



Toe-tapping music free this week

Music ranging from Dizzie Gillespie to Herbie Hancock can be heard in the third free concert in Clarkston's Depot Park on Friday, July 12.

The Russ Simonson Jazz Quintet is scheduled to play 7-9 p.m. Friday in the park on Depot Road, west off Main Street, between Washington Street and Waldon Road. Afterward, concert-goers may want to stroll through downtown Clarkston, where Midnight Madness means businesses will be open until midnight.

The jazz quartet plays toe-tapping music, says organizer Don Brose of the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors the concerts with First of

America Bank.

Manning concession stands this Friday will be the Clarkston Area Optimist Club, but many concert-goers prefer to bring picnic dinners to the concerts in the park.

Remaining free concerts include: July 19, Auto City Banjos and July 26, Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra.

To send donations to the concert program, send checks or money orders to Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce, Concert Fund, 5897 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346. For more information, call Brose at 623-7900 or Cathy S. Scott at 625-4111.

The Clarkston News

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CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN

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Storm slashes trees, wires, homes

BY DENNIS V. CARTER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

High winds and rain battered Independence and Springfield townships Sunday night, leaving toppled trees, fires and damage of all types in their wake.

The Independence Township Fire Department re-

"We fought the flames for about 30 minutes, but the home was a total loss."

Chief Marlan Hillman

sponded to 80-100 calls during the course of the July 7 storm.

"We went from location to location throughout the night," said Capt. Steve Ronk of the Independence Township Fire Department. "We were trying to keep everything under control so no one was killed or seriously injured."

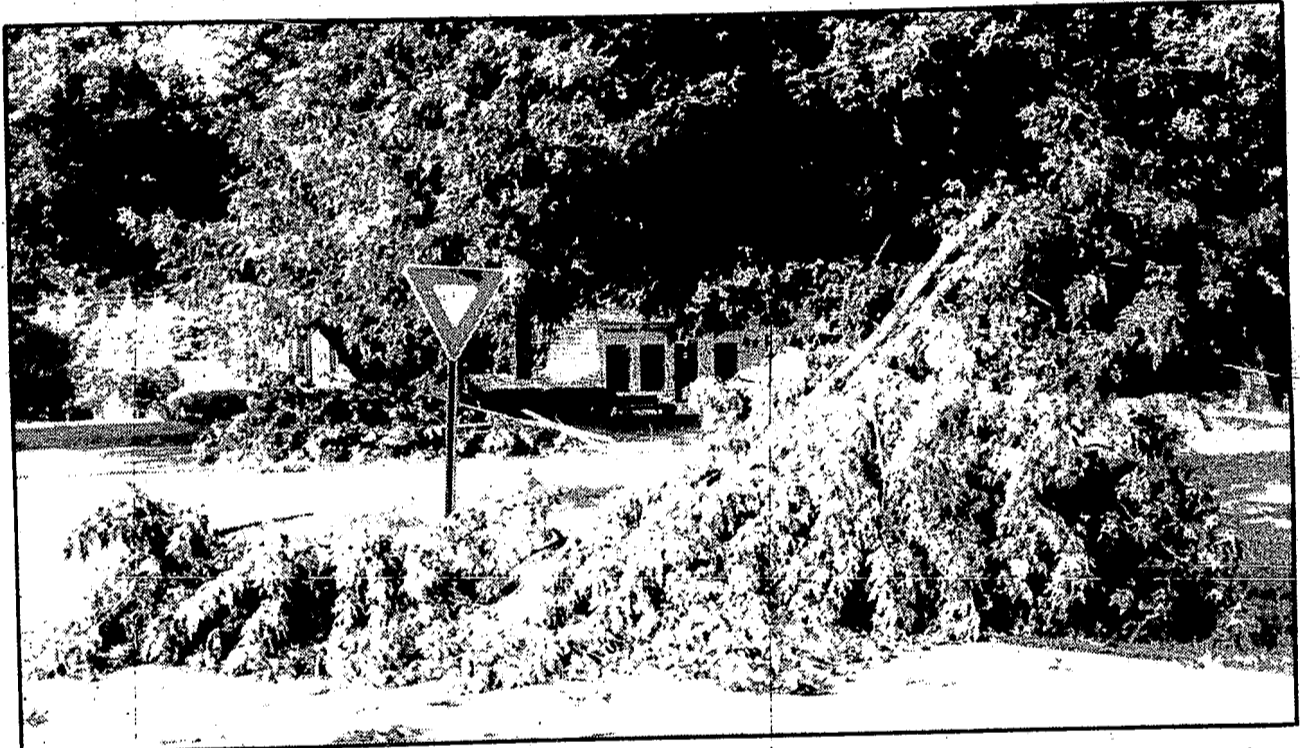
Trees were ripped out of the ground by their roots, while telephones and wire crashed to ground. Traffic lights were rendered useless, which resulted in accidents. "We had damage townshipwide — I would say at least three-fourths of the township is without power," Ronk said. "There were wires down on I-75 along with many other area roads. The fire station's tower, which is 120 feet high, was also blown down."

According to fire Chief Gar Wilson, Detroit Edison officials said this storm caused the most serious damage ever in such a short period of time.

"Wires were down throughout the township along with telephone poles and large trees," said Wilson. "There is at least 70 percent of the township out of power. We had so many calls that we had to respond to the high priority calls first. Downed wires were called in a lot, but we had to respond to accident and injury-type calls first."

The damage was widespread.

"This storm did some serious damage," Wilson said. "Trees fell on houses. Lines were down everywhere. Right now we are setting up facilities at Sashabaw Junior (See STORM, next page)



BRANCHES large and small could be found all over the Clarkston area Monday morning, evidence of a storm that left local citizens

among the 230,000 Oakland County residents without power. (Photo by Curt McAllister)

Five wells contaminated

BY JAMES GIBOWSKI
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Recent water tests mean bottled water for a few Clarkston residents.

Residents in five Clarkston homes have been notified that their water is contaminated, and village manager Art Pappas has been frustrated in tracking down the source of the problem.

Pappas said since May 13, at least five residents near the intersection of M-15 and Clarkston Road have received letters from the Michigan State Department of Public Health stating that their water is contaminated.

About one of every three houses in that area were tested. Traces of toluene, chloroform and a type of dichloroethane were found.

Under Michigan state law, those residents are currently supplied with free bottled water for drinking and cooking until the situation is corrected.

Pappas discussed the problem at the Clarkston Village Council meeting July 8.

Some council members speculated that the source of the contamination could be from the buried gasoline tanks located the corner of M-15 and Clarkston Road or from the closed Powell landfill further east on Clarkston Road. Clerk Norma Goyette even suggested that the source

might be from chemicals that were added to the Mill Pond to kill algae.

Pappas told the council that the gasoline tanks have been a source of frustration long before the recent findings by the public health department.

The station stopped pumping gas in the spring of 1990. Village Muffler and Brake Specialist now occupy the location, but the tanks still have not been removed. Pappas recently was told by Jennifer Beam of the Oakland County Tank Testing Office that tanks should be removed at least six months after no longer being in use, he said.

Pappas said he called the Michigan State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) at least nine months ago to voice his concern about the tanks.

The DNR told him to contact the state fire marshal. The state fire marshal called and said the tanks were "in compliance." Pappas asked for a report in writing, but the report he received was from 1986.

So Pappas continued his quest to find out whether the tanks were inspected and if there was any leakage from the tanks.

He again contacted the state fire marshal who replied in April that there was "no report of leakage at this address." The state office also told Pappas that any further questions should be taken up with the local fire

(See WATER, Page 5)

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Storm roars: Residents feel bite

(STORM, from previous page)
High School, and water can be obtained at fire stations No. 1 and No. 3.

Station No. 1 is on Church Street near Main Street, Clarkston. No. 3 is on Maybee Road between Sashabaw

"This storm did some serious damage. Trees fell on houses. Lines were down everywhere."

Chief Gar Wilson

and Clintonville roads. Sashabaw Junior High School is on Maybee Road, between Sashabaw and Clintonville roads.

In Springfield Township, firefighters were called to a storage barn fire at 1:30 a.m. Monday, July 8, on Scott Road. The source of the fire was a generator in use due to power outages, said Chief Marlan Hillman, adding that the structure was a total loss, about \$5,000 damage.

"The building was pretty much gone by the time we got there," he said. "It took only 10 minutes to finish putting out the fire."

At 4 a.m. Monday, Springfield firefighters were called to a mobile home fire at the Chateau Trailer Park on Dixie Highway.

According to Hillman, candles being used for light in the trailer were the cause of fire, which demolished the \$25,000 mobile home.

"We fought the flames for about 30 minutes, but the

home was a total loss," Hillman said. "It was difficult to respond to calls with the communication problems we had because of the storm," he said. "With everything going on, it just made things a lot harder. We had several other calls, but most of the other calls were for fallen trees and downed wires. The residents in the township are still out of power. There is a lot of wind damage in the area."

Area residents also reported damage to their property.

According to Millie Mierkiewicz of the Bavaria Condominiums, Dixie Highway, Springfield Township, "A huge tree was blown over at the lake property. It's the worst I've ever seen uprooted."

Ginny Farmer, assistant principal at Clarkston High School, lives on Huntoon Lake, Waterford. She found that the storm caused a lot of damage, such as trees falling onto houses and into the lake.

Farmer believes that damage was caused by a tornado, not just high winds, she said.

"We watched a cloud forming into a funnel, and about 30 seconds later, it just all ripped up," she said, adding that Huntoon Lake looked like an ocean.

"This is just a small lake, and there were white caps," Farmer said.

Assessment of the total damage will take some time, but for local residents, it will be a night to remember — and a night to forget.

Correction

A story in last week's Clarkston News about year-round preschool offered through Clarkston Community Education should have said that the program was contingent upon an agreement between community education and Sashabaw United Presbyterian Church, where the program may be held.

The Clarkston News

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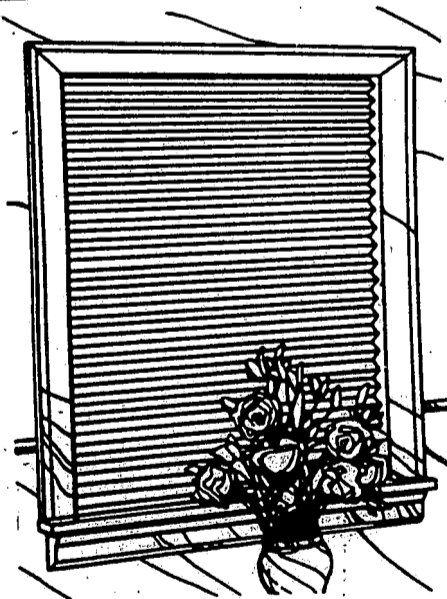
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Moving on

Photos by Curt McAllister



THE CLARKSTON Village Players provide the crowd with laughter with their patriotic portrayals of the Andrews Sisters and Bob Hope.



THE CLARKSTON High School Marching Band came out in full force July 4. This musician entertains the crowd with his high reaching cymbals.



THIS homemade tank elicits cheers as it rumbles down Main Street, Clarkston, July 4. It was created by Dave and Terry Guelde and their friends, who took home second-place honors in the float competition. The boys shot candy through the cardboard guns.



THIS PAIR decided to show off their "little red Corvette" to the throngs of spectators along Main Street, Clarkston, July 4.

Photo Inquiry

By James Gibowski

What do you think about Gov. John Engler's Oldsmobile (driven by a plainclothes police officer) not being ticketed after being pulled over for driving over 75 mph in a 55 mph zone?



"He should have gotten a ticket. If it was me, I would have gotten one."
Markel Thompson
 Homemaker
 Groveland Township



"I think he should be ticketed. If the speed limit is 55, the speed limit is 55. I don't see any exception painted on the sign."
Mickey Gonzales
 Clarkston postmaster
 Pontiac



"There's a pro and a con. As far as all of us go, I've been pulled over and given a warning. But they should be more sensitive to the perception. People might ask, 'if that happens, what else?'"
Marty Zimmerman
 Military officer
 Snowapple Drive
 Independence Township



"It's outrageous. He should have had it."
Brenda Davis
 College student
 Brandon Township

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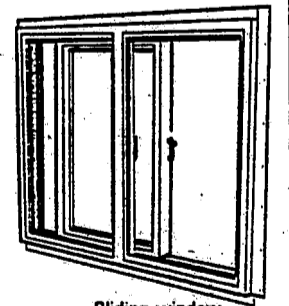


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Township asks court to stop cityhood proceedings

BY CURT MCALLISTER
Clarkston News Associate Editor

If township officials have their way, cityhood proceedings will stop in the Village of Clarkston until a judge renders a decision on a related lawsuit.

Independence Township filed a "stay of proceedings" July 10 in Oakland County Circuit Court, asking Judge John O'Brien to stop Clarkston from incorporating as a city until an appeals court judge issues a judgment on the township's lawsuit against

The township earlier filed a lawsuit against the State Boundary Commission, charging that the commission illegally granted cityhood to Clarkston. The court ruled in favor of the boundary commission, and the township appealed the decision.

While awaiting the judge's decision on the appeal, the village should not be allowed to incorporate as a city because of the many problems that would occur should the appeals judge rule in the township's favor, according to township attorney Gerald Fisher.

In a June 24 special meeting, the township board voted 5-1 to press forward with the request to stop

cityhood proceedings until the township's lawsuit is settled. Trustee Daniel Travis voted against the endeavor, and Trustee Bruce Mercado was absent from the special meeting.

The injunction, if granted by Judge O'Brien, would preserve the current municipality boundaries and not allow incorporation to occur until after the Michigan Court of Appeals has rendered its decision.

Fisher said the injunction is for the good of the participants involved in the year-long lawsuit.

"The purpose of this injunction is to preserve the status quo, so there won't be any injury to the parties involved," Fisher said.

According to Fisher, the "injuries" could be turned out to be costly in the long run.

He estimates that the Michigan Court of Appeals won't render a decision in this case until 1993, due to its heavy case load. Fisher said the city charter probably would come before the voters this fall, meaning that cityhood could be achieved by the spring of 1992.

That means there will be at least a year between incorporation and the court's judicial determination.

That could mean big trouble if village voters approve cityhood, but the appeals court rules in the township's favor.

Under that scenario, the township gives six reasons to stop incorporation:

■ Township voters living in the village would find that they had no part in township elections held after incorporation takes place.

■ Village residents would find that they had no say in the possible passage of a millage, voted on after incorporation.

■ Village residents who hold positions in the township would be removed from their jobs upon incorporation. Supervisor Frank Ronk falls under this category, and he couldn't be restored even if the township wins its appeal.

■ Upon incorporation, taxes collected by the township wouldn't include money from village residents. However, the city probably would collect taxes. In that

case, would village residents be taxed retroactively by the township, in effect taxing them twice? And what becomes of the money spent by the city?

■ In the time that the village is a city, the township will lose state revenue sharing money, due to the loss of the village's state equalized value (SEV). This revenue cannot be obtained at a future date.

■ The city would have to pay for its own special services such as fire, police, parks and recreation and library. If the decision is overturned, and contracts have been written, where does the liability for those contracts fall?

Fisher said he asked village officials to grant the township this "stay," and they refused.

According to Fisher, village officials said the incorporation deadlines were too near, and they feared that if they didn't secure a charter within two years the deadline would erase all past efforts.

Village officials could not be reached for comment. However, Fisher said the village could proceed with everything except one step -- filing its voting results with the county. By holding its election within the deadlines, the village would still fall within the law.

Under state law, a city can't be incorporated until a charter has been approved by its populous and duplicated copies filed by the county clerk and sent to the secretary of state, said Fisher.

Fisher estimates that the township's request for the stay of proceedings will be heard in O'Brien's court within the next two to three weeks.

Fisher considers this cityhood case monumental for charter townships throughout the state.

"This is a top-priority case because it impacts Independence Township immediately and other charter townships around the state," he said. "This case has to do with the general development of communities. We have to ask ourselves if we're going to allow charter townships to gradually grow and mature as integrated units or have them segmented along the way."

"You can't have long-term planning if these townships are continually carved up," he added.

Bottled water provided

(WATER, from Page 1)

chief.

Pappas discussed the problem with Independence Township Fire Chief Gar Wilson.

Pappas said the last he heard from Wilson was that "they were working on it."

Pappas then found out about the public health department's letters that were sent coincidentally to residents who lived near the tanks.

He then contacted the public health department, which told him that houses in the area will continue to be checked for contamination.

DNR officials did not return phone calls to their office.

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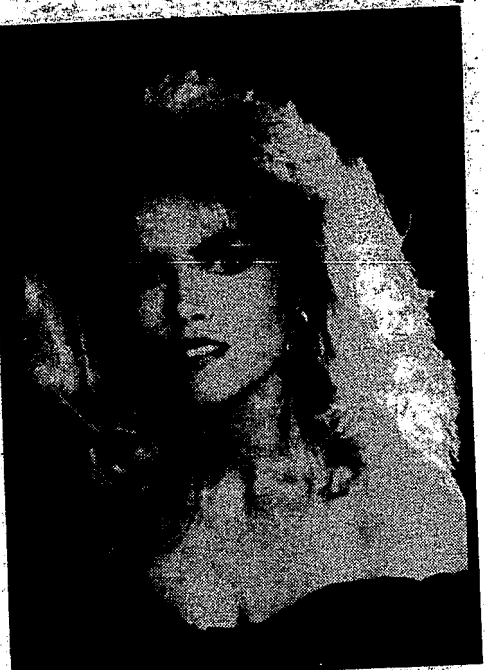
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Laundry link

Julie Campe

The laundry room was dark and warm Sunday night, the six others in the room merely silhouette with voices.

Most of us had met in passing — a hello in the parking lot, pleasant exchanges of weather forecasts.

It took the violent winds and the crack of broken trees to tear us out of our apartments and down to the quasi-safety of our building's laundry room, where we sat on heavy-duty dryers and leaned on washing machines, flashlights in hand.

And we peered out of the only window instead of taking secure cover in the back storage room, away from all windows, as suggested by emergency officials.

True, it was more comfortable than sitting in our bathrooms on the third floor, but were we really safer facing the laundry room window?

Probably not, but from that vantage, we could see trees bend at near 90-degree angles from the wind and could watch the green haze drip across the sky. When a car alarm burst into its song, we knew it was because a maple branch had fallen on it.

And we could watch a toad hop occasionally in the woodchips outside the window, which put us at eye level with the ground outside.

Above the quiet drone of a battery-operated radio turned up occasionally when weather reports interrupted the music, we learned that the silhouette with long hair and two full laundry baskets had only moments earlier retrieved her belongings from a washing machine. Still wet, the clothing sunk into the baskets as she waited for electricity to power up the drier.

The tall silhouette closest to the window was a musician and joked about having to turn to acoustical instruments if the electricity didn't return soon.

Sirens burst suddenly into hearing range, then seeing range. We watched as ambulances and fire trucks sped down the slick road, then slowed and maneuvered around an unknown object in their paths — branches, we conjectured.

The toad hopped again outside the window. Time for trivia. Frogs have teeth — toads don't, we were told.

We watched as worms drowned in the pavement puddles, and we talked about the difficulty of walking through them.

We noticed that the sky had turned to fire. It was too beautiful to take in.

Lightning still danced across the sky, followed by rumbles still close enough to feel in our bellies. Rain slashed across our view, yet the sky shone magnificently.

A few ventured out to peek at the flaming atmosphere. In the west, it was clear. A hole appeared in the fabric of the sky, and the sun poured forth, turning eastern, northern and southern clouds into glowing waves.

A radio announcer told us that the tornado warning would be over at 9:15 p.m., while a watch would continue until 11 p.m.

Just then, another person joined us in the shelter. Two minutes later, it was 9:15 p.m., and we abandoned her.

Outside, more apartment dwellers stood up and down the stairs and sidewalks, basking in the fiery sky. A tornado had been sighted in Drayton Plains, said one, who was a grandmother, she told us, adding that she did not talk long when she received the report over the phone in the middle of the storm.

A tree had been uprooted, said another onlooker, sadly.

Later, we found that three large trees and one smaller tree had fallen, as had numerous branches.

We paused and stared again, silently, at the red sky, then said goodbye and climbed the three flights of stairs to our dark apartment.

Opinions

Photo commentary



Two straights don't make a right

IN a photo commentary printed in the Dec. 5, 1990 Clarkston News, the Road Commission for Oakland County Public Information Director John Joy described the intersection of Clarkston Road and Sashabaw Road as "an invitation to disaster." However, nothing has changed in the past seven months. The intersection is still unmarked, with two lanes turning into one soon after the driver passes the stop light. Some drivers go straight in the left lane while others go straight in the right

lane, trying to avoid each other as they quickly merge. In the photos above taken two weeks ago, the cars in both the left and right lanes end up going straight after the light turns green. The car in the left lane "beats" the car on the right to the single lane which lies ahead past the intersection. Joy's office was contacted twice by the Clarkston News the past week, but he was unavailable for comment. (Photo commentary by James Gibowski)

Jim's Jottings

Red Skelton makes me laugh



Jim Sherman



Pine Knob billed it as "An evening with Red Skelton." I call it an evening of laughter and nostalgia. It was a no-intermission, two-hour show of 95 percent jokes and five percent love-of-country remarks and skits.

He makes people laugh about every conceivable subject except politics. He said, "I don't do political jokes, after all the politicians haven't done anything."

There's no way you can read this column of Skelton material and laugh the way we did while sitting in the audience. But try to picture him saying:

"Your state bird must be the crane . . . I saw one on every road coming out here."

"I bought an Oral Roberts record, but I couldn't play it. The hole healed over before I got it home."

Still on religion . . . "The Bakkers are going to take all the "nots" out of the Ten Commandments. Tammy Baker took all her makeup off and her dog bit her."

"This woman was so bowlegged, when she ran it looked like an egg beater."

"Nothing has happened in this world that women

didn't have a part in. Webster would have never written the dictionary except for his wife always asking, 'What's that supposed to mean?'"

"As the skunk said when the wind changed; It all comes back to me now."

"One thing about my wife's cooking . . . it broke the dog from begging at the table."

"This girl was so heavy that when she ran away from home she took the truck route."

"You have a great set of highways in southeast Michigan. They should be very proud of those engineers in the asylum."

"I know a woman who had so many facelifts that when she sat down her mouth opened."

"Let me ask you this . . . how can your wife see a blonde hair on your lapel from across the room but can't see the garage door?"

"This girl was really beautiful. She had long blonde hair and short black roots."

Like I said, the jokes don't come off the same in print as they do when perhaps the world's greatest clown is delivering them live.

He's been doing these one-liners and skits for 45 years on radio and TV, and I've been a loving follower of his for 45 years.

Red Skelton has written over 4,000 short stories, nearly 5,000 musical selections (all the music at his show was written by him), 64 symphonies, 22 motion pictures and numerous children's books.

Now, nearly 78 years old, he still makes 75 appearances a year, such as the one Sunday at Pine Knob. He's slowed, and does a lot of old-man routines, but he's contemporary, too.

He says, "They may think I'm crazy, but as long I'm making money they won't put me away." I hope he makes money many more years.

Letters to the Editor

Bravo, brave soul

Bravo to the person who practiced his or her right to free speech. And shame on the persons who made those threatening phone calls.

This is still America, and last I heard we as citizens are still entitled to freedom of speech.

Christy Schwartz

Announcement premature

On behalf of Sashabaw Presbyterian Church, I would like to make a small correction to your story, "Year-round day care available," which ran on Page 26 of the July 3 issue.

While we have been discussing use of our building by the Clarkston Community Education preschool program, as of yet, there has been no definite agreement because Clarkston Community Education has not yet presented a written proposal on which our church governing board can act. As far as we knew, we were still in the

discussion stages.

Because the Clarkston preschool — our former and well-loved tenant — has brought an end to its record of fine service to the children of this community, we do have the space available for a preschool program.

The church as always felt that our building was one of our ministry resources to be made available to the community. We certainly are willing and would be happy to have our space serving the children of the community.

However, we feel the announcement by Clarkston Community Education was premature. To give them their due, we are sure that this is a case where their enthusiasm for serving the needs of the community's children outstripped the process to make this possibility a reality.

The Rev. Bill Schram

Sashabaw United Presbyterian Church

Take boaters' lives seriously

At the July 1 planning commission meeting, Cindy Ashley and I voiced our interest in the Springfield Township Planning Commission forming a boat launching and dockage ordinance.

We made the request in response to the Supreme Court's recent ruling regarding boat launching and dockage on Square Lake in Bloomfield Township, which upheld that township's ordinance limiting the number of boats per lot to be docked.

We were informed that the proper forum is the township board.

We were further advised by Supervisor Collin Walls that the township is "looking into the matter," that leave was just granted on another ordinance matter concerning, I believe, West Bloomfield Township, and that this could go on for years.

This led me to believe that the township would be taking a "wait and see" attitude on this matter, dragging its feet and letting other more aggressive townships be the "doers."

This laissez-faire attitude on the part of the township frustrates me as it did last year when the township failed to enact a wetlands ordinance, though more than 400 residents of the township strongly endorsed such an ordinance.

I urge the board to address this matter at its earliest opportunity. A boat launching and dockage ordinance is one involving a genuine safety concern on the waters of Springfield Township.

As our township grows, so grows, so grows the traffic on our lakes. We are able to expand our road systems to accommodate township growth, but we cannot enlarge our lakes. Please take the lives of our boaters, swimmers, fishermen and skiers more seriously.

Jannice Rabette

Bouquet

Happiness is ...

Happiness is 55 years with my husband, Bob. My love to him.

Uldene Jones

Letter policy

Letters to the editor must arrive at The Clarkston News office by noon Monday to be considered for publication in Tuesday's paper. We reserve the right to edit all letters for brevity and clarity and to limit the number of letters from any one individual or on any one topic. We discourage copies of letters sent elsewhere and require that all letters be signed and include an address and phone number. We may withhold names on request but will not publish unsigned letters. Address all letters to: Letters To The Editor, The Clarkston News, 5 S. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346.

'If it Fitz ...'

Curbside diagnosis would ease bumps



Jim Fitzgerald

Doctors Hospital advertises on TV that there's no charge for emergency-room treatment if the patient has to wait more than 20 minutes. Finally I am persuaded to adjust my slow-crew attitude to the requirements of a fast-food culture.

Doctors Hospital is only a few blocks east of my downtown Detroit home. We drove by it last week on our way to Belle Isle, where 5-year-old Tricia and I went down the Giant Slide three times and Grandma took snapshots to use as evidence at my commitment hearing. Tricia fell down and, judging from the volume of her screaming, it appeared possible that a test of the 20-minute guarantee was imminent.

Tricia didn't fall from the Giant Slide, she fell under a much smaller slide in the adjacent playground. The initial diagnosis was based on sound rather than sight because neither Grandma nor Grandpa saw the accident happen. This particular slide is enclosed in a high-rise-cabin-type structure, and there is a brief moment when the slider, ascending the steps, can't be seen by a vigilant adult (me) at the top, or a distracted adult (Flash Grandma) at the bottom, whose view was limited by the camera permanently attached to her nose. (For the past six months, Flash has spent only every day pasting family photos in albums in chronological order, and she's already up to 1944.)

When I heard the caterwauling, I looked down and asked Flash, "Is that Tricia?" It was a dumb question, I knew it was Tricia. That kid never walks, she runs, skips, or handstands. She actually attends a gymnastics class where, by paying close attention, she has learned how to trip over atmosphere.

Flash declared two bloody knees didn't require an emergency room, only immediate loving washing by a nonprofessional. So we canceled plans to eat dinner in a restaurant and headed home by way of a Wendy's drive-thru. After reading the billboard menu, I drove to the pick-up window.

"You didn't give them our order," Tricia gasped between sobs. Oh yeah. I forgot you're supposed to tell the billboard what you want. I had to back up 300 feet, causing considerable consternation among other drive-thru customers.

Because my visits to fast-food franchises are rare, and usually under duress, I pride myself in never remembering the proper procedure. I depend upon the kindness of strangers, or strange relatives, to guide me through the golden strictures and up to the right robot.

Sure, it's messy to have to retrieve my prematurely discarded paper cup from a trash barrel if I want a free Coke refill. But it's better than having anyone think I regularly frequent food outlets so barbarian that they stop serving breakfast at 11 a.m., which is when civilized breakfasting is just getting under way.

However, fast-service hospitals are something else. What if Tricia's legs had been broken? What if we'd rushed to an emergency room that listed available treatments on an outside billboard, alongside a picture of a concerned doctor. And I forgot to talk into the doctor's nose?

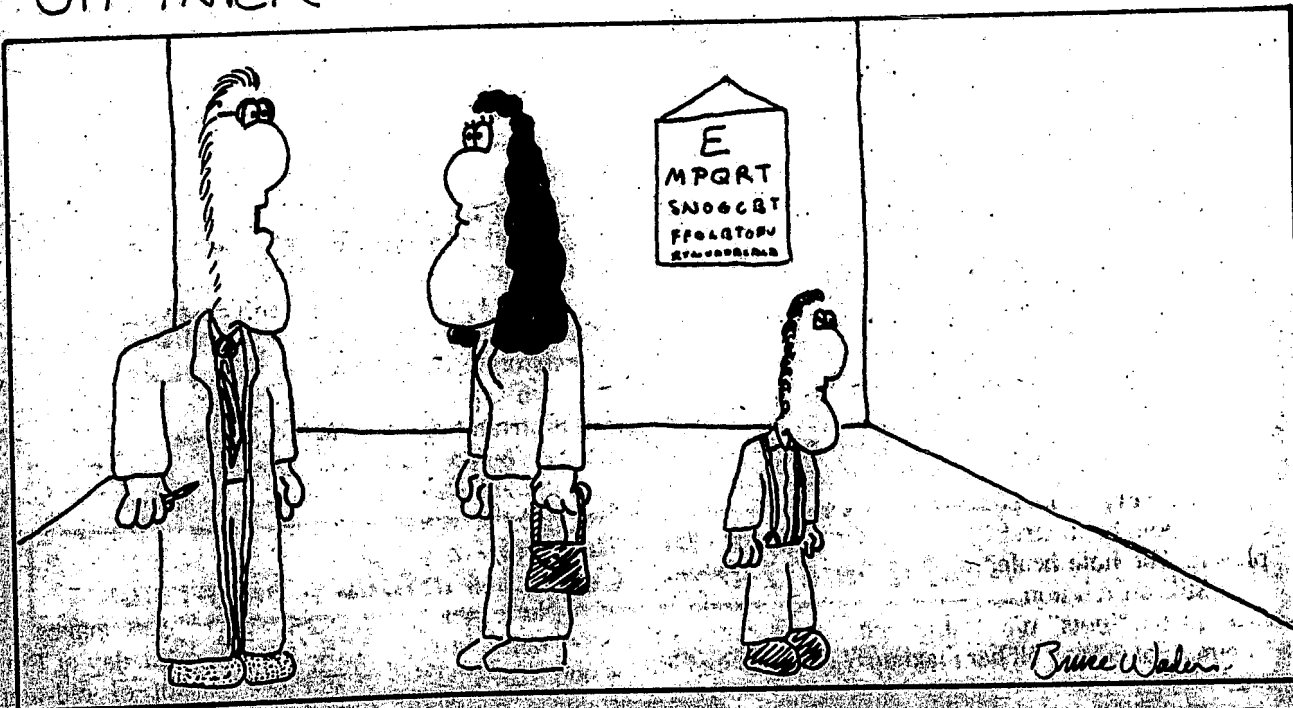
In slow-service emergency rooms, patients with minor ailments are often required to wait while doctors tend to more life-threatening cases. This isn't the case in McDonald's, where the hungriest customer may be last in line, and the fattest first.

But recently, at a drive-thru window, I was instructed to pull over and park because my order wasn't ready. A kind stranger explained this happens often because some orders take longer to prepare, and Ronald McDonald doesn't want to slow orders holding up the line of cars. An employee finally delivered my food to my car and I thanked him for the drive-thru-and-park-and-wait service.

So, in case of broken legs, I'm going to memorize the correct procedure at the fast-service hospital in my neighborhood. And I'll beware of the doctor who asks me to wait for him in my car.

Also, I intend to find out what model Lincoln Continental is driven by minimum-wage doctors.

OFF TRACK



I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PUT THIS, MRS. PICASSO, BUT PABLO HERE NEEDS GLASSES BADLY.

Moonlight Madness to strike Clarkston

Moonlight Madness in downtown Clarkston July 12 and 13 includes a free band concert, fashion show, auction and lots of entertainment plus special prices on items in businesses in the area.

On Friday, July 12, stores are open until midnight. A free band concert is scheduled 7-9 p.m. in Depot Park, Clarkston.

On Saturday, July 13, fashion shows take place 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in The Clarkston News parking lot on Main and Washington streets.

A 1 p.m. auction in The Clarkston News parking lot will be operated by the Clarkston Area Optimist Club. Donated items to be auctioned off include a scale model of a Victorian house, children's clothing and toys, books, country gifts, dried flower arrangement, hair products, vase, food basket and more.

Other attractions over the weekend include music, clowns, balloon animals, face painting, arts and crafts, craft workshops, food tasting and strolling minstrels.

DDA to expand to White Lake Road

BY CURT MCALLISTER
Clarkston News Associate Editor

An amended Downtown Development Authority (DDA) plan received the first of two approvals last week.

On July 2, the Independence Township Board voted 6-0 to approve the amended plan. Trustee Mel Vaara was absent from the meeting.

The amendment proposes that a 1 1/2-mile stretch along White Lake Road from Dixie Highway to Andersonville Road be added to the DDA's jurisdiction.

The DDA was created about five years ago to improve landscaping, lighting, water and sewer along parts of Dixie Highway and M-15. Funding for the DDA

comes from tax increment financing, which captures "excess" taxes from a base year and returns them for use within DDA boundaries.

Supervisor Frank Ronk said the plan has met the approval of the DDA citizen's committee, made up of nine residents living in the White Lake Road area.

Ronk said this amendment will bring big improvements to an area overwhelmed by industrial sites.

"The DDA is going to do some really nice things for this district, such as cleaning up the area and making it more aesthetically pleasing," he said.

The amendment now requires only a second approval before it's formally approved. Second reading approval is to appear on the July 16 agenda.

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Thursday 9:30-8:00, Saturday 9:00-4:00
Sunday 1-4

Township blasts political declaration

BY CURT MCALLISTER
Clarkston News Associate Editor

The Independence Township Board doesn't think voters should have to declare their political party affiliation to vote in a primary election.

Last week, the board approved a resolution supporting a stand held by the Clerks in the State of Michigan, which says a declaration of party preference isn't fair to voters.

On March 17, 1992, Michigan is scheduled to have its first Presidential Preference Primary since 1980.

To vote in this election, all voters are required to declare a political party — either Republican or Democratic.

The Clerks in the State of Michigan doesn't think this is right because the process is too costly. The township estimates that \$5-8 million will be spent on this

election statewide.

In the resolution, Independence officials said that only 22 percent of their registered voters cast ballots in the 1980 preference primary. So, they're asking the legislature to eliminate the primary or escrow the township \$1,000 per precinct to cover the cost of the election.

Independence Township Clerk Joan McCrary said this primary is also confusing the voters.

"We have people believing that by not declaring a party in this primary, that they can't vote at all," she said. "As long as they're registered, a person can vote in the general election.

"We have enough problems in this township with getting votes, and this type of primary just makes it harder," she said.

McCrary said the two largest political parties are to blame for this primary. They will be using this election to gauge their candidates' chances, she said.

At the meeting, Trustee Daniel Travis echoed the sentiments of the entire board.

"I think it's important we take this position," Travis said. "This isn't in the public's best interest. They're upset about being forced to declare. I think it's (primary) expensive and unwarranted."

Copies of this resolution have been sent to state Sen. David Honigman, and state Rep. Tom Middleton.

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THE CLARKSTON High School Pom Pon squad is one of several groups from CHS to participate in the Independence Day Parade

in downtown Clarkston. When a radio disc jockey's father suffered a stroke early July 4, the D.J. had to cancel his appearance in

Clarkston, and at the last minute, L. Brooks Patterson agreed to serve as master of ceremonies for the parade.

Patriotism wins awards in parade

Patriotic spirit won awards at the July 4 parade in downtown Clarkston.

According to Capt. Steve Ronk of the Independence Township Fire Department, which organized the parade activities, more than 100 entered the parade and decorating contests.

Three floats were cited for patriotic spirit. Taking first place-honors was the "Clarkston Critters" float, created entirely by several Clarkston-area youngsters in 4-H.

First-place float-makers included Clarkston Critter members: Amy Boose, Nick Boose, Emily Boose, Kelley Doyle, Jessica Doyle, Ashley Doyle, Ember Gilbert, Katie Colosimo, Robin Curry, Lorne Deacon, Jennifer Fogleman, Joshua Barney, Kim Deacon and Nicole Colosimo.

Their club leaders are Kim Boose and Nancy Doyle.

For taking first place, the group received a \$100 check, courtesy of Dunlap Realtors.

The second-place award was given to youngsters Dave and Terry Guilde, who — with their friends — devised an American tank from a golf cart. For their endeavors, they received \$50 from the Clarkston-Brandon Credit Union.

Taking the Judges' Award, for the float most adhering to the parade's theme, was Cedar Crest Academy in Springfield Township. The school received \$50, courtesy of Clarkston Real Estate.

In the contest for the most patriotically decorated home along the parade route, Robert Cook of 81 N. Main St., Clarkston, took top honors. For winning, he received four complimentary tickets from the Pine Knob Music Theater and a \$15 gift certificate to Alexander's restaurant.

Carol's Village Grill garnered first place in the business category with its decorated storefront. The downtown restaurant received a \$50 gift certificate to Carol's Flowers in Independence Township.

—By Curt McAllister



THIS MONUMENT was dedicated to all of the nation's servicemen July 4. It will be permanently located in Depot Park, Clarkston.



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Not buckling could cost \$12,000 or more

Not buckling your safety belt is like throwing \$12,000 in the garbage.

Think of it: if the average new car costs \$16,000, then the bumpers, chassis, body panels and engine must account for at least three-quarters of that.

The car's body is carefully designed with crumple zones, which absorb the violence of an impact, keeping the force away from the passenger compartment.

Car windows are made of cube-glass, which breaks up into blunt little grounds, not into long, deadly shards. In some cars, the engine is mounted to drop out in severe collisions, acting as a brake. This is what you really pay for when you buy a car.

But all of this is meaningless without safety belts.

In a crash, the unbuckled motorist is thrown around inside the car, and all those safety systems mean nothing.

Not buckling your safety belt is like not using \$12,000 worth of your car, and because of this summer's safety belt blitz, not buckling could cost \$12,050 — \$12,000 in unused car, \$50 in fines and court costs.

Traffic crashes are the nation's number one killer, but safety belts double your chance of surviving a serious crash. Don't forget to use the best part of car — buckle up.

The above information was provided by the Office of Highway Safety and Planning, Department of State Police.

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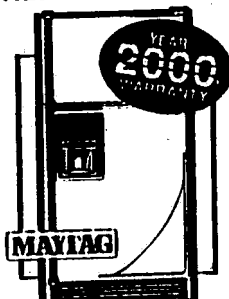
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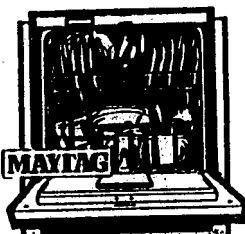
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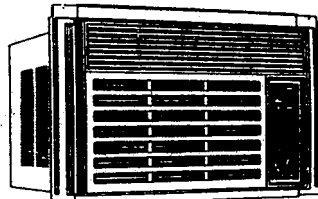
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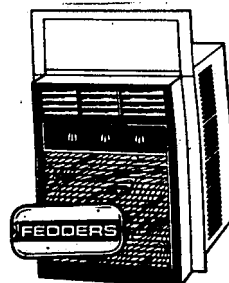
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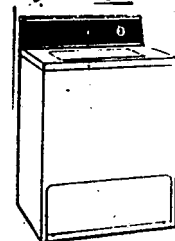
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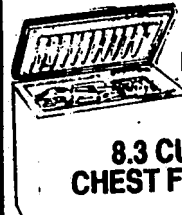
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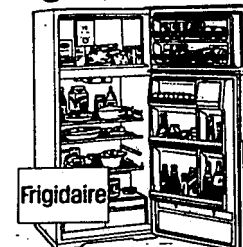
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Photo by Curt McAllister

Just waiting

THREE children await the start of the parade, holding their own American flags. Several thousands flags were distributed to spectators along the parade route.

School board chooses officers for 1991-92

Thomas Howard has retained his position as president of the Clarkston Board of Education. On July 8, the school board selected its officers for the 1991-92 school year. The officers' terms run from July 1, 1991, to June 30, 1992. In the presidential race, Howard edged Karen Foyteck 4-3 to regain his seat. He's been serving as board president since the resignation of former president John Needham last March. Voting for Howard were Paul Van Klavern, Sheila Hughes, Joseph Helpem and Howard. Voting for Foyteck were Kurt Karlstrom, Janet Thomas and Foyteck. Foyteck was later named vice-president on an unanimous vote by the board, as was Hughes as secretary and Van Klavern as treasurer. Other board appointments included: Kurt Karlstrom as Oakland Schools designate, Joseph Helpem as Oakland County School Board's legislative committee representative, Sue Hubbard as acting secretary and Steve Lenar as school elections administrator.

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Moonlight Madness Weekend

Presented by the Clarkston Merchants

Welcome
To The First Annual
Clarkston
Midnight Madness
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Win A Trip To Toronto!!!

Fill out the coupon below and leave it with any participating merchant to be entered into our drawing to win a Fantastic Hotel & Train Trip to Toronto. Details are available at all of the merchants listed.

**Drawing to be held
July 15th at Tierra's**

Name _____
 Address _____
 Zip _____
 Phone _____

Employees of participating merchants and their families not eligible. Prize not redeemable for cash. All Decisions are final.

Friday July 12th

Free Band Concerts.....
7pm - 9pm
A variety of events at all participating merchants.....
'Til Midnight

Saturday July 13th

Fashion Shows.....
11am & 2pm
Shop and Eat.....
Noon - 1pm
Auction.....
1pm
Shop 'til you drop.....

Other events include:

- Music
- Clowns
- Balloon Animals
- Face Painting
- Arts & Crafts
- Craft Workshops
- Food Tasting
- Strolling Minstrels

Participating Merchants

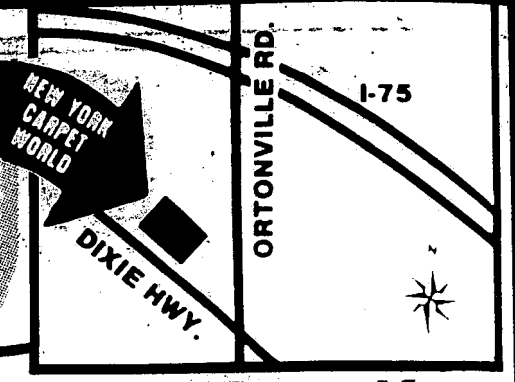
- Village Vines
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- Village Bookstore
- Carol's Village Grill
- Rudy's Market
- Clarkston Hair Design
- Clarkston Travel
- Sadow's Auction
- Morgan's
- It's About Time
- Tierra Arts & Design
- Bunny Hut
- Coach's Corner
- Milieu
- Elston's Hair Studio
- Calcote Country
- Chas. Jackson Interiors
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- Country Value Hardware
- Max Broock
- Creations Best
- Clarkston Cafe

14 Wed., July 10, 1991 The Clarkston (Mich.) News

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Multicolors will add pizzazz to any room.

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