

# Local business reviews in our Progress Section

# The Clarkston News

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Vol. 74 No. 25 Wed., March 12, 2003

4 Sections 92 pages 50¢

Hear the one  
about the farmer's...



Connor Devitt of Independence Elementary gets some laughs from the audience while in his hillbilly character during Destination Imagination. See the back page of the Millstream section for more coverage. Photo by Jennifer Nemer.

Pat McDunn is as Irish  
as they come,  
See Millstream Section



## Schools cut \$900,000

Pay to play for sports could be in place by 2005

BY JENNIFER NEMER  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

As part of their three-year spending reduction plan, the Clarkston Community Schools Board of Education approved Phase I of their budget reductions for the fiscal year 2004 at the March 10 regular meeting.

The reductions, which will lower the general fund by approximately \$900,000, include the following:

- Eliminate the general fund contribution to Community Education and Early Childhood programs by approximately \$162,000 and \$40,000.

Deputy Superintendent Dave Reschke said this will likely result in modest increases for fees for Community Education programs and Early Childhood participation and may result in the elimination of non-profitable activities by Community Education.

- Eliminate the general fund contribution to the food service program by approximately \$48,000.

This will likely result in modest increases in lunch prices and snack prices, Reschke said.

- Reduce the general fund contribution to athletics by approximately \$100,000, making the contribution equal one percent of the overall district budget.

Reschke said this will require transferring maintenance service fees from the athletic budget to grounds and maintenance budgets; and require program reductions in salaries for coaches, reductions in equipment and supply budgets.

About a \$40,000 savings is estimated in coaching salaries due to retirements and replacements.

Along with this budget reduction may come a student participation fee by 2005; and a reduction in participation rates in some sports or the elimination of some sports by 2005.

It will also probably delay the addition of new sports, and may reduce district provided transportation.

- Eliminate the general fund payment for one police liaison position of \$40,000, reducing service for K-8 programs to emergency only.

This will eliminate liaison instruction support in drug and safety education for K-8, making health teachers and others fill in in this area, Reschke said.

The K-8 schools will have to rely on the Oakland County Sheriff's Department for problems with crime in the school community, with the liaison position cut.

- Eliminate district funding for curricular field trips by approximately \$45,000.

This is only a one-year-old program that will now see elimination of day time mandatory field trips unless financial support is provided through fundraising or other contributions, Reschke said.

- Maintain a basic transportation system to help contain costs. This will require the continued use of shuttles at crowded schools and on crowded runs, and the continued reduction of stops and rerouting of the transportation system.

Please see Schools on page 8

## \$12 million road project debated

BY KYLE GARGARO  
Clarkston News Editor

Who should pay for the upgrading of Sashabaw from a two lane road into a four lane boulevard?

That was the question debated at the Independence Township Board meeting on March 4 before a crowded meeting room at the library.

A plan was presented on how to pay for the \$12 million project which had the federal government paying 80 percent of the cost (\$9.6 million), the Road Commission of Oakland County contributing 10 percent of the cost (\$1.2 million) and the local contribution also being 10 percent.

Of the local \$1.2 million cost, 10 percent (\$120,000) would be contributed by Independence Township with the remaining money coming from a Special Assessment District. Additional township money from safety paths will be used on other aspects of the project.

While most of the residents who spoke during the public forum agreed the boulevard is much needed and would enhance economic growth, they did not agree with the plan to pay for it.

"People use Sashabaw all the way from Waterford to Pine Knob. I have lost patients because it is difficult for them to get in and out of my office," Dr. Jack Shader said. "I look at the numbers and of the local \$1.2 million the people in the SAD are going to pay 90 percent. That is inequitable to me and doesn't seem fair."

Other questions raised during the hearing included why DTE Energy Music Theater was not providing any money, why this is not covered with the gas tax and why

businesses seemed to be in the SAD yet many residential areas were left off.

"We feel this is the furthest we can extend the Special Assessment District and be able to defend it," Supervisor Dale Stuart said.

The Sashabaw Road project has been researched and discussed for more than two decades according to Independence Township Planner Dick Carlisle.

In the Vision 2020 Strategic Planning for Independence Township it states: "Promote the Sashabaw Corridor between Waldon and Maybee Roads as a new Town Center with a compatible mix of land uses, consistency in architecture, interior street and pedestrian pathway systems, and common design elements such as landscaping, lighting and signage. Sashabaw Road is ideally positioned for this type of development because of the central geographic location within the Township, proximity of I-75, availability of utilities and significant tracts of vacant land which can be comprehensively planned in advance of development."

Planning for the Sashabaw Corridor has been directed towards avoiding the problems of unplanned development, lack of coordinated infrastructure, unsafe and/or uncontrolled roadway access and the blighted appearance that goes with a strip development.

"The Sashabaw Boulevard is a concept that has evolved over many years resulting from a great deal of public input," Carlisle said.

Trustee Dan Kelly suggested the board pay a bigger percentage of the cost. No action taken by the board.



Dale Stuart



Dan Kelly

# Briefly

## Oratorical contest offers scholarship

Students, here's your chance to win a college scholarship worth up to \$1,500.

Enter the Clarkston Area Optimist Oratorical Contest scheduled for March 19 at 7 p.m. in the LGI room at Clarkston High School.

The topic is "United We Stand in Optimism." Complete a contest entry form and return it to the main office before March 14. Contact Kelley Kostin at (248) 620-1030 for further details.

## Resident chosen to serve

Clarkston resident Joyce Scafe has been chosen to serve as the Civitan Clubs Michigan District Governor for the 2003-04 fiscal year.

Scafe will begin her term Oct. 1, 2003 and will complete a full year of various activities and duties.

In order to prepare for this upcoming leadership role, Scafe attended Civitan International's Governors-elect Academy on Feb. 1-5 in Birmingham, Alabama.

Scafe was one of the 36 governors-elect throughout Europe and North America participating in the five-day academy.

A member of the local Pontiac Civitan Club, Scafe has held various offices, including president.

## Volunteers wanted for Nature Center

In cooperation with the Clarkston Rotary Club and Independence Township Parks and Recreation, Team Reptile is forming a committee of volunteers to facilitate the building of the Clarkston Rotary's Nature Center coming to Bay Court Park this Spring, 2003.

Team Reptile is a local nonprofit group that was formed by founder and director Rich Ashley about 10 years ago. The mission of Team Reptile is to provide the community with information and education regarding reptiles, amphibians and other wildlife that inhabit Michigan.

It is the intent that while learning this information, one will gain respect and appreciation for the nature around them. This Nature Center is a facility to base Team Reptile programs out of. Currently, the Department is looking at using an existing facility at Bay Court Park and adding an office and a classroom work area.

A Nature Center will allow Team Reptile to expand on the number of education programs and community service programs they currently offer. The Nature Center will also serve as a headquarters for the production of their current television show.

The committee will coordinate the planning and building of the Nature Center, as well as organize promotional materials, coordinate fundraising (including sponsorship and grants) to pursue materials and equipment needed for the expansion of the television show and environmental studies.

If you are interested in becoming involved with Clarkston Rotary's Nature Center Committee, please call Rich Ashley or Mike Turk at Independence Township Parks and Recreation at (248) 625-8223.

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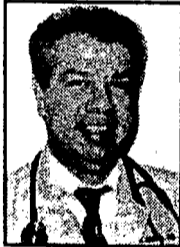
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# The Second Front

## Buchi uses love of basketball to overcome adversity

*CHS senior plans to continue playing wheelchair hoops at Illinois, hopes to become teacher*

BY JEFF PATRUS

Clarkston News Staff Writer

An accident almost nine years ago could have left Matt Buchi emotionally as well as physically paralyzed.

Although he was confined to a wheelchair as a result of an Aug. 18, 1994 automobile accident, the Clarkston High School senior did not let circumstances get the best of him. Today, he is captain of the Sterling Heights Challengers, a traveling wheelchair basketball team which recently played a benefit game at Clarkston High School.

According to Buchi, although he knew overcoming the accident would not be easy, he realized it would also not be impossible. He said parents Diane Kelley and Eric Buchi, along with sister Erica Buchi, a freshman at CHS, and stepsister Kristen Kelley, 21, have been extremely supportive.

"I knew it was going to be hard on my family, but I had to stay strong because my life was not over," he said. "It helped to have my friends and family behind me at home and at school."

Buchi is in his seventh year with the Challengers, and first became involved with the team through last year's team captain, Denny Muha. He is glad he gave it a try.



Matt Buchi, a senior at Clarkston High School, has overcome an auto accident that left him in a wheelchair to become a captain on the Sterling Heights Challengers wheelchair basketball team. Photos by Jeff Patrus.



Here, Buchi is pictured attempting a layup against CHS teacher and coach Phil Price during the Challengers' benefit basketball game at Clarkston last month.

"He found about me being in a car accident and asked me if I would try out for the team," Buchi said of Muha. "I enjoy the fact you can play a sport you love and you can do a lot of teaching, because I'm a captain this year."

Buchi also was an assistant coach for a group of students age 9-13 within the Challengers during a recent tournament in Birmingham, Alabama. The Challengers also travel to cities such as Philadelphia and Grand Rapids and states such as Alabama, Indiana and Wisconsin.

In addition, Muha and three other players from the Challengers will be playing in Australia for the Junior USA wheelchair basketball team this summer. "We're selected from players all around the U.S.," he said.

After that competition is through, Buchi plans to attend the University of Illinois, where he will continue playing wheelchair basketball. He hopes to become a history teacher at the high school level.

## CHS math wizards

In October, Clarkston High School had 167 students participate in Part I of the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition. Of those students, eight were eligible to go on to Part II in December including Donald DeFrayne, Rebecca Havens, Joe Knakal, Nick Luibrand, Paul Marks, Matthew Prunte, Kyle Sweeney and Lisa Wilke. Receiving the highest honor was Prunte.

Each year approximately 14,000 students from more than 300 schools throughout Michigan compete for \$30,000 in college scholarships. The top 1,000 students are invited to participate in Part II. Many students find their performances in the competition are valuable in obtaining scholarships and gaining admission to prestigious institutions of higher learning.

This competition is an activity of the Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America and is supported by corporations in Michigan, private founda-



Clarkston high schoolers Donald DeFrayne, Rebecca Havens, Joe Knakal, Nick Luibrand, Paul Marks, Matthew Prunte, Kyle Sweeney and Lisa Wilke participated in the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition. Photo by Jennifer Nemer.

tions and individuals, the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and the colleges and universities of Michigan.

The Math Department at Clarkston High School would like to congratulate these students on their outstanding performance.

# Springfield board to review memorial garden revisions

BY JEFF PATRUS  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

A little more than a week before the official start of spring, the Springfield Township Board will revisit the idea of a memorial garden.

Sally Elminger of Carlisle/Wortman Associates, the township's planning firm, has put together a revised plan for the garden, to be located at the township's Civic Center, for the board's review at its March 14 meeting.

According to Jeannine Rawe, public relations chairperson for the Springfield Township Friends of the Library, the township board will not be selling pavers' bricks as part of the memorial garden project.

"The Friends appreciate the fact the township board decided not to do that," she said.

As requested by the Springfield Township Board in November, Elminger provided a proposal for a township memorial garden for the board's review at its Jan. 9 meeting.

The original proposal had a water feature located a few feet toward the building in order to provide a backdrop and context for the mill stone fountain.

Also, with regard to opportunities for memorials,

the proposal listed deciduous shade trees, flowering trees and benches as being available for donation to the garden.

However, at that meeting, the township board decided they weren't happy with the design, and they moved to bring the issue back to Elminger for further review.

According to Supervisor Collin Walls, the revised proposal to be brought before the board Thursday will be easier to follow. "It will contain a much simpler version of the ideas from the consultant," he said.

However, members of the Springfield Township Friends of the Library still have concerns about the project.

At the Jan. 9 meeting, they told the board they thought the garden would be in conflict with the memorial bricks outside the Civic Center, also known as the Community Cornerstone patio.

The Friends of the Library manage the Community Cornerstone project and the funds generated from the sale of the bricks, according to Rawe.

"It would be redundant to spend money to duplicate a service that residents already have access to,"

Rawe said at the Jan. 9 meeting. "The Friends are also concerned about the confusion residents will experience having two projects of such similar nature on the same site."

In a telephone interview Monday, Rawe said a representative of the Friends will be at Thursday's meeting.

"We can only voice our concerns -- ultimately, it is the township's decision," she said.

At the January meeting, Walls asserted the proposed memorial garden and the Community Cornerstone project would not be in conflict with one another. In a telephone interview Jan. 7, he talked about how the idea for the garden first started.

"It originated with the early planning for the Civic Center two or three years ago," he said. "The thought was it would be nice to have an area where people could make living memorials. It never really got off the ground, unfortunately, until (former treasurer) Lois (Stiles) passed away (in October). It originated from some residents who thought it would be a nice setting to honor their relatives or friends."

# Woman robbed during a late weekend night bank deposit

BY JENNIFER NEMER  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

A local video store employee was robbed as she made a late night bank deposit Saturday, March 8.

Before exiting her vehicle, at approximately 12:45 a.m., with a bag of nearly \$500, the alleged victim, a 31-year-old woman and employee of Family Video, checked the area and saw no one around. Feeling it safe to get out of her car, she did so and approached the Clarkston State Bank night depository outside of Farmer Jack on Sashabaw.

But, she told police, she saw someone running towards her in her peripheral vision. She attempted to shut the depository door, but the perpetrator was able

to reach in and grab the bag which contained \$467 cash, \$12.95 in checks and some change.

She yelled, and the man fled on foot towards Waldon and then ran behind the plaza.

A fellow employee who had followed the alleged victim for safety reasons during the deposit described the suspect as wearing a red hooded sweat shirt, black sweat pants and a mask.

The alleged victim said the man was most likely Caucasian as she was able to see skin from the eye holes of the mask.

Shortly after 911 was called, the alleged victim stated a red Grand Am pulled up near her with its occupants, a 23-year-old male and a 20-year-old female,

staring at her strangely as they entered the grocery store.

The two were detained for questioning, but were released after Oakland County Sheriff's deputies ruled they were not responsible for the crime.

Police reports stated a delivery truck driver observed a small blue car, possibly a Cavalier or Escort, with four males inside parked behind the store at the time of the robbery, which then left in the direction of Waldon Road.

An area check was conducted but the suspect or suspect vehicle was unable to be found.

Surveillance video was obtained for investigation.

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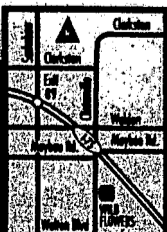
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# Winship photographer found guilty of 'peeping'

BY JENNIFER NEMER  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

An allegation from a 16-year-old girl that she encountered a Peeping Tom while getting senior pictures taken at Winship Studios has rung true for the accused photographer.

Kevin Kenneth Winship, 38, pled no contest and was found guilty of disorderly person/window peeping by Judge Michael Batchik at a pretrial Friday, March 7 at the 52-2 District Court in Clarkston. He was sentenced to 12 months of probation for the misdemeanor.

Winship turned himself in to authorities July 24 and was then arraigned before former Judge Gerald McNally. He was later released from custody on a \$1,000 personal bond.

The alleged victim, of Waterford, accused Winship of watching her change clothes through a vent from an adjacent dressing room.

Police reports stated the girl had taken off her shirt and skirt, when she looked up and saw something in a vent near the ceiling. She then looked into

the mirror and saw a head in the vent through the mirror's reflection.

"What are you doing?" she yelled out, after which she heard a loud bang, from the area of where Winship had been seen.

An investigation by detectives of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department Independence Township substation led them to believe it was possible to peer into the room through the vent grate.

Detective Jerry DeRosia said while looking in the dressing room mirror, it was observed the other room could be seen through the vent. From a ladder, the view was even clearer through the mirror.

DeRosia said it would have been possible for Winship, who is 6'1", to stand on the stationary chair with wooden arms inside the room to get a view of the other room.

In a police interview with Winship's father and Winship Studios owner Ken, he said his son had been on an outdoor photo shoot prior to the sitting with the victim, and had been perspiring from the heat. He wanted to change his t-shirt under his button down

shirt, but didn't want to make his appointment wait. So he did the first session and then changed his shirt in the adjacent dressing room, while the victim changed her clothes for the next shoot.

The victim's mother told detectives she saw Winship come out of the room buttoning his shirt and stating he had changed his shirt. But the woman said it was the same shirt he was wearing prior and the t-shirt was still underneath.

The mother and daughter demanded for the man's last name, but no staff member would comply, and also told the two Winship would never do anything like that. The mother and daughter received their money back in full and immediately left to file a police report.

Since the original incident, DeRosia said Winship Studios has moved one of the vents between the changing rooms, so it is impossible to see into the adjacent dressing area now.

Winship Studios has been in business for more than 33 years, and Kevin Winship has been a photographer there for more than 15 years.

# Local leaders happy with Governor's state budget proposal

BY KYLE GARGARO  
Clarkston News Editor

Local governments were pleased with the new budget proposal announced by Governor Jennifer Granholm last week.

"I was very pleasantly surprised," Springfield Township Supervisor Collin Walls said. "Based on what I've been reading, it was less than I expected. It won't impact us much at all."

In her proposal, Granholm would cut state revenue sharing by only three percent, which is much

less than many were anticipating. The townships and city use the revenue sharing money as a big part of their budget.

"This shouldn't affect us too much," Clarkston City Manager Art Pappas said. "It's not as critical to us as it is to some of the bigger units."

It will only cost Clarkston \$2,400 while Walls is not sure on an exact figure.

Despite the news, Independence Township Supervisor Dale Stuart is cautious about what the future might hold.

"This is all very preliminary and politics are certainly going to play into it. I am not sure what the legislature is going to do or if the budget can be balanced with her proposal," Stuart said. "However this is good news if it indeed ends up being a three percent cut. However, it is three percent on top of the 20 percent that was taken out in the recent past."

Stuart also could not give a figure on how much this would cost Independence Township.

(Clarkston News reporter Jeff Patrus contributed to this article.)

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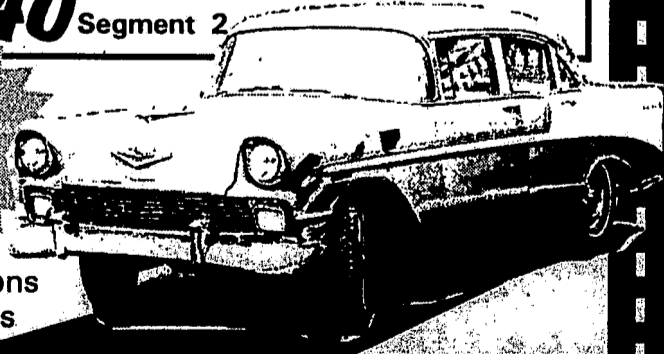
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# Opinion

## It is time to trust the President

The possible war with Iraq has dominated the news for quite awhile now and I have been eating up the coverage.

I have been watching everything from Bill O'Reilly to Dan Rather to President Bush trying to become an educated citizen.

I will be honest, I have been waffling for a number of months on if I agree a war in the Middle East is both warranted and smart for our country. Better minds than mine are on the fence, so I guess I am not alone.

However after listening to President Bush's press conference, I came up with the opinion that it is time to trust the President. We elected him and eventually it gets to the point where we need to respect his judgement. American citizens are not privy to the classified information he receives on a daily basis, so it is kind of hard to say he doesn't know what he is doing.

This is not to say I do not have numerous questions about our foreign policy, because I do. Why are we so concerned with Iraq when it is reported that North Korea is a much bigger threat at this point? What has changed in Iraq over the past five years that now we need to go in and take care of it? If we are so right and have such hard evidence why are other countries so opposed to this war? Why do we scream about countries having nuclear weapons when we are the only ones to have ever used a nuclear bomb?

Those protesters who say Bush doesn't know what he is doing and is just power hungry are crazy. To think Bush would risk reelection, American lives and his legacy on a whim would be ignorant. My guess is the same people screaming about how wrong Bush is on this war would be the first ones screaming for his head if the President did nothing and we were attacked by Iraq in the next few years. If on Sept. 10, 2001, Bush said he wanted to send our troops to Afghanistan and attack the Taliban he would have received the same reaction he is now to a war with Iraq. However, on Sept. 12, 2001 it was a completely different story.

And one final point about those against the war. I respect their opinions even though they give the illusion they are in the majority because those who favor the war are not holding marches.

Yet the individuals I don't respect are the ones who say "war is never right." Now that is just stupid. Want to tell the Jewish people who were in Nazi concentration camps that war is not right? How about relaying that message to black slaves in the south during the Civil War era?

War is not pleasant. It is a horrific occurrence that I wish never would happen. However, we do not live in a perfect world and sometimes we need to take drastic measures to keep the world a safer place for everybody.

*(Kyle Gargaro is the editor of The Clarkston News. His e-mail address is KyleG44@aol.com)*

Gargaro's World



Kyle Gargaro

What do you think of the possible war with Iraq? Write a letter to the editor and send it to shermanpub@aol.com

## Letters to the Editor

### Reader responds to Toni Smith column

Thank you! It is so hard to believe some of these people these days (like to know where they have been these past several years or months and why they can't see the large picture). And, it is also great to hear others' ideas.

Simply put, she (Toni Smith, a college basketball player who turned her back to the flag during the National Anthem as a form of protest of a possible war with Iraq) may have her reasons but then leave the country that defends her if she can't resolve her differences honorably. She should have thought it out better before acting it out.

As for those who feel they are saving the world...we should not let them back into the country if they pull pranks like being shields and causing extra trouble for our young military people who have a duty to perform for the safety of the United States' people and under privileged souls around the world. You are correct in my eyes...no other way to look at it but treason. We must get focused on the real problem and follow it to the end.

Thanks again for your article. We at this house agree.

M. Underwood

### Mother thanks the Clarkston bus drivers

I would like to thank my kids' bus driver. She knows who she is. She's the Clarkston Road route driver. Our road is one of the most difficult to travel on.

For the past seven years, you have safely picked up and dropped off my three kids. Here are just some of the special things our Clarkston bus drivers do for us:

- On developmental days kindergartners are sometimes sent on the wrong day and drivers let parents know or have calls made to notify the school.

- If a student is on the bus and there is a question as to where the child belongs (such as Kid's Connection or home) the driver takes the time to have calls made to schools, home, parents' work, etc. to make sure of the child's destination.

- When dropping a child at home and the norm is perhaps a vehicle in the drive, a garage door open, a wave from a parent, etc. and this doesn't happen they check it out before leaving the bus stops.

- On a daily basis (kindergartners mainly) or other elementary students are taken home and the parent isn't home for them. The student isn't released until much checking is done and students are kept on the bus until a parent comes, calls or they are returned to school.

So, with that, I say thanks to our Clarkston school bus drivers. Our unsung heroes. You are appreciated.

Joy Vander Weel  
Davisburg

## Hopping aboard the technology train

There is an old saying, "If you can't beat them, join them."

That certainly applies to me with regard to the advancements in technology in the past five to ten years. When things like the Internet, cell phones and digital/satellite television came along, I didn't understand what all the fuss was about. Now, it's hard to imagine a world without them.

Take the Internet, for instance.

It was difficult to fathom why the Internet could be such a powerful tool: I mean, people called each other on the phone if they wanted to chat, and they went to the library if they wanted to do research on a given subject.

Now, millions of Internet users go to "chat rooms" if they want to communicate with one another, and they use "search engines" to find out Web sites related to a given topic. Before the advent of the Internet, I thought the only type of engines out there were the kind mechanics looked at when you had your oil changed.

Another Internet feature is instant messaging, which my dear sister Jenny used to her advantage a couple of weeks ago.

Like the youngest sister she is, Jenny sent her instant messages when you least expected them, and when you were focused on looking up another topic. I guess that's why the good Lord created younger sisters.

Nonetheless, it was good to hear from her — she's busy with school, and I'm busy with work, so we don't have much time to talk to each other or hang out — and instant messaging provided the avenue for us to hook up.

Another item that puzzled me when it first came

out was the cellular phone. They could be seen anywhere — shopping malls, the grocery store, sporting events, you name it — and they would never cease to annoy you. I thought it was antisocial to use cell phones in public places like that.

So, naturally, I got one last year. Actually, I already had one in case of an emergency, but never used it. As it turns out, my phone was due for an upgrade, and it's proven to be a useful item after all. For instance, if you're on the road and late for an appointment, you can always call them up (although you should pull into a parking lot or to the side of the road first) and let them know you're going to be late.

The most recent technological advance to capture my imagination has been digital television. I realize for several folks, satellite systems (such as Direct TV or the Dish Network) have become quite the rage. However, that's not feasible with my apartment complex, so digital television was the most realistic option.

About a couple weeks ago, I had it installed in my apartment, and I've quickly become a convert. The system has many features you just can't get with regular cable, like ESPNNews (an important channel for a sports geek like myself), VH-1 Classic (also a treat, since I enjoy classic rock) and several movie channels.

The biggest attraction, though, is the amount of digital music channels — there's more than 40 music channels available. I didn't know there were that many musical formats out there. You name the musical genre, and they have it — rock, R&B, country, gospel, jazz, classical and Latin music.

It seems like these technological advances have taken hold on your fearless reporter. I'm as fascinated by them as anyone, but I have to constantly remind myself to keep them in their proper perspective. These technologies are great, but they're no substitute for everyday interaction with family, friends and co-workers.

What's up with that!



Jeff Patrus

Bleeding Text

# The Rush boys know noses

We had an eventful 24 hours at the old homestead not too many days ago. And, as usual at Casa de Rush eventful, interesting, noteworthy or momentous moments happen to and revolve around our two angelic, all-American, blue-eyed and blond-haired lads. Ah, just what would life be like without Sir Shamus and Master Sean?

This particular 24-hour period started on a Sunday evening -- after dinner. Shamus, aka The Eating Machine, finished his vittles in a flash and something amazing happened . . .



Five year old Shamus (whom we fondly refer to as Jerry Ford -- because Shamus is as clumsy as comedian Chevy Chase portrayed the former president) did not fall out of his chair. It's a good day when Shamus doesn't at some point during a meal wiggle his way off his chair onto the floor. Well, this evening was going swell. Shamus made it through dinner with nary a bruise or abrasion. When he exited the dining room to the living room, he decided to burn off a little excess energy.

He put one hand on the armrest of our living room chair, and the other hand on the couch's armrest. These two pieces of furniture are about 18 inches apart and worked together, they make good play things for the boys. Shamus, hands in place, lifted his body off the floor and started to swing his legs forwards and back . . . wards . . . whoops.

Shamus' legs flew back, his hands slipped and plop, he hit the deck. I guess there's a reason why they call them hardwood floors and Shamus found out why. He hit the floor face first.

I was just nine feet away watching him. He stood up, hands over his face, crying.

And, as any masculine, stiff-uppe-lip-and-all father figure would, I said, "Shamus, stop crying. You only fell two feet. You're not even bleeding . . ."

"That's when he moved his hands and all that blood fell from his nose to the floor. Lucky for Shamus, he's got a good mother. Jen calmly led him to the bathroom, cleaned him up and slowed the tidal wave of red plasma to a trickle.

"Get your coat on, Shamus," his mother said. "We're going to the hospital."

A couple of hours waiting in the emergency room

for bloody Shamus and his dear mother and the doctor finally had time to look at his nose.

"Yep. It's broken. Not much we can do about it now. See a doctor. No wrestling. No gym class . . . Next!"

\* \* \*

Now that I've been nominated for Father Heel of The Year, I'll start being a little more caring and thoughtful and a little less sarcastic . . . right.

\* \* \*

The aforementioned 24-hour period that started with Shamus ended with Sean. And, while Shamus was a victim of circumstance, Sean was a victim of his own brashness. Sean, who will be three next week, is a showman. He's all about stealing the spotlight, showing off and well, just being Sean.

At the end of the 24-hour period Mr. Funny was playing with his two year old friend, Lexi. They were in the bedroom doing the things that boys and girls do when they are alone in a bedroom -- you know, play with puzzles, toy cars, stuffed animals and read books.

Apparently, one of those things boys do when they are alone with a girl is show off. There's no quicker way to a woman's heart than to show her how wonderful of a guy you are. And, I guess Sean decided a neat trick of maleness for his female friend was to shove a seashell up one of the nostrils of his little button nose.

He wedged it in there good and tight. So, good and tight that dear old Mom couldn't get it out.

"Get your coat on, Sean," his mother said. "We're going to the hospital."

Mr. Funny had wedged it so good and deep and tight that it took the doctor an hour to get the little shell out. They finally had to get out the vacuum to complete the extraction. And, true to form, Mr. Funny, aka Sean, aka Showman, kept the hospital staff in good spirits while he waited for the doctor.

According to Jen, Sean sang for the *medicalis*. "You better not pout, you better not cry. You better not shout, I'm telling you why, Santa Claus is coming to town."

Leave it to Sean.

\* \* \*

So, just what would life be like without Sir Shamus and Master Sean? Boring. Very boring.

Comments for parental unit Don can be e-mailed to: [dontrushmedon@aol.com](mailto:dontrushmedon@aol.com)

## A look back

The Clarkston

### 15 YEARS AGO (1988)

• Planners of the I-75 widening hope the construction doesn't make traffic too bad for commuters, said Richard Rowe, district construction engineer for the Michigan Department of Transportation. The first signs of road construction are already visible on I-75 between University Drive and Joslyn Road, and construction on the Independence Township section is to begin in about three weeks, he said.

• Parking problems are not limited to urban areas. Several business people in rural Davisburg were at the March 10 Springfield Township Board meeting to point out a downtown parking problem.

• People in the Clarkston community are worried about the Independence Township rape two weeks ago, according to detectives and government officials. Police have received a few phone calls about the rape, but they haven't received a lot of calls, said Detective Sgt. Charles Williams, of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department. A seven-person task force headed by Detective Sgt. Anthony Velat is working on the case, Williams said.

### 25 YEARS AGO (1978)

• Despite a vigorous write-in campaign for Karen Sanderson, three incumbent Clarkston Village Council members were reelected. Fontie ApMadoe and Jackson Byers tied with 65 votes, while Michael Thayer gathered 56 votes for village councilman. A last minute write-in campaign was organized for Mrs. Sanderson for village councilman over the weekend, when many Clarkston residents received a flyer urging them to write-in Mrs. Sanderson's name as councilman.

• The Clarkston Village Council unanimously voted to adopt a traffic control order prohibiting commercial trucks from Miller Road. Several Miller Road residents attended the meeting to remind council members that they submitted a petition against the truck traffic on Aug. 22, 1977.

• Boundary line changes approved by the Clarkston Board of Education Monday night will mean that all incoming seventh and eighth grade students will be transferred to Sashabaw Junior High School.

### 50 YEARS AGO (1953)

• Because of some construction work going on at the Methodist Church last week, the Women's Society of Christian Service met on Wednesday in the dining room of the Community Center Building. The Mary Circle, with Mrs. Lee Volberding, Mrs. Gray Robertson, Mrs. Jack Jyleen and Mrs. Glen Boner in charge, served a delicious luncheon.

• The Sashabaw P.T.A. held its regular meeting on Monday evening, March 9 with 90 present. Accordion students from a Pontiac music house entertained with several fine numbers.

• The Michigan Public Service Commission authorized Consumers Power Company to provide natural gas space heating service for 20,000 additional customers. The Company filed a petition January 28 asking for such authority. A hearing before the commission was held Feb. 16.

# The case of the missing scooter

A couple weeks before Christmas, 2002, I went to Meijer in Oxford to buy a scooter for granddaughter Savannah. At age 7 it's time for her to experience more severe scraped knees, elbows, etc.

I found a \$39.90 boxed scooter on a high shelf, added it to my shopping cart collection of goodies and went through the checkout, credit card in hand.

Spring forward to Christmas morning. Five grandchildren and seven adults are making a mess of our family room with way too many gifts, mountains of crinkled wrapping paper and discarded boxes.

As things settled down I wondered to Savannah's mother what happened to the scooter I'd bought. "Dad, there's no scooter!" Susan said.

Thus began a search, a search that would go on for several days, repeating trips to my mini-van, the basement, rooms I hadn't entered in months, the garage, three out-buildings and the covered swimming pool.

What the heck did I do with that scooter?

I finally forgot about it.

Spring forward to 11:13 p.m. (Note: That since times are now shown digitally no one ever says 'about eleven fifteen.') Thursday, February 27, 2003. I'm laying in bed, enjoying the relief I'd just experienced and awaiting sleep to return.

From nowhere came the thought (most of my thoughts stem from nowhere) I wonder if Savannah's scooter was put in my cart at Meijer after it went

past the scanner?

My memory, being what it is, I got up, went down stairs and wrote 'scooter' on a sticky note and stuck it to my desk. Naturally, I laid awake another hour thinking about it.

The next morning I went to the return desk of Meijer and was greeted by refreshing Michelle. I told her my tale, and she said, "We keep track of things like that," and picked up a metal box cooks often use for holding 3 x 5 recipe cards.

As she pulled out a glob of receipts, maybe a thousand, Michelle admonished, "You should have come in sooner, like right after Christmas. I'm not sure we keep receipts this long."

"Yeah, yeah, shoulda, coulda -- the story of my life. After about 30-40 flits, Michelle looked up and said, "You're so lucky! Here it is!"

At her suggestion I went home to see if I could find my original receipt, which, of course, I couldn't, then back to Meijer's and the cash rebate.

I gave the money to Susan and suggested she buy the scooter and not involve me.

Susan said, "Oh, I told Savannah you bought her a scooter last Christmas." Maybe that's why Savannah has been hesitating hugging her grandpa the last couple months.

\* \* \*

■ You can bet really fast drivers don't worry about cholesterol.

■ When you're driving and looking for an address, why do you turn the volume down?

■ The quickest way to double your money is to fold it over and put it back in your pocket.

Jim's Jottings



Jim Sherman

E-mail The Clarkston News  
at [shermanpub@aol.com](mailto:shermanpub@aol.com)

# Thomas, Shanks won't run again for school board

BY JENNIFER NEMER  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

After a combined 36 years of service to the Clarkston Community Schools Board of Education, both President Kurt Shanks and Treasurer Janet Thomas announced at their March 10 meeting they will not run again when their terms expire July 1.

Both of their seats are up for reelection and will be featured on the June 9 ballot. The positions are four-year terms expiring in 2007.

Shanks has served on the school board for eight years, and is in his second run as president, serving also in the 1998-99 school year.

A certified master board member, Thomas has dedicated 28 years to the Clarkston school board. She has served on several district committees and is also a member of the Oakland Intermediate School Board, a position she has held for nine years.

Trustee Sheila Hughes said, "Kurt and Janet have brought a lot of insight to the board and I thank them for their dedication."

"It's tough enough to lose one quality board member," Superintendent Dr. Al Roberts said. "Losing two who have made such fabulous contributions to this district is very tough to do. They are truly fabulous board members and fabulous human beings."

Afterwards Shanks and Thomas received a standing ovation from the audience and district employees in attendance appreciative of their work.

The deadline for filing to run for school board is April 7 at 4 p.m.

To be eligible, a person must be a qualified school elector. This means the candidate must be a registered voter in the school district he or she is a candidate, says the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB).

A candidate must be at least 18 years of age, a citizen of the United States, a resident of Michigan for at least 30 days, and a resident of the school district on or before the 30th day prior to the date of the election, the

MASB states.

For more information on how to become a candidate,

contact Clarkston Deputy Superintendent Dave Reschke or secretary Becky Kelly at (248) 623-5413.

## School board sets ballot language

BY JENNIFER NEMER  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

The Board of Education approved, at their March 10 meeting, the ballot language for the June 9 election.

Along with the vote to fill the two open seats for school board is an operating millage renewal proposal and bonding proposal.

Regarding the renewal, the ballot reads, the millage will allow the school district to continue to levy the statutory rate of 18 mills against non-homestead and non-qualified agricultural property required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation guarantee.

The renewal is a 4.5 mills (\$4.50 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) increase for 2003 to provide funds for operating purposes. The estimate of the

revenue the district will collect if the millage is approved and levied will not be known until May.

The proposal is a renewal of 4.4873 mills which expired with the 2002 tax levy plus a .127 mill, which is a restoration of the Headlee reduction.

The bond proposal is not to exceed \$83, 735, 000 and will be used, as the ballot reads, for erecting, furnishing and equipping an addition or additions to and/or partially remodeling, refurbishing, re-equipping existing school facilities; acquiring and installing education technology; constructing and equipping improvements to playgrounds, athletic fields and outdoor athletic facilities, and developing and improving sites.

If the bond is approved, it will not mean an increase in property tax for residents, since the district is borrowing from the School Bond Loan Fund Program.

## Schools

Continued from page 1

tion system. Cost increases in fuel will be balanced by reductions in maintenance, or the increased use of shuttles, Reschke said.

•Increase class sizes.

This will most likely occur in grades K-3.

A minimum of three teaching positions, out of the district's 400 teachers, will be cut, saving the district \$140,000 in salaries and benefits, Reschke said.

Split classes at the elementary level may be increased,

small load classes at the high school may be consolidated, and/or fewer electives may be offered to students in grades 6-12 as well. This may allow the district to discontinue the use of some of their portables.

•Reduce special education program costs by \$75,000.


This will require cost sharing for clerical support at Clarkston High School and Renaissance High School.

It may reduce the CHS attendance counseling support position to part time, reduce the clerical support at RHS, and will reduce per pupil allocations for special education.

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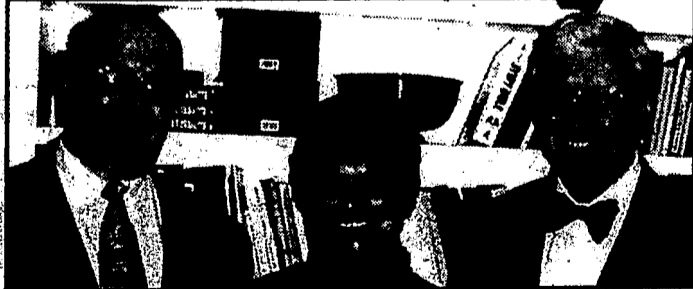
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# Sports

All Clarkston All The Time

## More sports:

- Boys basketball.....See page 10A.
- Athlete of Week.....See page 10A.
- Volleyball.....See page 10A.
- Column.....See page 11A.
- Sports shorts.....See page 11A.

## LaJoie 'awesome' in state title victory

*Junior grappler captures 125 lb. crown; DeGain, Langdon earn runner-up at states*

**BY JEFF PATRUS**

*Clarkston News Staff Writer*

After Clarkston junior wrestler Tony LaJoie captured the Division 1 state wrestling championship at 125 lbs., one thing ran through his mind.

"Everything I've always worked for and set my goals for, I finally achieved," he said.

LaJoie became the second Clarkston wrestler in as many years to win a state championship, defeating Livonia Churchill senior Brian Clement by a 20-4 technical fall in the 125-lb. finals March 8 at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

LaJoie (43-3) reached the finals with a 16-4 major decision against Grandville senior Cody Nicholson in the semifinals of their division.

"It was awesome," Clarkston coach Mike DeGain said of LaJoie's performance. "He major decisioned the guy that everyone thought would win, then earned a technical fall win in the finals. Those were the two best matches of his career, no doubt."

Last year, Clint DeGain, then a junior, won the state title in the 160-lb. class. DeGain's hopes for a repeat state championship fell short in the 171 lb. finals, as he lost a 7-5 overtime decision to Grandville senior Buddy Rivera.

DeGain, who will be attending The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina next year on a wrestling schol-



**John Langdon**



Defending state champion Clint DeGain (171) began his quest for a repeat title with a pinfall victory against Detroit Catholic Central junior Scott Schwarzlose. DeGain, who will be wrestling at The Citadel in Charleston, SC next year, fell short in that quest, losing his only match of the year to Grandville's Buddy Rivera in the 171-lb. finals. A total of five Clarkston wrestlers placed at the state meet, with Tony LaJoie (125) winning a state championship and John Langdon (140) earning a second-place finish. *Photo by Jeff Patrus.*

arship, finished his senior year with a record of 41-1.

LaJoie and DeGain were two of five Clarkston wrestlers to place at the state individual wrestling finals March 6-8 at The Palace. Senior John Langdon (39-6) capped his CHS wrestling career with a runner-up finish in the 140-lb. class, losing a 26-12 major decision to Davison sophomore Brent Metcalf in the finals of that division.

The other two Clarkston placers were senior Joe Wood (fifth, 275) and junior Matt Herron (eighth, 103).

Clarkston sent their largest group of wrestlers in school history to the individual finals, with ten grapplers representing the Wolves at The Palace. Five of those wrestlers won their first-round matches March 6 to advance to the championship quarterfinals March 7.

Herron defeated Hudsonville junior Casey Schaner by a 7-4 decision; LaJoie defeated Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern senior Abdul Mustafa by a 13-0 major de-

*Please see Wrestling on page 11A*

## Icers' run for championship ends against Catholic Central

*Shamrocks defeat Wolves 4-0 to claim fifth straight crown*

**BY JEFF PATRUS**

*Clarkston News Staff Writer*

The Clarkston hockey team rode their winning ways all the way to the state finals.

However, perennial state champion Detroit Catholic Central ended Clarkston's dream of a state championship with a 4-0 win against the Wolves March 8 at the Compuware Ice Arena in Plymouth. The Shamrocks claimed their record fifth straight state championship, while the Wolves ended their season with a 17-9-4 record.

The Shamrocks (26-3) scored three second-period goals on Clarkston junior goaltender Aaron Catanese and added a

fourth goal in the third period, while Clarkston could not get untracked offensively against CC junior goalie Jim Blanchard.

After the game, Coach Bryan Krygier told the team to hold their heads high.

"We came out on the wrong side Saturday, but that doesn't take away from what they accomplished," he said. "There's nothing for us to be ashamed of. We competed against the best in the state."

Clarkston earned the trip to the finals with a 4-1 win against East Kentwood March 7 at Compuware. East Kentwood outshot the Wolves 22-16, but

Catanese's goaltending helped spark the Wolves to the finals.

The Wolves struck first at 3:14 of the first period when junior Steve Morin scored on assists from freshman Kyle Cummings and senior defenseman Ron Knoebel.

After East Kentwood's Adam Thomas scored at 1:08 of the second to tie the game at one, Clarkston senior forward Eric Hall put the Wolves back on top at 9:34 of the second with assists from Knoebel and senior defenseman Jim Lattanzi.

Clarkston added insurance goals at 9:51 of the second, when junior forward

Kyle Buzzo scored on an assist from Lattanzi, and at 14:08 of the third, when junior forward Adam Peters scored unassisted.

The Wolves advanced to the state semifinals with a 4-3 overtime win against West Bloomfield March 5 at the Flint IMA Arena.

Knoebel tallied a power-play goal 1:05 into overtime to advance the Wolves to the semifinals. West Bloomfield (12-12-3) twice overcome two-goal deficits to force the extra period.

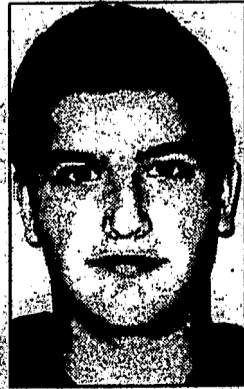
The Wolves went on the power play in overtime after West Bloomfield's Steve Kuza was sent to the penalty box for taking down Hall in the Lakers' zone, setting up Knoebel's game-winner. Clarkston outshot West Bloomfield 25-14 in the contest.

In the first period, Clarkston took a 2-0 lead on goals by sophomore forward

*Please see Hockey on page 11A*



**Steve Morin**



**Eric Hall**

# Johnston, Clark lead Wolves to tenth straight district crown

## Cagers win against Kettering, Brandon; Clarkston faces

**BY JEFF PATRUS**  
*Clarkston News Staff Writer*

The tradition continues for the Clarkston basketball team.

Junior forward Chris Johnston scored 18 points and sophomore guard Robbie Clark added 16 as the Wolves defeated neighboring Brandon 52-38 in the district final March 8 at Oxford, capturing their tenth straight district championship.

The Wolves (15-8) advanced to the final the night before with a 67-59 win against Waterford Kettering. The Wolves grabbed a 17-11 lead against the Captains at the end of the first quarter, and maintained a 32-26 lead at halftime. Although the Wolves won the game, the Captains hung around until the end, and Clarkston could not blow the game open.

Johnston led the Wolves with 19 points, while Clark added 15 and senior guard Justin Whetstone 10.

Although Coach Dan Fife stated both the Captains and Blackhawks gave



**Robbie Clark**



Clarkston's boys basketball team is all smiles as they pose with the district championship trophy after defeating Brandon 52-38 in the district final March 8 at Oxford. Photo provided.

the Wolves trouble in the districts, he believes winning the district championship, along with a share of the Oakland Activities Association Division I title, are signs of the team's growing maturity.

"We won, and I don't think we necessarily played our best," Fife said. "Kettering played us very tough and so did Brandon. Our kids struggled through it a little bit, but they're getting used to winning a little bit. It was a good win for us. We set goals each year of winning the league championship and district championship, and then we take it from there."

Fife cited Clark and Whetstone as

players that had an "outstanding" district tournament for the Wolves.

The Wolves competed Tuesday in the Region 7 opener against Grand Blanc (results were not available as of press time). If they defeat the Bobcats, the Wolves would play the winner of Wednesday's regional game between Clinton Township Chippewa Valley and White Lake Lakeland for the regional title at Dakota Friday at 7 p.m.

"They're quick and they have a lot of players returning from last year," Fife said of the Bobcats. "We'll have to play very well to beat them."

### Basketball regionals (at Macomb Dakota High School)

Tuesday, March 11 — Clarkston vs. Grand Blanc (result not available as of press time)

Wednesday, March 12 — Clinton Township Chippewa Valley vs. White Lake Lakeland, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 14 — Regional final, Clarkston-Grand Blanc winner vs. Chippewa Valley-Lakeland winner, 7 p.m.

# Richardson's volleyball coaching career comes to end

## Netters fall to Mason in regionals 15-11, 15-5; team finishes with 30-16-2 record

**BY JEFF PATRUS**  
*Clarkston News Staff Writer*

After 29 years, the volleyball coaching career of Gordie Richardson has come to a close.

The Clarkston volleyball team, which had been peaking in the second half of the season, never could get untracked against Mason in regional action March 8 at Lansing Eastern, losing to the Bulldogs 15-11, 15-5. The loss ended Clarkston's season with a record of 30-16-2.

Senior Megan Gaines was 29-of-30 setting with 16 aces and led the team with 10 digs. Sophomore Stephanie Parkin led the team with five kills and was eight-of-nine serving, while junior Ashley Hudson was 13-of-14 serving with four kills and seven digs.

Richardson wished the season could have ended a little differently.

"I was a little disappointed," he said. "I was pretty optimistic about how we had performed going into the regionals. We didn't bring our 'A' game that day. Mason has a good offensive team and showed us multiple attacks."

However, the loss did not diminish the improvement the team made in the latter part of the campaign, according to Richardson.

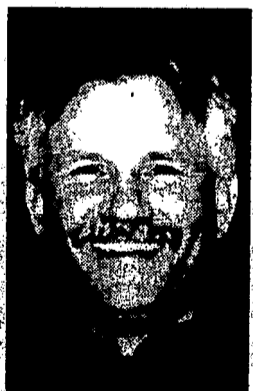
"Except for that last match, the second half of our season was outstanding," he said. "The kids made

such tremendous improvement. You could see the kids getting better and it was an exciting thing to watch."

Richardson said he only briefly to reflect on the fact it was his last match as Clarkston's volleyball coach.

"The first thing I thought of was it's the last one,"

he said. "The second thing was it's time to go on to something else. After the match Saturday, I told the kids I was pleased the last team I coached was one that worked so hard and came together as the season went on."



**Gordie Richardson**

## Athlete of the Week — Tony LaJoie

**BY JEFF PATRUS**  
*Clarkston News Staff Writer*

It all came together for Clarkston junior wrestler Tony LaJoie in the state individual wrestling finals.

LaJoie, competing in the 125-lb. weight division, earned a state championship with a 20-4 technical fall victory against Livonia Churchill senior Brian Clement March 8 at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

The win was the culmination of a lot of hard work for LaJoie, who first started wrestling in kindergarten when father Larry helped him break into the sport.

He stated Coach Mike DeGain has been constantly encouraging himself, as well as his teammates, to keep



**Tony LaJoie**

striving for excellence. "He's been nothing but a big help," LaJoie said of DeGain. "He really helps motivate us to go as far as we can."

Although the Wolves fell short of their quest for a state championship, LaJoie has a lot of good memories from this season. "I definitely will remember how close we were," he said. "It was like a second family — we were like brothers."

He added the seniors on the team taught him to "work as hard as you can — hard work gets you where you want to go."

The Wolves will be losing a lot of talent from this year's team, but LaJoie believes they still will be a factor in the 2003-04 season. "We'll still be tough, and we'll still be in contention," he said.

LaJoie said he would like to continue his wrestling career at the collegiate level, but is not sure where at this time. He is the son of Larry and Ann LaJoie of Clarkston, and has a younger sister, Kelly, 14, a freshman at CHS.

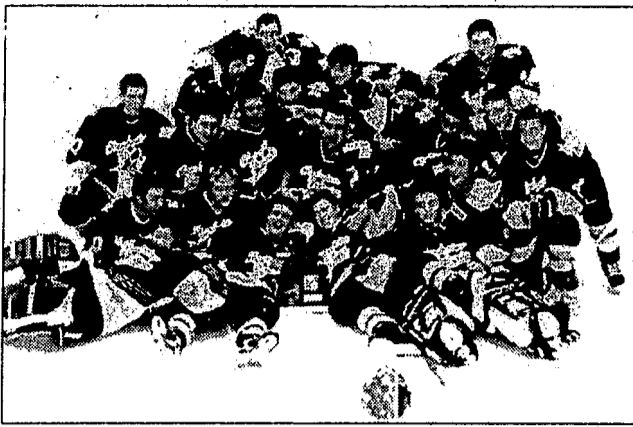
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Clarkston's hockey team celebrates after winning the regional championship against Walled Lake Central earlier this month. The Wolves made it all the way to the state finals before losing to Detroit Catholic Central 4-0 at Compuware Ice Arena in Plymouth March 8. Photo provided.

## Hockey

Continued from page 9A

Trevor Johns and Hall. However, West Bloomfield's Matt Waskerwitz trimmed the Clarkston lead to 2-1 with 6:24 left in the first period.

Buzzo answered for Clarkston, scoring with 12:39 left in the second period to put the Wolves up 3-1. However, the Lakers kept chipping away at the Clarkston lead, as West Bloomfield's Mike Hulsander scored 30 seconds after Buzzo's goal to trim the Clarkston lead to 3-2, and Waskerwitz tallied his second goal of the game 21 seconds into the third period to tie the game at three.

Though their quest for a state title fell short, Krygier took away fond memories of the Wolves' playoff run.

"We played well throughout the playoffs," he said. "I was very proud of how hard the guys worked."

Check out next week's issue for coverage of the boys basketball team in regional competition.

# Winter sports teams bring championship flair to C-Town

Several major cities have earned reputations as being the "City of Champions" during various periods of time when their sports teams ruled the roost.

With the success of many of their winter sports teams, Clarkston can stake its own claim to being a "city of champions" at the high school level.

The high school's basketball, volleyball and wrestling teams all earned district titles, and the hockey team earned a regional title and made it to the "Elite Eight" of the state hockey playoffs.

In addition, ten Clarkston wrestlers competed in the state individual wrestling finals March 6-8 at The Palace of Auburn Hills.

Let's take a look at each of the aforementioned sports:

•**Boys basketball:** With so many new faces at the beginning of the season — there are only two seniors, Matt Orris and Justin Whetstone, on this year's team — there was every reason to believe the team would struggle. At the beginning of the year, that was certainly the case, as the Wolves were very much an up-and-down team. However, the team slowly gained confidence and emerged, surprisingly, as co-champions of Oakland Activities Association Division I, along with Pontiac Northern and Southfield-Lathrup.

They followed that up with a district championship win against Brandon. It will be interesting to see how much further the team's journey takes them.

•**Volleyball:** Coach Gordie Richardson received a nice going-away present from this year's volleyball team. Richardson, who is retiring at the end of the year, led the Wolves to a district title for the seventh time in 11 years. The team caught fire as the season progressed, and avenged last season's loss in the dis-

trict finals against Fenton. The Wolves received steady contributions from Megan Gaines, Alex Heinrich, Stephanie Parkin and Ashley Hudson, to name a few. The team's season ended with a loss to Mason March 8 in regionals.

•**Wrestling:** The Clarkston grapplers forged themselves a strong season, going 23-4 in dual meet action and being ranked number two in the state Division 1 rankings for much of the season. The Wolves claimed a district championship before losing a heartbreaker to top-ranked Davison in the regional semifinals, 37-30. The Cardinals went on to win their third state championship in four years, and the Wolves gave them their stiffest competition along the way. As far as the individual state finals are concerned, the Wolves did themselves proud, with five grapplers earning places at the meet, including state champion Tony LaJoie (125) and runners-up Clint DeGain (171) and John Langdon (140).

•**Hockey:** The Wolves slid a little bit from last season's Oakland Activities Association Division I championship, finishing in second place. However, like their basketball and volleyball counterparts, the team picked up the pace at just the right time, making their first-ever trip to the state finals before falling to perennial powerhouse Detroit Catholic Central 4-0 Saturday. Aaron Catanese solidified the goaltending situation, and the Wolves received timely goal-scoring from players such as Myles Purdy, Adam Peters, Steve Morin, Trevor Johns, Eric Hall and Kyle Buzzo.

•**Skiing:** Both the boys and girls ski teams proved themselves to be dominant forces this season, winning the Southeast Michigan Ski League and Oakland Activities Association titles. Although they didn't win the state championship, both teams did themselves proud, with Brandon Rosengren and Mo Weiland leading the charge for their respective teams.

### What's up with that!



Jeff Patrus

## Wrestling

Continued from page 9A

cision; Langdon defeated Holt junior Troy Albert by a 13-2 major decision; DeGain pinned Detroit Catholic Central junior Scott Schwarzlose in 1:59; and Wood pinned Josh Haron of South Lyon in 4:30. Wood struggled to win his match, though, as he was trailing 4-0 at the time of the pin.

DeGain, LaJoie and Langdon won their quarterfinal matches to earn spots in the semifinals of their weight classes. DeGain pinned Port Huron senior James Farver in 1:40, while Langdon defeated New Baltimore Anchor Bay junior Jacob Tazzi by a 12-6 decision and LaJoie defeated South Lyon sophomore Shawn LaChance by a 9-5 decision.

However, Herron and Wood were defeated in their quarterfinal matches. Herron was pinned by Clinton Township Chippewa Valley freshman Anthony Biondo in 35 seconds, while Wood, who will be attending Michigan State University on a wrestling scholarship next year, lost a 3-1 decision to Holt senior Adam Barr.

DeGain earned a spot in the 171-lb. finals with a 7-2 win against Howell's Adam Baldwin, while Langdon pinned Jake Williamson of South Lyon in 4:25 to advance to the finals in his bracket.

In the consolation round, Wood pinned East Detroit senior Charles Cannon in 59 seconds and Jenison senior James Tanis in 4:15. Wood then lost a 3-2 decision to Temperance Bedford senior Rick Nieman before avenging his earlier loss against Barr with a 34 second pinfall win against the Holt senior, thus earning him the fifth-place finish. Wood finishes his senior year with a 46-5 record.

Herron earned a 10-5 win against Hartland junior Greg Salinas in the consolation round of his division. He then forfeited his matches against Ann Arbor Pioneer senior Jon Adgate and Temperance Bedford sophomore

Craig Gin, which left Herron finishing in eighth place. His final record this season is 43-7.

The other Clarkston grapplers competing in the tournament, along with how they fared in the consolation brackets, are as follows:

•Junior Elliot May (112) lost to Detroit Catholic Central junior Matthew Steintrager by forfeit. He also forfeited his first-round consolation match against Lansing Eastern senior Linh Nguyen. May finishes his season with a 30-11 record.

•Sophomore Bryan Webb (119) lost to Clinton Township Chippewa Valley junior Mike Peraino by a 12-5 decision. He also lost his first-round consolation match against Dearborn Fordson junior Ghassau Hamka by a 9-8 decision. Webb finishes his season with a 33-17 record.

•Sophomore Braden L'Amoreaux (130) lost to Wayne Memorial junior Tim Hammer by a 5-0 decision. He then defeated West Bloomfield sophomore Chris Kinaya by an 11-6 decision in his first-round consolation match before losing a 5-3 decision to Davison junior Cory Rogers. L'Amoreaux wraps up the season with a 36-10 record.

•Senior Brenton Place (160) was pinned by Jenison senior Bruce Bolhuis in 5:08. He then defeated Roseville junior Tom Gizowski by a 12-5 decision in his first-round consolation match before losing a 9-4 decision to Utica's Ido Sattarelli. Place finishes the year with a 30-12 record.

•Senior Kyle Hester (189) lost to Walled Lake Central junior Casey White by a 10-0 major decision. He also lost his first-round consolation match against Grand Haven junior Kurtis Abraham by a 6-4 decision. Hester finishes his season with a 33-9 record.

With the season officially concluded, Coach DeGain reflected on the many accomplishments of the team this year, including a 23-4 season record and a trip to the regional semifinals.

"It was a good struggle to try and win the state title," he said. "We didn't get there, but as long as the kids understand it was worth the effort, then that's what counts."

## Sports shorts

### Volleyball team recognized as all-state academic team

Clarkston's girls volleyball team has earned the honor of being an all-state all-academic team as awarded by MIVCA (a volleyball coaches organization). The fourteen members of this year's team have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.619.

Two CHS seniors will be recognized as individual all-state all-academic. Courtney Robinson has a 4.0 GPA, while Jenna Kast has a 3.985 GPA.

In addition, the following team members earned all-league all-academic awards for GPA's of 3.5 or better. They are: Robinson, Kast, Colby Gardner, Caitlin McLean, Kristen Bradish, Lindsey Bramble, Stephanie Parkin, Ashley Hudson, Megan Garrett and Corey Sadowski.

### Clarkston lacrosse team looking for new members

Clarkston's lacrosse team has started the 2003 season. Lacrosse is a fast-moving, hard-hitting game, the Midwest's fastest growing sport. If you enjoy hockey, basketball, soccer or other team sports, call the coaches and join the team. Contact Jack Shader at 248-625-9333 or Steve Fisher at 248-625-8303.

E-mail The Clarkston News at [shermanpub@aol.com](mailto:shermanpub@aol.com)

# 'The most important course in education'

BY JENNIFER NEMER  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

There's aliens, a rocket ship, singing, and just plain 'ol imagination. That's Destination Imagination to be exact.

Independence Elementary fifth graders Connor Devitt, Zechariah Moore, Jessica Bennink, Brendan Wass, Rachel Hampton and Anne Drolet stood before their peers Thursday, Feb. 27 and brought to life an alien world where they created a way of rescuing three girls from it in an effort to return them to Earth; all in the name of Destination Imagination.

The eight-minute skit was a practice run of their personally-scripted play, featuring handcrafted props and costumes, before regional competition at The University of Michigan-Flint Saturday, March 1.

The Independence team was one of 18 teams from nine schools within the Clarkston district to compete. They ended up placing seventh out of 43 elementary schools in their category.

Destination Imagination, which claims to be "the most important course in education," is an after-school program promoting creative thinking, problem-solving and teamwork through annual competitions for all ages.

Formerly known as Odyssey of the Mind, this nation-wide program provides an opportunity for kids to expand on a skill or knowledge learned in school in a fun, nontraditional way.

Teamed up in groups of five to seven, the students must do any and all work on their own, void of any adult help.

For competition, each team is asked to participate in one or more challenges. This year's challenges included:

Challenge A: "Video Adventure" - Teams must create a "live" 3-D video adventure game that takes a participant to other nations as they journey from game level to game level, overcoming obstacles and collecting rewards.

Challenge B: "A Change in Direction" - Teams create their own adventure as they explore ways to use, transport and reuse a set of parts.

Challenge C: "Once Improv a Time" - The team must take literary elements from a variety of different folktales to create an improvisational story.

Challenge D: "ConnecDid" - Teams must develop a universal creation that would allow them to make connections between people, nations, objects or events.

Challenge E: "Theater Smarts: — Teams must create a skit that shows the audience what's happening on stage and behind the scenes while overcoming a variety of obstacles.

Rachel Hampton said of Destination Imagination, "It's fun to create your own songs, your own play and make your own props."

Added Jessica Bennink, "You get to act stupid on stage!"



Photo provided by the Clarkston News Staff. Photos by Jennifer Nemer.



Anne Drolet, Jessica Bennink and Rachel Hampton bring their play to life for fellow fifth graders.



Marked by the Clarkston News Staff. Photos by Jennifer Nemer.



## Students welcome at Tuesday Night Live

**BY KYLE GARGARO**  
Clarkston News Editor

Tuesday evening is not your normal party night.

However thanks to the Clarkston Christian Association, it is just that for area youth.

The CCA brings Tuesday Night Live to high school students once a month. The idea originated because Clarkston High School starts late on Wednesdays for their staff Development Day.

"Our thought was that kids could stay up later that night, so let's offer them something to do," Director Dan Niewoit said.

This is the third month the CCA has hosted the event. They have been averaging more than 200 students each time.

"They have a great time," Niewoit said. "They are very enthusiastic and really enjoy themselves."

Teens can come and hear live

music, have a drink from the cappuccino bar, play foosball, billiards or ping-pong. The cost is \$5.

"It was a lot of fun. I told everybody I knew about it," CHS junior Danielle Barker said.

On March 18, Tuesday Night Live will be hosting local bands Blue Light Special and Before I Go. Both bands hail from Clarkston. They will also be joined by Boink and The Chiodos.

The CCA, which is owned and operated by Mt. Zion, is located at 5529 Sashabaw Road.

*'They have a great time. They are very enthusiastic and really enjoy themselves.'*

**Dan Niewoit**  
CCA Director

## Local restaurants celebrate spirit of St. Patrick's Day

**BY JEFF PATRUS**  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

If you're looking for a place to celebrate the wearing of the green on St. Patrick's Day, several local establishments have just what you're looking for.

Here is a sampling of what Clarkston restaurants will be doing to celebrate that day:

**•Mesquite Creek Steakhouse:** The restaurant will be selling corned beef and cabbage, along with green beer. In addition, the Creekside Cafe next door will be selling St. Patrick's Day themed cookies.

**•Duggan's Irish Pub:** The doors

will open at 9 a.m., serving green eggs and ham, and will continue serving Irish favorites like corned beef and cabbage throughout the entire day.

**•Village Bake Shop:** The Main Street bakery will be selling glazed shamrock cookies.

**•Rudy's Quality Market:** Owner Robert Eshhaki noted the store typically sells a lot of corned beef and cabbage during the holiday, and they will feature corned beef and cabbage soup in the days leading up to St. Patrick's Day. In addition, Rudy's will sell several St. Patrick's Day-themed baked goods.

Have a story idea? Call The Clarkston News at (248) 625-3370 or e-mail at [shermanpub@aol.com](mailto:shermanpub@aol.com).

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Enjoy These Business Stories and "42" More  
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## Credit union members enjoy many advantages

In today's fast-paced world of drive-through restaurants and automated answering services, it is difficult to make personal connections in the business world.

The Clarkston-Brandon Community Credit Union, however, works hard to make that hometown personal connection their primary focus of business.

Established in Clarkston in 1957 and Brandon in 1989, the nonprofit, member-owned cooperative has long encouraged cooperative financial service, which historically returns paramount savings and trust back into the entire community.

"Our limited membership allows us a more personal relationship with our members," said Ortonville branch manager Dawn Chisholm. "We are also able to offer most services at a lower rate or with better interest."

Members can take advantage of fair returns to the community as a whole by using membership savings to provide loan availability at competitively low interest rates.

Membership services provide convenience services such as trusted low-interest credit cards, no minimum balance checking accounts with no monthly service charge and no per-check charges. Overdraft protection is a given to qualified members.

Friendly hometown associates offer low interest loan services with affordable financing plans on car loans, stu-

dent loans, home improvements, vacations, personal bill consolidation, or recreational vehicles. Simple home equity line of credit loans and revolving credit loans are ready to suit a borrower's needs. Reminiscent of quaint banking days gone by, CBCCU also offers old fashioned signature loans to qualified members. The services of MICA Mortgage Corporation are also available by calling (248) 625-7555.

Nearly limitless saving options include insured investment through certificates of deposits, individual retirement accounts, share accounts, money market investment accounts, Christmas and vacation club accounts.

Vacation preparations are made easy with CBCCU one-stop convenience to purchase cashier checks, travelers checks, money orders, discount tickets, wire transfers, fax and notary services.

If time is just too tight to stop by the local branch, CBCCU offers on-line home banking or ATM banking 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1,000 convenient ATM locations.

In just 15 minutes, shareholders could save up to 20 percent off current insurance policies by purchasing member benefit auto, home and personal property insurance through Citizens Insurance or take advantage of saving by purchasing family group life insurance. Family group benefits also include legal services.

As local credit union shareholders, members are invited to participate in board elections yearly and can take community pride in local charitable donations.

With a membership of more than 9,500 people, Clarkston-Brandon Community Credit Union continues to work hard bring the community special services with a personal touch.

For more information on services click on [www.cbccu.org](http://www.cbccu.org)

To join the comfort of old fashion

financial services stop by Clarkston-Brandon Community Credit Union either in Brandon or Clarkston.

The Brandon office is located at 4 South Street, PO Box 194, Ortonville 48462. Telephone is (248) 627-9944. The Clarkston branch is located at 8055 Ortonville Road (M-15), Clarkston 48438. Telephone is (248) 625-2923.

Business hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday.



The Clarkston branch of the Clarkston-Brandon Credit Union.

# Personalize your money at Managed Asset Portfolios

You're not just another investor at Managed Asset Portfolios (MAP) of Rochester. Dan Patterson, Client Relations Manager, and Michael Dzialo, President of MAP, say that each one of their clients has a personalized portfolio for the management of their money.

"We don't have two portfolios that are the same, because no two clients are the same," says Patterson.

Dzialo says it is important to have a professional manage your money for you.

"If you have a toothache, you don't fill your own tooth," he says. "Managing money is a full-time job."

Dzialo and Patterson joined together after both worked for OLDE Discount Corporation, with Patterson starting in 1984 and Dzialo joining OLDE in 1987. The two left shortly after H&R Block bought OLDE in 1999.

"It was always a dream of mine to be a money manager," says Dzialo. "When I left H&R Block, that was a logical time to make that step."

In 2000, Dzialo began operating MAP out of his home, and in 2001, he was joined by Patterson, and the two moved the business to their Rochester location.

MAP provides individualized money management for corporations, families, trusts and IRAs. Patterson said MAP works in accordance with their client's risk tolerance, objectives and preferences.

Dzialo, a Sterling Heights resident, is a graduate of Wayne State University and a former securities analyst and director of research at OLDE. Patterson, a Clarkston resident, is an Albion College grad, and a former broker, branch manager, bond and mutual fund department manager, national sales director and member of the board of directors at OLDE.

Dzialo started MAP with \$50 million in a handful of accounts; today MAP has around 100 accounts totaling \$609 million. Their minimum portfolio value is \$100,000.

"We are true value investors," says Dzialo. "We do our homework, and we don't have conflicts of interest, such as an investment banking division. Our interests are aligned with our clients."

Patterson says MAP doesn't work on commissions.

"So when we buy and sell something for the client, they don't have to wonder if we're doing it to make a commission," he says.

MAP offers prospective clients a free portfolio review with no obligation to use their services.

"If someone wants a second opinion on how their portfolio looks, we will go over it and give them a report about what we would change, if anything, and why" says Patterson.

MAP employs three portfolio managers, two analysts and a small sales and administrative staff.

"We've worked with all of our portfolio managers and research analysts already at OLDE, so we've had the benefit of not having to hire anyone off the street," says Patterson. MAP's staff has years of experience

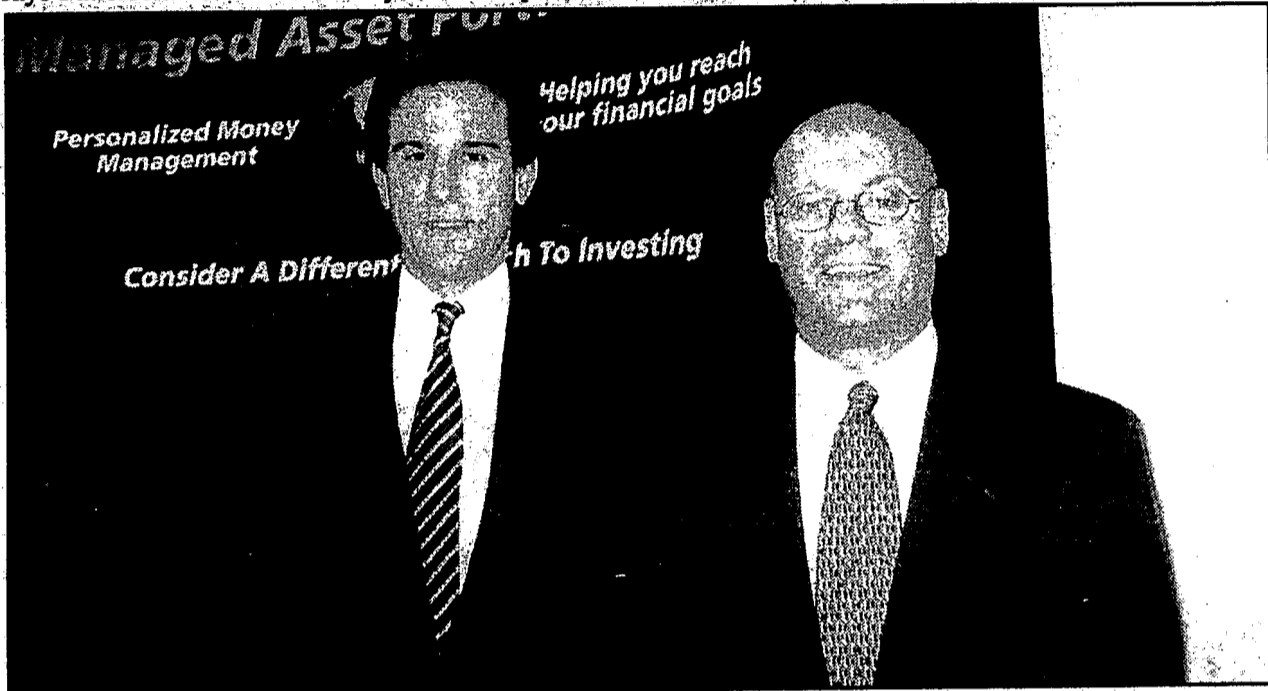
and bring a passion for what they do.

"We also get large wall street firms' research, but at the end of the day, we do our own homework," Dzialo says. "I think that separates us. We have the resources to do our own homework."

Patterson says that MAP clients' finances won't be risked for trendy investment opportunities.

"Recently we've held cash positions," he says. "That's helped our clients weather the storm. It's better to preserve the client's assets, than allocate them to an investment that we don't see a lot of value in. We realize the market can crumble pretty quickly."

Managed Asset Portfolios, LLC is located at 950 W. University Drive, Suite 100 in Rochester. The phone number is (248) 601-6677, and the fax number is (248) 601-6679.



From left: Michael Dzialo, President of Managed Asset Portfolios, and Client Relations Manager Dan Patterson provide personalized money management.



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# James Lumber continues expansion at local sites

Since 1926, James Lumber has maintained a sense of community and a sense of family. It's still true today at the Ortonville and Oxford locations after eight years in these communities.

Doug Graham Jr. is part of the fourth generation of the James family that founded the business in Flint. Over the years, the family has grown and evolved with the times, surviving war, depression, recession and a changing local economic scene.

In the midst of such challenges, the firm has chosen to expand their local stores, and they're planning more for the future. An outdoor garden center is planned in Ortonville, to feature seasonal items, and both locations are in for additional remodeling of their showrooms.

The Oxford location is due for exterior improvement to match the appearance of the Ortonville store, and will soon introduce a new paint department featuring the Do-It-Best line of paint, which Graham said is produced by the largest paint manufacturer in the world.

The Ortonville location is a state of the art lumber and hardware store, featuring expanded kitchen cabinet and moulding displays, outdoor accessories and grills, and even bicycles among the traditional offerings.

Graham admits there are challenges to be overcome, including intense competition from large national companies, labor shortages, depressed lumber prices "and sometimes our own shortcomings."

James Lumber is able to thrive and survive because of a major difference from the competition.

"Our people, of course," said Graham.

The sales team receives eight hours of product and process training each week, December through March.

"That's 13 times the amount someone at a national chain gets," Graham said, "plus, our staff is friendly and courteous. We have low turnover, so customers forge relationships with us."

Those relationships help customers, whether they

are do-it-yourselfers, home builders or remodelers, with fast and economical completion of their projects.

It's a win-win situation for everyone, Graham said. Because of the tight-knit nature of Oxford and Ortonville and the surrounding areas, local folks buy local.

"And we are definitely local," he said. "It works for our business, because we try to earn customer loyalty through a higher level of service. It's another way to give back to your community."

The rest of the ownership team includes Tom James,

Doug Graham Sr., Jared James and Robert Graham.

James Lumber's Ortonville location is at 700 Ortonville Road (M-15). Hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. (Winter hours vary.) Telephone is (248) 627-3600.

James Lumber's Oxford location is at 73 E. Burdick St. in downtown Oxford. Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Telephone is (248) 628-2541. Web site is www.jameslumber.com



(Seated) Kelly Morrison, Rex Mathewson, Michelle West, Don McClurg, (standing) Donald Scott, Keith Elston, Sean Stringer, Andrew Vanaman, John Haug, John Gault, Doug Hollingsworth, Don Travis, Roy Smotherman.

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## Who are the James Boys?



The James family was known for 2 things in the 1930's. Lumber and golf. The entire James family including Law, Dick, Danny and Cliff as well as daughter Joan were outstanding golfers. Law was the Detroit district Junior Golf Champion along with many other local tournaments. Dick and Cliff swapped First Junior Golf Championships for several years. Dick was the first ever First Junior Golf champion. Dick went on to play at the University of Michigan. A sports writer from the Flint Journal dubbed the golf duo as "the James Boys." The slogan was brought back in the late 1970's to be used as a marketing campaign. Since then, the James Boys, and Girls have been a staple on all James Lumber advertising.

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## What is your project?



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248-627-3600  
M-F 8-7 • SAT 8-6  
SUN 10-4



# University Lawn says now is the time to prepare for spring

Don't let the snow on the ground fool you. Spring time in Michigan is just around the corner.

University Lawn Equipment Company, conveniently located near I-75, M-59 and M-24 in Pontiac, is ready to get you set for spring lawn mowing, hedge trimming and a variety of other outdoor activities. In business since 1945, University Lawn is co-owned by Joel Wicker and Mark Waite, who keep their store well-stocked with leafblowers, snowblowers, chainsaws, water pumps, generators and chippers. University Lawn also has some construction equipment, such as cut-off saws.

"Much of our business is dependent on the weather, but regardless of weather, one thing's for sure. Your grass will still grow, and you'll have to cut it once a week for 26 weeks," says Wicker.

University Lawn offers brands such as: Simplicity, Snapper, Stihl, Homelite, and Giant Vac. The store also sells used ATVs, new Alpha Sport ATVs, Brister and Manco go-carts, and Tanaka (Blade Z) Powerboards.

The store services homeowners, landscapers, construction companies and government and local municipalities.

"Many people work around here, but live north," says Wicker. "So it's handy to stop by after work...it's easy to get to."

Now is the time to get your equipment ready for spring. Wicker says University Lawn always experiences a rush of business in April and May, sometimes causing delays for people anxious to get mowing.

"I advise people to get ready early," he says. "If you're tired of patching that old machine and making it limp through another season, come in and buy a new one."

University Lawn is competitively priced, and has a knowledgeable service staff, which is something Wicker says keeps his customers coming back.

"Our people have been around for a long time, and they have a lot of experience," he says. "Our goal is to satisfy the customer. We appreciate our customers,



Left to right: Mark Waite, Ms. Wicker, Joel Wicker and Fred Wicker of University Lawn have what you need to be ready for spring, and needs for fun as well, such as ATVs and powerboards.

and they're valuable to us."

University Lawn offers pick up for servicing equipment and delivery on your newly purchased item from an extensive showroom display.

Wicker says people should bring their lawn equipment in for servicing as soon as possible.

"That way, you don't have to worry about getting

it ready when you see the grass growing," he says.

University Lawn is located one mile west of Opdyke Road and 1 1/2 miles west of I-75. The store is open Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

The phone number is (248) 373-7220.

## Warehou\$e & Di\$count Flooring Outlet will 'FLOOR U2'

Warehou\$e & Di\$count Flooring Outlet is preparing to hold a formal Grand Opening on April 15 at its new location at 1200 Lapeer Road.

Discount Flooring, owner Gregory Allen Kornosky moved and expanded the business to better serve the needs of his customers.

"Our goal is to fulfill the needs of the customer, while giving them the best pricing, quality and service," he said.

The store's new location officially opens on March 15 with a Pre-Grand Opening extravaganza. The building features a 20,000 square foot warehouse and 3,000 square foot showroom.

"We offer the lowest prices on the best quality products," said Kornosky.

The largest flooring supply store in the area, Warehou\$e & Di\$count Flooring Outlet offers a wide-selection of in-stock flooring options. Customers can choose from carpeting, hardwood flooring, laminate, ceramic, vinyl and area rugs to fit any need or budget.

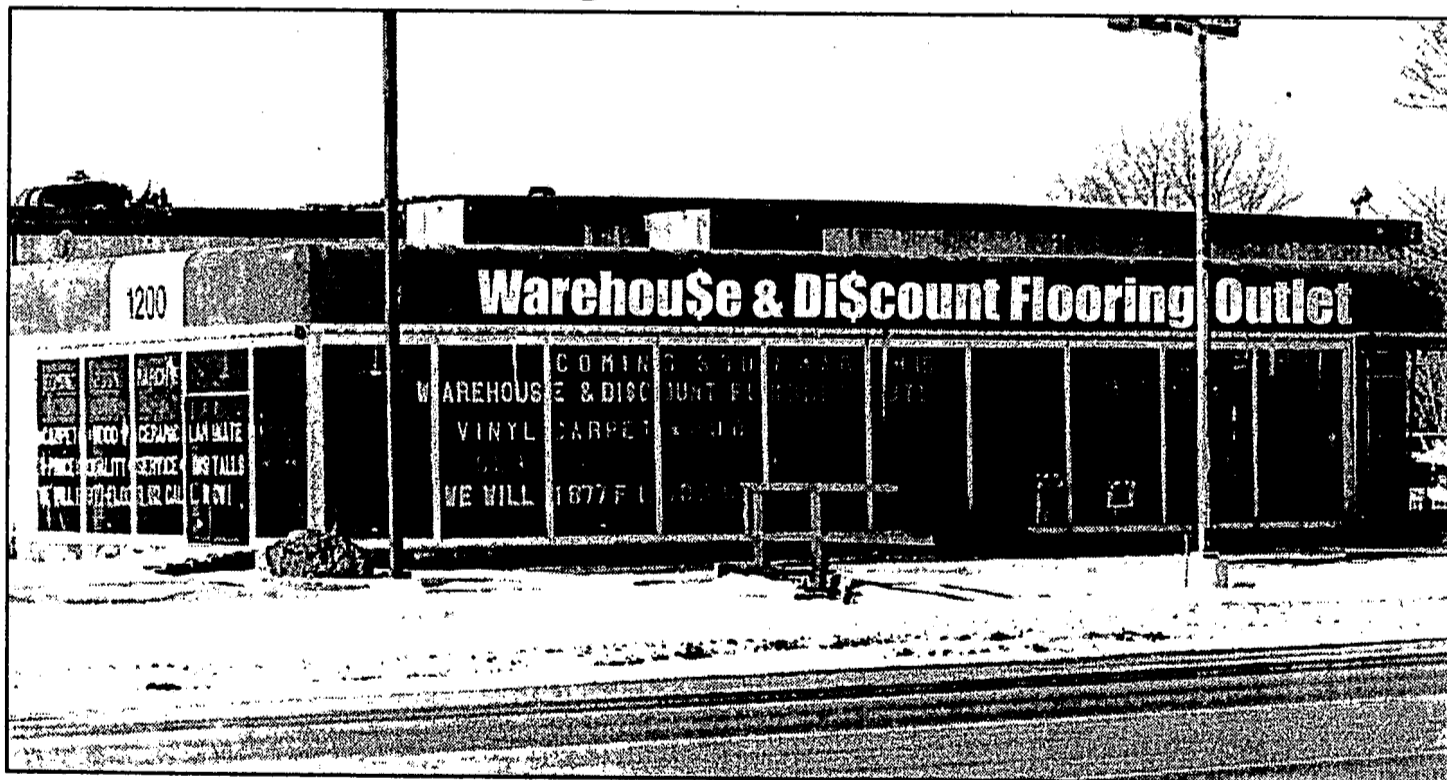
"I want to offer a wide selection," said Kornosky. "But what we're selling here is knowledge. We will find what best fits your design, your needs and your budget."

Many name brands are available including World, Shaw, Aladdin, Mohawk, Horizon, Pergo, Bruce, Armstrong, Mannington, Wilsonart and Congoleum.

"Because we specialize in just flooring, we offer the best experience, the best prices and the best service," said Kornosky.

In fact, Kornosky is determined to provide top of the line service representatives.

"As a certified installer of 20 years, I hand pick only the best installers around



Warehou\$e & Di\$count Flooring Outlet is now located at 1200 S. Lapeer Road, formerly the Oxford Motors dealership, south of Drahn Rd. next to the Oxford Mills Mall. The store will host a special Pre-Grand Opening on March 15 and is preparing a formal Grand Opening for April 15. Make sure to stop in and check out the vast selection of top-quality items at great prices.

to ensure the highest quality installations," he promises.

Warehou\$e & Di\$count Flooring Outlet also offers full customer service on all follow-ups and a warranty on all installations.

In addition, customers can expect convenience on top of the high quality of service.

"We offer flexible measuring and installation hours," said Kornosky. "I tell customers- no time, no worries, we'll work around your busy schedule."

In fact, Warehou\$e & Di\$count

Flooring Outlet offers next day installation on all in-stock items and generally 14-day-or less delivery and installation on all ordered materials.

And for those customers looking for just one more reason to stop in and see the wide selection of flooring available, Warehou\$e & Di\$count Flooring Outlet will be offering 6 months same as cash on all Mohawk flooring products to qualifying customers.

"I promise you I will do everything I can to deliver absolutely the best prices on quality material and provide you with

the highest knowledgeable service, installation and customer satisfaction guaranteed," said Kornosky.

Financing is available; and Visa, Mastercard and Discover are all accepted.

Warehou\$e & Di\$count Flooring Outlet is open seven days a week: Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from Noon - 6 p.m.

For a free estimate call 1-877-FLOOR-U2 (356-6782) or locally 248-236-8191, or send a fax to 1-888-FAX-MORE (329-6673).

Light Ink

# Barkman Landscaping improves first impression

Barkman Landscaping, Inc. is the local source for improving what is, arguably, the most important factor of a home's or business' value -- the exterior appearance.

Owner Mark Barkman said there are a number of studies showing how valuable landscaping can be to a property. Smart Money magazine, which is published by the Wall Street Journal, recently found that landscaping can increase values as much as 15 percent, he said.

With the surge of new construction over the last several years, Barkman said property owners are paying more attention to those details. "With the low interest rates, people are putting more money into their homes."

While much of that exterior appearance is the landscaping, he said there are other aspects as well. "We do a lot of water features," like ponds and water falls.

And they are able to do the "hardscaping," as well, said Barkman. As a licensed builder, Barkman Landscaping, Inc. can design and build decks, patios, and walks.

They have nine Michigan certified nurserymen on staff, receiving their accreditation through Michigan State University and the Michigan Landscape Association.

Four on that staff at Barkman's are MSU graduates, which Barkman said is unusual. "We have one of the most qualified staffs, not only in southeast Michigan, but all over the state. MSU is one of the top agricultural colleges in the nation."

Shannon Ridley has been on staff for three years after being graduated, and he had been a laborer and foreman with Barkman two years before that. With his degree in horticulture, Ridley is a member of the design team.

Rob Herron received his degree in landscape horticulture, and he has experience working with lawn

maintenance and chemical application. A native of Davison, Herron is beginning his second season as landscape foreman.

Brian Makarewicz, another MSU grad with a degree in landscape architecture, has been a design consultant for Barkman for the last four years.

Brian Haverlock had been employed with another firm in the Clarkston, but saw Barkman Landscaping trucks and the quality work they produced, so he sought

out a position with the company.

Barkman said the company put effort into getting the college-educated staff members. "I've been trying to get them to come here, rather than go south to warmer climates."

Barkman Landscaping Inc. is located at 401 W. Rising St., Davison. Hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Telephone is (810) 653-6588. Web site is barkmanlandscaping.com



Brian Makarewicz (left), Shannon Ridley, Brian Haverlock and Rob Herron are ready to assist.

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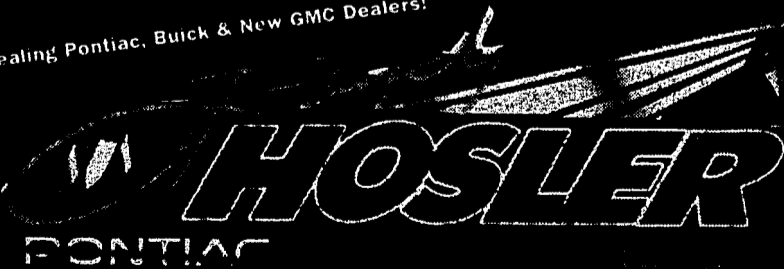
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<p><b>EMPIRE PLUSH OR FIRM PREMIUM BACK SUPPORTER</b></p>   <p>Just Right:</p> <table> <tr><td>Twin</td><td>NOW \$399/set</td></tr> <tr><td>Full</td><td>\$499/set</td></tr> <tr><td>Queen</td><td>\$599/set</td></tr> <tr><td>King</td><td>\$799/set</td></tr> </table>	Twin	NOW \$399/set	Full	\$499/set	Queen	\$599/set	King	\$799/set	<p><b>NEWPORT XFIRM OR PILLOW TOP PREMIUM BACK SUPPORTER</b></p>   <p>Just Right:</p> <table> <tr><td>Twin</td><td>NOW \$499/set</td></tr> <tr><td>Full</td><td>\$599/set</td></tr> <tr><td>Queen</td><td>\$699/set</td></tr> <tr><td>King</td><td>\$899/set</td></tr> </table>	Twin	NOW \$499/set	Full	\$599/set	Queen	\$699/set	King	\$899/set
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\* Solid Wood Futon in oak finish with 6 in. matt.



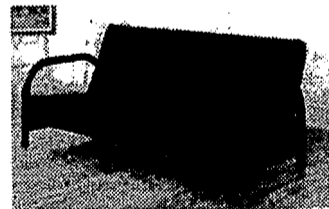
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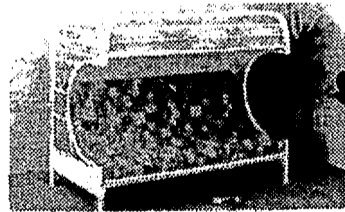


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People Poll

What is your opinion of the No Child Left Behind federal legislation passed last year?



"I don't agree with it. I don't think it's going to work because every child is at a different level. We cannot expect every child in the third grade to know how to read to the schools' expectations. It cannot be that cut and dry — there's going to be problems."

—Diana Lindebergh



"Every child must know how to read to survive in this world. Those adults who don't know how to read lose a lot of self-confidence because they have to depend on someone else to do the most essential tasks."

—Donna Nowak



"It is a wonderful idea. I don't know what's involved in reaching that goal. I think there's a lot more that goes into it. If there's a lot of bureaucracy involved, then there has to be a better way to do it."

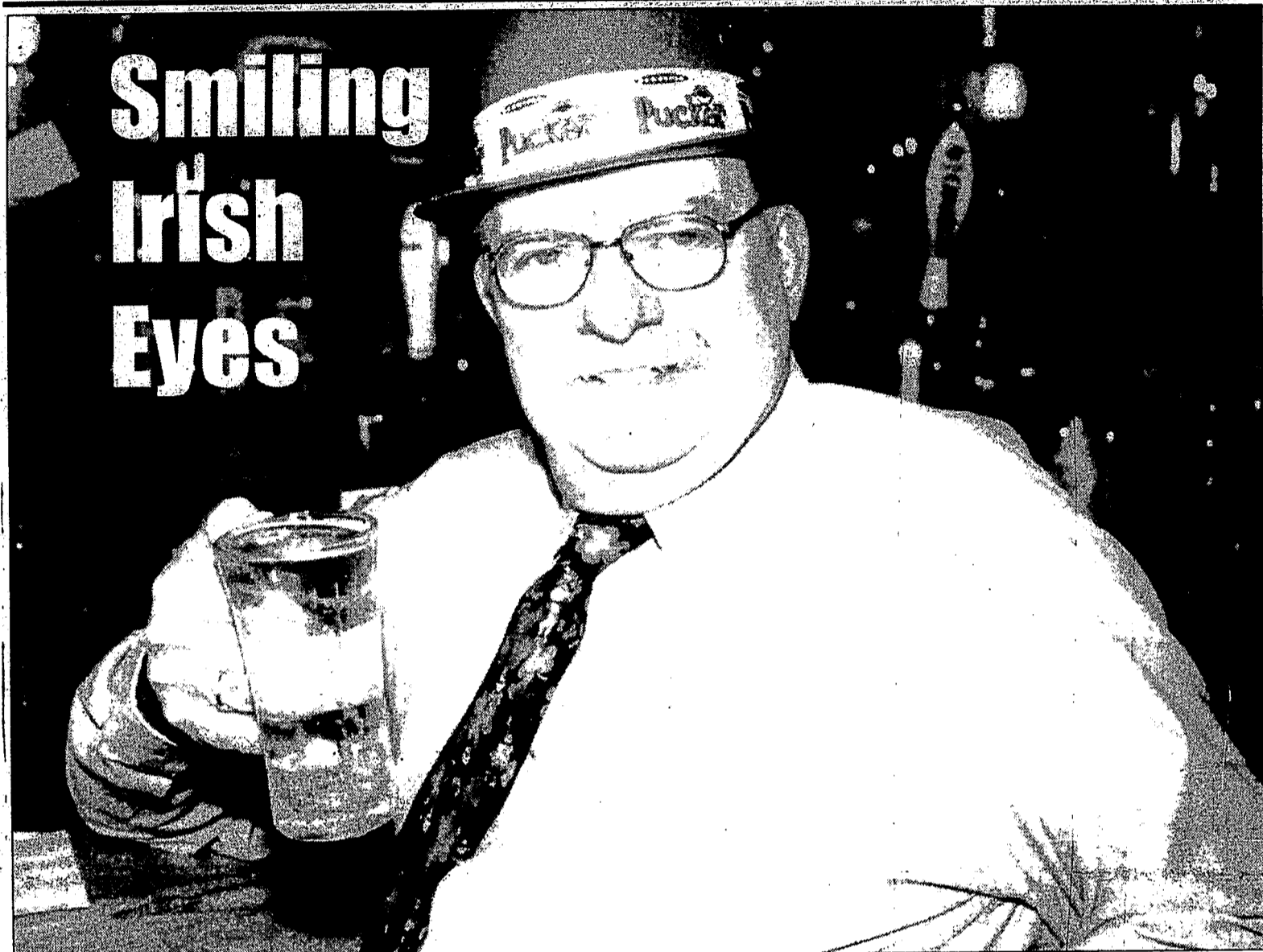
—Melissa Bernardi



"I think everyone has different learning styles and abilities, and when children are ready, they will learn how to read. To mandate a standard, I don't think that's fair."

—Lisa Graham

# Millstream



## Smiling Irish Eyes

Clarkston resident Pat McDunn hams it up for the camera at Kennedy's, an Irish pub in Pontiac. Photo by Bob Flath.

### Pat McDunn is proud of his Irish-ness

BY JENNIFER NEMER  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

He's played in an Irish band for more than 30 years, has taught Irish history, owned an Irish pub, and is oh, so proud to be Irish.

Celebrating this St. Patrick's Day is Pat McDunn, a man who could be considered one of the most Irish Irish men in Clarkston.

One hundred percent Irish, the 69-year-old, who will be 70 on April 8, holds a day job as a senior English teacher at Brother Rice High School in Birmingham.

But every Friday night you can hear McDunn and his band The Gaels, who first formed in 1972 and still feature original members, play at a small Irish pub inside the Great Oaks Mall in Rochester.

McDunn grew up in a Slovak neighborhood in Cleveland, Ohio. His parents were both second generation Irish, but 100 percent Irish. And in his neighborhood polka music was very popular. In fact, he had never heard traditional Irish

music until he visited O'Halleran's Irish Pub in Detroit, after coming here to teach in 1967 at U of D High School.

He loved the music he would hear at O'Halleran's and would often return to listen. Around the same time, McDunn attended a school play where he saw three of his students on stage -- one playing the guitar, another the accordion, and yet another on the violin.

"Those are perfect instruments for an Irish band," McDunn said, though two of the men are Polish and the other German. "We're the most ecumenical Irish band."

With McDunn behind the microphone -- "I don't play any instrument except the kazoo" -- his gregarious Irish background came in handy. He loves to have fun with the audience, and said the best part of playing in the band is the wonderful people he meets along the way, which has included his wife, Rosemary, who came

with a girlfriend to hear The Gaels play in 1977. (The couple, who have been married for 23 years and lived in Clarkston since 1984, have two sons, Kevin, 20, and Michael, 18.)

The band's first gig was at Kennedy's Irish Pub in Pontiac, what McDunn considers the "most Irish place around."

And it didn't take long until their popularity grew, because McDunn said there was a market for traditional Irish music at the time.

Soon, they were playing welcoming parties for Jim Blanchard at the governor's mansion in Lansing, entertaining the largest St. Patrick's Day party in Michigan with 5,000-6,000 people in attendance, making St. Patrick's Day appearances on Channel 7's Kelly & Company for seven years, and much more.

"Irish music has a quality to it I think is intellectually and emotionally provocative," McDunn

said, who owned Four Green Fields, an Irish pub, for 16 years at 13 Mile and Woodward in Royal Oak, which was named after a class Irish tune.

On top of his musical side, for much of the 1980's, McDunn taught Irish history at The University of Michigan. His knowledge on the subject led him to St. Patrick's Day discussions on WJR's J.P. McCarthy show.

"In teaching Irish history, I realized Ireland has never been a major political or economical center of the world., but it is considered the land of poets. The Irish are people oriented people." And McDunn said he is definitely that.

Of course, that comes in handy when you are teaching, McDunn's greatest love. He's done so for 38 years and has found it to be very rewarding.

"I want to keep doing it for as long as I can. I never want to retire. I don't feel old and I don't act old."



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Light Ink

# Around Town

Stop by the Independence Township Senior Center, 6000 Clarkston Rd. in Clintonwood Park, Friday, March 14 from 5-7 p.m. for a spaghetti dinner. All you can eat for \$4 includes spaghetti, meatless or with meat sauce, homemade garlic bread and tossed salad. Homemade desserts are an extra \$.75. Reservations are not necessary. Call (248) 625-8231 for information. This is a fundraiser for the senior center.

\*\*\*

Area seniors are invited to a St. Patrick's Day Party, Monday, March 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Independence Township Senior Center, 6000 Clarkston Rd. in Clintonwood Park. Songs and blarney with comedian Jim Lauri; Irish stew in a bread bowl, cole slaw and lemon-lime cake; and games and prizes are on tap. Cost is \$5. Reserve your spot before Friday, March 14. Call (248) 625-8231.

\*\*\*

Everyone is invited to the Clarkston Eagle's annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Irish stew, corned beef and cabbage as well as sloppy joes to eat. Live entertainment, singing, dancing and merriment. The fun starts at 4 p.m. Entertainer Eddie Lake starts at 5 p.m. The Eagles are located about 1/4 mile east of Sashabaw Road on Maybee Road. For more info call 248-625-9838.

\*\*\*

Students, here's your chance to win a college scholarship worth up to \$1,500. Enter the Clarkston Area Optimist Oratorical Contest scheduled for March 19 at 7 p.m. in the LGI Room at Clarkston High School. The topic is "United We Stand In Optimism." Complete a contest entry form and return it to the main office before March 14. Contact Kelley Kostin at (248) 620-1030 for further details.

\*\*\*

The Clarkston Community Women's Club will have Clarkston financial planner Jeff Lichty at their March 20 meeting at Independence Township Library. He will explain the terminology of buying stocks and how to sell them. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Contact Gail at (248) 623-9462.

\*\*\*

The Independence Township Parks and Recreation is holding a workshop March 24 at Bay Court Park from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for youth, ages eight to 14, who are interested in babysitting or are home alone for a period of time. Cost is \$20/resident and \$30/nonresident. Call (248) 625-8223 for more information.

\*\*\*

Davisburg United Methodist Church in association



Pat McDunn is only one of many who will celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17. There will be celebrations at Duggan's Irish Pub, the Clarkston Eagles and at the Independence Township Senior Center. Photo by Bob Flath

with the Holly Ministerial Association presents a Spring Community Concert featuring musical groups from 10 area churches Sunday, March 30 at 3 p.m. Combined choirs will perform Handel's Hallelujah Chorus for the finale. Refreshments will follow, provided by Circle of Love Women's Group. Davisburg United Methodist Church is located at 803 Broadway in Davisburg. Call (248) 634-3373 or email dumc@4netaccess.com for more information.

\*\*\*

Career Connections, a partnership between the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce and Clarkston

Community Schools, will host the third annual young person's seminar on April 1 from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. This year's seminar is entitled "Future Leaders" and will host author, motivational speaker and business coach Sadie Bolos. The day will consist of large and small group activities.

Tables of seven to eight students each will have a local business leader as their facilitator. This all day seminar is free to students, but available on a first come, first serve basis. Students must pre-register at the Chamber or the Clarkston High School counseling office in order to participate. The event is open to male and female students who are currently in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. For more information, call the Chamber at (248) 625-8055.

\*\*\*

The Widowed Support Group will meet Thursday, April 3 at 7 p.m. The topic for the evening is "Spring--a time for spiritual connection," facilitated by bereavement counselor Alicia Brown. All meetings are held at the Independence Township Senior Center in Clintonwood Park on Clarkston Road. There is no registration and meetings are free. Recently widowed men and women, of all ages, are invited. Refreshments will be served. Any questions, or if anyone would like to be on a mailing list, call the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home at (248) 625-5231.

\*\*\*

The Oakland County Conservation District offers a variety of bare-root tree seedlings for sale until March 24 at very economical prices. Choose from evergreens, hardwoods, fruit trees, shrubs and wildflower seeds and roots. Tree pickup is April 4 and 5 in Springfield Township. Order forms may be picked up at 2891 Dixie Hwy. in Waterford, or can be requested by calling (248) 673-4496.

\*\*\*

Davisburg United Methodist Church Circle of Love presents "Binding Together," a women's prayer breakfast Saturday, April 5 at 9:30 a.m. Inspirational quilter Jackie Trute is the featured speaker. On the menu is pecan and marmalade French toast, assorted sweet rolls, fruit, coffee, tea and juice. Cost is \$7. A \$2 donation from each ticket will go to the Detroit Annual Conference, Goods for Haiti. Davisburg United Methodist Church is located at 803 Broadway in Davisburg. For more information, call (248) 634-3373.

\*\*\*

To have your event featured, call The Clarkston News at 248-625-3370.

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# Library's featured painter comes from artistic family

BY KYLE GARGARO  
Clarkston News Editor

Artist Carol Moreno says art runs in her family. "My father was a painter and my brother is a painter. My sister does sculptures. It is just in the family blood I guess," Moreno said.

The 20-year Clarkston resident is doing her part to continue the tradition by getting her grandchildren involved in art.

Moreno is the artist of the month for March at the Independence Township Library. Each month a new artist is chosen to show their work in the library's meeting room.

"I found out about it from Jean Cavalier who contacted me and asked me if I would be interested in showcasing my art here and I said sure," Moreno said. "I have previously shown my work at the Clarkston Arts Festival and

have also had some shows at private homes."

Moreno, who majored in graphic design in college, started out doing sculptures but has been working on watercolors for the past two years.

"There are a lot of different things I try to capture in my art. I look at things in a different variation of real life," Moreno said.

The artist of the month is also a real estate broker for RE/MAX in Clarkston.

"Art is a hobby but sometimes I put in hours like it is a full time job. Like my job in real estate, I put in the number of hours I need to," Moreno said.

**'My father was a painter and my brother is a painter. My sister does sculptures. It is just in the family blood I guess.'**

Carol Moreno



Clarkston artist Carol Moreno, pictured with a piece called "Four Sisters" is the artist of the month at the Independence Township Library. Photo by Kyle Gargaro.



## Smile of the week

Rachel Raetzke, an employee at Rudy's Market in downtown Clarkston. Photo by Jeff Patrus.

## Women's group presents free workshop

North Oakland Counseling Associates presents "Strength in Numbers: A Woman's Prevention Group."

This free 10-week education group focuses on issues such as building self-esteem, developing communication and conflict management skills,

learning about alcohol and other drugs and practical ways to develop a healthy lifestyle.

The group will meet Wednesday evenings from 5-7 p.m. beginning March 26.

Act now to reserve a space.

Call (248) 620-1019.

North Oakland Counseling Associates is located at 6410 Citation Drive in Clarkston.

Strength in Numbers is made available by grant funding through the Oakland County Health Department.

## Milestones

Clarkston High School graduate **Diana Baer**, daughter of **Steven Baer** of Clarkston, as part of the Alma College Choir, performed at the Washington National Cathedral in February. She will tour through Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, North Carolina and Virginia with the choir.

Clarkston's **Laura Elizabeth Barnett**, **Kathryn Sue Christy**, **Derek Kenneth Coe**, and **Stephanie Elizabeth Lauder-Goff** were named to the dean's list at Miami University in Ohio.

Davisburg's **Michael Buczek** and Clarkston's **Breanna Bartley**, **John Hadlock**, **Robert Masterson** and **Megan Whipp** were named to the Northern Michigan University dean's list for the fall semester.

Several students from Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy received Scholar Awards for their qualifying scores on the world-wide standardized

advanced placement (AP) tests. To earn "scholar" recognition, students must have scored a minimum of three or higher on at least three or more full year AP exams. The following students were recognized with this distinction: National AP Scholar **William Higgins**; AP Scholars with distinction **Jamie Figure**, **William Higgins**, **Kathryn Karr** and **Andrew Scarpelli**; Scholars with honor **Chris Clayton**, **Gina Iacobelli**, **Matthew Merlo**, **Jennifer Petty**, **David Smith** and **Peter Tracey**; Scholars **Aaron Bozicevich**, **Andrew Breuer**, **Jennifer Cendrowski**, **Peter Guy**, **Andrew Hartner**, **Melissa Leidal**, **Krisanne Litinas**, **Jessica Lynch**, **Gerald Mattei**, **Patrick McIntyre**, **James Moseley**, **Kurt Muehmel**, **Karen Purzycki**, **Matthew Rupprecht**, **Sarah Seehaver**, **Mary Sweet**, **Erin Talbot**, **Jacquelyn Trask** and **Lindsay Wyrembelski**. The College Board's AP Program

enables students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school. Based on their performance on the rigorous AP exams, students can earn credit, advanced placement, or both, for college.

**Heather A. Hunter** of Clarkston graduated with a bachelor of arts from Grand Valley State University in December.

## In Service . . .

Air Force Airman **Jerid J. Cozart** graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Cozart is the grandson of Ann Phagan of Clarkston and the son of Shelia Kirby of St. Augustine, Fla. He graduated in 2002 from Moreau High School in Monroe.

**Holly E. Emery** joined the United States Army Reserve under the Delayed Training Program. Emery, currently a student at Clarkston High School, will report to Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. for active duty Aug. 12.

# CHS sophomore awarded for work with Relay

**BY JENNIFER NEMER**  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

She's simply contributing to a cause that is very important to her, but her compassionate heart hasn't gone unrecognized by others.

And so, Clarkston High School sophomore Maria Blaine has been recognized with the Prudential Spirit of Community Certificate of Excellence for her work with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

Of the award, Maria said, "It's great. I do Relay because I want to. I like to be involved in the community. Getting recognition for what I enjoy doing is cool."

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards is a partnership between Prudential Financial and the National Association of Secondary School Principals. Since 1995, the program has honored more than 50,000 middle and high school students for their outstanding volunteer community service.

CHS Assistant Principal Vince Licata said Maria was the obvious choice for the award. Licata and CHS Principal Jan Meagher elected Maria for the honor.

"She is worthy of the recognition," Licata said.

Since 1998, Maria has devoted much of her time, emotions and concern to finding a cure for cancer, all the while juggling school, following her love of dancing, and, of course, enjoying the teenage life.

Amidst it all, Maria leads the Cancer Slayers, a team of 50 area teens who have participated in the Clarkston Relay for Life since it's local inception in 2000.

It's a big commitment for Maria as she holds monthly meetings and participates in various fundraising events like going door to door, holding car washes or car drives and a whole lot more throughout the year.

Maria said she first got tuned into Relay for Life while visiting her aunt and uncle in Milan in 1998. She and her family helped fill luminary bags with sand and decorated a park for their local event.

The following year, Maria was invited back to Milan as a guest speaker, since at the time she was the Michigan Pre-Teen Student of America, another national community service and student achievement recognition.

In Milan, she spoke of how cancer had touched her life through loved ones lost. Both Maria's Uncle Joe, who was also her godfather, and her Grandfather Blaine passed away to cancer. And others in her life have been touched by cancer as well, like her Aunt Cindy, of Milan, who is a breast cancer survivor.

On top of being a featured speaker, Maria also walked as part of her cousin's Relay team, who walk in memory of those who have lost their lives to can-

cer and in honor of those who have survived the battle.

This was the year Maria, who holds a 3.95 GPA and is on the executive board for her sophomore class, fell in love with Relay. "I don't want people to suffer and die from this disease anymore."

When Relay came to Clarkston, Maria said, "I already knew so much (about Relay for Life), I thought I could help."

Her first team in 2000 had 24 members and raised more than \$2,000, following that with \$5,000 in 2001. Last year, Maria's team grew to 50 members and raised more than \$10,000. And for the July 19-20 event this year, her team has set a goal of \$20,000.

"I think we'll be able to do it," Maria said confidently, who was last year's Clarkston Area Chamber Youth of the Year.

Relay for Life has become a second family for Maria's whole family, who have lived in Clarkston since 1997.

Maria's mother Patty said, of her daughter, "She's got a beautiful heart and that's why I'm so proud of her."

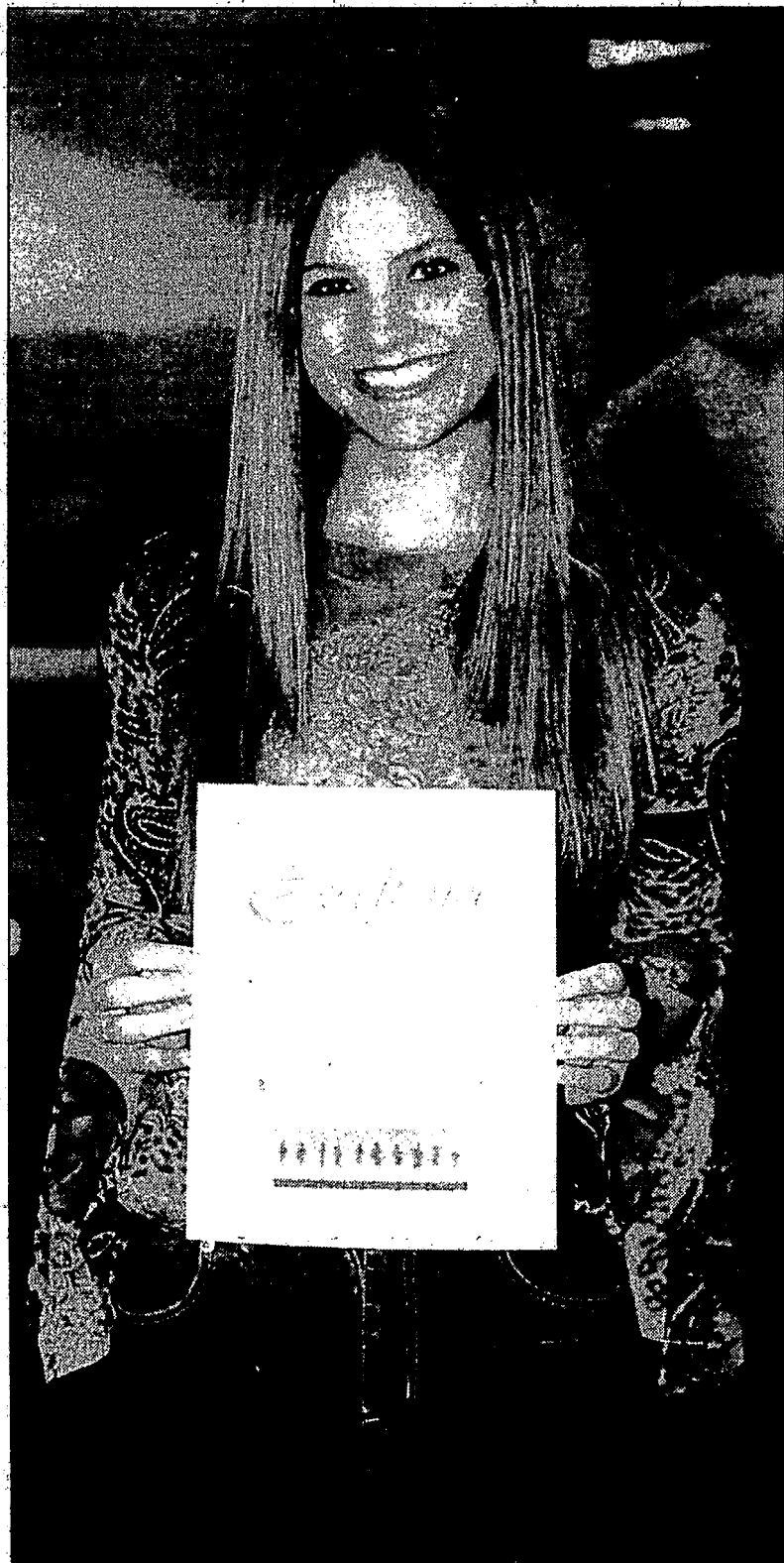
But, she said, "I'm not just proud of Maria, but the whole Cancer Slayer team. These kids are awesome. They work hard. It is so cool to see kids from different so-called groups come together for a cause. The people that Maria and I have met through Relay are like family now. The (cancer) survivors have shown us amazing strength, helping take the fear out of cancer and put hope where fear once was."

Maria encourages others to become involved in Relay for Life. "It's a great cause. You'll be hooked once you come and check us out. I'm thankful to be involved."

Maria's next meeting is March 16 at 2:30 p.m., and interested teens can call the Blaines for directions.

The annual Kick Off, scheduled April 15 at Deer Lake Conference and Banquet Center, is a great place to learn more about Relay as well.

For more information call Maria at (248) 623-4938, e-mail her at ribbit278@hotmail.com, or check out www.clarkstonrelayforlife.



Clarkston high schooler Maria Blaine is the recent recipient of the Prudential Spirit of Community Certificate of Excellence for her work with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Photo by Jennifer Nemer.

Light Ink



## AREA CHURCHES AND THEIR WORSHIP HOURS

To Be Included in This Directory Please Call 625-3370

### 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

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PONTIAC

Corner of Wayne and West Huron St.,  
(M-59) (Next to Oakland Press.) 248-335-6866

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Services: 10 am Sunday  
Traditional worship & music  
Bible Study, 8:30 and 11:30  
Sunday School during Worship  
Nursery provided  
Coffee Hour 11 am  
5:30 pm Saturday:  
Contemporary worship and music  
Coffee Time

Christian Education Opportunities for all and Special Youth Activities  
Co-Pastors: Rev's Janice and Roy Langwig  
Dir. of Music: Carolyn Thibideau  
Parish Visitor: Rev. Richard Hanna  
C.E. Dir. Julie Smith  
Sat. Worship Music Leader: Steve Keith  
EXPECT A WARM WELCOME!

### CLARKSTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

Corner of Winell at Maybee Rd. 623-1224  
Dave Coleman, Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor: Clancy Thompson, Director of Student Ministries; Amy Horvath  
Worship Services 9:00, 10:30, 11:45 a.m.  
Christian Education Classes 9 am & 10:15 am  
Evening Praise & Worship 6:00 pm  
(Nursery & Child care provided)  
Wednesday Family Program 7:00 pm

### ST. TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod"  
7925 Sashabaw Road  
(1/4 mile N. of DTE Music Theater)  
Clarkston, MI 48348  
(248) 625-4644

Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 am  
Sunday School 9:45 am  
Preschool: 3-5 years old  
Preschool: 620-6154

### SASHABAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5300 Maybee Road, Clarkston  
Worship 10:30 am Nursery Provided  
Phone 673-3101

### CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

(A Stephen Ministry Church)  
6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston 625-1611  
(2 blocks S. of M-15)  
Website: clarkstonumc.com  
Sunday Worship: 9am & 11am (blended),  
6pm (contemporary)  
Sunday School-all ages: 9am, 10am, 11am  
Sunday Fellowship Times: 10am & 12 noon  
Sunday Prayer Times: 8:30am & 5:30pm

### CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

6300 Clarkston Road  
Clarkston (248) 625-1323

Home of Clarkston Christian School

Pastors: Greg Henneman, Bonita Laudeman  
Kevin Kuehne, Michael Anderson

Sunday: Worship 9:30 & 11:00 am  
School of Discipleship 11:00 am  
Nursery Care at all services

Wednesday: Children's Ministries  
5:30-8:00 pm

Sunday: Youth Ministries  
5:00-7:00 pm

www.clarkstonchurch.com

### CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6805 Bluegrass Drive, Clarkston  
(W. of M-15, just S. of I-75) 625-3288

Sunday Worship: 8:15 am (traditional worship),  
9:45 (blended worship)

11:15 am (contemporary praise)  
Nursery available

Sunday School (all ages) 9:45  
Staff Pastor - Senior Pastor  
Jonathan Heierman

Wed. evening - Dinner & Bible Study 6 pm  
Relevant messages, caring people.

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLARKSTON

5972 Paramus, Clarkston, MI  
(248) 625-3380

Located 2 blks. N. of Dixie Hwy. (E. of M-15)  
Pastor: Russ Reemtsma

Sun: 9:15 am Sunday School & Adult  
Bible Fellowship  
10:30 am. Worship Service  
5:00 pm Choir Practice  
6:00 pm. Evening Service

Mon: 6:30 pm Awana  
Wed: 10:00 am Morning Prayer Partners  
7:00 pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

### LIVING PRAISE CHURCH

5860 Andersonville Road, Clarkston  
(Historical Church) (248) 623-1215

Pastors: Fred & Karen Wherritt  
Sunday: Worship Service 10 am  
(Contemporary Praise)

Children's Ministry 10 am  
Sunday Morning phone: 623-2596

Wednesday: Bible Study & Prayer 7 pm  
Children & Youth Ministry 7 pm

2nd Wednesday of each month is  
Ladies Meeting only

### NORTH OAKS COMMUNITY CHURCH

an Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 am  
Worship location: 4453 Clintonville Rd. at  
the corner of Mann Rd., 1/2 way between  
Maybee Rd. and Walton Blvd.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 451 Clarkston, MI  
48347

Office Phone: (248) 922-3515  
Sunday Morning Phone: (248) 425-4279

Website: www.northoakschurch.org  
Pastor Steve I. Brown

### THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston  
394-0200

Dr. James G. Keough, Jr. Minister  
Sunday Worship: 10:00 am, 7:00 pm.  
Children's Sunday School 10:00 am  
Nursery Available

Call for special holiday activities and worship  
times.

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am Service  
Nursery Provided  
William McDonald, Priest  
625-2325



## Everest Academy holds spelling bee

Everest Academy held their 2003 Spelling Bee. Winners included:

### Primary Division Boys School Grades 3-4

First place: Mike Settle (4th grade)  
Second place: Nick Dennis (4th grade)  
Third place: Patrick Lazarczyk (4th grade)

### Intermediate Division Boys School Grades 5-8

First place: Ethan Schultz (7th grade)  
Second place: Andrew Nalepa (6th grade)  
Third place: Paul Albarran (5th grade)

### Primary Division Girls & Elem. School Grades 2-4

First place: Stephanie Postelnic (4th grade)  
Second place: Joe Salome (2nd grade)  
Third place: Sahara Virgona (4th grade)

### Intermediate Division Girls School Grades 5-8

First place: Laurel Fernandes (8th grade)  
Second place: Mary Clare Houlihan (5th grade)

Third place: Maureen Mullally (5th grade)

Ethan Schultz and Laurel Fernandes will go on to the Oakland Press Scripps Howard Spelling Bee on Sunday, March 16. They will represent the Everest Academy Boys School and Girls School.

# Pennies for patients drive at PKE

Students at Pine Knob Elementary are participating in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Pennies for Patients program, which raises funds to find cures for leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma research and for patient services. The fundraising event is running for a three-week period at Pine Knob, which began March 3 and will last through Friday, March 21.

School administrators appreciate the value of having students work with a goal of helping others.

"Our students' involvement with The Leukemia

& Lymphoma Society reminds them of the importance of being involved with the community and helping those in need," Bob Brazier, school coordinator, said. "This is a wonderful program for us to take part in and the expected results of our students' efforts will benefit an outstanding organization."

The class collecting the most pennies and other spare change in the school will receive a complimentary luncheon from Hun-

gry Howie's. Gift certificates for educational materials will be presented to the top schools in the state.

During the 2001-02 school year, five million students in 10,000 schools across the country raised \$9 million through the Pennies for Patients program.

If you'd like to make a

donation, please drop it off at the school at 6020 Sashabaw Rd. For more information on the Pennies for Patients program or on the programs and services available at the Michigan chapter of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, call 1-800-456-5413.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

### INDEPENDENCE TWP.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE  
TOWNSHIP BOARD  
AGENDA  
7:30 p.m.  
TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

DATE: March 18, 2003

Call to Order  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call  
Opening Statements and Correspondence  
Minutes of Previous Meeting  
Approval of Purchase Orders  
Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run  
Approval of Agenda  
Public Forum

#### Unfinished Business

1. Resolution - Sashabaw Road Improvements and S.A.D.
2. Discussion - Sensitive Material Policy
3. Fire Records Management Agreement
4. Splash Playground Concept
5. Consideration of Investment Policy Revision

#### New Business

1. First Reading of a Rezoning Request Approval for Amendment of Oakhurst P.R.D. Phase X - Middlesboro, parcel 08-24-200-003, northeast corner of Clintonville Road and Waldon Roads.

2. Goose Roundup - Van Norman Lake
3. Goose Roundup - Deer Lake
4. Request to Lease Copiers - Parks and Recreation
5. Non-Union Benefits

Only those matters that are listed on the agenda are to be considered for action.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

### INDEPENDENCE TWP.

#### SYNOPSIS

TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD  
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE  
Supervisor Stuart called the March 4, 2003 meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Independence Township Library.  
Pledge of Allegiance.  
Roll Call: Present: Kelly, McCrary, Rosso, Stuart, Travis, Wagner, Wenger.  
Absent: None  
There is a quorum.

1. Approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 18, 2003 as submitted.
2. Approved the payment of the revised list of distributions in the amount of \$48,230.79.
3. Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run in the amount of \$394,024.84.
4. Approval of agenda as amended.
5. Approved motion to table Sashabaw Road Improvement and S.A.D.
6. Approved motion to table Sensitive Materials Policy and Fire Records Management Agreement to next scheduled Board meeting.
7. Approved motion of bid award - Oakhurst Booster Station Facility.
8. Approved motion to endorse concept of a community garden at McCord Farm.
9. Approved motion to support Planned Rezoning Overlay in concept with reference to Planning Commission review.
10. Approved motion to promote Tom McDonald to Captain effective March 10, 2003.
11. Approved motion authorizing purchase of truck for D.P.W.
12. Approved motion of appointments to Board of Review.
13. Approved motion to adopt Resolution in Support of M-15 Improvements.
14. Approved motion to adopt Resolution of Huron River Watershed Council.
15. Approved motion to adopt Resolution Declaring Athletes with Physical Disabilities Week.
16. Approved motion of appointments to Construction Board of Appeals.
17. Approved motion to table Splash Playground Concept until March 18 Board Meeting.
18. Approved motion to table Consideration of Changes in Investment Policy.
19. Approved motion to adjourn at 10:40 p.m.

Published 3/12/03

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joan E. McCrary  
Township Clerk

## Great family fun

The Clarkston High School pool will be open for swim on Friday, March 14 and March 21 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Students 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Pool passes are available at the CHS pool and the Clarkston Community Education Center, 6300 Church St. The \$40 pass allows swimmers to come to the pool for \$2 a person. The normal cost to swim is \$3 a person at the door. For more information, call Community Ed. at (248) 623-4321.

## STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT OAKLAND COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 2003-287,343-DE  
In the matter of NANCY J. PRUTOW,  
Deceased

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS  
including:  
whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:  
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on April 9, 2003 at 08:30 a.m. at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, MI 48341 before Judge BARRY M. GRANT P14267

for the following purpose:  
Petition for Probate and Appointment of Personal Representative: Testimony of Interested Persons.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to BRADLEY C. KIRKLAND, named personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, MI 48341 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.  
February 26, 2003

BRADLEY C. KIRKLAND  
1105 N. Stephenson Hwy., Apt. 69  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 202-1178

SCHMIDT, ISGRIGG,  
ANDERSON & MILLER  
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2745 Pontiac Lake Road  
Waterford, Michigan 48328-2653  
(248) 682-8800

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

### INDEPENDENCE TWP.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Independence will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed Final Project Plan for Water System Improvements for the purpose of receiving comments from interested persons. The hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m., April 15, 2003 at the following location:

Independence Township Library  
6495 Clarkston Road  
Clarkston, Michigan 48346

The purpose of the proposed project is to upgrade the local municipal water system to meet new arsenic standards, provide iron removal and sequestering, and implement disinfection. The project would also increase overall system reliability and capacity.

Project construction will involve installation of new well sites, pressure booster stations, elevated storage, new transmission water mains, iron and arsenic removal treatment facilities, and iron sequestration and disinfection at existing facilities.

Copies of the plan, detailing the proposed project, will be available for public inspection on and after April 1, 2003 at the following locations:

Independence Township Hall -  
Clerk's Office  
90 North Main Street  
Clarkston, MI 48346  
Department of Public Works  
6050 Flemings Lake Road  
Clarkston, MI 48346  
Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.  
555 Hulet Drive  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303

Written comments will be accepted up to and including seven (7) days after the date of the Public Hearing and should be sent to:

Charter Township of Independence  
Clerk's Office  
90 North Main Street  
P.O. Box 69  
Clarkston, Michigan 48346

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News. Call us at  
(248) 625-3370  
or e-mail  
shermanpub@aol.com

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**Copy Deadline: 12 Noon Friday preceding the week of publication.**

Some of these services require licensing by the State of Michigan. If in doubt, ask your contractor for their license or check with the State of Michigan.

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# Ronk continues legacy of family service to Independence

BY JEFF PATRUS  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

A member of the Ronk family has been contributing to the quality of life in Independence Township for quite some time now.

Elizabeth Ronk worked in the township's post office from 1933-1970, including a stint as postmistress, and Frank "Tink" Ronk was the first full-time fire chief in township history as well as township supervisor.

Now, Steve Ronk is representing the family's history of service. A 27-year veteran of the township's fire department, Ronk was appointed the department's chief in late 2000 after the retirement of Gar Wilson.

The chief addressed speculation that a new post office in Clarkston will be named after Elizabeth Ronk, his grandmother, who passed away in 1999. "If there is a new post office to service the Clarkston area, the building will be named after her," he said.

According to Ronk, decisions on whom to name federal government buildings after are often made arbitrarily, without any regard for local history. The township made arrangements with the U.S. Post Office to name a future post office building after Mrs. Ronk ahead of time to preserve a bit of the township's history, he said.

Although he could not pinpoint an exact timetable, Ronk believes a new post office building in Independence will be needed before too long because the current building is growing outdated in terms of space. He stated he doesn't know if a new building would be located in the same spot as the old one.

As far as his father, Frank "Tink" Ronk, is concerned, Ronk noted he was originally a barber before joining the fire department in 1947. He became fire chief in 1972 and served as supervisor from 1984-92. He said hanging around his dad in the department and learning the tricks of the trade came naturally.

"I grew up with it," Ronk said. "I don't think there was any pressure to join the department. It was just something I was involved in. Back then, it was more

of a family atmosphere, as opposed to today, where it's more of a business. It was part of my life. I enjoyed what the fire department did for the community, helping people in time of need. It really gave me a sense of gratification."

After graduating from Clarkston High School, Ronk attended Macomb Community College and was on his way to earning an Associate's Degree in fire science when an opening came up in the Independence fire department.

"It worked out the department was in a growing stage, and I was available when the department started including full-time personnel," he said.

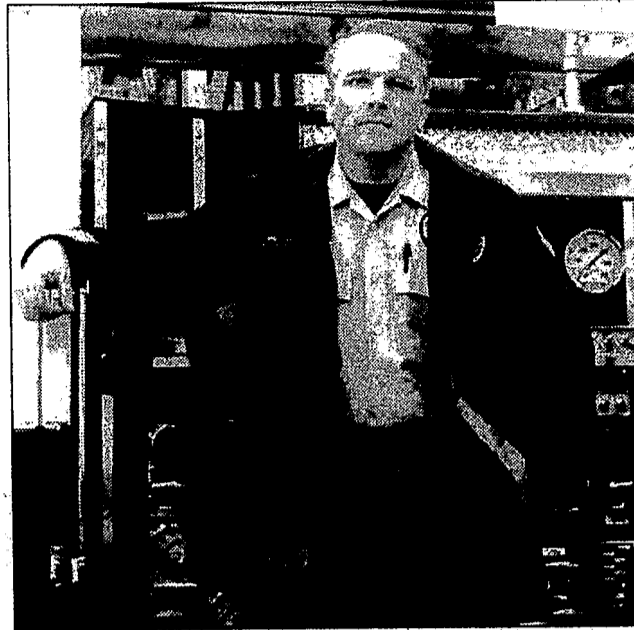
According to Ronk, any resemblance between the department when he first joined 27 years ago and today is purely coincidental. He likened the department's level of growth from starting out in the kindergarten stages when he first started to being in the fourth year of college currently. He stated technological advances in firefighting and the area's growth have a lot to do with the department's growth.

"The department has changed so much," he said. "It's not even the same place. The growth of the community has forced a lot of change. We do a lot more because the community desires and demands it. There's been a dramatic improvement in safety procedures and equipment. It's better than it was back then."

Currently, Ronk lives in Independence Township with wife Anne. The couple has three children: Andrea, 20, a student at Point Park College in Pittsburgh; Rob, a freshman at Clarkston High School; and Tom, a sixth grader at Clarkston Middle School.

As far as his two sons are concerned, Ronk stated they have grown up observing the firefighting trade, but doesn't know if they will follow in their dad's footsteps.

Regardless of whether his sons follow his career path, Ronk stated procedures and firefighting technologies are constantly changing, and the department is



Independence Township Fire Chief Steve Ronk is continuing the service to the community started by his grandmother, Elizabeth Ronk, who worked in the township post office for 37 years, and his father, Frank "Tink" Ronk, who joined the Independence Fire Department in 1947 and later became both the Fire Chief and Township Supervisor. Photo by Jeff Patrus.

doing its utmost to keep up with the times.

"My two boys are growing up with it," Ronk said. "It's part of their life because that's what I do. I don't know if they'll head down that road or not. It's a whole different game today than it was 27 years ago, when I first started. It's a very competitive work force for getting into the field. Guys have got to know what they're doing. There's a whole lot more to it than people realize. It (the firefighters learning new things) never ends. We have guys going to school all the time. Things are changing so fast — we're doing procedures that were unheard of 10 years ago. We're trying to be prepared as much as we can.

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<b>Thursday, March 20, 2003</b> 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Lapeer Center Building 425 County Center Lapeer, MI	<b>Wednesday, March 26, 2003</b> 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Oxford American Legion Post 400 130 E. Drahter Road - Oxford, MI (just east of M24)
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# Obituary

## Carol Beth Harris

Carol Beth Harris, of Beltsville, MD and formerly of Clarkston, unexpectedly died March 2, 2003 with her unborn daughter Sarah Elizabeth at age 37.

She was the wife of Douglass Marple; daughter of Marquis and Norma Harris of Clarkston; daughter-in-law of Donald and Mary Marple of MD; granddaughter of Nellie Barr; sister of Marquis (Glenda) Harris of CA, Michael Harris of Clarkston, Cindy (Dan) Zink of Sterling Heights, Dr. Matthew (Mary) Harris of OH; sister-in-law of Daniel Marple.

Carol owned and operated Regency Horses and was a graduate of Clarkston High School and the University of Maryland. She was an engineer and consultant for NASA. She was a gifted artist, specializing in portraits of horses.

A funeral service was held March 7, 2003 at Clarkston United Methodist Church with Rev. Douglas R. Trebilcock officiating. Interment Lakeview Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home, Clarkston. Any donations to Carol's husband, Douglass Marple, will be used for a Carol Harris Regency Horses and Ponies annual performance award. [www.legacy.com](http://www.legacy.com).

## Dwane Eldon Renshaw

Dwane Eldon Renshaw died March 9, 2003 at age 82.

He was the husband of Beatrice; father of Danny, Sue (Bruce) Whitmer and Pam (Frank) Dingil; grandfather of Niki, Eric (Adrienne), Jeremy (Jennifer), Chris, Brian and Joe; great-grandfather of Sam, Madison, Austin and Donovan; brother of Mildred Jones.

Funeral Service was held Wednesday, March 12 at Oakland Woods Baptist Church, Clarkston with Pastor Bob Galey officiating. Interment Christian Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to Oakland Woods Baptist Church.

## Vernon D. Wilkerson

Vernon D. Wilkerson, of Clarkston, died March 6, 2003 at age 85.

He was the beloved husband of Vada; dear father of Clifford (Debbie) of Ortonville and Wilma (Bruce) Hill of Chatham; loving grandfather of Clifford Jr., Cheri Storeng, Crystal and Kelli Wilkerson and Danny Hill; also survived by four great-grandchildren; brother of Garvie of TN, Dora of VA, Trula of TN, Lucille and Virginia both of Pontiac.

Vernon had retired in 1982 from G.M. Fisher Body with 36 years of service and was a veteran of WWII having served in the US Army. Funeral service was held Monday, March 10 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Lung Association.

## Scott Wesley Williams

Scott Wesley Williams died March 3, 2003 at age 24.

Scott is loved and cherished by family and friends. He is survived by parents Stephen and Charlene; sisters, Tina and Vicki; grandparents, Robert and Betty Williams; grandfather Charles Broadway; and wife, Charlotte; also survived by many other relatives and friends; preceded in death by grandmothers, Beverly Sweet and Mildred Broadway; and uncle Doug Williams.

Scott graduated in 1996 from Goodrich High School and was serving in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. George Washington stationed in Norfolk, VA. Funeral Service was held Wednesday, March 12 at 12:30 p.m. at the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment Lakeview Cemetery. He will be in our hearts forever.

E-mail The Clarkston News at [shermanpub@aol.com](mailto:shermanpub@aol.com).

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# A great winter for Clarkston athletes, parents and spectators

It has been a busy winter season for Clarkston athletes and for those who follow CHS sports!

The boys and girls ski teams traveled to Marquette to participate in state championship competition placing 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Our hockey team played for the State Title against perennial power Detroit Catholic Central. Unfortunately, we lost that game, but being the best Division I public school hockey team in the state is quite an accomplishment.

Our boys' basketball team won its tenth consecutive district title and is heading into regional competition and our girls' volleyball team also competed in regional play. In fact, the lady volved ended their season with a record of 30-16-2.

Furthermore, ten of our wrestlers competed at the state championship meet! Tony Lajoie won a first place finish, while John Langdon and Clint DeGain placed second in their respective matches. In addition, Joe Wood placed 5<sup>th</sup> and Matt Herron placed 8<sup>th</sup>. As Superintendent of Schools, I certainly take a



**Clarkston Schools**  
**Dr. Al Roberts**

great deal of pride in the achievements of our young people. It is a genuine privilege to show my support by attending as many events as possible. This is really a challenge when three teams and ten individuals are all competing on the same day!

The interesting story here is that this "challenge" is one that I share with many Clarkston fans. You see, as I travel from one event to another, other members of the greater school family seem to be on parallel paths. It is unusual, but true. The crowds at our school events are a unique mix of students, parents, staff members, grandparents, and people who maintain their affiliation with the Clarkston Schools long after their children and grandchildren have graduated. Their energy and enthusiasm is contagious, and they have been known to travel from event to event in order to show our kids they care. I have known some teams to only have fans when they are on a winning streak. Not here! In fact, Clarkston fans are, almost without exception, with us "win or lose." Loyalty, character and sportsmanship are the expectations that our supporters have for us and for each other.

I have seen our fans at work and we can be as proud of them as we are proud of our athletes. Their spirit, sense of fair play and decorum are examples of

what is right in the world of sports.

One example of the vitality shown by our fans is the work of our hockey supporters. At each and every game I have attended over the years, the chant of C-L-A-R-K-S-T-O-N rang throughout the arena. It was loud and proud whether the team was winning or losing. Their positive, unconditional support was clear to me and to everyone in attendance. While I have singled out hockey as an example, the same can be said of the true Clarkston fans attending any athletic event!

It has been a great winter for Clarkston athletes, parents and spectators of all ages. I am sure readers will appreciate the hard work of student athletes and their coaches, but it is also important to recognize that the encouragement of a community also makes a difference. Success in academic, artistic and athletic endeavors is enhanced by the presence of our "fans." While it may not be said enough, kids need support and role models in everything they do. I am proud to say that in and out of the classroom, Clarkston kids receive top-notch support.

Please join other Clarkston fans and myself as we finish the winter season and look forward to the terrific spring sports season.

## CMS to present play

The Drama Club of Clarkston Middle School is presenting an original drama production, "Cinderella, The Final Rehearsal" for the public on Friday, March 21 at 7 p.m. at the Clarkston Middle School auditorium. Tickets will be sold at the door.

More than 35 students are involved in the production, from sets, props, acting and lighting. Under

the direction of former professional actor and 2001 teacher of the year, Howard Andress, the students will present the classic story with a definite comedic twist.

Cathy Alty, Clarkston resident and parent of three CMS students, wrote the original play for the Drama Club production.

Want to write a guest column? Call The Clarkston News at (248) 625-3370.

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# Police and Fire

## Independence Township

**Sunday, March 9**, defrauding an innkeeper on Dixie. Two 17-year-old boys were issued district court appearance tickets for three unpaid food bills at a local restaurant, totaling \$17.50.

**Saturday, March 8**, malicious destruction of property on Frankwell and Winell. Two parked vehicles were shot at with BB gun pellets, busting out a window and damaging a passenger side door panel.

Under 21 consumption of alcohol and furnishing alcohol to a minor occurred on Windward Court. At an underage drinking party, a 22-year-old man was cited for furnishing while three others were cited for underage consumption.

**Friday, March 7**, larceny on Watertower. A masonry business had an engine stolen out of a cement mixer by an unknown person.

**Thursday, March 6**, home invasion on Sashabaw. An unknown person used a ladder to get on the balcony of a residence, then entered an unlocked doorwall. A camera, cash and coins were stolen.

Burglary, with force, occurred on Pine Knob. Several offices and a storage room at the ski resort were broken into and several sets of skis were stolen. The doors to each room were kicked in. Quarters from a

cash drawer were also taken.

**Wednesday, March 5**, home invasion on Thendara Court. Someone broke the glass in a door to unlock it to and gain entry. Nothing appeared to be missing.

**Tuesday, March 4**, larceny from a building on Lorac. A fetal heart monitor, valued at \$500, was stolen from an examination room at a healthcare facility. The suspect is a 16-year-old girl.

Malicious destruction of property/turfing was reported on New Castle and Upland. Several homes had their lawns driven upon, busting sprinkler heads, by a maroon GMC pickup truck.

**Monday, March 3**, larceny from an auto on Sashabaw. A \$1,200 cordless drill was stolen from the back of a truck while its owner shopped in a nearby store.

## Springfield Township

**Friday, March 7**, harassment on Brucedale. The complainant stated her ex-husband's wife has been harassing her via the phone and through written letters.

**Thursday, March 6**, suspicious circumstance on Bridge Lake. The reporting party stated a vehicle drove onto her front yard, stopping just two feet before hitting the home. The complaint did not know the driver.

## Illegal impersonation

James Donald Harding pled guilty and was fined \$100 for impersonating a township employee at a pretrial before Judge Dana Fortinberry at the 52-2 District Court in Clarkston Friday, March 7. The charge originated from a Dec. 13 incident on Village Court in which Harding was found meddling around a home under construction in the Stonewood Subdivision. Police reports state, when the builder stumbled across Harding, Harding said he was an employee of the water department and was checking the meter. Harding, who had been terminated from his Independence Township job in October, was dressed in the uniform he failed to return. It was thought Harding may have stolen some trim that had been lying around the home, but nothing appeared to be missing.

**Monday, March 3**, home invasion on Davisburg. The complainant came home to find the garage door open and the living room television in the garage. Inside the home, the living room, master bedroom and basement were ransacked. Numerous items were missing.

# Crime statistics from townships may be inaccurate

BY JENNIFER NEMER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Crime looks like it's down in both Springfield and Independence townships, but there's a question if the reported numbers are accurate or not.

Released with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department's 2002 Crime Statistics is a statement which reads, "Statistics for 2002 are in question due to CAD/Clemis issues. We are currently working to resolve the problem." CAD, computer aided dispatch, and CLEMIS, court law enforcement management information system, are the systems which allows for communication between police departments in Oakland County and other law enforcement agencies.

Kay Williams, record supervisor for the OCSD, said the numbers aren't jiving. "I believe the numbers are lower than they should be."

But, there is no way to fix the old numbers, she said, and no one knows why something went wrong this year, though there is an investigation underway. "We're working on making sure this doesn't happen again this year."

However, Capt. Michael McCabe said if there is a problem, it is a minor problem. Infotechnologies, the company who processes the numbers, believes the numbers are accurate as reported.

The statistics have already been sent to MICR, Michigan Incident Crime Reporting, and to UCR, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's numbering system.

Whether the numbers are correct or not, Lt Dale LaBair of the Independence Township substation said he is pleased with the results.

"Part I crimes are up, but not drastically," LaBair said, who blames population growth for the rise in this

area which includes criminal sexual conduct, assault offenses, burglary and home invasions, larceny violations, forgery/counterfeit, fraudulent activities, motor vehicle theft, and more.

LaBair said he isn't concerned if the numbers are up a bit, he cares if the problems are being addressed. "We're holding our own."

In Springfield Township, Sgt. Frank Schipani said he was pleased the numbers were down in his jurisdiction, but admitted it doesn't feel that way as the department has been very busy.

E-mail The Clarkston News at [shermanpub@aol.com](mailto:shermanpub@aol.com).



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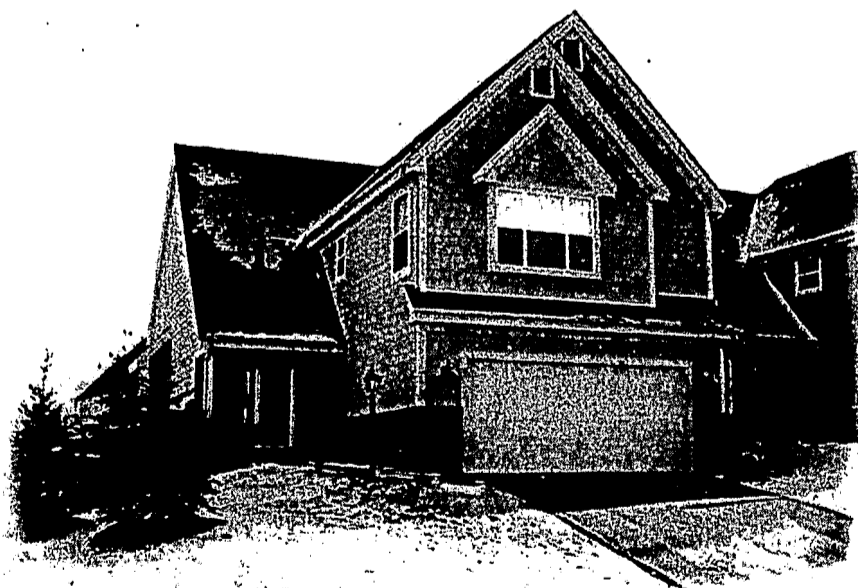


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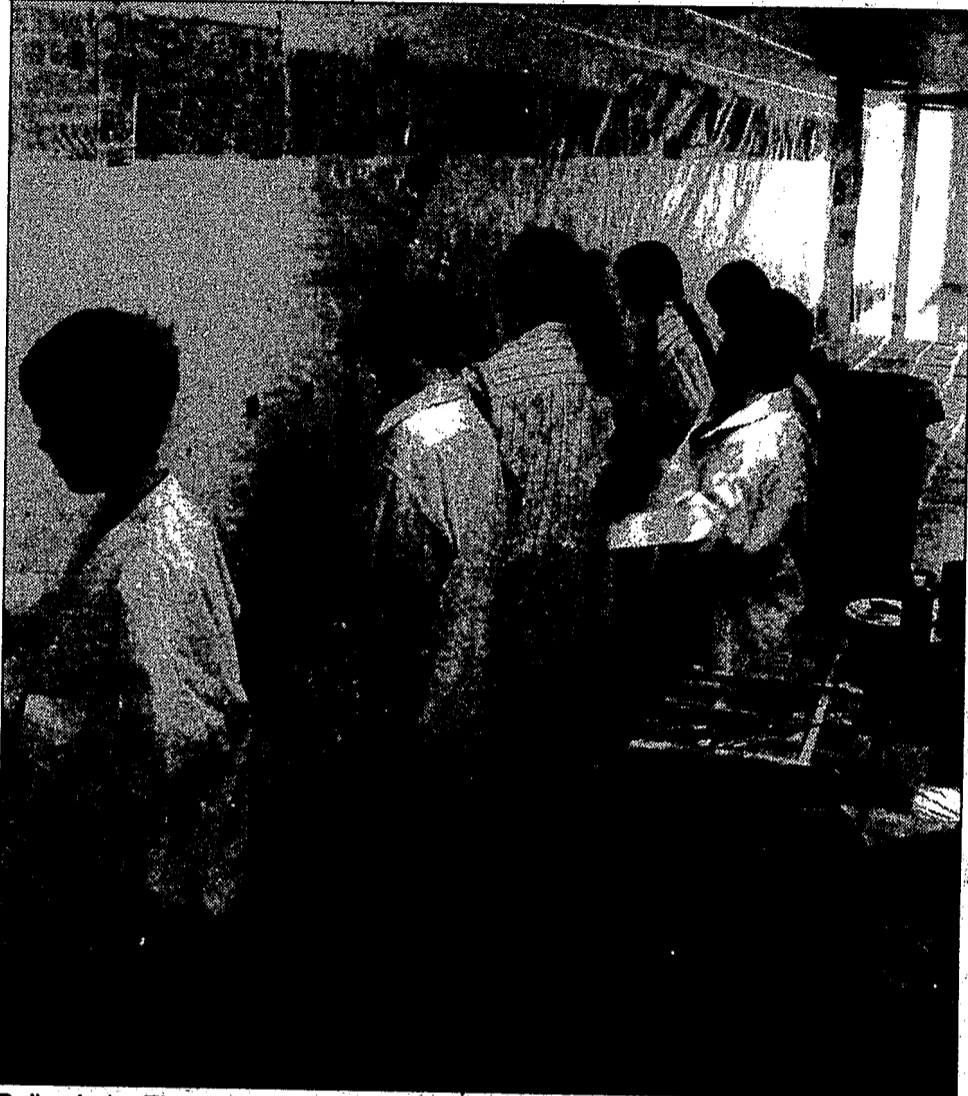
Discolored Paper

# A fine Fine Arts Day at Bailey Lake El.

Students at Bailey Lake Elementary enjoyed a day of fine arts Tuesday, Feb. 25. Every classroom was filled with an art-related workshop including everything from pottery, hip-hop, candle making, cartooning and more.

In addition to the workshops, students attended assemblies with the Michigan Youth Theater called "Shakespeare is Fun" as well as with Adinkra, an African music and dance company.

Fine Arts Day was sponsored by the Bailey Lake Elementary PTA and the Clarkston Foundation awarded a grant to help fund the event. (See more photos back page of Millstream section.)



Bailey Lake Elementary students paint a mural. Photos provided.



Students learn the art of mosaics. Photos provided.

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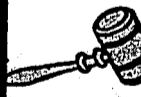
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# Business succession planning is critical

As the owner of a privately held business, you are undoubtedly involved in every facet of it. You are the expert; you know everything there is to know about the intricacies of running and managing your business. Most importantly, it is your creativity and perseverance that have made you so successful.

But, at some point, whether by choice or by need, every business owner must ultimately exit the business. While there are a host of reasons for leaving including retirement, disability and death, the one common need for yourself, your loved ones and your business partners, is to plan for the transition of your business.

Planning for the eventuality of leaving your business is critical, as there are a host of issues that must be examined: income and transfer tax consequences, financial considerations, and determining the best way to transfer the management and ownership of your business to others. If you fail to address these issues, all your time and hard work, as well as your financial security, may be in jeopardy.

Have you thought about who should manage or run your business and who should own it upon your departure? Do you have children who are qualified and desire to run the business? Will your surviving spouse have adequate income available should you die? Have you considered transfer taxes? Have you created or updated an estate plan to reflect the latest tax laws? Have you discussed your ideas with family members and business partners to try to ensure accord?

The number and complexity of questions surrounding business succession can be overwhelming. And while it takes a good deal of work from financial, tax and legal advisors, proper succession planning can yield enormous benefits. You need to apply an integrated strategy that could help you reduce estate

and gift taxes, generate retirement income, transfer the management and ownership of your business to others and help you protect against financial losses.

Some of the tools used in planning the successful transition of a business may include:

Life Insurance can provide liquidity needed to pay estate taxes, buy-out a co-owner's interest, attract or retain talented employees or replace the economic value of a key person.

Buy-Sell Agreements can help establish the business' value and ensure the orderly and efficient transfer of business interests when an owner leaves the company due to retirement, disability or death.

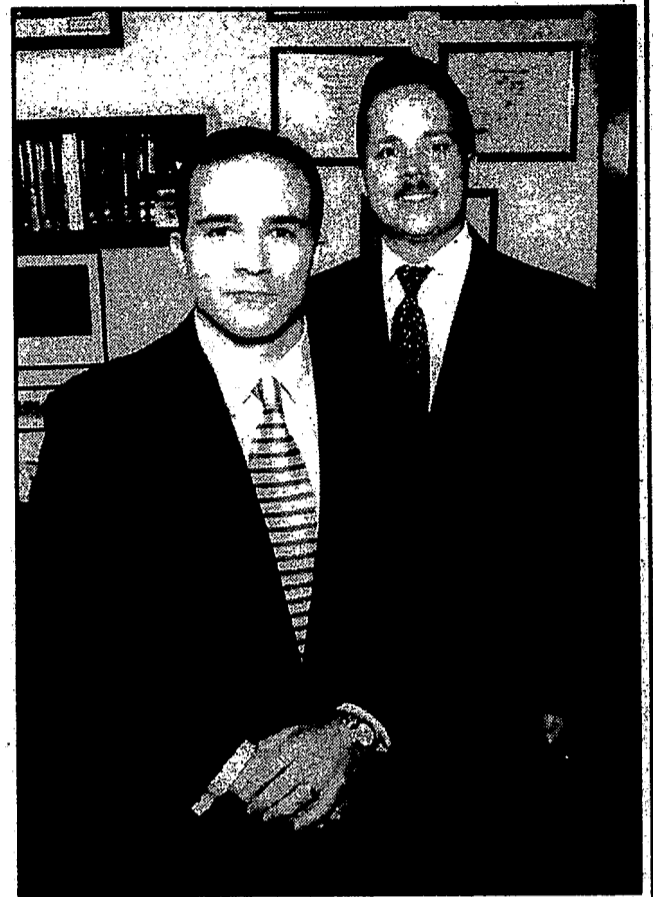
Lifetime Gifts of Business Interests may be attractive if you expect your business to appreciate in value. If the gift is made during your lifetime, all post-gift appreciation should not be subject to gift taxes or includable in your estate.

Family Limited Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies might be used to transfer a portion of your business to family members at a discounted gift tax value. These entities may help protect your family's wealth and reduce the size of your potential estate, while allowing you to retain managerial control over the business.

Private Foundation Gifts made during your lifetime qualify for charitable gift tax deductions, and possible income tax deductions, while gifts made at death qualify for charitable estate tax deductions.

Because no two businesses are alike, it's important to work with experienced professionals who can help you implement appropriate planning techniques tailored to your specific needs. For your protection, it is important to start planning today for the future you want to create.

Salomon Smith Barney does not give tax or legal advice. Please consult your tax and/or legal advisor



for such guidelines.

(Louis Melone is a Certified Financial Planner at the Smith-Barney Group in Bloomfield Hills. Melone is a Clarkston resident and member of the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce. His column will appear monthly in The Clarkston News. His e-mail address is [louis.j.melone@smithbarney.com](mailto:louis.j.melone@smithbarney.com).)



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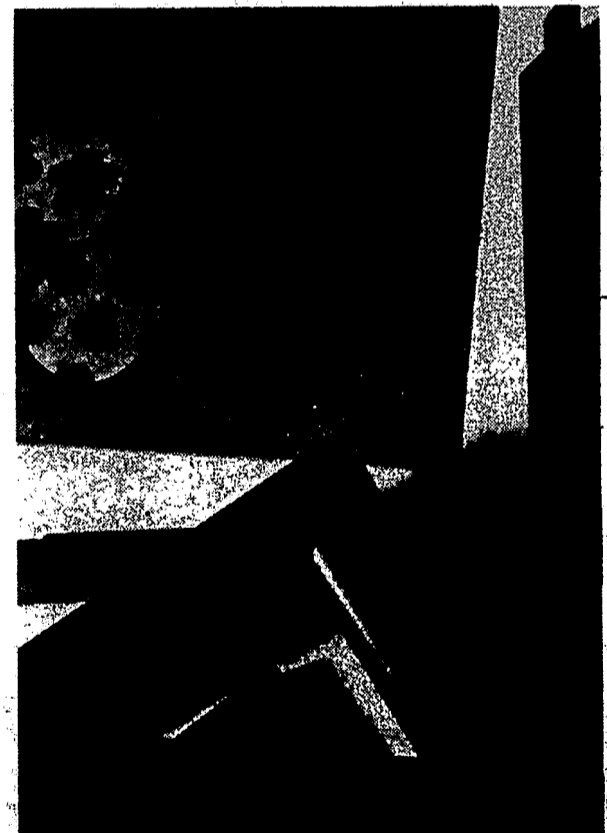
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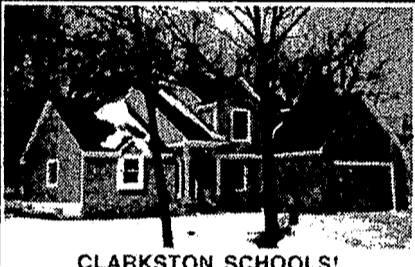
**CUSTOM BUILT 1.5 STORY HOME IN CLARKSTON**  
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Extra deep walkout basement prepped for a 3rd full bath. High efficiency furnace and hot water heater. Features include wood clad Marvin windows, beautiful maple cabinets, first floor master bedroom with a studio ceiling, ceramic tile shower, jet tub, finished garage with 8' door. Custom paint, trim and doors. (23066LTB)



**ALMOST NEW IN OXFORD**  
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This 3 bdrm, 2 bath contemporary has lots of hardwood flooring and is located in Oxford's newest sub, "Hometown Village at Waterstone". Fully landscaped and all appliances are included. (22527LTB)



**CLARKSTON SCHOOLS!**  
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Brand new contemporary style home on a large wooded lot. All custom built plus a 9.5' deep basement. First floor master suite, gas fireplace, first floor laundry, maple cabinets, ceramic baths, finished garage with an 8' door. (23065LTB)



**COLONIAL STYLE HOME**  
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is only 3 years old. Home features a finished daylight basement, 2 full baths, 2 half baths and a natural fireplace in the great room. Privileges on all sports Stoney Lake. Stove & refrigerator are negotiable. Oxford schools! (22583LTB)



**EXECUTIVE OXFORD RANCH**  
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Unbelievable views from both floors. Custom made windows allow full walls of glass. Home offers 2 zone heating and cooling for higher efficiency. All located on a dead end cul-de-sac for additional privacy. Full oak bar in lower level. Must see! (23006LTB)



**UNBELIEVABLE VALUE**  
\$199,900

comes with this waterfront home in Orion Twp. Over 100 ft of canal front that leads into all sports Long Lake. This 3 bdrm ranch style home w/approx. 1470 sq. ft. features an open floor plan, partially finished w/o bsmt, 2 full baths & 2 fireplaces. Located on almost 1/2 an acre. Appliances to stay. One of the largest lots in the sub. (23017LTB)



**4 BEDROOM OXFORD COLONIAL!**  
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This 3 year old home features include a full walkout basement, natural fireplace, large cedar deck, den with cathedral ceiling, maple cabinets, first floor laundry, kitchen appliances, central air, all on a large country lot and located on a paved cul-de-sac. (22581LTB)



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in Oxford. This brick & aluminum ranch has a full finished basement, all refinished hardwood flooring on the main floor, fresh paint, new interior doors, remodeled kitchen & baths, 2 natural fireplaces, large fenced yard & 2.5 car garage. (23019LTB)



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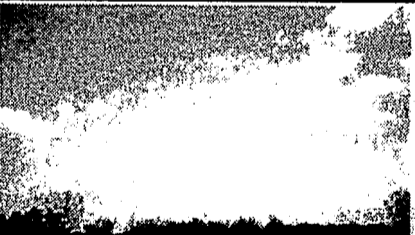
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# More fine art celebration at BLE



Two youngsters try their hand at acrylic painting. Photos provided.



Adinkra, an African performance dance company, entertains the Bailey Lake Elementary audience.



This little girl draws a self portrait.



Is it Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance? No, but it's Bailey Lake students with their version of Irish dancing.

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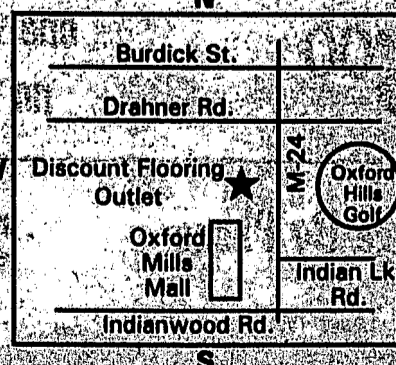
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# Joint replacement, specialty of local surgeon

If you've found yourself in need of a knee or hip replacement, but are fearing taking that step, rest assure Dr. Safa Kassab will take care of you properly.

Dr. Kassab is one of the only orthopedic surgeons in north Oakland County who has completed specialized training in hip and knee joint replacements.

After graduating from Wayne State University School of Medicine and receiving his M.D. with distinction, Dr. Kassab completed orthopedic surgery training at the Detroit Medical Center.

He further refined his skills with a one-year fellowship in hip and knee joint replacements with two pioneering hip and knee surgeons at the University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Kassab, who treats patients with disease and injuries to bones, joints and tendons, began his local practice more than five years ago, which has grown to include two offices, one in Clarkston as well as Pontiac.

He performs more than 100 joint replacement surgeries a year, and uses the most modern implants and techniques.

Several advances in the medical industry have helped Dr. Kassab give his patients a quicker healing period.

"We do everything we can to give our patients a quick recovery time. We do our best to make the patient feel better, quicker," he said. "New implants and new techniques within the medical field allow joint replacements to last over 20 years in some patients."

He said most patients who have hip or knee replacement should expect to spend three days in the hospital and usually have a four to six week recovery time at home, where they will perform physical therapy.

"We incorporate recent advances with an accelerated rehab program," he said. "Our nursing care helps patients to return to their pre-arthritis condition in a hurry."

Dr. Kassab, who was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons during ceremonies at the academy's 68th annual meeting in San



Dr. Safa Kassab specializes in hip and knee replacement.

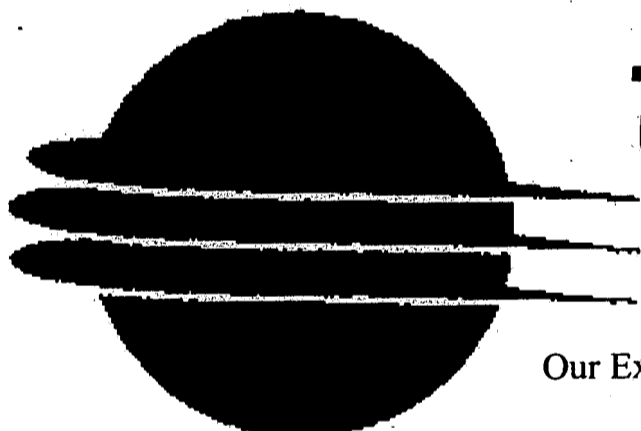
Francisco, said there are many new treatments and medications available today to help those suffering from arthritis.

"Today's medications have less side effects than they used to," he said. "We can also perform injections which we use to lubricate the patient's joints to take away symptoms of arthritis."

Dr. Kassab may have what you need for painful joints.

Dr. Safa Kassab, whose practice is affiliated with St. Joseph Hospital, is available from 8:30 a.m. to

5 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; and 8:30 a.m. to noon on Tuesdays. His Clarkston office is located inside the North Oakland Medical Center at 6770 Dixie Highway, Suite 311. Call (248) 858-3855. The Pontiac office is located at 44555 Woodward Ave. Suite 105. Call (248) 335-2977. For further information, visit [www.kassabmd.com](http://www.kassabmd.com). Dr. Kassab accepts most insurances.



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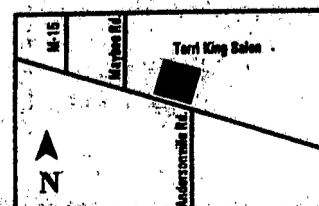
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## POH Medical Center

# ER Coming Soon to Clarkston

Clarkston residents know that when they have a medical emergency, POH Medical Center is the place they want to be.

In the Pontiac area and northern Oakland County, no medical facility has earned a higher certification for emergency care than this respected Level 11 Emergency Department.

This spring, people living in North Oakland County will receive emergency services closer to home as POH brings its well-respected emergency staff to the Clarkston Medical Campus.

This means victims of medical or traumatic emergencies, as well as minor emergencies, won't have to trek to POH's main campus for emergency care.

The Center will also be linked to the Oakland County EMS System resulting in shorter response and transfer times.

"Clarkston will have Board-Certified Emergency Physicians and Nurses available 24 hours a day, seven days a week," says Tressa Gardner, DO, Medical Education Associate Director. "This beautiful state-of-the-art facility will be well-equipped and capable of performing in extreme medical situations. Patients whose conditions warrant will be treated and released. Patients requiring extended care will be stabilized and transferred to a hospital of their choice."

The Clarkston Medical Campus will also house around-the-clock laboratory, radiology, CAT scan and ultrasound services.

The Campus, targeted to open in April, is a joint project of POH Medical Center and Genesys Health System.

"Clarkston and its neighboring communities represent one of the few local suburban populations of its size to exist without a hospital," says Robert Aranosian, DO, Director of Emergency Services at POH. "This area has a great need for our services — delivering babies,

providing care in life-threatening situations and addressing the many emergency situations that arise. If your child is ill or injured, there is no reason to spend an entire day at a hospital 20 miles from home."

The Center will reach beyond the bounds of immediate care to provide community-based education of current special interest.

"We want people to understand what they should do if a disaster touches their hometown. We'll be providing information about communicable diseases and hazardous chemicals — the things the public wants and needs to know," says Aranosian.

There will be other educational programs to address life support and first aid.

For people in the Oxford area, Aranosian states there will be a full-service emergency room opening in that community in 2004.

That's when POH upgrades its current Urgent Care Center to emergency room status.

(The center now handles urgent care situations from 8:00 am until 11:00 pm daily.)

"These three sites will provide a triangle of high quality emergency care in North Oakland County," he summarizes. "It is another way POH Medical Center is reaching beyond to deliver the best."



"The POH Emergency Room at the Clarkston Medical Campus will provide high quality emergency care on a 24-hour basis," says Tressa Gardner, DO, Medical Education Associate Director.



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*Move Over Martha, We'll Take It From Here!*

# New times ahead at downtown Clarkston stores

Things are a-changin' at 6 E. Church St.

After 14 years of ownership, The Parsonage's Shirley Wilson has announced her retirement. And after six years of ownership, The Country Woodshed's Dianne Bildstein is closing up shop.

"The Parsonage will go on as always with new ideas, new products and new designs," Wilson assured, who plans to retire August 18, 2004, her 60th birthday.

"The business has been part of my life and I want to make sure it continues to thrive after my term in charge," Wilson said. "There are so many customers and friends who have cheered me on through all my years of business. Their continued support means so much more than I can possibly say."

But a new reign will begin, Wilson said. "There will be fresh new faces and youthful enthusiasm. I will continue to consult for as long as my services are needed. But I'm cutting my hours from six days a week to only three. Gar, my husband, and I have great plans for our retirement!"

The Parsonage has called the heart of Clarkston home for 14 years. As the community has grown, so has Wilson's business. An increase in walk-in traffic led Wilson to vacate her previous locations, saying good-bye to a store on Washington and then on Main Street.

She moved to the current location six years ago, and at that time, Bildstein opened The Country Woodshed within

the same building.

But Bildstein will close The Country Woodshed this summer. "She's been blessed with another new grandson and has decided to become a full time grandma," Wilson said, who added readers should watch for final sales.

As always, The Parsonage and The Country Woodshed, which call home in a converted 1880s residence, is a "good place to come and waste an afternoon," according to Wilson and Bildstein.

A floral and design shop, The Parsonage, and The Country Woodshed, specializing in furniture and gift lines, both offer accessories to enhance any home.

A variety of styles are featured including anything from casual to country, French to English, shabby to chic and more.

Latest updates to The Parsonage include a new discount section on the lower level with items priced 50 to 75 percent off.

"There's no sense in storing stuff away," Wilson said. "We like to keep our closets clean."

Also, the former "plant room" has been redesigned into a wedding room for private bridal consultations.

A full-service florist, The Parsonage offers "attractive floral arrangements for every occasion," and delivery is available. Also find custom silks and plants, a growing selection of antiques and an in-home interior design service.

The Country Woodshed currently features a line of upholstered furniture, gift lines as well as lamps, garden accesso-



The Parsonage owner Shirley Wilson takes a quick glance in a mirror as she adjusts a bedroom display in the upper level of the store.

ries, quilts, rugs, baby accessories and candles.

These classy stores, which offer "a nice atmosphere for shopping," won't hurt your pocketbook, either. Wilson said, "our prices are competitive with larger retailers."

The Parsonage and The Country Woodshed are located at 6 E. Church. Business hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. Call The Parsonage at (248) 625-4340 and The Country Woodshed at (248) 625-7010.

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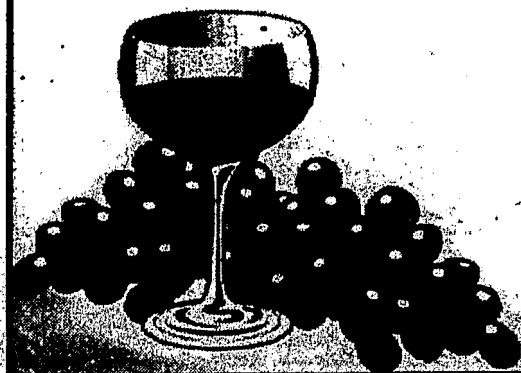
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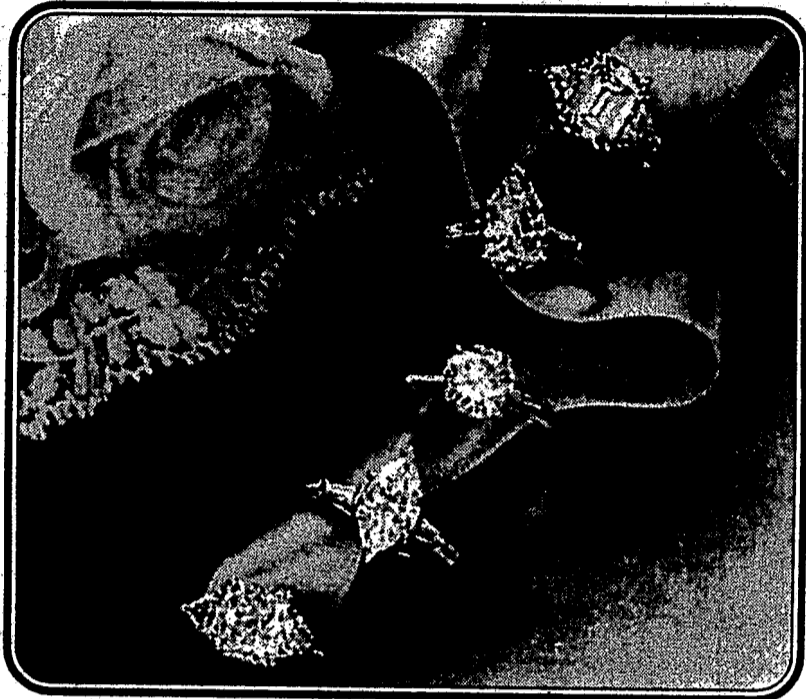


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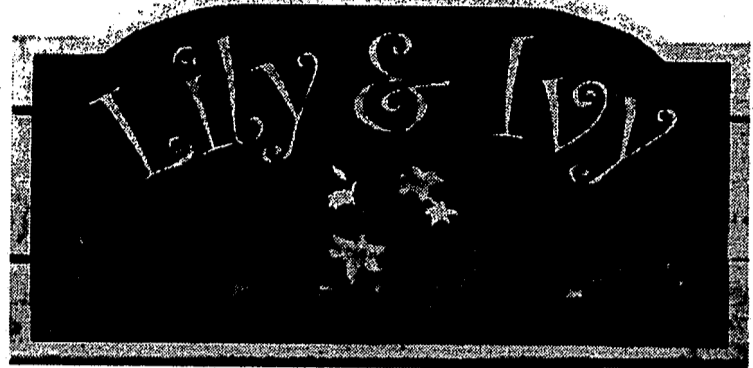
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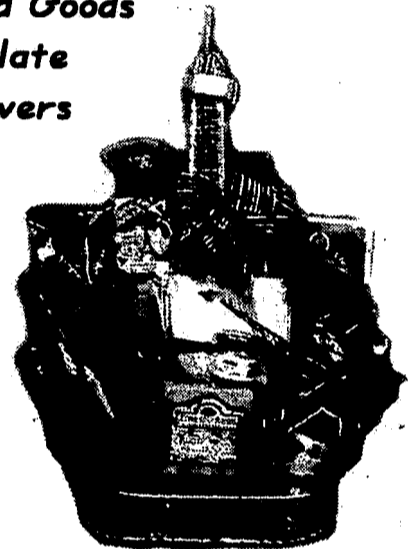


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# Terri King salon uses team approach to serve customers

Terri King and her employees at Terri King Salon & Day Spa use a total team effort to make sure all the customers' needs are met.

"I have a total of 20 team members and we stand behind each other. They are trained very well and go to seminars each year. They are educated well and know what they are doing," King said. "I am drawing a lot of people in. They want to work where they are a family and a team."

King believes it is important to maintain a family atmosphere at the business, for that makes the customers feel more comfortable. The salon has a sense they are all in it together.

"All my staff brings a unique gift. Our goal is to have each client to feel warm here. This is one place where the customer can stop to get it all, which we all want in these busy times," King said. "Our customer service at the front desk is the most important part of the business."

The creative hair department includes Terri King, Nicole Dumas, Lynn Harris, Linda Curd, Kaye Thornton, Alysia Komisarz, Danielle Malnar, Lisa James and Charlene Bills, as well as apprentice Jessica Dunikowski. All of her hair department has had special color, cutting and highlighting classes. They work together to find the best suitable style for their clients.

"We want to keep the great energy in us and that is what we are about. If you feel better about yourself you will generate positive energy around you. That is what massage and the spa are about. When they come in we focus on good service. Our therapists have high credibility of certification as well as special classes in using hot rocks (heated therapy), reflexology, prenatal, deep tissue and therapeutic massage."

The salon's therapists include Jodi Peterson, Trish Bailey and Natalie Hetrick.

Their highly educated staff for their nail team includes Terri Williams, Tammy Torres and Sandy Wood. The team specializes in personalizing the



Lynn Harris gives customer Terry Johnston a facial.

customer's needs. Their Terri King Salon Specialities are their spa pedicures in their state of the art chairs. Acrylics, gel and natural nails are only a few of their nail services. The citrus spa pedicure will be their flavor of the month.

The salon is going into its sixth year and their third at the present location at 5826 Dixie Highway in Waterford. Their current location backs up to a flowing stream with swans and ducks to complete a picturesque background and set the mood for a relaxing day.

The salon is currently offering a special for one month of unlimited tanning for \$35, with no service charge applied.

"We keep adding more equipment to the spa area. It has been doing excellent," King said. "We do a lot of wedding parties and group parties for fun and order in lunch for them. Our main focus is making people feel comfortable coming into a spa area and introduc-

ing it to them."

Spa packages are available starting with a one hour therapeutic massage, de-stressing spa facial and a regular spa pedicure.

A deluxe spa package includes a facial with V-area treatment, hot stone massage, mud therapy wrap, deluxe spa pedicure, spa manicure, eyebrow wax, shampoo and style, makeup application plus be served with a spa lunch.

"We look forward to serving you soon and thank all of our wonderful clientele. We couldn't do it without you," King said.

Terri King Salon & Day Spa is located at 5826 Dixie Highway in Waterford. Hours are Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Certificates by phone. Call 248-623-5464.

# Talkin' trash with Smith's Disposal of Clarkston

Nearly 22-years-old and Smith's Disposal and Recycling, Inc. is still going strong.

"We've survived other companies selling out," said co-owner Ken Smith. "We're the only large independent company left in the northern area."

Service by the 33 employees on staff centers around residential trash pickup and recycling pickup -- targeting its efforts in the northern Oakland County region including Springfield, Independence, Waterford and Brandon townships as well as small portions of Orion and Groveland townships.

"We try our best to give the best service out there for the cheapest price," Smith said, adding the company is distinguished by its family-oriented service.

"I think it's the individual part of being family-owned and operated, being able to give the personal touch."

Smith, his mother Doris and his sister Carol Evans all share ownership. The company's longtime owner, Leonard H. Smith, Ken's father, passed away four years ago.

As for the staff, Smith said, "Most of our employees have worked here for 10 or more years. It's always hard to find good employees, but we've been able to come up with some pretty good ones over time."

Originally, the Smith family owned Clarkston Farm and Supply for more than 20 years.

During that time, Ken also worked the summers driving an extra

garbage truck for Ben Powell Disposal on Clarkston Road.

"Our business was getting slow because fuel purchase was going down with the increase purchase of gas out here," he said.

The Powell family, who ran their business for 30 years, discussed selling, which led to the Smith's acquisition of the company and relocation.

"And here we are almost 22 years later," Smith said.

Smith's Disposal is also involved in many aspects of community life, including membership with the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce and the Clarkston Area Optimist Club.

For several years, the company has been a significant sponsor of the Clarkston High School Senior All-Night Party as well as made monetary donations to the Mt. Zion Church raffle, Optimist Club raffle and the Independence Township Fire Department.

The company sponsors Little League baseball teams in Clarkston and Waterford as well.

Smith's Disposal and Recycling, Inc. is located at 5750 Terex, just off of Andersonville Road, in Clarkston. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 248-625-5470 for more information.

Ken Smith, of Smith's Disposal and Recycling, Inc., says, "We try our best to give the best service out there for the cheapest price." Photo provided.



# Mesquite Creek expansion offers much for locals

There's something new cookin' at Mesquite Creek.

Owners Brian Hussey Sr. and Brian Hussey Jr. have recently purchased the store adjacent to the restaurant, formerly LB's Muffins and Yogurt; now Mesquite Creek's Creekside Carry Out and Catering.

"We've been wanting this spot for years and years and years," General Manager Beth Hussey said, daughter of Hussey Sr. The retirement of LB's owners allowed for the takeover.

The concept the Husseys have for Creekside is something similar to that of the French Laundry in Fenton.

"Our vision is a little market with gourmet grocery items like bottled olives, relishes, sauces and more," Beth said.

LB's frequenters need not worry, Creekside will still provide that needed morning coffee as well as daily fresh baked muffins, cookies, bagels and coffee cake.

The "My Grandma's of New England" coffee cake Beth says is out of this world, and the espresso drinks are a big hit.

The "Pot o' Joe To Go" is a unique offering of just that: a pot of coffee for the road. Or pots of hot chocolate are also available. Beth says both are a great buy for outdoor events in this cold weather.

For those simply wanting Mesquite Creek take-out, the separate store should rid any confusion when picking up food. There is no longer need to go into the restaurant, so those getting carry out won't have to fight the restaurant crowds or struggle to find a parking space during

the restaurant's busiest times. Reserved Creekside parking is available.

"It's a work in progress," Beth said, but the Husseys have big plans for Creekside, who have owned Mesquite Creek for 10 years.

Creekside will eventually sell fresh seafood, raw steaks which are all certified Angus beef, deli sandwiches with Boarshead meat and a variety of soups.

Creekside will also be a Zingerman's outlet. "All those U of M fans out there will know what that is," Beth said. Zingerman's is based out of Ann Arbor and is a world famous bakery and deli. "It's the only four star deli in the country."

Trays or bag lunches featuring deli or bakery items, or whatever your tastebuds require, can be catered for large groups or parties. Just call ahead of time for large orders. In the future, Creekside will have delivery for these type of orders.

Beth guarantees Creekside will be run with the same level of quality as Mesquite Creek. "Our thing is high quality products and large portions at reasonable prices."

The store itself will be getting a makeover. It has already received a dousing of paint, and Beth said, "We still have quite a bit of remodeling and construction to do."

There is limited seating available indoors and there will be additional seating on the outdoor patio in spring, summer and fall. Outdoor heaters will provide warmth on the patio for those somewhat chilly spring and fall days.

Creekside will remain open during



General Manager Beth Hussey, foreground, and Chris Stevenson are part of the 'friendly help' at the new Creekside Carry Out and Catering, an extension of Mesquite Creek.

their construction. Most importantly, Beth assures when customers visit they will see smiling faces and be offered friendly help. "We're concentrating on getting the right staff in place."

Mesquite Creek's Creekside Carry Out and Catering is located at 7222 N. Main St., next to Mesquite Creek in the Independence Point Plaza. Creekside hours are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday. Creekside is currently closed on Sundays, but will be open on Sundays soon. Call (248) 620-9300.

## The Parsonage

Flower and Antique Shoppe in Downtown Clarkston



Dear Patrons  
Each year the Parsonage has continued to grow in size and service. Flower images & designs change with the times and we enjoy the challenge to keep up. The store hours (9-6 M-F, 9-5 Sat) make it convenient for most shoppers whether you need fresh flowers or antique furniture. Planning the flowers for weddings and all the excitement that comes along with that has kept us upbeat and full of exuberance. Stop in for a visit.

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# Infinity Wireless building relationships in community

The recent economic downturn made 2002 a challenge for many businesses, including Infinity Wireless, but thanks to a growing base of loyal customers and numerous referrals, Infinity Wireless is thankful to be entering their sixth year in business.

Tom Beattie and his brother, Brad, started Infinity Wireless in 1998 and operated in the Lake Orion and Oxford area before Tom came back and set up shop in Waterford. Tom said the cellular/wireless business has changed a lot over the years, which has allowed more consumers to join the wireless world. Ten years ago a wireless phone was considered a luxury but now they have become a necessity for many people.

Technology has impacted the wireless industry greatly, Beattie said, turning basic communication tools into mobile offices, gaming stations and GPS tracking devices.

Infinity Wireless has recently become one of a handful of companies nationwide to be an exclusive Verizon Wireless authorized agent. Beattie says that he is excited about this change and the added benefits Infinity can now offer its customers. The exclusive relationship with Verizon will allow Infinity to have access to new equipment and services immediately upon introduction as well as the ability to offer special pricing to both business and retail customers. Our tag line is "Exceeding Your Expectations," Beattie said, "and our relationship with Verizon will ensure our customers get the best wireless service at the best price possible."

Beattie said that in 2003 Verizon will add several new products and services to its lineup including a phone/two-way radio combination, enhanced high speed data transmission, a CDMS/GSM international solution and a camera/phone combination that actually works!

Infinity will continue to offer a full line of quality wireless accessories for all makes and models of phones. In addition, they will maintain their status as an Authorized Service Center for Nokia and Kyocera



Infinity Wireless owner Tom Beattie demonstrates one of the phones he has on sale at his store, located at 5655 Dixie Highway in the Waterfall Plaza. Photo by Jeff Patrus.

phones and hope to add LG and Audiovox to this lineup during 2003.

Beattie and his wife Amy operate the business with the assistance of a team of independent sales representatives and a network of sub-agents who are authorized to sell Verizon service and equipment through Infinity Wireless. Beattie says that he is always looking for quality sales help to join the team, but the key is quality.

Infinity Wireless has developed a reputation for honesty and integrity when serving their customers. "We may not be perfect," Beattie said, "but we will

always give our customers an honest answer, even if it works to our disadvantage. We place value in building a long-term relationship with our customers based on trust."

Infinity Wireless is located at 5655 Dixie Highway in the Waterfall Plaza. Their business hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. They are also willing to take appointments. Their telephone number is 248-922-3733, their fax number is 248-922-1410 and Tom's E-mail is tom@infinitywireless.net.

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# Everest Academy -- forming leaders for tomorrow

Everest Academy not only has committed themselves to providing the highest quality of education to students, but to forming Christian leaders as well.

To accomplish this, the independent, private Catholic school directed by the Legionaries of Christ, focuses on three key elements, or "integral formation," of a person -- the academic, human and spiritual.

Principal Paul Flynn explained "a person is made up of several aspects. All of these aspects need to be actively formed. That is what we pay attention to."

This unique style of teaching is, according to Flynn, what makes Everest Academy special.

With 375 students currently enrolled, Everest Academy is designed as coed preschool through second grade, with separate boys and girls schools from third grade to eighth grade. There are plans to implement a high school program in the coming years, beginning with the ninth grade, and adding the next consecutive grade annually.

Flynn said he believes it is positive to separate the boys and the girls. "It allows us to use different teaching methods and strategies. The way you appeal to a boy is different than how you appeal to a girl. It gives teachers an opportunity to tailor their approach. It also eliminates distraction."

Flynn said the school's academic formation program is designed for every student to work hard and do well.

Curriculum is divided between studies of language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, art, physical education, religion and computer science. A unique aspect to the child's education is Spanish instruction beginning in kindergarten.

Everest Academy also offers students a variety of academic competitions including forensics, spelling, catechism, writing, science and more. Flynn said students have been very successful in all categories in the school's 11 years. There are also plenty of extracurricular activities to enhance an education such as Mad Science, band and choir.

Complementing the academic instruction is the human formation program. Richard Cross, assistant principal for the boys school, explained this teaching consists

of developing good manners, focusing on physical presentation, and cultivating virtues within a student.

For example, Everest Academy students are taught to stand when an adult enters the room, to be neat in appearance and keep organized lockers among other important traits. Cross said the goal is to have students grow to pass these characteristics on to their own children someday.

"Many think human formation is simply external, but it is also internal because you need a strong will to achieve these goals," Cross said.

Human formation is what one works to achieve individually, but it effects others as well, he said. "If you present yourselves positively, you're going to effect others positively."

Cross added, "Sports are a big component in human formation -- the way kids express themselves, control themselves, and good sportsmanship." Everest Academy offers a variety of intramural sports and tournaments.

Most importantly, Valerie McGovern, assistant principal of the elementary and girls school, said the development of the spiritual in a student.

"If the heart is formed, everything else is formed," she said.

Offered daily is communion and mass as well as weekly confession for students and parents. Students are encouraged to participate in these activities, and McGovern said it is a way to form the will and conscience of a student, teaching them right from wrong. Teachers also help to do this with prayers in the classroom.

"We don't see numbers, we see souls for the future to form for the society of the next generation," she said. "They are our leaders of the future."

McGovern hopes this spiritual growth in a student will spread to their families, bringing everyone closer to Christ. To help in the area, the school offers students and their families retreats, morning reflections and programs like Kids for Jesus.

Everest Academy's Father Lorenzo Gomez, who has



Everest Academy students, like Andrew and MacKenzie Gibson, are not only receiving a quality academic education, but instruction in developing self and living for God.

been an ordained priest for 30 years, is always available to aid in student and family spiritual maturity as well.

Everest Academy is located on a 40-acre campus at 5935 Clarkston Rd. in Clarkston. Call (248) 620-3390 for more information.

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# Master faux finisher comes to Clarkston

Little did Cheryl Humphrey know when she purchased her centennial Warren home 10 years ago, she was stepping into a new career in interior design.

While refinishing the home, Humphrey discovered the walls were uneven, making wallpapering impossible. So Humphrey improvised.

With her natural artistic talent, she taught herself the craft of faux finishing and painted those uneven walls to look like the wallpaper she wanted.

Family and friends were so impressed they requested Humphrey's handiwork for their own home.

"And it hasn't quit from there," she said, of her business which continues to spread through referrals.

Humphrey's talents have been utilized in homes and businesses throughout upper Michigan including Gaylord, Petosky, Alpena, Harbor Springs and Traverse City. She has also done work out of state including in Indiana, Texas and will be doing a home in California the last two weeks of June.

But the majority of her work is in lower Michigan. In fact, 80 percent of her clients are from Oakland and Macomb counties.

And even though she currently lives in Gaylord, Humphrey, who grew up in Rochester Hills, is down in these parts at least half the year for her business and hopes to purchase another residence here within the next two years, now that her two children are grown.

"People don't give it a thought I'm from out of town," Humphrey said. Clients have even noted her dependability in meeting appointment times and returning phone calls promptly.

"Faux finishing has been around, but what differentiates me from other decorators is that I'm really good with color and have unique designs." Humphrey, who specializes in ceilings, said her rooms look rich when complete.

"I believe in customer service and satisfaction. That's a big thing with me."

Don't expect a pushy designer, either. Humphrey

won't come into a home and demand decorating a certain way, disregarding a client's personal tastes.

She may swap a piece of furniture from another room, or repaint a piece of furniture, but Humphrey said clients have always displayed complete trust in her skills and have been pleased with the outcome.

"In 10 years, no one has ever been dissatisfied with my work or asked to redo anything."

When it comes to faux finishing, Humphrey uses a variety of painting techniques including ragging, glazing, color washing, smooshing, marbling, and sponging.

Humphrey's work includes a painted football field on the walls of a little boy's bedroom and a pink and purple polka dot ceiling in a little girl's bedroom. In Humphrey's bathroom in her Gaylord home, she wanted the walls to look like a birch tree to go along with her outdoorsy, rustic home decor, and she painted it that way.

Humphrey said the quality of the faux finish is "excellent," and is nearly impossible to tell it isn't wallpaper. The edges are crisp, and since wallpaper isn't used, no one has to worry about seams or peeling.

"People can't believe it's not wallpaper."

She joked clients could put a jar on their kitchen table and every time someone commented they couldn't believe it wasn't wallpaper, they'd have to put a quarter in the jar. A client could quickly get their money back from the cost of decorating, she laughed.

Joking aside, Humphrey said, "The advantage of faux finishing is that it usually ends up costing less than the cost of wallpapering that same room if you factor in the cost of the wallpaper and installation."

And when it's time to redecorate again, people don't have to worry about the hassle of peeling off wallpaper.

Her talents, however, aren't limited to painting. Humphrey not only does the faux finishing, but completes the design of a room from beginning to end in-



Humphrey, a master faux finisher, is skilled in faux finishes, window treatments and design.

cluding window treatments which encompasses cornices, valances, draperies, swags, vertical blinds and pleated shades. She also does bedspreads, pillows and chair pads as well as paints furniture and accessories.

"I'm the only person people need to call."

Working with just one person can save a client \$500 to \$1,000 on their complete package, which Humphrey says is a substantial savings.

Humphrey said she will gladly spend one to two hours during a design consultation with a possible client. And if hired, the reasonable fee for the consultation is fully deductible.

She is in the process of making a video of her work, but currently has a full color portfolio filled with pages of her rooms.

For a design consultation, or for a free video, call Cheryl Humphrey at (248) 224-6357.

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Emphasizing quality of service has helped Gott's Auto become a mainstay in Clarkston since 1980.

Customers can be assured they'll receive reliable service, honest work and personal attention when they bring their car in for service.

"Personal service is very important to customers," Gott said. "If there's a problem, they can talk to me directly. That way, customers can be confident the problem will be diagnosed correctly and the job gets done right."

Gott said it is important for him to stay current on the status of vehicles in the shop for repair. On a typical day, he will receive constant updates from his mechanics on all jobs underway. "That way, I can personally convey an update to any customer."

For the owner, his interest in auto mechanics surfaced in high school. Right after graduation, Gott started work at a car repair shop in Detroit. When its owner retired a few years later, Gott took over the business, and in 1963 Gott's Auto Service was born.

Family owned and operated, the business has extended to include Robert's sons, Bob and Kevin, and daughter Lisa Morgan.

Vinnie Ventimiglia, Brian McClure and Rick Verscheure round out the mechanical team.

"We can do most all mechanical repairs," Gott said. "We do work on domestics as well as some foreign cars."

A towing service is available as well.

Besides overseeing his business, Gott is a member of the Clarkston Rotary, something he has much pride in.



Gott's Auto Service -- from left to right, Lisa Morgan, Kevin Gott, Vinnie Ventimiglia, Robert Gott, Rick Verscheure, Brian McClure and Bob Gott -- is here to help you.

"The rotary is a service organization that raises money to help scholarship programs in the Clarkston area," he said. "Being a Rotarian shows that you put service above self." Just like in his business. Gott, his family and all the qualified staff at Gott's

Auto look forward to servicing your vehicle.

They are located at 5709 Maybee Rd. Hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call (248) 623-0119 or visit [www.GottsAuto.com](http://www.GottsAuto.com) for more information.



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# Move over, Martha... we'll take it from here!!!



# Macksey

## interior design

You instantly feel welcome the moment you enter the 14 N. Main design studio. Whether it's the ambience of the historical building itself, or the coffee pot brewing, you're instantly at ease.

Macksey Interior Design, a licensed builder, is a full-service interior design firm currently celebrating its fourth year in downtown Clarkston. What sets us apart are our services. Our expertise takes you from designing one room to building an entire home from the blueprint stage forward.

Local real estate professionals such as Marilyn Moir of Re-Max, Encore of Clarkston and Pam Ford Morgan of Morgan Milzow Real Estate enhance their clients' services by using us to help market their homes. Builders such as Lexington Properties Inc. of Davison and Intech Homes Inc. of Farmington Hills have found that homes we've designed for them help increase their sales significantly.

Many clients, like Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, whose careers do not allow them the time to spend on their own homes, hire us to do "turn-key" design projects for them. We make it easy for our clients by meeting them at their convenience.

Owner Pam Macksey says, "The growth in this area is just tremendous, and I have a fantastic team of designers that are on top of the trends, and are by far the best design team that I've worked with in 25 years of business."

Macksey Interior Design cordially invites you to their Spring Fling Open house on (date) from 1-4 p.m. Their phone number is 248-620-5260, and their fax number is 248-620-2606. They can also be reached toll-free at 1-877-MACKSEY.



Kristin Berry



Shelley Knudson



Julie Easterday

*"I strive to offer a fresh approach to contemporary and eclectic design. My style incorporates vibrant colors and unique furnishings to add character to any space. Samples of my work are featured on our Web site, [www.mackseyinteriordesign.com](http://www.mackseyinteriordesign.com). It would be my pleasure and privilege to collaborate with you, the client, on your next project."*

*"Decorating, remodeling or just making a few changes in your home can be overwhelming. I can help simplify the process with a practical, yet fun approach to design. I appreciate many different elements of style and design, but consider myself classic at heart. I love the unexpected and a splash of color. Capturing your style and personality is the beginning of any project; add to that a little imagination and we're off and running, soon realizing your vision of your home. Stop by today and let's begin your new project."*

*"I have 15 years of experience in the design industry, both in the Michigan Design Center and four years in a large Birmingham firm. I have quite a bit of experience, and wear many hats at Macksey Interior Design. My primary responsibility, however, is being Pam's right hand, sharing some of the day to day operations of running our busy studio and keeping her schedule manageable. I also assist with all jobs to assure that each and every project runs smooth and that each and every client is thrilled with the end results!"*

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# Pine Forest



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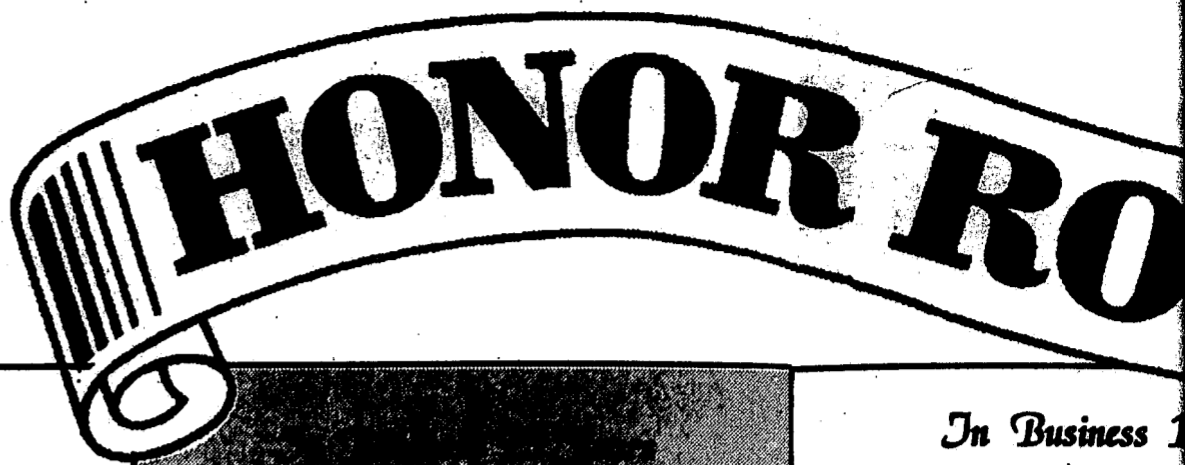
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# H.O.M.E. Realty Team helps owners maintain equity

A new realty company in Clarkston is focused on saving money for buyers and sellers.

H.O.M.E. Realty Team, which stands for Helping Owners Maintain Equity, was started in October by three real estate professionals, Sherry Goss, Maureen Martin and Sheila O'Brien.

The three brokers are now putting their experience, which combined is more than 25 years, to work at their new office on 5905 S. Main in Clarkston. Martin and O'Brien have been licensed since 1996, while Goss has been licensed since 1990.

In addition, O'Brien and Martin are Accredited Buyer Agents, and Goss has a Senior Real Estate Specialist Designation.

"We realize there are changes going on in the real estate industry and we couldn't do business the way we wanted with a franchise," Martin said in explaining why the three started their own business. "We're a fee-for-service company, so we do things a little differently. We can save you thousands of dollars."

H.O.M.E. Realty Team offers a Seller Agency, Buyer Agency and Exclusive Agency.

Martin believes the company's fees and their service set them apart from other real estate companies. "We are not a discount real estate company -- we are a full-service company," she said.

She also noted H.O.M.E. Realty Team works together for their clients, as opposed to traditional firms where only one realtor works with a client. "We are a team and we operate in a true team fashion," Martin said. "You have three licensed brokers working for you."

The three brokers believe the real estate landscape is rapidly changing. Previously, a homeowner had only one choice -- the traditional realtor, who would charge a set percentage of the sales price, regardless of the price of the home, to close the sale. Then came the discount brokers, who would offer a lower fee, but provide little service for the seller. In addition, the "For



H.O.M.E. Realty Team brokers (l-r) Sherry Goss, Sheila O'Brien and Maureen Martin work to save their clients money. Photo by Jeff Patrus.

Sale By Owner" (FSBO) route was always available, but the three brokers contend this is a difficult route, even with the Internet assistance that is now available.

H.O.M.E. Realty Team differs from that approach, since their goal is to help the seller keep as much of their investment as possible.

The company services all of Oakland County, as well as southern Genesee County, parts of Livingston County and "pretty much anyplace people want us to go," Martin said.

The company is affiliated with the National Association of Realtors, Michigan Association of Realtors, North Oakland County Board of Realtors and

Realcomp II, and are members of R.P.A.C. of Michigan.

H.O.M.E. Realty Team is located at 5905 S. Main, Clarkston, MI 48346. Their phone number is 248-620-0500, and their fax number is 248-620-0522. Their office hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (by appointment). The realtors' cell phone numbers are: Sherry Goss, 248-425-2429; Maureen Martin, 248-909-7336; Sheila O'Brien, 248-431-3245. Their Web site is [www.homerealtyteam.net](http://www.homerealtyteam.net) and their E-mail address is [info@homerealtyteam.net](mailto:info@homerealtyteam.net).



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# Midstates Alliance Group builds reputation for quality service

Established in 1999, Midstates Alliance Group, LLC has gained a reputation for outstanding service among homeowners, property managers and insurance companies alike.

According to Jason T. Ryan, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Midstates, the group is known as a one-stop contractor. "We can handle any size job from start to finish."

Midstates Alliance Group are insurance restoration specialists, meaning homeowners can trust them to get their homes back to where they were. To do that, the company performs such tasks as water extraction, roofing, mold remediation, repairing of storm damage, interior/exterior painting, and drywall.

According to Ryan, Jim Arremony, owner of both Midstates Alliance Group and The Neat Painters, has lent his 25 years of experience in the painting and home improvement fields to help build the company into what it is today.

"He's built an incredible reputation," Ryan said. "His name and reputation have carried over into the success Midstates is currently experiencing. I think he's done a great job of creating an atmosphere where everyone works hard but also has fun."

Within the first year of being established, Midstates' business really started taking off, according to Lora Newsom, Executive Vice President for the company. To that end, the company is putting the finishing touches on a 2,600 square-foot facility next to its Dixie Highway office to provide some needed space.

Today, she said the company, which is comprised of 30 employees, performs the vast majority of its assignments as opposed to hiring out subcontractors to do the work. About 85 percent of their work is done by their employees and their team of specialists.

According to Ryan, the company has some top-notch employees heading up their various departments: Jason Gault, Director of Field Operations; Wendy Fox, Senior Project Manager; Doug Grace, Divisional Manager; and Michael Comeau, Roofing Director.



Midstates Alliance Group employees (l-r) Jason Ryan, Tony Beaudry, Jason Gault and Bud Mehl are among a staff of 30 people who are ready to serve their clients' needs as a one-stop contractor. Photo by Jeff Patrus.

"Jim has surrounded the company with some very key people," he said.

Starting in the spring, Midstates will expand its horizons to provide trauma scene cleanup. The company already has a 24-hour emergency line.

"We found the need for a trauma scene cleanup division," Ryan said. "It's a natural fit for us. Many of the different divisions of law enforcement are looking forward to working with us."

Midstates is fully certified in mold remediation and water extraction, and they pride themselves on constantly educating and training their employees and

using the best equipment and techniques.

"Insurance companies recommend us, homeowners trust us and property managers depend on us," Ryan said. "Those three key areas feed our business. We're big enough to serve you and small enough to care."

Midstates Alliance Group, LLC is located at 6559 Dixie Highway, Clarkston. Their phone number is 248-922-3660; their 24-hour emergency line is 1-800-283-2521; and their fax number is 248-922-5763.

# Back Pain and Sports focuses on individual care

Patients needing a medical diagnosis for physical medicine issues as well as on-site physical therapy can get both at one place.

Back Pain & Sports, located at 6815 Dixie Highway, Suite 3 in Clarkston, has been in operation for 1-1/2 years. The facility is run by Dr. Ed Atty, who is also the Co-Medical Director at McLaren Regional Rehabilitation Center in Flint, and Brian Keyes, a licensed physical therapist.

Atty explained how the practice first started.

"In my field, we work a lot with physical therapists," he said. "One of the things I wanted to do was work closely with physical therapists to collaborate on appropriate treatment plans. I thought we could provide better care if we open a clinic where the physical therapist and physician can work closer together and the patient's progress was monitored more closely."

"Since I live in Clarkston, I know this area is a strong community and feel our clinic will serve the community well."

"After a thorough physical examination, I will determine the plan of each care for each patient I see," he said. "If physical therapy is the part of that plan, I will have Brian evaluate and treat the patient accordingly if the patient chooses to have therapy here. Our clinic is unique in that a patient can be referred to see a PM&R physician, physical therapist and/or both."

Brian provides services for patients with physical therapy prescriptions from other physicians as well.

In a newsletter, Atty talked about how the PM&R field works:

■PM&R physicians, also called physiatrists, work to restore functional skills, self-sufficiency, and the mobility of people with temporary or permanent disabilities. These disabilities may range from minor sports injuries to more complex conditions such as paraplegia.

■They work with patients who are dealing with the following issues: low back pain, neck pain, myofascial pain syndrome, fibromyalgia, sports inju-



Dr. Ed Atty and Brian Keyes work with patient William Good at Back Pain & Sports, located on 6815 Dixie Highway, Suite 3 in Clarkston. Photo by Jeff Patrus.

ries, carpal tunnel syndrome, work-related injuries, brain injuries, strokes and spinal cord injuries.

■The PM&R approach provides patients an individualized plan of treatment, prevention of future problems and goal-directed care with steps in place to treatment favors less extreme interventions to maximize patients' function first, before resorting to more costly procedures.

"Over the past 1-1/2 years, we have had great results with this team approach," Atty said.

"We've learned to have the patient take an im-

portant role in their rehabilitation," Atty said. "A lot of therapy is education of the patient. Our clinic is small enough where we can keep an eye on every patient. It's more of an individualized type of treatment. Patients have informed us this was very different from the larger physical therapy clinics, but has been very beneficial."

Back Pain & Sports is located at 6815 Dixie Highway, Suite 3. For appointments or more information, call 248-625-9466.

# Assisted living at Pine Tree Place-- 'a family affair'

It's been open for more than four years, but still many may be unfamiliar with who they are and what they do. Pine Tree Place, a purpose built home for the frail elderly, reverses the trend of regional and national conglomerates.

"We are not an assisted living facility; we are an assisted living home," said owner Sandy Mabery, who along with his parents and sisters opened the home in February 1999. "Rather than calling it 'home-like,' we refer to it as a home."

And Pine Tree Place has redefined what "home-like" should truly represent.

Visitors won't find huge dining halls, sitting areas or commercial kitchens here. There are no apartments connected by long corridors; it isn't located along a busy road and 50 to 100 elderly residents won't be seen sharing a building.

Instead, nestled on a residential street, is a home with 18 to 20 people who have become like a family. There are nicely appointed bedrooms, opening into short hallways that lead to the living areas of the home.

Mabery's sister, Crystal Carrier, is the Director of Operations and a Licensed Practical Nurse with more than 20 years emergency room experience.

"On most days you will find my brother or father doing maintenance jobs, or my younger sister, Kim, volunteering in the office," said Carrier, who has a degree in Human Resource Management with a specialization in Gerontology and previous work experience with the elderly at senior centers in Macomb County. "We have some great employees who have been with us since we opened. Pine Tree Place is truly a family business."

Combining the features of a traditional home with the amenities of a modern assisted living facility, the 9,500 square foot ranch-style home has 18 bedrooms, all with private baths, with a licensed capacity for 20 residents.

Monthly fees for the basic level of care ranges from \$2,375 to \$3,300 and includes three home cooked meals

per day, weekly housekeeping, weekly laundry, cable television and medication assistance and activities. A therapeutic bathing tub is also available as well as a small beauty shop and smoking room for use by residents.

The exterior design features cozy front and back covered porches, and the 4.6-acre site is beautifully landscaped and includes a private pond.

The building is equipped with state-of-the-art fire suppression, smoke detection and door alarm systems to provide a safe residential environment.

There is also a wireless paging system that allows staff to closely monitor a resident's emergency calls. Call transmitters are located next to the resident's bed and in bathrooms. Pendant transmitters can be added for residents with limited mobility. The system eliminates the need for the institutional call lights above bedroom doors as all staff members carry pagers, and a back-up display monitor is installed in the kitchen.

The kitchen design enables staff to view all major corridors and common areas without leaving the kitchen and no resident room is farther than 60 feet away. This helps staff to hear calls for help, when residents are unable to use the emergency call transmitters. The building is also specifically wired for a generator to operate critical functions during power outages.

Pine Tree Place has a high staff to resident ratio and Carrier is on call 24 hours a day to assist the staff.

Residents are encouraged to treat Pine Tree Place like their own home.

"If a resident is having trouble sleeping and wants to come out for milk and cookies at 2 a.m., that's fine,



From left is Director of Operations Crystal Carrier and caregivers Patty Swain, Sue Tierney and Betty Rubio, part of the 'caring, compassionate' staff at Pine Tree Place.

Carrier said.

"The midnight shift loves to visit with the resident's whenever possible."

Their first priority is the customer, but Mabery said they strive to make Pine Tree Place an enjoyable work environment for the employees also.

"We realize that happy employees are critical to the success of a business, they are the front line that keep the customers satisfied," he said. "We don't necessarily look for employees with previous long term care experience, but more importantly we look for caring, compassionate individuals who like working with the elderly and train them on-site."

Pine Tree Place is located at 5480 Parview in Clarkston. For more information on living or working at the assisted living home, contact Sandy Mabery at (248)815-7975 or (248) 620-2420.



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# Clarkston Cafe offers new dining experience

There's been some positive changes happening at the Clarkston Cafe.

"If you haven't been here in a while, try us again," General Manager Kevin P. Kren said. "I think you will be surprised."

Patrons will find a more comfortable atmosphere -- "one where you can sit back, have a glass of wine with dinner and relax."

Lunches range from \$7 to \$12, dinners from \$10 to \$22. Daily specials for lunch and dinner are always available.

Chef Adam Siano, who has been with the Clarkston Cafe for six years, has recently been serving up wild game dishes such as ostrich, buffalo and venison. Some of his specialties include acorn squash with sauteed chicken and bourbon-based salmon.

"The goal is to keep our dishes up-to-date and imaginative," Kren said. He is also proud of the cafe's new and ever-changing wine list. "Plus, we currently have 15 different single malt scotches, and recently brought in fine cigars."

Weekly features at the 61-year-old restaurant include international cuisine on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, all-you-can-eat frog legs every Thursday, live entertainment on Friday and Saturday nights with bands like The Shenanigans and a Sunday Brunch special.

The Cafe has started a couple of new features. One of them, Pasta Night, started in February and is held each Wednesday night. Patrons can pick a pasta dish from between four-five different sauces and four-five different pastas. Prices range between 9.95 and 13.95.

"If it seems to take off, we'll keep it going," Kren said.

The other change is the "early bird special", held Monday and Tuesday between 4-6 p.m. The special is designed to give those customers who want to eat a little earlier a price break, according to Kren.

The restaurant, owned by Sign of the Beefcarver, seats a total of 175. A "Library Room," seating 65, is perfect for wedding receptions, banquets and large



Kevin Kren, general manager of the Clarkston Cafe, and Chef Adam Siano offer something for everybody at the restaurant, located on 18 S. Main St. in downtown Clarkston. Photo by Jeff Patrus.

parties.

Kren said anyone who enjoys good food and a warm atmosphere is invited to stop by and see for themselves what the new Clarkston Cafe has to offer. Clarkston Cafe is located at 18 S. Main St. in

downtown Clarkston. Hours are Monday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Call 248-625-5660 for more information.

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# Variety under one roof; the shops at 64 S. Main

Clarkston's downtown retail is on the upswing. And the unique variety of stores featured at Tierra's Emporium are helping bring back the excitement downtown Clarkston once had.

For some time, a greater part of Main Street has been its business offices. But Tierra Fine Jewelers owner and building proprietor Buck Kopietz said retail is growing.

"We want to bring back the color and unusual to Clarkston -- the flair that Clarkston had in the late 70s."

Tierra's Emporium is doing just that featuring Tierra Fine Jewelers, Lily & Ivy, Pretty Papers, Mary Caldwell Photography, and Gourmet Chuckwagon all under one roof.

"It's worth the trip for people to come in," Kopietz said, of the assortment of shops.

A closer look at each store, reveals Tierra's Fine Jewelers has been a staple in the community for 29 years. They offer custom jewelry and are a primary source for diamonds, colored gemstones and pearls, Kopietz said.

"We're one of the nicest jewelry stores in southeast Michigan. You'll find things you can't see in other jewelry stores, and things you can see in other jewelry stores. We also offer jewelry and watch repair."

Lily & Ivy, owned by mother and daughter team Susan Andre and Elizabeth Andre Stotz, have continued to grow since they relocated to Clarkston from Ortonville in May 2002. They offer themed gift baskets for individuals or corporate events, a variety of gift items, party favors, a line of "Michigan" products, and other "unusualties."

They've also expanded to include Pretty Papers, a sub-business featuring a variety of unique stationary.

At Mary Caldwell Photography, don't expect the typical studio portrait. Caldwell has a one-of-a-kind, artsy flair to her award-winning work. She is available by appointment and offers on-location photography. Stop by Tierra's Emporium to view Caldwell's "gallery" wall.

The most recent addition to Tierra's Emporium is the Chuckwagon Gourmet. Brad and Eva Kemmer



From left to right is Tierra Fine Jewelers owner Buck Kopietz, Gourmet Chuckwagon owner Eva Kemmer and Lily & Ivy owners Susan Andre and Elizabeth Andre Stotz.

moved into the building in December and are serving up homemade and Amish recipes of canned goods, breads, candy and more.

Upon completion of construction to a new kitchen in the next few weeks, the Kemmers plan to sell Amish cheeses, meats, gourmet sandwiches and side dishes as well. They'll also have donuts, bagels and coffee for breakfast and will open at 7 a.m. The Gourmet Chuckwagon, though primarily carry out, will also have limited seating inside.

Kopietz noted specifically Tierra's Emporium offers much in regards to the wedding market -- Caldwell specializes in wedding photography; Lily & Ivy offers wedding gifts, gift baskets and party favors for bridal showers; Pretty Papers features wedding stationary; Gour-

met Chuckwagon can coordinate your wedding cake; and, of course, there's Tierra's Fine Jewelers.

Tierra's has a large selection of engagement, wedding and attendant jewelry; and features a unique line of Christian Bernard engagement watches, a great gift for a bride to present to her groom. The back of the watch opens to showcase a laser-engraved photograph and personal message.

Kopietz and the team at Tierra's Emporium invite to visit them, you won't be disappointed.

Tierra's Emporium is located at 64 S. Main St. in Clarkston. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. Evenings by appointment. Call (248) 625-2511 for more information.



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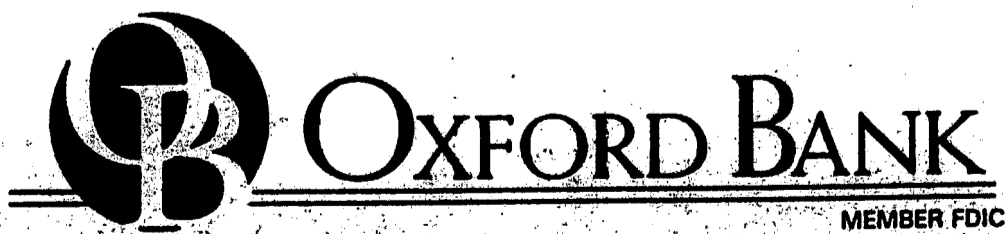
as the mortgage itself.

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Building your home offers you many advantages, including creating exactly what you want and doing it at a greatly reduced cost. You can also benefit from enhanced equity in your property as reduced construction costs can mean less financing required.

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# 'Inside and outside expressions' at MakeOver Place

"What was once old can be made anew with much care and creativity," Maria Rotondo Mark feels.

The owner of MakeOver Place in Clarkston will assist to you reach your full potential by achieving your best look.

Maria feels "when you look good, you feel good and when you feel good, you are good."

But she's not in the business of simply cutting hair, doing makeup or giving a manicure. She's in the business of bringing out the best in you and having fun in the process.

Maria connects with you and gets to know you. So don't expect to just be another number, another customer at MakeOver Place. She won't have that.

In her salon, where "the sign on the door says welcome," anyone can come in and feel comfortable. The atmosphere is warm, with soothing music playing quietly in the background, refreshments available and friendly conversation always on tap.

"It's a place to collect yourself and rebuild yourself," the 20-year Clarkston resident said.

Maria truly cares about everyone who walks in her door and she will give you the personal service you deserve. "My passion is people," she smiles.

In fact, she lives by an old adage, which she's tweaked a little, that says, "Do unto others as we do unto self. Do unto self as we do unto others." This is key in her relationship with her clients. But just as the ending of that saying goes, Maria's work at MakeOver Place hasn't been a service only to her customers, but to herself as well.

After 28 years of marriage, raising two children as well as coaching her husband to achieve his status as a CEO, Maria and her husband divorced. What seemed like a "mid-life crisis" turned into a "mid-life opportunity." She chose to rise up from this "devastating" experience and pick up the pieces, opening MakeOver Place 11 years ago. Since then, Maria has used her business as a place to evolve as a person.

Using this and other life experiences as a guide along

with her extensive education, Maria, who grew up in Italy until coming to the U.S. at the age of 12, hopes this is what MakeOver Place can be for others; a place to grow.

Simply said, MakeOver Place is about "inside and outside expressions," or mind, body and soul.

To accomplish this, Maria has added little personal touches to her store such as the "Hope in a Box." At the front counter, a client can jot down a positive message anonymously for another client to take with them as they leave. The idea is to give hope when you have hope to give, or take hope if you need it. Maria calls them "spiritual nutrients in a day when hope is difficult to find or like when one is having a bad hair day."

She also offers self-affirmation training twice a year. The essence here is to learn how to better know you in order to learn how to know others. The next class is scheduled to begin in April.

Maria's drive to change how we perceive ourselves, and others, has spread to her community as well. For the past 10 years, she has facilitated WeUnite, an organization that brings youth and elders together to bridge the age gap and embrace the diversity. When asked about her own age, she said, "I'm old enough to be responsible and young enough to have fun."

Maria still has more changes and goals in store for her community and salon, though she's not exposing details as of yet on what her plans are.

Maria plans to bring fellow cosmetologist, Liz Hunter, full time to the salon at the end of spring.

Both Maria and Liz are excited about the perspective Liz will bring to the salon. The ageless, 17-year-old, who will graduate from the Michigan College of Beauty and Clarkston High School in spring, said she chose to work at MakeOver Place because she feels free to be herself.

Together, Maria and Liz offer specialized, individualized techniques for bringing out your best hair expression.

MakeOver Place is for men, women and children



MakeOver Place owner Maria Rotondo Mark and cosmetologist Liz Hunter want to help bring out the best in you.

and offers perming, coloring, bleaching, highlighting, eyelash/eyebrow tinting, formal up-do's, special design cutting, razoring, facial/eyebrow waxing, make-up, color consultations, European facials, conditioning treatments, manicures, and shoulder and back massage.

MakeOver Place is located at 5888 Dixie Hwy. in Clarkston. Hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 'til 4 p.m. and evenings by appointment. Walk-ins are always welcome. Call (248) 623-9348.

## Quality service keeps customers coming back to Artful Framer

There's nothing like taking an accomplishment, memory or piece of art and cherishing it forever within a beautiful custom frame.

The Artful Framer, a full-service, custom picture framing gallery, and its owners Kari Butz and Genia Leehy want to help you do just that.

Kari and Genia understand how important decor can be in making your house feel like a home and that your tastes may change from time to time.

"You may find the pictures and artwork you loved once just don't seem to fit the style of your new home or latest decorating ideas," Kari said. "Sometimes a new frame design may be all it takes to do the trick. Or you may find fresh, new artwork best compliments a new style or theme."

Together, Kari and Genia have more than 30 years combined experience in the business and both thoroughly love what they do, which they feel shows in the quality of their work.

"I enjoy getting to see and help select framing for photos, children's art, and personal things like that," Genia said. "You'd be surprised at the things that make great framed pieces for the wall. We framed a giant (once alive) moth, awhile back, and it was a real knock-out!"

The Artful Framer, which will celebrate 12 years this May, is an "eye-catching" shop filled with a tremendous selection of the finest picture frame mouldings.

We have thousands of frame samples

from around the world," Genia said, adding new samples come in regularly and stock changes with the trends.

Kari and Genia assure there's something to suit everyone's tastes.

"We specialize in conservation, needlework, mirror and memorabilia framing," added Kari.

Prices for a custom frame vary, depending on the moulding.

"We use only the highest quality products and all work is expertly done in-house," Genia said.

The store also has a very nice selection of photo and ready-made frames. They have many beautiful, pre-framed gallery pieces and a variety of unframed prints in stock.

"If the right piece still eludes you, thousands of prints are available by order through our print catalogues," Genia said.

Kari and Genia carry unique and fun gift and decor items as well.

The Artful Framer is located at 6505 Sashabaw Rd., in the Independence Towne Square shopping mall located at the corner of Waldon near I-75. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (248) 620-9724.

With quality service, products and experience, owners Genia Leehy, pictured, and Kari Butz offer custom framing, gift items, artwork and more at their 12-year Clarkston store.



# Lake Orion Roofing founded on 'Quality,' not quantity

With the North Oakland community growing residentially and commercially, Lake Orion Roofing has seen dramatic increases in its customer volume.

To keep up with the increase, the business has enlarged its administrative and field consultants staff, with Lake Orion Roofing field consultants trained through a national network. Lake Orion Roofing is prepared to provide even more customer satisfaction than ever before to every customer they work with, including residential homeowners, commercial businesses and new construction.

With Lake Orion Roofing President Mark Southern a self-professed computer lover, Lake Orion Roofing maintains a website at [www.lakeorionroofing.com](http://www.lakeorionroofing.com). The company, formerly located on Heights Road but having moved to a larger facility on Brown Road in 1999, has been in business for 18 years.

Traveling as far as Toledo, Ohio and Lansing to complete jobs, Southern says "If the prospective customer is seeking professional roofing services, product quality and value, Lake Orion Roofing is definitely the company they should call."

Although Lake Orion Roofing provides its services throughout the entire Oakland County area, as well as in Macomb and Lapeer counties, Southern says the reputation of the company is the same philosophy it was founded on: "Quality, not quantity."

"We do not compete with the low-ball bidding tactics that are associated with other roofing contractors in today's market," says Southern. "So often their contractors focus strictly on quantity, rather than quality. This is one of those times where the expression 'You get what you pay for' comes into play."

Lake Orion Roofing offers a complimentary roof analysis, which also includes an investigation of your home's ventilation situation. Improper ventilation will void the shingle manufacturer's warranty. Proper ventilation extends the life expectancy of your roof.

"We ask the homeowner a series of questions regarding their roofing problems when we're called to measure and troubleshoot a roof," says Southern.

"After the initial visit, we prepare a detailed estimate, and schedule an appointment with both homeowners (if applicable), and sit down and explain fully."

Southern says Lake Orion Roofing's focus is to educate their customers.

"We really want them to understand the whole process involved," he says.

Lake Orion Roofing may also be contacted 24 hours a day at its Emergency Dispatch Service after hours. The company was the first to offer this service.

"People really like that," Southern says. Lake

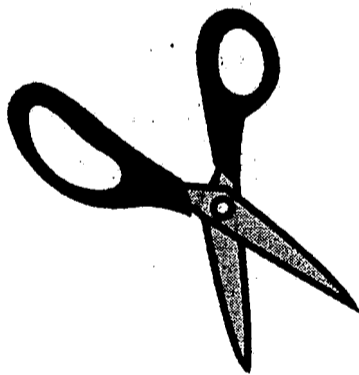
Orion Roofing also offers a 24-hour warranty department.

Lake Orion Roofing, Inc. is located at 881 Brown Road, on the corner of Joslyn and Brown Roads across from Meijers. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number is (248) 393-0055, or Lake Orion Roofing can be contacted via e-mail at [info@lakeorionroofing.com](mailto:info@lakeorionroofing.com). The website is [www.lakeorionroofing.com](http://www.lakeorionroofing.com).



Lake Orion Roofing has a 6,800 square-foot facility on Brown Road.

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# Pine Knob Wine Shoppe, not your ordinary convenience store

Stopping into Pine Knob Wine Shoppe is not like stopping into your average, run-of-the-mill convenience store.

"We're different," owner Ann said. Among the many reasons, she noted, "We give special attention to each customer."

If a customer requests an item not in the store, Ann will special order it. In their extensive collection of liquor and imported wines, particular flavors, like Cristal Champagne, valued at \$269 a bottle, or Vidal Ice Wine at \$34 a bottle, are purchased by only one frequenter each. Nonetheless, they are on Ann's shelves.

"That's what I mean by special attention."

Located on Maybee, near the corner of Sashabaw, Pine Knob Wine Shoppe has served Clarkston for more than 25 years.

In that time, the store has become a staple in the community growing a loyal customer-base of longtime residents.

With a desire to serve her community well, Ann has "special touches" to her store:

Every holiday, she has decorated Pine Knob Wine Shoppe in appropriate decor. And being so close to DTE Energy Music Theatre, Ann has a celebrity theme with a variety of related memorabilia on her walls.

"We're not like other stores you see. There's so much excitement in here."

Of course, and most importantly, that excitement spreads to the food Ann offers.

Everything is made fresh daily and homemade. "That's what makes us special."

From their "famous" chili -- spicy and

loaded with chunky, quality ingredients -- to goulash -- thick, creamy and delicious -- to soups, gourmet potato wedges, stromboli, calzones, and more. All are hot and ready-to-go and reasonably priced.

But that's not even the tip of the iceberg. There's still a variety of sandwiches including ready-to-go, subs, croissant and bagel; salads, anything from Greek to anti-pasto to garden to caesar to chicken caesar; and still more.

The selection is so broad, and ever-changing, Ann said, "People will never be board here."

Don't worry about getting held up when you're in a rush, either. "People come in here for lunch and there out in a minute. There's no wait." The friendly and warm staff will treat you right.

Pine Knob Wine Shoppe is also noted for their delicious pizzas. Find two-for one specials as well as single pizzas, individual, specialty, and slices. And don't forget about the bread sticks. That's right, they've got those too, including regular, pepperoni, cheese and cinnamon.

To quench that thirst, there are fountain pop, coffee, cappuccino, and slush machines.

Given away by its name, Pine Knob Wine Shoppe has an expansive selection of imported wines as well as liquor, beer and keg beer.

Several special services are offered such as catering for any party occasion, check cashing, money grams, money orders, ATM, postage stamps, copies, fresh flowers, and Lotto. All major credit cards are accepted as well.

If you haven't already been tuned into the uniqueness of Pine Knob Wine Shoppe, now's the time. And when you stop by, don't forget to check the daily specials posted outside the front door. Or look for pizza coupons weekly in The Clarkston News.

Pine Knob Wine Shoppe is located at 5726 Maybee Rd. in Clarkston. Hours are Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to midnight; Friday 8 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 a.m.; and Sunday 10 a.m. to midnight. Call (248) 625-2070.



Pine Knob Wine Shoppe owner Ann, with staff member Barb pictured at right, offers quality, homemade food and friendly service. And invites you to stop by today. Below, Pine Knob Wine Shoppe is located at 5726 Maybee Rd., near the corner of Sashabaw.



Ink Shows Thru

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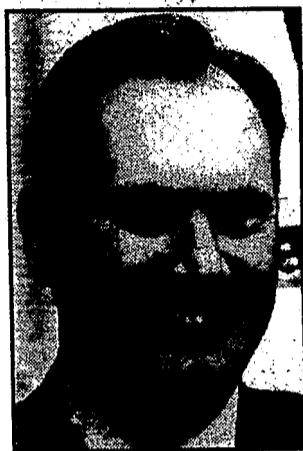


# Oxford Bank opens commercial lending & investment center in Orion

Oxford Bank is growing both physically and financially in its 119th year of existence.

The bank's physical growth can be attributed to this month's opening of a new 5,000-square-foot Commercial Loan Center in the Long Lake Professional Building, located at (Suite 201) 720 North Lapeer Road in Lake Orion.

The center will house the bank's entire commercial lending operation and the bank's financial services office operated by Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., which has provided financial and investment planning services to Oxford Bank customers since 2001.



**Robert Whitcomb of Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.**

Anthony Lasher, marketing director at Oxford Bank, said the bank's growth has resulted in the hiring of more mortgage lenders, clerks and other employees.

This increase in personnel is putting "more and more stress and pressure" on the Finance Center building, which currently houses the Commercial Loan Department.

"The Finance Center was built in 1989 and it's already packed to the brim," Lasher said. "Moving the Commercial Loan Department out of there will alleviate the overcrowding and allow each of the three lending divisions to add more personnel and services and grow comfortably."

Lasher said the Long Lake Professional Building is a "nice central location" between Oxford and Orion, which are the "two biggest communities the bank serves."

However, Lasher noted this move is "strictly an interim step" until the bank determines "how to best utilize" the Oxford property it purchased in 2000, a 3-acre parcel in Waterstone, right across from Kalloway's



**Oxford Bank's new Commercial Loan Center at 720 North Lapeer Road in Lake Orion.**

Restaurant and Pub near Market Street.

"We have no plans to leave Oxford in any way," he explained. "Our 119-year commitment to this community is still as strong as ever. Oxford's been very good to us."

The new Commercial Loan Center in Lake Orion will also house expanded offices and a conference room for Raymond James representative Robert Whitcomb.

Whitcomb, a Registered Financial Consultant (RFC) and Certified Fund Specialist (CFS), specializes in financial planning for small businesses and individuals. Together with his associate Jay Smith, a Certified Financial Planner (CFP), they can assist Oxford Bank's small business clients in establishing employee benefits, help with the passing of a family business from one generation to another and financial planning for business owners.

Whitcomb can offer assistance to individuals with asset management, bonds, stocks, mutual funds, retirement plans, tax planning, college funding, 401(k) packages, insurance and annuities.

"I believe every person and business needs a financial planner," Whitcomb said.

Whitcomb said he wants to "focus on educating" the bank's clients, adding that he's taught seminars at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Schools, Utica Schools and Oakland Community College.

The financial adviser said he's more interested in properly and effectively managing and protecting his clients' money than simply increasing the number of his clients. "I want the clients to be people, not just numbers," he said. "I want to develop long-term relationships with them."

Whitcomb is available, by appointment at all six branches of Oxford Bank - Oxford, Lake Orion, Clarkston, Ortonville, Dryden and Oakland Township.

For an appointment with Whitcomb call 628-2533.

Besides physical growth, Oxford Bank also experienced financial growth in 2002 as it recorded its 20th consecutive year of record earnings with \$4,828,000, an increase of 10.79 percent since 2001.

Oxford Bank also reached two milestones in 2002 as it finished the year surpassing \$450 million in total assets and \$400 million in deposits.

"We are very pleased with the Bank posting its 20th consecutive year of record earnings, along with reaching milestones in total assets and deposits," said Randy Fox, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Oxford Bank Corporation and Oxford Bank.

Hours at all Oxford Bank branches are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday; and 9 a.m. to Noon Saturday.

Drive-in hours vary, depending on location.

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# An outside the box approach to real estate

Ed Dine and Diane Bledsoe have been business partners for eighteen months and after working in the same office it just seemed to make sense to pool their resources and come up with a plan to increase the services they offered their clients at Century 21 Town and Country in Clarkston.

"Our clients receive the benefits of having two full-time realtors working for them and we are able to provide them with a service that far exceeds their expectations," Bledsoe said.

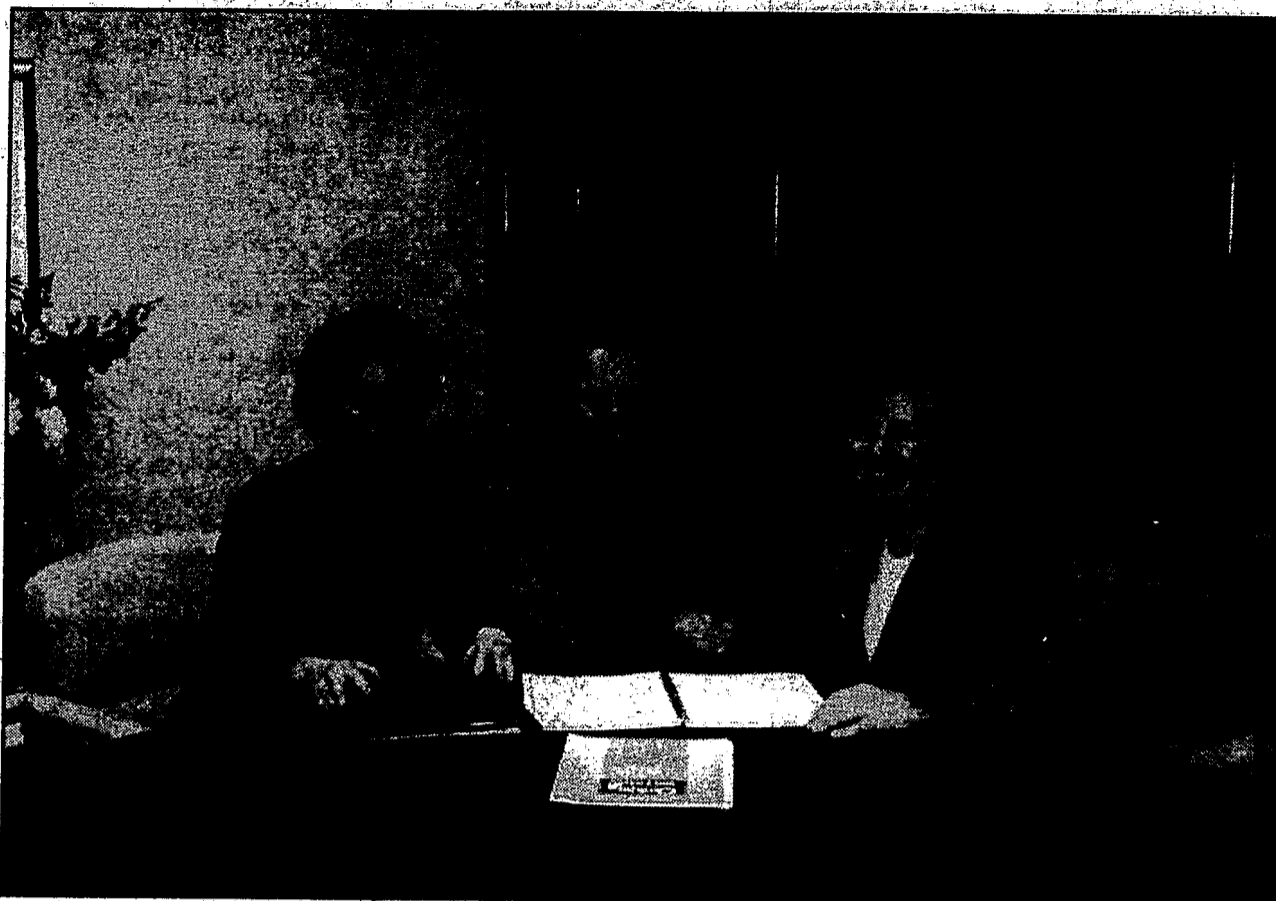
Their service starts from the first meeting, where a full and comprehensive marketing plan is presented to give the client a complete and detailed look at the latest market trends, current home prices in their area or subdivision and their service plan showing what the client can expect during the listing period. Dine says, "Whether we are working with buyers or sellers our goal is always the same, to meet and exceed their expectations."

Ed Dine and Diane Bledsoe linked up with Lisa Frey several months ago when they were looking for that little extra to offer their clients. By chance they came across a flyer for reDesigning Spaces, whose owner, Lisa Frey, was looking for a different marketplace for the service she offered.

The three decided to put their ideas to work and with the permission of one of their clients they redesigned, or "staged", the house from top to bottom. By using the homeowner's furniture and accessories in a whole new way, they were able to create a more visually appealing home. Lisa brought in a few decorating "props" from her inventory to help complete the look and the house was ready to show. This house had been on the market for several months, two weeks after the staging the home was purchased.

"We are always excited to meet a new client and show them what we can do to help their real estate transaction be a pleasant experience," Bledsoe said.

Ed Dine and Diane Bledsoe believe in working as a team. This team approach is much more benefi-



Century 21 Town and Country use a team effort to serve their customers.

cial to the client's success. This team includes Lindsey Parker who assists in preparation and follows up on paperwork, and Lisa Frey who aids in preparing the home to be put on the market. From the individually created brochures, to the weekly updates, information and communication are their main focus for their clients. The team feels communication is vital; their clients need to know what is happening at all times.

The team is very cognizant of what is known as

the "Thirty Second Rule," where a potential purchaser will see a house and within thirty seconds know if this house might work for them. That's why it is crucial to make the house stand out in the memory of the buyer and make that thirty second rule apply.

Ed and Diane's office is located at 7153 Dixie Highway in Clarkston. Their telephone number is 248-620-7200. Lisa can be contacted through her Web site at [redesigning-spaces.com](http://redesigning-spaces.com) or calling 586-823-1180.

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# Positive Changes Hypnosis can help you change your life

Changing your life isn't as impossible as you might think. Positive Changes Hypnosis can provide you with the keys to battling everything from weight gain and smoking to stress management and managing pain.

Julie, a client of Dr. Christopher Lewis, director of the Positive Changes Hypnosis Center of Lake Orion, found hypnosis to be the stepping stone to her recent 40-pound weight loss.

"I turned 40 in January and sunk into a deep depression," Julie says. "My weight was at an all-time high and I looked and felt like an old lady. My energy level was near comatose, and any prospects of dating were over."



Julie before losing 50 pounds through the help of Positive Changes Hypnosis

"I had tried every possible diet and exercise plan but none worked. I was also having motivation problems and could not conquer my food cravings (chocolate and ice cream specifically)," Julie says. "Food had become my one pleasure. Time to make a drastic change!"

Then Julie discovered Positive Changes Hypnosis.

"I went to Positive Changes Hypnosis Center and it changed my life," she says. "I cannot find the words to express how grateful I am to have discovered this solution. The hypnosis took away my cravings forever and helped me start making food a LOW priority."

"It also reinforced the pleasure of exercise. I am running again and lifting heavy weights at the gym too," Julie says. "The program involves a weekly nutrition class and uses the principles of the 40-30-30 weight loss program. This is less strict than Atkins and no food groups are cut out."

"The result---I got rid of over 50 ugly pounds and I lost four dress sizes!" says Julie. "I am now the same size I was in my Army days! I look and feel 15 years younger! Family and friends are amazed at my appearance. Men are noticing me again! Life is good."

Dr. Lewis says through the process of hypnosis, clients' subconscious minds are "re-programmed," allowing them the ability to "absorb suggestions."

"Ineffective, destructive behavior is replaced effortlessly by healthier behavior and people start to drop weight, stop smoking, or reduce stress and finally see the resolution of life-long battles," says Dr. Lewis.

The first step in a client's visit to Positive Changes Hypnosis is to sit down with Dr. Lewis for an evaluation of that person's problems. Dr. Lewis says the number of sessions required depends on the individual.

"Most habits and routines consciously take a long period of time to become a habit," he says. "Stopping smoking is the easiest, because you already have a track record as a non-smoker. You didn't come into this world with a cigarette in your hand."

No matter what reason a client is seeking the help of hypnosis for, Dr. Lewis says everyone must listen to

reinforcement tapes after the sessions.

"You learn, change and grow through repetition," he says. "We are actually providing an educational service."

Positive Changes Hypnosis is located at 400 West Clarkston Road, Suite B. Hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Additional evening hours can be provided to accommodate some clients.

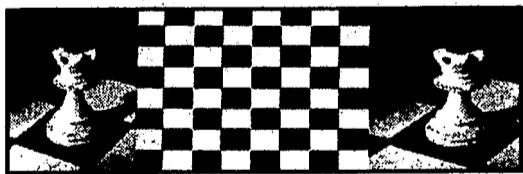
To schedule an appointment call (248) 693-8658.



Julie, 50 pounds lighter, after visiting Positive Changes Hypnosis

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### We Have A Plan To Help You Sell Your Home

# "I FOUND A BETTER WAY TO LOSE WEIGHT... AND MELTED OFF 132 LBS.!"

*My name is Jennifer Flora. I lost 132 pounds through the Positive Changes Hypnosis program! I have gone from an obese 24 to a sleek size 4. What freedom! If I can do it, anyone can! This is my story of lasting weight loss success. It is true and factual.*

By Jennifer Flora

## I Had To Use a Scooter to Get Around



Jennifer Flora  
Before Hypnosis

I gained my weight slowly... a few pounds a year... year after year... until I'd grown obese. When my doctor told me that my worsening joint condition would require a battery-powered scooter to get around, I got depressed. So I ate. Every time I looked in the mirror I got more depressed. So I ate even more. Soon I was caught in a vicious cycle of eating.

## You name the diet, I tried it.

I would lose weight and gain back even more. Diets failed me because I couldn't live with the plans. Inevitably I would have to get off the plan and eat normally. The problem was; I would eat even more to make up for lost time! The feeling of failure was overwhelming.

## There Must Be A Better Way to Lose Weight!

I learned about Positive Changes through an ad in the newspaper. It said that I could go in for a free, no-pressure hypnosis evaluation. I figured the

worst that could happen was I'd just say no and walk out. I liked the program. It made sense to me. The time was right and the fee was reasonable. Even my doctor agreed that Positive Changes was a sensible plan for me. The pieces fit so I signed up.

## Being hypnotized is pleasant and relaxing.

I never felt out of control of my body or my mind. It's as though I've had a pleasant and relaxing nap. Yet I know from my results that the message came through to my subconscious. The very next day the results appeared in my behavior. It all happened automatically. I melted off 132 lbs. in one short year!

I could not have done it without the help of Positive Changes. No other program has ever come close. Now that I have lost my weight, I know I will never gain it back. My life has improved in more ways than I can count, and that's why I've recommended Positive Changes to so many people, many of whom have signed up and had great results. I've told them all—if I can do it, anyone can!

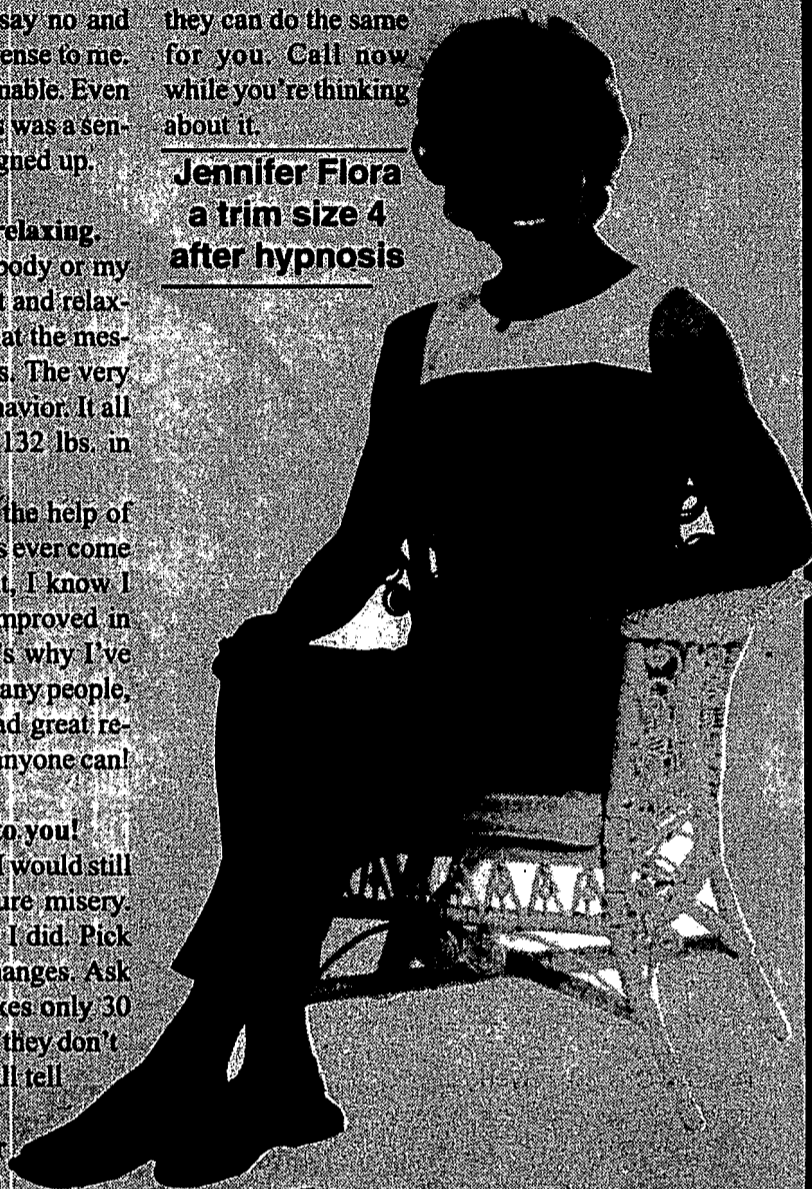
## That's my story—the rest is up to you!

If it weren't for Positive Changes I would still be carrying around 132 pounds of pure misery. Don't let that happen to you. Do what I did. Pick up your telephone and call Positive Changes. Ask to schedule your free evaluation. It takes only 30 minutes and there truly is no pressure. If they don't think hypnosis is right for you, they will tell you so.

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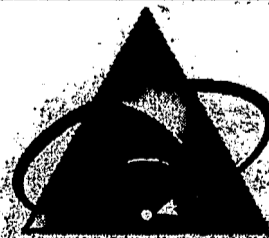
- Did you know that the average diet lasts only 72 hours? ... Or that over 90% of the people starting diets today will end up at least five pounds heavier next year?
- Did you know that low-calorie and low-fat diets actually slow your metabolism? ... Or that when you return to old eating habits, your sluggish metabolism turns your body into a fat storage machine?
- Did you know that diet drugs, herbs, and stimulants often overwork your heart, liver, kidneys, or digestive systems? ... And that the results are temporary?



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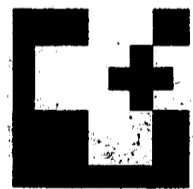
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*Emergency Medicine  
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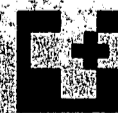
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# Mattresses and More gives you a good night's sleep

Mattresses and More, under new management, is still providing great products and superb customer service to the area.

Mattresses and More has the area's largest selection of the highest quality mattresses and beds on display, assisted by knowledgeable professionals and backed by a 120-day price guarantee.

"Our prices are discounted but not our service, showroom atmosphere, selection or knowledge," owner Dave Zaner said.

Mattresses and More features the largest selection of adjustable bedding on display in Michigan. They feature six different foundations and eight different mattresses. In addition, they offer a wide variety of bunk beds, day beds and futons.

The store offers many varieties of mattresses and iron beds. Among the selections offered include Sealy, Serta, Foster and Temperpedic.

The store prides itself on customer service. Enhanced by new management in the form of Dave Zaner and Paul Kanakis, the same employees remain.

"We specialize in customer service," Zaner said. "We have an extremely knowledgeable staff that will help in any way possible."

Employees include Gary (10 years of service), Debbie (six years of service), Lisa (five years of service), Pat (two years of service), Earl (two years of service) and Don (one year of service with 20 years in the business.)

"I urge anybody in the market for a mattress to stop by our store and see what we have to offer. We take great pride in providing quality products for a great price. We have three different showrooms in the store for the customers to look through," Zaner said. "We are happy to serve in this great community of ours."

Mattresses and More will remove your old bedding and deliver your order of \$499 or more for free. They also offer a 120 day price guarantee.

"It is unique and it's a real service to the customer. We're focused on what we carry and we de-



Mattresses and More has the area's largest selection of the highest quality mattresses and beds on display, assisted by knowledgeable professionals and backed by a 120-day price guarantee.

mand ourselves to be the very best," Zaner said.

So for a good night's sleep make sure to go to Mattresses and More to get the bed of your choice.

Mattresses and More is located at 4700 West Walton Boulevard in Waterford. They are open

Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. On Saturday their hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. On Sundays their hours are from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. Their phone number is (248) 673-1160.

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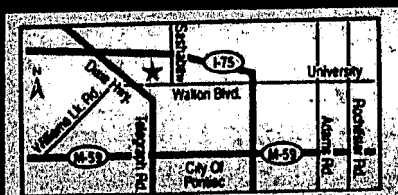
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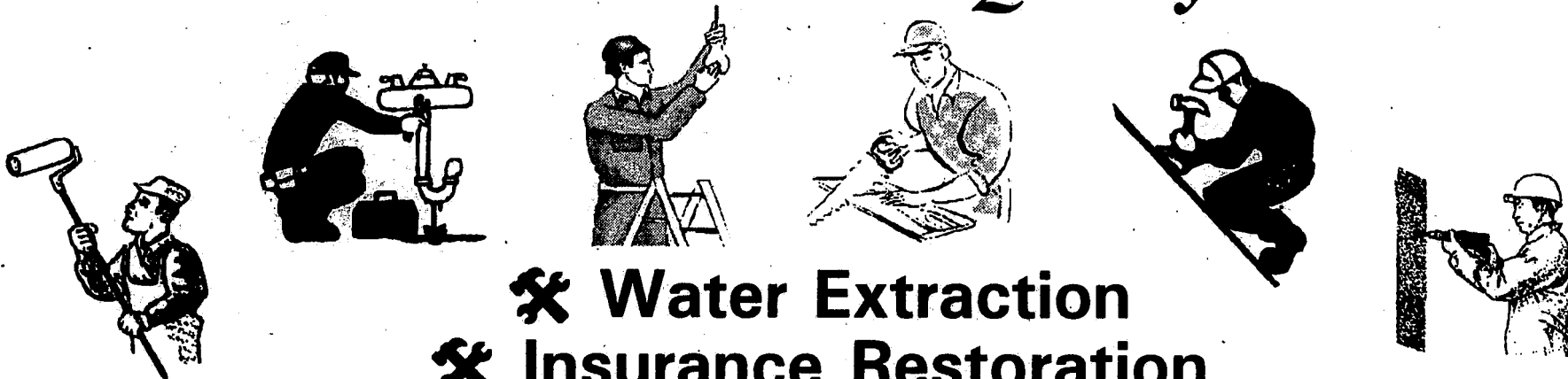
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# Family atmosphere part of Clarkston Family Dental

Dr. Hunt's dream is still going strong. Thirty years after he started Clarkston Family Dental, the practice has a rich dental history in the Clarkston community and prides itself on its family atmosphere and quality patient care.

Dr. John Foster, the third owner of the practice, acquired Clarkston Family Dental in January 2001. He graduated from the University of Detroit Dental School in 1997 and has practiced in Clarkston since that time.

Dr. Michael Fleming, a Lake Orion native, and 2001 graduate of University of Detroit joined Dr. Foster's staff in May 2002. The two dentists and their staff of eight are ready to serve their patients' needs and tailor a treatment plan for each individual.

"Most of our patients have been here a long time," Foster said. "Many of our patients have grown up in Clarkston and are now raising their families here."

Dr. Foster is especially pleased with how he and Dr. Fleming have joined forces to run a unique family practice.

"It's unusual to meet someone and work so well with them," Foster said. "Our staff has a long history together; it's a good place to work."

Clarkston Family Dental takes pride in its community involvement. Last year, Dr. Foster recognized one of his patients, a Clarkston resident, as Mother of the Year with a gift certificate to a spa.

"That was something we wanted to do to honor all the mothers," Dr. Foster said. "A lot of our patients have big families with a lot of kids."

The dental office also participated in the annual Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society. Staff members, their families and patients joined together for the 24-hour event held annually at Clarkston Middle School. In addition, the practice sponsors a T-ball team for the Independence Township Parks & Recreation summer leagues, and is involved with the Adopt-A-Road program.

Last month, the staff visited several schools in



The staff at Clarkston Family Dental is known for its strong quality of patient care. Pictured are: (front, l-r) Dr. Michael Fleming, Kris DeClerck, Jennifer Wright and Karlie Nester; (back, l-r) Georgette Fonseca, Kerry Weil, Laurie Johnson, Jennifer Safron, Tracy Zimmerman and Dr. John Foster. Photo by Jeff Patrus.

the school district as part of Children's Dental Health Month.

Tracy Zimmerman, a dental hygienist who has been on staff at Clarkston Family Dental since 1993, explained how the staff has been able to build good relationships with their patients.

"We're family-oriented," she said. "Our staff is like a family and that reflects to our patients. We have

a relationship with our patients. The whole office treats members like family."

Clarkston Family Dental is located at 6778 Bluegrass Drive in Clarkston. New patients and emergency walk-ins are welcome, and Saturday appointments are available. For more information, call 248-625-2424.

# Deer Lake Hair Salon provides quality service in Clarkston

Dan and Barb Chiapelli have enjoyed meeting the people of Clarkston during their first year of owning Deer Lake Hair Salon and are looking forward to a bright future in town.

"We are very happy in the Clarkston area," Dan Chiapelli said. "We have made a lot of good friends here and we are looking forward to making some new ones. Clarkston has great people."

Deer Lake Hair Salon is located inside Deer Lake Athletic Club on White Lake Road.

Dan is a master barber award winning stylist who has 34 years of experience cutting men and boy's hair. Meanwhile, Barb has 22 years experience and has also won awards as a hair colorist and stylist. Barb specializes in corrective color and multi-color weave foil highlighting.

The two decided to move to Clarkston because it is Barb's hometown and most of their family lives in the area.

The couple recently welcomed Dave Chiapelli, Dan's brother, and Anita Turnbull, Dan's niece, from the Clarkston Hair Design to their business. Dave previously owned Clarkston Hair Designs in downtown Clarkston.

"They came from downtown Clarkston and are now part of the team," Dan said. "They are both fabulous seasoned stylists. It is really a pleasure to have two high quality individuals join the team. It is a tremendous advantage to our salon to have them join us."

Deer Lake Hair Salon encourages customers to make appointments for the convenience of the clients. However, they will also do their best to service walk-ins whenever possible. Customers do not need to be members of the Deer Lake Athletic Club to visit the hair salon.

Deer Lake Hair Salon has exclusively Aveda products.

The owners have room for one more quality stylist who is already established in the area.

"We do not want to be a boss so only top, expe-

rienced stylists will be considered. You come and go as you please and govern yourself," Dan said. "We intend to pay the absolute top percentage in the area for the right individual."

Dan and Barb encourage anyone who meets the previously mentioned criteria to stop in and interview with them. All interviews will be held with total confidentiality and privacy.

The couple also owns Master Mario's Jewelers next door to Farmer Jack on Dixie Highway in Clarkston.

"We offer a discount to all our hair salon clients who visit Master Mario's Jewelers," Dan said. "Our store is a full service jewelry store. We do most re-

pairs while you are there or overnight."

They also have a wedding ring remount special to update old settings.

Deer Lake Hair Salon is located inside Deer Lake Athletic Club, which has a great restaurant which welcomes nonmembers, on White Lake Road in Clarkston. Their hours are Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. They are closed Sunday and Monday. However, when possible hours are flexible to meet the needs of the customer. The owners prefer appointments to ensure your convenience. Their phone number is (248) 620-7900. Remember they can't cut it without you.



From left, Anita Turnbull, Dave Chiapelli, Barb Chiapelli and Dan Chiapelli welcome residents to Deer Lake Hair Salon.

Date Error

# Duggan's Irish Pub offers food and fun in Clarkston

In the Clarkston area, there's an ever-growing selection of casual restaurants and night spots. There's no better place to enjoy great food, spirits and atmosphere than at Duggan's Irish Pub West, located on Dixie Highway just east of the M-15 intersection.

Owners Larry Payne, Bill Grannis and Darrell Krause said the restaurant has undergone some very positive changes within the past year to stay ahead of the competition.

"We have put together a new hands-on management team headed by General Manager Alan Reiley, formerly the Chef and General Manager of The Holly Hotel. Alan came to us last November from Champ's Americana in Utica," said Krause. In addition, the kitchen has been upgraded by the addition of Chef Mike Dopkowski, who arrived from the Charley's Crab chain of restaurants just prior to the New Year.

"Our staff at Duggan's has been instrumental in the restaurant's success. We just celebrated our fifth anniversary in February and the majority of our service staff has been with us since day one," he said. "Their loyalty is one of our greatest assets."

The menu at Duggan's features popular weekly specials, including a heart-healthy menu, soups made fresh daily, burgers, seafood, pasta and salads. Having purchased the rights and original recipes from such nostalgic restaurants as The Totem Pole and Susie-Q, Duggan's menu is a favorite of native Detroiters.

New additions will include an expanded Sunday "Comfort Food" menu with homemade entrees including Hearty Beef Stew, Chicken 'n Dumplings and Meatloaf with mashed potatoes alongside the popular Susie-Q Fried Chicken and Fish and Chips dinners. Chef Mike's new dessert menu, including generous portions of homemade Pecan Pie ala mode, Chocolate Cheesecake, Bread Pudding and ice cream favorites offer the perfect ending to any meal.

The largest event of the year is, of course, the St. Patrick's Day Celebration. The doors will open at 9 a.m., serving green eggs and ham, and will continue serving Irish favorites like corned beef and cabbage



Duggan's Irish Pub offers both food and fun.

throughout the entire day. Of course, there will be no shortage of beverages, either. "There's no end to the amount of fun our staff and our customers have on St. Patrick's Day. It's a day where everyone is friendly and happy to take part in the celebration," said Krause.

According to Krause, Duggan's takes a great deal of pride in making sure alcohol is served in a responsible manner. He said the entire service staff undergoes T.I.P.S. certification, which instructs them in responsible alcohol service. Duggan's also offers com-

plementary cab rides for those patrons that may need one.

Krause says, overall what makes Duggan's a great place to dine is the quality of food and friendliness of service. For more information, visit Duggan's Web site at [www.dugganswest.com](http://www.dugganswest.com).

Duggan's is located at 6722 Dixie Highway in Clarkston. Hours are from 11-2 a.m. Monday through Saturday and 12-12 a.m. Sunday. Call Duggan's at 248-625-3900.

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# Kostins serve Clarkston with legal practice, charity work

Clarkston attorneys Robert and Kelley Kostin offer a great deal of experience and service to our community.

"We are a full-service law firm. We take pride in offering experience in handling our clients' needs including criminal, civil, custody and divorce proceedings (family law), personal injury and also real estate," Bob Kostin said.

Changes in American society and the creation of the Family Division at Oakland County Circuit Court have made law more family oriented.

Ninety percent of Bob and Kelley's clients are located in Oakland County, Kelley said, adding that their clients stay with them for years.

Bob has more than 30 years of experience, while Kelley also serves as a Magistrate in the Rochester District Court where her duties include handling traffic and small claims cases, arraignments for criminal matters and certain misdemeanor and ordinance cases. She also performs marriage ceremonies.

Sue Jackson and Ann-Marie McCafferty, complete the Kostin office team.

Besides offering their services through the Law Office of Robert Kostin, P.C., the couple is extremely active in the community.

The Kostins also believe in giving back to their community. The two Independence Township residents, who have been married for seven years and have a son, Shay, make it a point to be active members of our community.

The firm is an active member of the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce and is a major sponsor for numerous Chamber events including the Chamber's annual holiday festival, Fourth of July Festival, Concerts in the Park, Halloween Howl, just to name a few. They are also sponsors of the Annual Walk for SCAMP, a summer camp for special needs children and young adults.

Individually speaking, Kelley is a member of the Clarkston Area Task Force for Youth and has been recognized as one of the organization's community business leaders.

A member of the Board of Directors for the Optimist Club of Clarkston, Kelley has chaired the Community Oratorical Contest the last four years and was involved as a member of the committee for Law Appreciation Week.

In addition, Kelley is in demand as a speaker at numerous local schools, bringing students a real-life perspective on a variety of legal topics and issues. She was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees at



From left, Sue Jackson, Kelley Kostin, Ann-Marie McCafferty and Robert Kostin make up Robert E. Kostin, P.C.

Notre Dame Prep. "It was such an honor because I do not have a kid in their school," Kelley said.

Sue has participated in six marathons to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and serves as Secretary on the Board of Directors for the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce. For the past two years, Sue and Ann-Marie co-chaired the Chamber's annual Big Buck Raffle which raises \$10,000.00 for Clarkston area youth programs and they both have also served on the Scholarship Committee.

Robert is actively involved with the Republican Committee for Oakland County and the Oakland County Bar Association District Court Committee.

Kelley and Bob are anticipating another busy year

when Kelley intends to announce her candidacy for the vacant judicial seat in the Clarkston District Court due to Judge Batchik's retirement.

The Kostins are also members of Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church in Clarkston.

Robert E. Kostin, P.C. is located at 11 North Main Street in downtown Clarkston, with parking located behind the building. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, with extended hours available by appointment. The Kostin's offer free initial consultations. For more information, call (248) 620-1030 or e-mail at RobertKostin@aol.com or KelleyKostin@aol.com.

## THE LAW OFFICE OF ROBERT E. KOSTIN, P.C.

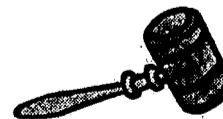
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# Dr. Shader celebrates more than 25 years in Clarkston

After graduating from the University of Michigan, Dr. Jack Shader moved to Clarkston in 1977, and has stuck around ever since.

"I saw Clarkston as a growing community and a good place to raise a family," he said.

Today, Dr. Shader's office has a staff of about a dozen people ready to serve their patients. Shader estimates he has seen more than 20,000 children since he first started his practice.

He explained how he got started.

"My practice started off with doing basic repair work for people," he said. "I guess I found the general maintenance problems of cleaning teeth and filling the occasional cavity didn't always satisfy what my patients really wanted. I think they want to look better and feel better about themselves -- having a smile that could project confidence and a healthy self-image whether they're a housewife or a businessman.

Dr. Shader started off by doing braces on kids, which he believes gave him a greater understanding of the relationship between a good bite and long-term dental health. Today, he practices the concept of dental aesthetics by replacing the old silver fillings he has used in the past with white materials.

He thinks his experience with aesthetic dentistry sets him apart, "in particular, difficult cases involving full-mouth rehabilitation for people that want to make a statement with a smile," Shader said.

He talked about other dental improvements.

"The newer fillings are bonded," Dr. Shader said. "There's less leakage and less cracked and broken teeth. Crowns have changed -- we're able to do full crowns with no metal. Today's crowns are all porcelain. The look you get is stunningly natural. In the last 10 years, we've seen a great increase in the types of cases we're doing, such as replacement of lost teeth with implants."

In addition, Dr. Shader stated there is newer technology for patients wearing dentures. "People with dentures, and particularly lower dentures, can get mini-



Dr. Shader puts a smile on his patient's faces.

implants at a lower cost and a greatly improved and enhanced fit so they can talk and chew," he said.

Another innovation in Dr. Shader's office is sedation dentistry, for those patients that don't want to be awake during their dental work.

His partner, Dr. Mark Dennis, was chief resident at Detroit Receiving Hospital for five years. He also graduated at the top of his class. Dr. Dennis offers sleep dentistry, for those who want to wake up when their dental work is finished.

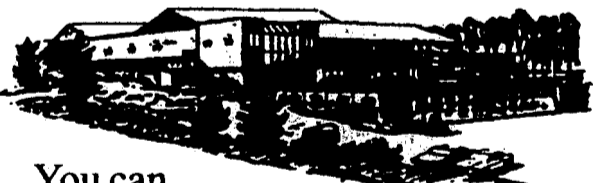
Dr. Shader makes it a point to give back to the community in any way possible. He has given school presentations to elementary school children in the Clarkston school district for about 10 years, and is the coach for the Clarkston High School Lacrosse Club.

Dr. Jack Shader's office is located on 6300 Sashabaw Road in Clarkston. His phone number is 248-625-9444 and his fax number is 248-625-4813.

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# Prevention is key at Clarkston Internal Medicine

Clarkston Internal Medicine's Dr. Nathan Chase, Dr. Rosa Mirijanian and Dr. Bashar Okka are in the habit of practicing good medicine.

"We take pride in practicing good medicine," Dr. Okka said. "Our practice is a value for our community because we provide excellent service, and honest and educated advice." The practice has been serving the area for more than 15 years.

"Internal medicine is our practice, but preventative medicine is our focus," Dr. Chase said. The doctors address and assess problems as early as possible in order to prevent further problems down the road. The doctors suggest a patient participate in simple tasks like routine physicals, blood pressure monitoring, cholesterol and thyroid screening, to mention a few.

"We really emphasize the risks involved with tobacco and alcohol use," Dr. Okka said.

"The single most important thing people could do to prevent future illness and help them feel better in the long term is to stop smoking," Dr. Chase said, who added low fat diets and regular exercise are key aspects to preventing future health concerns.

The doctors also offer expanded work in cardiovascular disease including evaluations, stress testing, echocardiograms, and carotid ultrasounds.

"We're not trying to portray ourselves as cardiologists. We work closely with cardiologists," Dr. Chase said. "But cardiology has been a long time interest for all of us."

A major benefit of being located within the Independence Pointe plaza on M-15 at I-75, is most services can be performed at one location. There is a laboratory, draw station and radiology center housed all in one building.

Dr. Mirijanian said "this is an excellent benefit for our elderly patients because they don't have to travel to multiple locations for services."

The Independence Pointe Plaza also houses other medical specialists. Dr. Chase said, "The other doctors in our facility share similar philosophies as ours; we compliment each other."

Dr. Chase, Dr. Mirijanian and Dr. Okka are all board certified and practice internal medicine, but each has their own specialization.

Dr. Okka is a 1989 graduate of Damascus Univer-



From left to right is Dr. Bashar Okka, Dr. Nathan Chase and Dr. Rosa Mirijanian of Clarkston Internal Medicine.

sity. Dr. Okka completed his residency at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, where he was named chief resident after graduation. He joined Dr. Chase and Dr. Mirijanian in 1998. In addition to seeing patients in the office, Dr. Okka evaluates hospitalized patients on a daily basis. The Troy resident is married with one child.

Dr. Mirijanian's primary focus is internal medicine, with an emphasis in basic women's health including post-menopausal treatment and osteoporosis prevention. She graduated from Erevan Medical School in Armenia in 1971 and worked as an internist in Armenia for 10 years before immigrating to the U.S. in 1981. Dr. Mirijanian performed her residency at St. Joseph Hospital from 1983-1986 and has since then been practicing internal medicine in Clarkston. A Clarkston resident, Dr. Mirijanian is widowed with two children.

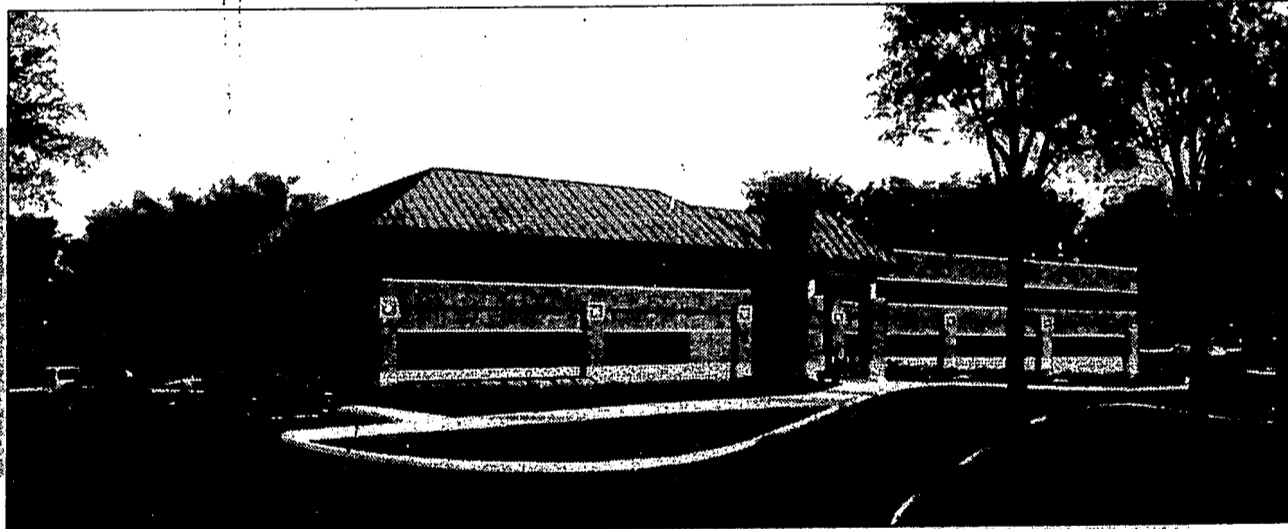
Dr. Chase is a graduate of Michigan State Univer-

sity and Wayne State University Medical School. Dr. Chase completed his residency at Sinai Hospital in Detroit from 1984-1987. His primary focus is internal medicine, with an emphasis in cardiovascular disease. Dr. Chase moved to Clarkston in 1987 and resides here with his wife and three children.

Clarkston Internal Medicine offers convenient Saturday hours for those patients with busy schedules. In addition, a doctor is always available in case of an emergency.

Clarkston Internal Medicine is located at 7210 N. Main St., Suite 200 inside the Independence Pointe Plaza at I-75. Hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Most major insurances are accepted. Call (248) 625-1600.

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# Castlewood Custom Homes builds dreams into reality

Castlewood Custom Homes, Inc. of Clarkston is busy building personalized homes for their customers.

Unlike many home building companies which use the cookie-cutter approach to building homes, Castlewood offers customers a unique opportunity to custom design their homes. The company builds no more than 20 homes a year so they don't lose the personal touch with the customer.

They offer a step-by-step process for prospective clients. Customers receive specific information about Castlewood's quality standard features and about Castlewood's thorough construction process. They may also browse through portfolios to help them envision how their decisions on materials and use of space will affect their actual home.

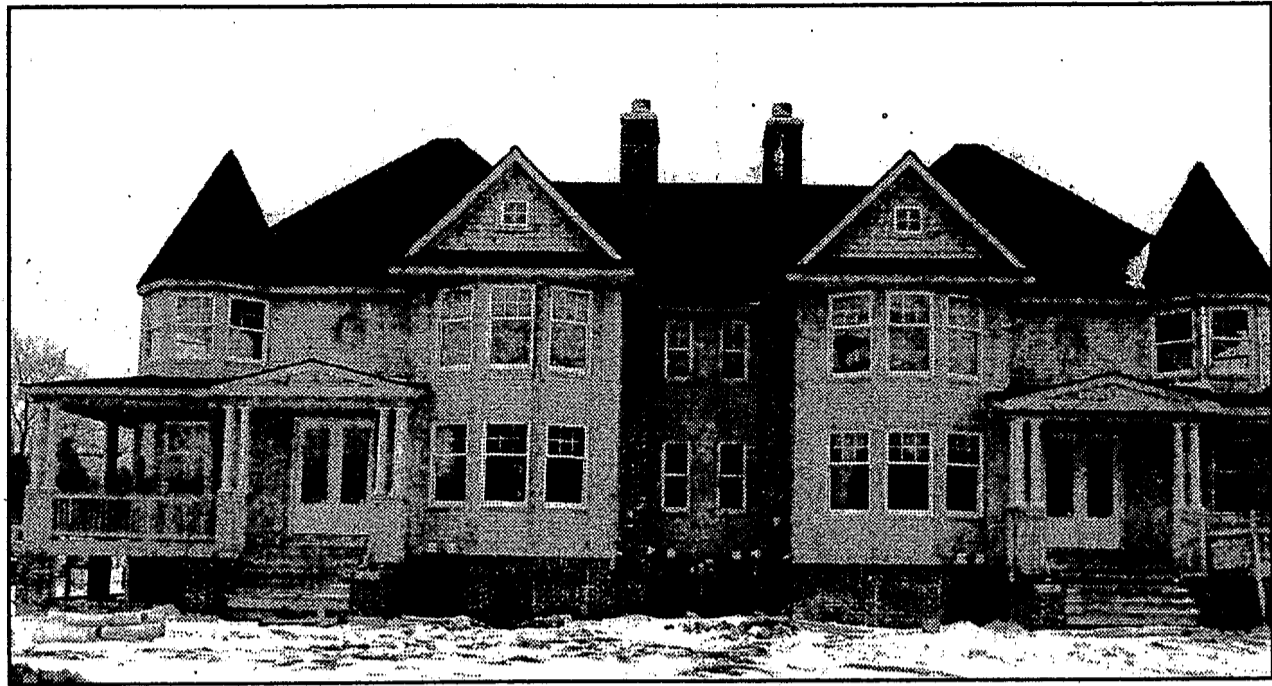
One individual who helps the customers through this process is Director of Sales and Design Donnah Milefchik. She concentrates on helping clients with the interior and exterior selections for their homes. Milefchik has a wide range of knowledge of interior design.

"I really enjoy using my design skills in new home construction. It is great to consult with the client during the construction process and be involved every step of the way," she said. "It is unique for a builder to provide this service to their clients."

Milefchik is able to give suggestions to the clients and go on shopping missions to track down anything out of the ordinary a client might want for their home. She can also bring up items the customer might have overlooked such as strategically placing outlets in different rooms.

"Building a home is a huge investment and one of the most important purchases people make. We at Castlewood want to build homes which are functional as well as beautiful," Milefchik said. "There is nothing worse than making the investment, waiting for nine months and not being happy with the results. We have gotten very positive feedback."

Castlewood is building all around the Clarkston



Castlewood Custom Homes is building condominiums in the historic district of downtown Clarkston called Clarkston Village Place.

area. The Castlewood Custom Homes builder/owner Dave Miller is the exclusive builder in the Ingomar Farms subdivision. The development is located behind the historic Ellis Family horse farm property in Springfield Township.

"We have taken the most popular floorplans and given them a French country look," Milefchik said. "Many people think farmland means flat and without trees, but this is a great area with mature trees."

The houses are 2,675 square feet to 4,000 square feet.

Castlewood is also building condominiums in the historic district of downtown Clarkston called Clarkston Village Place. These are not your normal condominiums with each being more than 3,000 square feet and including items such as granite countertops.

"These are great because you can walk downtown and also are only about one minute from I-75," Milefchik said.

The company is also currently building in the Clarkston area at Avington Park, Bitterbush and Autumn Shores. In addition, Castlewood is building in the cities of Metamora, Tipsico Lake, Orchard Lake and West Bloomfield.

The business is owned by the husband-and-wife team of David and Lynne Miller. Both are licensed builders with a total of more than 30 years experience in the building industry. They are also members of the Builder's Association Industry of Southeast Michigan.

Castlewood Custom Homes, Inc. is located at 20 South Main Street in Clarkston. Call for a private appointment at (248) 620-3181 or (248) 625-2092.

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DUGGAN'S WEST

# One of Michigan's fastest growing companies invests in Clarkston community

One Independence Township resident is investing in his community.

Eight years ago, Mark Wayne and his wife Kerri were looking for a good community to raise their new and growing family. (The two have been married for 13 years and have two children; seven-year-old Michael and nine-year-old Karley.)

At the time, they longed for a neighborhood filled with youngsters to play with their own children; a community which they could support and involve themselves in; and, a home they could settle down in for years.

The search brought them to Clarkston. While visiting the area, the Waynes stopped at Depot Park. A conversation with a friendly local resident led to an invitation to attend the annual Fourth of July parade.

After attending the patriotic affair, Mark said, of Clarkston, "We were hooked. This was the community in which we wanted to raise our children."

Mark and Kerri wasted no time. The very next day they started building a house in Deerwood.

In 1998, Mark founded Freedom One Financial Group.

His original plan was to strategically place his company office to be within a 20-minute circle from home, leading him to open an office in Troy. Soon, however, the drive became too time consuming with the heavy traffic incurred daily.

"Clarkston is a phenomenal town in which to raise a family and has a growing business community," he said. "I'm a big believer in north Oakland County." So, Mark made the decision to relocate his company to Independence Township.

This way, he can "maintain a higher quality of life with his family," by being closer to home.

Having a difficult time finding available office space suitable for Freedom One's needs, Mark said it made

sense to build his own office. One day, passing property for sale on M-15, north of I-75, "I said, 'boy we can put a beautiful office building on that setting.'"

Currently under construction, is a two-story 35,000 square foot building with additional underground parking and a 4,000 square foot storage facility, making it the largest Class-A office building in Independence Township.

Freedom One will occupy the second floor of the building, and first floor square footage of up to 17,000 square feet is presently being pre-leased, and will be configured to the tenant's specifications.

"I'm looking for other people like me who live in north Oakland County and don't want to make that drive to a traditional business center in Troy or Southfield."

The new building, slated for occupancy in September, will also feature a 1,100 square foot full service exercise gym and health facility.

Mark has insisted that particular attention be paid to utilizing only the highest quality of finishes within the building. And after completion, the office center will be maintained with the highest of standards as well.

One of the main reasons Mark is looking forward to coming to Clarkston is to specialize Freedom One's large philanthropy program locally. "I look forward to moving to Clarkston to focus our efforts within the community."

When Mark founded Freedom One his goal was to be exactly what they've become today, Michigan's largest full service 401(k) plan provider.

Freedom One oversees a billion dollars of retirement plan assets for more than 350 corporate clients in 16 states totaling more than 28,000 participants.

"Many people ask 'how can we be the largest if I've never heard of you?'"

That's because Freedom One is exclusively endorsed



Freedom One Financial Group's president and CEO Mark Wayne stands in front of the new Clarkston office, under construction on M-15, north of I-75.

by associations including the Michigan Dealers Association, Michigan Manufacturers Association and the Michigan Tooling Association for whom they provide 401(k) plans to the members. For example, there are many auto dealers in Clarkston, alone, who are Freedom One clients endorsing the company as a 401(k) provider for their employees.

Freedom One has also held the title of one of Michigan's fastest growing 100 companies, awarded by The Detroit News three years in a row.

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# Dentist uses latest techniques to help patients

Dr. David Regiani has been practicing dentistry in downtown Ortonville since July 1979.

"I remember it like yesterday," he said, "meeting with Roger Piddington, formerly of Ware-Piddington Realty dur-

ing Christmastime 1978. It took just 91 days to add my addition and renovate the building located in the village at 101 South Street. I saw seven patients my first day, and haven't stopped working since."

With a staff of 10 caring women

working with him, Regiani offers a wide variety of services including cosmetic services; diagnosis and treatment of head, neck and facial pain (TMJ) and periodontal diseases; as well as full-mouth reconstruction and other general dental care and holistic treatment.

An innovator in his field, Regiani has not used mercury-amalgam ("silver-colored" fillings) in more than 22 years.

"Whether someone has a cavity to be filled or only needs a broken or chipped filling replaced, I use tooth-colored materials. These new materials are far superior to the old-fashioned metal fillings: they look better; they last just as long - or longer. And because they are bonded in place, they are more conservative by not destroying additional good tooth just to make a filling stay in place."

Speaking of innovations, Regiani and his staff recently took a certification class on a new way to straighten teeth without using metal wires or brackets, called "Invisalign."

The process is selective and not everyone will qualify, but for those who just want to straighten a few crooked teeth or cannot tolerate metal in their mouth, this may be the answer.

Invisalign uses advanced 3-D computer imaging technology to transform bite impressions into a custom-made series of clear and removable aligners.

As the patient replaces each aligner with the next in the series, teeth will move, little by little, week by week, until they have straightened to the final position.

Length of treatment varies on the individual treatment plan. The cost is comparable to standard orthodontic metal braces, and is usually covered by dental insurance to the same extent.

Invisalign is invisible, so no one can tell someone is straightening his or her teeth.

It's removable, so patients can eat and drink what they want while in treatment, plus brushing and flossing is not a problem.

Finally, the aligners are comfortable, because there is no metal to cause mouth abrasions during treatment. And no metal and wires usually means less time in the doctor's office getting adjustments.

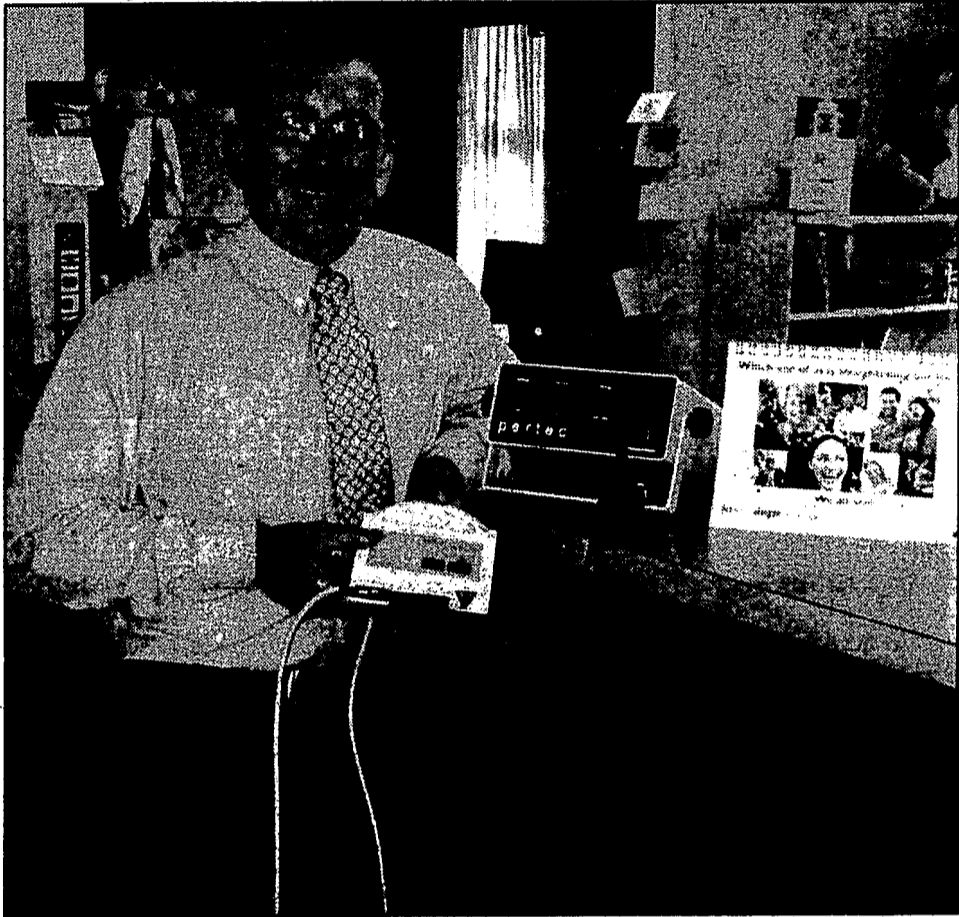
Why all this extra training? Regiani considers himself a life-long learner.

"Why would you not want to learn something new?" he said. "There are so many technological advances in diagnosis and treatment. Now we can even measure potential for tooth decay without taking x-rays."

He is a 1978 graduate of the University of Detroit School of Dentistry, where he also earned his bachelor's degree and did advanced studies in immunology. His training did not end there, however.

In 1984, he became one of 13 founding members of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology.

David W. Regiani, D.D.S., P.C. is located at 101 South Street in downtown Ortonville. Business hours are by appointment. Telephone is (248) 627-4934.



Dr. David Regiani displays some of the modern equipment used to make dental diagnosis easier for patients



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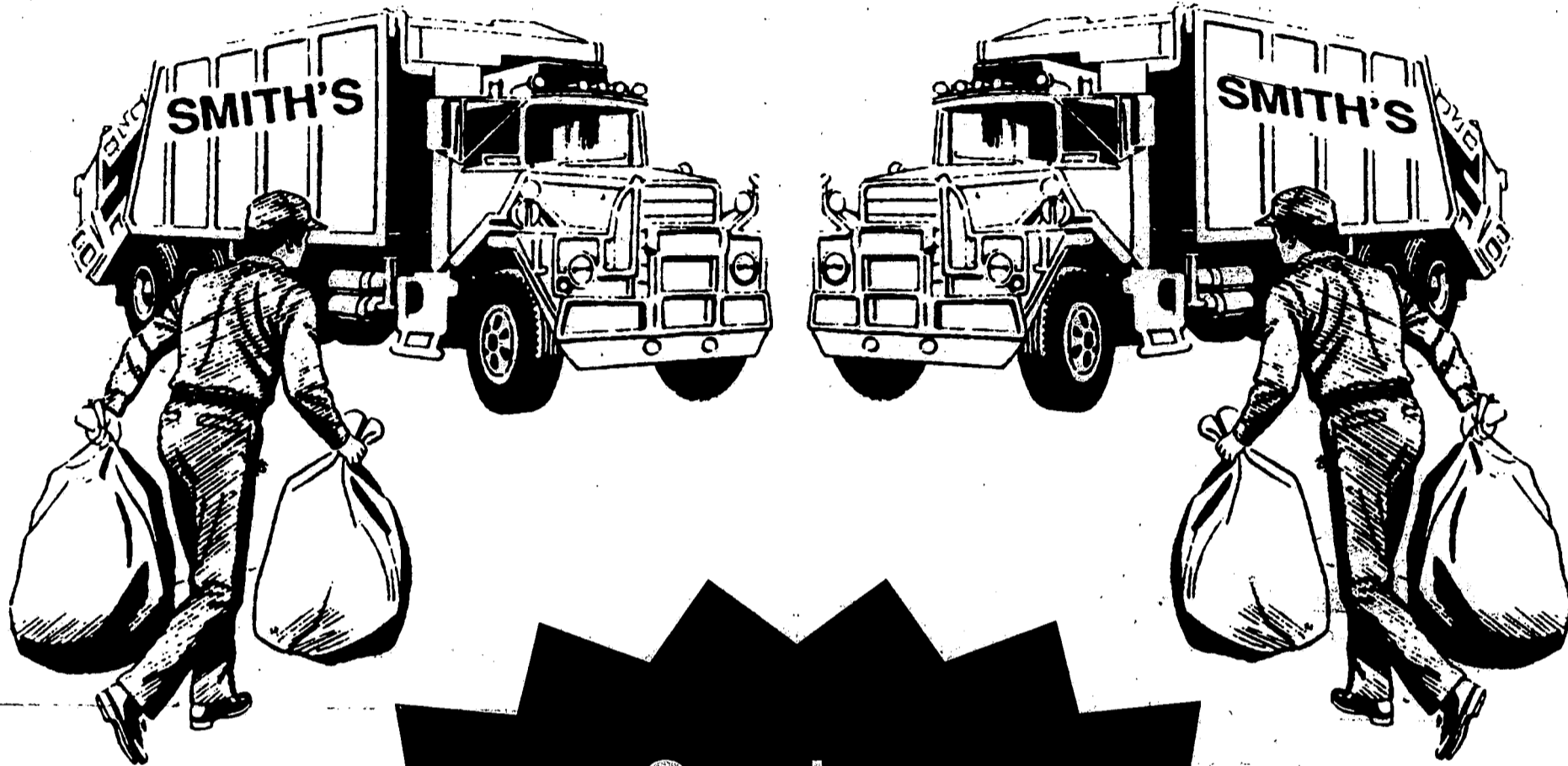


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# Clarkston's Val-Tile strives to offer their customers the best selection, price and service

Clarkston's Val-Tile Floor Store celebrated nine successful years in February.

Don't let the store's size fool you; they have a larger selection than most stores twice their size. You won't have any trouble locating someone to help you either; owner Peter Valente Jr. (P.J.) has made sure of that.

This year he has teamed up with Clarkston native Andre Gourand to help service the rapidly growing business. Together, Valente and Gourand have more than 35 years of floor covering experience.

"We are not a mega-store," says P.J. "We specialize in giving our customers excellent service, as well as selection at a competitive price."

Val-Tile carries an extensive line of tile with more than one thousand in-style choices, ranging from natural stone, ceramic, porcelain, glass and metal tiles, but they don't stop there.

"Most people don't know that we carry exotic woods and laminate flooring. We also fabricate granite and natural stone, for counter tops or other applications," says Gourand.

In their newly remodeled showroom, you'll find a custom marble staircase, along with granite countertops, and natural stone back splashes, sills and thresholds. They are also expecting a new state of the art system that will allow you to design your kitchen or bathroom, so you can view it before purchasing.

"Anybody who wants to come in and size up a potential project, from a simple ceramic back splash, to a new home, you can at least speak with someone with experience," says P.J. "Having been in the floor industry for more than half my life, I know the answers to many questions, and I do my best to pass this knowledge on to each and every customer."

"Likewise," adds Gourand, "for those customers seeking our installation services, they will have the



Owners P.J. Valente, left, and Andre Gourand of Val Tile in Clarkston.

peace of mind knowing that the work will be performed promptly with the quality that is expected."

Their experience shows for more than a thousand new homes and dozens of commercial jobs have been performed by this local company.

There's no doubt that Clarkston Val-Tile Floor Store is THE place for tile in the North Oakland County Area. They are ideally located at the Southwest cor-

ner of Dixie Highway and White Lake Road, in the shopping center with Farmer Jack's and Frank's.

Val-Tile Floor Store is located at 7133 Dixie Highway in Clarkston. Their phone number is (248) 625-6880. They are open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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You'll get for free all the important local news, sports, color photographs, obituaries, opinions, public notices as well as classified advertisements at our new website. Each week we'll upload selected stories, columns, opinions, classifieds and display advertisements from the pages of The Clarkston News.

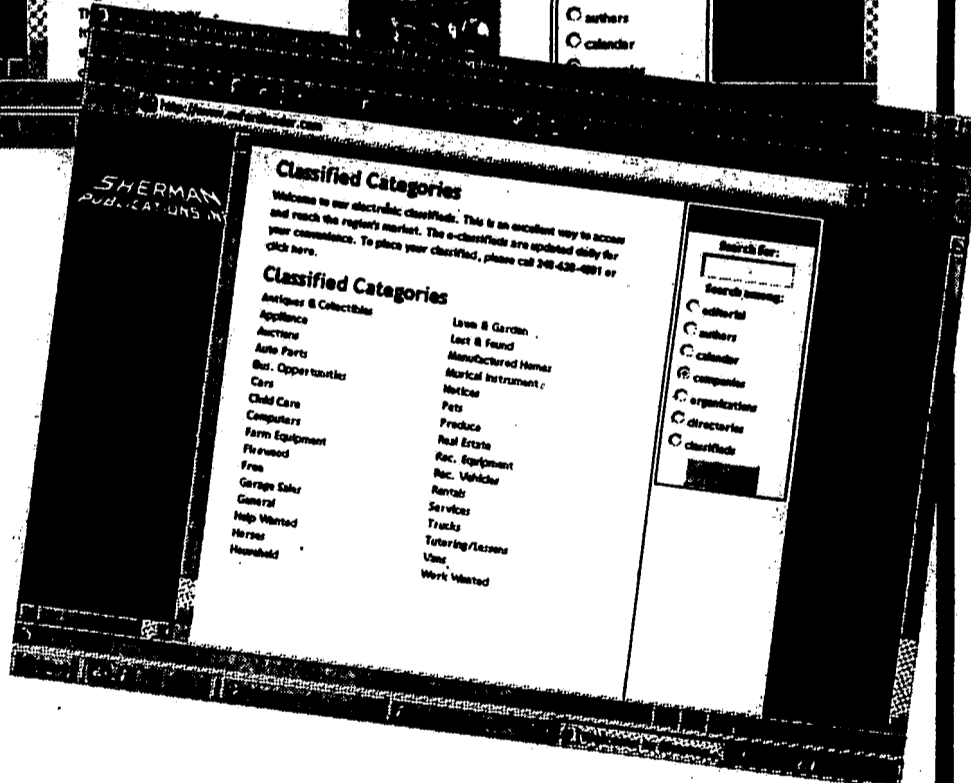
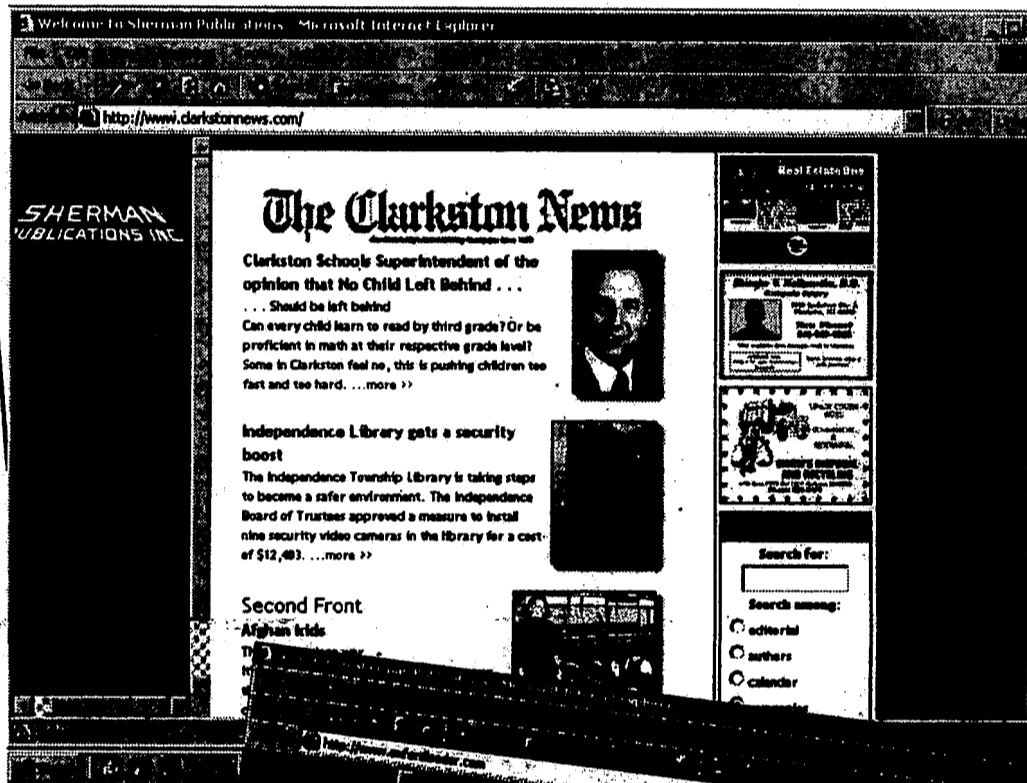
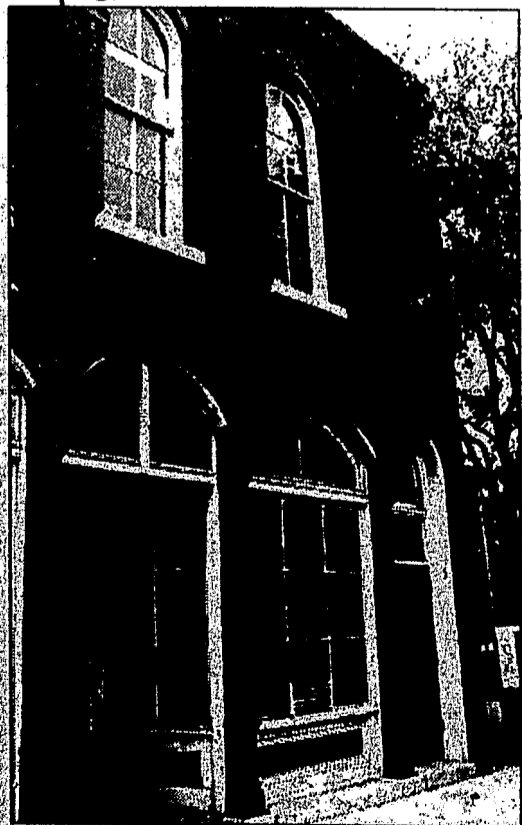
This interactive sight will also let individual groups and churches enter their own calendar items (free), submit want ads, opinions and a whole lot more. (We're learning new stuff all the time!)

You'll also be able to take a gander at news from our sister publications, the Lake Orion Review, The Oxford Leader and The Citizen.

The only way you can get more local news, opinion and advertising than on our website, is by subscribing to The Clarkston News -- only \$24 a year.]

Check us out and let us know what you think!

*Jim Sherman, Jr.*  
publisher



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You'll get for free all the important local news, sports, color photographs, obituaries, opinions, public notices as well as classified advertisements at our new website. Each week we'll upload selected stories, columns, opinions, classifieds and display advertisements from the pages of The Clarkston News.

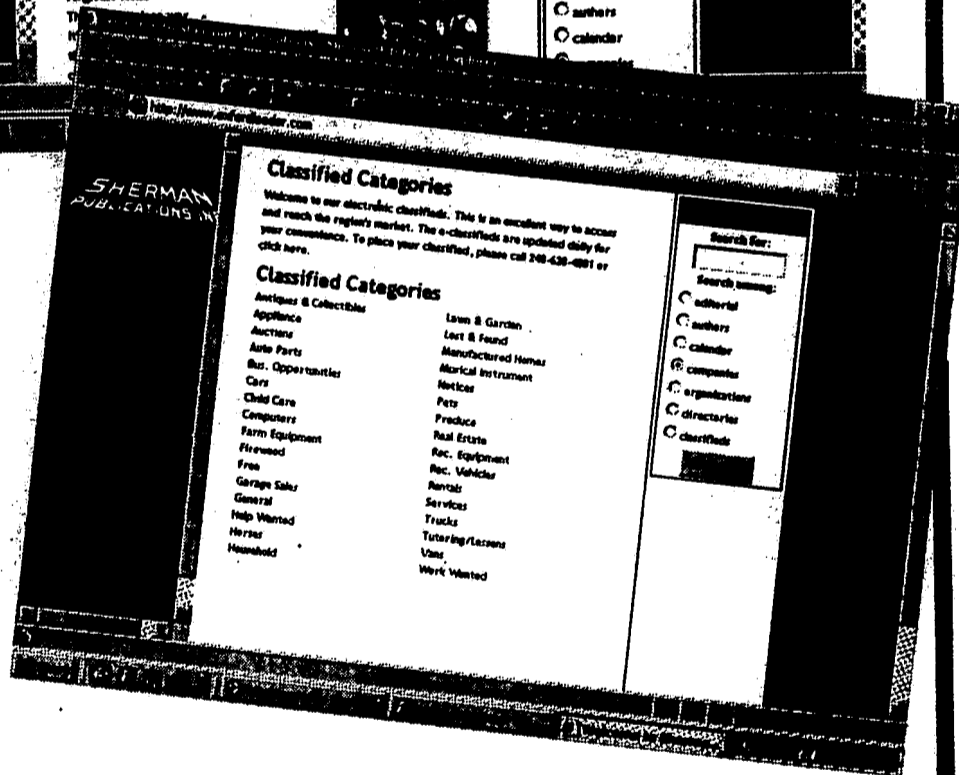
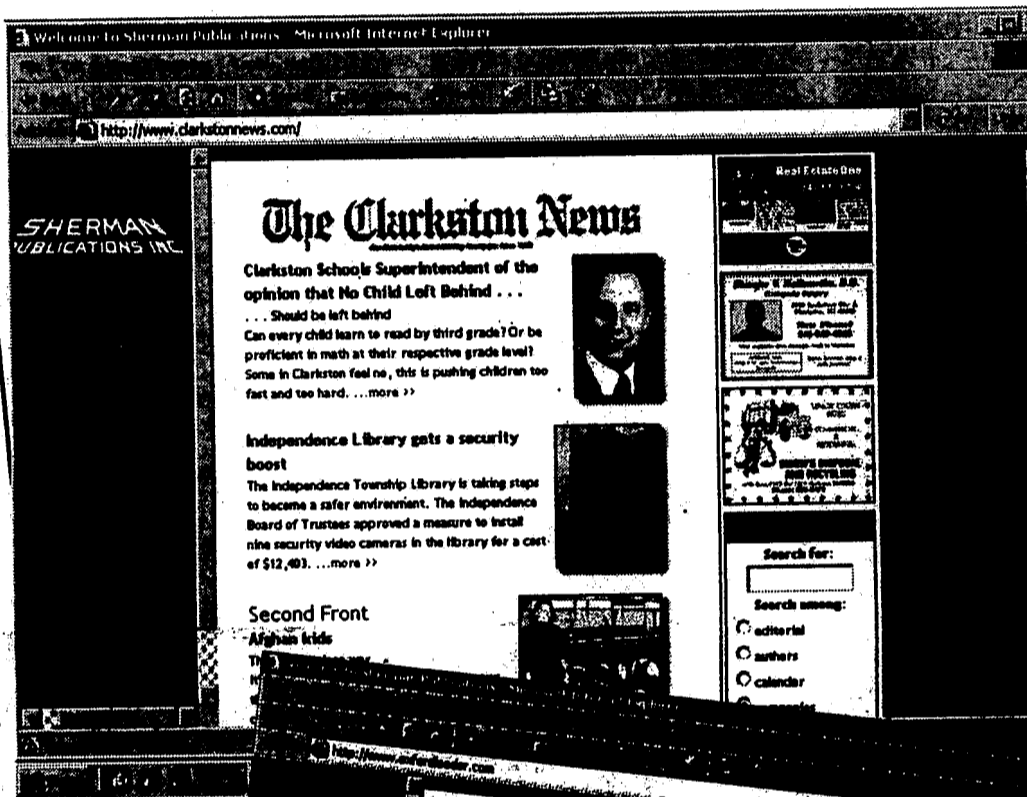
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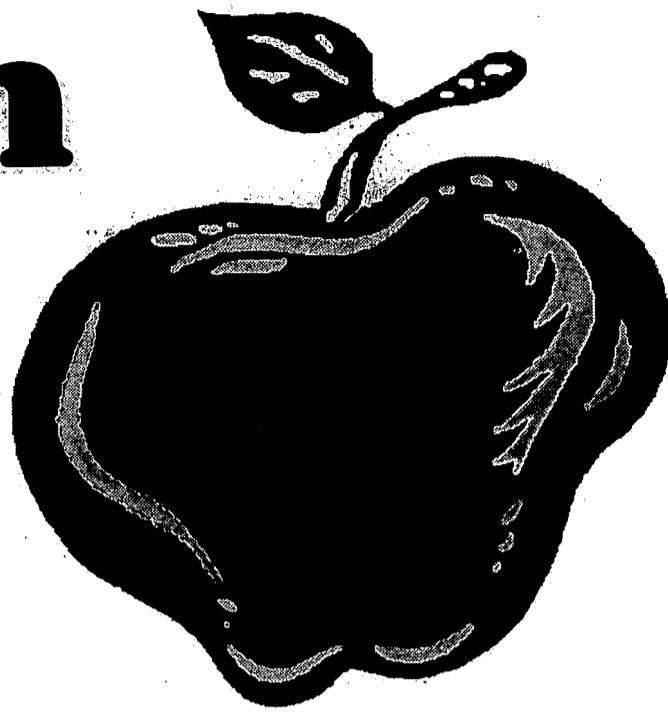


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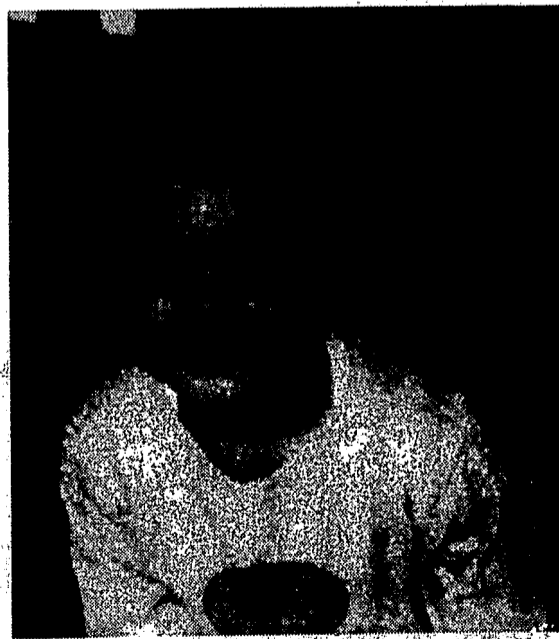
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# Bullfrogs menu offers frog legs and much more

Not many restaurants feature in the name of the establishment a specialty on their menu. Bullfrogs has exactly that — frog legs

Whether it's the exciting night life or the lazy Sunday afternoon lunch, Bullfrogs can meet more than one need of all ages.

In light of the new year, Bullfrogs followed the theme with new management, a new menu and a new fun atmosphere.

In February 1998, John and Kim Hagar bought the establishment and have been running it successfully ever since. Almost 40 employees do their part at Bullfrogs, from cooks to the waitstaff, to make everything flow together.

General manager since 2002, Joe Francis said, "We want to remain a big part of this community. We have hosted many events here and have summer fund-raisers scheduled already. This is a family restaurant and every age can enjoy the menu and the service."

Bullfrogs will also host a golf outing in the summer for three different charities. One will be in honor of an Ortonville man who lost his life in a snowmobiling accident this year.

The restaurant is proud of the selection the menu has to offer, including salads, barbecue ribs, the M-15 Rueben and of course, frog legs.

In addition to great food, the view is a plus, too. Patrons have the option of staying inside or sitting on the wood deck to watch a summer sunset and enjoy a drink. The prices are reasonable and well worth the trip.

"We usually don't have just one time customers. It's generations of families that come in. It's just a beautiful and scenic community and once you meet them, they treat you as family," said Francis.

There are many featured activities throughout the week, including a DJ Fridays and Saturdays, ladies night specials and a 10-week karaoke contest with a \$750

cash prize.

The ambiance of Bullfrogs is the type of place where everyone knows each other. "Everyone just wants to have a good time. It's a place to relax and enjoy some good food."

Some long-term goals include a possible expansion into different areas in Michigan and to continue hosting

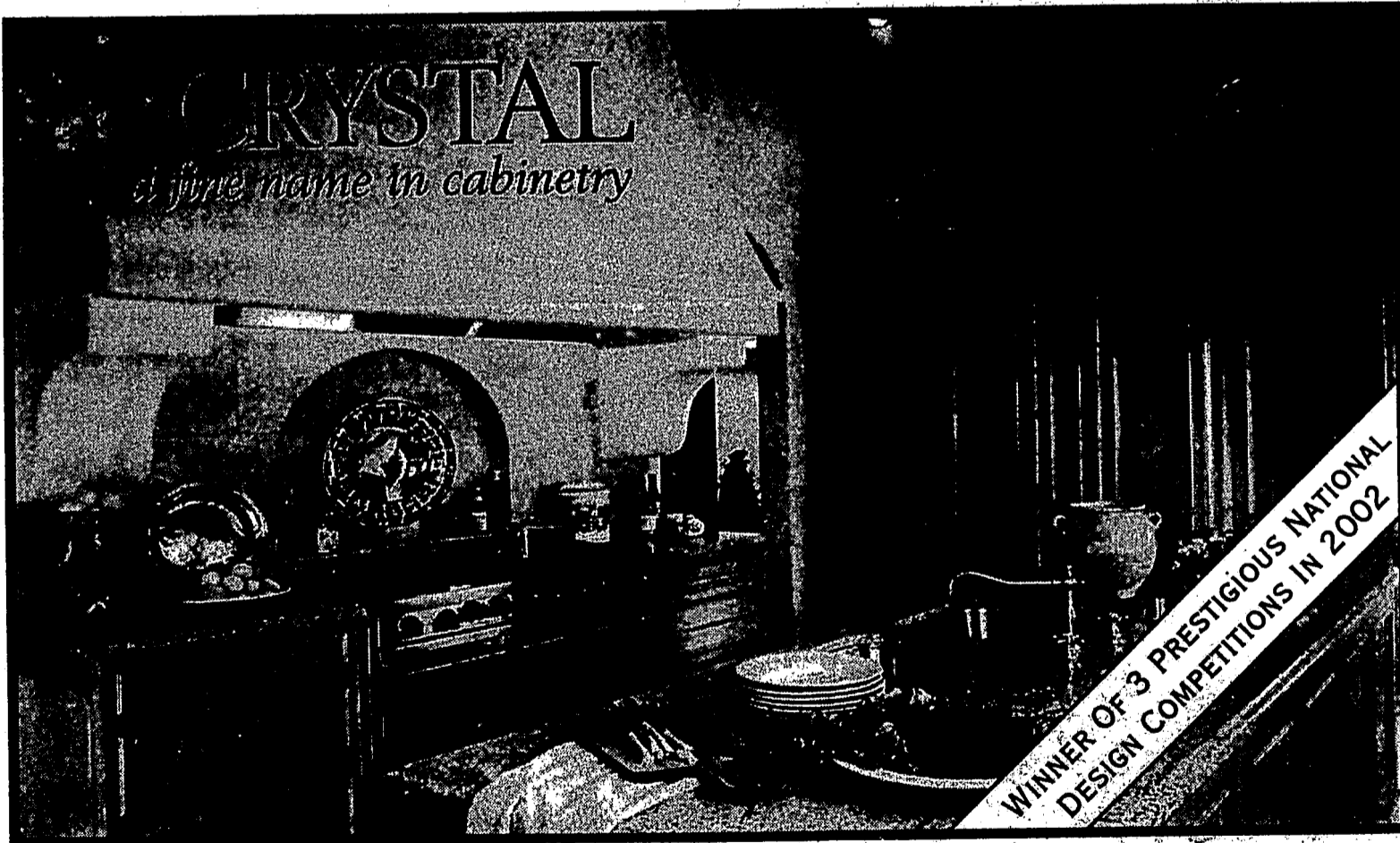
exciting events for customers to enjoy.

"We have a great staff that knows how to make the place somewhere you want to be."

Bullfrogs is located at 2225 Ortonville Road (M-15). Hours are 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday. Telephone is (248) 627-7755.



Joe Francis, Leeann, Kevin, Sara



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# Now 2 addresses for The Clarkston News

Few businesses link a community together like a newspaper — and our community has been fortunate in this respect for many years.

Our voice — the glue that helps bind us to our neighbors — has been and still is *The Clarkston News*. The names of the staff members have changed over the years, but the commitment remains the same. *The Clarkston News* was founded just one month before the stock market crash of 1929. The first print edition was Sept. 23, 1929.

And, since January of this year, members of the community have had the ability to view an on-line version of *The Clarkston News* by visiting our web site: [www.clarkstonnews.com](http://www.clarkstonnews.com)

"We were slow to the World Wide Web," publisher Jim Sherman, Jr., said, "Our primary focus has been and will always be the printed page so we took our time setting our webpage up. We looked at many, many other newspaper sites. Some were great, some were good and some we would never subject our readers to. We believe our site is user-friendly, nice to look at and can also be interactive.

"Our goal is to have the web version on-line by Thursday morning of each week," Sherman said.

Local organizations like the Clarkston Rotary or Clarkston Chamber of Com-

merce as well as local governments like Clarkston Schools can add their own community events to our on-line calendar while visiting this site. Just click on the "Calendar" listing, then on to "Add a Calendar Event," then follow the easy instructions.

Visitors can also submit classified ads, opinions and subscribe to the printed version.

We plan on uploading all public notices that appear in the print edition to the on-line *Clarkston News* -- which will help us in our goal of keeping residents abreast of local government action.

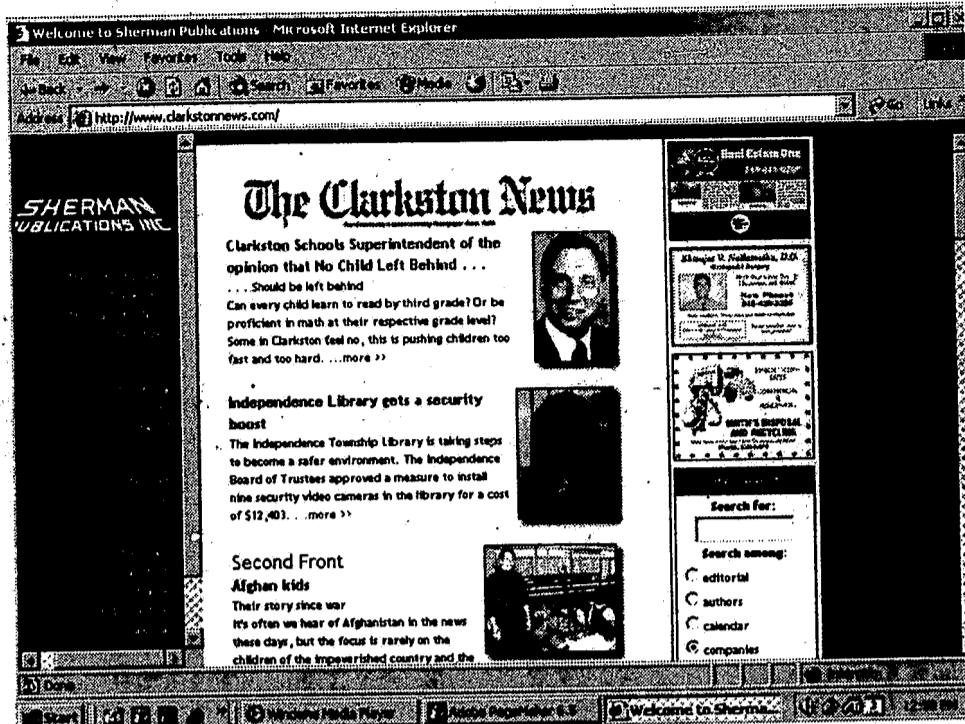
Most to the editorial and advertising seen in the print version will be uploaded every week, Sherman said. Photos will be in full color and, on occasion, on-line viewers will be able to see extra photos of an event that were not in print.

"We're pretty excited about it," he said.

When visiting the site, if you click on an editorial reporter's name a list of previous articles by that author will appear. Folks can then also read those articles. On-line archives are of those recent editions that have been uploaded on-line and will continue to grow. Currently, no plans have been made to put past years' of *The Clarkston News* on-line.

\*\*\*

This past year, *The Clarkston News*



The new, additional address for The Clarkston News is: [www.clarkstonnews.com](http://www.clarkstonnews.com)

also conducted an on-line survey with the nationally renowned Pulse Research group.

From suggestions and constructive criticisms, we rearranged the structure of our community newspaper. We have brought back an old favorite -- the Clarkston Millstream section. This section will be full of people features, happenings and a People Poll. We also invite readers to submit not only Milestone announcements but also favorite recipe or short, original poetry.

"We want this to be a weekly adventure in how wonderful the Clarkston area and its residents can be," Sherman said "Let us know if you know of a good feature."

To make room for this section, sports has been moved to the front section. "It's still all there, just somewhere else."

"We're moving forward this year," Sherman said. "These will be exciting times for us and our readers."

\*\*\*

From the Great Depression until 1933, five publishers tried to make a go at it with *The Clarkston News*. Five publishers in four years failed until an attorney from Detroit came to town.

William H. Stamp, attorney at law, wanted out of the city. He wanted a hobby. In 1933 he and his wife Ann became *The Clarkston News*' sixth owners.

The Stamps did not want a crusading newspaper, rather they wanted to print community news. They had since moved to Clarkston and wanted to make friends, not enemies. William handled the advertising sales and business end, and Ann took care of the editorial side.

The Stamps operated *The Clarkston News* until the late 1950s, when it was sold to Bob Wilson. In 1966 Stamp took the paper back and sold it to Jim Sr. and Hazel Sherman. The Sherman family still owns and operates *The Clarkston News*. Jim Jr. took over publishing duties in 1993

when his father (author of *Jim's Jottings*) retired.

\*\*\*

An interesting side note: By 1966 Stamp was also the town justice of the Peace. He served community justice and ran *The Clarkston News* out of the same building (now in the area of True Value Hardware on M-15).

The Shermans' first day of ownership was a Monday, following a particularly rowdy weekend. At 9 a.m. two state troopers marched through the News office, followed by a handcuffed and shackled prisoner and another policeman.

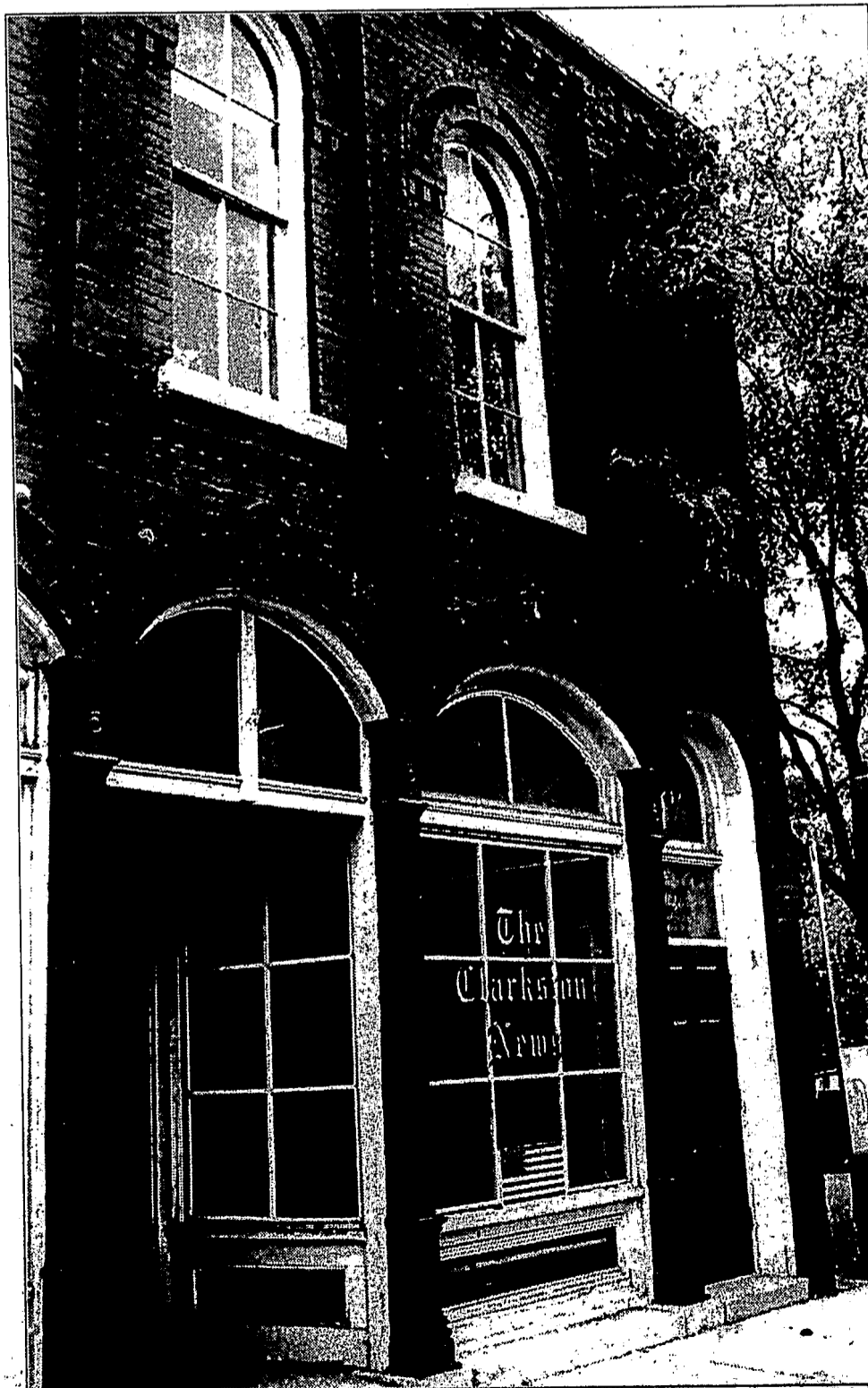
By 10 a.m. Mr. Sherman was on the road looking for a new location. He decided it was not good business policy to have prisoners walking through his office.

He settled on the office of dentist Gary Usher, closer to town. That office was on Main Street at Waldon Rd. By 1970 the Shermans purchased the building at 5 South Main Street, which has been the newspaper's home since.

*The Clarkston News* has been published weekly, uninterrupted since 1929. *The Clarkston News* is part of a group of publications owned by the Sherman family. They run weekly newspapers in Oxford, Lake Orion and Ortonville, as well as two shoppers (purely advertising), *The Penny Stretcher*, the *Advertiser* and *Metamora Crossroads* -- reaching over 60,000 homes. Depending on the season, Sherman Publications employs between 50-60 people

In addition to news and feature stories, *The Clarkston News* prints engagement, wedding, anniversary, birth and school news.

To place an ad or announcement in or subscribe to *The Clarkston News*, call 248-625-3370. You can also visit our office, located at the corner of Washington and Main at 5 S. Main Street in downtown.



Folks are used to our 30-year address at 5 S. Main Street in downtown Clarkston.

**To all the businesses that supported the 2003 Progress Edition — Thank You!**

Date Error

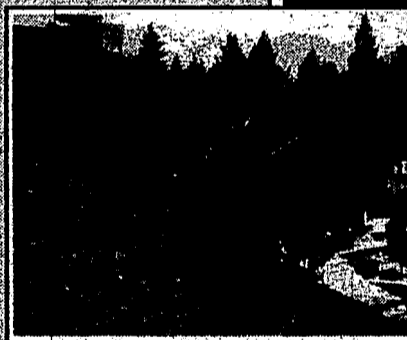
# Our Quality Workmanship Speaks For Itself Above All Else... Customer Satisfaction



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## Residential and Commercial



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Thank you so much for coming to my rescue on May 25, 1999. I had called you on Monday of that week when I found myself with a roof which had been dismantled and only partially reshingled. I was unable to contact the crew that initially began the work, essentially they walked off the job. I had rain coming into my house. I was getting messages from other companies that it would be a week before they could respond and Lake Orion Roofing came through for me.

Although I was not at home on Tuesday, May 25 when your crew showed up, my neighbor said it was almost like an army of ants invading. Several trucks pulled up, men began piling out and swarming around the yard and the roof. I don't think of you as ants, I really think of you as a bunch of guardian angels that stepped in. I know this sounds like a sappy letter, but I was at the end of my rope by that time. My construction crew had started the job on May 14. It was supposed to have been finished by May 17. They left on Thursday, May 20 and I hadn't heard from them since. Since that time we had several rain storms. Rain was coming into the family room area and I could not get any other company to respond as quickly as you were able to.

Once again, thanks a lot. You did an excellent job and you are high on my recommended list of ethical caring companies.

Thank You,  
Lucy Turner

"In this present day of shoddy workmanship, incompetent workmen and promises not kept, let me say it has been an extreme pleasure to have done business with Lake Orion Roofing. The new roof on my home was completed on time, the quality of workmanship is excellent and the new roof looks great!

I was particularly impressed with Rick Vogelpohl and his crew. They were polite, courteous and very hard working. I never observed them doing anything but working towards the goal of finishing the job on time. Please feel free to use my name as a satisfied customer anytime."

Bill Martin

"We have already received positive comments from our neighbors on job quality and workmanship. Your workers put in 3 long hard days and were quite impressive. 1st rate job!"

Arne Wadenstierna

"I wish to take this moment to give you my heartfelt thanks in the extra help that Mark Southern supplied. I needed a new roof ASAP because I needed to put my house up for sale unexpectedly. Within a week my roof was scheduled and done. Thank you."

Judy Huebner



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# Get your dream kitchen with Bytner Design Associates

Award-winning, nationally recognized Bytner Design Associates, specializing in kitchen interiors, wants to give you the room you've always dreamed of.

National publications and organizations have been turned on to the quality work of owner Pam Bytner, now it's your turn.

Bytner's kitchen designs have been awarded in national competitions such as the prestigious Sub Zero Design competition, the 2003 Custom Builder Star Awards and the 2002 Homebook Design Excellence Awards.

On top of that, Bytner's kitchen designs have been featured in the books "Ultimate Kitchen" and "Ultimate Decorating" and will be featured in two upcoming releases, "It's Your Kitchen, Design It That Way," by Joan Kohn of HGTV and "Great American Kitchens" by Sub Zero.

Bytner's designs are also currently highlighted in the March edition of "Custom Builder" magazine and have graced the pages of several other magazines in the past including "Better Homes and Gardens," "Kitchen and Bath Business," "Renovation Style," and more.

What's great is Bytner Design Associates is located right here in Clarkston inside the Washington Mills Mall, where it's been for the past five years.

A Brandon Township resident, Bytner is certified in kitchen design and has been doing kitchens for the past 13 years.

Not many kitchen designers come into the field with an interior design background, like Bytner, who in addition to kitchen design, specializes in master suites, luxury baths and closets, home offices, theaters, libraries, bars and more.

"We have a strong design background here, that other competitors don't have," Bytner said. "We are very design driven."

For those clients not already working with an in-

terior designer, she said, "this gives us an edge to extend service to people they may not get elsewhere. We can interface with other professionals or fill in where there are none."

With kitchen design, there are two types of distributors, Bytner explained -- stock, where cabinets are pre-made; and made to order.

Over the last few years, Bytner said she has seen an increase in customizing stock distributors, "but they don't have that design expertise."

Bytner's approach is "to marry our expertise in space planning and spatial aesthetics with your vision to create truly unique and individualized interiors."

"We really take into account each individual's unique tastes and incorporate each style into the finished product."

"We pull in the personality of the home as well as of the client," Bytner said. "We can do an unlimited number of things. It's only limited by imagination and budget."

But, she assured, "you don't have to break the bank to get the kitchen you want." Bytner said there are numerous ways to get that one-of-a-kind kitchen on a fixed budget. She will tailor the project to a specific budget and be creative on how to achieve that desired kitchen.

There are several products available that don't fall in a premium price range, but if used with the right design expertise, Bytner said, "You can get a great custom look without spending a lot of money."

And Bytner Design Associates range of service is flexible from providing only cabinetry to complete project management.

Bytner Design Associates is located at 20 W. Washington in downtown Clarkston. Call (248) 922-0065 to arrange a consultation. For more information, visit [www.bytnerdesign.com](http://www.bytnerdesign.com).



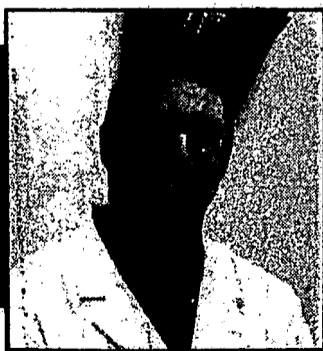
Pam Bytner, of Bytner Design Associates, specializes in kitchen interiors. Her work has been featured in national publications and awarded in national competitions.

## Clarkston Internal Medicine

• Nathan B. Chase, M.D. • Rosa Mirijanian, M.D. • Bashar Okka, M.D.

### Special Interest:

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- Cholesterol Screening & Treatment
- Adult Care
- Adult Complete Physicals
- Adult Immunization
- Sport & School Physicals
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- Diabetes & Thyroid Disorders
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- Asthma & Allergies
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# Tan right at MetropoliTan Salon in Clarkston

Keeping that bronzed, summer look all year long has never been easier.

MetropoliTan Tanning Salon -- the Clarkston hot spot to be -- offers extended hours for your convenience, plus prices that haven't changed in 12 years.

And you'll know the moment you walk in the door you're in the right place. The vibrant hand-painted wall mural and southwestern decor sets the mood and transports your mind to a warm place, no matter the temperature outside. This is always a great aid in beating those nasty winter blahs.

In fact, there are a generous amount of his customers that tan specifically to beat bouts with Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

"We really care about our customers," the staff says, and continued customer satisfaction is our goal. "We want to know what we can do to make sure they're comfortable and become long time customers. We have a confidential customer card and suggestion box and the owner is the only one who reads the cards."

The salon, which has been recognized in the tanning industry trade magazine, "Looking Fit," offers 15 spotless tanning rooms.

Their newest feature is the Mystic Tan room. Mystic Tan offers a customized sunless, UV-free tanning application to each customer based on their body size, skin type and desired color. Three tanning level options are available to produce the optimal tanning results for each individual customer. The entire process takes less than 60 seconds (visit their Web site for more information).

Three new Dr. Mueller beds, The Super Sonic, The Solar Shuttle and The Luxura, feature 160-watt Very High Reflector lamps with facials.

This equipment, straight from Germany, is simply the best.

The Monster Bed is a 52-lamp high pressure/low pressure machine producing "a superior tan." Three cooling fans will keep you comfortable while tanning in this bed.

There are also stand-up tanning booth models to choose from.

All equipment, which is upgraded yearly at MetropoliTan, utilizes a carefully formulated and controlled mixture of UVA and UVB light waves, designed to tan you with a minimized risk of sunburn.

Tanning outdoors can't give you this control, since the sun emits the entire spectrum of ultraviolet light, including the most intense rays that burn you more quickly.

The staff's main concern is tanning in moderation -- making sure customers tan instead of burn.

The MetropoliTan crew, all certified through the Smart Tan Network, carefully monitor the tanning process for customers. They also work with new customers for a skin analysis and tanning prescription. Also, employees are expected to attend tanning seminars every year for continued education.

Special eyewear is supplied by MetropoliTan to protect your eyes against damage. Sunglasses are not adequate in a tanning unit. Indoor tanning eyewear stops 99 percent of UVB rays and 99.9 percent of UVA light, allowing



MetropoliTan employees show off the facility's newest tanning device, the Mystic.

only visible light through so you can see while you tan.

With every ETS, Inc. and Australian Gold, Inc. tanning product purchase made, a portion of the sale will go to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, working together with MetropoliTan to "break the chains of domestic violence" through education and intervention.

The salon offers a clean, well-maintained facility. They have a nice room with accessories to freshen up in, which is a big help for people who stop in during work. There are also staff members specifically focused on keeping the store clean. Rooms and beds are cleaned and sanitized after every tanning session. They understand how im-

portant that is for their customers.

Individual walk-in sessions: five-, ten- and 15-visit packages, or unlimited tanning sessions are offered. New customers will receive their first visit free with free lotion.

The staff encourages customers to check out their Web site, [www.metrotan.com](http://www.metrotan.com), for daily specials and new and exciting information.

MetropoliTan Tanning Salon is located at 6495 Sashabaw in the Independence Town Square Plaza at the corner of Waldon. Hours are 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday; 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Call 248-620-0303 for more information.

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### FLOOR STORE

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MON - FRI

10-6

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10-4

Date Error



## Deer Lake Athletic Club offers much to members and the public

The Deer Lake Athletic Club offers area residents a friendly environment to stay fit all year long.

Included in the building located at the intersection of Dixie Highway and White Lake Road are eight indoor tennis courts, three outdoor tennis courts, three racquetball courts, two wallyball courts, aerobics and yoga area, cardio circuit room, indoor pool, outdoor pool, steam and dry saunas and a children's care center.

The club, which was started by Forrest and Jacqui Milzow in 1973, has grown with the community and tailored itself to whatever is popular at the time.

"When we first started racquetball was very popular but since its popularity has decreased," Jacqui said. "We took four of the rooms we had for racquetball and turned them into a cardio workout room and a weight room. We have up to date equipment so our members can do multiple exercises."

Deer Lake Athletic Club offers personal training sessions where a person can receive the benefits of working one-on-one with a personal trainer and establishing a serious fitness routine. Sessions last anywhere from 35 minutes to one hour depending on each individual's level of fitness. You will be taught correct form and techniques.

The club also offers classes in tennis, swimming and aerobics.

However, you do not need to be a member to enjoy other parts of the Deer Lake Athletic Club including the Back Court Restaurant.

The Back Court is a casual, comfortable place with its own relaxed space, serving fine food with a friendly smile. It offers lunch and dinner specials, a children's menu and has a full service bar.

Don't miss out on experiencing their outstanding food. Everything is prepared from scratch, from the soups, to the nachos, to the fine entrees and desserts. Prime Rib is their featured item on Friday and Saturday along with a wide selection of delicious entrees available on the frequently changing menu. There



The Deer Lake Athletic Club Restaurant is open to nonmembers.

is a patio where you can enjoy your meal if the weather is cooperating.

The restaurant offers live entertainment Wednesday through Saturday. So, get a group of friends together, or come by yourself - you will be welcomed by the staff and customers.

You also don't have to be a member to take advantage of the fantastic banquet facilities Deer Lake Athletic Club has to offer. There are three rooms perfect for weddings, meetings, conferences or any social gathering. The rooms can accommodate a get-together of anywhere from 25 to 350 people.

"All anyone has to do is give us a call and we can provide them all the information about the rooms. They have great atmosphere," Jacqui said.

The Deer Lake Athletic Club prides itself on fostering a friendly atmosphere that feels like family. They do this by having quality employees who are able to help all customers with anything in the building. Deer Lake Athletic Club has a staff of more than 100.

"The people don't work for me, they work with me," Jacqui said. "We like to provide a neighborhood feeling for our members. We want to make sure everybody feels comfortable at the club."

The Deer Lake Athletic Club is located at 6167 White Lake Road. Their phone number is (248) 625-8686, while their fax number is (248) 625-5350. You can also visit them on the Internet at [www.deerlakeathleticclub.com](http://www.deerlakeathleticclub.com).

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# Clarkston State Bank grows to meet needs of community

With a concept that originated in 1998 by a group of local business people, Clarkston State Bank has grown to where it currently houses four branches ready to serve the needs of the Clarkston and Waterford communities.

The bank's main branch on 15 South Main St. in Clarkston opened Jan. 4, 1999 with a staff of 10 employees. Today, there are 36 employees in the bank's four branches.

Two of those branches, located inside Farmer Jack stores on Dixie and Sashabaw, are open seven days a week and in the evenings. There are four ATM machines available, three in Clarkston and one in Waterford. In addition, the Waterford branch has a drive-up service.

Six months after the main branch opened, the bank's second branch opened at the Farmer Jack on Sashabaw Road. In 2001, three additional branches opened: Waterford (May), M-15 (August) and the Farmer Jack on Dixie Highway (October).

However, the M-15 branch closed at the end of February. "It was originally set up so customers could avoid construction in downtown Clarkston," Bank President and CEO Dawn Horner said. "Now that the construction is completed, we've decided to close that facility."

According to Horner, the bank is currently working on a facilities plan for the next three years to expand their branch network. She hopes to add a drive-through facility in Clarkston in the future.

Horner said serving the needs of the community is at the heart of the bank's mission. "Our main focus is customer service," she said. "We cater to the customer's needs. Our success is a tribute to the excellent team of people who work here. They always go the extra mile to satisfy the customers' needs."

Last year, the bank celebrated a milestone in achieving \$100 million in assets only 3-1/2 years after their opening. In 2003, the bank has added a residential mortgage area, and Horner stated the bank is looking into providing Internet banking. She anticipates that will begin operation the second quarter of this year.

The bank's staff prides itself on its community involvement, with each member of management involved in at least one community organization.

Horner is a member of the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and branch manager Angie Logan is an ambassador for the Chamber and is on several of its committees.

Branch/Operations Manager Kris Elhke is involved with the SCAMP Walk and Roll, and is actively involved with the Clarkston school district, having started student-run branches at Clarkston Elementary School and Springfield Plains Elementary School. Consumer Loan Officer Jill Popour is a member of the Clarkston Area Optimist Club, and Assistant Vice President/Commercial Loan Officer Brad Nicholson is a member of the Clarkston Rotary Club.

Senior Lender/Vice President Jim Jeszke is a member of the Clarkston Kiwanis Club, and Chief Financial Officer/Senior Vice President Grant Smith is the treasurer for the Clarkston Coalition for Youth.

At the Waterford branch, Branch Manager Debby Chisholm and Vice President/Commercial Loan Officer Tom Clarke are members of the Waterford Chamber of Commerce. Clarke is also on the Board of Directors for the United Way of Oakland County, while Commercial Loan Officer Ben Kramer is a member of the Waterford Lions.

The bank's branch locations and hours are as follows:

■Main Office: 15 South Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346. Phone: 248-625-8585; Fax: 248-625-3320; Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

■Waterford Branch: 6600 Highland Rd., Suite 2, Waterford, MI 48327. Phone: 248-886-0086; Fax: 248-886-1432; Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Extended Drive-In Hours: Thursday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

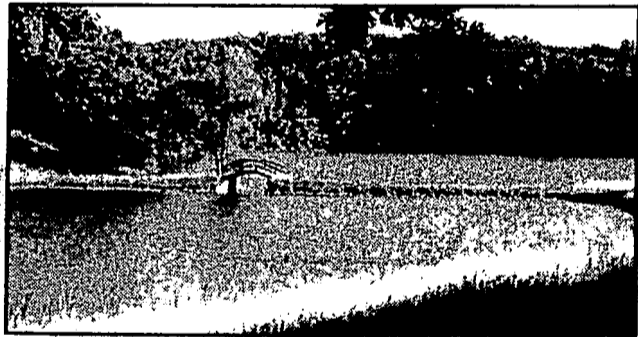
■Farmer Jack (Sashabaw): 6555 Sashabaw Rd., Clarkston, MI 48346. Phone: 248-625-0887; Fax: 248-625-0559; Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 12-3 p.m.



Clarkston State Bank employees at their main branch and at their Waterford and Farmer Jack branches provide quality banking with a local touch.

■Farmer Jack (Dixie): 7121 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346. Phone: 248-625-0666; Fax: 248-625-6656; Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 12-3 p.m.

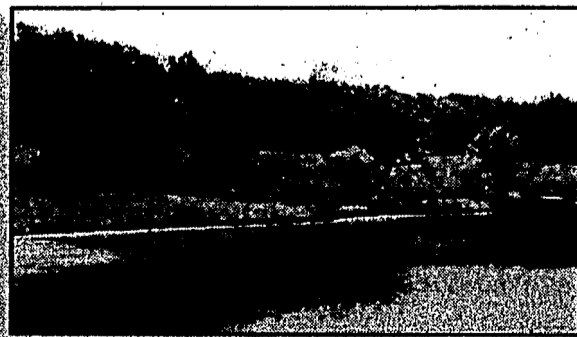
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### GRAND OPENING WEEKEND

- FINAL PHASE -

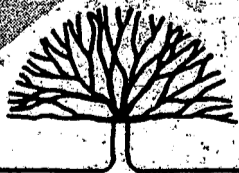
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# Dr. Munk and son serve the Clarkston community

Dr. Charles F. Munk and Associates, Orthodontic Specialists in Clarkston has welcomed another member to their team. It is none other than Dr. Munk's son, Dr. Charlie Munk.

"I am looking forward to working with my dad," Dr. Charlie Munk said. "But probably I am most looking forward to coming back to Clarkston. I grew up in Clarkston, graduated from Clarkston High School and have lots of family and friends in the area. It will be good to give back to the community."

Dr. Charlie Munk received his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University before attending the University of Michigan Dental School. He did his year and a half residency at the University of Detroit Mercy.

"It just hit me one day that I wanted to go to dental school and I wanted to work with my dad," Dr. Charlie Munk said.

His father couldn't be happier with his son's decision. Dr. Charles Munk has been a staple in the Clarkston Community for 30 years.

"I have raised a family here and have really enjoyed the community. The community has been very good to me. The people have been good to us and we have been good to them. Every year we get busier and busier," Dr. Charles Munk said. "I am planning on continuing to practice for several more years."

Dr. Munk and his office are very involved in charitable activity throughout the Clarkston area. Dr. Munk has been a big supporter of SCAMP, the Junior Optimist Club and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. He has also been particularly supportive of Clarkston Schools by contributing to the Clarkston Schools Instrumental Music Association and the new soccer field which was recently built.

However, Dr. Munk's charitable work is not only in Clarkston. Dr. Munk recently traveled to Africa to help teach oral hygiene.

Dr. Munk has grown his practice as the Clarkston community has grown. He started off with just one assistant and is proud to say he now employs 12 assis-



Dr. Charles Munk and Dr. Charlie Munk help serve the Clarkston community.

tants.

With the addition of Dr. Charlie Munk, the practice will have the best of both worlds. Dr. Charles Munk will help his son with his vast work experience and knowledge gathered over the years. On the other side of the coin, Dr. Charlie Munk brings knowledge of the new cutting edge technology available in orthodontics.

"It is going to be an excellent blend with him and I working together. He has a lot of knowledge and hands on experience working with some of these new technologies," Dr. Charles Munk said. "It will be great to work with my son. We are all very excited about it."

Dr. Charles Munk and Associates have already made great strides with new technology. One of the new technologies they use is Invisalign which is a revolutionary way to straighten teeth without braces.

It uses a series of nearly undetectable aligners instead of brackets and wires.

This breakthrough alternative has been developed exclusively for adult and mature teen patients.

The doctor has also introduced Dolphin Imaging into his practice.

Dr. Charles Munk also has an office in Oxford. A warm and friendly atmosphere is provided in which to receive treatment. For patient convenience, evening and Saturday appointments are available. Dr. Munk and his associates will do their very best to work with patients with special scheduling needs.

"We are always available. We are flexible," Dr. Charles Munk said.

Dr. Charles F. Munk and Associates, Orthodontic Specialist is located at 5825 S. Main Street, Ste. 201. Their phone number is (248) 625-0880 and fax is (248) 625-0828.



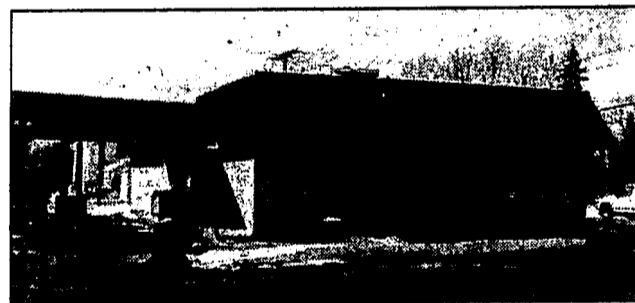
## CLARKSTON BRANDON COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION



**CLARKSTON OFFICE**  
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Clarkston, MI 48348  
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Community  
Credit  
Union*

**HOURS:**  
M-Th 9 am-5 pm  
Fri. 9 am-6:30 pm



**BRANDON OFFICE**  
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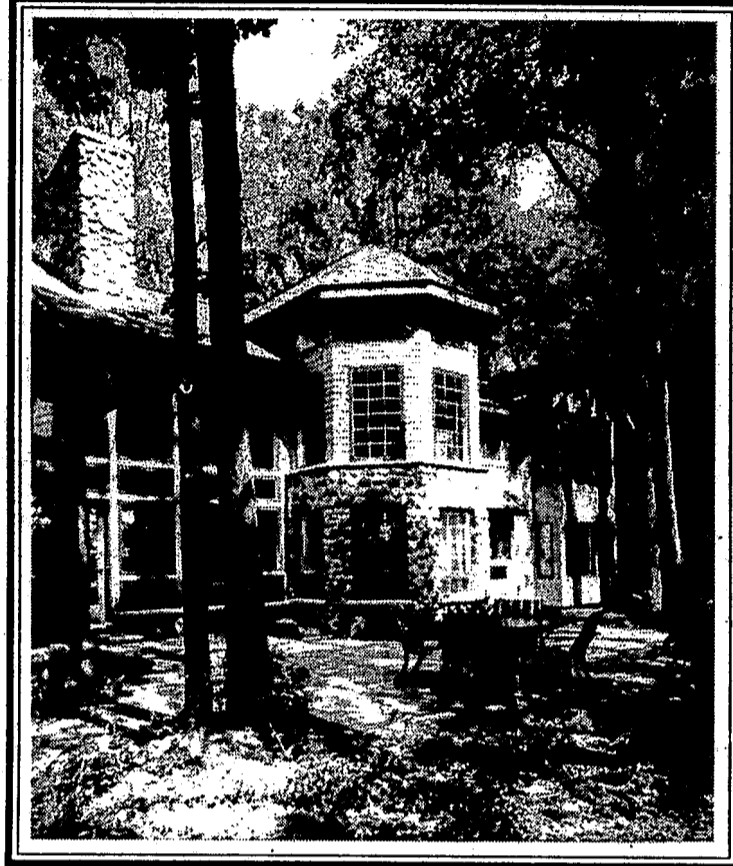
**Master Money ATM/Debit Cards • New & Used Auto Loans  
Home Mortgage Loans • Home Equity Loans**

*Anyone who lives or works in Clarkston or Brandon is invited to join  
Clarkston Brandon Community Credit Union*

**Date Error**

# CASTLEWOOD CUSTOM HOMES, INC.

*"Building Dreams into Reality"*




## About Us...

Welcome to Castlewood Custom Homes, Inc., and experience an invitation to elegance. Whether we build a French country estate, a traditional colonial, or a rustic timber-truss log home, one thing remains the same, our commitment to hands-on quality continues through every phase of the building process.

## Quality Assurance...

Castlewood is a family-owned business that offers over 30 years of combined experience. We still believe in traditional values such as old-fashioned hard work, direct access to the people in charge, complete accountability, and customer satisfaction. This means that our owner, Dave Miller, will be found supervising each and every home we build. He and his crew do all of the rough and finish carpentry. This personal kind of involvement assures a smooth and efficient building process. Overall quality remains the focus throughout each building project.




**Ingomar Farms**  
BUILT BY CASTLEWOOD CUSTOM HOMES INC.  
AND BARCOCK DEVELOPMENT COMPANY  
PHONE: 248-625-2092

- 43 luxurious homes built on the Centennial Ellis Farm property
- Full and partial walk-outs, premium waterfront and pondviews
- New floor plans and elevations
- 2,675 - 3,575 Sq. Ft. Colonial and Cape Cod style floor plans
- Pre-construction pricing starting in the mid 300s
- Clarkston schools, minutes from I-75

- Private community with four exclusive units
- Minutes from I-75 & walking distance into town
- Situated on the East side of Main Street in the historic village of Clarkston
- Private entrances
- A grand two story entrance
- Extensive hardwood flooring
- Gourmet kitchen complete with appliances and granite island
- Volume ceilings
- First Floor Master Suite

**Clarkston Village Place**



SITUATED IN THE HEART OF CLARKSTON'S HISTORICAL VILLAGE  
FOUR LUXURY VICTORIAN STYLE CONDOMINIUM HOMES

Pre-construction pricing starting at \$469,900  
**Hurry! Only 3 Units Left!**

Brokers Welcome



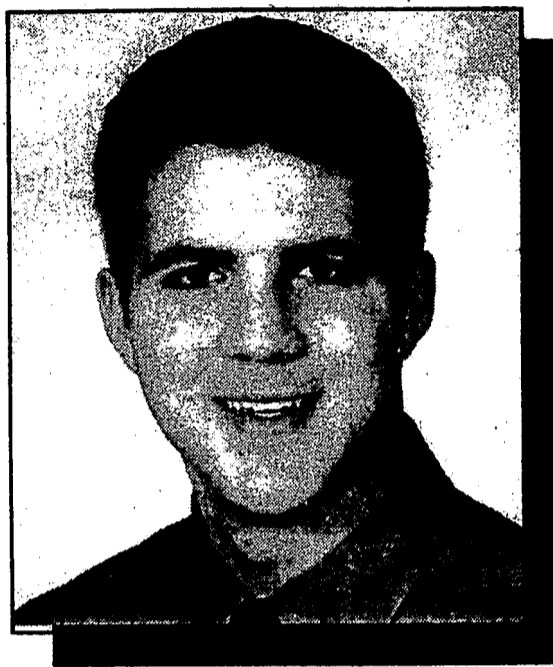
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www.castlewoodcustomhomes.com



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