keeping chickens.

Councilmember Bill

Holmberg and others commended the group on creating a "well-crafted" sample ordinance.

Anderson spoke out against the sample ordinance and said it "would not pass muster" while reiterating his issues with keeping backyard chickens.

Anderson called the issue a "slippery slope" and worried that if one group received approval for a certain animal then there would be no feasible way to logically argue against allowing another type of animal.

Lindauer seconded Anderson's sentiment.

"The slippery slope is a

true concern for us every day," Lindauer said. "You could bet someone would come in the very week after we approved this type of ordinance and say 'But you did it for the chicken group.'"

Anderson also wondered how real estate values would be affected by allowing backyard chickens.

"Intuitively, if I'm buying a house and it's next to a chicken coop, I'm less likely to buy that house," he said.

Anderson also argued that being permissive toward keeping chickens makes much more sense in a dense, urban area where farm-fresh eggs are not

easily attainable, but that's not the case in rural areas such as Chelsea.

Councilmember Cheri Albertson said she believed the slippery slope argument and similar ones could be addressed and requested that Council get information from nearby Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, which both have ordinances allowing chickens, to see how the two municipalities have dealt with any issues.

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ART

FROM PAGE 1-A

Museum of Art, Ann Arbor Art Center, Washington Street Gallery in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw Community College, Detroit Institute of Arts and Kresge Art Museum in East Lansing, among others.

Inspiration comes from many sources. "Certainly the landscape, especially the landscape of Michigan - often stark in its black and white contrasts. But also art history, design, contemporary art, child-

hood memories, collecting - many inexplicable things come into play when working in my studio," he said.

"I'm especially looking forward to exhibiting this new body of work completed over the last 12 months - as an exhibit that brings together my continued interest in drawing as a three-dimensional form of expression, one that focusing on line, the most basic element of drawing, while also taking advantage of my interest in working with natural materials gathered directly from the Michigan landscape."

River Gallery, 120 S. Main Street in Chelsea, is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 433-0826 or

visit www.chelsearivergallery.com.

Sheila Pursglove is a freelance writer. She can be reached at bingley51@yahoo.com.

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SECOND FRONT

Page 4-A

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Thursday, March 1, 2012

2012 ELECTION COVERAGE

Romney wins Michigan Presidential Primary

By Ann Zaniewski
Journal Register News Service

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Mitt Romney had a lead over rival Rick Santorum and was projected to win the race as votes were being tallied Tuesday night in Michigan's Republican presidential primary.

With 102 of 150 Washtenaw County precincts reporting, unofficial election results showed Romney with 43.18 percent of the vote and Santorum with 36.62 percent late Tuesday.

Voter turnout throughout the county was "really low," said Ed Golembiewski, elections director for the county.

With slightly fewer than half of the precincts reporting, voter turnout was 6.28 percent, but Golembiewski predicted it could get close to 15 percent.

Golembiewski said the turnout is due largely, in part, to a very light showing in Ann Arbor, which is expected because it's heavily Democratic.

In Oakland County, Romney carried a solid lead over Rick Santorum. With a majority of 541 precincts reporting, Romney had 50 percent of the vote to Santorum's 29 percent.

"I think Romney supporters should be very pleased tonight," said Bill Bullard, the Republican Oakland

County clerk. "I thought it would be close, but Romney came from behind in the last two weeks, so those of us who were supporting him were very optimistic."

The two frontrunners, Romney and Santorum, campaigned heavily in Michigan as the race grew increasingly close and contentious. Polling in recent days showed Santorum closing in on Romney's lead.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, a Republican, said he never lost faith in Romney's ability to win in Michigan. Romney is the candidate best poised to take on President Barack Obama in the fall, he said. Frank Houston, chairman of the Oakland County Democratic Party, also said he expected a Romney win in Michigan, but called the apparent victory "shallow at best."

While Romney was on track to win the popular vote, Houston said Santorum could still capture a number of delegate votes. The fact that the Romney-Santorum race was as close as it was in Romney's home state doesn't bode well for the Romney campaign, he said.

"He moved far to the (political) right in an attempt to win the primary, and may have cost himself the general election" in Michigan, Houston said.

U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, D-Fla., chairwoman of the Democratic National Committee, said the election results showed that Michigan is not enthusiastic about Romney.

"For (Romney) to have outspent Santorum 2-to-1 and still be struggling to win and having spent an extraordinary amount of time winning the state, really says something about the lack of enthusiasm that folks have for his candidacy," she said.

Michigan's primary was a pivotal point in the GOP nomination contest. It was seen as a necessary win for either candidate and especially for Romney, a former Massachusetts governor who was born in Michigan and whose father once governed the state. Romney had been considered an early frontrunner in the race.

Santorum, a former Pennsylvania senator, gained momentum recently and surged ahead in polls. He came into Michigan on the strength of surprising victories in caucuses in Minnesota and Colorado,



Michigan voters turned out Tuesday for the Republican Presidential Primary. Here, a voter in Saline casts her ballot. View video from the Saline polling station at www.Heritage.com.

plus a non-binding primary in Missouri.

As expected, Romney also won Tuesday's Arizona primary.

Except for a debate in Arizona last week and a brief burst of campaigning in the hours before and after, Romney and Santorum have largely focused their time and campaign money on Michigan.

On the eve of Tuesday's primary election, Santorum's campaign used automated telephone calls to encourage Michigan Democrats to vote against

Romney. Romney complained that the tactic was a "deceptive and dirty trick," while Santorum defended his actions.

Santorum spent Tuesday campaigning around Grand Rapids. Romney was in Novi Tuesday night.

Texas U.S. Rep. Ron Paul also campaigned in Michigan ahead of the primary, but didn't have as much of a presence as Romney and Santorum.

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich was also on the ballot, but never made many waves locally. Instead,

he shifted his focus beyond Tuesday's primary, pinning his hopes on a strong showing of support in his home state of Georgia and other Super Tuesday states that will vote March 6.

The other candidates on the primary ballot in Michigan have either suspended their campaigns or never generated any significant national traction.

Reporters Charlie Crumm and Monica Drake, Amy Bell and Krista Gjesland, as well as The Associated Press, contributed to this report.

Brabec elected to fill vacated Pittsfield post

By Sean Dalton
Heritage Media

Felicia Brabec, the Democrat candidate for District 7 county commissioner, walked away with 303 votes as of 10:58 p.m. Tuesday, with 67 percent of the precincts reporting.

Her opponent, Republican Richard Conn, had 22 percent of the total votes cast for the seat vacated by Kristin Judge.

"In some ways, it's to be expected because if it was a Democratic primary, folks who are registered Democrats can vote today or at the caucus," Brabec said. "Since people have those options, I didn't expect there to be a high Democratic turnout."

"I was pleased to see this many folks on the Republican side go out today and voice their opinion (on the District 7 election)."

"My hope is that on May 8 we get a more complete turnout."

Brabec says that she has gained a strong understanding of county government since being appointed by her fellow commissioners Oct. 18. She said she has taken a passive observational role

that has progressed to the extent that she regularly asks pertinent questions during discussions and significant comments during commissioner comment periods.

"It's a huge learning curve, but I feel like I know the rhythm and really understand what's being discussed and voted on."

"I hope voters give me a chance to continue to learn and grow fully in District 7's representative on May 8."

Conn could not be reached for comment on election night as the results were being posted.

Brabec was appointed to Judge's seat Oct. 19, 2011, to fill in until the next election. Judge stepped down to take the position of director of Partner Engagement for the Center for Internet Security, Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center.

Both candidates spoke to Heritage Media before the election on some key topics that are relevant to the position, including ongoing effort to align Washtenaw County's finances over the next several years, as well as efforts to attract more business to Washtenaw as a

means of providing jobs and bolstering property values.

"The county has to live within its revenue line and until property tax revenue can increase we have to solve our problems creatively and think completely outside the box," Conn said in a previous report published by Heritage Media.

Conn thinks the board has "made the right mix of cuts" so far, adding that he believes in asking county employees for ideas, as well as looking at what other counties and large cities have done for cost savings and new revenue sources.

As a Democrat, Brabec walks a fine line between maintaining useful services that accomplish the task of making life in Washtenaw County better and balancing the county's budget as one of 11 voices on the board.

"The cuts have been very difficult; however, necessary as the board has a legal obligation to have a balanced budget," Brabec said.

She was appointed just as the board was getting into the 11th hour of balancing the budget dur-

ing the fourth quarter last year, during which cuts came from county employees, human services, county memberships and animal control services.

Both candidates agree that cuts are only going to go so far. Revenue has to be increased, as well.

Conn suggested directly asking businesses that have recently relocated to Michigan or elsewhere in the Midwest to share the rationale for choosing their location.

"We can ask them what were the positives or negatives as it related to county government ... could we in Washtenaw County offer some kind of special job training or assistance that would make a difference in their decision," he said.

"Washtenaw County must have some of the most highly trained workers in the U.S. We need to sell that idea to future job creating businesses."

Conn would also like to look into how much more U of M could be contributing to help the county's bottom line.

"We know that as the university purchases private property, the

taxes that those properties were paying to all government sources is lost ... I wonder if there is an opportunity there for some kind of balance."

Brabec pointed to a projected budget shortfall of \$14.6 million in 2015 as a reason for needing to "be open to all measures or levers in terms of bringing the county to a place where it feels positively about its financial outlook."

"I feel that there is no singular way to address the financial concerns of our county's future," she said. "Every idea and policy needs to be fully vetted for its potential to continue to ensure the financial viability of our county."

Both candidates say they will work hard to represent the constituents of District 7.

Staff Writer Sean Dalton can be reached at 734-429-7380 or sdalton@heritage.com. Follow him on Twitter @seandalton. Text HERNews and HERWeather to 22700 to receive news and weather alerts to your cellphone. Msg and data rates may apply. Text HELP for help. Text STOP to cancel.

Muslim Secrets: Part 3

Are Muslims in Michigan Sunnis and Shias, or 'Sushis'?

By Aftab Borka
Journal Register News Service

It's a problem that has been following Muslims for more than 1,400 years. It started with the end of Prophet Muhammad's life.

The question of who would succeed Muhammad turned into a conflict. What started as a difference of opinion later became a bloody conflict. Thousands of Muslims were killed in the wars that followed. And, the battle lines were stretched not just beyond countries, but beyond generations.

In today's modern world, the Sunni-Shia divide among Muslims takes different shapes, from intellectual debates in universities, to joint prayers and worship in Mecca, and to bloody clashes in the streets of Iraq and Pakistan.

In this week's installment of "Muslim Secrets," we explore: Do Muslims bring those sectarian difference with them to America?

"I think they do," said Dr. Adil Akhtar, chief of oncology at Troy Beaumont Hospital and president of the Pakistan American Association.

"There (are) definitely differences. But, in my opinion, the differences are healthy because, if there is discussion and difference of opinion, it's healthy as long as it's

used to have a positive impact in our lives," Akhtar said.

But when asked whether Shias and Sunnis hate each other in the United States, Akhtar said: "I don't think so. I really don't."

But do they hate each other in some countries?

"Yes," he said. "If you ask me what is the single most important reason why we don't hate each other here, it's the tolerance for each other." Akhtar said, explaining that people develop intolerance in societies where there is only one side of the story.

Victor Ghalib Begg, co-founder of the Council of Islamic Organization of Michigan and co-founder of Muslim Unity Center in Bloomfield Hills, realizes the importance and risks of these differences.

Ghalib said the Muslims in America, and Michigan in particular, have acted sensibly to avoid any confrontation.

"If you go to our website (www.ciomonline.com), you will see a Muslim Code of Honor, which was signed by every Imam in Michigan. It was publicized all over the world. We came together as one community and spoke out against the sectarian vio-

lence," Ghalib said.

The code, signed in May 2007, requires all groups of Muslims to respect each other's beliefs and take steps to protect Muslims from inflammatory literature.

Imam Achmat Salie, a prayer leader in Sterling Heights' American Muslim Diversity Association, is one of the signatories of the code. Salie says the differences are typical and a "non-issue."

But are the differences a non-issue for the Muslim communities in general?

"It's not going to evaporate. Those issues will be there as much as there are issues between Baptists and Catholics. There are some Christians in this country who don't see Catholics as Christians," Salie said, adding that, "It's a reality. It's normal."

Shandana Shakoor, a Bloomfield Hills resident who grew up in Pakistan, where some radical groups incite violence on sectarian basis, says it's a misconception that Shias and Sunnis as communities are at war with each other.

"We have no issues here. And, even back

in Pakistan, we would live very happily with a Shia neighbor and there were intermarriages. But it's just a few people who mess up things for everyone else," she said.

Oakland University student and a Shelby Township resident, Faiz Ahmed believes there is no room for sectarian conflicts among Muslims in America, because they have bigger issues to deal with.

"When you come to realize that there is a bigger problem than petty differences, people tend to assimilate into groups and work together," Ahmed said.

Begg's wife, Shahina Begg, too, thinks it's a non-issue among Muslims in America.

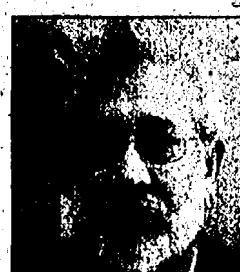
"Our daughter got married at the Unity Center, which is predominantly Sunni Muslim. And they had the wedding reception at the Islamic Center of America, which is all Shia. And we had a great reception," she said.

The Beggs, like many Muslims families, feel like they belong to a third group. "As a matter of fact, my husband calls himself Sushi," she said with a smile.

Aftab Borka can be reached at 248-745-4798 or email Aftab.Borka@oakpress.com or on Twitter @AftabBorka.



Salie



Begg



Linda Meloche talks to a group of students during a Dale Carnegie class. Meloche will begin teaching a class in Chelsea beginning March 12.

Meloche will teach Dale Carnegie course

In honor of Dale Carnegie's 100th Anniversary, Dale Carnegie of Southeast Michigan is bringing their world famous Dale Carnegie Course to Chelsea beginning 5 p.m. March 12 at Chelsea Comfort Inn, 1645 Commerce Park Drive. The class will run for 13 consecutive Mondays, skipping Memorial Day. The Dale Carnegie Course helps participants to improve their professional and personal leadership skills, speak to groups with greater comfort and clarity, increase confidence, connect more effectively with others, and develop and maintain a greater sense of balance in their lives.

The courseware available in 30 languages throughout the world; they cover the entire United States and reach over 85 countries. Dale Carnegie includes as its clients

100 of the Fortune 500 companies. Approximately 7 million people have experienced Dale Carnegie Training.

"While the course has been tweaked over the years as the needs of people have shifted, the essential focus of the program has remained the same since its inception in 1912: to help people better tap into their personal potential. 'We don't try to turn people into someone that aren't,' said Linda Meloche, instructor and coordinator of the Chelsea program. 'We help them to eliminate doubt and more fully become the person they already are inside.'

It's not just because the program is so good. It's because people are remarkable and are capable of remarkable things. But some times they don't recognize it. And

at other times, they just need some effective strategies for navigating the personal and professional challenges in their lives. That's where we come in.

Chelsea area residents may recognize Meloche as the host of the Chelsea radio interview program, "Around Town with Linda."

Hosting the show has been such a joy, Meloche said. "I've had the opportunity to come to know so many wonderful people in Chelsea. And now I get the chance to wear another hat and bring my professional passion to the community. I've been teaching the course for more than 26 years and I'm just so excited to finally have the opportunity to teach it here."

To register, call Linda at 734-429-7380 or visit <http://www.dalecarnegie-mich.com>.

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ONLINE POLL QUESTION

Which area has the worst road conditions?

- A. Local interstate
B. Western Washtenaw County
C. Eastern Washtenaw County
D. My road

Store passwords in a safe place

Last time we visited, I encouraged you to create a strong password. If you haven't done that yet, let me repeat the importance of doing so. A strong password has at least eight characters including one symbol, one number, one capital letter and one lower case letter. Let's assume after reading my last column you were inspired to immediately change your passwords to meet the best practice guidelines. Let's also assume you followed my suggestion to create different passwords for each account you had online. Now you have to remember a couple dozen complex passwords. This is the dilemma I believe has kept some people from creating and using the best passwords.

Research and discussion on alternatives to passwords are taking place. The Huffington Post, for example, recently

ONLINE SAFETY



KRISTIN JUDGE

reported that, "Biometric Identification Will Replace Many Passwords In Next Five Years, Says IBM Scientist." Sounds very science fiction to think our computer will do a retinal scan to allow us access to our favorite social media page, but that is one of the options being talked about

right now to address this password issue. It may take some time for any alternative solutions to affect change in our homes or offices.

So, in the mean time, we need practical advice on how to manage the passwords in our life.

There are a number of "password management" systems on the market you can use.

They are basically programs that store your passwords for you electronically. Millions of people use these systems; however, it's important to real-

ize the pitfalls to having all your passwords stored on an application that is located on your phone or computer.

First, the company that runs the password storage application can get hacked. We have seen some of the most secure systems in the world get hacked in just the last few months alone.

Second, people lose their phones and laptops at an alarming rate. A quick review of online studies shows the number of stolen laptops range anywhere from more than 10,000 a week stolen from airports to one laptop stolen every 12 seconds, or 2.6 million a year in America alone.

We are human, and with all the gadgets we carry around on a daily basis, we are bound to lose one eventually.

So, we need to ensure we do everything we can to keep our passwords safe, as they are the key to our data and personal information.

Today's Quick Tip:

Create strong passwords, and store them safely. Choose a sentence that means something to you

and make that the base of your password. Make sure you use separate passwords for each account.

Example: Phrase you can remember easily: "Some families love to see movies in the theater."

Translated into a password using the first letter of each word: Sfm1lvtT. Now, write down password hints—not the passwords themselves—for your online accounts on a piece of paper and store them in a safe spot.

It may seem old-fashioned to use pen and paper to keep track of your passwords, but right now, it's one of the best options we have.

To get more great information about staying safe online, including access to free monthly newsletters, webcasts and more, visit the Center for Internet Security at www.cisecurity.org. Stay tuned for our next chat.

Kristin Judge is the director of Partner Engagement for the Center for Internet Security, Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center. She can be reached at kristin.judge@msisac.org.

OUR TAKE: Editorial

Consider becoming a foster parent

A 12-year-old girl looks out from the website of the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange. She has a sweet smile.

She wants people to know that she's funny, likes to laugh, is nice, gets good grades and some day hopes to go to Disney World. But not just any people. She wants prospective parents to know these things.

What she needs, even more than a trip to Disney World, is a family—in her words, a "forever family."

That may not be easy. There's a serious need for foster and adoptive parents in Michigan. A recruitment specialist for the exchange, operated by the Royal Oak-based Judson Center, tells us there are more than 5,300 children in the state's foster care system, children who have been removed from their parents' custody.

The state hopes to place more than 3,800 of those children with adoptive parents. The great majority, more than 90 percent, will be adopted by relatives or foster parents. But more than 400 of the children, among the most vulnerable, have no families or relatives being considered.

Funded by Michigan's Department of Human Services, the exchange is attempting to drum up interest in families willing to foster or adopt. The requirements are high, although we're sure some would say they're not high enough.

Age, income, sexual orientation and marital status are not disqualifiers. Flexibility, dependability, maturity and stability are definite qualifiers. Involvement and engagement in a child's welfare are important, the ability to advocate for the child and being a team player with a welfare worker.

And although it's not spelled out in so many words, the ability to love a child who may be more difficult to love than some is a definite qualifier.

The girl whose face looks out of the exchange's home page is listed as severely emotionally impaired, with a moderate learning disability and mild mental impairment. She needs structure and consistency in her life.

We're sure that people able to meet these needs exist in our state.

And we're sure that the potential rewards for the heart and soul are great, both for the child and the adoptive parent.

—Courtesy of The Macomb Daily

The great majority, more than 90 percent, will be adopted by relatives or foster parents. But more than 400 of the children, among the most vulnerable, have no families or relatives being considered.

Your Voice: Letters to the Editor

Stop fracking by contacting your local legislators

Fracking is in Michigan and is on the up rise. Every Michigan citizen should be concerned about this dangerous practice of extracting natural gas.

Simply put, fracking injects large volumes of toxins underneath our water supplies, both in the fracking process, as well in the disposal of fracking wastes into injection wells. There is no such thing as "safe" fracking. Fracking must be banned.

Fracking toxins have contaminated water supplies across the country. Once your aquifer is contaminated, there is no cleaning it up (The Gelman Sciences plume under Ann Arbor is 30-plus years strong and is migrating toward the city water supply).

With fracking, citizens are responsible for testing their water—advanced tests that are expensive. Citizens, not industry, end up being responsible for replacing their water supplies with brought-in water. Property values will go down whether or not your water has been contaminated because no one will want

to own property that has a ticking toxic time bomb underneath.

The dangers not only include harm to household water, but also extend to agricultural, both livestock and crops.

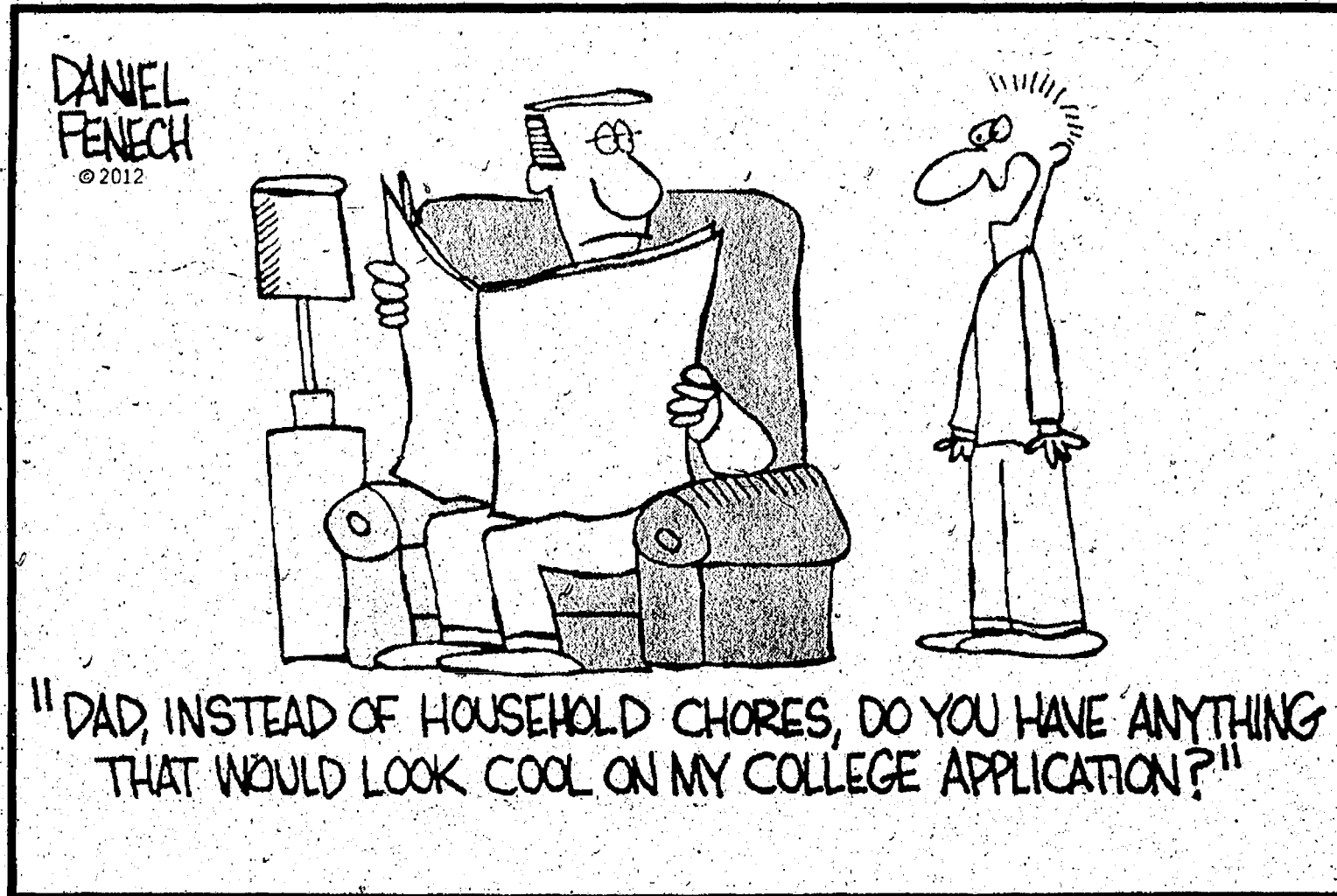
There are fracking reform bills currently in our state Legislature that should not be passed because they promote "safe" fracking, and there is no way to "safely" inject and leave large volumes of toxins in the ground.

Please write your representatives opposing these so-called reforms and protect our wonderful Michigan waters. Ask for a full ban on fracking in our state. Educate yourself on the issues and the dangers of hydraulic fracking by watching the documentary "Gasland" and looking at the Internet, taking note whether the information is derived under industry funding.

A local group in Washtenaw County called nonpaxton.com has very good links to excellent information.

Also, join banmichiganfracking.org and be a part of the action to ban fracking in Michigan.

Kurt and Hillary Gleichman
Pittsfield Township



Parents, other adults need to set anti-bullying example for children

Throughout the community, we have parents and children trying to maintain a normalcy in their daily routines.

This is happening as the economy slowly renders them helpless.

Not only have we seen trends in the economy such as jobs doubling their descriptions and duties tenfold, but the pay is either cut or frozen.

As parents, we try to shield our children from the stress and negative side of this reality, but when it comes to their classroom or on the playground, they begin to realize a whole new world.

As an elected official, I have been on committees that discuss bullying and the various components attached to it, such as cyber-bullying and bullying through texting, including harassment in many forms.

What is disheartening is that we also see parents bullying one another

If you thought it was not possible, think again.

GUEST COLUMN



DARLENE POMPONIO

We all encourage diversity and celebrate differences, but what about personalities?

I have witnessed bullying in many forms, such as verbal attacks, starting rumors or talking in groups and shutting out other parents.

Adult bullying comes in many forms, such as verbal attacks, starting rumors or talking in groups and shutting out other parents.

This behavior is witnessed by children and repeated, but, oftentimes, the behavior and consequences are magnified.

In a time when we need to band together and create bonds to find new ways to cope and to bridge gaps in family, friends and in neighborhoods, it is

sad that there is more separation of community rather than support.

I have seen adults bullying other adults in the schools, in public and on the youth ball fields. It is safe to say it takes a village.

As a parent myself, I encourage students to pledge to be bully-free and for those who are being bullied to let someone know.

With the new legislation on bullying, school districts around the state will be creating new policies or updating old ones.

Statistics related to suicide and bullying are alarming: •Bullying victims are between two to nine times more likely to consider suicide than non-victims.

•10- to 14-year-old girls might be at even higher risk for suicide.

•Nearly 30 percent of students are either bullies or victims of bullying.

•160,000 children stay home from school every day because of fear of bullying.

Contact Darlene Pomponio, secretary of the Southgate Community School District Board of Education, at drpomponio@yahoo.com.

Are we losing understanding of Founding Fathers?

We are constantly being told that our Founding Fathers in no way looked to God or the Bible for either inspiration or guidance when they sought to create this new government. But is this so?

Take a dollar bill out of your wallet. On the reverse side, you will see both sides of the official seal of the United States. This "Great Seal" was finalized and approved on June 20, 1782. One side has the familiar eagle and shield symbol; but the other is less familiar.

It is sometimes referred to as the spiritual side. It contains a 13-step, incomplete pyramid with the year 1776 in Roman numerals at the base.

At the top of the pyramid is a triangle, as if finishing out the pyramid, containing the Eye of Providence.

This is not the first time Providence features prominently in their work. The Declaration of Independence makes its argument that "all men

GUEST COLUMN



TOM HADDOX

are created equal" and "endowed by their Creator" with certain unalienable rights (rights that cannot be taken away); appealing to "the Supreme Judge of the world," and "with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence."

Above the Eye is the motto "Annuit Coeptis," which is Latin for "He (i.e., God) favors our undertakings." Two clear references to God are found—the Eye and the motto. Our political heritage rests on and appeals

to the God of the Bible. Yet, at best we are told that the beliefs of the Founding Fathers toward the God of the Bible is unclear. But is this so?

Did you know that this was the second seal submitted? On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress assigned Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson the task of creating a seal for the United States of America. Their instructions were to come up with a seal that would embody the beliefs and values that these Founding Fathers wished to pass on to their descendants.

On August 20, 1776, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson submitted their idea for this new seal, along with written explanations of the symbols contained within it. These can all be found in the National Archives. Their proposal was a thoroughly Biblical-based design. It was to picture Moses crossing the Red Sea, with Pharaoh

in hot pursuit. It included the motto: "Rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God."

These two men were so familiar with the Bible, and evidently so believed in the God of the Bible, that they were able to draw the parallel between the relationships of the Colonists with the King of England to that of the Israel slaves to Pharaoh. They also were quite adamant in their beliefs that the struggle to free themselves from England was in accordance with the will of God.

What a loss to our heritage as a nation when the legacy left us by our Founding Fathers is ignored, or worse yet, rewritten.

As good citizens of these United States of America, we owe it to ourselves to become more familiar with what place God and the Bible had in the origin of this great nation.

Tom Haddox is a minister at the Chelsea Church of Christ in Chelsea.

On August 20, 1776, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson submitted their idea for this new seal, along with written explanations of the symbols contained within it.

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THE BOTTOM LINE: by Elaine Owsley

Advertising obtrusive, tacky these days

"The Bottom Line" is as delicately as I can think to put a title on this discussion. It is certainly more genteel than the situations, which caused me to write. I am really annoyed by the number of advertising minutes that are spent on discussions of our digestive systems—especially around the dinner hour.

My husband and I routinely listen/watch the evening news broadcasts that come between 6 and 7 p.m., which is our usual dinner hour. We always have, unless we have company or grandchildren dining with us.

But of late, the commercials peddling products guaranteed to contain "probiotics", whatever they are, seem to cluster around that time. I really cringe when someone spends too much time on my lower tract during the dinner hour.

We all know, by now, what "fiber" does, don't we? And "whole grains" and all the rest of the things aimed at keeping us "regular." Does anyone else think that's not appropriate for the dinner hour, or lunch or breakfast for that matter?

I refuse to believe that pro-biotic enthusiasts accost people on the street, or at their work, or in the middle of a wedding reception or on an airplane (especially on an airplane, if this was a long flight... well, you get the problem).

Jamie Leigh Curtis is still a decent actress and looks pretty good

The other aspect of this problem is toilet paper advertising. Quilted is better, quilted is not better, soft is good, strong is better, etc.

for her age, but pushing Activia is about the most unglamorous thing I can think of for an older celebrity. The older guys seem to concentrate on insurance, and investments and sometimes new windows for your home. They don't get bound up (not a good choice of words) in this digestive assault.

The other aspect of this problem is toilet paper advertising. Quilted is better, quilted is not better, soft is good, strong is better, etc. They skate as close to the really gross as they can get and hav-

ing cute little bears with something stuck on their bottoms doesn't help.

There was a time when all this was sort of hush, hush and considered too tacky to be discussed, let alone sort of in your face on the TV screen. I suppose you can't regulate advertising based on how uncool it is, but I wish they would keep it for after the 11 p.m. news when, one hopes, half the country isn't eating dinner.

Elaine Owsley is a retired journalist and longtime Dexter resident.

sudoku solutions

6	2	3	7	9	4	8	1	5
4	8	7	3	1	5	9	6	2
5	9	1	6	8	2	4	3	7
2	3	4	1	7	9	5	8	6
9	7	6	5	3	8	2	4	1
8	1	5	4	2	6	7	9	3
7	4	2	8	6	3	1	5	9
1	6	8	9	5	7	3	2	4
3	5	9	2	4	1	6	7	8

BEGINNER

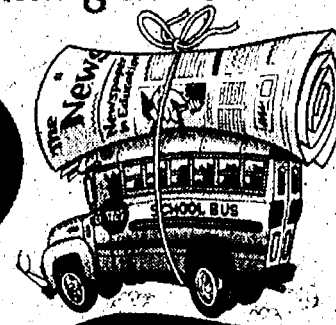
6	7	8	2	1	9	4	3	5
4	9	3	7	5	6	2	1	8
2	5	1	8	3	4	9	7	6
3	2	7	1	4	5	8	6	9
5	8	9	6	2	3	7	4	1
1	4	6	9	8	7	3	5	2
7	3	2	5	9	1	6	8	4
9	1	4	3	6	8	5	2	7
8	6	5	4	7	2	1	9	3

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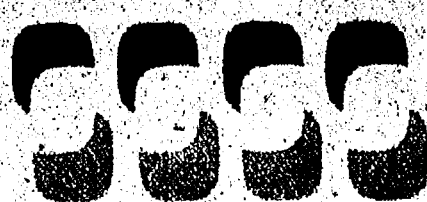
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Erane Washington announces Circuit Court judge candidacy

Attorney Erane C. Washington recently announced her candidacy for the 22nd Judicial Circuit Court judge position, which will be created by the retirement of Judge Melinda Morris at the end of 2012.

"Having attended Bryant Elementary School, Scarlett Junior High School and Huron High School, I am humbled and honored to be a candidate for this judgeship. After graduating from the University of Michigan Law School, I have spent nearly 20 years being a public servant to the citizens of Washtenaw County and the State of Michigan," Washington said in a news release.

"I have had the distinct privilege and honor to have served for seven years as an assistant public defender and another six years as



Washington

a judicial attorney to a Washtenaw County Circuit Court Judge. In these capacities, I handled high volume and high profile civil and criminal cases on a daily basis. This experience makes me uniquely qualified for this position. I am a proven elected

and appointed servant."

Washington was appointed by former Gov. Jennifer Granholm to the State Board of Canvassers and the State Officer's Commission.

She was also elected president of the Washtenaw County Bar Association in 2005 and currently serves as an elected member of the State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly — the governing body for all lawyers in the state of Michigan.

"I have volunteered my

services in many capacities, including serving on the Huron Valley Girl Scout board and the American Red Cross board," Washington said.

"I am delighted to have had the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the citizens of this community, and I would love to have the opportunity to make a greater impact by providing the fair, just and efficient justice that the people of Washtenaw County deserve. Therefore, I hope to continue serving the public as Washtenaw County's next circuit court judge."

Washington, an Ypsilanti Township resident, is a graduate of the James Madison Residential College at Michigan State University and the University of Michigan School of Law.

She is a partner at the Julington Litigation Center, which serves indigent individuals, both adult and juve-

nile, throughout Washtenaw County.

She is also the principal and founder of the Law Firm of Erane C. Washington-Kendrick, which provides legal services to businesses and

individuals in contract disputes, business, real estate, commercial litigation and probate matters.

She also serves on the negligence, commercial, and employment case evaluation panels and is a certi-

fied mediator. Additionally, she is an approved arbitrator for the financial regulatory industry.

For more information, visit www.EraneWashingtonforJudge.com.

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AHRENS, ALEX HAR- OLD; age 10; of Clinton; passed away at home peacefully under the loving care of his family after a courageous three year battle with cancer. Alex was born December 23, 2001 in Ann Arbor to Roger and Cheryl (Bross) Ahrens. Alex was a member of Saline 4H Farmers and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Saline. Alex truly enjoyed helping his "lady friends" show animals at the 4H Fair. He also enjoyed playing baseball and riding horses. Alex was a true inspiration to everyone with his spirit for life and new adventures. In addition to his parents, Alex is survived by his brother, Jason; grandmother, Rachel Bross of Manchester, aunts, uncles and cousins, Gary, Teresa, Gillian and Delaney Bross of Manchester, Brad, Carol and Joshua Brown of Saline, Jeff, Lisa, Creed and Ridge Ahrens of Clinton, Brad, Kim, Carter and Macy Ahrens of Saline; Godmother, Carlene Rogers and two special angels sent by God, Natalie Hayes and Lauren Underwood. Alex was preceded in death by his grandparents, Harold (Bud) Bross and Albert and Barbara Ahrens. In honor of Alex, memorial donations may be given to the family for a later designation. A Healing Farewell visitation will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2012 and Friday, March 2, 2012, from Noon to 7 p.m. at the Manchester American Legion. The Funeral Service will be on Saturday at 11 a.m. at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Saline with Pastors Mark Smith and William Natis, officiating. Interment Riverside Cemetery, Clinton. Please sign Alex's guestbook at www.borekjenings.com or leave a message of comfort for his family by calling 877-231-7900.



AVERY, MARJORY A. Milan, Michigan; age 82; died Wednesday, February 22, 2012, at Saline Evangelical Home. She was born February 2, 1930 in Traverse City, Michigan to Arthur and Fern (Hilts) Riggs. Marjory was a great cook and enjoyed singing, sewing, and reading with Janette Oke being her favorite author. She also loved going to church services and singing with the congregation. Besides Arthur, her husband of 61 yrs and 20 days, she is survived by five sons, Paul (Lora) of Midland, MI, David (April) of New Lexington, OH, Phillip (Cathy) of Petersburg, MI, Kenneth (Esther) of Zanesville, OH, Mark (Carol) of Mexico, MO; daughter Sheldie Avery of Sturgis, MI; brothers, William (Becky) Riggs, Lewis Riggs; sisters, Joy (Richard) Beil, Elinor (Gerald) Egbert, Joan Durgan, Carol Riggs; 19 grandchildren; 21 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, two sisters, two brother-in-laws and one grandson Kenneth, Jr. A funeral service was held on Monday with burial at London Cemetery. www.ochalekstark.com



BLAESS, JULIUS E. age 90; passed away on February 25, 2012 in Pharr, Texas. He was a loving husband and father, doting grandfather, trusted friend, and wise counsel. Julius was born on December 7, 1921 in Lodi Township, Ann Arbor, MI to Oswald W. and Edna V. (Finkbeiner) Blaess. He was a resident of Chelsea, MI for most of his life. On February 14, 1953, he married Jean N. Carter in Chelsea and she preceded him on November 13, 1984. On March 22, 1986, Julius married Betty Behnke Scherdt and she preceded him on September 3, 2003. Mr. Blaess was a graduate of Ann Arbor High School and served in the Army Corps of Engineers in Europe in W.W.II. He was a partner with his brother William in the Blaess Elevator Company on Dexter-Chelsea Rd. in Chelsea for many years. He then worked for the investment firm of Aston Young Financial Services before retirement. He was an active member of the Chelsea Kiwanis and served as President from 1974-1975. He was active in St. Paul United Church of Christ in Chelsea, where he was on the building committee when the present church was built and served on the board for two terms. Julius had resided in Pharr, Texas for a number of years. With the help of computers, he compiled great family genealogical histories, and he was also active in the Tropic Star Park in Pharr. He is survived by 2 daughters, Patricia (Tim) Whitesall and Judi (Doug) Willson; 6 grandchildren, Timothy (Lori) and Steven (Amy) Whitesall, Adam (Ann) Erskine, Amanda Erskine (Arnold) Reginaldo, Jordan (Heather), and Evan (Juli) Wahl and 13 great grandchildren; 2 step daughters, Karen (Robert) Moore and Marti (Dennie) Wolfgang along with 9 step-grandchildren, 11 step-great grandchildren; his sister, Betty (Alfred) Rentschler of Ann Arbor; sister-in-law, Gerry Blaess, and cousins with many nieces and nephews. He was also preceded in death by his parents; 1 sister Virginia; 1 brother, William; and 1 daughter, Nancy. Cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service is planned for Saturday, March 31, 2012 at 1 p.m. at St. Paul UCC in Chelsea, with Visitation 11 to 1 p.m. Memorial donations may be made to St. Paul United Church of Christ. Arrangements by Cole Funeral Chapel.

Grants offered for local gardening projects

The Master Gardener Alumni Association of Washtenaw County is offering grants for gardening projects in Washtenaw County.

Educational groups, not-for-profit organizations or other groups or individuals providing horticultural education and/or horticultural therapy are invited to submit an application for grants up to \$250.

Complete information, selection criteria and the application form can be obtained at the Washtenaw County Michigan State University Extension website at <http://extension.ewashtenaw.org> or through the MSU Extension Office at 997-1678.

Applications must be completed and returned to the Washtenaw County

MSU Extension office by March 22.

MGAAC awarded four grants in 2011, with each project receiving \$250.

Projects funded in 2011 included Victory Academy (Victory Garden 4H club) in Ypsilanti, Holy Faith Church (Seeds of Hope Garden) in Saline, Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility (Sprouts Garden) in Ypsilanti and St. Francis of Assisi Social Ministry (Sustainable Garden Project) in Ann Arbor.

The Master Gardeners of Washtenaw County also help sponsor the Junior Master Garden program.

The primary selection criteria include projects or programs that utilize the expertise of Master Gardeners during development or implementation or appli-

cants seeking to strengthen existing programs or to develop pilot programs.

A program plan is submitted for review on the project, highlighting the horticultural education and/or horticultural therapy aspects.

A detailed description of how the award will be used must also be included, as well as a listing of other funding or resources that will be utilized for the project.

The Master Gardener Alumni Association of Washtenaw County is a membership organization comprised of graduates of the Washtenaw County MSU Extension Master Gardener volunteer training program. Funds for these grants are raised by the MG Alumni Association.

Study: Many Michigan children living in poverty

Michigan ranks among the 10 worst states for children living in high-poverty neighborhoods, a new study finds, but study also indicates there are clear steps to take to improve the lives of kids in those communities.

The report, Data Snapshot on High-Poverty Communities, which can be found at <http://www.aecf.org>, was released by Kids Count, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

It found that Michigan ranked 44th among the states — No. 1 being the best or lowest rate — for concentration of poverty, defined as neighborhoods where 30 percent or more the population is in poverty.

Among the 50 largest U.S. cities, Detroit had the biggest share of children — two out of every three — living in concentrated poverty. Poverty is defined as an income of \$22,314 per year or less for a family of four.

"Children from poor neighborhoods, even if their own families are not in poverty, are affected. They struggle more with behavior and emotional problems, they are less likely to graduate, and they have reduced potential to be economically successful as adults," said Kids Count in Michigan Project Director Jane Zehnder-Merrell in a news release.

There are 341,000 children in high-poverty communities, enough to fill every first, second- and third-grade private and public classroom seat in the state.

That's about 124,000 more children living in high-poverty neighborhoods by 2010 than at the start of the decade, a 57 percent increase.

Michigan saw its share of kids in high-poverty neighborhoods climb from 8 percent in 2000 to 14 percent

in 2006-2010.

The report found that poverty was concentrated in rural areas as well as large cities.

Of the 32 counties with at least one census tract with concentrations of poverty, four were in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula. The counties with the largest share of kids in such neighborhoods are Wayne, Saginaw, Alpena, Genesee, Ingham, Chippewa, Roscommon and Isabella.

"As lawmakers gather to decide budget priorities for next year, this report must be kept in mind," said Gilda Z. Jacobs, president and CEO of the Michigan League for Human Services where the Kids Count in Michigan Project is located.

"We must use this data to make changes that will make real differences in the lives of our youngest residents of Michigan. Our future depends upon it."

Among policy recommendations in the report is to "promote federal and state policies that advance proven and promising practices in the area of work support, asset building and employment." The chief example cited is the Earned Income Tax Credit.

The Michigan EITC has been in place for just four years but has been cut from 20 percent of the federal credit to 6 percent for tax year 2012 and beyond. Restoration of this credit or a portion of the credit would help reduce concentration of poverty, the report authors said.

"This is the most effective tool in our toolbox for lifting children out of poverty," Jacobs said. "Our lawmakers should revisit this policy at the earliest possible time."

In addition, the report,

adds evidence to the need for a regional transit system in Southeast Michigan that has been backed by Gov. Rick Snyder. The Casey report cites the need to link regions to expand job opportunities.

"With Detroit cited as, by far, America's city with the largest share of kids living in high-poverty neighborhoods, we must take steps here and now to help our next generation of kids," Zehnder-Merrell said.

"Improving transit will clearly help."

Another measure is the 90-day law that mandates a pre-foreclosure process set to expire at the end of this year. It should be extended, study authors said.

For more information, see CEDAM's website: <http://cedam.info/resources/mft/index.php>.

In addition, the Center for Enterprise Development has several recommendations for asset building in Michigan, including lifting asset limits for food and cash assistance and family Medicaid.

See additional recommendations at <http://scorecard.assetsandopportunity.org/2012/state/mi/>.

Some promising developments in Michigan to reduce concentration of poverty also include:

■ A total of \$12.5 million for early childhood education in the supplemental budget by Gov. Rick Snyder with \$3.25 million for kindergarten assessment and \$9.25 million for improving quality in early education centers that could improve early education provided in poor neighborhoods.

■ Land bank efforts under way in Michigan, particularly in Genesee and Ingham counties, to turn abandoned properties into viable space.

DEPP, CHARLES P. JR. Milan, Michigan; a former York Township trustee; died on February 22, 2012, at the age of 82. He graduated from MSU, was a marine and retired from Ford's-Powertrain. A member of the Immaculate Conception, he raised cattle and draft horses. Survived by his wife, Denise; children, Christine Stebbins, Catherine Clum, Charles, Thomas and John Depp. A funeral Mass was held on Saturday, February 25, 2012, Burial at Marble Park Cemetery. www.ochalekstark.com

For complete obituary.

GRIFFIN, MARVIN E. Edmond, OK (formerly of Milan); age 71; died Wednesday, February 22, 2012, at home. He was born October 24, 1940 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to John and Sylvia (Schneider) Griffin. Marvin was a Milan High School graduate and served honorably in the US Army. He worked as a purchasing agent in the automotive industry for 40 years. Survivors include his children, Darcy, Kipp and Guy Griffin all of Oklahoma; sister, Sheila Sasin of Mt. Pleasant, TX; brothers, Lyle (Lynn) of Mt. Pleasant, TX, Gary (Adele) of Wauselon, OH and J. Clayton (Carol) of Britton, MI. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, James Griffin. Funeral services were held Tuesday with burial at Marble Park Cemetery in Milan. www.ochalekstark.com

FDA acts to bolster supply of critically needed cancer drugs

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has announced a series of steps to increase the supply of critically needed cancer drugs and build on President Obama's Executive Order to help prevent future drug shortages.

"A drug shortage can be a frightening prospect for patients and President Obama made it clear that preventing these shortages from happening is a top priority of his administration," said FDA Commissioner Dr. Margaret A. Hamburg. "Through the collaborative work of FDA, industry, and other stakeholders, patients and families waiting for these products or anxious about their availability should now be able to get the medication they need."

In response to the critical shortage of the cancer drug Doxil (doxorubicin hydrochloride liposome injection) and rapidly declining supplies of methotrexate, the FDA took proactive steps needed to increase available supply for patients in the United States.

For Doxil, there will be

temporary importation of a replacement drug, Lipodox (doxorubicin hydrochloride liposome injection), which is expected to end the shortage and fully meet patient needs in the coming weeks.

For methotrexate, in addition to already announced actions, the agency has approved a new manufacturer of preservative-free formulation of methotrexate that is expected to further bolster supply and help avert a shortage of this lifesaving medicine. FDA expedited review of the application to help address this potential shortage.

In addition, in response to the president's Executive Order on prescription drug shortages, FDA recently issued draft guidance to industry on detailed requirements for both mandatory and voluntary notifications to the agency of issues that could result in a drug shortage or supply disruption. Increased awareness of the importance of early notification due to President Obama's Oct. 31, 2011, Executive Order and FDA's letter to manufacturers on the same day

has resulted in a six-fold increase in voluntary notifications by industry of potential shortages.

In 2011, there were a total of 195 drug shortages prevented. Since the Executive Order, FDA has prevented 114 drug shortages.

Under FDA's exercise of enforcement discretion the chemotherapeutic drug Lipodox will be imported as an alternative to Doxil. Doxil is used in multiple treatment regimens, including treatment of ovarian cancer after failure of platinum-based chemotherapy.

The drug is also indicated for use in AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma and multiple myeloma. FDA anticipates that the incoming supply of Lipodox will be able to fully meet patient needs.

FDA's exercise of enforcement discretion for Lipodox is a temporary, limited arrangement specific to Sun Pharma Global FZE and its authorized distributor, Caraco Pharmaceutical Laboratories Ltd.

Temporary importation of unapproved foreign drugs is considered in

rare cases when there is a shortage of an approved drug that is critical to patients and the shortage cannot be resolved in a timely fashion with FDA-approved drugs.

When a company is identified that is willing and able to import the needed drug product, FDA evaluates the foreign-approved drug to ensure that it is of adequate quality and that the drug does not pose significant risks for U.S. patients. Only after successful evaluation of these factors does FDA exercise its enforcement discretion for the temporary importation of an overseas drug into the U.S. market.

With regard to methotrexate a drug that is needed for the treatment of many forms of cancer and other serious diseases, FDA has successfully engaged many firms to assist in maintaining supplies to meet all patient needs.

Preservative-free methotrexate is needed for the intrathecal (injection into the fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord) treatment of children with acute lymphocytic leukemia and for the high-dose therapy of osteosarcoma.

First, FDA has prioritized review of and approved a preservative-free methotrexate generic drug manufactured by APP Pharmaceuticals and expects that product to become available in March and continue indefinitely.

Second, Hospira expedited release of additional supplies, resulting in 31,000 vials of new product — enough for more than one month's worth of demand — being shipped to hundreds of U.S. hospitals and treatment centers today. FDA is actively working with other manufacturers of methotrexate who have also stepped up to increase production in order to meet patient needs, including Mylan and Sandoz Pharmaceuticals.

APP's application for preservative-free methotrexate is a supplement to its already approved generic drug application that the firm had previously discontinued. When FDA became aware of potential problems with the supply of the drug (due to the largest manufacturer, Bedford/Ben Venue voluntarily closing its

plant), the agency reached out to other firms to see how FDA could assist to meet the shortfall.

Prior to approval of APP's application and subsequent to Ben Venue's voluntary shutdown, FDA worked with Ben Venue on release of already manufactured preservative-free methotrexate, following confirmation of its safety. This supply is available already and will provide emergency supplies as the other firms also work to increase production of methotrexate in response to requests by FDA and the public.

The Administration also announced on Oct. 31, 2011, its support for bipartisan legislation that would require all prescription drug shortages to be reported to FDA and would give FDA new authority to enforce these requirements.

While additional manufacturing capacity is necessary to fully address the drug shortage problem, additional early notification to FDA can have a significant, positive impact on addressing the incidence and duration of drug shortages.

DTE Energy to install new, more advanced meters

DTE Energy recently announced plans to install an additional 450,000 advanced electric meters and gas modules by the end of 2013, including 120,000 in Washtenaw County.

More than 1 million DTE Energy customers will have the technology by the end of 2013.

The technology provides the backbone for DTE Energy's "smart circuit" infrastructure, which will provide detailed information about customer energy usage, recognize power outages without customer input and allow electric customers to communicate with the company.

The meters incorporate technology that will allow them to be read remotely and provide a range of optional benefits to customers, as well as operational savings through increased efficiencies to

DTE Energy.

"Our advanced metering program will provide our customers with new technology that is both safe and secure," said Vince Dow, DTE Energy vice president for Distribution Operations, in a news release.

"This technology will allow us to quickly locate and reduce the length of power outages and other problems, virtually eliminate estimated bills through automated meter reading and remotely connect and disconnect service, which means faster, less intrusive service."

The digital meter technology will serve as a platform that will provide remote monitoring of the electric distribution system and allow customers to better manage their energy usage and bills.

About 650,000 advanced meters have been installed,

mostly in Oakland County communities.

DTE Energy will begin installing about 120,000 advanced meters this month in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township, and moving to Ann Arbor Township and Barton Hills in March.

Work will begin in Dexter, Dexter Township and Scio Township in April and in Saline, Saline Township, Superior Township and Whitmore Lake in May.

Residents in Chelsea, Manchester, Milan and York Township will see new meters beginning in June.

Future installation areas will be announced as implementation nears.

Other customer benefits: Manual meter reading is eliminated, which means fewer estimated bills and improved billing accuracy.

Customers will be provided with online access to their individual energy usage.

The new meters allow remote turn-on/turn-off and reconnect/disconnect capabilities without the wait for a service technician.

The meters provide theft and tamper detection.

New products and rate options will be available. Customers will benefit

because the company will know, to an individual meter, the extent of a power outage and how best to respond to that outage.

DTE Energy is a Detroit-based energy company involved in the development and management of energy-related businesses and services nationwide.

Its operating units include Detroit Edison, an electric utility serving 2.1 million customers in

Southeastern Michigan. MichCon, a natural gas utility serving 1.2 million customers in Michigan, and other non-utility energy businesses focused on gas storage and pipelines, unconventional gas production, power and industrial projects and energy trading.

Information about DTE Energy is available at dteenergy.com.

Girl Scouts search for Ann Arbor area alumnae

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan is looking for stories of local women who were active during the 1920s and 1930s and who have earned the highest award in Girl Scouting, now known as the Gold Award and known earlier as the First Class Award, the Golden Eaglet and the Curved Bar Award.

Alumni are listed with the dates they each received the highest award in Girl Scouting: Lucille Farrier (1933), Ypsilanti; Jean Lamming (1934), Manchester; Helen Magdalen Houck (1934), Manchester; Elizabeth Ann (Betty) Mitchell (1933), Ann Arbor; Ruth Mitchell (1935), Ann Arbor; Marjory G. Pierpont (1934), Northville; and Jeanette

Mary Snowman (1934), Manchester.

If area residents recognize the names of any of the listed Girl Scout alumnae, they are asked to contact Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan at 1-800-497-2688, ext. 7431.

During 2012, the centennial year of Girl Scouting, Girl Scouts around the nation are celebrating the organization's 100th anniversary.

In Lansing, "Follow the Girls: 100 Years of Girl Scouting," an historical exhibit highlighting the contributions of Michigan's Girl Scouts, will open at 9 a.m. on March 10 at the Michigan Historical Center, 701 Kalamazoo St.

At noon that day, thou-

sands of Girl Scouts will gather on the steps of the State Capitol for a 100th birthday sing-along, an afternoon of activities around Lansing and evening fireworks (weather permitting) at Cooley Law School Stadium. The public is invited to attend.

Juliette Gordon Low started the first Girl Scout troop on March 12, 1912, in Savannah, Ga. A few years later, her dream for a girl-centered organization was realized. From the original 18 girls, Girl Scouting has grown to 3.2 million members. Today, more than 50 million women are Girl Scout alumnae.

To learn more about Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, visit www.gshom.org.

To place a classified ad, call 877-888-3202 or online 24/7 @ www.Heritage.com

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By Sheila Pursglove
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Thursday, March 1, 2012

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Special Writer

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And it's still stirring controversy and conversation, including a recent "Great Art Truck Caper" at Silver Maples of Chelsea, where residents were entertained, appalled, puzzled and inspired by the truck's arrival in the parking lot.

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"We knew it would stir up a lot of conversation but that was good. Part of the mission of our Gallery 100 is to bring art works of all kinds to Silver Maples to give people a better idea of what art is. There's no requirement to like it all, but it's good to have a broad picture of what's going on in the art world. And it's good to be able to have a

conversation about likes and dislikes. And we certainly got a conversation going with the truck – more than we had bargained for."

A video created by Shawn Personke, director of activities, facilitated the conversation and helped people feel a part of the whole process, deLeon said. "The feeling of 'being had' was replaced by one of ownership of the experience – you might or might not like the truck, it was the shared experience that mattered."

"In the end we're all still speaking to each other and, who knows, maybe some minds were changed. The truck will probably live on in Silver Maples' collective memory."

Silver Maples, where a resident's sister knows the artist's sister, also held a poetry contest. "I'd been hearing all of the commentary, both good and bad, and wanted to be able to share that conversation in a larger, community format," said Personke, who filmed a video on her iPhone with some stills taken on a Nikon camera. "So, at Happy Hour one Friday, someone said, 'Hey, we should have a two-line poetry contest about the truck.' And those poems became the core of the video."

The art truck was a perfect example of how art affects people differently, she said. "It's so broad, so meaningful, so discussable.



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The truck caused quite an uproar, perhaps a parallel to the larger Chelsea community I remember the first time I saw the art truck sitting in the Palmer lot in downtown Chelsea. I said to my husband, 'well, there's a piece of art that you're either going to love or hate.'

"But the 'beauty' of the truck was the discussion that ensued by everyone, staff and residents alike. What's art? What's not?

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Nearly 60 people – residents and staff – attended the "world premiere" of the video and announcement of the poetry contest winners.

"It was a really positive way to close out the truck's visit," Personke said. "But what I've enjoyed most was

the evolution of attitudes. Many people began to see the humor and value of discussion about what art is or is not. People who absolutely abhorred it when it arrived began to soften. And while not everyone came to love the beauty of the truck, I think many people could appreciate it on a different level – and everybody was talking about it!"

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With that in mind, Pifer, and store manager Maureen Tobin have put together a group of speakers that will present a fascinating variety of ways to take advantage of all that fresh food.

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New board members Mark McCulloch (left), Chris Frayer, Wanda Killips and Mike Weisenstein pose for a photo at Chelsea United Way's February board meeting.

Chelsea United Way adds 4 new members

By Sheila Pursglove
Special Writer

The Chelsea United Way board has welcomed four new members: Chris Frayer, Mike Weisenstein, Wanda Killips and Mark McCulloch.

"I've been a supporter of Chelsea United Way because so many of the member agencies are local groups that are near and dear to me," Frayer said. "I like the idea of a small town United Way that is able to operate through the support of many volunteers allowing the majority of the donations to be used by the member agencies."

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She and her husband Bob – her high school sweetheart – will celebrate 40 years in August. The couple's three children – twins Robert and Christopher and daughter Allison – are all Chelsea High School grads.

A Monroe native who attended St. Mary Academy and Marygrove College, Frayer enjoys reading, quilting, traveling, watching Chelsea and University of Michigan football and basketball games, and playing cards including bridge.

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"Chelsea Milling hired me seven months before I mobilized overseas to serve our country," he said. "When I returned back to work a year later from duty I was asked to represent Chelsea Milling Company on the Chelsea United Way. I immediately said yes. I found that it's great to serve our country, but we also should not forget about our community. The Chelsea United Way is the first step in that direction."

Killips moved to Chelsea from Reed City 10 years ago when her husband Dave became Superintendent of Chelsea Schools. "I've thoroughly enjoyed it – there's so much to offer in this area and, more importantly, the residents of Chelsea are so welcoming and friendly," she said.

Killips had worked in education for 25 years as a teacher, reading coordi-

nator and literacy coordinator and is recently retired. She and her husband have two children and 6 grandchildren.

Killips' past community involvement has included a previous term on the Chelsea United Way board, volunteering at Emmanuel House and currently training to become a tutor for Washtenaw Literacy.

"Chelsea United Way does such a nice job of supporting the good work that the agencies right here in Chelsea are doing," she said. "Donating to the Chelsea United Way ensures that your donation is going directly to this community. There are many agencies that depend so much on the support of the CUW."

"I look forward to offering my time to this good work – something that I can now offer. I hope I can bring the gift of my time to the table since I may have more of it than some of the other members. I enjoy working with other people and brainstorming ways to continue this good work."

The fourth member of the new quartet is Mark McCulloch, a commercial loan officer for Chelsea State Bank, who has worked in banking for over 20 years. His previous involvement with non-profit organizations includes Walsh College, YMCA, and Friends of Detroit Public Library among others.

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Frayer has coached the Chelsea-Shimizu Exchange Program since 2000, and visited Japan in 2000 and 2011 with Chelsea Middle School students. She is a member of St. Mary Church, and a member of Modern Mothers, and volunteers with the "Warm the Children" program in Ann Arbor. Weisenstein, who has four-year business management degree, has lived in Chelsea for seven years and is a maintenance shift leader for Chelsea Milling Company. He is also a 1st Class Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy Reserves and a returning warrior from Operation Enduring Freedom with NMCCB 26 in June 2011.

"Chelsea Milling hired me seven months before I mobilized overseas to serve our country," he said. "When I returned back to work a year later from duty, I was asked to represent Chelsea Milling Company on the Chelsea United Way. I immediately said yes. I found that it's great to serve our country, but we also should not forget about our community. The Chelsea United Way is the first step in that direction."

Killips moved to Chelsea from Reed City 10 years ago when her husband Dave became Superintendent of Chelsea Schools. "I've thoroughly enjoyed it – there's so much to offer in this area and, more importantly, the residents of Chelsea are so welcoming and friendly," she said.

Killips had worked in education for 25 years as a teacher, reading coordi-

nator and literacy coordinator and is recently retired. She and her husband have two children and 6 grandchildren.

Killips' past community involvement has included a previous term on the Chelsea United Way board, volunteering at Emmanuel House and currently training to become a tutor for Washtenaw Literacy.

"Chelsea United Way does such a nice job of supporting the good work that the agencies right here in Chelsea are doing," she said. "Donating to the Chelsea United Way ensures that your donation is going directly to this community. There are many agencies that depend so much on the support of the CUW."

"I look forward to offering my time to this good work – something that I can now offer. I hope I can bring the gift of my time to the table since I may have more of it than some of the other members. I enjoy working with other people and brainstorming ways to continue this good work."

The fourth member of the new quartet is Mark McCulloch, a commercial loan officer for Chelsea State Bank, who has worked in banking for over 20 years. His previous involvement with non-profit organizations includes Walsh College, YMCA, and Friends of Detroit Public Library among others.

Sheila Pursglove is a freelance writer. She can be reached at bingley51@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, March 1

■ The Global Marketplace, a fair trade store, formerly The Mission Marketplace at 115 W. Middle St. in Chelsea, is hosting a display and sale of Michigan prisoner art until March 3.

■ Learn Microsoft Excel 2007 at the Dexter District Library at 9:30 a.m. Registration is required.

■ The Dungeons & Dragons Weekly Gaming group meets at 4:30 p.m. at the Chelsea District Library. The group will be using the 3.5 edition of the game.

■ St. Andrew's United Church of Christ holds its monthly dinner at 5 p.m. Dine in or carry out for a corned beef and cabbage dinner with all the trimmings.

Dinner ends at 7 p.m. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children 5-12 and children 4 and under eat for free. Tickets are available at the door. The church is at 7610 Ann Arbor St. Enter the Social Hall on Fourth Street with parking across the street.

■ Local author Doc Fletcher presents Paddling Michigan's Hidden Beauties at 7 p.m. The program includes a slideshow on canoeing the beautiful rivers of Michigan.

Friday, March 2

■ Join the Chelsea District Library and the Chelsea Senior Center for Great Books @ CSC at the senior center at 1 p.m.

Saturday, March 3

■ The Friends of the Dexter District Library hold a used book sale from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

■ The University of Michigan Natural History Museum presents: "How to Build a Better You" at the Dexter District Library at 10 a.m. This hands-on science program is for children 6 and up accompanied by a parent. Registration is required.

■ The Chelsea Friends of the Library holds its monthly meeting at 10:15 a.m. at the women's club table on the second floor.

■ The Chelsea District Library hosts Jazz Jam Jr. for children ages 3-5 at 11 a.m., a Chelsea Center for the Arts program. The workshop is meant to be a hands-on first jazz experi-

ence for kids. Register by calling 475-8732, ext. 4. A second workshop will be held for children 6-9 at noon.

■ Celebrate National Scrapbooking Day with Scrappin' for Teens in grades four through 12 at the Dexter District Library from 2-3 p.m. Bring your photos and scrapbook and the library will supply the rest, including snacks. Registration is required.

Sunday, March 4

■ The eReaders User Group meets at the Chelsea District Library at 1:30 p.m. The group will meet to provide tips, updates and advice on using various popular eReader devices such as the Kindle and Nook. For more information,

contact Ron Andrews at 475-8732, ext. 223 or randrews@chelseadistrictlibrary.org.

Monday, March 5

■ The Chelsea Senior Center has Dollar a Minute Massage today. Call 475-9242 for more information.

■ Build to your heart's content with Legos @ McKune at 3:30 p.m. Creations will go on display in the library.

■ Play Magic: The Gathering at its weekly gaming night time at 6 p.m. at the Chelsea District Library.

■ The Dexter Daze Committee meets at 6 p.m. at the Dexter Area Museum at 3443 Inverness Street. Any resident of the Dexter area is welcome to attend.

Tuesday, March 6

■ The Chelsea Senior Center's Motor City Casino trip leaves from the Chelsea Senior Center at 9 a.m.

■ The Chelsea Senior Center has free blood pressure checks from 10 to 11 a.m.

■ Get 1-on-1 Computer Help at the Chelsea District Library at 10 a.m.

■ The Chelsea District Library hosts a Beth Moore Study at 10:15 a.m. This study is of the Old Testament Tabernacle. It's open to the public and free. The group usually meets at the Washington Street Education Center. For more info call 475-9619.

■ The Animanga club meets at 3:30 p.m. at the Chelsea District Library.

BULLETIN BOARD

"Around Town with Linda"

"Around Town with Linda" will feature Larry Ogden, artist, retired genealogist and professor.

"Around Town with Linda" features interviews conducted by the local host Linda Meloche.

The show airs daily on Channel 18 at 7:30 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 11 p.m.

A new interview begins every Friday evening and runs for a week. The guests all live or work in Chelsea, and everyone connected with the show is a volunteer. Previous shows are avail-

able to view at McKune Memorial Library or online at <http://storiesofchelsea.org>.

ALI offers range of classes

It is not too late to register for ALI upcoming spring classes. The fourteen available classes due to start in March, April and May offer a wide range of

topics selected to appeal to adult learners. For a complete listing and description of the classes still available visit the ALI website. To register for one or more classes you may download

a form from the website or contact ALI by phone and request an ALI catalogue.

Registrations are accepted by mail in only until class limits are reached.

Catalogues are available for pick up at the Chelsea and Dexter Senior Centers And Libraries. Visit www.adultlearnersinstitute.org or call 734-433-1000-7358 for more information.

Co-op has open house

The Dexter Cooperative Nursery School will hold an open house 6-8 p.m. March 5. The co-op

has 3- and 4 year-old programs and offers morning and afternoon classes.

Meet the teachers and tour the facilities in the education building of the Dexter United Methodist Church located at 7643 W. Huron River Drive in Dexter. Dexter Cooperative Nursery School will begin general registration 10 a.m. March 10. Please go to www.dextercoop.com and click on the registration link to register your child for classes for the fall of 2012. Visit www.dextercoop.com or contact Kim at membership@dextercoop.com or 734.645.5631 for more information.

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8:30am - Daybreak Worship
9:30am - Classes All Ages
9:30am - Renew Worship
11:00am - Mosaic-Worship

The Rev. Joy Barrett
Rev. Tom Macaulay
www.chelseaumc.org

First Congregational United Church of Christ
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Chelsea 475-1844

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Dominic Aquilino, Pastor

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Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service..... 10:45 a.m.
Evening Service 5:45 p.m.

www.immanuelbiblechurch.net

St. Andrew's United Church of Christ
7610 Ann Arbor St.
Dexter, Michigan
734-426-8610

Sunday Services
8:30am Worship Service
10:00am Worship Service
Sunday School classes offered during 10am service
Bible Study
Wednesday 10am, 1pm, & 6:30pm
Thursday 2pm
New Interim Rev. Larry VanSlaambrook
www.standrewsdexter.org

Dexter United Methodist Church
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Chelsea Church of Christ
Minister Tom Haddox
13661 East Old US-12
Chelsea, MI 48118
(734) 475-8468
www.chelseacofc.org

Sunday School 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Service 10:30 am
Sunday Evening Service 6 pm
Wednesday Bible Class 8:30 p.m.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN
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Chelsea, MI 48118
(Next to McDonald's)
734.475.1404

8:15am Heritage Service
9:30am Education Hour
10:30am Celebration Service & Childrens Church

Webster United Church of Christ
5484 Webster Church Rd.,
Dexter, MI
(734) 426-5115

SUNDAY:
First Sunday Communion
Church School, 10:00 a.m.
Worship, 10:00 a.m.

WATERLOO VILLAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Service:
Sunday 11:00 a.m.
(734) 475-1171
Breakfast-2nd Sunday
Sept. to May

St. Paul United Church of Christ
Rev. James Cameron Coyt • 475-2545
14600 Old U.S. 12, Chelsea
StPaulChelsea.org

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On W. Ellsworth at Haab between Parker & Fletcher

Sunday Worship 10:00am

Pastor Charles R. Schulz
734-663-7511
StThomasFreedom.org

Dexter Gospel
2253 Baker Road, Dexter
(734) 426-4915
John O'Dell, Pastor

Sunday: Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.;
Worship 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

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Awana September till May

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StPaulChelsea.org

First Sunday Communion
Sunday School: All Ages 9am
Church Service begins at 10am
Nursery available
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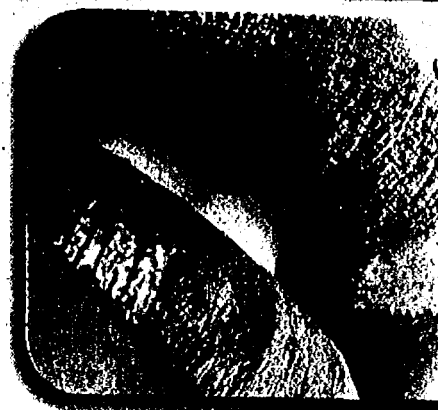
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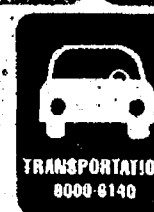
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Western Region Newspapers
A2 Journal, Belleville View, Chelsea Standard, Dexter Leader,
Manchester Enterprise, Milan News-Leader, Saline Reporter,
Ypsilanti Courier - Tuesday, 4:30 p.m.
The Monroe Guardian - Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.

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NOTICE PURSUANT TO MCL 700.7608

TO ALL CREDITORS:

The Settlor, Alva Fouty, date of birth 10/01/1933, who lived at 948 Moore Drive, Chelsea, Michigan 48118, died 02/12/2010. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Alva Fouty Trust Dated 12/23/1996, will be forever barred unless presented to Gloria Logan, Trustee, within four months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

Date: Feb. 22, 2012

Gloria Logan, Trustee
6143 Wolf Lake Road
Jackson, MI 49201

Nik Lulajuraj P48879
Attorney at Law
300 N. Main Street, Suite 4
Chelsea, Michigan 48118
(734) 433-0816

Published March 1, 2012

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NOTICE OF BID FOR DEXTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Bids will be accepted for Bid Package No. 21 Creekside Intermediate School Synthetic Turf at Al Ritt Field. The work includes installation of synthetic turf at Al Ritt Field.

Bid proposals must be received prior to 1:00 p.m. on

March 15, 2012 according to

Project Manual Section 00 2113:

Instructions to Bidders.

Bid documents are available via FTP

at <https://docs.grangerconstruction.com>

user ID: Dexter_Bidder, password: Bid10101

Bid bonds must be submitted with all bids. All bidders will be required to provide financial disclosure. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to accept other than a low bid, and to waive informalities, irregularities and/or errors in proposals. Construction Manager: Granger Construction Co., Lansing, EEO M/F/H/V.

**For more information contact
Granger Construction
at 734-424-5126**

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NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW. Notice under MCL 600.3278: Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under MCL 600.3201 et. seq., the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. ATTENTION POTENTIAL PURCHASERS AT FORECLOSURE SALE: In the case of resolution prior to or simultaneously with the aforementioned foreclosure sale, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. may rescind this sale at any time prior to the end of the redemption period. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited to the return of your bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest. Default having occurred in the conditions of a Mortgage made by Linda Basema Haddad, an unmarried woman ("Debtors") to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. ("JPMorgan"), dated November 21, 2007, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Wayne in the State of Michigan on January 09, 2008, in Liber 46916, Page(s) 686, et. seq., on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due as of the date of this Notice the sum of \$20,489.90, which amount may or may not be the entire indebtedness owed by Debtors to JPMorgan together with interest at 8.70 percent per annum. NOW THEREFORE, Notice is hereby given that the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative and that pursuant to that power of sale and MCL 600.3201 et. seq., on March 22, 2012 at 1:00 p.m., inside the Jefferson entrance at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, that being the place for holding the Circuit Court and/or for conducting such foreclosure sales for the County of Wayne, there will be offered at public sale, the premises, or some part thereof, described in said Mortgage as follows, to-wit: Situated in the Township of Redford, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, is described as follows: Lot No. 2267, Frischkorn's Grand-Dale Gardens #1, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 62, Page 41 of Plats, Wayne County Records. The redemption period shall be one (1) year from the date of the sale unless the property is established to be abandoned pursuant to MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of sale or fifteen (15) days from the date the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(b) was posted and mailed. Dated: February 13, 2012 JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. By: H. DOUGLAS SHEPHERD IV (P64560) BRANDT, FISHER, ALWARD & PEZZETTI, P.C. Attorneys for JPMorgan 1241 E. Eighth Street, P.O. Box 5817 Traverse City, Michigan 49896-5817 (231) 941-9660 File No.: 3475.1539 Ad #20758 02/19, 02/26, 03/04, 03/11/2012



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King Crossword

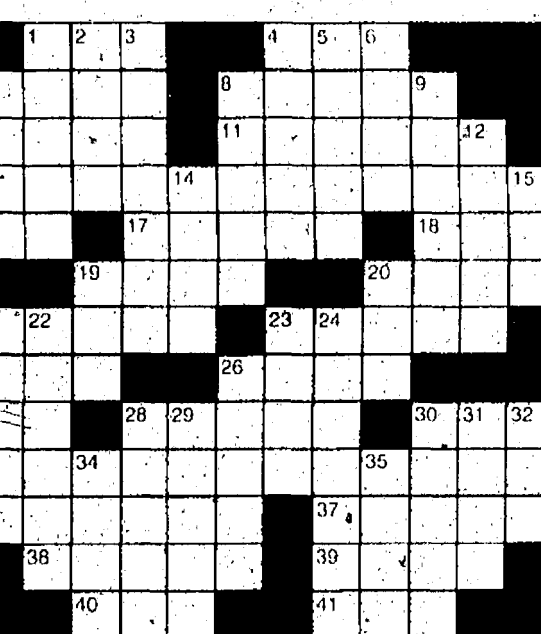
ACROSS

1 Rotating part
4 Existed
7 Deep-sea predator
8 Move to one side
10 Adversary
11 The external world
13 News crew member
16 Work with
17 Judicial apparel
18 " - was saying, ..."
19 Sheepish comments
20 A long time
21 Choir's rendition
23 Cheney's successor
25 Salamander
26 Sell
27 Raw rocks
28 Irving Berlin's "Blue -"
30 Afternoon social
33 13-Across' offering
36 "A Streetcar Named Desire" role
37 Bracelet adornment

38 Short fishing line
39 Slight amounts
40 James Bond, e.g.
41 Pigpen

DOWN

1 Minotaur's home
2 Pinnacle
3 Pertaining to a city election
4 7-Across, e.g.
5 Jam ingredients?
6 A size too small, maybe
7 Individuals
8 Uppity sorts
9 Battlefield prioritization
10 Ostrich's cousin
12 Ruhr Valley city
14 Wander
15 " - the season ..."
19 Cudgel



20 Toss in
21 Shimon of Israel
22 Workout garb
23 Milwaukee product
24 Entomologist's subjects
25 Promptly
26 Spreading fast on YouTube
28 Drag (Var.)
29 "An American in Paris" star
30 Sycophant
31 Blunders
32 \$ dispenser
34 Sawbucks
35 Terrific, in rapspeak

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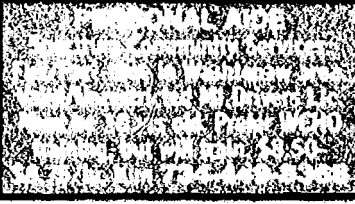
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**Science/Life Sciences
1250**

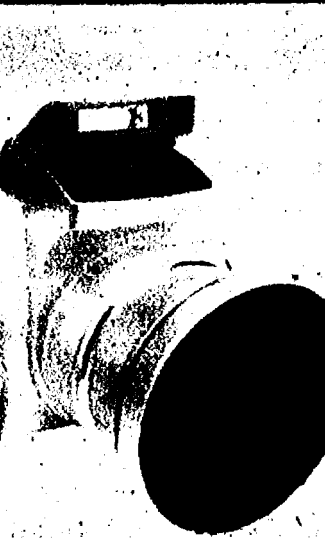
Science: Life Sciences Licensing Specialist (Ann Arbor, MI). Manage/license portfolio of intellectual property developed from faculty at the School of Medicine; interact with faculty, students, staff, patent attorneys, potential licensees, report to Director of Licensing; encourage and evaluate technology disclosures for patentability; market; licensing potential. Master's in Genetics, Physiology, Pathology, or related biochemical science field + 3 yrs. exp. as Licensing Associate or related position in academic life science patents and licensing. Must have detailed knowledge of patent process; exp in drafting and negotiating complex licensing agreements with companies meeting legal requirements and university policies; must have exp making commercial assessments of nascent university technology; must have exp in managing large technology portfolios in a research university setting. Attn: Lisa Johnson, University of Michigan, Office of Technology Transfer, 1600 Huron Parkway, 2nd Floor, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2590. Include Ref. Code UMTD1.

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4140**

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1914 GERMAN Bible - Gold
trim and w/ case. 3 1/2" X 5 1/2"
\$300 734-426-8471

FLA Market Antique Show
Jackson Fairgrounds (Indoor/Heated)
200 W. Ganson, Jackson
March 2nd - 3rd
(Fri. 11-7pm, Sat. 10-5pm.)
Admission: \$2 - Free Parking
1000's of items.
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ANNIE'S Estate Sales 2, call
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MICHIGAN MEMORIAL
Plot Asking \$1500
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**Legal Notices
1050****Legal Notices
1050****LEGAL NOTICE**

DeLoof, Hopper, Dever & Wright, PLLC, 301 N. Main Street,
Suite 250, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COL-
LECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL
BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR
OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE
MILITARY DUTY.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE SALE

Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a cer-
tain Mortgage made by the Mortgages, William J. Conlin and
Ellen A. Conlin, husband and wife, to Daniel H. Rivkin, an indi-
vidual, the Mortgagee, dated October 27, 2003, and recorded in
Liber 4335, Page 210, Washtenaw County Records on which
Mortgage there is claimed to be due for principal, interest and
late charges, at the date of this Notice, an amount not less than
Seven Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-One
and 57/100 Dollars (US \$722,451.57). No suit or proceeding at
law or in equity has been instituted to recover the debt secured by
said Mortgage, or any part thereof.

Now, therefore, under the power of sale contained in said Mort-
gage and pursuant to the statutes of the State of Michigan, no-
tice is hereby given that on Thursday, March 8, 2012, at 10
o'clock in the forenoon, local time, the Mortgage will be fore-
closed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the
place where the Circuit Court for the County of Washtenaw is held,
of the premises described in said Mortgage, or so much
thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, to Mort-
gagee on said Mortgage, with interest thereon at a fixed rate of
six point zero nine percent (6.09%) per annum plus the default
rate of four percent (4%), and all legal costs, charges, fees, and
expenses allowed by law and in the Mortgage and related loan
documents incurred both before and after the date of this No-
tice, including but not limited to, title insurance fees, taxes, insu-
rance, attorney fees, receiver fees, advances made to con-
struct, finish, repair, or maintain the buildings on the premises
and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the Mortgage-
e, necessary to protect its interest in the premises. The prem-
ises are situated in the Township of Ann Arbor, County of
Washtenaw, State of Michigan, and described as:

Commencing at the North ½ corner of Section 8, Town 2 North,
Range 6 East, Ann Arbor Township, Washtenaw County, Michi-
gan; thence South 88 degrees 48 minutes 00 seconds West
1994.65 feet along the North line of said Section 8; thence
South 00 degrees 15 minutes 55 seconds West 818.47 feet
along the West line of the East ½ of the West ½ of the North-
west ¼ of said Section 8 for a Place of Beginning; thence South
80 degrees 44 minutes 45 seconds East 200.00 feet along the
centerline of Stein Road; thence South 00 degrees 15 minutes
55 seconds West 100.00 feet; thence South 13 degrees 55 min-
utes 14 seconds East 173.25 feet; thence South 00 degrees 15
minutes 55 seconds West 160.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees
44 minutes 06 seconds West 240.00 feet; thence North 00 de-
grees 15 minutes 55 seconds East 459.21 feet along the West
line of the East ½ of the West ½ of the Northwest ¼ of said
Section 8 to the Place of Beginning, being a part of the North-
west ¼ of said Section 8. Subject to the public over the North-
erly 33.00 feet thereof as occupied by Stein Road, together with
an easement for the construction and maintenance of septic
field described as follows: Commencing at the North ½ corner
of Section 8, Town 2 South, Range 6 East, Ann Arbor Town-
ship, Washtenaw County, Michigan; thence South 88 degrees
46 minutes 00 seconds West 1994.65 feet along the North line
of said Section 8; thence South 00 degrees 15 minutes 55 sec-
onds West 1275.68 feet along the West line of the East ½ of the
West ½ of the Northwest ¼ of said Section 8 for a Place of Be-
ginning; thence South 89 degrees 44 minutes 06 seconds East
240.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 15 minutes 55 seconds
East 25.00 feet along the West line of the East ½ of the West ½
of the Northwest ¼ of said Section 8 to the Place of Beginning,
being a part of the Northwest ¼ of said Section 8.

Tax Identification No.: 1-09-08-200-025

Pursuant to MCLA 3600; 3240, the redemption period shall be
six (6) months from the sale unless determined abandoned in
accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption
period shall be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of sale
or upon expiration of fifteen (15) days after the notice required
by MCL 600.3241a(c). TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclos-
ing mortgagee can rescind the sale, in that event, your damag-
es, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount ten-
dered at sale, plus interest.

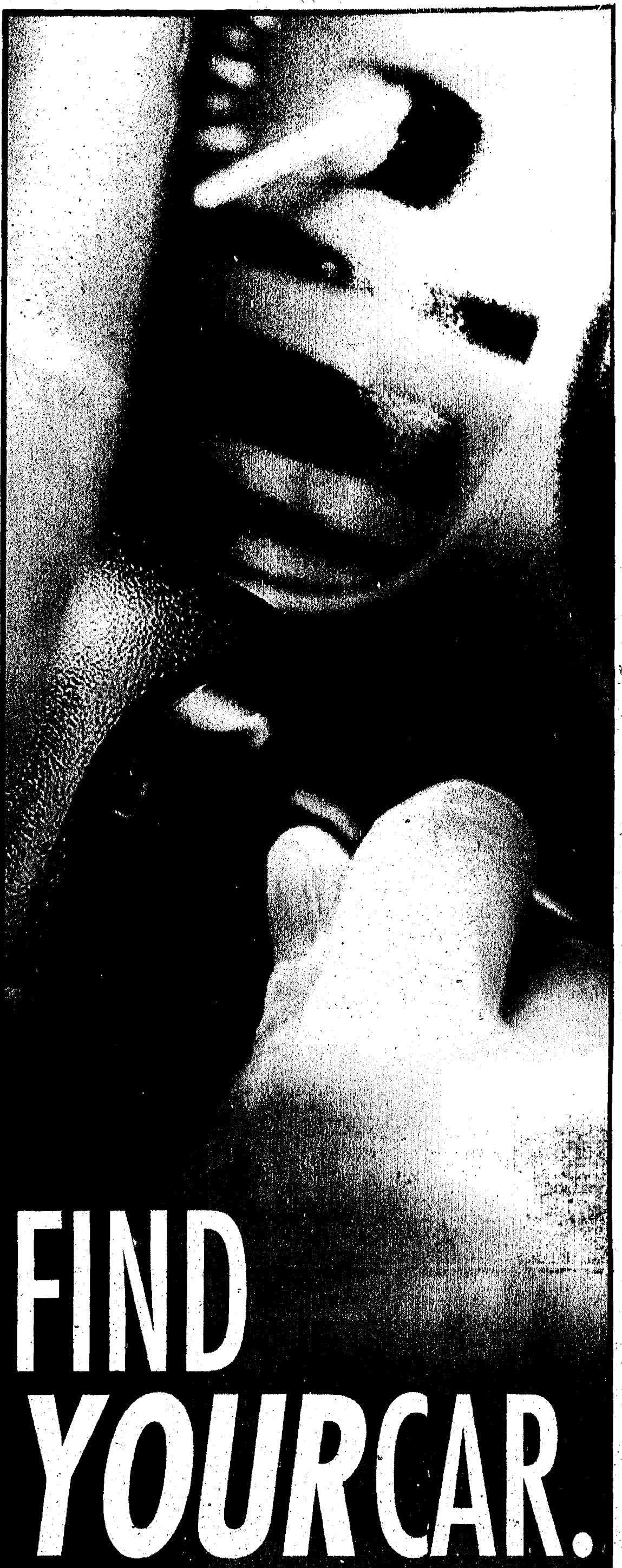
If you are a tenant in the property, please contact our office as
you may have certain rights.

Dated at Ann Arbor, Michigan, on February 6, 2012.

Daniel H. Rivkin, Mortgagee

For information, contact:
Peter H. DeLoof, Esq.,
DeLoof, Hopper, Dever & Wright, PLLC
301 N. Main Street, Suite 250
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
(734)-994-1295

Publish February 9, 16, 23 & March 1, 2012



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FLAT Rock - Motor City Antiques 13431 Telegraph, Huge Indoor Flea Market! Feb 25, 10-6; Feb 26, 12-6.

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MANCHESTER, 219 Beaufort. Furniture Only. Reasonably priced. Sat. Mar 3. 9am-2pm.

WYANDOTTE, 729 Goddard. Mar 3, 9-5. Pool table, 60" TV, fridge, MOVING. Lots of stuff!

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Pets 3020
CHIHUAHUA pups "Adorable, Father, 2 lbs. Shots, wormed \$350-\$400. 734-236-4160

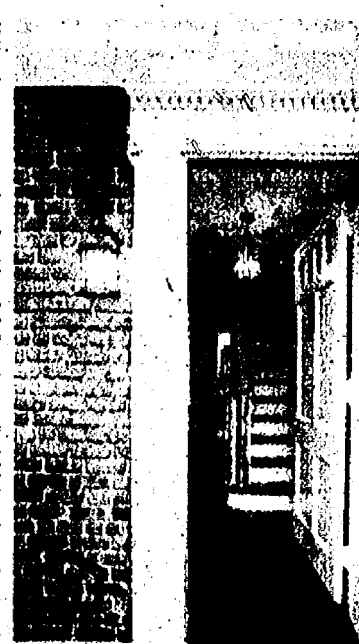
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Sun. 3/11: 10am-3pm
Dundee Tractor Supply
Sun. 2/26: 9:30am-1pm
Sun. 3/25: 9:30am-1pm
Rockwood Love My Pets
Mon. 2/27: 5:30-8pm
Wed 3/7: 10am-1pm
Wed 3/14: 10am-1pm
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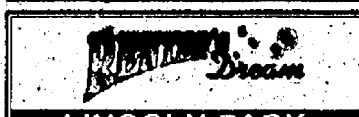
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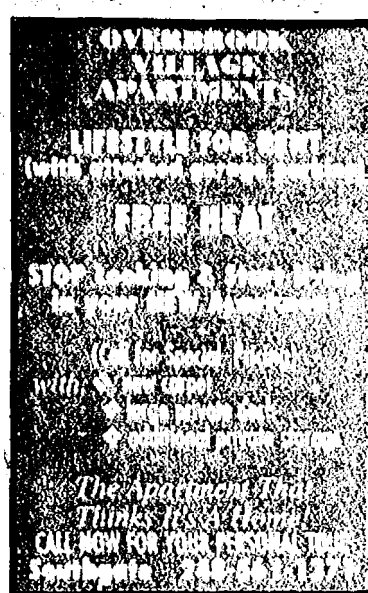
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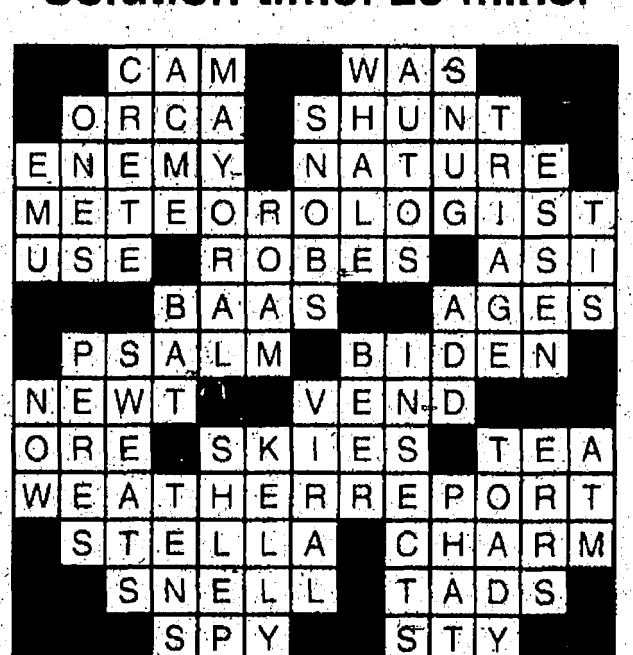
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New year... new outlook: balanced optimism

By Paul Tait
SEMCOG executive director

I look forward to the beginning of each year as a time for reflecting on the past and anticipating the future. Entering 2012 was no exception. I have two thoughts to share. First, all of us at the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments wish everyone reading this a healthy, happy and prosperous year.



Tait

Second, I share with you what we have termed "balanced optimism." As we peek into the future, there is much on which to base true optimism.

At the same time, we must continue to balance that optimism with the reality that we have to do the hard work to turn that optimism into a successful reality. On what do I base this optimism? After a decade of economic decline, Michigan has been leading economic recovery in recent months. Recently released sales figures for our Big Three auto manufacturers show all had increased sales in 2011 and all captured greater market share. We welcome better times for our automobile industry.

Also, jobs are returning. (See Figure A.) Comparing the third quarter of 2011 to the same period in 2009, total employment is up 95,900, or 2.5 percent... 2 1/2 times the rate of job growth nationally. Even more encouraging — high wage jobs in the region are up 38,866, or 4.2 percent... more than four times the national increase.

We are forecasting a real gross domestic product growth rate per capita of 3.2

percent per year for this decade after a loss of 0.5 percent per year in the past decade. (See Figure B.)

A look to the future

As we look to the future, per capita GDP, or average gross domestic product per person in the seven-county region of southeastern Michigan region — comprising Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw and Wayne counties — is an important positive aspect. (See Figure B.)

In the 1990s, the region's economy was booming for the most part, led by the domestic auto industry. As a result, GDP per capita grew 2.8 percent annually on average.

But the following decadelong, one-state recession in Michigan resulted in a long and significant decline in per capita GDP. Southeastern Michigan lost 0.6 percent annually on average from 2000 to 2010.

SEMCOG forecasts a very healthy growth in GDP for the current decade — 3.2 percent per year, as we recover from a long and deep recession. Then, the growth rate slows down for the next two decades, averaging 1.7 percent a year.

The positive in all of this, of course, is that there is growth.

So, to sum up, per capita GDP growth in the 1990s was mainly due to productivity growth. GDP decline in the 2000s was the result of massive employment loss. SEMCOG's forecast of per capita GDP growth in this decade is due to improved productivity, employment growth and population decline. This means that a smaller region could be more prosperous.

Michigan is leading the recovery

Employment change in Michigan by Average Industry Wage
Third Quarter 2009 to Third Quarter 2011

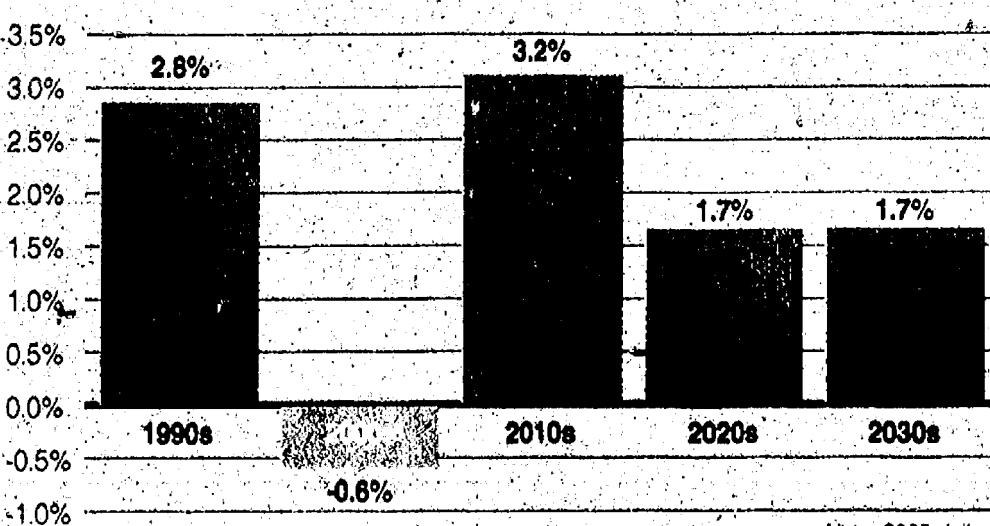
	Wage Range (2010\$)	2009q3	2011q3	Change	Percent Change	U.S.
Total Employment		3,831,733	3,927,633	95,900	2.5%	1.0%
High-wage Industries	>57,000	934,767	973,633	38,866	4.2%	1.0%
Middle-Wage Industries	27,000 to 57,000	1,934,000	1,954,767	20,767	1.1%	0.0%
Low-wage Industries	<27,000	962,967	999,233	36,266	3.8%	3.2%

Source: Research Seminar in Quantitative Economics, UM. Wage and salary employment only

Figure A

Real GDP/Capita Growth is Strong in Near Term

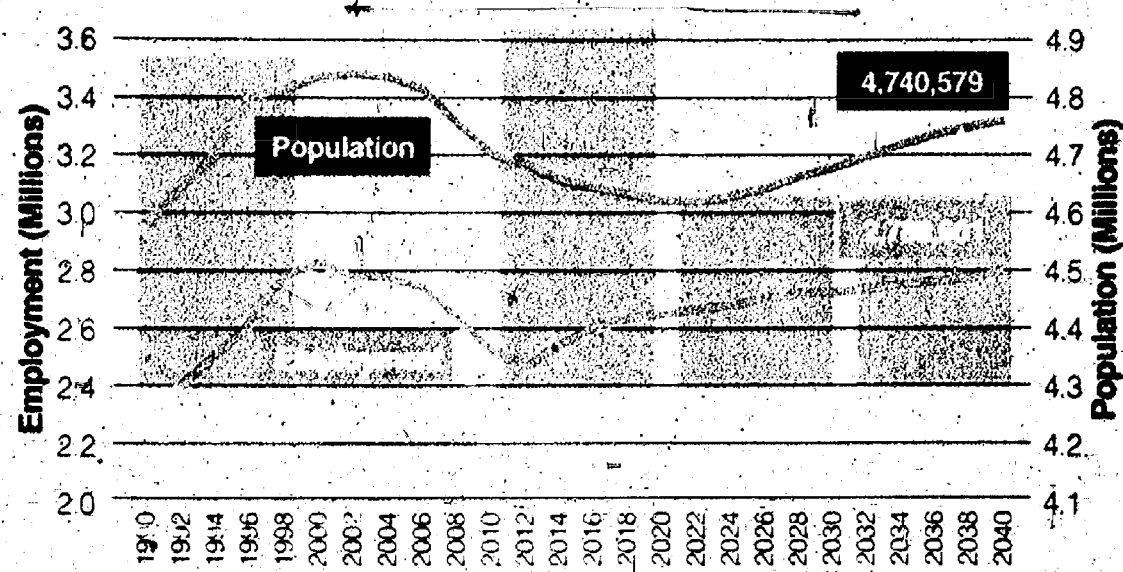
Average Annual Change, Southeast Michigan, 1990-2040



Note: 2005 dollars.

Employment and Population

Southeast Michigan, 1990-2040



Note: SEMCOG 2040 Forecast (Draft)

Figure C

SEMCOG

FROM PAGE 1

Employment and population

Productivity, employment levels and population change all impact gross domestic product per capita.

In the 1990s, the region's employment grew significantly — by 357,000 — almost 15 percent. Unfortunately, we lost most of the gain of the 1990s in the 2000s, minus 351,000, or 12.4 percent. (See Figure C.)

The good news is that we reached the bottom of this long and severe employment decline in 2010, and the region has finally begun to add jobs.

The recovery will take a long time, though. Employment will grow by 300,000 — 12 percent — in the 30 years from 2010 to 2040. By 2040, then, employment should be back to 2000 levels.

Similarly, population follows the same trends as employment, but with a lag time of a few years. Unfortunately, even with the employment growth in this decade, we won't be able to maintain the same population in the region.

Population will continue to decline in the next 10 years. By 2022, it will begin to rebound modestly. By 2040,

southeastern Michigan's population will be slightly higher than 2010 — less than 1 percent — but still about 100,000 fewer than the 2000 population.

Population and employment change

The green bar (See Figure D) represents natural growth — births minus deaths. In the 1990s, southeastern Michigan gained nearly 30,000 people annually, on average, from natural growth. The red bar represents domestic migration. It was minus 22,000, meaning that, even in the booming 1990s, 22,000 more people left the region than came here from the rest of the United States each year.

The negative net domestic migration was mostly offset by a positive international immigration — nearly 18,000 per year — shown by the yellow bar.

Combining these three components of population change results in a gain of 25,000 a year, as indicated in the blue bar.

In the 2000s, natural growth was 21,000 people annually, still a gain, but reduced by nearly a third from the 1990s. Domestic migration was minus 53,000 annually, as evident from the low red bar for 2000-10.

That means that every year of that decade, 53,000 more

people left the region than came here from the rest of the United States. While a similar number of international immigrants came to the region in the decade of the 2000s as in the previous decade, it wasn't enough to offset the domestic losses.

The net result was a loss of 13,000 people from southeastern Michigan each year of the decade. Of course, the main reasons were the economy and the resulting job losses.

Moving to this decade, natural growth continues to shrink, out migration slows (less than the previous decade, but still more than the 1990s) and immigration remains steady. The result is better than the 2000s, but still negative. The region will lose 6,000 people each year.

SEMCOG's future forecast shows natural growth continuing to slow. The out-migration losses are offset by international migration gains, resulting in an increase of 3,000 people each year from 2020-2030.

Finally, the last decade of the forecast, By 2030, it is hard to see the green natural change bar. By that time, natural growth will be negative as more people will die, while fewer babies are born. This is a very significant demographic change. Population growth will be more dependent on migration.

PLEASE SEE MIGRATION/3

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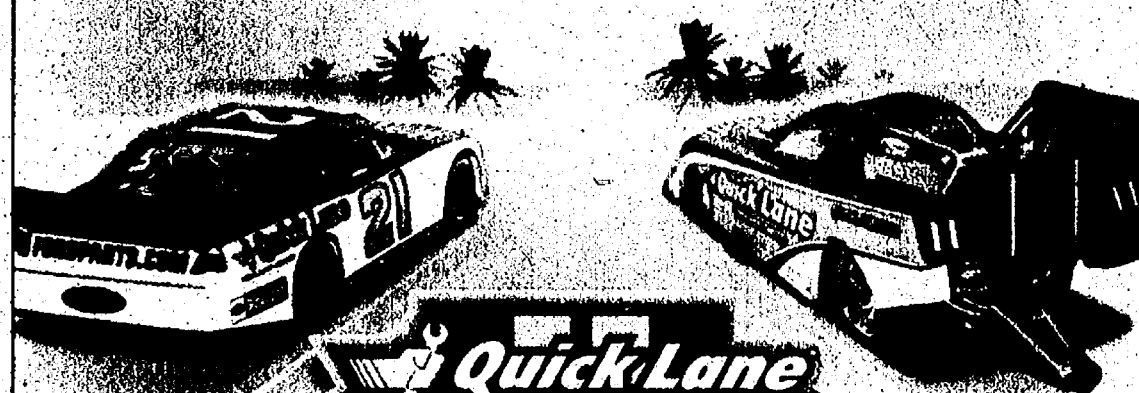
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Components of Population Change

Southeast Michigan

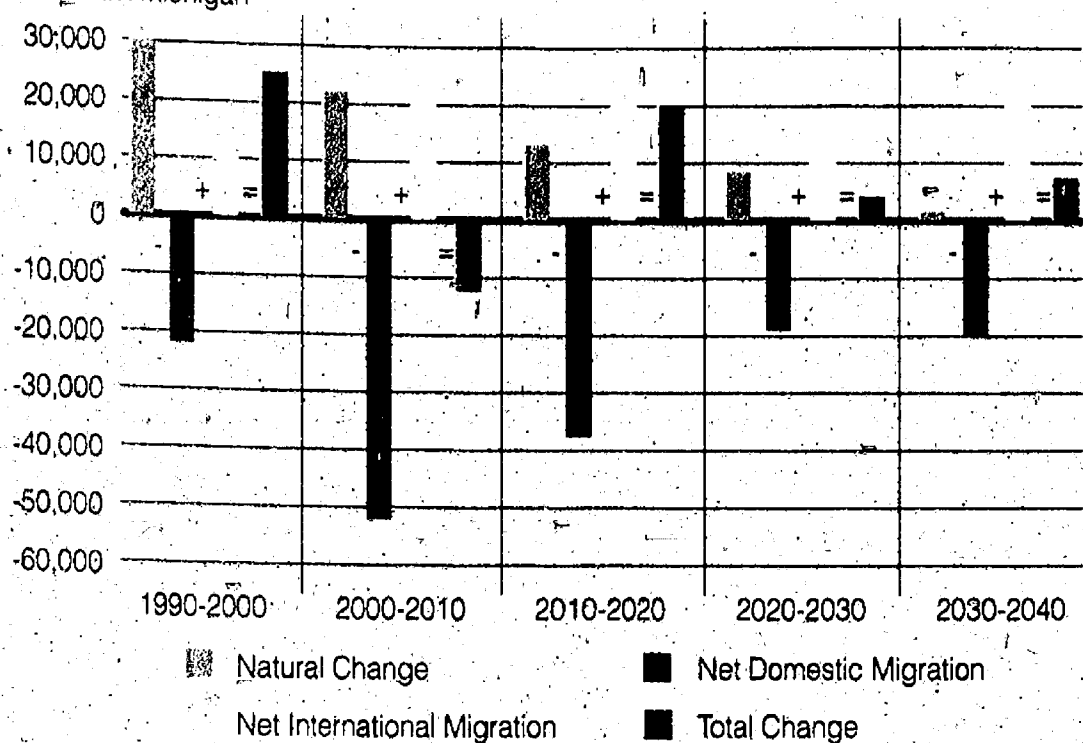


Figure D

MIGRATION

FROM PAGE 2

dent than ever on domestic and international migration trends. While domestic migration will remain negative, international immigration is the hope for growing our region in the future.

Migration patterns

In the accompanying chart (See Figure E), see the percent of Michigan popula-

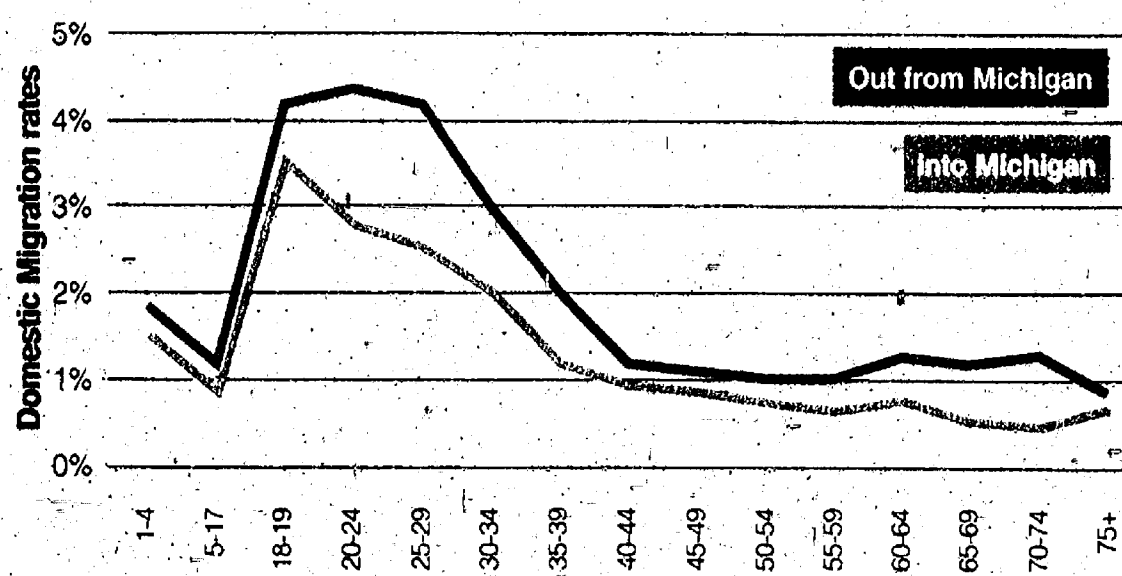
tion in various age groups that left the state in 2010. People between the ages of 18 to 34 are more likely to move away — for education, jobs, etc. Migration rates also are higher for people between the ages of 60 and 74 — mobile retirees. The green line shows a consistently lower rate of people moving into Michigan from other states. Simply, Michigan lost more residents to other states than it gained. (See Figure E.) Comparing Michigan to

the rest of the U.S., the yellow line in the chart represents the U.S. average migration between states for all age groups, compared to the Michigan out-migration rate (red line). What this says is that Michigan's rate of out migration to other states is lower than the national rates for all age groups below age 60.

In fact, Michigan's overall rate of domestic out-migration was actually fifth lowest (or fifth best!) in the nation, surpassed only by

More people moving out than moving in

Michigan, 2009-2010



Note: State Demographer's Analysis of 2010 ACS Data

Figure E

California, Ohio, Texas and Pennsylvania. (See Figure F.)

In-migration rates tell a different story as illustrated in the chart in Figure G. The yellow line is again the U.S. average; the green line is the number of people moving into Michigan. The comparison shows Michigan is significantly below the U.S. average in all age groups. In fact, Michigan has had the worst rate of in-migration from other states since 2005 — surely the result of our decadelong, one-state recession. Combined, the two charts show that Michigan's population losses are primarily caused by low rates

of in-migration from other states rather than high rates of out-migration. (See Figure G.) There is a bright spot on the international immigration front for southeastern Michigan. Even though we don't get as many immigrants as some other places, the ones who do come here are more educated. In 2010, nearly 30 percent of adults in the region had a bachelor's degree or higher. For immigrants, that figure increases to 39 percent. And specifically for people from India, 85 percent of them are college graduates. (See Figure H.)

Education is the key to

being successful in the new knowledge-based economy.

Migration also helps to diversify the region. The chart below shows that the Hispanic population will double in the next 30 years. Almost doubling is the "other" race, much of that group being Asian. The black population will remain relatively stable; and the white population will decrease from 68 percent to 60 percent. (See Figure I.)

Age

Current residents aging

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HOUSEHOLDS

FROM PAGE 3

and fewer young people coming to southeastern Michigan means that the aging of the region is a significant trend. The oldest baby boomers turn 66 in 2012; those born in 1947 turn 65. This means that the pace of the aging population (65 and older) continues to grow now and in the ensuing decades. The chart below shows population changes by five-year age groups. While

population decreases for almost all ages younger than 65 (a loss of 486,000, or 12 percent), the senior population will increase by 522,000 or 85 percent. (See Figure J.)

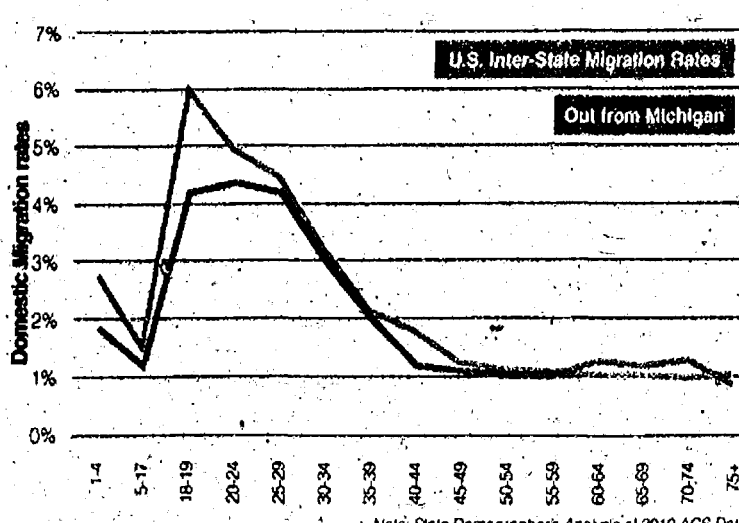
Households

Despite little change in population, households will grow 6 percent from 2010 to 2040. That means there will be fewer people in each household.

Households with children will decline over the next 30 years by about 63,000 (11 percent). Empty-nest

Out-Migration similar to U.S.

2009-2010

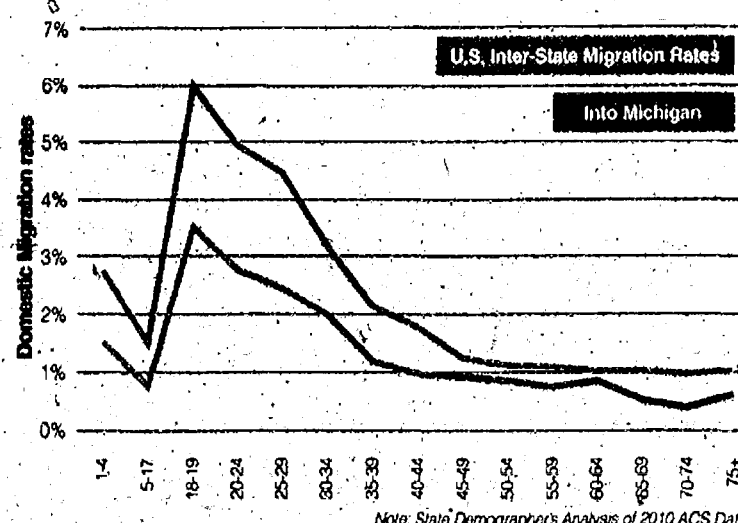


Note: State Demographer's Analysis of 2010 ACS Data

Figure F

Michigan has Less In-Migration

2009-2010

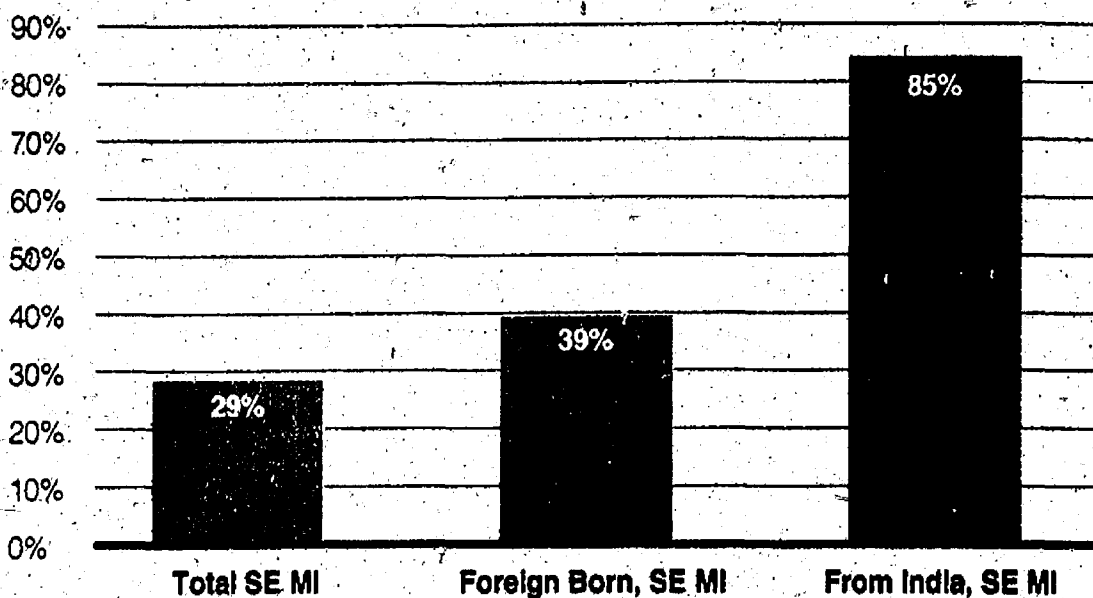


Note: State Demographer's Analysis of 2010 ACS Data

Figure G

Immigration helps New Economy

Percent College Graduates, Age 25+, 2010



Source: 2010 American Community Survey

Figure H

households — those with out children and with a householder younger than 65 — also will decline by about 128,000 (15 percent). The last grouping — households older than age 65 — is the only growing segment, expected to increase by 300,000 (77 percent). More than one-third of all households in southeastern Michigan will be headed by someone older than 65 by 2040. This is illustrated by the Figure K chart.

Over the next 30 years, the region will see nearly 110,200 additional households, from 1,844,757 in 2010 to 1,954,945 in 2040. This modest increase of households is about half of the existing vacant housing units — 215,991 in 2010 — in southeastern Michigan

today. (See Figure K.)

Employment

What kinds of jobs will be available in the future?

Take a look at Figure L. Manufacturing — the green line — began the 1990s as the sector with the most jobs. Note the precipitous drop, beginning in the 2000s, where it lost more than half of its employment in less than 10 years. The auto manufacturing industry is now rebounding with more vehicles produced and more jobs added. In the long run, however, SEMCOG's forecast does not see this sector adding many more jobs. The reason? Increased productivity and globalization.

Jobs will grow modestly in knowledge-based, export-

oriented industries — professional and technical services, information services, finance and insurance, and company management.

The health care sector will add the most jobs — 142,000, or 45 percent, between 2010 and 2040.

There will be fewer retail jobs, the result of increased efficiency and online shopping. Government jobs, that include public administration, as well as public health-care services, education and postal services, will be mostly flat. Little increase is expected.

The chart illustrates how our economy continues to transform. By 2006, there were more health care jobs than jobs in manufacturing,

PLEASE SEE EMPLOYMENT/5

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Population Change by Age

Southeast Michigan, 2010 and 2040

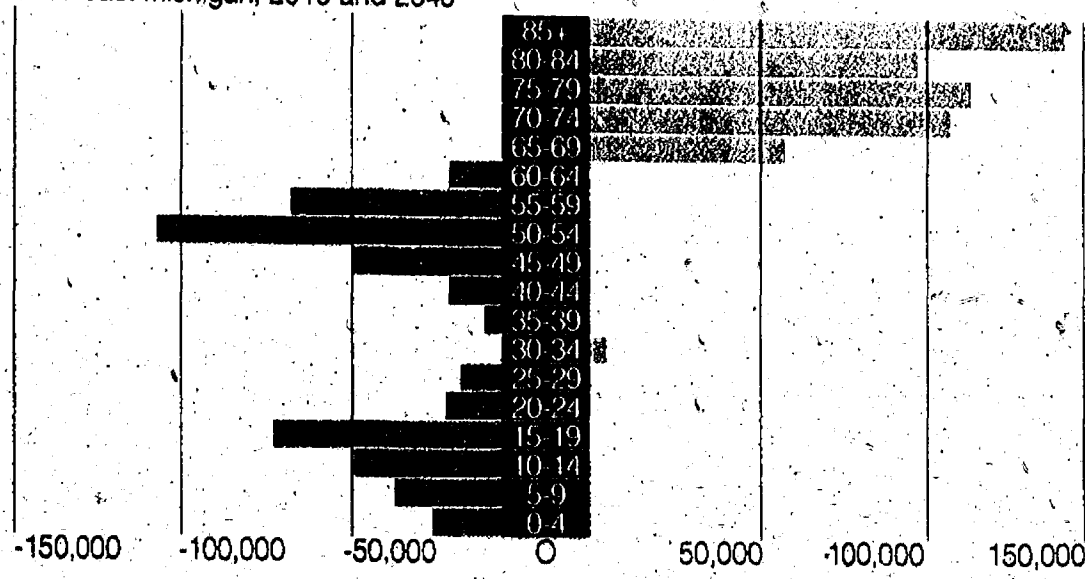


Figure J

Households

Southeast Michigan, 2010-2040

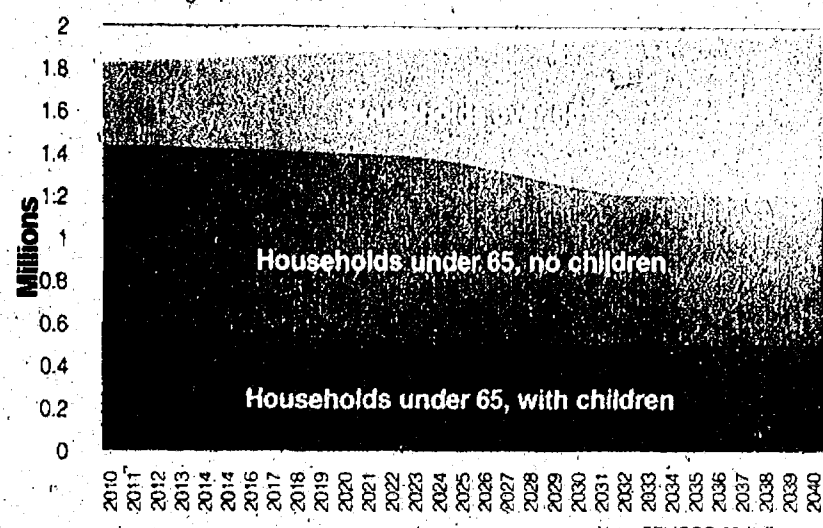


Figure K

EMPLOYMENT

FROM PAGE 4

retail, or government. Now, manufacturing has less than half the jobs that are in the knowledge-based, export-oriented sectors.

SEMCOG acknowledges the importance of a stable auto industry in southeastern Michigan. At the same time, it is also important to continue diversifying and transforming our economy so that we are not so dependent on the auto industry.

Local government challenges

As SEMCOG is the only organization in southeastern Michigan that brings together all of the region's governments to solve regional challenges, I must briefly describe what we are seeing for our member governments.

Local government revenues continue to be a challenge due to declines in taxable value.

This revenue loss seems to be abating as housing prices are slowly rising.

More importantly, a vast majority of our local governments have made the tough decisions on the cost of government to recalibrate government services to revenues. The result is that, increasingly, our member governments have adjusted to the new realities and continue to provide quality services to their residents.

A reality, however, is that the purchasing power of local governments will remain flat even when housing values increase. This is due to caps on increases in Proposal A, which is tied to funding for public education, and the Headlee Amendment, which requires that tax increases be approved by voters. We can't expect increased government services.

While this article has provided you with a lot of

Figure L

We Must Grow Jobs in Knowledge-Based and Export-Oriented Industries

Jobs by Major Sector, SE Michigan, 1991-2040

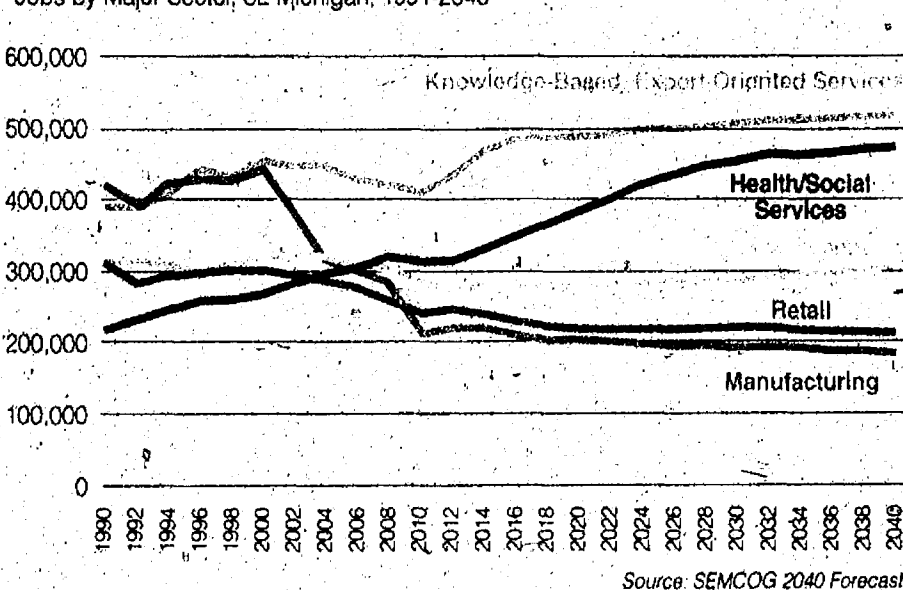
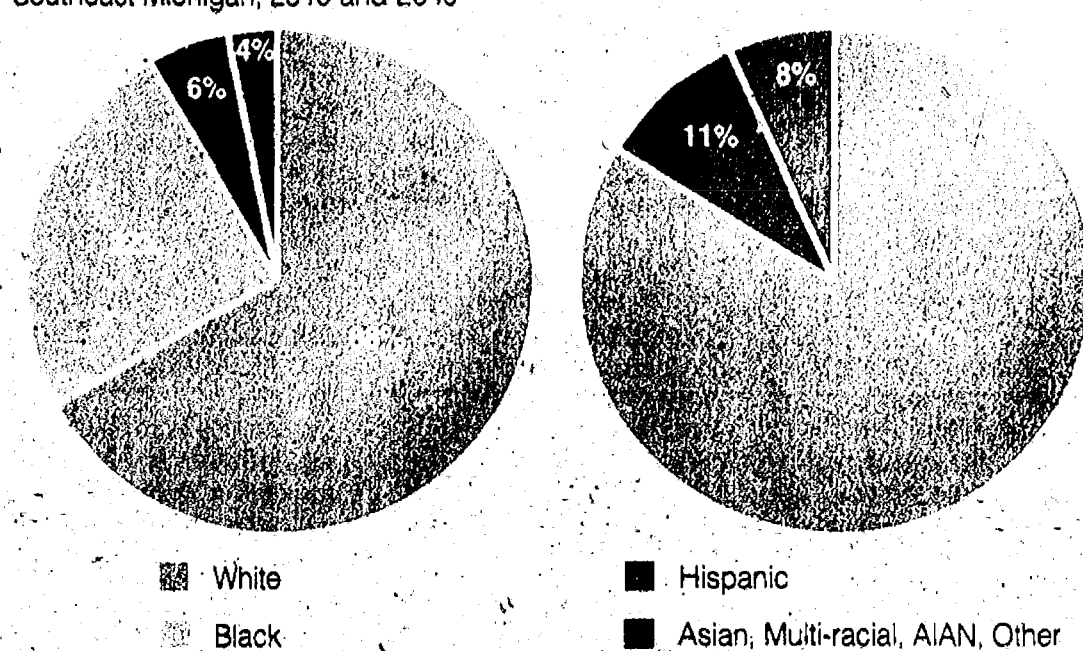


Figure L

Race and Hispanic Origin

Southeast Michigan, 2010 and 2040



information on what to expect in the future, I want to close by talking about the present. At the beginning, I mentioned that my optimism, while fully justified, must be balanced ... balanced by a recognition that we have work to do. An unemployment rate of 9.8 percent is much better than the double-digit unemployment of the past few years.

Yet, too many of our region's people are out of work. We have to continue to expand jobs and to expand them in the export-oriented, knowledge-based sectors. We have to continue to reshape local government, reducing costs through efficiency, collaborating with neighbors and tailoring services provided to those of greatest importance to our constituents.

So, we enter 2012 with "balanced optimism," appreciating the trends that reflect positive movement and working harder to create the successful future we all seek for our region.

Paul Tait has been with SEMCOG for more than 30 years. He has been executive director since 1998.

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Ann Arbor-area housing market expected to keep active

By Donna Ladipaolo
Heritage Media

Slow and steady wins the race, goes one conventional strategy. But "slow" and "steady" also are two words many are using to describe the growth and future of the Ann Arbor-area housing market.

"The real estate market in Washtenaw County continues to show growth and strength," said Nancy Merdzinski, executive officer at Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors. "Year-end dollar volume is up for the third year in a row, which reflects the upward trend in sales prices."

"We expect to see continued slow and steady growth in 2012."

The Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors report released at the end of January collected data on houses sold in the Chelsea, Manchester, Dexter, Whitmore Lake, Saline, Lincoln, Milan, Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor school districts.

Other Realtors agree with the assessment.

"Sales have been strong, even over the holiday and January," said Marc Rubin, of Keller Williams Realty. "I believe it has turned into supply and demand. The demand is higher than the supply. This will cause prices to go up."

Additionally, Merdzinski

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confirmed that the average housing prices in the area have steadily increased.

"The average sale price of a residential home is \$194,338 (for 2011), an increase of 5 percent over last year," Merdzinski said.

The average sale price for 2010 in the Ann Arbor area was \$184,217, according to the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors report.

"This is the third year in a row that prices have increased over the previous year," Merdzinski said.

She attributes sales pushing upward, in part, to the federal tax credits for homes purchased in 2008, 2009, and 2010.

"The number of sales (in the Washtenaw County area) has been solid," Merdzinski said. "The federal tax credits helped bump sales up in 2010, and they remained at that level in 2011 without the artificial stimulus of the tax credit."

That point was echoed by Linda Lombardini, co-owner of Trillium Real Estate and 2012 president of Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors.

"It is also important to note that these market improvements we are seeing locally, occurring (in 2011), without

any added incentives like the First Time Home Buyers Federal Tax Credit that gave our market quite a lift in 2010," Lombardini said. "This trending upward is happening organically."

In fact, Ann Arbor recently was named one of the top 10 "turn-around" towns in a report compiled by the National Association of Realtors.

Lawrence Yun, chief economist for the National Association of Realtors, said the course of home sales nationally is turning upward.

"The pattern of home sales in recent months demonstrates a market in recovery," Yun said. "Record low interest rates, job growth and bargain home prices are giving more consumers the confidence they need to enter the market."

Merdzinski said Ann Arbor recently was named one of the 10 best cities for finding a job.

"Our unemployment rates continue to be one of the lowest in the state, second only to Mackinaw County in the Upper Peninsula," she said.

The founder of one of the area's largest Realtors, Edward Surovell, also is upbeat about the Ann Arbor-area housing market.

"It is a pleasure to be able to say the year 2011 was not a bad year," Surovell said.

"Though it started out in the doldrums, it picked up steam as the year progressed. Broadly speaking, it performed pretty well. We have, in Washtenaw County, modest price increases, the first in many years, and we certainly have an increase in activity."

"I think there is far more optimism about the economy and the housing market than there had been in the past," he said.

"Frankly, I think many people are tired of the recession. But, certainly, every year that we distance ourselves from 2006, there is a more positive view of what is happening and what our future holds in store. And slowly but surely, Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County began to re-establish a more conventional point of view of home ownership and its benefits."

"The job market here in Washtenaw is strong. Interest rates are at historic lows. There are not enough houses on the market. Generally speaking, it's a very optimistic view, and the market is beginning to respond to it."

Surovell has been a part of the Ann Arbor community since he arrived as a graduate student in history at the University of Michigan in the late 1960s, after receiving his undergraduate degree from Columbia University and spending several years



The founder of one of the area's largest real estate groups, Edward Surovell, is upbeat about the Ann Arbor-area housing market.

at Harcourt, Brace and Princeton University Press.

He founded Edward Surovell Realtors on Liberty Street in 1982 after spending a decade in sales and management for other companies.

Surovell said the Ann Arbor-area housing market differs in many ways from the national market.

"Real estate, like politics, is local," he said. "Ann Arbor is one of the bright spots nationally for real estate. Kiplinger's has identified us as one of three top markets in terms of increasing prices in the country, which suggests that the Ann Arbor-area is performing better than the rest of Michigan."

"And there is probably some truth to that," he said. "Ann Arbor is a unique market, and when I say 'Ann Arbor,' I mean the greater Ann Arbor area, and that is much of everything within a 20- or 30-mile radius; certainly going north, west and south."

Surovell said that while the University of Michigan is a dominant attraction to the area, it's not alone.

The magnet of the area is "not simply the University of Michigan," he said.

"Eastern Michigan University, Concordia, three hospitals (University of Michigan, St. Joseph Mercy

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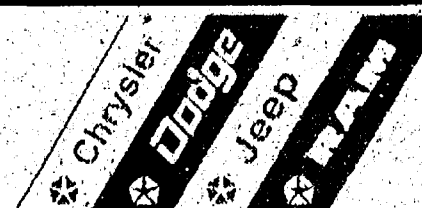
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HOUSING

FROM PAGE 6

and Veterans Affairs), numerous high-tech research facilities, some of the more stable aspects of the automotive industry (all are important to the Ann Arbor area)," he said.

"Generally speaking, the employment environment in Washtenaw County is wonderful, and particularly its stability, that it is not completely market driven. Further, the presence of so many stable jobs has a wonderful effect on Ann Arbor."

Surovell said older neighborhoods in Ann Arbor remain attractive.

"In Ann Arbor, newer isn't necessarily better," he said. "Historically, proximity to the University (of Michigan) matters enormously. By the way, that is not just true for this university, but for many universities. The university communities like to walk to work."

"And because the University of Michigan has been in the same place since 1837, our entire city has been laid out emphasizing the ability to be able to walk to your job, or to walk to school, and this has a wonderful effect on housing stability."

He said that for more

than a "century, there has been consistent reinvestment in good housing stock, a stable population, good school system, and well-designed communities, making for good neighborhoods."

And, many of the old neighborhoods, in addition to being close to campus, are valued because of their unique housing plans, architecture and historical appeal, he said.

"These are late-19th to mid-20th century homes, Surovell said. "They were built of good materials on big lots in styles that have remained fashionable from the day they were built. There is some history to that."

"The Old West Side went through a decline after World War II with the newer suburban-style development attracting families from the older neighborhoods."

"An energetic community organization founded in the 1960s focused on some needs to stabilize the older areas and preserve areas being threatened by redevelopment. The Old West Side became one of the first historic districts in Michigan and in the nation."

Older neighborhoods also tend to be different than newer homes in price value, as well.

"Actually, the Old West

Side, Burns Park and Ann Arbor Hills sell for more square footage prices than the Polo Fields," said Rubin. "However, (Polo Fields) offers new homes and (Scio) township taxes."

New houses in "The Gallery" of Polo Fields in Scio Township also is in the last phase of development. There are 279 total residential lots in the Polo Fields. A sign leading into the Polo Field "Gallery" lists starting prices at \$400,000.

"I think people are drawn to the Polo Fields neighborhood because of the quality construction of the homes, the pristine grounds of the Polo Fields Golf and Country Club and the community environment that a neighborhood can offer," said Jada Kavanagh, Polo Fields Homeowners' Association manager.

"Each resident agrees to live under a set of covenants that ensures that all homeowners will keep their property looking attractive."

"Scio Township government continues to keep its taxes low, which adds to the attractive value of the Polo Fields."

But not every community outside of Ann Arbor is enjoying a rebound.

"Markets are driven in part by the availabil-

ity of mortgage money and to the availability of jobs," Surovell said. "And although the job situation is quite bright in Washtenaw County, it's not the same in many nearby

areas.

"There are still areas of deep unemployment, of municipalities in serious financial condition, where they are still working through the consequences

of the national economic disaster of the last five or six years. In short, though, we are much better off here in Ann Arbor than in any other place in the state."

Program strives to attract, employ immigrants with advanced degrees

By Alan Burdzyak
The News-Herald

Michigan Global, announced last year, is a program run by the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and the state Department of Civil Rights to attract and keep immigrants with advanced degrees.

These immigrants, many who come to universities here to get their degrees, are valuable in that many are entrepreneurs who could start high-tech companies in Michigan, creating jobs for state residents.

"Michigan can have a competitive advantage if we can attract and maintain this group of highly skilled individuals," said Amy Cell, senior vice president of talent enhancement with the MEDC.

The idea came from the state hearing from several Michigan businesses that wanted to expand but cited a lack of talent as an obstacle,

Cell said.

Michigan Global falls in line with first-term Gov. Rick Snyder's continuing drive to make Michigan a business-friendly state. Since being elected in 2010, Snyder has eliminated the Michigan Business Tax, some business regulations and targeted the Personal Property Tax, as well.

Eleven subcommittees were formed to analyze everything from entrepreneurship to retaining college students who have come here from abroad, Cell said.

So far, the program has sought to change state laws to allow immigrants to stay longer after finishing their degrees.

"We don't want them to leave the country after they get the education we've invested in them," Cell said.

The University Research Corridor — the University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State

University — plays a vital role, Cell said.

People come from around the world to study at these research universities, and keeping those students here would have an economic benefit for the state, she said.

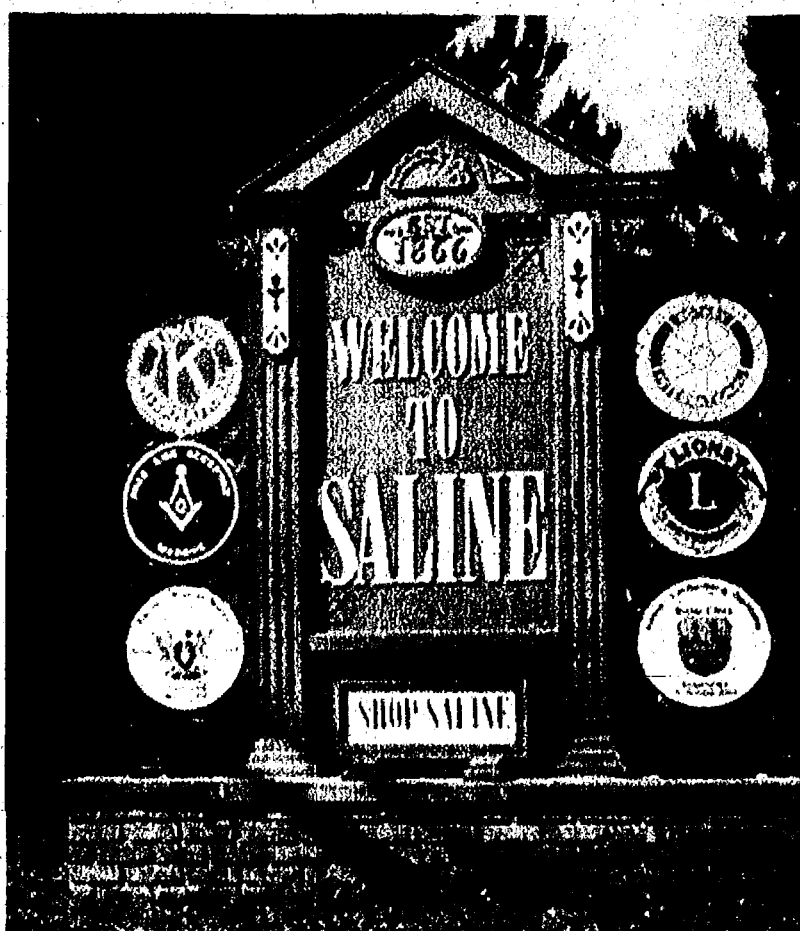
So far, results and jobs created are hard to quantify, but the MEDC does expect to see several businesses expand and new ones created in the next few years.

"I think we're on the right path," Cell said. "We have seen some small successes but we have broader ambitions for this program."

Currently, Michigan Global is using volunteers for many of its efforts and is looking for more.

Anyone interested can contact Cell at amy@michigan.org.

Contact Staff Writer Alan Burdzyak at 1-734-246-0882 or aburdzyak@heritage.com. Follow him on Facebook or Twitter @AlanBurdzyak.



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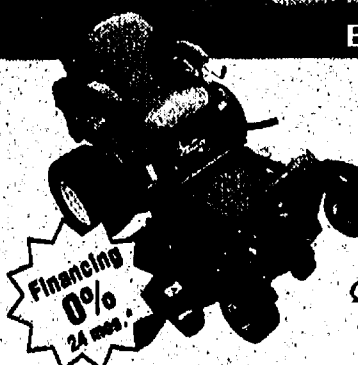
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Schools change their business curriculum with the times

By Katie Hetrick
Heritage Media

From adding new programs to emphasizing ethics, three regional business school programs said they have changed programs in recent years to adjust to the new business climate.

Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College, and the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor also all say they are working to encourage entrepreneurship.

"That's the economic engine for Michigan's growth and survival in the coming years," said Rosemary Wilson, dean of WCC's business and computer programs.

U of M is creating a new master's degree in entrepreneurship. A joint effort between the business and engineering schools, the program is intended to help the technically minded understand how to turn their creations into businesses, said Valerie Suslow, associate dean of graduate programs from U of M's Ross School of Business.

"The trend is to recognize we have to cross disciplines," Suslow said.

The program is ideal for engineers who want to commercialize an idea. The program will help them understand marketing, raising capital and other concerns. And if entrepreneur students end up working for another company, they can be intrapreneurs, experts at helping businesses recognize and seize opportunities, said David Mielke, EMU's dean of the college of business.

Eastern Michigan hosts a regional entrepreneurship

conference each year for high school and college students. More than 200 people attend the February event.

"The whole idea is to help change the environment," Mielke said.

The conference is meant to help teach students to recognize and successfully pursue business opportunities for themselves or their employers.

"Frankly we need it in Michigan," Mielke said.

Part of the conference is a business plan competition, complete with three cash prizes one each for a high school, community college and university student. Students also are required to develop "elevator pitches," two- to three-minute spiels about their proposals that they could give while riding on the elevator with a potential investor.

Washtenaw Community College is working to revamp and revive its entrepreneurship program, Wilson said.

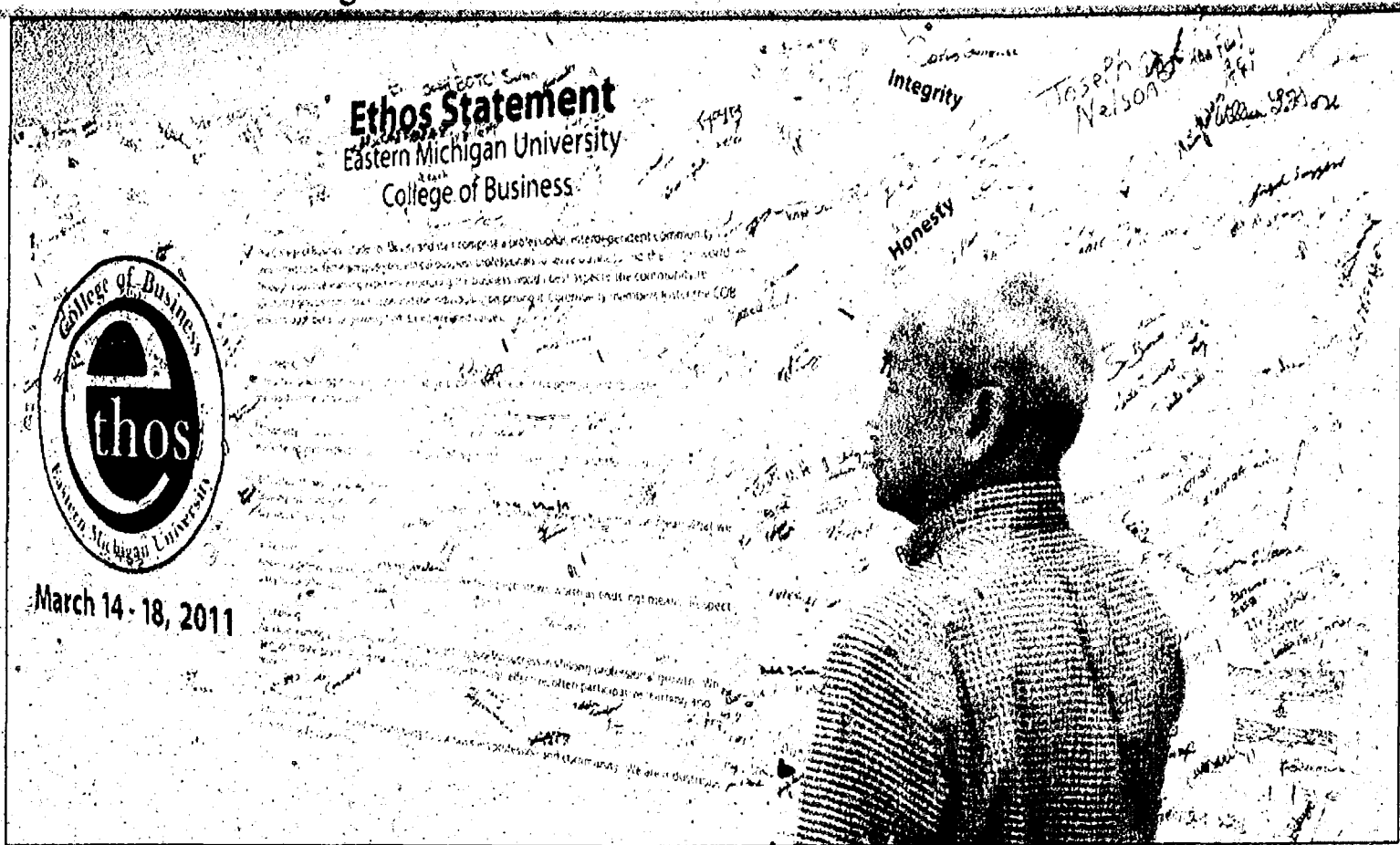
Entrepreneurship consists of recognizing good business ideas and understanding how to make those ideas succeed.

"They can go wrong very easily," she added.

Ethics emphasized at EMU

Local business schools also are changing their programs for students who do not plan to be their own boss.

About six years ago, EMU's business college started talking more about professional ethics. The business school, ranked one of the best in the country, wanted to transform ethics from just a one-semester course into an ingrained part of the culture.



A man walks in front of Eastern Michigan University College of Business' Ethos statement from 2011. About six years ago, the college began emphasizing ethics as a culture, instead of just a class. The movement has grown to include an annual weeklong event with various speakers and a banner with the ethics statement to be signed by students and staff.

First, the college created an ethos statement.

"That statement is attached to every syllabus in every course in the college," Mielke said.

The ethos symbol also is emblazoned above the doors to the College of Business building, and each year the college holds an Ethos Week with speakers on different topics.

The business program has undergone other changes as well, to adjust to the new business needs, Mielke said.

"We have initiated a number of new programs, to address whether students are prepared for the business world," he said.

Overall enrollment in business programs has held steady in recent years, but the college has seen more interest in its search marketing program.

"We are the only business school in the country that has a partnership with Google," Mielke said.

Part one of the three-course program teaches students how to set search words to ensure a business pops up

for any relevant Web search.

A second course shows how to review and use results of hits from the search, and a third class offers a practicum. Google gives not-for-profits up to \$30,000 to spend and students help them design a marketing plan.

"We've helped over 80 not-for-profits through our program," Mielke said.

Despite the economic slump, there is a huge demand for search marketing experts and very few programs to train them, he said.

EMU also offers an online graduate program in integrated marketing communications. Students learn how to develop a company's "brand" working across advertising, public relations, sales and product and package design to convey one set image of a company and its products.

"It's a very compressed and very intense program," Mielke said.

Semesters are condensed into 7.5 weeks. The program is fairly successful because comprehensive brand marketing is a relatively new

field.

The college also offers graduate and undergraduate programs in informatics.

This is a combination of information and logistics, for example how a hospital system, doctors and insurers can share patient information. That field also is in high demand, Mielke said.

He referred to a report in a business magazine a few months earlier saying Beaumont Hospital needed to hire a dozen of informatics experts, but could not find qualified candidates.

Similarly, EMU three years ago started a supply-chain management program.

Those students understand the logistics of buying, manufacturing and delivering products both in existing services and to locate new ones.

"We've got some pretty neat programs," Mielke said.

Washtenaw Community College also has created new business programs.

"Over a five-year period, we've had about a 25 percent growth in our business program," said Dean Rosemary Wilson.

Enrollment declined in the last year or two, possibly because of less federal funding and because education funds from automotive worker buyouts are drying up, she said.

Some WCC business students are on track to transfer to places like Eastern Michigan.

"We have a variety of shorter term programs that often appeal to someone who wants to be job ready quickly," she said.

For example, WCC offers a human resources certificate that may attract people who have worked or currently work in HR but want certification to be more marketable or improve job security.

WCC also has created a new retail program that Wilson is trying to promote.

"People think of retailing as low pay and not much advancement opportunity," she said.

However, that is not the case with all companies and all positions.

The community college also is working to soon start

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U.S. and state House districts changing next year

By David Veselenak
Heritage Media

Planning on writing your representative in Washington, D.C., or Lansing over the next year? You might want to double check the names and addresses after the November elections.

With redistricting — the process by which representation in Congress and the state Legislature is aligned by the party in power to better fit the population distribution — many area residents might see different names on their ballots this November.

The process, which happens every 10 years, was controlled exclusively by the Republican Party this time around because both the Michigan House of Representatives and the Senate, as well as the governor's office, fall under majority Republican leadership.

Typically, a party in power is able to draw districts that historically will strengthen a political hold on an area.

The practice is called "gerrymandering" when it implies drawing strange shapes on a map that benefits one party over another.

Leigh Greden, executive director of government relations at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, said state Democrats have been up in arms over the redrawn districts, claiming they dilute districts.

"No matter how the lines are redrawn, someone always complains," he said. "This year, Democrats, particularly in Detroit, argued that the new lines were gerrymandered to reduce Democratic influence."

While some challenges against the planned districts have played out, one expert was surprised at the way some House districts were drawn.



"The biggest surprise was that the Republicans, who controlled the redistricting process, seemed to acknowledge that they probably can't retain the 60-plus seats they currently hold in the House," Greden said. "They redrew the state House districts to shore up their base in several swing Republican districts, but did so at the expense of other seats currently held by Republicans."

Much of Washtenaw County will see districts similar to the current ones across the U.S. and state House of Representatives, as well as the state Senate.

One of the biggest differences is that Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville's district, primarily in Monroe County, no longer cuts also into Washtenaw and Jackson counties, but instead heads toward Lenawee County.

All of western Washtenaw, which includes Chelsea, Dexter and Manchester, will be represented in the state Senate by the same senator who represents all of Livingston County to the north.

Jeff Wallace, Manchester's village manager, said the change of representation in the Senate can be both beneficial and a drawback.

"We had access to two different senators and we could share notes and get a feel on it," he said. "(Now), we're all going to be on the same page with the same person. We might get a little different perspective on it, and that's good, too."

Eastern Washtenaw County, including Saline, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and part of Milan, will be in the 18th Senate District.

"Much of Downriver and

western Wayne County will reside in one of two districts: The townships of Van Buren, Sumpter, Huron and the northern and southern parts of Brownstown Township will be joined with Belleville, Romulus, Taylor, Westland, Flat Rock and Rockwood in the 6th District. The central portion of Brownstown Township, along with Gibraltar, Woodhaven, Grosse Ile Township, Trenton, Riverview, Wyandotte, Ecorse, River Rouge and part of Detroit will sit in the 1st District. Southgate, Allen Park, Lincoln Park and part of Detroit will make up the 4th District.

The only Downriver community separated from others is Melvindale, which is included in the 3rd District with Dearborn and part of southwestern Detroit.

Dearborn Heights sits in the 5th District, along with Garden City, Inkster, Redford Township and the northwestern part of Detroit.

In the state House of Representatives, western Wayne County, which includes Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter townships, will become slightly more fragmented in the state House. Sumpter Township, Flat Rock and Rockwood will join with a northern Monroe County district, the 17th.

Belleville and part of Van Buren Township merges with Canton Township in the 21st District. The northeast portion of Van Buren Township will be represented with Romulus and Taylor in the 12th District.

Huron and Brownstown Township, along with Woodhaven, Grosse Ile, Gibraltar and Trenton will make up the 23rd District.

Southgate, Allen Park and part of Dearborn Heights will consist of the 13th District. Wyandotte, Lincoln

Park, Riverview and Melvindale will make up the 14th District, while Ecorse, River Rouge and part of Detroit will make up the 6th District.

With the loss of population, Michigan will lose a seat in Congress next year, dropping the number of U.S. representatives to 14.

With the new representation, most of Downriver, western Wayne and eastern Washtenaw counties will

have the same representation in the 12th District.

The only Downriver communities not in this district are Melvindale, Romulus, Ecorse and River Rouge, which are in the new 13th District, along with part of Detroit, Wayne and Westland.

Western Washtenaw County will continue to be in a more central Michigan district, along with Monroe, Lenawee, Hillsdale, Jackson

and Eaton counties.

With current lines, Oakland County Democrat Gary Peters is challenging freshman U.S. Rep. Hansen Clarke, a Detroit Democrat, to represent Michigan's 14th District, which has an S-shaped configuration stretching from Detroit to Pontiac.

Greden said the lost representative from Michigan most will likely come from that district.

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SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 8

a supply chain management program. WCC also hosts a Small Business Technology Development Center, Wilson said.

The program helps businesses and provides real-life experience for students. For example, human resource students might agree to write an employee manual for a small firm. Students also created an assessment and business plan for a local farmers market, Wilson said.

"We do quite a bit of that trying to get students real

experience," she said.

U of M-Ann Arbor is expanding its graduate programs for business students. The school increased the number of MBA students from 420 to 500 in 2009 and still sees more applicants than it can admit.

"Our enrollment has been strong," said Valerie Suslow, associate dean of graduate programs for the Ross School of Business at U of M.

However, the college has seen a decline in the number of students pursuing an MBA part time.

"The Michigan economy has struggled," Suslow said. Fewer businesses are willing to pay for an employee to go back to school part time,

and many workers are carrying heavier workloads that would not give them time to study.

Similarly, the school has had less interest in its MBA program for working executives near Ann Arbor. As a result, U of M will launch a branch of the program in Los Angeles later this year.

However, the weekend MBA program is popular. Students can complete an MBA in two years taking classes on Friday evenings and Saturdays every other weekend.

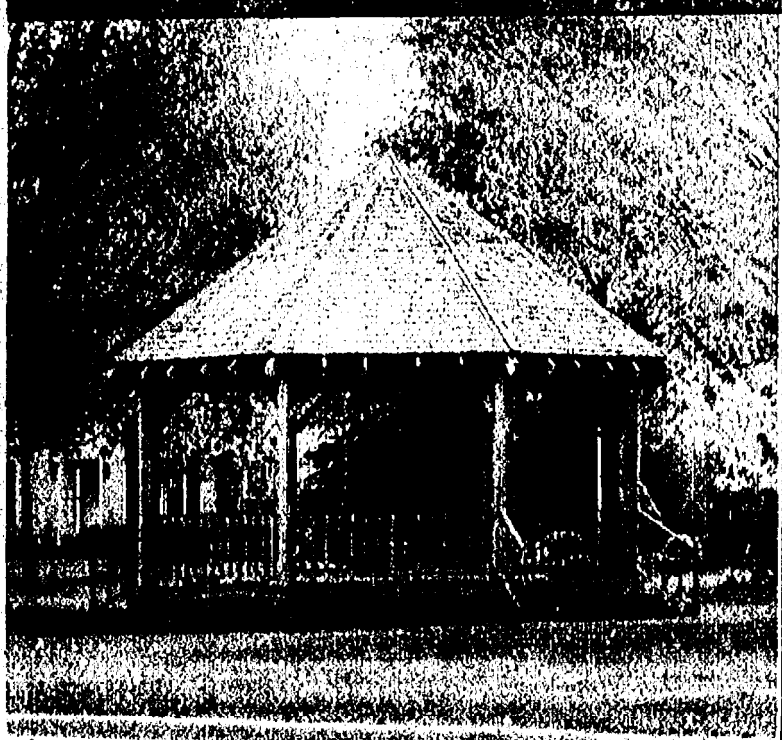
"We've been amazed, but it's wonderful that people are willing to fly in for the weekend program," Suslow said.

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A Healthy Body starts with a Healthy Smile!

Consolidation of community dispatch services is growing

By Ben Baird
Heritage Media

Many communities are examining different ways they can consolidate services to reduce costs, and one area some have been able to share is emergency dispatching service.

Downriver Central Dispatch is an example in the Downriver area. Established about a year and a half ago, the service now covers the dispatch needs of four cities.

Huron Valley Ambulance has been dispatching for Washtenaw County fire departments for more than 20 years, but recently it has gone up to covering all except three county departments.

Ann Arbor is set to begin contracting dispatch services in March from the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office.

Brandon Fournier, Southgate city administrator, said Downriver Central Dispatch has been working out very well.

"We have nothing but positive things to say about it," Fournier said. "It's been great for us."

Todd Drysdale, Wyandotte city administrator, said Downriver Central Dispatch started in July 2010. He said that, originally, Lincoln Park, Southgate and Wyandotte were the communities involved. On Dec. 1, 2011, Allen Park joined.

The dispatch center is in the Wyandotte police station, 2015 Biddle Ave.

"As expected, it's a new concept for Downriver communities," Drysdale said. "I believe all the members who have joined are very happy with the service."

The possibility exists for additional communities to join, too, he said. He said multiple communities have contacted Downriver Central Dispatch to see what it has to offer and there have been continuing discussions with Riverview.

However, he said, there is currently no action pending on another community joining in.

"We've always envisioned that it would be open to expansion," Drysdale said.

The system continues to be improved, Fournier said. "Every day is an opportunity to get it to run even better," he said.

Southgate Mayor Joseph Kuspa said his first impression of the shared dispatch

center in Wyandotte was how state of the art its technology was. An example is a redundancy system that corrects disruptions in service, he said.

"I continue to be impressed with the technology," he said.

There are provisions in the agreement between the member communities to share costs for changes and improvements as needed, Kuspa said.

The idea behind the shared dispatch is that it not only allows communities to reduce costs, Drysdale said, but it also can improve the level of service.

Downriver Central Dispatch works 24 hours a day, seven days a week and it is staffed by certified, professional dispatchers, he said.

"Our stance is it's a specialized profession," Drysdale said.

Dispatchers go through constant education to maintain their certifications, he said.

Public safety is the biggest concern for public officials, Kuspa said. He said going into this the concern was if service levels would be maintained and be reliable.

"It's got to make sense from a public safety standpoint first," Kuspa said.

He is confident the service is fulfilling its role, he said.

The service is a benefit to Southgate, Fournier said. He said that before joining it the city had its own professional dispatch service Mondays through Fridays, but on weekends and holidays a police officer would be responsible for dispatching. It's good to now have professional service on weekends and holidays, too, he said.

Dispatchers have certain skills police officers don't have, he said. He said they are trained to talk callers through a crisis, calm them, and provide instruction on certain medical procedures such as CPR in certain emergencies.

It saves Southgate up to \$40,000 annually, Fournier said.

Southgate joined with Wyandotte in the shared dispatch at a time of unprecedented budget shortfall for the city, he said.

"It made a lot of sense because it added to our city," Kuspa said.

It's part of an approach he likes to think of as reinventing local government and the way services are provided to residents, he said.



Photo by Alan Burdziak

In December, the mayors of the four cities that receive dispatch services through Downriver Central Dispatch toured the facility. They are Wyandotte Mayor Joseph Peterson (left), Southgate Mayor Joseph Kuspa, Allen Park Mayor William Matakas and Lincoln Park Mayor Patricia Diaz Krause.

In 2006, Drysdale said, seven Downriver communities began talking about shared dispatching as a concept. The seven included the four that joined it and Ecorse, Melvindale and River Rouge.

The concept became more possible to implement after the SunGard OSSI software was released because it allowed a shared protocol to be established, he said.

When revenue became more of an issue Lincoln Park, Southgate and Wyandotte started Downriver Central Dispatch, he said. He said it was located in Wyandotte because the city recently constructed a new police facility and the idea of a shared dispatch facility was part of its planning. Convenience and necessity also played a role in the decision, he said.

Dispatchers don't require a physical presence in the other communities they serve, including Southgate, to provide service, Kuspa said.

A shared dispatch service also offers other advantages, Drysdale said, including quicker response times. He said the service also takes advantage of a Downriver Mutual Aid agreement.

In the Washtenaw County area, 12 of the area's 15 fire departments are dispatched by Huron Valley

Ambulance, Chelsea, Milan and Pittsfield Township dispatch their own firefighters.

Joyce Williams, HVA public affairs manager, said the ambulance service began offering a central dispatch location on Dec. 15, 1981. Scio Township and Dexter were the first communities to get this service through HVA, she said.

By 1991, the number of area departments to do so had risen to eight, she said.

Jane Giffen, HVA communications manager, said that within the past three years Ann Arbor, Saline and Ypsilanti started getting their fire departments dispatched through them, as well. Ann Arbor accounts for the most calls of any of the departments, she said.

Many of the departments used to be dispatched by the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office, she said. She said it made more sense for Huron Valley Ambulance to handle the calls because it is more used to dealing with medical situations.

An ambulance is always sent on fire calls as a precaution, Giffen said. She said through mutual aid and box alarm systems, dispatchers are able to send what resources a situation requires.

"The whole county is

just very cooperative," she said. "Our fire departments around here are absolutely fantastic."

The HVA dispatch center has moved twice since its original location on South Industrial in Ann Arbor. It is now at 1200 State Circle in Ann Arbor, she said, where many of the ambulances are based.

"We've always had great relationships with our fire departments," Williams said.

The Ann Arbor City Council approved a five-year contract in December 2011 with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office for the office to provide dispatch services to the city beginning in March.

Mayor John Hieftje said the contract will allow the city to save about \$500,000 annually compared to what it currently spends on dispatch services.

The Ann Arbor Police Department projected a deficit of about \$1 million, he said. He said combined with a police contract approved in the fall, the city will retain 10 officers it wouldn't have been able to maintain otherwise.

Steve Powers, Ann Arbor city administrator, said the agreement was the police department's response to the need to reduce its bud-

get because of declining revenue.

Police Chief Barnett Jones said that, besides the cost savings, the consolidation makes sense from an operational standpoint.

Consolidated dispatch services can help address common dispatch challenges such as determining the appropriate response jurisdiction based on a caller's description of their whereabouts, Jones said.

The mayor believes there won't be any drop off of service to residents, he said.

Ann Arbor's original dispatch service operated at a very high level, Powers said. He said the merger contract was built in such a way to ensure the same quality of service continues.

Under the contract, the city pays the county a flat fee of nearly \$760,000 annually to dispatch all of its police calls.

Consolidation of services like dispatch between communities is a nationwide trend, Hieftje said. He said Ann Arbor is not alone in combining services.

"Ann Arbor is a leader in collaboration throughout the state," he said.

Staff Writer Ben Baird can be reached at 734-429-7380 or bbaird@heritage.com. Follow him on Twitter @BenBaird1.

What's Next? Q&A with Andrew Linko

As part of Heritage Media's "What's Next?" series for 2012, we asked community leaders questions about what is on the horizon both locally and statewide as Michigan emerges from a long economic recession.

The following questions were asked of Brownstown Township Supervisor Andrew Linko.

1. What should government expect from business and education?

"Government should not expect anything from the business or educational community, but we should all be partners to work together to complement each other. Recently, we had a business-to-business expo to have our businesses and educational facilities share each other's needs and, hopefully, foster new alliances, relationships, and mostly to let everyone in the community know what is around them. Many of our businesses' needs can be met from within our own Downriver area, and if it is discovered a certain need is not met, it may spark innovation for new businesses, expansion of current businesses, or an expansion of educational programs. We also have the first major investment of a 'Big 3' auto company, and one of the first domestic investments in battery production. However, the company and this industry still have a need of battery engineers so we are reaching out to the higher educational community to

possibly start a program in the Downriver area for this need.

2. Should education train for vocations or continue with the expectation that everyone can or should go to college? Should business drive the education model? Should business play even more of a role in K-12 — such as allowing non-certified people to teach classes and trades, especially to speed-up the vocational education process?

We need both. Personally, I am a journeyman electrician, skilled trade, employed full time at Ford Motor Co., and also have four college degrees. Even with my full-time employer, both are needed to become an asset to my employer.

Many of the building trades are experiencing a shortage of high school graduates wanting to pursue a career that is rewarding, and can provide a family a good living, because of the perception that a college career will lead to a six-figure job. Whether it be a vocational or college education, the student will get out what they put in to the learning and application of that learning.

K-12 education is very important for both vocational and college education paths. In this global economy, we are competitive with many nations who speak multiple languages, and value a diversified cur-

riculum with an emphasis on math and science. If we are to compete successfully, we need to ensure our K-12 programs give our children (our future leaders) the foundation to be able to compete globally.

3. Business has been forced to go through downsizing, mergers and even government bailouts. What should the state, the county, municipalities and school districts be doing to stay solvent? Should union contracts all be on the table for discussion?

We continually look to reduce our short-term and long-term costs as our revenue declines because of declining property values. We successfully balanced our budget with a surplus, were able to have our bond rating improve and not reduce services to our residents.

We required each department to reduce 20 percent of their departmental budget costs and they complied. Then, we worked together to renegotiate many vendor contracts and how we do business with vendors. This process is ongoing, and every department and employee participates.

We also faced what every public and private entity faces, double-digit health insurance costs. We met with our unions and initiated a plan with a high deductible paid by the township with health savings

accounts. This enabled a big reduction in premiums. Most importantly, the employees now own their HSAs and see firsthand what health care truly costs.

We don't believe mandates from the state such as a 20 percent reduction on health care costs are appropriate, they only leave adversarial relationships. We believed

we could accomplish savings with collective bargaining and give the unions the ability and freedom to come to the table and decide their contracts based on our financials. They have and we proved it works.

We have been staying solvent and working with school districts and other municipalities for years

and it is nothing new for us. Many are doing it because they have to recoup lost revenue sharing, but we have been working with other entities only because it makes financial sense. We worked on park projects with school districts, sewer and water projects with other districts, fire and safety protection with mutual aid, etc.

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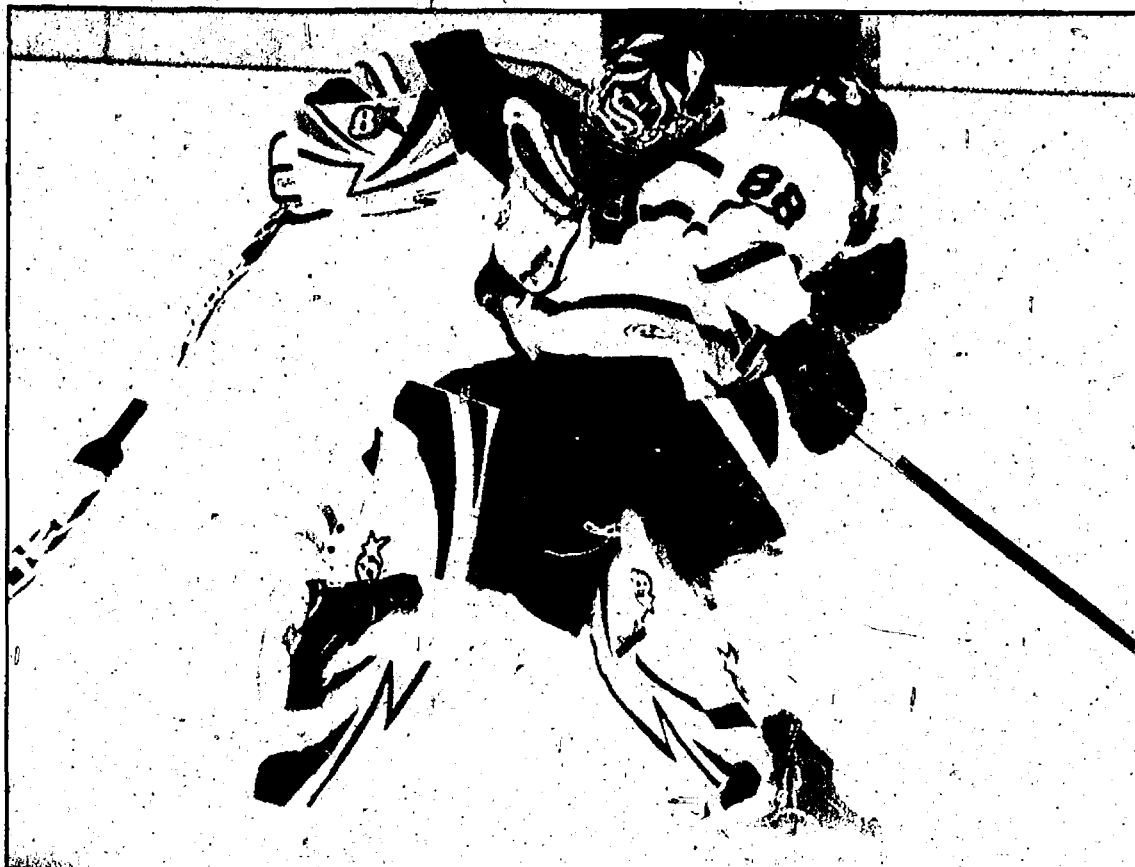


Photo by Burrill Strong

Chelsea's Kyle Whipple drills Saline goalie Neil Flavin during the SEC showdown last week in Chelsea. Whipple received 17 minutes worth of penalties for the hit.



Bulldogs knock out Hornets to claim SEC

By Terry Jacoby
Heritage Media

This is how it's supposed to end. The two best teams in the conference meeting head to head for all the marbles.

Chelsea and Saline entered Wednesday's showdown at the Arctic Coliseum in Chelsea in first place in their divisions - Chelsea in the White and Saline in the Red.

This time, White was right. Or should it be White was Wright?

Chelsea coach Don Wright and the Bulldogs skated off with an impressive 5-2 win to finish 10-0 in the conference. It's the first

State playoffs

The Bulldogs face the winner of Tuesday's Dexter-Lumen Christi game at 6 p.m. tonight at the Arctic Coliseum. The winner will play in a regional final at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday in Chelsea. Log onto to www.heritage.com for updates.

time in Chelsea hockey history that they have run the table in the SEC.

The Bulldogs, who have won five straight SEC titles, are playing extremely well heading

into the postseason. In fact, it's already been a record year for Chelsea hockey.

Their 18-4-2 record is the program's best ever heading into the playoffs. Three of their four losses were by one goal.

Chelsea struck first at 2:53 of the first period on an unassisted goal by Joe Hewitt. But Saline's Colin Cederna answered for the Hornets with a goal at 4:01 of the first period.

Connor Carey put Chelsea back on top at 12:10 of the first with assists from Tyler Fullerton and Austin Sullens.

Tyler Gross tied the game at 2-

2 just 57 seconds into the second period.

But the Bulldogs would score three straight to win the game.

At 11:49 of the second, Sullens (from Cody Fojtik) gave Chelsea a 3-2 lead. At 8:56 of the third, Brad Hepler (from Taylor Atchley) scored and at 14:41 of the third, Kyle Whipple (from Nicholas Rosol) made it 5-2 and finished off the scoring.

Chelsea outshot Saline 34-21. Chris Boyd was in the net for the Bulldogs.

On Saturday, Chelsea visited Yost Arena in Ann Arbor for a game with Skyline. It wasn't

much of a game as the Bulldogs won 9-1 in a game called after two periods because of the mercy rule.

"We've been in a few of these games this year and it's allowed us to show off our depth," Wright said. "Our goals were coming from all four lines. The scoring was spread out and we are really deep at forward."

Hepler and freshman Alex Dobberstein both scored two goals for the Bulldogs. Sullens, Atchley, Hewitt, Anthony Catalina and Brody Layher scored solo goals for Chelsea.



Photo by Terry Jacoby

Megan Hall has been one of the Bulldogs' leaders all season.

Hall & Fame

Chelsea senior hopes to lead Bulldogs into school record books

By Terry Jacoby
Heritage Media

When the Bulldogs were going through the paces a few weeks ago during a practice, the pace was pretty intense and the focus was razor sharp. Chelsea senior Megan Hall was on the floor helping lead the team through plays.

They went over each play carefully, making sure the execution was perfect. And up until Friday night when the Bulldogs lost their second game of the season to Ann Arbor Huron, the season was going perfect.

"That's pretty much how it is all the time," Hall says of Chelsea's practice routine. "Our coach always says you play how you practice."

And Megan Hall can play and practice with the best players in the area.

"Megan is a hard-worker type of player," Chelsea coach Todd Blomquist said.

"She is the competitor. She hates to lose. She spends a lot of time in the weight room and a lot of time in the gym. She has worked so hard and developed into a very good basketball player."

The tools for greatness are there and coupled with her work ethic have made Hall one of the best players in the area.

"She has the physical ability," Blomquist says. "And along with how much she works really has turned her into an excellent basketball player."

Hall, the daughter of Val Kennings and Curt Hall, has played varsity basketball for

Bulldogs advance

The Chelsea girls' basketball team defeated Onsted Monday night in a District basketball opening-round game of the Adrian District.

The Bulldogs led 11-4 after the first quarter and 24-17 at halftime against the host team. With 4 minutes to play in the game, they led 44-35 and won 55-42.

They played Wednesday against Adrian in a semifinal game. The Bulldogs have beaten the Maples twice this season.

The finals are on Friday night at Adrian.

Chelsea defeated Onsted by two points on Feb. 14 in a much closer game.

"We didn't want to tip our hand so we didn't play our full-court game," Chelsea coach Todd Blomquist said. "Tonight we did and it helped us control the game."

Senior Mackenzie Cole led Chelsea with 21 points while senior Megan Hall had 12 points.

three years. But she thinks this season can be something special.

"We have a really good team and we all really like each other and get along," she said. "We don't have all that much drama."

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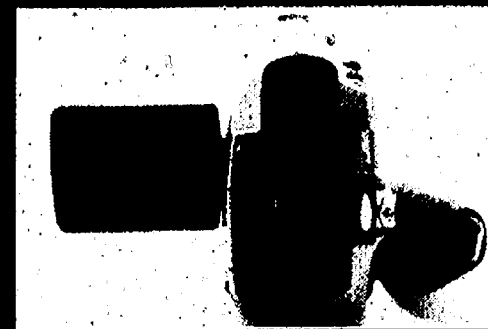
*Excludes diesel & synthetics • *Make/Model restrictions may apply • Offer expires December 31st 2012

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Your home for hometown sports every day is right here on YOUR hometown Web site. Our staff has a lineup of events we will be covering over the next few months to bring you not only scores and details on your local hometown teams, but to bring them to you right after the whistle blows.

SPORTS EXTRA



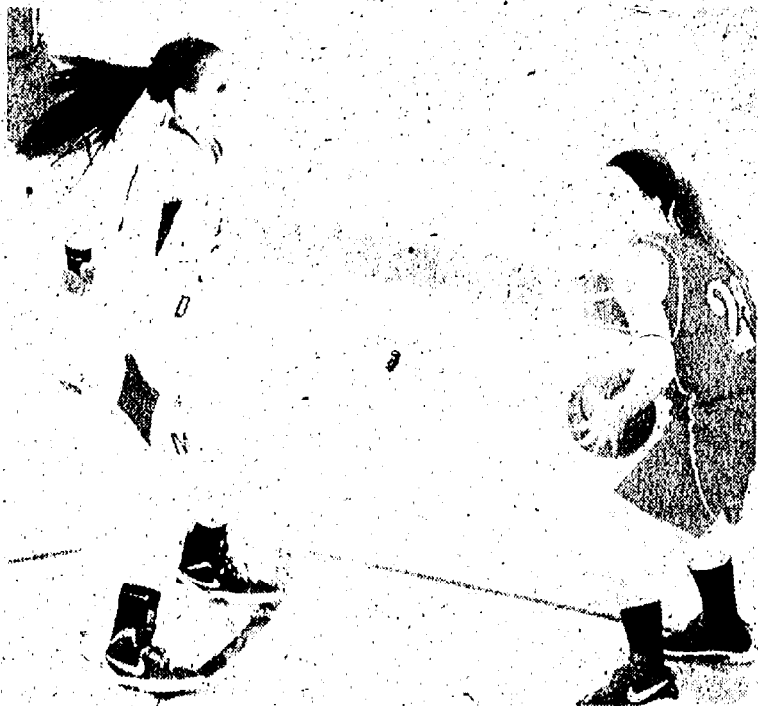
See video at www.heritage.com

Athletes of the Week



Logan Brown, Chelsea

Chelsea's Logan Brown drained a game winning three-point shot with one second left to lift the Bulldogs to a 44-43 win over Adrian on Thursday. Brown finished the game with six points.



McKenna Erkfriz, Manchester

Manchester's McKenna Erkfriz (left) scored 11 points and added nine rebounds in Manchester's 61-43 win over Grass Lake on Thursday. Erkfriz helped lead the Flying Dutch to the program's first Cascade Conference championship in school history.



Mike Mioduszewski, Dexter

Dexter's Mike Mioduszewski scored a game-high 17 points in Friday's contest with Lincoln. The Dreads rallied in the fourth quarter and earned a 61-58 win over the Railsplitters.



Britten Clark, Saline

Britten Clark led the Hornets with 14 points in their district opener victory over Milan on Monday. Clark has been a top player for the Hornets all season and she stepped up big for them in the first game of the postseason, setting the tone with her aggressive finishes at the basket.

Girls basketball: district schedule

Monday Feb. 27

District 13 (Saline High School)
A—Monroe vs. Ypsilanti, 6 p.m.
B—Milan vs. Saline, 8 p.m.

District 15 (Romulus High School)
B—Belleville vs. Romulus, 7 p.m.

District 17 (Ann Arbor Skyline High School)
A—Ann Arbor Pioneer vs. Ann Arbor Huron, 5:30 p.m.
B—Ann Arbor Skyline vs. Brighton, 7:30 p.m.

District 37 (Adrian High School)
A—Onsted vs. Chelsea, 7 p.m.
B—Dundee vs. Ida, 7 p.m.
C—Tecumseh vs. Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard

District 70 (Willow Run High School)
A—Whitmore Lake vs. Ann Arbor Green Hills, 6 p.m.
B—Clinton vs. Manchester, 8 p.m.

Wednesday Feb 29

District 13 (Saline High School)
Game A winner vs. Bedford, 6 p.m.
Game B winner vs. Ypsilanti Lincoln, 8 p.m.

District 15 (Romulus High School)
Game B winner vs. Inkster, 7 p.m.

District 17 (Ann Arbor Skyline High School)
Game A winner vs. Dexter, 5:30 p.m.
Game B winner vs. Pinckney, 7:30 p.m.

District 37 (Adrian High School)
Game B winner vs. Game C winner, 5:30 p.m.
Game A winner vs. Adrian, 7 p.m.

District 70 (Willow Run High School)
Game A winner vs. Napoleon, 6 p.m.
Game B winner vs. Willow Run, 8 p.m.

Friday March 2

District 13 Championship, 7 p.m.
District 15 Championship, 6 p.m.
District 17 Championship, 7 p.m.
District 37 Championship, 7 p.m.
District 70 Championship, 7 p.m.

Swimming Bulldogs take 2nd at SEC

The 2012 SEC White Championship was hosted at Charles S. Cameron Pool over the weekend and Dexter won easily with Chelsea showing improvement and depth to take second overall.

Dexter won with the score of 498 points. Chelsea was second with 290 while Tecumseh took third (202).

The young Chelsea club found that they are still one year away from truly challenging for the SEC championship. After a 9-1 season, Chelsea's confidence was high coming into this past weekend's championships and rightly so.

Chelsea only had one senior competing in this year's championships while Dexter graduates 13.

Those 13 however have Dexter in position to win a Division II state championship.

"Seniors are the key to success and with 13 is a special number," said Chelsea coach Dave Jolly. "We had a team mainly made up of underclassmen and they learned a lot over this past weekend."

Chelsea started the championships on Saturday with huge swims turned in by the 200-yard medley relays. Chelsea's B relay finished eighth. Robby Everard, Tom Olsen, Max Lonnemo and Jacob Hartman finished with a season best of 1:49.21.

"Each of these guys had a great weekend with Tom Olsen having special performances in all four of his swims," Jolly said.

The "A" relay had a huge time drop as well in the finals swimming a season best of 1:45.18. Sam Almhiemid, David Alday, Logan Simpson, and Johnny Mangner cranked it up a notch and swam solid earning 4th place.

What was special for the Bulldogs was seeing Alday swimming breaststroke for the first time all season after a back injury had sidelined him from his strongest event.

"It gave our team a tremendous lift to have Dave swimming breaststroke," Jolly smiled.

Austin Horn scored in the 200 freestyle for the Bulldogs taking 12th place with a 2:02.25 clocking. Ben Thoms, swimming in his first SEC Championship, took 10th place at 1:57.91.

"Ben is one of our super freshmen who is on pace to be a great one for us in the near future," Jolly said.

Alday was also a top scorer in the event earning a spot in the championship heat of the finals. Alday swam a strong 1:52.48 to take 5th place overall and gives him a great seed time for the state championships in one week.

Another strong event for the Bulldogs was the 200yd IM. Freshman Max Lonnemo had a great weekend scoring individually in his first of two events. Lonnemo stopped the clock at 2:21.70 to take 11th overall. Logan Simpson and Nick Deppner also scored in the event swimming in the championship heat.

Simpson earned 6th place honors with a 2:13.87 clocking and Deppner was 5th overall at 2:13.74. Both swimmers will represent the Bulldogs in the event at this year's state championships.

Boys basketball: district schedule

Monday March 5

District 13 (Milan High School)
A—Saline vs. Ypsilanti Lincoln, 6 p.m.
B—Monroe vs. Bedford, 8 p.m.

District 15 (Wayne Memorial High School)
A—Inkster vs. Taylor Truman, 5:30 p.m.
B—Belleville vs. John Glenn, 7:30 p.m.

District 17 (Ann Arbor Pioneer High School)
A—Dexter vs. Brighton, 5:30 p.m.
B—Ann Arbor Huron vs. Ann Arbor Skyline, 7:30 p.m.

District 37 (Tecumseh High School)
A—Tecumseh vs. Dundee, 7 p.m.*
B—Chelsea vs. Ida, 7 p.m.*
C—Adrian vs. Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard, 7 p.m.*

District 70 (Clinton High School)
A—Clinton vs. Ypsilanti Willow Run, 5:30 p.m.
B—Whitmore Lake vs. Manchester, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday March 7

District 13 (Milan High School)
Game A winner vs. Ypsilanti, 6 p.m.
Game B winner vs. Milan, 8 p.m.

District 15 (Wayne Memorial High School)
Game A winner vs. Wayne Memorial, 5:30 p.m.
Game B winner vs. Romulus, 7:30 p.m.

District 17 (Ann Arbor Pioneer High School)
Game A winner vs. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 5:30 p.m.
Game B Winner vs. Pinckney, 7:30

District 37 (Tecumseh High School)
Game A Winner vs. Onsted, 7 p.m.
Game B winner vs. Game C winner, 5:30 p.m.

District 70 (Clinton High School)
Game A winner vs. Greenhills, 5:30
Game B winner vs. Napoleon, 7:30

Friday March 9

District 13 Championship, 7 p.m.
District 15 Championship, 7 p.m.
District 17 Championship, 7:30 p.m.
District 37 Championship, 7 p.m.
District 70 Championship, 7 p.m.

Chelsea plays Yost

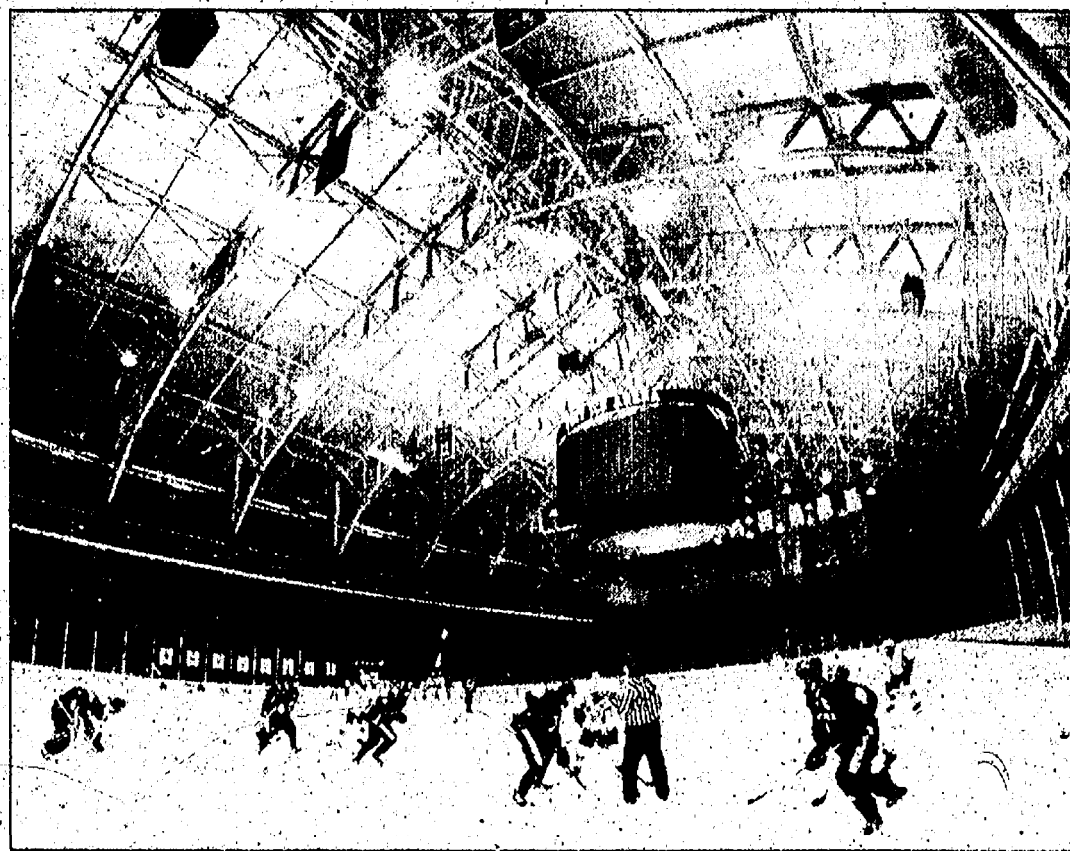


Photo by Burrill Strong / Skyline hosted Chelsea on Saturday at Yost.

PLEASE SEE SWIM/5-D

Logan Brown's buzzer-beater lifts Bulldogs past Adrian

By Terry Jacoby
Heritage Media

Chelsea can take that win to the bank. Logan Brown's three-point bank shot from the wing one tick before the buzzer sounded gave Chelsea a dramatic 44-43 victory Thursday night over visiting Adrian. Brown, a steady shooter from beyond the three-point line, caught the ball, pump faked his defender out of position and let it

fly. The box score says it was good. The fact that it banked in is meaningless, especially for a Chelsea team needing a victory after a rough stretch. "I told the team after the game that the ball really hasn't bounced our way much this season and (Thursday) it finally did," Chelsea coach Robin Raymond said. The Bulldogs seemed to be in good shape with 9.8 seconds left after a back

and forth second half. Chelsea led 41-40 and the Maples had the ball under their own basket. But the Bulldogs had two fouls to give and if they played it right could leave the visitors without much time to get off a shot. But the Bulldogs got caught on a pick and Adrian's Sebastian Johnson ended up open in the corner. Johnson nailed the three-pointer to give the Maples a 43-41 lead with just 4.6 seconds left in the game.

Raymond called a time out and the Bulldogs perfectly executed the play. Senior Jack McDougall drove to the basket and kicked it out to Brown, who calmly drilled the game winner.

The Bulldogs played a strong first quarter, taking a 17-5 lead.

"They came out in a man-to-man and we pushed the ball up the floor, and unlike on Tuesday against Lincoln, we buried the open shots," Raymond said.

"They also moved the ball around. Six players scored in the first quarter for the home club.

The Maples got back in the game in the second quarter, using the dribble-drive to get some easy baskets. Adrian also made six three-pointers in the game.

Chelsea still led 29-24 at halftime.

Michael Steinhauer led the Bulldogs' balanced attack with 12 points. McDougall scored nine, Jake Fischhaber seven, Brown six and Dominic Davis and Todd Hollandsworth each scored four.

Lincoln wins again

Former New York Yankee catcher Yogi Berra may have been lurking near the gym of Chelsea

High School on Tuesday night, because it was déjà vu all over again. After trailing for the first time with just 3:33 remaining, Lincoln used late-game heroics and some clutch free throw shooting to defeat SEC White opponent Chelsea 64-62.

It was the second time this year the Railsplitters and Bulldogs had a down-to-the-wire battle. In the previous meeting on Jan. 27, host Lincoln held on for a 68-65 win over Chelsea.

Chelsea's Jake Fischhaber hit a game-tying layup with 17 seconds left, but Railsplitter guard Ajay Stovall was fouled going to the basket with just 3.2 left in the game. Stovall - who previously missed two pivotal free throws with 30 seconds left - connected on his charity throws.

Stovall led all scorers with 16 points. Brendan Griffith added 14 for the Railsplitters.

Three players finished in double figures for Chelsea. Fischhaber led the way with 14, Michael Steinhauer added 12 and Jack McDougall had 10.

Chelsea struggled to contain the Railsplitter attack early in the first. Not only did Lincoln lead 15-8 by quarter's end, but the home team had almost as many fouls - six - as it did points.

By the second quarter, however, the Bulldog offense had arrived.

Lincoln opened up the quarter with a 3-pointer and a layup, giving the team its largest lead 20-8. But Chelsea started slowly chipping away at the Railsplitter lead, which got as big as 13 at one point.

The rally started at the midway point with Lincoln in front 27-16. McDougall



Photo by Burrill Strong

Dominic Davis looks for an open man in Tuesday's loss.

drained a 3, and after back-to-back Lincoln buckets, Fischhaber and Zach Rabbitt hit back-to-back field goals of their own.

By the half, Chelsea weathered the storm and trailed just 33-30.

While both teams played a slower paced, set-up offense in the first half, an up-tempo style was the story of quarter No. 3.

Advantage Lincoln.

The Railsplitters put together an impressive 21-point third frame, which allowed the Railsplitters to open a 51-42 by the start of the fourth quarter.

The Bulldogs started the quarter on a 9-2 run that culminated on a put-back by Hadley to make

the score 53-51. Moments later, Michael Steinhauer's inside shot gave the Bulldogs their first even score since 0-0.

He was fouled on the shot, and his free throw gave the team its first lead of the game. That led head until Dalauren Roberson nailed a 3 that put the score at 62-60 with 1:37 left.

Chelsea had a chance to take the lead, but Dominic Davis missed a shot. Then, on the other end, Stovall missed his two free throws with a half-minute left.

Fischhaber kept his team alive with the game-tying jumper, but the foul on Stovall moments later proved to break the Railsplitters.

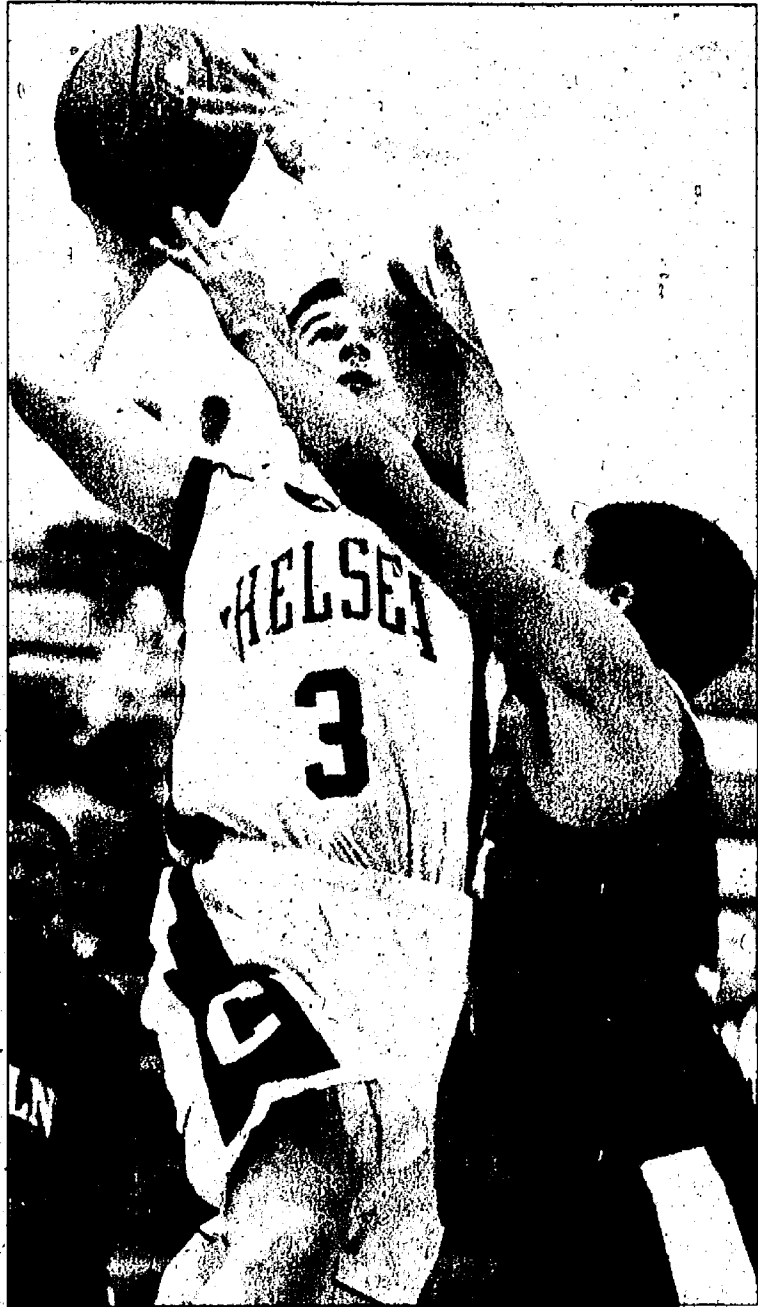


Photo by Burrill Strong

Cody Barber drives to the basket in Thursday's contest with Lincoln.

AccuWeather.com

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
43° to 49°	26° to 32°	51° to 57° 30° to 36°	40° to 46° 20° to 26°	37° to 43° 18° to 24°	35° to 41° 19° to 25°	44° to 50° 30° to 36°	49° to 55° 30° to 36°

ALMANAC

Statistics for the week ending Monday, Feb. 27.

Temperatures:	
High/low for the week	42°/18°
Normal high/low	37°/19°
Average temperature	32.4°
Normal average temperature	28.1°
Precipitation:	
Total for the week	0.35"
Total for the month	0.75"
Total for the year	3.09"
Normal for the month	1.68"
Normal for the year	3.17"

PAST WEEK'S TEMPS

Temperatures							
	41	40	41	35	32	38	42
	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
	24	31	27	30	27	18	26
Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	

THIS WEEK'S CONDITIONS

Weekly UV Index and RealFeel Temperature

3	2	2	2	3	4	4
38	50	31	30	34	38	49
Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low; 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme.						
The patented AccuWeather.com RealFeel Temperature is an exclusive index of effective temperature based on eight weather factors. Shown are the highs for the day.						

RIVER LEVELS

As of 7 a.m. Monday	Flood stage	Current stage
Ecorse Creek		2.47 ft
Dearborn Heights		2.87 ft
Huron River		16 ft
Ann Arbor		13.27 ft
Malletts Creek		3.44 ft
Ann Arbor		3.44 ft
Mill Creek		12 ft
Dexter		7.11 ft
River Raisin		3.87 ft
Manchester		3.87 ft

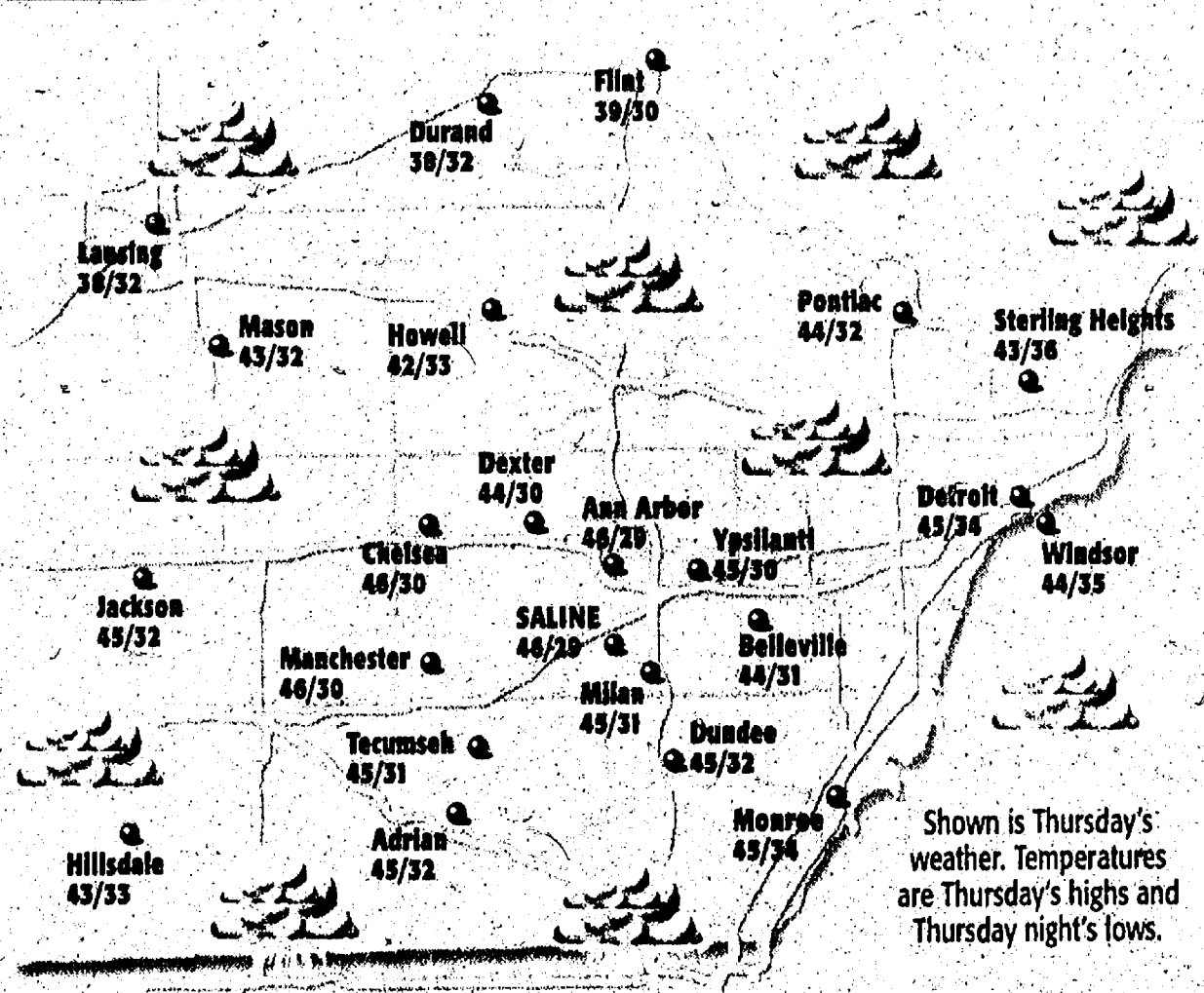
LAKE LEVELS

Lake	Normal	Current
Lake Erie	580.11 ft	572.31 ft
Lake St. Clair	575 ft	573.93 ft

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR WASHTENAW COUNTY

Thursday	Thu. night	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
43° to 49°	26° to 32°	51° to 57° 30° to 36°	40° to 46° 20° to 26°	37° to 43° 18° to 24°	35° to 41° 19° to 25°	44° to 50° 30° to 36°	49° to 55° 30° to 36°

THE REGION



REGIONAL CITIES

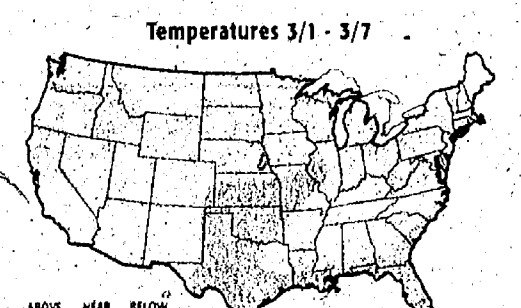
City	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	City	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Adrian	55/36/c	45/32/c	56/34/r	44/26/c	Manistee	44/32/r	35/27/c	64/29/sn	36/23/sn
Ann Arbor	52/32/r	46/29/c	54/33/r	43/23/c	Midland	45/33/i	42/29/c	47/29/c	38/23/sn
Battle Creek	52/32/r	45/33/c	54/31/r	41/25/c	Muskegon	44/34/r	37/31/c	46/30/r	39/25/sf
Bay City	44/33/i	42/29/c	48/29/r	40/24/sn	Port Huron	48/33/r	44/32/c	51/33/r	43/24/c
Detroit	50/36/r	45/34/c	54/36/r	44/26/c	Saginaw	47/30/i	42/29/c	48/29/r	38/24/sn
Flint	48/33/i	39/30/c	53/31/r	40/23/sf	Sault Ste. Marie	32/22/sn	33/24/c	36/25/c	34/16/sn
Grand Rapids	48/33/r	39/32/c	50/31/r	39/25/sf	Sturgis	56/33/c	45/34/c	55/31/r	39/27/sf
Kalamazoo	52/33/r	46/33/c	54/31/r	39/25/sf	Traverse City	42/30/i	39/28/c	43/29/sn	37/23/sn
Lansing	48/32/r	38/32/c	51/31/r	38/23/sf	Warren	48/37/r	43/36/c	54/37/r	42/28/c
Livonia	52/36/r	45/35/c	54/36/r	43/27/c					

SUN AND MOON

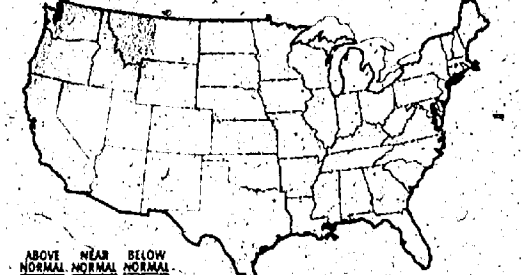
The Sun	Rise	Set	The Moon	Rise	Set
Thursday	7:10 a.m.	6:25 p.m.	Thursday	11:40 a.m.	2:13 a.m.
Friday	7:08 a.m.	6:27 p.m.	Friday	12:34 p.m.	3:03 a.m.
Saturday	7:07 a.m.	6:28 p.m.	Saturday	1:34 p.m.	3:48 a.m.
Sunday	7:05 a.m.	6:29 p.m.	Sunday	2:38 p.m.	4:29 a.m.
Monday	7:03 a.m.	6:30 p.m.	Monday	3:46 p.m.	5:05 a.m.
Tuesday	7:02 a.m.	6:31 p.m.	Tuesday	4:57 p.m.	5:39 a.m.
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.	6:33 p.m.	Wednesday	6:09 p.m.	6:10 a.m.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2012

NATIONAL OUTLOOK



Precipitation 3/1 - 3/7



NATIONAL CITIES

City	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Atlanta	74/60/c	72/55/t	61/40/r
Boston	35/30/sn	42/38/c	52/37/r
Chicago	47/34/c	51/28/r	38/27/sn
Cincinnati	58/43/s	68/41/r	50/31/c
Cleveland	47/36/c	57/41/r	44/29/c
Dallas	81/60/c	76/41/c	68/41/s
Denver	46/17/c	33/15/c	53/28/c
Honolulu	81/69/c	80/69/c	80/69/c
Houston	78/64/c	80/52/c	68/44/s
Kansas City	62/34/s	50/27/sh	47/31/c
Las Vegas	62/46/c	62/43/s	64/45/s
Los Angeles	63/48/c	70/49/s	78/51/s
Miami	84/71/s	82/73/s	84/71/c
Minneapolis	38/26/c	38/20/sn	34/18/sn
New Orleans	77/65/c	79/63/t	70/50/t
New York City	47/39/c	49/44/c	56/37/r
Orlando	85/62/c	86/63/s	84/62/c
Philadelphia	55/39/c	54/35/c	58/36/r
Phoenix	71/48/s	72/48/s	72/48/s
Pittsburgh	52/34/c	61/45/c	50/29/r
St. Louis	60/44/s	62/34/r	52/52/c
San Francisco	55/47/sh	58/42/s	62/45/s
Seattle	43/34/sn	49/40/sh	53/43/sh
Wash., DC	70/43/c	62/50/c	65/37/r

WORLD CITIES

City	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
Athens	55/40/sh	56/46/s	65/50/s
Berlin	94/41/c	52/34/c	48/30/c
Buenos Aires	77/59/c	79/63/c	84/66/s
Cairo	63/47/sh	62/46/c	64/49/c
Calgary	20/6/c	34/23/c	43/26/sn
Hong Kong	73/68/sh	75/70/sh	77/70/sh
Jerusalem	45/36/r	43/34/r	45/40/sh
Johannesburg	81/57/s	81/54/s	80/54/s
London	55/43/c	55/41/c	57/41/c
Mexico City	82/52/s	81/48/s	81/51/c
Montreal	28/19/sn	32/30/c	40/25/sn
Moscow	23/10/c	28/12/c	24/15/sn
Paris	58/44/c	55/41/c	56/42/c
Rio de Janeiro	94/78/s	93/73/s	87/74/sh
Rome	66/45/s	66/46/c	64/45/c
Seoul	52/36/c	52/34/c	50/34/c
Singapore	86/75/r	90/77/t	90/77/t
Sydney	79/68/r	77/66/r	79/64/r
Tokyo	55/48/c	55/45/r	48/37/c
Warsaw	46/36/r	45/27/sh	41/25/c

HALL

FROM PAGE 1-D

On the court we have a team that understands that we all have to put forth effort and hustle and practice."

Hall is a tenacious defender. She may get more notice for her smooth shooting skills, but it's her defense that really stands out.

"We have a lot of girls who can score, but that's not what we focus on," Hall said. "We like to play good man-to-man defense. We play collectively really well on the defensive end."

The Bulldogs, despite only losing one game all season, have struggled at times putting points on the board. But that doesn't matter to Hall as long as the team keeps winning. And she knows a good defense wins basketball games.

"Our defense leads to offense," she says. "That's our motto."

Despite only the two check marks in the loss column, Hall believes the Bulldogs can still get better.

"We can't throw the ball away as much," she says. "We have to value every possession we have because as we move along in the schedule, and especially in the playoffs, the defenses we face are going to get tougher."

Hall, 18, started following the bouncing ball in kindergarten.

"My mom was always encouraging me and my brother to play sports," she says. "So I decided to try basketball and Mackenzie (Cole) and Grace (Martin) were on that team. I liked that Mackenzie and Grace were on the team and I always like the team-oriented aspect of basketball. I also love playing defense."

Hall and the Bulldogs hope to make history later this month.

"Chelsea has never won a girls' basketball regional title and that's our goal," she said.

With players like Hall pushing the team to work hard, improve and play defense, you have to like their chances.



Photo by Tressie Davis

Senior Megan Hall knocks down a jumper for the Bulldogs in a recent game.

WEBSTER TOWNSHIP

The Webster Township Board of Review will meet on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 10:30 A.M. for an organizational meeting (not for public protests) and Monday, March 12, 2012 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and Tuesday, March 13, 2012 from 3:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. to receive protests.

Meetings will be held at the Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Rd., Dexter, MI 48130.

Those with disabilities must notify the Township Clerk no less than seven (7) days prior to the meetings, so that accommodations may be furnished to satisfy their disability and allow for a meaningful attendance.

**John V. Kingsley,
Secretary
Webster Township
Board of Review**

Publish March 1, 2012

LIMA TOWNSHIP NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

The Lima Township Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for the fiscal year 4-1-2012 to 3-31-2013 at the Lima Township Offices, 12172 Jackson Road on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meeting Act) and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Lima Township Board will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 7 days notice to the Township Board.

Note: Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Lima Township Board by writing or calling Arlene Barrels, Clerk, P.O. Box 59, Chelsea, MI 48118, phone 734-475-2246 during regular office hours.

Arlene R. Barrels, Clerk
Publish March 1 & 8, 2012

DEXTER TOWNSHIP 6880 DEXTER-PINCKNEY RD. DEXTER, MI 48130 (734) 426-3767 www.twp-dexter.org

BUDGET WORKSHOP OF THE DEXTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012, 8:30 AM

Location: Dexter Township Hall, 6880
Dexter-Pinckney Rd., Dexter, MI

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Kelly at 8:40 AM
ROLL CALL: Present - Kelly, Kooyers, Rider, Brushaber,
Feinman, Maciejewski
Absent - Lesser

PUBLIC COMMENT - None
Trustee Lesser arrived at 8:43 AM

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion of general issues on the FY 2012/2013 Budgets
- Discussion of capital/major projects
- Discussion of compensation for employees and officials
- Discussion of information system hardware & software

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment.

OTHER ISSUES, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee Lesser asked if the Washtenaw County "Drain Commissioner" (Water Resources Commissioner) would be at the next Board meeting. Supervisor Kelly responded that the Commissioner has been invited, but may make the March meeting.

Clerk Rider informed the Board of the reasons for the increase in the budget request for the Elections Department and inquired about purchasing the three (3) computers that were in the 2011/2012 budget. The consensus of the Board was to make the purchase from Dell, as recommended. The meeting was adjourned at 10:51 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
**Harley B. Rider, Clerk
Dexter Township**

I, the undersigned, Harley B. Rider, the duly qualified Clerk for the Township of Dexter, Washtenaw County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Dexter Township Board of Trustees at a budget workshop held on the 3rd day of February, 2012 and that the foregoing minutes have been approved by a majority vote of the Board at a scheduled meeting held on the 21st day of February, 2012.

Harley B. Rider, Clerk, Dexter Township

Publish March 1, 2012

Dawgs rally to top Lincoln

By Kevin Doby
Heritage Media

The Chelsea Bulldogs girls basketball team scored more points during a 15-0 run to end the third quarter than they did the entire first half, overtaking Lincoln and holding on for the 44-43 win.

Offensively, Lincoln came out with a purpose getting two quick buckets on pick-and-roll plays orchestrated by Ari Cargor who finished with a game-high 24 points.

Dominique Foley also looked like she wanted a piece of the action, hitting both of the three's she attempted in the first half. But other than that, the Splitters didn't really take full advantage of the opportunity Chelsea was presenting with their offensive performance.

Chelsea also closed the second quarter stronger than they had any stretch until with six points in the last two minutes, including an impressive last possession where they showed great patience and got a good look for the last shot of the half.

Chelsea came out much more aggressive on both ends of the floor in the second half however. Midway

through the third quarter, the Bulldog's full-court press began to heavily rattle the Splitters as they turned it over three possessions in a row, all leading to Bulldog baskets.

The turnovers led to points, and the points led to more turnovers as they forced six in the third quarter and started a 18-0 run that continued into the fourth quarter.

At the end of the third, Chelsea now led 31-26.

But the Splitters deserve a lot of credit for not folding after giving up the big run. They fought until the very end, even as it appeared Chelsea might pull away, going up nine with under four to go. The Splitters did find themselves in some

foul trouble in the fourth quarter, as the Bulldogs did a serviceable job hitting free throws in the final period. After Bailey Darwin split a one-and-one with less than two minutes to go, Cargor knocked down a big three to bring the game within two.

On the Bulldogs' next trip down Megan Hall, who hit eight of 12 free throws on the night, also split a pair. Cargor came down and made a layup to make it 44-43 Chelsea, but that would be the last basket of the game as a long inbound pass allowed Chelsea to burn the rest of the clock.

Darwin led the Bulldogs in scoring with 14 points, followed by Riley Singleton's 12 and Hall's 10.

DEXTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW 2012 MARCH MEETINGS

As required by the General Property Tax Act, public notice is hereby given by Dexter Township, that the 2012 March Board of Review will meet on the following days: at the Dexter Township Hall located at 6880 Dexter-Pinckney Road; Dexter, Michigan, for the purpose of reviewing the 2012 assessment roll and hearing requests, protests or application for corrections of assessed or tentative taxable values:

ORGANIZATIONAL & ROLL REVIEW MEETING

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 3:30 p.m.

PUBLIC APPEAL HEARINGS:

Tuesday, March 13, 2012, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Dexter Township Board of Review will hear appeals by appointment. Taxpayers should call (734) 426-3767 during normal business hours to schedule an appointment.

Letter appeals are also accepted in lieu of personal appearance and will be accepted from the first Tuesday in March until the Board of Review adjourns from the public hearing for which it meets to hear such protests.

Taxpayers are welcome to contact the Assessing Office prior to the Board of Review dates to discuss their 2012 assessed or taxable values at (734) 426-3767.

The tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for the 2012 Assessments in the Township are as follows:

Class	Tentative Ratio (%)	Estimated Multiplier
Agricultural	51.37	1.0000
Commercial	53.55	1.0000
Industrial	51.92	1.0000
Residential	48.89	1.0000
Personal Property	50.00	1.0000

The above ratios and multipliers are subject to further change by the Assessor's Office, the Board of Review, the County Equalization Department and the Michigan State Tax Commission.

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon seven days notice.

Contact: Harley Rider, Clerk
6880 Dexter-Pinckney Road,
Dexter, MI 48130
(734) 426-3767

Pat Kelly, Supervisor
Publish February 23, 2012
March 1 & 8, 2012

SYNOPSIS OF UNAPPROVED MINUTES LIMA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES FEBRUARY 13, 2012

The regular meeting of the Lima Township Board of Trustees called to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge to the Flag. Present were Supervisor Unterbrink, Clerk Barrels, Treasurer Havens, Trustees McKenzie and Laier. Also present several residents and guests.

Motion by McKenzie, supported by Laier to delete from Old Business, repair handicap railing at Lima Township Hall, and the Village Commercial Amendment to the Lima Township Master Plan; Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was received.

Motion by McKenzie supported by Laier to remove from the agenda the Civil Infractions procedures until we have had a work session for something to act on; Motion carried.

Motion by McKenzie supported by Laier to amend the Lima Township Fee Schedule as amended November 14, 2011, add Paragraph H, Escrow for Removal of Temporary Dwelling \$1500.00 minimum, and delete current Section 14, Temporary Dwelling for Aged Parents and add Paragraph A, ZBA Application \$500.00, Paragraph B, Zoning Compliance Permit Fee \$300.00, and Paragraph C, Escrow for Removal Fee \$1500.00 minimum.

Motion by McKenzie supported by Laier to amend the motion adding ***Unless a Greater Amount is recommended by the Zoning Administrator and Approved by the Township Board of Trustees, under Consultant Escrow in the Lima Township Fee Schedule. (See Fee Schedule under Paragraph 1, H, and 14, C.) Amended motion carried.

Motion by McKenzie supported by Laier to accept Phase 1 of Thornton Farms, based on the township engineers' letter of January 31, 2012, and related acceptances as recommended by the Zoning Administrator; Motion carried.

Motion by Laier supported by McKenzie to table the request by Bitter Old Pecker Rustic Ales LLC for a Micro Brewer License until more information is presented; Motion carried.

Motion by McKenzie supported by Laier to authorize the Clerk to have snowplowing done, and sidewalks and ramps cleared for the rest of the winter, as required; Motion carried.

Motion by Havens supported by Barrels to schedule the Lima Township Budget Hearing for Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at the Lima Township Offices; Motion carried.

Motion by McKenzie supported by Laier to pay bills as submitted in the amount of \$16449.98, and any others as required; Motion carried.

Motion by Laier supported by McKenzie to adjourn at 8:58 p.m.; Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Arlene R. Barrels, Clerk
Publish March 1, 2012

DEXTER TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE NUMBER 39

FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 21, 2012

EFFECTIVE: APRIL 3, 2012

AN ORDINANCE TO AFFIRM AN ENFORCING AGENCY TO DISCHARGE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF DEXTER LOCATED IN WASHTENAW COUNTY, AND TO DESIGNATE REGULATED FLOOD HAZARD AREAS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE CONSTRUCTION CODE ACT, ACT NO. 230 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1972, AS AMENDED.

THE TOWNSHIP OF DEXTER ORDAINS:

SECTION I

1. AGENCY DESIGNATED: Pursuant to the provisions of the State Construction Code, in accordance with Section 8b(6) of Act 230, of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended, the Building Official of the Township of Dexter is hereby designated as the enforcing agency to discharge the responsibility of the Township of Dexter under Act 230, of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended, State of Michigan. The Township of Dexter assumes responsibility for the administration and enforcement of said Act throughout the corporate limits of Dexter Township.

SECTION II

1. CODE APPENDIX ENFORCED: Pursuant to the provisions of the State Construction Code, in accordance with Section 8b(6) of Act 230, of the Public Acts of 1972, as amended, Appendix G of the Michigan Building Code shall be enforced by the Building Official within the Township of Dexter.

SECTION III

1. DESIGNATION OF REGULATED FLOOD PRONE HAZARD AREAS: the following are adopted by reference for the purposes of administration of the Michigan Construction Code, are declared to be a part of Section 1612.3 of the Michigan Building Code, and provide the content of the "Flood Hazards" section of Table R301.2(1) of the Michigan Residential Code:

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Insurance Study (FIS) Entitled "Flood Insurance Study Number 26161C0001A" and "Flood Insurance Study Number 26161C0002A" and dated April 3, 2012, and;
- The Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMS), panel numbers 0050, 0065, 0070, 0184, 0185*, 0203, 0205*, 0207, 0209, and 0210, and dated April 3, 2012.

SECTION IV

1. REPEALS: All ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION V

1. PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance shall be published once in a newspaper having general circulation in the Township of Dexter and shall take effect on April 3, 2012.

This Ordinance was duly adopted by the Board of the Township of Dexter at its regular meeting called and held on the 21st day of February, 2012, and was ordered given publication in the manner required by law.

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF WASHTENAW

I, HARLEY B. RIDER, Clerk of the Township of Dexter, a Michigan Township, do hereby certify that at a regular meeting of the Dexter Township Board, held at the Dexter Township Hall, 6880 Dexter-Pinckney Road, Dexter, Michigan 48130, in said Township at 7:00 p.m., Eastern Daylight Time, on the 21st day of February, 2012, that the above Ordinance was adopted and that the following Members were present:

Brushaber, Feinman, Kelly, Kooyers, Lesser, Maciejewski, and Rider.

The following members were absent: None.

That upon motion made by Rider and seconded by Feinman, said Ordinance was adopted on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Kooyers, Maciejewski, Rider, Kelly, Brushaber, and Feinman.

NAYS: Lesser

I further certify that on the 1st day of March 2012, I caused a true copy of said Ordinance to be published in the Dexter Leader and Cholson Standard, newspapers circulated in the Township of Dexter, and that said Ordinance and the record of publication was duly recorded in the Book of Ordinances of the Township of Dexter, is effective on the 3rd day of April, 2012, and is available for public use and inspection at the offices of the Dexter Township Clerk, 6880 Dexter-Pinckney Road, Dexter, Michigan 48130 during regular business hours.

I further certify that the above and foregoing ordinance is identical in form with that recorded in the Book of Ordinances for Dexter Township.

HARLEY B. RIDER, Township Clerk

Dated: February 21, 2012

Published: March 1, 2012

Effective Date: April 3, 2012

WEBSTER TOWNSHIP Webster Township Regular Board Meeting February 21, 2012

The Webster Township Board Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm, by Supervisor John Kingsley on February 21, 2012 at the Township Hall, 5665 Webster Church Road Dexter, MI 48130.

Members present: Supervisor: John Kingsley, Clerk: Mary Dee Heller, Treasurer: Carol Whitney, Trustees: Gary Koch, Charles Estleman, Richard Kleinschmidt, John Westman, Zoning Administrator Bruce Pindzia and 16 citizens.

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag;

Approve Minutes

Motion Kleinschmidt second Koch to approve the minutes of the Webster Township Board of Trustees Regular Board Meeting January 17, 2012. All ayes and carried.

Supervisor Remarks

Presentation by Jeff Kremarik on Base Lake Weed Control

Approve Agenda

Motion Westman second Heller to approve the agenda with the addition of item I, under New Business; Revision to DAFD Local Interlocal. All ayes and carried.

Call to Public

Reports

A. Treasurer's Report: Motion Heller second Westman to accept Treasurer's report and pay bills as presented as well as those anticipated bills received before March meeting. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

B. Planning Commission: Report received.

C. Parks & Recreation Committee: No report received.

D. Zoning Inspectors Report: Report received.

E. Sheriff's Report: No Report received.

F. Zoning Board of Appeals: No Report received.

G. PDR Committee: Report received.

H. Fire Department: Report received.

Old Business:

A. Interlocal Agreement: Discussion took place.

New Business

A. St. Joseph Parish Annual Summer Festival: Motion Heller second Estleman to approve the St. Joseph Parish Annual Summer Festival on July 20-22, 2012. Kingsley Aye, Heller Aye, Kleinschmidt Aye, Westman Aye, Whitney Aye, Estleman Aye, Koch Abstained. Motion carried.

B. ZBA Alternate Appointment: Motion Kleinschmidt second Koch to appoint Laurie Hunter to the ZBA as the alternate. All ayes and carried.

C. Planning Commission Appointment: Discussion took place.

D. Wylie Resolution: Motion Kingsley second Westman to approve the additional expenditure of \$1,644.90 for Purchase of Development rights on parcel C-03-19-100-001 in order to close. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

E. Wylie Resolution: Motion Kingsley second Koch to approve the additional expenditure of \$1,150.75 for Purchase of Development rights on parcel C-03-20-300-005 in order to close. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

F. PDR Signs: Motion Westman second Estleman for an expenditure of up to \$350.00 for 10 Farmland Preservation signs created by Benchmark Design Studio. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

G. BS&A Net Proposals: Motion Kingsley second Whitney to accept the Fund Accounting proposal from BS&A in the amount of up to \$7,095.00. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

Motion Kingsley second Koch to accept the Assessing & Tax proposal from BS&A in the amount of up to \$10,240.00. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

H. 2013-2014 Budget: Discussion took place.

I. Revision to DAFD Local Interlocal Agreement: Motion Westman second Koch to authorize Webster Township to conditionally enter into an amended interlocal agreement known as the Dexter Area Fire Department. Roll call vote, all ayes and carried.

Correspondence

Call to Public

Adjourn

Motion Kleinschmidt second Heller to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:08 pm. All ayes and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
**Mary Dee Heller, Clerk
Webster Township**
Publish March 1, 2012



Photos by Cathy Burris

Above: Aunio Goodin (left to right), Joey Ingall, Will Wickens, David Trimas, Drew Deppner and Chris Barnes warm up. Right: Noah Hinderer (left to right), Sam Almhiemid, Joey Ingall and Tommy Olsen cheer on the Bulldogs.



SWIM

FROM PAGE 2-D

In the 50 freestyle Chelsea continued to score as Johnny Mangner, Will Wickens, and Nick Burris swam to season best times. Mangner was another of the Bulldogs that improved dramatically from last season scoring in four events this season.

Mangner took 11th place at 24.27. Wickens also had a great weekend taking 9th place with a 23.81. Burris one of the teams leaders and most versatile freestylers took 8th place at 23.45.

The Bulldog diving team had a great weekend at the SEC meet. Placing for the Bulldogs was senior Rob Everard in 11th place with 276.45 points, freshman Joe Smith in fifth place with 343.55 points, and freshman Jacob Burris in All-Conference third place with 350.70 points.

Also competing was freshman David Trimas with 239.55 points.

"Our goal was to place all four in the top 12, three out of four this year was very good. The SEC diving field has improved tremendously, all four divers had a personal best score," said Chelsea dive coach Eric Burris.

By placing in the top six Burris and Smith qualified for the MHSAA Regional Diving Meet on March 6 at Haslett High School. Placing in the top 12 at this meet will send the duo to the state finals at Oakland University on March 9-10.

"Two freshmen regional qualifiers and personal best scores for all the divers was an outstanding weekend of diving," said Burris.

Jolly also was proud of his divers, especially his senior.

"As a senior captain, Robby did so much for the Bulldogs all season," Jolly said. "He led by example and served double duty both diving and swimming backstroke. He is a special young man."

Next up was the 100 butterfly. Chelsea scored 4 individuals in the event one of the strongest efforts turned in by the Bulldogs. Freshman Jacob Hartman earned 10th place honors with a strong 1:01.56 performance. Lonnemo scored in his 2nd event of the meet taking 9th place overall with a nice time of 1:01.34 clocking. Logan Simpson won the consolation finals with a strong 59.11 clocking. Simpson will be swimming the 100 butterfly at this year's state championships. Nick Burris was the top placer for the Bulldogs in the event swimming in the championship heat taking 4th place overall with a great time of 58.66. Burris will also be swimming the fly at this year's state championships.

The 100 freestyle was one of the big question marks for the Bulldogs coming into the weekend. After all was said and done, the questions were put to rest as 4 Bulldogs placed in the event which was a big surprise. Tom Olsen scored in the event taking 12th place at 56.04.

"Tommy had one of the best meets of his career this weekend and was one of the most improved swimmers for us," Jolly said. Another fantastic performance was turned in by Johnny Mangner as he scored at 10th place with a solid 54.51 clocking. Will Wickens fought through an upset stomach

all weekend to earn a spot in the championship heat taking 5th place overall with a 53.32.

"Will has been a huge part of our success all season and is one of the reasons we had the fabulous season we have had this year," Jolly said.

Freshman Sam Almhiemid proved to all that he is the real deal scoring in the championship heat in the first of two events. Almhiemid went a time of 52.65 to take 4th place overall.

Chelsea scored four athletes again in the 500yd freestyle as Drew Deppner a big surprise for the Bulldogs led the way with a 12th place finish at 5:49.27. Ben Thoms was a little off his game all weekend but that is not a surprise when you are working towards a state meet performance. "Ben's big meet is coming up in a week at the state championships. He will be ready to go crazy fast at the meet that matters," Jolly said.

Thoms took 9th place overall at 5:21.68. Teammate Austin Horn had a great swim slating a personal best of 5:18.22 to take 8th place honors.

"Austin wants to make state meet and he moved a bit closer with his swim today," Jolly said. "He will get one last chance this weekend at the SMISL championships at Milan. He will make it."

Alday swam once again in the championship heat of an event taking 4th place in the event clocking a solid 5:03.34. Alday is one of the swimmers from Chelsea that will have a strong chance of scoring at this year's state

championships.

Chelsea went into the 200 freestyle relay in sole possession of second overall for the championship. All they had to do is finish the meet out solid.

Chelsea's "B" relay raced well with Lonnemo, Olsen, Wickens, and Thoms racing to a 9th place at 1:41.56. The "A" relay was ready for the championship heat as Mangner, Deppner, Simpson, and Burris swam to a season best of 1:34.14 and 3rd place overall.

"All eight guys worked great together," Jolly said. "We will no doubt finish the season well in a week."

Chelsea's strongest event all season was up next and it didn't disappoint. Chelsea has been blessed with some of the area's best 100 backstrokers and they showed off their talent in the finals. Robby Everard captured 10th place with a 1:05.14 clocking. Jacob Hartman won the consolation final to take 7th place for the Bulldogs at 1:01.46. Nick Deppner and Sam Almhiemid both earned All-Conference honors as they both swam their way into 3rd and 2nd place honors respectively. Deppner was 3rd at 58.00 and Almhiemid was 2nd at 57.68. Both swimmers will be competing in this year's state championships and have an excellent chance of placing.

Drew Deppner scored for the second time in the meet individually in the 100 breaststroke. This was a great accomplishment for the freshman as he took 12th place overall with a time of 1:15.94. Zach Ousley was the next top placer for the Bulldogs as he swam to 8th

place overall with a time of 1:12.18. The big surprise in the event was Tom Olsen's 5th place finish as he swam to a season best of 1:10.14.

The meet finished with a season-best performances in the 400 freestyle relay. Chelsea's "B" relay of Alday, Horn, Thoms, and Hartman combined for a 3:37.57 clocking and 8th place overall. The "A" relay would not be outdone as they also swam a strong time as Almhiemid, Wickens, Deppner, and Nick Burris went a season best of 3:28.50 to take 3rd place overall.

It was a great meet for the Bulldogs that came in with the youngest squad of any of the teams competing. Much was learned and they made it through one of the toughest meets of the year. With half of the team focusing in on the state championships, it can be difficult to swim up to expectations.

"We swam strong and now it's time to focus on the bigger prize...State," concluded coach Jolly.

Chelsea will have its next challenge at this weekend's SMISL Championships at Milan where the Bulldogs are favorites to win. It will be another opportunity to get some more young men qualified for the state championships and practice high-end race strategy.

Legal Notice:

Washtenaw County Purchasing Division is issuing a Request for Proposal #6688 for Fencing Installation & Debris Removal for Various County Park Locations. There is a MANDATORY Pre-Bid meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 15, 2012 at 1:00pm at Independence Lake Park, located at 3200 Jennings Road, Webster Township. Detailed specifications may be obtained at the Washtenaw County Finance/Purchasing Department located at 220 North Main Street, Room B-35, Lower Level, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. RFP #6688 Due: Thursday, March 27, 2012 by 4:00pm local time. For more information, please call (734) 222-6760 or logon to our website at <http://bids.eyashtenaw.org> and click on "open bids".

Publish March 1, 2012

March Tax Board of Review Dates

Notice is hereby given that the Tax Board of Review will hold meetings on the following dates and times. The location of the meeting is the City of Chelsea, Lower Level Conference Room, 305 S. Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118. To schedule appointments please contact the City Office at 734-475-1771.

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

Organizational Meeting 1:00pm to 2:00pm

Meetings 2:00 pm to 5:00pm

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Meetings 9:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Monday, March 19, 2012

Meetings 1:00pm to 5:00pm and 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Meetings 9:00am to 12:00pm and 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Teresa Royal, Clerk

Publish February 23 and March 1, 2012

SYLVAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given to all persons liable to assessment for taxes in the

TOWNSHIP OF SYLVAN
County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan

That the Assessment Roll of said Township will be reviewed by the Board of Review on March 6, 2012 at 9:15am

Appeals and conferences with taxpayers will be heard on:

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012

9am - 12 noon and 1 - 4pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012

1 - 4pm and 6 - 9pm

with additional days if determined necessary by the Board of Review

STATEWIDE TAXABLE VALUE CHANGE FOR 2012 IS 2.7%
(Multiplier is 1.027)

Starting Ratio	Class	Average Multiplier
50.34	Agricultural	.9932
53.61	Commercial	.9326
54.10	Industrial	.9242
51.53	Residential	.9703
53.32	Developmental	.9377

The Sylvan Township Board of Review will hear appeals by letter or appointment. Appointments may be made by calling 475-8890, on Mondays or Wednesdays 9:00am to 12:00noon, or by contacting the Assessor.

Letters must be received in the township no later than Monday, March 12.

ROBERT W. LANGE, SUPERVISOR

Publish February 16, 23, March 2, 2012

TRYOUTS

DSO Sports

AAU Basketball Girls

8th Grade Team

Sunday, March 11

Time/Place to be determined

For info call:

734-972-5546

Dexter Township
6880 Dexter-Pinckney Rd.
Dexter, MI 48130
(734) 426-3767

**Summary of Action of the
Dexter Township Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting 21 February, 2012**

Called to order at 7:01 PM

Members Present: Supervisor Kelly, Treasurer Kooyers, Clerk Rider, Trustees Brushaber, Felman, Lesser and Maciejewski

Also Present: Patrick Sloan, Director of Planning & Zoning

Absent: None

The Board approved the Consent Agenda, along with General Fund bills totaling \$38,164.97, Fire Fund bills totaling \$90,682.54, Police Fund bills totaling \$38,848.42 and gross Monthly payroll of \$24,432.61.

The Board received committee reports from: Public Safety Advisory Committee; Personnel Policy Committee; Regional Fire Committee; Capital Improvement Plan Committee.

The Board also heard presentations from the Washtenaw County Road Commission and the County-Wide Transit plan.

The board made the following appointments: Bob Nester - Planning Commission; Owen Kevin McNulty - Public Safety Advisory Committee; Jim Drolett - Zoning Board of Appeals regular member; Don Darnell - Zoning Board of Appeals alternate member; Nina Rackham, Board of Review regular member; Paul Peltes, Board of Review alternate member.

The Board held the second reading of proposed Ordinance No. 39, the Floodplain Management Ordinance, and voted to adopt the ordinance, to be effective April 3, 2012.

In addition, the Board took the following actions: Approved Western Washtenaw Recycle Authority Debt fees and Operating fees; Amended the Township fee schedule to reflect the WWA fee changes; Approved the amended Dexter Area Fire Department Interlocal Agreement; Set Friday, March 2, 2012 at 8:30 AM for a meeting on the proposed Fiscal Year 2012/2013 budgets.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Harley B. Rider, Clerk, Dexter Township
Summary approved by
Pat A. Kelly, Supervisor, Dexter Township

This Summary of the February 21, 2012, Regular Meeting of the Dexter Township Board of Trustees was prepared by Harley B. Rider, Dexter Township Clerk, and approved by Pat A. Kelly, Dexter Township Supervisor, in accordance with the provisions of MCL 41.72a(5). A draft of the full minutes of the February 21, 2012, Regular meeting of the Township Board is available for examination at the Township Hall during regular business hours (8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday, except holidays). The full minutes of the February 21, 2012, Regular meeting of the Dexter Township Board of Trustees will be presented at the March 20, 2012, Regular meeting for review and approval by the Board. Following approval the full minutes will be posted on the Township's website www.twp-dexter.org.

Publish March 1, 2012

LIMA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

As required by the General Property Tax Act, public notice is hereby given by Lima Township that the 2012 March Board of Review will meet on the following days at the Lima Township Office located at 12172 Jackson Road, Dexter, Michigan for the purpose of reviewing the 2012 assessment roll and hearing requests, protests or application for correction of assessed or tentative taxable values.

ORGANIZATIONAL & ROLL REVIEW MEETING

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

(Appeals will not be heard at this session)

PUBLIC APPEAL HEARINGS

Monday, March 12, 2012: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 14, 2012: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Additional dates and times may be added as necessary and if all appointments for the above dates have been filled.

The Lima Township Board of Review will hear appeals by appointment. Taxpayers should call (734) 475-2246 during normal business hours to schedule an appointment. (Voice Messages will be returned) The Board of Review will meet at the times listed above to hear appeals by property owners or their representatives. The owner's representative must present a letter of authorization signed by the property owner in order to be heard. Letter appeals are accepted in lieu of a personal appearance and must be received no later than March 14, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. (postmarks are not acceptable). Taxpayers are welcome to contact the Assessing Office prior to the Board of Review dates to discuss their 2012 assessed or taxable values at (734) 475-2246.

As required by P.A. 188 of Public Acts of 1975, the TENTATIVE ratio and ESTIMATED multiplier for the Township of Lima are hereby listed below. This ratio and multiplier is subject to the actions of the Assessing Office, the Board of Review, the County Equalization Department and the Michigan State Tax Commission.

CLASS	TENTATIVE RATIO	ESTIMATED MULTIPLIER
AGRICULTURAL (101)	50.29	0.9942
COMMERCIAL (201)	55.41	0.9023
INDUSTRIAL (301)	54.48	0.9177
RESIDENTIAL (401)	51.66	0.9678
PERSONAL PROPERTY	50.00	1.0000

The township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon seven days notice.

Contact: Arlene Bareis, Clerk

12172 Jackson Road

Dexter, MI 48130

(734) 475-2246

Ken Unterbrink, Supervisor

Publish February 16, 23 & March 1, 2012

**THIS FRIDAY 10-8, SATURDAY 10-6,
SUNDAY 12-5, MONDAY 10-6 ONLY!**



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WE'RE CLEARING OUT EVERY FLOOR SAMPLE...WHICH MEANS HUGE SAVINGS FOR YOU! FIND UNHEARD OF SALE PRICES ALL ACROSS OUR 3 SHOWROOMS! SOFAS, DINING SETS, BEDROOMS AND MATTRESSES... EVERYTHING IS ON SALE! THEN, TAKE UP TO THREE FULL YEARS TO PAY INTEREST FREE! *GREAT FURNITURE...AND SO MUCH OF IT! THE "GREAT BUYS EVENT" IS FINALLY HERE! GET THE BEST DISCOUNTS OF THE YEAR!

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3-YEARS SAME-AS-CASH!†



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†Subject to approved credit with deposit and/or balance requirement.
Note: Buyer will be responsible for accrued interest over the period of the term if the purchase is not paid off by the due date.

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