

CIVIL WAR 150TH ANNIVERSARY
CIVIL WAR PRISONER REMINISCES
ABOUT MONROE IN POEM. PAGE 1C

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THE MONROE SUNDAY NEWS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2013 ■ **MONROENEWS.COM** ■ MONROE PUBLISHING CO. ■ \$1.50

Add your own story to 'Amazing Thing' read

BY DAN SHAW
 Special to The Evening News

We all have a story to tell. We invite you to share yours.

At some time in our lives, we departed from the routine that defines our days and experienced something extraordinary.

It might have been a transcendent moment — a life-changing experience that turned us toward a different path.

Or it might have been an aberration — an occurrence so far from the rest of our life experience that it stood out, remarkable for its uniqueness.

The novel selected for Monroe County's 2013 One Book, One Community program is about stories.

It's about the importance of stories in our lives — about how they've shaped our past and about the healing power of retelling them.

The novel is "One Amazing Thing" by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni. It tells the story of nine people trapped by an earthquake. Faced with the possibility of death, one of them suggests that they share "One Amazing Thing" about their lives. Through their stories, they give us a window into their dreams, their secrets, their fears — as well as insight into their diverse cultures.

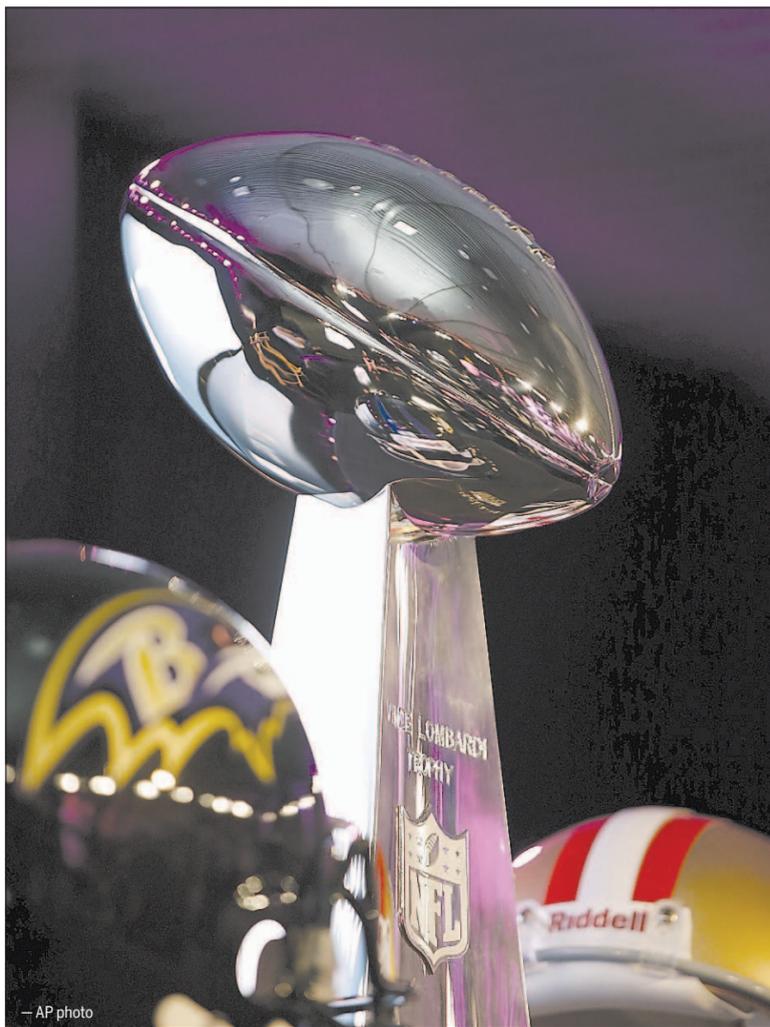
The One Book, One Community program invites you to tell your own amazing story. We'll share your story with the community, in partnership with The Monroe Evening News and Monroe Public Access Cable Television.

You can choose to write your story, in a 200- to 500-word essay, or record your story in a 1- to 3-minute video. The essays chosen will appear in The Monroe Evening News and on www.monroenews.com; the videos will be shown at One Book, One Community events, and some may appear on television on Channel 21 (Comcast) and 95 (Charter).

Send your essay to Share Your Story, Monroe Evening News, 20 W. First St., Monroe, MI 48161 or e-mail your story to saul@monroenews.com. After Monday, you also may go to www.monroenews.com and submit it online. It should be received by March 1.

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Super Bowl Sunday



— AP photo

Big game either a touchdown or huge letdown for area businesses

BY CHARLES SLAT
 ctslat@monroenews.com

Bernie Ochs has been gearing up for one of the biggest sales days of the year — Super Bowl Sunday.

He doesn't run a sub shop, sports bar or place that sells big-screen TVs. He sells diamonds and jewelry.

His business, Carroll/Ochs Jewelers in Monroe, normally is closed on Sunday.

This Sunday, his business will be open, as it has been every Super Bowl Sunday for years.

"We've been doing it for a while," he said. "It's actually probably our biggest event of the year. People wait for it."

Mr. Ochs lures them in with prices on most items halved from suggested retail.

He's among the business owners for which Super Bowl Sunday can be either a feast or famine.

For him and his customers, it's a feast.

The Big Game sale at Carroll/Ochs once was Super Bowl Sunday only.

"It got so big, we couldn't handle it in one day, so now it's Friday, Saturday and Sunday."

"People always talk about Black Friday — the day after Thanksgiving — or the three days before Christmas being the busiest. These three days (before the Super Bowl) are just as big as that."

He says the buyers are mostly women, simply because women buy most of their own jewelry these days.

For other businesses, the Super Bowl can mean slower sales.

Bob Evans is closing earlier because of

See **BUSINESS**, Page 2A

Police plan crackdown on drunken driving

LANSING (AP) — About 70 Michigan law enforcement agencies are planning a crackdown on drunken driving as residents celebrate the Super Bowl this weekend.

The Michigan State Police announced Thursday that law enforcement officers in 20 counties will be working extra through Sunday to target drunk drivers.

The Director of Michigan's Office of Highway Safety Planning says "Michigan law enforcement officers don't

play games when it comes to drunk drivers" and is encouraging residents to use a designated driver.

State police say 166 people were arrested for drunken driving on Super Bowl Sunday last year.

For Michiganians planning to party this weekend, the office recommends choosing a sober driver before the Super Bowl begins and adding numbers for local cab companies in a cell-phone.

SUPER BOWL TRIVIA

FROM NEA

■ The San Francisco 49ers are the only team to appear in multiple Super Bowls without losing — they are 5-0. The Minnesota Vikings and Buffalo Bills are both 0-4 in the Super Bowl.

■ San Francisco scored the most points in a Super Bowl, with 55 in 1990 against Denver. Miami scored the fewest points, with three in 1972 against Dallas.

■ Jerry Rice holds the record for most career Super Bowl points, with 48 spread across four Super Bowls with San Francisco and Oakland.

■ The longest field goal in Super Bowl history was a 54-yarder kicked by Buffalo's Steve Christie in 1994 against Dallas.

■ Super Bowl XXVII in 1993 featured 12 combined fumbles between Buffalo (eight) and Dallas (four).

■ In one of the least desirable Super Bowl records, Oakland's Rich Gannon tossed a record five interceptions in 2003 against Tampa Bay. On the other hand, Oakland defensive back Rod Martin holds the Super Bowl record for most interceptions caught, with three in 1981 against Philadelphia.

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— Evening News photo by TOM HAWLEY

Marianne Chapman of Carroll/Ochs Jewelers shows a few items that are part of the retailer's Super Bowl party and sale.

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No. 33 (USPS 359-400)
 Monroe, Mich.

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TODAY'S OBITUARIES Details, 6-7A

ISABELLE COTÉ, 88, of Erie
ANNE C. DAVIS, 71, of Navasota, Texas, formerly of Monroe
CLIFFORD W. GERBER, 87, of LaSalle
ROBERT (BOBBY) LABOE, 56, of Monroe

STEVE NAGY, 96, of Jackson, formerly of Deerfield
ROSINA V. POBURSKY
JOSEPH D. (DINO) POUPARD, 48, of Monroe

MELANIE L. TAPLEY, 25, of Toledo
BEATRICE M. TREMBLE, 93, of New Boston
SHARON I. WINTER, 72, of Ottawa Lake
MARTHA J. WOLFF, 79, of Grosse Ile
SHIRLEY A. XERRI, 65, of Carleton

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Snow, ice cause crashes, snarl traffic on I-75, US-23

BY EVENING NEWS STAFF

Spinouts and accidents snarled traffic on snowy and slick area roads Saturday.

Monroe County Central Dispatch reported northbound I-75 was shut down at Newport Rd. around 10 a.m. to allow first responders a chance to clear up crashes near S. Huron River Dr. The highway reopened about an hour later.

Around 1:45 p.m., an accident involving a semi-truck and at least two



— Evening News photo by HARRY ORSCHELN

One of the damaged vehicles that was pushed off to the side of the exit ramp off of US-23 to M-50 in Dundee.

vehicles closed both lanes of southbound US-23 just north of M-50, backing up traffic well past the Cone

Rd. exit.

The highway was reopened at about 2:50 p.m. Minor injuries were

reported, with some victims taken to hospitals by ambulance.

Area residents also reported to The Monroe Evening News via Facebook messages other trouble spots, including just north of N. Dixie Hwy. The City of Monroe had some slippery spots in the morning, particularly on side streets.

Early Saturday, the National Weather Service was reporting that an estimated 2 inches of snow fell in the Monroe County region.

Mistakenly freed killer in Chicago recaptured while watching TV

CHICAGO (AP) — Two days after a stunning series of errors allowed a convicted murderer to walk out of a Chicago jail where he did not need to be in the first place, police recaptured the man at a northern Illinois home where he was found watching TV.

Steven L. Robbins, 44, put up no resistance Friday night as police burst through the door of a townhome in Kankakee, about 60 miles south of Chicago, said Cook County Sheriff's Office spokesman Frank Bilecki.

"He was in the living room or kitchen area watching TV, taken by to-

tal surprise," Bilecki said, adding that it appears the homeowner might know an acquaintance of Robbins.

The mistaken release of the prisoner, who was serving a 60-year sentence in Indiana for murder, focused attention on an antiquated corner of the criminal justice system that still relies extensively on paper documents instead of computers in moving detainees around and keeping tabs on their court status.

The episode prompted promises of change, but also some finger-pointing about who was ultimately to blame.

► FROM PAGE 1A

Story (cont.)

You can record your video at the MPACT studios, 20 W. Fifth St. (at of Monroe and Fifth Sts. in downtown Monroe) at one of two times: noon-2 p.m. Saturday or 6-8 p.m. Feb. 12. Call 243-5707 to make an appointment, or just come in during those hours.

More videos also will be recorded at the One Book, One Community kickoff event March 18 at Monroe County Community College's La-Z-Boy Center.

One additional opportunity: You may choose to provide one amazing artifact. Visit the Monroe County Historical Museum from 1 to 4 p.m. April 5 and bring an object of importance to you or your family or community. Museum staff will help you write a description of your "one amazing thing" and put it on display over the next week.

Dan Shaw, former managing editor of The Monroe Evening News, teaches journalism at Monroe County Community College.



— AP photo by KEITH SRAKOCIC

Groundhog Club Co-handler Ron Ploucha holds groundhog Punxsutawney Phil after the club said Phil did not see his shadow and there will be an early spring during the Groundhog Day ceremony Saturday in Punxsutawney, Pa.

Punxsutawney Phil predicts an early spring ...

PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa. (AP) — An end to winter's bitter cold will come soon, according to Pennsylvania's famous groundhog.

Following a recent stretch of weather that's included temperatures well below freezing as well as record warmth, tornadoes in the South and Midwest and torrential rains in the mid-Atlantic, Punxsutawney Phil emerged from his lair Saturday in front of thousands but didn't see his shadow.

Legend has it that if the furry rodent sees his shadow on Feb. 2 on Gobbler's Knob in west-central Pennsylvania, winter will last six more weeks. But if he doesn't see his shadow, spring

will come early. The prediction is made during a ceremony overseen by a group called the Inner Circle. Members don top hats and tuxedos for the ceremony on Groundhog Day each year.

Bill Deeley, president of the Inner Circle, says that after "consulting" with Phil, he makes the call in deciphering what the world's Punxsutawney Phil has to say about the weather.

Phil is known as the "seer of seers" and "sage of sages." Organizers predicted about 20,000 people this weekend, a larger-than-normal crowd because Groundhog Day falls on a weekend this year.

... and so does Buckeye Chuck

MARION, Ohio (AP) — Ohio's prognosticating groundhog says spring will come early to the state.

For the fourth year in the row, Buckeye Chuck sent a signal Saturday that spring will come soon for Ohioans. Buckeye Chuck did not see his shadow at 7:39 a.m. when he made a brief appearance.

Name of 7-year-old killed in Detroit crashes released

DETROIT (AP) — Authorities have released the name of a 7-year-old Canadian boy who died in a mile-long stretch of wrecks on I-75 in Detroit.

The Wayne County medical examiner's office says he's Aidan Hicks of Windsor, Ontario. A stepsister was also killed. Her name hasn't been released. Other family members remain in a hospital.

The children were two of the three deaths in the weather-related chain of wrecks Thursday. The other victim was 54-year-old Menelaos Manolis of Allen Park.

Police believe a sudden snow squall surprised drivers on the slippery urban interstate. As many as 30 cars, SUVs and semi-trailers were crushed, buckled or damaged.

Blasting away snow



— Evening News photo by TOM HAWLEY

John Madden of Ida snowblows his driveway and his neighbor's driveway (above) Saturday morning. "This is the first time I have used this snow blower," said Mr. Madden.



— AP photo/The Marion Star, BILL SINDEN

Marion, Ohio's weather-forecasting groundhog, Buckeye Chuck, makes an appearance at his home at WMRN Radio during the Groundhog Day celebration on Saturday in the Buckeye State.

CRIME BLOTTER

2 arrested on warrant

Two people were arrested at 3 p.m. Friday in the 800 block of E. Third St. in regards to an armed-robbery investigation in Virginia Beach, according to Monroe Police Department records.

The 21-year-old man and a 20-year-old woman, both of Monroe, were taken to the Monroe County jail after Toledo police officers, accompanied by U.S. Marshals, made the arrest on an outstanding warrant.

Thousands mourn Bush's Barney

DALLAS (AP) — Thousands have offered their condolences via Facebook over the death of Barney, President George W. Bush's beloved black Scottish terrier.

Bush and his wife, Laura, released a statement Friday saying their famous 12-year-old pooch had died after suffering from lymphatic cancer.

"Barney was by my side during our eight years in the White House," Bush said. "He never discussed politics and was always a faithful friend. Laura and I will miss our pal."



— AP file photo

In this June 25, 2001, image, President Bush does his best to salute while holding his dog Barney as they get off of Air Force One at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

Etch A Sketch creator dies at 86

BRYAN, Ohio (AP) — An Ohio toy maker says the inventor of the Etch A Sketch, the famous red toy that generations of children drew on, shook up and started over, has died in France.

The Ohio Art Co. based in Bryan in northwest Ohio says 86-year-old Andre Cassagnes died Jan. 16 in a Paris suburb. The cause wasn't disclosed Saturday.

Ohio Art president Larry Killgallon says the company will always be grateful for an invention that brought joy to so many.

Business (cont.)

Super Bowl Sunday. The Waltz Inn won't be open at all.

"We're not a sports bar and we don't have big-screen TVs," an employee said.

Nick & Nino's in Monroe will be open all day, offering beer and drink specials, a pizza buffet and prizes.

A lot of pizza places also will be gearing up to get their slices of Super Bowl business.

"We usually get our

biggest surge at halftime, but it's busy throughout the day," said Tony Sacco, who founded the Tiffany's Pizza chain.

"It's a busier day. But not the busiest," he said. "The busiest day for pizza is Halloween. I think it's because everybody is getting their kids ready and people don't want to cook."

He said although Super Bowl Sunday is busier in terms of pizza sales, a lot of households substitute come game time on party mixes, sandwiches, nachos and such.

MULTISTATE LOTTERY

■ The Powerball numbers were drawn after the newspaper's deadline. Check Monday's Evening News for the results of that draw, as well as Sunday's winning numbers.

MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Saturday's Daily 3

Midday: 1-5-2

Evening: 6-9-6

Saturday's Daily 4

Midday: 3-7-4-6

Evening: 3-4-1-7

Classic Lotto 47

02-12-17-18-39-43

OHIO LOTTERY

Saturday's Pick 3

Midday: 9-6-4

Evening: 5-5-8

Saturday's Pick 4

Midday: 9-6-4-9

Evening: 0-9-2-1

Saturday's Pick 5

Midday: 4-6-0-1-0

Evening: 6-7-6-9-7

Fantasy 5

06-22-26-28-36

Keno

03-10-13-14-19-20-23-32-33-37-40-42-44-50-54-55-56-61-62-64-67-77

■ The Mega Millions jackpot is at \$19 million.

Rolling Cash 5

10-11-20-21-35

Classic Lotto

06-09-30-31-34-39

Lotto Kicker

3-4-7-5-6-1

■ The Powerball jackpot is at \$176 million.



The Monroe Evening News

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The Associated Press is exclusive-

ly entitled to use or republication of all news dispatches not otherwise credited in The Monroe Evening News.

Published daily except New Year's Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Periodicals postage is paid at Monroe, Michigan 48161.

Postmaster: Send address changes to: The Monroe Evening News P.O. Box 1176 Monroe, MI 48161

Subscription Terms:
 BY CARRIER in all areas where carrier service is maintained: Daily and Sunday \$16.90 per

month; \$179.40 per year; Sunday only: \$9.84 per month; \$107.26 per year. Weekend only: ** \$9.84 per month; \$107.26 per year. Friday-Sunday \$9.84 per month; \$107.26 per year. Single copy price: 75 cents daily; \$1.50 Sunday and Thanksgiving.

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 The date of Nov. 20, 2013 is included with the cost of your weekend or Sunday-only subscription.