



# troy-somerset GAZETTE

Our 32nd Year Serving Troy's Business Community Every Monday

Monday, March 12, 2012  
Vol. 32, No. 29

## Troy Community Center Celebrates 10 Years

In March of 2002 the Troy Recreation Department opened its new Community Center building which included a fitness center, locker rooms, indoor aquatic area, gymnasium and four aerobic/dance studios. More than 1 million visitors of all ages, pass through our doors each year to workout and/or participate in a program/class.

### Join them this month for:

Family Nights on March 10 & 24;  
Day Pass Specials on March 15 & March 30;

Facility Tours; Giveaways;  
ABC's of Nutrition by Whole Foods - Wed, March 21 at 6:30 p.m.

**Check Troy Today** for registration information. For more information, please call 248-524-3484.

## Faces Needed!

A leading IT and network technologies company is testing face recognition software and is searching for a diverse cross sampling of the local population to be photographed. Participants must be at least 20 years of age, of African American or Caucasian descent, (past participation from members of the Asian community has been completed) and available for a one-hour photo session in Troy. Individuals will need to bring five personal photographs to the session (printed on photo paper).

Each participant will receive a \$50 bank card at the conclusion of their photo session. If you are interested in participating, please register by visiting [www.yourfacepays.com](http://www.yourfacepays.com) or call (855) 770-6055.

## Newcomers Date

### Change

The monthly luncheon is March 22 at 11:30 a.m. at O'Connor's Public House in downtown Rochester for "Couponing 101".

## Dining Guide



**RIDLEY'S INCREDIBLE BAKERY CAFÉ** owner Karl Kornack and his wife Vicki were the Critics Choice winners in the Best Dessert/Beverage category for their Mini-Chocolate Desserts at last Sunday's 20th Anniversary PNC Bank Taste of Troy fundraiser for the Boys & Girls Club of Troy.

## The 20th Annual PNC Bank Taste of Troy Was a Tremendous Success

Sunday's 20th Anniversary PNC Bank Taste of Troy fundraiser was definitely a world of flavors based on the mouth-watering food prepared by Troy's finest restaurants.

The annual food-tasting event offered samplings from 27 area restaurants with a World of Flavors theme this year, along with fabulous entertainment by Big Will and the 360 Degrees Band, a live auction emceed by WDIV Channel 4 Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey, and a silent auction. The new Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Jeff Evans was also introduced.

Participating restaurants were judged by a panel of food connoisseurs in the Critics' Choice categories, and attendees voted for their favorites in the People's Choice categories.

### Top honors for Critics' Choice:

Best Appetizer/Soup/Salad - Qdoba Mexican Grill (Mexican Gumbo)

Best Casual Entrée - Tre Monti Ristorante (Sea Scallops with Prosciutto)

Best Entrée - Cafe Sushi (Tonkatsu Curry Rice)

Best Dessert/Beverage - Ridley's Bakery Café (Mini-Chocolate Desserts)

Best Display - Ruth's Chris Steak House

Winners under the Peoples'

### Choice:

Best Appetizer/Soup/Salad - Kona Grill (Ahi Lobster Flatbread)  
Best Casual Entrée - Dickey's Barbeque Pit (Pork Ribs)

Best Entrée - Ruth's Chris Steak House (Beef Tenderloin)

Best Dessert/Beverage - Grand Traverse Pie Company (Apple Crumb Pie)  
Best Display - Orchid Café Fine Thai Cuisine

**Restaurant Milestone Awards** were presented to Shield's of Troy for 20 years of participation; Ruth's Chris Steak House for 15 years of participation; and Achatz Handmade Pie Company, Kim's Restaurant and Ridley's Bakery Café for 10 years of participation.

"We want to thank everyone who helped make this year's event such a huge success," said Cindy Stewart, PNC Bank 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. And special thanks to our emcee WDIV Meteorologist Andrew Humphrey who has supported this event for seven years!

See TASTE OF TROY, page 2

## Police Officer Helps Catch Home Invasion and Larceny Suspect

An off-duty Troy Police Officer recently assisted Shelby Twp. Police Department in the identification and apprehension of a home invasion and larceny from auto suspect.

During the first few weeks of December, 2011 there were multiple larcenies from autos and home invasions in Shelby Township. Purses and other personal items were stolen from unlocked cars. Snow blowers and other personal items were stolen from open garages.

While off-duty, a Troy Officer witnessed a male subject attempt to enter a vehicle parked in a driveway in a Shelby Twp. subdivision at 9:45 pm on Dec. 12, 2011. The officer alertly called Shelby Twp. Police Department and subsequently the suspect - Shady Bin Emad-Sami Karim, age 23 of Shelby Twp. was placed under arrest by Shelby Twp Police and charged with "Attempt Larceny from Auto." (Shelby PD #11-48095)

Karim's bond conditions as set by 41-A Shelby District Court were to commit no further crimes and he was released on a \$1,000 personal bond.

The Troy Police also charged and arrested Karim for "Tamper with Auto" as a result of a vehicle he entered in Dec., 2010 in the City of Troy. He posted bond of \$5,000 and was released Dec. 23, 2011.

While out on bond from the Shelby and Troy charges, more larcenies from autos occurred in the same general area

in Shelby Twp. where Mr. Karim was originally arrested. Additional investigations conducted by the Shelby Police into those thefts generated evidence which led to the issuance of a search warrant for Karim's home in Shelby Twp.

Evidence obtained during that search resulted in more charges against him - "Larceny in a Building" and "Receiving and Concealing Stolen Property." His original bond was revoked and a new bond amount was set at \$5,000 (for Violating bond conditions) \$5,000 (Larceny in a Building) and \$1,000 (for Receiving & Concealing Stolen Property). On Tues., Feb. 28th Karim pled guilty to all three charges at 41-A District Court in Shelby. Karim was sentenced to 30 days in Macomb County Jail and 1 year probation.



KARIM

Karim also had a pre-trial hearing at 52-4 District Court in Troy before Judge Kirsten Hartig on March 1, 2012. The pre-trial was adjourned, however Karim's bond was increased from \$5,000/10% cash surety to \$8,000 cash. Karim's next court date at 52-4 District Court is Tues., March 6th at 11 a.m. before Judge Hartig.

## City More Efficient With 4G

by CYNTHIA KMETT

"We have stepped into 2012," says Troy Planning Director R. Brent Savidant. It's allowing the city a 40 percent increase in enforcements over previous years...and technology. Troy residents are saving hours of time and so are inspectors from the City of Troy Building and Planning Department, thanks to 4G technology which was recently introduced.

"It allows us to do our work at a higher rate of proficiency," observes Housing and Zoning Inspector Gary Bowers. Those working in the field are now connected directly to the office by phone and email.

"Prior to 2010, we had zero G's," Savidant notes. In the past, a complaint or problem would be called into the department, a secretary would take the

See 4G TECHNOLOGY, page 3



WITH THE POWER OF a new 4G system, members of the city's code enforcement team, like Housing and Zoning Inspector Gary Bowers, pictured in his truck receiving a message that someone is dumping hazardous waste in the city's sewer system, can now respond to the location in minutes.

“Car sickness is the feeling you get when the monthly payment is due.”  
— Author Unknown

“The shortest distance between two people is a smile.”  
— Author Unknown

“I love spring anywhere, but if I could choose I would always greet it in a garden.”  
— Ruth Stout

## Good Choices Rule at Taste of Troy

From TASTE OF TROY, page 1

Thanks to his hard work, the Live Auction brought in record profits again this year.”

During the event, attendees sampled food from the following premier restaurant and food establishments, including: Achatz Handmade Pie Company, Brio Tuscan Grill, Café Sushi, Cedar Grille, Dickey’s Barbeque Pit,

Club of Troy, a nonprofit organization that provides educational and recreational activities, in addition to counseling programs for more than 1,200 children in Macomb and Oakland counties.

For thirty-four years, Boys & Girls Club Troy has provided an exciting place for school-age youth. Now, able to accommodate over 1,200 members, the Club offers programs in the following core



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P.F. CHANG’S CHINA BISTRO is always a favorite with patrons at the PNC Bank Taste of Troy. Their Minced Chicken in Soothing Lettuce Wraps were served up by General Manager Ted Teeter and his amazing helpers, his family. In the front are Natalia and Emmelia and behind the serving station are Cecilia and Nino, with Dad.

Edible Arrangements, El Charro, Grand Traverse Pie Company, Kim’s Restaurant, Kona Grill, La Marsa, Loccino Italian Grill & Bar, Maggiano’s Little Italy, Noodles & Company, Orchid Café - Fine Thai Cuisine, P.F. Chang’s China Bistro, Papa Vino’s Italian Kitchen, Priya Indian Cuisine, Qdoba Mexican Grill, Ridley’s Bakery Café & Catering, Ruth’s Chris Steak House, Salsarita’s, Shield’s of Troy, Slab ‘N Slice Ribs ‘N Pizza, TGI Friday’s Troy, Tim Hortons, and Tre Monti Ristorante.

Sponsors included PNC Bank, San Marino Club, HAP, Genisys Credit Union, Hartland Insurance Group, HMS Manufacturing Co., Kiwanis Club of Troy, Meritor, and Mike Savoie Chevrolet.

All proceeds from the PNC Bank Taste of Troy benefit the Boys & Girls

areas: character and leadership development, educational and career development, health and life skills, sports fitness and recreation, and the arts. The 17,800 square foot Jean & Sam Frankel Family Boys & Girls Club of Troy features a teen room, learning resource center, computer technology center, art design center, games room, multi-purpose room and state-of-the-art gymnasium.

The Club’s trained staff provide after-school programs in a safe environment designed to promote learning. Over 400 members enroll in the ten-week summer program, ensuring that children have a positive place when school is not in session. Local businesses and community organizations contribute scholarships for 70 Club members.

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## New System Equals Results

From 4G TECHNOLOGY, page 1

call and enter it in a log, and when the inspectors came in from the field they would get a list. But they wouldn't get to the problem or concern often until the next day. A 24-hour wait was built into the system

That wasn't good, for example, when residents of one neighborhood called in to say that water was coming out the basement windows of a home on their street. And, every summer the city gets hundreds of complaints on grass that needs cutting. Now those concerns can be addressed almost immediately.

"The new system has enable us to spend more time in the field and enter the results immediately," adds Building Official and Code Inspector Mitch Grusnick. Inspectors used to make notes and give them to a secretary to enter in file. No more. Both Grusnick and Bowers are Register Building Inspectors who can write citations and post "do not occupy" signs if needed.

Now, inspectors use their laptops in the office, and then take them into the field. Using 4G technology, they have real time access to City of Troy servers. This means that everything accessible from the office is equally accessible in the field. While the inspectors had some access to records in the past, it wasn't fast. It took 20 minutes for a map to appear on a screen in the field; now it appears in mere seconds.

Plus, inspection results are immediately entered into the tracking system: e-mails can be sent and received, notices or letters can be written, historical records are accessible - instantly. Anything the inspector needs from the internet or city electronic files to accurately perform their job can be accessed from the field. There is no need to perform these tasks in the office.

Paul Evans, who leads the Code Enforcement team, said their inspectors could be writing letters or notices, tracking inspection requests and results, viewing permits, amending permit statuses, accessing City Ordinances or other web-based information portals (e.g. obtaining license plate information, property ownership information, state license or permit information), e-mailing a neighborhood association contact ordinance information, updating citizen as to the status of their complaint).

## St. Patrick's Dance at the Troy Community Center

The Troy Recreation Department and the Friends of Troy Seniors are co-sponsoring a St. Patrick's Dance on Wednesday, March 14 from 7-10 p.m. at the Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois, Room 304/305.

Tickets are \$7 in advance or \$9 at the door. Register now at the Troy Community Center. Ask for Activity #118912E. Tables for eight may be reserved for \$56, Activity #118912F. Call 248-526-2608 for more information.



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