

Hoddinott dedicates life to volunteering, See Millstream

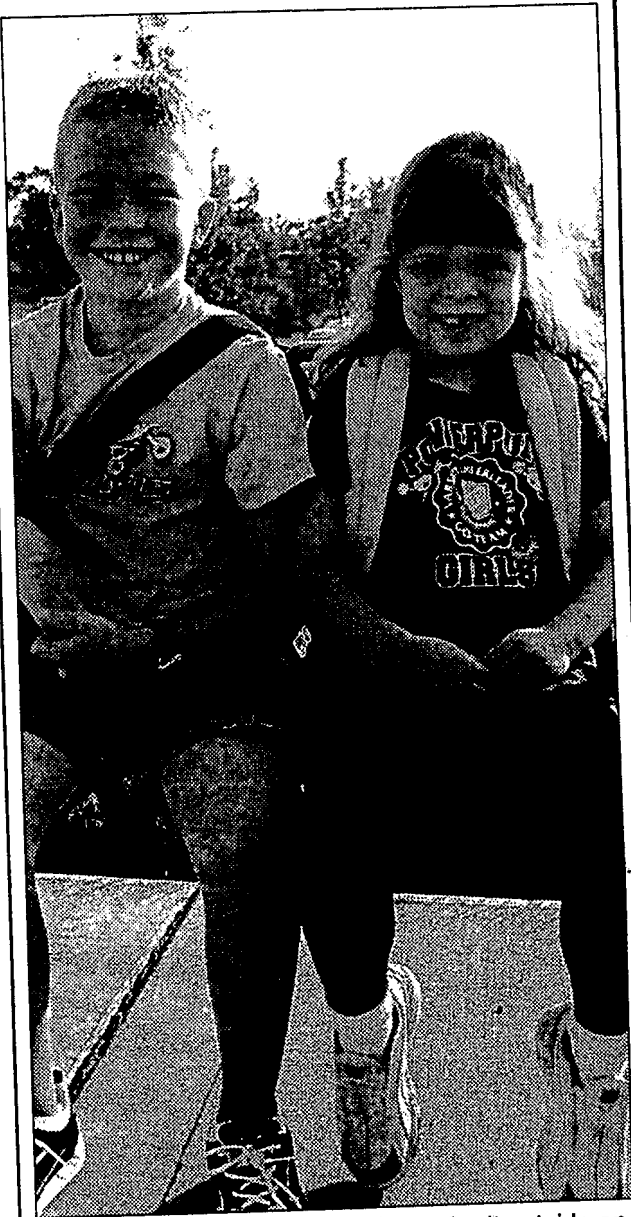
The Millstream News

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Back to school



Cody Bridger, 9, and Robin Flood, 6, sit outside on the bench before school starts. See more back to school photos on the Backpage of Millstream. Photo by Jennifer Nemer.

Board member sues superintendent to keep coaching gig

Miller told not to attend special meeting

BY DON SCHELKSKE
Clarkston News Writer

In another twist in a continuing saga, Trustee Tony Miller was asked to leave a Friday, Aug. 22 special meeting of the Clarkston Community Schools Board of Education.

The meeting, called as a closed session because of "pending litigation," came as a result of a lawsuit filed by Miller against Superintendent Al Roberts.

The suit, filed in Oakland County Circuit Court Thursday, Aug. 14, was motivated because of the alleged conflict of interest between his elected post and his position as a "supplemental" Clarkston High School football coach. An evidentiary hearing is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Sept. 3 before Circuit Judge John J. McDonald.

"They told me I had to leave because I'm the plaintiff," Miller said on his way out of the school administration building. "This is against the law."

Earlier, Miller said he had been advised not to attend, but he was urged to do so by his attorney, Arthur Weiss.

"Tony is the plaintiff in the suit and it would not be appropriate for Mr. Miller to be in the meeting," Roberts said. "Mr. Miller did not consult with the board before bringing the suit. It was not a personal issue but rather strategy for a lawsuit. I don't think we could have done it any other way. I am sorry he is upset. I am shocked about all this."

Weiss said the meeting itself was improper.

"The Clarkston school board is not a party to the lawsuit," Weiss said earlier Friday. "If [Roberts] feels he has to rally the troops, that's his personal business."

The fact that Roberts is employed by the school

board, "doesn't mean anything," Weiss said.

Roberts said it is the school board's responsibility to defend the superintendent and the school district.

"It is in just about every superintendent's contract that if a suit is brought against the superintendent the school board is responsible for the defense. They are picking up the tab and they are responsible. If not I don't think many people would take this job," Roberts said.

Details from the meeting can not be released due to attorney-client privilege.

Roberts said he does not want this situation to distract him from his job as superintendent.

"My time has to be focused on starting school for almost 8,000 kids. I am not going to divert my attention from that," Roberts said.

(Editor Kyle Gargaro contributed to this story.)



Clarkston Community Schools Board Trustee Tony Miller walks out of a special meeting last Friday. Photo by Don Schelske.

Revision aims to close 'minor in possession' loophole

BY DON SCHELKSKE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

An apparent loophole in Independence Township's alcoholic beverages ordinance has led to problems prosecuting those under the age of 21, so a revised ordinance has been proposed.

The board of trustees on Tuesday, Aug. 19 passed first reading of the new ordinance, with second reading expected in September.

State law has been amended to clarify the offense, but local units of government tend to pass similar ordinances to make violations a local offense.

According to township attorney Steve Joppich, local prosecution of "minor in possession" cases has been challenged because of language "which outlaws the possession or transportation of alcohol by a minor but does not specifically prohibit the consumption of alcohol" while in a motor vehicle.

"It does not address the word consumption," Joppich said. "There is an ar-

gument that if you have it in your body, you 'possess' it," but the argument is not always solid.

The revised ordinance, written to parallel revised state law, says, "A person less than 21 years of age shall not purchase or attempt to purchase an alcoholic liquor, consume or attempt to consume alcoholic liquor or possess or attempt to possess alcoholic liquor."

While there are limited exceptions (including use of sacramental wine or working in undercover police operations), the new law defines any "bodily alcoholic content" as 0.02 percent.

"This will help us in court with prosecuting those matters," Joppich said.

Dana Fortinberry, 52-2 district judge, told the board there are potential problems even with the revised law, since the maximum penalty is a \$500 fine, substance abuse treatment and community service.

"We've had some problems with it, because I have so many repeat offend-

Local stores pass sheriff's alcohol test

BY JENNIFER NEMER
Clarkston News Writer

Fifteen stores in Independence Township successfully passed an undercover inspection for selling alcohol to minors.

To ensure cashiers check identification before selling alcohol, the Oakland County Sheriff's Department Independence Township substation enlisted the help of a 17-year-old girl who was asked to attempt to purchase alcohol.

The investigation took place, Wednesday, Aug. 20 at Pine Knob Wine Shoppe

on Maybee; CVS, Farmer Jack, Dandy Oil, Little Dana's, and Country Deli, all on Sashabaw Road; Sashabaw Market Square, Heather Lake Market, and Lakeview Food Basket, all on Clarkston Road; Kroger, Farmer Jack, and CVS, on Dixie Highway; Bianca's on Andersonville; and Rite Aid and Nickelodeon on Ortonville Road.

The OCSD will send a letter to each establishment thanking them for their compliance in checking identification.

ers," Fortinberry said. "We're not allowed to put first offenders in jail unless they fail to follow a court order. Obviously, we would use incarceration only very sparingly, but there are kids who need to have that held over their head to get them to comply with the court's orders to get meaningful alcohol treat-

ment."

Fortinberry said there are efforts underway in Lansing to add jail time as a possible penalty, but trustees opted to pass first reading of the revised ordinance as

Please see Alcohol continued on page 10A

Briefly

NOHLC Conservancy walk offered

Discover the many adaptive strategies used by plants and wildlife in order to survive in Michigan at North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy's Nels Kimball Nature Preserve.

Search for clues of the activities of large diversity of species for whom this special saved site is "home."

This is the third and final in a series of docent guided nature walks at one of NOHLC's parcels. Special walks may be scheduled by request. The Kimball Nature Sanctuary is a 41-acre site which includes a portion of the Clinton River, wetlands, floodplain and rich lowland forests, along with a diversity of plant and animal species.

Call NOHLC at (248) 846-6547 for more information, directions and to register.

Chiropractic practice celebrates kids

Clarkston's Lifepointe Chiropractic is set to hold their second annual "Kid's Day Celebration" on Saturday, Sept. 13.

The celebration will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in their clinic at 5896 Dixie Highway, Suite A.

They will be having food, prizes, free massages, magicians, clowns, face painters, a moonwalk and health and safety information.

They will also be raising funds for the Grace Centers of Hope Childrens Program.

Food distribution set for senior center

Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLHSA) will be distributing free food, through the Emergency Food Assistance Program, in Oakland County during September.

They will be at the Independence Township Senior Center on Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The distribution point is for seniors only. All people who are income eligible and not registered may do so at the site by bringing social security cards for all household members, verification of household income and photo identification.

For income eligibility requirements or additional information, call OLHSA's Community and Family Services Department in Pontiac at (248) 209-2686.

Local park announces fall activities

To thank visitors and encourage outdoor activity, Oakland County Parks is hosting Park Appreciation Days.

Fall dates include free park entry at Independence Oaks near Clarkston on the Sept. 11 Remembrance Day.

There is free park entry and a special "Harvest Moon Hayride and Campfire" to be held from 7:25 p.m. to 9 p.m.

November 28 is Thanksgiving appreciation and also includes free park entry.

Check out what is happening
Around Town on page 2 of
the Millstream section.

The Clarkston News

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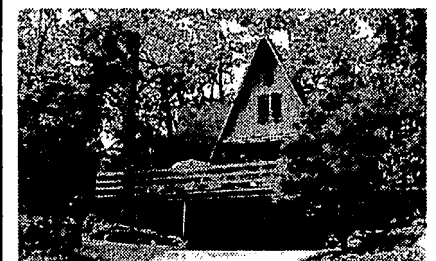
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The Second Front

Rotary chooses Winship as parade grand marshal

BY DON SCHELSKE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Ken Winship calls Clarkston's annual Labor Day parade "a good tradition," and he's pleased to be the 2003 parade grand marshal.

"It's a shock to me, and it's an honor," he said. "Everybody loves a parade."

Clarkston Rotary President Joel DeLong broke the news.

"He said he had a favor to ask of me," Winship said. After hearing the news, he told DeLong, "Let me go sit down."

A 40-year Clarkston resident, 33-year owner of Winship Studio and member of the Rotary, Winship has been involved in many aspects of community service, something his fellow Rotarians must have taken into account when choosing him.

"I was overwhelmed that they would ask me," Winship said, considering the honor to be a "thank you" of sorts for his years of service. "We've tried to service the community with our studio. It's been a wonderful community to build a business in."

Winship opened a photography studio in his home in 1970, built his first separate studio on Sashabaw Road in 1972 and remained there until moving to the current N. Main Street location in 2001.

Over his 33 years, the studio has handled an estimated 1,600 weddings, 2,000 family sittings, 20,000 high school seniors, 375,000 underclass photos and countless other assignments. While many studios traditionally use backgrounds on a flat screen, the Winship studio has several three-dimensional sets and a special outdoor landscape to give subjects a choice of portrait backgrounds.

His two children both attended Clarkston schools K-12, and six grandchildren are attending Clarkston schools.

With the Clarkston Rotary, Winship is a former president, has participated in the sale of Goodfellow newspapers (sometimes dressed in a Santa suit) and purchased new Christmas decorations for the downtown area.

Along the way, he also served with the Clarkston Jaycees, chaired the 1974 Junior Miss program, coached t-ball, served as a volunteer firefighter and substitute vocational school teacher.

The involvement in community service is one shared by other local business people, and Winship believes that has been one of the positive attributes of the Clarkston area, especially in the past.

"It was a small, tight group of business people," he said, and that led to a mutually-beneficial relationship with the outside community. "You know each other in the business community, and that spills over."

Relatively few small towns have a Labor Day parade, but Winship said the Clarkston Rotary has done it "as far back as I can remember."

In addition to maintaining a great community tradition, he believes it helps promote the Rotary to the community.

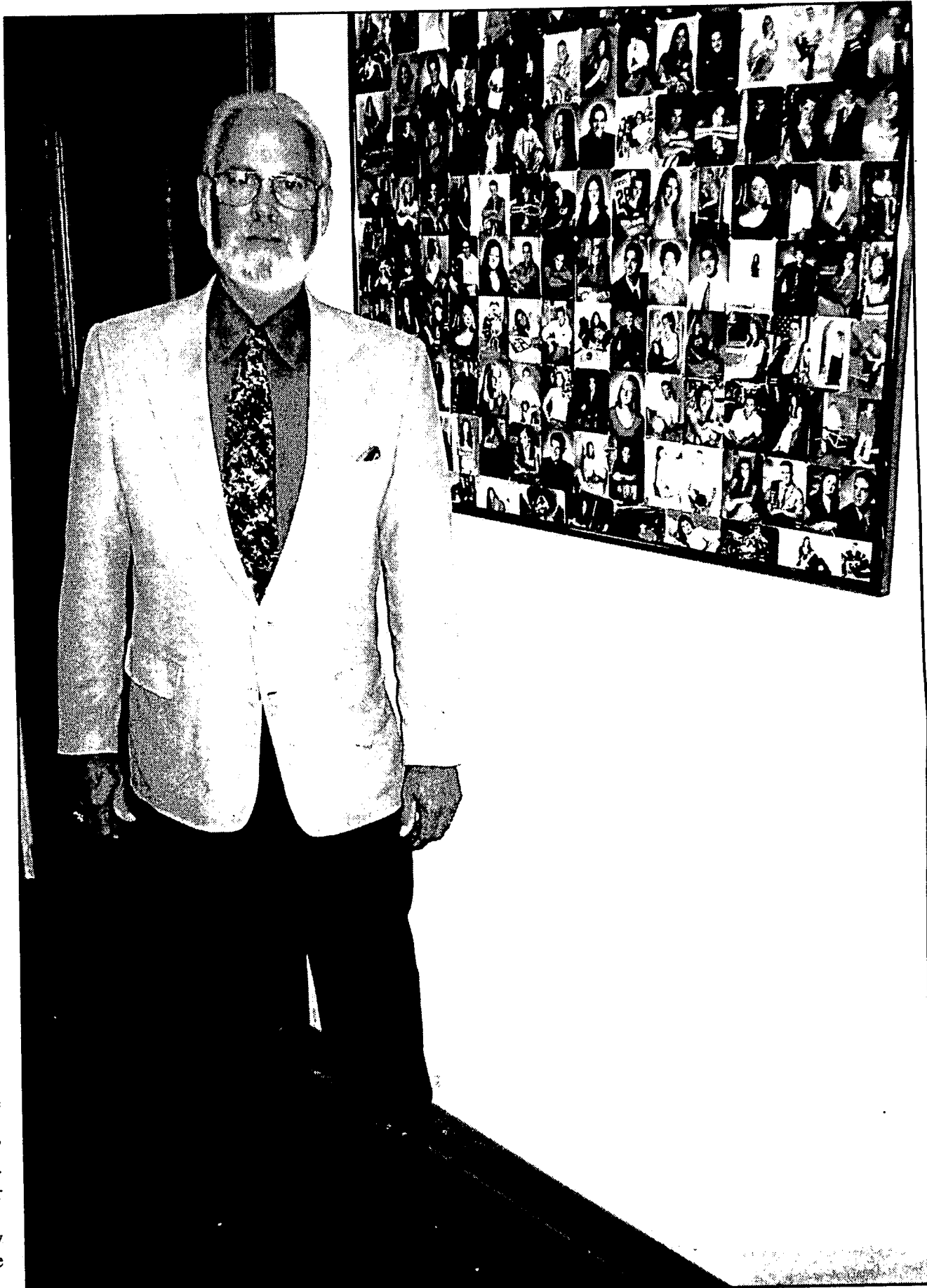
"We hope people who don't know what Rotary is will stop and ask us," he said.

That's important in more ways than one, because the club is always looking for "new blood." In an increasingly busy society, there is a need for more volunteers, he said.

"The club is only as good as the people in it," he said. "It's a fun organization, and it's a wonderful way to serve the community."

Winship's role in the parade is, he admitted, rather simple: "Waving." However, he said he is working on ways to make his presence in the parade more interesting.

"I'm trying to talk some of my grandchildren into riding with me," he said.



Ken Winship of Winship Studio, pictured here in front of some of the pictures he has taken for locals, will be grand marshal of the Rotary's Labor Day Parade. Photo by Don Schelske.

Rotary set for annual Labor Day Parade

BY KYLE GARGARO
Clarkston News Editor

The Clarkston Rotary Club is set to present its annual Labor Day Parade on Monday, Sept. 1.

This is the 63rd year the Rotary has run the parade in Clarkston. The parade will begin on Church Street and travel north along Main Street through downtown Clarkston.

"We are pretty much all set to go," Rotary president Joel DeLong said.

This year's parade will have approximately 35-40 entries participating. The parade will include the color guard, Vietnam War veterans and the Clarkston High

School marching band.

This year's theme will be "Lend a Hand," based on the Rotary theme chosen by the 2003-04 Rotary International President, Jonathon Majiyagbe, a lawyer from Nigeria.

The Grand Marshall for the parade will be Ken Winship, a 40-year resident of Clarkston and owner of Winship Studio.

"We are very excited about the big day," DeLong said. "We always have fun and this really begins our busy season. This kicks off most of our events as a Rotary."

Faded Ink

Township to launch review of parks master plan

BY DON SCHELSKE

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Is Independence Township fulfilling the most pressing needs in parks and recreation? Research into a revised parks and recreation master plan is intended to provide the answer.

The cost, contracted to Carlisle/Wortman Associates, will be \$13,320, of which \$7,000 will be paid out of the current year's budget.

The every-five-year process is a requirement for any municipality hoping to get state grants for parks programs, but township officials also see revision process as a report card of sorts.

"We've always looked at this as an opportunity for self-evaluation," planner Dick Carlisle said.

Treasurer James Wenger was among those calling for an indepth analysis of goals set in the 1999 master plan.

"How did we do, since we're toward the end of this last master plan, in reaching our priorities?" Wenger said. "If not tonight, I would like to take a look in greater detail to see where we've achieved, where we've failed and where we need to move."

In a memo to the board, Parks and Recreation Director Mike Turk said the process will involve background studies, evaluation and plan development.

Background studies will involve existing parks and rec documents, with needed updates. Evaluation will include input from staff and township officials, but Turk and Carlisle agree there must be opportunity for public feedback.

Carlisle said he anticipates a series of workshops, both "in-house" and public. While the master plan is a

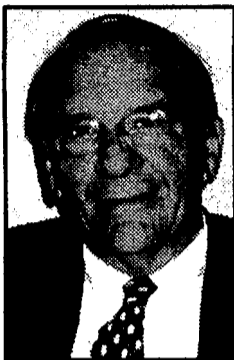
requirement of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Carlisle said there is an understanding that no municipality can meet every conceivable desire for recreation facilities and programs.

"The important part is to establish the priority of the needs," he said.

Trustee Daniel Travis said there's another reason

for a close look.

"We need this as a path to guide the largest general fund area in the township, and we have the most directly benefiting recipients of our tax monies taking advantage of parks and recreation," Travis said. "We need this as a planning tool, and an evaluation is certainly in order."



James Wenger

Township briefs

In other business at the Tuesday, Aug. 29 meeting of the Independence Township Board of Trustees:

• The board approved a design variance for a cellular communications tower at the northwest corner of M-15 and I-75.

To be operated by AAT Communication Corporation, the tower previously gained planning commission approval, but required board action because of a steeper grade for an access drive off of M-15.

Although the 199-foot tower will not need a light, and is in a depressed area of land, the approval of the tower did not come without criticism.

"It will be very visually apparent as you come southbound over the hill," Trustee Daniel Travis said. "It will be no less onerous to deal with from an aesthetic point of view."

• The board approved an expense of about \$43,000 for repair of a 5,000 hydro-pneumatic water tank at the Deerwood well house and preparation of bid specifications for work on a second tank.

DPW Director Linda Richardson said the needed work comes as a result of a maintenance inspection last year. It will require abrasive blast cleaning of the interior and exterior of the tank, minor seam repairs, pit filling of heavily corroded areas and a three-coat epoxy polyamide system.

• The Independence Township Board has scheduled a series of budget hearings for the 2004 fiscal year.

The public meetings are scheduled at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9; 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22; and 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23. All meetings are scheduled at Fire Station #1.

Local Government Meeting Schedule*

Clarkston City Council

7 p.m., second and fourth Mondays of each month, Clarkston City Hall, 375 Depot Road.

Independence Township Board

7:30 p.m., first and third Mondays of each month, Independence Township Library meeting room, 6495 Clarkston Road.

Springfield Township Board

7:30 p.m., second Thursday of each month,

Springfield Township Library meeting room, 12000 Davisburg Road.

Clarkston Schools Board of Education

7 p.m., second and fourth Mondays of each month, district administration offices, 6389 Clarkston Road.

(* - Schedule subject to change for holidays and special events)

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Springfield considers lake special assessment

BY DON SCHELSKE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Property owners around Springfield Lake have proposed a special assessment district to allow Springfield Township to handle annual cleanup of Softwater Lake.

A public hearing will be conducted at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11.

Herman Schaller, president of the Softwater Lake Group (an alliance of property owners surrounding the lake located just northwest of the Dixie Highway/I-75 interchange), presented petitions from more than 50 percent of the involved property owners.

"You will not hear a lot of opposition," Schaller said.

The group recently conducted its own cleaning of aquatic weeds from the lake, but Schaller said the special assessment district would be more effective.

"It would be better to have it more



Collin Walls

structured and organized with the help of the township," he said.

Supervisor Collin Walls said the township attorney has reviewed the proposed special assessment district resolution, and it meets all statutory requirements.

"It's a little different because the people who signed this are requesting only the waterfront owners pay the assessment," he said. "The back lot owners would not be assessed. With very rare exceptions, the back lot owners do not utilize the lake."

While the original proposal was only one year, Walls suggested a second and third year be added. The estimated assessment (to be divided among 68 property owners and apartment renters) is \$15,000 for the first year and \$10,000 for the second and third years.

If everyone is pleased with the system after three years, another hearing will be conducted to determine whether to continue the program. Walls said the citizen petition will not be necessary at that point.

Board rejects 2nd proposal to buy old township hall

BY DON SCHELSKE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Their lack of action was, in effect, action.

After a closed session Thursday, Aug. 14, the Springfield Township Board reconvened in open session, then adjourned, declining to act on another purchase proposal for the old township office building on Broadway in downtown Davisburg.

Details were not released on what Supervisor Collin Walls called "a counteroffer to our counteroffer."

On the market since the township government moved to the new Davisburg Road complex in March 2002, the building has attracted only a

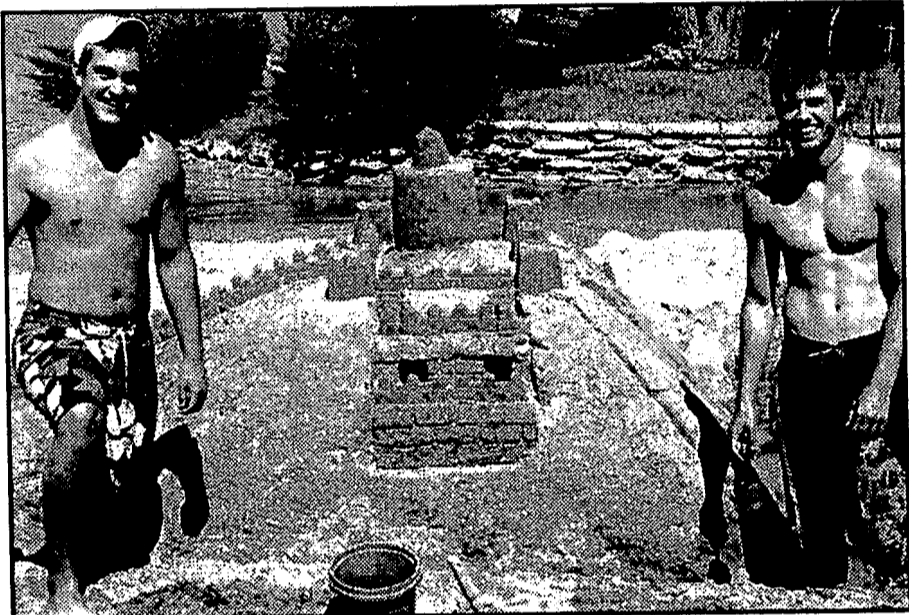
couple interested buyers.

The 3,000-square-foot building was appraised at \$300,000 in December 2001, and has been listed at \$275,000.

On July 10, the board rejected a previous offer, then received a new offer. According to the minutes of a July 15 special meeting, the new offer was for \$200,000, but the board issued a counteroffer to sell for \$250,000 with some additional mortgage conditions.

Clerk Nancy Strole said the potential buyer would occupy the building in a viable manner and would help the downtown area, according to the meeting minutes.

Sand Castle



Ryan Parrott, left, and Rocky Vanchina pose next to their sand castle creation at Deer Lake Beach. The Clarkston High School grads were spending their final days in the sun before heading off to college. Photo by Kyle Gargaro.

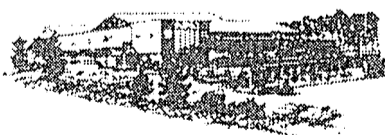
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Opinion

Am I finally an adult?

Well everybody, Kyle Gargaro is officially off the market.

After 26 years of being turned down by women of all different types, I finally took the plunge. I married the now Kerry Gargaro on Aug. 16 in the electricity rich Grand Rapids area.

I guess after a six year courtship it was not much of a plunge. And I am sure there is not much disappointment from single women around the state. While I would not make any top bachelor lists, we can officially move Carrot Top up a slot.

All went according to plan at both the ceremony and reception. From the rain cooling off the church, which had no air conditioner, to my father doing a spirited dance to "Johnny B. Good," things really could not have gone any better.

However, I can't take much credit for the events. If it did not have to do with food, booze or music, I tended to lose interest during the planning stages. Yet I did show up at the church on time which really can't be underestimated.

You plan for eight months for this one day then it is over before you know it. The entire day was almost a surreal experience. Lucky for me, the fact my friend and usher, Jeff Hernandez, passed out drunk before dinner was even served, allowed me to realize this was in fact reality.

It was strange to think I am old and mature enough to enter marriage. It was especially hard to comprehend when I was on the dance floor participating in the chicken dance.

But married is exactly what I am. While our marriage is a little over a week old, I am starting to notice my life has changed. My bed now has something called a dust ruffle on it and it needs to be made everyday. Of course, I am from the school of why make the bed when you are going to sleep in it again tonight?

While I realize it is only a matter a time before my "Goodfellows" poster comes down and pictures of flowers go up, I would not go back in a minute. It is great being able to come home to somebody and share your life with them. Dinner being ready when I walk in the door is not bad either. I know what everybody is thinking, it has only been a couple weeks. You raise a valid point and perhaps you should check back in six months from now.

I figure that is the amount of time before Kerry snaps and realizes my funny and cute behavior is actually just annoying. As a former roommate once said, "Kyle is like Disneyland. He is fun to visit but you wouldn't want to live there."

Luckily my parents have shown to me what a loving and compassionate marriage can be. After 30 some odd years they are still going strong and are a great example for Kerry and I.

In other words, if my mom can put up with my dad then there is some hope that Kerry will be able to put up with me.

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

Gargaro's World



Kyle Gargaro

Letters to the Editor

Reader says 'Let the man coach!'

Upon reading your recent article I began asking myself how in fact there would be any conflict for a board member who volunteers their time to assist with a school function.

The current situation at hand being that of a board member versus assisting in the coaching of a sports team for the school. If this is a conflict of interest does this mean that as a board member who determines funding for other school events such as field trips, could not additionally volunteer to be a chaperone for the event without being subjected to scrutiny and considered potentially biased. Are we saying that board members can't be active with those they are so closely working for, the students? Come on now, I don't believe that.

I would think that these so-called laws may have been set to prevent those on a board from inciting policies that would benefit themselves or their family members. Like a teacher on the board determining raises for their own pay, or that of board member's awarding contracts to a family business for the sake of profit. These are the issues of bias I would consider in need of and worthy of protection.

These topics such as sports teams and extracurricular activities are for the most part set entities within the school and would seem to have very little potential

for bias by the board, let alone a single member.

Are we saying that on the opposite side of the coin a single member against some standard practice of the school such as sports teams could impart their bias to eliminate the activity as well? I again would think not.

There are some things that are just the way they are. Clarkston has always had and always will have excellent programs for the students like sports, band drama, of which many of these activities rely on the interest and offerings of citizens like Tony Miller who have devoted their time to be a positive influence in the lives of the young people of our community.

I would prefer to see the board involved and in touch with those they so closely serve. To assume they should insulate themselves is ridiculous, and addresses why in years past the focus hasn't always been that of the most important commodity this community has: the children. I would say those who initiated such a conflict for the school should reevaluate their intent and understand their own bias assuming others are of their own nature.

Let the man coach.

Michael Richmond
Clarkston

Miller can do good job at both positions

I feel that Tony Miller would do a wonderful job at his board position as Trustee, also as assistant varsity coach.

He is very dedicated in whatever he may be involved in. I feel he could keep them separate. This is not only affecting Mr. Miller, but it is also affecting the

team he would have been coaching.

If it were a problem why did the athletic department promote him to assistant varsity from assistant junior varsity coach until all this began?

Sandra Miller
Clarkston

Shame on Dr. Roberts and Clarkston School Board

Shame on you, Dr. Roberts and the Clarkston Community Schools Board of Education.

Tony Miller is being denied the position of assistant football coach (an unpaid position he has held for 10 years) for Clarkston High School, due to conflict of interest because he is a newly elected member of the school board.

In reference to an article published in the Aug. 23, 2003 *Oakland Press*, Mr. Miller consulted with Assistant Superintendent David Reschke prior to the election and was told there would be no conflict of interest. Dr. Roberts, you have a responsibility for what your staff is recommending.

This issue has gone too far, Tony Miller should be on the football field and on the School Board, doing what we elected him to do. We voted for Mr. Miller because of our contact with him thorough the football program. He is an excellent example of the high moral values and conduct that is so beneficial to our young people today.

We applaud and support his desire to pursue this issue. There is no conflict of interest but rather just sincere interest in the students of this community on several levels. Put politics aside, Dr. Roberts, shouldn't all interests benefit the children?

Mike and Vicki Navarre

More Letters to the Editor on page 12A

Those in charge

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Independence Township
90 N. Main St.
(248) 625-5111
Springfield Township
1200 Davisburg Rd.
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Washington DC 20510
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Michigan House of Representatives

Michigan House of Representatives

Schools should stand for what is right

Shame, shame, shame.

Members of the Clarkston Board of Education and key members of school administration need not attend the opening home football game. Their lack of foresight, or because of their inability to see past the noses, has dealt a hurtful blow to about 60 athletes, their families and to a homeboy, trying to give back to the community.

What I am talking about is the recent development between six-sevenths of the board, Superintendent Al Roberts and the seventh member of the school board, Tony Miller.

Prior to garnering the most votes in the last Clarkston School Board election, Tony (as I have called him since he was about five years old) was a coach for the football program.

"About 10 years ago, my high school coach called me and asked if I wanted to coach," Tony, a 1991 CHS grad, said. "And, I thought that was quite an honor."

Tony, an engineer for General Motors, has stayed close to his roots, buying a home not too far from where both he and I grew up off of Clarkston Road, near Walters Lake. He likes the community. He likes the schools, the teachers and the coaches. He loves coaching kids.

School administrators everywhere ask for members of the community to become involved with the schools. Tony took that to heart, and when a vacancy opened up on the school board, he ran.

First, he went and talked to somebody he could trust -- his old principal from Sashabaw Junior High, Dave Reschke (now assistant superintendent with the schools). Reschke saw no problems and Tony started campaigning.

"I went door to door. I talked to friends, old coaches and teachers," Tony said. "I worked my butt off, spent my own money and got the most votes. I was the happiest guy in the world. I was able to give back to the community that had given so much to me."

Then he got dropped for a loss.

The day after the election folks in the school administration told him he couldn't coach and be a board member at the same time. Something about a possible conflict of interest.



Don't Rush Me

Don Rush

You see, Tony's vocal about what he sees as a discrepancy within the schools. "I publicly said that we have the third highest paid superintendent in the area and the third lowest paid teachers in the area. If I was elected, and I was, I was gonna' work to close that gap -- either by lowering the superintendent's pay, raising teacher pay or a combination of both."

And, now for the first time since the 1980s, Tony isn't with the Clarkston Wolves on the sidelines.

What is interesting is this isn't a unique phenomena in Michigan -- there are other districts where coaches are also board members. One coach/board member, Ron Tarrant, is even an assistant superintendent of another school district. If I can find examples of this, why couldn't Clarkston School Administrators?

In benching his boss, Al Roberts said he's relying on the state's Incompatible Offices Act of 1978. I went on line, spent about five minutes and found the latest state Supreme Court ruling dealing with the act (Macomb County Prosecutor versus Murphy). First off, the act is about as clear as three yards and a cloud of dust: Nothing in the act is clear -- but the Supreme Court's opinion is: "We conclude that defendant's positions are not inherently incompatible because only a *potential* breach of duty... That a breach of duty *may* occur in the future or that a potential conflict exists does not establish incompatible offices."

So why the big fuss? Why did Tony have to file suit? Why didn't all folks agree as role models and adults that Tony would abstain from voting on "football matters" as is the case in other districts with coaching board members?

Parents and taxpayers should ask themselves, why? And, then ask the board what is really going on? We should applaud and encourage the Tonys of the world, not chop block them at the knees.

There's trouble in la-la-land, folks. And, while some take controversy as a bad thing, or a problem, I think it can be an opportunity to right a wrong. The board can reinstate Tony as assistant coach and they can tell Roberts and the rest of the administration who's the boss. Administrators work for the board and the board works for students and parents -- not the other way around.

By the way, I have a copy of the supreme court opinion anybody can read/copy.

E-mail the highly motivated Don at: dontrushmedon@aol.com

Just jotting

If ignorance is bliss, why aren't more people happy? Confucius say: "Man who sit on jelly roll have rear end in jam."

Sign at propane filling station: "Thank heaven for little grills."

Job descriptions, or titles, can make even a common everyday job sound important and even give stature to that worker.

Like the job Charlie Stilwell used to have with Oxford Schools. He was a "Vegetation Elevation Control Engineer." He said it was a 1-year college course that took him eight years.

Practical Charlie also said, "I mowed lawns."

Dorethea Foley sent me this: Noah's Ark & Life, "Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark..."

One: Don't miss the boat.

Two: Remember that we are all in the same boat.

Three: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Four: Stay fit. When you're 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

Five: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

Six: Build your future on high ground.

Seven: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

Eight: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

Nine: When you're stressed out, float a while.

Ten: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals!



Jim's Jottings

Jim Sherman

Eleven: No matter the storm, there's always a rainbow waiting.

What did the fish say when it hit a concrete wall? Dam!

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

If a turtle doesn't have a shell is he homeless or naked?

When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane going the wrong way.

Bud Guest had a talk show (what else?) on WJR radio years ago. A topic one day was habits. One habit of man, he said, is to always start shaving (blade) at the left temple if you're right handed.

I've been trying to break myself of that habit for over 20 years. It was easier to quit smoking and to lose weight.

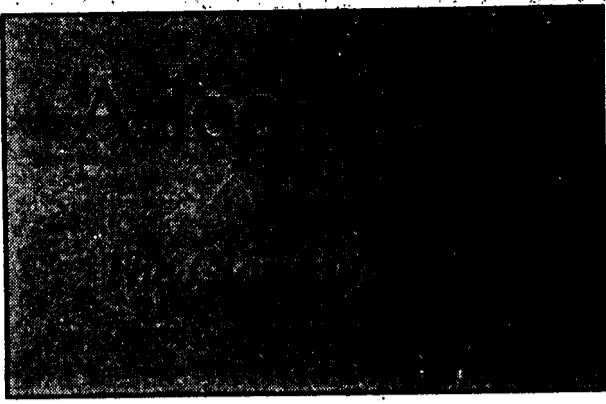
Of course, habits aren't necessarily bad things. Like always approach a dining room chair from the same side, put on your left shoe first (hopefully, after you've put your left foot first into your pant leg), put sugar in your coffee before the cream, start up stairs left foot first and always put the seat up.

I have a typewriter at home for envelope addressing. Some of the great advantages of a typewriter over a computer are they don't lose copy, don't crash, aren't subject to viruses and have no boot-up time. But, you knew that.

Sometimes what we care about most gets all used up and goes away, never to return.

So, while we have it, it's best we love it, and care for it, and fix it when it's broken, and heal it when it's sick.

This is true for marriage, old radios, and old cars, and children with bad report cards, and dogs with bad hips and aging parents and grandparents.



15 YEARS AGO (1988)

• Twenty nine new teachers have been hired for the 1988-89 school year in Clarkston. Conrad Bruce, director of personnel services, said the large number of new teachers is due to a higher enrollment in the elementary schools, new scheduling at the high school and meeting state guidelines for special education, as well as resignations and leaves of absence. The new teachers gathered for orientation and a special reception at the Clarkston school board offices on Clarkston Road Monday morning.

• Residents are off bottled water in the Flemings Lake Road area near the site of the June 10 jet fuel spill on I-75, but government officials are still waiting for more test results. Cheryl Wallace, an environmental quality analyst for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, said residents can finally relax.

• It's official. Springfield Township voters will be asked to approve an operational millage for the Springfield Township Library in the November election. But they will only be asked to approve a half mill, not the one mill that barely lost on the primary ballot. "We thought it would be accepted more readily than a mill," chairman of the library, Mary Watson said. A half mill is 50 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

25 YEARS AGO (1978)

• Clarkston residents will be able to vote with other Independence Township residents on funding their police services. The Clarkston Village Council voted unanimously Monday night to add the question to the November ballot asking whether one mill increases in taxes should go to support police services. One mill is \$1 per \$1,000 of the assessed value of property. Currently, the village contracts with the township for police services.

• Policing the Clarkston Village Park will be easier for law enforcement officials in the future. The Clarkston Village Council authorized Booth, Patterson and Karlstrom, the village attorneys, to draft an ordinance which states that the park may be used between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. unless a special permit extending the hours is issued by the village council. The park has been a hangout for young adults who disturbed nearby residents with their late night parties.

• There have been complaints about officers from Independence Township police services working at Pine Knob in the evening when local residents need help. What some residents don't realize is the local department has three police officers - one director and two patrolmen. Their hours are from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Anytime an officer is working past those hours, he is either working without pay or is on reserve duty.

50 YEARS AGO (1953)

• Helen M. Donnelly, physical education instructor in the Clarkston Community Schools, is studying recreation leadership at a University of Colorado workshop this summer.

• The Southwest LaGrange Baptist Church in LaGrange, Georgia, was the scene of a pretty wedding on Saturday, Aug. 15, at 5 p.m. when Margaret Phipps Parmer and Robert G. Keelean of Clarkston spoke their nuptial vows.

• Schoolmates and teachers will gather at the Independence Township Community Center on Saturday, Aug. 29 for a reunion of all those who attended what is known as "the old Clarkston school."

Who's really to blame for blackout?

Given the complexity of the technology and the intense training of the spinmeisters, it is no surprise that it will take time before anyone takes real responsibility for the Blackout of 2003.

Being encumbered with neither an engineering degree nor a public relations salary, your humble reporter has launched — and completed — an indepth investigation sure to impress the Pulitzer judges.

Frankly, it was not that difficult. The powers of observation are invaluable to a good journalist, of course, but the list of suspects became readily apparent within only a few hours of the big power outage.

We actually had a speedy confession. Young Charity Hulderman told *The Clarkston News* she would take the blame because she wasn't feeling well and didn't want to go to work that evening.

We promised not to turn her in to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Besides, she seemed much too nice to be guilty of such a heinous crime.

No, other entities deserved closer scrutiny. For example, did anyone notice a series of radio ads from Sears in the days before the blackout? The spots promoted the availability of emergency generators and the technicians who could install them!

Sears must have paid for the spots well in advance, because they seemed to continue throughout the crisis and were still on the air as of the writing of

**Reporter
At Large**



**Don
Schelske**

No, other entities deserved closer scrutiny. For example, did anyone notice a series of radio ads from Sears in the days before the blackout?

this column.

Granted, my consumption of television is well below that of the average American, but I didn't notice those advertisements on the tv. They were frequent, however, on...

Radio! The medium which, because of folks with battery-powered receivers, became instantly more important than television during the crisis. Further, daily newspapers were hampered in their efforts because of lack of juice to power the presses.

Many radio stations just happened to have their emergency generators in place, and one radio personality boasted, "We finally get to use some of this Y2K stuff!"

What a coincidence! Radio has many engineering types among their ilk. Who knows what magic they were able to work over the row infamous "grid."

Not to be ignored are the bottled water companies. It is not out of the realm of credulity to think of executives, not satisfied with their already magnetic hold on consumers with a product readily available from most kitchen faucets, plotting a way to enlarge their market.

Have you ever read the list of ingredients on some

bottled water? Yes, bottled water has an ingredient label, and it's amazing that some brands add salt to their water. Exhibit A for promoting more consumption?

Well, all of the above entities need not fear prosecution, because we've saved the most likely suspect for last. A person so sinister, so malicious and so heartless that it boggles the mind.

Kyle Gargaro, editor of *The Clarkston News*, deserves the most suspicion and, based on the evidence, deserves only most superficial form of due process.

Consider: Mr. Gargaro's wedding was Saturday, Aug. 23. In the Grand Rapids area, well out of the area affected by the power outage.

Mr. Gargaro left the offices of *The Clarkston News* for his travel to the Grand Rapids area at about noon Thursday, Aug. 14, with plenty of time to leave town before the blackout occurred.

Mr. Gargaro was not scheduled to return to work until Thursday, Aug. 21, well after the production of the Wednesday, Aug. 20 edition of *The Clarkston News*, leaving his already overworked, underpaid staff to investigate, write, edit, layout and pasteup the news concerning the blackout and all the other things going on in the area.

Alas, we fear there will be no justice in this scenario. We must welcome Kyle back to the fold, congratulating him on his marriage and wishing him and his bride a happy life.

Besides, we know he has his own explanation for the blackout.

He will blame it on Canada.

Did you miss a column? You can check out The Clarkston News archives at www.clarkstonnews.com.

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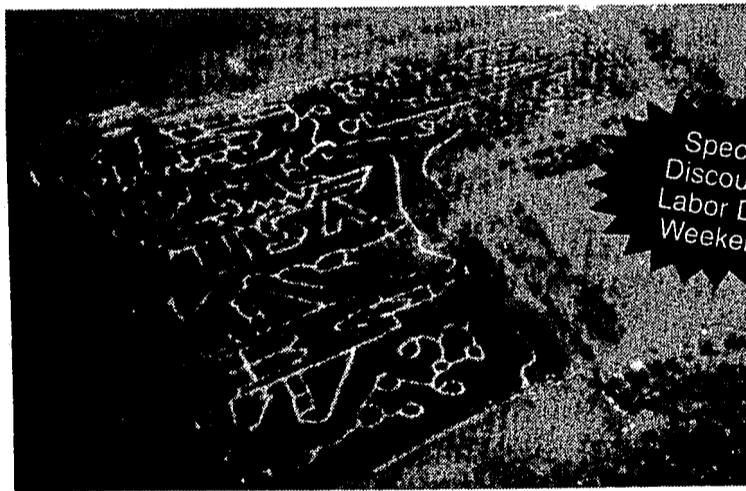
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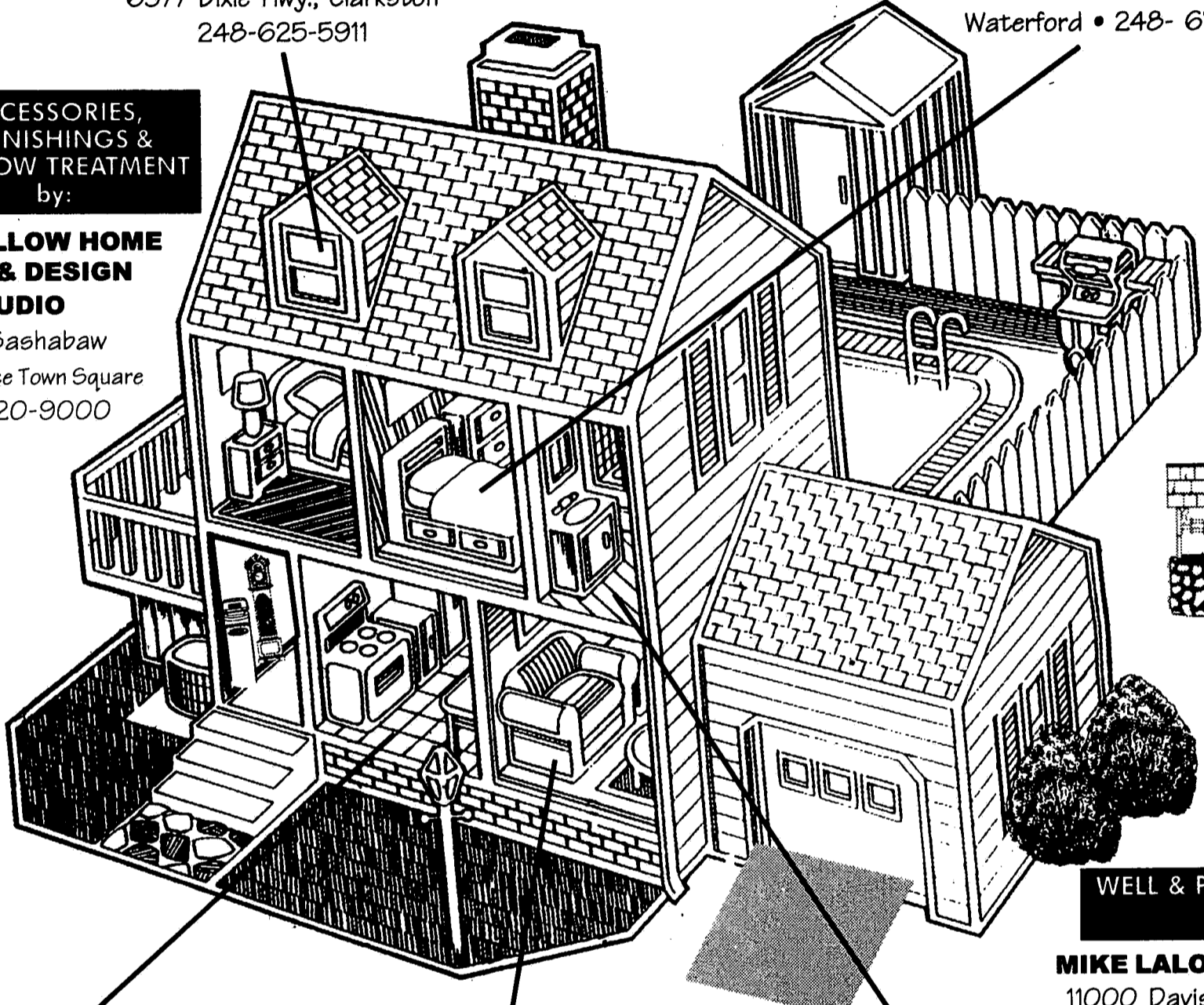
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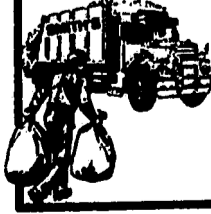
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Alcohol

Continued from page 1A

While there are limited exceptions (including use of sacramental wine or working in undercover police operations), the new law defines any "bodily alcoholic content" as 0.02 percent.



Dana Fortinberry

I have so many repeat offenders," Fortinberry said. "We're not allowed to put first offenders in jail unless they fail to follow a court order. Obviously, we would use incarceration only very sparingly, but

there are kids who need to have that held over their head to get them to comply with the court's orders to get meaningful alcohol treatment."

Fortinberry said there are efforts underway in Lansing to add jail time as a possible penalty, but trustees opted to pass the first reading of the revised ordinance as presented, with the understanding that further local revisions may be made in the future.

"This will help us in court with prosecuting those matters," Joppich said.

Dana Fortinberry, 52-2 district judge, told the board there are potential problems even with the revised law, since the maximum penalty is a \$500 fine, substance abuse treatment and community service.

"We've had some problems with it, because

Clarkston Village Players set to present play in Sept.

The Clarkston Village Players are set to present the play "Grace and Glorie" by Tom Ziegler.

Grace, a feisty, somewhat cantankerous 90-year-old mountain woman, plans to die at home in her ramshackle cabin high in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains. Just out of the hospital, Grace has no use for Gloria, the hospice worker assigned to her care. As the two strong, stubborn women get to know each other, they unexpectedly forge a deep bond despite their different backgrounds, endowing each of their lives with the wisdom they share.

Show dates are Sept. 4-7 and 11-14. Thursday performances begin at 7:30 p.m., while Friday and Saturday performances

begin at 8 p.m. The show is slated for 2 p.m. on Sundays.

All performances will be at the Depot Theater

located at 4861 White Lake Road in Clarkston. For directions to the theater or to reserve your tickets, call (248) 625-8811.

Check what else is going on Around Town on page 2 of the Millstream section.

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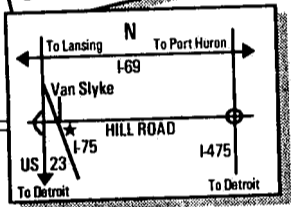
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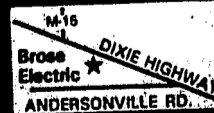
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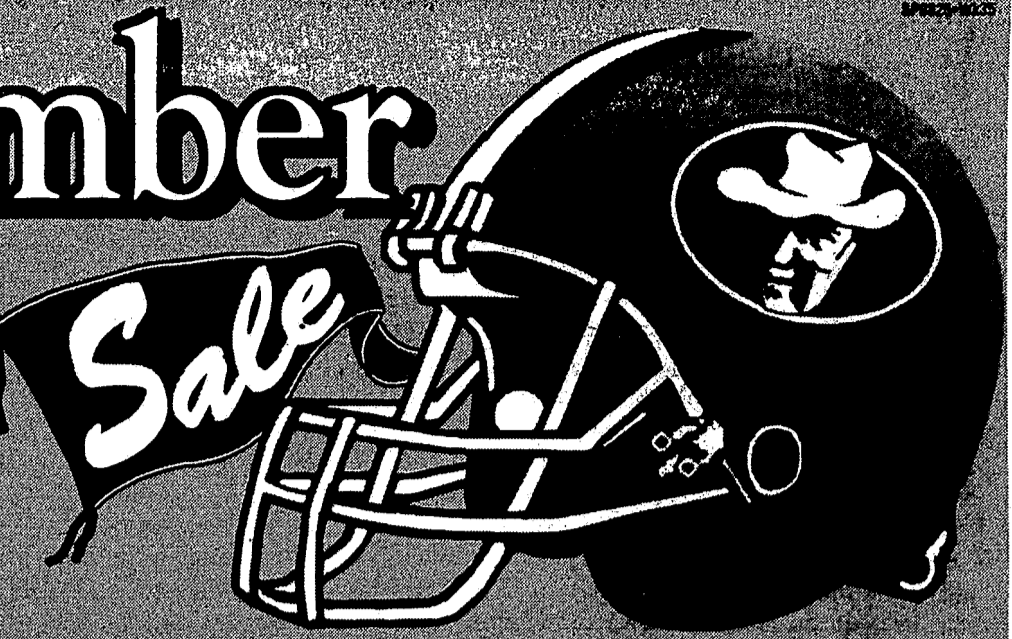
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Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 6A

Is Clarkston Community Schools really all about the kids?

I thought Clarkston Schools are all about the kids? It's obvious that the community wanted Tony Miller as a member of the board or he wouldn't have won the election and it's also obvious that Tony's athletes want him as a coach. Why is he not allowed to do both?

Is it really a conflict of interests or is it a conflict of egos and personalities. I could understand Tony not being allowed to be a member of the board and coach if he were hurting someone or working against what the school says it stands for, but Tony is all for the kids of this community.

The Board has a lawyer who "interpreted" the law into a long lecture against Tony. He also said that laws are put there for a reason and Clarkston Schools should want to uphold all laws. I sure hope the rest of the nation doesn't feel the same way, because a lot of people would be in serious trouble. For instance, in Iowa - a law states that a kiss can last for as long as five minutes, but not any longer and in New Mexico - females are strictly forbidden to appear unshaven in public. What if I sent my children to school in West

Virginia? Their breath better not smell of wild onions and if my husband wanted to buy alcohol in Pennsylvania, he can't unless he has written permission from me.

Are these laws being upheld? Hardly! Are they for the benefit of the people of this wonderful nation? No! If a "law" is keeping a decent hard-working man with a heart big enough for every student in this dis-

tract from helping children in a way he loves, should it be upheld? Is it truly a law or an opinion? Well, my opinion is that you don't find many loving and giving people anymore who are willing to donate their time for their community.

I for one support Tony Miller and I know I don't stand alone. That is not an opinion; it is a fact.

Tammy Layton

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Charity organization holds fundraiser, Sept. 12-13

JENNIFER NEMER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Since its establishment in 1983, Neighbor for Neighbor has been helping local families in need; able to do so from the generous contributions from the community.

As the nonprofit charitable organization does every fall and spring, they will host Treasures and Treats, featuring for sale homemade baked goods and one-of-a-kind donated items.

The fundraising event, which coincides with the Springfield Township Parks and Recreation's community garage and sidewalk sale, will be held inside the Art Community Center, at 495 Broadway in downtown Davisburg's Mill Pond Park on Friday, Sept. 12 and Saturday, Sept. 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

"Every year it gets bigger and bigger. We have a pretty nice variety," Peg Hill said, publicity coordinator for Neighbor for Neighbor. "There's something for everyone," which includes household items, small appliances, sporting goods, jewelry and more. "And we don't keep up with the baked goods. We always run out."

Treasures and Treats is the main fundraiser for Neighbor for Neighbor. They only seek donations during a mail out one other time during the year.

"This (event) is real important. With the money spent at the sale, you couldn't spend it better than we do. All the money goes to people who need it," Hill said, noting none of the money has to go towards salaries since Neighbor for Neighbor is completely volunteer.

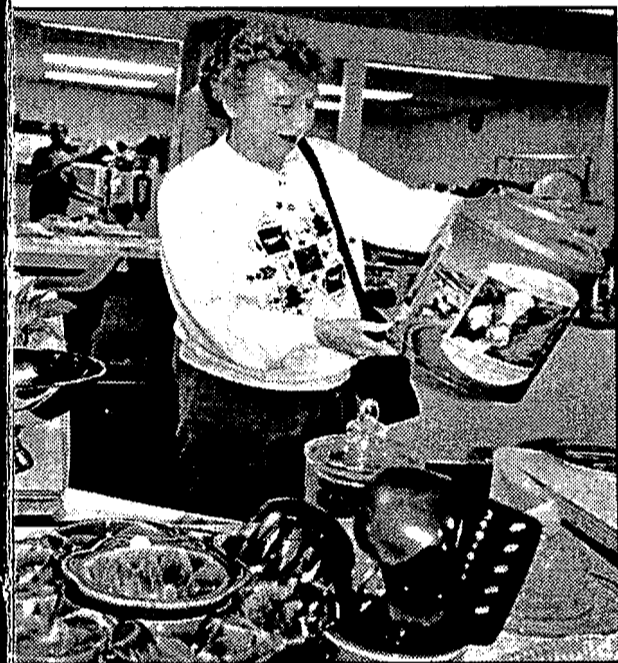
Because of donations, such as through Treasures and Treats, Neighbor for Neighbor is able to provide food and clothing, assist with rent and utilities and offer

care and concern for families in crisis throughout Springfield, Holly, Groveland, Rose and parts of Independence and White Lake townships.

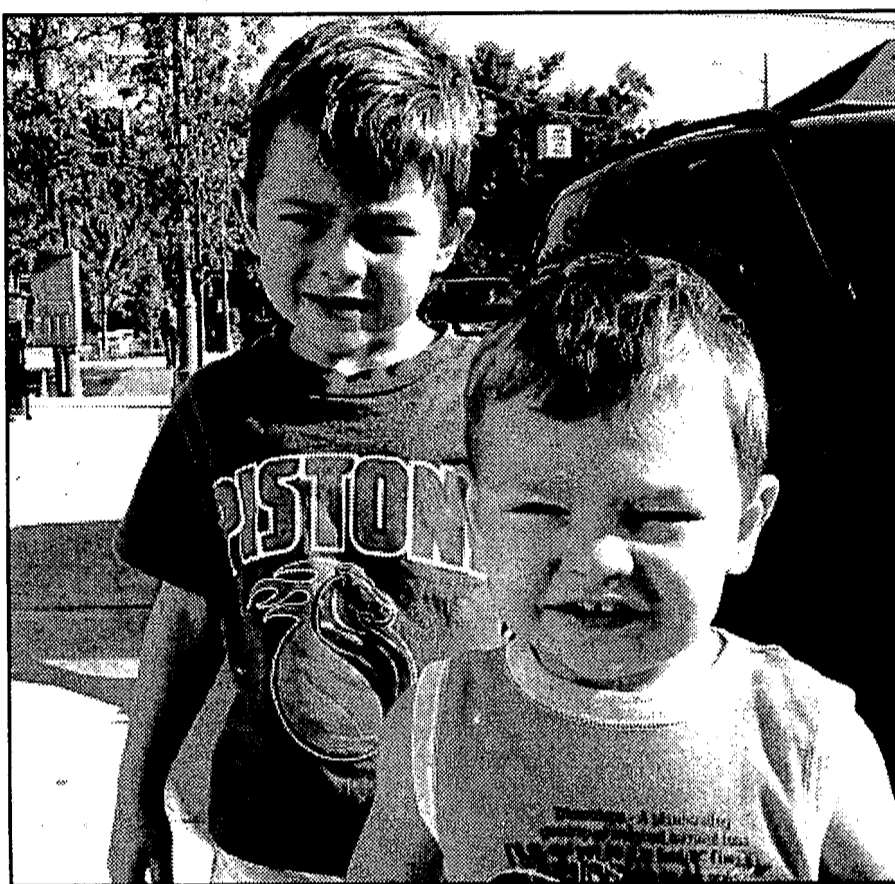
"We've really been busy lately, because a lot more people have lost their jobs," Hill said.

In 2002, Neighbor for Neighbor distributed more than 100,000 pounds of grocery items from their food pantry, donated \$7,643 in financial aid to prevent utility shutoffs, and gave \$14,410 in financial aid to prevent evictions.

For more information, call (248) 634-0900.



Dan Wilson peruses items at the spring Treasures and Treats sale. Photo provided.



Smiles of the week

Nicholas, 2, and Joey Verhelle, 5, of Clarkston. Photo by Jennifer Nemer.

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Independence Township

Sunday, Aug. 24, strong arm robbery on Maybee. A 12-year-old boy said he, his brother and some friends were in the driveway of Oakland Woods Baptist Church on their bikes when two men pulled up in a pick up truck. The driver got out and told the boy to get off his bike. He refused and the man pushed the boy off his bike, causing him to fall to the ground. The man took the bike, placed it in the back of the truck and sped away. The man is described as a white male, in his 40's or 50's with salt and peppered hair with a mustache and goatee. He was driving a beige Sonoma truck with an extended cab. The boy, whose mother had just bought the bike on Aug. 14, had a minor injury to his left arm.

Three men were cited on Dixie for under 21 consumption of alcohol and having open intoxicants.

Saturday, Aug. 23, an 18-year-old man and a 19-year-old man were cited for under 21 consumption of alcohol.

An 18-year-old man was cited on Sashabaw for operating under the influence of liquor, a first offense, and violating a restricted license.

Malicious destruction of property to a vehicle on Dixie Highway.

Vehicle fire on I-75 at the M-15 exit ramp.

Friday, Aug. 22, larceny of roofing equipment, valued at \$1,760, from a work site on Maybee at Sashabaw Middle School.

Thursday, Aug. 21, unarmed robbery and possession of marijuana on Pine Knob. A 19-year-old East Pointe man grabbed two concert tickets out of the hand of a woman at DTE Energy Music Theatre and ran. He was caught and arrested.

Seven individuals were cited for being disorderly at DTE Energy Music Theatre for offenses ranging from assaulting security personnel to refusing to leave the premises and fighting.

Wednesday, Aug. 20, malicious destruction of property to a vehicle on Dixie Highway.

Larceny from a vehicle on Heathland Circle. Cash and prescription pills were taken.

Tuesday, Aug. 19, a 40-year-old woman was arrested for stalking her husband on Waldon.

Larceny from an automobile, with force, on Maybee. A stereo was stolen.

A 39-year-old man was arrested for larceny, malicious destruction of property and giving a false identification at a gas station on Sashabaw. The man was attempting to pry apart an air conditioning unit for scrap metal parts.

Monday, Aug. 18, larceny on Sashabaw. Seventeen five-gallon propane tanks, valued at \$50 each, were taken from a gas station.

Malicious destruction of property on Meyers. A stop sign was spraypainted.

Malicious destruction of property to a vehicle on S. Marshbank.

Springfield Township

Saturday, Aug. 23, domestic assault between a 43-year-old man and his 47-year-old wife on Canterbury Circle. The report was sent to the prosecutor's office for review.

Six people were cited for being minors in the possession of alcohol at a party on Foster. A 19-year-old man was also cited for a host ordinance violation.

Friday, Aug. 22, home invasion on Rattalee Lake. An unknown person forced entry to the back of a garage door that leads to the home. A rifle was missing from the garage, but nothing appeared to be missing inside the home. There are no suspects or witnesses.

Juvenile complaint and recreational trespassing of two juveniles driving an ATV and motorcycle on Hummingbird Ridge. They were advised not to return or they would be cited and vehicles impounded.

Tuesday, Aug. 19, domestic assault on Canterbury Circle between a live-in boyfriend and girlfriend. The report was sent to the prosecutor's office for review.

Monday, Aug. 18, malicious destruction of property on Birch. Three windows were damaged on a home by an unknown person.

Boy stuck in crib

On Aug. 20, at a home on Andersonville, near Clement, a two-year-old boy, was caught in between the corner spindles of his crib.

The boy was put down for a nap, while mom went outside to water plants. Five minutes later, she entered the home and heard the boy wailing. He was hanging by his neck, his legs unable to touch the floor.

The 36-year-old woman held her son's body up and his head still and was able to call 911. A neighbor heard the mother's cry for help and pulled the railing apart to loose the boy.

Police reports stated a screw appeared to be loose making it easy for the child to get stuck if attempting to work his way out of the crib.

The boys neck was red in two spots, but not other injuries occurred.

He was loosed before emergency help arrived, and dispatch cancelled the call.

--Jennifer Nemer

City of Clarkston

Friday, Aug. 22, a 40-year-old Clarkston man was arrested on Main Street, near Clarkston Road, at 10:12 p.m. for drunk driving.

Wednesday, Aug. 20, a resident on Middle Lake was attempting to move a large boat on a trailer on the property when it became loose, rolled backwards down an incline, and travelled across the road, crashing into the garage of a home at the corner of Middle Lake and M-15. The structure of the garage received heavy damage. A parked car also sustained damage as well as the boat.

Home invasion arrest

James David Connell, 18, of Clarkston was arraigned Monday, Aug. 25, before Magistrate Colleen Murphy at the 52-2 District Court in Clarkston on three counts of home invasion.

He is being charged with two counts of first degree home invasion and one count of second degree home invasion.

Connell was also arraigned on three outstanding warrants for violation of probation, trespassing and malicious destruction of property. All offenses took place in Independence Township. He is in custody under a \$24,000 cash bond, with no 10 percent.

Connell entered a home on Sashabaw two times last week, once on Monday, Aug. 18, and once on Friday, Aug. 22. Both times he assaulted a 14-year-old girl inside

the home. In the recent attack, she sustained a sprained ankle and bruises to her arms.

On March 6, he entered the home, when no one was home, and stole several items including DVD's, CD's, collectible coins and more.

Det. Jerry DeRosia, of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department in Independence Township, said Connell's ex-girlfriend lived in the home for a month. "I don't know why he's targeting these people."

Police arrested Connell, after receiving a call on Saturday, Aug. 23, from Connell's stepmother that he was at home sleeping.

A preliminary exam conference is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 28 at 8:30 a.m. before Judge Michael Batchik.

--Jennifer Nemer

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Conservatory seeks artists to display work

BY JENNIFER NEMER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

The Clarkston Conservatory of Music -- it's title gives away it's main purpose.

But to director and owner Dr. James Wilhelmsen, it's really a venue to showcase all forms of talent within the realm of the arts.

And so, Wilhelmsen is now seeking bids from local artists interested in displaying their work at the conservatory.

It's really a "decorating thing," Wilhelmsen said. He wanted quality artwork to hang on the walls, so he feels the new venture is of a mutual benefit to the conservatory and the artists.

Each month, and rotating thereafter, one artist can display their repertoire, which will be available for sale.

"We're not turning into a gallery, but we want to showcase local artists," Wilhelmsen said. "We want quality art on the walls. We don't want to showcase just anything."

Holly resident Marionette Kubicz is the first on board. In fact, she actually inspired the idea of displaying art at the conservatory.

She, along with Wilhelmsen and conservatory teacher Miriam Moore and their spouses, were having a dinner at the Clarkston Union one evening where she happened to mention in conversation her new line of art.

"He (Wilhelmsen) said, 'Oh, let's start a rotating art show.' So, I got excited about that," Kubicz admits.

Kubicz is a multi-media artist; meaning she sings, plays guitar, draws, sculpts among other talents. What she has on display at the conservatory are called Lifeforms, which is the same name of her Holly art studio.

Lifeforms are "soft sculptures," somewhat like poseable dolls, but Kubicz clarifies, "they're not dolls." Each Lifeform is made out of a wire frame and covered in all sorts of vivid fabrics, hair, and jewelry. The artist-designed pieces each have a theme such as "Travail," a pregnant Lifeform.

"If you've never seen Lifeforms, you've never seen anything like it,"

Kubicz said.

They come in three varieties: Juniors, a hanging ornamental version; Storytellers, the largest Lifeform, accompanied by a verse of some sort Kubicz wrote; and the medium-sized Earthforms.

"I love what these do," Kubicz admits. "They incorporate color and texture. They're expressive. They're so friendly. People want to touch these."

Kubicz is excited about the chance to display at the conservatory.

"I think this is a wonderful opportunity. Just to be here, to be involved with this place in any way is wonderful. This is a place that needs to stay alive and thrive."

She feels the conservatory and art go hand-in-hand.

"I don't separate music and art. It seems like a very natural thing to do, and a very natural setting. This is a wonderful pairing."

Conservatory volunteer Ann Irwin said, "It's nothing new for the conservatory to support visual arts." Specifically, she

said Michigan artist Bim Willow sculpted the tree branch fence in front of the building, and Clarkston resident Sally Kubani did a rendering of the conservatory featured on notecards for sale at the venue.

"I've found in the culture that we live in, that mainstream culture seems to have lost the appreciation of the arts like I would like to see," Kubicz said. "Any time someone says, 'Come here and look at this art,' or 'Here, listen to us play,' we need to support that."

Wilhelmsen said the conservatory will also offer auditions and scholarships to the artists. Funding is currently being sought from local businesses and individuals.


Local artists interested in displaying their work are encouraged to stop by the conservatory at 49 Main St. in downtown Clarkston, or call (248) 625-3640.

For more information on Kubicz, who also offers entertainment for children's parties, churches, schools and other organizations, call (248) 634-2011.



Marionette Kubicz shows off her Lifeforms soft sculptures on display at the Clarkston Conservatory of Music. The venue is seeking local artists to display their work each month. Photo by Jennifer Nemer.

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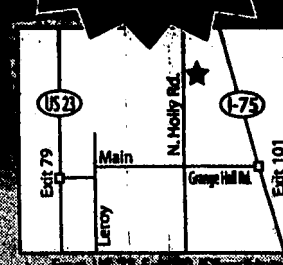
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Obituary

Wed August 27, 2003 The Clarkston (MI) News 17 A

William R. McPheters

William R. McPheters, of Whittemore formerly of Clarkston, died suddenly on Aug. 22, 2003 at age 64.

He was preceded in death by his wife Kathie; father of Debi (Joe) Mento of Ortonville.

William was a member of the Clarkston Eagles Aerie #3373 and Hale Eagles Aerie #4217. He was a past president of the Clarkston Eagles and was formerly employed by Karen's Carpets for 25 years.

Funeral arrangements were handled by the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to the Diabetes Association.

Melvin L. Marlowe

Melvin L. Marlowe, of Davisburg, was ushered into glory by his cherished wife, Maxine (Carie) of 61 years, and children on August 22, 2003.

He was born August 17, 1922 in Grayling, Michi-

gan. Mr. Marlowe's life involvements and influence are best captured in these words: loving husband, supporting father, encouraging grandfather, farmer, businessman, entrepreneur, developer, builder, Rose Township supervisor, churchman at Clarkston Community Church; purveyor of wisdom, lover of life, benefactor to many; one who fought the good fight and finished the race.

Marlowe was the son of Lloyd and Ivy Marlowe. Family members include five children and spouses; Dan and Inez Marlowe of Grand Blanc, Dale and Marlene Marlowe of Grand Blanc, Gayle and Linda Marlowe of Holly, Rose (Marlowe) and Steve Yahnig of Gridley, Illinois and Merry (Marlowe) and Joseph Cookston of Englewood, Ohio. Grandchildren included Chris Marlowe, Kristin Pavliscak, Nicholas Burnett, Stephen Marlowe, Ken Marlowe, Michelle Marlowe Lounsbery, Yvette Marlowe (deceased), Tim Marlowe, Greig Marlowe, Justin Yahnig, Esther Yahnig, Marlo Cookston Davis and Joel Cookston. Six great-grandchildren add to the family tree.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Clarkston Community Church.

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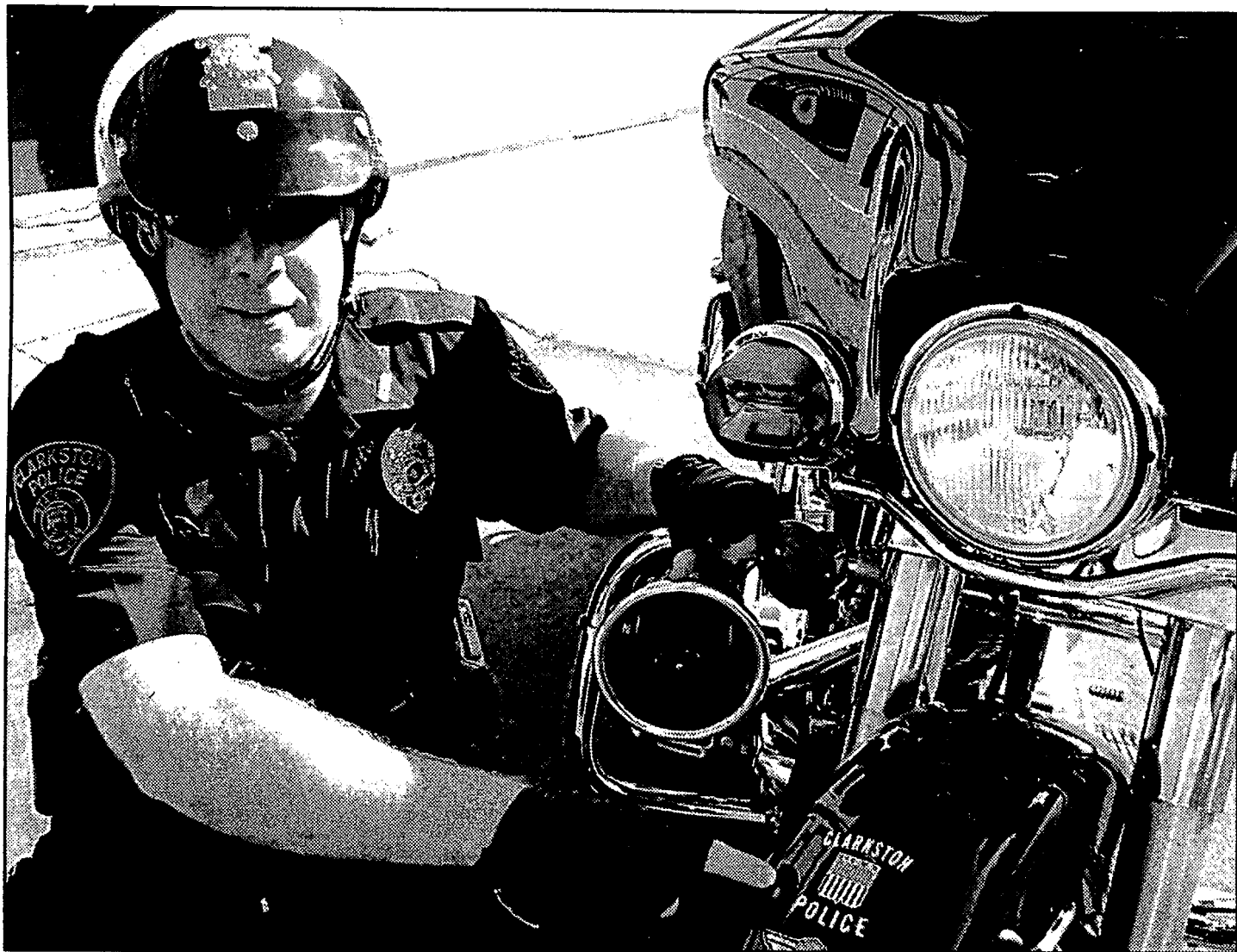
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Officer Alan Kitzens shows off the new decals by Eagle Graphics on the new motorcycles at the Clarkston Police Department. Photo by Jennifer Nemer.

More Around Town

The Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce's **Taste of Clarkston** will be Saturday, Sept. 27 from 5-9 p.m. in the Washington Street parking lot in downtown Clarkston. Call (248) 625-8055 for details.

The Friends of the Library of Independence Township Library will hold a **new and used book sale**, Oct. 2-4. The donated books help support the library. Among hundreds of paperback and hardcovers are antique books, collectables, first edition, autographed, videos, Oprah Book Club and record albums. Most are priced at \$1 and \$2. Children's books are priced to sell. The library is open at 10 a.m. every day. Half price sale after 2 p.m. on Friday, and Saturday is \$2/bag day. Call (248) 625-2212.

No more whining! **Develop Positive Behavior in Children** parenting classes are now forming. Classes are held Wednesday morning, Oct. 8 through Nov. 12 from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Childcare is available. Class are \$30, childcare is \$5/child for the six-week series. Call Clarkston Area Youth Assistance at (248) 625-9007 for more information.

Plans are pending for a Clarkston High School Class of 1973 **30-year reunion** at Deer Lake Athletic Club Friday, Oct. 10. Interested classmates should contact Deb Roeper-Bowen at (248) 623-7187 or Melissa Dell-Maier at (248) 681-1917, or send addresses to 242 Clayburn, Waterford, MI 48327.

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Clarkston High School football season begins Thursday

BY KYLE GARGARO

Clarkston News Editor

The Clarkston High School football team is set to kick off yet another season Thursday, August 28.

The Wolves host Birmingham Groves with a 7 p.m. kickoff.

"Groves is a good football team," Clarkston head coach Kurt Richardson said. "They have a lot of kids back and some pretty good transfers. They won their scrimmage and have a real good running game. We are going to have to give everything we have."

The Wolves bring an experienced offense back this year starting with senior Sam Palace at quarterback. Other returning players include offensive linemen Addison Turk, Jacob Meissnest, Chris Brookes, Brett Kenerson and Jacob Beno; tight end Aaron Powell, fullback Matt MacKinnon and wideouts Kyle Rademacher and Ryan Kaltz.

"We have about six kids returning as starters and a lot of others who played last year so we should be pretty good on offense," Richardson said.

On defense the team is a little more inexperienced but have Tony Coccione as defensive tackle with Turk and Powell at linebackers.

Clarkston finished last season with a 4-5 mark overall and a 2-5 conference record.



Above, CHS football coach Kurt Richardson speaks with an official last year. The Wolves open the season against Birmingham Groves on Thursday. Left, quarterback Sam Palace, seen here in action from last season, returns for his senior year. File photo.

Look in the Clarkston News next week for results of the Clarkston football game.

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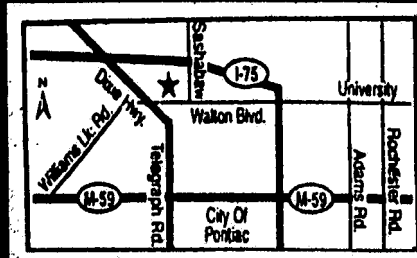
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Would you vote for Arnold Schwarzenegger?



"I don't think so. You have to know the other candidates before you make a decision. And he's the only one splashed all over the news."

—Dawn Covetz



"I don't know yet. It's too early to ask that question."

—Diane Barringer, with granddaughter Lily



"Yes. I think he has some of the conservative beliefs on spending I think are important."

—Rick Huttenlocher



"I don't know. I don't know how much he knows about government."

—Lynn Forbes

By Jennifer Nemer

The Clarkston News' Millstream

A section dedicated to showcasing all the reasons this is a great area to live and work!

Dedicated to volunteerism

BY JENNIFER NEMER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Judith Hoddinott wasn't more than five-years-old when she first recognized a selfless act of kindness.

Visiting grandma in Galveston, Texas, Hoddinott and Grandmother Louise Flagg took a walk to see "Miss Haddie," an elderly black woman who had been sick for some time.

"We travelled from one end to the other; from a wealthy area to an impoverished area via an alley. I had never travelled that far down the alley," Hoddinott remembers.

Flagg brought a home-cooked pie for Miss Haddie.

"Somehow she (Grandma) knew this woman and knew she wasn't doing well. I had a sense their paths wouldn't have normally crossed."

As the woman stood on her porch, that was deteriorating and falling apart before their eyes, Flagg simply asked, "Are you feeling better?"

"That was the first time I had seen a real act of volunteerism in its truest sense. I'll never forget that."

Volunteerism is something that has always been strong in Hoddinott's life.

She watched it in her grandparents, like with Miss Haddie, and with her parents, William and Odie Dickens, as well.

"It was the way I was raised," she admits. "We were always doing something."

Growing up in St. Louis, Mo., the railroad tracks literally divided the north and the south, the poor and rich, the black and the whites. But it didn't stop the Dickens family from stepping over that division.

Her parents did much work across the tracks including building a black baptist church by themselves. Later, Hoddinott's mother -

who at 84, today, is still very much involved in volunteering - founded a rape and abuse crisis center in Jefferson, Mo.

As Hoddinott grew she got involved in her own volunteer activities such as becoming a Candy Stripper at the local hospital.

Or in high school she took a trip with a church youth group to a Navajo reservation at the Four Corners of Colorado, Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico. There she provided manual labor including con-

structing a runway for a general practitioner to fly in, since the reservation had had no prior medical treatment available to them. Hoddinott and the church group also spliced together five trailers to make a school house.

Hoddinott, who once considered the Peace Corps, went back to the reservation for a summer in between college semesters at St. Louis University, where she earned her nursing degree.

It was an adventure, though some of the time she recalls as a "misadventure," like when she got caught in a sand storm, picked up off the ground and twirled around.

But on this second visit, Hoddinott was asked to come to a medical clinic where she helped a diabetic woman who was having a reaction to too much insulin. Not to long after, Hoddinott was asked to join a two-year program to become a Medicine



An artist and registered nurse, Judith Hoddinott of Clarkston still finds time for volunteering, an important part of her life since childhood. Photo by Bob Flath.

'The most generous gift, it really is, is people doing for others.'

Judith Hoddinott,
Clarkston resident

Woman.

Medicine women, in the Native American culture, visit the sick, armed with a belt and sacks of colored sand. They diagnose the illness and identify the best god to enlist to move this evil spirit that attacks away. They then create sand paintings, typically placed underneath the bed of the patient, of the gods.

In this career, Hoddinott said she would have earned \$4,000 a year, if provided with a horse; or \$2,000 a year, without a horse. The average salary in the reservation then was \$600 a year.

But Hoddinott was concerned about living there by herself and turned down the career choice.

She still dedicated her life to the medical field, though, as a nurse. Her career since 1975 has led her to titles as Director of Organ Procurement for the state of Missouri and Senior Coordinator for Barnes Hospital at Washington University. She is currently employed with Gift of Life, the state's organ donor program where she has worked in evaluating donors in southeast Michigan.

Hoddinott, 52, is also busy with her own

See 'Hoddinott' on page 6B



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Around Town

Is parenting driving you crazy? Do you feel frustrated and need to vent? A **parent support group** is now forming. Talk with other parents who feel the same and explore new ways of communicating with your children. The group meets twice a month on Monday evenings beginning in September. Cost per each two-hour meeting is \$5. Call Garwood and Associates at (248) 625-3123 to reserve your place.

The **Widowed Support Group** will meet for an informal sharing meeting Thursday, Sept. 4 at 7 p.m., facilitated by bereavement counselor Alicia Brown. The topic for the evening is "It's Not Fair... Learning to Accept Our Loss." 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.

Visit **Club 5529**, a Christian club for young adults, for AM Drive and Statis (alt/pop/rock) in concert Friday, Sept. 5. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$8 at the door. General admission seating. Club 5529 is located inside the Clarkston Christian Association at 5529 Sashabaw. Call (248) 620-4900 or check out www.5529music.com for more information.

Celebrate Rally Day Sunday, Sept. 7 at Davisburg United Methodist Church, 803 Broadway. Sunday School starts a 9 a.m., followed by worship at 10:15 a.m. and picnic at Dilley Park at noon. Bring chairs, eating utensils, meat and a dish to share. For more information, call (248) 634-3373.

The **Annual Clarkston High School Pom-Pon Golf Outing** will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 7 at Devil's Ridge Golf Course in Oxford. Support the event with a hole sponsorship for \$100, donation of a gift for prizes to golfers, sponsor a golfer for \$100, or give a cash donation utilized to purchase a large door prize. Call Nikcyi Cifani at (248) 673-2890.

The Independence Township Board will hold **budget hearings** Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 7 p.m., and Wednesday, Sept. 23 at 6 p.m. All meetings will be held at the Fire Station No. 1 on Citation Drive. Questions, call (248) 625-5111.

The Clarkston Area Youth Assistance will hold a **membership drive and board picnic** Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 6:30 p.m. at 6859 Deer Hill Drive. Please bring acquaintances you feel would be interested in being

involved in the CAYA. Also, please bring a dish to pass and your own beverage. Cost is \$1/person for the meat. Ice tea will be provided. RSVP no later than Sept. 3. Call (248) 625-9007.

Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLSHA) will be distributing free food, through the **Emergency Food Assistance Program** in Oakland County through September. All senior citizens who are income eligible and not registered may do so by bringing social security cards for all household members, verification of household income and photo identification to the Independence Township Senior Center, inside Clintonwood Park on Wednesday, Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (800) 482-9250 for more information.

Come to Calvary Lutheran Church on Wednesday evenings for a catered dinner at 6 p.m., praise and worship at 6:45 p.m., and classes for all ages from 7:15-8:30 p.m. For more information call (248) 625-3288. Calvary is located at 6805 Bluegrass in Clarkston. The **Fall Feast** begins Sept. 10 and continues through Nov. 19.

To thank visitors and encourage outdoor activity, Oakland County Parks is hosting **Park Appreciation Days** on Remembrance Day, Sept. 11 and Thanksgiving, Nov. 28 at Independence Oaks on Sashabaw. Free park entry and a harvest moon hayride and campfire from 7:15-9 p.m. on Sept. 11. For more, visit www.co.oakland.mi.us.

Neighbor for Neighbor, a nonprofit charitable organization which provides food, clothing and financial assistance to Springfield, Holly, Groveland, Rose and parts of Independence and White Lake townships, will hold a fundraising event, "**Treasures and Treats**," inside the Hart Community Center, at 495 Broadway in downtown Davisburg's Mill Pond Park on Friday, Sept. 12 and Saturday, Sept. 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to buy homemade baked goods and one-of-a-kind donated items. The Springfield Township Parks and Recreation will hold their community garage and sidewalk sale simultaneously.

Lifepointe Chiropractic Center in Clarkston will hold their second annual **Kid's Day Celebration** Saturday, Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the clinic, 5896 Dixie Hwy, Ste. A, to raise funds for Grace Centers of Hope Children's Program. There will be food, prizes, free massages, magicians, clowns, face painters, a moonwalk, and health and safety information. Also offered is a special promotion for all new patients in which Lifepointe will donate their time and services in exchange for a \$25 donation to Grace Centers. The goal is to donate a minimum of \$7,500. Local businesses




Under the direction of Dr. James Wilhelmsen, Clarkston Conservatory of Music is seeking bids from local artists, like Marionette Kubicz, pictured above, interested in displaying quality gallery work. Interested? Stop by 49 Main St. in downtown Clarkston or call (248) 625-3640. Photo by Jennifer Nemer.

are asked to donate goods or services to be raffled off as prizes throughout the day. For more information, call (248) 623-6107.


Discover the many adaptive strategies used by plants and wildlife in order to survive in Michigan on a **guided nature walk** at North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy's Nels Kimball Nature Preserve on Saturday, Sept. 14 at 1:30 p.m. Call (248) 846-6547 to register.

Independence Township Parks and Recreation introduces **Adult Kickball**. This 18 and over co-rec league will be on Tuesday evenings from Sept. 16-Oct. 28 at Clintonwood Park. Teams will play eight games with 10 players per side. Team fee is \$10 and player fees are \$5/residents and \$10/nonresidents. Register through Sept. 4. Call (248) 625-8223.

The Clarkston Community Historical Society's annual **Crafts and Cider Festival** will be held Sept. 20-21, rain or shine, at Depot Park from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The festival will feature more than 100 artists selling their wares, from paintings, sculpture and jewelry to clothing, pottery and stained glass. Entertainment will be provided all day Saturday and Sunday. Many tasty treats including cider and donuts will be available for purchase. Admission is free. A shuttle service will be available from the Clarkston Middle School.



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Locals team up to provide parental support in Clarkston

BY KYLE GARGARO
Clarkston News Editor

Area parents looking for help and support finally have a place to meet others with the same concerns.

Stan Garwood, of Garwood & Associates counseling agency, along with Clarkston resident Jennifer Arkwright are putting together a Parent Support Group which will meet twice a month starting in the fall.

The support group is a spin-off of the highly attended and successful "No More Whining! Develop Positive Behavior in Children," parenting classes that Arkwright has taught through Clarkston Area Youth Assistance for the past three years.

"That was a six week program and what we found out was that after it was over parents still wanted to talk about the issues. They enjoyed the support and wanted help with different issues. That is when I noticed there was a need," Arkwright said.

That is when Arkwright contacted Garwood, who is a board member for the CAYA, to see if he would be interested in teaming up for the project.

"It seemed to me that there was a big gap in the service on this topic in the area," Garwood said. "We want to give support to everyone who needs it. Parenting is one of the most difficult jobs to do and at the same time is the most rewarding. I mean we are talking about the lives of kids."

The meetings are aimed at parents who have kids anywhere from three-years old to 15-years old. They will cover

anything that has to do with parenting.

"We want to help people understand they are not the only ones frustrated about a certain aspect of parenting," Arkwright said. "Together we hope to give each other support and help in figuring some tough things out. It really is a win-win atmosphere."

Some of the topics that will be visited during the meetings are the difference between discipline and punishment, how to talk so kids listen and listen so kids talk and what kind of parents people are.

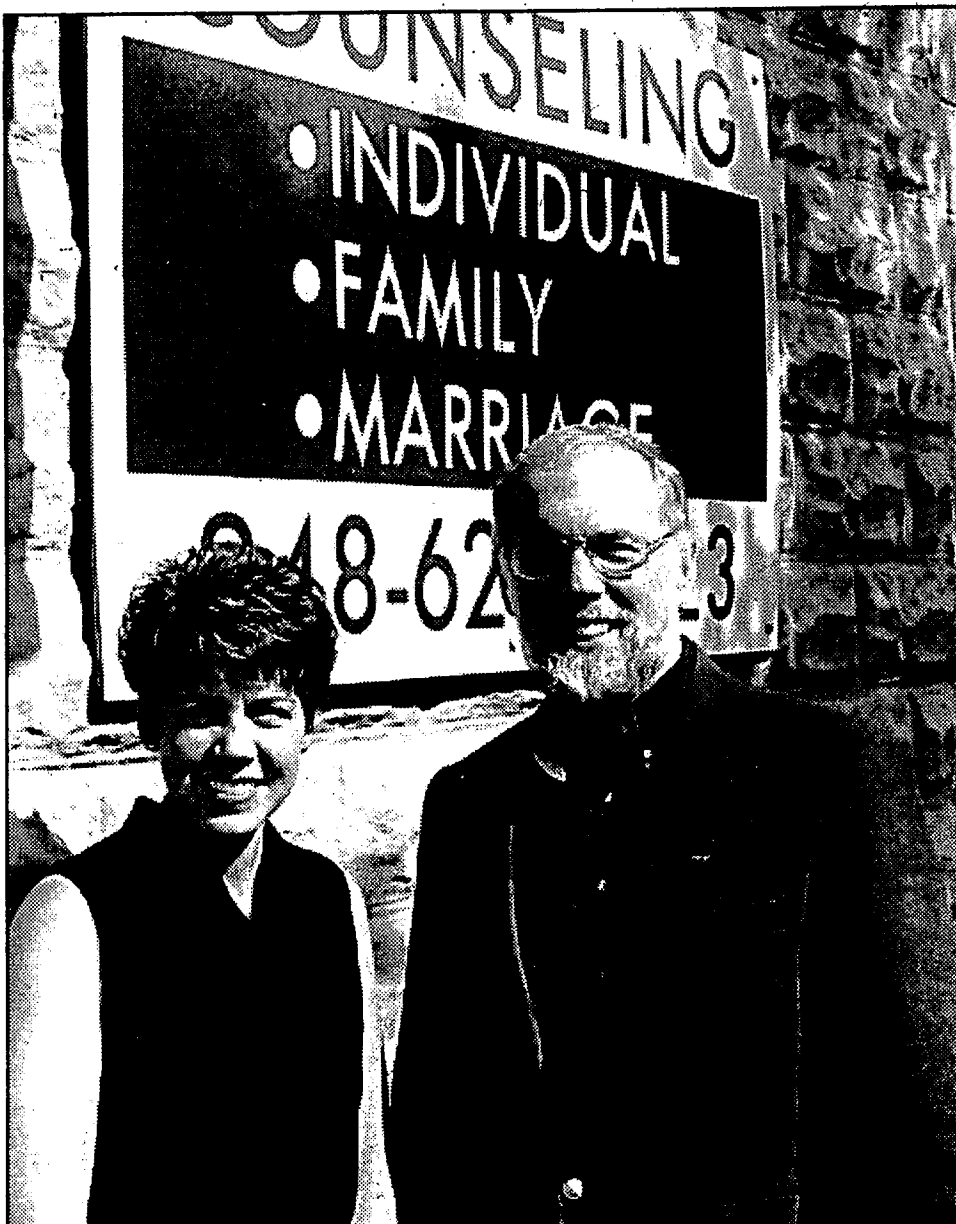
Arkwright has a masters degree in counseling and has also led parenting classes before.

"If you know Jennifer you know she relates well with people and is a leader. We have a convenient location here and have made sure the program is affordable so I hope people take advantage of it," Garwood said.

The Parent Support Group meetings are set for Sept. 15 and 29, Oct. 13 and 27, Nov. 10 and 17 and Dec. 1 and 15. Each meeting begins at 7 p.m. and will be held at Garwood and Associates at 9340 Dixie Highway.

The cost for each two hour meeting is \$5. Anyone interested in attending is asked to call Garwood & Associates at (248) 625-3123 to register for the class.

"We hope to help give the support that everybody needs," Garwood said. "This type of program can be very effective. We want to help people realize they are not alone and help them reduce guilt and relax."



Jennifer Arkwright and Stan Garwood are starting a parent support group. Photo by Kyle Gargaro.

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Milestones



Ryan Seaman, left, and Dr. Anderson

Ryan Seaman of Clarkston, son of Greg and Sally Seaman, received congratulations from Dr. Anderson, friend and colleague of Dr. Martin Luther King, pictured above, following his graduation from Kirksville School of Osteopathic Medicine, Kirksville, Mo. on June 7. Ryan is doing his internship in dermatology at St. John's, Oakland Hospital.

At school...



Cassandra Dobbins

The United States Achievement Academy announced **Cassandra Dobbins** of Clarkston has been recognized for academic achievement as a United States National Honor Roll Award winner.

Dobbins, who attends Clarkston High School, will appear in the United States Achievement Academy Official Yearbook, which is published nationally.

Dobbins is the daughter of David Dobbins and Maria Livieratos-Dobbins

of Clarkston. Grandparents are Spyros and Chris Livieratos of Waterford and Larry and Wilma Dobbins of Clarkston.

Brandon C. Griffith of Clarkston, a 1999 graduate of Notre Dame Prep in Pontiac, recently graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame. He earned a bachelors degree in mechanical engineering and is currently employed with Delphi in Troy.

In service...

Army Reserve Pfc. **Michael D. Beadner** graduated from the chaplain assistant individual training course at the Chaplain School, Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. He earned distinction as an honor graduate of the course.

Beadner is the son of David Beadner and grandson of Irene Beadner of San Diego, Calif. Beadner's wife, Jennifer, is the daughter of Ronald and Vicky Harsch of Clarkston.

The private first class is a 1995 graduate of James W. Robinson Jr. High School in Fairfax, Va.

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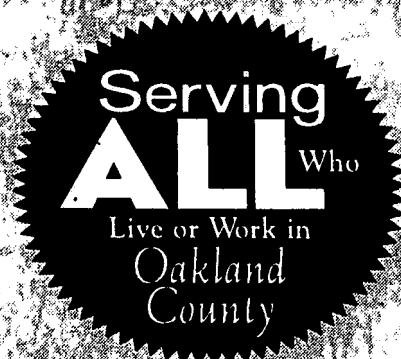
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Religion

Satisfaction...guaranteed?

According to a recent poll most of us Americans are quite satisfied with our lives.

The "Snapshot" poll taken in January 2003 by "USA Today" states 57 percent of us are "very satisfied" and 34 percent are "fairly satisfied." The survey goes on to suggest Americans feel more fulfilled than people in either Britain or France.

Indeed we should be satisfied. We are, for the most part, the best fed, best educated and best equipped bunch of people in the world. This certainly doesn't mean we shouldn't pay more attention to our share of poverty and ignorance. There is always room for improvement. But we, as a nation, are, for the most part, generous and kind when it comes to helping others.

It does seem a little ironic, however, that as a "satisfied" society, much of our economic life thrives on creating dissatisfaction. We are told we need more things. We are inundated with ads that promise newer, better, bigger, faster, improved "stuff." We are constantly told we should "hurry" on down to the store to buy -- whatever. Yet, we're not fazed by this constant insistence. What if your pastor, much less a stranger, told you to hurry now to church, before you miss out on Sunday's sermon. Would you be offended?

I must admit, I'm a little more assured when an advertiser tells me their product comes "Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back." I've taken a few things back. Don't get me wrong. I am a happy American consumer and I believe in competitive capitalism, and I don't believe advertisers or sales people are the devil incarnate. We need them and

they have very honorable professions. Their jobs keep the economy well-oiled and running smoothly.

It isn't more "stuff" we need, we are told we need to accomplish more or better to be satisfied. We are told early on "Winning isn't everything, but it's a whole lot better than losing." An easy trap for a parent is to become competitive through our children. As a coach, I can become dreadfully close to this attitude in the "heat of battle." Now, I don't try to lose and I don't encourage my players to be slack just as long as they have a good time. Competition is good. Doing one's best is a matter of personal character and commitment to others. Setting and accomplishing goals is vital to life. The Biblical writer rightly notes "a desire accomplished is sweet to the soul." Yet the sense of accomplishment lasts until the next game, event, or achieved goal. If we're not careful, we can easily become "accomplishment junkies."

Most of us would say the greatest sense of satisfaction would come in relationships. As long as things are right at home, one can handle just about anything. Then there's the old adage: "As long as you have your health, you have everything." According to a poll taken in 2000, 91 percent of adults said having good physical health is their top priority.

All of these things are very good and should bring us satisfaction. There is nothing wrong with any of them. In fact, God is the One who delights in giving us good things. The apostle James states, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."

The great common denominator in all of the "satisfaction-givers" mentioned is they are changeable and fleeting. Did you notice the afore-mentioned verse said with God "there is no variation or shadow of turning?" He is the unchangeable giver of all that is good. The main mistake we can make is getting caught up in the gifts and not the Giver. He is the One that never changes.

Circumstances, both good and bad, are changing, and



Pastor Russ Reemtsma, First Baptist Church of Clarkston

our "satisfaction meter" spikes and plummets with the circumstances of life. Yet the greatest gift to us is Himself. When His Son rose from the grave, He insured the possibility for all those who accept His gift of salvation to have Him. King David recognized this and stated to God, "You are my refuge, My portion in the land of the living."

Jesus offers in Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV), "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

There you have it...satisfaction guaranteed.

Pastor Russ Reemtsma is the head pastor at First Baptist Church of Clarkston, 5972 Paramus. He can be reached at (248) 625-3380 or russr.fbcc@sbcglobal.net.

From the Bulletin

The First Congregational Church of North Oakland, 5449 Clarkston Rd. 1/4 mile east of Sashabaw in Clarkston will hold their 11th Annual Labor Day Fair, Monday, Sept. 1 from 9-4 p.m. Call (248) 394-0200 for more information.

Visit Club 5529, a Christian club for young adults, for AM Drive and Status (alt/pop/rock) in concert Friday, Sept. 5. Doors open at 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$8 at the door. General admission seating. Club 5529 is located inside the Clarkston Christian Association at 5529 Sashabaw. Call (248) 620-4900 or check out www.5529music.com for more information.

Celebrate Rally Day Sunday, Sept. 7 at Davidsburg United Methodist Church, 803 Brockway. Sunday School starts at 9 a.m., followed by worship at 10:15 a.m. and picnic at Davidsburg Park. Bring chairs, camp stool, etc. to picnic. Refreshments will be provided. For more information call (248) 625-3380.

Clarkston Community Church will hold a day of prayer and fasting on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at 6300 Clarkston Road. For more information call (248) 625-1323.

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

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6300 Clarkston Road
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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

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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

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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

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DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH

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website: www.dixiebaptist.org
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Pastor: J. Todd Vanaman
Sun: 10:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship
11:00 am Morning Worship Service
6:00 pm Evening Worship Service
Wed: 6:45 pm AWANA
7:00 pm Teen Meetings & Adult Bible Study
Nursery available for all services.

Hoddinott

Continued from page 1B

business, Faces in Time, which sells commissioned portraits and house drawings. (Hoddinott first pursued art at the University of Kansas, but found the environment was not for her.)

No matter how busy one is -- Hoddinott's father was Director of International Affairs for a chemical company at the time he built an addition on the afore-mentioned church to be used for the Boy Scouts -- Hoddinott says if it's important, anyone can find time to volunteer.

With her two children, Allison, 15, and Susan, 13, growing older, Hoddinott said her time has started to free up.

So she recently began to look around at what activities she could volunteer for in Clarkston, where she has lived with husband Mark for the past 15 years.

Through Clarkston residents Chuck and Judge Dana Fortinberry, she heard of the Children's Leukemia Foundation (CLF) as well as SCAMP, a summer camp for special needs children and young adults.

For SCAMP, Hoddinott was able to put her artistic talents to use as she donated drawings for a fundraiser and yearly auction as well as suggested the idea and supervised a ballet class for the

day camp.

For CLF, she created drawings of actual children living with leukemia to be placed on the organization's brochures.

"A common theme in volunteering is the involvement of others. I don't do this in a vacuum," she said, noting the help of others like the Fortinberrys who directed her to the two organizations or the people of Frames 'N Art who help frame her donated art at no charge.

"My interest in volunteering is echoed in a lot of groups in Clarkston and I'm sure in North Oakland County," Hoddinott said. "It's very comforting and pleasant how many people are actively involved all the time, outside of their work hours. I like being in their company. They are very happy and pleasant people. Being around the flavor of kindness and consideration is very reassuring."

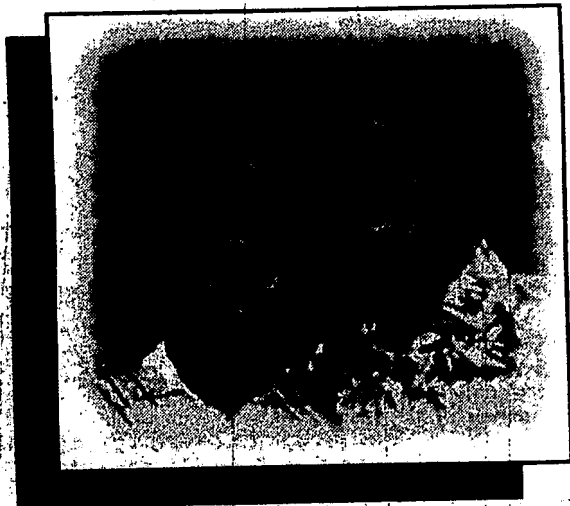
Whether it's collecting goods for Lighthouse Emergency Services; dressing up, with Mark, as Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus to pass out 300 wrapped gifts to children and various hospitals on Christmas day in St. Louis; or donating portraits to those who have lost a loved one, Hoddinott says, "The most generous gift, it really is, is people doing for others."



Hoddinott has volunteered with Clarkston SCAMP, the Children's Leukemia Foundation, Lighthouse Emergency Services and much more. Photo by Bob Flath.

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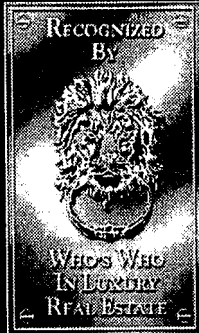
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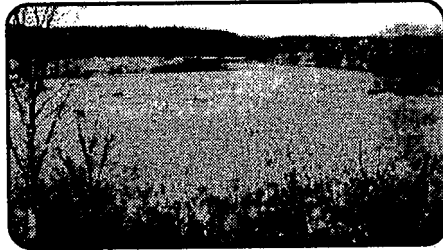


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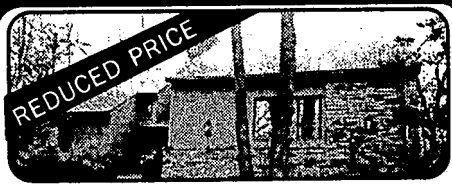


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SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP w/Clarkston schools. 4 bedroom, 2.2 bath lovely home on a cul-de-sac which backs up to "Shepherd's Hollow" golf course. Master suite has separate upstairs for privacy w/huge walk-in closet. Finished 2300 sq ft walk-out basement. 2 car attached garage, galley style kitchen w/new Pergo flooring. Immediate occupancy. **REDUCED** to \$284,900. For more info, call Listing agent, Lisiana @ (248) 563-9889, MLS# 23048480 or log onto www.Lisiana4homes.com



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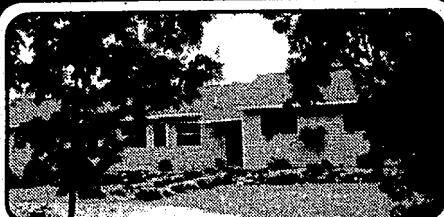
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Call Emy @ 248-693-0098
or Joanne @ 248-343-6033



"CHARMING" best describes this updated Waterford bungalow! Beautiful hardwood floors in the great room and bedrooms accent the open floor plan. Partially finished bsmt. could be 3rd bedroom or office with full bath. Freshly painted in and out, bright sunroom, new roof, well, wood cabinetry to mention a few. All this and a 2+ car garage on a generous lot
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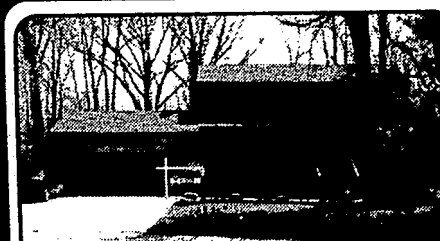
A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY SETTING for this ranch that sits on 1.25 acres. Very quiet with no assoc. Home has a great open floor plan. Kitchen has been completely remodeled with Merrilat cabinet, marble lite solid surface, ceramic tile, built in appliances & Pergo floor, both baths remodeled. All solid 6 panel doors. Newer Pella double hung windows & doorwall. 400+ SF finished basement with bar, wood stove & additional shower. \$224,000
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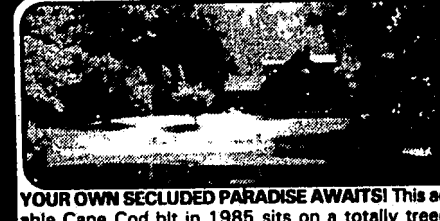
ALL-ROUND RETREAT! New construction with open floor plan and walk-out bsmt. 1st floor master & laundry, lge gourmet kitchen w/ oak floors, din rm, lib, GR w/ fp and 3 car garage. You'll love to call this home! Only \$390,000. (5752-B)
Please call Curt Carson at 248-620-2100.



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CUSTOM WEINBERGER RANCH overlooking views of Lake! Immaculate 3 bdrm, 2 bath home, part fin bsmt, oversized heated garage. Newer roof, a/c, sprinklers, carpet, FR w/doorwalls, wet bar, FFL, ceramic baths, dining rm w/FP & doorwall to deck. Picture perfect landscaping \$228,000
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EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY to own this all brick canal front ranch. Water views from every window. Cul-de-Sac location. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2400+ square feet, includes walkout florida room overlooking nature! 2 car attached garage. Only \$224,900 (3857R2)
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PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP SHINES THROUGH! Four bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, on large fenced yard, 3+ heated garage. Newer: paint, carpet, hardwood floors, vinyl siding, roof, furnace, kitchen w/white cabinets, all appliances (2 years). Finished basement, family room, brick wall fireplace. Lk Privs on 2 all sports lakes (PN28LAK) \$179,900
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Local group offers support for stepfamilies

BY JENNIFER NEMER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Since the year 2000, at least 50 percent of Americans have been involved in a stepfamily as a stepmother, stepfather, stepchild or other steprelative, according to the Stepfamily Association of America.

To be successful, amidst the many challenges of being in a stepfamily, Clarkston residents Laurie and David Norris are forming a support group.

They know first-hand what it's like to be part of a stepfamily.

Laurie was previously married for 12 years and has three children from that marriage -- Meghan Wass, 14, Brendan Wass, 11, and Allie Wass, 8.

David's life, before meeting Laurie, was very different. He was single until age 30, had no children, was career-focused, and had a very active lifestyle.

It was a year after Laurie's divorce, the two met through a radio station dating service.

"He was the only one I responded to. I knew when I heard his voice. I thought we would be good for each other. He was the first person my kids ever met."

David and Laurie dated a year and a half and have been married two years now.

It hasn't always been easy adjusting to a new stepfamily.

"They say it takes five years for a stepfamily to blend completely," Laurie, who is planning to attend Wayne State University to obtain a master's in social work and following wants to focus on education for stepfamilies, said. "There's more issues that can come up than with a traditional family."

Discipline, visitation, and holidays, are just some of the various struggles this stepfamily has faced, David said.

"There's a lot of communication and a lot of compromise," Laurie admits, of battling the struggles head on.

It's been a balancing act for David, who is in management at Chrysler, between "being a good stepfather, husband and still being me."

But David comes from a stepfamily. "My dad who adopted me (and raised David 27 years) was outstand-



Laurie and David Norris of Clarkston, pictured with Laurie's children, from left, Brendan, Meghan, and Allie, are looking to start a local support group for stepfamilies. Photo provided.

ing. He was the greatest dad in the world."

"So he has a great foundation for the life he chose," Laurie said.

Though there have been difficult circumstances, David said, "I would never not tell someone to get involved with someone with kids."

"We have a lot of great times," Laurie said.

"One of the things we discovered," David said, "is that there are a lot of people out there in a second marriage. It's much more prevalent than in the past."

"Because stepfamilies are growing in number, (the support group) is a way to help out each other," Laurie said.

Through membership with the nonprofit organization, Stepfamily Association of America, the Norris' obtained information about starting the support group.

"It's always easier when you know you're not the only one going through it," Laurie said. "I think people want to share."

"Sometimes people are hesitant or uncomfortable. But when there are others sharing, they can then open up," David said.

"We're not counselors," he said, "this is just what we've experienced."

The details of the support group are still pending, like will they meet one or two evenings a month, at the Norris' home or elsewhere? And will they begin mid-September, like they hope? But all of that is dependant

on the interest shown from the public. They do know the support group will be focused on discussion and education, have guest speakers, and possible outings with the kids.

In the end, David and Laurie hope people "feel better about being in a stepfamily."

If interested in becoming part of the stepfamily support group, contact Laurie and David Norris at (248) 922-3226.

Also find more information through the Stepfamily Association of America at www.stepfam.org or www.saafamilies.org.

A closer look at stepfamilies

- 65 percent of remarriages involve children from a prior marriage
- 23 percent of all children live in a legally married stepfamily
- 30 percent of all children live in a married or cohabiting stepfamily
- 1 in 3 Americans is a member of a stepfamily
- 86 percent of stepfamilies are composed of a biological mother and a stepfather

How do stepfamily members view the role of a stepparent?

In a study done by Coleman, Fine and Ganong (1997):

- Parents and stepparents were similar,
- 52 percent identified parent as the ideal role
 - 24 percent identified stepparent
 - 24 percent identified friend

- Stepchildren said,
- 40 percent identified friend
 - 29 percent identified parent
 - 18 percent identified stepparent

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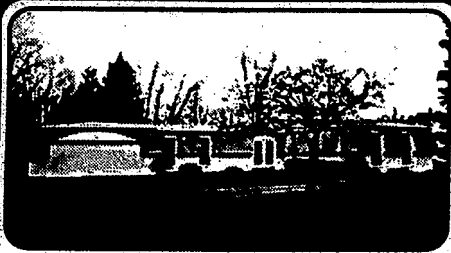
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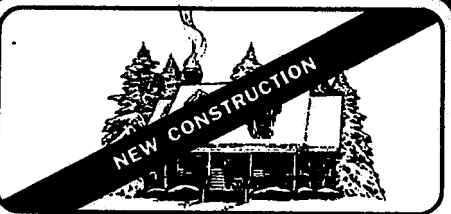
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NEW IN WATERFORD! Very well maintained with the look of professional landscaping & interior decorating. A must see. 3 bedroom, 2 full bath home that won't last long! \$230,000 Call Joe Lozano (810) 625-6496



VERY NICE 3 BEDROOM HOUSE with full partially finished basement & 2 car attached garage. Located in a great family subdivision. \$165,000 Call Ron Boyd (248) 931-7771



NEW LISTING! Great ranch offered @ a superb price of just \$169,900. Spacious floor plan has over 1600 sq. ft! Fenced-in backyard plus a hot tub, too! Nice beach privileges, 3 bdrm, 2 baths. TAP696PS Call ROBIN HANEL (248) 701-5715 garrow-loftis.com/rhanel



3+ POSSIBLE 4 Bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, walk-out part. finished basement, pole barn on 5 acres. \$299,900 Call JUANITA COX(248) 396-0858 garrow-loftis.com/jcox



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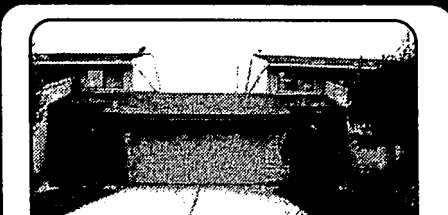
SELLERS MOTIVATED, BRING OFFER! 2000+ SQ. FT. 4 bedroom home, across from boat launch on private all-sports Woodhull Lake. Newer features include siding, roof, C/A, windows. Eat-in kitchen - living quarters in lower level. \$165,000. Call JULIA SUMMERS (248) 396-3002 garrow-loftis.com/jsummers



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STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATE
FILE NO. 2002-281,332

Estate of Wilma Dorothea Prutow, Deceased Date of Birth: March 19, 1910

TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Wilma Dorothea Prutow, Deceased, who lived at 2974 Voorheis, Waterford, Michigan died February 2, 2000.

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 proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Waterford, MI 48341-0449 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

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

SCHMIDT, ISGRIGG, ANDERSON & MILLER
ROBERT ISGRIGG, JR. P24924
2745 Pontiac LK. Rd.
Waterford, Michigan 48328-2653
(248) 682-8800

PUBLIC NOTICE
Because the People Want to Know
INDEPENDENCE TWP.
TOWNSHIP BOARD
AGENDA
7:30 p.m.
TOWNSHIP LIBRARY
DATE: September 2, 2003

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Opening Statements and Correspondence
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Public Forum - *Individuals in the audience have the opportunity to address the Township Board on an issue that is not on the agenda limiting their comments to not more than three minutes.*
7. Consent Agenda
 - a. Minutes
 - b. Approval of Purchase Orders
 - c. Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run
 - d. Second Reading and Adoption of an Amendment to Alcohol Beverage Ordinance

- Unfinished Business**
1. Approval to Enter Into Contract for Water System Improvements.
 2. Untable - Discussion on McCord Property.
- New Business**
1. Resolution Setting Public Hearing Regarding SAD - Andersonville Road and Lake Lane
 2. Bid Award - Sunny Beach #2 Drainage Improvements
 3. Purchase of R.F.I.D. System - Library
- Items removed from Consent Agenda for action or discussion will be moved to the last item under Unfinished Business. Only those matters that are listed on the agenda are to be considered for action. A majority vote of the Board members may add or delete an agenda item.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Because the People Want to Know
INDEPENDENCE TWP.

NOTICE OF HEARING OF PRACTICABILITY AND REVIEW OF WALTERS LAKE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL

TAKE NOTICE that the Walters Lake Improvement Board will hold a public hearing on the practicability of continuing an improvement program on Walters Lake for an additional five years (2004 to 2008). The public hearing will be held at the Independence Township Library located at 6495 Clarkston Road, Clarkston MI at 7:00 p.m., on Monday, September 8, 2003. The improvement program is proposed to include the following:

**WALTERS LAKE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET
2004 - 2008'**

Improvement	Annual Cost
Aquatic Plant Control	\$23,500
P(Herbicide Treatments and Harvesting)	
Watershed Management	\$3,000
Fish Stocking	\$500
Project Oversight and Newsletter	\$5,500
Administration and Contingency	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$37,500

The amount of herbicide use and harvesting in any given year will depend on the type and distribution of plants in Walters Lake and Department of Environmental Quality permit conditions.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a special assessment roll has been prepared and is on file at the office of the Oakland County Drain Commissioner located at No. 1 Public Works Drive, Waterford, Michigan for public examination during normal business hours. Said special assessment roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing the cost of the Walters Lake Improvement Program to benefiting properties.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Walters Lake Improvement Board will meet at the Independence Township Library located at 6495 Clarkston Road, Clarkston Michigan immediately following the aforementioned hearing of practicability for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and for hearing any objections thereto. An owner of or party with interest in real property to be assessed or his/her agent may appear in person to object to the special assessment or may protest such special assessment by letter filed with the Lake Board at or prior to the time of the hearing. Written objections may be filed with or mailed to Walters Lake Improvement Board, c/o Gayle Murphy, Oakland County Drain Commissioner's Office, No. 1 Public Works Drive, Waterford, MI 48328-1907. Notice is also given that the owner of any real property within the Walters Lake Special Assessment District who, having made an objection to said special assessment either in person or in writing, may, within thirty (30) days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll, appeal such special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal or other court of competent jurisdiction.

Walters Lake Improvement Board
Independence Township, Oakland County, Michigan



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 August 19, 2003 meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Independence Township Library.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: Kelly, McCrary, Rosso, Stuart, Wagner, Wenger, Travis
Absent: None

- There is a quorum.
1. Approval of the agenda as amended.
 2. Approved the Consent Agenda as amended, -Approval of Minutes of August 12, 2003. -Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run in the amount of \$634,731.52. -Approval of Second Reading and Adoption - Amendment of Waldon Village Town Center PUD
 3. Approval of motion to authorizing cost for Dixon Engineering to set up plans for Pressure Tank Rehabilitation - Deer Wood I & II Well House.
 4. Approved motion of Bond Counsel and Financial Advisor - Water System Improvements.
 5. Approved motion to accept variance from Development Design Standards, AAT Communication Tower, I-75 & M-15.
 6. Approved motion to accept Carlisle/Wortman & Associates for 2004-2008 Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update.
 7. Approved motion of First Reading of Amendment to Alcohol Beverage Ordinance.
 8. Approved motion to table Discussion of McCord Property.
 9. Approved motion of August 5, 2003 minutes as amended.
 10. Approved motion to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan E. McCrary
Township Clerk

Published 08/27/2003

PUBLIC NOTICE
Because the People Want to Know
INDEPENDENCE TWP.
SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE
AMENDMENT REGARDING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at its meeting on September 2, 2003 at 7:30 pm., the Charter Township of Independence Board of Trustees will consider adoption of Ordinance, which is summarized herein, to prohibit the purchase, possession or consumption of alcohol by minors, to require compliance with the Michigan Liquor Control Act of 1998, and to provide penalties and sanctions for violations thereof. A true copy of the full text of the Ordinance can be inspected or obtained at the office of The Charter Township of Independence Clerk 90 North Main Street, P.O. Box 69, Clarkston, Michigan 48347.

SECTION 1 OF ORDINANCE
Sections 3-1 and 3-7 of Chapter 3 of the Independence Township Code are hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTIONS & CATCHLINES
Section 3-1. Compliance with State Liquor Control Code of 1998

Requires compliance with the Michigan Liquor Control Code of 1998 as amended, within the Township.

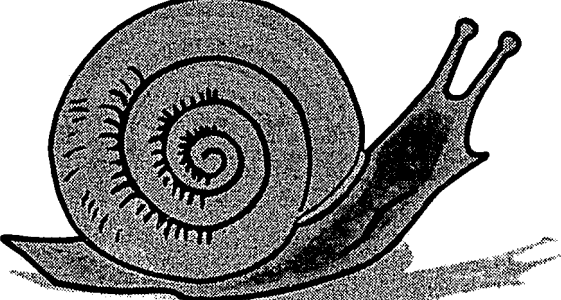
Section 3-7. Persons Under 21. Unlawful Purchase Consumption or Possession of Alcoholic Beverages erages

Provides that it is unlawful for persons under 21 years of age to purchase, possess, or consume, or attempt to purchase, possess, or consume alcohol, Defines The term "consume", creates a presumption of consumption based on bodily alcohol content levels, and provides penalties and license sanctions Authorizes a peace officer to administer % preliminary breath test or other alcohol test to determine bodily alcohol content, provides for the admissibility of such tests in court, identifies a penalty for refusing to submit to a preliminary breath test, and authorizes peace officers to notify the parents, custodian or guardian of a person under 18 of the alleged offense. Provides employment, educational, religious and law enforcement exceptions.

Section 2 of Ordinance
The provisions of this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication as provided by law.

Section 3 of Ordinance
All ordinances or puts of ordinances conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed, however, such repeater shall be to the limited extent of express conflict and shall not terminate the full force and effect of an ordinance to the extent that it regulates subject matter outside the scope of this Ordinance,
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE
Joan E. McCrary, Township Clerk

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Print Lost

Back to school!



In their new school duds and lugging their book bags, Clarkston kids headed back to the classroom Monday, Aug. 25.



(Clockwise, starting from top) Crossing guard Patty Gilbert stops traffic for Diana McGrath with Lauren, first grade, and Christopher, third grade, on their way to the first day of school, Aug. 25, at Independence Elementary. Principal Chris Turner talks with Desiree Nedler and kids Tommy, fifth grade, and Amanda, eighth grade. Third grader Rosa Ruiz arrives off the school bus.



the back page...

Photos
by
Jennifer
Nemer



Let *The Clarkston News* come to your school event. Call (248) 625-3370.