

**Snow
day
off**



Taking advantage of the first snow day of the school year, Alicia Curry takes her snowboard down the biggest hill she could find, the one next to Clarkston High School. Please see page 8A for more pictures of Clarkston-area kids' winter fun. Photo by Phil Custodio

Beaumont tabled

But promise of jobs could bring it back

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Beaumont has come a long way and made many improvements over the past few months, but they still have work to do.

Independence Township Planning Commission tabled Beaumont's conceptual site plan at its Dec. 20 public hearing.

"Our job is to get the best plan on that piece of property," said Cheryl Karrick, planning commission chairwoman. "Once we've gotten to that point, then make a determination if we feel it deserves a PUD (Planned Unit Development) and deserves conceptual site plan approval. When they come back to us next time, hopefully we can be at a point where we can make that kind of determination."

More than 100 people filled Independence Township Library Thursday night to voice opinions and concerns.

"I think that Mr. (Eric) Hunt did a nice job with the presentation and obviously they have been doing a lot of work behind closed doors," said Ryan Zeeman, Independence Township resident.

"I think the plan has portions that are promising, but when you look at all three phases put together in a package, the problem is location, location, location. Nice plan if it were possibly on a different location. Beaumont is putting a proposal in a residential section. I saw a lot of people wearing 'I support Beaumont' stickers. I do too. I just don't support them in my backyard."

Some issues the board wanted clarified before moving ahead: traffic study on all three phases, complete breakdown of tax revenue, and impact on wetlands.

Karrick said the township doesn't need more strip malls or strip commercial buildings, and more residential homes would make an impact on schools and roads. But the township needs something that will bring jobs.

"I think we've got a good group of petitioners right now who have a pretty solid plan that is self supportive. They are looking, at top end, probably 1,500 good jobs here," she said. "We're in an economic decline in Oakland County. If we can secure something like that and also take care of our residents at the same time, that would be a win, win."

Eric Hunt, vice president of operations for William Beaumont Hospital ambulatory services, said he was thankful for concerns by the public and board members.

They already gave a phase-three template to traffic planners, and hope to give it to Independence Township planner Dick Carlisle this week, Hunt said.

"That's not an issue - we have a plan. The numbers work for phase three and we'll get that to them," he said. "We understand that it will have to be updated prior to implementation of phase three, but if they want the numbers now for existing traffic, we can do that, not a problem, not an issue whatsoever."

Hunt doesn't see a problem with engineering their water and retention plan.

"We do have a plan and the county is strict on what you can do and what you can't do, and we will comply with all the county regulations - we've already assessed the site and we can do that," he said. "We understand the concern, we appreciate the concern. We're confident in our preliminary hearing that it won't be an issue. We can accommodate the water on that site."

Site plan improvements include reducing the entire project by 30 percent, and parking by 34 percent, remove Phase I Cranberry Lake Road access and Phase III Allen Road access, reduce height of Phase I medical office building, and increase green space and building setbacks.

Other improvements include MDOT confirmation of site access, traffic circulation improvements, central plaza with water features, wellness nature park and trail system, safety path expansion, and relocation of community hospital, wellness center, and parking structure away from residential neighbors.

"Everything that we have asked them to do to this point, they've jumped through hoops to make happen," said Karrick.

Hunt is hoping to be back before the planning commission by early January.

"We've been delving out the assignments," said Hunt.

"We want to have everything in by the end of the year, so we can be on the first meeting agenda, or if that's not possible, as soon as possible after that."

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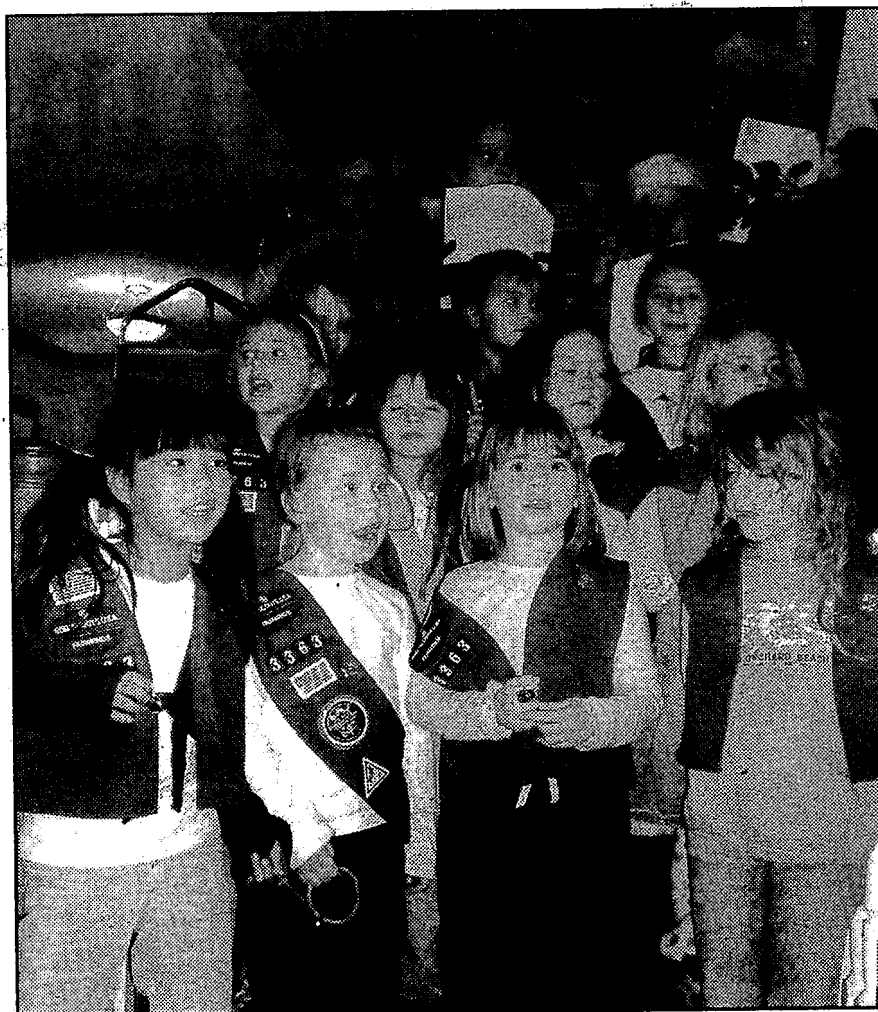
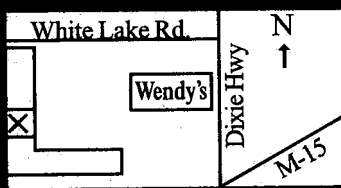


Dr. Todd Staniszewski, O.D.
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Singing at Sunrise

Clarkston Elementary's Girl Scout Troop 1931, fourth graders, and Brownie Troop 3363, first graders, sing Christmas carols at Sunrise Assisted Living. The scouts entertained and visited with residents Dec. 3 at the Dixie Highway seniors community.

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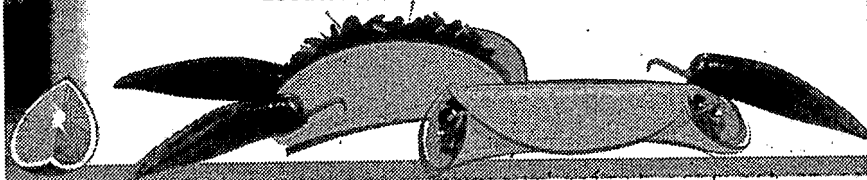
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Briefly . . .

Take care of your own snow

Residents and businesses clearing driveways and parking lots by moving snow into the street are breaking the law, according to the Road Commission for Oakland County.

Watch the snow piles too – it's also illegal to block drivers' view of traffic. And don't even think about pushing snow across the road onto your neighbor's property.

"Unfortunately, we have had problems in some areas lately, when business owners and residents have plowed their driveways or parking lots by pushing the snow out into the road," said Darryl Heid, highway maintenance director.

"This creates a safety problem for motorists and creates additional work for the road commission, which, in some cases, has to re-plow the road. That can mean it will take us longer to get to other roads."

Violations are misdemeanors punishable by a fine of up to \$100 and/or a jail sentence of up to 90 days.

Sheriff collects 4,000 coats

Oakland County Sheriff's Office collected more than 4,000 coats in its "Coats for the Cold" drive.

"The generosity displayed has been both encouraging and heart-warming. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to participate," said Oakland County Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard.

Donations came in from all over the area in every shape, size and style. Schools and businesses from around Oakland County helped. OCSO partnered with Real Estate One and Outback Steakhouse.

Coats were delivered to charitable organizations, including Lighthouse North. For more information, call 248-858-5000.

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Clerk Shelagh Vanderveen hands a \$500 check to Gleaners board member Bob McGowan. From Back left Paula Heenan, Beverly Shaver, Kim Adkins, Susan Hendricks, Karen DeLorge, Derek Lachmen, Pat Glowzinski, Cheryl culpepper, and Debbie Bader. Photo by Trevor Keiser

Township helps the hungry, casually

BY TREVOR KEISER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Casual Friday usually means comfortable jeans at the workplace.

For Independence Township's assessing, building, clerk, and treasurer offices, it also means helping out people in need. Township representatives presented a \$500 donation Dec. 14 to Gleaners Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

"It's going to feed a lot of hungry people," said Bob McGowan, Gleaners board member. "Dollars donated to the food bank go a long way. Efficiently administered, it feeds a lot of hungry people when the need is growing because of the economy."

Five hundred dollars can feed 1,500 people – one dollar can make three meals, he noted.

McGowan said he read on the front page of the *New York Times* about a week ago that the plight of community centers and food banks is a nation wide problem.

To participate in the township's casual Fridays, each week employees would pay \$1. It started when Shelagh Vanderveen took over as township clerk in 2005.

"We collect this money, then we come up with an idea of where we can put it," said Vanderveen.

Last year, they gave money to an individual who had young children and needed a medical

procedure, but their insurance did not cover it, she said.

"It's a win, win," said Beverly Shaver, township assessor. "We get to wear jeans and help other people at the same time."

"It's nice to give something back," said Kim Adkins of the assessing office.

McGowan said "Gleaners" is a biblical term for poor people who would come in after the harvest and pick up grains of wheat and corn left by farmers.

"It's a very powerful symbol, we feel, of people who, after the main products have been delivered, come in and accept what people have to spare," he said.

State scores Clarkston with 9 'A's, 'B,' 'D'

But AYP formula flawed, officials say

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

All seven Clarkston Community School's elementaries, as well as Sashabaw Middle and Clarkston Junior High School, earned "A" grades in this year's Annual Yearly Progress report card, issued by the state.

Clarkston High School's "B" score was good enough for AP accreditation. Renaissance High School received a "D-alert" score. According to Michigan Department of Education, the score requires corrective action, in academic choice, transportation, and supplemental services.

An improvement plan is in place, said Deputy Superintendent David Reschke.

"We're looking at that," Reschke said. AYP is calculated based on Michigan Edu-

cational Assessment Program test results, participation rates in MEAP testing, and attendance or graduation rates, according to MDE.

With a formula based on weighted test results, proficiency estimates, different calculations for subpopulations, and other statistical variations, AYP scoring is flawed and confusing, said Dr. Al Roberts, Clarkston superintendent.

"AYP is a poorly conceived mechanism that paints a false picture of school achievement or lack thereof," said Roberts in a written statement to *The Clarkston News*.

"Any respectable statistician who has some knowledge of how kids learn would need to question the methodology used to determine AYP. If we really want to be accountable, we should examine the progression of each student from year to year."

AYP is mandated by the federal No Child Left Behind law. It judges schools on Michigan Merit Exam and MEAP tests, attendance, graduation rates, and other factors. It assigns letter grades

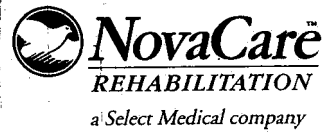
based on schools' ability to meet state-assigned target scores and goals.

"The concept of matching the scores of students at a particular grade level against the scores of a different set of pupils from the previous school year is an exercise in futility," Roberts said.

"I also feel it is utterly ridiculous to use a formula that allows a school with extraordinarily low test scores to pass AYP, while failing another school because achievement dropped from 99 percent to 97 percent," he said. "When the public begins to see such patterns, they will lose confidence in AYP as a measurement, and I fear the noble aspects of No Child Left Behind may be lost in the political shuffle."

According to Michigan Department of Education, low-performing schools can receive "safe harbor" from sanctions if they improve by at least 10 percent and meet other requirements.

State AYP results are available online at www.michigan.gov/mde.



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Author Kathy Sabol, at her historic Clarkston home. Photo by Phil Custodio

Sharing God's gift

Poet uses words
to inspire others

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

For Kathy Sabol of Clarkston, her talent for poetry is a gift from God. Her religious faith demands that she share that talent.

"I believe we're here to help each other, uplift people, let God work through us," said Sabol, 48.

Her new book, "Heart, Soul, & Inspiration - A Collection of Spiritually & Personally Inspired Poetry," contains 100 of her poems, written in rhyme and meter.

"We need God - if one of my poems causes you to think about God for a few minutes, if it touches you in some way, then it's done its job," she said.

Poems explore spiritual themes, the power of prayer, life for unborn children and those terminally ill, holidays such as Easter, Christmas, and Mother's and Father's day, as well as life experiences including the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, motherhood, and bird hunting with her dog.

"It was a mission of love," she said. "Will I write again? That's in the lord's hands."

She started writing poetry when growing up in Brighton. As a teenager, she filled a notebook with poetry. She stopped when marriage and family took precedence.

When daughter Teri was a student at Notre Dame Preparatory School in Pontiac, they volunteered at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lake Orion.

Some of her poems were published in the church bulletin at St. Joseph's - she was reinspired.

"It was like a door opened - I started writing all over again," Kathy said.

It took about a year to finish the 100 poems and assemble them into book form.

"Some poems write themselves - others are a struggle," she said.

She organized her poems based on the calendar, with Good Friday and Easter poems towards the front and Christmas poems at the end.

The book, published by Authorhouse of Indiana, is available for \$12.99 at Michael's Catholic Gift Shop in the Columbiere Center, Willow Pointe, Celtic Cove, and other book stores on order, and Amazon.com.

Author loves historic home

Kathy Sabol, her husband, Michael, and their daughter Teri moved several times because of Michael's job with General Motors, living in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, as well as Troy and Shelby Township in Michigan.

But they've always found themselves returning to the Clarkston area.

"We love this area - the country feel, it's not too far from work in Flint, Lansing, and Warren, shopping, and concerts," she said.

About three years ago, with Teri in college, they made one more move, from a four-bedroom house on an acre-lot in Independence Township to a historic house on Buffalo Street.

"We've always loved older, historic homes," she said.

"We fell in love with the house. It has character. We talk to our neighbors. You can walk downtown."



A Sashabaw Middle School band performs at the presentation assembly. Photos by Phil Custodio

Learning how to help

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Students at Sashabaw Middle School donated about 1,209 toys, books, clothing, and food for families in need.

Challenged to "fill those stockings" as a Academic Service Learning project, the sixth and seventh graders' donations filled the middle of a school gym Friday, as students completed their work with musical performances and presentation to Lighthouse Emergency Services - Clarkston.

"It's amazing, what you've put together," said Connie Stapleton of Lighthouse North. "I can't tell you how much it will be appreciated."

Items were collected into several age divisions.

Distinct from community service projects, Academic Service Learning also includes curriculum work for students.

Sixth-grade language arts students learned about others's needs through reading nonfiction stories

and creating skits, commercials, games, songs, and children's books.

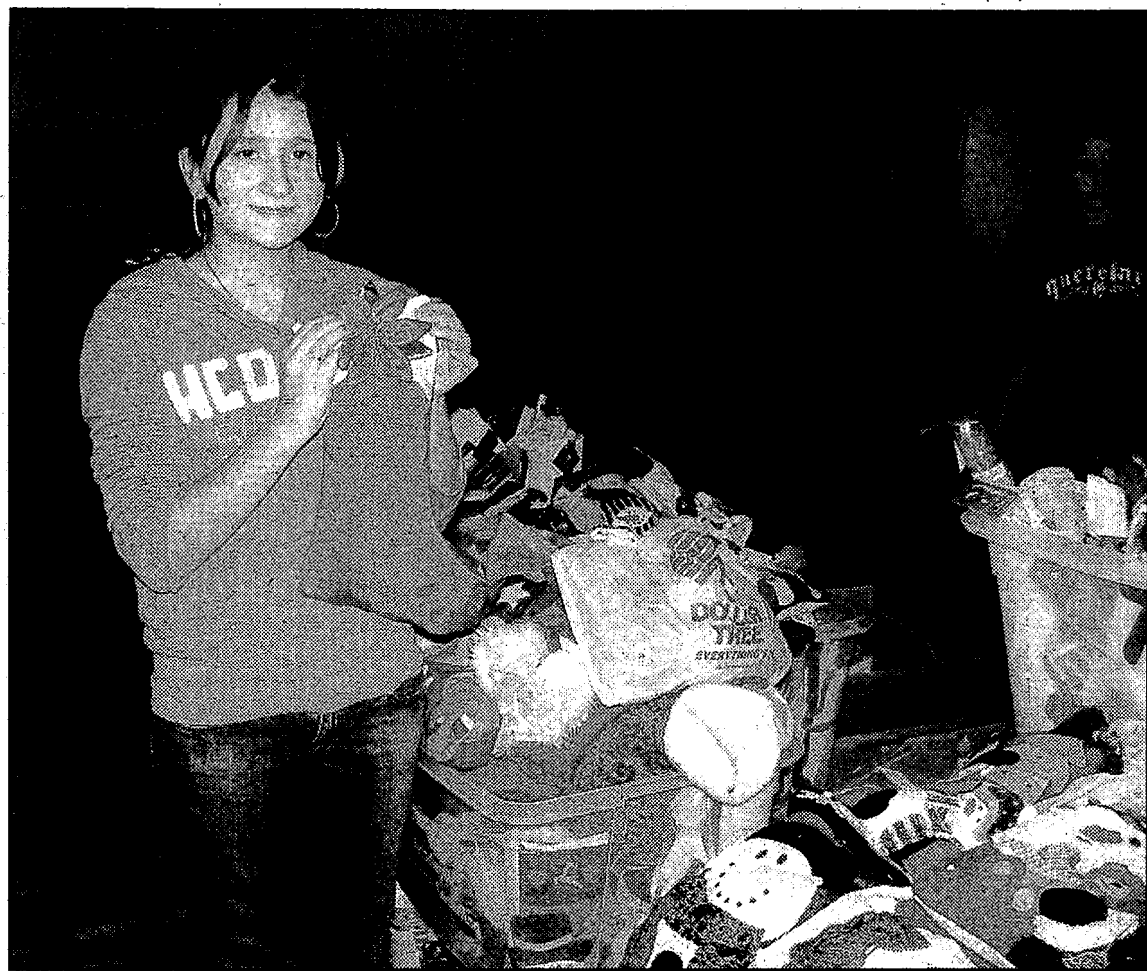
In seventh grade, language arts students researched statistics about people in need in our county. They produced posters, banners, and signs for display throughout our building. They also wrote letters to local businesses.

In math, sixth graders learned about the cost of living for an average child. They considered their food, energy, housing, and nonessential costs, and compared/contrasted them with global data.

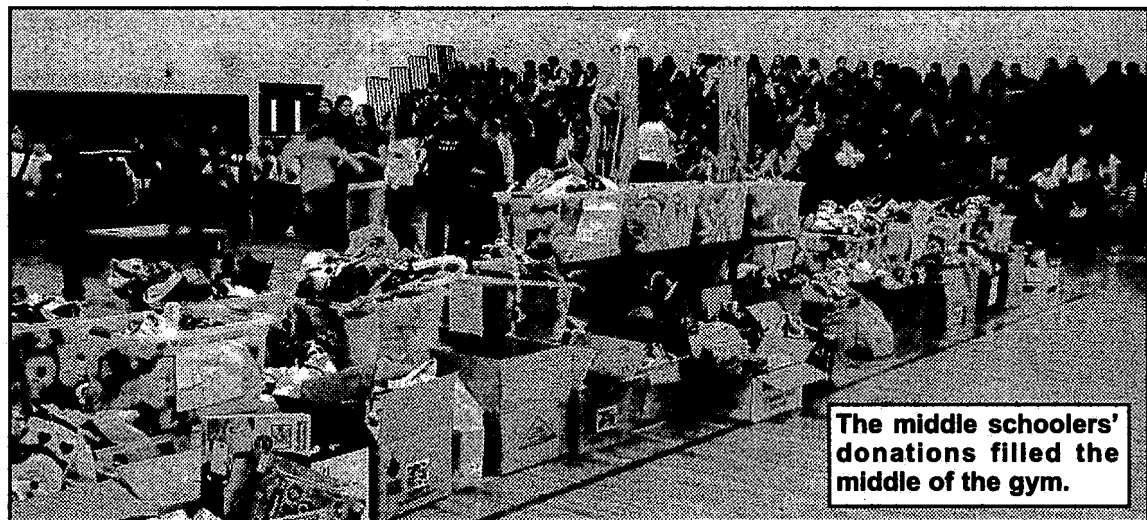
In seventh grade math, students analyzed their cost of living, and created circle graphs and whisker plots.

"It's a marvelous thing for Lighthouse - this is what the holiday spirit is all about," said Sue Wilson, district Learn and Serve Grant coordinator, Sashabaw Middle School.


"What an amazing sign of how generous kids and families are in Clarkston," said Sashabaw Principal Linda Foran.



Jenna Cruz, seventh grader, prepares to place a stocking in its appropriate crate.



The middle schoolers' donations filled the middle of the gym.

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Keiser's Role

A column by Trevor Keiser

Snowy thoughts and Christmas

I remember as a kid liking snow a lot more than I do now, maybe it was because a few of those snow showers led to a couple of snow days, which meant no school and sledding down dead-man's hill.

Of course I do remember a few snow days in high school as well. Snow in high school meant three things.

Number one, wrestling season. Oh, how I can I forget driving to school on Saturday at 7 a.m. in my 1995 Ford Taurus, trying not to die on the icy unpaved roads.

Number two, doing doughnuts, fish tales, power slides, and racing cars in the back of the school parking lot late at night after wrestling. Once again, I am glad no death or injuries occurred.

Number three, going to my best friend Josh's house to place ice hockey on his pond, sled, and flirting between the lines of fun and stupid on the four-wheeler.

It was always an adventure, trying to stay on the sled while being pulled. Let's just say I only stayed on the sled until we started moving. From there on out, it was cold snow covering my fogged up goggles and trying not to hit trees or get run over by the four-wheeler while doing doughnuts on the pond.

There was this one time though, when Josh and I decided to forget the sled and just ride down the driveway together on the four-wheeler. We thought fish tailing the entire way down was a good plan and we would just lean the opposite direction so not to lose control.

Was it a good plan? It started out good until we neared the bottom and spun into a 360 spin and one of the tires happened to hit the only patch of dirt visible in the entire yard, causing the four-wheeler to flip. Josh threw me off before we were crushed. Once more, I am glad I didn't die.

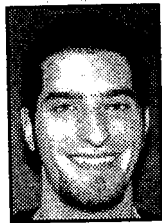
But as I think back to those old snow days, I am also led to think of the season, which is Christmas. A time filled with holiday cheer, Santa Claus, lights, presents, and good will towards men.

However, the true spirit of Christmas goes beyond all the hype, hustle and bustle of shopping for the "perfect gift." Because the perfect gift already came and transformed the world forever. Heaven's perfect gift came to earth as a baby born in a manger.

I have a hard time thinking about Jesus as an innocent little child because we often think of him in his later years all grown up, walking in full power of the Holy Spirit and his father's will.

But I wonder, when was it exactly that Jesus understood who he truly was and the cost his life was worth? I don't have the answer, but I enjoy thinking about it.

As you go through out your holiday remember to share some love with everyone you meet. I wish you all a Merry Christmas as well as a safe and Happy New Year!



The Clarkston News Viewpoints

Be thankful for new senior center

Dear Editor,

The Holidays are a time to be thankful. And, one of the things I am thankful for is a safe and secure place for our seniors to go.

Others have written that the new center being used by our seniors is a waste of money, rather than a savings.

I wish to differ.

For years, knowledgeable people in the community have known that the senior center was not safe or secure; it was just the opposite. It was a "tired" and ill-suited former home, which had been reconfigured to try to serve our seniors.

It was not handicapped accessible; indeed, wheelchair bound visitors had to be carried into and out of the bathroom. While annual efforts were made, at rather high cost, to maintain the building, it continued to be a safety and fire hazard - or, as some have put it, a multitude of lawsuits waiting to happen.

Yes, several efforts to pass million dollar millages to finance a new center failed to win voter approval, for a variety of reasons. This did not make the problem go away, but it did call for a reframing of the solution.

Among the options considered was the former South Sashabaw Elementary School, which was no longer needed by the Clarkston Schools.

After months of meticulous investigation by a host of local contractors, it was determined that it might have taken thousands of dollars, perhaps \$250,000, to make the building operational as a safe and secure place for our seniors.

Three of the major concerns were the cost of asbestos containment, the cost of air conditioning, and the cost of annual maintenance. Clearly, the building was better suited to be torn down, as it was, providing needed playing fields for our school children.

Another site given serious consideration was the main building at Baycourt Park. However, it was learned that the building was being used by the Parks & Recreation Department for many events.

Also, the park's location, at the southeast corner of Independence Township, made it inconvenient for many reasons.

Given the lack of success of these efforts and others, the Independence Township trustees decided that it could not wait any longer; it could not continue to have our seniors placed in harms way.

So, it made the difficult decision to use existing township resources to construct a safe and secure center, which could be used by our seniors and others, as soon as possible.

Today, we have a new facility, about the same size as the old home, which is safe, secure, air conditioned, and completely handicapped accessible.

Thanks to the work of many contractors, township employees, and volunteers, this facility gives the township a facility, perhaps valued at nearly half of a million dollars, for about \$250,000 in expenses.

I think that most of us in the community are thankful!

Tom Stone
Clarkston

Letters to the editor

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Tom Stone
Clarkston



Smile of the week

Andrea Moultrup isn't too broken up about missing a day of school. She and her family spent Monday's snow day sledding down the hill at Clarkston High School.

Photo by Phil Custodio



Merry Christmas!

Jim's Jottings and his grandchildren wish you all a very merry Christmas. Twins Trevor and Haley Speed, 8, are on the outside edge of the picture; Savannah Speed, 12, is between Trevor and I; Dan Offer, 22, is in the back and his sister, Karen Offer, 19, has her hand on Shayna, 4.

Good job on parade

Dear Editor,

Congratulations, Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce, for providing the venue for the fantastic community parade.

Thank you to the chamber for all of the preparation. Accolades to all of the participants for their hard work and incredible creativity.

This is a fantastic community.

*The Schultz family
Clarkston*

Got an opinion? Then write a Letter to the Editor!

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A Look Back

From *The CNews* archives

15 years ago - 1992

"Art company admits to tax evasion"
Four Groveland Township residents pled guilty to charges of money laundering and tax evasion, using money from arts and crafts shows in Springfield Township. IRS agents seized \$1.4 million in money, cars, and a boat.

"Freak accident" An Ortonville woman accidentally drove her truck into a parked car at an Independence Township shop, knocking it through a front window. No one was injured.

"Stories come alive with pupils' help"
Preschool students used theater and creative movement to help them learn how to read.

"Middle schools' on the way" Clarkston Community Schools prepared to reorganize Clarkston and Sashabaw junior high schools into middle schools, with grades 6-8. Ninth graders were set to go to Clarkston High School.

25 years ago - 1982

"Basinger opts not to run for village council" Ruth Basinger, Clarkston village council member for 10 years, declined to run for reelection, citing indifference over local preservation. The decision was in the wake of the historical ordinance controversy.

"Board rejects elementary phys-ed"
Citing budget and liability concerns, school officials said they could not continue a volunteer-led, elementary-level physical education program.

"Cub Scout's act leads to Medal of Merit tribute" Fourth-grader Tony Morrow was honored for saving his mother's life. He called for help when his mom had a severe reaction to medication.

50 years ago - 1957

"Citizens committee presents report to school board" A group of citizens finished a report about the needs of the school district and presented it to the board of education.

"C.H.S. honored by science journal"
Clarkston High School students were given the honor of publishing the 1958 Science Journal, an activity of the Michigan Junior Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters.

"Local boy receives award" Dallas Lippincott of Clarkston was awarded a varsity letter for football by the Leelanau Schools of Glen Arbor.

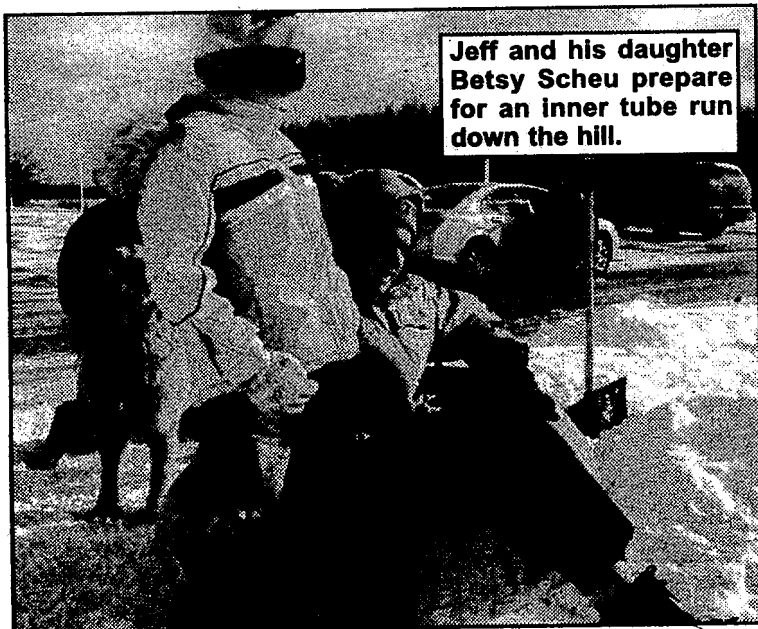
"Full-time pastor at Sashabaw"
Sashabaw Presbyterian Church welcomed the Rev. Clifford H. Haskins from Wisconsin as its new pastor.



Sue Smith sends her daughter Jessica Smith on her way, as friend Lucille Klein watches.



Lexie Moultrup and Max Dalka sled down the hill.



Jeff and his daughter Betsy Scheu prepare for an inner tube run down the hill.

Hitting the hill at the high school

A snow storm blanketing the Midwest Sunday closed almost every school Monday, including those in the Clarkston area.

Fortunately, the weather improved by midday so sledders could enjoy some high-speed fun at local hills, such as the one next to Clarkston High School.

It wasn't long before the slope resembled a ski resort, with steps cut into the snow, smooth tracks and runs down the hill, and snow ramps built up for those brave enough to grab a little air.



Sledders wait their turn to go down the hill.



The hill north of Clarkston High School was alive with sledders and snowboarders during Monday's snow day. Photo story by Phil Custodio

Independence Twp.

Thurs., Dec 6 A 14-year-old girl called police to report her skis stolen from a local ski resort.

Employees at an Independence Township drugstore located in the 5500 block of Sashabaw Road called police after a man walked from the store without paying for the beer and Kleenex he was carrying.

Fri., Dec 7 A 17-year-old Emmett man called police after someone stole his snowboard and bindings from a local ski resort.

Sat., Dec 8 A 47-year-old woman called police to report someone had stolen her son's snowboard, valued at \$700, from a local ski resort after he left it unattended.

Deputies were dispatched to assist the Independence Township Fire department when a barn fire started in the 6100 block of Pine Knob Road from sparks generated while the homeowner worked on a snowmobile.

Mon., Dec 10 The manager of an RV dealership on White Lake Road called police after arriving at work to discover about 11 trailers had been broken into during the night. A number of large-screen televisions were stolen from the vehicles.

A 42-year-old Waterford man called police after returning to his vehicle after playing racquetball at a facility in the 6110 block of Dixie Highway and discovering someone

Public Safety

Reports from Clarkston Police, Oakland County Sheriff Deputies and Independence Township Fire Department

had smashed a window from his vehicle and stole a leather jacket from inside. While police were taking the report, another individual approached and said his vehicle had also been damaged and had property stolen from inside.

A 69-year-old man living in the 6800 block of Woodcrest Ridge called police to report someone had driven across his lawn and struck a large tree, causing substantial damage.

A 16-year-old Independence Township resident called after the rear window in his mother's Ford Escape shattered as he drove the vehicle along driving Middle Lake Road. The cause of the damage was unclear.

Tues., Dec 11 A 32-year-old Independence Township man living in the 4600 block of Sashabaw Road called police after finding a gift-wrapped box on his porch containing pornographic material and a card containing threats and harassment. The man told police he saw an unknown male walking away from his home the evening before, and believes his former wife's new husband may be responsible.

A 56-year-old Independence Township man living in the 7500 block of Wyngate called police after discovering someone had entered his home during the night and stole his wife's purse from the kitchen table. Police found no signs of forced entry.

Thurs., Dec 13 A 42-year-old Independence Township man living in the 4800 block of Clearview called police after discovering someone stole his 1996 Chevy Cavalier from his driveway overnight. The car was later discovered near Greenview and Clarkston Road. Several windows were smashed, and property from inside was missing.

A 55-year-old Independence Township woman called police after discovering someone entered a vacant home she has for sale in the 9900 block of Ortonville Road.

A 65-year-old Independence Township man living in the 4900 block of Lakeview Blvd called police after discovering someone smashed a window from his vehicle overnight and attempted to remove his CD player from the dash.

Springfield Twp.

Mon., Dec 3 A Springfield Township business owner called police after discovering someone stole a gas-powered golf cart valued at about \$4,000 from a trailer on his property.

Wed., Dec 5 A 53-year-old Holly woman was arrested and jailed after police pulled her over on a traffic violation near Dixie Highway and Big Lake Road and discovered the woman had a felony warrant for delivering/manufacturing a controlled substance.

A 27-year-old Davisburg man living in the 11900 block of Davisburg Road was issued a citation for violation of leash law after his pit bull began running loose on neighboring property. Neighbors told police the dog runs loose on an ongoing basis.

Fri., Dec 7 A 36-year-old Springfield Township woman living in the 4500 block of Ormand Road was arrested and jailed on warrants for uttering and publishing out of the 51st District Court in Waterford.

Tues., Dec 11 A 42-year-old Springfield Township woman living in the 17100 block of Detroit Avenue called police after discovering someone stole lattice decking pieces and a stack of 2x4s stored on the side of her home.

Wed., Dec 12 A 33-year-old Davisburg woman called police after her husband, who moved out of the house several weeks ago, arrived and proceeded to storm about the house demanding money. The woman also gave police a large bag of drug paraphernalia belonging to the man.

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Samakka Shabazz and Tammy Bayton stand outside of Krogers collecting goods to stuff a bus and deliver to Lighthouse North.



Bus stuffed with good will

Clarkston Community Schools bus drivers and aides took turns standing out in the cold at Kroger on Sashabaw Road this past weekend for the fourth annual "Stuff a Bus," collecting food and goods for Lighthouse North.

"We have quite a lot already, the bus is pretty stuffed," said bus driver, Tammy Bayton on Saturday. "We may have to do

some reorganizing."


Also a check for \$5,000 was donated towards the food and gift drive.

Students and siblings Tanner, 11, Tyler, 12, and Caitlin Lee, 14 all brought bags of gifts to help. Everything was bought from money they raised, Caitlin from babysitting, while Tanner and Tyler shoveled snow.

- Trevor Keiser


Siblings, Tyler, Tanner, and Caitlin Lee raised money to buy goods for stuff a bus. Photos by Trevor Keiser





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Be on the lookout for armed robbers

Police are looking for two armed robbers in the Independence Township area.

According to Oakland County Sheriff's Office, two robbers entered the Tim Horton's restaurant, 5700 block of Maybee Road, at about 9:20 p.m., Dec. 16.

One was carrying a long gun and the other a hand gun. Both were wearing hooded sweatshirts, face masks, goggles, and gloves. The face masks and goggles completely covered their faces. Both suspects were male of unknown race.

The first suspect was wearing a grey Michigan sweatshirt, blue jeans, white tennis shoes, white gloves, and wearing white framed ski goggles. He is of medium height and weight.

Suspect two, also medium height and weight, was wearing a dark, hooded sweatshirt with writing on the front, blue jeans, white tennis shoes, dark colored gloves, and dark colored goggles.

No customers were in the restaurant at the time. Two employees were on duty. The store manager, an 18-year-old White Lake Township resident, was at the drive-thru win-



Video surveillance images show the two suspects.

dow. When he saw the gunmen, he jumped out of the window and ran to the Wendy's restaurant next door.

The other employee, a 16-year-old Clarkston resident, was cleaning in the back of the store. She was ordered to get on her knees. She did this and closed her eyes.

The gunmen went into the store office and took money, also from a cash drawer near the drive-thru window. No injuries were reported during the robbery.

The suspects left the restaurant on foot. A K-9 unit responded to the scene and tracked the suspects to a near-by neighborhood before losing the track.

Anyone with information as to the identity of either of the suspects is asked to call the Oakland County Sheriff's Office Crime Stoppers at 888-TURN-1-IN (1-888-887-6146) or the Independence Township Substation, 248-620-4970.

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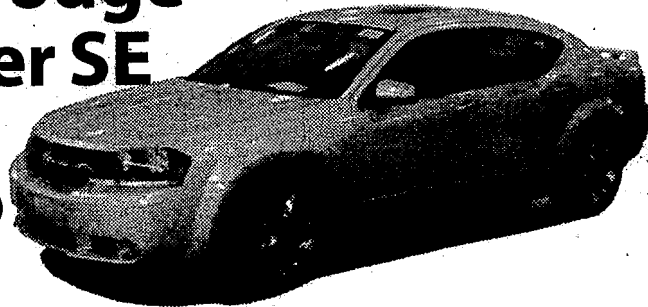
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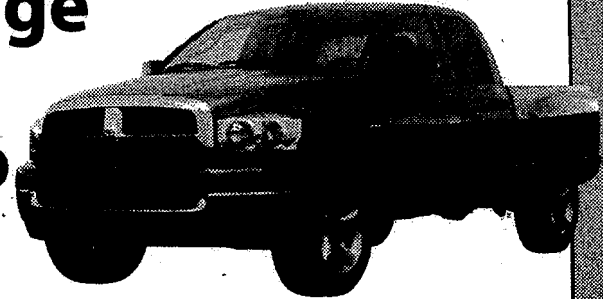
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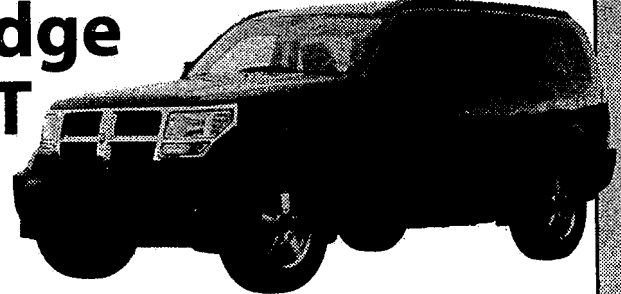


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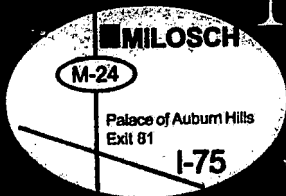
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Ruth Corcoran is the owner of Michael's Catholic Gift Shop. Photo by Trevor Keiser

Gift shop joins Columbiere

BY TREVOR KEISER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

When Ruth Corcoran, owner of Michael's Catholic Gift Shop was asked by a Jesuit Brother of the Columbiere Center, to move her shop from Waterford to Columbiere, she gladly accepted.

"I meet a lot of nice people. I love being around the community of the Jesuits, actually they are good customers," said Corcoran. "I often order books for them because they read a lot. They also get a discount if they go through the store, which helps them and helps me."

The store sells movies, jewelry, T-shirts, crosses, pictures, coffee cups, books, variety of greeting cards, as well as items for baptism, first communion, and confirmation. She offers boys' suits for first communion, and soon dresses, she said.

"I don't just carry Catholic items, but also self help books, as well as Protestant books and just good Christian reading," said Corcoran. "I pretty much stay up on all the new releases of Christian books."

She also carries personal items, such as shampoo, conditioners, and shaving razors for people who are at "Insight" drug and alcohol rehabilitation center, located at Columbiere.

Corcoran opened her first shop on Dixie

Highway two years ago after her husband of 37 1/2 years passed away. She used the insurance money to open up the gift shop. She made it a Catholic shop due to her personal faith and named the store after her husband.


"You get to meet a lot of good people and you're evangelizing all at the same time," said Corcoran. "I love being here because you're in the most holy place you could possibly be. And second of all, I think it gives me something to look forward to everyday, since I lost my husband."

Corcoran closed her store in Waterford and moved to Columbiere on July 4 and was open for business July 6. She thought she might have difficulties fitting everything from the old store on the shelves of the new store, but she didn't.

"I had no problem," she said. "It's like everything was made to be here in this store."

Corcoran has five children, all of whom are married. Christine, Michael, and Missy are Clarkston residents. Lauri resides in Grand Rapids and Katy lives in upstate New York. Corcoran also has 11 grandchildren.

The shop, located at 9075 Big Lake Road, is open Mon - Thurs 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Fri - Sat 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information call 248-620-2516.



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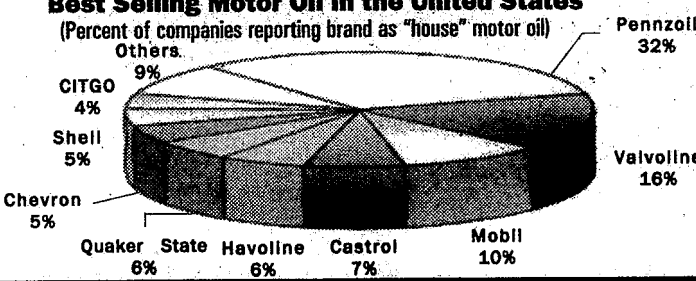
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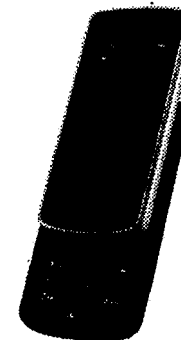
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Clarkston physical therapy clinic offers help for pain

BY LAURA COLVIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

A new physical therapy clinic in Clarkston could make finding relief from sprains and strains a little less painful.

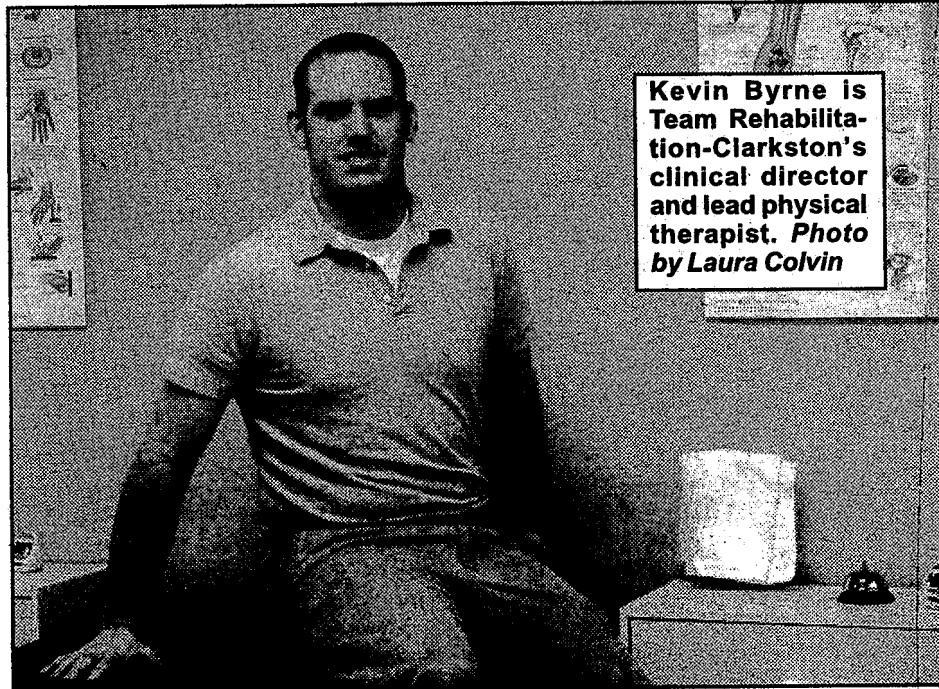
Team Rehabilitation offers a variety of treatment options and modalities performed by licensed, professional therapists, as well as a bright, spacious treatment area stocked with new state-of-the-art exercise and therapy equipment.

Although the clinic helps with ailments ranging from sprains, strains, and tendonitis to fibromyalgia and arthritis, many patients arrive for help with lower back pain.

"It seems to be the most vulnerable place for injury," said Kevin Byrne, Team Rehabilitation-Clarkston clinical director and lead physical therapist.

Each new patient, Byrne explained, receives an extensive evaluation to determine the best course of care.

"We try to customize a plan of care for every individual," said Byrne, who has Bachelor's degrees in kinesiology and health science, as well as a doctorate in physical therapy. "Not everyone has the same type of lower back pain, for example, so you can't take one single approach and expect it to work for everyone."



Kevin Byrne is Team Rehabilitation-Clarkston's clinical director and lead physical therapist. Photo by Laura Colvin

Each month, Byrne sits down for a meeting with directors from each of Team Rehabilitation's seven other locations.

It was the organization's commitment to high standards and high-quality patient care

that prompted him to sign on with Team Rehabilitation, Byrne noted.

The group, he said, strives for excellent patient care, consistency among the clinics, uses evidence-based treatment, has a

no-waiting policy and extended, flexible hours.

"Definitely, patient care is our first priority," he said. "We want to provide top-notch care and get the best outcome for every patient."

To achieve that objective, he said, it's important to find out about the patient's goals for work, recreation and other activities.

While Team Rehabilitation has individually managed clinics in Farmington Hills, Livonia, Macomb Township, Royal Oak, St. Clair Shores, Southgate, and Woodhaven, the Clarkston location, which opened in mid August, is the first in north Oakland County.

Byrne, who lives in Grand Blanc, said he is enjoying the getting-to-know-you process in the Clarkston area.

"I really like the small town feel," he said. "It's a friendly place to be, and people seem to like keeping the business local. I'm looking forward to getting out to meet more people."

Team Rehabilitation provides free transportation to and from the clinic when necessary, and accepts most major insurance plans.

The clinic is located at 7250 Dixie Highway, Suite 200. For more information, call 248-922-9280.

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Hang on for the win

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News
Sports Writer

The final score wasn't close, but that doesn't mean the game was easy.

"I don't think ever in my 26 years have we had an easy win over Pontiac Northern," said Coach Dan Fife.

Clarkston basketball beat Pontiac Northern, 64-39, in their second game of the season Dec. 13, the earliest they have ever faced their Division One foe.

"I like to play our division games after, where everyone has worked out the kinks," Fife said. "That's really what the OAA is in Division One, it's good basketball, it's tough. One mistake costs you the game. It's usually a strong physical game. That's why I think we should play them later."

Pontiac Northern got the first point from a penalty shot.

But Julius Porter soon brought the Wolves ahead by making the first basket.

Oliver Kupe added two more points, bringing the score 4-1.

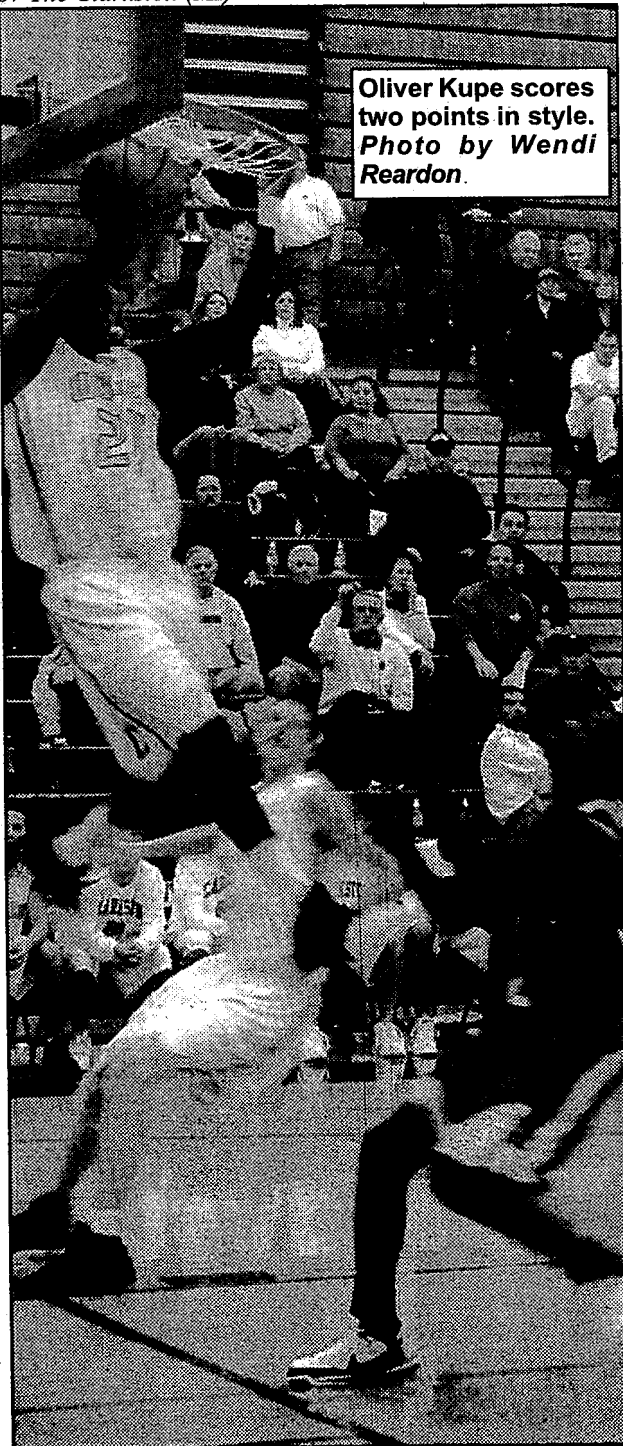
With two minutes left in the first quarter, and Northern ahead by one point again, the Wolves were quick to come into the lead with four points by Tom Staton and Porter.

Kupe made a shot to the basket with five seconds left, going into the second quarter, 14-9.

The Wolves continued their strong defense, blocking Pontiac Northern shots and driving the ball down the wooden floor to make more baskets against their opponents.

They ended the first half with a 20-point lead over Pontiac Northern, 34-14.

The second half was tougher as Pontiac Northern



strove for more points, but the Wolves remained in control, earning a total of 30 points in the second half, while Pontiac Northern earned 25.

"I thought they played pretty good, much better in the second half," said Fife.

"I'm happy with the progress, I'm more happy with them defensively. We gave up a lot of layups last game. I thought, in particular, Brandon Hughes and Brandon Verlinden both did great jobs coming in off of the bench. They were really keys in that second period. They made some easy bas-

kets and outstanding defensive plays, getting the ball for us."

The win brings Clarkston to 2-0.

"Even when we have an easy win, you know there's next time," he said. "Bob (Robert Rogers, Pontiac Northern coach) does a great job with those kids. He'll have them ready next time. It's a good win for tonight."

Pontiac Northern will improve, Rogers said.

"Well, it's a new day and it's something we haven't experienced in my last 12 years," he said. "But it's

See Cagers, page 23A

Athlete of the Week

Morin doesn't let cancer slow him down

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Senior David Morin has defended against some of the toughest hockey teams, but none of them could be as tough as the fight for his life he had a few years ago when he was diagnosed with testicular cancer.

Two weeks before his freshman year began, Morin had stomach pains.

"When I laid down, you could see a bump on my stomach," described Morin.

His brother was going to play on Team USA for hockey and his mom wanted to get him checked out before they went. The tests came back and he was diagnosed with testicular cancer.

"Devasted," said mom, Judy Morin on hearing the news. "It was a shock. It's not happening to us. Someone made a mistake."

David felt nervous and scared. "First thing I said was I didn't want to die," said David.

Then, he asked the doctor what his chances of survival were and learned it was a 20 percent chance of survival.

From there, he had four months of chemotherapy, four surgeries, and seven blood transfusions.

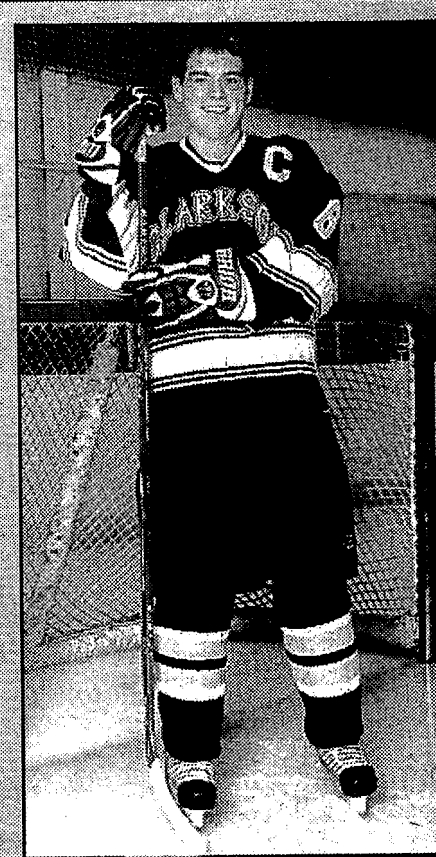
His teammates from the hockey team and their parents came out and donated blood. It was the biggest blood banks Red Cross had seen.

The last took place in Nov. 2004 and lasted seven and a half hours.

After all the tests came back, the news came back David was cleared of cancer.

A few months later, the Morins threw a party for the hockey players, parents, neighbors and classmates who had supported them during David's fight. Attendees included 265 people.

He worked hard to get back onto the ice. From his medication he had gained weight. He joined Weight Watchers, walked a lot with his mom, and got back into the swim-



ming pool.

His hard work paid off, and he lost 70 pounds.

Judy told David he could take a year off from school since he missed playing hockey for a few years. David chose to graduate with his classmates.

Also, he had to have physical therapy because he had blood clots in his legs. The blood clots made it hard to walk, and he had to use a wheelchair.

"I didn't really start playing until my sophomore year. When Coach (Krygier) picked me up and took me to get me back in shape to play hockey. I didn't play a game my sophomore year."

But he did dress for the last game. His goal was to get on the ice before the seniors graduated because they had been part of his support group while he was going through treatments.

At first getting back on the ice was hard, he could only on the ice 15-30 minutes at a time. As the year went by, he kept getting better.

Getting back into hockey was something his mom didn't want him to do, but he did it anyway.

"Because I love the sport that much and wanted to be with the guys that supported me

Please see Icer, page 23A



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Light Ink

Weekend wrestling brings dual win, loss

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Varsity Grapplers had a busy week with winning a dual meet last Wednesday and a losing a close match against Detroit Catholic Central, 36-32, two days later.

In their dual meet, the grapplers took on Avondale and beat them 58-10. They followed it up by beating Waterford - Kettering 48-17.

Clarkston took on Avondale first where most of their points came from pins.

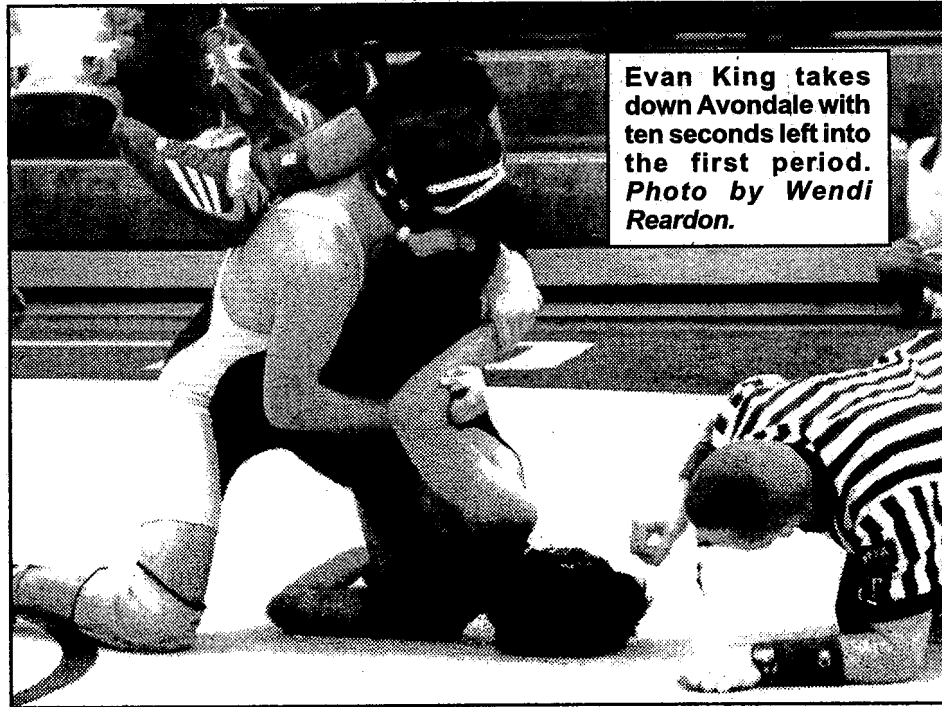
Bryant Craft (189) and Jeff Sloney (103) made their pins within 30 seconds of beginning of their competition. Alex Popp (135) and Evan King (145) made pins for their team into the first period.

Other members making pins to help Clarkston were Matt Dietz (125), Derek Booker (130), Erik Butterfield (160), and Sloan Hadsall (215).

Clarkston went on to wrestle Kettering High School, winning the competition 48-17.

With Kettering, Clarkston met a tougher match. Through gaining points during the competition and getting four pins, the Wolves were able to remain in control of the scores.

Jeff Sloney (103), Alex Popp (135), Erik Butterfield (160), and Sloan Hadsall (215) made four pins against Clarkston. Also, they made their pins in the first period of their



match.

"I was happy with them," said Coach Joe DeGain.

"They're making improvements and I thought they wrestled well tonight. I was

happy with them."

With the team working hard during dual meets, it can sometimes work to the team's advantage.

"If they make a mistake, if they need to

make an adjustment they can fix it and redo it twenty minutes later. Sometimes its not for whatever reason."

The team followed the dual meet with a competition again Detroit Catholic Central on Friday.

"I expect it to be a good dual meet," said DeGain going into last Friday's match with Detroit Catholic Central

"They always bring a tough squad."

The score was close as the two teams went into the last match. Detroit Catholic Central was leading 32-30.

Erik Butterfield (160) was the last to compete. After a tough three periods with Stefan Gatt, Clarkston lost 11-4.

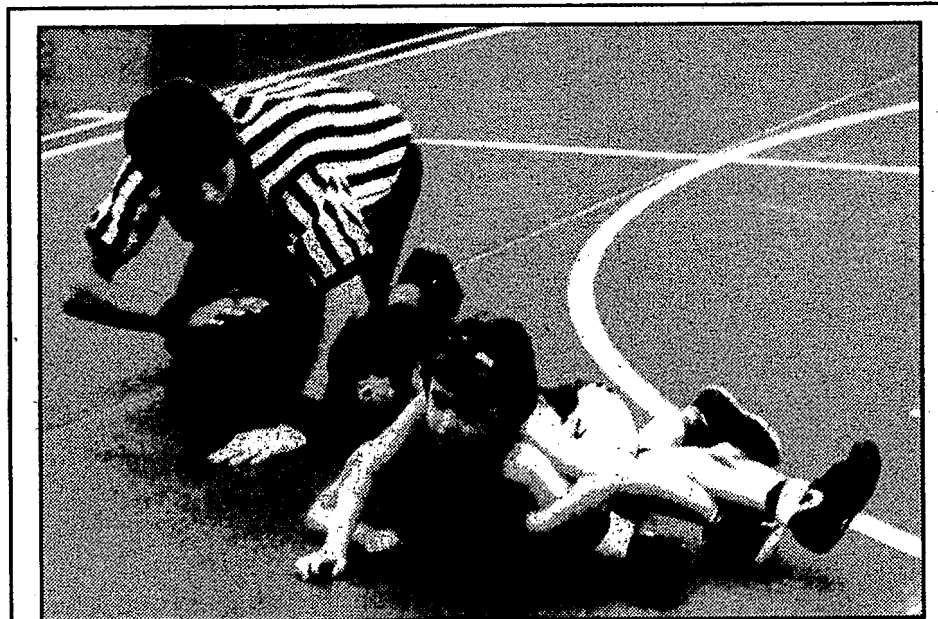
During the competition, Matt Dietz (125), Alex Popp (135) and Adam Lauzen (171) made pins for Clarkston.

Next for the team is a meet on Wednesday at Davison High School at 1250 N. Oak. The meet starts at 6 p.m.

On Friday, they will begin the Oakland County Tournament, one of the biggest tournaments in the nation.

They will start at 3:30 p.m. at Milford High School, 2380 South Milford Road in Highland.

"It's important for these guys to get the toughest competition they can," said DeGain about going to the tournament on Friday.



Alex Riddle pins Harper Garcia, while showing referee Evan King how to wrestle. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Varsity look out!

Alex Riddle and Harper Garcia were just a few of the youngsters from all over Oakland County to come out of the cold Saturday to participate in Clarkston Wrestling Club's Annual Hardcore Christmas Classic.

Competitors from the ages of 5 to 14

were there to show their skill and meet new friends.

"I would like to thank all of our outstanding Clarkston Wrestling Club people who came out and made the Clarkston Hardcore Classic a tremendous success," said Pete Vandermeer.



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Kaleigh Kenny drives the ball down the court. Photos by Wendi Reardon

Playing with confidence

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Lady Cagers showed they are coming together as a team Friday, during their loss to West Bloomfield, 48-38, bringing their overall record 3-2.

"I thought we played pretty well tonight on both sides of the floor," said Coach Tim Wasilk.

"Our shots weren't going down. Tonight we were 5 on 24, that's not going to put you on top for any ball games," Wasilk said. "West Bloomfield played pretty hard. They looked like they were an experienced team and they did a good job."

Before going into half-time, the score remained close. With five minutes left in the second period, Clarkston was trailing by three points. With a three-point shot to the basket, Jaclyn Otto tied up the game.

Jennifer Johnston followed up, making three more points for the team, putting them in the lead, 19-16.

The team continued the trend and ended the second quarter two points ahead, 24-22.

West Bloomfield came back from half time bringing a fight. They matched the Wolves point for point until they ended the third quarter six points ahead.

In the fourth quarter, West Bloomfield looked for opportunities to get the ball away from the Lady Wolves.

As the last five minutes began to count down, Clarkston was still close. But after fouls against Clarkston, West Bloomfield added three points to their score. They continued to widen the gap with two more baskets, ending the game, 48-38.

"I thought we did everything right. We played hard on defense," said senior Betsy Mellen after the game. "Our shots just didn't

fall, we just have to work on our shooting more. I thought we played pretty hard."

Clarkston's high scorers were Johnston, 9, Taylor Daugherty, 8, and Alyssa Swindlehurst, 6.

West Bloomfield's high scorers were Chenise Miller, 21, and Lauren Davis, 13.

Mellen and her teammates are ready to play against Waterford Kettering on Thursday night.

"We have three days of practice. We going to work our butts off, work on shooting, get out there and beat Kettering," said Mellen. "I'm excited. I feel like we're going to be strong."

"If we play how we did tonight, I think we'll be okay," said Wasilk.

"I think our team is starting to come together a bit and play with more confidence."

Lady Cagers will host Kettering on Thursday. Junior Varsity will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by the Varsity team at 7 p.m.

Lady Cagers won their OAA crossover game with Troy-Athens Dec. 11, 47-39.

"We need to come to play every single night, that was a big thing tonight on the defensive end of the floor," Wasilk said.

"We didn't get four quarters of good effort tonight. We did about two quarters that made a difference in the game tonight."

In the first quarter, Alyssa Swindlehurst and Jaclyn Otto helped the team to get ahead by both making three point shots on the basket.

The Lady Wolves led the first quarter, 16-6.

In the second and third quarter, Troy Athens picked up the pace on offense and went into the last quarter trailing by three points.

"Troy Athens fought hard," Wasilk said.

"They're a young team, they came out and they competed and they didn't give up. and we made a good game tonight."

Clarkston players made a tighter defense in the last quarter, making it hard for Troy Athens to score any baskets. A majority of Troy-Athens points were made in the final three minutes of the game were from penalty shots.

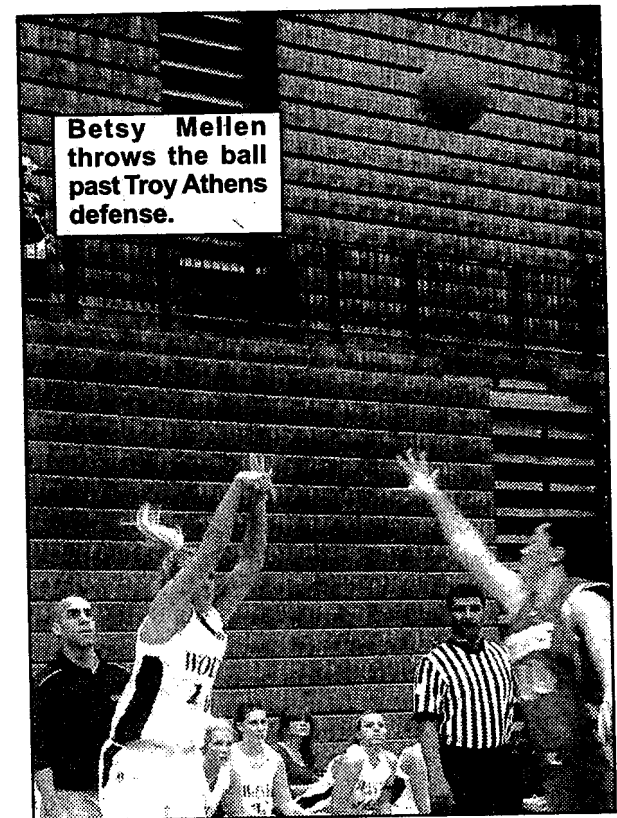
"We put them to the line for a few free throws, I think we were being over aggressive with our hand checks defensively and that put us out a little bit. It's never good when you're giving them free throws and the

clock stops.

"I think our girls just need to understand every night they need to come ready to play and that's the big thing. I think we had a good fourth quarter, brought up the defensive intensity and shot the ball well and pushed the ball to the floor. If we can just do that for four quarters, I think we'll be alright."

The high scorers during the game were Kaleigh Kenny, 13, Taylor Daugherty, 10, and Jennifer Johnston, 10.

The high scorers for Troy Athens were Chelsea Miller, 8, Olivia Brannon, 6, and Jenna O'Dell, 6.



Betsy Mellen throws the ball past Troy Athens defense.

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Icers honor holidays at tournament

BY WENDI REARDON
 Clarkston News Sports Writer

The final game of Clarkston's Annual Christmas Tournament came down to double overtime. Unfortunately, Clarkston wasn't playing.

Already knocking out Clarkston and Novi, the Cranes of Cranbrook Kingswood beat the Cardinals of Davison 1-0.

Jacob Friedman scored the winning goal, with an assist from Greg Leonardo.

In the first round of the annual Christmas Tournament, Clarkston played Cranbrook Kingswood and lost 5-1.

"Cranbrook played very well," said Coach Bryan Krygier. "They're always a good team. They always play well. We kinda let go, let down and didn't play very good defensively. We didn't generate any offense."

The first period ended with both teams at zero. Three minutes into the second period, Cranbrook scored the first goal, by Joe Jacoby, Henry Gembis assisting.

With 5:45 left in the period, Cranbrook struck again as Friedman sent the puck past Garrett Knappe. Two minutes later, Friedman followed up with another goal, bringing Cranbrook ahead 3-0.

Aaron Podbielski put Clarkston on the board, scoring a goal 3:38 left in the second period. Friedman finished off the period with one more goal with 43 seconds left on the scoreboard.

In the third period, Friedman scored one more against Clarkston five minutes into the last period, for a final score of 4-1.

Cranbrook out shot Clarkston 34-12, fewer shots on goal than Cranbrook made the previous year, 37-11.

Clarkston continued the Christmas Tournament on Saturday against Novi High School.

The first period ended with zero points on the board. Into the first four minutes of the next period, Novi's Adam Szajner scored the first goal.

One minute later, Szajner did it again and put Novi ahead of Clarkston by two points.

With two minutes left in the second period, Michael Fiteny scored Clarkston's first goal.

With a swing of the hockey stick, Adam Frank hit the puck past goalie Kevin Michalczuk and into the net. He tied the



Michael Fiteny collides with Novi's goalie Kevin Michalczuk. Photos by Wendi Reardon

game with nine minutes left.

Novi pushed forward and Shane McCusker scored the last goal of the game, leading Novi to win 3-2 and placing Clarkston in fourth place.

Novi out shot Clarkston 34-19.

"Today we played a lot better," said Krygier. "We played some of the younger guys and the new guys."

That brought more energy to the game, he said.

"The hard part of our schedule starts after New Year's."

They go from playing 1-2 games a week, to playing 2-3 a week.

"So we got to be mentally ready," he said.

The team will practice during the holiday break to get ready for their first game of 2008.

They will play Jan. 9 against North Farmington High School at Farmington Hills Ice Arena, at 35500 W. 8 Mile Road.

The game will begin at 7 p.m.



Tyler Frakes advances on the Novi goal.

Splash!

In last Thursday's swim meet, the Sea Wolves beat Rochester Adams, 106-79.

In their first meet of the season against Harrison, the team placed first in six events. Against Rochester Adams, they topped it this past week by taking first place in seven events.

Sophomore Jordan Zendejas took first place in one meter diving with a score of 215.3. He was fifty points ahead of Adams Kevin White.

The boys led the way in the freestyle events with the relay team of Philip Voorheis, Robert Nelson, Greg Dedow, and Adam Curry placing first in the 200 yard freestyle.

The time for the team was 1:38:53, beating Adams by five and a half seconds.

Next the team of Voorheis, Dedow, Jake Rush and Kenneth Stepflug relayed into first with the time of 3:38.10.

Individual swimmers placing in first in other freestyle events are Curry in the 50 yard freestyle (24:37) and in the 100 yard freestyle (54.08); and Dedow in the 500 yard freestyle with a total time of 5:12.97.

Also placing first, Nelson in 100 yard breaststroke (1:08.41).

The team's next meet is Thursday at 6:30 p.m. against Troy-Athens at 4333 John R Road.

- Wendi Reardon



Christmas cheer

Varsity Cheerleaders get the crowd excited for the holidays and for the Wolves win over Pontiac Northern. Photo by Wendi Reardon.

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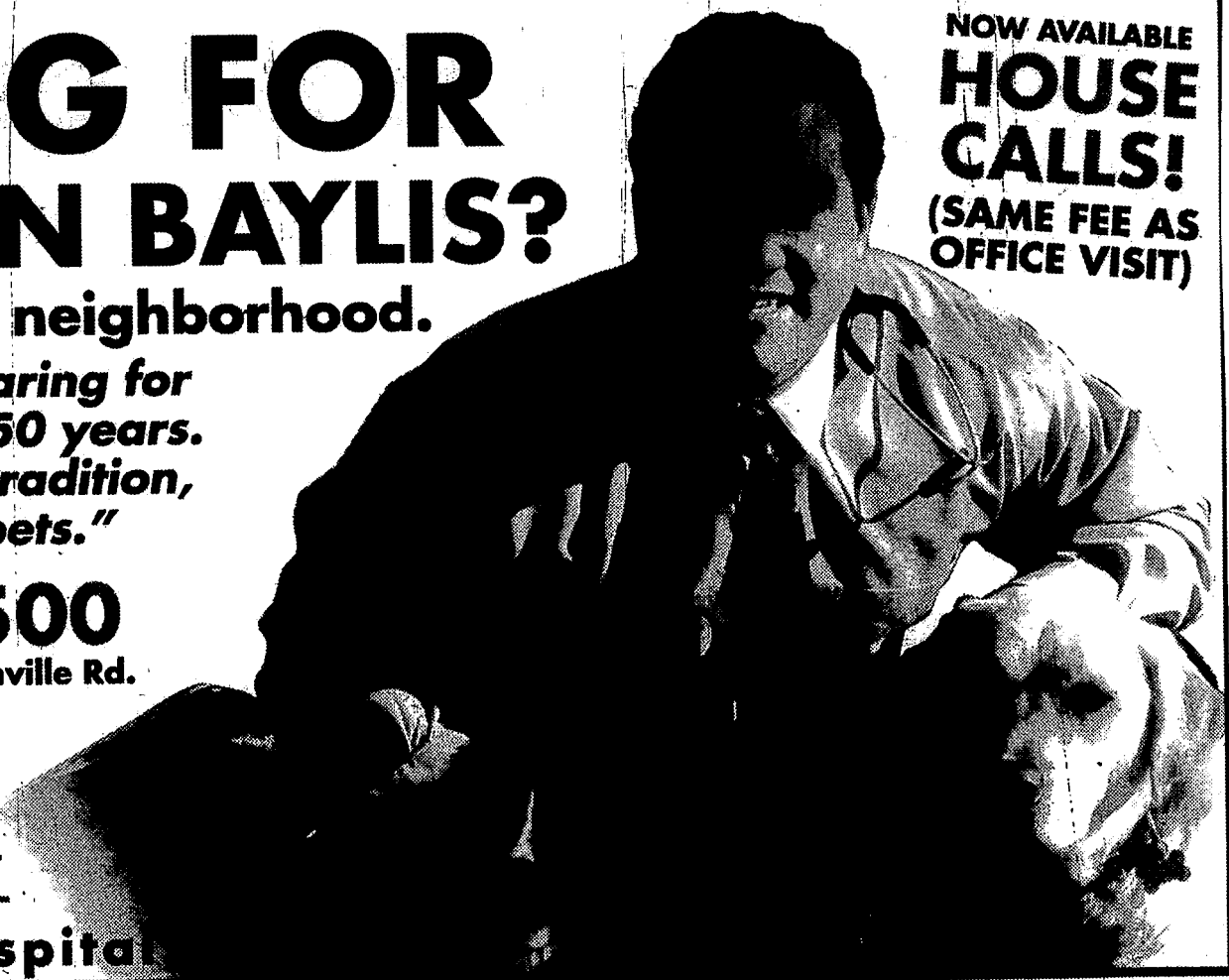
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Mary Tebo, right, a Neighbor for Neighbor volunteer, helps Tiffany Baker pick out gifts for her two daughters, age 5 and 6.

Clarkston News reporter Trevor Keisor works on sorting food and gifts dropped off by members of the community.



Caring for Clarkston at Christmas

Hollie Wendland made a difference. The Clarkston High School freshman and her parents arrived at the *Clarkston News* last week with a carload of food Hollie collected from her neighbors, food that will help feed financially strapped families this Christmas and beyond. Others arrived with personal care items, paper products, new gifts for men women and children, books, and more food. They made a difference, too—each and every one.

But more help is still needed. Dozens and dozens of financially strapped residents lined up at Neighbor for Neighbor last

week to pick up food and choose a few gifts to put under the tree come Christmas morning.

This week, dozens more will come for food and gifts they wouldn't otherwise have. Most comes from donations.

At *The Clarkston News* we'll be accepting donations through Friday to support several local organizations.

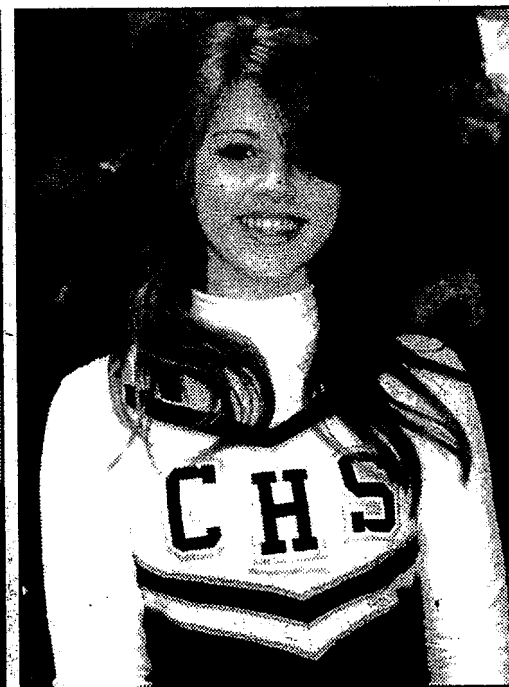
Bring the kids, and we'll snap a photo to run in an upcoming edition of our paper. Adults want a photo? Just ask. We're kind of camera happy, anyway.

Merry Christmas, Clarkston.

— Laura Colvin



Thanks! Ashleigh, left, and Megan Allen helped some less fortunate families.



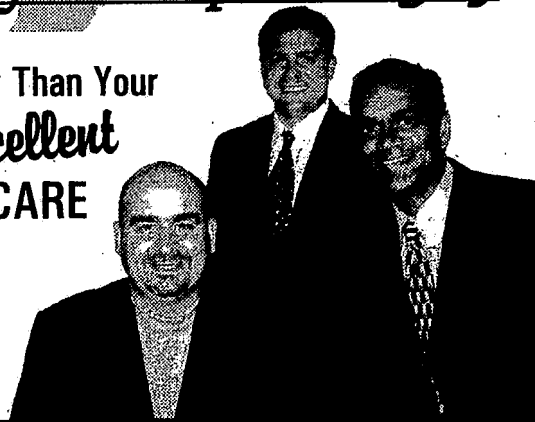
Hollie Wendland took up a neighborhood collection to help support our food drive.

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Jim Sherman, Sr.

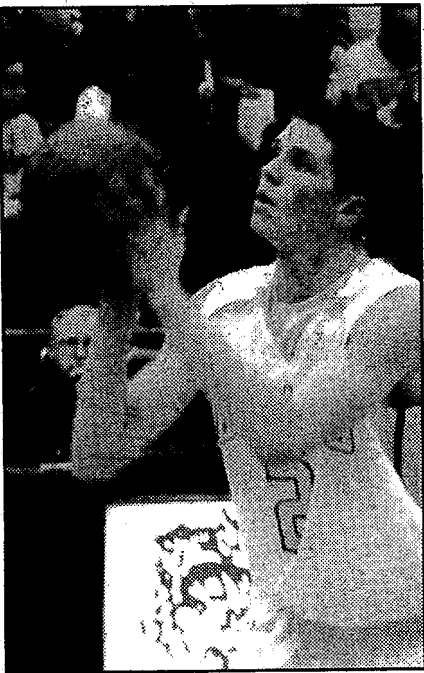
Stop and smell the roses. Hug your kids. Say something nice to people you meet and don't forget to feed your dog scraps. The secret to living long is to live well.



Jim Sherman, Sr. has penned about life in these parts for over 50 years.

Read Jim's Jottings weekly in *The Clarkston News*.

Icer excels at school, sports, despite cancer



Matt Kamieniecki lines up a free throw.

Cagers set to play North Farmington

Continued from page 16A

something we can work on. I don't know what it was, combination of youth, combination of inexperience, and just combination of playing against a much better, stronger, disciplined team tonight. All of them are going to get better. Every ball player will get better."

Clarkston deserves congratulations, he said.

"They came with a game plan. They came with their ball players. They played a great game of basketball," he said.

"I was very thankful to the coach at the end of the game for realizing what we had and played different ball players than he normally would have played later on in the game because usually the games are very tough until the end. We would like to thank him for observing that, being smart and not trying to, I guess you could say, one up the score and embarrass us even farther. So I would like to thank them. They have great talent and team."

High scorers for the night were Staton, 14, Kupe, 12, and Porter, 10.

Clarkston will play Pontiac Northern again, Feb. 19, their second to last game of the season.

For now, the team is getting ready for their last game before holiday vacation. They will play North Farmington High School, 32900 West 13 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

The Junior Varsity game will begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by the Varsity team at 7 p.m.

Continued from page 16A

before I graduated and follow up on my brothers because they played, and I wanted to keep going with it."

Last year, he played in thirteen games.

This year, he was nominated by his teammates to be one of the captains. He has started a majority of the games so far this year. Also, he has continued to be dedicated to his studies and holds his place on the honor roll.

"It's amazing," said Judy seeing her son on the ice after everything he has been through.

Currently, his health is good. The best chance

of the cancer coming back was in the first year. As the years go by, the chances decrease.

After graduation, David will attend either Oakland University or Michigan State. Then, he would like to study either pediatrics or oncology at a medical school.

Both are professions he hadn't wanted to do until after he was diagnosed. "All the people who helped me out made me want to help other people."

David shared the same doctor as Lance Armstrong, Dr. Craig Nichols. He prescribed all of his prescriptions from Indiana and did two

of his major surgeries.

David offered his thoughts to anyone fighting any battles

"Keep fighting through it, because you never know how things will turn out, they might turn out good if you do."

Each year about 8,000 to 9,000 diagnoses of testicular cancer are just in the United States. In a man's lifetime, his risk of testicular cancer is roughly 1 in 250. It is most common among males aged 15-40 years. There is hope, out of all of the cancers, testicular cancer has one of the highest cure rates.

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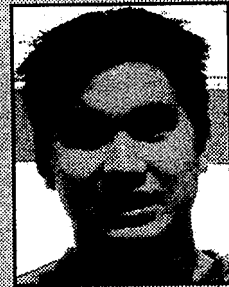
People Poll

December 19, 2007
Page B1

Favorite holiday treat?



"Broccoli salad. I make the best. Everyone loves it."
-Stephanie Vo



"Pasta with Fettuchini sauce. And mashed potatoes and gravy."
-Alex Vo



"Sherbert punch."
-Danny Moore



"Cheesy Potatoes"
-Michelle Raetzke
By Wendi Reardon

The Clarkston News' Millstream

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

Walking the walk

Author draws leadership lessons from experience

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Marty Zimmerman of Independence Township is a top leadership consultant, motivational speaker, and author, but he wasn't always that successful.

He learned the lessons he teaches the hard way, falling victim to corporate downsizing five years ago.

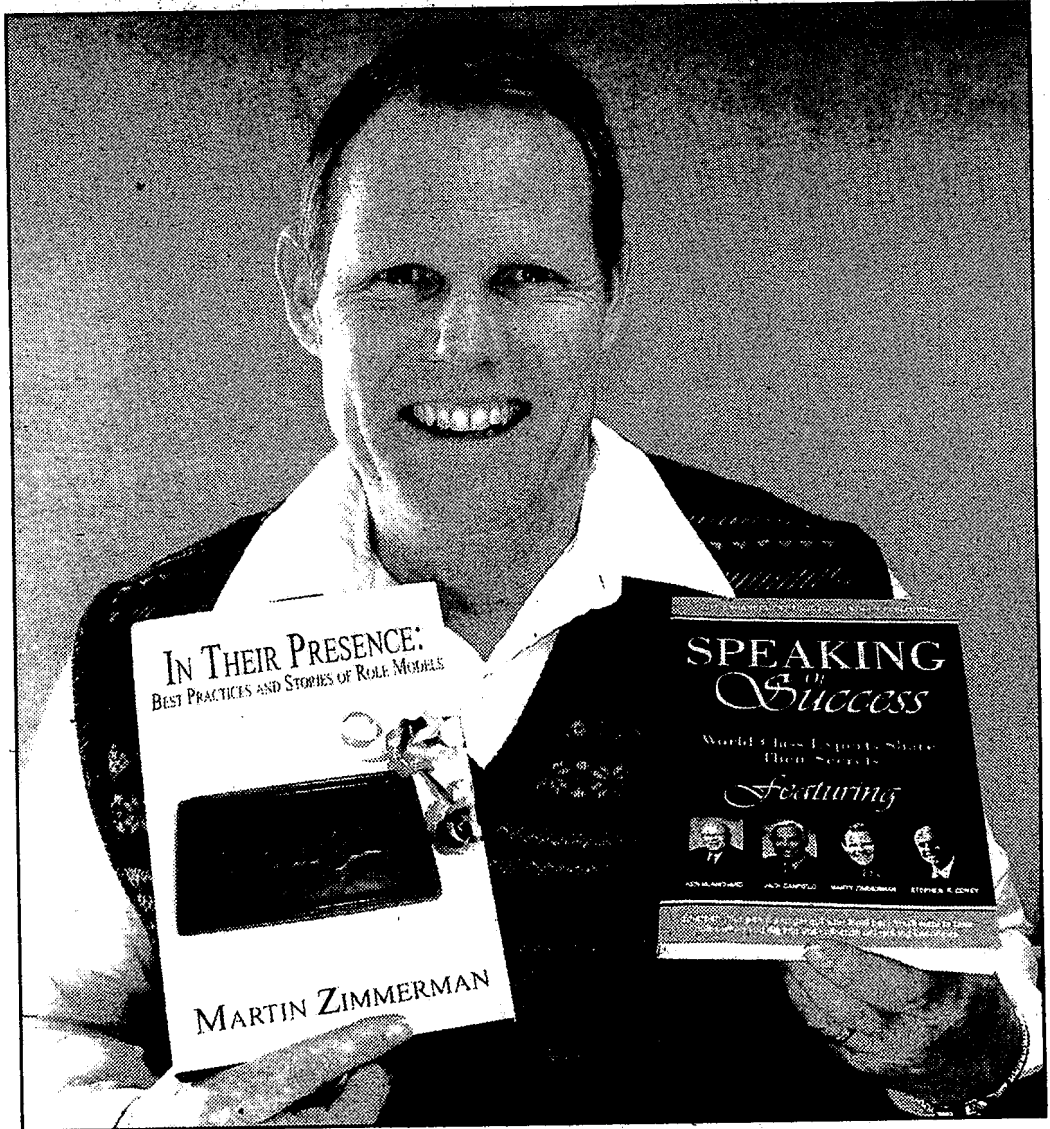
"I watched people go to work and go to school, then watched them all come back," said Zimmerman, 52. "I had all the time in the world."

He used that time to gather thoughts together for his first book, "In Their Presence: Best Practices and Stories of Role Models."

"I had no excuse not to write the book," he said. "It answered a need I had, to focus on something – it kept my sanity, a renewed sense of purpose. It was a bridge to the business I do now."

Friends and neighbors in the community offered their support as well. Penny Shanks of Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce offered encouragement, and Dan Fife, Clarkston High School athletic director, was the first person to buy his book.

His life experiences also include attend-



Author Marty Zimmerman of Independence Township, with his two books.

ing a seminary to become a priest, graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy, and serving 22 years in the Marine Corps.

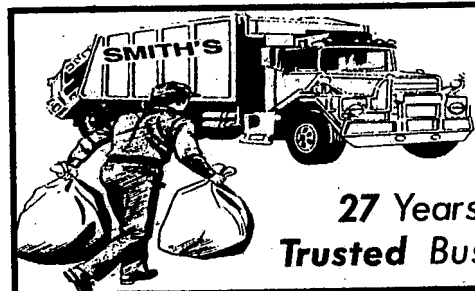
His service in the Marines included recruiting in Detroit from 1982-1985. After leaving the Corps, he went to work for his former

commanding officer, Sam Klein, during which he developed his 360 Feedback coaching service. He taught leaders how to receive feedback from managers, clients, peers,

"That's how I started what I do now," he said.

Please see Success on page 3B

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Charity drive, collection of hats, mittens, non-perishable food for local families in need, through Dec. 29. Drop-off at Best Impressions, 6684 Dixie Highway. 248-620-1961.

Christmas in Clarkston, Clarkston Community Band, directed by Vince Chrisman, 12 p.m., Dec. 15, Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. Family concert with traditional carols, children's songs, majestic Christmas works. Free. 248-625-8223.

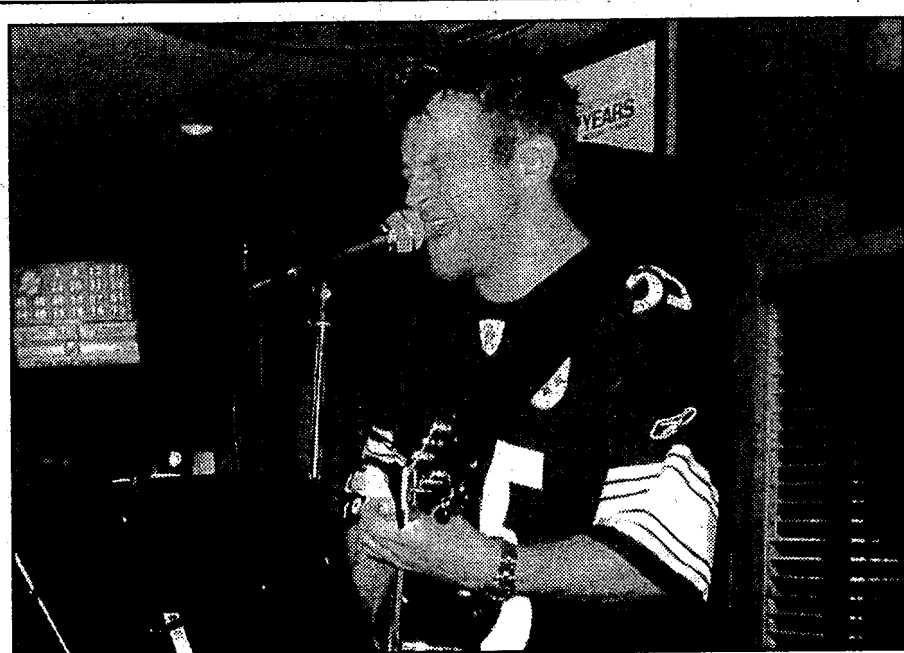
Sublime Snowflakes, 1 p.m., Dec. 15. Snow trivia, snowflake craft. 6 and up. \$2/child. Indian Spring Metropark, 5175 Indian Trail. 248-625-6640.

Blood Drives, American Red Cross. Independence Township Fire Department and Lions Club of Clarkston, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Dec. 20, 6500 Citation, off M-15 north of Dixie Highway, 248-625-1924. Clarkston Brandon Community Credit Union, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 27, 8055 Ortonville Road, walk-ins welcome, 248-625-2923. Free fleece scarf to all donors. Enter Red Cross contest for lease on a new 2008 Mercury Mariner Premiere, and \$25, \$50, \$200 gas cards. Red Cross: 800-448-3543.

Holiday Drop & Shop Pool Party, 7:30-9 p.m., Dec. 21, Clarkston High School pool, 6093 Flemings Lake Road. Christmas music, candy canes, Lifeguard Elves. Under 12, must have a guardian. \$3. 248-623-3799.

Travel camp, Independence Township Parks and Recreation, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Jan. 2-4. Activities for grades 1-5. Drop off/pick up: Carriage House, 6000 Clarkston Road. Residents: \$45/day, \$120/all three. Non-residents: \$55/day, \$150/all three. Register by Dec. 21 at 248-625-8223.

Around Town



Clarkston grad to perform

Dustin Kring, also known as D Stone, Clarkston High School graduate, class of 2000, will play live, 10 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 26, Hamlin Pub, 6397 Sashabaw Road.

D Stone plays modern alternative/rock music, acoustically. A musician working through Lorio Ross Sterling Entertainment, this is his first local show in Clarkston.

Yoga Classes, Wednesdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 27. 18 and older. \$70/residents, \$75/non-residents. \$12/walkin. Springfield Township Civic Center, upper level Conference Room, 12000 Davisburg Rd. 248-634-0412.

Lego Robotics, 6-7 p.m., Thursdays, Jan. 10-March 6. Grades 4-8. Levels 1 and 2. \$40/residents, \$45/non-residents. Hart Community Center, Davisburg. 248-634-0412.

Catapults/Trebuchet, 7:15-8:15 p.m., Thursdays, Jan. 10-March 6. History, science, construction of tabletop Storm the Castle launcher. Grades 4-8. \$40/residents, \$45/non-residents. Hart Community Center, Davisburg. 248-634-0412.

Animal Track T-shirts, learn about winter animal tracks, stamp prints on shirts, 1 p.m., Jan. 12. \$2/child. Nature Center, Indian Springs Metropark. 248-625-7280.

Lab-tabulous Science Experiments for Kids, 1 p.m., Jan. 12. Environmental Discovery Center, Indian Springs Metropark. \$2/child. 248-625-7280.

Grace Under Pressure, self-confidence, coordination, self-discipline, self-defense. 7-8 p.m., Tuesdays, Jan. 15-March 25. 5 years and up. \$30/residents, \$35/non-residents. Hart Community Center, Davisburg. 248-634-0412.

Sanchin Ryu Karate: K-8th grade, 6-7 p.m., Tuesdays, Jan. 15-March 25, \$30/residents, \$35/non-residents. Adult and family, 5 years and up, 7-9 p.m., Jan. 15-March 25, \$45/resident, \$90/family; \$50/non-residents, \$95/family. Hart Community Center, Davisburg. 248-634-0412.

Annual Fish Dinner, 5 p.m., Jan. 19, Davisburg United Methodist Church, 803 Broadway. \$9/adults, \$5/children ages 5-12, \$1/children 4 and under. Proceeds benefit local charities. 248-634-3373.

Infant, Child & Adult CPR, 6-9 p.m., Jan. 24. 10 and older. \$30/residents, \$35/non-residents. Springfield Township Civic Center, upper level Conference Room, 12000 Davisburg

Continued on page 3B

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Success means knowing yourself

Continued from page 1B

He moved to Independence Township from Farmington Hills in 1989 with his family, wife Luanne, and children Ingrid and Ciri.

"We were looking around for where to live and someone I worked with suggested Clarkston," he said. "I love the area. Everyone lives here for the same reasons - proximity to everything Detroit has to offer, the countryside. It's a very caring community."

An opportunity to contribute to the book "Speaking of Success" emerged from his speaking experiences, including paid, keynote addresses in California, Nevada, Minnesota, Tennessee, and throughout Michigan.

"In addition, I had the privilege to speak at over 100 Rotary and Optimist clubs throughout the eastern U.S. the two years following release of my first book," he said.

He is writing a third book, "Best of the Best," set for February.

"I don't expect to get rich from my books," he said. "They're there to support the message - help people take something concrete away."

His advice for new authors: "Think in terms of what you can do, first. Disregard thoughts of what you can't do. Turn thoughts of what you can't do into thoughts of what you can do."

The Serenity Prayer - "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference" - wraps up this philosophy well, he said.

A book signing and meet-the-author event is set for 6:30-8 p.m., Jan. 15, at Springfield Township Library. He is also set to speak on "Speaking of Success" for Lake Orion Sunrise Rotary Club at CJ's Cafe, Lake Orion, 7:15-8:30 a.m., Thursday, March 13.

For more information, call 248-895-0016 or check www.intheirpresence.com.

Around Town

Continued from page 2B
Rd. 248-634-0412.

Beneath the Ice, examine organisms living under a frozen pond, 1 p.m., Jan. 26, Environmental Discovery, Indian Springs Metropark. \$1.50/child. 248-625-7280.

Night Sky Navigation, 1 p.m., Jan. 27. \$3/child. CUBEX Planetarium, Nature Center, Indian Springs Metropark. 248-625-7280.

Adventures of Babysitting workshop, 7-8:45 p.m., Jan. 31, Springfield Township Civic Center, upper level Conference Room, 12000 Davisburg Rd. Care of infants/children; growth and development; emergencies; safety precautions. Bring an infant-size doll and blanket. 8-14 years. \$22/residents, \$27/non-residents. 248-634-0412.

Mothers & More, non-profit dedicated to improving lives of mothers through support, education, advocacy, 7 p.m., third Monday, Red Knapp's Restaurant, 6722 Dixie Highway. 248-969-9788.

BNI, Clarkston-Waterford Chapter, 7 a.m., Tuesdays, Liberty Golf & Banquet Center, 6060 Maybee Road. Call Cheryl Bean at 248-625-7550.

Gentle Yoga, 8:30 a.m., Tuesdays, through Dec. 11. \$32 for seven weeks. Carriage House, Independence Township Senior Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

De-Stress Gentle Yoga, 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, through Dec. 19. \$28 for 6 weeks Carriage House, Independence Township Senior Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

Knit or crochet program, second and fourth Wednesday, 7-8:30 p.m., Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. All levels welcome. Tea and coffee served. 248-625-2212.

Clarkston Area Lions Club, second and fourth Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., Carriage House, next to the Senior Center, in Clintonwood Park. Visitors welcome. 248-802-8603.

LBN - Independence Township Chapter, 7:15 a.m., second and fourth Thursdays, North Oakland County Board of Realtors, 4400 W. Walton. Call Stacy Meagher, 248-241-6000.

Movies & Munchies, 1:30 p.m., every third Thursday. Springfield Twp. Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

[Attention Oakland County Residents]

Have we met?

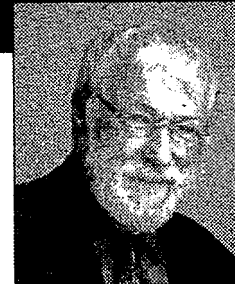
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Milestones

Students achieve success

Berkley Bretschneider, fourth-grade student at Clarkston Elementary, with Principal Dana Pennanen, was honored by the Clarkston Area Optimist Club as December Student Citizen of the Month.



In our country's service...

Air Force Tech. Sgt. **Shannon M. Sanders** deployed overseas to a forward operating base to support the missions of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Sanders, security forces journeyman with 15 years of military service, and is assigned to the 96th Security Forces Squadron, Eglin Air Force Base, Valparaiso, Fla.

She is the daughter of Gerald and Marcia Simpson of Higden, Ark., and sister of Brian Simpson of Clarkston.

Her husband, James is the son of Ann Sanders of Milton, Fla., and Malcolm Sand-

ers of Gulf Breeze, Fla.

The sergeant is a 1991 graduate of Waterford Mott High School.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class **Mark S. Rice**, son of Susanne and Brian K. Rice of Clarkston, recently completed Naval Nuclear Power Training Pipeline.

Rice received instruction about nuclear theory, chemistry, physics, reactor operations, safety and security. Upon completion of the course, Rice qualified as a naval nuclear operator.

He is a 1999 graduate of Lake Orion High School.

Poetry corner

An Old Friend

My friend is the coolest, greatest guy—
Loves the grey cold wintery sky.
Never complain about anything—
Looks forward to whatever the seasons bring.

He is a perfect gentle man—
Adjusts to life the best he can.
He's visited my life for 70 years
and has witnessed many childhood cheers.

He's a friend that comes and goes—
often leaves when the spring wind blows.
He wears a brown treed Stetson hat
and loves a kindly touch or pat.

His sparkling eyes are as dark as coal—
a smiling face is always his goal.
He's sure a man with a distinctive style,
his pipe, held firmly within his smile.

He sports a long, snappy scarf of wool
that the neighborhood dogs always try to pull.
He's been around for such a long, long time,
yet year after year — he's still in his prime.

He's strictly a cold weather type of guy,
so when he leaves, I just smile and nod goodbye.
I will cherish him as long as I can
because, all along — leaving was part of the plan.

— *Claudia Gooden*
Springfield Township

Got a Milestone to share?

Drop them off at our downtown office at 5 S. Main St. or e-mail them to shermanpub@aol.com, attn: Clarkston News Milestones.



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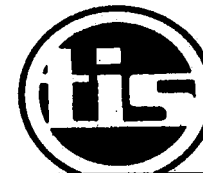
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Religion

Christmas story tells of God's love

Next week we will be celebrating Christmas.

Christmas is the celebration of the incarnation. For Christians this refers to the time when God became a human person in order to dwell with His people.

The non-Christian person, as well as some Christians, deem this concept hard to fathom. They ask, "How could God be 'made flesh' and dwell with His people?"

The doctrine of Christ that most Christians adhere to is that Jesus Christ was truly man as well as being truly God. His human body was the result of the conception in the womb of His mother Mary with the seed for His body being the Word of God.

This is why the scriptures also say, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

The Christian God by nature is a triune being.

He is God the Father which is the source.

When He speaks and His word proceeds from Him it is the action or creative part of God.

The third aspect of His nature is His Spirit.

When Mary consented to the will of the Father, the Holy Spirit then overshadowed her and the word she re-

ceived became the child we call the Son of God.

The important lesson in all of this is that God is a God who wants to interact with His creation. God wants to be a part of His creation and He certainly wants to interact with people.

I always find this to be amazing.

The God who is all powerful and the God who fills and sustains all things wants to be a part of our individual lives. I often tell people that the most amazing thing to me is not how big God is but rather how small He is willing to become in order to enter our world.

When we see the image of the nativity we should be so awed by the fact that God was willing to stoop so low to reach His people.

Although the Christ was truly a king, He came in a humble fashion because God does not just care about the big shots and who we would assume to be important people but He cares about everyone from the least to the greatest.

When I was a child I was very introverted. I was shy and kept to myself. I had a large family of eight brothers and sisters.

To me that was a big enough world for me to find happiness.

As a young child I heard the story of Jesus Christ and invited Him into my life. The great God who created the

Please see *Spiritual Matters*, page 7B

Spiritual Matters



Pastor Loren Covarrubias

In our churches...

Giving tree, for people in need through Lighthouse North, Peace Unity, at Sashabaw Presbyterian, 5300 Maybee Road. 248-891-4365.

Christmas Eve Service, 4 p.m., Dec. 24, Bridgewood Church, 6765 Rattalee Lake Road. Special music by Waterford Kettering Chamber Orchestra. 248-625-1344.

Prayer Partner Training, 10:30 a.m., second Sunday. Participants will receive a prayer syllabus. All welcome. Peace Unity, at Sashabaw Presbyterian, 5300 Maybee Road. 248-891-4365.

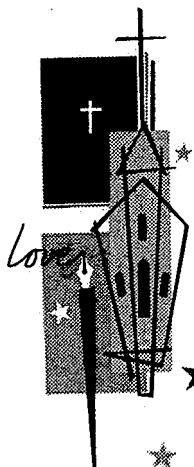
God is Closer Than You Think, video/book discussion series by John Ortberg, Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings, Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass in Clarkston, SW corner of M-15 and I-75. 248-625-3288.

Bethany North, peer support to all faiths dealing with divorce or separation, general meeting, 7:30 p.m., fourth Monday, Cushing Center, St. Daniel Catholic Church, 7010 Valley Park, call Tim, 248-628-6825, or Joann. 248-673-2539. www.bethanyofsoutheasternmichigan.org.

Wednesday Evening Feast - Food for Body and Soul, 6:10 p.m., praise and worship at 7 p.m., classes for all ages from 7:15-8:30 pm. Nursery provided. Through Nov. 14. Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive, I-75 and

Please see *In Our Churches*, page 7B

CHURCH DIRECTORY



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website: <http://www.hollypc.org>
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Rev. Dr. Randy Cullen, new pastor
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11:00 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Worship Service
Wed: 6:45 pm AWANA
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Located 2 blks. N. of Dixie Hwy. (E. of M-15)
Pastor: Russell Reemtsma
Sun: 9:30 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship
10:30 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Evening Service
Wed: 6:15 pm Awana Club
6:30 pm Teen Ministry
7:00 pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

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Nursery Available: 9:00 & 11:00 am
Religious Education: 625-1750
Mother's Group, RCIA, Scripture Study, Youth Group

CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston
248-625-1611
Website: clarkstonumc.org
Sunday Worship:
9:00 am & 11:15 am
Sunday Connection Service:
6:00 pm
Fellowship Time:
10:00 am & 12:15 pm
Nursery available for both services
Children's Sunday School:
9:00 am, 10:10 am
& 11:15 am service
Adult Sunday School: 10:10 am
Sunday Youth Groups:
Grades 6-7 - 5:00pm,
Grades 8-9 & 10-12 - 7:00 pm

OAKLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Services held at Mount Zion Center
4453 Clintonville Rd. at Mann Rd., Waterford, MI
Sunday School at 9:15 am
Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 am
Bible Study Wed. Eve. at 7:00 pm
Family Dinner before at 6:30 pm
Church Property - Yellow House
7205 Clintonville Rd., Clarkston, MI
Office Address:
404 Cesar E. Chavez Av., Pontiac, MI
Phone (248) 858-2577
Fax (248) 858-7706

CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
6805 Bluegrass Drive, Clarkston
(W. of M-15, just S. of I-75)
625-3288
Sunday Worship:
8:15 am (traditional worship)
9:30 am (blended worship)
11:00 am (contemporary praise)
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9:30 (Seasonal)
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Fax: (248) 394-2142
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Bible Study
Wednesday 7:00 pm
Youth Groups 6-12
Wednesday 6:30 pm
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(248) 625-1344
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Lake Views
Exciting ranch w/a finished walkout equals 3,700 sq. ft. w/hardwood, Corian, and vaulted ceilings throughout. Unmatched 1-acre setting w/lake frontage and park views. **\$489,000 25-CED**



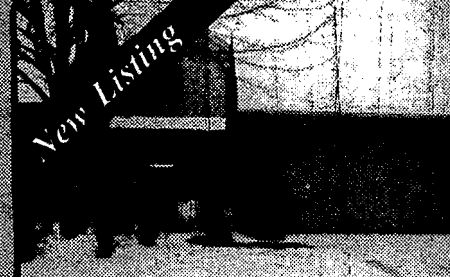
New Listing
Exquisite ex-model w/ 2,918 sq. ft. plus a finished walkout. 4 bdrms include an entry level master, 3 full and 1 half baths, and a 3+ car garage. Newer, popular Clarkston sub. **\$380,000 45-AVA**



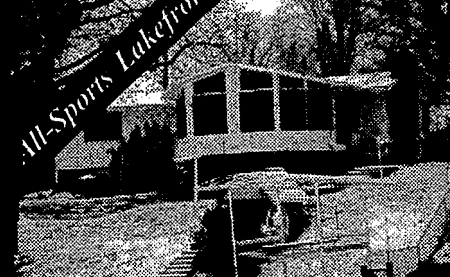
New Listing
3,100 pristine sq. ft. accented w/9 to 20-ft. ceilings, hardwood floors, and granite t/o. Entry level master suite + 3 bedrooms, 3 full and 1 half baths, finished basement, and 3-car garage. **\$374,777 56-GOL**



New Listing
Prepare to be wowed. 2,500+ sq. ft. w/ hardwoods, ceramic, stone, and recessed lighting t/o. Entry level master suite w/posh bath, finished basement, and situated in a coveted sub. **\$314,900 66-DEE**



New Listing
Stylish 3 bedroom, 3 bath, private entry condo flaunts aff entry level master suite, hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, first floor laundry, and a finished basement. **\$260,000 59-WHI**



All-Sports Lakefront
Sun drenched Big Lake ranch restored w/ delicious charm t/o all 1,600+ sq. ft.: hardwood and ceramic canvases, three-season porch, stylish fixtures, built-ins, and a sandy beach. **\$259,900 62-WER**



New Price
2004-construction w/1,900 modern sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 full and 1 half baths, vast hardwood floors, cathedral living room w/ fireplace, sprinklers, and Watkins lake privileges. **\$225,000 40-LAK**



New Construction
An enticing new Clarkston community w/ Clarkston Schools boasting an shocking price tag coupled with a low-maintenance lifestyle. 4 dramatic floor plans from which to choose. From the high-100's **WIL**



Oversized Lot
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New Construction
Clarkston's newest and most affordable condo community boasts space-saving floor plans, designer amenities, private garage w/storage loft, and a near-village locale. From the low-100's **TRI**



Spiritual Matters

continued from 5B

heavens and the earth was willing to become small enough to enter my world.

Through the process of time He has indeed made my world much larger.

People who knew me when I was young would never believe my life would be as large as it now is.

I founded and pastor what is referred to as a mega-church. I have a television ministry that reaches the nations of the world and

regularly visit many nations of the world. My big world started when the great big God became small enough to come into my then small world.

Do you know that Christ wants to come into your world? It does not matter how insignificant you feel yourself to be, to God you are as important to Him as you will let Him be!

Loren Covarrubias is pastor of Mt. Zion Temple.

In our churches

continued from 5B

M-15. 248-625-3288.

Calvary Lutheran Church has a weekly **Wednesday Evening FEAST**. Dinner is served at 6 p.m., worship at 6:50 p.m. and classes for all ages from 7:15- 8:30 p.m. The church offers a free nursery. Calvary Lutheran Church at 6805 Bluegrass Drive in Clarkston at the southwest corner of M-15 and I-75. Call the church for more information at 248-625-3288.

Church of the Resurrection has **bible study**

every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Study is currently on "Paul's letter to the Romans." Church of the Resurrection is located at 6490 Clarkston Road. Call 248-625-2325 for more information.

St. Daniel Catholic Church holds **Rainbows meetings** on Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. in the Cushing Center. Rainbows is an outreach program for children and adults dealing with change in their lives due to death, divorce or other significant loss. St. Daniel Catholic Church is located at 7010 Valley Park Drive. Call 248-625-1750.

Interesting activities at your church?
Call us at 248-625-3370 or e-mail ClarkstonNews@gmail.com



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Obituary

Marjorie A. Hood

Marjorie A. Hood of Clarkston passed away Dec. 12 at the age of 84.

She was born Aug. 22, 1923, in Kansas City, Kansas. She was the beloved wife of the late Paul; beloved mother of Paul, Jr., Eric, and Andrea (Floyd) Hirsch of Clarkston and Mark (Karen) of Traverse City. Mrs. Hood is also survived by six grandchildren and five great grandchildren who loved her dearly.

She met her husband on a blind date in 1942 and was more than a little amused by his repeated and determined efforts to keep his pipe lit that night. Apparently, sparks of a different kind must have flown as well on that first date, as they married in 1944 and never parted.

Marge, who was an accomplished raconteur, loved to regale her children and grandchildren with the great adventure the newlyweds experienced living in downtown Chicago during the latter months of World War II. Paul was stationed there with the Navy and Marge worked at IBM — in the dawn of the computer era — as a punch-card handler.

In the early 1950s, Paul took a job as an automotive engineer at General Motors. Marge and her four young children soon joined him.

In 1956, they settled in Clarkston — and never left.

She returned to work in 1962 as the second employee an energetic 27 year-old pediatrician named James A. O'Neill. This practice became Clarkston Medical Group and Marge stayed on as Dr. O'Neill's office manager for nearly 30 years.

For almost two decades, she and her husband enjoyed a nearly ideal retirement. When



she wasn't hosting one or three grandchildren, she and Paul traveled throughout the United States and Europe.

In the early 1990's, Marge became interested in genealogy. She traced her family back to the early 19th century, visiting Sweden, Iowa, and Minnesota while gathering information firsthand.

Mrs. Hood had many and varied interests, including a huge collection of Roseville pottery. But, her main interest was discovering new things and new places.

She was a charter member of Calvary Lutheran Church, where she worshipped, served on the board, and remained very engaged in this congregation she loved for over 40 years.

Perhaps, more than anything, Mrs. Hood will be remembered for her towering and never-ending love and concern for her family. Her door was always open and her guest room made-up. She paid attention to every body and never forgot a birthday.

Funeral Service was Dec. 15 at the Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Dr., Clarkson. Visitation was Dec. 14 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment Lakeview Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Calvary Lutheran Church or The Michigan Humane Society. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com

Myrtle Mae 'Sis' Hutchinson

Myrtle Mae "Sis" Hutchinson of Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., formerly of Waterford, and Port Charlotte, Fla., passed away at the age of 80. Jesus called and Sis answered to be with her family in heaven on Dec. 15.

She was preceded in death by her husband Robert Sr. She was the mother of Betty (Edward) Tingley of Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., Roberta (Paul) Capistrant of Atlanta, Mich., Roger Hutchinson of Mt. Pleasant, and the late Earl; stepmother of Robert (the late Pam) Hutchinson Jr of Waterford, Carl (Sandy) Hutchinson of Waterford, Carolann (James) Reed of Davisburg, Donna (Robert) Knight of Fairview, and the late Glenn; mother in law of Barbara Conser of Clinton Twp., and Mary Hutchinson of Ga.; sister of Earl King of Fla.; also survived by five grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, and many step grandchildren and step great grandchildren. She was like a mother to Sandy Waltz.

Steve Smith, Hudson & Ann Wells and William and Mary Knight. She was preceded in death by her siblings Benjamin King, William King, Carl King, Charles King, Virginia Simpson, Betty Jones, Bessie Yankulic and Jessie Rust.

Thank you to Caris Hospice and Pam Holland. Sis was active in community service, and never wanted anyone to be hungry. She was a member of Church of God and Joseph C. Bird Eastern Star of Clarkston.

Funeral Service Thursday, Dec. 20, 10 a.m., at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston, where friends may visit Wednesday 3-5 and 7-9 p.m. Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to your church of choice or Community Christmas Card Program, PO Box 1425, Columbia, TN 38402.

On line guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com

Donna Marie Green (Paulson)

Donna Marie Green (Paulson) of Davisburg, born in Flint, passed away Dec. 15 at the age of 53.

She was the wife of Allen "Huck"; mother of Krista Paulson of Sterling Heights, Leigh Ann Green of Davisburg, Jake Green of Sterling Heights, and Katie Green of Davisburg; sister of Richard (Alecyn Griffin) Paulson of Linden and Lisa (Chris George) Bey of Clarkston; daughter of Donald (Wanda) Paulson of Presque Isle; also survived by many special nieces. She was preceded in death by her mother; Joan Paulson, and twin brothers Richard



and Nicholas Paulson.

Mrs. Green enjoyed entertaining her family and friends, especially cooking and caring for their children.

Funeral service Wednesday, Dec. 19, 11 a.m., at Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Inurnment Lakeview Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Cranbrook Hospice. Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Barbara L. Schwallie

Barbara L. Schwallie passed away Dec. 9 at Cape Coral Hospital, Cape Coral, Fla., at the age of 81.

Mrs. Schwallie was born in Pontiac on Sept. 2, 1926, the eldest child of Ruth and Frank Lamb. She married Lynn G. Schwallie on Nov. 3, 1945. Upon her husband's retirement in 1983, they moved from Rochester to North Fort Myers, Fla., where she remained after his death.

She was the beloved mother of Karen and Richard Schwallie; sister of the late James Lamb; and also survived by many cousins, nephews and nieces.

Private family arrangements have been entrusted to the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Obituaries are updated daily at ClarkstonNews.com

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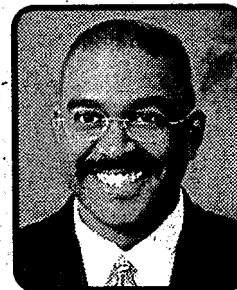
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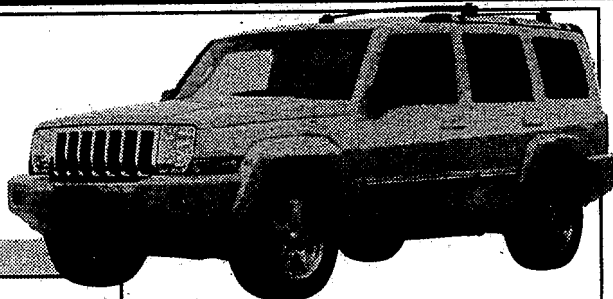
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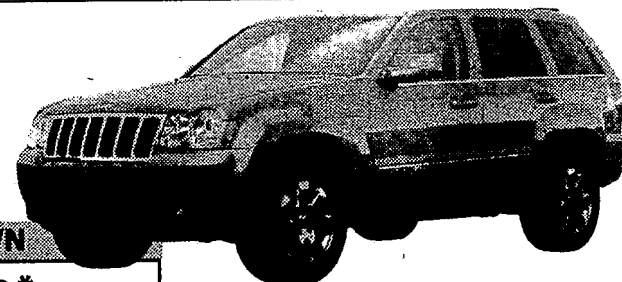


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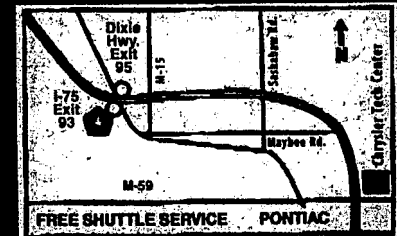
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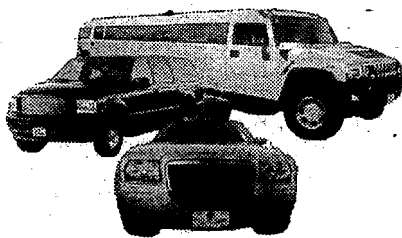
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248-620-6100

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248-620-8800

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Because the People Want to Know

CLARKSTON
CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON
375 DEPOT ROAD
CLARKSTON MI 48346
PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST
FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2008

The City of the Village of Clarkston announces a Public Accuracy Testing of the computer program on Friday, January 4, 2008, at 10:30 a.m. for the January 15, 2008, Presidential Primary Election.
This testing will be held at the City Hall, 375 Depot Road, Clarkston, Michigan.

Artemus M. Pappas, Clerk
City of the Village of Clarkston

PUBLIC NOTICE
Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Independence Township Board of Appeals will meet on Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at 7:30 PM at the Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road, Clarkston, MI 48346 to hear the following cases:

Case #08-0001 Fulton, Robert, Petitioner
APPLICANT REQUESTS 26' SETBACK VARIANCE FROM FUTURE ROAD RIGHT OF WAY TO CONVERT EXISTING SECOND HOME TO DETACHED GARAGE PLUS CONSTRUCT SECOND STORY ADDITION TO EXISTING HOME ON NON-CONFORMING LOT OF RECORD
4653 Sashabaw Rd., Lot 39 and Part of 40, R-1A
Lake Oakland Hills
08-34-455-017

Case #08-0002 Sakalian, Matt, Petitioner
APPLICANT REQUESTS VARIANCE TO CONSTRUCT SECOND SUBDIVISION ENTRY SIGN (IDENTICAL TO SIGN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION)
6150 & 6140 Waldon Rd., 11.96 Acres, PRO/R-1A
Cambridge Commons
08-21-400-032, 033 & 013

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT THE ABOVE REQUESTS MAY BE EXAMINED at the Township Building Department during regular business hours. Written comments may be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals c/o the Independence Township Building Department, 90 N. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346 prior to the Public Hearing. For further information call (248) 625-8111.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelagh VanderVeen, Clerk

The Township will provide the necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at a public hearing/meeting upon advance notice in writing or by calling the Township Building Department (248) 625-8111

PUBLIC NOTICE
Because the People Want to Know

CLARKSTON
NOTICE OF ELECTION
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION
JANUARY 15, 2008

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON

To the Qualified Electors:
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Presidential Primary Election will be held in:

The City of the Village of Clarkston
County of Oakland, State of Michigan
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2008

THE POLLS will be open

7 o'clock a.m. until 8 o'clock p.m.

ALL POLLING PLACES ARE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE
BRILLE AND AUDIO VERSIONS OF VOTING INSTRUCTIONS ARE AVAILABLE

AT THE POLLING PLACE LISTED BELOW:

375 Depot Road, Clarkston, MI 48346 (Precinct 1)
FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING CANDIDATES OF ALL PARTICIPATING POLITICAL PARTIES FOR THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

PRESIDENTIAL: President of the United States
AV BALLOTS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM:

City of the Village of Clarkston
375 Depot Road
Clarkston, MI 48346
Phone: (248) 625-1559

FILE NO:
2007-314, 039-DE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF OAKLAND

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

Estate of RONALD L. KEENER, DECEASED. Date of birth: 5/14/1942

TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, RONALD L. KEENER, DECEASED who lived at 6200 Eastlawn, Clarkston, Michigan died November 19, 2007.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to TINA KEENER and EDWARD KEENER, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, Michigan 48341-0449 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

ROBERT G. ISGRIGG, JR. P-24924
TINA KEENER and EDWARD KEENER
2745 Pontiac Lake Road 1218 Bay Ct./7040 Riegler St
Waterford, Michigan 48328 Holly/Grand Blanc, MI 48442-48439
(248) 682-8800 248-467-0266

PUBLIC NOTICE
Because the People Want to Know

CLARKSTON
CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON
375 DEPOT ROAD
CLARKSTON MI 48346

SUMMARY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2007

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Mayor Catallo.
Roll Present: Catallo, Brueck, Gawronski, Inabnit, Johnston; Roth.

Absent: Ottman
Minutes of November 26, 2007, accepted as presented with one correction.

Agenda accepted as presented with the addition of DTE Tree Planting Grant under New Business and City Manager Search moved to Committee Reports.

Bills in the amount of \$72,406.50 approved for payment. Inabnit reported that Mayor Catallo, Ottman, Inabnit, and Pappas met with MML representative Heather VanPoucker for guidance in establishing a procedure for the City Manager search. Inabnit asked Council to review the three items that were furnished by the MML and be prepared to discuss these at the January 14 meeting.

The entire Council congratulated the Chamber of Commerce and all those involved in the Parade of Lights for yet another successful parade this year.

Johnston attended an Oakland County seminar and reported that there will be forums conducted regarding sharing of services and these will probably take place in January or February.

Gawronski reported on the Planning Commission meeting where the Master Plan was discussed and new members were briefed on what has been happening with the Master Plan review. On Thursday, December 13, at 7:30 p.m., there will be an Independence Township meeting regarding the proposed Beaumont Hospital project to be held in the Independence Township Library.

Brueck reported that the University of Michigan students gave a presentation on Depot Park in November. The final report is expected in March. Brueck will arrange for a future presentation to Council and interested parties by the University of Michigan group. The Police Department had two vehicles on loan from General Motors and these were also used during the parade.

Fursley reported that two D.P.W. employees worked on the Light Parade setup. Fursley is obtaining estimates on moving the pole in front of the South Main where vehicles have in the past knocked down the light poles at this location. Fursley responded to the recent memo from Johnston regarding D.P.W. activities.

Resolved That the City of the Village of Clarkston participate in the Road Condition Survey recommended by the Road Commission for Oakland County and performed by the State Corporation.

Resolved by that the Council adopt the MDOT Performance Resolution for Government Bodies (copy attached to official Minutes) to be used in the annual MDOT application for banners and street closings.
Resolved to request waive of recapture of 2006 CDBG funds.

Pappas reported that the Employees Health Insurance would be increasing by \$31.70 per month. This will be considered at the next Budget preparation.

Resolved that the Council authorize the application for the 2008 DTE Tree Grant as proposed by Johnston.
Laura Colvin reported that The Clarkston News was receiving donations for Lighthouse, Davsburg Rotary and Neighbor for Neighbor to serve needy families during the Christmas season.
Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Artemus M. Pappas
Clerk



Back from left: Clarkston Freemasons Joseph Power, Greg Grant, Tom Braun, Thomas A. Braun, Eric Kimminan, David Stover, Daniel Jenks, Kenneth Klimek; middle from left, Todd Vanderbilt, Lawrence Hess; and Jack Hess in front.

Masons install new officers

BY TREVOR KEISER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

New officers hold the reins at Clarkston's Cedar Lodge No. 60 F. & A.M.

The freemasons' 154th installation of officers took place Dec. 15 at the Clarkston Masonic Temple, 1 East Washington Street.

"It's a remarkable thing - your peers that are in the lodge with you decide that you are worthy and qualified enough to lead our group," said Lawrence Hess, worshipful master for 2008.

"It's a remarkable feeling. I can't even explain the feeling inside you get, the faith that everybody has in you to do this."

The freemasons have been in this community since 1854 and their current lodge since 1868, said Tom Braun, secretary for 2008.

"We do a lot of work with the histori-

cal society," said Braun. "We helped them with their barn walk, we were ushers. We helped them with their cemetery walk; we do a lot of things like that."

The lodge, as part of the Michigan Masons, also help host Michigan Child Identification Program event.

The program supplies parents with free, complete child identification kits, including dental impressions, DNA, color photo, finger prints, and a recorded interview.

"Our lodge in Michigan has more events than any other lodge when it comes the child identification, we've sponsored 21 events in the last three years," said Braun.

For more information about Michigan freemasons, visit www.michiganmasons.org.

For Clarkston's freemasons, check cedar60.masoniclodges.mi.org

Obituary

George Rynerson

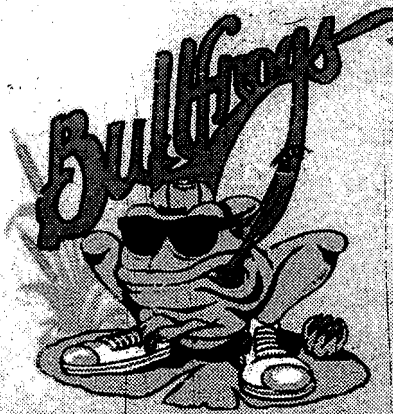
George Raymond Rynerson of White Lake passed away Dec. 13 at the age of 79.

He was preceded in death by his wife Marion, infant son Bruce and grandson Jason. He was the father of Laura Thompson and Sharon Rynerson both of Waterford, Terry and Tom Rynerson both of White Lake, and David (Rose) Rynerson of Cheboygan; grandpa of Mark (Audra) Rynerson, Nicole (Thompson, Chris (Jennifer) Rynerson; brother

of Buck (Alma) Rynerson of Fla. Mr. Rynerson retired from General Motor Truck & Bus. He enjoyed golfing, woodworking and was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Commerce Twp.

Funeral service was Dec. 18 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Inurnment White Chapel Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Alzheimers Assn. Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Best Image Possible



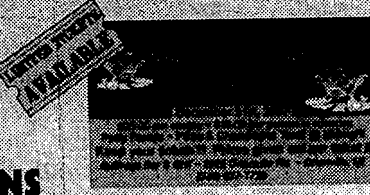
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00 Chevy Malibu L.S. Every Option, "Brand New," Only ...	3,988	00 Dodge Intrepid Power Moon, Loaded, 60K Miles, Only ...	4,988	02 Chevy Cavalier Z24 5 Speed, Power Moon, Like New, Only ...	5,988
96 Pontiac Sunfire Loaded, "Nice, Nice", Only ...	3,988	01 Saturn L200 Every Option, "Nice, Nice!!", Only ...	4,988	97 Jaguar Vanden Plas Perfect In Every Way, 88K Miles, Only ...	6,988
99 Grand Prix GTP Leather, Heads Up-Like New, Only ...	3,988	97 Jaguar XJ Sedan Loaded, "Nice, Nice", Only ...	5,988	97 BMW 540i Every Option, Just Perfect, Only ...	6,988
01 Dodge Neon ES Oh You Gotta See This One, Only ...	3,988	99 Cadillac Catera Leather, Moon, Chromes, Only 59K Miles For ...	5,988	02 Ford Taurus SE Look, 60K Miles, Only ...	6,988
01 Chevy Cavalier LS Loaded, "Brand New" Color, Only ...	3,988	00 VW Cabrio Convertible Just a "Nice, Nice" Car, Only ...	5,988	02 Chrysler PT Cruiser Limited Leather, Moon, Chromes, Like New, Only ...	6,988
86 Lincoln Town Car Every Option, 46K, Original Everything, Only ...	4,988	02 Chrysler Sebring Convertible LXI, Leather, Loaded, Gotta See At ...	5,988	00 Honda Accord EX Power Moon, Real Beauty, Only ...	7,988
				05 Ford Taurus SE Black, Wheels, Wing, Only ...	7,988
				02 Honda Accord EX V6, Leather, Moon, Like New, Only ...	11,988

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00 Windstar LX Loaded, Like New, Only ...	4,488	02 Grand Cherokee Laredo 4WD, One Of A Kind, Only ...	6,988	01 Lincoln Navigator 4WD, Every Option, "Brand New," Only ...	11,988
01 Chevy Blazer LT 4x4 Runs Perfect, Like New, Only ...	4,988	00 Chevy Silverado 271 Longbox, Every Option, Loaded, Only ...	7,988	02 Ford Super Crew 4x4 Buckets, Astro Cab, "Brand New," Only ...	11,988
00 Jeep Cherokee Sport Black, Loaded, Like New, Only ...	5,488	99 Chevy Silverado 4x4 Loaded, Just Like New, Only ...	8,988	05 Chevy Trailblazer LS-4WD Every Option, Moon, 38K Miles, Only ...	12,988
02 Buick Rendezvous CX Black Beauty, "Nice, Nice", Only ...	5,988	00 Dodge Ram 4x4 Black Beauty, Only 74K Miles, Loaded ...	9,488	04 Ford F250 Crew Cab FX4, Powerstroke, Loaded, Like New, Only ...	20,988
		99 Mercedes ML 320 Just Perfect, Every Option, Only ...	9,988	04 Ford F350 Ext Cab 4x4 Power Stroke, Only 70K Miles For ...	21,988
		01 Ford Super Crew 4x4 XLT, Loaded, Like New, Only ...	10,988		

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