

Midland DAILY NEWS

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Four people facing felony meth charges

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Four people are facing felony charges for making methamphetamine after investigations conducted earlier this month by the Bay Area Narcotics Enforcement Team.

Both investigations took place on April 7, one at a home on East Isabella Road in Homer Township. That case resulted in the Homer Township Fire Department being called to the scene as a precaution

while BAYANET and the Michigan State Police Third District Meth Response Team collected evidence and disposed of the highly toxic materials involved in making the drug.

Charged in connection with the incident are Igor Alexander Chadwick, 27, Midland; Alana Rae Longsdorf, 28, Midland; and Arthur Elmer Pugh, 41, who is the resident of the home where officials were investigating. Each of the three face identical charges of operating or maintaining a lab

involving methamphetamine, delivery or manufacture of methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine.

All have been arraigned, and bond is set at \$25,000 for Longsdorf, \$50,000 for Chadwick and \$100,000 for Pugh.

Documents in the court files state six one-pot meth labs were found in the home, four of them active, along with other items associated with making the drug. Methamphetamine was found in the home's bedroom, as well as in

the possession of one of the suspects who admitted to making the drug at the home since midnight.

A few hours later that same day, officials conducted a search warrant at a South Castor Road home in Lee Township. There they found components for manufacturing meth, as well as the drug itself, in a pole barn.

Arrested in connection with that situation was Donald Bruce Hays, 38, Shepherd. He faces charges of operating or maintaining a lab involving methamphetamine,

delivery or manufacture of methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine, and his bond is set at \$100,000.

Hays is set for a probable cause hearing in the Midland County District Court on Wednesday; Chadwick, Longsdorf and Pugh are scheduled for preliminary examinations before District Judge Michael D. Carpenter that same day.

The first two counts are punishable by up to 20 years in prison, and the final count is punishable by up to 10 years in prison.

Mills Elem. could become homeless shelter

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The plight of the homeless is a big concern in Midland County. To meet that demand, New Hope Village has undertaken a project to transform Mills Elementary School into New Hope Village, a homeless shelter and training center for people in need.

"We're trying to change the culture of poverty. We believe if we can change the culture, we can change the outcome," said John Congleton, NHV director. "We believe that NHV is a village where people can realize new hope."

The recognition of the need for NHV was realized last winter when the Housing for Homeless Coalition used the Community of Christ Reunion Campground on Sanford Lake as temporary housing for homeless people.

"We serviced 21 families in Sanford, which was amazing and we feel like we helped the majority of those 21 families with more than just a roof over their head," said Congleton, who also

SEE "SHELTER," PAGE A2

Josh Turner coming to Midland County Fair

98 KCQ and the Midland County Fair will welcome Josh Turner to the KCQ Fan Jam concert at the Midland County Fairgrounds on Monday, Aug. 17.

Tickets go on sale to the general public on Thursday.

Tickets will be available at the Midland County Fair box office, by phone at (989) 835-7901 or online at www.startickets.com. Prices range from \$32.50 to \$38.50.

For more on the fair, visit www.midlandfair.com.



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Team Prayer

From left, Calvary Baptist's Jenna Wallenbeck, Courtney Warner, Brienna Schmidt, Chelsea Szilagy, Jacquelyn Warner, Tara Lewis, Cassidy Holdeman, Eileen Capaldo and Elisabeth Randall pray before the start of their soccer game against Faith Christian on Monday at Calvary Baptist Academy. The Kings won the game 9-4 and remain undefeated with an 8-0 record in their first season of girls' soccer. For more on the game, see today's Sports, page B1.

Council supports more money for sidewalks

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The Midland City Council expects to support an expanded sidewalk maintenance program as part of the proposed 2015-16 budget.

The city spent about \$360,000 annually for sidewalk repairs until 2011, when the budget was cut to about \$130,000 annually. Council members said Monday night that they would like to see the fund-

ing lifted by an additional \$250,000, restoring it to previous levels.

This would put the city's proposed millage rate at 15 mills, down from 15.04 in the current year. Without the additional sidewalk money, the millage rate would be 14.89 mills. One mill equals \$1 for every \$1,000 in taxable value of a property.

If approved, the \$250,000 of additional money for sidewalks would be split into two programs.

One program, costing \$170,000, would fix sidewalks based on citizen input while the second program, costing \$80,000, would replace sidewalks as part of street projects to take place next year.

Councilman Steve Arnosky said sidewalk updates have become a priority for some citizens, and it's an area of the budget that has been cut for years ago.

"If we can do it, consider it," Arnosky said. SEE "SIDEWALKS," PAGE A2

Midland unemployment at 5.4 percent in March

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Midland County's unemployment rate was up slightly in March.

The county's rate went from 5.3 percent in February to 5.4 percent in March. There was a total labor force of 41,400 people, an increase of 100.

"The Midland metro area had little change in labor market status in March. Over the year, the Bay City and Midland metro areas recorded increases in employment while unemployment fell. The labor force, however, edged down slightly over the year," wrote Kevin Doyle, economic analyst with the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget's Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives.

SEE "JOBLESS," PAGE A2

WEDNESDAY:

Partly sunny;
High 67

By Elaine Zhang
Woodcrest Elementary



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