



Macomb Community College & Sports Expo Center

February 15/16TH • 10 am - 6 pm

Visit YourHomeShows.com For Full Details

Troy-Somerset Gazette



FREE every Monday • Proudly serving the community of Troy since 1980 • GetYourGazette.com

January 27, 2020

Vol. 40, No. 19

Council to Set Rules for Filling Pennington's Vacant Seat

by CYNTHIA KMETT

There are rules for resigning a seat on Troy City Council, and it means there's more to it than just announcing you're stepping down from the seat, as Ed Pennington did last week.

While Pennington announced he was resigning from the post after seven years, he still must send in a resignation letter. On Monday, January 27, Troy City Council will likely vote to formally accept his resignation.

Council then has 30 days to fill the seat as directed by the Troy Charter. The new council member, however, will not fill out the remaining length of Pennington's term.

State statute says that the new appointee must run in the next election, which is Tuesday, August 4, and that election is the primary for state and federal offices for those who are only elected for two years at a time. The appointed person's term will end on Monday, August 10.

Qualified and registered voters interested in being Pennington's successor have from Tuesday, January 28 to noon on Friday,

See **VACANCY** on page 3

Inside This Issue

6-7

Arts & Entertainment

8-14

Bridal Guide

17

Police Patrol

19

Classifieds



SNOWED OUT to set up the two Athens gyms on Saturday for Martin Luther Day festivities, the members of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board spent a long Sunday getting the school ready. Pictured are (left to right) Briana Scillion, Britta Pingree, Charlotte Ludorf, Drew Kovacs, Nate Kovacs, Gabby Leonard, Jenna DeJonckheere, Kenny Gu, and Alex Duda. Photos courtesy of the Troy School District.

MLK Day of Service a Success at Troy Schools

The Troy School District is sending its thanks for all of the support and donations that helped make Troy Schools' annual MLK Day of Service an inspiring day filled with caring students, powerful performances, and acts of service that will make an impact on the lives of others.

The theme for the day was "I Walk in Dr. King's Dream" and featured a dynamic poetry slam written and performed by members of Athens Black Student Association (Shari White, Gianna Pearson, Jaya Sangster, Sydney Smith, Erica Hinton, Laila Potts) as well as profiles of African American students here in the Troy School District (K.J. Potts, Sydney Coit, Aliyah Potts, Sanaa Coit, Trinity Adams, Kennedy Singleton and Bryce Tucker).

See the recap video at [Youtu.be/-6i5Wy7z66w/](https://youtu.be/-6i5Wy7z66w/).

As for the service projects, the numbers are still being tallied, but Kerry Birmingham, Director of Communications and Strategic Initiatives at Troy School District, says "It's safe to say we set a

record." More than 1,000 people participated on Monday, tying hundreds of blankets and assembling hundreds of care packages for members of the military deployed overseas. Volunteers created miles of plastic yarn from old grocery bags, which will be turned into sleeping mats and pillows for people who are homeless. And finally, they donated dozens of pints of blood, which could literally save a life.

Birmingham wanted to add a few thank-yous to this tribute: "If you weren't aware, members of our Superintendent Student Advisory Board help to plan and execute this fantastic event, and they have worked so hard the last few days to ensure that we were ready for the crowds that came today."

Birmingham also thanked the NHS, Project Lead and individual students who volunteered to help prepare, especially Joe Mowrey (THS), Riley Weber (AHS), Maddison Kott (Larson), Caroline Machesky and Serenity Yonts, who showed leadership and an

amazing work ethic.

Families, students, staff, city officials, and the Troy community came together to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through acts of service.

"That's a Weight That You Carry Around"

Sen. Mallery McMorrow discusses decision to file sexual harassment report, infrastructure, and the 2020 presidential election

by ANDREW NEAL

This week on the Voices of Troy podcast, presented by the Troy-Somerset Gazette, I spoke with State Senator Mallery McMorrow who represents the 13th district of Michigan which includes Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Rochester Hills, Royal Oak, and Troy. She is a first-term Democratic senator who represents about 280,000 people in her district.

McMorrow made national headlines when she filed a sexual harassment complaint against State Senator Peter Lucido on Tuesday. Lucido has been under fire for making inappropriate

See **McMORROW** on page 4



THE INSPIRATIONAL PROGRAM included talks on the topic "I walk in Martin Luther King's Dream." Athens senior Bryce Tucker (center) was thanked for his participation by Troy Superintendent Dr. Richard Machesky and Troy Mayor Ethan Baker. See more pictures from the day on page 18.

“There is no such thing as a little freedom. Either you are all free, or you are not free.”

Walter Cronkite

Antonio's
ITALIAN CUISINE

Now Taking Reservations for Valentine's Day!

1/2 OFF
Bottles of Wine
Every Friday

Gift Cards Available

(586) 264-5252 2505 E.14 Mile Rd.
Sterling Heights
(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



Officials Pay Tribute to School District Trustee Paula Fleming
Troy School District trustee Paula Fleming was honored by her colleagues, State Representative Padma Kuppa (left), and Troy Mayor Ethan Baker (right) while announcing her retirement after 19 years. Miss Paula and her husband Wade, a former Troy city council member and county commissioner, are moving to Arkansas. Two certificates of recognition – one from the City of Troy and the other from the State of Michigan – were presented to Fleming at Troy City Council's meeting last Monday. Photo courtesy of Cindy Stewart, City of Troy

IT'S TIME TO SAVE YOUR CHILD'S SPOT FOR KINDERGARTEN

Enrolling NOW!

Do you have a child who will be five years old by September 1, 2020?
If so, call your neighborhood elementary school to get on the mailing list.

Additional Questions?
CALL NOW
(248) 823-4002

An Evening with Author Annie Spence at the Troy Community Center

On Monday, February 11, just in time for Valentine's Day, join Annie Spence, author of *Dear Fahrenheit 451: Love and Heartbreak in the Stacks: A Librarian's Love Letters and Break up Notes to the Books in Her Life*, for her funny, poignant takes on both classic and contemporary books—a true celebration of books and reading. The event will take place in rooms 304 and 305 of the Troy Community Center from 7-9 p.m.

Annie Spence says she always wanted to be a writer, and majored in Creative Writing at Central Michigan University, and received a Master's Degree in Library Science in Chicago, before spending the last decade as a librarian and writer, currently living in Detroit. *Dear Fahrenheit 451* is her first book.

The Evening with the Author series is brought to you by the Troy Public Library and is free, but registration is requested, either online at troypl.org/calendar or by calling 248-524-3534.

For complete details on times and locations and registration for all TPL events, visit troypl.org/calendar or call 248-524-3534.

Tickets Now Available for Taste of Troy

The 28th annual Taste of Troy benefits the Boys & Girls Club of Troy on Sunday, March 1 from 1-4 p.m. at the San Marino Club, 1685 E. Big Beaver Road. Advance tickets are \$45 and available by calling 248-689-1687 or visiting Bgctroy.org/. Tickets at the door will be \$55.

"Thanks to the San Marino Club, attendees will enjoy a Biggest Birthday Bash themed TasteFest to celebrate the 28th Anniversary of Taste of Troy," said Cindy Stewart, B&GCT Board Member and Chair of the Taste of Troy event. "Experience the fun of celebrating one of the best fundraisers in town, along with lots of mouth-watering food prepared by Troy's finest

restaurants. We also have some great items for both the live and silent auctions including an African Safari and Mexican Villa."

"What could be more fun than savoring the delicious cuisine, enjoying great music, live and silent auctions and winning raffles — while raising money for a great cause — the Boys & Girls Club? Proceeds from the event will help the organization provide a safe place for 1,200 young people to interact, learn, grow and develop into contributing members of this community," said Jeff Evans, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Troy.

In addition to food sampling, Taste of Troy attendees can bid on gift baskets, sports tickets, spa,

hotel and restaurant gift certificates in the silent auction. Guests will also enjoy music and be a part of the live auction with WDIV TV 4 Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey. The Live Auction will include bidding on either an African Safari at the Zulu Nyala Game Reserve for two or a 10,000 sq. ft Villa Aves del Paraiso located on the Santiago Peninsula near Manzanillo, Mexico.

Participating restaurants compete for awards including Critics' Choice and People's Choice.

For more information, contact Cindy Stewart by calling 248-930-2383 or emailing cindy.stewart@troy.mi.gov.



Thursday night, Station 3 and Rescue 4 were dispatched to a vehicle extrication at the scene of a traffic crash on Maple at Thorncroft. There were two vehicles involved in the head-on collision, one of the drivers had become trapped inside his vehicle. Troy Firefighters used the Jaws of Life to gain access to the patient. Two patients were transported to a local hospital. The cause of the crash is being investigated by the Troy Police Department.

Want to Serve on Troy City Council? Here's How to Apply

VACANCY from page 1

February 7 to file for consideration for the seat. There is some paperwork involved, and if you fill it out and don't get the seat, you might want to make a copy so you can file the application again if you plan to run in the August primary.

You don't have to disclose who you are; Those who request confidentiality will just be a number for council to consider. Each of the six councilmembers will vote for their top five applicants. Those who receive the top votes will be requested to appear at council on February 24 for a public interview. Anyone who was just number must reveal their identity and indicate they are willing to participate in the public interview process. Next, council votes and whoever gets a majority vote gets a seat on council, at least until August 10.

Those who wish to run in the August primary election, including the newly-elected council member, have until 4 p.m. on April 21 to file nominating petitions. If anyone wants to withdraw from that general election, they must do it by 5 p.m. on April 24. Packets with the rules and paperwork required will be available on Monday, February 3.

The winner of the August election does get to fill out the rest of Pennington's term, which runs through Monday, November 8, 2020.

The paperwork for the appointment to the vacant seat appears in this week's city council packet as I-4 regular business.

ENROLL NOW

**COME EXPERIENCE THE "TROY DIFFERENCE"
AND SEE WHAT OUR WORLD CLASS PROGRAM CAN DO FOR YOUR CHILD!**

EXPLORE
CREATE
CONNECT

**Half-Day & Full-Day Options Available
Before & After School Care Available**

**Visit our site for additional information:
<https://tsdpreschool.troy.k12.mi.us>**

(248) 823-3000

Rainbow Preschool Open House

Visit the Troy Community Center on Thursday, February 6, from 5-7 p.m. for the Rainbow Preschool Open House.

Explore classrooms, meet teachers, and learn more about the opportunities Rainbow Preschool has to offer at the

Rainbow Preschool Open House.

Troy Community Center is located at 3179 Livernois Rd.

For more information, contact Preschool Coordinator Amy Campeau at 248-524-3482 or visit their website at Rec.troymi.gov/preschool/.



Gilden Woods
EARLY CARE AND PRESCHOOL

**K-Prep Preschool
Registration
Now Open**

Troy School

Program Director: Ms. Krista
5164 Rochester Rd
Troy, MI 48085
(248) 250-9836
Troy_Director@GildenWoods.com

Infant | Toddler
Preschool | School Age

GildenWoods.com

Childcare
Now
Enrolling

McMorrow Interviewed on Gazette's "Voices of Troy" Podcast

McMORROW, From page 1 comments last week to Michigan Advance reporter Allison Donahue which led the Michigan Senate to open an investigation into the matter.

On deciding to file the report:
"I decided to file a report and actually hadn't decided to go public until I saw Senator Lucido really backpedal on Allison's story."

On the ensuing investigation:
"I know that there may be potentially other people coming forward so they want to make sure there's time for that as well. To collect any other stories or any other evidence to be able to support the investigation."

"People experience things like this every day, and you make the decision 'Is this enough to report or do I just suck it up and do my job?' And that's a weight that you carry around."

On what motivated her to run for office:

"When I came back and saw the lead-up to the 2016 election, it really seemed like Michigan was a microcosm of what was happening in the rest of the country."

"There's always the nerves of going into something new, but I had already changed industries a few times in my career ... I knew a lot of the skills that I brought with me in terms of creativity, communication, and collaboration were relevant."

On the future of autonomous and electric vehicles:

"The realistic outlook is we won't see widely deployed autonomous vehicles probably for another couple of decades ... There's a ton of progress and a lot of companies in my district are working on this which is incredible, but I want to set very

realistic expectations so that we don't avoid planning for the immediate future."

"In the short term, electric vehicles is a really good sweet spot and a very rare one where we have consensus from the business community and the environmental community. It's the right thing to do and it makes economic sense."

On endorsing Elizabeth Warren for President:

"It's interesting being in a flipped Senate seat in Oakland County in Michigan. My district has kind of become a bellwether so I've heard from a number of presidential candidates. There's a small nuance - she asked me how people felt and how they were. Other candidates asked me 'How can I do well in Michigan?'"

Listen to the full interview at Anchor.fm/VoicesofTroy/.

Business Investment in Oakland County Tops \$575 Million For 2019

Oakland County attracted \$575 million in domestic and foreign business investment in 2019, with 41 percent coming from companies headquartered outside the United States.

The investment came from companies who moved to Oakland County, expanded existing

operations or were foreign-owned companies opening new operations in the county. The figures were compiled by the county's Department of Economic Development & Community Affairs, which worked on the projects with the companies.

"Our proximity to universities and the auto industry, a talented workforce, a reputation for innovation, and quality of life continue to attract and retain domestic and foreign-owned companies," Oakland County Executive David Coulter said.

Significant investment was made in advanced electronics and control systems, where 16 projects resulted in an investment of nearly \$200 million. Three of those projects: expansions by Japanese automaker Nissan in Farmington Hills and Swedish supplier Autoliv in Auburn Hills, plus the attraction of German Lithium-Ion battery maker Akasol in Hazel Park, accounted for \$135 million of total investment and nearly 700 new and retained jobs.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) in Oakland County in 2019 was \$234 million from 54 separate projects, accounting for more than 2,400 new and retained jobs. The county has realized more than \$1.7 billion in foreign investment over the past six years which created or retained more than 24,000 jobs. Foreign direct investment is defined as investment from a company headquartered outside the United States.

To attract business investment, the county's business development team works closely with prospective companies

helping with site selection, workforce development, financing strategies, and coordinating state and local incentives. The team activity focuses on both advanced manufacturing, health and life sciences and information technology companies as well as traditional businesses and entrepreneurs.

"We have a team of experts who keep the line of communication open with companies as well as coordinate additional necessary resources to ensure we are there not only at the start of a project but also as we walk it through the finish line," said Ryan Cram, manager of business development at Oakland County.

The total investment from those companies was \$219 million resulting in 481 new or retained jobs. The county attracted 37 projects of at least \$1 million each.

The most successful sectors in total investment from 2004 to present are Medical Main Street/health care (\$1.3 billion); advanced electronics and control systems (\$1.2 billion); Tech248/communications and IT (\$851 million); alternative energy (\$635 million); advanced materials, chemicals and nanotechnology (\$419 million); and aerospace (\$409 million).

In 2020 the county business development team will be attending trade missions, investment summits, and trade shows located in key FDI countries such as Germany, Japan, China, France, Canada, India, and Italy to tout the advantages of locating in Oakland County.

SYTHAI

NOW HIRING!

Gracious Hospitality and Authentic Thai Cuisine

FOR DELIVERY ORDER ON-LINE @ WWW.SYTHAITROY.COM VIA GRUBHUB & DOORDASH.

**Buy One Entree and
Receive the 2nd Entree
1/2 OFF**
(of equal or lesser value)
Dine in only.
With this coupon • One coupon per table • May not be combined with any other offer • Please tip server on the full amount of bill before discount
Troy Location Only. Exp. 2/24/20 • TSG

**459 E. Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48083
248.817.2694**

Mon-Thurs. 11am - 10pm
Fri. 11am-11pm Sat. 12pm-11pm
Sun. 12pm-10pm

www.SyThaiTroy.com

**\$2 OFF Lunch and
\$4 OFF Dinner**

**On any ENTREE
Dine in only.**

With this coupon • One coupon per table • May not be combined with any other offer • Please tip server on the full amount of bill before discount
Troy Location Only. Exp. 2/24/20 • TSG

Stevens Hosts Small Business Roundtable



Congresswoman Haley Stevens (MI-11) this week convened a roundtable discussion with local small business owners to discuss issues facing the small business community in Southeast Michigan. Also participating in the roundtable were former Michigan Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley, President of the Small Business Association of Michigan, and Greg Doyle, who leads Oakland County's One Stop Shop Business Center.

During the roundtable, Congresswoman Stevens led a discussion on healthcare, trade, workforce development, and other policy issues. Business owners from Clawson, Wixom, Livonia, Waterford, and Troy participated in the event.

"Small businesses are such an important part of Michigan's economy, but creating and maintaining a successful small business can be daunting," said Congresswoman Stevens.

Green Team MI Hosting Launch Event at Stage Nature Center

Green Team Michigan is a grassroots advocacy group that has been organized by the NRDC Action Fund and EDF Action.

Organizer Tina Catron (Troy - District 11) has been chosen to be the local organizer for the Green Team and has been given the responsibility of mobilizing residents in District 11 to provide Congresswoman Haley Stevens (D-11) with the public support she needs to take a strong stance in protecting the environment and advancing clean energy in our state. Rep. Stevens has already co-sponsored the 100% Clean Economy Act that was introduced to Congress in November 2020.

The Green Team is hosting its 2020 Launch Party on Thursday, January 23 at 6 p.m. at the Stage Nature Center in Troy.

41st House Representative Padma Kuppa will be in attendance along with some committee and board members from the Stage Nature Center.

The Green Team is a project of the NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council) Action Fund and EDF (Environmental Defense Fund) Action.

The NRDC Action Fund's mission is to build political support for advancing the goals of the Natural Resources Defense Council. EDF Action is the advocacy partner of the Environmental Defense Fund.

Learn more at Greenteamaction.org/.



"MAGNIFICENT & LIFE-AFFIRMING!"
- TIME OUT NEW YORK

Fiddler on the Roof

ON SALE NOW
MARCH 10 - 15 | FISHER THEATRE

BroadwayInDetroit.com, ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & box office
Info: 313-872-1000, Groups (10+) Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com (subject: Fiddler On The Roof)

Picanos
Italian Grille
Lunch • Cocktails • Dinner

LOVE IS IN THE AIR
Come Celebrate Valentine's Day with Us
Friday, February 14

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY! 248-689-8050

We Offer Catering in your Home or Office and we have 4 Beautiful Banquet Rooms to Accommodate:

Private Dining • Rehearsal Dinners
Weddings • Showers • Baptisms
First Communions • Funeral Luncheons

Live Music Every Week Starting at 6 PM

Pino Marelli Tuesday & Thursday - John Perry Friday & Saturday

3775 Rochester Rd. • Troy • 1/2 mile North of Big Beaver Road N. of I-75
Open 7 Days • 248-689-8050 • www.picanos.com
HOURS: MON.-THURS. 11AM - 9:30PM • FRI. 11AM - 10:30PM • SAT. NOON - 10:30PM • SUN. NOON - 9PM

Arts & Entertainment



THE GENTLEMAN
R, Crime/Comedy



COUNTRY STRONG
PG-13, Drama/Romance



SHRILL - SEASON 2
NR, Comedy



**ZOMBIELAND:
DOUBLE TAP**
R, Horror/Comedy



CIRCLES
Mac Miller



TWEET CUTE
Emma Lord

DETROIT'S GOLDEN TICKET

ROALD DAHLÉ
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY
THE NEW MUSICAL

ON SALE NOW
FEB 18 - MAR 1
DETROIT OPERA HOUSE • BroadwayInDetroit.com

BroadwayInDetroit.com, ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & box office
Info: 313.872.1000, Groups (12+) groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com (Subject: Charlie)

AD OC Feb. 23

See How America Works in “Working: A Musical”

Based on Studs Terkel’s best-selling book of interviews with American workers, the musical “Working” paints a vivid portrait of the men and women that the world so often takes for granted: the schoolteacher, the phone operator, the waitress, the mill-worker, the mason and the housewife, just to name a few. Nominated for six Tony Awards, this classic has been updated for a modern age.

Working runs February 12 through March 8 at Meadow Brook Theatre on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester.

Written by Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso, with additional contributions by Gordon Greenberg, Working includes songs by Craig Carnelia, Micki Grant, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Mary Rodgers and Susan Birkenhead, Stephen Schwartz, and James Taylor with orchestrations by Alex Lacamoire.

“There’s a lot of great music in Working written by some familiar people,” said MBT Artistic Director, Travis Walter. “It all combines to tell the stories of the people who keep America running every day.”

Portraying the various real-life people that Terkel interviewed are a variety of Meadow Brook favorites and newcomers, including Katie Akers, Tyler Bolda, Cory Cunningham, Emily Hadick, Kim Rachelle Harris, Gregory Rodriguez, Yemie Sonuga and Ron Williams.



Ron Williams, Cory Cunningham, Yemie Sonuga, Emily Hadick, Gregory Rodriguez, and Kim Rachelle Harris in Working at MBT

Working is directed by Travis W. Walter with choreography by Debbie Williams. Terry W. Carpenter is the stage manager with scenic design by Brian Kessler, costume design by Liz Goodall, lighting design by Scott Ross and sound design by Mike Duncan.

The band is lead by musical director Michael Rice, who also plays the keyboard. Sig Hepler plays guitar with Andrew Toering on bass and Brian Buckmaster on percussion.

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/. Student discounts are available at the box office. Groups of eight or more should call 248-370-3316 for group pricing.

Meadow Brook Theatre is a professional theatre located on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. For additional information, visit Mbtheatre.com or call 248-377-3300. Meadow Brook Theatre is a nonprofit, cultural institution serving southeast Michigan for 54 years.

High-spirited high jinks at Meadow Brook Theatre's "Blithe Spirit"

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

Laughter is the best medicine, and for good reason. It helps us mere mortals cope with the unpleasant and scary things in life. Scariest of them all is the "undiscovered country" that Hamlet talks about in his famous soliloquy, the place from which no one ever returns. Or do they? From Abbott and Costello to Ghostbusters and countless others, the comedy doctors have been busy making death funny.

During especially scary times, in the summer of 1941, Sir Noel Coward's ghostly comedy "Blithe Spirit" premiered in Manchester and London, to wild acclaim and smashing box office success. Coward served as both playwright and director. It went on to a successful run on Broadway later in 1941, just before the U.S. entered the war. Coward was, and is, one of the most influential and prolific of British talents. Playwright, author, actor, songwriter and performer, he achieved success in nearly every endeavor. "Blithe Spirit" continues to be one of the most enduring and popular plays in his repertoire.

Coward said he purposely crafted the characters in "Blithe Spirit" as unrelatable and cartoonish, all the easier for his grief-stricken and fearful wartime audiences to laugh at them and their predicaments. But there's substance amid the ectoplasm: Disguised as light comedy, this is really a dark farce, challenging our notions about love, trust and eternity.

At Meadow Brook Theatre, under director Travis Walter's skilled guidance, the 1940s-era characters are vividly rendered by the actors, with a warm affection and earnestness that makes this such an enjoyable comedy. Fueled by Coward's sparkling dialogue and crisp action, the time flies.

Timothy Goodwin stars as popular writer Charles Condomine, who's looking for inspiration for his next book. He invites a local medium to conduct a séance in his home and ends up with more material than he ever could have imagined. Goodwin's considerable gifts for witty dialogue and physical comedy are on display, as his glib and nonchalant character gradually descends into frenzy, then



acceptance. The medium, Madame Arcati, is played by Lynnae Lehfeldt with a grim eccentricity that builds in volume over the play's three acts.

Spoiler alert: Charles' two wives, Ruth (Dani Cochrane) and Elvira (Leslie Ann Handelman), make excellent sparring partners, both in this world and the next. Charles' first wife, the moody and flamboyant Elvira, has been dead for seven years. Courtesy of Madame Arcati, she appears among the living once again, but is seen and heard only by Charles.

None too pleased that Charles has married again, she does her best to sabotage his happiness with Ruth. Some of the funniest moments onstage are watching Charles trying to talk with the invisible Elvira and Ruth thinking her poor husband has gone bonkers. Cochrane has arguably the more difficult role as Ruth, deftly transitioning from loving wife to skeptic to firm believer with great panache. The showstopper, however, has to be Handelman as Elvira. In her gray makeup and filmy gray gown, she

swoops across the stage, terrorizing and teasing one and all. Her performance is a little more one-dimensional (pun intended), but she's great fun to watch.

Rounding out the excellent cast is Katie Akers as the Condomine's goofy housekeeper Edith, and Phil Powers and Stephanie Nichols as their friends the Bradmans. Almost like another character, the sweet old Irving Berlin ballad "Always" drifts

in and out of the story as a reminder of what was, and what may be.

The little blast of music and dancing at the end makes a fun and surprising finish for this very entertaining show.

Blithe Spirit runs now through February 2. Tickets range from \$36 to \$46. For more information, call 248-377-3300 or visit Mbttheatre.com/.



FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT



JOIN US FOR
THE BIG GAME

**CAN'T JOIN US AT DIGGS...
CALL US TO CATER YOUR PARTY**

Sunday, February 2
DOORS OPEN AT 4PM

**CATCH THE BIG GAME ON OUR BIG SCREEN!
HD LCD SCREENS EVERYWHERE!**

**NW CORNER OF CROOKS & AUBURN ROAD ROCHESTER HILLS
248-853-6600 CKDIGGS.COM**



Shield's
RESTAURANT • BAR • PIZZERIA

MONDAY

Kids eat FREE*
*Up to two kids eat FREE from KIDS Menu with purchase of (1) Adult Meal



TACO TUESDAYS

Mexican Specials ALL DAY

\$1.99  Tacos

Wednesday

ALL YOU CAN EAT PASTA

\$9.00 per person. Add soup or salad for \$2.00 more! Penne, Linguine or Spaghetti with marinara, meat or Alfredo sauces.

THURSDAY FAMILY NIGHT

Family Combo \$23.99

- 1 - Large Pizza with 2 Toppings
- 1 - Family size salad (Antipasto, Greek, or Garden)
- 6 - Breadsticks

SENIOR Monday - Thursday 60 Years + 15% OFF entire food bill between 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Let Shield's Host or Cater Your Party at Our Place or Yours!

From **\$6** per person

Book Your Holiday Party With Us Soon!

Newly Renovated Banquet Room Now Seats up to 80

*All offers Dine-In ONLY. Not valid with any other coupons or offers

FAMILY COMBO SPECIAL / \$23.99



Large Pizza with 2 Toppings, Family Greek Salad, Garden Salad, or Antipasto Salad, & 6 Breadsticks

Only one coupon per customer. Dine in or carry out. Offer not valid with any other coupon or offer. Offer valid through 2/29/20. TSG

Coupon valid at ALL SHIELD'S LOCATIONS!

(248) 637-3131

1476 W. Maple • Troy

One Block West of Crooks Rd.

www.shieldspizza.com

**Open Monday - Saturday at 11am
Sunday at Noon**

Bridal Guide

Making Your Rehearsal Dinner a Special Night

The rehearsal dinner is traditionally held the night before the wedding, often on a Friday, and usually starts at about 7 p.m. This leaves time for attendants to get there from work.

For a Sunday or holiday wedding, you have more options. Since the rehearsal dinner has become more of a celebration in its own right than just a formality, some couples choose to hold the

event two nights before the wedding. This way, there's more time to relax, recuperate and get ready for the main event.

If most attendants won't be arriving until late on the eve of your wedding, a breakfast celebration the morning of the wedding can be a fabulous alternative. And, of course, skipping the rehearsal meal altogether is perfectly acceptable.

The rehearsal dinner is your chance to welcome everyone. Walk around and catch up with loved ones and meet more of your in-laws through-out the evening, because the wedding night is often a bit of a blur.

Be sure to consider who you're inviting, how to invite them, and who will be giving the toasts. Don't forget to send out last minute reminders!

Creative, Budget-Friendly Tips For The Big Day

(NAPSI) Today, more couples are looking beyond standard wedding packages and exploring customized, do-it-yourself options. According to The Wedding Report, couples spent 10 percent less on their big day in 2009 as compared to 2008, and spending from 2007 to 2009 fell by more than 30 percent.

By choosing handcrafted wedding touches and forgoing pricey extras, creative couples are mixing and matching a surprising combination of one-of-a-kind wedding elements to create unique and personalized celebrations.

From the centerpiece display to the wedding favors, more people planning that memorable wedding are realizing personal touches that actually reflect the soon-to-be-newlyweds themselves can elevate that special day from a cookie-cutter event to an intimately beautiful affair.

Here are four fun and budget-friendly ideas to create a wedding that is anything but generic:

Snip and Style - Arrangements by professional florists can easily take a big chunk out of the budget. Instead, the wedding party can be enlisted to help create floral decor for the wedding. There are a number of free online tutorials that offer detailed how-to instructions on choosing seasonal blooms and arranging everything from elegant centerpieces to bridal bouquets. Personal touches to the floral arrangements may be added by incorporating favorite flowers or purchasing the blooms from a local farmers' market.

Pick and Choose - To spend wisely, couples are also turning away from one-size-fits-all wedding packages and demanding more flexibility in the types of wedding resources available. For example, an array of hotel and event site offerings through the Weddings By Doubletree website provides couples with the flexible option of selecting essential components for their wedding day without being tied to an all-inclusive plan. From mixing and matching options such as guest stays, reception celebrations and ceremony settings, couples can handpick amenities and services that fit their budget and wedding needs at more than 230 hotels and resorts worldwide.

Eat and Drink - Family and friends can also be offered an

inside look at the preferences, passions and experiences enjoyed by the happy couple. Wedding favors could include a favorite chocolate or something that symbolizes the couple's life (such as local honey, jam or a unique trinket from their hometown).

For the aperitif, wine could be poured from a vineyard the couple likes to visit. For the main meal, dishes or drinks can be tailored to represent the cultural heritage of the couple (paella for the Spanish side of the family or vodka for the Russian side of the family).

Weddings provide the chance to celebrate the special values and history of the couple, through small details that personalize the event and make the setting more intimate.

Capture and Share - A professional photographer should certainly be considered for the most important portions of the wedding (ceremony, bridal party and family pictures, etc.); however, guests can help capture the rest of the special moments.

Before the big day, family and friends can be asked to bring their digital cameras to document the memories, along with a few disposable digital cameras on hand for individuals who do not own or forget their cameras.

A free online photo service prior to the wedding can provide the couple, the wedding party and guests with the link to upload, download and share their photos after the special day. Printing costs will be slashed in half and everyone can immediately and automatically have a vast selection of images to choose from for their wedding scrapbooks.

For ideas to plan an affordable and memorable wedding ceremony, reception and honeymoon, visit www.doubletree.com/weddings, contact a local travel professional or call (800) 222-TREE in the U.S. or Canada.

Handcrafted wedding touches can turn a cookie-cutter event into a one-of-a-kind wedding to remember.

ADMIT ONE

You're Invited

BRIDAL SHOW

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

Brides Come to Win a
\$1000 VISA GIFT CARD!

SUN FEB 9

11AM-2PM

15801 MICHIGAN AVE • DEARBORN, MI
YOURBRIDALEXPO.COM • 248-524-4868

BRIDAL SHOW SPECIALS, FOOD TASTINGS, GREAT PRIZES AND MUCH MORE!

EST. 1946

Shield's

RESTAURANT • BAR • PIZZERIA

Large Newly Renovated Banquet Room Seats 80

Book Your Engagement Party, Bridal Shower, or Rehearsal Dinner With Us!

Or We'll Cater it to Your Place!

Affordable Dine-In and Off-site Catering Packages Available

Salad & Pasta Trays
Appetizer Platters and More!

Call (248) 637-3131
or visit www.shieldspizza.com for details

Starting at \$6 per person

(248) 637-3131 • 1476 W. Maple • Troy

1 Block West of Crooks Rd.

Open: 11am Mon.-Sat. • Noon Sunday • www.shieldspizza.com

Troy Historic Village Wedding Ceremonies: Where History Lives Happily Ever After

Couples and wedding planners discover a wonderful intimate location for wedding ceremonies and photography at the Troy Historic Village. The 1837 Troy Church Chapel offers 19th-century charm for indoor ceremonies and accommodates 110 guests. The church has original stained glass windows, cushioned pews, modern restrooms, heat, and air conditioning.

Brides who dream of an outdoor ceremony will find a unique setting in the Historic Village. Outdoor ceremonies are held in the charming Village Green or around the Gazebo. Mature trees and colorful flower gardens provide a perfect setting for exchanging vows. Canopies and chairs are available for rental. The Village Green can accommodate up to 200 guests.

A Village wedding package reserves the site for up to four hours on the day of the wedding and additional time for a rehearsal prior to the event. This provides plenty of time to decorate and assemble the guests as well. The building interiors and grounds offer terrific settings for photos and videos.

A heated/air-conditioned room in the Parsonage is provided for the bride and her attendants before the ceremony.

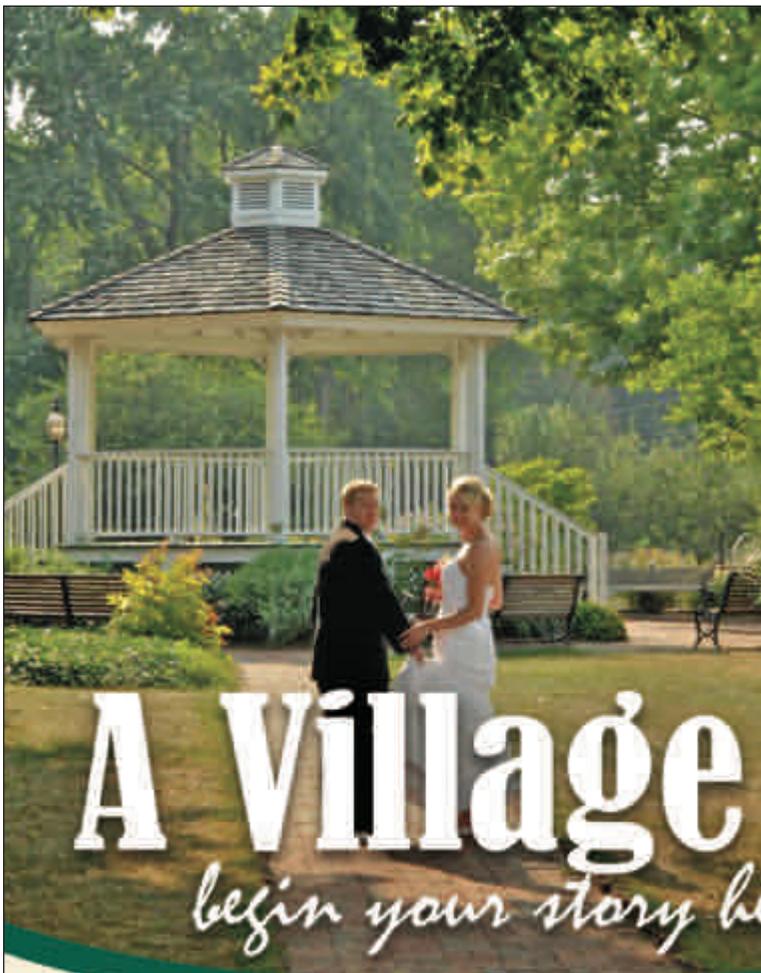
In addition, the Troy Historic Village offers a modern sound system for recorded music or rental parties may retain musicians or reserve use of the upright piano in the church.

Your wedding guests may tour the ten historic buildings prior to or following the ceremony. All of the buildings and restrooms in the Village are ADA accessible.

The Village also provides free parking and a facility attendant is always onsite to answer questions and provide assistance.

Couples may reserve the Village for photographs even if their wedding is held elsewhere. Indoor and outdoor photos are permitted. Artifacts may not be moved or used as props, but the Troy Historic Village staff can provide some reproductions for creative poses, upon request and approval prior to the photo session date.

To learn more about the Village, tour the site, or reserve your date, visit Troyhistoricvillage.org/rentals/weddings/ or contact the Village's event manager at events@thvmail.org. To schedule a tour and meet with the Events Manager, call 248-524-3303.



Old Rules with a New Twist

Does your wedding dress have to be white?

You don't have to go all out — you could still wear a white or ivory dress — but don't be afraid to add a pop of color with a sash, cardigan, pair of shoes, or piece of jewelry.

How can you personalize your traditional wedding?

These days, it's all about updating traditional ceremony customs. For unity rituals, add a fresh spin by incorporating some new materials instead of the classic candle lighting. We know of two chefs who mixed together spices and another couple who combined their favorite cocktails

at the altar. Or try a lesser-known tradition, like the wine box: Lock a bottle of wine and love letters in a box during the ceremony to be opened on a pre-determined anniversary date.

Should your bridesmaids wear matching dresses?

Let your girls' individual personalities shine by having each one pick a dress that suits her own taste and figure. The trick to pulling off the mismatched look is to have one cohesive element, like the same fabric, color or length. Or let them personalize their look with accessories, like funky jewelry, boleros, or patterned tights.

A Village Wedding
begin your story here...

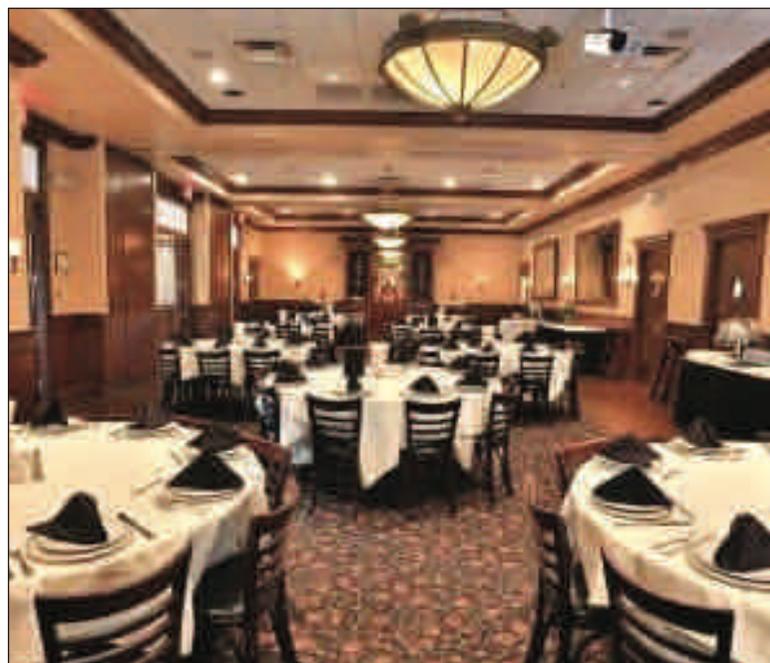

TROY HISTORIC VILLAGE
where history lives

- Elegant Historic Old Troy Church and Charming Gazebo
- From small & intimate to 150 people
- Chapel on the premises holds 110 people

For more information contact: events@thvmail.org or 248-524-3303

60 W. Wattles Rd, Troy MI 48098 • www.troyhistoricvillage.org/rental

Banquet Halls at Maggiano's



Maggiano's private dining spaces in Troy feature top-notch amenities, service, and food. Each and every special event includes exquisite cuisine, delectable desserts, hand-crafted classic cocktails, and choice wines. Maggiano's private event venues can entertain around 250 guests, depending on whether the gathering is "sit-down" or reception style. They also offer semi-private event spaces.

From business functions like seminars to once-in-a-lifetime

celebrations like bar or bat mitzvahs, your local Big Beaver Rd Maggiano's can make sure your event is truly unforgettable.

Throw your next party at one of Maggiano's Troy banquet halls and you'll receive Chef-prepared Italian-American food. Banquet halls also include adjustable lighting, designer centerpieces, personalized menu cards, attentive wait staff, piped-in music, and ivory linens. Call 248-205-1080 to book a banquet hall in Troy.

Poland Comes to Troy at Polka Restaurant

The Polka Restaurant – located at Maple & Dequindre in Troy – was purposefully designed to take guests on a cultural excursion to Poland.

Founders Marek and Danuta Kolyncys have taken extensive measures to bring out traditional Polish culture in every detail, from the authentic food, beer, tableware, decor, and more. Polish artist Andrzej Sikora has painted custom murals on both the inside and outside of the restaurant and banquet center, making every

visible inch of the scenery at Polka feel as though guests have been transported to Poland.

Different sections of the restaurant are built specifically for group dining experiences, including "The House" which seats 14, and "The Balcony" which seats 18. Polka's private dining area can seat up to 50, and the newly-designed banquet center can accommodate up to 80 guests.

"The emphasis is on bringing Polish culture to Troy, from the curtains to the china to the Polish

pillows we have throughout the restaurant," says Banquet Manager Lora Kubit. "And we have space for all sizes of groups."

The food, naturally, is made up of traditional Polish fare. Kubit says their most popular dish is the Polka Combo, which provides guests a plentiful supply of samples of Pierogies, Kielbasa, Stuffed Cabbage, Sourkraut, and Mashed Potatoes.

There's always new specials and rotating favorites, so regular visitors will have something new



POLKA RESTAURANT Banquet Manager Lora Kubit and General Manager Dariusz Strojny invite you to book your next group get-together at their banquet center.

MAGGIANO'S
LITTLE ITALY

2809 W. Big Beaver Rd Troy, MI 48084






WHAT'S *Your* NEXT EVENT?

Meetings | Company Events | Weddings | Holidays | Cocktail Receptions

CONTACT A BANQUET MANAGER - 248.205.1080 - maggianos.com

to try. Soups and hearty plates are common in the winter, while a plethora of salads offer spring and summer diners a light lunch.

The banquet center experience has grown over the last year based mainly on their repeat guests. "Everyone that has experienced it loves it, and they tell their friends," Kubit says.

A wide variety of groups can rent out the banquet center for a number of occasions, from business presentations to wedding showers. The social atmosphere accommodates an expansive list of groups looking to celebrate their occasion.

"We have great food, and great service, so even with private events, guests are given that extra attention to ensure they have a great experience."

If you've driven by but never stopped in, give the Polka Restaurant a try. They're open Tuesday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Polka Restaurant and Banquet Center is located at 2908 E. Maple Rd. in Troy. For more information, call 248-817-2601 or visit Gopolka.com/.



Host Your Next Event at
Polka Restaurant & Banquet Center
 CALL 248-817-2601



Polka Restaurant is Metro Detroit's Top Polish Restaurant and offers a full menu of Authentic Polish Cuisine with a huge selection of craft beer and wines from around the world.

Whether it's the food, architecture or atmosphere, every part of the experience at Polka Restaurant was purposefully designed to make our guests feel like they are visiting Poland. Founders Marek and Danuta Kolynicz believed that preserving these bits of traditional Polish culture was critical in the inception of Polka Restaurant.



Our Beautiful New Banquet Center is Now Open !

Along with our Private and Semi-Private Rooms for smaller intimate groups to larger events with presentations.

Perfect for any Occasion:

- Engagement Parties • Showers
- Wedding Rehearsals • Birthdays
- Baptisms • 1st Communion
- Memorial Lunches • Anniversaries
- Business Meetings and Holiday Parties



For more information or to book an event please CALL 248-817-2601 and ask for Lora Kubit, Banquet & Catering Manager

Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 11:00am-8:00pm / Friday - Saturday 11:00 am-9pm / Sunday 12:00pm- 8:00pm / Closed Monday

Polka Restaurant & Beer Cafe • 2908 E. Maple Rd at Dequindre • Troy, MI 48083 / www.gopolka.com

The Great Greek Mediterranean Grill is a Palate-Pleaser for Any Event



ENJOY THE AUTHENTIC TASTE OF GREEK CUISINE at The Great Greek Mediterranean Grill in the Troy City Center on Big Beaver at Wilshire. Manager and Partner Lama Plyker (left) and Catering Manager Carrie Mabery are ready to serve you.

by CYNTHIA KMETT

It's set to be a busy year for many of us. There's office picnics, family reunions, special birthdays, graduation parties, and fundraisers. In addition, if you're getting married and planning a bridesmaids' luncheon, rehearsal dinner, and wedding reception, these all take some thought to make them memorable.

You might want to consider catering as a way to provide guests with delicious and authentic food from The Great Greek Mediterranean Grill. That saves the hosts a lot of work on that special day.

Located in the new complex on W. Big Beaver in the Troy City Center between Wilshire and

Crooks, this new business just opened in July of last year, but reviews have been wonderful.

That is undoubtedly because, as Manager and Partner in this franchise Lama Plyker points out, "Everything is made fresh, in-house every day."

The portions are quite generous, too. All the recipes are authentic. She and her family and partners actually discovered The Great Greek eatery during trips to Las Vegas and said, "Why don't we bring this to Detroit?" Troy is their first franchise, but a second is coming to Shelby Township soon.

"We're super excited to be here," Plyker says. "Troy is an A+ location and we're excited for people to know us."

If you want to try the authentic Greek delicacies before you order catering, The Great Greek is open for business 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Take your friends, family, or coworkers there for lunch or dinner.

Deciding what to choose first will be the hardest part. To explore the offerings with your fellow diners, it might be wise to order the Four Dip Combo, with Tzatziki, Hummus, Tirokafteri and Melitzanosalata, which arrives with plenty of Pita bread for dipping. Plyker advises that you can put the sauces on anything, like grape leaves, spinach pie, even the meat from your entrée.

Start your meal with Avgolemono Soup (think chicken, lemon rice soup, but not too thick, just perfect), and a Greek Salad (meat or fish is optional).

A favorite for diners is The Great Greek Rice Bowl, with a meat or fish option. Now, about those authentic entrée offerings, which come with rice pilaf, fries or Feta fries (these fries are crispy and delicious). There are four Souvlaki offerings, which give you two generous skewers of chicken, steak, lamb or garlic shrimp, plus there's a salmon or veggie offering on the catering menu. There's even a menu for Little Greeks, and, yes, there are chicken fingers on that menu.

Naturally, there are gyros and more. The Gyro Kit, which is on the catering menu, comes in two sizes with one for 10 to 15 diners and the other for 20 to 25 people, and everyone makes their own sandwich, making it a perfect catered luncheon for the office or picnic when it's a special occasion. Add Baklava and Butter Cookies that melt in your mouth and you'll have a happy group of guests.

Caterer Carrie Mabery says that Greek cuisine was made for feeding a crowd. She promises that the catered offerings from The Great Greek will be as consistent and delicious as what you tried in the restaurant. You can explore the catering options at TheGreatGreek.com/catering/. Carrie will help you explore all the choices that make a wonderful and memorable event. If you need vegetarian offerings or a self-serve bar, she can make it happen.

You can order from The Great Greek online and have it delivered via GrubHub.

The Great Greek Mediterranean Grill is located at 708 W. Big Beaver in Troy. For more information, call 248-833-1000 or visit TheGreatGreek.com/.

THE GREAT GREEK
Mediterranean Grill

Corporate
CATERING

Parties

Rehearsal
DINNERS & Receptions

Full Service
DELIVERY & Pick up

TROYMI.CATERING@THEGREATGREEK.COM

(248) 520-1833

THE GREAT GREEK
Mediterranean Grill
WWW.THEGREATGREEKGRILL.COM

Troy Jewelers Continues Legacy of Quality and Attention to Detail

by CYNTHIA KMETT

Troy Jewelers is a family business, with dozens of returning customers due to their friendly and accommodating approach to a customer's needs, and their fair prices.

Owner Tony Kaspo admits he learned his profession and customer care principles from his grandpa, who was also a jeweler. So was his mother – even all his

are usually pink sapphires, not pink diamonds, which can easily run into the millions with the proper color, cut, and clarity. The big colored stone today, he adds, is still the dark purple, blue, hint-of-red tanzanite.

Also popular today is a piece of jewelry you might recall from the 60s and 70s – necklaces with names written out in gold.

"I've been making a lot of name



THE RINGS ARE BEAUTIFUL, but wait until you see the diamond necklaces Tony Kaspo, owner of Troy Jewelers, has for you. They're fit for a Hollywood premier.

brothers-in-law are jewelers. He actually started learning his profession at the age of 11, and enjoys telling customers the stories of working for his grandpa at his "summer job."

But the business has changed since he moved to Troy back in 1987.

"About 90 percent of my work today is custom creations," Kaspo points out.

Patrons might come to look for an engagement or wedding rings, or an anniversary present, but suddenly they like one part of this ring and another part of a second, or even third ring. Can he put them all together to make something special? Indeed, Tony can do it, and it won't be months in the making, especially when you want it for a special occasion. By the way, halos around your stone are not as popular today as a few years ago, Tony notes.

Asked about all the celebrities getting colored stones in their engagement rings, he says those

plates, usually in fancy fonts, and often for teenagers," he observes. "They've come back," he adds with a smile.

While they're not a bigger seller of watches at Troy Jewelers, they are very good at repairing the ones you've loved for ages. Tony even soldered a watch back together when a customer's son nearly destroyed it.

There's not much in the repair field that Troy Jewelers can't do for you. Whether you need ring sizing, prong repair or rebuilding, re-setting, chain or bracelet repair, polishing, silver jewelry repair or your pearls restrung, they can do it here.

When all your Yelp customers give you five stars, you know you've selected the right jeweler.

Troy Jewelers is located at 3495 Rochester Road in Trombley Plaza. For more information, call 248-528-0962 or visit Troydiamonds.com/.

"Love, having no geography, knows no boundaries."
Truman Capote



TROY JEWELERS



3495 Rochester Rd • Troy • 248.528.0962 • www.TroyDiamonds.com

*We Specialize in Custom Rings
Created from sketch to
diamond ring in 5 days!*



CARO 74
BRILLIANCE DEFINED



You found "the one."

NOW SAY, "YES" TO THE ONE HOTEL THAT CAN MAKE YOUR WEDDING DREAMS COME TRUE.



Embassy Suites by Hilton Detroit-Troy/Auburn Hills is the perfect place to host your family and friends while celebrating your special day. Our spacious two-room suites accommodate busy bridesmaids and serve as a haven for the happy couple. Out of town guests love waking up to our complimentary, made-to-order breakfast and enjoying a drink on us at our Evening Reception.

- Ideal Location for your Wedding reception. Banquet room can accommodate up to 150.
- Complimentary Full Hot Breakfast Buffet with Omelet Station
- Complimentary Evening Reception with Free Cocktails, Beer, Wine and Snacks*
- *Complimentary Shuttle Service to your Wedding Venue**
- All-Suite Property! Enjoy our two room suites with a separate living room from the bedroom
- Complimentary Upgrade to Bridal Suite for the Wedding Couple on their Wedding Night

Sales Department:
248-879-6725

850 Tower Drive, Troy MI 48098
248-879-7500
www.detroittroy.embassysuites.com

**EMBASSY
SUITES**
by HILTON®

Embassy Suites Completes Renovation

The 251-suite Embassy Suites by Hilton Detroit Troy / Auburn Hills has completed a 5-month renovation of its Public Space, Restaurant, Lounge, Pool, Meeting/Banquet Rooms and Fitness Center. The hotel is owned and managed by Hospitality Ventures Management Group.

“The extensive renovation recently completed at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Detroit Troy / Auburn Hills enables the hotel to provide guests with excellent accommodations and a highly satisfying stay overall,” said Greg Kroesing, Director of Sales and Marketing. “Our spacious suites continue to appeal to business travelers by affording more space to work and relax than the average one-room hotel accommodations in the local market. Families also continue to enjoy spreading out within the two separate rooms.”

Located at 850 Tower Drive in Troy, Embassy Suites offers guests convenient access to I-75 (Crooks Road Exit) is located steps away from Flagstar, APTIV, Magna and other Norther American Headquarters and minutes from Somerset Collection and Great

Lakes Crossing Shopping Outlets.

The hotel features approximately 7,000 square feet of meeting and event space including eight flexible meeting rooms, as well as a business center, pool, a market, and a fitness center.

Embassy Suites provides guests with a complimentary shuttle within a 5-mile radius, free made-to-order breakfast each morning, a nightly complimentary evening reception, and two-room suites with a separate living area, and private bedroom.

For reservations, visit the Embassy Suites by Hilton Detroit Troy / Auburn Hills website at DetroitTroy.embassysuites.com or call 248-879-7500.

Hilton Honors members who book directly through preferred Hilton channels have access to instant benefits, including a flexible payment slider that allows members to choose nearly any combination of Points and money to book a stay, an exclusive member discount that can't be found anywhere else, and free standard WiFi, available exclusively through the Hilton Honors mobile app.

The Purple Rose is the “Flower of the Year”

(NAPSI) It's official: The purple rose is Flower of the Year. There are many reasons this enchanting bloom is having its moment.

Purple Roses: Rising to the Occasion

The product development team at 1-800-Flowers.com travels the globe each year in search of the latest trends to inspire truly original designs. This year, it found that inspiration in purple roses. With their majestic beauty, rich symbolism and of-the-moment hue, the blooms bring their unique radiance to every arrangement.

Singing the Praises of Purple

What makes this color rose so popular? Here are just a few purple points of interest:

Purple roses convey enchantment and love at first sight; excellent for sending to someone who's swept you off your feet from the start.

The color purple has a lot of meaning behind it, too: It's associated with luxury, power, ambition and royalty. You may see lots of purple flowers popping up at the upcoming royal wedding.

With so many shades—from

lavender to magenta—purple brings a rich contrast of color to flower arrangements that really pops.

Purple is the official color of International Women's Day, a chance to honor and celebrate the

enchanting purple rose represents unending possibilities in 2018, inspiring grace and dignity, creativity and devotion, and most importantly our deep love for those who are closest to us.”

Passion for Purple Roses

“Thank you.” “Happy birthday.” “I love you.” Whatever it is you want to say, let these radiant lavender purple roses say it for you. Just one look can have someone special in your life feeling like royalty.

Graceful Lavender Bouquet

Elegant and soft, this bouquet looks like it came fresh from the garden. Lavender and purple roses mingle in a stylish clear rectangular vase. The delicate floral color palette and modern container make for a striking combination you'll want to put prominently on display.

Shades of Purple

Every shade of purple in this radiant bouquet can bring joy and delight to the people you love. A rich gathering of blooms, hand-arranged by skilled florists with lush greenery inside a glass vase, tied with ribbon.



special women in our lives. A bouquet of purple roses would certainly make a beautiful gift.

“Color plays an important role in our everyday lives, helping us to express ourselves to the people we love and care for,” says Alfred Palomares, VP of Merchandising for 1-800-Flowers.com. “The



OSAKA

Steaks • Sushi • Seafood

Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar

OPEN FOR LUNCH & DINNER





Come Enjoy The Best Hibachi & Sushi Experience in Michigan!

\$10.00 OFF

TOTAL BILL of \$50 or more

Expires. 2-16-20. Not to be combined with any other coupon. One coupon per bill. Not applicable during Happy Hour.

Troy / 248-850-7830

\$25.00 OFF

of \$100 or more

Expires. 2-16-20. Not to be combined with any other coupon. One coupon per bill. Not applicable during Happy Hour.

Troy / 248-850-7830

Now Taking Reservations for Valentine's Day!

Follow us on Instagram @OSAKAJAPANESESTEAKHOUSE or Find us on Facebook @OSAKASTEAKHOUSECLAWSON for Daily Specials and Group Party Incentives!

CALL 248-850-7830 to BOOK Your Special Event

1119 W. Maple Rd, just east of Crooks • Clawson • 248-850-7830 • OsakaMichigan.com



Cornerstone Cuts Ribbon on Newest Branch in Sterling Heights

Tuesday was the official ribbon cutting for Cornerstone Community Financial Credit Union's newest branch in Sterling Heights. Mayor Michael Taylor was on hand to help cut the ribbon. Cornerstone Community Financial is a progressive, full-service financial institution still owned and operated by its members. To help members reach their personal financial goals, Cornerstone offers financial products and services ranging from share certificates and Visa credit cards to competitive lending options. CCF is excited to serve Macomb County and continue the credit union tradition of people helping people. CCF's new branch is located at 44911 Mound RD across from Walmart and next to Arby's. Visit CCFinancial.com for more information on products and services.

OCHN Contracts with the Hunter Group for CEO Search

Oakland Community Health Network's (OCHN) Board has selected Bloomfield Hills-based, international executive search firm, The Hunter Group, to lead the process of identifying a new CEO for the organization.

"We're thrilled to partner with The Hunter Group during this extremely important search for a new CEO," says OCHN Board Chair, Judith Summers. "We have tremendous confidence in their expertise to recruit qualified candidates whose values align with ours and talents will ensure Oakland County residents receive valuable public mental health supports."

The Hunter Group offers its clients high-quality, executive search and consulting services designed to provide a strong return on talent and investment. It was chosen by OCHN's Board through a formal, government Request for Proposal (RFP) procurement process facilitated by OCHN.

"The Hunter Group partners greatly value OCHN's critical mission in our community and look forward to supporting the OCHN board search committee with this strategic executive search," says Blaire Miller, Managing Partner of The Hunter Group.

For more information on the CEO executive search, contact

Blaire Miller at blaire.miller@huntergroup.com.

OCHN's mission is to "inspire hope, empower people, and strengthen communities." Programs and supports provided by OCHN's service network are available at Oaklandchn.org/.



"In comic strips, the person on the left always speaks first."
George Carlin

"A GORGEOUS, THRILLING HEAVENLY MUSICAL."

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR
50th ANNIVERSARY TOUR

BEGINS NEXT WEEK!

FEBRUARY 4 - 9, 2020
DETROIT OPERA HOUSE

BroadwayInDetroit.com | ticketmaster.com | 800-982-2787
Box Office | Info 313-872-1000

Groups (12+) Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com (subject: Jesus Christ Superstar)
and **oc** Feb 7

TRANSFER YOUR BALANCES.

Feeling the holiday spending hangover? Find your financial balance at CCF by transferring your credit card balances to our low-rate Visa Platinum. No balance transfer fee and no annual fee.

Visit CCFinancial.com



the credit union in your corner
800.777.6728 | www.CCFinancial.com

[f](https://www.facebook.com/CCFCreditUnion) CCFCreditUnion [t](https://twitter.com/cornerstone_CU) @cornerstone_CU

TWO TROY BRANCHES TO SERVE YOU!

Somerset Branch
3001 W. Big Beaver Rd.

Troy Branch
1785 Rochester Rd.

The Only East Side Home Show!



**Macomb Community College
Sports & Expo Center**
14500 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren
(Corner of 12 Mile & Hayes) - Building P

FREE ADMISSION

Take advantage of great
SHOW ONLY DISCOUNTS
from all exhibitors!



Saturday, February 15th • 10am-6pm
Sunday, February 16th • 10am-4pm



For More Information Visit YourHomeShows.com or Call 248-524-4868

Keep Your iPhone Close and Your Gold Closer

POLICE PATROL



by CYNTHIA KMETT

THIEVES ARE LURKING –

This victim was loading her groceries into her vehicle in the Walmart parking lot and accidentally left her gold Apple iPhone XS in her shopping cart which she left in the parking lot. After driving away for approximately a half-mile, she realized her mistake and returned the parking lot to discover her phone was no longer in the shopping cart. The victim's son called her phone which was answered by an unknown man. The suspect advised him that he would give him the phone back if he brought money to Detroit. The victim's son informed him that he needed to bring the phone back to Walmart and the suspect hung up.

GOLD IS AN OBVIOUS TARGET – This victim was at the Michigan College of Beauty on Rochester Road receiving a relaxing massage. The victim took off her gold link chain necklace and placed it onto her backpack, which was located next to her chair. During the massage, the victim fell asleep and upon waking, noticed the necklace had been stolen.

UNATTENDED PURSES ARE A TEMPTING PURSUIT – This victim left her purse on a bench at the Troy Community Center and later discovered it missing. The purse was later discovered discarded at the Somerset Collection with all her property intact except for \$60 that was taken by the unknown suspect.

WONDER IF THERE WAS A RESERVED SIGN – This woman parked her red Chevrolet Malibu in the apartment complex parking lot on John R to visit her brother. When she returned to her vehicle she observed that her windshield wipers had been broken, the driver's door was dented, and the driver's side front quarter panel had received some scratches. A note left on her vehicle stated, "This is a reserved spot (that doesn't belong to you!!!"

NEVER SEND MONEY BACK UNTIL THE CHECK CLEARS – A Troy resident was contacted by an unknown subject who was interested in purchasing furniture that the victim posted for sale on a website. The interested

purchaser sent the victim two 'checks' of \$1,200 and \$375. The buyer then re-contacted the victim, advising him he was no longer interested in purchasing it after the checks were deposited. The victim was encouraged to refund the money via Cash App which he did. The victim was then notified by his bank that the \$1,200 check he deposited was fraudulent. The victim is sure the second check will also come back as fraudulent too as it had the same routing numbers. This is often a tactic used by fraudsters. They overpay you and ask you to send the money back. Don't do it.

MAYBE THEY WILL SEE THE PERSON ON THE SECURITY CAMERA – A Business representative from NTL Industries located in Sterling Heights reported that unknown suspects cashed a fraudulent check drawn off the business account for \$2,494.75 at the bank.

TIME TO TALK TO THE BANK – A Kings Point Drive resident received an alert on his phone, indicating an \$8,500 check against his Huntington Bank Business Account had cleared. The victim did not authorize anyone to cash such a check and stated that it had come from a checkbook that he lost approximately 3 months prior that he had canceled.

DOMESTIC DISPUTES TAKE SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES – Troy Officers responded to ten incidents involving domestic

disputes or family troubles during this reporting period. On-scene investigation produced enough evidence that a crime of Domestic Assault was committed and one arrest was 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 detective and prosecutorial review.

SUSPENDED – A Rochester officer was in the area of Second and Walnut when he observed a vehicle traveling with no headlights or tail lights on. A traffic stop was conducted, and the officer made contact with the driver, a 36-year-old Rochester woman. A records check of the female driver showed her license was currently suspended. She was transported to the Rochester police department and later released with a pending court date for driving while license suspended.

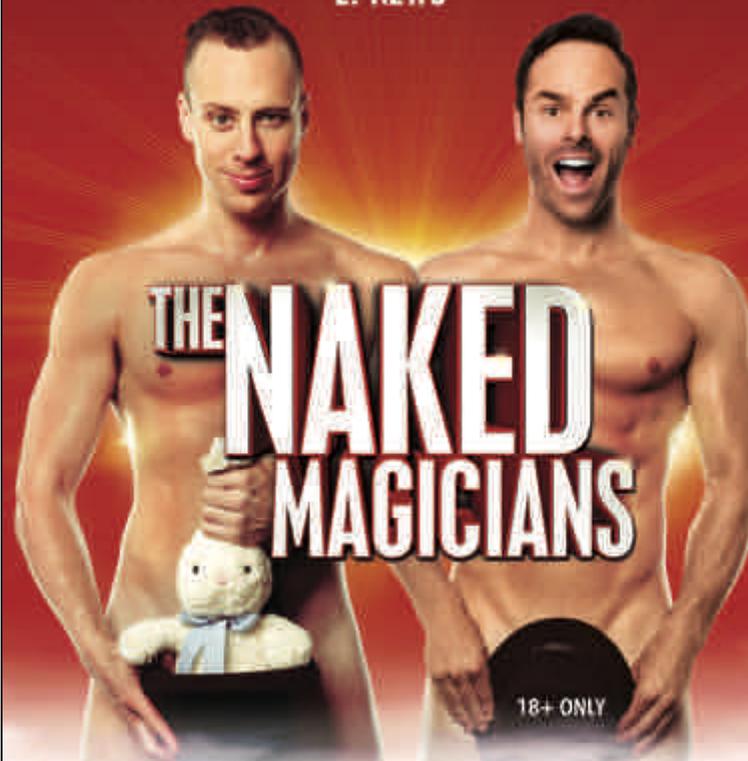
Note: If you have any information on any criminal offenses, call the Troy Police Department at 248-524-3477.

"The time is always right to do what is right."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

THE AUSSIE SMASH HIT, DIRECT FROM VEGAS!

"UNBELIEVABLE"
E! NEWS



ON SALE NOW
MARCH 6-7 • MUSIC HALL

BroadwayInDetroit.com, ticketmaster.com, 800-982-2787 & box office
Info: 313-872-1000, Groups (10+) Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com (subject: The Naked Magicians)

HERALD WHOLESALE

PREMIER BATH, LIGHTING & HARDWARE

Your PREMIER Bath, Light & Hardware

Superstore

Visit our Website
For A Complete List
Of Manufacturers



40% OFF

Any One Item
Store Wide

With Ad. Valid on Qualifying Products Only.
New Orders Only. Limited Time Offer.

1765 W. MAPLE RD. • TROY • (248) 398-4560 • www.heraldwholesale.com

M & TH 9am-7pm • SAT 9am-4pm • TU, W, F 9am-5:30pm



MLK Day of Service in Troy

Above: SCOUT MOM and leader Elizabeth Nelson is pictured with her kids Alex and Bella, of Scout troop 1720, as they wait their turn at the tables to work on service projects.

Top left: IT WAS A LOVELY MORNING for Hill Elementary School Principal Shari Pawlus with her adorable children Olivia and Greyson at the MLK Day celebration.

Bottom left: SOLDIERS TO RECEIVE GREETINGS from the Cavanaugh family as they made this a family affair. Mom Debbi and her kids Kate, Micah, Jonathon, Daniel and Marissa had a wonderful time.



FREE Senior Expo

Monday, March 16th
10 am - 1pm



Presented By



Pre-Register for Event Prizes and Giveaways at SeniorExpoUSA.com!

CLASSIFIEDS

January 27, 2020



Troy-Somerset Gazette

Established in 1980 by Claire M. Weber

Publisher
Mark Nicholson

Editor-in-Chief
Andrew Neal

City Editor
Cynthia Kmett

Editorial Contributors
Suzanne Angeo
Greg Angeo
Amy Fortune

Advertising
Pam Brown

Production
AJ White

Circulation
Melissa Leung
Alex Neal

DISPLAY ADVERTISING:
248-524-4868
Advertising@GazetteMediaGroup.com

TO SUBMIT EDITORIAL:
News@GazetteMediaGroup.com

248-524-4868
6966 Crooks Road Suite 22
Troy, MI 48098

GetYourGazette.com

@TSGazette

@Troy_Gazette



SERVICES

WINDOW CLEANING LEAVES IN GUTTERS
COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL
TOM MICOLI - 313-656-9402

2/5

GUITAR LESSONS

Beginner & Intermediate guitar lessons taught by teacher with 10 years in-studio experience (references available). Great with kids (ages 7+), teens, and adults of all skill level and musical interests. Lessons taught at office studio in Troy. Lessons \$25/half-hour once a week. Call Andrew at 248-842-1828 and get \$10 off your first lesson!

1/1

HELP WANTED

Oliver Law Group P.C. 1647 W. Big Beaver, Troy, MI. Now Hiring! Mass Tort Attorney. Six Months Experience Necessary. Responsibilities including drafting motions, conducting depositions, and court appearances. 60k/yr. Contact lmarino@oliverlawgroup.com.

1/2

VOLUNTEER

Hope Not Handcuffs is an initiative started by Families Against Narcotics (FAN), aimed at bringing law enforcement and community organizations together in an effort to find viable treatment options for individuals seeking help to reduce dependency with heroin, prescription drugs, and alcohol.

A person struggling with any drug addiction can come to any of the participating police agencies and ask for help. They will be greeted with support, compassion and respect. Hope Not Handcuffs volunteer 'Angels' help with paperwork and provide compassionate support until a treatment option is found. Angel's can choose their own time slot by signing up to be on call for just 2 four hour blocks per month.

To sign up and learn more, visit familiesagainstnarcotics.org/volunteer

AFFORDABLE CAREGIVER

G&F Professional Services Home Care - Affordable home care, compassionate caring, responsible caregivers. Call or text Georgina at 248-571-1837. Email Aidoogeorgina@gmail.com

1/3

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.

ADOPT A PET

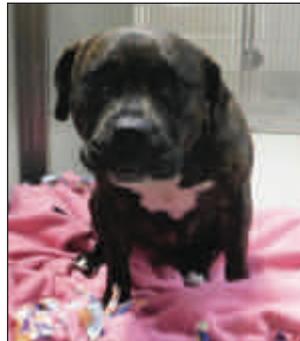
Wanda



Zoey T



Little Miss



Dalton



Place Your Classified Here

Two Great Papers, One Low Price!

Place your classified ad in both Gazette Newspapers and your message will reach readers in Troy, Rochester, Rochester Hills, and surrounding communities.

Novenas Available for \$17 per week

	1 Paper	2 Papers
15 Words	\$12	\$20
Each Additional Word	25¢ per word	50¢ per word

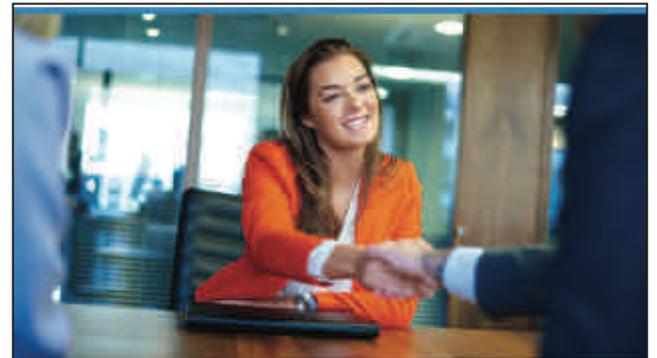
To place a classified advertisement, call 248-524-4868, fax 248-524-9140, or email classifieds@gazettemediagroup.com

Troy-Somerset
Gazette

Rochester & Rochester Hills
Gazette

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 two 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.



NOW HIRING!

Advertising Sales Account Manager

We're looking for an Advertising Account Manager

If you are interested, please call our office to schedule an interview and learn more about the position - 248-524-4868.



Sudoku

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

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, P.O. Box 482, Troy, MI, 48099. Please make check payable to Gazette Media Group.

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

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

Quicken Loans® Winter* BLAST WEEKEND

FREE ADMISSION

PRESENTED BY



Around Campus Martius Park in Downtown Detroit

FEBRUARY 7-9

Friday: 5pm - 11pm • Saturday: 11am - 11pm • Sunday: 11am - 8pm

- Learn to ski and snowboard presented by Mt. Brighton
 - The Winter Slide
- Local Musicians on the Michigan Lottery Stages
 - Free Ice Skating presented by Delta Dental
 - Zipline Adventure
 - Family Fun from TCF Bank
- Kroger Food Truck Rally with Great Eats from Top Restaurants
 - Ice Garden presented by US Ice and the Detroit News
 - Marshmallow Roasting from the Detroit Downtown Development Authority
- Winter Blast Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics of Michigan

winterblast.com #WinterBlast @winterblast

