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December 16, 2019
 Vol. 40, No. 13

U.S. House Rep. Stevens Visits Troops in Afghanistan

Talks veterans' issues and regional infrastructure in Gazette interview

by ANDREW NEAL

Democratic Congresswoman Haley Stevens (MI-11) paid a visit to service members in Kuwait and Afghanistan over Thanksgiving weekend to serve the troops dinner, talk with them about their experience overseas, and learn more about veterans issues from the source.

"Many veterans have returned as contractors, working with one of the many companies that the State Department or Department of Defense utilizes in the ongoing war on terror," Rep. Stevens told the Gazette. "It was very eye-opening to learn about some of the challenges that our veterans have while overseas in terms of accessing their resources."

Also on the delegation trip was Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) who said that some of the issues facing the VA could be streamlined through awareness and improved services.

Stevens noted that, especially in Afghanistan, troops are dealing with poor air quality conditions. Due to the country's poor energy infrastructure, when it gets cold at night, "they are burning anything

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THE KEY CLUBS at Athens High and the International Academy East hosted a drive for the local Salvation Army by collecting hats, gloves, scarfs, and socks. To thank those who ran the drive, their sponsor, the Troy Kiwanis Club, invited their officers to lunch last Tuesday. Pictured behind the Kiwanis Banner are Kiwanians (left to right) Doug Tietz, District Judge Kirsten Hartig, Vicki Cerven-Astell, with Athens Principal Lara Dixon, and Troy Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rich Machesky, who is also a Troy Kiwanian. These students (front left to right) Aabibsa Thapa, Polinna Maknev, Medha Tripathi, and Nadia Imam were among the first to join the Athens High Key Club and supported the drive for the second year.

Chamber Holiday Luncheon a Homemade Troy Tradition

It was a full house last Thursday at the San Marino Club as the Troy Chamber hosted its annual Holiday Luncheon. Guests were delighted that the Chamber had decided it was time for the return of the "Homemade for the Holidays" theme, with a new panel of CEOs from Michigan brands.

This year's event was moderated by Fox 2 News Anchor Roop Raj, who started his TV career at WTRY right here Troy at the age of 14. The 2019 panel for the Holiday Luncheon featured John Braganini, President of St.

Julian Winery, Paul Saginaw, CoFounding Partner & Chief Spiritual Officer of Zingerman's; and Joe Renkiewicz, General Manager & Future Owner of Henry The Hatter.

Raj asked the panel how they got into business. Well, it seems that Renkiewicz had been selling hats and stocking shelves for 30 years. There was one thing he wishes he'd known before he took over: What's the job in the back of the house?

For Saginaw, it was 1982 when he and his cofounder discovered

that people love corned beef. Now over 30 years later, they have 11 businesses and earn \$75 million in annual sales. And while corned beef is still very popular, many health conscious diners want turkey. He observed that in business, you don't want a job, you want a career.

Saginaw told the story of President Obama's visit to Zingerman's. They'd get a call from the White House that government officials would be by, but never the President. It was

See CHAMBER, page 3

Troy May See Another Hotel Soon

Planners Approve Hyatt Place

by CYNTHIA KMETT

Dennis Bostick, owner of Troy Sports Complex, approached the Troy Planning Commission with a plan to build apartments on the acreage next to the entrance to Kroger, but questions about traffic made commissioners put that idea on hold.

Bostick, a longtime Troy resident, says he still likes Troy and wants to build here. While traffic is still a bit of a question on the new site, when it came up, he had a simple answer. He'll just add another level to the proposed parking deck if Troy's consultant OHM proves correct about the need for more parking spaces.

The place being eyed for development is the site of Huntington Bank on Big Beaver. Bostick wants a hotel, parking deck, and restaurant on part of that site and the bank building stays. Before he made any plans, he went to hotel consultant and operator Ron Wilson of Hotel Investment Services, to see if this was a good idea.

A little over a year ago Wilson was at the Planning Commission to discuss how many hotels he thought Troy could support. He said three or four more.

On this evening Wilson noted that many of Troy's hotels are

See PLANNING, page 4

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Congresswoman Stevens Encourages Innovation on Transportation Solutions

REP. STEVENS, From page 1

that they can for heat, and those particles get in the air, people breathe them in, and it definitely causes some issues," she said.

A renewed conversation in Oakland County on regional transit has piqued Stevens' interest, as she advocates for more transportation alternatives to personal cars.

"We should be able to continue to innovate. And that means looking at smart public transportation solutions that increase productivity, allow people to reclaim some time they're losing because they're behind the wheel of a car."

Stevens acknowledged the difficulties of a modern

infrastructure overhaul in a "built environment," but frames its importance as a matter of regional competitiveness, also noting the profound impact that autonomous and electric vehicle technology could have on Oakland County.

"This is also tied in to some of our tremendous strengths as a regional economy, and that's particularly our ability to innovate and proliferate new technologies to meet transportation concerns. We've done that with automotive. We're going to continue to do that, and some of these new technologies coming out of automotive are absolutely going to lead to public transportation solutions."



CONGRESSWOMAN HALEY STEVENS (MI-11) speaking with troops stationed in Afghanistan on Thanksgiving.

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Troy Parks & Rec Need Your Help

The City of Troy's Parks and Recreation Departments are seeking public input regarding the City of Troy 2020-2024 Parks & Recreation Master Plan.

The draft plan is available at Rec.troymi.gov/parks/.

Comments can be sent to Ashely.Levin@troymi.gov or delivered to the Planning Department at 500 W. Big Beaver.

The review period will run from now through January 10, 2020. A formal public hearing for adoption of the Plan will be held on January 27, 2020, during the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

If you would like a hard copy of the plan, it is available for review at City Hall (Planning Department: 500 W. Big Beaver), the Community Center (3179 Livernois), Library (510 W. Big Beaver), and Department of Public Works (4693 Rochester Rd.).

Michigan Business Leaders Discuss Their Roots of Success at Chamber Luncheon

CHAMBER, From page 1

just a few minutes before the President's arrival that they learned he would be among them.

Raj then asked the panel what lead them to success.

For Braganini, at St. Julian's winery, it's not just great wine and food; more important is how your business is perceived. "How much good do you do in your community?"

"You want your business to be a great experience for the customer," he added.

Renkiewicz concurs, noting, "We don't want you walking out of here looking like a clown." If they're trying on the wrong hat, the customer gets a card with its number and time to think about that hat purchase. If they come

back, and they usually do, they can get some expert guidance on what really works for them."

Over 400,000 visitors have come through St. Julian Winery's Tasting Room. That has to be an experience or they're not returning, Braganini adds.

But times do change, warned Renkiewicz. Henry the Hatter had been using the same advertising agency for 30 years when he noticed all the ads were targeting men over 40. He turned to students at Lawrence Tech to see what would attract the younger generation to buy a hat.

All the panelists agreed that you need a very clear vision of what you do and then later you can find the strategy to accomplish your goals.



A PANEL OF BUSINESS OWNERS were the guests at last week's Troy Chamber of Commerce "Homemade for the Holidays" luncheon. Chamber President and CEO Tara Tomcsik-Husak welcomed moderator Roop Raj, Channel 2 Anchor (right, next to Tomcsik-Husak) and businessmen Paul Saginaw, CoFounding Partner & Chief Spiritual Officer of Zingerman's; Joe Renkiewicz, General Manager & Future Owner of Henry The Hatter; and John Braganini, President of St. Julian Winery.



GREETING GUESTS OVER THE COCKTAIL HOUR were members of the Troy Women's Association Diane Claeys and Ann Marie Comiskey. Funds raised at this event are for a scholarship project where the Troy Women's Association provides scholarships to local Troy graduating seniors and women returning to school/college. The scholarships focus on community service and financial need. Learn more at Troywomensassociation.org/.

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Planners Approve Addition to Bethesda Romanian Pentecostal Church

PLANNING, From page 1

almost to capacity every weeknight. He also noted five new hotels have been approved and only two have pulled permits, but they're more basic, with only breakfast and a workout room. Wilson told the planners that if they could attract a Hyatt Place, that's what they should want in their city.

And that is exactly what Dennis Bostick is proposing, a Hyatt Place Hotel and a popular Dearborn eatery, Ford's Garage,

known for its prime burgers and craft beer.

And who will operate this hotel? It's none other than the aforementioned Troy resident Ron Wilson, and his Hotel Investment Services, which is headquartered at the corner of Livernois and Big Beaver.

"Troy is still a vibrant community," Wilson told the planners, and he promised to be in the building a lot. He does however run The Inn at St. John's and many other hotels across the

country. Can he make it a 4-diamond hotel? Wilson noted that he certainly plans to try.

But first they have to work out the parking details before breaking ground.

The site plan was unanimously approved.

Bethesda Church Addition Approved

In other business, the fifth time was the charm for the Bethesda Romanian Pentecostal

Church's addition and special use for their church on Long Lake, east of John R and south of Tucker. The church had been trying to win such approval for well over a year.

Tucker residents once again took to the microphone during a public hearing to say the church has been a bad neighbor for the last 19 years, and some indicated if the church needed more room they should move the addition to the other side of the building. Although that could also pose

issues, because that side is wetlands, and the parking would move to the Tucker side and certainly cause more noise and more headlight complaints. The residents also didn't like the size, the architecture, available parking, and unkept landscaping. The church admitted that there was often had trash behind the building.

One resident doubted if they have ever used the classrooms they have because she never sees any lights on in them. They also claimed that the members parked in the fire lanes and on the grass, though they have never been ticketed for such an offense.

This time the proposal from Bethesda made some major concessions to the Tucker residents. The building height was lowered, the set back from Tucker was increased, and the number of classrooms was reduced from 13 to eight. Square footage was reduced and the gym with bleacher seating was eliminated. There was an extensive landscape plan that included an irrigation system to be installed on a five-foot berm facing Tucker.

This building does not need any variances from the Zoning Board of Appeals and meets all Troy's ordinances

At the meeting, members of Bethesda Romanian Pentecostal Church showed up to protect some of those claims. Troy Police come through the parking lot regularly and they have never been issued a ticket for illegal parking. The church says it has a team that guides people to empty parking space when they arrive. While Easter and Christmas services are crowded, they say regular services are not. The choir and young people groups have to share the little open space they have now, the pastor pointed out, and those "empty" classrooms have 25 to 30 kids in them every Sunday. There are also three rooms used for babysitting during services.

Members repeatedly said they only want a wholesome place for their children to gather, and that 10,000 people of Romanian ancestry live in Troy and this is their only Romanian Church.

Planning Commission members seemed quite pleased with these new changes. As Commissioner Karen Crusse pointed out, just as they have to protect neighborhoods, they also have to protect the rights of the church, which are allowed in single family zoning by state law.

The plan passed 8-0, with Ollie Apahidean sitting this one out since he lives on Tucker.

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POLICE PATROL



by
CYNTHIA KMETT

■ HERE'S A LANDLORD YOU DON'T NEED –

This victim was moving out of his rented home and was doing a final walk-through with the owners when their discussion became heated. One of the owners, a 73-year-old woman from Clarkston, began poking him in the chest. The renter asked her to stop, which she did, but she instead punched him in the face with the closed fist with her left hand. The conversation moved outside and the victim's father tried to calmly talk to the homeowners. The female homeowner then pushed past her husband and bit the father on his right forearm. Both victims are interested in seeking criminal charges against the female subject for Assault and Battery.

■ **MEET THIS PAIR.**– It was 10:40 on Wednesday morning when officers initiated a traffic stop on the driver of a tan Hyundai Elantra for a traffic violation on northbound Rochester at Henrietta Drive. The officers spoke with the driver, a 23-year-old man, who admitted that he did not have a valid driver's license. It was determined that his State of Michigan Operator's License was

'Suspended' three times by the Michigan Secretary of State. He was arrested and while searching him, the officers located \$2,917 in his pockets. The officers spoke with the female passenger, 20-years-old, and she was asked to step from the vehicle and she complied. The officers noted seeing approximately \$2,000 sticking out from under the seat that she stated was hers. The passenger added that she saves her money and does not put it into banks. The vehicle was searched and found underneath her seat was a bag of suspected marijuana. She was issued a Misdemeanor Citation for Possession of Marijuana by a Person Under the Age of 21 and released from the scene. The driver was transported to the Lock-up Facility and after he exited the patrol vehicle, a bag of 46 white pills were found where his feet had been. The pills were determined to be Schedule two Acetaminophen and Oxycodone Hydrochloride. He was charged with Driving While License Suspended, No Vehicle Insurance, and Illegal Possession a Synthetic Narcotics.

■ **PASSING COUNTERFEIT MONEY** – Officers were responding to a local business on a report of an unknown subject who had stolen merchandise from the store. The officers were provided a description of the suspect who was spotted on an escalator in Somerset Collection – South. The suspect began running and was observed in the parking structure outside the Collection. Another officer then spotted him standing near the bus stop. As the officer began to approach him, he

took off running back into the Somerset Collection – South. That officer drove around to the North Side Entrance / Exit Doors and encountered the suspect again. He then turned around and ran back, approaching another officer. As he approached that officer he was ordered to stop and he refused. A taser was deployed at the suspect with no effect. He exited the Somerset Collection – South and ran through the parking structure, dropping the shopping bags he was carrying. He ran across Golfview Drive and through the apartment complex, eventually attempting to hide under an apartment deck. He was ordered to come out from under the deck

but refused. He was physically dragged from under the deck and placed into handcuffs. One officer was injured during the incident. While under the deck, he was discarding items from his pockets which were found to be three counterfeit \$100 bills, all containing the same serial number. The shopping bags (Forever 21 and Godiva) that the suspect discarded were retrieved by the Somerset Collection Security Officers and were found to contain small purchases made with a \$100 bill. Those businesses were contacted and it was discovered that the purchases were completed by the suspect using a counterfeit \$100 with the

same serial numbers. The suspect, a 30-year-old man, was arrested and charged with Retail Fraud – 1st Degree, Three Counts of Uttering and Publishing Counterfeit Bills, and Assaulting / Resisting/ Obstructing a Police Officer.

Note: If you have any information on the aforementioned crimes, or any other offenses, please call the Troy Police Department at 248-524-3477.



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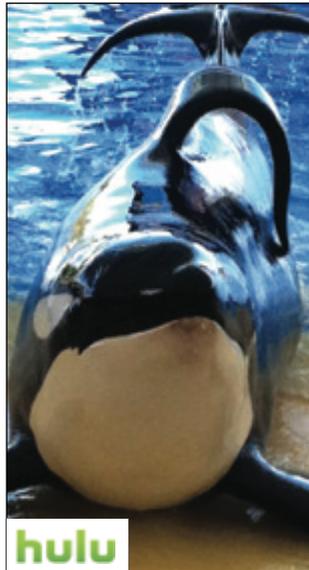
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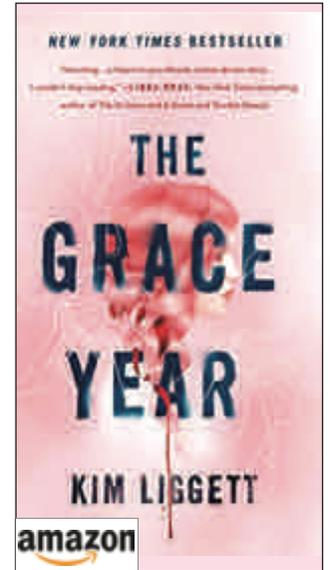
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Music

Hanson Tuesday, December 17, 6 p.m. Royal Oak Music Theatre

Hellogoodbye Wednesday, December 18, 6 p.m. El Club, Detroit

Jingle Bell Jazz Thursday, December 19, 6 p.m. Royal Oak Farmers Market

Refined Sounds Saturday, December 21, 5 p.m. St. Julian Winery, Troy

Mannheim Steamroller Christmas Saturday, December 21, 8 p.m. Fox Theatre, Detroit

Michigan Left Saturday, December 21, 8 p.m. The Loving Touch, Ferndale

ON STAGE

A Christmas Carol Tuesday, December 17, 8 p.m. Meadow Brook Theatre, Rochester

DSO presents Home Alone Wednesday, December 18, 7:30 p.m. Detroit Symphony Orchestra

The Nutcracker Sunday, December 22, 8 p.m. Fox Theatre, Detroit

AROUND TOWN

Santa Visits Somerset Now thru December 24, Somerset Collection, Troy

Quizzo Thursdays, 8 p.m. Norm's Field of Dreams, Troy

Books & Brews Monday, December 16, 6 p.m. Eats and Crafts, Troy

Art Studio Tuesday, December 17, 6 p.m. Troy Public Library

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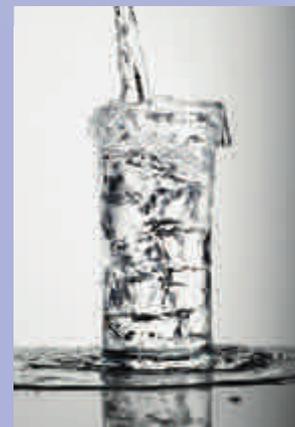
The Doozers Saturday, January 18, 7 p.m. The Loving Touch, Ferndale

Whitney Saturday, February 15, 7 p.m. Majestic Theatre, Detroit

Local Natives Tuesday, June 9, 5:30 p.m. Little Caesars Arena, Detroit

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- Andrew Neal, Editor



Community Foundation Donates \$2,000 in Support of Memorial Project
 Troy Community Foundation Board members passed along a check for the Troy Firefighters Memorial Fund. Pictured above (left to right), Former Mayor Dane Slater, Foundation Director Doug Tietz, M.G. Shapiro-president of the TFFCF, Joe Lagarde-secretary of the TFFCF, District Judge Kirsten Nielson Hartig, and Rob Gurney-member at large TFFCF. Anyone interested in supporting the memorial project, which is planned for Firefighters Park on Square Lake Road, can send a check payable to the Troy Firefighters Community Fund at Troy Fire Department, 500 West Big Beaver, Troy, MI 48084.

13 Troy Students Named Coca-Cola Scholars Semifinalists

Thirteen Troy School District high school seniors at Troy High, Athens High and International Academy East are among only 51 semifinalists in the state of Michigan for the 2020 class of the Coca-Cola Scholars Program, moving to the next round of the selection process to become a Coca-Cola Scholar and receive a \$20,000 scholarship.

These students are (alpha by high school): THS- Divya Aggarwal, Matthew Dong, Andy Feng, Julia Genord, Amogh Gowda, Gurish Sharma, Pratham Soni and Jennifer Won; AHS- Nadia Imam, Nithya Jaisankar, and Madhav Ramesh; and IAE- Lauryn Collins and Aishani Gargapati
In addition to receiving college scholarships, those

program that partners seasoned alumni with first-year Scholars as they transition to college. Semifinalists are now asked to complete Phase 2 applications, which include essays, recommendations, and transcripts.
Learn more at Coca-colascholars.org.



IAE students Aishani Gargapati and Lauryn Collins. Photo courtesy of Troy Schools

Coca-Cola bottlers across the country and The Coca-Cola Company combined efforts with the Coca-Cola Scholars Program to make it the largest corporate-sponsored, achievement-based scholarship program in the United States. With the addition of the 2020 class, the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation will have provided more than 6,300 Coke Scholars nationwide with over \$72 million in scholarships over the course of 32 years.

students selected as Coca-Cola Scholars will be welcomed into a vibrant and growing family of alumni that have become a powerful force for positive change in the world. Through networking, collaborations, and friendships, the group strives to make a greater impact together. Recent events and initiatives include the Coca-Cola Scholars Leadership Summit, a post-hurricane clean-up in Houston, and the fourth year of a coaching

The New York Times **CRITICS' PICK**

"JERSEY BOYS meets WEST SIDE STORY"

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Unveiling Father Christmas

By Daniel J. O'Brien

Sherlock Holmes opened his gift, sniffed the package, and smiled at Watson. "My dear, dear friend. The aroma of the finest tobacco St. James's has to offer." Then he looked down with a tinge of sadness. "Watson, I'm afraid I have not reciprocated in kind."

"Nonsense, Holmes," replied Watson, resting a comforting hand on his shoulder. "Your friendship is a precious gift to me, though I would find myself very much gratified if I could steal a pinch of this fine tobacco for my pipe."

The two sat in a smoky cloud next to the fireplace at 221B Baker Street. Watson knew that Holmes would likely decline his invitation. Still, he held a sliver of hope.

"Holmes, it would be a great honor to both Mary and me if you were to join us at our home in Sutton for Christmas dinner tomorrow."

Holmes laughed, "Ahh, the newlywed requests my presence in his new marital dwelling. No no, Watson. I must sadly decline."

"But why, Holmes? You have no cases pressing. You have no family—other than your brother Mycroft. Will you be dining with him?"

"Mycroft?" Holmes waved his hand in a gesture of dismissal. "Mycroft will be dining with the Queen at Buckingham Palace."

"Then why not accept my invitation?"

"Please take no offense at my recalcitrance, Watson. My refusal

to accept is not a mark upon your generosity." Holmes, seeming for a moment to put aside his customary reluctance to elicit any facts about his childhood (Watson wondered if the sleuth had even had a childhood), said, "Christmas is tucked away in the May morning of my life, before..."

Watson pressed after a long silence. "Before what?"

Holmes' eyes were fixed upon some distant landscape beyond the window, a setting reserved for footsteps walking backward through time to haunted spaces filled with ghosts holding more questions than answers. When he returned to the conversation, he bluntly replied, "Before reason entered my domain, and has been

with me ever since. And that is the end of this yuletide colloquy."

Watson extended his invitation once more should Holmes change his mind. Then he said farewell to his obstinate friend until after the feast of the Epiphany.

Before Watson opened the door, Holmes asked him to step over to the window facing Baker Street.

"Look down upon that figure and tell me what you see," said Holmes, pointing across the street and looking observingly at Watson.

Watson looked keenly out the window. "What specifically are you hoping I might see?"

When Holmes gazed out the window, he found the cloaked figure had vanished. "You must have seen him when you arrived," he said.

"Who?"

"Father Christmas." Holmes was irritated. "He's been handing wooden toys and trinkets to all the children these past few days."

"Ahh," Watson replied. "The children have taken to using the name, Santa Claus, just like the Americans."

"Yes, wonderful," said Holmes, expressionless. "Did you happen to look upon his face? Do you know him?"

Watson removed his derby hat and scratched his head. "Holmes, I've seen no such figure anywhere near Baker Street. Perhaps I may have seen one on Northumberland. Or was it Charing Cross? Collecting for charity. Don't tell me you have something against Father Christmas as well!"

"Watson," replied a frustrated

Holmes, "I have no quarrel with Father Christmas. However, I am certain this particular man who is playing the part of St. Nicholas or Santa Claus has been spying on me. He seems to sense when I am approaching from a distance and looks to confirm my whereabouts."

"You're joking, man!"

"I assure you, my trusted friend, this is no joke."

"You should heed your own words, Holmes. You once told me the more bizarre a thing is, the less mysterious it proves to be. Perhaps that's what you shall discover here."

Watson made his way to the door again. "Sherlock Holmes," he chuckled, "spooked by Father Christmas. How uncharacteristic of you. Reading too much Dickens lately I presume. Speaking as your doctor, a bit of Brandy will bring you back to your senses. Goodnight, Holmes." And with that, Watson left in a fit of laughter. "We'll call it The Case of the Nosy Old Santa Claus."

Not more than a few seconds after the door had closed behind Watson, Holmes saw Father Christmas reappear in the exact place he'd been standing since dawn. The man turned around and aimed his shadowy face at Holmes. A stiff chill rose in the great detective's spine. The man was obviously toying with him. Then the figure turned back around and reached into his large woolen sack to hand out gifts to the children passing by.

And then it hit Holmes like a thunderclap. The shoulder-length grey hair—Holmes had seen it when a gust pulled off the man's

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Stay Healthy for the Holidays with a Flu Shot

In recognizing National Influenza Vaccination Week, Oakland County Health Division is encouraging residents to get vaccinated against influenza. The flu vaccine protects against as many as four flu viruses which are most likely to occur this season.

“Protect yourself and loved ones this holiday season by getting your annual flu shot,” said Kathy Forzley, director of Oakland County Health and Human

Services. “Vaccination can reduce your risk of getting the flu and help protect the health of your family and friends.”

The Health Division recommends everyone over the age of 6 months receive an influenza vaccination and take preventative actions against flu, such as washing their hands often.

Flu shots are available for \$24 at both Health Division offices in Pontiac and Southfield.

New Star Laser Offers Cosmetic and Medical Laser Treatments



Photo courtesy of Cindy Stewart, City of Troy



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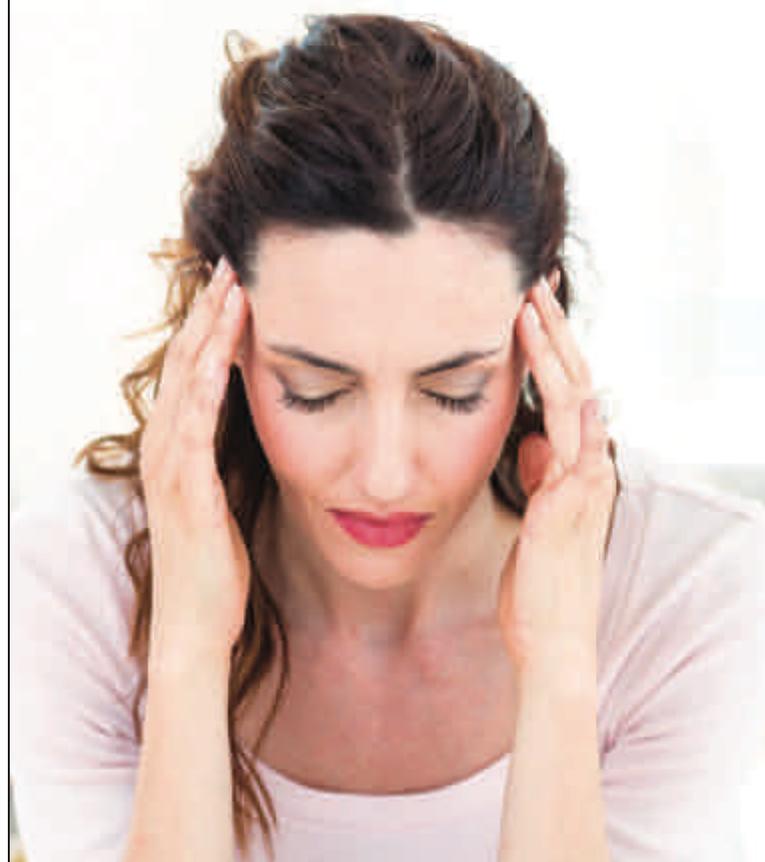
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Star Laser, a leading Medspa and Wellness Center, opened its doors in Troy at 1787 W. Big Beaver Road, Suite 250. Star Laser focuses on a person's outer beauty with the latest in non-surgical cosmetic and medical laser treatments.

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treatment options. Dr. Palakurthi's mission is to make people smile, help them gain better self-confidence, and provide individualized treatments.

At Star Laser, Dr. Palakurthi offers a wide range of treatments including platelet-rich plasma (PRP) therapy, laser rejuvenation, microneedling, HydraFacial, O-Shot, and much more for aging skin problems. PRP treatments such as the O-Shot or

microneedling helps stimulate healing and cell growth to improve intimacy or boost your skin's look. They have solutions for your face and body, wellness, and weight loss concerns.

Dr. Palakurthi earned her medical degree at Siddhartha Medical College, Nagarjuna University of Health Sciences in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, India. She completed her residency at Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Palakurthi is board-certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and loves helping her patients find natural, non-surgical ways to look and feel their very best. She speaks three languages - English, Hindi, and Telugu. She personally performs every treatment at Star Laser, and always strives to deliver the best in patient care.

For more information, contact Star Laser at 248-649-2626.

Michiganders Among the Worst Sleepers

Not every American may be getting their rightful share of restful sleep. In a new study, the team at The Sleep Judge analyzed the CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System to uncover the states that suffer the most from poor sleep.

Michigan ranks 6th for inadequate rest, defined as 6 or fewer hours of sleep nightly. Specifically, 39% of Michigan residents report inadequate sleep regularly.

See the full study at Thesleepjudge.com/sleep-across-america/.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS AVONDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT

INVITATION TO BID

#1186 – Avondale School District Summer 2020 – Secure Entry, HVAC and Lighting Upgrades

The Board of Education of Avondale School District is accepting firm prime contractor bids for all labor, material, equipment and all other services to complete the summer 2020 renovation work at Auburn Elementary, Deerfield Elementary, Graham Elementary, Meadows School and Woodland Elementary.

Plans and specifications may be obtained electronically via Pipeline Suites through AUCH Construction and are available for review at the office of AUCH Construction, 65 University Drive, Pontiac, MI 48342 248.334.2000, on or after Friday, November 22nd, 2019. The bidding documents consist of plans and specifications as prepared by French Associates. Complete sets of printed documents may be purchased from ARC Document Solutions, 1009 W. Maple St., Clawson, Michigan 248-288-5600 or email michigan.troy@e-arc.com.

The envelope bearing your proposal must identify your company and the proposal being bid and addressed to the attention of Frank Lams, CPA, Assistant Superintendent for Financial Services, Avondale Administrative Offices, 2940 Waukegan Street, Auburn Hills, MI 48326. Bids must be delivered no later than **12:00 noon, December 17th, 2019** to Avondale Administrative Offices (address above), Attn: Frank Lams, CPA, Assistant Superintendent for Financial Services. Bids will **NOT** be accepted at the AUCH Construction office. Each proposal must be submitted on the forms furnished by the construction manager and must be completed in full. Each proposal shall be sealed in an opaque envelope and marked with the name of the bidder.

A Bid bond executed by a **U.S. Treasury listed surety company** acceptable to the owner, or a cashier's check in the amount of at least 5% of the sum of the proposal payable to Avondale School District shall be submitted with each proposal in excess of **\$24,924**. All proposals shall be firm for a period of sixty (60) days. Oral, telephone, fax or electronic mail bids are invalid and will not receive consideration.

A pre-bid meeting will be held on **Friday, December 6th 2019 at 1:00pm** starting at Deerfield Elementary School – 3600 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills, MI 48309. Please meet in the main lobby. **This walk through is not mandatory, but highly recommended.** Following Deerfield, we will visit Meadows, Woodland, Auburn and Graham as requested by attendees.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at a meeting convened at the Avondale Administrative Offices (main board room) starting at **2:00pm on December 17th, 2019**.

Successful bidders whose proposals are \$50,000 or more will be required to furnish a satisfactory Performance and Payment Bond in the amount of 100% of their bid. The cost of the Bond shall be included in each proposal.

All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing familial relationship that exists between the owner or any employee of the bidder and any member of the Board or Superintendent of the Avondale School District. All bids must be accompanied by a signed and notarized statement to comply with the Iran Economic Sanctions Act of 2012 and Equal Opportunity Statement. Forms are included in the bid proposals.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in whole or in part; to award contract to other than the low bidder; to waive any irregularities and/or informalities; and in general to make awards in any manner deemed to be in the best interests of the owner.

Wayne Kakuda - Secretary
Avondale School District
Board of Education

CLASSIFIEDS

December 16, 2019



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Live-in weekend house keeper needed. Call 248-475-0976 or 248-464-1950.

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MAY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day for 9 days. By the 8th day, your prayer will be answered. Say it for 9 days. it has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you, St. Jude for prayers answered. R.H.

HELP WANTED

Drapery Manufacturing workroom has immediate full time and part time openings. Must have sewing machine experience. Call 248-307-1090.

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.

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 OCAC is located at 1200 N Telegraph Rd Bldg 42E, in Pontiac.



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		1		4		9		
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Oakland Works! Honors County Workforce Leaders

Oakland County Michigan Works! recognized a local manufacturer, state legislator and local non-profit agency for their efforts in supporting the growth of the county's workforce in 2019.

The honorees are Barron Industries of Oxford, State Sen. Rosemary Bayer of Beverly Hills, and Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit. The presentation took place December 5 at a meeting of the Oakland County Workforce Development Board.

"It has been a very busy and exciting year for Oakland County Michigan Works! and this year's honorees each played key roles in the agency's success," Oakland County Executive David Coulter said. "This recognition is well deserved. We appreciate the commitment the honorees have made to workforce development and look forward to working with them for years to come."

Barron Industries of Oxford, a manufacturer of engineered metal components for applications across the globe, was selected as Business of the Year. The company engaged Oakland County Michigan Works! in 2018 to help it fill critical skilled trades openings. Barron launched an on-the-job training program with OCMW help and financial support from the state's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act program. To date, Barron has hired and trained 14 people for a variety of positions, including casting technicians, mold technicians, finishing specialists and other roles.

"Working closely with us, Barron was able to meet and exceed its contract demands and has now acquired a new 10,000 square-foot manufacturing plant to increase production capacity for precision machined castings and assemblies," said Jennifer Llewellyn, director of Oakland County Michigan Works! and manager of workforce development for the county. "The company plans on growing its workforce by more than 30 percent in the future."

Bayer, who represents the 12th House District, was selected as Legislator of the Year for her continued support and engagement with the Oakland County Michigan Works! team, Llewellyn said. This included visiting agency offices to learn about their programs and services and engage with staff members and job seekers. She also has included Oakland County Michigan Works! in town hall events. Bayer has supported many state-funded workforce

development initiatives, including the Going PRO Talent Fund.

"I'm honored and simply thrilled to receive this award from Oakland County Michigan Works!" Bayer said. "I'm immensely impressed with all that this organization does for our residents and businesses. It's been a pleasure and privilege to work with them and support workforce development in Oakland County."

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit was selected as Partner of the Year for its leadership and the effective transition of the Michigan Works! office in Pontiac, as well as consolidation of the Novi and Highland offices.

"Goodwill industries is an example of how government and non-profits can work collaboratively to leverage resources and manpower to transform lives," Llewellyn said. "Goodwill has established two highly effective Michigan Works! locations in Oakland County with a commitment to equity, access and economic self-sufficiency for all."

40% Off at Troy Historic Village's Holiday Sale

Enjoy 40% off all Christmas items at the Troy Historic Village Store when you shop now through December 20.

Sale includes all Christmas ornaments and decorations, mini

snow-people for the kids, and many non-Christmas items like cozy slippers, scented lotions, and candles (sale items are marked with a red dot).

The Village Store is located on

the grounds of the Troy Historic Village at 60 W. Wattles Rd.

The Troy Historic Village Store is open 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. For questions, call 248-524-3570.



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