

Our back-to-school section gets you ready for school

A
to
Z

New athletic code gets tough

A piece of Oakland County's past

The

Clarkston News

Award-winning hometown newspaper for 67 years

Volume 68, No. 4—Wednesday, Aug. 13, 1997

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Making tracks



CHS seniors Mollie Anderson, Theresa Osier and Stacey Steiner show off one of the paws they painted just outside the high school Aug. 6. The three joined their teammates on the CHS cheerleading teams in the annual "Paint the Paws" day, where the girls paint blue and yellow wolf prints leading from the high school locker room to the football field.

Who should pay?

Township, schools spar over improving Clarkston-Flemings Lake Rd. corner for new CHS

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

With the opening of the new Clarkston High School just a year away, tempers are beginning to flare over expected traffic problems approaching the Flemings Lake Rd. site.

At their meeting Aug. 5, members of the Independence Township Board of Trustees criticized the school district for its planning of the entrance to the new high school.

Supervisor Dale Stuart brought up the Flemings Lake - Clarkston Road intersection as one possibility for allocation of Tri-Party funds still available to the township in the coming year.

But the board seemed reluctant to approve the spending when, members said, the school district hasn't been forthcoming with money of its own to improve the intersection.

"The school system has indicated that they won't do anything more with this project. That's dangerous," Stuart said. "I would recommend we go to the school system and have them make some kind of contribution. They have a responsibility and they have to step up to the plate."

Stuart's and the board's concerns stem mainly from the way the entrance from Clarkston Road is being constructed. Trustee Dan Travis said the entrance from Clarkston Road onto unpaved Flemings Lake Rd. right now is not wide enough to allow two buses to drive side-by-side.

"The schools have a strategic problem here," Travis said. "They have jammed themselves with this Flemings Lake Road location. They created this and now they should help to make it better."

"It's absurd the schools aren't interested in contributing to clean up the mess," trustee Jeff McGee said. "It's ludicrous they come here, ask us for support in the bond issue and not do anything with this. We should put the clamps down and get them to lay out some money for this."

The school system has been giving the township board periodic updates on the progress on the construction of the new high school since it started. School superintendent Dr. Al Roberts said Tuesday he re-

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Schools search for new site

Problems surface at Springfield Plains site; meanwhile parents urge that remodeling work should come before any new building goes up

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Concerned parents filled the Clarkston Board of Education meeting Monday night, certain the board had already made up its mind to place a new elementary school next to the district's newest building, Springfield Plains.

However that wasn't the case, and most seemed to come away from what they said was their first board meeting with a better understanding of the board's position.

Architect David French of French and Associates presented maps of three parcels of land the district presently owns and talked about the pros and cons of each. The parcels are next to Springfield Plains Elementary on Holcomb Rd., behind the administration building on Clarkston Rd., and at Reese and Rattalee Lake roads.

Contrary to the July 21 meeting, when the board had been told construction manager A. J. Etkin preferred the Springfield Plains site, Tom Landry of Etkin said that wasn't necessarily the case.

"I don't want to see kids bussed from the southeast area to the north. I want to target where growth is going to come."

Trustee Mary Ellen McLean

"That was just off-the-cuff comments," he said, made before he'd seen maps of the other two sites.

Monday night's discussion revealed that due to wetland placement, the Springfield Plains site, at 34 acres, may not be big enough. "It's going to be tighter than either of the other two sites," French said.

The Reese Rd. site offers 80 acres and is a "very buildable site," French said. The Clarkston Rd. site offers 34 acres but with more favorable wetland placement. It also offers water and sewer, "a real plus when

Continued on page 11A

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Funshine takes enrollments for fall

The Funshine Preschool APEX and PIXIE programs, free to 4-year-olds who qualify, are now taking enrollment for fall.

The preschool is offered through Clarkston Community Education. This is a grant-funded preschool to help prepare children for kindergarten. For more information call 674-4792.

County wins grant for court services

An award-winning program that diverts felons from incarceration is the focus of a \$2 million state grant coming to Oakland County this fall.

State Corrections Director Kenneth McGinnis announced Aug. 7 that the county will receive funding for continued operation of its pre-trial diversion program. The program recently won the annual achievement award of the National Association of Counties for its innovation and success.

The grant will help pay for jail population case management, employment and training for offenders and other community programs. Another \$20,000 will support expanded pre-trial screening and supervision.

St. Dan's hosts blood drive

St. Daniel Catholic Church will host an American Red Cross blood drive on Sunday, Aug. 24. Hour are 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome but you can make an appointment by calling the church at 625-4583. The church is located at 7010 Valley Park Drive.

TCI hosts open house, screening

The TCI-Clarkston public access TV studio will present an open house on Monday, Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. at the studio located at 6570 Waldon Rd. next to Clarkston Middle School.

In addition to information on free video production classes, current projects and new equipment, a screening of a new, locally produced film will be held. "Wildcat" is the story of an Oakland County group which recovered a World War II fighter plane from Lake Michigan and restored it. The documentary, which took four years to complete, was produced by 1997 Clarkston High School graduate Michael Gay and WWII pilot Larry Smith.

The public is invited to this free event. Refreshments will be served.

The Clarkston News

5 S. Main St.
Clarkston, MI 48346
Phone: (248) 625-3370
Fax: (248) 625-0706

Clarkston News Staff

Jim Sherman, Publisher
Don Rush, Assistant to the Publisher
Annette Kingsbury, Editor
Brad Monastiere, Reporter
Eileen McCarville, Reporter
Eric Lewis, Advertising Manager
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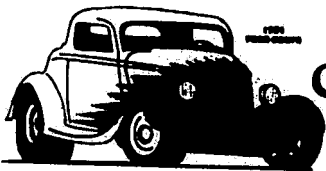
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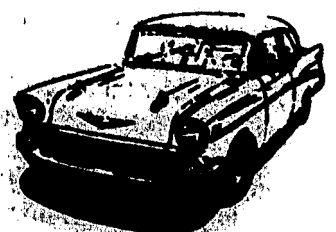
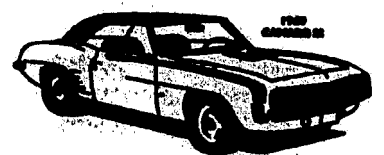
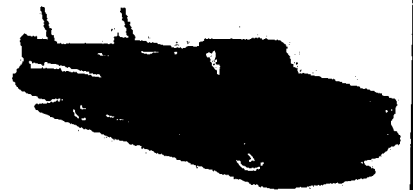
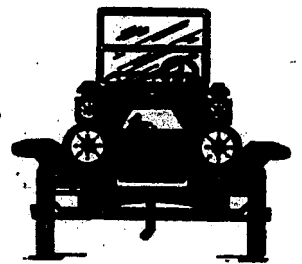
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Agenda for WOODWARD DREAM CRUISE - The Pontiac Segment



Cruising Tune-Up - August 14, 1997 through August 16, 1997

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- VIP Entertainment - Charles Anthony
- Live Entertainment D.J.
- Entertainment - Mellows
- Games for Kids

Friday, August 15th: Cruising Early

- Local Entertainment
- Show Cars Parade / Auto Show
- Live Entertainment - Mitch Ryder
- Games for Kids
- Local Entertainment

Saturday, August 16th: "Making The Loop"

- Local Entertainment
- Pontiac Classic Cruise Car Preview
- Entertainment:
 - Perfect Element
 - Maria Sanabria
- Mellows
- Boogie Brain Oldies Nite:
 - Rhinestone Rodeo Rockers
- Live Broadcast WOMC
- Evening MC Wolfman
- Maria Sanabria
- Ray Maas Elvis Illusion Show
- Mellows
- Del Vikings
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Lot #9
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6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Continuous

5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

8:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Continuous

Cont. Until 10:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m. - 10 p.m.

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

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THE SECOND FRONT

The Clarkston News

Wed., Aug. 13, 1997 3A

Old Oakland County hidden from view

Solar observatory still functioning just 10 minutes from Clarkston

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

It's just across the street from where work crews are preparing the site for the megamall. Just off the revamped Baldwin/I-75 exit. Hidden deep in the trees, most people don't even know it exists.

The McMath-Hulbert Observatory was built in the 1920s by some engineers and amateur astronomers, Robert and Francis McMath. They were the first astronomers to use time-lapse photography to capture moving pictures of the sun and moon.

The three solar observatory towers of varying height they built on land in Lake Angelus are owned today by Jim Kinsler and maintained by a non-profit organization, the McMath-Hulbert Astronomical Society. The facility was once owned by the University of Michigan, and its designers went on to build the McMath Planetarium at Cranbrook Institute of Science and the Kitt Peak National Observatory in Tucson.

For the third summer, children are attending camp at the observatory, where one of their leaders is Clarkston's Marcey Walsh. The camp isn't limited to astronomy, however. It offers kids instruction in computers, pottery, gardening, weather, woodworking, nature and much more.

As Walsh explained it, students spend their first day at camp exploring, then decided what subjects they want to study. They day-camp for anywhere from a week to a month, some on grants from the United Way.

"Basically we have this great facility," said Walsh as she led a visitor on a tour. "It's a solar observatory; they photograph the sun."

Astronomical Society member Steve Sulkanen, a retired research librarian, describes himself as a science buff. He said he'd heard of the observatory growing up in Pontiac, but only recently found it. He's now working on restoring the oldest tower, and one of his children was attending the Discovery Program camp. He's obviously a big fan of the place and sees its possibilities.

"With the peer pressure kids go through today, you really need to sow the seeds of discovery early," he said.

The site is filled with interesting vistas. Trees planted to keep the area around the towers cool have now grown as high as the towers themselves, shading the grounds in cool, dappled sunlight. Here and there are placed stone pillars and pots of flowers.

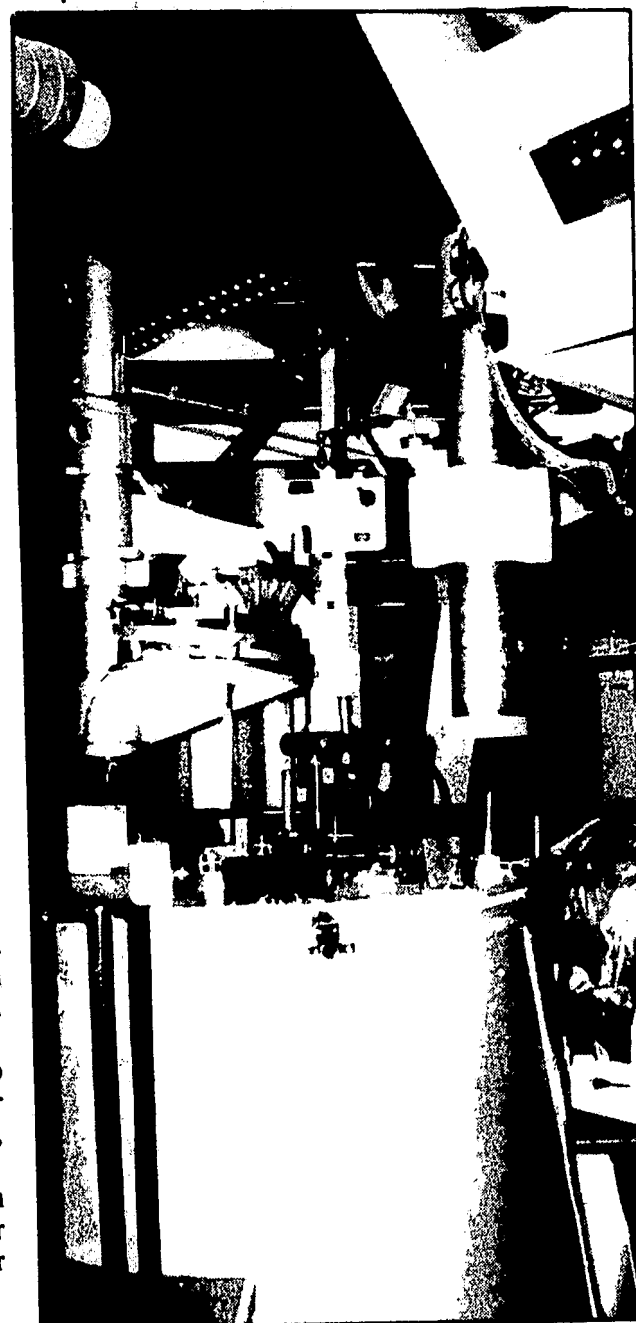
Inside one building, an artist works at a wide-screen computer donated by Ford while nearby, three girls work on clay pieces they are creating. Upstairs kids gather around computers and an electronic keyboard. There's a large darkroom and several working telescopes. The towers crank open to the heavens.

Walsh too can see the possibilities. She envisions students from all over Oakland County visiting the facility in person and via computer hookups so the old but still functional telescopes could be used to teach astronomy. But it all will take lots of restoration, and lots of dollars.

Meanwhile, kids can enjoy what the site has to offer through August, as openings are still available for the Discovery Program. Registration is \$120 a week, with before and after-camp supervision available.

The observatory is also open Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. for public tours, and offers tours for other summer camp youth groups as well. Call 335-4791 for more information.

It just may be Oakland County's best-kept secret.



Lots to do

Clockwise from top: John Long, 12 and Marcey Walsh look at watermelon growing in the garden planted by Discovery Program students. The plants were donated by growers at the Oakland County Farmers' Market and the harvest will be donated to local food banks as part of the Empty Bowls program. Angela Stitt, 10, shows off a Polish chicken donated by 4-H for the Discovery Program. Huge telescopes, still operational, fill each of the three towers on the site. They rotate and the top of each tower opens to the heavens.

City eliminates crossing guard

Police department to help younger kids cross at Waldon and Main

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

The Clarkston city council voted 7-0 to eliminate the crossing guard position at the corner of Main and Waldon, making one city resident angry.

Beverly Weddle, whose son Derek was hit by a car on Main St. in 1995 while walking to school, said the decision makes her upset.

"I'm very angry," she said. "As a parent, I have kids who will be crossing the street for three or four more years, and I have the gut feeling someone will get hit again this year."

"I'm most worried about the high-school and middle-school students who don't want their parents to take them to school."

Children from the South Main St. area use the crossing to get to Clarkston Elementary, Middle and High schools.

Clarkston Police Chief Paul Ormiston said the position is being eliminated because the former guard retired and no one came forward to express either objections to the elimination of the position, or interest in filling it.

"We sent letters to all the affected parents, and we got no reaction," Ormiston said. "I only received one phone call since June on the matter."

Ormiston also sought the opinion of the Oakland County Traffic Improvement Association, which studies traffic patterns. He said their only concern was the safety of kindergartners and first-graders crossing the intersection without a crossing guard.

Ormiston recommended to the council that the police department be responsible for crossing the younger elementary students at the corner.

"My recommendation is to eliminate the position for three reasons. There is no one in place to cover it; there is limited use of the intersection when school isn't in session; and it's not an inconvenience to the parents to find another way to get their kids to school," he said.

But Weddle said unless the speed limit is lowered on the south end of town, problems will continue to exist there.

"M-15 will become a lethal weapon," she said. "The speed limit through there is way too high. If it was lowered to 30 mph through the whole city, cars could see people crossing the road."

What tree is that?

"What tree is that?" a pocket guide for identifying trees, is available free-of-charge from The National Arbor Day Foundation.

The 72-page guide will help you identify 135 different trees found in the eastern and central U.S.

Well-known trees are included: oaks, maples, spruces, and pines. Also species such as horsechestnut and mockernut hickory, sassafras and shadbush, persimmon and pawpaw and pagodatree and pecan.

Dozens of drawings illustrate the trees' leaves or needles and their acorns, berries, seed pods, cones, etc. "What Tree Is That?" is organized to make it easy to identify trees in a simple step-by-step fashion.

To obtain the free tree ID guide, send name and address to "What Tree Is That?" The National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City, NE 68410.


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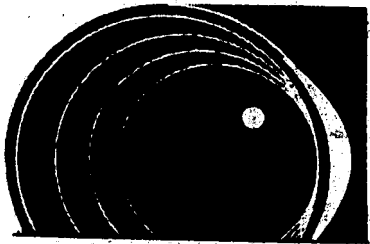
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Clarkston Schools

Tougher athletic code of conduct now in effect

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

In order to ensure the safety of athletes in the future, the Clarkston Athletic Council took a step into the past this summer.

The newly formed council, consisting of Clarkston High School coaches, parents and school staff members, put together a new Athletic Code of Conduct, to take effect with the start of the fall seasons.

The new code cracks down on alcohol violations, making the punishments for first and second offenses much more severe than the one in effect last year.

The motivation behind the new code comes in part from three separate incidents in the 1996-97 school year in which Clarkston High School athletes were suspended for using or in possession of alcohol or illegal drugs.

The new code states that any athlete caught at any time (year-round) drinking alcohol will be suspended from playing in games for four weeks. The first two weeks, the athlete will have to attend practice, but not participate. During this time, the athlete must complete 10 hours of community or in-house service and meet with a substance abuse counselor as deemed necessary. The second two weeks, the athlete may participate in practice, but is not allowed to play in any games.

A second violation will result in the athlete being removed from any kind of interscholastic sports at Clarkston High School until graduation. The athlete

can appeal this decision to a three-person council after one year, and must submit to random drug testing.

CHS Athletic Director Dan Fife said this code is more reminiscent of how codes in schools used to be. It's not so bad going back to the old way, he said.

"This is probably one of the toughest athletic codes in the state," he said. "With the old code, the temptation for the kids were there, but the consequences were minimal. Now, with this, the kids had better think twice before making a decision regarding alcohol when they're out."

Fife said his position as athletic director helped to give him some insight that the old athletic code needed to be toughened.

"I would be standing in the hallways outside the office here and I would overhear many conversations," he said. "What struck me was the casualness of which the kids were talking about being out and that kind of thing. Paul (Tungate, former CHS AD) and I had discussions before about putting more bite into the code and I think we've done that."

Gordie Richardson, a member of the Athletic Council and head coach of the volleyball and girls track teams, said there was a conscious effort on the council's part to make the athletic code tougher than the school's regular code of conduct.

"We expect our athletes to be in a position of pride in the community," he said. "We didn't feel the old code made the kids have any second thoughts about drinking. If this new code gives kids a reason to pause when

they're in a social setting, we've accomplished our goal."

Senior Kevin Mason, a member of the varsity football and basketball teams, said the new code would act as a deterrent to anyone who would consider drinking.

"I like the fact that it's tougher," he said. "It will definitely make you think twice before doing that."

Senior Eric Veit, also on the football team, said the old code was seen as a slap on the wrist, which he said the new one was not.

"Last year, we had some kids get in trouble, so I'm glad they made it tougher," he said. "Hopefully, drinking will become less of a problem now."

Fife said the athletes will be informed of the new code through their coaches.

"The kids will sign an athletic contract saying they've read it," Fife said. "But then we'll give them a 14-question true/false test going over the code. The coach will then go over the answers with the team together and each kid will sign another contract, saying they've taken the test."

Fife said coaches will be going over the new code during each of their meetings with parents. The code has also been endorsed by the Clarkston Community Task Force for Youth, a group dedicated to helping eradicate drug abuse in the community.

"I applaud the board and coaches for supporting this," he said. "We want successful and winning teams in Clarkston on and off the floor."



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OPINION

Wed., Aug. 13, 1997 6A

The Clarkston News



In Focus

by Annette Kingsbury

Giving the customer what she wants

Thanks to Clarkston Mayor Sharron Catalo for bringing in an article from the Wall Street Journal about changes in the banking business.

Catalo has been vocal in her disappointment that NBD Bank is leaving downtown Clarkston and claiming that it won't sell its historic building, which has always been a bank, to another bank.

The move out of town is just one signal that things are changing in the banking industry. The bank is leaving because it has an old facility it can't update. There's no room for drive-through, no parking lot.

What the WSJ article pointed out, though, is that banks are hell-bent on changing, no matter what the consumer wants. The article points out what I know to be true: customers want to hand their money to a real person, not a machine. They want the change counted out, they want someone to handle problems if there are any.

But banks apparently feel live tellers have become too expensive, and want to go to more automated services. NBD for one has already begun raising its service charges substantially for transactions that require special attention, in an apparent attempt to put an end to such transactions.

So sooner or later we'll all have to learn to use—and trust—the automatic teller. So far I haven't tried one, not having been forced to. But I'm sure soon I will.

I guess these people never heard of giving the customer what she wants. I want a teller. I want, when I'm a good customer who doesn't abuse the bank, always pays bills on time and rarely bounces a check, to be rewarded with reduced service fees. It seems like the bank doesn't want my business when it forces on me everything I don't want.

I'm not picking on NBD; I'm sure all banks are undergoing the same changes now. Maybe it has to do with the recent changes in federal law allowing for national banks; maybe it's just a fact of life in our times.

But the WSJ goes on to say that in reality, automatic banking isn't a big money saver. According to a source quoted in the article, "banks derive more income from customers who use only staffed branches than from those who are heavy users of self-service technology."

And there's this: "ATMs have added \$1.5 billion of additional operating expenses to the banking industry while producing less than \$200 million in savings from eliminated teller positions."

And yet the article quotes a banking executive as saying "We don't think there's any inherent value for a customer to stand in line to see a teller."

Well!

Why don't you ask the customers which they'd prefer? It's called market research. It seems like the attitude is one of "don't bother me with the facts."

One wonders if the customers are unhappy and the banks aren't saving money, why they persist. As my favorite columnist Jim Fitzgerald used to say, onward and upward. And count your money before you leave the machine.



Jim's Jottings

By Jim Sherman

Just jottin'

My regular readers have likely forgotten my saying my favorite summertime veggie is the tomato. So, it follows that my favorite summertime sandwich is toasted bacon and tomato.

I'll frequently have one for breakfast and another for lunch. I had just prepared such a feast one morning last week, when, with the Miracle Whip showing around the bacon and tomato, I remembered a doctor's warning of the day before.

"No red meat for three days," he said. Bummer! I suppose I could have changed my appointment, but the best tomato/bacon days are ahead.

Hazel reminded me toasted tomato and Miracle Whip sandwiches are good, too, so I settled for second best. She ate the bacon.

* * *

Golfing has put me on the road quite a bit recently. Retirement is tough. The more I drive the more I see turn signals not being used.

There must be a reason for this. Maybe;

1. Lots of people don't care about being rear-ended, figuring whip lash will give them a few days off and possibly a multimillion dollar settlement in their lawsuit.

2. The guy ahead of me didn't turn his signal on so why should I.

3. I was courteous yesterday and no one appreciated it.

4. They know one of the two handles sticking out of the left side of the steering column moves the steering wheel, and think the other one is an ejector

lever.

5. But, I believe the big reason turn signals are ignored by so many drivers is because they are a bunch of self-centered idiots with gnat size brains who believe all the rest of us are self-centered idiots with gnat size brains.

* * *

One of my golf trips took me out on a foggy morning where I was exposed to another of Gumperson's laws: On a foggy day you will always meet an oncoming car on a turn and you will be going too fast.

* * *

Don't you just love the harmony in Washington over the new tax/budget bill? Ex-presidential candidate Steve Forbes cynically said "the cut is a penny on the dollar."

David L. Littman, senior economist and vice-president of Comerica Bank said the talk from the Capitol is a "blatant conveyance of economic nonsense."

President Clinton said the tax cut will give everyone all the money they need to send all their children to the finest schools in the country, the tax cuts will eliminate poverty, totally and all inner cities will be abolished.

And, the latest polls show that 38.8 percent of the people believe Clinton. Three people believe Forbes and Littman. The rest are undecided about whether to vacation in Disney World or Cedar Point.



Lauds museum foundation

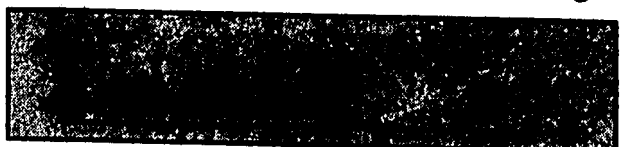
To whom it may concern:

As a realtor in the Clarkston area, I am very interested in any educational advancement in our community.

I believe that a museum in our downtown area would most certainly provide opportunities for school/educational tours while being located in an already historic town.

Accolades to the dedicated people who are promoting this worthwhile endeavor.

Very truly yours,
Joan M. Weger



Clairvoyant?

At the July 28 regular meeting of the Clarkston city council, council approved a new criminal code after a second reading. Part of that reading's purpose was to delete or add any items the council deemed necessary.

A section outlawing fortune tellers was removed from the list, at the easy consensus of the council. Afterwards, city attorney Tom Ryan chimed in by saying, "I had a premonition that would happen."



A monthly listing of the activities and programs held at the Independence Township Senior Center can be obtained by calling 625-8231 or drop in to the center at 5980 Clarkston Road, in Clintonwood Park, (between M-15 and Sashabaw Road) and pick one up.

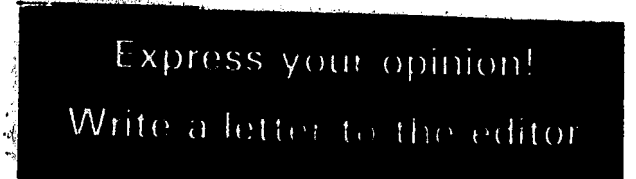
MEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB, Tuesday, August 19, 8 a.m., \$3 per person. RSVP no later than Friday, August 18.

THIS WEEK'S LUNCH MENU

The nutrition program is held at noon, Monday through Friday, at the Senior Center. Reservations are needed by noon the day prior to your visit. A donation of \$2 is requested from those age 60+, and a charge of \$3 for anyone under age 60. Homebound meals and supplemental liquid meals are also available by calling Sarah at 625-8231.

Mon. Aug. 18 Macaroni and Cheese
Tues. Aug. 19 Chicken Cacciatore
Wed. Aug. 20 Turkey Salad
Thur. Aug. 21 Pizza Supreme
Fri. Aug. 22 Crispy Cod

* Wednesdays are low fat "heart smart" lunches. Additional salt is never used in our preparations.



Express your opinion!

Write a letter to the editor

People poll

By Eileen McCarville

15 YEARS AGO (1982)

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by **Eileen McCarville**

KNOB NOTES

Stepping Live-ly

It's hard to know whether to wear earplugs or not at a Live show. Frontman Ed Kowalczyk begins most songs with a whisper and evolves eventually into the primal scream zone, surely breaking all decibel barriers.

But the music is definitely contagious. Known for lush, stream-of-consciousness imagery delivered by Kowalczyk's emotive vocals, Live takes the listener on a quest for spiritual answers amidst the chaos and dissatisfaction of the modern world.

Reviews of the decade-old band, with most members still in their twenties, remain lofty: "Spin" praises its ability to "Let their songs build and breathe" and "Playboy," gushing over Kowalczyk, cites the

frontman's "amazing instinct for keeping a balance between mystery and accessibility, humor and drama, all the while kicking out the jams."

Timothy White sums up the band's essence in "Spin": "Pained by the spiritual hollowness of their time, these young men are challenging themselves to find a fresh and edifying outlook on a world running down."

Following the success of its six-times platinum "Throwing Copper," which featured the hits "Selling The Drama," "I Alone" and "Lightning Crashes," Live continues to forge ahead with its new release "Secret Samadhi."

Again, Kowalczyk's whisper-to-wail musings are the focus of songs like "Freaks" and "Lakini's Juice," the latter charting new territory with its unlikely alterations between violin, muscular industrial riffing and delicate orchestral passages.

The band wrote the new album on tour, at home in Pennsylvania and in Jamaica, an "intoxicating" setting, recalls guitarist Chad Taylor.

"We played every day in this big house that overlooked Montego Bay," says Kowalczyk. Describing the word "Samadhi," he continues, "It doesn't mean joy, exactly. It's more like a place of spiritual realization."

628-4801



Live frontman Edward Kowalczyk is second from right.

"For us . . . works on a few levels. The place we go as a band is a sort of 'Samadhi,' intensely emotional and not bound by self-thinking. And lyrically, one of those goals is to suggest that something is going on beyond what you can see."

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 Sunday, August 17, 1997

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The Clarkston (MI) News Wed., August 13, 1997 9 A
at the Clarkston Eagle's Corn Roast Aug. 16.

● This year's Vacation Bible School at Christ the King Church in Oxford will have a circus theme: Under The Big Top. Live animals, clowns and a ring leader will add to the fun of swimming and playground activities.

Vacation Bible School is August 18-22, from 9 a.m. to noon for ages 5 to 12 years old. A family night ice cream social is planned for Wednesday, Aug. 20 at 7 p.m.

Christ the King Church is located at 1550 W. Draher Rd. between Baldwin and M-24. Everyone is welcome to participate. For more information call 628-0038.

● The Cranbrook Art Museum is now accepting applications for volunteer tour guides/docents for its 1997-98 young curators program. Selected volunteers will visit local elementary schools and give presentations from the art museum. For an application or more information, call David D.J. Rau at 248-645-3314.

● Julie Eisenhower kicks off this year's lineup for the Pontiac-Oakland Town Hall lecture series. Speakers in the series will include Eisenhower on Oct. 8; humorist Christopher Cerf on Nov. 12; Jamie McCarthy of WJR radio on March 11; and actress and psychotherapist Judy Lewis on April 8.

Series tickets are \$50; lunch is also available. Send checks to Pontiac-Oakland Town Hall, PO Box 431889, Pontiac, MI 48343 or call 673-7356 for more information. Lectures are at 10:30 a.m. at the St. George Cultural Center, 1515 Woodward, W. Bloomfield.

● Marijuana Anonymous, the first such support group, has started in Metro Detroit. Anyone who has a desire to stop smoking the drug can go to meetings, Saturdays at 11 a.m. at Catholic Social Services of Oakland County at 1424 E. 11 Mile Rd. in Royal Oak. The group bases its goals, formats and principles on Alcoholics Anonymous. For more information, call Danielle Thomas at 248-435-5347 or Lisa Pangrazzi at 248-548-4044.

● There will be games, food and fun for everyone

TASTE OF INDEPENDENCE

Enjoy a classy evening at Bay Court Park Sunday, Sept. 7. Advanced tickets need to be purchased at the Parks and Recreation Department. Tickets are \$25.00 per person and all proceeds go towards Bay Court Park and Playscape.

● The Pine Knob Elementary Executive Board will meet Aug. 20 at 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

● The Parent Network will meet Tuesday, Aug. 19, 7-9 p.m. at the Independence Township Library for a program called "Let's talk about chores, sleepovers, meals, curfews, movies and more." Discover various options to resolving the challenging parent-child issues facing you on a daily basis. Networking time will be provided. The Parent Network meets the third Tuesday of every month. Call 625-4855 for more information.

● The CROP Walk returns to Clarkston on Sunday, Sept. 28. The walk starts at 2 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church on Bluegrass. CROP Walks are interfaith community events that help stop hunger around the block and around the world. AS of 1996, 26 years of walking in Michigan has raised over \$19 million. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised stay in the local community. Call 625-1323 for more information.

● The Widowed Support Group will meet Thursday, Sept. 4 for an informal sharing meeting on healing the pain of grief. The free group meets at the Independence Township Senior Center in Clintonwood Park. The group is open to the recently widowed; refreshments are served. Call 625-5231 for questions or to get on the mailing list.

● A new Clarkston Mothers support group is seeking volunteers who love caring for children ages infant to 5. Meetings are the second and fourth Tuesday, monthly September through May, 9-11:30 a.m. Call Kelly at 625-7842.

● The Pontiac Oakland Society of Artists is holding its summer exhibit at the Oakland County Galleria, now through Sept. 30. Hours are 9-5 weekdays in the Executive Office Building, 1200 N. Telegraph. Call 858-0415.

● Indian Springs Metropark in White Lake offers the following upcoming events: Aug. 17, beginning watercolors (adults), 2 p.m.; Aug. 23, Bag a Butterfly, 2 p.m.; Aug. 24, Nature Scavenger Hunt, 2 p.m.; Aug. 29, Nature's Night Shift, 8:30 p.m.; Aug. 30, Jet-Setting Butterflies, 1 p.m.; Aug. 31, How do I love Trees, 2 p.m. Call 625-7280 to register.

● Young actors from Clarkston are among those participating in the Bloomfield Youth Theater's production of "A Bad Year for Tomatoes" Aug. 14-15 at 7 p.m. at Andover High School. Tickets are \$3. Directors are Thomas Logan of Pontiac and Danielle Paccione of Clarkston. For ticket information call 248-433-0885.

● Aug. 15 is the last day to register for this year's United Way Day of Caring. High-voltage volunteers are being sought for the one-day event, held this year on Sept. 6. You have the power to make a difference. Call 248-874-1616.

● Art in the Park returns to Birmingham's Shain Park Sept. 6-7, featuring 158 artists from across the US, Canada and England. The event benefits Common Ground and is considered one of the 200 best in the country. Hours are 10-6 Saturday, 10-5 Sunday. Admission is free.

● Canterbury Village's Kids Days will be from 1-7 p.m. Aug. 16 and 1-6 p.m. Aug. 17. The fun-filled days will include puppet shows, sing-alongs, clowns and a 4-H Club petting zoo. Also, there will be free fingerprinting by Lake Orion Police Officers.

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19-year-old archer heads to worlds

By Jaime Shelton
Clarkston News Intern

Seat. Draw and settle. Set. Relax. Pull. Pin on. Jamie Van Natta says these words to herself each time she shoots the arrow. If her aim is off, she goes over the process again in her head.

"I see myself shooting tens all the time," she said.

Van Natta may not shoot a perfect score all the time, but she medals in about 90 percent of the archery tournaments she enters. She also is a member of top archery teams.

Though only 19 years old, the Davisburg resident is heading this week to the world archery tournament in Victoria, British Columbia in hopes of earning another top honor.

Archery has been a large part of her life since her father introduced it to her at the age of 12. She has entered numerous competitions and spent much time practicing.

While in high school, she entered a tournament nearly every weekend. But now that she will start her second year at the University of Toledo, she only enters 15 competitions a year.

"I don't have as much time. I pick out the big (tournaments) now," she said.

Last week Van Natta went to the national archery competition in Canton. She placed a disappointing fifth place in the senior female compound bow category. She said her lower ranking was due to equipment failure. A string on her bow broke, causing her timing to be off.

"It just messed everything up. Given two decent days, I could have come in first, second or third," she said.

In FITA, a style of competition used at the world tournament and others, the archer shoots 144 arrows at various distances. The highest possible score is 1,400 points, ten points for each arrow.

Van Natta normally shoots a score between 1,300 and 1,320. "That's right there at the top of the women's field," she said.

Van Natta said it is nearly impossible to shoot a perfect ten with every arrow.

Though the archers compete against each other, the sportsmanship is extremely high, Van Natta said.

She is friends with many of the athletes and enjoys watching others shoot.

"I really love the people. We keep each other up," she said.

Throughout seven years of competition, Van Natta has traveled to many cities and countries throughout the world. She competed in Istanbul, Turkey, Canada and went coast to coast within the U.S.

Like the rest of her equipment, travel is expensive for dedicated archers. To help defray her cost, Van Natta receives grants and sponsorships which allow her to compete away from home in many of the larger tournaments.

Rules at the top competitions vary. In some, archers estimate the targets' distances, while in others, targets are set at ten meter intervals. Some competitions are completely indoors, and others have targets in the woods.

"I like the diversity. It's more fun that way," Van Natta said.

Though she received awards in past national and world competitions, shooting at the Olympics is out of the question right now. Currently, the Olympics does not offer a category for her shooting style.

"Because I shoot the compound (bow), it's a no go," she said.

Van Natta said archery is a challenging sport that requires concentration. "It's not easy to get good at this sport and stay good at this sport. You have to have gumption," she said.

For her practices, a target is set up in her front yard. Van Natta backs up to her neighbor's driveway to shoot from various distances.

In high school, she spent about 15 hours a week practicing. Now that she has college homework and a full-time job, her practices are cut in half.

"It's hard to get out of bed sometimes. ... (My coach) doesn't like that I don't practice that much, but he deals with it," she joked.

Terry Wonderle has coached her for three years, but since he lives in Illinois, correcting her form is sometimes more difficult. Van Natta videotapes herself and sends the tape to Wonderle for feedback.

In addition to competing, Van Natta also teaches archery classes to interested students. She started teaching youngsters at the facility where she learned, the



Jamie Van Natta

Oakland County Sports Club in Clarkston, but she enjoys older students better.

"I much rather teach people my own age because they can grasp the big concepts," she said.

Continued on next page

Carl B. Shermetaro, D.O.

Ear, Nose and Throat
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- Snoring/Sleep Apnea
- Endoscopic Sinus Surgery
- Skin Growth/Mole Removal
- Dizziness
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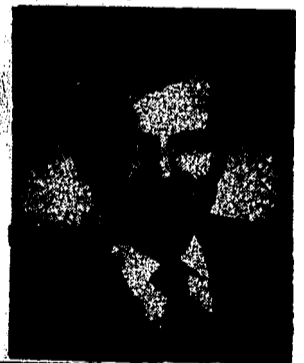
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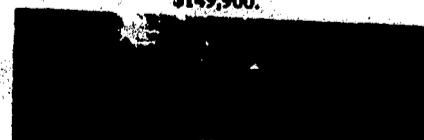
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Schools search for new site

From page 1A

you look at site development costs," he added.

The district is also pursuing other parcels that may be available. Business manager Craig Kahler said he, township assessors and municipal planner Dick Carlisle are working on identifying other sites that may be suitable for building a school.

"These decisions have not been made and will not be made tonight," said board president Karen Foyteck. "The proposed time line is aggressive . . . however the board unanimously agreed it was necessary to obtain all necessary data (first)."

The district will be looking at such criteria as cost of site, including development, utilities and soil; demographics; infrastructure, such as roads; and busing.

Board vice president Mary Ellen McLean said she wants the school to go "where the growth is expected to be, alleviating transportation costs and just being a neighborhood school." She emphasized the growth in the southeast corner of the district and said she hoped land could be found to alleviate overcrowding at the existing buildings in that area.

"I don't want to see kids bussed from the southeast area to the north. I want to target where the growth is going to come. They are all going to be affected but there is a strong group where the density is going to be greater."

In a related matter, a number of parents, notably from Andersonville School, expressed concerns that Andersonville's renovations are at the end of the district's construction timetable. They urged that the remodeling work take precedence over building a new school.

"We have a severe crowding concern out there and we need some short-term and long-term relief," said parent Matt Gohlke. "When the bond issue was passed . . . we jumped to the conclusion that it was going to be right away."

The bond issue approved by the voters in June calls for additions and/or remodelings at most district buildings.

"The dismay many of us feel is the amount of time it is going to take," said Andersonville parent Don Spencer. "We're looking for some help for right now. . . We're in need of at least one more portable."

However McLean cautioned that as much as the needs are urgent, the amount of work to be done means it will take time.

"Right now all our schools are terribly overcrowded, terribly overcrowded. It's not going to happen in 12 months."

Board treasurer Kurt Shanks assured parents that equity was the main thrust of the bond issue, and won't be forgotten.

"Phase III was equity," he said. "We have to balance the entire district. This was the equity bond issue."

In other action

● The board received a detailed report on revenues and expenditures within the athletic budget. The report is expected to be used in future discussions about funding sports.

Athletic Director Dan Fife said he has some concerns about independent fund-raising going on surrounding Clarkston sports.

Referring to the new hockey team, which was funded by parents, he said, "My concern is they are representing our school, our district, our athletic department. They are to be commended for the job they did last year. But when they're out there raising money, I have concerns about that amount of money being raised and not being under our control."

School superintendent Dr. Al Roberts said though there have been no problems, "our board policy does require the board to be aware of those budgets."

Archer

From previous page

Van Natta extended her instruction last year to students at the University of Toledo. She taught her roommate and others how to shoot with extra equipment she took with her to school.

In addition, she was also instrumental in starting an archery club at college. After nine months, Van Natta is still trying to work out an area and time the club can meet to practice. She hopes by fall the club will be up and running fully.

Because archery has been a part of her life for many years, Van Natta admitted that once in a while, she has the urge to quit. She can take a two-week break, but then she picks her bow up again and starts practicing.

"I love it too much, but it's a love-hate relationship. . . I still hope to do it until the day I die," she said.

Experience the extraordinary with the EXTREME sports club

Expand your horizons with Oakland County Parks Extreme Sports Club by sky diving on Saturday, August 16 or hot air ballooning on Sunday, August 17.

"We provide a unique opportunity to live life outside the boundaries," Brian Farmer, Extreme Sports Club organizer, said. "We do all the planning so you can focus on trying something new."

Those interested in the sky diving experience will meet at Lookout Lodge at Waterford Oaks County Park at 9 a.m. August 16 for a continental breakfast. The event is limited to 20 people.

Cost for the six-hour event is \$195/person including transportation to Marine City Airport, instruction, tandem dive with certified instructor, insurance and a 45-day membership to the U.S. Parachuting Association. Participants must weigh under 200 pounds.

The hot air balloon group will meet at Lookout Lodge at 3:30 p.m. August 17. The four-hour trip includes transportation to Oxford, souvenirs, a discounted lunch at Mr. B's restaurant and a 30-minute balloon ride with an FAA Licensed Commercial Hot Air Balloon Pilot.

Cost for the hot air balloon experience is \$95/person. Registration is limited to 35 people ages 5 and older. Registration for both events is due by August 5.

Lookout Lodge is located in Waterford Oaks County Park on Scott Lake Road, between Dixie Highway and Pontiac Lake Road, in Waterford.

For further information or a registration form call Brian Farmer at (248) 858-0916 or TDD: (248) 858-1684. Visit Oakland County Parks website at www.co.oakland.mi.us.

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1:30, 4:20 @ \$3.25 6:50, 9:20

CONSPIRACY THEORY #
1:10, 4:15 @ \$3.25 7:00, 9:45

SPAWN PG-13
2:00, 4:40 @ \$3.25 7:40, 9:55

AIR BUD PG
1:15, 3:15, 6:15 @ \$3.25 7:15

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PG-13 1:30, 4:45 @ \$3.25 7:30, 9:40

AIR FORCE ONE #
1:45, 4:30 @ \$3.25 7:20, 9:55

GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE
PG-13 2:00, 5:30 @ \$3.25 7:00, 9:00
8:00 PM 8:30 SHOWTIME SAT. 8:10

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7:20, 9:30

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Moonwalker!

Five-year-old Megan Anderson makes her way out of the moonwalk ride Friday at the Sunrise Balloon Adventure, part of the Calvary Lutheran Church's vacation Bible school. This year's school had 80 kids from nursery school age to sixth graders participating in all kinds of activities. Kids also performed in a drama activity, giving them some experience on the stage during a fun week of learning.

Freezing, canning—the seasonal message

Local fruits and vegetables are arriving in markets, making this a peak time for canning and freezing.

According to Sylvia Trietman of the Michigan State University Extension service, many people are calling to find out how to safely keep homemade jams and jellies safely.

"All jams and jellies need to be processed in a boiling water bath," she says. "This process destroys the bacteria that causes molds to grow and spoilage to occur."

"The old-time methods of using paraffin wax and the inversion method are no longer recommended. The problem with using paraffin is that mold can easily grow and the inversion method does nothing to destroy bacteria. The jars may seal, but the jam may still become moldy."

Doing the hot-water bath means home-canned products will still be good at Christmastime, when they'll make excellent gifts. They remain safe on the shelf for one to two years with relatively good quality, Trietman says.

Some other common canning problems are jars that don't seal. Trietman says that can usually be blamed on using old lids. The rubber can deteriorate, so buy fresh lids each year, she advises. For more information call the Food and Nutrition Hotline at 858-0904.

When it comes to freezing, the Michigan Department of Agriculture offers some guidelines. Food frozen at the peak of freshness tastes best and retains its nutrient value. And freezing to zero degrees F. inactivates the microbes of bacteria, yeast and mold.

Vegetables must be blanched—partially cooked in boiling water or a microwave oven in order to be frozen successfully. Then they must be chilled rapidly before freezing and storage. Wrap in airtight packaging.

Freezing keeps food safe almost indefinitely. Then defrost in the refrigerator, in a microwave or in a bag in cold water. Food defrosted in the refrigerator is safe to refreeze.

As with all food-safety issues, remember these words of caution—when in doubt, throw it out.

Who should pay?

Continued from page 1A

viewed the videotape of last week's township board meeting and feels there's some misinformation circulating.

"Since my arrival the entire board has been very supportive of any dialogue. They believe in being good neighbors and establishing a partnership. It makes good sense. So I didn't understand why the trustees felt we were unwilling to discuss those issues."

Roberts said bond money, which is approved by the voters for specific uses, has restrictions on how it can be spent.

"There are very stringent restrictions on what we can do. And we are very careful about K-12 dollars," Roberts said. "We want to do our fair share. . . (but) nobody's told us what the possibilities are. We've not heard a request for dollars or a request for a meeting."

Roberts said he sent a letter to each member of the township board expressing his concerns. He also said that no progress has been made on finding an alternate entrance to the new high school from Waldon Rd.

Stuart said he would be gathering more information on the project and make another presentation to the board in the future.

● Bowman Chevrolet, Inc. of Clarkston was among 15 metro Detroit auto dealers who recently certified their employees in CPR.

The classes were held at the dealerships in conjunction with St. Joseph Mercy Hospital-Oakland. Employees and their family members were invited to participate by the Detroit Auto Dealers Association.

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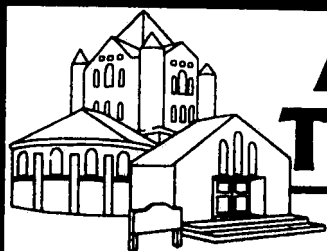
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Task Force wins \$10,000 grant

Now in its second year, grass-roots work is recognized by county

By Jaime Shelton
Clarkston News Intern

Cindy Dixon saw the effects of drug abuse first hand when she worked midnights as an emergency room nurse at Lansing's Sparrow Hospital during the mid-1970s.

She saw stabbings, bar fights and auto accidents related to alcohol. She resuscitated people who overdosed on heroin, just to have the same person come back again a few days later.

"We basically saved their lives. It was part of the job. I had to see the tragedy that can develop in people's lives," she said.

Now, working as the new coordinator for the Clarkston Community Task Force for Youth, Dixon is working with community members to fight the use of drugs in her neighborhood.

The Task Force started in the fall of 1995 after a survey from Western Michigan University revealed Clarkston students were using drugs and alcohol above the national average.

The startling numbers caused many people to join the Task Force. Today, the community coalition is comprised of people from every sector of the community, including government, school, law enforcement, churches, business and health care professionals and concerned citizens.

The purpose of the organization is to act as a catalyst with other positive groups in the area.

It sponsors programs for teens and parents to gain awareness into drug use, and it publishes pamphlets and other material aimed at providing positive alternatives for Clarkston's youth.

The Task Force's mission statement is to provide awareness, support and opportunities for youth to grow towards their greatest potential.

As a result of its grass roots programs, the community coalition recently received a \$10,000 grant from the Oakland County Health Department, Office of Substance Abuse.

According to Sandy Kosik, county substance abuse supervisor, Clarkston was awarded the funding based on its community involvement.

"We're interested in bringing all segments of the community together to address the problem ... It's the only way to be successful," Kosik said.

Since the majority of the Task Force members are volunteers, part of the grant funding was used to create a part-time administrator coordinator.

Dixon was chosen to fill the position since she had been with the group since its start and had the most free time.

'There's a denial in general in the community. Chemical abuse in the suburbs doesn't happen on the streets. It occurs behind closed doors.'



Cindy Dixon
Coordinator, Clarkston Task Force

As coordinator, Dixon does the legwork and reports back to the executive board. She is responsible for promoting the Task Force and its objectives and sometimes meets with people one on one who have questions or concerns.

Dixon said the organization had to complete a grant application proposal in order to be eligible for the funding. The 20-page write-up included a description of Clarkston's problem areas in dealing with drug and alcohol abuse.

These included limited funds, lack of drug abuse awareness in the community and community tolerance of underage smoking.

The Task Force is trying to resolve these problems by offering seminars and pamphlets to increase drug abuse awareness. In the fall, it is sponsoring the "Up with Parents!" workshop designed to educate parents.

"There's a denial in general in the community," Dixon said. "Chemical abuse in the suburbs doesn't happen on the streets. It occurs behind closed doors."

Dixon said parents can be a vital part of drug prevention. She said parents need to communicate more to each other so they know what is happening in their homes. She said this will make sure drugs and alcohol stay out of teenage parties hosted at home.

"The Task Force doesn't want to tell parents how to raise their kids, (but rather) consider alternatives," she said. In addition, she would like community members and business owners to stand up to put an end to the negative behavior.

"We won't tolerate this. We will enforce the laws

as given," she said.

Though the Task Force is an advocate to stop illegal drug abuse, it is not a prohibition group, Dixon said. Rather, the organization endorses responsible alcohol use for adults 21 and older and no drinking for minors.

Dixon said minors often take drinking too far. "Kids (today) don't drink socially. They drink to get drunk," she said.

Dixon said those underage who drink are also more likely to get addicted faster than those who are of legal age.

For those older than 21 with a predisposed addiction to alcohol, a full-blown dependency could show up 15 years later. For those underage, it could accelerate as fast as five to 15 months, Dixon said.

"It's startling. It's very startling," she said.

In order to help youth stay on the right track, Dixon said the coalition adopted 40 developmental assets identified by the Search Institute.

According to the research, the more assets young people receive, the more likely they are to succeed in school and make positive choices in regards to drugs and alcohol.

These assets include family support, community service, adult role models, creative activities; integrity and honesty, decision making and self-esteem.

Dixon said volunteering is also an important building block. "We kind of live in a 'me' society. It's part of human nature," she said. Volunteering puts others first and makes a child feel important, she added.

The Task Force endorses positive youth behavior and gives parents ideas to help their children make positive choices, Dixon said.

Twenty years after nursing, Dixon is again seeing up close the effects of drugs youth, but this time it hit home. Dixon has two sons attending Clarkston High School this fall.

"When I see the faces of the kids ... and I know their names and I know their families, I care about their futures. I want those kids to reach their full potential.

"I want to do whatever I can to encourage other parents. It's about people caring for other people," she said.

The Task Force meets 7 a.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the Carriage House at Clintonwood Park.

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In addition to charges for basic local exchange service, bills from local telephone companies may include charges for optional services such as a second telephone line, voice messaging services, inside-the-home wire maintenance contract, and custom calling features, to name a few (the specific names of these services vary from company to company). It's a good idea to review your bill to

ensure charges appear only for the services you have ordered. Call your local telephone company and request an explanation for any questionable charges. Upon request, the company must provide a copy of the rate schedule applicable to your usage. Rates and charges for optional services are not regulated and may change without notice.

Some charges appearing on your bill are required by local, state, or federal government. Included among these are (1) federal access line charge, which covers the cost of the local telephone network; (2) 911 surcharge, which provides access to your local emergency phone system; and (3) state and federal taxes. Your local telephone company can answer questions you may have on any of these charges.

Always review the summary of long distance calls and verify that you or someone in your household is responsible for those listed on your bill. If you don't think you're responsible for a particular call, immediately contact the company issuing the charge and request an investigation.

Because of the complex and changing nature of the telecommunications industry, there may be charges for other telephone services on your bill. If you have questions on other service charges appearing on your bill, contact the telephone company. Always follow up with a letter and keep a copy for your records.

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Council in favor of museum, just not in NBD building

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

For nearly an hour Monday, the Clarkston city council debated the pros and cons of a proposal to create a museum in the downtown building currently occupied by NBD Bank.

NBD will cease operations in the Main St. building Sept. 5. Council discussed alternative uses for the building in the wake of a proposal by the Clarkston Museum Foundation to get the bank to donate the building for a historical museum.

Councilman Bill Basinger, an attorney, said council should be careful about supporting the building to be given to a charitable organization, because it could mean there will never be a commercial business or office in the building again.

"If the building is donated to a charitable organization, it will forever be taken out of the business realm," he said. "A museum could go in a lot of places in the township. It's a pretty big area. But we need to think this out carefully. Once it's done, it's done."

Several council members agreed with Basinger, saying they liked the idea of a historical museum in the area, but were equally concerned about the loss of a

bank in the downtown area.

"A museum doesn't belong downtown," councilman Walter Gamble said. "It takes a commercial building away from a downtown that doesn't have a whole lot to begin with."

Basinger encouraged the council to take an official position, which it did by a 5-2 vote. The council resolved to favor the NBD building remaining retail or office and not become a charitable building. But at the same time, acknowledged that a museum somewhere in the community would be an asset.

Of course council has no control over what NBD does with the building, except for zoning regulations. Bank officials have said they will not sell it to another bank, and have noted its lack of parking or a drive-through window as reasons for abandoning the site.

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Children from WSI Nathan Smith's Journey 2 class use their "Learn to Swim" books before entering the water.

In the swim

Summer swimming lessons teach valuable skills and help kids get used to the water. But — let's face it — they're just dam good fun.

At Deer Lake Beach on White Lake Rd. recently, children were practicing strokes and enjoying games during the third session of Independence Township Parks and Recreation Department's swim program. At presstime, the last two-week session was scheduled for Aug. 4-14. Sessions have also been held at the new Bay Court Park beach on Andersonville Rd. this summer.

Each year parks and rec. holds its swim program, offering various levels for the littlest beginner to the most advanced swimmer. Programs are available for infants and their parents, getting wee ones used to the water with Mom and Dad nearby, through the Infant Preschool Aquatics Program (IPAP I).

This year beach supervisor Rich Ashley introduced a new class for older kids that incorporates basic lifesaving skills and techniques like CPR, back-boarding and strokes like the trudgen crawl and the over-arm

side stroke. As he puts it, "So many kids want to go a little higher... the kids love it, parents love it." He'd like to offer the special class next year as well.

Water safety instructor Kiley Maitrott enjoys her youngest charges.

"I love it, 'cause they're so willing to learn when they're that little and they're so much fun," says Maitrott during an IPAP I class. "It helps Mom be comfortable with the water and it helps the kids to not be afraid."

When youngsters 12 months to three years complete the earliest levels, they're ready for the Journey Series.

Ashley says these kids, usually from 5 to 8 years of age, start working on basic motor skills. "We begin to incorporate movements, using your arms and legs at the same time. It's an introduction to primary strokes, the front and back crawl. But at that age, we're happy if they can go five yards."

Who could resist, with a hot sunny day and games

like London Bridges and "What Time is it, Mr. Shark?" for the littlest tots. Beach supervisor Dave Hernandez explained the tag-like game, a variation on "What Time is it, Mr. Fox?" which has kids asking what time it is, as they bravely inch their way up to their teacher's back.

When the kids ask what time it is, and the WSI answers, "3 o'clock," for example, that's OK. That means the kids swim three strokes closer. But when the WSI yells "Dinner Time!" you'd better run — er, paddle — for the ropes.

WSI Nathan Smith appeared to have just as much fun as the 5- and 6-year-olds in his July 30 class, relishing his "Mr. Shark" role with gusto. All that was missing was the theme from "Jaws."

And, at the same time in Maitrott's class, 3-year-old Nathaniel Ross was having fun too. "I can kick on my back," said the wide-eyed youngster. "I can be Superman in the water."

— By Eileen McCarville



At left, Nathan Smith swims alongside his students. Above, kids practice strokes and have some fun during swimming lessons at Deer Lake Beach.

MONDAY, AUGUST 4, malicious destruction of a vehicle on Andersonville. The driver's side window was broken on a 1990 Ford Pickup truck.

Larceny from an auto on Indianwood Ct. A \$300 cellphone was taken from an unlocked car in a driveway.

Larceny on Dusuque. A \$165 saw was taken from a garage.

Indecent exposure on Clintonville Rd. An elderly man exposed himself to another elderly resident at a nursing home.

Larceny on Pine Knob. A handgun was discovered missing from a truck.

Larceny from an auto on Dixie. A \$200 cellphone was taken from a 1997 GMC Jimmy. A window was broken to gain access.

Non-sufficient-funds check written for \$66 on Dixie.

Malicious destruction of property on Dvorak. A deputy tried to unlock a door on a 1988 GMC Truck and was unable to. He told the truck's owner he might have to cause damage to unlock it, which he did. The woman signed a damage waiver.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, Larceny from an auto on Edgewood. A \$250 cellphone was taken from a locked truck.

Domestic assault and battery on Frankwill. A 41-year-old woman said her 39-year-old live-in boyfriend threw her down and hit her across the face. Twice, she tried to call police, but he pulled the phone jack out of the wall. Police did arrive and arrest the man, although he refused to speak to police without his lawyer.

Minor in possession of alcohol on Tippon. Three Clarkston youths were ticketed after neighbors complained about a loud party.

Attempted breaking and entering on Dixie. A window was broken and some items were scattered through a gas station. Workers there think a recently fired employee may be responsible.

Malicious destruction of property on M-15. A youth threw a rock at the windshield of a 1994 Ford Ranger, causing \$1,200 worth of damage to the hood and windshield.

Larceny of a bicycle on Sashabaw. A 20-inch Red Line bike valued at \$300 was taken. It was locked up.

Threats on Upland.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, larceny of mail on Cecelia Ann. A money order made out for \$19.12 was taken.

Larceny from an auto on Upland. Two amps worth a total of \$1,117, a \$136 speaker box, \$424 worth of speakers and \$850 in cash was taken from a truck. The owner suspects a man he argued with earlier.

A passenger in an armored car passed out at a bank on M-15. He was treated by Independence Township Fire officials.

Minor in possession of alcohol and possession of marijuana on Mary Sue. Two boys in a car in a parking lot admitted to drinking beer and smoking pot that night. The boys, ages 16 and 18, were ticketed.

Larceny on Berry Pointe. A \$1,000 set of golf clubs was taken from a garage.

Malicious destruction of a vehicle on Maybee. The steering column was broken on a 1992 Pontiac

Grand Am.

Assault and battery on Upland. An 18-year-old Clarkston woman said she was slapped in the drive-thru of a Sashabaw restaurant. Her boyfriend sustained minor injuries in the altercation.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, NSF checks on Dixie. The checks were written by an ex-employee.

Failure to pay for \$9.04 of gas on Dixie.

Larceny on Caribou. A \$250 radar detector and some golf clubs were taken from an unlocked garage.

Assault and battery on Independence. There was a pushing match between a 20-year-old Waterford man and an 18-year-old Clarkston man.

Larceny from an auto on Parview. A license plate was taken from a 1985 Olds.

Minor in possession of alcohol and loitering at Pine Knob Music Theater. A 19-year-old Waterford man was found carrying a beer and staggering in the Pine Knob parking lot. His blood alcohol level measured .289. He was ticketed.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, malicious destruction of property on Drayton. The rear window was smashed on a 1993 Olds Cutlass, causing \$300 worth of damage.

Failure to pay for \$15 in gas on N. Main.

Credit card fraud on Almond. A 40-year-old Clarkston woman said someone attempted to open credit cards in her name recently.

Larceny from an auto on M-15. A diamond wedding ring worth \$900 was taken from a 1997 GMC van.

Domestic violence on Mary Sue. A husband and wife said they assaulted one another. No evidence of injury was found.

Malicious destruction of property on Woodcreek. A 17-year-old Clarkston girl said someone egged her car and has been talking about her all over town lately.

Home invasion on Parview. A van was found sitting in a driveway. When the residents returned, the van's horn beeped and two white males ran from the residence and into the van and drove off. A chase up M-15 ensued, but the responsables were not caught. Some expensive jewelry was missing.

Home invasion on Oakhill. Many windows were smashed on a rental property. Three boys were found there and they said three others did most of the damage.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, Unauthorized driving away of an auto on Bancroft. A 1992 Buick Skylark was taken from a vacant lot.

Larceny from an auto at Pine Knob Music Theater. A purse, cellphone, pager and two gold rings were taken from a car parked in the theater's field lot.

Malicious destruction of property on Clarkston Rd. A rock was thrown through the window.

Larceny from an auto on Upland. Two checks were taken from an unlocked 1978 Pontiac. In their place, a bag full of cat litter and dung was left in the car.

Injured child on Sashabaw. A 1-year-old girl burned her hands, forearms and nose when she put her hands on a hot grill. She was taken to St. Joseph's Mercy - Oakland Hospital for treatment. She was later transferred to Detroit Children's Hospital where she is

in stable condition.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, assault and battery, domestic violence on Cornell. A 24-year-old Clarkston woman said her husband kicked her in the knee, causing an injury. A 29-year-old Clarkston man was arrested for domestic assault.

Fleeing and eluding, operating under the influence of liquor and driving with a suspended license on Alamo. A 24-year-old Clarkston man was spotted speeding on Clarkston Rd. when a deputy turned around to pursue. The man led police on a short chase before pulling into a driveway he claimed was his home. The residents there said they didn't know the man, who had slurred speech. His blood-alcohol level was measured at .134, and he had two warrants out of the Independence Substation for a suspended license and marijuana possession. He was arrested and the car was impounded.

Larceny on Sashabaw. Twenty bundles of roofing shingles were taken.

Malicious destruction of property with explosives on Park Valley. Two explosive devices made inside a pop bottle were found. One was detonated, leaving an acid stain on a driveway. The other was disarmed by the bomb squad.

Damaged property on Williams. A tractor trailer was spotted driving across a lawn, getting tangled up with some television wire. The wire was pulled away from the house, causing some damage. The driver was never found.

Warrant arrest on Sally. A 39-year-old Waterford man was arrested on an outstanding traffic warrant.

Malicious destruction of property on Ranch Estates. Sprinkler heads were damaged on a front lawn, causing around \$800 worth of damage. It may have been caused from a white diesel truck that was spotted there the night before.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, a Middle Lake Road resident reported that her canoe had been missing since July. It was valued at \$300.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, a 72-year-old Robertson Ct. resident reported having difficulty breathing. She was transported to St. Joseph's Mercy - Oakland Hospital for observation.


SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, a 74-year-old hospice patient died.

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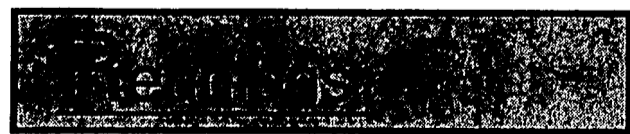
MILESTONES



Miller-Goggins

James and Lois Miller of Clarkston announce the engagement of their daughter Rebecca Ann to Mark Boyle Goggins of Massachusetts. The bride-to-be graduated from Klein Oak High School in Houston, Texas in 1986 and from DePaw University in 1990. She now works as a senior marketing associate for Oxford Health Plans in Connecticut. The prospective groom is a 1979 graduate of Northampton High School and a 1985 graduate of the University of Massachusetts. He is the Long Island Sales Representative for Harcourt Brace College Publishers. A December 1997 wedding is planned.

Wanda (Kilgore) Millikan passed the Michigan State Board exam for registered nursing on July 9, 1997. A 1987 graduate of Clarkston High School, she received her associate's degree in nursing on June 6, 1997 from Oakland Community College. She is employed by Peachwood Nursing Facility in Rochester and lives in Rochester with her husband Randy. The couple is expecting their first child in January. She is the daughter of Linda and Granville Kilgore of Kentucky.



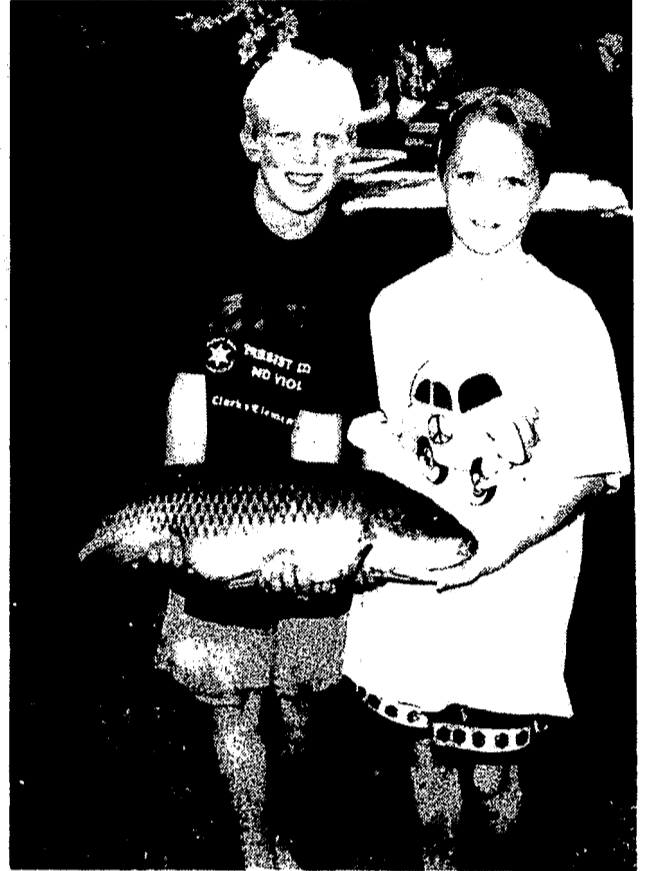
● The 17th annual Pontiac St. Frederick's Memorial Mass and all-class reunion will be held Sept. 14. The mass will be celebrated at 11:30 a.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church on Wide Track in Pontiac. Luncheon will follow at the Waterford Elks Club on Scott Lake Rd. Tickets are available at the Madonna Shop in Pontiac, 681-3964 or contact Marilyn Williams at 682-6069. Reservations must be made by Sept. 6.

William White of Clarkston has been named chairman of the Engineering Technology Department in Lawrence Technological University's College of Engineering. He will lead the development of new technology degree programs. White spent the last 11 years as the director of engineering laboratories and as a faculty member in manufacturing systems engineering at GM. He also worked at the Oakland Technical Center-Southeast Campus and earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Wayne State University.



New arrival

● It's a boy for Patrice and Bill Moesta of Clarkston. Connor Joseph Moesta was born July 9, 1997 at William Beaumont Hospital in Troy. He weighed 9 pounds, 1 ounce and was 21 inches long. He has a brother, William, 6 and a sister, Megan, 4. Grandparents are George and Elsie O'Neil of Clarkston and Gertrude Crawford of Grosse Pointe Farms.



Holy catfish!

Brenton Place (left) caught this 31-inch carp on Parke Lake in Clarkston recently. Shown with him is Josh Hendix.

At school

● The following Clarkston students made the Dean's List at Michigan State University for the spring semester: Lisa Marie Aenlle, Lesley Allen, Joan M. Barran, Robert Michael Brazier, Stacey Renee Frodie, Amber Marie Gebrowsky, Jennifer M. Gill, Tammy Marie Giroux, Rebecca A. Kretsch, Laura Christine Kroepflin, Mandi Ann Meisner, Michael Joseph Porritt, Michael Romein, Mark Thomas Ryan, Kristin Ann Schoeneweg, Katherine S. Reschke, Myles L. Mosher, Heather L. Brown, Kimberly S. Anderson, Kelly A. Arcello, Michael J. Bills, Amy Elizabeth Brent, Erik John Cohoon, Brian L. Ginn, Derenda J. Howard, Leah Claire Howard, Cindy Leanne McFalda, Jason Robert McNish, Renee Louise Micielli, Tracy Elizabeth Moen, Melanie Theresa Reinhout, Scott Alan Rice, Janice M. Rumph, Suzanne Catherine Schmidt, Kristen Nicole Stanton, Deborah Louise Terry, Kristen Carol Upham, Regina E. White, Nicole T. Winn, Eric Christopher Woodward, Holly Suzanne Zorka, and Rita Anne Frechette.

● 1997 CHS graduate Mindi Thompson received the Webster Scholarship from Albion College, in recognition for her outstanding academic achievement. In order to receive the scholarship, students must be in the top 10 percent of their class, have a high school GPA between 3.6 and 3.8, and score either a 27 on the ACT or 1150 on the SAT.

● Michelle Blombert received her master's degree from Eastern Illinois University. She majored in historical administration and is currently employed at Henry Ford Museum as a research assistant for the Henry Ford estate. Michelle is a 1987 graduate of Clarkston High School and a 1991 graduate of Michigan State University. Her parents are Steve and Helen Blombert of Davisburg.

● The following Clarkston High School graduates made the dean's list at Northern Michigan University for the winter 1997 term: Christopher W.

Cusumano, Matthew R. Laidler and Matthew J. Sutherland. Students must maintain a grade point average of 3.25 or better to qualify.

● Kelly Elkins, daughter of Dale Elkins of Clarkston and Rachel Elkins of Keene, NH, received the American Institute of Chemists Award and the Keene State College Chemistry Faculty Award May 16. She was also chosen to be included in the 1997 edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

The AIC award is given annually to the outstanding senior majoring in a chemistry program at KSC based on ability, leadership and professional promise. The Faculty Award is for contributing the most to the continuing development of the school's chemistry program.

Elkins graduated magna cum laude May 17 from KSC with a BS in biology, a BA in chemistry with teacher certification and a minor in French. She was president of the biology honor society Beta Beta Beta, secretary of the Chemistry Lyceum Club, and a member of the education honor society Kappa Delta Pi, the French honor society Pi Delta Phi, biology club, French club and the varsity swim team.

● Kimberly Wicklund, daughter of Stephen and Margaret Wicklund Clarkston, was named to the Phi Kappa Phi national honor society this spring. Students are selected based on academic standing (top 10 percent of seniors, top five percent of juniors).

● Stephen James Harlton was named to the Dean's List at Syracuse University for the spring 1997 semester. Students must maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or better. Stephen is a 1995 graduate of Clarkston High School and is the son of Bruce and Kathryn Harlton of Clarkston.

● Tammy Tyree of Clarkston graduated from Capital University May 11 in Columbus, Ohio.

MIOSHA investigates fatal fall at CHS

A state investigation has begun into last week's fatal fall by a worker at the Clarkston High School construction site on Flemings Lake Rd. in Independence Township.

The Michigan Occupational Safety Health Administration is continuing its investigation into the accident which killed Frank Blissett Jr, 43, of Fenton. He was an employee of Cadillac Steel of Sterling Heights.

David Foster, regional supervisor for construction sites with MIOSHA, said the investigation could take three to four weeks and no preliminary reports would be released before that, in accordance with departmental policy.

Foster said Blissett fell 44 feet while installing roof decking paneling for the new CHS gym.

MIOSHA records dating back to 1994 (as far back as they are kept, according to a department spokesperson) show Cadillac Iron has been cited three times for a total of nine violations during that time period. Six of the violations were considered serious, the other three were considered "other than serious." The company has never been investigated for an accident during that time period, the spokesperson said.

At Monday night's board of education meeting, the school district's business director Craig Kahler, had to fight back emotion when talking about the accident.

"It's one of the most difficult things I think any of us have dealt with," he said before having to stop.

"I'd like to thank Etkin (the construction management company), in particular Bill Stewart. He did a heck of a job through all this. And the contractors on site. They've done a lot for that family. They're the most generous bunch of people I've ever met."

School superintendent Dr. Al Roberts said, "Our heart goes out to the family of the gentleman who died. It's a tragic occurrence."

Oakhurst neighbors angry over dry wells

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

A dozen neighbors of the Oakhurst development area on Clintonville Rd. appeared before the Independence Township Board of Trustees Aug. 5 to express their frustration over a sewer project that has rendered some wells dry and others near-dry.

Resident Brad Phillips said he was most upset by a lack of communication between the residents and the developer.

"We want (the board) to stop work on the project," Phillips said. "Our well went dry because of the project and we had to tap into city water. If you are not going to stop the project, we will have to go to the state and look at some lawsuits."

Phillips said three wells in the neighborhood went dry, while four other homes have low water pressure, to the point that two faucets can't be on at the same time.

"You (the board) represent us," Phillips said in an angry voice. "My property has been treaded on."

Linda Turner, another area resident, said her orchard has been flooded and has lost two trees from the sewer project.

Bob Dine, project developer, said he was unaware of the extent of the problems brought on by the project and promised to meet with each affected homeowner to help clean it up.

"The project deficiencies have been brought to my attention and we will not abandon our responsibilities," he said. "We are going to put a full court press on this wells issue. Hopefully, we will get it resolved soon."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



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● Four names of Clarkston High School freshmen were listed in an incorrect spot in the Honor Roll in the July 9 edition of The Clarkston News.

The following students were listed as 3.9-3.7 GPA when they should have been 4.0: Ryan Schwarb, Adam Sloan, Jeffrey Walters and Thomas Wisniewski.

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THE LAW & YOU

by Robert E. Kostin
Attorney at Law

TRESPASSING THOUGHTS


Even though one who trespasses on someone else's property (by definition) without the express or implied consent of the property owner or his or her agent, he or she may hold the property owner liable for damages incurred for injuries while doing so. The liability must be shown to stem from negligence on the part of the owner or operator of the property. The trespasser must establish negligent liability by proving that the owner acted willfully in causing the injury. The property owner may also be shown to be negligent if he or she knew or had reason to know that trespassers constantly used the property, and he or she failed to take steps to inform the trespassers of any hidden danger or peril.

noted above, a landowner with a pond on his or her land would have the duty to warn skaters who might use the pond without permission of this ice. Sometimes legal trouble comes upon you unaware and you don't know whom to turn to. That's where we can help. We've spent years meeting the legal needs of those who seek out our services, and we would be happy to serve you as well. We listen well, keep you informed, and don't let the ball drop as we proceed with your case. We are a full-service law firm with expertise in family law, contracts, domestic relations, real estate, and workers compensation, among other areas. We're at 11 North Main Street (620-1030).

HINT: Under the rules of law

SKIN DEEP

By Scott Friedman, D.O.



SKIN BIOPSY

The skin biopsy, the most common procedure performed by dermatologists, involves cutting a small piece of skin for analysis to establish a diagnosis. To attain reliable, specific information, biopsies include all of the skin and sufficient subcutaneous tissue to contain hair complexes and sweat glands. The sample is then studied under the microscope. Other special studies may be conducted, as well. While dermatologists commonly employ four different techniques - punch, shave, excisional, or wedge (incisional) biopsy - the punch biopsy is most often utilized for a routine diagnostic biopsy. It is used to remove part of a large lesion, to completely remove small lesions, or to sample a representative area involved in widespread disease.

For information on just about anything related to your skin call us. Dermatology offers effective treatments for many conditions. When something happens to disturb the condition or appearance of the skin, consult a dermatologist for a professional diagnosis. Our offices are located at 6330 Sashabaw, Clarkston (625-0692); and 3003 Baldwin, Lake Orion (391-9599).

P.S. The shave biopsy, which is a simple technique used to remove (parts of) lesions protruding above the skin's surface, is often used to rule out cancer in sebaceous keratoses and cutaneous horns.

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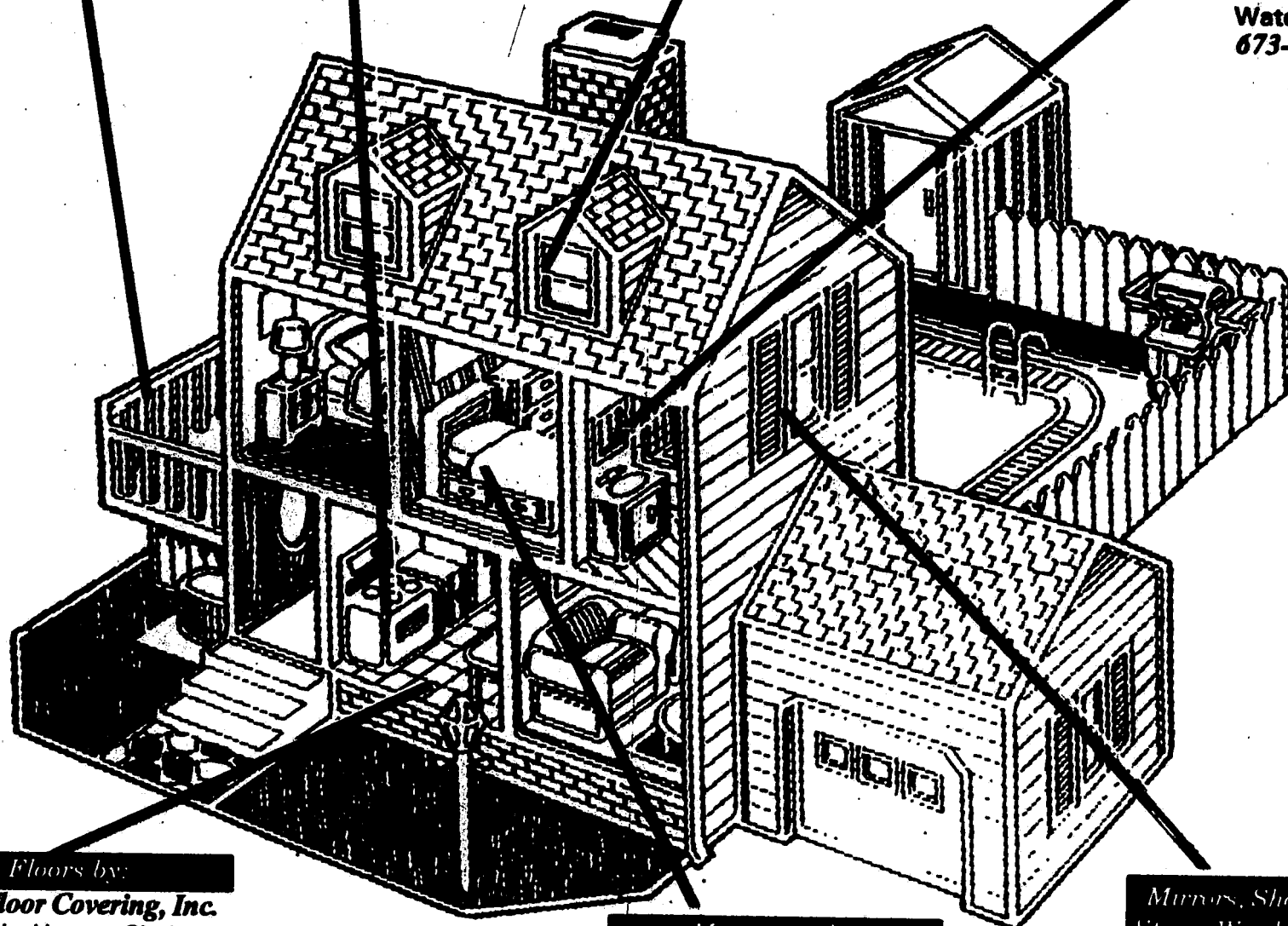
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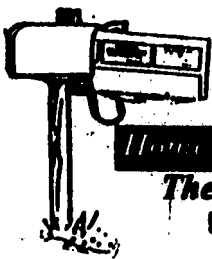
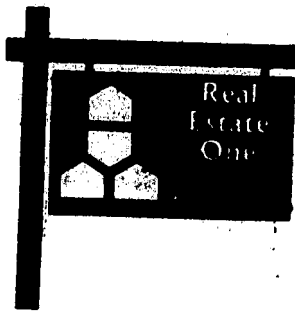
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SPORTS

Wednesday, Aug. 13, 1997

Section B

The Clarkston News

Let the games begin

Amid cooler temperatures and gray skies, the Clarkston High School teams opened practice for the 1997-98 school year Monday morning. Varsity basketball coach Ann Serra started her tenure as coach by calling at 6:30 a.m. practice. Players were shooting and rebounding while the sky was still a hue of midnight blue. Later in the morning, varsity football coach Kurt Richardson led the preseason No. 1-ranked team in the state to its first workout. The CHS golf, girls tennis, cross country and boys soccer teams also kicked off what promises to be another fall of excitement and good times at Clarkston High School. For more photos of the first day, see page 2B



Seniors Jennifer Bauer and Tiffany Honeygo through a one-on-one drill during the varsity basketball team's first practice, which started at 6:30 a.m. Monday. This drill is designed to improve a player's quickness while handling the ball. Honey and Bauer both figure to play key roles as shooting guards on this year's team.



Assistant coach Tony Miller lends a helping hand to a lineman during the first Clarkston football practice Monday morning. Led by head coach Kurt Richardson and his staff, the Wolves opened the highly-anticipated 1997 season with a spirited workout. Clarkston returns a number of talented players at key positions from its 1996 OAA Division I championship team.

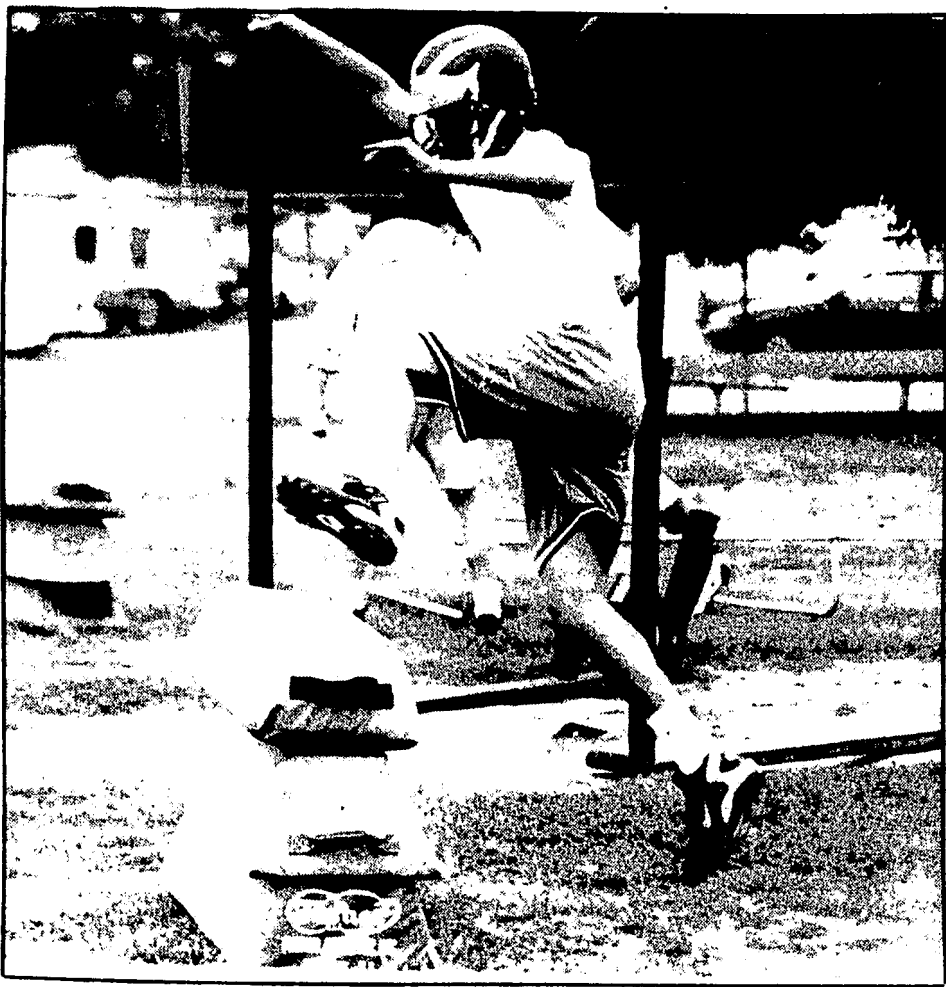
1997 CLARKSTON VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Sept. 5	Royal Oak Kimball
Sept. 12	Berkley
Sept. 19	at Waterford Mott
Sept. 26	at Rochester Adams
Oct. 3	Waterford Kettering
Oct. 10	Troy Athens
Oct. 17	at Rochester
Oct. 24	at Troy
Oct. 31	Lake Orion

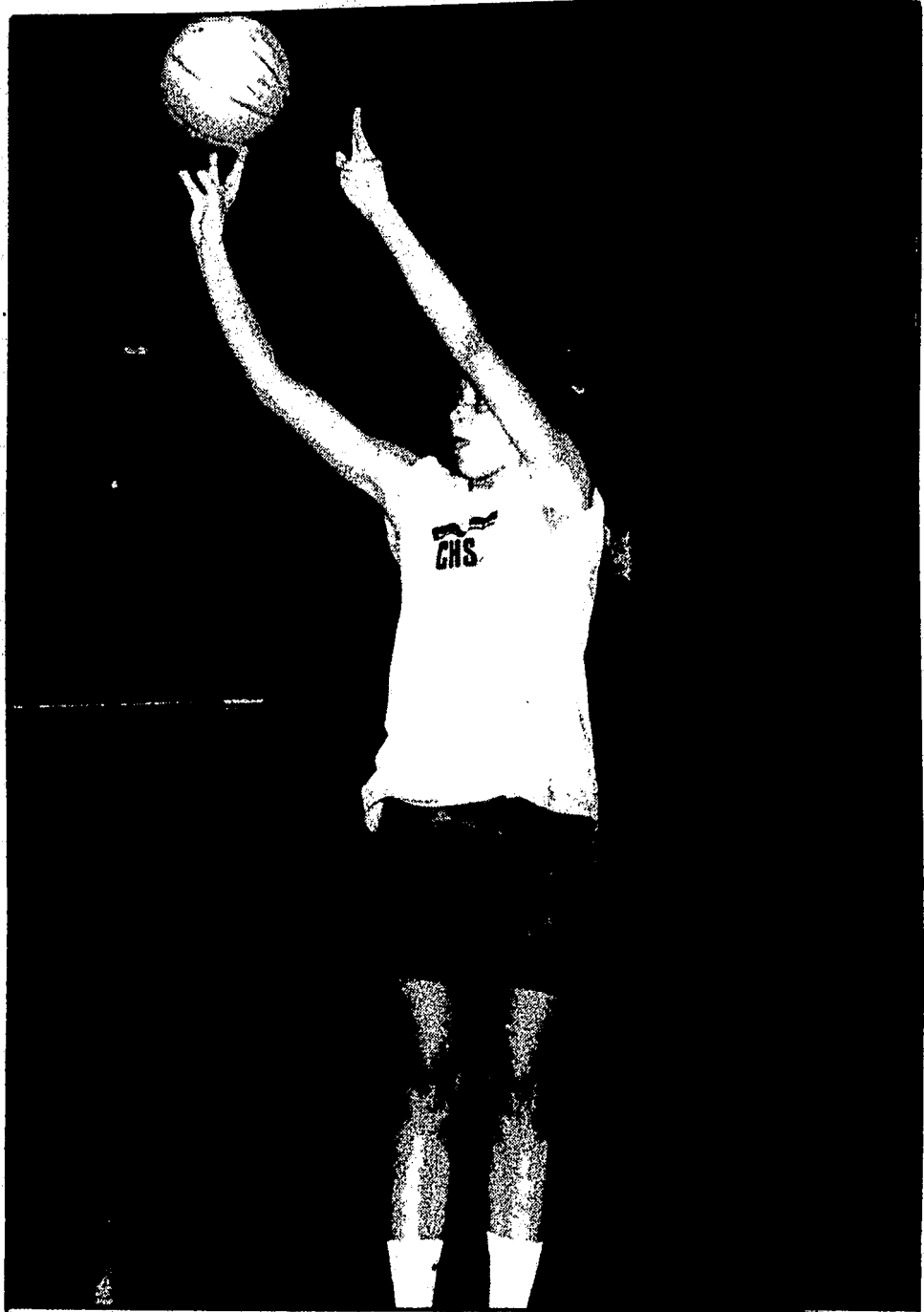
* - all games start at 7 p.m.

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As the practices commence, the anticipation builds . . .



A varsity football player tests his vertical leap during an agility drill at the team's first practice Monday morning.



Sophomore Lori Wild pulls up for a jump shot during the varsity basketball team's red-eye 6:30 a.m. practice Monday.



Sophomore Jennifer Szilvagy and junior Michelle Wilson proudly show off their artistic skills at the cheerleading teams' annual "Paint the Paws" day Aug. 6. The three CHS teams painted wolf tracks leading from the high school locker room to the football field. Players often touch one of the paws on their way to a game for good luck.

Coming in next week's Clarkston News:

Fall Sports Previews Begin!

- Aug. 20 soccer, basketball
- Aug. 27 golf, tennis, cross country
- Sept. 3 football

Get the most in-depth coverage of CHS athletics this fall and all year long in *The Clarkston News* sports section!

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Sports

CHS senior 2nd at regional water-skiing competition

Lindsey Lloyd, a senior at Clarkston High School, recently took second place in the Midwest Regional Water Ski Competition in Moline, Ill.

Lloyd and her partner Gary Geer of Waterford, have skied together for three years, racking up an impressive list of accomplishments. The two won the state competition in Kalamazoo July 26 and 27 and will move on to the Nationals Aug. 8-10 in Jamesville, Wisc.

They compete as independents, but are former members of the Spray Masters Ski Club. They practice with boat driver Kurt Bemman and release attendant Lois Bemman.

Gary works as a product engineer at B T Electronics.

● The 17th annual bow hunter rendezvous hosted by the Michigan Bow Hunters Association will be held at Springfield Oaks County Park Aug. 16-17.

Hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, 9-4 Sunday. Admission is \$5 for both days; kids 15 and under free. The family-oriented weekend will include activities and displays, including a longbow shooting exhibition, a birds of prey show and a museum. There will also be archery instruction, a 3D course and food. Camping is available, parking is free and door prizes will be awarded. Dinner tickets are available at the gate for Saturday night.

● Five hundred children ages 12-16 will receive a free Young Angler license during the Michigan State Fair, Aug. 19-Sept. 1. The Department of Natural Resources will give away the licenses as an incentive to try fishing. The \$2 license and a \$1 DNR Sportcard will be given to the first 500 kids who come to the DNR's "Michigan: Your Great Outdoor Adventure" exhibit.



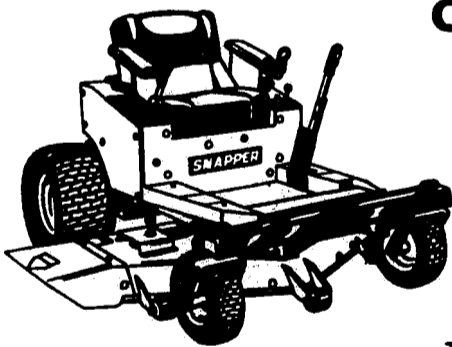
U-16 Riverdaws win title

The under-16 girls Riverdaws team ran through the competition this past summer with ease, compiling a 19-1 record, good for the league championship in the Waterford 16-U Softball Fastpitch League. Team members are: (top L-R) coach Dave Simko, coach Bill Honey, Angela Humphreys, Sara Mohney, (middle L-R) Mari Prunte, Megan Hodges, Kathy Kotzan, Lindsey Simko, Tracey Honey, Jennie Winn, coach Mike Prudhomme, (bottom L-R) Haley Slade, Candace Morgan, Hanna Serra, Lindsey Prudhomme, and Melanie Arnold. Not pictured are Erin Hearn, Amy Parker and Kathy Kopec.

Sports every week in The Clarkston News!

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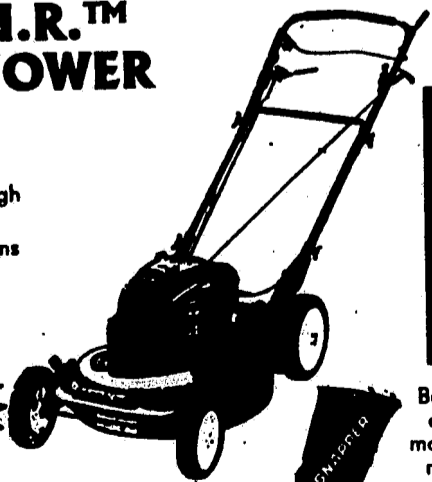
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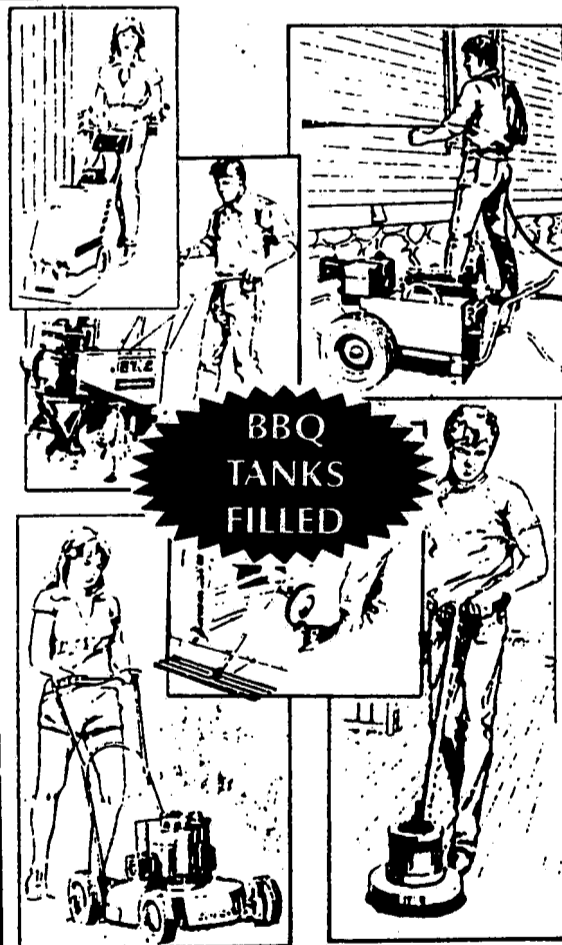
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Haslett winners

The Hershey Track Team came home from the Haslett meet loaded down with medals. Each medal runner is wearing represents a first place at the meet. The kids now move on to nationals in Pennsylvania. Team members are: (front L-R) Whitney Laderoute, Brianna Reuter, Devin Reuter; (second L-R) Rachel Huble, Christyn Reuter, Michelle Zeile, Kaitlyn Armstrong; (third L-R) Tim Zupon, Cam Darrow, Evan Schneider, Jason Laderoute; (top L-R) coach Jack Leech, Kevin Breen, Andrew Breen, coach Gene Attaman.

Kids--wear those life jackets onboard

Encouraging children to wear life jackets is at the heart of a promotion by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources this summer.

The DNR is giving away 250 life jackets donated by AAA and several other businesses to kids under 12. State conservation officers are giving postcards to children they meet on routine patrols of popular water recreation areas. Sending in the post card puts the child in the drawing for the life jackets. A local conservation officer will personally present each winner with the life jacket.

"This promotion is our way of letting Michigan boaters know that it's important to wear a life jacket on board," said Lt. Lyle Belknap, DNR Law Enforcement Division. "Approximately 80 percent of the water fatalities recorded in Michigan could have been prevented if the victims had been wearing personal flotation devices. We want to encourage people to be safe on the water and look forward to many more years of enjoying their sport."

Since 1994, Michigan law has required children under 6 to wear a life jacket of proper design on any boat.

For more information visit the DNR home page at www.dnr.state.mi.us.

Looking for the best local sports coverage?
Look no further than

The Clarkston News

Phone: (248) 625-3370 Fax: (248) 625-0706

Your opinion matters!

Letters to the editor should be addressed to 5 S. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346. Letters must be received by noon on Monday for consideration for that week's paper.

Letters from candidates for public office will not be printed during election season. Otherwise, please limit letters to 350 words. You must include your name, address and phone number for verification; however, we will withhold your identity upon request.

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1 GRAVE IN RIDGELAWN Memorial Cemetery, Oxford. \$400. Call 628-5233. IILX34-2

20 GAL. AQUARIUM/ accessories \$30; Organ Baldwin Fantasia \$150. 673-3082. IICX3-2

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CANCELLATION DEADLINE for classified ads is Monday at Noon for the Ad-Vertiser, Clarkston News, Oxford Leader, Lake Orion Review and the Penny Stretcher. IILX33-tfdh

CHEVY FIBERGLASS Bed cap, 1990 to 1995, \$250. 634-0267. IICZ2-2

CLAW FOOT CAST IRON bath tub, \$60. 693-5708. IILX34-2

COLLEGE BOUND? One single loft \$50; one double loft with lock-away beds \$200. 625-6508. IICX3-2

DOES YOUR LITTLE LEAGUE, Service Organization, Church or School group need a fund raising idea? Call Don Rush at 628-4801, 8-5 weekdays. IILX4-tfdh

EXECUTIVE SIZE DESK 34x80 newly refinished, walnut. \$75. Call (248)693-8256. IILX34-2

FOR SALE: 1994 DODGE 250 Mark III Conversion Van. Nicely loaded. Approx. 38,000 miles. Trailer tow package; 1992 Starcraft travel trailer, 30ft. Lots of extras. Used less than 1,000 miles. Non smoker, no pets, no kids. Will sell together or separate. (248)693-6372. IILX34-2

FOR SALE: Ace Garden tractor, \$200; Sears Aluminum 12ft boat \$150; SeaKing 14ft boat, with trailer \$350; Craftsman 5HP chipper/shredder \$400; Montgomery Ward gear drive 5HP tiller \$200. 693-4881 after 6pm. IILX33-2

FOR SALE: BABY ITEMS, Chairs, ski machine and bike. 627-4780. IILX50-2

4 ADULT GEAUGA LAKE tickets/ 3 junior tickets, \$12 and \$15 each. Good until September 1st. 887-3570. IICZ2-2

GET YOUR ROLLED tickets at the Lake Orion Review, 30 N. Broadway, Lake Orion. Oxford Leader, 666 S. Lapeer Rd, Oxford or at the Clarkston News, 5 S. Main, Clarkston. Single rolls \$6.00, double rolls \$9.50 assorted colors IILX22-tfdh

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HAS A PICTURE run in the Lake Orion Review, Clarkston News or Oxford Leader that you would like to have a copy of... call 693-8331; 625-3370 or 628-4801 for your 8x10 reprints for only \$9 each. IILX20-dh

JALOUSIE WINDOWS & Door, \$200/ll; 10ft light pole, \$50/set; 10ft ladder, \$20; Graco swing with bed, \$50; Bassinet \$20; Child's bike seat \$8; Baby bathtub, tub, seat, gym, sled, mobile, bumper pad, bouncer. 693-2419. IILX33-2

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NEW ORION TOWNSHIP MAPS at the Lake Orion Review. \$1.75. IILX31-tfdh

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40 ACRES, northern Arizona. 55ft. water level. \$50,000. Evenings 391-0452. IILX33-2

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FOR SALE: Approx. 11 acres, has pole barn, driveway, and culvert. Perked. Beautiful hunting and country setting. South of Lapeer, near Hadley. Best of terms, 693-8719. IILX32-4

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LAKE PRIVILEGES Immediate possession. All Sports Bald Eagle Lake, Orionville. 3 bedroom brick/ alum. ranch (right across from beach). Att. 2 1/2 car garage, 2 1/2 bath, 2 patios, finished lower level walkout w/ bar, fireplace, study, gas BBQ, Andersen windows, oak kitchen. Appliances: dishwasher, microwave, stove, refrigerator. Home warranty. \$159,900. Optional: Canal lot w/ seawall & boat dock. Park like setting. \$22,000. 2150 Dunwoodie. Call REO ProMark. 627-5414. IILX29-dhf

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OXFORD 3 BEDROOM RANCH, finished walkout, 2 1/2 car garage, one acre with mature pines, beautiful decks, large pool, play area with built in trampoline, all for \$174,900. 248-969-2913. IILX34-2

UPPER MICHIGAN: Discover the Garden Peninsula- We have a variety of lakefront properties, homes, and hunting acreage available. Call for free brochure: Fox Real Estate, Inc. 1-800-835-1002. IILX34-1

FOR SALE BY OWNER: Beautiful Colonial Home, 2900 sq.ft. Built in 1992, Hardwood floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, formal dining room, great room, den, first floor laundry, central air. Extensive Professional Landscaping. Great Clarkston location, walk to Village & schools. \$252,500. (248)625-1150. IILX34-2

LAKE ORION CONDO- 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath in Scripps on the Lake. Priced right at \$134,900. Call Dian, Century 21, Hallmark West, Pager 253-6733 for more info. IICX3-1

2 BEDROOM TRI-LEVEL on 2 acres with family room, laundry room, fireplace, deck, 2 1/2 car garage, Lake Orion Schools, \$138,000. 391-3674. IILX34-2

Quik Sell OPEN HOUSE Showcase

ONLY \$59 WEEK Contract Discounts Available

This Open House Directory will appear each Wednesday in the classified section of the following publications: Ad-Vertiser, Clarkston News, Oxford Leader, Penny Stretcher, Lake Orion Review, Citizen

REACHING OVER 59,000 HOMES & BUSINESSES

6 PAPERS Delivered by U.S. Postal Service Please Call (810) 625-3370 (810) 628-4801 (810) 627-4332

The fastest Way To Sell Your Home

OPEN HOUSE Sunday, August 17th - 1-4 p.m. 2201 Drahrer Rd. East of Lapeer, West of Lake George SPACIOUS BRICK RANCH ON 6 ACRES WITH BARN & POND! Features include new hardwood floors, driftstone F/P in great rm, large open kitchen with door wall to Florida room, Andersen windows, new vinyl trim & roof, deck off master bdrm, lg-open walk out basement and much more! A beautiful view from every window. \$248,900. Ask for 2201D. Call Kathy Frantz at (248) 628-4711 ext. 115. Coldwell Banker Shooltz Realty 628-4711

LAPEER FOR SALE - BY OWNER OPEN SUNDAY 1-4:00 P.M. or By Appointment 3 bedroom, 2 bath, den, pool, deck, full basement, fireplace and central air. \$134,900 2288 Sandpiper Drive 810-667-0968

OPEN SUN. 1-4 80 ft. on Lakeville Lake All sports lake yes! 612 Manotic-Addison Twp. Oxford Schools. Features are, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, great room with fireplace, large kitchen, appliances, garage with lots of storage. \$252,000. Immediate occupancy. Call Audrey Pretzell Directions: M-24 North, to East on Burdick/Lakeville Rd. to left on Catchacoma, & right on Manotic. Pager for audrey, 315-9581 or Century 21 Real Estate #217 at 628-4818 on ad #97263 Real Estate #217 628-4818

LOOKING FOR A PROFESSIONAL, EXPERIENCED REALTOR? LOOK NO MORE! "I will provide the finest service available to any home owner or home buyer." Thinking of selling your home? CALL ME! NO COST OR OBLIGATION. 693-9600 BARGRAY-HUSTON-SKYLIS REAL ESTATE FIRM JIM SKYLIS Owner 12 years experience

JOHN BURT SELLS HOMES FAST & FOR TOP DOLLAR EVERY 4.6 DAYS. JOHN BURT REALTY 628-7700 or 1-800-970-7751 BEAUTIFUL LAKEFRONT RANCH, 2 bdrms, 2 baths, finished walkout, basement, come enjoy the water! Only \$239,900. NEW CONSTRUCTION! Ranch on wooded lot, 3 bdrms, 3 baths, w/ out bsmt, garage, only \$229,900. COMPLETELY REMODELED! Ranch with 2 bdrms, 1 bath, first floor laundry, garage, only \$114,500. ADDISON - ADORABLE RANCH, 1 bdrm, possible 2nd bdrm in finished walkout bsmt, 2 baths, large deck w/private yard, only \$84,900. WOW! All sports lake front, 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths, contemporary, walkout, 3+ car garage, has everything, only \$368,900. LAPEER COUNTY horse and hobby farm, 10+ acres w/farmhouse, 3-4 bdrms, 1 bath, several outbuildings, only \$147,900. VACANT LAND WOW, VACANT BEAUTY! 1 acre of wooded land, with build site, perfect for a walkout, only \$49,900. VACANT peaceful 2.5 acres ready for dream home. Good perk, Oxford Schools, only \$48,500.

033-REAL ESTATE

23 ACRES HORSE TRAINING facility and home for sale by owner. 3 barns, heated shop, indoor/outdoor arenas, all fenced. Nice hay crop, lots of extras, can be split. Heat and clean. 2 miles from Lapeer. Land Contract terms available. \$229,000. Days 810-667-3241/ Eve. 810-667-3173. ILLX34-2

ORTONVILLE CONTEMPORARY, private, professionally landscaped and wooded, 1 1/2 acres on cul-de-sac of desirable subdivision. C/A, many upgrades, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath. Beautifully finished large family room and den in daylight basement. Fenced backyard plus large dog run. By owner. \$197,900. 627-5044. ILLX50-2

OXFORD TWP.

(3) 10 acre parcels. Great location. From \$74,900

Brandon Twp.

(4) 2.5 acre parcels. Call BOB HUSTON, at Barclay Huston Style (248)693-9800

BEAUTY (BARBER) SHOP:

Includes all beauty shop equipment, full basement. Friendly atmosphere, in northern Lapeer county. \$45,900 negotiable. Please call FAYE (or leave message)

1-517-761-7463 OSTENTOSKI REALTY

OXFORD RANCH- 1526sqft,

3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, finished basement, attached garage, lake privileges. Wonderful neighborhood. \$184,900. (248)989-2337. ILLX33-2

PARADISE IS JUST 2 hours away! Beautiful lot with older trailer on private all sports Lake. Open view. Sandy beach, 60ft of frontage. Great view of sunrise over the lake. Just \$79,000. 969-4902. ILLX23-2

SUPER BUY!

Scenic Lakefront Orion Twp. Great location. Priced \$6000 under bank appraisal. 3 bedrooms. 125ft frontage. \$122,500.

CALL SUE 693-1992 LK34-1

JUST LISTED! Clarkston 3 bedroom brick ranch, 2.5 car garage, fireplace, basement. All on gorgeous private fenced 1.5 acre lot with a pond! Move in condition. Immediate occupancy. Hurry! \$169,900. Call Laura at Century 21 for your private showing. 698-6045. ILLX22-2

KEATINGTON RANCH CONDO for sale. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, appliances included, garage, lake privileges. 391-4913. ILLX33-2

BUILDING SITES

5 ACRES in platted subdivision, paved roads, underground utilities - gas, electric & cable. Located in Metamora Twp/Oxford Schools, from \$70,000

ACREAGE PARCELS available from 5 acres starting at \$60,000 (some wooded)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 628-7342 Days 628-1524 or 628-0376 Anytime

BY OWNER: Beautiful 3 bedroom bi-level, central air, 2 car attached garage. Large private fenced back yard on paved road in Orionville. \$129,900. (248)627-4910. ILLX62-2

CHRISTINE'S ACREAGE BEST BUYS!

3 BEAUTIFUL WOODED ACRES, gorgeous trees, huge barn, pond, 3 acres, plus lovely ranch with walkout basement plus decking. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3 car garage. Minutes to I-75. Worth last Lake Orion Schools. \$179,900.

RE/MAX NORTH Christine Porritt 628-7400

ALL NEW 2 plus wooded acres, Rose Township. Beautiful 3 bedroom ranch with full view basement, 2 car attached garage, 1.5 baths, first floor laundry, cathedral ceilings. Many extras. \$149,900. Pick your color! 625-8956. ILLX23-2

CHRISTINE'S BEST BUYS!

OAKLAND TWP - SWIMMING POOL

Stately Colonial, lovely 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, full finished basement, formal dining, fireplace, lovely landscaping plus inground pool. When only the best will do! \$239,900.

RE/MAX NORTH Christine Porritt 628-7400

CLARKSTON SCHOOLS: 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 baths, 2 story. Finished walk-out on ten secluded acres. Dining room and library with hardwood floors. Large family room with marble/gas fireplace. Open tiled foyer. First floor laundry, sunroom/rook off spacious tiled kitchen. 3/4 car attached garage. Screened Gazebo inground heated pool. \$379,900. (248)625-8505. ILLX23-2

BEAUTIFUL LOTS, some with 12 mile views. Start at \$34,900.

ADDISON TOWNSHIP: Open Sunday, noon to 4pm. Follow signs from Rochester & Frick Roads or call Glenda at (248)628-8108 for info or directions. New custom home on 2 acres in kid friendly rural neighborhood. Priced great at \$189,900. ILLX34-1

LAKEFRONT ACREAGE

Heavily wooded, rolling vacant lakefront parcels on all sports lake. Oxford. Call JOAN LUECK, WEDGEWOOD REALTY. 628-1664 or Pgr. #403-4329 LK32-4

LAKEFRONT HOME, 204' of lake frontage on Murphy Lake in Millington, Michigan. \$149,000. 517-871-2849. ILLX22-2

10 ACRE PARCEL: 1,320 sq.ft. deep. Class A highway, paved and surveyed. North Branch Schools. Many potentials. Price \$45,900 neg. Please call FAYE (or leave message)

1-517-761-7463 OSTENTOSKI REALTY

035-PETS/HORSES

4 YEAR OLD PURE Bred Standard Male Dachshund; very high string, needs very patient, retired man for good home. 810-797-4338 ILLX33-2

FERRET, SALBE, Female, 7 months with huge tri-level cage, plus extras. \$150 obo. 693-1760. ILLX33-2

FREE: 2 MALE KITTENS. 628-0890 after 5:30pm. ILLX34-11

PROFESSIONAL HORSE SHOEING. Trims, hot or cold and corrective. Jon, (810)631-4214. ILLX52-2

FREE: 6mo OLD PUPPY, American Eskimo, housebroken. (248)627-9478. ILLX52-11

FREE TO GOOD HOME with references from veterinary. 3yr old female cat, fixed, declawed front claws. Call 628-4229 ask for Joyce. ILLX33-2

FREE TO GOOD HOME ONLY: 2 PET RABBITS, 1 white, 1 black. (810)608-6633. ILLX34-11

LAB PUPPIES, shots and wormed, purebred, not AKC. \$150. Black or gold. 628-8108. ILLX34-2

LHASA APSO NEEDS love, 3 year old. Make offer. 248-625-2616. ILLX3-2

MILOSCH DODGE, INC.

PRESENTS HOT AUGUST DEALS!!

1997 DODGE CARAVAN



PURCHASE FROM \$15,687** EMPLOYEES EVEN LESS
48 MOS./60,000 MILES
\$0 DOWN \$1000 DOWN
\$23022* \$20613*
Mo. Mo.
Dark rosewood, 3.0 V-6 automatic, air conditioning, AM/FM stereo, 7 passenger, driver side sliding door, rear defrost. Perfect for the family.

1997 DODGE DAKOTA 1500 CLUB 4X4



PURCHASE FROM \$18,958** EMPLOYEES EVEN LESS
48 MOS./60,000 MILES
\$0 DOWN \$1000 DOWN
\$28987* \$26583*
Mo. Mo.
Flame red, sport package, 360 V-8, 4 spd. automatic, air, 4 wheel drive, power windows, power locks, tilt, cruise, power mirrors, chrome wheels, color keyed bumpers & grill, AM/FM cassette, loaded loaded, loaded!



FEATURE OF THE WEEK



1997 DODGE DAKOTA REG. CAB

Sport decor package, emerald green, 40/20/40 cloth split bench seat with armrest, color keyed bumpers and grill, cast wheels, AM/FM stereo, 5 spd. trans. the perfect package!

48 MOS./60,000 MILES
\$0 DOWN \$1000 DOWN
\$16756* \$14367*
Mo. Mo.

PURCHASE FOR 11,598** EMPLOYEES EVEN LESS

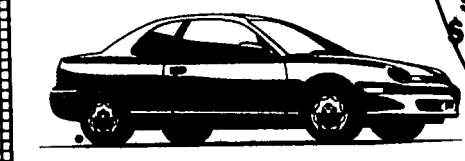
HURRY!! This Ad Expires 8-15-97

WE LOVE CHRYSLER EMPLOYEES

ALL IN STOCK VEHICLES ON SALE

Employees Even Less

1997 DODGE NEON COUPE



PURCHASE FROM \$8,631** EMPLOYEES EVEN LESS
48 MOS./60,000 MILES
\$0 DOWN \$1000 DOWN
\$15379* \$12971*
Mo. Mo.

2 Dr. coupe, black, 5 spd., AM/FM CD stereo, alarm, power moon roof, cast. wheels, rear defrost. fun!

We're Ready To Deal!

1997 DODGE STRATUS 4 DR.



PURCHASE FROM \$12,209** EMPLOYEES SAVE MORE
48 MOS./60,000 MILES
\$0 DOWN \$1000 DOWN
\$21898* \$19525*
Mo. Mo.

Dark chestnut, 4 dr. sedan, automatic, air, power windows, power locks, tilt, cruise power mirrors, child seat, premium AM/FM cassette, keyless entry, panic alarm.

MILOSCH DODGE, INC.

677 South Lapeer Road • Lake Orion
Monday & Thursday 9-9 • Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 9-6
(248) 693-8341 • 1-800-478-8118

**Purchase price inc. factory rebates, plus tax, title, license, dest. DOC. Does not include after market odds. Subject to credit approval and availability. Exp. 8-15-97. *24/36/48 closed end lease 12,000/15,000 miles per year 15¢ per mile excess. To get total obligation multiply pmt. x 24/36/48. 1st pmt sec. deposit rounded up to the next \$50.00 increment. Rebates to dealer. All pmts + tax, dest., DOC, plates, title. Lessee option to purchase at lease end for a price determined at lease inception. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear.

3 BEDROOM HOME FOR SALE
In Orion Township located on secluded lot surrounded by mature evergreens. Paved street. Walkout lower level into 2 car attached garage. Central air. Sewer. Call for details. Ask for Sherri. \$139,900. (248) 693-2244. Jack Christenson Realtors.

JACK CHRISTENSON INC. REALTORS
453 S. Broadway • Lake Orion • 693-2244

- LAKEFRONT. Built in 1988. Finished walkout basement. 4 bedrooms, den, 3 baths. Nice view with sandy beach, open floor plan. Has mother-in law appointment. \$315,500. (83ALG) 652-8000.
- BEAUTIFUL ALL SPORTS LAKE ORION HOME. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bath, with 2200 sq. ft. Large lot. Central air, 2nd floor laundry, finished walkout. \$320,000. (10KIN) 652-8000
- GORGEOUS 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath ranch. With lake privileges in Keatington sub. Call for private showing. \$169,900. (96ARM) 652-8000
- STUNNING COLONIAL with a contemporary flair. Neutral decor. Full garden basement. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, central air, library, security system, professionally landscaped with deck. \$288,777 (47BAL) 652-8000

Century 21 For These and Other Listings
Town & Country Please Call: **1-810-652-8000**

THE CYPRUS

2250 sq. ft., side entry garage, 1+ acre wooded homesite, custom library, brick front, 2-story foyer, Lake Orion, 1st floor laundry, ceramic & hardwood, luxurious kitchen & baths, Jacuzzi tub, custom trim w/o, 3 bedrooms, and formal dining room. \$259,500

ARK HOMES CONSTRUCTION CO.
(248) 693-1914
"WHERE QUALITY AND DESIGN COME TOGETHER"

Kathleen Corbin

Kathleen Sue Corbin, 45, of Oxford, died Aug. 6, 1997.

Mrs. Corbin is survived by parents Dean and Peggy; brother Keith (Julie) T. of Clarkston; and nephews Jason (Wendy) and Connor. She was preceded in death by sister Liz Corbin-Hanley.

A private family service was held by the Lewis E. Wint and Son Trust 100 Funeral Home in Clarkston. Interment was at Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials can be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Virginia Senak

Virginia O. Senak, 77, of Clarkston, formerly of Washington Township, died Aug. 9, 1997.

Mrs. Senak was a member of First Baptist Church of Romeo.

She was preceded in death by her husband Michael. She is survived by a daughter, Lynda (James) Fawcett of Clarkston; a grandson, Michael Weinert of Clarkston; and a brother, Ben Fortuna of Franklin.

A funeral service was held Aug. 13 (today) at the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home in Clarkston. Interment was in McCafferty Cemetery.

Sold her house in two weeks!

We don't know what the final purchase price was, but we know Julie Ostrander's \$19.50 want ad in The Clarkston News or Penny Stretcher sold her 23-acre horse farm that was listed for \$229,000.

We know 'cause she told us so.

"I can't say enough about your paper, it's great," she said. "We sold our house to the first caller — we sold it in two weeks and had many callers."

If you're looking for a home or looking to sell yours the sound investment is to advertise in The Clarkston News and Penny Stretcher — and make sure you tell your agent to advertise it in The Clarkston News and Penny Stretcher.

Thousands and thousands of your neighbors use our want ads weekly for only one reason — want ads in The Clarkston News and Penny Stretcher work.

A 10-word want ad runs for two weeks and is mailed to nearly every single address in Northeast Oakland County. And, it is economical: your 10-word ad only costs \$8 (30 cents for each additional word).

To place a want ad is easy — just call 625-3370, 8-5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Or, mail your ad to 5 S. Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346. Or, if you prefer, visit our office.

Tell us your story ideas
625-3370

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Independence will hold a public hearing on August 19, 1997, at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Annex, 90 North Main Street, Clarkston, to discuss a change in description and reprogramming of Community Development Block Grant Funds:

1995 Home Chore	\$28.17 to	Senior Citizens Van Driver
1996 Home Chore	7,557.00 to	Senior Citizens Van Driver
1997 Home Chore	7,673.00 to	Senior Citizens Van Driver

Dale A. Stuart
CDBG Administrator

Marilyn Weiss

Marilyn Weiss, 74, of Clarkston, died Aug. 10, 1997.

Mrs. Weiss loved antiques, decorating and animals. She was an avid bowler and member of a league at Cherry Hill Lanes and enjoyed her daily breakfast routine at Burger King.

She was preceded in death by her husband Richard. She is survived by a daughter, Nancy (Eric) Haven of Clarkston; two grandchildren, Chris and Carey; and a brother, Scott McCaw of Indiana.

A funeral service will be held Aug. 14 at 10 a.m. at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Trust 100 Funeral Home in Clarkston. Visitation is Wednesday from 3-5 p.m. and from 7-9 p.m. Interment will be in Lakeview Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Michigan Humane Society.

Cooking Corner

Bacteria Can Spoil Outdoor Grilling

(NAPS)—This barbecue season, help keep your family and friends healthy. Be careful to clean and disinfect surfaces when handling raw meat and poultry. Surfaces that appear clean may still harbor invisible bacteria such as Salmonella and E. coli which can cause foodborne illness. An estimated 81 million Americans a year suffer from foodborne illness, more commonly known as food poisoning.

Here are some easy tips you can follow:

- Cook red meat until brown inside (180°), and poultry until juices run clear (160°).
- Never place cooked foods on the same plate already used for raw meats and poultry.
- The same rule applies to utensils, cutting boards and preparation surfaces.
- Water and detergent do not kill bacteria. Damp and dirty sponges and dishcloths may even spread bacteria to other surfaces such as cutting boards, countertops, and high chairs.

For a free Food Safety Tip brochure and the latest information on killing germs, call The Healthy Home Hotline at 1-800-99LYSOL.

The Clarkston News
5 S. Main St.
Clarkston, MI 48346
625-3370

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

In the Matter of the Estate of:
ANTONETTE GALLO,
Deceased.

File No. 97-259420-SE
Last Address:
7277 Richardson
W. Bloomfield, MI 48323
SS No. 384-32-7634

ROBERT G. INGRIGG, JR. P-24924
Attorney for Per. Rep.
2748 Pontiac Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328-2853
Telephone: (248) 682-8800

PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
TAKE NOTICE: On 8/19/97, at 8:30 a.m., in the probate courtroom, Pontiac, Michigan, before Honorable Sandra G. Silver, Judge of Probate, a hearing will be held on the Petition of JOSEPH E. GALLO requesting that GREGORY GALLO be appointed personal representative of ANTONETTE GALLO, who lived at 7277 Richardson, W. Bloomfield, Michigan 48323, and died on 8/10/97; and requesting that the will of the deceased dated 5/8/93 be admitted to probate.

Creditor of the Deceased are notified that all claims against the Estate will be forever barred unless presented to the (proposed) personal representative or to both the probate court and the (proposed) personal representative within four (4) months of the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the Estate will thereafter be assigned to persons appearing of record entitled thereto.

Dated: August 1, 1997
JOSEPH E. GALLO
2223 Straden
W. Bloomfield, MI 48324

ROBERT G. INGRIGG, JR. (P-24924)
Attorney for Personal Representative
2748 Pontiac Lake Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328-2853
Telephone: (248) 682-8800

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

TOWNSHIP BOARD

AGENDA

7:30 p.m.

DATE August 19, 1997

- Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Opening Statements and Correspondence
Approval of Agenda
Minutes of Previous Meeting
Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run
Approval of Purchase Orders
Public Forum
Public Hearing - Reprogramming of CDBG Funds
New Business
1. Munder Capital Management Review
 2. Request to Use Drefus Fund (SEC Pool Account) for Tax Investment Purposes
 3. Investment Policy Discussion
 4. Proposed Easement Vacations in Clarkston Office Centre.
 5. Tornado Signal Proposal.
 6. Reprogramming of CDBG Funds.
 7. Heating, Ventilation and Air-conditioning - Township Hall
- 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.

Sports every week
in the
Clarkston News!

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

WE WANT YOUR HELP

The Board of Road Commissioners for Oakland County wants you to help decide on the

1998 BUDGET
FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1998
AND

1998 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Board of Road Commissioners for Oakland County invites all interested citizens and elected officials to present comments prior to adoption of the 1998 Budget and Road Improvement Program. For this purpose, we have scheduled a Public Hearing.

Date: Wednesday, August 27, 1997

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Oakland County Auditorium
Oakland County Service Center
1200 North Telegraph
Pontiac, Michigan 48341

WHAT THE BUDGET IS

The proposed Budget sets forth the revenue anticipated to be available to the Road Commission and the sources of that revenue. The Budget also designates the proposed use of these funds, including the Operating Expenditures of the Road Commission and the proposed Road Improvement Program.

ADVANCE COPIES ARE AVAILABLE

Copies of the proposed 1998 Budget and related information will be available one (1) week prior to the Public Hearing. They may be obtained by contacting the Finance Department of the Road Commission for Oakland County, 31001 Lahser Road, Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025 (Telephone (810) 645-2000, ext. 2237 or TDD (810) 645-9923).

Copies of the proposed 1998 Road Improvement Program will be available one (1) week prior to the Public Hearing. They may be obtained by contacting the Engineering Department of the Road Commission for Oakland County, 31001 Lahser Road, Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025 (Telephone (810) 645-2000, ext. 2285 or TDD (810) 645-9923).

WE HOPE YOU WILL PRESENT COMMENTS

The Board Meeting and Public Hearing are held in accordance with the provisions of Act 2, P.A. 1968, as amended by Act 621, P.A. 1976, Act 43, P.A. 1983 (2nd executive session), and Act 267, P.A. 1976, as amended.

If you require accommodation in accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, please provide the Finance Department with five days advance notice.

Board of Oakland County Road Commissioners
Oakland County, Michigan
Brent O. Blair, Managing Director

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP. CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

SYNOPSIS

TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor Stuart called the August 5, 1997 meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Independence Township Hall Annex.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present: McGee, Rosso, Stuart, Travis, Wallace, Wenger and McCrary.

Absent: None.

There is a quorum.

1. The Agenda was approved with the addition of a Second Reading & Adoption for Waldon Village PUD and request for one day liquor license for Bay Court.

2. Approved the July 15, 1997 Township Board minutes as amended.

3. Approved the payment of the accounts payable in the amount totaling \$858,024.22.

4. Approved the issuance of purchase orders in the amount of \$181,758.80.

5. Mr. Robert Dine spoke under the Public Forum segment of the agenda.

6. The 1996 Audit was presented by Plante & Moran.

7. Approved the Second Reading and Adoption of the Wireless Communication Ordinance.

8. Approved the hiring of two entry Level Appraisers - Assessing Dept.

9. Approved the Second Reading and Adoption of Waldon Village PUD.

10. Approved Oakhurst PRD.

11. Approved the motion to purchase a Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for the Fire Department.

12. Approved allocation of Tri-Party Funds in the amount of \$47,250.

13. Adopted a resolution of support for a one-day Liquor License for the Taste of Independence at Bay Court Park on September 7, 1997.

14. Adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan E. McCrary

• Open Late Mon & Thurs Evenings • Standing Behind You Everyday • Open Late Mon & Thurs

SKALNEK FORD

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*With purchase or lease of new or used cars at SkalneK Ford with approved credit. "Stock unit only"

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• Open Late Mon & Thurs Evenings • Standing Behind You Everyday • Open Late Mon & Thurs

COLORED INK



Students form a dance line to move from one element to the next.



Allison Cumper tries a scary cartwheel on the beam.



Kaitlin Dye (left) helps with a somersault on the beam

The littlest gymnasts

All of a sudden, tiny voices rang out in unison: "One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, 10." And there on the floor was their teacher, doing push-ups.

That's what happens when someone uses the word "can't" in one of Kay Riley's gymnastics classes. Be it teacher or student, everyone pays the price. In one hour on Aug. 6, it happened three times—each time to teachers.

Last week Riley, three coaches and a 10-year-old so proficient she's used as a demonstrator led the very popular summer gymnastics camp at Clarkston Middle School. Offered through Clarkston Community Education, it's run by Riley, proprietor of Riley's Gymnastics in Waterford.

This year 37 children ages 6 to 11, including four boys, signed up for the

camp, and even more wanted in. "It's just grown every year," Riley said. "It's been real popular." She also teaches after-school classes during the school year.

Because the class was so large, the children were divided into skill groups to work with coaches. All Riley's coaches are competing gymnastics. Kaitlin Dye, 10, is her young demonstrator, chosen because of her skill and her way with the kids.

As one group took turns trying cartwheels on a balance beam, Kaitlin's skill was evident. One little girl balked, unsure she wanted to try. "You can do it," Kaitlin said gently. Then, on the second try when the girl did accomplish the task, Kaitlin was right there. "Good job—perfect!" she said.

—By Annette Kingsbury

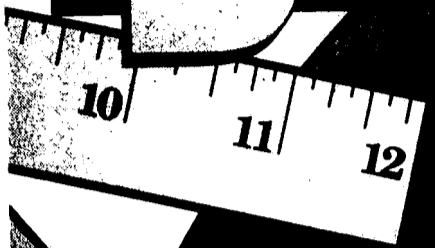


Jessica Anthony on the beam.

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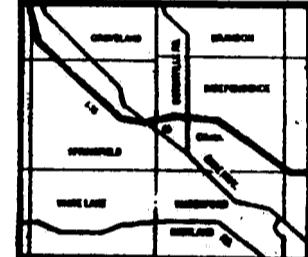
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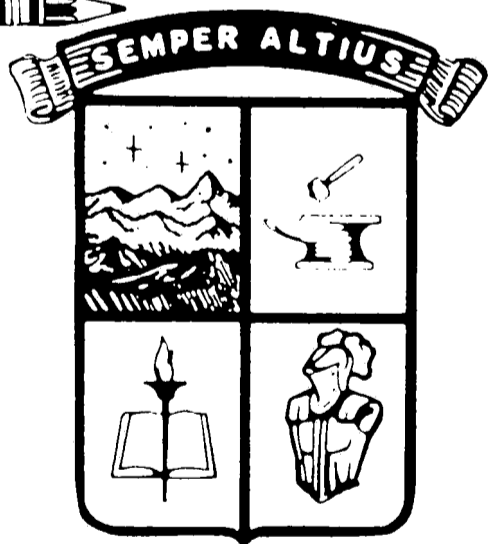
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School days, circa 1942 . . . for the story, see page 9A

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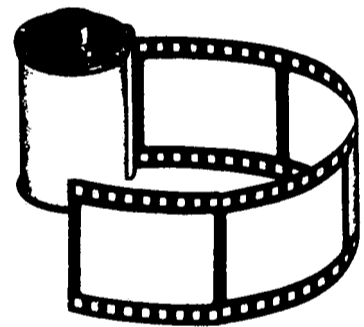
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Eight in 10 parents are worried about paying for college.

Four in 10 parents are not confident they've saved enough for their children's education.

Parents typically have saved less than 20 percent of their college savings goal for their oldest college-bound child.

Nearly eight in 10 parents say taking out loans is a tolerable strategy for financing college educations.

Nearly half of parents and one-third of teens feel college costs more than it is worth.

Only about half of high-school students give their parents high marks for college funding planning.

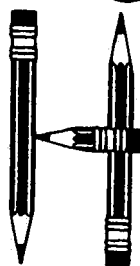
Over three-quarters of high-school students expect to earn their undergraduate degree in four years or less.

Two-thirds of parents and over eight in 10 high-school student support President Clinton's National Service Program.

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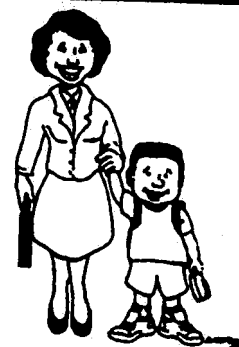


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Getting suspended and staying in school

An alternative to sending kids home started last spring at CHS

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

It's a dilemma many an educator has had to face: What do you do with a student who wants to get suspended so he can get the heck out of school?

Well, this is the '90s and educators have wised up. Nowadays, rather than send a teenager home where they may not have any supervision during the day, they invoke the in-house suspension. Students are suspended but must spend their time in school, segregated from other students, studying, no hot lunch... in short, doing time.

Well, not exactly, according to Clarkston High School assistant principal Ron Santavicca. There's no ex-cop snapping a ruler against recalcitrant knuckles. What there is is a cooperative effort between school and parents to provide supervision and a meaningful experience.

"It's not punishment per se, nose to the wall," he said. "It's letting the student know that if this has been brought upon him by his conduct, they are going to be separated from the student body, they can keep up on their work."

In the past, these students were sent home in the hopes parents would deal with the problem. However, these days it's more likely no one will be home to provide discipline or even dialogue.

"The school is being sensitive to parents because of this problem with parents working. They aren't home to supervise the kids."

The program is expensive because it requires the hiring of another teacher, typically a long-term substi-

Detention: an hour of study hall after school assigned for infractions of the code of conduct with regards to behavior or attendance.

Suspension: one step beyond detention, may be assigned for either infractions or the safety of other students. Usually lasts at least one day.

Expulsion: permanent removal from school in the district. Approved by the board of education for "gross misdemeanors or persistent disobedience."

—From the Clarkston High School Student Handbook

tute teacher, Santavicca said. Parents are notified and are in on the discussion about whether the suspension should be served in school or at home.

At CHS, students in in-house suspension, which started last April, must stay in their seats, be quiet (no sleeping) bring their own supplies, bring a bag lunch or settle for whatever limited selection is offered, do their assignments, and skip all programs or extra-curricular activities on days they're suspended.

"Typically a kid would say 'Get me out of school.' If in-school suspension doesn't work it could become out-of-school. It could work it's way toward suspension."

During the 1996-97 school year, a total of 671 students were suspended at CHS. Of those, 188 were assigned to in-house suspension from April to June, at least one student almost every day. The program will be resumed this fall.

"I've been pushing for in-house suspension for a

long, long time," Santavicca said. "I did some research here. I wrote a paper on it when I attended Oakland University. I'm a very strong advocate of it, but it needs to be administered properly."

The only problem so far has been space, due to overcrowding. So the suspension group met in the cafeteria, but had to move to classrooms that were not in use during the lunch hours.

"There was some thought given to having these students start earlier or later than the others," Santavicca said, but transportation was deemed a problem in the bus-dependent district. So the students are kept apart from their classmates, even if it means a little moving around.

"It's definitely a study hall type of environment," Santavicca said. "It's not unusual for the teacher there to help them with their school work... They're supposed to be working, on task."

Santavicca envisions a dedicated room like a classroom, with study aids such as dictionaries and encyclopedias. "Hopefully we will do a better job when we're at the new high school because we'll have room," he said.

Lest anyone worry, Santavicca said, "Severe infractions of school policy will still result in out-of-school suspensions. We really don't like to take kids out of school. We'd rather have them in school. If we can take care of it with detention, we do..."

"The idea is to work with the individual so they understand why detention is being assigned. It's not because I like to give detention. It's because of something in their behavior which they can control. Teenagers are rebellious. They're going to push the line."

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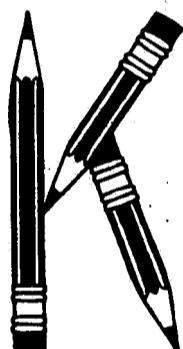
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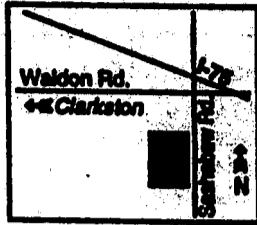
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Look what I brought home from school!

A parent's worst nightmare: You send your child to school expecting her to come home with art projects, permission slips and homework. Instead she comes home with a rash, eye infection or fungus. Worse yet, you have a house full of children who are now at risk for catching whatever she's been exposed to at school.

Communicable diseases are on the rise in many metro Detroit schools and some are getting more resistant every year.

"Communicable diseases will always be an issue when a child is interacting with other children," says Adnan Dajani, chief of infectious diseases at Children's Hospital of Michigan. "Parents have to be aware of the risk and take appropriate precautions."

Your best defense? "Wash your child's hands often and make sure he or she is washing at school too," says Dajani.

But even the most disciplined hand-washer can fall victim to diseases like ringworm or head lice. Most communicable diseases are common among all socioeconomic groups and are transmitted simply because kids are in tight quarters, increasing the

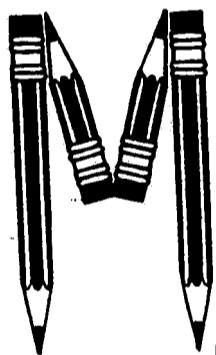
Ringworm: Ringworm is a fungus, not a worm. Symptoms include round patches of hair loss increasing in size. Treatment is by oral anti-fungal medication and special shampoo. Most children are not contagious while using the medication and shampoo.

Head lice: a wingless bug, lice can be hard to detect. Bites cause some pain, redness and itching. Spreading is by human contact, such as shared hats, combs and headphones. Treatment is by special shampoo and manual removal. Household items such as bedding, stuffed animals and combs must also be treated.

exchange of germs.

Perhaps more frightening than the disease itself is the social stigma attached to these diseases. "Many parents think only dirty kids get ringworm or that head lice only happens when a child doesn't wash his hair," says Dajani.

While annoying and rather unpleasant to deal with, communicable disease are treatable and curable. Usually the child is back to school shortly after treatment is started.



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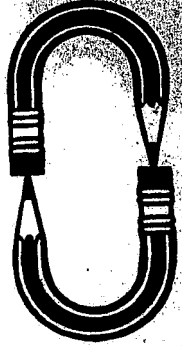
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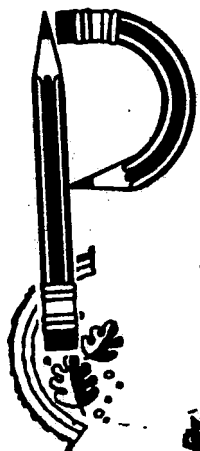


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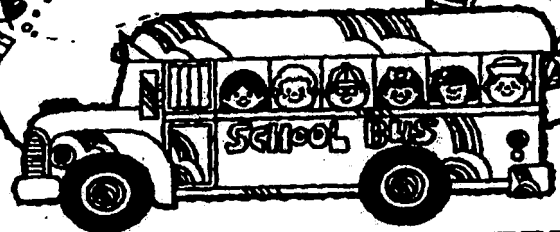
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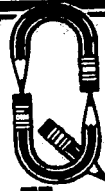
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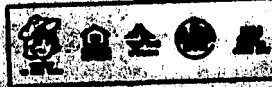
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Follow the leader

With a twinkle in her eye and a clear vision in her head, CHS student takes on community service

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Jessica Williams' goal is nothing short of awesome: to ignite the world.

The Clarkston High School junior's fervor got her elected to a spot on the board of directors of Junior Optimist Octagon International (JOOI) in July at the organization's convention in Windsor. She takes office in October.

Jessica said she thinks it was her emotional speech at the convention which won her a seat on the board. She told her fellow members that "I realize I must use my God-given abilities. I will settle for no less than to ignite the world."

You get the feeling she means it.

Jessica has been lighting up her schools for the last several years. A cross-country runner, oboe player, color guard member, actor, Girl Scout and third-year member of her class executive council, you might say she was already busy. But she agreed to become the first president of the Junior Optimist Club when it was formed at Sashabaw Middle School, when she was in seventh grade.

The club was formed under the leadership of the adult Optimist Club in Clarkston. A few years later, as that first group of middle-schoolers advanced to high school, the companion club, Octagon, was formed at Clarkston High School.

"This is the first club I've been able to stick with, just because of the beliefs of the club," Jessica said. "The first year I was president, it appealed to me

because it was a leadership office. Then the second year, everyone said 'Well Jessica, you did such a good job.'" So she stuck around as president for a second year. She went on to become the first district (Lower Peninsula) president.

"The first year I started out it was like 'Oh wow, I'm president.' But it's not like that any more." She's learned now there's hard work attached to being in charge of a service club for kids.

Why does service appeal to students? Jessica says at the middle school, it gives kids something to belong to.

"Going into middle school everybody is basically equal," she said. "This is part of the reason I think Junior Optimists is so important. A lot of kids don't have a group and it's important to get them involved in something."

She must be right. The SMS club started with around 30 kids and has grown to over 60 in just a few years, she said. "The numbers just keep going up. It's real impressive."

The club has adopted Lighthouse Clarkston, which is right across the street from the school, as a service project.

"When you have a common goal it's easy," Jessica said. "There were no fights. When you can do something and do it with your friends, it makes it fun."

Don Brose, local and Michigan District Youth Club Chairman for the Optimist Club, said the adult club, which has as its motto "Friend of Youth, was interested in starting the club locally in part to offer more leadership opportunities for kids like Jessica.

In addition, "We felt that a lot of times there was



Jessica Williams

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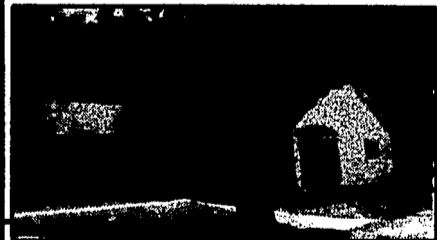
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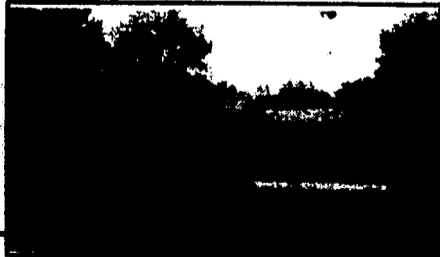
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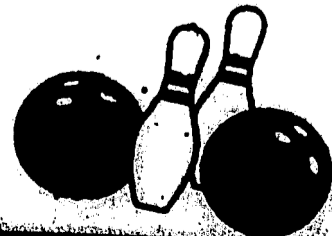
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Leader

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a communications gap between adults and kids. And kids getting some input from adults other than their parents was good. We also wanted to offer more leadership opportunities. You can never have too many extracurriculars."

At the high school level, things are a bit different. There, many kids belong to a social group. Many already belong to other service clubs, such as Blue and Gold and Interact, an offshoot of Rotary. In all there are some 35 clubs at CHS.

"We have a lot of members on the roster but there aren't as many active members," Jessica said. "There isn't really competition between clubs at all. We all sort of work together." The high school Octagon club has worked with Baldwin Center the last two years.

Why does all this appeal to Jessica and her classmates, who could be going to movies or just hanging out with friends rather than working for the betterment of their community? It all comes down to the philosophy of the Optimist organization.

"A lot of people ask me if I see the glass as half empty or half full," she said. "Optimists, they see the glass and they think 'How can I improve it to help people?' It's not like the Susie Sunshine Club. We know things need improvement."

Brose said another appealing factor may have something to do with success. "They found out they can motivate people, and I think that's good for them," he said. Jessica isn't the only Clarkston teen to go on to a leadership position in JOOI. Briarne Kohs will be the Michigan District President starting Oct. 1.

As for Jessica, Brose said, "Her personality tends to draw people to her, and adults tend to walk away searching for that young person in their community like her... We have had a hand in forming seven new clubs within the past three years, and although it is the people

'When you have a common goal it's easy... There were no fights. When you can do something and do it with your friends, it makes it fun.'

-Jessica Williams

in each community that really make them work, it is the people like Jessica that set the example."

The Optimist (big 'o') Creed stresses internal strength, doing your best, being enthusiastic, cheerful and forgiving, and self-improvement. It ends with the promise to "be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble."

While not going so far as to say she's a natural optimist (small 'o'), Jessica will say, "I've always been happy. I think it's because of my family life, my outlook on life. I'm very strong in my faith also."

Kids are invited to tell their teachers where to go

In 1942, elementary school teachers taught children to read and write about the world they knew. Thus, the farmer milks the cow. You drink milk for breakfast.

In 1997, children learning math, history and social science are invited to hit the road, surf the Internet and tell their teachers where to go.

In all kinds of ways, going back to school, then and now, couldn't be more different. But a unique project started at the University of Michigan School of Education bridges the gap between past and present.

Linking teachers and students along 2,300 miles of highway, from Detroit, Mich., to Aberdeen, Wash., the Route 12 Project uses the technology of telecommunications to introduce school children to their communities, both as they are now and as they were in the past.

"The World Wide Web links all of us together today, but once upon a time highways such as Route 12 did the same thing," says Dan Jacobs, a graduate

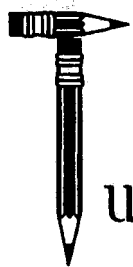
student at the U-M who heads the Route 12 Project.

Towns sprang up and thrived at the edges of Route 12, which runs from Detroit to Aberdeen. Then, as now, new technologies replaced the familiar, as Route 12 gave way to mightier and faster highways.

Jacobs started the Route 12 Project in 1994, inspired by U-M education Prof. Fred Goodman. Since then, he has made many trips back and forth, gathering stories, artifacts, information and support from more than 200 individuals and institutions in the 10 states the highway traverses.

In July, he hit the road again with two colleagues from the U-M School of Education and an enterprising high school student.

When school opens in September, scores of middle school students will make their way along Route 12, taking real trips on buses as well as "virtual" trips courtesy of the project's innovative Web site at <http://ics.soe.umich.edu/Route12>, where they are invited to "Tell Your Teacher Where To Go."



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Teachers cite decline in family values

"Kids today don't respect authority, don't care about their families and don't care about doing well in school."

This was a common refrain in the '50s and '60s, when the Baby Boom generation was growing up. And it's equally true now of Boomer's children and grandchildren. At least that's what those who know today's elementary and high school students best - their teachers - say about them.

An unsettling portrait emerges from a recent study conducted by Horace Mann Educator's Corporation, in which teachers born between 1946 and 1964 compared the attitudes of their peers when they were students with today's "Generation Y" students.

The study paints today's children and teens as pessimistic, cynical, materialistic, and competitive, and lacking in religious faith and persistence. But the news is not all bad. Teachers also said that today's youth are more tolerant and accepting of ethnic and cultural differences among people, exhibit less racial prejudice and are more likely to express their opinions than were Baby Boomers at a comparable age.

The teachers pointed to many key differences in the attitudes and behavior of Generation Y'ers and school-age Baby Boomers.

- Spending time with family members was viewed as important to 66% of Baby Boomers when teachers were in school but important to only 31% of today's students;

- Strong religious faith was important to 59% of Baby Boom students compared to only 19% of students today; and

- Performing well in school was important to 83% of Baby Boomers when they were students compared to only 37% of Generation Y'ers.

The study also revealed that 41% of teachers feel that today's students are far less optimistic about

their future compared to Baby Boom students. By comparison, only 21% of the teachers feel that today's students are more optimistic. And though nearly half (47%) of the teachers who participated in the study said their students are more aware of political issues than were Baby Boomers as students, this awareness apparently does not translate into activism. Only 22% of the teachers said that being active in a social, political or other cause outside of school was important to Generation Y students.

The teachers also pointed to several positive attributes exhibited by Generation Y students, including:

- A strong majority of teachers (74%) feel that today's students are more accepting of ethnic and cultural differences among people than the teachers' peers were when they were in school;

- A slight majority of all teachers (57%) believe that Generation Y students exhibit less racial prejudice compared to students when Baby Boomers were in school; and

- Seventy-eight percent feel that Generation Y students are more likely to express their opinions and ask questions regarding what is taught in class compared to Baby Boomers when they were in school.

Regarding perceptions of personal traits, a substantial portion of teachers cited materialism (76%), anger (51%) and competitiveness (48%) as traits that students exhibit to a greater degree compared to the teachers' peers when they were in school. Patriotism (27%), persistence (21%) and idealism (18%) were seen by the teachers as traits that today's students exhibit to a lesser degree than the earlier generation.

The 1996 Horace Mann Survey of Educators

was conducted by Hughes Research Corporation among a national sample of 702 K-12 classroom teachers, ages 32-50, with a confidence factor of +/-4%.

Some sports get reclassified by MHSAA

In an effort to do away with an "outdated" system, the Michigan High School Athletic Association did some tinkering with state sports over the summer.

Baseball, softball, boys and girls soccer and boys and girls tennis were realigned into new statewide divisions, doing away with the old Class A, Class B, etc. system. Schools in those sports will now be divided into Division I, Division II, etc.

The new system reconfigured the total number of schools in the state competing in a given sport, then divided those into four divisions. This gives more balance in terms of the number of teams in a division.

In the old system, a sport could have 100 teams in Class A, but only 60 in Class B. This created more rounds of playoffs for Class A teams, which in turn created some scheduling conflicts.

But under the new plan, all divisions will have equal numbers of schools competing for state championships. For example in girls soccer, Division I has 88 competing schools, Division II has 89 schools and Division III has 89 schools.

All Clarkston teams will remain in Division I in the affected sports, as they were in Class A before.

MHSAA officials said proposals for this alignment are being looked at for football and hockey for the 1998-99 season.

Wrestling operated under this new Division system for the first time last year.

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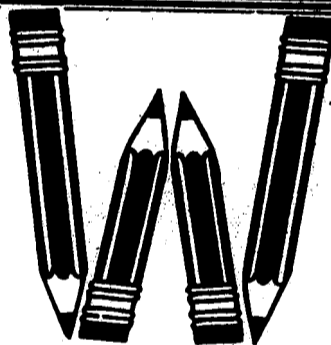
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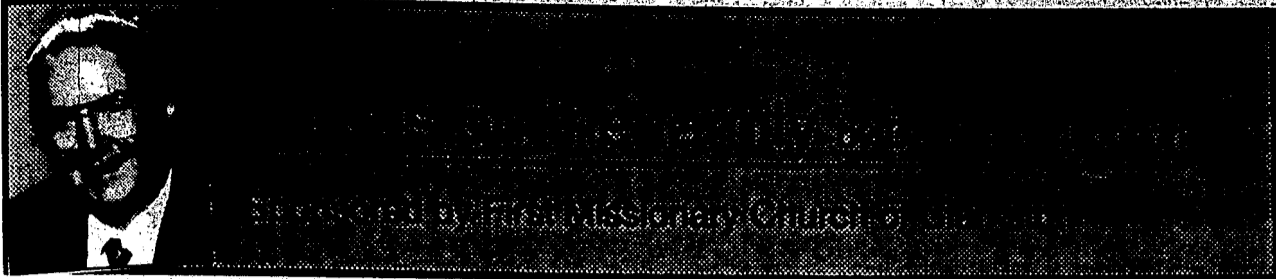
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Question: What causes a child to be a "slow learner"—one who just doesn't learn like other children in the classroom?

Answer: There are many hereditary, environmental and physical factors which contribute to one's intellect, and it is difficult to isolate the particular influences. For many children who have difficulty in school, we will never know precisely why their ability to learn is limited. Let me tell you what is now known about intellectual development that may explain some—but not all—cases of learning deficits.

Accumulating evidence seems to indicate that some children who are slow learners and even those who have borderline retardation may not have received proper intellectual stimulation in their very early years. There appears to be a critical period during the first three or four years when the potential for intellectual growth must be seized. There are enzyme systems in the brain that must be activated during this brief window. If the opportunity is missed, the child may never reach his capacity.

Children who grow up in deprived circumstances are more likely to be slow learners. They may not have heard adult language regularly. They have not been provided with interesting books and puzzles to occupy their sensory apparatus. They have not been taken to the zoo, the airport and other exciting places. They have not received daily training and guidance from adults. This lack of stimulation may inhibit the brain from developing properly.

The effect of early stimulation on living brains has been studied in several fascinating animal experiments. In one study, researchers divided litter-mates

into two identical groups. The first was given maximum stimulation during the first few months of life. These rats were kept in well-lighted cages, surrounded by interesting paddle wheels and other toys. They were handled regularly and allowed to explore outside their cages. They were subjected to learning experiences and then rewarded for remembering. The second group lived the opposite kind of existence. These rats crouched in dimly lit, drab, uninteresting cages. They were not handled or stimulated in any way, and were not permitted outside their cages. Both groups were fed identical food.

At 105 days of age, all the rats were sacrificed to permit examination of their neurological apparatus. The researchers were surprised to find that the high-stimulation rats had brains that differed in several important ways: (1) The cortex (the thinking part of the brain) was thicker and wider; (2) the blood supply was much more abundant; (3) the enzymes necessary for learning were more sophisticated. The researchers concluded that the stimulation experienced during the first group's early lives had resulted in more advanced and complex brains.

It is always risky to apply conclusions from animal research directly to humans, but the same kinds of changes probably occur in the brains of highly stimulated children. If parents want their children to be capable, they should begin by talking to them at length while they are still babies. Interesting mobiles and winking, blinking toys should be arranged around the crib. From then on through the toddler years, learning activities should be programmed regularly.

Of course, parents must understand the difference between stimulation and pressure. Providing books for a 3-year-old is stimulating. Ridiculing and threatening him because he can't read them is pressuring. Imposing unreachable expectations can have a damaging effect on children.

If early stimulation is as it now appears, then the lack thereof may be a leading cause of learning impairment among school children. It is imperative that parents take the time and invest their resources in their children. The necessity for providing rich, edifying experiences for young children has never been so obvious as it is today.

Send questions to Dr. Dobson, c/o Focus on the Family, PO Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. These questions and answers are excerpted from books authored by Dobson and published by Tyndale House Publishers. Dobson is president of Focus on the Family, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home. Copyright 1997 James Dobson, Inc. All rights reserved. International copyright secured.

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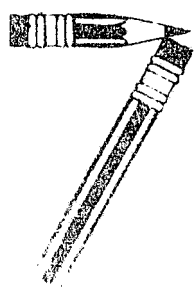
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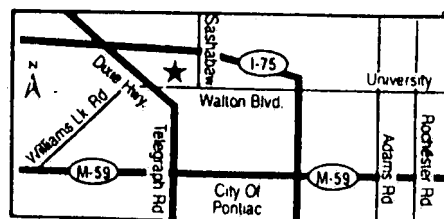
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