



# Troy-Somerset Gazette

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September 30, 2019

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## Northbound I-75 Exit to Big Beaver to Close for 30 Days

Weather permitting, starting at 5 a.m. on Monday, September 30, crews will close the NB I-75 exit to Big Beaver for approximately 30 days to rebuild these ramps. Northbound I-75 traffic will be directed to Corporate Drive and Crooks Road during this time.

**Overnight Tuesday, October 1** from 9 p.m. - 5 a.m. Big Beaver Road will be closed to set bridge beams on I-75. The suggested alternate route during this time is Livernois to Maple to Crooks Road.

## Three Troy Schools Receive National Blue Ribbon Award

Boulan Park Middle School, Martell Elementary School, and Wass Elementary School were awarded the prestigious National Blue Ribbon designation by the U.S. Department of Education this week.

The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps.

**"We are very proud of Boulan Park, Martell and Wass** in earning this designation for 2019," said Dr. Rich Machesky, Superintendent of the Troy School District. "We know that our schools are doing an excellent job of providing a World Class education for all students, but being acknowledged with this honor shows that others on a national level recognize the exemplary work going on in our classrooms."

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THE TROY KIWANIS CLUB held their monthly meeting at Athens High School last week so they could have lunch and mingle with students in the outdoor classroom they helped build. Students from IAE were special guests, as they are working with Kiwanis for a Key Club of their own. Remarks were made by TSD Superintendent Dr. Rich Machesky, Athens Principal Dr. Lara Dixon, Kiwanis President Lori Sisk, along with Troy City Attorney Lori Grigg Bluhm.

## City Attorney Has Advice on Keys to Success

by CYNTHIA KMETT

The Kiwanis Club of Troy funded an outdoor classroom at Athens High School this year. Last week they invited members of the Key Clubs of Athens and the International Academy East – which Kiwanis sponsors – to enjoy pizza and salad from Hungry Howie's and get a bit of advice on how to achieve success as they enter the future.

**Delivering that advice** was Troy City Attorney Lori Grigg Bluhm, who is also a Troy Kiwanian.

As they work to achieve success, Bluhm advised that they start by preparing for interviews, whether it is for college admission or a job. "Think about what questions are likely to be asked, and know what you'll answer," she said. If the job involves projects, bring copies of your work.

**Don't be afraid** to apply for a job even when you don't have the 5-7 years experience requested in ad. If nothing else, it's good experience for future interviews.

She noted women are less likely to take that step, but Bluhm

hopes they will. If you're prepared, be confident, she said.

Whether that job is at a coffee shop or a law firm for the summer, if someone offers to "mentor" you and show you what this company wants from an employee, say yes.

Bluhm stressed that absorbing this knowledge and guidance will serve you well in any employment in your future.

**And later in your career,** "Pay it forward. Realize how someone had faith in you; do it for someone else."

Embrace diversity in background, cultures, people and opinions, she added. "Take no credit from team successes, and show appreciation for a job well done and for hard work by others."

**Please be aware,** the city attorney continued, that you don't know everything. "Coming out of law school, I thought I knew everything. Now I realize there's no way that can happen," she said with a smile. "Continuing education is essential. Keep up your contacts."

*"Have an unimpeachable ethical code of conduct – never waiver – your reputation will follow you, and the world is actually really small. Do what you say, and say what you do."*

— Lori Grigg Bluhm  
Troy City Attorney

## Citizens Are Successful in Fight to Stop Troywood Paving Project

by CYNTHIA KMETT

Despite the fact that Troy generally paves dirt roads when over 50% of residents ask for the project, this was a little different fight when it came to finishing up the paving of the remaining section of Troywood Drive, located off Rochester Road south of Wattles.

While the city would pay for \$199,200 of the cost, that left \$174,700, to be paid by the 19 residents who live on the street.

**While they get 10 years** to make payments, many of homeowners felt they couldn't afford the added cost. Many have lived on this stretch of the street for 40 years and more. Besides, the vote was close – 10 residents in favor, 9 against.

In addition, the cost is assessed by the number of feet of paved road you get in front of your home. So, the cost was going to vary from around \$6,000 to over \$11,500 for some homeowners.

See CITY COUNCIL, page 2



KIWANIS CLUB OF TROY treated Athens Seniors in the Key Club to lunch. Pictured (left to right) Julia Renner, Caitlyn Matohu, Ellen Bedford, Chelsea Coeung, Abby Hahn, Julia Haddad, Delaynie Harris, Cameron Christie at the new Outdoor Classroom.

*"My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style."*  
— Maya Angelou



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## Council Closes Massage Parlor for Excessive Services

CITY COUNCIL, From page 1

Cost was not the only concern of these residents. They were very concerned that paving this stretch of Troywood was going to turn it into a speedway.

After many residents took to the microphone at Monday's council meeting to protest this paving. Council voted unanimously to keep it a dirt road, at least until more residents are added to the pro-paving count.

**In other business**, council almost got the development they've been seeking for several years. Ashton Parc One, a detached family cluster development at the southeast corner of Square Lake and Willow Grove, was before council for its approval. Planned are 29 units on 8.69 acres of land. Wolverine Building Company is proposing ranch condominium homes that do not exceed 1,500 square feet, a residential style scarce in Troy for those who want to downsize but not leave the city. Ten of the homes would front on Willow Grove and the rest would be on a new street. There is no second floor, so everything from the master bedroom suite to the laundry room is on the first floor.

The site preserves 30% open space as well as 1.3 acres of regulated wetlands and 139 inches of protected trees. All the developer needed was one more tree on Willow Grove, and to provide a document to the city on how they would take care of the open space.

**Some residents** had shown concern for the animals when this development was at the planning commission for approval. However, Section 11 is filled with open spaces. Mondrian Properties has saved wetlands behind its new subdivision, Golf Trail Subdivision has a five-acre park with a "creek." There's environmental protection zoning at John R and Square Lake and Oakland County has a 40-acre detention pond in the mile. Then there's Jaycee Park for the critters to roam. So don't worry, the deer are still well fed and the birds will have many trees to call home.

### So what's the problem?

An attorney came to microphone to tell council that the closing on the sale of the land never happened. That made council a bit nervous, but they were assured the site plan is good for three years, it can be modified by a new developer, and there are no consequences to the city council for approving the plan. So it passed 8-0, with Mayor Dane Slater absent.

Then came an unusual item on the council agenda, a public hearing for the Revocation of a Massage Facility License. Assistant City Attorney Nikki MacMillan presented the facts in

the case and Troy Officer Bruce Gentry offered testimony as to what happened that day at Asian Spring Massage, located on Long Lake.

**The city had been tipped off** that this establishment might also be in the prostitution business.

Inspections of the firm were a little more frequent. On July 19, when Officer Gentry was doing the inspection he opened a door to find the massage therapist performing an illegal act on the client. When questioned, the client said he'd been there for this same accommodation in the past.

Further investigation revealed one of the therapists lacked a state license. The violations were adding up, including the owner not telling the city of new employees, which is required by ordinance. In all, there were five violations and the Asian Springs was closed by the city at that point.

**At the hearing**, Asian Springs Attorney Jonathan Jones tried to show the owner was unaware of the illegal activity. Of course, since the therapist ticketed for the illegal activity and the owner lived at the same address, council might have been a bit skeptical of her lack of knowledge. She did say she was sorry for not asking to see the license of her new hire, and for not telling the city she had new employees.

But city ordinance only requires one violation to terminate a massage license and there were five here. It was a unanimous decision to permanently close this massage parlor.

## "Wonder Woman" Awards 2019

The Women Officials Network (WON) Foundation will honor four exceptional women at this year's "WONder Woman" Awards Banquet, Wednesday, October 2 at 5:30 p.m. at Glen Oaks Country Club, 30500 West 13 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

**The award honors** women who have improved the quality of life in Michigan through their civic, philanthropic and professional accomplishments.

The 2019 WONder Woman honorees are: Honorable Susy Avery, Co-Director, Michigan Political Leadership Program (MPLP); Honorable Brenda Carter, State Representative, 29th District; Honorable Diane D'Agostini, Chief Judge, Oakland County 48th District Court; and Honorable Deborah Macon, V.P. Leadership, WON Foundation.

To mark the 35th Anniversary of the WONder Woman award, the WON Foundation is elevating one previously recognized awardee to

the status of Super WONder Woman for the first time. The Honorable Deborah Macon will be the first Super WONder Woman for her work to train, mentor and support women and girls in Oakland County.

**Each WONder Woman** honoree contributes to the community, demonstrates character and leadership, and assists women and girls in reaching full leadership potential through civic engagement.

The Women Officials Network Foundation is a nonprofit nonpartisan organization. Funds raised from this event will train women to lead, equip women to obtain positions in public policy leadership, and empower leaders of today to mentor women leaders of tomorrow.

**For reservations, email [e.siewert@wayne.edu](mailto:e.siewert@wayne.edu) or call 248-642-7024. For tickets, visit [Womenofficialsnetwork.org/](http://Womenofficialsnetwork.org/).**



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### LEONARD - LOOKING TO ESCAPE - HERE IT IS



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### WARREN - INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY OR HOME?



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# Dave Henderson



## From the Office of Dane Slater, Mayor of Troy

It has been my honor to represent the City of Troy as your Mayor since 2012. I am term limited and a new Mayor will be elected on November 5th. Please join me, the Troy Police Officers Association and many current and past civic leaders as we endorse DAVE HENDERSON for the next mayor of Troy. I have worked closely with Dave for the past 8 years on City Council and have witnessed how he has embraced his role as a council member and Mayor Pro Tem. He votes for what is best for the city and doesn't let politics interfere with his decision making. Dave embraces the diversity in our city and is fiscally responsible with your tax dollars. He is your neighbor, not a candidate that wants to be a career politician.

There are two choices for Mayor on November 5th and the obvious choice is DAVE HENDERSON. Dave was born and raised in the City of Troy, he attended and graduated from Troy schools, he raised his family in nearby Clawson with his wife Kelly of 38 years and of course moved back to Troy soon after their graduation. Dave's grandchildren are currently living in Troy and attending Troy schools. He is definitely your neighbor.

Troy has a storied history of electing home grown Troy mayors that have deep roots to our city. Dave's opponent is a transplanted politician whose main ambition is to get elected to Lansing. Dave's opponent has tried and failed at each state election since he moved to Troy. He even ran for state representative while he was sitting on our city council. This is not the choice for Troy, we want a Mayor that is dedicated to our residents, our businesses, our schools and cares about the City of Troy. We don't want a Mayor who's main ambition is to be a state legislator.

I want what is best for Troy and that is why I am voting for DAVE HENDERSON for Mayor. I am confident in his ability to move us forward. Please join our vast majority of voters that have chosen DAVE HENDERSON the next Mayor of Troy.

Sincerely,  
Dane Slater  
City of Troy, Mayor

## FOR MAYOR

Please join us in our support of  
**Dave Henderson for Mayor of Troy**

"It is my distinct privilege to endorse Councilman Henderson, because he has served our community for nearly 8 years. He is upstanding and a pragmatic decision maker. Councilman Henderson has always put the well being of Troy before politics and he will continue to do so as your next mayor."

~**Sam Yono**, Chairman of Global Ties Detroit and current Chairman of the Chaldean Federation International

"As a fellow member of our Troy business community, Councilman Henderson promotes and supports local business owners and understands their importance to our continued growth."

~**Dennis Bostick**, Owner of Troy Sports Center and Local Business Owner

"It is a privilege to support my neighbor, Councilman Dave Henderson, as our next mayor. Dave has a proven track record for being approachable and responsive to the citizens of Troy."

~**Dave Gorcyca**, Former Oakland County Prosecutor

"Electing Dave Henderson as our next mayor will keep our neighborhoods thriving, our businesses competitive, and our green spaces enduring for Troy. I endorse Dave as the best person to lead us and keep us all successful."

~**Louise E. Schilling**, Former Mayor, City of Troy

Former State Senator **Marty Knollenberg** endorses Councilman Henderson for Mayor. He is the best choice to be our next Mayor."

"T.P.O.A. endorses Councilman Henderson for his principled decision making and 8 years of dedicated service to the city"



# Vote Tuesday, Nov. 5th

Thanks for your Support!

**ANNUAL FALL RUMMAGE SALE***All Proceeds Go To Charity!***First United Methodist Church • 6363 Livernois • Troy**  
(North of Square Lake Rd.)**Early Bird Sale/\$3 Admission:**

Thursday, Oct. 3 @ 4:30-7:30 p.m.

**Sale Days:**

Friday, Oct. 4 @ 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Bag Day:** Saturday, Oct. 5 @ 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.*Clothing, Household Items, Small Furniture,  
Books, Toys, Holiday Items and Much More!***Antonio's**  
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(Between Dequindre and Ryan)**www.AntoniosItalianCuisine.com**Mon.-Thur. 11:00 am - 9:30 pm • Friday: 11:00 am - 10:30 pm  
Saturday: 1:00 pm - 10:30 pm • Sunday: 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm**To the People Stealing Everything: Please Stop****POLICE  
PATROL**by  
CYNTHIA KMETT**THIS  
DRUNK WITH A  
CHILD IN THE**

**CAR?** Officers initiated a traffic stop on the driver of a black 2009 Chevrolet Impala that was driving erratically on East Big Beaver, at just before 1 a.m. The officers noted that the vehicle's driver-side tires were completely shredded. The officers spoke with the driver, a 23-year-old woman, and noted an odor of alcohol as she spoke. There was also a 2-year-old child asleep in the rear seat area but was not in a proper child seat. She was asked to perform several sobriety evaluations to which she did but the officers noted that she performed poorly. She submitted to a Preliminary Breath Test with a result of .21% - her drink must have been a half-pint bottle. She was arrested and charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol and Child Endangerment. The child was turned over into the custody of her mother.

■ **NOT A GREAT LOOK AFTER THE GAME** - It was just after 6 p.m. on Sunday night when an officer responded to the South Blvd. and Rochester Road to investigate a two-vehicle accident. The officer spoke with the at-fault

driver, a 49-year-old man, and noted an odor of alcohol emanating from him. He submitted to a Preliminary Breath Test with a result of .145%. He was arrested and charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol.

■ **WAS THE DRIVER EVEN HEADED TOWARDS HOME?** Officers initiated a traffic stop on the driver of a silver 2000 Chevrolet Express just after 4 a.m. on Livernois at Wattles. While speaking with the driver, a 42-year-old male from Detroit, the officer noted an odor of alcohol coming from him. When asked, he admitted to consuming one or two drinks that contained alcohol while at a casino in Detroit. He was asked to perform several sobriety evaluations, but the officers noted that he performed poorly. He submitted to a Preliminary Breath Test with a result of .206% - more than twice the legal limit, so twice the penalties. He was arrested and charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol - 1st Offense.

■ **YOU HAD ALL THIS IN YOUR CAR. OKAY** - Remember, things stolen from your vehicle are not covered by your auto insurance. It's covered by homeowners, or in most of these cases, renters insurance. And renters insurance isn't that expensive since the building isn't yours to insure in an apartment complex. Now, about this robbery. The Lovington resident reports that unknown suspect(s) entered his unlocked blue 2013 Honda Civic and stole his 42" flat screen television, his Sony PS4 with two controllers, his Nintendo Wii

System with one Controller, a cardboard box that contained miscellaneous items, and his blue denim backpack which contained his Silver Dell Laptop Computer.

■ **LOOKS LIKE THERE'S A THIEF IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD** - So, lock your vehicle. A Golfview Drive resident reports unknown suspect(s) entered his unlocked black 2004 Honda Accord and stole his wallet which contained his State of Michigan Operator's License, credit and debit cards, and an unendorsed check for \$128.

■ **A Coachman resident** reports unknown suspect(s) entered his silver 2011 Mazda 3 and stole his wallet which contained his State of Michigan Operator's License, his prosecutor's identification and badge, his debit card, and spare change from the vehicle. The victim is unsure if the vehicle was locked as there were no signs of forced entry.

■ **A Northhampton Drive resident** reports unknown suspect(s) entered his red 2018 Chevrolet Equinox and his silver 2010 Toyota Corolla which were parked in his driveway and on the street in front of his house. The only items missing were two pocket knives taken from the Chevrolet Equinox. The victim is unsure if the vehicles were locked as there were no signs of forced entry.

■ **LET'S TRY TO GET ALONG. PLEASE** - It's not even the dead of winter, yet. Troy Officers responded to 18 incidents involving domestic disputes or family troubles during this reporting period. The on-scene investigation produced enough evidence that two crimes of Domestic Assault were committed and two arrests were made. However, officers were required to take non-enforcement actions to either mediate the situations or keep the peace with the remaining domestic disputes. Readers should be aware that although the remaining incidents did not result in arrest or prosecution, it does represent significant law enforcement resources in terms of time, on-scene investigation, relocation of disputants, referrals to support agencies, peacekeeping, as well as a detective and prosecutorial review.

*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.*

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**LESSONS - LEAGUES - PRIVATE EVENTS**

## County Commissioners Pass Unanimous Budget



OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE DAVID COULTER celebrated the efforts of senior citizen volunteers in Oakland and Macomb County at a banquet ceremony Wednesday at Petruzzello's. The event honored members of the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program through the Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan. Photo by Andrew Neal

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a balanced three-year budget Wednesday.

Passing a balanced budget for fiscal years 2020-2022 with the full support of the board was a goal Coulter set out to achieve.

"Unanimous approval of Oakland County's balanced three-year budget sends a message of stability that all county elected officials are working together on a bipartisan basis on behalf of our residents and taxpayers," Coulter said in a press release. "Thank you to all the commissioners and other county elected officials for signaling that together we are retaining the county's strong fiscal practices."

"In the last weeks, we came together to define our additional bi-partisan priorities," Coulter said. "We wanted to send a strong signal to employees that we value their efforts. And, all of us are committed to helping local communities with investments in road improvements."

Under the new budget, there will be a 2% general salary increase when fiscal 2020 begins October 1. The total amount for local road projects assigned in the budget is \$4 million.

*"To me, the greatest pleasure of writing is not what it's about, but the inner music that words make."*  
— Truman Capote

## Worried About Losing Your MEMORY & FOCUS?

Discover How a New Cognitive Therapy Can  
Help Improve Memory and Focus

**FREE Dinner and Brain Health Seminar**

### Wellness Training Institute

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**Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at  
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You will discover the likely reasons why you suffer from:

**Declining Memory – Trouble Focusing  
Depression – Anxiety – Cognitive Decline**

- Find out the underlying cause of the problem and why taking medication may not help correct it.
- Learn about Cognitive Impairments and how they can be involved in declining memory, depression, ADHD, and anxiety
- Learn how gut health impacts your health and may be responsible for other symptoms as well
- Discover the biggest mistake that conventional medicine makes in treating cognitive issues
- **WHAT REALLY WORKS** to improve your condition... Safely. Healthfully!

**Tired Of Not Knowing What You Can  
Do To Stop The Decline?**

**Imagine your life without these symptoms!**

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At WTI we offer natural, non-invasive programs for gaining and preserving wellness through lifestyle.

## 9th Annual Troy High School Orchestra 5K Fundraiser



THESE MUSICAL STUDENTS had a great time last year and you can be sure that Jasmine Wu (11, 2021), Ahlena Reyes (11, 2021), Phoebe Oh (11, 2021), and Rachel Wu (12, 2020) will be at Boulan Park again next weekend. This year's fundraiser for the Troy High Orchestra will be on Sunday, October 6 for. They hope you'll join them. – Photo courtesy of Troy Schools and the Orchestra Association of Troy High

Lace up your running and walking shoes for the 9th Annual Troy High School Orchestra 5K Run/Walk Fundraiser, which will be held at Boulan Park on Sunday, October 6. Come support the musical endeavors of our award-winning orchestras, directed by our nationally acclaimed conductor, Director of Troy High Orchestras Alan MacNair.

Enjoy bagels, coffee, and hot chocolate while the Troy High

Country Fiddlers provide pre-race entertainment. The USATF Certified 5K Route will take runners through Boulan Park and surrounding neighborhoods.

The cost is \$25 and includes a commemorative t-shirt and post-run refreshments. Race day registration opens at 8:30 a.m. and costs \$30. A complimentary Fun Run for children 12 and under starts at 9:50 a.m., followed by the 5K at 10 a.m. Medals will be

awarded to top three runners by age and gender categories.

All proceeds will support the Orchestra Association of Troy High (OATH). With approximately 270 students in their program this year, it is the largest group of young musicians yet.

**Register for the race online at [Eastsideracing.enmotive.com/](http://Eastsideracing.enmotive.com/) or download the form to mail-in from [TroyHighOrchestra.org/](http://TroyHighOrchestra.org/).**

## Arts &amp; Entertainment



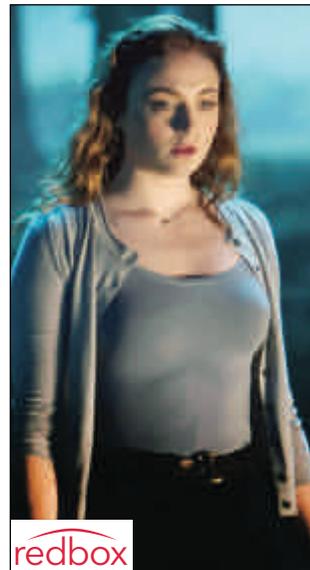
**RAMBO: LAST BLOOD**  
R, Action



**AMERICAN HORROR STORY 8**  
TV-MA, Netflix original



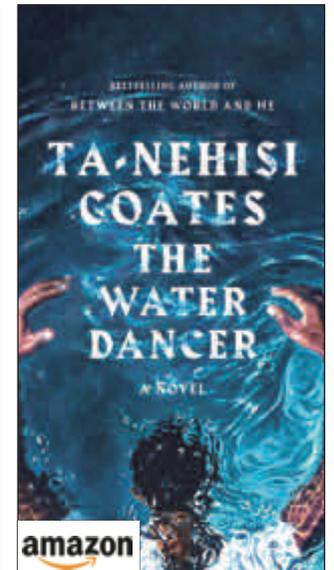
**CRYPTO**  
R, Drama/Thriller



**X-MEN: DARK PHOENIX**  
PG-13, Action



**WHY ME? WHY NOT?**  
Liam Gallagher



**THE WATER DANCER**  
Ta-Nehisi Coates

## LIBRA: Seize Your Ambitions, Give It Your All and Get What You Want

### YOUR OCTOBER HOROSCOPE

by  
PAULA LYNDE

**♎ LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 22):** If you have wild ambitions, Libra, now is the time to unleash your inner superhero. So, take one of your biggest ideas and run with it, even if the end goal seems out of reach. The truth is that you will never know the extent of what you can do until you attempt the seemingly impossible. And this month, you are at the top of your game. It is likely that you are feeling strong and confident, so make the most of this Halloween season by giving it your all to get what you want.

**♏ SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21):** This October may likely usher in a new and exciting “Era of You,” Scorpio. Yes, you care about and want to help others, but you can do this better as the best version of yourself. So, take this month to focus on your needs and personal growth. You may feel inspired to improve your diet, get serious about a fitness routine, or possibly pick up a new hobby or take a class. No matter what, any of these efforts will inspire you to embrace the next personal challenge you set for yourself.

**♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21):** It is very likely that you have been accused of having wanderlust, Sagittarius. And, right now, your desire to get up and get moving is stronger than ever. Luckily, right now is a great time to embrace your instinct to make your way to where you want to be. Your instincts are sharp this month, and you know what is best for you. So, go ahead and take that trip. Or, if you need a complete change of scenery, consider taking the plunge that leads to moving to your dream location.

**♑ CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19):** Sorry to say, Capricorn, that a relationship or potential relationship is likely not working out as you had expected, and that’s okay. Now is the time to let it go and move on. If this unsuccessful relationship was romantic, rest assured that a new person is waiting just around the corner, and they are worth waiting for. Or, if it is a friendship that has folded, consider the actual nature of the relationship. It was likely one-sided, so you are much better off away from this individual.

**♒ AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18):** Right now, Aquarius, you may feel like you have been wronged in some way. And the situation is even worse because it is likely that you have kept your composure with the responsible parties. You have restrained yourself and kept your composure

when you wanted to lash out. So, now you are ready to defend yourself, and you are justified. However, if you stay patient for a little while longer, Karma will kick in and you will find yourself completely vindicated and validated.

**♓ PISCES (Feb 19-March 20):** This month is about letting go, Pisces. And loss is never easy to face. Yet, this person or thing that is making an exit may leave you feeling sad, but, believe it or not, you will be better off in the long run. Honestly, you will likely grow as a person and realize that there is a whole world out there and so much left to discover. There are also new individuals with whom to connect. Embrace the changes even if they seem hard at first because new and better times are coming.

**♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19):** It is likely that a problem is hanging over your head like the proverbially Sword of Damocles, Aries. And your dilemma may be a real nail-biter that has you flummoxed and confused. However, this is the month to face your demons (well before Halloween) and tackle the problem before it gets worse. Then, once you have tackled and eliminated your bothersome issue, along with a great sense of relief, you will probably experience a significant boost in your confidence.

**♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** It is possible that the need to make a major decision has brought you to a crossroads, Taurus. And you likely have a safe option and another choice that could lead you into unknown territory. Well, the great news is that there is no wrong decision. It is simply up to you to determine whether you want to maintain the status quo or make the type of change that may lead to personal growth and possibly a new adventure. So, stop procrastinating. Go big or go home – both options are good.

**♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** If you have allowed a toxic person into your life, Gemini, you have allowed this individual to hang around for far too long. This, of course, is entirely unlike you, as you are normally an expert at telling people to leave. But there is something about this relationship (romantic, friendly, or professional) that has you feeling trapped – but you’re not. Stop giving this person power over you, make your exit, and enjoy your reclaimed freedom.

**♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Your intuition is impressive under normal circumstances, Cancer. But, this month, your insight is downright scary to match the season. So, now is the time to make major decisions about work, your education, your living situation, and important relationships. This is one time

when it is correct to go with your gut and go with what feels right. It may even be the case that your incredible intuition will allow you to help a friend or loved one who does not possess your superpower.

**♌ LEO (July 23-Aug 22):** Things may go a little topsy-turvy for you this month, Leo. However, you shouldn’t worry too much if your work or home life has suddenly taken a chaotic turn. Yes, right now, it may seem difficult to keep all those balls in the air, but everything goes in cycles. Eventually, things will calm down again. And if you have managed to keep your cool well enough to maintain some semblance of control, you will manage to put everything back where it goes before the start of November.

**♍ VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 22):** Are you happy with your place in the world, Virgo? And this question is to be taken quite literally, meaning, do you like where you live? You may be content, but there is possibly a place (even if it is just across town) that you find truly inspiring. And this is the month to explore your options. After all, your home is likely the physical center of your life, so you should strive to make it a home that you truly love. So, follow your heart while keeping your head about where you want to be.

## REVIEW: Stagecrafters' Dazzling, Daring, "Ragtime" Arrives at Baldwin's Main Stage

Reviewed by Suzanne Angeo (member, American Theatre Critics Association) and Greg Angeo (Member Emeritus, San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle)

The turn of the last century was the gateway to America's modern era. Revolutions in communication, transportation, society and culture were happening almost daily. The musical "Ragtime", one of the most important and ambitious shows Stagecrafters has ever presented, offers a unique perspective on our nation's evolving struggles with income and social injustice during those turbulent times.

eyeing each other, to the lively syncopated rhythm of that newest music, ragtime. The main storylines focus on individuals representing each group: for New Rochelle's wealthy white enclave is a family known only as Mother, Father, Little Boy, Grandfather and Younger Brother; Harlem's story is told through the eyes of ragtime musician Coalhouse Walker and his beloved, Sarah; the Immigrants are seen through the experiences of a widowed Jewish-Latvian artist named Tateh, and his young daughter, known only as Little Girl.

The entire cast is strong, yet there are standouts. Kaela Green as Sarah delivers gorgeous vocals,

task with the largest cast ever to appear on the Baldwin stage. There are times when the energy seems to flag a little, but the overall effect is a triumph for the cast and crew.

Video projections onstage, skillfully guided by Michael Grice and Geoff Wrobel, and perfectly-timed sound effects by Bob Minchella are nice enhancements to the simple set by Tim Hughes. Good lighting effects by Matt Weber help lend texture and contrast to the ever-changing scenes. Valerie Mould's choreography has some excellent moments, especially in numbers like "His Name Was Coalhouse Walker".

There are over 50 songs, each with different performers. The 15-piece orchestra, conducted by Wrisinger and assistant conductor Jay Smith, handles the challenging score with assurance, with only a few pitchy spots that will hopefully be worked out.

The storytelling in McNally's script itself is only partly successful. It can be cumbersome and hard to follow. But even though there's a lot to take in and the message loses its focus at times, this powerful show remains relevant, engaging and appealing. A caveat: there are some truly dark moments onstage, and the wince-inducing racist language reflecting attitudes of those times can be hard to listen to.

Even though we're looking back over 100 years ago, we know progress has been halting, and the lessons have not yet been completely learned. Every human being has value, and deserves equal respect and justice. We have come a long way as a nation, with a long way yet to go. "Ragtime" illuminates one stepping-stone on our ever-winding path.

Stagecrafters has partnered with Freedom House Detroit for the production of Ragtime. Freedom House is a temporary home for individuals and families fleeing persecution in other countries and seeking safety in the United States. Freedom House offers housing and basic needs, onsite legal aid, and a full suite of social services to help their clients heal from trauma, prepare for life in the U.S., and win asylum.

Ragtime runs now through October 6 at the Baldwin Theatre, Main Stage – 415 S. Lafayette in Royal Oak.

Tickets range from \$23-\$27 with discounts for Veterans and youth age 17 and under on Sundays and Thursdays. For more information, call 248-541-6430 or visit Stagecrafters.org/.

showcased in several numbers including "New Music". She and Dez Walker, superb as Coalhouse, have hauntingly lovely duets in "The Wheels of a Dream" and "Sarah Brown Eyes". Walker offers a compelling performance as the gifted, tragic, tenderhearted Coalhouse.

Sara Rydzewski offers a warm and compassionate performance as Mother, with a forceful, melodic voice. Hers is a pivotal role - a sort of loving bridge between the privileged whites and the blacks and immigrants who strive for justice. Her Younger Brother (Matthew Miga) shares her desire to offer a helping hand, as only those in power can. Her obstinate husband, played by Edmond Guay, eventually comes to see how harmful his attitudes are.

Newly-arrived immigrant Tateh, in a captivating performance by Patrick Lane, is a talented and creative man and father. Lane's Tateh is upbeat, funny, caring and determined, the kind of guy America should want. But still he struggles, yet prevails in the end in one of the most endearing examples of fulfilling the American Dream.

Director Randall Wrisinger takes on this sweeping spectacle with sure-footed staging, no easy



Gracing this spectacular show are rousing anthems, moving ballads, period jazz and that ever-popular ragtime, which was born in the 1890s in black music halls. The emergence of ragtime, a uniquely American musical form, at the dawn of the Twentieth Century represents the first time African-American music had such an impact on popular culture as a whole.

Based on E.L. Doctorow's 1975 historical novel, "Ragtime" was adapted for the stage by Terence McNally and set to music by Stephen Flaherty, with lyrics by Lynn Ahrens. It premiered on Broadway in 1998 and received 13 Tony nominations, winning four awards, including Best Original Score and Best Book of a Musical.

An epic tale needs an equally epic cast. A total of nearly 60 performers take the stage, including the ensemble casts which represent three diverse social and economic classes: the New Rochelle Ensemble (privileged white upper class); the Harlem Ensemble (oppressed blacks); and the Immigrant Ensemble (struggling newcomers).

In one opening sequence, the different ensemble casts rotate around each other onstage, warily

## Meadow Brook Season Opens with "Murder on the Orient Express"

Just after midnight, a snowdrift stops the elegant Orient Express in its tracks. There's been a murder. Who can solve the puzzle of the American tycoon, found dead in his compartment which was locked from the inside? Only Hercule Poirot can hope to find the murderer before he or she strikes again.

Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie, adapted by Ken Ludwig, runs October 2 through 27 at Meadow Brook Theatre on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester Hills.

"Ken Ludwig is one of our audience's favorite playwrights," says Travis Walter, MBT artistic director. "Over the years, we've produced a lot of his comedies, from Lend Me a Tenor to Baskerville to last season's hit, A Fox on the Fairway. I know our audiences will love his adaptation of Murder on the Orient Express."

Meadow Brook favorite Ron Williams plays Hercule Poirot. The rest of the passengers/suspects are played by Craig Bentley (Monsieur Bouc), Stephen Blackwell (Colonel Arbuthnot and

Samuel Ratchett), Ruth Crawford (Princess Dragomiroff), Chip DuFord (Head Waiter and Michael), Lynnae Lehfeldt (Helen Hubbard), Hannah Niece (Mary Debenham), Peter Prouty (Hector MacQueen), Cheryl Turski (Countess Andrenyi) and Sara Catheryn Wolf (Greta Ohlsson).

"We have so many talented actors," continues Walter. "This is a great way to kick off our new season."

Murder on the Orient Express is directed by Travis W. Walter. Terry W. Carpenter is the stage manager with scenic design by Brian Kessler, costume design by Corey Collins, lighting design by Reid G. Johnson and sound design by Mike Duncan.

Tickets range from \$36 to \$46 and are available by calling the Meadow Brook Theatre box office at 248-377-3300 or going online at Ticketmaster.com.

Meadow Brook Theatre is located on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. For more, visit [Mbtheatre.com](http://Mbtheatre.com) or call 248-377-3300.

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## Home &amp; Garden

## Anthology Senior Living to Celebrate Rebranding



Anthology Senior Living of both Troy and Rochester Hills will celebrate their rebranding on Tuesday, October 1 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at their Troy location and Wednesday, October 2 between 4-6 p.m. at their Rochester Hills location. Both locations encourage the public to stop by to enjoy the ceremonies featuring champagne and appetizers.

Located at 3400 Livernois in Troy and at 1775 S Rochester Rd in Rochester Hills, Anthology was formerly Stonecrest Senior Living of Troy and Rochester Hills.

Anthology is a senior living community offering options for both Assisted Living and Memory care. Providing care, accommodations and services, they have made it their mission to provide a unique senior living experience that offers their residents with the best in hospitality and care, so that they can continue to live their story in a beautiful, meaningful way.

For more information about Anthology Senior Living and its communities, visit [AnthologySeniorLiving.com/](http://AnthologySeniorLiving.com/).

To learn more about the Rebranding Celebration, call Troy at 248-528-8001 and Rochester Hills at 248-266-7680.

## Six Smart Moves To Consider When Hiring Movers

(NAPSI) The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that over 17 million Americans move to a new home every year.

If you're ever among them, knowing a few facts and figures can help you have a smoother move.

To help, the experts at the American Moving and Storage Association, the national trade association for professional movers, created a checklist.

**Do comparison shopping.** Even if you're considering doing the move yourself, you should get at least three written, in-home estimates so you can make an informed choice. The estimates should be free, so you have nothing to lose by trying to find out whether a professional move is best for you.

Some movers even offer estimates based on videos and photos you submit online. Make

sure you show the mover everything that needs to be moved, from the attic to the basement, and any sheds, garages or storage areas. The mover needs a complete picture of everything to be moved to give you the most accurate estimate.

Reputable interstate movers will always give you estimates in writing and they must—by law—provide you with federal publications that explain the moving process and your rights and responsibilities. Be careful of any estimates offered over the phone or online, and if the mover asks for a large down payment or full payment in advance.

**Read your paperwork.** Remember, once you've signed a contract, you've agreed to what it says about your move.

**Understand what the mover's level of liability is,** in case of loss or damage.

**Communication is key.** Make sure the mover has your cell phone number or other way to reach you during the move and that you have the driver's full name and the truck number.

**Ask questions.** Reputable movers will be happy to answer them. If the moving company can't or won't answer your questions, you might want to look for another mover.

**Do Your Research.** You can find hundreds and hundreds of moving professionals who meet high standards of safety and professionalism by doing your research online.

Ensure that your research takes into account the key things to consider listed here. That will help take the worry and hassle out of your move and help you locate reputable, qualified movers who have been trained and tested.

## Now is the Time to Prep for Your Spring Home Sale

by PAULA REA-JOHNSTON

Have you been having conversations about the possible sale of your home in the Spring of 2020? If so, now is the time to start making a to-do list and checking things off to ensure your house is ready for the market as soon as the first tulips of the season begin to bloom.

**Maybe you're wondering** why you need to start thinking about selling now when Spring is eight months away, and we want to help you understand the necessity for proper planning. If you haven't sold a house in years or have never worked with an experienced realtor, you might not realize the tasks involved in preparing for a move, and that's where we come in. Here are three expert tips to get you started:

**1. Call us!** We have been selling real estate for more than 40 years and are experts in the local market. Not only do we know what needs to be done to your home to get it sold, but we have an extensive list of local businesses that can help get your house market-ready.

**2. Professional photography** is key to the sale of your house. Through stunning photos, potential buyers will get a first glimpse into what their next home could be. But we need to get these photos done for you now. As you know, the beginning of Spring in

Michigan leaves the landscaping bare and the grass a mix between shades of green and brown. The flowers are not in full bloom, and some trees won't begin to bud until mid-May. By taking the photos now before the fall foliage

deciding to put your house on the market. From significant renovations like upgrading a master bathroom to easier cosmetic changes like a fresh coat of paint throughout, we can help you determine what should be



has arrived, we will be able to show clients your home at its best, and they will be able to envision what summers in their new home can look like. While we love the fall colors, if we capture those in photos now, they will be outdated by Spring; therefore, it's of utmost importance we take those photos soon.

**3. Plan ahead.** There are a lot of decisions to be made when

done and what to forego. "Failure to plan is planning to fail."

**Visit [Lindareateam.com](http://Lindareateam.com) for more real estate tips and advice on the purchase or sale of your home. Call Paula Rea-Johnston of The Linda Rea Team at 248-770-8661 for a free analysis of your home and let us guide you through a successful sale next Spring!**



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## Creative Ways to Make the Most of Excess Veggies

by AMY FORTUNE

It is a wonderful feeling when your garden does well – but what if it does a little too well? Some highly skilled or very lucky gardeners find themselves with dozens and dozens of tomatoes or enough zucchini to feed the entire neighborhood. And, naturally, no one wants to waste homegrown veggies, so they may give as many as they can to friends, co-workers, and family members. Then, they look for creative ways to make use of these bumper crops.

If you are currently in this situation – the proud owner of enough vegetables to stock a small farmers market, here are a few ideas to make good use of them. Yes, there is always zucchini bread, but you can only eat so much zucchini bread, right?

**Dry your veggies.** This works incredibly well with tomatoes, and you can find an easy recipe from AllRecipes.com just by Googling “How to Dry Tomatoes.” Then, after you’ve dried your tomatoes, you can use the tasty morsels on salads and to make incredible dips. You can even bake them into bread for a savory alternative to zucchini bread. For other vegetables (and fruits), you can

obviously use a food dehydrator. But if you do not own a food dehydrator, you can dry them out in your oven at a very low temperature (normally 200 degrees).



**Use vegetables in fruit smoothies.** This is a good way to get more vegetables into your diet – Just toss them in your morning smoothie right along with your fruits, yogurt, and whatever else you like to add.

**Plan a family canning day.** If you have never canned anything in your life, you will probably be surprised by how easy it is, and there are plenty of tutorial videos

offered on YouTube to get you started. If you want to take your project a step farther, pickle a few vegetables before canning or make a few batches of soup to can and put away for the winter months.

**Make soups and freeze leftovers.** Speaking of making soups, if you are not interested in trying your hand at canning, but you are still comfortable in the kitchen, make a few batches of soup, and freeze what you cannot eat right away.

**Add veggies to your lemonade stand.** If your kids want to be entrepreneurs for a day, set them up with a simple lemonade stand with its own mini farmer’s market. You can sell off your excess vegetables a few at a time, and you can even donate the profits to a local charity if you want to teach your kids a great lesson in giving back.

Of course, if you still want to make zucchini bread, you can find the recipe by Googling “Best Zucchini Bread” or visiting ButterWithaSideofBread.com.



## Troy Garden Club Presents “Fungus Among Us”

The Troy Garden Club’s second presentation of the 2019-2020 season will feature mycologist, AKA fungus expert, Mary Fredricks. As a member of the Royal Oak Nature Society since 2011, her goal and theirs is to “protect, maintain and promote the use of Royal Oak’s two nature preserves, Cummingston Park and Tenhave Woods.”

**Ms. Fredricks** frequently leads nature and mushroom walks through the two preserves. Among the fascinating fungi she has encountered and pointed out to walk participants are such mushrooms as Turkey Tail, Dead Man’s Fingers and Dryad’s Saddle. Have you ever visited your garden in the early morning hours, only to be fascinated by a large fungus that wasn’t there the previous day? On Wednesday, October 9, thanks to the wonders of technology, Fredricks will lead Troy Garden Club members and guests on a virtual eye-opening walk past many examples of “Fungus Among Us.”

You’re invited to attend Troy Garden Club’s October meeting. Guests, \$7 each including a light lunch, may register in advance by sending an email to infoandideas@aol.com. Indicate that you wish to attend the October 9 lunch meeting and presentation. You will receive a

confirmation by return email. The guest fee is payable at the door, and friendly greeters will help with seating.

The club’s meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month, September through June, at the Big Beaver United



**TURKEY TAIL MUSHROOM – Photo courtesy of Mary Fredricks, Royal Oak Nature Society mycologist**

Methodist Church, 3753 John R, Troy, just south of Wattles Road. Check-in, beginning at 11:45 a.m., will be followed by lunch at noon and Fredricks’ one-hour presentation beginning at 1 p.m.

**Visit the club’s website at TroyGardenClubMI.com for additional information.**

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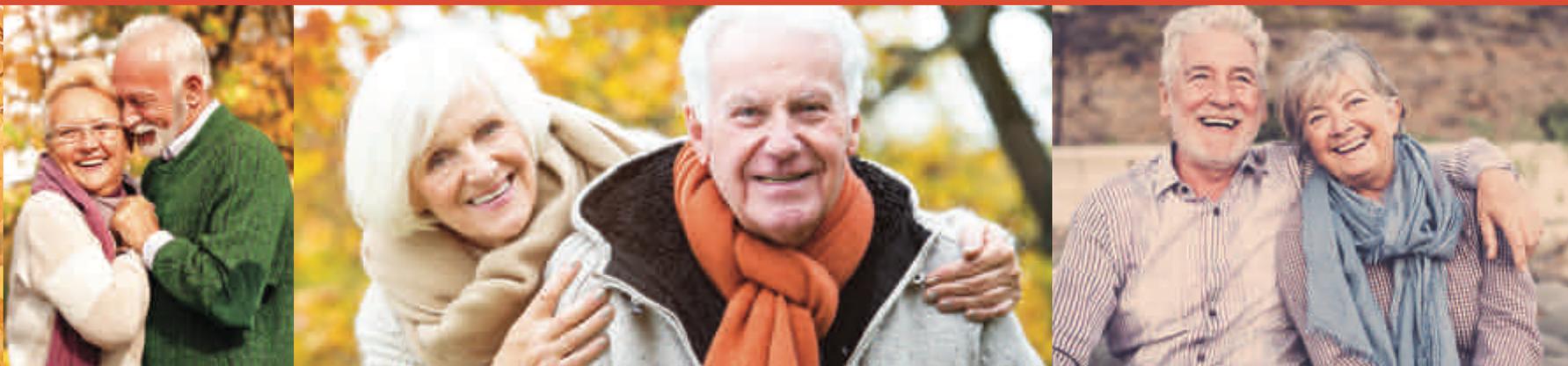
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### GET YOUR GAZETTE

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.



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7		9			3	2		
			5			7	1	2
	5			6			3	
4	2	7			1			
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## County Has Advice on Avoiding Dangerous Mosquitoes

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has confirmed a human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) in a 70-year-old Oakland County man, Oakland County Health Division announced today. This is the first human case of WNV in Oakland County in 2019, and the fourth this year in Michigan.

**“This is an important reminder** that West Nile Virus is present in our community,” said Leigh-Anne Stafford, health officer for Oakland County Health Division. “We strongly encourage residents to protect themselves from mosquitoes until the first hard frost of the year.”

No further information is available about the patient because of health privacy laws.

Residents, especially older adults, are urged to protect themselves from mosquito bites by following these instructions:

**Use EPA-registered insect repellent.** All EPA-registered insect repellents are evaluated for safety and effectiveness, and will contain DEET, picaridin, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol as the active ingredient. Repellents containing a higher percentage of the active ingredient typically provide longer-lasting protection. Always follow the product label instructions.

Be careful using repellent on the hands of children as it may irritate the eyes and mouth.

**Wear protective clothing** such as long-sleeved shirts and pants.

Limit outdoor activity from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

Maintain window and door screens to keep mosquitoes out of buildings. Do not prop open doors.

**Empty water** from mosquito breeding sites around the home, such as buckets, unused kiddie pools, old tires or similar sites where mosquitoes may lay eggs.

### Use nets and/or fans over outdoor eating areas.

West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne virus. Mosquitoes are infected with the virus by biting an infected bird. The virus is then spread to humans through the bite of the infected mosquito. Most people who are infected with the virus have either no symptoms or experience a mild illness such as fever, headache, and body aches.

However, in some individuals, a more serious disease-causing inflammation and swelling of the brain can develop. People over the age of 50 are more likely to develop serious and potentially life-threatening symptoms of West Nile Virus if they do get sick.

**Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)** is another mosquito-borne disease that continues to be reported in Michigan this year in humans, with eight cases and three fatalities confirmed in Southwest Michigan. No cases of EEE have been reported in Oakland County. EEE is one of the most dangerous mosquito-borne diseases in the United States, with a 33 percent fatality rate in people who become ill. People can be infected with EEE from the bite of a mosquito carrying the viruses.

Persons younger than age 15 and over age 50 are at greatest risk of severe disease following infection. Signs of EEE include the sudden onset of fever, chills, body and joint aches which can progress to a severe encephalitis, resulting in headache, disorientation, tremors, seizures and paralysis. Anyone experiencing these symptoms should visit their physician's office.

*For more information about West Nile Virus and EEE, visit [Oakgov.com/health](http://Oakgov.com/health) or call Nurse on Call at 800-848-5533, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.*



THE ATHENS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 1979 held their 40th reunion party earlier this month. The high school class graduated from Athens during the same time the first issue of this newspaper was published.



**THANKSGIVING DAY  
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SERVING UP TO 20 PEOPLE  
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*Order Your Thanksgiving Day Dinner Package by Wednesday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> before Noon (Deposit Required)  
Pick up on Thanksgiving Day before 1pm and ENJOY!*

**Thanksgiving Day Dinner Package 1 - \$239.50 plus tax - Feeds 10 - 15 Guests**  
Includes: 13 -15 lb Turkey • Mashed Potatoes and Gravy • Green Beans • Cranberry Sauce  
Traditional Stuffing with Fresh Sage, Thyme, Celery and Onions with House Made Bread  
Salad with Italian Dressing • 1.5 Dozen Rolls • Your Choice of 1 - Apple or Pumpkin Pie

**Thanksgiving Day Dinner Package 2 - \$299.50 plus tax - Feeds 15 - 20 Guests**  
Includes: 18 -20 lb Turkey • Mashed Potatoes and Gravy • Green Beans • Cranberry Sauce  
Traditional Stuffing with Fresh Sage, Thyme, Celery and Onions with House Made Bread  
Salad with Italian Dressing • 2 Dozen Rolls • Your Choice of 1 - Apple or Pumpkin Pie

*Sweet Potatoes and Other Side Dishes Available for Additional Charge*

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## Better Writing Through Research Program

On Tuesday, October 1, the Oakland County Genealogical Society will present the program, “Better Writing Through Research” presented by Laura Hedgecock.

This presentation will explore practical strategies to increase the impact of your family stories.

**Hedgecock will examine** where to find details about the social, historical, ethnic, religious and emotional context of stories that will deliver your readers a greater understanding of their (or your) ancestors' lives.

This event is free and open to the public at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 5500 N. Adams Road in Troy. It is located on the east side of Adams Road about halfway between Long Lake Rd. and Square Lake Rd.

The meeting will start at 7 p.m. The church has a flat entrance and lighted parking.

*For more information, contact Derek Blount, V.P. and Program Director for the Oakland County Genealogy Society at 248-548-1737 or [djblount@sbcglobal.net](mailto:djblount@sbcglobal.net).*