

March 9, 2020  
 Vol. 40, No. 25

**VOICES OF TROY  
 PODCAST**

**Kurt Bovensiep**  
*Troy DPW Director*

On this week's Voices of Troy podcast, Gazette Editor in Chief Andrew Neal interviews Kurt Bovensiep, Director of the Troy Department of Public Works.

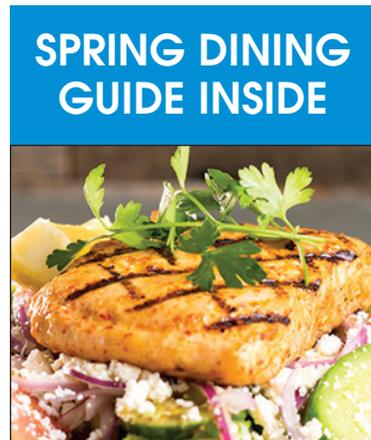
Bovensiep is a Troy native and started working for the DPW at a young age, slowly working his way up the ranks until he was named director in 2016.

In the interview, Bovensiep talks about how the DPW clears the snow from the roads after a heavy storm.

"We start with major roads," Bovensiep said. "After major roads are complete, we focus on industrial roads... and school routes."

"When we receive 4 inches of snow or more, we then go into our sub division roads. Those are rotated and we try to be as fair as possible."

*Listen to the interview at [Anchor.fm/VoicesofTroy](http://Anchor.fm/VoicesofTroy) or wherever you get your podcasts by searching "Voices of Troy."*



**THE GREAT GREEK MEDITERRANEAN GRILL won Critics Choice Best Entree at Taste of Troy last week for their Lamb Chops with Rice Pilaf & Tzatziki. If you want homemade, delicious and authentic Greek food, this is the eatery for you. Waiting to serve you are (left to right) Carrie Mabery, chef Robert Aldape (in baseball cap) Lama Plyler and chef Anthony Ludlow. For catering orders, call Carrie at 248-520-1833. For takeout orders, call 248-883-1000. Photo courtesy of Cindy Stewart, City of Troy**

***Troy school board says "no" to annexing Clawson schools***

After considerable research and careful consideration, it was announced last Thursday that the Troy Board of Education has decided not to proceed further with the request to annex the Clawson School District.

Though there were many issues to be contemplated, there were two primary questions to

weigh in the initial decision: 1) whether additional revenue would be produced by the annexation, potentially providing a benefit to the Troy School District and 2) whether additional classroom space available in the Clawson School District would be needed to handle enrollment projections in Troy.

The answer to both questions is no. Any increased revenue produced by the addition of Clawson students would be offset by the costs needed to provide the same opportunities that students in Troy enjoy, including enhanced technology, curriculum alignment, and staffing. At the

See **SCHOOLS** on page 3

**Master plan headed for early update**

*Residential rezoning causes consternation among neighbors*

by CYNTHIA KMETT

The last few parcels not slated for new homes, or more likely townhouses, have been causing consternation among neighbors for the past year or two.

They come to Planning Commission and then City Council, demanding that these requests be denied. Some of the excuses: we have no sidewalks, the schools are too crowded, and their housing values will go down, which can be proved to be not too accurate, as selling prices indicate.

But most of this land has been sold to developers who paid a lot of money for it, and they want a return on their investment. The heirs to land bought many years ago aren't builders and are happy to sell the land. The residents adjoining it are not so happy. They often claim that they didn't know anything about the sale of the land, or that it would ever be built on as it had been vacant for decades.

The land in many cases has residential zoning in place and that has caused the Troy Planning and the City Council to rethink how to handle these cases, as the

See **PLANNING** on page 3

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## Stevens votes to combat youth tobacco epidemic

This week, Rep. Haley Stevens (MI-11) voted to pass H.R. 2339, a bill to block the manufacture and sale of flavored tobacco products and prohibit companies from marketing them to the youth.

The number of middle and high school students using e-cigarettes has doubled over the past two years to more than 5.3 million, 97% of whom use flavored e-cigarettes with flavors like cotton candy and gummy bear that are designed to appeal to children. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, youth use of nicotine in any form is unsafe and can seriously harm brain development.

“Millions of middle and high

school students across the country are being hooked by highly addictive flavored tobacco products that are designed to appeal to children,” said Congresswoman Stevens. “Youth tobacco use is unsafe by any measure, and the dramatic spike in e-cigarette use over the past couple years is an emerging public health crisis. Today, I was proud to stand with concerned parents in Michigan and across the country, passing strong bipartisan legislation to block the manufacture and sale of flavored tobacco products and prohibiting tobacco companies from marketing to youth under age 21.”

## Governor Whitmer visits Troy Schools, Wass Elementary



Literacy Specialist Kristyn Cubitt (right) works with students at Wass Elementary while Governor Gretchen Whitmer (left) looks on. Photo courtesy of the Troy School District

The Troy School District had a special visitor this week. Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer is “getting to work,” with Michigan residents by observing, listening and hearing tough questions from those on the front lines of important issues. Her office reached out to TSD Superintendent, Dr. Rich Machesky, expressing interest in job shadowing a literacy specialist at one of Troy’s schools. On Monday, she visited Wass Elementary, to see the challenges, work and success around their literacy program. She likely chose the Troy School District to job shadow because their literacy specialists are recognized at the county, state, and national level and for their excellence and

innovation in reading education. The work Troy teachers and literacy specialists are doing is impacting all students and specifically some of their most challenging student groups.

While at Wass, Governor Whitmer shadowed reading specialist Kristyn Cubitt conducting a Reading Recovery lesson with a first grade student, sat in on a coaching session with third grade teacher Lauren Fragomeni, and held a small group lesson with Kindergarten students. Wass Principal Matt Jansen shared what it takes to be a literacy specialist in Troy: at least five years teaching experience, an advanced degree in Reading, and Reading Recovery training.

Said Kris Griffor, TSD Administrator, Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education: “It meant so much to our team that the governor took the time to come to the Troy School District to learn more about our literacy work. Over the last five years we have worked with our central office team, our building administration, and our teachers to co-create a world class model of comprehensive literacy instruction. Investing in the learning of our teachers continues to ensure the learning of all of our students. Having the Governor understand our work helps to advocate for what all students in Michigan deserve.”

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# Spring

## EXPLORERS

### School-Age Spring Break Fun!

Troy School

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## First recreational marijuana shop in Oakland County opens

Breeze Provisioning Center, located at 24517 John R. between Woodward Heights and Ten Mile Road, opened for the recreational sale of marijuana starting 9 a.m. on Sunday, March 8.

Breeze held its ribbon cutting February 11 for medical marijuana, including edibles, oils and topicals, and decided soon after to go straight recreational sale after it received its Adult Use Marijuana Retailer license on February 19.

The retail store will be the first to open for Adult Use/Recreational marijuana sales in Oakland County.

Breeze will be fully stocked and ready to accommodate anyone 21 and over with an ID, no medical card needed. Breeze currently only accepts cash and has an ATM onsite. Hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days per week. The recreational menus are available to view on their website [Breeze.us/](http://Breeze.us/).

Breeze, the retail brand of Trucenta LLC, is a seed-to-sale business. Trucenta has marijuana growing facilities in multiple locations, including Hazel Park and Emmett Township near Battle Creek. Breeze is working on

opening up its next two locations in Warren and Emmett Township, along with other cities to follow.

“We called it Breeze for a number of reasons, but mainly because we wanted to make the buying experience quick and easy from the novice to the pros,” says a Breeze representative.

“This store is great for Hazel Park as our products are grown, processed, tested, transported and now available for sale here. We have deep roots with the city and community, and many of our employees including our store manager live here.”

# Cluster recommended for a few extra square feet *Troy Schools will not annex Clawson*

## PLANNING from page 1

developers now want to use cluster zoning to be able to add a few units to the property, and those units are usually condos, built as townhouses.

Cluster zoning was formulated to preserve trees and open land and gives builders a few extra units depending on how much is preserved. But homeowners don't want to live next to a townhouse, period. So the fight has more than once moved to the courts, where several cases remain.

The city and the planners would actually like to see more builders come to them with ranch homes, not townhouses (which do sell very fast). It's the seniors who have no place to go and the steps in a townhouse are not what they're looking for as empty nesters and retirees who want to stay in Troy. Cluster housing was developed to help that section of the community.

Cluster zoning had a limit of 1,500 square feet and developers said they can't do a nice ranch with a first-floor master suite, laundry facilities and a garage, which was pretty hard with that rule. In other words, townhouses work better. Robertson Bros., a well-known developer, said that 1,900 would work better for them, and other developers told the city they agreed with that assessment.

The Troy Planning Commission tackled the problem at their last meeting. They realize we haven't seen those ranch units being built.

The discussion was now on what to do about the size of cluster homes. With 400 extra feet it gives more flexibility in design to the developers, especially for the façade and the garage placement. It seems that even empty nesters want a two-car garage.

While the planners know that there will be push back from neighbors, remember that there's at least a 40-foot setback around a cluster development. The larger size home might help with the "compatibility" question, which continues to be a problem, especially for council when faced by angry voters.

Planners voted to recommend the change to 1,900 square feet per unit to city council for its approval.

At last month's joint meeting of council and the planners, they all agreed it might be time to look at the question of compatibility of land uses in the city's Master Plan, with lawsuits on the question already in court.

The last Master Plan was

written in 2008 when the city wanted to encourage builders to build in the recession, and amended in 2016. But times are better and both groups are more concerned now that the city is about 98 percent built out.

Of special concern to them is the Neighborhood Node zoning, especially as it affected residents who live next to those corners of the city. Planners have already submitted to council a change for that zoning that will require deeper setbacks next to residential homes and cut the height of allowed building that don't abut residents from five stories to three if they're on the

corner. Council should vote on it at their next meeting in March.

Expect the look at the Master Plan to be studied this year, and the meeting agendas are always posted. In the past Master Plan update, the Planning Commission held meetings for two years to discuss changes before it was sent to council. The Master Plan is on the city's website, troy.mi.gov, and you can download it, read it, and suggest the kinds of changes you'd like to see implemented in the next edition.

## SCHOOLS from page 1

same time, enrollment trends in the Troy School District do not warrant the need for significant additional classroom space.

Troy Schools will continue to work collaboratively to offer

shared services to the Clawson School District and look for other opportunities to partner where feasible. The Board also left open to the possibility of revisiting the decision should the situation substantially change.



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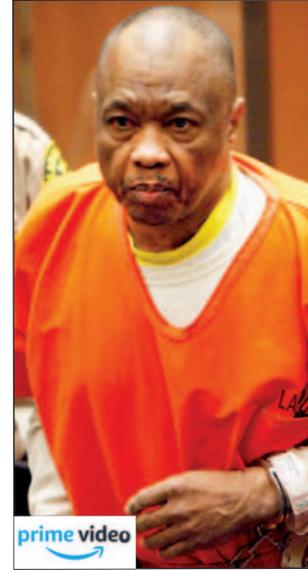
**TAYLOR TOMLINSON: QUARTER-LIFE CRISIS**  
TV-MA, Comedy Special



**NATURAL BORN KILLERS**  
R, Drama/Thriller



**KNIVES OUT**  
PG-13, Comedy/Thriller



**TALES OF THE GRIM SLEEPER**  
R, Crime Documentary



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Billie Eilish

## Pianist Meng-Chieh Liu coming to Oakland University March 15

Oakland University, in collaboration with The Chamber Music Society of Detroit, will welcome the multi award-winning Vera Quartet and pianist Meng-Chieh Liu to campus on Sunday, March 15 for "Curtis on Tour," a global touring initiative of the country's most renowned conservatories.

The program will include one of Beethoven's early string quartets, the Quartet in C minor, Op. 18, No. 4; String Quartet No. 4 ("Silent Temple") by University of Michigan composer Bright Sheng; and César Franck's Piano Quintet in F minor.

Meng-Chieh Liu will also give a piano master class at Oakland at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 13. The free class will take place in Room 134 in the School of Music, Theatre and Dance and is open to students and to the general public.

Both the master class and concert take place at Varner Hall, which is located at 371 Varner Drive in Rochester Hills.

Tickets are \$30 for the general public, \$25 for seniors, and \$10 for student. To purchase tickets, visit [Etix.com/](http://Etix.com/).

Grand Prize winner of both the 2017 Plowman and Yellow Springs Chamber Music Competitions, the Vera Quartet is the String Quartet-in-Residence at the Curtis Institute of Music. The quartet also won Second Prize at the 2017 M-Prize Chamber Arts Competition in Ann Arbor and the St. Lawrence Award at the 2018 Wigmore Hall String



**The Vera Quartet with Meng-Chieh Liu. Photo courtesy The Chamber Music Society of Detroit**

Quartet Competition.

Previously Graduate Quartet-in-Residence at Indiana's Jacobs School of Music, the ensemble has held several other prestigious residencies internationally, including at the Beethovenhaus in Bonn, Verbier Festival Academy, the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, and the Rockport, Aspen, and Norfolk chamber music festivals, and was selected

by NPR's "Performance Today" as a Young Artist in Residence.

A recipient of a 2002 Avery Fisher Career Grant, Meng-Chieh Liu first made headlines in 1993 as a 21-year-old student, when he substituted for André Watts at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia with three hours' notice. His acclaimed performance was followed by a recital at the Kennedy Center, among other

highly praised appearances.

Curtis on Tour is the Nina von Maltzahn global touring initiative of the Curtis Institute of Music. Grounded in the school's "learn by doing" philosophy, it offers students real-world, professional

touring experience alongside celebrated alumni and faculty. In addition to performing, musicians offer master classes, interactive programs, and community engagement activities.

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## Meadow Brook Theatre announces 13th Annual Children's Series

Tickets will go on sale Monday, March 9, 2020 for Meadow Brook Theatre's 13th annual Children's Series, beginning in February 2021.

"These shows are a great chance for families to come and experience a live show in an intimate setting that's close to home," says Cheryl Marshall, MBT managing director. "We love seeing the kids enjoying and interacting with what's going on onstage."

First is Ventriloquist Richard Paul - Funny Puppet Guy on Saturday, February 27, 2021 at 1 pm. Award-winning ventriloquist/funny puppet guy Richard Paul will be performing his Ventriloquist Family Fun Variety Show. Get ready to laugh out loud when Richard selects lucky audience members to join in on the fun by dressing them up and transforming their natural voices into something supernaturally funny. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for groups of eight or more.

On Friday, March 5, 2021 at 10 am Theatreworks USA presents Patrick Garner's History Alive - Thomas Edison: Inventor, Lecturer, and Prankster! and Benjamin Franklin: America's First Citizen. Discover two important pieces of American history while having fun! Great for kids in kindergarten and above. Tickets are \$16.

Next up we have the Theatreworks USA production of Junie B's Essential Survival Guide to School on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 10 am and 1 pm. Now that Junie B. Jones has been going to school for over one-and-a-half years, who better to write the book on EVERYTHING you need to know? With a jillion tips, tricks, and trip-ups, Junie B. shares her hard-won expertise and shows us all how school is sometimes scary, sometimes super-fun, and ALWAYS something to sing about! Tickets are \$15, \$12 for groups of eight or more.

Musician Guy Louis is back by popular demand for Guy Louis:



Ventriloquist and "funny puppet guy" Richard Paul.

The World of Music Tour on Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 1 pm with an all new show. This musical adventure is intended for people of all ages and encourages audience participation during this fast-paced celebration! Tickets are \$10, \$8 for groups of eight or more.

Saturday, May 29, 2021 at 1 pm join Josh Casey: Comedy Juggler. Join Josh Casey as he mashes up a show of comedy and skills; juggling, audience participation, jokes and stunts are all part of the experience! Tickets are \$13, \$11 for groups of eight or more.

Finishing up the series is the Bright Star Touring Production of Old MacDonald's Singalong Farm on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 1 pm. Everybody on the farm has a

favorite song. From tunes like "Camptown Races" to classic nursery rhymes like "Hey Diddle Diddle," this fun interactive show has a strong character message of sharing and caring for others and is a great option for kids pre-K+! Tickets are \$12, \$9 for groups of eight or more.

Meadow Brook Theatres season ticket holders receive a 20% discount for tickets to the Children's Series. Tickets are available through the MBT box office and Ticketmaster. You can reach the box office by calling 248-377-3300. For groups of eight or more, call 248-370-3316.

**For additional information on Meadow Brook Theatre, visit [Mbtheatre.com](http://Mbtheatre.com).**



LARGE-SCALE PHOTOGRAPHS of Lakes Erie, Huron, Michigan and Superior are the subject of this exhibition by Detroit area photographer Jeff Gaydash at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Known for his expertise with black-and-white digital printing, Jeff has traveled to coastlines throughout Michigan to capture the sublime beauty and quiet solitude of one of nature's greatest's treasures. The exhibition is on display at the DIA through May 3.

KARL SYDOW  
PRESENTS  
**STING**  
STARRING IN  
**THE  
LAST  
SHIP**  
THE MUSICAL

Photo: Jaime Trapezan

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Info: 313-872-1000, Groups (10+) [Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com](mailto:Groups@BroadwayInDetroit.com) (subject: The Last Ship)  
AD and oc April 24.

## Knee High Naturalists at Stage Nature Center

Troy kids will enjoy the Knee High Naturalists sessions at Stage Nature Center March 12 through May 22.

Children, ages 2-4, with an adult partner will enjoy this March program as they discover the great variety of bird beak shapes and what birds do with their

beaks.

Each Knee-high Naturalist session includes a nature story, hike, activities, craft and a snack. Coming in April, children will learn about our senses by searching for signs of spring.

The fee is \$14 per child and \$11 for nature center members.

Adult partner is free. TNS members can use promo code MEMBER20 for discount pricing.

**Stage Nature Center is located at 6685 Coolidge Hwy in Troy. Learn more at [Stagenaturecenter.org/](http://Stagenaturecenter.org/).**

# FREE Senior Expo

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Complimentary transportation to the museum for groups of 25 or more seniors (55 and older) in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb only. To book, please call 313-833-7883. One pick up/drop off location per group, restrictions apply. Must be registered to qualify for a bus.



Visit [SeniorExpoUSA.com](http://SeniorExpoUSA.com) or call 248-524-4868 for more information

Lighted, secured parking is located east of the DIA on John R St., south of Kirby St. and north of Warren Ave. Daily parking rate is \$7; cash and credit cards are accepted.

## Troy Fire Department warns of potential chimney fire hazard

On the afternoon of January 12, the Troy Fire Department was dispatched to a residential structure fire in the 4000 block of Bristol Drive. The homeowner was having a fire in the fireplace that lead to a fire in the walls, roof and attic area around the chimney.

The cause and origin of the fire was investigated by the department's fire investigation unit, along with an investigator from the insurance company. Their determination was that the fire originated in the chimney. This unit was installed with a metal triple wall chimney system back in the 1970s. This style of chimney is designed to allow air to flow between the two layers of pipe in order to cool the heat and gases flowing up through the inner flue of the chimney. Over the years, debris such as bird nesting material and insulation may have gotten into one of the cooling pipes and prevented air from properly circulating causing heat to build up. As a result, a fire started either within the pipe or in the wall or attic area. During the investigation, the homeowner informed investigators that he had a chimney inspection done four days prior to the fire in his home.

In the 1990s, there were several fires in Troy that involved the Majestic brand metal double and triple wall chimneys in simulated brick exterior enclosures. It was determined that the builder constructing homes in the 1970s used this particular model in most of those homes. The subdivisions of Cypress Gardens, Lansdowne, Windmill

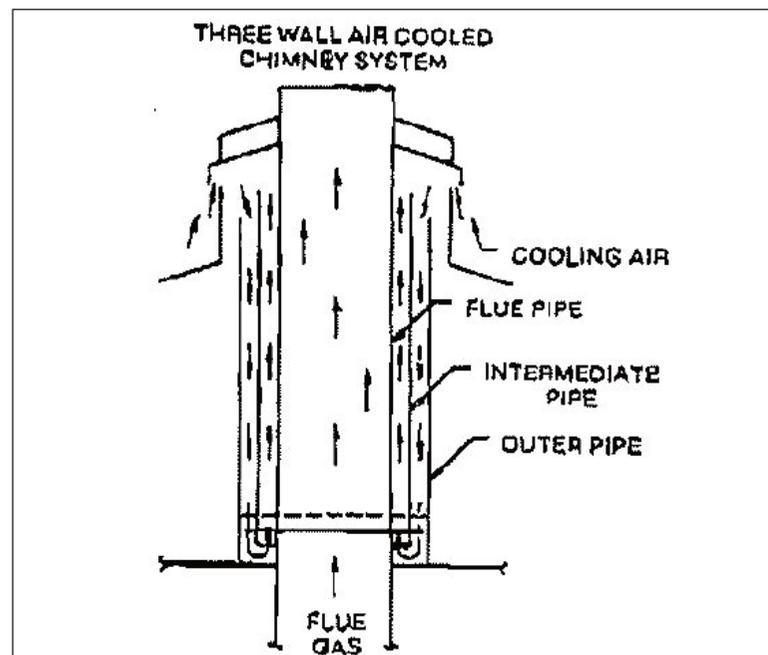
Point and Tallman Street have been identified as having homes with these types of chimney systems and have experienced fires from these same conditions.

The Troy Fire Department is warning residents with triple wall metal chimneys not use their fireplace until the chimney and cap can be inspected and thoroughly cleaned. If you have this type of chimney, the fire department recommends that your chimney be properly disassembled, thoroughly cleaned, and properly reassembled with adequate screening placed around the chimney cap. A simple cleaning and visual inspection is not adequate for this triple wall chimney assembly.

After inspecting several of these chimneys and talking with several chimney installers and cleaners, the Troy fire department has determined that it is unlikely that a cleaning and inspection that is done without completely dismantling the chimney and firebox will guarantee the airflow pipes around the flue are clear of debris. Converting the fireplace to gas logs is also not a guarantee that a fire would not start.

The department suggests that residents look online for qualified chimney contractors that are licensed and insured, and explain the recommendation. They should be able to tell you whether or not they can perform the work.

**If you have any questions concerning this matter, call the Troy Fire Department at 248-524-3419.**



A diagram of a metal triple wall chimney that could be installed in some Troy homes and presents a potential fire hazard.



PICTURED: The Great Greek Mediterranean Grill

# Gazette Spring Dining Guide

## **ANTONIO'S ITALIAN CUISINE**

2505 E. 14 Mile, Sterling Heights  
586-264-5252 • [www.AntoniosItalianCuisine.com](http://www.AntoniosItalianCuisine.com)

## **CK DIGGS**

2010 W. Auburn Rd., Rochester Hills  
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## **DETROIT WING COMPANY**

2928 W. Maple Rd., Troy  
248-940-5229 • [www.DetroitWingCo.com](http://www.DetroitWingCo.com)

## **INSALATA**

1919 E. Big Beaver Rd., Troy  
248-528-2250 • [www.INSALATATROY.com](http://www.INSALATATROY.com)

## **KILGOUR SCOTTISH CENTRE**

2363 Rochester Rd., Troy  
248-526-1849 • [www.detroitscots.com](http://www.detroitscots.com)

## **LEBANESE GRILL**

1600 Rochester Rd, Troy  
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## **MCVEE'S PUB & GRUB**

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248-817-2980 • [www.mcveespubandgrub.com](http://www.mcveespubandgrub.com)

## **NORTH SHACK RESTAURANT**

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## **PAPA ROMANO'S**

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## **SEDONA TAPHOUSE**

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## Lebanese



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## TASTE OF TROY A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

Sunday's 28th Annual Taste of Troy fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club was definitely a successful Biggest Birthday Bash Themed Taste Fest based on the mouth-watering food prepared by Troy's finest restaurants and food establishments and their decorative display booths. This special day also was enjoyed by the event chair, Troy's Communications Director Cindy Stewart. March 1st was her actual birthday.

Even eateries entered other categories slipped in a bit of dessert on their table. There were Cake Pops from Beaumont Hospital Troy, a corporate sponsor along with PNC Bank of the party, that were like little round petit fours that melted in your mouth. But it was their Birthday Punch that was People's Choice for best drink. The critics liked Tim Hortons coffee best.

It was going to be hard to pick winners at this event. While it's no surprise that the Melting Pot's Chocolate Fondue was a winner again, the tempting offerings from Fox & Hounds Pastry Den and the Crispelli's Bakery and Pizza's Cheesecake were pretty tempting for voters, too, I'm sure. Although...if you missed their meatballs, be sure to order them with your pasta when you visit Crispelli's. While not dessert, Eats & Crafts @Escape's (think bowling alley at Square Lake and John ) Lettuce Wraps are as good as any you'll find. Another diner said she couldn't get enough of Maggie's Mac-N-Cheese at Mission BBQ, also an award winner.

The annual food-tasting event offered samplings from 30 area restaurants, along with emcee and popular WDIV Channel 4 Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey, plus fabulous live and silent auction items.

### Critics' Choice Winners:

- Best Appetizer/Soup/Salad**  
Mission BBQ (Maggie's Mac-N-Cheese)
- Best Casual Entrée**  
Billy Sims BBQ (Pulled Pork Slider)
- Best Entrée**  
Great Greek Mediterranean Grill (Lamb Chop with Rice Pilaf)
- Best Dessert**  
Melting Pot of Troy (Chocolate Fondue)
- Best Beverage**

Beaumont Hospital Troy  
(Birthday Punch)

**Best Display**  
Tim Hortons (Mama Llama's Birthday Party)

### People's Choice Winners:

**Best Appetizer/Soup/Salad**  
Sy Thai Troy (Pot Stickers)

**Best Casual Entrée**  
Smashburger (Crispy Chicken Classic)

**Best Entrée**  
Fogo de Chao (BBQ Picanha)

**Best Dessert**  
Achatz Handmade Pie Co.  
(Veronica's Raspberry Divine)

**Best Beverage**  
Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea  
(Ginger Lemon Tea)

**Best Display**  
Nothing Bundt Cake (Magical Birthday themed Booth)

"We want to thank everyone who helped make this year's event such a huge success," said Cindy Stewart, Taste of Troy Chairperson. "Our attendance was excellent, and early tallying indicates we did outstanding on the Live and Silent Auctions. Thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy an afternoon of fun and great food while supporting a great cause. Also special thanks to our emcee WDIV Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey who has supported the Boys & Girls Club of Troy for 15 years! We also had great caricatures from Live Art by Darrell Swift, donating his time to add to the fun; as well as Angels of Grace Awareness bracelets donating a portion of her proceeds to the Club.

Mark your calendars for the 29th annual Taste of Troy on Sunday, March 7, 2021.

# ST. PATRICKS DAY

Tuesday, March 17th  
Open 11am-Midnight

JOIN US FOR POWER HOUR DRINKS ALL DAY

Guinness Irish Stew • Corned Beef & Cabbage

CK Diggs

Restaurant & Bar

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Begins Thursday, March 19th  
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THE CAKE POPS FROM BEAUMONT TROY were a real joy for Emma, 2, as she enjoyed several of the little cakes as her mom, Kristen Suhr, looked on. The annual Taste of Troy event benefitting the Boys & Girls Club of Troy will be held again next year on Sunday, March 7, 2021.

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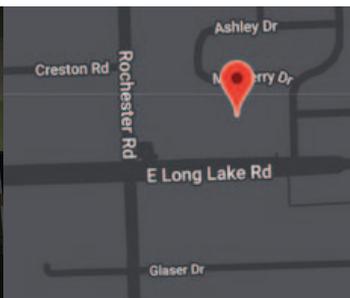
**GRAND OPENING**

***St. Patrick's Day***

OPEN AT 7AM | MARCH 17, 2020

**HAPPY HOUR \$1 OFF ALL DRINKS**

**BEST CORNED BEEF IN TOWN**



LONGTIME SUPPORTERS OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB, Bob and Joann Preston took time out to enjoy the People's Choice award-winning entrée from Fogo de Chao Brazilian Steakhouse, BBQ Picanha, although they agreed the sausage was excellent, too.



THE BIRTHDAY GIRL and chairperson of the 28th Taste of Troy, Cindy Stewart, wanted to thank WDIV Channel 4 Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey for his many years of stepping up to MC this annual event.



AT TASTE OF TROY 2020, Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea won People's Choice for Best Beverage with their Ginger Lemon Tea served by Leen and Stephanie. If you're a coffee lover, order French Vietnamese Au Lait, and add a brownie or blondie for good eating. You'll find them in the new parking deck just straight out from the entrance to The Melting Pot. Photo courtesy of Cindy Stewart, City of Troy

## Health benefits of eating vegetarian and vegan dishes

Cutting meat and other animal products out of your diet won't automatically make you a healthier person. Carnivores and non-vegan vegetarians get a lot of protein and other nutrients from meat, eggs, and dairy products. Therefore, in order to get everything their bodies need, vegetarians and vegans should pay close attention to what they eat. They should look for alternate protein sources as well as non-meat foods that are loaded with vitamins and minerals.

Vegetarians have a little easier than vegans when it comes to eating a balanced diet because eggs and dairy are still on the table (literally). However, vegetarians shouldn't rely on these protein sources alone. While fine in moderation, eggs, cheese, milk, and even some yogurts are high in fat and cholesterol. So, if you are a vegetarian, you should toss some diced tofu into a stirfry from time to time. Or, add some chickpeas to your salad. Speaking of salad, all vegetarians should go extra heavy on the fruits and vegetables, especially the leafy greens. You should also make a conscious effort against simply replacing meat with carbohydrates. While, technically, you can live by bread alone, it really isn't good for you. Besides, that bread is the perfect base for avocado toast – the thing that could turn almost anyone into a vegetarian.

The strictest of vegans do not

consume anything that comes from animals – even honey. And if you fall into this camp, you must plan your diet strategically. Unfortunately, it's easy for vegans to develop vitamin deficiencies or even anemia. With this in mind, if no animal products are on your daily menu, you must look to legumes, nuts, and meat substitutes to fill the void. Lentils are vegans' best friend. These tiny

legumes are loaded with protein and other vitamins and are incredibly versatile. Lentils come in several different varieties and can be used in soups, mashed into patties, and even pounded into flour for bread when dried. For those who don't love beans, tofu is always a good go-to protein source.

"Food should be fun."  
Thomas Keller



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HOURS: Monday - Saturday 8am - 8pm, • Sunday 8am-3pm

**248-273-5600**

Monday - Friday  
Breakfast Specials  
\$4.25 from 8-11am



A FAMILY ACCIDENT kept Billy Sims from this year's Taste of Troy, but his staff are excellent chefs and they served up award-winning Pulled Pork Sliders to be named the Critics Choice for Best Casual Entrée.



TIM HORTONS TROY won Critics Choice for Best Booth at Taste of Troy 2020. Maureen Finnigan and her husband John own all four of these popular donut and coffee shops in Troy. And that lovely Llama to the right is Maureen's mom, always a good sport about Taste of Troy. Photo courtesy of Cindy Stewart, City of Troy



# Family Combo

Large Pizza with Up to 5-Toppings, Large Pizza with 1-Topping & Bambino Bread

## \$27<sup>99</sup>






**NEW** Family Style PIZZA DESSERT



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**EXPIRES 4/5/20**



**PIZZA & WINGZ**  
Large 1-Topping Pizza & Pound of Wingz (Boneless or Regular)

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**EXPIRES 4/5/20**



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Large Pizza with up to 3-Toppings

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**EXPIRES 4/5/20**



**PIZZA & SALAD COMBO**  
Large 1-Topping Pizza & Medium Italian Salad

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### Consistency in a family-run restaurant

CK Diggs, at the corner of Crooks and Auburn in Rochester Hills, is one of those local establishments that is comfortable because it's consistently good. Whether it's lunch with a friend, happy hour, family dinner, or watching the game, CK Diggs fits the bill.

The family-run restaurant was founded by Michael Khami, veteran restaurateur and former owner of Murdock's, and son Chris Khami, the family operation is also helped by daughter Nichole Kirma.

The clientele is local and usually repeat business. The venue is busy for lunch as well as dinner. On Sundays, when the venue is closed, there is often a private event, a shower, birthday party, sports banquet, or family gathering of up to 120 people,

using the space privately.

"You can watch the game or have a drink anywhere," says Chris. "We're family friendly, our food is always good and our staff is attentive."

"Consistency is the key to repeat business. We tweak the menu occasionally, but keep the items that are most popular. And, we have daily specials."

Michael describes the menu as bistro fare. The offerings are varied with some choice items in every category; Think bar favorites, salad entree, and hearty meals, plus a variety of pasta and pizza choices for any taste.

**CK Diggs is located at 2010 Auburn Rd., at the corner of Crooks Rd. in Rochester Hills. For more information or carry-out, call 248-853-6600 or visit their website at Ckdiggs.com/.**

## Make it your own at Insalata in Troy



Can't find exactly what you want on your salad? Make your own at Insalata in the Troy Sports Center Plaza at E. Big Beaver and John R.

Owner Mickey Mardirosian has expanded the salad bar, which now includes dozens of toppings, served over iceberg, romaine, field greens, or spinach. Salads can be covered in your choice of 15 dressings. This way, Mardirosian said, you can have exactly what you want when you make it yourself.

At Insalata, they understand that in today's fast-paced world, convenience and freshness are rare combinations.

Mardirosian has been in the restaurant business for years, so happy customers are his specialty. He came to Troy in 2006 after 22 years in the Detroit financial district. He likes the diversity of the clientele he has in Troy. Kids and teachers from Athens High, which is just up the street from the shop, come in to get food. So do business people from Automation Alley, which is just across Big Beaver.

He said they have so many regular customers because "they can change it up every day."

If customers don't want salad, they have other options. The panini grill menu offers a Tuscan turkey, tuna melt, Troy City reuben, Panini Insalata, Bistro 1919, garden burger panini, or grilled chicken panini. All the sandwiches are reasonably priced at \$6.95 or \$7.50.

Perhaps you want a simpler

sandwich. There's the club Insalata, turkey monterey, tuna or chicken salad, Somerset turkey

and the bonzai veggie. All are priced at \$6.75.

If you want soup with your salad or sandwich, there are six different kinds every day. The popular homemade turkey chili is always on the menu. Or, you might crave a baked potato. You can select from plain, sour cream and chive, cheddar, broccoli and cheddar, bacon and cheddar, ham and cheddar, tuna melt, farmers, or veggie and cheese.

Bring the kids; Mardirosian has a kids' menu, too.

Add one of their tempting smoothies, a milkshake, or malt, and you'll have the energy for a busy day. There are dozens of juices, and fountain drinks, too.

Still have room for dessert? There's frozen yogurt, and best of all, a Sanders hot fudge sundae.

All of these fresh, tasty offerings are available for catering, too. So for that next office gathering or card club, consider something from Insalata. Delivery is free within five miles.

Check the extensive catering menu at [insalatatroy.com](http://insalatatroy.com) or call 248-528-2250 to learn more.

## Dining out with a food allergy

Having a food allergy used to mean dining out was limited to carrying your plate from the kitchen to the porch. Today, however, eating out is a lot easier, and safer, for the 2 million Americans who suffer with a mild, moderate, or even a severe food allergy.

Phone the restaurant ahead of

time and find out what its policy is on serving people with food allergies. Tell the wait staff about your food allergy when you arrive. Make sure to have your food allergy medications with you such as injectable epinephrine and an antihistamine. It is important to always have your emergency medication with you.

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16 pcs batter dipped cod, large broasted potatoes or french fries, cole slaw, 6 rolls and tartar sauce

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Shrimp Special **\$28** *24 Pcs Shrimp, Large Broasted Potatoes, Cole Slaw, 4 rolls & Cocktail Sauce*

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We also have Shrimp, Scallops, and Perch meals!

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100 Pieces . . . . . \$137.00	25-30 Servings (9 Slabs) . \$195.75
150 Pieces . . . . . \$205.50	
200 Pieces . . . . . \$274.00	

Call for prices on any amount

**Wing Dings**

50 Wing Dings . . . . . \$38.00
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50 Tenders . . . . . \$75.00
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Sauce Sold Separately

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<b>Bucket of Chicken</b>	<b>2 Regular Mix</b>
Any regular mix • 12,16 or 24 pc.	<b>4 Piece Chicken Dinners</b>
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## Scottish Friday Night Fish Fry at Kilgour Scottish Centre

Back by popular demand, Kilgour Scottish Centre and St. Andrew's Society of Detroit is hosting a Scottish Friday Night Fish Fry. The next fish fry is March 13 at 4:30 p.m. and will take place every week until April 10.

Come out and enjoy some great food, beverages and Scottish entertainment.

**Kilgour Scottish Centre** is located at 2360 Rochester Ct in Troy. To learn more, call 248-526-1849 or visit [thekilgour.com/](http://thekilgour.com/).

## Sy Thai balances authentic and modern with their approach to Thai Cuisine



POT STICKERS were winners for the staff at Sy Thai at Taste of Troy 2020, and the Spring Rolls were crunchy and delicious, too. They were the winners with the people for Best Appetizer.

# Antonio's

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on the full amount of bill before discount  
Troy Location Only. Exp. 4/13/20 • TSG

Sy Thai in Troy welcomes you to the renaissance of Thai cuisine. This warm, but modern eatery with rich hues on the Golden Corridor at 459 E. Big Beaver offers diners an adventure in eating.

Serving patrons was a family affair at the Taste of Troy as the Yang family served up spring rolls and pot stickers.

At Sy Thai, they have created the perfect ambiance to explore this rich food heritage of flavors you may not have sampled in the past. Their menu is extensive and

you will have to come back again and again to try all these culinary creations.

Give them a try Monday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday from 11 to 11, Saturday from noon to 11 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 10 p.m. There's parking in the front and back of this plaza.

Once it warms up a bit you'll be able to enjoy your Thai favorites on their patio.

To learn more, call 248-817-2694 or visit [SyThaiTroy.com/](http://SyThaiTroy.com/).

## Lebanese Grill keeps it traditional

After many years in the hospitality business, the Charaf brothers and their father, Chef Mike Charaf, envisioned a family owned restaurant. They teamed up to open the Lebanese Grill as a tribute to honor their Lebanese heritage and culture. Now family owned for over 17 years, Lebanese Grill's repeat loyal customers helped them to expand while keeping the business in the family.

For years, Lebanese Grill has prepared authentic Mediterranean food in the Troy, Shelby, and now in Rochester Hills. Their select menu includes the tastes of Lebanon, prepared with fresh homemade ingredients and the love that only a

family owned and operated restaurant can offer.

The personal and attentive service at Lebanese Grill is renowned, and the restaurant accommodates intimate dinners for two, as well as families, groups or larger private parties.

Whether you are a Lebanese connoisseur or new to Mediterranean delicacies, a meat lover, vegetarian, or vegan, treat your taste buds to an evening of delight to experience great food and culture.

Lebanese Grill is located at 1600 Rochester Rd in Troy. To learn more, call 248-526-1444 or visit [Lebanesegrill.com/](http://Lebanesegrill.com/).

## Sedona Taphouse delights Taste of Troy guests



SEDONA TAPHOUSE at 198 E. Big Beaver served Desert Fire Jalapenos and Devil's Pass Pasta at Taste of Troy. Welcoming guests were Joel Anderson and Samantha Neitzel. The Monds charity in March at Sedona is St. Jude's Hospital for Children. You get a flatiron steak for \$7.00 or salmon for \$10 and you just have to add a beverage to help this charity. Photo courtesy of Cindy Stewart, City of Troy

There's always a line of hungry guests at Sedona's station at the annual Taste of Troy fundraiser for the Boys & Girls Club of Troy, and this year was no exception.

Sedona's beverage selection is vast, with dozens and dozens of craft beer options, and a very long wine and spirits list of offerings. And, the food is exceptional, too. Lunch features artisan sandwiches and salads. At dinnertime, you'll find the menu is extensive, with starters, salads, meats and seafood, pasta, wood-grilled offerings, and dessert.

Sedona uses only antibiotic-

free, cage-free, hormone-free poultry and sustainably harvested seafood. They also have gluten-free, heart healthier and vegetarian options, which are indicated on the menu.

You'll find Sedona Taphouse at 198 E. Big Beaver, just east of Livernois. Reservations are recommended. Call 248-422-6167.

They do have Happy Hours too, even on weekends from, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and late night, too.

As the weather improves, it won't be long before you can enjoy your visit on their rooftop patio.

## Troy Restaurant Week returns

Enjoy savory seasonal menus crafted just for Troy Restaurant Week from Sunday, March 8 through Friday, March 13.

The week-long event features 20 fine dining and family restaurants throughout Troy. Most menus include three courses and five. You can make reservations and view menus at [Troyrestaurantweek.com/](http://Troyrestaurantweek.com/).

During your meal, no need to put away your cellphone. To

engage patrons, the Troy Chamber will be hosting the "Oh Snap!" photo contest. Patrons are encouraged to share a snapshot of their Troy Restaurant Week experience via social media by posting a photo to Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram and using the hashtag #OhSnapTRW20.

**For more information, visit [Troyrestaurantweek.com](http://Troyrestaurantweek.com) or contact the Troy Chamber at 248-641-8151.**



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## Picano's Italian Grille: Friendly, comfortable, and always serving great Italian dishes

Since 1985, Picano's Italian Grille at 3775 Rochester Road, south of Wattles, has been offering a true Italian dining experience. Homemade is the keyword at Picano's where they specialize in house-made ravioli, gnocchi, lasagna and those always tempting garlic rolls.

Domenic Picano and his staff delighted guests at the Taste of Troy as always.

Domenic Picano came to Detroit and his one passion was food. While he started in pizza in Detroit, he always wanted to have a place that featured the old-country recipes like his

grandmother made in their native Cassino, Italy.

With Picano's, he has built a friendly, comfortable place that serves great food. There are four big-screen TVs in the lounge, where you can sip beer and watch the game, or perhaps try wines from Italy or the Napa Valley. It's also a great place to hold a retirement dinner, a birthday party, or any special event. They can accommodate from 15 to 100 guests in their three private dining rooms and there's no room charge. In addition, they'll cater to your home or office.

Pino Marelli entertains guests

with live music every Tuesday and Thursday (except the second Tuesday of the month) starting at 6 p.m.

Another weekly occurrence to keep in mind is Picano's dinner special every Monday and Tuesday. Buy one dinner special and get the second half off.

The extensive wine collection at Picano's is tempting for those that enjoy good conversation over a few glasses. Enjoy half off select bottles of wine and 25% off bottles over \$60 every Wednesday at Picano's.

**Make your reservations today by calling 248-689-8050.**



THE FOLKS AT PICANO'S ITALIAN GRILLE have been great supporters of the Boys & Girls Club as a restaurant in the Taste of Troy for close to 20 years! Diners enjoyed Arancini di Riso at the birthday party. photo courtesy of Cindy Stewart, City of Troy



# Easter Day Brunch

**Italian Grille**  
Lunch • Cocktails • Dinner

**Sunday, April 12 • 10:30 am - 7 pm**

**Adults \$29.95 • Children 5-12 \$17.95**

**Children under 5 Guests of the House**



**Featured Items Include:**

- Gourmet Omelette Station
- Breakfast Station
- Leg of Lamb Carving Station
- Prime Rib Carving Station
- Pork Florentine
- Oven Roasted Chicken
- Chicken with Mushroom Sauce
- Fish of the Day
- Peel & Eat Shrimp
- Pasta Primavera
- Mostaccioli
- House Hand Made Beef Ravioli & Gnocchi
- Assorted Vegetables
- Assorted Salads
- Assorted Desserts

**Tuesday & Wednesday Dinner Special**

**Buy 1 Dinner Entree & Get the 2nd 50% OFF!**

Second entree equal or lesser value. Valid for dinner 4pm-close. Not valid on holidays. May not be combined with any other offer. Dine-in only. No coupon necessary. Limit 3 offers per table.

**Thursday Wine Special**

**50% OFF Select Bottles of Wine**

**25% OFF Select Bottles over \$60**

Dine-in only. Available for lunch or dinner.

3775 Rochester Rd. Troy • (248) 689-8050

Let Picano's Italian Grille do the cooking for your special occasion. Banquets & Catering! For more information go to [www.picanos.com](http://www.picanos.com)

Open 7 Days • Tues.-Thurs. 11am-9:30pm • Fri. 11am-10:30pm • Sat. Noon-10:30pm  
Sun. Noon-9pm • CLOSED ON MONDAYS



BEAUMONT TROY was a corporate sponsor of the Taste of Troy, and Executive Chef Greg Koons knew exactly what would make guests smile: Birthday Punch and Cake Pops. That punch was the public's favorite beverage in the voting.



NATURALLY, SHIELD'S OF TROY served pizza to patrons, as well as Cajun Chicken Pasta. Taking care of diners at the Taste of Troy were Jules Hawley, owner Paul Andoni, and Ashley Walker.

## How much should you tip when dining out at a restaurant?

Tipping expectations vary by culture and by service industry. Although tipping is a common practice in the United States in some other cultures or situations, giving a tip is not expected, and offering one could even be considered condescending or demeaning.

In the United States a tip is not legally required and the amount of the tip is at the discretion of the customer. However, it is important to understand cultural expectations of leaving a tip, as leaving an inadequate tip amount can be considered bad etiquette or even unethical.

Restaurants only pay a small portion of their employees' salaries; tips provide the rest. In many states, including Michigan restaurants are legally allowed to pay servers below minimum wage. The server's income is then supplemented with the service they provide – tips. Tips can constitute over 60 percent of a server's total earning. This means servers are paid based on a reward system: the person receiving the service can pay the server according to the quality of their performance. The better service the server provides, the more they are tipped.

It is also common for servers

to give portions of their tip to the restaurant's support staff. At the end of their shift, servers often pay a certain percentage of their sales to other staff members such as the kitchen staff, bartender, and bussers who do not receive tips directly.

When a customer leaves a small tip, the server receives less from the tipping pool than other staff. Over 14 percent of all full service restaurants participate in tip pools.

The appropriate amount to tip servers depends on your service. Typically, 15% is appropriate for average service; 20% if your server is above average. You should feel free to tip above 20% if you received excellent service. If you received poor service, it is better to talk to the manager than skip on the tip. Leaving no tip does not correct the problem of poor service.

Some restaurants have found that big groups with a bigger bill tend to tip very little. In an effort to avoid this issue, many restaurants add an automatic gratuity to parties of six or more; often the gratuity is set at 18%. If you have a party of six or more, you should verify that the gratuity is being added to the bill to avoid double tipping.

It is customary to calculate tips prior to tax. However, many people use the total bill for the ease of calculating or to be more generous. Servers have to pay tax on their tip as well as share the tip with other support staff members. Many people feel that giving tip after the tax amount is fair, ensuring that their server receives a larger amount.

For an easy way to figure out a 20% tip, a good rule of thumb is to round off your total, double the amount, and then add one decimal point. For example, if your check total is \$42.86, round off to \$43, then take \$43 and double it (multiply by 2), which is \$86. Add a decimal point by moving it one place to the left, which would be \$8.6. Therefore \$8.60 is a 20% tip on \$43.

For an easy way to figure out 15% tip, round off your total, divide by 2, then add that amount to the total and move the decimal point one over to the left. For example, \$27.75 rounded off is \$28. Then divide \$28 by 2, which is \$14. Take \$14 and add it to the total of \$28, which is \$42. Move the decimal one place to the left and the tip amount is \$4.20.

– Source: Table Agent

## Imagine offers special for Restaurant Week

Enjoy \$2 off a large combo at select Imagine theatres March 8 through Friday, March 13.

In honor of Imagine Entertainment sponsoring Troy Restaurant Week, they have a special deal for those who dine in during the week.

Troy Restaurant Week allows patrons to dine in and enjoy a seasonal prix fixe menu with special pricing at participating restaurants.

To celebrate the week of

restaurant deals, Imagine is offering \$2 off a large combo at participating Imagine Theatre locations. This offer can be redeemed by showing your receipt from dining at any one of the participating locations during Troy Restaurant Week.

Don't miss out on your chance to enjoy a large combo for \$2 off at select Imagine Theatres. For a complete list of participating restaurants, visit:

Troyrestaurantweek.com/.

**Join us for  
St. Patrick's Day &  
March Madness**

**Happy Hour  
MON-FRI  
11am-6pm**

**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 \$24.99

- 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

*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 / \$24.99**

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.  
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## Troy Police launch new community event with local eateries



IT LOOKS LIKE THE TROY POLICE might have more than just hot dogs at this year's annual Open House on May 2. Sgt. Pete Minton and Officer John Julian invite restaurants to join them at this event to showcase all they offer.

The Troy Police Department is looking for local restaurants to join them for a new community outreach initiative. On Saturday, May 2, the Troy Police plan to host their Annual Open House and community gathering from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will feature a "taste of" event called Troy's Finest Feast to encourage community members to mingle with their local officers and neighbors.

Participating restaurants are asked to come and meet the local community and show people what they have to offer by providing

complimentary samples. Participation is free and restaurants are welcome to promote their business.

Other attractions at the Open House include police vehicle displays, bounce houses, station tours, K9 demos and more.

Join the Troy PD in making this community event fantastic. If interested, contact the Community Services Section at [brodericme@troymi.gov](mailto:brodericme@troymi.gov) or 248-619-7263 to reserve your spot.

This outdoor event will happen at the Troy Police Department, 500 W. Big Beaver.



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### FISH FRY

*Sit down and enjoy a delicious traditional fish & chips supper. Includes: beer-battered fried cod or non-battered baked cod, fries, coleslaw, and coffee, tea or iced tea.*

**Each Friday  
February 28 - April 10, 2020  
from 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
Dine in or Carry out**

**3 piece - \$12 • 2 piece - \$10  
Kids Meal - under age 12 - \$5  
(1 piece of fish, fries, applesauce & juice box)  
Clam Chowder - \$4  
Mac n' Cheese - \$4 • Salad - \$3  
Extra piece of fish - \$3 • Applesauce - \$1  
Cash bar**

## The best wines to pair with Italian dishes

### Pinot Grigio

If you are having a classic pesto dish, then pair it with a classic wine. Pinot Grigio is known for its robust yet simple flavor, and is a white wine that will bring out the charm of pesto. If you are having bread with your meal, talk to your waiter about the best types of bread that will bring out the most flavor in your wine choice so you can fully complement your meal.

### Chianti

Chianti is perhaps one of the most popular wines to pair with Italian dishes. Chianti is a very dry red wine that goes best with a cheese dish or a light salad, although you can pair Chianti with any meal for a true Italian culinary experience. Ask your waiter what dishes they recommend in their restaurant for Chianti wine so you can enjoy both your drink and your meal to its fullest.

### Chardonnay

Any creamy Italian dish calls for a flirtatious chardonnay. Pair chardonnay with Alfredo dishes or any cuisine that calls for a lighter meat, such as chicken or clams.

### Zinfandel

The richer the red sauce you have in your pasta or pizza dish, the more tangy and bold you want your red wine to be. An excellent choice is Zinfandel, which not only matches the rich tones of a zesty pasta sauce note for note, but adds its own flair to tantalize your taste buds.

### Pinot Gris

Seafood dishes call for a fruity wine. Pinot Gris fits the bill and brings out the creamy opulence of lobster, crab, clam, oyster and calamari dishes.

**248-526-1849**

Email: [kilgour@detroitscots.com](mailto:kilgour@detroitscots.com)  
or visit [www.detroitscots.com](http://www.detroitscots.com)



## Coulter, Meisner boast Oakland County's AAA bond rating

Oakland County Executive David Coulter's management team was viewed as "very strong" by Standard and Poor's (S&P) when they assigned a AAA long-term rating to Oakland County.



**Oakland County Executive David Coulter**

Coulter and team, with a bipartisan group of Commissioners, met with S&P last week to describe ambitious plans and continued adherence to strong fiscal policies.

"My administration is committed to balanced budgets, fiscal responsibility, and moving Oakland County forward together. That is what my team presented to S&P and it is great to now have their validation with the highest rating possible - AAA," Coulter

said. "This rating is positive news for the residents of the county because it allows us to cut the price tag of government."

The AAA bond rating will enable the county to finance two bond issues at the best market rates possible, saving a significant amount of money. One bond issue is for the Oakland County Building Authority which will include a new public safety radio system. The other for a Water Resources Commissioner project in Farmington Hills.

"It has been my top priority to keep this AAA hallmark of Oakland County's economic prowess while leveraging our strengths and addressing our challenges. As I said at the State of County, we can be fiscally responsible with the taxpayer's money and forward-thinking," Coulter said.

S&P said in a report published online that their rating reflects Oakland County's "very strong management, with strong financial policies and practices..." They also acknowledged the recent change in administration and "continued adherence to strong policies and comprehensive planning."

The report went on to state their rating is a "reflection of what we consider to be a large amount of discretionary spending, low fixed costs, and our positive view of the management team, which actively monitors the budget and is capable of anticipating and addressing challenges."

Oakland County Treasurer Andy Meisner said, "Oakland County's AAA bond rating saves taxpayers real money and shows the continued importance of fiscal responsibility. I have been proud for the last 10 years to be part of the effort to protect this critical AAA bond rating."



**Oakland County Treasurer Andy Meisner**

Another ratings decision is also expected this week from Moody's Investor Service.

The county's financial management strategy includes a three-year rolling budget, a five-year fiscal plan, maintenance of equity in the Delinquent Tax Revolving Fund, and low debt liabilities.

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS AVONDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### INVITATION TO BID

#### #1190 - Avondale School District - Woodland Elementary Lighting and Boiler Replacement

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 lighting and boiler replacement work at 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, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. 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](mailto: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, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020** 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 **Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> 2020 at 4:00pm** at Woodland Elementary School - 6465 Livernois, Troy, MI 48098. Please meet in the main lobby. **This walk through is not mandatory, but highly recommended.**

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 March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**.

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

## "A transit solution is vital to the region"

Oakland County Executive David Coulter issued the following statement in response to today's developments on regional transit in the Michigan Legislature:

"To move forward as a region we must fix our inadequate transit system. It has economic and quality of life consequences for Oakland County and our region if we don't better compete with other regions across the country. I'm dismayed that Republicans in the legislature fueled by false information won't give us the tools we need to develop a plan to put before the voters. Ultimately it should be up to the voters to decide this issue. I'm committed to continuing efforts with local communities to improve mobility throughout Oakland county as we find a path forward as a region."

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# Fine, you robbed the place, but did you have to throw eggs everywhere?

## POLICE PATROL



### ■ **WON'T LEAVE HOTEL ROOM**

At 3:30 in the morning, officers responded to Hawthorne Suites on the report of subjects refusing to leave after being evicted from their room by hotel security. The officers spoke with a 20-year-old woman who rented

the room but would not leave after demanding her deposit back which she was not entitled to. After being warned several times she would be arrested if she did not depart, which she did not do, she was arrested and charged with Trespassing.

### ■ **STALKING AND RESISTING**

This victim said she noticed her ex-boyfriend's car parked in the apartment complex parking lot and when she went to close the drapes, she saw him looking at her. Responding officers located the 56-year-old man walking toward his gray 1999 Buick Lesabre. As the officers approached, the subject got into the driver's seat. The officers

reminded the subject that he was warned earlier in the year that if he returned to the apartment complex area, he would be arrested for trespassing. When the officers advised him that he was going to be arrested, he attempted to start the vehicle. The officers needed to forcibly remove him from the vehicle as he resisted their attempts to arrest him. He was eventually placed into handcuffs and charged with Trespassing, Hinder and Obstruction of a Police Officer, and Stalking.

### ■ **ROAD RAGE WITH A GUN**

A driver was involved in a traffic altercation with the driver of a tan 2015 Kia Optima while traveling

on the freeway. At one point during the verbal exchange between the two, the victim said the female driver flashed a gun at him out of her window. The driver of the Kia also contacted officers, indicating she was involved in a traffic altercation with the victim. The responding officers met with the female driver in a parking lot off Crooks Road, South of Interstate 75, who confirmed that she owned a firearm which was located in the trunk of her vehicle. At first, the 30-year-old woman denied flashing the gun but later admitted she did show it to the other driver as she felt she was in danger. The weapon, a silver and black Kahr semi-automatic handgun, was recovered from the trunk of her vehicle. She was arrested and is awaiting formal charges.

■ **"NOT A LOT"** – A Troy officer initiated a traffic stop on the driver of a white Pontiac G6 for a traffic violation and noticed the driver was driving erratically. The officer spoke with the driver, a 22-year-old woman, and noted an odor of alcohol emanating from inside the vehicle. When asked, the driver admitted to consuming alcohol but said "not a lot." She was asked to perform several sobriety evaluations to which she did but the officer noted that she performed poorly. She submitted to a Preliminary Breath Test with a result of .166%. She was arrested and charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol – 1st Offense.

■ **"NOT THAT MUCH"** – An officer initiated a traffic stop on the driver of a silver Toyota 4Runner for a traffic violation. The officer spoke with the driver, a 32-year-old man from Illinois, and noted an odor of alcohol emanating from inside the vehicle. When asked, he admitted to having consumed alcohol but stated, "not that much." He was asked to perform several sobriety evaluations to which he did but the officer noted that he performed poorly. He refused to submit to a Preliminary Breath Test and was arrested. He was transported to the Troy Police Lock-up Facility where he was read his Chemical Test Rights but refused to submit to a Breath Test. A search warrant for a Blood Test was drafted and signed by a local Magistrate. The search warrant was executed and the driver's blood was drawn by medical personnel. He was charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol – 1st Offense pending laboratory results.

### ■ **PUTTING A CHILD AT RISK**

– This Troy officer responded to the area on a report of a silver Jeep Compass driving on the closed section of the freeway. The driver was directed off the closed freeway by the construction workers. The officer approached the vehicle and spoke with the driver, who verbally identified himself. The driver admitted to not having a driver's license. The officer observed a small child sitting in the back seat who was asleep. The child was later determined to be four years old and was not seat belted nor in a car seat. The officer noted an odor of marijuana emanating from inside the vehicle and an odor of alcohol emanating from the driver. He was asked to perform several sobriety evaluations to which he did but the officer noted that he performed poorly. He submitted to a Preliminary Breath Test with a result of .164%. He was arrested and charged with Operating a Motor Vehicle While Under the Influence of Alcohol – 1st Offense, No License on his Person, Driving While License Expired, and Child Endangerment. The suspect is awaiting arraignment. The child was transported to the police station by other officers and turned over into the custody of his grandmother.

### ■ **PERHAPS SOMEONE HAD A GRUDGE**

A house-sitter came to the residence to discover that someone had broken out the basement window to gain entry into the home. It appears the suspect threw eggs in the interior of the house and the garage, including against two vehicles parked in the garage, against the living room window, and against a picture in the kitchen. It is unknown at this time if anything had been taken as the home owners are returning from vacation. It appears the entire home had been gone through by the suspect. A jewelry box was found to be empty.

### ■ **STOP BUYING GIFT CARDS FOR STRANGERS**

This victim received a voicemail from a subjects he believed was from the United States Social Security Administration. He called the number back and was advised to empty his family's bank account and buy gift cards in order to avoid his mother being arrested. The victim did as requested, purchasing \$9,200 worth of gift cards, providing the serial numbers to the cards over the phone to the subjects before realizing he had been scammed.

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

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\*Restrictions apply. Offer valid through March 31, 2020. For details, visit [wayne-dalton.com](http://wayne-dalton.com)

**Call 248-642-7761 For Details**

# Senior Living

## A mirror image of home at Cranberry Park of Milford



Cranberry Park is an assisted living and memory care facility based in Milford. In addition to the Milford facility which opened in November of 2018, Cranberry Park also operates a facility in Clio and is building its third location in West Bloomfield, set to open in 2021.

Cranberry Park's parent company Opatalis Healthcare Management has also acquired the Beaumont skilled care facilities, and the Shorepoint facility in St. Clair Shores is now a Cranberry Park affiliate.

The facilities at Cranberry Park feel like home, with abundant outside living areas, four living rooms, private and main dining rooms, and plenty of activities.

"At Cranberry Park, we're trying to really break the perception of assisted living and memory care," said Jordan Hicks, Community Relations Director at Cranberry Park of Milford. "Our memory care side is built as a mirror image of our assisted living side. So when someone advances - maybe with dementia or Alzheimer's - we can move them over to our memory care side and they don't have to adjust to a whole new building or move out."

And the memory care side of Cranberry Park has the same great amenities as assisted living including a courtyard, movie theater, salon, spa, and much more.

The biggest difference that the families will see when they take a tour of Cranberry Park is the sheer size, attention to detail, and comfortable atmosphere throughout. It boasts a small boutique setting with 30 rooms on the assisted living side and 25 on the mirrored memory care side. So within the first week, every caretaker knows you by name, what you like to eat, and what your basic needs are.

And when it comes to cost, Cranberry Park is upfront and honest about what it takes to

properly care for their residents. Unlike many assisted living facilities, Cranberry Park operates under an "all-inclusive" pricing model, meaning all services are included.

"We don't add on costs if somebody needs help showering, if somebody needs help eating or dressing, it's all one set price," Hicks said. "That's really what sets us apart."

Quality of care is the main priority at Cranberry Park, and getting to know the residents is

one of the things that Jordan Hicks values most about being there.

"One of our memory care residents was talking about how much she enjoys her collection of Elvis movies, so I was able to stop what I was doing and put Speedway on in our community movie theatre for her," Hicks said. "Sitting with her and seeing the smile on her face really made my day. At one point I mentioned that Elvis had incredible hair she replied with 'Elvis has incredible everything!'"

See for yourself why Cranberry Park stands out among the others. To schedule a tour, call 248-482-9800. For more information, visit CranberryPark.net or find them on Facebook at Facebook.com/MilfordMI/.

**Cranberry Park will be a presenting sponsor at the Early Bird Senior Expo on Thursday, April 23 from 7:45 a.m. at the Somerset Collection of Troy. Learn more at SeniorExpoUSA.com/.**

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<p><b>April 15</b> - Vera Bradley \$85 pp ALMOST FULL</p> <p><b>April 17</b> - Bingo Mania \$45 pp DON'T WAIT. TRIP FILLS FAST</p> <p><b>April 21</b> - Kiss Me I'm Russian \$68 pp</p> <p><b>April 28</b> - Butterflies Are Blooming - Frederik Meijer Gardens \$75 pp</p> <p><b>May 5</b> - Cinco de Mayo - Explore Mexican culture and Cuisine. \$70 pp</p> <p><b>May 7</b> - Tulip Festival - Trip to Holland to enjoy the annual Tulip Festival. Lunch Included. \$90 pp</p> <p><b>May 11-16</b> - The Ark Encounter \$665 pp</p> <p><b>May 15</b> - Clare Quilt Auction \$68 pp</p> <p><b>May 19</b> - Mystery Trip \$65 pp</p> <p><b>May 20 - 22</b> - Baltimore &amp; the Missal Touched by St. Francis \$325 pp dbl occ. \$385 single</p>	<p><b>May 29</b> - Exclusive Mansion Home Tour \$78 pp</p> <p><b>June 4</b> - Bay City and Pinconin \$85 pp</p> <p><b>June 6</b> - Military Dogs: Burial of Heros \$68 pp</p> <p><b>June 7</b> - Historic Detroit French River Cruise \$75 pp MUST REGISTER BY 3/31 ONLY.</p> <p><b>June 8-12</b> - Mackinac Island and Sault Sainte Marie \$585/pp/Dbl occ.</p> <p><b>June 9</b> - Blues Brothers at Bavarian Inn \$99 pp</p> <p><b>June 16</b> - Foodie Tour of Detroit \$70 pp</p> <p><b>June 27</b> - NEW DATE Hot Air Balloons Galore \$55 pp</p> <p><b>June 30</b> - Wineries &amp; Hills of Ohio \$90 pp</p>
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10 person minimum per departure

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2020 Expo

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## Take a trip to Baltimore with Step on Bus

Baltimore is the place to see a very unusual display. The St. Francis Missal is an intimate exhibition that features approximately 17 objects, including manuscripts, paintings, ivories, ceramics, and documentation of the Missal's recent two-year conservation funded by the Mellon Foundation.

In 1208, St. Francis of Assisi and two followers were debating what God's plan for them might be. Unable to agree, they sought answers at the church of San Nicolò in Assisi, Italy, where Francis often attended. They opened the Missal, which sat on the altar, three times at random and in every case, the text on the page urged renouncing earthly goods. This pivotal moment laid the foundation for the Franciscan order. Due to this possible contact with the saint, Franciscans worldwide consider the book now known as the St. Francis Missal to be a relic of touch, and many make pilgrimages to Baltimore to see it.

The exhibition also will feature several other objects, including paintings, ivories and ceramics of different time periods.

In addition to items related to St. Francis' contribution to the Franciscan movement, there will be objects connected with St. Clare, the first woman to follow St. Francis, and St. Anthony of Padua, who was focused on preaching and spreading the Franciscan message, Herbert said.

Take a trip to Baltimore to see the exhibit with Step on Bus Tours May 20-22. Stay at the Inner Harbor Hotel, walking distance to Little Italy, Belle's Pointe, the Aquarium and more.

Steps from the hotel is the historic Baltimore Basilica, built from 1806-1821, was the first great metropolitan cathedral constructed in the United States after the adoption of the Constitution.

There will also be a guided tour of downtown Baltimore and plenty of opportunities for fresh crab cakes.

The cost for the hotel, breakfast, and roundtrip motorcoach with a box lunch and heavy snacks is \$325 per person with double occupancy and \$385 for single occupancy. Lunch and dinner is included on May 20, with lunch and dinner on your own May 21 and 22.

**To learn more, or register, email [steponbustours@gmail.com](mailto:steponbustours@gmail.com).**

# CLASSIFIEDS

March 9, 2020



## Troy-Somerset Gazette

Established in 1980 by Claire M. Weber

**Publisher**  
Mark Nicholson

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Andrew Neal

**City Editor**  
Cynthia Kmett

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### SERVICES

**WINDOW CLEANING LEAVES IN GUTTERS COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL TOM MICOLI - 313-656-9402** 2/5

### LANDSCAPING

Morgan's Lawn and Landscape Fast, friendly and affordable. Free estimate. Call Jake at 248-720-8966. 2/3

### SUMMER CHILDCARE

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### HELP WANTED

Software Developer needed to design, create and build TIBCO domains and Implement Enterprise Application Integration (EAI) solutions using TIBCO Business Works and TIBCO Admin, and Enterprise Message Service. Gather requirements and detailed specifications for the EAI Implementation. Senior Software Engineer needed to develop and create software applications solutions. Analyze user needs and develop software solutions. Involved in design, testing and implementation of various software systems and applications for control and automation of various processes. May analyze and resolve risks and design databases within an application area. All of the above duties will be performed using wide variety of tools, but most importantly MS Dynamics AX, MS Dynamics CRM, and MS Power BI. Work locations for all positions will include Troy, MI and also at various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. as assigned which may require relocation. Not all positions require all skills. Applicants for all positions must specifically identify all education & experience relevant to job offered. Applicants should identify clearly which position they are applying for in their cover letter. Mail all resumes to Attn: HR, Teksoft Systems Inc. 850 Stephenson Hwy Ste.202, Troy, MI 48083. 1/1

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

Carpets Re-stretched and repaired. Vinyl floors repaired too! Lifetime guarantee. 32 years experience. Great references. Call Steve, 248- 909-7486. 3/13

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### ADOPT A PET

Brisket



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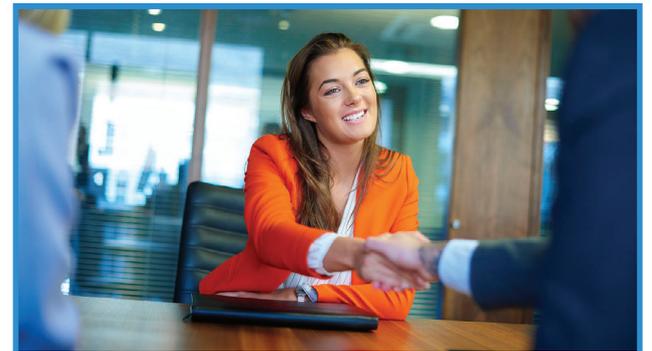
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Troy-Somerset  
**Gazette**

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

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

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.

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