# In today's edition, Tax break revision.......4A Treasurer blocked.......5A Op-ed......6A-7A Sports.....11A-12A

# Benefit cuts OK'd

# Longevity costs \$12,600 to township annually

#### BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

It's the end of the line for longevity raises for Independence Township's non-union employees.

The township can't afford automatic raises based on time worked, trustees said, voting 6-1, March 15, to stop the practice.

"I think the purpose it was created for is no longer relevant – it was to reward employees," said Trustee Dave Lohmeier. "I think the original concept was to protect and keep your outstanding employees long-term and it's been less of a threat."

Trustee Larry Rosso said those currently receiving longevity raises should be "grandfathered" in, but there needs to be a cutoff.

"We cannot afford to go any further," he

said. "Many municipalities are discontinuing longevity pay."

"I was floored anybody gets longevity," said Trustee Mark Petterson. "In the real world I don't know one company that pays somebody longevity."

However, he made a motion for the five employees who receive it to be grandfathered in.

"When the reward is great the effort is great. When the reward is taken away the effort becomes less and less," Petterson said. "These are our department heads, we need to reward them."

The township's Benefits Committee could not reach a consensus on the issue of longevity raises and offered two proposals to the board, said Carol Gabris, Human

Please see Cuts on page 24A

# Kids not college-ready, study says

#### BY WENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Staff Writer

As high school seniors dive into their last trimester in Clarkston, how many are prepared for college?

Not many, according to the Michigan Department of Education's analysis of ACT scores. According to the study, less than 10 percent of 2011 high school graduates are considered ready for college in half of the high schools in the state.

Clarkston results faired better, with 24.7 percent of this year's graduates college ready, placing them 18th in Oakland County out of 28 districts and 80th in the state. They also scored higher than the national average of 24 percent.

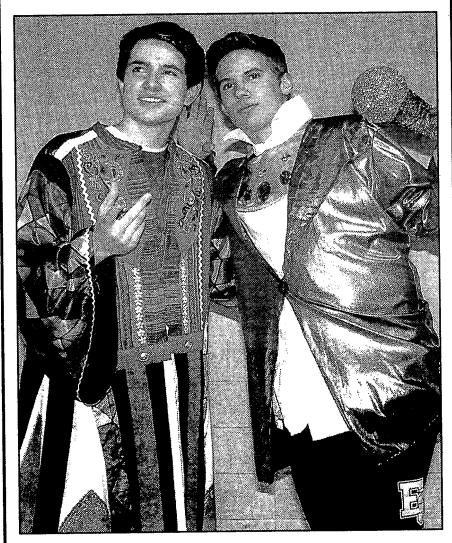
The study doesn't tell the whole story, said Clarkston Community Schools Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock.

"ACT scores represent one factor in college completion," Rock said. "The study is correlational. There is a positive relationship between ACT scores and grades in certain college courses."

Another factor, Rock pointed out, is the lack of a standard grading practice within or between colleges, as well as no guarantee every student is learning the same in a particular course.

"It is difficult to say that a grade in one college means the same as a grade at a different college," he said.

Please see Student on page 16A



# Dream-weaver

Chris Bradley as Joseph, left, impresses Egypt's Pharoah, played by Jeremy Schupbach, in Everest's "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," opening April 1. See page 10A for story and more pictures. Photo by Phil Custodio

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# **Club winners**

Clarkston Coffee Club members Leahpar Productions, Butler CPA and Associates, and Rob Schroeder Maintenance, Repair, and Paint all won free ads in the Independence Township Parks and Recreation Spring/Summer Recreation Guide.

They were picked in a drawing for the full-color business-card sized ad, \$120 value, at a recent Coffee Club meeting.

The guide goes out to more than 12,000 homes in Independence Township in mid April.

Hosted by *The Clarkston News* and ClarkstonTV.com, the Coffee Club meets Thursdays, 7:30 a.m., at Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road.

For more information, call Kim Dubczak, Recreation Guide project coordinator, at 248-625-8223.

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# Parade needs new planners

#### BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Independence Township and Clarkston officials, along with representatives from Clarkston Lions and Optimist clubs attended the Fourth of July Parade informational meeting hosted by Fire Chief Steve Ronk and the Independence Township Fire Department.

If a committee or a civic organization does not step forward by May 1, there will be no parade, said Ronk.

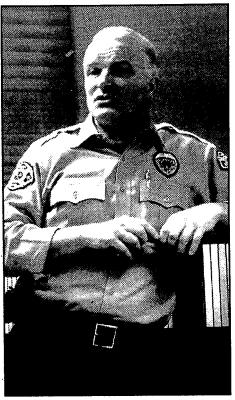
"There has to be a to least a month to get that group up to speed to what's going on," he said.

Ronk told township officials earlier in the year, after 75 years, the fire department wanted out of the parade business.

The parade costs the department about \$8,000-\$10,000 extra due to personnel expenses.

The informational meeting gave an overview as to how the department organized the parade from beginning to end structurally, and advice on what worked well in the past.

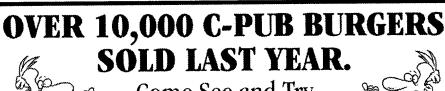
"We're more than willing to sit down and have meetings and show people this thing cold turkey and help them out," Ronk said. "I just want somebody to say 'hey we're in and we'll take this."



Fire Chief Steve Ronk explains how the parade works. *Photo by Trevor Keiser* 



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# **Briefly**

# Clartucky Derby race April 30

Parents, make sure your children's tricycles are cleaned, greased and rolling right! The Clarkston Retailers Association has announced plans for its first annual Clartucky Derby, April 30.

Unlike the famous horse race Kentucky Derby, which runs the first weekend in May, the Clartucky Derby involves tykes and trikes.

Details are being worked, out, but as of press time, the race will be in The Clarkston News parking lot, at the corner of Main and Washington streets. The race is sponsored by Kinetic Systems Bicycles.

Downtown businesses will offer kid activities, contests, snacks, beverages and plenty of discounts for those still shopping for Mother's Day (May 8).

Watch The Clarkston News for more information on the race, chances for adults to win gift baskets and participating store discounts.

# 'Secret Garden' play

Clarkston Junior High School Drama Club present "The Secret Garden," Friday-Saturday, March 25-26, 7 p.m. at the CJHS Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$7/adults and \$5/seniors and students.

# Correction

The story "Parents urge caution in teacher cut plan," March 2, should have listed the cut to the International Baccalaureate at Clarkston High School as \$120,000, including \$11,500 in software and technology purchases, \$18,500 teaching supplies and field trips, \$35,000 in textbooks, and \$5,000 in training.

# Township tightens tax-break rules

#### BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

Can you have \$125,000 and still be considered "in poverty?" Until recently, you could when considered for property-tax exemption in Springfield Township.

'The Board of Review noticed that residents were qualifying for the exemption based on the income guidelines, while still holding a considerable amount of assets," said township Supervisor Mike Trout. "Sometimes holdings and accounts were increasing from year to year, but still remained under the asset limits. It didn't seem right.

I think this is a step in the right direction." Township Board voted unanimously, March 2, to revise the Poverty Exemption

**Dubre** 

Previous standards for exemption were \$34,900 maximum income for a family of four, with maximum assets of \$125,000. Assets included cash, stocks, bonds, IRAs, and other funds, but not the home.

Revised standards allow for \$29,650 for family of four, maximum net assets of \$50,000. liquid assets of \$10,000, and exempts the home and one car.

The revision requires applicants to live on the property for at least three years, as well as limits exemption eligibility to three out of the last seven years for those under age 62 unless physically or mentally disabled.

Limiting the number of years might be an incentive to make a change and improve themselves, said Trustee Judy Hensler.

"It can't just go on and on," Hensler said. "The net assets are pretty high - it's not appropriate today. This seems like a solid plan.

Treasurer Jamie Dubre said applicants should have received a grace period before time limits take effect, but was still in favor of

"I don't want to see people get a free ride anymore," Dubre said.

When making their decision, Board of Review can consider any substantial and compelling reason to vary from the guidelines, said Trout, who as supervisor must

'l don't

want to

see people

get a free

ride any-

more.'

concur with exemptions they grant.

The Board of Review recognizes the economic times and struggles residents are experiencing," he said. "It is our intent to offer assistance to those truly in need and reduce the possibility of granting exemptions to those who are not.'

"They have a lot of latitude for exemptions," said Township Assessor Vicki Sievers. "This won't really affect a lot of people.

In 2010, the Board of Review received poverty-exemption applications from 53 property owners. Full exemption was granted to 33 of them, and partial exemptions to 10. The other 10 applicants did not qualify for exemption. The exemptions reduced revenue by about

"Circumstances change from year to year - I would expect a similar number will apply this year." Trout said.

Before 2009, Springfield's net asset limit was \$250,000 and included the home.

"As property values were increasing, that amount no longer seemed reasonable,"

The board revised guidelines in 2009 to exclude principal residence from assets and reduce net asset amount to \$125,000.

"The Board of Review worked within these guidelines for the last few years, determining that the amount of \$125,000 seemed excessive," Trout said.

Other problems faced by the Board of Review over the past few years included new residents purchasing property and requesting Poverty Exemption at the same time.

"This seemed presumptuous to the Board of Review and it was determined that there should be a minimum period of time that a person should own and occupy the property before qualifying for the Poverty Exemption," he said.

The Township Board appointed residents Ronald Eaton, Elizabeth LaVallee, and Sheryl Wendt to two-year terms on the Board of Review, expiring Dec. 31, 2012.

Hearings were this month, with decisions in July and December.

"We don't want to kick anyone out of their house," said Eaton to the Township Board. "We have a lot of compassion for township residents, but no compassion for people working the system to get a tax break every

The Township Board reviews and approves exemption standards each year.

"It was discovered that Springfield Township is one of two townships in the area with the highest income limits, Trout said. "The income limits were reduced to bring them more in line with comparable townships."

Sievers collected exemption standards from surrounding townships and prepared Springfield Township's revisions.

# Poverty exemptions

## Springfield Township

Original

Income: \$34,900 for family of four

Exempt: home

Max. net assets: \$125,000

Revised

Income: \$29,650 for family of four

Exempt: home and one car

Max. assets: \$50,000 net, \$10,000 liquid Independence Township

Income: \$28,800 for family of four

Exempt: home

Max. net assets: \$100.000 **Groveland Township** 

Income: \$34,900 for family of four Exempt: home and one car Max. net assets: \$50,000



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# Out of the loop

#### BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Treasurer Curt Carson is defiant in the face of an Independence Township Board vote knocking him out of deficit-elimination planning.

"The vote has no meaning," Carson said. "I am obligated by my oath of office to fulfill my statutory duties. On top of that, it made no sense, in light of the positive reaction we received from (state) treasury.'

The board voted 4-3, March 15, to prohibit Carson from meeting with state officials, as well as township auditing firm Plante & Moran about the new township hall or its Deficit Elimination Plan with the

All future efforts would be handled by Les Pulver of Plante & Moran and township Finance Director Susan Hendricks.

Carson, Supervisor David Wagner and Trustee Mark Petterson voted "no."

The majority felt Carson's involvement was a violation of a board motion and direction provided at an earlier meeting.

At the Jan. 18 meeting, Trustee Neil Wallace moved that the board authorize Pulver to work with the state to eliminate or fix the Deficit Elimination Plan, and report back to the board as soon as possible.

After the motion was passed, 5-1, Pulver said he shouldn't contact the state alone and suggested he work with the supervisor, treasurer, a trustee, and perhaps a state representative.

Wallace suggested Pulver work with the deputy supervisor. Supervisor Dave Wagner said "it was a good idea" and he would have the deputy supervisor call



Carson

"For anyone to say that the township treasurer cannot deal with the state treasurer it does not even make sense."

Pulver. There was no additional motion.

Carson said he is "supported by the law" and the resolution "is an intrusion" on his statutory duties.

"As treasurer, I have specific statutory duties, and investing township funds in approved investment vehicles is one of them," he said. "This issue clearly involves investment of township funds.'

Monitoring the township's water and sewer funds and fund balance, from which the money for Township Hall was borrowed, is his responsibility, he said.

"For anyone to say that the township treasurer cannot deal with the state treasurer - it does not even make sense,"

On Jan. 19, Wagner and Carson discussed the matter and decided Carson would be a better township representative than the deputy supervisor.

"When we met the next day the supervisor and I said it made no sense

# Treasurer kicked off deficit-elimination plan

anyway to have the new deputy supervisor involved because he doesn't know our (state) representative, he doesn't know anything about the situation, about the new building (Township Hall)," Carson said. "That just didn't make logical sense anyways."

Carson, with the help of state Sen. Jim Marlow, drove to Lansing and met with state Treasurer Andy Dillon and his staff, along with Pulver and former Trustee Daniel Kelly.

Trustee David Lohmeier said Carson and Wagner made the wrong decision.

"I think there has been way too much grandstanding, way too much 'let me help and save this situation,' and what we really wanted was a technical solution. That's why we challenged Mr. Pulver to go up and try and work it out on a working level,' Lohmeier said. "Not have a hold-hands, 'Kumbaya meeting.' I'm sorry you don't understand yet again why what you did was wrong, but it was.'

Wallace said he thought the (Jan 18) motion was "quite specific."

Trustee Larry Rosso said Carson needs to follow the will of the board.

"No matter how noble some other alternative might be, we get ourselves in a lot of legal difficulty if a member of the board or one of the three administrative members of the board do something contrary to the resolution or the motion of the board." Rosso said.

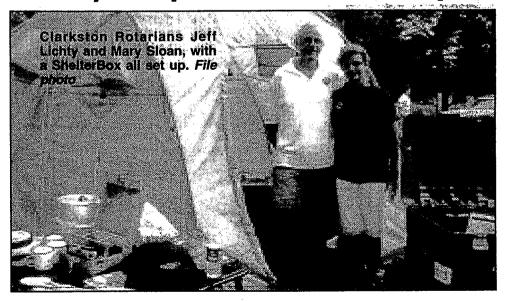
Carson said the meeting with the state was a positive one and they are currently awaiting a letter from the state that will alleviate the board's concerns about having a deficit elimination plan in 30 days.

# Clarkston Rotary helps victims in Japan

Clarkston Rotary club is accepting ShelterBox donations to help thousands of people left homeless in Japan following the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disasters.

ShelterBox USA delivers boxes of aid to those struck by disaster around the world. Each box contains a disaster relief tent for up to 10 people, stove, blankets, water filtration system, and other tools for survival.

The cost of a complete ShelterBox is \$1,000. Donations can be made to ShelterBoxUSA on line at ShelterBoxusa.org or checks, for a full or partial Box, made out to ShelterBoxUSA and sent to Clarkston Rotary, PO Box 43, Clarkston, MI 48347.





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# Phil in the Blank

A column by Phil Custodio

# Parade, please

With a name like Independence Township, this place had better be able to field an Independence Day Parade. What else are we going to do on the Fourth of July? If we can't, we ought to just change it.

Community groups have been stepping forward a lot recently, helping out or taking over Friendly Forest, Deer Lake Beach, Fourth of July in Clintonwood Park, and other activi-

That's great – government can't support these things, what with falling property taxes, crappy economy, and everything.

So if residents want these things, they're

getting out there and making it happen.
Whichever community group steps forward this time, I'll help out with planning, attending meetings, showing up at 6 a.m., July 4, to place traffic cones, hand out ice cream cones, or whatever else is needed.

Get the American Legion, floats, fire trucks, police cars, marching bands, civic groups – maybe not so many politicians.

I'm getting the feeling this spring may be a bit busier than before.

President Ronald Reagan bombed Libya 25 years ago this year.

What better time for President Obama (O-bomb-a?) to repeat it? He's been trying to emulate the previous president for a while. It's also 210 years since the start of the Barbary Wars, when Tripoli was again bombed by America.

We commemorate milestones to lots of other wars this year.

It's 255 years since the start of the French and Indian War; 235 year anniversary of the Declaration of Independence; 175 years since the start of the War of Texas Independence; and 165 years since the start of the Mexican American War.

A big one this year is the 150-year anniversary of the start of the Civil War, but it's also 70 years since the start of World War II, for the United States, at least, and 20 years since the start of the First Gulf War, against Iraq – I was in that one. Also, of course, 10 years since 9/11 and the start of the War on Terror with the invasion of Afghanistan.

Two of these are still going on (if you count Iraq as one big one). Guess we can add Libya to the list.

# 50's school different, teacher says

Dear Editor,

I just had to respond to Mr. Klemmer's letter and photo from his class of 51 at St. David School in the 1950s. I would argue that today's conditions in schools cannot begin to compare to conditions in the 1950's. I at-

school in a Catholic setting in the late 1960s and I remember many things from that experience:

Letters to the editor the amount of mate

1. Teachers had control over the students because parents backed the teachers in every situation. Today, this is not always true and student behavior can be much more difficult to control.

2. A student has one focus: school! There were very few extra-curricular activities to divert student attention. Homework and school came first.

3. Teachers did not have to put up with short attention spans due to the presence of too much tv, video games, and every other electronic device.

4. I would also argue that the presence of fast food, unhealthy snacks, and general ill

health makes teaching much more difficult today.

5. I don't recall having to prep for a standardized test as a third grader and having my school and teacher evaluated on my test scores. The earliest I remember taking such a

test is high school.

6. State and federal curriculum is much more specific and and

the amount of material and the age level it is taught to is not always developmentally correct.

7. The family situations are much more complex today with both parents often working, children in before and after care, and broken homes with children being shuttled between them.

ILOVE teaching in Clarkston and will continue to work diligently to educate all my students, regardless of class size. But please don't believe that teaching is the same now as in the 1950s.

Respectfully

Kathy Noble, first grade teacher Bailey Lake Elementary

# Sports teaches many youth lessons

Dear Editor

Timing is always important, especially if you are telling a joke or cooking a fish. I admit I am late with this comment but I feel it is so important I will be late, letter late than never. The fact that the Detroit Tigers are into Spring Training was the motivating factor.

What does playing organized sports do for the young man or young woman? What are some of the lessons to be learned? It teaches them to be in their best physical shape possible. Their body is their equipment so it must be maintained in top-notch condition. This is so important when obesity is of epidemic proportions.

Ninety percent of sports are team sports so it teaches them teamwork. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts. A team is not a collection of individuals but a whole new thing, E pluribus unum," out of many,

one. Team sports teaches perseverance and to stay with your goals. Team sports are a variation of the children's story of the hare and the tortoise.

Last summer, Armando Galarraga pitched a perfect game for the Detroit Tigers. A perfect game is much more than a no hitter. I was most impressed with the perfect game but I was much more impressed with Galarraga's response to being robbed of his achievement by an umpire's bad call.

I can honestly say I have never seen a better example or illustration of how best to handle adversity.

Galarraga handled the situation in the most noble and magnanimous fashion. This was much more than a baseball moment. It was a life moment. A moment that goes way beyond baseball.

Jerry McNally Clarkston

# Appreciation for community support

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Ms. Chris Strong, co-owner of Waterfall Jewelers, and her Batteries for Charity program for her amazing generosity and donation to the Clarkston Area Youth Assistance.

The goal of Clarkston Area Youth Assistance is directed toward building self esteem in children and strengthening the family

through education, healthy recreation and counseling. Some of the programs we sponsor are Camp, Mentors Plus, Delinquency Prevention Programs, After School Tutoring, Youth Recognition and Youth Involvement.

Her thoughtfulness and support of this program are very much appreciated.

Nicole Cronmiller, president CAYA Board of Directors

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

# A Look Back

From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 1996

"The playscape's on fire!" Neighbors of the Bay Court playscape were shocked to see flames in the park, thinking the play structure was burning down. But it was just an exercise by Independence Township Fire Department.

"Growth encircles Clarkston schools" More than 1,200 new homes in 71 developments were expected to add hundreds of students to the school district. Responses included a bond request and new elementary school.

"Brainstorming the art of writing" Organized by teacher Michele Shaltz, Pine Knob Elementary students kicked off the school's writing contest with a performance by Brainstormers, a performing arts group.

### 25 years ago - 1986

"Party folks" Independence Township Board.members celebrated the township's sesquicentennial at the Clarkston Mills Mall restaurant with an old-fashioned photo session in antique clothing. Sporting top hats, bowlers, and other 19th-century accessories were board members Frank Ronk, Carol Balzarini, Richard Holman, Daniel Travis, John Lutz, and William Vandermark.

"First graders reject Garbage Pail Kid cards" Joshua Panbid, Brooksie Patterson, Brook Wagner, Cassie Sanford, Melissa Petiprin, Heather Unsworth and other Clarkston Elementary students wrote letters to manufacturers of Garbage Pail Kids cards. They found the cards, which spoofed Cabbage Patch Kids, to be "nasty," "very bad," and "stupid."

"BPW selects Rebecca Ridley for club award" Waterford-Clarkston Business and Professional Women Organization honored the Clarkston High School graduate with the Young Career Woman of the Year award.

50 years ago - 1961

"Civil defense equipment needed" Civil Defense of Independence Township asked residents to register wreckers, blow torches, trucks, bulldozers, chainsaws, and other equipment for use in emergencies.

"What's 'all numbers calling" The latest development in telephone numbering was seven numbers to make a call, replacing a system of letters and numbers. For example, KL 5-2368 became 555-2368. They were running out of usable letter-number combinations.

"Clarkston local" Mr. and Mrs. Evan Leonard of Waldon Road spent three days in Cadillac, leaving on Thursday afternoon and returning Sunday night.

# I say, let's get rid of all newspapers

I was watching the TV news magazine 60 Minutes this past Sunday. One of the topics was Mark Twain's classic American works of literature, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

While it has long been a source of controversy since it was published in the mid 1880s ("course" language including the use of the dreaded "N" word), what I learned kinda bummed me out. The publishing house which owns the rights has taken out the "N" word and replaced it with the word "slave."

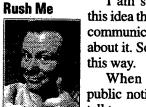
I really don't have a problem with that, what I have is a problem of changing things in print to make something fit into a later time's "sensibilities."

One of the reasons I dig the newsPAPER industry is once it is in print. it doesn't change. So, the changing of Huck Finn touches me in ways that I don't like. In the newspaper biz, if we do something wrong, in later editions we can make corrections -- but we just don't go willynilly making changes because somebody wants us to.

There is an effort afoot by local governments and state governments to do away with placing public notices in print

newspapers. The government types are using the economic crap out as an excuse to take away public notices. Public notices are "far" too expensive, government bean-counters say. Let's put them

on the internet, it will save us money, they add.



A column by Don Rush

Don't

I am so opposed to this idea that I can barely communicate coherently about it. So, let me put it

When asked about public notices, I usually tell two personal stories. Once upon a time I got an email from a local woman who said, her friend was searching the

internet and discovered the local's name on our website. The local wanted her name stricken from our site. When I investigated, I found the local had requested some sort of ordinance variance. It was a public notice we published first in print, and then posted on-line.

In other words, it was a public docu-

a column by

Story two: Some time ago a lad was

caught, tried and punished for breaking the law. Your community newspaper, ran the story and posted it on-line, too. Years passed, as they always do. Then oneday we get an email that went something like this, "Dear Sirs, please remove the story about me from your website. I have grown up, matured and I am trying to move on with my life. This story does not help."

In both cases I declined the individuals' requests. But, the point is, I could have easily changed and nobody would have been the wiser. I could have altered history in about three seconds. When I hear government types push to put notices on-line, I always think about how easy it is to change and I cringe.

Why support a community newspaper by purchasing a subscription or an advertisement when you can get all the news free on-line and you can post your ads, there too -- FREE!?

I believe more and more folks are getting more and more "news" for free on-line. They have more information than ever before, but is that news? Is there "news" in the form of postings on social

network sites like FaceBook, MySpace and Linked-in? I put the word news in quotation marks because my definition is different than maybe the average Joe's. I reckon I believe news comes from a trained reporter, not just information, observed and posted. Heck, we even have businesses posting their ads on our Facebook pages.

We have Facebook pages and they are useful, but they are only part of the package we try to offer the community which includes print and on-line editions.

How do you think we do that? We pay people. They have jobs, we pay them, you get the goods. That is the way it works. But, should it? It seems more folks these days only want the chamber good news or the chatty social networking gossipy news. They would rather watch Dancing With The Stars than investigate and learn about any issue facing their community.

So, why support a community newspaper? What difference would it make to you and your lives? Maybe we should just get rid of all newspapers, anyway. How would you like that? Let me know. I'd like to see what the community thinks.

# Printing has history of enlightening the people

I have even more proof that you're never too old to sheet was titled, "The Freeman's Oath," which every learn, not that any was needed. And it involves my own trade, a preacher and a woman.

It is also an unsavory tale of stealth, smuggling and the King of England.

The first printing press in the United States was financed by the nonconformist clergyman, The Reverend Jose Glover of Sutton, Surry England. He planned to found and control a printery press in New England.

"On a fog-wrapped London night in 1638, after the harbourmaster had checked the passenger list and cargo, cleared the ship and passed down the gangplank into the darkness, hushed voices could be heard from time to time, calling softly from ship to shore. Large objects were passed into the ship's hold."

All this secrecy was because the King did not encourage enlightenment among the colonists. He prohibited presses, paper and anything connected to the black art from coming here.

With the press was a complete font of type and a large supply of paper. The Rev. died enroute, but his wife continued his mission. In on the deed was Stephen Daye, who, thus, became America's number one printer.

The press was set up in Cambridge, Mass. His first

member of the Massachusetts Colony had taken.

The first book ever printed in the U. S was "The Whole Book of Psalms." Only 11 are said to be in existence. If you've got one, you're rich.

Jim's - - - 0 - - -**Jottings** 

All anyone wants is a warm bed, kind words and unlimited power.

And: Willpower is the ability to resist temptation until you're sure no-one's looking.

- - - 0 - - -I've mentioned before that I write a lot of letters. Years ago I wrote a brewery (I'm not going to mention its name and give them any publicity) about how the sound of pouring irritates me.

Jim Sherman That gurgling sound affects me the way fingernails on blackboards affects others. There's a too-often-played commercial on now that is nothing but the sight and sound of pouring.

I'm not going to protest in writing to them, knowing I'd get the same answer. Their rep wrote that their survey showed the pouring sound made people thirsty.

If you've ever wondered about subliminal advertising, here it is. Hasn't our gov'ment, or the U.N. passed a law agi'n that?

Why did the Snowman call the dog Frost? Because Frost bites!

- - - 0 - - -

Remember - if everything is going your way, you're probably in the wrong lane.

A 15-year-old's words of wisdom on being independent: "I don't need your advice about stuff, I can take care of myself. So what are you making for lunch?" ---0---

Have you ever noticed that many of the people doing the rioting in the Middle East, Hamasns, Elwhatevers, etc. wear their baseball hats backwards?

Is that another American custom they picked up from our youths? That is why hat-bills are turned back isn't it? To protest something, anything, everything?

We Americans have had a great influence around the world . . . Cowboying, scantily cladding, jeans and tees, fast foods, expensive coffees . . . But, at least in return we got Benny Hill.

This "Jottings" first appeared March 15, 2006.



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From left, Clarkston PTSA honored high schoolers, from left, Emily Pobuda, Jackie Gipe, Amanda Covert, Jocelyn Moore, Caitlin Stillwell, Monique Zentner, and Tyler Rumbold for their Reflections work. *Photo by Phil Custodio* 

# Young artists, writers win honors

Fourteen Clarkston students earned statewide honors in Reflections, Parent Teacher Association's nationwide art competition.

Clarkston students who received statewide recognition in the art program, based on the theme "Together We Can," include:

Amanda E. Covert, Clarkston High School, Award of Merit, "March Together," literature;

Nathaniel C. Gipe, Sashabaw Middle School, Award of Excellence and Best of Theme, "Together We Can," literature; Malcolm A. Hill, Clarkston Junior High School, Award of Merit, "Black And White," music composition; Riley S. Kisser, Bailey Lake Elementary, Award of Merit, "Together We Can Show We Care." visual arts: Allison R. Lieblang, Bailey Lake Elementary, Award of Excellence and Best of Theme, "Together We Can Enjoy Michigan," photography; Sara J. Loucks, Sashabaw Middle Harrison Witzke, School, Award of Merit, "Girls Can Change The World," dance state honors for his choreography; Sam P. Mead, Depot Park bridge Sashabaw Middle School, Award photo. of Excellence, "Together We

Can," music composition; Kailan Mehta, Sashabaw Middle School, Award of Excellence, "Together We Can," film production; Elizabeth Oda, Bailey Lake Elementary, Award of Excellence, "Together We Can Make a Difference In Our World," visual arts; Emily A. Pobuda, Clarkston High School, Award of Excellence, "Together We Can Make A Change," dance choreography; Gabe J. Puzio, Springfield Plains Elementary, Award of Merit, "We're All In This Together," music composition; Michael D. Snider, Springfield Plains Elementary, Award of Merit and Best of Theme, "Community Build," visual arts; Harrison E. Witzke, Clarkston High School, Award of Excellence, "Illumination," photography; and Monique A. Zentner, Clarkston High School, Award of Merit, "Together We Can," visual arts.

Gipe, Mead, and Witzke were also chosen to represent Michigan at the national

The Clarkston students' art work will be showcased along with more than 144 statelevel, award-winning entries at the Michigan Parent Teacher Student Association

> (MPTSA) Reflections Reception, Saturday, March 26, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Clarkston High School, 6093 Flemings Lake Road.

Reception is 9-10 a.m., followed by the awards ceremony starting at 10 a.m.

"PTA believes all children deserve a quality arts education and encourages students to pursue artistic expression through participation in its annual arts Reflections Program," said Kim Trombley, Clarkston PTA Council Reflections chairperson. "This is the largest number of state and national entrants from Clarkston we've ever had.'

The public is welcome to enjoy the creativity and talent of some of the most artistic students in the state, Trombley said.

More than 120 students from CCS entered the Reflections competition this year, with 14 advancing to state competition.

Clarkston state winners will be recognized by the Clarkston PTA Council at the school board meeting on Monday, May 9.

The Reflections program offers students in preschool through grade 12 the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. It celebrates the many skills of students and encourages them to pursue artistic expression in a number of different ways including Film/Video Production, Dance Choreography, Musical Composition, Photography, Visual Arts and Literature.

For more information, call Kim Trombley at 248-214-4236.



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# Pulle Salew

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

# Smash and grab

Someone smashed out the rear window of a vehicle parked in the 6000 block of Tuson Boulevard, March 10, and took a subwoofer and GPS.

# Heads-up from HQ

Employees at a Dixie Highway store were alerted by corporate managers that someone might be trying to return \$77 in merchandise purchased with a bounced check. When the 34-year-old Waterford Township man showed up, 3:12 p.m., March 10, they called police.

### Purse found

An Independence Township man helping a friend who ran out of gas on I-75, 6 p.m., March 11, found a purse on the side of the road and turned it in to police. They called the purse's owner in Flint, who said it had been stolen out of a friend's car.

## Fed makes drug stop

A federal agent driving through Independence Township was almost hit by an erratically driven car, 4:30 p.m., March 11, on Sashabaw Road at I-75, pulled it over, and called deputies. The driver, a 26-year-old Waterford Township man, smelled strongly of marijuana and had a half-full bag of it, which he said he bought in Pontiac for \$110. He was cited for drug possession.

# Unlocked garage

Someone entered an unlocked garage in the 5000 block of Sashabaw Road, March 11, and took tools, weight set, CD player, and other items.

# **Booze thief caught**

A 34-year-old Farmington Hills man helped himself to liquor at a Main Street convenience store one time too many, 2:36 p.m., March 12. Employees recognized him and called police. He was found with two bottles of liquor, a bottle of scotch, and bottle of vodka in his pockets. He was arrested and jailed on outstanding warrants for burglary, car theft, fleeing police, and theft.

# **Angry driver**

A 21-year-old Springfield Township man cut off a pickup truck on Maybee Road, then got upset when the other driver blew his horn, 10:04 p.m., March 13. He got out, ran up to the pickup, and punched the driver's side door, prompting the pickup driver to call police. Deputies pulled him over near Waterford Road, finding him with an injured hand but a zero blood alcohol level. He was cited for disorderly conduct.

Sheriff's Crime Tipline, 888-887-6146.

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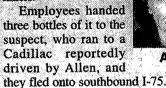
# Mother, son robbers

Tyler Fischer-Greenfield, 25, and his mother Pamela Allen, 50, both of Holly, face up to life in prison for armed robbery in Independence Township.

Fischer-Greenfield allegedly entered the MedCenter Pharmacy in the Independence Pointe Plaza, 7210

N. Ortonville Road at about 9:35 a.m., March 15, and announced a robbery.

With what appeared to be a pistol in his waist-band and wearing a hoodie, hat, sunglasses, and a scarf around his face, he apologized to pharmacists before demanding Oxycontin pain killers.





Allen

As information was broadcasted, Det. John MacDonald of Independence Township substation stationed himself at Sashabaw Road and I-75. The suspects exited at Sashabaw, and MacDonald and uniformed deputies made the arrests.

Deputies recovered the drugs, pistol a broken air-soft pellet gun—and disguise. The suspects were questioned at Independence substation.

Both Oxycontin users, their plan was to steal the drug for their use and to sell to pay their bills. Allen has three other sons, ages 13-18 years old.

Fischer-Greenfield admitted to two recent drugstore robberies in Fenton, one in Waterford, and another in Milford. He said he acted alone in those robberies.

He was charged with Armed Robbery, a felony punished by up to life in prison, and Delivery or Manufacture of Controlled Substance less than 50 grams, 20-year felony. Allen was charged with felony armed robbery, up to life. Arraignment was at 52-2 District Court in Independence Township, \$100,000 bond on Fischer, no 10 percent, and \$50,000 personal for Allen.

Fischer-Greenfield has a 2006 misdemeanor conviction for Operating While Impaired from Mt Pleasant, and a 2007 misdemeanor conviction for Possession of Controlled Substances from Midland. He also has several pending charges.

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# Chamberlain's: Sell your unwanted jewelry and make a profit!

One thing Ron & Gwen Chamberlain, owners of Chamberlain's Auction Gallery would like to stress is not to be fooled by gimmicky ads or commercials by other gold-buying stores.

Chamberlain's is an honest family-owned business and the owners have lived in the Clarkston area all their lives. They have been in the art, jewelry and antique business for 30 years. They will pay top dollar for your unwanted gold and saver jewelry and you can be confident that you are getting paid what you should! Chamberlain's will test and weigh your gold right in front of you and pay you cash on the spot. NO GIMMICKS!!!

Please do not fall victim to these fly-by-night operations from out of state who call themselves traveling road shows! They come from out of state, pay way below fair market



Ron and Gwen Chamberlain of Chamberlain's with Kodi.

value and then leave a few days later. Not only do they rip off the people of Michigan, but they also take money from legitimate Michigan businesses.

Chamberlain's will buy your bracelets, rings, necklaces, earrings, watches, gold and silver coins and bars - even your sterling tea sets and flatware sets. They will buy anything made of gold, silver or platinum even your dental gold.

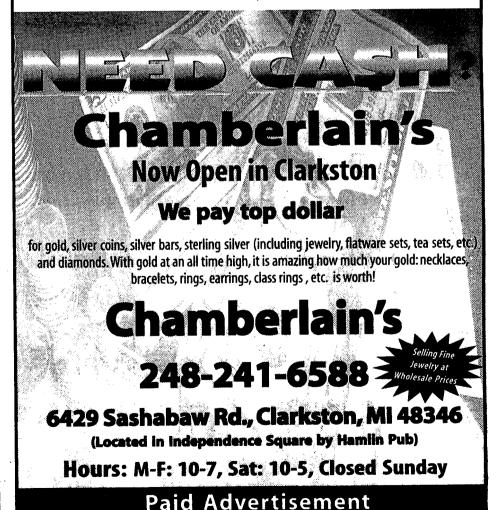
Chamberlain noted that many people bought gold jewelry in the 1980's and 1990's when gold was only \$400 an ounce. Now that the country is in a recession,

the price of gold has skyrocketed and is fluctuating around \$1,200 · \$1,400 an ounce, the highest in history. It is a perfect time to sell your unwanted jewelry to make a profit!

Chamberlain charges nothing to tell you whether your jewelry is real or fake and what he would pay for it. The price paid varies on the gold market, but for the past year, gold prices have been consistently at a very high level. When the economy improves, the price of gold will drop, so now is the time to sell.

Chamberlain can't stress enough to take your jewelry to an honest and established business. If other gold brokers are offering 25 or 30 percent extra on certain days, they should have been paying that in the first place.

GHAC830E52





Chris Bradley, in middle as Joseph, is surrounded by his "loving" siblings played by, from left, James Blazevic, Noah Hinds, Megan Luttinen, Aaron Murawa, Ben Idzick, Ryan Bradley, Paul Bradley, Ben Marcial, and Damon Nallamothu. Photos by Phil Custodio

# 'Joseph' at Everest

Everest Collegiate High School presents "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat" by Andrew Lloyd Weber and Tim Rice.

Showtimes are 7:30 p.m., April 1; 2 p.m. matinee and 6:30 p.m. Dinner Theater on April 2; and 2 p.m., April 3.

"Joseph is an energetic show with something for everyone," said Aileen Cronin, director. "It is the retelling of the Biblical story of Joseph, the handsome young man who is his father's favorite child, able to interpret dreams, and the bearer of an amazing

This leads to jealousy amongst his 11 brothers, and they sell Joseph into slavery. His ability to read dreams makes him popular, however, and he becomes the second most powerful man in Egypt.

"It's a family-friendly storyline, with universal themes and catchy musical retelling of the Bible story," Cronin said. "This cornucopia of musical styles, from country western and calypso to bubble gum pop and rock'n'roll renders this Old Testament tale both timely and timeless."

Everest is located at 5935 Clarkston Road, Call 248-620-



Mikavla Thibodeau, left. and Annie Toohey provide musical narration during the show.





# Wolves fight to the finish in season ender

#### BY WENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Cagers' season came to a heartbreaking end on March 16 against Bay City Western, 45-37, in MHSAA Regional Finals.

"It was a game we had an opportunity to win," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach Dan Fife. "The game was back and forth all night. It was close all the time. Bay City would have a 7-8 point lead and we would come back."

The boys took away Bay City's leads at the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth.

Bay City got going again and Junior Nick Tatu cut the distance to 38-36 as the boys inched up the board.

Tatu brought the boys into the lead by a point with 1:40 left to go in the game after he was sent to the free throw line.

"Even with a minute left we still had opportunities," said Fife. "We put ourselves in the spot to win the game. It was just one of those games nothing fell right for us."

As the boys drove forward to get more cushion on the board they were stopped by Bay City's defense. Fouls against Clarkston sent their opponent to the line where they sunk seven of their nine free throw attempts.

floor to win," said Fife. "I don't think 'woulda, coulda, shoulda.' I am proud of our kids."

Mitch Baenziger and Marcus Hardy led the team adding 12 points each to the board. Tatu added seven points to the game.

The boys ended the season 19-6 with a slow start to the season with two wins and four losses. After Christmas break and a painful loss to Pontiac the boys started their climb back up where they spent most of the season tied in the OAA Red league for first-place honors. They secured the crown with a win over Southfield-Lathrup and took down three teams for their 18th consecutive district title.

"There were a lot of lessons learned this year," said Fife.

He added one of them is how to deal with

"I think athletics is such a great teacher of adversity because if you get too high with the high it always seems to humble you," Fife said. "It never lets you get too full of yourself. It keeps you grounded."

The Wolves lose five players to graduation this year - Max Collins, Brent Cousino, Matt Rodgers, Marcus Hardy and Stacy

"Ninety percent of the time the season is

"We did everything we could have on the ' determined by the attitude of our seniors,' added Fife. "The kids that have been in our program the longest."

What they added to the season was helping their teammates on how to deal with adversity along with the ups and downs not only during the season but throughout games and practices.

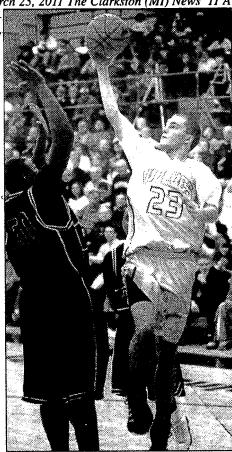
'We always talk about leaving a legacy,' Fife continued. "Did they win a state championship? No. They didn't win a regional championship, but they left a legacy of what they are all about."

For the returners and athletes looking to fill in the spots for the 2011-2012 season getting ready begins with continuing their commitment.

Returners include Mitch Baenziger, Zach Collins, Nick Dahl, Jordan Dasuqi, Tyler DeCoster, Matt Dellinger, Luke Hershey, Alan Kamieniecki, Travis Smith, Nick Tatu and Mark Tynan.

"For anybody who goes through a 2-4 situation, rights the ship and and gets out of that is situation that is a tremendous thing to go through," said Fife.

"It is a great lesson for them. I think that in itself with help them for next year if they are any kind of athlete."



Max Collins jumps past Flint Northern during the Wolves' playoff run. Photo by Larry Wright



Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball beat Grand Blane in the MHSAA District Championship, 42-20

They ended their season at regional championships bringing their record to 18-6, a boost from the previous season.

"I am really proud of them," said Tim. Wasilk, head coach. "We had a good run.

It was five years in the making as the Not a lot of people thought we would be in this spot. Our girls just believed."

The District Champions are freshman Kacy Robinson; sophomores, Erin Davenport. Natalie Drumb, Delaney Kenny; juniors, Anna Manilla, Breanca Cantrell, Tori Trimmer, Sarah Rooding, Jessica Ming, Megan Hastings, Christina Jokisch; and senior Lindsey Reppuhn.



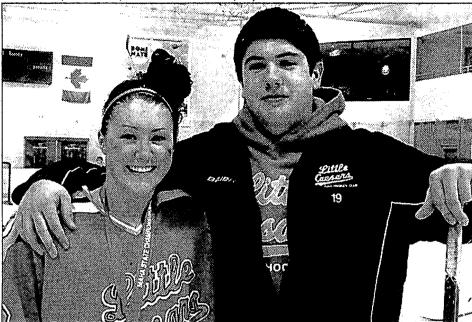
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Caitlyn Post and her brother Vinny pose after the win.

# Posting the tying goal

#### BY WENDIREARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Caitlyn Post is gearing up for the USA National Tournament beginning on April 6.

The Clarkston High School senior and her teammates from Little Caesars 19U hockey team beat Belle Tire to become state champions and clinch their spot for nationals, 2-1.

"It was pretty intense to start off," Post remembered. "Even before warming up for the night we were excited and pumped for it because we only beat them one time the entire season. We were the underdogs.

The girls were even more pumped after their trainer made a speech before they went out onto the ice.

Belle Tire was the first to get on the board but Post tied up the score with her shot into the net.

We were so excited," Post exclaimed. "Everybody started playing the best they could."

With only a few minutes to go Little Caesars had gained the upperhand with 5-3 on the ice as Belle Tire had two in the penalty

"There were a bunch of scraps in front of the net," said Post. "We kept shooting and shooting.

Post kept her position on one side of the net as teammate Maryanne Menefee was in front of the net. With 1:28 left in the game Menefee took the shot and it went in for the

"I saw it and freaked out," said Post. "We all jumped on top of each other in excitement. We won. It was awesome.'

She said the mindset of the players helped in the game - most of them are seniors and didn't want it to be their last game as a AAA hockey player.

"It was what kept me going the whole

game," Post admitted. "I didn't want to lose. We kept it in our heads and got it done."

Post began playing hockey ten years ago but she was interested in sports even before she took on the ice.

"My kids have always been athletic even when they were itty bitty," said mom, Lynette. They played soccer and T-ball as soon as they could do it. Anything they could do as soon as they could do it.'

Vinny, Caitlyn's younger brother, began playing hockey at age five at Lakeland and her mom asked if she wanted to play.

"I said no at first," Caitlyn said.

But after a year of watching her brother play she decided it was time for her to try it.

"I have loved it ever since," said Caitlyn said. "I don't know what I would do without

She plans to continue playing hockey in college and would like to continue past her college graduation.

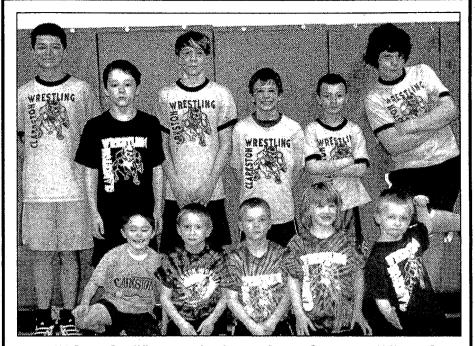
Caitlyn also runs in the spring on the high school's girls varsity track team but is concentrating on the nationals, held during spring break

The USA National tournament is held in Michigan this year at two locations.

The Little Caesars first game is against New York on April 6 at 2 p.m., held at the Onyx Ice Arena in Rochester. They continue at Suburban Ice in Macomb on April 7, 12 p.m. Then against the New Jersey Rockets on April 8, 2 p.m. back at the Onyx.

'We are a really good team," Caitlyn said before going in. "We have played most of the teams in nationals and have a good shot at winning.'

Her brother also competed for the state championship. His team, Little Caesars Midget Minor Hockey, finished as runner-



MYWAY State Qualifiers are; back row, James Scane, lan Wilson, Cole Moscovic, Jake Billette, Logan Forbes, Nevin Strayer; front row, Dru Martin, Ashton Anderson, Griffin Scane, Noah Vibert and Auggie Anderson. Not pictured is Nate Vandermeer. Photos provided

# **Look out states!**

Twelve out of 24 from the Clarkston Wrestling Club qualified for the Michigan Youth Wrestling Association State

They had to place during the MYWAY Regionals, held on March 12 in Clio.

Auggie Anderson placed second for the 5&6 Age Division.

For the 7&8 age division, Dru Martin and Noah Vibert took second; Ashton Andersont and Griffin Scane placed in third; and Logan Forbes took fourth.

For 9&10, Ian Wilson placed in second and Jacon Billette in fourth.

Nathan Straver took second in the 11&12 age division as Nathan Vandermeer and James Scane took fourth.

Cole Moscovic finished fourth for 13&15 age divisions.

The finals are held this Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Kellogg Arena in

# Vandermeer goes All-Star

Senior Matt Vandermeer is heading east Estaban Gonzales. for the Dapper Dan Tournament held this week, beginning on Friday.

The MHSAA Wrestling State Champion in the 171-pound weight class is joining fellow grapplers from around the state as they make up the Michigan All-Stars team. They will take on the Western Pennsylvania All-Stars for 13 weight classes.

Vandermeer will wrestle in the 165-pound weight Vandermeer in state finals. class and was selected by

the coaching staff to wrestle on the team.

Joining him is 160-pound state champion Ben Ralston from Oxford, along with another Oxford wrestler Matt Fritsch and Holly's status at the tournament.

The meet is held at the University of Pittsburgh.

"The Dapper Dan Tournament is considered the Rose Bowl of high school wrestling," said Pete Vandermeer.

It started in 1975 as Pennsylvania All-Stars took on the USA All-Stars. This is the first year Michigan was asked to have a team.

Next weekend Matt heads to the Senior Nationals, held March 31-April 4, in Virginia

Beach, Virginia. Placing All-State gave him the opportunity to attend the meet.

He has the chance to obtain All-American



# Children learn and play in TLE's fun atmosphere

Music, science, fitness, math, reading, technology, art appreciation - sounds like a pretty busy day for an elementary school stu-

However, this is the schedule of a preschooler at The Learning Experience, a child day care center that prides itself on it's award winning, cutting edge curriculum and professional, certified staff members.

Children at The Learning Experience in Clarkston are exposed to a solid core curriculum. The day is structured to include many educational components as well as free time and fun activities. Older children have a curriculum workbook that they use everyday and keep a journal.

Most 4-year-olds at the center are reading," said owner Pam Rush.

This is considered a learning center. We have a very strong preschool," she said.

However, playing is still a big part of the center, and each room is filled with toys.

Besides the two large outside playgrounds, The Learning Experience is unique with their own indoor micro-Disneyland called Make Believe Boulevard.

Children love to explore socio-dramatic play and the room is one of the favorites! They adore dressing up and playing in the mock house, store, diner and fire department. and sign language are also included.



The Learning Experience staff enjoy teaching and helping children develop emotionally, socially and cognitively.

The carpeted upper level allows for some free play and also has a slide that flows into a ball

"At any given time, we'll see kings, queens and princesses playing," Ms. Pam said. "We have a lot of fun here!"

In addition, children participate in enrichment programs such as Fun with Phonics, dance, art, music, math and science. Spanish

A bonus that many parents appreciate is that there are no fees for enrichment programs as the tuition is all-inclusive.

The facilities at The Learning Experience are state-of-the-art. From the moment children and parents enter the building they are greeted by a warm and caring atmosphere that is clean and conducive to learning.

Ms. Pam loves working with children and their families and makes sure her staff does,

too. Staff members have to have more than a degree and spotless qualifications. They must genuinely enjoy being around children and interacting with them.

"We are here to love other people's children and keep them happy, safe and educated," she said.

A team of professionals work together to coordinate the day's activities for children. Everyone, from program and state certified lead teachers to the paraprofessionals and on-site cook, have one goal: to build a strong foundation so each child can develop emotionally, socially and cognitively at his or her own pace.

Parents concerned about safety and security can rest easy knowing that they've left their children in good hands. A security system requires that the doors remain locked all day with parents given a key fob for ac-

Classrooms contain video monitoring systems so both center administrators and parents can check in on the class regularly. In addition, all staff members undergo an extensive background check.

The Learning Experience is located at 7210 Sashabaw Road in Clarkston. For more information, visit www.thelearningexperience.com or call 248-625-5285.

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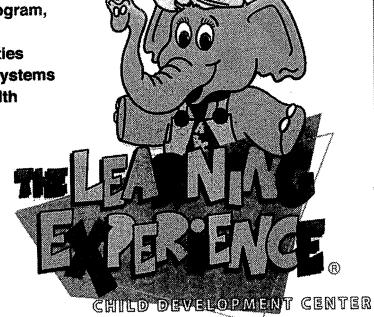
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\*Enrichment programs may vary according to scheduling and location.

www.thelearningexperience.com



John Lamb meets his new friend, a baby boa constrictor. Photos by Wendi Reardon



Mike introduces Jack and Jill, two kinkajous. Though mistaken for a monkey - they are related to raccoons.

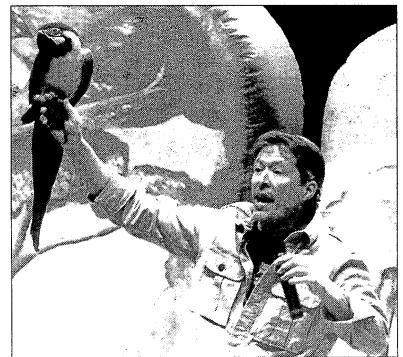
# Wild times at Independence

Independence Elementary students giggled as Rascal, a capuchin monkey, hugged Mike Kohlrieser, the Understanding Wildlife host.

Kohlrieser reached into his pocket and pulled out another grape for Rascal and the students and

Kohlrieser stopped by the school on Friday to educate the students about the rainforest along with animals and plants. He also shared how they can save them from disappearing - reduce, reuse and recyle.

"What happens around the world will affect us," he said.



The show begins with information about the Rainforest. .....



Rascal, a capuchin monkey, loves fruit and eagerly waits for a grape from Mike.



`Third-grader Lydia Kahler enjoys the show.

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# **Student studies** continue, Rock says

Continued from page 1A

The grades also don't relate to how well a person will perform once they have a job in the field.

"Just because you earn an A in Biology doesn't mean you're be a great biologist - sometimes the opposite is true."

Clarkston is conducting its own study of graduates to see how ACT scores and

other factors relate to college entrance, grade point average. and graduation.

The results will be shared once they become available, Rock said.

"Many, many factor into academic success," he added. "If we want to pay attention to research and do the best we can for



**Rock** 

every single child, we need to ensure that all have positive social skills, love their teachers, and among other things ensure excellent parenting."

But no matter what the results of the ACT or any other study, the goal of Clarkston schools remains the same - getting each student ready for college and/ or life past high school, he said.

"I will do my very best every day to ensure an excellent and challenging educational experience for every child every day," said Rock. "Nothing less will do."

According to the state study, college readiness is defined as the percentage of students meeting the following four minimum scores on the ACT; 18 on English, 21 on reading, 22 on math, and 24 on science.

# Moms plan mission

Local moms are heading to El Salvador for their mission trip.

Glitz of Clarkston is helping out by opening their doors on Sunday, March 27 from 4-6 p.m. They are donating 100 percent of costs plus their tips to benefit the mission trip.

The team of seven moms leave on May 1 for a week, drilling a well in a village with no access to clean water. They will also teach them about health and hygiene.

Glitz is located at 7198 North Main Street.



# People Poll

March 23, 2011 Page B1

March is reading month What book is your favorite?

"I just read a good book called Half Broke Horses by Jeannette Walls."

book."

erhood."



- Ren Connon



- Stephanie Ledford



Kristina Sigler



"For kids, *Stellaluna* by Janell Can-

Deborah Pace, with 18-month-old Jack

By Wendi Reardon

# The Clarkston News'

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



# Graffiti art inspires Clarkston student

#### BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Freshman Clara Zeder lifted the last panel of the set and carried it out of the garage.

It was all done - a five panel colorful blue and yellow piece to be displayed at Clarkston Junior High School for future students to en-

Zeder used her artistic talent to span "Clarkston Wolves" across five panels, each four feet long and six feet tall, with graffiti writing.

She was approached last year by the leadership teacher Jon Paddock to do something with the pan-

"Students had told him about my artwork," she explained. "He thought it would be perfect to go up on the wall."

The project didn't happen last year but this year it took off.

Zeder made a few sketches and showed them to Monica McGraw, assistant principal.

"She selected the one she liked better," said Zeder.

The panels were taken down and Zeder took them home, beginning the project after school finished on Friday, March 18, and completing the piece on March 20.

It took about 10 hours, not counting the time it took for the colors to dry in between layers.

Zeder's interest in graffiti art began on a trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts.

Inside the building, she looked at the exhibits and artworks but it



Clara Zeder carries one of the panels out of the garage. Photo provided

wasn't her style.

"I wasn't really into it," she admitted. "I have a lot of respect for it but wasn't into it."

But it was the graffiti she saw outside the gallery that intrigued her. She went home to google more photographs and decided to give it

The colors are really bright, big and open where anyone can see it,' she said. "All the different styles are cool - the big bubble letter and wild style where you have the big arrows going through. It is kind of hard to decipher at first and you

have to look at it to really see it."

She sketched a lot of drawings as the ideas flowed through with colors while trying out different fonts and shapes.

"She loves it," said dad, Don. 'Since she was a kid she would be in the sandbox by herself for hours. The whole world would pass by. Drawing is the same thing. She sits in her room for hours on end just drawing. Papers stack up around her with drawings."

Clara also did a piece for Sashabaw Middle School for the technology lab and has spraypainted in the family's garage just for fun.

She gets a lot of compliments," said Don. "Not everyone is a fan of graffiti. It's not my cup of tea, necessarily. But she is good at it and her style has developed."

Clara also enjoys realistic drawings of people and began with a sketch of Eminem and Channing Tatum. She uses pencils, colored pencils, markers, charcoal and spray paint as her mediums.

She is unsure about her next project but added Paddock has a relative working in another school district looking for something similar. Her cousin also has a friend who is a T-shirt printer.

"He has used a couple of my sketches," said Clara. "He is working on a few samples now."

Don explained the T-shirts are branded using her unique tagline ETAK and a character she created Please see Art on page 19A

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#### **Special Events**

Structuring a Portfolio Part 1, 6:30-9 p.m., March 24, Independence Township Library. No solicitation nor sales pitch. Sponsored by Investor Protection Trust and Friends of the Library. 248-625-2212.

ADHD: Where do we go from here, seminar by EnGedi Counseling, March 25, Winship Building, 7183 N. Main Street, Suite L. Topics: parenting child with ADHD, what about medications, coping skills. \$10/person, \$15/couple. RSVP required, 248-425-9138.

Pump Up the Parks, Spring Fling, 6-9 p.m., March 25, Davisburg United Methodist Church, Broadway and Cross Hill. Inflatables, games, face painting, craft, treats. \$10 per child. 248-846-6558

Fund raiser, Clarkston High School Girls Lacrosse team, 5-8 p.m., March 28, Pete's Coney Island.

Bethany North Oakland, 7:15-10:15 p.m., March 31, Deer Lake Athletic Club, 6167 White Lake Road. Dancing and music with Brian Alexander. 248-625-8686.

Return from Coma, community awareness program on early warning of brain bleed and stroke, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., March 26, Christ the King Church Family Life Center, 1550 W. Drahner Road, Oxford. Greta Emling shares the story of Phyllis Klenk's vivid experiences in a coma. 248-628-6896.

Attract Butterflies to your Garden, 7-9 p.m., April 6, St. Daniel Catholic Church, 7010 Valley Park Drive. Topics: building a butterfly garden, planting techniques, and biodiversity. 248-625-7597.



Rummage Sale, 12-5 p.m., April 7; 9 a.m.-4 p.m., April 8; 9 a.m.-12 p.m., April 9, First Congregational Church, 5549 Clarkston Road. 248-394-0200.

Youth Recognition Ceremony, 7 p.m., April 27, Clarkston United Methodist Church. Nominate any school-aged youth making a positive difference for others through volunteering or simple acts of kindness, nomination deadline March 31. 248-623-4313.

A Friendship Tea, ESTHERS Children, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., May 7, Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Tea and dessert, shopping, raffle. \$25. Call Leslie at 248-625-8240 or Vonda, 248-890-4876.

#### **Weekly meetings**

#### Monday

Free Colorectal Screening Kits, through March 31, Great Lakes Cancer Institute, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. 50 or older. 866-696-GLCI.

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. 248-507-4839.

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

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

Clarkston Rotary Club, Mondays, 6:30 p.m. Clarkston Community Education Center, 6558 Waldon Road. \$10. 248-880-0027.

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

Afternoon Line Dancing, Mondays, 1:30-4 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Country, Spanish salsa, rock and roll, cha cha, with Rosemary Hall. \$3 drop in.

Exercise program for all ages, joint mobility, coordination, strength, Mondays, 12 p.m., lower level, 7590 Dixie Highway. \$7/session, \$25/four sessions. 248-627-7445.

Free Smoking Cessation, Wednesdays, March 16, 23, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; May 11, 18, 2-4 p.m., Great Lakes Cancer Institute, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. 248-922-6606.

#### Tuesday

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.

Clarkston Community Band rehearsals, 7

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

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

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

Got Beads, share love of beads and beading, second, fourth Tuesday, 7-8:30 p.m., Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. 248-625-2212.

#### Wednesday

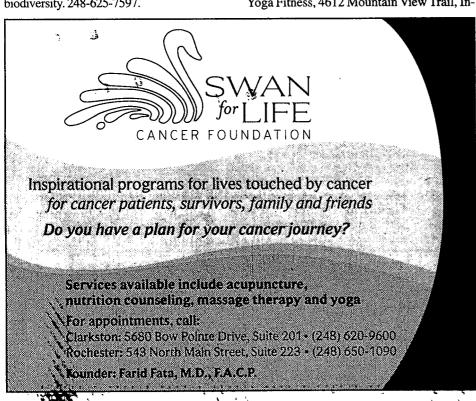
Clarkston Relay for Life Team Captain Meetings, 7 p.m., Wednesdays, April 13, May 4, Church of the Resurrection, 6490 Clarkston Road. 248-663-3476.

#### **Thursday**

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.

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

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 mem-Please see Around Town on page 22A







The finished piece hangs in Clarkston Junior High School.

# Junior high art

Continued from page 17A called Silent Rocker.

"He always has a can in his hand," she said. "I have done pictures of him painting walls or billboards. They picked it up and used it."

She draws when she has a free moment, explaining she is in the International Baccalaureate program in her freshman year and enjoys the challenges it brings.

She is young for her grade and always has been," said Don. "But now she is taking courses not many freshman are taking. Along with running in track I don't know how she does it."

"I wake up at five, go to school, go to track, come home and do homework," Clara explained.

"And she is exceeding at all of it," Don smiled. "Clara and her sister, Hanna, make it easy to be a dad."



Clara Zeder adds more depth to the piece. Photos provided

Clara's realistic artwork can be found on Michigangirl.weebly.com and her graffiti drawings can be found SilentRocker.weebly.com.

# Free cancer screening kits

Great Lakes Cancer Institute (GLCI) distributes free at-home colorectal cancer screening kits during March, National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Last year GLCI distributed over 3,000 kits statewide, with a goal of 5,000 this year.

Screening kits are available to people age 50 and older.

The painless test takes just a few minutes and can be performed in the privacy and convenience of your own home.

A kit can be requested by calling 1-866-696-GLCI (4524).

GLCI hopes the free screening opportunity will encourage individuals to take advantage of the life-saving benefits of testing early and often for colorectal cancer.

Colorectal cancer, cancer of the colon or rectum, is the third most common cancer in both men and women and is expected to kill almost 50,000 Americans this year, according to the American Cancer Society.

# Local leader at parliamentary workshop

Clarkston resident Linda Meadors, vice president and chairman of the Education Committee of the Birmingham Louise Saks Parliamentary Unit, hosts the organization's annual workshop, 8:30 a.m., Saturday, April 9, at the Oakland County Executive Office Building Conference Center, 2100 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford.

The workshop, commemorating April as Parliamentary Law Month, starts with a Continental Breakfas. Connie Deford, immediate past president of the National Association Lalmead@attinet.net

of Parliamentarians, will conduct the workshop on parliamentary procedure in municipal government and nonprofit organizations.

"Ask The Experts" question and answer session with Deford and LSPU parliamentarians is at 10:45 a.m.

Cost is \$15 by April 2, \$20 after April 2. Student registration is \$5. Registrations will be accepted by mail sent to LSPU, Box 123, Bloomfield, MI 48303.

For more information contact Linda,

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# Welcome Ashlyn!

Ashlyn Cynthia Carlson was born March 11, 2011, the second child of Brad and Shannon Carlson of Clarkston.

She weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 20 1/4 inches in length.

She has a big brother Lucas, 3 years old, and grandparents Richard Carlson of Newaygo, Mich., Mary Miller Carlson of Muskegon, and Robert Pastrick of Clinton Township.

Send milestones to 5 S. Main St. or Clarkstonnews@gmail.com



Randolph's Salon of Clarkston employees celebrate winning their awards in Las Vegas. Photo submitted

# Achievements by local businesses

Randolph's Salon of Clarkston won the Educational Excellence Award. Mary and Scott Randolph along with 23 members of their team were presented with the award at the 2011 Redken Symposium in Las Vegas in January.

In addition, Randolph's Salon was named to the 2011 Salon Today Top 200 in Growth & Recruitment and Training by Salon Today Magazine.

Joseph P. Okros of Clarkston, was recently selected to join Michigan Financial Companies as a registered investment advisor.

Okros has over 21 years experience in the legal services field and is now broadening his expertise to the investment field. He received his Bachelor's degree in History from Oakland

University in 1989.

He continued on to obtain his Juris Doctorate from Detroit College of Law in 1994. He achieved an Executive M.B.A. from Michigan State University in 2002. He also holds his Life, Accident & Health licenses, Series 7, and Series 66 securities registrations.

Jennifer Arkwright recently joined the clinical staff of Advanced Counseling Services in Independence Township as a therapist/parent Educator.

Arkwright is a licensed professional counselor and a national certified counselor who works with adults, couples, families, teens and

She was with Catholic Social Services of

Oakland County prior to joining Advanced. Arkwright has also worked with Clarkston Youth Assistance since 2001, teaching the parenting class, "No More Whining! Develop Positive Behavior in Chil-



Kevin Oliver of Ortonville, Farm Bureau Insurance agent in Independence Township, was recognized for superior sales and service during 2010 at the Annual Farm Bureau Insurance Multi-Line Marketing Convention, Feb. 27-28 in Grand Traverse.



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# Does God hear our prayers ... and answer them?

**Spiritual** 

**Matters** 

Over the years I have prayed a Most of us will wrestle with the doesn't always answer our prayers lot of prayers for others, for myself and for situations in the world.

Sometimes these prayers clearly seem to have been heard and answered. Sometimes the situation I was praying about was resolved or the person got better. And there have been times I've experienced answers to prayers that can only be explained by a miracle.

I believe in the power of prayer and I have many experiences that lead me to believe even more deeply that God has heard and answered my prayers.

However, I have also had occasions when I have prayed and prayed, and yet nothing seemed to happen. I have prayed for situations that didn't change and for people who didn't get better.

I know some of these unanswered prayers were probably selfserving or short-sighted on my part.

But others at least seemed to be about good things that God teaches us to care about.

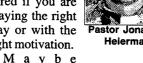
I think that most people at some point along the journey of faith will wonder if God has heard them.

question that if God can do anything, then why doesn't he?

Perhaps you've asked questions like these or are even asking them now.

Maybe you have been praying for a job, for your marriage, for your kids, for the health of a loved one, or for peace in our world.

Maybe vou've wondered if you are praying the right way or with the right motivation.



you've wondered if you have enough faith or perhaps even that because of something in your past that God is somehow withholding an answer.

So how do we deal with all of this?

If we believe that God always hears our prayers (and I certainly the way we think he should or on our timetable.

In Mark 9 Jesus is speaking with the father of very sick boy who comes to him and says "' ... if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us.' And? Jesus said to him, 'If you are able!—All things can be done for the one who believes.'? Immediately the father of the child cried out, 'I believe; help my unbelief!"

This really seems to suggest to me that we all struggle with believing sometimes and that Jesus is able and willing to help us even when we have just a little faith. Yet the kind of help we receive, and that is promised, is not always what we

In my life unanswered prayer reminds me that God is God and I'm not, and that we have different perspectives.

In fact, while I may not always like it, some unanswered prayers have really shaped me into the person I am today. It seems to me that the question is really, what is prayer

As I once read, it is "not a vending machine in the sky where we put in a prayer and get out of God what we want or think we need."

I have come to realize that prayer is first of all not so much something to be answered but rather a conversation with God about what mat-

Prayer is about deepening our relationship with God in all the seasons of life. Prayer is really spending time with God. Prayer is less about informing God or instructing him about how run the universe as it is building a relationship.

Prayer changes me and grows me as a child of God. Prayer opens me to being the "answer" to someone else's prayer.

And ultimately my experience has been that when I am open to God in prayer, while I may not get what I want, I do get what I really need. And what I need is to know that "come what may," I am safe with God and that he will walk with me even "through the valley of the shadow of death." (Psalm 23)

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

# In our churches...

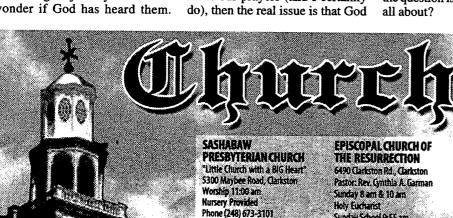
Metaphysical Bible Study, Sundays, 8:30 a.m. Peace Unity Church, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

Bethany North, 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.

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

P.A.T.H. - Pray And Things Happen, Thursdays, 7 p.m., Peace Unity, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

Celebrate Recovery, Thursday, 7-8:30 pm., Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road, 248-625-1323. Childcare available.



ST. DANIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH 7010 Valley Park Dr., Clarkston (W. of M-15, S. of 1-75) 625-4580

Rev. Christopher Maus. Saturday Mass: 5:00 pm Sunday Masses 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am Religious Education: 625-1750 Mother's Group, RCIA, Scripture Study, Youth Group

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkstor (248) 394-0200 Fax: (248) 394-2142 Rev. Doctor Martin Hall Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School 10:00 am Dream Keepers Youth Group Wednesday 7:00 pm Youth Groups 6-12 Wednesday 6:30 pm www.FirstCongregationalChurch.org Sunday School 9:55 am Nursery Provided www.darkstonepiscopal.org 248-625-2325

ST.TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod" Pastor: Rev. Kendall Schaeffer 7925 Sashabaw Road (1/4 mile N of DTE Music Theater Clarkston, MI 48348 (248) 625-4644 www.sainttrinitylutheran.com e-mail: sttrinity@comcast.net Broadcast Worship - Clarkston CTV-10/20 Sun. 2:00 pm, Thurs. 9:00 pm Broadcast Worship - Waterford CATV-10 Tues. 2:30 pm Worship:

Sunday 8:15 am & 11:00 am Sat. 6:00 pm Sunday School 9:45 am Preschool: 3-4 years old

#### **CLARKSTON UNITED** METHODIST CHURCH

6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston 248-625-1611 Website:clarks iunday Worship: 9:00 am & 11:15 am Nursery available for all services

DOXIE BAPTIST CHURCH 8585 Dixie Highwy, Clarkston, MI (248) 625-2311

rebsite: www.dixiebaptist.org Home of Springfield Christian Academy & Children's Ark Preschool Pastor: J. Todd Vanaman Sun: 10:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship 11:00 am Worship Service 6:00 pm Worship Service Wed: 6:45 pm AWANA 7:00 pm Teen Meetings & Adult Bible Study Nursery available for all services.

**CLARKSTON FREE** METHODIST CHURCH

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

#### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH **OF CLARKSTON**

5972 Paramus, Clarkston, Mi (248) 625-3380 Located 2 blks. N. of Dbde Hwy. (E.of M-15) Pastor: Russell Re Sun: 9:30 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship 10:30 am Worshin Service 6:00 pm Evening Service Wed: 6:15 pm Awana Club 6:30 pm Teen Ministry 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting & **Bible Study** 

PEACE UNITY CHURCH 10 am Sunday Celebration Service Children's Church Realizing peace, who abundance in unity. A center for prayer, peace studies and healing Spiritual Education, Community Outreach, Holistic Healing, "Green" Philosophy. Mastermind Rev. Matthew E. Long, founding minister 248-625-5192 Peace Unity Church 8080 Ortonville Rd. Clarkston, MI 48348 www.peaceunitychurch.org

# OAKLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor Wayne Uppendahl Services held at Mount Zion Cente 4453 Clintonville Rd. at Mann Rd., Waterford, MI Sunday School at 9:15 am Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 am Bible Study Wed. Eve., 6:30 pm at Church Offices - Yellow House 7205 Clintonville Rd., Clarkston, MI Phone (248) 858-2577 Fax (248) 858-7706

**BRIDGEWOOD** CHURCH

6765 Rattalee Lake Road Clarkston, 48348 (248)625-1344 Sunday 9:00am & 10:45am Morning Worship Service **Exploration Station** Children's Ministry Wed, 6:45nm 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 5. of 1-75) 248-625-3288 Pastor Jonathan Hei Sunday Worship: 8:15 am (traditional), 9:30 & 11:00 am Also at both 9:30 & 11:00: Nursery, Children & Youth 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 Ku Dan Whiting, Geoff Black Sunday: Worship 9:15 & 11:00 an Nursery Care at all services Wednesday: Children's Ministries 6:00-8:00 pm **Sunday: Youth Ministries** 5:00-7:00 pm www.clarkstonco

A 22 Wed., March 23, 2011 The Clarkston (MI) News

# William Furguson, 57 Raymond Goeller, 84

William E. "Will" Furguson of Davisburg, formerly of Pontiac, died March 19. He was

He was the father of Katie; and brother of Donna (Ray) Polasek and Margaret Sandow. Preceded in death by his son, Lee; brothers, Michael and Richard; and parents, Gertrude and Leamon.



Mr. Furguson enjoyed photography.

A memorial service is planned for 3-5 p.m., April 2, at Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, 5929 S. Main St., Clarkston.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the family.

To send a private condolence to the family, visit the online guestbook at www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Obituaries updated at Clarkstonnews.com



Raymond J. Goeller of Pontiac passed away March 21, 2011, at age 84.

He was preceded in death by his wife Ethel. He was the step-father of Marion (the late Jesse) Van Camp of Holly, Marjorie (Bert) Servoss of Waterford, Frank Haag of Pontiac and Don (Joan) Haag of Davisburg; also survived by many grandchildren, great grandchil-



dren, great great grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

Mr. Goeller retired from Cranbrook Schools and served in the U.S. Navy.

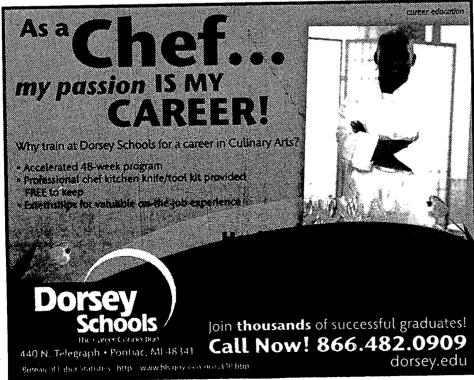
Funeral service Friday, 10 a.m., at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston, where friends may visit Thursday, 4-8 p.m. Private interment Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Dryden. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

# Patricia Hoisington, 72

Patricia L. Hoisington, "Patsy," of Attica, formerly of Auburn Hills, passed away March 14, 2011, at age 72.

She was preceded in death by her husband Dale and son Patrick. She was the mother of Jeff, Mike, and Peggy Brown; grandma of Alyssa, Corey, and Alaina; sister of Betty (Ben) Savage, Glenda (Ronald) Brown, Judy DeRoseau, Jacqueline Blevins, Gary (Sherry) Clark, Carol (Chuck) Harter, and Kathy (Mack) Wright. Mrs. Hoisington enjoyed playing bingo, watching her sons motorcross and Fall colors.

Funeral service was March 19 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment Square Lake Cemetery. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.



# Donna M. Harding, 74 John Stopchinski, 43

Donna M. Harding of Clarkston, formerly of Clawson, passed away March 18, 2011, at

She was the high school sweetheart and wife of Bob for 55 years; mother of Robin (Terry) Groh, Tammy (Frank) Bolvari, Robert Jr. (Kim), and Dawn (Kelly) Martin; also survived by 13 grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and many nieces and neph-



ews; sister of Gerald (Maryann) Jacobs; and sister in law of Glen Nichols. Mrs. Harding volunteered at Pontiac General Hospital and enjoyed in depth Bible study.

Visitation was March 21 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Funeral service was March 22 at The River Church, Holly. Interment Lakeview Cemetery, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to The River Church. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

# Vernon Kath, 91

Vernon Kath, age 91, of Clarkston passed away on March 20, 2011.

Mr. Kath was born on Oct. 28, 1919, in Pontiac. He married June Cummings in 1940 at which time they settled in Clarkston.

In 2003 God called his very dear wife to His heavenly kingdom right after celebrating their 63rd wedding anniver-



He was the father of Karolyn Kelley of Fenton, Patricia (Dean) Winston of Port Charlotte, Fla., Douglas (Kathleen) of Livonia and one brother, Maynard of Cross Village; also surviving are nine grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and four great great grandchil-

Mr. Kath was a member of Clarkston United Methodist Church, and of American Legion Post 63 in Clarkston. He was a life member of Cedar 60 F & AM Masonic Lodge and was also a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason. He was also a life member of Joseph C. Bird Chapter 294, Order of the Eastern Star

He served his country in the U.S. Army during World War II. Mr. Kath retired in 1981 as a Senior Accountant after 42 years of service at Pontiac Motor Division of General Motors.

Funeral Service is Wednesday, 10 a.m., at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Private burial at Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to American Heart Association of Michigan. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

John S. Stopchinski of Grand Ledge, for-

West merly of Bloomfield, passed away suddenly March 18, 2011, at age 43.

He was the loving father of Jacob and Gregory; son of Christine; preceded in death by his father Harold; brother of Claud, Terri, Jeanne, Mary, Tom, Susan, and



David: dear friend of Jeanne.

Visitation was March 22 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Memorial service Wednesday, 11 a.m., at Clarkston Community Church. John will always be remembered as a happy-go-lucky person and a believer in Christ. Any donations to the family will be used for the future education of John's sons.

Online www.wintfuneralhome.com. guestbook

# **Around Town**

continued from 18A bership, \$5 lunch.248-846-6558.

Clarkston Community Women's Club, third Thursday, 7 p.m., Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Guests always welcome. 248-620-3255.

Free General Support Group for any type of cancer and caregivers, fourth Thursdays, 2-3 p.m., Great Lakes Cancer Institute, 5680 Bow Pointe Drrive. Walk-ins welcome. 248-922-

MOPS, Mothers Of Preschoolers, first and third Thursdays, 9-11:30 a.m., Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road. Call Saleena, 734-620-2844.

Tell Us About Your Travels program, second Thursday, 6-7:30 p.m., Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. March 10, Amsterdam, Anne Frank House, Rhine River Cruise, Germany, and Alsace, France; April 14. Ireland and Scotland; May 12, Amazon and Costa Rica. 248-625-2212.

Tell Us About Your Travels, second Thursday, 6-7:30 p.m. March 10: Amsterdam, Anne Frank House, Rhine River Cruise, Germany and Alsace, France. Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road, 248-625-2212.

#### Saturday

Wint's Healing Hearts Grief Support Group for all ages for those who have recently lost a loved one, 7 p.m., April 12, Carriage House in Clintonwood Park, Clarkston Road. Topic: "Spring Cleaning." Led by a bereavement counselor from Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Free, walk-ins welcome. 248-625-5231.

# **PUBLIC NOTICE** Charter Township of Springfield

#### SPRINGFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP, OAKLAND COUNTY MICHIGAN REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROVIDE CHLORIDE SERVICE FOR **DUST CONTROL ON GRAVEL ROADS**

The Charter Township of Springfield will receive sealed proposals to provide Chloride Service for Dust control on 46.83 miles of gravel roads at the Supervisor's office located at 12000 Davisburg Road, Davisburg, 48350, until 4:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on Friday, March 25, 2011 at which time they will be publicly opened and available for inspection.

Bid Documents may be obtained from the Township office during regular business hours or downloaded at www.springfield-twp.us beginning Friday, March 18, 2011; No deposit is required. Inquiries can be made in person o by calling 248-846-6502.

Springfield Township continually strives to develop quality sources for goods and services and encourages spective bidders to respond to the Invitation to Bid.

Springfield Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Blds, to waive irregularities, and to accept a Bld which, in the Owner's opinion, ie in their own best interests. Published:March 23, 2011



#### SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MARCH 10, 2011 SYNOPSIS

CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Trout
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
AGENDA ADDITIONS & CHANGES: Remove consent
items d and e (Budget and Finance Report and EECBG
Report) add consent tem MATS conference

10BLIC COMMENT: None

ONSENT AGENDA:

Approved Minutes: February 10, 2011 Regular Meating with bills and additional disbursements of \$226,133.34

\$225,133.34

Accepted February Treasurer's Report
Received February 2011 Reports: Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Mechanical, Ordinance, Police, Fire,
CDBG, Senior Transportation, Assessing and IT
Authorized payment of bills as presented, totaling

Establish 2011 Davisburg Beautification day for Sat-

urday, May 21st Authorize HVAC Repairs by Mechanical Comfort, not to exceed \$4,870

Authorize Supervisor Trout to attend Michigan Association of Township Supervisors Spring Education Conference, cost not to exceed \$500

Received Communications and placed on file PUBLIC HEARINGS:

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Divine Mercy Parish Final Site Plan Extension – Extended site plan until March 12, 2012

Reschedule 2011 Annual Spring Clean-up for May 14, 2011 at Springfield Oaks, Designate Clean-Up Partners – Rescheduled date and established Smith Disposal, Shred Max and First Class Tire Shredders as clean up partners. Authorized related expenditures not to exceed \$500

First Reading: Amendments to Zoning Ordinance 26, Section 18.07 – Site Plan Review: Authorized

Clerk to set for Second Reading
First Reading: Amendment to Zoning Ordinance 26,
Section 16.24 – Seasonal and Temporary Display:
Authorized Clerk to set for Second Reading

Medical Reimbursement, Comp Time Policy and Pro-cedure, FSA: Policy Manual Amendment – Amended Employee Handbook as presented adding that comp time payments must be approved by Township Board

Revised Poverty Exemption Standards - Adopted changes as proposed Softwater Lake Bids - Accepted bid from PLM Lake

and Land Management for 2011 at a cost not to exceed \$9,000 Lumber Yard Prescribed Burn - Authorized to con

Lumber Yard Prescribed Burn – Authorized to contract with David Borneman, cost not to exceed \$1,900 2011 Dust Control Program and Budget Amendments – Tabled to April Board Meeting for additional information from Road Maintenance Corporation Maintenance Storage Building – Authorized Supervisor to procure architectural plans necessary to bid?

aintenance storage building, cost not to exceed

PUBLIC COMMENT: None ADJOURNMENT: 9:23 p.m. Publish 3-23-11 TB

Laura Moreau, Clerk Publish 3-23-11

**PUBLIC NOTICE** Charter Township of Springfield

NOTICE OF SECOND READING AMENDMENTS TO **ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 26** 

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Springfield will hold a SEC-OND READING at its Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2011, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Springfield Town-ship Civic Center, 12000 Davisburg Rd., Davisburg, Mi 48350 to consider the following proposed amendments to Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance No. 26. CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND

ORDINANCE NO. 26, ZONING ORDINANCE THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD, OAK-LAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ORDAINS:

Ordinance No. 26, the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Springfield is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1. Amendments
ARTICLE XVIII -ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCE-MENT, Section 18.07—Site Plan Review Required in Specific Districts is hereby amended as follows:

Amend Section 18.07.4.b.(6) as follows:
(6) Expiration of Approval. Final site plan approval is valid for a period of one year from the date of Town-ship action within which time all necessary Building or Construction Permits shall be secured and construction substantially commenced. The Township Supervisor or designee may grant extensions of final site plan approval upon good cause shown. The Township Supervisor or designee has the discretion to request the Planning Commission or, in the case of applications and site plans requiring Township Board review, to review the request for site plan extension. The Township Supervisor or designee shall provide a report to the Planning Commission on each site plan approval extension including the rationale for granting the extension. No single extension shall be grain for a period of more than one year, and multiple extensions are allowed. All requests for extensions shall be made in writing and include a statement of why the extension is necessary and confirmation of ability to complete construction in conformity with

the final site plan as approved.

Add new Section 18.07.A.c. as follows:

Administrative Approval. The Township may approve the site plan without submission to the Planning Commission, subject to all of the criteria in Section 18.07.2. Criteria of Site Plan Review, requirements and stan-

dards in the following cases, but in no other:

(1) Accessory uses incidental to a conforming use where said use does not require any variance and where said site plan conforms with all the requirements of this Ordinance

(2) Expansion and/or addition to an existing conforming use where said site plan conforms with all the requirements of this Ordinance.

The following specific cases:

(a) Provision of accessory storage buildings in all zoning districts.

Provision of increases in off-street parking

areas, parking buildings and/or structures. es in loading/unloading spaces in com mercial and industrial zoning districts, and landscape improvements as required by this Ordinance

Section 2. Balance of Ordinance Remains in

The balance of Ordinance No. 26 shall remain in full force and effect, except as specifically modified herein.

All ordinances and portions of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 4. Severability
Should any provision or part of this Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the validity, or enforceability of the balance of this Ordiwhich shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date This Ordinance shall take effect following publication manner prescribed by law. This Ordinance shall be

published in the manner provided by law.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the complete text of Zoning Ordinance No. 26 and documents related to the proposed amendments may be examined at the Springfield Township Clerk's Office, 12000 Davisburg Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350 during regular office hours. Written comments may be submitted to the Springfield Township Clerk up until the time of the Second Reading. Those persons needing a special accommodation should contact the Clerk's Office at least two (2) business days

in advance. 248-846-6510. Charter Township of Springfield **PUBLIC NOTICE** Charter Township of Springfield

#### NOTICE OF SECOND READING **AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE NO. 26**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Township Board the Charter Township of Springfield will hold a SEC-OND READING at its Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 14, 2011, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Springfield Township Civic Center, 12000 Davisburg Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350 to consider the following proposed amendments to Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance No. 26

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND

ORDINANCE NO. 26, ZONING ORDINANCE THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD. OAK-LAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ORDAINS:

Ordinance No. 26, the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Springfield is hereby amended as follows: Section 1. Amendments

ARTICLE XVI\_GENERAL PROVISIONS Section 16.24— Transient and Seasonal Display of Products or Materials intended for Sale is hereby amended as fol-

SECTION 16.24 - Seasonal and Temporary Display of Products, Materials Intended for Sale, and Special Events. 1. Permit Requirements.

- a. The outside sale of seasonal items which may include, but not be limited to, Christmas Trees, flowers and plants, pumpkins and other such seasonal items, and the temporary sale of any other merchandise and special events shall require a permit from the Township, unless such outside sales have received site plan approval. Special Events may include, but are not limited to, promotional sales, community events, or ceremo-
- Such activities shall be permitted within any nonresidential zoning district.
- Applications for seasonal or temporary sales and events shall be accompanied by a scaled drawing depicting the location of the proposed use, parking, drives, and signage... Applications shall be filed with the Township a

minimum of ten (10) days prior to the intended commencement of sales

e. Permits may be approved by the Township for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.

Outside sales shall be confined to the area designated on an approved site plan and/or through the issuance of a permit as set forth in this Section.

2. Sales Permitted in All Districts Without Permit

Retail sale of products grown on the premises provided that such retail sales are operated by the occupants of the premises.

3. Standards and Conditions

Seasonal or temporary sales and events at the discretion of the Township may be located no closer to a public road right-of-way than the re-quired front setback or existing building, which-

- Seasonal or temporary sales and events shall not occupy or obstruct the use of any fire lane or more than ten (10) percent of the required offstreet parking, provided use of such area does not materially affect the functioning of the site.
- Ingress and egress shall be provided in a manner so as not to create a traffic hazard or a nuisance
- The Township will determine whether adequate access, circulation and off-street parking is available on the site to accommodate both the principal use and seasonal and temporary sales.
- Signage for seasonal or temporary sales operations shall comply with the standards for permanent ground stigns in Section 16.07.3. Pennants, streamers, and the like are prohibited pursuant to Section 16:07.2.d.

Temporary tents and other temporary Items used in conjunction with outdoor sales shall be approved by the Township. Upon discontinuance of therseasonal use, any temporary items shall be -removed.

Section 2. Balance of Ordinance Remains in Effect Fire balance of Ordinance No. 26 shall remain in full force and effect, except as specifically modified herein Section 3. Repealer

All ordinances and portions of ordinances inconsis LAURA MOREAU, Clerk I tent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed. Section 4. Severability

Should any provision or part of this Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the same shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the balance of this Ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect Section 5. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect following publication in the manner prescribed by law. This Ordinance shall be

published in the manner provided by law.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the complete text of Zoning Ordinance No. 26 and documents related to the proposed amendments may be examined at the Springfield Township Clerk's Office, 12000 Davisburg Rd., Davisburg, MI 48350 during regular office hours. Written comments may be submitted to the Springfield Township Clerk up until the time of the Second Reading. Those persons needing a special accommodation should contact the Clerk's Office at least two (2) business days in advance. 248-846-6510.

LAURA MOREAU, Clerk Charter Township of Springfield

# PUBLIC NOTICE Because the People Want to Know INDEPENDENCE TWP.

**SYNOPSIS** 

TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE MARCH 15, 2011

- The regular meeting of the Charter Township of Independence Board was called to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Independence Township Hall
- Pledge of Allegiance.

Publish 3-23-11

Roll Call: Present: Wagner, Carson, Lohmeier Pallotta, Petterson, Rosso, Wallace Absent: None

There was a quorum.

The Agenda was approved as amended.

- Approved Motion to go into Closed Session at 7:05 p.m. to pending litigation.

  The meeting reconvened to Open Session at 8:00
- Public Forum Comment: Rob Namówicz; Jeff Reed
- The Consent Agenda, was approved:

  a. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2011 and Special Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2011 and February 17, 2011

  b. Approval Accounts Payable Check Run

solution for North Caldand Dance Troop to be recognized as a non-profit organization for purposes of obtaining a charitable gaming licens
d. 2017 Porta-John Contract

The meeting recessed at 9:35 p.m.

10. The meeting reconvened at 9:43 p.m.
11. Unfinished Business:

1. Approval of Revised Budget Schedule

Approval of Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment

Approved BS&A Financial Management System Proposal/Contract; Tabled Source of Funds for BS&A Financial Management System

Approval to assign Plante & Moran and the Finance Director as the key contact representing the Township in regard to the Deficit Elimination Plan

- 1. Approval to establish a Citizens Public T.V. Access Committee
- Approval of 2010 Year-End Investment Report Approval of Non-Union Benefits Recommenda-
- Approval of Directing the Human Resources Director to Establish a Performance Review System

13. The meeting recessed at 11:29 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:35 p.m.

15. New Business (con't)

Approval of "Memorandum of Understanding" with Clarkston Community Church

Approval of "2011 Summer Recreation Guide" for Parks and Recreation Approval of Plante & Moran Engagement Letter

for the 2010 Audit Approval of Reconsideration of the March 1, 2011

Consent Agenda Postponement of Request to Post "Office Assis-

tant" Position Approval of Source of Funds for BS&A Financial

Management System 16. Closing Statements by Board Members.

17. The meeting adjourned at 12:22 a.m. on Wednesday, March 76, 2011

Published: 3/23/2011

Barbara A. Pallotta, CMC Township Clerk

#### **CLARKSTON**

#### CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON 375 DEPOT ROAD CLARKSTON MI 48346 **SUMMARY MINUTES** CITY COUNCIL MEETING **FEBRUARY 14, 2011**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Luginski

followed by the pledge of allegiance, Roll. Present - Luginski, Brueck, Bisio, Inabnit, Roth, Hunter, Hargis

Others Present - City Manager Ritter, City Attorney

Moved by Brueck supported by Bisio "That the Agenda be accepted as presented.

Motion Approved.

Moved by Roth, supported by Hargis, to accept Consent Agenda as prese

Motion Approved

Motion from Mayor Luginski, seconded Brueck to add Jennifer Detkowski to Planning Commission

Motion Approved.

Motion from Brueck, supported by Bisio "to hold joint City Council/Planning Commission session for Thursday, March 10th, 7 pm at City Hall. Meet to discuss and understand expectations and mutual concerns"

No: Inabnit and Hargis Yes: Luginski, Bisio, Hunter, Roth and Brueck

Motion from Hunter, supported by Roth "To approve the request for solicitations from Lions Club on April 28th and 29th (alternate dates would be May 7th and 8th contingent upon receipt of insurance certif appropriate insured (the City of the Village of Clarkston)

Motion Approved. Resolution by Bisio, supported by Brueck "to adopt his version of the Resolution Establishing Poverty Exemption Policy and Guidelines for the 2011 tax year".

Moved by Inabnit, supported by Bisio, "to table Pov erty Exemption Resolution vote, until the 28th of Febru-

Resolution by Inabnit, seconded by Roth, "That the December 13th audio recording resolution be amended. Due to technical limitations the time frame which the audio recording is to be uploaded to the city web site shall be changed from 72 hours to 7 days barring technical difficulties. Furthermore, the time of which recordings on site shall be changed from 90 days to 30 days"

Motion from Brueck, seconded by Bisio "to table the Audio Resolution discussion until after Comcast High Speed Internet Resolution discussion"

Motion Approved.

Resolved by Hargis, seconded by Inabnit, "that Comcast Cable be installed at City Hall at no cost for the installation and monthly charge will be \$104. The current fax line to be changed to a second phone line at a cost of \$24.95 per month. EFax to be used at a monthly cost of \$9.95. Savings realized will be approximately \$40 pe month. Comcast Cable would be the provider of highspeed internet, phone and cable."

Motion from Brueck, seconded by Roth "to table discussion until pricing with/without cost of cable can be determined". No: Hargis Yes: Luginski, Brueck, Bisio, Inabnit, Hunter, and Roth.

Motion Approved.

Motion by Brueck, seconded by Inabnit, "to put Audio Resolution back on table for discussion".

Motion Approved

Resolution by Inabnit, supported by Roth, "That the December 13th audio recording resolution be amended. Due to technical limitations the time frame which the audio recording is to be uploaded to the city web site shall be changed from 72 hours to 7 days barring technical difficulties

Roll Call

Yes: Luginski, Brueck, Bisio, Hargis, Inabnit, Hunter, and Roth.

Resolution (as amended) Passed.

Moved by Brueck, supported by Inabnit to extend the meeting past nine pm.

Motion Approved.

Moved by Roth, supported by inabnit "That the meet-

Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned 9:25 at p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Howe Clerk/Treasure:

# Robot win

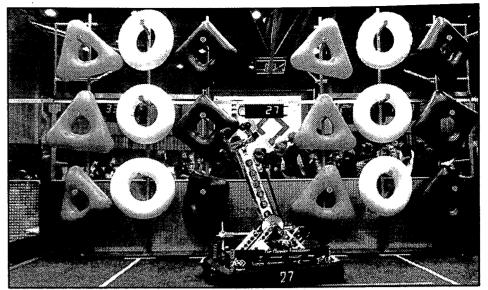
Clarkston High School's Team RUSH struck gold this past weekend at the West Michigan Robotics District Competition.

"Our efforts were recognized by the judges in a great way," said coach Kyle Hughes. "The entire team was recognized and the entire team won this past weekend."

Accomplishments include first place in robot competition, paired with Teams 1918 and 3358; Engineering Inspiration Award; Website Award; tied the high score in the world with 135 points; fifth in qualifying rounds out of 40 teams; and picked second seed.

They were recognized by fellow FIRST Robotics teams 1718, presenting Team RUSH with the "Super Tuber" award for the best offensive robot; 858 with the Demons Competitive Spirit Award; and 3875, presenting Team RUSH with the "Gracious Professionalism and Helping a Rookie Team in Need" Award.

"This was a fairytale weekend," Hughes said. "After coming off of our Kettering District with disappointing results, the team restructured, reorganized and buckled down



The Team RUSH robot, in competition. Photo provided

for a very competitive weekend."

Sponsors, mentors, alumni, and parents all contributed their time, money and efforts to help the team make it happen, Hughes said.

"I cannot thank enough the people who make this possible for our students," she said. "The team was very focused and we finished strong.'

Team RUSH qualified for Michigan State

Championships, April 8-9, competing in Robotics competition, Engineering Inspiration, and Website Excellencethe categories for a spot at World Championships at the end of April.

For more information or to see video of this week's competition, go to www.teamrush27.net.

- Phil Custodio

# Car allowances cut for township officials

Continued from page 1A Resources director.

The first was to eliminate longevity completely, and the second was to grandfather existing employees and not allow any more employees to receive longevity.

Six employees would have qualified for longevity raises in 2012, eight in 2013, 10 in 2014, and 11 in 2015. At the end of 2016, the annual cost to the township would have been \$22,000.

"Today that annual cost is \$12,600," Gabris said.

Trustee Neil Wallace voted "no" because he felt longevity "could have and should have been phased out and replaced eventually with a performance review system."

"I as a matter of principal don't like the longevity," Wallace said. "I don't agree with the concept."

#### Car allowances cut

In a 4-3 vote, the township board eliminated car allowances for department heads and elected officials, in exchange for mileage reimbursement.

Under the car allowance, the building director received \$500 a month; Department of Public Works director received \$400 a month; information technology coordinator, \$125 a month; \$600 a month for the supervisor; \$400 a month for the treasurer.

Supervisor Dave Wagner, Treasurer Curt Carson and Petterson voted against the motion. Clerk Barbra Pallotta was also eligible to receive the monthly car allowance, but

declined it coming into office.

Lohmeier called car allowances "a bit archaic."

'Car allowances work well for convenience if you got the bandwidth to do them. They pretty much guarantee you're paying more than you need to in most cases," he said. "I like mileage personally because it's the most accurate way of making sure someone is getting back money they have expended on our behalf."

Wallace agreed.

"I like the idea of getting what you pay for and paying for what you get," Wallace

However Wagner said there was a lot of research done when car allowances were first

"It was determined that if they did keep their log sheets and turned in mileage, the car allowance was less than the mileage they actually drive," he said.

#### New benefits plan

A change in healthcare benefits for nonunion employees is set to save Independence Township \$75,151 annually.

"The non-union staff and department heads feel they have made incredible sacrifices in order to recognize the state of the township budget at this time," said Gabris, who presented changes recommended by the Benefits Committee for non-union employees.

Under current Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan One, the annual cost to the township is \$344,108 - about 1-2 percent of employees'

annual gross income goes towards their healthcare.

Under the recommended Blue Cross Blue Shield Plan Two, cost to the township will be \$268,957, and employee cost will be \$50 per month for single person, \$115 for two people, and \$140 for a family, which also include dental and vision plans.

Gabris said the plan would not affect nonunion employees' 14 paid holidays, with an annual cost of \$64,701.

Employees wanted a change in vacation days, though. Currently, employees in their first year receive no vacation. After one year it, they get 10 vacation days; 15 days after five years; 17 days after 11 years; and 20 days after 16 years. After completing 21 years, it's one more day for each year, to a maximum

Under the new plan, from the first date of hire until five years, employees get 10 vacation days per year. From years 6-10, they 15 days of vacation; 11-15 years, 17 days; and 16-20 years, 20 days.

Employees who work 21 or more mores will get 25 days of vacation. The new plan will cost \$1,900 more in vacation pay, from the current cost of \$64,381.

"The change in this plan puts the township, one, in a more competitive position in terms of vacation because essentially vacation is the only benefit an employee can really negotiate," Gabris said. "Two, it prevents inconsistencies within the township on the application of the vacation benefit."

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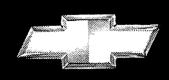
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Hours: Mon & Thurs 8:30 am-8 pm • Tues., Wed., & Fri 8:30 am-6 pm New Saturday Hours: Sales 10 am-3 pm • Service 8 am -2 pm

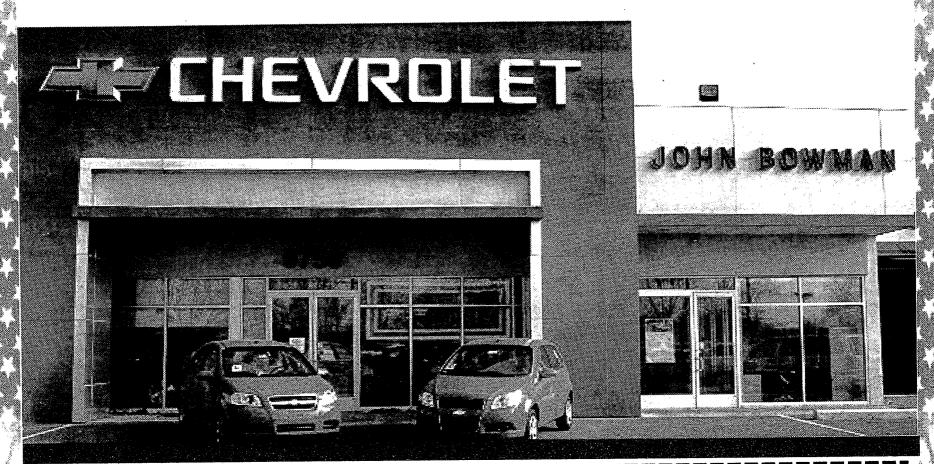
www.palacecjd.com



Jeep



# **Service and Parts Now Open on Saturdays**



Pot Hole Special

Front End Alignment \$39<sup>95</sup>

Some exclusions apply. Not to be combined with any other offers. Most Vehicles.

Expires 3/31/11.

Time for
Spring Clean Up
Complete
Vehicle Detail
\$25

Not to be combined with any other offers. Most Vehicles. Expires 3/31/11. **SAVE \$25.00** 

Front Brake Pads

\$ 7 / 9 5 \* PER AXLE

INSTALLED
After Mail-in Rebate (Debit Card)\*

After Mail-in Rebate (Debit Card)\*

ACDelco DuraStop ceramic brake pads

Turning or replacing rotors, all other services, and tax extra. Excludes Corvette and other select vehicles. Retail customers only. See dealer for details and rebate form. Which must be postmarked by 03/30/11. Rebate form and official rules also available at mycertifiedservicerebates.com. Allow 6 to 8 weeks for rebate delivery. Offer ends 03/31/11 15% DISCOUNT!

On All Customer | Paid Parts & Labor

on Service
Not to be combined with any other offers.
Most Vehicles. Expires 3/31/11.



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to Surrounding Communitie



Car Wash

with any service



Tire Rotation

when you sign up for our Preferred Owner Program



Loaner

with any Body Shop Repair Over \$500



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6750 Dixie Highway

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