



**In today's
edition**

- Letters to the Editor
- City and town news
- Columns
- Cop log
- Spring sports
- Classifieds and more!

**Ready
to sell**

Charlie Keefe, wearing the balloon hat, and Jack Munkres set up a display of their toys at the Kids Only Garage Sale last Saturday in Clintonwood Park. For more pictures from the park, please see page 4A. Photo by Phil Custodio.

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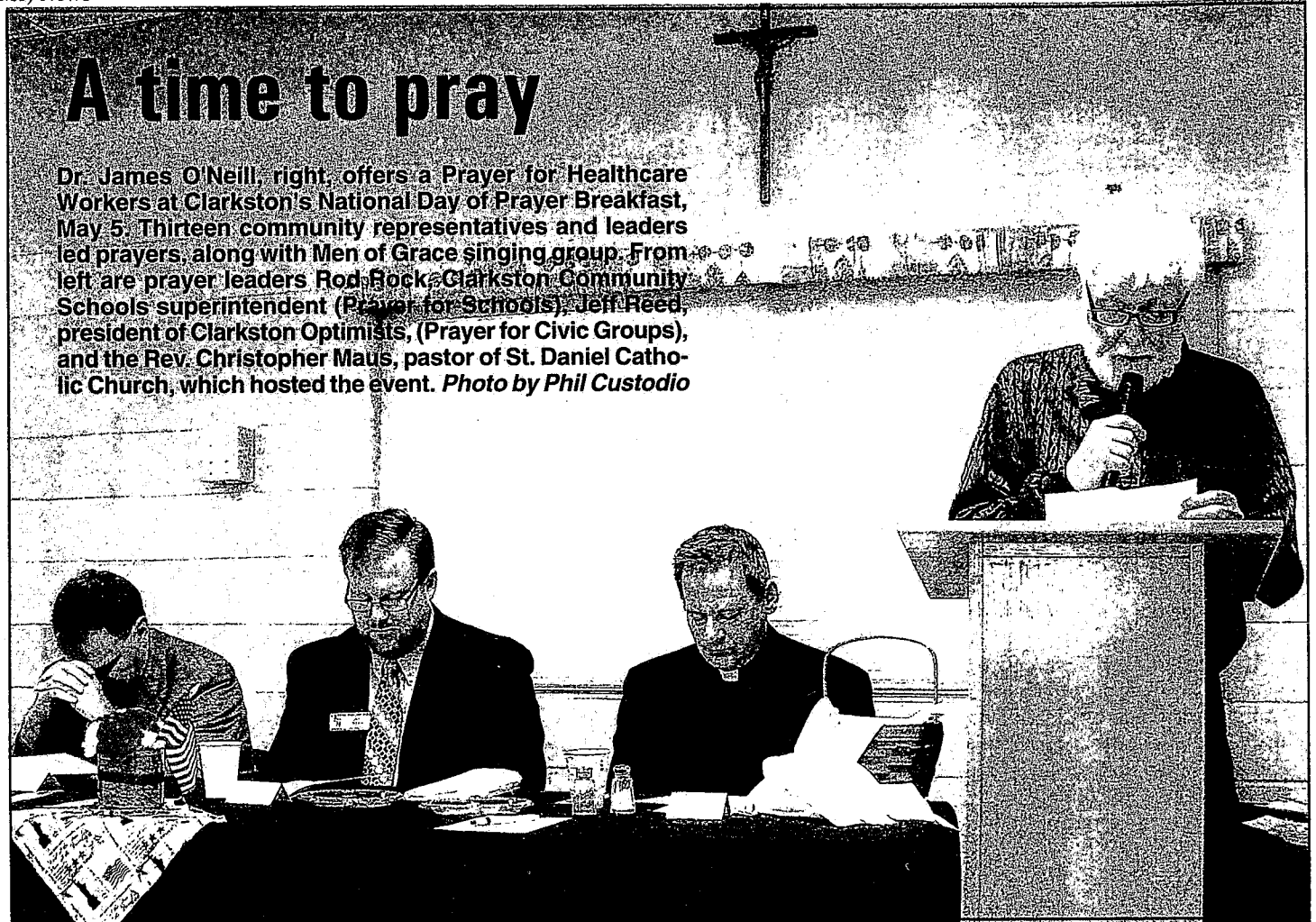
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A time to pray

Dr. James O'Neill, right, offers a Prayer for Healthcare Workers at Clarkston's National Day of Prayer Breakfast, May 5. Thirteen community representatives and leaders led prayers, along with Men of Grace singing group. From left are prayer leaders Rod Hock, Clarkston Community Schools superintendent (Prayer for Schools); Jeff Reed, president of Clarkston Optimists, (Prayer for Civic Groups), and the Rev. Christopher Maus, pastor of St. Daniel Catholic Church, which hosted the event. Photo by Phil Custodio



What is a "Certified" Carpet Cleaner?

In shopping for carpet cleaning, you may have noticed the word "certified" being used in advertising. You may have seen a logo being used to feature certification.

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Actually, a carpet cleaning professional is working with one of your most valuable assets. Should it be trusted with just anyone?

Have you ever noticed that in many states, air conditioning companies, plumbers, and pest control companies are required to be licensed? Not so for carpet cleaners! Fortunately for you, and for me, there are many fine people in the carpet cleaning industry that realize the standard must be raised. Those of us in that process help to "police" our own industry. In order to do this, associations and certification organizations were created.

One such organization is called the IICRC (Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification)

(Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification). This organization provides certification courses and exams for the carpet cleaning industry. By attending these courses, carpet cleaners are taught about fiber identification, carpet construction, cleaning chemistry, proper cleaning methods/processes, and professionalism.

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Golf outing for Fallen Heroes

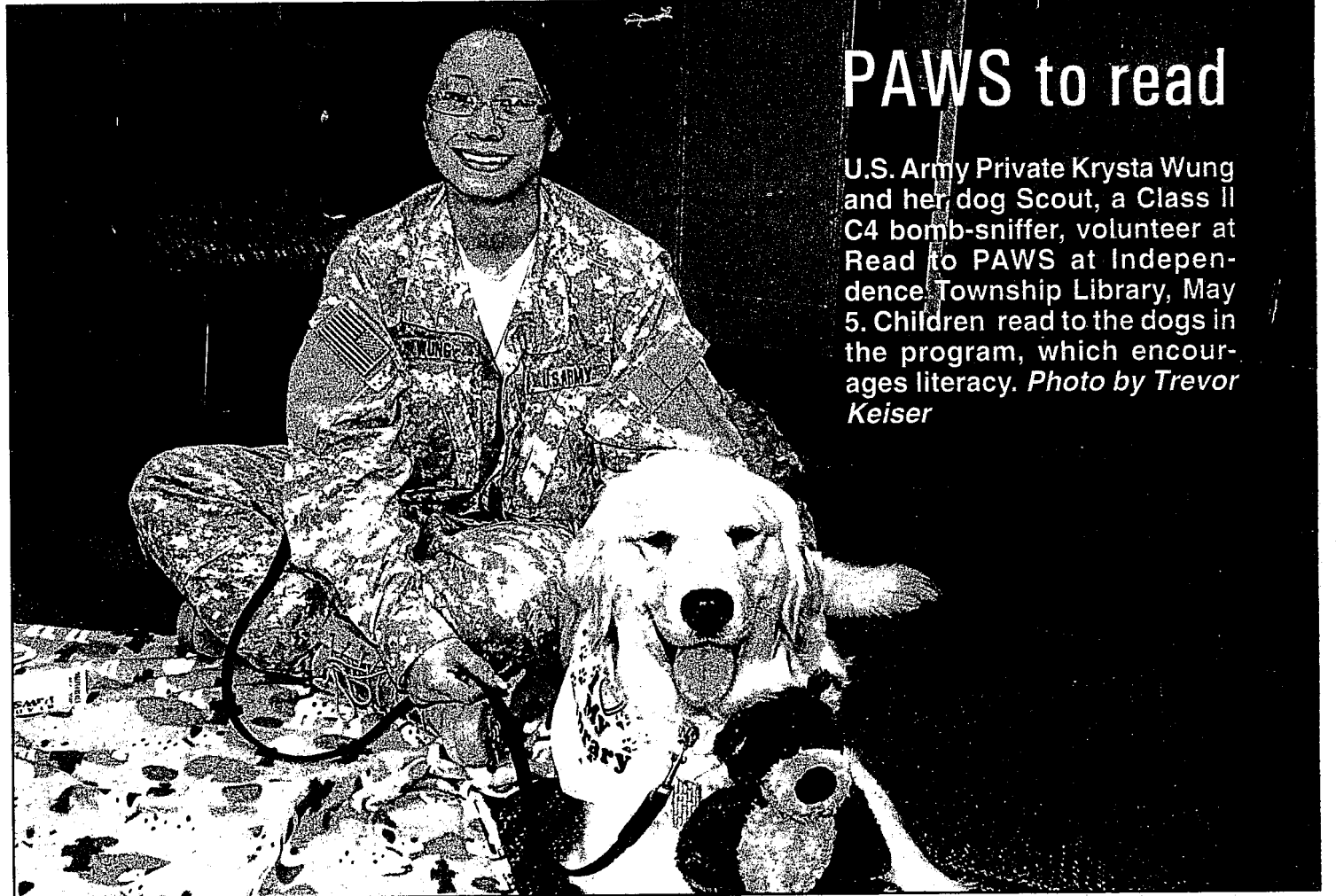
Oakhurst Golf and Country Club hosts the annual Community Charity Golf Outing for the Michigan Fallen Heroes Memorial, Monday, May 16.

Registration and lunch are at noon, with Shotgun Start at 1 p.m. Dinner and awards program is set for 6:30 pm. The event, at Oakhurst off Clintonville Road, includes a silent auction and emergency vehicle display.

Tickets are \$150 per person for golf, lunch, and dinner; \$40 per person for dinner only. Proceeds benefit the memorial in Pontiac, which recognizes all police officers from local, county, and state departments, and firefighters from departments throughout the state.

The memorial is a life-size bronze statue of a kneeling police officer and firefighter set side-by-side, placed on a large base in front of a granite wall engraved with the names of all those lost in the line of duty.

For more information, check www.michiganfallenheroes.com/support.



PAWS to read

U.S. Army Private Krysta Wung and her dog Scout, a Class II C4 bomb-sniffer, volunteer at Read to PAWS at Independence Township Library, May 5. Children read to the dogs in the program, which encourages literacy. Photo by Trevor Keiser



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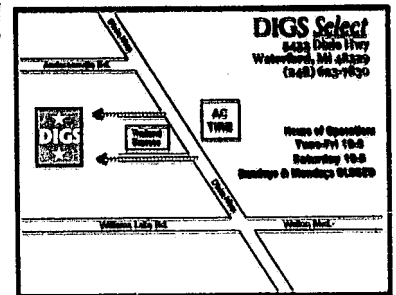
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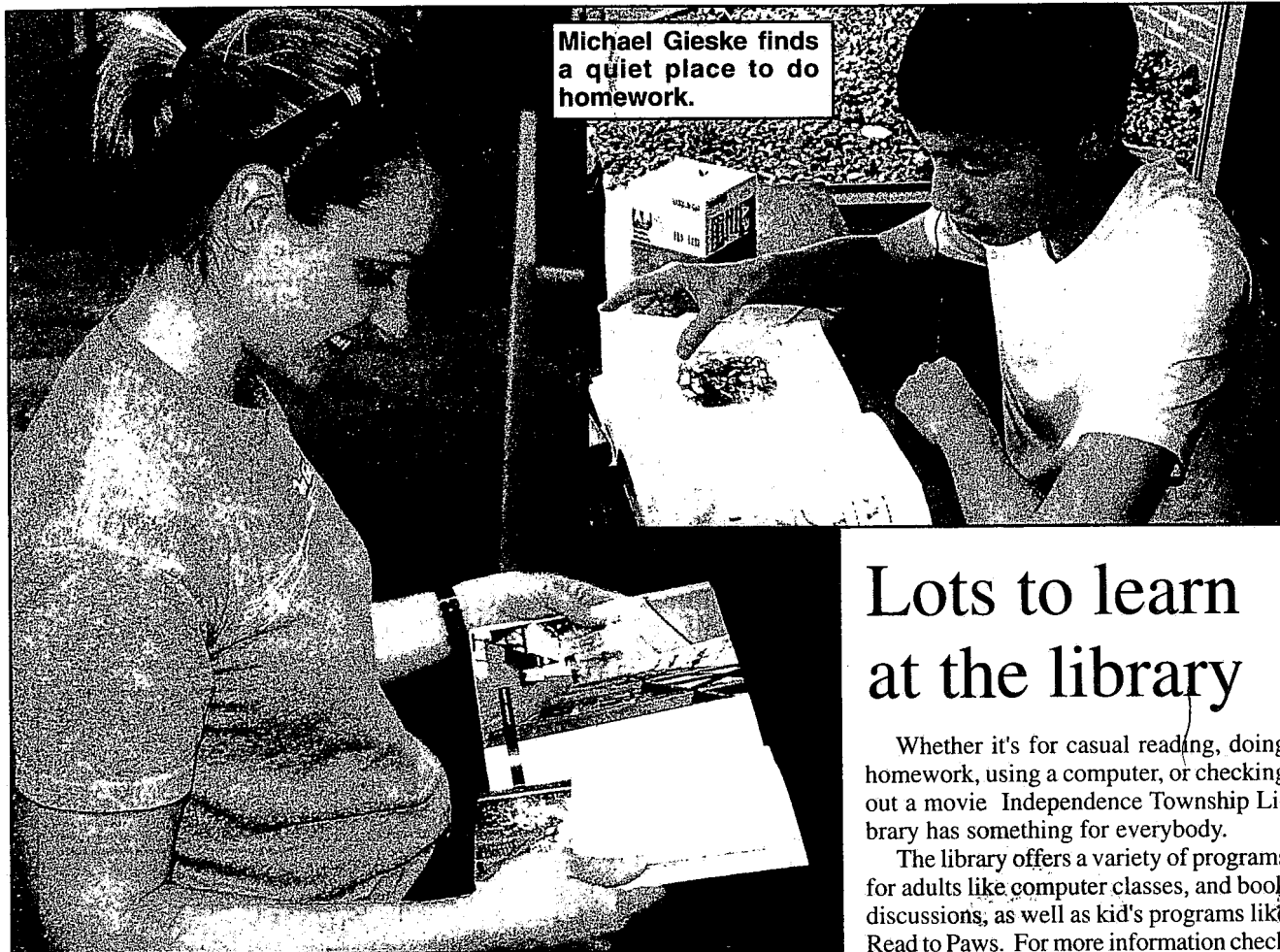


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Michael Gieske finds a quiet place to do homework.

Carey Stricklin enjoys reading at the library.

Lots to learn at the library

Whether it's for casual reading, doing homework, using a computer, or checking out a movie Independence Township Library has something for everybody.

The library offers a variety of programs for adults like computer classes, and book discussions, as well as kid's programs like Read to Paws. For more information check out Indelib.org or call 248-625-2212



Benjamin Banser finds plenty of books in the kid's section. Photos by Trevor Keiser

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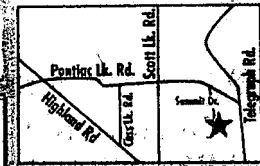
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Clarkston High School Boys and Girls Varsity and Boys and Girls JV teams are ready for this Saturday's Game for a Cure. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Lacrosse teams ready to take fight to cancer

The Clarkston Boys and Girls Lacrosse programs invite friends, families and the community to their 7th Annual Game for a Cure, May 14, this Saturday, from 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

The all-day event, held at Clarkston High School, includes 24 teams, 500 lacrosse players and one goal – raising money for St. Joseph Mercy Oakland's Cancer Research Pro-

gram.

The day begins with the 5/6 Boys Blue and Gold teams playing Our Lady of Sorrows and concludes with the Clarkston High School Boys Varsity team hosting South Lyon at 7:30 p.m.

Also, join in the Fastest Shot Contest and see how fast you can shoot while enjoying

great food from the concession stand from 12-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m., plus Culver's ice cream and homemade treats from the bake sale tent.

Special T-shirts, featuring the Game for a Cure logo, are sold at practices and at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, during the week of May 9, as well as the day of the event.

Admission is \$5 per person. Admission is

free for those wearing the Game for a Cure T-shirt.

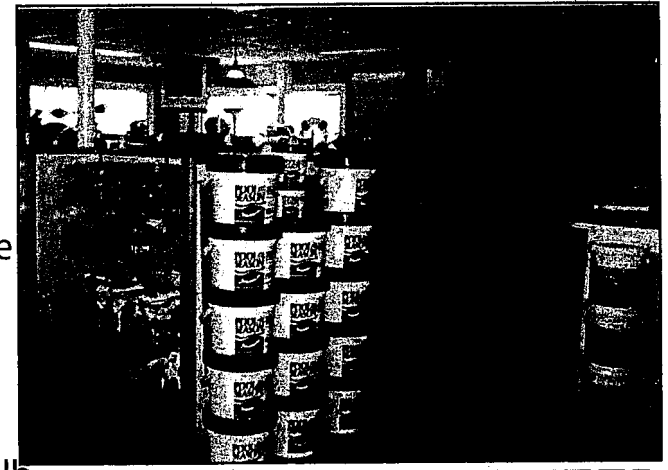
Besides lacrosse games, the event also includes a radar gun competition, food, bake sale and ice cream.

To purchase T-shirts or for more information, please call co-Chair Cathy Schlaff at 248-620-2321.

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Third-grader Ike Yeloushan jumps for his health.



First-grader Emma Jacobson finds an exercise buddy in Clarkston mascot, "Wolfie."



Fourth-grader Bryna Halligan leaps over a jumprope hurdle.

Second-grader Matthew Carson dribbles the soccer ball.



Run like the wind

Springfield Plains Elementary students cooled down after an hour of exercising with yoga last Wednesday morning.

For an hour, the students jumped, stretched, ran, kicked and moved during their second annual A.C.E.S. (All-Children Exercise Simultaneously).

They joined over one million students from all over the nation for the event designed to get children moving and learning about healthy lifestyles.

The Springfield Plains Elementary PTA's Health and Wellness Committee and Physical Education Teachers hosted the annual event.

Photos by Wendy Reider

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Cuts too deep, schools say

State budget to slash up to \$3.86 million

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Staff Writer

If cuts approved by Michigan House of Representatives take place, Clarkston schools would lose about \$3.86 million.

That's too much, said Steve Hyer, Clarkston Board of Education president.

"It is unconscionable to think our policy makers are not prioritizing education in this state," Hyer said. "For our state to drive education reform through cuts is completely irresponsible. It is further negligent on their part to impose a one size fits all approach to reform to each school district in this state."

Education cuts are part of Gov. Rick Snyder's two-year plan to cut \$1.8 billion from the state budget. Snyder's Executive Budget for education totals \$13.8 billion, including \$12.2 billion in funding for K-12 school districts, \$1.4 billion for higher education and \$296 million for community colleges.

"This plan is about moving away from the outdated model of the past and giving teachers and students the tools they need to succeed in the future," Snyder said in a press release.

Snyder said Michigan ranks 21st in the country in total current expenditures per-pupil, but ranks 39th in the nation in fourth grade math proficiency and 34th in reading proficiency.

"Our educational system is not giving our taxpayers, our teachers, our parents or students the return on investment that it should," the governor said. "Instead of focusing so heavily on funding levels, we need to talk about what really works and what doesn't when it comes to helping kids learn."

Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock said he is angry and disappointed with state elected officials.

"It's left me wondering about the long-term agenda of these elected officials," Rock said. "First emergency financial managers, now cuts in funding, what's next? Is this the beginning of the end of public education as we know it - neighborhood schools, children, and teachers?"

Proposal A was set up in 1994 to protect school funding, Hyer said.

"They are looking to actually take revenues from the School Aid Fund to fund higher education and community colleges," he said. "The School Aid Fund was set up with dedicated revenue streams so this kind of activity could not occur."

Please see Schools on page 4B

Schools of choice proposed

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Gov. Rick Snyder's list of school reforms include tougher teacher certification tests, restructuring tenure to reward effective teaching rather than time in the classroom, new continuing-education requirements for teachers, and more "Schools of Choice" programs.

Clarkston Board of Education discussed expanding the district's school-of-choice options with a Career Immersion Pathways program for grades 10-12.

In the proposed expansion, nonresident students could apply for classes in Accounting, Drafting and Design Technology, Advanced Engineering Design, Media, Marketing, Human Services, Pre-Teaching, Early Childhood Education, Computer Science, and Pre-Engineering programs.

The proposal allows for "unlimited" students, but Deputy Superintendent Shawn Ryan said it would be limited to about 10 students.

Clarkston has 54 nonresident students in

two current school-of-choice programs, Project Lead the Way and Childhood Development. They expect about 63 students next year.

Several parents stayed until the end of the meeting for public comment about open enrollment and three shared their concerns.

"Where is money going to come from," asked Karen Beauregard. "Problems will arise. It is not responsible for the district to invite problems into our community - I think analysis needs to be done to show how it can be good for Clarkston schools."

School board members did not respond to her questions during the open comment forum.

Dawn Schaller was glad the school board is discussing the proposal instead of voting on it. It was originally placed on the agenda as an action item.

"Make sure the superintendent does not offer any other school of choice items unless brought before the board," she told them.

The school board's next meeting is set for 7 p.m., May 23.

Lucie Lemieux, at the park with her sister Annie and brother Paul, runs to keep her kite in the air. Photo by Phil Custodio



Kite flyers

The weather didn't offer much wind, but beautiful blue skies made up for it, Saturday, at Independence Township Parks and Recreation's Kite Fest.

Kids provided their own wind, running up and down Clintonwood Park's soccer fields with their kites, many provided free

by Great Turtle Toys.

They also enjoyed snow cones, inflatable bounce houses, and other activities provided by The Learning Experience, Planet Kids, and Mt. Zion Youth Ministry, as well as competitions such as the hula hoop contest.

Township threatens court action to recover bonus



Building Director Dave Belcher appears before the Township Board regarding a \$3,000 township-hall bonus. Photo by Trevor Keiser

BY TREVOR KEISER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

After two years, Independence Township is going after Building Director Dave Belcher for \$3,000.

Township Board of Trustees voted 4-2, May 3, to direct the township attorney to pursue civil action to recover the bonus payments given to Belcher for work done on township hall.

Treasurer Curt Carson and Trustee Mark Petterson voted against the motion. Supervisor Dave Wagner was absent.

Carson said Belcher should get the opportunity to make arrangements with finance. If they aren't made by the next meeting, then they can discuss disciplinary action.

Petterson, who voted in favor of a similar motion in July 2009, believes the motion was directed at the wrong person.

"That person (Wagner) is not here tonight. He's the one who's supposed to know the rules and the regulations of this township. He's the one who appointed that money out and in turn created a casualty out of an employee," Petterson said. "I think that's wrong, very wrong."

Clerk Barbra Pallotta agreed.

"What's frustrating about sitting up here

tonight is the person who's been notorious for this kind of action refuses to face us once again and the people who put him in office," she said. "He's not facing them either."

Wagner sent payment-authorization memorandums to Renee Poole, assistant finance director, on Dec. 8, 2008, and Jan. 16, 2009.

The payments were listed in the May 11, 2009, check run for the new township hall as "reclassify expenditures to proper account."

Belcher acknowledged he was aware of the board's July 2009 motion to repay the money. However, he held off paying it back because he wanted a letter from the township board stating he did nothing inappropriate and would not receive any disciplinary action.

"I feel I did not act inappropriately or deserve any disciplinary action in regards to this amount," Belcher said. "This wasn't an envelope under my door - it was in my wages."

Trustee David Lohmeier said Wagner was responsible for authorization of payments, but said Belcher was responsible from "the point he received the bonus payments and the board ordered repayment until now."

"Nobody is forcing him not to repay it. It's his decision to require us to absolve him," Lohmeier said. "We don't have the authority to say a crime was committed or you didn't do anything wrong because I don't know what you did. All I know is, you got \$3,000 of taxpayer money and we're obligated to get it back."

Trustee Neil Wallace agreed.

"I don't accept that precondition and just never would. I think the money should be paid back and the fact that you never paid it back is snubbing your nose at the board," he said. "I don't know how we are able to conduct business as a township and as a board with that just hanging out there."

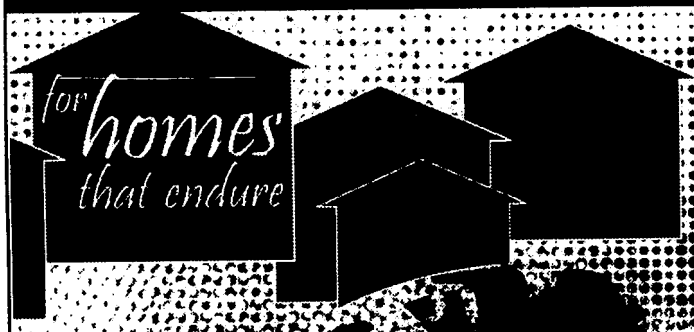
Trustee Larry Rosso said he's always been on record that there should be no bonuses in public employment.

"This is taxpayers' money," he said. "Taxpayers' money is not to be used for bonuses, for a lot of reasons. If there is to be additional compensation, that should be done by this particular body."

Pallotta said Belcher met with the finance department the next day following the meeting and worked out a payment plan to pay the money back.

The board will discuss disciplinary action for Belcher at its May 17 meeting.

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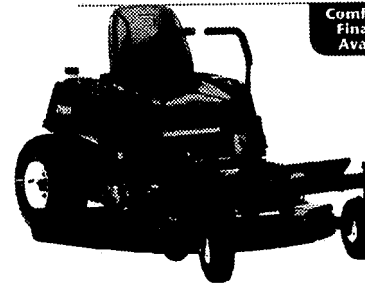
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New race for Angels' Place

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

This year's Angels' Place Race has a new event, a 10-kilometer race named in honor of Bruce Clifton.

"We're dedicating one of the races this year to his memory," said Paul Maxwell, race director with his wife, Maggie. "He was a super guy – very enthusiastic about the race and what it stood for."

Clifton, who passed away unexpectedly Jan. 19, was a long-time Main Street resident, runner, and community volunteer, Maxwell said.

"I valued his help and support – he helped plan out the race course," Maxwell said. "He was an awesome runner. Bruce still holds the best-time record for the 800 meter run at his high school, Waterford Mott."

The Fourth Annual Angels' Place Race is set for May 21 at St. Daniel Church, 7010 Valley Park Drive. One Mile Family Fun Walk starts at 9:30 a.m.; and the 5K Run/Walk and 10K Bruce Clifton Memorial Run start at 10 a.m.

Bruce's wife, Anne, and daughter Haile will serve as official race starters. Anne will run in the 10K and Haile, 5K.

"The purpose of this race is to build awareness of individuals with developmental disabilities and provide outreach for Angels' Place programs," Maxwell said. "Sixteen years ago, my sister needed a safe, secure, loving environment. Angels' Place stepped in and placed her into one of their homes. She now has a family and enjoys an active lifestyle, including a daily job."

They expect about 300 runners and walkers at the fund raiser, which raised more than \$12,000 last year for the non-profit group.

"We expect lot of runners in the 10K in memory of Bruce," Maxwell said. "Registrations are up quite a bit."

For more information, check www.angelsplacerace.org or call 248-625-7859.



Cindy McDonald and Jesse Moyet show off Detroit Love Apparel in Frank & Me in downtown Clarkston. Photo by Trevor Keiser

Clarkston company helps family

BY TREVOR KEISER
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Clarkston area resident Jesse Moyet, owner and founder of Detroit, Orion Love, and most recent Clarkston Love apparel is spreading the "love" to help Lake Orion family Joe and Kristi (Clark) Schons, who recently lost their child.

Moyet, a Lake Orion native who graduated with Kristi, said a fundraiser will be held May 14 at Elements located at 11 S. Broadway in downtown Lake Orion.

"It's a bunch of people who's still in touch with them, getting together," he said. "I don't know all the details, but I know enough where they need the help."

Fifty percent of the total sales from all "Orion Love" products (shirts, hats, and tank tops) will go toward the medical and funeral expenses of the Schons family. Any online sales that day will also be included.

"Lake Orion is having their reunion June 25 and I believe we're also going to take that night and all those sales are also going

to go towards the family," Moyet said.

Lake Orion alumni Jennifer Drabant Scheidt also offered to donate 80 percent from all online Silpada Jewelry sales the entire month of May to the Orion Love Fund raiser.

For more information, visit "Orion Love Fundraiser for Joe & Kristi (Clark) Schons Family" on Facebook. Also check out detroitloveapparel.com.

"There is no better way to help then to do something like this," Moyet said.

Support cancer reseach at Relay for Life

Gail Engdahl of Clarkston, a seven-year breast cancer survivor, is hopeful as she prepares for this year's Relay For Life event.

"More people are surviving cancer than ever before and I am one of them," Engdahl said. "There are 11 million cancer survivors living today. Because of progress made by the American Cancer Society, cancer is no longer an immediate death sentence."

But there is still more work to be done, she said.

"That is why we hold the Relay For Life of Clarkston each year," she said.

Clarkston Junior High School hosts the Survivor Celebration at the American Cancer Society Relay For Life, 10 a.m., May 21, until 10 a.m., May 22.

"Relay For Life is a place where you can go to share your story without saying a word," said Engdahl, Relay For Life of Clarkston survivorship chair. "We are inviting all cancer survivors, no matter if it's been one day or one decade since their diagnosis, to come out and be celebrated."



Gail Engdahl will walk in this year's Clarkston Relay For Life. Photo provided

Participating cancer survivors are given special shirts to wear as they lead a special Victory Lap around the track in honor of their triumph over cancer. This year's Victory Lap will be held at 10 a.m., with registration beginning at 9:15 a.m., on May 21.

"The Victory Lap is one of the most moving experiences of my cancer journey," said

Engdahl. "Each year I'm overwhelmed by the crowds of people who surround the track cheering on survivors like myself. It reminds me that I'm not alone in my fight against cancer."

The Luminaria Ceremony after sundown lines the track with candlelight – luminarias are small bags with candles in them, decorated with the names of people who have faced cancer.

"The sight of the luminaria glowing in the darkness is breathtaking," said Dee Chartier, luminaria chair. "The Luminaria Ceremony brings to light the impact cancer has had on our community and inspires us to do everything possible to find a cure."

To make a donation for a Luminaria in honor or in memory of someone touched by cancer, call 248 663-3476. Luminaria will also be available at the event. All donations go to the American Cancer Society.

For information on the Clarkston event, call Beth Campbell at 248.663.3476 or check www.relayforlife.org/clarkston.

Award winners to be honored

Several service groups and individuals will be honored with Community Awards, May 19, and everyone's invited to help share in their recognition.

This year's recipient of Business Person of the Year Award is **Carol Evans**;

Honored as Youth of the Year is **Chloe Smiley**;

Receiving the Community Beautification/Preservation Award is **Weingartz**;

Penny Shanks will be honored with this year's Citizen of the Year Award;

Community Collaboration Award goes to

Clarkston PTA Health and Wellness Expo; Kid's Klostet is this year's Community Enhancement award recipient; and Honored as the 2011 Adult-Youth Volunteer is **Kerri Gualtieri**.

The 26th Annual Community Awards Breakfast is set for 7:30-9 a.m., Thursday, May 19, at Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road. Tickets are \$10, and includes full breakfast catered by Brioni's.

Ticket/reservations may be purchased by phone by calling the Clarkston Community Education Office at 248-623-4327.



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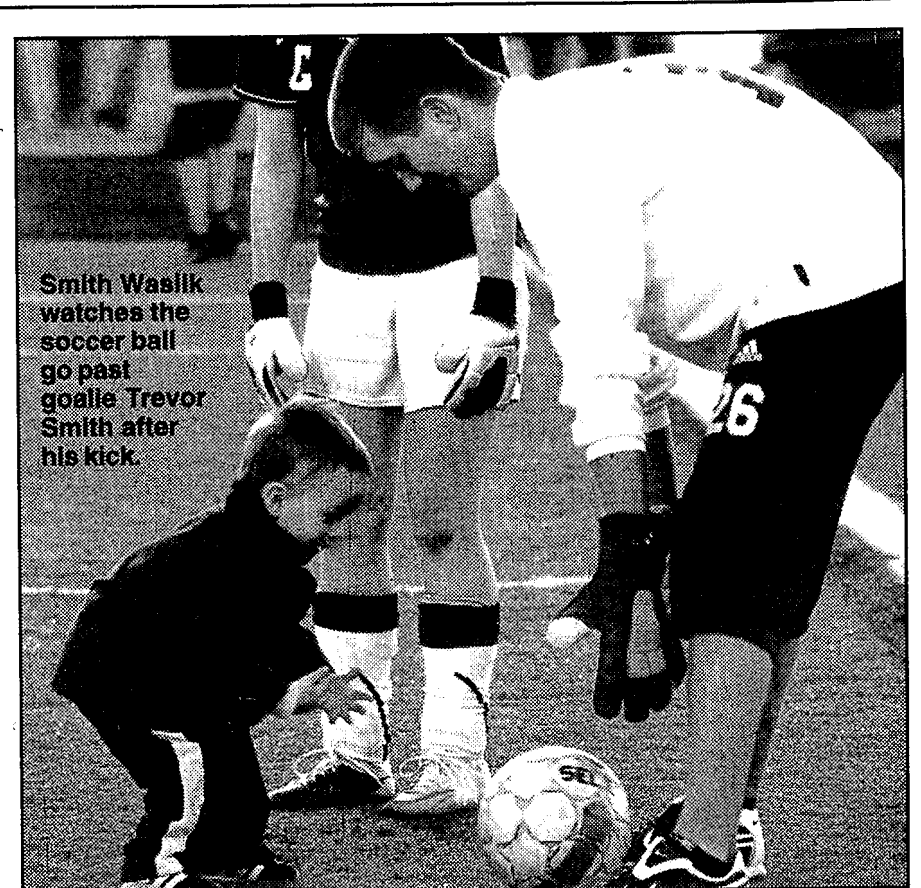
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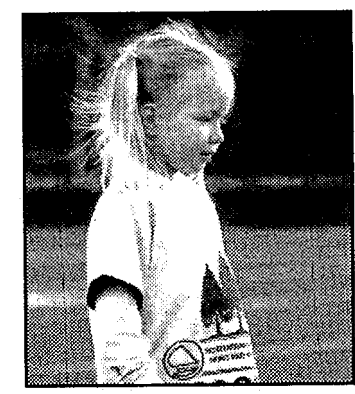


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<p>Great American Basset Waddle for Rescue Sunday May 15th:</p>  <p>Call 248.623.1698 www.michiganbassetrescue.org</p>	<p>C-Pub Events Thurs. Night May 12th DJ Saxon plays the hits Fri. Night May 13th Bruce Bright Sing-Along Sat. Night May 14th Ron Alcini</p>	<p>May Specials BEER OF THE MONTH MILLER LITE DRAFT \$2.50 Corona & Corona Light Bottles \$2.50 BURGER OF THE MONTH MEXICAN BURGER</p>
	<p>Sat. May 21st - Sun. May 22nd CCAN Art Tunes Great music and Art Vendors On Sun. May 22nd See The Detroit Pride Cheerleaders 248.814.8719 • www.ccanartfestivals.com</p>	<p>Farmer's Market Every Sat. Opens at 8am in The Village</p>



Smith Wasilk watches the soccer ball go past goalie Trevor Smith after his kick.



Claire Thomas prepares for her kick.

Young kickers

Youth soccer players wore their jerseys on April 29 for the Clarkston Girls Soccer JV and Varsity games on April 29 against Brandon.

It was Youth Soccer Night and the players were treated to a fun night, including a 2-0 win over the visiting Blackhawks from the varsity team.

During half-time they went against goalie Trevor Smith, from the Boys Varsity Soccer team, to shoot the ball past him and into the net.

All participants received a hot dog. Yum!

Photos by Wendi Reardon

Schools' lobbying efforts continue

Continued from page 1B

Rock, board members along with parents and district employees began lobbying legislators in February, when Gov. Snyder announced his budget proposals. Proposed reforms include cuts of up to \$470 per student. With an enrollment of 8,210 students, that means cutting up to \$3.86 million to Clarkston schools.

Legislators meet for an official revenue estimating conference on May 16. Rock said Clarkston should wait until then before making cuts.

"It is very likely more money than we had anticipated will be collected," he said. "These monies should flow directly to the K-12 schools to help us employ teachers and keep class sizes as low as possible."

"In Clarkston, we have continued to do whatever we can do with the resources we are allocated to give kids an excellent education," said Hyer. "We will continue to deliver an excellent educational experience to all of our students. We will make the most of what we are given moving forward."

Clarkston administrators will continue to voice their concerns to Lansing.

"Each child of ours deserves an excellent education," said Rock. "Education is a fundamental right. It is my responsibility to the community, teachers, district employees, administrators, parents, and students to ensure an excellent education for every child."

Clarkston schools' 2011-2012 budget year starts July 1. The state's budget year starts Oct. 1.

Students learned a rabbit's blind side is in the front of its face.



Animals invade Independence

Some students jumped while others were intrigued by the tarantula in Mark Rosenthal's hand last Friday.

But the Independence Elementary students couldn't take their eyes off the creature as Rosenthal, from Animal Magic, talked about the baby tarantula during the school's festival day centered around The Wonderful World of Animals.

Mouths dropped as he pointed to the clock on the gym's wall and said the tarantula will grow to be as big as the clock.

"Tarantulas aren't scary," said Rosenthal, adding he has worked on horror movies with the creatures, most recently with Wes Craven.

Another tip he gave was tarantulas can't jump. They don't have bones like humans. If they fall they will die.

As Rosenthal lowered the baby tarantula into a container, he said the tarantula can go for a year without water or air.

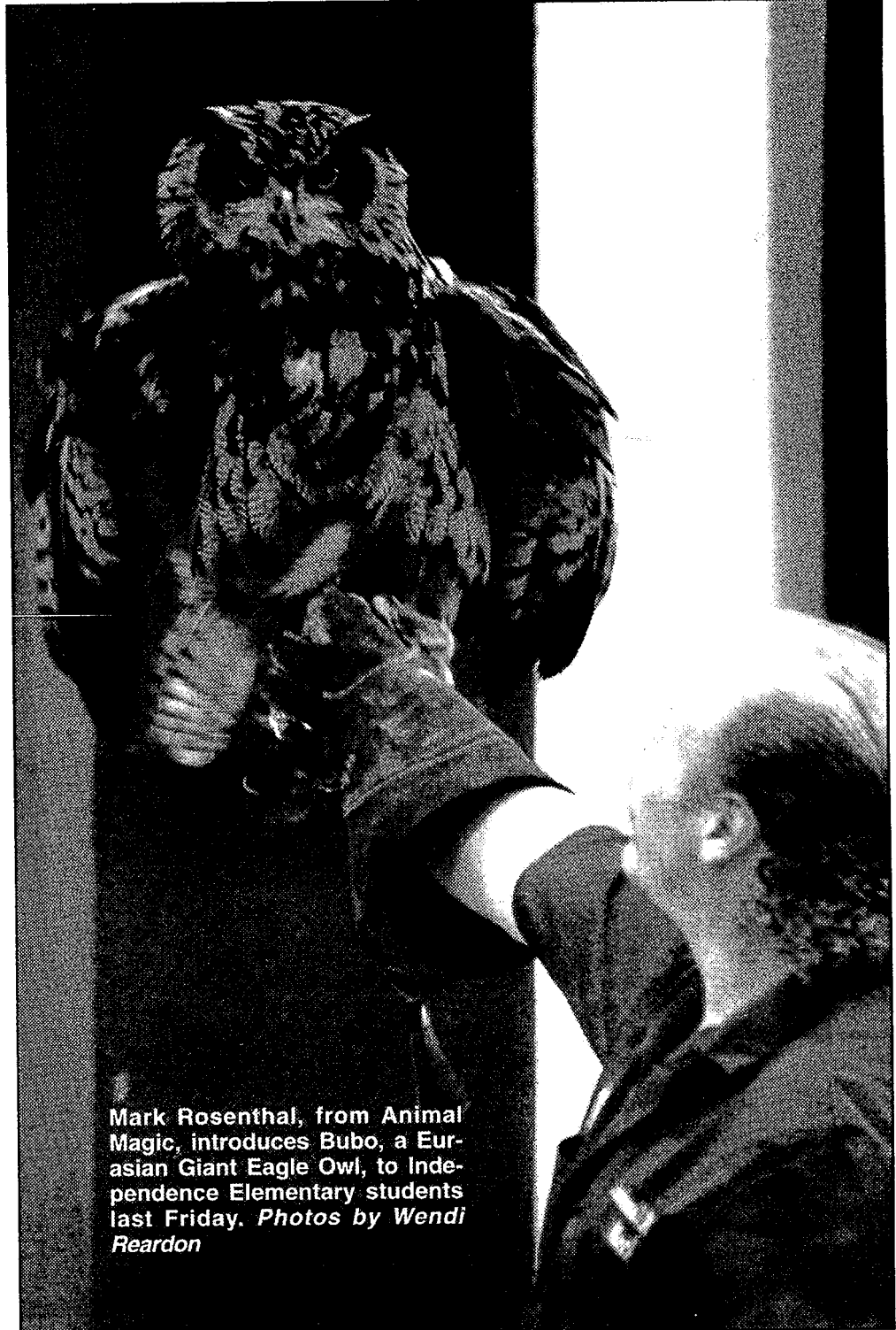
Students learning at the assembly also were introduced to an Eurasian Giant Eagle Owl, Bubo.

Rosenthal added Independence Elementary was a special stop for the large and powerful bird. They were the first school to see and meet the 4-year-old owl.

The Eurasian Giant Eagle Owl is the largest type of owl and can easily crush bones. Their wing span can be up to six feet.


There were 15 other stops the students could visit to learn about animals - Radical Reptiles, Rescue Dogs, Parade of Animals, Help Save Sea Turtles, Hidden in Plain Sight, Animal Sanctuary, Creative Creatures, Keeping Animals Busy, Extreme Animal Show, Dolphins, Follow the Rabbit, Circle of Life, Horses Who Help from O.A.T.S., ABCs of Bees and meeting animals from the Raymond Family Farm.

-Staff Writer Wendi Reardon



Mark Rosenthal, from Animal Magic, introduces Bubo, a Eurasian Giant Eagle Owl, to Independence Elementary students last Friday. Photos by Wendi Reardon

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Wendi's Word

A column by Wendi Reardon

Stay on course

Chew. Chew. Chew. Chew.
Keep on chewing.

Funny how we have to remind ourselves of the little things.

I began taking a nutritional class at Nuviv Nutrition in downtown Clarkston and on one of my sheets it does say "chew, chew, chew."

Along with it - eat every 2-3 hours. It sneaks up on you pretty quick sometimes too quick.

It is a straight forward plan - eat vegetables, fruit, protein. You know, healthy food. Plus, it's customized to my needs.

Health. I want to turn my Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis - a.k.a unhappy, fatty liver, into a happy liver.

I tried Weight Watchers again. It didn't work. But when I sat down with Cindy Crandell at Nuviv to interview her from the examples she gave about her patients I saw hope. I saw freedom. I saw feeling better.

I am in week seven of taking my supplements and medical food and I feel pretty good. My symptoms have died down but mostly because I am eating the right food, checking for ingredients I can not only pronounce but also recognize.

Now, it sounds easy and it can be. But sometimes the cravings don't die down from smells of pizza whiffing through Rudy's Market or the imagination of how pop will taste on the tongue.

I have allowed myself a pop at least once a week. But last week was bad, really bad. It's just something about about high fructose syrup and carbonation on a warm, sunny day. It is one hurdle I am going to have to work on. Not to mention - chocolate.

Another is reminding myself to eat something small every few hours. Some days are better than others. Bad days include baby showers, everything was healthy but the cake, and volunteering for University of Michigan Alumni Service Day.

Though in those instances it was the matter of saying "no" to food. No one wants to say they are on restrictions. I like to think teeny, tiny portions have to count for a bonus. (Not as huge as completely saying no.)

But then again, with the way gas prices are going we will all be saying no to food. Right?



Superintendent's call to action

I did everything that was requested of me, and so did fellow Michigan citizens.

The majority of our elected officials did not hear our voices and instead chose to unnecessarily reduce K-12 educational funding, which will negatively affect our schools, our children, and their teachers.

I'm angry with and disappointed in those elected officials who chose to vote this way. It's left me wondering about the longterm agenda of these elected officials. Is this the beginning of the end of public education as we know it? No! Not on my watch.

As the superintendent of the Clarkston Community Schools, I am not just the supervisor of employees, I am the "lead teacher and lead learner," a steward of the learning process as a whole, and an advocate for children and their learning. It is my responsibility—to the community, teachers, district employees, administrators, parents, and students—to ensure an excellent education for every child.

Further, I serve all children in Michigan, regardless of the district in which they reside. I fully intend to fulfill my responsibility, especially now when many of our elected officials have seemingly abandoned us.

In response, I simply choose to say, "No. I will not idly accept this devaluing of public education.

I'm going to act instead in accordance with my values." And, I believe that we must act collectively. Instead of 500+ school districts individually cutting budgets and multiple agencies singularly developing and acting upon agendas, let's act as one voice for our children.

Should you choose to join me, perhaps we could brand our collective cause, EducationNO!: We're Not Going to Take It.

Here are my values:

Locally controlled schools; excellent teachers; engaged, globally connected students; and collaborative communities & parents.

What do you value?

Here are some points, representing a possible platform for EducationNO!:

1. Every child deserves and shall receive an exceptional education with an excellent teacher, every minute of every day of every year.

2. Improving schools is not the function of government. Governments do not improve schools.

3. The governor, state representatives, state senators, and the Michigan Department of Education are not knowledge authorities on education.

4. Education is not political. Education is

fundamental.

5. Local communities must control their school systems.

6. The government needs to get out of the education business. Instead, the government needs to act to make an excellent education a fundamental right of every child.

7. Excellent schools require consistent funding. Local schools require options for raising revenues.

8. Research and practice have informed us, and will continue to do so, as to the elements of an excellent education. Technology is one of the quintessential tools in this pursuit. We must use research and practice to inform our work, constantly.

9. Local school districts must work together, with other entities to increase efficiency, decrease redundancy, and improve effectiveness.

10. One size does not fit all—children, families, teachers, schools, communities, people, alligators, onions, fruit trees, fingernails, political parties, transmissions. Schools require different options, depending on their needs.

As I travel across our school district observing kids, listening to teachers and other district employees, and conversing with parents and community members, I feel as though I have let them down. I asked them to remain hopeful. I promised that we would figure things out, no matter how bad they get. Our people work very hard; doing whatever they have to in service of each child.

Our educators, parents, and citizens were hopeful their elected officials would notice and support them. When I told the teachers of the House's vote to cut funding, I could see the hurt in their eyes.

Not one of them said, "What about me? I need more money. I need my retirement. I need my health care."

Just as I would expect of people who love kids, they said, "What about my kids? What about our colleagues?"

You see, schooling is local. It's people. It's relationships. It's first, middle, and last names. It's personalities. It's laughter. It's school spirit. It's hope. It's service. It's collective and collaborative. It's fundamental.

So, I'm standing up. Who is with me? Please send me a note to let me know what you think.

I will have more to say next week.

Rod Rock, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Words from the Sup't



Dr. Rod Rock

A Look Back

From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 1996

"Pine Knob sinks \$1 million into 1996 improvements" Pine Knob Music Theatre was improved with the addition of the "Knob Knook," a covered 80-by-20 foot area adjacent to concessions. Other improvements included a repainted pavilion, gravel surfacing in the hill lot, increased landscaping and backstage improvements.

"Young named OCSD officer of the year" Detective Chuck Young was nominated Officer of the Year by Sgt. Jeff Crockett and Sgt. Susan Steinhelper. In their nomination, they said Young was assigned 200 cases the past year and from them got 178 charges filed.

"It's lights, cameras, auction for village players" Deer Lake Racquet Club held an auction of film and sports memorabilia to benefit the Clarkston Village Players. The auction was held by Kip Kammer to continue renovations at the CVP theatre on White Lake Road.

25 years ago - 1986

"Five CHS girls sew and save" Five Clarkston High School girls, Michelle Crites, Stacue Jensen, Jessica Kirk, Cecilia Ritter, and Wend Rollins took it upon themselves to sew their own prom dresses. The girls claimed that this would not only save money, but also allow them to better fit their dresses.

"Crop walk is called a success" Raising \$9,635, the first annual CROP Hunger Walk was a success- despite rain. About 180 people from seven churches walked the 10 kilometers to raise money for the Christian Rural Overseas Project (CROP). Sponsored by the Church World Service-CROP and the Independence Township Ministers Association, 25 percent of the money raised was used locally and the rest was used nationally to help fight hunger.

50 years ago - 1961

"Dutch Elm disease not cured by zinc" Dutch Elm Disease had taken a heavy toll on Elms in Eastern Michigan. The Michigan Department of Agriculture announced that it was spread by the European bark beetle from diseased trees to healthy trees. It was also announced that, despite popular belief, the disease could not be cured by zinc, but by sanitation.

"Polio clinic biggest yet" The fourth consecutive polio clinic at the Clarkston Elementary School was successful. There were a grand total of 1,350 shots given during the day. There were six nurses and a doctor working at all times towards the prevention of polio at the school that day.

What do you think should be done about schools?

Let us know with a letter to the editor. We'll edit for spelling, grammar, punctuation, clarity and length. Sign your letter and include daytime phone for verifications. Deadline is noon, Monday. Send to 5 S. Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346 or e-mail Clarkstonnews@gmail.com

The soul of a woman is dead locked

Over the years I have been asked what types of books I like to read. I am honest when I answer. I like pulp fiction. I like cheap dime store novels. I like good guys (or gals) and bad guys (and gals). I enjoy good versus evil and I prefer the good to be tested, pushed the end and then, prevail over evil.

In other words, I am a simple man, with simple tastes.

I stopped reading works of literary genius after two "Lit" classes during my years of education at Clarkston High School. After that, I reckon I was done reading Upton Sinclair, T.S. Elliot, John Steinbeck and the like. (Though, I still like Mark Twain and Edgar Allen Poe.) I enjoy tales of monsters, cowboys, detectives, police, journalists and intrigue. Basically, escapism. Nothing heavy or too thought provoking. I don't want to expand my mind anymore than my skull can contain.

You can call me the White Trash Reader. I do. And, one of these days when I grow up I am gonna write some cheap pulp fiction.

So, with all the writing I do for newspapers, I also enjoy reading works of

local authors. I like to ask them questions, not about their book, but the process. One question I asked Independence Township resident and book writer, B. David Warner was, "Do you get to write off all travel expenses when you research a book?"

Don't Rush Me



A column by Don Rush

The answer was, "Yes." (So, all you folks wanting to save money on next year's taxes, start researching your own book and save your receipts.)

Two weeks ago, I read two local books . . . one, by Warner was right up my alley, called *Dead Lock*. The other, was down a road I rarely travel - this one by Oxford Township resident E. Tomarke is called, *Soul of a Woman . . . Soul of the Land*. I actually enjoyed both books but for different reasons.

Soul of a Woman . . . Soul of the Land, contains a message, wrapped up in novel form. It's 538 pages long and

follows the life of a woman named Lina. Lina makes interesting choices as she matures and the story follows her growth as a woman, mother and American citizen. I don't want to give away the plot, so here's what is on the back cover: "Her life is a microcosm of a greater ordeal, a lesson she learns when the words of a man named Bear manifest: What one does the the soul of a woman, ones does to the soul of the land . . . a truth that becomes crucial when the economy crashes."

I started this book and read a little each night until I finished. It wasn't something I could zip through. So, if you want a book to take your time and soak with, give it a whirl.

Dead Lock, is just under 240 pages and I read it in two nights (in between starting and completing Tomarke's *Soul* book). I guess you can say that makes it a fast read. It also is about a woman - a good-looking, tough *Detroit Times* reporter, Kate Brennan. The story is set during World War 2, and in two locations, Detroit and Sault St. Marie.

Here's what the back cover says:

"Reporter Kate Brennan narrowly avoids a mob hit and travels to Sault Ste. Marie to work for her uncle's newspaper. Investigating a murder, she runs headlong into a Nazi plot to destroy the Soo Locks and stop Allied war production cold.

This is Warner's second book, and a third is on its way - another Kate Brennan story. Said Warner, "They always say, 'a writer has to find his or her voice.' I found mine and it's the voice of 30-year-old woman."

Take that for what you will. It's a good read.

* * *

What I liked about both, is that in both, Michigan plays a major roll. In *Soul*, Michigan's current economic conditions; in *Dead Lock*, the state's historic past is the backdrop (the Soo was the most heavily guarded place on the continent during the war, as the raw metal ore used to construct the arsenal of democracy passed through those locks.)

* * *

I will let you all know when I publish my book, so you all can take pot shots at it!

Trump's trump prompts rebirth of birth question

Adage of yore:

"A man convinced against his will, is of the same opinion still."

In 2008 Barack Hussein Obama released a short form certificate of his birth in 1961.

Following Donald Trump's loud demand, "I want to see Obama's birth certificate!" President Obama sent his personal counsel Judith Corley to Hawaii to get certified copies of his birth certificate.

The Washington Press Corp, ABC, CBS, NBC NPR and two guys named Mo were invited to review the certificate.

Of the millions of voters who believed Obama was born in Kenya, how many do you think changed their minds?

We were told to believe a certificate of birth is the same as a birth certificate.

And little miss Muffet kept sitting on her tuffet.

The only ones convinced against their will are those seeking White House favors.

Which brings me to another comment: "Government will always do the right thing, after they have exhausted all other possibilities."

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And ads on the tube from Poise, prompts me to suggest the censors be returned to the airways.

Poise' slogan, "every great woman deserves a great pad," ain't talking about a nice condo.

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Jim's Jottings



a column by Jim Sherman

Had a way too long, and too expensive 3-way conversation with a lawyer and an insurance company. The company had promised a check weeks ago.

My attorney asked me to stay on the line as he tried to resolve the issue. And, here's the point of this issue.

Seems many more companies are employing dialectics to talk to customers.

The insurance company involved in Hazel's estate is in Minnesota. No telling where the finance arm is located, but the dialect wasn't Swedish.

At \$250 an hour for the attorney, I wanted a quick decision. I got: "Please hold" five times. Understanding the gal in Minn. wasn't easy. After the five holds, the gal who first answered our call came back and asked us to have a nice day.

More and more "cold callers" (sellers of stocks, etc.) are dialectic. It doesn't take long to disconnect. What takes time is for me to get over it.

Talk clear American, please!

- - - 0 - - -

Stop the world. I want to get off. Things are going by too fast. April got by me before I saluted toads and frogs. April is National Frog Month.

So, here's to Kermit, etal, from Devin Edmonds new handbook, "Frogs and Toads."

- All toads are frogs. But all of them start out as tadpoles.

- They come in all sizes - some big enough to eat snakes and birds, and others small enough to hide behind a grain of rice.

- It's not easy being green, so they come in lots of colors. The Pac-Man frog, for instance is vividly yellow, like the video game character.

- They can live longer than a dog or cat, some up to 36 years.

- They won't give you warts or turn you into a handsome prince.

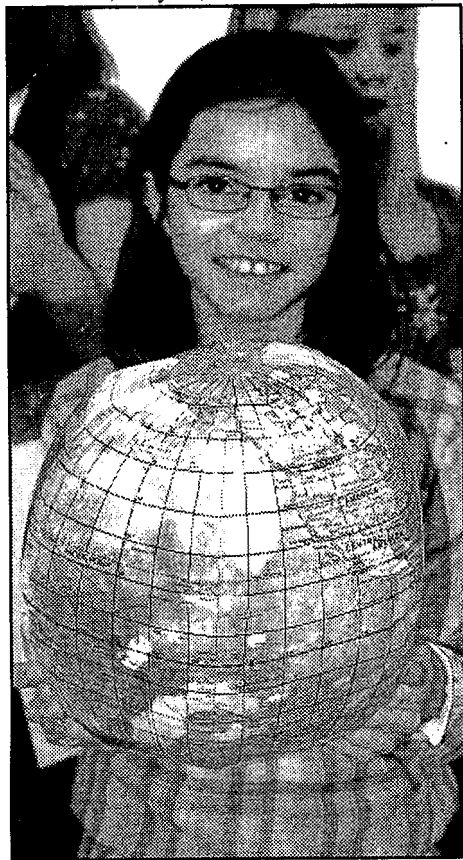
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Misery is: buying a sports car and discovering your bucket is bigger than the seat bucket.

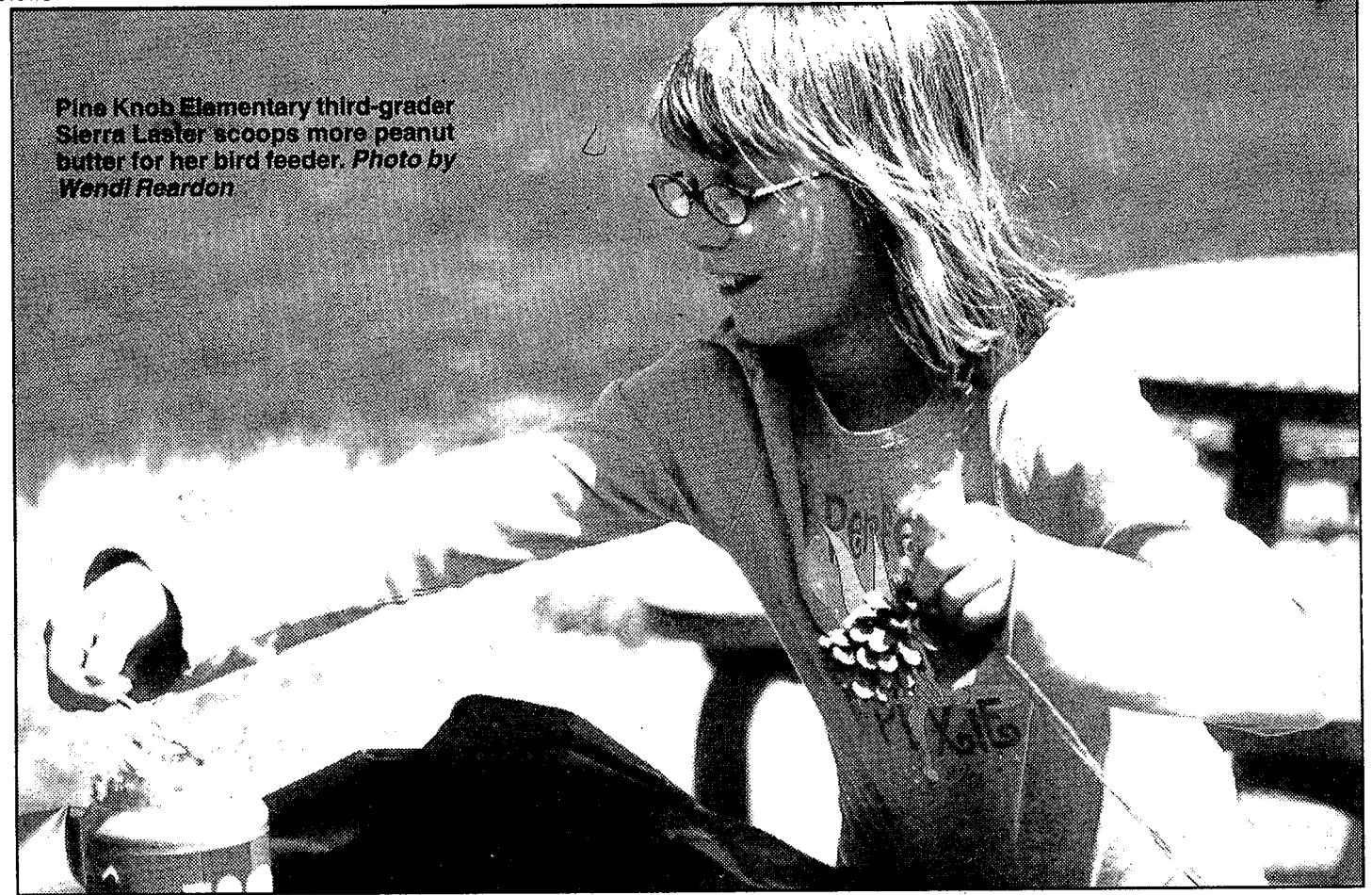
-- your waist measurement keeping up with your age.

-- going to a costume party as a bubble dancer and finding your date is going as a porcupine.

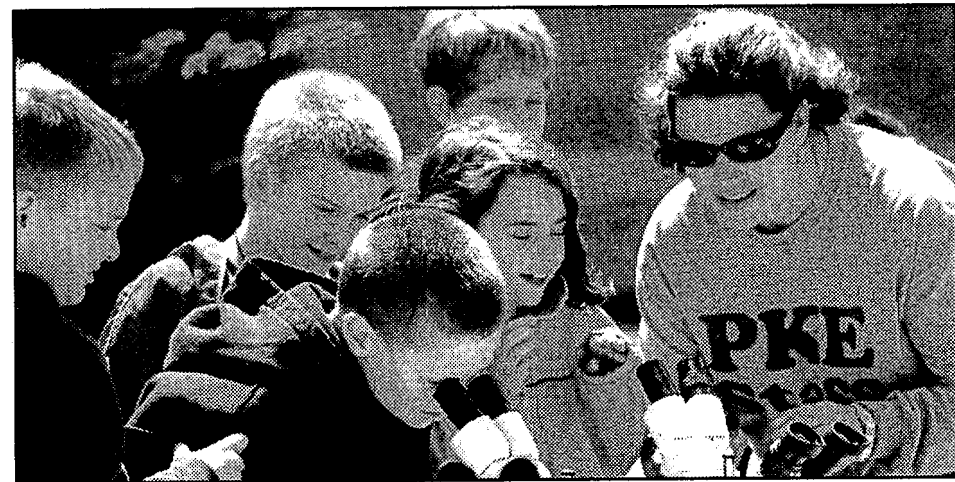
And, misery is: going to an American Legion stag film and finding out its a story of Bambi's father.



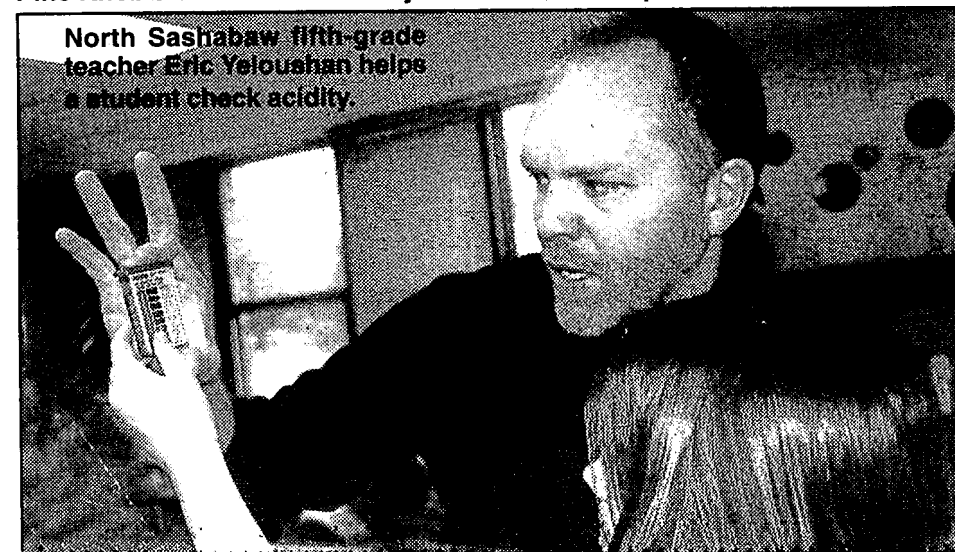
North Sashabaw fourth grader Oriane Bernard holds the Earth's future in her hands. Photo provided



Pine Knob Elementary third-grader Sierra Laster scoops more peanut butter for her bird feeder. Photo by Wendi Reardon



Pine Knob students look closely at creatures from pond water.



North Sashabaw fifth-grade teacher Eric Yeloushan helps a student check acidity.

One day to help

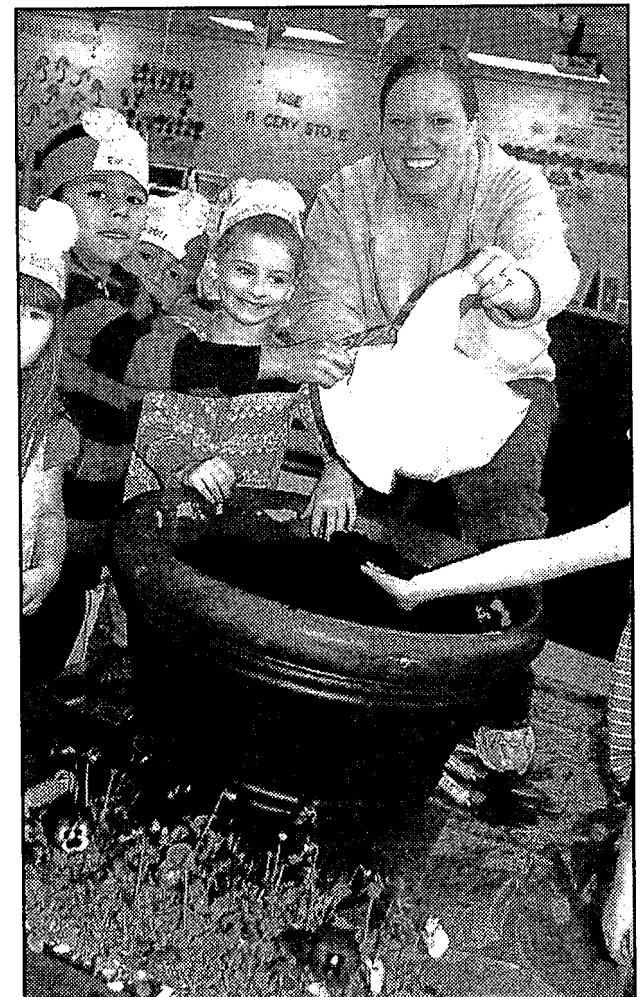
Clarkston Community Schools students help the Earth as part of every day.

North Sashabaw Elementary and Pine Knob Elementary took it one step farther by taking a whole day to celebrate Earth in April.

Third-graders at Pine Knob Elementary not only learned different ways to save the earth, but learned they could make birdfeeders out of pine cones and peanut butter and how to make their own paper.

They also found creatures in pond water, bugs in the forest and learned about the life cycle.

North Sashabaw students collected pop cans and taught everyone can do every day to help? Simple: Reduce, reuse and recycle.



North Sashabaw teacher Carrie Ouellette's Kindergarten class works on planting.

Shoplifter

A 21-year-old Springfield Township man removed two bottles of cough syrup from their packages, put them in his pocket, and left the store in the 6000 block of Dixie Highway without paying, 6:52 p.m., April 26. He was under observation, though, and loss prevention officers confronted him in the parking lot. He was on probation for second-degree retail fraud and was convicted of third degree home invasion. He was arrested for retail fraud.

Unlicensed drivers

A 31-year-old Springfield Township man with a suspended driver's license had a friend, a 28-year-old Springfield Township man, drive him into town, 3:25 a.m., April 26. The friend's license was also suspended, however, as deputies discovered when stopping them for running a red light at Dixie and Ortonville Road. The driver was cited for driving with a suspended license and not wearing a seatbelt. The passenger, the car's owner, was cited for knowingly allowing a suspended driver to drive.

Suspect seen in purse theft

The front passenger window was broken on a vehicle in the 6000 block of White Lake Road and purse stolen, April 28. A witness reported seeing a black man with dreadlocks "lurking around in the area," and driving away in a blue sedan.

Public Safety

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

Stolen plates

A deputy on patrol April 29 recognized a vehicle from a traffic stop, April 24. At that time, the vehicle had an improper license plate, which was confiscated and destroyed, and the driver, a 45-year-old Independence Township man, had an expired driver's license. This time, the vehicle had a license plate that belonged on a Chevy Lumina. The driver was cited for driving without a license, no insurance or vehicle registration, and improper plate. The plate was again confiscated, and the vehicle was impounded.

Looking for a sucker

An Independence Township resident put a couch up on Craig's List for \$400. A buyer responded, April 29, sending a check for \$2,980 on the condition that the seller wire back the extra \$2,500. The seller took the check to a bank, which confirmed it was fraudulent.

Clinic break in

Deputies responded to an alarm at a Waldon Road clinic, May 1, and found a window smashed in. Investigation continues.

Moped felon

A moped driver found even mopeds have to obey traffic laws when he was stopped for running a stop sign at Holcomb and Miller, 5:56 p.m., May 1. He was given a warning for the stop sign, but was jailed on an outstanding felony warrant for probation violation out of Sixth Circuit Court.

Theft from garage

An Independence Township man noticed his garage door opener missing from his truck when leaving for work, May 2. When he got back, he found an air compressor, hose, air framing nailer, and scooter missing from his garage.

Warrant arrest

A 32-year-old Flint man was driving in the left lane of I-75 near Clintonville Road for no reason, so a deputy stopped him, 9:05 p.m., May 4. The driver didn't have a valid driver's license, but did have arrest warrants out of Roseville, Genesee County, and St. Clair Shores. Roseville Police took him.

Thefts from vehicles

Someone took a laptop computer from a car parked in the 6000 block of Ridgeview, May 2. The owner said the car was locked, but it had no damage.

Two speakers and other sound equipment were taken from an SUV parked in the 7000 block of Andersonville Road, May 2. The vehicle's back window had a broken lock.

Sound equipment was taken from a boat docked off Andersonville Road, May 2.

Someone took a set of golf clubs, MP3 player, and workbag from an unlocked vehicle parked in the garage in the 7000 block of N. Village Drive, May 2. The garage door had been left open.

TV taken

Someone kicked in the front door and took a 60-inch television from a home in the 9000 block of Reese Road, May 5. A witness reported a black SUV pulling out of the driveway.

Fire at group home

Springfield Township firefighters put out a fire set by a group-home resident in the 10000 block of Bigelow Road, 9:57 p.m., May 8. According to investigation, a 22-year-old resident used a lighter he found in an employee's backpack to set his bed on fire. He was not under supervision at the time — state licensing was notified.


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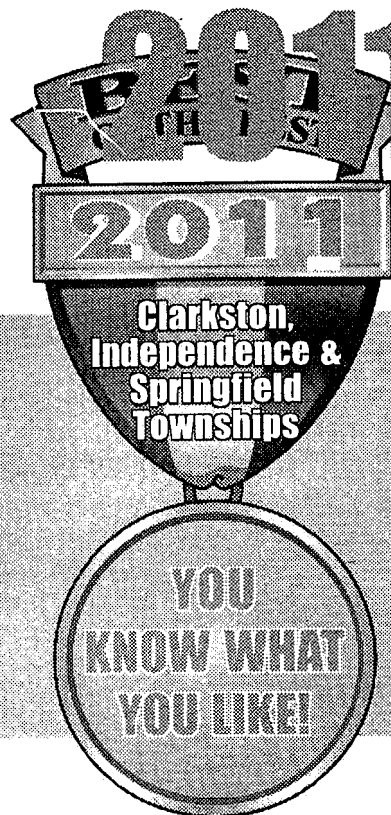
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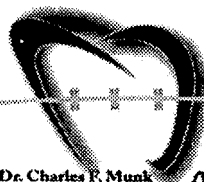
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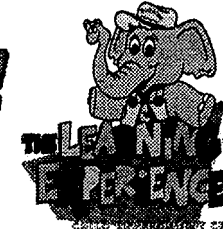
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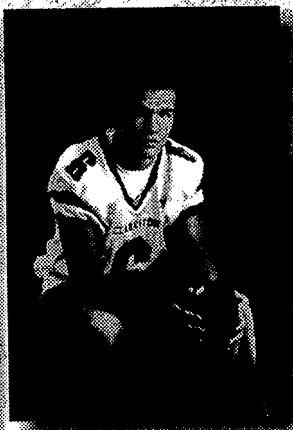
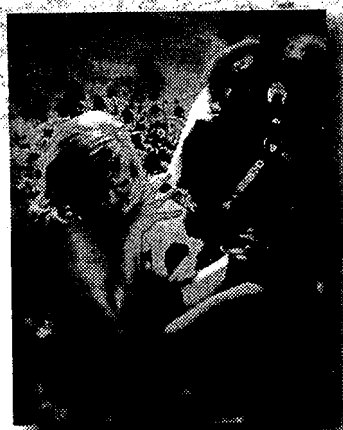
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Doubles boost Lady Wolves in tournament win

BY WENDIREARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

All of the tennis courts were empty except one on Saturday as freshmen Lexi Baylis and Christina Young from Midland Dow continued their battle in the Red & White Holly Invite.

The fans and teams for both sides watched on the edge of their seats until Baylis won the championship in the third set for Singles #2, 6-7 (5), 6-3, 7-5.

"It was an amazing battle," said Clarkston Girls Varsity Tennis Head Coach Becky Freeman. "Neither one of them gave an inch. They played their hearts out. Being a freshman and everyone watching it is a big stage to have that pressure. Both girls played wonderful and I said 'when I grow up I want to play like them.'"

The team also won the invitational, scoring 24 points and beat the state's top-ranked team, Midland Dow, by six points.

"The girls were very excited," said Freeman about the achievement. "They all stepped up. Our doubles really played well. They didn't cave under pressure. It was really nice to have them all step up and bring

their 'A' game."

They also won two championships in the singles matches and three championships for the doubles matches.

For singles, Gabriella Spindler defeated Midland Dow's Daniella Patton, 6-3, 6-1; and Katie Brozovich beat Midland Dow's Kelli Close, 6-3, 6-2.

For doubles, Olivia Dunn and Allie Wilson beat Farmington Hills Mercy's Sara Kenez and Julie Flanagan, 5-7, 7-6 (5), 6-4; Monique Zentner and Annie Gencay beat Lauren Vandenbossche and Taylor Bringard from Port Huron Northern, 7-5, 6-3; Jordan Stuart and Alaina Nido beat Northern's Megan Loftus and Delaney Dooley, 6-1, 6-0.

Dana and Paige Olsen took second place after a lost to Midland Dow's Meghan Woody and Allie Vickery, 6-2, 6-4.

"Our doubles 4 (Zentner and Gencay and 5 (Stuart and Nido) have been struggling all year," said Freeman. "For them to step up to win was huge for us. Those are wins you can't guarantee and they were all determined. They buckled down and won."

She added what helped the girls was knowing it is getting to crunch time with

MHSAA Divison 1 Regionals beginning next week.

"They had to dig for what they knew they could do all along," she continued. "They pulled through when it counted."

The girls host Stoney Creek on Wednesday and Utica Eisenhower on Thursday and head to Grosse Pointe South on Monday.

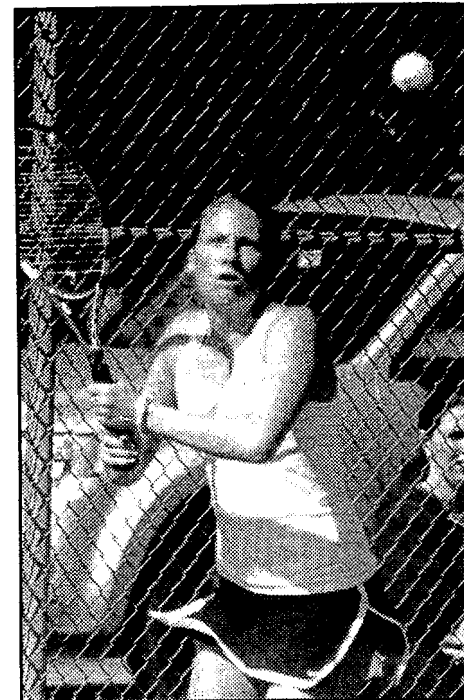
"Eisenhower used to be in our region and they have a nice team," said Freeman. "Stoney Creek is in our region and it is always nice to play anyone in the region. Grosse Pointe South finished in the top ten last year. We try to get matches with teams that finished in the top ten. We wanted to make our schedule as tough as possible."

The girls head to Farmington Hills on Saturday for their OAA league match. They will find out their seedings on Thursday.

The team doesn't have any league losses with their last win in the league last Thursday against North Farmington, 8-0.

"We still have work to do," said Freeman adding the girls still need to work on their game before they head into regionals next week.

Their home games are at 4 p.m.



Dana Olsen readies for North Farmington's return. Photos by WAR



Athlete of the Week

Hastings a hit on the diamond

BY NICK LOOMIS
Special to The Clarkston News

How does one compare sports as diverse as softball and basketball? Just ask junior Megan Hastings, who actively participates in both varsity teams.

"In basketball you rely on your teammates more on the court, but in softball a lot has to do with off-the-field activities and how well we support each other," explained Hastings.

"Softball is much more of an individual based sport," she continued. "Although, if you don't have the help of your teammates then you won't get anywhere on the field."

The off-the-field activity the girls on the Clarkston Girls Varsity Softball team participated in included going to Spring Hill this past March.

"It was a great bonding experience held right after tryouts to get the team together and the new girls introduced to the rest of the team," said Hastings.

The girls most recent victory was winning the Alma tournament during the weekend.

"I like both sports equally as much, but I usually prefer the one I'm playing at the time," said Hastings. "Although I do love being outside for softball."

Megan has had a few colleges contact her about both sports but hasn't made any decisions on whether she wants to play in college yet.

"Even though these two sports take up a lot of my time during the school year, my school work always comes first to me," said Hastings, who is in the CSMtech program.

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Seniors Liz Zezula and Kristina Lucas sign their letters of of intent, April 26. Photo provided

Next venture - college

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

With less than a month to go as Clarkston High School seniors, athletes Kristina Lucas and Liz Zezula know where they are heading after graduation day – college.

Both signed their letters of intent on April 26. Lucas heads west to Grand Valley State University to play tennis and Zezula heads south to Tiffin University in Ohio to play softball.

"It was really exciting to start a new chapter in my life," said Lucas after signing. "I am excited to go there."

"It was a great day," said Becky Freeman, head coach for the girls varsity tennis team. "It was bitter-sweet. It will change the dynamics of the team because Kristina is a character and has a lot of personality. A lot of girls are sad, realizing next year she won't be here but at the same time it is exciting for Kristina to start the next chapter in her life."

Grand Valley State University stood out for Lucas because of their education program, tennis team and her family. Her sister Alyssa goes to the university and is also on the tennis team.

"It will be fun with my sister there," said Kristina. "I know I will always have a friend there with me."

She plans going into the special education program because she enjoys working in the field.

Zezula also chose Tiffin University for her field of study but a lot of other factors led her to choose to be a Dragon.

"I went down for a visit and I liked the small campus and the coach," she explained. "I liked how he did things and the team. It is a good school for what I want to go into. I am

thinking about going into terrorism and Homeland Security and they specialize in criminal justice."

She has rotated positions while playing for Clarkston and for her travel team, and said she will play wherever the coach needs her to play.

"I am really excited to go to college, do something new and be part of a team there," said Zezula. "It is a good thing for me and a good step in my life. I am pretty excited about it. It is a great school and I am excited about my education and the softball team is doing good. I will be part of a good team."

Both started playing their sports when they were young and are happy to continue in college. But before they head off in the fall they are concentrating on finishing their senior seasons on a high note as state finals quickly approach.

"My goal is to be the best leader and captain I can be for my team and finish strong," said Zezula. "Since I already have the future figured out I am playing to do well for the team."

Right now both tennis and softball are doing well and used the April showers and game cancellations to their advantage by improving their skills.

"We have been doing great. We are coming together as a team well," said Zezula. "Everyone is doing what they need to do and doing their part. Though it was raining a lot we were still getting in the gym and working at practice everyday."

Catch the girls in action this week. Kristina and her teammates play Stoney Creek on Wednesday and Utica Eisenhower on Thursday, 4 p.m. Zezula and her teammates host West Bloomfield on Wednesday for a double-header, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

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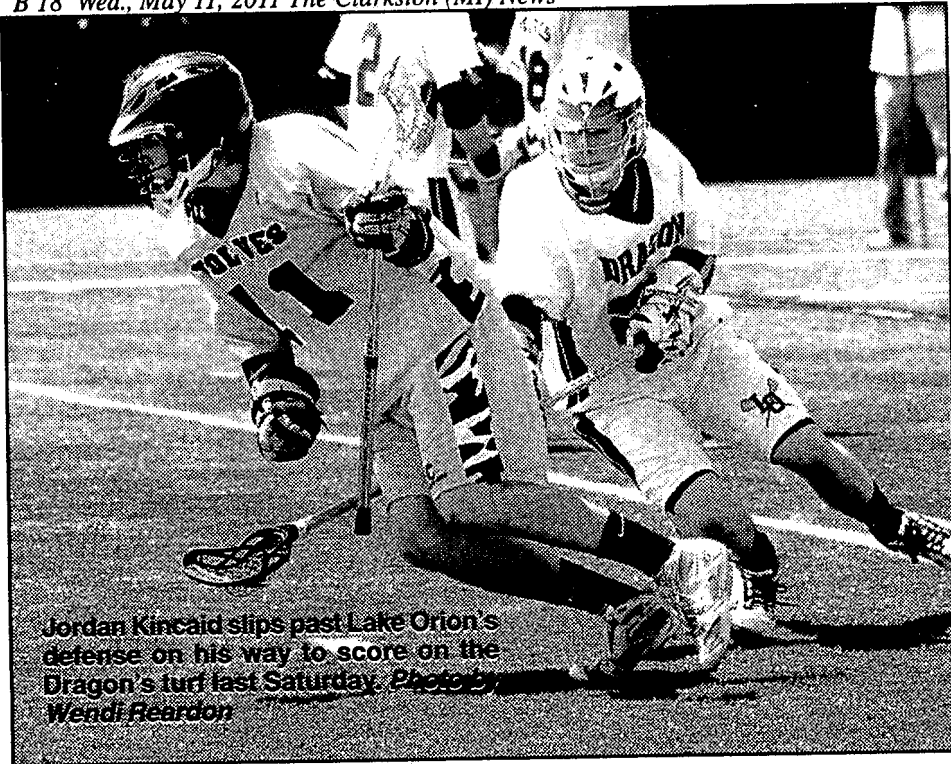
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Jordan Kincaid slips past Lake Orion's defense on his way to score on the Dragon's turf last Saturday. Photos by Wendi Reardon

Wolves take foes for wins A recap of last week's highlights

Girls Lacrosse

The Girls Varsity Lacrosse team lost to Notre Dame Preparatory on Saturday, 25-16.

Danielle Dunn led the team with eight goals as Lauren Sharkey and Stephanie Dellinger added three points each to the score. Sharkey also had one assist.

Kylie Coahu made six saves in the net.

The girls next game is against Bloomfield United on Wednesday at home. They travel to Rochester Adams on Friday. JV begins at 5:30 p.m. and varsity follows.

The girls play in the Game for a Cure at Clarkston High School on Saturday. The JV team plays Oxford at 2 p.m. Varsity plays Waterford at 5 p.m.

Soccer

Lady Kickers beat Holly last Thursday for their third win, 4-1.

They worked as a team as Sarah McCallum, Caitlyn Kirby, Lisa Lyons and Morgan Todd scored a goal each during the away game.

Katie Miller made nine saves against the Bronchos.

The girls played Troy on Tuesday and host Stoney Creek on Thursday.

They head to Waterford to take on the Mott Corsairs on Saturday. JV begins at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.

Check Clarkstonnews.com for sports updates

Lacrosse

The Wolves took down cross-town rivals Lake Orion on Saturday to the tune of 15-4.

Jordan Kincaid led the team at the Dragon's stadium, scoring five during the game and had two assists. Kevin Horton added four. Kevin O'Grady scored two goals and had six assists in the game.

Prior to the game the boys defeated Farmington Harrison on Thursday, 16-1.

Kincaid scored four goals while teammates Alexander Dzeiwitt, Horton and O'Grady added two goals each.

The boys beat University of Liggett on May 3, 15-3.

O'Grady lead the team with four goals. Horton and Kincaid added three goals each. Kincaid had three assists and Horton had two.

The boys record is 11-1 as they go into this week's set of games.

The Wolves head to Birmingham Consolidated on Wednesday and host Game for a Cure on Saturday.

The Boys JV team plays 3:30 p.m. and varsity plays at 7:30 p.m. Both games against South Lyon.

Softball

Lady Hitters let the sun shine on them as they led a great week.

They won the Alma tournament during the weekend and began the week with a win over Lake Orion.

The Lady Wolves beat their rivals on May 4, 4-1.

Sarah Altene hit a double during the game.

Shauna Siwicki hit 2-for-4 and Megan Hastings hit 2-for-3. Both had one RBI as Rachel Pytel and Rachel Allie also did.

Hastings pitched during all seven innings and had seven strikeouts.

The girls also beat Flint Carman-Ainsworth in both double header games in five innings, 17-2 and 13-2.

Siwicki hit a triple during the first game and Liz Zezula hit a triple during the second game.

Sam Hoeksema pitched during both games and struck out 11 hitters for the day.

The girls host West Bloomfield in a double-header on Wednesday, beginning at 4:30 p.m. and head to the Swartz Creek Invitational on Saturday.

Baseball

Chase Toth started off the game against Lake Orion on Friday with a solo home run, in the boys 8-3 win.

Justin Baetz added one more run in the seventh inning on a single hit to guarantee the boys success.

During the game Toth hit 3-for-4 and had two runs. Jake Sims hit a homerun, went 2-

for-4 and had three RBIs.

Matt Rodgers was the winning pitcher with three strikeouts.

The boys played Oxford on Monday and mercied them, 10-0, with a home run from Dylan Peck, putting the boys record 12-2.

They host their annual Nathan Manuel Memorial tournament on Saturday, 10 a.m.



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History Walk, May 21

Costumed re-enactors bring Clarkston history to life on May 21, when the Clarkston Community Historical Society hosts its fifth Cemetery Walk at Lakeview Cemetery.

The cemetery walk and tour begins at 6:30 p.m. at the cemetery, 6150 White Lake Road near Dixie Highway. The last tour leaves at 8 p.m. In case of rain, the event will take place May 22.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, and includes refreshments and live music. Park at Deer Lake Beach or Depot Park and ride a free shuttle to the cemetery.

For more information, call 248-922-0270.

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People Poll

May 11, 2011

Page C1

Thoughts on Osama?

"I feel that it's an accomplishment that our country can be proud of. However, because of the skepticism that people have, the pictures should be released."



- Kayla Jung

"I feel like America's sacrificed a lot of people just to get one person, basically, and it's about time that we got him."



- Tony Conzatti

"I think it was necessary, but also as a Christian I'm not your about people rejoicing and celebrating it too much. I think any loss of life, whether it's the loss of the thousands of the World Trade Center or this single horrendous person, is something to be mourned."



- Mike Mayo-Moyla

"The reality has proven that one falls and 10 more arise and, you know, it's great that he's gone but at the same time it doesn't mean that there is going to be peace and that it's all over now... I just think that everybody still needs to have their guard up."



- Sonia Christie

By Elise Shire

Author's optimism born in wake of war

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
 Clarkston News Editor

Growing up amid the ruins of post-World War II Italy taught Maria Rotondo Mark of Springfield Township the value of community.

"The saying, 'it takes a village to raise a child' - it was like that," said Mark, who was born in a farming village near Monte Cassino, the site of intense Allied bombing and four pitched battles in 1944.

"Everything was destroyed, homes, buildings, emotions, but people helped one another," she said. "It was Italian in heart, mind, and spirit - hospitality, holding onto our values in spite of having nothing. There was a lot of music, a lot of joy."

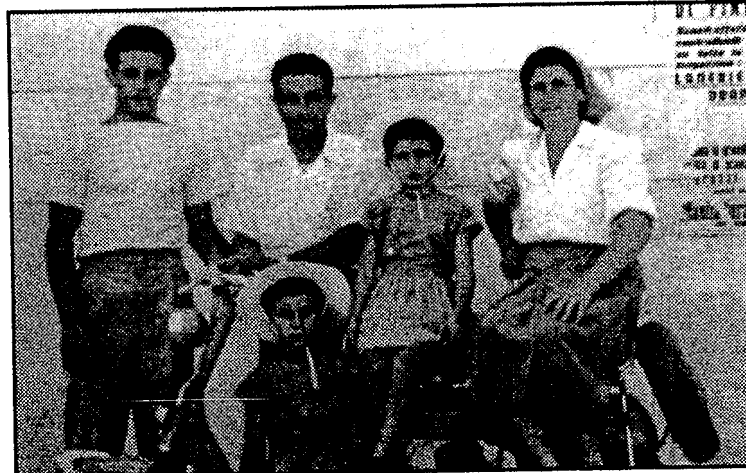
Her grandmother, who had immigrated to Detroit in 1936 to join her husband, would send care packages to family in Italy - stitched up bags made of muslin fabric.

"They weren't like today's cardboard boxes," Mark said. "In one package she included some Exlax. We couldn't read English. We thought it was chocolate and ate it up. You can imagine the rest."

She has good memories of American troops, occupying Italy.

"They were friendly and kind - they gave out gum, candy, and treats to the kids," she said. "I remember them fondly. That's why we came here."

Her optimistic philosophy on life also reflects her teachers, who taught her to look for the good in life, and the monks of the Monte Cassino Abbey.



Maria Rotondo Mark, seated in front, with her family in Italy shortly after World War II. From left are her brother Elio, her father, Giovanni, Josie her sister, and Elisa, her mother. Her brother Ernesto had emigrated to Canada. Photo provided

"When monks returned to rebuild the monastery, they would come and walk through the neighborhood," said Mark, who would join groups of children walking with them. "I was intrigued by their wisdom. They said a lot about faith and hope."

Her family moved to America in the 1950s, settling with Mark's grandparents in Detroit. As a new American, she put away her Italian heritage in favor of her new home, she said.

"I embraced everything American," she said. "I changed my name to Mary. I gave my life a makeover."

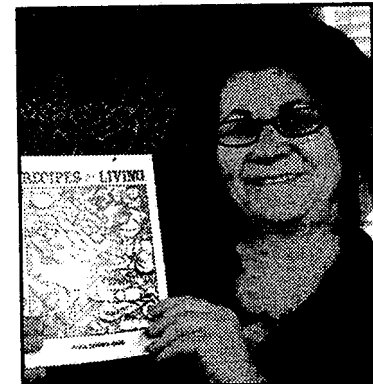
She moved to Clarkston in 1983 because of her husband's work. When her marriage of 27 years ended about 10 years later, she found herself at a crossroads.

"It was a time to regroup," she said. "I felt like the birth of my own life. I felt like a college student just out of school - which direction would I go? I reclaimed the name 'Maria.' Mary was only half of me."

She decided to rebuild her life in Clarkston, opening a business in Independence Township, Makeover Place Salon, and writing motivational poems and articles for the community.

"This is a perfect, peaceful community," said Mark, who has two children and six grandchildren. "I have friends here, roots here. My kids went to school here. I thought I would continue my life here as Maria."

She shares lessons she learned throughout her life in Italy and the United States in a book, "Recipes



Maria Rotondo Mark wrote a book inspired by her parents.

for Living."

"Relationships and connections, that's the stock of the culture, like stock in soup - that's what the book is all about," she said. "I want to speak to all people in America and provide them with 'recipes for living' in a spirit of community - just as I lived it in that tiny Italian village so many years ago."

Its cover, by local artist Laura Ginn, represents life, she said.

"Animals, people, everything," she said.

The book is dedicated to her parents, Giovanni and Elisa Rotondo.

"My parents were good people, and they raised good people," Maria said. "They did the best they could with life. They were extremely quiet and unassuming, hard working and making sacrifice for their family. I value all of that. Now I want to share that."

"Recipes for Living" is available at the MakeOver Place, 5888 Dixie Highway. Call 248-623-9348.

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Special Events

A Taste of Spring, annual Clarkston Rotary spring wine party, 6:30-8:30 p.m., May 11, Oakhurst Country Club, 7000 Oakhurst Lane. Features Michigan wines, food prepared by Oakhurst. \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door.

Tell Us About Your Travels, 6-7:30 p.m. May 12: The Amazon. June 8: Egypt. Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. 248-625-2212.

Skin Cancer Screening, 3-5 p.m., May 13, Great Lakes Cancer Institute, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. All exams conducted by board-certified dermatologists and dermatology residents. No x-rays or blood tests. Wear loose-fitting clothing. Free. Limited appointments available. 248-338-5748.

Treasures and Treats Rummage and Bake Sale, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., May 13-14, Hart Community Center, Davisburg. Benefits Neighbor for Neighbor. 248-634-0900.

Game for a Cure, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., May 14, Clarkston High School, 6093 Flemings Lake Road. Lacrosse team hosts 500 players in 24 teams, grades 3-12. Also, radar gun competition, food, bake sale, ice cream. \$5. Benefits St. Joseph Mercy Oakland's Cancer Research Program. 248-620-2321.

Community Charity Golf Outing, Michigan Fallen Heroes Memorial, 12 p.m. registration, May 16, Oakhurst Golf and Country Club. \$150 per person, golf, lunch, dinner; \$40 per person dinner only. www.michiganfallenheroes.com/support.

Peace of Mind Seminar, prearranging a funeral and documenting your wishes, 7:30 p.m.,

May 16, Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. 248-625-2212.

Community Awards Breakfast, 7:30-9 a.m., May 19. Citizen of the Year, Youth of the Year, Adult-Youth Volunteer, Business Person of the Year, Community Beautification/Preservation, Community Enhancement, and Community Collaboration. \$10. Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road. 248-568-6337.

Angels' Place Race, 9:30 a.m., May 21, St. Daniel Church. 1 mile, 5K, 10K races to support those with developmental disabilities. \$20 before May 12. www.angelsplacerace.org.

Lions Club Kidsight Free Preschool Vision Screening, for ages 6 months-5 years, immediate results, 1-4 p.m., May 21, Independence Township Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. 248-625-2212.

Cemetery Walk, 6:30-8 p.m., May 21, Deer Lake Cemetery. Re-enactors portray nine early Clarkston pioneers of the 1800s. Music, refreshments, shuttle service from city hall and Deer Lake Beach. \$10/adults, \$5/students. 248-922-0270.

Warbird Fly-In, Pontiac Miniature Aircraft Club, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., May 22, 9480 White Lake Road. Up to 75 warbirds, nitro, gas, electric. Free. 313-444-9303.

What Every Women Should Know about Car

Care, 6-9 p.m., June 2, 5640 Willow Lake Road. Tips on maintenance, gas mileage. Independence Parks and Rec, 248-625-8223.

Peacefest, with over 50 artists, June 4-5, 5815 Dixie Highway. Featured artist: Carl Lundgren, psychedelic rock poster artist. Music by The Rythm Kings and other local bands.

Look Good Feel Better, American Cancer Society, free cosmetic advice to women battling cancer, cosmetics and wigs provided. 1-3 p.m., June 13. Great Lakes Cancer Institute, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. 248-922-6606

Weekly meetings

Monday

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.

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

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

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.

Job Ministry presentation for unemployed or to hone employability skills, third Monday, 7:30 p.m., St. Daniel's Cushing Center, 7010 Valley Park Drive. 248-625-4580.

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.

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

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

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.

Town Hall Quilt Guild, third Tuesday, 7 p.m., First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. Guest fee, \$5. 248-705-7310.

Wednesday

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

Thursday

Clarkston Area Lions Club, fourth Thursday, Please see *Around Town* on page 9C

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Around Town

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

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Volunteering kept Clarkston mom connected with kids

BY ELISE SHIRE

Special to the Clarkston News

Children of all ages spent Mother's Day, Sunday, honoring their moms for their work as cook, nurse, psychologist, accountant, chauffeur, and adoring fan.

Kathy Tibitoski of Independence Township was no exception.

Tibitoski, 53, is a mother of three: Steven, 24, Ashley, 22, and Bryan, 19. Throughout the years, while raising her children, Tibitoski has been an active mom in the Clarkston community.

"Just take it one day at a time and just get involved when they're young," she advised other active moms with a smile.

Her involvement began when the family arrived in Clarkston in 1990. She served as PTO president at North Sashabaw Elementary for three years.

She also served as PTA vice-president at Clarkston Junior High School and president of the Clarkston Schools Instrumental Music Association - Marching Band for five years.

"It helps me stay involved in my kids' lives," she said.

She received a "Volunteer of the Year" award from North Sashabaw as well as a national award for volunteerism from Girl Scouts USA.

Time management's a challenge, but it's worth it, she said.

"The most rewarding part was knowing their friends and who they interact with on a daily basis," she said.



Clarkston mom Kathy Tibitoski enjoys springtime flowers and Mother's Day celebrations. Photo by Elise Shire

CMG

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The big white table in our back kitchen was the "urgent care" before we became a twenty four hour facility in 1984. My father estimates he has sewn up over 1500 people in his home through the years. I know he's put at least thirty sets of them in me alone so this number may be a little conservative. From the horrible wound cleaning "scrub brush" so many letter writers have mentioned to the same line of questioning each child receives when getting sewn up; "Do you have a grandma and grandpa? Where do you go to school?" the stories about him sewing someone up have been prevalent. This story perfectly portrays the anxiety a parent and child go through when an injury comes up and how being available for his patients has been the hallmark of my father's medical career. Interestingly, another story writer also brought up calling information 2 years ago when we moved to our new location on Sashabaw. The operator they spoke to knew our office number by heart saying it was one of their most requested numbers. I hope you enjoy this classic tale of an anxious parent and a panicked young lady.

~ Dr. Timothy O'Neill

Summer...1995...we had just moved into our newly built home in Clarkston. The subdivision itself was new and not many other homes had been completed. It was a beautiful day and there was anticipation of emptying moving boxes, cleaning the garage, and chasing around my 3 year old daughter.

While working in the garage, I noticed my daughter searching through the piles obviously looking for something to amuse herself. I didn't pay much attention until she walked by me and I saw the trail of blood on the garage floor. Upon closer observation, I discovered she had cut her leg just above the knee (she was wearing a little summer dress). The cut, to my surprise, appeared to be very bad and I realized she had stumbled into some broken glass in her search for entertain-

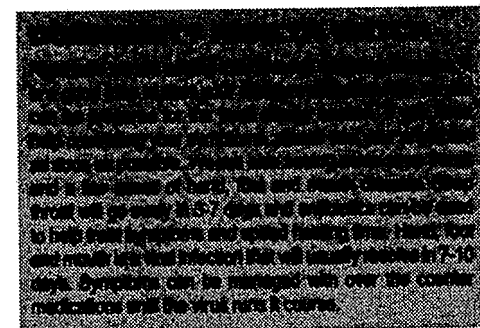
ment. I quickly assessed the injury, she hadn't even noticed, and knew immediately it was pretty severe. Of course, now that I had addressed it, her panic struck in!

Having been an EMT, I attempted to control the bleeding but soon discovered that this injury needed immediate medical attention. Dilemma...I had no car and the closest neighbor was several houses down the block. So, I grabbed the cordless phone (no cell phone back then) and dialed 911. "Huntington Woods 911, what is your emergency?" Huh? "Huntington Woods, I'm calling from Clarkston", I replied. "Perhaps you should hang up and try again", the operator instructed. I did, and was connected to the same operator! She explained that there was nothing she could do for me and suspected that Clarkston didn't have the 911 system. Yea... obviously!

So, to the phone book/yellow pages I went and found Dr. O'Neill in Clarkston. Now it was off to find a neighbor and get a ride to the office...hopefully the neighbor would be a bit more familiar with Clarkston and know how to get to M-15 and Dixie Hwy.! She did, and the rest is history.

Dr. O'Neill was fantastic! He took us right in, made us feel comfortable, and performed his stitchery on this little girl with extraordinary care! After seventeen sutures and a cherry sucker, we were on our way back home. Today, my daughter sports a pretty good scar on her leg and claims that she barely cried while getting stitched up by Dr. O'Neill. Actually, she's pretty accurate and I credit the good doctor for the minimal tears!

John



248.625.CARE (2273)

5701 Bow Pointe Drive, Ste 100

Situated in the McLaren Health Care Village at Clarkston

www.clarkstonmedicalgroup.com

Landscape Tips from Tom Lowrie

It's Mulch Time

Bagged Mulch Can Be Up To 10 Times More Expensive!

Knowing how much mulch to purchase for your beds or gardens is always a bit of a guess, but if you own a pickup truck or your project requires two or more yards of mulch, buy bulk. Bulk mulch is substantially more cost effective than bagged mulch. Bulk mulch, even including a delivery fee will almost always be less expensive.



Further, cheap bagged mulch can sometimes contain shredded construction debris or other waste with toxic chemicals.

Bulk mulches from reputable landscape companies are likely clean and safe. Mulch is useful for preventing soil erosion and holding moisture in the ground. It helps to inhibit weed growth and gives a garden a manicured appearance. Mulches vary in makeup, color, texture and appearance. Use the following examples to help guide your selection:

To determine how much mulch you need, measure the square footage of your area and the desired depth, in inches, of mulch. If you want to compare pricing on bagged vs. bulk, know that bagged mulch is usually sold by either weight or cubic volume.

- There are 27 cubic feet in a cubic yard.
- The average 40 lb. bag of mulch is approximately equal to 1 cubic foot.

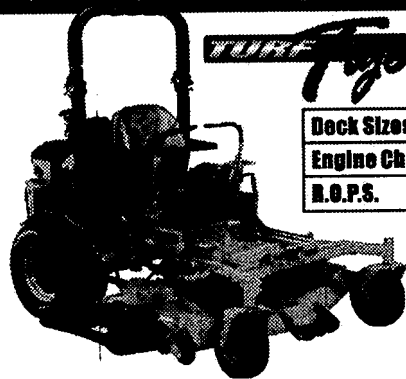
The only compelling reason to buy bagged mulch is ease of transportation. Bagged mulch can be up to ten times more expensive than bulk mulch. It makes sense to pay a delivery fee and borrow a

- For a soothing, natural look, use dark-colored mulch.
- For a brighter bed, use lighter mulch or consider light colored gravel.
- For a classic look, choose un-dyed dark brown.

Tom Lowrie owns Lowrie's Landscape in Clarkston, Michigan and has been making the world a more beautiful place since 1979. Sign up for exclusive email tips and specials at www.LowriesLandscape.com or call (248) 625-8844

LOWRIE'S Landscape MENTION THIS COUPON TO RECEIVE FREE DESIGN with hardscape installation (up to \$500 value) Order mulch online to be entered to win FREE LED Landscape Lighting Expires May 30, 2011

Great financing! 3.75% for 60 Months!



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Engine Choices	27 HP to 35 HP	\$207/month
R.O.P.S.	Foldable Standard	model ST6135VAC01

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Engine Choices	17 HP to 28 HP	\$105/month
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www.BurdickStreet.com

**Note: Promo Retail prices and payments do not include freight, set up or delivery charges. Financing is subject to credit approval through Yard Card. The APR will be a fixed rate of 3.75% for 60 months from the date of purchase. Monthly payments include \$125 Doc Fee. Payments may vary by State and dealer. Valid through 6/30/2011.



From left, Katie Sensoli and Beth Chaney, and Emily Hyde, at right, thank Pam Rush, owner of The Learning Experience.

Thanks from music students

Katie Sensoli, Beth Chaney and Emily Hyde are grateful to The Learning Experience for helping support their recent trip to London with the Clarkston High School Marching Band.

The students were invited to march and perform in the 2011 New Year's Day Parade. Immediately after marching in the two-mile parade, Clarkston joined other marching bands to perform in the grand finale.

The people of London especially enjoy American marching bands because marching bands are not common in England. The

students also had the opportunity to visit many historical sites while in London.

Sensoli enjoyed the British Museum, a museum of human history and culture. Chaney's favorite site to visit was Canterbury, while Hyde liked exploring Dover Castle the best. All three students feel fortunate to have been able to participate in the trip.

A huge thank you to Pam Rush and The Learning Experience for their sponsorship.

Clarkston High School Marching Band members thank sponsors of their trip to London, England, for the New Year's parade.

Students achieve success

Nathaniel Huhta of Clarkston will tour Europe this summer with the Blue Lake International Exchange Program.

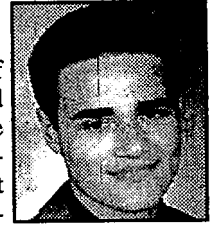
The Clarkston High School junior is the son of Jeff and Kim Huhta



Huhta

and plays bassoon.

Matthew Lawson of Clarkston was selected for membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars at Michigan State University.



Lawson

Got a Milestone to share?

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

You can drop them off at our downtown office at 5 S. Main St. or e-mail Clarkstonnews@gmail.com

Religion

Changes should stay true to Word of God

In 1513 Ponce de Leon set sail in search of waters that would make old people young again.

As we all know it was a futile quest. There is no magical potion or waters or anything else that will make us young again, we are all part of this sinful world and the wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

St. Peter wrote to those who were struggling with the life they were living. Some who had believed in Jesus had returned to the old way of life and were wondering why things had not really changed.

Others were struggling with some of the changes they were going through, the trials they faced because they believed in God.

He called them to remain faithful to God's calling to them. God reminds us through Peter's writing that we are born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable (1 Peter

1:22).

Our first birth is, obviously, to earthly parents. They, however, are the same as we are. They were born in sin and they have passed that sin on to us.

As Jesus told Nicodemus, if we want to see the Kingdom of Heaven we need to be born again, born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5).

We need new parents, imperishable and sinless parents. This comes to us in the Spirit of God and the Word of God.

This leads us to live in love for one another, but not just a brotherly love, we are led to the deeper love that God has for us, a love so great it caused Him to send His Son to die for our sins.

Paul must have also wrestled with those who would change what God taught through him.

He tells the Galatians: But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. (Galatians 1:8)

John, too, struggled with changes to God's Word. In Revelation 22 he warns

against adding to or taking away from the words of prophecy written in the book.

Recently we have heard about changes coming to the Bible. Is this good?

Unfortunately, meanings of words change within a culture and context.

Sometimes words might be changed that will reflect the same thing, for instance we might translate a word "joy-filled" replacing the word "gay" because society sees it differently today than it did 50 years ago. The same meaning is conveyed.

There are other instances where this is not so. One of the changes proposed is to translate "virgin" to "young maiden."

These, in our culture today, are not necessarily parallels as they were in the past.

Not to be thought of as out-of-date or unwilling to change, I do think it is important to hold to the Word of God as it has been given us.

If that makes me old-fashioned, so be it. Better than that, may it make me true to the Word of God.

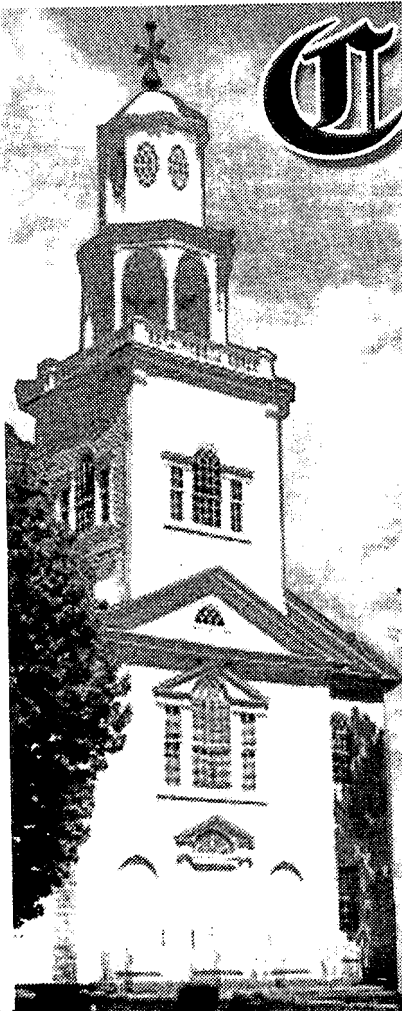
The Rev. Kendall Schaeffer is pastor of St. Trinity Lutheran Church.

Spiritual Matters



Pastor Kendall Schaeffer

Church Directory



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
CIV-10/20Sun. 2:00pm, Thurs. 9:00pm
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
Preschool: 620-6154

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

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston
248-625-1611
Website: clarkstonumc.org
Sunday Worship: 9:00am & 11:15am & 6:11 pm
Nursery available for all services

BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH

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

CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston
248-625-1611
Website: clarkstonumc.org
Sunday Worship: 9:00am & 11:15am & 6:11 pm
Nursery available for all services

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

SASHABAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Little Church with a BIG Heart"
5300 Maybee Road, Clarkston
Worship 11:00 am
Nursery Provided
Phone (248) 673-3101

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLARKSTON

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

DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH

8585 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI
(248) 625-2311
website: www.dixiebaptist.org
Home of Springfield Christian Academy & Children's Ark Preschool
Pastor: J. Todd Vanaman
Sun: 10:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Fellowship
11:00 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Worship Service
Wed: 6:45 pm AWANA
7:00 pm Teen Meetings & Adult Bible Study
Nursery available for all services.

OAKLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

ST. DANIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

7010 Valley Park Dr., Clarkston
(W. of M-15, S. of I-75)
625-4580
Rev. Christopher Maus
Saturday Mass: 5:00 pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am
Religious Education: 625-1750
Mother's Group, RCIA, Scripture Study, Youth Group

In our churches...

Holistic Sampler, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., June 4, Peace Unity Church, 8080A Ortonville Road. Free samples and services, speakers, demonstrations, and fellowship. 248-625-5192.

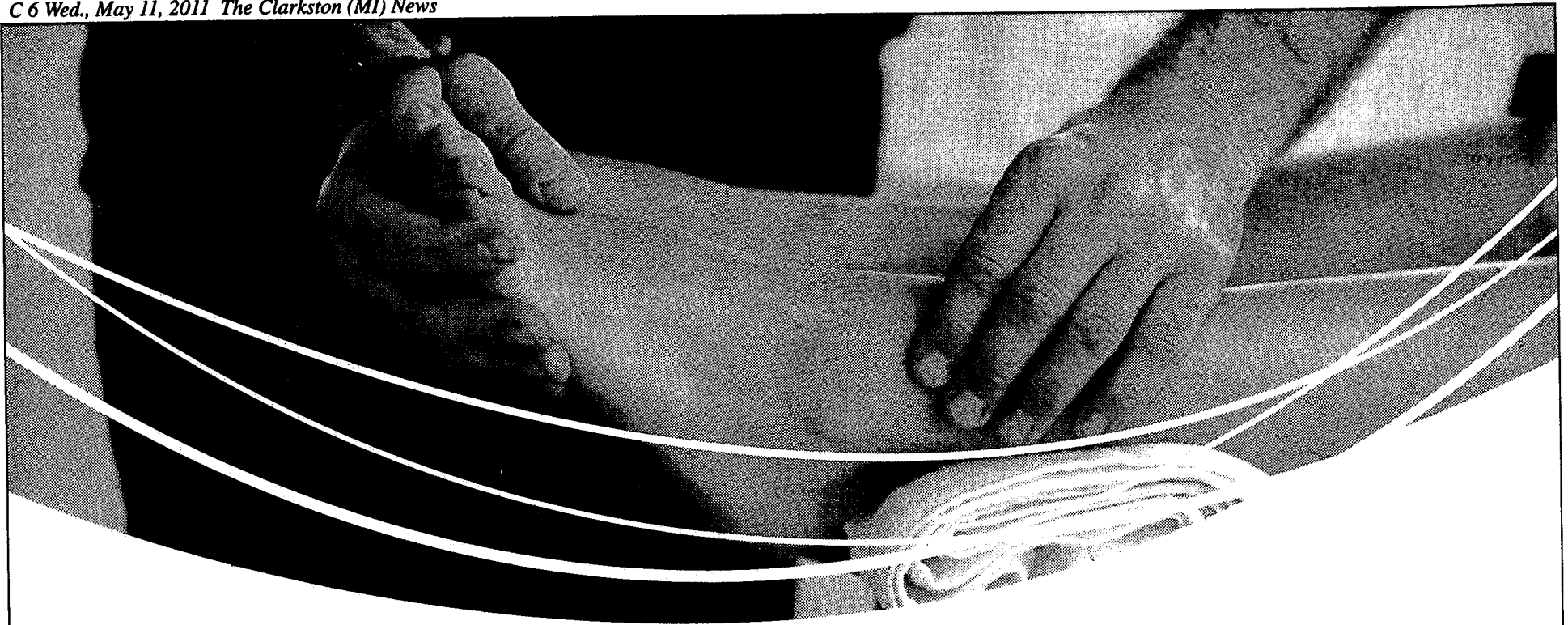
Bethany North, peer support to all faiths dealing with divorce or separation, 7:30 p.m., fourth Monday, Cushing Center, St. Daniel Catholic Church, 7010 Valley Park, 248-628-6825 or 248-673-2539.

DC4K, DivorceCare for Kids, ages 5-12, Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. 248-625-3288.

Wednesday Evening FEAST, 6 p.m., free nursery. Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. 248-625-3288.

P.A.T.H. - Pray And Things Happen: Spiritual Tools for Enhancing Life and Living. Thursdays, 7 p.m., Peace Unity, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

Celebrate Recovery ministry for hurting people, Thursday, 7-8:30 p.m., Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road. 248-625-1323. Childcare available.



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- Balance and vestibular disorders
- Pediatric conditions
- Postsurgical problems
- Neurological disorders
- Sports-related injuries
- Pain

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248.922.6820

Family walks to help friend with failing kidney

BY TREVOR KEISER

Clarkston News Staff Writer

When Holly and Alan Baugh of Waterford heard their friend Mike McKay was in need of kidney transplant, they decided to step in and raise awareness.

Holly, who was born and raised in Clarkston, Alan, and their two children Katie and Aiden are doing a walk at the Detroit Zoo, put on by the National Kidney Foundation on May 15.

"We just wanted our kids to be compassionate to others, so we just thought it would be a good thing," Holly said. "We may not be able to make him (Mike) better, but there are ways that maybe we can help and support him."

"We appreciate it and are touched by it," said Mike's wife Amie. "We're hoping to use every avenue we can to get donors."

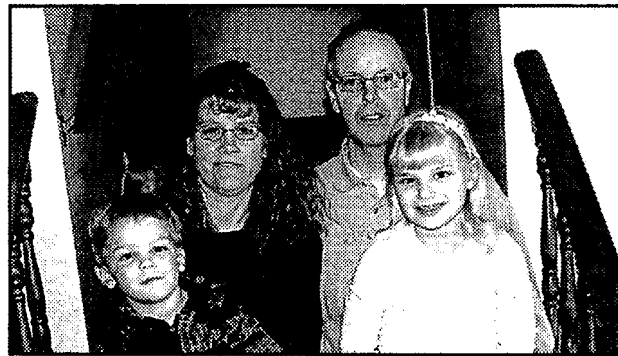
McKay, 33, who lives in Lake Orion with Amie and their daughter Soraya, has been struggling with kidney disease since age 21.

"My native ones just shut down pretty much out of the blue and they still don't know to this day why," he said.

A year and half after starting dialysis his mom donated a kidney, but after six years it failed, which McKay said was his own fault.

"I honestly didn't take care of it. I was very erratic about medications, I didn't keep up with my clinical appointments and they tell me had I done that I would have still had it up to this day," he said. "Doctors said it should have lasted 25 years."

It's been four and half years since McKay was placed on



Holly and Alan Baugh along with their children Aiden and Katie are honoring their friend Mike McKay as they do a Kidney Walk at Detroit Zoo on May 15. Photo submitted

the organ-donation list, and has finally reached the point, where he needs a kidney. He has dialysis three days a week, four hours at a time. Because of so much dialysis, he has neuropathy and has to use a walker to get around and wears a brace on his left arm.

Mike and Amie travel to Maryland every two to three months in order for Mike to have surgery on one of his hands or legs to try and repair the damage.

"Hopefully through this corrective surgery he'll be able to walk and have movement again," Holly said. "At least until he gets a kidney, once he gets a kidney all of that will go away and he won't have that problem anymore."

It wasn't until after a doctor's order that Mike began to

make his need for a kidney known.

"I don't want to burden people, make them upset or put that kind of pressure on someone," he said. "Doctors told me to do it, so I'm doing it."

Doctors also said a living donor is the best option because the kidney lasts longer.

The hardest thing through it all has been when 6-year-old daughter Soraya wants to play and Mike is too tired he can't.

"I'm hanging in there. I trust God and know he is going meet my need," he said. "Even though this (kidney failure, dialysis, and surgeries) is not wonderful, the things I've gone through and the things I've learned, the things that have even come out of it have been so huge for me. I understand this is necessary for me right now."

As a result of what he calls his trial, Mike says his marriage has strengthened and he has grown spiritually in his Christian faith. He is currently taking classes in order to get his Divinity Degree and hopes to get a master's in theology, so he can serve the Lord full-time.

"Ministry, the Bible, and evangelism are my passion," Mike said. "When I'm done with this trial, hopefully the Lord will trust me with the ministry, that's what I'm waiting for."

For more information checkout YouTube.com and type "Mike's Journey and God's grace" into the search box. Also, to become a possible donor, call Chad Abbot, transplant coordinator at University of Michigan Hospital, 734-763-4228 or email him at cjabbott@med.umich.edu for an initial interview.

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Obituaries

Jane A. Focht, 61

Jane A. Focht of Hartland, formerly of Auburn Hills, passed away May 4, 2011, at age 61.

She was the loving wife of Ken for 25 years; beloved mother of Jeremy Rahn; preceded in death by her parents Dorothy and George Radke.

Mrs. Focht was employed with William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, for 25 years. She was a member of the Joseph C. Bird Chapter 294 Order of Eastern Star. Jane was an avid quilter and gardener.

Order of Eastern Star Memorial Service was May 14 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home - Cremation Service, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to the Salvation Army.

Online www.wintfuneralhome.com guestbook

Obituaries
posted daily at
Clarkstonnews.com

Garry M. Upcott, 71

Garry M. Upcott of Clarkston passed away suddenly May 7, 2011, at age 71.

He was the husband of Pat; father of Mike (JoAnn), Steve (Wendy) and Melanie (Steve) Lafnear; stepfather of David (Deborah Herczog) Edmonds, Carson (James) Lyons and Brett (Katharina) Edmonds; grandpa of Ashley, Alyssa, Amy, Aaron, Layne, Logan, Sophie, Loudon, Emily, Analyse and Claire; great grandpa of Everest; brother of Ted (Sue) Upcott and Sharon (Robert) Clark; preceded in death by his first wife Bonnie.

Mr. Upcott worked at General Motors, retiring after over 30 years of service. After retirement he enjoyed fishing, hunting, wintering in Florida and hot rods.

Memorial service Thursday, 12:30 p.m., at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home-Cremation Service, Clarkston, where friends may visit Wednesday, 3-5 and 6-9 p.m. Memorials may be made to American Diabetes Association or Heart Association of Michigan.

Online www.wintfuneralhome.com guestbook



Around Town

Continued from page 2C

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., made-from-scratch. \$6 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 membership, \$5 lunch. 248-846-6558.

Free General Support Group for any type of cancer and caregivers, fourth Thursdays, 2-3 p.m., Great Lakes Cancer Institute, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. Walk-ins welcome. 248-922-6610.

MOPS, Mothers Of Preschoolers, first and

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

INDEPENDENCE TWP.

SYNOPSIS

TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE
MAY 3, 2011

1. The Regular Meeting of the Charter Township of Independence Board was called to order at 7:05 PM at the Independence Township Hall.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call: Present: Carson, Lohmeier, Pallotta, Petterson, Rosso, Wallace
Absent: Wagner

There was a quorum.

4. The Agenda was approved as amended.
5. Closed Session: Personnel evaluation as permitted by MCL 15.268(a)
Hear complaints brought against a public officer and employee as permitted by MCL 15.268(a)

The meeting **MOVED INTO** Closed Session at 7:11 PM

The meeting **RECONVENED** at 7:52 PM

6. Public Forum opened at 7:52 PM

7. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Approval of Accounts Payable Check Run **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
8. Discussion - Deficit Elimination Plan Update
9. Discussion - Proposed Travel and Mileage Policy
10. Discussion - CIA Update
11. Policy Millage Update - Approval to provide police support services for the 2011 4th of July Parade and Fireworks at Clintonwood Park

NEW BUSINESS

12. Discussion - "Relighting Main Street" Energy Savings Program
13. Approval of Liquor License Transfer - Deer Lake Inn
14. Approval to refer a review of the Zoning Ordinance to the Planning Commission and provide a recommendation to the Township Board

The meeting **RECESSED** at 10:26 PM.

The meeting **RECONVENED** at 10:36 PM.

15. Approval of 2011 Free Electronics Recycling Program
16. Discussion - Capital Improvements Plan (CIP)
17. Approval of Citizens' Public TV Access Committee Rules and Appointments
18. Discussion - Proposed Asset Management Policy
19. Approval of Designation of Assessor
20. Discussion and Action - Building Director - Repayment of Bonus

The meeting **ADJOURNED** at 1:04 AM on Tuesday, May 4, 2011

Barbara A. Pallotta, CMC
Township Clerk

Published: May 11, 2011

Wed., May 11, 2011 The Clarkston (MI) News 9 C

third Thursdays, 9-11:30 a.m., Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road. Call Saleena, 734-620-2844.

Stepping Strong, Thursdays, through June 2. Walk 1-3 miles on paved paths. \$10. Senior center, 248-623-8231.

Friday

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

Saturday

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

Kid's Camp Yoga, Saturdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Clarkston Hot Yoga, 5678 Sashabaw Road. \$7, for ages 5-10. 248-620-7101.

STATE OF MICHIGAN FILE NO:
PROBATE COURT 2011-336, 276-DE
COUNTY OF OAKLAND

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

Estate of Louella June O'Guin. Date of birth: 6/4/1924

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Louella June O'Guin, who lived at 3753 Oakview Road, Waterford, Michigan died 3/15/2011.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Richard Ellsworth named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, Michigan 48341-0449 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Kathryn M. Caruso (P44723)
6480 Citation Drive
Clarkston, MI 48346
248/625-0600

Richard Ellsworth
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Waterford, MI 48329
248/425-7852

STATE OF MICHIGAN FILE NO:
PROBATE COURT 2011-336,093-DE
COUNTY OF OAKLAND

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

Estate of Patricia J. Burke, Date of Birth: October 11, 1927

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Patricia J. Burke, who lived at 408 Fox Hills Drive, Apt. #4, Bloomfield, Michigan died March 6, 2011

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Lori D. Maxwell, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, Michigan 48341-0449 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Dennis M. Kacy P15637
21 S. Main Street
Clarkston, MI 48346
(248) 625-2916

Lori D. Maxwell
21 S. Main Street
Clarkston, MI 48346
(248) 625-2916

PUBLIC NOTICE

Charter Township of Springfield

NOTICE OF HEARING OF PRACTICABILITY ELIZA LAKE IMPROVEMENT HEARING RE-SCHEDULED- PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE!

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Springfield Township Board will meet at the Springfield Township Civic Center, 12000 Davisburg Road, Davisburg, Michigan at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, 2011 to determine the practicability of implementing an aquatic management program for the purpose of controlling nuisance aquatic weeds/algae for Eliza Lake, for treatment year 2012.

This Hearing is called pursuant to the provisions of Public Act 188 of 1954, as amended.

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Publish: May 11 & 18, 2011

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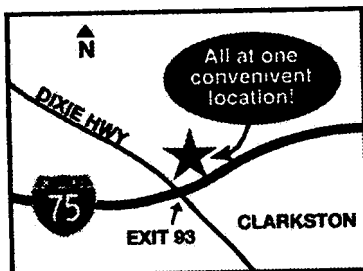
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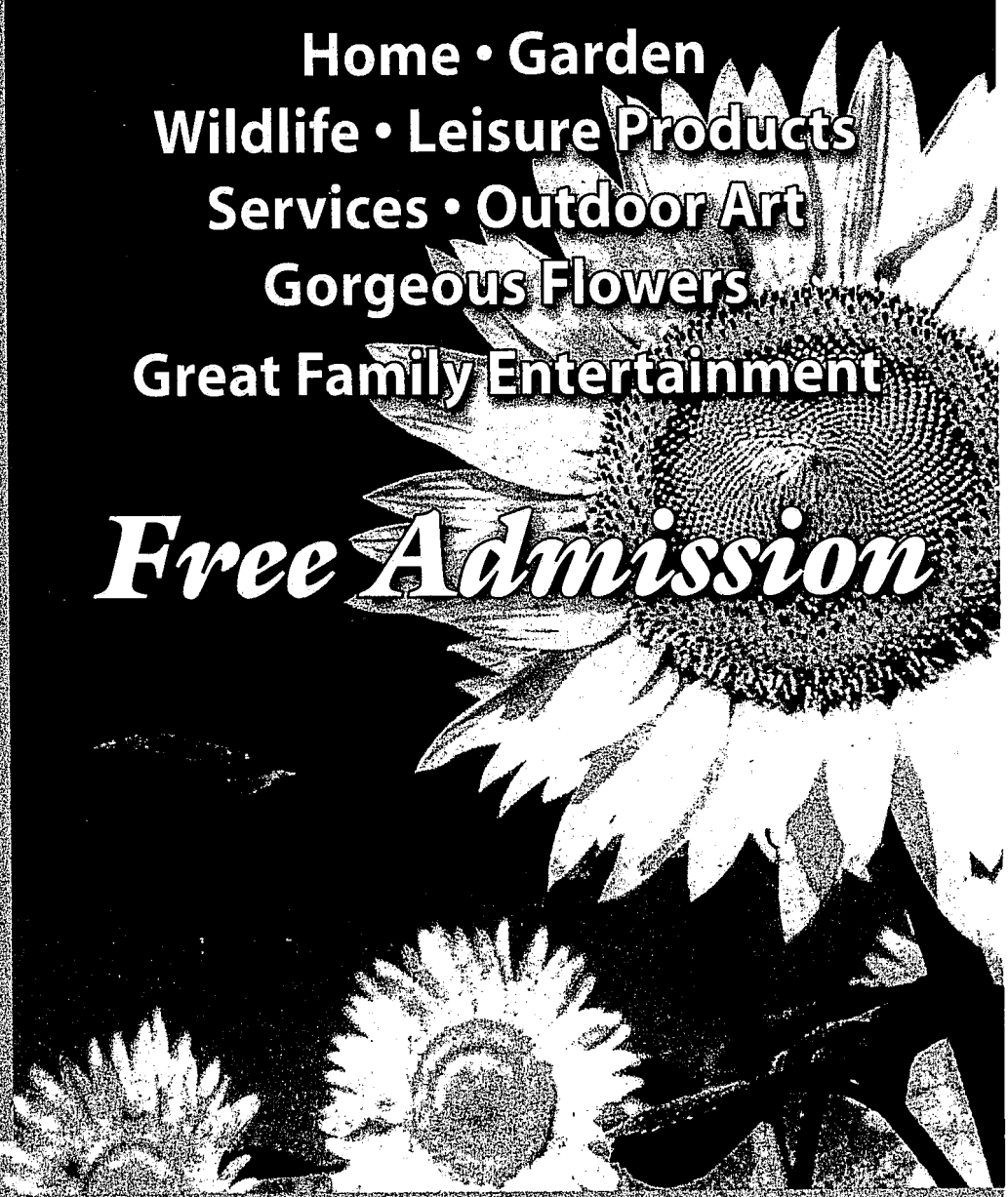


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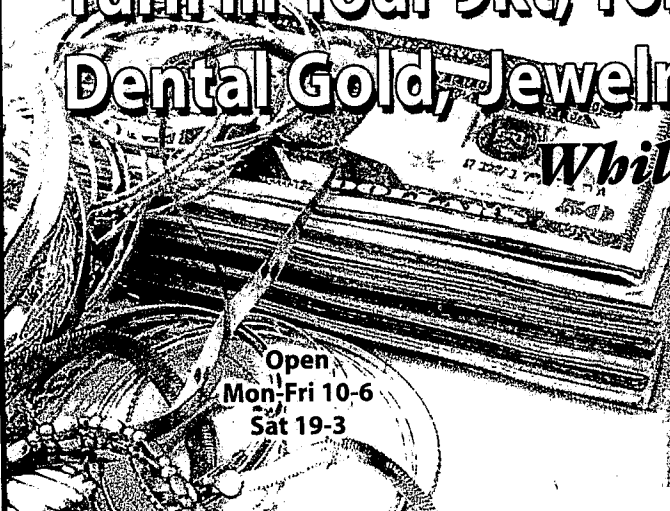
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Spring is here and so is the Downtown Lake Orion Flower Fair! If you are anxious to get your yard ready for the summer season, please join us in historic Downtown Lake Orion for the 10th Annual Flower Fair -Home & Garden Marketplace on Saturday, May 14 and Sunday, May 15. Fair hours on Saturday are from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and on Sunday 10 a.m. - 4: p.m.

The Flower Fair will be held in downtown Lake Orion near the intersection of Flint and Broadway. Event set up will be worked around downtown construction. Let this weekend be an opportunity to see the wonderful progress happening downtown as well as an opportunity to support your local businesses!

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Continued on next page



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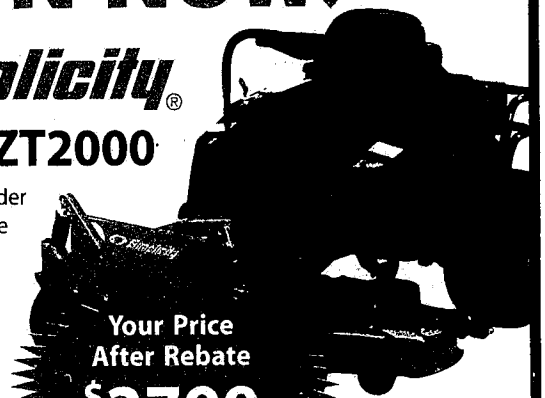
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Bats! Great for gardens!

For many years, bats have been feared and considered vermin. Now, thanks to more research and better education, people are starting to recognize the benefits of bats. Many people now think of bats as a natural way to help rid their yards of mosquitoes.

While bats do eat mosquitoes, they also eat large amounts of garden and agricultural pests including, cutworm moths, chafer beetles, potato beetles and spotted cucumber beetles. Some moths can detect a bats' echolocation and will avoid the area where bats are present. All of the nine species of bats found in Michigan are insect eaters, consuming up to their body weight in insects nightly.

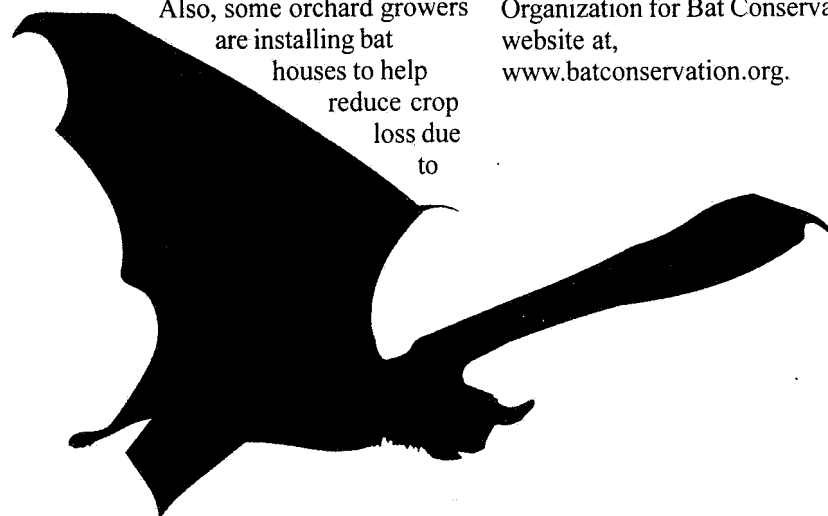
Also, some orchard growers are installing bat houses to help reduce crop loss due to

pests, in a non-toxic way. Your backyard gardens can also benefit from these furry flying bug zappers. If you are interested in controlling garden pests in a natural way, try attracting bats to your yard.

Some tips for attracting bats to your garden:

- Install a bat house
- Add native plants to your garden
- Leave up dead trees
- Provide non-mowed areas for shelter and food for insect larvae
- Garden organically

If you are interested in bat houses or have questions about how bats can help your garden, visit the Organization for Bat Conservation's website at, www.batconservation.org.



Come to the Flower Fair!

Continued from previous page
selection of flowers, vegetables, herbs and trees direct from local farms and nurseries. Beautiful annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, and garden art will also be available. You can speak with industry leaders regarding landscape and home improvement ideas.

We are pleased to bring Gaier Farms, Otis Acres, Mt. Hope Herb Farm, and Sabbe Farm & Greenhouse to the Flower Fair. Fantastic garden art, home décor and home improvement items will also be available by various vendors such as Wild Birds Unlimited, Showscape, the Angel, Witch and the Old Crow, and Michigan Irrigation.

Entertainment on Saturday will consist of various talented artists to

entertain the crowds. Free balloon twisting, a craft table and bounce house will also be available for children to enjoy.

Food will include snow cones, smoothies, lemonade, kettle corn, fudge and candy. All downtown restaurants will be open for you to enjoy too!

This year's Premier Sponsors include Genisys Credit Union, Renewal by Andersen, and Waste Management. Orion Stone Depot is our Daylily sponsor. This event would not be possible without the support of these fabulous sponsors.

For more information about the event, contact the Lake Orion DDA at 248-693-9742 or visit www.downtownlakeorion.org.

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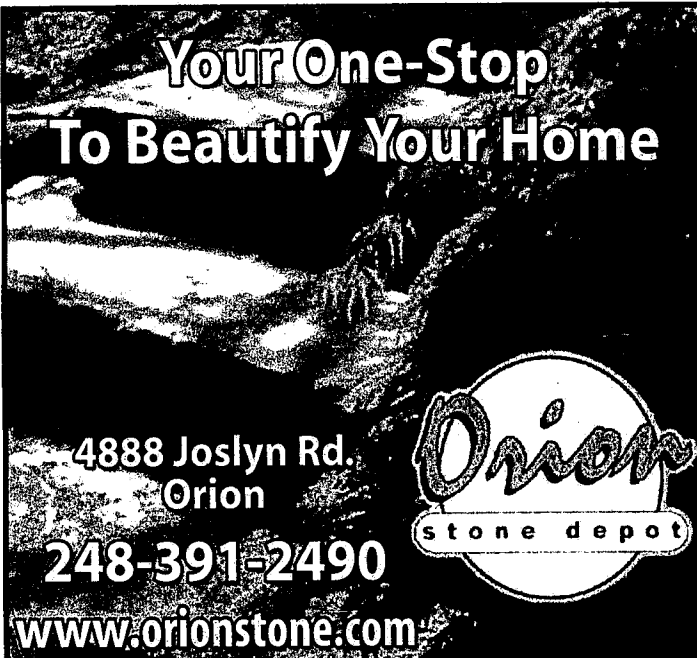
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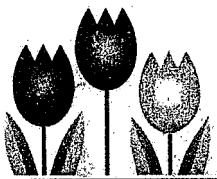
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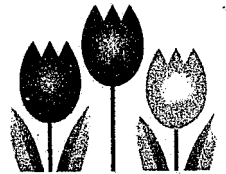
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Visit www.downtownlakeorion.org

How to Attract Butterflies to your Garden

To coax butterflies into your garden, choose flowers that butterflies' love. Butterflies love wildflowers and cultivated flowers, so have a variety of both in your garden. Use milkweed, azalea, goldenrod, black-eyed susan, zinnia, cosmos, aster, phlox, Japanese honeysuckle and ironweed. A few nectar producing shrubs such as lilac, butterfly bush, redbud and various fruit trees also will do the trick.

Butterflies are attracted to color. Group clusters of the same plant together to make them more visible to the butterflies. A group of colorful flowers attract butterflies more than a single flower or two. Butterflies love sunlight so make sure that these flowers are planted in direct sunlight for much of the day. Plus adding a few flat rocks for them to bask in the sun is good.

You can make butterfly feeders to supplement the nectar produced by the flowers in your garden. These feeders make a quick and fun project with the kids. Just expect to end up with sticky hands and countertops.

Making a jar feeder

To create a jar feeder, you need a small jar, such as baby food jar with a lid, a wad of cotton, sugar-water solution (see below), brightly colored string

or ribbon (about 18 inches) and a drill.

First drill a small hole in the lid of the jar and feed a piece of cotton through the hole. Next fill the jar with the sugar-water solution and attach the lid to the jar. Then tie the string around the jar (might want to hot glue it) and hang the jar in a tree near but slightly above nectar-producing flowers.

Cooking up a sugar-water solution

Making a sugar-water solution for butterflies is easy. Just follow these simple steps:

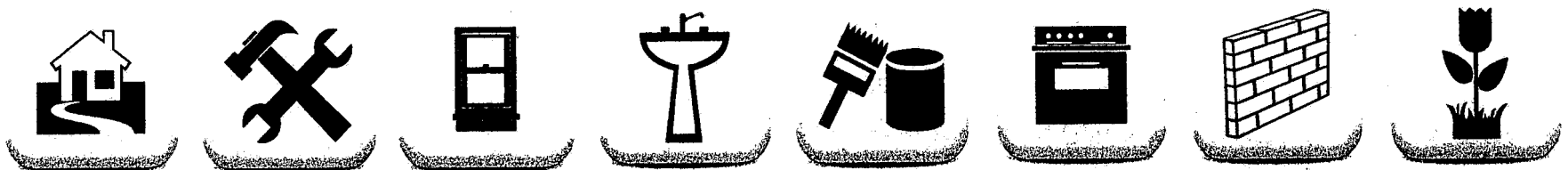
1. Mix one teaspoon of sugar combined with nine teaspoons of water. Or, use tablespoons if you need want more solution.)

2. Boil the sugar and water together for several minutes until the sugar dissolves.

3. Let the solution cool, and then pour into your butterfly feeder.

Clean the feeder and change the sugar water and cotton every week, more often in extreme heat.

Because butterflies need liquid, you may want to create a small section with wet sand or mud (butterflies get some nutrients indirectly from wet sand or mud). Also a windbreak of trees and shrubs are also helpful to the butterflies for feeding and laying eggs.



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of proteins and fats.

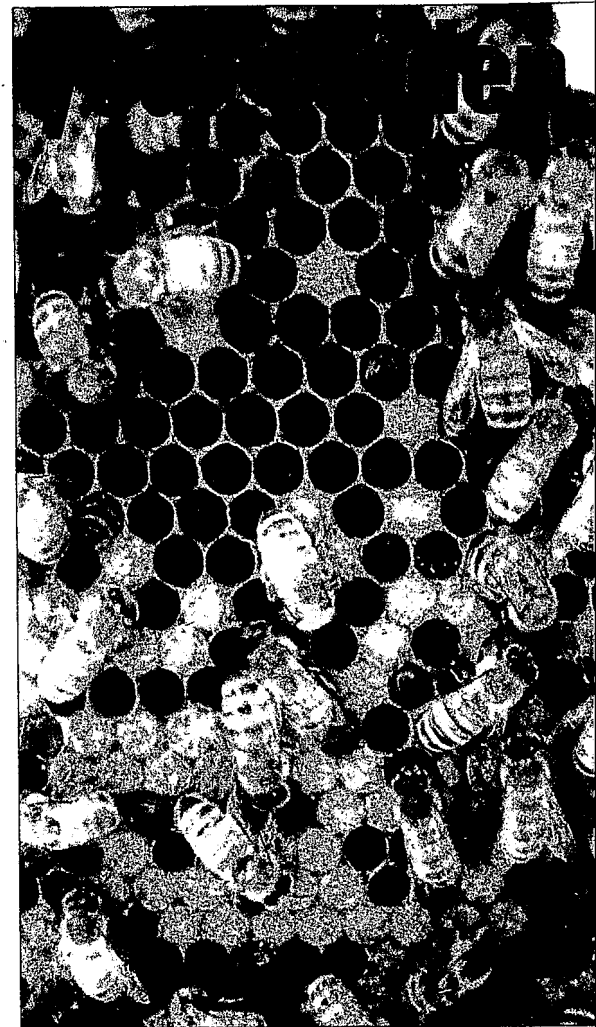
Recent data suggests the bee population is declining. This is an important time to consider attracting the bee. Many popular flower varieties are now called "hybridized". Unfortunately these flowers produce less nectar and pollen production in order to be disease resistant, leaving the plant sterile and the bee population in distress.

If you are planning to put in a vegetable garden this year, remember these simple steps to attract the bee for healthier vegetation.

Don't use pesticides - If you must use a pesticide, start with the least toxic and follow the instructions carefully.

Choose several colors of flowers to border your garden - Did you know that bees have a sharp color vision which helps them find the flowers that offer pollen and nectar. Also when possible, plant flowers in clumps of each species.

Use local native plants - This should be your first choice, you can contact your local nurseries to find the species that grow your area. While the list is not exhaustive for our area, here is just a few to pick from: Sunflower, Aster, Black-eyed Susan, English Lavender, Purple Coneflower, Lilac, Globe Thistle, Zinnia, Basil, Marjoram, Rosemary, and Lemon Balm.



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