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Pinckney School Board Members Observe A Moment of Silence for Tragedy

By Melinda Baird

Pertinent school business seemed to suddenly lose importance when Pinckney School Board President Ann Colone called for a moment of silence halfway through the March 8 Pinckney Board of Education's regular meeting. Colone announced that 35 year- old Rita Storie died from injuries she sustained after a collision with a Pinckney school bus earlier that day.

Rita, a mother of four, was leaving Pathfinder School at 2:25 p.m. Thursday when it appears she turned her van west into the path of a Pinckney school bus traveling eastbound on M-36. The bus hit the driver's side of the van.

Rita was transported to the University of Michigan Medical Center in Ann Arbor, where she died about two and a half hours later.

According to Pinckney Superintendent Dan Donosky, 19 high school students were on the bus at the time of the collision, but none were injured.

"Mrs. Storie has touched the lives of many," said Donosky. "Words are difficult at a time like this. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Rita Storie."

Donosky said the school bus driver was also transported to U of M Medical Center. "Although emotionally distraught, she suffered minor physical injuries.'

Colone and other board members described Storie as very involved in her children's school lives, with children in the seventh, tenth and twelfth

In addition to participating in the business owned by her and her husband Gary, Storie Transport, she was a part-time librarian for the Pinckney School District, substitute secretary for the district and frequently volunteered her time to help at the various schools.

"She was an involved mother and, as such, is well known throughout the Pinckney School community.'



Rita Storie, 35 year-old involved mother of 4 lost her life Thursday, March 8. Storie dedicated much of her time to enriching the Pinckney Community School District

Through tears, Colone told board members she sat down with her husband to eat a simple bowl of tomato soup sometime after learning of Storie's death.

"Tomato soup...such an ordinary thing. But at that moment I realized her children would give anything just to sit down with their mom at the table to have tomato soup together."

Donosky said a trauma team including several local youth pastors would be available in all four school buildings and the bus garage Friday. "The drivers are pretty torn up, as you can imagine," acknowledged Danosky.

He added the collision was readily seen by countless Pathfinder students in classrooms facing M-36.

According to an email to district parents from Donosky, an education fund has been

set up for the Storie children. Anybody wishing to donate can send a check to 2130 E. M-36, Pinckney, MI 48169.

He added on behalf of the Storie family and the Pinckney Community Schools family, thank you all for your kind words, thoughts, and prayers as the community deals with this tragedy.

Counting Down the Days Before Take-off Stockbridge Students Build ROV to Help Recover MIA Vets Lost in WWII Havens, Cody Chadwick, Barb needed donations of money

By Wendy Wood

The Stockbridge High School Advanced Underwater Robotics team is leaving for the Palau Islands in the Western Pacific Thursday, March 22 to take part in a WWII MIA recovery mission, an experience these students likely will never

Eight students: Taylor Parks, Brianna Baldridge, Wesley

Lance, Scott Watson, Jenny Spink and Buck Poszywak, and two teachers from Stockbridge will be joining the BentProp Project on its 14th mission in the search for missing US Servicemen lost in and around the Palau Islands during World War II.

Under the leadership of Robotics Teacher Bob Roberts, the class raised and equipment, including a \$25,000 sonar system from SeeView Systems of Dexter, an \$8,600 grant from Square One Education and many donations from businesses. Stockbridge High School Alumni and private individuals to build an Underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle or ROV. Their ROV is capable of diving to 125' and video taping possible aircraft crash sites to determine if human divers should be sent down to investigate further.

In total the students raised over \$40,000 for the ROV and travel to Palau. No school district funds were used in this project.

The team will be in Palau through April 7 searching for a "high value" B-24 Bomber that was shot down in August of 1944. The entire crew is listed as Missing in Action. This is the last B-24 known to be missing in Palau.

According to BentProp Team member Flip Colmer. the Stockbridge students became part of the project after he read an article in the local weekly paper about the Stockbridge High School team's second place finish in a regional underwater competition.

"Underwater?" questioned Flip. "In the middle of Michigan farm country?"

He contacted the District Superintendant Bruce Brown and left a message asking if he would be interested in a real world mission for the team instead of imaging pool drains. Two days later Richards called back and said "We re in! I don't know how we're going to do it but we are in!"

The students designed and tested a purpose built ROV for use in Palau.

"The entire school system seems to be behind this effort," Flip wrote in is recent update preparing for the trip. "Science and history classes are studying Palau, business classes are raising money and marketing the team. Journalism students are promoting the project and



The team (front to back, left to right) Taylor Parks, Brianna Baldridge, Wesley Havens, Cody Chadwick, Barb Lance, Bob Richards, Scott Watson, Buck Poszywak and Jenny Spink

The Chelsea Antiques and Collectibles Mail **Planning Appraisal Day & Antique Auctions**

By Wendy Wood The Chelsea Antiques and Collectibles Mall, located inside Chelsea Lanes at 1178 S. M-52 in Chelsea, offers a variety shopping opportunities with approximately 40 independent dealers who rent space inside the mall.

Chelsea Antiques and Collectibles is a great venue

for antique enthusiasts and collectors to find jewelry, watches, coins, pins, furniture (Victorian, oak and mission), seasonal collectibles, quilts, *linens, Vintage Clothing, tools, glassware, china (elegant and Depression), pottery and stoneware, canning jars, toys, antique pictures (Oil, Watercolor), books and paper collectibles, baseball cards and

items all year round, and Hunting/Fishing collectibles.

The mall opened inside the Chelsea Lanes in September 2010. It is owned and operated by Chelsea Lanes owners Ed and Kathy Greenleaf. Hours of business for the mall are Sunday 10am to 5pm, and Tuesday - Saturday 10am to 6pm. The mall is closed on Monday.

Continued on Page 3



1120 S. Main St. Chelsea, MI 734-475-7714



Brunch served from 11am-3pm

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fried & served with Au Gratin potatoes & steamed green beans. Wild Caught Icelandic Cod Fillets

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Shrimp Scampi Ravioli

Shrimp mixed with ricotta cheese, parmesan, shallots & sherry. Seasoned to perfection with thyme, red & white pepper then stuffed into a jumbo ravioli shell in a light parmesan sauce over a bed of wilted baby spinach leaves. Topped with sauteed shrimp & mushrooms.

Portuguese Whitefish
A generous portion of whitefish grilled & basted in our honey, pineapple & lime juice marinade. Topped with a mango, pineapple & cucumber salsa. Served with Yukon Gold parmesan sour cream mashers & steamed broccoli crowns.

Golden Catfish

Our catfish fillets are a mild sweet fish dipped in a lightly seasoned batter & fried to a golden brown. Served with fries & a house salad.

Smoked Salmon Ravioli

Smoked salmon, goat cheese, onion, parmesan cheese, spinach & sun dried tomatoes are combined & surrounded by a half moon egg pasta. Served over a bed of wilted baby spinach leaves then in a tomato basil butter sauce. Topped with sauteed artichoke hearts. Lobster Shrimp Scallop Cannelloni

parmesan, mozzarella, red peppers, leeks, cream & wine. Topped with our famous marinara sauce with melted mozzarella. Served with a house salad.

Sauteed with lobster, shrimp, scallops, ricotta cheese, imported

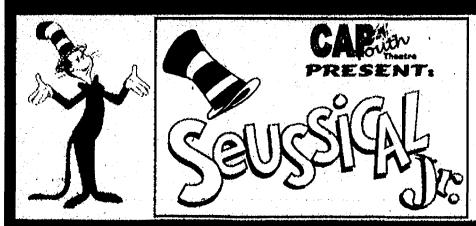
Add soup or salad to any above entree \$1.50 Creme Brulee

Covered with a burnt sugar crust & a drizzle of melba (raspberry) sauce.

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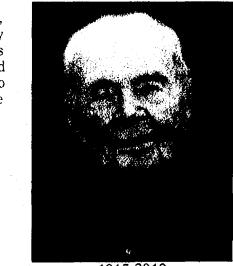
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Obituaries

Vaughn William Dixon, Sr. Formerly of Munith, Michigan

Passed away at 97 years, 11 months, Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at Walnut Ridge Country Estate in Stockbridge. He was retired from Kelsea Hayes and was a farmer. Vaughn was also a Mason for over 60 years. He is survived by three children: Margaret (Glenn) Haves of Apache Junction, Arizona, Vaughn (Delma) Dixon of Stockbridge, and Daniel (Valerie) Dixon of Gregory; 11 grandchildren; 21 greatgrandchildren; 7 great-greatgrandchildren; one brotherin-law, Jesse (Ava) Mays of Munith; and many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his wife of 69 years, Catherine; three sisters: Evelyn Robertson, Gertrude Freymuth, and Donna Mays; and one grandson, Sidney Dixon.

Funeral Services were Saturday, March 10, 2012 from



1915-2012

the Caskey-Mitchell Funeral Home, Stockbridge with Pastor Scott E. Castle officiating. Burial followed at Munith Cemetery.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the Hospice of one's choice or a charity to benefit children.

John "Otis" Harris Tipton, formerly Chelsea, Michigan

Passed away at age 45, Saturday, March 10, 2012. He was born July 27, 1966 in Ann Arbor, Michigan, the son of Donald and Beulah (Noye) Harris.

John graduated from Chelsea High School in 1985 where he played on the golf team. He worked for St. Thomas Catholic Church in Ann Arbor for several years and also owned his own company called Mowers and Moore Company.

Surviving are his mother and father of Chelsea, his companion Roberta of Tipton, a brother Donald (Paula Sparrow) Harris of Chelsea, two sisters, Jeanette (Steve Gregory) O'Donnell of Dexter and Donna (Todd) Moening of Ohio: six nieces and nephews: Jennifer, Emily, Donnie, Aubrey, Tyler, and Tara, and four great-nieces and nephews: Jaelyn, Rylan, Madison, and Luciano; also Roberta's children, Dylan and Shawn. He



1966-2012

was preceded in death by his grandparents, and his aunt, Donna Sherman.

Funeral services will be Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. from the Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea with Pastor Jim Wiech officiating.

Expressions of sympathy may

made to the family.

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Michael D. Mitchell

Owner-Director-Manager



Two Locations One Family

William John Nuffer Cheisea Michigan

Passed away at age 58. Friday, March 9, 2012 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was born December 13, 1953 in Pensacola, Florida, the son of William G. and Jeanne Y. (McNaughton) Nuffer.

Bill had lived in the area his entire life and graduated from Ann Arbor Pioneer High School in 1972. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved hunting and fishing.

Bill is survived by two children, William J. Nuffer of Park City, Utah and Stephanie Shackelford of Howell;

one granddaughter, Holli Shackelford; his father, William G. (Mary) Nuffer of Suttons Bay; and three siblings: Robert J. Nuffer of Florida, John P. (Colleen) Nuffer of Park City, Utah, and Pamela S. Nuffer of Saline. He was preceded in death by his mother.

A private family service will be held at a later date.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to an education fund for his children (checks to Pam Nuffer).

Arrangements by Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea.

Thank You

The family of Durbin Wright would like to thank all our friends and family for all the prayers, gifts, food and for just being there during the

loss of our daughter. A special thanks to John Mitchell and staff, Country Petals Flowers and Gifts and Jackson Free Methodist church. There are no words that can express how wonderful everyone was!

~The Wright and Resor Families

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Run for the Gold Supports Needs

By Melinda Baird

"Dare to love yourself as if you were a rainbow with gold at both ends," challenges African-American poet Aberjhani. "Love your neighbor as yourself," states The Golden Rule.

"Run for the Gold," Pinckney's second annual 5K and Kids Run March 17, is one small but significant opportunity to do both: love one's self through nourishment of body, mind and spirit; and love others through financial support in their time of need, specifically adults without medical insurance and children with special needs.

Profits raised from the event will be split evenly between Faith Medical Clinic, a free medical clinic established December 2007 for the uninsured in downtown Pinckney, and Pinckney's

Light of the World Academy Scholarship Fund.

Currently 1,700 area residents, many with part-time jobs that don't offer benefits, for free health care, including treatment of chronic diseases such as diabetes, asthma, and

According to co-founders and primary volunteers Mitchell and Laura Goldman, the clinic is in dire need of more space due to the recent ability to serve more clients. This ability resulted from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital senior family practice residents joining efforts with Mitchell (board-certified internal and emergency medical doctor) and Laura (board-certified advanced practice registered nurse) in providing health care free of charge.

Continued on Page 4

depend on Faith Medical Clinic high blood pressure, as well as urgent care.



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Maxed Out on Your IRA and 401(K)? What's the Next Step?

Submitted by Edward Jones If you're contributing the maximum amount to your IRA and 401(k), you're making a smart move. But if you can afford to put away still more toward your retirement, should you?

Generally, yes, you should. After all, you may spend two, or even three, decades in retirement - which means

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you'll need to accumulate significant financial resources. · So, if you can go beyond your 401(k) and IRA, consider other options. One possibility

is a Life Insurance Retirement Plan, which is essentially a life insurance policy that can help you generate tax-advantaged income during your retirement years. You might also want to

Kerry Ferguson, AAMS® 1339 Horton Rd Jackson, MI 49203

look at a fixed annuity, which can provide you with an income stream you can't outlive.

To determine if either of these investment vehicles is appropriate for your situation, contact your financial professional. The earlier you start planning for your retirement, the better off you may be when the time arrives. Call or visit any of our financial advisors

in The Sun Times News area. To find an Edward Jones office near you, visit

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Clint Rux, AAMS® 102 W Main St, Ste 1 Pinckney, MI 48169 734-878-6226 The Sun Times News • 517-851-7833 • March 14, 2012 • Page 2 →

POLICE BEAT

3/6 Failure to control dog, warning notice issued to owner, Main Street Man looking in windows of vacant house, W. M-36 near Barton

Assist to EMS and Unadilla Township Fire Department for

medical emergency, Holmes Road Embezzlement, M-36 Car vs. tree property damage accident, M-36 near Kane Road

3/7 Assist to EMS and Unadilla Township Fire Department for medical emergency, Doyle Road Juvenile disturbance, children throwing sticks in roadway,

Stockbridge Street Welfare check, E. Trebesh Drive

3/8 ~ 28-year-old Romulus man arrested for child support warrant, Wasson Road

Suspicious vehicle, Doyle Road Car vs. deer property damage accident, Doyle Road near

Livermore 3/9 Suspicious vehicle, Winifred Court

Ordinance investigation, unplated vehicle, 10-day warning

notice issued, Williamsville Road 3/10 Assist to EMS and Unadilla Township Fire Department for medical emergency, Roepke Road

Trespass, M-36

Pinckney Village Police 3/4 Assist to EMS and Putnam Township Fire Department with medical emergency, Rose Street

Assisted Unadilla Township Police Department with drug investigation, Kaiser Road 3/5 Confidential drug tip provided to police (location not

3/6 Suspicious vehicle, S. Howell Street

3/7 Intimidation complaint, Knollwood Drive

Suspicious vehicle, E. Main Street Assisted with K9 track and apprehension of suspect fleeing hit and run property damage accident, Patterson Lake Road

3/8 ~ 30-year-old Pinckney man arrested on misdemeanor warrant, S. Howell Street 38-year-old Pinckney man arrested on misdemeanor warrant.

S. Howell Street 3/9 Assist to EMS and Putnam Township Fire Department

with medical emergency, W. M-36 Assisted Unadilla Township Police Department with warrant

arrest, Gregory Road 3/10 Dumpster fire investigation, Livingston Christian School,

Pearl Street Domestic dispute, Pearl Street Assist to EMS and Putnam Township Fire Department with

medical emergency, Pumpkin Lane Assist to EMS and Putnam Township Fire Department with

medical emergency, Barbara Street

Chelsea City Police 3/4 ~ 300 Block Pierce Street, while on routine patrol a report of a larceny from auto came into the police department. The

victim stated that she parked her vehicle in a parking spot and when she returned she noticed that her debit card was missing. Nothing else had been disturbed in the vehicle and there was no sign of forced entry. The vehicle was parked between the hours of 3:30 pm and 12:00 am on March 4. 3/5 ~ 200 Block S. East Street, a 911 call came into the Chelsea

Police Department reporting a possible domestic assault in progress. Officers responded to the listed location and made contact with both the victim and the suspect. After interviewing both individuals a 32 year old Chelsea man was taken into custody for domestic assault and transported to the Washtenaw County Jail. After review by the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's office warrant authorization was declined. Incident occurred at 3:02 am on March 5th.

Waterloo Township Police

3/5 Arrested a Jackson man for driving on a suspended license and a warrant from Washtenaw County Courts from a traffic stop on Portage Lake Road at 8:35 am

Investigated an attempted burglary at a home in Coachman's

Cove MHP at 11:30 am. Assisted a stranded motorist at Mt. Hope and Territorial Road

at 4:25 pm. Assisted a State Police unit on a roll-over traffic crash on I-94

near Mt. Hope Road at 5:09 pm. Assisted animal control officers on capturing a couple of stray dogs on Boulder Ridge bothering residents at 8:33 pm.

3/6 Investigated a car blocking traffic on M-52 near Leeke Road at 2:10 pm. Assisted Fire Department on traffic control on Dunn Road at

3/7 Investigated a local truck driver and found he has a

warrant from Ingham County and will watch for him. 3/8 Investigated a suspicious vehicle seen leaving a home in Munith at 9:11 am.

Assisted Stockbridge PD in attempting to identify a larceny suspect caught on video at 12:20 pm. 3/9 Investigated a white vehicle left parked in a yard at a

home on Territorial Road at 12:50 pm. 3/9 Stood by as a peace officer at an address on Hinkley Road

for a contentious move out at 7:58 pm. 3/10 Responded to a report of larceny of farm equipment at a

house on Mt. Hope Road at 6:02 pm.

Stockbridge Village Police

Hospital by SAESA.

PARTS AVAILABLE FOR 00-IT-YOURSELLERS

3/5 ~ 5:20 pm: responded to a Breaking and Entering of a building near Brogan and M-106. The case is under investigation. If anyone has information about this crime please call the Stockbridge Police.

3/6 ~8:20 pm: a 30 yr old Stockbridge man was stopped for defective equipment in the 400 block of S. Clinton, and Officers discovered his driver's license was suspended. He was detained, but later released pending warrant authorization.

10 pm: responded to a domestic disturbance in the 4800 block of E. Main. No assaults; only verbal. No arrests made. 3/7 ~ 11 am: assisted Ingham County Child Protective Services conduct a "check welfare" of children in the 400 blook of S. Clinton. CPS interviewed subjects, and then cleared. No other actions taken.

3/8 3:20 pm: larceny of a wallet complaint in the 200 block of

3/9 ~7:42 pm: malicious destruction of property complaint in the 4900 block of S. M-52. The case is under investigation. 3/10 ~ 10:40 pm: assisted Ingham County Sheriff's Office on Cooper Road near M-52 for an attempt suicide complaint. SPD secured the scene and then turned it over to ICSO personnel upon their arrival. The victim was transported to Sparrow

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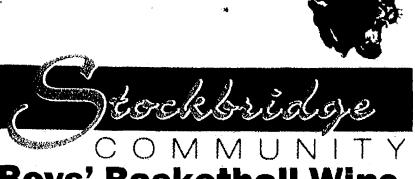
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Boys' Basketball Wins First District Title Since 1998

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The Stockbridge boys' basketball team rolled to a pair of victories last week, claiming its first Class B district title since 1998 The Panthers used a huge advantage at the free throw line to hold off Fowlerville in the championship game Friday night. They went to the line an astounding 56 times, making 36 of the free throws, while the Gladiators were just 7-14 for the

Stockbridge led 8-6 after one quarter and 23-18 at the half. The Panther defense clamped down in the third, holding Fowlerville to just 4 points and taking a 34-22 lead after three.

Fowlerville's offense exploded in the third quarter as they began the put the Panthers at the line

The Gladiator's scored 30 points in the fourth and made a game of it, but Stockbridge made enough free throws to hold on to the victory, sending them to the Regional at Jackson Lumen

David Campbell led the team with 18 points, including 11 from the free throw line.

Marcus Prigge had a doubledouble with 13 points and 15 rebounds. Kaleb Grammer added nine points and Dylan Allen seven. The Panthers reached the

final by defeating Linden 49-42 Wednesday night. Stockbridge jumped out to a 7-2 lead after one quarter and 18-13 at halftime.

The lead grew to 34-26 after three and they held off Linden for Grammer led Stockbridge with

18 points, five assists, and three steals.

Allen added 16 points and seven rebounds, while Prigge scored five and grabbed 11 boards. The Panthers improved to 7-15

on the season. They took on Marshall (12-10) Monday night in the Regional semifinal. If they win that game they will be in the championship game Wednesday night at 7:00 PM.

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Photo by Dawn Miller

Chelsea's Antique Mall

Continued from Front Page

Owners and vendors are excited about an upcoming event "Appraisal Day" set to take place Saturday, March 17 from 1 to 5pm. everybody is invited to attend and bring up to three items for appraisal. The cost is \$10.

Unwritten appraisals are provided. The appraiser on site will be Joe

Future plans include a monthly Chelsea Outdoor Antique Market.

Vendor spaces are available for purchase. The dates of those markets are May 12, June 9, July 14, and August 11. On June 16 an outdoor, drive-in antique auction will take place - this event features antiques only. The public is welcome to bring antiques for auction.

Contact Chelsea Antiques and Collectibles Mall today at 734-389-8851 or visit wwwchelseaantiquemall.com to find time-kept treasures. New items arrive daily.

Vendor space is still available and dealers are always looking to

The Chelsea Antique/Collectible Mall donates a vendors space to the Chelsea Historical Society who presents an interesting display (not for sale) of Chelsea's historical artifacts. The society also provides assistance to those working on genealogy.

According historical society member George Till, they are planning there annual Gala Dinner Event for April 28. Tickets for non-members are \$50 and members pay \$40. The ticket price includes a four course dinner. wine by Sandhill Crane Winery, a chosen speaker (this year is Bob Riemenschneider of Reimco Homes) and plenty of time to

Proceeds from the event will benefit educational programming and activities at the historical

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12/30pm, 1:00pm, 1:30pm & 2:00pin April 8" for Easter Brunch . May 13" for Mother's Day Brunch 1645 Commerce Park Drive, Chelsea, MI 48118



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The Sun Times News • 517-851-7833 • March 14, 2012 • Page 3

Ann Arbor Huron Beat the Pirates

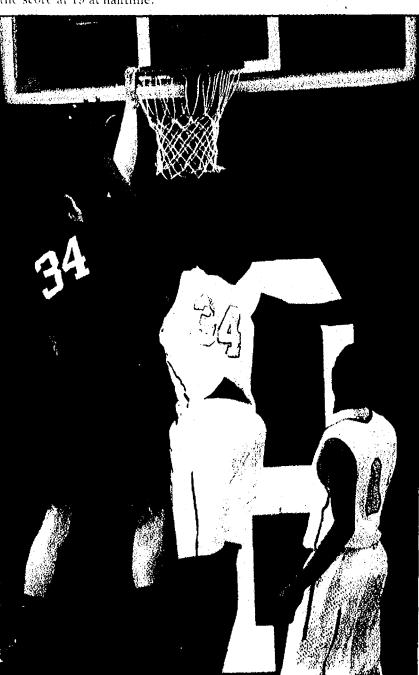
The Pirates went up against a very good Ann Arbor Huron team for the 2012 Class A Basketball Districts on March 7, only to lose with a disappointing 56-46.

They had the River Rats down in the first period by 5 points, but Ann Arbor started their come back in the second period by tying up the score at 19 at halftime.

That's all the Rats needed. They pounded out 21 points in the third period and another in the fourth to beat the Pirates 56-46.

Top scorers for Pinckney included Kendall Thomas with 21 points, Mike Lewis with 18 and Andre Bond with 8.

They end their season with a 12-9-0 record.



#34 Peter Barry sinks the ball. Photo by Benny Hessling

Run for Gold Supports Needs

The welcome addition of medical volunteers has allowed the clinic to expand hours of operation to Thursday evenings in addition to its Saturday morning hours, but does make for cramped quarters within Putnam Township's Annex

Bulding. "Putnam Township has been awesome for allowing us to occupy this building for free. They recently chose not to sell [the Annex Building] because they wanted to make sure we were secure in our current space. They have never hesitated to find us a 'home," said Laura Goldman.

Goldman went on to explain serious negotiations are underway with University of Michigan's Medical School, indicating an additional student-run clinic is on the horizon. The clinic will share facilities and equipment with Faith Medical, and will also be free for the uninsured. "We are very close to getting approval," said Goldman, pointing to an even greater need for relocation.

Goldman mentioned an upcoming relocation of Pinckney Public Library will leave behind an ideal new home for the clinic, but affording the 3,000 square foot old library building could be a bigproblem. "I have faith, though, that if God wants us to have a new building. He will make it happen.' Light of the World Academy, a Christian Montessori school

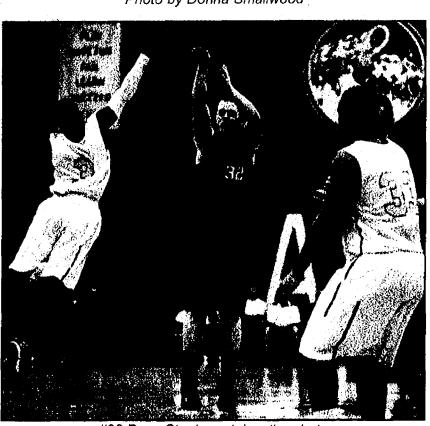
serving pre-school through sixth grade, will receive half the funds raised by the race. Academy Director Kathy Moorehouse said last year's race allowed six children to attend the school that otherwise wouldn't have been able to afford tuition. Being a private Montessori school, Moorehouse explained specialty teachers and equipment make for high overhead, but tuition has remained at a reasonable rate. "We never had a vision to just serve the higher socio-economic class,' said Moorehouse. "We've always

strived to be inclusive." Last year's first annual Run for the Gold event raised roughly \$3,500 each for both clinic and scholarship fund. Race Director Ien Kramer felt optimistic next week's event will surpass last year's success based on the fast rate at which people are

registering. The 5K Run/Walk starts at 9:30 am in the Village of Pinckney's Putnam Town Square. Strollers and dogs are welcome. Registration costs \$25. Kids Runs, accommodating age groups from four years to twelve years of age, starts at 11 am and costs \$10. Awards will be given. Pinckney's St. Patrick's Day Parade is scheduled at noon. Please register for race at www.goracego.com. Registration is also available on



Goalie Chris Boyd did an awesome job in the net for the Bulldogs during their quest for the State Finals. Photo by Donna Smallwood



#32 Drew Stephens takes the shot. Photo by Benny Hessling

Hextall Sixth In Gymnastics Finals with 37.275.

Pinckney's Ashley Hextall came home with a sixth place finish at the Division 1 individual gymnastics finals Saturday. Hextall tallied an overall score

of 36.425 in the four events. Sara Pelti of Grand Ledge won the final

Hextall's best score of the day came in the vault with a third place score of 9.50. She scored a 9.45 in the floor exercise, 8.95 in the uneven bars, and a 8.5 in the balance beam.

Pinckney Community Schools 19th Annual Empty Bowls All Proceeds Benefit Gleaners Food Bank Of Livingston County

The Empty Bowls fundraising event is set for 5-8 pm on March 22 at Pinckney High School's Commons area, 10255 Dexter-

Pinckney Road. The event continues to be an opportunity for Pinckney Community Schools (PCS) students to participate in service through their art.

The fundraiser links teachers and students with county food banks and helps address the genuine hunger in Livingston County.

In the classroom, students learn about local hunger issues and make bowls for the dinner. The Pinckney Community High School National Honors Society volunteers, helping set up, working the dinner and auction and then breaking everything

Throughout the evening, select PCS students will perform for guests. In the past, theater, music and dance students have

participated, sharing their talents. The dinner consists of 225 gallons of soup, bread, hot dogs and dessert all donated from 45 different local restaurants and businesses. There is a silent auction filled with art and unique items as well.

All ticket and auction proceeds benefit Gleaners of Livingston County. For 19 years the community along with PCS has embraced Empty Bowls with a steadfast dedication to help those in need of food. Our partnership with Gleaners Food Bank is strong and this year we hope to raise \$10,000 for the organization.

Tickets are \$10 per person. Each ticket holder also takes home a student made bowl. There are hundreds of different styles, shapes and sizes. All bowls are made by Pinckney students' grades 5-12.

For more information contact Alex Wagner: 784-997-7484 or awagner@pcs.k12.mi.us

Sports By Donna Smallwood

CHELSEA COMMUNITY Bulldogs Continue Drive to State Finals

Season Ends with Loss to Grosse Pointe Woods University of Liggett

Chelsea had momentum coming into Friday's game against a very tough GPW Univ. of Liggett team at the Plymouth Compuware Center by beating Allen Park earlier in the week in the quarter

Chelsea took the lead in the first period at 4:32 when Kyle Whipple got the rebound and slammed it into the net. At 8:55 Austin Sullens received

a penalty for roughing, giving the Knights a power play. Ten seconds into that power play, Vincent Scarfone scored for the Knights tying the game at 1-1.

A few minutes later, Chelsea took another penalty which led the Knights into another power play. allowing them to take a 2-1 lead. Kyle Whipple took another penalty with the clock at zero for roughing, giving GPW more chances with the power play.

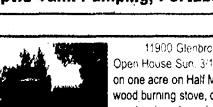
The Bulldogs continued to struggle against the Knights, taking more penalties and getting tired from all of the power plays. Goalie Chris Boyd did a great job by keeping most shots out of the net. He finished the game with

30 shots on goal. The Bulldogs lost the game 5-1 which ended their season with an impressive 21-5-2.



Kody Johnson takes the face off deep in Allen Park's zone. Photo by Donna Smallwood

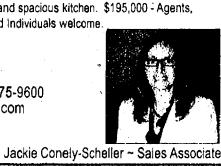




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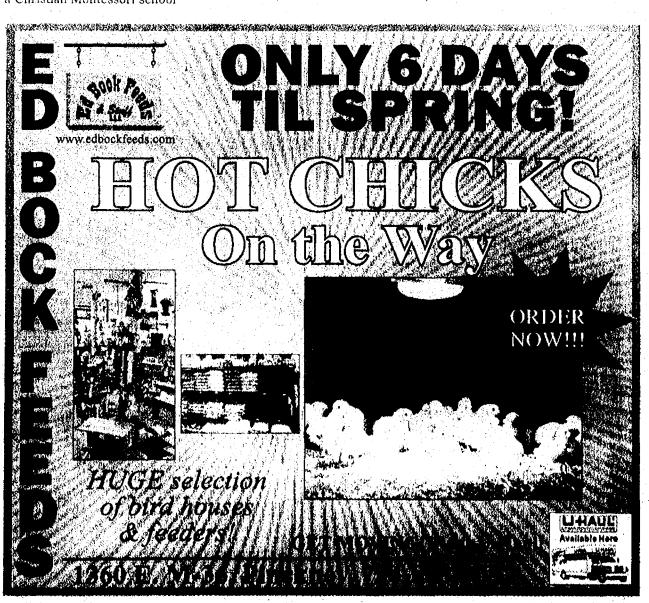
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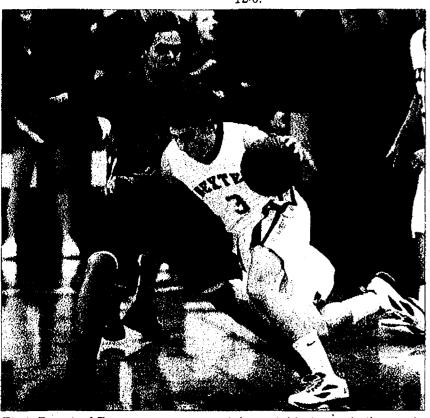
By Donna Smallwood

The Dexter Dreadnaughts came up against Brighton on March 5 to start off Round 1 of the 2012 Class A Boys Basketball Districts played at Ann Arbor Pioneer. The Dread's managed to win the game 51-40.

Dexter topped the scoreboard at the end of the first period 13-9 and didn't stop from there. They led the entire game with their offensive attack, sinking those all important baskets and winning the game 51-40.

Top scorers for Dexter include: Jay Lewis, 11 points, Jacob VanHoof and Derek Seidl both with 10 points.

Winning this game gave them the chance to continue their playoff hopes by coming up against the host team from Ann Arbor Pioneer on March 7. They lost the Round 2 game 49-35. Michael Mioduszewski and Jay Lewis were the top scorers for Dexter. The Dread's end their season at 10-



Zack Byron of Dexter, races around the outside towards the goal.



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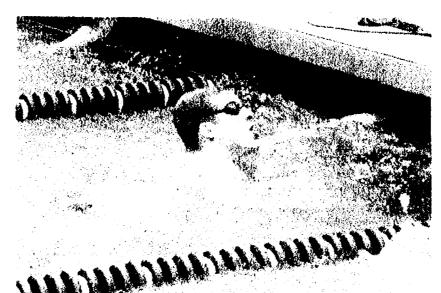
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The Dreadnaughts' state champion 200 freestyle relay team includes Mark Brown who took second in the freestyle. Photo by Dawn Miller

Dreadnaughts Swim To Division 2 Title

The Dexter Dreadnaughts swim team used a strong showing in the preliminaries to stake claim to the Division 2 swimming state title Saturday.

The Dreadnaughts finished with 320 points, easily outdistancing second place Birmingham Groves with 298.5, and third place Birmingham Seaholm with 254.

The team was led by the state champion 200 freestyle relay team of Mark Brown, John Eber, Nate

Kilian, and Brennan Maisch. The team finished with a Division 2 record time of 1:24.66.

Second place finishes went to Johnathan Zofchak in the 200 and 500 freestyle, Brown in the 50 free, Josh Boren in the 100 fly, and the 400 free relay of Kilian, Eber, Zofchak, and Jake Claslin.

Brown also finished third in the 100 free and was a member of the 200 medley relay team that finished third along with Maisch, Ian Wilson, and Boren.



Jay Lewis is double-teamed by Brighton. Photo by Benny Hessling

Support For Inter-Generational Garden Grows In Chelsea

By Lucy Silverio Chelsea's Inter-Generational

Community Garden is planned to be exactly what the title implies, a garden with growing vegetables and flowers, worked on by people of all ages, and supported by the

The planned site is Chelsea school property on Book Street by the SEC cafeteria at the Washington Street Education Center. The first growing season is scheduled for this year.

The Inter-Generational Garden is to be a connection between generations and a way for people to connect to their food and the earth. The hope is the garden will be a source of beauty, learning, and vegetables.

During the Chelsea School Board Meeting February 27, Superintendent Killips recommended that the board support the Inter-Generational Community Garden by approving up to \$7,000 for fencing and irrigation. The Intergenerational Community Garden will be overseen by the Chelsea Senior Center.

The water for the garden will come from one of the school wells rather than from the city so funding to pay for water will not be a problem. "Cost for the project would be minimal," added Killips "If for some reason, three to five years down the road, it is no longer working, it would only require removing the fence, leveling the beds, and planting grass seed. But supporting the project presents an excellent educational opportunity for the students." Chelsea School Board support for the project was unanimous.

Sarah Simmerman the Director of Food and Nutritional Services at Dexter and Chelsea Schools is on the committee for the Intergenerational Garden and the plan is the garden will be a resource for the school lunch program.

Continued on Page 7

Summer Camp Volunteers Needed at North Star Reach

North Star Reach, a camp for children with special needs or who are seriously ill, is recruiting volunteers to participate in the 2012 Camp on the Move program.

The camp, located in Putnam and Unadilla Townships and formerly the U of M Fresh Air Camp, encompasses 105 acres of scenic woods, rolling hills and a lake. Through a partnership with U of M that included a \$4 million grant, North Star provides lifechanging camp experience and enrichment to the lives of children with serious medical challenges by offering empowering activities, specialized medical supervision and caring relationships while helping to restore the joys of childhood.

Volunteers are needed to be travel chaperones or cabin counselors.

Travel chaperones provide supervision for a group of campers travelling to camp and commit to about a day and a half. They will attend a family picnic the evening before the children depart and join them on their journey via airplane, ensuring safe travels to camp. Once the campers arrive, the travel chaperones return back to Michigan the same day.

Cabin counselors spend a week at camp and are responsible for the campers' safety, well-being

and creating a truly magical funfilled experience. They arrive at camp the day before the campers and participate in important orientation and training. After the week at camp, counselors serve as chaperones for the trip home.

Camp dates are June 14 - 21, June 21-27 and June 23 - 29. North Star is also recruiting volunteers for Camp Michitanki, a local camp program for children who have received organ transplants. North Star Reach helps support Camp Michitanki with program leadership and

training.

Volunteers are needed to serve as week-long cabin counselors and activity leaders. Cabin counselors live in cabins and provide leadership, supervision and fun to a group of 8 - 10 children. Activity leaders' work as a part of a team leading and teaching programs to

cabin groups. Camp Michitanki runs June 23 - 30 and takes place in Holly, Michigan.

The minimum age is 19 years old and volunteers must commit to a full week of service after completing an application, interview and criminal background check.

Anybody interested, have questions or want to learn more email patrick@northstarreach.org

"Team Advisory" in Pinckney Focuses on Early Prevention of Destructive Behavior

Pinckney school board members welcomed several fifth and sixth

grade students to their regular board meeting Thursday night, eager to hear their perspective of a new program put into effect this year. The program, named "Team Advisory," was implemented this fall at Navigator School for fifth and sixth graders. It aims to reduce destructive behavior among youth, specifically illegal drug use, underage drinking, bullying and suicide.

Since last fall, 42 school staff members have voluntarily met with a group of 12-15 students for 30 minutes once a week, typically Friday mornings. During this time, according to Navigator Principal Stacey * Urbin, staff members strive to build relationship with their assigned students, believing lack of connectedness to adults is one important cause of destructive behavior in youth.

"I know my [assigned] kids more than I know any other child in the school," said Urbin, a weekly

"My leader is like my second mom, and always helps me with my problems," said one sixth grader while describing to board members the benefits of Team Advisory. "I feel more comfortable talking to teachers and other adults," said another. "They help us make good decisions in life."

Navigator staff also identified poor self-concept, negative cultural influences, and lack of coping skills as causing self-destructive choices. The program strives to eliminate these causes by teaching respect of self and others, as well as skills to avoid negative behavior during the 30 minute weekly workshops.

School Board President Ann Colone praised the students and the program. "I think it's wonderful you're learning to express your opinion and listen attentively. There are so many examples of inattentive listening on political news stations. It's important to know how to say what you believe without being angry or mean about it," she said.

Later in the meeting, Colone was given the opportunity to listen attentively as six residents of

Whispering Pines Condominium Association of Hamburg Township expressed their frustration with the board. Association Vice President Dan Gee complained of unresolved drainage-related issues in their development allegedly caused by last year's school district construction project. He stated he wrote several letters to the board with no response.

Gee said the district failed to take proper preventative measures during the summer construction project at Navigator School on McGregor Road-directly across from the development- causing sediment from the construction site to flood the development's two retention ponds.

He and other association members requested a written response from the board within ten days stating their intent to fix the problem. "If not, I'm going to have to start interviewing attorneys," he warned. "We mean serious business."

He called for ponds to be dredged, sewers cleaned, and an underground drain installed to nearby Hay Creek, an endeavor he estimated costing in the sixdigit range. "I don't think the taxpayers should pay. I feel the responsibility is on your general contractor and civil engineer who made the errors," he added.

While most board members remained quiet, Trustee George Rogers expressed his opinion that the change of water outflow was caused by past elevation changes to nearby Whispering Pines Golf Course, as well as "a very unusual rain season.'

Condominium resident Randy Ruff told board members he noticed distinct changes in his backyard in conjunction with construction at the school. "My backyard was gone this summer. The water wouldn't go anywhereit stayed for weeks and weeks,' he said.

"I invite you all to drive by in the daylight. Look at the water-it's mud," added resident Roxanne Adams.

In other board news, members unanimously approved the use of 2010 bond funds equaling roughly \$1.37 million for renovations in all. school buildings this summer.

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Every Wednesday: Lenten Series, St. Andrew's United Church of Christ, 7610 Ann Arbor, Dexter from 6:30-7:30pm. Geoff Zahn will speak weekly. Info at 734-426-8610.

Every Mon, Wed and Friday: Folding Chair Fitness with Joe Muscato at Katz Elementary, 11120 Musbach, Munith from 9:30-10:30. March 15: Pork Loin Luncheon, Munith UMC from 11am-1pm or until food is gone. Take outs available 596-2441. Public welcome. Free will

March 16: Stew/Biscuit Dinner, Grass Lake UMC from 4:30-7pm. March 16: Stockbridge Senior Lunch Menu: Vegetarian Chili, Broccoli, Corn, Corn Muffin, Jellied Applesauce.

March 16: Charity Poker Night, Pinckney Pub & Grill from 5pm til close. Support the Putnam Twp Fire Dept General Fund. License#M72207.

March 17: Race for the GOLD!, downtown Pinckney. 5K & kids fun run are planned. A parade will follow the race. For more info go to the Light of the World Academy website & click on Run for the GOLD! March 17: St. Patrick's Day Sunrise Breakfast, Webberville UMC from 7-11am. Free will offering.

March 17: Pizza & Movie Night, Millville UMC at 6pm. Donation asked for pizza. For more info call 517-851-7853.

March 17: Luck O'Waterloo Walk, Eddy Discovery Center, Chelsea at 2pm. Learn more about why a rabbit's foot, 4-leaf clover, acorns & feathers are considered lucky charms.

March 20: The Clothes Closet, Gregory Community Church from 6-8:30pm.

March 23: 4th Friday Free Community Scalloped Potatoes & Ham Dinner, First Presbyterian Church, Stockbridge from 5:30-7pm. March 24: The Clothes Closet & Food Pantry, Church of Christ, 4783 S M52 from 10am-1pm.

March 26: Visit the Biscuit!, Stockbridge Library at 11am. Biscuit, the popular puppy will be on hand to visit during a special storytime. Especially for 3-5 yr old kids.

March 29: Annual Spring Soup & Salad, First Presbyterian Church, Stockbridge from 11am-1pm. All you can eat! Adults-\$7, ages 5-12-\$3,50, under 5 yrs-FREE. Take outs available 517-851-7015.

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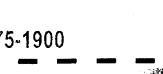
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ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP AT PLEASANT Grove Cemetary, Kennedy Rd. Munith. Needs volunteers! The clean up will be March 31 & if needed, Palm Sunday afternoon. Please come & make your ancestors proud. Please give whatever time you have.

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The Sun Times News • 517-851-7833 • March 14, 2012 • Page 6

PUBLIC NOTICES

MPAT

STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS
PUBLIC HEARING - OUTDOOR GATHERING ORDINANCE

Public Hearing Stockbridge Township Board

The Stockbridge Township Board, at the Regular March 19, 2012 Board meeting at 7:30 PM, held at the Stockbridge Township Hall, will hold a public hearing concerning the adoption of Ordinance #333 Outdoor Gathering Ordinance, this is a Stockbridge Township Policing Ordinance. Copies of the Ordinance are available at the Stockbridge Township Office during regular business hours Monday thru Friday 9:00AM to 12 NOON, for review, If you have any question please feel free to call 517-851-4496, Email twpclerk@cablespeed.com or come to the office during office hours,

Mary Wilson, Stockbridge Township Clerk

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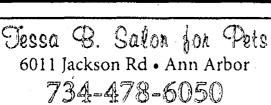
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Senior citizen Dan Kaminsky

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Inter-Generational Garden Continued from Page 5 tables and construction of

has been involved with the plans disabilities will have easier access. for a new inter-generational garden Seniors and others interested from the onset. He believes the in helping with the garden project garden is a great opportunity to can call the Chelsea Senior Center instill ideas of better nutrition, at 475-9242 or come to the Kickoff Meeting Tuesday March 20 at encourage people to be active 12:30 pm at the Chelsea Senior outside, and promote a healthy Center. Kaminsky, a home gardener

he ran a teaching garden last year. He also works with Chelsea Senior Center members, who have been active for the past two years in a garden with Rainbow Daycare in Chelsea.

for years, is also involved in the Chelsea Community Garden where

According to Trinh Pifer, Director of the Chelsea Senior Center, one of the barriers to school gardening programs is that the bulk of the produce and a large portion of the work happen in the summer. One of the beauties about the intergenerational Garden's location is that it is right outside the cafeteria of the senior center. Lunch is served there five days a week. Produce from the garden will be eaten by both seniors and students.

Throughout the year seniors will be able to both mentor children in the garden and to work on their own. Summer day camps and 4 H clubs also plan to participate in the garden project. "This is a rural community," said Pifer, "Many of the seniors have had huge farms or gardens but can't do it anymore or they have moved to small apartments where they don't have space, so this is a wonderful way for them to continue to be engaged.'

The plan is for the Intergenerational Garden to be constructed in three phases; phase one includes fencing, irrigation, and wide paths for easy access, planting, maintenance and harvesting, phase two will involve the building of a hoop house to extend the growing season, finally phase three plans for the creation of a comfortable resting area with benches and

SYLVAN TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 6, 2012 - The regular meeting of the Sylvan Township Board was held March 6, 2012 at the Sylvan Township Hall, 18027 Old US 12, Chelsea, MI 48118. Members present: Supervisor Lange, Clerk Koch, Treasurer Grau. Trustee Cooper and Lesser. Also present: several residents. The meeting was called to order and the pledge recited. Motion by Lesser, seconded by Grau to approve minutes as presented. Carried. Motion by Cooper, seconded by Grau to pay bills as presented. Carried. The Public Hearing for the 2012-13 Budget was called to order. The public portion of the hearing was opened. Several comments and questions received. The public portion was closed. Motion by Koch, seconded Lesser to approve Budget for 2012-13 as presented. Roll call vote - all ayes - Carried. Public Participation: Questions on the Taxable Value for the Township, update on Millage and Consent Judgment were received. The report from Zoning Inspector Caplis showed 0 approved zoning compliance permit, 3 enforcement actions and 0 Certificate of Occupancy for February 2012. Dawn Caplis reported on recent activities at the Chelsea District Library and had copies of the recent Newsletter. Mike Jurosek reported on the Sylvan Township Water & Sewer Authority regarding updates on the latest repairs. Treasurer Grau reported on CACA. Clerk Koch reported on CAFA regarding the completion of the building renovations. Koch advised the Board of 2 emails received for the public record regarding Stanley vs Sylvan Township and a letter from Lyndon Township stating Sylvan Township would not be obligated to pay or maintain the proposed Connector Trail from the City to Lyndon Township. No Old Business. New Business: Motion to approve Trustee Lesser to be delegate and Clerk Koch as alternate to CAFA. Roll call vote - all ayes - Carried unanimously. Motion by Koch, seconded by Lesser to reappoint Dawn Caplis to Planning Commission for a 3 year term. Carried unanimously. The LRUA Business Plan was presented to the Board. There was no action taken. Motion by Lesser, seconded by Grau to adjourn. Carried unanimously. LuAnn S. Koch, Sylvan Township Clerk



Chelsea Area Players Bring Seussical To the Stage

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No matter if you're small or tall, you will enjoy the fun and rhymes of Dr. Seuss as the Chelsea Area Youth Players bring to the stage popular Seuss characters, such as Horton the Elephant, Jojo, Catin-the-Hat, Gertrude McFuzz, Mayzie La Bird, and many more. This colorful show is brought to life by over 30 vouth actors from Cheisea. Grass Lake, Manchester and Gregory.

Performances are: Friday, March 23 and Saturday, March 24 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, March 25 at 3:00 pm at the George Prinzing Auditorium located at 500 Washington Street in Chelsea.

Tickets are available at the Chelsea Pharmacy for \$8, or at the door for \$10

For more information visit http://chelseaareaplayers.org/ capshows/seussicaljr2012.html Seussical is directed by

Brian Myers, Jeff Boyer is the producer, Alex Moore is the



vocal director, Christine Landis provides choreography, Chris Miller is the technical director, and Special Arrangement are through Music Theatre

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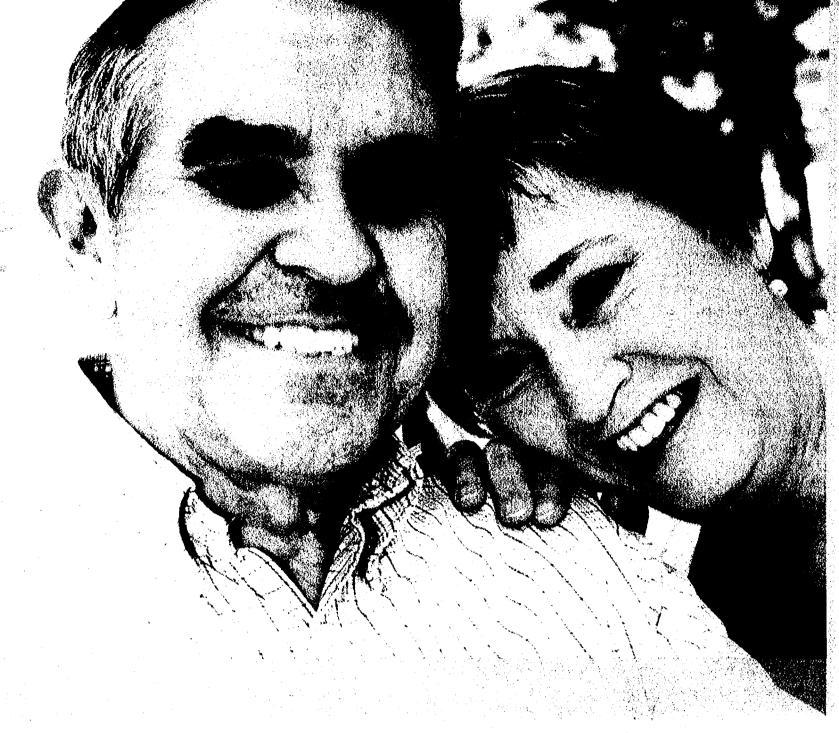
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Sylvan Township Budget Comes Under Scrutiny

By Melinda Baird Sylvan Township's proposed 2012-2013 budget came under intense scrutiny by residents at Tuesday night's regular board meeting before ultimately being adopted by board members. Despite unanimous board approval of the \$463,500 operating budget, frustrated residents left the meeting with unanswered

questions.

Several residents complained of an overall lack of transparency in the budget, specifically the lack of actual financial performance on individual line items. Several residents suggested the document was not in compliance with Michigan's statutory requirements under the Michigan Uniform Budgeting Act, which requires detailed expenditure and revenue

"Where are the actual expenditures for the individual line items?" challenged resident Diane Winter. "This defies general accounting principles.'

"It passes audit," replied Township Supervisor Bob Lange. Lange explained the 2012-2013 budget almost exactly mimics the previous year's budget, reminding audience members it is a "working document" subject to change.

"It may pass audit," said resident and previous Township Supervisor Michael Williams, "but it is in clear violation of Michigan statute. It doesn't give readers the information to make qualified judgments of budget decisions. This doesn't fulfill your responsibility."

The biggest point of contention among residents was the seemingly astronomical legal/ financial advice expenditure of \$170,000, roughly 37% of the township's total expenditures. Lange explained the amount was simply rolled forward from last year. However, several residents pointed out, last year was riddled with lawsuits and the designated amount makes no allowance for the changed legal circumstances of the township.

"Who and what are we paying with all this money?" asked Williams of the board.

Trustee Scott Cooper, although voting to adopt the budget by meeting's end, was the lone board member to voice concern over the proposed legal expense. "Are we really going to be utilizing that much money this year?" he asked, confirming the majority of lawsuits are in the past.

"My concern is when the county comes after us," replied Lange. "We don't have a consent judgment yet, and I don't have a crystal ball." Lange was referring to a current township debt of \$1.25 million owed to Washtenaw County Treasury, as well as \$13.2 million owed to the county in repayment of bonds for a new water and wastewater treatment plant. The township faces default in May when its first of two interest-only payments is due. "If we don't use [the full \$170,000], we don't use it," added Lange.

Questions about town hall facility expenses also surfaced with residents again asking for detail of actual expenditures to justify an amount of \$46,000. Broken down, maintenance accounted for \$25,000, while \$11,000 was allotted for heat and lights, \$5,000 for phone and \$5,000 for office supplies.

"Everything ends in 0's," said one resident. "This can't possibly be actual expenditures. Additional residents joined in requesting more detailed breakdown of the line item, stating maintenance costs seemed exorbitant.

Lange reminded residents Michigan State Police utilize the building seven days a week. He also promised audience members a detailed account of actual expenditures at the end of this fiscal year, March 31, 2012.

Finally, residents challenged the board on their use of the 1% administration fee collected by the township treasurer along with residents' twice yearly tax bills. Estimated at \$65,700 for the upcoming fiscal year, residents questioned whether the board conforms to Michigan's statute of utilizing the 1% fee strictly for the purpose of administering residents' tax bills, rather than moving any portion of the money to the general fund. Lange indicated the township was indeed in compliance with the statute as the money is used to pay only the treasurer, assessor, and computer equipment.

The budget as presented estimated a \$15,000 increase in state revenue sharing this year, from \$175,000 to \$190,000. Property tax collection revenue was slightly down, from \$172,000 to \$168,600.

An additional \$6,000 was added to election expenses given the primary election this year.

The estimated contingency fund balance for 2012-2013 was \$292,364, roughly \$5,000 higher than the previous year.

The board reported they have no new information from County Commissioner Rob Turner about potential legal action, nor do they have taxable value reports on which to base an amount of a potential millage on fall's ballot.



Contributes to School Budget Difficulties -By Bruce Wm Brown

There are two tiers in the state

run Michigan School Employees Retirement System. One tier is for employees hired on or after July 1, 2010. The second tier includes the majority of school employees, those hired before July 1, 2010. For these employees, public schools must pay an additional 24.46% of their wages to the state. The retirement rate will increase to 27.37% next year and 31.21% the following year. The rates are a little lower, about 1%, for those employees hired after July 1, 2010. The yearly

cost increase due to retirement is greater for school districts than the amount of new revenue given as state aid. This is one cause for budget reductions, layoffs, and increasing deficits



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Chelsea Family Sharing Unique Gardening Technique - Aquaponics

Submitted by Sasha Grove One Chelsea family is taking advantage of an emerging gardening trend to promote family food security and sustainable gardening with area residents. Sasha and Bryan Grove have been growing vegetables in their pole barn this winter in gardens fertilized by yellow perch and rainbow trout.

Aquaponics, a sustainable gardening method in which fish and plants are grown together in a constructed recirculating ecosystem, is the rising star of sustainable living.

"Our family has been so excited to be part of a community like Chelsea. We want to contribute to the health of our community. Aquaponics allows families to grow produce and protein year round, right under their own roof," said Sasha, homeschooling mom and manager of Ever Green Aquaponics, their small family business.

"McDonalds on every corner has taken the place of the garden in every backyard. We need to return to the simple tradition of feeding ourselves. "

Harmful chemicals have no place in aquaponic gardening, and watering and weeding is a task of the past. Energy and water use is drastically

lower than in traditional soil gardening.

"As we have shared the method of aquaponic gardening with families, business people, and community organizations we have had an overwhelmingly positive response. We are really excited about the future of aquaponics," Sasha said. "Our goal is to enable families to be in control of their own food supply."

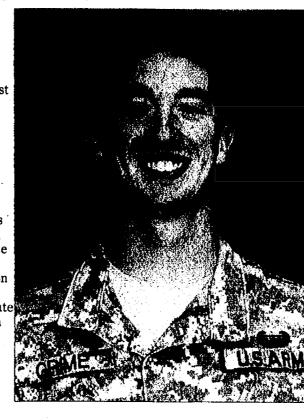
Ever Green Aquaponics plans to offer family sized food production kits, training, classes, system design consulting, and monthly tours of their aquaponic gardens. In the future, with the expertise of permaculture design specialist, Brendan Bradley, of Stockbridge, they will offer aquaponically grown produce at area farmers markets.

Ever Green Aquaponics invites the community to come to 18750 N. M-52 in Chelsea on Saturday, March 24 for a free family friendly tour of their research gardens. Tours begin on the hour starting at 10 am. The last tour will begin at 1pm.

For more information contact evergreenaquaponics@yahoo. com or like them on facebook at www.facebook.com/ EverGreenAquaponics

Military Accomplishment for a Local Man

Zack Grime of Munith has been promoted to First Lieutenant in the Michigan Army National Guard. First Lieutenant Grime is assigned to B Co. 1/125th Infantry as a Fire Support Officer (FSO) and Platoon Leader of a Fire Support Team (FIST). First Lieutenant Grime is currently serving in the Konduz Province of Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He is a 2006 graduate of Stockbridge High School and a 2010 graduate of MSU ROTC. His parents are Jim (Karen) Grime and Diana (Mark) Stimpson, both of Munith.



Storage Facility Plans For Lyndon Township Tabled Again

By Lynne Beauchamp

It was standing room only at Lyndon Township's Planning Commission meeting last Thursday as residents of Lyndon and Dexter Townships, Gregory, Fowlerville, Stockbridge and other surrounding communities came to oppose, support or voice neutral comments in regards to a proposed storage facility site on Stofer Road in Lyndon Township.

Lyndon Township Planning Commission Chair Leon Moore allowed ample time during public comment for those

attending to voice concerns. Those opposed to the development questioned whether it meets zoning requirements and pointed out that area residents do not want bright lighting. Further, there is concern about an increase in theft, vandalism and rodents, One Lyndon Township resident said she was worried about water well contamination, while others expressed concern about noise pollution, traffic issues and whether the landscape design plan would be adequate to camouflage the commercial building.

Those in support of the project agreed with the natural beauty of Lyndon Township but pointed out that the proposed site is located near high tension wires and a gas station - a factor that would deter a developer from building a subdivision. Supporters also indicated there was a need for storage space and the facility could bring in needed tax revenue. They also felt crime and rodents would not be an issue.

"Why would you worry about crime if you don't have a high crime rate already?" questioned a supporter of the storage facility.

A 33-year resident of Riker Road who remained neutral on the project said she would consider owning a motor homewhich she could store at the facility - an impossibility on her own property, she claimed, due to hills.

However, she also worries about bright lights and theft if the facility did become a reality.

An Island Lake Road resident questioned whether the township would be setting itself up for a lawsuit if the storage facility request was denied.

"If there was a lawsuit," said Moore, "any cost to the township is worn by us as residents...if there were ever any litigation, we [township officials] would want to be in a defensible position."

Ronny Hamama, owner of North Lake Gas Station and applicant of the Stofer Road storage facility, brought along his team of developers and architects to defend and address the concerns of those in attendance.

They presented the revised plans for the storage facility which showed a low profile barn-like structure in mute colors.

Hamama explained that the facility would house an on-site manager in the upper quarters and landscaping would hide much of the building which would be surrounded by a six foot fence.

Regarding ground water contamination, he would abide by all industry standards. His engineer and designer Terry Baker addressed the issue, indicating an infiltrated storm water detention system would catch any run-off.

Hamama explained the facility would be lit by low density lights which point down. He also said there would be 24/7 video surveillance and that proposed office hours of operation are 9am-5pm with storage access hours from 5am-11pm. He added that he would keep a good relationship with the county sheriff. He also pointed out a traffic study provided by the Washtenaw County Road Commission showed the site would not create a traffic or noise intrusion.

Hamama said he has a petition with over 400 signatures - half of those come from Lyndon and Dexter Township - in support of the project.

Lyndon Township Planning Commission unanimously voted to table a decision until the April 12th meeting to allow time for plan review, investigation of any possible code violation and consultation with the township's planning consultant of Carlisle-Wortman.

"This will help the commission's position on this, I think the community will have a chance to discuss a little bit more, a lot of ideas have been kicked around here and a lot of what-ifs," concluded Commissioner John Reilly.

Easement Education on Enbridge **Expansion Q&A Planned**

In order to provide independent information and answer questions of concerned citizens regarding a .request from Enbridge Energy Inc. to expand its pipeline that travels through the area, Marine Biologist Dr. Rikki Ott will conduct an open public Q&A meeting March 21 from 6:30 to 8:30pm in the Heritage Elementary Cafeteria in Stockbridge.



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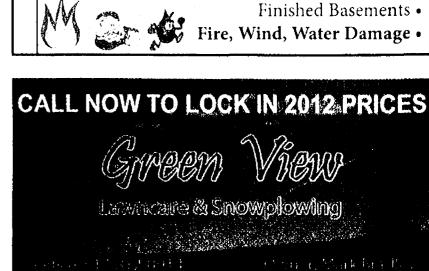
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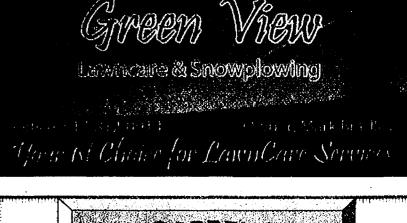
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