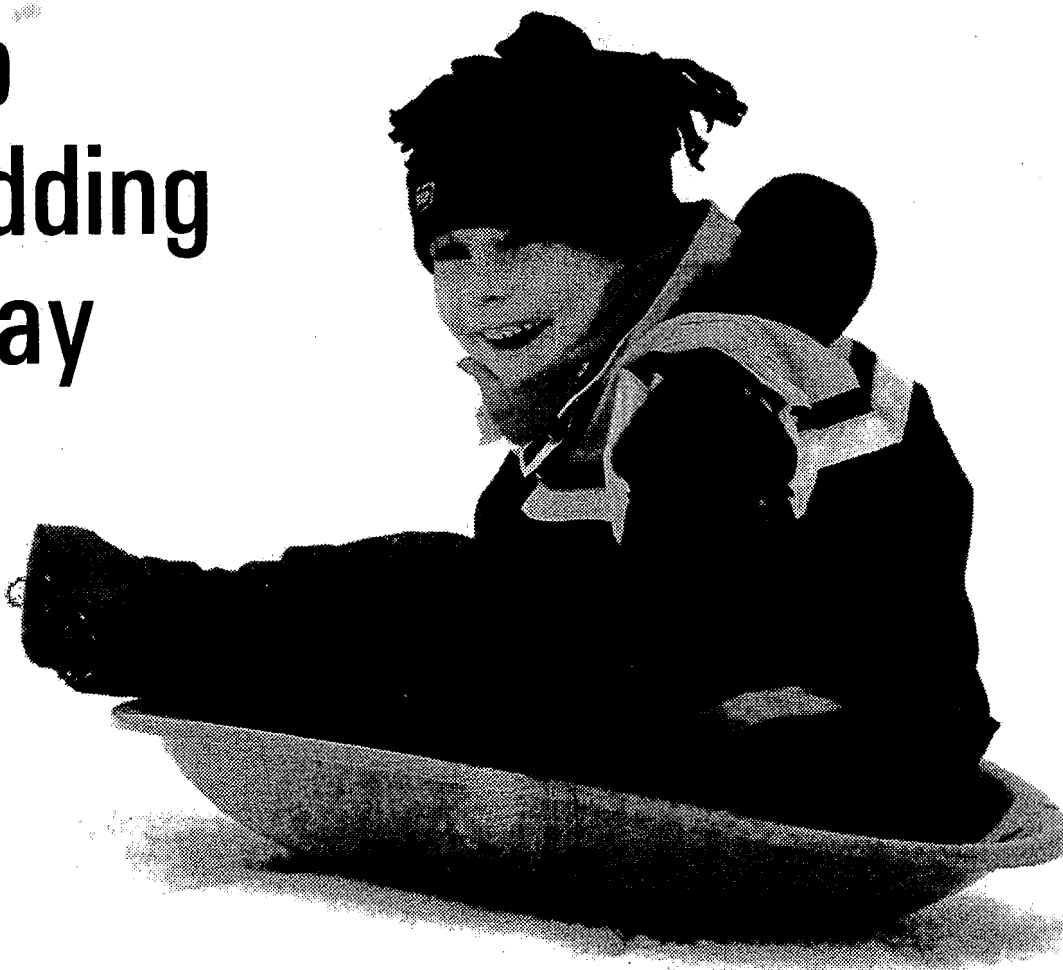




Happy
New Year!

Slip sledding away



Colin Slunick, who enjoyed playing in the snow with his brother and some friends last week, can't help but grin as he glides down a hill near Clarkston High School. See more sledders on page 8A. Photo by Laura Colvin

Red ink rescue

Township bails out parks and rec dept.

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

In this age of government bailouts, Independence Township Parks and Recreation requested and received its own.

The department spent \$120,000 this past year, but took in \$40,000 in revenue. The extra \$80,000 will come from other township departments.

"We were trying to put in cost containment methods this year, which resulted in some departments being under budget," said Susan Hendricks, finance director. "(In some departments) we weren't as successful as we would have liked to have been and we need to work on improving that for next year."

The board voted 6-1, Dec. 16, to borrow the money from other, under-budget departments to cover the cost. Treasurer Curt Carson voted "no."

Mike Turk, parks and recreation director, took full responsibility for the over spending.

"I'll make sure I put the appropriate steps in for next year," he said.

Turk said many expenses weren't budgeted, including increased gas prices, improvements to concession stands at Clintonwood Park due to health department inspections, healthcare increases due to changing employee status, park security, and repair of damage caused by vandalism.

"They seem like all worthy items you are forced to do," said Trustee Neil Wallace.

Supervisor David Wagner said extra expenses should have been brought to the board sooner.

"Even if it's a budgeted item, if they spend \$5,000, they have to come in and tell me they are spending \$5,000. I require an explanation," Wagner said. "Anything from \$2,500 to \$5,000, they have to take it to Sue and make sure they have money in their budget prior to spending the money."

Wagner said it was "unacceptable" to him for Parks and Recreation to be overbudget

Please see Surprise on page 4A

Township plowing slowed by lack of funds

BY LAURA COLVIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

It took crews nearly a week to plow snow from many subdivisions after 10 inches of snow fell Dec. 19, and residents are likely to face similar waits all winter.

That's the word from the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC), which fielded some 700 phone calls and several hundred emails from angry people, last week, as subdivision streets remained unplowed four days after the storm.

The situation made it difficult for residents to get out—and for emergency vehicles to get in.

"Any subdivision calls, we send the four-wheel-drive down," said Sgt. Paul Bidinger of

Oakland County Sheriff's Office Independence Township substation, noting the substation has one deputy assigned to a Chevy Tahoe. "He doesn't have any problems."

But, Bidinger said, the OCSO's front-wheel-drive Chevy Impalas are less than ideal for negotiating unplowed roads.

"You know how it is, driving in the snow," he said "It's no different in a police car. It can definitely slow response time and occasionally a deputy will get stuck out there."

The situation was much the same in Springfield Township last week.

"We've been running our four-wheel-drive instead of our regular rescue vehicle to keep from getting stuck," said Charlie Oaks, town-

ship fire chief.

But, he said, problems still arise, as was the case when paramedics responded to a call at a home with a long, sloping driveway.

"We couldn't get (a vehicle) up the hill, so we had to take the stretcher and carry the guy down to the ambulance," Oaks said. "It could definitely be a life threat. Anytime there's a 911 call, you're racing the clock as it is. The more you get held up, the less likely the outcome is going to be positive."

But the RCOC's safety-based road plowing priority system, representatives said, requires the agency to focus first on freeways and major roads before working down to low-speed, low-

Please see Plows on page 5A

The Clarkston News

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Wind wipes out trees

Warm winds from the south melted most snow and ice this past weekend, but caused some troubles of their own, such as this large tree limb, downed on Perry Lake Road just north of Clarkston Road, Dec. 28. Photo by John Meyland

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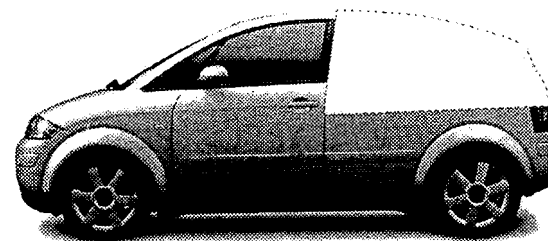
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Briefly . . .

Free throwers win turkeys

Winners of the 2008 Turkey Shoot - Basketball Free Throw Contest, Independence Township Parks and Recreation, included!

Male: 8-9 year-olds - Thaddeus Koehler 5 out of 10 baskets; 10-11 year-olds - Samuel Hiltz 7 out of 10 baskets; 12-13 year-olds - Bradley Barker 8 out of 10 baskets; 16-17 year-olds Johnathon Marcks 0 out of 10 baskets; 20-29 year-olds - Adam Ming 7 out of 10 baskets; 30-39 year-olds Edward Harshman 6 out of 10 baskets; 40-49 year-olds - Kenneth Ming 3 out of 5 baskets (first round was a tie); 50-59 year olds - Gerald Curry 9 out of 10 baskets; and 60- and-up - Sam Antonazzo 7 out of 10 baskets.

Female: 8-9 year-olds - Natalie Harshman 2 out of 10 baskets; 10-11 year-olds - Ashley Skaggs 5 out of 10 baskets; 12-13 year-olds - Melanie Moore 3 out of 10 baskets; 14-15 year-olds - Jessica Ming - 9 out of 10 baskets; 18-19 year-olds - Rachael Ming 4 out of 10 baskets; 30-39 year-olds - Lisa Norton 9 out of 10 baskets; 40-49 year-olds - Kathryn McCarty 1 basket; 50-59 year-olds - Gail Hoffman 1 basket

Each Contestant won a frozen turkey for their Thanksgiving dinners.

County swear-in ceremony Jan. 8

Oakland County Commissioner Thomas A. Middleton, representing Independence Township and Clarkston, Commissioner Bill Bullard, Jr., representing Springfield Township, and the rest of the board of commissioners' swearing-in ceremony is set for 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 8, in the Oakland County Board of Commissioners Auditorium, 1200 North Telegraph Road in Pontiac.

Bullard was also nominated to serve as Oakland County Board of Commissioners Chairman.

Commissioners serve two-year terms.

For more information, call Lawrence Doyle, administrative director, at 248-858-1701.

News tip?

Give us a call
at 248-625-3370

Parades mark Clarkston summer

The second half of the year means lots of community activities for Clarkston, including Fourth of July, Labor Day, and Holiday Lights parades, Taste of Clarkston, and business expo. With no Democrats running, Independence and Springfield township elections were decided in the August primary. November's general election still included local issues, however, including an open-space preservation proposal and 52-2 District Court judge.

July 2

City earnings drop 11.6 percent: As the fiscal year came to a close, Clarkston City Council finished the 2008 budget and set spending for 2009.

Friends gather to celebrate 46 years with Pappas: The applause was long and loud as well-wishers from across the Clarkston area came to say thanks and bid City Manager Art Pappas a happy retirement.

Millstream: Heather Haynes received a Gold Scout Gold Award for her work based on her community service teaching how to make chocolate treats.

July 9

\$5 million too much: Independence Township budget numbers showed after revenue and spending they were left to close to \$5 million in the fund balance - more than 40 percent.

Dixie Highway corridor may be next on renovation list: Independence Township appointed a nine person board to improve the area's appearance and economic opportunities.

Millstream: Family and friends paid tribute to Art Pappas as he retired after working 46 years for Clarkston.

July 16

Maybe a manager: Independence Township looked into hiring a manager.

New life for an old downtown: A meeting for Davisburg business and property owners was held to share ideas about what they wanted for the downtown.

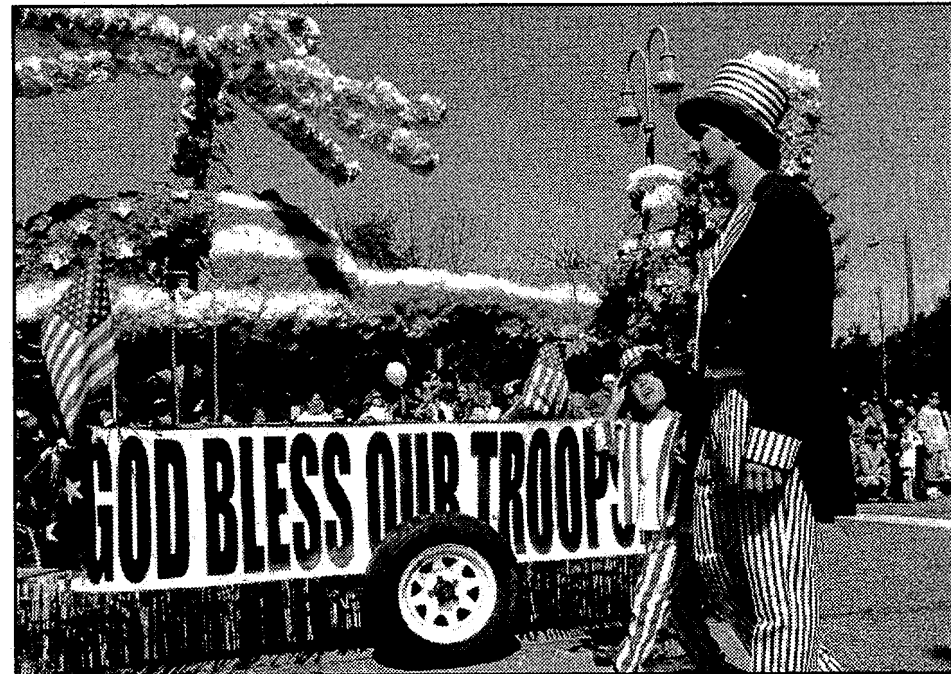
Millstream: Elizabeth Schell used her birthday money to help animals at the Detroit Zoo.

July 23

Clarkston Farmer's Market in full bloom: The market kicked off its fourth season with 30 new and returning vendors.

Four seats up for grabs in city, mayor uncertain: Three Clarkston City Council seats and mayor was up for grabs.

Millstream: Clarkston High School students Antonio Lemus and Mat Smokoska spent their



Patriotic floats filled the Clarkston Fourth of July parade.

summer helping the Independence Fire Department step into the 21st century.

July 30

FEMA finally fixes city floodplain map: Clarkston residents caught a break in raising costs when a new federal floodmap meant they no longer had to buy flood insurance.

Chief among chiefs: Independence Fire Chief Steve Ronk earned state award for "Fire Chief of the Year."

Millstream:

Davisburg businesses shared what they would like to see downtown.

August 6

Voters find their voice: Residents went to the polls to cast primary votes.

Clarkston Community Garden idea bears fruit:

While the cost of energy rises,

so could the cost of food. Clarkston Community Garden offered free vegetables in exchange for help for harvesting the summer crop.

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

August 13

Where'd all the dough go: Campaign finance reports filed with the Oakland County Elections Division were able to be viewed and printed

online from local, school and county candidates as well as political action and ballot question committees.

Results mixed for government-change candidates: Independence Township residents voted a mixed bag of candidates to run the next township board.

Millstream: John Meyland painted his 2003 Chevy S-10 pickup a ravishing yellow and submitted a photo of the truck to General Motors to drive it GM Century Cruise during Woodward's annual Dream Cruise.

August 20

Moving on: Sharron Catalo announced she would not run for Clarkston mayor and would be stepping down after 23 years of service.

Traffic flows again on Sashabaw: Sashabaw Road, north of Clarkston Road, opened after four months of construction even though some work still had to be done.

Millstream: Bruce Quigley visited Roush Automotive Collection Museum in Livonia. It was part of his prize for winning the IRWIN Tools Ultimate Tradesman competition in 2007.

August 27

Cutting it close: Elementary principals nearly leapt from their chairs after the school board unanimously decided to recall teachers from lay-off.

Angels among us: Paul Maxwell spread the word about the first annual Angels Place Race to the community.

Millstream: Charles Wallace, 84, decided it was time for his next adventure - he bought a motorcycle.

September 3

Noose found on custodian's chair: A sock, hung by a noose and inscribed with "KKK" was
Please see Rain on page 4A

\$80,000 hit from surprise costs

Continued from page 1A

so much, and said they were also overbudget \$80,000 in the 2007 budget.

Hendricks said the department looked OK in the third-quarter report, but she forgot about a large expenditure in November, an "internal transfer for cost of services provided," she said.

"As these little things were happening all year long. We kept thinking we can cut here, we can do something there," she said. "We were trying to say we wouldn't have to do this, not thinking we had this big thing in November, which was going to take any good work and turn it around on us."

The meeting was the first Wagner heard of the "large expenditure," and he was waiting for his own answers, he said in a phone interview, Monday.

Hendricks also said they transfer money every year to Parks and Rec from the general fund.

"Parks and Recreations charges for services do not cover the total cost of that department," she said. "So, the general fund transfers money to that fund to cover the cost, in addition to what we can charge our residents."

Carson said Parks and Rec's budget increased 20 percent since approval.

"In the economy we have today, we can't assume these budgets are going to increase and we're going to give automatic adjustments," he said. "If a department is over budget, I personally think that department should determine what they're going to do about it."

Wallace agreed.

"They ought to cut back on this or do without that this year in order to cover these unexpected items," he said.

Wagner also agreed.

"The tendency for the board for a long period of time is always been 'if Parks and Rec runs over, that's OK because we're just going to give it to them anyway,'" he said. "It's something I have talked about and even one time talked about having a Parks and Rec. millage that would help out quite a bit."

Wallace said he would like to see a general policy for all departments and would like to see budgets every month.

Lohmeier felt the same way.

"Keep me at the water line," he said. "So, we know incrementally anytime we make a decision that varies us from our budget and we see the offset."

The board also voted to transfer \$30,000 from the clerk's office budget to the election's department to cover the cost of the early presidential primary in January.

The motion passed 6-1. Lohmeier voted against.

September rain flooded streets, yards

Continued from page 3A

found over the chair of a Clarkston school custodian when he entered the break room at one of the district's elementary schools during the summer.

Money root of opposition for group: For opponents of November's open-space millage proposal, it was not the principle. It was the money.

Millstream: As a mom helping run her kids' talent show in the 1980s, Cheryl Marshall found she enjoyed live performance.

September 10

Start of something new: Everest Academy boys and girls high school welcomed its first class.

Test score fall: Clarkston High School juniors placed above the state average in the spring test, but 22 percent were not proficient in math and several scores were down.

Millstream: As a builder, Bob Waid helped to modernize and make Clarkston a larger town.

September 17

Water, water everywhere: Clarkston residents reported flooding from up to 5.68 inches after the weekend's rain. Oakland County was hit by the remnants of two storms, Tropical Storm Lowell and Hurricane Ike.

Millage supporters tout land, water preservation: Resource protection trumps tax concerns for supporters of an open-space millage proposal.

Millstream: Curt Catalo received a call from Danbury Mint to make a die-cast replica of his dad's '32 Ford Coupe. The coupe was featured on the cover of a Beach Boys album.

September 24

We're moving out of town: Independence Township officials announced they would be moving to a new building, located off of Waldon Center Drive.

Schools 'Hung' out to dry?: School officials said they were blindsided by HBO, when it filmed scenes for a new, potentially edgy dark-comedy series at Clarkston Junior High School.

Millstream: For Lori Taylor, art is not just something it do in her spare time. Art is her life.



Kim Berry and her son Brandon wade through what's supposed to be their back lawn, flooded this past September.

October 1

Royalty on the gridiron: Clarkston High School's Homecoming Court received their accolades at Friday's midgame ceremony.

Beaumont gets final 'yes' vote from planners: The Independence Township Planning Commission granted conceptual site plan approval to the Beaumont project.

All in good Taste (of Clarkston): Thousands of food tasters filled downtown Clarkston Main Street for the 2008 Taste of Clarkston. They sampled entrees, desserts, and snacks from more than 30 local restaurants.

Millstream - Marching band celebrates freedom: Clarkston High School marching band's show this year was based on President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Four Freedoms" speech, Jan. 6, 1941, about Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear.

October 8

Check it out: Clarkston officials looked into Main Street Oakland County on a mentoring basis.

Pupil count looking up: Clarkston school administrators were hopeful student numbers would be up over last year's total. Each fulltime student equates to \$7,555 in state funding.

Millstream - Expanding the mission: Associate Pastor Ken Fouty leads Calvary Lutheran Church's expansion.

Please see Fall on page 5A

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Plows face crisis

Continued from page 1A

volume subdivision streets, and crews were working at full capacity to clear roads after the storm.

"As a direct result of Michigan's road funding crisis, and the fact that our revenues have been falling for two years after being flat for 10 years, we have not been able to replace employees who retire or leave," said RCOC Highway Maintenance Department Director Darryl Heid in a statement last week. "That means the agency is down more than 40 employees. Of those, 21 are snowplow drivers."

The agency, which has jurisdiction over subdivision roads in townships, but not cities and villages, has about 140 snowplow drivers on its payroll.

"If the Michigan Legislature does not act soon to increase funding for roads," Heid said, "the 2009 winter could be a lot worse, as our staff levels will continue to fall."

While RCOC still has enough drivers to be fully staffed during the initial storm attack, it said subsequent shifts make the staffing shortfall noticeable.

"We do not have enough drivers to get into the subdivisions as quickly as we would like," said Craig Bryson, RCOC public information officer. "Once the first round of drivers has worked its 16-hour shift and must take a break, we no longer have enough drivers to be fully staffed during the second shift."

Bryson said funding shortages are "extremely troubling."

"Safety is our number one priority, and a policy adopted by our board," he said. "Unfortunately, the only alternative is to convince the state legislature to do something to increase road funding. In Michigan, we've been among the bottom nine states in the nation, per capita, for state and local road funding for more than 40 years. We all like our taxes to be as low as possible, but at some point, the impact is reduced services, and that's what we're seeing."

In the meantime, Bryson said he encourages subdivisions to look into private contracting for snow removal.

"We'll still be there as soon as we can, but if they're able to, that's one way to get a higher level of service," he said.

Road commissions do not directly receive property tax revenues, Bryson noted, but are funded through state gas tax and vehicle registration fee.

With people driving less and fewer vehicles sold, revenues from both sources are down.

"Cities and villages maintain their own neighborhood streets, but they typically pay higher taxes," he said. "We have townships, four days after the storm, that have not been plowed out, but if you go to most cities, you'll find they were plowed within a day or two of the storm."

Fall brings food-sampling Taste of Clarkston

Continued from page 4A

October 15

After the fact: Residents filled Independence Township Hall to voice their opinions about the Township Board's recent purchase of a new township hall. Many thought the decision wasn't made with enough community input.

Still a straight shooter: Oakland County Sportsmen's Club invited Virgil Richardson to try out his M1 rifle, a vintage Korean War model he carried as a soldier 50 years ago. His son had tracked it down and bought it for him as a birthday present.

Millstream - Under the boardwalks: Mike Boyd, parks supervisor at Independence Oaks county park, helped install new wetland walkways.

October 22

All friends at Friendly Forest: Independence Township Parks and Recreation staff and volunteers put on superhero spandex and fur suits, handing out treats to costumed children at Clintonwood Park for Friendly Forest.

Saving a piece of Clarkston Main Street history: The Thomson family donated a 2,580-square-foot Victorian Queen Anne style Main Street house, built in 1905, to Clarkston Community Historical Society.

Millstream - Puppy love: The Thompson fam-



Steve Gebrowsky shares a dessert with his family at Taste of Clarkston.

ily of Independence Township has raised puppies for Leader Dog for the Blind for 24 years.

October 29

Attorney finds no fault with hall meeting: Independence Township Board voted a second time to approve purchase of a Waldon Center


Please see October on page 7A

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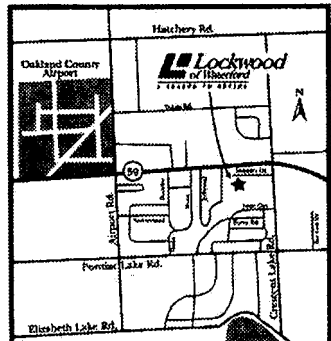


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Wendi's Word

A column by Wendi Reardon

Wishes fulfilled

A big thank you to Sherrie VanderVeen from Clarkston United Methodist Church. She was so helpful with providing us with a family to adopt for Christmas.

We became Christmas Angels to a family of five and pooled what we could and went to the stores and bought what we could.

Somewhere out there in the Clarkston area, a family woke up with presents under the tree and a smile on their faces. Well, that is the mental image I have and it warms my heart to know we helped.



When I talked to the Varsity Cheerleaders a few weeks ago about their own family they adopted, I knew the excitement and joy they were talking about for I felt the same about ours.

What did you do for the holidays? Did you also adopt a family like *The Clarkston News* and cheerleaders. Or did you make your own wish for the holidays and did it come true?

Well, we can't ignore the big news in sports before the Lions went into the Sunday game at Green Bay Packers. But the news started a before this final game. Was your Christmas wish, they didn't go into the history books as the team to go 0-16?

To you which is better, to go completely defeated or get the last win in against a once big team.

As I am writing this I am listening to the last 12 minutes of the game. Only three points down, can they beat a team 5-10.

Then a touchdown by John Kuhn, putting the Lions ten points behind. It is probably time to turn off the podcast. Wait...no. Kevin Smith with a touchdown. Yes!

Ahhh...Packers just made their own touchdown in one play. Now it's too late to turn off the feed, the game only has seven minutes left and I just can't bring myself to do it. Even though I knew it would happen.

It has been the same story all season, close but the ending still the same.

It's done. They lost. The history books have been rewritten. Always next year, learn from this year's mistakes and work on them.

On a final note, send us your game photos. We would love to see them and we might be able to use them!

Happy New Year!

The Clarkston News Viewpoints

What is time all about?

I don't have time, I cannot take time, it's time out, it's a timing thing, when I get time, where has time gone, if I have time, time restrictions, when time permits and the time battle goes on.

We are coming from an era of time equals money, at least that's how some heard it said. The more money one makes per hour the higher the value.

When taking time with loved ones I've heard, it coined "quality time". I've often wondered, who determined the quality?

Looking at time from another angle, is the economy slowdown, simply balancing between time scarcity and heart matters?

There has definitely been a shift from the time slavery of appointment calendars. Technology has upgraded to nearly a paperless system. Palm Pilots, digital phones that do multiple tasks. From photo shooting, to accessing email messages, then there's the infamous text messaging, we will not forget what can happen when wrongly utilized.

There must be classes one can take to figure out how to navigate the system of technology devices. After having a cell phone for more than four years, I finally surrendered to an upgrade. I am not accustomed to riding of staples if they function. I took the leap of faith that it would not overpower my capacity to grasp the process.

With upgrades of communication, are we any closer to our fellow humans or ourselves?

And the quest goes on from bigger and better to, "smaller is much better."

Uncluttered, minimized, utilized, under-

sized, specialized seem to be some of the buzzwords of the time.

"Taking time for reflection is a worthwhile investment in prevention."

There is no need to keep on fixing messes if one picks up as one goes about doing tasks. Preventing problems so there's no need

to hire problem solvers, or seek conflict revolutionists.

Anger management could simply equal speaking the truth before anger takes over as miss-understandings.

It's all part of the time factors, time management, time slavery, time conflict or whatever other time escapes one needs.

If the economy can slow down the wheel just enough for reflection, thoughts to action, then whatever lies ahead will be more tolerated and welcomed.

"Time's only value is that which each of us assign to it."

Balance it a key component for a time friendly society.

Take time for your hair, attune your personal statement or personality, and remember, patronize your local business community; we are here to serve one another.

Maria Rotondo Mark is owner of MakeOver Place Salon in Independence Township.



Maria Rotondo-Mark

Community stuffs bus with gifts

Dear Editor,

The 5th Annual Stuff-a-Bus Campaign hosted by Clarkston Community Schools Bus Drivers was a huge success!

Thank you so much to

Dr. Roberts and Kevin Bickerstaff for approving this event, Craig DeLowe, Tom Harmon, Alan, Taylor & Alan II Burnham, Darlene Welch, Scott & Noah Dunavent, Juanita Gilbert, Colleen MacLeod, Sherry Carpenter, Theresa Kraft, Randy Hendrix, Mike Morris, Eric Berry, Frank Carone, Denise Fairgrieve, Sue Cox, Janan Horne, Diane Hodson, Julia Keels, Samakka Shabazz, Paul Edwards and WLQV 1500 AM radio station, Tina and Jessica Fay, Karen and Olivia Kondrat-Wieler from Girl Scout Troop 13220, Tina and Sabrina Layton, Trevor Harris, Erin and Eric Gates, Charlie Robinson and

Betty Anderson who also had a party & asked every guest to bring a donation for Light House, Kroger on Sashabaw Road and manager Blaine Tweed who personally donated \$300 worth of

groceries to start us off and made frequent announcements in the store all weekend letting

customers know we were there, Sandy Egres from "Sign's By Tyke" for updating our signs every year free of charge, *The Clarkston News*, and of course the community above all for their generous donations.

We had a very stuffed bus & almost \$450 in cash, checks & gift card donations. It was wonderful to get so much support for this project.

*Tammy Layton
Clarkston Community Schools
Transportation Department*

Letters to the editor

A Look Back

From *The CNews* archives

15 years ago - 1994

"Tough Love gives hope, support"
Denise Fox started a new support group for parents of troubled children. Goals were to make children, instead of parents, take responsibility for their actions.

"Tax plan makes locals worry"
Michigan state officials agreed to present voters with two options to fund schools: increase sales tax to six percent, reduce income tax, and tax residential and commercial property, or increase income, business, school property, and cigarette taxes.

"Holiday road report: not bad" Police reported minor accidents during the holiday season.

25 years ago - 1984

"Clarkston stores sell for premium"
Downtown commercial real estate was selling at premium prices far above assessed values. David Sherrill, Independence Township assessor, said business owners valued highly the location.

"McNally says he feels like TV Judge Wapner" District Court Judge Gerald McNally shared stories from his courtroom, in which regular people came in to plead their small-claims cases. He said he enjoyed the TV show *People's Court*, but more people were filing suit against each other probably because of the economy.

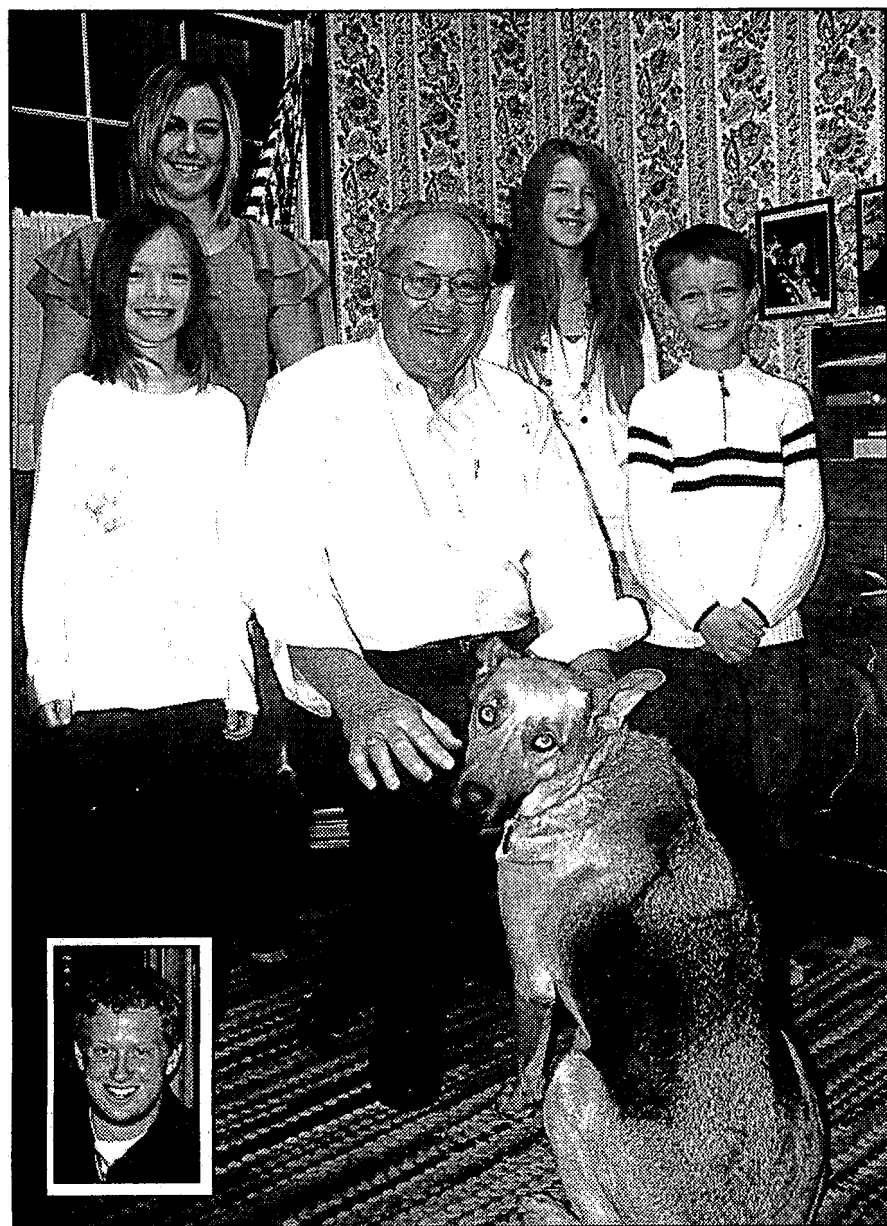
"Portrait painter/graphic artist draws twigs on county exams" Local artist George Hemingway's calling was painting portraits, but his trade was graphic illustration, including drawings for school-standardized tests.

50 years ago - 1959

"Candidates file for township offices"
Five Democrats and 15 Republicans filed for Independence Township office. Clarkston News Publisher William H. Stamp filed as a Republican for Justice of the Peace, running against Democrat Wallace McLay.

"Sashabaw church restores steeple"
Sashabaw Presbyterian Church members refurbished their steeple, and planned to installed lighting and an electronic sound system. The Maybee Road church was constructed in 1856.

"Christmas party at Rockwell home"
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rockwell hosted 25 guests at the annual Floyd Kent, Inc., party at their home on Holcomb Street. They played games, sung carols, and enjoyed a midnight buffet.



Happy New Year!

Happy New Year from Jim's (Sherman) Jottings and his grandchildren. Back left, Karen Offer, an interior design student at the Art Institute of Illinois in Chicago and Savannah Speed, 12. The Speed twins, Haley and Trevor, 9, are on either side of me and m'dog Shayna. Insert is Dan Offer, MSU grad, now with a CPA firm in Colorado.

Thanks for Christmas party help

Dear Editor,

The Independence Township Senior Center hosted 65 seniors with a holiday party on Dec. 17 in the Carriage House.

With sponsorships from Elmhaven Manor, Karen and Don Kayko, Right at Home, Samaritan Care Hospice, and Sheldon Medical Supply, the center was able to provide a delicious ham lunch and gift bags for everyone.

Some of the gift items were donated by Clarkston Pharmacy, Elmhaven Manor, Oakland Eye Care, Oxford Bank, State Farm Insurance-Dave Smith, and Clarkston Specialty Healthcare Center. Attorney Dana Wilson donated a beautiful Christmas cake.

Each party goer got to chat and banter with Santa and have a picture taken.

*Margaret Bartos, director
Independence Township Senior Center*

Got an opinion?

Write a letter to the editor at ClarkstonNews@gmail.com



Bailey Lake Elementary students celebrate Halloween.

October means Halloween season

Continued from page 5A
Drive building near Sashabaw Road for use as a new township hall.

Millstream - A vote for service: Service Learning students learned about the upcoming election by organizing one themselves.

November 5

Fabrizio wins judge seat, open-space millage defeated: Challenger Joseph Fabrizio won the race for 52-2 District Court judge, earning 28,428 votes to incumbent Judge Dana Fortinberry's 21,171, and 167 write-ins. Independence Township's open space millage proposal was defeated, 10,507 to 7,809.

November 12

Let's get together: Clarkston Rotary Club hosted a fall wine tasting, featuring wines from all over the world.

Millstream - Meeting the chief: Jose Aliaga, Clarkston-area resident and vice chairman of the Michigan Hispanic Republican Assembly, got the chance of a lifetime when he was invited to the White House to meet President George Bush and celebrate National Hispanic Month.

November 19

A job well done: The small crowd gathered in Springfield Township gave a heartfelt standing ovation to retiring Supervisor Collin Walls as he presided over his last meeting of the township board.

New mayor ready for challenges: After 23 years with Mayor Sharron Catallo, Clarkston had a new mayor, Stephen Arkwright.

November 26

A friend in need: Lindsey Friend of Independence Township is recovering from amnesia with the help of parents David and Nancy Friend, her brother, Joe, and other relatives and friends. Hundreds turned out for a spaghetti fundraiser to help the Friends with medical expenses.

Millstream - Eagle Scout rescues Stations:

Eagle Scout Matthew F. Dondanville rebuilt the outdoor Stations of the Cross trail at Columbiere Conference Center in Springfield Township.

December 3

Help on the home front: As Sgt. Amy Day of the U.S. Army serves her country in Afghanistan, her family has stepped up to secure her home front. Taking care of her 4-year-old son, Dylan, are her father Eric Zasacky, brother Doug Zasacky, and stepmother Jean McBride, all of Independence Township.

Millstream - Turkey therapy: Runners indulged in an extra serving of their favorite dish on Thanksgiving Day after participating in the first annual Sweet Potato Shuffle. Kim Coates put together the event for her daughter, Katelyn, a 2008 Clarkston High School graduate injured in a car accident.

December 10

Dough from cookie sale to help kids: Emily Sutherland and her family spend weeks baking cookies to help children in Brazil.

Mural meltdown at city meeting: Dozens of Clarkston residents, fed up with the 5 S. Main Street mural project, presented a petition against it to City Council. The building is also home to *The Clarkston News*.

Millstream - A cut above: Cheryl McGinnis of Independence Township donated 14 inches of her hair to Locks of Love, in honor of a friend.

December 17

Christmas marchers: Clarkston's Holiday Lights Parade, the eighth annual procession of holiday floats, music, and twinkling lights, wound its way through the city's downtown, Dec. 13. This year's theme was Ice and Lights.

Millstream - Cheerleaders have giving spirit for Christmas: Clarkston Varsity Cheerleaders adopted a family, helping them have a merry Christmas.



Anthony Cellentani hitches a ride with Tommy Hickey.



Most parents opted to stay on top of the hill.



Kyle Slunick gets tricky with his board.

Let 'em slide

When Sara and Kris Hoffman heard warm temperatures and rain showers were forecast for last Saturday, they acted fast to bump up 8-year-old Kristoffer's birthday party.

On Friday, Kristoffer and his friends—along with other families from around the Clarkston area—enjoyed an afternoon of sledding on the hill near Clarkston High School.

Saturday, as expected, the snowy slope melted into a mushy, muddy mess.

For lots more of last week's sledding photos, check out the Big Blue Button at ClarkstonNews.com.

Photos by Laura Colvin



Kristoffer Hoffman and his dad Kris take a ride together.



Lukas Mitrius waits for a friend.



The snow was perfect for sledding.



Colin Slunick makes his way back up the hill.

Public Safety

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

Too far to run

Pine Knob Ski Resort security caught a 16-year-old Orion Township boy trying to use a fake ski pass worth \$550, 9 p.m., Dec. 17. They were escorting him to his car when the boy realized police were on the way, so he took off running through the woods. He ran to a nearby house and banged on the back door, but a homeowner called police and he took off running again.

Deputies followed his tracks to Clarkston Road up to Marconi, where he was found walking alongside the road. When a deputy shined a spotlight on him, the suspect turned, raised his hands, and said "take me now, I can't run anymore." He said he was glad to be found because he was lost. When interviewed by deputies, he said he ran because he was scared about getting in trouble, went to the house to call his mother, and got the fake ID from a Lake Orion classmate. His case was petitioned to juvenile court, and he was released to his mother.

Sick on the slopes

Independence Township Fire Department EMS was called to help a 17-year-old China Town-

ship boy, found by Pine Knob Ski Resort medics on the ground, vomiting, 6:10 p.m., Dec. 18.

He told deputies he was drinking whiskey, and a preliminary breath test indicated .18 blood alcohol level. His friend, a 17-year-old St. Clair boy, tested .04. Both were cited for minors using alcohol, and the China Township boy was also cited for disorderly conduct.

Fire and ice

A 16-year-old Independence Township boy got his car stuck in the snow in Clarkston High School's parking lot, 12:44 p.m., Dec. 19. Trying to get it out, its engine caught on fire. He escaped safely, but the car was fully engulfed when Independence Township firefighters arrived.

Drug abuser off the road

A deputy on patrol stopped a minivan for driving too close to the car in front on a snowy road, 12:45 a.m., Dec. 21, at Maybee and Pine Knob roads. The driver, a 22-year-old Independence Township man, had a felony warrant for dangerous drugs. He was arrested and taken to jail.

White Christmas contributes to car crashes around community

Snow and ice from storms starting Dec. 19 took their toll on local drivers, especially those driving too fast and/or without enough care.

Accident reports were light on Dec. 19, during the heaviest snowfall. Reports included a rear-end collision, 2:45 p.m., at Eastlawn and Waldon. At about 5:33 p.m., a driver making a left turn at Andersonville and Tucson decided to make a right instead, and hit a car trying to go around.

Ice contributed to two accidents, Dec. 20, including a rear-ender, 6 p.m., at Sashabaw and Pinedale. At about 8:30 p.m., a sick driver fell asleep near Sashabaw and Baypointe, hit a snowbank, bounced to the other snow bank, and rolled over. The 33-year-old Independence Township woman was not seriously injured.

Dec. 21 contributed four, including a car coming off Sashabaw Road too fast onto I-75, sliding across three lanes and hitting a car, as well as a rear-ender, car hitting a deer, and a vehicle sliding off the road into a tree.

Five accidents were on Dec. 22, in-

cluding a car pulling out in front of another on icy Sashabaw and Oakhill, car losing control, sliding sideways across the center line into another vehicle, car pulling out into traffic on M-15 and getting hit, and rear-end collision at Sashabaw and Clarkston road.

Dec. 23 brought five more: a car lost control and hit a utility pole, another slid into a snow bank, two cars ran into vehicles from behind, and another hit a car head on, with no serious injuries.

Christmas Eve had at least three, including a car at Clarkston and Park Street, sliding into two vehicles, car pulling up unseen behind a pickup truck plowing a parking lot on Dixie Highway - hit when the plow backed up for another run - and a car near Dartmouth and Menominee, braking on a downward slope, spinning around, and hitting a snow bank.

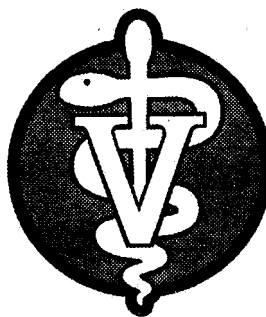
On Christmas day, a driver crested a hill at Indianwood and Dartmouth and spotted a car stuck at the bottom. He couldn't stop in time on the ice.

- Phil Custodio



"The staff and I want to THANK the people in the community for showing their confidence in Baylis Animal Hospital by voting me, Dr. Lincoln Baylis, BEST VETERINARIAN!"

The Staff and I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!



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Grapplers overcome snow, but fall to Dragons

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Junior Matt Deitz led grapplers as he defeated Hazel Park's Ethan Bogaert to take first place during the Oak and County Wrestling meet.

Snow blanketed the area the night before the tournament and with nearly a foot covering the roads and classes being called off on Dec. 19, the tournament was delayed.

Instead of grapplers competing for two days in double eliminations at two different sites, the meet was one day at Oxford Middle School. The change meant there would be no double elimination, only one.

After a long day and narrowing down 42 teams in 14 weight classes, Lake Orion won the meet for the second year in a row by scoring 124.5.

The Wolves scored 100 points and placed in sixth behind Oxford, Novi Detroit Catholic Central, Holly and Rochester Adams.

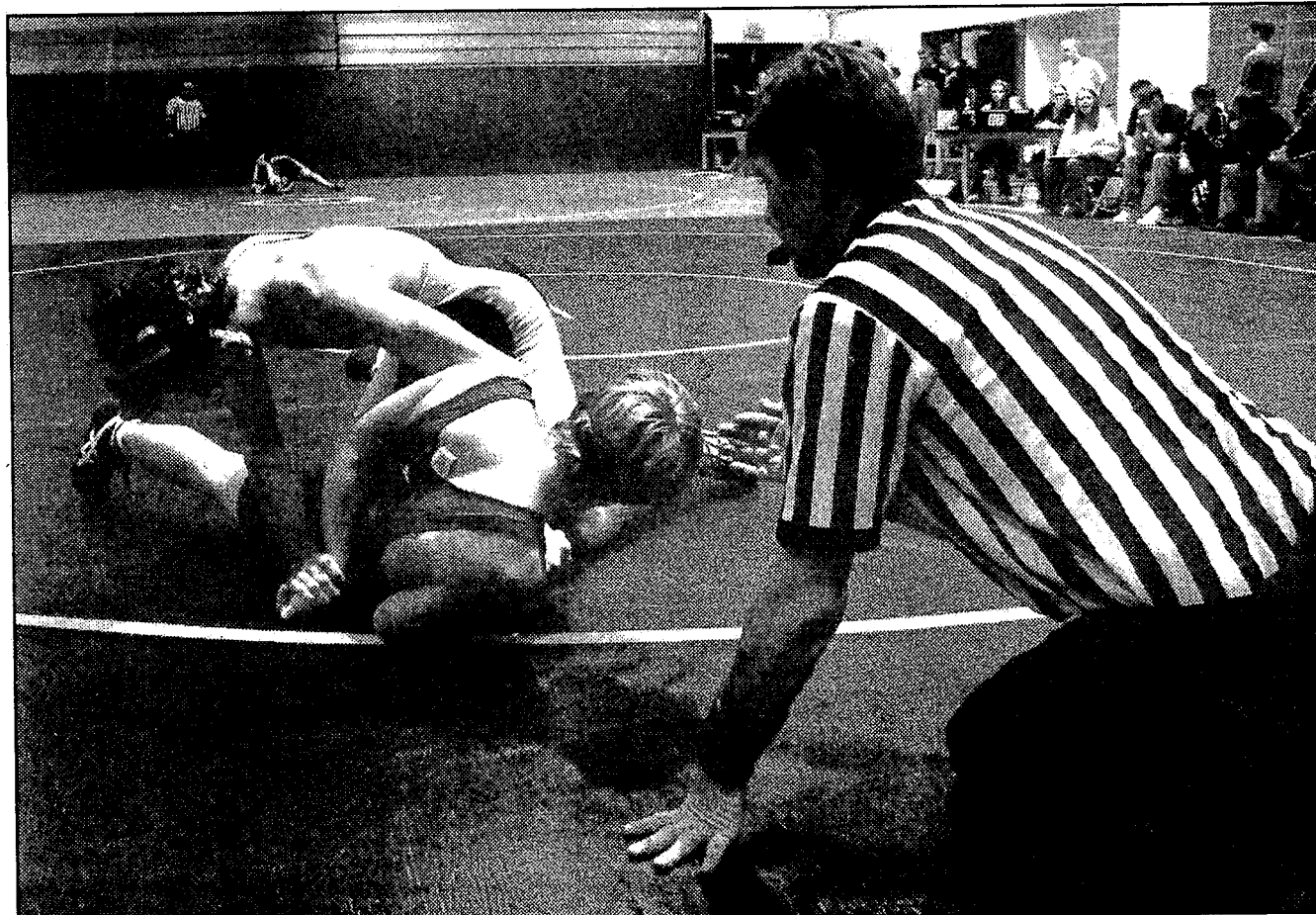
The top finishers for the Wolves were Zak Roberson (103), Alex Popp (145) and Matt Vandermeer (160) placed in second for the Wolves.

Jeff Sloney took third place in the 112-pound weight class.

Sloan Hadsall (189) and Mike Richmond (285) held onto fifth and Ty Foltz (130) and Evan King (152) took seventh.

The boys return from winter break for the second half of the season to work on their goal to make the state finals.

They will begin with a dual meet on Jan. 7. They will compete against Troy-Athens and Troy at Lake Orion High School. The meet begins at 5 p.m.



Evan King holds down his competition during his first match at Goodrich. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Athletes of the Year Congratulations to last year's Athletes of the Week, from July to December!

July
Softballer Katie Smith
Golfer Minjoo Lee
Clarkston USTA players
Golfer Tommy Ronk

August
Clarkston Cubs
Michigan Stars
Golfer Jimmy Haven
Tennis player Lexi Baylis

September
Riverdaws 12U
CSSC Impact '97
Stars & Stripes Gymnasts
Goalie Scott Messer

October
Swimmer Christine Seiple
Runner Natalie Smith
Rider Darci Molina
Chad Cummings
Drew Canada

November
Spiker Lauren Gardner
Tennis player Alexis Haselwanger
CSSC Shadows '92
Alicia Curry & Andrea Dean

December
Wide receiver Luke Prudhomme
Swimmer Julia Vela
Diver Jordan Zendejas




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Wolves score titles in fall sports season

This week *The Clarkston News* continues to look at some of the highlights from the past year. Check out our archives on www.ClarkstonNews.com to see all the stories from the past year.

Camps bring talent out

The summer began with future high school athletes invading the fields and gyms to learn techniques in their favorite sport from the Clarkston coaching staffs and varsity players. Varsity Boys Basketball Coach Dan Fife saw a lot of potential from the incoming freshman class. Kurt Richardson, head coach for the Wolves varsity football team saw the same potential and talent in his campers in the last week of July.

July 2

All Star Popp hits high school football field one more time: Running back Jimmy Popp took to the field one more time in the Michigan High School All Star Football game on July 19. "It will be my last good-bye to football," said Popp.

July 9

Local runner places fifth at nationals: Kristen Smith made "All-American" in the 5K event at the Nike Track National in North Carolina, timing 17:43, five seconds faster than her run the previous year.

Coates makes top 20 in country: Jenna Coates represented the best volleyball players from southeast Michigan when her team played against the top teams in the country.

July 16

Riverdaws undefeated in league: Riverdaws 13U team were the first team in the Riverdaws organization to complete an undefeated season, 19-0.

July 23

Going the distance: Young athletes gave the newest camp a try as they jumped, ran, and hurdled at the Track and Field Camp started by Coach John Yorke.

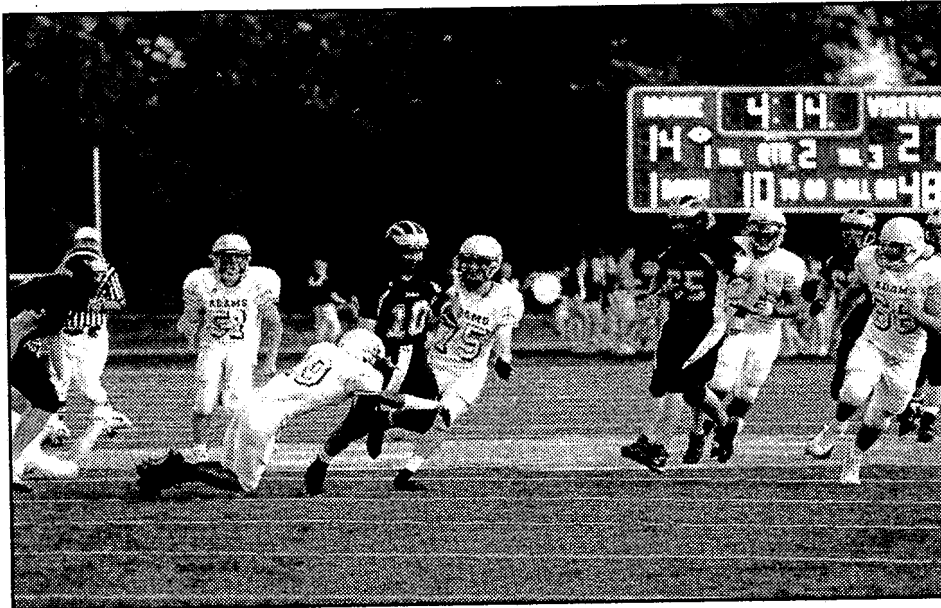
July 30

Tournament leads with a success: Clarkston Community Education held their first annual Clarkston Schools Golf Tournament and had 34 participants, ages 14 and under, competing in the event.

Creator's Image wins championship: Creator's Image Photography defeated Clarkston Medical Group in Independence Township Parks and Recreation championship to win the youth baseball season.

August 13

Lewandowski leads Little Caesars to win: Mitch Lewandowski helped his team stay in the game during the semifinals during the 19th Annual Brick Invitational Super Novice Hockey Tournament. He capped off the game



The Wolves football season ended, 6-4. Photo by Laura Colvin

scoring his third goal, winning the game for his Little Caesars '98 team.

August 20

Win marks quarter century of soccer: Kickers opened the season against Waterford Mott and won, 3-2. Twenty-five years earlier the soccer program started in Clarkston and lost their first game to Rochester Adams, 9-1. They never lost by that much again.

Back for another year of Blue-and-Gold gridiron action: Wolves hit the field for their annual inter-squad Blue and Gold game to show fans what they had practiced and to show coaches and themselves what needed more work before the season opener the next week.

August 27

Football food drive: Together the Clarkston football program and the community raised 4,000 pounds of food for Lighthouse Emergency Services.

September 10

Lopsided game, but still lots to learn: Wolves defeated Troy-Athens for their first win of the football season, 56-26. While the scoreboard reflected a win, Coach Kurt Richardson saw a few things that needed tweaking in the next week's practice.

September 17

Ahead in the Red: A tough game against Troy did not slow Kickers down from continuing their control of the OAA Red with an undefeated 5-0 in the league.

Leaders on the links: The girls varsity golf team also had the lead in their league after beating Troy-Athens.

Riders advance: Heavy rain and mud were a few variables the Equestrian riders and their horses had to work around as they won the

District 2 meet and move on to the regional round.

September 24

Scarlett's run breaks double OT tie for win: The ball was snapped to quarterback Tyler Scarlett during the second overtime period against West Bloomfield. Scarlett held onto the ball for a keeper play and rushed from the 10-yard line into the end zone, winning the game, 41-38.

Serving up some medals: The JV tennis team took second place at the Fenton JV Tennis Invitational.

Homecoming week begins: Girls from the junior and senior classes took to the football field for the Annual Powder Puff game to start Homecoming week. The game ended tied, 12-12.

October 1

Cross country success: The boys team took first place at the Hansons Invitational meet against 13 teams. The girls placed third in their Midwest Meet of Champions in Ohio in the same weekend. The boys and girls teams both placed third in their second OAA Jamboree of the season.

October 8

Gridiron game shuts down Ravens in shut-out: The Wolves didn't let Royal Oak score any touchdowns during the game and moved their way through the defense to win, 42-0.

October 15

Second shutout paves way for season ender: The Wolves went for one more shut-out. This time it was on Oak Park's football field, 35-0.

October 22

Gridiron gang off to playoffs after Friday's

game: The boys secured their spot to play in the first round playoffs after their win against Farmington Hills Harrison. The win kept the Hawks from getting their spot in the playoffs.

Digging up a league championship: Spikers went into the OAA tournament in first place which helped them after they placed in third after their matches. They had scored enough points to boost them into first place for the league.

October 29

Horse riders exceed expectations with championships: For the Clarkston Equestrian team, the year was suppose to be a rebuilding year. Instead the girls rode their way into fifth place at the Michigan Interscholastic Horsemanship Association State Championship.

And they're off...to states: The gun sounded and the runners were off and going in their regional meet. The end result for both of the boys and girls teams were they would be going to the state finals. The girls were named Regional Champs and the boys were in third place.

November 12

Spikers bound for regionals: Kelley Croll sent the ball over the net and out of reach of Oxford players. It was the last point the girls needed to win the final round of the Class A District playoffs and become District Champs.

Three Chief teams unstoppable at Super Bowl IV: Hot cocoa and winning the Super Bowl IV at Brandon High School warmed the hearts of Clarkston Chiefs players of Freshman White, JV White and Varsity teams and their fans.

November 29

Swimmers set to take on state championships: Swimmers heading to the state finals were calm and excited as they practiced beating their times for the upcoming state championship. The girls team sent swimmers to compete in five individual events and two relay events.

November 26

Fiteny leads icers to victory with early goal: Icers skated into their new season with two wins in the first week of competition. They beat Stoney Creek, 4-2, and shot out Birmingham United, 1-0. Goalie Neeko Muniz saved 21 shots during the shut out.

December 10

Lyons leads Wolves to victory over Flyers: Sophomore Conner Lyons second goal against Farmington helped Icers hold onto their lead. They beat the Flyers, 4-3.

December 17

Broughton brought two wins in dual meet win: Grapplers won their dual meet they hosted against Avondale and West Bloomfield.

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What's the

Clarkston Area's Monthly
Business News & Info

Vol. 3 # 6

BIZ

December 2008

Bridging cultural divides

Terry Beltrán-Miller wins national award, grant to develop Vista Latinos agency

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Terry Beltrán Miller viewed her buyout from General Motors in 2005 as an opportunity. She used it to create her own business, Vista Latinos Marketing and Communications Solutions Company.

"My passion to help our Hispanic community inspired me to develop a company that focuses on the Latino Boom in the U.S." Beltrán-Miller said. "We believe in achieving success for both corporations and the Hispanic community, from planning and implementation to building long-term customer relations. Too often, customer relations management is overlooked with the Hispanic market."

The Independence Township resident's goal is to expand the agency to serve the Hispanic community, as well as women's and youth markets. Helping her is a national Anna Maria Arias Memorial Business Fund award.

Selected by Latina Style Magazine, the award includes a business education grant to Tuck School's Building a High-Performing Minority Business executive program, set for June 2009.

"I'm looking forward to it. It's a great program," she said. "I have no doubt it will help me take my business to the next level."

Beltrán-Miller is the first Latina entrepreneur in Michigan to receive the award. She is among 10 award winners from across the country, recognized for innovation, achievements and community service. Latina Style presented the awards, Sept. 5, in Washington D.C.

"This year's applications came from all

over the country, across all industries and with varying levels of experience," said Robert Bård, president and CEO of Latina Style. "But the one thing they all have in common is their tenacity and their drive to succeed while making a difference. We started these awards more than seven years ago, and every year I am more and more impressed with our winners."

Beltrán-Miller is a senior marketing professional with more than 16 years of experience and an MBA in Marketing and Management.

In 2002, she served as chairwoman of Automation Alley's Great Lakes Interactive Marketing Association. She served as marketing chair for the 2005 Hispanic Business Alliance Exposition and Economic Summit, and vice president of memberships in 2006. In 2007, she was president of the National Society of Hispanic MBA's Detroit Chapter.

Beltrán-Miller, her husband, David Miller, and their two sons, Antonio and Nicolas, moved to Independence Township from Flint about 10 years ago. They chose it because of its location between GM's Renaissance Center in Detroit, where she worked, and Flint, where her mother Emma and aunt Grace lived.

"I like Clarkston. It's nice," she said.

She also worked with Univision, Women's National Basketball Association, Walt Disney Corporation, PBS, Intel, BabyCenter.com, Council of Fashion Designers, and World Wide Productions Entertainment.

Oakland County has a strong Hispanic community, about 400,000 strong, with about \$41 billion in commerce, she said.

"In the Clarkston area, the largest minority group is Hispanics," she said. "Hispanics are younger, the community's growth rate is tremendous."

Vista Latinos helps clients promote products and services while recognizing the Hispanic market's many unique subcultures, she said.

Other areas of service include public relations, community affairs, signature event



Terry Beltrán Miller

planning, strategic program planning, philanthropic, and sponsorship analysis and planning. Beltran-Miller provides keynotes and workshops about Hispanic and women's markets, employee development and entrepreneurship growth.

For more information, check www.VistaLatinos.com.

Founded in 1980, Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth provides high-quality, intensive learning specifically tailored to minority-owned businesses.

The late Anna Maria Arias was founder and editor of LATINA Style Magazine, businesswoman and champion of entrepreneurship. The Anna Maria Arias Memorial Business Fund, established in 2002, provides educational grants to dozens of Latina business owners from across the countries who exemplify those business practices and principles that Anna Maria championed. For more information, check www.latinastyle.com or call 1-800-651-8083.



Karen Tracey and Bethany Stark are happy to be back home.

Nina's cafe comes back to Sashabaw

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Nina's Comfort Food Café moved to The Fountains last the summer, but now they are back home at their original Sashabaw Road location.

"We are glad to be back," said owner Karen "Nina" Tracey. "We ventured out and tried to do more, but small and cozy is what Nina's is. Everybody knows everybody."

The staff and owners reopened, Dec. 5.

"It's been really nice," said Tracey. "I have seen a few customers hug each other and say 'I haven't seen you since they moved.'"

Another customer gave them a banner that said, "Nina's back, let's eat!"

The menu has remained the same, offering home-cooked meals made from scratch. They have added gyros and a new vegetarian sandwich, and still carry lots of soups.

They will offer a smaller menu until the economy gets better.

They are open every day, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Sunday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Nina's Comfort Food is located at 5910 Sashabaw in the Kroger plaza.

For more information, call 248-625-2224.

No bailout needed for Oxford Bank

BY C.J. CARNACCHIO
Special to The Clarkston News
"It's false."

Those were the first words out of Oxford Bank President Jeff Davidson's mouth when called for comment, Dec. 19, the morning after *The Oakland Press*, in response to a bank-issued press release, ran an erroneous front-page headline reporting the financial institution was receiving a federal bailout.

"This is just flat-out wrong. I am so upset," he said. "We're not getting any money. This is about deposit insurance. This is paid for by the banks, not by the taxpayers."

On Dec. 18, the bank issued a press release to let the public know that it's participating in the Transaction Account Guarantee Program (TAGP), which is offered through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

"It was meant to be positive press," Davidson said. "It's a good thing. This was about letting our customers know their money's safe no matter where they put it."

Under the TAGP, Oxford Bank funds in non-interest bearing transaction accounts and Negotiable Order of Withdrawal (NOW) transaction accounts that earn 0.50 percent or less in interest will be fully guaranteed by the FDIC through Dec. 31, 2009 regardless of how much money is in the accounts.

"The government has extended unlimited insurance (for these types of accounts)," Davidson said. "The message to our depositors and our community is their money's just as safe and insured here and if they're not sure, give us a call."

According to Davidson, Oxford Bank currently has about 12,400 accounts, totalling approximately \$70 million, that bear no interest or earn 0.50 percent or less.

TAGP coverage is in addition to and separate from the FDIC's general deposit account insurance, the maximum coverage of which was temporarily increased from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per depositor back in early October. The basic insurance limit will return to \$100,000 on Dec. 31, 2009.

Davidson said the majority of Oxford Bank account holders are already completely covered by the FDIC's basic insurance limit. And it's Oxford Bank, not the taxpayers, who's paying a premium to provide this additional insurance to its depositors.

Davidson indicated the nearly 125-year-old financial institution is paying 0.1 percent on each dollar in TAGP-qualified accounts that exceed the FDIC insurance limit of \$250,000 per depositor.

"It's not taxpayer dollars. The bank is paying that out of its earnings," he said. "We're more than happy to do that to protect our depositors and make them feel good."

Davidson said he talked to *The Oakland Press* Executive Editor Glenn Gilbert and he apologized for the error.

The story was pulled off the newspaper's website Friday and a front-page correction was printed, Dec. 20: "The Oxford Bank is not getting bailout money from the federal Troubled Asset Relief Fund as erroneously indicated in a headline in Friday's editions. It is participating in the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.'s Transaction Account Guarantee program to provide additional insurance for deposits. The bank pays a fee to participate in the program and is not receiving any taxpayer money."

In an e-mail he sent out to bank employees Friday morning, Davidson was extremely critical of *The Oakland Press* and the reporter who wrote the story. He called it "creative journalism at its best."

"(The reporter) did call us (and) he asked, how much money are you getting from the Federal Reserve?" He was told 'zero.' He was also told what our press release was addressing," Davidson wrote.

Although the story's headline read, "Oxford Bank, Flagstar get federal bailout," the word "bailout" was never once used in the body of the story. However, the article's lead stated "federal authorities are stepping in to help" Oxford Bank.

Federal and state banking regulators were notified about the false news report by Davidson.

"If he causes a run on this bank, that's actually a federal felony offense to print lies about federally-insured financial institutions," he said.

"In today's world, it's very dangerous (to print misinformation) because it could cause depositors to worry" and in turn empty their accounts, Davidson explained. "All (of) the sudden our deposits take a big drop because people think we're in trouble. That's what they call a run on the bank when you have a huge deposit loss."

If there were a sudden run on the bank as a result of the *The Oakland Press*' inaccuracy, Davidson said the independent financial institution could handle it.

"We have tremendous liquidity sources," he explained. "In other words, we could lose \$60 million and it wouldn't close us."

Oxford Bank has applied to see if it's eligible for up to \$10 million of the \$700 billion in federal bailout money should it ever need any of those dollars.

However, the bank doesn't expect to hear anything until sometime in January because it's a non-public bank, which is not governed by U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission guidelines.



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| 1701 Baldwin Rd., Ste 100 Pontiac (Baldwin Rd. just N. of Walton Blvd.) 248-253-0521 | 10740 Dixie Hwy • Clarkston (Dixie Hwy. just N. of Holly Rd. in Dr. Kulick & Dr. Haduck's office) 248-620-5222 |
| 5625 Water Tower Place, Suite 101 • Clarkston (White Lake Rd. in the POH Emergency Bldg. in front of the water tower) 248-625-1215 | |

Milestones

Clarkston grads marry

Robin and D. Michael Erkfritz and Deborah and Robert Gay proudly announce the marriage of their children, Karyn and Justin.

They were married July 19 at Community Presbyterian Church in Waterford, with their reception following at Warwick Hills in Grand Blanc.

Both are graduates of Clarkston High School and University of Michigan, in 2004. Justin and Karyn Erkfritz-Gay currently reside in Omaha, Neb.

Karyn is completing her predoctoral internship in pediatric psychology at the Munroe-Meyer Institute.

Justin is a full-time student at the University of Nebraska in the Masters of Accounting Program.



Justin and Karyn Erkfritz-Gay

In our country's service...

Navy Seaman Recruit **Brenton L. Cliber**, son of Alecia J. Greilich of Davisburg and John A. Cliber of Flushing, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Cliber completed a variety of training which in-

cluded classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

Cliber is a 2007 graduate of Holly High School.

Students achieve success

Matthew Graczyk of Clarkston, son of Bob and Mimi Graczyk, earned an Honor Scholarship from Xavier University in Cincinnati.

He will graduate from Clarkston High

School, where he is active in tennis, drama, and Spanish club. A member of the National Honor Society, Matthew plans to major in pre-med at Xavier.

Got a Milestone to share?

We'd love to see them - births, engagements,
weddings, military, business, school achievements!

Drop them off at 5 S. Main St. or e-mail

Clarkstonnews@gmail.com

People Poll

December 31, 2008

New Year's resolutions?



"Stay out of trouble."
- Rawley Hallman



"Work hard."
- Chloe Coppersmith



"Stay healthy, and be kind to everybody I meet."
- Travis Smith



"Stop being mean to my brother, and do well in school."
- Jenny Zawadzki

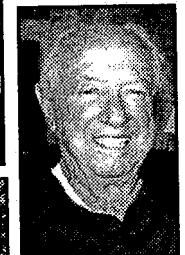
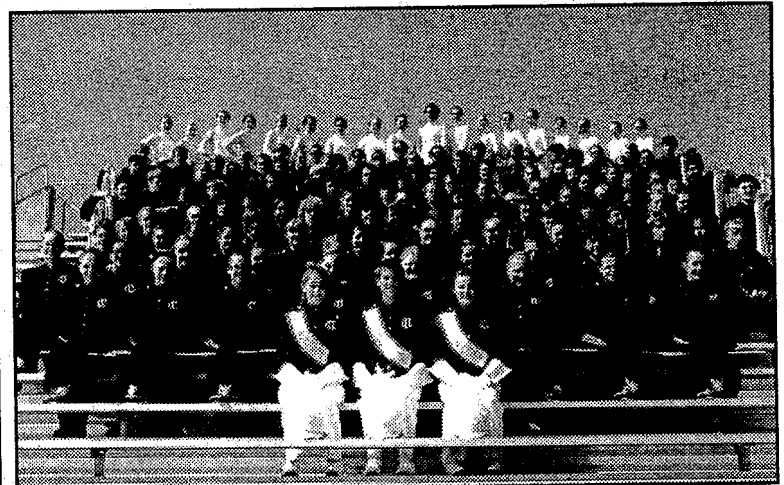
By Phil Custodio

The Clarkston News' Millstream

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

Smiling faces of Clarkston

Throughout the second half of 2008, our Millstream section featured Clarkston-area folks young and old, working to improve their community, some with a lifetime of service, others just starting out.



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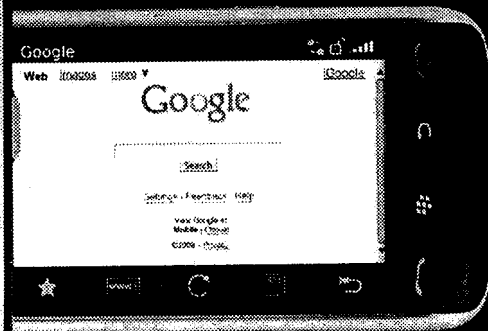
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2. From qualifying entries received, the baby with earliest birth date and time will be declared the winner.
3. An entry must include a written statement from the family doctor giving exact time, day, date and place of baby's birth. Include the baby's name, sex, weight, plus the parents' name, address and daytime phone number.



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Around Town

New Year's Eve Bash, 8 p.m.-4 a.m., Dec. 31. Appetizers, DJ, dancing, champagne toast, pizza at midnight. \$20. **Fountains New Year's Eve Party**, hors d'ouerves, 7:30 p.m.; prime rib, stuffed tipalia, or chicken spiedini dinner, 8:30 p.m.; champagne at midnight; pizza, live entertainment, \$150/couple, \$80/individuals. Fountains Golf and Banquet, 6060 Maybee Road. 248-625-3731.

Drums Alive-Golden Beats, Mondays, 5:30 p.m., starts Jan. 5, Continuing Education Center, 6558 Waldon Road. \$30/six weeks. Call Senior Center, 6000 Clarkston Road, 248-625-8231.

De-Stress Gentle Yoga, 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, starts Jan. 7, \$35/seven weeks, \$6/drop-in. Carriage House, Independence Township Senior Center, 6000 Clarkston Road, 248-625-8231.

Pickle Ball, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., beginning Jan. 6, First Congregational Church gym, 5449 Clarkston Road. \$3 drop-in fee. Call Independence Township Senior Center, 248-625-8231,

Detroit Symphony Orchestra Coffee Concert, Jan. 9. \$30 for concert, coffee, donuts, transportation. Call Independence Township Senior Center, 6000 Clarkston Road, at 248-625-8231.

Introduction to Tai Chi, Wednesdays, 11 a.m., starts Jan. 7. \$45/10 classes. Carriage House, Independence Township Senior Center, 6000 Clarkston Road, 248-625-8231.

Adult Basketball League, 18 and over, 12-5 p.m., Sundays, Clarkston Junior High, 6595 Middle Lake. \$450/resident team. \$550/non-resident team. Referee fees are an additional cost. Independence Township Parks and Recreation, 248-625-8223.

Pony Basketball League, for high school boys not on the school team, mid afternoons, Sundays, Clarkston Junior High, 6595 Middle Lake. \$200/resident team. \$300/non-resident team. at cost. Independence Township Parks and Recreation, 248-625-8223.

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

Clarkston Rotary Club, Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Deer Lake Athletic Club, 6167 White Lake Road. 248-625-4244.

Fountains charity poker, 5:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday. \$30 buy in. Fountains Golf and Banquet, 6060 Maybee Road. 248-625-3731.

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.

Community Singles, third Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Community Presbyterian Church fellowship hall, 4301 Monroe St., off Sashabaw, Waterford. All ages, men and women. 248-394-0412.

BNI, Clarkston Waterford chapter, Tuesdays, 7 a.m., Green Apple restaurant, Dixie Highway at Walton. 248-673-6007.

Belly Dancing, Tuesdays, 10-11:30 a.m., Bay Court Park. Independence Township Parks and Recreation, 248-625-8223.

Clarkston Area Optimist Club, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Wednesdays, Clarkston United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 6600 Waldon Road. 248-622-6096.

Meet and greet, North Oakland Bethany, last Wednesdays, 6 p.m., Mesquite Creek, 7228 N. Main St. 248-464-0756.

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

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.



Scouts donate bikes

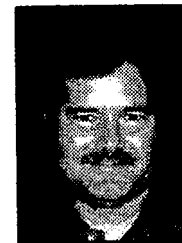
Bailey Lake Cub Scout Pack 341 presented donated bicycles to the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, Nov. 20. The bike collection was part of the Sheriff's ReCYCLE for Kids program. Donated bikes are cleaned and given to children in need. Photo provided

David R. 'D.R.' Tait

David R. "D.R." Tait of Waterford passed away suddenly, Dec. 23, 2008, at the age of 56.

He was the loving husband of Linda; beloved son of Frances and the late David Tait; step father of Danielle Giza; dear brother of Ronald Tait and Dorian Tait and his sons. Mr. Tait was employed with General Motors for more than 30 years as an engineer.

Memorial Mass was Dec. 29 at Our Lady



line
www.wintfuneralhome.com.

of the Lakes Catholic Church, Waterford. Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Arrangements entrusted to the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. On guestbook,

Juanita Lape

Juanita Lape of Clarkston passed away Dec. 25, 2008, at the age of 82.

She was the wife of Herb; mother of Larry (Bonnie) Henry of Ortonville; preceded in death by her son Donald Dunn; grandma of Steve Henry; sister of Eugene Sylcox of Florida; and stepmother of Darrel (Lenore) Lape, Denise Lape, Donald Lape, and David (Bonnie) Lape.

Mrs. Lape retired from Oakland County in



guest book, www.wintfuneralhome.com.

1980. Funeral service was Dec. 29 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment, Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to American Heart Association of Michigan. Online

Religion

New Year's resolutions, a closer look

A New Year begins, and along with it comes a new slate of resolutions. We have all experienced the unhappy moment when we realize we haven't lived up to the promises we made to ourselves at the beginning of the previous year.

So what do we do? We make new resolutions.

Why? Because it is in our God-given nature to want to be better, to improve and to progress. We are destined for greater things and we strive to this end. God gives us the tools of perseverance and patience to help us fight the good fight and improve ourselves over time.

The start of a new year is a perfect time to take a step back and decide, Where do I want to go with the life I have been given? What are my new resolutions?

A friend once told me that if you are looking for personal resolutions, start with your eulogy and work backwards. In other words, at the end of your life, what would you like to hear about yourself?

Is it...

She always knew the news about everyone. He always bought the best. She was an unbelievable shopper. He was devoted to his car. She was always busy. He was the highest scoring video game player.

Or is it...

Spiritual Matters



Father Daniel Pajerski

She was compassionate. He had the right priorities. She served her neighbor. He used his material resources for the good of others. She was humble. He was a good father. She cared more about people than things.

Jesus Christ tells us that where your treasure is, there is where your heart lies. The resolutions we make should help us achieve things that will help us get to heaven rather than simply help us achieve things here on earth.

There is nothing wrong with the traditional resolutions of weight loss, physical fitness, better organization and better budgeting. These resolutions can take us to new levels in our physical selves. But, maybe there is more.

This year, step back. Look beyond the repeat resolutions and old stand-bys. Determine what is keeping you from becoming the person that God wants you to be and build a resolution to get there. When failures occur, we can resolve to continue moving forward, rather than become discouraged and step back to the habits that take us away from our goals.

We are probably familiar with the story of creation in the Bible. After the fall of Adam and Eve, God asks them: "Where are you?" When we embark upon the task of setting new resolutions for ourselves we can take some time to ask the same question:

Where am I?

Father Daniel Pajerski, LC, is the director of formation at Everest in Independence Township.

In our churches...

Letters to God and Epiphany Celebration, 10 a.m., Jan. 4, Peace Unity, 8080 Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, biblically based, financial workshop for everyone, Sundays, 4 p.m., starting Jan. 25. Free previews, 12 p.m., Jan. 4, and 10:30 a.m., Jan. 11, Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. 248-625-1611.

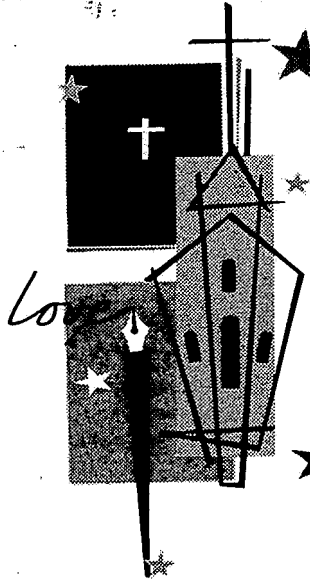
Prayer Partner Training, 10:30 a.m., second Sunday. Participants will receive a prayer syllabus. All welcome. Peace Unity, at Sashabaw Presbyterian, 5300 Maybee Road. 248-891-4365.

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.

Basic Yoga, with instructor Noreen Daly, 10 a.m., Wednesdays, Peace Unity. Drop ins welcome. \$7/class. 8080 Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

Wednesday Evening FEAST, dinner at 6 p.m., worship at 6:50 p.m., classes for all ages, 7:15-8:30 p.m. Free nursery. Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. 248-625-3288.

Rainbows meetings, Thursdays, 7-8 p.m., Cushing Center, St. Daniel Catholic Church, 7010 Valley Park Drive. Outreach program for children and adults dealing with change in their lives due to death, divorce or other significant loss. 248-625-1750.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH 8585 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI (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 <i>Nursery available for all services.</i></p> | <p>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</p> | <p>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</p> | <p>THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION 6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston Father Fred Engdahl Sunday 8 am & 10 am Holy Eucharist Sunday School 9:55 am Nursery Provided www.clarkstonepiscopal.org 248-625-2325</p> |
| <p>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.</p> | <p>CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston 248-625-1611 Website: clarkstonumc.org Sunday Worship: 9:00 & 11:15 am Sunday Connection Service: 6:00 pm Fellowship Time: 10:00 Nursery available for both services Children's Sunday School: 9:00 & 10:10 am & 11:15 pm Adult Sunday School: 10:10 am Sunday Youth Groups: Grades 6-7 5:00 pm Graades 8-9 & 10-12 7:00 pm</p> | <p>PEACE UNITY CHURCH 10 am Sunday Celebration Service Children's Church Realizing peace, wholeness and abundance in unity. A center for prayer, peace studies and healing. Spiritual Education, Community Outreach, Holistic Healing, "Green" Philosophy, Mastermind, Fellowship Rev. Matthew E. Long, founding minister 248-625-5192 Peace Unity Church 8080 Ortonville Rd. Clarkston, MI 48348 www.peaceunitychurch.org</p> | <p>CLARKSTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH 5482 Winell-Clarkston (corner of Maybee & Winell) 248-623-1224 Service 9:00 - 10:30 www.ClarkstonFMC.org Wednesday 7 pm Youth & Adult Ministry</p> |
| <p>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</p> | <p>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</p> | <p>SASHABAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH "Little Church with a BIG Heart" 5300 Maybee Road, Clarkston Worship 11:00 am Nursery Provided Phone (248) 673-3101</p> | <p>BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH 6765 Rattalee Lake Road Clarkston, 48348 (248) 625-1344 Services: Sunday 9:00am & 10:45am Morning Worship Service Exploration Station - Children's Ministry Wed. 6:45pm Fit For Life - Adult Life Ministry c.r.a.v.e.-Student Life Ministry Ozone - Children's Life Ministry Nurture Center/Wonderland available for all services A Church For Life www.bridgewoodchurch.com</p> |
| <p>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</p> | <p>DIVINE MERCY PARISH "A Mission Church" Mass celebrated at Davisburg Elementary School 12003 Davisburg Rd. Saturday at 5:00 pm Sunday at 10:00 am Celebrant: Msgr John Budde website: www.divinemercyparish.net</p> | <p>CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH 6300 Clarkston Road - Clarkston (248) 625-1323 Home of Oakland Christian School Pastors: Greg Henneman, Bonita Laudeman, Kevin Kuehne, 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</p> | <p>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</p> |

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Like New Colonial. Open and spacious 3175 sq. ft. model. Large family room that opens into a spacious kitchen w/ SS appls & hrdwd flooring. 2 way gas fireplace warms the study and family rm. Amazing master suite with high ceilings, whirlpool tub, and much more. GREAT PRICE! GREAT HOME! \$399,999 (98Arc)
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248.293.0000



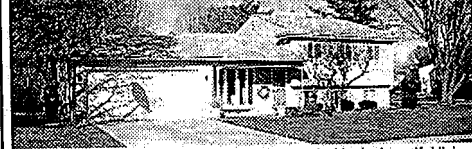
Move In Ready. Much better than a foreclosure. You'll find that this 3 bdrm Ranch, is clean, in good condition, and is located in a well maintained northern neighborhood. And the nice park across the street as a little lake. Open flr plan, central air, stove, fridge, washer, covered porch, shed and a fenced backyard. \$24,900
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Don't Miss This One. Stunning Colonial, completely upgraded, 4 bedrms, 2.5 baths, dining rm, library, breakfast rm and 1st floor laundry. Soaring ceilings, crown moldings, hardwood floors & the great room has a fireplace & wall of windows. Finished daylight basement, 3 car garage, 2 decks & great view of private backyard w/huge in-ground pool. \$250,000 (76Rid)
ORION TWP.
248.293.0000



It's The Location! Escape to your luxurious mstr suite w/dual walk-in closets and mstr bath. Extensive built-ins and the frpic in the fam rm. There's a second mstr w/bath and 3 add. bedrooms. LL has room for a study or exercise rm. Lg lot & Birmingham Schools. \$375,000 (54Pro)
BLOOMFIELD TWP.
248.293.0000



Come In-You'll Be Sold. Just one step inside the beautiful living room with the bay window and you'll know you're home. With 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, updated kitchen, well maintained and neutral thru-out. An amazing Sunroom with lots of windows. Fireplace in the family room, 2 car garage, all on a large lot. \$174,900 (36For)
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Beautiful Colonial with Rochester Schools. Beautiful, 4 bedroom, 3.1 bath colonial with three car garage and a finished walkout basement backing to the woods! ROCHESTER SCHOOLS. Custom features throughout. Most appliances and a One Year Warranty Included. Priced to sell!! \$370,000 (41Arc)
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Charming Character Of Northville. 101 Baseline, Northville. This lg family bungalow does have its charm. With 4 bedrms and 3 full baths. Walking distance to the town & park. Newer kitchen has cherry cabs, hrdwd flooring thru-out, leaded glass door cabs in the dining rm and two frpics. Pft, fin. bsmt, 2 car garage w/workshop, lg porch & paver patio. \$229,900 (108Bas)
NORTHVILLE
248.293.0000



Troy Ranch. Updated open floor plan, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Gourmet kit granite counters, maple cabinets. Pergo floors thru-out, library with French doors could be 4th bdrm. Finished basement w/family room. Newer 2.5 garage, drive and patio. Spotless and ready to move in to. \$157,900 (26Tra)
TROY
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Cul-De-Sac Location. This 4 bdrm colonial is ready for you to move in! Bright cherry kitchen. Beautiful family rm with a fireplace and overlooks the deck to the treed yard. Finished bsmt with another full bath and a bonus rm. A great place to call home. \$215,000 (39Hid)
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Calling All Investors. This home has an adult foster care program running in it & the owner is looking for someone to take ownership of the home. The program has a state lease & will continue to run at the house. Only the house is being sold. This is a ranch with 1800 sq ft & sits on 1.75 acres. \$285,000 (77Pra)
OAKLAND TWP.
248.293.0000



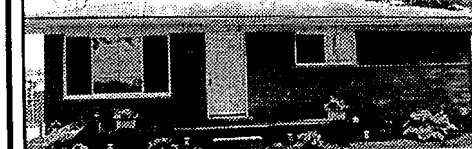
BERKLEY PRIDE Enjoy living in this updated 3 bedroom, 3 bath Bungalow with hardwood floors, newer roof & all kitchen appliances. Call for your private showing. \$159,500 (42Rob)
BERKLEY
248.293.0000



Just Some TLC. Cape Cod with 2 bedrooms & 2 baths, 1 up & 1 on the level, Living, dining and family rooms. Unfinished basement, porch, and 1 car garage, plus two other sheds. \$99,900 (21Roc)
ROCHESTER
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Nature Lover's Dream. Come & take a look at this outstanding private wooded acre lot. This 4 bdrm home has a kit w/newer glazed maple cabs & granite counters. The mstr bdrm has a walk in closet, bath w/garden tub & ceramic shower. A beautifully landscaped private yard is enhanced by a multi level deck. Finished walkout & much more. \$249,900 (11Wal)
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Brick Ranch - Completely Remodeled. 3 Br, beautifully updated with modern flair, part fin bsmt, hrdwd & ceramic floors thru-out. Newer kitchen, bath, windows, elect, plum, furnace, C/A, coil fans, glass block windows, six panel doors and much more. Fenced yard. \$134,900 (32Par)
MADISON HEIGHTS
248.293.0000



Welcoming Ranch. Nostalgic '50's built home with hardwood floors, spacious kitchen, over sized garage, semi-finished basement & newer mechanicals. Come and see, in Rochester Hills, just waiting for you. \$174,900 (65Ham)
ROCHESTER HILLS
248.293.0000



Macomb Twp. Find. Newer Brick Ranch with lofted ceilings, an open floor plan and impressive kitchen. Cherry cabinets, tile floor, and stainless appliances. This home is in move in condition. Call for your showing. \$198,900 (45Dan)
MACOMB TWP.
248.293.0000



Stately 1929 Tudor. Beautifully finished 5 bdrm home. Wet plaster w/decorative ceilings, wood flooring, original leaded glass windows in the living room & impressive oak trim. Updated electrical, semi fin. basement w/glass block windows & 1/2 bath. 2 car garage finished w/shelving & cabinets. \$137,000 (74Coo)
CENTERLINE
248.293.0000



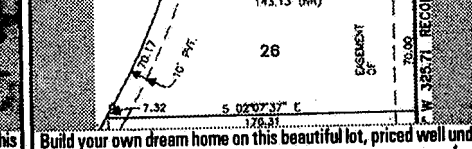
Fabulous Golf Luxury Home. 1521 Glass lake, Oxford. Elegant brick home with soaring great room and wall of windows overlooking pond. 4 bedrms, 2 1/2 baths, custom gourmet kitchen, dining rm and a study/ library. Vaulted mstr w/jacuzzi bath. 1st fl laundry, bsmt, 3 car side turn garage. Stoney Lake privilege. \$239,900 (156Gh)
OXFORD
248.293.0000



Treed Lots. Two lots for sale on Baldwin Rd. Side by side they equal 4 acres. Possible site for nursery school, day care or church. Call for survey. \$200,000/ea. (27Bal)
ORION TWP.
248.293.0000



Investors. Successful adult foster care program being run in this Ranch home wants to continue. Only selling the house & the company will continue to run the program. 1976 sq. ft. & sits on 1.88 acres. \$265,000 (89Gun)
OAKLAND TWP.
248.293.0000



Build your own dream home on this beautiful lot, priced well under the true value. It is an area of homes priced in the \$300,000 range, in Wingate Farm Sub, Macomb Twp. Give us a call for a copy of the survey. \$80,000 (21Ves)
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Norma G. Seybert (Ison)

Norma G. Seybert (Ison), of Belleville, formerly of Clarkston, passed away, Dec. 23, 2008, at the age of 62.

She was the wife of Ralph; mother of Alan (Debbie), Steve (April), and Brian; grandma of Chris, Melissa, Devanna, Sarah, Colton, Eric, Sydney, and Nicole; great grandma of Jordan, Braxton, Dayton, Savannah, Devon, Ethan, and Kaylynn; daughter of Devanna Ison; preceded in death by her father Carlos "Milton"; sister of James (Linda), Victor, Bill (Mary Lou), Ina (Bill) Robinson, Linda (Robert) Katanski, Bob (Marsha), and Mary (Jerry



King); and sister in law of Barb Lilleyman.

Norma was a master quilter and talented crafter.

Funeral service was Dec. 28 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston.

Memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for brain tumor research. Online guest book, www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Margie Del (Lyman) Benesh

Margie Del (Lyman) Benesh of Holly, formerly of the city of Rochester, passed away Dec. 20, 2008, at the age of 87.

She was the loving mother of Frank (Martha) Benesh of Jackson, N.H., Margie (James) Shaughnessy of Greenwich, Conn., and Amy (Tony) Allen of Holly; preceded in death by her children Sue Perpich Williams and Michael Benesh and her twin brother George F. Lyman; and grandmother of Frank Benesh, Kathryn Benesh, James, Robert, Anne and Caitlin Shaughnessy,



Amanda Allen, Melissa Allen, PFC Ryan Perpich, and Samuel Williams.

Visitation and services were Dec. 22 at Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Private interment, Roseland Park Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Randy L. Crandell

Randy L. Crandell of Farmington Hills, formerly of Clarkston, passed away Dec. 27, 2008, at the age of 46.

He was the father of Carmen and Jack, with their mother Kim Crandell; son of Ripley and Barbara; brother of Ripley II and Rodney (Cindy); uncle of Matthew and Elizabeth Crandell and Jeremy and

Janelle Edmunds; also survived by many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Funeral service was Dec. 30 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Any donations to the family will be used for Jack and Carmen's future college education. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Francis J. 'Frank' Guzek

Francis J. "Frank" Guzek of Clarkston passed away Dec. 19, 2008, at the age of 79.

He was the loving husband of Betty; father of Mike (Laurie) of Clarkston, Chris (Dan) LaBarge of Waterford, Tom (Ruth) of Goodrich, and Pat (Cheryl) of Clarkston; preceded in death by his first wife Elizabeth and his sons Stephen and David Guzek; step father of Cindy (Steve) Brackett of Illinois and Deborah (Steve) Scafaria of Kalamazoo; father-in-law of Dorothy Guzek and Deborah (Lloyd) Walker; also survived

by 17 grandchildren and four great grandchildren; and brother of Margaret Magnon of North Dakota.

Mr. Guzek was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Clarkston. He retired from General Motors.

Visitation was Dec. 22 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Funeral Mass was Dec. 23 at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church, Orion. Interment Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi. Memorials may be made to Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church.

Ethel Clyde McChesney

Ethel Clyde McChesney of Rochester Hills, formerly of Traverse City, passed away Dec. 21, 2008, at the age of 93.

She was preceded in death by her husband Henry "Hank." She was the mother of Shyr Vedder of Grand Rapids and David (Becky) McChesney of Clarkston; grandmother of three; great grandmother of five;

and sister of Marguerite (Cecil) Collins.

Funeral service was Dec. 27 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Private interment, Evergreen Cemetery, Alpena.

Memorials to Alzheimer's Association. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com

Obituaries updated at ClarkstonNews.com

In-Home Care For Seniors By Seniors

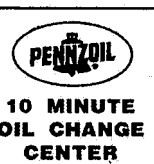
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\$279*
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\$232*
PURCHASE

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LEASE 36 Mos
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\$999 DUE
\$0 DOWN
72 Mos
\$188*
PURCHASE

SALE PRICE \$10,999**

2008 SEBRING SEDAN TOURING



2.4L DOHC 16V VVT 4-cylinder engine, 4-speed automatic transmission, AM/FM/CD/DVD/HDD/MP3/Satellite/"MyGIG" stereo, advanced multistage front and supplemental side air bags, anti-lock brakes, 17" aluminum wheels, power windows/locks/mirrors/trunk lid, too much to list!

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\$0 DOWN
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\$216*
PURCHASE

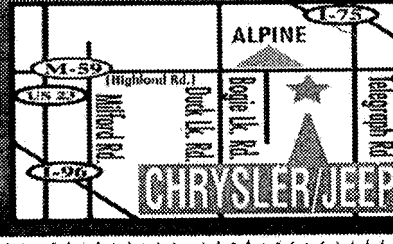
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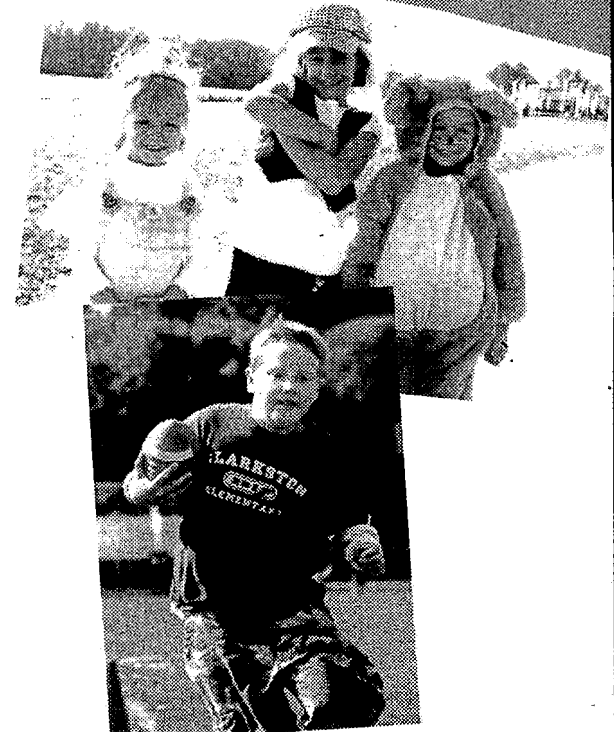


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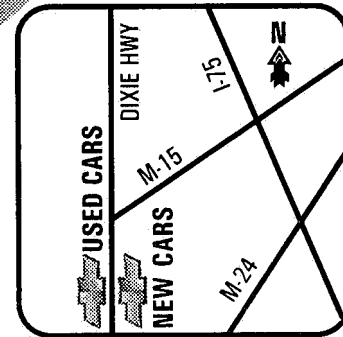
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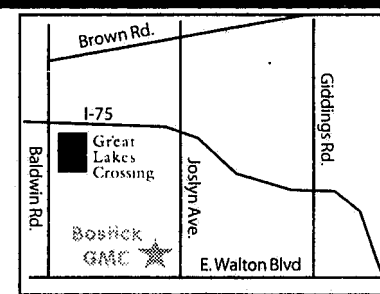
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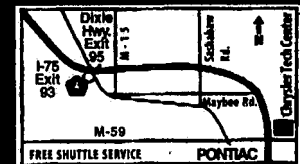
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