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Rochester & Rochester Hills Gazette

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March 21, 2019

Vol. 3, No. 47

Learn About Michigan's Best Nature Getaways

On Friday, March 29 at 7 p.m., author and adventurer Ron Rademacher will inspire you to explore the back roads of Michigan and the most overlooked nature areas in our state.

Each of these natural areas has easily accessible trails, usually less than a mile long. Rademacher will share all of the local attractions near each area and help you plan your next getaway.

The event takes place at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. To learn more, visit rochesterhills.org/museum/.

Mount Avon Clean Up

All personal items must be removed from Mount Avon Cemetery by Monday, April 1, including pots, shepherd hooks, and personal items.

City staff will remove everything from spaces beginning April 1 and the city says it will not be responsible for lost items. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-651-9061.

Confirmed Rabid Skunk in Rochester Hills

Oakland County Health Division reports a confirmed case of rabies in a skunk removed from Rochester Hills this week.

If a wild animal is found behaving strangely, call the Oakland County Animal Shelter and Pet Adoption Center at 248-858-1070 for assistance. To report an animal bite, call the Health Division at 248-858-1286.

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Classifieds



ROCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL hosted its second annual Friendship Basketball Game for special education students and RCS volunteers on Tuesday. All funds raised during the event were donated to special needs programs at Rochester High School. On Wednesday, Rochester Community Schools hosted the 26th Annual Special Education Appreciation Evening at Stoney Creek High School to recognize students, staff and families, and to hand out several well-earned Sparkle Awards.

Rochester Hills Adopts Master Plan Update

The City of Rochester Hills formally adopted its 2018 Master Plan late last month. The Master Plan guides city policy and decision-making about how land is used for housing, transportation, commerce, and recreation over the next 10 to 20 years.

"The City of Rochester Hills and its predecessor, Avon Township, have engaged in land use planning and policymaking for over 50 years and this is the latest iteration," said Mayor Bryan Barnett.

Working with consulting firm

Giffels Webster, input for the plan came from community visioning sessions, focus groups, an online survey, a youth art contest, and two public open houses.

The plan focuses on four key themes: Improve Community Health, Create an Age-Friendly Community, Improve Community Sustainability and Improve Transportation Choices.

Rochester Hills' Planning & Economic Development Director Sara Roediger thanked the community for participating in the process and noted, "The city is

already hard at work bringing the plan to life."

These changes include ordinance updates to encourage the development of smaller lot housing in a new zoning district (R-5) and amendments to promote mixed-use redevelopment in the city's Brooklands area. Officials say this type of housing, often referred to as the "missing middle," will help meet the growing demand for walkable community living and support the road and streetscape improvements the city is

See MASTER PLAN, page 2

Fringe Fest to Debut this Summer

by DREW HOWARD

A brand new music and arts festival highlighting student talent from all across Michigan has been approved to take place this summer in the Rochester Municipal Park.

The Rochester City Council voted unanimously in favor of the upcoming "Rochester Fringe Fest" during its latest meeting on Monday, March 11. Festival programmers will tentatively debut the new event on Friday, June 7 with a goal of 1,000 attendees, 100 featured artists, 15 student band performers, and several food trucks/vendors.

Rochester Fringe Fest founder and Oakland University student Ciara Nichole held a downsized version of the event for the first time in May 2018 at Rochester Adams High School. Unlike last year's event, Nichole told council the 2019 Fringe Fest will be a public event more than double in size.

Nichole, a musician and singer herself, described the Rochester Fringe Fest as an opportunity to cultivate talent among Michigan's student population.

"I was very aware of all the amazing students around me that had so much artistic passion and talent and it made me really sad because they weren't getting the recognition I thought they deserved," Nichole said. "I

See FRINGE FEST, page 2



Paula Rea-Johnston
of The Linda Rea Team

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Police Chief Named Administrator of the Year

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER and the Rochester Police Department announced this week that Chief Steven Schettenhelm has been named the Administrator of the Year by the Police Officers Association of Michigan. Chief Schettenhelm will be formally recognized in May in Grand Rapids at the Annual State POAM Convention. He was nominated by the men and women from the Rochester Police Department and the nomination was voted on by the POAM Executive Board.

New Rochester Music and Arts Festival Approved for Summer Debut

FRINGE FEST, From page 1

wanted to create a place for all these students in order to do what they do best.”

City council members expressed great excitement for the event, while at the same time issuing caution to Nichole as a first-time event organizer in the Rochester Municipal Park.

Mayor Pro-Tem Kim Russell urged Nichole to organize the Rochester Fringe Fest in a way that mirrors the Art and Apples Festival in past years. “I can totally appreciate all the work that has to go into this, but I would really like it to mirror Art and Apples,” Russell said. “Because it’s not just about the festival, it’s about the

community you’re serving and the neighborhood you’re serving.”

Councilmember Ben Giovanelli encouraged Nichole to take a deeper look into issues around parking, restrooms and other details that make for a great event. “One of the things we’ve struggled with here on council is the amount of events in the park and the damage it does to the park,” Giovanelli said. “I think on balance I support it, I just want to make sure we have thought of all those really important details before we go forward.”

Portions of the proceeds earned at the Rochester Fringe Fest will be donated to Living Arts, a nonprofit in Detroit that engages

the local youth through performing, visual, literary and media arts.

Nichole reiterated the importance of the Rochester Fringe Fest, describing it as a unique opportunity for student artists that hasn’t been offered before.

“I think of Fringe Fest as the ‘big game’ for artists,” she said. “Football players practice all season and they work really hard, and then they get to go play under the Friday night lights and everyone is super excited for them. These painters don’t have their big game, they don’t have that place, so I wanted to give that to them.”

Rochester Hills Mayor Barnett Applauds Master Plan Update

MASTER PLAN, From page 1

constructing this summer as part of the Auburn Road project.

“Additional opportunities for public input will be welcomed as these plan recommendations are being considered,” said Roediger.

Mayor Barnett applauded the energy that went into the Master Plan update, noting, “Our planning team was recognized for their robust, thoughtful and creative approach to developing the City’s Master Plan at the Michigan Municipal League Conference this past fall and I’m pleased we’ve already begun work executing it.”

People can review the Master Plan Update online at RochesterHills.org/MasterPlan/. Hard copies are also available at City Hall.



THE ROCHESTER Regional Chamber of Commerce was on hand for the Automotive-Tomorrow’s Mobility event on March 15 at Molex in Rochester Hills. Guests heard from Rochester Hills Mayor Bryan Barnett, Senator Gary Peters, Mayor of Columbus Andrew Ginther, and Carla Bailo with the Center for Automotive Research about innovation in the automotive mobility sector. Photo by Ryan Deel

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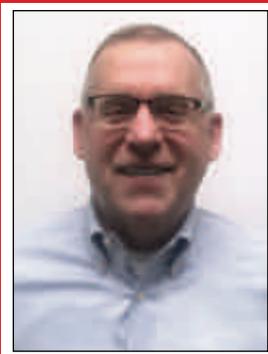
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STATE SENATOR MALLORY MCMORROW did her part to help promote literacy to children on Monday at Meadow Brook Elementary in recognition of March is Reading Month.

Family Fun Day for Those Impacted by Autism

The Joanne and Ted Lindsay Foundation Autism Outreach Services (OUCARES) is hosting its 16th annual Family Fun Day on Saturday, March 23, to offer an inclusive day of fun for people with autism spectrum disorders.

The event will be held from 12-4 p.m. at the Oakland University Recreation Center. Family Fun Day is free and open to all individuals impacted by autism and their family and friends. Attendees are encouraged to participate in fun activities including a sensory room hosted by Kaufman Children’s Center. Swimming will also be available from 12-2p.m. and guests are asked to bring their own towels.

Family Fun Day will also include a resource fair with representatives from more than 20 autism-related organizations.

To learn more, contact the OUCARES office at 2448-370-24224 or go to oucures@oakland.edu.

Sometimes Things Get Dickey Between Bouncers and Drunk People

POLICE PATROL



■ BOUNCER AND BAR PATRONS NOT GETTING ALONG

– On March 10 at 2:15

a.m., Rochester officers were dispatched to a business in the 200 block of Main St. for a report of a fight. When the officers arrived, they observed a group of people standing outside the business. The officers spoke with several witnesses and members of the group who stated they were waiting for an Uber and started arguing with a bouncer of the business because he was being rude. Witnesses stated a man, identified as a 38-year-old from Texas, was walking by and initially sided with the group and began arguing with the bouncer as well. Witnesses stated the man then started arguing with one of the group members, grabbed him by the shirt collar, and pushed him into a window of the business. The person who was pushed did not wish to press charges for assault. The man, who was intoxicated, was taken to the Rochester police department, held until sober, and released with a pending court date for disorderly intoxication.

■ **LOCAL BUSINESS SWINDLED OUT OF \$1000** – On March 14 just before noon, a Rochester officer was dispatched to a business in the 100 block of Main St. for a fraud report. The officer spoke with the owner of the business who said in January of this year a woman came into the business claiming to work for an advertisement company. For a fee of \$1,000, the woman promised her company would put the owner's business on advertisement pamphlets and they would be handed out at another local business in town. The owner agreed to the terms, signed a contract, and paid the woman two payments totaling \$1,000. The business owner told the

officer he has not received the pamphlets or heard from the woman since the end of February, beginning of March. The officer followed up with the other local business who stated they have no affiliation with this woman or her company. This case will be assigned to the detective bureau for further investigation.

■ **FIRE AT THE DAYS INN** – On March 18, OCSO Deputies and the City of Rochester Hills Fire Department responded to the Days Inn, located at 1919 Starr Batt Drive, on the report of a commercial structure fire that appeared to have originated in a first-floor laundry room. Deputies began evacuating patrons from nearby rooms while firefighters arrived to extinguish the fire. There were no reported injuries. Firefighters extinguished the fire and confined the damage to a specific area of the building. The Fire Chief requested to have an Investigator from the OCSO Fire Investigations Unit respond to the scene to assist them with a cause and origin investigation. The cause of the fire has not been determined, but arson has been ruled out. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

■ **PEDESTRIAN STRUCK BY VEHICLE** – The Oakland County Crash Reconstruction Unit is assisting Deputies from the Rochester Hills Substation with the investigation of a serious injury pedestrian crash that occurred near 2923 Technology Dr. in the City of Rochester Hills at approximately 7:15 a.m. A 1999 GMC Jimmy was being driven north on Technology Dr. by a 65-year-old Rochester Hills resident approaching Adams Rd. A tractor-trailer was parked south in front of 2923 Technology Dr. making deliveries. The tractor trailer was unoccupied. The driver of the tractor-trailer was returning to his vehicle and was crossing Technology Dr. when he entered the roadway and was struck by the 1999 GMC. The driver of the tractor-trailer, a 36-year-old resident of Rosenberg, TX, was struck on his left side and was transported to McLaren Oakland in Pontiac and later transferred to Royal Oak

Beaumont where they remain in critical condition. There was no airbag deployment in the GMC and seat belt use is unknown at this time. There were no injuries to the driver of the GMC. Alcohol/drug use is not believed to be a factor for the driver of the GMC or the pedestrian who was struck. The crash remains under investigation.

■ **HIT AND RUN IN INDEPENDENCE TWP** – On Thursday, March 14, a pedestrian hit and run crash occurred on Clintonville Road north of Fay Street at 10:13 p.m. Employees from the Clarkston Specialty Healthcare Center at 4800 Clintonville Road were attempting to assist an 83-year-

old male (in a wheelchair) out of the roadway and back inside the facility when he, along with one of the employees, was struck by a vehicle traveling northbound on Clintonville Road. The responsible vehicle failed to stop and continued northbound. The suspect vehicle was described as a black Chevrolet Monte Carlo with some type of red writing on the front of the vehicle. The vehicle should have damage to the front passenger side and possibly a faulty rear tail light. Both the 83-year-old resident and employee were transported to McLaren Regional Medical Center in the City of Pontiac by the Independence Township Fire Department. The 83-year-old

resident is listed in critical condition and the 29-year-old employee is listed in stable condition. Anyone who may have witnessed this crash or may have information is being asked to contact the Oakland County Sheriff's Office Tip line at 1-888-TURN-1-IN or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAK-UP where you may remain anonymous. The crash remains under investigation.

Note: If you have any information on the aforementioned crimes, call the Rochester Police Department at 248-651-9621 or the OCSO Rochester Hills Substation at 248-537-3530.

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MUSIC

Open Mic Hosted by Ryan Dillaha - Every Wednesday at 9 p.m. New Way Bar, Ferndale

Lula Wiles Saturday, March 23, 8 p.m. 20 Front Street, Lake Orion

The Kruger Brothers Wednesday, March 27, 8 p.m. 20 Front Street, Lake Orion

Beatles Night III Wednesday, March 27, 8 p.m. The Loving Touch, Ferndale

Collision Six Friday, March 29, 8:30 p.m. Rochester Mills Beer Co.

Bon Iver Monday, April 8, 7:30 p.m. Fox Theatre, Detroit

The Floozies Saturday, April 13, 7 p.m. Royal Oak Music Theatre

ON STAGE

Wait Until Dark Now thru March 23, Avon Players, Rochester Hills

Little Shop of Horrors March 22 & March 23, 7 p.m. Adams Theatre, Rochester Hills

Boeing Boeing March 22 - April 7, Stagecrafters, Royal Oak

Demetri Martin Friday, March 29, 7 p.m. Royal Oak Music Theatre

The Sting April 25-27 Rochester Alliance of Theatrical Students, Rochester High School

Freaky Friday April 26 - May 4 Stoney Creek High School Theatre, Rochester Hills

Company May 17 - June 1, Avon Players, Rochester Hills

NIGHTLIFE

Beer Dinner Featuring Brewdog - 5 courses, 5 beers - Thursday, March 21, 7 p.m. Penny Black, Rochester

6th Annual Wine, Wit, & Wisdom Saturday, April 13, 6:30 p.m. Rochester Hills Public Library

Happy Hour for Hope Thursday, April 18, 5 p.m. Rochester Mills Beer Co.

Moules et Frites with Chef Chris Johnson of Meeting House Friday, April 19, 4 p.m. Frame, Hazel Park

LIBRARY

All events take place at Rochester Hills Public Library, 500 Olde Towne Rd in Rochester, unless stated otherwise. Register at Rhpl.org/.

DIY Stress Relief Saturday, March 23, 10 a.m.

Isha Foundation Meditation for Beginners Monday, March 25, 11 a.m.

Books on Tap Monday, March 25, 7 p.m. Main Street Billiards, Rochester

Crafternoon Tuesday, March 26, 6 p.m.

An Evening with a Forensic Scientist Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m.

Newcomer's Book Group Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m.

ELL Conversation Group Thursday, March 28, 7 p.m.

KIDS & TEENS

All events at Rochester Hills Public Library unless stated otherwise.

Big Fun in the Big Room Thursday, March 21, 9 a.m.

Python Coding Class for Grades 6-8 Thursday, March 21, 4:30 p.m.

Popsicle People Grades 1-5 Saturday, March 23, 11 a.m.

Women in HERstory Grades 1-6 Saturday, March 23, 2 p.m.

Entomologist Certification Monday, March 25, 6 p.m.

Parent-Child Workshop, ages 1-3 Tuesday, March 26, 10 a.m.

Spring Storytime Wednesday, April 10, 7 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

Claypool Lennon Delirium Saturday, April 27, 8 p.m. The Majestic Theatre, Detroit

Festival of Laughs Saturday, May 11, 8 p.m. Fox Theatre, Detroit

John Mayer Friday, August 2, 7:30 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, Detroit

To submit an event, email News@gazettegroup.com. Submissions run in the paper space permitting. To advertise an event, email Advertising@gazettegroup.com.

GAZETTE RECOMMENDS...



PATRIOT ACT

Comedian Hasan Minhaj delivers a deep-dive into timely news stories every week on his Netflix show Patriot Act, now in its second season. Minhaj made headlines of his own in January when the Saudi government asked Netflix to take down one of his episodes in which he was critical of the Saudi prince. The show's format is similar to that of fellow Daily Show veteran John Oliver's Last Week Tonight, but Minhaj's humor and choice of subject matter is distinct. The latest episode of the Patriot Act addresses the Indian elections.

“Black Panther” Costume Designer to Visit OU April 3

Legendary costume designer Ruth E. Carter is set to visit Oakland University this April for a presentation that will take audience members through her storied Hollywood career.

Carter earned her third Academy Award nomination and first win this year for best costume design on Marvel’s “Black Panther.” She is now the first and only African-American female costume designer ever to claim the prize, as well as the first woman to win for a superhero film period.

The designer has lent her

talents to dozens of films, predominantly those with a focus on African-American history. She has worked on more African-American historic films and TV series than any other costume designer in film and television.

In her speech at the 2019 Academy Awards, Carter thanked director Spike Lee for helping her get her start in Hollywood. The pair have collaborated on 14 films together, including “Malcolm X,” “Old Boy,” “Do the Right Thing” and “School Daze.”

Carter’s costume work is now the focus of the traveling

exhibition “Dress Code: 35 Years of Ruth E. Carter’s Afrocentric Movie Costumes,” which pays tribute to the designer’s contributions to black cinema. Films included in the exhibition include “Amistad,” “The Butler,” and “Selma,” among many others.

Carter’s lecture at OU will take place on Wednesday, April 3 at 7 p.m. inside the Oakland Center Founders Ballrooms.

Tickets for the event are now available for free at the Office of Student Involvement (OSI) Service Window, located in room 49 on the lower level of the Oakland Center.

‘The Who’s Tommy’ Coming to Varner Studio Theatre

Oakland University’s School of Music, Theatre and Dance will present The Who’s Tommy, a fast-paced rock opera featuring a score

“Set in the aftermath of World War II and spanning almost 25 years, the musical tells the story of ‘Tommy,’ a young boy who is

professor of theatre at Oakland University.

“To me, the play is about healing and moving forward in the wake of physical and emotional trauma,” Gram added.

Admission is \$22 for the general public and \$12 for students and the 10 a.m. matinee. Tickets may be purchased online without service fees at startickets.com or by phone at 800-585-3737. They can also be purchased at the Varner Hall Box Office on OU’s campus.

The cast had a chance to practice their pinball skills last month courtesy of Sparks Pinball Museum – Arcade & Bar in Chesterfield, which allowed the cast to come and play pinball as a way to prepare for the show. The owners are also providing a Tommy pinball machine that will be on display in the lobby of Varner Studio Theatre during the run of the show.

For more information, call 248-370-2030 or send an email to smt@oakland.edu.



by British rock band The Who, from March 21-24 and March 27-31 in the Varner Studio Theatre in Varner Hall.

rendered deaf, dumb and blind at the age of four after witnessing an act of domestic violence,” said Director David Gram, an assistant

Rochester Band The Doozers to Perform at Mo Pop Festival

A Rochester indie rock band will share the stage with some of music’s biggest names when they play at Detroit’s 2019 Mo Pop Festival July 27-28.

Rochester natives Charlie Belleville, Sean Donnelly, Melanie

following and idolizing for years is mind-boggling.”

The Doozers promise to release “a heap” of new music ahead of their Mo Pop performance. The band’s latest single “Cytoplasm” is available to



Kelley, and Kyle Garland make up the four-piece band dubbed The Doozers. The group has been performing together for around four years, playing at venues like Downtown Rochester’s Dessert Oasis, The Crofoot in Pontiac, and The Loving Touch in Ferndale.

The Doozers’ Mo Pop gig looks to be their biggest one yet, sharing the bill with artists like Vampire Weekend, Lizzo, Tame Impala, Ella Mai. In 2016, Mo Pop saw 20,000 attendees over the two-day event, according to The Detroit Free Press, and 25,000 in 2017.

“When we found out about Mo Pop we were absolutely ecstatic,” The Doozers told the Gazette. “To think we will be on the same lineup as bands we’ve been

stream now on Spotify, and is currently their most successful yet with nearly 70,000 streams to date.

“We would like to thank all of our fans, friends, family and anyone who’s ever come to one of our shows, bought a CD or even followed us on Instagram,” they added. “Your support means the world to us and we are endlessly appreciative of you! Mo Pop will be a stepping stone for what’s to come.”

Mo Pop 2019 will take place on the West Riverfront Park in Detroit from Saturday, July 27 to Sunday, July 28. Tickets for the festival are available online at Mopopfestival.com/.

Freep Film Festival Announces Lineup

The full film lineup for the sixth annual Freep Film Festival, which will be held April 10-14, has been announced and tickets are on sale now.

The five-day documentary-focused festival will feature World, US and Michigan film premieres in downtown and Midtown Detroit. Beyond the boundaries of the City, the Freep Film Festival reaches to Emagine Theatres in Royal Oak, and for the first time, the Patriot Theater located at the War Memorial in Grosse Pointe Farms.

Notable films include “Miles Davis: The Birth of Cool,” “Detroit Tigers: The Roar of ‘84,” and “Dare to Struggle, Dare to Win.”

More information on the films that will be featured, as well as Freep Film Festival tickets, can be obtained at Freepfilmfestival.com/.



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Heart & Vascular Focused on Continuity of Quality Care

Heart & Vascular Care, under Dr. Jay Pradhan, M.D., FACC, has been providing high quality, friendly, efficient service for patients at their Rochester Hills location for nearly 10 years. The center also services Macomb, Oakland, and other surrounding areas.



DR. JAY PRADHAN, M.D., FACC

Dr. Pradhan, a board-certified cardiologist, has extensive experience in diagnosing and treating a wide range of cardiovascular conditions.

"In the office here, we do vascular and cardiac testing,

echocardiogram, stress testings, EKGs, arterial and vein ultrasounds, as well as laser ablation for varicose veins," says office manager Valerie Cantu.

Heart & Vascular also provides pre-surgical clearances, standard consultations, blood pressure monitoring, and more.

And since all of the ultrasound and stress testing is done in-office, Cantu says the results are typically available to the patient's primary physician that same day.

"It's nice for patients to be able to come in, be seen by Dr. Pradhan, who recommends the next step, and it's convenient to have the in-house testing we offer because we can have the patient have that test done right here in the office on the same day," says Cantu.

The multitude of in-office testing and services provided is beneficial to both the patient and the practice. The patient receives results faster and doesn't have to make as many visits to the office, and the practice is more efficient with both time and cost.

"We try to get everything done together as it's needed, that way they don't have to come back as often – especially if they're coming from a way's away," says Cantu. "It's a convenience factor that we are proud to offer our patients."

The team Heart & Vascular Care go above and beyond to not only provide the highest quality medical care, but also a welcoming

environment that makes patients feel like they're part of the family.

"It's our goal to provide the highest quality of care for our patients. We provide a warm, caring environment here, and we are very welcoming here," says Cantu. "We want to make sure our patients are being taken care of, in that everything is streamlined with them in mind."

"In the truest sense, we are a patient-centered medical facility."

Heart & Vascular also ensures that all information and testing is transferred securely to their patients' primary care physicians and other providers in a timely manner. Cantu says this helps keep everybody on the same page and focused on providing the best care for each patient.

Dr. Pradhan is an interventional cardiologist, meaning that he does cardiac cath, coronary angioplasty, and stenting at the hospital if and when it is needed. These are some of the many benefits of having a relationship with a doctor who has hospital affiliation, as Dr. Pradhan has with Beaumont. Heart & Vascular is able to provide inpatient treatment and continuity of care at the office.

"Our patients have an established relationship with Dr. Pradhan, and when needed, he can be consulted or visit them if they're admitted to the hospital. It's a great benefit, in addition to post-procedure follow-ups and close monitoring of care throughout the entire process," says Cantu.

Heart & Vascular Care is located at 75 Barclay Circle, Suite 230, in Rochester Hills.

For more information, call 248-246-1127 or email heartandvascular11@gmail.com.

The team at Heart & Vascular Care will be participating in the Early Bird Senior Expo on Thursday, April 4 from 7-9:45 a.m. at the Somerset Collection of Troy, north side center court. The expo, produced by Gazette Media Group, is free to attend, with complimentary bagels and coffee. To learn more, visit Gazetteevents.com or call 248-524-4868.

CLASSIFIEDS

March 21, 2019



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1/2

BLOOD DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

The American Red Cross encourages people to donate blood in order to meet supply needs in the Oakland and Macomb area. Donating blood is a simple way to make a lifesaving impact in your community. The American Red Cross regularly hosts blood drives.

To view the latest blood drives in your area, or to make an appointment to donate, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-733-2767.

VOLUNTEER

Forgotten Harvest is a non-profit organization that collects surplus food and redistributes it to local charities, providing families in the metro-Detroit area with fresh and nutritious food.



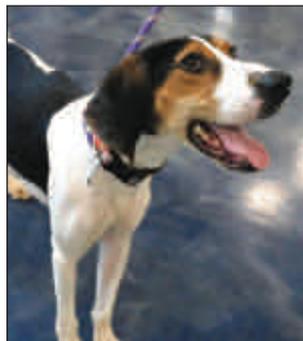
Not only do their efforts benefit those in need in the community who need it most, they also help reduce food waste in the area by collecting large quantities of food from restaurants, wholesalers, and caterers.

Forgotten Harvest is always in need of monetary donations and volunteers. Visit ForgottenHarvest.org for more information on how to donate your time, energy, and efforts to this worthy cause.

ADOPT A PET

Oakland County Animal Control and Pet Adoption Center have some wonderful dogs and cats waiting for someone to come rescue them! All of their dogs are current on age appropriate shots, microchip, and heartworm tested, all of their cats are up to date as well! If interested, please contact the shelter at 248-858-1070 OACAC is located at 1200 N Telegraph Rd Bldg 42E, in Pontiac.

Jango Fett

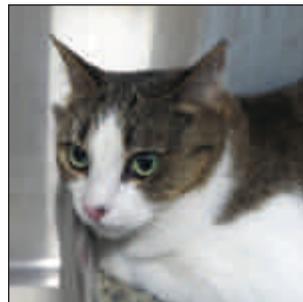


ADOPT A PET

Adam



Pig



Lenny



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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- Proficient with Mac, Excel, Word, Google Docs
- Must be organized and comfortable multitasking
- Must be reliable and able to work in Troy Office

Email resume to

Assistant@GazetteMediaGroup.com

Sudoku

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

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Troy-Somerset
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To place a classified advertisement, Call 248-524-4868, fax to 248-524-9140, or email classifieds@gazettemediagroup.com

15 words for \$12.00, each additional word 25¢ • Phone numbers and hyphenations count as 2 words, abbreviations count as 1 word
Single line of caps 75¢ • Bold single line of caps \$1.00 • Double line of caps \$1.50 • Bold double line of caps \$2.00

Payable by credit card or mailing a check to GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS, PO. 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.

Benson's Campaign Finance Reforms Are Sensible and Deserve Support

PERSPECTIVES



Op-Ed by
NATHAN INKS

Transparency in campaign contributions and enforcement of the state's campaign finance laws are crucial to protecting the integrity of our state's elections and government. Unfortunately, both major political parties, candidates, and donors try to skirt the rules – often successfully. Michigan's new Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson, hopes to change that and has proposed reforms that could have a meaningful impact on campaign finance transparency.

Under the state's current laws, political parties are not required to disclose donors to their administrative accounts. The original exemption was designed to allow political parties to be able to purchase items like office supplies without having to disclose donors and expenditures; a similar exemption exists at the federal level. Over the past few decades, groups run by both Republicans and Democrats have used their administrative accounts to influence elections, running ads featuring or benefiting candidates; however, the groups are prohibited from using such accounts to coordinate with or contribute directly to candidates, and their ads cannot directly support or oppose a candidate up for election. Although compliant with the letter of the law, it certainly violates the spirit of the law.

Benson hopes to change that and has advocated for legislation similar to that in a majority of other states requiring campaign finance disclosures for all political ads run within a certain time period prior to an election.

Republicans in the legislature had previously expressed opposition to such a bill; however, Sen. Ruth Johnson (R-Holly), who served as the state's previous secretary of state, supported a similar regulation during her secretary of state term. She currently serves as chairwoman of the Senate Election Committee and has expressed support for legislative action on the issue; her support could go a long way in getting such legislation passed.

The second area in need of reform is enforcement of the state's campaign finance disclosure laws. There are

currently around \$1.5 million unpaid campaign finance violation fees that candidate committees and political action committees have racked up from either filing campaign finance reports late or failing to file them at all. When a candidate fails to file a required report, the secretary of state's office is required to eventually report the matter to the attorney general's office; however, such referrals often do not result in any prosecution.

When filing to run for office, candidates are also required to affirm under penalty of perjury that they have filed all necessary reports and paid all fines, but violations are hardly ever prosecuted. A quick search of the state's campaign finance system would reveal numerous candidates who have repeatedly ignored the reporting requirements and filed inaccurate affidavits, and many of them have never been prosecuted—despite the secretary of state's office performing its duties by notifying the attorney general of the violations.

Since Benson's office has no ability to prosecute violators itself and has to turn collections over to the Department of Treasury, adding real teeth to the state's reporting laws is a bit trickier and will likely require cooperation across multiple departments.

When it comes to elections, there is little that Republicans and Democrats generally agree on, but support for transparency and enforcement of the rules is hopefully something the two parties have in common.

The voters of Michigan deserve to know who is using money to influence elections in the state.

The only way to ensure that voters can access that information is by eliminating the administrative account "dark money" loophole and adding real enforcement teeth to campaign finance laws. Benson's proposals are good, common-sense reforms, and they deserve support from the governor and those in the legislature.

Send a letter to the editor at Andrew@gazettemediagroup.com



ROCHESTER COLLEGE PRESIDENT Dr. Brian Stogner was the first speaker of the Smart Towns lecture series on Tuesday at the Rochester Hills Public Library. The next Smart Towns event will be on Tuesday, April 2 on the campus of Rochester College as Dr. Mark Love talks "Genius of the Early Christian Mission."

Lecture Examines Link Between Identity and Social Conflict

As part of its Richard J. Burke Lecture Series, Oakland University will host a discussion on "The Lies That Bind," with Dr. Kwame Anthony Appiah from 7:30-9:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 28 in Banquet Rooms A and B in the Oakland Center.

Social conflicts, embodied in race, religion, class and gender, create people's identities. And those identities, riddled with contradictions and falsehoods, fuel some of the world's greatest atrocities. Dr. Appiah examines

the relationship between identities and social conflicts, and suggests how this knowledge may be used to foster social and individual growth.

Born in England, raised in Ghana and educated at Cambridge University, Dr. Appiah received a Ph.D. in philosophy. As a scholar of African and African American studies, he established himself as an intellectual with a broad reach. He has been named one of Foreign Policy's Top 100 public intellectuals, one of the Carnegie

Corporation's "Great Immigrants," and awarded a National Humanities Medal by the White House.

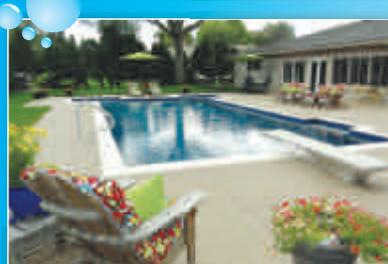
He currently teaches at New York University, and he has previously taught at Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Cornell, Duke, and the University of Ghana.

Admission is free, but reservations are requested. To reserve a space, call 248-370-3390 or email Ann Zimmerman at zimmerm2@oakland.edu.

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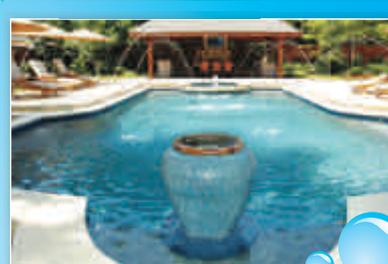
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