

The Wheels and Everything Else on the Bus



Keeping kids on the road and safe are: (left to right) Bob Ryan, Lead Mechanic for Manchester; Shawn Thompson, rotating mechanic between Chelsea and Manchester; Steve Wolk, Lead Mechanic Whitmore Lake; John Lazere, Michigan State Police Vehicle Inspector: Jeff Knasiak. Transportation Director for Chelsea Schools; and Jim Zenz, lead mechanic for Chelsea. Photo by Lucy Silverio

By Lucy Silverio Michigan State Police vehicle inspector John Lazere participated with mechanics from other area school districts to check Chelsea Public Schools' vehicles on December 11. "We are really lucky here in Chelsea and in this area," said finance director Theresa Zigman regarding the sharing of mechanics. "It

isn't competitive, everyone works together. We want all transportation departments to succeed...we want all school district to succeed."

The Cheisea School District (CSD) transportation department supplies fuel for both the Chelsea police and fire departments. They also supply transportation and drivers for field trips for

Emerson School in Ann Arbor and High Point. These items are billed out monthly.

Inspector Lazere retired as a bus mechanic in Wayne County before taking his present position. He checks 290 items on each bus. Inspections happen every year, but the specific date of inspection is randomized so buses must always be maintained in top condition.

Continued on Page 2

#### **Police and Fire Departments Deliver Early Christmas Gifts** To Area Seniors

From Johnnie Torres Stockbridge Village Police Chief

Johnnie Torres and Stockbridge Area Emergency Services Authority (SAESA) chiefs John Beck and Russell Stowe played Santa while delivering care packages provided by the Ingham County TRIAD organization. This nonprofit organization partners with law enforcement agencies, fire personnel, senior citizens (60+) and community members to promote elder quality of life through advocacy, assistance, education and training.

One of the services provided by the TRIAD is the annual "No Senior Without Christmas" campaign that provides necessities and special gifts to homebound seniors. These gift packages were delivered Wednesday morning by the Stockbridge chiefs.

The TRIAD was started in mid 1980's and it strives to build and maintain trust and confidence in elders by:

Promoting senior safety through education and training Enhancing the delivery of law enforcement services to senior

Continuing collaborative efforts to meet the needs of

our senior community Reducing criminal victimization to elder

individuals "This is a wonderful resource

that has been under-utilized in this area," said Torres. "Many seniors in this town could benefit from this service which is made possible by donations, and my hope is to see its services used more in the future."

For more information on the Ingham County TRIAD please visit their website at inghamcountytriad.org.



SAESA Fire Chief Russ Stowe

## **Chelsea Wellness Foundation Serious About Reducing Youth Substance Use & Abuse** in Stockbridge

By Melinda Baird Stockbridge area parents, teens and community leaders gathered for the first time Wednesday evening, 12/12/12, to collectively brainstorm ideas for preventing youth substance abuse in the area. The meeting and pizza dinner that took place at the Stockbridge High School library, was the kick-off to a newly-forming SRSLY (text language for seriously) of Stockbridge

Area teens are noted to be highest in the county for alcohol use, prompting school principals, medical practitioners, parents and police to listen attentively while Stockbridge middle and high-schoolers offered their perspective on the community problem.

Coalition funded by Chelsea

Wellness Foundation's Five

Healthy Towns Initiative.

Surprising to some, the youth identified parental permission of alcohol use as the number one causal factor of youth alcohol use. Parental absence in the home during key hours of the day (along with access to parents' alcoholic beverages) and parents who aren't adequately acquainted with the home environment of their children's friends also fell under this category. "The accessibility of [alcohol] is scary high," said

one high-schooler. Curiosity, comparison of different substances and competition with friends were other factors contributing to substance abuse cited by the youth. "Some kids want to try to get a different high to compare with other highs," said a high-schooler. Boredom, lack of structure after school and emotional disconnection from parents were also named.

So what can help prevent the draw toward unhealthy substances in area youth? The teens' resounding answer was surprisingly simple: parents involved in their children's lives, dialogue, communication and doing healthy stuff together and with others.

Feedback from the youth perfectly matched data already collected by the Stockbridge

Wellness Coalition reported member Brian Johnson. Accessibility and parent/child disconnection are proven risk factors according to Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) data. According to MiPHY, 75% of surveyed Stockbridge high-school students say alcohol is easy to get, and 57% responded marijuana is easy to get. In addition, 40% of area teens say they do not feel included in family decisions.

Finally, peer pressure is a definite risk factor but in an unexpected way, said Johnson. Although substance use is statistically high in the area, two out of three teens overestimate peer substance abuse, he reported. "So the perception is that substance abuse is happening more often than it actually is, which a risk factor. People assume everybody's doing it, but the truth is not everybody's doing

SRSLY of Stockbridge hopes to dramatically alter these statistics by educating and supporting parents and youth, promoting youth leadership, and offering fun alternatives to substance abuse. "We're about changing the appeal [of drugs and alcohol]," said Dire or of Chelsea Community Health and Chelsea SRSEV Coalition Réiley Currar. "And we need a lot of pupile to make this happen. It sa great opportunity to have fun, get involved and make a difference."

SRSLY of Stockbridge plans to conduct parent and teen focus groups, form adult and youth steering committees, and create a website before this spring. March and April are designated for strategic planning and a full-time coordinator (to be shared with newly-forming SRSLY Dexter) will be hired this summer.

SRSLY plans to launch activities and events in early fall. Marketing, the coordinator's wages, and supplies will be funded by a \$55,000 allotment approved by Chelsea Wellness Foundation the first year.

Continued on Page 2

## **Chelsea City Council Fills Council and DDA Seats**

By Melinda Baird

Three members of the Chelsea Downtown Development Authority whose terms end December 31, will maintain their seats as a result of Chelsea City Council action taken during the regular council meeting December 11. Council voted 6-1 to renew the appointments of Peter Flintoft, Tim Merkel, and Patti Schwarz as well as appointing Chelsea Alehouse owner Chris Martinson to a vacant seat left by Morrel-Samuels. Councilman Rod Anderson was the lone dissenting vote.

Anderson voiced several issues of concern before the vote, including what he perceives as too little Council involvement in DDA processes considering the DDA is funded by money that would otherwise be directed to the city.

"It seems we are powerless except to appoint members to the DDA," said Anderson. He added that although he believes the individual trustees themselves are trustworthy and hardworking, he feels that a lack of full transparency is a problem, as is the fact there are no district residents on the board, only business owners. "Better to have residents to provide diverse perspective," he said. Anderson also pointed out a potential "appearance of a conflict of interest" given the DDA

employed as the city attorney.

Before the appointments were made, resident Jan Bernath addressed Council during public commentary urging them to consider initiating an open process for choosing new members to the DDA, such as advertising vacancies and detailing the application process through various media. Bernath also said she'd like to see nonbusiness owning residents on the DDA board and believes there to be an imbalance between new members and long-standing members that is not conducive to independent thought and decision-making.

Councilwoman Cheri Albertson agreed with Anderson. "Transparency in the DDA's administrative process needs improvement," she said while also reiterating Council's authority to oversee the DDA budget. Albertson also reminded Council of the DDA's mandate to promote economic development. "And I don't think the life of the DDA has reached its limit," she added, pointing to the launching of two new businesses in the

city's recent past. Councilwoman Ann Feeney said she had previously been on the DDA board for 15 years and suggested many business owners don't want any part of the DDA due to all the negative press - to which Mayor Jason Lindauer

Finally, Councilwoman Marcia Parker praised the DDA adding her opinion that non-business owners are not ideal as board members. "They do not share. the same mind-set as a business owner."

Mayor Lindauer had the last word on the subject. "Chelsea's downtown is one of the only in the Midwest that expanded rather than contracted in the last four years."

All four appointments expire on December 31, 2015.

In other council news, Dustin Suntheimer will be filling the vacant council seat left by Kent Martinez-Kratz, who was recently elected to the County Board of Commissioners. Suntheimer, one of four candidates who interviewed for the position, received five council votes. Bethany Morris and Jeff Blazok each received one vote while Lynn Fox withdrew from the process. Suntheimer will be sworn into office January 8 and serve the remainder of Martinez-Kratz's term ending November

"I'm pleased by all the candidates, and I sincerely hope they run again in the fall," said Feeney. She added neither she nor Councilman Frank Hammer will run again, opening two fouryear and two two-year council seats in November 2013. The mayor's four-year seat will also be up for grabs.

#### delivers needed items. There's a New Zoo in Town

Mark Creswell and his wife Jane have had a passion for wildlife and specifically reptiles for many years. After starting a reptile rescue in their Chelsea home in 2003 they quickly realized that, although enjoyable, a basement filled with animals would not satisfy their ultimate desire to create a fully functioning rescue.

With a vision in mind, volunteer staff and dwindling budget in 2008 they formed the non-profit, Great Lakes Zoological Society. Mark's dream of creating a facility that would properly accommodate the complex requirements of a wide variety of animals was finally coming true. Self educated in the species specific requirements of all the residence at the Reptile Zoo, Mark ensures that no animal is without proper nutrition, humidity, exercise or companionship to create the best possible environment for a quality life.

The Zoo, located at 6885, Jackson Ave, just east of Baker Road, is home to a wide variety of lizards, snakes, frogs, birds and insects all contained in their own individualized natural environments. "Proper conditions create an atmosphere that promotes good health and total appreciation for the unique features of all of our

# specimens," said Mark.

The facility not only provides an excellent opportunity to view species from around the world, it also serves as a source for education, rehabilitation, rescue and breeding programs for endangered or threatened animals. Unfortunately, many owners of exotic pets are unfamiliar with the life-long commitment that is necessary to properly house an animal that can grow to over 100 pounds and outlive their owner. That coupled with feeding and

space requirements often leads

pet, which usually means poor

owners into neglecting their

nutrition and bad health. As a rescue facility Mark and his staff try to rehabilitate these animals and reintroduce them into an environment that best

meets their needs. The World of Discovery and Reptile Zoo has much to offer the community from a unique gift shop to a party room where birthday celebrations can be shared with exotic animals from around the world. For more information, about the Zoo, volunteering, educational opportunities, donating or becoming a sponsor of an animal in need contact Mark at markcreswell@ glzszoo.com or call 734-332-



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# Obituaries

**Dennis Jon Duncan Munith Michigan** Formerly of Quitman, Georgia

Passed away at age 48, Tuesday, December 11, 2012 lat St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor. He was born June 2, 1964, the son of P.D. and Charlotte Duncan.

He had lived in the area since 1999, coming from Georgia. He enjoyed bass tishing, hunting, golfing, and in his earlier years softball, football, and running track. For the past ten years he was an electrician for Eastern Michigan University.

June 6, 1987, he married Cynthia Ann Brown in Tifton, Georgia and she survives. Also surviving are his parents of Georgia; two daughters, Devae Duncan and Holly Duncan (A.J. Watters), both of Munith; his twin brother Darryll Duncan of Georgia; his mother-inlaw Judi (Bernie) Powell of Wisconsin and father-in-law John (Anna Marie) Brown of Georgia; brother- and sisterin-law, Blake Brown and Tracy (Greg) Coward, all of Georgia; and one niece. Lauren Coward



1964-2012

of Georgia, as well as many friends.

He was preceded in death by

his grandparents. A Memorial Service took place Saturday, December 15, 2012 from the Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea, with

Rev. Kathy Schell officiating. Expressions of sympathy can be made to the Dennis' family for his daughters' education fund.

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# ry Christmas and a by New Year

## **Yellow Door New Year's Eve Breakfast for FIA**

Save the date for a special Yellow Door benefit breakfast set to take place December 31 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Chelsea Community Fair Grounds reception center. The breakfast is a fund-raiser for Faith in Action of Chelsea and Dexter.

Enjoy a scrumptious Yellow Door breakfast and help FIA at the same time. The menu is being finalized and will feature three entree choices, coffee and juice. Chef Paul Cousins (Cousins Heritage Inn) will be preparing one of his signature dishes for the event. All ingredients on the menu are purchased from local providers thru lunasa.us

Guests are asked to make a donation of \$15 (or more) at the

# Two Arrested, One Ticketed After Soliciting In Stockbridge

From Chief Johnnie Torres

Stockbridge Police report they arrested two men from Lansing and issued a citation to another man, also from Lansing after they were found to be soliciting in the Village without a permit. Police received numerous calls Friday afternoon about several men going door-to-door selling windows and siding for a Lansing-based business.

Some of the complainants advised that the men were aggressive in their sales pitches and made residents feel uncomfortable.

Police responded to the calls and made contact with one of the solicitors in the 200 block of West Street and gave him a verbal warning and a copy of the ordinance. Police later observed two more solicitors near Clinton and Elm Street Police recognized one of the

men, who had previously been warned about the village ordinance against soliciting without a permit several weeks ago. Contact was made with the subject and a citation was later issued. The situation became more complicated when the two men were picked up by eight other men all riding in a white van, and who had also been out soliciting in the Village.

The police made contact with the subjects and identified all and gave verbal warnings for first-time offenders. During the identifying process, two men from Lansing were found to have warrants out of Ingham County for probation violations. They were arrested and taken to jail. The other men were released and advised to obtain a permit if they wished to do business in the

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comments by the public

were listed. The comment by

former township clerk Arlene

Grau was not included. At

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#### **Setting the Record Straight**

In a December 11 report of the Sylvan Township Board's regular meeting that took place

December 4, 2012 several

specifically for seniors.

artists.

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to financial fraud. Next, urge them to send any suspicious emails straight to their "spam" basket. Remind them that any offer that sounds

good - or true.Also, encourage them to further their financial

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her request to balance the report the Sun Times is happy to present her comment regarding a letter sent to the Chelsea City Council addressing its possible liability Finally, if they don't already in Sylvan Townships water/

work with a financial advisor, sewer debt: recommend a trusted one to "The majority of the Board them. The more guidance voted to send the letter to the they get from a qualified City of Chelsea. If they legally professional, the less likely it is owe some of the money to pay that they'll fall victim to scam back the debt to the county, then it would relieve the Sylvan Township residents of some of the 4.4 millage. Why wouldn't Edward Jones

we want to help our residents." We apologize if this omission appeared to present a report that was not thorough, fair or balance.

# POLICE BEAT

12/11 7pm to 6am, 100 block of South Street, the victim stated that she had parked her vehicle in her driveway the previous evening and when she returned she noticed that a roll of quarters had been stolen. No other items appeared to be missing at the time of the complaint. No forced entry was made into the vehicle which had been left unlocked.

12am to 5am, 100 block of Hayes Street, the victim stated that he had parked his vehicle in his driveway around midnight and when he returned at approximately 5am he noticed that a jar of change as well as numerous CD's had been stolen from his vehicle. No forced entry was made into the vehicle which had been left unlocked.

12/14 6:30 to 8pm, 14000 block of W Old US 12, Chelsea patrol officers were requested to respond to the listed location for the report of a larceny from an automobile complaint. The victim stated that she had parked her vehicle around 6:30 pm and when she returned to her vehicle she noticed that her driver side window had been smashed out and her purse had been taken out of her vehicle. No suspects were identified at the time of the report.

10:30pm, 900 block N Main Street, at approximately 10:30pm Chelsea police observed a vehicle driving down the road without functioning taillights. The officer stopped the vehicle and upon making contact with the driver the officer could smell what he believed to be alcohol on the driver. The officer asked the driver to step out of the vehicle and perform standard field sobriety tests. After completion of the sobriety tests the driver was requested to submit to a portable breath test, the driver refused. The driver, a 36 year old Gregory man, was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. The suspect was read the chemical test rights and subsequently refused to consent to a blood draw. A search warrant was completed and signed by the on-call magistrate and the blood draw was completed at the Chelsea Hospital. After completion of the blood draw the suspect was transported to the Washtenaw County Jail. Case remains open pending laboratory analysis by the Michigan State Police Crime Lab.

Stockbridge Village Police

12/2 8:35pm, check security of a house in the 600 block of Spring. A suspicious subject was seen in the area. The officer was unable to locate the subject.

12/3 5pm, responded to Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office to pick up Kristin Beard, 22, of Ypsilanti on Misdemeanor drug charges stemming from 2007 & 2009 cases. She was lodged in the Ingham County Jail. 6:30 pm, responded to Jackson County to arrest Christopher Marshall, 28, of Stockbridge on a driving while license suspended charge. He was lodged in the Ingham County Jail.

12/5 12:45am, requested by Ingham County Sheriff's Office to assist with a B & E in progress in the 5400 block of Shepper Road. The scene was secured until Deputies arrived.

12/10 6:55pm, runaway complaint at Clinton and Elizabeth. A woman reported the 16 year old former boyfriend of her child was seen near here. He was identified as a runaway out of Macomb County. The subject was not found this day.

12/14 8:40am, assist Ingham County Sheriff's Office with a juvenile apprehension order in the 4000 block of Friermuth. A 16 year old was taken into custody after a short search of the property. He was later turned over to the Macomb County Sheriff's Department. Complaint of soliciting in the Village by several men. Contact was

made with the subjects in the 200 block of West and again near Clinton and Elm. Two men from Lansing, Carl Cannon, Jr., 21, and Laquan Houston, 20, were both arrested on unrelated Misdemeanor charges. Another man was cited for soliciting without a permit and released. 12/15 12:30 am: Misdemeanor warrant arrest in the 4900 block of Bird Drive. Mikel Barnett, 27, of Stockbridge was arrested on a fail to appear warrant. He was lodged in the Ingham County Jail.

**Unadilla Township Police** 

12/10 Home invasion, Joslin Lake Road

12/11 Domestic dispute, Howlett Road Neighbor dispute, Bullis Road

Found sunglasses turned in to police, Main Street 12/13 Assisted Pinckney Police with open door investigation and

building search, S. Dexter Street "Assist to EMS and Unadilla Township Fire Department with medical

emergency, Holmes Road Assist to EMS and Unadilla Township Fire Department with medical

emergency, E. Trebesh Drive Private property, one vehicle accident, Deep Valley Road

12/14 a 48-year-old woman and a 44-year-old man, both from Unadilla Township, arrested and released for driving while license suspended,

Assisted Livingston County Sheriff Department with intoxicated driver investigation and arrest, Doyle Road Assisted Stockbridge Police and Ingham County Sheriff Department

with soliciting complaint and warrant arrests, S. Clinton Street Assist to EMS and Unadilla Township Fire Department with medical emergency, W. M-36

12/15 Assisted Pinckney Police with attempting to locate two subjects reported carrying a handgun, W. Unadilla Street

43-year-old Unadilla Township man was arrested for two warrants, a fraud warrant from Ingham County and a failure to appear warrant in Livingston County, Kane Road

Malicious destruction of property, mailbox damaged, Dutton Road Assisted Pinckney Police Department with search of suspicious vehicle, E. M-36 Intrusion alarm, unfounded (location not published)

Pinckney Village Police

12/9 Assist to EMS and Putnam Township Fire Department with medical emergency, Brentwood Drive 12/10 Two-car property damage accident, N. Dexter Street

12/12 Two men fighting, W. Main Street 12/13 Open door investigation, S. Dexter Street

12/14 Civil dispute over erection of fence on private property,

possible ordinance violation, no permit obtained for construction of fence, E. Main Street Assist to EMS and Putnam Township Fire Department with medical

emergency, Cricket Crossing 12/15 Report of two persons illegally using drugs in motor vehicle, E.

Main Street Suspicious persons parked behind Pinckney Family Care after hours,

Waterloo Township Police 12/10 Impounded a car for having no insurance from a traffic stop on

Territorial Road Assisted a Child Protective Service agent in an investigation of

possible child abuse at an address on Mt. Hope Road 12/11 Impounded a car for having no insurance from a traffic stop originating on M-106 12/12 Arrested a Munith man on a pair of warrants and driving on a

suspended driver's license and impounded the car he was driving for having no insurance. Also cited his girlfriend for allowing a suspended driver to operate her

Did a personal welfare check on three children at an address on Schrah Drive who haven't been in school in a couple of weeks. Referred to Child Protective Services for investigation. Assisted a Sheriff Unit on a traffic stop on I-94 at Race Road at 7:39

12/13 Impounded a car found in the ditch at Coonhill and Portage Lake Road with expired plates and no insurance at 8:10 am. Assisted Child Protective Services on further investigation of three

children on Schrah Drive 12/16 Investigated a suspicious situation on in the 12000 block of Musbach Road at 2:55 pm

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Help Older Parents Avoid Financial "Scams"

Submitted by Edward Jones

Americans over the age of 65 has been victimized by a financial scheme, according to the Investor Protection Trust. If you have elderly parents, ·how can you help them avoid being "scammed"? For starters, observe their

behavior. Be aware if their



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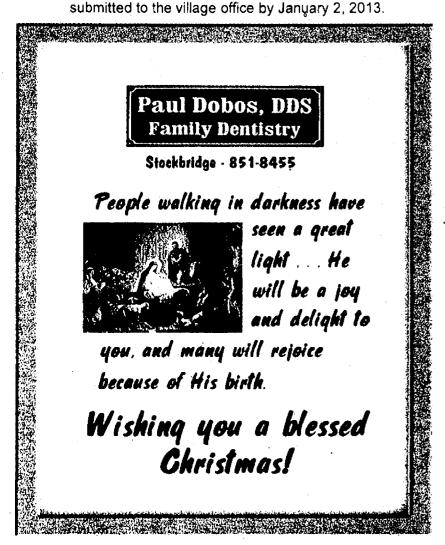
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## **Village Trustee Appointed Council President**



Heath Corey was appointed to the position of Stockbridge Village President at the December 3 village council meeting. A twoyear member of the village council, Corey was unanimously supported to replace former village president Don Byrd. Byrd. ran for office in the November 2012 election, but withdrew from the position after he was elected. Corey is a full-time paramedic for Stockbridge Area Emergency Services Authority (SAESA), as well as a teacher for EMT classes. This appointment leaves an open position on the council and village residents are invited to apply for the two year term that ends November 20, 2014. Interested applicants must attend the January 7, 2013 council meeting that will take place at the village office, 201 Wood Street, Suite 101, Room #3 at 7pm. Applications are available at www. vil.stockbridge.mi.us/forms. A completed application should be



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**Reducing Youth Substance Abuse in Stockbridge** 

Continued from the Front Page Substantial Drug Free Community Support Program federal grants could be made

available in the future. Some examples of SRSLY Chelsea past activities include Project Sticker Shock (where stickers warning parents of legal consequences for supplying alcohol to youth are placed on stores' alcoholic beverages the day before homecoming and prom), football kick-off rallies, New Year's Eve and Saint Patrick's Day parties, outdoor movies, parade floats and community event booths, and even a duct tape fashion show.

One SRSLY Chelsea teen summed up her experience for the benefit of Stockbridge youth present at the meeting: "This is your chance to have your voice really be heard, to see that what you say really gets put into effect. There are so many adults who only sort of listen. It is an amazing feeling

to truly be heard."

The 2012 Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth (MiPHY) survey of seventh, ninth and eleventh graders indicate 47.9% of Stockbridge highschoolers have consumed a significant amount of alcohol in the past and 22% used alcohol in the last thirty days. First use average among highschoolers was age thirteen. 14% of middle-schoolers have used a significant amount of alcohol in the past and 7% used alcohol in the last thirty days. First use average among middle-schoolers was age ten. Also, kids are using marijuana at an earlier age compared to past data, with age thirteen being first use average. More girls are abusing substances than boys-a trend that is across the board, Stockbridge Police Chief John Torres added, reporting crime among females in general is spiking.

"Harass your kids. Know

hard in a classroom with 25

kids, in a smaller space and

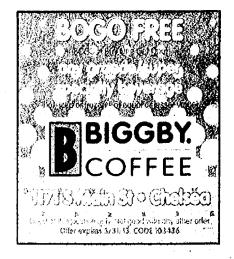
kids safe."

it is moving. They really stay

on their toes to keep all those

kids. A bus driver has up to 70

where they're at. You're not there to be their friend," stated Torres. "In twenty years of police work, I can't tell you how often parents really don't know where they're kids are actually at and who they are actually with."



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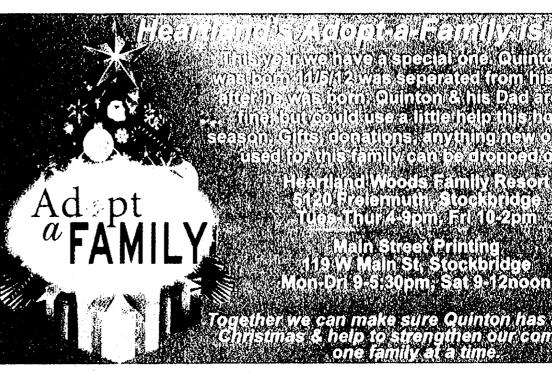
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#### The Wheels on the Bus Continued from the Front Page They have a tough behind the scenes job. A teacher works

The previous inspection took place last June and resulted in a certificate of excellence.

There are 123 square miles in the Chelsea School District with many deeply potholed dirt roads, but in the last ten years there have been no red tags for any Chelsea bus. The last five years of inspection show only one yellow tag, this is for minor violations like a bulb in a blinker.

Jeff Knasiak is the transportation director for the CSD but he is not actually an employee of the CSD. In a cost saving measure, Knasiak is on contract from the Manchester School District. CSD bus mechanics are contracted out to the Manchester schools. This collaboration began in July of 2011. The sharing of resources has saved each of the school districts over \$40,000 in the last year.

Through the use of a renewed routing system Knasiak was able to drop a route this year while transporting approximately 70 more students. The rerouting and merging of lines will save the district about \$18,000.

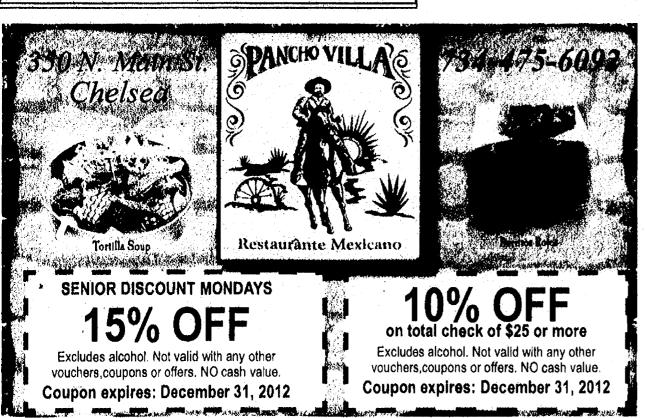
In the interest of bus safety, there are three bus evacuation drills that take place at the beginning of the year. Students exit through the rear bus door with older students aiding younger ones. It takes approximately one minute.

Drivers receive conflict resolution training before they drive for the CSD. All drivers have refresher courses every two years. Every bus in the CSD is equipped with a video camera to monitor behavior.

Bus drivers are given random drug and alcohol screenings. If a driver skips a screening it is an automatic fail. The CSD is also a member of the "State of Michigan Subscription Service" which contacts the school whenever a bus driver has any traffic violations, whether on or off duty. Bus drivers must be in top physical condition. A driver can be disqualified if they have sleep apnea, diabetes, or blood pressure that exceeds 140 over

Knasiak is aware of the crucial importance of good bus drivers - they are the first representative of the school district a child sees during the day and the last in the evening.

One of the mechanics when praised for their exemplary work keeping the buses in top shape pointed out, "The bus drivers deserve a lot of credit.



## **Grapplers Win SEC Quad at Adrian**

The Chelsea Bulldogs defeated Bedford 34-33, Ann Arbor Huron 48-25 and Adrian 52-30 to take the win last week.

Chelsea's Dan Wisniewski (160lbs) and Jacob Grob (125lbs) were 2-0

Mike Hovater dominates his opponent. Photo courtesy of Jessia Wisniewski

#### Girls Basketball Falls to Flat Rock

Tuesday, December 11 the girl's basketball season got under way when the Bulldogs traveled to Flat Rock High School to take on the Rams. They lost in a disappointing 50-43 score.

They returned home for a game against Lansing Christian on Friday, December 14 where they struggled losing 46-43.

The Bulldogs took the lead going into the half 25-24, but were unable to keep it. Lansing came back in the third scoring 15 points and didn't look back from there.

Top scorers for Chelsea were Riley Singleton with 14 points and Bailey Darwin with 12 points.



An easy lay up for Bailey Darwin against Flat Rock.

Photo by Donna Smallwood

## **Bulldog Hockey Secures 2 More**

On Wednesday, December 12 the Buildogs traveled to Davison and nabbed the win again 3-1.

In the first period Davison scored first on the power play at 5:16, but

first on the power play at 5:16, but from then on, it was Chelsea. Taylor Atchley slammed one in at

4:16 to tie the game at 1-1. Assisting were Brody Layher and Jacob Dobberstein.

Two more goals were added to Chelsea in the second period when Dobberstein picked one past Davison on the power play at 10:27. Joey Olmsted and Caleb Bentley assisted the goal. At 1:27, Layher flipped one passed the pipes, again on the power play, with an assist by Dobberstein.

On Friday, December 14 the Bulldogs went up against Divine Child were that game ended in a 5-5 tie.

were that game ended in a 5-5 tie.

On Saturday they played Cheboygan in which they took that game 2-0.

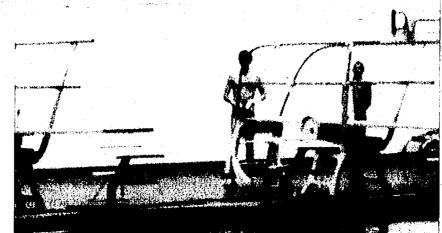
Eric Newman scored a power play goal at 6:57 in the second period to get the Bulldogs on the board. Assisting were Tyler Fullerton and Jake Ryan.

In the third period, Jacob Dobberstein got his own power play goal at 5:32 to seal the deal for Chelsea.

The team will host Ann Arbor Pioneer this Wednesday, December 19 at 6:30pm.

## **Bulldogs Sink the Pirates**





Pinckney's Tanner Tulgetske gets in the pike position in one of his dives. Photo by Donna Smallwood

Thursday, December 13 was the start of boys swimming season where Chelsea hosted Pinckney to the James Cameron pool. The Bulldogs slammed the Pirates in the opener 142-44.

Starting things off, Chelsea took first place in the 200-yd medley relay with the team of Sam Almhiemid, David Alday, Nick Burris and Jonny Mangner with a combined time of 1:44:88 (state cut time). They also took second place with the team of Nick Deppner, Tom Olson, Logan Simpson and Will Wickens. The third place team of Dylan Ousley, Max Lonnemo, Zach Ousley and Aunic Goodin were also Bulldogs.

In the 200-yd free race, it was Chelsea's Ben Thoms with a time of 1:59:20 taking first place. Bulldogs Jacob Hartman and Drew Deppner placed second and third.

David Alday took the 200-yd IM (2:04:91) and the 500-yd free (5:10:41). Both finishes were state cut times for Alday.

Nick Deppner, Mangner and Lonnemo took first, second and third in the 50-yrd free race. Nick Burris nabbed first place in the 100-yd free (51:82). On the springboard, Chelsea divers Joe Smith took first place (218.25) and Jacob Burris took second (208.70).

The team of Wickens, Simpson, Mangner and Nick Burris took the 200-yd free race at 1:35:34, also a state cut time.

State cut times were also nabbed by Sam Almhiemid (56:39), Nick Deppner (57.60) and Jacob Hartman (59.16) in the 100-yd back.

Pinckney's Steven Tarske was the winner of the 100-yd fly with a time of 46:46. He also came in second place in the 200-yd IM at 2:12:16.

In the 100-yd breast, it was all Chelsea again taking the top three spots on the podium. First, Tom Olsen (1:09:73), second, Zach Ousley (1:12:23) and third place, Drew Deppner (1:12:50).

The last race of the night was the 400-yd free relay in which the Bulldogs dominated again. The team of Alday, Simpson, Lonnemo and Almhiemid took first place (3:32:81), another state cut time, and the team of Carter Engler, Wickens, Goodin and Hartman taking second place (3:50:55).

# Buildog Hoopsters Lose to Saline Lost Thursday Chalcon traveled to Saline for house healerthall. They lost

Last Thursday Chelsea traveled to Saline for boys basketball. They lost 4-35.

Luke Hollandsworth led the Bulldogs with 14 points, while Logan Brown had 11 points.

They will host Ann Arbor Huron this Friday night. Game time 7pm.



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# **Wrestlers Split Pair**



Chase Roberts pins a Corunna opponent.

Photo by Mike Williamson

The Stockbridge wrestling team split a pair of matches at a home quad meet Wednesday night. The Panthers fell to Corunna 63-15 and bounced back to beat Olivet 48-30.

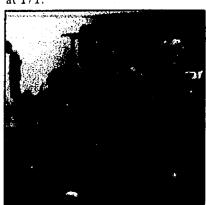
Chase Roberts (140) and Chris Balkus (160) picked up two wins each for the Panthers.

Also picking up wins were Andrew Best, Zack Snyder, Luke Olson, Nic Cooper, Dayton Prater, William Dale, and Jeff Tucker.

The Panthers finished sixth out of eight teams at the ICL Throwback Tournament hosted by Williamston Saturday.

Stockbridge finished with 113 points, just two points out of fourth place. Fowlerville dominated the event with 272 points.

Snyder (119) and Roberts (140) earned second place finishes for Stockbridge. Tucker finished third at 171.



Dayton Prater battles for a hold. Photo by Mike Williamson

## Lady Panthers Pick Up First Win

The girls' varsity basketball team picked up its first win of the season last week, defeating Dansville 45-34.

The Panthers blew open a close game by outscoring the Aggies 17-6 in the third to extend a three point halftime lead to 14.

Kelsey Crockett led the Panthers with a double-double of 11 points and 10 rebounds and 2 steals. Tara Hall added 11 points and 2 steals, Breanna Taylor was good for nine points and Brianna Baldridge was good for 8. Audra Goodlock chipped in with 4 points and eight rebounds.

The Panthers struggled in the first quarter against Williamston Friday night. The Hornets jumped out to a 17-2 lead after one and continued through to a 64-30 win.

Baldridge led the Panthers with nine points by seeking 3 triples. Hall added seven points, Crockett 6, Audrey Twining 4, and Melody Theut and Taylor added 2 each.

# Panther Hoops Drop Two The varsity boys' basketball team remained winless on the season as

The varsity boys' basketball team remained winless on the season as the Panthers dropped a pair of games this week. The Panthers opened the week by dropping a hard fought 44-39 decision to Adrian in a nonleague contest Tuesday night.

The game was close throughout with the Panthers leading 17-16 after one quarter and trailing by one 27-26 at the half. The deficit was just two after three 35-33, but the Panthers could muster just six points in the final period.

Marcus Prigge led Stockbridge with 10 points and 8 rebounds, while Devin Allen scored 8. Lucas Showerman finished with 6, Kaleb Grammer with 5 and Jonathon Mason with 4.

The Ponthese had a rough time Fridge night as well felling to CAAC.

The Panthers had a rough time Friday night as well, falling to CAAC foe Williamston 71-28. The Hornets took a commanding 18-4 lead after the first quarter and never looked back as they cruised to the win.

Allen led the Panthers with seven points, followed by Prigge with 5, Mason with 4, and Skeeter Ballagh and Alec Armstrong with three each. The Panthers host a pair of games this week, taking on Jackson Northwest Tuesday and Lansing Catholic Central Friday.



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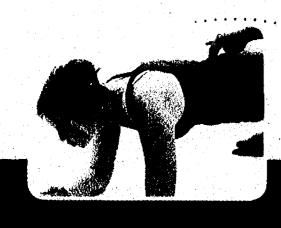
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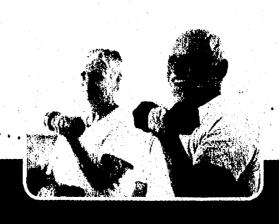
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Stockbridge last week.

The Pirates defeated Olivet 48-35 and fell to a strong Corunna team **63-15**.

Five wrestlers picked up pins against Olivet.

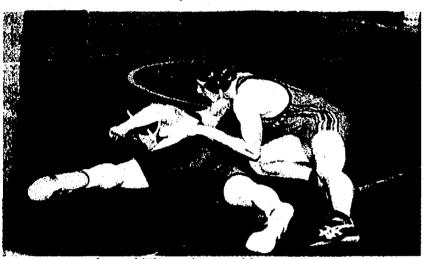
Hadyn Kinjowski (112), Ben Randall (135), Avery Little (140), Brendon Davis (171), and Zachary Sieler (285) each won by pin for the Pirates. Sieler picked up a second pin on the night against Corunna, pinning his opponent in 1:21.

Aaron Kowalski also won by pin at 152 and Davis picked up a 7-3

The Pirates host the Season's Beating Duals tournament Saturday at 9:00 AM.



Ben Randall dominates his Olivet opponent. Photo by Mike Williamson



Avery Little works over his opponent. Photo by Mike Williamson

#### **Competitive Cheer 4th at Home Meet** Penalties were costly for the Pinckney competitive cheer team in a

home meet last week, earning the Pirates a fourth place finish out of four schools in the KLAA cross over.

The Pirates were penalized for a total of 34 points in the second and third rounds to finish with 587 overall points.

Wayne Memorial won the meet with 642.4, while Waterford Kettering was second with 607.6 and South Lyon East third with 600.55.

The Pirates were just 6 points out of first after the first round and had the best second round score, but were penalized 18 points for various violations. Sixteen more penalty points in the third round cost the Pirates a chance at second place.

#### Pirates Fall to Walled L The Pinckney boys' basketball team dropped a tough 59-50 decision to

Walled Lake Central Friday night. After the teams battled to a 12-12 first quarter, Central took control by

outscoring the Pirates 21-8 in the second.

The 13 points Central lead was extended to 17 in the third, before the Pirates made a late rally in the fourth, outscoring Central 20-12.

Sam Black led the Pirates with 20 points.



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# **Hockey Continues to Roll**

The Pinckney hockey team continued its early season roll with the Pirates sweeping a pair of games last week.

Pinckney opened the week by downing Walled Lake Western 6-1. The Pirates jumped out to a 4-0 lead before Walled Lake finally broke through late in the second.

Pat Rogowski put the game away with a pair of goals in the third, including a short handed and a power play goal. Rogowski finished with a hat

trick and two assists, while Cooper Jenkins had two goals and three assists. Nolan Lefebyre finished with 5 assists and Cody Nikkila. scored a goal for the Pirates.

Justin Karamon stopped 25 of 26 shots in net for Pinckney.

The Pirates improved to 4-0 in the KLAA after a 6-2 win over Waterford Mott Saturday night. Pinckney again used a fast start as they took a 3-0 lead in the second.

Mott made it 3-1 late in the second, but the Pirates scored whree times in the third to put the game away.

Mark Janiga led the offense with two goals and an assist. Lefebyre had a goal and two assists, while Rogowski and Kyle Okurowski each had a goal and assist. Nikkila Sean O'Rourke, Brandon

Okurowski, Chad Brewis, and Jenkis all had assists, while Nick Woodruff scored a goal. Brandon Dolan stopped 19 of 21 shots in net for Pinckney.

# Lady Pirates Pick up 1st Win The Pinckney girls' basketball team was finally healthy for the first

time this season and it showed Friday night when the Pirates picked up their first win of the season 61-37 over Walled Lake Central.

The Pirates jumped out to an early lead thanks to shooting 47% for the night from the field.

They only committed 12 turnovers and collected 13 steals on defense. Shannon Dingman led the Pirates with 12 points, while Maddy Harris added 8. Nadia Razmariwicz was a force inside, collecting a team high 13 rebounds, including eight on the offensive end.

Earlier in the week, Pinckney dropped a 56-34 loss to Novi. Harris led the Pirates with 11 points, including 3three pointers.

## **Dread Icers Down Swartz Creek**

The Dexter hockey team rallied from a first period deficit to down Swartz Creek 5-2 Saturday night.

The Dreadnaughts trailed 2-1 after one period, but scored three times in the second and once in the third period to rally for the win. Patrick Gronvall scored two goals and had an assist to lead the

Dreadnaught offense. Freddy Burke had a goal and an assist, while Joey Barlett assisted on three goals. Brian Lim and Blake Miller also scored goals, while Sean Fitzimons. Cameron Milne, and Hunter Bisson picked up assists.

Zach Richards was Stellar in net, stopping 32 of 34 shots in net for

## **Wrestlers 4th at Napoleon**



Dexter's Zeke Breuninger dominates his opponent. Photo by Dawn Miller

The Dexter wrestling team came home with a fourth place finish at the Napoleon Invitational

The Dreadnaughts finished with 127 points. Jackson Lumen Christi won the meet with 186.5, while Gibraltar Carlson was second with 185.5.

Zeke Breuninger won the 112 pound weight class to lead the Dreadnaughts, defeating Mason Brott of Gibraltar Carlson 11-7 to win the title.

Larry Gotchar lost by pin in the finals of the 103 pound weight class to earn a second place finish.

The Dreads split a pair of matches at a home quad meet Wednesday night.

Dexter defeated Ann Arbor Pioneer 39-34 and tied Ypsilanti Lincoln 39-39, but lost on a tiebreaker to Lincoln.

No individual results were available.

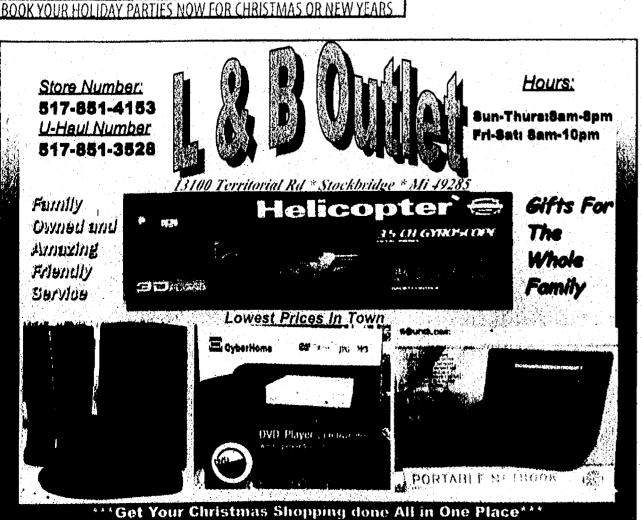
## **Dreads Fall** to South Lyon

The varsity boys' basketball team struggled offensively in a non-league game against South Lyon last week, but still fell 50-30.

Dexter started strong leading 9-7 after one, but the offense struggled from there.

The Dreads were outscored 13-4 in the second and 15-9 in the third to trail 35-22 after three quarters.

Kyle VanDusen and London Truman led the struggling Dreadnaught offense with five points each. Derek Seidl and Ben Kill scored four each, while Ethan Kremkus and Brandon Bednarz added three each.





# **Girls' Hoops Remain Undefea**

The girls' varsity basketball team continued to use a stifling defense to roll to a pair of victories and remain undefeated with a 4-0 overall record. The Dreadnaughts opened the week by knocking off undefeated Manchester 47-35.

Dexter used a dominating first half to take control against the Dutchmen.

The Dreads led 10-3 after one and 24-11 at the half.

Manchester outscored Dexter 16-10 in the third to cut the lead to 34-27, but Dexter hit some big free throws down the stretch to hold off Manchester and pull out the win.

Makenzie Svihra had a big game with 10 points, four rebounds and three assists. Emma Kill and Crystal Kedroske each scored eight points, while Riley McDonald scored six and grabbed nine rebounds. Teia McGahey chipped in with 6 points, Taylor Olson five, and Kathryn

The Dreadnaught defense again was dominant Friday night as Dexter shut down Temperence Bedford 34-19.

The Dreads defense allowed Bedford just eight first half points. The game was still close as Dexter led 23-15 after three quarters, but the Dreadnaughts put the game away in the fourth, outscoring the Mules

Kill led the offense with 12 points. McDonald added 10, McGahey six. and Olson five.

#### Swimmers 2nd at Midland The Dexter boys' swimming team finished second place at the Midland

Dow High Pangborn Invitational last week.

The Dreadnaughts finished with 102 points, just three points behind the host team Dow with 105.

Picking up wins were Jonathan Zofchak in the 200 free, Robbie Zofchak in the 100 back and the 200 free relay team of Brennan Maisch, Paul Ruble. Max Merrimann, and J. Zofchak.

Second place finishes went to R. Zofchak in the 200 IM, Maisch in the 50 free, Jake Kilian in the 1 meter diving, Maisch in the 100 free, J. Zofchak in the 500 free and the 400 free relay team of J Zofchak, Ruble, R Zofchak, and Merrimann.



Dreadnaught Andrew Hoang gets ready to start his match Photo by Dawn Miller



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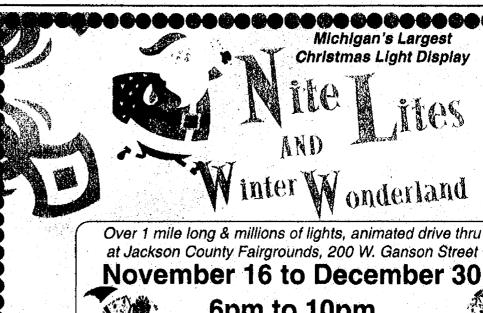
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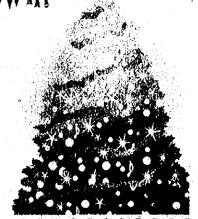
Santa is coming to town! Children will have the opportunity to have their photos taken with Santa and make their Christmas wishes. \*Photos will be taken for a small fee or you are welcome

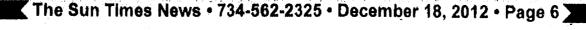
Winter Wonderland & Santa Visits: November 30th - December 2nd December 7th-9th and 14th-23rd Live Reindeer on November 30th December 7th and 14th

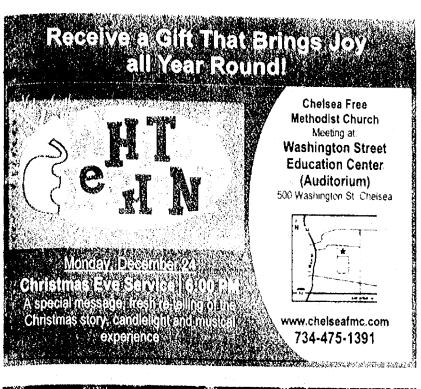
to visit Santa at no charge.

(Santa's hours: 6:00pm-8:30pm)

We will be offering a puppet show and free train









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#### **Dreams On Ice**

By Melinda Baird

Abbey Biehl was just five years old when her mom Karen took her to an ice skating class at their local rink near Pinckney. Karen said she needed something for her child to do since her three older siblings were in school all day. It didn't take long to notice Abbey had a natural gift for the sport, and life hasn't been quite the same since.

Now 14 years old, Abbey will travel to Logrono, Spain in April to compete for the third annual Nation's Cup Theatre on Ice Competition. Representing the United States, she and fellow teammates from the Ice House Skating Academy in Hartland's competitive theatre on ice team will compete with teams from Spain, France, Australia, Italy, and Russia. The team, Harmony Theatre Company, is the only nationally competing theatre on ice team from Michigan for the past three years.

Theatre on ice is a fairly new form of competitive skating that incorporates a theme, emotion or story and is enhanced by music. It is only one aspect of Abbey's figure skating life. She also competes in the United States Figure Skating Association's (USFSA) national championships in the more technical freestyle events (where she has tested to the level of novice—one level beneath senior level), couples ice dancing events, and the less technical, more creative showcase events.

Abbey trains four hours per day five days a week under the watchful eye of five different coaches. Ice House Skating Academy in Hartland is a second home to Abbey, and her coaches and teammates a second family. Captain of her team, Abbey has found her niche. "I've made so many friends, it's not like I'm missing out," she said during an interview with her mom.

To keep up with the demands of training, Abbey is schooled through the Fowlerville Online Learning Academy, a web-based program. She hopes to someday join Disney on Ice and eventually be a journalist and skating coach. Currently, Abbey coaches the Learn to Skate class in Hartland.

As for her family, her mother says Abbey's figure skating career has been profoundly time-consuming, a lot of sacrifice and exhausting at times, but Abbey is more than worth it. Financially, the skating eats up substantial



Hoping to place in the top 3 Abbey Biehl will compete in Spain this spring

family resources including the money it costs to pay for coaches, ice time, travel and skates-which cost about \$1,400 for one pair that last about a year.

Another challenge Karen faced was "needing to learn how to be a skating mom." She learned to give Abbey space before and after competitions so she can both "go into the zone" and "come out of the zone" without interference from Mom.

The fact that Abbey considers her mom to be one of her two greatest inspirations makes it all worth it indeed. The other inspiration is her coach, friend and mentor Piercyn Hunt. Abbey's words bring tears to her mother's eves: "I would like to be my mom and skate as great as Piercyn.'

Abbey hopes to place within the top three in Spain, and believes the team has a good shot despite their young age. "We have the innocence and cuteness factor going for us." she laughs. Having to raise \$150,000 before April, the team is accepting donations. For more information, go to harmonytheatrecompany.com. And to catch Abbey doing what she loves, consider attending Hartland Ice House's 2013 Spring Ice Show February 22 and 23.

## **PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### **WATERLOO TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS EXTRACTION COMMITTEE NOTICE**

Waterloo Township is seeking a resident to serve on the Extraction Committee which meets twice a year. If interested, please submit letter of interest to Janice Kitley, Waterloo Township Clerk, P.O. Box 130, 11120 Musbach Road, Munith MI 49259, within 2 weeks. If you have questions, please call 596-8400

#### **BUNKERHILL TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING**

Notice Bunkerhill Township Residents - A Planning Commission Meeting will be held at Bunkerhill Township Hair located at 871 Decamp Rd. Stockbridge MI 49285. Purpose of the meeting is to review a request for all and use permit to Chris and Nanette Fulier. Meeting witigtake place on Thursday December. 27, 2012 at 7,00 PM Carne Zeitz, Bunkerhill Township Clerk

#### **VILLAGE OF STOCKBRIDGE TRUSTEE POSITION VACANCY**

Village of Stockbridge Trustee Vacancy - The Village Council of the Village of Stockbridge is requesting applications for the position of Trustee to fill a vacant seat through November 20: 2014. Please submit a completed application by Wednesday January 2, 2013 for review. Applicants must attend the January 7, 2013 Regular Village Council meeting to be held at 201 Wood Street, Suite 101. Room #3 at 7.00pm for consideration. Applications available at www.vc stockbridge maus under Forms

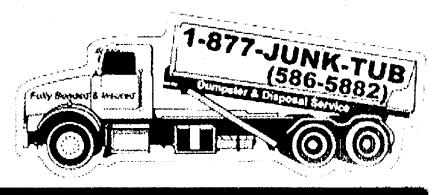
#### **MULTI LAKE WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY RESIDENTS - RESOLUTION #12-004**

MULTILLAKE WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY RESOLUTION # 12-004 - A RESOLUTION TO SET THE MEETING DATES FOR THE MULTILAKE WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY FOR 2013. Be it therefore resolved, the Multi-Lake Water & Sewer Authority by a vote of the majority at a requiarly scheduled and duly noticed meeting held the 6" day of December, 2012, establishes meeting dates for the Multi-Lake Water & Sewer Authority for 2013 as follows

THURSDAY JANUARY 3 @ 7 00 PM THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7@ 7:00 PM THURSDAY, MARCH 7 @ 7 00 PN' THURSDAY, APRIL 4 億 7 00 PM THURSDAY MAY 2 @ 7 00 PM THURSDAY, JUNE 6 @ 7 00 PM THURSDAY, JULY 11 @ 7 00 PM. THURSDAY, AUGUST 1 @ 7 00 PM THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5 @7 00 PM THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3 @ 7:00 PM THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1 3 700 PM THURSDAY DECEMBER 5 3 7 00 PM

Be it further resolved that the above. Meeting Schedule shall be posted at the Multi-Dake Water & Sewer Authority and published one time in the Sun Times, Ann Arbor com and Heritage Newspapers. Resolution offered by Board Member Harley Rider - Resolution supported by Board Member. Stephen Feinman - Roll call vote: Yeas Feinman Rider West Kelly Reilly, Maze. Lewis, Topping - Nays, None - The Chairman, Tom Lewis dec 3red the resolution adopted. Date December 6, 2012.

Attested by Linda Reilly, Secretary





Whether you attend church or not, celebrate this holiday with your community

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7pm

Crossroads Community Church 950 S. Climbon & Sockhilder 





# **NEW YEAR ~ NEW YOU** Weight Loss Challenges

Starting after New Year's



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## **Chelsea-area Wellness Foundation Offering Free Pre-diabetic Classes**

From Amy Heydlauff Sometimes you can get something for nothing. This column is about something that's

You've probably heard all the stunning information about the huge number of Americans who have diabetes, or the even larger numbers of Americans with pre-diabetes. Nearly 90% of the population doesn't know they are at risk. In Michigan alone there are over two million pre-diabetics.

A month or so ago I had a call from a past associate who now works for the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM). The connection between the large number of Americans with pre-diabetes and the NKFM is the strong link between kidney failure and diabetes. With this background, I'll circle back to the FREE part.

The NKFM has a program that is uniquely designed to delay or prevent diabetes in participants who meet the definition of prediabetic (below you'll find a survey to determine your risk). They

would like to offer the program to anyone in our five healthy towns who qualifies.

We met with representatives from the NKFM, some local physicians and the outpatient diabetes clinicians from Chelsea Community Hospital. A primary focus of our meeting was how to get those at risk into the program.

Here's what we decided to do: 1) hold the program locally 2) ask local physicians to encourage their patients to attend 3) make the program open to all who qualify - with or without physician referral or encouragement 4) hold an information only meeting on January 9th, 7:00 - 8:15 pm at the Chelsea Wellness Center 5) sweeten the pot with incentives for participants, like guest passes to a local Wellness Center and pedometers.

If you or someone you know has been told by a doctor 'your sugar is high' or 'we need to watch your blood glucose' or 'you're pre-diabetic' come to the information session on January 9th or contact us and we'll tell you how else you might connect with the program. If you scored high enough on the survey questions below, do the same. For more information, CALL or EMAIL us at the Chelsea-Area Wellness Foundation (734.433.4599 or info@5healthytowns.org). Physician looking for more information you can contact us the

same way. We look forward to collaborating with everyone interested in preventing diabetes in our five healthy towns.

Survey: Are you a woman who has had a baby weighing more than 9 pounds at birth? Yes (1 point)

No (0 points) Do you have a sister or brother with diabetes? Yes (1 point) No (0

Do you have a parent with diabetes? Yes (1 point) No (0 points)

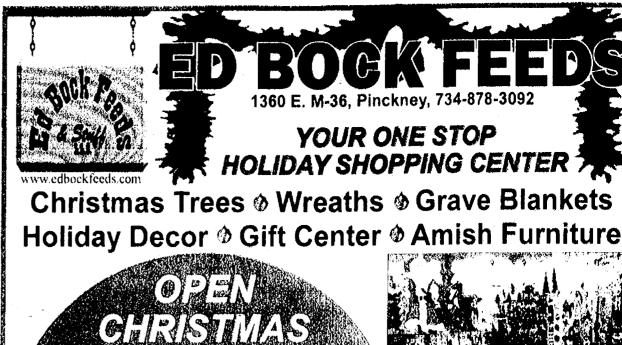
Are you overweight (body mass index > 24)? Yes (5 points) No (0

Are you younger than 65 years of age and get little or no exercise in a typical day? Yes (5 points) No (0 points)

Are you between 45 and 64 years of age? Yes (5 points) No (0

Are you 65 years of age or older? Yes (9 points) No (0 points) A score of 9 or more points

qualifies for the program. Contact us: info@5healthytowns.org or 734.433.4599.



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## **Town Hall Players Production Benefits Stockbridge Community Outreach**



"It's not such a bad little tree Charlie Brown." Linus. played by Maximillian Hoeppner consoles Charlie Brown, played by Noah Hughes. Photo by Lynne Beauchamp

By Lynne Beauchamp

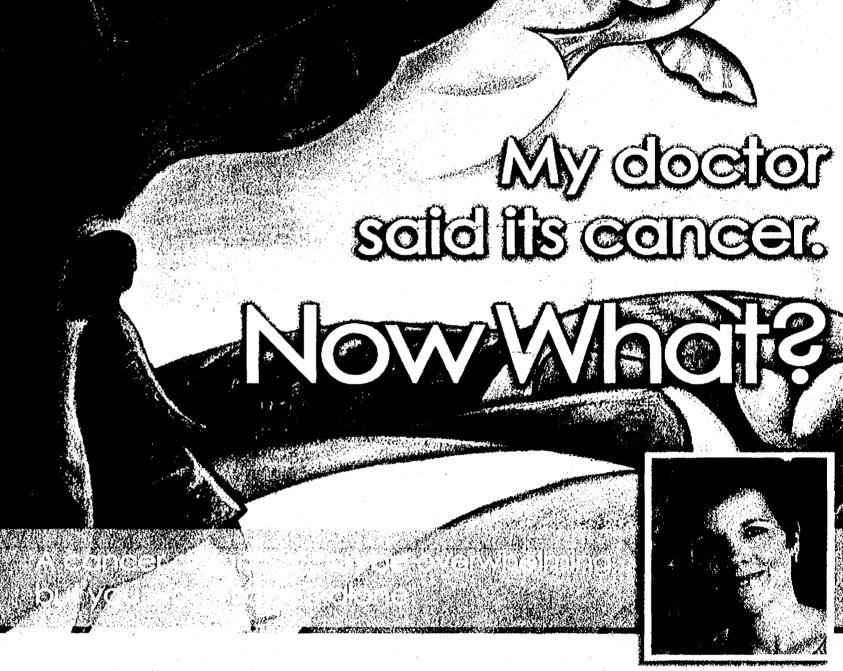
The Town Hall Players (THP) closed its season this past weekend with "The 2012 Christmas Show" which included A Charlie Brown Christmas, How the Granch Stole Christmas and a musical number of Heat Miser/ Snow Miser that tied the shows all together.

With a cast and crew of over 60 school aged youth, the show's director John Sturtevant said there were challenges in getting the show to stage. "Dealing with the number of young kids who have never been involved in acting...basically getting them to learn how to project and slow down their lines. This is Sturtevant's first time directing. He has been a member of THP since 2007.

The show's producer, Kristeen Webb said this was the perfect time to give back to the community by donating part of the proceeds of the performance to local charity, Stockbridge Community Outreach. Along with \$2 of every ticket sold, THP conducted raffles throughout the performances with the entire proceeds being donated to Outreach.

Organizers thank the many businesses and individuals that donated raffle items and funds for the big ticket item-an IPad Touch (won be local resident, Joyce Beauchene). According to THP member Christine Landis, approximately \$600, was raised for Outreach in raffle sales alone. With three nearly sold out shows, ticket sale proceeds raised approximately another \$560 according to the show's assistant director, Barb Krusinski.

"I am happy and delighted we could do this. I am so proud of our cast and crew for bringing people in," replied Webb of exceeding the goal of \$1000 raised for Outreach.



Melissa Owings Wilcox

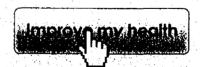
"If I had to go through breast cancer treatment, I wanted accessibility to my doctors," said Jackson veterinarian Melissa Owings Wilcox. "I chose Allegiance Health because they always made me feel like I mattered."

Melissa's breast cancer was discovered early, with her very first mammogram at age 40. After a successful surgery and the completion of chemotherapy and radiation treatment, she's feeling "stronger and healthier than ever and grateful for my huge circle of support from family, friends, coworkers and clients."

For more information on cancer care, including a video on breast cancer, visit AllegianceHealth.org/NowWhat.

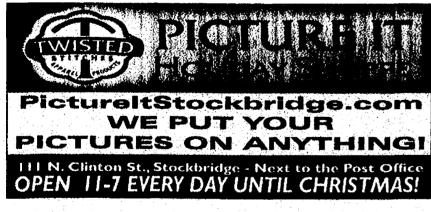
Allegiance Health is among the top 100 in the nation for overall surgical care in medical excellence according to CareChex\* — A Quality Rating Service of The Delta Group, the nation's largest privately-held health care information services company.

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All breast lumps should be checked by a health care professional. To learn more, visit AllegianceHealth.org and search "Breast Lump."

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