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The on News

Award-winning hometown newspaper for 66 years

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New high school over budget

Architects say six classrooms may have to be cut

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

The board of education got an unexpected lump of coal Monday night when architects for the new high school admitted that their design may be too expensive.

Architect Chuck Olson of Greiner, Inc. told the board at its regular December meeting that in its current design, which is not final, the total project may cost more than the bond issue will cover. He suggested several modifications, including deleting six classrooms, as a "contingency plan." Actual cost estimates are expected from the construction manager, A. J. Etkin, in January.

"This is a precautionary measure to make sure we have control of our project all the way through," Olson said. "Really, removing these six rooms won't alter the curriculum; it might alter the way we schedule the use of the rooms."

Superintendent Gary Haner said without the six classrooms, the building would still meet the criteria listed in the ballot proposal for the school bond. The additional classrooms were added after meetings with high-school staff.

Trustee Janet Thomas asked the architects to come up with an alternative plan that would not include the removal of classrooms. That language was added to the motion to approve the architectural plans.

"I am troubled by the fact we would consider cost-cutting six classrooms," Thomas said. "I would like to see some options developed besides that."

The board is already aware that the school may be filled to capacity on the day it opens. Enrollment already tops 1,850 this year, and the new school will have an academic capacity of 2,000, with core facili-

ties such as the gym built for 2,500.

"We were actually trying to get a few extra classrooms out of our budget," Olson said. "We may have to go back."

In other building project news:

● The plan that was approved Monday leaves room for a potential road to the school from Waldon Rd. This option has been requested by neighbors of the new building, but currently the district does not own any land fronting on Waldon leading to the parcel. Greiner staff said it would cost \$80,000-\$100,000 just to build the road, plus land acquisition costs, but such a road would still allow their plan to work as it is now drawn.

● Board president Bill Craig said the district has been working on a joint meeting between the school board, Independence Township and the Road Commission for Oakland County to discuss concerns by neighbors, including traffic. "No dates have been set yet but the expectation is that meeting will take place in a short period of time," he said.

● A contract for construction management with A.J. Etkin was approved. Etkin has already signed the contract, which calls for a fee of 3.5 percent of the \$52 million budget (\$1,820,000).

● Architect Olson said Greiner will be back in March with a more detailed design presentation for the board's approval. Then in May or June the site package will be bid out.

● Action to approve a technology consultant for the new high school, Childs Consulting Associates, was tabled to a special meeting Tuesday night because Thomas didn't feel the board had enough information. The company would be used to provide assistance with long-range technology planning, selection and implementation for the new building.

Frosty?



Members of the Clarkston High School Drama Club's mime troupe form their version of a snowman. For more, see the back page.

Karlstrom says he'll challenge Lutz

Treasurer's race for 1996 begins with former school trustee's announcement

BY DARREL W. COLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

The race for Independence Township treasurer won't be decided until November 1996, but one challenger has officially announced his candidacy.

With current treasurer John Lutz announcing he will seek re-election, despite the current controversy surrounding him about investments, Kurt Karlstrom, a former Clarkston School Board member also wants it known he will challenge for the job.

In fact, Karlstrom filed an official candidate committee form in October so he can accept campaign donations and write off certain expenses.

The county deadline for filing to run for any

municipal or county seat is May 14.

Other rumored treasurer candidates were also contacted for this story but none confirmed their candidacy.

"I plan on going full force in January," said Karlstrom, a school board member for four years and a purchasing manager for a company based in Fraser. "I have been seeking the support of some key people for a while now, but basically I've been low key about it."

While wanting to make it clear he planned on running several months ago, Karlstrom, 41, with two children in Clarkston schools, said he "feels deeply about what John did. It was an error on his part to invest in risky investments."

"My concern is that public officials are accountable for their actions in office," he said.

Lutz, who first announced he would seek re-election Nov. 29 in *The Clarkston News*, maintains that the four securities under scrutiny are still earning the township money, although their market value has decreased by over \$3 million.

He said that voters should not judge him on one mistake because in 11 years in office he has done a good job.

The township was recently awarded \$100,000 of a \$5 million arbitration claim against two brokers and Westcap Securities, based on the four mortgage-backed securities.

After the arbitrator's decision was announced, township trustees Mel Vaara and Daniel Travis, and clerk Joan McCrary said Lutz should resign his position immediately.

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The Clarkston News

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Child support penalties take effect Jan. 1

A new law will require the Friend of the Court to add additional charges to overdue support accounts beginning Jan. 1.

Oakland County Circuit Court announced last week that beginning Jan. 1, 1996 anyone behind on support payments will have an additional amount, called a surcharge, added to the amount owed. The surcharge will be four percent of the support amount overdue as of Jan. 1 and July 1 each year, for an annual rate of eight percent. The surcharge becomes additional support to be paid to the person owed the support.

In order to avoid paying the surcharge, payors who are behind must have their accounts paid in full by the last business day of December and June of each year.

Comments invited on transportation plan

SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, is inviting the public to submit comments on proposed amendments to the 2015 Regional Transportation Plan for southeast Michigan. The comment period ends Jan. 10.

Two projects in Oakland County are proposed to be added to the plan: widening South Blvd. to five lanes between I-75 and Squirrel; and widening Square Lake Rd. to a four-lane boulevard at Livernois.

Send comments to John Amberger, Executive Director of SEMCOG, 660 Plaza Drive, Suite 1900, Detroit, MI 48226.

Hearing on Waterford landfill

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality will hold a public meeting Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Waterford Township Hall to update the public on the status of closure of the Waterford Hills landfill.

DEQ spokesman Syed Jafry said at the last public meeting, some Clarkston residents asked to be notified of the next meeting. The Waterford Township Hall is located at 5200 Civic Center Drive between Highland Rd. and Hatchery Rd.

5 injured in accident

Five people were taken to hospitals Dec. 1 after a head-on collision on M-15 just north of I-75.

According to the Oakland County Sheriff's traffic investigation unit, the driver of a southbound car, who is new to the area and an inexperienced driver, became confused by the lines on the road and crossed the center line. There the car struck a northbound car head-on.

In all, five people were treated and released at area hospitals. The driver is expected to be ticketed for driving left of center. Alcohol was not a factor and all the passengers were wearing seat belts at the time of the crash.

New council meeting time

Clarkston's City Council passed a motion 7-0 Monday night to begin city council meetings at 7 p.m. Formerly the meetings were held at 7:30 p.m. City council meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at City Hall, 375 Depot in Clarkston.

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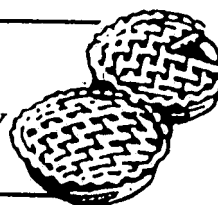
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She has worked in Clarkston for 10 years. She is married and has 3 children all of whom graduated from Clarkston Schools.

"When I started to work for Clarkston schools, it felt like home because I had been an active parent when my children participated in school activities. My job is very diversified. We handle scheduling for 58 teams, facility use, transportation, obtaining officials, eligibility and lots more. It's a very busy job. It is nothing to have ten events on one Spring day, and just imagine what happens if it rains!

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THE SECOND FRONT

The Clarkston News

Wed., Dec. 13, 1995

Clarkston MEAP scores up all around

Clarkston Elementary scores another 100; Andersonville makes big gains

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Scores on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests went up universally in Clarkston schools this year, according to results which arrived last week.

The scores show that reading and math scores in 4th and 7th grades all went up. High school students will take their tests in the spring; all levels will take a new science test this spring as well.

Clarkston Elementary, fresh off a 100 percent passing percentage last year on the science test, posted a 100 percent on the math test this year. That means all 4th-graders received a satisfactory grade on the test.

But it was Andersonville that posted the greatest gains, coming up 26.9 points on the reading test and 28 points on the math test to score 68.1 in reading and 80.9 in math.

Assistant superintendent David Reschke said Clarkston's scores have been going up for awhile, though reading scores fell off a bit last year.

"Teachers and kids are taking the test seriously and we're getting more consistent results," he said.

In addition, Clarkston seems to be bucking a trend. Statewide, scores tend to go down as kids get older. Therefore, middle school scores are generally lower than elementary scores. Here they're pretty close, and a comparison of this year's seventh-grade scores to the fourth-grade scores of three years ago (the same class) shows scores have actually increased.

"Ever since I've been here it seems like the trend has been the opposite," Reschke said. "Our middle-school program seems to reverse that trend. When I was in other districts it was always hard to keep that going . . .

"There is pretty good coordination of curriculum goals K-12 (here). So maybe that helps too."

Andersonville's strategies

Reschke said several things combined to boost Andersonville's scores this year. Boys' scores increased dramatically, a response, he believes, to certain changes surrounding the administration of the test.

"Boys tend to respond to organizational changes, girls to educational changes," Reschke said. "Girls takes tests seriously, boys don't unless they're told it's important."

What the staff at Andersonville did, according to principal William Potvin, was stress to kids that their individual numbers were not as important as the idea of giving one's "personal best."

"The scores we had last year nobody was happy with," Potvin said. Last year was his first as Andersonville principal. So as part of the building's school improvement planning, the staff set a goal of improving MEAP scores by improving the attitude of the students toward taking the test.

In addition, the staff analyzed the tests themselves looking for areas that needed work, and they worked on teaching methods that would help prepare the students for the kind of challenge the MEAP presents.

"(But) that in itself was not going to change the scores," Potvin said. So the staff worked on convincing the kids that the "accurate" scores were the ones

1995 Clarkston MEAP Scores

test	1995	1994	change	1993	1992	3-year change
4th grade math	83.1	75.8	+7.3	56.1	50.4	+32.7
4th grade reading	63.7	57.4	+6.3	59.3	41.6	+22.1
story selection	87.6	83.1	+4.5	79.0	74.7	+12.9
information	65.1	59.5	+5.6	64.9	43.8	+21.3
7th grade math	73.2	64.7	+8.5	60.3	49.3	+23.9
7th grade reading	57.3	46.5	+10.8	53.8	47.3	+10.0
story selection	80.9	71.4	+9.5	84.4	74.3	+6.6
information	60.5	55.8	+4.7	56.7	54.1	+6.4

that reflected their personal best. The idea clicked.

Every student in the fourth grade signed a personal best contract agreeing to work on attitude, to try hard on the test, to work slowly and to go back and check answers rather than just putting down their pencils as soon as they were done.

An assembly was held Sept. 28 at which time the fourth-graders were told all who did their personal best would be invited to a pizza party after the test, but before the results were in. "So they knew what their reward was up front," Potvin said.

Then in October, parents were invited to a meeting to talk about the expectations for the kids. Specific numbers were never used as Potvin talked about the MEAP as an "assessment," not a "test."

"The parents were very supportive," he said.

The tests were administered in mid-October. As the fourth-graders did their work, the rest of the school cooperated in making the environment as conducive as possible. They avoided the fourth-graders hallway to cut down on noise and they wished them well in the morning over the PA system.

And when the scores came in, the whole school cheered—not just fourth-graders.

"It's all about attitude," Potvin said. "The whole school clapped—they felt they were part of it . . .

"I feel great about the scores. More importantly I feel great about the attitude of the kids. If kids come in and give their best on a test, that's all you can ask. If kids really did their best and didn't score where we thought they should, that's not them. That's us . . . There's nothing on the MEAP that's not in our curriculum."

Potvin admitted he would have been disappointed if the scores had not risen as they did. And he's already asked his staff if they can engineer a similar jump next year.

"I am not comfortable saying that's an acceptable score to stay at. It's an accurate assessment of where we're at right now."

Potvin said he feels the strategies Andersonville used would work just as well at the middle schools.

"It's even more crucial they have it at the middle school. They're going through so many changes. Things like this are a constant. There are absolutely tried and true techniques for problem solving that we want kids to go through. They're good techniques so it's not like we have to convince teachers."

Weather takes its toll on motorists

One killed in weekend accident

Last weekend's weather is sure to be something Michiganders will remember for a long time.

Though it wasn't as bad as the UP's four feet of snow, or Buffalo, New York's three feet, the bitter cold and strong winds combined to turn a prime Christmas shopping weekend into tough sledding.

Motorists on Independence Township roads were not spared the slipping and sliding experienced all around the state. Over a dozen accidents were reported to the Oakland County Sheriff's Independence substation over the weekend, including one with on M-15 just north of Oak Hill in which one person was killed.

At around 11:45 a.m. Saturday, the driver of a northbound car apparently lost control of his vehicle on M-15 and crossed the center line, hitting a southbound car. A passenger in the northbound vehicle was killed. The driver and two other passengers were taken to Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital, where they were in serious condition. The driver of the southbound vehicle was also taken to POH, where he was treated and released.

The Oakland County Sheriff's Department said the investigation is continuing, although alcohol does not appear to have been a factor.

The bulk of the weekend's accidents occurred on Saturday. One car hit a utility pole on Dixie near Maybee while trying to avoid another car; no one was injured.

Other accidents occurred on M-15, Clarkston Rd., White Lake Rd., Sashabaw and Dixie. In one case, on Wellesley Terrace, deputies found only the grill and bumper of a car which apparently knocked down a 13-foot spruce tree, taking it out by the roots, according to the report.

Even snowplows were not exempt. On Clintonville Rd. one driver reported he backed into a car while clearing snow.

One 33-year-old Clarkston man was taken by ambulance to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in a suspected drunk-driving accident. Deputies said the man hit a tree on Clarkston Rd. near Sashabaw, then pulled his severely damaged car back onto the road, lights out, where it was rear-ended by another car shortly after 9 p.m. Rescue crews responding to the scene noticed the smell of alcohol on the man, who could not remember what had happened. The fire department had to extricate him from his car, a 1992 Chevy van, using the Jaws of Life.

School budget looks good now, but . . .

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

The financial picture for Clarkston schools is pretty rosy now but there are clouds on the horizon.

That was the opinion of the district's financial manager, Craig Kahler, as he presented the first of this year's budget amendments to the board of education at its regular meeting Monday night.

Kahler pointed out that though Clarkston schools have had to increase spending this year due to steadily increasing enrollment, state aid for now keeps up with that growth through per-pupil allocations which increase each year. That was part of Proposal A, which was approved by the voters in 1993.

However, Kahler said the state aid fund is already running at a deficit, and if it's not turned around local districts could find their per pupil allotments cut. He urged the board to be cautious.

The state aid deficit "can impact us either this year or next year, depending on when we see it filter down to our state aid payments," Kahler said.

Other areas of concern include adult education funding, which Governor John Engler wants to eliminate, Kahler said. Clarkston schools recently dissolved a consortium with Brandon schools in order to reap extra dollars from adult education per pupil grants. Now that money is at risk.

Kahler asked the board to reconsider several financial decisions it had already made. He asked that portable classrooms be paid off this year, rather than financed, and that a truck also be paid in cash. That eliminates some expenses in future years. The board agreed.

In all, Kahler said expenditures are now expected to be \$1 million higher than planned for in June,

mostly due to growth. At Monday's meeting, the board approved the hiring of 1.5 new teachers and a one-half time paraprofessional, all in special education, due to higher enrollment in those programs. Those positions were not in the budget.

Though Kahler is now projecting a budget surplus of \$1 million this year, he cautioned the board that \$800,000 of that is the money realized from the sale of buses and parts inventory to National School Bus Service, the private company hired to manage transportation. At his request, the board voted to set aside that money and not count it toward its general fund equity.

"It protects the board's interest in the future," Kahler said. "If you spend that money you could be in very dire circumstances down the road should you have to buy a bus fleet."

In other action:

● The board accepted a report from a citizens' committee on elementary attendance boundaries. The committee made six recommendations regarding future attendance boundary changes. They are: allowing students to attend the closest school and keeping subdivisions together; developing boundaries with long-term stability in mind, including growth projections; equitable distribution of population in each building; considering the time and money it costs for students walking and riding to school; keeping elementary schools together when districting middle schools; and eliminating isolated pockets attending schools outside their geographic areas.

"In some instances they are related to each other and you can't look at one without the other," said committee facilitator Dale Goby of Oakland Schools. He admitted that the district's extreme growth spurt has made planning difficult.

The next step is redrawing boundaries. "This is really the easy part; the boundaries themselves are the hard part," Goby said.

● A number of curriculum revisions were approved unanimously for the high school next year. Many of the revisions were requested to bring the district in line with upcoming high-school proficiency tests. Textbook requests will be brought at a later meeting.

The revisions include: ninth-grade economics and civics; advanced math, statistics, pre-calculus with trigonometry II and advanced placement calculus; an updated ninth-grade science and intensive science; a revised series of classes in the language arts field; and engineering communications for drafting students.

● A change in the high school graduation requirements was approved. Beginning with the Class of 1998, students will be required to complete two credits in any of a combination of applied technology, fine arts, performing arts and/or world language. Assistant superintendent David Reschke said the change is designed to give students more flexibility.

● The board voted to become a member of Moanet, a consortium of schools in Macomb and Oakland counties that will provide Internet access and electronic mail to students and staff. Technology director Paul Witek said that by going through the consortium the district saves a lot of money. Services will be provided via Oakland University; the price tag on the five-year project is \$43,000.

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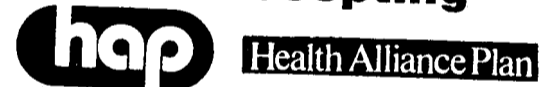
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School board gets tough with new weapons policy

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Signs posted around Clarkston High School declare it to be a drug-free zone and a smoke-free zone. But now, if the board of education has its way, the school will also become a weapons-free zone.

While that seems like a given, it's not the reality. Just last spring two students were expelled for carrying knives onto school property. Another was expelled for bringing a smoke bomb. Both situations were covered by the school's code of conduct.

In addition, there is a relatively new state law which mandates expulsion for weaponry, within the state's definition, for 150 days. Some board of education members didn't feel that law went far enough, since it doesn't cover small knives (blades under three inches).

Monday night at their regular meeting, they took the first step toward a "zero tolerance" policy. The board directed its policy committee to draft a language prohibiting all weapons, or anything used as a weapon, from school property.

"As we went through in the state law we have to know what's in the mind of the kids," said board president Bill Craig. "Did they bring that into school knowing it's a weapon?"

Trustee Tom Howard said he was a bit tired of hearing that students didn't know a three- or four-inch knife was a weapon. Others said they didn't want the board to have to split hairs over what was a weapon and what wasn't.

The new policy is aimed at eliminating any confusion by outlawing all weapons or items used as weapons.

"I think we should create a no weapons school," said trustee Janet Thomas. "This way we don't have to make a subjective decision."

However, the trustees were sensitive to the fact that a tiny knife on a key chain is not as dangerous as a hunting knife, so the new policy will be written to give them some leeway when it comes to expulsions that fall below the threshold of the state law. Thomas suggested

'They know when they're right and they know when they're wrong.'

CHS principal Brent Cooley

the new policy be phased in over a couple of weeks to allow students to get used to it before the zero tolerance stance is enforced.

Some trustees also expressed concern about what expelled students will do about schooling. The state law does not mandate any alternative education, and Clarkston's alternative high school does not accept expelled students.

CHS principal Brent Cooley supports the zero tolerance stance. "I think there's a reasonable expectation that kids, when they come to our high school, are equipped to make these decisions. They know when they're right and they know when they're wrong."

Independence Township Board notes

At the December 5 meeting of the Independence Township Board of Trustees the following took place:

● In order to provide adequate computer operations for the next three years, the township board of trustees voted to approved spending \$26,000 to upgrade the township's current system.

Township parks and recreation director Ann Conklin said the current IBM System 36 which operates accounting, voter registration and tax systems is 10 years old, is inefficient and is out of disc space. The upgrade for the system, called the AS/400 Advanced System, will be adequate for about three years, she said.

Conklin said during those years, the township could gradually phase in a more up-to-date system that will perform even more functions. The cost of the upgrade will be taken out of the Capital Improvements Fund.

● The board approved the purchase of a \$30,600 Cushman Mower for the township's maintenance of grounds and parks.

Also approved was the \$16,000 purchase of a utility vehicle. The board received four bids on each piece of equipment. The other mower bids came in between \$32,747 and \$36,688.

Only two utility vehicle bids met specifications. The lowest bid of \$15,032 wasn't accepted because the \$16,000 vehicle has a tool storage compartment, access to the engine via the hood rather than the seat, and speed control for operation of attachments.

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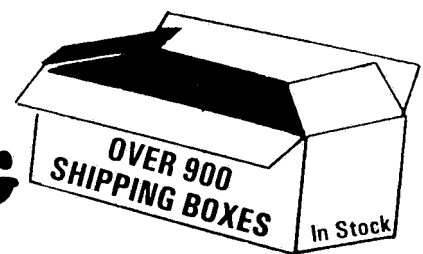
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OPINION

The Clarkston-News

Wed., Dec. 13, 1995



In Focus

by Annette Kingsbury

The school of our dreams

Monday night was goose bump time for anyone excitedly awaiting the new high school.

Architects brought artists renderings of what the front entrance may look like. They also brought color elevations that show proposed surfaces and gave a good idea of what the building will look like from a variety of angles.

Though we've seen various renderings before at school board meetings, these were the first that really made the plan come alive. And it was pretty exciting to think that such a facility will be coming to Clarkston.

The architects have designed what they call a Main Street scenario, where visitors will be able to stroll a long, wide boulevard, so to speak, to get from the classroom wing to the offices, theater, gym and pool. These core facilities are spread along the east-west axis so they can all be easily accessed from parking lots and so sections can be closed off as desired.

If you've ever been to the new Rochester Library, the plan reminds me of that, but on a much grander scale. At the library (and it is huge too) you enter a large vestibule and choose from among options that are behind glass walls. It's almost like going shopping, and that's the effect this Main Street plan had on me Monday night.

The school board and the architects want to show off what's best about their new facility, so there will be lots of glass. A high-tech media center will be right inside the main entrance, with glass proposed so passers-by can see what's going on inside. Lunchers will have a view of the outside world, and even the wetlands tucked into a far corner may be visible, thanks to special elements designed to take advantage of the view.

In addition, the designers have looked around Clarkston and decided to try to stick with traditional materials to blend harmoniously with the community. That means a combination of stone and brick which looked soothing, classic and elegant in the drawings.

It all looks just spectacular, something anyone with \$53 million to spend could be proud of. The only clinker in Monday's presentation was the revelation (for the first time publicly) that the project, as designed, may be over budget and require scaling back.

That would be a shame, especially given the fact that the school may very likely already be filled to its academic capacity the day it opens. It's frightening to think that six classrooms may have to be cut. I can already see that beautiful building being added on to, ruining the view, at least from some angles.

It's hard to imagine anything costing that much, but that's the reality. Maybe the district should start investing in Lotto tickets or something. There's nothing there anyone would want to give up—not one window, not one computer. Here's hoping they can pull it off.

Got a gripe?

Write a letter to the editor, 5 S. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346.



Jim's Jottings

By Jim Sherman

It's time to say goodbye to Fitz

When Jim Fitzgerald left The Lapeer County Press to become a columnist at The Detroit Free Press 19 years ago I wrote, "The Free Press staff is, of course, ecstatic. The most frequent comment is, 'If it fits what?' Running a close second is, 'Jim who? Why?'"

About five months ago Fitz retired his "If It Fitz" column on one of the Free Press's many back pages. Readers and management there haven't missed him, and now we're going to test our readers.

Jim Fitzgerald and Jim Sherman started in the weekly newspaper business about the same time. We first met in 1953 at a state newspaper convention. Both of us were in sales. Both of us wrote sports. Both of us wrote columns. He was far better than I in all three.

About 1960 I asked Jim if I could run his column in The Oxford Leader, which I'd purchased in 1955. His boss wasn't keen on the idea, believing Fitz would lose his closeness to Lapeer. We've been running 'If It Fitz' ever since, under a yearly contract.

When he retired, just before the Detroit newspaper strike nearly 5 months ago, Fitz had about 25 weeks left on our agreement. He refused to refund our money, (just kidding) so we've been running selected columns.

Now it's over.

After 25 years with The County Press and 19 years — he started April 5, 1976 with The Free Press — Fitz is at his new home in Lapeer doing what he does best . . . sleeping until 11:00 a.m., playing with

his grandchildren, going to various shows and symphonies in Detroit and sitting in his easy chair, just out of wife Pat's way.

Reporters from The County Press, Flint Journal and Free Press have interviewed him, each repeatedly asking him, "Are you going to continue writing something . . . anything?"

The answer is a definite, final, "NO!" He could have proved it by showing them where he dumped all his files.

Personally, I'm not 'enjoying' retirement. I enjoyed working. It's just that I don't believe it's fair to my son, who is publisher, to be around the office much.

On the other hand, Fitz is enjoying retirement, totally. "I don't have to read every newspaper and every story to the end. I don't have to clip stories for ideas. I don't have to live with a note pad with me constantly. It's great!" he told me recently.

Well, good for Fitz. Maybe when I get to be his age, I'll have made the proper mental adjustment and be able to enjoy retirement.

He's five days older than me.

He doesn't read my stuff (it's not up (down?) to his standards), so in saying goodbye I'd like our readers to know why we've carried his columns all these years.

Jim Fitzgerald is the best wordsman I've ever read. He can make common words have different, yet fitting meaning. He's fearless of topic or persons. He has the right amount of cynicism, humor and understanding of human dignity.

Don't Rush Me

By Don Rush

It's cold out there



Call me kooky, but after 40-below windchill factors, I'll take a green Christmas this year.

It's not that I dislike snow-capped pine trees, glistening in the sunlight. I just have this aversion to walking outside and having my nose hairs freeze up tight. This could be a long, hard winter.

Growing up in what was then rural Americana, and now suburbia, Independence Township, the cold never bothered me. I'd get up in the morning, throw three bowls of Raisin Bran cereal, heaped with sugar, down the ol' gullet, then head out.

I'd come back for a quick, triple-decker strawberry preserves, peanut butter and banana sandwich, two glasses of milk and be back outside until dark -- which was a good indication that Mom had dinner ready.

Sure my ears, nose, fingers and toes would hurt like Hades, but I could take it.

What sort of turn-'em-wimpy-virus did I catch between then and now?

I can hardly stand running out from the house to the car in the morning. I'm pathetic!

Enroute to work each morning I see high school kids huddling together, waiting for the bus. I guess they

make kids tougher these days, too. It must have been easier back in my day. I can't remember it being this cold. I do remember all the kids wore hats, gloves and winter jackets, zipped up tight.

Not these 1990s kids.

We must be breeding them hardier these days. They don't wear hats nor gloves and their jackets are zipped half-way up. They stand out there, eyes watering, hands shoved in their pockets and tough it out, just like John Wayne would have done.

Maybe he was a wimp, too. Come to think of it, I'm sure he would have opted for a thick jacket, gloves and a wool hat. That green beret toughness was just for the movies.

My aversion to the cold, though, has paid off. We purchased our Christmas tree when it was in the upper-30s. I pity the poor fools who go out for their tree this week. I guess were it I, who still needed the Christmas tree, I would forget my displeasure with fake trees.

I suppose I'd be in line at the store, picking out a plastic tree, and be thankful.

But I have my tree.

So, while I'm wrapped up warm on the couch, I can laugh at you who don't.

15 YEARS AGO (1980)

Hugh Garner, owner of Winchester Real Estate, approaches the Independence Township Board with a proposal for a new development that would feature 110 condominiums. He plans to develop the condos on 25 acres of commercially zoned land near the intersection of I-75 and Dixie Highway. The board directs Garner to the planning commission where his proposal will be heard Jan. 6.

For the first time in over two years, the Clarkston High School varsity basketball team loses before hometown fans, bowing to the Davison Cardinals 75-68 in the season opener. "I thought our inexperience showed. We had players out there in their first varsity game. I don't feel we played with any intensity until the fourth quarter — and you can't play eight minutes out of 32 and expect to win," says Coach Gary Nustad of his 1980-81 Wolfpack.

25 YEARS AGO (1970)

Thieves enter the Clarkston branch of the United States Post Office on Main St. sometime during the night of Dec. 1. Employees say an investigation shows nothing missing from the building. However, the dial and handle of the vault are knocked off and all cash drawers are found forced open and dumped on the floor. Clerks discover an entry made by forcing a small lavatory window open near the rear of the building. Police are investigating.

Mercedes Van Natta, a fifth-grade teacher at Andersonville Elementary School, is on her way to becoming a reading specialist. Van Natta is one of four teachers currently in the Oakland Schools reading intern program learning to assist other teachers in improving reading instruction, diagnosing problems children have in learning to read and planning ways to correct reading problems.

Construction of a new building continues the trend of modernization along Clarkston's Main St. A new structure for Bob's Hardware will be styled in the same type of architecture as the original building located on the corner of Main and Waldon.

50 YEARS AGO (1945)

Just nine more shopping days until Christmas. Have you tried to do most of your buying in your own district? The local stores in Clarkston, Waterford and Drayton Plains have very fine selections this year ... Tomorrow is Goodfellow's Day in Clarkston. The Rotarians will be on the streets with their papers to sell in order to give you a chance to help with the Christmas Eve party. Then too, some of the funds will help with work that is badly needed at the Agawam Boy Scout Camp at Tommy's Lake.

A letter from Santa, North Pole, to Earl Terry, president of the Clarkston Rotary Club, reads:

Dear Earl: I will be delighted to attend your Clarkston Rotary Club's 6th Annual Christmas Eve Party for all the children of Clarkston and vicinity.

I will remember your past Rotary Club Christmas Eve parties and look forward with pleasure to seeing all the children again. Of course, I will have a present for each child. Sincerely, Santa.

60 YEARS AGO (1935)

The Clarkston Women's Chorus, directed by Charles Hutton, will present their third annual winter concert Friday night at the school. They will be assisted by an instrumental ensemble composed of members of the school orchestra. The program will consist of traditional and familiar old English, French and German Christmas carols, including "Silent Night" and "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming." Two hundred people are expected to attend.

Featured at the Holly Theatre this week are Jack Holt in "Awakening of Jim Burke," Richard Dix in "The Arizonian," Jack Benny, Una Merkel and Ted Healy in "It's In the Air" and Marion Davies, Pat O'Brien and Dick Powell in "Page Miss Glory."

Specials at Rudy's this week include rolled roast, 25 cents a pound; hamburger, two pounds for 25 cents; lard, two pounds for 29 cents; hullless pop corn, a dime a bag; cookies, 10 cents a pound; and mixed candy, two pounds for a quarter.

If It Fitz

by Jim Fitzgerald

Sound of Ubly
now called
sign of health



Because of something I wrote in October, Paul DeJohn of Plymouth sent me a snapshot of a beautiful German riverboat, sailing on the Rhine. "The boat's theme, *Fahrt mit Musik*, seemed an appropriate setting for sightseeing following a heavy luncheon of brats and wursts in a local *Gasthaus*," DeJohn explained.

And, from Cal Look of Royal Oak, there came a snapshot of a plastic eagle taken in California. The connection between the two photos is one of substance, rather than sound, and will possibly become clear if you dare keep reading.

This all began when I quoted from a 1925 Edgar A. Guest poem about Ubly, a tiny town in Huron County. And it was commented that "Ubly" sounds like the release of gas in a bathtub.

Subsequently, encouraged by exceedingly intellectual readers, I was compelled to write that if it weren't for *einfahts* and *ausfahts*, a runner couldn't *faritek* on and off the autobahn.

Which, translated from the German and Swedish, means the runner could speed up, slow down, and speed up again, a pacing procedure called *faritekung*. *Einfahts* and *ausfahts* are on and off ramps.

Obviously, if I'd heard from Paul DeJohn earlier, I also would have written that, in Germany, following a *Gasthaus* dinner, runners at sea can *faritek* on deck *mit musik*.

Back in Michigan, I often read that Canada geese are a poopy problem for lakeside homeowners and picnickers who desire to keep their shoes clean while walking near the water. Apparently, the only solution is to shoot the geese, which is rather unpleasant if you don't enjoy killing, or if you're a goose.

Maybe we should try the scarecrow method, using fearsome-looking, full-color plastic eagles, standing on shore about three foot high. That's what they're doing at the Rossmoor retirement complex near San Francisco, where former Detroiters Bob and Stella Boyle live. They sent me the illustrated anti-geese information Via cousin Cal Look.

According to the Nov. 30 Rossmoor News, the phony eagles "appeared to be getting results. While the local geese population was still around, the migratory birds were reportedly passing Rossmoor over and not stopping."

Of course, that report came after California approved Proposition 187, and there is speculation that the nonstop birds were simply illegal immigrants afraid to land without green cards.

Whatever.

Further news spawned by my first Ubly column came from Bill Bates of Lewiston, who said his late father was a school principal in Ubly 80 years ago, "and he was fired for playing cards with a Catholic priest on Main Street."

Obviously, your reward for reading this far is being reminded that, however slow, this nation is making progress in the battle against puritan bigotry. Today a principal and a Catholic priest could play cards together several times a week with no one caring except their wives.

Another indication of modern enlightenment is this news item out of Amsterdam: "Breaking wind is healthy and should not cause embarrassment, the Netherlands Liver and Intestine Foundation said Wednesday. The foundation, which helps finance research and educate the public about digestive problems, said breaking wind 15 times a day helps to expel gas that otherwise would cause discomfort.

"The foundation said it is launching a taboo-breaking publicity campaign to try to clear the air about flatulence."

Ge. Maybe someday sissy euphemisms will be outmoded and you won't give a fartlek if you have to swing a bat at a tornado to break wind.

(Editor's Note: This is the final "If It Fitz" column. The author, Jim Fitzgerald, has retired from his position with The Detroit Free Press, and will no longer provide his column.)

CHS Life

By D'Anne Witkowski

I hate my car. Actually, that's not true. Hating my car would be a wasteful expenditure of my energy, not to mention a little extreme. I'm just a little upset with it. The truth is, I need my car. I need my car like I've never needed it before because now, I don't have it.

My car (which, since I share it with my sister Laura, isn't strictly my car, but for all intents and purposes will be referred to as my car for now) is a red Ford Escort from the days of 1987. That really doesn't seem very old to me since I was alive in 1987 and can even remember parts of that year. I don't think that anyone born in 1987 is really old enough to die in 1995. My car, however, doesn't agree, and since my car isn't a person, I guess I should give it some slack.

My car has been through a lot for a little car and really, despite all the trouble it's given me, I feel bad for it. The most recent of its ailments included the brake lines cracking which, naturally, caused the brakes to be a little less than functioning.

This wouldn't have been a problem had my car said to me, "You know, I'm really not feeling up to driving today, maybe you should take me to a service station or something" before we even left the driveway.

Unfortunately, my car chose to tell me that it wasn't all right on M-15 while I was doing 40 mph and, being the whimsical girl I am, needed to stop at a red light. I managed to stop by pumping the brakes and all, but the drive into school that morning was enough to get the blood pumping, that's for sure.

I thought, OK, I'll take it in, get the brakes fixed and get a tune-up and my car will last me all winter.

No problem, right?

Well, after staying late at school Friday night for yearbook, I went out to the parking lot to start my car just like I usually would. However, this time when I put the car into drive and stepped on the gas, the wheels didn't turn and all I could hear was a tremendous roaring from my engine. Hmmm, the mechanical genius in me thought, there must be something wrong. After looking under my car and seeing the inordinate amounts of brown liquid pouring out of the bottom into an already huge puddle, I concluded that, in all likelihood, that was probably a big part of the problem.

Naturally I couldn't drive my car home so I left it in the high-school parking lot overnight. Actually, by the time I got a tow truck to bring it to the nearest service station, it had been in the parking lot for a day and two nights. Sadly, by the time the towing agency got to my car, all four tires were flat. This, to me, was not good news. I don't know how other people take such surprises, but I was anything but delighted. My only hope is that there was no human intervention in the flattening of my car's tires. I prefer to think of it as my car sighing a final sigh of defeat.

As much as I hate to admit it, I really hate being without a car. As of right now, I have no idea how much it's going to cost to bring my car back to life. Probably a lot more than I have.

At this point if I thought giving my car mouth to mouth via the tailpipe would actually work, I think I'd honestly try it, though it would have to be warmed up enough so that my lips wouldn't stick to the frozen metal, yet cold enough so that I wouldn't burn my mouth. Then again, maybe I'm not thinking rationally.



Your finances James B. Kruzan, CFP

Top 10 estate planning goof-ups

When beginning to plan for leaving their property to heirs, people are confronted and frightened by the high estate-tax rates and rush to utilize sophisticated estate planning techniques to avoid them. Yet, there are some simple moves that can frustrate these elaborate plans and are easily avoided. Here are some of the common mistakes to watch out for:

(1) **Not Funding Your Living Trust.** Many individuals have attempted to install a modern estate plan and use a living trust. Yet, too many fail to transfer the necessary property to the trust, which is like having a conductor without an orchestra.

(2) **Too Much JTWROS Property.** Titling assets under joint-tenancy-with-right-of-survivorship does avoid probate, yet does not avoid estate taxes. Further, improper titling can frustrate an estate plan because property titled JTWROS goes to the surviving joint tenant regardless of what a will says.

(3) **Leaving Too Many Assets to a Surviving Spouse.** Leaving all your property to your spouse does avoid estate taxes at the first death due to the unlimited marital deduction. However, such a plan wastes the first-to-die spouse's unified credit. It may also often be better to pay some estate taxes at the first death at lower marginal rates.

(4) **Not Equalizing Assets Through Gifts Between Spouses.** This is another example of improper titling and wasting the unified credit. Having all property titled in one spouse looks silly when the non-titled spouse dies first and does not pass on any property under her credit.

(5) **Not Having a Will.** Do we really need to say more? Property of the decedent will pass under the state intestacy laws at possible increased costs. Personal wishes, whether written or oral, will most

likely not be followed in the absence of a will.

(6) **Improper Ownership of Life Insurance.** Most policies are owned by the insured, payable to the insured's estate or survivors and therefore are included in the owner's taxable estate. Policy owners should consider giving policies directly to the beneficiaries or transferring them to an irrevocable trust to avoid a large estate tax bite.

(7) **Being Donor & Custodian of a UGMA Account.** Creating and contributing to a UGMA account of which you are the custodian will cause the account to be includible in your estate and possibly subject to painful estate taxes.

(8) **Not Knowing Where All the "Stuff" Is.** A scattered estate plan by a secretive decedent may cause some assets to be left uncollected, undistributed and even lost.

(9) **Naming the Wrong Executor.** The tasks facing an executor are often formidable and demanding in all but simple estates. Spouses and close family relatives are under enough burdens. A professional or trust company is often a better choice.

(10) **Not Periodically Updating an Estate Plan.** People don't like to think about dying and therefore want to set up an estate plan and be done with it. However, many economic, health and family changes require revising your estate plan. It's best to work with an experienced financial planner who can help make the necessary modifications.

Understanding and avoiding these gaffes can make sure that your wishes can be fulfilled and minimize the tax bite for your heirs. Be sure to work with an experienced financial planner or other professional to help you achieve your estate planning goals.

The D'Anne & Don Review

The Liars' Club

By Don Downey

Mary Karr's memoir, *The Liar's Club*, makes me remember why I like autobiographies so much. They say that there's nothing people like to talk about more than themselves, and I've found that's true with writing as well.

The best writing is usually semiautobiographical, the writer making his or her life more interesting for the reader, but in *The Liar's Club* Karr reminds us that real life can be as beautiful, complex or terrifying as the most inventive fiction.

The Liar's Club was a group of men Karr's father played cards and drank beer with some 35 years ago in Texas. According to Karr, "They met at the American Legion or in the back room of Fisher's Bait Shop at times when their wives thought they were paying bills or down at the union hall. Somebody's (ticked)-off wife eventually christened them The Liar's Club, and it stuck. Certainly not much truth in any technical sense got told there."

But the truth is told in the book, more than 300 pages of it. Karr fearlessly retells scenes from her life and reveals not only an obviously difficult past, but incredible powers of observation as well. If the most interesting thing about this book isn't Karr's sad childhood, it's the fact that she's able to remember all of it with such clarity and insight. The magnitude of her memory is well matched with her use of details and imagery, which is key to any fine narrative.

Like most autobiographies, *The Liar's Club* probes deep into the author's life and reveals some sort of truth that the readers may have never considered before. But unlike a lot of autobiographies, *The Liar's*

Club reads like a clear essay and not a jumble of post-adolescent realizations with predictable morals. Although Karr doesn't break any molds, she definitely has her hammer in the right place.

Health beat

● **Women with early stage, localized breast cancer have a new option at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak; lumpectomy followed by just four days of outpatient treatment with radiation implants.**

In this virtually painless procedure called brachytherapy, high-dose radioactive implants are placed at or around the tumor site to kill any cancer cells left after lumpectomy. The treatments take just a few minutes each day.

Beaumont is one of two hospitals in the nation to offer this outpatient treatment. Formerly, six to seven weeks of daily radiation after lumpectomy drove many women to choose mastectomy, Beaumont says.

● **Crittenton Hospital's Department of Psychiatry is one of only two in the state to have been granted designated status by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Crittenton offers a diverse program including inpatient unit, partial hospitalization, which allows patients to return home nightly, and the Psychiatric Evaluation and Referral Center, which offers crisis intervention.**

People Poll

By Eileen Oxley

How does Santa Claus get into your house?



blonde girl, hair balls, hair down to shoulders, white blouse, blue denim jumper



ALEXIS MAHLER, 4: We don't have a chimney so he has a magic key for our door. And then he brings presents.



CODY AULSEY, 4: He goes down the chimney.



KILEY ROLLIN, 4: IN THE DOOR.



ANGELA HAIGHT, 4: From the chimney. (If there isn't a chimney) maybe he can open the door quietly and come in.

Kids are from Clarkson Co-op Preschool

Sheriff's contract approved to 1998

County commissioner says compromise deal is fair

BY DARREL W. COLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Townships contracting with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department will be paying an average 3 percent increase for the next three years.

The yearly raise is less than the county's original proposal of over 4 percent raises each year.

The Independence Township Board of Trustees approved the 1996-98 contract 4-2 Dec. 5, although clerk Joan McCrary and trustee Bruce Mercado voted against approval because they said there are still too many questions that need to be answered.

"The practicality of approving this now when we just got it is hard for me to deal with," said Mercado.

McCrary agreed, adding that some of the township attorney's questions and concerns did not even receive a response from the county administration.

Township supervisor Dale Stuart said he also just received the contract, but every municipality has to deal with the same contract.

"The bottom line is this is a decision to vote for or against the service. You're getting this as soon as I receive it," he said.

District 3 Oakland County Commissioner Larry Obrecht, who represents part of Independence Township and all of Orion, Oakland and Addison townships, said he's worked with the county administration on the contract for over a year. The County Board of Commissioners finally approved the contract Dec. 7.

"We have a good contract in my opinion," he said. "There's a word here and there that some don't like, but this has been a real battle for the past year."

He said the bottom line is that the county first proposed a 12.5 percent increase over three years, while he proposed a 7.2 percent increase. Both sides compromised on 9 percent over three years.

Obrecht said he received several suggestions from municipal attorneys and officials, including Independence Township attorney Gerald Fisher, when the first draft of the contract was sent out. When all the concerns came in he attempted to pull all the information together and then submitted another recommendation to the county.

From that proposal, the county sent out an amended version of the contract.

OCSO cost breakdowns

1996 salary/benefits

Position	Salary	Benefits
Lt.	\$50,700	Retirement: \$12,800 Health Ins.: \$5,100 Transportation: \$6,000
Patrol Sgt.	\$47,000	Retirement: \$11,900 Health Ins.: \$5,100 Transportation: \$7,000
Deputy II	\$40,361	Retirement: \$10,100 Health Ins.: \$5,100 Transportation: \$7,000
Deputy I	\$30,000	Retirement: \$7,500 Health Ins.: \$5,100 Transportation: \$7,000

NOTE: Costs are only for 1996. Raises are as follows: 3.3 % in 1996, 3 % in 1997 and 2.7 % in 1998.

It may be a bit early yet . . .

but you can recycle your Christmas trees at any Oakland County Park this holiday season. Recycling will be available Dec. 26-Jan. 14, and up through Jan. 28 at Orion Oaks and Independence Oaks. Hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily. All recyclers will be eligible to win a park summer fun passbook worth \$60.

Oakland County recycles an average of 8,000 trees each year which are chipped for use on nature trails and as mulch and compost. For more information call 858-0906.

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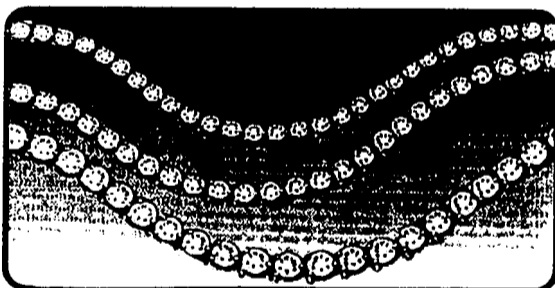
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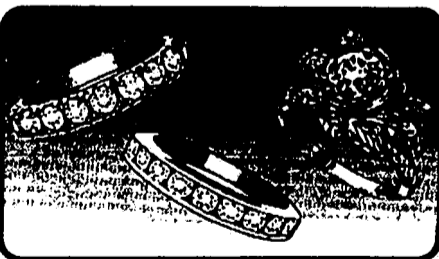
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COLORED INK

Principal's neckwear fosters school spirit

BY EILEEN OXLEY
Clarkston News Staff Writer

When Bill Potvin greets his students in the morning, he isn't wearing just any old tie. He often has the likes of Snoopy, Bugs Bunny or Mickey Mouse emblazoned across his chest.

What began as a small collection several years ago has now turned into a form of school spirit, with Potvin's four-level tie rack taking over a corner of Andersonville Elementary's conference room. Many of the nifty neckpieces feature cartoon characters and Save the Children designs. Others are for holidays and some are definitely geared toward an educator — one's a long pencil and another has apples, some half eaten, dotted across the fabric. Only a few are traditional paisleys.

The Andersonville El. principal found that his colorful Save the Children ties attracted a lot of attention a few years ago.

"That's really how I got started. My wife and I sponsor a Save the Children child. Another way you can help them is through buying ties. The (school) kids would say, 'Hey, Mr. Potvin. When are you gonna wear that tie again?'"

The idea evolved from there. Potvin added some ties featuring endangered wildlife and began receiving some as gifts, from students as well as his own children (he has four). His present collection numbers 52.

"Parents made some of these ties." Potvin points to a tie studded with Easter eggs and a money tie splashed with currency.

In the beginning Potvin wore a tie every time a child asked him to, but soon he found "so many kids were telling me that I couldn't satisfy them all." That's when he came up with a near-perfect solution. He picked one class a day to help him select a tie. But Potvin eventually found that took too much time and whittled the activity down to twice a

week. Now, one class picks three or four students who march down to the conference room to select ties that are voted on by classmates. Potvin loves the ritual.

"I'll sit here and hear a knock on the door. I'll say, 'Come in.' They'll say (Potvin imitates the students in a low, solemn monotone), 'Can we go to the ties?'" Each student is sure his or her tie will be chosen and he enjoys watching them tell each other. "Hey," Potvin says, whispering, nodding his head and pointing to a tie as he mimicks the students. "This one."

When the winning tie is selected, the principal makes a visit to the lunch room "so they can say, 'We picked that tie.' It gives them a little notoriety."

The collection has become such a hit that when Andersonville holds its open house at the beginning of the year, the kids just have to show their parents the ties. "I leave the door open now," Potvin admits.

Both Potvin and his students have their favorites. Potvin likes the Save the Children ties. The children seem to enjoy many of the multi-character ties that feature those from Warner Brothers, Disney and Peanuts. "I've got six ties with the Tasmanian Devil. The kids really love Taz."

But there is also one that gets his vote as the ugliest tie of the bunch — a gaudy, plastic orange tie peppered with black Halloween characters. Potvin shudders when he has to wear it Oct. 31, but says kids torment him at other times during the year. One of the reasons they like the tie is because it's got an elastic neck band and they can "do this," says Potvin, demonstrating. He only lets one student at a lunch room table pull it.

Many other ties also come with stories. Potvin remembers a time when a visiting children's author wore a tie decorated with red lobsters. He saw the principal's collection and literally gave Potvin the tie off his neck.

Another story is touching. A sec-



Bill Potvin poses with his collection.

ond-grade boy told Potvin he was going to buy him a tie. Potvin knew the boy had home problems, was poor and lived with his uncle. But, sure enough, the youngster came into school one day and handed Potvin a small, shabbily-wrapped Christmas package. Inside was a tie printed with a cartoon man frying food over a grill.

"His uncle said, 'You know, he's been saving money since school started to buy you a tie.'" Potvin started to thank the boy who told him simply, "I love you."

"It went beyond a tie. Everybody's given me a tie. But you kind of put that in the true (category) of a gift. I wrote him a thank-you note, but there aren't the words ...," he says, choking up.

Besides wearing them, the principal likes to "tie in" messages that are fun and educational. For example, the Save the Children ties teach about brotherhood through their display of different

faces. Potvin has also initiated discussions about various Peanuts characters like shy, sensitive Charlie Brown and overbearing Lucy.

He likes to quiz students and tells about a typical session he has with first-graders. Potvin figures some cartoon characters have become rather obscure, so he says he will give them \$100 if they can tell him who a certain spaceman (Warner Brothers' Marvin the Martian) is. But, before they can answer and he's in danger, he yells, "Oops! Time's up!"

Clearly, the ties have become more to Potvin than just extraordinary neckwear.

"It also fits my personality. I'm still a kid," he says with a hearty laugh. "The older I get, the more I realize that age is a state of mind. I find that I feel young — and stay young."

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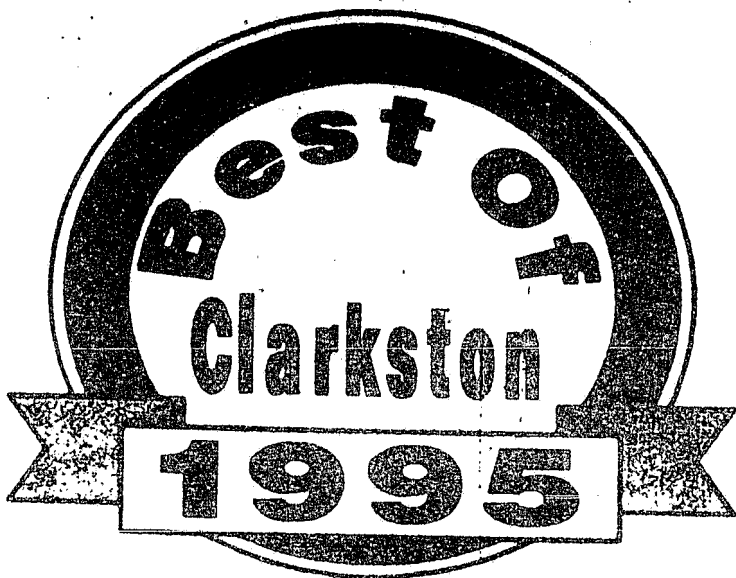
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Announcing

A readers' poll



Here's your chance to give a pat on the back to someone who does a good job!

Listed below are categories chosen by Clarkston News staff. Select your favorite in each of the categories within the geographic boundaries shown on the map (all of Independence Township and the city of Clarkston as well as parts of Springfield Township, bordered by Rattalee Lake Rd. on the north and Dixie Highway on the west and south, and Waterford, bounded by Dixie on the west and Sashabaw on the east).

This is a non-scientific poll based on the responses of our readers. The ballot may be photocopied by limit one entry per person, please.

Return all ballots to The Clarkston News, 5 S. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346 no later than noon on Wednesday, Dec. 20. Your favorites will be revealed in a future edition.

The categories

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Best bank teller _____ | Best auto mechanic _____ |
| Best hairdresser/barber _____ | Best ice cream _____ |
| Best dry cleaner _____ | Best nail technician _____ |
| Best park _____ | Best bread _____ |
| Best coffee _____ | Best waitperson _____ |
| Best cappuccino _____ | Best dentist _____ |
| Best doughnuts _____ | Best doctor _____ |
| Best hamburger _____ | Best lawyer _____ |
| Best pizza _____ | Best subdivision _____ |
| Best take-out food _____ | Best day care center _____ |
| Best sit-down restaurant _____ | Best video store _____ |
| Best sales clerk _____ | Best elementary school _____ |
| Best bartender _____ | Best teacher _____ |

The map

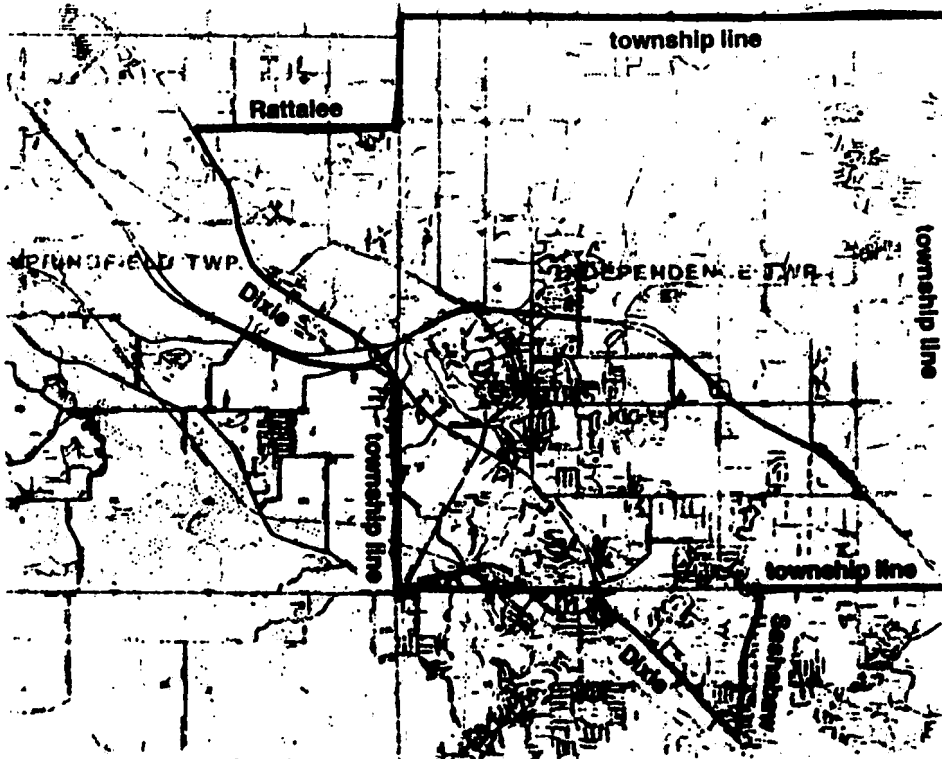
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Milestones



Marking 90 years

Floy L. (Jo) Wilson of Clarkston will celebrate her 90th birthday December 16, 1995. A 15-year resident of Clarkston, she and her late husband, Elmer, owned the #10 Sandwich Shop in Pontiac. She also worked at General Printing in Pontiac and was a longtime Pontiac resident. Mrs. Wilson loves bridge and is a member and former hostess at Waterford Senior Citizens. She also is a member of First Presbyterian Church in Pontiac. Helping her celebrate are three daughters, Floy Boose of Troy, Barb Bailey of Waterford and Janet Harison of Traverse City. Mrs. Wilson also has nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She was born in Corunna in 1905.

In service

● Marine Cpl. Michael D. Martin, son of Edgar and Kristin Martin of Clarkston, recently departed for a six-month overseas deployment to the western Pacific with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit. Martin is one of nearly 2,000 Marines who departed Camp Pendleton, CAL about the three-ship Amphibious Ready Group. Martin will travel 25,000 miles during the six-month voyage, and will spend a majority of his time at sea. The 1992 Clarkston High School graduate joined the Marines in October, 1992.

● Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Thomas Michael, son-in-law of Wayne and Patricia Jones of Clarkston, has returned to San Diego after completing a six-month overseas deployment about the destroyer USS Elliot, which included duty in the Persian Gulf near Iraq.

While in the Middle East, Michael helped enforce the international embargo against Iraq by conducting maritime interceptions of merchant ships suspected of violating the embargo. In addition to 120 days at sea, Michael visited Australia, Bahrain, Japan, Oman, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates.

A 1989 graduate of Brandon High School, Michael joined the Navy in December, 1990.

Having a milestone? Send it to
The Clarkston News

Ronquillo-DeLeo wed in New Orleans

John and Robin (Ronquillo) De Leo were married March 4, 1995 at St. George Episcopal Church in New Orleans, LA.

The bride was given away by her father, Allan Ronquillo. She wore a white, off-the-shoulder straight gown with a cathedral train. Both the gown and train were trimmed with lace, tiny silk roses, pearls and iridescent sequins. Her headband, fashioned from lace and pearls, was taken from her mother's wedding headpiece. She carried a bouquet of white orchids and roses.

Maid of honor was Lesley Ronquillo Dupuy of Mobile, AL, the bride's sister. Bridesmaids included Claudine Crespin, Pamela Hansen and Tracy Hidalgo, all of New Orleans, and Sandra Rice of Ann Arbor.

The groom's attendants included Angelo Edward De Leo, father of the groom, as best man, and groomsmen Gary De Leo, Richard De Leo, Allan Ronquillo Jr. and Paul Menasco.

A reception for 300 guests was held at English Turn Country Club.

Robin is the daughter of Allan and Karen Ronquillo of Clarkston. She graduated from both Clarkston High School and Michigan State University where she received a BA. She also graduated from Tulane University, receiving her Juris Doctor degree, cum laude, in 1990. Robin is employed as a shareholder for the New Orleans-based Draper & Culpepper law firm where she specializes in both creditor and debtor bankruptcy law.

John is the son of Angelo and Elizabeth De Leo of New Orleans. He received a BS in biology from our



Mr. and Mrs. John De Leo

Lady of Holy Cross College and is employed in outside sales in the New Orleans area.

The couple spent their honeymoon in Jamaica. They reside in Mandeville, LA.

Honors

● Clarkston's own country singer, Scott Davis, received two awards at the 13th annual Metro Times Detroit Music Awards Dec. 2. Davis was named best country musician and best country vocalist. Voting was done by the public. Awards were handed out Dec. 2 at the State Theater in Detroit.



Trzcinski-Walters

Jerry and Judy Trzcinski of Traverse City, formerly of Clarkston, announce the engagement of their daughter, Jodi Lynn Trzcinski, to Michael Hollis Walters, son of Pastor Robert and Beverly Walters of Clarkston. The bride-to-be is a graduate of both Our Lady of the Lakes High School and Alma College. She is presently a senior at the Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine in Chicago. The prospective groom is a graduate of both CHS and Albion College. He is employed as a manufacturer's representative for Turner Associates in Southfield. A May 1996 wedding is planned in Traverse City.

At school

Meghan Schlicher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. Douglas Schlicher of Clarkston, and 12 other equestriennes from Culver Girls Academy participated in the Monon Christmas parade in Monon, Indiana Dec. 2. The girls, the school's best riders, took first place in the Youth Rider Division. Meghan is a junior at CGA where she has competed on the soccer, polo and tennis teams and been a member of the Student Admissions Organization and the annual cabaret. Academically, she has received one Silver A, which requires a 3.2 GPA for the semester.



Business briefs

● Clarkston native Sara L. Stone has been named director of the Volunteer Center of the Lowcountry in N. Charleston, SC. She will coordinate the efforts of the center in three counties in its mission to mobilize people and resources to deliver creative solutions to community problems.

Stone was most recently mentor and volunteer coordinator for Cities in Schools of Charleston, Inc. She has 13 years experience with programs for children with special needs, and is active in the VISTA program. She is a graduate of Michigan State University and is currently working on a graduate degree in psychology.

● Doctor Nathan Chase, a Clarkston internist, recently completed continuing medical education classes at the Michigan State Medical Society's 130th Annual Scientific Meeting, held Nov. 2-4 in Lansing.

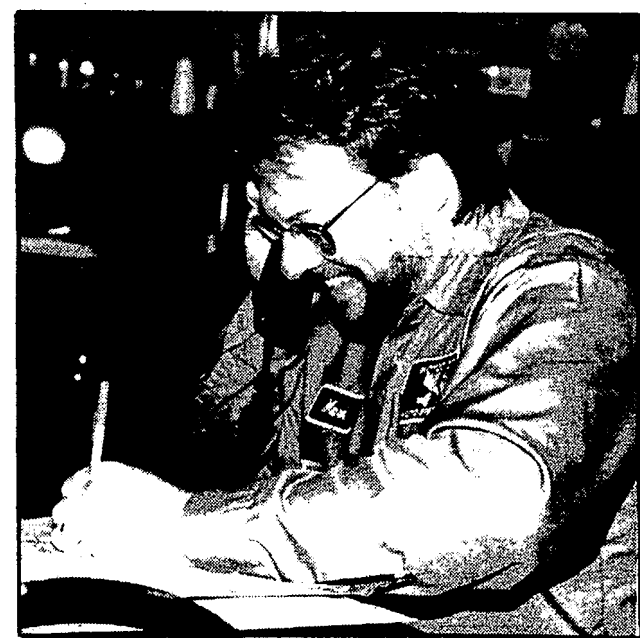
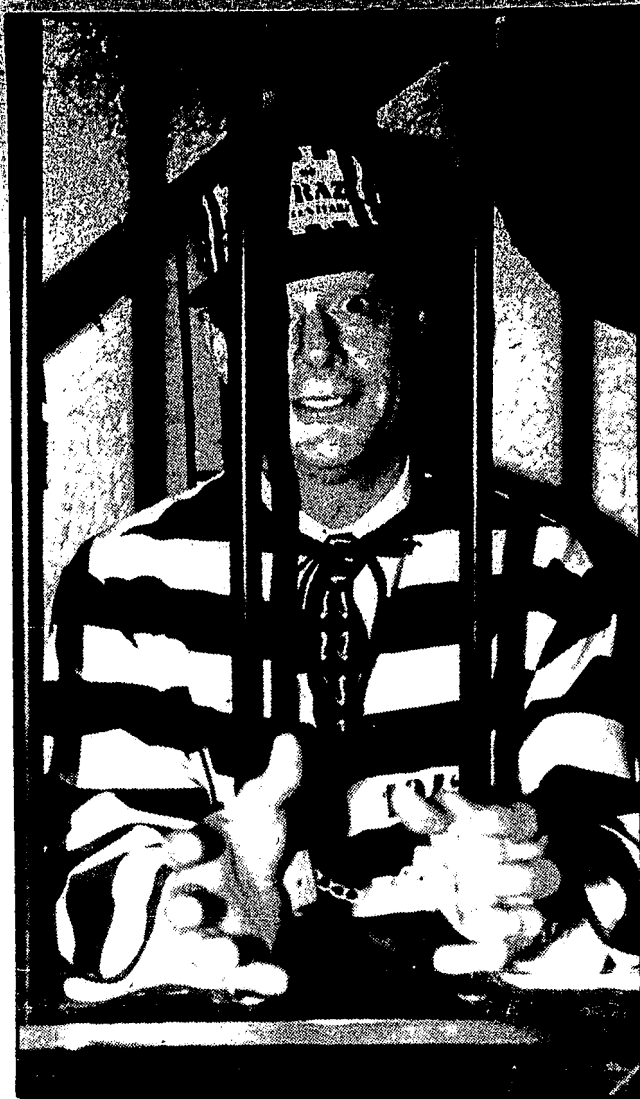
Michigan leads the nation in requiring a minimum of 150 hours of continuing medical education every three years as a condition of relicensure. The compliance rate is nearly 100 percent, according to MSMS.

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INK



What a way to go (back to work)! Pine Knob El. Principal Len Loveless and Clarkston businesswoman Tammy Kappel of Kappel Advertising are flanked by Clarkston Police Officer Sarah Higgins (left) and driver Mike Tower (right) as they ready to leave via limo.



Clarkston in the clink

BY EILEEN OXLEY
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Nearly 50 Clarkston business people, educators and government officials agreed to become jailbirds for a day to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

They were picked up at various times Dec. 6 and transported by Clarkston police officers and McNinch Limousine service to their temporary, rather cushy, headquarters at Waterford Courts on Dixie Highway. Once there, they were doin' time — with each person trying to raise \$1,000 in bail money by calling friends and associates on phones provided by Cellular One.

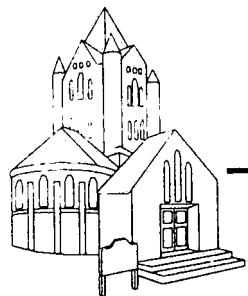
The lockup was expected to generate approximately \$20,000 but MDA wound up with an overwhelming total of almost \$28,000. The highest fundraiser was Jim Scharl of Kieft Engi-

neering, who secured \$3,220 in pledges. The funds will benefit MDA's local programs, including MDA clinics at Detroit Children's Hospital, the Michigan Institute for Neurological Disorders in Farmington Hills, support groups and a summer camp program.

Waterford Courts wasn't a bad place to be with food, pop and coffee offered amidst festive holiday decorations. As Dave Corbin, owner of Corbin & Company Hair Designs quipped as he was getting ready to leave with a commemorative T-shirt, "You didn't just get bread and water." But he was glad to be free. Standing with others who were waiting for a limo, Corbin said he was definitely "ready to rock 'n' roll."

On a more serious note, Corbin added, "This all goes for a good cause. The main thing is it helps some (people) out."

In top, right photo, Pine Knob Elementary Principal Len Loveless, in prison duds, mugs from behind bars. "They said, 'Bring your Roladex and look up your old students.'" But Loveless felt the real message was "Make him suffer." Below right, obviously enjoying his phone calls a wee bit too much is Mark Enzor of Motor City Auto Specialists.



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Students learn trials aren't quite like TV

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

On the old Perry Mason show, each trial ended with the guilty getting their just desserts. Not only that, it always happened in dramatic fashion, with Mason, by turns slick, tough and even empathetic, wringing a courtroom confession out of even the most cold-blooded killers.

But this is the '90s, and if there's one thing the OJ trial has taught us it's that courtroom proceedings are a lot shorter on drama and a lot longer on plodding attention to detail than TV and the movies led us to believe. And the outcome isn't always to everyone's liking.

Students in John Zittel's two Law and Society classes at Clarkston High School have been getting first-hand knowledge of just what goes into a trial this semester. The students spent a day in Oakland County Circuit Court observing in a courtroom. Then, last week, they presented their own mock trials on the stage in the CHS auditorium. Every member of the two classes had a role to play. The jury pool was supplied by the first- and second-hour classes of English/theater teacher Jeffrey Tice, who normally uses the auditorium during those hours.

The one-semester law class is an elective in the social studies department open to juniors and seniors. "Most have an interest in the topic coming in," Zittel said.

Senior Sarah Ramsey said she wants to be a lawyer, so she chose the role of a defense lawyer in the trial. Her father is a police officer and she had observed in court before. Nevertheless, her questioning of witnesses didn't go exactly as she had envisioned it, even though, just like a real lawyer, she had interviewed them in advance.

"I'm getting surprises," she said. "People are saying one thing to me and then another (under oath)." The experience wasn't enough to put her off the law as a career though. "It hasn't changed my mind yet," she said, two days into the trial.

The students did everything from choosing the crimes to videotaping the proceedings. The students serving as judges in the two classes even interviewed a real judge—Oakland County Circuit Judge Fred Mester.

"He referred to it (the judge's job) like being the king of the court; you're in control," said Mary Schmidt. "He was real cool; he gave us a lot of books. It was nice to talk to him."

Schmidt said Mester's point was a practical one.



In preparation for her role as a judge, Mary Schmidt puts on her robe.

"Everybody knows he knows the law; they can't trick him, get something past him. He's in charge, even though the jury makes the decision."

During their time on the bench, Schmidt and fellow judge Justin Morgan displayed different temperaments and techniques. Schmidt welcomed everyone to court as class started. Morgan instructed jurors sternly at the end of class. "As a juror you must not become an amateur detective, you must not visit the crime scene," he reminded them.

Though the trials were all in fun they seemed to have everyone's full attention. A few students really got into their parts. One boy wore a heavy gold chain, shades and a black beret (he was playing a gang member) and when asked a question said "I plead the fifth." Another witness claimed he couldn't remember

his own address.

But much of it was probably not that different than what goes on in most courtrooms every day. A missing witness. A sick juror. Microphones too low to be heard.

"It comes down to the skill of the lawyers," Zittel said.

Zac Sanger, a senior who played a prosecuting attorney and is interested in law as a career, said he didn't want to be a defense attorney. "I didn't want to have to defend somebody who was really guilty," he said. Never mind that the trial wasn't yet over and the defendants were presumed to be innocent.

In another revealing incident, one class videotaped their crime as it happened—a hold-up in a bank. What the courtroom saw, however, was unidentifiable figures on a too-short tape. What could have been a cinch—identifying the culprits—suddenly became much less of a sure thing. Students learned what "reasonable doubt" is all about.

Like many trials, these two went longer than expected. Originally budgeted for two days' class times, by the end of the second day Zittel was talking about a possible fourth day. But it didn't seem to bother him. But he appeared pleased with the effort, which is part of the class each semester.

"You get a huge variety of kids in an elective. If you can get them interested in it, they really get into it."

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 Medical on Pine Knob Rd.; one to North Oakland Medical Centers.
 Medical on Scenic Ridge; one to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, possible injury accident on Waldon.
 Washing machine fire on Drayton.
 Medical on Pine Knob Rd.; one to St. Joe's.
 Medical on W. Harvard; one to Crittenton Hospital.
 Medical on Maybee.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, a smoke alarm was activated by a burst water pipe on Cobden Lane.
 Water heater fire on Timberway Trail. There was no damage to the building and no one was injured.

Medical on Middle lake Rd.; one to St. Joe's.
 Carbon monoxide detector going off on Pelton.
 Medical on Mann Rd.; one to North Oakland Medical Centers.
 Two-injury accident on Dixie; one to a local hospital.
 Medical on Blue Grass.
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, rollover accident on White Lake Rd.
 Injury accident on Clarkston Rd.
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, medical on Parview; one to an area hospital.
 Medical on Whipple Lake Rd.; one to Crittenton.
 Medical on N. Marshbank Lane; one to POH.
TOTAL CALLS THIS YEAR THROUGH DEC. 10: 1,588.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, medical on Dixie.
 Fire in a swampy area off Cobden.
 Medical on Mountain View Trail.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, medical on Parview.
 Investigation on Maybee.
 Injury accident on Ortonville Rd. south of I-75.
 A man was found semi-conscious slumped over the wheel of a car on Clintonville Rd. He was taken to an area hospital.
 Van fire on I-75. The van and contents were a total loss.

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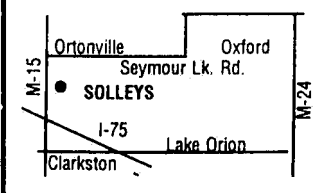
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Left to right: Leanne Dunlavy, 8, and Nicole Gauche, 9, hold their finished bags.



Latchkey, Lighthouse work together

Some needy families who receive Christmas groceries will find those plain brown bags wrapped in yuletide cheer, thanks to children from Clarkston Community Education's Kids Connection latchkey program.

Students enrolled in the before- and after-school childcare sessions offered within all six Clarkston elementary schools, spent last week decorating the bags with odds and ends like cotton, ribbons, buttons and puzzle pieces. Each child added the finishing touch of a gift tag-like label featuring his or her name.

At presstime, Linda Irwin, Kids Connection project coordinator, said the bags would be delivered to Lighthouse Clarkston on Monday, Dec. 11. Children have been involved in the annual activity for the past several years.

"It's kind of an outreach project, hoping that they'll feel good about giving to others, even if it's as little as decorating a bag of groceries," Irwin said.

All children pictured are from Springfield Plains Elementary School's Kids Connection program, run by staff members Jessica Kolos and Tricia Davies.

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City approves police video system

BY EILEEN OXLEY
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Clarkston's City Council put a unanimous stamp of approval on the purchase of a new high-tech police surveillance system for the city's police department Monday night.

A motion was carried, 7-0, to spend no more than \$10,000 for two Eyewitness Industrial Grade Patrol Car Surveillance Systems through a contract with Kansas-based Kustom Signals, Inc. to be installed in each of the CPD's two patrol cars. Each system will include a VHS recorder, an overhead camera and an in-car microphone kit with wireless receiver.

The cost of each system is \$4,495 with an additional \$115 for installation, bringing the total for two such systems to \$9,220. In addition, video cassettes and a storage case will be purchased.

The cost will be financed over the next two years at approximately \$430 a month for both units.

Clarkston Police Chief Paul Ormiston presented the proposal for acquiring the system at the last council meeting Nov. 27, saying it would prove invaluable for police officer training purposes, safety and liability. Ormiston said funds were available in the city's police budget because "I've been able to save money by reorganizing the department." Currently the CPD is staffed with only part-time officers.

All seven council members appeared to be in support of Ormiston's proposal at both of the last two council meetings.

"If the money's in the budget, I don't see why we can't just go ahead and buy it," said Councilman Bill Basinger.

Councilman Dave Savage asked Ormiston what he felt the primary purpose of such a system to be.

"My personal reason is we'll need it for the supervision of personnel in my absence and for officers' safety. People act a little bit differently when they're on camera," Ormiston said, referring to his officers and suspects who would be captured on film.

"How do (the officers) feel (about that)?" Councilwoman Karen Sanderson asked.

"They're eager ... and I kind of take that as a credit to them and to myself. They want the technology and will take advantage of it."

Ormiston also said the video system will catch violators in the act of committing a crime and "it helps to apprehend the suspect."

Though he said suspects would not necessarily know they were being videotaped when sitting in the back of a police car, for example, they might be told "if it could diffuse the situation."

At the Feb. 27 council meeting resident Laura Aulgur questioned Ormiston's proposal. "Do we really need this?" she asked.

But at Monday's meeting, Ormiston said he felt the surveillance system is inevitable for most police departments.

"I'm sure it's going to be as standard as shotguns in a vehicle eventually," he said.

In other council action:

● Councilman Steve Secatch said a work session about Depot St. is scheduled at City Hall Dec. 20. Secatch stressed that the brainstorming session is primarily a chance for some planning commission members, Clarkston Downtown Business Association members and Chief Ormiston to discuss various alternatives for Depot which include one-way versus two-way traffic and sidewalks. The results of the discussion will be presented to the planning commission for recommendation at its Jan. 8 meeting. That

recommendation will then be presented to council at its first meeting in February.

● Secatch said he has checked a section of the planning commission's ordinance and found that a city council member can not hold a seat on the commission. Secatch was recently appointed as council representative. The ordinance states that all nine seats must be filled and if Secatch is added there will be 10 members—too many, in his estimation, for Clarkston's small district. Secatch has suggested two possible changes to the ordinance: one, that the number of required seats be limited to seven with himself as a liaison; or two, that the ordinance be changed to accept a council member as a planning commission member, leaving the total number of seats at nine. City attorney Tom Ryan will check the state's statutes.

● Sanderson said that bacterial, not aerial spraying, will be done for the gypsy moth problem in the city in 1996.

● A resolution was passed, 7-0, to enter into a three-month extension of dispatch services provided by the Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

● A resolution was passed, 7-0, to ask Oakland County Community Development authorities for a waiver of \$2,800 of 1992-93 Community Development Block Grant funds which have not been spent. The funds are allocated for the path to Depot Park's gazebo and will be used in the spring.

Correction

● A name was accidentally omitted from the Clarkston High School honor roll published in the Nov. 29 issue.

Ingrid Zimmerman made the CHS Honor Roll as a freshman. Her GPA was in the 3.9-3.7 category.

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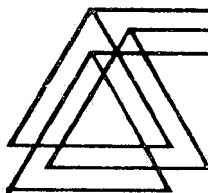
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CHS speech team seeking sponsors

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Now in its second year, and with official school club status, the Clarkston High School speech team is ready to roll. Now all it needs is some money.

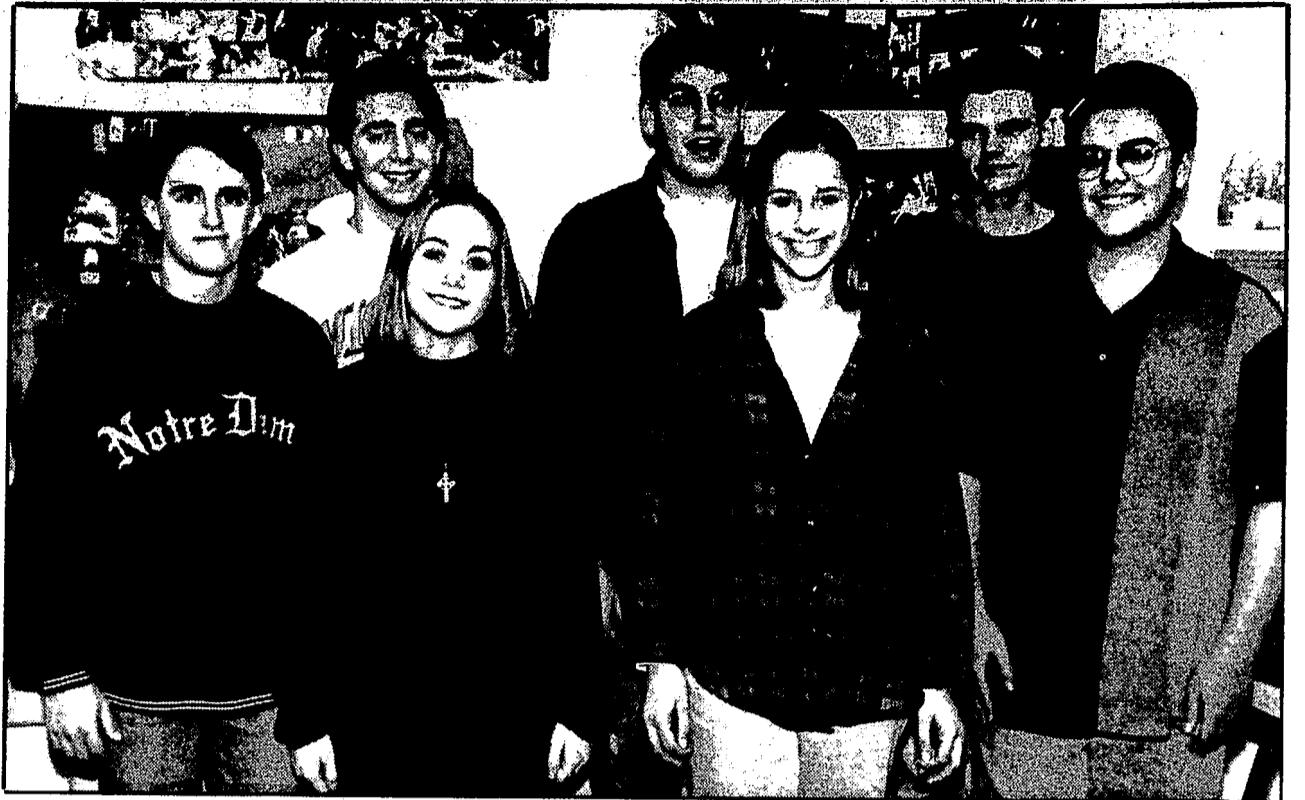
Students have begun approaching area businesses asking whether they would like to become sponsors of the team. The price tag is \$100-\$200, which will go toward paying the cost of competing, about \$400 per match.

Club sponsor Deborah O'Dell said the team has a very limited budget. Last year, the start-up year, the club was reimbursed for expenses "to get us started," she said. "But now that we've done that, it's the school's expectation that we will do it on our own."

So like all other school clubs and activities, these persuasive young speakers are trying their hands at fund raising. Returning member Michael Gay said he got two "yes" votes on his first try at finding sponsors. Those who agree to help will get some publicity out of the deal, either on team shirts or some other type of recognition, he said.

Gay said the team is preparing him for what he wants to do as a career—broadcasting. "I enjoy English and when I grow up I'll be most likely in front of the camera and this'll help me," he said.

Students may compete in a variety of areas, including dramatic reading, sales and newsreading. They will compete against other high schools, probably half a dozen times over the winter semester, on the way to the state tournament. Their first competition is January 13 at Henry Ford II High School in Sterling Heights.



Returning members of the speech team are (back row, from left) Chas Claus, Kit Cischke, Steve Hyer (who qualified for the state finals last

year) and Tony Knakal; (front row) Tracy Hurd, Melinda Childers and Michael Gay.

In addition to seeking business sponsors, the team has already begun candy sales (very popular at lunch time, they said) and plans a raffle before Christmas. They could also host a tournament, which would earn them some money.

"But sponsors are such a vital part we can't do it without them," Gay said.

The team has already received a grant from

Phillips 66 which paid for membership in the National Forensics League. Team membership has more than doubled from last year—25 as opposed to only 10 in its first year, possibly boosted by the fact that forensics is a class this semester which earns elective credit. The team, however, is extra-curricular.

To become a sponsor, call CHS at 625-0900 and ask for Deborah O'Dell.

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Belonging - Building - Believing

Sheriff's log for Independence Township

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, failure to return rental property valued at \$200 at a business on Dixie.

A \$700 gold necklace and earrings and a 12-gauge shotgun were taken during a breaking and entering of a home on Waldon. The thief entered via a window.

A 29-year-old Clarkston man was arrested on an outstanding warrant after his girlfriend called police to break up a fight on Briarwood Ct.

A Mary Sue resident saw two or three teenage boys outside his home, saw something burning, and found it to be his newspaper box.

Non-injury accidents on Dixie and on M-15.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, a box containing legal documents was stolen from a car parked on Parview.

Larceny of \$70 cash from an office on M-15.

A deputy on routine patrol saw a car running, with its lights off, on Walters Rd. which fled when he approached. He later stopped the car and ticketed the two occupants, 17-year-old boys from Clarkston and Waterford, for possession of marijuana.

An employee of a Sashabaw Rd. business admitted, after being caught on videotape, to stealing \$300-\$400 from the business. The owner installed a video camera after noticing the shortages.

Car/tree accident on Waldon. It's unknown whether anyone was injured since the driver never reported the accident.

Minor injury accident on M-15 at Blue Grass.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, larceny of two trash cans on Boyne Highlands.

Larceny of four tires and wheels valued at \$1,000 from a 1982 Camaro parked in a Waldon driveway overnight.

Non-injury accidents on Maybee and on Sashabaw (two).

A Clarkston man reported he swerved to avoid a deer while driving on Allen Rd. and hit a tree.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, malicious destruction of a lawn on Allen.

Two non-injury accidents on M-15.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, car/deer accident on M-15 near Rattalee Lake Rd.

One driver was injured and another ticketed for driving with a suspended license after an accident on Dixie near Maybee.

Car/deer accident on Dixie.

A woman reported that her 12-year-old son was assaulted at Clarkston Middle School Thursday by another male student. The victim received a concussion. The case was referred to Youth Assistance.

A store employee reported being threatened by a customer over the price of a prescription on M-15.

Larceny of a cell phone from a car parked on Dixie.

Harassing phone calls on Clintonville.

Breaking and entering of a barn on Andersonville Rd. The owner reported a lock removed and the doors flung open but nothing appeared missing.

Larceny of two garbage cans on Mann.

Harassing phone calls from a young female on Northview.

Larceny of a four-inch TV from a car parked on Oak Park.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, a 1988 Baretta was broken into while parked on Dixie and the stereo stolen.

A Pine Knob resident reported a stolen license plate.

A Pelton Rd. resident said two vehicles—a red car and a white pick-up truck—ran into and damaged his mailbox, gate and fence.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, a Deerwood resident came home, took two pieces of luggage and a laptop computer out of his car, left them in the garage to answer the phone, and returned a short time later to find them gone.

A bridge was severely damaged by a vehicle on Waldon.

Warrants sought in M-15 accident

The Oakland County Sheriff's traffic investigation unit is seeking warrants against an Ortonville man in connection with a serious injury accident on M-15 near Oak Hill Rd. Dec. 2.

According to a sheriff's spokesman, the man, whose name was not released pending formal charges, was driving northbound on M-15 when he struck the car in front of him. Both cars veered into the southbound lanes and the front car rolled over and landed in a ravine.

There were two people in the front car; both were taken to a hospital for their injuries. The driver of the rear car was not injured; however he was taken to a hospital for blood tests because alcohol is believed to be a factor in the accident.

The OCSO is awaiting lab results before pursuing criminal charges.

Clarkston Police

SATURDAY, DEC. 2, a Clarkston man was stopped by an officer at Waldon and Laurelton for making an improper turn off of Main St. He stepped out of his car briefly, then got back in and fled. After a short chase, the police officer abandoned pursuit. Warrants were sought from the city attorney for the illegal turn, driving with a suspended license and fleeing and eluding.

TUESDAY, DEC. 5, a dog owned by a Clarkston resident was hit by a car and killed.

FRIDAY, DEC. 8, medical to a Middle Lake Rd. resident. A man suffering from back pain was treated and transported to St. Joe's Hospital in Pontiac.

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**Varsity wrestlers focus
on county in early
season**
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SPORTS

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Wed., Dec. 13, 1995

Section B

The Clarkston News

Coaches of tenure

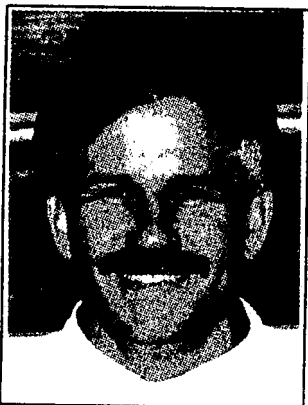
Three of Clarkston High's most successful coaches begin the winter sports season once again, hoping to lead their teams to the top. See page 2B for previews of each squad.

Mike DeGain, wrestling: Last season, DeGain returned the Wolves to Class A prominence, finishing as state runners-up and winning division, district and regional titles. Heading into his fourth season at



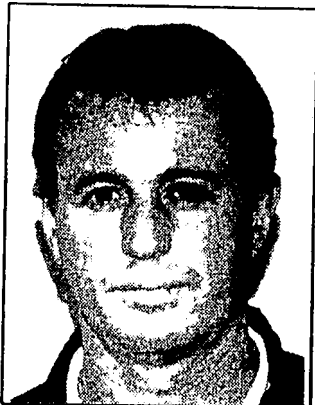
CHS, DeGain has compiled a record of 57-9 and returns three state qualifiers and plenty of depth from last season's 24-2 squad. He was honored as Class A coach of the year last season, in part for the way he personally challenged his wrestlers to reach the finals from the first day of practice.

Gordie Richardson, girls volleyball: In 10 years of coaching volleyball at CHS, Richardson finally got his wish this season: Middleschool volleyball teams, which will help develop younger



players and prepare them better for high school. Richardson, 202-140 (including four years at Bloomfield Hills Andover), returns last season's co-MVPs and a solid supporting cast from a team that never quite reached its potential. The detail-minded coach has 10 seniors back this season and expects them to set the highest goals, and not settle for less.

Dan Fife, boys basketball: Through the years Fife has solidified the Wolves' hoops program as one of the state's best, compiling a 234-60 record. This season, his 14th, the Wolves return four of their top seven players and aim to repeat as OAA Div. I, district and regional champions, having advanced to the final eight.



Senior Tim Wasilk drives hard to the basket against Flint Carman Ainsworth Dec. 8.

Wolves win opener

BY DARREL W. COLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

A season-opening win was nice, but Clarkston boys basketball coach Dan Fife wasn't too happy with what he saw.

The Wolves beat Flint Carman Ainsworth 54-48 Dec. 8, moving to 1-0 on the young season. And Fife will be the first to say any win is a good win. On this night, however, Fife didn't see his team do much right.

"Offensively we looked out of sync and lacked leadership on the floor," he said. "We need more discipline with our offense and better rebounding. The good thing is those are things we can work on and get better at."

Fife said he knows his team can improve because they have looked good in early-season scrimmages.

The Wolves maintained a lead for most of the Carman Ainsworth game but couldn't quite put them away. Ainsworth stayed in the game by running a patient offense and controlling the offensive rebounds.

The Wolves looked tentative right from the beginning, but still took a 10-6 first quarter lead.

Clarkston had a 16-10 lead after senior Ryan Schapman scored on an offensive rebound, but Ainsworth got back in the game by hitting free throws and scoring on offensive rebounds.

After the score was 18-17, sophomore Dane Fife nailed a three pointer and drove in for a layup while being fouled, putting the Wolves up 24-19 at halftime.

Clarkston came out in the second half pushing the ball up court and converting easy baskets. After they scored 11 straight points and a 35-19 lead, Ainsworth finally scored with 4:24 left in the third quarter. CHS took a 42-30 lead at the end of the third.

Ainsworth closed the gap in the fourth but couldn't overtake the Wolves.

Coach Fife thinks his team's tentative play can be corrected, however. Right now the squad is trying to find the right chemistry.

"I expect more from our kids. These things are all correctable and a lot of it is they just have to relax. This team has a lot of expectations to live up to, but that's what you get when you play for Clarkston."

Dane Fife led the Wolves with 26 points on 9-of-17 shooting and also had seven rebounds. Schapman and senior Tim Wasilk each scored nine points. Schapman also had seven rebounds while Wasilk played a strong defensive floor game at point guard.

Coach Fife also credited senior Bill Goforth with a strong all-around game. The 5-foot-11 guard only scored two points, but played solid defense and rebounded well.

Freshman sports

By Michael Bormann

Freshman Basketball

The freshman basketball team began its season with a 60-51 loss to Brother Rice.

The Wolves led 26-22 at halftime, but the game slipped away in the second half. Scott Davis had 15 points and Mark Wiskinewski had seven in a losing cause for Clarkston. Wiskinewski was also the leading rebounder.

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CHS winter sports previews

Basketball, wrestling and volleyball teams ready to battle in OAA Division I

Boys basketball

Last season: 24-3 and winning the OAA Div. I with a 9-1 record; District and regional champs and advanced to Class A final eight, where they lost to Class A runner-up Detroit Pershing; The Wolves also lost to state champ Flint Northern during the regular season.

Players graduated: Jeremy Fife, who averaged 10.7 pts, 11 assts and 6 steals, is playing at NCAA Div. I Niagara University. Also gone are starters Brad Agar and Jason Graves, and reserve Pat Mulligan.

Returning starters: Senior Tim Wasilk, 9.8 pts last season, and sophomore Dane Fife, who led the team in scoring at 17.1 points, and rebounding. Wasilk has speed, quickness, can shoot and play defense, but the challenge will be filling the leadership role Jeremy filled last season. Dane Fife is already one of the top players in the state and he'll be asked to do even more this season.

Top returners: Senior Jeff Mull was Agar's backup last season and showed he has the ability to play against the opposing team's best centers. Senior Ryan Schapman averaged seven points a game coming off the bench, but his production should increase as a starter. Senior Scott Hill received few minutes last season but he must rebound and play defense inside this season, along with Mull, or the Wolves will struggle.

Players that could surprise: Could be anyone after Wasilk, Schapman and Dane Fife. Coach Dan Fife said he has to have solid play from Hill and Mull inside, but players like seniors Bill Goforth, Chris Shepard, juniors Chad Bailey, Matt Brown, Travis Pegg, and sophomores Mike Maitrott and Justin Dionne may also surprise.

"Any number of kids could help us before the season is over," said coach Dan Fife.

But before anyone plays a lot in games Fife said they must first show they can do the correct things in practice.

Team strengths: Perimeter shooting with the trio of Schapman, Wasilk and Fife leading the barrage.

Coach Fife says he won't press full court like he did last season, but will try to utilize a half-court press.

Team weaknesses: Fife says the team needs to improve on rebounding and practice time.

"Right now our practices have to be more competitive. Last year the kids really went at it because they knew how I wanted things done, but this year we're having to teach more of the basics and fundamentals."

Team goals: Like every year, the team's goals are, in order, to win OAA Division I, districts and regionals.

Key to success: "I think learning to play together and compensating for our weaknesses," said coach Fife.

Another key is getting on-court leadership. In the team's first game of the season, the team looked out of sync and lacked chemistry.

Wrestling

Last season: 24-2 and Class A runners-up.

Players graduated: Corey Grant, 3rd in Class A at 134, 55-1 overall, and now wrestling for University of Michigan; Jesse Laycock, Oakland County Champion at 126, 45-13 overall; P.J. Vandermeer, 2nd in Class A at 160, 52-5 overall; Armin Michelsen, 3rd in Class A at 172, 57-3 overall; Brett Rebb, 4th in Class

A, 39-13 overall.

Top returners: Seniors Chad Auten (21-13, county champion, district champ), Joe DeGain (33-7, 5th Class A, county champion), Scott LaBrie (15-11), Jeremy Lafferty (37-16, OAA Div. I and district champ), Joe Roy (26-12, state qualifier), juniors Ryan Mick (43-12, state qualifier, OAA Div. I champ), Gordie Golec (7-6), Dave Ziemann (23-18) Jason Tiefenback (24-14), sophomores Richard Geliske (8-8) and Adam Hott (9-12).

Auten, Roy, DeGain and Lafferty are the team captains.

Returners earning over 100 points last season: Mick, 240.5, DeGain, 203, Lafferty, 161.5, Tiefenback, 142.5, Roy, 139, Auten, 125, Ziemann, 123.

Wrestlers that could surprise: Freshman A.J. Grant at 103 has all the skills to be a top wrestler, while the Wolves will rely once again on an undersized heavyweight in junior Tim Rebb, who, like his brother Brett last season, could be outweighed by as much as 50 pounds each match. **Team strengths:** "Balance up and down the line and the team's confidence that they know what they can do," said coach DeGain.

Team weaknesses: The Wolves don't have the depth at each position like they did last season. This year, the backups aren't as experienced.

Team goals: "There's no reason for us to set less goals than we did last season," said DeGain. "If we couldn't attain the state finals goal again then we wouldn't ask it, but at this point there is no reason we shouldn't. I just have a good, gut feeling about this group. I think they know how close they were and so all those younger guys are now ready to step up."

Key to success: Staying injury free.

New weight classes: The MHSAA has gone back

to the weight class format used from 1988-1994 for this season, with the addition of 215 pounds.

Gone are the 13 weight classes used last season, which were 100, 106, 112, 119, 126, 134, 142, 151, 160, 172, 185, 215 and 275. In their place are 14 classes, including 103, 112, 119, 125, 130, 135, 140, 145, 152, 160, 171, 189, 215 and 275.

Girls volleyball

Last season: 18-19-8, 3rd in OAA Div. I at 4-6.

Players graduated: Five.

Returning lettermen: 8.

Top returners: Seniors Lisa Herron and Nickie Winn were team co-MVPs, All-OAA Div. I, 1st team Region 15 and 1st team SPI Tri-District. Senior Stephanie Giroux was honorable mention SPI Tri-District.

Winn and Herron are team co-captains.

Statistical leaders: Herron led the team with 181 kills, 54 defensive digs and in serve receiving, was second in serve percent (93.2) aces (52), setting and 4th in blocking; Winn was 1st in kill efficiency (.345), dinks (72), aces (52) and set school record with 1,167 perfect sets in a season; Giroux had 46 kills and led the team in serve percent (94.5) and digs per game (1.7); senior Brynn Allyn had 53 kills; senior Nickie Hard had 18 kills and .3 blocks per game; Nicole Bauer had 15 kills and served at 90 percent.

Players that could surprise: Coach Gordie Richardson said junior Megan Bjurman, the tallest at 6-foot-1, will see a lot of court time but must stay focused in order to be a factor.

Expecting to see a lot of time are Herron, Winn, Giroux and Hard. After those five, Richardson said

Continued on page 3B



Clarkston wrestling team captains are clockwise, Joe DeGain, Jeremy Lafferty, Chad Auten and Joe Roy.

**Sports
Previews
By:
Darrel W.
Cole**

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Invitational win comes after dual meet loss to Millington

BY DARREL W. COLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

People saw a glimpse of the 1995-96 Clarkston Wrestling team's potential last week as they opened with a dual meet loss, but finished with a tournament win.

More importantly, the Wolves proved last week they once again have the same determination that led last season's team to a Class A runner-up finish.

After opening with a 40-29 dual meet loss Dec. 7 to a strong Millington squad, Clarkston came back Dec. 9 to win the 10-team Owosso Invitational, as eight wrestlers competed in the finals, with six winning. Finishing second was Mount Pleasant and coming in third was Owosso. The Wolves finished second in the same tournament last season.

"Against Millington we lost to a good team but we had some injuries and some other things distracting us," said coach Mike DeGain. "Maybe that meet woke them up because the kids are looking good and working hard. They sucked up their pride and I think mentally is where they got better."

Assistant coach Frank Lafferty said some of the wrestlers got caught and lost matches, but "Millington wanted to come in and beat a tough team like Clarkston. They were ready to wrestle."

Coach Lafferty said several wrestlers did perform well, led by an inspired effort from junior Tim Rebb, who weighs about 190 pounds but wrestles as a heavyweight. He fought his opponent, who weighed in at 275, into double overtime.

The Wolves beat Chesney 77-6 before the Millington match.

DeGain said his team isn't too worried about early-season results. While the team's goal is to improve in each match, he said they ultimately want to peak during the state tournament.

Last season the Wolves lost season-opening dual

meets to Brighton and Flint Northern. They didn't lose again until the state finals, again to Northern.

"I expected we could win at Owosso but it's early in the season yet and so I'm really still waiting to see where we pan out as a team," he said.

For right now, the team's next focus is the Oakland County championships (Dec. 15 and 16), where last season the Wolves won the team title convincingly by having five individual champions and two runners-up. "We try to make sure we're focused and ready for Oakland County because it usually carries over to the rest of the season," the coach said.

Seniors Joe DeGain and Chad Auten are looking to defend their individual county titles from last season.

Winning at Owosso were freshman A.J. Grant at 103 pounds, senior Chad Auten at 145, senior Joy Roy at 152, senior Jeremy Lafferty at 160, senior Scott LaBrie at 171 and senior Joe DeGain at 189. All the winners, except Grant, pinned their opponents.

Junior Ryan Mick settled for second at 119 because he had an injury default, while junior Jason Tiefenback also took second, losing a tough match.

Finishing in fourth place were junior Tim Rebb at heavyweight, sophomore Adam Hott at 112 pounds and freshman Andy Auten at 135.

"B" team

The varsity "B" team finished 7th out of 10 teams at Lake Orion, led by sophomore Richard Geliske's second-place finish at 145 pounds. Sophomore Rean Turner finished third at 171 pounds and sophomore Josh Lafferty was fourth at 152 pounds.

Wrestling club showcase

December 20 is a showcase for the Clarkston Youth Wrestling Club. Before the CHS varsity takes to the mat at 5:30 p.m. against Davison, the Clarkston wrestling club will compete against Davison's youth wrestling club at the CHS gym.

JV sports

By Michael Romein

JV Basketball

The JV Basketball team got off to a disappointing start Dec. 8, with a 40-37 defeat at the hands of Flint Carman Ainsworth.

Mark Mazur played a solid game, scoring 19 points and adding eight boards. Jeff Loveless had six points and four steals, and Dan Neubeck had four points and four rebounds.

"We need to shoot the ball better from outside, and not turn the ball over under pressure," said head Coach Tim Kaul.

The Wolves are now 0-1. They play Dec. 15 at Ferndale at 5:30 p.m.

Clarkston Basketball

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 15	Ferndale	A	6:00
Dec. 26	Cobo Hall/Cass	A	8:00
Jan. 2	S. Lathrup	H	6:00
Jan. 5	Rochester Adams	H	6:00
Jan. 9	W. Bloomfield	A	6:00
Jan. 12	Rochester	A	6:00
Jan. 16	Davison	H	6:00
Jan. 19	Troy	H	6:00
Jan. 23	Berkley	H	6:00
Jan. 26	Southfield	A	6:00
Jan. 30	Pontiac Northern	A	5:30
Feb. 2	Rochester Adams	A	6:00
Feb. 6	Rochester	H	6:00
Feb. 9	Troy	A	6:00
Feb. 13	St. Mary's JV	H	7:30
Feb. 16	Flint Northern	A	6:00
Feb. 20	Oak Park	A	6:00
Feb. 23	Southfield	H	6:00
Feb. 27	Pontiac Northern	H	6:00
March 1	Pontiac Central	H	6:00

Spikers have depth, talent to succeed

Continued from page 2B

it's just a matter of players fitting into their roles.

"I haven't seen many surprises because I have 10 seniors on the team," said Richardson. "These kids have a lot of natural talent so the key will be to keep them in the right spots. Not everyone can start so a lot

will depend on how some fit into their roles."

Team strengths: The Wolves serve well and have some strong athletes led by the trio of Herron, Winn and Giroux, all of whom excel in other sports as well.

"We know the kids on this team are awfully competitive because they are good students as well," said Richardson. "The question is can we sustain that

competitive edge throughout the season on the court."

Team weaknesses: The team's passing and defensive play must improve. Compared to other teams in the OAA Division I, the Wolves are small, except for Bjurman and 6-foot junior Kammy Powell.

Team goals: "We haven't sat down and talked about it yet, but with so many seniors I would imagine the have some high goals they want to attain," said the coach.

Richardson sees West Bloomfield and Royal Oak Kimball as the toughest division teams, while Rochester and Rochester Adams also look strong.

Key to success: Richardson said the team must stay mentally focused throughout the season.

"This is a good group of kids that works hard," he said. "They want to improve on last season so I'm just trying to impress on them that success won't come easy. If they want it, it can't happen by them just walking out on the court. They have to make it happen."

NOTE: In the next few weeks watch for previews of the first-ever CHS gymnastics squad and the boys and girls ski teams.

Senior Mary Brewer digs this ball during varsity volleyball practice last week.



Sports shorts

● Powerhouse Gym in Clarkston will hold a lift-a-thon and aerobic night Dec. 21 to benefit St. Jude's Research Hospital. For more information on how to become involved, call Bob Pesta at 625-3383.

Help us get you the news by calling
The Clarkston News at 625-3370

CHS winter sports schedules

Clarkston Volleyball

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 16	L. Waverly/V	A	9:00
Dec. 18	Lake Orion	H	6:00
Jan. 4	Brandon	A	6:00
Jan. 6	W.L. Central/V	A	9:00
Jan. 8	W. Bloomfield	A	6:30
Jan. 11	Kimball/Holly	H	6:00
Jan. 13	Freshman Inv.	H	9:00
Jan. 13	L. Waverly/JV	A	9:00
Jan. 18	Troy	A	6:00
Jan. 20	Grand Blanc/V	A	9:00
Jan. 20	W.L. Central/JV	A	9:00
Jan. 25	Rochester Adams	A	6:30
Jan. 27	Clark JV Inv.	H	9:00
Jan. 29	Rochester	H	6:00
Feb. 1	W. Bloomfield	H	6:00
Feb. 3	Cl. Varsity Inv.	H	9:00
Feb. 5	Kimball	A	6:30
Feb. 8	Troy	H	6:00
Feb. 10	Garber/V.	A	9:00
Feb. 19	Rochester Adams	H	6:00
Feb. 22	Rochester	A	6:30
Feb. 24	League	A	8:30
March 2	Districts	A	TBA
March 9	Regionals	A	TBA
March 16	State Finals	A	TBA

Freshman Volleyball

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 18	Lake Orion	H	6:00
Jan. 4	Brandon	A	6:00
Jan. 8	W. Bloomfield	A	6:30
Jan. 11	Kimball	H	6:00
Jan. 13	Freshman Inv.	H	9:00
Jan. 18	Troy	A	6:00
Jan. 25	Rochester Adams	A	5:00
Jan. 29	Rochester	H	6:00
Feb. 1	W. Bloomfield	H	6:00
Feb. 5	Kimball	A	6:30
Feb. 8	Troy	H	6:00
Feb. 19	Rochester Adams	H	6:00
Feb. 22	Rochester	A	5:00
March 7	Volleyball Ban.	H	6:00

Wrestling - A Team

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 15	Oakland County	A	TBA
Dec. 16	Oakland County	A	TBA
Dec. 20	Davison	H	5:30
Dec. 30	Goodrich Inv.	A	9:30
Jan. 3	Adams/Athens	H	5:30
Jan. 6	S. Lyon Inv.	A	9:30
Jan. 10	Kimball/Troy	A	5:30
Jan. 13	Det. CC Inv.	A	9:30
Jan. 20	Adrian Inv.	A	10:00
Jan. 24	Hazel Park/L. Orion	A	5:30
Jan. 31	Roch./Pontiac Nor.	A	5:30
Feb. 1	Roseville/Chip	A	5:30
Feb. 7	Det. CC	H	5:30
Feb. 9	OAA Meet	A	4:00
Feb. 14	Team District	A	4:00
Feb. 17	Ind. District	A	10:00
Feb. 21	Team Regional	A	4:00
Feb. 24	Ind. Regional	A	10:00
March 1	Team Finals	A	4:00
March 2	Team Finals	A	TBA

Wrestling - B Team

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 20	Det. Country Day	A	5:30

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Jan. 6	Oxford Invite	A	9:30
Jan. 10	Det. Country Day	A	5:30
Jan. 13	Lake Orion	A	9:00
Jan. 20	Lake Fenton	A	10:00
Jan. 27	Fowlerville/JV	A	9:30
Feb. 1	Orch. St. Mary's	A	6:00

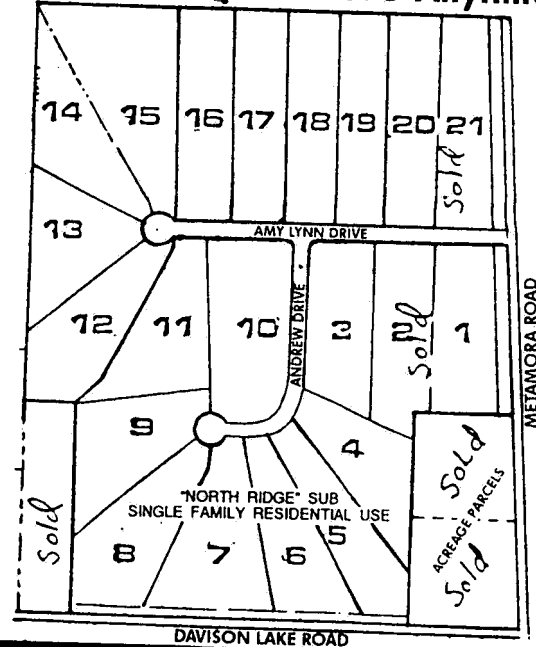
Freshman Basketball

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 15	Ferndale	H	4:00
Dec. 19	Kettering	A	4:00
Jan. 2	S. Lathrup	A	4:00
Jan. 5	Rochester Adams	A	4:00
Jan. 9	W. Bloomfield	H	4:00
Jan. 12	Rochester	H	4:00
Jan. 16	Davison	A	4:00
Jan. 19	Troy	A	4:00
Jan. 23	Berkley	A	4:15
Jan. 26	Southfield	H	4:00
Feb. 2	Rochester Adams	H	4:00
Feb. 6	Rochester	A	4:00
Feb. 9	Troy	H	4:00
Feb. 13	St. Mary's-SCRI	H	6:00
Feb. 15	Flint Central	A	6:00
Feb. 20	Brother Rice	H	6:00
Feb. 23	Southfield	A	4:00
Feb. 27	Cranbrook	A	4:00

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Hunter makes equipment the old-fashioned way

Engineer's hobby keeps him busy outside of work

BY EILEEN OXLEY
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Like musician/bowhunter Ted Nugent, Tom Roberts found himself "back in the wilds again." Only this time it wasn't for hunting.

Roberts, a Clarkston resident and draftsman for the Hubbell, Roth & Clark engineering firm, found a hobby in making bows, arrows and quivers in much the same way as Native Americans once did. He shows the forerunner of his bowhunting fashions — a rough-hewn bow his great-grandfather made out of a piece of scrub oak. "He used a broken Coke bottle instead of a knife."

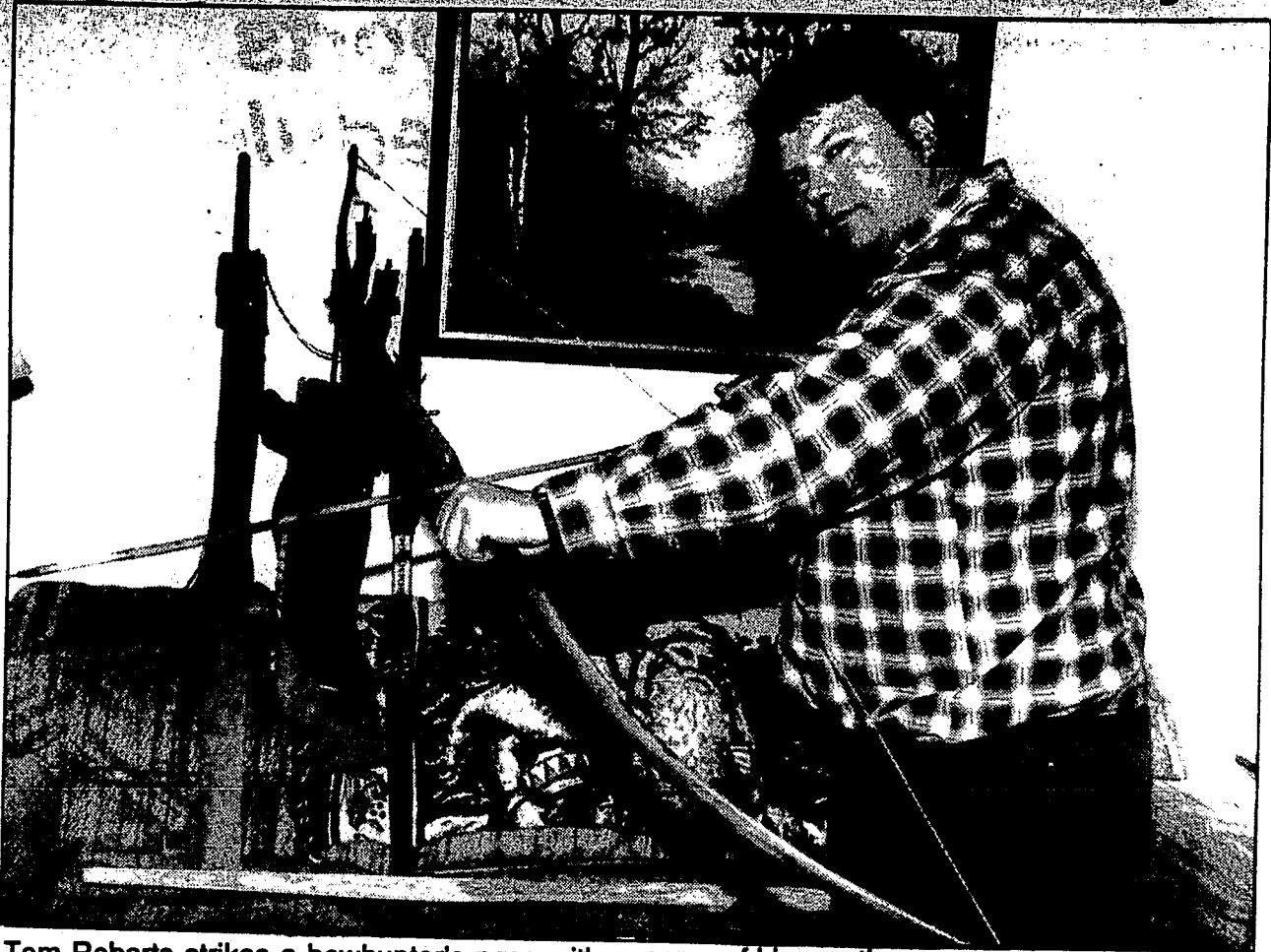
When Roberts decided he would make a recurve bow for his own hunting purposes, he was told, "don't attempt it, buy it from a reputable dealer. You'll be further ahead." But he admits, "I couldn't afford it."

However, as he researched and read from available books, including "Making Indian Bows and Arrows — the Old Way," he became fascinated and decided to use the guidelines to make his own. His first bow, he shows proudly, was made six years ago, from shagbark hickory with (deer) sinew backing. The backing is a timely process where Roberts teases apart the thin fibers of the deer sinew or tendon. As he makes more bows, the process gets easier and faster.

In true primitive fashion, Roberts uses all-natural products, right down to boiling the hooves, dew claws and scraps of hide of deer to make a one-of-a-kind glue. He cooks them down, over an entire weekend, by boiling the mixture outside on a grill until it resembles a syrup. "When it's down to pudding consistency I put it in the fridge overnight. If it looks like Jello the next day, then I know it's just right. I have to freeze it or dry it or it would spoil."

Other natural features are decorative goose or turkey feathers, the deer sinew for tying and backing and pig hide for quivers which Roberts acquired from a trader. He picks up deer parts from processing plants. Even a rawhide handle is sewn on with care. "I get it wet, cut it and stretch it and it tightens up. You have to get the measurements right or it'll be loose." His tools include a hatchet, pocketknife and rasp.

Roberts makes arrows from the stems of phragmites, bamboo-like reeds which he cuts in the fall or winter after leaves change color. The foreshaft comes from a hardwood such as dogwood and the



Tom Roberts strikes a bowhunter's pose with some of his creations.

point is made from a circular sawblade.

The only shortcut he allows himself is the carpet twine he buys at the Whoopee Bowl.

Roberts has become such a skilled craftsman that he has taught members of Linking Lifelines, a

Native American group, through a mentoring program. Although he has not taken part this year, for the past three he has taught Native Americans how to

Continued on page 11B

Car "Care"

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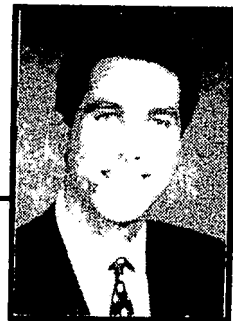
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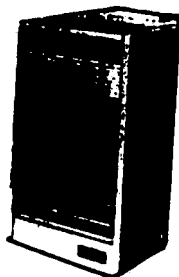
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NAME: Keirsten Deegan
GPA: 3.9
PARENTS: Philip and Barbara Deegan of Independence Township.
PLANS: "First I'm going to take a year off to ride and work and relax before going to college. I'm planning on studying architecture. I like math and art and architecture to me ties them both together." She has already been accepted at the University of Michigan.

FAVORITE EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY: "I really like horseback riding. I have my own horse, whom I ride six days a week. The kind of riding I do (dressage) requires a lot of fitness. I guess that's why I like it—it's an art. Every little step forward is a big accomplishment."

Keirsten has been a member of 4-H and the equestrian team and done some competitive work. "I just got a new horse so hopefully this summer I'll do more competitions."

FAVORITE SUBJECT: "I like English because of the writing." Is also a member of the yearbook staff.

HONORS, AWARDS: Chenille letter.

JOB: Most days she can be found at Top Line Dressage, a riding facility on Clarkston Rd. Her horse boards there and she works there part-time to help pay the bill. She said she doesn't mind mucking out stalls; "It doesn't bother me."

FAVORITE MUSICAL ACT: "I love the Bare Naked Ladies!"

A GOOD BOOK SHE'S READ: "The Children of Men," a science fiction work by P.D. James.

PETS: Two cats, Spyke and Autumn; a dog, Morgan, goldfish and her horse, Rubin.

CHURCH: All Saints in Pontiac.

LIFE ACCOMPLISHMENT SHE'S PROUDEST OF: "Eleven and a half years of school down, about eight and one-half more to go. And training my horse."

FAVORITE SCHOOL MEMORY: "In preschool we had a pet day and my mom brought the entire litter of Newfoundland puppies to school. We got to play with them outside on the playground."

SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT HER: "I can't spell."

IN A SENTENCE, MR. COOLEY IS: "Very enthusiastic—he really loves his job."

At right, Keirsten Deegan at work at Top Line Dressage.



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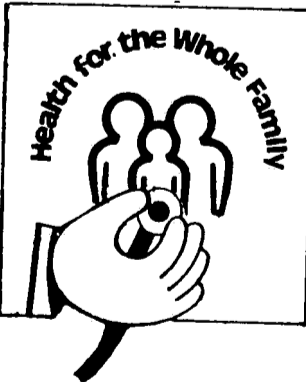
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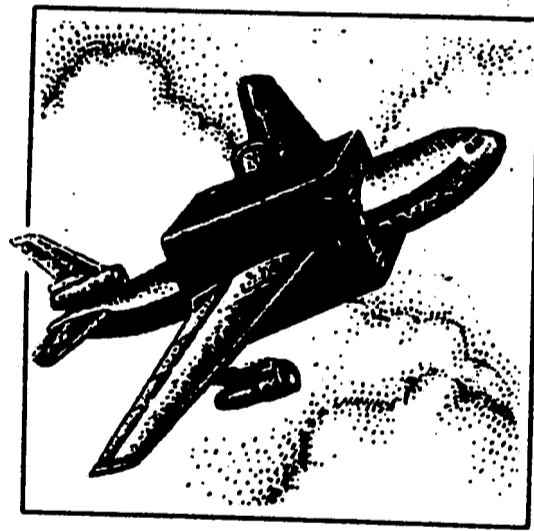
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Sashabaw Middle School Honor Roll

The names of some seventh-graders were accidentally omitted from the Sashabaw Middle School Honor Roll which was published last week. Below is the corrected version of that grade's Honor Roll. We apologize for the errors.

7th grade

All A's

Lindsay Brandt
Andrew Dixon
Adam Duddles
Jessica Dufresne
Kristen Falck
Garrett Garcia
Daniel Holody
Katherine Julian
Peter Klemm
Justin Krause
Ian Louisignau
Allison Lynch
Lyndsey McCleary

3.0+ GPA

Anthony Alee
Rachael Barnett
Keith Bartley
lauren Benner
Jessica Bigelow
Christine Blancahard
Ryan Briceland
Raina Broadwater
Katherine Brundage
Brandon Buck
Dean Caetano
Kara Cantrell

Heather Carlile
Brandy Caudill
Jonathan Chenet
Austine Chesney
Calvin Choi
Joseph Christopher
Daniel Claus

Kacie Colbert
Jennifer Collias
Christopher Collins
Robert Conley
Kathleen Corcoran
Sarah Darnall
Ramzy Dasuqi
Ryan Davis
Paul Delasko
Walter Dixon V
Marcus Dockter
Bryan Endreszi
Karyn Erkdritz
Shannon Fell
Alicia Findora
Jerod Fish
Nicole Fitzpatrick
Rebecca Flores
Sarah Fogg
Lindsay Fogleman
Kate Funk
Jeremy Gabriel
Adam Gebus
Kathryn Genet (Bedford)
Jonathan Genord
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Kara Granlund
Anna Green
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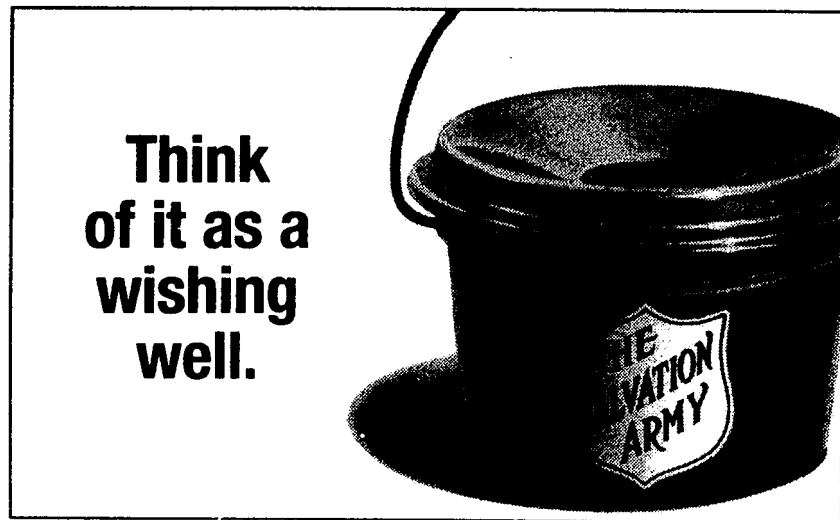
Sheana Ronthi
Jason Rupe
Shannon Sadowski
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Lindsay Simko
Natale Sisk
Ardis Sprung

Ian Staley
Joel Stephenson
Jamie Sturgill
Dustyn Swendsen
Michael Vercauteren
Erik Wagner
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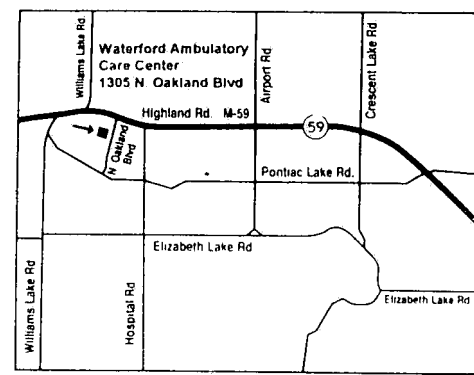
Zachary Whaley
Erik Wheatley
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Village Players plan auction

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● Rochester Parents Without Partners will host an open Christmas dance and orientation Thursday, Dec. 21 at the RiverCrest, Avon and Livernois. Orientation is 9 p.m., dance begins at 9 too; cost is \$6. Call Pat at 693-5233 for information.

● Volunteers are needed to help with filing and other record-keeping activities at Oakland County Probate Court. Call 858-0041 for more information.

After spending the hot off-season working on their Depot Theater, the Clarkston Village Players are now planning an auction to raise more money for improvements.

Auction chairman Kip Kammer said the auction is planned for spring, 1996 and he is currently seeking donations of items to be auctioned.

"As Clarkston grows the population is outgrowing the theater," he said. "We're trying to do some refurbishing, get some new equipment and lights. You always need costumes, props."

Details of the event will be forthcoming, but in the meantime anyone wishing to donate items should call Gerry Bartlett at 373-6438.

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K-9 Stray Rescue League

The K-9 Stray Rescue League will offer holiday shoppers a special event in the coming days.

Carole Powell, founder of the organization, said at least 12 dogs will be available each day for 12 days beginning Dec. 21. She hopes that like in the song, they can adopt one dog the first day, two dogs the second day, etc.

"Of course we'd be happy to adopt more," she said.

The dogs will be available, as always, at Pet Supplies Plus, 5304 Dixie Hwy., Waterford. Special expanded hours are noon-4 p.m. beginning Dec. 21.

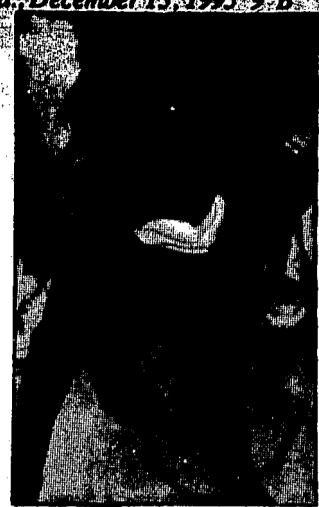
Meanwhile, this Saturday regular noon-5 p.m. hours will be offered. Among the dogs available this week are Norton, a 1-year-old neutered shepherd/terrier mix. He is described as friendly, affectionate, cute and active.

Also available is Purdue, a 10-month-old neutered small lab mix. He is friendly and affectionate. As with all of K-9 Stray Rescue League's dogs, these two were rescued from the Oakland County Animal Shelter where they were scheduled to die.

For more information call 620-3784.



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Craftsman

Continued from page 5B

make arrows the way their ancestors did.

An avid hunter since he was a small boy, Roberts once shot rabbits and squirrels "with my little bow and arrows" in the wide open spaces where he lived. He was taught by his great-grandfather whom he says was an accomplished rifle hunter and shot gunner as well as a bowhunter.

Roberts has learned a lot through the process. Although the typical length for a bow is 44 to 48 inches, he says, he has seen some as short as 18 to 20 inches. "Japanese bows are real long. Some South American bows are very long too." But he always likes to learn more, especially when it comes to perfecting his craftsmanship. On Wednesday nights, from January through April, he hopes to take part in an open house, held at a fellow bow-and-arrow maker's home in Flint.

In addition, he hangs out at the Long Bow Shoot in Brighton each July with other folks who make primitive bows, to exchange ideas.

He also takes part in Ted Nugent's Hunters' Bash up north each summer, but says it's more like an "outdoor-rama" with a concert and most of the emphasis geared toward "modern, high-tech bows." Braving the wilds with the wildman is too expensive, although he does subscribe to the Nuge's magazine, "Adventure Outdoors."

"It costs \$600 to go hunting with him ... But I hear he has a museum with a lot of (legendary bowhunter) Fred Bear stuff. I'd like to see it."

Roberts says, up to this point, he has never sold any of his items. He figures what he'd have to charge might be too high for most people, estimating his bows in the price range of \$200 to \$400. But, right now, he seems happy enough with his craft as a hobby.

In the process of learning through his fingertips, Roberts says, "I fell in love with it."

Marjorie Fitzpatrick

Marjorie J. (Baker) Fitzpatrick, 70, of Grand Blanc, formerly of Clarkston, died Dec. 9, 1995.

She is survived by her husband William; a daughter, Kristy (Rod) Mellen of Grand Blanc; three grandchildren, Daniel, Dewayne and Debra; a great-grandchild, Cameran; and a sister, Pauline.

Funeral services were held Dec. 12 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Trust 100 Funeral Home in Clarkston. Interment was in Lakeview Cemetery.

William Morse

William G. Morse, 72, of Clarkston, died Dec. 8, 1995.

Mr. Morse was a veteran of World War II, having served as an aviator for the U.S. Navy, and was retired from Fisher Body, Pontiac.

He is survived by his wife Jean; three daughters, Sherri (Kimball) Wyman of Massachusetts, Carol (Ric) Fox of Clarkston and Jill (Gary) Smith of Troy; grandchildren K. Scott Wyman, Karen Wyman and Daryl Fox; four brothers, Robert, Richard, James and Kenneth; and four sisters, Evelyn Craven, Virginia Hampshire, Geraldine Seeterlin and Mary Ellen Cox.

Funeral services were held Dec. 11 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Trust 100 Funeral Home in Clarkston with Pastor E. Dale Evanson officiating. Interment was in Lakeview Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to ALS of Michigan.

Donald Smith

Donald L. Smith, 63, of Beaverton and Zephyrhills, FL, formerly of Clarkston, died Dec. 6, 1995.

Mr. Smith was retired from Fleet Carrier, Pontiac.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn; three children, Larry (Janice) Smith of Waterford, Theresa (Carl) Urwin of Roseville and Donna (Donald) Farnsworth of Big Rapids; his father, Allen Smith of Lapeer; seven grandchildren; and two brothers, Noel and Robert (Jackie), both of Mt. Clemens.

Funeral services were held Dec. 11 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Trust 100 Funeral Home in Clarkston with the Rev. Kenneth Bracken officiating. Interment was in Hillview Cemetery.

Ruth White

Ruth D. White, 80, of Waterford, died Dec. 4, 1995.

Mrs. White was a past Worthy Matron of the OES Joseph C. Bird Chapter No. 294, Clarkston and a former Girl Scout leader.

She was preceded in death by her husband Marshall.

She is survived by a brother, Tommie (Cora) Jackson of Arkansas; a sister, Martha Ann (Fred) Steinman of Kalamazoo; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Dec. 8 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Trust 100 Funeral Home in Clarkston with the Rev. William Ballard officiating. Interment was in Ottawa Park Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the OES Joseph C. Bird Chapter No. 294.

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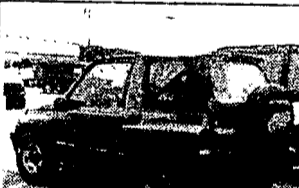
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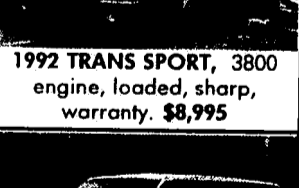
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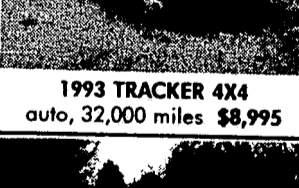
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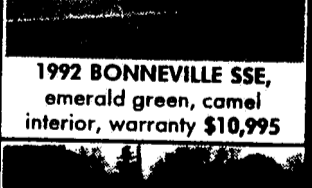
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1972 CHEVY 4x4: snowblade. Rebuilt once, 350 4-bolt. Needs work. Solid metal, driveable. \$1600 firm. 678-3074. IILX46-12nn

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1984 S-15 JIMMY 4x4. Black. Good condition and runs, but needs trans. \$1100 obo. 810-693-6432. IILX50-4nn

1986 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS LS: All power. 145k miles. \$1850 obo. 628-1196. IILX50-2

1986 TOYOTA: 4wd, flatbed truck. Runs good. Needs alignment. \$1,800 obo. Energy Mate wood furnace, \$200 obo. 810-627-4196. IILX19-2

1987 FORD AEROSTAR: Runs great, looks great. Air conditioning, PS/PB, luggage rack, towing package. 108,000 miles. \$2,800. 391-4687. IILX50-4nn

1991 PLYMOUTH GRAND VOYAGER LE. Loaded. Anti-lock brakes. Excellent condition. Driver's airbag. 67,000 miles. \$9,500. 391-2988. IILX48-12nn

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GMC, 1994 JIMMY: Red, 25,000 miles. Loaded. \$17,000. Call 810-634-5001. IILX48-4nn

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TRANSPORT SE, 1991: Good condition, loaded, new tires. \$8200. Call 81-620-3415. IILZ51-2

1989 FORD STAKE TRUCK, 6 cyl, 4 speed, 8-lug Mag wheels. Needs some love. \$400 or best. 628-2388 or Pager #529-6010. IILX50-4nn

1971 CHEVY 3/4 TON 4x4, 400 4 bolt main. 425h. \$3800 obo. New tires. Looks sharp. Call Tracy at 693-9681, 656-2525. IILX51-2

1972 CHEVY 5 yard dump truck. Excellent condition. \$3500. 989-6962. IILX51-2

1972 INTERNATIONAL tri-axle dump. Diesel engine. Excellent condition. \$8500. 989-6962. IILX51-2

1977 INTERNATIONAL 5-ton Stake Truck, 4 speed, V8 gas engine. Runs good. \$2300 or best. 628-2388 or Pager #529-6010. IILX50-4nn

1978 CHEVY BLAZER: 70,000 miles. Runs good, body bad. \$1200. 682-5976. IILX19-2

1979 CHEVY 3/4 TON 4x4 with plow. As is. \$1200. 628-2412 after 7pm. IILX49-4nn

1979 CHEVROLET pick-up: Short-box, 4wd automatic, PS/PB. New tires. Straight 6 cylinder engine. \$1800 or best. 810-678-2691. IILZ50-4nn

1980 FORD F-150: Body fair condition. Runs good. \$875 or best offer. 810-814-8944. IILX45-12nn

1981 CHEVY VAN: 6 cylinder stick, work truck. \$450. 628-9553. IILZ51-2

1981 FORD STAKE TRUCK, 12ft bed, many new parts. Running condition excellent. \$4500 obo. 810-689-0986 days, 810-752-7406 evenings. IILX42-12nn

1985 CHEVROLET Window Van: Full size, V6, air, 8 passenger. 40K on rebuilt motor. \$1900. Call 628-9487. IILX50-4nn

1985 S-15 JIMMY: New engine, new trans. Very, very good cond. \$7,000. 693-8659. IILX51-2

1985 TOYOTA PICK-UP/CAB, \$1500. 810-634-9410. One owner. Good running condition. IILZ20-4nn

1986 CHEVY S-10, extended cab. New 305/350 brakes, exhaust and starter. Black. Good body condition. \$3500 obo. 693-2551, Pager 890-8073. IILX50-4nn

1986 FORD RANGER: 4 cylinder, 4sp with overdrive. Runs great. Good shape. \$1,350. 693-0333, Jim. IILX49-2c

1987 FORD RANGER PICKUP: With cap, air, 4 cylinder, 4 speed with Overdrive. New tires. Nice shape. \$3500. 628-0386 after 6:30pm. IILZ51-4nn

1994 TRANSPORT SE: Red, grey interior. 3800 V6. Rear heat air. Power door. Power seats, power windows, power locks. 7 passenger. Loaded. 37,000 miles. \$15,000. 628-2979. IILX45-12nn

1995 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN: Loaded. 19,500 miles. Emerald green and quick silver with gray interior. \$25,900 or best. Call 391-2997. IILX46-12nn

1995 CHEVY BLAZER: 2dr 4x4. Teal. 13,000 miles. \$19,000. 810-391-3975. IILZ20-2

1995 GMC SIERRA: Extended cab, short box, 4x4. Excellent condition. Loaded. 350 V8. Tonneau cover. Emerald green, aluminum wheels, AM/FM cassette, 4 speed. 12,000 miles. \$22,800. 394-1922. IILX16-12nn

1995 VILLAGER GS: Hunter Green/Tan. Loaded. Excellent condition. \$18,700 obo. 628-4894. IILX44-12nn

FOR SALE: 1993 PONTIAC Trans Sport SE. 3.8, dark green/beige, leather interior, loaded. Excellent condition. \$13,800. 693-0206 after 5:30. IILX43-12nn

FOR SALE: 1989 CHEVROLET 3/4 Ton Conv. Van, V8, Loaded. Front & rear A/C, heat, radio, tape. Well maintained. \$6,500. Weekdays 810-693-2464; Nights/weekends 810-391-2926. IILX46-12nn

FOR SALE: 1995 SUBURBAN. 2wd, LT, leather, loaded. Alarm. Non-smoking. Trailer package. Call 625-7228, \$27,988. IILX50-2

FOR SALE: 1994 FORD Explorer XLT: 4WD, 4 door. 35,000 miles, under warranty. Air conditioner, auto, trailer package, luggage rack, full power. \$18,800. Call 810-667-7220 after 4:30pm. IILZ51-4nn

1994 GMC SONOMA 4x4: Extended cab, 4.3L enhanced engine. Loaded. CD, Sunroof, rear sider, alarm, running boards. Silver/gray. 30K miles. \$18,500 or best. 810-678-2067. IILX41-12nn

1994 PONTIAC TRANS SPORT: Red. Excellent condition. 34,000 miles. Most all options. \$15,700. 391-4379. IILX41-12nn

1994 SAFARI VAN: 7 passenger, air, ps/pb/pl, rear air and rear dutch doors. AM/FM cassette, teal/silver. 41,000 miles. \$18,500. Call 628-2348 after 5pm. IILZ51-4nn

1994 TOYOTA 4x4: Small pick-up, w/wool box, trailer hitch and lights, stereo. Low miles. \$15,500. 810-625-8423. IILZ20-2

FOR SALE: 89 FORD F-150. Completely rebuilt 300 in line engine with paperwork. Low miles. Looks & runs good. \$4700. 693-5728. IILX42-12nn

1994 FORD EXPLORER XLT: 4x4 4dr. Dark cranberry exterior, opal grey cloth interior. Asking \$18,000. Call after 6pm, 628-9667. IILX45-12nn

1994 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED: Loaded! Low mileage. Excellent condition. \$22,000. 628-4119. IILX51-2

1994 FULL SIZE CHEVY Majestic Conversion Van, V8. Black. 24,000 miles, loaded. \$18,500. Call 628-7134 after 4pm. IILZ45-12nn

1986 BLAZER: Full size 4x4. \$3,800 obo. After 6pm, 627-9348. IILZ18-2

1991 CHEVY BLAZER 4x4: Tahoe package. Good condition. New engine with 3yr warranty. \$14,900 or best. Call (810)634-9993. IILX50-2

WESTERN FLOW with controls & brackets fits GM truck. \$400. 1979 Ford 3/4 ton truck (parts) with working plow. \$400. 752-9359. IILX50-2

1993 GMC CONVERSION VAN: Rear heat and air. TV, VCR, loaded. 20,000 miles. \$17,500. After 6pm, call 810-667-3947. IILZ40-12nn

1993 WHITE GRAND CARAVAN ES: Low miles. Loaded. With warranty. \$13,000. Call after 5:30, 628-9262. IILZ49-4nn

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1994 ESCORT WAGON LX	\$8,995/\$149 mo.	- 36 months*
1994 RANGER XLT SC	\$11,495/\$199 mo.	- 36 months*
1994 MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE	\$17,995/\$249 mo.	- 36 months*
1994 EXPLORER SPORT	\$14,900/\$225 mo.	- 36 months*
1994 F150 4X4 XL	\$16,995/\$299 mo.	- 36 months*
1994 BRONCO XLT V-8	\$21,900/\$349 mo.	- 36 months*
1993 THUNDERBIRD LX	\$10,895/\$199 mo.	- 24 months*
1993 PROBE GT	\$11,995/\$239 mo.	- 24 months*
1993 AEROSTAR XL	\$10,995/\$199 mo.	- 24 months*
1993 TAURUS GL	\$11,495/\$269 mo.	- 24 months*
1993 CROWN VICTORIA	\$13,995/\$269 mo.	- 24 months*
1994 E350 CARGO	\$14,195/\$295 mo.	- 60 months* "BUY"

*1st payment, security, taxes, title, plates, \$1000.00 Down.
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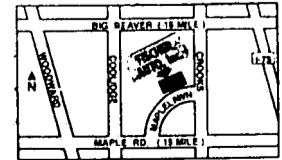
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Low miles, clean inside & out. SALE PRICED
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1994 JEEP WRANGLER
4x4, red, low miles
ONLY **\$12,995**

1993 GMC JIMMY
4 dr., 4x4 SLT, CD, leather ONLY
\$15,400

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Clarkston runners staying together

You can't separate a team. And that's just what a group of mostly Clarkston kids did at the Jingle Bell Fun Run for Arthritis, held Dec. 3 at Oakland University.

The 15-member team, organized by 1995 Clarkston High School graduate Jeff Dengate, included 11 former or current CHS varsity runners, including Dengate.

The original rules of the charity run state that there can be three groups of five runners, but upon special request, the team was allowed to enter as one.

Dengate, who assisted varsity co-coaches Mike Taylor and Mike Kaul with the girls and boys cross country teams this season, said the idea of running in the event was to have fun and none of the other runners wanted to split up.

"That was the big thing for us," he said. "We

wanted to run as a team. It was real fun, too, especially since some of us hadn't run in a few years."

By sticking together the group won the mixed team (men and women) race and the women's race.

The squad consisted of current CHS runners Stefanie Burklow, Kristin Maine, Liz Cook, Stacie Iezzi, Lissa Lukens, Emily Hogan, Megan Plante and Jeff Hopcian, and former CHS runners Dengate, 1994 boys team MVP Matt Warner and Andy Holland, also a 1995 grad.

The non-Clarkston members were Nick Gow of Lakeland, Jenny Walchuck and Amy Coughlin of Waterford Mott and Stacy Kushniruk of Sterling

Heights.

The individual times were: Burklow, 19:24; Maine, 21:04; Cook, 22:12; Iezzi, 23:18; Plante, 25:53; Kushniruk, 23:24; Walchuck, 21:30; Coughlin, 20:39; Hopcian, 21:27; Dengate, 18:07; Warner, 19:21; Holland, 23:08; and, Gow, 16:38.

Gow was the boys' 17-and-under champion and Burklow was the girls' champion, while Coughlin took second for the girls title.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know
INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

At a regular meeting of the Township Board held on December 5, 1995, the Board authorized a Second Reading and Adoption on the 1993 NEC Code and Technical Amendments.

The motion to approve this amendment was offered by Lutz, supported by McCrary, the vote on the motion was as follows: Ayes: Lutz, McCrary, McGee, Mercado, Stuart, Vaara. Nays: None. Absent: Travis. The motion carried.

This ordinance amendment is effective immediately upon publication.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDING ELECTRICAL CODE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Independence Board of Trustees is considering the adoption of an Ordinance to adopt the 1993 National Electrical Code and technical amendments, and to amend the township Electrical Code consistent with the mandate of state law so as to safeguard life and property, regulate and provide for the installation, alteration, repairing, servicing and maintaining of electrical equipment, provide for the licensing and registration of electrical contractors, fire alarm contractors, sign specialty contractors, master electricians, journeyman electricians, fire alarm specialty technicians, signs specialists, apprentice electricians and fire alarm specialty apprentice technicians, to provide for administration and enforcement, to provide for an electrical examining and appeals board and to govern its powers and duties, to provide for membership in Reciprocal Electrical Council, Inc., and to achieve uniformity in ordinances, electrical rules, licensing, examinations and general rules, and to provide penalties for violations.

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

The Ordinance consists of five sections. Section 1 identifies existing Township Code Sections being repealed. Section 3 provides for repeal of inconsistent ordinances generally and provides for ordinance validity. Section 4 provides that proceedings pending at the time of Ordinance effectiveness may be concluded according to the law prior to Ordinance effectiveness. Section 5 provides that the Ordinance will take effect immediately upon publication.

Section 2 of the Ordinance contains the text for Township Ordinance Code, Chapter 7, Article II, Division 5, Sections 7-61 through 7-75 and 7-81 through 7-100, which are summarized as follows:

A complete copy of the proposed Ordinance may be inspected or obtained at the Office of the Charter Township of Independence Clerk, 90 North Main Street, Clarkston, Michigan 48347, during the business hours of that office.

<p>SUBDIVISIONS AND SECTIONS Subdivision I Sections 7-61 to 7-62</p>	<p>CATCHLINES AND SUMMARIES National Electrical Code and Amendments. Adopts the 1993 National Electrical Code and Technical Amendments to that Code by the Reciprocal Electrical Council, Inc.</p>
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<p>Subdivision II Sections 7-63 to 7-73</p>	<p>Definitions, Inspections and Permits. Defines terms used in the Ordinance, provides for inspections of electrical installations including rights of access, provides permit requirements including the necessity of licensing and provides construction and material approval standards.</p>
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<p>Subdivision III Sections 7-81 to 7-83</p>	<p>Licensing and Exemptions. Provides for licensing of Electrical Contractors, Fire Alarm Contractors, Sign Specialty Contractors, Master Electricians, Journeyman Electricians, Fire Alarm Specialty Technicians, Sign Specialty Technicians and for registration of Apprentice Electricians and Fire Alarm Specialty Technician Apprentices, including conditions, qualifications, examinations, renewals, fees, education, investigations and license sanctions for violations.</p>
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<p>Subdivision IV Sections 7-91 to 7-92</p>	<p>Violations, Penalties and Fines. Provides that violations are punishable as misdemeanors by fines up to \$500 and/or 90 days in jail with persons subject to the licensing or registration requirements also punishable by civil fines of \$1,000 per day subject to a \$5,000 maximum civil fine per violation, with second or subsequent violations being punishable by civil fines of \$2,000 per day subject to a \$10,000 maximum per violation. Also confirms the Township assumes no liability by reason of performing inspections and that the Ordinance does not reduce or lessen existing responsibilities or liabilities.</p>
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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE
JOAN MCCRARY, CLERK

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know
INDEPENDENCE TWP

**SYNOPSIS OF ACTION
TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE**
Supervisor Stuart called the December 5, 1995 meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Independence Township Hall Annex. Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call: Present: Lutz, McCrary, McGee, Mercado, Stuart, Vaara.

- Absent: Travis.
There is a quorum.
1. Approved the Agenda with the addition of Mich Con Right-of-Way Grant Review and Sheriff's Contract 1996-1998 under New Business.
 2. Approved the minutes of the Regular Township meeting of November 21, 1995 as amended.
 3. Approved the payment of the list of bills totaling \$227,362.38.
 4. Approval to award the bids for the Cushman mower to W.F. Miller in the amount of \$30,600 and the Jacobsen Utility cart to W.F. Miller in the amount of \$16,000.
 5. Adoption of the 1993 NEC Code & Technical Amendments.
 6. Adoption of Firearms by Minors Ordinance.
 7. Approved the Township Board Meeting Schedule for 1996.
 8. Approved the purchase of AS/400 Advanced Computer System from U B Serve at a cost not to exceed \$26,000.
 9. Approval to accept from Mich Con the sum of \$52,675 to purchase a right-of-way easement for a gas line on Parcel 08-29-351-016.
 10. Approved the 1996-1998 Oakland County Sheriff's contract.
 11. Approval to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know
INDEPENDENCE TWP

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

At a regular meeting of the Township Board held on December 5, 1995, the Board authorized a Second Reading and Adoption on the Use of Firearms by Minors Ordinance.

The motion to approve this amendment was offered by Vaara, supported by Mercado, the vote on the motion was as follows: Ayes: Lutz, McCrary, McGee, Mercado, Stuart, Vaara. Nays: None. Absent: Travis. The motion carried.

This ordinance amendment is effective immediately upon publication.

ORDINANCE CODE AMENDMENT (Use of Firearms by Minors)

An ordinance to amend the Independence Township Code of Ordinances, as amended, for the purpose of amending Chapter 8, Article VIII, Division 1, Section 8-135, clarifying the regulation on the use of firearms by minors.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE ORDINANCES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 of Ordinance Chapter 8, Article VIII, Division 1, Section 8-135, shall be amended by deleting certain language from such section so as to read as follows after the amendment:

**CHAPTER 8
CRIMINAL CODE
ARTICLE VIII. OFFENSES CONCERNING MINORS
DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

Section 8-135. Use of Firearms. It shall be unlawful for any person under eighteen (18) years of age to use or possess any firearm or to use and possess any handgun designed and manufactured exclusively for propelling any projectile exceeding .177 caliber by means of spring, gas or air, outside the curtilage of his domicile unless he is accompanied by a person over eighteen (18) years of age.

Section 2 of Ordinance
All other regulations specified in the Independence Township Code of Ordinances shall remain in full force and effect, amended only as provided above.

Section 3 of Ordinance
The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby ordered to take effect immediately upon publication in the manner prescribed by law.

CERTIFICATION
The foregoing Ordinance was adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Independence at a meeting of the Board duly called and held on the 5th day of December, 1995.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE
BY: JOAN MCCRARY, CLERK

PROBATE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
CLAIMS NOTICE
Independent Probate
Estate of FRANCES ANN VANDER-
JAGT, DECEASED, 367-36-2000.
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Your interest in the estate may be
barred or affected by the following:

The decedent, whose last known address was 4370 Windlake Park Drive, Waterford, Michigan 48320, died 11/24/95. An instrument dated 2/27/87 has been admitted as the will of the deceased.

Creditors of the deceased are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the independent personal representative, Merrily Evdokimoff, c/o Mitchell Dechter, 21 South Main Street, Clarkston, Michigan 48346, or to both the independent personal representative and the Oakland County Probate Court, Pontiac, Michigan 48341, within 4 months of the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.
MITCHELL DECHTER, P12604
21 South Main Street
Clarkston, Michigan 48346
(810) 626-6600

Got
a
Gripe?

Write a
letter to
the editor!

5 S. Main St.
Clarkston, MI
48346

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know
INDEPENDENCE TWP
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE
TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

1996
January 9, 22
February 6, 20
March 5, 18*
April 2, 16
May 7, 21
June 4, 18
July 2, 16
August 5*, 20
September 3, 17
October 1, 15
November 4*, 19
December 3, 17

*A change in meeting date is due to scheduled Elections.
This schedule was approved at the Regular Township Board meeting of December 5, 1995.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know
INDEPENDENCE TWP.
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE
TOWNSHIP BOARD AGENDA
DECEMBER 19, 1995, 7:30 P.M.

- Call to Order.
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Opening Statements and Correspondence
Approval of Agenda
Minutes of Previous Meeting
List of Bills
Approval of Purchase Orders
Public Forum
- Old Business
1. Bid Award - Full Size Van - Parks
- New Business
1. Manulife Pension Plan Amendment
2. Request Waiver CDBG
3. Easement Request - Flemings Lake Road
4. Resolution - Clinton Oakland Sewage Disposal System Management Agreement
5. Proposed Civil Infraction Changes
6. MDOT Annual Permit
7. Permission to Purchase Copier - Township Office.
- Only those matters that are listed on the agenda are to be considered for action. A majority vote of the Board members may add or delete an agenda item.



Sheriff Clink (Scott Randall) cries when he realizes that if he arrests Santa, millions of good girls and boys all over the world will be disappointed.



Bailey Lake students show their appreciation. The mime troupe demonstrates a snowman.

Santa Claus arrested!

Christmas imperiled by boy who got coal in his stocking

You might think Santa Claus couldn't get arrested, but wait . . .

It's not your normal Christmas Eve at the North Pole when the sheriff, who never has anything to do, comes to arrest Santa. That was the premise of "Rough Night at the North Pole," a presentation of the Clarkston High School drama club Children's Theater, which has been touring local elementary schools.

The play tells the story of a bad little boy who comes to the North Pole to get even with Santa for putting coal in the boy's stockings last year—while he was still wearing them.

The comical cast includes a too-tall elf who can't remember Santa's name (Santa Clara? Santa Barbera? Santa Domingo?); Sheriff Clink, who's lonelier than the Maytag repairman; and Santa himself, who's sick and tired of eating milk and cookies three meals a day.

In the course of events, Santa is framed so the bad boy can deliver coal to good children all over the

world. But of course, such a thing could never happen—so many kids would be so disappointed—and the power of Christmas converts the bad boy to good in the end, leaving Clink's clink empty yet again.

Before and after the play, students (those pictured here are from Bailey Lake Elementary) were entertained by the CHS mime troupe. The younger students seemed very comfortable with the concept and giggled appreciatively as the mimes enacted several skits. Afterwards one young fan pronounced the whole effort "good." When asked which was his favorite character, he said (natch) "Santa."

The play was directed by students Ben Miller and Joe Smith under the guidance of teacher Jeffrey Tice. The cast included Tim Sievers as Santa, Heather Mustonen as Mrs. Claus, Dan Cotter as the elf, Eddie, Jonathan Moniaci as the bad boy; Elisha Wegman as his reluctant friend, Missy; and Scott Randall, in a memorable role as the weepy Sheriff Clink.



The sheriff and Mrs. Claus (Heather Mustonen) realize they have a problem—two Santas. The real one is on the right (Tim Sievers), the imposter is the bad boy in disguise (Jonathan Moniaci).



The back page

Photostory by Annette Kingsbury

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