

The Clarkston News

Vol. 79 No. 44

1/1/2010

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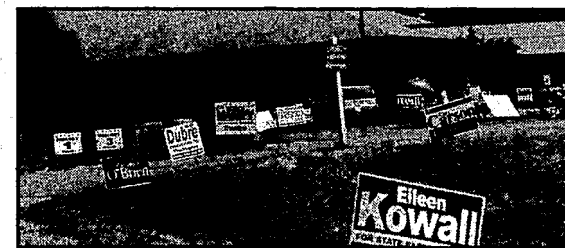
Brian Ernst of Independence Township collects his ballot and instructions from 1st Precinct election inspectors Cecile Neff, left, Evelyn Kujawa, center, and Alan Van Loon at Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church on Tuesday morning. Ernst, who makes a point of voting in every election, said he was particularly concerned this year with the State Representatives' race, as well as the bid for the bench in Clarkston's 52-2 District Court. *Photo by Laura Colvin*

Voters find their voice

Residents made their way to the polls Tuesday, Aug. 5, to cast their primary votes.

All candidates running for Independence and Springfield township office were Republicans, so results of the primary will likely decide the winner of November's general election.

Check www.Clarkstonnews.com this morning for results.



Dozens of signs, which can only be placed at polling locations on election day, popped up at Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church overnight.

Clarkston Community Garden idea bears fruit

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

With the rising cost of energy, food prices have been rising too.

One solution: harvest your own.

About 40 gardeners took advantage of Clarkston Community Garden's offer of free vegetables in exchange for help harvesting this summer's crop.

"Part of Community Day is to really get a sense of who in the community is really interested in coming out and getting involved," said organizer Susan Leigh. "We really want this to be community focused and really meet the needs of the community."

Leigh and Jim Tesnar spent all last week working the 600-by-30-foot garden at the McCord farm off Pine Knob Road, preparing it for community day, Saturday.

"Jim is the horticulturist - he has advised and designed the garden

out there," said Leigh. "He really understands growing organic vegetable gardens. He's an expert in that area. He did that part of it and I've worked with him on the garden but also taken on organizing volunteers and getting the word out in the community."

Leigh said they didn't start planting until June 6 - Independence Township Board approved their community-garden request in May. McCord had two community gardens in the past.

"We're very proud of the fact we brought this garden back," she said.

Leigh said the garden will serve a dual purpose, "giving and receiving" in the community.

"The community garden would be the community helping grow and build the garden, but it also going to the Gleaners Food bank, which helps supply people in Oakland

County with food," she said. "It's really looking at how interrelated we are as a community and how important it is to support all the members of our community here and make sure people do have good healthy meals."

In the past, Leigh never gave much thought to how important organic, healthy vegetables were to one's diet. Instead, she would just give canned items with long shelf lives to food banks.

"It really feels good being able to give them something that is healthy for them," she said.

After taking the "Master Gardener" program at Michigan State University, Leigh did an apprenticeship with Bob McGowen from Bittersweet Farms.

"When I met him, I asked him if there was a project in the community that nobody had been able to



Ron and Dawn Long, volunteers at the Community Garden, with some peppers they harvested. *Photo provided*

Please see Garden on page 13A

The Library will close in August to re-carpet, repaint & refresh!



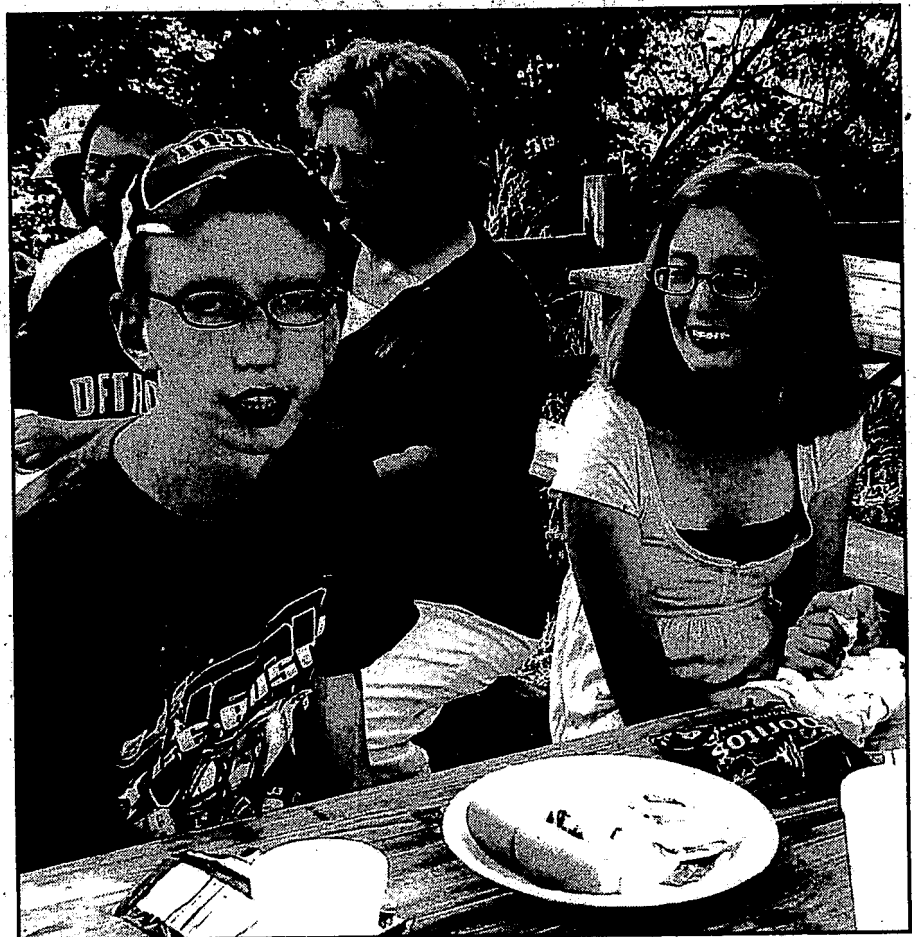
INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

will be closed from Sunday, August 10 through Monday, September 1, 2008 for new carpet, fresh paint, and a better layout of collections! The library will re-open on Tuesday, September 2 in time for the start of a new school year.

Visit the library's website at www.indelib.org for online access to library services, information about upcoming programs and events, and photos of the project during the closure.

See you in September!

INDEPENDENCETOWNSHIPLIBRARY
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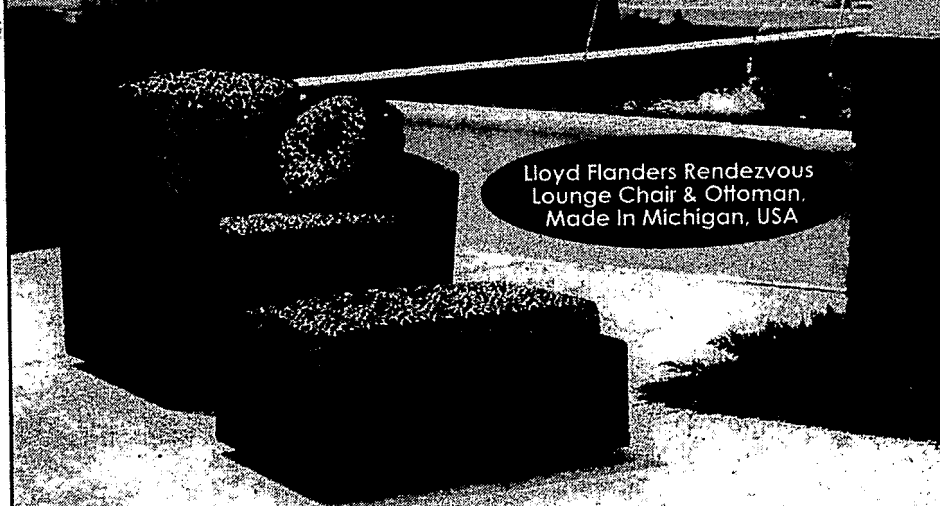
SCAMPers enjoy Rotary picnic

Nick Victorson and Sarah Henry, Clarkston Junior High students and SCAMP campers, enjoy hot dogs at Clarkston Rotary Club's SCAMP picnic. Rotary hosted its annual picnic, July 28, for SCAMP students and their parents. The picnic gives parents an opportunity to meet each other and SCAMP staff. Bingo the Clown entertained with balloon characters and a magic show. Attendees also enjoyed a moon walk and "tattooing." *Photo provided*

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Deadlines: Community News - noon Friday; Letters to the Editor - noon Monday; Classified advertising - Noon Monday; Display advertising - Thursday.

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Briefly . . .

Learn to fight phragmites

Clarkston Watershed Group hosts a workshop on how to get rid of phragmites, 4 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 14, across from Deer Lake Beach on White Lake Road.

Bob Williams will demonstrate his techniques on the invasive, reed plants already at that location.

All are welcome.

For more information, call Cory Johnston at 248-620-6489.

Class of '83 hosts 25-year reunion

An informal Clarkston High School Class of 1983 25-year reunion is set for 7 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 16, at Mr. B's Roadhouse, 6761 Dixie Highway.

There is no charge to attend, and the management has reserved the outside seating areas for the attendees and their guests. No formal dinner is planned. However, participants can order what they wish through out the evening.

"This turned out to be a quickly planned event, as a few of us realized it was not going to happen if we didn't get organized," said Alan Steve Oakley.

Those interested in attending can register at www.mrb.com, send an email to BOCO@ALLNET.COM, or call him at 248-639-5357.

Car wash to benefit troops, Aug. 10

American Legion Post 63 of Clarkston and VFW Post 1004 host Suds and Smiles Car Wash, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 10, at Whitman's lot, 3929 S. Main St.

All donations to benefit the troops. Call 248-625-2331.

Sheriff collects bikes for riders in need

Oakland County Sheriff's Office accepts donations of bicycles for its Recycle program, at Independence Township Substation, 6560 Citation Drive, and Springfield Township Substation, 9075 Big Lake Road, in the Columbiere Center.

Clarkston calls for mural completion

But good art takes time, artist says

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Nearing the end of her second year of work on *The Clarkston News* building mural, City Council's patience is wearing thin.

"The major bone of contention for all of us, I think, is the fact there are two signs up all the time," said Clarkston Council member Kristy Ottman at their July 28 meeting. "We have businesses paying high rent, lots of money, not allowed to put up sandwich boards."

City Manager Dennis Ritter spoke with James Sherman Sr., owner of 5 S. Main St., and artist Michelle Tynan on July 31 to share the council's concerns, and also complaints made to him about the mural by the public.

"We've had significant complaints," Ritter said. "A lot of people think it's an eyesore - it's not a life-or-death situation, obviously, but it's a concern."

Sherman responded with a letter to council, explaining his and Tynan's point of view and concern about city interference.

"It seems, as usual, negative voices are being listened to above the positive," Sherman wrote. "Yes, she is into her third year. Yes, I would like to see it completed. Yes, too, she would like it competed. But,

artists are generally not a type to hurry. And, I doubt a fast completion would be as pleasing."

Allowing the public to park in the building's private lot has been one way he demonstrates his commitment to the community, he said.

Tynan asks the public to enjoy the process as much as they will the final product.

"It's the journey," she said.

Her goal is to paint a colorful, whimsical scene incorporating Clarkston history, she said.

"I set a high standard for myself, to do my best and educate people on what I'm doing," she said.

She said she underestimated the size and complexity of the project, and is open to help from the community.

"I didn't accurately project how much equipment I would need to move around the 3,600-square-foot wall and now we are grossly falling short," she said. "My productivity has waned considerably this season since I had to take on other



Michelle Tynan works on her mural on *The Clarkston News* building. Photo by Phil Custodio

contract work."

Donations of scaffolding, paint, volunteers, and tools would be a great help, she said.

"Be a part of something that is in fact a positive experience for the community and will ultimately bring favor to Clarkston from

surrounding communities for its contribution to the arts," Tynan said.

"Please help if you have the means and would like to support *The Clarkston News* Building mural project by donating scaffolding and equipment for me to use until the weather gets colder."

Sherman and Tynan met with Clarkston City Council about the mural in July 2006. Work began late August 2006.

The projected completion date for the mural was first November 2006, then August 2007.

"I think that it is unfortunate that many in the community who are represented by the city manager condemn my efforts and my client's efforts, to create a painting on a building wall that is nearly 3,600 square feet for the Village of Clarkston," Tynan said.

"Since I understand why many people may feel the way they do concerning an estimated date of completion, as I am also very

Mural makes people mad

Complaints and concerns have been regularly received by the Village of the City of Clarkston, as well as *The Clarkston News*. This one was written in poetic form.

The paint is drying
The wall is crumbling
The residents are watching
And many are mumbling
A sign is posted
Where not to park
We need another
To stop the lark

Be paid and begin
With scaffolding falling
It's time to stop
Being immediately paid

Return our corner
To its original state
Please open the lot
And close the gate

J. Prucher
Clarkston

eager to see it completed, I think it is very important for people who criticize it to understand the challenges that exist as well."

Scaffolding has been a major challenge, she said.

Her tower is about 5-by-7 feet, and 20 feet high.

"My range of motion would be substantially increased if I would have projected using 10 to 15 towers, 30 feet high."

The building is 30 feet high and more than 100 feet long. A full scaffolding of 30 towers, two deep, would be ideal, she said.

"It would allow me to back away from the wall at higher levels - over 5 feet and up to 10 feet - and would increase my range of motion on the wall and allow me to use pole extensions on brushes," she said. "At higher levels, I can back away from the wall up to two feet and my range of motion is as far as I can reach. I often describe the access I have to any section of the wall like being a bug on the wall."

Another challenge has been moving planks of the scaffolding to various levels.

"Many times I have felt exhausted about how frequently my positions change on the wall and how necessary it is to move the planks regularly to higher and lower levels," she said.

"By avoiding changing my reach frequently, I got in the bad habit of squatting on my knees on each plank. Abusing my knees in this way had created a big physical challenge for me as I experienced an ACL injury for the first time."

Weather restrictions - the wall must be dry and above 55 degrees for painting - has limited the project, she said.

Please see Mural on page 17A

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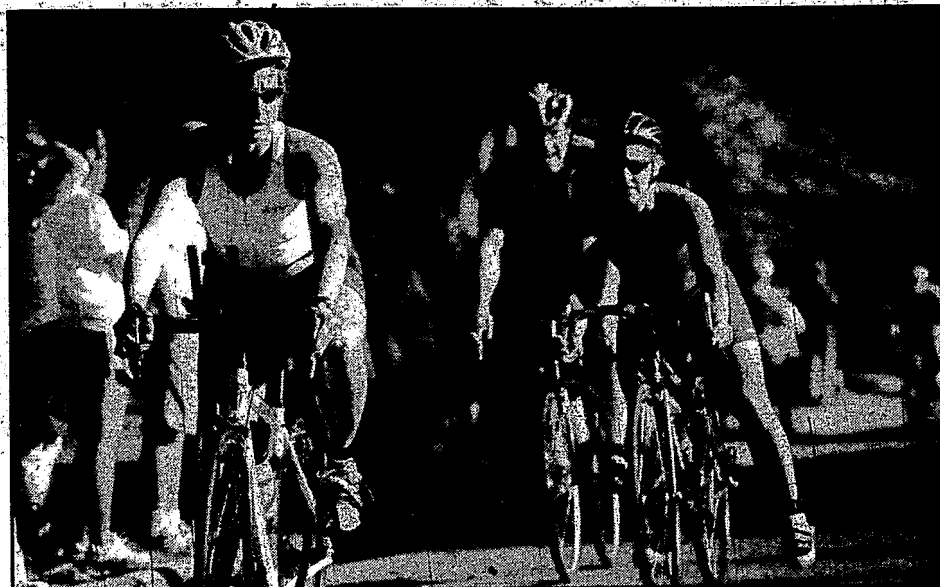
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Athletes transition to bicycles at the Craig Greenfield Memorial Triathlon.
Photo by Laura Colvin

Racing for the finish

BY LAURA COLVIN
Clarkston News Staff Writer

About 300 athletes came from across Michigan—and several other states—to swim, bike and run through Clarkston during Sunday's annual Craig Greenfield Memorial Tri and Du.

The event, now in its fifth year, was created by Corey Greenfield in remembrance of her brother Craig, a 1986 Clarkston High School graduate who lost his battle with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2000. He was 32.

Since its inception in 2003, the memorial event has raised nearly \$100,000 for the Michigan Chapter of the Leukemia Lymphoma Society.

Sunday's race began at Deer Lake Beach, around 8 a.m. Those who competed in the tri—or triathlon—portion of the event started with an 800-meter swim, followed by a 16-mile bike ride and a four-mile run.

Du—or duathlon—competitors began with a two-mile run, followed by a 16-mile bike ride and a four-mile run. This year's first place triathlon finisher, Clarkston resident Timothy Polonkey, 31, finished the race in 1:17:14.

Some 50 other Clarkston-area athletes took part in the event, as well.

"It's a wonderful hometown setting, and it's for a great cause," said Independence Township resident Derrick Fries, who participated Sunday and beat his 2007 time by about 11 seconds. "I've built some great friendships along the way. Where else do you get a 55-year-old guy like me competing against an 18-year-old?"

And compete he did — Fries came in 12th overall, finishing the triathlon in 1:31:34.

The event was Fries' eighth race this year. "There are some unique things to this course," he said, explaining that most triathlons allow swimmers to don wetsuits when water temperatures dip below 77 degrees. The Craig

Greenfield Memorial does not.

"The transition from water to bikes is particularly long, too," he said. "Here, when you get out of Deer Lake and run all the way into Depot Park to get on your bike. The question for the competitor, then, is do you run that third-of-a-mile barefoot, or do you stop and try to put on shoes?"

Fries, who opted for slip-on water shoes, said the extra challenges make the course unique and attractive to athletes.

"You've got to just love this race to pieces," he said. "It's more to manage, so it's a lot of fun."

Corey Greenfield said her brother lived an active lifestyle, and competed in several similar events during his lifetime.

"He was very athletic," she said. "And very much into health and fitness."

When she decided in 2003 to create the event in Craig's honor, Greenfield contacted 3 Disciplines Racing of Fenton and got to work on the details.

"It's become an amazing community event," Greenfield said, noting some 35-50 volunteers pitched in to help out with set up and race-day support. "I'm so grateful to all the merchants; they've been incredibly generous about supporting us and donating to our raffle."

Greenfield said she was also thankful for the ongoing support of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office Independence Township sub-station, as well as the Clarkston Police.

Although the event takes a great deal of planning, Greenfield said it's all been worth the effort.

"The Leukemia Lymphoma Society really helped my brother when he was sick," she said. "They did some nice things to help keep his spirit up, and that's why we picked them to support when we decided to organize this event."



From left, Madison, Emma and Harris Barnes of Clarkston wait for their mom, Susan, to pass on Holcomb.

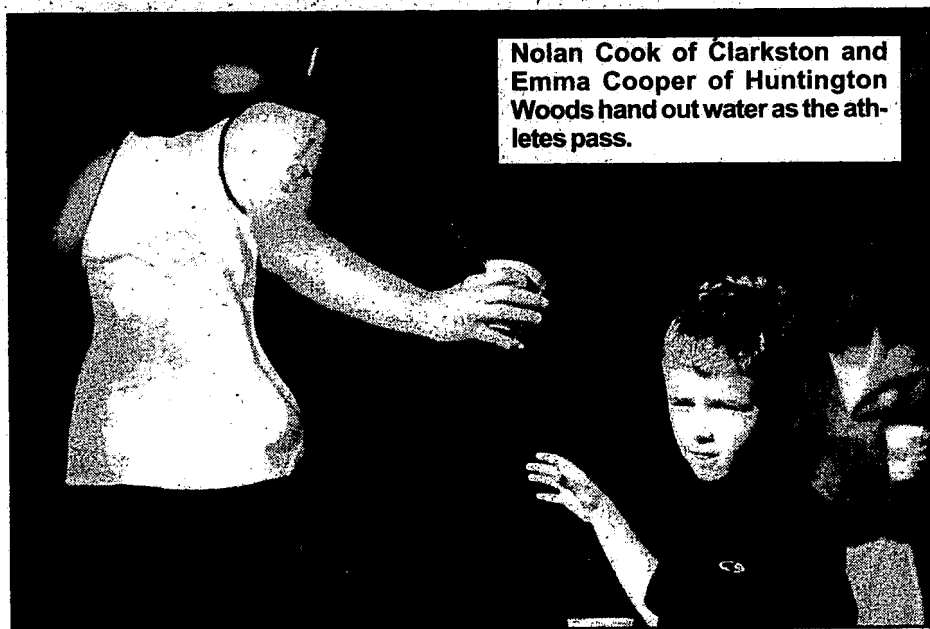


In memory...

"It is so wrong when someone you love dies at 32, and so difficult to no longer hear Craig's voice, see his smile and feel his hugs.

"We cannot change what happened to Craig, but we can embrace a cause in his memory, one he would have participated in with pleasure before non-Hodgkin's lymphoma destroyed his considerable athletic ability and took his life."

-Kathy Greenfield,
Craig's mom and former
Clarkston News editor
(www.skyegentle.com)



Nolan Cook of Clarkston and Emma Cooper of Huntington Woods hand out water as the athletes pass.



Derrick Fries of Independence Township emerges from an 800-meter swim in Deer Lake. Photos by Laura Colvin

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Wendi's Word

A column by Wendi Reardon

Countdown begins

The fall season is fast approaching. But then, you probably already know if you have been out getting groceries or shopping for clothes.

School supplies are out and have been since the Fourth of July. Does anyone else see something wrong with that? Don't get me wrong. I am a fan of new pens, highlighters, and notebooks, but summer isn't over.

Tryouts for some of the sports begin next week, while some begin to practice.

(By the way, if you haven't had your physical done for this school year, you need to do it. You can't tryout without one. That is my public service announcement for this month.)

After visiting sports camps in the last few weeks, I have heard the same from the coaches - the class of 2012 has a lot of potential. It will be fun to see if they can keep it up and how they prove themselves on the freshmen and JV teams.

Now, I came in last year at the end of the season. I did see boys soccer at the beginning of September, but didn't see them again until the end of their season. So for me it will be a complete fall season and I will see the Wolves through to the very end, all the way to state playoffs. (Of course that's my prediction for the season.)

It will be a new year for old rivalries and paybacks for the sting of past losses. Who will win. Well, I know who you would like to prevail and I know who I would want to see prevail (I am a blue and gold girl, all the way. Go Michigan! Now that will be an interesting season to watch.) It will be another great Wolves season.

Speaking of blue and gold, the Blue and Gold football game is Aug. 16 at 11 a.m. Soccer, literally, kicks off their season Monday, Aug. 18. They host Waterford Kettering with JV at 5:30 p.m. Only a few weeks away.

Also, this will be the first season with Lil' Toshiba (my laptop). Technology, wireless internet, updates more quickly on your favorite teams - can you feel the excitement. Not yet? Alright, then some visuals before I leave - a wave of blue and gold filling the stands, you are watching your favorite sport on the edge of your seat anticipating Clarkston's next point.

Now can you feel it?



The Clarkston News Viewpoints

Endorsements limited choice

Dear Editor,

As a regular reader of *The Clarkston News*, and an occasional contributor to the opinion page, I was very dismayed by your editorial opinions for the upcoming primary election.

Everyone's opinion is a personal matter, but your timing and reasoning are certainly questionable.

To publish your opinions less than one week before the election, in a paper that

is only published once a week, denies everyone the right to respond for or against your selections or to even provide timely comments about your reasoning.

I thought one of the main purposes of the opinion page was to encourage discussion and to have a free exchange of ideas and opinions. You often ask for this in your paper but now that can't happen until after the election.

In a similar manner, you rejected all the candidates for Independence Township who favor a manager for that reason only, even after you state they have done a good job

while in office.

You even argue that elected officials will turn to a long term manager for guidance instead of voting on their own.

If that were true, why would you ever support an incumbent for office?

It is sad that Springfield and Independence Townships are already limited to only

Republican candidates, so why do you want to limit it even more?

We need greater diversity in office not less.

The whole idea of having seven elected officials is to have diversity and opposition so that all ideas are presented and discussed and everyone is represented, whether they are in the majority or not.

Perhaps if you encouraged more diversity, not less, there would be more open discussion and more people would attend meetings feeling they too were represented.

As your reporters know all too well, that is not what is happening now.

Cory Johnston
Clarkston

Letters to the editor

Bike riding requires responsibility

Dear Editor,

It seems like just yesterday, actually 20+ years now, that I was teaching my kids how to ride bikes.

At the time, helmets were not the in-thing, but I pushed to my kids the safety aspects of wearing the helmets and obeying the conducts of a responsible bicyclist.

Now, 20 years later, and a current motorcyclist, following the laws of the road help to keep me alive every day. What I am concerned with is an observation with the vastly increasing number of adult bicyclist the following:

- A huge majority of riders now wear helmets - it's now cool as well as safe;

- Many organized bike clubs in the township show an ever increasing amount of adults and children riding for pleasure, exercise and just family fun - that's fantastic; But the big concern is this. . .

- Some adults seem to forget that leading by example means to know and obey traffic laws.

I can't tell you the number of adult bicyclist with helmets, coordinated outfits, expensive bikes, and all the accessories known to man, go flying through intersections, stop signs, lights, etc. with apparently no regard for the law.

Unless it has changed since I was a kid, I thought that bicyclist were required to obey traffic laws, yields and speed limits.

I've been passed by bikes in downtown Clarkston while doing the speed limit. I always yield the right-of-way to bikes, but to see a growing number of adults and riding clubs with some members completely disregarding traffic signals is a concern of mine.

I'm not saying everybody is guilty of this, but on any given Saturday at M-15 and Clarkston Rd., Holcomb and Main, Allen Road and Oakhill and many others, huge groups can be seen ignoring the laws of the road.

For those of you who obey the laws, I thank you for setting a good example for others. For those of you this disregard the laws, maybe the training wheels should never have come off.

Over 20 years ago, the helmet influence from adults finally sunk into our kids' and parents, and now maybe it's time to teach them the rules of the road, and some adults too! Just think what type of drivers they will become if we don't.

Gary Metzger
Clarkston

A Look Back

From *The CNews* archives

15 years ago - 1993

"Budget cuts, pay-to-play hike on hold"

Despite administrative recommendations to cut the 1994 budget by \$637,000 and raise the pay-to-play fee by \$140 per sport, the Clarkston school board opted to sit and wait.

"Fossil business benefits from dinosaur mania" Local business Fred Rock fossil and mineral store found itself the center of attention in the wake of Steven Spielberg's "Jurassic Park" movie. "It seemed to pique the interest of a lot of people," said co-owner Donna Miller.

"Man, 61, rides bike across U.S." Ken Peterson of Independence Township completed a 3,200-mile bike tour across the country. He took part in the Wandering Wheels Tour. "It seemed a crazy idea at first, but I'm glad I did it."

25 years ago - 1983

"State Stalls senior complex" Developer Hugh Garner was forced to wait another four week to learn if a state license would be granted for his proposed \$30 million senior citizen complex, Clarkston Place.

"For-sale sign angers woman" A team from the Michigan Youth Corp spent two days clipping grass, cleaning and removing small trees from private property abutting Maybee Road Park. The next day a for-sale sign went up on the five acres, and neighboring resident Roberta Buckmaster was not happy.

"Holman named clerk" Richard Holman was the new Independence Township Clerk. The board unanimously appointed the 29-year-old Clinton Drive resident from a list of 22 candidates at a special meeting July 28.

50 years ago - 1958

"New building for crippled children dedicated Sunday" Completion for the new headquarters for the Oakland County Society for Crippled Children located at 1105 N. Telegraph Rd. in Pontiac was marked by Dedication Ceremonies Sunday, August 3.

"Rewarded for 50 years of service" George E. Marshall was recognized for his service of the Grand Trunk Western Railroad. He received a 50 year Gold Pass entitling him and his wife to travel anywhere on the G.T.R.R. The pass was issued by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"Bible school closes with program" Teachers and 216 children of the First Methodist Church Daily Vacation Bible School planned an interesting program of activities and displays for the members of the Clarkston community.

July 4 more than just candy

Dear Editor,

What is happening to our community?! Each year we celebrate Independence Day with a variety of activities, and one very popular one in particular – The Fourth of July Parade.

Do people realize what this day of celebration is all about? Should we start out this day with a mini history lesson?

I must be behind the times to think that we are celebrating the acts of our forefathers who fought for our freedom and independence.

Now we are celebrating airborne confections!

I was appalled at the parents of two young children who were sitting behind my family at the parade. The adults, throughout the entire parade, screamed at and for their children to receive as much candy and party

fare as possible.

"Yell for candy, stick your hands out, wave at the candy throwers, run, get it, grab it, run in between the floats, candy over here!"

My 8-year-old daughter even looked flabbergasted and she of course enjoys receiving the treats, but she failed to act the heathen as so many spectators were.

Am I suggesting that there should be no candy at any Clarkston parade?

It may be a nice idea, especially when the patrons completely trashed the streets with litter, but instead, could we have one side of the street reserved for people who wish to enjoy the parade and the other side of the street can be allocated for the ones who all but molest any one holding a bag of tootsie rolls?

Tammy Layton
Independence Township

Whose opinion was that?

Dear Editor,

I would like to know who's actual opinion you are referring to, the person who who this article ("Experience needed to replace outgoing Springfield officials," July 30)?

I feel it is totally unacceptable to base one person's opinion this way, making it look like every person working for your paper has the same opinion.

The same holds true for "whoever's" opinion it is for Independence Township candidates ("For the people, by the people, we oppose manager revamp," July 30).

Karyn O'Neill
Davisburg

Editor's note: The Clarkston News' editorial board includes reporters, editor, and publisher.

Thanks for food drive help

Dear Editor,

On Saturday, July 18, our office once again benefited from a wonderful food drive sponsored by the Clarkston Youth Assistance Mentors Plus.

Our pantry shelves were beginning to look pretty bleak and are now filled with foods that your group collected from area residents who took the time to help Lighthouse one more time.

The commitment made by the mentors and youth is so much appreciated as our agency counts on this food drive each July to replenish our food supply.

Thank you to all the volunteers and donors that made this another very successful food drive!

Connie Stapleton, manager
Lighthouse Emergency Services,
Independence Township

Support during illness appreciated

Dear Editor,

I am very fortunate, most of all to be alive. And, I am fortunate for the generous love, prayers, and support given to me by my dear wife Arlene, my family, my friends, and my neighbors.

I am pleased to report that I am making progress toward full recovery, thanks to

everyone.

I hope to return this caring shown by others by continuing to volunteer my time toward the preservation and improvement of our community, God willing.

Thank you!

Tom Stone
Clarkston

Write a Letter to the Editor!

Please keep them short and to the point. We'll edit them for spelling, grammar, punctuation, clarity and length. We take the liberty of publishing (or not) all letters we receive. Please sign your letter (no photo copies!) and include a daytime phone for verifications. Deadline is noon, Monday. Send them to 5 S. Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346; fax 248-625-0706; or e-mail Clarkstonnews@gmail.com.

The Great Salsa Conspiracy of 2008

At first I didn't see any correlation. The dots I saw were randomly placed around me in the cosmos. But, as the ancients soon discovered, if you connect those dots -- those stars in the heavens -- you can tell a story.

Of course, I am talking about the number one news-story of the year, possibly of the millennium. What am I prattling on about? War in Iraq? Smog in Beijing? A man of partial African descent one election away from being president of the United States? Nope, I am shining the light of scrutiny onto the previously veiled threat to Americans like me; from now on the world will call this, *The Great Salsa Conspiracy of 2008*.

Much like the rest of you mere mortal newshounds, the story didn't slap me in the face and yell, "Rush, write me!"

Nor did it fall in my lap, look up and purr at me, "Pet me and I will grow."

I admit, it almost slipped by me.

Were it not for my superhuman and keen sense of smelling out insignificant or seemingly trivial information, the conspirators would have gotten away with it. But, something moved in the plain of my peripheral vision. And since I am rather unremarkable and undistinguished, I saw it. Now, I am onto "them."

Oh yes I am, and I'm gonna' bring them down.

Who are "them?"

"Them" are the vast, right-wing (read, Republican) meanies.

(Stream of Conscious Thought Break -- why did my English teachers cringe at the thought of Don Rush writing for a living? I don't get it.)

I pieced the story together at 7:45 a.m., on Thursday, July 31 when I read a memo from an agent in the Michigan Department of Agriculture that stated: Cilantro recalled for possible contamination from salmonella.

Bam! It hit me -- either folks like me who like salsa were being targeted or more likely, the meanies (rich, Republican white guys) are trying to discredit workers in Mexico, thereby causing more of them to illegally migrate to America where the greedy people can exploit a cheap labor force and reap huge profits.

It was all there in front of us, it just took somebody (me) to notice the pattern.

June 3, 2008 the Federal Food and Drug Administration, announces consumers shouldn't eat raw, red tomatoes that are round, because they could be tainted with a rare brand of salmonella called Saintpaul and could make folks sick. (I wonder what the Saintpatrick strain does?)

June 7, the FDA reports 145 cases of

salmonella sickness.

June 13, the FDA reports 228 cases of salmonella sickness in 23 states.

June 20, the FDA reports 552 cases of salmonella sickness in 32 states.

July 7, the FDA widens its net in the salmonella investigation. Vegetables under suspicion now include raw, red and

Don't
Rush Me



A column by
Don Rush

round tomatoes, jalapeno and serrano peppers, scallions and onions. Interesting to note, tomatoes and peppers are fruit.

July 9, the FDA reports 1,017 cases in 41 states and Washington, DC (plus 203 hospitalizations in Canada).

July 17, the FDA reports 1,220 cases in 42 states and Washington, DC (plus 224 hospitalizations in Canada).

July 21, the FDA reports 1,251 cases in 43 states and Washington, DC -- resulting in two deaths.

July 30, the FDA reports 1,319 cases of salmonella sickness were caused by serrano peppers shipped in from across the border -- Mexico! Mexican officials strongly deny the accusation.

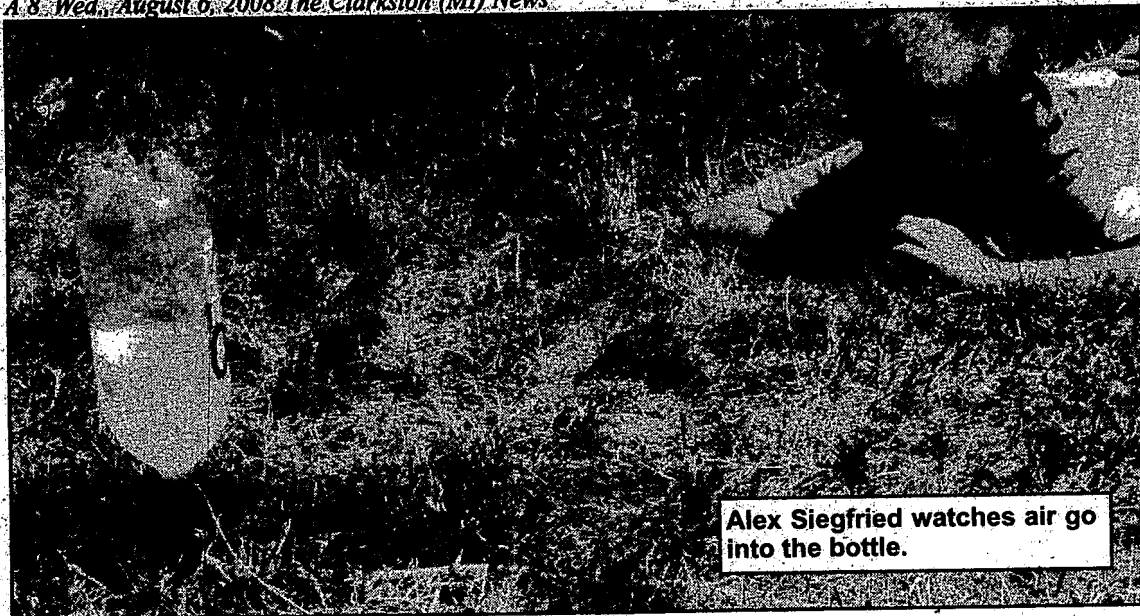
So, let's do the math. Red tomatoes, hot peppers, onions, scallions and cilantro are what? They are all ingredients of salsa. Salsa (rightly or wrongly) is associated with what country? The answer is Mexico. What country do most Americans think exports the largest number of illegal aliens? Again, the answer is Mexico. How much money is spent along the US/Mexican border to keep out illegals? Somewhere around a gagillion, billion, million dollars, I think.

That said, why would the US government all but ruin a Mexican industry -- creating less \$1 an hour jobs there, causing a higher demand for \$2 an hour jobs here? My well-honed, investigative journalistic instincts draw me to this conclusion: The government doesn't want to curb illegal immigration because they want the rich, white business owners to have a cheap labor force. And that, my friends, equals larger profits.

Ta-da!

Or there was a salmonella outbreak and the feds couldn't figure it out fast enough, so they needed a quick scapegoat and Mexico is it because they can't vote. (For my money, I'm sticking with *The Great Salsa Conspiracy of 2008* theory!)

To add your thoughts to this conspiracy, e-mail Don,
donrushmedon@charter.net



Alex Siegfried watches air go into the bottle.

3...2...1...Lift off!

Braden Langeloh watched the rocket get fired into the air and began counting the seconds until it came back down.

"Ten seconds," he estimated.

The rocket came back down to the ground 18 seconds after lift-off, Langeloh was only eight seconds off.

He joined 16 other campers from grades first through fifth at last week's Rocket Camp.

"Combustible Kyle" Parkinson and Lindsey Wright taught the boys how to make rockets and learned about rocket safety.

The campers decorated 2-liter bottle for a Bottle Rocket launch on Friday.

The bottles were filled with water and air is pumped into the bottle. Then, someone pulls on the string to launch the rocket, spraying water in its path as it lifts into the sky.

Some rockets the boys made and took home, but others were launched by Parkinson and Wright for the campers' safety.

Nine rockets were launched outside and none were lost.

The boys were divided into three teams for the week and earned points.

The Big Explosions came in first place with 78,800 points earned during the week. Bomb Boys earned second place with 78,000 points, and in last place was the Rocket Scientists with 71,600 points.

Each boy won a special prize to take home.

The boys also learned about the four forces of flight (gravity, lift, thrust and drag), and about space.

They learned about facts like how old the universe is, how far away from the sun Earth is, and how old "Combustible Kyle" would be on Pluto (not even one!)

Photo story by Wendi Reardon



Andy Rajala and Alex Siegfried get splashed with mud as the rocket takes off.



Kyle Parkinson helps Colt Lang pump air into the rocket.



Watch out!

A boat driver, apparently paying too much attention to the tuber he was towing, ran into a docked pontoon boat, July 26. No injuries were reported, and alcohol does not seem to be a factor, deputies said.

Tip saves life

An Independence Township woman may be grateful to a tipster and deputies who arrested her for violating her probation. She was found with a blood-alcohol level of .373 - .400 is considered lethal. The 39-year-old, arrested at 5:15 p.m., July 29, was taken to North Oakland Medical Center for clearance, then Oakland County Jail.

Clueless driver

A deputy was on patrol in a marked police car, July 30, when he noticed a car behind him cross the center line three times. The officer let the car pass him at Clarkston and Sashabaw roads and pulled him over. The officer, with permission, searched the car, finding a hunting knife with a blade more than eight inches and two bottles of beer, one opened. The driver, a 19-year-old Holly man, tested zero on his breath test for alcohol, but was cited for minor in possession. The deputy explained Michigan's weapon laws and the driver put the knife in the trunk.

Public Safety

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

Loss of identity

When an Independence Township couple was called to confirm a credit card order they didn't make for \$2,017 in computer equipment, they suspected identity theft. When New York Police called the next day to tell them they caught someone with their credit card numbers, bank routing numbers, Social Security numbers, and other personal information, they were sure of it. They were advised to change account numbers and file a police report.

Frisbee thieves

A 22-year-old Independence Township man visiting a friend in the 5900 block of Briarwood Court ran afoul of local thieves. When he was about to take off, July 30, he saw someone stole his disc golf bag, filled with throwing discs, and a CD case with more than 50 CDs. He told deputies he thought he had locked the vehicle, but there did not seem to be any damage to the locks.

Where are my teeth?

A local dentist was ready to cash in about \$2,000 in gold fillings and other dental work when he found someone beat him to the punch. The container of extracted teeth, collected with patients' permission, was kept in an unlocked cabinet. When the dentist went to retrieve them, he saw they were missing, with everything else undisturbed. He called police, but said he would handle the situation internally.

Three-time loser

Clarkston Police pulled a three-time drunk driver off the road, late July 30. The 37-year-old Royal Oak man, whose driver's license has already been revoked, was stopped at Main and Clarkston roads on suspicion of drunk driving. He refused a breath test, but was given a blood test, results pending. Drunk driving, third offense, is a five-year felony.

Good doggy

Man's best friend came to the rescue of an Independence Township man, whose dog barked at someone trying to break into his car. The thief damaged but didn't break the driver's side window of the resident's truck, locked up in the driveway, July 30, when he was scared off by the dog, the owner told deputies.

Drunk driver with a gun

Clarkston Police stopped a 33-year-old Rochester Hills man for driving twice the posted speed limit on Waldon Road, about 11 p.m., July 20. The driver had a permit to carry a gun, and a gun to go along with it.

"He had a license for carrying a gun, but not while he was drunk," said Chief Dale LaCroix.

He was also cited for possession of marijuana, LaCroix said.

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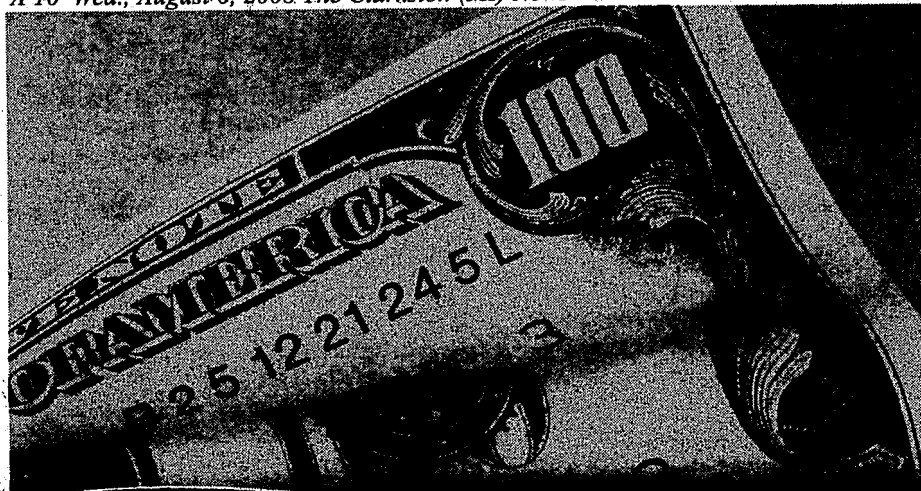
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Caprice Reneé Wagner

Caprice Reneé Wagner of Grand Rapids passed away July 27, at the age of 24 at University of Michigan Hospital, Ann Arbor, following a short and courageous battle with lymphoma.

She was born April 30, 1984, in Tawas. Ms. Wagner attended Novi High School and graduated from Clonlara High School in Ann Arbor, in 2002. She graduated Cum Laude from Grand Valley State University in 2007, with a B.A. in Non-profit Management.

She was a Graduate Assistant for T.E.A.M., an innovative non-profit organization discovering solutions for displaced southwest Michigan workers. She was also currently working on her Master's Degree at Grand Valley State.

She was a Certified Massage Therapist. She is survived by her parents Robin Lynne O'Grady of Clarkston and Donald J. Wagner, II (Dawn) of Novi; grandparents Charles H. O'Grady (Carol) of Rochester



Hills, the late Phyllis C. O'Grady, Donald J., Sr. and Mildred Wagner of Lincoln, Mich., and Collins and Nancy Avery of Northville, Mich.; and fiancé Joshua Dick of Grand Rapids.

Visitation will be Wednesday, July 30, from 2-8 p.m., at A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Road, Troy, MI 48084.

Memorial Service will be Thursday, July 31, noon, at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2225 East Fourteen Mile Road, Birmingham, with the Reverend Ray E. Scherbarth and the Reverend Carl M. Gnewuch officiating. Visitation at church begins at 11:30 a.m.

For more information about her, visit www.carepages.com and enter "newlifeexperience" in the "visit" box. Share memories at obit.DesmondFuneralHome.com.

Frank Thomas Wydra II

Frank Thomas Wydra II of Clarkston passed away Aug. 2 in his home surrounded by family.

He was born May 11, 1939, in Republic, Pa., to Frank Thomas and Ann Marie (Kois) Wydra. He was the husband of Karen Branch Wydra; father of Denise Branch Wydra (Gary Warstadt) of Needham, Ma.; Sheryl Lynn Wydra of Clarkston; Frank Thomas Wydra III (Sandra Reynolds) of Bingham Farms; grandpa of Emma Katherine Brennan-Wydra of Needham, Ma.; Frank Thomas Wydra IV, Nickolas James Wydra and John Michael Wydra of Bingham Farms; brother of Ronald Wydra of IL and James Wydra (Margee) of Wisc.; brother in



law of Karol Jean (Branch) Raebel and Sandie Branch.

Visitation and Eulogy Services were Aug. 4-5 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Funeral Mass is Wednesday, Aug. 6, 10 a.m., at St. Daniel Catholic Church, Clarkston.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Michigan. On line guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.

"No Regrets, chin up!"

Margaret Marie 'Peggy' Trevino

Margaret Marie "Peggy" Trevino of Kalkaska, formerly of Clarkston, passed away July 28 at the age of 69.

She was the wife of Arnulfo for 53 years; mother of Elizabeth, Roland (Bobbie), Ninfa, Sofia (Jose) Rosario, Gerald (Heidi), Steven (Denise), Patricia (Kenneth) Darga, Mary Catherine (Billy) Michaelis; preceded in death by son Arnold and grandson Angelo; also survived by 21 grandchildren and 22

great grandchildren; sister of Donald (Alice) McLane, Thomas McLane, Judith (Carmelo) Moyet.

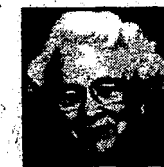
Memorial Service/Rosary was July 31 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Inurnment, All Saints Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Genesys Hospice.

Online guest book, www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Sarah Schaffer

Sarah Schaffer of Clarkston, formerly of Detroit, passed away Aug. 1 at the age of 92.

She was preceded in death by her husband Warren. She was the mother of Maureen (Phil) Reynolds of Clarkston and Rev. Francis (Sandy) Schaffer of West Virginia; grandma of eight; and sister and best friend of Jane McGovern of Clinton



Twp. Funeral service was Aug. 4 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston.

Memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association.

Online guest book, www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Rebecca E. 'Becky' Bontempo

Carmen G. "Connie" Slade of Ortonville, formerly of Southern, Ill., went to be with the Lord, July 29, at the age of 86.

She was preceded in death by her husband Oliver "Woody"; loving mother of Gloria Warden-Day, Pauline Tanner-Brown, Greg A. Slade and Pam Morris; dear grandma of Jeff (Kim) Warden, Damon (Pam) Warden, Patrice Sinclair, Craig (Wendy) Tanner, Chris (Diane) Tanner, Paula (Richard) Cervantes, Del (Rebecca) Tanner, Laura (Craig) Billing,

Alan Slade, Julie Morris and R.J. (Michelle) Morris; sister of Louise Phelps, Jonell Graham and Joe Malle, Jr.; sister-in-law of Kay Sammons; also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Memorial Service was Aug. 5 at Dixie Baptist Church, 8585 Dixie Hwy, Clarkston.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Dixie Baptist Church. Arrangements entrusted to the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Obituaries updated daily at ClarkstonNews.com



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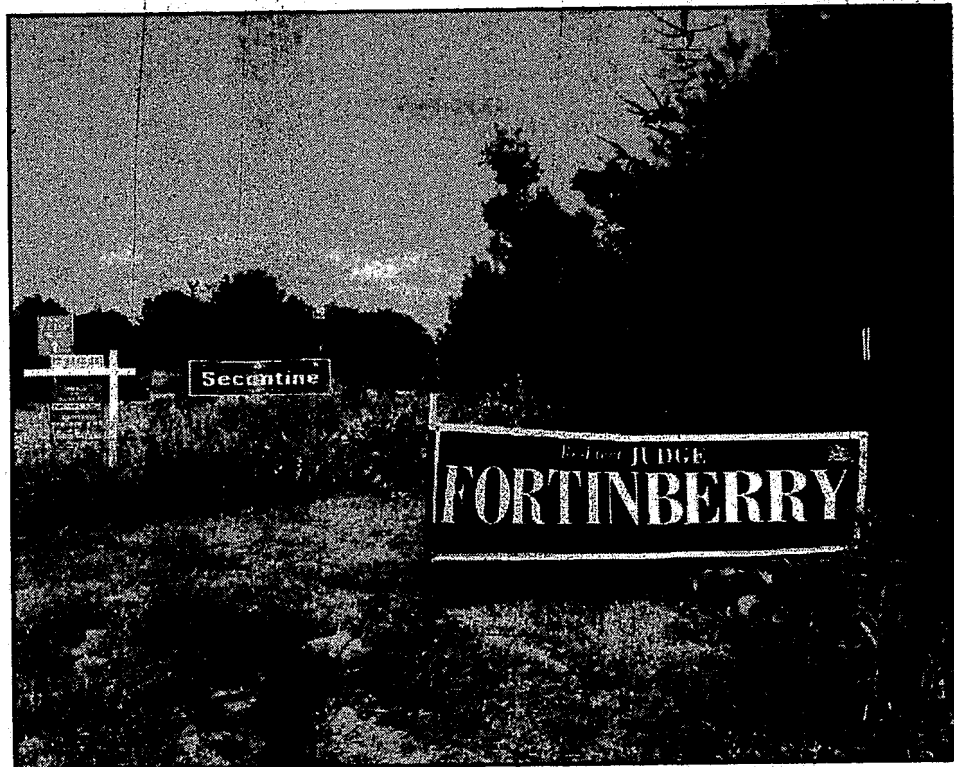
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Judge campaign upstaged by sign controversy



Judge Dana Fortinberry made the papers last week when pictures of her policing up political signs on this property were sent to the media. Photo by Phil Custodio

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Judge Dana Fortinberry said she probably wouldn't repeat actions leading to a barrage of negative media coverage earlier last week, but not because she was in error.

"I would be afraid my opponent would make it into a media circus and make it look like I did something wrong," Fortinberry said.

A *Detroit Free Press* story, Tuesday, July 29, described how a campaign volunteer for opponent Joseph Fabrizio staked out property on Citation Drive near the 52-2 District courthouse and surreptitiously photographed Fortinberry pulling up a couple of Fabrizio's political signs.

The story, written by court reporter Lori Brasier, did not identify the volunteer, because he feared "reprisals from the judge."

Brasier declined to discuss further why he was not identified, saying it was an internal, newsroom matter.

She received a tip from the volunteer that morning, she said.

"Powerful people involved in controversy – it makes an interesting story," said Brasier, who also teaches journalism at Oakland University.

"I don't know how this will affect the election. It may not have any effect."

Fabrizio said his signs should have been permitted because they were in the roadway easement.

"They were in a public right of way," he said.

Fortinberry said road easements allow government to improve and widen roadways, but should still be considered private property when it comes to political signs:

"It's a misinterpretation of the law," she said. "The government has an easement to put in sewers or widen a road, projects for the common good. It's a government right, not a private right."

Township Supervisor David Wagner, responsible for enforcing the township's sign ordinance, agrees.

"You have to get the owner's permission," said Wagner, who supports Fortinberry's campaign and is running for reelection himself. "The road commission can do what they want, but it's still private property."

If Fortinberry had called township hall, Wagner would have sent a code enforcement officer to take it down, and property owners are permitted to remove signs for which they did not give permission, he said.

"Virtually every piece of property has utility or road easements of some sort," Wagner said. "If signs are allowed there, you could put them just about anywhere."

Larry Barnett, owner of the Citation Drive property, disagreed strongly that road easements mean public ownership.

"I own the property, the whole thing," Barnett said. "There's no easement for

signs."

He gave permission to Fortinberry for her political signs, but not to Fabrizio, and also gave permission to Fortinberry's campaign to remove Fabrizio's signs, he said.

"I dealt with (Zach) Baneche," Barnett said. "He told me Fabrizio put the signs on my property – I gave him permission to remove them."

Fabrizio said he didn't place the sign himself, and his policy is to ask permission of property owners, he said.

He was not directly involved in the incident, learning of it when the volunteer called him about 9 a.m., Tuesday. But, having lost many signs this campaign, he asked volunteers to keep an eye on them, he said.

"I jokily said if you happen to see someone remove a sign, not to confront anyone, but take a picture, such as with a camera phone," he said.

Brasier reported Fortinberry pulled out the signs at about 8:45 a.m., noting court started at 8:30 a.m. Fortinberry responded she was still on time.

"The doors open at 8:30 o'clock. I don't get on the bench until 9 o'clock," she said. "I spend a lot of personal time doing this job. Anyone insinuating anything different needs to follow me around some time."

The incident has turned into a diversion from the issues, which benefits Fabrizio's campaign, she said.

"He has no qualifications, no endorsements," she said. "This is a smokescreen."

Fabrizio agreed focus should be on issues, but the incident provides a snapshot of why he is running for district judge, he said.

"The incumbent is no stranger to the judicial tenure commission and controversy," he said, referring to a 2005 censure of Fortinberry by the commission.

The censure was in connection with a letter the judge wrote in 2004 to the Oakland County Deputy Sheriff's Association. The commission found she made baseless charges of cover-up by law enforcement of a murder.

"A judge should resolve controversy, not create it," Fabrizio said.

The sign incident has the appearance of impropriety, he said.

"It lends itself to looking suspicious," he said. "It's not something you would expect from a sitting judge."

However, media coverage of the incident, picked up by UPI and found through Google on a news web site based in India, has been blown out of proportion, Fortinberry said.

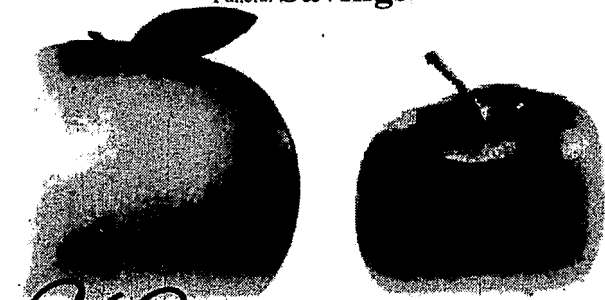
"I think I'm being made out to be the bad guy – I did what I had permission to do," she said. "I hope future press coverage is fair."

Fortinberry, Fabrizio, and challengers Mark Lyon and Fred Miller ran for district judge in the Aug. 5 primary election.

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Stolen signs upset candidates

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Clarkston News phones were ringing off the hook last week as candidates reported election signs missing in action.

Sandy Dubre, running for Independence Township treasurer, said she received a call at 10 a.m. last Thursday morning about a witness who saw someone steal her signs.

"These are people who gave me permission to have my signs on their property," she said.

Dubre decided to file a police report.

The witness, Sharon King, told police she saw a white female with dark hair remove a Dubre sign and place it in the vehicle. However, she was unable to positively identify the driver or passenger for police.

Dubre who drove the neighborhood of Timber Ridge Trail where the incident happened, said her signs were gone, a rival candidate's signs in their place.

"I think people are being very vicious and they're just looking for any possible way to bring themselves ahead and I don't appreciate it being at my expense," she said.

"Those signs cost me money and now that I have a witness that someone took them, maybe I'll get my money back for my signs. I just want to be treasurer, that's all and have it be fair."

Mark Petterson, candidate for Independence Township trustee, said he had at least 40 signs stolen over the weekend.

"They didn't just knock them down, they took them," he said. "I would like to think that not any of the competition is involved in it. I think it's more residents that are being stupid."

Petterson said he hung a couple of "game cameras," usually used in deer hunting, in hopes of catching any perpetrators.

"It's sad that this is what it's come down to in our politics," he said. "Now they (candidates) have to hang cameras on our signs so they don't get stolen."

Kathy Paul, Springfield Township clerk candidate, said someone took her signs out of the frames and replaced them



This camera was placed around a tree, aimed at a row of signs along M-15. Photo by Trevor Keiser.

upsidedown, as well as took campaign literature.

"It's been really strange," Paul said.

Sandy Miller, elections administrator for Independence Township, said she received about five calls concerning sign trouble.

"That's kind of desperate and petty, it's hard to point fingers at other people, the candidate themselves and whoever's working for the candidate. They really get overzealous and they don't realize how bad it looks for their candidate that they're working for," she said.

"We've got to go through this again in November, so hopefully all those signs will surface somewhere, so candidates don't have to buy them again."

Garden brings community together

Continued from page 1A

move forward and was something I could do that was a little bigger project than providing labor for the Bittersweet garden and he introduced me to the McCord property," she said. "We set things up for this to be an extension of the Bittersweet Garden."

Using leftover and donated plants and seeds at Bittersweet, they were able to save money. They planted four rows of tomatoes of different varieties, cucumbers, sweet corn, egg plant, peppers, winter and summer squash, and some herbs as well.

"We've got some lavender and are looking at increasing the herbs and perennial plants that we have," she said.

More than 250 tomato plants and 300 cucumbers have been planted, Leigh said.

"We really did well for ourselves considering it was late in the season and it was all based upon donations," she said. "I've really learned a lot, and up until two

months ago I had never planted a vegetable I was a flower gardener for 30 years, so this has been just tons of fun. When I first got into it, it was a pretty big endeavor."

Leigh said she hopes to add flowers next year and expand the garden. They are relying on help from master gardeners, as well as people who just want to learn how to garden or have some skills to bring.

"Six or seven people a week have come out to help," she said. "Girl Scouts also came out and helped harvest, the parents are excited about the kids doing some work in the gardens."

They want to improve the soil and make a few changes to the garden, with which volunteers can help, Leigh said.

"We need to enrich soil - we can't just keep taking things out of the soil, so we are being good gardeners," she said. "Now it's time for community to step up and step in and help us get it to the next stage."

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Creator's Image wins championship

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

For Teresa Mershman, sponsor of the Creator's Image Photography youth baseball team, one moment in the season stands out for her.

"There was a time when an opposing team's player was injured and was unable to return to the game in the final inning," Mershman said. "After their loss to the Creator's Image Team, the players lined up and shook every opposing players hand then went into the dugout and included the injured player."

Creator's Image Photography held on to their sportsmanship in their championship win, capping the Independence Township Parks and Recreation Youth Baseball season.

Creator's Image had only lost one game during the season and they faced the team who beat them, Clarkston Medical Group.

The boys from Creator's Image scored their first run in the bottom of the first inning and kept the momentum going until the seventh inning, winning 9-6.

"It was a good victory for us," said Creator's Image Coach Juan Reyes II. "I knew my kids had a lot of potential. Everyone was

committed to it. We went out and practiced whenever we could make it. The kids are awesome. It was a lot of team work."

He owed a lot of the team's success to the boys' passion for the game and help from his assistant coach, Brian Benway, and manager, Amy Wilks.

Coach Reyes has coached since his son began playing tee ball and has taught the boys to have fun and practice sportsmanship.

Clarkston Medical Group made two runs in the top of the second inning and kept the lead until the third inning when Creator's Image scored four runs. Jeff Pearce kept his team's spirits up, reminding them they had beat them before and they could do it again.

The boys were motivated going into the seventh inning. They were behind, 9-4, but brought in two runs.

But Creator's Image pitcher Juan Reyes III didn't get shaken up by the points as he struck out the next three batters for the win.

Clarkston Medical Group received second place trophies for their season and a treat from Dairy Dream from Coach Pearce.

"You guys are still champs," Pearce told the boys.



Josh Vanaman slides into home and scores for Clarkston Medical Group. Photo by Wendi Reardon.



Athlete of the Week Cubs go major league

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Clarkston Cubs ended their season with a treat from the Detroit Tigers and an improved record from last year.

The team was selected as the "Aquafina Detroit Tigers Team of the Day" on May 23.

The players and their families arrived at Comerica Park and watched the Tigers get ready for their game against the Minnesota Twins.

The boys stood at a railing and watched the players' batting practice and warm-up for the game.

Then, the Cubs took to the field for a tour and had their picture taken on the field.

"The players were beyond excited to be on the field," said Cubs' manager Scott Steward.

"The Tigers didn't win that day, but we had a good day."

The Tigers lost 9-4 in their first game of the series against the Twins.

Steward announced the team at the beginning of the year. The Cubs found out in February they had been chosen for the

honor.

Most of the boys have played for the Cubs for the last two years. Two players joined the team this year.

They began their season in April with tournament games continued until the beginning of July.

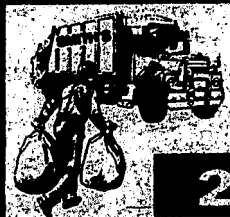
The 11U travel team played 20 games against teams in their North Oakland Baseball Federation league, and came out with an 8-12 record.

"After a slow start, we picked up," said Steward. "In the last 18 games, they significantly improved."

They improved upon last year's record and will continue to improve next season.

They begin their season in January and will start the season in April with tournament games.

They will be going into their third season next year and are looking ahead to try out for the 2009 season. The team will play on Sunday, August 17 and Saturday, August 23 from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Comerica Park. Players cannot turn 13 years old before May 1, 2009. For more information, please contact Steward at steward@11u.com.



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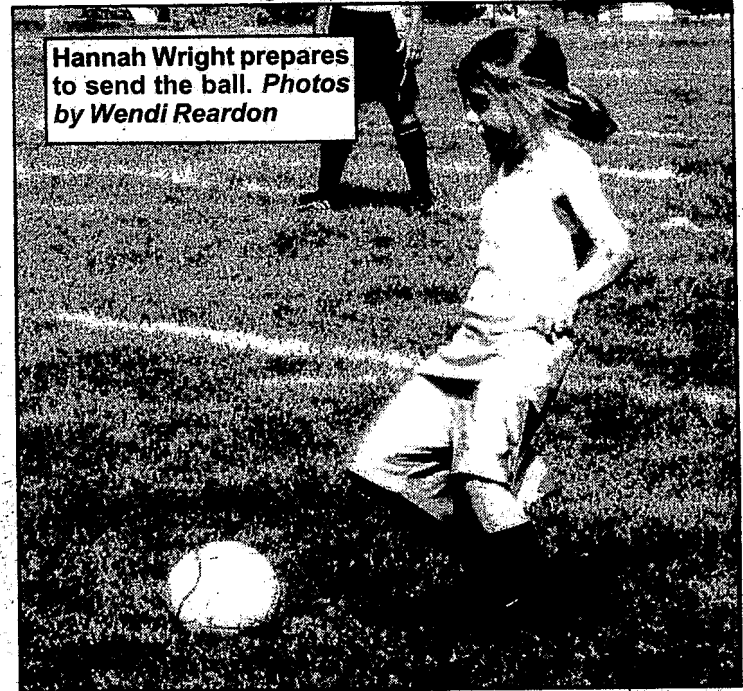
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Katie Viazanko gets cooled down by Breanne Timm and one of her players.



Hannah Wright prepares to send the ball. Photos by Wendi Reardon

Soccer hopefuls season skills in the summer sun

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

On the soccer field Breanne Timm and Katie Viazanko are used to defending the goal, but last Thursday they had to defend themselves from their campers.

The fourth and fifth graders wanted to thank their coaches for a great week of soccer, but a hug wouldn't do it.

Instead, the girls chased their coaches with their water bottles and doused them with icy water.

Girls, grades 4-9, participated in the Future Wolves Soccer Camp offered by girls varsity head coach Sarah Wasilk, her coach-

ing staff, and players.

"This year's camp was great," said Wasilk. "It was one of the best camps we ever had - a great group of girls, a really fun week, great weather, and a lot of fun."

Wasilk saw a lot of potential for the future of Clarkston's soccer program.

"It's hard to tell when they are little, but the little kids have such great attitudes. Our older girls, especially eighth to ninth grade, there's a lot of talent. I'm looking forward to them joining the program."

Assistant coach Megan Horstman led the fourth and fifth graders and also said the girls had a great attitude and brought a lot of

excitement during the week.

"There was a lot of improvement through the four days," said Horstman.

Awards were given for sportsmanship, hustle, most improved player, and Lady Wolf to the girls who earned the most points during the week.

Wasilk and her coaching staff had a hard time deciding who would receive the sportsmanship award.

"A lot of you earned this," Wasilk told the girls.

The three awarded were Stephanie Gabbard, Emma Reilly, and Christie Campbell.

Hannah Wright, Courtney Bell, and Sydney Stege received hustle awards.

The most improved players were Katy Fox, Ashley Dagostino, and Kara Weightman.

The Lady Wolves for this year were Nicole Hanson, Anna Siegfried, and Lisa Lyons.

Each player received a certificate of achievement, T-shirt, and information about the Clarkston Wolves Soccer annual fundraiser in September.

This was Wasilk's third year running the camp. Each year the number of campers has increased and they had 42 kickers this year.



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The Clarkston News building's mural. Photo by Phil Custodio

Tynan to appeal for signs

Continued from page 3A
"To date, time in on the project - around the seasons - is about 10 months," she said.
Design changes have added more work and time, she said.
"But they really go with the territory of composing and creating art," she said.
"There really has to be some allowance for this in order to fully appreciate the great effort involved in scaling a large wall to paint a vision."

The blue grid over work sketched last season is necessary as more layers and content are added to the picture, she said.
"At any stage of the painting, it may be necessary to paint reference lines and measurements over previously painted images. They are easily erased and help me to understand spatial relationships," she said.
"I am not a graffiti artist or an airbrush artist like many popular artists who paint gigantic murals quickly in many cities - what I am creating is a frescoe style history

painting in the rich tradition of Renaissance techniques, and very old and tradition."
With Ritter's assistance, Tynan scheduled a hearing with the Clarkston Zoning Board of Appeals about her signs. The meeting is set for Aug. 21.

Art demos set for Saturdays

To help inform the public on her mural project, Michelle Tynan will be demonstrating faux techniques learned while working on the film "Youth In Revolt," 4 p.m., Saturdays this summer, at the Clarkston News Building mural work site in Clarkston.
She will demonstrate how to create a flaky, enamel rust texture on a wrought iron gate she sketched using acrylic paint, glue, newspaper, and molding compound. Also, she will demonstrate creating cracked concrete and moss on a staircase drawn in the picture.
Bring something to paint on and brushes and wear painting clothes.

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Rush for Food set for Aug. 22

For the 11th year, Clarkston High football teams will spend an evening collecting nonperishable food products in local neighborhoods.

The food goes to stocking the emergency pantry for Lighthouse Emergency Services in Clarkston.

The annual event helps build awareness of a community need, promotes team unity, and allows players to give back to the community that supports them.

Late summer is a time of high need for Lighthouse and due to the economy, they are in critical need of donations this year.

Last year the boys collected 3,900 pounds of food and household necessities and hope to collect more this year.

Clarkston Chiefs Youth Football Program will be assisting by collecting personal and paper products.

Financial sponsors for the pre-"Rush" dinner are Joe Lunghamer Chevrolet and Lunghamer GMC, Complex Too & Machine, Inc. and Lighthouse.

Check *The Clarkston News* for updates for the teams' pickup areas.

Shock kept energy high through entire season

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The girls from the 13U Shock team fired up the courts with a successful, 28-4 AAU travel basketball season.

"We had a really great season with quite a bit of success," said head coach Stu Hastings.

Hastings has been getting the girls ready to play basketball on the high school level.

As a coach and a teacher, Hastings has also taught the girls principles they could use on the court as well as in their life.

He gave the girls a constructive discipline and taught them the success principles.

"If you allow the success principles carry into life it carries from one sport to another. It carries over to all aspects of life."

Most of the players have been on the team for the last five years. A few of them joined the team this year after playing for Hastings on the Oakland Sidewinders softball team.

The girls don't play in a league. They play games in independent tournaments against girls in their age group.

Being part of a travel team prepares the girls for playing on the high school level because they have already been playing against girls at the same level.

"It gives them a step up," said Hastings. "It allows them to walk into high school and play right away."

Another step up for the girls is being surrounded by coaches, teammates and parent with the same success skills.

"It helps you succeed," he said.

The girls' season has changed in the last year because the athletic equinox changed the schedule of the girls' basketball season in high school.

They ended their season in June, but only



In front, Tara Perry, Megan Hastings, Kim Lepor, Maddie Hutchinson, and Shauna Siwicki; In back, Assistant Coach Kaye Hastings, Maria Buczkowski, Ciara Helton, Audrey McDonough, Marissa Secontine, Assistant Coach Shawn McDonough and Head Coach Stu Hastings.

played for four months. They used to play for a longer length of time.

Even though their season just ended, Hastings is unsure when their new AAU season will begin.

But he is sure of one thing—the girls won't get the same length of experience they once had.

Shock players are from Clarkston, Lake Orion and Detroit Country Day.

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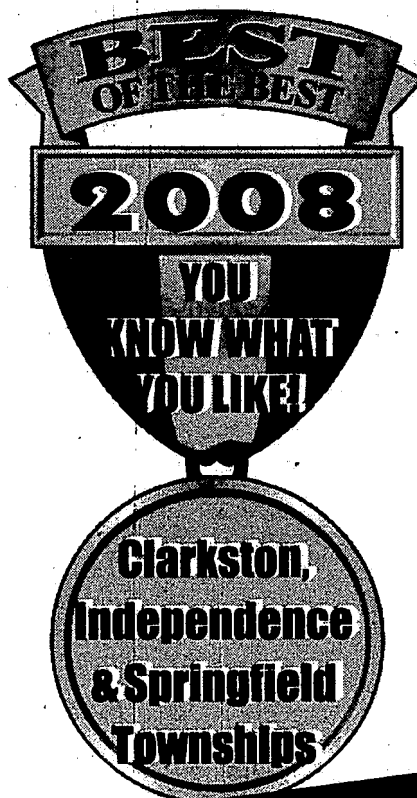
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- Best Coffee
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- Best Waiter/Waitress
- Best Community Newspaper
- Best Day Care Provider

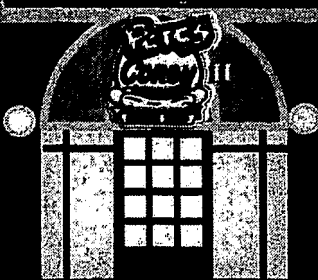


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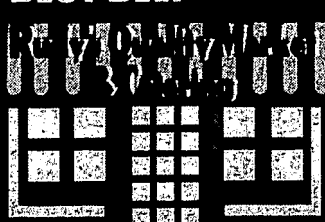
INSIDE THIS WEEKS PAPER!

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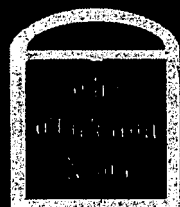


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BEST NEWSPAPER



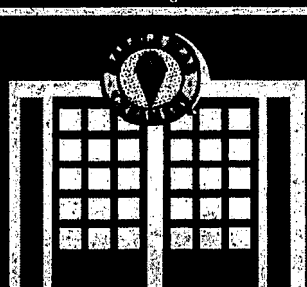
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See Page 11

See Page 11



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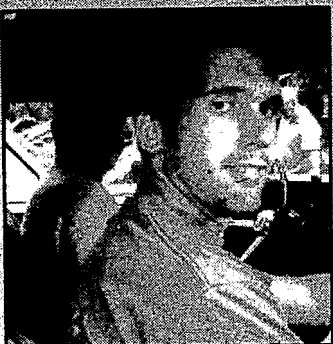
Not photographed: Darren, Jill, Ange, Sacey, Kelly Bohon

People Poll

August 6, 2008

Page B1

Favorite car ever?

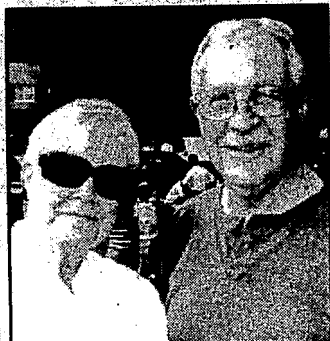


"The '68 Chevelle, and Camaros."

— Jeff Grusnick

"The '68 GTO. I had a '68 GTO. I loved that car."

— Mitch Grusnick, sitting in their '68 Pontiac LeMans



"The '57 XK-SS Jag. It goes back to my British heritage."

— Walter Brown

"He dreamed about it in high school. He always wanted it, so he got it."

— Barb Brown



"The Mustang. I grew up in a family that always had Mustangs. They were great cars."

— Julia Covert

By Phil Custodio

The Clarkston News' Millstream

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

Hope for the hopeless

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Twelve members of Clarkston Community Church spent two days in a Findley, Ohio, prison this past July, hoping to help inmates jumpstart their lives.

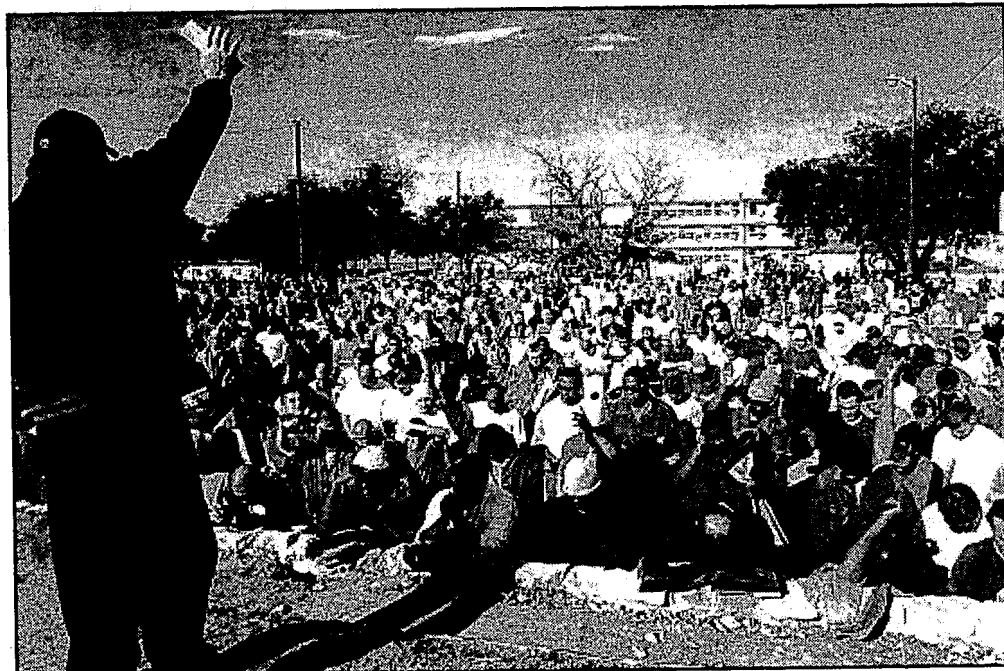
"With Clarkston Community Church we're trying to be relevant in our community and get outside our four walls and contribute to the community by having an external focus," said Bob Bjurman, prison ministry leader at the church. "We think this is one item in our portfolio to do that."

"The Bible tells us that the church is the body of Christ," said Pastor Greg Henneman said. "We are his hands. We are his feet. It's awesome to pastor a church that really lives that out."

The church works alongside Bill Glass Champions for Life prison ministry, based out of Dallas, Texas. Bjurman got involved with the ministry 22 years ago.

The Clarkston group headed to Findley, Ohio, July 18, and spent the next two days talking face to face with prison inmates, sharing with them messages of hope, love and redemption as a part of the churches prison ministry. For some, it was their first time, while others had gone previously, he said.

"What makes this different then going down to the city jail is they (Bill Glass ministries) get their counselors inside the prison," said Bjurman. "Inside to the exercise room, the yard, the dorm, the cell blocks, segregation units and



A volunteer with Bill Glass ministries shares a message of hope with prisoners in Texas. Photo provided

"The Bible tells us that the church is the body of Christ. We are his hands. We are his feet."



— Pastor Greg Henneman

some of the advanced counselors will even go to death row. We get to go where the public and families never, ever go."

A series of entertainers and celebrities come in and perform for the inmates and then share their testimony of what led them to become a Christian, Bjurman noted. Afterwards the counselors get one-on-one time with the prisoners.

"For them to have a normal conversation and look eyeball to eyeball with a free man is quite a

treat," he said. "It helps to build dignity, self respect and hope as well as builds a fresh desire to do good when they get out."

Through conversation Bjurman said counselors are given the opportunity to share their faith and share what Christians call "the plan of salvation." He said there is a lot of opportunity for "turn-around" in American prisons, compared to those in the Third World.

"Everybody loves a turn-around story," said Bjurman. "We're not negating what your crime was, but when you've paid your debt to society, here's your chance at a fresh start. You've made a commitment and we're helping them by presenting the basic plan for salvation to jumpstart that fresh start."

He noted there is 80 percent recidivism in this country. For those who make a sincere commitment to turn their lives around, the number is lowered to single digits.

Please see Church on page 6 B



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Around Town

Team reptile summer camps, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Aug. 4-7. Mill Pond Pavilion, Springfield Township Parks and Rec. 8 and older. \$100/residents, \$110/non-residents. 248-846-6558.

Family Fun Night at Deer Lake Beach, Olympic style games and activities. Aug. 13. \$11/family. Free/swim lesson students. 248-625-8223.

Shipshewana trip from Independence Township Senior Center, 6:45 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Aug. 20. \$79. Dinner at Das Dutchman Essenhaus. Motorcoach. 248-625-8231.

Movies and Munchies, 1:30 p.m., Aug. 21, "The King and I." Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

Tigers vs. Indians, motorcoach trip to Comerica Park, hosted by Independence Township Senior Center, 5:15-11:30 p.m., Aug. 26. Upper-deck seat, transportation, \$5 voucher: \$45. 248-625-8231.

Clarkston Labor Day Parade, sponsored by Clarkston Rotary, 10 a.m., Sept. 1, Church to Main Street, north through downtown to Miller Road. Theme: Working To Keep Our Community Green. Groups, organizations, businesses, musical groups, marching bands, floats, equestrian groups, and children and families on decorated bikes. Political candidates, please make \$50 charitable donation to Clarkston Rotary. 248-625-9741.

Labor Day Fair and Car Show, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sept. 1, Clarkston First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. For cars and trucks of all types. 15 trophies. DJ Mark Farnsworth, food, kid's games, auctions, raffles, and large flea market. 248-394-0200.

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



Cars and trucks lined up at last year's show. Photo provided

Car show, fair set for Labor Day

Clarkston First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road, hosts the Labor Day Fair and Car Show, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday, Sept. 1.

About 100 cars and trucks of all types are expected. Each entrant will get a goodie

bag with dash plaque.

The fair features DJ Mark Farnsworth, food, kid's games, auctions, raffles, and large flea market.

Call the church, just north of DTE Music Theater, at 248-394-0200.

Dixie Highway. 248-969-9788.

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.

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

Spanish Lessons, beginners, 5:30-7 p.m., Tuesdays, Aug. 5-Sept. 23; intermediate, 10-11:30 a.m., Fridays, Aug. 8-Sept. 26. \$35 for 8-week course. Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 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.

Line dancing in Clarkston, Thursdays, 1-4 p.m., beginners, intermediate, advanced. \$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.

Local Business Network, Ortonville/Clarkston Chapter, first and third Thursdays meets, 7:45-8:45 a.m., Mico's Real Estate, 7183 Main Street. 248-505-5091.

Local Business Network, 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.

Chess Anyone!, Thursdays, 1-3 p.m., Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231, leave name and phone number.

Walk Michigan Footsteps to Fitness, Thursdays, 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., through Aug. 28. Meet in the parking lot in Clintonwood Park. Four walking routes. Pedometers available. Prizes, raawnship Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. \$2. 248-625-8231.


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.

Volunteering, Oakland County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, 248-559-1147.


Community events?

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Challenge group drops 100.8 pounds in 10 weeks

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Steve Hoffman of Clarkston needed to make his life healthier.

His wife, Gail Hoffman, gave him a choice: ballroom dancing or a WeightLoss Challenge they read about in *The Clarkston News*.

"I decided to take this class. I'm glad I did," Steve said. "I like their teaching and coaching. I never felt I had to buy anything. I really think I'll do the next one too."

"It was good—a lot of fun," said Gail, who is still pushing for ballroom dancing.

The 10-week class met weekly at the Colombiere Center in Springfield Township since May.

"It was great — we had a really great time," said Mary Howard, personal wellness coach. "We talked about different types of exercise, stretching, heart health, good and bad fats, basic nutrition."

They wrapped up, July 30, with some last minute tips, and awarding of prizes to the top three highest percentage of weight lost, and one with most inches lost.

"It was wonderful — I feel great," said Debbie Trevarrow, who won the top prize of \$275. "The products are wonderful, very healthy."

Trevarrow signed up with Herbal Life, which offers the program, and hosts her own



Weight Loss Challenge participants Destiny Hegwood, Gail Hoffman, Steven Hoffman, Dominique Howard, Vicki Howard, Julie Paul, Tricia Schroeder, Autumn Smith, Debbie Trevarrow, Debbie Wilson, and their coaches, Mary Howard, Steve Voiles, Rose Johnson, and Dawn Harkins. Photo by Phil Custodio

challenge at her salon in Waterford,

"Steve (Voiles, personal wellness coach) will be lead coach, and I'll learn how to teach it from him," Trevarrow said.

Coached by Howard, Voiles, Rose Johnson, and Dawn Harkins, 11 participants

from throughout the Clarkston area, out of 22 initially, made it to the end of the program.

"This has been a good group. A lot of energy," Johnson said. "They kept their enthusiasm up and had fun."

The group lost 100.8 pounds overall, she

said.

"Everyone had a great time," she said. "Each week, they learned something new about living a healthy lifestyle. As they lose their weight, these tips will allow them to keep it off for life."

Voiles lost 35 pounds with the program, since joining Herbal Life six years ago.

"I've kept it off — I love it," he said.

The next Clarkston-area challenge starts Wednesday, Aug. 6, 7 p.m., at the Clarkston Lakes clubhouse on Dogwood Drive, off Sashabaw Road.

"We run challenges back to back so new people can get started and current participants can rejoin to continue their weight loss progress," Johnson said.

"If you take a long break, you find a reason not to continue," Howard said.

Camaraderie is key to participants' success, she said.

"We're like a support group," she said. "We do better when we have people doing the same thing. It promotes competition and gives you a chance to meet people."

To register, call Autumn Smith at 248-628-3262.

"I think it was awesome," said Smith, Clarkston resident. "It was fun losing weight. I like a challenge. The competition helped keep me motivated."

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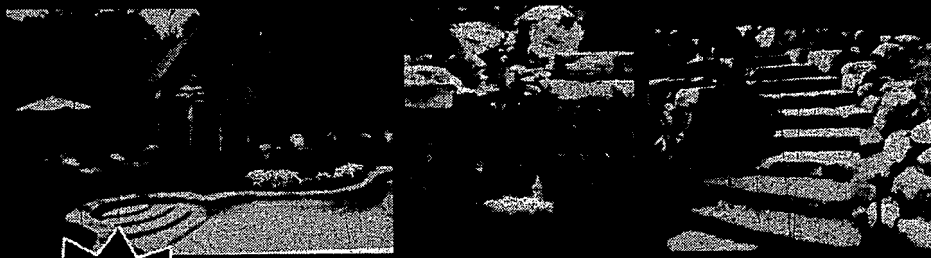
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Milestones

Bennets celebrate half century

Margaret and Gene Bennett of Independence Township celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a five-week trip to England, given by their children, to see Gene's sister and her family.

The Bennet's were married at First Presbyterian Church in Pontiac, June 14, 1958. They have four children, eight grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter: Bruce and Michelle, with Caitlyn and Joel; Terri Banks, with Josh and Mat, and Josh's daughter Jacey; Nancy and Tom Runyan, with Tony



Margaret and Gene Bennett

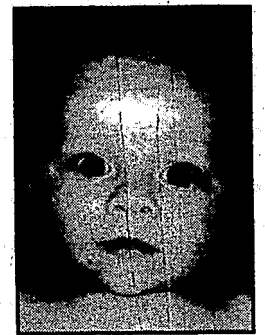
and Angela; and Scott and Brenda, with Sean and Liam.

Welcome Ayden

Jayne and Sarah Mutter along with "big sister" Sydney, are proud to announce the birth of their new baby boy, Ayden Reece Mutter.

Ayden was born March 10 at Troy Beaumont Hospital. He weighed 7 pounds 11 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. Grandparents are John and Jessie McDonald and Gay and Bob Mutter.

"We love you Ayden!"



In our country's service...

Clarkston native Michael K. Baker, colonel, U.S. Air Force, retired after almost 29 years of military service, decorated with the Legion of Merit Medal at his retirement ceremony.



The colonel, 1974 graduate of Clarkston High School, was chief of Mission Support Officer Assignments Division at Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base; near

San Antonio, Texas.

He received a bachelor's degree in 1978 from Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. He earned a master's degree in 1986 from Central Michigan University.

He is the son of DeVona M. Youngs and stepson of Eri Youngs of Holly.

His wife, Gloria, is the daughter of Bernarda Rodriguez of Black Oak Drive, Schertz, Texas.

Navy Seaman Recruit Charles Benson, nephew of Brian J. and Shelley A. Jackson of Clarkston, Mich., recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Benson is a 2006 graduate of Clarkston High School.

Send your Milestones to 5 S. Main St. or e-mail Clarkstonnews@gmail.com

Religion

Old-fashioned values made U.S. great

We are living in times of great change. I am 54 years old and would never have expected that I would live to see the extreme changes in technology and culture that have happened in my lifetime.

As a child, I remember my mother talking about her childhood. Her stories included details about growing up on the heels of the Great Depression and the impact of World War II.

When she told of life without some of the things I took for granted, I just attributed it to her having lived in the old days and that now we were living in modern times.

I remember well when man first walked on the moon and his declaration that he took a small step for man, but a giant step for mankind.

The thought crossed my mind, "How could we ever surpass landing on the moon, eight track cassettes and certainly who would ever top the 1969 Z28 Camaro?"

The late sixties were turbulent times. We lived through the deaths of Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr., saw the turmoil of the civil rights movement, riots in major cities and the war in Vietnam.

The peace movement and the notion of free love es-

poused by the hippies caused quite a stir. Yet it seemed like every revolt had an accompanying counter move, so the general impression was that not much would actually change in the end.

Indeed how times did change!

Some changes were definitely for the good, such as with the civil rights movement and prejudice in our society. I am greatly surprised by the level of change in the moral attitudes that was brought on by the so-called love revolution.

The love revolution aspired to make it possible for all people to have the freedom to express themselves and find personal satisfaction without the consent of the greater society.

This self-expression was considered the right of every individual, regardless of how it would impact others.

Parents were told that they were not responsible for their children's happiness. Children were not bound to their parents and individuals should have the right to personal happiness without considering what the results of their actions would do to others.

These people could even point to the Bill of Rights and declare it was their God-given right as an American to pursue happiness.

In the Bible, the people were questioning Jesus about His teachings and He made an important statement that still

Please see Spiritual Matters, page 7B

Spiritual Matters



Pastor Loren Covarrubias

In our churches...

Jerusalem Marketplace, fun, hands-on, Bible-times village, Sundays, 6-8:30 p.m., through Aug. 17. Oakland Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 7205 Clintonville Road. 248-858-2577.

Whole Life series of presentations, Peace Unity, 9 a.m., Sundays in August. Aug. 10: "Abundant Health." Meets are Sashabaw Presbyterian, 5300 Maybee Road. 248-891-4365.

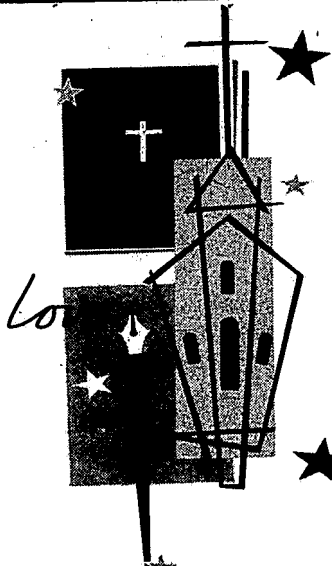
Prayer Partner Training, 10:30 a.m., second Sunday. Participants will receive a prayer syllabus. All welcome. Peace Unity, at Sashabaw Presbyterian, 5300 Maybee Road. 248-891-4365.

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. 6805 Bluegrass Drive. Call 248-625-3288.

Church of the Resurrection has **bible study** every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Study is currently on "Paul's letter to the Romans." 6490 Clarkston Road. Call 248-625-2325
Please see In Our Churches, page 7B

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(248) 625-2311
website: www.dixiebaptist.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
Pastor Wayne Uppendahl
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., 6:30 pm at Church Offices - Yellow House
7205 Clintonville Rd., Clarkston, MI
Phone (248) 858-2577
Fax (248) 858-7706

CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston
248-625-1611
Website: clarkstonumc.org
Summer Sunday Worship:
8:30 am & 10:00 am
Nursery available for both services
Children's Sunday School: 10:00 am
Adult Sunday School: 9:00 am
Wednesday Connection Service: 7:00 pm

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

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Peace Unity Church
P.O. Box 837 - Clarkston, MI 48347
peace.unity@sbcglobal.net
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Holy Eucharist
Sunday School 9:55 am
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www.clarkstonepiscopal.org
248-625-2325

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5482 Winell-Clarkston
(corner of Maybee & Winell)
248-623-1224
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www.ClarkstonFMC.org
Wednesday 7 pm
Youth & Adult Ministry

NORTH OAKS 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
Pastor Steve I. Brown

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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
Bible Study
Wednesday 7:00 pm
Youth Groups 6-12
Wednesday 6:30 pm
www.FirstCongregationalChurch.org

ST. TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
"Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod"
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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLARKSTON
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 Raftalee 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

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12003 Davisburg Rd.
Saturday at 5:00 pm
Sunday at 10:00 am
Celebrant: Msgr John Budde
website:
www.divinemercyparish.net

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH
6300 Clarkston Road - Clarkston
(248) 625-1323
Home of Oakland Christian School
Pastors: Greg 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.clarkstonchurch.com

Church group helps prisoners

Continued from page 1B

"Two of the most common denominators throughout the whole prison system for both men and woman are a lousy relationship with the father and the love and respect for the grandmother," Bjurman said. "We say in our church that our senior ladies can have a tremendous impact, they have a tremendous draw."

Women ministers only go to women's prisons and men to men's prisons, though, he noted.

The hardest prison facilities for Bjurman are those for youth.

"As a parent, it just rips your heart out," he said. "An 8-year-old comes bouncing in and he's not there for sidewalk littering. The first thing you want to do when you get home is hug and kiss your kids and tell them you love them."

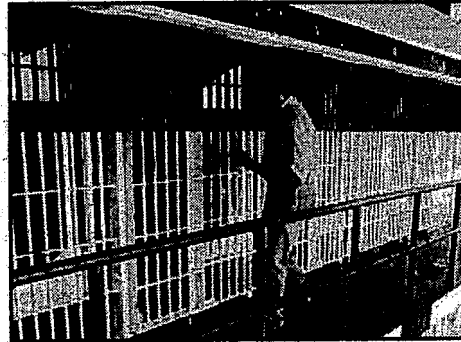
Saying the words "I love you," is one of the major things counselors stress to the inmates to tell their children.

The two toughest areas of the trip, Bjurman said, are the beginning and end.

"The beginning is getting your legs to move when that big steel door opens. It slams shut just like in the movies," he said. "Then when you depart, there's a sense of semi-panic because they're not going to see you again. It is some of the most sincere 'Thank you's' and handshakes I've ever had."

Upon departure, Bjurman says he asks prisoners if they will pray for him and his family.

"And are they sincere," he said. "Some of the most gut wrenching prayers I have heard



A volunteer talks to a prisoner. Photo submitted

have been on that exercise yard."

Trisha Thomas said she had a blast on her first trip to prison.

"You'd never think going to prison would be fun, but I had a good time," she said.

She said it was scary at first, but then she realized that the inmates were just people who made mistakes.

"Some of them made one bad choice that got them there and others made a few bad choices," Thomas said. "Being in the prison they were very appreciative of us being there and having someone to talk to besides a correction officer, or a lawyer to talk to."

Thomas said she found herself looking for prisoners who were off by themselves sitting alone, or ones who looked like they just needed and wanted to talk.

"The whole experience made me more aware of people in need," she said. "After I got out of the prison and got into the public I found myself looking around for someone to talk to or someone who might need something."

Over the past five trips, 33 church members have met with 26,428 inmates, Bjurman said. For more information visit www.clarkstonchurch.com or www.billglasscfl.org.

Violators vanishing

Springfield Twp. ordinance officer gets junk cleaned up

BY LAURACOLVIN
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Fewer piles of junk and junky cars are dotting the landscape in Springfield Township since a new ordinance officer arrived in April to begin cleaning house.

Greg Kazmeirski, who works 10-12 hours per week identifying and addressing ordinance violations, was hired when the township board acknowledged an ongoing problem.

"He's doing a very thorough and methodical job," said Supervisor Collin Walls at a July township board meeting, noting Kazmeirski's simple yet comprehensive reports make it easy to track progress.

Others agreed, and said progress on longstanding issues could be seen in the community, as well.

"Greg's done a fabulous job," said Treasurer Jamie Dubre. "You can tell the difference; you know where he's been without a doubt. People are taking action."

The township's previous ordinance officer was laid off in May 2007, when budget issues forced cutbacks in staffing.

Walls said he and now-former township employee Leon Genre were "attempting, although without very good results, to handle ordinance enforcement."

After nearly a year of sporadic and often unsuccessful ordinance enforcement by township officials with a growing list of duties, the board agreed to hire a part-time officer.

Kazmeirski inherited several unresolved issues when he took over the job, some dating back several months.

But, Walls noted in a pre-meeting memo to the board, Kazmeirski's method of communi-

cating with violators through the mail when necessary works more effectively than the previous method of waiting until personal contact could be made.

In fact, Walls explained, within the first few weeks of employment, Kazmeirski resolved an issue of illegal home occupation plaguing the township for more than a year prior.

Walls noted the township had been fortunate during recent years to work with ordinance officers whose attitude and personality resulted in compliance with minimal aggravation to the officer, township officials and property owners alike. What sets Kazmeirski apart, he said, is his organized and methodical system of dealing with complaints and violations.

Reports now show history of each incident and status in abbreviated but informative manner.

Walls said he was also pleased Kazmeirski doesn't just wait for complaints to come in, but also checks for non-compliance and acts on his own observations while driving around the township.

When Kazmeirski does encounter a violation, he uses a multi-step process to initiate contact and resolve the issue in a manner, said township officials, designed to work toward clean up of property and compliance of ordinances rather than collection of fines or court order.

"The steps are being followed," said Trustee Roger Lamont. "He's doing a good job enforcing the ordinance, and whatever the violation is, it's usually cleaned up before he gets to the last steps."

Clerk Nancy Strole said Kazmeirski's approach had a lot to do with his success.

"He's doing a great job," she said. "He's professional and pleasant and efficient."

Kazmeirski was not immediately available for comment.

For more information, call the Springfield Township offices at 248-634-3111 or visit www.springfield-twp.us

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Spiritual Matters

continued from 5B
rings true today.

He said, "Wisdom is justified by her children." In other words, time will tell whether our idea was actually good or not.

We Americans have witnessed the changes of our time and need to espouse a counter-culture revolution. It should no longer be based on the concept of free love, but rather real love.

Real love, the Bible says, does not think only of itself but is kind and considerate of others; it seeks the well-being of others versus our own well-being.

This is the love that our country needs. It is certainly the need of the family unit and needs to begin in our marriages.

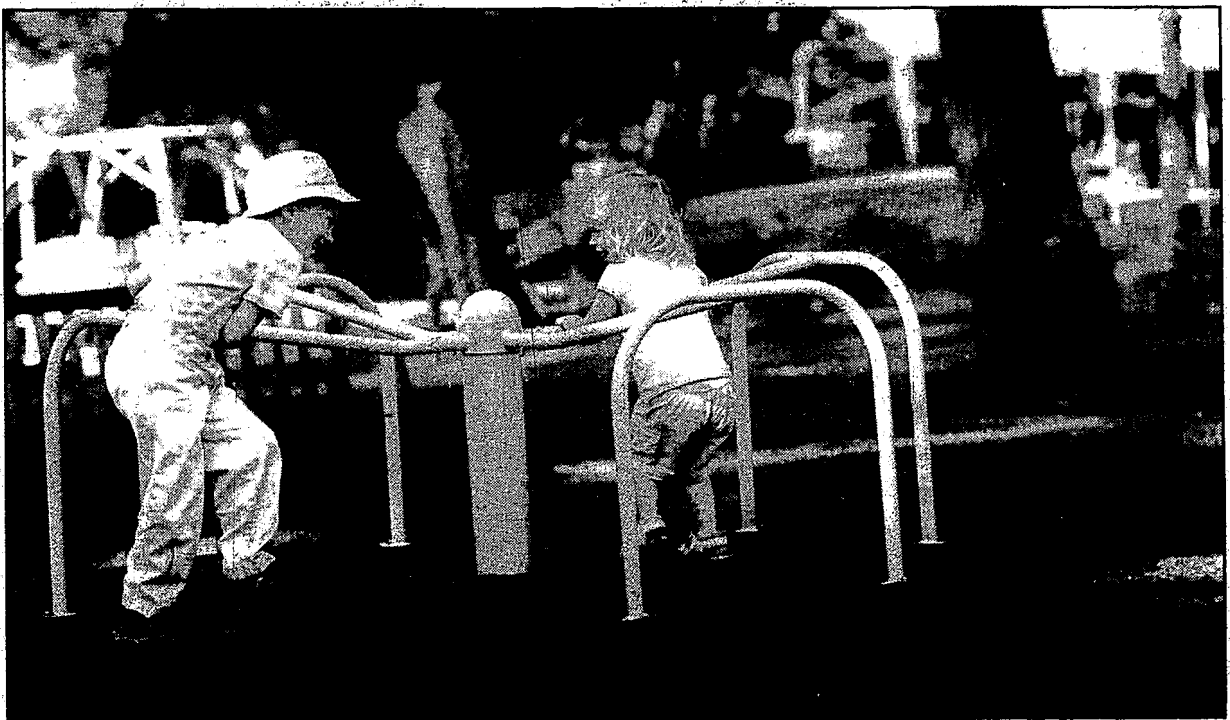
Our country is at a crossroads. We need a revival of some of the old fashioned principles that made us the greatest power and country of modern times. If we want to keep the great blessings that we have received, we need to go back to living by the same principles that got us to this place.

The Rev. Loren Covarrubias is pastor of Mt. Zion Church.

In our churches

continued from 5B
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.



Around and around we go

Christopher and Anna Park of Birmingham had a blast playing on the new merry-go-round in Depot Park while their mom, Monica, competed in the Craig Greenfield Memorial Tri & Du last Sunday. The merry-go-round was purchased by the Clarkston area Optimists and installed in the park by club members July 26. Photo by Laura Colvin.

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP Parks & Recreation's FAMILY FUN NIGHT at Deer Lake Beach!

Wednesday, August 3, 2008 5-8pm

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& Pedicure **\$45⁰⁰**

Package E
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Manicure & Facial **\$30⁰⁰**

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What's the

Clarkston Area's Monthly
Business News & Info

Vol. 3 # 2

BIZ



Kaz Mamon stands next to the Motorcycle Transporter. Photo by Trevor Keiser

A new way to tow a motorcycle

BY TREVOR KEISER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

When Kaz Mamon's motorcycle broke down during Daytona bike week in Florida, he was towed by a guy called "The Motorcycle Rescue."

"I looked at his rig and said, 'my next business venture,'" said Mamon.

When he arrived home, he bought another four-wheel-drive truck, and got the loader for "The Motorcycle Transporter." The loader was patented by a man in Maryland four years ago, he noted.

"We guarantee, with that type of a loader, no damage to your bike," he said. "When we load them up, it's not on a flat bed, it's not a tow truck with a sling - those are wreckers. This is a cradle. This is what we call 'the Chariot' for hauling bikes."

Mamon said he is working with nine different insurance companies, including AAA, Cross Country, Harley Davidson, Progressive, Road America, Nation Safe Drivers, GWRRA and G.E.

"They dispatch breakdowns to me 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They took my 30-mile radius and increased it to 100 mile," he said.

Mamon also told insurance companies he was willing to do jump starts, lockouts, fuel run-outs, tire changes and, in the winter, winch pullouts.

"Do you want to wait two hours on the side of the road for AAA, or three or four? Call us direct, let us come winch you out for \$200," he said. "We are local and we tell everybody we can be anywhere in 45 minutes."

He noted that people can't call police anymore, to have them unlock your car because there is a new law against "Slim Jims." They cause damage to car doors and wiring inside them.

Mamon said he also offers rides home to people if they've been at a bar.

"Guys go to bars riding bikes, they drink too much, so why pay \$10,000 for a DUI when you can pay \$200 for a motorcycle tow," he said. "We tuck the bike into the garage and you in the house and everybody's home safe, no points."

Since April 15 when Mamon started the motorcycle transporter, he has already offered 17 rides and towed more than 200 bikes.

For emergency road assistance, call 586-995-3500.

Nawrocki joins Fabrizio & Brook

Fabrizio & Brook, P.C. has hired Mark L. Nawrocki as associate attorney.

In his new position, Nawrocki will practice in Civil Litigation, Commercial Transactions, Creditor's rights, Real Estate Litigation and Contracts.

He has experience with the Bay County Prosecutor's Office, the Washtenaw County Public Defender's Office, clerking for the third circuit Court and as a juvenile probation officer for the 44th Circuit Court.

Nawrocki is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, U.S. District Court - Eastern District and U.S. District Court - Western District.

He is a 2005 graduate of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1999 from Michigan State University in Political Science Pre-Law.

Middleton selected Emerald Clover

Oakland County Commissioner Thomas F. Middleton of Clarkston was selected to be a member of the Michigan 4-H Foundation Emerald Clover Society Class of 2008.

The honor is given to individuals who were 4-H members in their youth and have continued to serve the organization with distinction throughout their adult life.

Locals take up business opportunities

Lindsey Wolostewicz of Davisburg earned top honors for outstanding sales with Lia Sophia's Excellent Beginnings achievers program.

Julie Elliott of Clarkston joined Tastefully Simple as an independent consultant. She will offer the company's gourmet foods and beverages to guests at home taste-testing parties.

Chamber's breakfast networking, Aug. 14

Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce offers Business Over Breakfast, 7:45-9 a.m., Thursday, Aug. 14, at IGD Solutions, 8825 Dixie Hwy, Ste. F. IGD and Minesota Bank will co-host.

Prepaid member rate, \$10 per person or \$15 at the door. Non-member rate is \$25 per person.

RSVP to Val at www.clarkston.org



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248-625-0011

Dryden
810-796-2651

Lake Orion
248-693-6261

Oxford
248-628-2533



In sixth row, Heather Davies, Shelby Chambers, Kendal Chambers; fifth row, Kassie Hennig, Suzanne Norman, Mackenzea Landis; fourth row, Religh Landis, Lyndsey Bice, Lauren Bice, Kaitlin Smith., Olivia Hennig; third row, Natalie Schick, Megan Cotter, Allison Elam, Danelle Reynolds; second row, Domonique Chambers, Maddi Boewe, Kaitlin Pitts; and first row, Carly Schroeder, Oksana Kurka, and Alexis Schick.

Team dances way to nationals

BY TREVOR KEISER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Roxana's Dance Expressions Elite Competition Team recently returned from the "Hall of Fame National Dance competition" in St. Charles Ill, where they received 11 Platinum awards.

"They had a really good year, all their regional competitions they did great. They worked really hard, they put in great team effort, very focused, dedicated and it showed in the results at the Nationals this year," said Roxana Chambers, studio owner and director. "We're very proud of them for working so hard."

The girls took 27 different dance routines

with them, out of the 21 girls on the team, 11 or 12 performed solo routines, receiving high gold or platinum awards, noted Chambers.

"I've been teaching dance here for over 15 years, and I grew up in Clarkston," she said.

Carrie Ouellette, and Sue Schroeder teach along with Chambers.

The girls do three regional competitions every year and do a national competition every other year, noted Chambers.

They will host an open house for Fall Administration on Aug. 27 and Sept. 4 from 5-7 p.m.

For more information call 248-625-1930 or visit www.roxanasdance.com.



Suzanne Norman, Meagan Cotter, Danielle Reynolds, Carly Schroeder, Sonya Tayeh, Maddison Boewe, Alexis Schick, Olivia Henning, Shelby Chambers.

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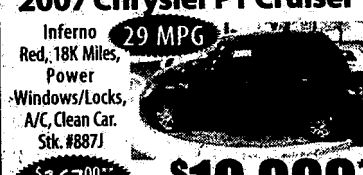


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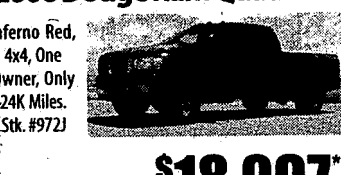
Charcoal Grey, Only 55K Miles, 4x4, Perfect Condition. Stk. #966J



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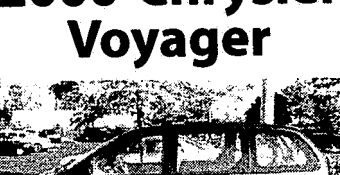
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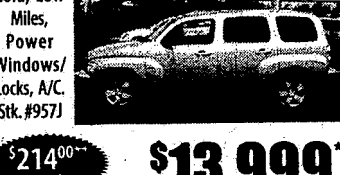
Red/Grey, Cloth, Chrome Wheels. Stk. #948J



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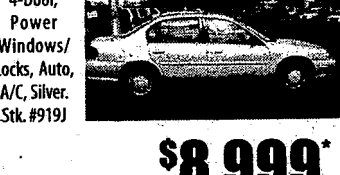
Gold, Low Miles, Power Windows/Locks, A/C. Stk. #957J



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2002 Chevy Venture

8-Passenger, Dark Red, Power Windows/Locks, A/C, Only 78K Miles. Stk. #942J



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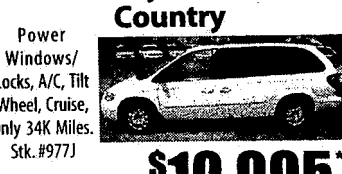
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2005 Chrysler Town & Country

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Starting At **\$10,995***

2005 & 2006 Chrysler Pacificas

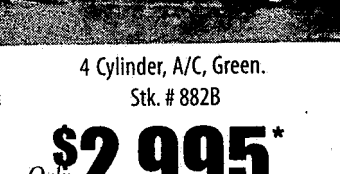
2 To Choose



Starting At **\$10,999***

2005-2006 Chrysler 300's

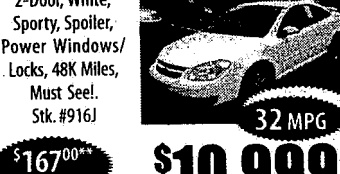
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Starting At **\$11,999***

2006 Chevy Cobalt


2-Door, White, Sporty, Spoiler, Power Windows/Locks, 48K Miles, Must See! Stk. #916J



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2007 Sebring Sedan

Inferno Red/Silver, Sharp, Must See! Stk. #877J



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2005 Dodge Durango

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2005 Buick Ranier CXL

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Starting At **\$15,999***

2006 Dodge Dakota SLT

Leather, 4x4, Quad Cab, Chrome Wheels, Driver Information Center. Stk. #926J



Starting At **\$15,999***

2007 Pontiac Grand Prix

GREAT MPG



Starting At **\$14,999***

2006 Buick Rendezvous

3rd Row Seat, Great MPG, Aluminum Wheels, OnStar, 1 Owner. Stk. #962J



Starting At **\$14,991***

\$250 GAS CARD

Pre-Owned Clearance Coupon

Limit one per customer. Coupon must be presented prior to sale. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Prior sales excluded. Expires 8/31/08.

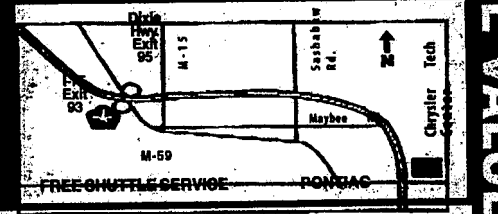
Note: not all vehicles are as pictured. *Plus tax, title, license & doc. fee. **Based on 6.74% APR for 60 & 72 mos. with 10% down plus tax, title, license plates, doc fee, subject to credit approval. Expires 8/6/08.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Charter Township of Springfield

**NOTICE
REQUEST FOR VARIANCE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Springfield will hold a meeting on Wednesday, August 20, 2008, beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Springfield Township Civic Center, 12000 Davisburg Rd., Davisburg, Michigan to hear the following appeals:

PUBLIC COMMENT
APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 21, 2008
July 16, 2008

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request by Mark Murrell, 5534 Birch Drive, Davisburg, MI 48350 for:
 - a.) Ordinance interpretation: Determine that occasional retail auto sales is customarily incidental and accessory to a Wholesale Dealer auto business which is allowed as an office use in C-1 zoning.
 - b.) Variance Requests:
 - (i) Waive 50 foot front set back requirement from unimproved Jardine Street required by Section 25 of Zoning Ordinance No. 26.
 - (ii) Waive the front greenbelt requirements from unimproved Jardine Street required by Section 16.06 of Ordinance 26
 - (iii) Waive Site Plan review required by Section 18.07 of Ordinance 26.

The property that is subject of the requests is located at 589 Broadway, Davisburg, Michigan 48350. P.I. #: 07-17-181-001.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the maps and variance request may be examined at the Springfield Township Clerk's Office, 12000 Davisburg Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350 during regular office hours Monday through Friday. Written comments may be submitted to the Clerk's Office until the date of the meeting. Anyone needing a special accommodation at the meeting should contact the Clerk's Office at least two (2) business days in advance. 248-846-6510.

Nancy Strole, Clerk

Published 8-6-08 ZB

PUBLIC NOTICE
Because the People Want to Know
CLARKSTON

**CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON
375 DEPOT ROAD
CLARKSTON MI 48346
SUMMARY
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 28, 2008**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Catalo.
Roll. Present: Catalo, Ottman, Johnston, Roth, Inabnit

Absent: Brueck, Gawronski

Moved "That the Minutes of July 14, 2008, be approved with these corrections- The political sign ordinance for the city should be enforced. The Planning Commission will be required by law to have four meetings per year and to present an annual report to the council".

Moved "That the Agenda be approved as presented" Roth commented about the great concert in the park on Friday evening and the wonderful Farmers Market on Saturday of last week.

Johnston stated that the City just received a donation from Wild Ones Natural Landscapers, LTD in the amount of \$400 for the park improvement fund.

Ottman commented that there was a scout for Traditional Homes magazine taking pictures of the homes in Clarkston. She was thrilled with Clarkston homes.

Catalo mentioned this Friday night will be Scamp's Concourse in the Park.

Ginny Schultz reported on the new projects happening in Depot Park. The Optimist Club came Saturday morning and installed the merry-go-round they donated. Ace Hardware donated the paint and sandpaper for the engine and caboose.

The Rotary Club donated \$5,000.00 for a play structure geared to children two to five.

Resolved "That the FY2009 SMART Credit Allocation of \$904.00 be distributed as follows":

SCAMP	\$452.00
Independence Twp Senior Center	\$452.00

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet C. Gillespie, Clerk



A cut above the rest

Above, Parker Sines, 5, gets his hair cut at the seventh annual Glitz Cut-A-Thon to benefit the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan. The event featured a variety of fun for all ages, including a car show, below. Photo by Kaitlin Motley.



Successful

Garage Sale Tip #92

Avoid confusion.

If yours is a two or more family sale, have different colored tags or marking pencils for each family. This way you'll be able to know who made how much.

Garage Sale Tip #1

Advertise. One call gets your ad in the area's Number One bargain-hunters resource, the weekly Sherman Publications group of community papers, including the *Ad-Vertiser*, *Oxford Leader*, *Lake Orion Review*, *Clarkston News*, *Penny Stretcher* and *Citizen*.

Plus, your sale ad is posted on our website which generates nearly 3,800 visitors a day, each spending on average 7 minutes with us.

Call 248-625-3370 or visit us online at www.clarkstonnews.com

10 words, \$12.

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The Clarkston News

August 19th Australian Wine Tasting



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98 Ford Contour SE 4-Cyl, Low Miles, Like New, Only	3,988	01 Buick Regal L.S. 3800, Leather, Loaded, Only	5,988	02 BMW 525i Like New, Low Miles, Just Perfect, Only	12,988
99 Ford Escort ZX2 Auto, Moon, "Nice, Nice," Only	3,988	02 Pontiac Bonneville SE Loaded, Like New, Only	5,988	05 Mazda 6 4-Cyl., Moon, Loaded, Only	12,988
99 Nissan Altima GXE Gas Saver, Ready to go, Only	3,988	03 Dodge Rapid SE 63K Miles, Loaded, Only	5,988	06 Chrysler Sebring Convertible Touring, Leather, Loaded, Only	12,988
01 Olds Alero G.L. V-6, Moon, One Owner, Only	3,988	03 Chevy Malibu L.S. Leather, Moon, "Nice-Nice," Only	5,988	02 Jaguar "X" Type 4.0 Every option, Like New, "Brand New,"	13,988
01 Pontiac Grand Am SE 2-Door, Moon, Loaded, Like New, Only	4,988	01 Saab 9 th Sedan Leather, Moon, Loaded, Only	6,988	95 Chevy Impala SS One Owner, Only 42K Original Miles, For	13,988
03 Chrysler PT Cruiser Loaded, Like New, Only	4,988	02 Chevy Monte Carlo L.S. Low Miles, Power Moon, Loaded, Only	7,488	04 Chevy Monte Carlo SS Red 'N' Ready, Every Option, Low Miles, Only	14,988
				04 Cadillac CTS Every Option, Like New, Only	15,988

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00 Pontiac Montana EXT, Power Slides, "Brand New," Only	3,988	99 Range Rover HSE Every Option, w/Nav., 85K Miles, Only	7,988	03 Ford F150 XLT Crew Cab 2WD, Just Like New, Only	8,988
99 F150 XLT SVT Interior, Loaded, Like New, Only	4,488	02 Ford Explorer 4WD Leather, Moon, Like New, Only	7,988	04 Chevy Trailblazer L.T. Moon, Every Option, Only	9,988
97 F150 Lariat 2WD, Reg. Cab, Leather, Loaded, Only	4,988	02 Chevy Trailblazer LTZ Every Option, Low Miles, Only	7,988	05 GMC Envoy XL 6Cyl., Moon, Chrome, Low Miles, Only	11,988
02 GMC Envoy SLT 4WD, Leather, Loaded, Only	5,988	04 Chevy Silverado Z71 Black Beauty, Loaded, Only	7,988	03 Ford F150 Ext. Cab, 4.4L, "Brand New," XLT Trim, Only	12,988
01 Land Rover Discovery SE Loaded, Dual Roofs, Only	6,988	00 Ford 1-Ton Dually Crew Cab, 7.3 Power Stroke, Loaded, Only	8,988	03 Lincoln Navigator 25" Wheels, 50K Miles, Like New, Only	15,988
04 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 4WD, Loaded, Like New, Only	6,988	02 Ford F150 FX4 One Owner, "Brand New," Gotta S&A @	8,988		

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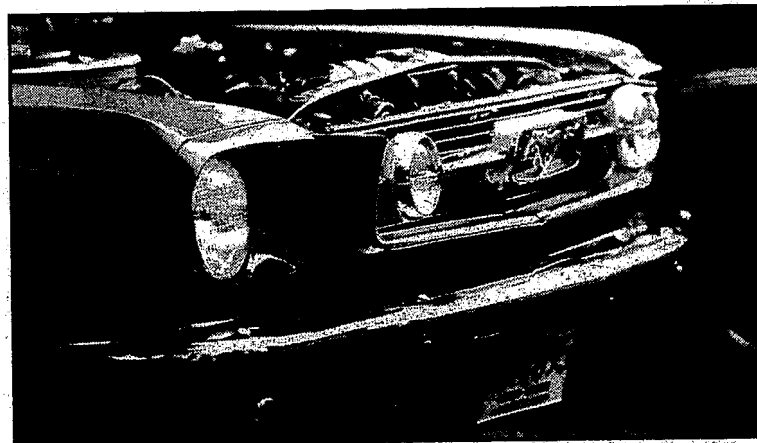
Call Jim Lane at 248-627-8000 or 810-577-4961

COOL CAR!

Dozens of the area's finest sports and classic cars converged on Depot Park in downtown Clarkston last week as Waterford Hills Road Racing, Inc. sponsored its annual Concours in the Park to benefit SCAMP.

To see these and many more photos from this event in full color, check out the Blue Button at ClarkstonNews.com

Photos by Laura Colvin



Griffin Grava, 4, checks out a car, then checks his reflection in the mirror.



She's a beauty. This vintage model attracted a constant stream of admirers.



Denise Cote closes the hood of her 1966 Ford Mustang GT and gets ready to head home.



Marina Imerman arranges "the dogs" atop the 1971 Buick Centurion she and her husband brought to Friday's event.

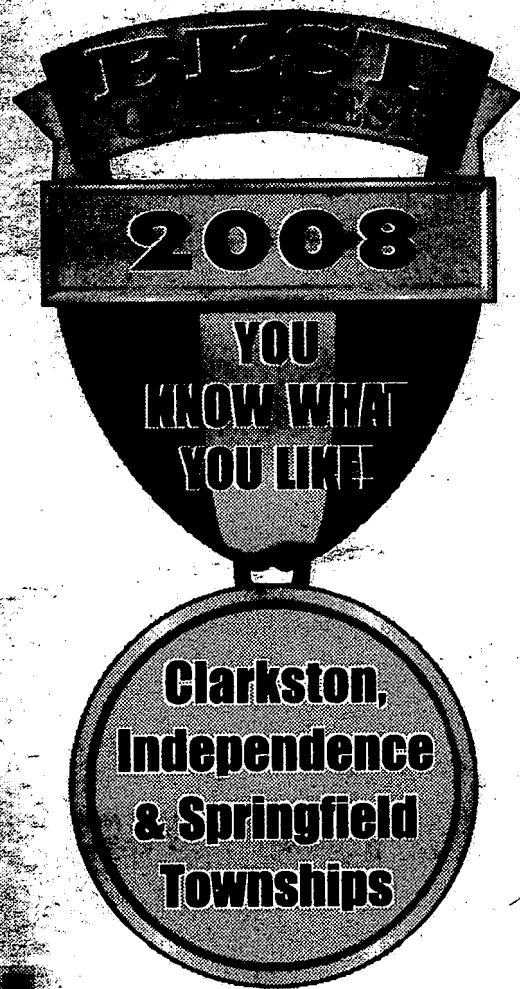


Cliff Sigman of Waterford, who brought his 1967 Chevy Corvette Coupe to the event, talks shop with Jeff Figa of Clarkston and Chris Segard of West Bloomfield.

The BEST of the BEST 2008!

The Clarkston News & Penny Stretcher's Reader's Choices for the Top Businesses & People of 2008

- Best Veterinarian
- Best Real Estate Company
- Best Dry Cleaners
- Best Gas Station
- Best Auto Mechanic Shop
- Best Auto Body Shop
- Best Customer Service
- Best Place to Exercise
- Best Florist
- Best Dance Studio
- Best Caterer
- Best Optometrist/Eye Care
- Best Bar/Pub
- Best Baked Goods
- Best Restaurant
- Best Breakfast
- Best Coffee
- Best Grocery Store
- Best Waiter/Waitress
- Best Community Newspaper
- Best Day Care Provider



- Best Hair Salon/Barbershop
- Best Hairdresser
- Best Ice Cream
- Best Deli
- Best Hamburger
- Best Pizza
- Best Tanning Salon
- Best Gift Shop
- Best Chiropractor
- Best Physician
- Best Dentist/Orthodontist
- Best Bank
- Best Fast Food Sandwich/Other
- Best Auto Wash
- Best Landscaper
- Best Auto Dealership
- Best Insurance Agent
- Best Community Organization
- Best Coney Island
- Best Party Store
- Best Attorney
- Best Place to Worship



Special Supplement to *The Clarkston News & Penny Stretcher*, August 6, 2008



Dr. Fiteny, Tricia Baden, Wynn Cadeau, Nancy May, Jean Adrary.

Best Dentist: Dr. Gary Fiteny

Dr. Gary Fiteny earned Best of the Best through his commitment to his patients.

"I truly love being a dentist, I love talking with all of my patients," Fiteny said. "The greatest reward is having a fearful patient, performing a procedure, and hav-

ing them sit up and say, that wasn't so bad."

Fiteny's practice recently moved into a brand-new, patient-friendly building, with better parking, he said.

Call Dr. Fiteny, 5635 Sashabaw Road, at 248-620-2933.



Joseph Donofrio, owner of Luxor, and staff members earned Best of the Best honors for Best Tanning Salon.

Best Tanning Salon: Luxor Executive

"I want to thank readers for voting us the number one tanning salon," said Joseph Donofrio, owner of Luxor Executive Tanning and Spa. "We'll continue to strive for perfection and customer satisfaction."

The salon offers a family environment,

friendly, knowledgeable staff, and all high-end, VHR, high-pressure equipment.

"We have the most luxurious tanning salon in Oakland County," Donofrio said.

Call Luxor Executive, 5950 Sashabaw Road, at 248-922-9900.

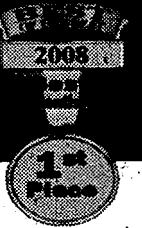


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Kelley Kostin, Robert Kostin, and Shay Kostin.

Best Attorney: Robert Kostin

"My parents taught me to always do the right thing," said Best of the Best Attorney, Robert Kostin.

"I try to live by doing the right thing in every aspect of my law practice and in my personal life," he said. "To stay the best,

I'm going to use technology to better communicate in business and continue to be the best dad, husband, and attorney I can be."

Call Kostin, 11 N. Main St., at 248-620-1030.



Jamie Nye-Mengyan, David Slade, and Ed Zull.

Best Breakfast: Pete's Coney Island

The key to Pete's Coney Island II: always be yourself and treat people the way you would like to be treated, said Ed Zull, who owns Pete's with his son, Andy.

"During these challenging times, we will continue to offer quality service, generous proportions at an affordable price."

With great food, the hope of another story or joke from Ed or Andy, and the friendly staff, people keep coming back again and again.

"I think our breakfast reminds people

of home cooking," Ed said. "We treat everyone like family, all our guests are important. We like to think of ourselves as Clarkston's answer to 'Cheers.'"

Zull said he was very honored to be recognized by peers in the community for a second time in two years, and wished to thank everyone who took the time and effort to vote, regardless of who they voted for.

Call Pete's Coney Island II, 6160 Dixie Highway, at 248-623-4300.



Susan Welker, Robert E. Kostin, and Julie Packard

248.620.1030

11 N. Main Street • Clarkston

Thank you to all of the readers and subscribers of the Clarkston News who voted me the "Best of the Best Attorney".

I am humbled by your vote of confidence and thank you on behalf of my family, the Honorable Kelley Kostin and our son, Shay. My legal team of Susan Welker, Julie Packard and myself will continue to provide the same quality and personalized services for all your legal needs including family law, divorce, child custody, adoption, criminal law, including drunk driving and drug cases and personal injury representation for just compensation for injuries which you have received as a result of someone else's negligence.

My policy for more than 30 years has been to not charge for the initial consultation on any legal matter whether or not I am retained.

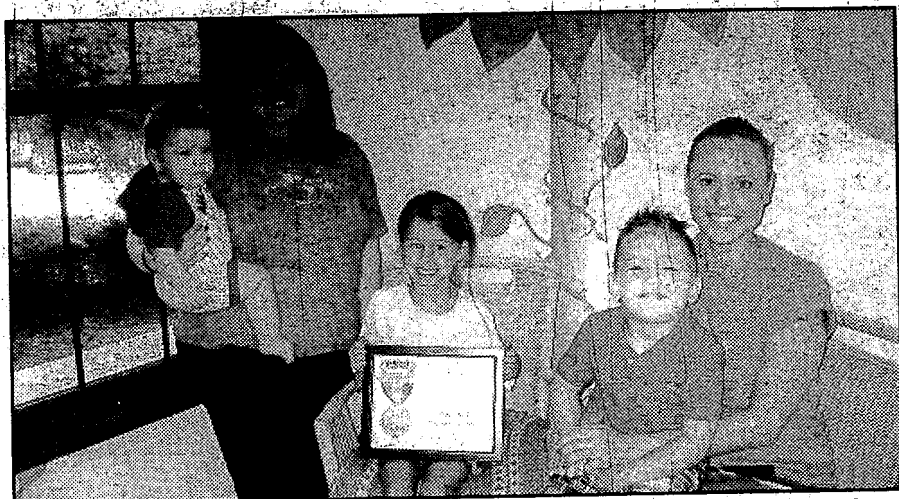
I congratulate the Clarkston News and its staff for outstanding reporting and coverage of news and events of interest to our community.

One of my favorite articles will always be the reporting of the academic achievements of our students who make their parents and our community proud.

Gratefully yours,



Robert E. Kostin, P.C.
Attorney



From left, Jonas Mudel-Thompson, Diana Thompson, Maya Girschne, Cannon Snow, and Meghann Snow of Planet Kids.

Best Day Care: Planet Kids

It often feels like one big happy family at Planet Kids.

"We always put children first," said Amy Crowell, owner.

"We strive to personally connect with each child so they always feel safe and cared for."

Planet Kids is set up to grow with the children who attend, and staff members make a point of meeting each child's needs

by adapting classroom environments as necessary.

In an ongoing effort to provide outstanding care, increased training requirements for staff were recently put in place. Upgrades include improving facility and grounds, and staff will kick off a new curriculum this fall.

Call Planet Kids Children's Center, 5520 Clarkston Rd., at 248-620-9032.



The staff at Mesquite Creek.

Best Restaurant: Mesquite Creek

The Mesquite Creek staff is a team of extraordinary people who strive for excellence in all they do.

They take pride in a never-ending pursuit of improvement, from the service they give to the quality of food and drinks, which guests have come to expect.

The restaurant's rear entrance is almost finished, so customers won't have to walk

around the building through rain and snow, and they will soon offer Andiamo Express Pizza.

Mesquite also has a rotating entertainment schedule with different acts every week and a monthly party with drink specials.

Call Mesquite Creek, 7228 N. Main St., at 248-620-9300.



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One certificate per table. Dine-in only. Must present this certificate. Expires 9/30/08.

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From left, Coco Catallo, Courtnie Sinclair, Ann Stevenson, and Cassius Catallo.

Best Gift Shop: Union General

Union General, winner of Best of the Best Gift Shop, truly seeks out the original, said owner Ann Stevenson.

"Most of our bath and body, kids toys and clothing, and home items come from smaller, more thoughtful companies," Stevenson said. "A fair amount of time and attention is spent on the quest for off-the-beaten-path offerings, which our customers appreciate. Also, our personal and knowledgeable service in a comfortable and homey

setting further separates us from 'the mall' experience."

Gift and sweets offerings will reflect late summer/early fall seasonal changes, she said.

"Our homemade tarts will be apple, the fav Ray's Ice Cream flavor will invariably switch to cinnamon and Will Cole, our talented pastry chef at the Clarkston Café, will roll out his spiced truffles."

Call Union General, 50 S. Main St., at 248-620-3800.

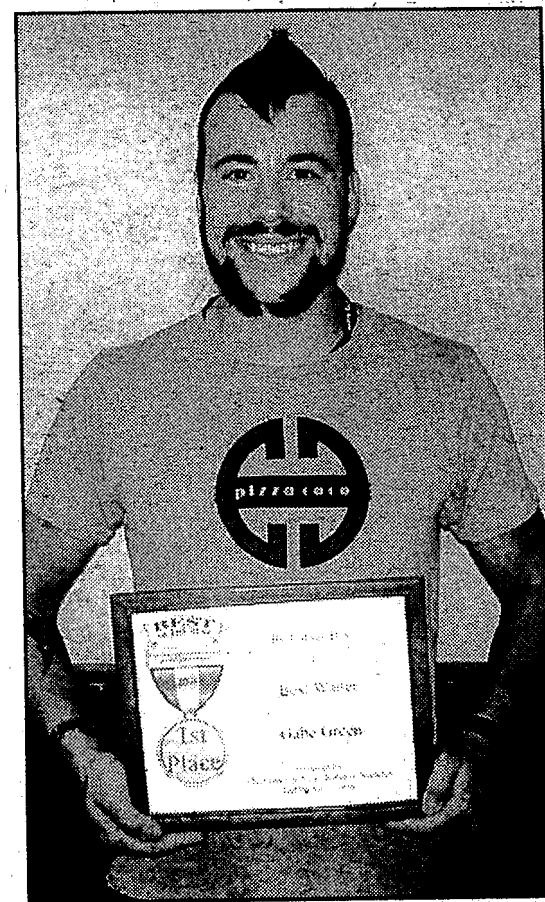
Best Waiter: Gabe Green

"All I do is treat everyone the same, almost like they are family," said Gabe Green, Best of the Best Waiter. "I love to eat and learn about the new entrées. I answer questions and keep the drinks full."

As far as his future, the Clarkston Union waiter is an aspiring actor and referee for the D.D.G.

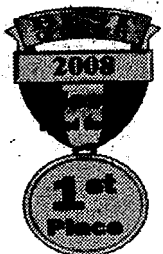
"I love telling my guests about my adventures and hearing about theirs. I can only be myself, remain grateful for everyone that I meet," said Green. "Thank you all so much for making me the best. I couldn't have done it without you."

Call the Clarkston Union, 54 S. Main St., at 248-620-6100.



Gabe Green

Thank You, Clarkston
for voting us
"Best of The Best"



Everything we bake is from scratch and made fresh daily - Donuts, Scones, Muffins, Bread, Our famous Signature Creative Cookies, Cakes, Bars, Pies, Pastries and much more. We offer Specialty Coffee's and Whole Bean Coffee. Smoothies, Ice Cream and the Best Coffee in Town!

Clarkston Village Bakeshop

\$1.50 Small Coffee and
Regular Donut
Plus Tax
with coupon. Expires 8-15-08

www.clarkstonvillagebakeshop.com

10 S. Main, Clarkston

248-625-0677



Best Baked Goods: Village Bake Shop

Quality keeps Clarkston Village Bake Shop the Best of the Best.

"The bakery takes a lot of pride in what we bake, starting with quality ingredients, and everything is made from scratch, including our signature cookies," said owner Stephanie Vo. "Donuts and danishes are also made fresh daily. We also grind our coffee beans for the freshest and best cup of coffee in town, creamy cappuccinos, and espressos are made to order."

The shop also specializes in cakes for weddings, birthdays, and other occasions. "Our customers are very special to us, most on a first-name basis. The bakeshop is also a place where you can come and relax and talk about the daily



Stephanie Vo, owner of Village Bake Shop.

topics. It's a relaxed, comfortable atmosphere. We will always strive to be the best in town for our customers!"

New offerings include four flavors of ice cream, she said.

"And also fruit smoothies for those hot, summer days," she said. "So when in the area, stop in and say hello and try a fresh baked donut and coffee. We appreciate all of the support we get from the community and our loyal customers."

Call Village Bake Shop, 10 S. Main St., at 248-625-0677.



The Saturn of Clarkston team.

Best Auto Dealership: Saturn of Clarkston

Trust and integrity, consistency, and taking pride in their work make Saturn of Clarkston the Best of the Best.

"We're honest and treat everyone how we would like to be treated," said a Saturn representative. "We go above and beyond the call of duty."

Integrity means doing the right thing for all customers, and always putting cus-

tomers first.

"Customers trust us. Our no-hassle, no-haggle pricing makes people comfortable when they walk through the door," he said. "On a daily basis, we strive to do better than yesterday, continuing to wow our customers."

Call Saturn of Clarkston, 8400 Dixie Hwy., at 800-578-6126.



Donna, the manager
at Gourmet Cafe.

Best Caterer: Gourmet Cafe

For Gourmet Café, 30 years in the business makes them the Best of the Best Caterer.

"Knowing what you do best and keeping to that type of food, by sticking to what you know, you become very good at it," said Jeff Ryeson, co-owner of the café and 1977 graduate of Clarkston High School. "We plan on expanding the menu,

trying some new items that have worked at our other restaurants, keeping up with the quality that has been there for 15 years."

Family recipes, all homemade, include Greek salad dressing, breadsticks, ribs, and spaghetti sauce.

Call Gourmet Café, 5914 Ortonville, at 248-625-6612.

THANK YOU!

For Voting Us
the Area's

#1

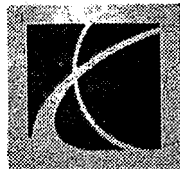
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Best Real Estate Co.: RE/MAX Encore

RE/MAX Encore earned Best of the Best with a strong foundation, starting with an exemplary broker and office administration, said Madeline Dishon, owner.

"Our outstanding agents add strength and integrity. Combine all of these factors together and you get the best," Dishon said. "We will continue to raise our stan-

dards through education, discipline and quality customer service. We are constantly expanding our agent roster with only experienced and dependable people to assure the public that at RE/MAX Encore, we are the best!"

Call RE/MAX Encore, 8040 Ortonville Road, Suite E, at 248-620-1000.



From left, Martin Espinoza, Nicole Resales, Juliann Armitage, Katie Schmitt, Guadalupe Gonzalez, Ken McNeil, and Mike Brookshire.

Best Hamburger: Culvers

Hard work earned Culvers of Clarkston the Best of the Best Hamburger award.

"You know that when you step into the restaurant, you will always enjoy fresh, delicious food served with a side of friendly smile and warm hospitality. Our signature Butterburger is made from fresh, never frozen, 100-percent U.S. raised beef and seared on a hot grill to seal in that juicy flavor," said Katie Schmitt of Culvers.

"Our mouth-watering menu also features 45 other palate-pleasing items for you to sink your teeth into, including crisp, garden-fresh salads, savory sandwiches, and scrumptious homestyle dinners. To top it all off, try our incomparable, fresh, frozen custard we use to make our irresistible desserts."

Call Culvers, 6910 Sashabaw, at 248-922-9224.



Best Vet: Advanced Pet Care

Advanced Pet Care treats dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, rats, and even reptiles and amphibians.

"We do not want an uncomfortable animal to have to wait another day," said Dr. Bryan Cornwall, founder. "We have an excellent professional staff including 15 veterinary nurses and receptionists as well as three full-time veterinarians. We are committed to continuing education so we can stay at the top of our field."

Advanced Pet Care has a brand new "state of the art" facility including surgery, infections disease control, in-house laboratory diagnostics, ultrasound, x-ray, radiowave surgery, and dental care, as well as being a primary veterinary care provider for several PETCO's in Oakland County.

"Since time and convenience are very important to people these days, we offer one-stop full-service," Cornwall said.

This includes veterinary service, dog training in the lobby offered through Metamora Canine Academy, Dog day-care and boarding at Camp Bowwow located next door, and deluxe cat boarding in custom-made "cat condos."

"With cats in mind, these condos even have a window view," he said.

They also work with a network of specialists for difficult cases.

"We are committed to finding answers for the life, health and wellbeing of your companion," he said.

Call Advanced Pet Care, 6378 Sashabaw, at 248-620-2900.

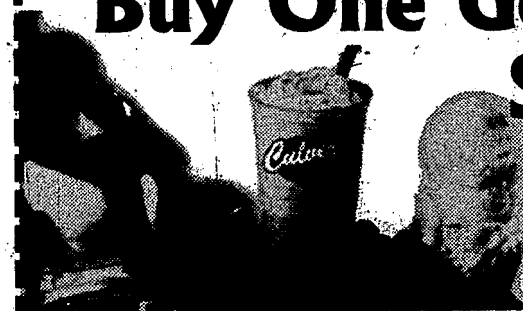
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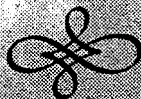
6910 Sashabaw Rd. • Clarkston

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through superior customer service
in meeting your financial needs.

We also pledge our commitment
to achieve the goals
of our customers
and the communities
we serve.



With heartfelt appreciation,

J. Grant Smith
J. Grant Smith
President and CEO
Clarkston State Bank



From left, Grant Smith, CSB president and CEO; Dawn Horner, executive vice president; and Don Bolton, senior vice president and senior loan officer.

Best Bank: Clarkston State Bank

Great employees make a great bank.
"The staff at Clarkston State Bank
makes us the best at what we do," said
Dawn Horner, executive vice president.
"All our employees sincerely care about
our customers and go the extra mile to
provide extraordinary care."

Horner said CSB will continue its long
tradition of being "Your Community

Bank," providing outstanding customer
service along with support in the commu-
nity.

"Since we received the award two
years in a row we are grateful for all our
supporters," she said. "We will continue
to exceed expectations."

Call Clarkston State Bank, 15 S. Main
St., at 248-625-8585.



From left, Toni Krug, Michelle Gibson, Beth Reatherford, Debble Ley, and Eileen Landry of Starbucks.

Best Coffee: Starbucks

"Our mission at Starbucks is to be the
premier purveyor of the finest coffees in
the world," said Eileen Landry. "We strive
to bring the best coffee experience to ev-
ery customer, promising every drink is the
best it can be."

Starbucks continues to offer new drink
options, including the new Vivanno, a nour-
ishing blend in flavors like orange, mango
banana and chocolate banana.

Call Starbucks, 6677 Dixie Hwy., at 248-
625-6292.



Steve Pearson and Gary Miller, owners of Town Center Auto Wash.

Best Auto Wash: Town Center Auto Wash

Many things help make Town Center Auto Wash the Best of the Best.

First and foremost are our employees. They work hard and do a great job for us. They understand our philosophy, which is simply 'every vehicle has to come out perfect.' When people come to us to get their car washed, they expect it to be perfect and so do we. We take a little longer to wash your car, but again, we want it to be perfect.

Also, all of our equipment is from the Peco Corporation, which is based out of Auburn Hills. Prior to opening the wash in 2004, we did a lot of research on the differ-

ent carwash manufacturers and determined Peco by far the best in the industry.

All equipment that touches your vehicle is being switched from cloth, the industry standard, to foam.

Foam came out approximately two years ago and we feel the bugs have since been worked out of it. We have observed a wash in operation in Florida and in Ohio that have just switched over to foam. Not only does it perform better, but because of its flexibility, it is capable of cleaning areas cloth cannot.

Call Town Center Auto Wash, 6380 Sashabaw Road, at 248-625-5054.

Best Florist: Parsonage

The Parsonage, winner of Best of the Best Florist, sees every arrangement as an individual piece of floral art.

"We don't do 'stock' floral arrangements like those you see through Teleflora or.FTD," said Elizabeth Andre-Stotz, who owns the flower shop with her mother, Susan Andre.

"We encourage our designers to think outside of the box (or vase) when creating their arrangement."

Their goal is to make The Parsonage a one-stop experience.

"Much of our business is client oriented so we are looking into providing linens for our brides and corporate events," Andre-Stotz said. "In addition to flowers, we currently provide a wide selection of invitations for our clients."

Call the Parsonage, 6 E. Church St., at 248-625-4340.



Susan Andre and Elizabeth Andre-Stotz.



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- Body Lather
- Soft Touch Wash
- Towel Dry

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- Whitewall & Tire Cleaner
- High Pressure Wash
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- Underbody Wash • Clearcoat Sealer
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ULTIMATE

- Bug Removal • Presoak
- Whitewall & Tire Cleaner
- Wheel/Rim Cleaner
- High Pressure Wash
- Triple Foam with Clearcoat Protectant
- Body Lather • Soft Touch Wash
- Underbody Wash • Clearcoat Sealer
- Wax Protectant • Towel Dry

\$9

Oakland County's Best Salon is in ... Clarkston!

Best Salon: Randolph's

Randolph's Salon thanks you for voting them Best Salon, and Best Manicure and Pedicure in *The Oakland Press* Best of the Best 2008, and Best of the Best Salon, Customer Service, and Stylist in *The Clarkston News*.

Randolph's Salons are Redken Elite Salons.

"We fly in educators from all over the country exclusively to teach our team," said Mary and Scott Randolph. "Our relationship with Redken has allowed us to afford the highest level of education for our staff. We have hands-on advanced training in the salons at least four times a year. Five of our stylists have recently completed prestigious Redken Color Certification exams in NYC."

Giving back to the community is an important part of the salon philosophy.

"Every year, we do the hair and make-up for the Clarkston High School fashion show, support the SCAMP program, have participated in Relay for Life, supported teacher appreciation week with gift cards for our local teachers. We are proud to count several local celebrities as our clients, as well as taking



The staff of Randolph's Salon.

care of artists who perform at DTE Energy Theater. Our next event, we will be hosting a cancer research cut-a-thon in the Clarkston salon on Monday, Aug. 15, from 11 a.m.-7

p.m." Call Randolph's Salon, 5890 Sashabaw, at 248-620-2000, or 7400 Highland Road, 248-666-4090.

Best Customer Service: Randolph's

Randolph's recently installed the latest in salon technology, the I-Vue interactive touch screen TVs, which provide guests with state of the art product knowledge, fashion tips and current trends.

"We are always advancing our techniques and knowledge to keep our guests looking fresh and in-style," the Randolphs said. "Our team is so honored to be voted Best of the Best. You owe it to yourself to experience what our guests are so excited about!"

Call Randolph's Salon, 5890 Sashabaw, at 248-620-2000, or 7400 Highland Road, 248-666-4090.

BEST SALON & BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE!

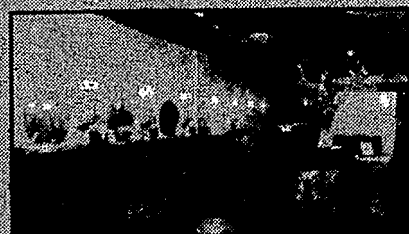
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248.620.2000
CLARKSTON
5890 Sashabaw Rd.
Kroger Plaza

248.666.4090
WATERFORD
7400 Highland Rd.
MOR & Williams Lk. Rd.

www.randolphssalon.com

Randolph's Salon, voted Best of the Best in Salon and Customer Service Categories is inviting readers to celebrate this prestigious honor with us. Just bring in this ad and receive a Complimentary Redken Shades EQ Color Service with the purchase of a haircut (\$40 value New guest only.)



Randolph's Salon

Clarkston (248) 620-2000

Waterford (248) 666-4090

Complimentary Shades EQ Color Service

with the purchase of a haircut

(\$40 value) **New guest only Expires 10-31-08



Best Hair Stylist: Heather Green

Heather Green loves her job and truly enjoys time with her clients.

"When you are in my chair," she said, "you are the most important client I have."

Green said it's important to listen to a client's needs and give them hair they can do themselves without a lot of work, but still feel great about.

In an ongoing effort to stay on top of the latest hair-care developments, green in planning a trip to New York for Redken color certification.

"I am always striving to be the best I can be in order to make my clients feel great about themselves," she said.

Call Heather Green, stylist at Randolph's Salon, 5890 Sashabaw, at 248-620-2000.



Heather Green

Best Place to Exercise: Snap Fitness

The mission of Snap Fitness Clarkston, winner of Best of the Best Place to Exercise, is to provide members with a fast, convenient, and affordable workout experience.

"With 24-7 access, members can work out at their own pace, on their own time, in a clean, safe, and comfortable environment,"

said Matt Kulenkamp, general manager. "With no contracts and simple membership options, members have the flexibility to utilize a membership plan that works specifically for them. And with access to all Snap Fitness locations, members can work out close to work, home, or anywhere else!"

Snap Fitness also provides access to personal trainers and free online features designed to produce results and help members reach and maintain their fitness goals, Kulenkamp said.

"Snap Fitness Clarkston is dedicated to



Matt Kulenkamp and his team at Snap Fitness help people keep working out.

the ongoing satisfaction of members," he said.

The club offers continued enhancements, additional equipment, and continued updates to online features.

"Members can always be on the lookout for something new," he said. "As an added incentive, members will have the chance to win even more free prizes and giveaways, just for coming in and working out! Snap Fitness Clarkston: always open, no contracts, fast workouts, fast results!"

Call Snap Fitness, 5900 Sashabaw, at 248-625-2100.

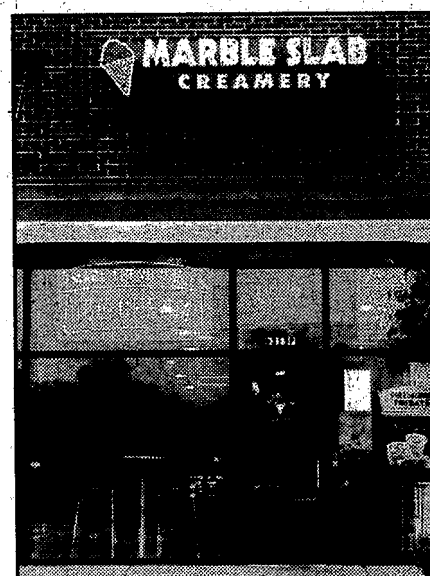
Best Ice Cream: Marble Slab Creamery

"We use fresh sweet cream and the best ingredients to make each batch of super-premium ice cream right at the store. Combined with the tastiest candies, fruits, and nuts, that gives us the edge over our competition," said Erik Alexander, owner. "We offer the unique experience of letting you choose the best ice cream 'mixin' combination for whatever your taste buds are hungry for. Variety is also a key factor so not only do we have great ice cream, but we also offer shakes, malts, smoothies, and delicious ice cream cakes."

The different creation combinations appear virtually endless, but no matter the selection, you can be sure you will get a delicious treat that is fun to watch and even better to eat.

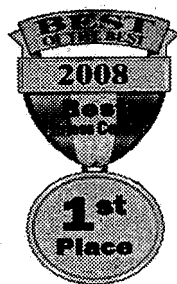
"Another big part of what makes us best is our employees. They are on our 'front line' and a big part of the Marble Slab experience. But the largest part of what makes us the best is you, our customer. We sincerely appreciate your support. It's what keeps us going each day," Alexander said.

"We will continue to strive each day to



ensure we are offering you the best ice cream at the most affordably price. Our Research and Development Department is always looking to create new flavors, so keep an eye out for some new, tasty creations. We are always looking to give back to the community so we are offering new fundraising activities for your school or organization. There will also be special promotions all year long so be sure to check back with us frequently."

Call Marble Slab Creamery, 6315 Sashabaw Road, at 248-625-8211.



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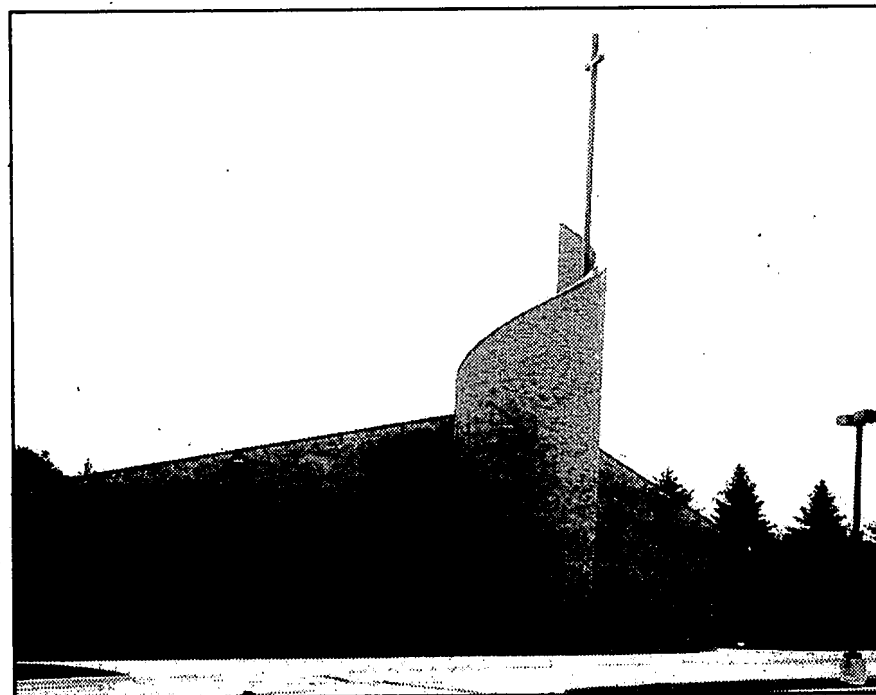
5900 Sashabaw Rd. - Kroger Plaza
Corner of Sashabaw and Maybee

248-625-2100

www.snapfitness.com/clarkston

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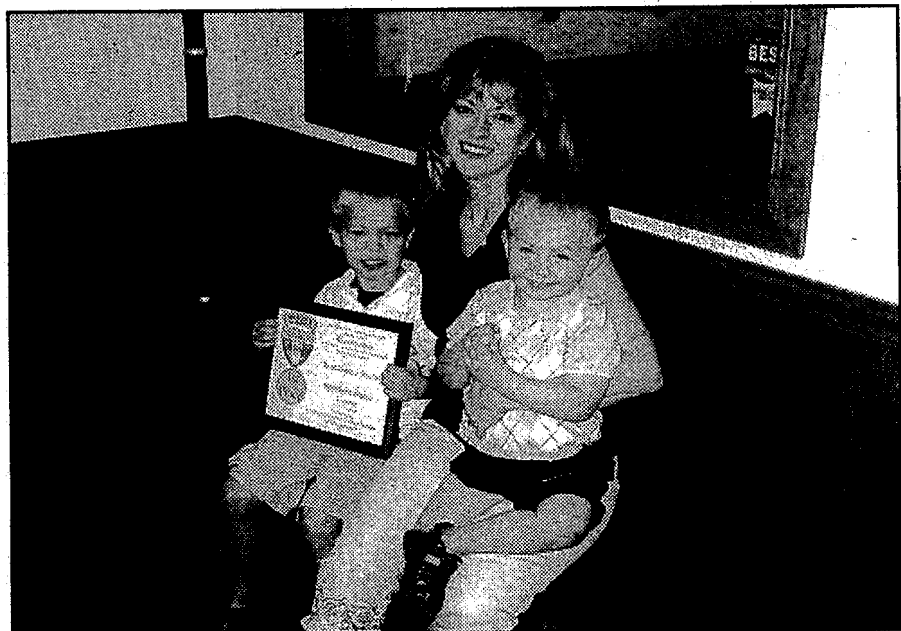


Best Place to Worship: St. Daniel Church

All praise of God is good. St. Daniel Parish is blessed, as are many church communities in the Clarkston area, to have members who seek to praise and honor God through our worship.

We will reach out in a spirit of Christian love and fellowship to anyone wishing to give praise, honor, and glory to God.

Call St. Daniel Church, 7010 Valley Park Drive, at 248-625-4580.



Wendy Harris, owner, and her sons.

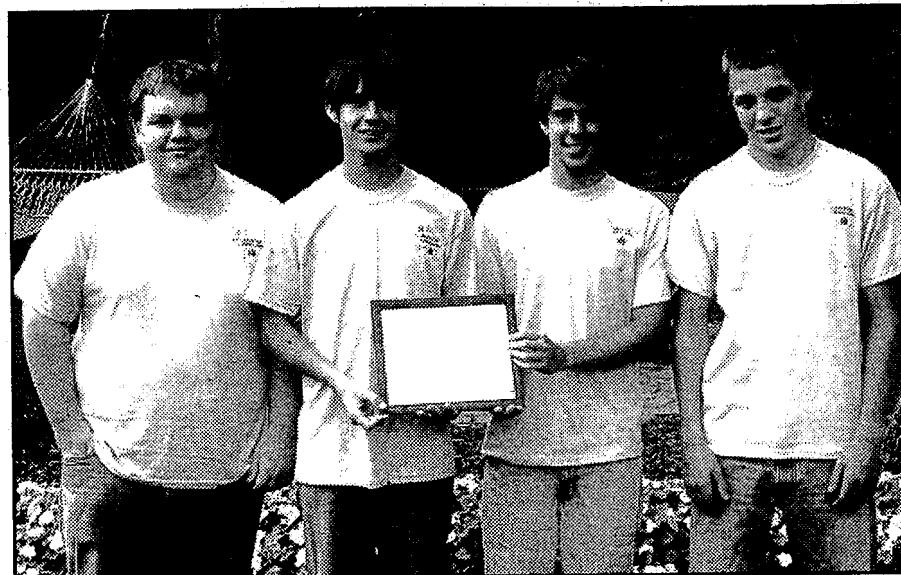
Best Dance Studio: Spotlight Dance

At Spotlight Dance Center, instructors work as a team to ensure students are enjoying themselves while receiving quality dance instruction, said Wendy Harris.

"We recognize that each dancer is an individual, and we work with them at their specific level to help them achieve their

personal goals," said Harris. "Spotlight is working closely with Clarkston High School's theatre program to help those students who need to strengthen their dance skills for the musicals."

Call Spotlight Dance, 7183 N. Main St., at 248-625-9030.



From left are Duffy Swiatowy, Ryan Herrera, Joshua Herrera, and Nick Sanders of Clarkston Lawnscape.

Best Landscaper: Clarkston Lawnscape

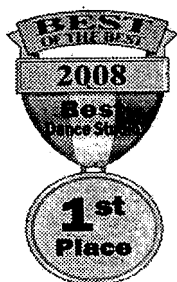
This year, Clarkston Lawnscape now leads its competitors in its adoption of environmentally friendlier equipment and "green" techniques, said Andrew G. Nagorski, Clarkston Lawnscape.

"This has been done with the use of quieter, fuel-efficient mowers and a pioneering use of Quad-Cut blades which pro-

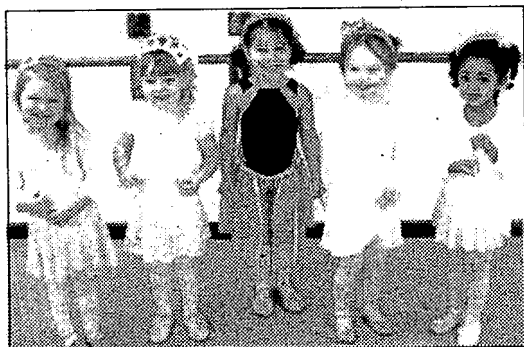
vide finer mulching," Nagorski said.

"We are expanding our lawn and landscape maintenance services for apartments, condominiums, commercial businesses as well as common areas for neighborhood associations."

Call Clarkston Lawnscape at 248-625-2104.



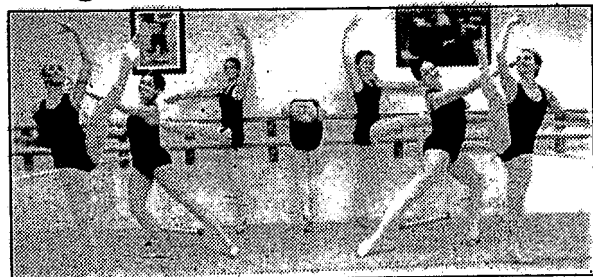
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August 25 - 28 • 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.



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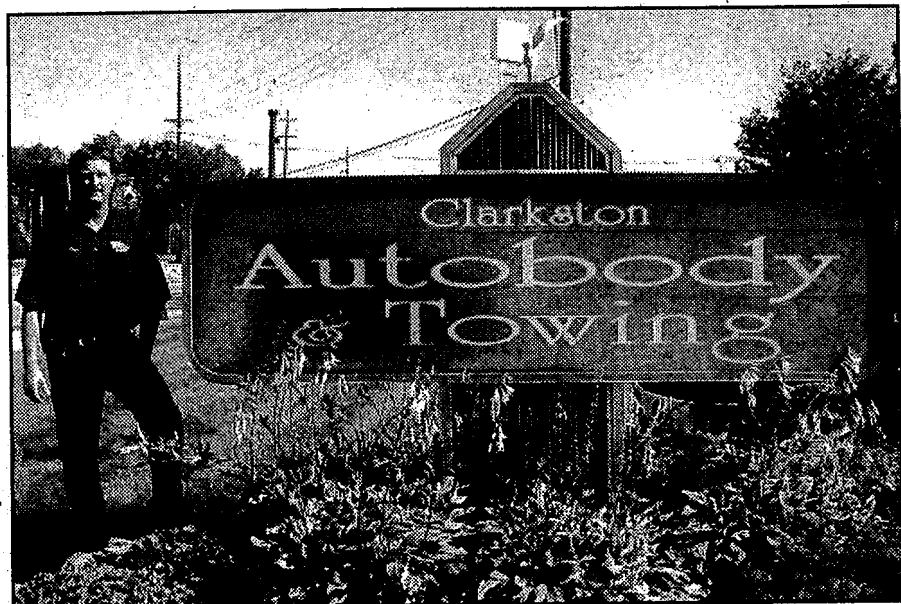
248-625-9030

7183 N. Main St., Clarkston, MI 48346

Website: www.spotlightdance.com

Email: Wendy@spotlightdance.com





Dale Verhey, owner of Clarkston Auto Body & Towing.

Best Auto Body Shop: Clarkston Auto Body

Clarkston Auto Body & Towing earned Best of the Best Auto Body Shop though personal and great customer service, said owner Dale Verhey. "We don't want to change any- thing, just keep doing what we have been doing for the last 32 years," Verhey said. Call Clarkston Auto Body, 6470 Sashabaw Road, at 248-625-0080.



Clarkston Rotary Club: Lu Hewko, Lisa Tröschinetz, Bart Clark, Gary Hanna, Harold Weiderhold, Joe Wauldron, Judy Livingston, Mike Spillum, Rick Miller, Joel DeLong, Sharon Blumeno, Frank Rivers, John Halleran, Brad Evans, Jason Webster, Eroid Merko, Larry Everhart, and John Priebe

Best Community Organization: Rotary

The Clarkston Rotary Club has a long tradition of service to the local community. Our club members are all local residents who deeply care about their community.

At the local level, the Clarkston Rotary Club is involved in numerous functions including: organizing the Clarkston Labor Day parade; publishing the annual Goodfellows newspaper; conducting the annual Shoes for Kids project, which provides new shoes, hats, and mittens at no cost to local needy children; fundraising events such as wine

tastings in the spring and fall, sale and distribution of poinsettias; decorating downtown Clarkston for the Christmas holidays; hosting a SCAMP Picnic; and participating in several local parades and events.

This year, we are undertaking an intense membership drive. We hope to attract many more members of our community into our club who share our desire to make a difference both locally and around the world.

Call Rotary President Bart Clark, at 248-922-9166.



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*"Do you wonder why
Clarkston Rotary was voted
"Best of the Best?"*

Here are some of the things we do...

Local Projects:

- Annual Picnic for SCAMP
- Put On the Labor Day Parade
- Rotary Newspaper and Shoes for Kids
- Decorate Downtown for the Holidays
- Monetarily Supported the Spraypark and the Depot Park Bridge
- Provide Local Scholarships
- Currently Donating and Assembling Play Structures for Depot Park

International Projects:

- Remain Committed to the Elimination of Polio Worldwide
- Provided a Library for Children in Guatemala
- Provided a Water Well for a Hospital in Nigeria
- Provided eyeglasses to people in Grenada and Peru

*If you would like to learn more about
what it takes to belong to this fine
organization, check out our website
at ClarkstonRotary.org*



*Clarkston Rotary... Doing the things
that people think just happen.*



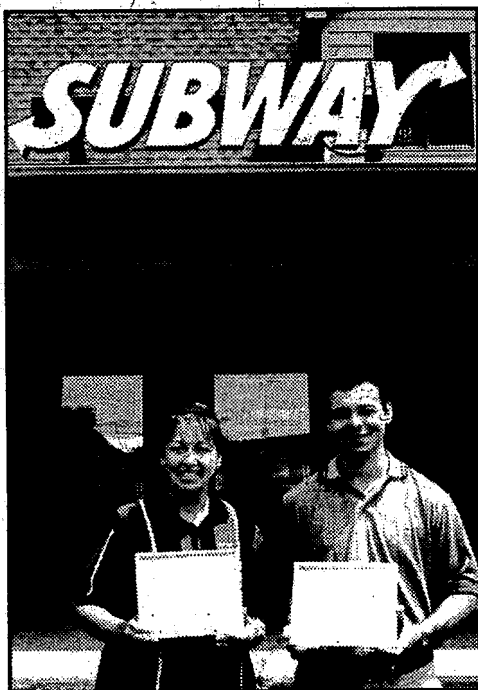
Best Fast Food: Subway

Taste, choice, and customer service set Subway apart from other fast food sandwich choices.

"Our menu is diverse and filled with 'no-guilt' options that can be customized as the sandwich is being made," said Kelly Kupiec, Subway owner. "Our customers watch their sandwich being built. They are able to make requests and interact directly with our sandwich artists so that, in the end, they get a sandwich prepared exactly how they like it."

"Another great thing about Subway restaurants in general is we don't use deep fryers or work in grease. Our restaurants are clean and most of our menu choices have under six grams of fat per serving. Our customers are greeted with a sincere 'Welcome to Subway!' when they walk in the door. It makes us feel good to offer the community healthier fast food options, endorsed by the American Heart Association."

Being voted Best of the Best is truly



Kelly Kupiec and Adam Kupiec, owners of Subways on Dixie Highway.

an honor, Kelly said.

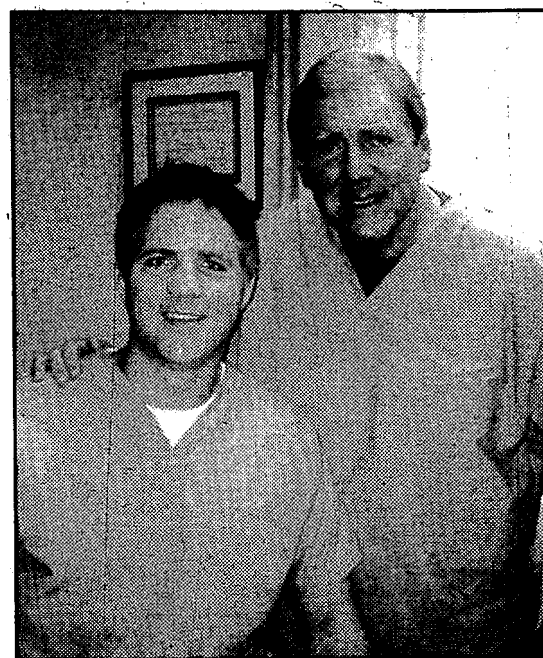
"Our landslide victory is awesome and we thank you, our community, for your votes," she said.

Call Subway, 6684 Dixie Highway, at 248-625-1162, or 9709 Dixie Highway at 248-620-5118.

Best Orthodontist: Munk & Assoc.

Many things make Munk and Associates Orthodontic Specialists the Best of the Best, including exceptional, caring service in a fun, family-friendly environment; orthodontics for children and adults; more than 40 years of service; latest technology in digital e-rays, self-ligating brackets, lingual braces, Invisalign, and Wilckodontics; offices in Clarkston, Oxford, and Davison with day, evening, and Saturday appointments; and community involvement with SCAMP, Independence Parks and Rec programs, Fourth of July fireworks, Taste of Clarkston, and Clarkston Health Care College Scholarship.

To stay the best, Munk and Associates continues to research new products and treatment options; attend continu-



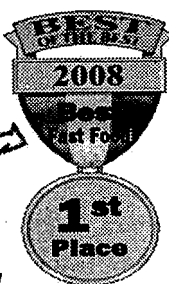
Dr. Charles W. Munk and Dr. Charles F. Munk.

ing education courses to keep the office on the cutting edge; upcoming office renovation with new computers and software to provide better patient communication and education; and continued community involvement.

Call Dr. Charles W. Munk and Dr. Charles F. Munk, 5825 S. Main St., at 248-625-0880.



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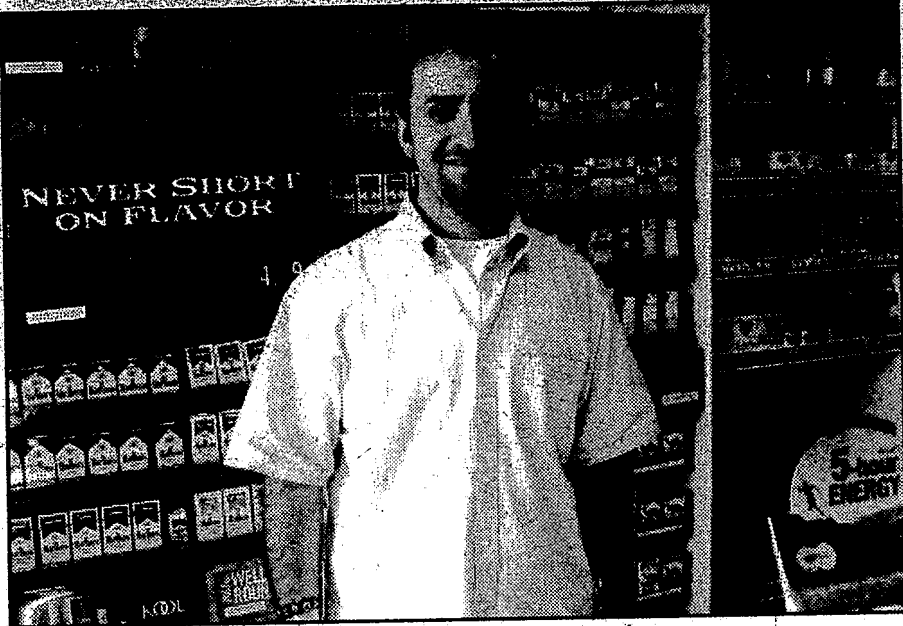
657 South Lapeer Road • Oxford

248-628-6441

6379 Davison Road • Davison

810-653-9070

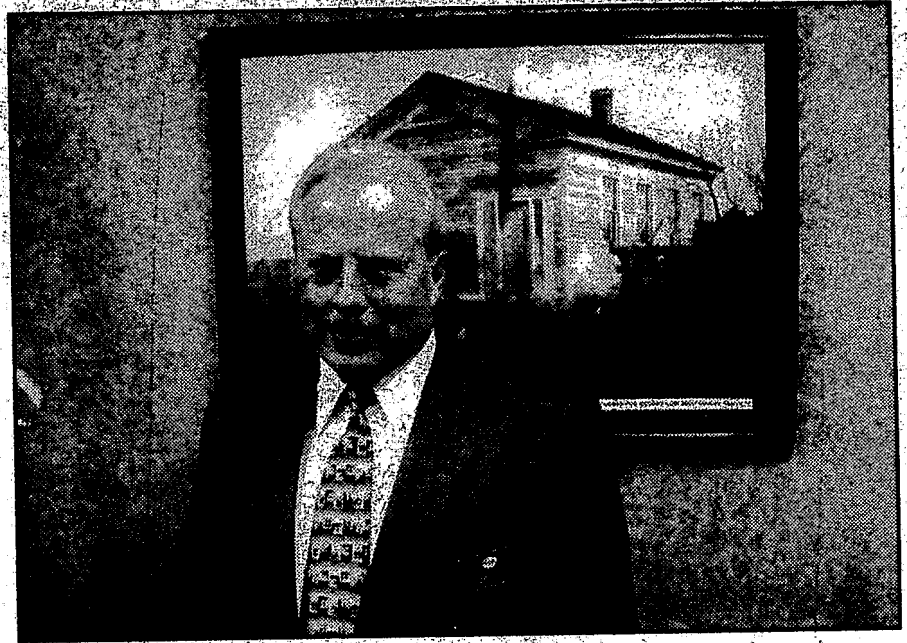
www.munkorthodontics.com



Najy, manager at Clark Gas and Convenience.

Best Gas Station: Clark Gas and Convenience

Clark Gas and Convenience opened in February, 2008, and strives to serve the community with quality products and great prices! Call Clark Gas and Convenience, 4951 Sashabaw Road, at 248-618-0343.



Blaine Tweed, manager of Kroger of Sashabaw.

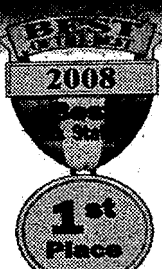
Best Grocery Store: Kroger

"I love my job and I am really happy to be working in the community," said Blaine Tweed, manager of Kroger on Sashabaw Road. "I have lived here for 30 years."

Future plans for Kroger include an increased focus on customers and extend-

ing themselves into the community, Tweed said.

Kroger stores in Independence Township are 6625 Dixie Hwy., 248-620-8700; 9741 Dixie Hwy., 248-922-0416; and 5990 Sashabaw Road, 248-922-3164.



Thank You For Voting us



Ask for "Najy"



CLARK GAS STATION of Clarkston

4951 Sashabaw Rd. • Clarkston

248.618.0343



Andy Sutherland of Rudy's Quality Market.

Best Deli: Rudy's Quality Market

Best of the Best Deli goes to Rudy's Quality Market.

"Our staff is great and we all love what we do," said Robert Eshaki.

"In this business, you have to come up with new ideas and be creative. Our number one goal is to improve every-

day."

A remodeling project is planned in the next 18-24 months, Eshaki said.

"Our new store will be amazing," he said. "Our customers will love it."

Call Rudy's, 9 S. Main St., at 248-625-3033.



John Chirco, left, and Del Yeoman of Guido's pizza.

Best Pizza: Guido's

Guido's Premium Pizza earned Best of the Best with fresh product, daily, customer focus, quality recipes and flavor profile, and striving for 100 percent customer satisfaction.

Goals include continuing to come up with fresh ideas and becoming more involved in the community.

Call Guido's, 5960 Sashabaw Road, at 248-620-9999.



Jimmy Frejat and Eddie Karana.

Best Dry Cleaner: Champs Cleaners

Champs Cleaners earned Best of the Best through hard work, experience, and dedication.

"We are able to provide the best service in the area," said Jimmy Frejat. "We are able to provide the best service in the area."

They do all laundry and dry cleaning on premises, providing the best quality work to customers.

"We also offer a 24-hour drop box, same day dry cleaning, alterations, leather cleaning and restoration, all to make your experience with us as convenient as possible.

Most importantly, we deeply appreciate the loyalty and dedication of our customers. You allow us to be the Best of the Best," Frejat said.

The cleaning business is expanding, providing free pickup and delivery service for commercial and residential customers.

"It will allow you to pamper yourself with the convenience of continuously having freshly cleaned and pressed clothes without having to add yet another thing to your already hectic schedule."

Call Champs, 6315 Sashabaw Road, Suite C, at 248-620-0104.



VOTED #1

CLARKSTON BEST OF THE BEST!

PIZZA - PASTA - SUBS - SALADS - CHICKEN WINGS

THANK YOU COUPON!

"The Savory Sauce Boss"

(248) 620-9999

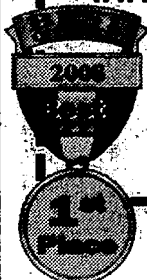
www.guidospizza.com



\$3.00 OFF

ANY ORDER

Clarkston location only • Not valid with any other coupons • Expires 8-30-08



5960 Sashabaw Rd
Clarkston • Independence
Next to Kroger

WE DELIVER!
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Friday-Saturday	10am-11pm
Sunday	11am-10pm

(248) 620-9999



- Dry Cleaning
- Leather Cleaning and Restoration
- Professional Alterations
- Laundry Shirt Service
- Wedding Gown Preservation

FREE PICK-UP and DELIVERY
Call (586) 556-5550

CHAMPS CLEANERS

6315 Sashabaw Rd.
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Clarkston, MI 48346
(248) 620-0104

20% OFF

DRY CLEANING SERVICE

Some exclusions Apply

\$10.00

FREE DRY CLEANING

New Customers Only
Limited time offer



Amber Moran, Amber Hannah, Liz Maceachern, manager Nashwan Quray, and Andrea Kamego.

Best Coney: Leo's Coney Island

Paying attention to what people are saying makes a big difference at Leo's.

"We always listen to our customers' comments and suggestions to keep up with their needs," said Nashwan Quray, manager.

"We also take time to make sure they're

getting the best food and service possible, and frequently add new items to our menu for a larger variety."

But never fear, he said. The tried and true favorites are on Leo's menu to stay.

Call Leo's Coney Island, 6325 Sashabaw Road, at 248-620-5122.



Barbara Stinson, with Dr. Gregory Hamilton.

Best Chiropractor: Dr. Hamilton

Patients always come first at Hamilton Chiropractic Clinic.

"Our attention to detail, our personal touch," said Dr. Gregory B. Hamilton, director.

"We are continuing to add more technology, including state of the art computerized diagnostics, and computerized foot scans."

Hamilton established the clinic in 1985 with the goal of providing the highest quality Chiropractic care available.

"For over 20 years, I've been providing patients with an effective alternative to drugs and surgery with a holistic approach to health care," he said.

Call Dr. Hamilton, 7180 Dixie Hwy., at 248-625-7690.

"Thank You For Voting Us #1!"



Receive
10% OFF
The Total Bill



With Coupon.
Not Valid On Breakfast Specials.
Not Valid With Any Other Offer.
Expires 8/31/08

\$1⁰⁰ OFF
Total Bill Over \$10



With Coupon.
Not Valid On Breakfast Specials.
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Total Bill Over \$20



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6325 Sashabaw • Clarkston • 248-620-5122
www.leosconeyisland.com

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Thanks to All of Who Voted us
Best of The Best Two Years in a Row!
HAMILTON CHIROPRACTIC



Chiropractic Care for the Entire Family
Serving Clarkston for Over 20 Years
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION



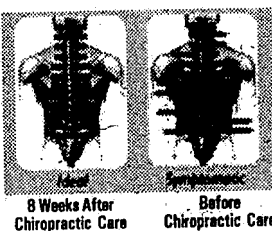
Specializing in:

- A Holistic, No-Drug Approach
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MYOVISION



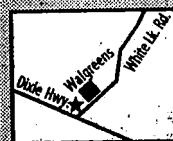
WHY WE USE COMPUTERIZED SPINAL EXAMINATIONS...
We at Hamilton Chiropractic feel that combining state-of-the-art technology with modern chiropractic care achieves the greatest results in the least amount of time.



Gregory Hamilton DC
Certified in
Neuromuscular
Evaluation

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7180 Dixie Hwy., Clarkston, MI
1 Mile S. of I-75, Near the Corner of Dixie Hwy. & White Lake Rd.

FREE
Computerized Scan
of Your Spine
Mention this ad.



Dave Smith, agent and owner, with his State Farm team.

Best Insurance: Dave Smith, State Farm

Dave Smith, State Farm agent and owner, and his team represent the number one home and auto insurance company, and for good reason.

"We are committed to the well-being and security of our clients," he said. "Our best source of new business is referrals from

clients who are happy with our service," he said, noting clients are thanked for referrals with a token of appreciation.

"Our jobs are fun," he said. "We work well as a team."

Call State Farm Insurance, Dave Smith, 7217 Sashabaw, at 248-625-2414.



Dr. Arlin French and Dr. Thomas Biggs.

Best Eye Care: Oakland Eye Care

Oakland Eye Care's staff makes them the best.

"From the receptionist, technicians, and opticians to the physicians, we strive to utilize a team approach to meet our patient's needs," said Dr. Thomas Biggs.

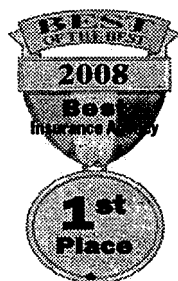
The entire office meets monthly to explore ways to improve the patient experience during visits to the office, noted Biggs.

"Whether you're here for a routine eye exam, cataract surgery or laser vision correction, it is important to all of us at Oakland Eye Care that your visits are always positive ones," he said.

Oakland Eye Care will be opening a second office this spring in the Clarkston Medical Group/ McLaren Building at Sashabaw and I-75, which will allow them to treat more patients and reduce travel distances for many.

"We will also continue to listen to our patient's questions, concerns and suggestions for improved services," said Biggs. "The customer is always right" is an old motto for a new age. Thank you for allowing us to be your eye care provider."

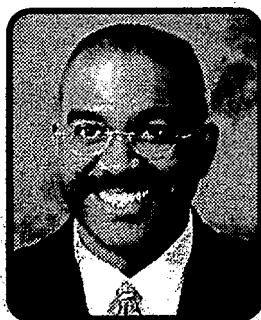
Call Oakland Eye Care, 5825 S. Main St., Ste 100, at 248-620-3000.



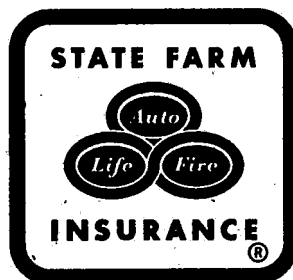
We

THANK YOU EVERYDAY

for selecting us the Best Insurance Agency two years in a row! Please stop by and experience the difference!



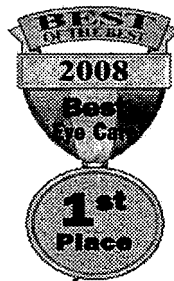
Dave Smith, Agent
7217 Sashabaw Road
Clarkston, MI 48348
Bus: 248-625-2414
Toll Free: 888-816-5433
dave@calldavesmith.com



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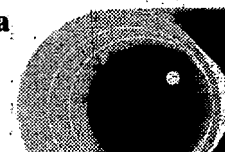
Best of the Best

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Experience Visual Freedom...

Medical and Surgical Treatment of the Eye

- Cataract Specialists
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- Macular Degeneration
- Laser Vision Correction
- Eyelid Plastic Surgery
- Routine Eye Exams
- Optical Shop



OAKLAND EYE CARE

Dr. Thomas Biggs
Dr. Arlin French

Call Now for an Appointment **248-620-3000 • 5825 Main St., Suite 100 • Clarkston**
Munk Professional Center • Just One Block North of Dixie Hwy. on M-15 (Main St.)



From left, Matthew Al-Sheikh, Heidi Al-Sheikh, and Zack Al-Sheikh.

Best Party Store: Pine Knob Wine Shoppe

"The staff of Pine Knob Wine Shoppe is extremely honored to be selected number one by readers in the 2008 Best of the Best contest," said Zack Al-Sheikh.

"We adore customers and enjoy working with the wonderful community," he said. "Customer service is our number one priority; our focus is on the customer's

needs, individually."

Their goal is 100 percent customer satisfaction, Al-Sheikh said.

"We believe in offering the customer the best possible service, selection, and value of product," he said.

Call Pine Knob Wine Shoppe, 5726 Maybee Road, at 248-625-2070.



Assistant GM Keith Grzymala, Heather Smith, Jack Clark, and General Manager Karen Kubicki.

Best Bar/Pub: Hamlin Pub

A commitment to individuality and the community sets The Hamlin Pub above the rest.

"Our management team gets great training," said Keith Grzymala, assistant general manager. "We also have the unique opportunity to bring the personality of each city into the pub, and we always make

a point of giving back to the community."

Grzymala is also proud of Hamlin's exceptional food quality and personalized customer service.

"We're continuously looking to pass a value on to our guests," he said.

Call Hamlin Pub, 6397 Sashabaw Road, at 248-922-1700.



Thank You

to the Community for Voting us
Best of the Best

#1 Wine Shoppe

Pine Knob Wine Shoppe

10% OFF

With the purchase
of \$30.00 or more

Limit one per customer
Expires 9-6-08



PINE KNOB WINE SHOPPE

5726 Maybee Road, Clarkston • 248-625-2070
Located at the corner of Sashabaw and Maybee Roads

Appreciation Gift Certificate



When Every One's A Regular

Hamlin Pub

6397 Sashabaw Rd.
Clarkston, MI 487346

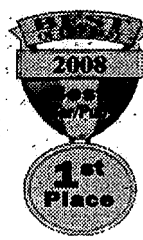
\$5.00 off

\$5.00 off with any purchase of \$20 or more

Sunday - Thursday 11 am - 9 pm

Not Valid with any other discounts or promos

Clarkston Location Only



Thanks for voting us #1

From: Karen Kubicki

Expires: September 30, 2008

Readers & Businesses Agree



1st Place

... the newspaper for more local news, more local names, more local events, local classifieds and local advertisements is *The Clarkston News*. Since 1929 there's only been ONE newspaper of record in these parts, and we're thankful again for your vote of confidence in 2008!

Thank you for making us No. 1 in the Best of the Best contest.

Call

248-625-3370

or stop by our door at
5 S. Main Street in
downtown Clarkston

"At Earl's Cleaners, we believe the highest level of service and quality is our top priority. I see the same quality in advertising in the *Clarkston News*. My ad in the *Clarkston News* has helped me generate thousands of dollars in sales by bringing in customers and repeated business from in and around the community. I would like to thank the *Clarkston News* for being such a great help in building my business and look forward to servicing the community for many years to come."

Dimitri Polychronou, Earl's Cleaners

"As a new business in the Clarkston area, we have advertised in the *Clarkston News* since November. We have had great response. Even though we aren't running full pages, our ad that we run every week has brought a lot of customers into our business."

Paul, Pack and Mail Plus

"California Bagel wants to thank the *Clarkston News & Penny Stretcher* for the new friends & customers we have now because of our ads in your newspapers. The service your staff provides is top notch. We hope to do business for years to come. Our community is very important to us & we appreciate your support."

Robert Zucker

"I highly recommend *Clarkston News* for all your advertising needs. The knowledge and professionalism they have has helped me advertise and reach my customer base. They sit down with you free of charge for the perfect layout and wording for your company advertising."

Dawn Raffler,

Clarkston Cleaning Services

Clarkston News

Check out our website www.clarkstonnews.com. 3,000 visitors a day spend 7 minutes or more with us. That's 3000 chances a day someone will see your ad.

Best Fast Food: Subway

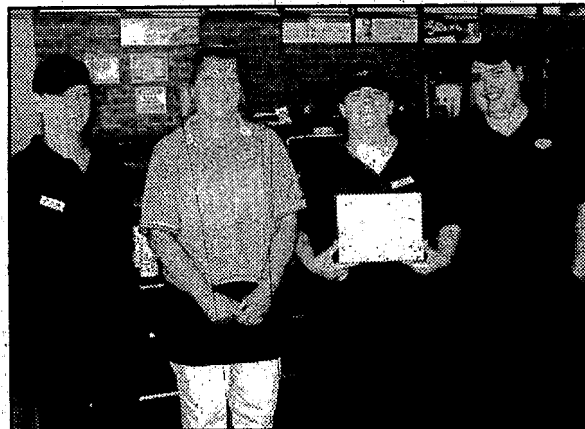
"We work hard at providing courteous and prompt service," said Tamicha Brown, DTE Subway on Sashabaw Road.

"We will continue to have fresh, appealing products served with a smile. We will always come up with new discounts, promotions, and new sandwiches. We are all confident Subway is the best way to 'get fit and eat fresh.'"

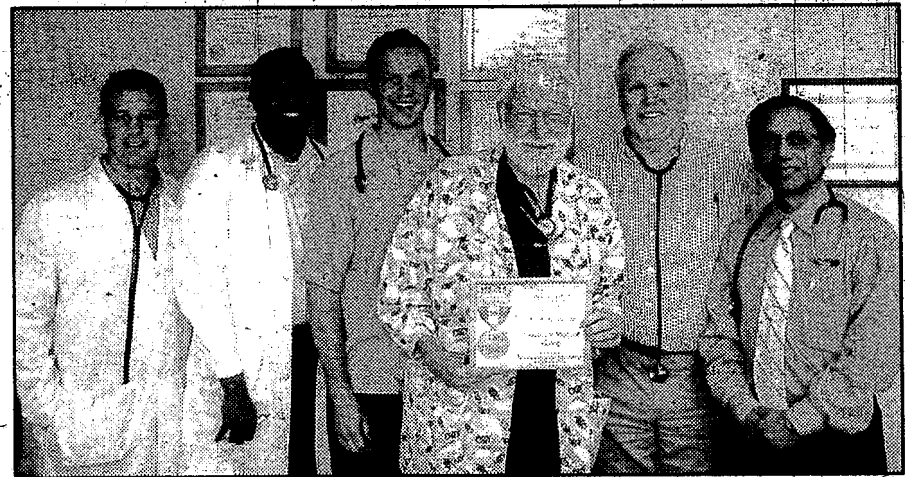
Call Subway at 5930 Sashabaw, 248-625-5739; or 7743 Sashabaw, 248-625-0805.



The Subway team at 5930 Sashabaw.



Team Subway, 7743 Sashabaw.



From left, Dr. Dean Moscovic, Dr. Renny Abraham, Dr. Tim O'Neill, Dr. James O'Neill, Dr. Michael Baker, and Dr. Mohammed Amin. Not pictured: Dr. Christine Joslin and Dr. Nancy Crossley.

Best Physician: Clarkston Medical Group

Doctors with Clarkston Medical Group say they love what they do and don't mind the hard work.

All the staff is committed to caring for others and working together to help people, from founder James O'Neill, M.D., to their newest physicians, Drs. Christina Joslin and Robert Barnes, the focus remains the same: on patients, said Tim O'Neill, D.O., Family Practice.

Future plans include moving to their

new location on Sashabaw Road and continuing to be here for the community.

The medical practice is expanding services and focusing on creating the best patient care experience possible. The new center will have an outpatient surgery center, more than 60 specialists on site and the same great care people have come to expect.

Call Clarkston Medical Group, 6770 Dixie Highway, at 248-625-2621.



Stephanie Morgan, Josh Kolcan, Scott McIntyre and John Morgan stand outside the shop at 28 South Main Street.

Best Auto Repair: Morgan's

Clarkstonites can trust their vehicles to Morgan's Service station.

Morgan's, a full service repair shop, has been in business downtown for more than 70 years and maintains a staff of longtime, full-time employees.

"It's a real honor," owner John Morgan said.

"There are a lot of comparable shops, it's an honor have the customer base we

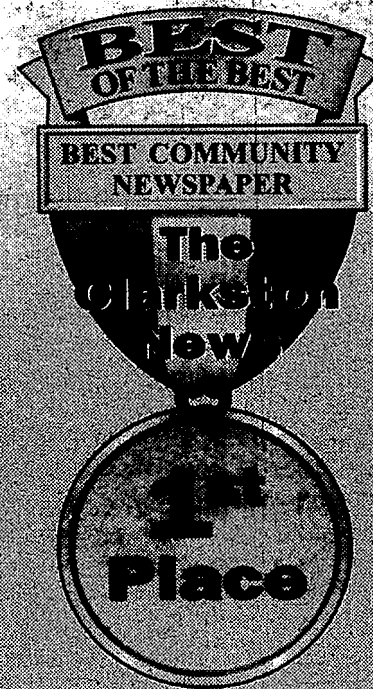
have. That's most important."

Opened by the late Richard Morgan Jan. 5, 1932, John can remember working in the shop in his youth.

"I was working on cars when they were putting points, plugs and condensers in them," he said. "I was able to grow with the times."

Call Morgan's, 28 South Main Street, at 248-625-4641.

Thank You Readers of the Clarkston News for Choosing Us...



The Clarkston News and Penny Stretcher is proud to be a part of the Clarkston, Independence and Springfield Township Communities and we'd like to express our sincerest thanks to our readers for choosing us Best of the Best!

Call to Subscribe
248-625-3370

Dear Clarkston, Independence and Springfield Township Residents ~ Thank You!!! You came through with your votes for "Best of the Best" in your community. After receiving approximately 1300 ballots from our loyal readers, the following pages are who you, the community, voted as the "Best". For those of you who did not vote for the businesses that won, check them out for yourself and see what makes them the "Best".

THANKS!
THANKS!
Gift Certificate Winners!



Jim Bortz ~ 1st Place

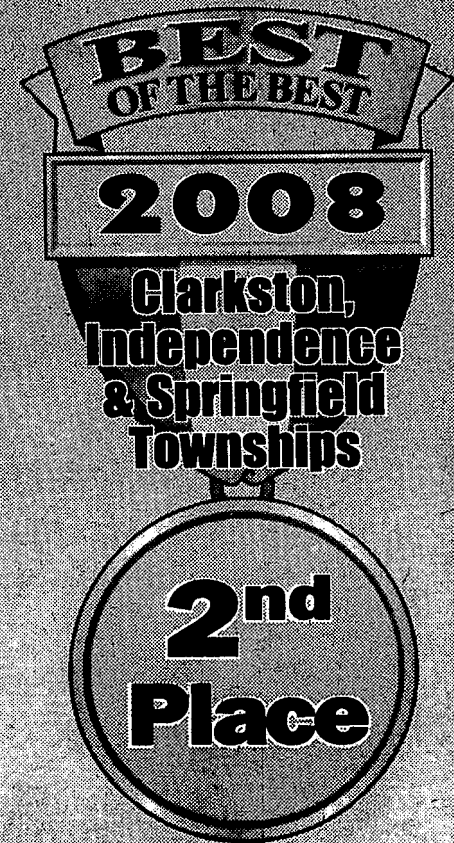


Barb Stinson ~ 2nd Place



Warren Galbraith ~ 3rd Place

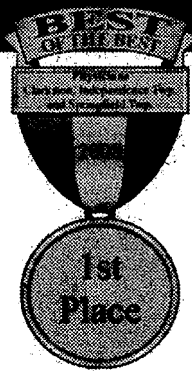
*Congratulations to the
following businesses
who were voted
2nd place in our
“Best of the Best” contest!*



Best Tanning - Metropolitan Tanning
Best Auto Dealer - Randy Hosler GMAC
Best Landscaper - Lowrie's Landscape
Best Auto Wash - Clarkston Auto Wash
Best Chiropractor - Dr. Smith, Clarkston Chiropractic
Best Gift Store - Bonnie's Hallmark
Best Optometrist/Eye Care - Allison Eye Care
Best Caterer - Rudy's Quality Market
Best Dance Studio - Stars & Stripes
Best Place to Worship - Clarkston Community Church
Best Attorney - Okros/Okros
Best Party Store - Rudy's Quality Market
Best Coney Island - Pete's Coney
Best Community Organization - Lighthouse of N.O.
Best Insurance Agent - AAA Insurance
Best Bank - T & C Credit Union
Best Dentist - Dr. Krull
Best Physician - Dr. Washe
Best Fast Food - Qdoba's
Best Deli - Brioni's
Best Ice Cream - Dairy Queen
Best Hair Dresser - Fran Smith @ Randolph's

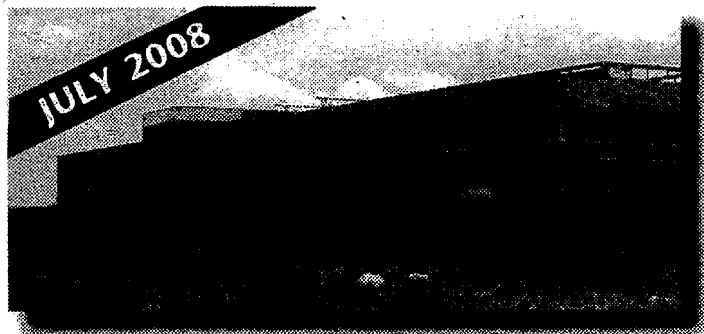
Best Hair Salon/Barbershop - Glitz
Best Breakfast - Leo's Coney Island
Best Restaurant - Clarkston Union
Best Baked Goods - Lisa's Confection Connection
Best Bar/Pub - Clarkston Union
Best Auto Mechanic Shop - Gott's Auto Service
Best Gas Station - Speedway
Best Dry Cleaners - Lee's Dry Cleaning
Best Real Estate - Morgan & Milzow
Best Veterinarian - Dr. Hutchinson
Best Pizza - Clarkston Cafe~Pizza Coco
Best Hamburger - Red Knapp's
Best Daycare - Li'l People's
Best Community Newspaper - Oakland Press
Best Waiter/Waitress - Terry Foulis
Best Grocery Store - Rudy's Quality Market
Best Coffee - Caribou Coffee
Best Florist - Clarkston Flower Shop
Best Place to Exercise - Deer Lake Athletic Club
Best Customer Service - Clarkston Landscaping
Best Auto Body Shop - S & L Auto Body

[Attention Oakland County Residents]

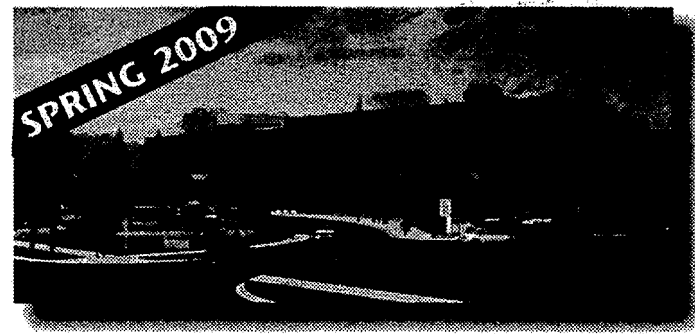


Thank You

The Clarkston Medical Group team is honored to have been chosen as *Best Physician Practice in Clarkston* for 2008. IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO MEET THE HEALTHCARE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY AND TO SHARE WITH YOU THE EXCITING CHANGES THAT ARE ON THE HORIZON.



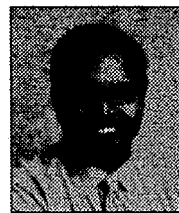
**Clarkston
Medical
Building**



James O'Neill, M.D.
Pediatrics



Timothy O'Neill, D.O.
Family Practice



Renny Abraham, M.D.
Internal Medicine
& Pediatrics



Mohammed Amin, M.D.
Pediatrics



Michael Baker, M.D.
Internal Medicine



Nancy Crossley, M.D.
Internal Medicine
& Pediatrics



Christina A. Joslin, D.O.
Family Practice



Dean Moscovic, D.O.
Internal Medicine
& Pediatrics



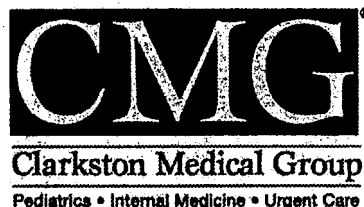
David Thomas, D.O.
Emergency Medicine



Dawn Turner, D.O.
Emergency Medicine



Michael Williams, M.D.
Emergency Medicine



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