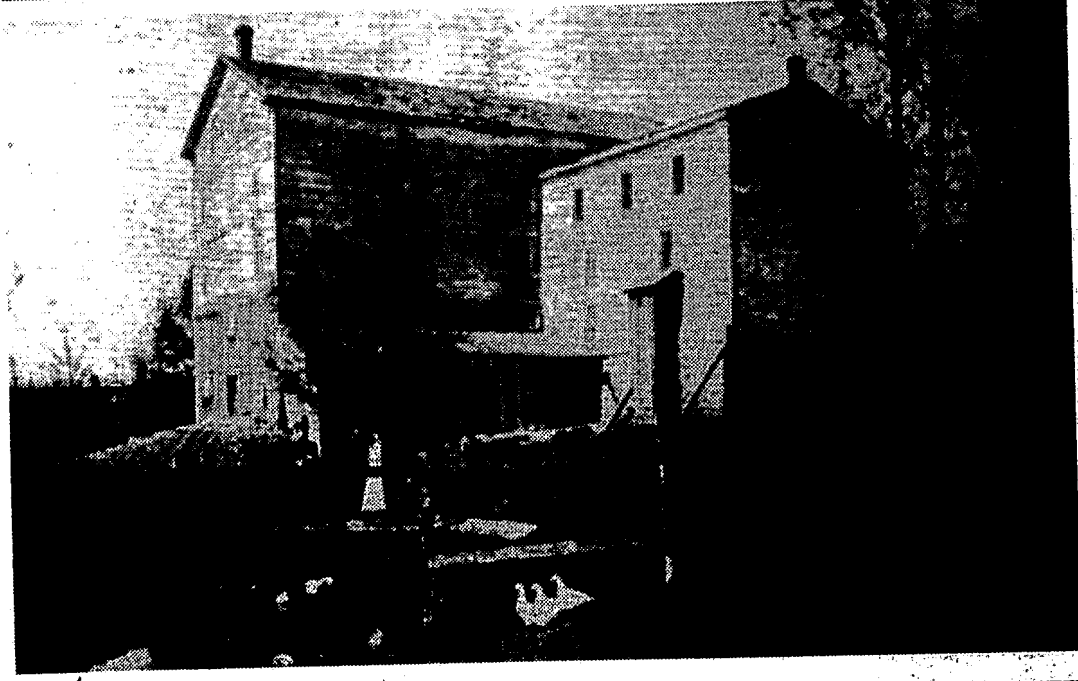
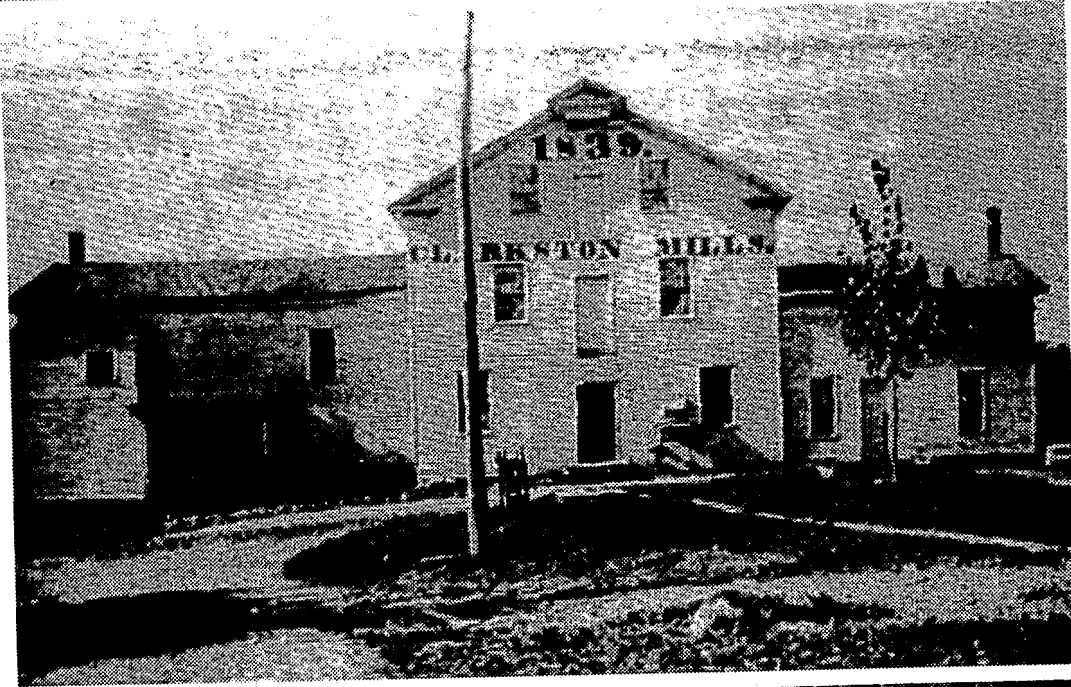


The Clarkston

Wednesday
May 18, 2005



Special
Anniversary
Issue
published
in The
Clarkston
News and
Penny
Stretcher



1929-2004

Welcome to downtown Clarkston!



The building which now houses the offices of *The Clarkston News*, 5 S. Main St., is prominent in this photo of downtown Clarkston. In fact, our building is the only one from this photo still standing. Look for the arched windows. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS

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History of Clarkston (Mi) news

By Don Rush
Assistant Publisher
(and 1981 Clarkston High School graduate)

In May 1994 I penned a quick history of newspapering in our hometown of Clarkston, Mich., USA. It was fraught with spelling and grammatical errors -- just the kind of mistakes my English teachers at Clarkston High School encountered when reading my stuff.

I have worked for the company for 20 years and in that time, I have learned that my first quick history not only contained the aforementioned mistakes, but it was also incomplete. By talking to James A. Sherman, Sr. and reading an article by Constance Lektzian-Scafe, I've pieced together another history, hopefully with less mistakes and yet more enlightening/entertaining.

* * *

Though the brothers Clark, Jeremiah and William, founded Clarkston Village in the mid-1830s, it wasn't until after the Civil War that the town had its first newspaper. Called *The Clarkston Enterprise*, this newspaper was published every two weeks until the end of 1878.

Remember, history fans, printers of the late 19th century were an independent lot -- okay, they could be called drifters. Moving from area to area until they found prosperity (or were driven out). Two printers drifted into Clarkston within 10 years of each other.

In 1895, *The Clarkston Ad-Vertiser* was started. Records don't indicate when it ended, but it didn't last long. By 1905, another printer wandered into town and started the weekly paper called *The Clarkston Record*. It lasted all of six months.

While the paper did not last long, it did pique the interest of one of the Clark family descendents. As a lad, Lee Clark

collected news items for *The Record*. Rumors have it, that sometime after *The Record* folded, Lee found himself with two jobs: one, working with his father who carved monuments in the stone building at M-15 and Waldon Road; and two, as a cashier at the Clarkston State Bank.

Ever the enterprising young man, Lee started to sell advertisement space on a chalk board to local farmers.



Bill Stamp, owner/publisher 1933-1961, 1966.

In time this grew to become a small, four-page, eight-inch by 10-inch paper called *The Community News*. That was in 1920. It looks to have lasted for about nine years --

about the time *The Clarkston News* was established.

The News was founded just one month before the stock market crash of 1929. The first edition was Sept. 23, 1929. Somebody once said, "timing is everything." The timing to start a newspaper and make a buck was not 1929. Subsequently, the Great Depression chewed up and spat out five *Clarkston News* publishers in four years.

In the masthead of the January 1, 1932 *Clarkston News*, Sylvia Connolly was listed as editor and manager. Eveleth Hancher and P.O. Pedersen were publishers and Mrs. A.B. Wompole was "Clarkston Resident Representative." By December 16, 1932, this item appeared on Page One: "With this issue of *The Clarkston News* and *Ortonville Progress*, new publishers are



Jim and Hazel Sherman owned and operated the Clarkston News until their three children took over in 2001. See their children's story on page 5 A.

entering the field here.

"Although we moved here from Indiana, that state is not our home. Michigan is the home state of Mr. Banninger, whose parental home is Elk Rapids."

Hildegard H. Banninger was listed as publisher and business manager and Connolly as editor and publisher.

It wasn't until 1933, when William H. and Ann Stamp purchased the paper, that stability found its way to *The Clarkston News*. Stamp and his wife were from Detroit, where he was an attorney. They wanted out of the city and he wanted a hobby. They purchased *The Clarkston News* and owned it through the 1960s.

According to former owner/publisher James A. Sherman, Sr., "the Stamps didn't want a crusading newspaper. They just wanted to print community news. They moved to Clarkston and wanted to make friends, not enemies."

Wrote the Stamps, "Much cooperation is needed in the way of news items. By arranging to keep *The Clarkston News* office posted on news activities a more interesting newspaper can be published. This, however, requires help from the public. If it is not convenient to phone in your news items, and until such time as a downtown office is established, articles for publication may be left at Huntly's Drug Store or any other business establishment."

(Note to modern-day readers: We still need help from the public. If you have news items, get 'em to us!)

William handled advertising sales while Ann took care of the news side of the business. The Stamps ran their community newspaper until 1961, when they sold it to Robert Wilson. Wilson published *The Clarkston News* until 1966, when the Stamps again took over, soon selling the operation to James and Hazel Sherman.

"When we bought *The News*," James Sherman said, "Stamp was the town's Justice of the Peace. He served as justice and ran *The Clarkston News* out of the same building. Our first day of ownership was a Monday, following a particularly rowdy weekend. At 9 a.m. two state troopers marched through *The*

News office, followed by a handcuffed man and a shackled prisoner and another police man. Hazel would have none of that. By 10 a.m. I was looking for a new office."

He found an office in the building of dentist Gary Ushcz -- at M-15 and Waldon. In 1967, the Sherman's moved *The News* to one of the oldest store buildings in Clarkston, 5 S. Main Street. They purchased the building in 1970.

When the Sherman's purchased *The Clarkston News* in 1966, it was eight-pages with a paid circulation of 1,133. Today *The News* averages about 44 pages of local news and advertising each week with a paid circulation just under 3,500.

In 2004, we printed 2,872 pages of local stuff. Today *The News* staff at 5 S. Main, numbers nine. Their efforts grossed about \$800,000.

And, while Jim and Hazel Sherman are no-longer owners of *The Clarkston News*, their family still is. Their children -- Jim, Jr., Luan Offer and Susan Speed now operate the business. Jim as publisher, Luan heads up all office operations and Susan is in charge of our composition and pre-press departments.

With the help of lots of good people in the community and the efforts of many dedicated staff, the Shermans have built an award-winning publication that continues to grow with our community.

* * *

Now, back to writing in the first person style (see teacher, I did learn something whilst in your English class):

Though we like to think of ourselves as an "independent" community newspaper, *The Clarkston News* is actually part of a group. That group, Sherman Publications, Inc. (owned by the Sherman family) also publishes weekly *The Oxford Leader*, *Lake Orion Review*, *The Citizen* (in the Ortonville/Goodrich area) and total market shoppers, the *Penny Stretcher*, *Ad-Vertiser* and *Metamora Crossroads*.



5 South Main Street -- home to the Clarkston News since 1967

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All in the family business

Sherman kids all grown up, taking the News into the 21st century

By Don Rush
Assistant Publisher

Somebody once said of the newspaper business that "ink get's in your blood."

And, so it goes with the owners of *The Clarkston News*. The ink of community journalism runs naturally in their veins. Jim Sherman, Jr., Luan Offer and Susan Speed have been around the newspaper business their entire lives -- their parents Jim Sr., and the late Hazel Sherman, purchased their first community newspaper, *The Oxford Leader* when oldest child "Jim-Jim" Jr., was less than a year old. That was 1955.

The Sherman family business grew to include *The Clarkston News* in 1966, *The Lake Orion Review* in 1972 and two total market place shoppers, the *Advertiser* and the *Penny Stretcher*. During that time they also raised their children -- often giving them odd jobs around the shop.

"My job was to go in back and wash out the sinks," oldest daughter Luan re



Please see Family, page 6A Second-generation newspaper family, from the left, Susan Speed, Jim Sherman, Jr., and Luan Offer

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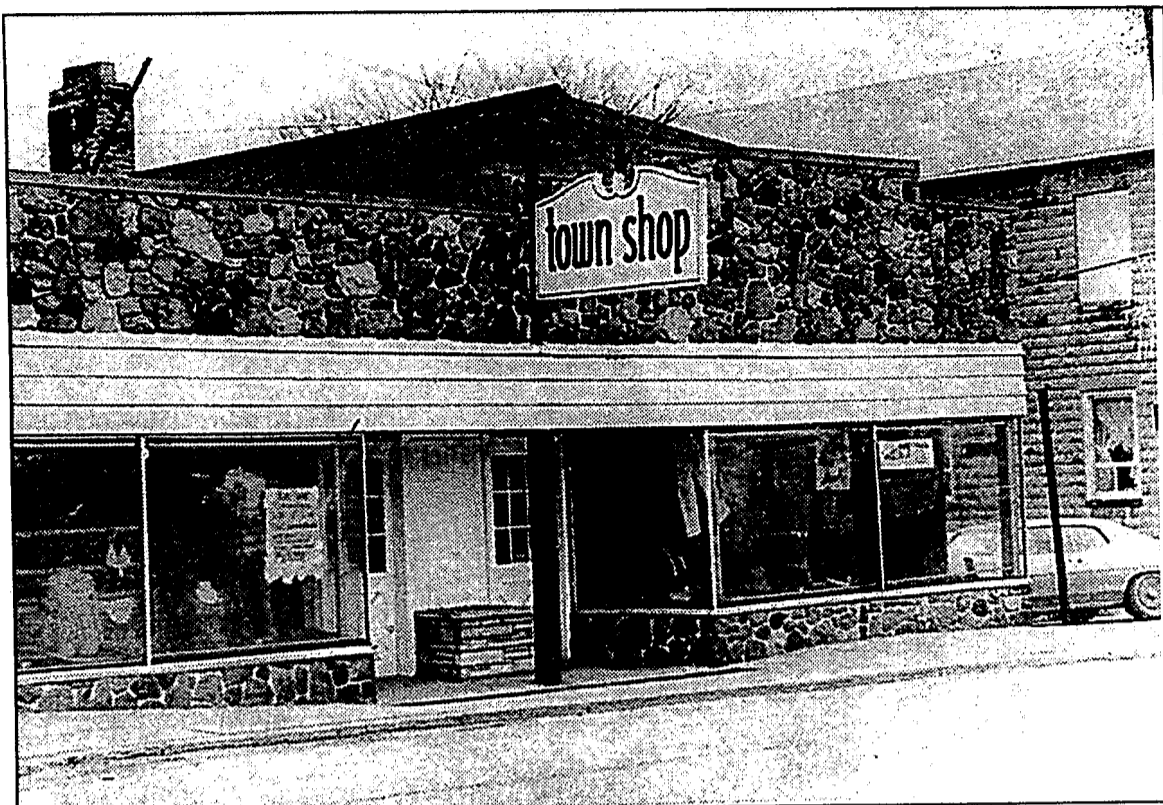
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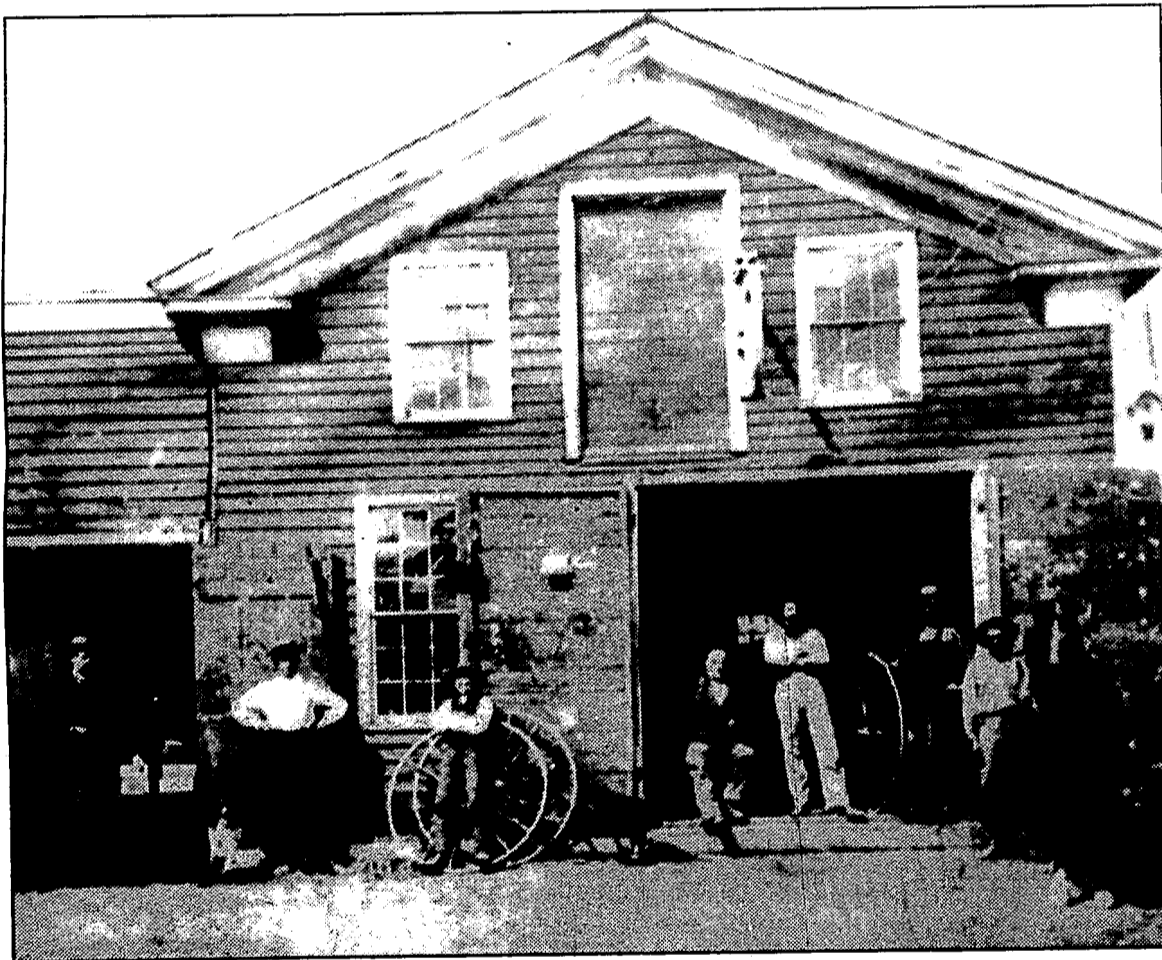
Historical businesses throughout Clarkston



The Town Shop was Fred and Sheila Ritter's first clothing store.



McDonald's employee assists a customer. Photo taken in 1973.



Before the advent of the motor vehicle, people depended on this Clarkston carriage shop for their transportation needs. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS



A look at the downtown business district shows grocery and dry goods stores. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS

Family

Continued from page 5A

calls "My mom just wanted to get me out of the front office so she could get her work done."

Luan, who graduated from Michigan State University with an education degree, now runs the very office her mother shooed her out of. As her mother did before her, Luan takes charge of bookkeeping and the hiring and training of front office personnel in all of our offices.

Luan, affectionately knick-named "Payroll Queen," also makes sure everyone of our 50 or so employees is paid.

She's married to Bob Offer. They have two children, Dan, 19 and Karen who just turned 17.

"Jim-Jim" has grown from the days of smelting lead with his father, taking sports pictures and selling advertising to being publisher, and simply "Jim." Under his tenure as publisher, Sherman Publications, Inc., started the very successful community newspaper, *The Citizen*, for folks in the Ortonville/Goodrich area.

"The earliest memories I have," Jim said, "were

Saturday mornings dad grabbing me, taking me to work with him so he could teach me to smelt lead.

"I took sports pictures and I remember the first guy I ever saw float through the air from the top of the key to make a lay up was Dan Fife. We'd take pictures in Oxford and then make it to Clarkston for the second half of their basketball games."

As publisher of the *Clarkston News* since the early 1990s, Jim said his youth helps him with his responsibilities now.

"I learned a lot more being a part of the family business than I did going to school. As soon as I was old enough to go, I attended Michigan Press Association seminars with Dad -- and what I learned at the dinner table, a sense of community and of strong values are things I really couldn't learn anywhere else."

Publisher Jim's mission is to continue to grow strong community newspapers and run the family business at a profit. He's married to Linda.

The third member of the Sherman trifecta is the "baby of the family," Susan Speed.

"When I was growing up, I always hung around the comp (composition) department. And, for summer va-

cation I work with them putting ads together."

Back in the 1970s and up until the early 1980s, all ads -- the entire paper was put together my hand -- cut and paste. Cut with scissors and razors and paste with wax. Computers didn't enter the picture until about 1981.

"I thought I'd grow up and be a graphic artist. Then when I went to college I wanted to go into computers. Now, I head up the comp department and everything is done on computers."

Susan is married to Tim Speed. They have three children, Savannah, 9 and twins Trevor and Haley, 5. Susan also heads up the pre-press operations.

All three siblings are thankful for their "on the job" training by their parents, and for their parents not pushing them into the family business.

"They just wanted us to be happy," Luan said. "It's not that they didn't want us to continue the business, it's just they never pressured us into it. There really isn't a difference between growing up in the business and now owning it. It's always been a part of our family -- a part of our lives."

And, they plan for it to continue that way.

Clarkston business people make their mark

To help celebrate the 75th anniversary of *The Clarkston News*, staff members at the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce sat down and interviewed several business leaders in our community and asked them to share their memories of business growth and change in the Clarkston area. There have been a lot of changes in our community over the years, changes that have reflected national trends, but also a prevailing local spirit of independence.

Dick Morgan

In the heart of historic downtown Clarkston, visitors will find Morgan's Service Station. Opened in 1932 by Dick Morgan when he was just 17 years old, Dick can still be found at his business. It was there, over a cup of soup, that Dick recounted to Geri Batt how he remembers Clarkston.

In 1932, Morgan's was a full service auto repair station with a gasoline pump. At the time, the town was full of retail business. Main Street boasted four grocery stores, two hardware stores, three car dealerships, three barber shops, an apothecary and a bank. There was also a grist mill, central telephone operator and a restaurant.

Dick described Clarkston as a "thriving town." Farmers would bring their crops into the mill, go eat and shop in town. He mentioned enjoying conversations with who he referred to now as the "old timers."

Personal service was important in those years. If you dropped off a prescription, it was filled and delivered to you when requested. At the grocery stores, two men worked to fill your order. Customers were waited on and treated with kindness.

Dick said, "Fifty years ago, no one was in a hurry." He too prided himself on giving personal service.

Through the years, the village has remained the same size, one-square-mile, but the downtown area has changed considerably. The grist mill is now a real es-

tate office, as is one of the old car dealerships. Dick believes the development of franchise businesses forced the independent business owner out. Pharmacies like Walgreens, Rite Aid and CVS of today replaced the small business owner.

The independent town hardware stores were also slowly driven out of business, first by franchise stores and then "big box" businesses like Home Depot. While this was a gradual process in the town of Clarkston, the 80's brought forth the greatest changes. Offices replaced retail in many buildings.

"Time waits for no one," Dick Morgan says.

His family maintains the integrity of his business at 28 S. Main Street, still providing the personal service that Dick believes customers deserve.

Dick, who has lived on Washington Street since 1945, says he continues to spend 10 hours a day at work. He and his family have endured the changes and still maintain a thriving business in Clarkston.

Buck & Joan Kopietz

Like Dick Morgan, Buck and Joan Kopietz are lo

Please see Business, page 8A



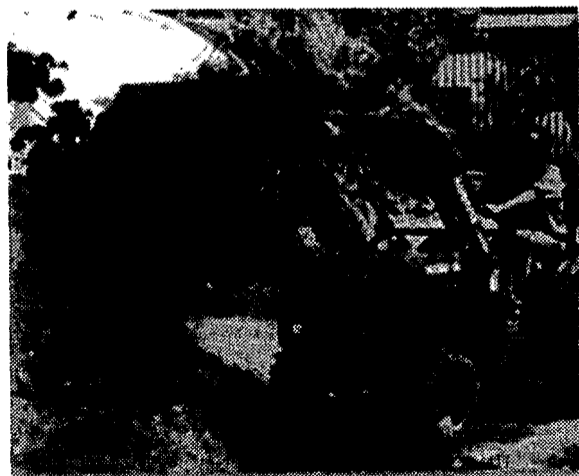
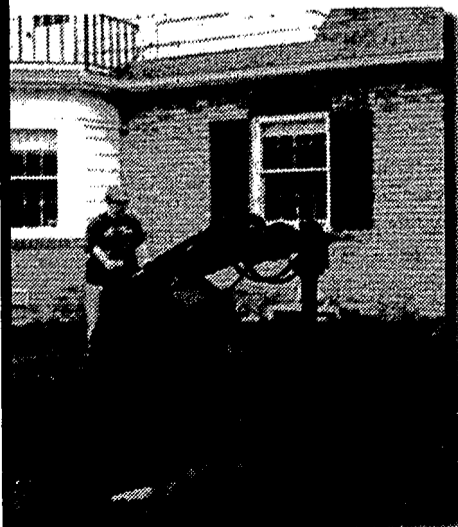
Fred Ritter remembers that his dad built a farm market in 1947 where Ritter's Plaza now stands on Dixie Highway near M-15. Photo submitted

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Business

Continued from page 7A

cal business owners who know the village well.

Buck and Joan moved to Clarkston in 1973 opening their first business, Tierra Arts and Design at 3 S. Washington Street. In 1975, they moved their business to 20 N. Main Street where Castlewood Homes are located today.

The couple recall the downtown area doubling in retail businesses between 1975 and 1980, hitting its peak in the early 1980's. The current Prudential Building, the apartment building across from Tierra Fine Jewelers and Mill Street Mall housed a number of small shops and a large restaurant. Clarkston was booming!

"This was the Camelot era of business in the village," Buck and Joan agree.



The building housing the offices of Max Broock Realtors as it looked in 1895. From the files of The Clarkston News

There were approximately 45 stores in downtown during that time frame and visitors came from all around including Birmingham to shop in Clarkston. The business district at this time was primarily between Washington and Church Street.

Some examples of stores included: Clarkston Auto Parts in the Clarkston Travel Building, Reekwald Realty where the Village Grill is, Hallman Apothecary in the Treasured Gifts and Beyond space, Ye Coffee Shop, Pam's Sewing Basket, Pat's Beauty Salon and the Clarkston Bar, where the Clarkston Café is today.

Across the street, the clothing store owned by Fred and Sheila Ritter is now a real estate office.

The Kopietzes described this era as a time when residents' primary shopping needs could be met in downtown Clarkston. It was a busy small town atmosphere. Streets filled with local walking traffic and visitors. The current Summit Place Mall, then known as Pontiac Mall, was available for more extensive shopping.

During this time frame, Concerts in the Park were sponsored by BAIT (Business Association of Independence Township), which later started the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce. Joan Kopietz, a BAIT member, was responsible for Concerts in the Park for 10 years before they were taken over by the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce.

Business changed drastically in the early 80's, due to a financial crunch in the United States and local government. Interest rates soared and small businesses in the Clarkston area folded. Retail buildings were sold and converted to office space, primarily real estate. The morale

of the business community suffered and the draw of residents and visitors to Clarkston for shopping decreased dramatically. Tierra Arts and Crafts moved to 64 N. Main in 1982 replacing one of the town's closing hardware stores.

The Clarkston Union Bar and Kitchen was opened in 1996 when the Catallo Family converted an old church into the current restaurant. The Kopietz closed their art and office supply in the late 90's and concentrated their efforts on the Tierra Fine Jewelry portion of their store renting additional space out to other small businesses.

The Hallman's Apothecary also closed in the early 90's and after remaining vacant for awhile became a gift store. The Kopietz opened the Millpond Bed and Breakfast at 155 N. Main Street in the 90's, repurposing the building from its former use as a funeral home.

The addition of big business in Oakland County, beginning with the Chrysler Corporation Headquarters in Auburn Hills, have contributed to the increase of residential areas and the booming housing market in Clarkston/Independence Township.

Strip malls and new retail businesses are popping up all over in Independence Township, but the downtown section of the Village of Clarkston remains fairly constant and the same at this time. Retail businesses, restaurants and entrepreneurs have one signature characteristic in common, they are unique.

Fred and Sheila Ritter

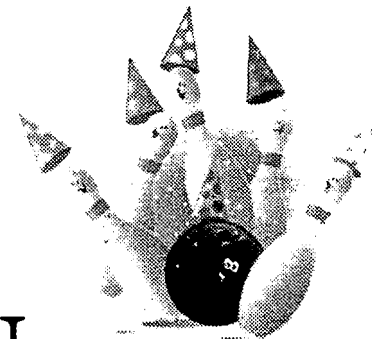
Fred and Sheila Ritter have also been in the Clarkston area for many years.

Please see Business, page 10A

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Plus \$7.00 registration fee
Includes - Trophy & End of season pizza party

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1 adult - 1 child (8-17 yrs) Bowl 13 Weeks
When - Thursday @ 7pm - Begins May 19th
Cost - \$12.00 per week, per team,
Plus a \$7.00 registration fee per team
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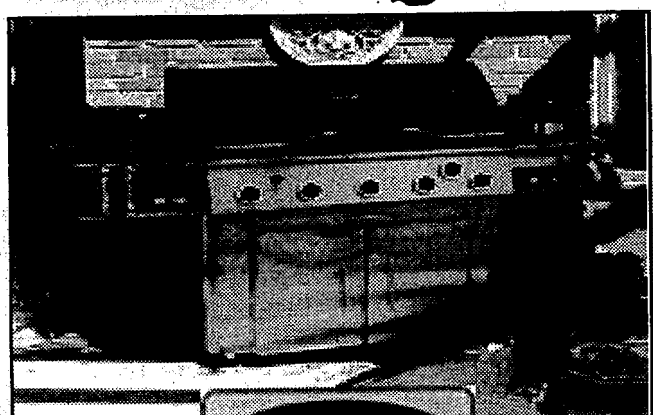
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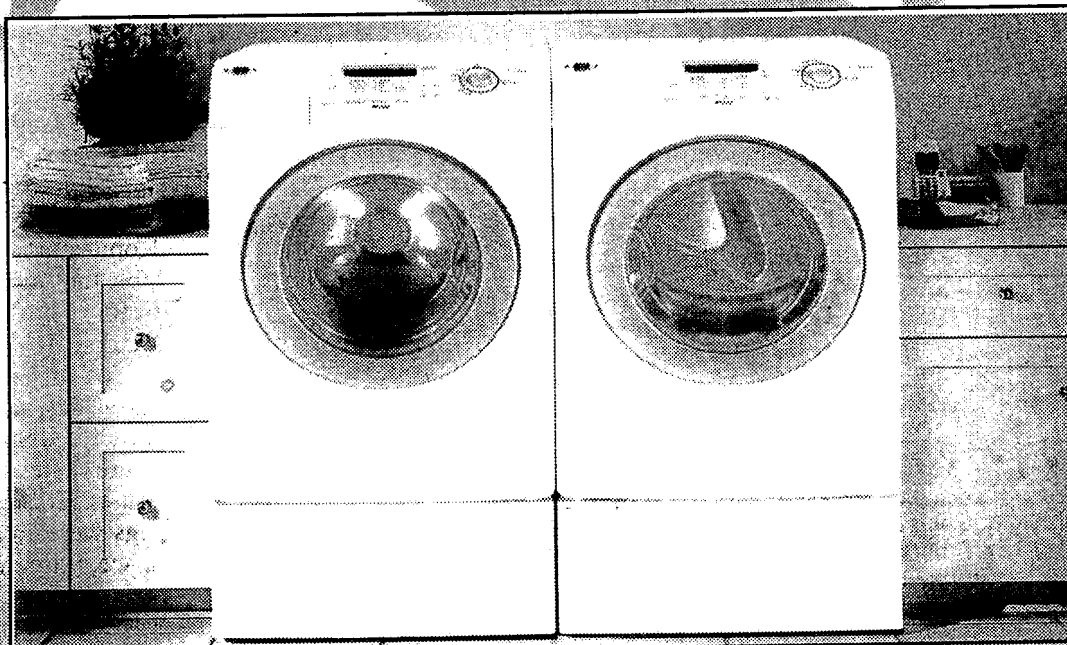
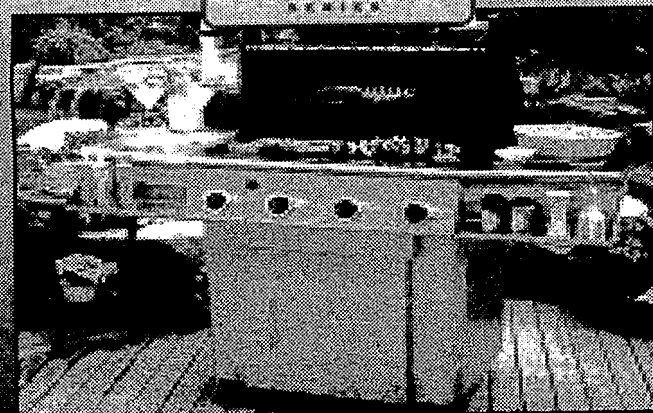
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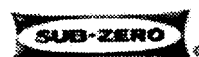
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Business

Continued from page 8A

Fred remembers his dad built a farm market in 1947 where Ritter's Plaza now stands. The market was equivalent in size to a four car garage. Open seven days a week offering fresh fruits and vegetables, Fred's father would make a trip down to Eastern Market's produce terminal every day.

The Ritter family sold the market in 1984/85. Since that time, it has been repurposed and expanded so that is now houses several area businesses, including Country Cords, Stride Rite shoes, Classic Coney, Subway and Reflections hair salon.

Take a ride with Fred Ritter and he can give you the history of buildings and businesses in the Clarkston area.

"Red Knapps? Well you may remember that it was Duggan's, before that it was Alexander's, but do you remember the original Tally-Ho Bar & Restaurant owned by Chris Nicolas?" Fred asked Zoe Aldrich during his interview at the Chamber office.

Next to the Ritter farm market was House Lanes. When the bowling alley moved across the street to become Cherry Hill Lanes, the building was converted into the Platter Box, a teen dance club. Later on it became the Hullabaloo. When Gary Lessel bought it in 1975, it was converted into an office and storage for his plumbing business.

Change is part of the history of Clarkston area businesses. The Ritter's resided for 12 years in the building that is now the Law Office of Robert Kostin. However, the house was originally located where the Burger King is now on

Dixie Highway. In 1984, the house was picked up and moved to its present location.

Perhaps the biggest change impacting the Clarkston area was the opening of I-75 in 1963. Summer vacationers who would use Dixie Highway to head up north, now took I-75. As people's traffic patterns changed, so did the shopping patterns. Clarkston gained exposure and access with the addition of I-75 and it continues to be a real advantage for businesses and homeowners living and working in the Clarkston area, but when it was first opened, it dramatically impacted the businesses left on Dixie Highway.

Hank Hogan

Hank Hogan of Max Brook Realtors remembers how things were different when he first moved to Clarkston 19 years ago. At that time, there were only two grocery stores and you bought a lot of your produce in cans. Like Buck Kopietz, he remembers when Main Street was full of unique retail shops. There was a wine bar in the Mill Street Mall which also housed the Machus restaurant corporate headquarters.

The Clarkston Café served a unique and inspiring menu, including items such as antelope. It was the training ground for several young chefs before they went

on to found their own restaurants. Customers were tantalized with an ever changing menu that was written on a chalkboard, not printed.

Max Brook's offices were originally a hardware store. Hillman's Drug store was on Main Street and *The Clarkston News*, "Well, *The Clarkston News* has been here for as long as I can remember!" Hank told Zoe Aldrich.

Frank Ronk (Tink Ronk)

Frank Ronk, "Tink," was the first Fire Chief in Clarkston. Prior to that he was a local barber. Frank grew up on Main Street. His mother was the postmaster for Clarkston for 37 years.

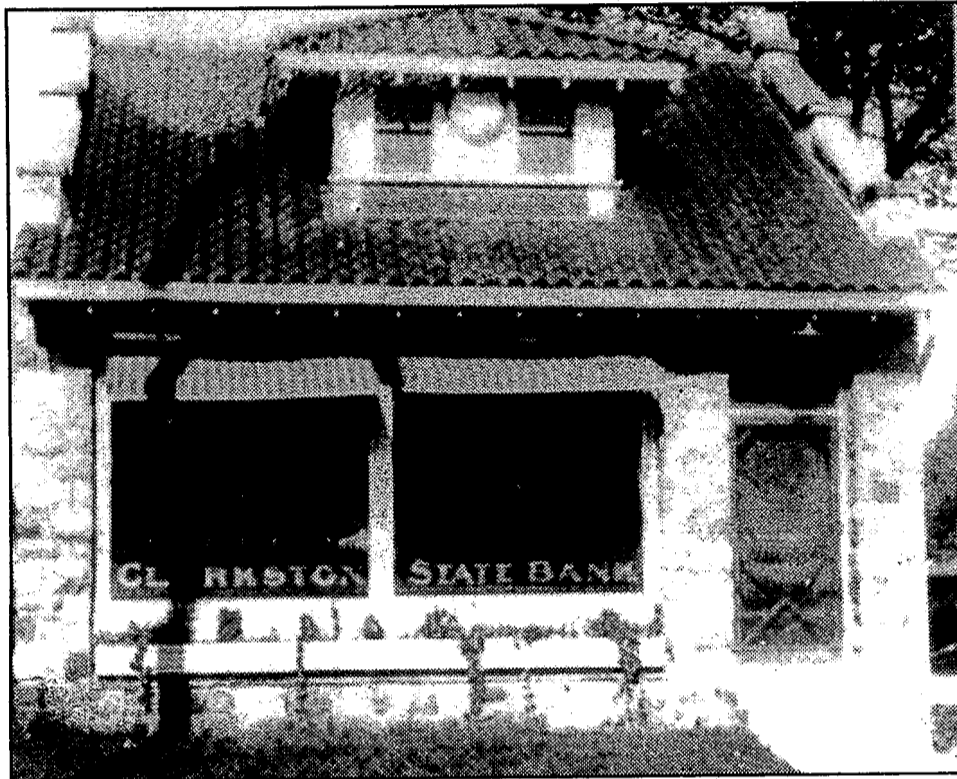
Frank attended school at the building that is now the Clarkston Community Education building.

At that time, which was more than 60 years ago, it housed Kindergarten through 12th grades. There's been a lot of changes at Clarkston schools in the past 75 years!

The corner of Washington and Main Street is now a city parking lot, but it used to house a well-known hotel called the Caribou Inn. A popular vacation destination, postcards of the Caribou Inn in Clarkston can be found in antique stores and on eBay.

During the 1940's, Henry Ford came to Clarkston, opening a plant on Mill street and hiring 40-50 people. This really helped the economic activity in Clarkston and Mr. Ford remained a frequent visitor to the Clarkston area.

Compiled and provided by The Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce Staff, 2005: Penny Shanks, Geri Batt and Zoe Aldrich.



The Clarkston State Bank in the 1970s. The bank was chartered in 1913 and organized by local businessmen. From the files of *The Clarkston News*



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The Total Insurance Services family: Back row (left to right) Mike Descamps, Amy Barry, Chuck Zamek, Jim Litwin, Thelma Wright and Hal Bannasch. Front row (left to right) David Warshawsky, Gary Macks, Georgine Ortez, Dottie Patton, Jolene Boggs, Sharon White and Bill Smith.

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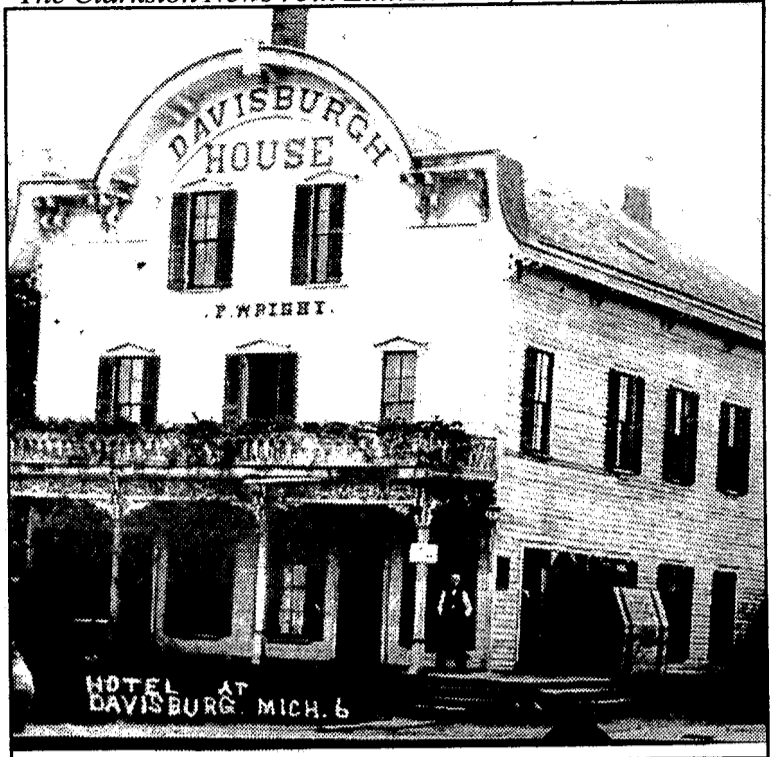
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The way it was...



Think parking a problem now? Downtown Clarkston experienced traffic congestion during the horse and buggy era, also. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS



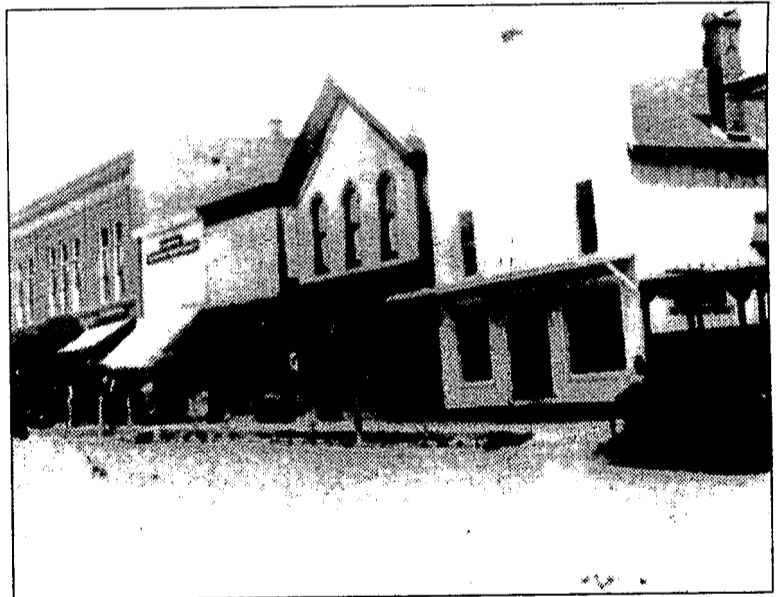
The historic Davisburgh House(notice the different spelling) was also known as the Davisburg Hotel. Photo courtesy of Connie Lektzian-Scafe



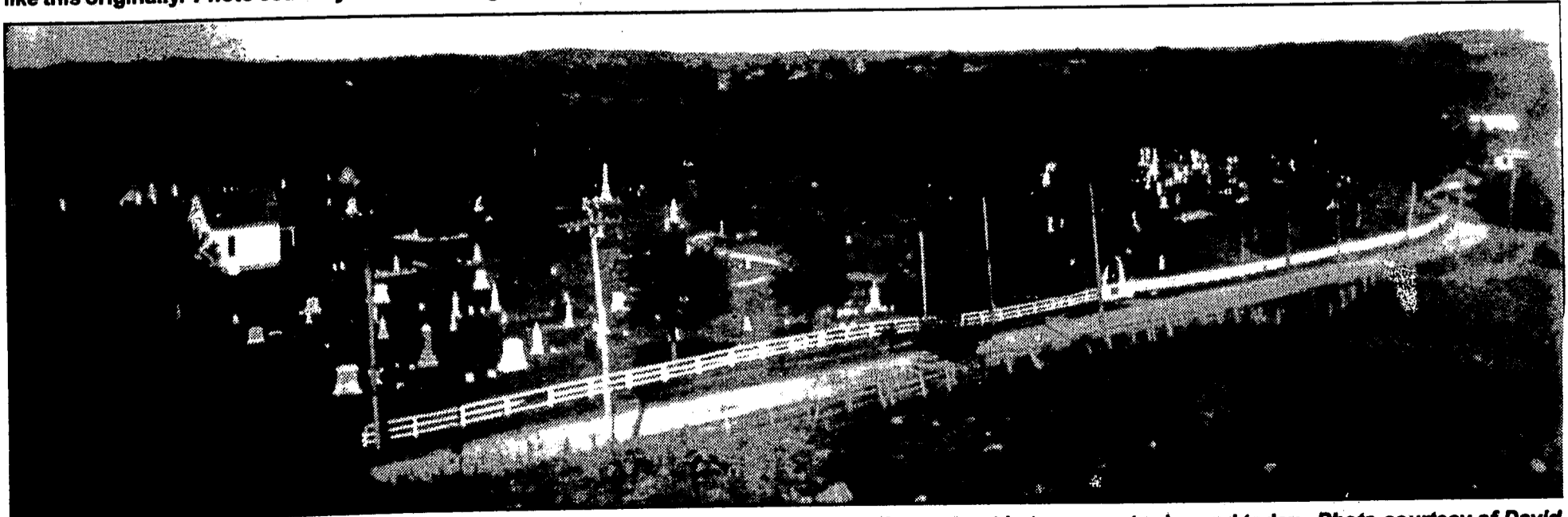
The Demarest House was another centerpiece of early Clarkston history. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS



The Ellis Barn, currently in transit to its new location at Springfield Oaks County Park, looked like this originally. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS



A view of the east side of Main Street, looking north. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS



A view of Lakeview Cemetery at corner of White Lake Road and Dixie Highway shows the contrast between yesterday and today. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS

The story of how Clarkston began

Clarkston is a well-known community. However, every great place, person or story begins somewhere. History forms the foundation for the present. Like every great place, Clarkston has a history.

History records show the first settlers on land were in 1830. Clarkston was named after the settlers – two brothers, Jeremiah and Nelson Clark. Jeremiah left New York in 1832. After hearing about his brother's new residential location in Clarkston, Nelson joined him in 1836.

In 1838, the Clark brothers purchased the sawmill near the Mill Pond. Butler Holcomb built the mill, amongst other builders including John and Thomas Beardslee and Melvin Dorr.

The Clark brothers were very active in politics – Jeremiah served as the township supervisor and Justice of the Peace.

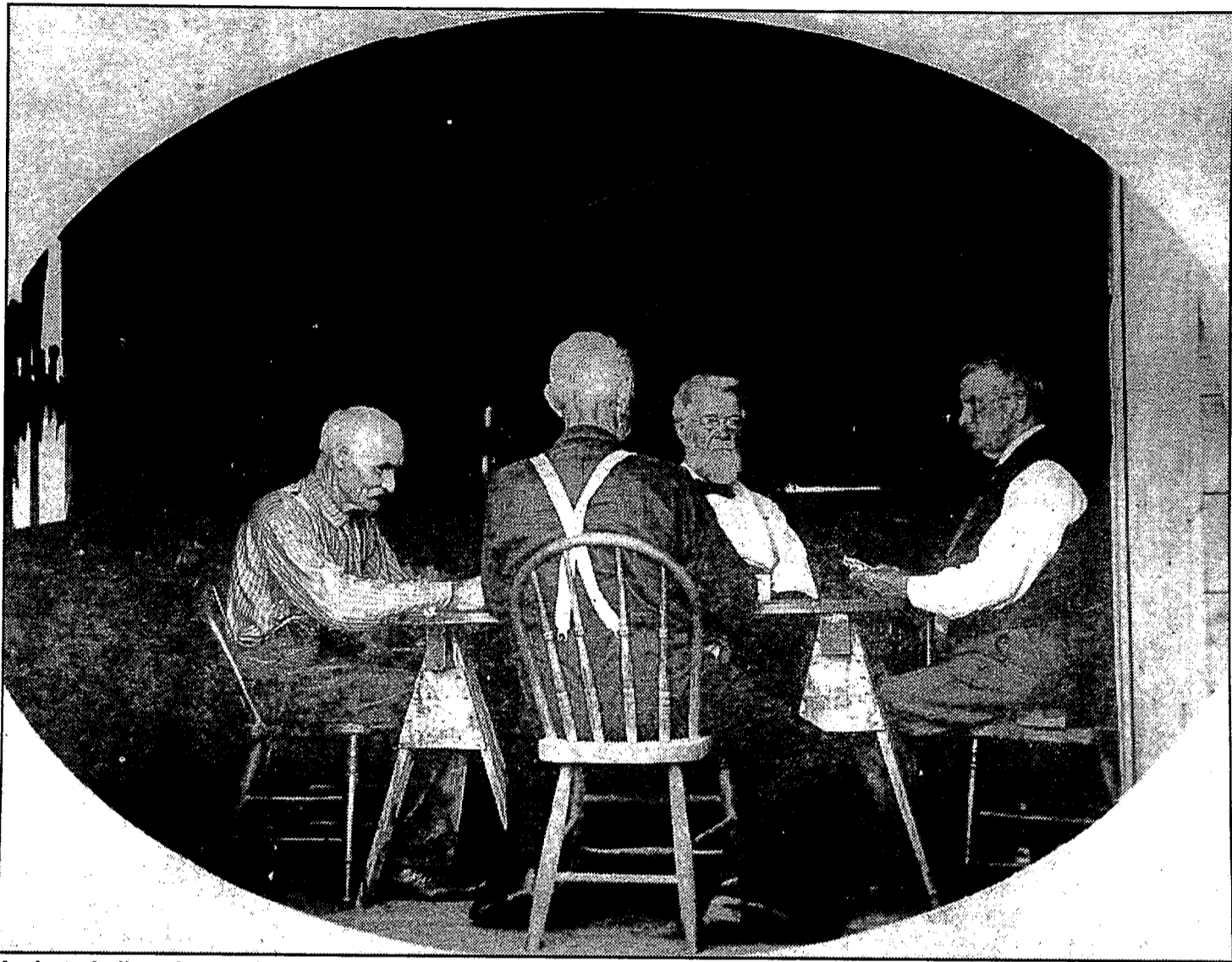
The brothers also started a fish hatchery and opened a general store.

Nelson Clark built his home in what is now the City of the Village of Clarkston. The home still stands today at 71 N. Main Street.

Once the Village of Clarkston was born, Joseph Van Sycle named Independence Township. Sycle came to Clarkston from Independence, New Jersey and named Independence after his hometown.

In 1837, the name became official

Please see Clarkston, page 14A



A photo believed to be from the late 1800s shows early settlers Wiltsie Vliet (left) and J.K. Tindall (center) playing cards in Clarkston. Photo courtesy of Connie Lektzian-Scafe



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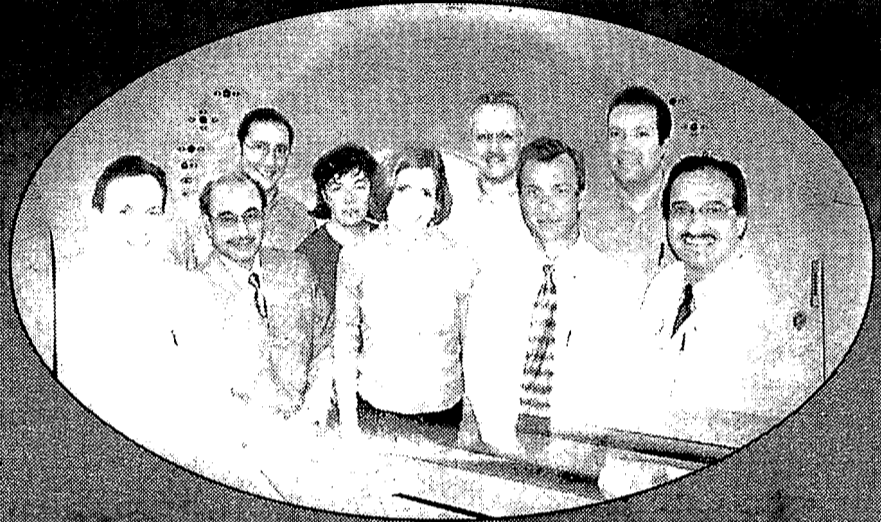
A photo from around 1846 shows Melinda and John Maybee, one of the early settling families after whom the familiar road is named. Photo courtesy of Connie Lektzian-Scafe

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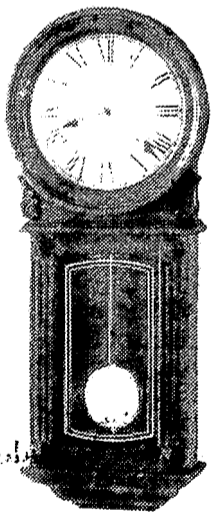
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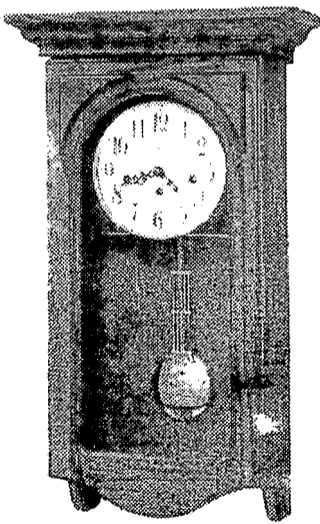
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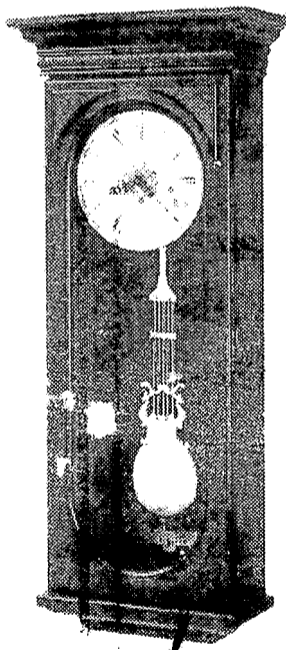
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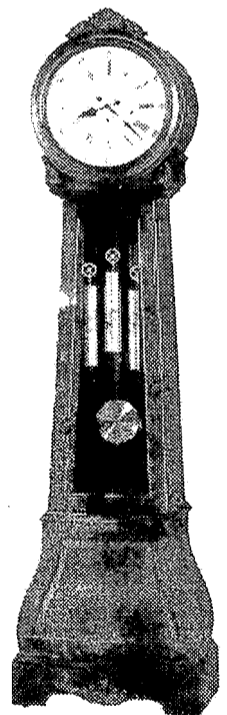
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Clarkston

Continued from page 12A

when the township was organized.

In 1877, a history of Oakland County was written, and at that time, the Clarkston population grew to 1,400 residents.

Also, Clarkston roads were filling with clothing and jewelry stores, hotels, wagon makers, harness makers and three physicians.

Once the population had grown, schools and churches were structured. The first school was Sashabaw School, built in 1834 and located near Maybee and Pine Knob roads.

Soon after, the Union School was built. In 1910, the Union School was re-structured into a high school. Today, that building is the home to Independence Township Hall.

Meeting the spiritual needs of the Clarkston residents began with Methodist missionaries. The missionaries would hold Mass in schoolhouses and barns. In 1847, the Methodist Episcopal Church was built.

Because the Clarkston area was improving and growing, a railroad was built. The railroad was beneficial to the community and attracted many tourists.

Also, many events in Clarkston made history.

- 1950's: The I-75 expressway was planned and built.

- 1831: Townsend Beardslee was the first white child born in Independence Township.

- 1935: A triple funeral after Martin Beardsley and his two daughters, Viola and Dorothy were killed when a train demolished their vehicle. This event in history saddened all who lived in and near the Clarkston area.

- 1939: the Clarkston Venetian Blind Company caught fire.

The company was located behind Rudy's Market and the fire caused all three of the connecting building frames to burn.

- 1913: the first bank of Clarkston was born. Clarkston State Bank was built in 1913 and organized by local businessmen.

The decision to build a bank came after the men were exhausted from traveling to and from Pontiac to serve their banking needs.

- 1958: Clarkston residents watch as an area landmark, Carubou Inn, went up in flames. The cause of the fire was not determined.

Clarkston is ideally situated as a "bedroom" community in the Northern Detroit Suburbs.

Located with easy access to I-75, Clarkston offers residents an opportunity to be connected to the Detroit Suburban life, while not engorging them in the traffic of towns located farther south in Oakland County.

The Clarkston community is now a busy one. With businesses on every corner, the Clarkston area grew and kept pace with surrounding areas, but also managed to keep the feel of a small hometown community.

The Clarkston community is a jewel of northern Oakland County.



In 1973, Independence Township became official with an entrance sign. From the files of The Clarkston News

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Getting the paper to print has changed

By James A. Sherman, Sr.

When we bought *The Clarkston News* from Judge Bill Stamp in 1966 there were 15 community weekly newspapers in Oakland County.

All printed their own newspapers.

Today there are 24 community newspapers in Oakland County.

Only Sherman Publications, owner of four community newspapers in Oakland County, has its own newspaper press.

What happened to those 15 newspaper presses? Most, like ours, probably ended up at Sam Allen's junk yard.

The reason was the advancement in printing methods, something called "offset" printing. It quickly replaced sheet hand-fed flatbed presses that ran about 1,000 an hour.

At the same time type-setting machines, like the Linotype and Ludlow, were replaced by strike-on, then photo-type and now computer imaging machines.

Trying to keep up with word processing, we went through seven type setting systems in short order.

While we were doing this, other weekly publishers were estimating the cost of new equipment vs shopping for printers for their papers.

We knew it was expensive, but we wanted to control our own printing. Thus we dove in -- in 1965, buying one unit of a Goss Community Press and folder for \$35,000.

I think we were the third paper in Michigan to convert. First was Dale Stafford with his daily in Greenville, then Rudy Petzold in Caro.

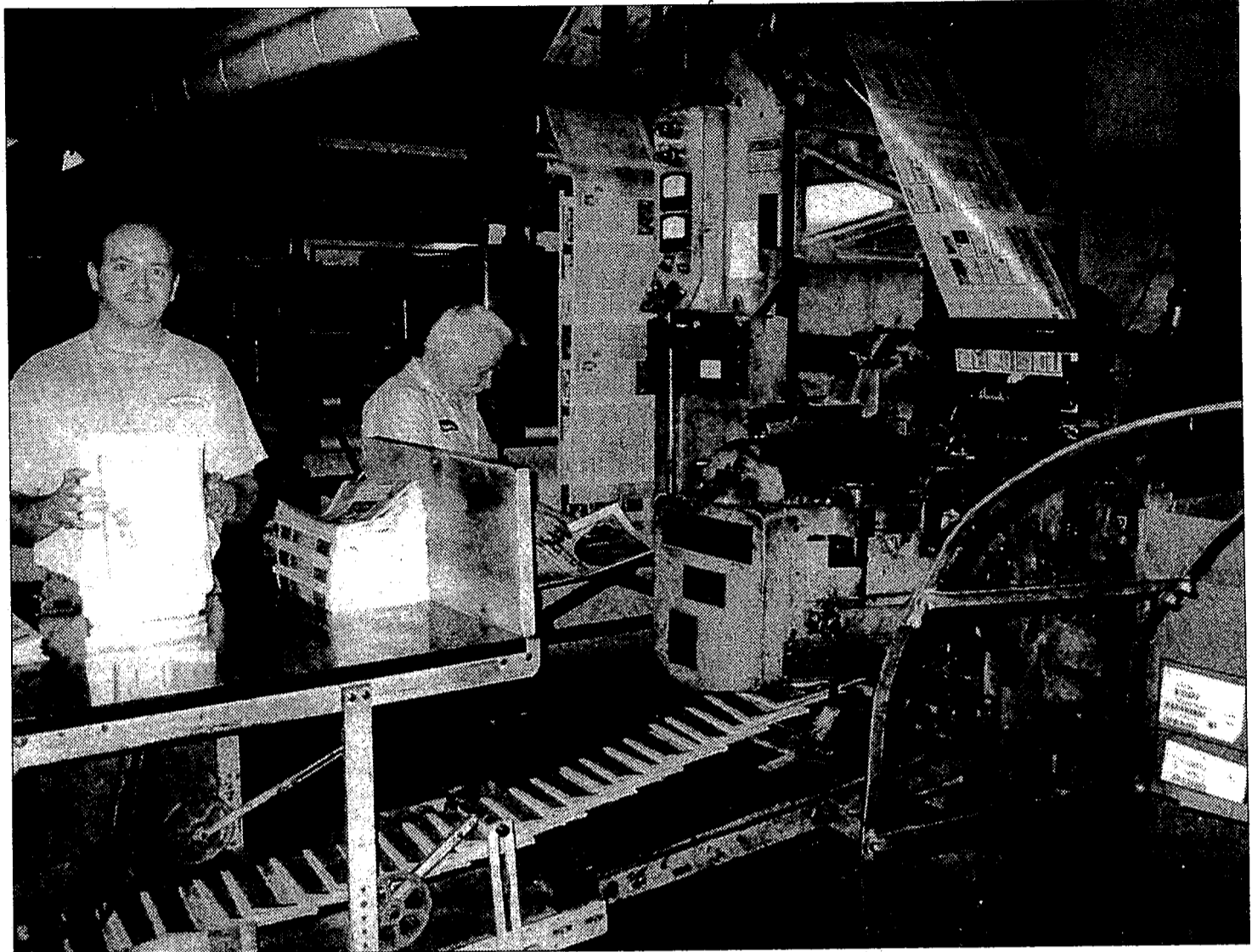
Offset printing took our press time from nine hours to 20 minutes.

Offset printing foretold the future of newspaper ownership in Oakland County, Michigan, etc.

Today the only single ownership community paper in Oakland County is *Suburban Lifestyles* in Rochester. We like to think we are, but having *The Oxford Leader*, *Lake Orion Review* and *The Citizen* in Ortonville, we know we are a "group."

The speed of offset printing for weekly newspapers made press-time available for printing other's papers or bringing others into the plant.

Another thing happened to community weeklies in the late 1960s and early 70's. Entrepreneurs started convincing advertisers they should have blanket coverage



Larry "Whitey" Hauxwell inspecting a paper as it comes off the press. Hauxwell has been with the company since April 16, 1956. His "printer's devil" is Jim Boberg. From here our papers are taken to the "mail room" where any inserts are added and readied for post office distribution.

for their products.

They promoted advertising-only products called shoppers. This competition was tough. It forced us to start our own. In Clarkston it's called *The Penny Stretcher*. We also have *The Ad-Vertiser* in the Oxford-Orion area.

This shopper competition forced owners of community newspapers to start giving their papers away, mailing them to all addresses in a community.

Today our Clarkston, Lake Orion and Oxford papers are still subscriber newspapers. I know of no others unless it's the *Birmingham Eccentric*, which is part of a mega-newspaper chain.

Several years ago the community weekly newspapers caught the attention of daily papers. The first may have been in Chicago when two dailies bought two

large, community paper groups, one on the north side, the other the south.

Today many dailies have "community" editions. There is good reason for this. People have gotten most of the front section news from tv, the Internet or don't read disaster stuff anyway.

And, dailies usually cover many communities and a lot of newsprint and time would be wasted if all that news went to all subscribers.

All readers see in our community papers is news of the communities they serve.

The offset press also brought women into newspaper printing plants for the first time.

The flatbed presses required type made up mostly of lead, with pages weighing 50 to 80 pounds each. Hardly thought of

as womens work.

Offset pages are aluminum, with 4-up pages weighing only ounces.

Too, typesetting no longer required memorizing the California job case, or the keyboard of the Linotype.

Any typist can produce copy for the pages.

Offset printing required a darkroom, but now even that is gone. Today advertising layouts are arranged in a computer, then editors arrange their copy and pictures on the screen, punch a button and *viola* out comes a negative. The images are then burned onto the aluminum sheet -- the plate.

The changes have left a great many weekly owners, like us, with tons of lead type, stacks of California type cases and memories of burns from handling molten lead.

Industry side notes . . .

We think there is more pressure on weekly newspaper editors than their daily counterparts.

Weekly editors are accessible. We're at games, parties, meetings, events and very findable.

Readers know us. They can cuss us direct, and try to influence us. One prominent Clarkston resident called to "explain" how a story should be run.

Squelch is what he meant. He ended saying, "I know you'll make the right decision."

Another wonderment of weeklies is that some people think a story is ok in a daily paper, but doesn't belong in the community paper.

How a person dies can be a sensitive matter in a weekly. Names of people in certain crimes, especially if the offender is close to a friend of the editor.

People should know that if a crime isn't major and they don't want the name in the paper, tell the police.

Credit *USA Today* with daily papers, and several weeklies, bringing color into your reading.

When Al Neuharth, president of Gannett at the time, brought out his pet project the color ripple spread quickly.

The Detroit News was called the Old Grey Lady until *USA Today*. At first, *USA Today* was referred to as that "Gumball" newspaper.

Gannett owned dailies all over the US, including Lansing, and thus was able to have fresh, though short, news available every morning, 5 days a week.

Offset printing or something akin to it made processed color available for those who wanted it . . . for a price.



Whitey with the old sheet fed press which we used until the 1960s.

There are some things that technology just can't change

By Maralee Cook
Past Clarkston News Editor

"We should have stuck with the rock and chisel."

Clarkston News publisher Jim Sherman made this tongue-in-cheek comment one Tuesday afternoon in 2001 when the main computer printer was down at Sherman Publication's office in Oxford. The company's papers are printed there and the staffs of four of his newspapers were impatiently trying to put their papers together.

They were completing advertising make up; writing last minute stories; finishing editing chores; correcting mistakes; coordinating ads, stories and photos; and designing the pages, all by computer - preparing them for printing on Wednesday morning.

The official term is "putting the paper to bed." It was a weekly exercise and, unfailingly, a piece of equipment would break down, temporarily putting a glitch in the process.

Of course, the offending piece of equipment was always fixed in time. Nothing stopped the Wednesday publication of the papers, but I will always remember Tuesdays with fondness. The rhythmic roll of the presses droned on all day, with voices raised to be heard over them.

And in the midst of the noise, confusion and minor irritations of "Deadline Day," buzzed the energized hum of creativity.

That creative energy special only to Tuesday was the biggest surprise and one



Maralee Cook

of the biggest joys of my job when I first joined *The Clarkston News* staff as an advertising sales rep in 1975. It continued when I switched over to work part-time as a writer in 1979.

Between Wednesday and the following Tuesday morning, the ad staff sold ads and designed them by hand in pencil and marker on paper.

The editorial staff typed their stories double- or triple-spaced on inexpensive copy paper with corrections hand-written between the lines or in the margins. It was up to a much-appreciated employee in Oxford to decipher our chicken-scratch, letters to the editor and columns from members of the community.

She then re-typed the copy into a composition machine which printed the ad and story copy on special paper.

The ad copy was printed in single lines in the type-size we requested, as were story headlines. The stories and letters were printed in column widths. Our film was developed in Oxford and the pictures transferred to pmt's - photo magnetic transfers, or thousands of tiny gray and black dots.

On Tuesdays, our staff would go to Oxford to make the corrections and put the paper together. At that time, it meant running the story copy, ad copy and art and photos through the waxing machine which put wax on the back allowing the pieces of paper to stick where stuck. Then we would lay the ads and stories down on newspaper-sized templates.

We spent a lot of time cutting and moving story sections around to make them fit before finally pasting them in their allotted space.

We often had to reset headlines and ad copy because we'd over- or underestimated the size of the space we needed to fill. Ditto the photos, which made us very unpopular with the darkroom and composition machine staff when they had to reprint a photo or part of a story.

Each page was read and re-read because it was easy to make mistakes, and time-consuming to correct them. After we finished, the pages were photographed and printed.

I enjoyed that process. It reminded me a little of kindergarten - a little reading and writing, a little cut and paste, amid

the camaraderie of fellow newspaper staffers.

When I returned to the company full-time in 1996 much had changed in the way of technology. Computers and the Internet had streamlined the reporting process. Many of the trips to the library, village, township or county offices to check facts, figures and statistics could be eliminated by researching the information on-line.

The technology dramatically reduced leg-work and research time. It also created a new connection with the community by allowing readers to e-mail ads or letters to the editor.

During the period from 1996 forward, the company also switched over to digital photography, eliminating the need for film and a dark room.

One thing that technology did not change, however, was the content of the paper. It remains today exactly what it was when I joined the staff a mere 30 years ago - a paper that reflects its community through the photos and stories of the people who live there.

And it did not change the intimacy that grew between the staff and the community as they interacted on a weekly basis.

Fortunately, while I was editor, Tuesday remained "Deadline Day." While technology streamlined the work, we still did that work in Oxford, enjoying the camaraderie of fellow employees, listening to the rhythmic roll of the presses, amid confusion, minor irritations and the buzz of creative energy.

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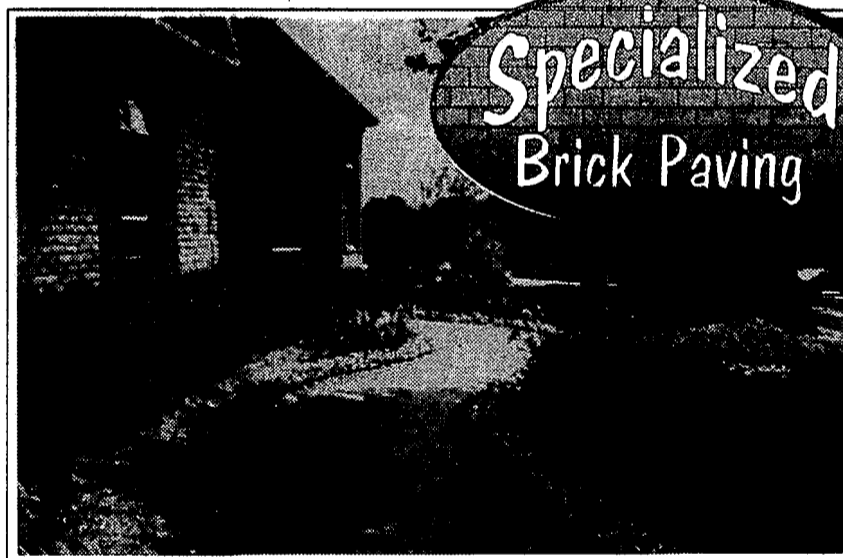
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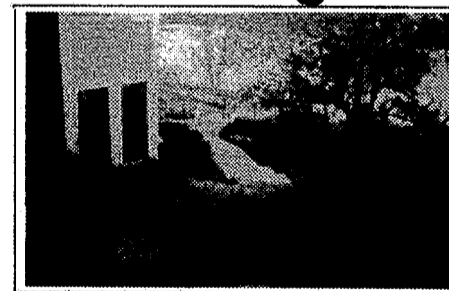
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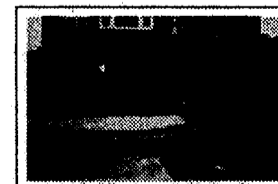
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Locals tell us: 'I Remember When...'

The Clarkston News recently asked a few residents, and local connections, to share their favorite memories of the area and the paper. We hope you enjoy your journey down "Memory Lane."



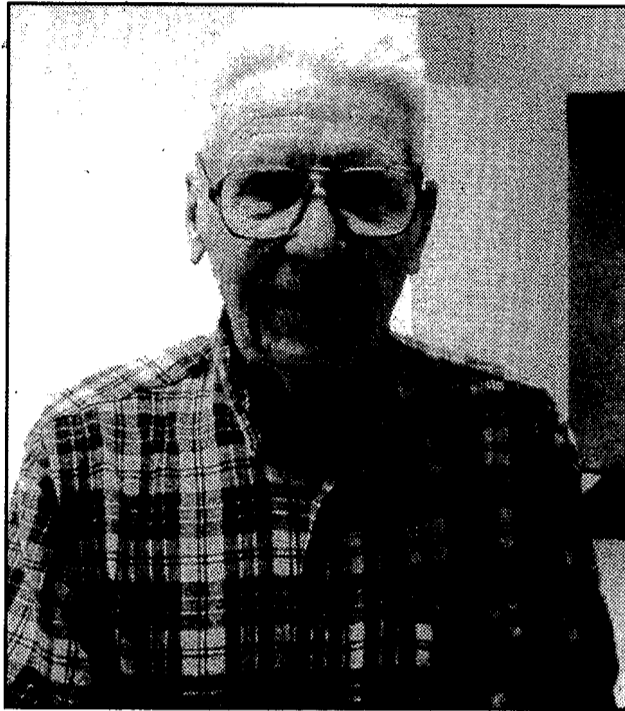
Lucille Krause, Davisburg

Back in the 1930's, my husband Elmer, myself and another couple frequently fished off the bridge (later condemned) on Bridge Lake Road near Holcomb. Even more than 70 years later, I can still remember the many delicious fish suppers that we enjoyed after returning home.

I also remember that in the 1960's, the powers that

be in the Oakland County Road Commission decided to replace the condemned bridge by building a road. They hauled many truck loads of dirt from another project that they were working on somewhere else.

My husband came home and got some life jackets for the men that were working on the fill. The road was nearly completed when, suddenly, the fill washed away. Thankfully, the men all got safely on solid ground. That was the end of that plan!



John Martz, Davisburg

Back when I first moved to the area, Andersonville was a gravel road.

In 1946, after discharged from World War II, myself and my wife bought a cottage at Big Lake, which is in Davisburg.

Since then, my wife has passed away and I am long retired. A lot of changes are taking place all through the area. My cottage is now a house, and a lot of building is taking place around me. The quality of the lake is much improved and they have the paving of my road in the works.

If you like living in the country, Springfield Township is still the place to be.

Jean Saille, Past Clarkston News Editor

Small town newspapering is a special experience.

Out on the rounds in the 1970s, it was seldom you saw someone you didn't know. What I didn't learn until later was the possibility that a good many families were related, so it paid to watch what you said and to whom you said it.

It was a two-way street. School secretaries would call saying a woman identified as me had called in to say one of the kids was sick. They knew my voice and thought I'd better be aware of that. Give me five minutes, I'd say and the would-be truant would be back in school.


Absolutely the worst school call I ever got was from Jan Gabier, assistant principal at the high school and the disciplinarian for a whole generation. It was September, the phone rang and she said "Is Jan Gabier there."

My insides contorted and then I remembered. The last of our six was graduated the previous June. She thought she had me and she did for a minute.

Jim Sherman, the owner of *The Clarkston News*, wanted this article to reflect some of the paper's 75 years, and the only way I can do that is to remember the people.

My memories seem to include a lot of school-related things. I always considered Doc Greene my favorite

Please see Remember, page 18A



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The Clarkston News

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• Playgrounds	• Furniture	• and more...

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Locals tell us: 'I Remember When...'

Continued from page 17A

enemy. With his huge intellect and his dry wit, he put me through a number of journalistic hoops in the educational field.

There was also the ongoing vendetta between then Supervisor Gary Stonerock and the newspaper. But Gary also had his problems with the township board. I can remember him announcing, "If I died today, this board would be split 3-3 on whether to send flowers."

Fred Ritter, the car wash man, became the first and last "Clarkston News Man." It was about the time that Burt Reynolds was photographed nude on a bearskin rug for Cosmopolitan magazine. Fred, on the other hand, was dressed to the nines. Hilde Taxi-dermy provided the bearskin rug and Ken Winship took the picture.

Underneath in tiny type, we wrote, "Barring fold-outs, we do the best we can."

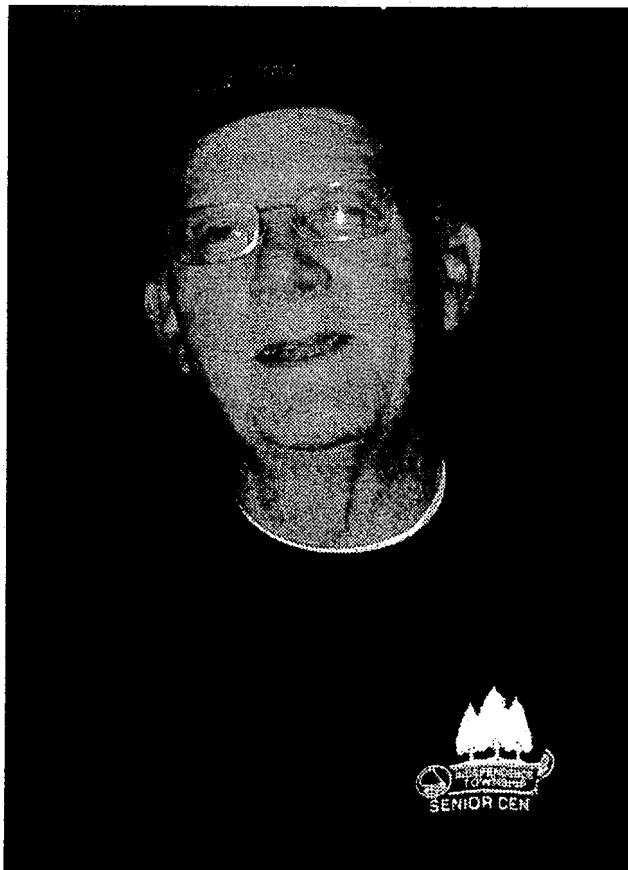
We also had our very own psychic. Shirley Lynch was right often enough to have a large and faithful readership.

It was the kind of place where we had fun. The late Donna Fahrner would sometimes on a slow day do cartwheels the length of the office. Pat Sherwood was always hatching new ideas for her old-fashioned advertising program and others who worked there from time to time shared in the laughter.

At that time, the upstairs of the building was unused. The paper took up the whole downstairs and our "morgue" was some shelves in a dusty entryway to the basement. Our printing was done at *The Oxford Leader*, as it still is, and I'm remembering a slue of people there who cared every bit as much about the paper as we did.

As long as we didn't get sued (and we didn't) Jim Sherman pretty much kept hands off. There were people eager enough to see what we'd written who

would come down and buy a paper even though they had a subscription that would be delivered the next day. And it worked. I'm still very proud of our National Press Association Second in General Excellence Award that we received.



John Thomas, Independence Township

The question has been asked of me by both teenagers as well as baby boomers, what was it like in the 30's before television, computers, microwaves, digital cameras and many more of today's modern conveniences.

I can say this, a large percentage of those who lived through those days would say "no way" would they go back.

New Chevrolets, Fords and Plymouths were selling for less than a \$1,000. Gasoline sold in many areas for 10 cents a gallon. Double dip ice cream cones were five cents.

On Saturdays, for 10 cents, you could attend the Eagle Theater in Pontiac showing a double feature, a serial, a newsreel and a comedy.

The City of Pontiac, with a population of 60,000, had five theaters, one public high school and two Catholic high schools. You could walk the streets at midnight and have no fear.

The main recreation for both girls and boys was rollerskating. Pontiac had two rinks inside the city limits. Also, Lake Orion had one and one was on Squirrel Road east of Pontiac.

There also was a great deal of drag racing (even though we could seldom go over 60 miles per hour). The best paved road in Oakland County was two miles north of Walton Boulevard on Sashabaw Road. There was a stretch of level, straight road about two and a half miles long. There were no stop lights or stop streets and very few homes.

The Village of Clarkston was considered as "up north" and an alternative to Dixie Highway as the best route up north with M-15 traveling all the way to Bay City.

It was also known to have one of the best ice cream parlors anywhere. It was on the north east corner of Washington and Main Streets where the travel agency and dry cleaners now stand.

The area changed, never to be the same, by World War II when we had a flood of workers coming from northern Michigan, farm workers and many from our southern states. Also for the first time, our factories were hiring all the women they could get.

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Headlines Through The Years

The Clarkston News

The Clarkston News

The Clarkston News

Published in the interests of Clarkston, Waterford, Grayton, Pines and Unionville.
CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1930



RAINS WRECK COFFERDAM AND DRAIN CLARKSTON'S CENTURY OLD MILLPOND

Five Destroy Clarkston Landmark



The Clarkston News

Caribou Inn Gunned By Fire Tuesday



CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1930
The Caribou Inn, one of the largest and most popular hotels in Clarkston, was completely destroyed by a fire which broke out Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

The Clarkston News

Time to spread that other mill

CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1930
The Clarkston mill industry is facing a new era of competition. The time has come to spread the benefits of the mill industry to other parts of the community.

Award offer helps

CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1930
An offer of an award has been made to the community to help in the development of the mill industry.



Concerned over liability along water

CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1930
There is a growing concern over liability along the water front in Clarkston.

The Clarkston News

AWARD-WINNING WEEKLY SERVING CLARKSTON, INDEPENDENCE AND SPRINGFIELD.
Clarkston, Michigan 48024

Township official salaries up 11%

CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1930
The salaries of township officials in Clarkston have been increased by 11 percent.



The Clarkston News



Farewell to a Great Man - President Kennedy

CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1963
A farewell message is being sent to the great man, President John F. Kennedy.



A Team From The Past

CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1963
A team from the past is being remembered in Clarkston.

The Clarkston News

Happy Mothers Day!

Voters elect 3 school trustees

CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1965
Three school trustees have been elected by the voters of Clarkston.

FBI joins sheriff in investigation of bank robbery

CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1965
The FBI has joined the sheriff in an investigation of a bank robbery in Clarkston.

Sample front pages show how *The Clarkston News* covered stories such as high school graduation, local disasters, government decisions, service club activities, military service and other local news for 75 years...

Styles change, but local focus remains constant

BY DON SCHELSKE

Clarkston News Staff Writer

One of the more valuable possessions in the offices of *The Clarkston News* is a copy of the June 19, 1931 edition, the earliest known to still exist.

The lead story carried a small, one column headline, but used all capital letters to proclaim, "CLASS OF SIXTEEN RECEIVE DIPLOMAS."

Wednesday and Thursday evenings marked events that are looked forward to by pupils throughout their entire school career, and especially so the last four years, when graduation day is the goal. And this year's Clarkston High School were the same normal, happy American boys and girls enjoying every minute of these never to be forgotten days.

The story went on to describe commencement ceremonies, which included a keynote address by Rev. W.H. Aulenback of Christ Church, Cranbrook, and the presentation of diplomas by Earl Walter, secretary of the board of education.

The four-page, broadsheet size newspaper had no photos on the front page, as the style of the day was to squeeze as much news as possible into narrow columns with small headlines.

In those days, *The Clarkston News* also carried stories from the surrounding communities of Drayton Plains, Waterford and Ortonville, but Clarkston news always took top billing.

Editions from 1932 on are available on microfilm at the Independence Township Library, and the technology allows a fascinating reading tour through Clarkston history.

The Jan. 1, 1932 edition announced, "Chicken Thieves Caught Near Ortonville." A feature story, "Butler Holcomb Reminisces," offered reflections from the grandson of one of Clarkston's early settlers.

On May 13, 1932 came the headline, "A Village Park?" The story reported the first conversations about the establishment of what is now Depot Park in down-

town Clarkston.

Still using primarily one-column headlines, *The Clarkston News* on July 22, 1932 used multiple sub-heads to emphasize the breaking news:

Clarkston State Bank

Relieved of \$3,939.03

Robbery Staged by two Youths

During Saturday Night Business Rush

State Troopers form all Parts Called

Here; Posse of Over 300 Patrols

Suspected Area Thru Night

The news story described the events with dramatic flair, with just a bit of editorializing:

Clarkston was the scene of probably the most excitement ever witnessed in the community last Sat-

urday night when two bold youths staged a daring holdup in the Clarkston State Bank, in broad daylight and with many people in the village for Saturday evening shopping, and made away with \$3,039.03.

The main news story continued the narrative of the armed robbery in detail, but an accompanying story, "Sidelights on the Bank Robbery," focused on the human element with quotes from virtually everyone involved.

When someone asked George King how it felt to be held up, he shrugged his shoulders and said, "Oh well, one has to die sometime," and laughed.

Please see Headlines, page 22A



In 1939, the Clarkston Venetian Blind Company, located behind Rudy's Market, caught fire causing all three buildings to burn. The building pictured standing is now *The Clarkston News* office.

Reflections of Clarkston

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Spring Specials

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Our top 3 priorities for the next year are:

1. Kids; 2. Kids; 3. Kids.

Any questions?

The focus of the Clarkston Area Optimist Club is clear. We love, support, and encourage kids. With our six youth clubs, our oratorical contest, our essay contest, Junior Golf Tournament, Tri-star basketball, Respect for Law program, scholarships, and recognition programs, you get some clue about our priorities.

Next year, the Clarkston Area Optimist Club will celebrate its 20th year in Clarkston. This year, the News celebrates its 75th year of service to the community. May we both continue to serve successfully. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CLARKSTON NEWS.



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Headlines

Continued from page 20A

A followup story on Nov. 4, 1932 reported a gunfight in Lapeer which killed two sheriff's deputies and one of the bank robbers.

As time went on, big stories warranted multi-column headlines and occasional front-page photographs. Such was the case on Aug. 18, 1939 when a bold headline, "Fire Destroys Clarkston Landmark" appeared above two photographs, one showing the fire in progress and the second showing the remains the next day.

Early Saturday morning, the shop of Carleton V. Sloat on West Washington Street was found to be on fire. Before the fire was extinguished the Sloat building, and the building facing M-15 owned by Mrs. Ernest Klintworth of Detroit, and occupied by the Rudolf Schwarze Grocery and meat market, and the Harvey Demond barber shop were totally destroyed with losses of about \$18,000.

The local fire equipment, under direction of Fire Chief Jeff Hubble, was used to try and keep the fire from spreading to neighboring buildings and a rush call was sent to Pontiac for aid.

While The Clarkston News stayed on top of major news stories, standard reports of local interest continued. The newspaper on June 28, 1940 announced the granting of a charter to the Clarkston Rotary Club, and on Dec. 20, 1940 brought out the first "Goodfellow Edition" to begin a long partnership with Rotary fundraising.

A headline across all columns on April 25, 1941 announced: "RAINS WRECK COFFERDAM AND DRAIN CLARKSTON'S CENTURY OLD MILL-POND." Three photographs accompanied the story, which told of preparations to build a Ford factory, which necessitated the partial drainage of the millpond and the building of the cofferdam.

In addition to the straight news style of the story was a poem, "Passing of the Dam," describing one person's feelings at seeing the damage caused by the flood.

The bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941 affected the



Rudy's Market celebrates spring at its former locations on Main Street. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS

entire nation, including some Clarkston families. By today's standards, the look of The Clarkston News on Dec. 12, 1941 seems low-key. Most headlines were still one column wide and war-related stories were short and varied.

One, headlined "Clarkston boy on duty in Hawaii," seemed especially understated.

[Kenneth Sharritt] had planned to communicate with his mother by short wave on Sunday. The situation there frustrated all plans.

Other reports in that edition announced an American Legion meeting intended "to make preliminary organization plans for civil defense," while another reported good response from county residents to a "Roll Call" drive organized by the American Red Cross.

Through the years of World War II, The Clarkston News offered reports of local boys in service and urged citizens to cooperate with recycling and rationing programs.

On Aug. 17, 1945 came the one-column headline:

"Word of Peace Brings Cheer to Clarkston," describing the ringing of church bells, the sounding of the fire siren and people running into the street.

As The Clarkston News entered the 1950s, the front page began to see a bit more variety in design, with more two-column headlines among the narrow, one-column reports.

On Feb. 1, 1951 came another full-width "banner" headline: "FIRE DESTROYS CLARKSTON BUSINESS BLOCK." The story noted the second time Rudy's Market had been "visited" by fire.

Another major fire story was reported on Thursday, March 6, 1958, as a popular tourist destination burned:

With mixed emotions, tears for an old landmark; fear that the building would not burn down completely; admiration for efficient firefighting; a wish that firefighters were not so efficient, onlookers stood and watched smoke emerge from Caribou Inn

Please see Headlines, page 23A

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Good Job,
you are the hometown paper.
Congratulations for 75 years of
community journalism

Headlines

Continued from page 23A

on Tuesday morning — a fire the origin of which has not been determined and as we go to press no estimate of damage.

The 1960s brought more creativity in newspaper design, with multi-column headlines in a variety of typestyles. Front page photos also became more common, especially in connection with high-profile news stories.

Nonetheless, what is now commonly referred to as "hard news" still had to share space with other important items such as community service announcements. The Nov. 21, 1963 edition, for example, lead with the report of a plane crash with injuries on Dixie Highway. Well above the fold, however, were the headlines, "Curtain Time Friday and Saturday For Senior Class Play" and "Bazaar To Be Held By Woman's Society."

On Nov. 28, 1963, *The Clarkston News* reflected the mood of the nation with a prominent front page tribute to the late President John F. Kennedy. Accompanying a large photo of the assassinated president was a prayer, offered by the Rev. Jack E. Giguere at the First Methodist Church of Clarkston at a local memorial service, and a poem by Marlene Ostrander.

After James A. Sherman

purchased *The Clarkston News* in 1966, the modern technology of offset printing allowed even more creativity in design and even more photographs.

The news coverage reflected the times. On April 29, 1965, the lead headline was "Increased Area Growth Prompts School Expansion." The story related plans for work at Bailey Lake Elementary School (at an estimated cost of \$1,030,770) and an addition at the then-Clarkston High School (at an estimated cost of \$858,600).

The hometown newspaper also covered the local impact of the Vietnam war. The front page of the Aug. 15, 1968 edition featured the obituary of Army Cpl. John Robert Schmude, 19, who was killed in action; and the awarding of the Silver Star to Army Spc. James M. Hubbard, who lost his right arm while protecting his comrades in arms.

Some current readers may recognize some of the trends in local news in the 1970s and 1980s; younger readers may be surprised at how long the issues have been "news."

For example: noise issues at the Pine Knob Music Theater (and unsuccessful proposals for an amusement park and major hotel at the venue); debates concerning how best to provide police protection to the village and

township, and debates concerning cityhood for Clarkston; how best to handle residential and commercial growth; and additional building projects in Clarkston schools.

The community continued to enjoy indepth coverage of school sports, and *The Clarkston News*

The Clarkston News 75th Edition Wed., May 18, 2005 23 A delivered lots of news concerning standout athletes such as Tim McCormick and Dan Fife, following their exploits beyond Clarkston to college and the pros.

Still in the mix, throughout the 1990s and into the 21st century, have been announcements

of local service club meetings and projects, church news, school events and features on interesting people and activities in the Clarkston community. The common thread continues.

And Clarkston High School graduation is still a top story every year...



Do you remember when two boys, eight and nine, entered the Independence Township Library after hours only to destroy the premises causing an estimated \$4,500 worth of damage.

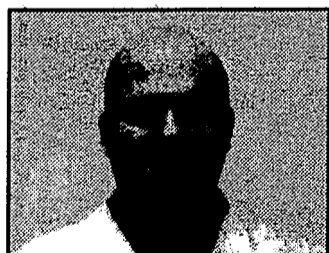
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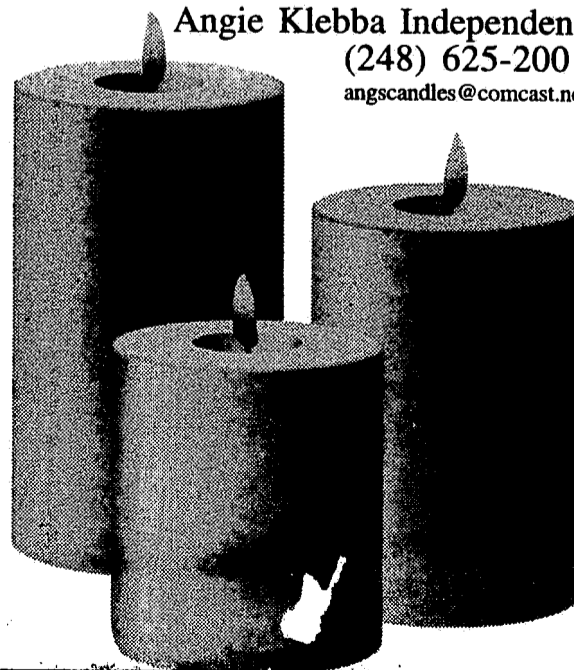
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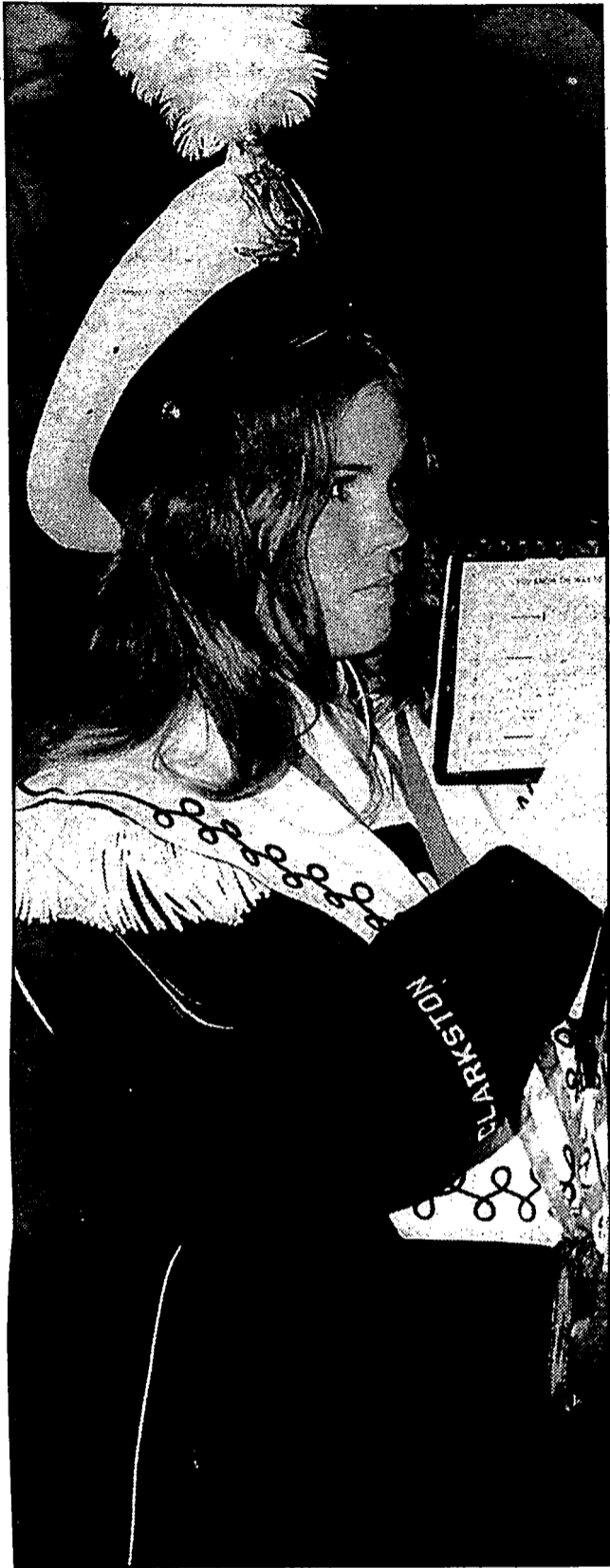
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Clarkston school events over the years



Jill Breckenridge performs with the Clarkston High School Marching Band. Photo from the Sept. 21, 1972 edition of The Clarkston News



Senior Maid Karen Miracle and Bill Svetkoff at the 1972 homecoming parade.



Julie Wilford (left), Nancy Hyde and Jan Lundy prepare to play "Three Fairy God-Mothers," a play presented at Clarkston High School. Ticket prices were 50 cents and 75 cents. Photo from the Oct. 28, 1971 edition of The Clarkston News



Kevin Hamaker, sixth grader at Pine Knob School, receives a diploma from Principal Dave Westlund during graduation ceremonies last week at Sashabaw Junior High School. Photo from the May 17, 1973 edition of The Clarkston News



Girl Scouts Linda Dellsie, Mindy Haas, Terri Bennet and Charlotte Campbell spend an afternoon participate in an origami project. Photo taken in 1973.

Clarkston Community Schools and their history

The Clarkston area is known for its outstanding school district.

The Clarkston school district dates back to 1834. At that time, the earliest school classes were held in Springfield Township in a granary barn belonging to Azra Crosby.

A year later, in 1840, the first schoolhouse was built of wooden planks on the northeast corner of what is now Clarkston Road and Main Street. In 1850, Nelson Clark erected a large two-story building at the west end of Parke Lake, which was later purchased by Isaac Cochran who opened a select school and served as its professor for several years. In 1862, Cochran's school was purchased by the public for the purpose of opening a Union School. In 1887, it became a 10-grade school.

In 1898, the Union School became a 12-grade school. The first high school class graduated in 1901. In 1912, the 1850 wood building was replaced by the two-story brick building located on the Shore of Parke Lake on Main Street in the Village of Clarkston. All 10 grades attended school in this building. Now, that building serves as the home to the Independence Township Hall.

Then, in 1930, the old school was sold and all 10 grades were

combined into a new 21-room building at 6300 Church Street. At that time, the total construction cost was \$140,000. Today, that building serves as the Community Education Center and Renaissance High School.

In 1949, the Clarkston Community Schools were born. This became official when five separate schools in the surrounding community were successful in a reorganization effort to consolidate. The schools included: Village School, Springfield; Plains School, Independence; Bigelow, Independence; Hunter, Independence; and Clarkston Station. The new Clarkston district possessed five buildings - one eight-room elementary at Sashabaw, and the 1930 building in the village. At that time, student enrollment reached 800.

In 1952, a major construction effort began under the leadership of Superintendent "Doc" Greene, which would build Clarkston Elementary, Pine Knob Elementary and Andersonville Elementary.

In 1959, students in grades 9-12, moved into a new 40-room high school located on Waldon Road. The school came complete with a cafeteria, auditorium and physical education facilities. As the population grew, more classrooms were added.

In 1964, Bailey Lake El-

ementary was added to the district. Then in 1966, North Sashabaw Elementary was built and, in 1969, Sashabaw Junior High - now Sashabaw Middle School - was built. During the same time period, the old high school on Church Street became Clarkston Junior High.

In 1970, a new administration building was built on

Clarkston Road.

During the 1970's and 1980's, enrollment varied widely as population levels dropped for a time. However, with the completion of I-75 and the outward movement of metropolitan Detroit, North Oakland County, particularly the Clarkston Community, have seen increasing growth. This was proved in

1997-98, when the student enrollment reached over 7,000.


In 1994, Springfield Plains Elementary School was built on Holcomb Road in Springfield Township. Then, in 1998, Clarkston High School students moved to a new building on Flemings Lake Road. The new

Please see Schools, page 26A



What is believed to be an early schoolhouse in the Clarkston area shows the simple nature of both the building and the surrounding area. Photo courtesy of Connie Lektzian-Scafe

Best Image Possible



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Congratulations Clarkston News on 75 years!

Schools

Continued from page 25A

school houses an academic classroom wing built around a center courtyard, networked technology and computer systems and labs, a 1,000-seat performing arts auditorium, a cafeteria, a 3,500-seat gymnasium with indoor running track and a 500-seat natatorium featuring an indoor swimming pool. A new football stadium is adjacent to the school

along with new athletic fields and tennis courts.

The old high school was remodeled and became Clarkston Middle School in 1999. Also that year, the district opened a new elementary on Hubbard. Independence Elementary now houses more than 600 students and serves as one of seven elementary schools within the district. The district also completed major renovations to Sashabaw Middle School, Clarkston Middle School, Bailey Lake Elementary,



This photo is labeled in handwriting as "Thompson School-White Lake," but the date is unknown. Photo courtesy of Connie Lektzian-Scafe



It's fluoride time at Pine Knob School. Students Teresa Powers, Brian Bates and Tracie Dryden undergo the applications from Dental Hygienist Karen McGuire. Photo from the May 17, 1973 edition of The Clarkston News

Pine Knob Elementary, North Sashabaw Elementary and Andersonville Elementary.

Due to the growth in the community, the Clarkston school district became involved with after school activities and events, including homecoming dances, parties and award ceremonies.

Now we enter the 21st century. Enrollment continues to climb early in 2000. The district completed an intensive facility and needs assessment to create a bond proposal for the summer of 2003. The bond plan passed and projects are currently underway to reconfigure our secondary schools.

Under this plan, Sashabaw Middle School will receive a substantial addition and the building will be converted to house all district sixth and seventh grade students in 2005-06.

Clarkston Middle School will receive an updated gym area and an updated auditorium to serve all district eighth and ninth grade students. When the construc-

tion projects are complete, Clarkston High School will serve tenth through twelfth grade students.

The 2003 bond also includes updating and remodeling the original high school on Church Street. Now serving as the Community Education Center and Renaissance High School, the old high school will be restored to its original historic beauty.

The Administration Building on Clarkston Road is also being updated through the bond funds. The current building will remain and an addition is being built to serve as the Early Childhood Center. Pine Knob Elementary is also receiving an addition of six classrooms.

As we take a look back to the beginning, the Clarkston Community Schools have definitely changed. The growth is immense and the future seems bright for Clarkston schools.

Provided by Anita Banach, Director of Communications and Marketing, Clarkston Community Schools.

*Congratulations to The Clarkston News
on your 75th Year in Business*

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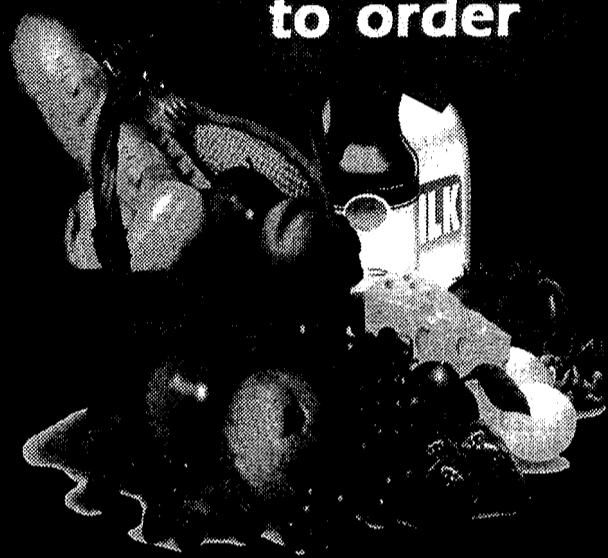
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The Clarkston News receives tributes for 75 years of success

The following tributes were presented to *The Clarkston News* in honor of our 75 anniversary:

From the Village of the City of Clarkston:

Whereas *The Clarkston News* is celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary, and

Whereas The City of the Village of Clarkston has used *The Clarkston News* as its official newspaper for City/Village publications and notices for these many years, and

Whereas, *The Clarkston News* has further reported local news as well as official proceedings of the City/Village government during those years, and

Whereas The City of the Village of Clarkston Council as well as the residents of the Clarkston area have and will continue to rely on the service of *The Clarkston News*, and

Whereas The Clarkston area residents, businesses and local governmental units look forward to continued success of this publication, and

Whereas *The Clarkston News* is an integral part of this community,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the City Council of the City of the Village of Clarkston expresses its appreciation by making this resolution a part of its official records, and further extends its sincerest best wishes for continued success in all of the future endeavors of *The Clarkston News*.

Dated March 15, 2005. Signed Mayor Sharon Catallo and City Manager Artemus M. Pappas.

From Independence Township:

Whereas, *The Clarkston News* has been Independence Township's "hometown" newspaper since its first edition in 1929; and

Whereas, *The Clarkston News* has served the community with continuous weekly publications since 1929 with reports of community activities, school informa-

tion, government decisions, public and legal notices, election coverage, sports and personals; and

Whereas, James A. Sherman has been *The Clarkston News*' publisher and owner for 50 years, expanding (with the assistance of his family) the Sherman Publications to serve even more areas in Oakland County; and

Whereas, because of this commitment *The Clarkston News* has received numerous awards from press associations and other groups;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Charter Township of Independence Board of Trustees does hereby congratulate *The Clarkston News* on obtaining the distinctive achievement of seventy-five years of continuous publication for 75 years;

And further resolved that the Board of Trustees recognize the commitment of Sherman Publications, especially James A. Sherman and his wife, Marie, for their 50 years of service to Independence Township.

Shelagh VanderVeen, duly elected Clerk of The Charter Township of Independence, hereby certifies that the foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by the Independence Township Board of Trustees, Oakland County Michigan, at a regular meeting held on April 19, 2005.

Shelagh VanderVeen
Township Clerk

1929 - 2004

The Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce:

To the Clarkston News Staff,

The Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to offer congratulations on your 75 years publishing *The Clarkston News*. Three quarters of a century is a landmark for any business, but particularly a locally owned and operated newspaper. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

The Clarkston Area Board of Directors

Dr. Al Roberts, President, Clarkston Schools
Sue Jackson, President-elect, Law Office of Robert Kostin

William Langdon, Jr., Treasurer, Langdon Capital Management Inc.

Louis Melone, Secretary, Smith Barney
Ron Davis, Lewis E. Wint & Son TRUST 100 Funeral Home

Desiree Heck, Max Broock Realtors

Dawn Horner, Clarkston State Bank

Steve Hyer, IGD Solutions

Judy Livingston, Allstate Insurance

Kurt Miller, RDM Associates

John Nannini, Clarkston Big Boy

Tim Patterson, Immediate Past President, Booth Patterson Attorneys

Fred Ritter, Clarkston Auto Wash Co.

Dave Smith, State Farm Insurance

Penny Shanks, Executive Director, Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce

State of Michigan

Special Tribute to The Clarkston News 75 Years of Quality Journalism

Let it be known, that it is a pleasure to join with the news industry colleagues, coworkers, readers and the entire community as *The Clarkston News* celebrates 75 years of providing a quality community newspaper. With the fine showing *The Clarkston News* team has attained, culminating in numerous awards, this group of dedicated journalists has generated great pride for area residents and businesses that can enjoy having an exemplary hometown newspaper.

The Clarkston News was first published in September of 1929, since then it has been published weekly,

Please see Congrats, page 29A



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Congratulations Clarkston News 75 Years

Best Image Possible

Congrats

Continued from page 28A

and uninterrupted. In 1966, James A. Sherman purchased *The Clarkston News*, where it has been family-owned and locally edited ever since – despite the growing trend in corporate newspaper takeovers. *The Clarkston News* has developed into the largest newspaper within Sherman Publications Incorporated group. The residents of Clarkston have come to rely on such a fine tradition of quality journalism for the best coverage of local government, schools, sports, community activities and people.

Opening *The Clarkston News* pages each week is a delight to readers yearning to be informed on state, local, business, school, sports and neighborhood news, as well as the catching a glimpse of family and friends looking out from the paper's photo pages. In the face of daily challenges while under deadline pressure to keep the local people attuned to noteworthy happenings with informative and entertaining dispatches alongside ongoing, down-home tidbits that put readers in touch with their world, Sherman Publications, Inc. clearly has a winner in *The Clarkston News*.

In **Special Tribute**, therefore, this document is signed and dedicated to congratulate the news staff on its accomplishment, and all who make *The Clarkston News* a top-notch newspaper. May they continue to enrich their great reputation for many more years to come.

John P. Stakoe, State Representative
Michael Bishop, State Senator
Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor

From Governor Jennifer M. Granholm:

Dear Friends:

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations and well wishes on this, the 75th anniversary of *The Clarkston News*.

The Clarkston News history is representative of

the millions of success stories that have made this great country what it is today. Founded in 1929, it has outlasted the Great Depression and seven different owners; *The Clarkston News* has set a fine tradition of quality community journalism worthy of awards from groups such as the Michigan Press Association. My wish for you my friends is another 75 years of keeping residents of the Clarkston area up to date on all the latest news.

It is with great respect that I offer my warmest wishes to *The Clarkston News* as it celebrates its 75th anniversary.

Sincerely yours,
Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

U.S. House of Representatives

A Special Tribute

In Honor Of

The Clarkston News

May 20, 2005

Let it be known, That it is my special privilege to honor *The Clarkston News* on their Seventy-Fifth Anniversary. I congratulate *The Clarkston News* on behalf of all those who have benefitted from their commitment to excellence.

The Clarkston News has an impressive record of community service and involvement. Established in 1929, their first edition was released on September 23, 1929, right before the devastating stock market crash in October, 1929. Despite the difficulties of the times, *The Clarkston News* persevered under the guidance of their publishers.

In the late 1950s, Bob Wilson became the new owner of *The Clarkston News*. The paper began to grow under the leadership of James A. Sherman, when he bought it in 1966. Due to the commitment to journalism at its finest, every week since 1929, *The Clarkston News* produces quality news.

The Clarkston News not only demonstrates strong character and leadership, they have repeatedly succeeded at setting the standard for community journalism. Winning numerous awards, perhaps most notably

The Clarkston News 75th Edition Wed., May 18, 2005 29 A

from the Michigan Press Association. *The Clarkston News* has established a tradition of providing the most accurate news possible. The residents of Clarkston depend on *The Clarkston News* for their local coverage and important community events. The seventy-five years of quality journalism from *The Clarkston News* is impressive and deserves our sincere gratitude for their accomplishments.

In **special tribute**, Therefore, this document is signed and dedicated to commemorate *The Clarkston News*. May others know of my high regard for their service, and best wishes for the future.

Mike Rogers
Member of Congress

Thank You



The staff of The Clarkston News would like to say Thank You for 75 years of serving the Clarkston community. We appreciate the recognition we've received from so many.

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To The Clarkston News for being our community news paper for 75 years

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Officials honor Shermans for 50 years of service

The following tributes were presented to The Sherman family in honor of 50 years of service in the newspaper industry:

From the Village of the City of Clarkston:

To Mr. James Sherman:

Whereas James Sherman is celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of newspaper ownership, and

Whereas Since 1966 *The Clarkston News* has been one of these newspapers, and

Whereas The City of the Village of Clarkston has always enjoyed a professional and personal relationship with the Sherman family, and

Whereas, The City Council looks forward to continued partnership with the new generation of the Sherman family as well as Jim Sherman's continued contributions to *The Clarkston News*, and

The Clarkston News has and will continue to be the official newspaper of the City of the Village of Clarkston,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the City of the Village of Clarkston expresses its appreciation and best wishes to James Sherman on this eventful celebration by making this resolution part of its official records.

Dated March 15, 2005. Signed Mayor Sharron Catallo and City Manager Artemus M. Pappas.

State of Michigan Special Tribute to The Sherman Family's 50th Anniversary As Newspaper Owners and Publishers

Let it be known, that it is with great pleasure that we congratulate the Sherman family on the eve of their 50th anniversary career as newspaper owner and publishers.

James and Hazel Sherman began their career in 1955. That is the year James Sherman purchased *The Oxford Leader* followed by *The Lake Orion Review*,

along with the creation of two weekly shoppers, *The Advertiser* and *The Penny-Stretcher*. In 1966 James Sherman became the eighth owner of the *Clarkston News*, which became the largest newspaper within the Sherman Publication group. James and Hazel's dedication to an era gone by where community newspapers have in large part become a remanet of the past instilled into their three children the hard work and dedication necessary to keep the concept thriving. Today their three children own and share in the operation of the business.

The fine tradition continues today. Ten years ago the family founded another weekly paper, *The Citizen*, which serves the Ortonville-Goodrich area, alongside with another shopper, *Metamora Crossroads*, serving the southern part of Lapeer County. The Sherman family in their own way has managed to preserve a historic way of life at a time when the community newspaper was the only source of information available. In recent years we have seen a growing trend in corporate newspaper takeovers. It is refreshing to see that the concept of a hometown newspaper has not been unsurpassed by the changing times. The charm and personnel touch that the community paper creates a good rapport with the residents so much so that they come to depend no it for the best coverage of local government, schools, sports, community activities, and people.

In Special Tribute, therefore, this document is signed and dedicated to congratulate the Sherman family as they celebrate an historic milestone of 50 years of producing quality community journalism. May they know of our best wishes for continued success.

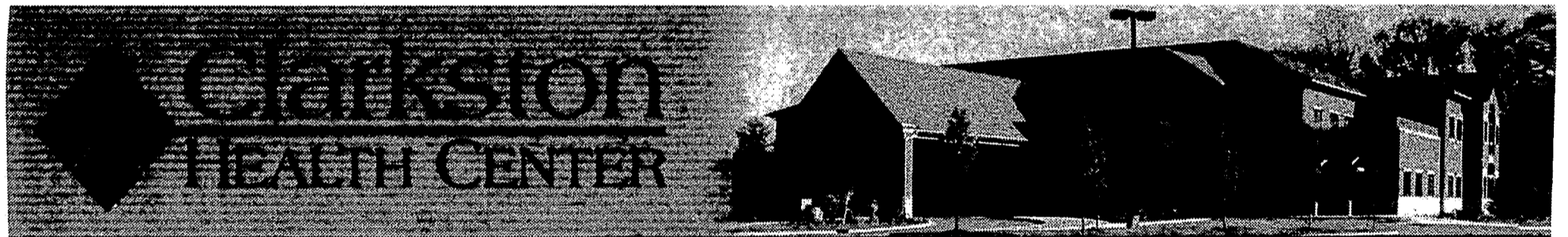
John P. Stakoe, State Representative
Michael Bishop, State Senator
Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor

U.S. House of Representatives
A Special Tribute
In Honor Of
James and Hazel Sherman
May 20, 2005

Let it be known, That it is my special privilege to honor James and Hazel Sherman for fifty years as the owners and publishers of *The Clarkston News*. I congratulate James and Hazel on behalf of all those who have benefitted from their dedication and leadership.

James and Hazel Sherman have an impressive record of community service and involvement. In 1966, the Sherman's purchased *The Clarkston News*, which later developed into the largest newspaper in the Sherman Publications, Inc. Group. Sherman Publications, Inc. is dedicated to their promise of upholding family-owned and locally-owned community newspapers. Sherman Publications is committed to serving those who reside in the North Oakland County region.

Please see Congrats, page 31A



FOR YOUR GOOD HEALTH... BEING CLOSE MATTERS

That is why Clarkston Health Center was built in 2003; a partnership between Genesys Health System and POH Medical Center. Clarkston Health Center is located at the northwest corner of Dixie Highway and White Lake Road, in the shadows of the blue water tower. The state-of-the-art medical facility offers a host of health care services:

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- Rehabilitation Services with licensed physical therapists
- Physician Specialist include Cardiology, Obstetrics & Gynecology, General Surgery, Neurology, Gastroenterology, Plastic Surgery, Back Care and Pain Management.

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Congrats

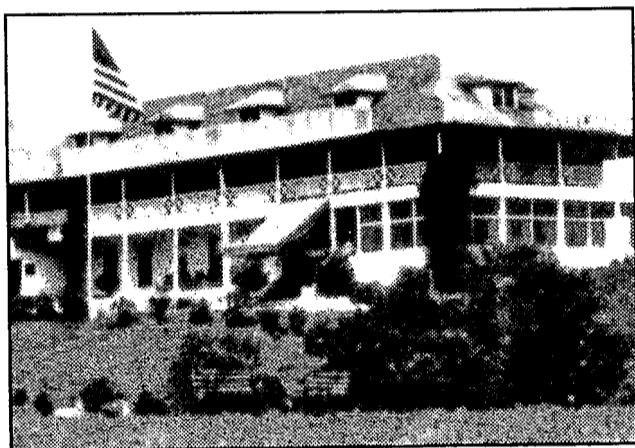
Continued from page 30A

In keeping with their tradition, the Sherman's continually strive to meet the needs of the community around them.

James and Hazel Sherman not only demonstrate strong character and leadership, they have repeatedly succeeded at balancing their professional life with their commitment to those they serve. As strong community members who aide local causes and charities, and employ local residents, the Sherman's have a warm place in their heart for the people from Clarkston. Always hardworking, the Sherman's expanded Sherman Publications, Inc., while raising a family and contributing columns to The Clarkston News and many others. The fifty years of guidance to The Clarkston News is impressive, and the Sherman's deserve our sincere gratitude for their accomplishments.

In special tribute, Therefore, this document is signed and dedicated to commemorate James and Hazel Sherman. May others know of my high regard for their service, and best wishes for the future.

Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



The original Deer Lake Inn was a highlight in the days when Clarkston was a popular tourist destination. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS



Fun in the Sun...

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*Congratulations
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Machine Operators
Office Managers
Sales Representatives
and Many Many More!

Happy 75th Anniversary

Clarkston News

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all the way.**



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248-618-8065

White Lake
248-887-1211

Ypsilanti
734-485-8000

The People of *The Clarkston News*

Behind the Paper

A dedicated staff of unique individuals striving for the same goal – bringing local news to the Clarkston community.

How is The Clarkston News born?

BY NOAH PURCELL

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Asking how *The Clarkston News* comes into existence each week is similar to asking “What came first the chicken or the egg?”

Does the paper come to be because of our advertising or is it fueled by the editorial department?

The truth of the matter is that the process of putting out a paper which entertains, informs and builds community each week is a simultaneous process between many separate individuals. The work that goes on behind the scenes is massive, yet like a colony of busy bees we all know our roles and excel in them.

When considering how we put our paper together, the easiest way to describe our different departments and their roles is by shedding light on the questions that are asked by those departments.

“What do the people of Clarkston need to know about their city?” asks the news department.

Each week the news department, perched high on the second floor of 5 South Main, doggedly covers Clarkston, Independence Township and Springfield Township.

The news department’s strength is their diversity, without that the coverage area they take on would be an amorphous blob, impossible for any one to wrap their hands around.

The staff of the news department is: Jenny Matteson, editor, Don Schelske, who covers the municipalities beat, Christina Ulaj, who covers the schools and (yours truly) Noah Purcell, who covers sports and recreation. The news staff is supplemented by the diverse array of columnists which also contribute their personal knowledge and experience to *The Clarkston News*.

What separates the news staff of *The Clarkston News* from the competition, be it other in-town papers or community sections of larger papers, is that we all work at the heart of our coverage area. We are involved with the community, not just here to cover it.

The news department also ensures that the citizens in our coverage area will always have a space to air their qualms, a place to cheer on their neighbors’ accomplishments and a bulletin board to find out what is happening around them.

Being this city’s community newspaper means that we report what goes on in this community.

“How will do we ensure our link to the community?” asks our front office staff.

Our office manager Rose Mary Srazer is all things to everybody at *The Clarkston News*. From coordinating our subscriptions to taking classified ads, she and office assistant, Sally Stein, are the front line of the paper.

They ensure that people who have a question or idea about a story or advertisement are directed to the proper person. They are also often the face of the paper as people who come into our offices at 5 South Main are greeted by their smiling faces and helpful attitudes.

Aside from coordinating the link with the community to the staff at the paper, our office staff ensures



The staff of *The Clarkston News* makes sure to “ask” all the right questions: (front, left-right) Editor Jenny Matteson, Advertising Manager Cindy Burroughs, Education Reporter Christina Ulaj, (middle) Advertising Representative Joy VanderWeel, Office Manager Rose Mary Srazer, (back) Advertising Representative Debbie Denton, Sports Reporter Noah Purcell, Municipal Reporter Don Schelske and Office Assistant Sally Stein.

that our link to our publisher, Sherman Publications, is strong. Without Rosemary and Sally, *The Clarkston News* would no longer anchor to the community and to its parent company at the same time.

“How will people find out about their city?” asks the advertising department.

While the editorial staff is at play, covering black-tie soirees, football games and electrified township meetings, the ad staff is busy ensuring that all the stories fit to print are printed.

The revenue generated by the ad staff is the life-

blood of our paper and Cindy Burroughs, advertising manager; Joy VanderWeel and Debbie Denton, ad representatives; provide a healthy transfusion each and every week.

Half the time the first floor of 5 South Main is a constant buzz of activity with our ad staff working the phones; while the other half is marked by serenity as they pound the pavement, meeting clients face to face.

But the ad staff does not just sell ads, they also help build our ties to the community.

Through our advertisers investment in the paper, they too are strengthened. By helping our advertiser’s businesses succeed, we in turn help build this community which we cover. Local products are put on display in our pages and area businesses can find a forum to interact with one another.

“How will people be able to read the paper?” is a question that is asked by both departments at 5 South Main.

Once the ad staff has our advertising in place and

The process of putting out a paper which entertains, informs and builds community each week is a simultaneous process between many separate individuals. The work that goes on behind the scenes is massive, yet like a colony of busy bees we all know our roles.

Please see *Our Staff*, page 2B

Our Staff

Continued from page 1B

the stories have all been written, what is most needed is a little organization.

Rather than pile everything from the two departments out on the floor like a new jig saw puzzle, the process is carefully executed and organized.

First our ad staff reviews their ads and plugs the dimensions for what has been purchased onto a "dummy." The dummy acts like a mold for the editorial department to pour the assorted news items, bulletins and features in the right order.

"How will our paper look upon completion?" is as important a question as any other.

While the ad and editorial staff are working on their respective responsibilities, Rhonda Givens, our graphic artist, is ensuring that the paper looks great.

Rhonda takes the dimensions of the ads from the ad staff and the specifications of what the customer expects and creates an ad as visually palatable as it is informative.

The ads are then shown to our advertisers for a final proof just to ensure that what appears in the paper is exactly what our advertisers want.

"How do we bring this all together?" asks everybody on staff.

Once the ad staff receives approval from our advertisers, the stories are proofed and fitted to pages and the ads designed, the paper still resembles a jig saw puzzle, only now the pieces are bigger.

The layout of the paper falls on the

editorial department, whose intrinsic knowledge of the stories they created lends a great hand to the final placement.

Once the paper is laid out, perhaps the most important job is done - the final proofing.

Our assistant publisher Don Rush goes over the paper with a fine tooth comb, looking for any errors which may have crept into the finished product. Once Rush is satisfied, *The Clarkston News* is put to bed and the most demanding part of the work begins.

"How will people be able to get our paper?" asks our printing and distribution staff.

When the paper is complete, printing takes place at Sherman Publications' offices in Oxford.

Larry "Whitey" Hauxwell has worked the presses for Sherman Publications for 49 years, and no one knows the presses better.

He is assisted by Jimmy Boberg, who is a bridge of sorts between the printing press and the final assembly of the paper.

With the help of our "stuffers," Jimmy ensures that each week's paper's sections are folded together and each copy is fitted with the appropriate insert advertising.

The paper is then bound and delivered to the post office for our subscribers, our office at 5 South Main and the 26 paper boxes around town.

"Now that we are done, can we do it again next week?" is what reverberates through everyone's head as we look upon the finished edition of *The Clarkston News*.

The answer is always "yes."

Congratulations Clarkston News on your 75th Year!

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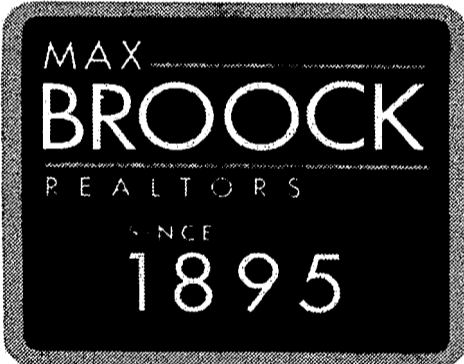
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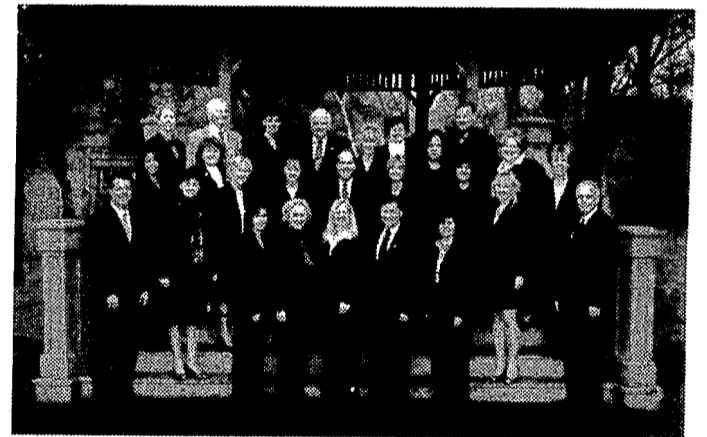
Serving Clarkston for 30 years!

As a fellow business owner and neighbor in Clarkston for 30 years, Max Broock Realtors would like to congratulate The Clarkston News on their 75th anniversary and wish them continued success.

Thank You Clarkston News for all you do for our community.

27 S. Main Street

248-625-9300



Cari Ralph, Manager

Kathy Adams

Armando Barry

Fred Cantin

Rick Cole

John Dillingham

Suzie Dutcher

Darlene Goodwin

Jim Goodwin

Jodi Germain-Jolliver

Desiree Heck

Scott Heck

Barb Hogan

Hank Hogan

Dick Howard

Jane Lauer

Elisabeth Less

Singer Lewandowski

Lorry Mahler

Jamara Matthews

Kim Miller

Susan Popeliet-Howard

Ron Rodda

Kenice Schooley

Kim Schroeder

Kathleen Schultz

Kirk Sturman

Lauria True

Dean Weingust

Mary Wertheimer

Karen Wilkinson

Linda Wyse

Our Staff:

Kim Nutkins

Dottie Doslak

Kelly Spence

Meet the staff of *The Clarkston News*

The staff of *The Clarkston News* is as diverse as the many different jobs they fill. Get a little better acquainted with our staff by reading their bios below

The **Office staff** is most often the face of *The Clarkston News*. They know who people need to talk to even before the person does, they keep the other departments from being hopelessly buried by the sheer amount of work they do and generally ensure that day-to-day operations run smoothly.



Rosemary keeps everyone from going insane.

Rose Mary Srazer

Position: Office Manager

Job Responsibilities: A to Z. Everything from taking classifieds, maintaining subscriptions, handling WTC's, answering phones and assisting the other de-

partments.

Time with Sherman Publications: May 10 is my one year anniversary.

Work Background: My background is in banking (1983-1994) as a customer service representative to Assistant Branch Manager including branch and operations trouble shooting. I worked as a secretary for St. Anne and Christ Redeemer Faith Formation from 1994-2004.

Family: Married to husband Jim for 26 years on June 9. Son James, currently serving in Iraq and daughter Lianna, in college. And my six dogs.

Favorite part of job: You never know who you are going to meet.

Most embarrassing moment: My second or third day on the job, I accidentally deleted all the subscription records and had to call Luan, one of the owners.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: The people I meet from day to day and the interesting stories they have to tell me is my favorite part of the job.

Sally Stein

Position: Office Assistant

Job Responsibilities: Greet folks who come in, answer phones, help people place classified and want ads and help with announcements

Time with Sherman Publications: One year

Family: Married with two children.

Favorite part of job: Chatting with the people who come in from the street.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: The eclectic mix of people I get to meet while I hold down the fort at the front of the office.

What's a newspaper without any news? What gets reported in *The Clarkston News* without the **News staff**? Our four full-time writers, plus an intern make sure everything happening in Clarkston gets in the paper.



Sally makes sure anyone with a question gets an answer.

Jenny Matteson

Position: Editor

Job responsibilities: What don't I do? I write and edit stories and pictures, organize layout and am responsible for all coverage contained within the pages of this wonderful publication. I give my staff direction, while teaching them to expand their writing, editing, layout and photography skills. I organize building tours and presentations on newspapers in the schools. Give tours to scout troops. Mentor interns, and oh, did I mention in there somewhere that I write?

Time with Sherman Publications: Three years or so.

Work background: I hold a bachelors in English with minors in philosophy and music, and a prelaw option from Ohio Northern University. My first newspaper position, outside of college, was with the *Gratiot County Herald*, McDonald Publications in Ithaca, Michigan. I started out with Sherman Publications as a

Please see Staff, page 4B

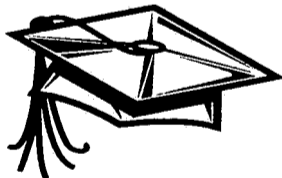
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Staff

Continued from page 1B

reporter at *The Oxford Leader* and came to Clarkston as editor just over eight months ago.

Family: Anyone who already does not know this fact will be informed now – I am an Ohioan!!!! My family is from, tied to and currently lives in central Ohio. Yes, oh yes, that is Buckeye country. More locally, my husband Tom is a music teacher for New Haven Community Schools. He is currently working on his administration degree. We have a son, Ethan, 3½, who loves going to preschool, riding his bike, playing soccer and tormenting his guinea pigs.

Favorite part of job: Taking pictures of all the great people I get to meet.

Most embarrassing moment: After six years in the business, I don't have a funny one – maybe Clarkston will be the place...

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: I enjoy telling people's stories and sharing my voice with others. I especially enjoy small, community newspapers because I know the people I'm writing about; I can have a positive effect on my own little corner of the world. The newspaper business gives me the freedom to express myself, while providing others the opportunity and resources to do the same.

Don Schelske

Position: Reporter

Job responsibilities: Current regular beats are Clarkston City Council, Springfield Township Board, police and courts, and Religion page, plus general assignment news and feature reporting, photography and page design.

Time with Sherman Publications: Three years during this current swing, plus 10 years previously with SPI's "cousin," *The Davison Index*.

Work background: This year I celebrate 20 years of professional newspaper work, the vast majority of which has been with local community newspapers in a variety of communities. That doesn't count years of student newspaper experience in high school and college, and even earlier experience submitting news from



The news staff of *The Clarkston News* as seen through their column headers.

my Boy Scout troop to another SPI newspaper, *The Lake Orion Review*, during my youth.

I have a Bachelor of Religious Education degree from Detroit Bible College and a Master of Arts in communications from Wheaton College (Illinois). I have been honored to receive a number of awards from the Michigan Press Association during 10 years as editor of *The Davison Index*.

Family: Wife, Nancy, and cat, Cookie.

Favorite part of job: A big part of what is special about this level of journalism is the variety of tasks. While it is sometimes a challenge to juggle writing, photography, page design and a variety of administrative tasks, we're not locked into a narrow beat or specialty.

Most embarrassing moment: Aside from right now when I have to admit it? I've made plenty of mistakes over the years, but perhaps the most embarrass-

ing was when (at another newspaper) I ran a photo of an award presentation from an Optimist Club (with the Optimist banner clearly visible in the photo), but wrote "Kiwanis Club" in the caption...

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: There is great fulfillment in helping inform, educate and entertain people in the local community. That is especially true at a community newspaper, where we do what no one else does!

Christina Ulaj

Position: Education Reporter

Job Responsibilities: Responsible for complete coverage of Clarkston Community Schools, as well as board meetings. Finding stories, interviewing proper

Please see Staff, page 6B

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'Safepet Hidden Fencing' keeps pets in the yard

These days people don't need a wooden or metal fence to keep their pet out of the pound. In fact the best way to ensure the family dog doesn't become the neighborhood stray can't be seen at all.

"The idea when we set this business up was to offer a high quality product at a reasonable price. Something everybody can afford," said Randy Badour, owner of Safepet Hidden Fencing of Michigan LLC. "With some of the other companies out there, you call them up, have them come out and they give you a price that is usually very, very expensive. We wanted to offer something that everybody could do."

What Randy's business offers is a safe, economical alternative to chain link fencing. His product, Hidden Fence, is 99.2 percent effective at training a dog to respect the boundaries of a yard. Not to mention Hidden Fence can save pet owners \$1,000's of dollars compared to wood or metal fence installation.

"There's no guarantees that a chain link fence will work either. Dogs can climb over them or dig under them or someone will make the mistake of leaving the gate open. I've had plenty of calls to go put in an electric fence inside their fence."

With Hidden Fence, the dog is fit with a collar which emits a warning sound when the animal wanders too close to the boundaries specified at installation. If the animal continues towards the boundaries the collar delivers a mild corrective stimulation.

"Depending on the dog, you are talking about two to four weeks for training. Once they hear that warning tone that is all it takes," said Badour, who uses Hidden Fence to keep his dog, Kramer, from

terrorizing the neighbors. Hidden Fence's collar interacts with a boundary of wire installed into the ground. The process of setting up the wire takes between two and four hours. Badour and his crew slice open the ground in order to thread Hidden Fence across the yard. The grass makes a complete recovery within days of installation.

"We're a local business. I think we offer a little more personal touch for the customer. We're available when the customer calls and we're there the same day doing whatever they need, from any problems they have with the system to training their dog," said Badour.

All of Badour's packages include up to one acre of Hidden Fence wiring. For

training purposes, Safepet also offers obedience remotes which sync with the collar.

As well as keeping pets in the yard, Safepet also offers solutions inside the home, in the form of small battery powered units which will safeguard anything from a garbage can or toilet bowl to a computer room.

"If you have something in the house you want to keep the cat away from, these will do the trick," said Badour.

Discipline for a dog is one thing, Badour has pet owners in mind with the newest edition to the Safepet stable.

Starting April 1, anyone who owns a goldfish, parakeet, cat, dog or any other housepet can go online at

www.safepethiddenfence.com and purchase everything from food to collars.

"Just go online order what you want and it's delivered right to your door," said Badour.

Customers can either make a one time purchase or schedule regular deliveries of a wide array of high quality products.

"People are so busy now they don't want to mess with buying pet food. Whatever they need just comes automatically and they don't even have to think about it," said Badour.

Safepet Hidden Fencing is available for appointments year round, Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Please call 810-654-9377 to set up an installation time.

Safepet Hidden Fencing
Of Michigan

Hidden Fencing for Dogs

810-654-9377
www.Safepethiddenfence.com

Randy Badour, pictured here with Kramer, started Safepet Hidden Fencing of Michigan three years ago.

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Staff

Continued from page 4B

sources and completing a final product is what goes into a regular workday.

Time with Sherman Pub: Total of six months to date.

Work background: Graduating from Madonna University 2004, I came to Sherman Publications with experience in broadcast journalism as well as print. Broadcast, Fox 2 news. Print: Madonna Herald.

Family: Live with Father Palo, Mother Dragica and brother Marko. Other siblings include: Brother Tom and sisters, Kathy, Vera, Linda and Vicky. I have 11 nieces and nephews, with one on the way.

Favorite part of job: My favorite part of my job is meeting different people every day. Every day is different than the previous, sometimes you never know what to expect.

Most embarrassing moment: When I was covering a Rotary Club event, and walked up to a group of ladies. One of them looked at me, and I swear she looked so familiar. I told her I thought I knew her, but I couldn't place her if she paid me. She replied, "I do pay you." The lady was Luan and she is part of the Sherman family. I was mortified, however we managed to find the comedy in the situation.

Why do I enjoy working in newspaper business: I enjoy the business because, in a way, it is my job to keep the community on top of current events. Meeting new and interesting people and working with students is always a joy.

Noah Purcell

Position: Sports/staff writer

Job Responsibilities: Keep a bead on all things sports in Clarkston from the high school to parks and recreation, layout paper, writing general stories, features and columns, and taking photos.

Time with Sherman Publications: Nine months at the end of May

Work Background: I've filled potholes, worked in a refrigerator the size of two football fields, been a gas station attendant, dried cars, done landscaping,

worked in a phone bank and dabbled in journalism and public relations over the years.

Family: Mother and father, brother and girlfriend: Bethany (not all named Bethany, just my girlfriend),

Favorite part of job: Extrapolating my views to the general public.

Most embarrassing moment: Asking someone how they decided on Michigan as their school of choice only to find out that they were an assistant coach of the kid I was supposed to be meeting at the time.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: Why wouldn't I? I meet scads of interesting people, write for a living and am provided with a forum for the innerworkings of my mind. My job is like an ice cream social, finger exercise and therapy sessions all rolled into one.

Laura Weiner

Position: Intern

Job Responsibilities: Help where I can, write stories.

Time with Sherman Publications: Three weeks.

Work Background: Student at Oakland University, writer for *The Oakland Post*.

Family: Mom, Harriet; dad, Marc; brother Jeff (19); and sister Dana (25)

Favorite part of job: The variety of things I get to do. All the experience I'm getting.

Most embarrassing moment: Thankfully, nothing yet. But as well as I know myself, something will



Our intern Laura works her fingers to the bone.

surely come up.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: I love to write and there are always different things to work on.

All the lovely news stories, features and columns which adorn the pages of *The Clarkston News* would have no home if not for the diligence of the Advertising department.

Cindy Burroughs

Position: Advertising Manager

Job Responsibilities: Take the heat from the publisher and contact prospective advertisers. I manage two sales reps.

Time with Sherman Publications: Seems like eons (six years, five months and three days)

Work Background: I worked for the Shermans back in 19??; well let's just say a long time ago. I started in the front office and mail room. Then I was promoted into sales at *The Clarkston News*. I worked for the Shermans for 11 years, then I left, which was a stupid mistake on my part. I returned 15 years later to work at *The Clarkston News* again, transferred to the Oxford office for two years prior to being promoted to advertising manager.

Family: Husband, who is a Pontiac police officer, a niece/goddaughter, Destinee; who is the love of my life; and two dogs.

Favorite part of job: Meeting people in the community. Not being stuck in the office all day. Though you did not ask about the worst, here is my personal least favorite part of the job anyway: getting blamed for all that goes wrong with the paper.

Most embarrassing moment: I have a couple from the first time I was here: I crashed the computers that held all the classifieds at deadline. I also told Mr. Sherman I didn't think Mrs. Sherman liked me - his response was "Let me tell you. If she didn't like you, you wouldn't be here."

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: It's fast paced, meeting lots of people and helping businesses grow.

Please see Staff, page 7B

A Moment In Time

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Staff

Continued from page 4B

Debbie Denton

Position: Advertising Representative
Job Responsibilities: Advertising sales and design

Time with Sherman Publications: Sept. 1987-Sept. 1989 and Oct. 2001 to present.

Work Background: I worked for General Motors for five years after high school. Was a stay at home Mom for 10 years, then worked in real estate for a year before starting in advertising. Also

worked for 10 years in automotive recruiting.

Family: Married for 26 years to Tim Denton. One son, Doug, 28, who teaches high school level math. One daughter, Kari, 24, who works at Glitz.

Favorite part of job: Helping customers with their ad campaigns so their businesses' can grow. I really enjoy the layout and design elements of my job as well.

Most embarrassing moment: I find life too funny to be embarrassed.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: It's high energy, stimulating and creative work. I also feel

The Clarkston News 75th Edition Wed., May 18, 2005 7 B
that the newspaper provides a service to the community with hometown news, sports and photos.

Joy M. VanderWeel "The Clarkston Kid"

Position: Advertising Representative
Job Responsibilities: Selling advertisements to run in our seven papers.

Time with Sherman Publications: Three years and seven months.

Work Background: Moved to Clarkston in 1969. Graduated from Clarkston High School in 1975. Graduated from Pontiac Business Institute in 1976 as a certified stenographer.

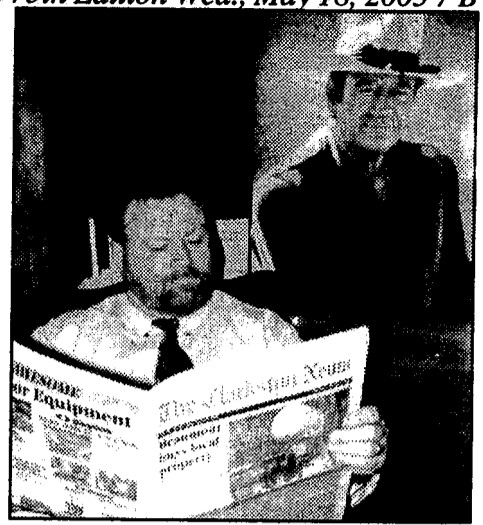
Family: Married 25 years to husband, Lawrence, a GM engineer. Oldest daughter, Ashley, graduated from CHS in 2002 and now attends Wayne State University. She will graduate in 2006 as a nutritionalist. Kimberly will graduate from CHS in 2006 and is the vice president of the Japanese Club. She plans on being a translator. Michael, almost 11, going into the sixth grade at Sashabaw Middle School. He is involved in plays, Clarkston Chiefs football, Clarkston Wrestling club and Clarkston baseball.

Lawrence and myself are both very involved with Clarkston area sports including: Clarkston Chief's football, North Oakland Wolf Pack AAU basketball, Clarkston wrestling, Independence Township soccer and baseball.

Favorite part of job: Working with the businesses in my own hometown.

Most embarrassing moment: Having my photo on a business card size ad place in our papers, next to my clients stating "Look who's 53 years away from 100," on my 47th birthday last year.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: Working at *The*



Don is our paper's rock because he has a constant steadying influence looking over him at all times.

Clarkston News for the past (almost) four years has been wonderful. Our local businesses and local hometown people work together in making Clarkston a great place to live and work. As fast paced as this business is, it is a pleasure to work for Sherman Publications - besides I'm the only person in the office from Clarkston and still in Clarkston.

Without a solid base, *The Clarkston News* would wither and die. The staff at Sherman Publications offices in Oxford make sure to provide that strong foundation.

Don Rush

Position: Assistant Publisher

Job Responsibilities: Get a quality product out the door, on time, at a profit. Tackle new projects, oversee editorial department, weekly column "Don't

Continued on page 9B



Our Ad staff, (right to left) Cindy, Debbie and Joy, keep the paper afloat.

AUCTION

**Saturday Evening
May 21st at 7pm**

at our gallery in Clarkston, Michigan



To make room for a large incoming estate, we will be conducting a huge clearance auction, Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. on May 21st. Most items will be sold at **NO RESERVE!** Persian rugs, mirrors, oil paintings, graphics by Dali, Icart, Chagall, Etc. Leaded glass lamps, marble and bronze garden sculptures, bronze fountains, cut crystal, gem property & much more!

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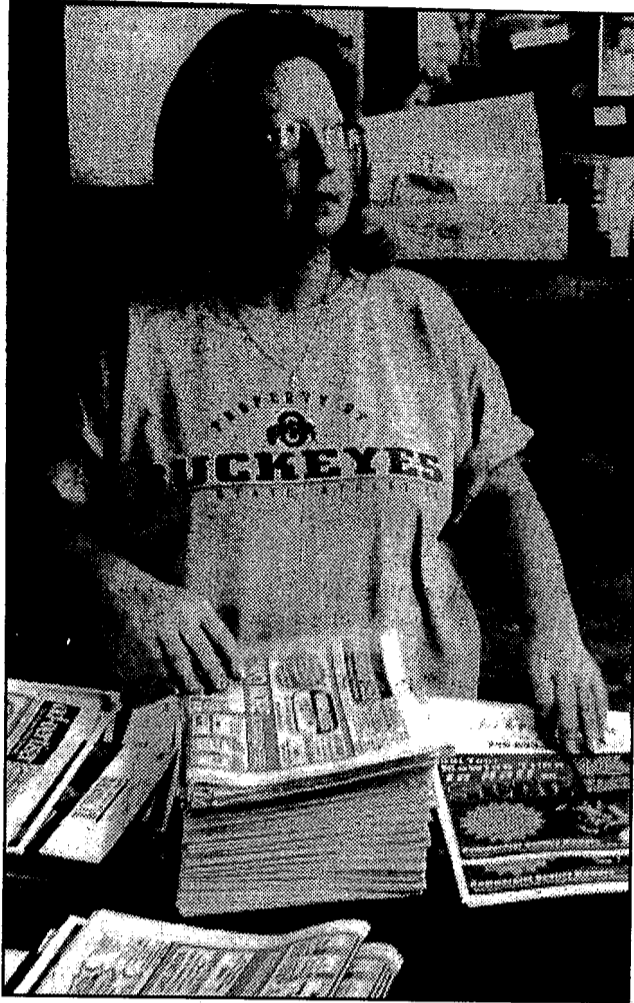
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Ty and Maralee Cook

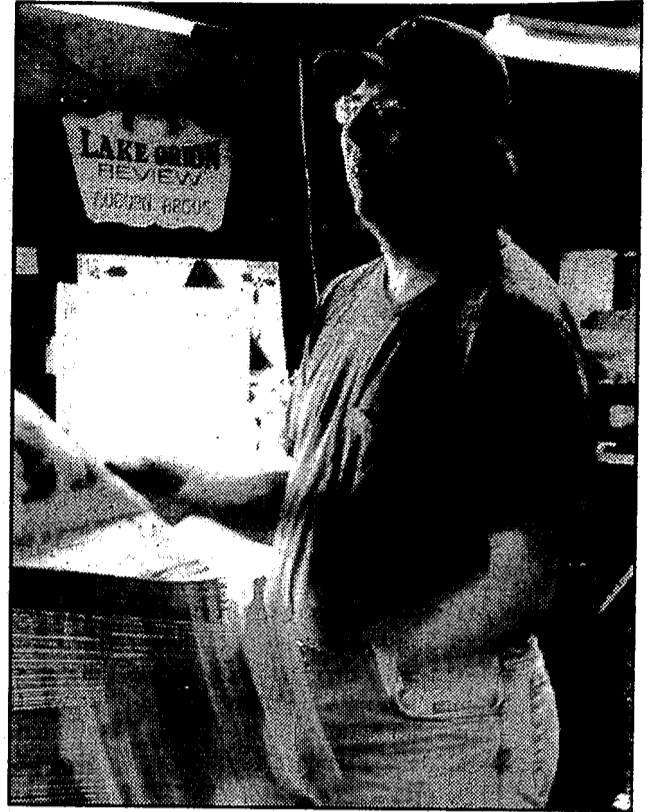
Sherman Publication newspaper stuffers hard at work



Julie Taylor



LaDonna Wilk



Bill Steiss



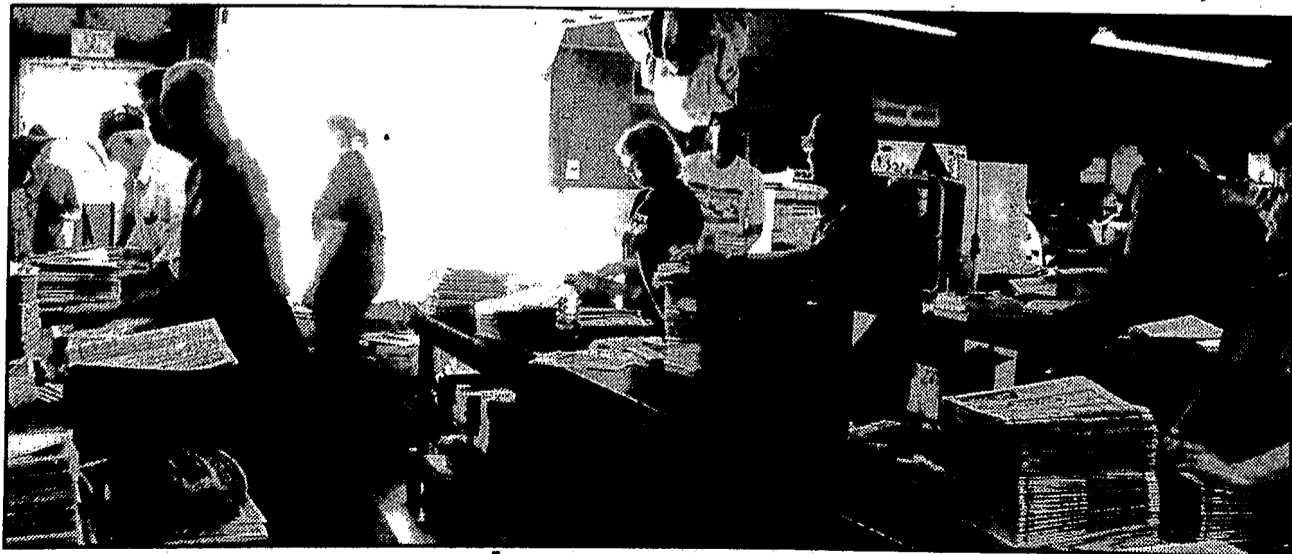
Mike Szpakowski



Pam Klaus



Linda Blevins



Sherman Publications newspaper stuffers work together to complete circulation before they hit stands.



Jose Gonzales Jr.

Staff

Continued from page 7B

Rush Me," fill in for absent employees in the editorial, advertising, newspaper delivery, on the press and in pre-press areas. Act as a liaison between the community and ownership and employees and owners. And above all, find new ways to anger everybody.

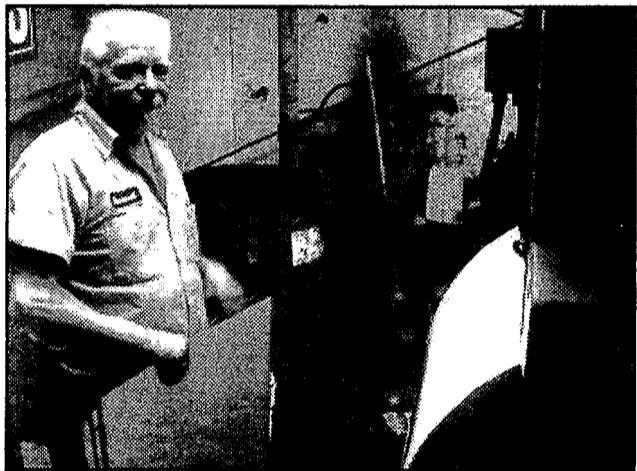
Time with Sherman Publications: 20 years on May 20.

Family: Wife, Jennie; sons: Shamus, age seven, and Sean, age 5. Three dogs: Pork Chop, Mickey the Wonder Dog and Booker; two cats: Kietcha and Thomas; two rabbits: Tulip and Daisey; two guinea pigs: Larry and Edgar; and one crawfish (unnamed).

Favorite part of job: Watching community newspapers, full of timely articles and ads come out every week.

Most embarrassing moment: In 20 years, I've had way too many embarrassing moments to list in this short space.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: Community journalism has the most impact on people's lives than any other medium. We are the conscience of the community. We should stand up for what is right, even if it is not popular with elected or appointed government officials. We can effect change for the positive, that's my favorite part.



Whitey has been with the paper for 49 years.

Rhonda Givens

Position: Graphic Artist

Job Responsibilities: Ad layout and design for *The Clarkston News*, scanning, internet work and above all meeting my deadlines.

Time with Sherman Publications: Nine months, three weeks, six days, two hours, 56 seconds.

Work Background: Worked for *The Oakland Press*. Relocated to Kansas City, MO and worked for *The Dispatch Tribune*. Been in publishing since 1991.

Family: Sister, Theresa Givens, two nieces: Amanda Stratton and Sarah Stratton and Stanley my cat.

Favorite part of job: Meeting my deadline and having no negative feedback when the paper hits the street ... and payday.

Most embarrassing moment: I don't get embarrassed. There's no shame in my game.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: Once you do publishing, you can't do anything else. The publishing gets in your blood and I'm noisy.

Larry "Whitey" Hauxwell

Position: Pressman and Printer

Job Responsibilities: Print all job work, fliers and run our five-unit Goss Community press. Prints some 62,000 papers a week.

Time with Sherman Publications: Since 1956 as a



Rhonda makes sure the paper looks great.

The Clarkston News 75th Edition Wed., May 18, 2005 9 B
junior in High School.

Family: Girlfriend of ten years, Brenda.

Favorite part of job: Independence, being my own boss.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: There is never a dull moment.

James A. Boberg

Position: Works as a stuffer, insert and truck delivery. Also aids in distribution and in mailroom.

Job Responsibilities: Pressman's helper for press printing. I also deliver our products to area post offices and help mailroom ready papers for the post office.

Time with Sherman Publications: 19 years and six months.

Work Background: "Jim started here right after high school and his responsibilities have grown since. He is an integral part in our company and for getting our papers to our readers," - Don Rush, Assistant Publisher.

Family: Mother and father, one sister, two brothers and one adopted brother.

Favorite part of job: Helping work the printing press.

Most embarrassing moment: I have no embarrassing moments.

Why do you enjoy working in the newspaper business: Because I enjoy my job. It keeps me busy all day, that's why I love my job.



Jimmy is our renaissance man.

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CONGRATULATIONS to
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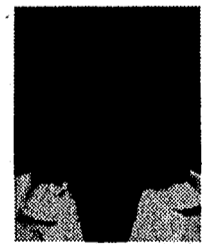
Vitamin and Mineral IV Therapy

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Mel Vaara remembers Clarkston's sports history

Mel Vaara has worn many hats in Clarkston over the years. Aside from writing sports for *The Clarkston News* in the 1960's he was the first principal of Sashabaw Junior High in 1969, has coached track, basketball and cross country, was named assistant superintendent in 1972, was the principal of CHS in 1986 and again in the 1991-92 school year. He has held numerous administrative positions over the years. The following is a brief history of 50 years of sports in Clarkston Community Schools written by Vaara

The history and importance of sports changed when Superintendent of Schools, Dr. L. F. Greene, hired three young men to lead the teams in football (Ed Hintz), basketball (Dom Mauti) and baseball (Gus Birtsas). This was in the early 1950's.

Hintz, as a coach, restored the power in football by winning league titles. (Later Ed became Superintendent of Schools in the Flint area.) His assistant was Mauti. As baseball coach Birtsas' team won several league titles. He later became principal of Sashabaw Junior High. There were no state playoffs in baseball or football until the 1970's

Mauti's team had huge success in basketball. (He later became principal of CHS.) Hintz

was his assistant. Mauti coached 12 seasons and his teams won nine district titles. His 1953 team won Clarkston's first basketball district title. Some members of the team were Tom Bullen, Rob Shebor, Bill Dunston, Chuck Robertson, Rick Huttenlocher and Pete Thompson.

Mauti's best team was in 1957 with Dick Lippert, Bill Noles, Jim Jensen, George Lang and Leroy Parks. They were defeated in the regionals by Grand Blanc. That year, Mauti's team was ranked very high in the *Detroit Free Press* by Hal Schram. Another great team was in 1963, led by Dan Craven, Ken Miskin, Mike Bray, Dan Fife, Jon Gary Ron Lippert, Gary Peterson, Jon Wilberg and Gary Bass.

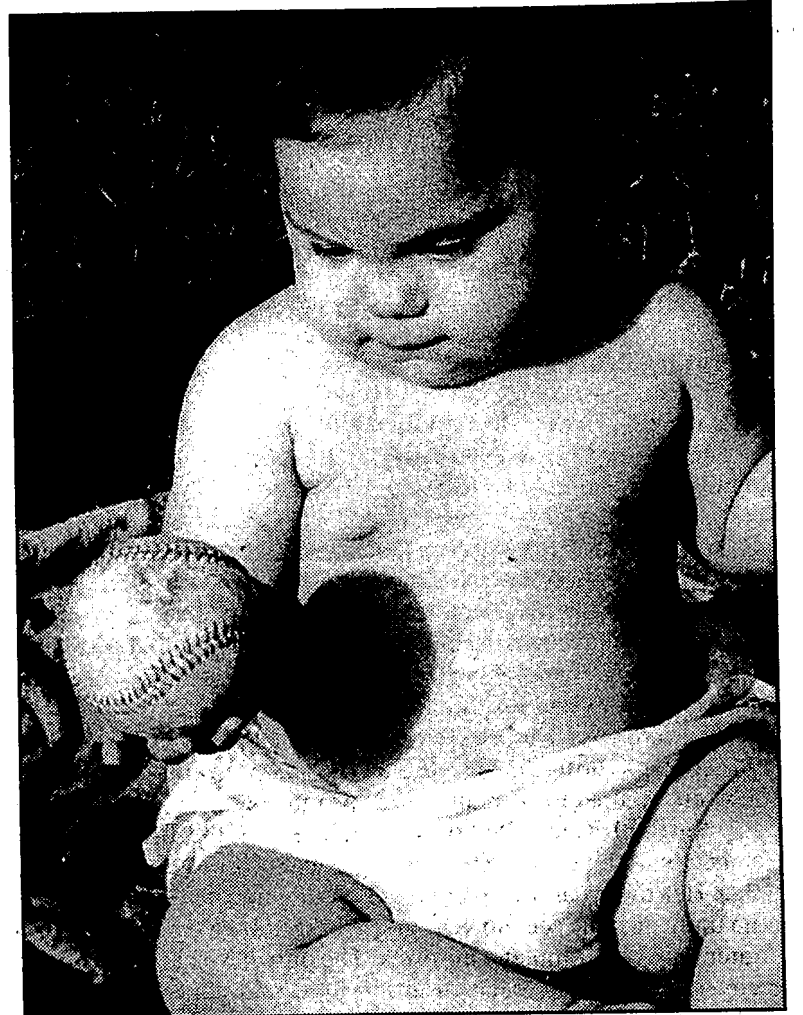
Girls sports were nonexistent in the 50's, 60's and part of the 70's. They had the Girls Athletic Association and were only allowed use of the gym after school on Fridays. When I look back at this situation, it was very sad. Thanks to title nine, many doors were opened up for women's athletics.

Girls Basketball Jan Modesitt became Clarkston's first women's basketball coach. Her first two years they played six on a team and were later allowed to have the same rules as boys. To get the program started,

they had to buy their own uniforms, hire officials and provide transportation. Eventually, they played a league schedule. Modesitt won 133 games and lost 61. She won three districts and one regional, which allowed her team to reach the quarterfinals - the only girls basketball team in history to reach that far. Players included Dede Miller, Cindy Hunt, Autumn Matlock, Mary Jane Anderson, Nancy Chartier, Diane Curry, Marcia Mason, Kathy Rush, Jane Tatu, Anne Varra, Sue Frazier, Kathy Warren and Shelly Vailliencourt. Modesitt spoke very highly of Mary Beth Cowndin saying she was an athlete before her time in basketball.

Larry Mahrle was the girls basketball coach for eight years (1956-60). He won two league titles. Some of the girls that played under him were Sue McKoin, Rhonda Jokish, Jennifer and Allyson McChesney, Heather and Celeste Steinhelper, Leah Howard, Sue Naboychik, Laura Seitz, Beth Walker, Tami Mitchell, Carrie Roeser, Lesley Allen, Ann Brueck and Nickie Winn.

Girls golf Another sport where the girls have had huge success was golf. For two years in a row (1976-1977), they were



Even in it's infancy, Clarkston has always had a strong sports program.

State champions in class A. The 1976 team was coached by Doug Pierson and the 1977 team was coached by Jim Chamberlain. Both years' team members

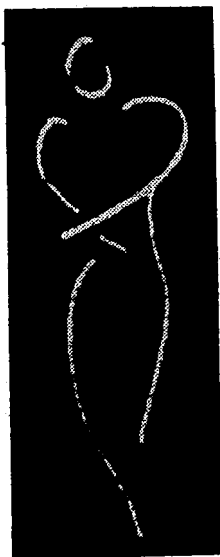
were Vivian Booker, Allison Booker, Mary J. Anderson and Terri Thompson. The 1976 team

Please see Sports, page 11B

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Sports

Continued from page 10B

won by 35 strokes. Sometime earlier there was no girls state tournament in golf, so Cindy Booker played for the boys and took second place. She was the first girl to play on a boys team in state competition.

Volleyball Linda Denstaedt was Clarkston's first volleyball coach. She coached for ten years. In 1976 (the first year for state playoffs) her team advanced to the semifinals winning a district and regional title on their way. Some members were Diane Curry, Nancy Chartier, Autumn Matlock, Dede Miller, and Anne Varra. Her greatest player was Nancy Foster. She went on to play at Central Michigan and later replaced Denstaedt as coach.

Foster coached girls volleyball for four years. She won a league title and two districts. Her 1986-87 team ranked third in the state. The team lost to Marion in the regional final. Some members were Wendy Learmont, Michelle Taulbee, Missy O'Dell, Wendy Cohoon and Roseann Hirneism.

Gordie Richardson coached volleyball for 20 years (437-224) He won six league titles, seven districts and one regional. Some players mentioned by Coach Richardson who had an impact on his teams over the years were Lisa Herron, Heather Steinhelper, Candy Polenz, Nichole Hard, Megan Bjurnam, Kammy Powell, Andrea Bower, and Lindsay Vincent.

Softball Kathy DeArmond Mahrle was the first varsity softball coach. She won three league titles (66-32). Her first year they played only four game and had no uniforms; the second year they had skirts. Two year later they had complete uniforms. The only newspaper coverage the girls received at the time was done by Mahrle. Some girls that played on her championship team were Kathy Bontia, Cheryl Stickley, Cindy Hunt, Autumn Matlock, Kay Pierson, Pam Blower, Jane Tatu, Michelle Dearborn and Anne Varra.

Carla Teare coached softball for ten years. She won two league titles, four districts and two regional championships. Both regional teams lost in the semifinals of the state tournament. Her teams won over 150

games. Some of her players were Sandy Mason, Lisa Forsyth, Annette Ulasich, Julie Marshall, Sheila Moore, Laura Hurren, Missy O'Dell, Stacy Schurtz, Jennifer and Allison McChesney, Terry Sherman, Sue Stefanski, Chris Castillo, Jackie Patrick and Heather Behrens.

Girls Track Gordie Richardson was the girls track coach for 25 years. He put the track program on center stage. If you mentioned girls in Michigan Clarkston was ranked with the best of them - 14 years undefeated in dual meets; 15 league titles; 6 regionals; 3 county meets and Gordie was coach of the year five times.

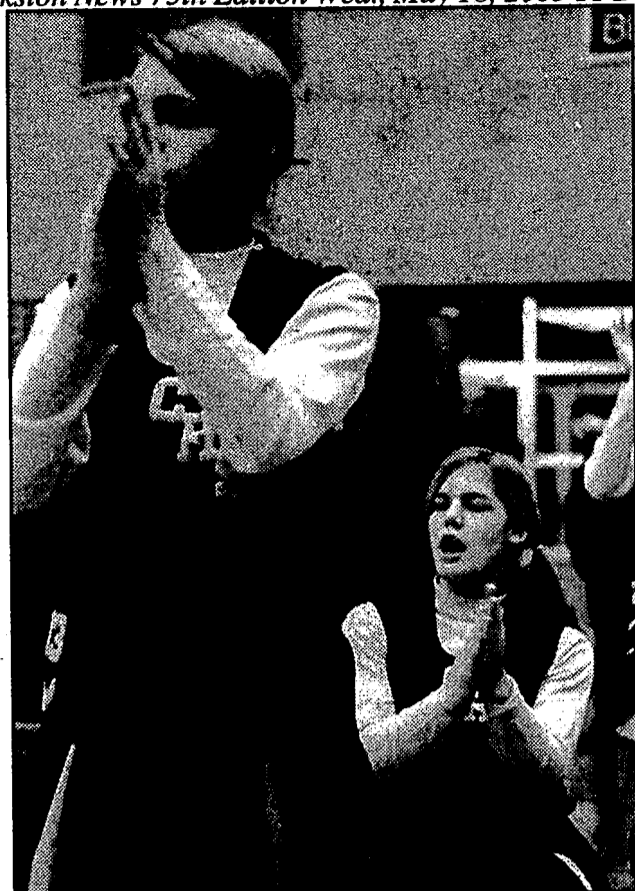
There are so many girls to mention. These made All State: Jane Selent, Shivonne DeBoer, Carnie Roeser, Nicole Chinabare, Jenny Mahler, Sonya Schaffer, Lisa Herron, Jennifer Faroush, Tara Caringcross, Michelle Follell, Jennifer Bauer, Stephanie Burkow, Leah Scharl, Megan Plante, Kristin Maine, Mo Kuhta, Michele Fisher, Jennifer Rooding and Lisa Ladd.

Errol Solley coached girls track and he had one outstanding runner - Sue Latter. In the State finals, she took first place in the 220, 440 and 880. Clarkston was the runner-up State champs that year.

Cross country The present girls cross country coach is Jamie LaBrosse. Clarkston's program is known nation wide. They were runners up at States in 2002 and State champs in 2003 and again in 2004. The team is ranked first in the region and third in the nation. Jamie's teams also won three league and county meets. Team members include Jenny Morgan, Liz Mengyan, Gillian Nordquist, Anne Oltman, Ella Kuhta, Jenna Leach, Beth Hoekstra, Lisa Sickman and Lyndsay Smith.

Cheerleading/Pom pons One of our first cheerleading coaches was Carol Lippencott. She was followed by Jan Gabier who went on to become an administrator in Clarkston. She coached for nine years. Cheerleading was were state champs in 1966. On that team were Nancy Weiss, Jan (Peters) Fife, Caroline Giles, Cheryl Mansfield, Leslie Surre, Shala Smith and Pam Affolder. Other coaches were Sue Johnson, Jan Fife, Gail Conwell, Debbie Hool and the present coach Chandra Price.

Pom pons restarted in 1984. Mary Jane Cox and



Go Wolves Go.

later her daughter were the coaches. They set the bar for excellence. Other coaches were Jennifer Rossman, Harmony Hunt, Jenny Schultz and present coach Erin Przybylski.

Boys golf Jim Chamberlain was the boys golf coach for 28 years. He won a state title in 1994. Members of the team were Jason Buchman, Jon Dean, Corey Bildstein and Jeremy Jensen.

Tim Kaul replaced Chamberlain as varsity boys coach. This year's team qualified for the state playoff. They placed tenth. Members of the team are Mike Fogg, Rob Ronk, Zach McDonald, Mike Horn and Colin

Please see Sports, page 13B

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Sports

Continued from page 11B

Madole. Kaul has coached the team for the past five years.

Boys basketball Bud McGrath replaced Mauti as varsity boys basketball coach. Dan Fife played on his team and was All-State. Fife was also captain of the University of Michigan basketball team and is the current head varsity coach and Athletic Director of CHS.

B.J. Hanson followed McGrath. Dave McDonald was the next coach after him for the next five years, he won a couple of league titles. Members were Dave Partlo, Gary White, Bill Craig, Gary Mason, Steve Mauti, Tom Anderson, Darryl Brittan and Dirk Findley. McDonald is still coaching at Saginaw Heritage. He has been coaching for 30 years and has a record of 325-251.

One can never forget the 1980 boys basketball team coached by Gary Nusted and Larry Mahrle. Their record was 26-1, were ranked third in the state and lost in the semifinals to Highland Park by one point. There were thousands of people in Jenison Field House. Bus after bus of students arrived loaded with students, six buses in all.

Clarkston defeated the number one team, Flint Central in the regional final and a great Saginaw team by one point in the quarterfinals. Tim McCormick, who was All-State and went on to play for U of M and in the NBA for the New York Knicks led the team. Other members of the team were John Sheldon, Ed Haddad, Scott McKoin, Larry Baylis, Nick Lekas, John Pappas, Doug Hagyard, Scott Weaver, Jerry Tatu, Chuck Nicoli and Paul Brown.

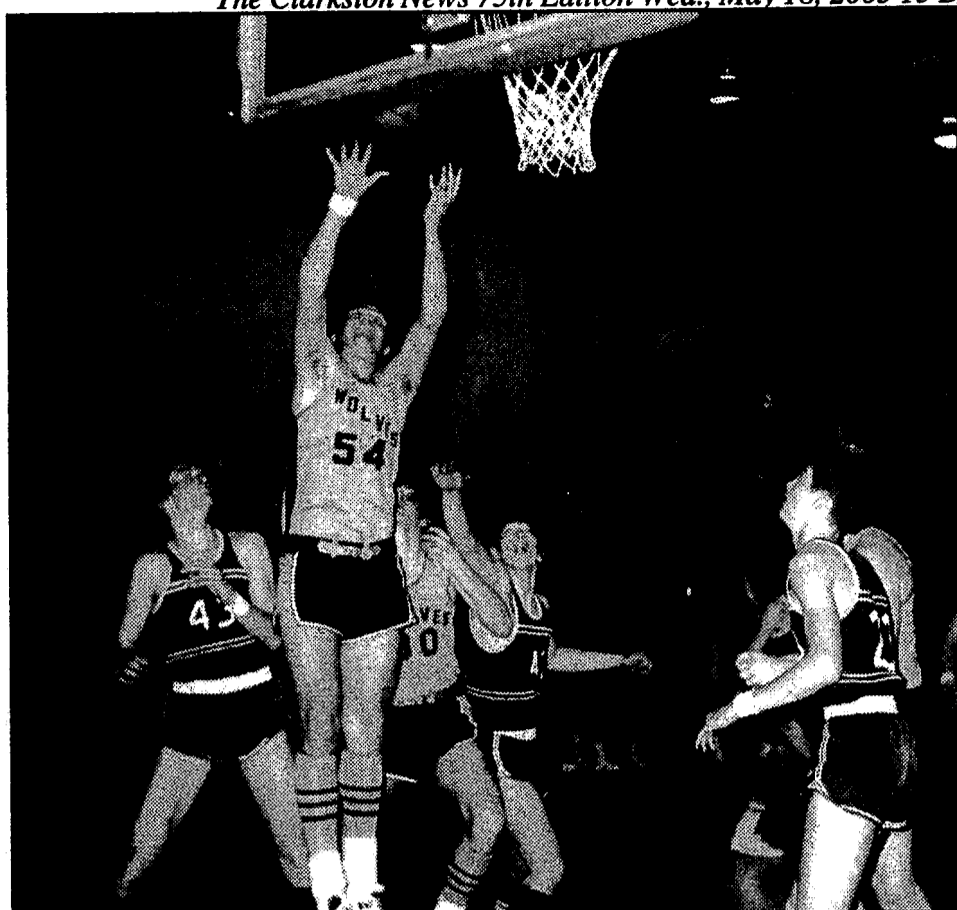
Dan Fife is the present coach for boys basketball. Dan is one of Clarkston's very successful coaches. When you talk about basketball in the State of Michigan, Dan Fife's program is mentioned with the best of them, he has also been Michigan Coach of the year twice.

Fife has been the varsity coach for 23 years (396-123). He coached at Sashabaw Junior High one year. His teams have won 13 league titles, 17 districts and 5 regionals. His best record was the 1990-91 season (22-1). Members of that team were Dave Smith, Shawn Halleran, Mark Galbraith, Chris Wasilk, Luke Fedio, Derek Wiley, Jon Wyniemko, Jeremy Burke, Dugan Fife, Jason Lund, Dereck Raymond, Devin Dupree and Nathan Pomeroy. Dugan Fife later played for U of M. Over 30 basketball players have received scholarships during Dan's career.

Dan is also the Athletic Director and stressed the importance of the fabulous support from the community. Clarkston parents and community members have always followed their teams - home and away. The Clarkston crowd will outnumber the local school in many away games in many sports.

Dugan Fife, Dane Fife and Chris Johnston have received first team All-State awards.

There are many memorable games to pick as your favorite. Mine is the District tournament when Grand Blanc came into our house with a number one ranking and a record of 21-0. Clarkston won by three points. Members of the that team 1988-89 team were Gary Kaul (now assistant principal at CHS), Scott Weeks, Reggie Reed, Mel Heminger, Mark Sanderson, Wally Wyniemko, Jim Huttenlocher, Kellie O'Neil, Kevin



Larry Miracle cuts to the hoop for two points in 1971.

McCormick, Jason Brown and Dugan Fife.

In asking Dan to mention his most memorable games, his comment is "they are all memorable." But playing Pontiac Northern over the years has been special and defeating a Flint Northern with Mateen Cleaves and Antonio Smith on its roster was high on his list.

Baseball Another outstanding coach was Paul Tungate. He later became Athletic Director. His team won the State title in 1976. Members of that team were

Steve Howe, who went on to play for the Los Angeles Dodgers, Doug Manigood, Jeff Ferguson, Bill Matthews, Jeff Schaz, who pitched the winning game, Steve Pearson, Rod Hool and Dan Blower. They beat Hazel Park 3-1 to capture the State title. Paul's teams won 158 and lost 99. They won five districts and three league titles.

Other pitchers who made it to the majors were Dan Fife (Minnesota Twins) and Tim Birtsas (Oakland A's). I had the

Please see Sports, page 14B



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Sports

Continued from page 13B

opportunity to see both players win a major league game.

Roy 'Pop' Warner replaced Tungate and coached for 20 years, Warner was inducted into the State Hall of Fame for baseball coaches. Warner coached sports for 29 years, 20 as a varsity coach, he compiled a 477-236 record and won four district and four league championships.

The present coach is Phil Price. In 2002 the team made it to the semifinals in the State tournament. Last year's team made it to the regional final game, losing to Brother Rice. There were three standouts who received scholarships - Addison Turk, Sam Palace and Aaron Powell. Other members of that team were Jono Moehlig, Ben Munce, Derek Ranck and Bobby Slaughter.

Boys soccer Neil Granlund was the first boys soccer coach starting in 1983. He coached for eight years and was responsible for the foundation of the program.

Dan Fitzgerald was the second coach. He won six districts and one league title, losing three times in the regional finals. Bill Deloney was the assistant coach. His three boys, Andrew B.J. and Jeremy, played for their dad. Scott Rooney was an outstanding player. One of the best players on the present team is Mike Holody. He played four years on varsity and is All-State. The present coach is Mark Whitcomb.

Girls soccer Hannah Olson was the first coach for girls soccer, followed by Kelly Gabriele, Dan and Brian Fitzgerald. The present coach is Tami Niemi. She played for Olson in high school. Niemi has coached for nine years, three on JV

and six on varsity.

Two of Niemi's players, Kelly Dougherty (CMU) and Liz Hardy (U of D), received Division I scholarships - a first for the program. Christine Brundage, Megan Medina, Katie Tripli and Katie Kennedy also received scholarships to play in college.

Three of Niemi's teams reached the district finals.

"It's not always about winning and losing, but the experience of participation and competing," said Niemi.

Wrestling Max Inman was the first wrestling coach, followed by Dick Moscovic. Dick won a league title. Wrestling was new to the community at that time with not much of a following. Some outstanding wrestlers were Rick Detkowski, Mike Packer, Kurt Dougherty and Al Knake. Dick set the foundation for a wrestling program and started the feeder system from elementary and junior high. Other coaches were Greg Gwisdalla, Gary Warner and Toby Carter. Rick Detkowski coached for four years. Some outstanding performers during that time were Jeff Miracle, Mike Conway, Bruce Burowitz, Todd Thompson and Mark Karrick.

In 1991, the wrestling team became State champs. The head coach was Scott Strickler, he coached for seven years (100-25). Clarkston's record in 1991 was 26-0, they were second in the State rankings and 15th in the nation. The team won three districts and one regional to go with their State title. All-State champions on that team were Damon Michelsen, Jerry Anderson, Corey Grant, Joel Davis, Joe Webb, Tony Miller and Jeff DeRosia.

Two wrestlers that really stemmed the tide at the State championship were

Jason Slater and Brian Davis. They had to sub for other CHS wrestlers and were not expected to win against All-State Temperence Bedford wrestlers, both Slater and Davis won and the rest is history. Coach Strickler had his big guns waiting in the wings and CHS won going away for the State title. Strickler has fond memories of that team and communicates with them on a regular basis.

Incidentally Jerry Anderson is the only four-time All-State wrestler in CHS history.

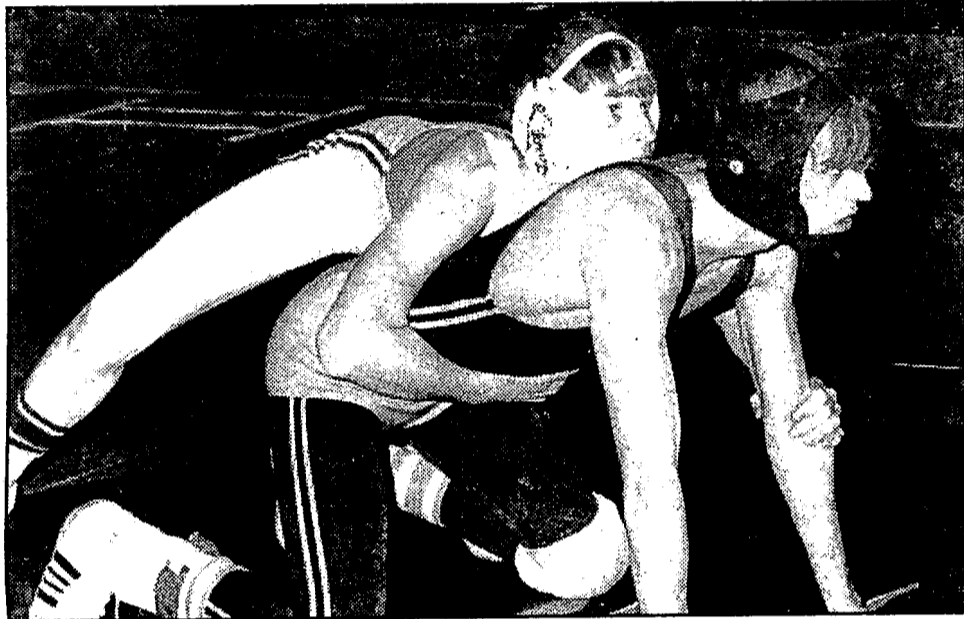
In 1996, Mike DeGain was varsity coach assisted by Frank Lafferty. Joe DeGain, Ryan L'Amoreaux, and A.J. Grant were State champions. Armand Michelsen was ranked third.

In 2003 Joe DeGain was appointed Head Coach. He is assisted by Derek Moscovic. Joe's team won the districts and regionals. Tony LaJoie and Braden L'Amoreaux were State champs. Shawn Turner and Elliot May took seventh. Steve Smith took sixth. There are 31 boys on the team.

Intramural programs Back in the 1960's we had a very strong intramural program for seventh and eighth grade at Clarkston Junior High. It was only for boys at that time - should have been for girls too. Some of the coaches on the staff were Bill Potvin, Don Cooper and Cliff Irwin. All the coaches and administrators worked the concession stand at CHS football games to provide revenue for the program.

How can one forget the first ninth grade football and basketball games between Sashabaw Junior High and Clarkston Junior High starting in 1969. There would be close to 2,000 people at the foot

Please see Sports, page 18B



Lou Lossard puts the clamps on his opponent.

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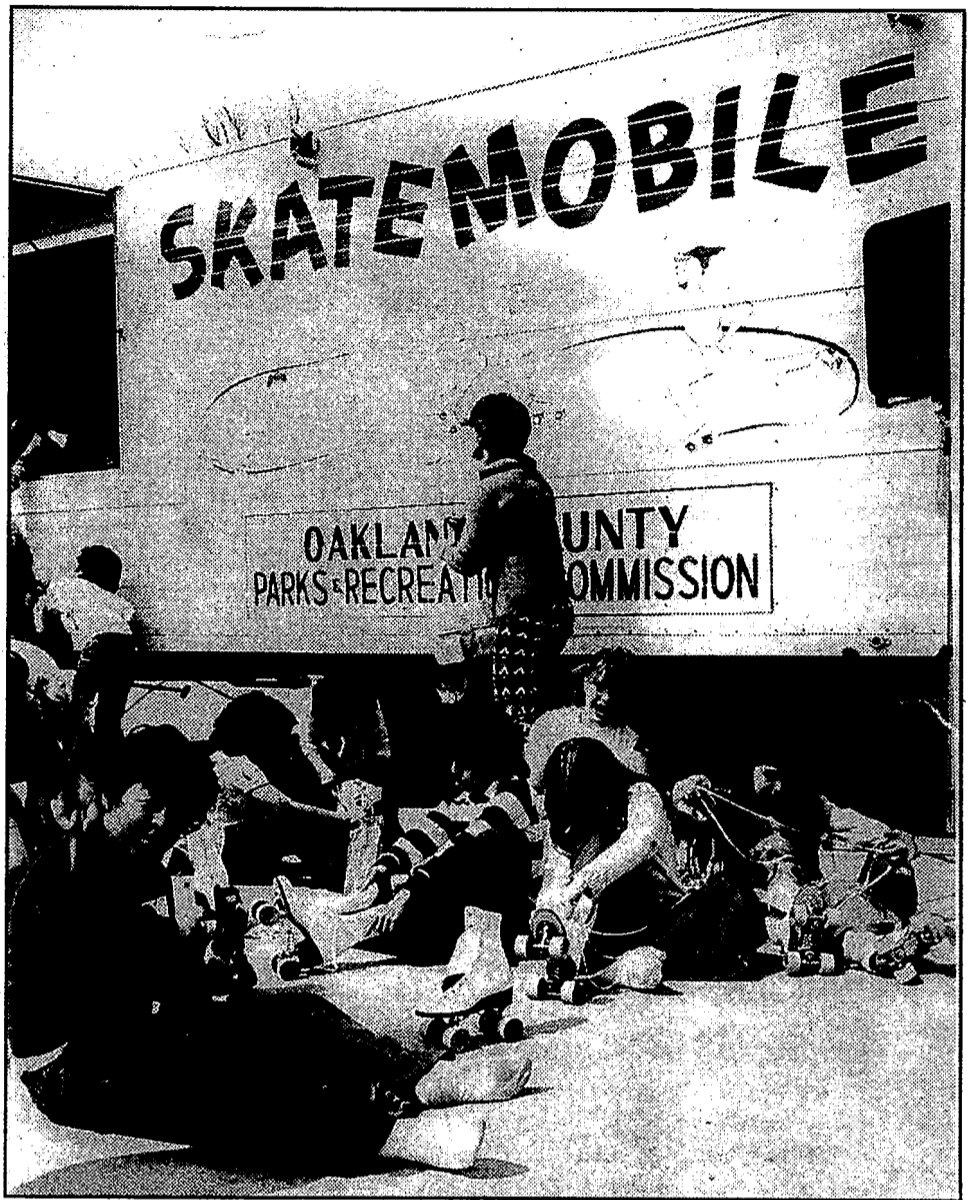
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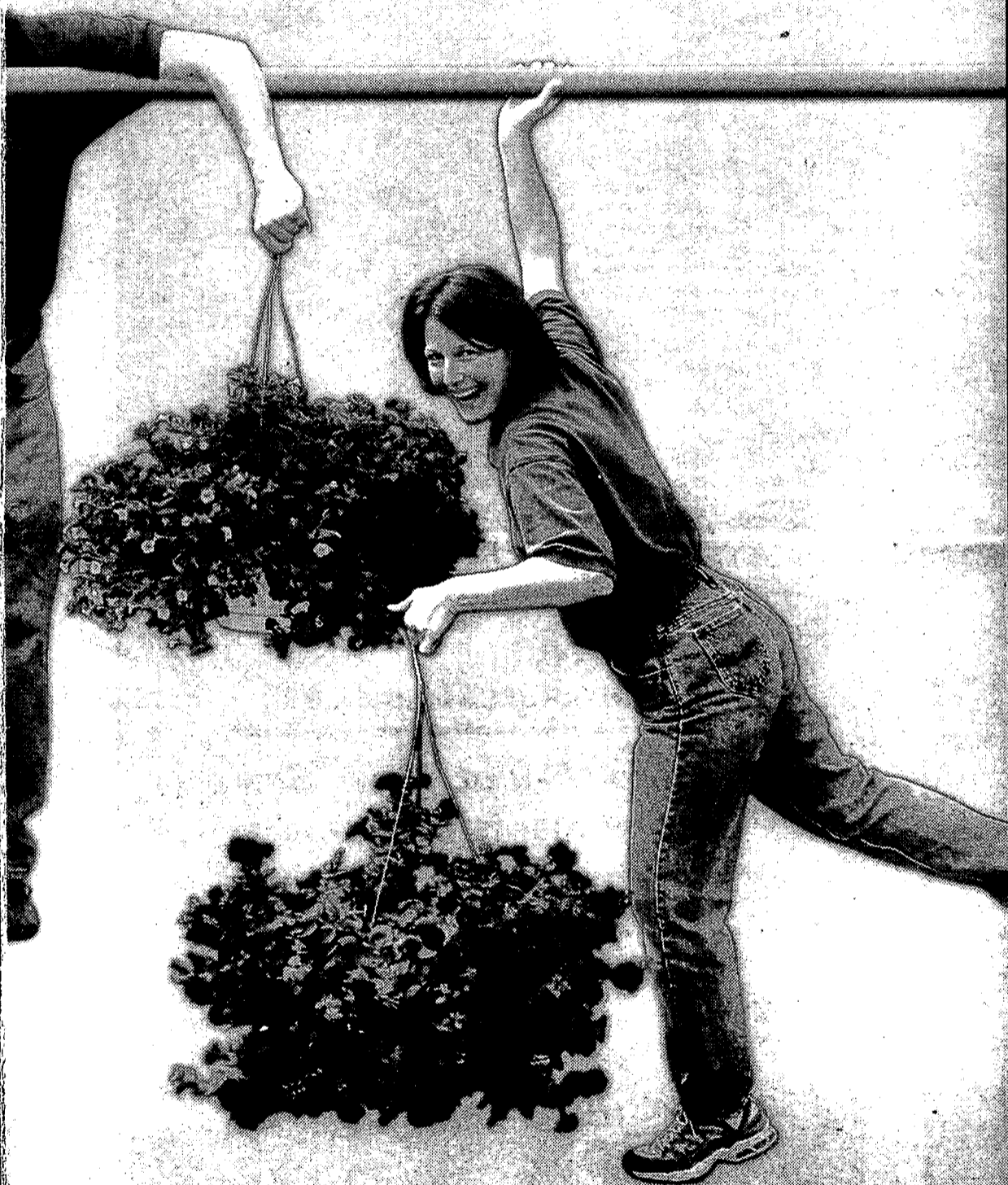
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News
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Sports

Continued from page 15B

ball games and standing room only for basketball games.

Sashabaw's first coach for football and basketball was Jim Koslosky. Tom O'Brien was an assistant in football. Clarkston Junior High's first football coaches were Cliff Irwin and Dennis Bronson. Dave McDonald was basketball coach in ninth grade.

I attended the last football game between Sashabaw and Clarkston. Dave Whitehead (currently the freshman football coach) played in the first Sashabaw/Clarkston game in 1969 and was present to talk to the boys at their last game. They will now all be Clarkston Wolves.

Announcers and boosters One should mention the announcers for the Wolves, starting with myself. Bill Foster (former school board member) has been announcing for 31 years. He remembers announcing his two boys, Dave and Ken, playing varsity football. Dale Ryan has been on the microphone for the past 15 years. He remembers doing the Clarkston vs. Waterford Mott game when his son Eric scored three touchdowns. Neil Granlund is a sub for Ryan. Dale and Bill are valuable members of the athletic family.

Let's not forget our athletic boosters. Every dime they collect goes back into the program. The first president was Duane Richardson (Kurt Richardson, the varsity football coach's father). Duane kept the program going. Others were Wimp Harvey, Ray Davis, Kay Dyke, Arden Collier, Mary Jane Cox, Dwight Spiker (president for 15 years), Ray Neubeck and the current president, Keith Clement. They have many accomplishments. The building that houses soccer equipment at CMS and the athletic storage building at CHS (\$30,000) were major contributions. The past seven years the boosters presented over \$250,000 to the athletic department.

Boys track Leigh Bonner was replaced by coaches Kelly Burnett and myself in 1956. We coached together for seven years. It was difficult because they really didn't have a track back then. The track we had (cinder track) was hard to maintain - it was at the jun-

ior high. The best dash man was Bill Powell, probably the most outstanding dash man in the history of Clarkston. Bill White was very good too in the 100 and 220. Tom and Bob Grey were great in the high jump, they held the record for years. The Seyer boys and Larry Morgan had very times in the distance races. On days of home meets, the principal, S.F. Goedde would let the coaches out early so we could roll and line the track plus get the pits (sawdust) ready for competition. The salary (\$50) was split between the two coaches. Enjoyment was high but we only had average success.

Connie Bruce and Errol Solley coached the varsity track after that, followed by Walt Wyniemko, who coached for 26 years, assisted by Mike Taylor and Mike Kaul. Great trackmen were J.J. Price (discus - 161') Kyle Powell (shot put, his father was Bill Powell), Wayne Thompson and Jeff Schuip (both broke Bill Powell's record in dash), Matt Scharl (pole vault 14'2"), J.R. Kirk (long jump - 22'7"), Gordie Sanderson (9:14 2 mile), David Sage (4:19 mile), Adam Gebus (400 - :49.5), Raffal Fauza (high jump - 6'8"), Steve Wyckoff (high jump), David Ryeson (300 hurdles), Chris Evans (high hurdles - :14.2 and low hurdles - :39.6), Cody Senkyr (hurdles), and the two-mile relay (7:53) of Matt Haver, David Sage, Kevin Breen and Brett Quantz.

Walt's teams have won two league titles and qualified many trackmen for the State finals.

Tennis Dick Swartout coached the boys and girls tennis for 20 seasons. His teams won over 200 matches. Swartout qualifies for the Hall of Fame; he also enjoyed coaching his own children.

Linc Smith and Larry Thibault coached in the seasons before Swartout. Thibault was the only coach to win a regional title. The Beattie boys (Kirt and Kim) carried the team that year.

Becky Craig was the varsity coach in 1979-83 and 1991-93. Her teams won two league crowns and one regional. Members included Mary Smith, Kelly Craig, Alex Campe and Sam Mallett.

The 1997 girls were regional champs. Kristin Atkinson and Alaina Dodds carried the team.

This year's team members include Lauren Little, Stephanie Parkison and Allysa Lucas (all State champs). Darylann Trout lost in the semi's of the State tournament. The current girls coach is Kyleen Cunningham.

Football One must start with Coach Ralph 'Doc' Thayer. He coached in the 1940's and early 1950's. He also drove the bus, lined the field and more. Back in World War II, gas was a premium; so, mothers would

Please see Sports, page 20B



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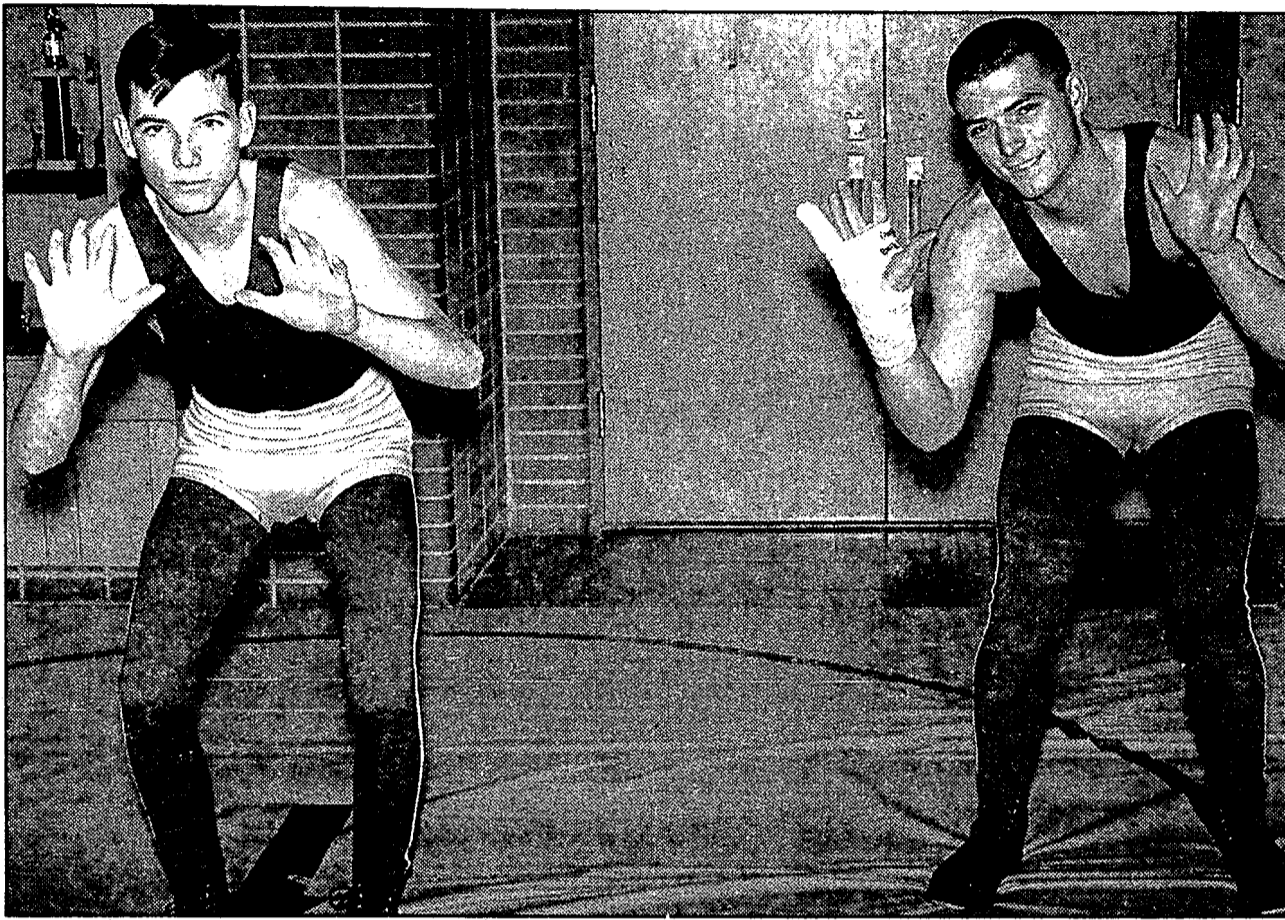
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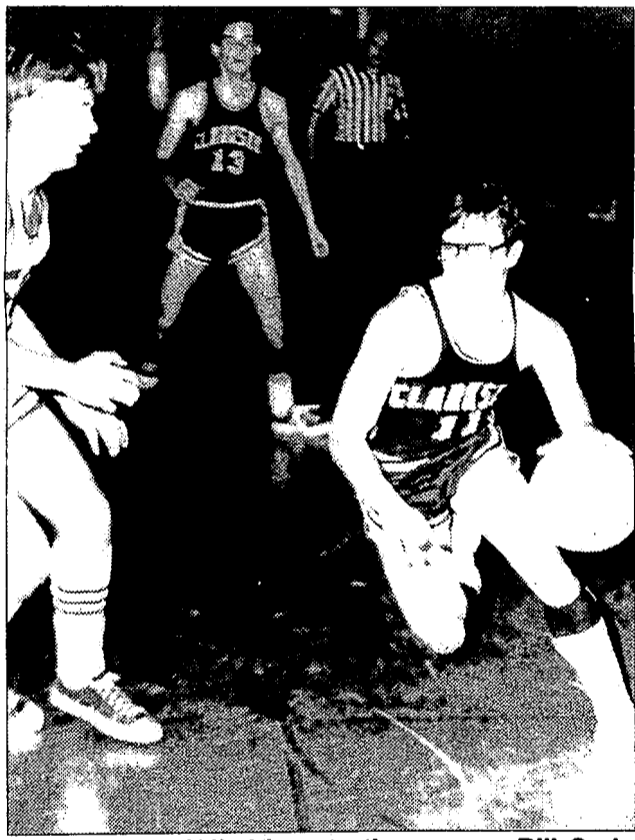
Clarkston sports just as popular then



Assuming the position, Bud Mumbower (left) and Al Hamilton were always ready to wrestle.



Scott McCain receives tips from Michael O'Connor.



Bill Bildstein (11) drives to the cup, as Bill Craig looks on.



1973, senior Connie Ford and junior Fay Stelmach.



The Clarkston Majorettes, (left to right) Rodell Sage, Vickie Rowland, Vickie Johnson and Dawn Wilson

Continued from page 18B

often drive the players in their cars. All games were played at 6300 church street. Other coaches were Borsum and Ed Hintz. Ed's record was 33-20-3.

In 1955, lights were installed and every teacher and administrator was assessed \$5 to help pay for the lights. Other coaches were Tom Taylor, Bill Valasco

and Walt Wyniemko (coached for eight years - 44-20). Walt's teams missed the playoffs twice by slim margins. Kirk Norman was an All-American for Wyniemko.

Rob White had great success as a coach (42-11). He played football for Bo Schembechler. His 1977 team was 9-0 and lost to Brother Rice in the playoffs. Coach White commented that his 1974 team was very special, but there were no playoffs at that time. Current

freshmen football Head Coach, Dave Whitehead was a member of that team.

Kurt Richardson is the present coach. His record as head coach is 120-56 with a total record of 171-88. He has been coaching football for 19 years. Six of his teams qualified for the playoffs, with two of his teams making it to the semifinals. Four of his players have gone on to Division I college programs: Nick Upchurch (Central Florida and U of M), John King (CMU),

Steve Black (CMU) and Dan Jokisch (U of M). Jason Graves, Ryan Clement, and Ryan Kaul played for Division II schools.

There are many great games one can mention. How about this year's win over Lake Orion to make the playoffs? A couple of my favorite games are the 1999 regional contest over a very highly ranked Grand Blanc team, they had a fabulous running back. Clarkston ended up winning the game 35-14. The next week's regional final victory over Macomb Dakota, 57-56 was a game that played into four overtimes. After Clarkston scored in the fourth overtime period, Coach Richardson elected to go for a two-point conversion instead of a kick to tie the game once again. Rocky Lund (the kicker) threw a pass to Andy North in the end zone to win the game in perhaps the most exciting end to an athletic event in Clarkston history.

Skiing Ed York was the first coach in 1979, he coached for four years, his 1982 teams were both undefeated with 9-0 records. Dan Balzarini coached for 6 years his boys teams went 30-6 and his girls went 40-3. Jane Holing coached for one year and both of her teams went 8-0. Jay Roeser coached for five years, the records are somewhat incomplete but the boys went 29-4 and the girls went 19-5. Thom Halsey coached for three years, the boys went 18-5 and the girls went 21-2.

Bruce Rosengren and Tami Niemi are present coaches, and have been for seven years. The boys have gone 57-6 while the girls have been 58-1 under their guidance. Rosengren has been honored three times as State coach of the year, Niemi has earned the honor twice. Both of the coaches have been honored as regional coach of the year several times.

The girls have won eight regional meets in a row. The skiing teams are the winningest teams in southeast Michigan. Over the last seven years 13 girls and 10 boys were All-State. Last year the girls varsity and jv were All-State academic team with a cumulative GPA of 3.79.

Our ski teams have had phenomenal success, their total record for boys and girls is 115-7.

Hockey is a rather new sport, started in 1997, they originally played as an independent and had a 15-7 record. From 1999-2004 the coach has been Bryan Krygier who is assisted by Ralph Humphlett. They have won the league crown four times and one regional. His six-year record has been 101-42-12. Krygier has brought stability to the program. Some of the players off the 2004 regional championship team some of the players were Trevor Johns, Aaron Cataneze, Sten Morin, Griffin Cummings, Adam Peters and Kyle Buzzo; all of them were honorable mention All-State.



Dave Whitehead (21) was downed but Steve Klein (42) retains possession of the ball. (From Nov. 18, 1973)

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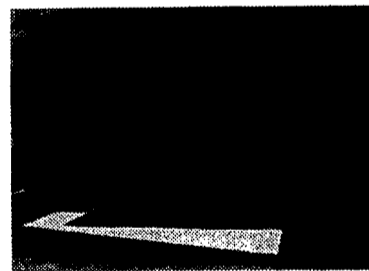
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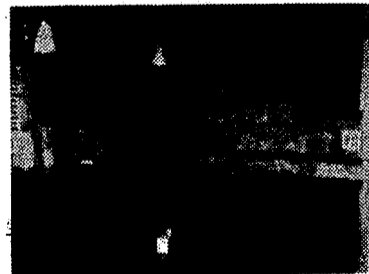
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Fitting end to an era of middle school rivalry

BY NOAH PURCELL
Clarkston News Sports Writer

It was the end of an era, on Oct. 27, as Sashabaw and Clarkston middle school pulled on their helmets and laced up their shoes to play the last football game between the two schools.

On a cold, windy fall day, the 35-year-old rivalry drew to a fitting close, when the final horn sounded the heavyweight's game was knotted at 14-14.

"It was a sort of nice that it ended in a tie," said Christian Krueger, who coached Sashabaw for 10 years in the seventies. "Everyone can walk away mildly happy or mildly sad."

Dating back to the 1969-70 campaign the two schools played each other 54 times.

Clarkston took 26 of those contests, Sashabaw was the victor 23 times and the two schools tied five times.

"It's sad, there was a lot of tradition here. It's hard to believe that this (is) all over," said Sashabaw Coach Dan Carpenter.

Sashabaw alumnists can, however take solace in the fact their team won six of the last eight meetings. After the 1991-92 school year the ninth graders moved up to the high school. The crosstown game resumed in 1995-96 school year.

"(The rivalry) was good for the community and when we got to the high school I think it made for a better varsity program," said Don Rush, who played in the 1977-78 season as a ninth grader at Sashabaw.

Rush fondly remembers Krueger, his coach, whipping the team into a frenzy prior to the game, telling them they were "the redheaded stepchild," and challenging them to show the packed stands their true mettle.

"I just remember getting all pumped up, for us it was the biggest game of the year," said junior Nick Sorise, who cheered on his alma mater, CMS, and is now a running back on the Clarkston High School varsity football team

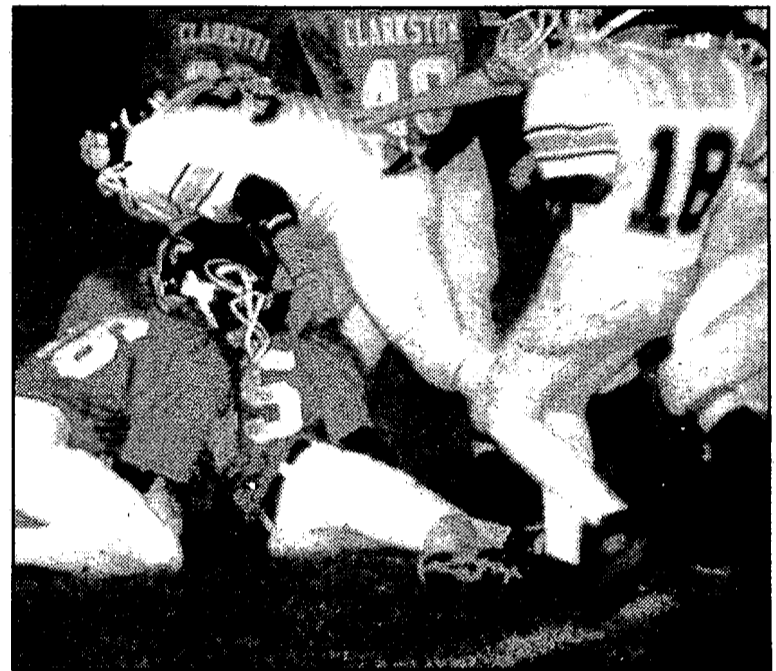
Scoring in the game for Sashabaw was Kyle Rivenburgh on a 40-yard run and Luke Prudhomme on a halfback pass from Christopher Kowalk, Kyle Brown also added a two-point conversion on a run. Justin Semmes scored all of Clarkston's points, posting two touchdown runs of 40 and 10 yards and added a two-point conversion to knot the game.

"These kids are going to be teammates for the next four years, this being the last (meeting) it was especially important to them," said Clarkston Coach Steve Himburg.

Please see Rivalry, page 23B



Clarkston won the lightweight game 16-6. This was a remarkable moment in the history of Clarkston football.



Both teams played hard knowing that the game on Oct. 27 was the last chance for inter-city bragging rights.

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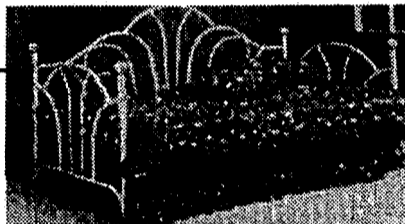
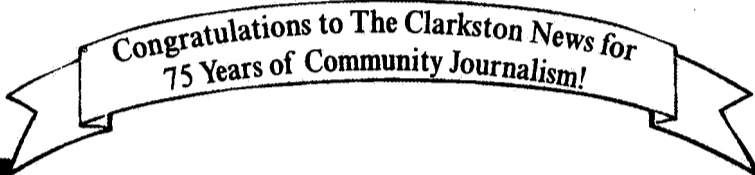
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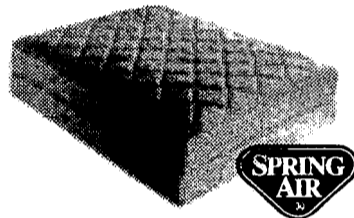


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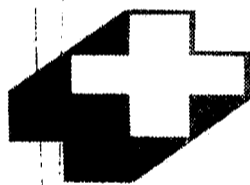
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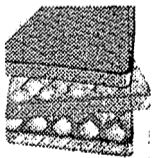
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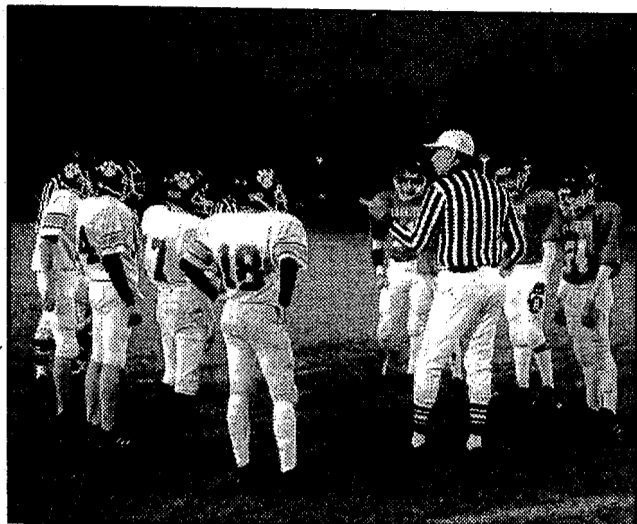
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Rivalry

Continued from page 21B



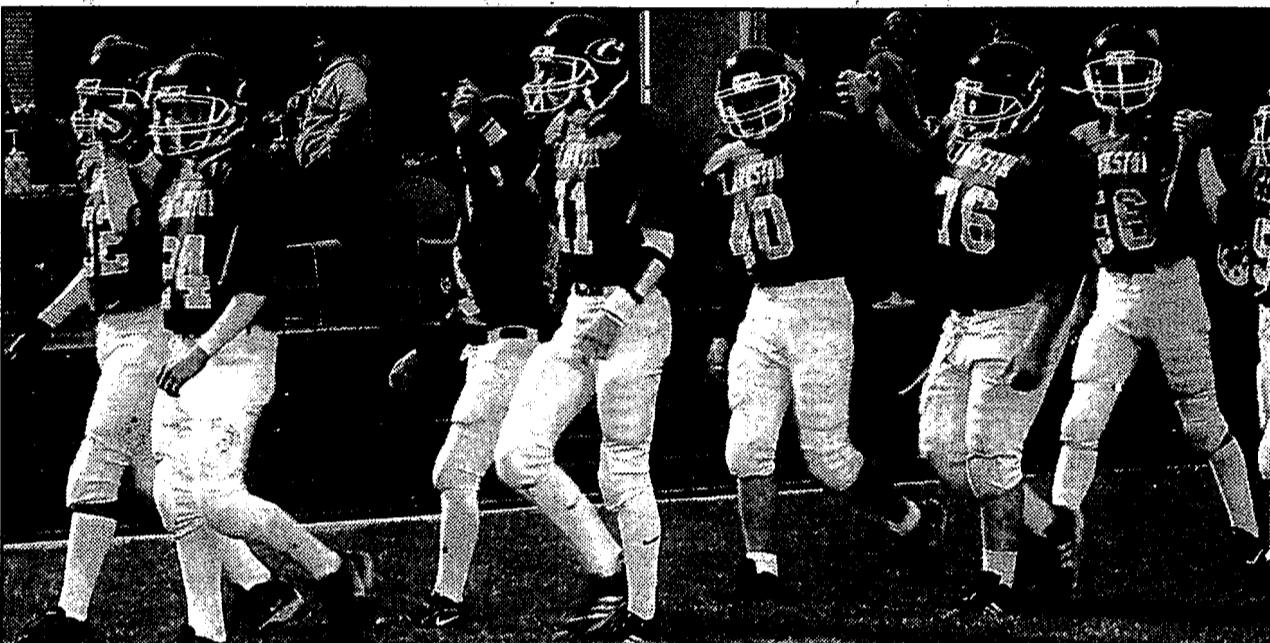
Both teams played hard knowing the game on Oct. 27 was the last chance for inter-city bragging rights.



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Clarkston's Corey Webb tackles Spencer Karrick.



The CMS heavyweight football team rambunctiously cheered their lightweight counterparts.

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A poetic reminder of Clarkston Road

BY JENNY MATTESON
Clarkston News Editor

"And my heart is glad as I wind aroun' The friendly road to Clarkston town."

These melodic words are some of Laura Glasel's favorite. The Independence Township native not only grew up hearing and enjoying this wonderful poetry, but also living the very life depicted.

"On the Road to Clarkston Town" is a beautifully written poem by Detroit resident Orrin Alden DeMass. The work can be found in his collection Dream Summer Songs (1931).

For Glasel, "On the Road to Clarkston Town" is a family treasure that brings back plenty of childhood memories.

"My parents (Harvey and Rae Link) moved out here to Walters Lake in 1938," explained Glasel. "His sister lived across the street from my parents. There weren't many people out there and you got to know everybody then."

"We got to know (DeMass) through his family. My parents new him better than I did."

As far as Glasel can remember, DeMass owned a summer home on Walters Lake. Otherwise, he was a Detroit resident who worked as a trustee for the Sunny Beach Land Company.

"I remember as a younger person we were kind of in awe of him," reminisced Glasel. "He had that big car."

"On the Road to Clarkston Town" came into Glasel's possession when she inherited several volumns of DeMass' work as family heirlooms. In addition to Dream Summer Songs, she also has Vagabond Verses, Sunshine and Shadows (1926), and a single poem "A Letter from Home."

"This one poem has particular meaning to me because Clarkston Rd. was our life line to everywhere," said Glasel. "Whenever you went anywhere, you started out on Clarkston Rd."

"It's still a beautiful road. Busier and more crowded now, but still beautiful."

When looking over the poem, Glasel said she has difficulties finding that one line which tells the whole story. She finds that poem must stand as a whole, or not at all.

"When I read this poem I imagine the peace and tranquility of how Clarkston Rd. use to be," said Glasel. "We would sometimes take two hours to walk home from school playing on that road," she said with a smile. "You would fiddle around so much. There was so much to do there. I can't believe when I look at it how we spent so much time on it," she added.

"I still love that poem, and that road."



Laura Glasel enjoys poetic reflections of Clarkston.

"On the Road to Clarkston Town"

By Orrin Alden DeMass
(as found in his 1932 collection,
Dream Summer Songs)

'Long the rustic road to Clarkston town,
Over the high hill, winding down,
The gray road neighbors the blue lake's end,
Where dogwoods bow, and willows bend.
Where Lake Field farms lay spreading fair,
With peaceful kine in the pasture there.
The colonel's house on the Pine Knob Hill,
O'er the deep green wood
where the whipporwill
Sings his song when the shadows fall,
And night-time mantles over all.
Where the Sashabaw 'neath alders cool
Winds its way to the slumbering pool.
There's the old rail fence from the long ago,
Where the fox squirrels play and
the wild grape grow.
The hills spread fair to my truant gaze
As my dream drifts far to childhood days,
And my heart is glad as I wind aroun'
The friendly road to Clarkston town.



This story originally
appeared in the
Dec. 22, 2004 edition
of
The Clarkston News.

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Locals mull historic allusions in Clarkston Road poem

BY DON SCHELSKE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

When *The Clarkston News* ran a story several weeks ago about a historic poem about Clarkston, people began remembering — and wondering.

"On the Road to Clarkston Town," written by Detroit poet Orrin Alden DeMass in 1932, chronicles travels along Clarkston Road. It depicts not only the nature of the travel along the "rustic road," but also lists several memorable features of country living.

Some of the references need explanation to those who weren't around in 1932, however.

"The colonel's house on the Pine Knob Hill" refers to the mansion built by Col. Sidney Waldon in the 1920s, according to Toni Smith of the Clarkston Community Historical Society. The family's name, of course, graces road signs throughout Independence and Orion town-

ships, and the "hill" is now used for skiing and snowboarding.

The historical society archives has much information on Col. Waldon and his legacy, Smith said.

Smith shares questions about other quotations in the poem, as do even some long-time residents with family histories of their own.

For example, what and where was "Lake Field" (from the poem's line, "Where Lake Field farms lay spreading fair")?

Chuck Robertson (whose grandfather was a prominent settler in the 1880s), is among those who would like to know.

"I wondered about that too [after reading it]," Robertson said. "It was a beautiful poem."

While the current Sashabaw Road is familiar to all, and while some will remember the separate region

known as Sashabaw Plains, the poem contains an unclear reference to "the Sashabaw 'neath alders cool," which "winds its way to the slumbering pool." Neither Smith nor Robertson could interpret that passage of the poem.

The Clarkston News invites anyone with knowledge of the community's past to help clarify these and other references of the historic poem. Call the newspaper at (248) 625-3370 with any helpful information.



This story originally appeared in the Jan. 19, 2005 edition of *The Clarkston News*.

Readers respond to questions about Clarkston Road poem

BY DON SCHELSKE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Alert readers of *The Clarkston News* have provided answers to questions posed by an historic poem about the Clarkston area.

"On the Road to Clarkston Town," written by Detroit poet Orrin Alden DeMass in 1932, chronicles travels along Clarkston Road. It depicts not only the nature of the travel along the "rustic road," but also lists several memorable features of country living.

After two feature stories about the poem, there were still some unanswered questions. Several long-time residents, or descendants thereof, have answers.

"Lake Field farms" (one caller suggested it should be Lakefield Farms) refers to a working dairy farm located off Clarkston Road east of Eston Road toward the border of Independence and Orion townships. The property includes the neighborhood now known as

Heather Lake Estates.

"Lake Field Farm was a big part of my family's life," said Nancy Peter, noting lots of activity in the 1930s. "My father often drove the milk truck to Detroit for them and sold their milk. My aunt was a cook for the men who boarded and worked on the farm, and her husband was in charge of the dairy farm."

Local resident Laura Glasel says she still has a milk bottle cap from the days the dairy operated.

"I don't remember if my mother actually got milk from there or not, but she probably did," Glasel said.

The reference to "the Sashabaw 'neath alders cool," which "winds its way to the slumbering pool" has a couple possible explanations.

Former resident Timothy Buell believes the line refers to Sashabaw Creek which, although it does not come near Clarkston Road, does quite a bit of "winding" between Lake Oakland in Independence Town-

ship and Mill Lake in Orion Township.

"When I grew up there in the 70s it wasn't very big, but I thought I remembered that it has been a much bigger creek back before all the development came along," Buell wrote in an email to *The Clarkston News*.

Another long-time resident who asked to remain anonymous suggested that "the Sashabaw" actually refers to Sashabaw Road. North of the intersection with Clarkston Road, Sashabaw does a bit of "winding" around Whipple Lake, he said.



This story originally appeared in the Feb. 9, 2005 edition of *The Clarkston News*.

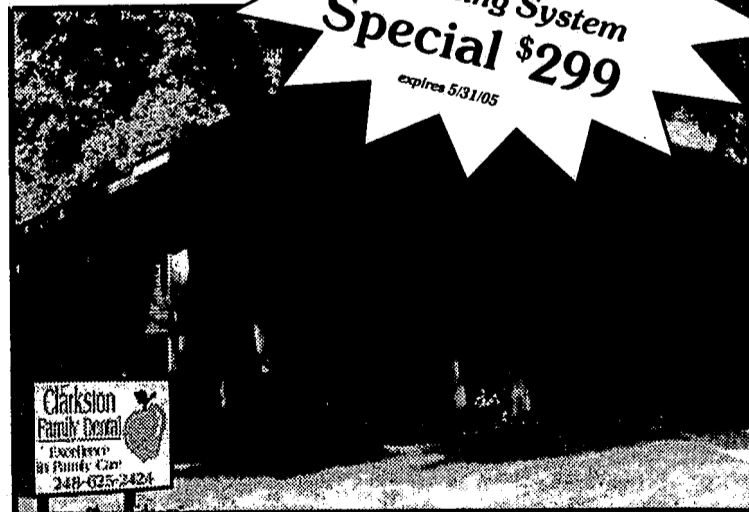
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A group of young ladies enjoy a bicycle excursion near Lakeview Cemetery. Photo courtesy of David Savage Photography and CCHS

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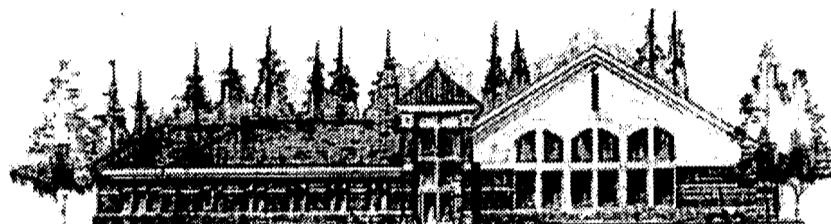
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Rock history includes Bob Seger in Clarkston

BY JENNY MATTESON

Clarkston News Editor

Please allow me a moment of your patience, and to first preface this article with one statement: I am a sheltered child of the 80s who did not grow up listening to Bob Seger, and did not even hear the name until high school.

Yes, I grew up with New Kids on the Block.

With these thoughts in mind, I began to tackle an assignment handed down from my editorial superiors – put together an article for the 75th anniversary about the photo taken of Bob Seger in front of *The Clarkston News*.

Sounds pretty simple. Begin by making a contact at the Palace of Auburn Hills with the media relations department. From there, hopefully be able to make contact with Bob Seger's people. Eventually, come to a source that can assist with the story.

As I stated, sounds pretty simple. I encountered one problem though: how do I describe the picture I want to feature when I've never seen it?

So, as a good Generation X member would, I began my search on the internet. Several hours, days and weeks later, I knew quite a bit about Bob Seger from the unofficial fan sites and such, even a couple mailing addresses where my letter would "definitely get to Bob," but had been unable to find a copy of the picture.

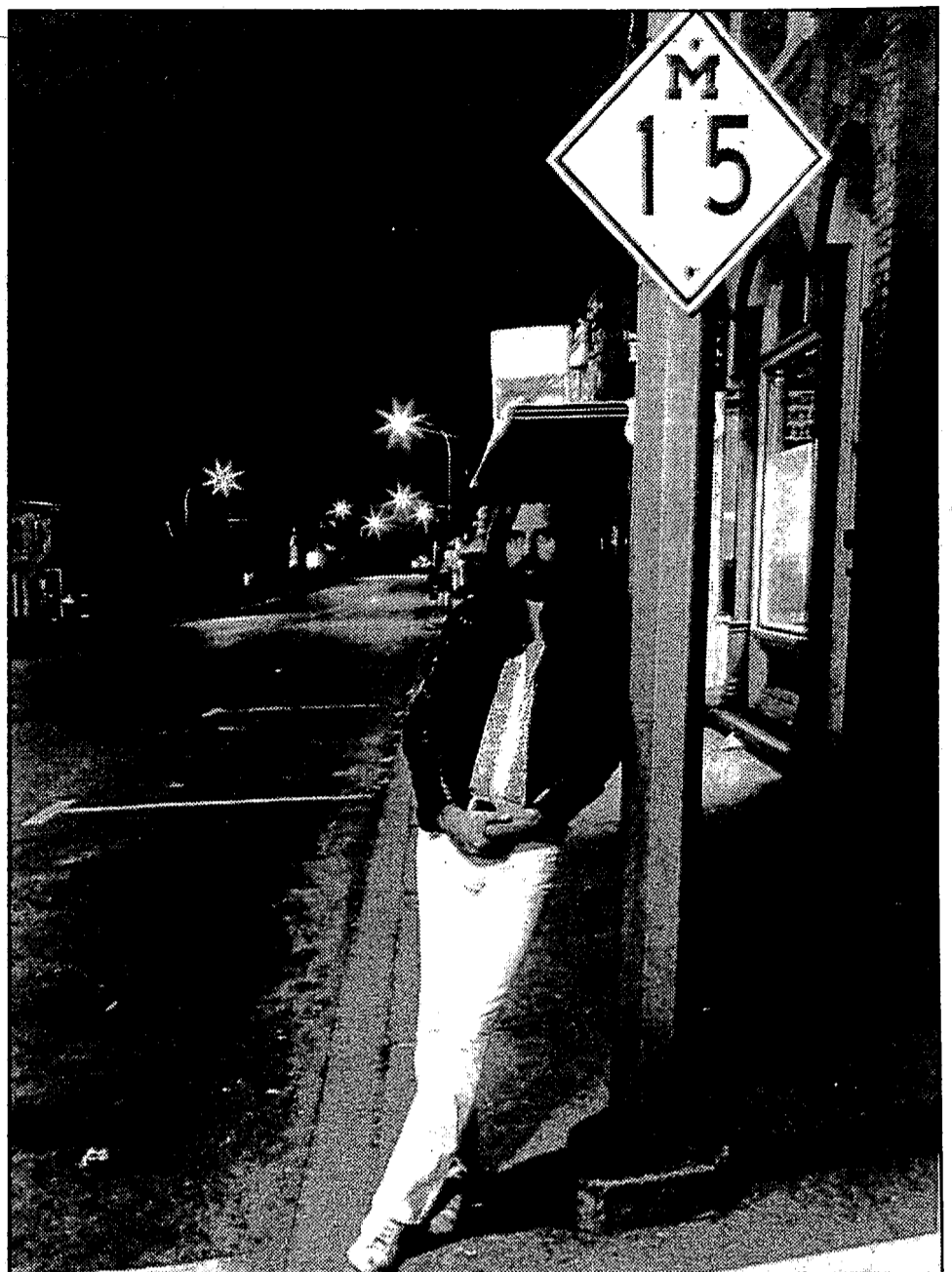
Then fate intervened.

Laura Glasel, an Independence Township resident, contacted me about a different 75th anniversary feature. While chatting about other 75th stories I was researching, Glasel mentioned she had a friend with a copy of the famous picture, and Jerry Darling contacted me that very day.

Jerry Darling, 59, moved to Independence Township in 1950 when he was adopted from Canada by his parents Margaret and Dell Darling. He retired from General Motors after 30 years and still lives in the area with his significant other Sherri.

I had Darling stop by *The Clarkston*

Please see Seger, page 30B



In a photo taken for an album promotion project, Bob Seger leans against a light post "down on Main Street" in front of *The Clarkston News* building.



This story originally appeared in the Dec. 15, 2004 edition of *The Clarkston News*.

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Dr. Abraham is a Clarkston High School graduate and attended the University of Michigan Medical School. Dr. Moscovic, also a Clarkston native, attended Michigan State University - College of Osteopathic Medicine. Both are William Beaumont Hospital trained and specialize in internal medicine and pediatrics.

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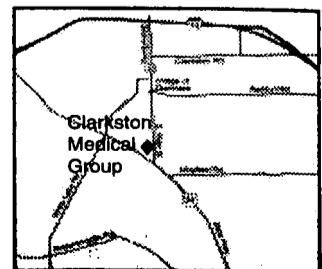


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Seger

Continued from page 28B

News office with the elusive picture. He walked into the building carrying a large, framed print covered in plastic bags.

For the first time, I was able to catch a glimpse of the famous picture. The dark image shows Clarkston's Main St. in the wee morning hours - not a car in the scene. Bob Seger leans casually against a street sign directly in front of The Clarkston News office. He is merely a small part of the picture as Main St. and the twinkling street lights and stars dominate the landscape.

Darling explained that he got the picture when a close friend Ron Waldriff passed away about five years ago.

"He was a rock 'n roll memorabilia collector," he said.

"He had 2,000 to 3,000 albums," remembers Darling with a grin. "I'm not kidding. His whole living room was full.

It was just great."

Darling gave the eulogy at Waldriff's funeral. As a gift, Waldriff's daughter Bridgett asked if Darling would like a piece of the collection.

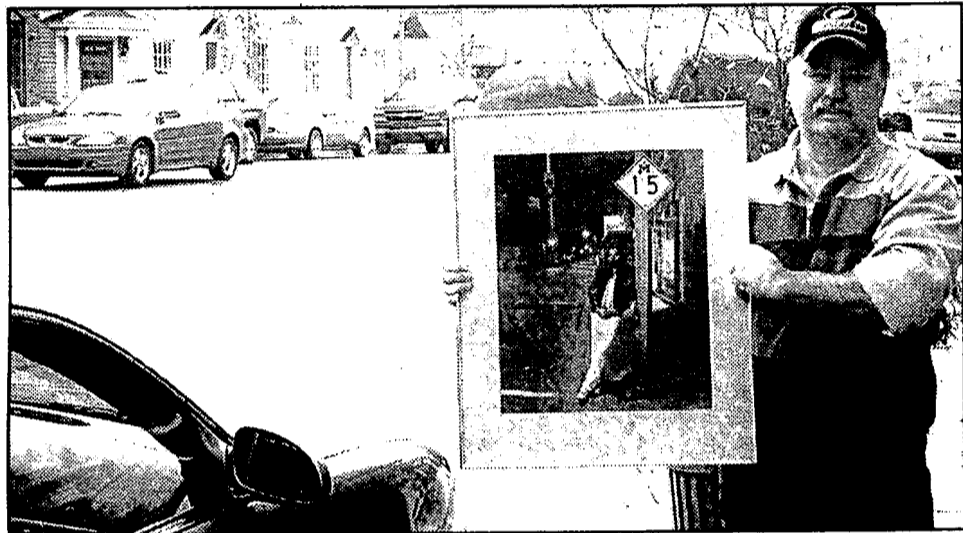
The Clarkston man said he couldn't pass up the opportunity to have the picture he's loved so much.

"That's my Main St. That's Bob's Main St.," said Darling. "As soon as I saw it, I didn't see Bob in the picture, I saw Main St."

Darling added that he's not sure if the print is an original or a copy - he's never taken it from the frame. Darling said the piece of memorabilia hangs above his fireplace in his rec room along with his hockey souvenirs.

"I love looking at that street and enjoying the memories I have of that street," said Darling. "It's the street I enjoy in that picture more than anything.

"I just couldn't have grown up in a better town," he concluded.



Jerry Darling holds a copy of a photo taken of Bob Seger standing against a light pole outside The Clarkston News building. Photo by Jenny Matteson

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As an investor, you've got a lot of questions. How will the markets do in 2005? Will the economy prosper? Where will interest rates go? These issues are not meaningless - but if you really want to work toward achieving long-term investment success, you'll look past short-term factors and follow some "time-tested" investment strategies.

Here are some techniques to consider:

• **Stick with your investment plan** - If you adjust your investment plan, do it for the right reasons, such as a change in the long-term outlook for one of your investments or the realization that an investment no longer meets your goals.

• **Diversity and rebalance** - By spreading your money among a variety of investments that may rise and fall at different times, you'll avoid taking those big "hits" that may affect just one asset class. You may also need to "rebalance" your holdings occasionally to make sure the percentages of your portfolio taken up by different assets still fit your risk tolerance and time horizon.

• **Reduce the size of an investment that's too large** - If you put a large amount of money in a single stock, for example, you are taking a substantial risk. With the capital gains rate now at a maximum of just 15 percent, you have a good opportunity to sell off shares of a stock and help diversify your portfolio. Having too much in one investment is a risk that may not be worth taking.

• **Keep investing** - Although past performance is no guarantee, over the long term, stocks have significantly outperformed all other asset classes. So, keep investing in high-quality stocks and don't get dissuaded by short-term "bumps" along the way.

• **Look for rising income opportunities** - To boost your investment income, consider buying stocks that have historically increased their dividend payouts. And dividends are now even more attractive, because they are taxed at a maximum rate of just 15 percent. (Keep in mind, though, that stocks are not fixed-

income investments and may not pay dividends.)

• **Don't forget "growth-and-income"** - Many investors are attracted to the potentially high returns of "growth" and "aggressive growth" stocks. But there's almost certainly a place in your portfolio for good, solid "growth-and-income" investments, which provide opportunities for capital appreciation and current income.

• **Limit exposure to risky investments** - Be cautious about investing in emerging markets, "junk" bonds, technology stocks and commodities such as oil and gold. Before adding these volatile investments to your portfolio, consult with a financial professional who knows your needs and risk tolerance.

• **Build a "bond ladder"** - By building a "ladder" consisting of bonds of varying maturities, you can help to protect yourself in all interest-rate environments. When market rates are low, you'll have your high-rate, long-term bonds working for you. Then, if rates rise, you can reinvest the proceeds of your short-term bonds into new bonds issued at the high rates.

• **Reinvest, reinvest, reinvest** - If your investments generate dividends or interest that you don't need to meet monthly expenses, consider reinvesting that income to put the power of compounding to work.

• **Follow principles, not predictions** - No one can predict with total accuracy what 2005 - or future years - will bring to the financial markets. So, stick with the investment principles that never go out of fashion, such as diversification, investing in quality and maintaining a long-term perspective.

By following these 10 basic strategies, you can help yourself make steady progress toward your financial goals.

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Resident tracks of history of Clarkston

BY DON SCHELSE

Clarkston News Staff Writer

During the 1960s and 1970s, Connie Lektzian-Scafe began wrote a history column for *The Clarkston News* entitled, "Another Day."

Those columns, along with a wealth of photographs and other historical items, are neatly filed in the Independence Township resident's home, providing a wealth of information about the area's founding families.

"I'm sorry I ever gave it up," said the former member of the Clarkston Area Historical Society and current member of the Oakland County Historical Society.

She speaks with authority about some of the early days of Clarkston, showing photos of horse and buggy travel on a muddy Depot Road, the historic Davisburgh House (spelled differently than the settlement in which it is located) and members of local prominent families from years gone by.

Although she will look up some of her columns for details, she easily speaks from memory concerning families with names such as Maybee, Vliet, Walters, Scrase, Holcomb and Ellis.

"There are so many names to remember," she said, noting the difficulty of getting to know neighbors in today's busy society.

"I've never counted them," the 82-year-old said of her photo collection. "I just love to go through them."

Lektzian-Scafe did a lot of her re-

search from library records, but also obtained many photos and diaries from family descendants and friends.

"People have been very nice giving me things," she said. "I'd ask if they wanted the photos back and they said, 'No, you keep them.'"

Her columns in *The Clarkston News* included reports on early Clarkston area school, an 1892 flu epidemic, gradual improvements in service through the Clarkston Post Office and life in the Sashabaw Plains area which, years ago, was a separate community with difficult road access to Clarkston.

Is there anyone Lektzian-Scafe doesn't know?

"The newcomers," she said. "They came in and squatted on these huge tracts of land. There's no farms left. It's not a quiet little town anymore."

She has a dream of having someone treat her entire collection of newspaper clippings with a special acid bath to preserve them for posterity.

She also misses writing, but she still finds herself busy.

"I'd like to write a book on the things I've put together, but if I want any time to myself I'm going to have to give up some of this other stuff."

She would love to see an old-fashioned quilting guild organized in the area, and she also has a desire to see a new generation of historians arise to document today's families and events.

"What we have now will be history someday," she said.



Connie Lektzian-Scafe pulls one of her history columns from a file cabinet in her Independence Township home. In the files are a wealth of newspaper clippings and photos collected during her time writing "Another Day" in *The Clarkston News*. Photo by Don Schelske



This story originally appeared in the Oct. 27, 2004 edition of *The Clarkston News*.

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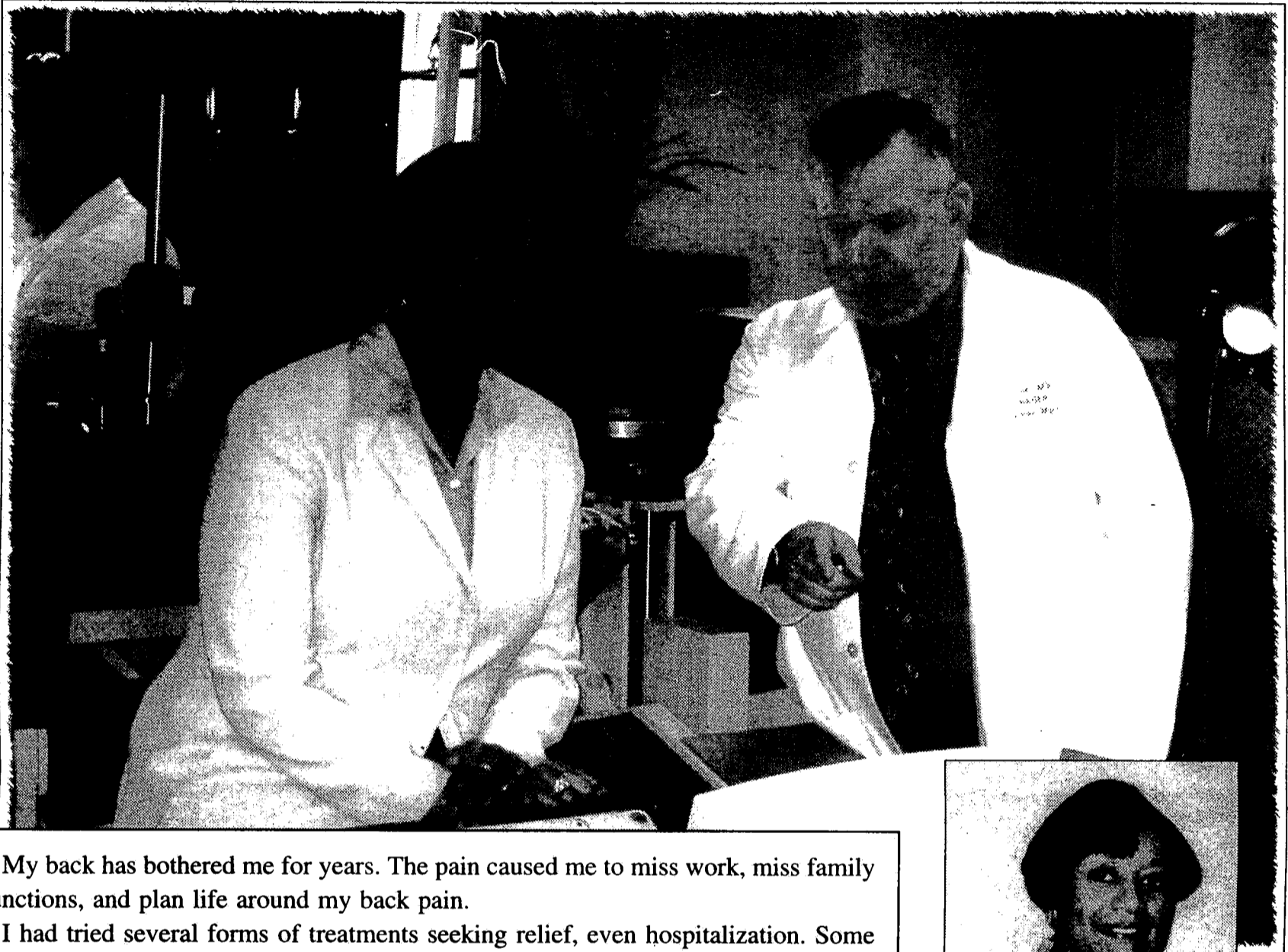
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