

Clarkston man bound
over on drug charges

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The Clarkston News

er for 67 years

Volume 68, No. 27-- Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1998

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NBD building back on market

Negotiations over the sale of the NBD Bank building on Main St. in downtown Clarkston ended unsuccessfully and the building is back on the market, a bank spokesperson said Friday.

"The deal fell through with the buyer," said Susan Cherry of NBD. "It's back on the market." She declined to reveal who the unsuccessful buyer was or why the deal couldn't be reached.

The property is now listed with Grubb and Ellis, a national commercial real-estate firm with an office in Southfield. Bill Hines, the retail sales associate handling the listing, said the property will probably be listed at around \$450,000, the same neighborhood as the previous offer which fell through.

Hines said he plans to advertise the property in the brokerage community as well as in newspapers. "We are a national company and we have a big internal network here," he said.

Asked who he thought the property would appeal to, Hines said, "I think the likely buyer is going to be a small business owner, an owner-user, I think. To rent it out you're going to have to put some money into it."

Hines said he could see offices going into the building, and another bank is not out of the question. "I think the city of Clarkston rather would like to get a retail use. There's other things--a flower shop, those kinds of things" the building could be used for, he said.

Furnace sends three to hospital

A Clarkston woman and her two children are home safe and sound if a little rattled after a faulty furnace sent them to the hospital Jan. 14.

Dona Allen, who lives with her two sons, ages 21 and 27 on Tappan, said Monday "We're all OK" but added "It was something I never want to go through again."

Allen said her furnace was around 20 years old and didn't receive regular maintenance due to cost concerns.

"You think, there's a bill to pay and Christmas is coming and I'll do it next month," she said.

In the days before the incident, Allen's younger son had the flu "But it seemed like it was dragging on," she said. Then, on the night of Jan. 13, her older son felt like he had some cold symptoms, took some sinus medication, and went to bed. The next morning when she tried to get him up, he passed out. By then Allen wasn't feeling too well either.

"I went to my room and dialed 911," she said.

According to Independence Township Fire Chief Gar Wilson, the dispatcher who received the call questioned Allen and thought it sounded like carbon monoxide poisoning.

All three were taken to St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland, then transferred to Henry Ford Hospital, where there is a detoxification chamber. The family's pets

Continued on page 16A



A paraplegic skier gets help getting secured in his special ski.

Pine Knob hosts special skiers

Newer and better equipment allows freedom on the slopes

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

A wheelchair doesn't move very well on snow. But put the driver into a specially adapted ski, and it's all downhill from there.

Such was the scene over the weekend at Pine Knob, where special skiers—amputees, paraplegics, etc.—were getting some pointers on their sport, thanks to Michigan Adaptive Sports and the National Sports Center for the Disabled of Winter Park, Colorado.

Two coaches from Colorado were here to lead the clinic. Danny Pufpaff is an amputee; Peter Butrymovich is able-bodied. Skiers age 12 and up came from around Michigan and the Midwest to learn from them.

Carol Roubal of Waterford is a spokesperson for Michigan Adaptive Sports, which is affiliated with Disabled Sports USA. She said her group is a non-profit which concentrates on water and snow skiing. Grant money from an anonymous donor allowed MAS to put on the clinic at Pine Knob.

Roubal said the group has been around since the 1980s but reformed in recent years. Though it originally worked only with amputees and paralyzed skiers, "We've gotten more inclusive of all the disabilities," she said. That includes vision problems, cerebral palsy and mental retardation, "where it's a different kind of teaching."

Equipment options have greatly expanded in re-



A skier prepares to move from wheelchair to ski.

Continued on page 16A

The News in Brief

Fight uncovers marijuana growing

An Oakland County Sheriff's deputy looking for participants in a house party that turned into a fight uncovered a marijuana growing operation in a home on Independence Saturday.

Deputies were called to the house after one resident was assaulted and others refused to leave. While trying to round up everyone in the house, they found 15 marijuana plants growing in a closet, thanks to light fixtures. They also turned up drug paraphernalia.

One resident, a 23-year-old man, took responsibility for the plants. The assault victim, 21, had just moved in. Two 17-year-olds were cited for underage drinking and turned over to their parents. The remainder of the case is still under investigation.

Special meeting set by city for national planner visit

Due to a visit from Doyle Hyett, of the Hyett-Palma national planning firm, the Clarkston City Council will hold a special meeting Tuesday, Jan. 27, the day after its regular monthly meeting.

On Jan. 12 council members voted to hold the special meeting which will start at 7 p.m.,

City clerk Art Pappas announced the meeting will be held in the training room of Independence Township Fire Station No. 1 (the new fire station), 6500 Citation Dr. The entrance is on the east side of the building and parking is available on the east and north (rear) side of the building. The city hopes to

broadcast the meeting.

In an earlier interview, Hyett said he hopes to answer questions council members and the public might have about services provided by his firm. A council subcommittee has been established to study various planning options, and Hyett-Palma is one of the possibilities.

Council will still hold its regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 26 at City Hall, 375 Depot in Clarkston.

Public hearing to address skating rink

On January 27 the Independence Township Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting in the township annex, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The board will hear comments on an in-line skating rink proposed for Sashabaw Plains Park on Maybee Rd., east of Sashabaw Rd. Township resident Wendy Vogt wants to build, operate and maintain an in-line rink, but the township would own the building that would house a concession area, pro shop and public restroom. Approximately one acre of the 14-acre park would be leased to Vogt for both facilities.

Her business would feature both in-line skating and deck hockey, a sport played in tennis shoes. Vogt would like to open this spring.

Controversy has generated among board members because some feel a private enterprise shouldn't be allowed on public property. Others, including director of parks and rec. Ann Conklin, support the project because they say it will increase the park's usage with permanent restrooms in place.

The Clarkston News

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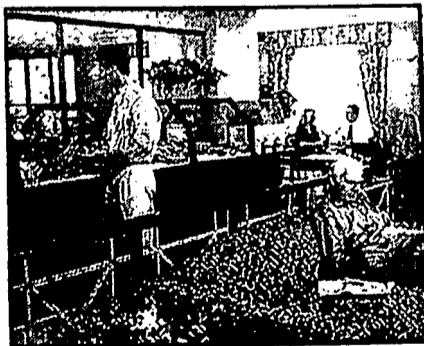
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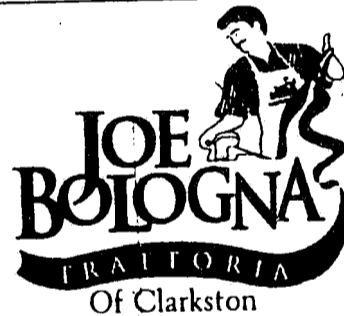
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THE SECOND FRONT

The Clarkston News

Wed., Jan. 21, 1998 3A

Clarkston man takes reins at county welfare agency

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Gerald Hall saw the old Department of Social Services from the bottom on up. And he's watched as the agency's name was changed to the Family Independence Agency and major philosophical shifts from the federal and state levels have been translated into policy.

Hall, of Clarkston, was named director of the Oakland County FIA Dec. 18 after two years as acting director and eight years as deputy director. Having started out in 1970 as an assistance payments worker, an entry-level job, he knows something about who the agency's clients are and what challenges its workers face.

With a staff of 550, five offices and responsibility for everything from food stamps and Medicaid to adoption and child protection, Hall said he is optimistic that the agency is heading in the right direction. Caseloads are falling, and though he's quick to credit a good economy, he also thinks good policy is helping lead the way to full employment, even for those traditionally hardest to fit into the work force.

Hall sat down with The Clarkston News for an interview on the topic of welfare reform and its impact on the community and the agency. First, some numbers: Oakland County has the third-largest caseload in the state, encompassing 20,000 food stamp recipients, 30,000 on Medicaid, and 6,000 on what used to be called AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) and is now known as TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families). That's down from 13,000 five years ago, and the federal two-year deadline hasn't even kicked in yet.

"We have the most significant reduction in caseload," Hall said. "Most of that is the result of employment, is the result of an effort to encourage employment, is a result of supportive services to encourage employment . . ."

"We're working in collaboration with the Michigan Works agencies in Oakland County to find everyone who can possibly get a job a job. In some cases we need to support them with child day care or other kinds of services, and we try to do that. We're hopeful that we will someday reach the point where everyone is employed in Oakland County or has some employment. Of our 6,000 TANF recipients right now, 40 percent of them have earned income that we're budgeting. So we're really down to roughly 4,000 families that have not accessed the employment stream . . ."

"Michigan has attempted to go into projects that have attempted to focus supportive services on groups of people to see at what point can we get everyone employed, everyone off assistance, and it seems to be successful. Part of that has been involving churches, the whole concept of mentoring. I'm somewhat excited about the fact that some of the rules and regulations that have traditionally been involved in legislation have been somewhat loosened to allow us to bring in almost everyone in the community . . . in order to impact that group of people who have needed public services traditionally. We're trying to integrate and focus all of the social resources that we have in the community on people who need it."

The News: How has the staff adapted to all the changes?

Hall: "In general I would say that I'm real proud of the employees of the FIA, and it has been hard . . . For example we, for the last 20 years at least, have been a site-based organization, where people came to us . . . Now we're not. We're a home-based or field-based



Gerald Hall

Clarkston resident: 13 years, Royal Oak native. Attended St. Mary's High School.

Education: Bachelor's degree, Wayne State University. Master's in public administration, WSU.

Other experience: Instructor/lecturer, Oakland University and Oakland Community College in public administration and political science.

Responsible for: Five offices, 550 employees, 20,000 food stamp recipients, 30,000 on Medicaid, 6,000 on family assistance.

organization. Our workers are responsible for a certain number of families and they go to them. The approach is that each family has unique issues and unique barriers. And if we can remove some of those barriers we can encourage their employment and help them to develop personal responsibility and such that makes them prouder and more viable . . ."

"We're much more effective when we're out in the community with the family. We understand some of the dynamics of the family. We can hopefully access

some of the resources in the community better to help them get on with their lives. I will expect we'll see in the next few years a substantial decrease in the number of people coming in."

The News: Are you nervous about federal deadlines starting to kick in?

Hall: "There's always a concern, all the way from what happens to that family to what happens to the children. Being the child protective agency, every time a case closes that has children in it that is not what I would call a successful closing, there's always that concern . . . What is going to happen to the kid. We try to keep track of that after we close the case to see if we can do any more services."

The News: How does the situation compare to when the state ended the General Assistance program (for childless adults)? What were the repercussions?

Hall: "I don't think there were major repercussions to the agency, but I think there were major repercussions to the community. We find that we have expanded substantially homeless shelters; every county has had to do that to a certain extent. It has certainly made us confront the issue of the community being involved, more than just an agency being involved. Somebody saying that's all the responsibility of the FIA, I've never particularly personally believed that. As the old African proverb that Hillary Rodham Clinton said about the community, it takes a village to raise a child."

The News: Usually the FIA is only in the news when a child protection case goes wrong.

Hall: "Child abuse or child neglect is not an economic strata issue. In Oakland County it covers everyone regardless of their income. I think people don't recognize that; that your neighbor or our neighbor may be abusing a child. We all have to be as a community aware of that, to realize what happens to a child."

"There's some data that say people who abuse their children tend to be people who were abused as children. Somewhere we have to break that cycle. Hopefully if we can get into a family soon enough we can apply the resources to break that cycle."

"I'm real optimistic. I do not by any means negate the value of a good economy, but that is part of what I consider public policy too . . ."

"I'm optimistic. I think we're impacting families very positively. I know many in the community think some of our policies are negative policies. But if you continue to remember that our goal is to encourage employment, to increase personal responsibility, to use the resources of the agency and to use the resources of all the agencies to help them, it all fits."

Friends mystery night returns

What could be more predictable than a youth hockey awards banquet?

How about one which features Russian hockey stars, mad scientists, would-be sports moguls, greedy agents, sultry international women of mystery and frustrated opera singers?

These are just a few of the characters you'll meet in "Murder Most Frozen: A Chilling Little Mystery," which will be presented by the Friends of the Independence Township Library.

The event marks the fifth annual mystery dinner party of the Friends, and will be held Saturday, Jan. 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, 8047

Ortonville Rd.

As scripted by librarian Patience Beer, an opening scene filled with recriminations, threats, lies and other merriment culminates in murder. Then, after the unfortunate victim is dragged off stage, the attendees will settle down for a delicious full-course dinner and several rounds of detecting. Each table has a chance to interrogate suspects and try to solve the mystery. Cheap but nonetheless tasteful prizes will be awarded the winning table.

Tickets to this night of shenanigans are \$20 per person (\$14 is tax deductible) and can be purchased at the library. Call 625-2212 for more information.

Joint boards talk cooperation

City, townships, school district sit down together

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Editor

Put 20 politicians in a room together and you might expect a lot of hot air and not much more. But Monday night when the boards of Clarkston schools, the city of Clarkston and Independence and Springfield townships got together over cookies and coffee, the talk was substantive.

The four boards met in joint session at the school administration office. The agenda called for discussion of "positive initiatives" each board has undertaken. But before the two-and-a-half-hour meeting was done, the participants had gotten down to what was really on their minds.

Mostly, that involved letting each other know about developments that will impact them. For example, letting the municipality know, in advance, where a new school will go. Letting the school district know, before it's too late, how streets will be laid out to make sure they can accommodate school buses.

Some even go so far as to suggest that the school district should voluntarily submit itself to local planning procedures, something which could not be required due to state law.

In the end, the boards agreed to maintain an informal communications procedure for the next few months, then meet again at the new high school to see how its working. Some would have preferred a more formal arrangement.

"I don't think it's really that complicated," said Independence trustee Larry Rosso, a former school teacher. "We just communicate to the other entity

that's going to be impacted.

"In some ways we are very different but we have everything in common," he continued. "There is an intertwining, an interrelationship. So it's important . . . that in everything we do we are partners. That's how I look at everybody.

"I'm so proud of our community. So I want to make sure we're not inadvertently hurting anybody . . . So I'm glad we had this meeting tonight."

Some suggestions for better communications included exchanging meeting agendas, attending each others' meetings or calling board members if there are specific items of concern. Independence trustee Neil Wallace promised to deliver the township's master plan, zoning ordinance and Vision 2020 document to the school district. School board president Karen Foyteck suggested the district could draw up road requirements for the townships concerning school buses.

The joint meeting was held several months after a rift developed between Independence township and the school district over the new high school. Road concerns there led Wallace to propose a township ordinance which would make schools a special land use, requiring township approval. The proposal failed to garner enough votes.

"I have advocated and I will continue to advocate that schools voluntarily submit plans for schools for site plan review," Wallace said. "The feedback we're providing, the guidelines and regulations we do, actually give businesses a better product. We actually heard that from Pine Knob . . .

"I know schools have their considerations like curriculum and where the population is. But we have different considerations. I think it would be helpful to

you to see some of the things our building department and planners go through."

"It never hurts to get another opinion," said school trustee Janet Thomas. "And then it works the other way . . . When you build multiple housing we need to know that as soon as possible. We can't think about it in the same way because that's not the business we're in."

"I think a lot has gone on in a very informal way," said school board president Karen Foyteck, who chaired the meeting. "Maybe we need to spend more time and effort to make it a more formal structure . . . when it needs to take place."

"Perhaps a more formal way would be better. I don't object," said school superintendent Dr. Al Roberts. "But I think we've really picked up the ball on that (already)."

Perhaps longtime Springfield Township Supervisor Collin Walls summed it up best. "I think all of us can use our statutory responsibilities as a wall, or we can use it as a bridge. And what we're here to talk about today is bridges, not walls."

Walls suggested that one area where the schools and townships could begin working together immediately is recreation. He suggested they begin talking about using school playgrounds as parks during non-school hours, saving taxpayers some money in the duplication of facilities.

"We can do that probably with very little disagreement and get started very quickly," he said.

Summing up the entire meeting just before adjournment, Walls let everyone leave chuckling when he said, "If you don't believe what people tell you about
Continued on page 20A

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Independence Township

Township considering pay hikes

BY EILEEN McCARVILLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

A proposal by Independence Township supervisor Dale Stuart to raise some salaries and change some benefits and overtime met with mixed reviews at the township Board of Trustees meeting Jan. 13.

In a confidential memo, which was not released to the media, Stuart proposed raises for himself, clerk Joan McCrary and treasurer Jim Wenger and changes in various policies for other non-union employees, including salaries, health benefits and overtime.

Prior to discussion, trustee Neil Wallace asked the board to table the issue, saying he had been hand-delivered the document 24 hours before the meeting and did not have time to thoroughly review its contents. His motion was supported by fellow trustees Jeff McGee and Larry Rosso, but defeated, 4-3. Eventually the item was tabled unanimously after lengthy discussion by the board.

Wallace suggested the late delivery was orchestrated by Stuart and called it "a blatant abuse of power," since "three of the members have their salaries affected." He also objected to the fact that each elected official would be voting upon his or her own salary.

Stuart said he objected to Wallace's statements, saying his actions weren't "a power play." He and McCrary said it had taken considerable time to meet with department heads and come up with adjustments for all the affected positions. McCrary said they had finished late Friday night. "It just took this long to meet with everyone," she said.

McCrary said salary hikes for the three full-time elected officials amount to about one percent each. The memo suggests adjustments be retroactive to Jan. 5, Stuart said.

Trustee Dan Travis supported the proposal, said he had "blocks of time" in which to review its contents which call for "an average three-percent increase in most circumstances." Referring to the current inflationary rate, "That seems a reasonably competitive number," he said.

Though he said he didn't have time to review the memo, Wallace had some questions, which ranged from complaints about how the overtime pay rate was determined to eligibility for health benefits.

He also cited the salary remunerations committee established last year, whose members were appointed by Stuart. Wallace pointed to the fact that before the committee was established, the board approved six-percent pay increases for Stuart, McCrary and Wenger.

But he said he had problems with the committee's report, which compared the compensation packages and duties of Independence with municipalities like Commerce Township. "There are no facts that have been presented to us to support the conclusion that Independence Township is most comparable in operations and responsibility to (those townships)," he said.

According to the committee's report, Independence Township's top elected officials have salaries and benefits substantially higher than their counterparts in the other townships surveyed, but no adjustments were recommended until the next election, three years from now.

The report said Stuart's salary is in line with those of other supervisors, but when combined with benefits, his total compensation package is 10.4 percent higher than those of other supervisors in certain areas of Southeast Michigan.

The report also said the salaries of McCrary and Wenger exceeded those in comparable municipalities by 7.9 percent and their benefits by 8 percent, for a

combined 18 percent higher than the average. The committee recommended freezing the clerk's and treasurer's salaries till they come in line with those of other communities.

The committee conceded the biggest difference between Independence and other municipalities is the "perk" of a car, which ups each of the full-time officials' salaries by \$6,000. However, they did not recommend the car option be eliminated during the current term.

Present annual salaries of the township's three elected officials are as follows: Stuart, \$57,250; and McCrary and Wenger, each \$52,475.

The committee said it based its report on comparisons of six communities which have similar tax bases and population levels with Independence.

On Friday Stuart was asked why he didn't produce copies of the memo for the public, after he refused to provide a copy to a Clarkston News reporter at last Tuesday's meeting.

He said it was a confidential memo, between himself and his board. "It's my representation that public disclosure could hurt frank discussion among board members," he said, citing Section 13(n) of Michigan's Freedom of Information Act.

The Clarkston News filed a FOIA request for the document Friday. The proposal is on the agenda for the next board meeting Jan. 27.

On Jan. 14 Wallace sent a memo to Stuart, McCrary and Wenger, which included a suggestion that the township board adopt a new policy whereby proposals for salary compensation for non-union employees, including full-time officials, be delivered 30 days in advance "of any meeting at which they are scheduled to be considered."



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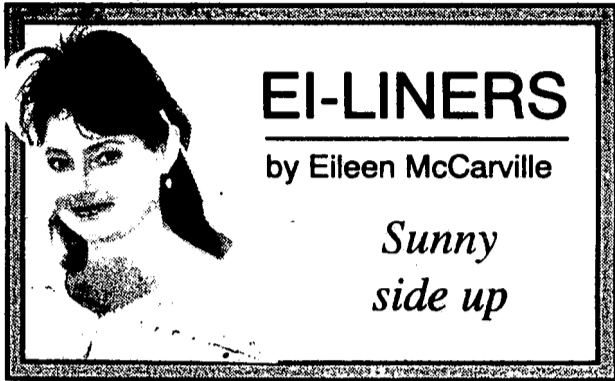
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OPINION

Wed., Jan. 21, 1998 6A

The Clarkston News



EI-LINERS

by Eileen McCarville

*Sunny
side up*

There are all kinds of songs about being happy and smiling and feeling, as my husband would say sarcastically, oh-so-warm-and-fuzzy.

"There are Smiles" is one, also Shirley Temple's boisterous, "You've Got to S-M-I-L-E, to be H-A-double P-Y!" Then there's that old war song, "Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag and smile, smile, smile ..."

And heaven help us, this time of year we really need them because if the radio happens to be playing "Snowbird" as I scrape three inches of the white stuff off my car window, I ain't gonna be a-grinnin'.

Scientists say winter's gloomy weather takes a toll on our spirits, even our health. And while birds can fly south for the winter, we're stuck in good old Michigan unless we're lucky enough to plan a trip to Florida.

In the meantime, you've got to find a way to make it through the next couple of months without a long face.

So, the other day I decided to try an experiment. People usually think I'm warm and friendly, but little do they know, I'm still very much the shy person I was as a child. At least, inwardly.

I'm not the kind of person who wears a sappy grin while whistling through the grocery store.

But while doing a "People Poll" recently I decided to spread a little sunshine — different from the big round globe in the sky — through smiling.

So I grinned. And grinned. And grinned. Hoping I didn't look too much like Jack Nicolson in "The Shining."

And, you know what? It worked. I had people coming up to me and telling me stories about their relatives. One man spent nearly 10 minutes talking about how he had to make a trip to Vermont to visit an ailing brother. I think he just needed to talk to someone and get it off his chest, and I was glad I was able to be a sympathetic listener.

And most of the time, when we parted, it was with a cheery "See ya later!" and a friendly wave. I knew we'd all be feeling better for the rest of the day because somebody took the time to smile.

Other than that, I can't provide any other suggestions about waiting out winter. But a colleague here told me she loves it when the spring fashions come out (which is usually right after Christmas), going to builders' shows, perusing flower catalogs — and even venturing outside when she sees the first few bits of new grass.

"Anything that gives us the incentive to move forward into spring," she said, adding, "You CAN make it through."

For me, it's sharing jokes, buying a daffodil plant, watching all the funny movies I've missed this past year, or revisiting old ones like the umpteenth showing of "The Blues Brothers." (Funny the paradox of that title, because Jake and Elwood always leave me in stitches.)

Then, there are those nice romantic evenings we can plan. How about dinner out or a Super Bowl party?

Do whatever it takes to make it through yet another Michigan winter. And remember — keep smiling!

Editorial

Public urged to attend special city meeting

As we begin a new council year, it's apparent steps are being taken to deal with the retail problem some perceive in downtown Clarkston.

Although there are viable downtown businesses that have existed for years, will it be only a matter of time before they are affected too?

Some say that the exodus of various retail businesses is just a sign of the times, a matter of big-box baracudas swallowing the little guys. Other reasons cited include high rent and retirement of several business owners.

But others say maybe it's not too late. Maybe there are resources we can turn to save Clarkston's retail district from shrinking into oblivion.

We commend Clarkston's City Council for being

proactive and establishing a subcommittee that's currently studying several planning options. The Hyett-Palma national planning firm is one of these options.

On Jan. 27 Doyle Hyett, one of the firm's two partners, will be visiting the city during a special meeting hosted by the council. It will be an opportunity for council, the media — and, most importantly, the public — to ask questions. We urge you to attend.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the training room of the new Independence Township fire station on Citation Dr.

Whether you live in the city or not, Clarkston is the magnet that drew most of us to this Norman Rockwell setting of North Oakland County. Therefore, the downtown's future is important to everyone. EMC

Money isn't everything

When I first read that the Clarkston school district was seriously considering selling out its cafeteria dispensing machines, bulletin boards, score boards, uniforms, tennis shoes, etc., etc. for commercial profit, I was uncharacteristically ambivalent. My instincts told me that it was a bad idea, but some inner voice kept saying, "Why not take the money? We can use it."

Then came the news that Nike was "baring" its ads for the Super Bowl. My ambivalence evaporated

faster than the fogs that Nike will use to mask their nude ads. The bad idea in the temptation to succumb to the Nike, Pepsi, Addidas, Coca-Cola, etc. enticements is that it feeds into our nation's JERRY MAGUIRE culture of SHOW ME THE MONEY!! Everything in today's society says: How do I "GET PAID?"; Athletes don't earn RESPECT anymore, they demand it in the size of their contracts. Our children's heroes are seducing them with their



JIM'S JOTTINGS / by Jim Sherman

Blame car sales drop on grill reduction

The extreme media attention given the recent "North America International Auto Show" in Cobo stirred memories of cars we've owned and trucks we've seen.

The Packard we had was especially memorable. It had wide white sidewall tires and a massive chrome grill.

Now, I realize the Packard went the way of the Edsel, Kaiser and Nash, but it was not because of the grill. That may, however, have led to the extinction of those three. Remember the urinal-shaped grill of the Edsel?

Anyone with even the slightest interest in the auto/truck industry has noted the major attention given grills on truck fleets. The big Mack, GMC, Freight-liner and Ford trucks have massive grills, and those getting the most attention were those with lots of chrome.

Seems to me that some years ago those designers who loved grills migrated to the truck divisions, while the baby-boomin', computer-minded, casual-dressin' types were absorbed into the auto end.

And you can see what has happened to sales of each class. Truck sales (big grills) up from 1 million to 7 million while auto (mini-grill) sales are stuck at 3 million.

Who wouldn't rather be led by, or meet, a major, teeth-baring smiling front-end vehicle than a tight-lipped, whimpy, pouty, grillless craft?

When Chrysler Corporation came out with that Dodge Ram pickup "Big Truck" grill some years ago the die was set for all truck makers. And the public selection of trucks over cars was inevitable.

The only thing that has car production at its present heights is that truck makers have continued painting the grills instead of giving them the really bold look of chrome. I guess the chroming process leads to soil contamination, or maybe the Big Three don't want to get completely out of the car making business.

But, just in case car makers want to extend their lead in car vs truck sales, they could put their baby boomin', computer-minded, casual dressin' generation X's and Y's into a loud (is there any other kind?) rock sounding, strobe flashing, psychedelic, inventer room and have them enlarge the grill with an environmentally acceptable chrome substitute.

There's got to be some way to put a decent size grill on the squeazy, wedge-shaped, Indy-500 looking front ends on today's cars. The way car front ends look today its like designers are out to scoop roadkill from the highways.

I know, the cars are aerodynamically designed to get better mileage through less air resistance. I guess that reasoning doesn't apply to trucks

Bottom line:

Trucks got grills!

Trucks got sales!

15 YEARS AGO (1983)

It will be at least a month before a public hearing is held on the Edward C. Levy Co.'s controversial proposal to mine 300 acres near the headwaters of the Clinton River, according to Brad Wilkins, water quality specialist with the state's Department of Natural Resources Program Division. That's good news for Joe Figa, chief of design for Oakland County Parks and Recreation, who requested the hearing. Figa says the county wouldn't want to purchase 200 acres of the land proposed for the gravel mine that is wetlands, because the Levy proposal "will change those wetlands."

A suit is filed in Oakland County Circuit Court that charges Independence Township Supervisor James B. Smith with conflict of interest, alleging he "prejudiced" the board to deny a proposed 53-acre subdivision that abuts his property near Reese Rd. The suit asks that Smith be restricted from any future voting on requests by Reese Development Co.

The Clarkston ski team glides to a second win, as they defeat Rochester High School. The boy's team wins 10-26 and the girls' score is 11-28. Also, in Clarkston's first match of the year, each team wins against Bloomfield Hills Lahser.

25 YEARS AGO (1973)

Now is the time to sign up for recreation — if you've had any thoughts about putting those long winter nights to good advantage as well as some fun. Independence Township recreation director Tim Doyle encourages residents to sign up for winter classes, or they may find their course has been canceled due to lack of expressed interest.

A proposal to build 1,470 apartments, condos and single-family homes, plus a 34-acre commercial development at the north end of Deer Lake, is pitched to the Independence Township Planning Commission. No action is taken on the request presented by Hubert Gamer, which would require a zoning change.

Principal William Dennis reports that drug usage seems to be down at Clarkston High school. The expulsion of one student and the suspension of five others just before the holidays seems to have done the trick. No cases have been reported since those episodes, Dennis says.

50 YEARS AGO (1948)

Tickets for the Athletic Banquet at the Clarkston School on Tuesday are now on sale at O'Dell's Drug store. Mr. O'Dell is the ticket chairman and he advises all who care to attend the banquet to secure their tickets now. Sponsored by the Rotary Club, the banquet will feature guest speaker Harry Wisner, sports commentator on WJR.

On Sunday evening the folks in Clarkston and vicinity will have the opportunity to hear Sergeant Wilburn Legree of Flint, "The Singing Cop." When 1937 safety records showed a dozen children were being killed annually on the streets of Flint, Legree wanted to find the right method to make people safety conscious. So why not teach youngsters safety songs that would automatically come into mind when they approached a busy intersection or were tempted to play in the street? At present, Legree has sung his way into the hearts of every one of Flint's 30,000 school kids.

60 YEARS AGO (1938)

One of Clarkston's golden boys, Joe McGinnis, will wear the local high school colors in the Golden Gloves tournament. The first night of fighting is scheduled for Jan. 28, with semi-finals and finals following. Winners in Pontiac will be taken to Grand Rapids in February to fight for state titles and champions will go to Chicago in March for the nationals. Next summer U.S. champions will fight the best in Europe. Joe, who expects to be a Clarkston High School student very soon, has wanted to be a fighter since he was quite a little boy, and now that he has reached the eligible age for the Golden Gloves he is more anxious than ever.

Playing at the Holly Theatre are Glen Morris and Eleanor Holm in "Tarzan's Revenge," Jane Parker and Douglas Montgomery in "Life Begins With Love," Walter Winchell, Ben Bernie, Simone Simon and Joan Davis in "Love and Hisses" and Joan Blondell and Errol Flynn in "The Perfect Specimen."

Express your opinion!

Write a letter to the editor

DON'T RUSH ME / by Don Rush

Floored by the Internet



The Internet is one scary ride, and brother can I testify to it.

For the last couple years everyone I know who has a computer and a modem and a telephone line going into that computer's modem has been telling me: "Don, hop on that Super Information Highway. Get with it, get hip. It's the Nineties. Get on the Internet. All the cool people are..."

With peer pressure like that, how could I not step (even with little biddy baby steps) into the 20th Century?

I did -- this weekend -- and I'm still in recovery. I didn't know what to expect when I went "surfing on The Net," but I'll tell you what. I wasn't "hangin' ten." I went into the old search mode, typed in *jerky recipes* and before I knew I had clicked up a picture of some girl (at this stage of the game dressed) from Sweden, divorced, two kids, likes to dance, is a smoker and a drinker looking for some American dude to marry.

I'll admit I was intrigued and dove deeper into the turbulent and murky waters of the Internet.

Soon I found myself at this site called *Foreign Affairs*, or something like that. What this site does is set up chicks from Eastern Europe, Russia, South America, Mexico and Pacific Island girls with Americans guys. Seems like these gals want to get into this country way too much.

After reading the bio's of some of these gals, I

backed up and got on track with the recipes. I did find some good ones.

Then I wanted to do a search of a television show from my youth — one that always piqued my imagination and one that steered me into journalism.

I'm not going to name the show — suffice to say when I clicked on to the title of the show I was thrown to an area that, shall we say, was pretty slimy. I had stumbled my way to the armpit of society.

It was scary. The word "perversion" comes to mind. I saw things I've never seen before. The farther I went the more scared I became.

And it was all free — unless you want to become a member of XYZ site, which would give you privileges of... whatever.

Of course you have to be 18 or older to join these "clubs." This preventative measure is to protect our youth from corrupting themselves.

And, if you're not yet 18, so the words on the screen said, you're 'sposed to exit the site. Right. How many teenage boys would give up a chance to see naked women and stuff.

If I were a parent I might think twice about having my home computer hooked up. Maybe I sound like a prude, but, yikes I'm not even that good at computers and I was able to find the seamy underbelly of the world. I shutter to think what all these computer comfortable, literate, genius kids can do.

Fair warning parents, beware.

People poll

By Eileen McCarville

What do you think about advertising products in the high school?

K A T I E McCLELLAND, CLARKSTON: I don't like the idea. I don't think you need to worry about that. You're there to study, not to advertise products.



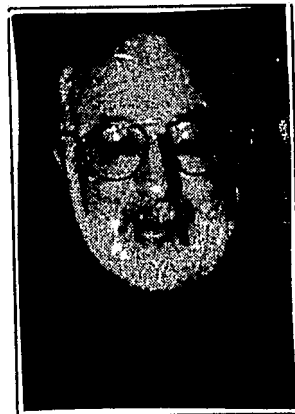
S H A R R O N S A N T A L A, CLARKSTON: No. I don't think school is the place for advertising.



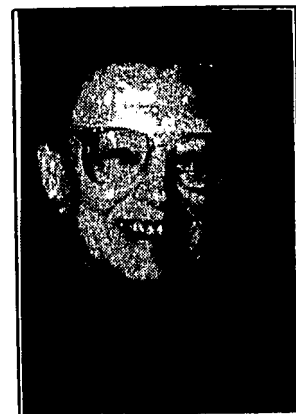
ROBERT ROTH, CLARKSTON: They have enough distraction outside the school, without it getting inside the school. And they have enough advertising as it is.



DR. STEPHEN W E R N E R, CLARKSTON: If it results in savings to the school board, or improvements in extra-curricular activities for the kids, I'd be all for it.



FRIEDA ARPOIKA, CLARKSTON: Personally, I don't think so. I don't think any public institution should endorse any particular business brand because that would create monopolies and would disadvantage competitors.



Focus on the family

By Dr. James Dobson
*Balance is key
to successful
parenting*



Sponsored by First Missionary Church of Clarkston.

QUESTION: I've always thought a man should be willing to work and sacrifice to reach his goals. I've heard you say, "Cool the passion and postpone the dream." That isn't the way I was taught.

DR. DOBSON: There's nothing wrong with having a passion and a dream. It should, however, be kept in balance with other valuable components of your life -- your family and your relationship with God being chief among them.

Let me illustrate that need to keep the various components of our lives in perspective. I read an article in the Los Angeles Times about a man named J.R. Buffington. His goal in life was to produce lemons of record-breaking size from the tree in his back yard. He came up with a formula to do just that. He fertilized the tree with ashes from the fireplace, some rabbit and goat manure, a few rusty nails and plenty of water.

That spring, the scrawny little tree produced two gigantic lemons, one weighing more than 5 pounds. But every other lemon on the tree was shriveled and misshapen. Mr. Buffington is still working on his formula.

Isn't that the way it is in life? Great investments in a particular endeavor tend to rob others of their potential. I'd rather have a tree covered with juicy lemons than a record-breaking but reekish crop, wouldn't you? Balance is the word. It is the key to successful living...and parenting.

Husbands and wives who fill their lives with never-ending volumes of work are too exhausted to take walks together, to share their deeper feelings, to understand and meet each other's needs. This breathless pace predominates in millions of households, leaving every member of the family frazzled and irritable. Husbands are moonlighting to bring home more money. Wives are on their own busy career track. Their children are often ignored, and life goes speeding by in a deadly routine. Even some grandparents are too busy to keep the grandkids.

I see this kind of overcommitment as the quickest route to the destruction of the family. There simply must be a better way.

Some friends of mine recently sold their house and moved into a smaller and less expensive place just so they could lower their payments and reduce the hours required in the workplace. That kind of downward mobility is almost unheard of today -- it's almost un-American. But when we reach the end of our lives and look back on the things that mattered most, those precious relationships with people we love will rank at the top of the list.

If friends and family will be a treasure to us then, why not live like we believe it today? That may be the best advice I have ever given anyone -- and the most difficult to implement.

So keep your dream and your passion. Work hard to achieve the success you crave. But don't let it become a 5-pound lemon that destroys the rest of the crop. You'll regret it if you do!

Send your questions to Dr. Dobson, c/o Focus on the Family, P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80903. These questions and answers are excerpted from books authored by Dr. James Dobson and published by Tyndale House Publishers. Dr. Dobson is the president of Focus on the Family, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of the home.

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CHS LIFE / by Meghann Smith

Test angst

Life is full of tests (as if you haven't realized this yet).

This past week was exam week, most possibly the most dreaded week of the whole school year. You see, this is when you have to know everything, whether you learned it or not.

Chances are you are relying on the exam to bump that grade up a little bit, or praying it won't knock you down. So most likely you figured out the lowest possible score you could achieve without completely destroying your GPA.

I figured that there were two classes and it was a dire necessity that I grasp an A on one of those exams. I pulled a B+ on one and just barely hung onto that B- on the other.

My semester grades in these two classes remain healthy B's. But it hurts when you set a goal and fail miserably. Of course I've come to terms with the fact that I will never be a trigonometric genius or a chemist. However, I'm wondering if colleges will arrive at the same assumption.

You see, in a year and a half I will be out in the real world. Pretty scary, huh? Right now, believe it or not, I have to decide my future. I am told we have to get good scores on these monsters called the PSATs. The only problem is that it isn't graded on any type of scale I understand.

From a graph an elementary school student could probably interpret I figured out that I am above average. But what is average? What is good or bad? We

have always been taught that A's and B's are what we shoot for and C's are OK. If you're achieving D's and E's, well, you may as well practice collecting garbage now. And I hear you need a high PSAT even if your career interest is in waste management.

In my English class we got handouts on the A. P. English language test. You have to pay \$75 to take this test. Sure, if you pass it's equivalent to a college credit, but what happens if you fail miserably? Is there an option to check saying "If I appear to have the equivalent intelligence of a primate, please do not send this to my college of choice?"

We get to choose five or six college which we want the scores sent to, then if you decide (after having received the results) to send them to another college, it costs \$12. So basically your safest route is to spend the \$75 on sending the results to all of the colleges you'd rather die than go to.

Let's guarantee Michigan State won't want to read my application. Then you get your scores, and if you did well (that is, if you have enough know-how to interpret the score as good or bad) you fork over money to send the results to a real college (University of Michigan).

What I want to know is what the point of all these tests are. What happens if you have a really awful day and bomb the elusive PSAT? Does that signify the end of your educational being?

They say that life is full of tests and you learn the answers from experience. But experience is the worst teacher; it gives you the test before teaching the lesson.

Letters to the editor

Money isn't everything

From page 6A

sorry realities that all that counts is money and how much.

Somehow, somehow, our society has to break this suffocatingly surreal supposition that money is everything. I don't know if the schools can do it, or if it is their place, but eating the proffered Nike apple will only cause us to realize that we are now as naked as the new Nike ads.

Bob Arend

Don't privatize parks

Dear editor,

A proposal is before the Independence Township Planning Commission to approve an agreement to lease public parkland for a privately-owned in-line skating rink for roller blading and deck hockey. This would include an outdoor skating rink, lights, permanent restrooms, a pro shop and concessions.

The Independence Township taxpayers need an in-depth study done as to the long term goals for our few parks. The 2020 Master Plan does not include this type of study. An unbiased research study is needed as to what is best for Independence Township public parks. We must be vigilant, so that we do not lose any of our few park lands.

The Independence Township building department and the planning commission continue to be overburdened, because of the increase in Independence Township building development. Taking on private business matters in any way is not well advised. Any default in a lease agreement could cause future legal problems, which Independence Township does not need!

I am from a heritage of private enterprise and I would like to see a successful athletic endeavor, but on private land, and enclosed because of our six

months of inclement weather. Grand Blanc has a facility of six soccer playing fields with Porta-Pottys and no lights. I have spent four hours at a time, cheering my grandsons during their soccer games and have not felt deprived.

Clintonville Park has bathrooms, an in-line skating rink. If the community so desired, lights and extra staff hours for league management could be addressed. This way we can keep our precious few public parks from questionable private leasing.

Sincerely,
Peggy Dryer
(a soccer Grammie)

The Insider

What's in a name?

Want to avoid a common name for a new baby? Crittenton Hospital recently released a list of the most commonly chosen names for babies in 1997 at their hospital.

The most common names chosen for boys, in order, was Michael, Joseph, Nicholas and Jacob. The most commonly chosen girls names were Samantha, Madison, Jessica and Rachel.

Planning an engagement?

Once again this-year The Clarkston News will publish engagement and wedding announcements to coincide with Valentine's Day.

If you'd like to be part of this special edition, make sure your photo and the pertinent information reach our office by Friday, Feb. 6, and let us know if you want to be in the Feb. 11 edition (notices appear weekly, based upon space availability). Make sure you include the name of the person submitting the information and a daytime phone number.

Send submissions to The Clarkston News, 5 S. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346. For questions call editor Annette Kingsbury at 625-3370.

Puertas bound over for trial on drug charges

BY DEREK STARK
Lake Orion Review Staff Writer

After one and one half hours delay and over four hours of testimony, Rochester's 52-3 District Court Judge James Sheehy decided that suspects in Oakland County's biggest drug bust would be bound over and face trial in Circuit Court.

Joseph Puertas, 70, of Clarkston and James Talley, 35, both were charged with conspiracy to deliver between 50-250 grams of cocaine, as well as criminal racketeering.

Puertas also faced six counts of delivery under 50 grams of cocaine, with Talley facing three counts of delivering under 50 grams of cocaine, allegedly aiding Puertas in three of the six sales.

Judge Sheehy dismissed one of the six cocaine delivery charges against Puertas, in front of a packed courtroom Jan. 16, reducing the total amount of alleged cocaine sales involved to under 50 grams. Instead of facing a mandatory life sentence, Puertas at most would receive up to 12 years in prison if convicted.

Talley also had one of his drug charges dismissed because of insufficient evidence.

On the first day of preliminary examination, an informant testified that he made six drug purchases at the Megabowl in Orion Township, and each of the six times Puertas was present. Talley aided Puertas in three of the six drug buys, according to the informant.

"Both parties have brought up the credibility of the informant, and on a scale of 0-10...he comes out very close to a 0," Sheehy said in his closing remarks. "He had a substantial criminal record before his relationship with the OCS (as an informant) and has admitted the purpose to helping the police was to get his brother out of trouble."

Two Oakland County Sheriffs Department officers testified for the prosecution on the second day of preliminary examination, Kenneth Quisenberry and Ken Everingham.

Quisenberry is the officer in charge of this drug case and has been a deputy for 18 years. Quisenberry has worked six years for the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET). Everingham has been an officer for 20 years and worked with NET for the past 26 months.

Both officers detailed the six drug buys that occurred in the Megabowl, and also on the procedure and surveillance of the informant for each of the purchases made (8/19, 8/21, 8/26, 8/30, 9/25, 11/18).

According to the officers' testimony, the informant was given \$300-\$1,000 prior to the six purchases, and on each occasion was checked to see if he was clean of money or drugs.

The defense attorneys argued that there was no video tape surveillance of the alleged drug buys, no overhear or recordings of the situations (the informant was not wired on any of the six occasions), and that there were no records of how long the informant was in the Megabowl on the drug buys.

Over \$1.8 million and about \$100,000 in jewelry and diamonds were recovered from three safes Dec. 17, after a five-month investigation concerning drug sales by Puertas and Talley.

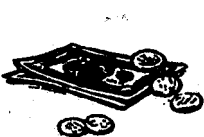
"Large amounts of cash is indicative of the defendants intent to sell drugs," Paul Stablein, chief prosecutor of the Narcotics Division of Oakland County, said at the hearing.

Puertas' lawyer, Richard Lustig said, "It is not illegal to have cash money. You (prosecution) just keep parading the money around."

An action is pending in the Oakland County Circuit Court under Judge Nanci Grant for the forfeiture of the Megabowl and Joe's Pub & Grub, which is attached to the Megabowl on Baldwin Road. The action by the forfeiture unit is also seeking the cash

Continued on page 16A

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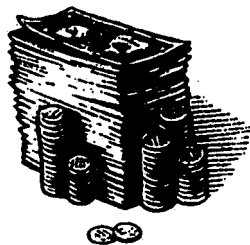
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Nicole Gourand is founder and owner of Versailles Investment Properties DBA, V.I.P. Realty, with three of her children. She immigrated from Sevres, France with her parents after World War II. She spent most of her childhood in Warren, Michigan, where she graduated with honors. She moved to Clarkston with her husband and operated a Mobile gas station, apple orchard, and country store for approximately 20 years before entering her career in the real estate profession in January 1981.

During her 16 years as a REALTOR®, Nicole has been an active member of the North Oakland Chapter of Women's Council of REALTORS®. She was named WCR "Woman of the Year" in 1984 and served as its president in 1985. As part of the WCR Council activities, she was involved with raising funds for many community projects. The Clarkston-Waterford business Professional Women's Association named Nicole "Woman of the Year" in 1989.

Nicole has served as a Director on the North Oakland County Board of REALTORS® for over 12 years and has also served on many of its committees. Nicole was President of the North Oakland County Board of REALTORS® in 1993. She has been very active in REALTORS® Active in Politics.

Nicole, selected as North Oakland County Board of REALTORS® "REALTOR-of-the-Year" in 1993, is the mother of five children. She enjoys her working relationship with her children, Claude, a licensed builder; Eric, who is an Associate Broker and the Manager of V.I.P. Realty; and Chantal, a sales associate at V.I.P. Realty.

She attributes the success of V.I.P Realty to lots of hard work and giving clients the best service possible. "I enjoy working with people. It's such a pleasure seeing how happy our customers are when getting into their new home." Most of our business comes from referrals. The V.I.P. Realty staff shares in Nicole's enthusiasm for great service. The atmosphere at V.I.P. Realty is comfortable and inviting. They make you feel like family.

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- * 10,000 children in Clarkston, Ortonville and Waterford have seen us in school
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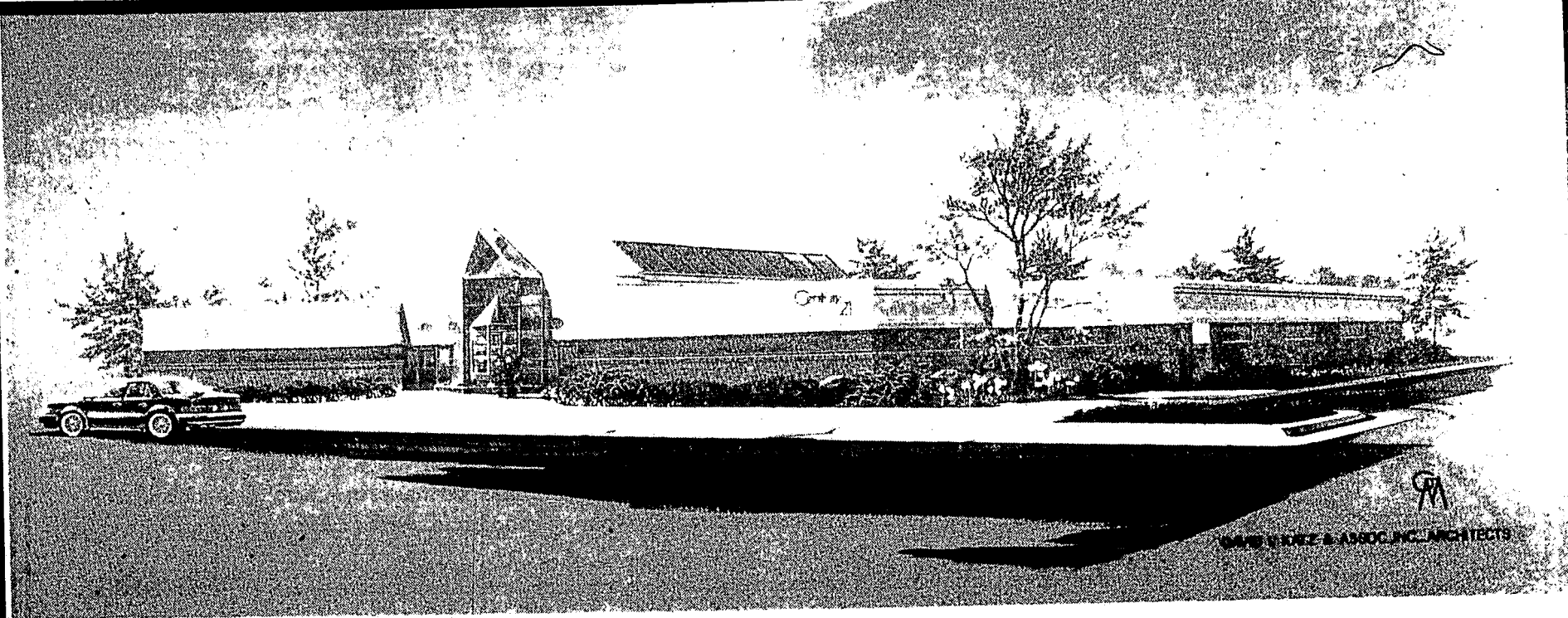
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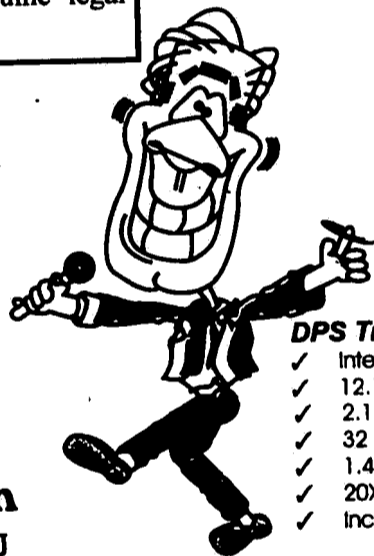
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Clarkston Schools

Kids decide when they're naughty, nice

Zac Budrow stepped up to the desk in his classroom at North Sashabaw Elementary School. He picked up a small brass bell and rang it. When he had the attention of all 47 kids, he said matter-of-factly, "I think I should put a cube in because we're quiet and we're working hard."

Nearby, one of his teachers, Lynda Faught, chimed in. "Does everyone agree? Does anyone disagree?" It was unanimous. So a cube went into a jar.

What's it all mean? Believe it or not, these 47

first- and second-graders were exercising a little democracy, and self-discipline, right in their own classroom. No one was elected president. Anyone could do what Zac did.

As Faught and co-teacher Jill Santola tell it, it's an everyday occurrence in their multi-age classroom (grades one and two). For good reasons, a cube goes into a jar. For bad reasons, one comes out. When the jar is full, it's time for a special day.

On this day the kids opted to wear costumes to celebrate a full jar. On other such days they've made popcorn and worn pajamas to school.

"It's a concept I've used prior to developing a multi-age classroom," Faught said. She credits the concept to Alfie Cohn, an educator and writer who



Sam Martin



Jeff Raymond



Henry Roehel

wrote a book on behavior in the classroom titled "Punishing by Rewards." And it really works, she said.

"We've tried to intrinsically establish in the children their own ability to decide when the classroom needs to be monitored," Faught said. She's also used the system in single-age classrooms for kindergarten and first-graders. "It works wonderfully. When I first started to do it (a classroom aide) thought I'd lost my mind. And I have to say the first couple of days they're on that bell constantly." But then it calms down, she added.

The kids are honest and apparently don't think about stacking the deck. They even go into negative cubes sometimes, learning a little math lesson along the way.

"We talk to them about being honest," Faught said. "If it's abused they won't have it. And they rise to the occasion."

Shortly after Zac had dropped the much-coveted cube in the jar, the bell rang again. The room grew quiet. Brittany Oles stepped up to bat.

"I'm just reminding you to use your six-inch voices," she said. "It's getting loud."

There would be no cube this time.

--By Annette Kingsbury

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Drug trial

From page 9A

money and jewelry seized in the Dec. 17 raid.

In the lawyers closing arguments, defense attorney Lustig said, "The officers did not see any of the drug transactions and the court is well aware of the credibility issue (of the informant. The informant is an admitted drug user and has previous cases dealing with dishonesty and theft."

Prosecuting attorney Stablein wanted the judge to bind Puertas and Talley over, not dismissing any of the charges, "Both men have engaged in selling cocaine, what you have is a pair of drug dealers that have formed an enterprise."

Judge Sheehy amended the restrictions on Puertas, who is free on a \$2-million bond, to a 7 p.m. curfew, "If the police do want to tail him, they can still do it in the daylight."

Disabled skiers

From page 1A

cent years, Roubal said. At first, amputees were able to ski by "three-tracking," using one ski and a pair of crutches with skis attached. Then a "sit ski" was introduced, which Ruble described as "kind of like a sled."

Later, a mono-ski with a seat was developed, and more recently a "bi-ski" has replaced the "sit ski." "If you have enough to move your head, you can operate that ski," Roubal said. The "bi-ski" can have fixed outriggers so it can't tip. A spotter accompanies the skier.

"That gives (quadriplegics) an opportunity to ski in a more dynamic way than the 'sit ski,'" Roubal said.

Pufpaff, head coach of the Winter Park Disabled Ski Team, said the skiers who turned out for the event were mostly interested in improving their skills for recreational purposes. However, he is also looking for promising students who may be able to go out to Colorado to join the team.

They found such a student last year at Pine Knob. Ryan Fettig, now 16, is a sophomore at Petosky High School, where he is a member of the ski team, even though he's an amputee. He's been skiing for eight years.

"I want to make the U. S. ski team," he said. His goal is the 2002 Olympics.

"His whole focus is to be a real fast (racer)," Pufpaff said. "This is kind of like scouting for us because we find young kids that come to these things, and we really encourage them to come west."

Out on the slopes, various skill levels were apparent. One little girl, an amputee, worked her way slowly down the big hill with Pufpaff at her side, issuing constant encouragement. Others, obviously more experienced, zoomed on by. A rider on a sit-ski fell over several times, but never gave up. Once he got to the bottom, he had no trouble getting onto the ski lift still attached to his ski.

"We come to programs like this to work with instructors and bring some of our experience to both the instructors and the skiers," Pufpaff said.

Faulty furnace

From page 1A

were unharmed, Wilson said.

"It was quite a scary experience," Allen said. "Now I have a new furnace and a carbon monoxide detector, because you just never know, even if you have a new furnace."

Wilson said that though CO detectors are good, they too need maintenance, just like smoke detectors.

"The best thing to do would be to have a detector," he said. "The other side of it would be to have your furnace checked every two years. Do a maintenance program on your equipment and also have a detector."

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Want to impress your loved one with an extra effort this Valentine's Day?

The Romeo, MI post office is collaborating with the Juliette, GA post office to offer customers a special Romeo and Juliette postmark next month. Mail can be dropped off at the Romeo post office, 119 Church St. in the "heart" of downtown Romeo, or sent in by placing it inside a larger envelope

(bearing adequate postage, of course). Address it to the post office, zip code 48065-9998.

"Just think of how popular you'll be for the effort," said Romeo Postmaster Alex Stubbs III.

Deadline for the special cancellation is Feb. 7 in order to assure adequate time to get the mail to Georgia and then on to your special person. For more information call the post office at 810-752-3823.

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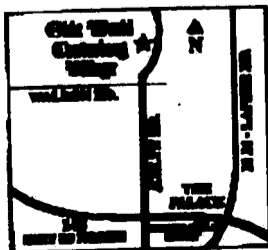
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Task Force plans townhall meeting

Continuing the dialogue that started two years ago, the Clarkston Community Task Force for Youth is inviting the community to a townhall meeting Saturday, Jan. 31 at the new fire station on Citation Drive.

The meeting will bring together residents to brainstorm ideas and strategies and come up with a plan for addressing issues such as alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. The session will be facilitated by Linda Huff, youth director at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Ortonville. Huff is a former staff member at Camp Oakland, a legal assistant and has leadership experience with the Girls Scouts. She also writes about youth issues for The Citizen in Ortonville.

"At the Clarkston Cares awards banquet in October, we sought to identify some of the proactive efforts already in place for positive youth development," stated Task Force administrative coordinator Cindy Dixon in a letter that went out to community leaders. "Yet gaps and challenges remain."

The day, which runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., is open to the public. Call 394-0252 to reserve a spot.

Chamber adds staff

Anne Chesley has been hired by the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce to expand its office staff.

Chesley, of Clarkston, is a former president of the North Sashabaw Elementary School PTO and is one of the founders of the Clarkston PTA Council, according to Penny Shanks, the Chamber's administrative assistant.

"The phenomenal growth of the Chamber this past year has brought us to this very exciting point," said Chamber president Marc Cooper. "We can now expand office staff to support the variety of Chamber programs and projects we undertake each year. At the same time it allows us to venture into new projects. We are delighted to have Anne join our staff. She will be a tremendous asset."

Chesley is a graduate of Western Michigan University and has experience as an executive secretary.

The Chamber currently has 244 members, up from 64 at this time last year, Cooper said. "At this rate we anticipate reaching 300 members by September, the end of our fiscal year," he said.

Program sends high-schoolers to Japan

If you are in grade nine, 10 or 11; adventurous, open-minded and like to meet new people, you are invited to apply for a summer exchange program to Japan.

The program sends 20 Michigan students to Shiga, Japan each year for two weeks (July 1-17) to live with families there who will then send their children to Michigan to live here for two weeks in September. In each country, the students will attend high school together in the only two-way exchange program available to students in Michigan.

The program is coordinated through Clinton County RESA by Jenny McCampbell and Larry Schwartzkopf. "It is amazing how close the families and exchange students feel within just two weeks," McCampbell said.

Cost of the program is \$1,600. Knowledge of Japanese is helpful but not required. There is an orientation in May to acquaint families with Japanese customs and basic language.

Students can receive an application and brochure from their high school counselors. For more information call McCampbell at 517-224-6831.

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Clarkston man announces he'll run for House

BY EILEEN McCARVILLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

An Independence Township resident has announced he will run for state Rep. Tom Middleton's old seat, basing his platform on "common sense."

Jeff Gallant said Friday he has established a candidate's committee to help him get elected Republican State Representative for Michigan's 46th District, which includes several communities, including Clarkston and Independence Township. He has not yet filed a petition; petitions are due in May.

Middleton (R., Ortonville), whose tenure is expiring due to term limits, recently announced he will vie for the state senate position currently held by incumbent Mat Dunaskiss (R., Lake Orion). Dunaskiss is expected to run again for one last term before his term expires.

Gallant defines himself as "not a career politician, but a citizen who wants to represent the hard-working taxpayers. The voters identify with my message of responsible use of our tax dollars, common sense solutions to crime, and meaningful reforms which will make government more accountable and accessible to the public."

Gallant grew up in Saginaw, the son of a GM foundry worker and a housewife who, he said, instilled the value of a hard-earned dollar.

During his college years at the University of Michigan and the university's law school, where he graduated *cum laude* in 1990, he worked at a homeless shelter, volunteered for pro-life groups and tutored prisoners at the Washtenaw County Jail.

"It taught me a lot about how government programs can't solve a lot of issues," he said. "I really saw, first-hand, how the welfare system failed people ... It broke the bond between work and reward. That experience taught me a lot about welfare reform."

Upon graduation from law school, he became a federal prosecutor at the U.S. Department of Justice and worked in Washington D.C., but traveled to numerous communities across the country where he prosecuted criminal cases that included mail fraud, money laundering and racketeering.



Jeffrey Gallant

In 1996 he received a "Meritorious Achievement Award" from the Federal South Central Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force for his work in dismantling a drug distribution organization. An Oklahoma sheriff, who ran the operation, was convicted of public corruption and racketeering in the case.

Gallant works for a Bloomfield Hills law firm, where part of his work involves representing "indigent people accused of crimes in Oakland County ... because I really believe that the poor deserve fair representation," he said.

He and his wife Angie, a reporter for The Spinal Column, live in Independence Township. He's a member of the Oakland County Bar Association's Public Service Committee, Optimist Club, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and speaks monthly to school children about the judicial system through an organization called "Classroom TLC" (Teachers, Lawyers, Children). He is affiliated with several Republican Party organizations and worked on Pat Nowak's 1996 congressional campaign.

Gallant is actively involved in organizations like Friends of the Library, Clarkston Community Task Force and the Independence Township Land Conservancy. He believes it's important to attend local meetings, and attends many within the district.

Gallant's three primary "common-sense ideas" are as follows:

- To create a part-time legislature, paid part-time salaries.

He points to the fact that state representatives are paid \$53,192 a year, yet were only in session 83 days during

1996. There are 41 states which currently employ part-time legislatures, paid part-time salaries.

- To lower taxes and lessen waste. "Michigan still pays more than the average in taxes ... One thing I plan to develop is a list of 10 programs I consider to be the most wasteful and ought to be eliminated immediately," he said.

- To write the laws that crack down on sexual predators and repeat drunk drivers.

"Because of my experience as a prosecutor, I've had unique experience. I think I know what does and what doesn't work," he said. "I would like some common-sense reforms so we can keep the most dangerous people off the streets, but do it in the most effective manner."

Therefore, Gallant said, referring to the recently adopted state sexual offenders registry, he would like to see the "most criminal sexual predators detained" through civil commitment laws until they can be returned — if ever — to the community.

"It's abhorrent to me that we just put them back on the streets. So, they'd only have one address — and that would be the state hospital," he said.

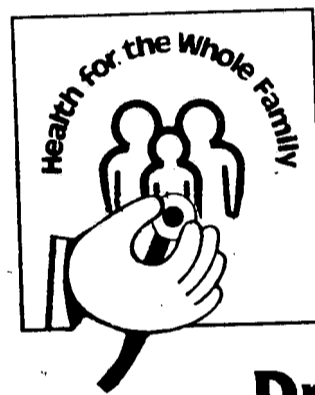
Gallant hopes to curb a lot of potential problems when people are still young. That's why he's highly involved in the Task Force.

"Obviously so much of crime is caused by drug addiction. This is one area where I can talk above political rhetoric, and really talk seriously of ridding our communities of substance abuse. And that involves promoting treatment programs, community involvement and, most importantly, strengthening our families because they are the biggest single influence with their children," he said.

"Once I'm elected, I'm going to try to do everything I can to talk to young people, and talk to schools and community groups and to try to be as much of a role model as I can be."

One of his ideas is to take one student a month to the state legislature, so he or she can see how government works first-hand. The goal is "to get the perspective of young people."

Asked about his own fresh-scrubbed countenance (Gallant looks younger than his 32 years), he smiles. Don't be fooled, he says. "I always say, it's not how old your tires are. It's the mileage you put on."



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Clarkston native is new youth librarian

BY EILEEN McCARVILLE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

A former Clarkston resident is looking forward to starting a new chapter in her life — back in her old home town.

On Jan. 13 the Independence Board of Trustees unanimously approved the hiring of Julie Meredith as the new Independence Library youth services director, as requested by library director Mollie Lynch. Her salary starts at \$32,000, with two \$1,000 increases within the first three months.

The position is a new one, needed because of growth, Lynch said. Three other full-time employees were recently hired after library hours were restored this month, thanks to \$130,000 allocated by the township from mid-decade census funds.

Meredith's specialized position was created to bridge the gap between children and adults, to fill the needs of teenagers who "have fallen through the cracks," Lynch said. "We really project use by teens going up." She predicts that age group will use the library more, with close proximity of the new Clarkston High School, just down the road.

Lynch has known Meredith for years because she was very active at the library when growing up, first as a volunteer at 12, then as a page at 15. Through high school and college she worked as a summer reading program volunteer coordinator in which she did "an outstanding job," Lynch said, praising Meredith's creativity and enthusiasm.

In her new position Meredith's duties will include setting up programs and working with teenagers, meeting with schools and other organizations and establishing a teen board, Lynch said. She will also need to "revamp" the young adult book section, she added. Her job officially begins Feb. 17.

During a phone interview last week the 26-year-old, who is finishing up duties at a library in Ohio, said she was very excited about returning to Clarkston. She provided a little history about her years away from home.

After graduating from Clarkston High School in 1989 she attended Bowling Green State University, graduating in 1993 with a bachelor's in developmental psychology, with a focus on children and adolescents. She first worked as a children's librarian at Bowling Green's Walbridge Library, a branch of the Wood County library system, then received an offer from the Putnam County District Library in Ottawa, Ohio, where she's worked ever since.

Apparently Putnam, an eight-library system, was impressed with her work, hearing she'd made quite a dent at Walbridge. There she

managed two regular story hours, two kindergarten class programs, a day care program and taught craft classes, in addition to regular duties.



Julie Meredith poses in front of her new digs, the Independence Township Library.

She used her imagination, trying to make parallels between books and everyday life. For example, "The kids would read a story on kites, and we made kites." Putnam "couldn't believe I was keeping up at this pace for all the hours I was working," she said. "I was working at the circulation desk and had kids after school, and I was still putting on these programs."

She was hired as the new youth services coordinator at Putnam, where, at the main library, she managed programs for preschool through high school, and coordinated outreach programs for all eight branches.

Currently, she's searching for an apartment around the north Oakland area. Her parents, Bill and Phyllis, still live in Clarkston. Meredith said the move is also good for her fiance, who is studying to be a chef, because Oakland County is "a more urban area."

That was, surprisingly, the decision that led to her hiring, because Meredith said she had sent out resumes to more metropolitan communities, including Clarkston. When Lynch called and told her of the opening, "I was very excited," she said.

At first she thought, "If I get it, I get it. But if I don't get it, it's not meant to be."

But later, after the interview, it hit her. "I really want this job." She hopes to finish up her master's in library science, which she began in Kent State University. There are only a couple of classes left.

Once established, Meredith hopes to get her charges — seventh- through 12-graders — involved with both the library and Friends of the Library.

"First I want to create a group of teens who can provide input about what kinds of programs they want to see, and what kinds of activities they'd like to be involved in," she said. "I think the only way you can create programs is to have young adults involved." Lynch and she have even talked of an after-school coffee house where kids can "come in and feel welcome."

Asked why she likes her job, Meredith says it's kind of a combination of her love for books and kids — and being sort of a kid herself. Her mom's like that, "approachable and open" to her friends. She instilled a life-long love for the library, when she first started taking Meredith to story hour as a child.

Her favorite picture book is still "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak.

"There's a sort of excitement to doing these kinds of things," Meredith said of her work. "I guess I'll always be young at heart." She provided an example.

Currently her brother — married with children — and she are "bickering" over a collection of books they shared as youngsters. "He says he wants them for his children — and I want them for myself," she said with a laugh.

Joint board meeting

From page 4A

us, we won't believe what people tell us about you." Afterwards, Springfield clerk Nancy Strole said the meeting had been worth it.

"I thought it was positive," she said. "They were all trying to contribute to identifying and preventing problems before they are created to assist one another."

Thomas agreed. "When our communities were much smaller, things happened more informally. Then all of a sudden things mushroom and everybody expects that same thing to happen... We don't need to make rules and regulations but we need to start a practice."

"I think it's like a new beginning," said Independence clerk Joan McCrary. "We had 20 adults here and we can all cooperate."

Corrections

● In the Jan. 14 issue of The Clarkston News a student's name was omitted from a story about some Sashabaw Middle Schoolers who rode a limousine to McDonald's. The story should have said Emily Haywood invited four of her friends, not three. The student in the photo at the far right is Tahnee Weiss, who was mistakenly left out of the article.

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Police and fire

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, six windows were damaged at a construction site on Deerwood.

A license plate tab was stolen off a 1985 Buick parked in a Timber Ridge Tr. driveway.

Injury accident on Maybee.

Medicals on S. Marshbank, Parkwood and M-15, where there was slip and fall. The victim was taken to St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, the fire department handled a complaint on Parview.

A truck-trailer accident was reported on Clarkston Rd. just east of Main St. in the city. The weight of a bulldozer sitting on the trailer shifted, causing the trailer to top on its side. No one was injured.

A Golfview resident reported a lost phone.

A 15-year-old girl was taken to Children's Village after striking her mother in the face and chest and injuring her at their home on E. Circle. A warrant will be sought charging her with domestic assault.

A woman reported sexual harassment by another woman at work on Moody.

A Greenview resident reported that for several days, cars have been driving over the lawn due to large holes in the road. New sod was extensively damaged.

A 24-year-old White Lake woman is being investigated for writing a bad check at a Dixie business.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, an 18-year-old Clarkston woman was ticketed after she ran her car off the road, hitting a mailbox and ending up in a ditch.

A purse containing \$30, ID, credit cards and a checkbook was stolen from a grocery cart in a Dixie parking lot. The owner left the purse in the cart and drove away, but returned five minutes later to find it gone.

A window was broken at an M-15 doctor's office by a friend of an upset patient.

A phone and CD player were stolen from a 1993 GMC after a window was pried on S. River.

A high school student reported his wallet missing after he had been working out in the weight room.

A white male walked into a Dixie gas station, looked around, grabbed a carton of cigarettes and fled. He was described as 17-19 years old. A store videotape may be helpful in identifying him.

Burning complaint at a construction site on E. Crest Forest. Two fires were extinguished and the matter was turned over to the fire marshal for action.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, medicals on Miller, Misty Hill Ct., M-15 and Dixie. A 46-year-old Clarkston man was taken to a hospital after a slip and fall on Dixie.

The fire department received a complaint on Longhurst.

Injury accident on M-15.

Numerous lawns were driven over in the Deerwood Subdivision, reportedly by a small pick-up truck.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, a deputy responding to a complaint about juveniles drinking outside a Dixie restaurant ticketed four Clarkston teens, ages 17-19, for drinking.

A 24-year-old Oxford man was arrested for drunk driving on Main at Miller in the city. He tested .10 on the Breathalyzer (legally drunk) after erratic driving. He will be arraigned Jan. 27. His passenger, a 23-year-old Leonard man, was arrested and turned over to Oxford Police on several outstanding warrants.

A driver whose car broke down in traffic at Main and Miller in the city was cited for driving with a suspended license.

A White Lake man was arrested on White Lake Rd. in the city for drunk driving after erratic driving. He blew .11 on the Breathalyzer. He will be arraigned Jan. 27.

A deputy was called to Pine Knob Rd. to shoot an injured deer a resident found in her yard with a broken leg.

A 35-year-old Hadley man and his wife were trying to get to the hospital due to the man's chest pains when they stopped at M-15 and I-75 to ask for help.


A white female in her 30s failed to pay for \$10 in gas at an M-15 gas station. The clerk got a license plate number.

A watch, two gold bracelets, two gold rings, earrings, sporting equipment, a CD player, phone and three tapes were stolen from an unlocked 1990 Cutlass parked on Mann overnight.

A snowboard was reported stolen at Pine Knob while the owner turned his back for a moment.

A warrant is being sought against a 39-year-old Springfield Township man who assaulted an 18-year-

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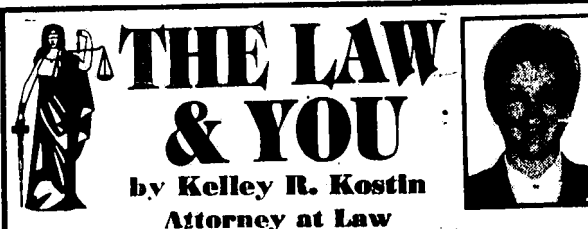
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THE LAW & YOU
by Kelley R. Kostin
Attorney at Law

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old Clarkston man at an apartment on S. Marshbank. The older man came to remove his 16-year-old daughter from the apartment. No one was injured.

Injury accident on I-75 south of Dixie.

Medicals on Woodcreek, Middle Lake Rd. and M-15.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, a 32-year-old Clarkston woman was ticketed after she fell asleep at the wheel on Waldon Rd. around 4:20 a.m., hit a mailbox, crossed the center line and hit two trees. She was not injured.

A driver stopped at Main near Miller in the city for an equipment violation was also ticketed for driving with a suspended license.

A driver stopped on Main near Miller in the city for failure to dim his headlights was ticketed for driving with a suspended license.

A phone was stolen from a car parked for 45 minutes at a Dixie business.

A 1994 Chevy pulled away from a gas pump on Dixie without removing the nozzle from the car, damaging the nozzle. The driver, a 34-year-old Oak Park man, gave the attendant a \$44 payroll check to cover the damage, then left.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, a snowboard was stolen from a 14-year-old Sterling Heights boy as he tried to assist a friend injured while skiing at Pine Knob.

A 14-year-old boy who had run away from his Auburn Hills home was found walking on Sashabaw Rd. He was turned over to his uncle in Brandon Township, but immediately ran away again.

A neighbor of a business on M-15 complained about an alarm running for nearly five hours, from midnight to 5 a.m.

Larceny of a ski patrol rescue toboggan and first aid gear at Pine Knob.

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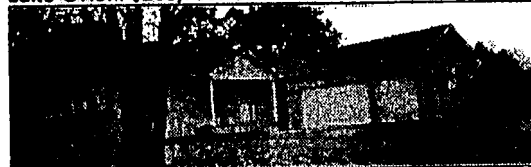


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Springfield Township

Springfield outlines goals for new year

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

It was Springfield Township's version of New Year's resolutions.

Members of the township board of trustees agreed on a preliminary list of 26 goals for 1998 at their regular meeting Thursday.

Supervisor Collin Walls said this method of goal-setting at the start of the year has been effective for the township planning commission in the past, and hopes it can be duplicated for the township board.

"I went through the minutes over the last two years and looked for items that had been tabled, discussed, and lost in the shuffle," Walls said at the meeting. "We also have listed some projects that are a little slow-moving that we would like to have as a priority in the new year."

Among the items the board wanted to tackle in the upcoming year are: paving of Bridge Lake Road, the new township facility planning, repair to the township cemetery, the ISO fire rating, investment policies, sidewalk and safety paths, fire department planning, and quarterly joint meetings between the township, library, parks and planning commissions.

Board members shared some of their priorities for the new year, many that were the same as the ones Walls had listed.

"I'd like to see us talk about coordinating our overall activities," trustee Richard Miller said.

"The investment policies and our future complex are my priorities," treasurer Lois Stiles said.

Walls instructed board members to look over the list of 26 items over the next few weeks and come back with a consensus top 10.

Smooth sailing ahead: Bridge Lake Rd. to be paved this spring

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

After nearly two years of jumping through legal hoops and learning on the run, the Bridge Lake Road paving project in Springfield Township appears ready to go.

Township supervisor Collin Walls said Monday he hopes to accept bids on the project sometime next month, with paving to begin on the one-mile stretch to start in early April.

"It seems like this has taken a long time, but we've encountered a number of new things with this," Walls said. "This has been an effort involving residents, the township board, developers, developers' engineers, and the (Oakland County) Road Commission. It's a combination you don't see work together very often, but we're not far away now."

"As soon as the weather and the bids allow, we'll get to work in the spring."

The Bridge Lake Road project was unusual from the start. Walls said it began with a resident petition, prompted by the Autumn Shores development. After the new subdivision went in, many residents used the gravel road for access to and from their homes.

The Autumn Shores developer then agreed to step in and pave a quarter-mile stretch of Bridge Lake that would not have been covered by the special assessment district drawn up to pay for the project. Had that not

happened, that piece of the road would go from pavement, to gravel, and back to pavement again. "Didn't make a lot of sense," Walls said, regarding the leftover quarter-mile.

Bridge Lake Road will be paved from Davisburg to Rattalee Lake Road.

After going through the number of requisite hearings, the special assessment district was approved last spring, and the township was hopeful to start construction in December and continue it through the expected mild winter.

Quickly, it became apparent that a schedule that only allowed three weeks between board approval and construction could not be met. Walls added that with construction time estimated to take between two and four months, work would be taking place during the month of March, making for a very messy situation when the seasons change.

"We didn't want that road to become any worse than it already is," he said.

A new schedule was drawn up, one calling for possible bid approval in February, with contractor preparation taking up to three months instead of two weeks as the "progressive" schedule called for. Walls said construction can begin in April even if the bids aren't accepted until March.

The project cost area homeowners in the SADA total of \$700,000, with the remaining \$100,000 coming from the township board. The township's contribution is budgeted for in the 1998 fiscal year.

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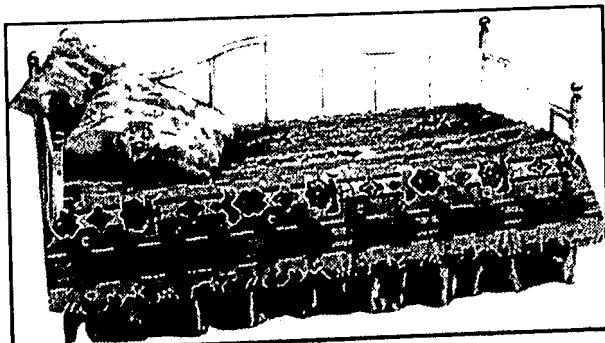
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Page 6B

SPORTS

The Clarkston News

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1998

Section B

Fife's 33 lead Wolves to fourth straight win

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Clarkston 47
Southfield Lathrup 45

Another day, another heart-stopping win for the Clarkston boys varsity basketball team.

For the third time in the last four games, the Wolves won a game in the last four seconds, this time victimizing the Southfield Lathrup Chargers 47-45 at Southfield Friday night.

The hero this game was senior guard Dane Fife, who made two free throws with 4.6 seconds left in the game, giving the Wolves their first lead since the first quarter and the win.

Fife was simply brilliant in the game, racking up 33 points on 12-for-15 shooting from the field, 7-for-8 from the free throw line and a pair of 3-pointers.

"I didn't feel any pressure at all," Fife said, referring to his game-winning free throws. "I was shaking because of how tired I was."

Clarkston coach Dan Fife said the team's experience and mental toughness have shown in the team's three last-second wins recently.

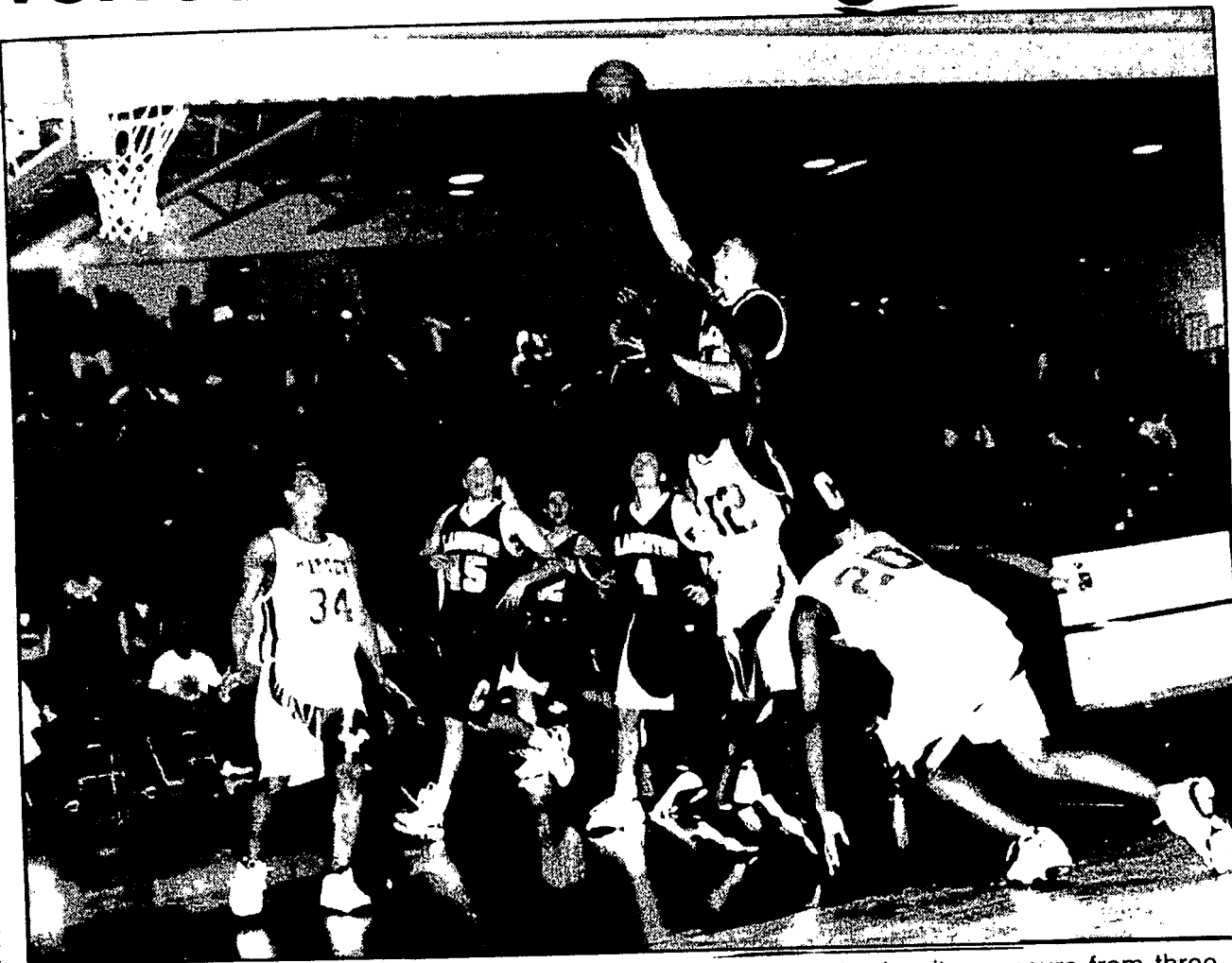
"We could have just as easily lost this game," he said. "But I guess the big fella upstairs was looking down on us." On Dec. 30, Clarkston beat Detroit Central 51-50 on a last-second 3-pointer by Mike Maitrott. On Jan. 9, the Wolves defeated arch-rival Pontiac Northern 48-47 on Brad Phalen's offensive rebound putback as time expired.

"We've got guys on the team who are used to playing in close games," Coach Fife said. "Dane and Angelo (Taylor) have been in this environment for four years, and guys like (Justin) Dionne and Maitrott have been here for three, so we know what to do in those situations."

The Chargers led most of the game, using an unusual spread offense that ran time off the clock. Unusual for a team with as many good athletes as Lathrup has. Lathrup held a 38-31 lead with 2:18 left in the third quarter. The Chargers did an excellent job of moving the ball around and making their open jump shots.

Class A Basketball Top 10 as of Jan. 20, 1998

1 - Detroit Cooley	9-0
2 - Benton Harbor	9-0
3 - Clarkston	7-1
4 - East Lansing	9-0
5 - Pontiac Central	7-1
6 - Saginaw Arthur Hill	7-1
7 - Detroit Pershing	7-1
8 - Ann Arbor Huron	7-0
9 - Okemos	8-0
10 - Detroit Central	9-2



Senior Dane Fife (12) displays his version of the running skyhook, despite pressure from three Southfield Lathrup players Friday. Mark Whiteman (45) and Dan Neubeck (4) fight off the defense to get into rebounding position.

The fourth quarter could be cut into a Dane Fife highlight tape. With most of his teammates struggling with their perimeter shots, Fife decided to take the game over with his drives to the basket. All four of his fourth-quarter field goals came on layups made after blowing by a number of Lathrup defenders.

Taylor, who didn't start because of a bum ankle, only scored six points, but four of those came early in the fourth, when he got open for layups. Both baskets came on nice passes from Dionne. Taylor's second basket of the quarter tied the game at 43-43, the closest Clarkston had been since it led 7-6 early in the first.

After two Lathrup free throws, Fife blew apart the Charger defense for a slicing layup that again tied the game.

Lathrup's Lee Straughter then missed the front end of a 1-and-1 from the line, leaving the door open for Clarkston to win the game. Fife drove to the basket and was fouled along the right side, sending him to the line for the deciding free throws.

Coach Fife said he was happy with the contributions made by Dionne and senior Kevin Mason, who came off the bench to get some tough rebounds and play solid defense.

"I thought Mason did a nice job for us off the bench," Coach Fife said. "What Justin does can't be measured in statistics. He made some great passes to Angelo in the fourth quarter. It takes a lot of nerve to

make those passes."

With the win, the Wolves moved into first place in the OAA Division I with a 2-0 record. Clarkston stands at 7-1 overall, before Tuesday's game at Rochester Adams. Clarkston plays one of its two Friday home games this week, as the Troy Colts come to town. Troy beat Clarkston 55-54 last year at the CHS gym, a win those players called one of the biggest they ever had. The JV game tips off at 6 p.m.

See Page 3B for the Basketball Notebook.

Ice rink to open at Clintonwood

Outdoor, lighted ice skating is expected to come to Clarkston this week with the opening of an ice rink at Clintonwood Park.

Ann Conklin, Independence Township's Director of Parks and Recreation, said last week she hoped to have the rink up and running by today (Wednesday), weather permitting.

Anyone interested in skating should call parks and rec. at 625-8223 for hours of operation, which will be governed by the weather.

COLORED INK

Ladies let one get away

Wolves fall to Dragons in frustrating fashion

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Lake Orion 15-11-15

Clarkston 10-15-7

There are times when the Clarkston varsity volleyball team looks like an unstoppable force, like a runaway truck.

Then there are others when the team looks around and wonders what hit them, like a stunned prizefighter.

Unfortunately for the Wolves and their rabid fans, the stunned prizefighter look was slightly more common than the runaway truck Monday, as Clarkston lost a gut-wrenching match at Lake Orion 15-10, 11-15, 15-7.

The Wolves are off until Monday when they host Birmingham Seaholm in a big OAA Division I game. The freshman and JV matches start at 6 p.m.

Clarkston coach Gordie Richardson was frustrated after the game, his team saddled with its second three-game loss in the league this season.

"We let the first game get away - the story of our lives," he said. "Then we sat around and watched in the third game. We just have to find a way to have the mental toughness the boys basketball team has. You can see, they're never down when something doesn't go right. They don't focus on what just happened, they move on. We aren't refocusing very well right now."

Each game featured long scoring runs by both teams, but the team that scored the first point of the game went on to win each game.

The Wolves (7-10-1 overall, 2-3 in the OAA I) were down 8-2 in the first game, but managed to pull ahead 10-9 just a few minutes later, thanks to the dominant front-row play of senior Georgia Senkyr and a pair of aces by junior Kara Bergkoetter.

After that, Lake Orion started a run of its own, winning the game with a 6-0 spurt.

Game two was all Clarkston early. The Wolves flew out to a commanding 9-1 lead, taking advantage of Orion serve reception errors. The team also received strong defensive efforts from junior Jenny Claus and senior Hope Manuel in the run.

The Wolves were able to hold off the Dragons to win the second game, 15-11. But as Richardson said, Lake Orion came out the more aggressive team in the third game and won going away.

For the match, Claus and senior Aimee Giroux led the team going a combined 19-for-19 on serve receptions. Senior Jenny McCue was 15-for-16 and went 11-for-12 serving. Senkyr had 12 kills, six solo blocks and was 8-for-8 serving.

Senior setter Kelly Hanna injured her shoulder diving for a ball in the third game and did not return. Richardson said Manuel played very hard in Hanna's absence.

"I'm disappointed for the kids, because they played hard enough to win," Richardson said. "We just didn't have the mental toughness to pull it out."

Grand Blanc Inv.

Playing some of its toughest competition yet, Clarkston left Saturday's Grand Blanc Invitational with a 2-3 record in five hard-fought matches.

Thanks to a come-from-behind 15-9, 16-14 win



Senior Georgia Senkyr (10) powers the ball over the net against Port Huron Northern at Saturday's Invitational. Getting into defensive position are Kelly Hanna (28), Jenny Claus (13), Aimee Giroux (3) and Ingrid Zimmerman (15).

over Romeo, the Wolves advanced to the Gold Bracket (a.k.a winner's bracket) of the tournament where they were "welcomed" by sixth-ranked Birmingham Marian. Clarkston played well and put up a good fight before losing 15-7, 15-11.

"We hurt ourselves with nine attack errors in the second game against Marian," Richardson said. "We had a hard time getting anyone to block their right-side hitter (all-state selection and Notre Dame-bound Kristy Krehler), who is very good."

"But I thought we played pretty well against a good team," he continued. "We won't see that kind of attack power anytime in the near future and I think it will be good for our kids to see that."

The Wolves had an 8-2 lead over Marian in the second game thanks to some good work by Giroux, Hanna and senior Amber Mitchell. However, the Mustangs were just too strong to stay down for long and outscored the Wolves 13-2 to end the match.

Clarkston's first win of the day came against Flint Powers, 15-0, 15-7. The Wolves were able to take advantage of a lot of mistakes by the Chargers to pick up their most dominant win of the season.

One match Richardson felt the team let get away was a 15-10, 17-15 loss to Port Huron Northern, the team's second of the day. In the second game, Clarkston held a 14-11 lead, needing only one point to win and force a rally-scored third game. Northern scored three straight to tie it at 14-14. The Wolves scored next to go up 15-14, again only needing one point to win. But

Clarkston's defensive struggles caught up with it at the end.

"The way we played defense was a big disappointment all day long," Richardson said. "We just have to get better at it, and we spent the entire previous week practicing on defense. We have to be in place before the other team takes its swing at the ball. We weren't and we let a lot of balls land in front or behind us."

Despite the 2-3 record, Richardson saw a number of positives come out of Saturday's 12-hour marathon. Mitchell played consistently well on the front row offensively and defensively throughout the day. The team had been struggling when Senkyr moved to the back, but Mitchell's play during that time gave the team a spark.

"Amber stepped up and played well in the middle for us," Richardson said. "She's not really a middle, but we certainly can use her there with the way she played today."

Richardson also said that McCue was one of the team's most consistent all-around players on the day, being more active on offense and leading the team in attack percentage.

For the day, Senkyr led the team with 27 kills and 17 blocks. Hanna had six service aces, 42 assists with a .953 setting percentage. Giroux led the defense with 23 digs and 39-for-40 on serve reception and 23-for-27 attack receptions, both excellent percentages. McCue was tops with 24 digs and 37 serve attempts.

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Basketball notebook

Injury report

Clarkston went into Friday's game at Southfield Lathrup minus two regular starters.

Senior guard Mike Maitrott was diagnosed with mononucleosis shortly after the Chippewa Valley game Jan. 6. He was scheduled to miss three weeks, which could put his return Jan. 27 against Davison, or Jan. 30 at Rochester.

Senior forward Angelo Taylor did not start, but played at Lathrup. He suffered a sprained ankle earlier in the week at practice, but was able to play. He finished with six points and seven rebounds in the game.

Bucking the Colts

A rare treat is in store for Clarkston basketball fans Friday. A home game.

Quirks in the schedule have Clarkston only playing two Friday home games all season, the first coming up this week against the Troy Colts. The other game comes Feb. 13 (Friday the 13th of all days) against Rochester Adams.

Clarkston has played six games in a row on the road, with the last home game taking place Dec. 16, a 76-27 win over Royal Oak Kimball.

Troy has one of its best teams of recent years, and entered this week with a 6-2 overall record. Troy defeated Southfield Lathrup 62-59 in an earlier meeting, but was upset by crosstown rival Troy Athens 70-58 for the first time since the 1990-91 season.

Players to watch on Troy are junior point guard Tim Fralick, senior forward Jim Essian, and junior Bryan O'Keefe, who led the state in 3-point shooting last season (.492). The JV game starts at 6 p.m., with the varsity at around 7:30.

Athlete of the Week: Nicole Nelles

Salut, Nicole: A senior on the varsity volleyball team, Nicole Nelles has become one of the most improved players in the first half of the season. Nicole provides some consistency on the left side on both offense and defense for the Wolves and is one of the hardest workers on the team. She helped to spark a comeback during the team's first game against Port Huron Northern Saturday with four aces in six service attempts. Nicole is a two-year veteran of the team, and stays very busy through the school year and beyond with a number of extra-curricular activities. She is on the executive board of the Blue and Gold Club at CHS, a member of the National Honor Society and is part of WOLF, Working On Leadership for the Future. She had a fall grade point average of 3.83 and was accepted into the honors college at Michigan State University, where she will go to school next year.

Coach Gordie Richardson on Nicole: "Nicole has been playing with much more confidence and is mechanically a much better volleyball player. She has always been a person who encourages and motivates the other players on the team vocally. She will always be there for her teammates and coaches. It's just her nature to be a total team player."

Nicole on Nicole: "I like the intensity of volleyball, and that it takes the whole team working together to be successful. I can see the difference when everyone works together and I try to do my part by picking the players up as much as I can. Our team has the potential to go very far in the playoffs. We have to keep working and pushing ourselves not



Nicole Nelles

only in practice, but in the games too. We have the talent, experience and drive to do it."

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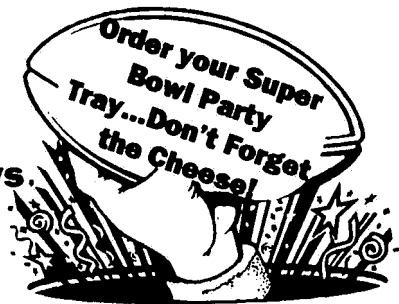
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Shorthanded wrestlers go 3-2 at Adrian

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Adrian Tournament

The Clarkston wrestling team went into Saturday's Adrian Tournament missing three starters due to injury, and it only got worse.

Sophomore Pat DeGain, one of the best in the country at 189 lbs., reinjured a knee during his third match of the day against Charlotte. The injury isn't expected to keep him out for long, but the team had to void its last two matches at 189, resulting in losses to Plymouth Salem (41-25) and Bay City Western (42-21).

The Wolves defeated Monroe (58-21), Otisville-Lakeville (51-25) and Charlotte (43-22) in the first three matches of the dual meet tournament.

Coach Mike DeGain said the void at 189 and at 215 - because of an injury to sophomore Bubba Clement - cost the team dearly against Western and Salem.

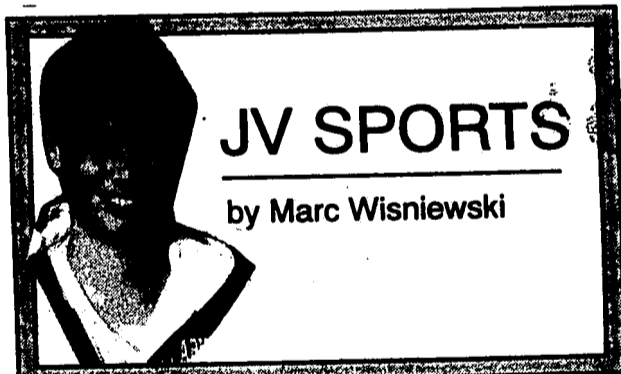
"With those two voids and us missing starters Ryan L'Amoreaux and Kevin Turnbull, we were hurting," he said. "You look at those guys and each of them finished all-county. It's tough to replace guys of that quality."

Junior A.J. Grant was the only one to go 5-0 on the day, maintaining his perfect record this season. Junior Andy Auten went 4-0, sitting out the match against Lakeville. Coach DeGain was pleased with Auten's performance, especially in a key match against Charlotte.

"He had to overcome an injury himself in that one, but he was excellent for us," he said.

Brian Chisholm stepped in and wrestled well in his first significant A-team action this season. He had been dominant on the B-team, so Coach DeGain tried him on the varsity with good results.

"Brian has been a high-placer on the B-team, and he went right in there and did well."



JV SPORTS

by Marc Wisniewski

Basketball

The JV basketball team had another good week, winning both of its games. Last Tuesday, due to some good foul shooting in the last few minutes of the game, the Wolves ended on top with a score of 61-50. Ryan Marino led the team with 13 points. Chad Booker and Rocky Lund followed, both scoring 10.

On Friday, the Wolves beat Southfield Lathrup 53-36. The Wolves had an early lead; they were up 14-2 at the end of the first quarter. Kevin Stalker broke out of a little slump, scoring 16 points. Lund followed with 15.

"We got off to a great start and maintained that style of play for the rest of the game," said Coach Tim Kaul.

The Wolves now have a record of 7 and 1.

Coach DeGain said he expects all the injured wrestlers to be ready for the showdown with top-ranked Rochester Adams Jan. 28. Turnbull had food poisoning, so all he needed was rest. L'Amoreaux, Clement and DeGain should practice this week to get in shape for the Highlanders.

The matmen have a busy week coming up, starting Wednesday with league dual meets against Lake Orion and Troy Athens at Rochester Adams starting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, the team travels to Chippewa Valley for a dual meet against Romeo. Mat time is 5 p.m.

Steve Yzerman-signed puck up for auction

At 7:30 p.m. Friday, fifth-grade students at North Sashabaw Elementary School will host a benefit for their spring trip to Toronto.

Headlining the evening will be a silent auction for a puck autographed by Detroit Red Wings captain Steve Yzerman. An appearance by a Red Wings player, coach or trainer may also happen.

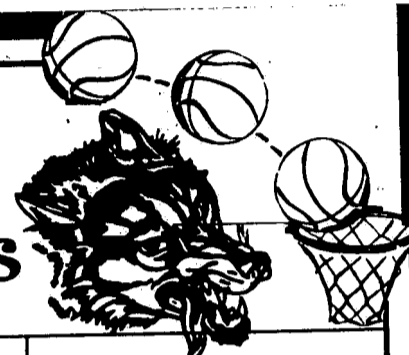
Tickets are \$2 each. For more information, call Tammy Thompson at 620-3018.

Clarkston wrestling club

Three Clarkston youths walked away with medals last weekend as part of the Clarkston Wrestling Club.

Braden L'Amoreaux and Elliot May each won first places at the Goodrich Open Tournament. Paul Gibbs took third at the Flushing Raiders Trophy Tournament.

Basketball Go Wolves



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Stats

Clarkston	7-1
Troy	6-2
Pontiac Northern	6-2
Southfield Lathrup	6-2
Rochester Adams	6-3
Rochester	5-5
Ferndale	4-5

Last Week:

Clarkston-47/Southfield Lathrup-45
Troy Athens-70/Troy-58
Pontiac Northern-73/Rochester-60
Rochester Adams-73/Ferndale-65

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Hockey team finishes perfect 3-day weekend

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Clarkston	7
Davison	2

For the second time this season, the Clarkston hockey team was faced with playing three games in three days.

As they did Dec. 5-7, the Wolves won all three games, completing the sweep with a dominating 7-2 win over the Davison Cardinals Sunday afternoon at Lakeland Arena. The loss dropped the Cardinals to 10-4 on the season.

Clarkston won its sixth game in a row to improve to 11-2-1 overall and 9-1 in the North Division of the Suburban Prep Hockey League.

The Wolves used a balanced offense, much improved defense and near-perfect penalty killing to defeat a solid Cardinal team.

"We always stress taking the man when we're in our own zone," coach Rick Rowden said. "When we can take the player off the puck and get possession, we control the game. Today, we did that."

An evenly played first period saw the teams tied at 1-1. Controversy came early in the second period, when sophomore Andy Cote scored a backhanded shot along the ice 41 seconds in to give Clarkston a 2-1 lead.

However, the puck appeared to slide into the net by way of a gap between the bottom of the net and the ice surface, instead of between the goalposts. The shot was ruled to be a goal, despite protests from the Davison players and coaches.

The Wolves used the sudden momentum swing to their full advantage, scoring two goals in a 3:10 span in the second period. Junior defenseman D.J. Thomas



Junior captain D.J. Thomas (15) wheels around the net in first-period action Sunday against Davison. Thomas scored his first goal of the season to help the Wolves to a convincing 7-2 victory.

scored his first of the season on a well-placed slapshot from the point during a Clarkston power play to make it 3-1. Sophomore Anthony Facione finished off a brilliant effort with a nifty goal to put the Wolves ahead 4-1 at the end of the second.

After junior Bret Postal scored to put Clarkston up 5-1, the Wolves had a slew of penalties called against them, resulting in a Davison 5-on-3 power play, but it was Clarkston who scored. Senior Ryan Peters

Continued on Page 6B

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A Real Community Bank

Warm weather delays start of ski season

Boys and girls open with wins over Country Day

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Games being canceled on account of snow or cold are not uncommon in sports, especially in the spring.

But in the man-bites-dog scenario, the start of the Clarkston High School boys and girls ski season was delayed because of warm weather and a lack of snow. The team's first two meets - scheduled against Rochester Adams Jan. 6 and Rochester Jan. 7 - were postponed because of that week's unseasonably warm weather. Both have been rescheduled for next month.

The Wolves did get the season going under more normal conditions Thursday, as the boys defeated Detroit Country Day 17-23, while the girls were victorious 12-27.

It was a nice way to start for Clarkston's first-year head coaches Bruce Rosengren (boys) and Tami Mitchell (girls).

"I was very pleased with how we raced," Rosengren said. "We had a few kinks to work out with the delayed start, but I thought the kids came out and did well."

On the girls side, sophomore Megan Whipp took first at the meet with a combined time of 43.77, nearly four seconds faster than anyone else. Senior co-captains Gretchen Pitser and Sara McKechnie took second and fourth respectively. Kelly Morton finished fifth for Clarkston. Those four are expected to carry much of the scoring load for Clarkston early in the season.

Junior Kristen Atkinson, who finished second in the state last year individually, did not race because of a torn anterior cruciate ligament suffered during a national race in Colorado in December. However, Atkinson expects to compete this season, with the aid of



Senior Brad Villiere crosses the finish line en route to a second-place finish during Clarkston's season-opening win over Detroit Country Day Thursday.

a brace. When she's healthy, there aren't many better anywhere than Atkinson, who combines precise form with blazing speed on the slopes.

"Kristen has a lot of mental aggressiveness," Rosengren said. "She attacks the course and goes for the win every time. As long as she's feeling strong enough to go, we'll have her in there racing."

Rosengren expects excellent leadership from the team's seniors, Pitser, McKechnie, Laura Pope and Elie Spindler. Pope won the Don Thomas JV Cup last year, a big honor and one she hopes to translate into strong finishes this year.

"Megan Whipp has great potential as a skier," Rosengren added. "She has a lot of experience as a racer and can compete against Kristen."

The boys team took a heavy hit to graduation, losing standouts like Chris Evans, Kyle Russell and Jason Callahan, but a number of young skiers are ready to take over. David Whipp, Megan's sister, was a state-qualifier last year and should be near the top of race results all season, Rosengren said.

"Both Whipps have been racing very well for us," he said.

An early surprise at the Country Day meet was the performance of junior Russ Parrott. A standout on the soccer field and a member of the JV ski team a year ago, Parrott took third on the team and fifth overall with a time of 42.07 seconds.

Clarkston returns to the slopes Wednesday with a meet against Bloomfield Hills Lahser at 4 p.m. at Pine Knob.

Wolves on six-game winning streak

From Page 5B

missed a breakaway shot, but recovered quickly to nudge in a backhand shot for the team's sixth tally of the game. A goal by a team with two players in the penalty box is almost as rare as an AFC win in the Super Bowl.

The goal was also indicative of how well Clarkston played on the penalty kill. The Wolves killed off 12 out of 13 Davison power play opportunities. Contained within that were two 2-minute 5-on-3s for the Cardinals.

Sophomores Jason Stoecker and Bill Kalush added goals for Clarkston. Sophomores Steve Badger and Pat Cook turned in strong performances in goal for the Wolves, stopping 22 of 24 shots.

Clarkston 3 Waterford Kettering 2

It wasn't easy or pretty, but the Wolves held off an improving Waterford Kettering team for a 3-2 win Saturday afternoon at Lakeland.

The teams played an intense, back-and-forth game throughout until Peters scored the game-winner mid-

way through the third period. He finished with two goals, while junior Adam Leech had a goal and an assist.

Clarkston 24 Southfield 0

No, that isn't a misprint.

The Wolves really did beat Southfield's unified team 24-0 Friday afternoon at Lakeland Arena.

In a game every bit as lopsided as the final score indicated, seven Clarkston players recorded three-goal hat tricks.

Peters, Kalush, Thomas and Leech each recorded four assists. Leech, Wells, Facione, freshman Jon Bemis, Postal, freshman Steve Janowiak and sophomore Derek Hool all scored three goals apiece. Sophomore Jason Stoecker scored two and added an assist. He had only scored one goal all season before this game. Facione added three assists in the game to finish with six points in the game.

Cook recorded the shut out in goal for Clarkston, his second over Southfield this season.

1998 Clarkston Boys and Girls Skiing Schedule

Jan. 21	Bloomfield Hills Lahser	4 p.m.
Jan. 27	Lake Orion	4 p.m.
Jan. 30	Don Thomas JV Meet	
	at Mt. Holly	4 p.m.
Feb. 2	Waterford Mott	4 p.m.
Feb. 4	JV OAA Meet	4 p.m.
Feb. 5	Pine Knob Championships	9 a.m.
Feb. 9	OAA I Championships	4 p.m.
Feb. 12	Regionals at Mt. Holly	9 a.m.
Feb. 16	Rochester	4 p.m.
Feb. 19	SEMSL Meet	
	at Mt. Brighton	9 a.m.
Feb. 23	State Meet	TBA



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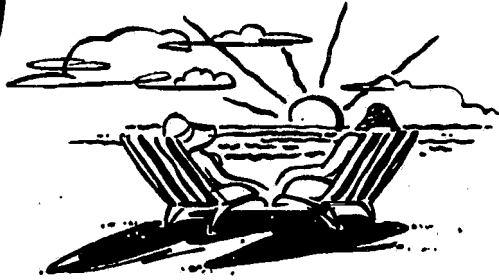
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1994 DODGE SPIRIT, V6. Extended warranty remaining. Excellent condition. Work- 858-7852: Home-391-8198. IILX48-12nn

1994 GRAND AM GT: Loaded, 2 door, white, 60K miles. Mint, moving. \$8,900. 814-8138 IILX47-12nn

1995 DODGE NEON SPORT: 4 door, auto, ABS, sunroof, am/fm cassette, silver/ purple. 103,000 highway miles. Mint condition. Must sell. \$6,000 or best. (248)628-5567. IILX46-12nn

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1990 FORD PROBE LX: New air, tires, brakes. 5 speed, am/fm cassette. 89,000 miles. \$3800 obo. (248)693-9834. IILX47-12nn

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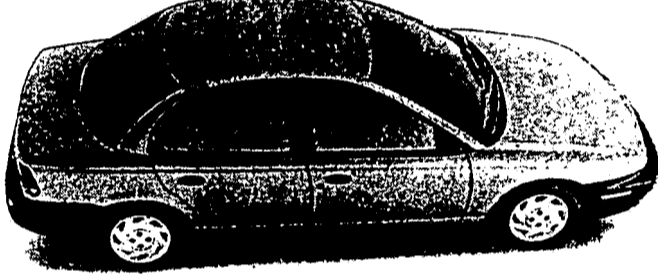
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[\$11,035] That's the M.S.R.P. of this 1998 Saturn SL, including retailer prep and transportation. Of course, total cost will vary seeing how other options and state-required equipment are extra, as are things like tax and license. Each retailer sets its own price, which may differ from the price above. ©1997 Saturn Corporation.

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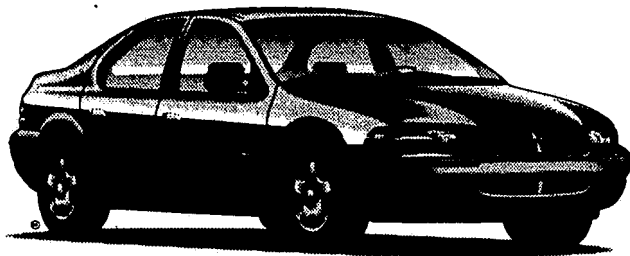


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1998 DODGE STRATUS SEDAN



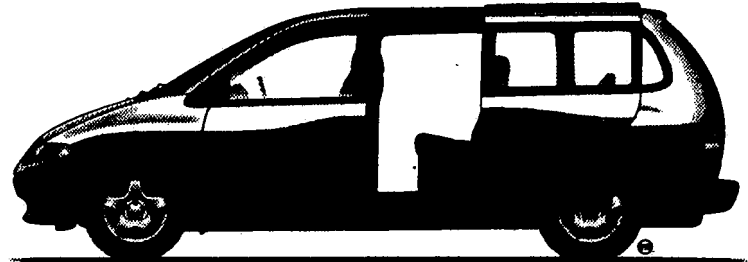
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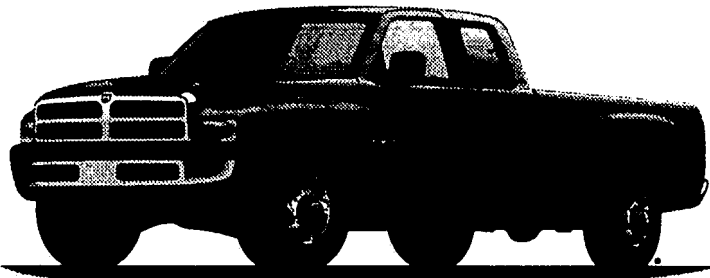
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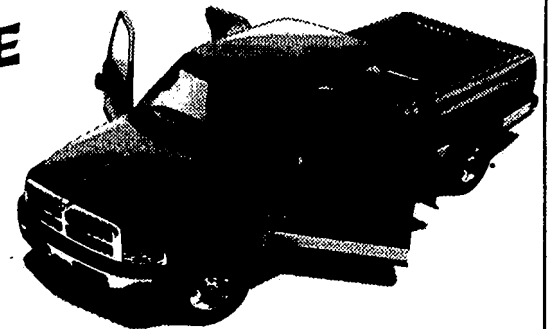
Intense blue, SLT decor, sport package, V-8, auto, air, power windows, power locks, tilt, cruise, power mirrors, sliding rear window, body color step bumper, power moonroof, AM/FM CD stereo, alarm, bedliner, cast wheels. Stk. #98409

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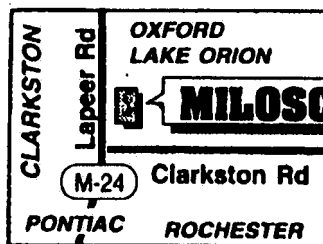
Bright white, 4x4, SLT decor, sport package, V-8, auto, air, power windows, power locks, tilt, cruise, power mirrors, sliding rear window, body color step bumper, power moonroof, AM/FM CD stereo, alarm, bedliner, cast wheels. Stk. #98464

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ARE YOU IN PAIN with headaches, neckaches or backaches? If so, call Toll Free 1-888-633-4499 for a recorded message and receive a Free Report on How To End Back Pain Fast and Forever! IIXL1-11fc

ATTENTION: TOP Realtor seeking 3 people to train for lucrative real estate sales career. Call John Burt Realty, 248-628-7700. IIXL1-11fc

ATTENTION: CLARKSTON Postal positions. Clerks and sorters. No experience required. Benefits. For exam, salary, and testing information call 1(830)908-5570 ext. 4414, 8am-8pm. IIXC26-1

Auburn Hills & TROY COMPANIES

Seeking receptionist/ office support. Must be computer literate with previous clerical and Multi-line exp. Wages \$8.00+ to start. Call for immediate interview. 248-373-0080

LX5-1c

DIRECT CARE STAFF

No experience required. Full benefits: Health, dental and personal time. Assist mentally challenged in home, social and vocational skills. Starting wages up to \$7/hr. Lakeville area. 810-752-5470.

LZ4-2

DIRECT CARE STAFF

Now hiring caring people to assist disabled adults in Clarkston and Ortonville area group homes. Up to \$7/hr to start! Great benefits, flexible schedules, no experience necessary. Call Lynn, (248)628-4570 or (248)969-2392 after 3pm.

LZ5-2

Direct Care

ASSISTANT HOME MANAGER Management position in an Ortonville group home, caring for developmentally disabled adults. Competitive wages, great benefits including dependent coverage for health and dental plan. Must be MOCR trained and experienced. Call Darlene 248-969-0736 Monday-Friday till 3pm. 248-969-2392 after 3pm.

LZ5-1

DRIVERS- Movers Needed

Earn up to \$10-13 pr/hr With Incentives. 248-814-1111

LX2-4

ENERGETIC MEDICAL ASSISTANT Needed for thriving, ambulatory care center, Lake Orion, MI. Hours flexible. Retirement plan, health insurance. (248)693-9040. May Fax resume: 693-9007. IIXLX4-2

EXPERIENCED SIDERS WANTED, full time. Call 628-1902. IIXLX3-4

EXPERIENCED NAIL TECH needed for established salon in Clarkston. 623-0660. IIXC28-2

NEEDED ASAP PART TIME, someone to answer phones for small shop, 969-2676. Ask for Gary or Debbie. IIXLX5-2

HAIR STYLIST NEEDED, new salon in Clarkston. Great location and atmosphere. Call Terri 623-KING. IIXCZ25-1

HELP WANTED: Part time/ full time Macintosh operator. Must be experienced with PageMaker, QuarkXpress & Adobe Photoshop software. Call Pam at (248)693-4240. IIXLX5-2

Immediate Openings

Metal Stamping Co. seeking: **QUALITY AUDITORS DIE SETTERS**

To staff our Newest Metal Stamping Facility in Orion. No experience necessary for many positions.

We offer: Competitive Wages 401K, Health/ Dental. Short term disability insurance.

Corban Industries, Inc. 4590 Joslyn Rd. Orion, MI 48359 248-393-2720/ Fax 393-2865. LZ5-1c

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LX3-4

LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUAL to help build specialty vehicles. Fabrication, painting, mechanical. Experience helpful, but not essential. Non smoker! Jack, (810)678-2342. IIXLX5-2

L/S Family Foods HIRING

Cashier - Deli NIGHT CREW EXPERIENCE PREFERRED. But will train. \$5.50 - \$7 per hour. Ask for Pat (248) 693-9090

LX26-11dh

"MEALS ON WHEELS" Site Hostess, Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 4 hours per day, 656-1403, ext. 147. IIXRX4-2c

METAMORA ARABIAN Horsefarm looking for full time person to care for horses and do farm work. Excellent pay. Annie 313-946-4288 IIXLX5-4

Receptionist Job entails waiting on customers and answering the phones. Must have good spelling, punctuation, typing and computer skills.

Apply in person between 10am-2pm Monday thru Friday at the Oxford Leader Office, 666 S Lapeer Rd., Oxford.

GET YOUR ROLLED tickets at the Lake Orion Review, 30 N. Broadway, Lake Orion, Oxford Leader, 666 S. Lapeer Rd, Oxford or at the Clarkston News, 5 S. Main, Clarkston. Single rolls \$8.00, double rolls \$9.50 assorted colors IIXRX22-11dh

NOW HIRING: Full/ part time. Apply in person

Wonder Cleaners & Laundry OXFORD Location! Good wages plus gratuities. Or call Rick, 693-4460

LX5-2c

VERY RESPONSIBLE, must love children, sister wanted. Part time after school. Alternating weeks, from 4-5:30pm, one week on, one week off. Some hours during off week. Please call 969-6081, ask for Margarita. IIXLX4-2

BRIDGEPORT OPERATOR - 5 year minimum experience. Dayshift, BC, dental, life, 401K. Top wages paid. Please call 248-373-3010 IIXZ22-4

CENA FOR SMALL Caring home-like nursing center in Romeo. \$8.40 weekdays/ with additional \$3.00 premium on weekends. 810-752-3571 ask for Emma. IIXLX4-2

CHOCOS CHOCOS CHOCOLATE has part time job opportunity Thurs, Fri, approx. 10am-3:30pm, sales and chocolate packaging. \$8.50 and up. Apply Thurs. or Fri. at 150 S. Washington, Oxford. IIXLX4-2c

CLEANING POSITION - Waterford area, 1 day a week, 810-658-9414. IIXLX4-2

DAYTIME BARTENDER Wanted, 11am-7pm 5 days a week. Call Wagon Wheel, 693-6789. IIXLX5-11h

DIETARY HELP NEEDED full time/ 5 days a week. Housekeeping, part time/ 3 days a week. For Romeo Nursing Center, 810-752-3571. 250 Denby St., Romeo. IIXLX2-4

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HELP WANTED: Earn up to \$500 per week assembling products at home. No experience. Info 1-504-848-1700 Dept. MI-2190. IIXLX5-1

HELP WANTED: Experienced welders and will train general laborers. Apply at: 2900 Indianwood Road, Lake Orion. 9-3pm. IIXLX5-2

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS for experienced Salesmen in Home Improvement Sales. Top salary paid. Great atmosphere. Appointments given. Inquire within, 10 E. Burdick, Oxford or call 969-0703 IIXLX37-11c

Immediate Openings

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Delivery: up to \$12-14/ Hour (with wages & tips) EXPERIENCE PREFERRED Will train right person. Full/ Part time positions available APPLY IN PERSON 1396 S. LAPEER RD. Oxford Mills Shopping Center LX32-dht

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SIDERS, ROUGH Carpenters wanted, full time, 40+ hours, 8-15 hour. 248-627-7262. IIXZ22-3

SWITCHER DRIVER, Lake Orion area. Benefits available. Apply 17801 Dix, Melvindale, 48122. IIXRX4-2

WANTED: DEPENDABLE, hard-working, detail oriented person with excellent computer skills (WordPerfect) to work in Township Clerk's office. Part time temporary employment for 1998. For more info, please call 391-0304, ext. 104. An equal opportunity employer. IIXLX4-2c

PLUMBER, experienced or will train apprentice. Only hard working and responsible apply. 34 and Dequindre area. 248-628-6624. IIXLX4-2

READERS NOTE: Some "WORK-AT-HOME" ads or ads offering information on jobs or government homes may require an INITIAL INVESTMENT. We urge you to investigate the company's claims or offers thoroughly before sending any money, and PROCEED AT YOUR OWN RISK. IIXLX10-11dh

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5 NIGHTS PER WEEK 3 HOURS PER NIGHT, 5-8pm. Auburn Hills area. \$7.25/ start. 969-2202 or 650-4930 LX5-1

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NEEDED: PIANIST/ ORGANIST/ Musician for United Methodist Church in Leonard. Call (248)628-3688 or (248)628-3086. IIXLX5-3

PART AND FULL TIME Help needed at preschool in Oxford. 628-2916 ask for Donna. IIXLX4-2

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Full & part-time opportunities available at our Primary Care offices for Medical Assistants and Receptionists, on day and afternoon shifts.

Medical Assistants must have current experience performing EKG's, X-rays, and Phlebotomy.

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087-DAY CARE

CHILD CARE GROUP Home in Clarkston now hiring part time staff. Contact Miss Brenda 620-9516. IIXC24-4.

CHILD CARE FOR Infant twins, live-in or out. 248-620-5106. IIXC25-2

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Infants - 5 years 391-8977 LX3-4

LICENSED DAYCARE, Certified teacher offering loving and educational environment (Clarkston) 625-9174. IIXC24-4

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IMMEDIATE OPENING MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN

ITT Automotive 180 E. Elmwood Street Leonard, MI - 48367

High School Diploma/GED Experienced in Injection Molding Automated Assembly Troubleshooting, Electronics, Hydraulics and Pneumatics is mandatory. Computer Literacy Helpful

Must be Team Player Fax Resume To: Connie Sutherby Human Resource Administrator (248) 628-2208

Call: (248) 628-4899 For More Information

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SALES Michigan based nonprofit organization seeks enthusiastic individuals to operate a small specialty store in a camp setting. Immediate openings are not available in the Ortonville and Lapeer areas. Applicants must be able to work Saturdays between the hours of 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. and occasional Sundays. Salary: \$6.00 to \$8.00 per hour. Applicants must have retail experience, good math and organizational skills, and enjoy working with the public. Inquiries by phone will be accepted Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. **CONTACT: MARY ANN FOSTER** 8545 Highland Road White Lake, MI 48386-2021 810-666-3880 or 1-800-334-0883

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MILESTONES



Travis, Crabtree marry in Bloomfield Hills

Amy Elizabeth Travis and Mark Ray Crabtree were joined in marriage June 28, 1997 at the Christ Church Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills. Rev. Maryanne Lacey officiated.

Parents of the bride are Mr. and Mrs. Daniel F. Travis II of Clarkston. Parents of the groom are Mr. and Mrs. Condy Crabtree of Indiana.

A reception took place at the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery at the Detroit Zoological Institute in Royal Oak.

Best man was Christopher Brown of Indiana. Groomsmen were Jay Timmons of Illinois, James Lichatowich of Idaho, Thomas Klosinski of Indianapolis, and Daniel Travis of New York City.

Best woman was Kelly Boebinger of Indiana. Bridesmaids were Wendy Shelley of Auburn Hills, Melissa Brown of Indianapolis, Christina Stefanski of New York City, and Stacia Pratt of Indiana.

After a Bermuda honeymoon, the couple resides in Connecticut.

Grattan-Kelly

Dr. and Mrs. Edward H. Grattan of Waterford announced the engagement of their daughter Catherine Lydia, of Florida, to Richard John David Kelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kelly of New York.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Clarkston High School, Ferris State University and Sarasota Technical Institute. She is currently employed as a Registered Professional Reporter with Michael Musetta and Associates, Inc. of Tampa.

The prospective groom is an Irvington High School graduate and majored in journalism at Mercy College in New York. He is the founder and director of Love Ministries, an outreach program in the New York City and Tampa Bay areas.

A wedding date has not been set.

At school

● Steven Hunkele, son of Michael and DeLana Hunkele of Davisburg, made the Dean's List at Kettering University (formerly GMI) for the term ending Oct. 1997.



Michael and Kellie Jon (Abbott) McClure of Ortonville announce the birth of a daughter. Riley Jon was born December 31, 1997 at St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland. She weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 18 inches long. Grandparents are Barbara Abbott of Clarkston and the late Jon Abbott and Mike and Diane McClure of Waterford. Great-grandparents are Marie Stewart of Westland and Norm and Betty McClure of Bloomfield Hills.

● Pam and Dan Simmons of Clarkston are the new parents of a boy. Austin Robert was born December 2, 1997 weighing in at 7 pounds, 14 ounces. Grandparents are Gail Simmons of Clarkston, Bonnie and Lester Smith of Johannesburg, and Lee and Marsha Squires of Holly. Great-grandmother is Dorothy Squires of St. Helen.

Sending a baby photo?

All babies are beautiful, but have you ever noticed that not all of their hospital photographs are?

If you're sending a baby photo to The Clarkston News for publication, consider sending a family photo. In many cases, baby with Mom, Grandpa or an older brother or sister is a more satisfying shot. Send submissions to 5 S. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346.

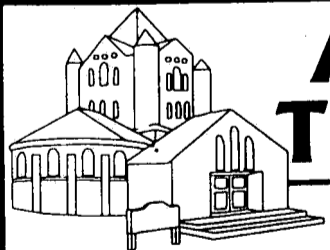
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Crabtree

In service

● Air Force Airman Frank W. Cobb has graduated from basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX. He is the son of James and Thersia Cobb of Clarkston.

● Army Pvt. Lyle B. Black II has graduated from One Station Unit Training at Fort Knox, KY. The training combines basic military and advanced individual training. He is the son of Lyle B. Black of Clarkston and Tamara Black of West Bloomfield.

● Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Matthew Conlen, son of James and Sandra Conlen of Clarkston, recently returned from a five-month South American deployment aboard the guided missile frigate USS Dewert, homeported in Mayport, FL. Conlen participated in the multinational exercises called Unidas. The 1993 graduate of Brother Rice High School joined the Navy in 1994.



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6805 Bluegrass Drive, Clarkston
(W. of M-15, just S. of I-75) 625-3288
Sunday Worship: 8:30 am & 11:00 am
Nursery Available
Sunday Church School 9:45 a.m.
Music - Inger Nelson
Staff: Pastor- Bob Walters

ST. DANIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

7010 Valley Park Dr., Clarkston
(W. of M-15, S. of I-75) 625-4580
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

OAKLAND WOODS BAPTIST CHURCH

5628 Maybee Rd., Clarkston, MI
(810) 625-7557
Pastor: Bob Galej
Located between Sashabaw & Clintonville Rd.
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

6300 Clarkston Road
Clarkston 625-1323
Sunday worship celebration at 10:45 am
Nursery Care/Bible Classes/Youth &
Children Ministries
Home of Clarkston Christian School

CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(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

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston
394-0200
Dr. James G. Keough, Jr. Minister
Sunday Worship 10:00 am
Children's Sunday School 10:00 am
Nursery Available
Call for special holiday activities and worship times.

SASHABAW UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

5300 Maybee Road, Clarkston
Worship 11:00 am Nursery Provided
Charles Mabee, Pastor
Phone 673-3101

DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH

8585 Dixie Highway, Intersection I-75
625-2311
High School 625-9760
Pastor James Todd Vanaman
Sunday School 10 am - Church 11 am
AWANA Wednesday 6:45
Wednesday evening service 7:00 pm
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
6:00 pm Vespers
Wednesday Family Program 7:00 pm

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston
Sunday 9:00 am - Nursery Provided
William McDonald, Priest
625-2325

Obituaries

Taylor Gibbs

Taylor Daniel Gibbs, infant son of Mark Gibbs and Amy Stuetzer of Davisburg, died Jan. 16, 1998.

Taylor is survived by a brother Austin; grandparents Carolyn (Scott) Gibson, Mike (Shannon Longstaff) Stuetzer, and Doris (Earl) Rose. He was preceded in death by a grandfather, Bill Gibbs.

A graveside service was held Saturday at Lakeview Cemetery with Rev. Tracy Huffman officiating. Memorials can be made to the family to be used towards a marker.

Linda McClellan

Linda M. McClellan, 48, formerly of Clarkston, died Jan. 17, 1998.

Mrs. McClellan was a 1967 graduate of Clarkston High School.

She is survived by son Gerald of Clarkston; daughter Melinda Sue of Waterford; parents John and Norma Williams of Columbiaville; sisters Edna Shaver of Waterford, Diane Seahorn of Detroit, Mary Williams of Pontiac, Joan Ruelle of Waterford, and Laura Marshan of Oxford; and brothers William Williams of Clio, John Williams of Ortonville, and Paul Williams of Waterford. She was preceded in death by son John Corbin.

A funeral mass took place Tuesday at St. Daniel Catholic Church in Clarkston with Rev. Robert Humitz officiating. A vigil of the deceased took place Monday night at the Lewis E. Wint and Son Turst 100 Funeral Home.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

CLARKSTON

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON

CITY COUNCIL NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

January 27, 1998

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP FIRE STATION NO. 1 7:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of the Village of Clarkston will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 1998, for a presentation by Hyett-Palma, Planning Consultants, regarding Downtown Revitalization.

The meeting will be held in the Training Room, Fire Station No. 1, 6500 Citation Drive, Clarkston, Michigan 48346. The entrance is on the east side of the building and parking is available on the east and north (rear) side of the building.

Artemus M. Pappas
City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

SYNOPSIS

TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor Stuart called the January 13, 1998 meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Independence Township Hall Annex.

Pledge of Allegiance.
Roll Call: Present: McCrary, McGee, Rosso, Stuart, Travis, Wallace, Wenger.

Absent: None.

There is a quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda as submitted. Amendment to Motion to remove Non-Union Wage Adjustments Failed.
2. The minutes of December 16, 1997 were tabled.
3. Approved the payment of the list of bills in the amount totaling \$684,339.18.
4. Approved Purchase Orders in the amount of \$11,212.74.
5. Sergeant Herbert Holmes spoke under the Public Forum segment of the agenda.
6. Mr. Jerry Polidan spoke under the Public Forum segment of the agenda.
7. Approved the Plante & Moran 1997 audit engagement agreement.
8. Adopted the MDOT Annual Work Permit.
9. Approved the hiring of Julia Meredith as Head Young Adult Services Librarian.
10. Bruce Houck is the Employee of the Quarter.
11. Approved the purchase of Computer software from Sierra Digital for the Parks & Recreation Department in the amount of \$12,972.50.
12. Approved the posting of Laborer Position for Parks and Recreation Department.
13. Approved the reclassification of Brian Doyle to Park Superintendent and Kevin Daniels to Senior Maintenance.
14. Approved tabling the Non-Union Wage Adjustments.
15. Adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan E. McCrary

Clarence Nephler III

Clarence "Joseph" Nephler III, 58, of Clarkston, died Jan. 17, 1997.

Mr. Nephler served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was a project manager for Transportek.

He is survived by his wife Patsy; son Clarence of Clarkston; sisters Susan (Gary) Clay of Florida and Mary Catherine (Sam) Rotenberg of Minnesota. He was preceded in death by a sister, Roma Lee Campbell.

A memorial service will take place Thursday at the Lewis E. Wint and Son Turst 100 Funeral Home. Pastor Richard Nelson will officiate. Memorials can be made to the American Lung Association.

Around town

● Kids can celebrate the Chinese New Year at the Independence Township Library Jan. 28. Noise will be allowed and a dragon will lead a parade that will make its way through the library and there will be stories and favors in this first-ever event at the library. Sessions begin at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. Kids ages 3 to 5 are invited. Register by calling 625-2212.

● Thinking about adding a dog to your family? Get off to the right start with a talk by Carol McMahon at the Orion Township Library Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. McMahon has many years' experience as a dog groomer, trainer and breeder. Call 693-3001 to register.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

At a meeting of the Charter Township of Independence Board of Trustees on Tuesday, January 27, 1998, at 7:30 p.m. to be held at the Township Hall Annex Building located at 90 North Main Street, Clarkston, Michigan 48347, a public hearing will be held to receive input and comments from the general public on the concept being considered by the Township to lease an approximately one acre portion of the approximately 14 acre Sashabaw Plains Park located on Maybee Road east of Sashabaw Road, to a private person or entity for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining an in-line skating rink and new building that would be owned by the Township and include areas for concession and pro shop, retail sales and new public restroom facilities.

Charter Township of Independence
Joan E. McCrary, Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

TOWNSHIP BOARD

AGENDA

7:30 p.m.

DATE January 27, 1998

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Opening Statements and Correspondence

Approval of Agenda

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run

Approval of Purchase Orders

Public Forum

Public Hearing - Private In-Line Skating at Sashabaw Plains Park

Old Business

1. Non-Union Wage Adjustments, Non-Union Overtime Policy, Health Care for Department Director Retirees.

New Business

1. Proposed Consent Judgement - Passmore/Ayres
2. Bid Approval - Historical Preservation
3. Membership Renewal - Clinton River Watershed Council
4. Rezoning Request - R1R to R1A - Waterford Road 08-33-251-001
5. Tentative Preliminary Plat Approval - Lake Waldon Pointe
6. First Reading Zoning Ordinance No. 83 Text Amendment - Section 5.28 Site Specific Relief Authorization - F/K/A Hardship Planned Unit Development
7. First Reading Zoning Ordinance No. 83 Text Amendment Section 5.27 Special Accommodation Use
8. First Reading Zoning Ordinance No. 83 Text Amendment Article XXXIV Municipal Civil Infraction Penalty
9. First Reading Zoning Code Amendment to Implement Municipal Civil Infraction Legislation
10. Permission to Hire Building Inspector II
11. Permission to Hire Clerk - Building Department

Only those matters that are listed on the agenda are to be considered for action. A majority vote of the Board members may add or delete an agenda item.

Around town

● A dance for high school students (grades nine-12) will be held at the new Clarkston Christian Association Saturday, Jan. 24, 7-10 p.m. The event, sponsored by Independence Township Parks and Recreation, includes DJ, sumo wrestling, human bowling and more. Tickets are \$3 and school rules and dress code will be enforced. Tickets will be available in advance at parks and rec or at the door that night, but admission is limited to the first 200 people. Call 625-8223 for more information.

● A Swiss steak supper will be served at Seymour Lake United Methodist Church Thursday, Jan. 29, 4:30-7 p.m. The church is located at Sashabaw and Seymour Lake Rd. Carry-outs are available by calling 628-4763.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

CLARKSTON

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON

SUMMARY

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

January 12, 1998

Meeting called to order by Mayor Catallo at 7:05 p.m.

Roll: Present: Catallo, Clifton, Colombo, Roeser, Sander-son.

Absent: Gamble, Savage.

Minutes for the December 8, 1997, meeting approved as presented.

Agenda approved as presented with the removal of Waste-water Discharge Ordinance and the addition of Historic District Commission appointment.

Bills in the amount of \$34,041.02 approved for payment. Police Chief authorized to hire experienced officers at the rate of \$12 per hour.

Council will hold a special meeting on Tuesday, January 27, to hear a presentation by Hyett-Palma. The meeting will be taking place at Fire Station No. 1, Training Room.

Resolution adopted for annual issuance to a governmental body an Individual Permit for Use of State Trunkline Right of Way, Form 2205 or an Annual Permit for miscellaneous operations with-in Free Access State Trunkline Right of Way, Form 2205B.

The March 9, 1998 meeting of the City Council moved to March 10, 1998, due to the 1998 Board of Review meeting scheduled for March 9.

Thor "Bud" Olafsson appointed to fill the vacancy on the Historic District Commission for a term ending in 1999.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Artemus M. Pappas
Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Independence Township Board of Appeals will meet Wednesday, February 4, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. at the Independence Township Annex Board Room, 90 North Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346 to hear the following cases:

Case #98-0004

David Wagner, Petitioner
APPLICANT REQUESTS REAR YARD SETBACK VARIANCE OF 20' TO CONSTRUCT NEW HOME
Bellshire Lane, Lot 43, R-1A
Sheringham Woods
08-28-328-015

Case #98-0005

David Phillips, Petitioner
APPLICANT REQUESTS VARIANCE TO EFFECTUATE SPLITTING OF PROPERTY
Pine Knob Lane, Lots 71 & 72, R-1A
Supervisor's Plat #6
08-35-251-016

Case #98-0006

Tri-Mount Development, Petitioner
APPLICANT REQUESTS VARIANCE TO ALLOW TEMPORARY SIGN
Spring Meadow Ct. Lots 8 & 9, PRD
Stone Meadow
08-25-378-008 & 009

Case #98-0007

Oakhurst Golf & Country Club, Petitioner
APPLICANT REQUESTS VARIANCE FOR TEMPORARY SALES TRAILER (GOLF OPERATIONS)
Oakhurst Ridge Rd, Lot 82, PRD
Oakhurst
08-24-302-001

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT THE ABOVE REQUESTS MAY BE EXAMINED at the Independence Township Building Department during regular hours each day, Monday through Friday until the date of the Public Hearing. For Further Information call (248) 625-8111.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan E. McCrary
Township Clerk
Katherine A. Poole
Secretary

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1992 LUMINA EURO SPORT 2 Dr., V-6, auto., air, power windows & locks, stereo cassette, low, low miles. Don't miss this one - \$6,250	1994 EXPLORER 4x4 4 Dr., XLT Pkg., 4.0 Liter, cast wheels, green with gray interior. \$16,495	1994 CHEVY ASTRO WAGON 7 passenger, V-6, auto, air front, full power \$7,995
1994 MERCURY TOPAZ 4 Dr., 1 owner car, 40,000 miles, full power group, ready to roll. \$7,439	1994 E-150 FORD CONVERSION VAN Quad captains chairs, dual stereos. \$13,995	1995 RANGER SUB-CAB 4X4 4.0 liter, auto, new RWL tires, Black beauty \$16,995
1994 DODGE SPIRIT 4 Dr., bright red, auto, air, great miles, good transportation. \$6,995	1995 FORD WINDSTAR GL Pkg., 7 passenger, 3.8 liter, V-6, power group, 40,000 miles \$12,995	1993 BLAZER 4X4 4 Dr., sport pkg., cast wheels auto, air, speed & tilt. \$10,695

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COLORED INK

Inquiring minds want to know

Fifth-graders tackle tough questions at science fair

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
Clarkston News Staff Writer

If you ask fifth-grader Rea Stites, plants grow faster listening to classical music than Aerosmith. But if you ask Donny Wilson, they like Kiss better than those (apparently) anonymous old fogies. And Brad Bury will tell you that a mouse that listened to heavy metal became aggressive and bit another mouse "like 100 times; he was bloody."

Those are just a few of the things fifth-graders at North Sashabaw Elementary School learned while preparing for their second-annual science fair, which culminated Jan. 15 with a show at the school.

According to one of three fifth-grade teachers at North Sash., the students picked their own topics for the fair based upon what they were interested in.

"It's not a traditional science fair," said Rhonda Irish. "We wanted the kids to go through the scientific process. It's part of our literacy goals for science."

Students focused on the world around them—plants, animals, water, food—as well as consumer goods. After choosing their topic, they embarked upon research, often with the help of family members who were listed on the completed story boards.

As visitors walked through rows clogged with tables, students challenged them to stop and listen to presentations. The feeling was kind of like walking through Eastern Market, with narrow aisles and vendors vying for attention.

"The best benefit is they have to share it with an audience," Irish said. "They have a lot of personal investment in their project so they are excited to present it."

Students had a dry run in their classrooms before fair day. "We all presented in class prior to the science fair," Irish said. "Some went back and made some revisions."

"Would you like to know if next time you go to the store you're wasting your money on sponges?" asked Ashley Swartz, wearing a sweatshirt that proclaimed "girls kick butt" and sounding a bit like a carnival barker. In fact, Ashley's experiment had shown that of three brands of supermarket sponges, the one that was the most expensive, and also the smallest, did in fact absorb the most water.

"I thought it would," she said proudly. "It's a denser sponge and it's got smaller holes."

Around the corner, Katie Mosher also had some money-saving wisdom to share. She tested four kinds of batteries and found that Rayovac Max lasted the longest.

"I tried to control each and every variable," she said with certainty. Having seen commercials using pink bunnies and copper tops, she wanted to know the facts behind the hype. The winning batteries, she said, were even a bargain when she found them on sale at Kmart.

Several students chose animals as their subjects. Erica Findora, who hopes some day to work for the Michigan Humane Society, hypothesized that the larger the county, the more animals were euthanized by humane organizations, and she was right. Along the way she learned the staggering toll: 17 million cats and dogs put to sleep in the U. S. each year.

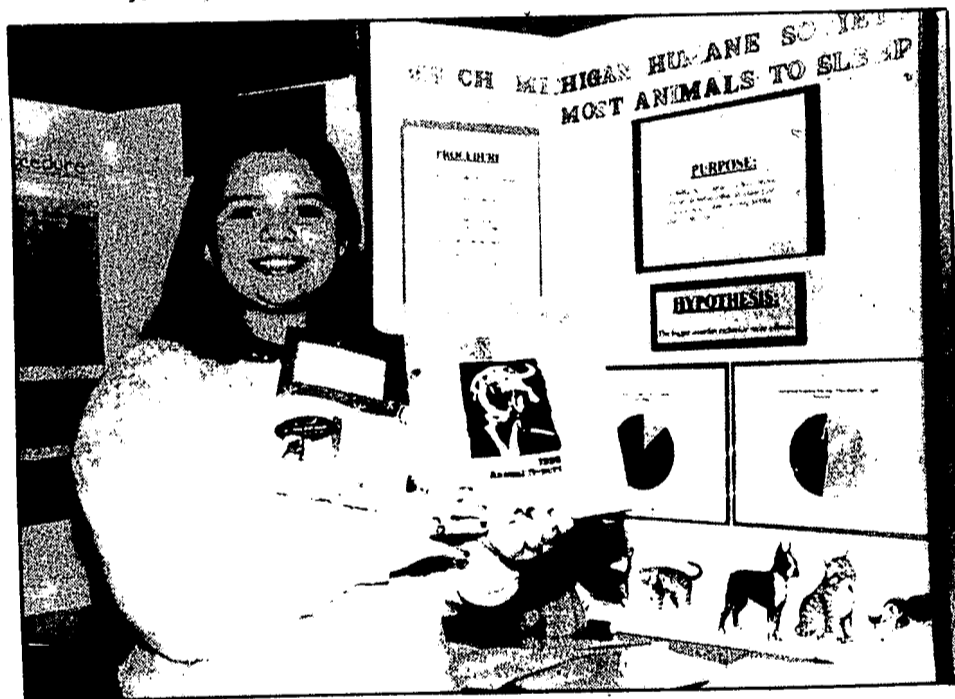
Mandy Ervin wanted to find out what kinds of seed winter birds like best. No surprise—it was sunflower. But Mandy learned the reason is that birds that eat other seeds fly south for the winter.

Brad Bury had perhaps the most popular exhibit at the school. In addition to the required story board, he had a maze containing two mice. One listened to classical music, one heavy metal. He wanted to know what effect the music would have on them.

He said that the classical mouse learned the maze the fastest, but as the experiment was progressing, "It's like they changed personalities." All of a sudden the heavy metal mouse found his way into the classical



Brad Bury, 11 (center) brought his white mice to the fair.



Animal lover Erica Findora, 10, did research on how many animals are destroyed each year in Michigan by humane societies.



Rea Stites, 10, wondered whether plants grow better to classical music or rock.

mouse's house and began attacking. However, Brad wouldn't promise the incident would swear him off heavy metal for good.

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