

● Letters to the Editor, pages 6A, 7A, 14A

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Township lays off four employees

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

At the end of the day Township officials are only saying "good bye" to four employees.

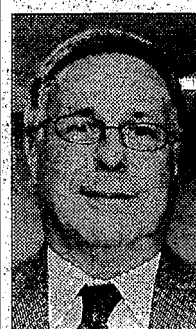
The board voted unanimously at the Feb. 16 regular board meeting to payout a gross of \$6,250.40 in accrual pay. The four positions included custodial staff, Department of Public Works laborer, parks laborer, and a Park's clerk.

However, local AFCSME President Craig Richardson to township board members stating he differed in the "reduction of workforce."

"Since July of last year the AFCSME Union has been depleted by seven employees," he said. "Three were other means other than layoffs."

One resigned, one was permanent disability, and one passed away. Richardson agreed that "technically yes four were laid off from the township," but of the other three positions he pointed out, two were never refilled and one of them was combined with another position in the township.

"That's been over a \$300,000 savings to the township in just wages, that's the discrepancy we're talking about," he said.



Wagner

"There is such a ripple effect when you do this because you're taking the people out of the workforce and putting them on unemployment."

"When you include in benefits and everything it's probably closer to \$350,000 to \$370,000."

Richardson also said he petitioned for the four employee's healthcare to be extended to the end of the month, which the board granted.

Supervisor Dave Wagner said the board had to make "some hard decisions when it came to personnel."

"It was obvious we did have to make some personnel cuts, no doubt about

that," he said. "I have voted against some other issues where we have made expenditures that I believe we shouldn't of and possibly could have saved one or two people."

Wagner said the board is currently looking at the 2011 budget trying to get a "feel of where they stand," so they don't have a further reduction in workforce.

"There is such a ripple effect when you do this because you're taking the people out of the workforce and putting them on unemployment. They don't have the money to spend anymore, so all the surrounding businesses suffer," he said. "You need to really take all of this into consideration and really look and see if you've done everything internally that you possibly can do before you reduce your workforce."

Richardson said it's been a hard time.

"This has been my worst month ever, working anywhere in my life, and definitely here at the township," he said. "It's tough to see fellow employees lose their jobs, others take pay cuts. It's a very unfortunate situation that has caught up with us here."

Human Resource Director Carol Gabris did not return call seeking comment.

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Briefly

Minute money saver

Trustee Mark Petterson suggested reducing official minutes of the Independence Township Board to the minimum amount required by statute, as well as placing DVD recording of meetings in with the minutes.

Petterson said it would save the township from having to pay a stenographer \$4,800 to do the minutes for Clerk Shelagh VanderVeen.

No motion was made because the majority of the board felt it was the clerk's department and if she was happy with it, then they should leave it as is.

Public comment changes

Independence Township board voted 5-2, Feb. 16, to allow members of the public to address the board on any subject during public-comment section.

Previous rules limited speakers to topics on the agenda.

Trustee Mark Petterson along with Supervisor Dave Wagner voted "no."

Organ concert

Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road, hosts the Orion Chamber Music Society in concert, 7 p.m., Saturday, March 13.

Katherine Nold will perform the Organ Symphony by Alexander Guilman on the church's three-manual, 48-rank Casavant/Lauck pipe organ. Nold is a student of Leslie Wills, principal organist at Clarkston United Methodist. In addition to the Guilman's symphony and other works, Leslie will play George Frederic Handel's Organ Concerto No. 13, "the Cuckoo and the Nightingale."

The music society includes musicians who are college students and adults who major/minor in music, who wish to have an outlet to perform some of these works.

Child care is provided, and a free will offering will be taken. For more information, call Leslie Wills at 248-625-1611, ext. 229.

Attention businesses

What are you doing to stimulate the local economy - *The Clarkston News* wants to know. Stop by at 5 S. Main Street, call 248-625-3370, or email Clarkstonnews@gmail.com.

Workers 'sign' up for budget meeting

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Staff Writer

More than 50 signs displayed different sayings but the same message - don't privatize bus drivers and custodians in Clarkston Community Schools.

"This is our first step in the effort to educate the community to the real value of the people who hold this district together," said Karl Bell, Uniserv director with Michigan Education Association.

As the district looked for ways to cut \$13 million, both services are on the chopping block - outsourcing transportation would cut \$300,000-\$600,000; custodial services, \$700,000-\$850,000.

But the focus for bus drivers and custodians isn't money, but students.

"From the time a kid first steps on a bus in the morning to when they get off that bus in the afternoon, they are in our charge. Whether it be a busdriver, a secretary, a teacher, a custodian - they are our charges," said Bell.

"They are there to serve them, protect them and provide them very best we can possibly give them in all phases of school and life. We think it is pretty important as to who those people are that perform those jobs."

The growing concern is shared throughout the community.

Independence Township Trustee Larry Rosso and former Clarkston Schools teacher shared privatization is a concern and should be used as a last resort.

"Whether it's professional staff or support staff, they have a rapport with the students and to bring in some outside people you have to think twice about that sort of thing," Rosso said. "There may be cost savings and I'm not privy to know that for certain, but I know children are secure with longstanding employees who have worked with kids and understand kids."

Pine Knob Elementary custodians Cindy Haggitt and Bob Trim know first hand the security they bring to students, beginning in kindergarten.

"If they are scared or lost and don't see their teacher they can come to us," Haggitt said.

At the end of the day Haggitt and Trim will walk them through the parking lot to their destination.

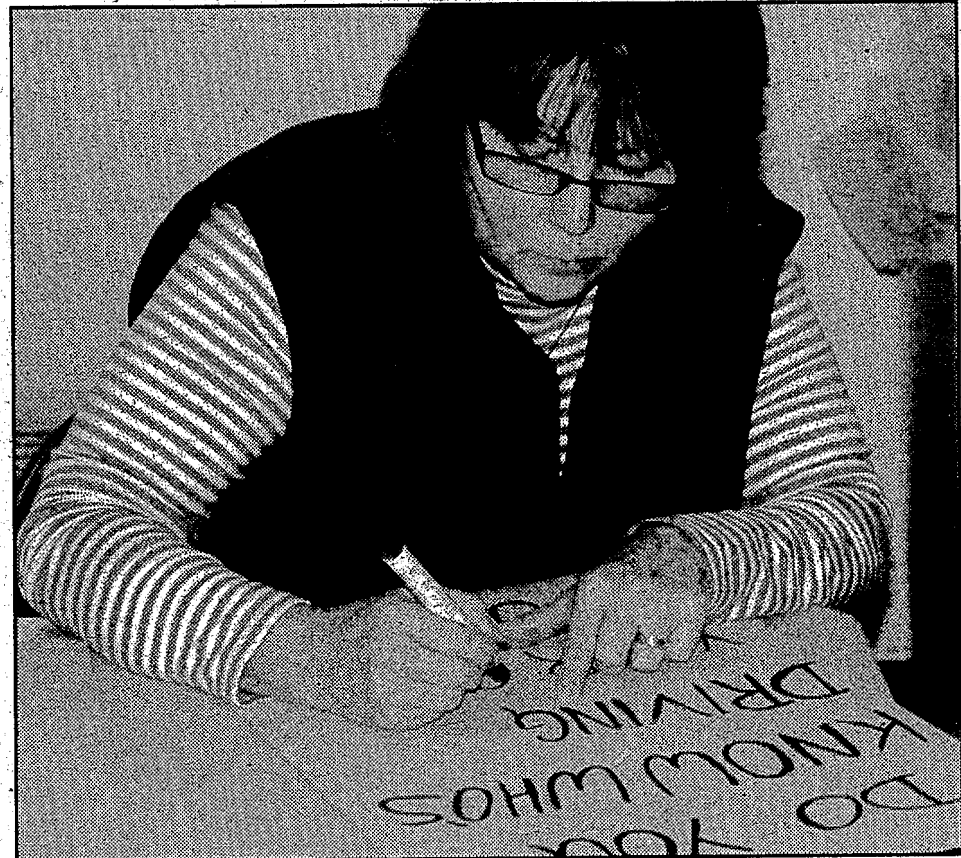
"Bob and I walk them so they don't get hit," she said. "They just see their parent's car and get tunnel vision."

They will also dress up for Halloween and listen as the students share with them what they want for Christmas.

"We have a good relationship with them," Haggitt continued. "I think if they get a private company, you don't have the same person every day. I don't think they will have a one-on-one with the public like we did."

Another concern is theft.

"The school district my wife works at



Sheila Hartley writes "Do you know who's driving your kids?" on a sign, in support of bus drivers. Photo by Wendi Reardon

outsourced their custodial services and it has been a nightmare for her," said Clarkston Junior High School teacher Bill Gunther.

"In my wife's district, they have kids that leave stuff and have new custodians every day. Things are missing or they find things and they don't know who they belong to. Here, the staff knows who it belongs to."

Clarkston bus drivers shared the same concern.

"The drivers change every day, routes change every other day. No one know anybody. Nobody knows where they are going," said Bell. "It's not just a warm body - it is a career. Most of them are citizens here, many went to school here."

They know parents' and guardians' vehicles, know bus stop routines and raise questions if something is out of the ordinary at the bus stop.

"We know times are tough but give us a chance," said driver Charlie Robinson.

The transportation department has supported the community through the annual Stuff-A-Bus, collecting toys, food and monetary donations for Lighthouse Emergency Service. They also have been part of Relay for Life.

Some parents shared a concern of what it could come next.

"Once busing and custodial is outsourced, is outsourcing teachers next," asked a mother of a Sashabaw Middle School student, who asked to remain anonymous.

Mark Petterson, a trustee with Independence Township, said privatizing could help solve school problems.

"The schools have no real incentive to save money because money is coming to them no matter what," Petterson said. "A private company has an incentive to save money because if they don't, they won't get paid."

Outsourcing transportation would cut 55 drivers, two mechanics, one supervisor, and two support staff in the district. Outsourcing custodial services would cut 42 custodians.

Both groups have support from the community, signing petitions. The community has also reached out on Facebook on group sites, "Save Clarkston Custodial Services" and "Save Clarkston Schools Transportation," each with more than 450 supporters.

"We are talking to the district now to help them save money to get through next year," said Bell. "We are doing our part like every other employee will."

The district uses the same Request for Proposal (RFP) process that is used for all other bids.

"We send out and publicize our RFP and then companies who can meet the stated requirements submit a proposal," said Anita Banach, director of communications. "Our own staff and unions have the right and ability to provide a bid as well."

Superintendent Dr. Albert Roberts was unavailable for comment.

Trevor Keiser contributed to this story.

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Spring is on its way

Independence Township Parks and Recreation is expanding its Clarkston Community Garden this spring, growing from 40 to 80 plots.

"The Share Garden program was experimental last summer and incredibly successful," said Kelly Hyer, recreation supervisor. "It is great for those who live in apartments or condos or for those who don't get much sun."

The share-garden program started last year, with 32 families renting 40 plots for cultivation. This year's garden is 80 plots, each 10-by-10 feet. Renters can grow whatever vegetables they want and keep the harvest.

Share gardeners also commit to 10 hours of volunteer service in the garden, to plant, weed, and harvest.

"Last year, nearly 10,000 pounds of food was harvested and donated to local food banks and about half of the volunteer hours came from our Share Gardeners," Hyer said.

Orientation is 6:30-8:30 p.m., Thursday, March 25 in the Independence Fire Department Training Room, 6500 Citation Drive. Park in the north parking lot of First Baptist Church.

Rentals are \$20. Call 248-625-8223.



Community gardeners are getting ready to plant. *File photo*

Fund-raiser to stop recall effort

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

With recall efforts underway, Independence Township Supervisor Dave Wagner decided to fight back.

"It seems like a lot of people get stoked up," Wagner said. "I start getting calls to my house, it's like enough is enough."

The Committee to Elect Dave Wagner will hosts a "Keep Independence Township Growing and Financially Stable, Stop the Recall Fund-raiser," March 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Deer Lake Athletic Club in Bullwinkle's Lounge, which will include hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

"It's just for people who are interested in coming and hearing what I have to say," Wagner said. "Focusing just a small part on the recall, but mainly on the things going on, positive things happening in the township, which are very few, but what strides we're trying to take to promote us and secure our future."

Wagner said information spread about him are "half truths and outright lies."

"This is the way I'm going to try and get it stopped," he said. "I don't want to devote all of my time to this."

Wagner already spent \$12,000 out of pocket and plans on probably spending another \$12,000-\$14,000 for a mailer.

He still believes the recall is linked to bringing in a township manager.

"It's got nothing to do with Dave Wag-

ner and what he's done, right or wrong," Wagner said. "They can say all they want that they're not affiliated, but everybody knows the truth on that."

However, recall group activists see it differently.

"It has always been about transparency and accountability in government," said Henry Wolson, recall group member. "Had the same action been taken by a hired employee, we would strongly recommend that hired employee be fired. The way you fire someone who is an elected official is through a recall."

Wolson also said he has not been told by anyone circulating petitions that their goal get a professional manager.

"He (Wagner) is trying to make this into something that the public has already said they're not in favor of," he said. "When is Mr. Wagner going to take responsibility for his actions?"

Wolson also knows of nobody who has taken it upon themselves to call Wagner.

"If it is true, I don't believe it is our organization."

As far as the "half-truths and outright lies," Wolson said they have documentation.

"We would encourage people to go to the website (www.recallwagner.com)," he said. "Where we have posted articles, documents, and board commentary and decisions to allow people to decide for themselves"

Team RUSH kicks off another season

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Team RUSH kicks off this year's FIRST Robotic challenge, "Breakaway."

"It's a robotic soccer game," said Patrick Riggs, team member.

The game is played on a 27-by-54-foot rectangular field. The field split evenly into three sections, divided by two bumps extending the width of field and two tunnels dissecting the field length wise.

Riggs noted they designed their robot to be able to roll over the bumps as well as fit through the tunnels.

Each team will have three robots, one in each section of the field. The object is to score goals using the robots by either kicking or rolling the ball into the goal. After a goal is scored, human players will place the balls on a track hanging above the field and the balls will drop near the tunnel.

Riggs said they did a simulation using people as robots at the beginning of the season to figure out what strategies would be best and how to play the game.

"We noticed a lot of the soccer balls got stuck in the middle section," he said. "We actually built the robot with that in mind so it can shoot over the bumps into the goal."

The first 15 seconds of the match is known as the "autonomous period," in which the robot must control itself and try and shoot balls into their goals. Jan Helgeson whose part of the programming team said they mapped out the field in an XY grid.

"It (the robot) takes the two points and then calculates the distance then calculates how fast it should go, and then it drives there," he said.

Helgeson said last year's game "lunacy" was complicated.

"This year what they tried to do almost in a sense dumb it down," he said. "You can walk up to the game and look over the field

and know what's going on and understand how the game is played."

Helgeson said he thinks it will make for a more "exciting game" and the matches will be closer.

"Since they've limited the way you can design your robot and how you're able to manipulate the ball, I think the game is going to depend a lot more on strategy," he said. "It's really going to be the strategy that separates the different teams."

As far as the non-robotic aspects of the game, the team focuses on "maintaining sustainability."

"Meaning it has constant flow of money and people," Riggs said. "We have a lot of our alumni come back as mentors. Actually 50 percent of our mentors are alumni."

With over 40 sponsors, he said if for some reason one sponsor can't make it they have more to "fill the gap."

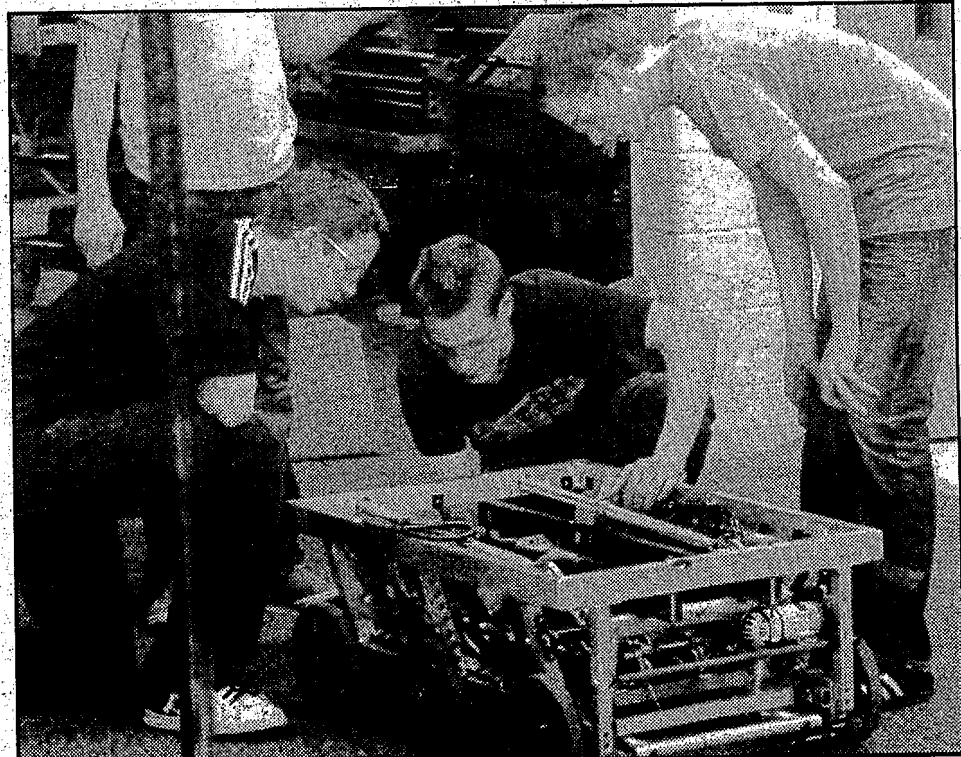
"Especially in the recession we've seen teams whose main sponsor is Chrysler, there is really tough straits because Chrysler can't really support them anymore and they're not sure what to do because Chrysler is their only sponsor."

There other goal as being a part of FIRST is to "change culture to value math, science and technology."

"You can ask anyone on this team they'll say 'it's been a great experience' and they think every person should be able to have this experience," he said.

Besides just building robots, Riggs said they get to integrate science and technology through other means such by using such programs as "Fathom, Illustrator, Photoshop, Digital story booking, and Inventor."

"It's not just answer these 100 multiple choice questions, it's go out, research what is new in technology, what is up and coming, what you're going to be working on when you get a job," he said. "It's really great to



Harry Smith, Jan Helgeson and Ben Helgeson work on the robot.

learn it this way. It really helps out, not only just understanding it, but finding the validity behind it."

CSM Tech teacher and mentor Kyle Hughes, said "this year we have the greatest group of kids who have worked together as a team."

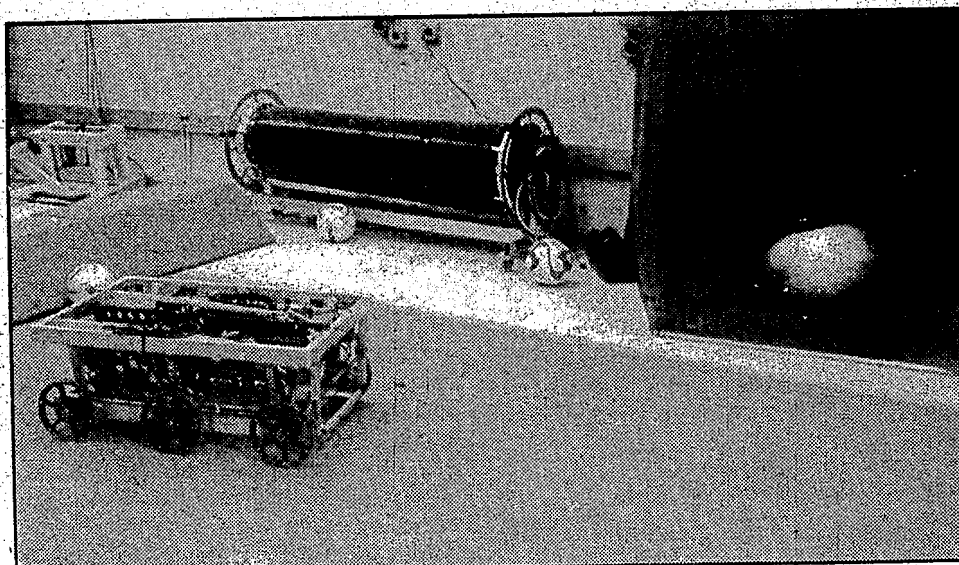
"We have tremendous leadership with our captains, the students all believe in the team and believe they're part of a team," she said. "With that momentum and synergy going

we have a tremendous outlook for this year."

The team will travel to Kettering University in Flint for their first competition on March 5-6. Hughes said she would love to see "the community gather around and support team Rush."

"Someday I would like to fill the stands with Clarkston people," she said.

For more information, visit www.teamrush27.net or e-mail Kyle Hughes at hugheskh1@clarkston.k12.mi.us.



Team Rush gets on a breakaway, shoots, and scores. Photos by Trevor Kelser.

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Keiser's Role

A column by Trevor Keiser

School blues

It's sad on what's going on with Clarkston Schools.

It's hard to believe some members of the school board shut their eyes and covered their ears so long and so hard they didn't know about troubles ahead.

Now that they've opened their eyes they're absolutely "shocked" by everything going on, meanwhile schools around us have prepared, making choices to ensure stability.

Over the past three years, I've walked through many of the halls in Clarkston schools, talked with many teachers, and students. I get excited when I see a student excited about learning math, science, and technology; because he and his classmates can build a robot with their knowledge; or when a kindergartener proudly shows off her "in the lines" coloring.

School administrators / boardmembers remind me of other governing bodies nearby. It seems they forgot why they were elected or hired. It's about inspiring young minds and preparing them to be the next engineer, teacher, astronaut, journalist, or even president.

Instead they're taught teachers can be replaced, classroom sizes can increase, programs which enhance their learning ability can be cut and while others that make administrators' lives easier, are added.

I have been told of the corruption in the system, where the focus is no longer on enriching young lives, but safeguarding checkbooks and jobs.

In the past we have asked the district to open up, be transparent -- show us their check book. We have offered a half page a week worth of space in the *Clarkston News/Penny Stretcher* for free, so the district could use to keep residents informed, and thereby actively involved in the district. The answers we have received, only keep us all in the dark.

I think, they think we can't handle the truth. Maybe they're just trying to hide something. We'll never know.

I would also like to thank school boardmembers who have openly asked questions and sought information not readily available to them (or us) in order to gain knowledge. Their efforts, and theirs' alone help ensure a better future.



The Clarkston News Viewpoints

Hold Al Roberts accountable

Dear Editor,

I have been following your articles about the school budget crisis in Clarkston, and I am truly appalled at the way the administration has mismanaged funds to get us to this point.

I saw a listing of the programs and potential staffing changes that are under consideration for the chopping block. What I did not see where things like across-the-board salary reductions, benefit reductions, pension changes, etc. In other words, nothing that addresses the root cause of the budget crisis.

I cannot understand why these things are not under consideration. Our school administrators seem to believe they and all school employees are entitled to raises every year and benefit packages that far surpass the rest of the private sector even though they continue to run up a significant budget deficit.

Somewhere along the way, they have forgotten that they work for us—the tax payer—and I think most of us are sick and tired of this entitlement mentality and do not want to continue funding salary and benefit levels that are just not sustainable.

I am also curious about accountability regarding this budget issue. It doesn't seem that anyone is being held responsible for the

mismanagement of funds. Instead, one bad decision after another has been made; and we just have to live with the results. I cannot accept this.

Ultimately, I believe Al Roberts should be held accountable and should probably lose his job. If he is not capable of creating and maintaining a good budget, he shouldn't be in that position to begin with.

I am hoping the school board members will review all the options and give careful consideration to the decisions they make. They really need to look long term and not make decisions just to get us through the next year.

If too many cuts are made in staffing levels and programs, it may cause irreparable damage to the district. It just seems to me that dealing with the root cause of the problem will bring about the best results and not force the district to lay off a large number of employees.

A very concerned, 23-year Clarkston resident with two children in the district

More letters concerning the school district appear throughout Section A

Letters to the editor

Thanks for your good intentions

Dear Editor,

THANK YOU to Jim Sherman Sr. for finally seeing the mural project as many of us village residents do! For those who live so close, it is a sad piece of art to look at every day. Not a pleasant, warm, community reflecting mural. I love art and this is not good art. My kids still often ask when the "scary trees and fire sky" will go away. They too will be thrilled to see it disappear.

I want to thank you for your generosity and intentions to beautify our little town. I have seen many amazing murals that enhance the town. Unfortunately, ours did not. You don't need to apologize to the community for trying to do a good deed and for giving someone a second and third chance. Many of us

would not have given her that.

I think she should do the right thing and give you the money back that you paid her for a job never completed and her inability to be honest with you and to admit that she was incapable of the completion in so many ways, besides all of the grief that you had to endure while you were backing her up.

Many of us can now renew our subscriptions with the paper that we previously cancelled because we no longer wanted to support the mural or the maker.

Thanks again for seeing the light and for putting some beauty back into our town!

Sincerely,

*Kim Berry
Clarkston*

Write a Letter to the Editor!

Drop them off or mail them to 5 S. Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346; fax them at 248-625-0706; or e-mail Clarkstonnews@gmail.com. Any questions call *The Clarkston News* at 248-625-3370.

A Look Back

From *The CNews* archives

15 years ago - 1995

"Going for country music's 'brass ring'" Scott Davis of Clarkston debuted his new country music band, performing at Cactus Jack's Country Dance Hall in New Baltimore. He played guitar, sang, and wrote his own music.

"Racer urges academy to 'take it to the limit'" Students in the brand new Oakland Science Math and Technology Academy at Oakland Technical Center—Northwest heard from Andris Sansom, on the University of Michigan solar car racing team.

"City water vote fails" Clarkston voters defeated a proposed \$2.2 million community water system. If passed, it would have meant water from Independence Township's community well system.

25 years ago - 1985

"Toma: 'Be proud to be straight'" Substance abuse advocate David Toma presented a two-and-a-half hour lecture to Clarkston High School students on the dangers of drugs. The inspiration for the TV series "Baretta," Toma talked about his life as a New Jersey drug-enforcement police officer.

"Artist captures nature in pastels" Armed with a camera and an eye for detail, Independence Township artist Donella Reese Vogel searched her environment for nature's best scenes, capturing them on film, then recreating them in pastel drawings. Flowers and nature were her specialties.

"Future problem solvers win state recognition" Clarkston Junior High students Rachel Young, Mike Kolody, and Kristin Gilbert won state awards with their stories anticipating what the world would be like in the future year of 2005.

50 years ago - 1960

"Interesting program for local youth" First Methodist Church hosted a youth discussion about "How Much Affection" on a date, with 72 teens attending. They watched a film and performed skits dealing with social problems they face when dating.

"Women's Club hears MSU-O dean" Roy Alexander, dean of Michigan State University Oakland discussed with Clarkston Community Women's Club the history of the branch college, its development and plans for the future.

"Clarkston locals" Mr. John Bell, along with his children, Zack and Hilary, spent a five-day vacation in St. Petersburg, Fla., with the children's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dawson.

Budget plus cuts equals concern

Dear Editor,

I attended the CCS Board meeting on Feb. 22. I am very concerned about proposed budget cuts and the impacts they will have on children in the district.

My husband and I moved to Clarkston from Waterford in 1999 primarily because of the superb reputation and exceptionally high MEAP scores within the district. Our two oldest children attend Springfield Plains Elementary and our youngest was scheduled to start all-day kindergarten in the fall. With the proposed increased student to teacher ratio of 27:1 at the elementary level, we are unsure if we will continue to have our children attend the Clarkston public schools!

The general public consensus voiced during the public forum on Monday advised the Board of Education to not eliminate school specials from the curriculum. Although I am not in favor in eliminating art, music, information literacy and/or physical education from the curriculum, I would prefer to reduce the amount of time children spend in these classes so that the teacher to student ratio could remain at 25:1.

Starting in 2000, private sector companies forced their employees to

take double-digit pay cuts. The Clarkston School District needs to implement a double-digit pay cut for all administrative staff and when the Michigan economy returns to better times, the cuts could be gradually reinstated.

A proposed cut is to outsource custodial and transportation services, both on the lowest end of pay in the district. How can Board members in good conscience ask custodians and bus drivers to take a pay cut, yet year after year administrative staff continues to receive pay raises and other perks?

A "gray" proposed budget cut is to reduce hours for food service. Last week I interviewed several food service members at Springfield Plains Elementary. I was told several spend additional time on the job without compensation to prepare and serve the food to students. Does a reduction mean microwaveable meals for students?

The body language of several of the board members, including Barry Bomier, Cheryl McGinnis, and Susan Boatman indicated to me they would prefer to be elsewhere rather than at the meeting. In addition, I was surprised to find out that only two board members, Rosalie Lieblang and Joan

Patterson, have children in the Clarkston School District. This will provide the information I need next time I vote. It is detrimental to the district to have 5/7 of the school board with NO children actually attending school in the district.

Linda Nester and David Reschke retired from the school district last year but are still working as contract staff members. Not only are they collecting pensions, but also about \$100,000 in salary! I find this ludicrous given the financial state of the school district. In today's Michigan economy with unemployment in double digits, there are definitely qualified people who could be hired to replace both Linda and Dave for significantly less.

Clarkston School District must curb spending of taxpayer dollars and balance the budget not only for 2010-2011 but for the significant future. The best way is to start at the top with administrative salaries and benefits. Without changes now, budgetary cuts may be an annual ritual, like the prom, in the Clarkston School District.

Sincerely,

Theresa A. Adriaens, PMP
theresaadriaens@aaim.com
Davisburg

Parent groups urge preservation

Dear Editor,

The Clarkston PTA Council, representing approximately 8,000 families in Clarkston Community Schools, urges the Board of Education to preserve the people, programs and tools that contribute to the distinctiveness of the educational experience found here.

So many of the items under consideration – if cut – will diminish our competitive advantage as a district. What incentive will families from other districts have to enroll their children in our schools – in fact, what incentive will families who live here have to keep their children enrolled in our schools – without a comprehensive experience that includes exposure to music, art, physical education and technology?

These are not luxuries in today's society, they are standards. They are the building blocks of a well-rounded, educated citizen who is prepared to succeed in life.

So many of these kinds of 'reputation-defining' programs, including full-day kindergarten, the trimester system and International Baccalaureate program, have recently been implemented after much research, thought and planning. Are they so easily disposable? It would be as if PTA eliminated its lobbying efforts and cancelled its national Reflections art program. It simply wouldn't be the same organization.

Even in the worst of times, the best organizations stay true to their brand. Please stay true to the Clarkston brand as you deliberate these tough budgetary decisions in the coming weeks.

Much of our current budget crisis stems from the state's unstable funding system that leaves administrators guessing when putting together the balanced budget decreed by law.

To better understand how Michigan funds education through Pro-

posal A and what needs to be done to fix the system, the Clarkston High School Parent Teacher Student Association is holding a public forum called "Understanding School Funding," Thursday, March 11, at 7 p.m. in the high school performing arts center.

The two speakers, Hon. Lynn Jondahl, the creator of Proposal A, and Dr. Charles Ballard, professor of economics at MSU, are among the most knowledgeable on state education funding. Our entire community has a vested interest in the health and success of our schools. Please join us on March 11.

Sincerely,

Ruth Dargay, Pine Knob PTA president; Elizabeth Egan, PTA Council president; CHS PTSA president; Kelly Horst, Springfield Plains PTA president; Andrea Schroeder, PTA Council secretary; Kim Trombley, PTA Council vice president

It wasn't my fault, your honor

Miss me? Well, not as much as I missed you.

I've been looking for someone else to blame for my absence. That's just the way I am. Blame someone or something else.

I've narrowed it down to the anticipation of the Groundhog's appearance Feb. 2. Just before that, I was struck with a session of chills and fever, which led to five days in Crittenton Hospital.

This hospital, like others, could bill itself as being a great weight reduction clinic. Twenty-three pounds, in my case.

There followed several days of feeling sorry for myself, dependence on our three children for sympathy (a loser) and a total loss of, or need, or interest in the television, newspapers or radio.

"Leave me alone!" And, above all, no phone calls after 8 p.m.

Slowly the antibiotics took effect. Some food sounded pretty good, but it took a couple weeks before my taste buds yearned for a bacon/tomato sandwich.

I know you have all been through such suffering, most of you endured it more easily. But I'm a guy, and as such, more sympathy is expected.

With some forced walking, time passed and I realized He wasn't ready for me, yet.

So here I am back at the computer, searching for words of thanks to all who remembered me, and to make an effort to bring smiles to the reader.

--- 0 ---

I have a collection of notes, mostly meaningless, like this one. Did you know, the paper grocery bag was invented by Charles Stilwell of Philadelphia in 1884? He also devised a way to mass produce it.

Now then, if you've lived in the Oxford, Michigan area sometime during the past 80 years, please do not relate, confuse or connect to the local Charles Stilwell with the inventor.

--- 0 ---

Those who get too big for their breeches will be exposed in the end.

• I installed a skylight in my apartment... the people who live above me are furious.

• A friend got some vinegar in his ear. He now suffers from pickled hearing.

• World Book Encyclopedia has inadvertently suggested a way to decrease the number of women drivers.

They say the invention of the electric self-starter put the woman driver on the road. The old hand-crank was a major obstacle in their driving.

• The first president to ride in a car was William McKinley. He

was taken to a hospital in an electric ambulance after being shot by an assassin in 1901.

• A Cadillac was driven up the steps of the Capitol building in Washington D. C., in 1905, to prove the car's power.

• The average car lasted 6.5 years in 1925. The 1935 traveled car 25,270 miles before it was scrapped. The average car in 1960 traveled 110,000 miles.

--- 0 ---

Some weeks ago, I mistakenly wrote what a gentleman football player Billy Sims was for the old Detroit Lions. I said he, after scoring a touchdown, would hand the ball to the referee and trot off the field.

It really was Barry Sanders, not Sims. That error was brought to my attention, loudly and forcibly by "Cash" Salswedel, and it's the only time in our 40 years of friendship I know of his being right.

--- 0 ---

The Wizard of Oz will be 81-years-old this year (released Sept. 25, 1939). Today, if Dorothy were to encounter people with No Brains, No Heart and No Courage, she wouldn't be in Oz, she would actually be in the halls of Congress.

Jim's Jottings



a column by Jim Sherman

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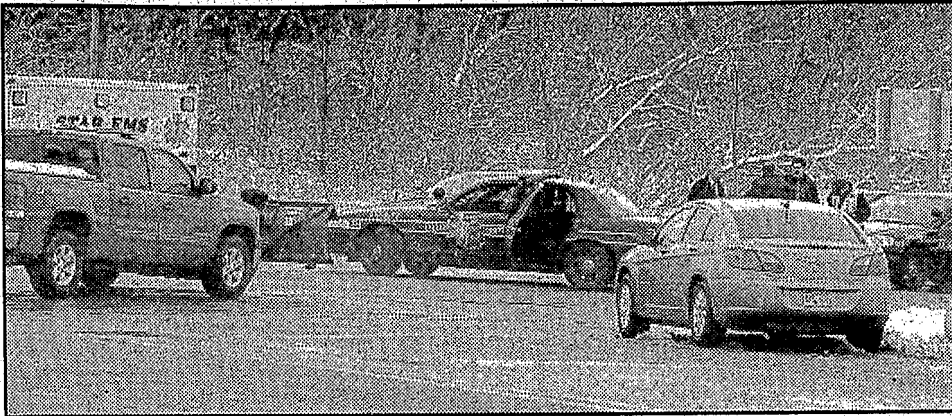
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Independence Township firefighters and Independence Township substation deputies shut down Dixie Highway in both directions at Foster Road for about two hours, 1 p.m., Feb. 23, because of electrical pole and wires across the road. No injuries were reported.

Public Safety

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

Nothing for sale

An Ellis Road resident out for exercise was stopped by a white man, about 55 years old, reddish gray hair, decayed teeth, yellow stained fingers, pockmarked face, with an older white truck, open bed with propane tank in it, 1:13 p.m., Feb. 25. The man asked her about a neighbor selling a vehicle, and she said she didn't think they did. He asked if she had any old vehicles or anything to sell at her house, and she said no. She later asked the neighbor, and he said he wasn't selling a vehicle.

Theft from car

A Fox Creek apartments resident said someone stole sports equipment, jewelry, and other items from her car, Feb. 25. The vehicle was undamaged.

Stealing cigarettes

Security video at an Ortonville Road service station showed a break-in, 4:50 a.m., Feb. 23. On the video, a silver car pulls up, a thin African American man wearing a stocking cap, dark jacket with small emblem on back, dark sweat pants with wide light-colored stripe down each leg, exited and took several runs at the door before it broke. He grabbed several packs of cigarettes and left.

Horses on the loose

Neighbors reported two horses walking around their yard, 5:51 p.m., Feb. 23, in the 10000 block of Reese Road. They put them in their backyard corral while a deputy followed their tracks to their barn, which had a broken electric fence. One of the horses tried to escape and injured her leg. The barn's owner, who boards the horses, offered to pay the vet's bill to stick up the leg.

Rock thrower

Someone threw a football-size rock through the glass door of a restaurant in the 6000 block of Sashabaw Road, Feb. 20. Nothing appeared to be taken.

Loaded driver and gun

A deputy pulled over a 31-year-old Independence Township driver for running a red light, 5:19 a.m., Feb. 18, at Sashabaw and Baypoint Boulevard. The driver said he had a concealed-carry permit, loaded pistol in the glove box, and three drinks. Testing .05 blood-alcohol level, he was below drunk-driving, but above the .02 limit for carrying a gun. He was cited for running a red light, failure to change address on his driver's license, no proof of insurance, and carrying a gun over .02. The pistol was confiscated and report sent to county gun board and prosecutor.

Stolen sign recovered

A Independence Township 16-year-old boy bragged about stealing a street sign, leading police to investigate. They checked with his mother in the 5000 block of Mary Sue Avenue, 9:25 p.m., Feb. 18, and she found the sign in the basement and returned it. The homeowner's association said if they were reimbursed, they wouldn't press charges.

K-9s in action

Clarkston police and sheriff K-9 units searched a Surrey Lane apartment complex for a peeping tom, 8 p.m., Feb. 26. The suspect was tracked into a parking lot, where he apparently got in a vehicle and left.

K-9 tracked a suspected thief through along Timber Ridge Trail, 8 a.m., Feb. 27. They followed the suspect, who attempted to enter several vehicles, through the subdivision, but it appeared he escaped in a car.

Sciatica? Herniated Discs?

Having back and leg pain can bring life to a standstill.

You might not be able to play golf, work, or even sit in the car for a 30-minute drive. It's almost impossible for anyone around you to understand how you feel. You can't remember the last time you even had a restful night's sleep.

When cushions in your back joints, called discs, get injured or wear out, they begin to degenerate and cause pain. Bulging and herniations begin to form, pressing on the nerve roots.

The most common invasive treatment for disc herniations is surgery. Even with health insurance the patient is left with their own portion of the bill, in excess of \$10,000-\$15,000, and sometimes more.

In addition, the recovery time and missed work can be anywhere from 3 to 6 months, not to mention the obvious severe risks associated with all surgeries.

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Sincerely,
Dr. Frank Iulianelli, D.C., FKCS.

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Heading to states are Zac Roberson, Matt Vandermeer, Evan King and Matt Deitz. Not pictured Jeff Sloney. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Grapplers set sights on championship

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

The music from the MHSAA Wrestling Individual Finals Grand March keeps five Clarkston athletes focused.

Seniors Matt Deitz, Evan King, Zac Roberson and juniors Jeff Sloney and Matt Vandermeer are using their time to get ready for the finals this week.

"I am excited," said Vandermeer about his first time competing in the finals.

He missed out on going last year with the four returning wrestlers due to an injury. But he is looking forward to seeing other grapplers he was pitted against during the last year.

"I like seeing them again," he said. "I know their strengths. I know their weaknesses. I know what I have to do to beat them."

Deitz agreed.

"I can plan for the match and create a strategy going in there," he added. "Instead of going in there not knowing what to do."

King admitted he was nervous because he didn't place last year but one of his strengths is positive thinking.

"I have a tough bracket," he said. "But all of the guys I wrestled at regionals I lost by a few points. So I am at the same level as everybody else."

Roberson said what will help him is the experiences he had at the state finals last

year.

"It's not as nerve-wrecking," he noted. "You know what to expect (in the environment.)"

While most of his teammates are using the advantage of knowing their opponents' weaknesses, Roberson is focused on the body in front of him and the goal he has set.

The battles are this Thursday to Saturday at The Palace of Auburn Hills. The Grand March is at 2:15 p.m. and the first round starts at 2:45 p.m. Roberson is first on the mat for Clarkston, fighting for the championship in the 112-weight class against Mark Gonzales from Bay City Central.

For their first rounds, Sloney (125) against Detroit Catholic Central's Charlie Joseph, Deitz (140) against Monroe's Denver McLaughlin, King (160) against Dearborn's Dino Berri, and Vandermeer (171) against Lowell's Ryan Olep.

"I am excited," said Deitz. "I put four years into high school wrestling and it is all boiling down to this week."

Tickets are \$45 reserved for all sessions. Single-session reserved seat tickets are \$10 each and general admission seats are \$9 per session. Ticket prices include parking.

Tickets can be purchased at The Palace Box Office, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., 248-377-0100.

Check the Wolfpack Update at www.ClarkstonNews.com for the latest.

Wolves prepare to close regular season

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Cagers took down two opponents last week as they get ready to go into district playoffs.

They began with Rochester Adams on Feb. 23, beating them 60-35.

"It was a good win for us after we struggled against Southfield (on Feb. 19)," said Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach Dan Fife. "We need a win and got just what the doctor ordered for us."

Not only did the game give the boys an opportunity to come back from the loss - but they were able to see what their first opponents in the district playoffs had to offer.

"They will want revenge," said Matt Kamieniecki. "We will expect their best game and we will just have to step it up."

Nick Tatu sank a 3-pointer on a pass from Tyler Scarlett to put the boys in control of the board and the game.

Highlander Andrew Hammett tied the score with his own field goal. Kamieniecki quickly reacted putting two points on the board.

Hammett tied the score again at 7-7. It would be the last time Rochester Adams would be close in score as Marcus Hardy and Scarlett created a four point gap ending the first quarter.

The Wolves led 29-19 going into half-time and outscored them 31-16 in the last 16 minutes of the game.

utes of the game.

"We made shots when we needed to make shots," said Fife. "We bothered them a little bit with our height. They are a pretty good team. They were 13-3 before the game, it's not like they just lost three games and not be good."

"We wanted to come out and get a good win," explained Kamieniecki. "We played hard."

Kamieniecki led with 18 points and Scarlett scored 13 points during the game.

The boys followed it up with a win over North Farmington on Friday, 57-51.

Kamieniecki led, putting 25 points on the board. Nick Tatu added 14 points, scoring four 3-point shots.

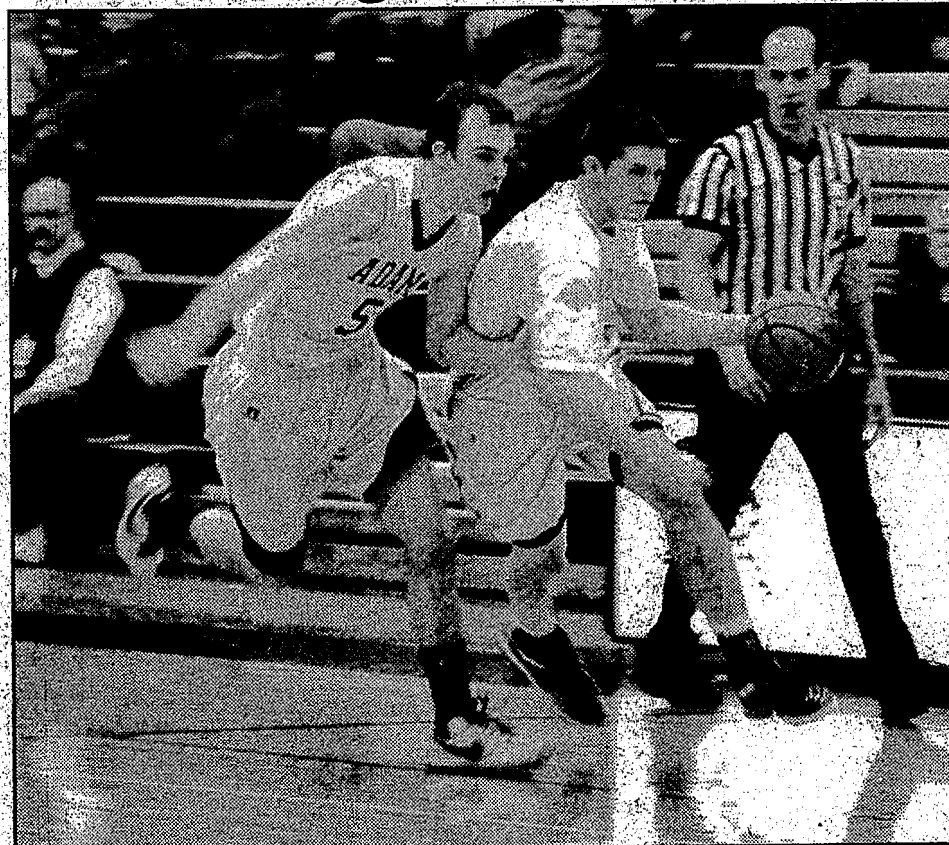
The wins brought the boys overall record up to 13-5 and 8-4 in the OAA Red.

Clarkston played Avondale on Tuesday and host Southfield-Lathrup on Friday.

Join the Wolves for their last home game of the regular season, beginning with the JV team at 5:30 p.m.

The boys host the district playoffs and are set to play Adams at 7 p.m. Monday.

"They will be a much different team and it will be a different environment," said Fife. "Everyone is 0-0 then. They are well-coached and have hard workers. They are character kids."



Matt Kamieniecki works on outrunning Rochester Adams' Brad Nylen on his way to the basket. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Athletes of the Week

Opponents left treading water

It was an Oakland Athletic Association waiting to be broken since 1995.

The Clarkston relay team of Steven Nelson, Zachary Rabideau, Kenny Stelpflug and Michael Inch knew it was up to them to be the ones to break the 200 yard medley relay record of 1:40.91.

They finished in 1:40.51 - setting a new record during the OAA White meet on Thursday at their pool.

The Wolves finished with 354 points to win the league championship.

"Every swimmer swam their best performance," said Coach Kenwyn Chock.

"All season I asked them to 'bring it' and they did. They earned the OAA Champions title."

Clarkston also took over the top spot for another relay event. Nelson, Stelpflug and Inch were joined by Eric Misteravich as they won the 400 yard freestyle relay in 3:21.36.

Jordan Zendejas placed first in the one meter diving event with 469.45 points.

Stelpflug also placed first in the 200 yard

IM with 1:57.74; second in the 100 yard breaststroke, 1:02.35

Inch first in the 500 yard freestyle event, finishing in 4:54.03. His brother, Kyle finished in sixth place in the same event, with the time 5:12.75.

Michael also finished third in 200 yard freestyle, 1:50.46.

Zachary Rabideau third in 50 yard freestyle, 22.76; fourth in 100 yard butterfly, 56.16.

Steven Nelson placed first in the 100 yard backstroke at 54.88; third in 100 yard freestyle, 50.02.

The 200 freestyle relay team of Rabideau, Misteravich, Aaron Jones and Kramer Kamp took sixth place, 1:34.74.

Rochester Adams took second with 330.5 points. Farmington Hills-Harrison, in third with 288 points. West Bloomfield was in fourth with 282 points, and North Farmington and Avondale tied for fifth.

-Sports Writer Wendi Reardon



Seniors Michael Inch, Ben Hunter and Charles Owczarzak hold up the OAA trophy. Photo by Tamara Inch

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Delaney Kenny sets up a block on Lake Orion. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Defense strong as girls end season

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Lady Cagers began their busy and final week with a visit to Pontiac and beat them 53-45.

"It was a great game," said Tim Wasilk, head coach. "The girls followed the game plan. We had a lot of girls stand out."

"They put in a very good effort. It was nice to see."

Kaleigh and Delaney Kenny both scored 16 points and Lindsey Reppuhn had 12 points during the game.

They came home Friday to celebrate their supporting parents and seniors in the last home game as they hosted rivals Lake Orion.

Two free throw shots from Anna Manilla and a basket from Delaney put the girls into the lead.

The Lady Dragons struck back capturing the lead on a 3-pointer and held onto the lead. Clarkston went into the second half trailing 10-12.

Megan Hastings tied the score at the top of the third quarter and the girls held on control as they kept Lake Orion scoreless until

the last two minutes in the quarter.

The defense lead they had did not continue into the final quarter and they lost the game, 28-17.

"We had a great defensive game tonight," said Wasilk. "We held Lake Orion to 28 points and we battled. We didn't give up."

Reppuhn was the leading scorer with six points.

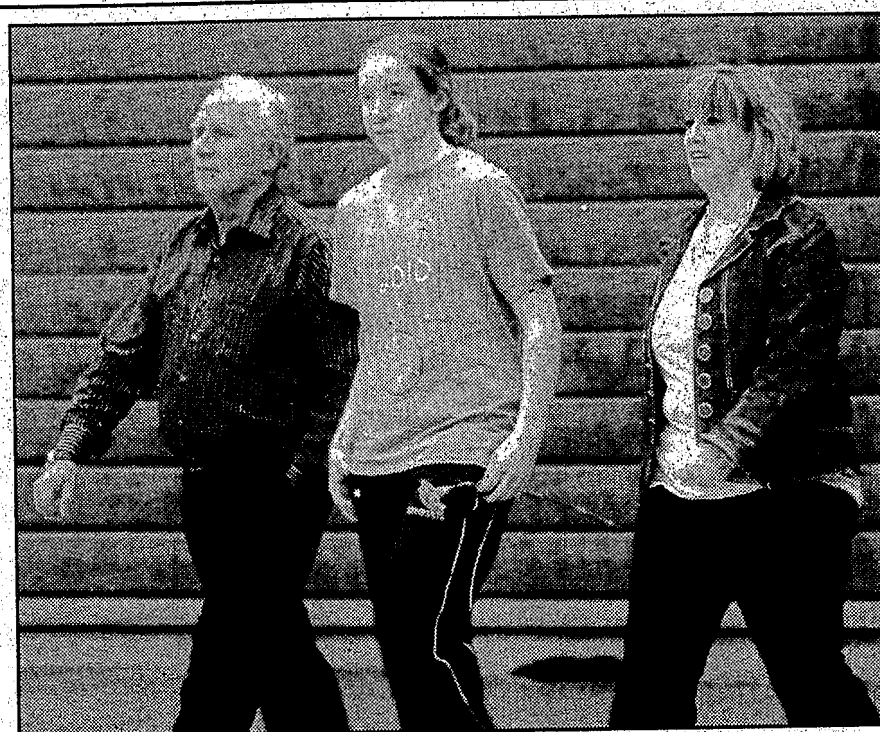
"I was very pleased on how we played on the defensive end of the floor. We preach defense first, then offense will follow. Unfortunately it didn't come tonight," said Wasilk. "Sometimes the shots don't go in the basket."

The girls lost to Stoney Creek on Monday in the first round of district playoffs, 54-43. Kaleigh led the team with 14 points and scored on two 3-point throws. Reppuhn had ten points and Hastings added eight.

The team loses two seniors, Kaleigh Kenny and Chloe Coppersmith.

"I was very pleased with our seniors, especially against Lake Orion," commented Wasilk. "They did a great job."

The girls finish the season 6-15.



Celebrating senior players

Chloe Coppersmith and parents, Ross and Susan, walk the basketball court before Chloe and her teammates begin their last home basketball game of the season. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Athlete of the Week

Nominations are always accepted for Athlete of the Week. Tell us about your sports star by email, clarkstonnews@gmail.com, a phone call, 248-625-3370, or stop by our office, 5 S Main St.

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Adam Frank crowned champion

The Wolves dominated the ice on Saturday night as they took on Berkley.

For their last regular game of the season they headed to Troy to play in the OAA Day tournament.

Adam Frank led the team in their 8-3 game. He scored four goals in the game and was named the overall league champion for scoring.

"Adam continues to score strong," said Coach Bryan Krygier. "He takes the puck to the net."

Another leader during the game was Jon Graham, adding two goals to the score - one of them he single-handedly put into the net.

"He has been getting some points for us, which is a bonus," Krygier added.

The boys put three goals on the board in the first period - courtesy of Adam Frank and Brad Pizzey. Defense kept Berkley to one point in the period.

Luke Connor made a short-handed goal in the next period, and another goal was made by Frank.

"It was a good game going into playoffs," added Krygier. "We played strong. Overall I think we played well and it was a good win. Defensively we are moving the puck well. We keep getting it out of the zone. We are starting to score more goals."

The boys out shot Berkley, 46-32. Troy Fasseel had 29 saves.

The Wolves lost to Brother Rice on Thursday, 4-2.

For the boys it came down to the last few seconds as Brother Rice finished the game putting the puck into the net with ten seconds left in the game.

"We played an excellent Brother Rice game," said Krygier. "We were in position to win and we were close to put the game in overtime."

David Cannons passed the puck to teammate Brad Pizzey, who scored on powerplay in the last period to tie the score, 2-2 with Brother Rice.

Jack Schlau broke the tie less than three minutes left in the period to put the score, 3-2. But Brother Rice fought back and as the score board counted down to two minutes, they added a point to the board.

Jon Graham scored in the first period with 1:54 remaining. The boys had 27 shots on goal.

The boys played Grand Blanc on Tuesday in the first game of Pre-Regional playoffs.

See how they did at the Wolfpack Update on www.ClarkstonNews.com.

Can't afford luxuries of the past

Continued from page 1A

children in the school district.

"I think we need to reduce the layers of out-of-classroom resources and focus resources directly on delivering education," Lohmeier said. "You just can't enjoy the luxuries of some of the support services that you could afford in the past."

Cutting full-day kindergarten, a budget-cut item placed on the "impact too great" list, Feb. 22, should still be considered, said a parent of two students, who asked to remain unidentified.

"We should absolutely return to half-day kindergarten - school is not a daycare," she said. "Instead, we're going to chop buses and custodians? It doesn't make sense."

The district should also look at raises negotiated last year, Lohmeier said.

"It's just not the appropriate time to be taking raises - no one else is," he said. "I think at the very minimum they should be weighed against everything else."

Fellow Trustee Mark Petterson, who has

an elementary-age child, agreed.

"Getting a raise in this economy - are you crazy? That really ticked a lot of people off, including me," he said. "I think the higher echelon in the schools is like a guest, who came at Christmas and stayed too long."

Petterson said he is very worried about the schools.

"I don't have all the facts to make a real rounded opinion, but I'm sure they knew they were going to have budget problems," he said. "I'm just wondering why they waited until now to drop the \$12 million bomb."

This is a reality all state-supported entities are facing, said Trustee Larry Rosso, former Clarkston High School teacher.

"It's sad to see what's going on throughout our community," Rosso said. "It really hits very close to home when our schools and government and all the services we depend upon and have taken for granted are in such serious disrepair."

For more information, call Clarkston Community Schools at 248-623-5400.

Administration needs to open the books

Dear Editor,

We attended the Feb. 24 Clarkston Board of Education meeting where potential cuts to the 2010/2011 budget were discussed. We believe we need much more information from the district.

During the hour long "public hearing" that preceded the normal board of education meeting, people were allowed to state their opinions in front of the board.

Most of the people who spoke were school employees who advised what needed to NOT be cut. The tone was the board needed to look at cutting areas that would least impact students directly.

The Board of Education presented a color coded list of expenses they determined were possibilities for cuts. The color coded list was, "red - stop, impact too great," "pink - stop, challenge to complete for this fall," "yellow - caution, could do, may need restructure of other programs," "green - go, feasible by next fall", "gray - revenue generating proposals." According to the list on *ClarkstonNews.com*, there were additional potential cuts announced previously. There was no detail and the entire budget was not addressed, just the items they thought were possibilities and the board's likelihood to choose those cuts.

Where we think the district needs to look to cut in these areas not addressed by the board:

- "Business Department" - what? for a school district?
- "Communications Department" - give me a break!
- "Energy Czar" - there are many, easy, inexpensive ways to cut energy use not currently in place in the schools, yet the "Energy Czar" has already been in place for five years.
- Fast ForWord Program - unproven, ex-

pensive, heavy overhead, and should have never been implemented without evidence of its effectiveness.

- Other administration and "non-student contact" teaching expenses
- Excessive funding for top one to two percent of students should be "pay to play" because International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement courses, Talent Development, and other programs are just too expensive per student to justify the cost.
- Pay cuts and benefit/healthcare co-pay increases for all.

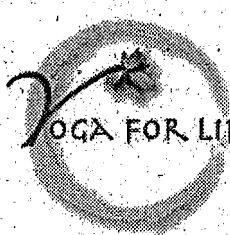
Some of the cuts the administration was looking to implement may be actually be illegal - eliminating para pros federally mandated by the students' IEPs and taking funds earmarked for special education and using the money elsewhere? Hmm?

We know there will have to be cuts in areas that will affect our children. Unfortunately, without information needed to look at what current expenses and job functions there are, there is no way to make an informed decision.

Administration needs to open district books to allow an advisory board of interested parties (administration, employees, parents of students, and other taxpayers) to view them and make recommendations. We need complete transparency!

On March 8, the Board of Ed will have another 6 p.m. "public hearing" followed by a 7 p.m. open Board of Education meeting. They intend to present their semi-final budget cut decisions then and to make final decisions by March 22. What's the hurry? Full budgetary disclosure needs to be made before such drastic decisions are made. Make your opinion heard at the March 8 meetings at Clarkston Junior High.

-- Mike and Dawn Schaller



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Board of Ed's 'official' and some unofficial responses

Continued from page 1A

Armstrong, Secretary Cheryl McGinnis, Trustee Barry Bomier, Trustee Joan Patterson, and Trustee Rosalie Lieblang.

Citing Board of Education Bylaws regulating public expression of board members, Hyer sent responses representing the entire board.

"With any inquiries that come in, as president of the board, I respond on behalf of the board," he said. "As with any other inquiries, I asked if anyone had any feedback for me in preparing that response."

Patterson and Lieblang supplied separate responses, specified as their own opinion as per bylaw, and Boatman sent one clarification.

This was a lost opportunity to share what board members think, Patterson said.

"I don't know what everyone else wrote, I don't know where everyone else stands," Patterson said.

The situation reflects an overall policy of centralizing information, she said.

"I've heard teachers and counselors want to talk to me, but were told all requests have to go to Steve," she said. "That is so wrong – if someone wants to provide me with information, I should have that right."

She also had trouble arranging a meeting with Superintendent Dr. Al Roberts and Bruce Beamer, executive director for business services, again asked to forward questions to Hyer instead.

"We need discussion on the numbers to know how deep the cuts will be," Patterson said. "I'm trying to work together on this, but I feel strongly about the democratic process and the free flow of information."

According to the Feb. 8 presentation to the school board, an estimated \$3.2 million deficit was amended to \$6.4 million because of rolled-forward 2009 deficit of \$1.6 million, \$165 per-pupil state-funding cut, reductions in special education funding, and added new programs such as All Day Kindergarten, Fast ForWord, International Baccalaureate Program, and trimester scheduling.

Hyer's response defended each program.

All Day Kindergarten \$640,000 startup

"At the time we approved All Day Kindergarten, the state was mandating that within one year, all districts adopt an All Day Kindergarten program or we would lose state aid, which would have reduced our revenue," said Hyer in an email response. "Then the state changed requirements because of their funding situation and no longer required it."

The board considered removing All Day Kindergarten, but decided it was not feasible this year.

"This program does offer some excellent benefits to our children by preparing them at a younger age for education," Hyer said.

Boatman disagrees that All Day Kindergarten is off the table.

"The administrative team has color coded by feasibility the budget reduction items in order to provide guidance to the board," she said. "As of today, the board is still clarifying what the ramifications are to each suggestion, so all items are still on the table."

International Baccalaureate \$51,900 startup

The district began applications to International Baccalaureate three years ago, Hyer said.

"It is a program that focuses on how students learn along with taking a more global approach to education," he said. "Research shows having an IB program increases the caliber of your entire high school program, and with the state's recent increases in graduation requirements, we believe this is an excellent addition to our curriculum."

An open-enrollment, schools-of-choice program, IB will also increase revenue, he said. So far, one IB student lives outside the district, said Anita Banach, director of communications and marketing.

Fast ForWord \$370,400 local, state funds

Fast ForWord computer-based program started this year focuses on information processing to improve reading skills, Hyer said.

"It also helps struggling students improve vocabulary, reading comprehension, fluency, and memory so they can attain grade level proficiency," he said. "We have seen some very positive results – because of our pilot results, we made the decision to adopt it, even though it was not budgeted this year."

It was implemented in all buildings, he said. "This program will save money by increasing students' mental ability to process and therefore, less students will require special education referrals," he said. "This will limit the need for remediation and special services in the very near future."

Lieblang voted along with Patterson, Oct. 12, to table the \$370,400 Fast ForWord proposal for more information. It was approved, Oct. 26. "The information we received at the Jan 25 meeting, and since, would have definitely affected my vote," Lieblang said. "With that said, Fast ForWord appears to be a good program and I expect it to live up to its claim of reducing costs as it helps struggling students and reduces special education referrals."

Trimesters \$300,000 to switch

Trimester scheduling was adopted a year and a half ago as a way to keep costs down, while meeting new state requirements.

"We evaluated a number of scheduling al-

ternatives and found trimesters to be the most feasible and least expensive option," Hyer's email stated. "If we kept with a six hour semester schedule, students would have no room for anything other than core classes in their schedules. This was unacceptable."

Superintendent & employee raises \$2.2 million over two year

New teacher contract signed in June included a one-percent raise in 2010 and one percent in 2011, while changing health insurance and extending the contract for one year.

"This was a decrease in overall compensation for our employees," Hyer said. "We saved almost \$1 million in health insurance costs while we took a \$750,000 raise down to \$350,000 in 2010."

In regards to Superintendent Al Roberts raises, pushing his salary to \$154,000 plus benefits this year, and increasing to \$160,000 next year Hyer said, "(Roberts) is one of the most experienced superintendents in the county. New, inexperienced superintendents are being hired in neighboring districts right now making significantly more."

Hyer said the superintendent took a salary freeze "many" times in the past when all other employees received increases, but did not elaborate when or how much.

Patterson voted against the pay increase, while Lieblang was not yet part of the board.

"If you looked at the economic situation around us here in the district and in Michigan in general, pay scales were not being increased," Patterson said. "In fact, large groups of citizens are taking unprecedented cuts in salaries and benefits. Housing values, which fund our system, are dropping as state unemployment levels soar. To me, increases seemed unsustainable at the time."

Budget amendments this year have been around one percent of the district's \$86.9 million budget, which is typical, Hyer said.

"We look at our financial numbers monthly so we can foresee future issues and predict cash management as we look forward," Hyer said. "This board has enacted a plan to spend down our fund equity in an effort to preserve programs for our kids."

Patterson and Lieblang said budget information presented after the new year was unexpected.

"I was very surprised at the information given on Jan. 25," Patterson said.

That shows a need to reassess the processes used to evaluate programs and make decisions, Lieblang said.

"This past fall, I believed our only budget issues were those created by the state per pupil reductions, but I now know that is only a portion of our problem," she said. "As part of my role, I will be analyzing how we can better document and evaluate financial decisions, not just in the current year, but in understanding the impact in future years as well."

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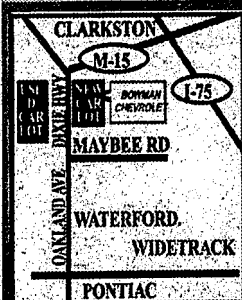
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2006	Chevy	MALIBU	P6964	Red	46K	\$10,988	2007	GMC	ACADIA	P6998	Silver	33K	\$23,988
2006	Saturn	VUE	10268A	Silver	36K	\$10,988	2007	Chevy	AVALANCHE 1500	10400A	Silver	33K	\$25,988
2006	Chevy	TRAILBLAZER 4X4	P6911	Silver	38K	\$12,988	2008	Pontiac	G6	P6938	Blue/Gold	6K	\$13,988
2006	Pontiac	TORRENT	P6941	Blue	7K	\$15,988	2008	Saturn	AURA	P6996	White	29K	\$13,988
2006	Chevy	SILVERADO 1500 4X4	10235A	Red	96K	\$15,988	2008	Pontiac	GRAND PRIX	P6995	Gold	23K	\$14,988
2006	Jeep	WRANGLER	P6977	Red	36K	\$16,988	2008	Chevy	MALIBU	P6952	White	18K	\$15,988
2006	Chevy	EQUINOX	P6989	Silver	5K	\$16,988	2008	Chevy	MALIBU	P6971	Blue	34K	\$15,988
2006	Chevy	SILVERADO 1500	P6978	Black	32K	\$22,988	2008	Saturn	AURA	10121A	Ocean	6K	\$15,988
2007	Chevy	COBALT	P6956	Silver	24K	\$ 9,988	2008	Chevy	MALIBU	P6986	Gray	24K	\$15,988
2007	Chevy	HHR	P6957	Black	24K	\$11,988	2008	Chevy	IMPALA	P6987	Gray	24K	\$15,988
2007	Chevy	HHR	10365A	Silver	35K	\$11,988	2008	Saturn	VUE	10174A	White	20K	\$18,988
2007	Chevy	IMPALA	P6985	Maroon	15K	\$13,988	2008	Chevy	SILVERADO 1500	P6980	Cherry	14K	\$24,988
2007	Chevy	IMPALA	P6976	Black	13K	\$13,988	2009	Pontiac	VIBE	10113A	Platinum	9K	\$14,988
2007	Chevy	IMPALA	P6985	Amber	9K	\$14,988	2009	Chevy	IMPALA	P6953	Red	18K	\$15,988
2007	Chevy	IMPALA	P6984	Silver	15K	\$15,988	2009	Chevy	MALIBU	P6973	Silver	29K	\$15,988
2007	Chevy	EQUINOX	P6994	White	35K	\$15,988	2009	Chevy	MALIBU	P6975	White	31K	\$16,988
2007	Chevy	TRAILBLAZER 4X4	P6997	Blue	35K	\$15,988	2009	Saturn	OUTLOOK	P6991	Silver	16K	\$26,988
2007	Chevy	TRAILBLAZER 4X4	P6942	Graphite	30K	\$16,988	2010	Chevy	IMPALA	P6950	Silver	25K	\$16,988

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People Poll

March 3, 2010
Page B1

What makes a school district world class?

"Both quality teachers and administration. Also, dedication and support of parents."



- Patience Beer

"Boosters and community support, offering contextual intelligence and leadership."



- Jim Evans

"Getting kids through basic courses, reading, writing, basic skills they need."



- Bea Wendorf

"People who go above and beyond their job."



- Bob Trim

"A broad, general, liberal arts education, instead of just focusing on the MEAP test."



- Rob Gilkerson

By Phil Custodio

The Clarkston News' Millstream

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

Retiring firefighter makes one last call

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

When Dan DeLongchamp joined Independence Township Fire Department in 1974 right out of high school, his parents figured it was something he wanted to get out of his system.

"Dad told my mom I just needed to get the sirens and lights out of my head," DeLongchamp said. "Now, I'm over it."

Fellow firefighters' union members hosted a retirement party, Feb. 26 at Fountains Golf and Banquet Center, to celebrate his 35 years of service.

"I think it's great - he worked hard his entire career," said Lt. Chris Norberg, who worked with DeLongchamp for about 12 years. "He's going to be missed. We all looked up to Dan - he taught us a lot."

"Dan has always been a very devoted employee, always happy-go-lucky," said Chief Steve Ronk, who joined the department at the same time as DeLongchamp. "I'm glad he has time to pursue some interests in his retirement."

DeLongchamp, a graduate of Clarkston High School, was hired fulltime in 1977, and qualified in EMS, hazmat, and extrication, and retired as captain of shift two.

"It was a good career - I wouldn't change anything," he said. "I love serving people. I was a hometown fireman, a dream come true."

The township changed a lot since he started, but not as much as firefighters sometimes joke, especially when they ask him what it was like to have to "feed the horses."

The department had trucks, though with stick-shift transmissions.

"Equipment is much more sophisticated now," he said.

The department responded to about one call a day in the 1970s. Now, up to 20 calls come in one day, he said.

"Lots of medical runs, many accidents on I-75," he said. "The growth of township meant



Retiring firefighter Dan DeLongchamp with his wife Michele. Photo by Phil Custodio.

fewer grassfires - now they're subdivisions."

Firefighters will miss DeLongchamp's big, booming laugh the most, Norberg said.

"That's what stands out the most," he said.

"He fun, but serious when he has to be serious. We've been through some heavy stuff, and he would make it easier. We all appreciated that."

He still works parttime as an emergency

room technician with Doctors Hospital, but plans to spend much more time on Silver Lake, where he and his wife, Michele, have a pontoon boat, with his daughter Nicole, her husband, Jon, and their baby, Lilly.

"I'm happy - now I have more time to be a grandpa," Dan said.

"I love it. It's like we're newlyweds again," Michele said.



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Musica Batteria Meets The Harp, 7 p.m., March 6, Community Presbyterian Church, 4301 Monroe Street at Sashabaw. Free. All welcome. 248-673-7805.

Nest Box Monitoring Workshop for Volunteers, 3-5 p.m., March 7, Wint Nature Center, Independence Oaks County Park, Sashabaw Road. 248-858-0704.

St. Patrick's Day Warm-Up Party, 5-9 p.m., March 11. Corned beef, cabbage dinner, live Irish music by Inis-Ceol. \$10 in advance, \$12 at door. Oakland County Sportsmen's Club, 4770 Waterford Road. 248-623-0444.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater, Clarkston Area Optimist Club, 6 p.m., March 13, Paint Creek Country Club, 2375 Stanton Road, Lake Orion. Entertainment, dinner, silent auction, raffle. \$55. 248-622-6096.

Singles Dance, Bethany North Oakland, 8-12 p.m., March 13. \$12. St. Daniel Cushing Center, 7010 Valley Park. 248-891-8938.

Bowling for Meals on Wheels, 2 p.m., March 14, Cherry Hills Lanes, 6697 Dixie Highway. \$20, three games, two pizza slices, pop, prize drawings. 248-625-8231.

Sportsman's Swap Meet, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., March 14. \$2; under 12, free. Oakland County Sportsmen's Club, 4770 Waterford Road. 248-623-0444.

Fundraiser, Clarkston High School Girls Lacrosse, 5-8 p.m., March 16, Pete's Coney Island, 6160 Dixie Highway. 248-623-4300.

Free Diabetes Clinics, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., March 9, information on foot care; March 16, general information on caring for diabetes. Led by professional diabetes educator. All ages welcome. Sponsored by Great Lakes Medical Supply. Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

Clarkston Community Women's Club, 7 p.m., March 18, Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Dick Powe of from Eagle Eye Inspections discusses home safety

Around Town

and emergency preparation. Refreshments served. Call Gail, 248-623-9462, or Linda, 248-625-4945.

Women in Business, Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce. Pure Michigan, 10:45-1 p.m., March 25, Fountains, 6060 Maybee Road; True Colors, 2-5 p.m., April 29, Oakhurst Country Club. 248-625-8055.

Frog Survey Training, 7-9 p.m., March 26, Wint Nature Center at Independence Oaks County Park. Free. Register by March 25 at 248-858-0704.

Community Awards Breakfast, 7:30-9 a.m., May 20, Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road.

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. 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.

Grief Support Group, Coats Funeral Home, 6:30 p.m., first and third Mondays, Community Presbyterian Church, 4301 Monroe Street at Sashabaw. 248-623-7232.

Therapeutic Yoga classes, Mondays, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; Tuesdays, 7:15-8:30 p.m., Jewels Yoga Fitness, 4612 Mountain View Trail, In-

dependence Township. \$12 walk-in fee. 248-390-9270.

Clarkston Rotary Club, Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Clarkston Community Education Center, 6558 Waldon Road. \$10. 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.

Pilates and Sculpt, Mondays, 7-8 p.m., Bay Court Park's Lakeview room. Independence Township Parks and Recreation, 248-625-8223.

Basic Yoga with Noreen Daly, beginning and intermediate techniques, Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:45 p.m., \$7 per session. Bring mat. Peace Unity Church and Holistic Center, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-310-7878

Tai Chi with Tammy Cropp, gentle movements for healing, stress reduction, balance, increased flexibility, Tuesdays, 10 a.m. \$8 per session. Peace Unity Church, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-420-6119.

Co-Creating Healthy Families, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., "Bradshaw on: The Family," PBS series presentation, support group, 7:30 p.m., Peace Unity Church, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-891-4365.

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.

Breast Cancer Support Group, first Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., 21st Century Oncology, 6770 Dixie Highway, Suite 106. 248-625-3841

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.

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

Widowers and Widows On With Life Group, 7 p.m., first Tuesday, third Wednesday. Dinners, breakfasts, golf, social gatherings, rap sessions for ages 35-80. 248-393-8553.

Widowed Friends, Tuesdays, 12 p.m., Collier Bowling Alley, 879 S. Lapeer Road, Oxford. \$2 per game. 248-628-5437 or 248-877-6692.

Pickleball, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. Combination of tennis, ping pong, badminton. \$3. 248-625-8231.

AARP Income Tax Preparation Assistance Program, Tuesdays, through April 13, Carriage House, 6000 Clarkston Road. AARP volunteers prepare federal and state returns for seniors. Call 248-625-8231 for appointment and list of 2009 financial papers required.

Evening Pickleball for Adults 50+, 6-8 p.m., Tuesdays, First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. \$3 drop-in. 248-625-8231.

Shallow Water Aerobics for 50+, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10-11 a.m., through April 1. Clarkston High School Pool, 6093 Flemings Lake Road. Low impact, 82-degree water. \$48 for 12 sessions. 248-625-8231.

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

H.O.P.E., Health Optimism Perseverance Education. Please see Around Town on page 13B

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Solve a 'murder' with the Optimists

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Hotshot film producer Rex Youngblood hosts a dinner for local actors and potential investors, 6 p.m., March 13.

It's a chance for a big break into show business. Things being what they are, it's also a chance to solve a murder.

"It will be up to the audience to grill suspects and find out who did it," said Patience Beer, who wrote the murder mystery production, "Murder and Hospital Hijinx."

The dinner theater at Paint Creek Country Club, 2375 Stanton Road in Lake Orion, is the main fundraiser for Clarkston Area Optimists Club, members of which serve as hosts and actors in the show.

"It's always fun," said Optimist Andrea Schroeder. "It's great, getting the audience into it."

"It's the funniest ever," said Jim Evans, Optimist.

The show is interactive, and

starts immediately, Beer said.

"From the moment people come in the door — casting director work the crowd, looking for sexy-nurse tryouts, men and women, to sing a song," she said.

Guests come up with solutions to the case, prizes awarded for best and most original.

This is Beer's seventh show, her third for the Optimists.

"It's my contribution to support their work," she said.

The fundraiser supports the club's youth programs, including Alpha and Junior Optimist clubs in Clarkston schools, Tri-Star basketball tournament, Oratorical scholarship contest, Respect for Law, Junior Golf Tournament, Essay scholarship contest, and other events.

"Hundreds of kids participate in Optimist programs," Evans said.

Tickets are \$55, and includes entertainment, dinner, open beer and wine bar, silent auction, and raffle. For more information, call 248-622-6096.



From left, Michael Beer, Jim Evans, Andrea Schroeder, and Jerry Schmidt work on a scene with playwright Patience Beer.

Nest Box Monitoring Workshop

Oakland County Parks seeks volunteers to monitor nest boxes at five parks for the 2010 nesting season, from April — August.

A Nest Box Monitoring Workshop will be held from 3-5 p.m., March 7 at Wint Nature Center, Independence Oaks County Park, Sashabaw Road.

More than 116 nest boxes are located in five parks and maintained by volunteers.

Training is required for new and veteran volunteers. Volunteers must register for the workshop by March 4.

Oakland County Parks Nestwatch Monitoring Program was developed to protect native birds from aggressive species that contribute to their decline.

To register, contact Educational Resource Specialist Kathleen Dougherty at 248-858-0704, e-mail doughertyk@oakgov.com, or visit DestinationOakland.com.

ARE THESE YOUR LEGS?



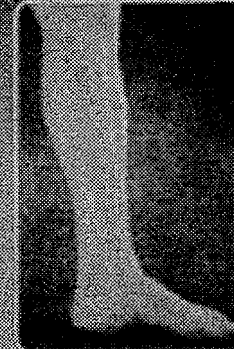
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Milestones



Humphreys celebrate 64th

Thomas and Ada Humphrey, formerly of Clarkston, celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on March 2, 2010, in Searcy, Ark., their current home. They met and married when Mr. Humphrey was stationed at Ft. Robison near Little Rock during World War II. Their daughters, Cindy-Casey (Gary) of Clarkston and Michelle Thall (Robert) of St. Helena, Calif., and their grandsons, Keenan Casey, and Jacob and Samuel Thall, along with other family and friends honored this celebration.

In our country's service...

Air Force Airman Timothy M. Blake graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

He is the grandson of Waina Schofer and son of Kerry Monzo, both of Davisburg. Blake graduated in 2009 from Oakland Community College.



Student successes

Clarkston students Liz Elias and Kara Wandrie made Albion College's Britons softball team.

Elias is the daughter of Ronald and Denise Elias of Clarkston and a graduate of Notre Dame Prep. A first-year student at Albion, Elias is a first baseman and right fielder.

Wandrie, daughter of Glenn and Faith Wandrie of Clarkston, is a Clarkston High School graduate. A sophomore at Albion, Kara is an outfielder. She was one of Albion's top hitters last season, posting a .371 batting average, 43 hits in 116 at-bats in 34 games. She clubbed four doubles and a triple, and drove in nine runs.

Send your milestones
Clarkstonnews@gmail.com

Religion

Give up giving up for Lent

Ash Wednesday begins the 40 days and six Sundays of the Lenten Season, a Season of preparation for the Resurrection Experience on Easter Sunday.

Traditionally it is a time of prayer and fasting, symbolized by the question often asked "What are you giving up for Lent?"

People tend to treat it like a second chance to make good on our New Year's resolutions to eat healthier and get more exercise.

A couple of years ago, my young son got a hold of this idea from a friend who attends a Catholic church and decided to give up sugar for Lent.

He was determined to do it and even though it turned out to be a much bigger commitment than he had originally anticipated, through it all, he stuck to his commitment. It helped that I normally make cookies with honey instead of sugar. His mother and I couldn't have been prouder.

It is good to let go of negative habits of eating, acting and thinking at any time of the year. And, I often encourage people to Take It Up For Lent: take up a new habit of eating, acting and thinking.

For one day or 40 days, take up a healthy eating routine, take up a new exercise routine, take up a positive way of

thinking.

The infinite, unlimited, eternal existence that is God is desiring greater expression through you.

As the author, Eric Butterworth says, "Your life is God's gift to you. What you do with it is your gift to God."

Several years ago a Colleague of mine started a movement called A Complaint Free World, see www.complaintfreeworld.biz for more information.

He challenges people to go 21 consecutive days without complaining, criticizing or gossiping. He will even give you a bracelet to help you remember. If you find yourself complaining, switch the bracelet to the other wrist and start over.

I have to admit it took a lot more than three weeks for me to make it 21 days consecutively, and today I find myself much happier and more satisfied with my life.

Over 2200 years ago the philosopher Zhuangzi said "Happiness is the absence of striving for happiness."

We are happy when we decide to be happy. Sadness, depression, anxiety are physical addictions as well as mental states; our minds and bodies become dependent upon the chemical reactions in our bodies.

In 21 days we can begin to reprogram our minds and bodies to be positive, affirming and happy.

So this year I invite you to Take It Up For Lent; take up a positive, affirming, happy and joyous new you.

Matthew E. Long is Senior Minister at Peace Unity Church and Holistic Center.

Spiritual Matters



Pastor
Matthew Long

In our churches...

Seder Dinner and program, 5:30 p.m., March 6, Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Rabbi Glenn Harris leads the dinner program. \$15/person, \$40/family. Free childcare. Tickets available at church until Feb. 28. 248-625-1611.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, biblically based, financial workshop for everyone, Sundays, 4 p.m. Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. 248-625-1611.

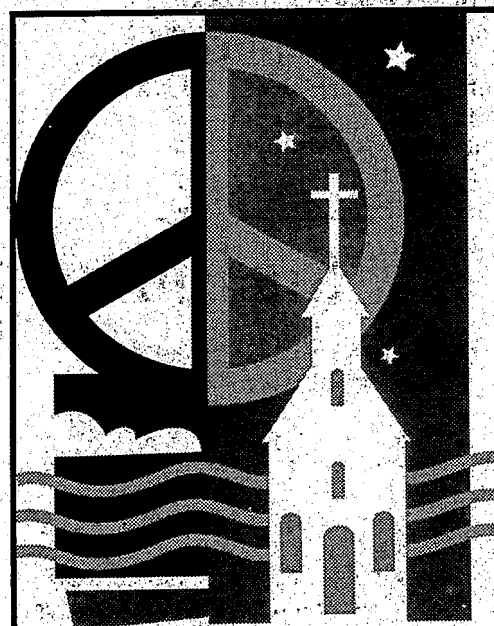
Metaphysical Bible Study, Sundays, 8:30 a.m., discover the inner, spiritual meaning behind the stories. Peace Unity Church, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

Metaphysical Bible Study, Sundays, 8:30 a.m., Peace Unity, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

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.

Men's and Women's Bible Study, Tuesdays, 7 p.m., St. Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road. 248-625-4644.

In Our Churches, page 13B



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Fax: (248) 394-2142
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10:30 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Evening Service
Wed: 6:15 pm Awana Club
6:30 pm Teen Ministry
7:00 pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

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Home of Oakland Christian School
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Sunday: Worship 9:15 & 11:00 am
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Girl Scouts representing France went for the mime look.



Junior Girl Scout Troop 13149 hosted the evening as Red Cross Guides.



Scouts representing Norway make a Friendship Circle. Photos provided

Scouts explore world at International Night

Clarkston Girl Scouts celebrated World Thinking Day with International Night, Feb. 23 at Springfield Oaks Activity Center.

More than 500 scouts, family and friends from seven Clarkston schools attended. Participants had their passport stamped as they listened to music, exchanged swaps and sampled cuisine from 31 countries.

The evening of international insight was organized by the fifth-grade Junior Girl Scout Troop 13149 from Bailey Lake Elementary. The girls planned, organized and executed the event, working toward their Bronze Award.

The troop represented Red Cross guides for the evening. The girls collaborated with the Southeast Michigan branch of the Red Cross and collected more than \$175 for Haiti Relief.

Troop 13149 scouts are Gloria Branch, Lexie Fiori, Emily Greator, Diana Hoeksema, Sophie Kubli, Casie Rowden, Riley Rumbold, Cassie Sadenwater, Hannah Wright and Rachel Wright. Troop leader is Ellen Wright.



These scouts learned a lot about Egypt.



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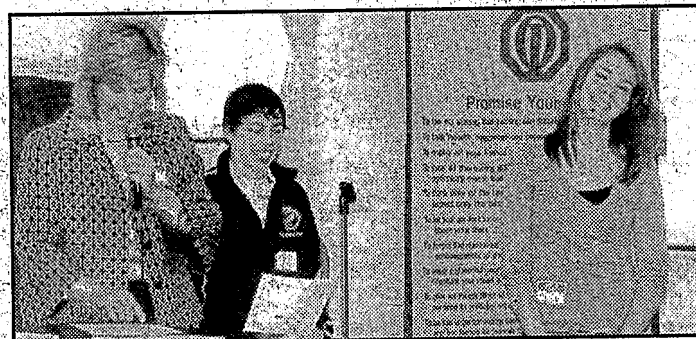
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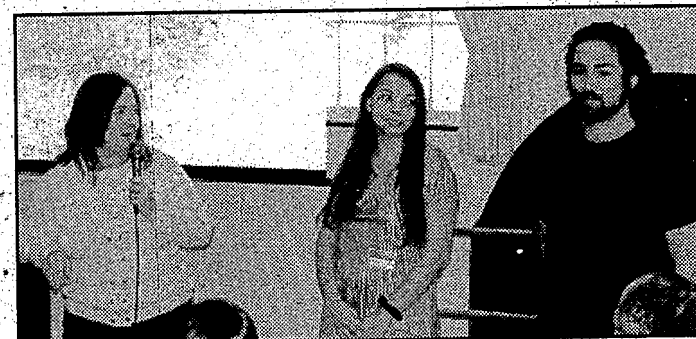
Tim Detkowski - Owner / Operator



Clarkston Junior High School Principal Shawn Ryan describes Julio Dominquez and Taylor Beach's service.



Clarkston High School Assistant Principal Nancy Mahoney honors students Robert Langen and Rebecca Turner.



Renaissance High School Principal Billie Pambid presents recognition awards to Leah Wanat and Gary Minhinnick.



Sashabaw Middle School Principal Todd Bidlack and Kelly Berti, Junior Optimist advisor, discusses students Jenny Lussenhop and Michael Dodge.

Students honored for Optimist views

Sashabaw Middle School students Jenny Lussenhop and Michael Dodge, Clarkston Junior High School Taylor Beach and Julio Dominquez, Clarkston High School students Robert Langen and Rebecca Turner, and Renaissance High School students Gary Minhinnick and Leah Wanat were honored by Clarkston Area Optimists Club at its Youth Appreciation Breakfast, Feb. 24.

"They absolutely try to live the Optimist Creed," said Kelly Berti, Junior Optimist advisor at Sashabaw Middle School. "They're outstanding students and role models in the community."

"They're optimists - they'll make a difference anywhere," said Billie Pambid, Renaissance High School principal.



From left, Clarkston Area Optimists honored Clarkston students Michael Dodge, Robert Langen, Julio Dominquez, Jenny Lussenhop, Taylor Beach, Leah Wanat, and Gary Minhinnick. Rebecca Turner left early to rehearse for "Grease" at Clarkston High School. Photos by Phil Custodio

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Patel



Mulligan



Dickie

Good Citizens honored

Sashabaw Plains Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, honored local students Aditi Patel, Bettina Mulligan, and Alexis Dickie as DAR Good Citizen of the Year at their schools.

Patel, a senior at Clarkston High School, is in marching band and concert band, and is an accomplished pianist with Superior Federation Competition Awards. She plays soccer and is in the Spanish Club. She has volunteered with Summer in the City, Detroit, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, North Sashabaw Elementary reading program, and English as a second language. She intends to major in pre-dentistry at Michigan State University or at University of Michigan.

Mulligan, a senior at Our Lady of Lakes High School, is a member of National Honor Society and Phi Beta Kappa. She is a Cum Laude Scholar, Michigan Competitive Scholar, and has received the President's Excellence Award. She participates in soccer, track and field, volleyball, and bell and vocal choir. Her volunteer activities include American Red Cross blood drive coordinator, Grace Center of Hope, and eighty hours of service off campus. She plans to major in Education and American History in college.

Dickie, a senior at Brandon High School,

is in National Honor Society, is president of Student Council, and has held many positions in Student Government. She was captain and the most valuable player of the varsity tennis and varsity girls golf team. Her service activities include organizing drives for toys, for canned food, and six American Red Cross blood drives. She also volunteers for English as a Second Language, and for O.A.T.S., Offering Alternative Therapy with Smiles. She intends to major in pre-law at a Michigan college.

The Sashabaw Plains Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution honored high school seniors from participating high schools at their 26th annual Good Citizen luncheon at Red Knapps American Grill in Clarkston, Feb. 9.

The DAR, founded in 1890 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a non-profit, non-political volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America's future through better education for children.

For information about the Sashabaw Plains Chapter DAR, contact Registrar Dorothy Lowe at 248-625-5239, or dpolowe@att.net.

Why All The Household Dust?

I'm Keith Meadows, owner and operator of American Power Vac, Inc. For years, I've been improving our community's health one family at a time. 90% of the calls I receive everyday are from desperate people complaining about dust. They tell me they dust the T.V. on Friday, but by Sunday they are pushing the dust out of the way again so they can watch "Desperate Housewives", and none of them know exactly where it's coming from. I tell people that simply having your ducts cleaned will drastically reduce household dust, and the reason is, your cold air returns.

Cold air returns suck in dirty air, and over time it builds up until you have the same type of debris that you would find in your vacuum bag. Cold air returns are also the reason new homeowners are experiencing dust. While your drywall was being sanded, your cold air returns sucked all of the dust through the system and it settled on the bottom of the duct lines, where a little at a time it gets blown back into your home.

This debris cannot be removed without a professional. Which brings me to my next point: choosing an air duct cleaning company. Most companies use truck mounted equipment, which is like a shop vac that you would vacuum out your car with inside the back of a van, absolutely useless. Visit our website for photos of our equipment vs. truck mounted equipment at www.americanpowervac.com.

We use the right equipment to clean your duct work correctly....the power vac truck. It is the most powerful equipment in the industry. This is where the entire truck is the vacuum and the

truck motor powers the equipment. It's the size of an ambulance and when engaged twelve large air bags will come out of the roof. What makes the difference in equipment? Power! To put things into perspective, your furnace moves 2,000 CFM's (cubic feet of air per minute), basically what you feel coming out of your register. Truck mounted equipment only moves 4,000 CFM's. American Power Vac moves over 16,000 cubic feet of air per minute, more than quadruple the power of any truck mounted equipment. The problem is that there are so

many companies with inadequate equipment, advertising cheap prices in coupon books, that it gives people a false sense of what the job's worth. The average price to clean your air ducts correctly with the right equipment ranges from \$399 to \$599+ depending on the size of your home. Any company who charges per register or who has "\$99 Whole House Specials" are companies you want to avoid. American Power Vac, Inc. is family owned. You

never have to worry about inexperienced teenagers coming to your home. As always, I will personally be there to make sure the job is done correctly. Stop your dusting and call now.

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April and Keith Meadows help keep indoor air clean with their local business, American Power Vac.

Be Part of Your Community

Networking is a must for small business owners, but let's be honest, who has the time these days to go out networking door to door? By establishing mutually-beneficial relationships with other small business owners and entrepreneurs, you can exchange information, ideas and support and potentially gain new clients.

It's tough growing a business alone. No one cares. But we do... *The Clarkston News* is partnering with our community of entrepreneurs and small businesses with a dedicated goal of helping each other succeed.

Coffee Club Meets: Thursday

Time 7:30-9:00 am

Location: Clarkston United Methodist Church

Cost: FREE

When you share what you know, everyone gets smarter.

Sooner than you think, that comes back to you in the form of recognition and business.

Please Join Us!

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Obituary

Jerry Cattin, 78

Jerry Cattin, formerly of Clarkston and most recently a 20-year resident of Harbor Springs, passed away, Feb. 25, 2010, at 78 years of age.

He was the loving husband of the late Sue (2001); beloved father of William Cattin of Dexter and Robert (Cindy) Cattin of Clarkston; dear brother of Barbara (William) Hooton of New Mexico, Sue (Arthur) Stevens of Oregon, and Joan (Donald) LeBuhn of Illinois; grandfather of Nicole Patricia and Kyle David Cattin.

Mr. Cattin graduated from General Motors Institute and worked as a mechanical engineer for GM for 30 years. He enjoyed woodworking, golf, and traveling with his wife, which culminated in a trip around the world as "grandparents" with the University of Pittsburgh's Semester at Sea program.

A memorial service will be held in the spring in Harbor Springs. Memorial donations may be considered to Alzheimers Association. Arrangements entrusted to Coats Funeral Home, Waterford. To send a private condolence, select guestbook at www.coatsfuneralhome.com.

Ann C. Davis, 87

Ann C. Davis of Clarkston passed away, Feb. 26, 2010, at age 87.

She was preceded in death by her husband Francis, son Tim and granddaughter Kaitlin. She was the dear mother of Mary Ellen (Jon) Zerba of Goodrich and Frank (Laura) of Clarkston; grandmother of Tim, Chip (Leslie) and Nick (Angela) Davis, Steven, Mark and Sara Zerba, Frank, and Britany and Anna Davis; also survived by five great grandchildren.

Mrs. Davis attended St. Daniel Catholic Church, Clarkston.

Memorial service Saturday, March 13, 11 a.m., Goodrich United Methodist Church, where friends may visit at the church, 10 a.m. until time of service. Arrangements entrusted to the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to Goodrich United Methodist Church or Alzheimer's Association.

Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Spring fundraiser for ESTHERS' work with children

ESTHERS Children of Independence Township hosts its fourth annual fundraising gala, Spring Into Action, 7-11 p.m., March 20, at Birmingham Community House, 380 S. Bates St., Birmingham.

Karen Joy Kayko, 66

Karen Joy Kayko of Davisburg, formerly of Clarkston, passed away suddenly at home, Feb. 26, 2010, at age 66.

She was the wife of Donald for 39 years; mother of Lisa (Dave) Coatney of Clinton Township, Michael McAllister of Texas, Donald Jr. (Karen Lynn) Kayko of Port Huron, and Randall Kayko of Port Huron; also survived by five granddaughters; and sister of Monica (Ronald) McAllister.

Mrs. Kayko owned and operated K.J.K. Accounting and considered her clients as friends. She enjoyed Team Corvette Car Club, Grand Blanc, was a lifelong Ferrari Club member and volunteered at Independence Township Senior Center.

Visitation was March 1 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Funeral service was March 2 at the funeral home. Entombment All Saints Cemetery.

Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Henrietta S. Estleman, 81

Henrietta S. Estleman of Waterford passed away, Feb. 28, 2010, at age 81.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ernest F. She was the loving mother of Brent, Sandra (Jeff) Johnson, and Patti Lamb; grandmother of Jennifer Lamb, Shannon Johnson, Adrian Lamb, Michael (Kariya) Estleman, Barbara Lamb, and Adam Johnson; great grandma of Rowan and Mia; sister of Maybelle Grimm.

Mrs. Estleman was a life long member of Christ Lutheran Church. She retired from Waterford Schools.

Friends may visit Wednesday, 3-9 p.m., at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Funeral service, Thursday, 11 a.m., at Christ Lutheran Church, Waterford, where friends may visit directly at the church, Thursday, 10 a.m., until time of service. Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Christ Lutheran Church. Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Tickets are \$65 in advance, \$75 at the door. Cash Bar available. Semi-formal attire. All proceeds benefit ESTHERS' work for children in Recife, Brazil and Papa Leon, Peru.

Call Jennifer Sutherland at 248-202-5910.



What is motivation, what is lazy?

This topic has always tweaked my interest; therefore, it's a good time to probe the topic.

First let's consider "motivation." It is the wheel that maintains movement or action. The energy produced when accomplishment is realized or materialized.

Motivation comes from the root word (moti-as in motion). It engages self and others to results from a thought process to actualization. All motor skills can participate, including emotions. Something happens that triggers an action or resignation in a way to disengage from the wheel of motion. This can result in another mountain blocking the view of the scenic valley; we'll label this mountain "lazy."

Once labeled, the recovery process is a tough hurdle.

Without going too deep into the word lazy; how did it manifest? Realizing the origin could be a step toward "label-free living."

Lazy is simply a "temporary emotional state of being" or lack of being.

If one is in a state of "lazy" it often can result in possibly not graduating or being promoted. Who failed, or who "slipped through the crack?" Did the system fail the individual, or did the individual fail to participate in the system?

What is the system made of? What is the rule, who decides failure, who decides

success?

It is a good time to examine the carrot. Let's spread some good seeds on good fertile soil, nurture them, let the sunshine in, water them and see them through to growth and development. Having followed through responsibly; undoubtedly you will yield a good crop.

Guest viewpoint



Maria Rotondo-Mark

All people desire to be valued. Let's see, if after careful examination we see ourselves, then we will see others with clarity. Self-eye exams of sorts to stop overworking those who are "motivated," while eliminating others who are perceived as "lazy".

If you stayed with these thoughts thus far, congratulations; you win the "carrot of possibility."

Maria Rotondo Mark lives in Independence Township

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In our churches

continued from 5B

Divorce Care support group, Tuesday, 6 p.m., Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. Childcare provided. 248-625-3288.

A Course In Miracles, self-study course removing blocks to awareness of love's presence. Study groups, Wednesday, 12 p.m.; Thursday, 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. Peace Unity Church, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

Lenten Bible Study, Wednesdays, through March 24, 6-6:45 p.m., St. Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road. 248-625-4644.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

CLARKSTON

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON

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REMINDER

BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010

The Board of Review for the City of the Village of Clarkston will meet at the City Office on Monday, March 8, 2010, AND Monday, March 15, 2010, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

For appointments: Call Oakland County Equalization Division, Toll Free 1-888-350-0900, Extension 81862 or 248-858-1862. Those without an appointment will be served on a first-come, first-served basis.

Janet C. Gillespie
Clerk-Treasurer

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS GARNER DRAIN

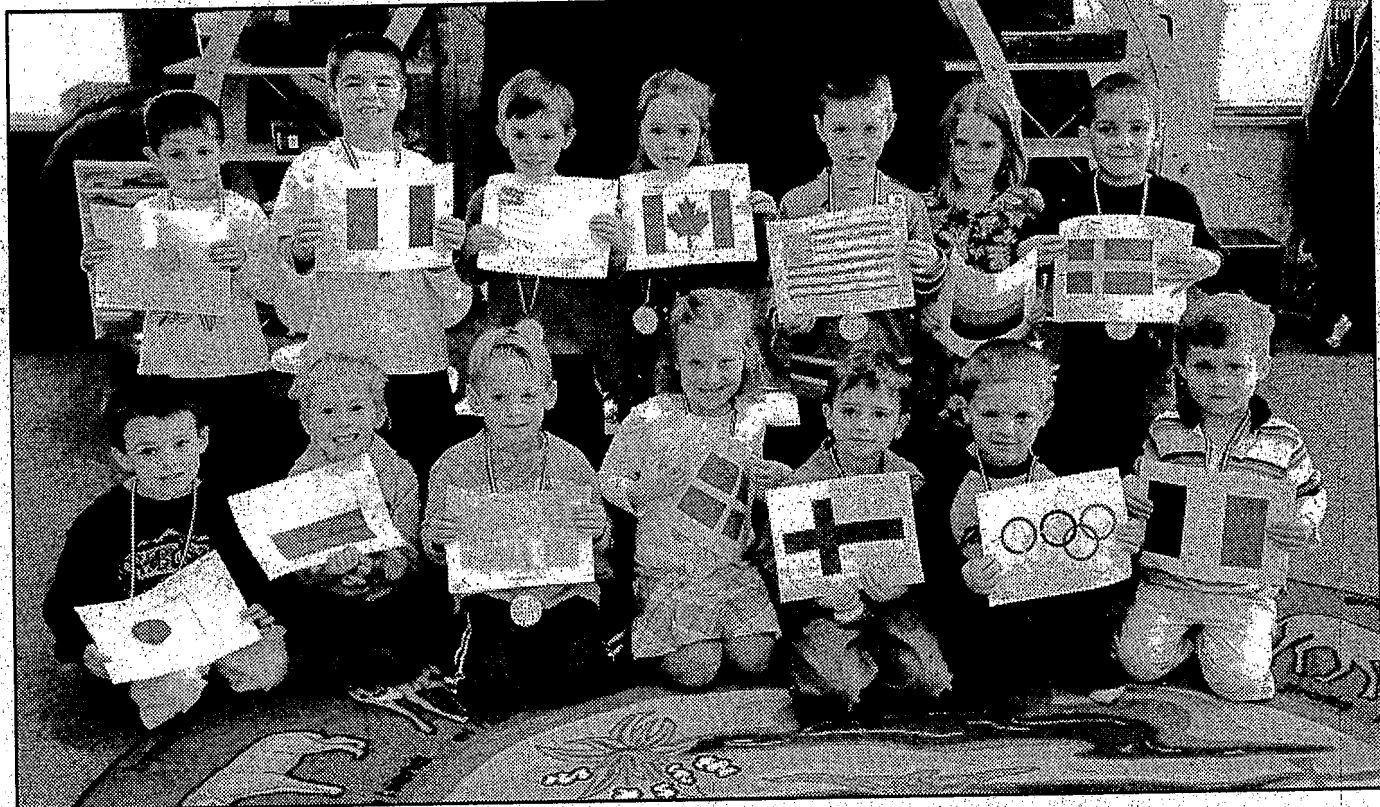
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that special assessment amounts and the apportionment of costs of lands within the Garner Special Assessment District for maintenance of the Garner Drain will be available for review on March 18, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office, One Public Works Drive, Waterford, MI 48328.

This special assessment will be levied on the 2011 winter taxes for properties located within the Garner Drainage District, described as those properties located in Sections 10 through 15, 21 through 28 and 33 through 36 in the Township of Rose, Sections 1 through 4 in the Charter Township of Highland and Sections 1, 8, 19 and 30 in the Charter Township of Springfield.

Therefore, all unknown and non-resident persons, owners and persons interested in the above described lands, and the County Clerk of Oakland County, Board of Oakland County Road Commissioners, Charter Township of Highland Supervisor, Township of Rose Supervisor and the Charter Township of Springfield Supervisor are hereby notified that the time and place aforesaid and at such other time and place to which said day of review may be adjourned, the apportionment for benefits and the land comprised within the Garner Special Assessment District will be subject to review.

The owner of any land in the special assessment district or any city, village, township, district or county who may disagree with the apportionment of benefits may appeal the apportionment within ten days after this day of review of apportionments by making an application to the Oakland County Probate Court for appointment of a Board of Review, as provided in Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code (Act 40 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1956, as amended).

The County of Oakland will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the review should contact the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office at least one week in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.



Students earn gold in health

Students at School for the Mind and Body in Independence Township show off flags and medals they earned while learning about the Olympics. They also learned about exercise and nutrition during activities including a parade of nations, torch relay, skating and a medal ceremony. Photo provided

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.

SYNOPSIS

TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE FEBRUARY 23, 2010

1. The meeting of the Charter Township of Independence Board was called to order at 7:37 p.m., at the Independence Township Hall.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call: Present: Wallace, Lohmeier, Rosso, Carson, Wagner, Petterson
Absent: VanderVeen

There was a quorum.

4. The motion to amend the regular meeting schedule to make the February 23, 2010, a regular meeting of the Board passed unanimously.
5. The motion to add Plante & Moran Audit Engagement Letter to the Agenda passed unanimously.
6. Approved motion to adopt the budget process outline as presented.
7. Discussed Plante & Moran Engagement Letter.
8. Discussed requests of Department Heads to provide list of services and narrative.
9. Discussed the nature of the 3-year budgets to be prepared by the Department Heads.
10. Discussed the Department Heads providing information on cuts and priorities for the 2011 basis budget on a conceptual basis, along with the preparation of a conceptual narrative.
11. Discussed Department Heads providing fees/rates structure changes, cost recovery methods and other revenue possibilities.
12. Report year-to-date regarding Building and Planning Department from the Department Director.
13. Report on the status of the Building and Planning Department outsourcing from Trustee Wallace.
14. Report from Trustees Rosso and Petterson regarding negotiations with Township consultants.
15. Regular meeting was adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

Published: 3/3/2010

Around Town

Continued from page 2B

cation, cancer support group for people with any type of cancer, third Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m., Great Lakes Cancer Institute - Clarkston, Conference Room, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. Emotional support and education to help with adjustment and coping. Care-givers, family, and friends are welcome to attend with the cancer patient. Walk-ins welcome. 877-627-6248.

Meet and greet, North Oakland Bethany, last Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Mesquite Creek, 7228 N. Main St. 248-464-0756.

Introduction to Tai Chi for Adults 50+, 11 a.m.-12 p.m., Wednesdays, Carriage House, 6000 Clarkston Road. \$50 for 10 weeks. Drop in, \$6. 248-625-8231.

Zumba - Gold Fitness, Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m., Clarkston Specialty Health Center Community Room, 4800 Clintonville Road. Hypnotic musical rhythms, moves in a dynamic workout. Session I: through March 17, Session II: March 31-May 19. \$48 for 8 classes. 248-625-8231.

De-Stress Gentle Yoga, Wednesdays, March 3-April 4, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Carriage House, Clintonwood Park, Clarkston Road. \$42/seven weeks. Drop in, \$4. 248-625-8231.

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

Local Business Network, Ortonville/Clarkston Chapter, first and third Thursdays meets, 7:45-8:45 a.m., Harvestland Ministries, 5848 Clintonville Road. 248-505-5091. 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.

Coffee House, third Friday, 7 p.m., Peace Unity Church, 8080A Ortonville Road. Featured musicians, poets, dancers, other performers, open mic. Free. 248-625-5192.

Yoga for the fibromyalgia patient, 11:30 a.m., first Saturday. Taught by an instructor living with fibro. Support and community follows class; \$12 walk-in or purchase 10 visits for \$100 class card. Jewels Yoga and Fitness, 4612 Mountain View Trail, Clarkston. 248-390-9270.

Volunteering, Avalon Hospice, two hours a week or more, 800-664-6334; Oakland County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, 248-559-1147; Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Oakland County, 55+, 248-559-1147 ext. 3427.

Your Doctor Called.

She knows what's ailing you . . .
She says you need to relax and
subscribe to *The Clarkston News*.

Doctor's Warning: Some who have subscribed have been known to save money on local goods & services; find bargains or jobs in the classifieds; experience an increase in blood pressure after reading editorials and opinions; have a sense of serenity upon reading the police log and finding out some other neighborhood is being targeted by petty thieves; have feelings of empowerment by knowing what is going on, when it's happening, where and why.



'Scription Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

☐ 12-month \$30 (doctor's best diagnosis)

☐ 6-month \$18 (refills permitted)

☐ 3-month \$10 (refills encouraged)

Send check or money order to The Clarkston News, 5 South Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346
or call 248-625-3370 with your VISA, MASTERCARD or Discover

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

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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



Ad-vertiser,
Penny Stretcher,
The Citizen

CONDITIONS

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

Online Features

- ★ = Map
- ☺ = Picture

www.oxfordleader.com
www.lakeorionreview.com
www.clarkstonnews.com

Antiques & Collectibles	150	General	170	Pets	200
Appliances	160	Greetings	020	Produce	040
Auctions	090	Help Wanted	360	Real Estate	310
Auto Parts	240	Holiday Items	010	Rec. Equipment	180
Bus. Opportunities	330	Horses	220	Rec. Vehicles	280
Card of Thanks	380	Household	130	Rentals	290
Cars	250	In Memoriam	400	Services	410
Child Care	340	Lawn & Garden	080	Trucks	270
Computers	140	Livestock	210	Tutoring/Lessons	070
Craft Shows	120	Lost & Found	190	Vans	260
Farm Equipment	230	Manufactured Homes	320	Wanted	030
Firewood	050	Musical Instruments	060	Wanted To Rent	300
Free	100	Notices	390	Work Wanted	350
Garage Sales	110	Personals	370		

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

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

CORRECTIONS: Liability for any error may not exceed the cost of the space occupied by such an error. Correction deadline: Monday noon.

HOURS: Monday through Friday 8-5; Oxford - Saturday 9-Noon; Lake Orion & Clarkston Offices Closed Saturday

020 GREETINGS

DIVINE GRACE LUTHERAN School Open House, Saturday, March 6, 9am to Noon. Christian based preschool & K-8 elementary school programs. www.divinegrace.net or 248-391-1131 for more information. IIL122

SHERMAN PUBLICATIONS DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADS MONDAY NOON & CANCELLATION DEADLINE MONDAY NOON 248-628-4801

030 WANTED

WANTED- 12 FT. flat bottomed boat with small outboard motor. 248-877-4506 or 248-625-4506. IIC342

WANTED: 3 BAR STOOLS, excellent condition. 248-628-4562. IIL122

CASH FOR JUNK & unwanted vehicles. Free pick up of lawn tractors, etc. 248-870-7417. II

LOOKING FOR Repairable cars/ trucks. Up to \$5,000 cash paid. Quick pick up. 810-724-7847, 810-338-7770. IILZ134

WANTED
JUNK CARS, TRUCKS
& SCRAP METAL
TOP \$ PAID
248-860-5799

WANTED: OLD motorcycles, minibikes, ATVs and mopeds. Running or not. 810-338-6440. IIZX284

WANTED: Guns: Winchesters, Colts, Savage. Top dollar paid. 248-628-7086. IIL132

CASH FOR UNWANTED Vehicles. 248-914-8932. IIZX284

THE CHAIR DOCTOR WANTS Patients. Chairs reglued, repaired, refinished. Chair taining and upholstery. Call the Doctor at 248-625-0731. IICZ341

040 PRODUCE

SHELL CORN & hay, 1st cutting. Oxford area. 810-441-3888. IIL122

FIRST AND SECOND Cutting Hay, also straw. 586-752-2167 IIL132

4X5 ROUND BALES second cutting hay. Square bales straw. 248-431-1934. IIL122

1ST CUTTING HAY, no rain. \$3.50 per bale. 248-628-6739. IIL131

050 FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD DIMENSIONS: a full cord is 4'x4'x8' and 4'x2'x8' is half cord. A face cord is 4x8x16 and is 1/3 of a full cord. IIL34tfhd SEASONED FIREWOOD. Oak & cherry. 248-860-5799. IIL124

FIREWOOD, SEASONED MIXED Hardwood. 2 face cords delivered, \$100. 248-421-0222. IIL132

SEASONED QUALITY hardwood, cut and split, delivery available. 248-827-6316. IIZX284c

060 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

EXPERT
PIANO TUNING
Call Matt
248-766-3122

BACKSTAGE MUSIC Now Open. Buy, sell trade. Deals in guitars, amps, drums, pro sound. 1116 S. Lapeer Rd., Lake Orion. 248-693-9383. IIL45tfc

070 TUTORING/ LESSONS

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA from home. 6-8 weeks. Nationally accredited. Better opportunity for job placement. Payment plan. Free Brochure 1-800-264-8330 www.diplomafromhome.com Benjamin Franklin High School. IICPM1

KNITTING OR CROCHET lessons in my home or yours. 248-494-0623. IIC314

AIRLINES ARE HIRING- Train for high paying Aviation Maintenance Career, FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified- housing available. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 888-349-5387 IICPM1

DRUM LESSONS with a very experienced teacher. 248-770-1319 IIL114

080 LAWN & GARDEN

RECONDITIONED LAWN and Garden tractors, snowplows and blowers, also repairs. 810-397-2944. IIZX274

090 AUCTIONS

TAX FORECLOSURE SALE- www.allstateauctions.com Acreage, cabins, waterfront, houses, condos. Make an offer. Must be sold asap. IICPM1

100 FREE

ESTIMATES

Furnace & Installations as low as \$950.

All Seasons Heating & Cooling 248-230-5279

L114

FREE JET TUB, you remove, great condition, 248-882-1503 IIC341f

110 GARAGE SALE

OAYA/CERC

Mom2Mom Sale

90 seller spaces to shop for great new or used children's clothes, toys, furniture, etc.

CERC 455 E. Scripps Rd, Lake Orion: Sat. 3-6-10

9am-1pm. Admission: \$1 Benefits OAYA & CERC

Call Kelli 248-693-6878 or kjohnson1@lakeorion.k12.mi.us

LZ131

MOM2MOM SELLERS WANTED: \$15 table until March 6th, \$20 after. Sale on Saturday, March 20th, 9am-12noon. Christ the King, 1550 W. Drahner, Oxford, 48371. Contact ntoth24@gmail.com or 248-860-6123. IIL104

OAKLAND COUNTY FLEA and Farm Market, 2350 Pontiac Lake Rd, Waterford. 248-858-5495. Hours: Saturday March 6 & 13, 6:30am-2:00pm, Sunday March 7 & 14, 9:00am-4:00pm IIC342

LAZY BOY DUAL RECLINER, micro suede bomber jacket material sofa. Excellent condition. Comes with solid wood Thomasville coffee table. \$550. 248-408-4459. IIL122

FREE RECLINER Sofa, good condition, beige plaid. Call 248-628-0474 IIL131f

SHERMAN PUBLICATIONS

DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADS

MONDAY

NOON

& CANCELLATION DEADLINE MONDAY NOON

Oxford Leader & Ad-Vertiser 248-628-4801

Clarkston News & Penny Stretcher 248-625-3370

Lk. Orion Review 248-693-8331

(Holiday deadlines may apply) L28-dh

DO YOU SEE A ☺ OR A ★

NEXT TO AN AD? Check our classifieds on-line for a photo or a Google map. Oxfordleader.com IIL19-tfhd

GARAGE SALE IN the Dining Room. Scrapbooking items, craft items, all sizes Womens clothing, & misc. March 4-5, 10am-4pm. 495 E. Drahner, Oxford. IIL131

MOVING SALE. SUNDAY Only, March 7th, 8am-5pm. 6270 Flemings Lk. Rd., Clarkston. (Across from Clarkston High School ball field). IIC341

GARAGE SALE. March 6, 8am-3pm. Oxford Elementary, 109 Pontiac St. Antique sewing machine cabinet, twin bed frame, rocker recliner, and much more! Benefits OHS Senior All Night Party. IIL131

120 CRAFT SHOWS

CRAFT AND BAKE Sale- 345 Ball St., Ortonville. March 13, 9am-4pm. Table rental available. 248-627-6447. IIZX301

DAVIDSON H.S. Spring Spectacular. April 17-18. For space: 810-658-8080 or 810-658-0440. IIZX284

130 HOUSEHOLD

Ye Olde Stuff & Antiques Downtown Orion's unique place of treasures. Stop & see our New Bath Collection Room: Antique & Modern Bath Cabinets, Mirrors, Sinks! Downtown Lake Orion 20 E Front! Wed-Sat 12-6 R135

150 ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

160 APPLIANCES

170 GENERAL

180 REC. EQUIPMENT

A TEMPERADIC STYLE Memory Foam Mattress set. Queen, new-never used, as seen on TV, with warranty. Cost \$1800/ sell \$695. Can deliver. 989-832-2401 IICPM1

☺ OAK DINING ROOM table with

18" leaf. Has parquet design table top, solid oak legs, 4 chairs, need some TLC or a chair doctor. See www.clarkstonnews.com and checkout pictures on the website classifieds. This is a substantial piece of furniture, \$100 obo. Call 810-636-3798 from 4-9pm IILZ4tfhd

ANTIQUE DROP LEAF table, \$150; Antique round oak table, 48", \$150. 248-628-5824 after 5:30pm. IILZ39tfhd

A AMISH LOG Headboard and queen pillow top mattress set. Brand new, never used. Sell all for \$275. 989-923-1278. IICP

140 COMPUTERS

COMPUTER PROBLEMS? Microsoft Certified Technician. Free diagnostic. John: 248-892-5687 (Clarkston). IILZ124

COMPUTER PROBLEMS?

Remove unwanted software, spyware, viruses. Is your computer as fast & stable as mine? Onsite at your convenience. Refurbished computers for sale. Free follow-up tech support. Scotty 248-245-9411. IILZ134

LAPTOPS & COMPUTERS

Rebuilt.....\$75 and up

Flat Panel Monitors Starting at \$45. Call Bernie

248-814-8633

R135

150 ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

Ye Olde Stuff & Antiques Downtown Orion's unique place of treasures. Stop & see our New Bath Collection Room: Antique & Modern Bath Cabinets, Mirrors, Sinks! Downtown Lake Orion 20 E Front! Wed-Sat 12-6 R135

160 APPLIANCES

170 GENERAL

180 REC. EQUIPMENT

2 PIECE MARBLE top sideboard, couple fixable problems. \$60. 248-693-3717. IIL122

☺ FLOOR MODEL Columbia

Grafonala (Victrola). Crank it up and listen to those 78's. \$300. gets you the music box, lots of 78's and a magazine ad from 1919. Call 810-636-3798 from 4-9pm. Pictures online at www.oxfordleader.com. IIL1tfhd

ANTIQUE DROP LEAF table,

48", \$150. 248-628-5824 after 5:30pm. IILZ39tfhd

WHIRLPOOL GOLD QUIET Partner III dishwasher, stainless steel, \$275. 248-588-5279 IILZ132

WHIRLPOOL LARGE Capacity gas dryer, extra large capacity Roper washing machine. Both run great. Replaced with high efficiency models. \$225 for both. Call Mike 586-703-3643 IIL13-2

170 GENERAL

SMALL PART SANDBLASTING. Auto, Home, Manufacturing parts. Reasonable rates. 248-628-6294. IIL131

C.C.W. CLASS MARCH 21st, 2010, 11:00 at Elks Club. For info call Paul 248-628-1363. IIL132

FOR SALE: a very nice black ventless gas space heater stove with the fake log look, \$200. For more info, call 248-236-8521. IIL102dh

AMWAY GLOBAL 180 has nutrition, cosmetics & home products. 588-336-4036. IIL134

HARD RUSTY WATER. Bill Miller & Family. Reconditioned and new water softeners since 1952. 248-693-8233. IIL132

ATTEND COLLEGE online from home. Medical, Business, Paralegal, Accounting, Criminal Justice. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial aid if qualified. Call 877-895-1828. www.CenturaOnline.com IICPM

COMMUNITY PAPERS provide a valuable service to your community! Thank you for reading this publication! IICPM1

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES Lifetime membership. 5 parks in Michigan. \$3,000. Call 248-634-5685. IIC332

ROLLED TICKETS

DOUBLE & SINGLE ROLLS Assorted Colors Lake Orion Review Oxford Leader Clarkston News

LX28-tf

FAX* Your Classified Ads 24 Hours a day

Include BILLING NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER and a DAYTIME NUMBER where you can be reached to verify placement and price of ad. Fax numbers are:

*THE OXFORD LEADER
*THE AD-VERTISER
248-628-9750
*THE LAKE ORION REVIEW
248-693-5712
*THE CLARKSTON NEWS & PENNY STRETCHER
248-625-0706
For additional cost add THE CITIZEN
248-627-4408

LZ8tf

☺ FLOOR MODEL Columbia Grafonala (Victrola). Crank it up and listen to those 78's. \$300. gets you the music box, lots of 78's and a magazine ad from 1919. Call 810-636-3798 from 4-9pm. Pictures online at www.oxfordleader.com. IILZ4tfhd

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*THE CLARKSTON NEWS & PENNY STRETCHER
248-625-0706
For additional cost add THE CITIZEN
248-627-4408

LZ8tf

ERECTED POLE Building- Standale Lumber 24'x32'x8' \$5999.00; 30'x40'x10' \$8999.00 Shingle roof, doors included, other sizes available. Complete material packages available www.standalelumber.com Call Standale Post Frame Buildings Toll Free 1-800-868-8201 IICPM1

TWIN BED, clean, with brass headboard, \$50. Industrial Sewing Machine, good condition, \$100. 6-place Gun cabinet, \$50. Singer sewing machine with wooden cabinet, \$50. 248-343-9322. IIL132

2005 FLATBED TRAILER for sale. Econoline 23', 16 ton, dual axles, electric brakes. Great condition. \$4,000 firm. Call 248-628-1019. IILZ10dhtf

WE'VE MOVED! 2nd CHANCE LUMBER Is no longer at Express Storage Our New Location is 2271 Metamora Rd.

New lumber at discount prices. Standard & treated 2x4's through 2x12's plus 4x4's, 4x6's and 6x6's. Any size lumber available/any quantity.

Winter hours 9AM to 5PM Monday through Saturday Phone 248-867-4408

L132

GET DISH- FREE installation- \$19.99/mo. HBO & Showtime free. Over 150 HD channels free. Lowest prices. No equipment to buy! Call now for full details- 1-877-238-8406. IICPM1

STEEL BUILDINGS: 6 only 18x24, 25x34, 30x38, 40x54, 45x74, 80x150. Must move now! Selling for balance owed! Still crated! Free delivery! 1-800-211-9593 X281 IICPM1

☺ OAK DINING ROOM table with 18" leaf. Has parquet design table top, solid oak legs, 4 chairs, need some TLC or a chair doctor. See www.clarkstonnews.com and checkout pictures on the website classifieds. This is a substantial piece of furniture, \$100 obo. Call 810-636-3798 from 4-9pm IILZ

GET DISH- FREE installation- \$19.99/mo. HBO & Showtime free. Over 150 HD channels free. Lowest prices. No equipment to buy! Call now for full details- 1-877-227-2896. IICPM1

180 REC. EQUIPMENT

HUNDREDS OF GOLF Balls with experience. Pick a brand, Pick a price, \$1.00 to \$6.00 a dozen. Mixed variety \$21.00 for 6 dozen. Call 248-693-4105. IILZ

SCHWINN AIR DYNE, excellent condition, with speedo timer. Its ready to exercise you! \$200. 248-909-4946. IIL132

LaCROSSE YOUTH SMALL gear. Brine Mfr: shoulder/ chest & elbow pads, full protection helmet, gloves. Mint- paid \$172. 248-240-5395. \$80. IIC342f

100 REC. EQUIPMENT

SHORE STATION HOIST, 3,500 lbs. \$1,475. Jet Ski hoist, \$375. 248-620-1053. IIC2342

BOAT LIFT WITH TOP, can be moved over the ice, \$1,500. 248-421-1034. IIR122

150 LOST & FOUND

FOUND- MALE CAT, Goodrich, Hegel/ Ridge Rd. White/ grey patches, grey tail, declawed. 810-636-7320. IIL2131f

FOUND: LITTLE WHITE dog, Call & describe. 248-894-6223. IIC341f

DELL STUDIO LAPTOP Computer missing from Brandon High School. Reward! 248-627-4920. IIZ302f

200 PETS

AKC BULLMASTIFF puppies, brindle in color. \$1,000. 810-343-3191. IIL122

HUSKY MIX, 1 year old, shots up to date, neutered, 2010 tags, moving- can't take him with me. \$100. 248-705-1032. IIZX302

FREE- 2 CATS need loving home; need to be "only pets" as are declawed; I want them to go to same home. 248-495-0535. IIL122

SOPHIE WAS ABANDONED. She is a young black & white Kitty, spayed and all shots. She is shy but very loving. She needs a "forever" home. 248-831-6495. IIL122

BEAUTIFUL, HEALTHY 10 year old female buff. cocker spaniel. Free to good person. Prefer older lady. Quiet & well behaved. Circumstances changed & don't like leaving home alone 10 hours daily. Orion, 248-891-6726. IIL122

220 HORSES

10x12 STALLS, 4 board fencing, daily turnout & cleaning, safe family care. \$220. monthly. 248-379-3521. IIL123

READY FOR SHOW Season? Private Boarding Facility, indoor arena, daily turnout. Your trainer welcome. Goodrich area. 810-636-7052. IIZX303

HORSE NEEDS GOOD HOME, sweet mare & saddle, \$500. 248-236-8414. IIL122

BEAUTIFUL BLACK PERCHERON, 15yrs. old Gelding, bomb proof. Rides & drives perfect. Harness available. Horse & harness, \$2,200. 248-789-8239. IIL21

240 AUTO PARTS

1942 THROUGH 1948 Ford Coupe seats, useable as is, front & rear. \$500. 1942 through 1948 Ford 2 door sedan seat frames- 2 sets, \$200 each. Two 1942 through 1948 Ford gas tanks, \$25 each. 248-628-6486. IIL43dhtf

250 CARS

2002 CAMARO, 188K miles, red, great shape, runs good! Fully loaded, everything works. Good tires, no dents or rust. \$3,700. 248-421-0783. IIL2114

DO YOU SEE A ☺ OR A ★

NEXT TO AN AD? Check our classifieds on-line for a photo or a Google map. Oxfordleader.com IIL19-1fdh

2001 HONDA ACCORD, 134,000 miles. 4cyl. 5 speed. Lots of extras. Asking \$4,650 or trade for pickup. 248-343-5815. IIC22712

2001 CHEVY PRISM, 4-door, 130K, red, excellent transportation, needs nothing. \$2,899. obo. 248-627-8929. IIZX2112

2008 CHEVY COBALT, 4dr, auto, all power, 19,000 miles; like new, no smoker, \$7,800. 248-628-9738. IIL2812

★ 2004 PONTIAC VIBE

13,000 miles. Shadow gray, front wheel drive, 4 door, roof rack, power group package. Excellent condition. Asking \$9,400. Call Bob at 248-514-0888. IIL2912

1994 MERCURY SABLE, 4 door, blue/ frost in color, 108K, excellent condition, fully maintained, very clean car, \$1,792 obo. 248-627-8929. IIZX2512

260 VANS

1999 DODGE MINI van, white. 150,000 miles. Leather interior. \$2,500. 248-640-1549. 248-391-7903. IIL2104

1998 TOYOTA SIENNA, white. 92,000 miles. leather interior. \$3,500. Good condition. 248-640-1549. 248-391-7903. IIL2104

DODGE RAM 1500, 2002, conversion van. Fully loaded, cloth seats, DVD player, running boards. Like new. 31,000 miles. \$14,500. 248-391-1957. IIL21212

1998 DODGE RAM, Conversion van, 133,000 miles; runs great, good condition, \$3,000. 248-989-2344. IIL132

270 TRUCKS

2001 MAZDA B2000 pickup, Florida truck, auto, full power, matching fiberglass cap, extra nice. \$5250 obo. 248-467-4870. IIL298

2005 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4 shorty, 6 cylinder, 59,000 miles. Like new. \$12,800 or best. 810-664-9380. IIL2812

1995 CHEVY SILVERADO Extended Cab, 4WD, 75,000 miles, with snowplow- easy on/ off. Power windows & locks. New brakes, exhaust system, radiator, wheel bearing. Runs great. Excellent buy! \$7,500. 248-431-2249. Clarkston. IIL21312

1999 ISUZU TRUCK, 4WD diesel. \$5,200. Excellent condition. 200,000 miles. 248-640-1549. 248-391-7903. IIL2104

GMC PLOW TRUCK 1993 Sierra. Regular cab, slate gray. One owner, like new, nonsmoker. All service records. 8' bed, cap, western plow, professionally installed by Bostick GMC. \$6,000 obo. 248-225-8808. IIL2104

'89 CHEVY STEP SIDE, very clean, Must See! New tires and rims. 2-wheel drive. \$3,000. obo. 248-467-4910. IIL2118

2002 CHEVY S10 PICKUP Truck, extended cab, 4.3 V8 engine, 4WD. Many extras! Excellent condition. 71,000 miles. Front brakes recently replaced. \$8,545. Call 248-391-3271. IIL2118

2008 CHEVY 1/2 Ton Pickup, warranty for 100,000 mile bumper to bumper, 58,000 actual miles, 8cyl, 5sp, 22 mpg, cab, sprayed in bed liner, \$9,250 obo. 810-577-7223

JEEP WRANGLER X 2005 Rocky Mountain Edition, 30,000 miles, excellent condition, extended warranty, 8cyl, automatic, silver with gray interior, \$14,500 248-219-2687. IIL2118

280 REC. VEHICLES

MOTHER KNOWS BEST. Eat your vegetables, brush your teeth, and read the Want Ads, 10 words, 2 weeks \$13.00. Over 44,000 homes. 248-628-4801, 248-693-8331, 248-625-3370. IIL8dhtf

290 RENTALS

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT, Oxford. \$450. monthly, plus deposit. 586-457-7723. IIL132

VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON, 2 bedroom townhouse, free health club. \$700/ month. 248-625-5121. IIL2134

STORAGE GARAGE 12' 10" X 23', \$85 monthly or \$950 annually. Oxford area. 248-628-3433. IIL132

AVAILABLE NOW!

Office space for lease in downtown Clarkston. Approx 1,000 sq.ft. w/ 4 rooms \$1,600 per month. Heat and electric included. Security deposit required.

Second floor of the Clarkston News Building 5 S. Main St. 248-625-3370. IIL244tdhf

2 BEDROOM, 1 BATH home, downtown Lake Orion, includes 2-1/2 car garage, \$775. monthly, plus utilities. 248-628-3433. IIL132

2 BEDROOM HOUSE, Oxford. Recently redecorated, workshop included. \$650. monthly, plus deposit. 586-457-7723. IIL132

LAKE ORION UPDATED 3 Bedroom ranch, finished walkout. New hardwood, ceramic, carpeting on floors, new windows, blinds, sharp! \$1,150. monthly. No smokers. 248-240-0114. IIL12tfc

1 AND 2 BEDROOM Ranch style apartments. Fireplaces, private entrances. Move In Specials. 248-634-3300. IIL2114

HOME FOR RENT Lake Orion: Nice neighborhood, large fenced in yard, 1 car garage, 900 sq. ft., 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly remodeled, very nice, very clean. \$900. monthly. 248-693-4717. IIL122

OAK FOREST APARTMENTS, Lake Orion, O.F.A. \$199 move-in special plus free rent. Call 248-693-7120. IIL124

LARGE 2 BEDROOM Apartment, Oxford. Rent includes all utilities. \$725/ month, plus deposit. 586-457-7723. IIL132

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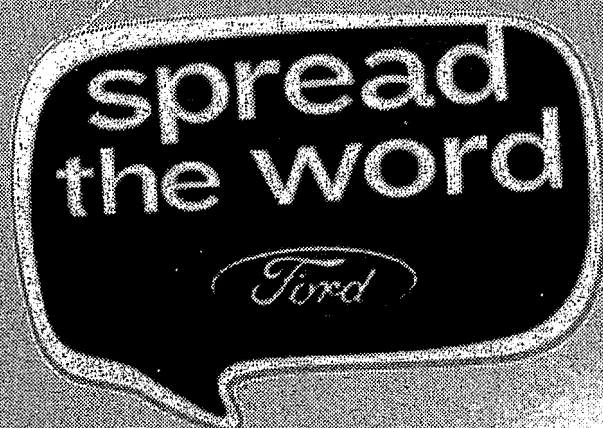
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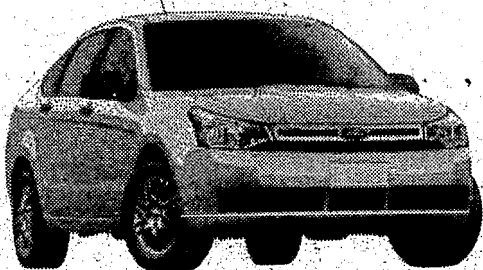
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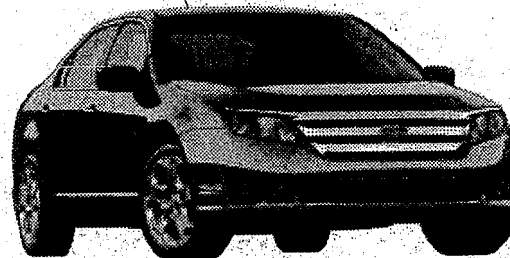
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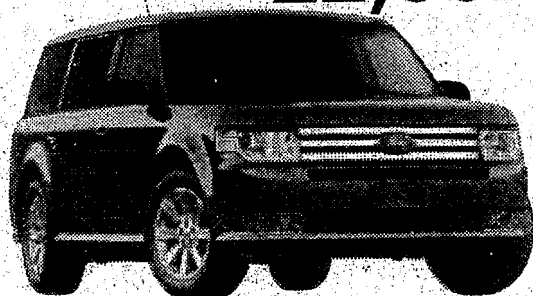
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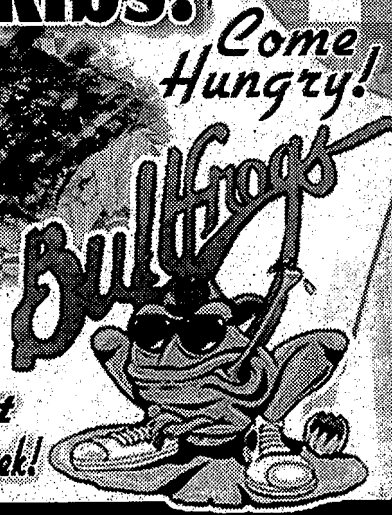
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- 05 Ford Escape XLT
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4WD, Power Moon, Loaded, Only **13,988**
- 06 Chevy Trailblazer 4WD
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- 05 Cadillac Escalade EXT
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New Tires, Only **18,988**
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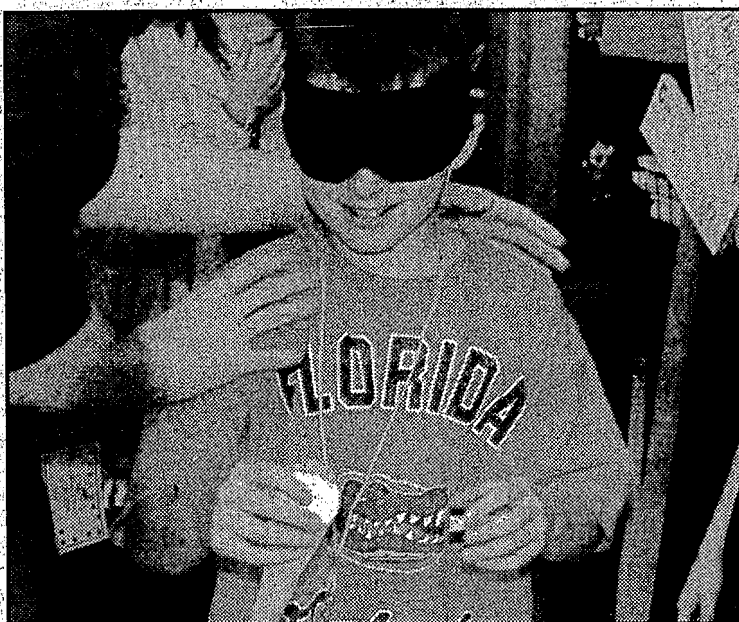
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Tristen Dillon lines up his car in the Springfield 500.



Emma Hall makes a pretty necklace.



Brady Dickens gets spun around before pinning a tail on the donkey.

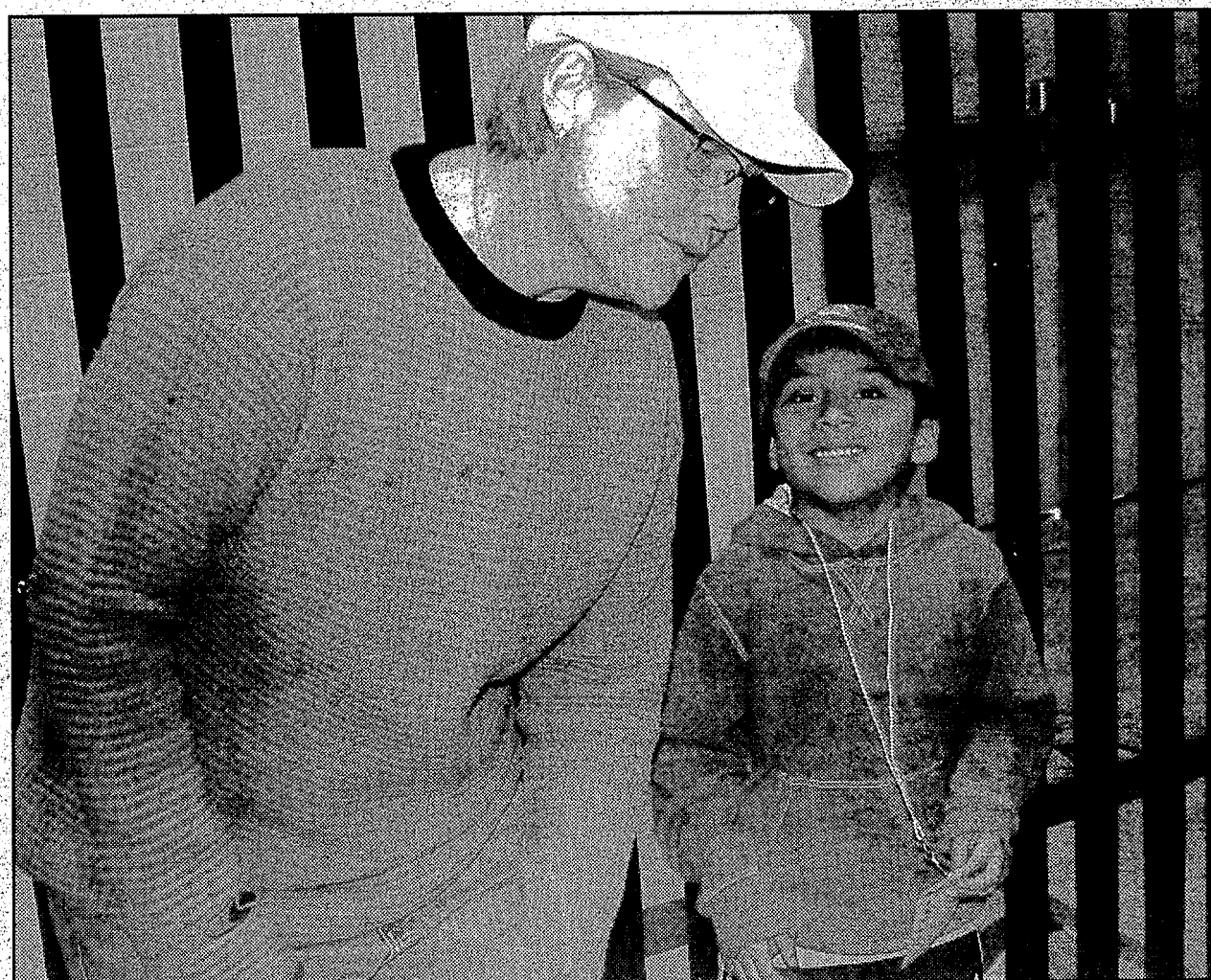
Dolphins splash for fun

It was a rare sight to see on a Saturday – students in school. But no one had books in hand at Springfield Plains Elementary, as they traveled from game to game for the school's fair. Everyone left happy, tired and full from all the treats.

Photo story by Wendi Reardon



She's a pro! Rebecca Peart prepares to swing for another hole in one.



Josephine and Ethan Faggan sing their way out of the Oakland County Sheriff Department's jail.