

Cold feet? Maybe, but these girls were happy to take their shoes off and enjoy the warm weather at Depot Park. For more pictures of Clarkstonites enjoying the long overdue spring weather, please see page 12B. Photo by Laura Colvin

Beaumont returns with high hopes

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Beaumont Hospital is back before township planners Thursday.

Independence Township Planning Commission is set to consider conceptual site plan approval April 10, for Beaumont's Life Care Campus on the corner of I-75 and M-15.

"Certainly it was very clear when we were there last December there were a few issues that remained, but what we're mainly concerned about is the quality of healthcare we can bring to the area and the support we can bring the community," said Eric Hunt, vice president of operations for William Beaumont Hospital ambulatory services.

"We are trying to be very sensitive to the concerns that have been raised by the residents and the planning commission throughout this 2-year process."

Beaumont made changes to their site plan, reducing its size, relocating buildings, creating a nature park, and trying to make this site compatible with surrounding area and master plan, Hunt said.

Some issues the board wanted clarified when they tabled the issue last December included traffic for all three phases, a complete break-

down of tax revenue, and impact on wetlands.

"We've made progress with every issue that was brought up last time," said Hunt. "We think we've provided the answers to the commission on each of those issues and we're ready to go back and present our case. We believe we're ready for conceptual review approval."

Sam Moraco, planning commission chairman, said there was not enough information at the last meeting and he hopes this meeting will give Beaumont a "clear direction" on the project.

"We are looking forward to having a full Please see Beaumont on page 12A

Township workers to unionize

Department heads, assistants turn to Teamsters

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer
With jobs on the line and

benefits packages beingthreatened, 16 of the 19 nonunion township employees have decided it's time to unionize.

"Over a number of years when it would come time for negotiations of the other unions, non-union always had to take a backseat and we did not have any say as to what our benefits or anything were," said Sharon Howard, Independence Township worker for 19 years.

Non-union employees, which include all full-time department directors, department assistant directors, and administrative assistants, filed a petition March 24 to join Teamsters Local 214, based out of Detroit

Dave Wagner, Independence Township supervisor, said it was a "disappointing day" for him.

"I've spent my life working with large groups that have been unionized and non-unionized and one of my strong points is the ability to get along with the workforce and have a very good working relationship with them," said Wagner

"It's unfortunate that it's had to come to this – to have this come up and take away all the positive things that are going on in the township is very disappointing."

Reasons for unionizing include proposed changes to the non-union personnel manual, said Dave Belcher, Building Department director.

A change to the Counseling and Discipline section would Please see Union on page 23A



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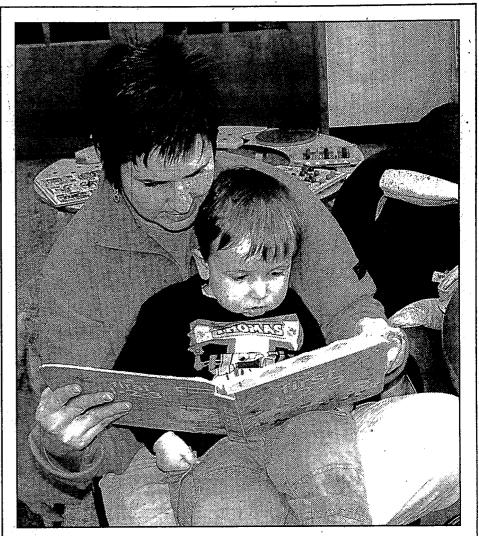
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Read to me

For Ellen Chiuppi and her son Joseph, curling up with a good book at the Independence Township Library was just the ticket for a cold, early spring day. *Photo by Trevor Keiser*

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Briefly . . . Rotary wine tasting April 9

Clarkston Rotary Club hosts "A Taste of Spring, a Wine Tasting Gala," 6:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 9, at Oakhurst Country Club, 7000 Oakhurst Lane in Independence Township.

The annual event features Michigan wines along with appetizers prepared by the staff at Oakhurst. Tickets are \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door. For tickets, call Bart Clark at 248-922-9166 of Jason Webster at 248-210-4925, or go to the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce, 5856 S. Main Street, 248-625-8055.

Proceeds benefit Clarkston Rotary's community projects.

Township, county network for public works

The Independence Township Board voted unanimously April 8 to sign a letter of commitment to join Oakland County's Collaborative Asset Management System.

System components will include computerized maintenance management system, customer request management, permitting application system, and real time sensors. The annual support cost for Independence Township will be \$6,587.

Check www.clarkstonnews.com, "Public works working with Oakland County," Oct. 10, 2007.

Final park plan presentation

Three University of Michigan graduate students who worked on a year-long project to develop a master plan for Depot Park will present the community with final blueprints April 16.

The students will share ideas for creating an ecological showcase in the park, including a flora/fauna and wetlands inventory; shoreline management; bioretention design; green infrastructure and building design, as well as educational opportunities.

The event is free and takes place 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, in the Independence Township Fire Station training room, 6500 Citation Drive.

Couple holds out hope for lost dog

BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

When Robert and Susanne Krouse called for help to rescue their companion from an icy pond, firefighters, police officers, and divers converged on the scene.

They tried their hardest, even though the victim is a dog.

"I would never have expected to receive this kind of service from these people," said Robert.

"I know Benny was 'just a dog', but he was our dog and as such, he was family—and the folks who came and searched made it clear through their actions and words that they understood that—and for that, I will always be grateful."

Robert was walking his dog, a 4-year-old beagle, near the pond in the woods next to I-75 and Allen Road, March 31.

"I always let him run loose because he simply lived to sniff out and chase rabbits," he said. "I am still not sure what happened, but just behind me I heard a loud splash and I looked around quickly. There was no sign of Benny, but some ice just off shore had been broken."

Robert jumped into the pond and looked for his dog. Unsuccessful, he called Susanne, who called the Osborns, their neighbors, Independence Township Fire Department, and Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

"They were very compassionate, very professional," Susanne said.

Firefighters went into the water with tethers and poles to continue the search. An Oakland County diver was called, and he used a tether to search under the ice.

"It had not occurred to me until then that this man was actually endangering his own life to try to locate our dog," Robert said.

"I watched the tether line stretch well under the ice shelf numerous times and each time it was retracted, I held my breath as the diver's hand would grip the ice shelf so he could pull himself to the surface. I waited to see Benny tucked under his other arm, but it never happened."

They searched until about 7 p.m., about three hours after Benny disappeared.

Robert and Suzanne printed "lost dog" flyers the next day at American Speedy Printing in Clarkston.

"We were told the price per flyer and I 6252588.



Robert and Susanne Krouse hold out hope they will find their dog, last seen at a pond off I-75. Photo by Phil Custodio

added quickly in my head. When the saleswoman presented the total, it was half that amount – they just wanted to help, she told us," Robert said. "After we left, my wife discovered they had provided several extra copies as well."

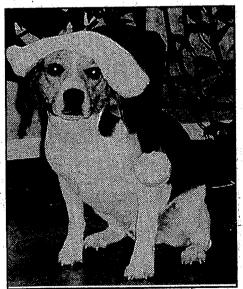
A week later, Robert and Susanne continue to search the woods around the pond.

"The diver told me he should have been able to find Benny – he should not have drifted far," Robert said. "Because of that, we are still holding out hope that he may somehow have escaped from the pond while I was going in and been so spooked that he ran off."

The pond is not very large and doesn't seem to have a current, he said.

"It's highly unusual that they wouldn't find Benny," Susanne said. "So we have some hope."

If anyone has seen Benny or knows where he might be, please call the Krouses at 248



Benny the Beagle, celebrating Christmas with the Krouses. *Photo submit-*



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Tammie White, banquet director at Deer Lake Banquet Center, with the Jeep Wrangler offered for raffle. Photo by Phil Custodio

Jeep raffle set April 19

The winner of this year's Jacqui Milzow Scholarship Fund car raffle won't need roads.

The all-black, fully loaded 208 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sahara 4-by-4 would do fine without them.

"We raffled sports cars before, which were especially attractive to women," said Tammie White, banquet director at Deer Lake Banquet Center.

"This is attactive to both men and women. It's a cute car."

Dinner and raffle drawing is set for 8:30 p.m., Saturday, April 19, at Deer Lake Banquet Center, 6167 White Lake Road. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Only 1,000 tickets will be sold at \$100 each. They provide a chance to win the Jeep, admission to the strolling dinner, a drink, and live entertainment.

Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the scholarship fund, a non-profit organization.

This year, it will provide two scholarships to graduating Pontiac Northern High School students for college, as well as two scholarships for Pontiac Northern students to attend Michigan State University's Osteo-Careers in Health and Medicine Program this

The residential program prepares minority students for careers in health and sciences by setting them up with medical progrssional mentors through courses, workshops, and

The fund also plans to donate \$5,000 to Clarkston SCAMP this summer.

The fund was created in 2006 in memory of Jacqui Milzow, 29-year teacher for Pontiac schools and co-founder of Deer Lake Athletic Club.

Tickets are available at Deer Lake. For more information, call 248-625-8686.

- Phil Custodio

Schools host anti-drug program

Kenneth Krygel from the Criminal Justice Training Center at Macomb Community College will discuss teen drug use April 16.

Joyce Neinhuiss, president of Clarkston High School's PTA, said the program is in response to the growing need to educate parents, guardians and staff on drugs.

"The program is eye-opening and surprising," said Neinhuiss.

Krygel will exhibit and explain drug paraphernalia, what they are and how they work. He will discuss ways young adults use the devices, and types of drugs including those used in club and date rape. He will talk about signs and symptoms to look for in teens. A handbook for parents will also be distributed.

"It opens adult's eyes to things that they weren't aware of," Neinhuiss said. "Adults think they may have been savvy in the 70's,

but this is a more up-to-date exposure on what the kids are using nowadays."

Many adults are unaware of the availability of these drugs and the methods in which they get them. The presentation will help to increase their awareness, she said.

The presentation is the last in a four-part series from January-April. It is the only one children are not allowed to attend - this is so teens won't learn ways of getting and using the drugs, she said.

The event will be at Clarkston Junior High School from 12:30-2:30 p.m. All adults in the community are welcome.

"Just because someone doesn't have a kid that attends Clarkston schools, doesn't mean they don't know a friends kid or have a niece or nephew that attends," she said.

- Lauren Halula

Springfield Garden Club ready for spring

BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

With spring planting just around the corner, Springfield Garden Club members are dusting off their gardening knowledge and seed packets.

The club maintains barrel planters in downtown Davisburg with seasonal flowers and plants.

. "People just love it," said Karen Price, club president. "They take pride in them. They add their own things."

They are also set to host Daffodils and Duds style show and luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 7, at Genesys Banquet Center.

"We'll have a variety of outfits modelled by club members," Price said. "It's fun, something women enjoy."

Proceeds from the show will fund scholarships, said Mary Bertolini, club founder.

"Since 1914, \$1 million in scholarships has been collected by little groups like this, through bake sales and style shows," she said.

Bertolini founded the Davisburg chapter of the Women's National Farm and Garden Club in 1999 with five members. It now has 20 members.

"There was no club in the area," Bertolini said.

"We get together and learn, and enjoy each other," said Price, who joined when she moved to Davisburg with her family six years ago.

"I was looking for friends and something to do during the day," she said. "This was a perfect entry into the community."

The club meets weekly with local experts, and hosts workshops, craft projects, potluck meals, seasonal parties, and trips locally and abroad.

"Once a year, we have a meeting about an herb — we study one herb and all the dishes have to have it," Price said. "Last year's was cinnamon."

They organize an international trip every three years, to places such as Finland, Tazmania, Canada, and China.

"We have a conference to explore women's issues," Price said.

The club is open to new members.

"We like gardening," Bertolini said. "It's an excellent way for women who are newly retired, empty nesters, or new to town to meet people of like mind who share similar interests."

Tickets to Daffodils and Duds, featuring Kim Rose Fashions, centerpieces by Cherie Korkus, silent auction, and door prizes, are \$25. Menu includes parmesan chicken, roasted redskin potatoes, sauteed green beans, and salad.

Genesys is located at 805 Health Park Blvd., Grand Blanc, off I-75 at evit 108

For more information, call Donna McDonald at 248-891-0900 or Lynda Carto, 810-695-3793.

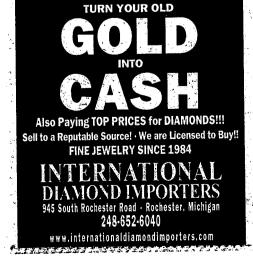


Springfield Garden Club members Mary Bertonlini, Karen Price, and Lynda Carto discuss upcoming events.











Out loud

A column by Laura Colvin

Grandbaby or murder story?

I'd just unloaded Ryan into his Exersaucer and gone back to the car for his diaper bag, my computer bag, camera gear and purse when the phone rang.

It was my editor, Phil.

"They found a couple of bodies on the side of I-75," he said. "Can you get down there?"

Bodies? The details were few, but it was obviously big news,

and it was my beat.

I looked at Ryan—my 8-month-old grandbaby, whom I'd just picked up after we finished production and put another edition of The Clarkston News to bed in Oxford last Tuesday.



I was instantaneously yanked in two directions.

What to do?

I made my choice, but it occurred to me later this must be how mothers feel when they try to balance a need for outside fulfillment with the desire for thislittle-piggy and peek-a-boo.

. I didn't have this problem when my daughter Christy was growing up. I made my way slowly through college one, two and sometimes three classes each semester while waitressing to bring in extra money.

If Christy was sick, or her third grade class was going on a field trip, I never thought twice about taking a day off.

But this, bodies-by-the-freeway thing, was different. I looked at Ryan and imagined packing him back up and calling Christy to say 'Honey, something came up at work and I have to bring RyRy back home.'

But I didn't want to. My time with him is precious, and I wanted to play and dance and giggle.

If I had to give that up and go, I would have done it—you don't shirk off a story about surveyors finding dead bodies in the brush. You just don't.

Luckily, I didn't have to go.

"Can anyone else do it?" I asked Phil. "I just got into the house with my Pumpkin."

He said he'd go, and I found out later that Lauren, our intern, went with him. They drove down, snapped some photos, listened to the sheriff's statement, then called the details in to assistant publisher

Please see Family on page 11A

The Clarkston News

Business owners for Beaumont

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

As business owners who live and work in Clarkston, we'd like to express our support for the Beaumont Life Care Campus project and ask the planning commission to do the same and grant its approval for the following reasons:

· A majority of the Clarkston community supports this project.

• The project will bring needed services

to our community, including Assisted and Independent Living apartments for seniors.

• The project will bring much-needed revenue to our city. It will generate roughly \$6 million in tax revenue over the next six years, from use of land that does not currently generate any revenue, as it is undeveloped.

· At a time when the Michigan economy is in a downward spiral and workers are seeking employment elsewhere, this project will create 1,500 high-paying jobs, including physicians, nurses, health-related support staff, clerical and other workers.

 Many of the professionals filling these new jobs will relocate to the Independence Township and Clarkston communities. They'll buy houses, pay property taxes, hire local contractors and services, dine in our restaurants and shop in our stores. This will help stabilize our local housing values and our local economy.

We firmly believe this project is good for our community and its residents and ask you to support it this Thursday at the planning commission meeting.

The meeting takes place at 7:30 p.m. at Clarkston Junior High School.

Sincerely,

Dan Rogers, owner, Interactive Financial Corporation; Mark Spelder, ISCO Industries LLC; Mary O'Donnell, president, Amyloidosis Research Foundation; Jim Eppink, president, J. Eppink Partners Inc.; Madeline Dishon, owner, RE/MAX Encore II; Brian Foster, co-owner, Stars and Stripes Gymnastics Academy; Kurt Miller, CPA, vice president, RDM Associates;

Mark Wayne, president and CEO, Freedom One; Steve Hyer, president, IGD Solutions

Clarkston Rotary's looking for ideas

Dear Editor.

The Clarkston Rotary Club is looking for a project to benefit our local community.

Around the world, 32,000 Rotary clubs operate along four avenues of service; club, international, vocational and local service.

Internationally, The Clarkston club has provided a well for a hospital in Nigeria, delivered polio drops to children in India, and provided eye care to people in Grenada and Peru.

Locally, you've no doubt seen the Rotary wheel identifying some of the local Rotary projects accomplished by the club since its charter in 1940.

Some of those are:

- · Purchased shoes and boots for local children in December;
 - Decorated the village Christmas tree;
 - Distributed Christmas Baskets;
 - Hosted a Christmas Program Party for

children:

- Awarded Good Driver Prizes for School;
- · Placed flag poles around the community;
- · Sponsored scoreboards at baseball diamonds at Clintonville Park;
- Helped in the construction of soccer fields:
- Assisted in the planning and the partial implementation of nature walkways;
- · Repaired a roof in Bay Court Park; and · Decorated the light poles downtown
- for Christmas. We are now looking for community input

for a new local project to undertake. What ideas do you have for us to consider?

Send your ideas to: Rotarian Jason Webster c/o Clarkston Rotary P.O. Box 43 Clarkston, MI 48347

Jason Webster Clarkston Rotary Club

A Look Back

From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 1993

"Inventors creatively solve everyday problems" Clarkston Elementary fourthgraders' inventions included Sled-o-Matic, Super Barrette Babysitter, and the Dog Walker 2000 robot, made from a selfpropelled vacuum cleaner, much to the distress of the dog.

"Supreme Court won't hear school case" The state's highest court declined to hear a lawsuit by Springfield Christian Academy against Michigan Department of Education. The private school argued the state wanted too much control.

"New pumper bolsters fire department" Independence Township Fire Department bought an \$180,000 truck with fully enclosed cab, a new requirement at the time. The truck had 750-gallon water tank.

25 years ago - 1983

"Preschoolers display elegance" The Clarkston School of Good Manners taught 4-year-olds what is and is not socially acceptable on the telephone, visiting friends, and at church, library, movies, and other quiet places.

"Pink-slip ax falls on 28 teachers" More than 100 teachers stood solemnly when the names were read of 28 Clarkston teachers to be laid off for the 1984 school year. They did not remain silent - several objected to the number of layoffs in comments before and after the vote.

"Debate's on over hiring two more firefighters" Independence Township Treasurer Frederick Ritter wanted two more firefighters added to the township fire department, but he faced opposition from the board.

50 years ago - 1958

"Large crowd at Science Fair" Hundreds of parents and students inspected the various projects at the fair. Winning projects explored highfrequency electricity, theories of evolution, and development of chicken

"Ray Ackerson to celebrate birthday" Ackerson, one of the founders of the Clarkston Masonic Lodge and Clarkston State Bank, celebrated his 86th birthday April 13.

"Science journal workers meet" Students at Clarkston and Pontiac Central high schools were working together to write a national publication. Norman Powell was asked to report on United States missile development.

Please see page 8A for more Letters to the Editor

A 2-part Jottings: from pulpit and pen

First "A Pastor with Guts" article gleaned from the U.P's *Porcupine Press*.

Pastor Joe Wright gave this unexpected prayer at the opening session of the Kansas Senate:

"Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask your forgiveness and to seek your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, 'Woe to those who call evil good,' but that is exactly what we have done.

"We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values.

"We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery.
"We have rewarded laziness and called it

welfare.
"We have killed our unborn and called it

choice.
"We have shot abortionists and called it jus-

tifiable.

"We have neglected to discipline our chil-

dren and called it building self esteem.

"We have abused power and called it poli-

tics.

"We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it ambition.

"We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression.

"We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment. "Search us, Oh, God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Amen!"

The response was immediate. A number of

tively.

Jottings

Jim's

a column by Jim Sherman

legislators walked out during the prayer in protest. In six short weeks, Central Christian Church, where Rev. Wright is pastor, logged more than 5,000 phone calls, with only 47 of those calls responding nega-

Commentator Paul Harvey aired it on his radio program, "The Rest of the Story," and received a larger response to this program than any other he has ever aired. With the Lord's help, may this prayer sweep over our nation and whole-

heartedly become our desire so that we again can be called "one nation under God."

Now from syndicated columnist Charley Reese. He wrote this under the headline: "The 545 People Responsible for America's Woes."

I'll only repeat enough of it to give you his

"Politicians are the only people in the world who create problems and then campaign against them. Have you ever wondered why, if both the Democrats and Republicans are against deficits, we have deficits?

"Have you ever wondered why, if all the politicians are against inflation and higher taxes, we have inflation and higher taxes?"

"You and I don't propose a federal budget. The president does. You and I don't have the Constitutional authority to vote on appropriations. The House of Representatives does.

"You and I don't write the tax code. Congress does. You and I don't set fiscal policy. Congress does. You and I don't control monetary policy. The Federal Reserve Bank does.

"One hundred senators, 435 congressmen, one president and nine Supreme Court justices - 545 human beings out of the 300 million -- are directly, legally, morally and individually responsible for the domestic problems that plague this country."

(I'm skipping a few paragraphs here.)

"Above all, do not let them con you into the belief that there exist disembodied mystical forces like 'the economy,' 'inflation,' or 'politics' that prevent them from doing what they take an oath to do.

"Those 545 people, and they alone, are responsible. They, and they alone, have the power. They, and they alone, should be held accountable by the people who are their bosses - provided the voters have the gumption to manage their own employees.

"We should vote them all out of office and clean up the mess."

The voice of a free people

Letters to the Editor should deal with issues affecting our community. They not only criticize, but also praise. Where they point out problems, so too should they offer suggestions.

The Clarkston News reserves the right to edit for accuracy, brevity, or clarity. Letters must include the full name of the writer, home address and daytime telephone number (which will not be published). Anonymous letters will not be published.

For consideration for each Wednesday's edition, the deadline is noon the Monday before (earlier is better!). Submission does not guarantee publication.

You can drop them off or mail them to 5 S. Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346; fax them at (248) 625-0706; or e-mail ClarkstonNews@gmail.com.

Any questions, call The Clarkston News at 248-625-3370.

Bad science fuels environmental policies

In a stunning reversal of environmental doctrine, researchers have determined that ethanol and other heavily subsidized "biofuels" are far more polluting than the petroleum they were developed to replace. This latest policy blunder illustrates the costly consequences of ignoring science in climate change policy.

Two studies published online Feb. 7 by the journal "Science" report that the cultivation of corn for ethanol and other biofuel feedstocks substantially increases emissions of the greenhouse gases that are supposedly causing climate change. One of the studies calculated that corn-based ethanol, instead of producing a 20-percent reduction, nearly doubles greenhouse gas emissions over 30 years while the production of fuel from switchgrass increases emissions by 50 percent.

The excess emissions result from land conversions that are driven by demand for corn and other crops used to produce "renewable" fuels. According to the researchers, soil and plants together store 2.7 times more carbon than is present in the atmosphere. Thus, burning and plowing grasslands, rain forest, savannas and peat land for crop cultivation releases huge amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Moreover, the loss of plants and soil reduces the absorption of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere that otherwise would occur.

The research team, headed by Timothy Searchinger of Princeton University, calculated that one hectare of corn grown for ethanol reduces greenhouse gases by 1.8 metric

tons per year. But the conversion of one hectare of forest produces between 604 metric tons and 1,146 metric tons of greenhouse gases. It can take centuries before this "carbon debt" is reversed through the use of biofuels in place of petroleum.

Environmental benefit, in the form of reduced emissions of greenhouse gases, may be achieved if biofuels are produced with "waste biomass," such as wood by-products and agricultural debris, or from biomass grown on abandoned agricultural lands, researchers say.

Excess carbon emissions are not the only unintended consequence associated with biofuels. The National Academy of Sciences has reported that ethanol production is taxing water supplies, while the boom in corn and other feedstock production fosters soil erosion and fertilizer runoff. Also overlooked is the effect of biofuel policy on fuel prices: The lower costs engendered by subsidies fuels energy consumption and, in turn, emissions of greenhouse gases.

Corn acreage in the United States increased 18 percent — or 14 million acres — between 2006 and 2007. Much of the increase is the result of subsidies that will exceed \$5 billion this year alone. The impact on global agriculture is dramatic. The subsidies impel American farmers to devote evermore acres to corn for ethanol. The consequent reduction in U.S. supplies of soybeans and other displaced crops sends commodity prices higher, which prompts farmers elsewhere, particularly in Brazil and Southeast Asia, to clear land for cultivation.

Recent legislation promises to intensify the trend. The federal energy bill signed by President George Bush on Dec. 20, 2007, calls for biofuels to comprise 15 percent of all transport fuel by 2022 — or 36 billion gallons per year compared to 7.5 billion now produced annually. Meanwhile, the European Union last month proposed a 10 percent biofuel mandate.

Michigan lawmakers and Gov. Jennifer Granholm, too, have been overtaken by biofuel fever, proposing to expand state tax breaks and other economic incentives for the production of ethanol and crop-based fuels in the state.

The obvious disconnect between environmental policy and science is hardly surprising given the political pressure to act on climate change. As Nicholas Nuttall, a spokesman for the United Nations Environmental Program told the New York Times: "There was an unfortunate effort to dress up biofuels as the silver bullet of climate change."

But contrary to conventional wisdom, there's no "consensus" about a causal link between carbon dioxide and climate change; predictions of future warming; or what effects may result from climate change. Unfortunately, that hasn't kept lawmakers and regulators from imposing all manner of dictates in utter ignorance of the actual effects on the environment.

Diane S. Katz is director of science, environment and technology policy with the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, a research and educational institute headquartered in Midland.

Letter to the editor Local police supported by data

Dear Editor.

There is an old adage that "the bell has already rung." This applies to the question of providing Clarkston Police Department services 24 hours a day and seven days a week, despite what one person keeps saying ("Clarkston police may just be too expensive." April 2 edition).

About one year ago the Clarkston City Council received and accepted a comprehensive report from a diverse committee of citizens who had been appointed to the Clarkston Police Services Committee; the "bell was rung."

This committee met for several months, surveyed the community, collected data from various sources, and held a public hearing before submitting its report. The report had the complete support of the committee.

The report, and its documentation, were and are available at city offices for anyone

Also, the report and the City Council's review and acceptance were thoroughly reported in the local media.

The report had the following recommendations:

- 1. Retain the Clarkston Police Department;
- 2. Clarkston Police Department to provide 24 hour coverage;
- 3. Conduct a prompt and thorough public search for a qualified chief of police;
- 4. In supervising the police department follow the City Charter; and
- 5. Establish a Civilian Oversight and Review Board that would be charged with the responsibility of

establishing and monitoring standards for our police department along with the chief of police and the city manager.

We would also see this board having the responsibility of reviewing all police complaints.

Among the data received and reviewed by the committee, and referenced in its report, were the following, quoted and corrected:

- Approximately 135 surveys were returned to the committee;
- More than 65 percent of respondents were in favor of keeping the CPD;
- Approximately 25 percent favored the OCSD;
- Approximately 10 percent were undecided;
- Approximately 50 citizens attended the Public Hearing;
- Public comments appeared to be consistent with information gathered in the public survey.

We received correspondence from two citizens via our email address. One favored CPD, and one favored the OCSD.

Also, the committee interviewed the, then, police chief and representatives of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

In considering the data from when the OCSD was contacted by the city for the midnight shift, it is important to remember that these were calls for police assistance; that is, the OCSD coverage was a "reactive" resource.

Now, the CPD patrols every city street every night, as well as during the day, checking for suspicious activity, doing checks of homes where the residents are out of town, and deterring criminal acts; that is, the CPD coverage is an "active"

Interestingly, according to US Department of Justice data, more than 50 percent of most kinds of criminal activity in communities occur between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.

When considering the possibility of having the city continue to contract with the OCSD, your police committee had several concerns.

It was not at all clear that the city would save money using the OCSD, particularly if the community wanted active, rather than reactive, police services.

Also, other issues identified were, quoted from the report: control of the services to be delivered; does the city establish what services are desired and delivered or do we get what the OCSD is delivering; cost control; and who has the liability.

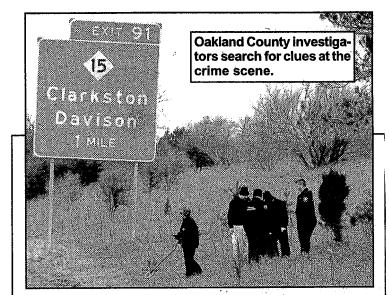
Lastly, the person suggesting that the city economize by having a "hybrid" form of polices services does praise city DPW for the snow

Hopefully, he isn't suggesting that clear roads are more important than safe neighborhoods. As always, we get what we want and are willing to pay for.

. Hopefully, this letter makes clear that the 2007 decision by the City Council to provide a 24/7 Police Department was a carefully considered decision, made with the needs and interests of the community in mind.

This is how effective municipal government is supposed to work!

Chuck Inabnit, chairman of the 2007 Clarkston Police Services Committee, and Tom Stone.



Info needed in murder case

Police continue to follow leads and seek information as they investigate the homicide of two men discovered dead in the brush near I-75 in Independence Township last

After seeing the possible identity of the two men in local media, an Independence Township woman told Oakland County Sheriff's deputies she and a friend may have found a wallet in January that belonged to one of the men.

The woman said she was returning from her job in Detroit when a friend spotted the wallet on the ground at the Park and Ride located near Sashabaw Road and I-

According to police reports, the woman said the wallet was "very wet and had a bad odor," so she put it on the floor of her car for several weeks to dry out, then mailed the wallet to an address on the driver's license inside. Although she couldn't remember for certain, the





Ronnie Tripp

Terry Lee Holbin

woman said she thought it was a downriver address, and she remembered writing "Tripp" on the envelope.

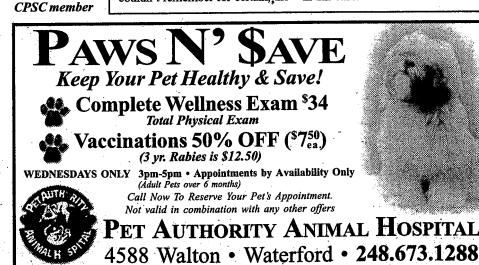
The victims were identified as Terry Lee Holbin, 60, and Ronnie Ralph Tripp, 54, both of Flint Township.

Police are also seeking a red 1999 Chevrolet Silverado extended cab pickup truck with running boards in connection with the murders.

The vehicle, which was last seen in Flint Township about 17 months ago, is said to be in poor condition and is registered to Terry Lee Hoblin with Michigan license plate E0456W.

Anyone with information is asked to call 911 immediately or the Oakland County Sheriff's Office at 248-858-4951. There is a \$1000 reward for information leading to an arrest





Independence Twp.

Fri., March 28 Deputies requested a warrant for domestic violence against a 29-year-old township man after his 31-year-old girl-friend called to report the man attacked her during an argument. Deputies observed that the woman bleeding from the mouth with several cuts to her lips, and also had torn clothing and a welt on her forehead. Several other people were on hand during the incident; all were heavily intoxicated.

Sat., March 29 A 19-year-old Waterford man was cited for marijuana possession and driving on a suspended license after he was pulled over when another driver near Maybee Road and Sashabaw Road called to report reckless driving around 4:45 p.m.

A 40-year-old man living in the 2500 block of Mann Road called deputies after discovering someone entered his unlocked vehicle overnight and stole a stereo from inside.

Sun., March 30 Deputies, who were dispatched after a caller complained of racing motorcycles in the area of Southhampton Drive and Woodcrest Ridge, discovered the motorcycles were those stolen earlier. The responsibles were an 18-year-old Springfield Township man and a 16 year-old Clarkston youth.

A 21-year-old Independence Township man, living in the 5800 block of Dixie Highway, called deputies after discovering someone stole his gold 2002 Chrysler Concord from the lot in his apartment complex during the night after smashing a window to gain access to the vehicle. The man told police he heard loud banging, but assumed someone was throwing heavy items in the dumpster.

Homeowners living in the 8000 block of Reese Road called police to report someone smashed out a window and broke into a vacationing neighbor's home overnight. The



Pulle Salen

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

neighbors could not immediately tell whether anything was missing from inside the home.

A 26-year-old Macomb Township man visiting with friends in the 8100 block of Staghorn Drive called police after returning to his vehicle to discover someone had smashed out the rear window. Nothing appeared to be missing from inside.

Deputies investigated a case of home invasion after a man living in the 6800 block of Hubbard Circle reported someone had entered his attached garage overnight and stole several items from both vehicles parked inside. The man said he forgot to close the garage door before going to bed, and both cars were left unlocked, as well.

Mon., March 31 Deputies were dispatched to assist the Clarkston Police with a K-9 track after police discovered someone broke out a rear window in a church on Waldon Road to gain entry to the building. The K-9 tracked across Church Street into a small apartment complex, but was not able to continue further.

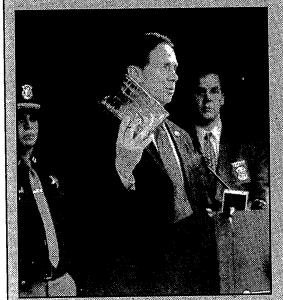
A homeowner living in the 8000 block of Pine Knob Road called police after discover-

ing someone had attempted to enter his home and left pry marks in the door of his garage. No entry was made.

Tues., April 1 The owner of a restaurant

in the 6600 block of Dixie Highway called deputies when a recently fired employee, a 20-year-old Holly woman, came into the store causing a scene, making threats and entering restricted areas to obtain information she was not authorized to have.

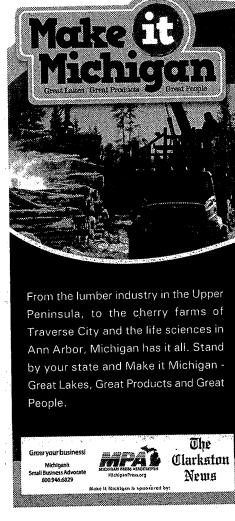
Wedi, April 2 an 82-year-old woman called the sheriff's department after discovering someone attempted to steal her car overnight. Officers noted numerous pry marks on the door of the vehicle, which did not appear to have been entered.



Fighting drugs and thugs

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard displays a kilo of cocaine seized by the Narcotics Enforcement Team during a drug raid. The cocaine was part of a large exhibit of guns, narcotics and cash exhibited by the sheriff's office at a press conference last week to illustrate the importance of continued federal funding in the fight against drugs and drug-related crime. Photo by Laura Colvin







ocal woman to face child-abuse charges

BY LAURA COLVIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

An Independence Township woman was bound over for trial last week after witnesses testified about injuries-including cuts, bruises, fractured ribs and missing teethsustained by her 2-year-old adopted daugh-

Malini Rao, 42, faced a three-day-long preliminary exam before Judge Kelley Kostin in 52-2 District Court, and is charged with second and third-degree child abuse.

Authorities were first alerted to the alleged abuse after officials in Clarkston Community Schools reported suspicions—as required by law—when the girl came to her preschool program with cuts and bruises on a regular basis.

Rao told teachers her younger daughter was accident-prone, and often ran into walls or fell down stairs in the family's home, but in October, County Child Protective Services (CPS) stepped in to investigate.

Last month, a CPS worker testified she asked Rao to immediately take the child to the hospital for an evaluation after the Oct. 11 interview in the family home.

Michelle Sparks told the court she asked Rao to explain and demonstrate how she disciplines the child, and was told when the girl misbehaves, Rao "beats her about the

Sparks said Rao then stood up and hit the chair she'd been sitting in.

"The way she was demonstrating appeared to be excessive," said Sparks. "Especially when we consider she was talking about a two-year-old child."

Rao and her husband Viswanath Seetharaman also have a 5-year-old biological daughter, who authorities do not believe was abused. The younger child was adopted from India in August 2006. Both girls are currently in foster care together.

Sparks also noted that while she waited for Rao to change the child's clothes for a trip to the hospital, the phone rang and the child walked down the stairs while Rao en-

gaged in a conversation upstairs.

"I found it significant enough that I made notes," Sparks said. "All the comments that had been made (about the child's clumsiness) I thought it was significant she was walking down the stairs in quite a developed manner for her age."

Kathryn Gauthier, a teacher in the Funshine program in the Early Childhood Center, testified the child was a student in her Toddler Playtime group, where 2-3 year old children attend twice weekly with a parent or other caregiver.

The teacher described the girl as a cooperative child who enjoyed music and toy cars, but was mostly quiet and "didn't run around a lot."

"She had a lot of bruises...she was very thin," Gauthier said, noting she asked Rao about the bruises several times and was told the child was clumsy and often ran into walls or fell down stairs.

Gauthier said she couldn't recall seeing the child without bruises, but also noted she never saw the child run into objects or fall in the classroom, with the exception of one time when the child fell on her bottom.

Dr. Robert Cohen, the emergency room physician at St. Joseph Hospital in Pontiac who assessed the child when she, Rao and Sparks showed up at the hospital Oct. 11, testified by phone he diagnosed the child with "suspected non-accidental trauma or suspected child abuse," terms, he said, medically mean essentially the same thing.

Cohen, who described the child as "very withdrawn" during the exam, said he noted multiple bruising, contusions, abrasions and lacerations on the child's face, as well as multiple scars on her abdomen.

Cohen also testified the child had two missing front teeth, and while a CAT scan revealed no injuries or abnormalities to the brain, X-rays did show multiple fractures at various stages of healing on both sides of her ribcage.

"The ribs are quite hard to break," he said. "They're actually quite pliable. In chil-

dren, bones usually bend before they

Dr. Marcus DeGraw testified he examined the child at a later date in his private office at St. John's Hospital in Detroit, where he serves as Medical Director of the Child Protection Team.

According to the hospital's website, DeGraw is an established child abuse expert in four states and federal courts, a member of the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Helfer Society, known also as the National Child Abuse Society.

Like Cohen, DeGraw noted child's upper teeth were missing, and told the court most children begin to lose teeth around the age

"An almost-3-year-old would have several years before she started to lose baby teeth," he said.

Although Rao's older daughter testified in a closed court session, it was later indicated the girl recalled an account of her mother attempting to get the resistant' younger child to bed at naptime; the younger child's face allegedly came into contact with part of the crib, resulting in the loss of her top teeth.

DeGraw said according to the records he'd received, the child wasn't talking a great deal at the time she was removed from her home, mostly using single word sentences or "grunting" and "gesturing" to communi-

Since that time, however, the child has improved language skills, made good eye contact and had good comprehension and social awareness, he said.

Assistant Oakland County Prosecutor Sara Pope-Starnes said the child was improving since she was removed from the home.

'She's doing great," said Pope-Starnes, who is handling the case. "(The defense) has argued that it's a medical problem, but she hasn't had any injuries since she's been in foster care."

Rao's attorney, James L. Feinberg, in fact,

repeatedly asked both testifying physicians whether any of the injuries could have occurred accidentally.

"Hypothetically, yes," DeGraw said. "But this is an actual case, not a hypothetical

The girl's injuries included multiple rib fractures in different locations, in different stages of healing.

"(The injuries are) consistent only with abuse in my opinion," he said.

Feinberg also asked about a number of diseases, vitamin deficiencies, and genetic abnormalities that may have contributed to the injuries sustained by the child, noting that a complete medical background did not exist since the child was adopted from In-

All lab work came back within the normal range and the child had no indicators or a condition that would cause bones to readily break.

Feinberg also took issue with terminology used during testimony, specifically the CPS worker's use of the word "beat" in court while she used the word "spank" in her interview notes.

Overall, Feinberg said he didn't believe testimony showed with certainty the child was abused.

"Even if the court finds (the child was abused) there is no probable cause to show Malini Rao committed the abuse," he said.

The case was assigned to 6th Circuit Court Judge Nancy J. Grant. Trial date has not yet been set.

Second-degree child abuse is a felony occurring when the defendant willfully abandons the child, fails to provide necessary food, clothing or shelter commits a reckless act which results in serious physical/mental harm and is punishable by up to four years in prison.

Third-degree child abuse is a high court misdemeanor occurring when the defendant knowingly or intentionally causes some physical harm to the child and is punishable by up to two years in prison.



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Sobriety Court graduates 14 participants

BY LAURA COLVIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

It was standing room only at the 52-2 District Court's graduation ceremony for Sobriety Court participants Thursday.

It was the fifth graduation since the program's inception nearly four years ago, and last week's ceremony honored the largest number of graduates thus far—14.

All in all, more than 40 individuals have completed the program, and facilitators say Sobriety Court is succeeding in many ways.

"Events like the one we had Thursday night remind me why I do this job," said Sobriety Court Probation Officer Mark Mathur, who handles the program's day-to day operations and makes sure defendants comply with Sobriety Court conditions.

"It's remarkable to see these people walking away from addictions and living their lives, becoming productive members support. of society again."

A person must be at least a second offense drunk driver, have no violent offenses on his or her record, and reside within jurisdiction of the 52-2 District Court to participate in Sobriety Court.

The program lasts between 15 months 24 months, depending on performance—participants are required to take part in individual counseling and 12step programs, attend review hearings, submit to regular drug and alcohol screening, and report to their probation officer on assigned days.

The program requires commitment from participants, as well as family members, and Mathur said he was pleased to see look into the audience at last week's graduation and see the faces of so many who came to lend

"I made a point of addressing everyone out there," he said. "Recovery is truly not going to happen without the support of family members.'

Many of those family members thanked Mathur "for everything" after the ceremony.

"I told them 'no, your son or daughter or husband of wife did all the tough work. I just had to push them in the right direction."

The 52-2 District Court joined a national movement toward programs like Sobriety Court in November 2004 as repeat drunk driving offenses continued to increase across the area.

Today, nearly 2000 such programs operate in courts across the U.S.

At the 52-2 District Court, which serves the city of Clarkston, the townships of Independence, Springfield, Brandon, Groveland, Holly, Rose and White Lake, along with the villages of Ortonville and Holly, both Judge Kelley Kostin and Judge Dana Fortinberry have said an important key to success is keeping the program small.

"We get to know our participants and the individual challenges each one of them faces in their daily lives," said Fortinberry, noting that other well-intentioned programs try to reach as many offenders as possible,

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but often struggle to achieve or maintain a successful outcome.

(Participants) begin to understand that we truly care about their success in the program, and that makes a difference. I don't know how you can effectively reach three of four hundred people at a time.'

The program uses a team approach—the judge, prosecutor, probation officer, coordinator and treatment providers regularly meet to review and discuss each

Participants must maintain regular employment or attend an education program.

They must also pay costs of Sobriety Court, which—when fees for fines, testing, and therapy are totaled—usually amounts to somewhere between \$5,000 and \$7,500 by the time graduation day rolls around.

Although the program is going well, Fortinberry said there's always room for improvement—the addition of another probation officer to help with the workload is a possibility, and there's also discussion about forming a an advisory board.

"I'd really like to bring in different members of the community," she said. "There may be things we could be doing, different means of helping our participants that we're not even aware of."

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Priorities clear with family

Continued from page 6A

Don Rush who hammered out the story and got it online in exactly no time flat.

It is, in my opinion, one of the best things about working upstairs at The Clarkston News. We work as a team, we help one another out.

So me and Pumpkin stayed put to crawl around the floor, play and giggle.

I told him "no" for the first time that day-it seemed monumental-as he crawled his diapered butt over and prepared to investigate an electrical outlet.

I guess it's time to get some of those plastic jobs you stick in there. Time flies.

But the best part of our day was the

When I turned the stereo on and used the remote to flip stations, that little twotoothed grin burst across his face and lit up my whole world, like it always does when a singing voice came across the airwaves. From where he was standing on the couch next to me I could see the very beginnings of Baby Dancing.

Then the Pointer Sisters came on, and me and RyRy knew there was only one

We had to dance.

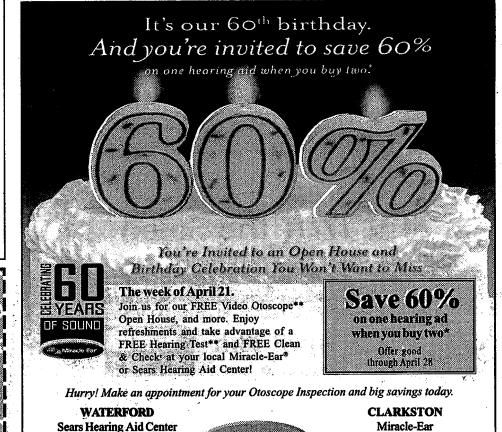
"We are fam-ileeee," I sang in my silliest make-him-laugh voice as we twirled around the living room. "I got all my Pumpkins and me'

He burst into a fit of giggles, which made me laugh, which made him laugh even

That boy melts my heart.

It wasn't easy to let the story about the dead guys go; us reporters are kind of quirky that way, and we can pretty

But few things in life, I've discovered, are important enough to pass up when I've got all my Pumpkins and me.



/ Miracle Ear



A 12 Wed., April 9, 2008 The Clarkston (MI) News

Beaumont's survey shows support

Continued from page 1A submittal," said Moraco.

"We're hoping that that's the case, so we can do something with it one way or another. It's a good thing, I think, for the township to be able to see what the next step is going to be."

Hunt said they have also met with homeowners near the property on Cranberry Lake Road.

Between April 1-4, Beaumont hired a mar-

keting research firm to conduct a telephone survey in order to get opinions and feedbacks on resident's thoughts about the proposed hospital. Results indicated most neighbors support the project, Hunt said.

"We are very excited about the results and think it demonstrates overall strong community support for this project," he said

The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at Clarkston Junior High School, located at 6595 Waldon Road.

Donations needed for grad party

Clarkston High School's Post Graduation Party 2008 Committee needs donations to keep ticket prices low for seniors.

The party, featuring entertainment, refreshments, decorations, and gift, will be right after commencement, June 4, at DTE Energy Theater. More than 80 percent of

graduates participate with the help of almost 150 parent volunteers for a night of safe, supervised fun.

The committee needs donations of money, food, gift certificates, prizes, and items for senior goody bags.

For more information, call 248-625-8429.





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acrosse uses losses to find their footing

BY WENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Julian Rob struck first in Clarkston Lacrosse's game against Notre Dame, but the Wolves couldn't hold off the Irish

Clarkston fell in their first two games of the season, to Notre Dame, 8-4, and Seaholm High School, 11-4.

We are getting better from our last game and where we started off in the season," said coach Brian Kaminskas.

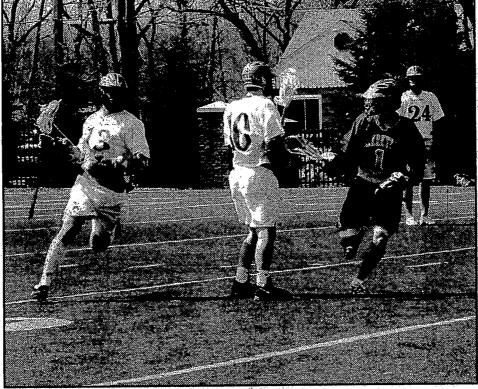
"We're young and we're learning. It's tough to make the adjustments you want to make until all the boys are up to speed and they understand the flow of the game."

The game against the Notre Dame gave the coaching staff and players a goal of what to work on in practice.

"We were definitely weak on our execution," said Kaminskas. "We weren't passing or catching very well.

"But we worked hard, we got up and down the field. I think our power play team played extremely well. We scored all, but one off of that. We can play off that. Our defense was a little better in the third quarter, so we can build on that as well."

"It should be a good week for us," said Kaminskas looking ahead. "We open up at home. Farmington is a pretty skilled team, play tough against Royal Oak. The last couple but we have the guys to get up and down the field. We have a good bunch of athletes. Thursday should be good, too. We always



Jon Avery is ready for Notre Dame's next move. Photo by Wendi Reardon

years have been in our favor, and I don't expect anything different this week."

In their Saturday game against Notre Dame

Prep, Rob scored in the first six minutes of the game, with assist by Adam Zak.

Notre Dame's Tom Sardelli tied the score with two minutes left in the first quarter.

Notre Dame had a four-point lead at the middle of the third quarter when Jon Avery made Clarkston's second goal.

Clarkston made two wide shots on the goal. Avery made one more shot putting the ball into the net. Andrew Schram assisted

Schram made the third goal for the team with five minutes left in the game. Matthew McEntee assisted on the goal.

The next goal came after McEntee passed the ball to Avery.

With a flick of the wrist Avery sent the ball into the net for the Wolves' fourth goal. Notre Dame tried to put one more shot in the net, but Clarkston's defense blocked them

Goalie Zachary Lewy made eight saves for the game.

JV lost their game against Notre Dame, 3-2 in double overtime.

In their season opener, the boys lost to Seaholm High School, 11-4. The team scored one goal each quarter. Avery scored two goals, and Weston Gleiss and Andrew Schram contributed with one goal each.

Doug Zasacky, McEntee, and Avery assisted with goals.

The Wolves played Farmington United on Tuesday night.

They will play Thursday night at Royal Oak. JV begins at 5 p.m. with varsity follow-

Athletes of the Week

Clarkston wrestler wins medal

BYWENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Eighth grader Faith Lieder competed with wrestlers around the country, taking fifth

She participated in the United States Girls Wrestling Association's National Girls Wrestling Tournament, The event took place March 29-30 in Livonia. At the tournament, Lieder joined girls ranging from 5-25 years old.

She ended the tournament with a 3-2 record, giving her the fifth place medal.

"It was awesome. She was great," said dad, Rick Lieder. "I am very proud of her."

"It felt really good," said Faith. "I wrestled my best and I am satisfied with

Faith began wrestling four years ago after her brother started wrestling. She would attend and watch some of the practices.

"There were a couple girls in it and I thought maybe I could try it," said Faith.

Since then, she has been part of the

Clarkston Wrestling Club and Sashabaw Middle School's team.

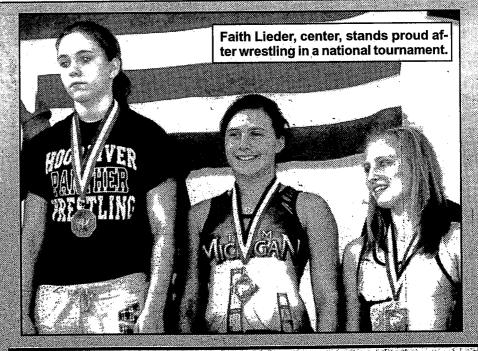
She wrestles for Team Michigan Elite Girls Wrestling and was on the junior high school's team during the winter season.

It's really fun, I enjoy doing it," she said. "It's just you trying to win something. You are the one that gets the glory, not other people helping you like a team would be. It's really good conditioning, and keeps you in shape.

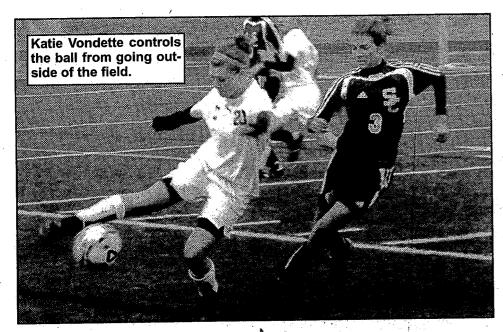
She has thought about wrestling for high school but a few factors will help her decide what path to follow. She is part of a traveling soccer team that plays year round and she is also on the track team.

Another factor would be wrestling boys.

Their muscles are going to grow more with their body and mine aren't," said Faith. "That's the only thing that would hold me back from doing it. There is no other reason for me to stop. It's fun and I know I am good."







Looking for their first win

BY WENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Abby Haelewyn of Stoney Creek kicked in a goal less than six minutes into their game Friday against Clarkston.

It was enough.

"We faced a good team and we competed with them and I am really proud of them for that," said Clarkston coach Sarah Wasilk. "They were much more disciplined, controlled and aggressive - they weren't afraid to come out and play this team."

Girls Varsity soccer lost to Stoney Creek, 1-

Haelewyn scored the goal into the corner of the net, with an assist from Rachel Rinaldi.

Goalie Demaree Wells and the rest of the defense worked hard to keep Stoney Creek to

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one goal, Wasilk said.

played," she said.

"I thought they played one of the best

"I am really happy we got a win. I felt like we could have done better offensively," said

Clarkston made eight shots on Stoney Creek's goal. Wells made six saves for the

The night before, the team lost to Royal

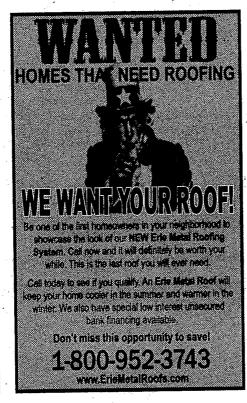
"We just had to fix a few things here and there

"I am really proud of the girls and how they

games I have seen them play. I have been with these girls for awhile and I am really proud of them. Even though we lost, they played really well and really hard."

Stoney Creek coach Erin Rodger.

"They played a good game," said Wasilk.





but we talked about it after the game and made some changes.'

The girls play a busy schedule this week. They played Groves on Tuesday. Going into the game, Wasilk and the team were ready.

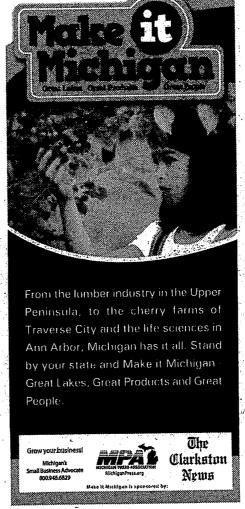
"They are a good team," said Wasilk. "All teams in division one and division two are good teams. It can go either way."

Check www.ClarkstonNews.com to see how they did.

The Lady Wolves will host Seaholm on Thursday.

Then, they will play Waterford Mott on Friday. The game will take place at Pierce Middle School, 5145 Hatchery Road, Waterford.

Both games start with JV playing at 5:30 p.m. Varsity follows at 7 p.m.





Time to tee off

Clarkston golfers earn medals at Red Tournament

BYWENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

The long winter made it a challenge for golfers to get on the green to practice for the upcoming spring season.

On Thursday, golfers proved the winter didn't slowed them down.

During their OAA Division Red Tournament, Clarkston's varsity team placed third with a score of 313.

Individual medalists for the Wolves were Tom Ronk and Matt Fuller.

Ronk tied for first place with David Merkie from Waterford Kettering, with 73 strokes. Fuller took fifth place with 76.

"While we were disappointed with our overall team finish today, Tommy Ronk's round was outstanding. All of the players and coaching staff are proud of his fine start," said coach Mark Wiegand.

"Matt Fuller played solid as usual and if the balance of our team continues to improve now



Brandon Stone lines the ball with the hole before taking a swing in the OAA tournament last Thursday. Photo by Wendi Reardon

that we can get on the course, we should be more competitive as the season progresses."

At Bald Mountain, Rochester Adams came in first place with a score of 309. Waterford Kettering took second place at 310, followed by Clarkston (313) and Lahser in fourth place (325): Rochester, Troy, Stoney Creek and Lake Orion rounded out the tournament at the bottom four teams.

The Wolves will compete with the same seven schools in the next OAA league tourna-

ment on Monday, May 12.

On Thursday, the team will compete against Rochester High School at 3:30 p.m.

While Rochester is still in process of putting together their varsity team, Wiegand expects Rochester to be ready.

"Rochester is usually competitive and they will make it a competitive match for us on Thursday. We are looking forward to Jordan Roth to come around. Tommy Ronk works really hard and it's starting to pay off for him."

Time to shine for junior golfers Clarkston Area Optimist Club is sponsoring a Junior Golf Qualifiers for boys and

soring a Junior Golf Qualifiers for boys and girls ages 10-18.

The event will be held on Sunday, May 4

at Liberty Golf Course on Maybee Rd.

The entry fee is \$40 for 10-11 year-olds.

The entry fee is \$40 for 10-11 year-olds, and \$55 for 12 and up.

This is an entry-level qualifier. It may be the first competitive match for many young golfers who must have working knowledge of the game.*There will be no on-site lessons given.

Winners and qualifiers in each category will advance to the district tournament, June 16-17, where they will have an opportunity to qualify for the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships.

Entry is by pre-registration only.

Forms are available at Liberty Golf Course, all Clarkston schools or by contacting Optimist Junior Golf Chair, Sherry Regiani at 248-625-5222 or sregiani@comcast.net.

Golf lessons for youth

The First Tee of Detroit is hosting golf lessons this summer for boys and girls, 7-17 years old.

The lessons will be held at Indian Springs Metropark July 28-30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Students will learn putting, chipping, pitching, full swing, rules, safety and etiquette.

They will receive a hat and camp T-shirt, daily snack and identification card. Equipment will be furnished. Fee is \$110. Some individuals may qualify for reduced rates. No prior experience is required.

Register now because space is limited For more information call 248-545-4929 or go to www.firstteedetroit.org. A Metroparks motor vehicle entry permit is required to enter the golf course. A daily permit is \$4.

Girls softball hopes for smashing season

Girls hit the mound this week to repeat their success from last year.

A goal for girls varsity softball is to win districts again. Last year the team took first place at districts for the first time in three years. They lost to Birmingham Seaholm by one point in their regional game, 4-3.

It ended their season with an overall record, 23-14.

"They look good," said Clarkston coach Don Peters, returning for his fourth year as head coach.

Most of the team has returned from last season, with a few new faces to round the team off to thirteen.

The returning players include senior Katie Smith. Last year, she was named All-State by

the Michigan High School Softball Coaches Association. During her last season she batted .382 with 40 runs and had 18 RBIs.

Sophomore Taylor Hasselback is back for the season as well. Last year she hit .546 and had 63 RBIs.

Also returning are Kelley Anderson, Bailee Braunreuther, Brook Chadwell, Jenny Jochum, Shantel Uballe, Lindsey Upchurch and Kara Wandrie.

New to the team are Sarah Altene, Amanda Martin, Allie Reeves and Elizabeth Zezula.

Besides, going as far as they can in playoffs, Peters's goals for the team this year include, "winning lots of games and having fun."

Clarkston softballers will host the 16th

Annual Michigan Stars Tournament.

The tournament will take place the first weekend of May at Liberty Park in Sterling Heights.

Teams from 48 high schools will coming from all over Michigan to play.

Keep reading The Clarkston News for more information about the tournament as it gets closer.

The girls' season opener was Monday against Berkley. In the double header, the team won both games, 11-1, 12-1.

The girls continued on Tuesday with another double header, this time against Grand Blanc.

Wednesday they host Farmington at 4 p.m.

– Wendi Reardon

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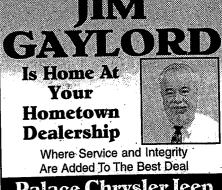
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Girls show strong spirit on the field

BY WENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

The varsity girls huddled together after the game, threw up their lacrosse sticks and thanked Hartland, officials, and fans for a great game.

They lost their season opener to Hartland, 11-7, but during the game worked hard to prove they were ready for their new season.

"It was pretty impressive," said Clarkston coach Kaitlyn Sitar. "Passing up and down the field was 10 times better than it was last year. They worked well as a team, that was nice to see."

A majority of the team has been together for three years, when they started out as a club sport. Last year, they made school history by become Clarkston's first girls lacrosse team.

"Scoring seven goals was still pretty impressive," said Sitar. "Their endurance this year is also impressive, playing the whole game and not being winded. It was nice to see that."

Hartland led the first half of the game, 7-3. Mickayla Meola scored two goals for

Clarkston and Kelsey Reardon scored one.

The second half had barely started when Kelsey Thompson made the Wolves's fourth goal less than two minutes into it.

Kellyn Carpenter followed suit and made the next goal a minute later.

Carrie Thams brought Clarkston up by one more goal, leaving a two-point deficit between the Wolves and Eagles, 8-6.

In the next six minutes, Hartland scored three more goals that secured their win.

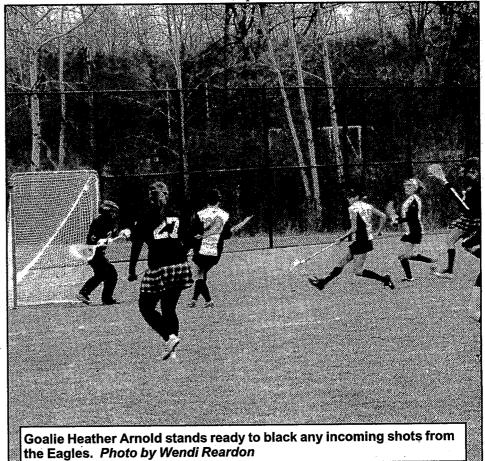
Meola scored one more goal for the Wolves with two minutes left in the game, bringing the team up, 11-7.

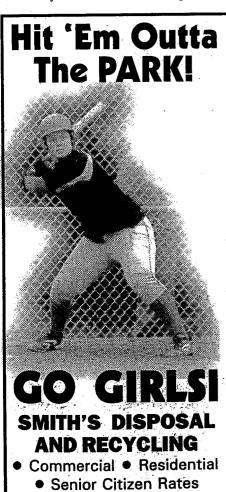
Clarkston continued the final moments of the game keeping the Eagles out of the goal's reach.

The team played its first home game on Monday against Swartz Creek. They lost, 12-1.

The next week will keep the team on the road as they play Troy High School on Thursday, Farmington on Monday, and Lake Orion on Tuesday.

JV begins at 5:30 p.m., and varsity follows for all game days.





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Good luck girls Varsity Softball!

Clarkston Girls Varsity Softball team, top from left, Coach Mark Pingston, Shantel Uballe, Sarah Altene, Brook Chadwell, Coach Mike McCullom, and Coach Don Peters; middle from left, Jenny Jochum, Bailee Braunreuther, Taylor Hasselbach, Amanda Martin, Katie Smith, and Lindsey Upchurch, and front from left, Kara Wandrie, Kelley Anderson, Elizabeth Zezula, and Allie Reeves.



Runners split season start

BY WENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

A windy, chilly Tuesday night did not keep the track teams from competing in their first meet of the season.

Looking to repeat another championship win this year, Clarkston girls won the meet against West Bloomfield, 71-48.

The boys team lost, 73-46.

"It was a good start to the track season," said girls coach John Yorke.

"Our distance runners did well and led the team. Kristen Smith had a good meet. Devon Rehm had a big day as a thrower in shot put and discus."

Kristen Smith placed first in the 800-meter run (2:32.2) and 3200-meter run (12:09.5).

Clarkston relay teams led the way in the relay events; 3200-meter relay Jena Manilla, Caitlin Post, Annie Castillo, and Andrea Butler (11:12.6); 1600-meter relay Jena Miller, Smith, Kristin Cross, and Butler (4:38.6); 400-meter relay Catie Boskee, Rebecca Culver,

Johanna Kupe, and Stephanie Thorstad (55.72).

Stephanie Thorstad in the high jump (5-2), 1600-meter run Tiffany Kincaid 5:52.8

Manilla and Autumn Touchstone took first place in two dash events. Manilla in 400-meter dash (68.4) and Autumn Touchstone in 200-meter (28.3).

The boys team also placed in first in some of their events.

Jeff Kuhl placed first in the 1600-meter (5:00.4) and 3200-meter run (10:50.3).

Giovan McDougal in 400-meter dash (56.5) Placing first for relays were the team of Phil Voorheis, Zac Moore, Christian Bonzheim, and Kuhl in the 3200-meter relay (9:15.8); and the team of Steve Foreman, Matt McCord, Voorheis and McDougal in the 1600-meter relay (3:57.1).

The teams next meet is next Tuesday at Rochester Adams.

"Adams should be a close competitive meet," said Yorke.

Swinging into action

BY WENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

After a year and a half break, the tennis team is back, playing in their first spring season.

"Playing in the fall, the team didn't have to begin the season in the wet and coldness of the beginning of spring," said Clarkston coach Craig Judd.

The weather didn't effect their first game against Troy-Athens last Wednesday. The team beat Athens, 7-1.

"They did really good," said Judd.
"They did fine. They closed points out really well, and got the job done. The fourth set of doubles was competitive."

All of the singles players won their sets; junior Nicole Janek (6-1, 6-0), senior Alyssa Lucas, (6-1, 6-0), freshman Kristina Lucas (6-0, 6-0) and senior Blair McCarty (6-1, 6-0)

In the doubles, three teams won their

matches. Seniors Kate Cooley and Kelli McKay (6-4, 6-2):

junior Stephanie Kincaid and freshman Emilia Allen (6-1, 6-1); and freshmen Alexis Egler and Victoria Sova (6-2, 6-2).

Sophomore Erica Zeetner and freshman Chelsea Hundzinski lost their match to Troy-Athens

"West Bloomfield is really tough. It is one of our biggest matches," said Judd. "They are really great competition. Hopefully we will have a nice day.

"Our league matches start this week. We will see tougher teams. We look forward to a competitive season."

The varsity team competed at Lahser on Tuesday.

They will host West Bloomfield on Thursday at 4 p.m, followed by another match next Tuesday at Seaholm High School at 4 p.m.

Know someone who should be Athlete of the Week?

Send your nominations to *The Clarkston News*5 S. Main, Clarkston, MI 48346
or email us at clarkstonnews@gmail.com





Olivia is a Junior at Clarkston
High School where she is a
member of the National Honor
Society. In her free time she
enjoys doing volunteer work,
and dancing at Roxana's Dance
Expressions. Congratulations
on a great smile Olivia!



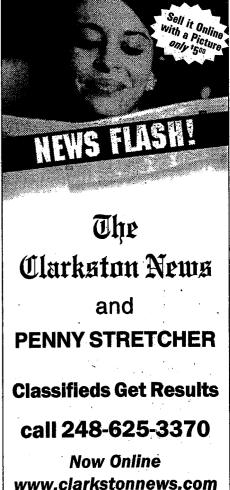
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Free class on how to talk to children about sexuality

Clarkston Community Education and Clarkston Area Youth Assistance are cosponsor the Talk Early and Talk Often parent workshop, 7-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 15, at Sashabaw Middle School.

The 90-minute workshop, an initiative by Gov. Jennifer Granholm, offers assistance to parents of middle school youth in talking with their children about abstinence and sexuality. It is aimed at helping parents recognize and use opportunities to open the door for conversation, listen and respond with greater confidence and skill, and to feel comfortable seeking outside sources of information.

CAYA, one of 26 in the county, is principally funded by Oakland County Board of Commissioners, and administered and sponsored by the Oakland County Circuit Court - Family Division. It is sponsored locally by Clarkston Community Schools, City of the Village of Clarkston, and townships of Independence and Springfield.

The organization offers family education programs, school presentations, a mentoring program, a yearly youth recognition event, summer camp, and skill building experiences for the youth in our community.

The program is free. However, space is limited.

To register, call Kathryn McVean, CAYA staff secretary, at 248-623-4313.

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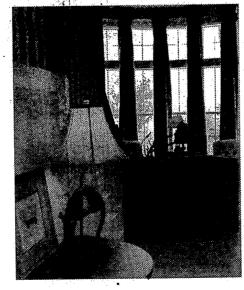
TWO STORY ROOMS AND WINDOWS = A DESIGN CHALLENGE

While * the architecture of the newer homes in our area is beautiful and gracious, the two story great rooms and soaring windows present some unique decorating challenges. Those large open rooms often appear cold and empty. Sounds often echo through the house. How can we soften the noise factor? How will we

arrange furniture in an attractive and functional way? How large should the furniture be? How many pieces? What colors, fabrics and textures will most suit our lifestyle and enhance the architectural details?

The creation of a warm and inviting atmosphere in these spacious homes is difficult. Many of us are so intimidated by the decorating decisions that need to be made, we simply avoid making any decisions at all. Our houses are left unfinished and often completely lack the ambiance that had been envisioned the house was bought.

Drapery, wallpaper, and well chosen furnishings add to the charm and value of a home. Home "Staging" for sale is becoming a big business in this buyers market. It is rather surprising that people will wait until





their house is for sale before it is given decorating attention. Wouldn't it make more sense to decorate as soon as possible and enjoy living in a beautiful, practical home?

An experienced Interior designer will, not only design the proper floor plan and window treatments, but will also help to establish a budget. A professional designer will help to choose furnishings that are the price and the quality you want to live with. Mary Lujan, head designer at HEPPLE-WHITE'S interiors on Main Street in downtown Rochester always suggests a budget for a decorating project. "I feel that beginning a decorating job without detailed drawings and an estimate for the cost, is like starting to build a house without a blueprint or a price." Her partner, daughter Rebecca Stoitsiadis agrees, She adds, "We request a budget from our clients - not to spend every penny available - but to help establish guidelines for the project. We sincerely believe we provide the most comprehensive design available, and we are experienced in setting and keeping budgets." Mary and Rebecca are personally involved in every project, no matter how large or small. They accompany each design consultant on home visits and are responsible for all drawings and presentations.

Furniture selection is only one step of many in creating your beautiful home. It takes a comprehensive interior design plan, including accurate measurements and precision drawings.

Paint, wallper window treatments, rugs and accessories are also necessary components of a finished room. Our skilled design team will help you pull together an elegant design that suits your needs and lifestyle, as well as the architecture of the home. We blend together all of these elements and products to create the environment that was envisioned when the dream house was purchased.

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ove of dance leads to love of life at studio

Clarkston News Staff Writer

For Curtis and Sarah Haremza, dancing is like swimming.

"You have to learn it, you have to be taught," she said. "You can't just expect to jump out in the water and swim."

At their dance studio, Elegance in Motion, the Clarkston couple teaches 22 different dance styles, including Fox Trot, Hustle, Salsa, Rumba, Waltz, Merengue, Swing, Cha-Cha, Argentine Tango, Night Club Slow, and Samba.

With a background in dance and theatre, Curtis said he applauds single guys who come in with no dance experience.

"These guys who come in and never danced before and have no idea what fox trot compared to a quickstep is, it's so out of the box for them," he said. "I really give the guys credit for walking in the door."

The married guys are usually motivated by their wife, noted Curtis.

"It's the guy who likes it more than the wife once they get going. They like the challenge and being in charge on the dance floor," he

"The women like it for different reasons, they like getting all dressed up in the gowns and getting their hair done.'

Over the last eight years, they have seen many people come in and prepare for their first dance as husband and wife.

"We also have people who come in and get ready for their kids wedding," noted Sarah. "So they can learn how to dance and have fun and look good."

When it comes to teaching, Sarah said younger people retain more, learn easier and singles learn faster than couples.

'When you have couples you're teaching two people to dance," she said. "When you have single you're just teaching one to dance."

Curt said there is always a misconception that people must have a partner in order to sign up for lessons. Sarah said the other misconceptions are those who think they are not teachable because of the famous line "I have two left feet, you probably can't teach me."

Curtis and Sarah met in the theatre industry.



however when it came to settling down Curtis wanted something a little more stable, that was when Curtis decided to audition and was accepted as a dance teacher at Arthur Murray's Dance Studio.

"I was teaching about 50-60 lessons a week at Arthur Murray," he said, "When my daughter was born we wanted to go to part-time."

After working four years at Arthur Murray's and with the birth of his new daughter, Curtis decided to open their own studio in 2000 at 3771 S. Baldwin Rd. in LakeOrion.

"We wanted to have more flexibility in the schedule," said Sarah. "Being your own boss always offers you the most flexibility."

Curtis grew up with a family who liked to

"My grandmother used to have dances in

guys dancing in our family, it was just one of those things that we did."

Curtis and Sarah compete in a couple competitions a year, along with some students.

"We recently returned from a dance competition at the Indiana Dance Challenge. We had two students and three instructors that competed in five different dances," said Sarah.

In the smooth category they competed in Fox Trot and Waltz. In the Rhythm category they competed in Cha-Cha, Swing, and Rumba

"It was a lot of fun and a great experience for all that attended," she said, "The dancers were actually judged by some of the dancing with the stars professional dancers."

They also went to Vegas in October and went to Deerborn Michigan this past weekend.

When we go to Vegas our staff does training. We have coaches that come in from all over the place that come in to work with our students and staff members," she said. "We're always up to date. I think that's one of the benefits of just teaching ball room and not teaching tap and ballot and all the kid stuff is that we can really tune in as to what we need as far as training."

Twice a month they bring in Terry Worrall U.S. dance champion and two or three times a year they bring in World champions Gregory Day and Tommye Giacchino.

"Competition isn't the biggest thing that we do here. We do two showcases a year," said

"It's like a recital but we're doing solo routines. Students work on them for about five or six months. Some people dance with their spouse, some dance with their instructor and sometimes we have people that are neither. There are friends that will dance together."

Sarah noted, very few students actually want to compete, but it does help them reach for a goal and improve from being judged by judges.

Both Curtis and Sarah said TV show "Dancing with the Stars," has definitely helped bring in customers.

"We've always been successful. We've been very blessed that we've always been pretty busy at our studio," said Sarah. "I know a lot of businesses are going through downtimes and we're lucky that that hasn't hit us so

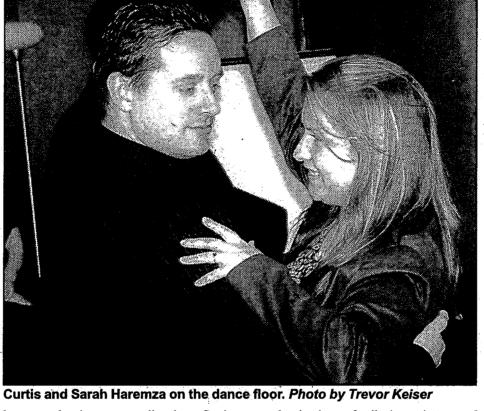
Sarah said her favorite part of teaching and owning a dance studio is watching others "change through dance."

"We've had couples come in who are literally on the verge of divorce that fall in love again an find each other through dancing. We've had widows come in who are distraught and see them find excitement and fun again in their life. I think that's my favorite part," she

"It's seeing the people become happy. What can be more rewarding than seeing somebody's life change in a positive way?"

'Seeing the people do the competitions and the showcases and achieving their goals," said Curtis. "I think that's very huge for me."

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Blueprint for better business

Sign issue creating momentum toward change in Clarkston

BY LAURA COLVIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

If efforts begun by one local businessman pay off, downtown Clarkston may soon see changes that bring more people into the city's 80 or so businesses.

Rob Bondy, who owns Contemporary Computer Concepts on Main Street, met with members of the city council in March to discuss ideas for new signs, a business directory and a welcome wagon.

Bondy also arranged an upcoming meeting with Main Street Oakland County-a county sponsored economic development program that provides organization, design, promotion and economic restructuring assistance to traditional downtown areas in Oakland County.

"I'm excited," Bondy said, noting he, along with city council members Kristy Ottman and Peg Roth were scheduled for a meeting with representatives from the group April 5. "I think it's a good move for the city and a good move for the businesses in town.'

Main Street Oakland County was established in 2000, and is patterned after the National Trust's Main Street Center, which, according to information reported on the Oakland County website, was founded in 1980 and has been successfully utilized in over 2,000 downtowns in 40 states since 1980.

Currently, 12 communities are involved in the Main Street Oakland County program: Farmington, Ferndale, Highland, Holly, Oxford, Ortonville, Lake Orion, Keego Harbor, Pontiac, Rochester, Royal Oak and Walled

For Bondy, the momentum toward change began last June, when every business in the city received a letter stating that sandwich board signs were a violation of city ordinance and had to be removed from public right-of-

Although the ordinance was adopted in 1999, it was essentially ignored until last year when the city began fielding a growing number of complaints.

"(The signs) were out during the day, out



Although he still has a sign on the building, walk-in business decreased more than 60 percent when his sandwich board sign came in. Photo by Laura Colvin-

at night when the stores were closed, they fell on cars, business owners were actually fighting over where they could be located, they blocked the use of the sidewalk, and...last year they were even in the streets taking parking spaces," wrote Councilman Cory Johnston in a March 13 letter to the editor.

"While the city has a history of not enforcing many of our ordinances, how far did everyone think they could go before the city had no choice?"

Bondy complied, but said walk-in business at his downtown Clarkston office decreased more than 60 percent after his sign came in.

In October, he accepted appointment to a vacant seat on the city's planning commission and said he hoped to serve as a liaison between the city and local business owners.

When I moved my business into the city in 1996, there was no welcoming," Bondy explained. "Any contact that was made was made by me in desire to get a sign and do everything by the book. The city didn't really care—at least it didn't seem to be on their radar of important things to worry about."

Now that he's a member of the Planning Commission, Bondy said he's seeing things from a somewhat different perspective.

"They're not coming from an attitude of 'we don't care," he said. "They just weren't aware of some of the issues—like signage facing the business owners. But I've been bringing up different points and things are starting to happen."

The Planning Commission has been working on the sign issue since Bondy came on board-last month the group looked at possible sign placement during a walk-through of the city.

But as Bondy began talking to members of the community and researching the sign issue, other ideas began to form as well.

"This is everything Rob Bondy has.done,"

said Ottman in a March 24 update to the city conneil.

"He needs 100 percent credit—he is going above and beyond in his effort to revitalize the business district." Ottman said she was surprised by the num-

ber and scope of businesses in town once Bondy collected information for a business directory.

"We have everything from accounting and bookkeeping to yarn," she said. "It's amazing what we have and what people do locally."

Ottman also discussed ideas for a downtown development authority, and business directory signs in city parking lots, and reported that fellow Councilwoman Peg Roth, who was absent from Monday's meeting, has been collecting feedback through visits with downtown businesses.

"We've had a few persnickety responses," she said. "But most people have been very positive."

Ottman said she thought many businesses would be willing to help with the cost of putting together a directory and welcome wagon-a basket delivered to new residents and businesses—potentially including a directory, samples and information from local businesses.

"We have a ton of resources here that aren't being utilized because people don't know they're there," she said.

"There's a lot of really good positive momentum that's starting to happen with this

Downtown businesses, what do you think? Would Main Street Oakland County benefit your bottom line? Would you be willing to put in the time and money to make it a success? Stay tuned to The Clarkston News as we continue to explore what business owners can do to keep downtown the vibrant jewel that it is.

Wed., April 2, 2008 The Clarkston (MI) News 23 A

Public hearing on union set May 20

Continued from page 1A

make workers at-will employees. Current policy prohibits discipline or discharge without "just cause." The revised version would allow employee termination with or without cause.

A change to the Counseling and Discipline section would make workers at-will employees. Current policy prohibits discipline or discharge without "just cause." The revised version would allow employee termination with or without cause.

Changes, which would also affect health insurance and benefits for retirees, were to be proposed at the township board meeting on Dec. 4.

However, the proposal for the revised manual was removed from the township-board agenda and has not been discussed by the board since.

Shelagh Vander Veen, Independence Township clerk, said she worked with former Deputy Supervisor Chuck Herring, Susan Hendricks and Renee Poole from the finance department, Deputy Clerk Paula Heenan, and Greg Schultz, township attorney, on making changes in the manual.

"As you can see by all the players in there, I'm just one player," said Vanderveen. "Everybody had a hand in that and now they're pushing their chair back and leaving me standing out there."

She said changes in the manual to "at will" was because of lawsuits relating to the firing of two non-union employees.

Laura Amtsbuechler, attorney representing the township, suggested revising the employee manual.

"There were inconsistencies that kept being brought up by different staff members," said Vander Veen. "We had a lawsuit pending that brought up these inconsistencies."

To fire a "just-cause" employee, the supervisor must complete a "laundry list" of steps, including verbal reprimand, written reprimand, suspension, demotion, and then discharge, she said.

"Well, those (steps) were not done in those (lawsuit) cases," said VanderVeen.

"The 'at will' change is scary," said Mike Turk, who has worked for the township for 32 years and is director of Independence Township Parks and Recreation.

"The scariest part of it is the current board members are not going to be here forever," Turk said. "When a new board member comes in, they may know a building director, or a fire chief, or a parks and recreation director from another township that they're good friends with, and say 'sayonara' to the rest of them."

That hasn't happened yet, Turk said. His main reason for joining the union was not fear of losing his job, but others he works with.

"My concern was for other directors. who've worked here for quite some period,"

he said. "So I basically agreed to sign the card knowing that they would be protected."

Director of Public Works Director Linda Richardson, who has worked for the township for 31 years, said she remembers 20 years ago when department heads were able to put together a package of what they wanted and give it to the township board.

"Then, the township supervisor or board would look at it and either 'yay' or 'nay' it. Some of the things we have are because the

old department heads got these benefits for us," she said. "They just keep whittling away at our benefits and we don't have a say, so this would be the only way we could protect our benefits, even for the current retirees, so this does give us a voice."

Fire Chief Steve Ronk said having a union will give them a "place at the table" to discuss wages and benefits.

"It's a group that has really never formed and takes whatever comes down the pipe. It's

not hostility, there are no immediate demands, there's no war that's going to go on," he said. "This is really just so within the next year this group will be able to negotiate, at least talk about wages and benefits."

A public hearing with the Michigan Employment Relations Committee, Independence Township, and Teamsters Local 214 is set for 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 20, at Employee Relations, Cadillac Place, 3026 W. Grand Blvd., Suite 2-700, in Detroit.



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Mystery solved! About 230 people ate, drank, laughed

and looked for clues Saturday at "Murder Midst the Magnolias," a murder mystery event written by Patience Beer to support the Clarkston-area Optimist Club. While the event was set at a 1973 Mag-

nolia Academy reunion in Magnolia, Mississippi, it actually took place at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Independence Township.

The cast of characters—who sported monikers like Sasha Maybee and Clark Ortonville-answered questions as participants tried to sort through a hilarious tangle of details in the race to answer the evening's ultimate question: Whodunit?



Ramzy Dasugi and Jen Tegler check out the silent auction items



Optimist President Jean Desuqi seemed to develop a southern accent just in time for Saturday's event.



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Mystery-solvers line up for the southern-

style buffet dinner.

Sherry

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plays the 1973 Homecoming



People Poll

April 9, 2008 Page B1

Spring cleaning?



"We will be probably do a general cleaning out in the yard and house before our son graduates from Clarkston High

- April Copman



"Cleaning the inside of my house and my garage"

-Tim Meilarth



"I definitely have to purge my closets." Bonnie Caprara



"A lot of yard work, painting the inside of the house, and clean out the clos-

Ron Chamberlain

By Trevor Keiser

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Too soon to say goodbye

BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

Ginger the dog's first birthday. is bittersweet for Mike and Marsha Mercier.

A future Leader Dog for the Blind, she will soon leave the Merciers for training in Rochester.

"On April 21, she'll be a year old which means that it will soon be time for her to return to Leader Dog to start her intensive training," Mike Mercier said.

"It's going to be hard to see her go but knowing that, someday, she'll be a blind person's eyes will, hopefully, make it a little easier, but probably not much."

Ginger is the Merciers' first Leader Dog puppy. They joined the program as part of their service with the Clarkston Area Lions Club.

"It's a good way to make the community aware of the Leader Dog program," Mercier said.

The club was eager to participate in the program ever since it was reincorporated in 2005. Mercier was club president when he started the lengthy application process for the puppy program.

Ginger arrived last June as a 7week-old, nine-pound puppy.

"She was adorable," Mercier said.

She joined the Merciers and their black lab Bear in their Spring-

field Township home.

"I was nervous about how Bear would take it, but they became best buddies," Mercier said.

Leader Dog for the Blind relies on volunteer puppy raisers throughout the country.

"Our job is to teach basic obediance and socialization," he said. "It's hard work, but so much

With the Leader Dog headquarters in Rochester, the program is well known in this area, he said.

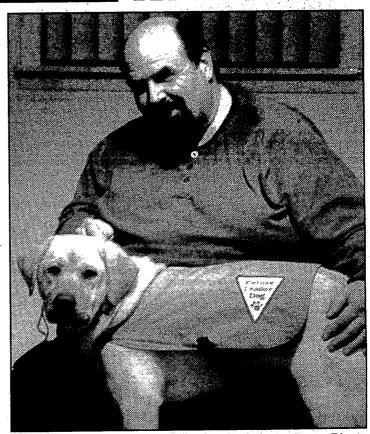
"We take her to church, restaurants, shopping, movies - blind people do go to movies, I learned. The community has been very sup-

Wearing her "future leader dog" jacket, Ginger was a hit in the Fourth of July parade, he said.

"Most people in the parade threw candy - people were asking me to throw them the puppy," he said.

"A lady came up to us, crying, and thanked us for what we were doing. She has a relative with a Leader Dog. They give people freedom. It's an amazing experience. It really is."

Next up for Ginger are four months of intensive training as a Leader Dog. After graduation comes more training with a blind person.



Mike Mercier with Ginger, his Leader Dog trainee. Photo submitted

Eyes for the blind

- Leader Dogs is a privately funded, non profit organization based in Rochester.
- More than 270 student/dog guide teams graduate annually, at \$38,000 per
- More than 12,500 teams in the United States, Canada, and around the world.
- Almost 400 puppy raisers volunteer throughout the United States and Canada. They go to Rochester to pick up and return their puppies.
- It providing seeing-eye dogs to those legally blind to help them live more independently. They accept and train students from the United States and internationally. Transportation, room and board, training, and other services are provided at no charge. Leader Dog is supported by Lions clubs, private donations, and corporate
- For more information, call 888-777-5332 or check www.leaderdog.org.



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Taste of Spring, a Wine Tasting Gala, Clarkston Rotary Club, 6:30-8:30 p.m., April 9, Oakhurst Country Club. Features Michigan wines. Appetizers prepared by Oakhurst staff. Tickets available from any Clarkston Rotarian or at the Clarkston Chamber. Proceeds benefit Clarkston Rotary's many community projects.

The Last Gladiator, comedy, Mt. Zion Theatre Company, 8 p.m., April 11-12. \$10/advance, \$12 at the door. 4900 Maybee Road. 248-409-1120.

Divine Mercy's Annual Spring Gala, 6-11 p.m., April 12, Environmental Discovery Center, Indian Springs Metropark, White Lake Road. Semi-formal, silent auction, dinner dance. Benefits the Davisburg Catholic parish's building fund. \$125/couple, \$70/each single. 248-634-7015 or 248-420-3126.

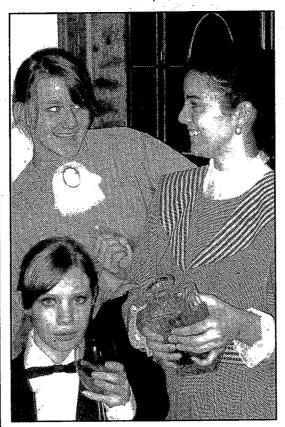
Fundraiser, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 1-4 p.m., April 13. Vendor open house, raffle. Montessori School of Clarkston, 10439 Ortonville Road. 248-620-1714.

Carrick House Concerts, Mark Stuart and special guest Pinky Lee, 4 p.m., April 13. Folk, Americana. Guitar workship follows. 5418 Boyne Highland Trail. Admission: \$10 donation. 248-394-0113.

Spaghetti Benefit for Sue Williams, 5:30-9 p.m., April 14, Knights of Columbus, 5600 Maybee Road. Spaghetti, salad, bread, beverage, dessert. \$10 donation, \$20/family. 248-535-2957.

Low Vision Support Group, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., April 15. "Optimistics" support group will tour Bordine Nursery and participate in a

Around Town



Clarkston actors on stage

Clarkston actors Eric Leady, playing Mortimer Brewster, sisters Kate Manzagol, as Mr. Witherspoon, and Christine Manzagol, as Officer O'Hara, and Joshua Clark, of Clarkston, as Dr. Einstein will perform in Michigan Youth Theater's "Arsenic and Old Lace."

Showtimes are 7 p.m., April 17-19, and 1 p.m. on April 19, at Holly Academy, 820 Academy Road in Holly. Tickets are \$7, \$5 for seniors and students. For tickets, e-mail director@michiganyouththeater.org.

Kate Manzagol, Haley Gernert, and Mary Beth Skylis, all of Clarkston, on stage. *Photo provided*

riage House. Music, crafts, games, socialization in a fun and positive environment. Children only, must be potty trained. Springfield Township Parks and Rec. \$16/resident. \$21/nonresident. 248-846-6558.

Spring Celebration Open House, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., April 19, Environmental Discovery, Indian Springs Metropark. Guided discovery hikes, crafts that use natural and recycled materials, games, activities. Park entry pass, \$4 daily. 248-625-6640.

Infant, Child, Adult CPR, 6-9 p.m., April 24. Springfield Township Parks and Rec. Certified instructors from McLaren Wellness Center. Civic Center, 12000

Davisburg Road. 10 years and older. \$30/resident. \$35/nonresident! 248-846-6558.

Spring Used Book & Home Baked Goods Sale, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., April 24; 10 a.m.-6 p.m., April 25; 10 a.m.-12 p.m., April 26, 'Bag of Books' sale. Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

Benefit dinner, Middle School, Waterford Community Church, for Bike and Hiking excursion in the Upper Peninsula, 4-8 p.m., April 30. Pete's Coney Island II, Dixie Highway. 248-673-3880.

Children's Book Day, April 30, Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

Family Bingo Night, 7 p.m., May 15. Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

Michigan Notable Author Visit, Sharon Kegerreis and Lorri Hathaway, featuring "From the Vine: Exploring Michigan Wineries," 6 p.m., May 20. Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

Digital Camera Class, 6 p.m., May 29. registration required. Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550

Mothers & More, non-profit dedicated to improving lives of mothers through support, education, advocacy, 7:15 p.m., third Monday, Red Knapp's Restaurant, 6722 Dixie Highway. 248-969-9788.

Drum's Alive Golden Beats, 9-10 a.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, through April 16. Community Education Center, 6558 Waldon Road. \$27 for one day/week; \$54, two days/week; \$6 per class drop-in. All equipment included. 248-625-8231.

Tai Chi, 11 a.m.-noon, Mondays, through April 21. Teacher John Marchewitz studied this Wu Style T'ai Chi Ch'uan form in Please see Around Town on page 3B

planting project. \$3 transportation, plus lunch on your own at local restaurant. Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

Giggles & Games, for preschoolers, 6:30-8 p.m., April 18, Clintonwood Park Car-

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Around Town

Continued from page 2B

China. St. Dan's. \$45/10-week session. Call senior center, 248-625-8231.

Men's 50+ Softball, Practices Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays weather permitting. Players placed according to ability. League games start May 6. Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

Clarkston Community Band rehearsals, 7 p.m., Tuesdays. Especially needed: percussion, clarinets, trumpets. \$30/semester. Band room, Sashabaw Middle School, 5565 Pine Knob Lane. Independence Township Parks & Recreation, 248-625-8223 or www.clarkstonband.org.

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.

Sanchin Ryu Karate, Tuesdays, April 15-June 3, Hart Community Center, 495 Broadway, Davisburg. Classes for children, families. 248-846-6558

Gentle Yoga, 8:30-9:15 a.m., Tuesdays, April 15-May 27, Carriage House, 6000 Clarkston Road. Bring yoga mat and com-

fortable clothing. \$31.50/seven week session. \$6/drop-in. 248-625-8231.

Women's 50+ Softball, countywide slowpitch league, games on Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., beginning in May. Practices in April. Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

Needlework Night, fourth Tuesday, 6:30-8 p.m. Stitch and visit. Everyone welcome. Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

Strength and Stretch, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Tuesdays, Thursdays, April 15-May 29. Certified Senior Instructor Nancy Boch. \$63/each seven-week session. Drop-in/\$6. Carriage House, Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

Shallow Water Aerobics, through Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, 12-1 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, through May 15. Clarkston High School Pool. Medium intensity workout: water walking, low-impact aerobics in 82-degree pool. \$42/six weeks. 248-625-8231.

Clarkston Area Optimist Club, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Wednesdays, Clarkston United

Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 6600 Waldon Road. 248-622-6096.

De-Stress Gentle Yoga, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesdays, April 16-May 28. Instructor Nancy Boch. \$35/each seven-week session. Drop-in/\$6. Carriage House, Independence Township Senior Adult Activity 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.

Line dancing in Clarkston, Thursdays, Beginners 1-2:30 p.m., Intermediate/Advanced 3-4 p.m. \$3. Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Call Independence Township Senior Center, 248-625-8231.

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.

Movies and Munchies, 1:30 p.m., Thursdays; April 17: "The Quiet Man"; May 15: "North by Northwest"; June 19: "The Thin

Man"; July 17, "Rio Bravo"; and Aug. 21: "The King and I." Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

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.

Lego Robotics, 6-7 p.m., Thursdays, April 17-June 5, Hart Community Center, 495 Broadway, Davisburg. Springfield Township Parks and Rec. Grades 4-8. \$40/resident. \$45/nonresident. 248-846-6558.

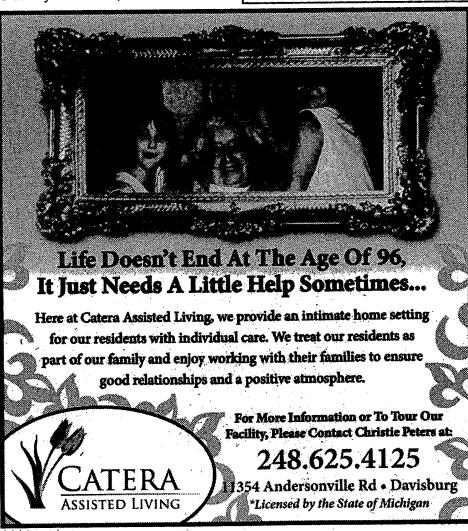
Perennial Swap, 10 a.m., June 17. Free. Mill Pond Park, Davisburg. Springfield Township Parks and Rec, 248-846-6558.

Volunteering, Avalon Hospice, sit with patients, hold their hand, listen to stories, personal care, or just be there. Two hours a week or more. 800-664-6334.

Community events?

Tell us about them at ClarkstonNews@gmail.com or 248-625-3370





B 4 Wed., April 9, 2008 The Clarkston (MI) News



Business women learn latest in communication

Marty Zimmerman, above, with Debbie Hansen of Oxford Bank, was keynote speaker at the March 27 Women in Business meeting. He spoke about dealing with Conflict Resolution.

Below are **Donna Cook** and **Dianne Lamm**, Clarkston Specialty Healthcare Center, at the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce event.

The chamber hosts Women in Business every month, for networking, communica-

tions, and professional and personal growth.

The next meeting is set for 10:45 a.m.-1 p.m., Thursday, April 24, at Oakhurst Country Club. Cliff Suttle will discuss "The Art of Being Memorable," and other presentation skills.

Tickets are \$25 for chamber members, \$30 for nonmembers. Call 248-625-8055.

Photos submitted – Phil Custodio







Savings of up to 50-70% Off!

Rain or shine, be sure to get to the Palm Beach Furniture Tent Sale. This weekend only, you'll find savings up to 50-70% on everything you'll need for spring and summer in outdoor furniture and accessories.

Cash & Carry -Be Sure To Bring Your Truck!

FRIDAY, APRIL 1110-8 SATURDAY, APRIL 12 10-6 SUNDAY, APRIL 13 12-4





Umbrellas from \$119.99 Patio Sets from \$399.99 Limited Quantities

Savings throughout the store!



PATIO & CASUAL FURNITURE

STORE HOURS: Man., Thur., Fri., 10-8 • Tue., Wed. & Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 12-4 7350 Highland Rd./M-59 (w. of Oakland County Airport). Waterford, MI 48327 (248) 666-2880 • www.palmbeachpalio.com

ReligionChrist shows how to approach others

Spiritual

Matters

A story that could be true of any one of us...One day a counter another human, no matter who they are or what woman was shopping with her young daughter. She was very busy and had many errands to run.

The crowds and traffic were terrible that day, so they even had to skip lunch to get everything done.

Towards the end of the long day the woman was tired and hungry, her feet were aching, and she was more than a little irritable.

As they left the last store to finally head for home, the woman with turned and said offhandedly to her daughter, "Could you believe the nasty look that salesman gave me?"

Without skipping a beat her young daughter innocently answered, "Mommy, he didn't give that nasty look to you. You already had it when you went in."

Heierman Knowing the young girl was right, the woman paused, said a silent prayer and gave her daughter a hug as she said, "Thanks, I really needed that!"

Like it or not, intentionally or unintentionally, carefully or carelessly, we share what we have with others.

It's true, whether we are aware of it or not, that what we do has an impact on our world and on those around us "for better or for worse."

We are not islands unto ourselves. Every time we en-

their position is, we have an opportunity to build up or tear down.

Wherever we go we can share joy, peace and love, or we can sow anger, anxiety, frustration and despair.

I know all of this, and likely you do to. But sometimes I act like I don't really get it or seem to care. When that happens others get hurt by my carelessness.

Life can be very difficult sometimes and yet in the midst of all things I really want to build others up and I want to share goodness.

Often it is in the common everyday opportunities and experiences that we have our greatest impact - and our kids, and others, do watch what we do more carefully than we are usually aware.

In the Bible times I can imagine Jesus' disciples and others watching him very carefully to see how he handled things – how he treated people along the journey of life.

Was he consistent? How did he deal with interruptions? How did he handle those different from him? How did he react to those who made mistakes? What did he really care about most? How did he share his love and amazing grace with those he met?

After Easter Jesus appears to his disciples a number of times and shares with them the miracle of his resurrection.

Because it was so amazing they were always startled by Please see Spiritual Matters, page 7B

In our churches...

Rummage Sale, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., April 25-26, St. Trinity Lutheran Church gym, 7925 Sashabaw Road. 248-625-4644. St. Trinity Preschool is enrolling students for the fall 2008 program. 248-620-6154.

The Sermon on the Mount, ongoing study of Emmett Fox's classic book, 7 p.m., Wednesdays, Facilitated by the Rev. Matthew Long, Peace Unity. Oakland County Alano Club, 5661 Clintonville Road.

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.

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.

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.

Please see In Our Churches, page 7B



DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH

8585 Dixie Highwy, Clarkston, MI (248) 625-2311 website: www.dixiebantist.org Home of Springfield Christian Academy & Children's Ark Preschool Pastor: J. Todd Vanaman Sun: 10:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship 11:00 am Worship Service 6:00 pm Worship Service Wed: 6:45 pm AWANA 7:00 pm Teen Meetings & Adult Bible Study Nursery available for all services.

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) Nursery available Sunday School (all ages) 9:30 (Seasonal) Meal, worship, small groups Wed evening - Dinner & Bible Study 6 pm (Seasonal) Relevant messages, caring people.

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

ST. TRINITY **LUTHERAN CHURCH**

"Lutheran Church Missouri Synod^a Pastor James Krueger 7925 Sashabaw Road (1/4 mile N. of DTE Music Theater) Clarkston, MI 48348 (248) 625-4644 www.sainttrinitylutheran.com e-mail: sttrinity@comcast.net Worship: Sun. 8:15 am & 11:00 am Sat. 6:00 pm Sunday School 9:45 am Preschool: 3-4 years old Preschool: 620-6154

ST. DANIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

7010 Valley Park Dr., Clarkston (W. of M-15, S. of I-75) 625-4580 Rev. Christopher Maus Saturday Mass: 5:00 pm Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am Nursery Available: 9:00 & 11:00 am Religious Education: 625-1750 Mother's Group, RCIA, Scripture Study, Youth Group

PEACE UNITY CHURCH

A new spiritual community: We invite you to attend our Sunday Celebration's and Children's Church at 9am. Followed by coffee/social hour in the "Taste of Heaven Cafe" Peace Unity meets at Sashabaw Presbyterian Church 5300 Maybee Rd. in Clarkston Spiritual Education, prayer, mastermind, and social activities offered as well Rev. Matthew E. Long, founding minister Peace Unity Church P.O. Box 837 • Clarkston, MI 48347 peace.unity@sbcglobal.net Where ever you are on you spiritual path we welcome you!

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston Father Les Harding Sunday 8 am & 10 am **Holy Eucharist** Sunday School 9:55 am Nursery Provided Bible Study -Wed. 7 pm www.clarkstonepiscopal.org 248-625-2325

CLARKSTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

5482 Winell-Clarkston (corner of Maybee & Winell) 248-623-1224 Service 9:00 • 10:30 www.ClarkstonFMC.org Wednesday 7 pm Youth & Adult Ministry

NORTHOAKS

COMMUNITY CHURCH Evangelical Presbyterian Church Sunday Worship 10:30 am New Location 9600 Ortonville Rd. (M-15) Clarkston, MI 48348 (2 miles north of I-75; church entrance is on Hadley Rd.) (248) 922-3515 www.northoakschurch.org

THE FIRST FIRST BAPTIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CLARKSTON

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston (248) 394-0200 Fax: (248) 394-2142 Rev. Doctor Martin Hall Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School 10:00 am **Dream Keepers Youth Group** Wednesday 7:00 pm Youth Groups 6-12 Wednesday 6:30 pm www.FirstCongregationalChurch.org

CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 6600 Walden 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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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

BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH

6765 Rattalee Lake Road Clarkston, 48348 (248)625-1344 Services: Sunday 9:00am & 10:45am Morning Worship Service **Exploration Station** Children's Ministry Wed. 6:45pm Fit For Life Adult Life Ministry c.r.a.v.e.-Student Life Ministry Ozone - Children's Life Ministry Nurture Center/Wonderland available for all services A Church For Life www.bridgewoodchurch.com

SASHABAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Little Church with a BIG Heart" 5300 Maybee Road, Clarkston Worship 11:00 am Nursery Provided Phone (248) 673-3101

DIVINE MERCY PARISH

"A Mission Chuch" Mass celebrated at **Davisburg Elementary School** 12003 Davisburg Rd. Saturday at 5:00 pm Sunday at 10:00 am Celebrant: Msgr John Budde www.divinemercyparish.net

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

6300 Clarkston Road • Clarkston (248) 625-1323 Home of Oakland Christian School Pastors: Grea Henneman, Bonita Laudeman, Kevin Kuehne, Michael Anderson, Dan Whiting Sunday: Worship 9:30 & 11:00 am Spiritual Formation 11:00 am Nursery Care at all services Wednesday: Children's Ministries 6:00-8:00 pm Sunday: Youth Ministries 5:00-7:00 pm www.clarkstoncchurch.com

248-625-1010

25 South Main Street in Downtown Clarkston

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Take a Virtual Tour Online: www.mmrealtors.com



Sumptuous, sweeping ranch w/an extra-deep daylight basement emphasized w/arches, honey-hued hardwoods, soaring ceilings, ceramic, and glitzy granite t/o. A most extraordinary sub. \$430,000 98-KIN



Nearly new, stunning 2,700 sq. ft. w/4-5 bedrooms, 3 full/1 half baths, ample hardwood floors, granite, Corian, and finished walkout adds 1,000 sq. ft. Clarkston sidewalk sub. \$299,999 72-VIL



Charmingly restored colonial w/4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, dreamy fire lit kitchen, and a finished walkout leads to 3 idyllic acres complete w/30 x 40 pole barn. Clarkston Schools. \$289,900 88-REE



Dazzling 4-bedroom contemporary resting upon 5 wooded acres, complete w/heated pole barn and fishing pond. Revel in its upscale amenities without ever leaving paved roads. \$289,900 33-SEÝ



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. \$287,500 66-DEE



Entirely modernized "shabby chic" colonial w/4 bedrooms, 2 full/1 half baths, foyer w/curved staircase, granite kitchen, and a sea of hardwood floors t/o. Pole/horse barn. \$244,000 99-REE



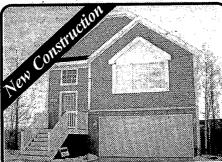
Maintenance-free, 3-bedroom beauty w/the utmost in upgrades: cherry hardwoods & cabinets, ceramic, stainless steel appliances, designer paints, and a daylight basement. \$214,999 or \$1,300/mo. 53-WIL



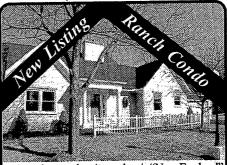
Posh ranch w/a finished walkout = 2,800 sq. ft. 3 bedrooms, 2 full/1 half baths, vaulted ceilings w/skylights, chic color selections, and an oversized deck w/stone patio & walkways. \$209,000 28-BIR



Phenomenally updated 3 bedroom ranch w/a finished walkout placed on .34-acre manicured grounds. Fawn over its wide open spaces, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, and central locale. \$200,000 72-HOL



A blooming new residential Clarkston community boasting an eye-catching price tag and low-maintenance convenience. 4 dramatic floor plans from which to choose. From \$195,900 WIL



Crisp, clean end-unit ranch w/a "New England" flair and surrounded by serenity. Sunny master suite, kitchen w/all appliances included, first floor laundry, and a 2-car attached garage. \$170,000 76-GOL



Now available for lease! Clarkston's newest and most affordable condo community boasting space-saving floor plans, spectacular amenities, detached garage w/storage loft, and a near-village location. From \$124,900 TRI



LEADING REAL ESTATE COMPANIES' OF THE WORLD



Spiritual Matters

his presence (Luke 24:37) or they didn't recognize him (Luke 24:14).

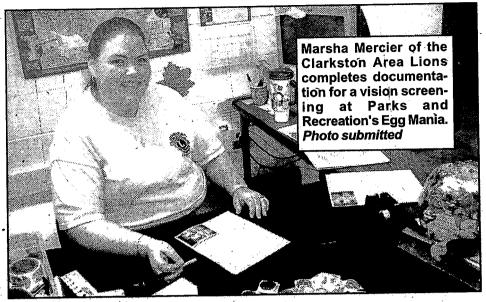
And almost always Jesus' first words to his friends were, "Peace be with you." What wonderful opening words they are and they helped.

I long for that peace in my life too. They are words I need to hear today in the midst of the ups and downs of my life. I believe Jesus says the same thing to me, and that because of that I can approach each day of my life differently and I can have a fresh

Following Jesus' example I wonder how our days would be different if we greeted each new morning and each encounter with another with the words, "Peace be with you."

That is the kind of impact I want to have more and more each day, and with God's help I really can.

The Rev. Jonathan A. Heierman is pastor of Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church.



Helping children see

Clarkston Area Lions Club provided free vision problem of one or both eyes. screening to 43 children at Independence Township Parks and Recreation's Egg Mania this past March.

Special photographs were taken of the children's eyes. The pictures were sent to Children's Hospital where they are reviewed by trained professionals to identify abnormalities that may indicate an undetected

The screening can detect most problems that cause poor vision in young children, including improperly aligned eyes, nearsightedness, farsightedness, cataracts, and droopy eye-lid.

The Lions purchased the special cameras and film as a service to the community.

Join Us for Brunch

In our churches

continued from 5B

Church of the Resurrection has bible study every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Study is currently on "Paul's letter to the Romans." 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. 7010 Valley Park Drive. Call 248-625-1750.

Like to join the **Spiritual Matters** discussion?

Call us at 248-625-3370

from 10am 'til 2pm



ticket to win a 2008 Jeep! Now

Athletic Club Membership Special

Initiation Fee \$199 for Family Membership and \$149 for Individual Membership

The ticket admits 1 person to dinner and 1 drink Cash Bar and Entertainment Doors Open 6:00 pm Car Drawing 8:30 pm

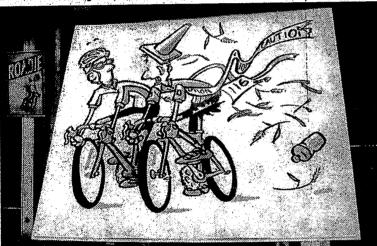
(Offer valid for one free ticket per new membership, not more than one ticket if more than one person is on membership)

Call today! 248-625-8686 Located at 6167 White Lake Rd. near Dixie Hwy. in Clarkston www.deerlakeathleticclub.com

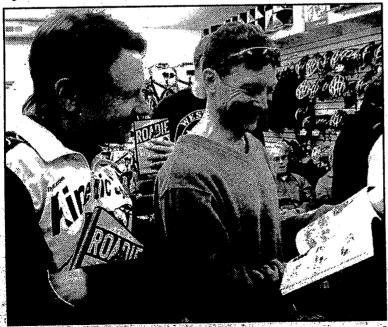
Sunday he Back Court Featuring the Fabulous Omelet Station made-to-order with the freshest of ingredients Additional Breakfast Choices: • Scrambled Eggs • Miami French Toast · Breakfast Browns · Yogurt with Granola • Biscuits & Gravy • Muffins • Bacon • Sausage • Bagels • English Muffins • Fresh Fruit • Assorted Desserts \$11.95 ADULT \$10.95 SENIOR \$6.95 CHILD



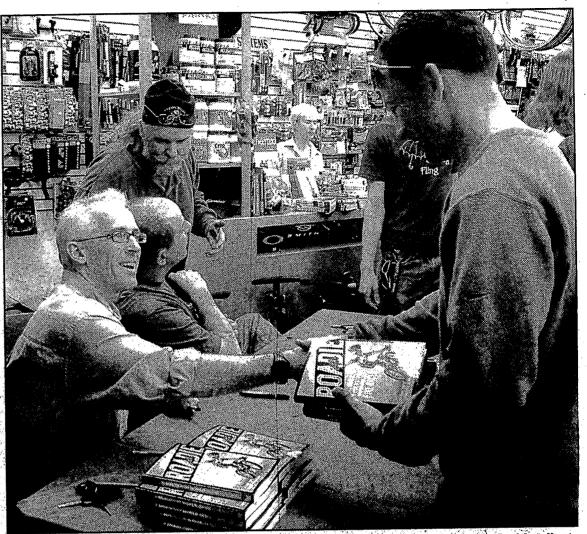
Author Jamie Smith, right, and illustrator Jef Mallett sign their books for Mary Sloan of Independence Township.



Mallet drew this illustration for the book signing at Kinetic Systems Saturday in Clarkston.



Mark Wolowiec, left, and Scott Claes skim through one of Mallet's Frazz books.



Jef Mallet, creator of the comic strip Frazz, shakes Scott Claes' hand, as Jamie Smith talks to Kinetic Systems co-owner Jeff Noftz.

That's the way they roll

BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

For Jamie Smith and thousands of other enthusiasts, cycling is like a religion.

"We have our own beliefs, dress, and language," said Smith. "My parents were mystified."

To explain the customs and quirks of bicycle racing, the Davisburg native wrote a book, "Roadie – the Misunderstood World of a Bike Racer."

"It will hopefully explain why we ride 5 ½ hours a day," he said at a book signing Saturday at Kinetic Systems in downtown Clarkston. "I wanted to tell you what it's really about in one, comprehensive package."

Cycling fans and friends filled the bicycle shop to meet Smith and book illustrator Jef Mallett, creator of the nationally syndicated comic strip "Frazz."

"Jamie grew up in this store," said Louis Kasl, who owns Kinetic

Systems with Jeff Noftz in Clarkston. "He started riding with the club when he was a young teenager."

"I've known Jamie for 15 years—all of us are teammates," said Scott Claes of West Bloomfield, who stopped by for autographs and pictures

Mallett and his Frazz character, an elementary school janitor, are also bike enthusiasts, and cycling is a frequent part of the comic strip.

"(Frazz) hits close to home," said Ed Chenhalls of Waterford. "Everyone went to school with a corny teacher."

"I read it when I get the chance – people send me copies, especially his biking stuff," Claes said.

Despite collaborating on a 224page book, the April 5 book signing was only the second time Smith and Mallett met face to face.

"That's more than a lot of author, illustrator collaborations," Mallett said. "Publishers prefer it

advalue de la Harania y Lat agracia de

that way. But I wanted to meet the author first."

A Lansing resident, Mallet didn't have far to go to meet Smith who works in Rochester Hills.

"We got along right off the bat,"
Mallett said. "Jamie gave me the
text, and I looked at it and thought
I can illustrate this — we have the
same story to tell."

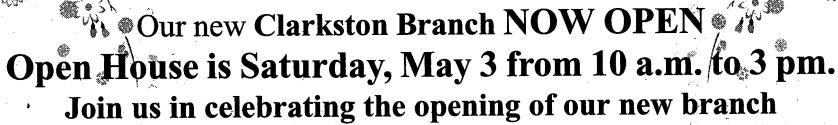
"Roadie" explains the lifestyle of a bike racer, including devotion to the sport, bike specifications, training, and nutrition. It moves on to technical features such as drafting, breakaway, sprints, temporary alliances, and crashes, as well as rituals of race day, referee and race rules, and sponsors. It explores cycling's race formats, and how friends and family can get involved.

The author has been a bike racer since 1983 and race announcer since 1985.

For more information, check www.thatsbikeracing.com or call Kinetic at 248-625-7000.







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Credit Unions are built on the premise of "people helping people." With this in mind, Oakland County Credit Union has been working to help make the lives of our member/owners better since 1953. Because we are a not-for-profit financial institution owned by you, our members, we aren't responsible to shareholders to turn a specific profit, meaning that our members are the ones who benefit.



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Refer-a-member and receive \$50! Spread the good news about OCCU and you could make a windfall. For each person you refer that signs up for checking, you'll receive **\$50!** You'll pocket \$20 if they sign up for a savings account only.

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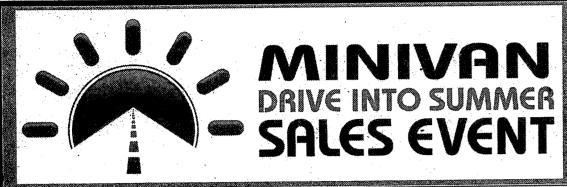
6580 Dixie Hwy. Clarkston

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1375 North Oakland Blvd Waterford 248-886-0144

Offers good March 17-May 3. For official entry rules, see the "What's New" section of our Web Site or visit any branch. *Offer valid only for qualifying loans worth at least \$10,000.**Entries for carmust be submitted by 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 25.

www.oaklandcountycu.com



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2008 Chrysler **Town & Country Touring**



liftgate, dual zone A/C, AM/FM/CD stereo, MP3 player, keyless entry, cruise, traction control. Stk. #880121

No Charge - My Gig (20 gb Hard Disc Drive AM/FM Sirius

Satellite Radio with MP 3 input CD/DVD Player, uConnect &

Integrated 6.5" Touch Screen Display.) Auto., Air, Power

Windows/Locks, Tilt, Cruise. Stk. #840023

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2008 Chrysler Sebring Touring Chrysler Employee

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51500 Down Chrysler Employee & Family Member 24 Mo. Lease \$195^{65*}

24 Mo. Pre-Pay 6,307

General Public 27 Mo. Lease \$235⁰⁰

& Family Member

36 Mo. Lease

\$181^{96*}

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General Public

36 Mo. Lease

\$206^{00*}

Chrysler Employee & Family Member

14,674

General Public

Purchase 15,978**

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General Public 30 Mo. Lease \$20747

2008 Jeep Liberty 4x4



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1500 Down Chrysler Employee & Family Member 24 Mo. Lease

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General Public 24 Mo. Lease

\$189^{00*}

2008 Jeep Compass



Chrysler Employee & Family Member Purchase 12,891 **General Public**

Purchase 13,995

AM/FM/CD Player, A/C, 4 Wheel ABS, Power Steering/Locks, Fog Lamps, Front Wheel drive, Rear Defrost, Aluminum Wheels, Front & Rear Air Bags. Stk. #830000

Power Windows/Locks. Stk. #815030 *Due at delivery includes down payment, 1st payment, doc fee, title & plate transfer. Add 6% tax to down payment and rebates. Includes all applicable rebates, lease loyalty and military. ** Must qualify for Chrysler Employee Purchase program includes all applicable incentives and Jeep Military. Plus tax, doc, title, license and destination. Offers end 4-30-08

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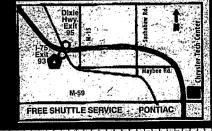
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1-306-333-ILP

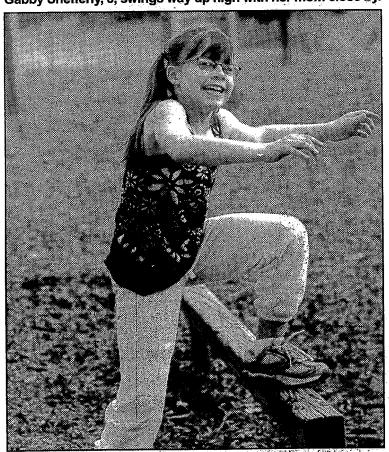
Visit Our Entire Inventory At www.clarksionchrysicr.com 8105 Big Lake Rd., Clarkston Exit 93, I-75 at Dixie Hwy.

Sales Open Mon. & Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Tues., Wed., Fri. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

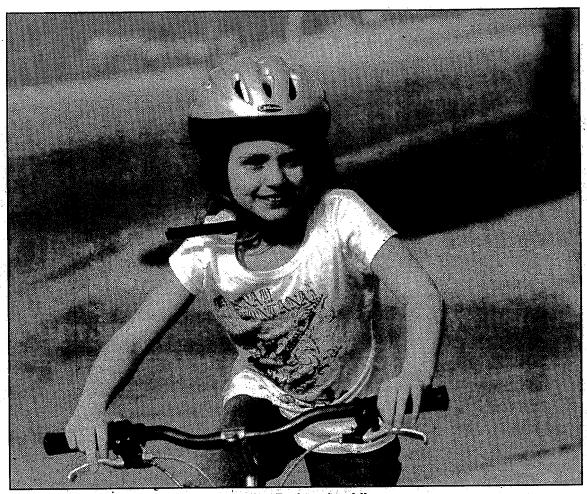


B 12 Wed., April 9, 2008 The Clarkston (MI) News

Gabby Shefferly, 3, swings way up high with her mom close by.



Gymnast Haley Cascone, 9, works on her balance beam routine in the park.



Trinity Lindeberg, 6, cruises toward Depot Park on her bike.

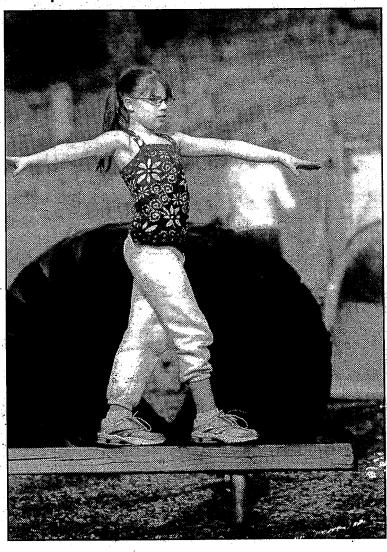
Spring comes to Depot Park

It's not beach weather yet, but spring is definitely in the air.

After a long, gray winter, dozens of kids left the warm coats, hats and mittens at home Monday and headed toward Depot Park in downtown Clarkston to enjoy sunshine and spring-like temperatures.

We thought it was a great idea, too!

Photo story by Laura Colvin



PUBLIC NOTICE Because the People Want to Know

CLARKSTON

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON 375 DEPOT ROAD CLARKSTON, MI 48346

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS April 17, 2008

7:00 p.m. The City of the Village of Clarkston Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on Thursday, April 17, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following: Case C-004, 5 South Main, a request by Michelle

Tynan for a variance on the posting of The Drawing Board Studios construction sign. Applicant requests a variance to allow the posting of this sign at the mural site on scaffolding for the length of the project.

ZBA Chairman

NDEPENDENCE TWP.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Independence Township Planning Commission. Oakland County, Michigan, will hold a Public Hearing on: Thursday, April 24, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. At the Independence Township Library, 6495

Clarkston Road, Clarkston, Michigan, 48346 to consider the following:

FILE PC #2008-007

Vision Development of Michigan Inc., Petitioner REQUEST AMENDED FINAL PUD SITE PLAN APPROVAL AND PUD CONDITIONS FOR ADDITION TO TOWN CENTER AUTO WASH

1.10 Acres, PUD Zoning, 08-27-201-022 d Use: Auto Wash and Oil Change Facility Intended Use: Common Description: 6380 Sashabaw Road

East side of Sashabaw Road,

South of Waldon Road
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT THE ABOVE REQUEST MAY BE EXAMINED at the Township Building Department during regular business hours. Written com-ments may be sent to the Planning Commission c/o the Independence Township Building Department, 90 N. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346 prior to the Public Hearing/ eting. For further information call (248) 625-8111.

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)

SYNOPSIS

TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE

Mr. Wagner called the April 1, 2008, meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., at the independence Township Public Li-

Pledge of Allegiance

Present: VanderVeen, Wenger, Rosso

Travis, Dunn, Wagner, Kelly

There was a quorum

- **Opening Statements and Correspondence**
- Public Forum opened at 8:46 p.m. and closed at 8:52
- Approved the Agenda, as amended
- Approved Motion to approve the Consent Agenda: a. Minutes of March 18, 2008
 - Purchase Orders
- Accounts Payable Check Run
- Discussion on Greenspace Ballot Initiative
 Approved motion waiving bid process and approve 2008 DPW Vehicle Purchas
- Approved motion to authorize Supervisor to enter into Collaborative Asset Management System
- Approved motion to enter into Closed Session to discuss Legal Opinion on Collective Bargaining Agreement at 9:13 p.m.
- Approved motion to go into Open Session at 10:05
- Approved motion to adjourn regularly scheduled meeting at 10:05 p.m.

Shelagh VanderVeen **Township Clerk**

Londa 'Dean' Dillingham

Londa "Dean" Dillingham of Clarkston passed away March 26 at the age of 81.

She was preceded in death by her husband Dallas "Tootie," and brothers Jerry Fugate and Billy Fugate. She was the loving mother of Fay (Michael) Crites and Kay (Thomas) West; grandmother of Shane Crites, Stacey (Ken) Crites-Williams, John (Julie) Ingweiller, and Michael (Laura) Ingweiller; great grandmother of John Ingweiller Jr. and Maxwell Williams; sister of Carlon (Jim) Stokes and Donald (Dorothy) Fugate; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and friends.



Mrs. Dillingham was a member of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary Post 377 for over 50 years. She was a member of Grace Baptist Church, Waterford.

Funeral Service was April 3 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston.

Interment White Chapel Cemetery. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Louise B. Weeks

Louise B. Weeks of Clarkston passed away April 3 at the age of 86.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband Leonard. She was the mother of Dr. Ann (John) Move of Clarkston and Dr. Kendall (Phyliss) Weeks of West Bloomfield; grandmother of David (Dana) Weeks, Benjamin Weeks, Elizabeth

Moye, Brian McConlogue, Christine Moye, and Josh Shultz.

Memorial service was April 6 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to Habitat for Humanity or Michigan Humane Sociguestbook Online ety. www.wintfuneralhome.com

Clifford E. 'Cliff' Haas III

Clifford E. "Cliff" Haas III of Holly passed away suddenly died April 4 at the age of 43,

He was the loving husband of Bette for 17 years; brother of-Mindy



Haas of Holly, preceded in death by his parents Thelma Goans and Clifford Haas II; son in law of Jeanette and Jim Boling of Troy; brother in law of Beth Boling of White Lake; also survived by Jack and Randy Wagoner, Theresa Cobb, Pam Rohn, Jeff May, Randal Wagoner, many extended family and special friends.

Mr. Haas was a brick mason. He owned C & H Masonry.

Funeral Service was April 8 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston.

Interment is in Holly. Online guestbook, www.wintfuneralhome.com.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA Date and Time: April 15, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. Place: Independence Township Library

6495 Clarkston Road, Clarkston, MI 48346

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Opening Statements and Correspondence
- Approval of Agenda
- Public Forum Individuals in the audience have the opportunity to address the Township Board on an issue that is not on the
 - agenda, limiting their comments to not more than three minutes
- Consent Agend
 - a. Approval of Minutes of April 1, 2008
- Approval of Purchase Orders
 Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run
 Proclamation Mental Health Month, May, 2008 Unfinished Business
- 1. Board decision on placing the Open Spaces millage request on the November ballot **New Business**
- Permission to hire Park Laborer
- First Reading of a Rezoning Request from OS-2 (Office Services Two) to C-3/PRO (Highway Commercial/Planned Rezoning Overlay), restricted to C-1 and OS-2 Uses (Local Business and Office Service Two), Clarkston Hill Offices, LLC, Petitioner, 6160 Dixie Highway (08-33-302-031)
- Robert's Rules of Order being used by the Board Approval of 2008 Road Chloride Program The Charter Township of Independence will provide

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 Clerk's Office at (248) 625-5111.

Obituaries are updated daily at ClarkstonNews.com



Group-home managers learn latest laws

Wint Funeral Home hosted an appreciation luncheon and informational seminar for area group-home managers March 19, at Red Knapp's American Grill on Dixie Highway.

Funeral Director Jenni Simsack explained recent legal updates regarding new cremation laws to the managers, and Connie Glynn, director of Family Services, discussed differences between funeral insurance policies and funeral trusts.

A gift card to the restaurant was provided by owner Roger Knapp for the door prize drawing and was won by Reeta Smith of Redwood, Inc.

The Oxford Leader - The Clarkston News - The Lake Orion Review - Ad-Vertiser - Penny Stretcher

5 Papers-2 Weeks-\$13.00 - Over 50,900 Homes

10 WORDS (50¢ EACH ADDITIONAL WORD) (Commercial accounts \$9.00 a week)

WANTED: GUNS & parts, tools,

collectibles, autos. 586-216-

6200, 248-933-2217, 248-

WANTED- ALL CARS and trucks,

innk or not, \$175 and up for com-

plete vehicles. 248-825-5050

ANTIQUE FIREARMS WANTED:

Winchesters, Colts, Browning

Top dollar paid. 248-628-7086.

JUNK CARS- Hauled away free.

Will buy repairables. Bob Rondo,

AUTOS WANTED, running or not

\$100 & up, 248-842-8169.

WANTED: CARS, Trucks

needing repair or high miles. \$50-

\$5000, 810-724-7647 or 810-

WANTED: USED BOAT trailer for

14' rowboat. 248-693-4792.

RI ACK ANGUS FREEZER beef.

hormone/ antibiotic free, corn fed.

\$1.95/ lb., complete, 1/4 - 1/2.

3RD CUTTING ALFALFA/ timothy

hay, square bales. \$4.50 each.

810-706-3339 or 810-796-

SEASONED QUALITY hardwood

cut and solit, delivery available.

INSTRUMENTS

COMPLETE SONAR drum set.

new Zildian cymbals, \$1,000 or

trade for car that runs. 248-605-

EXPERT

PIANO TUNING

Call Matt

248-766-3122

THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE

are reading this want ad, just like

you are 'BIIV and SELL in ads

like this. We'll help you with

wording. 248-628-4801 ILZ8tf

RX24-52

248-627-6316, !IZX33-4c

040 PRODUCE

989-635-3243. !!C384

050 FIREWOOD

060 MUSICAL

4049 11039-2

2117. !!L181

338-7770. !!LZ164

248-310-2687. !!LZ164

933-5414, !IL6-16

IILZX34-4

111.172

11C39-4

VERIFICATION

Ad-vertiser Penny Stretcher The Citizen

All advertising in Sherman Publications, Inc. is subject to the conditions in the applicable rate card or advertising contract, copies of which are available from the Ad Dept. The Oxford Leader, P.O. Box 108, 666 S. Lapeer Rd., Oxford, MI 48371 (248-628-4801), The Lake Orion Review, 30 N. Broadway, Lake Orion, MI 48362 (248-693-8331) or The Clarkston News, 5 S. Main, Clarkston, MI 48346 (248-625-3370). This newspaper reserves the right News, 5 S. Main, Clarkston, MI 40340 (240-0237-3377). This have paper leaders and not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

CONDITIONS

010 HOLIDAY ITEMS

HAND CASTING

!!!Absolutely Unique Personalized Gift!!! ANNIVERSARIES, WEDDINGS, MOTHERS DAY, FIRST COMMUNION SPORTS... Immortalize in Sculpture! Personal Sittings \$90 Customer Referral Discount Available, Email: fizzyx-handcasting@vahoo.com www.n810nc.com

L17-2

020 GREETINGS

SHERMAN PUBLICATIONS **DEADLINE FOR** CLASSIFIED ADS MONDAY NOON

CANCELLATION DEADLINE MONDAY NOON 248-628-4801

030 WANTED

JUNK AUTOS ETC. hauled free title or not. 248-627-2436 or 248-249-3284, !!ZX35-2

WANTED: 3 POINT hitch, small rototiller. 248-625-4506. 11C392

WILL PAY CASH for your car, need cars! Contact Dan Shippy 248-215-5152 !!ZX35-4c

SELL UNWANTED VEHICLES for top dollar. Running or not. 248-891-7525. IILZ154

CASH FOR YOUR Unwanted Vehicles, I pay the most! 423-280-3578. !!ZX34-4

SCRAP BATTERIES, Copper, Starters, Radiators, Wire, Alumi num, Converters. 248-436-2863, IIC37-3

CASH PAID for junk cars and trucks, free towing, 810-656-2993, 11ZX33-4

WANTED

JUNK CARS, TRUCKS & SCRAP METAL

TOP \$ PAID 248-860-5799

L168

070 TUTORING/ LESSONS

PIANO & KEYBOARD lessons, \$12 per lesson, 248-391-1773. !!L181

DRUM LESSONS with a very experienced teacher. 248-693-7752 !!L18-2

MATH TUTOR For all School age students. High School \$15/ hour, Junior High and below \$10/ hour 248-240-9124 or 248-467-4910. !!ZX34-2

TUTORING: ELEMENTARY & Middle School. Retired teacher, 37 years experience. Special & eral education. 248-894-7048. !!L172

080 LAWN & GARDEN

TREES

- •Spruce, Fir, Pine, Flowering and Shade Trees
- 1000's of State Inspected Trees
- Delivery & Installation Available

"We are happy to discuss your Tree Needs and Site Improvements"

Spruce Meadows Tree Farm

810-577-2419 spruce_meadows@yahoo.com

LZ17-8

GRAVEL

21AA Road Gravel For Your Driveway. 9 Ton - \$199 Delivered - Up to 10 Miles. Quantity Discounts Spreading Available RICK PHILLIPS LANDSCAPE SUPPLY

248-628-9777 1172 CHIPPER/ SHREDDER. Trov-Bilt Junior Tomahawk 3 HP- \$225. Call 248-391-2288. IIL18-2 SKAGGS TIGER CUB, zero turn, 48", like new, \$3900 obo. 810

664-9380 !!L18-2 RIDING MOWER, 16.5hp Briggs & Stratton. 42" cut, 8 speed yard machine built by MTD with less than 20 hours use. Excellent condition. \$750. 248-620-4620. 111182

IT'S SPRING

BEAUTIFUL

Colorado Spruce 8'-12' Professionally Transplanted in Your Yard.

248-255-3395 "Let Us Spruce Up Your Yard" L182

CALL FOR STREET VENDORS Flowers, Plants, Landscaping, Home and Garden, Art. Food.

Kids entertainment Downtown Lake Orion's 7th Annual

FLOWER FAIR

HOME & GARDEN MARKETPLACE Saturday May 17th & Sunday May 18th To reserve your booth call 248-693-9742 \$100 before 3/21/08; \$125 after

More info at: www.downtownlakeorion.org L1311dh

THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE are reading this want ad, just like you are.. BUY and SELL in ads like s. We'll help you with wording. 248-628-4801 !LZ8tf

LAWN TRACTOR, 7 speed, Power Pro 42" mower. 18hp, runs great, 42" snow blade attached. \$400. 248-431-3410 !!L18-2

LAWN & GARDEN tractors with, blowers, leaf baggers. Also, reconditioned small engine starters. Starting at \$450. 810-397-2944, 11ZX33-4

ROBERTS TREE FARM

DAKLAND COUNTY'S I ARGEST GROWER OF TREES Colorado Spruce, Assortment of Maple trees & other nrnamentals

2745 Sashabaw Rd. Ortonville 248-394-0390

L18-4 WANTED: 3 POINT hitch, small rototiller. 248-625-4506. 11C392

THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE are reading this want ad, just like you are .. 248-628-4801 !LZ8tf-

www.oxfordleader.com ANNO lakenringreview.com www.clarkstonnews.com

090 AUCTIONS

Online Features

🛨 ≔ Map

😊 = Picture

GENERAL TOWING AUCTION 2290 AUBURN RD.,

AUBURN HILLS, MI 48326 The following vehicles will be auctioned on April 17, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

- ●1994 DDDGE 1B7GL23X7RS524189
- ●1997D0DGE 1R4GH54R1NX231255
- ●1988 HQNDA
- JHMRA4233JC035554 ●1994 FORD
- 1FALP5245RG102894 ●1996 TOYOTA
- 1NXBA02E27Z360409
- ●1992 CHEVY 1GNDU0608UT108735
- 1994 FORD
- 1FAPP31X1RR230452
- ●1992 HONDA 1HGCR7651NA066448
- ■1997 FORD 2FTDX1766VCA79199 The following vehicles will be
- auctioned on April 18, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.
- ●1986 OLDS 1G3MT69U8GM380519
- ●1978 FORD E14HHCG5274
- ●1993 HONDA 2HGEJ2145PH502087

L181 SALE OF DEFAULT UNITS

Saturday, April 26th, 2008. 9am, Lake Orion Self Storage Center,

180 W. Church St., Lake Orion, MI 48362 100 yds East ofLapeer Rd. (M-24). 248-814-8140

Hoit #10005-Ohee: Refrigerator. TV. assorted boxes, assorted household furniture, pop machine

Unit #20051 Duni: End table, planters, pictures, fan, folding chairs, asserted boxes and much

THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE are reading this want ad, just like you are.. BUY and SELL in ads like . this. We'll help you with wording. 248-628-4801

*DEADLINE MONDAY NOON -!L'Z8tf

Notice is hereby given that on 041⁻²⁵/08 at 12:00pm the following will be sold by competitive bid ding at National Storage Center, 1007 Brown Rd., Orion, Ml. Unit

Antiques & Collectibles 150

Auto Parts

Cars Child Care

Computers

Free

Craft Shows

Garage Sales

Farm Equipment

Bus. Opportunities Card of Thanks

กดก

240

330

250

340 140

120 230

050

110

#543, Jamil Jamaleddine, (A1 Enterprises), household items, vehicle. Unit #RVO8, Jamil Jamaleddine, (A1 Enterprises), vehicle. Unit #703, John M. Carnes, household items, misc.

goods. Unit #705, Eric Anglea, household items, misc. goods.

Notice is hereby given that on 4 25/08 at 11:30am the following will be sold by competitive bid ding at National Storage Center. 1745 Waldon Road, Lake Orion MI 48359. Unit A14, James Turner, Household items, misc goods, Unit B33, Frank PasfielD; Tools. Unit G63, Randall W. KniselY, Household items, misc. goods, Honda motorcycle 1974.

Unit K14, Kathryn Sarkisian,

L172

100 FREE

FREE FIFTH WHEEL RV, you tow or scrap. 248-760-4425 !!C39-

110 GARAGE SALE

RUMMAGE SALE- Paint Creek Methodist Church, 4420 Collins Rd., off Orion Rd. by Paint Creek Cider Mill (Goodison). Friday, April 11, 9am-6pm. Saturday, April 12, \$3 bag day, 9am-12noon. !!L17-

GARAGE SALE- April 10,11,12, 10am-5pm, Clintonville Pines, or ntonville, near Mann !!C39-1 APRIL 9-12, 9am-5pm, alittle bit of everything. 4484 Hadley Rd., Hadley, !!ZX34-1

GARAGE SALE- Moving Sale, also includes indoor/ outdoor items and huilding supplies. April 11,12,13, 10am-5pm. 5313 Greenview, Clarkston off Pine Knob Rd and Clarkston Road. !!C39-1

MOM2MOM SALE- Saturday, April 19, 9am-12noon, Good Shepherd Church, 1950 S. Baldwin, Lake Orion, Find awesome deals on pently used maternity and kids clothes, toys and by gear. \$1 entry benefits MOPS. Contact Lisa 248-236-9890. !!L182

Offices Closed Saturday TRASH/ TREASURE Event. April 19. Buy/ Sale, Boys/ Girls Club. Tables available, \$15,00, Call Jody 248-853-5484/ Cheryl

170

020

360

220

130 400

080

190

320 060

390 370

Greetings

Horses

Heln Wanted

Holiday Items

In Memorium

Lost & Found

Livestock

Notices

Personals

Lawn & Garden

Musical Instruments

Phone 248-628-4801 - 248-625-3370 - 248-693-8331

DEADLINES: Regular classified ads Monday at 12 noon preceding publication, Semi-display advertising Monday at noon. Cancellation Deadline: Monday noon.

Pets

Produce

Services

Trucks

Vans

Real Estate

Rec. Equipment Rec. Vehicles

Tutoring/Lessons

Wanted To Rent

248-391-3227. !!L17-2 SUPER GARAGE SALE: Girls bedroom furniture, quality clothing, books, toys, teacher supplies Precious Moments, dishes, Little Tikes wagon & more. Thursday 9am-5pm, Friday 9am-12pm. 229 Davis Lake Drive, off Indian Knolls. 111 181

1225 KEBLE LANE- Oxford Woods Sub., Furniture, sewing machine, tables, household items and more. April 10-11, 9am-3pi and April 12, 9am-12pm !IL18-1 **ESTATE SALE-THURSDAY 4/10-**4/12 8:00am, Rototiller, futon, antique glassware, king bed. 1/2 mile East M-24 & Davison Lake Rd. 3875 Victoria Ct. !!L181

★ 3 FAMILY BARN/ MOVING

SALE/ antique sale with furniture, kids toys and clothes, tools, sport ing goods, mechanical and building materials, 4/10-12 9am-6pm. 10850 Rattalee Lake Road Davisburg, MI 48350. 248-882-1882 !!L18-1

120 CRAFT SHOWS

BROTHERHOOD CRAFT & FLEA MARKET 5855 Oakwood Rd Fvery Saturday 9am-4pm Vendors wanted.

For a table or information please call Carl Randolph, 248-682-6040, or Tom McCarville

810-664-7112

LZ17-4

130 HOUSEHOLD

MASTER SPA LIKE new 84"x84"x36". Total package/ cover, steps, instructions, ch cals. \$2,800 obo. 248-464-9175. !!L172

TAN FLORAL LOVESEAT, 2 winged high back blue/ green chairs. \$250 obo.248-627-6650, !!L172

8' WOODEN PICNIC table, \$125. 7'X6' entertainment center, \$100. Dresser & chest of drawers, \$75 for both. Love seat, beige floral, \$25. 248-693 6056, leave message, !!L172

CORRECTIONS: Liability for any error may not exceed the cost of the space occupied by such an error. Correction deadline: Monday noon. HOURS: Monday through Friday 8-5; Oxford - Saturday 9-Noon; Lake Orion & Clarkston SELLING KING MATTRESS frame, headboard, \$195.

Lakeville area. 248-628-3296

200

040 310

270

260

350

140 COMPUTERS

!!L17-2

COMPUTER PROBLEMS?

Remove unwanted software, spyware, viruses. Is your com puter as fast & stable as mine? efurbished computers for sale. Free follow- up tech support. Scotty 248-245-9411. !!LZ18-

COMPUTER PROBLEMS? Microsoft certified technician Free diagnostic. John 248-892-5667 (Clarkston). !!LZ18-4

150 ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

I BUY BEANIE Babies! At the iSold It Store this & next Friday & Saturday 9am-6pm. Payment on the snot! 975 S. Lapeer Rd., Oxford, 248 628 3544 www.beangoround.com!!L15-4

YE OLDE STUFF & ANTIQUES Historic Treasures Downtown Lake Orion Vintage Furniture - Lamps Oil Paintings - Nippon 1940's Postcards - Comics Tues. · Sat. 12-6pm 20-1/2 E. Front St.

160 APPLIANCES

248-693-6724

R175

FREEZER 13 CU. FT., Kenmore, Almond, excellent condition \$200, 248-634-2584, !!C39-2 WHITE REFRIGERATOR side-by side, 1-1/2 years old, 26cuft, \$525; Electric stove, almon \$50. 248-625-8805 !!CZ39-2

BRAND NEW LG Side by Side and Bottom Freezer all in one Refrigerator, ice maker in freezer, will sell for best offer, 248-790-

white, just purchased for \$1150, will sell for best offer. Like new Estate Whirlneol Washer & Electric Dryer, white, will sell for best offer. GE Microwaye, mounts under counter, like new, white, will sell for best offer. Like new LG Dehumidifier, black, just purchased for \$250 at Home De

5571. !!C38-2...

Saturday, April 26, 9am-5pm Crown of Life Church 2975 Dutton Rd (at Adams) Rochester Hills, Cost \$30 Includes- table, vendors, prizes, meals, snacks & beverages.

to register by April 23.

248-652-7720 (M,T,Th,F 8-

HIAIN

USED COMMERCIAL Preschool Day Care/ Classroom Equipment. JonTi-Craft Birch cubby storage 35"x36"x15", 42"x48"x15", 2 curved cubby units, 28" high with inside circumference 39.1/ 2"x15", 300 piece block set, iron/ ironing board, 2 laminate storage units, cubby 36"x48"x15". Prima, 4 place infant play/ feed table/ chair inserts. 12 plastic Mahal. stackable chairs. 10 TSB universal, stackable cots new in box. Playscape by Playworld, FunCenter A/w accessible transer station (\$5,700 new). Equipment 3 years old-good shape, \$2.800, for all. Will consider offers for individual pieces. 248-634-4670, !!L17-2

GHRS

248-969-8172

"Your Credit Specialists"

Have you been turned down buying

a car because of poor credit?

WE CAN HELP!

Bad Credit • No Credit • Bankruptcy

Repo... We Finance Everyone!!!

From \$99 Down

'01 Ford

Focus

'98 Dodae

Durango

(1 ml. N of 1-69 on M-53)

'99 GMC

Safari

'00 Dodge

Ram 1500 Ext.

FOR SALE- TAPCO Pro 14 alumi num brake- 10°6", side winder, cuttor, stand. \$1600. Used 1 job, brand new. 248-628-4773 or 248-379-1987, !!L6dhtf

GIRLS/ BOYS CLOTHES newborn to 4T, some new. Large/ extra large maternity clothes & miscel laneous baby items. 248-693-8786. !!L182

FOUR POSTER Dark Wood Cal-King Bed with mattress. Good Condition!! \$200 obo. 248-830-4004 111172

USED & NEW water softeners, all brass controls, 248 693 8233. !!L182

Refrigerator/ Stove \$200. Washer/ Dryer \$175, Double mattress set \$20. Rear blade \$140, 810-678-3636, !!L172 SOLO-FLEX, Newer bands, \$100. Meadowbrook horse cart, Oak \$950, 248-625-1299, !!CZ392 **NEW STAINLESS Steel micro**wave, over stove, Maytag \$150; Total Gym \$100; new kick boxing bag \$50; new black Kohler sink and faucet \$100; Maytag dishwasher \$50: Zenith TV, 27' \$50; 2 dog cages (xtra lrg \$50) med \$25) 248-804-7131 111 182

2005 ECONOLINE 16 ton flatbed trailer, 23ft., excellent condition. dual axles, electric brakes. \$5500, 248-628-1019. !!LZ15dhtf

WHITE CRIB with Maple trim, includes Serta mattress. White armoire with Manle trim Good Condition!! \$550 (248)830CANON DIGITAL CAMERA, 6.3 mega pixel, extra zoom lens & tripod, \$600. Bookcase desk, \$100. McKissic wood shredder. 3 point hitch, \$700. AB lounger, new, \$80. Total Gym, new-paid \$365, asking \$200. 248-625-7451. !!0392

OAK BATHROOM VANITY, 8ft. exc. condition, complete 2 sinks with faucets, \$450. 810-797-4149 !!L18-2

CASE 580 BACKHOE attachments: 5ft. grading/ ditching bucket, good used, \$950; cutting wheel, used, \$200; 3ft. bucket, good used, \$500; paddle tooth, good used, \$250; dig tooth with small paddle, good used, \$200. 248-628-1019. !!LZ17dhf

ORIGIAL PAINTINGS BY Helen Cunniff. Call Orion Art Center, 248-693-4986. !!R172

2 BURIAL PLOTS, Oxford Twp., side by side, \$400ea. 248-693-5941 !!L17-2

THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE are reading this want ad, just like you are.. BHY and SELL in ads like this. We'll help you with wording. 248-628-4801 !LZ8tf

MOVING SALE: SOLID oak dining table with 6 chairs, hidden leafs and glass cover for top, \$1,300. Treadmill, \$100, Weight bench. \$100. Wood stove, \$50. Drafting table with accessories, \$25. Love seat, \$50, Desk, \$50, Computer desk, \$25. Microwave stand, \$10. Book shelf, \$15. And kitchen hutch, \$50. table lamps & floor lamn \$15 each, 248-693 2495 or 248-872-9849.

180 REC. EQUIPMENT

13 FT FLOFRO and Trailer Very good condition with new batter ies and deck carpet, \$3950. Alcort Sailfish 13ft, fiberglass sailboat; boat and sail in good shape, \$300. Adi Sun Lounger fiberglass paddleboat, \$200. 248-628-4087, !!LZ18-2

HUNDREDS OF GOLF Balls with experience. Pick a brand. Pick a price. \$1.00 to \$6.00 a dozen. Call 248-693-4105. !!LZ8dhtf

200 PETS

HAVANESE AKC Home raised. Vet checked, ready for a new loving ne. \$1200 & up. 248-625-6582. !!L17-4

FREE CAT: YOUNG adult male. Does not like farm life. Not a good mouser. Has issues. Neutered. 248-568-8550. !!L182c

FREE GUINEA PIG WITH care, allergies, 248-969-5841 !!L18-1 SIAMESE KITTENS \$200. Blue & chocolate point, 248-814 0544 or 248-431-3699. !!1.172

ONE YEAR OLD, Beautiful German Shepard male, neutered, has all shots. Owner moved away and he needs an active family to enjoy. To meet him call 248-391-9286 or 248-884-4288. Free to right home. !!C39-2

GERMAN SHORTHAIR Pointers, 2 females, 4 males, All shots, dew claws, tails. Ready April 1st. \$250, 248-623-0861, !!L18-2

220 HORSES

WESTERN SADDLE 17" Lots of tooling, Good condition, \$175. 248-672-4653. !!L182

FOR SALE, MINIATURE horses. 1 stallion, 1 mare, 1 filly. \$300 each. 810-688-2693 or 248-969-9188. !!L12-2f

HORSE BOARDING- NEW facility Indoor/ outdoor area, daily turn out. 33 Mile & Rochester area. 586-713-1351. !!L182

230 FARM **EQUIPMENT**

FORD 9N \$1,650. 8N \$1,850. Cushman truck \$1650, others. 248-625-3429. !!L17-4

FORD 4500 TRACTOR front end loader, grading blade. Seized mo livery available. \$2,000. 248-969-8319. !!L172

JOHN DEERE 855 Diesel, 4x4, loader, more, like new. \$12,800 obo. 810-664-9380 !!L18-2 FORD BN TRACTOR, back blade Rear tires like new. \$2,800, 248 693-8233. !!L182

WANTED FARM TRACTORS Running or not, also 3pt imple ments. 248-625-3429. !IL17-4

240 AUTO PARTS

MUST SELL- 1986 GMC S15 extended cab. 2WD, automatic Excellent body. Parting out or sell whole. \$1,000 obo. 248-941-3112. UL182

250 CARS

2002 LEXUS SILVER exterior black interior, loaded, 104,000 miles. Auto V6, am/fm cassette CD, leather, moon roof, \$12,000 ohn. 248-854-6818. !!RZ1212 2007 PT CRUISER, Certified. Inferno red. automatic. air. only 10k miles, clean, \$11,999. Clarkston Chrysler Jeep. 1-866-553-JEEP (5337). !!C391dh

2005 CHRYSLER PACIFICA, gold, cloth interior, power windows and locks, air, tilt, cruise, \$10,999. Clarkston Chrysler Jeep. 1-866-553-JEEP (5337). HC391dh

1988 ALFA ROMEO Spider convertible, 73,000 miles, no rust, red, great condition, \$8500 or trade for camper trailer, 248 670-7436. !!LZ1112

1997 SATURN SL2, 4 door, blue. Nice car. \$3,150, 248-891-6306. !!LZ1512

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2007 DODGE CALIBER, power windows, power locks, air, 2 to choose, \$13,999, Clarkston Chrysler Jeen, 1-866-553-JEEP (5337). !!C391dh

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1995 CHEVROLET

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!!RZ18-12 2001 CHEVY LUMINA, \$2,800, 248-628-8978. !!L182

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Wednesday, April 9, 2008 SPI Classifieds B

2003 FORD FOCUS stationwagon. Excellent condition. 49K miles, extended warranty. \$6,800. 248-626-9738. !!C392

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Power windows, power locks, cruise, air, AM/FM/CD. 61,000 miles. Nice car. \$6500, 248-891-6306, !!LZ118

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260 VANS

1998 CHEVY ASTRO Conversion van. 110K, all power, new tires, new trans, TV, DVD player, VCR, trailer hitch, \$2,800, 248-969-2749. !!LZ184dh

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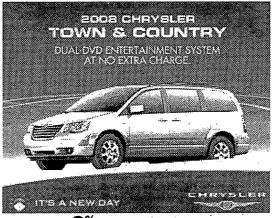


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2000 HONDA DDYSSEY, cloth. power windows and power locks, \$6.899 Clarkston Chrysler Jeen 1-866-553-JEEP (5337).

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270 TRUCKS

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1997 DODGE PICKUP. 2

wheel drive, short bed, loaded. Hard, locking Tonneau cover. Very nice truck. \$3,200 obo. 248-891-6306, !!LZ10-8

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2006 CHEVY EQUINOX, red, AWD, cloth interior, 41k miles, \$14,999, Clarkston Chrysler Jeep. 1-866-553-JEEP (5337).

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2006 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500 HD. Loaded, 80,000 miles, Asking \$27,000 obo. Lakes Commu nity Credit Union. 248-814-400B. !!182

2003 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER. black, nower windows and locks. cloth interior, \$6,999. Clarkston Chrysler Jeep. 1-866-553-JEEP (5337) UC391dh

1995 GMC TOPKICK stake bed dump truck. Caterpillar diesel engine, 6 speed manual trans. \$12,000 obo. 248-969-2930. IILZ1812

2004 CHEVY SILVERADO: V6, 5 speed, 4WD, short box, regula cab. \$13,500, 248-941-3112 !!LZ16-4

2006 IEEP WRANGLER clearance priced, 4x4, soft top, triple black, rims and tires, \$16,999. Clarkston Chrysler Jeen, 1-866-553-JEEP (5337), 41C391db

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2007 JEEP GRAND Cherokee. Only 28,000 miles, 4x4, steel blue, automatic, air, power windows & locks, cloth interior. Blow out price of \$15,998. Clarkston Chrysler Jeep. 1-866-553-JEEP (5337). !!C391dh

280 REC. VEHICLES

MOTHER KNOWS BEST., Eat you vegetables, brush your teeth, and road the Want Ade 10 words 2 weeks \$13.00. Over 44,000 homes. 248-628-4801, 248-693-8331, 248-625-3370. !!L8dhtf

2004 FIFTH WHEEL like new Many extras, \$17,000, Bank will finance 15 years. 248-693-

2004 JAYCO EAGLE #12 F50 pop up camper. 12' box with exterior storage trunk, sleeps 7. Heated mattresses, 3 way refrigerator, furnace, water heater, outside shower, slide out dinette inside/ outside stove, awning & screen room. Plenty of accessories. Excellent condition. \$5,600. 248-236-0517, 110392

1993 FLEETWOOD PACE Arrow, 33ft, 43,142 miles, features Chevy 454. Banks nower system, 7,000 kilowatt generator, backup camera, full basement with passthru, 2 TVs and VCR, 2 AC units, satellite dish hookup, gueen bed in bedroom, dinette seating and full sofa converts to sleeping space. Awnings all around, \$23,000 oho, 248-693-**N424 !!L182**

1997 YAMAHA GOLF CART, ITP Wheels and Rims with lift kit. \$2800 obo. 810-441-7986. IIL18-2

MERCURY OUTBOARD- 115hp, power tilt, trim, and controls, like hrand new: \$2508, 248-464-1601. !!ZX33-2

17 5 FT PROCRAFT Rass Boat. 115HP Merc., trolling motor, batteries, sonar, trailer, new carpet and seats. \$3000 Clarkston. 313-378-2392 cell: 11C39-2

GOLF- CARTS & accessories. Prothecht, Inc., 248-202-5358. !!C374

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1997 WILDERNESS made by Fleetwood, 27.5' fifth wheel, light weight, maintenance free low usage, \$5,000 obo. 248-613-5447 leave message !!C39-2

290 RENTALS

DOWNTOWN CLARKSTON anartment, Parking, Laundry & Extra storage. Pets allowed. \$675 Stephanie 248-895-8076. HC39-2

HOME FOR RENT brand new 2350soft builders spec. home \$1,450 month. Call Mike 810-560-3602 !!L16-4

BALD EAGLE Lakefront House, 2 bedroom, semi-furnished, \$800/ month, 248-978-5176, !!ZX341 FOR LEASE: FABULOUS New York style loft downtown Lake Orion across from Sagebrush, 18' ceiling, brick walls. No gets or smoking. \$850 per month. 248-693-4110. UL18-2

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH Home, attached garage on Walters Lake in Clarkston, Available June 1st. \$1500/ month. 248-417-2449 !!C37-4

OXFORD- 1 bedroom apartments, dishwasher, C/A, laundry facility, firenlace, first month's rent plus security deposit. Starting at \$560/ month. 248-628-2620.

OAK FOREST APARTMENTS, Lake Orion. O.F.A. \$199 move-in enecial plus free rent. Call 248 693-7120, IIL18-4

CLARKSTON PLACE Anartments Rent starting at \$550 includes heat. 1 & 2 bedroom, newly renovated. Secure entrances. Water & storage, air, vertical blinds, orivate balcony. Close to shop ping. 248-922-9326. !1C374

ORTONVILLE MUST SEE! 2 bedroom apartment, appliances, new carpet, clean, move in today \$550/ month, 248-666-6049, 11CZ38-2

OXEORO REMODELED 3 bedroom fireplace, basement, deck. \$845 per month. 248-628-0449. 111.164

QUALITY TOWNHOUSE in Ortonville! two bedrooms, 2.5 baths, hasement, 1 car garage, appliances included, \$1000 month Call Atlas Real Estate 810-636-3400 pyt 10 U7X34-2

1 BEDROOM, LAKE Nepessing luxurious furdished anartment with boat dock. No pets. \$700/ month, 810-441-7366, !!L16-4 HOPE SENIOR APARTMENTS. Age 62 or better. 248-628-7676. !!L7tfc

LAKE ORION 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath 1800 sq.ft, 2 car garage, finished lower level. On golf course. \$1,695/ month, 248-394-0558, !!C373

CLEAN, SMALL 2-3 bedroom house, \$600/ month. No pets. 248-628-9842. !!L18-1

AVAILABLE NOW! Office Space for Lease in Clarkston. Four rooms, approx. 1,000 sq.ft. Freshly decorated. Heat and electric included. Second floor of Clarkston News Building, 5 S. Main. Security deposit required. \$1,600 a month, 248-625-3370. !!!LZ7tfdh

LAKE ORION Lakefront furnished. one bedroom apartment. No pets, 248-693-6063, !!R18-1

2 BEDROOM HOUSE, Village of Leonard. Basement. Lawn maint./ annliances included, firenlace \$850/ month. 248-628-3261

OXFORD SINGLE apartment- pri vate, deck, appliances, basem \$485 nins utilities/ security. 248-628-0449, !!L164

APARTMENTS FOR rent, Lake Orion. Nice, clean, remodeled. Great private location. \$595 & \$700 includes all utilities, 305 393-7494, !!L18-3

DOWNTOWN LAKE ORION efficiency. \$450/ month. No pets. 248-693-4110 11118-2

\$650 MOVES YOU in, first month rent free! Large 2 bedroom apartment, quiet and clean. \$650/ month, 248-797-2887. !!ZX34-2

VILLAGE OF HOLLY 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage. Rent monthly, or weekend, 248-620-1053. !!CZ392

1500 SO.FT. HOME: 3 hadroom. 2 bath, garage, New home on 2.5 acres. Ready to move in. Fenced yard. Wooded. \$1,100 monthly. 248-628-8242. !!L182

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DAKLAND TOWNSHIP- 3 bedroom Cape Cod country home. 1.5 baths, Orion Schools. \$1.200 monthly, 248-651-7571 or 248-693-9935, IIR172

CLARKSTON 3 BEDROOM, 1.5 bath. 2 car garage, central air. partial basement, \$995mo. 248-394-0558 !!C39-1

ROOMMATE WANTED- lakefront home, \$450/ month, plus security denosit. Clean, references. 248-628-6294. !!!L18-2

CALL 248-693-6724 for Lake Orion Apartment Rentals and Ye Olde Stuff & Antiques. !!R181

FOR RENT: 1 bedroom apartment, Ortonville. Quiet country setting, no pets. \$495/ month, 248-627-6559 117X33-2

CLARKSTON LAKEFRONT 1 bedroom, basement, updated, new stove & fridge. Nonsmoker, no pets. \$790/ month. 248-969 3389, !!C364

OXFORD 2 bedroom, appliances. \$580 plus security. No pets. 248-628-7648, UL172

HALF OFF FIRST month, Village of Lake Orion: 500 so.ft., 1 bedroom apartment, \$490/ month, or 400 sq.ft. studio apartment, \$450/ month. Gated parking, 810-796-3100, !!LZ18-2

FOR RENT- VILLAGE of Oxford, clean, spacious, 1 bedroom upper, possibly 2 bedroom. Some utilities paid, free laundry facilities, \$575 per month plus \$575 denosit, Call 810-730-5549 111.18-2

FARMHOUSE APARTMENT

Upper flat with private entry & laundry, 2 bed, 1 bath, 1500 sf ALL UTILITIES INCLUDED

On beautiful Metamora Horse Farm \$895, Section 8 OK 248-931-8436

· 1.184

OXFORD DUPLEX- Clean, quiet, 1 hedroom, Private washer/ dryer included and air conditioning. 2 year lease- \$510/ month; 1 year \$525, plus utilities. Need credit report and employment letter. 248-770-1964 !!L16-4

INDUSTRIAL SPACE

2250 SQ.FT. With large overhead doors & office space. Available now in Oxford Two. 248-628-7714 or

248-521-0648

116-4

BEACHFRONT COTTAGES, Port Austin, Lake Huron, Weekly Clean, 248-969-2267, !!L183 FOR RENT. CLARKSTON 2 hadroom, large home on 2 acres with streems and entertainment terraces. \$625. 248-672-6080 IICZ39-2

1 BEDROOM HOUSE for rent, Auburn Hills. \$500/ month, \$550 security. 248-421-8563. !!R182

LAKE ORION HOUSE for rent. For the one who likes lots of garage space- 7 bays of garage with large living space above. Private, secluded. \$850/ month. 248-628-0380, !!L164c

ORION TWP. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, garage, basement, family room. 248-969-2267. !!L183

CXFORD 4 BEDROOM, 2.5 hath house, lake! noof, Ready to move in. \$1,500/ month. Lease with option available. 248-789-5667. !!LZ181f

2 BEDROOM ON quiet residential street. Small 4 unit complex. \$650/ month, 1 year lease. 248-379-6649. !IL17-2

RENT TO OWN

Oxford 3 bdrm, 2 car. Finished basement. 100% of payment credit to purchase. Broker:

248-760-3739 R18-2

ROOMMATE WANTED- near Dixie & M-15, \$100 weekly, 248-623-6962. !!L17-2

ROOMMATE WANTED, Oxford. Baldwin & Granger. \$100 weekly. 248-644-3311. !!L182 METAMORA/ DRYDEN 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3.5 acres, walkout basement. Lawn service included, \$995/ month, 810-706-0211. !!L18-1

FOR RENT OXFORD

Construction vard, fenced and lighted with all gravel parking, building with office and 2 bay garage. M-24 exposure. Good yard for tree company, landscaper, underground contractor, trucking co., etc. Negotiable price. Also available 2 vards, negotiable orice.

248-628-0380

L7tfc AUBURN HILLS- NEWLY carpeted offices from \$300 per month. Opdyke near 1-75. 248-693-0257, !!L154

NORTHERN MICHIGAN vacation rental, Gaylord area, newer home, C/A. fireplace, 28x22 attached garage, 2 bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths, sleeps 6, golf paradise and everything else! Call for details, 586-808-0931. HL118

2 BEDROOM HOUSE, great location, M-24 & Thomas, Oxford, \$800, 248-877-0087, 111172 CASEVILLE on Saginaw Bay, private lakefront homes. Booking now, 989-874-5181. !!C355

CUTE, COZY sleeping room, downtown Orion, \$80 weekly plus security, 248-505-8314. !!R181 FOR RENT: 2 bedroom duplex with garage and basement. Walking distant to downtown Oxford. \$700/ month, plus utilities. Please call 810-459-4530. III 16.4

UNFURNISHED BRANDON Twp. lakefront home. 3 bedrooms, 2 haths, appliances, many ameni ties. \$1,375 (negotiable). 248-942-3923, IIZX331

OXFORD VILLAGE- 3 bedroom apartment. 1100 sq.ft. Air, apnliances, 1 car garage, \$875/ month. 248-628-0662. !!L174 DAVISRURGI CLARKSTON: 2 or 3 bedroom duplex apartment. Appliances, laundry and more. Reputiful and like new \$790

Must see! 248-634-3298. HGZ37-4 3 BEDROOM, 2.5 bath, loft, 3 car

garage, Metamora. \$1,500/ month. Lease with option avaliable. 248-789-5667. !!L181

300 WANTED TO RENT

RESPONSIBLE ADULT desires Lake Orion house to rent for 2 years, must be reasonably priced. 248-393-8633 !!L18-2

310 REAL ESTATE

LAKE ORION WALKOUT ranch, 3 hedrooms 3 haths \$287,900. MDS#28042914, 248-693

LOTS FOR SALE- 40% off, Gooi c h www.fischbaherhuilders.com. 810-636-3235 !!ZX35-4

Vacant Lots

LAKE ORION For Sale, Build to Suit Sewer, R3 Zone \$43,900 \$44,900 248-568-8550

ORION, 2.44 ACRES. walkout site. L/C available, \$112.000. 248-762-4854. !!L18-4

L16tfc

NEWER HOME IN Metamora. 3 bedroom, 2 bath with jacuzzi. 3600 sq. ft. includes basement. 4 car garage and 6.5' deep pool. \$190,000. 810-678-8087. 111 17-2

ORION NEW CONDO 1400 so.ft.. 2 car garage, \$40,000 below cost, \$117,000. 248-762-4854. !!L17-2

BY OWNER Acreage w/Pond

Investment — Or Build Superb Location on Ray Road, Oxford 248-628-5147 www.oxfordpropertyforsale.com

LAKE ORION \$73,900

3 hedrooms, 1 bath, large lot. basement, lake privilines, AIC elec hackup, appliances, 248-568-8550

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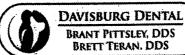
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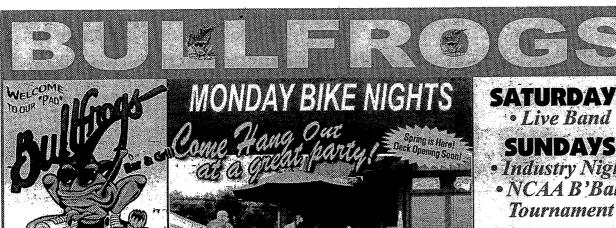
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THIS HOME HAS SOLAR HEAT. "Move in-ready" with freshly painted interior, plus living mn, rec mn, family mn w/gas log frplc & laundry mn. Office or 4th bdm. 2 ½ baths. Appliances stay. Finished bsmnt, gunite inground pool w/solar heat. Att'd 2 car garage, patio, deck. \$209,900 248.872.0302 DOUG WOODARD



IN THE ORCHARDS, Clarkston, Brick Ranch in the "Orchards". New Kitchen, Refinished Wood Floors, Wallside Windows, Large Family Room w/Natural Fireplace, Partially Finished Basement enced Yard, and drive through Garage. \$179,900

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CLARKSTON RANCH NEW CONST. Open & airy w/ vaulted ceiling t/o. Ceramic baths, jetted tubs, hdwd firs. Custom kit w/ maple cab Neutral tones throughout. Great price in this desirable "in demand Thendara Park. Beautiful landscaping w/boulder wall. \$224,000 248.343.6033 JOANN PONKEY



FORECLOSURE, Spacious Ranch, 3 bdrms, 2 baths, living room & family rm w/fmlc. Master bdrm connects to full bath. A par. fin. bsmnt wirec. rm, office/poss. 4th bdrm and workshop. Doorwall in the fam rm to an oversized deck & fenced yard backing to woods. \$135,000 248.872.0302 IDOUG WOODARD



JUST LISTED, WOODED LOT. 3 bdrm, 2 bath raised Ranch. Kitche with maple cabinets, open floor plan, high ceilings, great room fireplace, master suite w/bath, large finished rec room in LL. Deac end street, 2 decks, extra storage in garage & view of lake. \$157,500 810.444.6192



DESIRABLE HILLCREST SUB. 4 bdrm, 2½ bath Col w/hdwd firs, 1st filr mstr w/sep. bath & shower, frpic in great rm.. Open staircase, dining m w/French drs. Newer paint & carpet, ceramic baths, new deck, fenced yard. Kitchen w/maple, 1500sq ft w/o bsmnt, lg yard & sub private park. \$219,900 810.444.6192 KAREN GRIFFIN



GOLF COURSE FRONT AGE. Deck on Paint Creek Golf Course. Colonia on large wooded lot. 4 bdms, 31/2 baths. Master suite w/master bath, sep shower & jetted tub. Cherry detail t/o. Kitchen w/island & planning desk Formal dining w/butlers pantry.Library, w/obsmrt & 3 car garage. \$449,900 SUE THORN 2 4 8 . 4 0 8 . 6 3 5 4



GREAT PRIVACY. Built in 2001, this Colonial has 4 bdrms, 2 baths & 2 lavs w/many updates t/o. Breakfast m., living m & gas log frplc in femily room. Master suite w/full bath. Finished bsmnt w/rec room, ½ bath & daylight windows. Porch w/fenced back yard. 2 car garage. \$193,900 248.872.0302



QUIET LIVING AT IT'S BEST. Addison Twp 6 year old split level on 5 acres. Maple & Corian kit. 1" fl. Mstr, library, dining m., great m & wrap around porches. Green house w/skylights, work tables & craft room, 2400 sf bsmnt, potting shed, huge out buildings. Horses welcome, \$499,500 248.408.3967



PRICED TO SELL. This cozy Bungalow in Waterford has 4 bedroom and is neat and tidy. It has neutral décor, central air, basement and 2 car garage. Newer windows and roof. Enjoy lake privileges on both all sports Cass and Elizabeth Lakes. Motivated seller!! \$114,000 248.515.4737 SONNY RAETZ



BLOOMFIELD HILLS RANCH. Brick Ranch on about an acre in ar ea of million dollar homes. Custom built with quality in the late 50's. Hrdwd flooring, wet plaster, wet bar in fin bannt just wait for your updates and decoration. Call today! \$260,000 (C46WAT **BLOOMFIELD HILLS** 248.293.0000



LIKE NEW COLONIAL. Pulte 3175 soft Windsor Model. Family rm opens into kit w/stainless steel appliances & hdwd flr'g. 2 way gas frplc warms study & family room. Mstr bdrm w/high ceilings, whirlpool tub & more. GRÉAT PRICE – CALL TODAY! \$399,900 (C98ARC) ROCHESTER HILLS 248.293.0000



FREEDOM TO ENJOY. Move into this Condo development with a great view. Not only is it open & bright but the deck is screened in and ne basement is a finished walk-out. Amenities include pool, tennis & clubhouse. Lease at \$2,500/mo. \$369,900 (C52BEL)
DAKLAND TOWNSHIP 2 4 8 . 2 9 3

TREED LOTS. Two lots for sale on Baldwin Rd. Side by side they equal 4 acres. Possible site for nursery school, day care or church. Call for survey. \$299,900/ea. (C27BAL)

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this house & wants to continue. Only selling the house & compan will continue to run program. Ranch home with 1976 sqft on 1.88 acres. Call Kathy for more information. \$275,000 (C89GUN) OAKLAND TOWNSHIP

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PRIVATE WOODED ACRE. Take a look at this outstanding private wooded acre lot. This 4 bdrm has a walk in closet; bath w/garden tub & ceramic shower. Beautifully landscaped private yard w/multi level deck. Finished w/o & much more. \$259,900 (C11WAL) LAKE ORION 2 4 8 . 2 9 3

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- Pools
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Exciting things are happening at Bordine Nursery!

By Bethany Munsell

First, I would like to introduce myself; my name is Bethany Munsell and I am the new General Manager at the Clarkston Location. I come to Clarkston Bordine Nursery from the Grand Blanc location.



Bethany Munsell

Having been with Bordine Nursery since 2001, I have had numerous opportunities to work at all four of our locations.

Originally, I started in our production department and made the transition to retail in 2003. I am a Michigan Certified Nurseryman, one of the most recognized professional certifications in our industry.

I have a profound love of gardening, the outdoors and community. If you have any gardening questions, feel free to stop in and see me or email me at beth@bordines.com. I look forward to meeting all of you and becoming a member of the Clarkston commu-

We have changed our "Very Important Gardner" Program (VIG program) this year to benefit you!

This year all VIG customers will receive

2% back in the form of "Bordine Bonus Bucks" for every purchase you make. These "Bordine Bonus Bucks" will accumulate on your VIG card for every purchase you make through the year. Redeem your "Bucks" June 15th to December 31st.

There are no minimum spending limits, which means you can spend your Bordine Bonus Buck any way you want.

You will continue to receive an extended warranty on all outdoor trees with an individual retail value of \$149.00 or more.

This warranty is extended from 1 year to 2 years. In addition, all annuals will be warranted for 60 days as opposed to 30 days. In addition, VIG members will continue to receive exclusive access to our Newsletter, The Bloom and E-Announcements of special sales and events.

Bordine Nursery is focusing more on the community than ever before!

This year we started having seminars for children. In February, we had a seminar on feeding the birds and why it is so important for us to be taking care of our animal friends.

In March, we started planning a surprise for MOM!

Kids decorated pots and planted them with beautiful annuals. We are keeping them safe and growing them big and strong in our Clarkston Greenhouse!



Earn Bordine Bonus Bucks with each purchase at Bordine Nursery.

In May, kids and dads can come in and pick up these plants to give to Mom on Mothers Day! We will also be having a tomato give away and a tomato-growing contest for

our young gardeners!

This is just a taste of some of our exciting and educational children's seminars.

Hope to see you this spring!



for 27 years

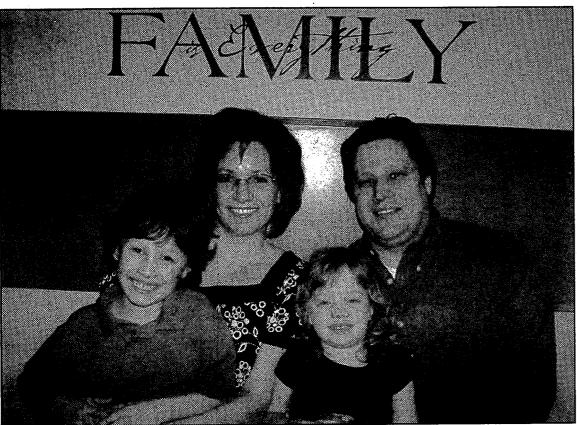
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One stop swim shop at Independence Pool and Spa



Clarkston natives John and Kyle Bokor, with their two children, are back in town and opening a new pool shop.

John Bokor, an 18+ veteran of the pool and spa industry, is returning to the Clarkston area to open his own showroom – Independence Pool and Spa.

The store is located in the Independence Town Square shopping center at Sashabaw and Waldon roads in Clarkston.

"Our new facility will offer a wide selection of pool and spa chemicals, parts, hot tubs, above and inground swimming pools."

John is a member of the Association of Pool and Spa Professionals, a designation he proudly mentions that makes him a unique resource to pool and spa owners.

In addition, he received his Tech I Certification in 1994 from the National Spa and Pool Institute, as well as his builder's license in 2005, which will provide his customers with a "one stop" shop for all their pool and spa needs.

John and his wife Kyle (Powell) are both proud graduates of Clarkston High School.

Having strong ties to the community, as well as having expertise in this business, makes Indepen-

dence Pool and Spa a truly welcomed addition to the area.

"Kyle and I are really excited about opening our new business in the town we grew up in. I've become a member of the Clarkston Chamber of Commerce to extend myself in the Clarkston business community at large," John said.

"Please continue looking in *The Clarkston News* for our Grand Opening announcement, happening by the end of April."

John reminds us that he is conducting a Free Pool School on April 22 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Carriage House in Clintonwood Park. John's Pool School will provide you with pre-season discounts as well as the necessary information to start your summer off right.

Call ahead to reserve a seat at Pool School, as space is limited.

Independence Pool and Spa is located at 6473 Sashabaw Road in Independence Town Square next to Powerhouse Gym.

John and Kyle can be contacted at 248-922-9910 or email John at Independencepoolandspa@comcast.net.

John Bokor

18-Year Pool & Spa Professional

APSP Certified-Licensed Builder

John, Your Pool & Spa Guy, Returns...

Clarkston native John Bokor announces his return at Independence Pool & Spa in Clarkston.

Pool & Spa Chemicals • Spa & Pool Parts & Accessories Hot Tubs • In-Ground Pools • Above-Ground Pools • And

Attend Our FREE Pool School
April 22 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Call today to reserve a seat

CARRIAGE HOUSE AT CLINTONWOOD PARK
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6473 Sashabaw Rd. • Clarkston Independence Town Square Center email: IndependencePoolAndSpa@comcast.net

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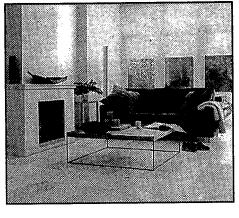
Premium flooring at Karen's advance floors

Recently celebrating 50 years in business, Karen's Advance Floors has been providing generations of Oakland County families with the best values and selection of top quality floor covering products, knowledgeable sales people and expert installation by our hand-picked professional installation crews

Along with carrying all the top manufacturer brand names at the lowest possible prices, our specialty is our huge inventory of promotional priced rolls of vinyl floors and carpet, as well as laminate floors that provide special savings and extraordinary value every day of the week.

Just recently named as the area's only authorized Anso Premier dealer, Karen's Advance floors has added the exclusive line of eco-friendly carpets to the 27,000 square foot store space, as well as putting the finishing touches on the newly remodeled hard wood floor department for the best selection of contemporary classic and exotic hardwood flooring at wholesale prices.

Karen's Advance Floors also offers urday 10 a.m. -5 p.m.



shop-at-home service, a best price guarantee pledge on any written competitive estimate and a free three-year labor warranty.

Purchases are made easy with discounts given to senior citizens, six months same as cash and one year interest free financing for qualified buyers. Shop online at www.karensadvancefloors.com.

Store hours are M-F 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. -5 p.m.

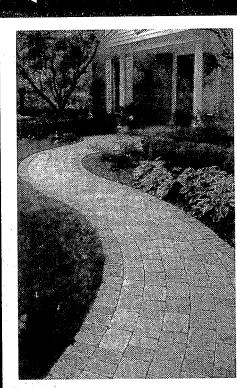
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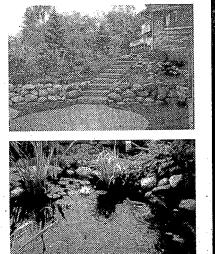
6 Questions to ask when choosing a Landscape Contractor

- 1. How long have you been in business and do you have experience in a project like mine? A professional contractor will be able to show you work they have completed and be able to explain how the work will be done.
- 2. Are you insured and can I receive a proof of insurance from your Insurance Company. Ask the contractor to have their insurance company send you a Certificate of liability Insurance, it is perfectly normal and expected.
- 3. Will you provide me with two client references and one supplier reference? You should visit at least two jobs and talk to their clients. If you really want to find out what the company is like call their supplier.
- 4. Will you be using subcontractors on this job?
- If the company is using subcontractors make sure the subcontractor is insured, and carries Workman's Compensation Insurance.
- 5. Ask what their guarantee is for the work performed.
- Most companies will have a 1 year parts and labor guarantee. However many items such as sprinkler heads and pond pumps will have longer manufacture warranties. If a company that is too good to be true, it is.
- 6. Ask that you receive a proposal and guarantee in writing before giving a deposit. You should expect to give a deposit, usually 50% but not until you receive a contract and definition of the work to be completed.

"With spring fast approaching I wish everyone good luck on any projects they have planned this spring. If you would like consultation or an estimate on a project, I can be reached at 248.625.9920."

Paul LeCureux Owner, Transcending Gardens LLC





www.TranscendingGardens.com 248.625.9920



Lowe meets all your home improvement needs

Dave Lowe, owner and operator of Lowe Home Improvement was born and raised in Clarkston and is a 1980 graduate of Clarkston High School.

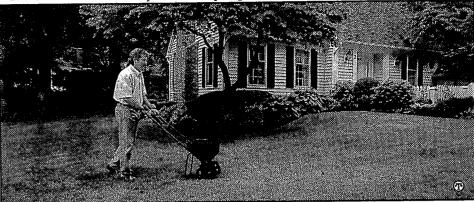
Dave and his crew have been installing quality roofing, siding, and a complete line of home improvement services in the Clarkston and surrounding areas for 17 years.

"This is where we live and prefer to

trade," Lowe said. "We have been blessed to continue to apply our trade in our community.

'Since we are from Clarkston, we take pride in doing our best to help keep our community's home improvement needs in tip-top shape."

For all your home improvement needs, call Lowe's now, at 248-328The Clarkston News/Penny Stretcher Spring Home Improvement Wed., April 9, 2008 5



Simple steps to a lawn you'll love

Just about everyone wants a lawn he or she can love. The good news is that the grass doesn't have to be greener on the other side of the fence. All it takes is a little bit of plan-

"A well-kept lawn is a source of pride for you, your family and your neighbors," says Lance Walheim, author of "Lawn Care for Dummies."

Here are some tips:

Water correctly. Accurate watering is the most significant aspect of caring for your lawn. Keep in mind that grass reacts to weather a lot like humans do-it needs more water when it's hot and sunny, less when it's cool or cloudy.

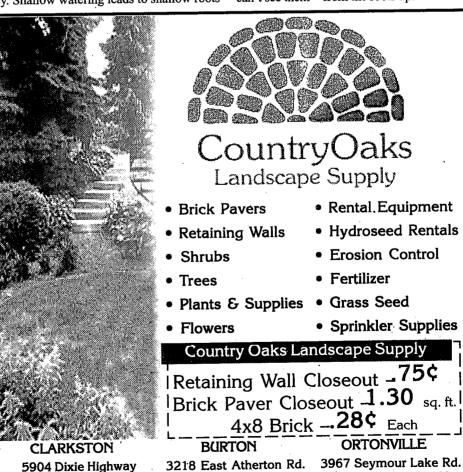
Water deeply, letting the water penetrate 6 to 8 inches, then allow the lawn to partially dry. Shallow watering leads to shallow roots and a drought-susceptible lawn.

Don't forget the fertilizer. A properly fed lawn allows all the grasses to thrive, keeping it green and healthy-looking. Slow-release fertilizer is less likely to burn the lawn and has a longer effect.

Know how to mow. You should cut coolseason grasses, such as fescues and Kentucky bluegrass, higher. Warm-season grasses, such as Bermuda and zoysia, should be cut lower. If you cut too low, the roots will be too shallow and you'll get more weeds and weak grass.

Battle the bugs. Some bugs can cause big headaches. Some of the most common kinds attack your lawn from the grass itself, while many of the most damaging attack where you can't see them-from the roots up.





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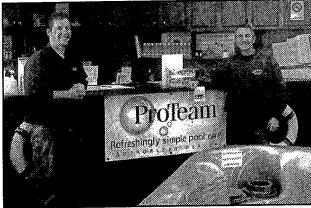
Everyone at Poolmart & Spas, located just north of Dixie on Main St. in Clarkston, is ready for the swimming pool season to arrive.

The weather will break shortly and kids are going to be anxious to get outside. Moms are going to be gardening and Dad's doing lawn work.

Just like spring is coming, so is Poolmart's 28th Annual Sale and Pool School.

The date for Pool School is set for Wednesday, April 30, at 7 p.m. We will have pool chemistry experts on hand to help folks care for their swimming pools.

It is more important for homeowners to know before summer gets here how to take



care of their pool with the least amount of headaches as possible. Preparation can make everything easier. Also, we have many special promotions on chemicals, pool accessories, solar covers, and much more through April 30.

One product that didn't get the necessary recognition for being able to help homeowners is Proteam Supreme and Supreme Plus. There are many benefits of Supreme, starting with reducing the chance for algae to appear, reducing the amount of sanitizer needed (chlorine or bromine), and making the water feel softer while eliminating "red eye" after swim-

It's a great product that more people need to be aware of. Those customers who do use it, get excited about pool season because less time and money is needed to take care of their pool.

Speak to a Poolmart Pool Care Professional for information on Supreme and its ben-

More information will be available at Pool School. Don't forget to sign up at Poolmart & Spas, or email Rob at Rob@poolmartspas.com. RSVP for discounts, snacks, and great information.

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We'd like to take this opportunity to say Thank You to the customers of Buzz's Fine Cabinetry and to our employees and suppliers for helping us provide our customers with the service and quality they expect from us.

Whether you are a medical or business professional interested in giving your work or reception area a fresh look or a home owner wanting to create a new look or add space, we'd love to hear your ideas and share our helpful tips with you.

Thanks again and looking forward to serving our new customers!

Sincerely, Buzz McClean & Mike O'Donnell

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LANDSCAPE & DESIGN

Lowrie's Landscape was voted the #1 Landscaper in Oakland County by the readers of both the Clarkston News and the Oakland Press in 2007. What makes Lowries the Best Landscaper? It's simple... They have been in business for almost 30 years, they love what they do and they can do it all!

Customers can depend on Lowrie's experienced staff of professional, award-winning landscape designers, horticulturist, hardscape and softscape construction crews, and water garden designers. They strive to create award-winning designs that will completely satisfy their customer's needs. They'll design your landscaping, install it, and stand behind it. If a tree dies, they'll replace it. If a paver heaves, they'll fix it.

Homeowners have a lot of options when it comes to landscaping their

property. Lowrie's does full Landscape Renovations, New Build Landscapes, Brick Pavers, Patios, Walkways, Ponds and Waterfalls, Built-in Fireplaces, Barbeques and more. They like to take their clients ideas and personalities and design a landscape that reflects the beauty and functionality of "them."

Lowrie's won numerous Gold and Silver Awards for their landscape design and implementations through the Michigan Green Industry Association, so when looking for that professional landscape contractor let your search stop here! According to their customers, they don't even need to go on vacation in the summer because they enjoy their back yard so much! If your looking for a vacation in your own back yard give them a call to schedule your free design consultation with one of their designers or check

out Lowries new Website to view part of their portfolio.

RETAIL BOUTIQUE AND BULK SUPPLIES

Lowrie's is definitely a One Stop Shop for all of your Landscaping needs. They offer an array of Bulk Supplies including many different kinds of Mulch, Sand, Dirt, Gravel, Limestone, Rock and More. Their Bulk Supplies are sold to the public and you can either pick it up or they'll deliver!

You can also stop by and check out their retail boutique in the 180 year old farm house on Dixie Hwy. They have many different decorative items to choose from to spruce up your landscape such as: imported pottery, cement statuary and fountains, iron arbors and trellises, bird baths and houses, fire burners, pond supplies

and much more! They are also one of the only area retailers of *Moon Valley Rustic Furniture*, so if your looking for picnic tables, adirondack chairs, swings, etc. they have it all here at Lowrie's! Don't be afraid to browse!

Lowrie's is located at:

9539 Dixie Highway in Clarkston (North of I-75 & south of Davisburg Rd.)

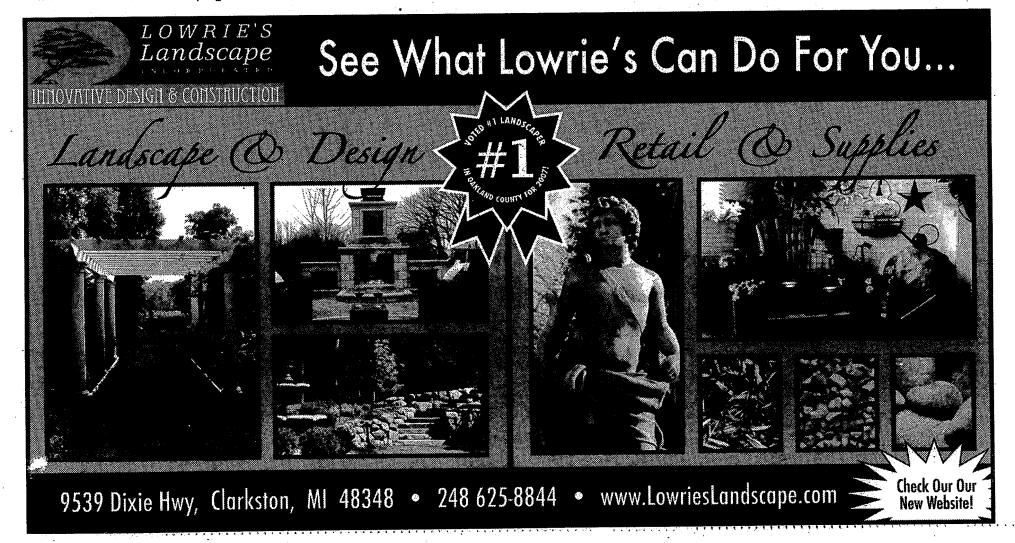
Our office hours are:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday - 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

If you have any questions or for more information you can contact them at: 248.625.8844

Or, check their new website at: www.LowriesLandscape.com

Written by Amanda Van Klaveren of Solstice Design.



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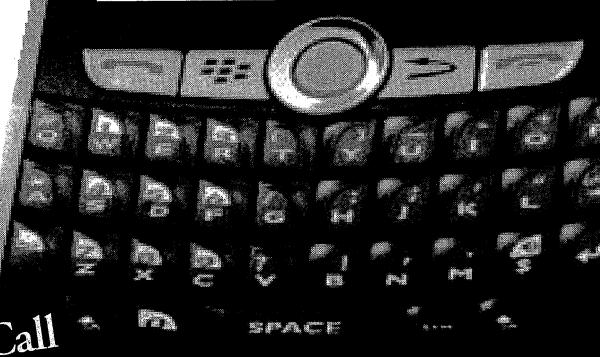
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Find lots of treasures at Digs Consignment Studio

Anyone driving by the Independence (design, decorating, collecting). Square on Sashabaw Road and Waldon lately may be wondering, "what is that Digs place?" If you did get the chance to stop in, you have probably already made going back part of your routine.

The rest of you, just get in here!

Digs is worth the trip. Digs is a treasure trove, inventory comes and goes every day. You don't want to miss something! Furniture, home goods, antiques, curiosities, arts, handcrafts, jewelry and more! All of your nesting, treasure hunting, and decoratingon-a-budget needs could be met here!

Recycle, Reclaim, Refresh!

That's the motto at Digs. Owner Gina Leehy also thinks we don't have to go in debt to have a nice sofa or bedroom set.

"We have perfectly good furniture right here, ready for reclaiming, maybe even better than new! I see items just like these displayed in design and home magazines everyday. Sometimes we may have to look at something in a different context or use, to see the same function and beauty."

Gina can help you see the beauty, too. It's apparent as soon as you walk into Digs that she's applying her background here

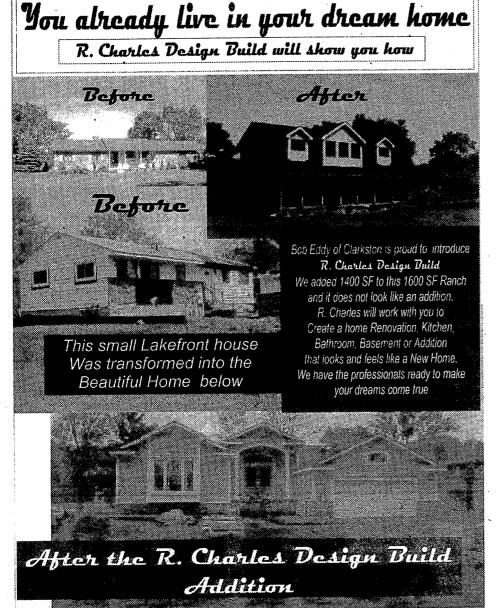
Gina is the former co-owner of the Artful Framer. After 16 years, she sold the framer about two years ago, and has been obsessing over this concept since.

"The concept here is an eclectic mix of hand picked new and resale inventory, and items taken in to sell on a consignment basis. Consignors joining the Digs team get 55-60 percent of the selling price, and it's easy to consign, you can even view your account on line. Artists, handcrafters, and antique vendors also can sell their goods here," she said.

"We offer furniture painting, too. We have a talented decorative artist on duty to turn a discarded furniture piece into a family heirloom. You never know what you'll find here, a sofa, lamp, bed? Traditional, modern, retro, cottage, it's really

Digs is a fun place to browse, and even with all the eclectic mix of treasures, the shop has somehow managed to be organized, warm and inviting. You will want to make a routine of visiting here!

Digs Consignment Studio is located at 6535 Sashabaw Road. Call 248-625-4230.



What's the difference between a Design Build Company vs. all other Contractors?

In the traditional process the Home owner employ's the Architect or Home Designer. The Builder then quotes the job based on the plans provided by the Architect or Home Designer. The Builder isn't concerned about weather or not the project can be built the way the Architect planned. In fact many Builders are planning that it cannot be built as planned and that you the Home owner will have to pay up for the dreaded "Change Order's". This is the best and easiest way for Contractors to make money. They go in with a low price based on a plan they are sure will require changes then once they have the job they follow with one change after another, it never fails. We've all heard the horror stories.

Using the Design Build Company, The Builder employs the Designer or Architect. The Builder is responsible for a "Build-able Plan" You the Home owner are off the hook for the errors & omissions from the Architect or Home Designer. This is the best way to insure that when you remodel or add on to your home the budget is

You will have the piece of mind that your budget is under control and when the job is finished you will very likely have saved a bundle and stayed within the budget you chose to work with.

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Grand Rapids Bedding Mattress Superstore

You spend a third of your life sleeping. Are you sleeping on a quality mattress?

If you're like most consumers, you probably don't know. Customers of Grand Rapids Bedding Mattress Superstore do, however.

"We try to take the mystery out of buying a mattress by allowing people to actually see how mattresses are made. We educate them on how to make the right choices," said Dave Moor, manager at the Waterford location.

In addition to customer education, the store prides itself on being able to provide quality, hand made Spring Air mattresses at near wholesale prices, consistently 15 to 25 percent below its competitors. They are able to offer these savings because they are the only true Spring Air factory-direct outlet in Michigan.

Grand Rapids Bedding Company was founded in 1889 and has been a factory-authorized Spring Air dealer since 1926.

Today, Spring Air is considered one of the big four of the "S" group of bedding manufacturers along with Sealy, Serta and Simmons. Spring Air mattresses offer the long-lasting comfort, durability and support characteristics necessary for a good night's rest.

Grand Rapids Bedding Company Mattress Superstore has five factory-direct stores, located in Royal Oak, Madison Heights, Rochester Hills, Clinton Township and Waterford.

The Waterford store and clearance center is located on Dixie Highway next to Dalton Direct. The location enables them to offer next day mattress delivery.

Shop at Grand Rapids Bedding Mattress Superstore — buy bedding direct and save!

Hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call 1-800-929-MATS.



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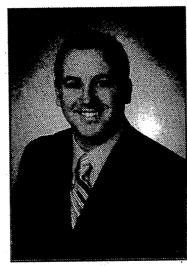
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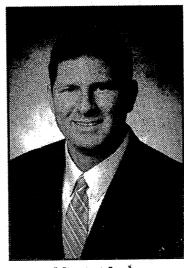
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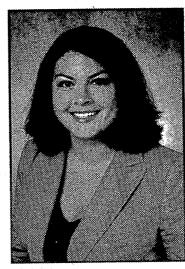
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