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Troy-Somerset Gazette

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

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THE CITY OF TROY delivered a proclamation to the staff of the Troy-Somerset Gazette at its September 9, 2019 city council meeting, congratulating the newspaper for entering its 40th year of operation in the city. Pictured from left to right: Office Assistant Renee Burzynski, Senior Sales Executive Pam Brown, Troy Mayor Dane Slater, Publisher Mark Nicholson, Editor-in-Chief Andrew Neal, Creative Director AJ White, and (in front) City Editor Cynthia Kmett. Photo courtesy of Cindy Stewart, City of Troy.

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Editor's Note

The Fourth Estate Turns 40 In Troy

by ANDREW NEAL

Over 80,000 people call the city of Troy home, and even more work in its office buildings, hospitals, restaurants, retail shops, and of course, Somerset Mall. It's the 10th largest city in Michigan.

For 40 years, the people of Troy have turned to The Troy-Somerset Gazette every week for the news in their community.

The paper was founded by a young General Motors employee who came north looking for the mall.

But the story starts years before, when Claire Weber was attending the University of Michigan.

"I've always been somewhat of a news junkie," she says. "When I went to Michigan, I worked a very plebeian job at The Michigan Daily, but it gave me a taste for it."

She would go on to spend time in The South End newsroom at Wayne State University, where she attended after graduating from Michigan.

"I just liked the whole process. Of course, saying that, the process at that time was a lot different. It was a lot more hands-on."

After college, Weber took a job at General Motors, begrudgingly.

See GAZETTE, page 2

Farmers Market Finale

Join us for the Last Troy Farmers Market of the Season

September 27 | 2-6 pm

Apples, pumpkins, & donuts...oh my! Join us, AND characters from the Wizard of Oz for the last Farmers Market of the season.

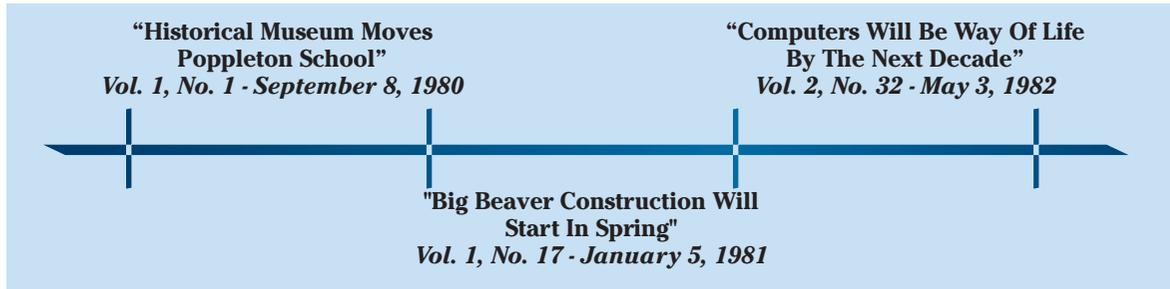
2-6 pm
Library Parking Lot

Sponsored By: GENISYS CREDIT UNION

troymi.gov/farmersmarket



PROCLAMATION FROM THE CITY OF TROY in recognition of the Troy-Somerset Gazette's 40th Anniversary Year.



Weber Takes a Chance on Newspaper

From GAZETTE, page 1

"I was young and thought I had copped out by working for GM, which was a stupid thing to think, but at that time everybody my age in our very early 20s didn't want to work for a big corporation. We all wanted to do something else. We didn't know how good we had it. However a lot of us, myself included, did branch out."

With a knack for newspapers, she found opportunity in a town 25 miles north of Detroit.

"I came to Troy looking for the mall. And just looking around, it reminded me a lot of an area that was underserved," Weber says.

In the late 70s and early 80s, things looked a lot different in Troy. The Somerset Mall and

Somerset Apartments were the only notable structures. Rochester Road was two lanes.

Seeing her chance to branch out, Weber cashed out her stock savings of about \$5,000 and left her job at GM. "I thought what the hell, I'll try it, and if it doesn't work, I'm young. I can find something else."

In the beginning, like most entrepreneurs, Weber was doing it all on her own, quite literally out of her closet.

"I had darkroom experience, so I would develop film in my closet, take the film to Meteor – which was a film house on

Stevenson Highway – I would take it to them in the morning and they would make me a proof sheet. I'd pick the photos I wanted and they would print me just those photos, so that's how we got photos."

She didn't have a phone either, but she figured it out. "I met this manufacturer's rep who let me use his office phone and pay his receptionist to answer my phone. So we didn't have an office or anything for a couple of years, and I just sort of put it together that way."

Weber worked day and night in those early years, determined to see the newspaper succeed. It wasn't easy. In those first years, she delivered the paper on Saturday, sold ads during the

See GAZETTE, page 3



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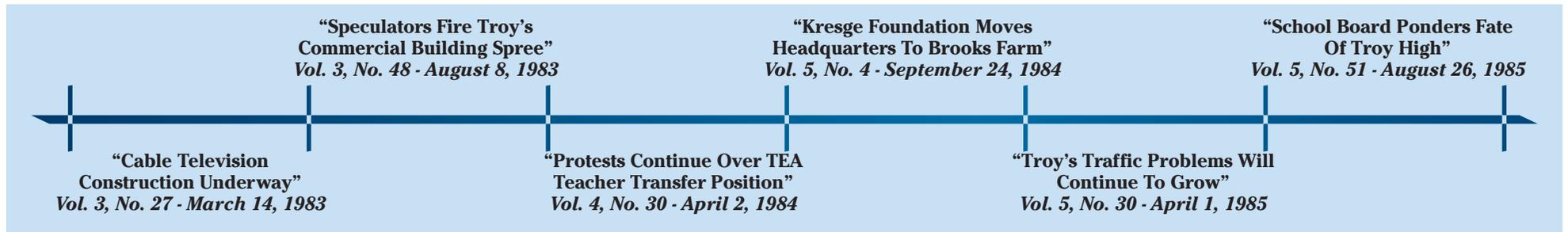
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SPECIAL TRIBUTE FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN in recognition of the Troy-Somerset Gazette's 40th Anniversary Year.



Kmett Crowned Editor, Begins Decades of Local News Coverage

From GAZETTE, page 2

week, and wrote stories at night. In her spare time, she expanded the delivery route and attended city events.

While attending a planning meeting for Troy Daze, Claire met Cynthia Kmett, who was doing PR for the event.

"She came to the meeting and everyone just sort of looked at her blankly and said, 'You're with what?' Because we didn't know of the paper yet," Kmett remembers.

After working together on Troy Daze, Kmett offered to write for the newspaper, and said she'd do it for minimal pay.

"She was hired," Weber says. "I didn't know what she could do, but she was hired."

It was truly serendipitous.

Kmett was newly widowed and looking for something to do on the side to get more involved in the Troy community, a place she had only recently moved to. Weber was overworked and in desperate need to offload some aspects of the business to someone else. Kmett was outgoing and social, ready to shake hands at ribbon cuttings and corner the mayor for an interview. Weber was more into the process of making newspapers and running a small business. It just worked.

"Had it not been for her at that point – when I was literally doing everything – I don't think I would have made it," Weber says.

"She wrote the stories and pointed me in the right direction of a lot of things," she adds.

"She was relentless at finding places to deliver," Kmett says, "and she spent a lot of time doing that."

Now with a small staff of three, including a new graphic designer, Weber got a small office with a phone. "I'll never forget having this little office," she recalls. "It was two rooms and we couldn't move around very much."

Like most lucky breaks, it's about being in the right place at the right time, with the skills necessary to capitalize. That's where The Troy-Somerset Gazette found itself in the economic boom that would occur over the next 15 years in Troy.

"I'll never forget when Uncle

Eds came to town. They came to my crappy little office and they bought my first full page ad," says Weber. "And they didn't by just one full page ad. They bought six."

"It was one of those things where I thought, 'maybe this is a start,' and it pretty much was."

There was a time before those full page ads when Weber thought she might have to get a second job, although she was determined to make the Gazette last.

"Prior to that, all the ads were small. I would go to the post office box and if there was a check there for \$200 I would say, 'Yes, we're going to pay the rent!' But there weren't very many that were that much money."

Cynthia Kmett remembers her time in the early days filled with covering business development

and community events.

"My very first assignment was the Jaycee's Halloween House. Claire got me a camera and sent me out to take a picture," Kmett recalls. "My first story was Distinguished Citizen of the Year – Money Marquart."

It was a time of rapid development in Troy, and Oakland County as a whole. "We went to a lot of groundbreaking ceremonies, ribbon cuttings, road widenings," says Kmett. We watched it all go up."

The Troy-Somerset Gazette's philosophy was to give the business community news as it grew and to support the nonprofits. Its evolution into a community newspaper was seamless as residential grew.

See GAZETTE, page 4

Headaches? Jaw Pain? Can't Sleep? This may be the solution for you...



Snoring, jaw pain, and headaches don't have to keep you up at night anymore.

Jeffrey Haddad, D.D.S., provides innovative care to patients with TMJ disorders and sleep apnea at the Michigan Center for TMJ and Sleep Wellness in Troy. Beyond his specialized knowledge and cutting-edge technology, Dr. Haddad brings compassionate care to his patients.

Dr. Haddad has been a dentist treating TMJ and sleep patients for 20 years and now solely treats TMJ and sleep disorders at the Michigan Center for the last five years.

"There's so many people suffering from TMJ symptoms or sleep apnea problems, and there's not enough people to treat it," he said.

TMJ dysfunctions affect the joint on each side of a patient's jaw and cause pain in the muscles and joint movement. Symptoms of TMJ include migraines, headaches, jaw pain, ear ringing, ear congestion, vertigo, and neck pain. People with sleep apnea have a breathing disorder that causes them to stop breathing for 10 or more seconds multiple times while they sleep. People with sleep apnea often feel tired, no matter how many hours of sleep they get, have low energy, and wake up repeatedly during the night. They often snore and experience morning headaches.

Dr. Haddad treats TMJ and sleep apnea using computerized jaw tracking and muscle relaxation techniques. Using this technology, he finds the proper bite that supports a patient's musculature. He then creates a jaw orthotic that discreetly corrects bad bites. After a few months, Dr. Haddad said, patients no longer experience symptoms and they can choose to have dental work which permanently rebuilds their bite to the proven, comfortable, stable jaw posture. Or they can continue utilizing their orthotic as needed.

Not many dentists are trained to treat these disorders or use this technology. Dr. Haddad has over 500 hours of continuing education in TMJ and completed a TMD and sleep residency in 2012.

"This isn't stuff that's taught in dental schools. It's not stuff taught in medical school," he said. "There's nobody else in Michigan that's treating these patients as comprehensively as we are."

The scarcity of expertise means that many patients go untreated.

"It's a lot of people who frustratingly go to their primary care physician, and they don't have an answer. Or, they go to their ENT, and they don't have an answer. Or, they go to physical therapy, and they're not getting better. Or, they're going to a chiropractor and not getting better," Dr. Haddad said. "Unfortunately, there's a very big disconnect between the medical and dental world... I'm hoping to continue to educate other health professionals in the area because a lot of people give up hope because they're not finding the right answers."

Dr. Haddad objectively measures each of his patients to identify the underlying cause of their symptoms.

"Seventy-five percent of all TMJ patients have an underlying sleep breathing disorder, and 52% of all sleep apnea patients either have

TMJ pain and symptoms or are prone to them," he said. "That's really important because sometimes it's the sleep component that's causing their pain or vice versa."

Before patients leave his office, they'll know if they're a candidate for treatment.

At the Michigan Center for TMJ and Sleep Wellness, Dr. Haddad uses cutting-edge technology to provide patients with relief. One of the newer treatments he uses is therapeutic laser therapy to reduce pain. According to Dr. Haddad, laser therapy helps reduce inflammation, increase blood flow to unhealthy muscles, and relieve headaches.

"It helps increase healing, it gets people feeling better faster, and it really makes the overall process more efficient," he said.

Dr. Haddad said he knows that many people suffering from TMJ and sleep apnea may be skeptical of treatment but encourages people who have given up hope to come in and have a conversation.

"A lot of our TMJ and sleep patients have been suffering for a long time, and, you know, we are very empathetic to that," he said. "A lot of people have been told they can't be helped, and we want to give them the answers they're looking for."

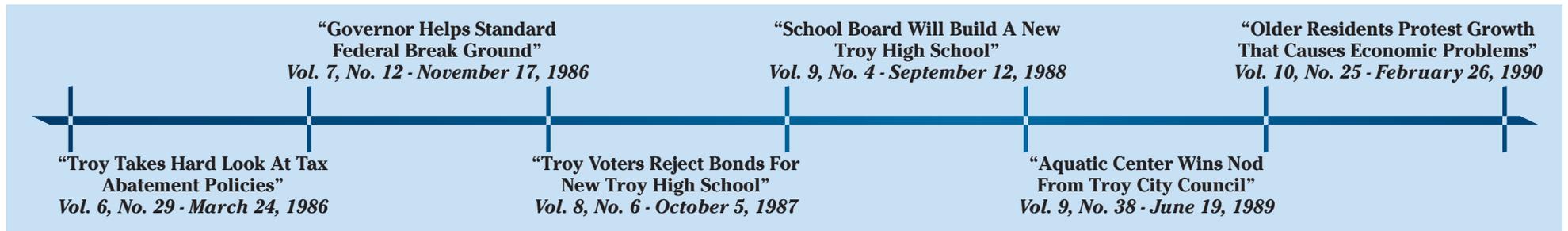
Helping people find relief is one of the most rewarding things for Dr. Haddad.

"It's probably one of the more fulfilling things that we do, when we get people back to living life without pain," he said. "It gets them pretty much back to living the quality of life they deserve."

The Michigan Center for TMJ and Sleep Wellness is located at 4550 Investment Dr., Suite 290 in Troy. To learn more about Dr. Haddad and the treatments offered at the Michigan Center, go to Michigantmjandsleep.com or call the office at 248-480-0085.


Michigan Center
for TMJ & Sleep Wellness

4550 Investment Dr., Suite 290 • Troy • 248-480-0085 • Michigantmjandsleep.com



The Evolution of Newspaper Production, Gazette Goes Digital

From GAZETTE, page 3

"It was a very different time for production," recalls Gazette Editor Cynthia Kmett.

Every day, Kmett started her morning at the post office to pick up the day's mail, which included packets of press releases, pictures, news tips, and more. She would then head to the day's events – often groundbreaking ceremonies, ribbon cuttings, road widenings, etc.

Founder and Publisher Claire Weber lived in Detroit, south of 8 Mile just west of Woodward in Green Acres, when she started the Troy-Somerset Gazette in 1980.

It was in that house where Kmett and Weber would assemble the newspaper.

"Before we had an office, we

would do the paper on the dining room table," recalls Weber. "We had to cut out and keyline the paper on a light table. For a time I rented equipment but we could only use it on the off-hours, from midnight to 8 a.m. And we did."

Kmett and Weber would write their stories on a word processor. After setting the photos and stories in a layout, the pages were taken to a printer. From there they were snapped and plated for the press.

"We used to print our paper in New Baltimore," Weber says. "So Cindy and I would go out there, and we'd work all day, and drive back. I remember they were having a ceremony for widening Rochester Road and it was on a Friday. So I drove Cindy out there, worked for a little bit, drove back,

took pictures of the ceremony, and drove back out."

"I did what I had to do. And what I had to do I could never do again," Weber laughs. "I would never have the energy."

As the digital age descended, the production process changed. And as the Gazette expanded its distribution and page count, more efficient methods had to be used. Offices were upgraded, computers were purchased, additional support staff was hired, and the paper could eventually be emailed to Huron Web Press, the Gazette's longtime and current printer in Wyoming, Ontario.

Weber bought her first house in Troy five years into the paper, where she raised her son Chris.

The Gazette staff continued to play an integral role in delivering the news of Troy every week. When asked what helped make the paper a success, Weber knows that timing played a big role.

"I didn't have enough of a demographic feel to know how much it was going to change commercially. At that point, the mall was here, but I really didn't know how dynamic it would be and it got dynamic really fast. So we were on the ground floor of some of these hotels moving in and attracting businesses and it started growing really quickly and I was really lucky."

At that point, there was no other paper in town. "We had a

spot there from 1980 to the late 90s early 00s where we were the only game in town and it was a great time. So I hired a salesperson."

"I was so determined that it was going to work that I would've done anything," Weber says.

The Troy-Somerset Gazette now operates out of an office at the corner of Crooks and South Blvd. Chris Cooke, Owner and CEO of Huron Web Press, stops in every Wednesday with his classic, "What's new? What's happening? Tell me everything." So not everything has changed.

See GAZETTE, page 5

Imagine Yourself Without Belly Fat!



After battling a lengthy stint of health issues herself, Nicole Lynn Martin decided to make it her mission to help others dealing with the same afflictions.

"I was looking at essentially just having digestive health issues for my whole life that would need pills and

procedures," Martin says. "After I was able to heal myself through nutrition, I became an integrative health coach and a personal trainer, focusing on corrective exercise performance enhancement."

Soon after, she met Dr. Michael Dangovian DO, FACC, now her business partner at the Wellness Training Institute in Sterling Heights, where Martin is the Wellness Director.

Dr. Dangovian is a cardiologist who has spent his near 30-year career focused on reversing heart disease.

"When we met it was very synergistic, and we partnered together and started creating programs for people to reverse or prevent disease," Martin says, "and that's what we do at the Wellness Training Institute."

The Institute offers customized programs to improve patients' health and well being. Five essential elements are included in every program:

- Detox Guidance
- Nutrition Coaching
- Fitness Routine
- Hormone Analysis
- Stress Management

Wellness Training Institute promotes an individualized approach to each client. "We've never done the same program twice," Martin says. "We run realtime programs so people are living their lives, and that's what allows us to get truly regenerative results and lifelong results."

Martin underscores the importance of prioritizing health and wellness, even in the face of busy schedules and obligations. "People typically do things for everybody else and not for themselves."

Wellness Training Institute works with people who have weight issues, heart disease, diabetes, reflux, rheumatoid arthritis, autoimmune issues, and more.

When people visit the Institute and begin their custom program, Martin says the results are fast and noticeable. "They start feeling better really quickly. It

only takes a couple of weeks with our system for people to start seeing results."

The core principles of the center are exemplified in its name. Focused on patient wellness, the center educates and trains people on how to successfully implement a results-based program aimed at improving their quality of life. They are a self-described community resource center.

"It's about knowing the information and knowing what works for you."

The goal at Wellness Training Institute is to end needless suffering. "I can say that's my purpose because I have needlessly suffered," says Martin, "so to be able to help somebody heal who doesn't have to go through it alone is huge for me."

The Institute offers free seminars for people interested in visiting and learning about the programs. For more information, or to reserve your spot at a seminar, call 586-554-7515 or visit Wellnesstraininginstitute.com.

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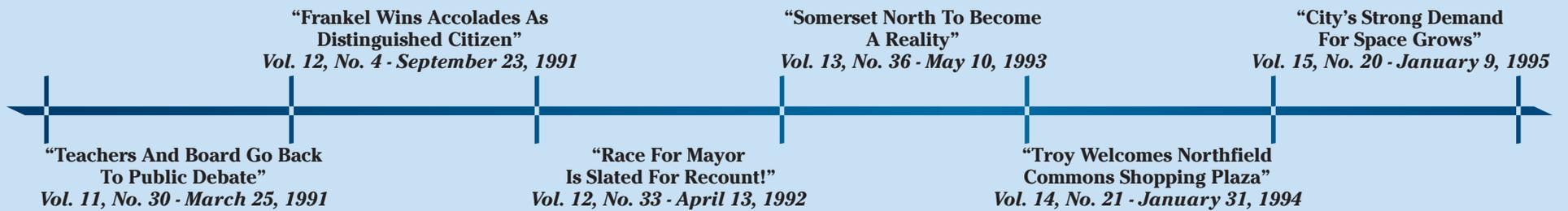
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New Publisher, Nicholson, Continues Troy Gazette Legacy

From GAZETTE, page 4

In August 2015, Troy resident Mark Nicholson bought The Troy-Somerset from Claire Weber. Expanding on the success in Troy, the new publisher launched two more weekly newspapers in Rochester and northern Macomb and established Gazette Media Group.

"I remember reading the Troy-Somerset Gazette with my kids as they were growing up," Nicholson says. "We used to pass the paper back and forth and read the police patrol column and other stories."

Acknowledging the need to diversify in the digital media age, Gazette Media Group produces a variety of experiential events including home shows, senior

expos, bridal shows, and festivals through metro Detroit and nationwide.

"Local news is so vital to a prosperous community," Nicholson says. "The fourth estate, as they say, keeps the government in check and its citizens informed. That is what we continue to deliver every week to the city and we are so grateful to the people of Troy for their support."

As the media landscape evolves, keeping it local is key for outlets like the Gazette.

"The local aspect is still really important," says Weber. "Younger generations are not as acclimated to paper news as my generation. I think think the local aspect, where people can disseminate their information locally, quicker will keep papers like the Troy Gazette

alive and well."

Looking back on the last 40 years, Weber remembers what drew her to the city in the first place.

"What always impressed me about this community was that everybody pitched in. If there was something that needed to be done, if you couldn't do it, you knew somebody who could do it."

To this day, it's not uncommon for people to stop City Editor Cynthia Kmett in the grocery store, or call her up on her landline (after she turns down the TV) to talk shop.

"I've tried to be fair, and also to not be taken over by people who are gossiping."

So, where do we go from here?

Kmett says the big fight in Troy is saturated land use. Developers are buying up the last available parcels and looking to build condos on land near old homes with big trees. Homes where people have lived for decades and never imagined someone would buy the land next to them, cut down the trees, and build tall residential structures.

And since land values have surged since the early 80s, developers are looking to maximize their use of space more than ever. "It's expensive now, so you're going to get a different level of housing," Kmett observes.

Claire Weber agrees, and speculates on the economic outlook of not only the city, but the county and state.

"It's going to be a lot harder for middle class families to move in. Property values have skyrocketed, and there's no place left to build. The downside of that - I'll be curious to see what happens when the economy retracts. Because I'm not sure how we can support all this. But hey, they've done well so far."

All in all, Weber wouldn't change a single thing.

"I love the community. I've lived and worked in the community these 35 plus years and I'm so grateful I landed here. I can't even imagine a better life."



Richard Beaubien, DC
FIBFN, CNDH



Michael O. Husmillo, DC
DACNB, FACFN

Optimum Chiropractic Neurology Center (OCNC) is not what you may think of as traditional chiropractic care. Founded by Dr. Michael Husmillo here in Troy, the center combines traditional joint techniques with neurological and musculoskeletal applications that are designed to help a patient reach their optimum health.

Dr. Richard Beaubien joined Dr. Husmillo's OCNC staff earlier this year. A Troy High graduate, Dr. Beaubien learned about the advantages of chiropractic treatments as a Colt football player who had a few unwanted injuries in his youth. He studied for his Doctor of Chiropractic degree at the National University of Health Sciences in Illinois. He got married and started his practice in Texas, but always wanted to come back to Troy with his wife and children. Initially, Dr. Beaubien opened his own office on Axtell in Troy.

After he met Dr. Husmillo at a seminar that focused on the techniques of functional neurology, the two agreed that there were many new and appropriate ways to treat patients that didn't involve surgery or drugs.

Let Us Help You Reach Your Optimum Health!

Interestingly, some of the problems Dr. Beaubien sees in young people involve repetitive behaviors. Dr. Beaubien demonstrates some of the repetitive exercise techniques that can help a child get control of their spontaneous actions. He demonstrates the "Starfish" exercise and points out there are some actions that the parents can supervise at home, and even do with their child. Some harder ones they do at the office. The doctor calls them "core exercises" and explains that if you can understand them, you can do them, and they will help.

"Working with the younger generation is a lot of fun," Dr. Beaubien says. "I enjoy working with the kids and seeing them when they have control of their behavior. It's great when you can help them get that control."

His goal is simple. "I can make you feel better even if we don't know exactly what caused it." So, from kids with developmental delays to ADHD or even a concussion from just an incident at play, the goal is to make a kid healthy and happy.

Those in need of neurological therapy often have trouble reading and writing. New high-tech equipment can track eye movements and find the places where they might not be in synch with reading, and movements that cause dizziness, headaches, or vertigo. Exercises can help with this problem, too.

For help keeping your body in top condition with advanced care, call 248-885-8463. Optimum Chiropractic Neurology Center is located at 1767 West Big Beaver Road in the Heritage Square complex in Troy. Visit their website ocncenter.com for hours and more information.



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"Niles Community School Starting Off Strong"

Vol. 16, No. 2 - September 9, 1996

"Over 53 Languages Spoken In Troy School District"

Vol. 19, No. 29 - March 28, 1999

"Troy Baptist Church To Become Woodside Bible Church"

Vol. 20, No. 41 - July 22, 2002

"Beaumont Troy Opens New Medical Facilities" Vol. 15, No. 41 - June 12, 1995

"Rezoning Denied East of Livernois, North of Big Beaver" Vol. 18, No. 33 - April 20, 1998

"Troy First Responders Answer The Call On 9/11" Vol. 20, No. 1 - September 17, 2001



The first Troy-Somerset Gazette newspaper Vol. 1, No. 1 - September 8, 1980

"New Somerset North Plans Make Debut" Vol. 8, No. 29 - March 21, 1988

THE PIANO PLACE IN TROY OFFERS AN EXCELLENT ASSORTMENT OF TOP NAME QUALITY PIANOS AT REASONABLE PRICES



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Have you been thinking about buying a new piano? The Piano Place in Troy has an excellent assortment of top-name Baby Grand and upright pianos to choose from - quality instruments you will enjoy for years to come! Their inventory includes such brands as August Fdrster, Charles Walter, Haiun, Hallet Davis, Perzina, Petrof, Sauter and others, and they have the largest selection of European pianos.

"Buying a piano from a Technician is different than buying a piano from a Piano Teacher," stated Owner Richard Bittner, RPT. "A Piano Technician will tell you about the quality of workmanship and materials while a Teacher will tell you more about brand names."

The Piano Place has been selling pianos since 1994 and has vast knowledge about the products they sell. Their friendly sales staff will work with you to help you find the best piano to fit your taste, style and budget. Prices vary depending on the size and make, yet you can be sure that the piano you purchase will be a

well-made quality instrument that performs well and sounds wonderful!

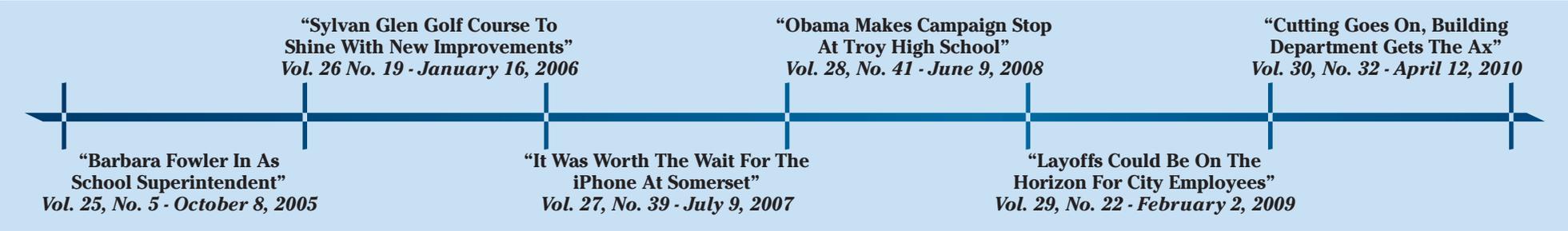
They also have a good variety of beautiful pre-owned pianos for those "budding pianists" that fit perfectly in a living or family room. In addition, they offer piano lessons and have expert instructors to teach children and adults who have always wanted to play music.

"We don't just sell pianos," Bittner said, "we sell music!" So, visit their showroom today and try out their pianos. Once you hear the resonance of these fine instruments you will want to purchase one for your long-time enjoyment! The Piano Place...knowledgeable sales staff... quality products...reasonable prices. It's THE place to buy pianos!

The Piano Place is located at 1307 E. Maple Road, Suite A, Troy, MI 48083. Phone: (248) 619-9027 • Website: www.thepianoplace.com • Hours: Monday-Saturday 10:00 am-6:00 pm & Sunday by appointment.

1307 E. Maple Road • Troy 248-619-9027 • www.thepianoplace.com Monday-Saturday 10am - 6pm • Sunday by appointment





"DDA Wins Approval, Somerset North is a Go" Vol. 15, No. 24 - February 6, 1995



"22-Story Condo Tower Proposed for Big Beaver" Vol. 25, No. 2 - September 13, 2004



"22-Story Condo Tower Proposed for Big Beaver" Vol. 25, No. 2 - September 13, 2004

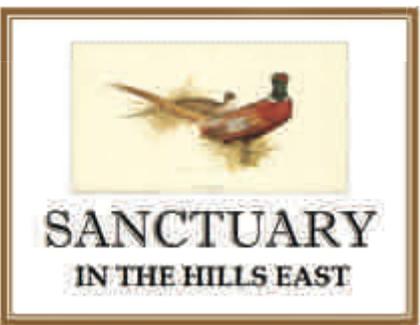
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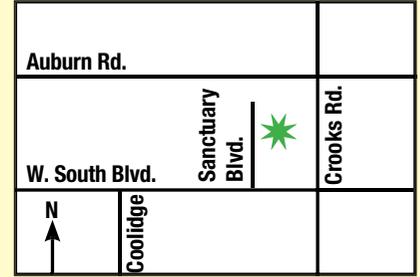
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"Troy Says 'Yes' to Public Library" Vol. 31, No. 48 - August 8, 2011

"Slater Takes Top Spot In Race To Be Troy's Mayor" Vol. 33, No. 37 - May 13, 2013

"Council Suspends All Action On Civic Center" Vol. 37, No. 45 - August 14, 2017

"Daniels Recalled, Search For New Mayor Underway" Vol. 33, No. 11 - November 12, 2012

"Troy Regains Place As Safest City In Michigan" Vol. 35 No. 25 - February 23, 2015

"Troy-Somerset Gazette Celebrates 40th Year Of Operation" Vol. 40, No. 1 - September 23, 2019

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Tim Hortons. Troy Locations Celebrate 10 Years in Community Partnerships!

Pause a moment and think about how many times you've enjoyed Tim Hortons' "Tim Bits" at a Troy fundraiser for one of the City's many non-profits. It's undoubtedly more than most of us can count.

Should you choose to attend, you'll be enjoying those Tim Bits with cider the first Sunday of October at the main Troy Fire Station Annual Open house.

Maureen Finnigan and John Mara are the wife and husband team who own all four of Troy's Tim Hortons Café & sandwich shop. They are extremely generous in their support of Troy's nonprofit community, they provide hot coffee and Tim Bits for the "Troy One" teachers back to school day, the Troy Boys & Girls Club "Taste of Troy", to supporting a Buddy Bench for the Troy Rotary. They have continued to support and contribute to the Troy Historic Village and the Trick or Treat Event, the Troy Library Summer Reading Program and numerous gift baskets for many additional events. This Troy couple is always finding ways to help the community.

Perhaps you even have attended one of their Camp Day events. That annual event funds a week at a Tim Hortons Foundation Camp for children whose families cannot afford such an adventure. Maureen and John annually send six kids to camp, and the campers thank-you notes tell just how much fun the kids have there.

"We love being a community partner and we are excited that the Troy Somerset Gazette is celebrating 40 years," says Maureen, who grew up in Troy and is an Athens High graduate.

With all the road construction underway, you may have noticed that the Rochester Road restaurant lobby is closed. It's been 10 years since this first Troy location opened its doors and it's time for a remodel.

"We want better for our guests," John says. "We want you to be comfortable when you stop in."

He thinks all that should be finished by mid-October. However, John does point out that the drive-thru is open, in case you're headed to work in the morning.

Tim Hortons is the perfect place to go for freshly brewed coffee. Their coffee is made with 100% Arabica beans and they also offer specialty beverages including lattes, cappuccinos, espresso, iced and frozen coffee, hot chocolate and tea.

Tim Hortons Cafes are known for their donuts, single or by the dozen. Delicious. Need something more substantial? The specialty breakfast sandwiches are tasty choices that make you happy. Don't forget to stop later in the day for a light lunch or afternoon snack, including Iced Cappuccinos. They do have some of the best smiling staff and are looking to add more. Those interested can apply online at nowhiring.com/muffinholdingsllc.

All the Troy Tim Hortons locations are open from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Advertisement for Tim Hortons featuring a large image of a bagel with butter and a cup of coffee. Text includes: FREE CLASSIC BAGEL with butter with the purchase of any size Beverage. Locations: 1905 E. Maple Rd, 507 E. Big Beaver Rd, 3331 Rochester Rd, 1860 E. Big Beaver Rd. Add Cream Cheese for \$.99 - PLU 387. With coupon. Limit one coupon per guest per visit. PLU 102. Expires 10-31-19.

Choice Properties Is Building Its Real Estate Portfolio

If you're looking for the Troy headquarters of the Choice Group, you can find it at 2265 Livernois at the corner of Kirts Blvd. Just look for the American flag that the company's founder and CEO Kamal Shouhayib proudly flies. It's the biggest flag in our city.

The Choice Group is a family owned business that Kamal operates with his wife Yasmine and sons Rob and Omar.

While many of us may live in wonderful subdivisions developed by Choice Properties, in recent years they have turned some of their attention to the commercial arena. Their first Troy building was their own headquarters on the corner of Livernois and Kirts. That was six years ago when they saw the potential for a convenient location for businesses in the city. It was only 50% occupied when they took over, but a complete renovation has changed that into full occupancy today. Choice Group soon added a Big Beaver office building and invested heavily in revamping the property to ensure happy tenants.

But the location of their headquarters prompted the Shouhayib family to look across the street and soon they were not only the owners of the "Kirts on the Blvd" plaza, which we know as the home of CJ Mahoney's, but also the landlords to the four office buildings on Kirts to its rear.

Those office buildings were not considered a prime location until the Choice Group invested in extensive renovations that have led to 93% occupancy, which includes the busy students at the Chamberlain College of Nursing-Michigan.

Shouhayib says his sons, Rob and Omar, have spent a lot of time on curb appeal in their renovation plans, which is important to Troy professionals when their

clients call. "We love Troy and Oakland County, and we're aggressively looking for other investments," Shouhayib stresses. That includes office, commercial and industrial buildings. "We took underperforming properties, and with good management and capital investments, we turned them around." He notes with a smile that the Choice Group has better occupancy rates than the city of Troy as a whole.

Not all of the Choice Groups investments are in Michigan. The company owns and manages properties in four states, including several in the Houston, Texas area.

One of the finds they are most proud of is in Rockford, Illinois. This handsome building was "built to last" in 1988, Shouhayib observes. With beautiful grounds and underground parking for the Midwest winters, he adds that it is "more than a five-star building."

The Choice Group was at yet another closing last Tuesday, and Shouhayib says that Rob and Omar are always on the lookout for opportunities to expand the company's portfolio.

Equally important to this family is to support the communities where they do business.

Kamal experienced firsthand the impact of giving as a young boy back in 1956 when his hometown of Aley, Lebanon was devastated by an earthquake. He vividly remembers the gifts of cookies and personal items from the United States. It was this generous American spirit that Kamal sought to generate in his personal and business life. He has partnered with the Troy School District for many years for

the middle school essay contest titled "Proud to Be an American." To date, more than 15,000 students have participated.

Kamal is also a passionate Rotarian of more than 35 years, leveraging his Rotary membership to do good in places near and far. With the help of fellow districts and Lebanese Rotarians, he helped bring clean drinking water to students in Lebanon's 1,200 public schools, along with many other health and welfare projects.

He was instrumental in bringing his birth city of Aley, Lebanon and his adopted city of Troy together as sister cities. As a testament to this bond, there stands a hand-carved rock statue in front of Troy City Hall. He has also served the community on several boards, including the Boys & Girls Club of Troy and the Troy Chamber of Commerce.

In recognition of his commitment to the Troy community, Kamal Shouhayib is one of Troy's Distinguished Citizens, a yearly award to those who work to make this a better community in which to live, work and play.



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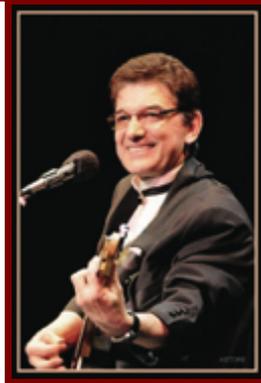
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Troy's Post-WWII Boom

by **ANDREW NEAL**

The Troy Historic Village connects people across time, culture, and geography. And the stories are endless.

As chunks of Troy Township were being annexed after World War II, the people of Troy came together to protect their land.

During the suburbanization of the time, Troy Township was considered rural land. As people began to move north from Detroit, as soon as development would start, cities to the south like Royal Oak, Birmingham, and Clawson

the old Township Hall could serve as a museum, especially since when Wattles oversaw construction of the Hall in 1927, the far west wing known as the Pioneer Room, was originally intended to display historical artifacts.

After the city vacated the building to move to its new city hall, it became the Troy Museum.

As Troy started to boom in development and real estate values outstripped historic value for any old structure, buildings that the Historical Society thought



A view of the Troy Historic Village grounds

would annex parts of Troy.

The leadership in Troy, including Township Supervisor Norman Barnard, realized they were losing geography. In response, they gaveled their official meeting closed, met at Norm's house, and in one weekend they had platted the city of Troy, developed petitions for citizens to sign, distributed the petitions, and on Monday morning, filed for annexation to officially become the City of Troy.

The main building that sits on the grounds of the Troy Historic Village was Troy's Township Hall from 1927, when it was built, to when the city was established in 1955, and then overnight it became City Hall.

Within 10 years, it was already overcrowded. City officials planned to move their offices to its present location on Big Beaver around 1968. At that point, they had to decide what to do with the old Township Hall.

There were numerous suggestions that it might become the town Library, but engineers were unsure whether or not if structurally the building could handle the weight of the books.

People like Morris Wattles and Norman Barnard, who had been well-recognized leaders in the township, were also among the first people to become involved in the fledgling Troy Historic Society.

There was an idea offered that

had historic significance were slated to be torn down.

The first building that was scheduled for demolition was the Caswell House, built in 1832 by one of the first pioneers, Solomon Caswell, to establish a homestead in Troy. He was among the first 15 residents of Troy.

The house had been lived in exclusively by the Caswell family. When Solomon Caswell's grandson died, he left no heirs and he willed the house and the property to his friend, a local mailman.

The Caswell House was then sold to the Christian Reform Church, who planned to tear down it down and build its house of worship on the land. A deal was struck between the Historical Society and the young city and the church – with some input from the mailman – to donate the house to the city as long as it could be moved to the vacant property behind Township Hall.

The Historical Society raised the money to move the building.

That started a pattern of "move it or lose it" and over 50 years, buildings have been added to the museum campus, which is now 5 acres and 11 buildings. The most recent structure that was relocated – and likely the last – was the Niles Barnard House, which was moved in 2010.

Continued on page 11

Troy Historic Village

The city of Troy has always owned the buildings, the land, and the collection of the village, but in 2011, as a result of the Great Recession, the city decided it no longer wanted to administer the village as a component of a city department (most recently it was part of the Library Department).

The Historical Society had always raised money to move buildings to the village, supported programs, and held events on village grounds. Ultimately, the society stepped up and took over the management and operations of the village on July 1, 2011.

Troy Historic Village Executive Director Loraine Campbell began her work in Troy at the Stage Nature Center, working part-time for about 12 years. In 1998, during a restructuring period in the city, Campbell became the Education Coordinator for the nature center and the village. And in 2000, she was named the Executive Director of the village. When the Historical Society took over operations at the village in 2011, Campbell ceased being a city employee and

from five counties every year."

The village also offers programs for adults, families, and seniors.

Campbell says the local history of Troy is relevant and important.

"What history does is it provides us context. It helps us understand the successes, the failures, and the challenges of the past and how people dealt with them. That explains sometimes where we are today and it provides us a framework for making better decisions in the future."

Looking ahead, Campbell observes that Troy is in its second phase of development.

"The density in Troy is certainly increasing, which changes the generational distribution, the number of people



THE TROY HISTORIC VILLAGE welcomed visitors through the wheels of a giant Radio Flyer Wagon in 2015 as Bill and Kathy Ziembra waited to check guests in to the Scarecrow Glow Party fundraiser.

now works for the Troy Historical Society.

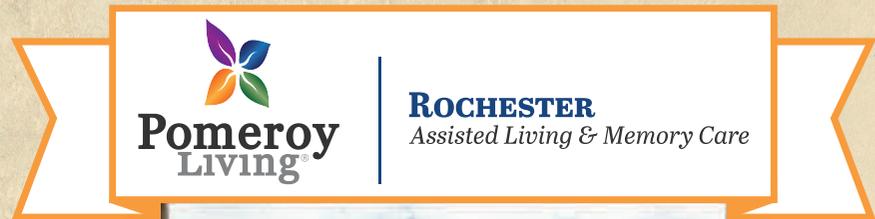
Campbell and her staff realized that the village is not a traditional museum with galleries, and that there was a need to host educational and entertaining events at there.

"As a village, we provide an immersive environment for education," Campbell says. "Last year, we became a cultural passport with Detroit Public Schools Community District, and we are now providing education programs to about 15,000 school kids, chaperones, and teachers

who have children, older citizens, traffic patterns, all of that is affected."

If you've ever driven by The Troy Historic Village at 60 W Wattles Road, Campbell encourages you and your family to visit. Their Scarecrow Row display goes up the last week of September and it will stay up until the end of October. There's also a Halloween trick-or-treating event in late October.

For more information on the Troy Historic Village, call 248-524-3570 or visit Troyhistoricvillage.org/.



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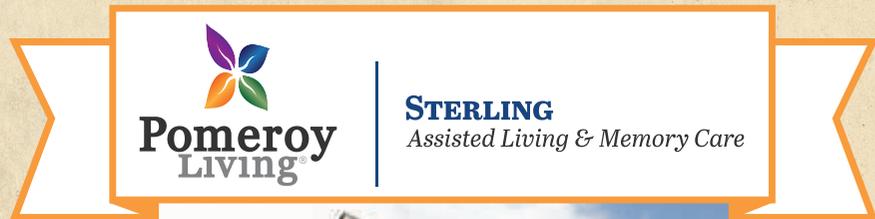
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A Look Back At The Gazette's Police Patrol

by JUSTIN COOPER

For many readers, the highlight of every week's Gazette is the Police Patrol page. Troy-Somerset Gazette writer Cynthia Kmett has been putting it together for decades, and on the occasion she misses one, she says one or two people will sometimes see her in public and ask, "Where was it?"

It started when Bill Tullock, a Troy policeman at the time who retired in 1994, suggested to Kmett that Troy's week in crime ought to be shared with the wider community. "The pitch was that people are interested in crime, and they'll love it, and he was absolutely right," Kmett said.

Kmett said that she hopes people can get a better sense of judgment from reading the Gazette's Police Patrol section. She puts the spotlight on drunk drivers whenever she gets the chance, but the thing Kmett is most tired of seeing is purses, wallets, and computers getting stolen from the back seats of cars. "Criminals are watching," she warns.

In the spirit of advice, Kmett offers this tip: Troy cops keep their eyes extra peeled for two things: drunk drivers, and people in parked cars behind industrial buildings at night. Everybody knows it's dark back there — especially the cops.

Here are a few of our favorite Police Patrol highlights from over the years. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

POLICE PATROL



Old Police Patrol excerpts

■ AREN'T THESE ELECTRIC VEHICLES?

Officers located a subject operating an Amigo scooter stolen from the Kroger store at South Blvd and Crooks. The subject stated that she was intending to drive the scooter to Warren. The scooter was returned to the store. Unknown if charges were ever pursued.

■ SHE QUIT, BUT NOT BEFORE STABBING AN EMPLOYEE - Officers responded to a business in Troy on reports of an employee stabbing. A 28-year-old woman was resigning from her position at the health care company and went to human resources to turn in her equipment. The HR employee noticed that the woman had turned in a broken tablet and told her she would have to pay \$500 for it to be fixed, per company policy. The woman became angry and attacked the HR employee, putting her in a choke hold and stabbing her with a pen. She fled the scene before officers could arrive. Shortly after, officers located her vehicle during a traffic stop. She was arrested and charged with assault.

■ WHO BREAKS INTO A BUSINESS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY? It was late in the afternoon when

police were called to this Troy manufacturing facility. Employees had discovered four suspects were seen inside the business who were not employees. When they were confronted, one of the suspects discharged a fire extinguisher in one of the employee's face and fled. Arriving officers were able to locate a 15-year-old boy from Troy hiding under a press in the building and arrested him. A second suspect, a 16-year-old boy from Troy was found hiding in a field near business lot and was arrested. A third suspect was found heading toward his residence in Troy and the 16-year-old boy was arrested. The fourth suspect, a 15-year-old boy from Troy, later turned himself in.

■ WELL, POLICE DEFINITELY KNOW WHERE TO START LOOKING FOR THIS WOMAN - This store manager reported an unknown woman came to the jewelry department wishing to purchase a gift. She attempted to purchase a 14k yellow gold necklace and applied for a JC Penney credit card. When she was denied, she attempted to use her own bank card and again was denied. She then grabbed the jewelry valued at \$2,250 and fled.

■ MORE JUVENILE BEHAVIOR - The drivers of a Jeep and a Subaru were involved in a traffic altercation on Maple Road. The Jeep driver, a 36-year-old woman, said the Subaru driver stopped abruptly in the road and then pulled alongside of her, throwing a lit cigarette into her vehicle. The driver of the Subaru, a 23-year-old woman, said the Jeep driver was following too closely to her vehicle and she tapped the brakes to warn the driver to back off. She said the Jeep driver was mad, drove next to her, and flipped her off. The Subaru driver denies throwing a lit cigarette, saying she doesn't smoke.

■ A NOT-SO-NICE NEIGHBOR? Police arrived at a Somerset dwelling after someone called complaining about excess noise coming from an apartment. The resident explained that he had several friends over to watch the Superbowl and agreed to quiet things down. When two of the guests left the gathering they discovered that someone had slashed their tires.

■ THIS, I'M AFRAID, IS A VERY COMMON CRIME THESE DAYS - This complainant reported leaving his locker key and towel on a bench while he played basketball. When he finished playing basketball he discovered the key was missing. His locker had been opened and \$200 was stolen from his wallet. You really have to have a place to safely tuck a key away when at the gym.

Note: The Police Patrol excerpts on this page are several years old. Please do not contact the Troy Police Department about these incidents. Page 13 contains this week's Police Patrol column.

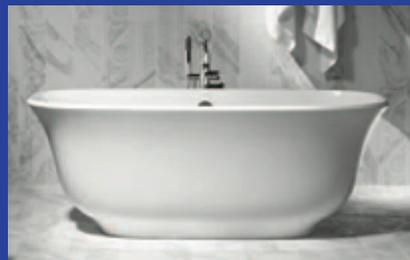
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Will We Ever Learn To Lock Our Cars? (Nope)

POLICE PATROL



by
CYNTHIA KMETT

■ THIS ACTION IS NOT NECESSARY –

Officers responded on report of a traffic altercation in which two subjects were fighting. The officers spoke with one of the subjects involved, a 40-year-old man from Troy, who said he attempted to merge-over as his lane was ending on Big Beaver and struck another vehicle. Both drivers began to have a heated discussion and when the 40-year-old's wife exited his vehicle, the other driver made an inappropriate comment about her. The subject stated this infuriated him and he struck the subject one time, knocking him to the ground. The officers spoke with the other driver who admitted that he was involved in a heated discussion with the other driver and also admitted to making the inappropriate comment. However he did not recall how he was assaulted but was interested in seeking criminal charges for Assault and Battery against the other driver, as he did not throw any punches. Two witnesses said the 40-year-old man punched the other driver three times. The 40-year-old driver was arrested and charged with Assault and Battery.

■ **MORE TROUBLE IN BIG BEAVER TRAFFIC** – Officers responded to the Paradise Mart Parking Lot on Big Beaver on report of private property traffic crash. The officers spoke with all the subjects who were involved and all agreed that a verbal argument ensued after one driver struck a parked vehicle in the parking lot. One of the subjects stated he was punched in the back by one occupant of the parked vehicle, which was confirmed by his son-in-law. The occupants of the parked vehicle deny striking the driver of the vehicle who caused the accident.

■ **NEED WE SAY THIS GUY MIGHT HAVE BEEN DRUNK?** Officers responded to the Embassy Suites parking lot on report of a belligerent subject who was punching vehicles parked in the parking lot. Officers arrived and spoke with the 29-year-old man who appeared visibly intoxicated and boisterous. The officers attempted to calm him without success. Officers spoke

with the manager of the business who said the subject was no longer welcome at the facility. The subject refused a ride home with a friend and opted to be driven home by a cab. When the cab driver arrived, the subject refused to take the ride and began to rant and swear, requesting to be arrested. The officers obliged his wishes, charging him with Trespassing and Disorderly Conduct.

■ **WONDER IF THESE TWO WERE FRIENDS** – Officers responded to a business parking lot on Rochester Road on report of two subjects fighting. The officers spoke with a 21-year-old man and a 20-year-old man who admitted they had been involved in a physical altercation while inside the vehicle they were traveling in. The driver said he pulled the vehicle over so he and his friend could continue their fight outside the vehicle. Both subjects were issued Misdemeanor Citations for Fighting in Public.

■ **MAYBE SOME OFFICES HAVE CAMERAS** – Several employees of the Liberty Center at 50 and 100 W. Big Beaver at Livornos reported missing items from their desks, stolen by unknown suspect(s). Items taken included a bottle of Frank Family Reserve Wine, prescription sunglasses, a Visa Gift Card, and miscellaneous coins and currency totaling approximately \$70. The only damage observed was a desk drawer that had been locked.

■ **SHE COULD HAVE SURRENDERED** – Officers were on Renee Drive looking for a 37-year-old woman from Troy who had a valid warrant out of the 6th Circuit Court for Dangerous Drugs. The officers observed the subject outside of her home and as they approached and when they identified themselves to her, she took off running into her residence. The officers gave chase and were able to apprehend her in the kitchen of the residence. She was transported to the Troy Police Lock-up Facility where a small container was found to be concealed under her clothing. The container had numerous prescription pills in it which were later identified as Amphetamine Dextroamphetamine and Pseudoephedrine Hydrochloride. She was charged with Illegal Possession of Prescription Medication and Hinder and Obstruction of a Police Officer.

■ **AND WHY OH WHY IS YOUR VEHICLE UNLOCKED?** A Houghton Drive resident reports unknown suspects entered his unlocked 2018 Chevrolet Equinox while the vehicle was parked in

his driveway, stealing his Apple iPhone 5S, his sunglasses, and his wallet which contained approximately \$110 and multiple credit cards. A credit card was fraudulently used to complete a hundreds of dollars of purchases. The victim discovered the theft when his wife was contacted by her credit card company regarding suspicious activity on it. Lock it or lose it.

■ **THE CULPRIT WAS IN HIS OWN PARKING LOT** – This victim discovered unknown suspects removed his yearly license plate renewal tab attached to his pickup truck parked in a Big Beaver business. While checking the parking lot, he noticed the stolen tab was now affixed to a silver Kia Optima. The responding officers arrived and found a 35-year-old man sitting in the Kia. The subject was questioned and eventually admitted to stealing the renewal tab. He was issued a Misdemeanor Citation for Larceny and released from the scene.

Note: If you have any information on the aforementioned crimes, or any other offenses, please call the Troy Police Department at 248-524-3477. If you wish to remain anonymous, you may call 524-0777 and leave a message.



80s Style at Troy Police Department

THE... PUZZLING PHOTO ABOVE was taken in the late 80s by the Troy Police Department for submission to Law & Order magazine's "Best Dressed Police Department" contest. The department did not win any awards for their efforts, but they were recognized as a top finisher, surprisingly. Dressed as Barney the Bear was the late Dan Caverely.



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Gazette's Legacy of Support for Troy Nonprofits

by CYNTHIA KMETT

They say it takes a village to raise a child, but it also takes a village for a city to be successful.

In our modern era, Troy is surrounded by several components that make that success possible including our business community, the Troy Chamber of Commerce members, and the extensive list of nonprofits that work tirelessly to make this a better city for all our diverse residents.

To make that happen, nonprofits have many projects and fundraisers each year. The Troy-Somerset Gazette tries to be available to spread the word on their endeavors and to encourage everyone in the city to participate.

Community Coalition

Keeping very busy these days is the Troy Community Coalition, which works endlessly to encourage healthy choices – to not to smoke or drink to excess. Vaping and marijuana have also been a cause of concern for the Coalition for quite some time now.

The Coalition has worked tirelessly over the past 28 years to address substance abuse prevention from multiple vantage points in the community – through the schools, churches, Coalition's summer camp, conferences, town halls, expert panels, special events, and fundraisers. Research shows that using a comprehensive approach to substance abuse prevention results in the most positive outcomes.

Nancy Morrison, Executive Director, said "It has been a pleasure collaborating with so many organizations and individuals to prevent substance abuse and make a positive impact in the community. We are stronger when we work together, when we are all on the same page and want the same results."

All of these efforts take money. When it was formed, the federal government was giving large grants to coalitions to get the message out. Those days are long gone; now the Coalition needs local support, which the Gazette encourages you to give.

Here's how you can help make Troy a healthier community. The Troy Community Coalition's biggest fundraiser of the year is their 24th annual Celebrity Night Dinner. The dinner will held on Thursday, October 17 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the San Marino Club in Troy. The dinner will feature Detroit Music Award Winner Michele Ramo as the entertainment. Karen Carter, CBS

62's Chief Forecaster will be the event's emcee. Sponsorships and tickets are available by calling the Troy Community Coalition at 248-823-5088.

Troy Garden Club

Among the most generous people in the city are the members of the Troy Garden Club. They are the real worker bees behind the flowers all over town, especially for the Village Green and the holidays celebrated there. But flowers cost money, and that requires an event. Their big event is the annual Troy Garden Walk in July. Many years ago, Gazette founder Claire Weber declared that they could have an ad for the event, and a story as well. Long-time Gazette readers will know that sprinkling an ad means the walk is on the horizon.

Kiwanis Club

Both Troy Kiwanis and Troy Rotary step up to the plate for a myriad of other nonprofits. They both have scholarships for Troy students and give to the annual Christmas drives of Troy People Concerned and the Troy Police Department. This year the Kiwanis Club donated, with help from the Troy Community Foundation and the Troy Foundation for Educational Excellence, to build an outdoor classroom at Athens High School. They are also responsible for the shelter at Daisy Knight Dog Park.

Troy Rotary Club

The Troy Rotary Club was very busy this past winter raising funds in both the business and residential communities to put Buddy Benches at all Troy's schools and the Boys & Girls Club, too. So the Gazette is always happy to give those kinds of endeavors a gentle push or two towards fulfillment. This fall, the Rotary is planning a big literacy program to mentor students who need a bit of help with reading.

Firefighter's Memorial

Currently underway is a campaign to build a Firefighter's Memorial at Firefighter's Park on Square Lake Road. The Women's Firefighters Auxiliary started the tradition of honoring the volunteer firefighters who had served by planting a tree in the park with their name on it. But age and weather, has made the department think a more significant memorial is appropriate.

Continued on page 15

Donating Your Time and Energy to the Troy Community

In case you're unaware, most of Troy firefighters are volunteers, and they are not paid. They do cook themselves an occasional dinner and get snacks, but no paychecks are forthcoming. Plus, the city of Troy has a very highly rated fire department and that means you pay considerably less for homeowners insurance than many other cities. So a donation to this fundraiser is definitely a worthy cause.

Station Assistant Chief Todd Dudzinski at 248-840-7781.

It's not too late to give the recognition of being the best member of your group last year as an honoree at the annual City of Troy Community Awards Dinner. The deadline for saying thanks to those in the community, schools, church, neighborhood, or other worthy cause is September 30. If you have a Troy citizen, business, church or school that has a



LONGTIME KIWANIAN and then-Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Troy Steve Toth (right) offers a few suggestions on how to fix the perfect plate pancakes to then-Councilwoman Robin Beltramini on a bright Sunday morning in 2011. They were gathered at the Boys and Girls Club annual breakfast fundraiser.

Donations can be made to support this project with your check made out payable to the Troy Firefighters Community Fund (TFCF), which is a 501 (c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Mail your check with your name, address and donation amount to: Troy Fire Department, Attn: TFCF-Memorial Project, 500 West Big Beaver, Troy, MI 48084. Or, go online to: [Paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1245946](https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1245946) and follow the instructions to make your donation with Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover. For more information please call

worker who deserves to be lauded for their contributions to community life, all the forms and the instructions can be found at: troymilgov/volunteerrecognition. Then plan to attend the dinner on Wednesday, November 6, 6:45 p.m. at the San Marino Club.

Tickets are \$50 per person. For any questions, call Cindy Stewart at 248-524-1147.

If you have an event that you would like the Troy-Somerset Gazette to help promote for you, send an email to cynthiakmett2009@comcast.net.

"Detroit Then & Now" Presentation With R.J. King and Frank Venegas

The Rotary Club of Troy will host special guests R.J. King and Frank Venegas for a "food for thought" luncheon on Wednesday, September 25 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

R.J. King is the Editor of "DBusiness" Magazine and author of "Detroit, Engine of America." Frank Venegas is the CEO of Ideal Group.

The featured speakers will talk about the founding of Detroit, the exciting personalities from its first 100 years, and draw interesting parallels to the modern resurgence of the city.

King's "Detroit: Engine of America" is the story of how, on

July 24, 1701, French explorer Antoine Laumet De La Mothe Cadillac, guided by Native American tribes, founded Detroit, and sparked a sustainable market of fishing, farming, and hunting.

By 1900, the city had grown tremendously and its citizens forged one of the world's first machinery and skilled trades. Detroit's grit and brawn ignited what is the oldest city in the Midwest.

The luncheon is \$25 and will take place at the Bank of America Plaza, 2600 West Big Beaver in Troy. Pre-register a Conta.cc/2Zcr0zz/.

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— Mark Twain



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Troy Family Daze Celebrates 50 Years

Troy Family Daze enjoyed its 50th year of family memories this September. The first Troy Daze parade was on Labor Day, 1968. It started at the Somerset Collection, went down Big Beaver and then north on Crooks.

The event originated with the Troy Lions Club, who wanted an event for the folks who hadn't

headed up north for Labor Day. They quickly recruited other all-volunteer clubs and over the years, Troy Family Daze has evolved into a weekend-long celebration featuring live entertainment, a naturalization ceremony, and more.

To learn more, visit Troyfamilydaze.org/.



LONGTIME TROY FAMILY DAZE volunteers Jim Cyrulewski and Cele Diley were among those who brought the festival back to life in 1981. Perhaps a member of the next generation of volunteers is Elizabeth Donnelly, 6, quite the little helper for her great grandma.



ENJOYING THE RIDES at the 2019 Troy Family Daze Festival were Katie, 4, and bother Edward, 6. Their dad Doug Tietz was very busy as Chair of the Troy Community Foundation, which was the sponsor of this year's festival.



2019 Troy High School Homecoming Court

THE RAIN DIDN'T DAMPEN THE SPIRITS of Troy High School's 2019 Homecoming Court. And the Homecoming Parade, led by the Colts Marching Band, made it into the stadium before everyone got soaked. Crowning this year's royalty at Troy High School's homecoming were (left to right) Class of 2019 king Jihoon Song, Class of 2020 homecoming king Senior Bright Xu, Class of 2020 homecoming queen Senior Isabelle Merem, and Class of 2019 queen Mila Palincas. Photo by Christopher Dannug.

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— Bill Gates

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NEW: TSD President On Troy School Board Purchase of ITT Building

by KARL SCHMIDT

Hey, Troy School District friends! I am happy to report that the Troy School Board voted last night to purchase the shuttered ITT Institute building on Big Beaver for \$4,000,000. This 38,000 sf facility was renovated in 2011 and is already built out for education. We are planning to make almost \$2,000,000 in alterations to meet our needs as a district and then will transition all of our community education, adult education, and English Learner programs as well as our Troy College & Career High School from Niles Center and remote-location rented space by August 2020. At that point, Niles will be demolished.

Niles Center is well beyond its intended life and has been failing for the last 10 years. When the latest estimates for immediate structural repairs there reached almost \$2M without fixing many ongoing issues, we decided it was time for a new solution. We reviewed all of our other structures and were not able to find enough space to house these programs even if we separated them into different locations. Building a new structure of similar size on other TSD land would need to wait at least five years to secure

funding and has been estimated at \$15-\$17MM. Purchasing and renovating ITT for \$6MM gives us the ability to save taxpayers \$9-\$11MM in construction cost and expand our community ed programs at least 5 years earlier. We were able to secure financing on the building with a 2.4% interest bond purchase (mortgage) over 15 years. The resulting \$480,000 per year mortgage obligation is both less than the revenue we receive from community ed every year and cheaper than leasing similar space—making this purchase a self-sustaining investment. The annual mortgage will also be about the same annual cost or cheaper than keeping Niles Center limping along for the next five years.

In a time of tight fiscal resources, this is an exciting win for the District. For our TCCHS kids, this space will represent a major upgrade in classroom quality. For our adult learners, the building's location on Big Beaver will mean it is accessible for them via SMART bus lines. Finally, the building provides much needed additional meeting space for extracurricular programs across the entire District.



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*"The grid, especially in those days, was opaque even to its operators, and problems became apparent with far too little warning for anything to be done about it."
— New York Times on the 2003 Blackout*

How the Gazette Handled the Blackout of 2003

by JUSTIN COOPER

The Troy-Somerset Gazette was a day away from taking another week's paper to press on Thursday, August 14, 2003 — the day 55 million people across the northeastern United States lost power in what was then the second biggest blackout in history.

Shortly after 4 p.m. EST, a series of malfunctions at electrical facilities in Ohio triggered the outage, which swept across eight states and part of the Canadian province of Ontario. In Michigan, 2.3 million energy consumers lost power.

Since the mid-80s, the Gazette had been Troy's newspaper of legal record, meaning each week the city paid the paper to publish notices of rezonings, public hearings, special meetings of boards and committees, and other government information. Keeping the contract with the city required the Gazette to publish all 52 weeks of the year, and missing a week of publication meant that the notices would likely be published by a competitor, the Troy Times.

When the power didn't come back that Thursday, the Gazette staff went home and discussed what they should do. They had no way of knowing how long the power was going to be out and time was running short.

Patti Sweitzer, who spent 18 years as the Gazette's graphic designer beginning in 1998, remembers discussing over the phone that night whether to take the paper's equipment somewhere further north that had power. One possibility was to take the paper's computers and the

server — which stored all advertisement material — to the home of her husband's uncle in Lapeer, which was still close enough to the printing press in Sarnia, Canada that the paper could be driven there Friday.

Fortunately, it didn't prove necessary for them to pack up the office. Like many homeowners and businesses that week,

but didn't ring, so she just picked up every once in a while to see if anyone was there. Since there was "no sense" in having the boss "sit around and be nervous" (according to witnesses familiar with the event) Claire was eventually sent to get a pizza from Hungry Howies, because the staff had heard that their ovens had power.



generators proved vital. The Gazette staff was able to share the use of a large generator from the company next door, Msen. In addition to being neighbors, Msen regularly advertised with the Gazette and was also their internet provider.

After getting plugged in, Gazette staff was able to get to work on the paper. Editor Cynthia Kmett continued writing as advertisements were assembled in a last-minute layout.

Founder and Publisher Claire Weber busied herself with periodically answering the landline phone, which still worked

To get the paper to press, it had to be uploaded to a server by 1 p.m. on Friday since each of the printer's customers had time reserved in the printing process. Missing your time could mean you didn't get printed at all, an unprecedented occurrence Gazette history.

It may seem like a lot of work to do in short time, but upon reflection, it was just another week for the Gazette staff. "There's always a crunch to get the paper finished at the end of the week," Sweitzer said.

True to form, the paper was delivered to the printer on time, and the Gazette's appearance at businesses across Troy that Monday was ensured.

That night, Sweitzer remembers eating at a Royal Oak restaurant whose menu had been reduced in light of the outage.

Kmett remembers what it was like to come home to a neighborhood of people standing stupefied in their yards.

"It was pretty interesting, in that it was warm weather," Kmett said. "It wasn't winter where you couldn't talk to your neighbors, so there were a lot of cookouts going on in my neighborhood."

By the end of that Saturday, most affected areas had been restored, but not all.

Rolling blackouts persisted in parts of Ontario for over a week, and according to a U.S. government report following the blackout, it is estimated to have cost the United States between \$4 and \$10 billion.

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LESSONS - LEAGUES - PRIVATE EVENTS

CLASSIFIEDS

September 23, 2019



Troy-Somerset Gazette

Established in 1980 by Claire M. Weber

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Andrew Neal

City Editor
Cynthia Kmett

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Never known to fail. Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God. Immaculate Virgin assist me in my necessity. Oh star of the Sea, help me and show me here-in, you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have resource to thee 3x. Holy Mother, I place this cause in your hands. 3x Holy Spirit, you who solve all problems, light all roads so that I can attain my goal, You who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget all evil against me, and that in all instances in my life you are with me. I want in this short prayer to thank you for all things as you confirm once again that I never wanted to be separated from you in eternal glory. Thank you for your mercy toward me and mine. This person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days, after 3 days the results will be granted. This prayer must be published after the favor is granted.

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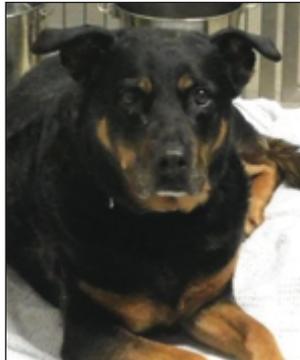


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GET YOUR GAZETTE

Gazette Media Group is a media and events company based in Troy, Michigan. Originally established in 1980 by Claire Weber as the Troy-Somerset Gazette, GMG now publishes three local newspapers and hosts a variety of events throughout the metro Detroit area. The Gazette creates and curates hyper-local content and distributes free weekly newspapers throughout businesses in the community. Go to GetYourGazette.com to read past issues and to find the nearest pick-up location. The Gazette is always looking for news, photos, and tips from around the community. Email News@GazetteMediaGroup.com or call 248-524-4868 for editorial submissions.



Detroit Senior Expo

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

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Payable by credit card or mailing a check to GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS, P.O. Box 482, Troy, MI, 48099. Please make check payable to Gazette Media Group.

Deadline for ad placement is 10 a.m. Wednesday, the week of publication.

Gazette Media Group reserves the right to revise, classify, or reject in whole or in part, any advertisement in this newspaper. Errors / Corrections: The Gazette is committed to correcting errors that appear in the newspaper. Those interested in contacting the paper for that purpose can email: News@GazetteMediaGroup.com or call 248-524-4868. Please note, the Gazette is not responsible for errors in advertising.

To the City of Troy: Thank You

EDITOR'S NOTE



by
ANDREW NEAL

If you've ever picked up a Gazette, we'd like to say thank you.

Every week for 40 years, a new edition of the Troy-Somerset Gazette has hit newsstands around town featuring the latest business news, community events, local politics, arts and entertainment, and more. For over 2,000 weeks straight, Gazette writers, editors, and designers have endured the Friday night crunch to send the paper to press on time, while still delivering the most up-to-date and accurate news to the city of Troy.

While putting this special 40th-anniversary edition together, I stumbled upon a note from the Gazette's founder Claire Weber, celebrating the paper's first year in business. Here's what she wrote in September, 1981:

"Initially, Troy looked like a dynamic business community. We haven't been disappointed on that count. But it's the energy and enthusiasm of the people we've met in the last year that make this city. We couldn't have made it without your help and calls and suggestions. Keep them coming."

"The people are the spirit of this community, and if you look around, you realize there will soon be many more of us. In Troy, there is a major construction site on almost every corner. We're proud of Troy. We feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to grow with this community."

Trailblazers started this paper and kept publishing week after week, year after year, decade after decade, the news of the town. It's local papers like the Gazette that made me want to be a reporter. It's people like Claire Weber, Cindy Kmett, Pam Brown, AJ White, and the dozens of support staff around them throughout the years that we have to thank for reaching this milestone.

While the publisher's baton was passed years ago from Claire Weber to Mark Nicholson, we're still here. Still publishing a free and independent newspaper, beholden to no corporate entity – the fourth estate is alive and well in Troy. We intend to keep it that way.

Thank you to every writer whose words have been inked on these pages far too many to name in entirety. Special thanks to intern Justin Cooper for his research and writing in this issue.

Thank you for reading, thank you for supporting the businesses that advertise with us, and thank you to our advertisers and pick-up locations.

Support local journalism.



Troy-Somerset Gazette Founder Claire Weber and City Editor Cynthia Kmett in 2010.

CONGRATS!

ON YOUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

40



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