

The Clarkston News

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Vol. 84 No. 3 Wed., November 24, 2010

2 Sections, 36 pages 50¢

Budget info irks resident

BY TREVOR KEISER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

When Rick Gutowski of Independence Township asked for a copy of the proposed 2011 budget at township hall, he was handed a 48-page document without public works or police budgets.

"In my opinion, expecting citizens to analyze this data is asking a lot," he said to the township board at the Nov. 16 meeting. "If I had given my boss the raw data from testing and told her to analyze it, I would have been fired."

All Parks and Recreations special events remain on the chopping block in the proposed \$23.6 million expected revenue budget.



Gutowski

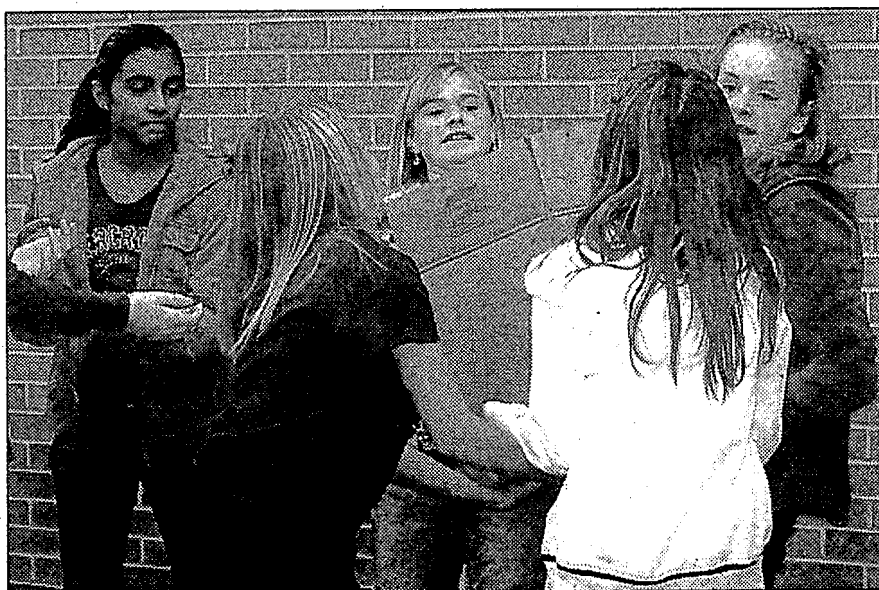
Proposed cuts also include lifeguards for Deer Lake Beach and swim lessons. All special events plus swim lessons and manning Deer Lake Beach costs the township around \$47,000.

Trustee David Lohmeier said the board didn't get anything better than what the public got, as far as he knows, and he believes Gutowski's comments were right on.

"His biggest complaint was lack of a simple narrative that goes item by item and says what the budget doesn't fund and he was 100 percent right," Lohmeier said. "There is no reason we shouldn't have that."

Supervisor David Wagner said they try to give as much information to the public as they can.

Please see Cuts on page 4A



Sashabaw Middle School students work to load thousands of donated cans and boxes on a truck for Lighthouse North. Photo by Phil Custodio

Hard work for families in need

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Food donations collected by Sashabaw Middle School students will help feed families in need this holiday season.

"With donations from students, churches, businesses, and individuals, we have enough food for everybody for Thanksgiving," said Connie Stapleton, manager of Lighthouse Emergency Services of Independence Township. "Now we're gearing up for the Christmas holiday."

Students with the school Student Leadership Club and Student Council led the collection effort for Lighthouse, said Missy Ludd, teacher and club advisor.

"We've collected lots," Ludd said. "We have one seventh grade teacher that is in

the lead for this side of the building and she has over 250 nonperishable items to donate; same as the sixth grade side, a teacher has collected over 200 items. It's been a competition between first-hour classes."

The students gathered, Nov. 19, to deliver the food to Lighthouse on Sashabaw Road.

"The students did wonderfully - they're very efficient and stacked the donations in the building," Stapleton said.

"Today, we witnessed the success of our students' canned food drive by collecting nearly 4,000 items, which is only one of the many ways our students provide a service for our community," said Principal Todd Bidlack. "We are very

Please see Lighthouse on page 5A

'Tis the season to shop locally

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Black Friday usually means the mall, but for Clarkston store owners Ann Stevenson and Shari Schulz, it's an opportunity for them, too.

"Shop locally - avoid the hassle of traffic and the mall," Schulz said. "We open at 9 a.m. so you don't have to get up early."

Or folks can come by for dinner and shopping for more specialty items in Clarkston, said Stevenson, owner of Union General, 50 S. Main Street.

"Come see us in the evening after the mall," she said.

Union General offers 20 percent off holiday decor, as well as free samples, appetizers, and wine tasting, and Schulz' Chi Chi La La Boutique and Clarkston Flower Shoppe, 7150 N. Main Street, offers 25 percent off coats, Nov. 26, the day after Thanksgiving.

Downtown businesses also got an early start on the holiday shopping season with a Holiday Walk, Nov. 13.

"It's a good way to roll into the season and bring people in," Stevenson said. "It truly is a great way to get customers ready for the shopping season with an awareness of spending their money locally in the village."

Clarkston Retailer's Group hosted its annual Holiday Walk, offering wine tasting

Please see Deals on page 16A



Ann Stevenson, right, talks to shoppers during the Holiday Walk. Photo by Phil Custodio

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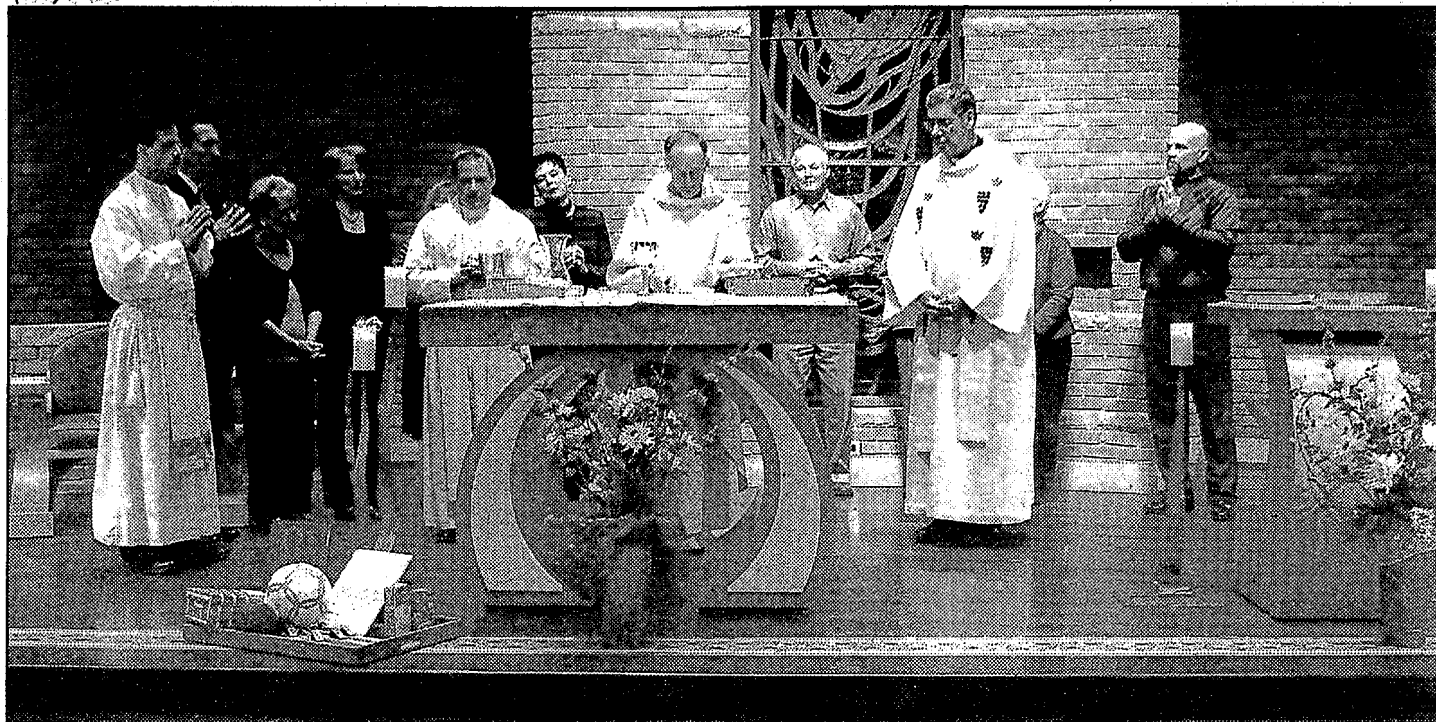
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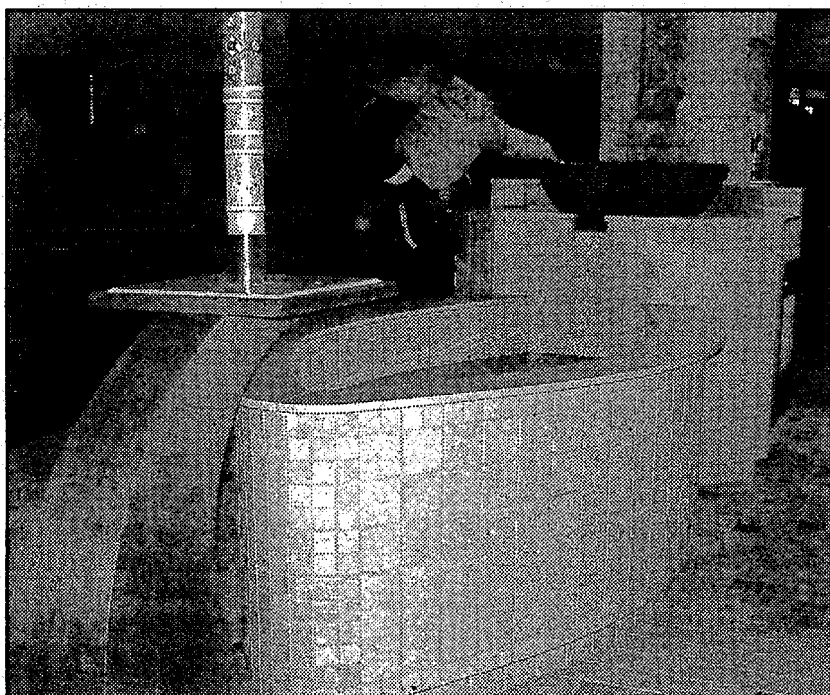
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Rev. Msgr. John Zenz, in middle, with Fr. Christopher Maus, to his right, and guest celebrants and parishioners, conducts Mass using the new altar. Photos by Phil Custodio



Parishioners try out the new Baptismal font.

Altar makeover

The Rev. Msgr. John Zenz, episcopal vicar of the Archdiocese of Detroit, presided at the dedication of St. Daniel Church's new altar furnishings at a special 1 p.m. Mass, Nov. 21.

"The ceremony is rich in symbolism, inspiration and filled with the power of the Holy Spirit," said Fr. Christopher Maus.

The \$670,000 project included new stone aisle flooring, new carpeting under the pews, new cherry wood pews, enhanced lighting, new altar furnishings – altar, ambo podium, Baptismal font and presider's chair – improved water sprinklers, new sound system and new artwork, including limestone Beatitudes and a large baptismal piece incorporated into the baptismal font.

The former glass back wall was eliminated and seating extended into the former gathering space to provide additional seating, particularly for holiday celebrations and crowded Masses. The baptismal font was moved toward the back, in keeping with church standards to welcome the newly-baptized into the church.

The church, on Holcomb Road at Miller, was constructed in 1981 for the parish, which was established in 1961.

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Briefly

Coffee Club cancelled for Thanksgiving

No Coffee Club this week, in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday.
Club meeting resume next week, Thursday, Dec. 2, 7:30 a.m., at Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6060 Waldon Road.

Commission opening

Clarkston City Council is looking for candidates to appoint to the Clarkston Historic Commission.
Applicants must be a resident of the city. For more information, call city hall, 375 Depot Street, at 248-625-1559.

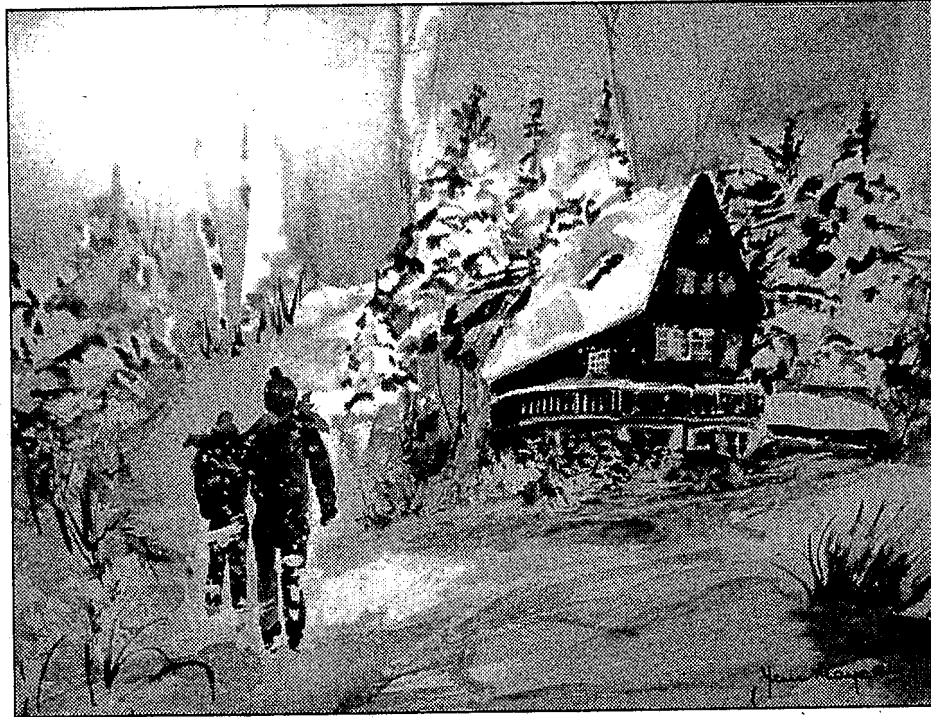
Sale for Shoes

Clarkston Rotarians and volunteers will be selling a special Rotay edition of their Goodfellows Newspaper at the corner of Main and Washington streets, Maybee at Dixie, and Sashabaw at Maybee from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Dec. 3-4.

Donations allow the Clarkston Rotary to provide new shoes and boots, hats, mittens and gloves to 500 community children that have been signed up, according to "Shoes for Kids" chairperson Joel DeLong.

In addition, newspapers will also be sold by Boy Scout Troop 199 on Saturday at the Clarkston Women's Club's Christmas Greens sale at the Church of the Resurrection and the Independence Township Library on Clarkston Road.

All donations go directly to Shoes for Kids. Donations can be mailed directly to Goodfellows, c/o Clarkston Rotary Club, PO Box 43, Clarkston, MI 48347.



Jan Mayer created the artwork for this Christmas card, sold at Clarkston United Methodist Church to help those in need.

Cards for a good cause

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

An idyllic winter scene graces this year's Christmas cards offered by Clarkston United Methodist Church.

"The scene is something I thought of from my trips going up north and to Europe – it's no specific spot," said artist and church member Jan Mayer. "It's main purpose is to help others in the community."

She hopes to raise \$1,000-1,500 for the Pastoral Emergency Fund.

"Jan did this on her own – it's a great gift," said the Rev. Richard Dake, pastor at Clarkston United Methodist Church.

The money will be used to provide direct assistance to individuals who need help with food, gas, rent, food, and other needs, Dake said.

"Diapers, formula – items to serve families' immediate needs," Dake said. "If it helps

a family stay in their home, that's significant – and it makes people aware of ministry."

They work with Lighthouse North in vetting, he said.

"Demand has increased significantly," he said. "Before, we'd have one or two a month. Now, we have up to several each week."

Clarkston United Methodist works with other churches in the area to help those in need.

"If we don't have what is needed, we'll call other churches and sort out who has what," he said.

Most live in the Clarkston and Waterford areas, with some from other areas such as Lake Orion.

"We try to help regionally, and take care of people in the immediate area," he said.

Cards are sold in the church office, 6600 Waldon Road. For more information, call 248-625-1611.

Lighthouse can earn \$75,000

Lighthouse Emergency Services can earn \$75,000 in grant money, but it needs help to do it.

Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan offers the grant as part of its Community Foundation Challenge – Emergency Food and Shelter program.

"It is a wonderful opportunity not only for us to have access to \$75,000 that can provide significant help to our clients but to help us increase the number of donors we can draw from and to expand our reach throughout this region," said Lighthouse President and CEO John Ziraldo.

For every \$1 of unrestricted donations Lighthouse receives from new donors or increased donations from existing supporters, the organization gets an extra 50 cents from the foundation, up to \$75,000.

The \$75,000 can be used for emergency food, shelter and other needs through Lighthouse Emergency Services.

Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, in partnership with the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation, announced the creation and launch of the year-long program to provide operating funds to emergency food and shelter organizations and increase fundraising.

The challenge program also provides training opportunities to help strengthen fund-raising capacity of a broader group of emergency food and shelter providers across southeast Michigan.

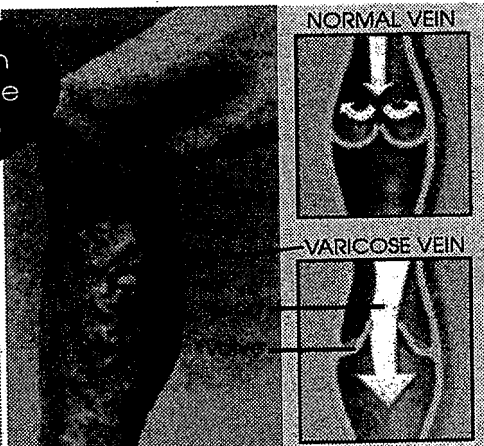
The Community Foundation has also challenged other area non-profit organizations but Lighthouse has earned one of the largest opportunities for matching gifts.

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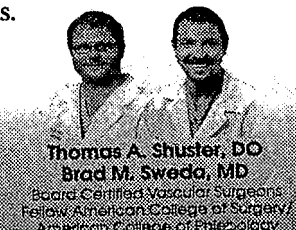


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Victorian singers to perform

The Festival Singers, Victorian-costumed musicians, present a free concert at Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road, 4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 28. A cookie reception will follow the concert and there will be a free will offering taken. For more information, check www.thefestivalsingers.com. *Photo provided*

Parks programs set for cuts

Continued from page 1A

"Basically the information that was given is what's been given out for years, it's no more, no less," Wagner said. "That's why we put it out there for a week in advance, so people are allowed to look at it, so if they have questions they can call the clerks office and get answers to their questions."

Gutowski called it a "crying shame" that Wagner doesn't "know the details of what the heck is going on in his executive function."

"I don't know what experience Dave has with doing multi-million dollar budget, but I think his experience is only the things he's gained the last six years in office," Gutowski said. "He doesn't direct anything. He takes the result and then tweaks it."

With all special events and Deer Lake swim lessons cancelled, Wagner recommended laying off a full-time programmer as well, which would save another \$75,000.

"When there aren't any programs anymore I don't really see a reason to have as many programmers when you don't have as many programs," Wagner said.

However Jeff Morris of Parks and Rec. said the special events are only about 30 percent of a programmer's job. If a full-time programmer was cut, they would probably recommend cutting all day camps, preschool camps, basketball camps, and therapeutic recreation programs as well.

"The other issue with cutting full-time programmer, there could be implications to losing the part-time programmer we have the senior center and that person does a lot of senior programs too," Morris said. "The AFSCME Union contract says we can not carry part-time employees if a full-time employee was cut."

Wagner said Tuesday morning, he decided against cutting a programmer.

"After the last meeting (and) listening to Parks representative Jeff, he presented a pretty good case on it," Wagner said. "With further discussion with him I thought maybe it wouldn't be a bad idea to just leave it in place."

Instead Wagner said he will leave the decision with the next Parks and Rec. director, who they hope to have the final three or four narrowed down in the next couple of weeks and hopefully have someone in place before the first of the year.

"I rather not jump the gun on the issue and allow the new individual to make that determination," Wagner said. "That person we're hiring is the expert in the field, maybe there is some new ideas they bring in that will allow us to not make any further cuts and reestablish some of the programs the Parks department has cut."

Gutowski said the budget also did not give any detail summary of the changes from prior years, which is required by state law.

"The reasons for the changes and a description of how the changes will impact township services would give a person the information necessary to make an informed comment at a public hearing," he said. "I think before you call the next public hearing, someone needs to look at this public act and take it to heart, that this isn't just putting a bunch of numbers together."

Gutowski holds both Supervisor Dave Wagner and Finance Director Susan Hendricks responsible for any budget information that doesn't get communicated.

"It's obvious to me the communication is to the board is just a tad better than what we're getting," he said.

Students help Lighthouse North

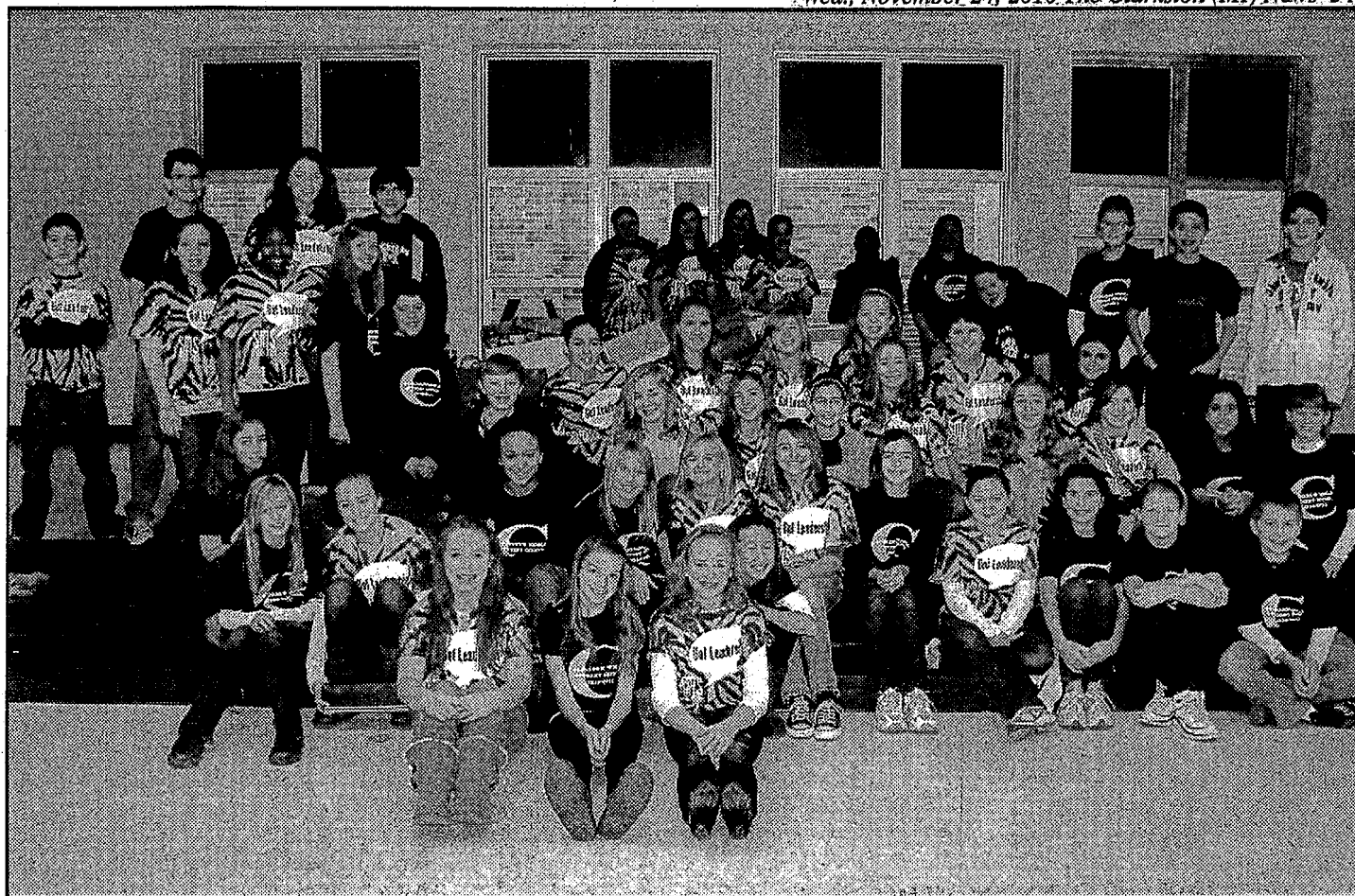
Continued from page 1A

proud of all of our young boys and girls and especially of our student leadership team and Mrs. Ludd for organizing this effort."

Demand for emergency services seems about the same as last year, but is expected to increase as winter kicks in and seasonal jobs come to an end. Lighthouse always needs donations of gift cards for local gas stations, Stapleton said.

"A lot of people are looking for work and have a real need for help with that," she said.

For more information on Lighthouse Emergency Services, 6330 Sashabaw Road, call 248-620-6116.



Sashabaw Middle School Leadership Club and Student Council members delivered thousands of donations to Lighthouse North. Photos by Phil Custodio





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Wendi's Word

A column by Wendi Reardon

50,000 Words

Congratulations to the Clarkston High School Girls Varsity Volleyball team for bringing home the MHSAA Regional trophy.

I knew you, Lady Wolves were going to beat Davison and Flushing for it.

I wish I had a happier ending for the rest of the season but I don't. In the finals, one team goes on and one ends their season. Clarkston lost in the Class A Quarterfinals to Farmington Hills Mercy on Nov. 16.

Now begins a new winter season. New faces bringing more talent to the Clarkston teams. Plus, with weeks

to come a peek at your Clarkston Wolves leading up to the community's most watched sport - boys basketball. Their first home game on Dec. 10. Can you believe it's almost the end of November already? Wasn't football just beginning?

This month has gone by too quickly especially when the last day hits Tuesday.

I put myself to the challenge this month and signed up for National Novel Writing Month for the third time.

I feel more motivated to do it now after hitting one of my goals of winning a Michigan Press Association award.

The terms are simple everyone has 30 days to write 50,000 words (or more). It averages to be 1,667 words a day. It can be done as long as plot bunnies don't take over, a massive road block lands in the midst of the pages and if pounding out so many words works into a day.

I have worked past the blocks by moving out of my chronological tendencies. Basically I work on the end while the great idea comes to get my character through her latest mischief.

I am happy to say I have written 24 times more than I did last year. But I am behind with less than a week to go and have to average more than 3,680 words to make it. My weekend will be busy.

I would like to say I calculated it, but my personal calculations were higher taking into account what Microsoft counts as a word such as a punctuation mark by itself. Most have been fixed but haven't gone through all of the 65 pages.

It's a good challenge. With luck I will finish the novel in 50,000 words or just be done and leave the revising for January.

If interested, check it out www.NaNoWriMo.org.



The Clarkston News Viewpoints

Bisio calls for less Cory criticism

Dear Editor,

The *Clarkston News* has published yet another letter from Cory Johnston lambasting the Clarkston city council and making conclusory, unspecific claims of improper, secret decisions "in violation of our own Ordinances, Charter and State Law."

The *News* consistently provides an open platform for Cory's drumbeat of criticism, even treating his opinions as though they were actual news and headlining them on the front page ("Cory calls for dissolving city," Aug. 25).

As Cory and you should know from my direct communications with you, from my campaign discussions, and from my Facebook comments both before and after my election to the city council, I'm not an apologist for the way things have been. There is much to be done to make the council more open and responsive.

But continued vague criticisms without offering constructive solutions other than the remote possibility of dissolving the city disserve the residents and businesses of Clarkston.

Even if Cory and the *News*—which seems to support dissolution—could persuade 15 percent of Clarkston voters to petition for dissolution and two thirds to vote for it, that's not going to happen tomorrow. In the meantime, we still have a city and a city government.

Both Cory and the *News* could more constructively work for realistic change.

Although the *News* gave Cory another quarter page to lambast the new council, it failed to report on anything that happened at the Nov. 8 council meeting that he criticizes.

It didn't report on my efforts, which continue, to make public the discussions that have been going on about the future use of the old township hall.

It didn't report accurately and fully on the

reasons for the council's decision not to expend more city resources appealing an adverse decision about the property at 164 North Main. It didn't bother to solicit a response to Cory's broad, vague criticisms.

Letters to the editor

If the *News* wants to be a better channel of communication to Clarkston residents and businesses regarding Clarkston government—which Editor Phil Custodio said before the election that he wanted—then you should have a more serious examination and discussion about what is going on.

How about a periodic point-counterpoint between Cory and me? Or a more thoughtful and in depth look at the workings of our city government. It's easy to sit on the sidelines and criticize. It takes more effort to act responsibly and offer constructive solutions. I hope to see better from the *News* in the future.

Richard Bisio
Clarkston

Editor's Note: Mr. Johnston's opinions run as letters to the editor, where The Clarkston News endeavors to publish as many viewpoints as possible. Mr. Johnston's are his. A newspaper's job is not to "constructively" do anything. It is to be a leader in the arena of ideas; it is not to paint rosy pictures; it is to report accurately. Please let us know where we did not report the facts accurately. As the readers' best interests are always at heart we do not publish transcripts of meetings, not that we could get them from the city if we wanted to, because the city makes it a habit of not recording their meetings, which has led to inaccurate portrayals of motions in the recent past. Not everybody uses social networking via computer to gather news -- we dabble there, but put more importance in print. We welcome yours and others opinion, even if they differ from ours.

Pastor differs on miracle of multitude

Dear Editor,

I regularly read your Spiritual Matters column, often with intrigue and interest. I must react against the Nov. 3, article written by the pastor of Peace Unity church and Holistic Center in reference to the feeding of the 5,000.

True, this miracle is recorded in each of the Gospels. In each of the Gospels there is a very specific referent: Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish.

After they were blessed He had His disciples distribute them. What is the "them"? The five loaves and the two fish.

It was Jesus who was moved to compassion for the people and showed His care to them in this miracle, not some "magic trick" as Pastor Long cites.

Where did the 12 baskets come from? From the bounty of God's hand.

God, Who provides, does so in ready manner here. This is what God's Word teaches.

This, rather than man's interpretation, is the teaching to which we must hold.

Pastor Kendall Schaeffer
St. Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

A Look Back

From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 1995

"Arbitration claim goes against township" Independence Township was awarded only \$100,000 of a \$4.9 million arbitration claim against securities brokers blamed for investment losses. Falling interest rates cost township investments more than \$3 million.

"Court dedicates new building" It looked and smelled new, with gray-blue carpeting and plush chairs gracing the lobby where charred remains stood months before. Judge Gerald McNally and County Executive L. Brooks Patterson dedicated the new 52-2 District Court-house.

"Future of Depot Street may be up to residents" Clarkston City Council considered ideas, including sidewalks on both sides, turning Depot into a one-way street, and constructing a 40-50 car, \$320,000 parking structure at the bottom of the hill.

25 years ago - 1985

"High steppin'" John Trohonawski lead a country and western dance class at Clarkston Elementary School, with Dottie Allen, Barb Schaffer, and 16 other students participating.

"Committee to recommend officials' salaries" Under Independence Township's new charter status, officials set up a Salary Recommending Committee to review board members' salaries. Before, residents would set salaries at annual meetings. The board had final say on their pay.

"Proposed master plan encourages more offices" Independence Township's proposed master plan encouraged more research office sites and discouraged strip commercial developments. Planners saw development concentrated near I-75 and Sashabaw Road, and M-15 and Dixie Highway.

50 years ago - 1960

"Pack 181 receives friendship letter" The Cub Scouts, led by Virgil VanHorn, were excited to receive a letter from Horst Hanover of Germany, in reply to their Friendship Scrapbook, "Cubs Join Hands Across the Sea."

"Friends of Art seek members" The new Village Friends of Art Association was dedicated to preservation of culture in the community. Mrs. Henry Storer was the organization's first president.

"Clarkston local" David and Paul DeLongchamp went deer hunting for three days, with Bucky and Paul Hinkley. They went to the Hinkley farm at Everat, Mich.

Thanks for *News* article help

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to send a quick note about the article Trevor did on the store my wife and I own, Top Shelf Clothing.

He did such a great job that we had customers come in the same day the newspaper was delivered.

His article was written so well that we had a customer admit to us that she had doubts about shopping at a resale shop until she read the article.

For us, that is obviously great, but for a journalist, I know it must be rewarding to know they have convinced their reader about a topic through their writing skills.

Anyway, I just wanted to let you know that his article changed some people's perceptions about shopping at a resale store and wanted you to know.

Thanks,

Bill Fowler, owner
Top Shelf Clothing of Clarkston

New arts center needed, reader says

Dear Editor,

In response to "Time marches on" column by editor Phil Custodio, Nov. 17, about the proposed Clarkston Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA) in downtown Clarkston.

I write this having just come from the funeral of a wonderful 94-year-old aunt. Fifty years ago she was as vital and vibrant as ever, but time takes its toll and she just wore out. Fortunately, her soul and spirit lives on.

Next year, both the Clarkston Conservatory of Music (CCM) and the Clarkston Village Players (CVP) celebrate 50 years of helping our community celebrate many forms of the arts, and have found a special place in our hearts.

Although they have functioned in the same facilities for most of those years, everything wears out sometime even as the spirit lives on.

CCM occupies a historic home on Main Street downtown. Its leaders and supporters have worked diligently over the years to make the building as flexible as possible, particularly as its usage has grown. One result is that the building has reached its capacity for service.

For example, other facilities have had to be used for years for recitals and similar events, requiring the movement and retuning of a concert piano after each move. And there is increasing need for more practice facilities than this building can accommodate.

CVP occupies the historic train depot on White Lake Road, along the railroad tracks two miles from the center of Clarkston. Over the years, energy, effort, and money have been invested in converting the building to make it into as comfortable and functional as possible for various kinds of theatrical productions.

However, CVP owns the building but not the land on which it sits. In fact, the building

straddles a line which separates two parcels of land with two different owners.

Some CVP members fear the day when a train may jump the track and wipe out the building and, perhaps, some occupants as happened in Springfield Township nine years ago. Also, separate facilities are used for rehearsals, when plays are in session, and for storage of sets, costumes, etc. And parking for events is a serious problem.

For years both CCM and CVP have sought other locations and means to move due to their various increased needs. About three years ago, representatives of the two organizations began conversations concerning how they might cooperate and coordinate some of their operational needs into a centrally located facility. Plans for CCPA grew out of those conversations.

The proposed CCPA building and location will compliment the character of the community, will not be visible from Main Street or Depot Park, and will not replace the current CCM and CVP buildings which will be used and maintained.

It will provide a compact building which is conveniently located, includes an appropriately intimate, 120-seat auditorium, including "fly space" above the stage for curtains, sets, lights, etc., additional music tutorial rooms, significant storage space, dressing rooms, restrooms, an elevator, and a "gallery," where visual art can be displayed. It is designed to provide a significant means of promoting all forms of performing and visual arts, with easy parking for visitors, and in walking distance for the residents of Clarkston.

The proposed Clarkston Center for the Performing Arts is intended to keep soul and spirit of arts in the city for at least the next 50 years.

Tom Stone
Clarkston

'And now . . . the rest of the story'

Lickity-split and just like that we are knee-deep into the holiday season. Hot damn and pass the eggnog!

I love this time of year . . . it is not even Thanksgiving yet, and I have Christmas music playing (softly, as not to bum out the rest of the staff here at the paper) on my computer. Picked up a new CD at the library, "Christmas With The Rat Pack." Pretty swingin' with Sammy Davis, Jr., Dean Martin and Frank Sinatra.

So, as I write this week, I am in a grand mood. At the time of writing, Thanksgiving is a week away. The Lions haven't embarrassed themselves in front of the rest of the nation, nor have they broken their fans' hearts with a close-but-no-cigar-loss.

Things are good . . . Dino is crooning, "What do I care how much it may storm? I've got my love to keep me warm."

The late radio commentator Paul Harvey used to have a segment called, "The Rest of The Story." He'd tell prologues to stories. To honor him, here are some epilogues from previous columns some readers have asked about.

1. *Your Hero (Me) And His Health*, published September 8. That week I shared with readers, this:

"So, a few weeks ago I went to my family doctor — Maria — who I actually went to high school with, and sometime between turning my head and coughing and getting probed, it was suggested I need to rethink what it is to live a healthy life.

"Sometime after I made the crude comment to the effect, 'too bad we didn't get together like this in high school' and exiting her office, Maria told me, get this, I was 'overweight.'

"I know, this "shocking" news wasn't really of the earth shattering, stop the presses variety. Until she threw in this stupid little word, 'obese.'"

A few weeks later, I got together with Clarkston area resident, Gary Zirwes, health-coach & Nutrilite representative. As of today, I have dropped 21 pounds. (Just in time to plump up again for the holidays? Stay tuned.)

* * *

2. *Dangblablit Jim! Someone Swiped My Stuff (and other stuff)*, published Oct. 6. Karma reared its head and I reported, "I went home found while I was at work, being a productive member of society, someone (or someone's) entered my dwelling and stole stuff. . . and, gulp, my 1974 bronze Star Trek Lives! medalion."

Well, just this past week I sent in my "victim's" statement to the county prosecutor's office. They busted a couple

of teens who'd been running rampant. Court date is sometime in the future. Oh, and my stuff . . . sold, gone, but not forgotten.

* * *

Don't
Rush Me



A column by
Don Rush

3. *The Run For Michigan Governorship* (Oct. 13) & *Michigander Accepted, Don't Make It Right*, published Oct. 20. On these two successive weeks, I whined about the improper use (in my opinion) of the term "Michigander" to describe us, Michiganders. I didn't like the fact the then gubernatorial candidates both used the derogatory term. Well, just

this past Sunday, the gov.-elect, was quoted again as saying, "Michigander." You see the "pull" I have.

* * *

4. *Sometimes It Pays To Listen*, published November 3. This week, I gave notice like this: "Goodrich Village Council and Administration get out your highlighters and take notes, you're getting called out."

Since, a number of things have happened. Two members of council were tossed out of office; the village ordinance enforcer resigned; the village attorney was fired; and . . . the new words of wisdom are these: The only thing worse than a sore loser is a crappy winner.

* * *

5. *Sunday A.M. Commercials Ain't What They Used To Be*, published Nov. 16. Here, I lamented the showing of a bra commercial on ABC Detroit affiliate, WXYZ Channel 7, on Sunday morning. Wrote I:

"Oogles of ample bosomed women sporting eye-catching colored brassieres flashed before us . . . which is nothing to be ashamed of or to get worked up over. . . but THEN, the fetching women started working their hands over their ample bosoms saying things like:

'My eyes are up here.'

'No torpedoes here.'

'When the girls are happy, I'm happy.'"

I was stunned and had to answer questions from 10-year-old son, Sean. When said son read the accounts in my column, he just looked at me and raised his eyebrows and smiled. I guess he was unphased. I am still mentally scarred.

Since, we spend more time reading the Sunday newspapers.

Send comments to:
don@dontrushmedon.com

Local government in action

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7 p.m., 2nd and 4th Monday, 375 Depot Road
248-625-1559

Independence Township Board

7:30 p.m., 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 6483 Waldon Center
248-625-5111

Springfield Township Board

7:30 p.m., 2nd Thursday, 12000 Davishburg Rd.
248-634-3111

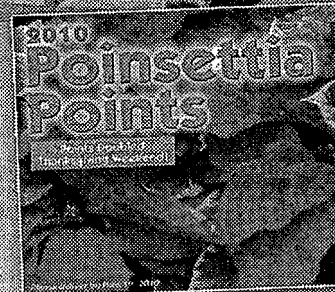
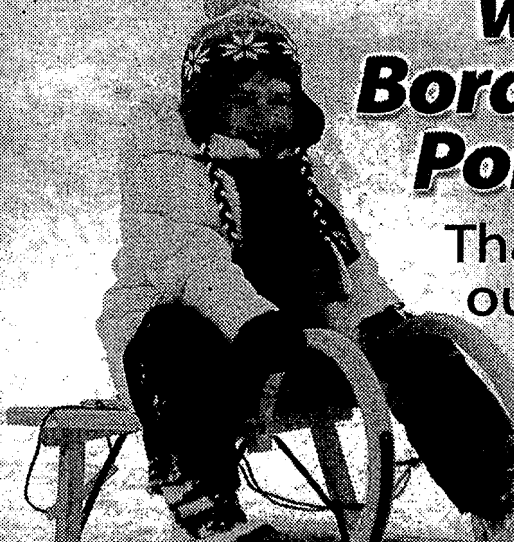
Clarkston Board of Education

7 p.m., 2nd and 4th Mondays, 6389 Clarkston Rd.
248-623-5400

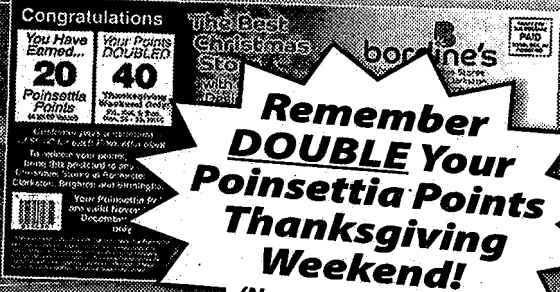
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Marijuana moratorium in Springfield

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
 Clarkston News Editor

Chalk up one more on the medical-marijuana moratorium list.

Springfield Township Board voiced unanimously support for a moratorium on any request to open a marijuana dispensary.

Trustees considered three options at their Nov. 11 meeting, zoning ordinance regulation, outright ban, and moratorium.

"We're getting inquiries - a couple people came in to ask about opening a dispensary," said Supervisor Mike Trout. "At this point, we couldn't say anything except it's not allowed under federal law - we don't want to let it fall by the wayside and then be forced to make a decision hastily."

The moratorium would give township planning commission time to consider a zoning ordinance amendment, said Trustee Dennis Vallad.

"The legislature can't do anything right now - this is an undefined environment," Vallad said.

"I think we need to do something," said Trustee Judy Hensler. "A moratorium is most prudent."

Auburn Hills, Bloomfield Township, Royal Oak, Southfield, Grand Rapids, and Traverse City already adopted moratoriums.

"It will allow time to evaluate what's going on in other communities as the township prepares its next course of action," said Trustee Roger Lamont.

"I don't think we can do nothing," agreed Trustee David Hopper. "It's too early for a zoning ordinance. A moratorium is a reasonable alternative."

Township attorney Greg Need will prepare a moratorium resolution for the township board's next meeting, Dec. 9.

"Nothing has been tested yet," Need said. "It will probably go to court, up to the Supreme Court - that will take a great deal of time."

As voter-initiated legislation, a two-third vote of the state legislature is needed to amend it.

In November 2008, voters approved the citizen-initiated law Michigan Medical Marijuana Act, passed by 63 percent of Michigan voters. By doing so, Michigan became the thirteenth state to legalize the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes.

In Springfield Township, voters approved the law, with 4,839 voting yes, 62.41 percent, and 2,915 voting no, 37.59 percent.

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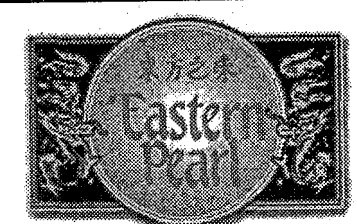
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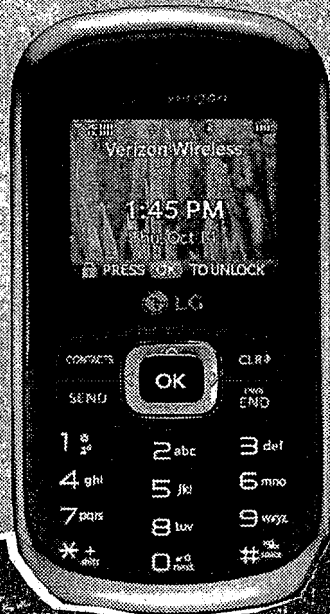
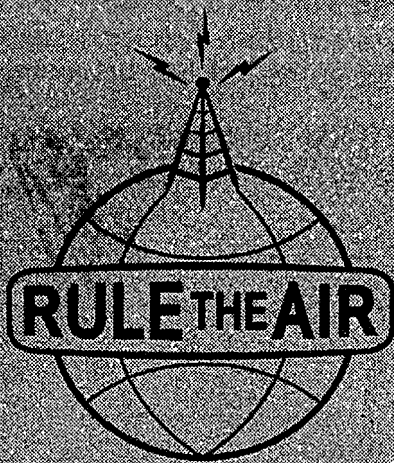
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Public Safety

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

Thefts from cars

Stopping at a Sashabaw Road business for a minute, a motorist used autostart to keep her car warm, 2:50 p.m., Nov. 5. The locks were supposed to engage with the automatic feature, but when she got back, her cell phone and backpack were gone.

A purse was taken from under a desk in an unlocked office in the 5000 block of Bow Pointe, 12:30 p.m., Nov. 10.

House fire

A Balmoral Terrace family heard noises in the attic before the power went out, 11:47 p.m., Nov. 7. Checking on it, they found smoke, then fire from the roof, and called 911. A deputy used a garden hose until Independence Township firefighters arrived.

Credit theft

An Independence Township resident tried to use her credit card but it was declined, Nov. 8. She only had \$1.68 left in credit. Someone had used it on about \$1,300 in online purchases.

Trash stolen

A Clarkston Road resident reported the theft of a half-full garbage can from the side of the road, Nov. 10. The resident feared ID theft.

Mirrors gone

A car's two side mirrors were taken from their housings while it was parked in the 6000 block of Dixie Highway, Nov. 17.

Wrong lane

A 37-year-old Auburn Hills man caught the attention of a deputy by driving in the left lane of I-75 near Clintonville Road for no reason, 10:05 a.m., Nov. 11. He was cited for driving with a suspended license and improper lane usage.

Illegal driver

A deputy pulled over a pickup when it exited from the wrong driveway at Fox Creek and Clintonville, 9 p.m., Nov. 9. The driver, a 28-year-old Clarkston resident, had a fake ID and was in the country illegally. He was cited for invalid license, no proof of insurance, improper lane use, and no registration, vehicle was impounded, and he was reported to immigration.

Car on roof

A car was found rolled over on its roof, Nov. 14, on Royal St. George off Waldon Road. It was damaged on both sides, roof, hood, and windshield. The owner said he had no enemies, road rage incidents, or anything like that.

Seller with warrant

Checking on two home-repair solicitors near Snow Apple and Waldon Road, deputies found one, a 29-year-old Macomb man, had a misdemeanor warrant for disorderly conduct out of Shelby Township, 4:33 p.m., Nov. 10. He was held for pickup by Shelby Township. Both were ticketed for selling without a permit.

Cars keyed

Seven new cars were keyed between 1-5 p.m., Nov. 12, at a car dealership in the 6000 block of Dixie Highway.

Unlocked booty

An Ancroft Drive resident forgot to lock doors on a car parked in the driveway, Nov. 13. The car radio and GPS were taken.

Two iPods, sunglasses and GPS were taken from a car parked in the 6000 block of Golfview, Nov. 13. No forced entry.

Sneaky thief

A woman told a service station clerk the bathroom toilet was plugged, 6:45 p.m., Nov. 15, in the 6000 block of Sashabaw Road. When the clerk returned, the woman was walking out the door, dropped a carton of cigarettes, picked it up, and kept going. Two cartons were found to be stolen.

Drunk driver

A deputy stopped a 49-year-old Waterford Township man for driving 40 mph in a 25 mph school zone, 3:55 p.m., Nov. 17, on Maybee at Westview. The driver, who said he had three beers in him, had a .153 preliminary breath test. He was arrested for drunk driving.

Burglary

A Stickney Road resident returned home, Nov. 18, to find the rear glass door smashed open and jewelry taken.

- Phil Custodio

Suspect charged in charity theft

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Heather Keway, 27, of Waterford Township faces three credit-card fraud and probation violation charges in connection with a purse snatching, Nov. 4.

According to police reports, a pastor at Clarkston United Methodist Church left her purse on a chair near her office unattended for about an hour, 12-1 p.m. When she checked on it, it was gone.

A credit card was then used at area gas stations and stores to purchase about \$500 in items.

The purse was found in a trash receptacle at Renaissance High School in Independence Township. When deputies called the purse's owner to claim it, she found a credit card, gift cards, and cash missing.

Investigation, which included examining videos of the suspect using the stolen credit card, as well as dumping the stolen purse, led detectives to Keway.

They called her to ask her to come to station, Nov. 17. She said she was sick, and was told by a doctor to stay in bed for 10 days. Deputies called her work and found she was scheduled, and arrested her as she drove up.

She told investigators she

saw the purse sitting on the sidewalk, took it, removed some items, and threw the purse in the trash.

An aunt, who accompanied Keway to the church, told police they found the purse in the bushes.

Keway said she just wanted her family to have a nice Christmas, and said she would return items purchased with the credit card.

Lt. Dale LaBair, Independence Township Sheriff Substation commander, said it appears she took advantage of local charities, including Lighthouse Emergency Services.

"It's tough enough these days, helping out people in need, to have someone working the system," LaBair said. "It's not like we don't have people who really need help."

Keway was arraigned in 51 District Court on three counts of fraud, illegal use of credit card, and probation violation. \$1,000 bond. She also has a warrant for larceny out of 52-2 District Court.



Keway

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Fresh look at Lady Wolves field

BY WENDIREARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Spring might seem far away but when it comes the softball fields at Clarkston High School will be ready to go after their recent touches.

Don Peters, Girls Varsity Softball Head Coach, noticed a few things needing improvement to the dugouts and around the field.

"All I did was throw out the idea," he said, adding the parents took over the tasks and gave him some ideas of what needed to be done.

"They really exceeded my expectation. Even if we just got a few of the things done it would have been great."

Karen Zezula headed a group of parents and Stu Hastings led students with painting.

The area was revamped as a group of up to 25 volunteers worked from summer to fall painting the dugouts, put shelves in the storage area in the dugouts and put artificial turf in the batting cages.

Though the fields have had gen-

eral maintenance done through the years the parents went through and filled the low spots.

They also repaired the fences, building cages and added ceilings to the dugouts.

The dugouts didn't have a ceiling and the birds kept getting in.

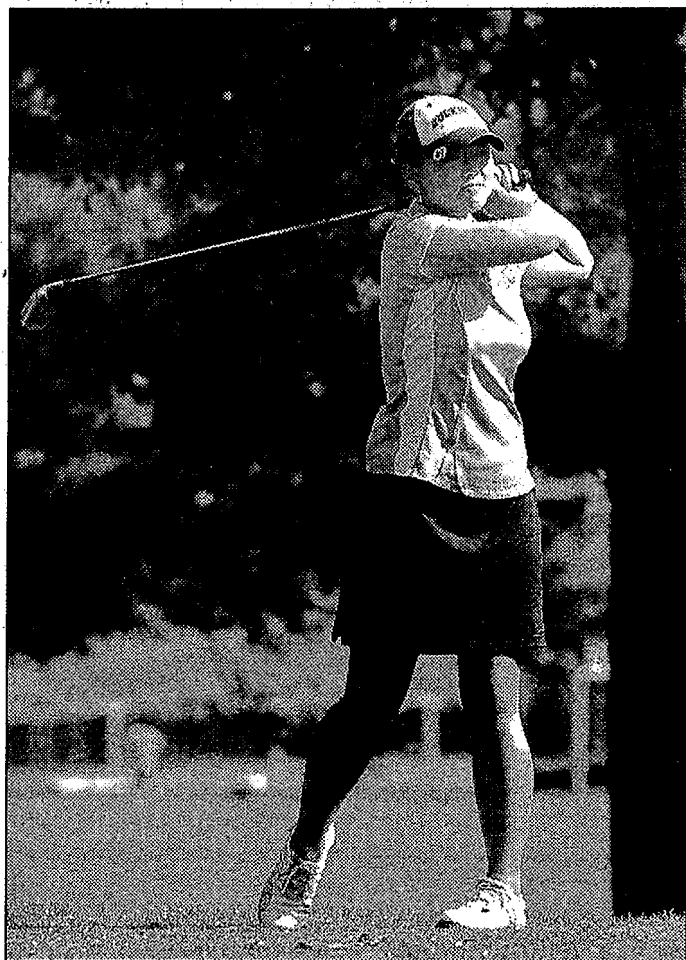
"I didn't mind," Peters admitted. "But they kept making a mess."

The volunteers put plywood on top for the roof and painted over it.

"They took the ball and ran with it," said Peters. "They were willing to put in that much volunteer time to benefit the young ladies of the community."

He noted the improvements and upgrades will last for seasons to come and a lot of players will be able to enjoy them.

"As a coach in the community I am very proud we have people in the community that are willing to do that," Peters said. "It is great they did it. They put a lot of man hours in and a lot of community service. I think that is the give back theme that has started to be prevalent."



Lee on the links

Clarkston High School grad Minjoo Lee captured her third career Choice Hotels Big South Golfer of the Week award after claiming individual and team championships at the Wendy's Invitational in Charleston, South Carolina.

It was Lee's first career victory, and she led the Bucknell University Women's Golf team to their second team championship of the fall season.

The junior finished her fall season with a team-best 76.92 scoring average, her own school record of 76.90, set in fall 2009. Her 2010 figure ranks 10th in the Big South.

The Bucknell Women's golf team resumes competition in February.

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Wolves rally leads to first OAA Red win

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Goalie Troy Fasseel shifted and blocked Birmingham Unified from scoring on their shot.

The clock continued to count down the last 17 seconds in the second period. Brad Pizzey hustled to the puck before Birmingham Unified tried to break the 2-2 tie on Thursday night.

Clarkston was able to keep at bay in the final period as the Wolves scored two more in their season opener at Detroit Skate Club to win 4-2 in their first OAA Red game

"We struggled," Clarkston Varsity Hockey Coach Bryan Krygier admitted about the team's first two periods.

The Wolves pace shifted on the ice as they went into the last 17 minutes.

"We started to play better," Krygier noted as they improved. "We started to play the body a little bit and started to get back to more defensively minded. The puck started to go for us. We made some big shots."

Pizzey made two goals for the night. His first was 9:13 left in the first period.

He was assisted by Adam Larkin and Chad Wotton as the Wolves took advantage of Birmingham being one man down during a power play.

Three minutes later Chris Donnellon tied the score and Birmingham took more shots on the net in attempt to take the lead, outshooting Clarkston 9-7 in the period.

Dillon Drayer brought the boys back into the lead with his goal four minutes into the second period. He had assistance from Connor Hughes and Matt Harrington.

The Wolves outshot Birmingham 38-25.

Krygier saw positives and negatives the boys can work on from their first game.

"Our goal tender was pretty solid for us and it is always good to get your first win and we did," he said, adding the Wolves need to be more consistent.

They continued the week visiting Novi on Saturday where they lost, 2-0.

"We couldn't score on power plays,



Adam Larkin and Chad Frost practice their shots. Photo by WR

Krygier noted. "We had about eight power play opportunities our special teams could score on."

Clarkston made 22 shots on goal and Novi made 35.

From the both games Krygier said they need to be making the right decisions during all periods of the game.

"Our special teams need to start putting the puck in the net for us and getting the goal at the key times to get us a couple of wins," he added.

The team has 15 returners and six new faces to help them as they make a run for a successful season.

"Our new players need to start learning and helping our veterans right away," Krygier said. "The quicker they learn the more they will be effective. They need to learn as much as they can and start getting out there and training."

Krygier is confident in his returners and them helping the new players along.

"They have been playing all different types of situations for the last 2-3 years. It shouldn't be new to them," he said. "It will come down to them executing what they know. They pretty much know what I expect them to know so it should be a fairly smooth transition for them."

The Wolves host a Thanksgiving Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

They begin with South Lyon of Friday at 5 p.m.

"They have have pretty solid team," said Krygier, pointing out it is the first time Clarkston is playing the team. "They are a fairly young program. They have a good coach and it should be a good game."

Brighton and Farmington play each other in the following game. Winners from both games move on to the championship round on Saturday, 2:30 p.m. Consolation round begins at noon. All games are held at Detroit Skate Club, 888 Denison Court in Bloomfield Hills.

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Lady Wolves finish their last set

BY WENDIREARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Spikers closed their season after they lost in the fourth game to Farmington Hills Mercy in the Class A Quarterfinals on Nov. 16.

"There was a little bit of disappointment," said Clarkston Girls Varsity Volleyball Coach Kelly Avenall. "Now after digesting it we had an amazing season."

The team finished as OAA Red champions, took their fourth consecutive district title and won their first regional title in 34 years. Plus they ended with an overall record 48-4-1.

"We have a lot to hang our hat on and be proud of," said Avenall. "I am happy about our season."

The Lady Wolves built a lead in the first game against Mercy and were two points from winning the set. Their opponents scored three points to tie the game at 24. Clarkston were unable to score and Mercy won the first set, 26-24.

"We let them sneak back in and it took a lot of air out of us," said Avenall.

The girls were behind only once in the second game and built momentum until a kill from Alexis Egler finished the game, 25-19.

"The loss was still lingering in their minds," Avenall said as the team went into their next two sets.

The Lady Wolves lost the next two sets, 25-17 and 25-18 to Mercy, ending 3-1.

Jessica Frakes and Stephanie Marani had 10 kills. Egler had six kills and Allison Reis added five kills. Haley Barker had four aces.

Marani added seven blocks to her season tally putting her at 174 blocks and breaking the 17-year-old record for the team of 132 blocks.

"The tough part about coaching varsity is no matter how successful you are - you are going to end with a loss unless you are state champs," Avenall added.

The team loses seven seniors to gradu-

ation - Egler, Frakes, Reis, Haley Barker, Aubrianna Curtis, Jamie Goryca and Megan McCarty.

"The seniors were amazing," said Avenall. "They are going to be missed by me and by the team."

She added she remembers something about every team. This year was no exception especially with the amount of talent and what the girls contributed.

"We were well-balanced," Avenall said for the team. "We didn't have one superstar - we had a lot of good players. During the previous years I had just as many good players but this year the life and enthusiasm helped us succeed."

Avenall noted the seniors helped bring that and passion to every game and practice.

"They brought that excitement and energy to our program," she said. "That is the legacy I hope they leave the younger girls."

The bonuses to the season were the players had fun and conquered the the regional playoffs by beating Davison and Flushing.

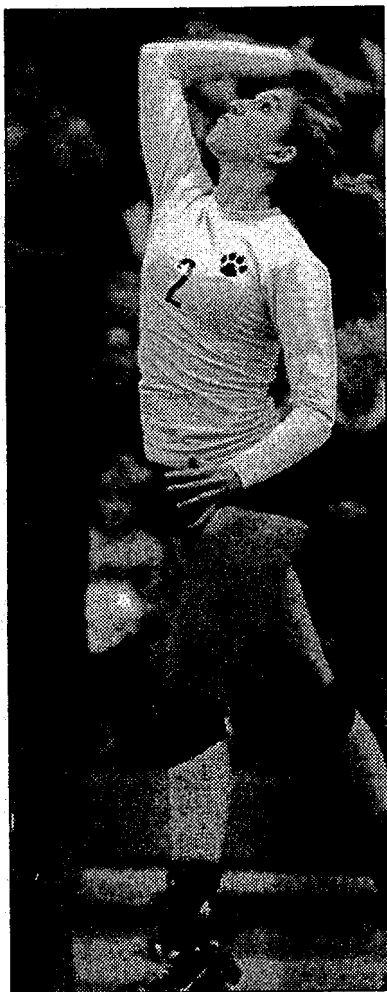
"We, as a program needed to get over that hurdle so they understand we are a good enough program," said Avenall. "If we play hard and work hard we can get to that level."

Another bonus was Wolves fans filled the stands during the games.

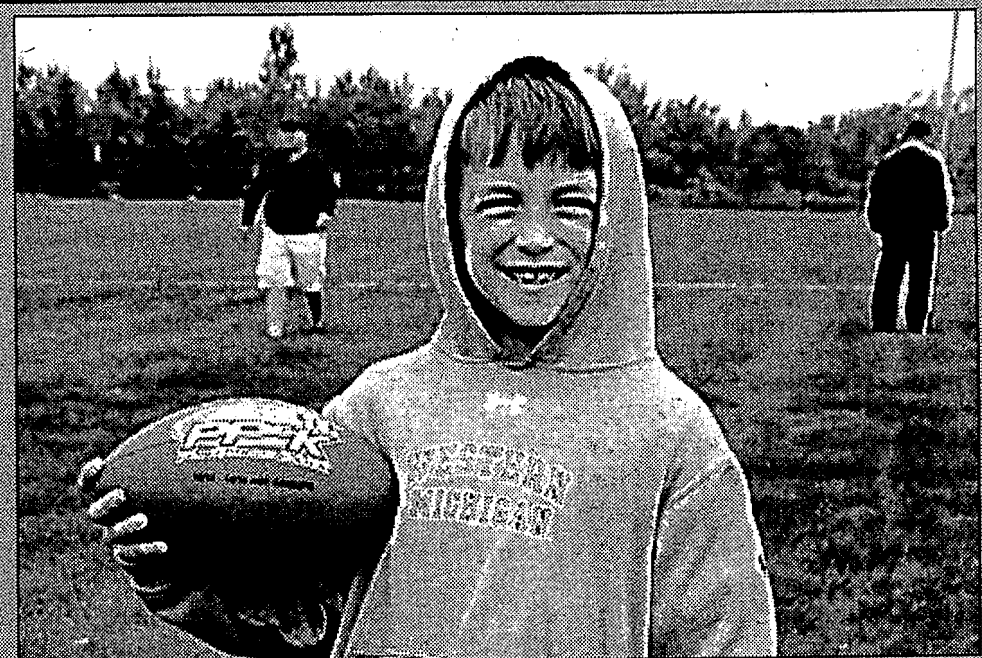
"As a Clarkston grad I was in awe and amazement how many people in the community came and supported us during the regionals and quarterfinals," said Avenall. "The girls were overwhelmed by that too. They would look up and see their classmates and people

from the community - people they didn't even know were watching them. It is cool the community jumped on and became fans to."

The team has ten returners coming back next fall. Missed a highlight from the season? Check out www.ClarkstonNews.com.



Rachel Dickerson returns Farmington Hills Mercy's hit.
Photo by Larry Wright



Tyler Gallagher

Athlete of the Week

Ready for the championship

BY WENDIREARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Ty Gallagher is heading to Ford Field in Detroit for the NFL's Pass, Punt & Kick State Championship on Dec. 5.

The second-grader from Independence Elementary started in September competing in the 6-7 year-old division.

He won the first round at the regional competition in West Bloomfield sending him to the sectional competition in Dearborn.

The top four winners from the sectionals were chosen to continue to the championship round. Gallagher finished third out of eight with a total of 153 feet for passing, punting and kicking.

"We were excited," said parents Pete and Anita.

"We didn't have any expectations going in and we didn't know what to expect at all," Pete added.

It was the first year Ty has competed in the program and the first year for the 6-7 year-old division.

Ty was also excited to place in the top four and get the chance to go to Ford Field.

"He is looking forward to getting a NFL Detroit Lions jersey for competing," Pete added.

Ty will compete against other Michigan contenders during the halftime portion of the Lions game on Dec. 5 - Will Baker, from Byron Center, Conner McVoy, from Wyoming, and Lucas Millmine, from Waterford.

"It was great for him to go out and compete," said Pete.

Ty plays flag football, travel hockey and is in the McGrath Basketball league.

"He likes to play and he likes to compete," said Pete. "I like to get him in competitive situations and he enjoys it."

Ty also picks up a few tricks from the Clarkston Varsity Boys Football team when he watches them from the sidelines during their fall seasons. He has also learned a few tips from his dad, who is the offensive backs coach for the Wolves.

Detroit plays the Chicago Bears at 1 p.m.

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Rusty Peterson, Chelsea Lovik and Trevor Funseth of Anytime Fitness celebrate their grand opening with family and friends. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Grand opening for Anytime Fitness

Surrounded by friends and family, Rusty Peterson, Chelsea Lovik and Trevor Funseth from Anytime Fitness celebrated their grand opening on Oct. 20.

The 24-hour gym opened in September on the corner of Sashabaw Road and Clarkston Road.

They have several promotions available for the holidays including group rate discounts, student specials and senior discounts.

Anytime Fitness of Clarkston also offers Zumba, yoga, 15-minute abs and boot camp on top of their already fully loaded

facility.

Anytime Fitness is staffed Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday is by appointment. It is located at 5728 Clarkston Road, to the east of Sashabaw Road. For more information stop by or call 248-241-6821.

Local deals on Black Friday

Continued from page 1A

and hors d'ouerves, specials and give-aways.

Downtown business owners are usually found right behind the counter, so Clarkston shops are also more responsive and friendly. Producing their own products or doing their own ordering, they offer products and services Clarkston shoppers want, Stevenson said.

Recent additions including the Woodshop restaurant, Essence on Main gourmet specialty foods and DH Homes interior design bring more people downtown, she said.

"Lots of pedestrian action downtown," she said. "More people are out later."

In its second year, more than 20 association members work together to promote downtown businesses.

"Merchants work together, not competing against each other," Stevenson said. "We have good camaraderie and support, with good energy."

They also plan events, including the Holiday Walk and Howl-oween last month.

"Howloween was really fun, a good turnout," said Liz Andre-Stotz, owner of the Parsonage. "It's cool being here, showing off what we do."

Also, Avanti Salon and Spa, 7505 ME Cad Boulevard, offers a one-day sale on gift certificates, \$160 value for \$100, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday.

Restaurant Directory

Taste test these local restaurants for a variety of great food.

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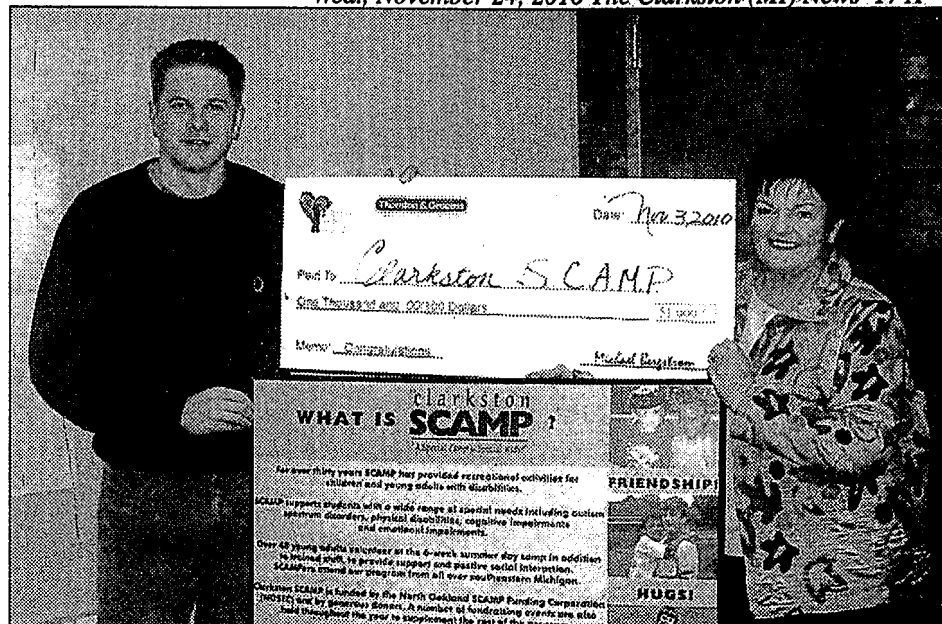
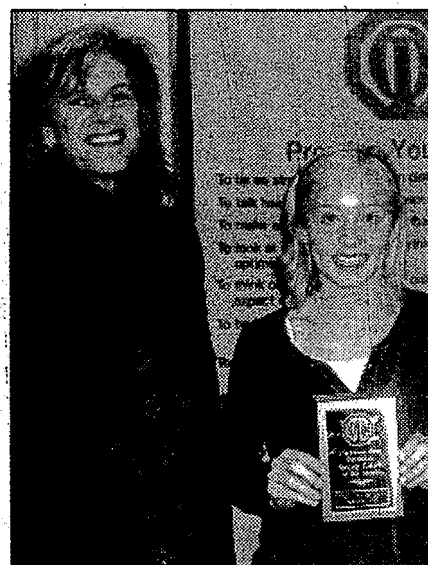
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Optimists honor student citizens

Clarkston Optimist Club presents Student Citizen of the Month awards, recognizing Clarkston children for academic and community service. Above, the October award went to Peyton Fisher from North Sashabaw Elementary, with fourth-grade teacher Maureen Moss, left, Principal Debra Latozas, Jeff Reed, Optimist President. At left, The September award went to Rebecca Snyder from Pine Knob, with Pine Knob Elementary Principal Jodi Yeloushan. Photos provided



Michael Bergstrom, VP, Thornton & Grooms presents a Hearts and Heroes Award to Donna Clancy of SCAMP. Photo provided

SCAMP recognized with award

Thornton & Grooms honored Clarkston SCAMP with the company's Hearts & Heroes Award for October.

"We love to support local charities and to see one such as SCAMP is great," said Mike Bergstrom, vice president of Thornton & Grooms, family-owned plumbing, heating and cooling business based in Farmington Hills. "SCAMP offers the opportunity for special needs kids to enjoy all the great things that summer camps offer and we are so glad to be able to help."

Each month, Thornton & Grooms awards \$1,000 to a local charity nominated by its customers. The award helps non-profit groups

and organizations facing challenges in the struggling economy.

SCAMP is a five-week program for children and young adults with special needs. It provides social and recreational activities, like swimming, arts and crafts and field trips to the fire station.

Since it was established more than 35 years ago, SCAMP has grown from 75 to more than 200 campers each summer.

For more information on Clarkston SCAMP, visit their web site at www.clarkstonscamp.com.

To nominate a charity, go to www.thorntonandgrooms.com.

Feline outreach center in Clarkston

Advanced PetCare of Oakland in Independence Township was recently named a pet adoption outreach center by Oakland Pet Adoption Center of Auburn Hills.

As an outreach center, Advanced PetCare has access to a database of cats throughout Oakland County to help adopters who may be looking for a particular breed or type of cat.

The program currently focuses exclusively on cats and kittens because there are so many that need homes.

Other outreach centers are the Cat Practice in Birmingham, Pet Supplies Plus in Bloomfield Hills and White Lake, and Allen Animal Hospital in Livonia.

Pet adoption outreach centers must meet certain criteria, be pre-approved by Oakland Pet Adoption Center, and agree to care for cats until a permanent home can be found. Potential adopters must also meet certain criteria, provide a loving home and pay an adoption fee which varies at each center. Cats must be spayed or neutered either prior to adop-



tion or following their adoption in the case of young kittens.

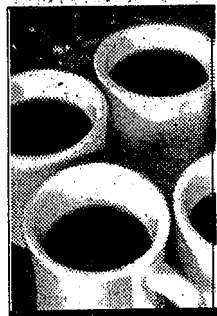
For more information, call 248-620-2900 or check www.advanced-petcare.com.



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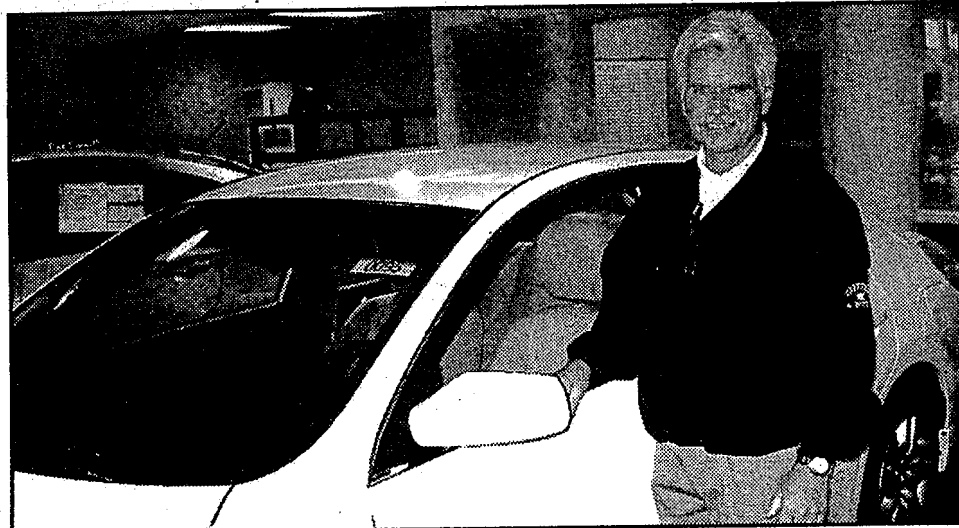


Clarkston

Coffee Club

News about and for local business folk

Networking meetings Thursdays 7:30 to 9 a.m.
at Clarkston United Methodist Church



Tom Delke, president of Nissan of Clarkston. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Different name, same game

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Staff Writer

The name has changed but the friendly, out-going service is remaining the same at Nissan of Clarkston.

The car dealership, located off of Dixie Highway and I-75, in Springfield Township is now part of the Serra Automotive family.

"Our customers can expect more of the same service we had when we were Saturn," said Tom Delke, Nissan of Clarkston President. "We were always a very customer focused and friendly service. We will have the same people and will continue to do what made us successful - take care of our customers and treat them with respect."

Nissan has a full line of cars, SUVs and pickup trucks with 18 different models to choose from - an array to fit the car their customers are looking for.

From economy cars like the Altima, Sentra, Versa, all with more than 30 miles per gallon on the highway to the Nissan GTR, their sports car that can go from zero to 60 miles per hour in less than four seconds.

"We have a gamut of products," said Delke.

Nissan is also a green friendly company and is going to be the first manufacturer to release an all electric vehicle - the Nissan Leaf.

Delke said sales begin in December.

"Nissan is sensitive to the environment and getting us off of foreign oil," he added. "Nissan has always prided themselves on

state of the art technology and engineering. Most of our cars have CVT automatic transmission, continuously variable transmission, that translates to higher millages."

"Nearly 75 percent of the Nissan models we sell are built in North America," Delke said. "They are a large employer in the U.S. and that is exciting for us, too."

Nissan also has great leasing programs. "The Detroit market a lot of people prefer to lease than buy a car," Delke pointed out. "We have leases starting out at \$149 per month for the Sentra."

Delke is also excited about becoming reinvented with the community, as the dealership once was when they were Saturn.

"I have always believed you have to give back to the community you do business in," he said with a smile adding their first community involvement will be Lunch with Santa Claus, held by Springfield Township Parks and Recreation in Davisburg.

For more information, check NissanofClarkston.com, call 248-620-8800, or visit their location at 8400 Dixie Highway.

-Sales hours are Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The service department is open Monday and Thursday, 7 a.m.-8 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 7 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

"We are here, open and ready to take care of you," he said. "We have the same friendly faces and the same treatment as the past."

How to avoid being an investment scam victim

It has become common to see headlines in local newspapers about investors being the subject of investment scams.

These crimes are not isolated to the senior citizen population or to a specific geographical location.

Victims are being reported all across the country and across gender lines.

The question becomes "How do you protect yourself from becoming the next victim?"

Listed below are some suggested tips that can be used.

1. Never spend money on investments solely on the basis of a phone call.
2. Don't be rushed by "buy now" investments. Legitimate investments will always be available.
3. No one can guarantee a risk-free investment.
4. Never give personal information over

the phone, especially social security number, credit card or bank account information.

Raymond James



A column by James Kruzan

James B. Kruzan, CFP, is a Registered Principal and Branch Manager for Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., Fenton and Clarkston.

5. If you don't understand it, don't buy it.

6. Always remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

7. Do not invest due to fears (e. g., health care, inflation, or interest rates). Fear clouds judgment.

8. Request written information and run it by your financial advisor.

No Coffee Club this week in honor of Thanksgiving

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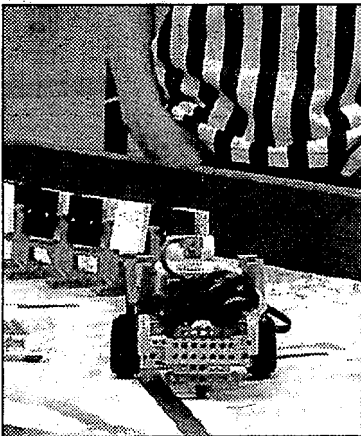
Email: James.Kruzan@RaymondJames.com
www.RaymondJames.com/JamesKruzan



Matthew Covert and David Woodham prepare the robot for competition.



Brandon Imirowicz, Matthew Covert, AJ Moss, and Connor Kornas have two minutes to build a birthday cake out of Legos.



The team's Lego robot negotiates the course.

STARS put together winning work

The STARS team of Sashabaw Middle School put their problem-solving skills to the test, in FIRST Lego League competition, Nov. 20. It was a test they passed, earning one of 13 spots in the Championship Tournament, Dec. 11 at Carman Ainsworth Middle School. They will compete against 47 additional teams also advancing from regional tournaments.

"I'm very proud of my team and we're gearing up for another com-

petition," said Kathy McCarty, team coach along with Tom Imirowicz.

STARS, Super Thoroughly Awesome Robotic Scientists, researched hearing loss in teenagers as part of the competition's Body Forward theme on bio-engineering.

FIRST, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, is geared for students ages 9-14. STARS, in its third year, was

one of five Clarkston teams at the competition at Carman Ainsworth Middle School.

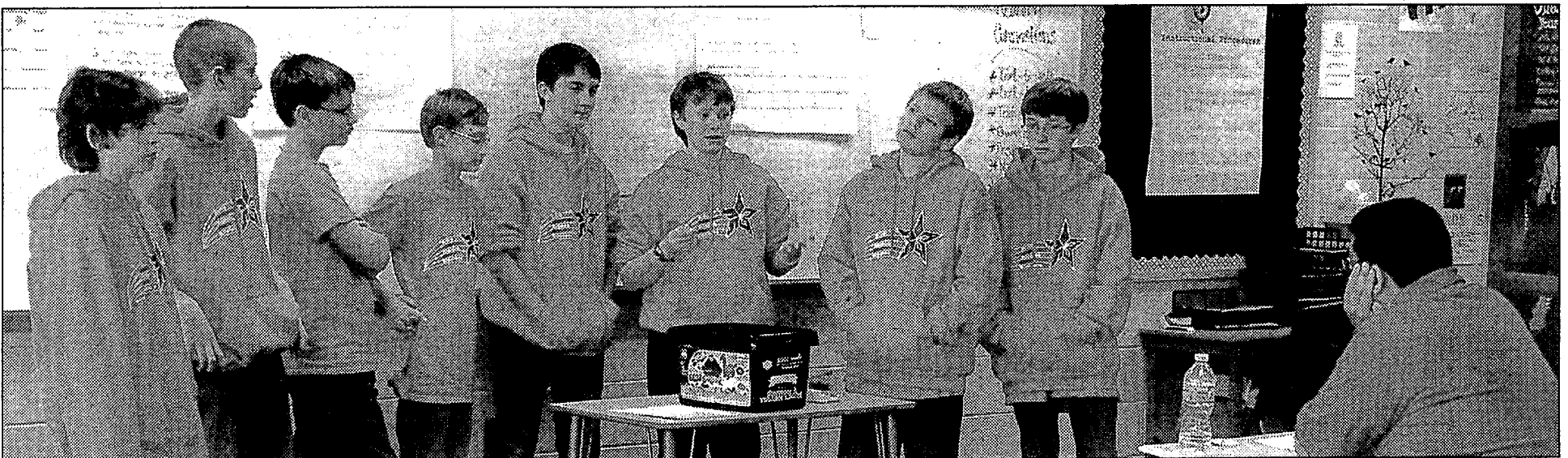
Teams program a Lego NXT robot to perform a set of missions to gain points.

They also complete a research project and present this to a team of judges. They must pick a topic and come up with a feasible solution or an improvement on a current solution.

— Phil Custodio



The guessers thought the team's creation was a city, to Connor Kornas' dismay.

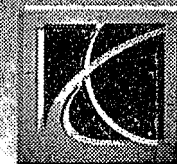


From left, STARS David Woodham, Michael McCarty, Alex Skene, Trevor Chamberlain, Brandon Imirowicz, Matthew Covert, Connor Kornas, and AJ Moss interview with judges. Photos by Phil Custodio

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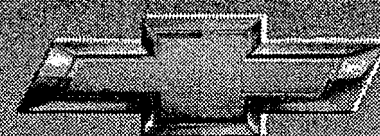
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People Poll

November 24, 2010

Page B1

What are you thankful for?

"I'm thankful that things seem to be improving in the economics and for people. Also Thanksgiving is a time that brings people together."



- John Mayland



"I'm thankful for everything in life."

- Elyse and Micah Johnston

"I'm thankful for my family, friends, my health and this country we have. The hope for peace."



- Margaret Wyzgoski



"My family."

- Amy Darnell

By Trevor Keiser

The Clarkston News' Millstream

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

Local actress hits the big screen

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

After being in the business world and having her company close down after 13 years, Stacy Blaine was looking for a balance between stay-at-home mom and work.

She decided to tap into her creative side and try being an extra in a movie.

"I got into it through my cousin on my mom's side," she said. "She's done like 12 movies and has been bugging me to do them."

Blaine landed her first gig in the new futuristic robot boxing movie "Real Steel," which is set to hit theaters on Nov. 18, 2011.

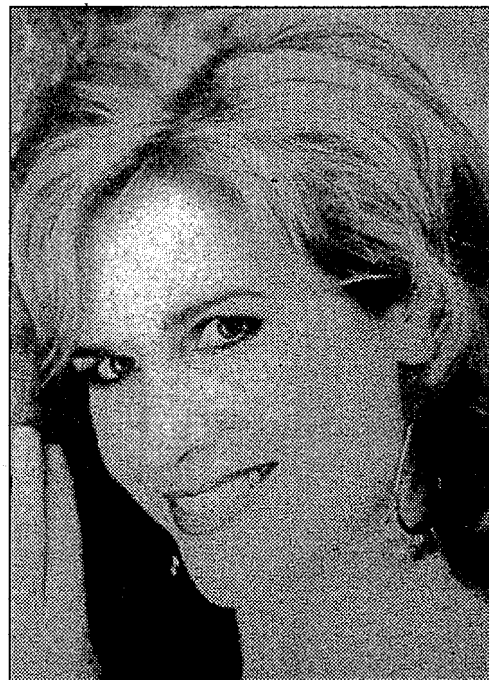
Out of 1,200 fight fans, she was one of the 40 "upscale fight fans," which also known as a "featured extra."

"A 'featured extra' means you'll for sure be on camera and they have to pay attention to your hair and makeup and your wardrobe. 'Extra' means you might get an elbow, a toe, or your face shot," she explained.

In one scene, she's seen in the front row, while Jackman is in the ring fighting. In another scene of the fight, she sits behind Evangeline Lilly, who starred in the ABC TV show "Lost."

"The reason why I think I got picked to be with Evangeline Lilly is she has long straight brown hair and was wearing all black and I have blonde hair and was wearing a purple top," Blaine said. "It's really something to see myself in the background of these movies."

Since "Real Steel," she has also been an extra in "Laugh Out Loud," starring Demi Moore and Miley Cyrus, "This Must Be the Place," with Sean Penn, "Transformers 3," starring Shia LaBeouf, and the Hallmark movie "Smooth," where she is a jogger and a waitress. All the movies are set to come out in 2011. Blaine has also been on ABC's hit TV Show Detroit 1-8-7 a few times, in her most recent she plays a news reporter, which will be in episode 11.



Stacy Blaine stars on movies and TV. Photo submitted

"I've gotten my dad into it and he's done some episodes, too," she said.

Though she is not paid much as an extra, Blaine said she does get overtime and food. She also has her car registered to be used in the movies as well, which she also gets paid for. Plus, she likes the flexibility of being her own boss and being able to choose what movies she does or doesn't do.

"I think it's great," she said. "It's helping me for sure."

Now the election season is over, Blaine hopes new Michigan Governor Rick Snyder will keep the film incentive going.

"I have met people who have moved here from Hollywood. This is the newest place to

be," she said. "This is the only industry that I know of that's a large industry coming to Michigan right now."

According to the Michigan Film Office, since the tax credit incentives passed in 2008, more than 7,000 productions jobs have been created in the state along with an additional 4,000 jobs as extras and day players. A total of 119 film projects have been shot in Michigan over the last two years.

Blaine said while being on the different movie and TV sets there is a "gamut of everybody that's in Michigan looking for work."

"People I meet are 'I'm retired from GM, I'm a stay at home mom, I'm a college student and just graduated and can't get a job,'" she said. "It also helps businesses, too, such as the local restaurants, hotels, security companies, and the hair and makeup people who come to help out from the salons."

Whether it is the beaches and Great Lakes or the cities of Michigan, Blaine said "the people of Hollywood have embraced the state of Michigan."

"The big actors love that they can even come here with their family and have the city life, but within a couple hours be at the beach or rent a house on the lake up north and get the feel of 'this doesn't feel like Hollywood at all,' she said. "The people I've met from LA are excited to be here, it's fresh, and it's new for them. They love the people of Michigan they think we're all incredibly friendly and kind."

As far as Blaine's future in acting, she is looking to get with an agency that offers speaking roles.

"That's my next step," she said. "I wanted to get my feet wet doing this (a non-speaking role first)."

Blaine lives in the Clarkston area with her husband and three children.

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10-year reunion, Clarkston High School Class of 2000, 7 p.m., Nov. 27, Bullfrogs Bar and Grill, 2225 Ortonville Road. \$10. More info on Facebook.

Depression Conversation, 7 p.m., Nov. 30, Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Stephens Ministry sponsors Kathy Gleason, licensed Therapist. 248-625-1611.

Breakfast with Santa, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Dec. 4. Visit with Santa, children's craft, photos, pancake breakfast. Adults \$5; Children \$3. First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. 248-394-0200.

Holiday book sale, Dec. 4-5, Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. 248-625-2212.

Holiday Green's Market, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Dec. 4, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 6490 Clarkston Road. Fresh wreaths, roping, holiday fresh arrangements, fresh greens, sponsored by Clarkston Garden Club. 248-459-9026 or 248-605-5524.

Holiday bake sale, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Dec. 4, Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, 6490 Clarkston Road. Cookies packed in custom boxes. Proceeds donated to Lighthouse in Independence Township.

Alternative Christmas Gift Fair, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Dec. 4-5, The Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Fair trade handicrafts, donate in a loved one's name to a mission agency, www.clarkstonumc.org/missions.

Rock n' Roll Toy Drive for Toys for Tots, 1-9 p.m., Dec. 5, Oakland County Sportsmen's Club, 470 Waterford Road. Live music by local musicians Phil Treis Group, Targus, Skee Brothers, Charlie Martin, Urban Nomads, Mule Drive, Donde, Detroit Groove Kings, and more. Admission: \$10 donation or new, unwrapped toy. 248-623-0444.

Relay For Life of Clarkston, Informational Social Event, 6-8 p.m., Dec. 8, Fountains Golf

Clarkston

Around Town
 A calendar of places to go, people to see and things to do

& Banquet Center, 6060 Maybee Road. 248-623-9075.

Stuff-a-Bus, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dec. 11-12, Clarkston school bus at Kroger, Sashabaw Road near Maybee. Donations of new clothing, food, gift cards, personal items for Lighthouse North to help local families with the holidays. 248-623-8041.

Wint's Healing Hearts Grief Support Group, 7 p.m., Dec. 14. Holiday Memorial Candle Lighting Ceremony with guest speaker, psychologist/grief specialist, Dr. John Canine. Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road. Free, open to the public. 248-625-5231.

Blood drive, 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Dec. 17, Independence Township Fire Department, 6500 Citation. Sponsors, fire department and Clarkston Area Lions. Go to www.redcrossblood.org to register, code: ifdlions.

Tell Us About Your Travels, second Thursdays, 6-7:30 p.m., Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Dec. 9, Bariloche and Bolson, Argentina, if time, Scotland, Ireland. 248-625-2212.

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

Clarkston Rotary Club, Mondays, 6:30 p.m. Clarkston Community Education Center, 6558 Waldon Road. \$10. 248-625-6736.

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 for Adults 50+, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., two hours, \$3; Fridays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., and Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m., three hours, \$4. First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. All skill levels welcome. 248-625-8231.

Evening Country Line Dancing 50+, Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., Community Room, Clarkston Specialty Healthcare, 4800 Clintonville Road. \$40 per person for eight weeks. 248-625-8231.

Clarkston Area Youth Assistance, second Tuesday, 7 p.m., Clarkston Community Education Building, 6300 Church Street on
Please see Around Town on page 3B

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Around Town

Continued from page 2B

Waldon. 248-623-4313.

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

Morning Line Dancing, Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Country, Spanish salsa, rock and roll, cha cha, with Rosemary Hall. \$3 drop in.

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.

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

Travel program, second Thursday, 6-7 p.m., Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. 248-625-2212.

Lunches for 50+, Thursdays, 12 p.m., made-from-scratch. \$5 donation. Independence Township Adult Activities Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. Make reservation by Monday before, 248-625-8231.

H.O.P.E., Health Optimism Perseverance Education, cancer support group for people with any type of cancer, fourth Thursdays, 2-3 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.

Young At Heart Active Adults, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., lunches, guest speakers, musical performances, field trips, holiday parties, movies, bingo, games. Hart Community Center in Davisburg. \$5 yearly membership, \$5 lunch. 248-846-6558.

Shake it Like Shakira, belly dancing workout, Thursdays, Nov. 11-Dec. 9, 7-8 p.m., Pine Knob Elementary cafeteria, 6020 Sashabaw Road. \$59. Clarkston Community Education, 248-623-4326.

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.

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Religion

Appreciate what you have, not what you lack

This week we celebrate Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is a holiday started by early pioneers who came to the United States, then known as the New World, in search of a better life.

This "better life" would come with a great price. Many of the people who began the voyage from Europe did not make it to the New World. Many lost their lives through sickness or the danger of traveling by ship in those days.

Once the people landed in the New World, they had to deal with a whole new set of problems. I have traveled quite a bit in recent times and am amazed by the adjustments you have to make when traveling to another country.

Most of those adjustments have to do with tastes and routines, not life-threatening situations. I cannot even imagine traveling to a new land without knowing what I would find when I get there—especially knowing that I would be responsible for making provision for myself

through farming and hunter gathering.

However, many people were willing to make that choice because of the offer of a better life for them and their children. The only real hope for comfort and strength was from their belief in God.

Even with all the loss and suffering, they wanted to take time to show their thankfulness to God for their very existence and meager provision. When we celebrate Thanksgiving, we will do so with much abundance.

Many will have prepared traditional meals along with their favorite desserts. It would have been so different on that first Thanksgiving and what an example for us to follow. What are you going to be thankful for this holiday season?

Many people are suffering from the protracted economic crisis that we have been facing. They have suffered loss of income, net worth, and many will even face uncertainty in the days ahead.

We must look back to our forefathers for an example of how to handle this present situation. First, we must not just look at our lack; we must look at what we do have. Then, we must learn to rejoice with our portion and give thanks to God.

Appreciating what you have will get you in the right frame of thinking to press towards a better day. It could certainly be argued that a big part of our problem today has been the lack of appreciation for what we have. Many people, businesses, and even the government overleveraged themselves to get things that they could not afford.

Many people bought houses that they could not afford and borrowed on their equity in order to satisfy an ever-increasing appetite for more.

When the correction came, it was much worse because people had no restraint in the reach for more. Now, we must get ourselves positioned for a better day by being thankful for what we have, so that our pursuit for more can be managed with sound principles and long-range planning.

If we had been a thankful people, we would not be in the position that we are in today. The question now becomes: where are we going to be?

I like the position of the holidays, with Thanksgiving opening the door for the Christmas season. With Christmas being the time of abundance, we should see Thanksgiving time as the pause to prepare for the blessings to come. This principle can guide our outlook in life and prepare us for the better days, which are sure to come. It is time to lift our vision high and worship God who is the source of all good things!

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

Spiritual Matters



Pastor Loren Covarrubias

In our churches...

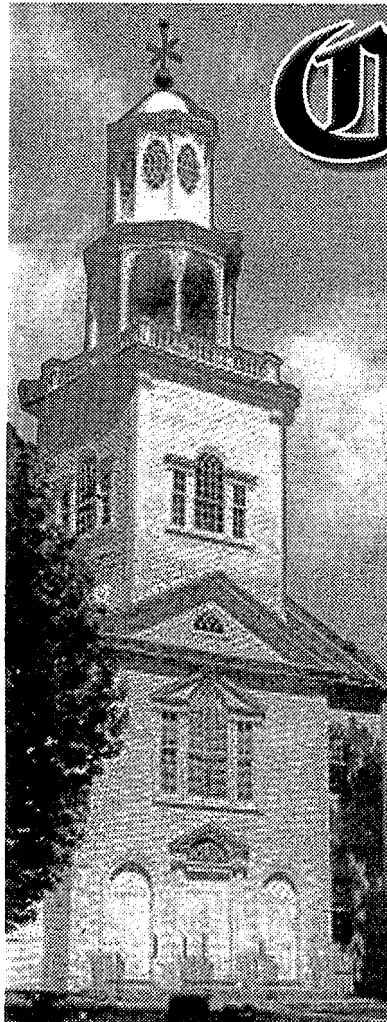
The Festival Singers, Victorian-costumed musicians, presents a free concert, 4 p.m., Nov. 28, Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Cookie reception follows. Free will offering. 248-625-1611.

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.

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.

DC4K, DivorceCare for Kids, See In Our Churches, page 6B

Church Directory



SASHABAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
"Little Church with a BIG Heart"
5300 Maybee Road, Clarkston
Worship: 11:00 am
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ST. DANIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
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625-4580
Rev. Christopher Maus
Saturday Mass: 5:00 pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am
Nursery Available: 9:00 & 11:00 am
Religious Education: 625-1750
Mother's Group, RCIA, Scripture Study, Youth Group

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

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION
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Holy Eucharist
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Broadcast Worship - Waterford
CATV-10 Tues 2:30 pm
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Sunday School 9:45 am
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CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston
248-625-1611
Website: clarkstonumc.org
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am & 11:15 am & 6:11 pm
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DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH
8585 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI
(248) 625-2311
website: www.dixiebaptist.org
Home of Springfield Christian Academy & Children's Ark Preschool
Pastor: J. Todd Vahaman
Sun: 10:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship
11:00 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Worship Service
Wed: 6:45 pm AWANA
7:00 pm Teen Meetings & Adult Bible Study
Nursery available for all services

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(corner of Maybee & Winell)
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Wednesday 7 pm
Youth & Adult Ministry

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Pastor: Russell Reemtsma
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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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Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 am
Bible Study Wed. Eve., 6:30 pm at Church Offices - Yellow House
7205 Clintonville Rd., Clarkston, MI
Phone (248) 858-2577
Fax (248) 858-7706

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

CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
6805 Bluegrass Drive, Clarkston
(W. of M-15, just S. of I-75)
248-625-3288
Pastor Jonathan Hejerman
Sunday Worship:
8:15 am (traditional), 9:30 & 11:00 am
Also at both 9:30 & 11:00:
Nursery, Children & Youth Programming
Wednesday Evenings:
6:00-8:30 pm
Dinner, worship, small groups
Nursery, Children & Youth Programming
www.calvaryinfo.org

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH
6300 Clarkston Road • Clarkston
(248) 625-1323
Home of Oakland Christian School
Pastors: Greg Henneman, Bonita Laudeman, Kevin Kuehne, Dan Whiting, Geoff Black
Sunday: Worship 9:15 & 11:00 am
Nursery Care at all services
Wednesday: Children's Ministries 6:00-8:00 pm
Sunday: Youth Ministries 5:00-7:00 pm
www.clarkstoncommunity.com

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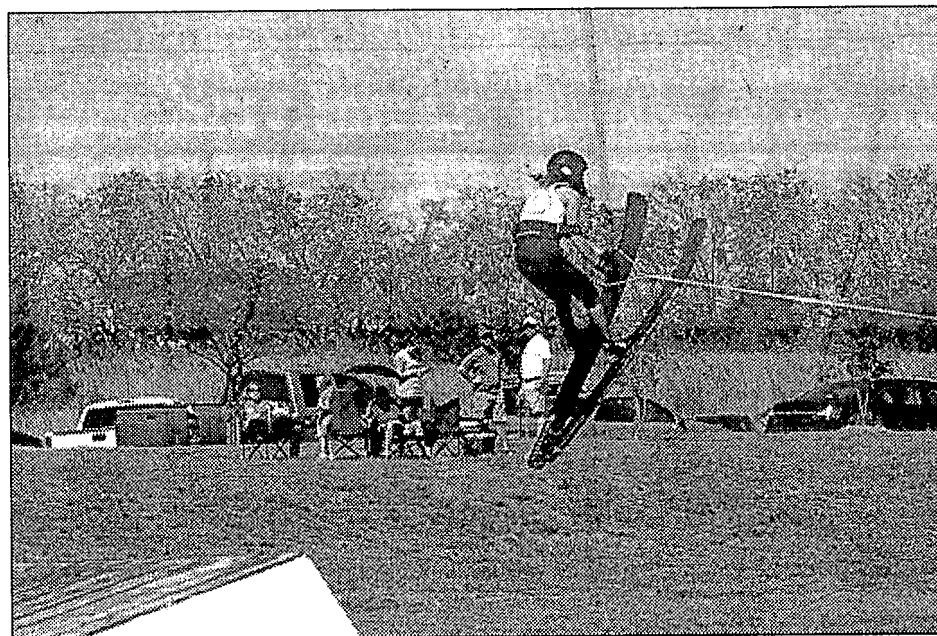
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Milestones



Logan Lawson competes at a national water ski tournament. Photo provided

Students achieve success

Logan Lawson of Clarkston, 2009 graduate of Notre Dame Prep, competed for Arizona State University in the National Collegiate Water Ski Association Championship Tournament in Austin, Texas, last month.

Logan competed in trick skiing and jump. Arizona State finished fourth in Division 1. He was a member of the Spray Masters Water Ski Show Team of Davisburg for 13 seasons.

In summer, he is an instructor at the Pine Lake Water Ski School in Orchard Lake.

Jamie Schram, 2007 Clarkston High

School graduate, recently completed a successful season at Kalamazoo Central High School as head coach for the Freshmen Girls Volleyball Team.

Schram graduates from Western Michigan in June 2011, majoring in public relations.

Megan Marshall, senior at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, double majoring in Math and Physics, recently earned an Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

She is the daughter of Larry Brohman of Clarkston and Tammy Marshall of New Madison, Ohio.

In our country's service...

Joshua Harrison of Clarkston was promoted to staff sergeant in the Michigan Army National Guard.

Harrison is a supply sergeant with F Company, 425th Infantry, Airborne, Long Range Surveillance, based at Selfridge National Guard Base. He has been a member of the Michigan National Guard for 12 years. Prior to his Guard service, Harrison served on active duty for two years.

Harrison attended basic training in 1998, at Fort Knox, Ky. He also attended the Small Arms Master Gunner Course in 2007, War-

rior Leader Course in 2007, and Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course in 2009.

He is a 2008 veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his tour, he served as a platoon sergeant of a cavalry scout platoon.

During his military career, Harrison received numerous awards including two Army Commendation Medals, one Air Force Commendation Medal and five Army Achievement Medals.

Harrison has two children, Jason and John, and is the son of SFC (Retired) John Harrison, of Manton, Mich.

Got a Milestone to share?

We'd love to see them - births, weddings, engagements, military, business and school achievements! Drop them off at 5 S. Main St. or e-mail Clarkstonnews@gmail.com

Obituaries

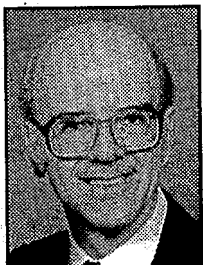
Gerald Frederiksen, 74

Gerald A. Frederiksen, "Gerry," of Dimondale, formerly of Rochester, passed away, Nov. 15, 2010, at age 74.

He was the husband of Gloria for 27 years; father of Sheryl (Lucky) of Waterford, Mark (Jan) of White Lake and Dale (Bob) of North Carolina; stepfather of Robyn (Paul) Kay of Eaton Rapids; Kelli (Richard) Hines of Waterford and Scott (Jennifer) Harrod of Davison; also survived by 12 grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and two expectant great grandchildren.

Mr. Frederiksen retired from GM. He directed choirs in many churches and was a talented soloist and trumpet player.

Funeral service was Nov. 19 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment White Chapel Cemetery. Memorials may be made to New Haven Elder Care or In House Hospice. Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.



PUBLIC NOTICE

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INDEPENDENCE TWP.

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A MEETING OF THE INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP BOARD WILL BE HELD AT THE INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP HALL 6483 WALDON CENTER DRIVE CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN

ON: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2010 AT 7:30 P.M.

AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING - 2011 BUDGET

A copy of the proposed Budget is on file in the office of the Independence Township Clerk, 6483 Waldon Center Drive, Clarkston, Michigan and may be examined during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Charter Township of Independence will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at a public hearing/meeting upon advance notice in writing or by calling the Township Clerk's Office at (248) 625-5111.

Charles R. Mills, 72

Charles R. Mills, "Chuck," "W8MNL," of Clarkston passed away, Nov. 17, 2010, at age 72.

He was the loving husband of Judy for 50 years; beloved father of Susan (Mark) Evans, Cynthia (Gary) Dibble, and Laura Mills; proud grandpa of Carrie (Ryan) Gennette, Kevin (Harmonie) Dibble, Bill, "K8MNL," and Ben Evans, Christina, and Audrey Townsend; loving great grandpa of Kaylee Dibble.

Mr. Mills retired from Detroit Edison after 31 years of service. He was a life long Ham Radio operator.

Funeral Service was Nov. 20 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment All Saints Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Lung Association. Online guestbook, www.wintfuneralhome.com. 73's from Chuck.

Joyce A. Rekucki, 80

Mrs. Joyce Ann Rekucki of Milford, Ind., formerly of Clarkston and Burt, Mich., beloved mother and grandmother, passed away Friday, Nov. 12, 2010 at the Courtyard Health Care Center in Goshen, Indiana, at age 80 years.

She was born on Oct. 31, 1930, in Saginaw, Mich., to Alfred and Clara (Brown) Vervoort. She graduated from Saginaw High School in 1948. She was married on May 14, 1954, at Holy Family Catholic Church, Saginaw, to Eugene Rekucki who preceded her on January 9, 1992.

She was a homemaker most of her life, but also worked as a cook at Gracie's Country House, Burt, Mich., for 10 years. She was a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Saginaw and St. Daniel's Catholic Church in Clarkston. She also served as secretary for TOPS Club of Burt for many years. She lived most of her life in Michigan, but moved to Indiana to live with her daughter, Mary, after suffering a debilitating stroke in June of 2008.

She is survived by her five daughters, Kathy (Bruce) Weisensel, Flagstaff, Ariz.;



Mary (Leland) Dush, Milford, Ind.; Nancy (Michael) Bontumasi, Clarkston; Susan (Gregory) Vigesaa; Mansfield, Ohio; Julie (David) Agnew, Clarkston; nine grandchildren, Gene and Frank Dush, Michael and Nicholas Bontumasi, Thomas and Sara Vigesaa, Jessica, Daniel, and Hannah Agnew. Her brother, James Vervoort, of Saginaw also survives her. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, sister Betty Burnell, and brother Alfred Vervoort.

Honoring Mrs. Rekucki's wishes, cremation has taken place. Funeral Liturgy will take place, 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 27, 2010, at Holy Family Catholic Church. Rev. Fr. Ronald Wagner will officiate with burial of her remains in St. Andrew Cemetery. Friends may call at The Snow Funeral Home, 3775 N. Center, between Shattuck and McCarty, where the family will be present on Friday from 2-4 p.m. and from 6-8 p.m. and on Saturday at the church from 9 a.m. until the time of Mass. In lieu of flowers, those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorials to the American Diabetic Association, PO Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312 or Emmaus House of Saginaw, Inc, 733 S. 14th St., Saginaw, MI 48601.

Estel H. Williams, 93

Estel H. Williams of Gingellville passed away, Nov. 19, 2010, at age 93.

He was preceded in death by his wife Neta; brother of Imogene (Claude) Andrews of Mt. Vernon, Ind.; beloved uncle and like a father to Vicki (Conway) Holcomb, Teresa Conway, Darlene (Conway) Taormina, Charlene Conway and Patricia (Conway) Asaro. Also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Williams retired from GM Truck and Coach.

Funeral service was Nov. 22 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. In memory of his wife, donations may be made to Alzheimers Association. Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.



Raymond Huffmaster, 29

Raymond M. Huffmaster, "Huffy," of Rochester Hills passed away, Nov. 21, 2010, at age 29.

He was the son of Kimber and Ray; brother of Ryan (Stephanie-Lynn) of Oxford and Rob of Clarkston; grandson of Dolores and A. Doug Brown of Lake Orion and Helen Joan (the late Raymond R.) Huffmaster of Auburn Hills; nephew of Helen P. (Arthur Wiard) Kearns of West Bloomfield, Cynthia Salinis of White Lake, Steve (Sandy) Brown of Virginia, Tim Brown of Clawson, Mary (Mike) Bires of Lake Orion; and also survived by many cousins.

Mr. Huffmaster enjoyed fishing, his time on many lakes and was fascinated with cars and turtles. He was Business Development Coordinator for Huffmaster Crisis Management. Ray had a heart of gold and took pride caring for his grandparents and uncle. He will be greatly missed by everyone.

Funeral service, Wednesday, 11 a.m., at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Private cemetery services White Chapel Cemetery, Troy. Memorials may be made to Distracted Driving Foundation (ddfn.org) or The Compassionate Friends (compassionatefriends.org). Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.



In our churches

continued from 5B

safe, fun place where children ages 5-12 learn to understand their feelings, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. 248-625-3288.

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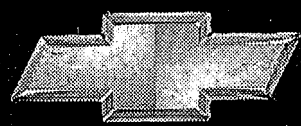
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 \$600 Due At Signing



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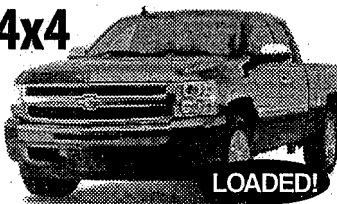
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\$195*** \$453 Due at Signing



MSPR \$18,375

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EMPLOYEE PRICE

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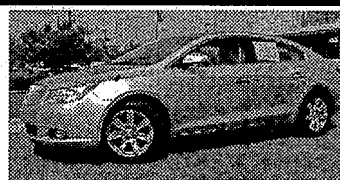
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\$23,995†

2007 Saturn Aura XR

Non Smoking unit, heated seats, remote starter, universal garage door opener, sport aluminum wheels, 6 disc CD player, MP3 player, iPod hook-up, premium sound system, steering wheel radio controls, remote keyless entry, power driver's seat, power windows, power door locks, power mirrors, heated mirrors, auto dimming mirror, automatic climate control, cruise control, digital information center, digital comp./temp., digital fuel data, anti-theft/security system, OnStar navigation system, intermittent wipers, rear window defroster, tire pressure monitor, ABS anti-lock brakes, traction control, dual air bags, side impact air bags, fog lights, auto headlight on/off delay, daytime running lights. Stk. #P7690



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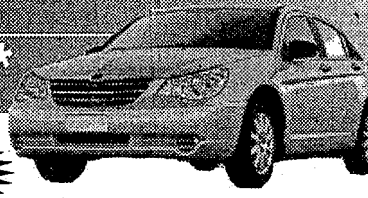
NEW 2010 CHRYSLER SEBRING TOURING

72 MONTH BUY	\$189* per month
39 MONTH LEASE	\$158* per month

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MSRP \$21,115

Now \$13,678* **SAVE OVER \$7,437**



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36 MONTH LEASE	\$279* per month
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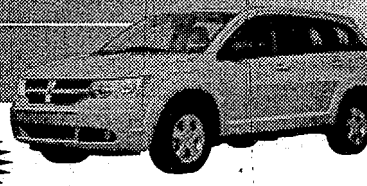
NEW 2010 DODGE JOURNEY SE

72 MONTH BUY	\$197* per month
39 MONTH LEASE	\$171* per month

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MSRP \$21,165

Now \$14,192* **SAVE OVER \$6,973**



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72 MONTH BUY	\$198* per month
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0% APR AVAILABLE

MSRP \$20,980

Now \$14,283* **SAVE OVER \$6,697**



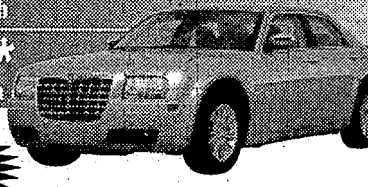
NEW 2010 CHRYSLER 300 TOURING

72 MONTH BUY	\$289* per month
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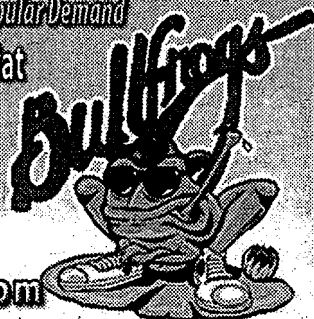
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2010 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab ST 4x4

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 Sale Price **\$19,998**
 Was \$32,885 Stk. #100717


40/20/40 bench seat, chrome appearance great, 5.7L V-8 Hemi, customer preferred 26A pkg



2010 Dodge Journey SXT

36 mo. Lease
\$179⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$15,981**
 Was \$24,465 Stk. #10D312

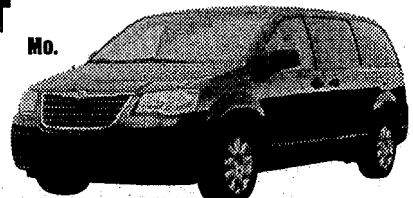
Customer preferred 28k package, 3.5L V-6 high output 24V engine, 6 speed auto, premium bucket seats



2010 Chrysler Town & Country Touring

36 mo. Lease
\$159⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$20,549**
 Was \$29,460 Stk. #10A673


Customer preferred 25K package, 3.8L V-6 OHV engine



2010 Dodge Avenger SXT

36 mo. Lease
\$149⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$10,998**
 Was \$20,980 Stk #10B216

Customer preferred 24Y package, 2.4L 16V dual VVT engine



2010 Chrysler 300 Signature Series

36 mo. Lease
\$289⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$21,998**
 Was \$33,535 Stk. #10C128

Customer preferred 26P package, 3.5L V6 output engine, leather, navigation



2010 Dodge Grand Caravan Hero

36 mo. Lease
\$199⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$16,995**
 Was \$25,995


Power doors, liftgate, Stow N Go



2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 4x4

36 mo. Lease
\$269⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$27,984**
 Was \$32,995 Stk. #11J135


Customer preferred 26E package, power windows/locks, cruise and tilt



2010 Jeep Liberty Sport 4x4

36 mo. Lease
\$139⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$16,321**
 Was \$26,605 Stk. #10J550


3.7L V6, auto, 288 popular equipment group



2010 Jeep Wrangler Sport 4x4

36 mo. Lease
\$179⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$17,998**
 Was \$26,815 Stk. #10J694

3.8L V-6, deep tint sunscreen glass 24S Package

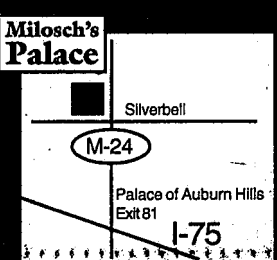


2010 Dodge Nitro SE 4x4

36 mo. Lease
\$189⁺ Mo.
 Sale Price **\$13,998**
 Was \$24,575 Stk. #10D30



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Lake
 Orion



Premier amenities saturate this all-sports Lake Orion gem w/4 bedrooms, 3.1 baths, 5-star eat-in kitchen, pillared great room and a finished walkout. **\$520,000 85-ISL**

Deer
 Lake



Dynamic Deer Lake ranch w/a finished walkout includes hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings flaunts and 2 fireplaces t/o its 2,400 sq. ft. **289,900 64-SIM**

New
 Listing



Sizzling 2,400 sq. ft. colonial w/3 bedrooms, 2.1 baths, extensive Brazilian cherry hardwoods, granite kitchen, 3-car garage and beach privileges. **\$275,000 11-SCE**

New
 Listing



Run don't walk to this 1,900 sq. ft. colonial w/a welcoming front porch, 2-story entry, 5 bedrooms, 3.1 baths and a finished walkout. **\$209,000 63-CRE**

New
 Listing



Majestic, bank-owned colonial w/4 bedrooms, 2.1 baths, granite kitchen, formal dining w/hardwood floors, walkout lower level and a 3-car garage. **\$194,000 61-RID**

New
 Listing



One-of-a-kind colonial flaunts 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, oodles of hardwood floors, vaulted maple kitchen, Andersen windows, and a walk-to-town locale. **\$144,900 60-SUN**

New
 Listing



Nicely updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch w/a chef's kitchen, hardwood floors, fire lit family room, and a fenced yard w/ gardens galore. **\$119,000 55-DVO**

New
 Listing



Sought after split-level w/3 bedrooms, 2.1 baths, king-sized kitchen, fire lit family room, dining w/bay window and a super neighborhood setting. **\$109,900 55-WAR**

New
 Listing



Neat and tidy 1,300 sq. ft. ranch on 2.5 acres boasts 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, updated kitchen, great room w/fireplace, and a 2-car garage. **\$100,000 39-GRA**

New
 Listing



1,300 sq. ft. bank-owned bungalow in Rochester Hills w/3 bedrooms, 2.1 baths, hardwood floors, FF laundry, full basement and a leafy yard. **\$90,000 32-AVA**

