

Happy New Year

The good news edition!
The year in review, plus
our favorite stories of the year

68

Clarkston News

Award-winning hometown newspaper for 67 years

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New tool will help fire department

Thermal imaging uses heat to find people trapped in a fire

BY EILEEN McCARVILLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Imagine you are a firefighter entering a smoke-filled room. As you grope through the darkness, your fingers are the only means of locating a missing child. After more than a half hour you leave empty-handed, crestfallen and having to break the news to the frantic family outside.

That scenario may soon be ending for Independence Township firefighters with a new piece of equipment approved by the township's Board of Trustees Dec. 16: a CairnsIRIS Thermal Imaging System that means faster search and rescue because objects can literally be "seen" through the smoke.

Township fire Cpt. Steve Ronk told the board his staff participated in a training system where they experienced an actual simulation. He described it as "fascinating."

"Finally some of this technology has tricked down to our level and it's amazing what it can do for us," he said.

According to information from CairnsIRIS, a sensor mounted on the helmet "sees" variations in thermal radiation from various objects and transmits those images to the firefighter. Working much like a camera, it distinguishes images by heat rather than light. Everything, from a spoon to a table to a person, has a different temperature and thus, a pattern, Ronk explained.

During the training session "We could see every rafter in the attic, studs on the walls," he said.

Up till now, firefighters have had to rely on what they've done for decades in a smoke-filled building. "They still crawl on their hands and knees, hoping they will happen on a body," Ronk said.

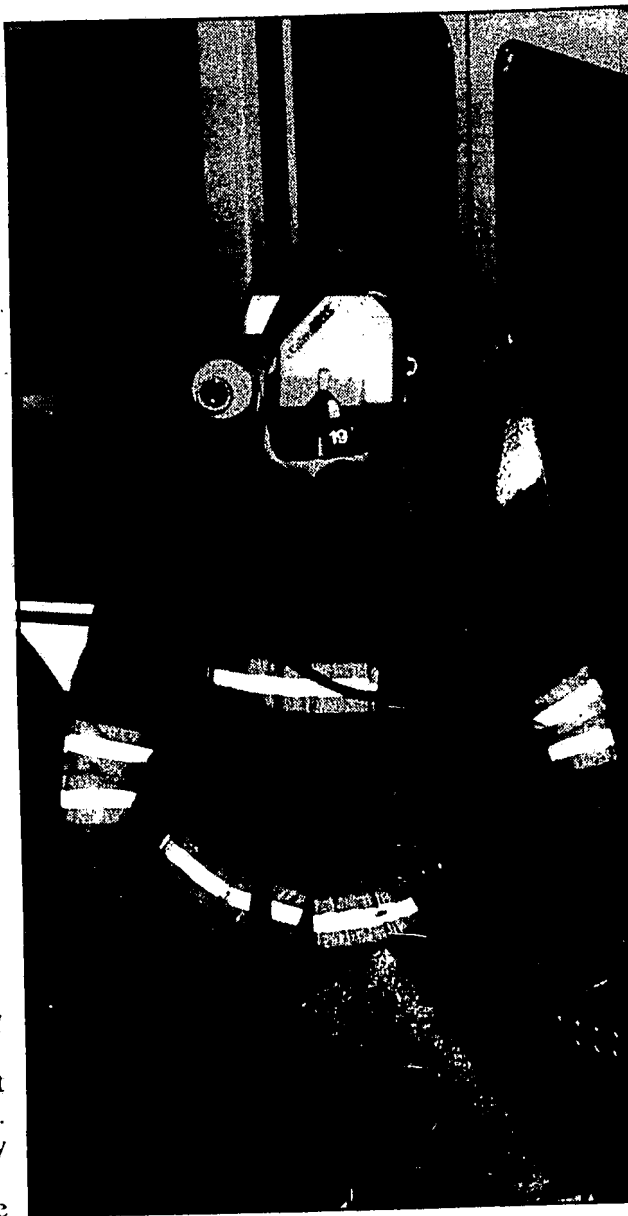
Besides locating victims, the device can locate the source of a fire because "it can look at the building and tell which end is brightest," Ronk said. Firefighters can actually follow the temperature trail through the building, he added.

Decreased rescue time is crucial not only to the victim, but to the firefighter who becomes more disoriented as elapsed minutes rob oxygen from his brain—and the ability to think.

Because it is helmet-mounted, the system also frees up the hands of the firefighter, Ronk said. The system is useful for other situations, such as "searching for a lost child in the woods," he added.

Board members agreed the system would prove invaluable to the township and approved it unanimously. Funds would come from the 1998 fire budget.

However, the township will need to find another municipality to share costs in order to accrue a 5 percent discount, available till the end of January. The equipment is expensive; each unit is priced at \$25,000. Ronk asked for two units which were approved by the board at a cost not to exceed \$50,700. Four units must



Independence Township Fire Department engineer Phil Williams wears a model of the CairnsIRIS Thermal Imaging System.

be purchased in order to qualify for the discount.

Four rechargeable batteries are included in each unit, with each lasting from 30 minutes to an hour. Ronk said he would keep the extra batteries charged and "ready to go."

He told the board he is optimistic about finding another community to share costs. Neighboring communities currently looking at the system include Pontiac, Orion and others, he said.

During a later interview, Ronk said his staff actually burned a house during the training session. "They were just amazed," he said. In 22 years with the department he has never witnessed anything so incredible, he added.

"It's expensive," he agreed. "But what it does for us is remarkable ... You can't put a price on a life. Is \$25,000 worth it? Yeah, it's worth it."

3 charged in auto break-ins

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Three suspects have been charged in a rash of recent car break-ins in Independence Township.

Andrew Miller, 17, of Clarkston and two Pontiac cousins, Nathan Halk, 18 and Michael Henson, 20, were arraigned Dec. 20 in 52-3 District Court in Rochester. All three have confessed to breaking into a series of cars, which they called "carhoppings," according to reports on file at the Oakland County Sheriff's Independence substation.

Each was charged with breaking and entering of a vehicle with damage. Bond was set at \$5,000 each (cash 10 percent for Miller and personal bond for Halk and Henson). Preliminary exams were scheduled for Dec. 30 in 52-2 District Court in Clarkston.

Deputies caught up with the trio during the night of Dec. 18-19 after a Nottingham resident called about someone trying to break into a car. One deputy saw a car on Waumega near Bridge Lake Rd. with one man at the wheel and two others running away. There was no license plate on the car. When the deputy approached the driver, he saw numerous phones and audio equipment in the back seat, according to his report.

Other deputies were called to the area to find the two fleeing suspects, and caught up with them at Miller's home on Ellis Creek. Under questioning all three admitted they'd been involved in the thefts, according to the reports. Some of the items found in the car were soon identified by their owners.

All the thefts are thought to have taken place in the Rattalee/Bridge Lake/Allen Rd. area. The three broke into so many cars they couldn't remember how many or what they had taken from which car. A BB pistol was used to break windows on some of the cars.

While the arrests solve a number of cases, they didn't unfortunately, bring such crimes to an end in the township. After the trio was put out of business, the substation continued to receive similar calls, as it does nearly every week. Someone was particularly active in the Walters Lake area the night of Dec. 18-19, breaking into cars on Mohawk, Thendara, Algonquin, Maplewood and Lakeview. Other larcenies from vehicles were reported on Deerhill Ct. and Cramlane (Thursday), Tappan and Onandaga (Saturday), Horseshoe Circle and Whipple Tree (Sunday) and Mann Rd. on Monday.

The News in Brief

Recycle that Christmas tree

Take a "green" approach to disposing of your Christmas tree by recycling it.

Trees will be accepted at Independence Oaks County Park on Sashabaw now through Jan. 26. Hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and disposal is free. Remove all decorations, metal, string, plastic, etc. from trees.

The program is sponsored by the park, Bordine's Nursery and the Detroit Hoo Hoo Club, a lumber industry organization. For more information call 858-0906 (TDD 858-1684 or www.co.oakland.mi.us).

Lighthouse called 'best managed'

Lighthouse of Oakland County has been named a "best managed non-profit" by Crain's Detroit Business. The annual contest evaluates purpose and goals, program and service offering and collaborative efforts, as well as audited financial statements.

Now 25 years old, Lighthouse offers a variety of services to low-income Oakland County residents, including food, medicine, transportation, utilities and shelter. It has a branch in Clarkston on Maybee Rd.

Lighthouse also announced it has been awarded a \$120,000 grant from the Skillman Foundation to be used for the Family and Neighborhood Empowerment Initiative, a collaborative effort to establish a "one-stop shop" for human service programs.

Kids: Know snowmobile rules

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources reminds adults to review snowmobile regulations with their children, and notes that the recently published "Michigan Snowmobile Regulations" inadvertently omitted information and rules relating to the use of snowmobiles by kids ages 12-16.

Parents should know:

- a person under 12 may not operate a snowmobile without the direct supervision of a parent or guardian except on property owned or controlled by the parent and may not cross a highway or street.

- Children age 12-17 must operate a snowmobile under the direct supervision of a person 21 or older, or have in their possession a valid snowmobile safety certificate.

- Kids age 12-16 may not cross a highway or street without the certificate in their possession.

For more information check the Internet at www.dnr.state.mi.us.

Snowboard instruction to begin

Snowboard alpine instruction begins at Pine Knob Jan. 13 with classes at 7 p.m. Monday nights. The program offers instruction and improvement to intermediate and advanced snowboarders of all ages. Head coach is Tammy Boos, ranked third overall alpine at the 1996 USASA Nationals. Cost is \$99 for six weeks. Call 625-0801 for more information.

The Clarkston News

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"Pride is Paramount"

Clarkston grads sought for directory

Do you wonder what happened to your high-school sweetheart, childhood friend or the person voted "Most Likely to Succeed?" If so, read on.

The Harris Publishing Company has been hired by Clarkston schools to create the first Clarkston High School alumni directory. The project is currently in the research stage, and the staff is seeking current names, addresses and phone numbers of all CHS grads from all

class years.

If you have a reunion list, class newsletter or any other source for this type of information, you are asked to call Harris Publishing at 1-800-733-8859 or fax 1-800-238-8332. Or you can mail information to Harris at 313 E. Anderson Lane, Suite 300, Austin, TX 78752.

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Good news, good times

"It's a newspaper's duty to print the news and raise hell," the Chicago Times once wrote.

Well, OK. But we also see it as our duty to print good news, and we do lots of that here at The Clarkston News.

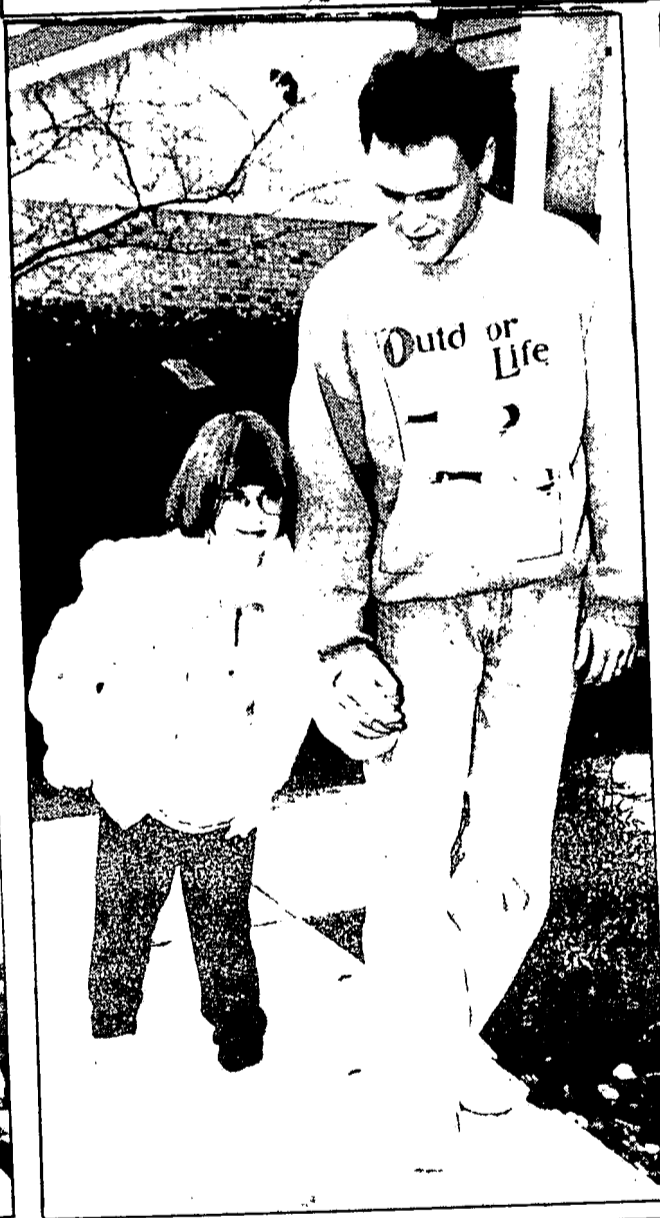
Newspapers and other media are often criticized for printing nothing but bad news, and some deserve it. But in our pages you'll also find stories of day-to-day life in Clarkston, some extraordinary, some not. It all adds up to a record—a history, if you will—of life in Clarkston nearing the end of a century.

This week we've chosen a "good news" theme. In addition to our traditional look back at the passing year, each reporter has selected his or her favorite story of the year and it is reprinted this week.

These are the kinds of stories that have kept the Clarkston news in business for over 60 years. Hopefully they'll make you smile, or shed a tear, or reminisce. Other good news? Nineteen weddings, 48 engagements and 38 births were recorded in our pages this year, along with countless Dean's List honors, promotions, and kids making the local honor rolls.

Have fun reading this special issue, and have a happy new year.

—Annette Kingsbury, editor



My staff and I wish you a happy, healthy New Year!

Anthony Aenlle, M.D.
Anthony Aenlle, M.D.

Put your mind at ease...
your health is in good hands.

Throughout the holiday season,
we are here to care for you and your family.

Our office will be open until 2 p.m. on New Year's Eve.
We will also be open the Friday and Saturday after New Year's
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Our Favorite Stories of 1997

'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times'

CHS Class of '37 recalls high school days in Clarkston

BY EILEEN MCCARVILLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

When I was your age I had to WALK to school every day. Three miles. Barefoot. In the snow.

Tales of the good old days in Clarkston aren't quite that tall, but folks who graduated from Clarkston High School during the Depression will say you're not far from the mark.

Some members of CHS's Class of 1937 gathered at Deer Lake Racquet Club recently to celebrate their 60th reunion, sharing stories from the past and present with friends they've kept for years.

Though many lived in town, some actually did walk several miles to what is now Clarkston Middle School, which the seniors recalled being built around 1930. The first school was Clarkston's Independence Township Hall on Main St.

Much of the area was farms and there were no school buses in those days, reminds Margaret Shaughnessy Rexford. "Those of us who lived out in the country, we had to provide our own transportation."

One senior added that if her father didn't get the cows milked early, she was simply late for school.

"I used to run home for lunch. It was a mile," recalled Bill Parker, who was a grade above his high school sweetheart Genevieve Beardslee, whom he married. "That's how I got my track training," he laughed.

Most of the seniors remembered discipline being much more rigorous and pocketbooks being much leaner. Kids today have it pretty easy, they admit. "It was a big thing to go to the principal's office. Now it's 'So what?'" says Reta Halsey Dodd.

"One thing I do remember is we were all poor," says Marion Yost Bates.

That's why most of them had to work; family members were expected to. Many of the girls "dipped cones" at Cheeseman's, an ice cream parlour, remembered Genevieve Beardslee Parker. "I think we made \$1 an hour. But Mr. Cheeseman was very nice. He gave us



Members of the CHS Class of '37: (Front, L-R) Louise Gulick McLintock, Eleanor Baynes Gunter, Caroline Walter Gilbert, Margaret Shaughnessy Rexford, Genevieve Beardslee Parker, Hilda Barnett Lowrie; (Back, L-R) Marion Yost Bates, Earl Beardslee, and Forrest "Bud" Irish.

all the ice cream we could eat."

Caroline Walter Gilbert worked on her grandmother's farm on Walter Rd. "I used to drive the horses and pick potatoes... I was 16. I had to work." She also balanced school and homework with a babysitting job. The potatoes went to Detroit's Eastern Market, she adds.

Still, they had fun and many of the seniors recalled the simple pleasures of being a kid in the 1930s: tobogganing and skating on the Mill Pond in winter, school plays and theater at the old Opera House above the former Hallman's Pharmacy on Main St.

They also remembered each other's distinct personalities — Caroline's infectious giggle, how smart Eleanor Baynes Gunter, their salutatorian was, and Forrest "Bud" Irish's spin on "Julius Caesar": Friends, Romans, Countrymen, lend me your girls."

"He hasn't changed a bit," quipped Elsie Irish, Bud's wife.

Even two teachers showed up, Virginia Walter, still a familiar face on Main St., and Bob Waters, who taught several subjects and coached four sports.

Walter, a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, remembered being a mere lass of 20 when she first came to Clarkston. She wasn't much older than her students. "I was younger than springtime," she laughs. "I'd never heard of Clarkston. I was working summers

on Mackinac Island when I got the call to come to Clarkston. One of my EMU professors told me, 'Clarkston is an aristocratic little town,' which I think it still is."

She remembers her class size most times being "less than 36, but I never took more than 39." With a twinkle in her eye, she looks around at her former students. "I did make them work a bit," she says.

Walter still keeps up on the current Clarkston schools situation — and votes. "They just had a big school election and they passed this bond issue, which takes care of what they can levy for the next 20 years," she informed her former students. "They have a new superintendent. Everything he's done I like very much."

And how do the seniors feel about their old stomping grounds? Some think Clarkston Middle School, described by some folks as "having character" now, should be torn down, but some seniors were sentimental.

"We had our graduation in that gym," said Eleanor. "I would hate to see it torn down."

Walter remembers when it was under construction. And though it was only a few blocks away from the first high school, the tiny, close-knit community seemed to think it was miles. "There were people in the village who thought they were building it 'way out there,'" she chuckles.

Why I chose this story

Even if you aren't a native, it doesn't take long to develop a love for this community. Clarkston's colorful characters from the past are always a treat to interview.

I had a great time talking to the men and women who relived their high school days during the Depression and provided a glimpse into '30s Clarkston. Most rekindled memories of the hard times I have heard about from my parents. And, as is typical of seniors, they punctuated those observations with wit, wisdom and humor.

I have always believed we can learn from those who were born before us. That hasn't changed. All of the above reasons are why I chose this as my favorite story of the year.

--Eileen McCarville

Best Wishes in "1998"

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Our Favorite Stories of 1997

End of the road

Trucker visits Bailey Lake students who've followed her travels all year

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Principal Chris Turner's voice came over the loudspeaker in Cheryl Bailey's classroom at Bailey Lake Elementary School.

"There's a very large vehicle pulling into the north end of our driveway," he said. And Bailey's face lit up; her long-awaited visitor had arrived.

What followed was a meeting between two old friends, as well as the culmination of a year's worth of lessons for Bailey's class of fourth- and fifth-graders. For outside in the driveway was the 70-foot tractor-trailer driven by Judy Salmons, also known as "Trucker Judy" to Bailey's students. The kids had been corresponding with Trucker Judy all year long.

Salmons is a former Clarkston resident whose son Jimmy, now 31, was one of Bailey's first students. The two women have stayed in touch over the years but hadn't seen each other since 1983 when Jimmy graduated, as best they could remember.

As Salmons tells it, she decided to take up her lifelong dream of being a truck driver five years ago. Then one day she heard about a program called "trucker buddies," where students kept in touch with truckers, and decided her old friend might be interested. She was.

"Just a year ago Judy called me from Florida (where she lives now in Leesburg)," Bailey said. "She was feeling melancholy one night."

"I had been reading about a trucker buddy program and wondered if she was interested," Salmons said. "Cheryl stayed in touch with so many of her students. That's what's so great... None can beat this one."

Bailey recently suffered a stroke and was out of school for awhile. Salmons injured her back and was also out of commission for awhile, so the reunion was postponed longer than planned. On June 4 as Salmons entered Bailey's classroom and the two women got their first look at each other in 14 years, they opined as how their hair is now shorter and they both look a little different. The exchange prompted one student to wonder what his teacher had looked like back then.

As for the students, Salmons had each of their pictures with her on the road so she could memorize their faces. The students had a stack of 80 postcards she'd sent them from the road, as well as maps of the US where they'd plotted out her routes. They would write to Salmons on their computer, and she would write back, sometimes sending small gifts from around the country.

Salmons explained that though she started her trucking career relatively late, "It's something I've always wanted to do. My dad told me when I was 8 I decided I wanted to be a truck driver."

"Ask me if I was surprised she started," Bailey said. "I wasn't."

Salmons and her road partner for the last two



Cheryl Bailey's in the driver's seat; trucker Judy Salmons is beside her in the passenger seat in this photo taken in June.

Why I chose this story

I chose this as my favorite story of the year because of the relationship it showed between two women.

When I took the assignment I thought I'd be writing about a unique twist on teaching elementary students geography. But well beyond that, it turned out to be a heartwarming story of two women who have kept in touch despite distance, years and infirmity.

Cheryl Bailey's students learned a little extra lesson June 4, 1997--one about friendship.
--Annette Kingsbury

years, Pete Heffron, were in the Detroit area to deliver meat products to a Thom Apple Valley site. When they left they were heading to Nashville with a load of paper. Generally they don't do much sight-seeing along the way.

"At times we'll have a couple of days off but you're restricted because you don't have a car, and no one wants a truck in their yard," Salmons said.

"You only get to see what the windshield and the windows let you see," Heffron said. "This is a treat. You can't get off on the back roads. We've got some beautiful country out there, but you've got to get off the interstate."

The drivers let the students climb inside the cab of their rig, pull the rope that produced a loud horn blast, and check out the bunks. They weren't allowed inside the trailer because it was sealed until delivery.

'You better check for stowaways before you leave, including me.'

Teacher Cheryl Bailey

Heffron explained that Salmons drives by day, he by night, based on their personal preferences. Salmons is the boss, since she has more seniority with their employer, Florilli Corp., the owner of their brand-new truck. Each trip lasts about six weeks, then they go home for about a week before heading out on their next trip, he said.

Students crawled through the cab, under the trailer and around the engine. Principal Turner stopped by, asking, "Mind if I take it for a spin?"

Salmons and Bailey sat in the cab and chatted for a few moments. You couldn't hear what they were saying, but the smiles on their faces showed the reunion was going well. Then, all of a sudden, a few loud, rhythmic blasts on the horn were heard, and it was Bailey, with a big grin on her face.

"I'm having more fun than the kids," she admitted. Then she contemplated how she was going to get back to ground level from the lofty cab. Bailey walks with the aid of a cane since her stroke. But with some help from Salmons behind her and Heffron below, she gingerly made her way down, putting her good leg first.

"You better check for stowaways before you leave, including me," Bailey warned. "I was supposed to travel with Judy over Easter break, but because of the stroke I couldn't. So we're going to reschedule."

Salmons said she couldn't explain exactly what it is about trucking that has captured her imagination. "There's not one thing; I like it all," she said. But she admitted the life hasn't been all peaches and cream.

"I had a gun drawn on me by a man in Texas. So I asked Pete if he'd like to run team. And he's an excellent partner. It's easier to run team; it's safer."

And she reminded students of the important function of her job. "Just about anything you want hauled comes by truck. Just remember, if you got it, a truck probably brought it."

Have a Happy and Prosperous New Year!!

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OPINION

The Clarkston News

Wed., Dec. 31, 1997 6A



IN FOCUS

by Annette Kingsbury

*It's good
news week*

Long before Janet Reno announced she'd like to get in a truck and just drive after she retires, a former Clarkston woman was already living the dream.

Judy Salmons is a cross-country trucker, and in June she brought her big rig to Bailey Lake Elementary School and the classroom of her old friend, teacher Cheryl Bailey. The two women are at the center of my favorite story of the year, reprinted in this issue.

We decided to do something a bit different this year in our end-of-the-year edition. Each writer selected the favorite story he or she had written this year. The story is reprinted along with a brief explanation of why it was the writer's favorite story.

All of the stories are upbeat and what you might call "warm and fuzzy" in keeping with the "good news" theme of this issue. We're also proud to report we've printed the announcement of 19 weddings, 48 engagements and 38 births, all involving families with Clarkston ties.

Why do we bother? Because we are at our core a community newspaper, an animal a lot different than big-city dailies. We stress local people, all the time. There really isn't a lot of bad news in our pages. In part that's because Clarkston is blessed with safe streets, good schools, excellent housing and parks—and very little crime. But it's also because as a company, we base our coverage on local, local, local.

That won't change in 1998. As we struggle to keep up with the latest technology and the competition from out of town, we will continue to cover what is happening here, what people in Clarkston are talking about, what local people are doing.

It's common to write, at this time of year, some kind of list, and it's hard not to jump on that bandwagon. So here are just a few of the "good news" stories I'd like to write next year.

That the city of Clarkston hires a professional manager to replace overworked Art Pappas. Not to take anything away from Art, who is sweet and kind. But how long can one man be asked to be manager, clerk and treasurer, all at once?

That the township, road commission and school district each throw some money into a pot to improve Flemings Lake Rd., and that the road commission installs a stop light at the corner of Flemings and Clarkston roads before the new high school opens and before there is an accident. Also, that Walters Rd. become somehow off-limits to traffic heading in and out of the new high school.

That a major bank moves into the now-vacant NBD building on Main St. and announces it won't change a thing. And that another antique store give the downtown a chance by moving into the vacant spot on E. Washington that used to house Pour Mary's.

And I hope I never have to write another story about a convicted drug dealer, living in town after being released early from his sentence; who is caught selling drugs again. All the hard working members of groups like the Task Force, Parent to Parent, etc. must be firing up the tar and feathers. Nothing like ending a pretty decent year on a down note.



Do it anyway

The first of a new year seems like the right time to repeat some 'suggestions for living' offered by Bishop Able Muzore.

The Bishop had been asked by his people to lead the African National Council. He knew that all previous leaders in Rhodesia who criticized government policies that were unjust to Black Rhodesians had been either deported from the country, put in a restricted camp or killed.

He said:

- Many people are unreasonable, illogical, self-centered.

Love them anyway.

- If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish motives.

Do it anyway.

- If you are successful, you will win false friends and real enemies.

Try to be successful anyway.

- The good you do will be forgotten tomorrow.

Do it anyway.

- Honesty and frankness will make you vulnerable.

Be honest and frank anyway.

- People favor the underdog, but they chum up to the top dog.

Fight for the underdog anyway.

- What you spend years building can be destroyed overnight.

Build anyway.

- Give the world the best you have and chances are you will get kicked in the teeth.

Give it anyway. JAS



Well, it's an opinion . . .

Now that Christmas has come and gone, some of us could do without any snow until at least next Christmas Eve.

However, over at Pine Knob, where they're having to rely on the artificial kind (as of presstime), some folks would like to have some of the real stuff. The place was fairly deserted the day after Christmas, and at first we thought it was all that over-indulging the day before. But then we saw the sign . . . AK



15 YEARS AGO (1983)

After four years on a village council he says he can't work with, a frustrated Gary Symons resigns. He says that last month's repeal of the controversial historic district ordinance was the last straw. Symons has also objected to the recent sign ordinance draft that, if approved, would allow 12-foot overhanging signs, illuminated like Rudy's, in Clarkston.

The fact that their 4-year-old daughter and niece was killed by a drunk driver is motivation for sisters Penny Bien and Ruth Greene to monitor drunk driving sentences handed out locally in 52-2 District Court. Greene says Judge Gerald McNally's courtroom is selected because it's close, but also because "We knew his fines were among the lowest in the county."

The Clarkston Junior High Wolverines basketball team wins easily over the Sashabaw Junior High Cougars, with a score of 57-43. This raises their record to 1-3; Sashabaw is 1-2.

25 YEARS AGO (1973)

The contract for a master development plan for Oakland County owned Independence Oaks Park is awarded to Ellis, Arndt and Truesdell of Flint at a cost of \$13,500. When completed, a study will evaluate and determine the best possible uses for the 750-acre park.

Beginning the week of Jan. 8, the Independence Township Recreation Department will offer a variety of winter activities which include an open gym class for men 30 and under, a men's basketball league, snowmo-

bile safety certification for youngsters 12 to 15, guitar lessons, a teen council organization and crewel embroidery and crochet classes.

Pine Knob Ski Resort will bring in the new year with fireworks and flare-lit skiing demonstrations at 11 p.m. New Year's Eve. The program is sponsored by the Ski School under the direction of Freddi Bissig and the National Ski Patrol.

50 YEARS AGO (1948)

Great preparations are underway for the big New Year's Eve dance in the Clarkston School gym. The good music will start at 9 o'clock and last until one. Favors and noise makers will be furnished and, of course, there will be refreshments. A good time is guaranteed for all.

News from "By the Way": A new year approaches and with it comes two questions — what did you accomplish in 1947 and what will you do in 1948? In nine cases out of ten the answer will be "about as usual." Being a Sanka drinker, I do not have tea leaves to tell the future, so, believing in minding my own business, will not outline any new resolutions for you for the new year. My only wish for you is that you can manage to grab a little more happiness than usual.

60 YEARS AGO (1938)

Playing at the Holly Theatre are Fred Astaire, George Burns and Gracie Allen in "A Damsel in Distress" and Jack Benny, Ida Lupino and Martha Raye in "Artists and Models."

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY 1:

T w o brothers, Jesse and Matthew Covarrubias, are

arraigned in 52-2 District Court on drug charges. They are charged with possession with intent to deliver a controlled substance less than 50 grams. If convicted, they could spend 1-20 years in prison.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Pfenning, of Davisburg, truly does see Santa at the North Pole, as a crewmember of the USS Pogy submarine during an expedition under the Arctic icecap. "Seeing the sun and moon at the same time was awesome, but just the experience of being up there — how many people can say they've been at the North Pole?" says Pfenning.

The Clarkston varsity wrestling team finishes in fifth place at the Goodrich Invitational. It's pegged as the lowest finish this season, but it might be the team's best all-around performance.

JANUARY 8: A former mailman rises to postmaster at the Clarkston post office. Gabe Viviano begins his job on Monday; the eastsider, formerly of St. Clair Shores, says one of his primary goals will be to improve customer service. He is excited about the new postal office and store, planned for a location across Main St.

Completion of the Bay Court Park beach house, resolving the issue of well inspections and planning are the top concerns of Independence Township officials upon approaching the year 1997. City of Clarkston officials say their priorities are completing a new master plan, parking and city sidewalk improvements.

Clarkston's Planning Commission OK's variances for the Parsonage's new location on Church St. across from Fire Station 1. The floral business and gift shop is moving from its old spot on Main St.

JANUARY 15: The Clarkston board of education votes to increase the time of the district's only police liaison officer, and also agrees to hire a second officer to conduct DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) classes. The change is effective beginning with the second semester, and is described as temporary.

The fate of the Depot Theater, which houses local performing troupe The Clarkston Village Players, is still unclear. Though earlier Canadian National Railroad agreed to a joint offer for part of the 1.3-acre parcel upon which the theater sits, a series of complications "have taken us in many different directions," says Players president Al Bartlett.

Echoing many communities across the state, Clarkston MEAP (Michigan Education Assessment Program) scores fall for fourth- and seventh-grade math and reading. Compared to last year, all four tests show lower scores.

JANUARY 22: Two horses owned by Tom Patti are rescued from a pond by Independence Township Fire Cpt. Dan DeLongchamp, who dons an ice suit and attaches a rope to their harnesses. The two animals are pulled out with the help of Patti's truck. Two hours later, after being warmed with sleeping bags and heat lamps, they are back on their feed bag.

On a home page dealing with speedtraps on the Internet is the City of Clarkston, where contributors to the web site have listed nearly every street in the city limits. Clarkston Police Chief Paul Ormiston says he doesn't mind the bashing. "Anyone who wants to help us decrease traffic speed, I'm all for it," he says.

With the Wolves up by two with 7.5 seconds left at Friday night's game, Southfield Lathrup's Greg Grays takes an inbounds pass and lifts a 25-foot shot over three Clarkston defenders — missing the basket. The Wolves are ecstatic with a 44-42 win.

JANUARY 29: A group of residents say they want to keep the Clarkston Mill Pond's charm and rural character intact. That's why they are working with the Clarkston Mill Pond Association, says Henry Radcliff, involved with the group since 1980. Radcliff appears before Clarkston City Council Monday, asking for help. The city donates \$80 to the effort.

The Clarkston PTA District Council announces that it will celebrate the 100th birthday of the National

JANUARY



Council at its annual Founders Day Celebration, scheduled for Feb. 24 at Clarkston Creek. The key speaker will be Dr. Herb Moyer, newly elected member of the state board of education and the 1994 Superintendent of the Year.

Jumping on the bandwagon with other local business and civic groups, the Independence Township Board of Trustees passes a unanimous resolution to support Clarkston's NBD Bank staying in town. However, NBD spokesman Robert Darmanin says the bank will still close.

FEBRUARY

commercial Equipment, in the wake of a dispute over bussing services for Clarkston students. The action comes three weeks after the present contract is terminated with National School Bus Service in a disagreement over the specifications of buses proved by National.

Independence Township treasurer's office secretary Susan Wagner is named the township's "Employee of the Quarter." She receives four nominations from her fellow workers. Clerk Joan McCrary says Wagner is most deserving because she's "always helpful ... always friendly."

A new craft shop opens at the corner of Oak Hill and M-15. "Sew It Seams" owner Rosemarie De Boer says her new business includes custom window treatments, bedding, table linens, upholstery, pillows, lampshades, even floral arrangements.

FEBRUARY 12: At the Monday night Clarkston school board meeting, it is announced that a major bid for the new high school comes in \$800,000 under budget. Earlier bids have been higher than expected and have forced the district to come up with a contingency plan in case cuts have to be made.

With 29 years in the education field, current assistant superintendent of Clarkston schools Duane Lewis announces he will be retiring, effective June 30. However, Lewis adds he will stay on in a part-time capacity for some time in order to participate in a central-office reorganization that will take place after he leaves.

Susette Hart, a Clarkston resident with seven children, plus a foster child, is honored by the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit for her work with families through St. Dan's. She receives the Cardinal Dearden Award for outstanding lay leadership in the church, an

honor given to only one individual each year within the entire archdiocese.

FEBRUARY 19: The Outback gets its "stake" on Dixie Highway, as Independence Township Planning Commissioners approve preliminary plans 6-1. Thursday's meeting is again packed with angry Clarkston Bluffs homeowners, who have protested the commercial location next to their development.

Dads and daughters hoof it up at the annual Dad and Daughter Dance Feb. 11. Fathers are decked out as spiffy as their daughters, and enjoy demonstrating dances like the Hustle. But they're showed up by their offspring with new-age moves like the Macarena.

The Clarkston Wolves varsity hockey team starts regional playoff action Monday against Howell at the Flint IMA Arena. Their current standing is 12-6-1 in their first-ever season.

FEBRUARY 26: After years of waiting, the new Mid-Oakland Medical Center is finally going up near the corner of M-15 and Dixie Highway. Clarkston orthodontist Charles Munk says he and managing partner Kale Roscoe will soon be getting caught up on bills owned to subcontractors.

Independence Township clerk Joan McCrary tells fellow Board of Trustees members that the township stands a good chance of qualifying for federal funds to be used for the widening of M-15. The board supports her resolution unanimously. City of Clarkston officials say they also want to improve the corridor within the city limits, with curbs and a center left-turn lane from Waldon to Washington.

Clarkston resident Maureen Tippen shares her experience as a medical volunteer in the Dominican Republic with 12- to 15-year-olds who go to St. Daniel Catholic Church. Tippen says most of the men, women and children have never seen a doctor. Reflecting upon the experience, she says, "I received much more than what I gave."

MARCH 5: After months of waiting, the Independence Township Fire Department finally

moves into its new digs on Citation Dr. The new building will also house the Oakland County Sheriff's Independence substation, which has not yet transferred from its home on Main St.

Springfield Plains Elementary kicks off national reading month with an assembly to introduce the month's events. The first Celebrity Reader is former Detroit Lion Rich Strenger, who reads "Horton Hatches the

MARCH

Our Favorite Stories of 1997

Georgia on their minds

Clarkston senior Georgia Senkyr has opponents singin' the blues

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

She doesn't have a favorite sport. She doesn't have a favorite type of music. She doesn't busy herself with hobbies, other than watching her classmates play sports themselves.

So what is it that makes Clarkston High School senior Georgia Senkyr so deserving of a story about her? It's pure excellence on any number of athletic fields.

In the 1996-97 school year, Senkyr pulled off a rare triple crown achievement - three postseason awards in three sports. She was voted the most improved player on the varsity basketball and volleyball teams and the most valuable player on the varsity soccer team last spring.

Watching her play whatever sport she's in, the natural athletic skills are obvious: a 5-foot-10 frame that can be as graceful as it is quick and striking. But somehow, she doesn't get as noticed as some of her teammates on the court or the field.

"I guess I'm more of a silent leader on the teams I'm on," Senkyr said after a basketball practice in September. "I try not to show that I'm working through talking out loud. If I want to talk to another player, I do it privately."

Leading is something that comes naturally to Senkyr, given the positions she plays in her sports. This past basketball season, coach Ann Lowney took her on as the team's point guard, handling the ball in transition and igniting the set half-court offense. It allowed quick players like Tiffany Honey, Jenny Bauer and Deana Kanipe to break defenders down off a pick or spot up for 3-pointers.

Lowney said there was some adjustment for Senkyr at the point guard position, but she picked it up quickly.

"Georgia is getting a lot more comfortable out there," she said. "She just does so many things well for us. She is very consistent and delivers for you every game."

The normal stat line for Senkyr reads something like this: five points, eight rebounds, six assists and five steals. Certainly, an all-around threat.

In soccer, Senkyr was the team's leading scorer from the forward position, along with Bauer. Teammates knew that if they wanted to get a lead, Senkyr would be the one to get the ball to.

Girls soccer coach Brian Fitzgerald said with only one senior on the team at the end of last season, Senkyr took a leadership role and excelled in it.

"She really helped get the girls ready to play," Fitzgerald said. "Her attitude is very good and she's real serious when she's out there. A very focused kid."

Volleyball was a bit different. When the 1996-97 season started, Senkyr was a first-year varsity player after not playing as a sophomore. By the end of the season, she became the catalyst on the team that won the district championship for the fourth time in five years.

Varsity volleyball coach Gordie Richardson gave Senkyr much of the credit for the team's late-season improvement and says when it comes to volleyball, she can be as good as she wants to be.

"Georgia has a chance to be one of those players who can make plays all over the court," Richardson said. "She reads the court well and has good quickness

Why I chose this story

As I sifted through the many stories I did this past year, one constantly brought a smile to my face. That is the feature story on Clarkston High School senior Georgia Senkyr, published in our Oct. 1 issue.

Georgia is what is good about sports. She does whatever her coaches ask, works hard, is humble, and doesn't waste one bit of the considerable talent she has been blessed with. She also comes from a super family, in father Chuck, mother Jody and brother Cody.

A story I heard about Georgia after this story came out came from Chuck: He said the week Georgia was born, the University of Georgia Bulldogs football team was the best in the country in November 1980. The cover of Sports Illustrated read: "Georgia is No. 1."

Thank you, Georgia, for doing your part in making my job the most fun in the world. Happy holidays.

--Brad Monastiere



Georgia Senkyr

for someone her size. She is good at the stuff you can't teach, like vertical leap and having long arms. She has a lot of innate ability she hasn't even tapped yet."

Senkyr certainly has the family genes working in her favor also. Her father Chuck played two exhibition games with the NFL's Cleveland Browns in 1977 after four years at the University of Minnesota-Morris. He is a single-handicap golf player, and along with his wife Jody and son Cody, frequent fans at many Clarkston sporting events, even ones where Georgia isn't playing.

"I know other parents who don't have kids playing come out to see Georgia's games and we just try to

reciprocate that," Chuck Senkyr said. "We appreciate the dedication of the Clarkston kids in all sports. Athletics is very important in our lives, especially in the discipline it teaches."

Jody Senkyr has her own background steeped in sports. Her father coached high school track in Minnesota for 42 years, while she took third at the Minnesota state finals in the 400 meter hurdles in high school.

With all this heady sports stuff, academics must get lost in the shuffle, or does it?

"In our house, grades are number one," Jody Senkyr says. "Chuck and I have never pressured Georgia into sports, but I think she's kind of felt it anyway. Georgia is a very focused person and she tries to do all the little things that make a team work. She will do whatever is necessary to help the team."

That quality is called being coachable, one appreciated by Richardson.

"It's nice to coach people with talent and Georgia is someone who picks things up very easily," he said. "She's a young senior and needs more time to grow into her body and get stronger. But when she does, she can go as far as she wants to."

Jody said she and Chuck had a tough decision to make before Georgia started kindergarten in 1985-86. Georgia just turned 17 Nov. 3, making her closer in age to most juniors than seniors.

Outside of the athletic field, Senkyr said she spends most of her time watching the boys play their sports like football and basketball. She says she tries to learn skills from them also.

"It's fun to watch the guys going out and being successful," she said. "I feel like by watching them, I can improve myself also."

So what does the future hold for this humble, -almost shy- but extremely talented athlete? Well, more success for Clarkston to be sure, but what about next year?

"I want to play in college. I don't know what or where, but I want to play something," she said. "I would like to be close to my family, but I haven't narrowed anything down yet."

That's OK, Georgia. You don't have to have a favorite anything yet. But when it comes to Clarkston athletics, you rank among all of our favorites.

Sports shorts

● **The Full Moon Cross Country Ski** will be held Saturday, Jan. 10 at Independence Oaks County Park. Bring your own equipment; you must have previous cross-country ski experience. Time is 7:30-9:30 p.m.; cost is \$1.

Sunday Snowshoes will be offered Jan. 18 and Feb. 8, if there's snow, at 10-11:30 a.m. and 2-3:30 p.m. A limited number of snowshoes are available; the program is not recommended for preschoolers. Cost is \$2. Pre-registration is required for all the programs; call 625-6473 (TDD 858-1684) or visit the Oakland County website at www.co.oakland.mi.us.

● **Learn To Ski** days will be held at Independence Oaks County Park Jan. 10 and 31, 1-4 p.m. The day will include ski demonstrations and lessons, open skiing, ice skating, door prizes and more. Cost is \$3 per person, \$9 with ski rental.

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THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Egg," towering over staff and students.

A public hearing is set for a new tower ordinance which will regulate the placement, construction and modifications of wireless communications facilities. If approved, the ordinance will mean applicants will be encouraged to "co-locate" on existing towers so as not to clutter the landscape with new structures.

MARCH 12: Thanks to a mini-grant and brainstorming by vocal music teacher Lois Richardson, a new pilot program at North Sashabaw and Pine Knob elementary is in full "string." Richardson, a former elementary band teacher, says her three children studied the Suzuki violin method, and the method she's teaching is part Suzuki and part traditional music. The elementary students are the nucleus of what it's hoped will someday become a full-fledged string program in Clarkston schools.

Clarkston's Village Players tackle the difficult production, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf," as the next offering in their 1996-97 season. They pull it off with strong direction by Don Foster and a well-cast quartet of characters.

Saturday's Odyssey of the Mind competition at Rochester Adams brings 23 Clarkston teams to the regionals. One group scores high enough to move to the state finals, the "classics" team from Sashabaw Middle School.

MARCH 19: After years of serving on various city boards, vocal Clarkston City councilman Steve Arkwright announces his resignation. But not by choice. Arkwright will be moving to Corpus Cristi, TX, after learning he is being promoted and transferred from his job as a certified financial planner for Paine Webber.

The goal of establishing a full-blown Clarkston historical museum continues with the birth of the Clarkston Community Museum Foundation. The foundation, started by members of both the Clarkston Rotary and Community Historical Society, plans to build or purchase a suitable structure for its future quarters.

Prior to Clarkston City Council going into closed session to discuss ongoing litigation against the Millpond Inn bed and breakfast, council member Laura Aulgur asks that the lawsuit be dropped, period. But city attorney Tom Ryan calls her motion "premature" because she acts before hearing what other have to say in closed session. Aulgur withdraws her motion.

MARCH 26: The Clarkston school board race swells to five, as Charles Hensley adds his name to the list of those seeking one of two seats to become vacant July 1. Incumbents Bill Craig and Bill McGregor announce they will not run for re-election.

Jeff Mengel of township auditing firm Plante & Moran paints a big picture of how Independence Township's recent investment losses impact several departments. The township incurred a \$1.5 million loss in 1996 and a \$527,797 loss in 1995. The township first realized losses from five controversial investments made by former treasurer John Lutz. Currently, Mengel reports, the general fund is in "very healthy condition."

Local resident Sam Christoff leads a flood relief effort, after calling Detroit TV weatherman Chuck Gaidica and radio host/musician Ted Nugent. Because of his work, Christoff is able to make deliveries of everything from food to bottled water, rubber gloves,

clothing and pet food.



enable the township to regulate the placement, construction and modifications of wireless communication facilities in Independence. The township's Board of Trustees will need to adopt the ordinance at a future meeting.

Several Clarkston High School students attending smoking support groups at CHS talk about their addictions to nicotine. Their comments come in the wake of new Federal Food and Drug Administration regulations banning cigarette sales to those under 18.

Though, like other sports, the girls' varsity softball team has lost significant athletes from the Class of 1996, coach Al Land says he is looking forward to a talented and versatile team this season. Some players will hold new positions this year.

APRIL 9: Sixteen men living in Independence Township are listed on the new sexual offenders registry, released last week through the Michigan State Police and Oakland County Sheriff's Department. Their offenses range from first- to fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, and some of the men are well-known to local authorities.

After 29 years with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Lee Squires is hanging up his badge. He'll stay "on the road" — but this time in a motor home, which he'll use to enjoy golf and travel.

Despite a brief dip into the thirties this week, most of the preceding Easter vacation is spring-like with sunny skies, gentle rains and crocuses poking their noses through the soil.

APRIL 16: The Clarkston board of education approves wording of a June 9 bond proposal that would build a new elementary school and add onto other schools. The June proposal would mean a cost of \$57,650,000 to taxpayers, financed over a 25-year span.

Though it's not on the agenda, the Clarkston City Council discusses road conditions for nearly 40 minutes Monday night. Councilman David Savage tosses out a series of topics, ranging from lowering the Main St. speed limit to banning all trucks going through the city because they are damaging to some historic homes.

An additional 1,000 seats for Pine Knob Music Theatre are approved by the Independence Township Planning Commission. According to facility director Hugh Lombardi, six rows of aluminum bleachers will be constructed at the top of the hill where lawn seating is currently available. They are designed primarily for overflow.

APRIL 23: A million-dollar blunder, whereby Independence Township collected more than \$1 million in tax revenue for its Downtown Development Authority in 1996, is discovered by township planner Dick Carlisle. The mistake apparently occurred because the township misunderstood its 10-year DDA plan, which allowed the monies to be captured for only nine years.

Science becomes more than textbooks for North Sashabaw Elementary School students. For a whole

day they ignore their regular schedules and take part in six 45-minute workshops which cover live animals, sound waves, rocks, robots, forensics, weather—even a walk inside a portable star lab.

The Clarkston boys track team uses its depth and improved running performances to beat the West Bloomfield Lakers 79-49 on a blustery day. The Wolves improve their statistics to 3-0 in the OAA Division II at the halfway point of the league dual meet schedule.

APRIL 30: Development in Independence and Springfield townships continues to boom. Springfield Township clerk Nancy Stole says last year 145 residential permits were issued in the township, exceeding 1995's 140. Independence has experienced similar growth. Between 1990 and 1995 its population has risen 15 percent.

After 26 years, the Bellairs Hillside Farm looks forward to another spring season. Lambing has begun on the 11-acre farm owned by George and Gloria Bellairs on Big Lake Rd.

Sashabaw Middle School principal Dr. Jean Lang surprises everyone by announcing her retirement to coworkers. After 28 years in education, she says the decision comes quickly. Lang's plans are to spend more time with her family and pursue other interests like art.



MAY 7: The Downtown Development Authority wants to keep going, even though its funding mechanism has

run out. The Independence Township board will consider whether to extend the DDA so it can finish up some projects along White Lake Rd.

A former Sashabaw Middle School paraprofessional pleads no contest to inappropriately touching a student.

Clarkston and Independence Township officials help Farmer Jack celebrate by cutting the ribbon on the newly remodeled store on Dixie.

MAY 14: Independence Township considers a beefed-up outdoor entertainment ordinance that is opposed by the owners of Pine Knob Music Theatre. The township says multi-stage venues violate Pine Knob's site plan and need to be addressed.

An 11-year-old Bailey Lake student is killed in a three-car accident on Sashabaw near the I-75 entrance. Nicole Gabriel was remembered as a model student by her teacher. The driver of the car that hit her, a 46-year-old Bloomfield Hills man, was later charged with negligent homicide.

Ameritech donates \$10,000 to the Independence Township Library on the occasion of opening a new store in the township.

The Mill Pond Inn wins one of its two lawsuits with the city of Clarkston. The suit was over zoning issues for the bed-and-breakfast, which is located in a residential zone on N. Main St.

MAY 21: Sarah Maesch, 11, of Clarkston sees her original art work painted on the side of a Northwest Airlines jet at Metro Airport after she wins a contest.

Megan Montgomery gets ready to leave for Poland in the hopes she'll be able to get treatment for her cerebral palsy that will allow her to walk.

An alumni concert in honor of retiring Clarkston

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Happy New Year!!

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

High School choir director Grayce Warren is planned for the high school.

Clarkston's Debbie Arcello is named the Michigan PTA's Member of the Year and picks up an award in Detroit.

Harvard-bound senior Chris Evans is the only track team member to qualify for states. He does so by finishing the 110 hurdles in a time of 14:56. He goes on to finish second in the state in the event.

MAY 28: Residents and officials, including Independence Township Supervisor Dale Stuart, gather at a meeting in Orion Township and agree on one thing: They don't want a casino to come to the area.

Independence Township announces that thanks to an agreement with developers, parts of Clintonville and Waldon roads will be paved this year.

An Oakland County Sheriff's deputy catches three stores selling cigarettes to an underage decoy, as well as one selling alcohol.

JUNE 4: An intruder awakens an 8-year-old girl at a home on Mann Rd. around 2 a.m. She screams and the man flees.

JUNE

The city of Clarkston unveils a proposed new master plan for public comment.

The girls track team runs at the state meet but fails to medal. Despite that, junior Megan Plante runs her best time of the year in the 800 with a 2:19.7.

JUNE 11: A proposal for a new elementary school and additions and remodeling at the existing elementaries is approved by the voters, 2897-2676. Voter turnout is 19 percent. Richard Crigger and Ron Sullivan are also elected to the board of education, each for the first time. They replaced Bill Craig and Bill McGregor, who chose not to run for re-election.

School superintendent Dr. Al Roberts gets a contract extension after his first year on the job. His contract now runs through June, 2001. He also receives a five-percent raise.

The Clarkston Community Historical Society and the Clarkston Rotary Club combine forces to seat a new board, the Clarkston Community Museum Foundation, and announce they will seek a location for a historical museum.

Junior improve their scores on the state's high school proficiency test over last year, the first year the test was required.

The high school student council surprises even itself by announcing it has raised over \$22,000 this school year.

A historic barn on the former Henry Ford property now owned by Dr. James O'Neill burns when juveniles accidentally start a fire.

JUNE 18: Vandals damage the new high school under construction on Flemings Lake Rd. to the tune of \$7-\$10,000. It's possible the damage stems from the fact that one contractor is non-union, according to the company's general manager.

A fight is raging at the county over a well-inspection policy approved by the board of commissioners and vetoed by County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. After overriding the veto, the board tells Patterson he has 45 days to implement the policy or they will see him in court. The whole thing started when it was discovered arsenic was in some residents' well water.

JUNE 25: The new school district budget tops \$44 million.

The library will benefit from the growth in Independence Township's population, thanks to money from the state. The township board approves spending some of the money to restore cut library hours.

The Downtown Development Authority will be extended, based on a vote by the Independence Township Board of Trustees. The Oakland County Road Commission will kick in \$200,000 to help complete work on White Lake Rd.

JULY 2: Don and Carole Borngesser announce that they have sold their Main St. building and are

JULY



closing Carol's Village Grill, a downtown staple for 12 years.

Habitat for Humanity North Oakland, which formed in Clarkston, undertakes its first "blitz build" of homes in Pontiac.

John Diliiegghio is the new principal at Sashabaw Middle School and Charles Rowland is the new assistant principal after action by the board of education this week.

A driver is seriously injured during the Waterford Hills Racing Club's regular monthly race in Independence Township.

Independence Township presents its Vision 2020 strategic plan for public scrutiny after many months of work.

A local vet says he's noticing a comeback in heartworm cases in dogs.

JULY 9: In the wake of the closing of NBD Bank's downtown Clarkston branch, Republic Bank announces it is moving downtown.

Independence Township Trustee Larry Rosso changes his vote and thus the fate of the Downtown Development Authority, which now won't be extended as had been previously thought.

The city of Clarkston is moving toward adoption of a new master plan with a public hearing set for Aug. 4.

New businesses on Main St. include Basketful of Yam and the Motown Eatery. They replace spaces vacated by Calcote Country and Carol's Village Grill, respectively.

Vince Gill and Bryan White appear together at Pine Knob music theater.

JULY 16: After months of legal wrangling, the Clarkston Conservatory is finally sold to Jim Wilhelmsen, a teacher there.

A patient reports she has been raped at the Greenery nursing home on Clintonville Rd. Seven black workers are suspended after the patient can only identify her attacker as a black man.

One year after the crash of TWA Flight 800, Barb Johns still doesn't have an answer from the federal government as to why her daughter, Courtney, had to die.

Laura Aulgur resigns from city council, saying her family will move out of the city.

Pine Knob gets approval from Independence Township to hold all-day shows with multiple stages, although an ordinance to regulate them is still in the works.

JULY 23: The board of education is trying to decide where to locate a new elementary school, as well as which of its existing elementary schools will be renovated first thanks to voter-approved bond money.

A long-submerged buggy is pulled from Parke Lake downtown thanks to the efforts of the Clarkston Community Historical Society and a White Lake diver.

Detroit Piston Rick Mahorn visits Clarkston to be part of Tim McCormick's annual basketball camp.

Detroit Lions quarterback Scott Mitchell, a Clarkston resident, says during training camp that he's ready for the season to begin.

JULY 30: Clarkston city council discusses aligning Waldon with White Lake Rd. in an effort to keep trucks off Holcomb Rd.

A committee of the new Museum Foundation meets with officials of NBD Bank and proposes that the bank donate its Main St. building, which is up for sale, for a historical museum. Bank officials say they'll think about it.

AUGUST 6: A steelworker falls from the roof of the Clarkston High School construction site and is killed.

AUGUST

A state inspection reveals a long list of problems at the Greenery, where a patient rape is still under investigation.

Dennis Pawley, a Clarkston resident and Chrysler executive, donates \$2 million to Oakland University, his alma mater.

Anne Dorian, assistant principal at Clarkston High School, leaves for a new job in Holly.

A new church, Unity-North, announces it will serve the Clarkston area.

Ann Serra takes over as CHS varsity girls basketball coach.

AUGUST 13: Independence Township and the school district spar over who should pay to improve Flemings Lake Rd. before the new high school opens.

A tough, new athletic code of conduct takes effect at CHS and is well supported in the community.

A crossing guard is eliminated at the Main St./Waldon Rd. intersection. Improved signals are to be installed soon.

The Clarkston Community Task Force wins a \$10,000 grant which allows it to hire Cindy Dixon as part-time coordinator.

Residents bordering the new Oakhurst development on Clintonville complain that their wells have gone dry.

AUGUST 20: Morgan's Service announces it will stop selling gas at its Main St. station, ending gasoline service in downtown Clarkston.

A new group forms to promote agricultural tourism in the Independence/Springfield area.

AUGUST 27: An Independence Township liquor store is robbed at gunpoint.

Lt. Dale LaBair, commander of the Oakland County Sheriff's Independence substation, asks Independence Township to consider adding tornado sirens in the wake of a recent tornado that killed a woman in nearby Springfield Township.

Attorney General Frank Kelley appeals a decision to allow Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital to build a hospital in Independence Township to the state Supreme Court.

CHS welcomes new assistant principal Janice Meagher aboard.

SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 3:

Village Bookstore owner Edith Smith announces she will close her doors after two years of operation.

"There's no business. There isn't enough business because I don't have enough customers," she says.

Thanks to volunteers from TCI Cable in Clarkston and Worldwide Aircraft Recovery, a video is now available detailing how a World War II plane was rescued from Lake Michigan and restored. After its restoration the plane won a Grand Reserve Champion award at the 1995 Oshkosk Air Show.

There's a new piano man at Clarkston High School, and it's Mike Peterson, the new director of choirs at CHS. Peterson learned the art of music under longtime teacher Grayce Warren, graduated from CHS in 1986, and has now returned to take her place.

SEPTEMBER 10: MEAP scores from Oakland County are out, and Clarkston students measure up well. The tests were taken last winter for fifth- and eighth-graders, and scores increased across the board.

Fed up with a perceived lack of support for his plan to revitalize downtown, city councilman David Savage walks out of a council meeting. Savage has worked for nearly two years in trying to get Hyett-Palma, a national planning firm, to come to Clarkston and give insights to improve the downtown business

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

district. Other council members cited cost and what direction the study would go as reasons for their non-support.

The Clarkston varsity football team, ranked 15th in the nation by USA Today, is upset by Royal Oak Kimball 21-7 in the first game of the season. It was the team's first regular season loss in more than two years.

SEPTEMBER 17: The Springfield Township Board of Trustees fills a vacancy on its board by voting Richard Miller as a new trustee. Miller takes over for Charles Oaks, who was recently hired to be the township's new fire chief.

Longtime Clarkston resident and Waterford car dealer All Dittrich dies Sept. 13, 1997 at the age of 63. Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said he has received permission from the Dittrich family to start a foundation that will carry on his charity work in the Detroit area. Mr. Dittrich is survived by his wife Mary, son Thomas (Lorraine), grandchildren Sarah and Erika and sister Rosemary Dwyer.

Tuxedos and formal dresses are in evidence as George Mildrag's \$6 million mansion on Heather Lakes goes up for auction. The bidding only gets up to \$2.05 million, but George and his wife Tina say they hope to have another deal wrapped up by the end of the week.

SEPTEMBER 24: Kirco Development and Springfield Township receive the 1997 Bricks and Mortar Award, a joint project award from the Michigan Society of Planning Officials and the Michigan Chapter of the American Planning Association for the Bridge Valley Subdivision. The 300-acre development has a cluster lots feature, with smaller homes but more wide open spaces.

Yet another Clarkston-area business is closing its doors, as Alexander's restaurant on Dixie Highway is sold. Another restaurant will go in the location, to be called Duggan's West. Alexander's owners, Martha and Vern Post, are retiring.

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 1: CHS seniors Heather Mitkiff and Mike Underwood join the royal family for a day, as they are named

Homecoming Queen and King. The crowning was the culmination of three weeks of school activities leading up to the Clarkston-Waterford Kettering football game Oct. 3. The senior court included: Justin Dionne, Dane Fife, Larry Mix, Marla Mosher, Courtney Krull and Danielle Facione.

Dr. Ronald LePere, a Clarkston doctor since 1959, announces he will retire Sept. 30. He was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, and plans on retiring to Florida. Doctors from St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital will take over the practice.

Bouncing back from a first-week upset, the Clarkston varsity football team wins a thrilling game, 34-30 over a very good Rochester Adams team. Senior QB Dane Fife threw for a season-high 210 yards and ran for 47, as his late scoring run clinched the come-from-behind win for the Wolves.

OCTOBER 8: Dick Morgan, longtime owner of Morgan's Service downtown, is suing the Oscar W. Larson Co. for the more than \$300,000 worth of damage done to the Morgan's building after the contractor removed waste stored beneath it.

Clarkston police officer Michael Boynton is honored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for his work to curb alcohol-related traffic incidents in the city. Clarkston police chief Paul Ormiston said Boynton "does the little things" in his job well.

A new church arrives to town, as the Bay Pointe Community Church moves from Rochester Hills. Pastor Mike Harris says the church is seeking people who don't normally attend church to be new members.

OCTOBER 15: Two more downtown businesses talk of leaving: Tierra Jewlers, owned by Buck and Joan Kopietz, and Rudy's Market. Buck Kopietz said "we've been looking at our options for the last three or four months - including the possibility of leaving downtown." Robert Esshaki, a co-owner of Rudy's, said earlier in the week that his business may leave next year.

While some businesses look to leave, one organi...



zation celebrated 25 years in Clarkston. The Independence Land Conservancy chose the relaxed atmosphere at Bay Court Park to recognize the anniversary.

CHS juniors Kristen Atkinson and Alaina Dodds make history by becoming the first Clarkston girls tennis players to ever win a regional title. Atkinson and Dodds triumphed with a 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 win over the top-seeded team from West Bloomfield Oct. 10.

OCTOBER 22: Governor John Engler makes a stop at Clarkston High School to recognize its efforts to curb substance abuse by students with its new athletic code. Engler applauds CHS for its tougher stance on drinking and drug use by saying it was a good example for the rest of the country to follow.

A bank robber is caught on videotape during a robbery at Great Lakes Bank on M-15 near I-75. The man, seen wearing a white cap with facial hair, got \$5,000 before fleeing to a red Grand Am.

Clarkston Youth Assistance has a record-breaking year in 1996, setting new standards in referrals with 132 total. Caseworker Fred Moren predicts that 1997 will break that mark.

OCTOBER 29: Less than 10 months away from its scheduled opening, the new Clarkston High School will undergo a traffic study as requested by the Oakland County Road Commission. concerns are abound about the impact the school's location on Flemings Lake Road will have on traffic in surrounding neighborhoods.

Pierre's Country Market, a Clarkston Road staple for 37 years, will close its doors within a month, owner Pierre Gourand announces. He has sold the property to developer Lance Weinberg, who plans to turn the corner into a 30,000 square foot strip mall.

The Clarkston varsity boys soccer team caps off a successful season with a district championship thanks to a 3-1 win over West Bloomfield at the CHS field. Shawn Verlinden, Tom Dews and Mike Lenhardt all scored second-half goals for the Wolves, who have a 13-3-4 record.

NOVEMBER 5: Dan Colombo is the newest member of the Clarkston city council, finishing third in Tuesday's general election. Twelve-year incumbent Bill Basinger is not re-elected.

Going against the recent trend, a new business has arrived downtown. The Union General Store has opened on South Main St.

The Clarkston varsity football team closes out its season with a convincing 35-14 win over Lake Orion. The game marked the end of an era, as it was the last game ever at the current CHS field. Coach Kurt Richardson said it was an emotional night for him and all of the team's coaches, who leave behind a wealth of memories at the field.

NOVEMBER 12: City manager Art Pappas

announces he will retire at the end of next year. Pappas, who is also the city clerk and treasurer, said it's time to step aside and let other people help to make the city function.

The city council debates ideas and solutions for the city's apparent downtown troubles. With the closing of several businesses in the past few months, council members expressed concern over the downtown's ability to attract and retain retail.

Ending months of speculation, CHS senior Dane Fife announces he will attend Indiana University next year to play basketball. The two-sport star made his announcement in front of nearly 250 students, coaches fans and media at the CHS gym.

NOVEMBER 19: Results are mixed regarding Clarkston kids in the Michigan Alcohol and Other Drugs Survey released last week. Although drug and alcohol use is declining, it's still above most national averages.

Oakland County Commissioner Ruth Johnson (R., Holly) says she will not seek another term as vice chairperson to consider a bid for the Michigan legislature. Johnson said she might run for the seat in the 46th District, open because current representative Tom Middleton cannot run again because of term limits.

The Clarkston varsity girls basketball team completes a dream regular season with a 50-35 win over Rochester Adams, clinching the OAA Division I championship. Thanks to first-year head coach Ann Lowney and a balanced offensive attack, the Wolves ended the regular season with an eight-game winning streak, including wins over top-10 teams Rochester and Troy Athens.

NOVEMBER 26: A decision on a location for the new elementary school is delayed for another month by the Clarkston Board of Education. The board plans to go into closed session at its Dec. 8 meeting to discuss possible sites and purchase agreements. The school will be built thanks to the approval of a bond at last summer's election.

A proposed Rite Aid Pharmacy at the corner of Sashabaw and Clarkston Roads is given the thumbs up at the Independence Township Planning Commission.

Boxer Thomas "Hit Man" Hearn pays a visit to CHS with a message about lending a helping hand to others.

DECEMBER 3: Dancer's announces it will close its doors after 113 years of business. The company, based in Mason, announced all of its 27 locations will remain open until everything is sold. Competition and cost were two of the big reasons for the move.

Lighthouse of Oakland County recog-

nizes Food Town for its charitable work during the year. Vice president Bob Roth said: "Over the years, we've built up a relationship to try to help them. It's a good cause, a good charity and it's local."

DECEMBER 10: A local group of investors announces plans to start their own bank, in light of NBD leaving downtown in September. The group footing the initial \$200,000-\$400,000 bill includes: Ed Adler, Chuck Fortinberry, Dave Harrison, Bob Olsen, Bruce McIntire, Bill Clark and Lou Beer.

Clarkston High School continues a fall full of honors, as it is named a state exemplary school in the Blue Ribbon Schools program. CHS and 13 other secondary schools in the state are the finalists.

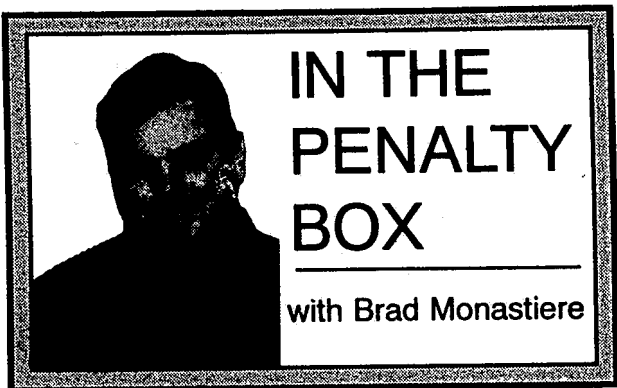
The Clarkston city council appoints a subcommittee to look at options regarding planning for downtown. The action came after several council members attended a seminar with Hyett-Palma, a planning firm, and shared its ideas with the council.

DECEMBER 17: The DARE program will be eliminated at the elementary school level in Clarkston. A deputy had been assigned to the elementary schools part-time last year, but now health teachers will take over the drug-abuse curriculum.

Teenagers who take driver's education at Clarkston will now have to dig into their pockets. A change in state law prompted the new charge, which is expected to be around \$60.

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER



IN THE PENALTY BOX

with Brad Monastiere

I resolve to . . .

Often here in the penalty box, I write from my own point of view, offering my opinions and commentary on local and national sports news. But on this coming of the new year, allow me to step into the lives of our more famous (notorious?) sports figures and tell you what their New Year's resolutions really should be.

Grant Hill: "I resolve to overcome the stupid mistakes of other NBA players and show the positives of what this great sport has to offer."

Latrell Sprewell: "I resolve to only use the choke on the clutch of my car from now on."

Johnnie Cochran: "I resolve to get out of the Latrell Sprewell situation, for everyone's sake."

J.R. Rider: "I resolve to stay out of jail for a whole two weeks in a row this year."

Scottie Pippen: "I resolve to score 35 points and make the game-winning play in my first game against the Chicago Bulls."

Jerry Krause and Jerry Reinsdorf: "We resolve to stand firm that Pippen was not worth more than \$2 million a season to play in Chicago, even after he's helping another team win a title while we lose to the L.A. Clippers after Michael retires."

David Stern: "I resolve to pray every day that Grant Hill doesn't get an earring, a tattoo, a suspension, some community service . . ."

Sergei Fedorov: "I resolve to start dating girls in their 20s."

Kevin Hodson: "I resolve to get my own show on Comedy Central on the nights Chris Osgood is starting. Hey, I need some forum to display my sense of humor!"

Bobby Ross: "I resolve to thank a higher power every day that Barry Sanders is wearing a Lions uniform."

Scott Mitchell: "I resolve to ask all the fans who boo me if they would rather have Erik Kramer, Rodney Peete, or Andre Ware."

Barry Sanders: "I resolve to sit my father down and tell him, 'I'm better than Jim Brown!'"

Bryant Westbrook: "I resolve to tell the Lions to do everything in their power to get Charles Woodson in the Honolulu blue and silver next year."

Jerry Jones: "I resolve to stop the charade and finally name myself as head coach of the Dallas Cowboys."

Troy Aikman: "I resolve to retire the moment I hear that announcement."

Charles Woodson: "I resolve to bring bodyguards with me if I play at Tennessee in the NFL next year."

Me: "I resolve to do an even better job with all the awesome Clarkston athletes in 1998 than I did in 1997."

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Pictured is the CHS JV pom pon squad: (back row, from left) coach Harmony Hunt, Kacie Hines, Jenny Davis, Andrea Ronk, Caylan Cook, Bethany Hakim, Brittany Harris, Erin Gray, Steph Smith

and Tara Crawford; (middle row) Lauren McMillen and Courtni Brewer; (front) Jessica Cloutier, Leah Ratliff, Mandi Hampton, Tiffany Declerk and Tiffany Williams.

JV pom pon squad repeats

The Clarkston High School JV pom pon squad made it two in a row Dec. 13 when the team won the Palace Pom Pon Championship. The win means the team went on to perform at half time of the Pistons game that night.

Coach Harmony Hunt said the squad also won the Universal Dance Association's Great Lakes Invita-

tional at West Bloomfield High School in November. In both cases, the girls were repeating at champs.

The JV will compete next on Jan. 31 at the National Cheerleading Association Dance Competition at Troy Athens High School. The girls will also perform at all JV basketball games this season.

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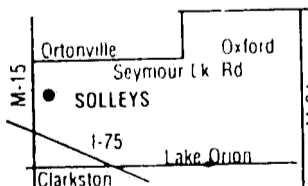
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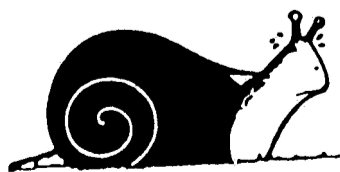
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Making the most of the winter vacation

On the day after Christmas, Kristen Welton, 8 (left) and Ann Welton, 11, take a break at the bottom of the hill at Pine Knob. Only a few hearty souls braved the wind and cold and got up Dec. 26 for some skiing. The Knob was deserted early but as the day went on more and more skiers started arriving.

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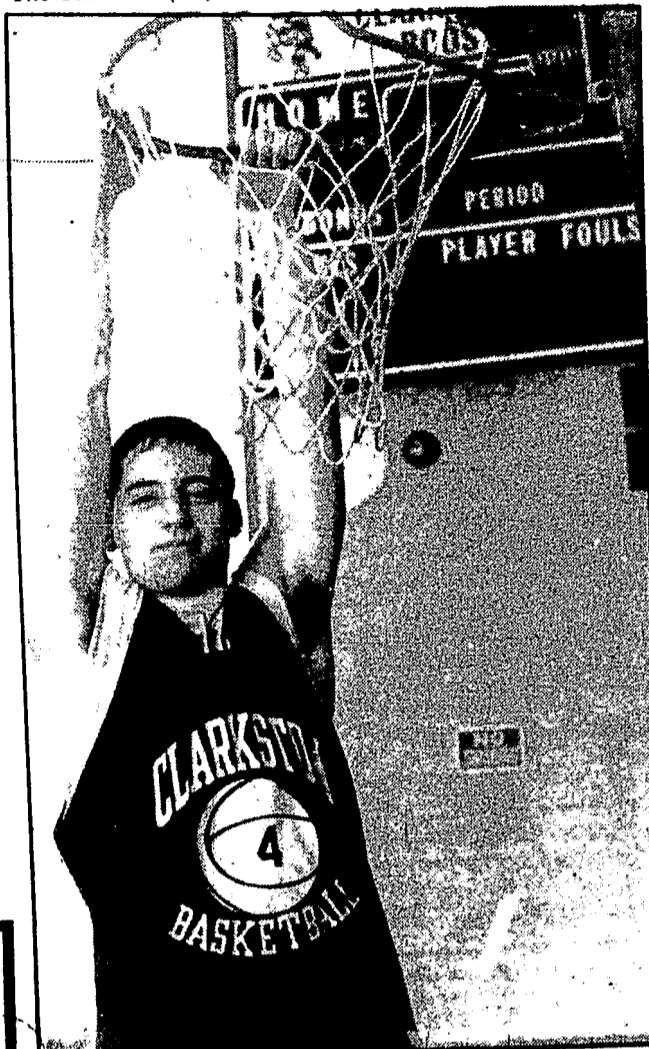
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Athlete of the Week: Dan Neubeck

Salut, Dan: Every successful team has that "role player." He doesn't lead the team in scoring every night. He doesn't get every rebound, or even dish out every assist. But the ingredients senior Dan Neubeck provides the boys varsity basketball team are invaluable. Dan is the defensive stopper for the Wolves, someone who usually draws the assignment of shadowing the opposition's best guard. Dan has also shown a knack for coming up big in crunch time. He played a fabulous defensive game in the team's league-clinching win over Ferndale last February, and he hit the game-winning free throws in overtime of this team's season-opening game against Southfield Dec. 9. A hard worker on and off the court, Dan earned a 3.2 grade point average during the fall marking period.

Coach Dan Fife on Dan: "Dan is the kind of kid that truly represents Clarkston basketball. I feel good about winning and losing with him. He's the kind of kid that you want to take in a foxhole, because he just gives you everything he's got. He has a great work ethic and I appreciate his loyalty to the Clarkston program."

Dan on Dan: "I like stealing the ball better than scoring. I've always kind of been a small guy, and growing up with Dane (Fife) and Mike (Maitrott), I knew that if I wanted playing time, I had to work hard and play good defense. I know those guys will score for us, so I knew that if I wanted playing time, I had to work hard and play defense. I know we can be a great team, we just have to start clicking. Once we all get on the same page, we'll be fine."



Dan Neubeck

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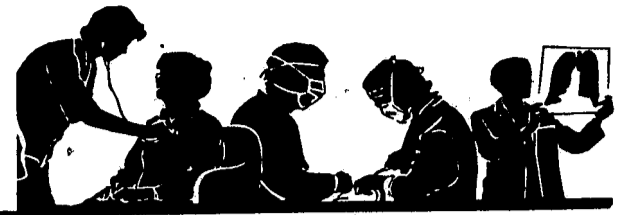
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Premarital Counseling - Required by the state for a marriage license. Certificate is good for 60 days after issue. **January 8, 7 - 8 p.m.** Fee: \$20 individual, \$30 couple. Community Health Care Center, 385 N. Lapeer Rd. Oxford. Call (248)628-3000.

Oakland Family Services - Pregnant and unsure of what to do? Explore all of your options, including adoption and parenting. Call Oakland Family Services toll free at 1-888-335-3330. Confidentiality is assured, OFS has a history of serving the community for over 75 years.

Natural Family Planning - This course, sponsored by St. Joseph Mercy Hospital of Oakland, instructs couples on the Billings Method for determining fertility potential. For more information call (248)858-3560 for dates and times.

Pregnancy and Family Care Center - the Lapeer Pregnancy and Family Care Center will be conducting a volunteer training seminar from 6 to 10 p.m. **January 15, 19, 22, and 26 and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. January 24.** This compassionate ministry is committed to assisting men and women throughout an unplanned pregnancy and beyond. For more information and to pre-register, call (810)667-0055 Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays.



Health and Safety Skills

Adult CPR - Learn adult CPR and receive American Heart Association certification. Pre-registration is required, **January 29, 5:30 to 8 p.m.** \$15 fee. Community Health Care Center, Oxford. Call (248)628-3000.

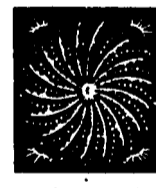
CPR - Courses meet the first **Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.** at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital. Fee is \$20. Telephone St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital - Oakland at (248)858-3095 to register.

CPR for adults, infants and children - American Heart Association card given at end of class. **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. January 3 or 17.** Fee is \$20. Call Crittenton Community Health Resources to register: (248)652-5269.

Safe Babysitters - For boys and girls at least 11 years old, offered from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on January 10.** The fee is \$25 per child, for more information, please call Crittenton's Community Health Education department at (248)652-5269.

Pediatric CPR - learn infant and child CPR and receive American Heart Association course completion card. **5:30 to 8 p.m. January 15.** Pre-registration is necessary - telephone the Community Health Care Center of Oxford at 628-3000.

First Aid - Class size is limited, pre-payment is necessary. Basic first-aid course with two year certification card upon completion. **January 22 from 5:30 to 8 p.m.** Telephone the Community Health Care Center of Oxford at 628-3000.



Benefit Events

Jeep Raffle to Benefit UCP - United Cerebral Palsy of Metropolitan Detroit will raffle a 1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited Edition (or \$30,000 in cash) on **January 9, 1998.** Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling Julie at UCP at (248) 557-5070.

Volunteer Opportunities - Volunteers are needed to work in the Sister Xavier Gift Shop at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital of Oakland. Telephone (248)858-3035 for more information.

Annual Winter Blood Drive - Hosted by Crittenton Hospital and the American Red Cross. **6:30 a.m. to 4:30**

p.m. Thurs., Jan 8 at Crittenton, 1101 W. University Dr. in Rochester. The entire process should take one hour. To schedule an appointment, call (248)652-5100.



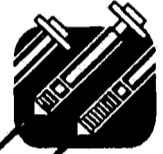
Health Screenings

Free Blood Pressure Checks - Blood pressure checks at Crittenton Hospital from **9 to 11 a.m. on January 9.** For more information, please telephone Crittenton Hospital's Community Health Education department at (248)652-5269.

Well Child Clinic - Oakland County Health Division's Child Health Clinics provide free ongoing well care for children from birth to school entry. Families who do not have an HMO or Medicaid may be eligible. An appointment is required, for more information please call (248)858-1311 or (248)858-4001.

National Heart Attack Victim Study - For persons over 18 who have had a heart attack more than six weeks ago. Call Kim Markowski at St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Research Dept., (248)858-6767.

Free Hernia Clinic - At Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital Hernia Repair Clinic every **Monday and Thursday.** Call (248)338-5070 to schedule an appointment with a board certified surgeon.



Immunization Clinics

Free Flu Shots - The Muscular Dystrophy Association is offering free flu shots to people affected by any of the 40 neuromuscular disorders covered by its program. To find out more information about the shots or MDA, call the local MDA office at 1-800-572-1717 or visit the MDA web site at www.mdausa.org.



Educational Programs

Cardiac Rehabilitation - A three phase education and exercise program for persons who have recently had a heart attack, heart surgery or cardiac disease. For more information, please call the St. Joseph Mercy Health Line at (248)858-3128.

Diabetic Program - Learn more about diabetes including discussion on diet, the how and why of testing your blood sugar and medication options. This free class will be held **January 28 from 7 to 8 p.m.** All participants receive a free Glucometer Elite, compliments of Bayer Pharmaceutical. Telephone the Community Health Care Center of Oxford at (248)628-3000 for more information.

The Truth about Dieting - Dr. Smita Bijlani, a specialist in endocrinology and medical director of the Crittenton Weight Management Center will lead a free lecture from **7:30 to 9 p.m. on January 21.** To register call Crittenton's Physician Referral at 1-888-4HEALTH.

Soy... the Key to Disease Prevention? - learn how to incorporate soy foods into your diet and reduce your risk of heart disease, cancer, osteoporosis and menopausal problems. The program will take place at **7:30 p.m. on January 13,** the fee is \$5. To register, call the Crittenton Hospital Community Education Department at (248)652-5269.

Heart Enhancement Weekend - the Meadowbrook Health Enhancement Institute at Oakland University will hold its second weekend retreat **February 20-22.** This intensive program is designed for people with heart disease. For more information and application forms call (248)370-4390.

Diabetes Education Classes - For individuals with diabetes, their families and friends. Classes are currently being offered six consecutive **Monday nights from 7 to 9 p.m.** Afternoon classes also are available. For more in-

formation, telephone St. Joseph's Mercy of Oakland at (248)858-6043.

Gestational Diabetes - Learn the proper way to manage gestational diabetes during pregnancy in a free program offered by St. Joseph's Mercy of Macomb. The class is held **every Tuesday at 10 a.m.** at 15855 Nineteen Mile Road in Macomb. For further information, call (810)263-2410.



Support Groups

Alzheimer's Disease - For family and friends of persons with Alzheimer's or related disorder. **Meets the first and third Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to noon** at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital - Oakland. Please telephone (248)858-3111 for more information.

Caring for Aging Parents - For adult children coping with the pressures of caring for older parents. **Meets the second Monday of each month from 7-8:30 p.m.** at the Mercy Medical Group in Rochester, 1812 Rochester Road, north of M-59. Call (248)651-6950 for more information.

Adult Children of Aging Parents - A group discussion meets **every second Tuesday of the month from 7:30 to 9 p.m.** at the Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive in Clarkston. For more information, please call Judy Nichols at (248)625-4051.

Mended Hearts - For cardiac patients and their families. Please telephone St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital at (248)595-5814 for times and locations.

Stroke Club - Open to stroke victims and their families. Meets monthly at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital from **1:30-3 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month.** Dial (248)858-3111.

H.E.L.P. Healing the Emotional Loss of Pregnancy - For parents who have lost a child through miscarriage, stillbirth or death in early infancy. Meets the **second Thursday of the month from 7:30-9 p.m.** at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital - Oakland. Telephone (248)858-3526 for details.

Diabetes Support Group - The Lapeer Diabetes Support Group meets the **fourth Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon** at Lapeer Regional Hospital. Meetings are free and open to the public. Call (810)667-5568 for more information.

Women Today Support Group - A free discussion titled "Women and Living through Personal Crisis," from **9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on January 17.** To register, call Crittenton's Health Education Department at (248)652-5269.

Family Support Meeting - For relatives of persons who suffer from mental illness **Jan. 7 at 7 p.m.,** Christ the Redeemer Church, 4005 Baldwin Rd. (2 miles north of I-75, Lake Orion. Sponsored by Alliance for The Mentally Ill of Oakland County. For more information call (248)557-6440.

Cancer Support Group - Open to cancer survivors, family and friends, this group meets **each Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m.** at the Lake Orion United Methodist Church, 140 E. Flint Street. For more information, contact Nancy Fox at (248)693-6201 or Sue Erickson at (248)391-4104.

Just Between Us - Sponsored by the American Cancer Society, this self-help support group is for women who have had breast cancer. A free discussion will take place from **7:30 to 9 p.m. on January 14.** For more information, call Crittenton Hospital at (248)652-5269.

Hospice Volunteers - Cranbrook Hospice Care is seeking caring volunteers. Training sessions begin **January 6 at 9:30 a.m.** in Bloomfield Hills. Please call Cheryl Kennedy or Gerry Gold at (248)334-6700 for information.

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The Lake Orion Review

30 N. Broadway, Lake Orion • 693-8331

The Oxford Leader

666 S. Lapeer Rd., Oxford,
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Sheriff's log

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, malicious destruction of \$250 worth of Christmas lights on Park Valley.

Larceny of a license plate from a 1994 Saturn from a Sashabaw parking lot.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, attempted auto theft on Dixie. Someone punched a lock on a 1980 Corvette and tried to break the steering column but was unsuccessful.

A wallet containing \$300-\$500 and some papers was reported lost or stolen on Oak Park Dr.

A phone and two flashlights were stolen from a 1995 Dodge truck on Kelly Lake Dr.

A phone was stolen from a 1996 Chevy truck on Stonegate.

Assault and battery on M-15. Two brothers, ages 42 and 36 got into a fight, with the younger man taken to St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland with a head injury.

Suspicious circumstances on Morning Mist. Two weeks earlier, a plastic snowman was stolen from a yard. This day it was back, but with its head cut off and several used condoms stuck on it.

A door was pried at a business on M-15. Cash and 24 bottles of liquor were stolen.

Domestic violence on Dixie. A woman said her soon-to-be-ex-husband punched her when they met to exchange custody of their son. There were no injuries.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, a model mobile home was broken into and severely damaged on Mann Rd. Someone destroyed the cabinets, carpeting, doors, windows and more. A witness said she was approached by two juveniles who said they had done it. The case was turned over to the crime lab.

A bow and case were found in a swampy area off Columbia.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, malicious destruction of a building on N. Eston. Someone damaged gutters, heating and cooling units and a tree, apparently by pulling up a metal pole and using it to bash the damaged items.

Michigan Education Trust takes applications

Applications are now being accepted through Feb. 7 for the Michigan Education Trust. The MET allows parents to prepay future college tuition for their children.

Several options, including community college, are available, and payment can be in a lump sum or monthly. MET contracts have some tax advantages over other college investment options, according to the state Department of Treasury.

Applications are available at many banks and other financial institutions, as well as libraries, Secretary of State offices and Rite Aid stores. Over 56,000 contracts have been sold since the program began.



THE LAW & YOU

by Robert E. Kostin
Attorney at Law



PRODUCT LIABILITY

Consumers injured by a defective or faulty product can recover damages by virtue of product liability. In most cases, the person injured by the product can sue and recover from any seller in the distribution chain, from the manufacturer to the distributor and even the retailer. Moreover, it is not necessary to have actually purchased the product in order to sue. Even those who did not buy the product are protected when they are foreseeable users. Under several legal principles in product liability cases, damages are recoverable. These include misrepresentation, negligence, strict liability, and breach of warranty. Those who have been

injured as a result of having used a consumer product are encouraged to speak to an attorney.

If you've been hurt as the result of using a consumer product, don't chalk it up to bad luck, consult an attorney who is familiar with product liability laws and has experience in helping clients seek appropriate compensation. We'll evaluate the facts of your case and determine if you have a case worth pursuing. For additional information or to schedule an appointment, call 620-1030. Our office is located at 11 North Main Street.

HINT: Whenever injury occurs, seek medical treatment, and retain all records pertaining to diagnosis and care.

Clarkston Police

MONDAY, DEC. 22, medical on Clarkston Rd. Non-injury accident on S. Main. A Clarkston woman backed into a parked car.

TUESDAY, DEC. 23, non-injury accident on N. Main near Washington. A Goodrich woman was cited for failure to stop at an assured clear distance ahead.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24, two-car injury accident on S. Main at Waldon. A Shelby Township woman was cited for failure to stop at an assured clear distance ahead. She was taken to a Pontiac hospital where she was treated and released.

SKIN DEEP

by Scott Friedman, D.O.



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skin as possible. Self examination is important for the early detection of most every type of skin condition, especially skin cancers. Taking care of your skin includes a well-balanced diet, appropriate exercise, and the use of the right products for your particular skin, as well as professional treatment. Remember, exposure to the strong sun, in any season, can be particularly damaging. Our offices are conveniently located at 6330 Sashabaw, Clarkston (625-0692) and 3003 Baldwin, Lake Orion (391-9599).

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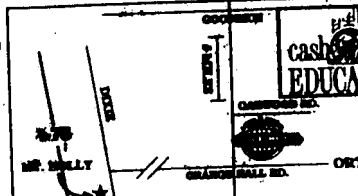
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Around town

● **January at the Longway Planetarium** in Flint will include "Learning to Fly" beginning Jan. 2. "Learning to Fly" is an educationally oriented laser show told from a bird's eye view—literally—and introduces audiences to the people who have made flight possible. Also starting in January is "The Little Star That Could," for families with young children, starting Jan. 10. Call 810-760-1181 for more information.

● **Parenting classes** in STEP (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting), STEP/teen and Early Childhood STEP will be offered starting in January in Rochester. Call Barbara Barnes at 656-3330 for more information.

● **The Tuesday Musicale** of Pontiac will meet Jan. 13 at 1 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church, 3882 Highland Rd., Waterford. Following the business meeting entertainment will be provided by Dorothy Berry, soprano and Dorothy Pelton, flute. Guests and new members are welcome for a nominal fee. Call 673-6568 for more information.

● **Final walk-in and telephone registration** for Oakland Community College's winter semester will be Jan. 7-9. Classes begin Jan. 12. Note: OCC will be closed Dec. 24-Jan. 5.

● **Learn to tune tots to nature crafts, songs and other activities** with a workshop for parents and teachers at Independence Oaks Nature Center Jan. 17. Cost is \$10; class starts at 10 a.m.

Then, bring a tot to a similar outing for kids age 3 to 6 Jan. 21-22 and 24. Cost is \$3 per child. Pre-registration is required; call 625-6473 (TDD 858-1684).

● **Local poet Karen Renaud** will lead a creative writing/poetry workshop at the Orion Township Library beginning Wednesday, Jan. 7 at 7 p.m. and running for six weeks. The workshop is free and open to adults. On Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. participants will hold a poetry reading free to the public. For information or to register for the workshop, call 693-3001.

● **NAWBO Network North** will meet Jan. 7 at 7:30 a.m. at Holiday Inn of Auburn Hills. The group is a program of the Greater Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners and is open to women who own and operate their own businesses. Cost is \$10 members/\$15 visitors and includes continental breakfast. Call 810-253-8285 for more information.

● **Business Network International** will meet at 7 a.m. Jan. 6 at Coopers Restaurant, 4737 Dixie Highway. Call 313-844-3432 for more information.

● **Snowboard alpine instruction** begins at Pine Knob Jan. 13 with classes at 7 p.m. Monday nights. The program offers instruction and improvement to intermediate and advanced snowboarders of all ages. Head coach is Tammy Boos, ranked third overall alpine at the 1996 USASA Nationals. Cost is \$99 for six weeks. Call 625-0801 for more information.

● **Don't hibernate**—participate in Dinosaur Hill's Winter Carnival Jan. 10. Naturalists and local artists Peter Hackett will lead a variety of fun activities indoors and out. Warm snacks and beverages will be available indoors. The same evening you can return for a walk and story telling by the campfire. Snow date is Jan. 17. Cost for carnival is \$14 for adults, \$8 for children; the evening walk is \$4 or free for carnival participants. Register by Jan. 8 by calling 656-0999. Dinosaur Hill is located in Rochester.




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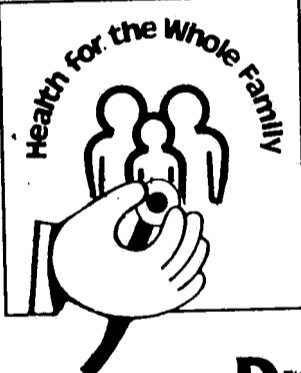
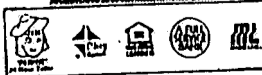
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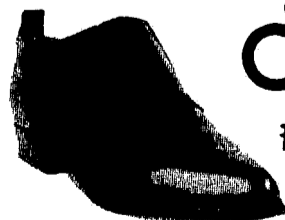
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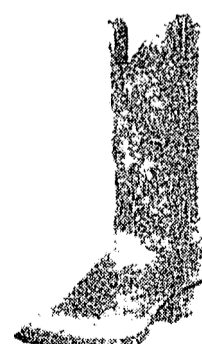
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The Clarkston News is co-sponsoring the Jan. 7 Detroit Vipers contest versus Indiana.



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For more information call The Clarkston News at 625-3370.

TELL US YOUR STORY IDEAS 625-3370

PUBLIC NOTICE Because the People Want to Know INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission of Independence Township, Oakland County, Michigan, will hold a Public Hearing on:

January 22, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.

at the Independence Township Board Room, 90 North Main Street, Clarkston, Michigan 48346, to consider the following:

FILE # 97-1-034

Mr. Ed Adler, Waldon Properties, Inc., Petitioner

REZONING REQUEST

FROM: R-1A (Single Family Residential)

TO: PUD (Planned Unit Development)

Intended Use: Proposed Office and Retail Space

Parcel Identification Number: 08-27-100-043

Common Description: Waldon Road at Sashabaw Road

11.55 Acres

Any further information regarding the above Public Hearing may be obtained at the Township Planning Office during regular office hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by phone at 625-8111.

Joan E. McCrary, Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE Because the People Want to Know INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission of Independence Township, Oakland County, Michigan, will hold a Public Hearing on:

January 8, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.

at the Independence Township Board Room, 90 North Main Street, Clarkston, Michigan 48346, to consider the following:

FILE # 97-1-060

Russell & Margaret Cobane, Petitioners

REQUEST SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 10.05, Article X CONSIDERATION FOR HOME OCCUPATION

IN R-1C (Suburban Farm Residential) Zone.

Parcel Identification Number: 08-12-277-008

Common Description: Thornhill Drive, Lot 105

Heather Lake Meadows #2

Any further information regarding the above Public Hearing may be obtained at the Township Planning Office during regular office hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by phone at 625-8111.

Joan E. McCrary, Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE Because the People Want to Know INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Commission of Independence Township, Oakland County, Michigan, will hold a Public Hearing on:

January 22, 1998 at 7:30 p.m.

at the Independence Township Board Room, 90 North Main Street, Clarkston, Michigan 48346, to consider the following:

FILE # 97-1-031

TEXT AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE #83

Article 3.01, Definitions, Article XII, Section .02, Article XIII, Section 13.01 - 13.06, Article VII, and Article XXX

To implement a new district R-3, Elderly Housing District

Please contact the Building and Planning Department for further information and copies of the proposed language.

Any further information regarding the above Public Hearing may be obtained at the Township Planning Office during regular office hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by phone at 625-8111.

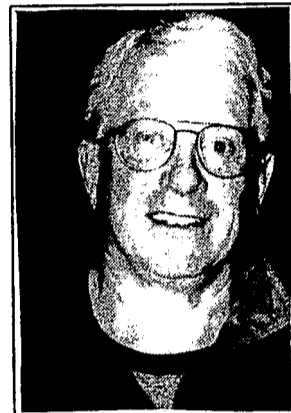
Joan E. McCrary, Clerk

People poll

By Eileen McCarville

What's the best gift you received for Christmas this year?

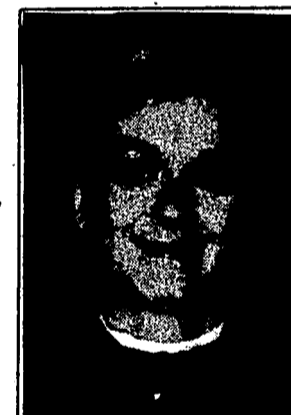
JIM FORD, CLARKSTON: The best gift I got was my daughters being over for Christmas.



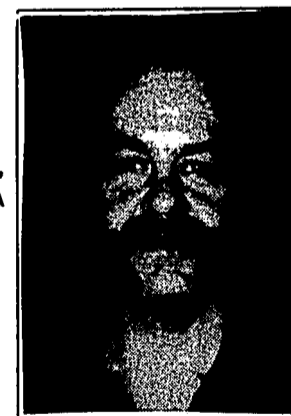
PAT LANGDON, CLARKSTON: An electronic Bible



KIM LENSE, CLARKSTON: My diamond necklace



STEVE ZAHR, DAVISBURG: A hydraulic jack



SUE CASSIDY, CLARKSTON: I had my family with me and my 2-year-old grandson, who my son and his wife adopted from Russia. This was his first American Christmas and he loved it.



Obituaries

Elaine Blake

Waterford resident Elaine Marie Blake died December 23, 1997 at the age of 62.

Mrs. Blake is survived by her husband, John, and five children: Colleen (Bob) Monfort of Cape Coral, FL; Bonita (Kirk) Fields of Clarkston; Dennis (Diane) of Clarkston; and Kevin and Kelly, both of Waterford. She is also survived by four grandchildren, Blake, Scott, Rheannon and Derek and a sister, Carol Smendik of Clinton Township.

A funeral mass was held Monday at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church with Rev. Jacek Brewczynski officiating. Rite of Committal was at All Saints Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to the Lewis E. Wint & Son Trust 100 Funeral Home.

Dorothy Chase Jennings

Retired Clarkston schoolteacher Dorothy Chase Jennings died at her daughter's home December 23, 1997. She was 94.

Mrs. Jennings taught in Clarkston from 1963 until her retirement in 1971. She had also taught in Stevensville, Kalamazoo and Comstock schools during her 28-year career.

Mrs. Chase enjoyed flowers, writing family histories and eating out at her favorite restaurants, and spent her winters in Bradenton, FL.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 54 years, Dr. J. Maxwell Jennings, D.O., who died in 1979. She was also preceded in death by a brother, Neal Chase and a sister, Marjorie Chase Carter. She is survived by three children: Richard Jennings of Comstock, Dr. James (Shirley) Jennings, and Judith (William) Sternaman of Comstock. Also surviving are a daughter-in-law, Marla Jennings; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; a brother-in-law, Dean Carter; a nephew, two nieces and several cousins.

Graveside services were Friday at Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery with the Rev. Charles Hulbert officiating. Arrangements were by Langeland Family Funeral Homes in Kalamazoo.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Michigan, 1260 Ekhart NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or Comstock Public Schools Foundation, Comstock, MI 49041.

Elizabeth Hope Hoff

Elizabeth Hope Hoff died December 28, 1997 after a long illness. She was 74.

Mrs. Hoff was born in Marquette June 20, 1923. She earned her RN from Augustana Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago, one of the third generation of her family to graduate from Augustana. She also received BS degrees in nursing and education from the University of Minnesota.

Mrs. Hoff will be remembered for her empathy and love: her heart had room for everyone.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years, Donald. She is survived by two daughters, Diane Elizabeth of Clarkston and Kathleen Ann Gilbertson of Bloomington, MN; two grandchildren, Wendy Hope Gilbertson and Christopher William Gilbertson, also of Bloomington; and special friends Daisy Dowling, the Keeley family, Barbara Seitz, Vickie Merenuk and Maureen the cat.

Her family would like to give special thanks to Kathleen Murphy, MD and to the truly exceptional staff and volunteers at Hospice Home in Farmington Hills.

At Mrs. Hoff's request, there will be no visiting hours or service. The family will gather at Park Cemetery in Marquette at a later date. Memorials may be sent to Hospice Home, 25911 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Arrangements by Lewis E. Wint & Son Trust 100 Funeral Home in Clarkston.

Thomas Walker

Stroh's executive and Clarkston resident Thomas P. Walker, 52, died Dec. 22, 1997 after a five-year battle with cancer.

Mr. Walker was a 30-year veteran with the Stroh Brewery Company, where he began his career as a packaging technician and worked his way up to senior management positions, including Director of Quality Assurance and Director of Technical Services. In these positions, he was responsible for developing and implementing new packaging technologies and became well known and highly regarded in the packaging industry.

He was responsible for many technological innovations and improvements, not only for the brewing industry but also for the supporting industries that supply materials for all modern high-speed beverage packaging operations.

Mr. Walker was a former president and active member of the National Beverage Packaging Association. He established a Michigan State University Packaging Student perpetual \$1,000 scholarship in memory of Rob Bower, a member of his staff.

In his younger years, Mr. Walker was an all-state basketball player and recipient of the Catholic League Sam Madden Award. He went on to play for Wayne State University, then coached baseball, basketball, and football at Roseville Sacred Heart High School. He was an avid outdoorsman and sportsman and enjoyed golf, sailing, snowmobiling, softball and hunting.

Mr. Walker is survived by his wife, Linda and three children: Jim, of Chicago, Beth of Clarkston and Lori (Sean) Kennedy of Oxford. He is also survived by two brothers, James (Jeanette) of Mt. Clemens and Walter (Charlette) of Clarkston, as well as a sister, Rosemary (Dennis) Hawhee of Grosse Pointe Farms. He is also survived by his father-in-law, Karl Schmidt.

A funeral mass was Friday, Dec. 26 at St. Daniel Catholic Church. Interment was in Lakeview Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Independence Land Conservancy.

Vanetta Young-Milzow

Former Clarkston business owner Vanetta ("Peggy") Rose Young-Milzow died Dec. 27, 1997 at the age of 82.

A Highland resident, Mrs. Young-Milzow owned and operated "Custom Draperies by Peggy" for many years in Clarkston. She was preceded in death by two husbands, Forrest C. Milzow and Roy P. Young and a sister, Ethel Machesney. She is survived by two children, Forrest E. (Jaqui) Milzow and Linda (Ron) Milzow-Rinkinen; and seven grandchildren: Forrest G. and Michelle Milzow and Jonathan, Julianne, Joseph, Jacob and Jenna Rinkinen. She is also survived by brothers and sisters Charles (Mary) Deamud, William (Ruth) Deamud, Shirley (Richard) Puranen and Evelyn (William) Puranen.

Funeral services are today (Wednesday) at Christ Lutheran Church in Waterford, with visitation at the church 10-11 a.m. Interment is at Ottawa Park Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimers Association or to Christ Lutheran Church.

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Staff: Pastor- Bob Walters
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Pastor: Msgr. Robert Humitz
Saturday Mass: 5:00 pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am
Nursery Available: 9:00 & 11:00 am
Religious Education: 625-1750
Mother's Group
RCIA
Scripture Study
Youth Group

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Sunday: 8:30 am - Early Worship
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship
4:30 pm Adult Choir
6:00 pm Worship
Wednesday: 5:45 pm Preschool Choir
5:45 pm Children's Choir
7:00 pm Bible Study & Prayer
7:00 pm Mission Organizations for
Preschool & Children
7:00 pm Youth Activities

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD

6300 Clarkston Road
Clarkston 625-1323
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Mid-Week Service Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

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(A Stephen Ministry Church)
6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston 625-1611
Sundays: Worship 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Church School 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Pastors: Doug Trebilcock, Tracy Huffman,
Jon Clapp
Support Director: Don Kevern
Music: Louise Angermeier
Youth Education: John Leece

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Worship 11:00 am Nursery Provided
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8585 Dixie Highway, Intersection I-75
625-2311
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Sunday School 10 am - Church 11 am
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Education Ministry
K-3 - 12 with supervised care

CLARKSTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Winell at Maybee Road
Roger Allen, Pastor Phone: 623-1224
Mike McArthur, Assistant Pastor
9:00 am 1st Worship Service
10:05 am Sunday School
11:15 2nd Worship Service
8:00 pm Vespers
Wednesday Family Program 7:00 pm

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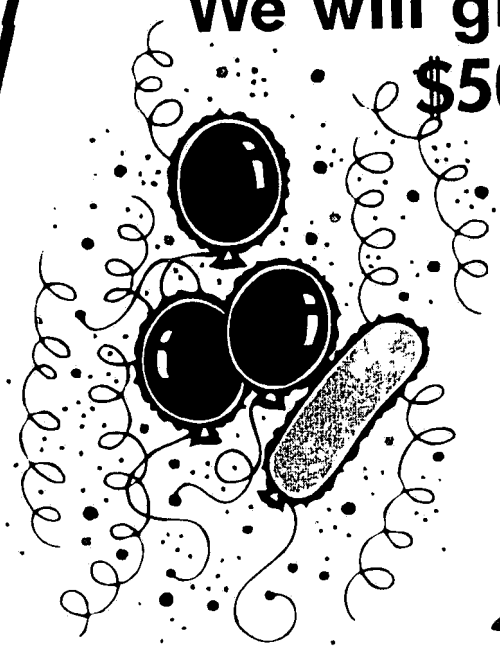
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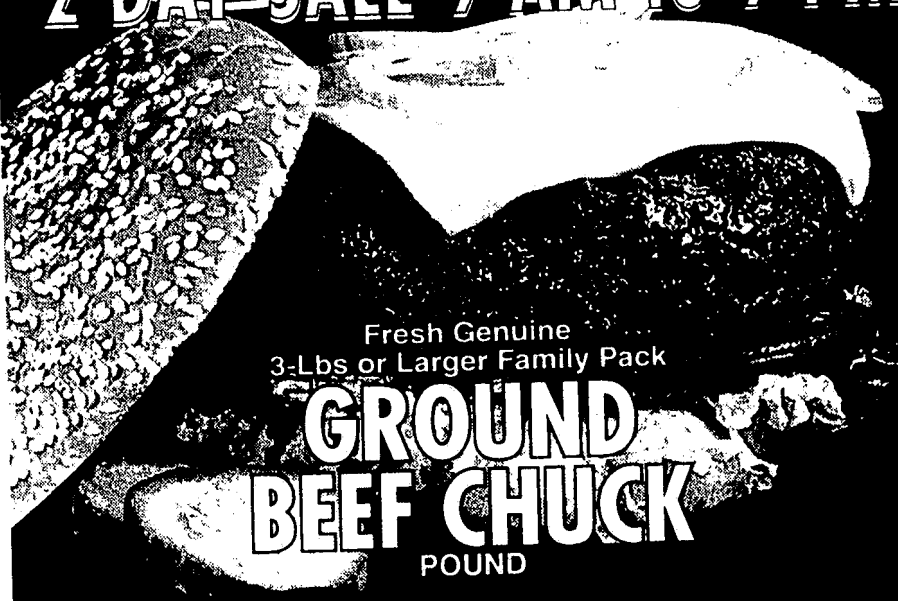
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At This Price
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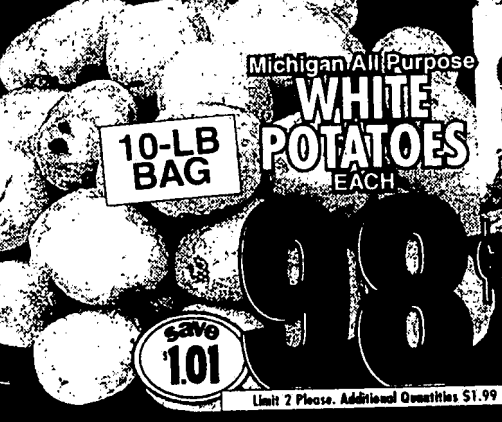


Original Or Lower Salt
Oscar Mayer SLICED BACON
POUND

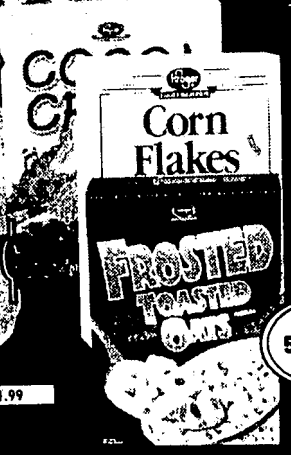
Limit 4
Pkgs.
Total
Please.
Additional
Quantities
\$2.50
Each



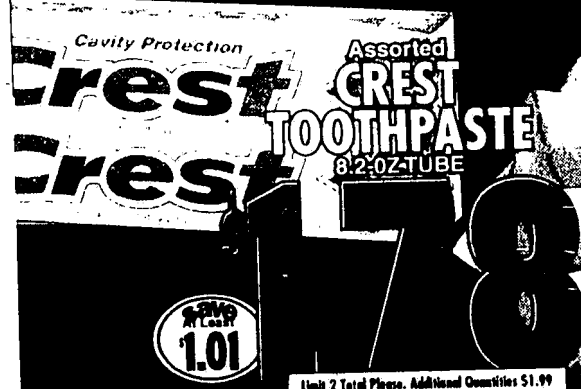
2.98
Limit 2 Pkgs. Additional Quantities Regular Retail



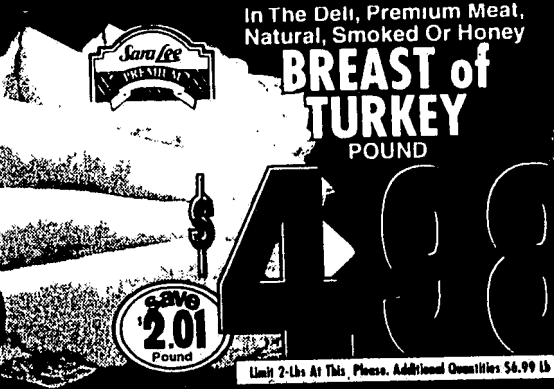
10-LB BAG
WHITE POTATOES
EACH
1.01
Limit 2 Pkgs. Additional Quantities \$1.99



14.25-Oz Frosted Toasted Oats, 15-Oz Cocoa Crispy Rice Cereal, 15-Oz Toasted Oats Or 18-Oz Corn Flakes
KROGER CEREAL
YOUR CHOICE
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Limit 2 Total Please. Additional Quantities Regular Retail



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BREAST OF TURKEY
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Limit 2-Lbs At This Price. Additional Quantities \$6.99 Lb



Assorted
OCEAN SPRAY RED DRINKS
64-OZ BTL
2.38
Limit 2 Total Please. Additional Quantities 2/56

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3.25% Homogenized, 2%, 1%, 1/2% Lowfat Or Skim
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