

# The Clarkston News

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Vol. 85 No. 23 Wed., May 16, 2012

2 Sections, 40 pages 50 ¢

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## Frack plan moves forward for Bay Court

BY MARY KECK  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

When the hammer fell, Jordan Development Company Vice President Ben Brower had lease to oil, natural gas, and other mineral resources beneath Bay Court Park.

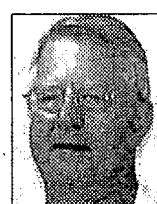
He bid \$444 for mineral leases in Independence Township, and other sites in Oakland County, for \$12 per acre during an auction in Lansing, May 8.

The rights of Independence Township and its citizens will be protected, said township Superintendent Bart Clark.

"The township will enter into this on firm ground," Clark said. "Our records indicate that we own 25 percent of what's in the ground."

The Department of Natural Resources considers Bay Court Park "non-developmental" land, so Jordan Development can't drill into the park's surface.

However, they could put a well-head nearby for lateral oil drilling or for horizontal hydraulic fracking — injecting water, sand, and chemicals into the earth to loosen then extract natural gas. The procedure is controversial. Environmentalists say it can contaminate ground water and are calling to ban the procedure in Michigan. Oil and gas companies and the state Department of Environmental Quality say it is safe.



Clark

According to Brower, Jordan Development has started contacting private landowners around the Bay Court area.

If a landowner agrees to allow drilling and minerals are discovered, they'll get a cut of the royalties. Jordan Development would also have to give Independence Township a cut of the profits.

Clark, who has headed up the research on oil and gas exploration in Bay Court, said the township's attorney recommended a thorough title search so they know what they own before moving forward.

Jordan Development of Traverse City has about 450 oil and natural gas wells in north Michigan and about 20 in the south part of the state. Brower said they don't have "a specific prospect in mind" for the Oakland County parcels.

Chris Bickley, Jordan's land agent met the Independence Township Board for discussion on May 15.

## Retailers pay to change sign law

BY MARY KECK  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

To brighten up the downtown, Clarkston Retailers Group may have to pay \$3,750 to amend the city's ordinance on illuminated signs.

Since their talk with the City Council about amending city ordinances to allow lit signs, April 9, business owners have been weighing their options.

"There's a science to retail, and light is important," said Kevin Harrison, owner of KH Home.

He placed a lit sign in his window to catch the eye of drivers passing by at night. Without a sign, Harrison says potential customers



This sign is against local sign rules, but local businesses want to change that.

won't bother to find a parking space because they won't know for certain he's open for business.

For hanging an internally lit sign, he was issued a warning letter by the city. Other retailers like Dana Fortinberry received notices for vio-

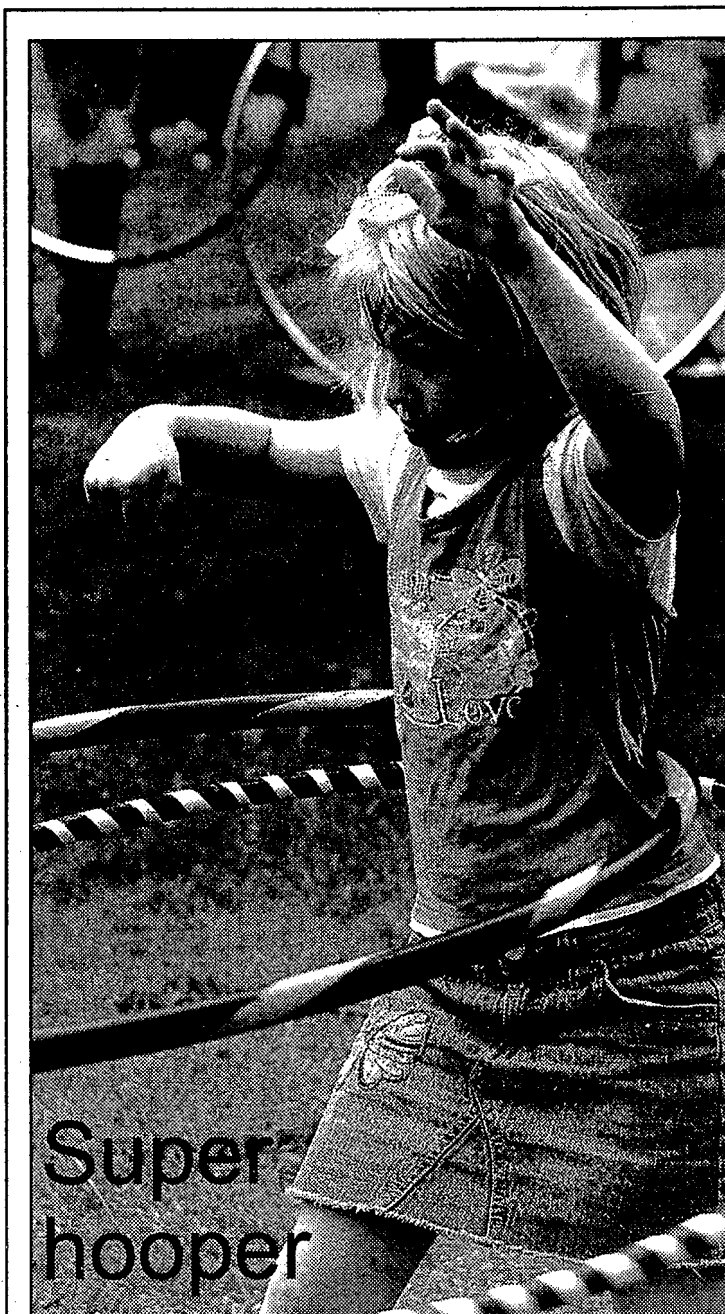
lating the ordinance too.

"There are lots of retailers and residents who are in noncompliance with ordinances, and they haven't been in compliance for years and years," said Jen Detkowski, city Planning Commission member.

For example, the letters spelling out "Rudy's" are bright, neon red. Another ordinance states holiday lights cannot be used except during the Christmas season, yet Essence on Main and Clarkston Hair Salon use holiday lights to adorn their shops.

When asked about whether or not the ordinances are being upheld

Please see Sign on page 17A



Dominique Michaelis demonstrates her skills with three hula hoops at the Independence Township Kids Day at Clintonwood Park, May 12. Photo by Wendi Reardon

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Email: shermanpub@aol.com  
Visit us on-line at: clarkstonnews.com  
Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

Jim Sherman ..... Publisher  
Don Rush ..... Asst. Publisher  
Phil Custodio ..... Editor  
Mary Keck ..... Reporter  
Wendi Reardon ..... Sports Reporter  
Cindy Burroughs ..... Ad Rep.  
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## 'He truly loved Clarkston'

# Chevrolet dealer John Bowman passes

By Don Rush

Last Friday the business of running a car dealership continued. The sun shone brightly through the walls of plate glass windows; salesmen showed new cars to customers; service continued and transactions transpired, but something was different. It hung there quietly in the air.

"Mr. B" wasn't there.

John Elden Bowan owner and president of John Bowman Chevrolet, Inc. died with his wife Sharon at his side on the morning of May 9, 2012. He was 73 years old.

Mr. Bowman died in Pontiac's St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, eight days after having a cardiac arrest at his Clarkston area home. According to family sources, the Bowmans were packing for a trip to Las Vegas that was to commence the next morning with two managers from the dealership.

According to Mr. Bowman's daughter Katie Coleman, her stepmother performed CPR and called 9-1-1.

"We are thankful she did. It was really heroic," Mrs. Coleman said, adding they family is also thankful for the care her father received while at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

Funeral Services were at Lewis E. Wint & Sons Funeral Home in Clarkston, this past weekend (please see obituary information on page B8).

\* \* \*

Mr. Bowman has been a Clarkston resident for about 10 years, but has been a part of the community since 1984. A brief story in the Nov. 28, 1984 *Clarkston News* announced his arrival.

"After 18 years, the signs at Rademacher Chevy Inc are coming down to be replaced by John Bowman Chevrolet.

"Bowman, a former Chevrolet dealer in the downriver city of Belleville, bought the dealership at the corner of M-15 and Dixie Highway, Nov. 1.

"New signs are a first priority," he said. "I heard (the dealership) was for sale and I thought Clarkston would be an excellent market. We don't anticipate any major changes, although we've hired five new people.

"We're also going to expand our used car business across the street, put up a new building and add more lights. We want to make it a more visible and viable used car operation."

Bowman is a Birmingham resident."

\* \* \*

Friends, family and employees all remembered Mr. Bowman as a very giving, fun and smart man who enjoyed reading, history and learning.

"He loved to keep up on current events. Every day he read his newspapers, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Oakland Press*, *Clarkston News*, *Detroit Free Press* and *USA Today*,"



John (left) and Sharon Bowman last October with Ed Adler at a political fundraiser at the Clarkston Mills Mall. Photo by Don Rush

his wife, Sharon, said. "He loved his family and he loved Clarkston -- the people, and the community -- he truly did. He would do whatever he could for the community as long as he *didn't* get recognition."

He supported Easter Seals, the American Red Cross and locally was a strong backer of SCAMP, Clarkston Area Youth Assistance, Angles' Place and Clarkston Community Schools.

"He always said, 'Clarkston gives to me, I wanna give back to Clarkston,'" she added.

Mrs. Bowman said her husband loved to golf and was a member at Oakhurst and Orchard Lake country clubs. "He got his first hole-in-one when he was 72," she said.

She also said, he loved his employees, and a number of them agreed.

"He was very well respected by his employees," said Julie Bradley, the dealership's secretary treasurer and 27-year employee. "We loved him dearly. He was the best employer. He was a great man. When I first met him, what impressed me most was how quickly he earned my respect. He received so much respect from us, because he gave

it." According to Rhonda Jensen, vice president of service, and 24-year employee, Mr. Bowman "wanted to be the best hometown dealer, period. That man had a vision. We all have learned so much from him. He took us under his wings and trained us to be managers and that meant treating people they way you want to be treated. If you lead by good example, others will follow."

Twenty year employee and vice president of sales, Al Hall agreed.

"Mr. B was a fantastic man. You never wanted to let him down. He wanted you to know more than just your job, he wanted you to know everything he knew. He never talked down to someone. He would let you know what he expected. If there was ever a person who didn't like Mr. B, they didn't know Mr. B," Hall said.

Hall said that Mr. Bowman thought it was important to be seen at the dealership, he loved to be at work, and was there the day of his cardiac arrest, even though earlier in the month it was announced the dealership was

Continued on Page 5A

# Advocates move forward after vote

BY PHIL CUSTODIO  
Clarkston News Editor

In the wake of the overwhelming defeat of Clarkston Schools' \$20 million bond proposal, leaders for and against called for a combined effort to improve schools.

"We need to remember what makes the Clarkston area and our schools great and come together in support of both," said Mary Herzenstiel, member of Clarkston Kids First. "I am not referring to support for the bond, just community support for continuing our legacy of being a great place to live and learn."

"More people should go to school board meetings so they can see what's going on," said Betty Reilly, member of Citizens for Responsible Intelligent Spending In Schools, CRISIS. "We need more involvement. People have a lot going on, but education of the next generation is just huge."

Residents have the responsibility to help the school board and administration identify issues critical to student success and finding ways to work those issues with the resources available, said Lawrence Matta, CRISIS member.

"Among other things, this will require re-ordering spending priorities from the general fund while at the same time identifying leaks in that fund, areas where unnecessary expenditures are occurring, and plugging those leaks," Matta said.

The school district will continue to move forward with its mission of "cultivating thinkers, learners, and positive contributors to a global society," said Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock.

"We put tremendous thought and effort into this bond," Rock said. "Our task from the beginning was to enhance learning opportunities for our 8,000 students. Our task remains, regardless of the outcome of the bond."

Technology updates will happen, he said.

"We will have to find ways to update our technology and capital assets," he said. "The questions are how soon, which ones, and how to finance them."

The campaign leading up to the vote was contentious, with several signs reported stolen by both sides.

Also, some "vote yes" signs were spray painted "no," parent volunteers and children supporting the bond at polling places said they were shouted at and called names, and they received an email with an obscenity directed at supporters, said Kelli Horst.

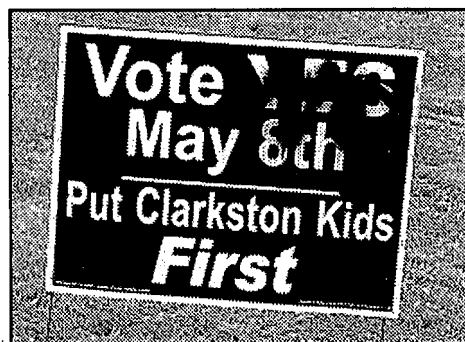
"They disrespected our children and our community," Horst said.

"That disappoints me, it makes me angry," Herzenstiel said. "The population did not want what was offered — that's part of democracy. My kids are disappointed, but voters had their say. But it's not right to have to explain the yelling and defacing signs."

CRISIS members weren't responsible for



A pontoon boat moored in Deer Lake presents a happy face "vote no" message. Photo by Phil Custodio



Someone spraypainted "no" on top of "vote yes" signs, such as this on outside Bailey Lake Elementary. Photo provided

any of that, but bond supporters should have realized how much the community opposed it, said Michael Powell, CRISIS supporter.

"It's too bad the administration and the 'yes' group didn't go out into the community to see if others could afford their extravagance before considering another tax hike," Powell said. "They could have saved taxpayers thousands of dollars for an investment that yielded a negative return."

The special election, May 8, cost the school district \$35,000.

"It should have come as no surprise to anyone that a huge majority of the public would vote this proposal down," Powell said. "Hopefully they have learned that if they don't talk to, or listen to the public, they will continue to be embarrassed at the polls."

No one should have taken or destroyed signs, Reilly said.

"Everybody needs to show respect," Reilly said. "Our side isn't totally right and the other side isn't totally wrong. That's not the way this country does things."

CRISIS plans to keep active in the educational community and will work to promote and support the election of board members who promote a completely transparent school district and administration, Powell said.

"A good deal of gratitude is in order for the volunteers, donors and voters who sup-

## Bond requests over the years

The 2012 \$20 million school bond request joins a list of bond issues over the past 25 years, including:

- 2003 — \$83 million bond issue for capital improvements;
- 1997 — \$57.6 million school bond to build Independence Elementary;
- 1995 — \$52 million school bond to build a new Clarkston High School;
- 1993 — \$16.1 million school bond for construction of Springfield Plains Elementary; and
- 1988 — \$5.2 million school bond for building renovation, approved after two failed attempts in 1987.

ported the effort in the firm belief that there is a better alternative," Matta said.

Horst said Clarkston Kids First will continue in spirit.

"We are grateful to the volunteers, supporters and voters who shared our positive message of putting Clarkston's kids first," she said. "It may not happen as quickly as it would have had the outcome of the election been different, but it will happen. We are inspired by the administration's vision, and will continue to work together as parents, teachers and citizens to ensure it comes to fruition."

"I wish to express my sincere gratitude to those who worked tirelessly to put this issue before the voters," Rock said. "These people demonstrated tremendous energy, vision, and belief in the district's vision."

Residents voted 5,755-2,945 against the proposed \$20 million school bond. Voter turnout was 26.8 percent. In the May 2009 school board election, turnout was 8.89 percent. In May 2007, school election turnout was 6.76 percent.

Clarkston Community Schools asked voters to approve a one-mill property tax increase for a non-qualified bond, half for wireless Internet, tablet computers for students and teachers, and other technology, and the rest for parking lot, utilities, building improvements, and other capital projects.

## Briefly

### Community awards

Clarkston Community Church hosts the 27th Annual Clarkston Community Awards Breakfast, 7:30-9 a.m., Thursday, May 17, at the church, 6300 Clarkston Road.

Awards include Citizen of the Year, Youth of the Year, Adult-Youth Volunteer, Business Person of the Year, Community Beautification, Community Enhancement, and Community Collaboration.

For more information, call 248-625-1323.

### Relay for Life

Dozens of Relay for Life teams from around the community will have games, food, and other fund-raising activities at Clarkston Junior High School, 6595 Waldon Road, this weekend.

The 24-hour Clarkston Relay for Life kicks off at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 19. It also features live music and entertainment as walkers fill the track, honoring cancer survivors as well as those lost to the disease.

### Memorial Day parade

American Legion Post 63 leads the Memorial Day parade through downtown Clarkston to Lakeview Cemetery, 10 a.m., Monday, May 28. Ceremony follows at the cemetery at 10:30 a.m.

Legion members will also be distributing veteran-handmade poppies, May 17-19. Watch for red poppies in downtown Clarkston, Clarkston-area Krogers, and Bueches in Ortonville to help veterans in need.

### Angels Awards

Clarkston residents Elizabeth Fante and Phyllis Solmen will be honored with Angels Awards at the 30th Annual MORC Caregiver Appreciation Day, 9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 17, at the Palazzo Grande Banquet Center, 54660 Van Dyke Avenue, in Shelby Township.

The Macomb-Oakland Regional Center (MORC), a nonprofit human services agency based in Auburn Hills and Clinton Township, will honor 10 caregivers with the award, an "Angels" jacket, and a check for \$250. Call 248-276-8109.

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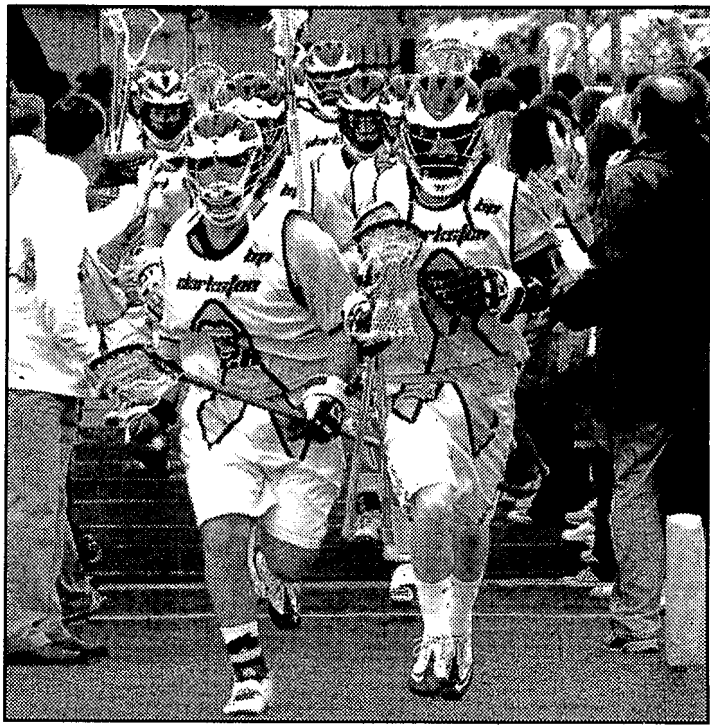
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Brandon Deatherage, from Wolves Varsity B Lacrosse team, blocks Oxford from getting the ball.



The Wolves Varsity A Lacrosse takes to the field.

# Games for a cause

Lacrosse teams from Clarkston and surrounding areas joined together on Saturday for the annual Game for a Cure.

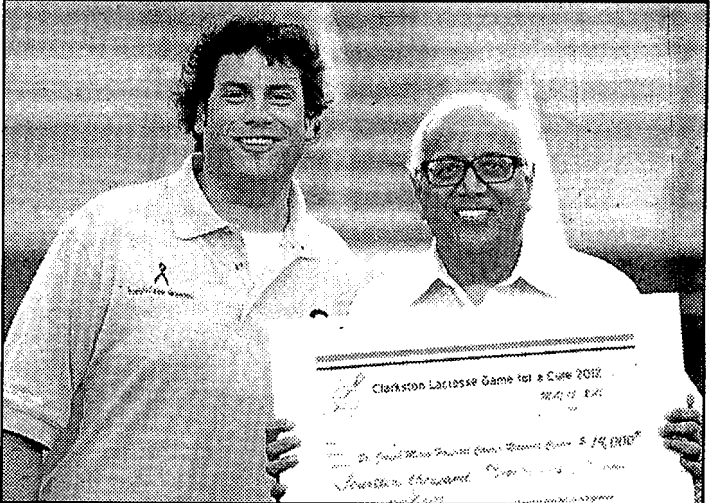
Money raised from T-shirts, bake sales and donations went to cancer research at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac.

The event raised \$14,000.

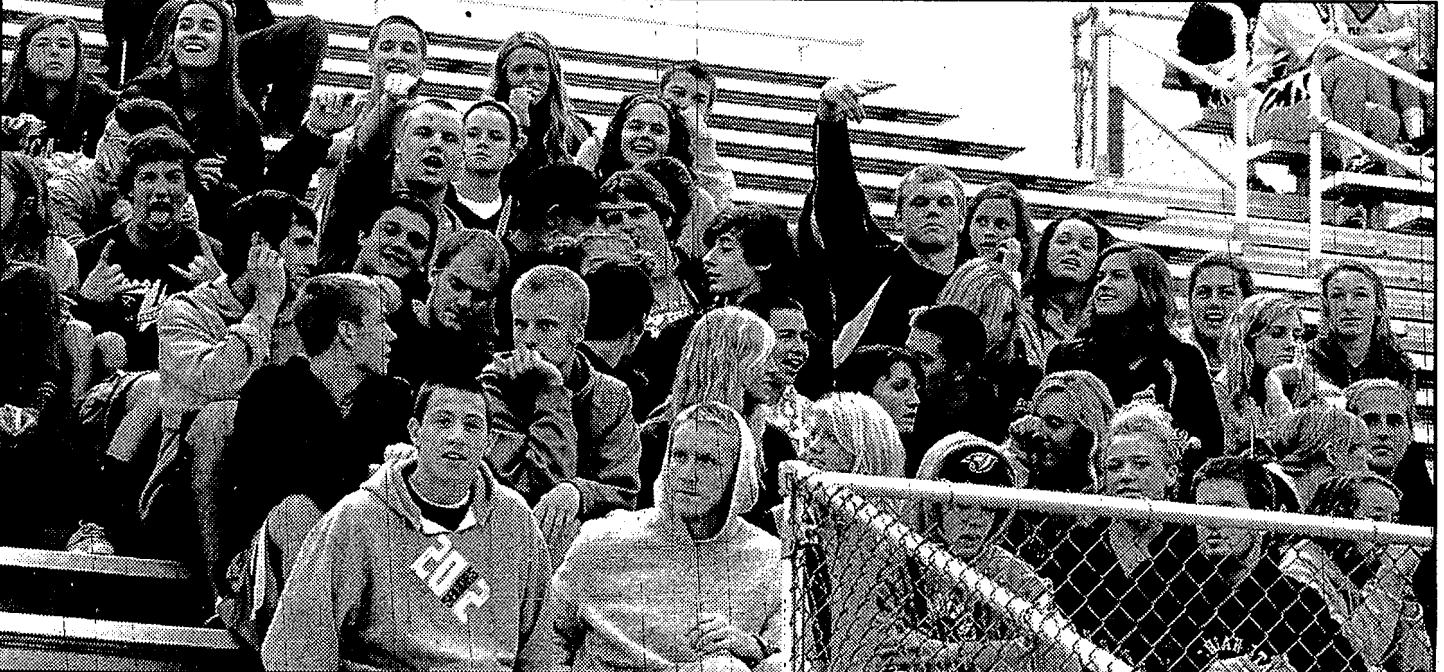
"It is terrific," said Brian Kaminskis, head coach for the

Clarkston Boys Varsity Lacrosse A team. "We did \$9,000 last year. We sold over 1,000 T-shirts this year. It is something new to see the community come out even in the bad weather and the rain. Not just Clarkston but surrounding communities had a strong desire to be involved."

The event also included youth tournaments.



Dr. Rajan Krishnan, right, from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital accepts a check for \$14,000 from Brian Kaminskis.



Fans cheer on the Wolves as they play against Lake Orion. Photos by Wendi Reardon

# Bowman always cared for others

Continued from page 2A

turned over to his daughter, Katie. "He would beat most of the salespeople in," Hall said.

\* \* \*

His daughter Katie said her father will be remembered as the "consummate small business owner. He loved the car business and he loved his employees. He was a very caring man, a wonderful father, grandfather, husband and friend."

Mr. Bowman, she said, started his entrepreneurial ways by first owning a "couple of gas stations."

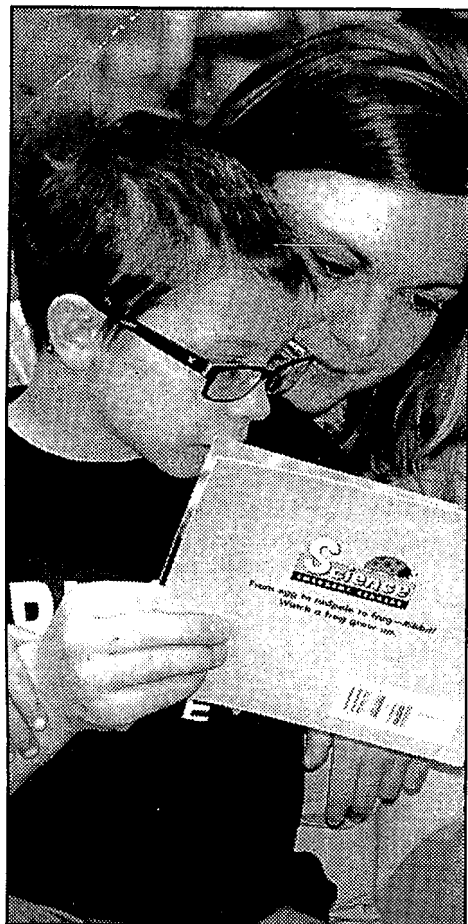
"He liked the idea of being a dealer and one of his friends, Joe Lunghammer, sponsored him at Mathew Hargraves Chevrolet," she said. "He worked without pay for a short period to learn the business."

His first dealership, the one downriver, was called John Elden Chevrolet. "Dad's

middle name is Elden," Mrs. Coleman explained.

After he sold that dealership, he worked as a stock broker in Bloomfield Hills, she said.

Since this past January, Mrs. Coleman has been in charge of the dealership's operations. "Bowman Chevrolet will continue to support this community and I will honor and follow in my father's footsteps in running this business."

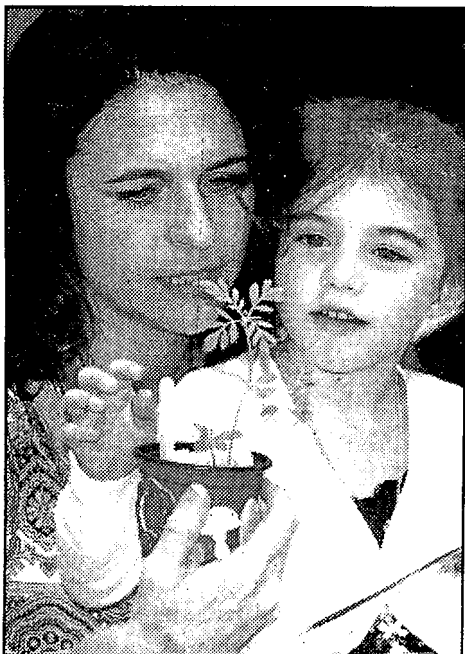


Gavin Lumetta reads with his mom.

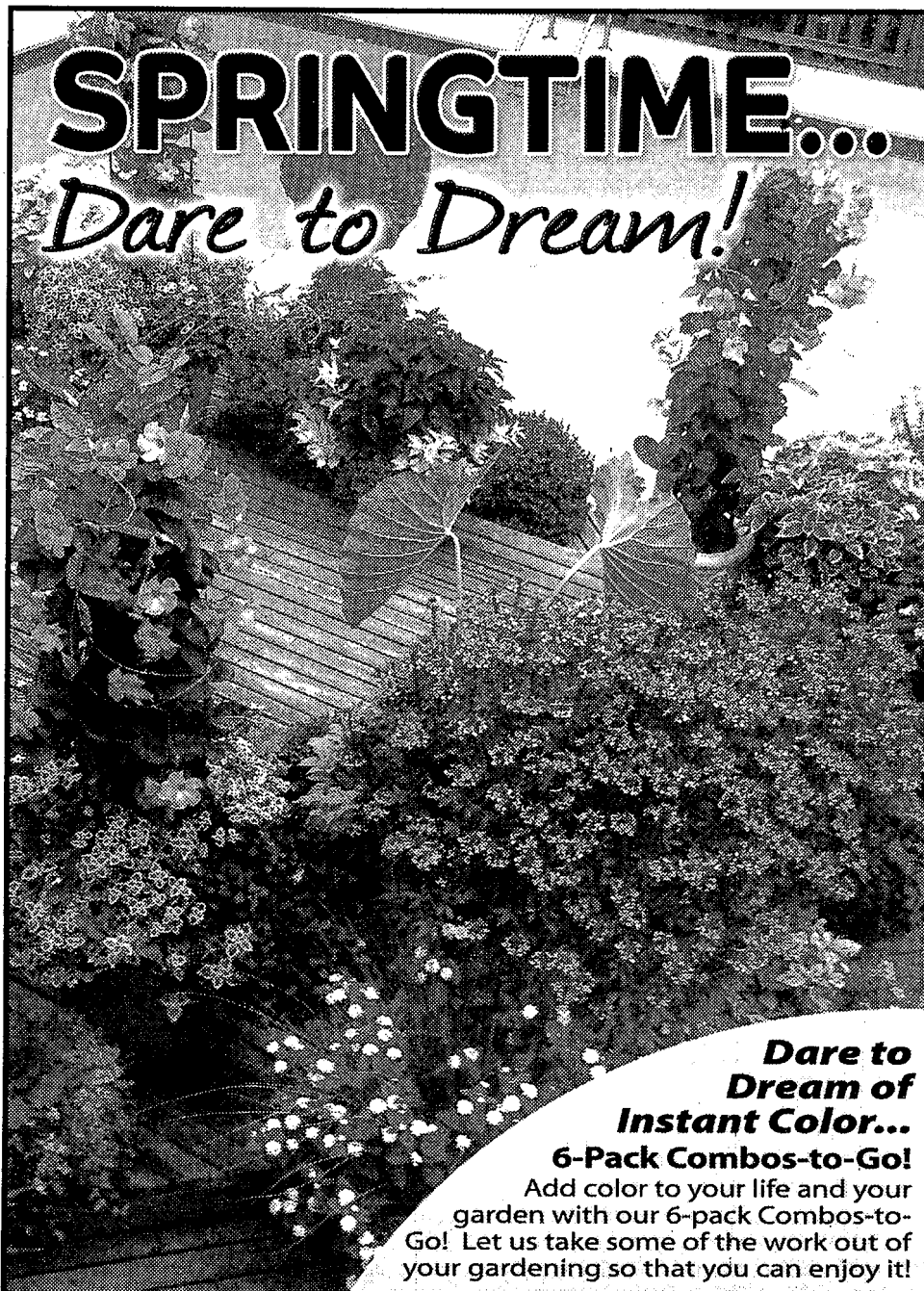
## Celebrating mothers

Kindergartners at Springfield Plains Elementary invited their mothers and grandmothers to tea last Thursday.

Along with tea, the students sang songs, read books with their loved ones and gave hugs and kisses.



Ashlynn Brooks gives her mom a plant during the tea. Photos by WAR



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## Wild Ideas

A column by Mary Keck

# Green thumb connection

My mom, who lives a few hours away in Indianapolis, planted the seed of my love for gardening.

Even in the smallest plot, my mom can find a way to grow something beautiful.

It's because of her that I can't walk by a bed of daisies or hyacinths without commenting on their lovely blooms.

If I see a flower that's unfamiliar, I can ask my mom for help identifying it, and each spring we talk about what's growing in our gardens.

Since I couldn't be with my mom, it seemed appropriate to spend Mother's Day building a nest for my veggies and herbs.

My husband and I started by laying out the groundwork for a raised bed gardening system. We're trying out raised beds for the first time and hoping to plant the usual suspects like broccoli, beans, tomatoes, peppers, and lettuce.

In our previous gardens, we've just dropped the seeds or plants into the tilled dirt already available, which offered varied results.

On the other hand, my mother-in-law's raised bed garden looks spectacular every season, and she's got plenty of vegetables and flowers to share.

According to a copy of Organic Gardening I picked up at the library's book sale a couple of weeks ago, raised beds are the best cradles for growing greens.

The Vegetable Gardener's Bible also recommends them because you're guaranteed to know what's in the soil. In previous gardens, I dropped my baby plants into unknown dirt that may have contained weed seeds or chemicals.

By using raised beds, I know exactly what's in my soil, and an enclosed bed system should also provide protection from weeds and critters.

After finishing our veggie beds on Sunday, I called my mom, and we talked gardens.

There may be many miles between my mother and I, but when I'm working out my green thumb, she doesn't feel so far away.

As I wait for my little sprouts to break through the ground and stretch toward the sun, I'll keep my mom (and you) posted on my raised bed experiment.



# Work together now to fix schools

Now that voters' views are clear, school leaders and residents must work together to improve local education.

Last week's lopsided vote, 5,755-2,945 against, show this hasn't been happening.

School district leaders worked hard to present their case for approving a one-mill property tax increase for a \$20 million non-qualified bond, but they didn't check with voters first to see if they would support it.

That must change as we move forward. The plan to reform classrooms with tab-

let computers for students and teachers is impressive and the way of the future, and school roofs, boilers, and other capital projects still need doing.

So school leaders, reach out to the community to see what partnerships and resources are available. Residents and business leaders, reach out to the school board and administration to see what you can do to make it happen.

With taxes off the table for the moment, this is an opportunity to get together and make it work.

## Editorial

# Rain gardens provide green example

Dear Editor,\*

For those of us who are thinking Green for our community and environment, I would recommend a visit to the two rain gardens created in Clarkston.

The main one is found at Depot Park where many native Michigan plants have been established to control water run-off and improve the area.

These gardens are the work of a local group, The Wild Ones, who are working to expand the use and expansion of native plants.

I encourage folks to visit the rain garden and look into the Wild Ones' efforts to improve our green spaces.

*Jim Reed  
Independence Township*

# A call to elect Wallace as supervisor

Dear Editor,

This is a very important election year - not only at the national level but locally as well. I'm tired of the lack of transparency and shady township dealings of the past. It's time for a breath of fresh air. It's time for Neil Wallace for Independence Township supervisor!

If you're like me, you are busy living your life. You expect your local government officials to ask probing questions in order to make prudent decisions before spending your hard-earned tax dollars.

At the Township Board meetings I've attended or watched on public access TV, I've

noticed that Neil Wallace does just that. He asks the questions that I would ask and insists on facts before making a decision.

I consider these to be qualities of a good public steward. As an engineer, I appreciate someone who is data-driven with an inquisitive mind.

Neil is well respected and has been active in the community for many years. In my book, it's Neil Wallace for Independence Township supervisor. I'm voting Wallace in the Aug. 7 primary.

*Sharon Dudzinski  
Independence Township*

# More support for Wallace candidacy

Dear Editor,

In the upcoming August 7, 2012 primary, Township voters will hopefully reject the apparent clone of finally departing, with full benefits, Supervisor David Wagner.

Candidate Todd Waring, with virtually no previous community involvement, boasts of endorsements by bombastic politician Mark Pettersen and the same developer interests who have consistently supported Dave Wagner. We do not need a four year extension of the failed Wagner administration.

Of particular interest is the endorsement of Todd Waring by wealthy non-resident developer Ed Adler who sold the overpriced Township Hall to this community without taxpayer approval. Does Mr. Adler have another mostly vacant building he is trying to unload on us and needs a new Mr. Inside?

For township supervisor, I will be voting for current Trustee Neil Wallace. Unlike others running for office, Neil has demonstrated his commitment to this community not only as a two-term township trustee but through his multi-year involvement in several local organizations which serve our citizens.

Neil Wallace's unquestioned integrity, comprehensive preparation for meetings and consistent goal to do what is right for the community makes him by far the best candidate for township supervisor.

I urge citizens interested in having experienced, knowledgeable, dedicated people ready to start work on Day One of the new term to elect Neil Wallace as township supervisor.

*Henry Woloson  
Independence Township*

## A Look Back

From The CNews archives

### 15 years ago - 1997

**"Spanning the globe"** Sarah Maesch of Clarkston, 11, won a \$5,000 grant for her school with her drawing of the state of Michigan. Her drawing was painted on Northwest's WorldPlane 747. The airplane was set for a tour of the world, decorated with her and other winners' artwork.

**"Gone Hollywood"** Sarah Smith, Clarkston High School Class of 1995, went to California to pursue an acting career, landing parts as a dancer in "Batman and Robin" and "Austin Powers, International Man of Mystery" films, and "Third Rock from the Sun" television episode. She met George Clooney, and thought he would make good Batman.

### 25 years ago - 1987

**"Clarkston tops Cougars twice"** Clarkston's ninth grade baseball team came out with its hitting shoes on May 7, and the result was a double-header sweep of host Sashabaw.

**"Campaign counts for coordinators"** Two dozen parents gathered to coordinate a 4.25 mill school tax increase campaign, for a total millage of 8.04 mills. They had charts from the Michigan Department of Education ranking Clarkston 27th out of 28 public school districts in Oakland County in revenue per pupil, and 20th for present millage levied.

**"Sesquicentennial treat"** Nicholas McCormack, Anthony Knakal, Heather Hunter, Andy Miller and other Bailey Lake Elementary students performed in a musical program honoring the state of Michigan's 15-year birthday.

### 50 years ago - 1962

**"New Calvary Lutheran Church under construction"** Pastor Paul A. Johns, Martin Gustafson, Mrs. William Sharpe, Robert Krick, Charles Schlutow, Leslie Purslow and John E. Evans gathered in an open field to break ground on the new church. The congregation was meeting at Clarkston Elementary pending construction.

**"Dresses needed"** The Oakland County TB Sanitarium was in need of girls' dresses from infant size through 10 years.

**"Local news"** A surprise was in store for Mrs. Charles Alexander of Clarkston, when friends arrived with a birthday cake baked by Mrs. Nick Nicholas. Others were Mrs. Alfred Irlene and Mrs. Jean Sabat. The afternoon was pleasantly spent with a game of Pinochle.

# The bases are loaded, and I'm at the plate

In France last week, voters put the socialist party into leadership. The new president Hollande said to stimulate the economy he'll hire more people to work for the government and spend more money. Thus more government ownership.

That's socialism.

Our current government's leadership is doing the same thing: enlarging government payrolls, spending more than it takes in.

Our leaders in Washington today call it "democracy."

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• Some go to school to become a wit, but I only got half way.

• "I did not attend his funeral, but I wrote a nice letter saying I approved of it." Mark Twain

• An emergency medical crew in New York once rushed an abandoned bag of spaghetti to the hospital after they mistook it for a fetus.

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Isn't the AARP just another insurance and investment selling outfit?

Several years ago, when I believed their purpose was strictly to promote good things for the aging, I gave

them a few bucks for stocks they were pushing.

After a few years I heard the name of the brokerage firm they invested my money with. I contacted them and found I could invest my money directly with them at a lower cost.

## Jim's Jottings



a column by Jim Sherman

ness."

A haircut there costs \$20. Sen. Fitzgerald, of Illinois, says he pays \$12 back home including tip. Senate stylists at Capitol Barber, three blocks away from the Senate, made \$22,000 to \$30,000 last year with no benefits.

I used to wish the American Association for Retired People would take me off their mailing list, but now I rejoice in throwing their come-ons and credit cards away.

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From the May 2012 *American Legion* magazine.

Our U. S. Senate barbershop ran a nearly \$330,000 deficit last year. It had to be bailed out by an "infusion from Senate coffers that is keeping it in business."

At the Senate Hair Care Services shop four barbers made more than twice that - \$54,761, \$70,349, \$73,658 and \$81,641 -- plus they have a generous 401(k) plan, health care and paid vacation. In all the government contributed \$230,000 in benefits to the Senate Hair Care Services shop.

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• Glad to see Generation America come along to compete with AARP.

• The CIA has suggested agents be given classes in ethics. Don't stop there. Expand it to political candidates and office holders.

• I had a strong yen for pulled pork recently, and when I didn't see it in the deli counter, I bought some pre-packaged, off-the-shelf pulled pork. My yen quickly evaporated.

• How can our utility companies give franchises to companies that will offer their services cheaper than they do? I think I'm on their robo-call list. You too?

• I was scammed out of several hundred dollars a few years ago, and that feeling returns when I see those "buy gold, it has never been worth nothing" ads.

## To all the cars I've loved before...

So, it was this past Friday, I found myself tooling around town, from Clarkston to Oxford, downtown Orion, back to Clarkston and up to Ortonville and finally Goodrich, when I noticed something. I moved my eyebrows up in my ever-expanding forehead and it felt a little tight. I peeked into the rearview mirror and, dang.

I had a sunburn.

I am gonna have to buy a little tube of sunblock for traveling.

Sweet!

It has been years since I've had a vehicle which lets the elements - sunshine and wind - into the driver's compartment. I've missed that. And, while current Rushmobile merely sports a moonroof (which is not as good as no roof), it is better than not having a moonroof (or sunroof, whatever that is).

This whole line of thought got me waxing fondly about all the cars I've loved before. Those wonderful summer days (fall days, and sometimes relatively warm, sunny winter days) with the top down, wind in my hair. Just for the heck of it, on summer

days, (top down) I would take as many side roads as I could and just head north from Oakland County into Lapeer. Just to drive. Dusk was the best. Like my father before I'm a ragtop man, and unlike what it cost to fuel cars these days, at something under a buck a gallon, I was all in.

## Don't Rush Me



A column by Don Rush

another synapses.

"Let's see. My first car wasn't mine, but Mom and Dad's - 1972 pumpkin orange Vega Kamback with the torpedo whole in the driver's side fender," I thought.

The list of vehicles I considered mine, followed: faded blue 1974 C-10 pickup truck, with a straight six, three on the tree (which I put on the floor) and a front

seat of a 1968 GMC pickup truck (which meant the seat just sat in there and wiggled around with every turn and quick stop); the red 1967 Cutlass Supreme convertible, with a 442 Rocket engine dropped in for fun, four barrels, and dual exhaust used to fit about a dozen people.

When the Cutlass crapped out I downgraded to a low-ended, high-miled mustard yellow 1977 Chrysler Cordoba (no rich Corinthian leather interior, either); then my first bank loan purchased a shiny black 1983 Dodge 600 convertible, complete with red pinstripes and red leather interior which I drove into the ground.

The Dodge was followed successively by new red, Pontiac Sunbirds (1988 and 1992); a beautiful black 1994 Jeep Wrangler (the last year before Chrysler "chicked-them-out" and made the interiors nice, rather than Spartan-like. When kids came into my life the Jeep was family like, so the new ride was a 1998 Saturn station wagon (teal-colored - don't ask).

The 1999 Racing Sonoma pickup lasted for seven years until 2011.

Today's ride is a 2008 Ford Escape (with the afore mentioned moonroof).

After the list unfolded inside my mind, another thought, a memory of a comment actually came into focus. "Why do men remember all their cars," asked an obviously non-male gendered person.

Why, indeed?

Why do we of the broad shoulders and strong backs remember our vehicles when we easily forget to pick up our discarded and dirty socks off the floor?

Ladies? Gentlemen?

What is the answer - how can this be?

I, for what it's worth, think it's pretty simple: cars are far more interesting than socks. Two words, "selective memory."

Let me know what you think. Email me, Don@ShermanPublications.org with your thoughts, and please remind me to buy some sunblock for the road, because as a man I will forget.

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## Burns at park to curb shrubs

BY MARY KECK  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

If you've driven near the intersection of Sashabaw and Oak Hill road recently, you may have noticed some burnt trees and shrubs in Independence Oaks North. That's because on March 17 and April 2, Dave Borneman LLC and the Parks and Recreation department started a controlled fire there to destroy invasive species.

They hoped to reduce the number of Autumn Olive, Spotted Knapweed, and Oriental Bittersweet, which "form monocultures and crowd native plants," said Natural Resources Planner Brittany Bird.

According to Bird, the invasive species targeted in the Independence Oaks North burn "are little to no value" for wildlife in the area because the shrubs aren't used for nesting and don't provide fruit that local animals would eat.

Although the burned section may be an eyesore now, Bird said, "the area will start greening up soon, but the pines will likely not recover."

If the invasive plants return, Parks and Rec will try chemical control, drilling into the plants and injecting them with herbicides or cutting them down and putting herbicides like Glyphosate and Triclopyr into their stumps, said Bird.

These herbicides wouldn't be all that different from weed killers like Roundup, Rodeo, or Garlon that can be purchased at the store, she explained.

Glyphosate, an ingredient in Roundup, was patented and produced by the agriculture company Monsanto as a weed killer, but researchers have found levels of Glyphosate in U.S. air and water. As a result of concerns about groundwater pollution and negative health effects of Glyphosate on wildlife and humans, environmentalists formed Millions Against Monsanto Michigan group.

"We try to use aquatic safe versions so we apply product in a form that is safe for the water. Any runoff will have the lowest impact possible," Bird explained. "We've never had any collateral kill or damage to wildlife" as a result of using chemicals.

Staff at the park will follow-up the controlled burn "with photo monitoring and do visual assessments," to determine if the burn "achieved shrub kill," she said.

They are hoping this portion of Independence Oaks will transform into a native grassland area for deer, small mammals, butterflies, and grassland birds like hawks in the future.



**WRECK IN THE RAIN:** Four cars were damaged in two rear-end collisions, 4:15 p.m., May 9, on M-15 north of I-75. Only one vehicle needed to be towed and no one was seriously injured. Photo by Mary Keck

# Public Safety

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

## Sentence for tax evasion

Andrew Robert Stanley, 44, formerly of Clarkston but now residing in Monroe, N.Y., was sentenced to 21 months in prison and a year of supervised release for willfully failing to file his 2004-2008 federal income tax returns, United States Attorney Barbara L. McQuade announced. In addition, United States Magistrate Judge Mona K. Majzoub ordered Stanley to pay a special assessment of \$125 and restitution to the Internal Revenue Service of \$259,379. Stanley pleaded guilty to five counts of failing to file personal tax returns in October 2011. According to court records, Stanley worked in Michigan as a private asphalt paver, 2004-2008. He earned over \$950,000 but didn't file federal income tax returns nor pay over \$259,379 in taxes.

## Thefts

An ATV was taken from the backyard of a home in the 8000 block of Reese Road, April 27. The key had been left in the ignition.

Someone took the center wheel caps from a vehicle parked in the 6000 block of Pine Needle Court, April 29.

## Discarded pistol found

An Ortonville Road resident was doing yard work when he discovered a rusty pistol, 3:56 p.m., April 29. He turned it over to deputies, who ran it through the Law Enforcement Information Network and found it had been reported stolen in a home invasion in Flint.

## Driving with marijuana

A deputy on patrol ran the license plate of a vehicle in front of him on Dixie Highway, 12:12 a.m., May 4, and found the driver, a 21-year-old Independence Township man, had a suspended license. Stopping him, the officer found he also smelled of marijuana. He was cited for possession of marijuana and driving with a suspended license.

## Committed due to threats

Deputies talked a 21-year-old Springfield Township resident into dropping a knife and giving up after he threatened his family, police, and himself, 8:24 p.m., May 6. He called 911 with threats of violence, including setting off a bomb, and neighbors also called 911 when he exited his house, making more threats. He was committed for psychiatric evaluation at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

## Burglary suspect caught

A deputy on patrol checked out a suspicious vehicle parked near 7077 Oak Meadows Drive, 6:43 a.m., May 6. The driver, a 40-year-old Pontiac man, fled on foot. He matched the description of a break-in suspect in the 6000 block of Sashabaw Road earlier that evening. Sheriff's K-9 tracked the suspect about a half mile to a field in the 8000 block of Big Lake in Springfield Township, where he was found, arrested, and jailed.

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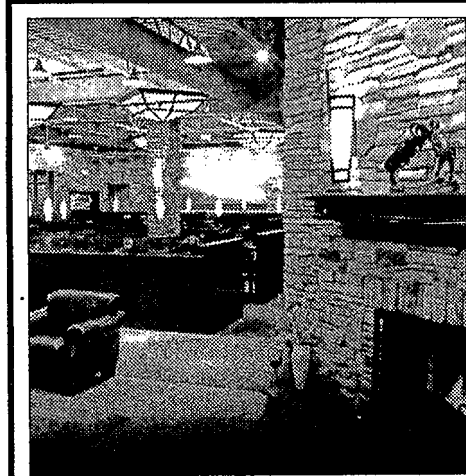
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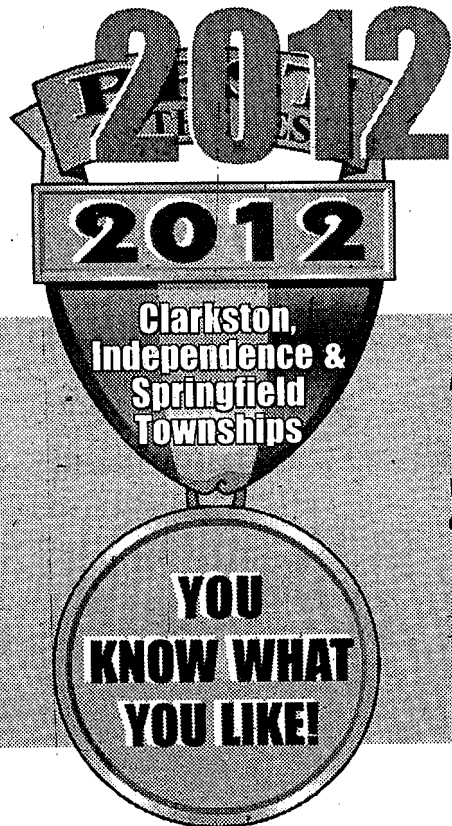


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# Hitters sink Captains

BY WENDI REARDON  
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Wolves proved they only needed one inning to get a win as they exited the field behind Waterford Kettering High School last Friday.

During the top of the seventh inning in their first game against the Captains, the Wolves kept the bases loaded as they closed in on their opponent's 4-1 lead.

After the Clarkston tied the score from senior Jack Forsten's visit to the plate, a hit from senior Dylan Peck brought one runner in and the boys into the lead. Off the next two batters, Clarkston added two more runs to secure the lead.

Freshman DJ Zezula's hit sent the ball deep into centerfield. As Kettering scrambled to get the ball, Peck and sophomore Ryan Rea ran home to bring the score, 9-4.

"I was pretty happy," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Baseball Head Coach Phil Price. "We play every inning and didn't give up. It was nice to see them come back. I like how our guys compete."

Peck hit 2-for-4 and sophomore Alex Peck hit 2-for-3, both had one RBI. Zezula hit 1-for-3 for two RBIs.

Sophomore David Steward was the winning pitcher for six innings, giving up four runs and had eight strikeouts for his first varsity team.

"We brought David up from the JV team," Price added. "He did really well."

During the second game, the Wolves took the lead in the first inning with three runs and secured the win after scoring six runs in the sixth inning. They won the game 11-3.

Forsten hit 3-for-5 for three runs scored, junior Nick Mazzone hit 2-for-4 with two runs scored.

Zezula was the winning pitcher for five and a third innings and gave up two runs and struck out five hitters.

"I was happy with how David and DJ pitched and they did some good things," Price said. "It was nice to see. I was impressed with how they played. Defensively we did a nice job during the game. Dylan did a great job catching. Kyle Savoie caught the first game, he did a really nice job. It was good to see all the guys step up and do well."

The Wolves headed to Oxford last Wednesday and split the double header. They won the first game 11-4. Mazzone hit 3-for-4 with one RBI, sophomore Sean Martens hit 1-for-3 and had two RBIs. Alex Peck pitched four innings and had four strikeouts.

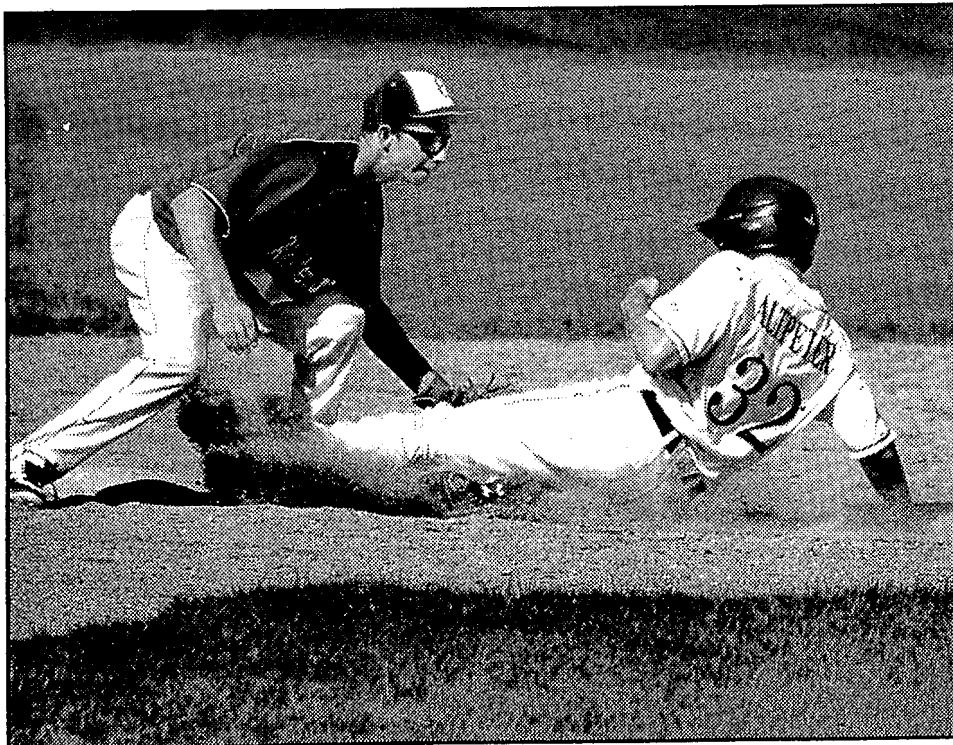
The boys lost the second game, 8-3. Forsten hit 2-for-3 and had one RBI. Junior Jordan Cox pitched for four and a third innings. He gave up two runs and struck out one batter.

The Wolves play double headers against Rochester, on Wednesday, and Lahser, on Thursday, at home beginning at 4 p.m.

"We played and beat Rochester before," Price said. "But they just split with Lake Orion so they have gotten better. It should be interesting."

They host the Nathan Manuel Memorial on Saturday and will play Cranbrook and Linden. The tournament begins at 10 a.m.

"Hopefully it will be a great weekend," Price said, adding weather forecast looks sunny for the day.



Zach Alpeter slides into second in the Wolves first game against Waterford Kettering. Photo by Wendi Reardon

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



## Sisters set the curve

BY WENDI REARDON  
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Madeline and Gabrielle Maday share a passion for softball - a passion leading both to no-hitter games, May 5.

Madeline, a freshman at Clarkston Junior High School, pitched her no-hitter against Farmington Hills Harrison for Clarkston Girls Varsity Softball during the Michigan Stars tournament.

The right handed pitcher had 15 strikeouts relying on her curveball and screwball.

"I was feeling really good and pitching really well," she smiled. "My team was doing an awesome job backing me up. I didn't realize it until the end. It was a big moment for me because I am a freshman on a varsity team and I feel like I have to prove myself."

Gabrielle, a Clarkston Elementary fifth-grader, received the news her sister pitched a no-hitter and was inspired.

"I was really excited," she said. "I wanted to get one, too."

Gabrielle went into the championship game at the Hawks Invitational confident and ready to help her ICE-Black 10U

team with their victory and to succeed with her goal.

"She was doing really well," Madeline smiled. "I thought 'oh my gosh, she is going to get it.'"

Gabrielle, a left-handed pitcher, struck out nine hitters and used her curveball and rise ball against the Hawks, to keep her team undefeated in the tournament.

"It was really cool we both got a chance to shine on the same day with a sport we both love," said Madeline.

"Everyone was saying 'oh my gosh, the Maday sisters are on fire,'" Gabrielle added. "It showed you can do something when you worked so hard to get."

Both added softball is in their blood - their mom, aunt and cousins played and their grandfather is not only their pitching instructor but coached for college and high school teams. They plan to continue playing as long as they can.

Though they are working on different techniques in their pitching they help each other.

"Before games she will help me warm up and she knows the things I have been working on," added Gabrielle.

  
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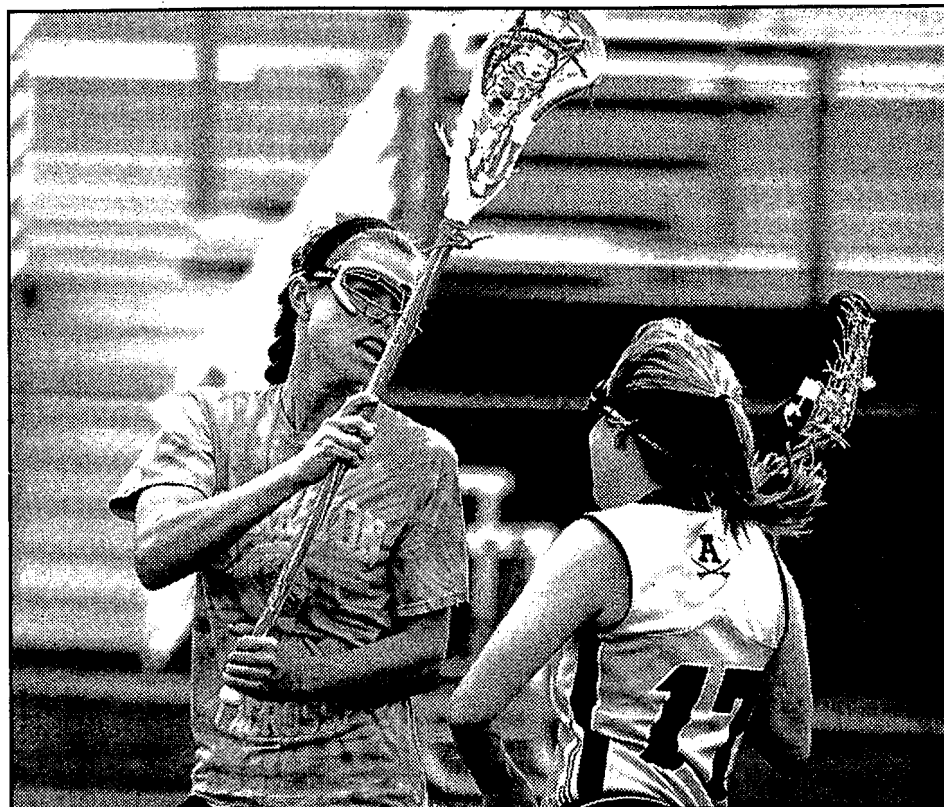
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- Relay For Life happens just once a year in our community, yet the fight is a 365-day fight because cancer never sleeps. Together we can fight back against a disease that has taken too much.
- Relay For Life is a life-changing event that brings together more than 4 million people nationwide.
- Relay For Life is a fun, family friendly event. The event provides an opportunity for a family to rally around a cause while spending time with loved ones.

Anyone interested in learning more about Relay For Life should contact Dree Chartier at 248-884-8429 or Teresa Wynn at 248-766-1342

Relay For Life & Clarkston  
[www.RelayForLife.org](http://www.RelayForLife.org)



Anna Gray blocks Rochester Adams from crossing into Clarkston territory.  
Photo by Wendi Reardon

# Winning for Ryan

BY WENDI REARDON  
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The gray ribbons in the hair of each Lady Wolf portrayed their thoughts as they headed into their game against Rochester Adams on Saturday afternoon.

They wore the ribbons for Ryan Kennedy, a fourth grader at North Sashabaw Elementary with brain cancer. They were focused in their goal to win the game for him.

They did as they took the Lady Highlanders by storm to win 17-6 during the annual Game for a Cure event.

"I am sure it would mean a lot to him," said junior Lauren Sharkey. "The gray represents Ryan."

"The girls told me about Ryan," added Clarkston Girls Varsity Lacrosse Head Coach Stephanie Dellinger. "The win was for him and his family."

With their mission in mind Sharkey led the attack scoring three goals the first four minutes of the game.

"That is what she does," Dellinger added. "We rely on Steph (Dellinger) to draw possession and move the ball down the field. Lauren is quick and has great speed. They work in tandem to get the ball down the field."

Clarkston kept the pace going with a team effort to score eight more goals before the first half closed. The Lady Highlanders only got one goal in during the first half putting the score, 11-1.

"We came out really strong and played really hard," Sharkey added. "We worked on the ball and pushed. We didn't give up."

Sharkey scored another goal only seconds after Dellinger grabbed the ball from faceoff to open the second half.

Junior Madeline Maguire scored 45 seconds later keeping a wide distance on the scoreboard.

The girls kept Adams to five goals in the last half as they scored four more.

"It was a good win for us," coach added. "We only let in six goals today which is really great. We played great defense. We have had a couple of rainouts we were expecting to win. We had good ball movement. It was good for confidence for the girls before going into regionals."

Sharkey led with six goals. Dellinger, Maguire, Mary Schloff and Lindsey Pike added two goals each against the Lady Highlanders.

The Lady Wolves also beat Lake Orion on Wednesday, 24-12. Dellinger led with seven goals and Sharkey added six goals.

"The first half was slow," coach admitted. "The officials weren't what we were expecting and took us a little bit out of our game. The second half we got it together and didn't look back. We just refocused on how we know how to play and win and we got it done."

The girls played Troy on Tuesday and their next game is next Thursday when they take on Waterford Kettering for the first round of MHSAA Regional playoffs, 7 p.m. in Lake Orion.

"We just have to bring it again really hard," Sharkey added. "We have to play every game for Ryan and get a win."

## Crafting victories

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Senior Travis Craft led his teammates during the first half against Lake Orion on Saturday.

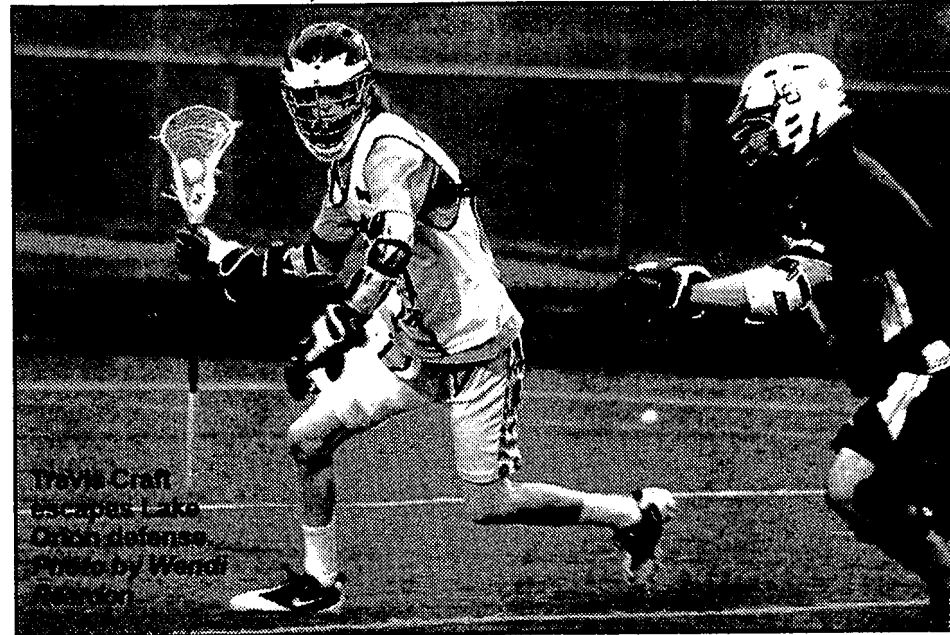
He scored five goals in the first 17 minutes of play to help boost a 11-0 score against the visiting Dragons.

"For the past month he has absolutely shined," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Lacrosse Head Coach Brian Kaminskas. "Last year Kevin O'Grady was the head scorer and Travis was the assist in the duo. This year it has flipped. He is playing with more confidence."

During the second half they kept the momentum going and kept Lake Orion to only two goals and won the game 16-2.

With his five goals, Craft also had three assists. Jordan Kincaid scored three goals during the game and O'Grady and Kevin Horton added two goals each. Horton had two assists.

"It was a great game," Kaminskas added. "The guys came out focused and ready to go. Lake Orion is a very good team. We knew they would be ready to go, too. We were in the mindset we were going to win that game even before we came outside. We did our warm up in the gym. When I saw the guys walk into the gym all focused and as quiet as they were I leaned to one of my assistants



Travis Craft  
leads boys lacrosse  
against Lake Orion  
defense.  
Photo by Wendi Reardon

and said we already won this game. The first whistle to start the game was unleashing the dogs. It was total team effort – they were passing the ball, they were communicating to each other. It was a wonderful job and something we have been working on all year. It started to pay off and show."

The win put the boys to a 12-2 record as they also beat Farmington Hills Harrison, 23-6, and Stoney Creek, 17-4. They put a combination of 62 shots on the net.

"We average 14.5 goals per game in the OAA," added Kaminskas. "We only allow

four that says a lot about both ends of the field."

Craft scored a combination of nine goals between the two games. Kincaid added eight goals during the two games and hit his 100 career goal mark against Stoney Creek after his first of five goals against the Cougars.

Horton added five for the two games and O'Grady, Mike VanderWeel and AJ Kowal added three a piece.

The boys played DeLaSalle on Tuesday and host their last home game on Friday against Midland, 7 p.m.

## Finishing league play

The Lady Wolves finished their league tied for first place with Rochester Adams after last Friday's OAA Red track meet.

The girls took second during the meet with 93 points. They finished their dual meets undefeated, 5-0.

Top finishers for the girls were Kayle Sherwood in first place in shot put and discus; Anna Manilla in the high jump.

The Clarkston Boys Track & Field team finished in second place in the league. During the OAA Red meet they took second place, scoring 97.22 points and finished their dual meets 4-1.

Top finishers at the meet were: CJ Gozdor in first place in the high jump with 6'7" while Adam Bruderick took first in the 800-meter run, 1:58.9

Both teams compete in the MHSAA Regionals on Friday at Brandon High School, 12:30 p.m.

\*\*\*

The rain stopped the OAA Red tennis meet from going to the championship round on Saturday. Clarkston finished the meet with a share of the title with Seahom.

The girls head to MHSAA Regionals on Friday at Rochester High School.

### The Importance of Primary Care Physicians ~ Dr. Tim O'Neill

As medicine has become more specialized and technology oriented I see my patients have an increasingly difficult time navigating our healthcare system. The very sophisticated yet largely fragmented system we have created leaves people in greater need of guidance than ever before. Understanding which medication or diagnostic study is appropriate can be a challenge even for physicians. Additionally, coordinating multiple specialists caring for one patient can add another layer of complexity. This is where your primary care physician becomes your greatest ally. Our job is to put the pieces of the puzzle together and formulate a treatment plan that is right for your situation.

In an era of super-specialization, electronic health records, and blockbuster drugs, a common sense, patient oriented, health maintenance strategy is your best option. Many of the ailments we suffer from can still be diagnosed with a simple history and physical exam. The medical advances we have made are nothing short of amazing, but they are only tools that need to be used judiciously. The cost of diagnostic testing and medications as well as potential problems they can cause create a risk/reward situation that can leave people harmed by the very things that were supposed to help them or at least with less money in their pocket and no difference in outcome.

This is why we're seeing a trend toward outcome based medicine. In medical school we're taught what drug is used to treat a condition or what test will make the diagnosis. As we're confronted with the overwhelming cost of healthcare and the real world harm that can result from medications and testing, it is critical that we step back and look at what the likely outcome will be if a given treatment plan is followed. Sciatica (low back pain radiating down your leg), for example, is one such case. If I ordered an MRI on every person I saw with sciatica I would probably be investigated and rightly so. We know that if none of

the "red flags" are present that sciatica will almost always follow a particular course and resolve whether I order an MRI or not. This is only one example of how a common sense approach to a patient problem can help them recover and not waste their time or money.

There are many similar situations that I see on a daily basis. I have to ask myself will this medication do more harm than good or am I going to gain any valuable information from another test? Obviously in an emergency we make decisions in seconds but with many illnesses and injuries we can make lifestyle changes or allow the body to heal before intervening further. Knowing when to push further and when to wait is much of the art of primary care.

So that you're not lost in complexities of our healthcare system, here are some strategies you can use to protect yourself and make your health care experience as efficient and productive as possible.

#### Keep a detailed medical history and bring it with you to every office visit

- Make a list of all your medications, vaccinations, chronic problems, and specialists that you see as well as list any surgeries or procedures you've had done.

#### Ask questions; why is this test being ordered? What are you looking for? What are the side effects of this medication?

- This is your health and while I think most of us primary care physicians are very good you have to be your own patient advocate. Your health is your most precious asset. Your doctor should welcome you participating in the decision making process.

#### Be honest

- If there is hidden information it can make it very difficult for us to solve your problems. It might not be easy to admit certain things but we need the whole story to make the best decisions for you.

#### Take care of yourself

- Prevention really is the best medicine. Much of my day is spent managing messes created from smoking, obesity, and poor lifestyle choices. If you destroy your body there is only so much we can do to help you. If you continue to not take care of yourself then your problems will worsen and most likely accelerate.

#### Get a Personal Primary Care Physician

- Having an established primary care physician can protect you from costly and unnecessary medical procedures as well as give you an advocate to help you make decisions that are appropriate for your situation.

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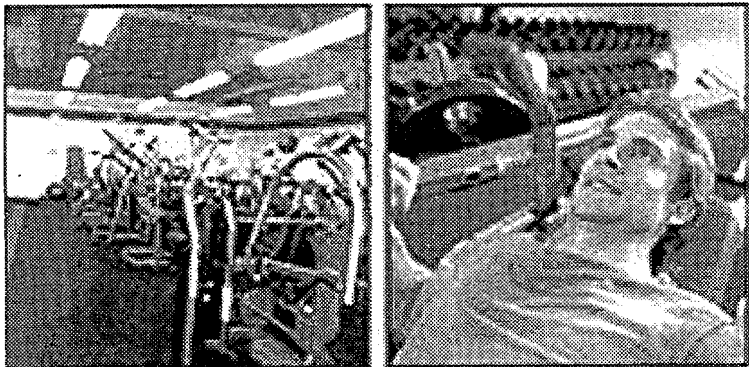
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# No guarantee in sign law amendment request

Continued from page 1A

fairly, Mayor Luginski said Rudy's sign is different because "it has been there for decades and was grandfathered in."

"We need to do a better job as a city to uphold all of our ordinances," Luginski added.

He also believes that many of the ordinance inconsistencies will be ironed out once they are codified, a process that is long overdue.

Retailers haven't been certain about how to proceed.

"When we know the process, we'll follow it to the letter," Fortinberry said.

After attending the last meeting of the Retailers Group, the mayor asked Dennis Ritter to send a letter outlining the process for amending the ordinance.

The retailers aren't the only ones perplexed by the amendment process. Detkowski is unsure of whether or not there should be an application fee while Luginski isn't certain how the Historic District Commission comes into play during the process.

According to the City's Code of Ordinances, it is illegal to erect a prohibited sign without a permit. City Manager Dennis Ritter said an application to amend the ordinance costs \$750.

City Council estimated the whole process would cost the retailers \$3,000, which they'll need to pay up front. If the amendment process is less, the difference would be returned. However, their amendment may ultimately be denied. Mayor Joe Luginski said he is currently talking with the city's attorney and plan-

ner to determine if the current estimate could be lower.

Harrison said his new sign, which he developed with Curt Catallo, maintains the character of the downtown and is unique to Clarkston. However, it is still lit internally, which is technically a violation of zoning ordinance.

Although City Council and Planning Commission have not had an official peek at the new sign, the Mayor saw it and said, "I personally think it's okay. It's much more fitting in with the downtown."

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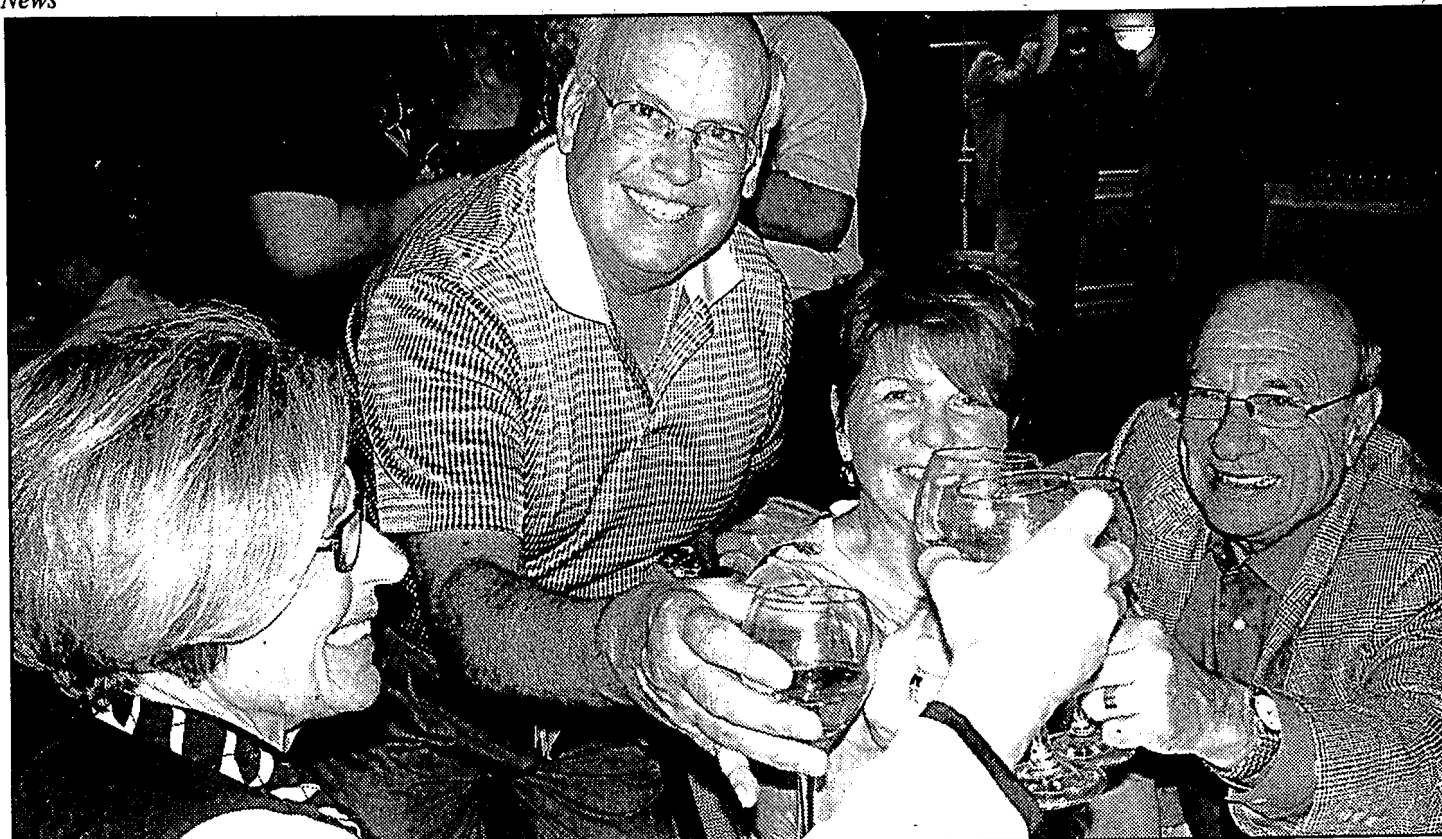
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From left, Ron and Mary Lou Pulera and Hugh and Gretchen Stelter toast the Clarkston Rotary wine tasting.



Janet Breen of Brys Estate winery pours a sample.

## The wines of spring

Red or white? Dry or sweet? These were the questions facing wine tasters at the Clarkston Rotary Spring Wine Tasting event, May 3.

Vintners from all over Michigan poured Chardonnays and Cabernet Francs for eager patrons at the Fountains Golf and Banquet Center. Those who held their glasses high tried wines from Forty-Five North, Brys Estate, Bel Lago, Black Star Farms, Crain Hill Vineyards, and Chateau Chantal. It was an evening full of savoring and toasting for all those who attended.

Photos by Mary Keck



Michelle Witucki Dan DeFoss enjoy a sip.

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**CNews  
People Poll**  
May 16, 2012

Mother's Day was Sunday

**Why is  
your mom  
special?**



"She gives me hugs and kisses."  
- Morgan Poploskie  
with mom, Kristen



"She is the best mom ever. She makes cookies and my favorite food."  
- Ruthie Evans  
with mom, Bridget



"She bakes cookies with me."  
- Macy Harvester  
with mom, Kristy



"I love my mom because she is nice to me."  
- Danny Broadstreet  
with mom, Melissa

By Wendi Reardon

# The Clarkston News' Millstream

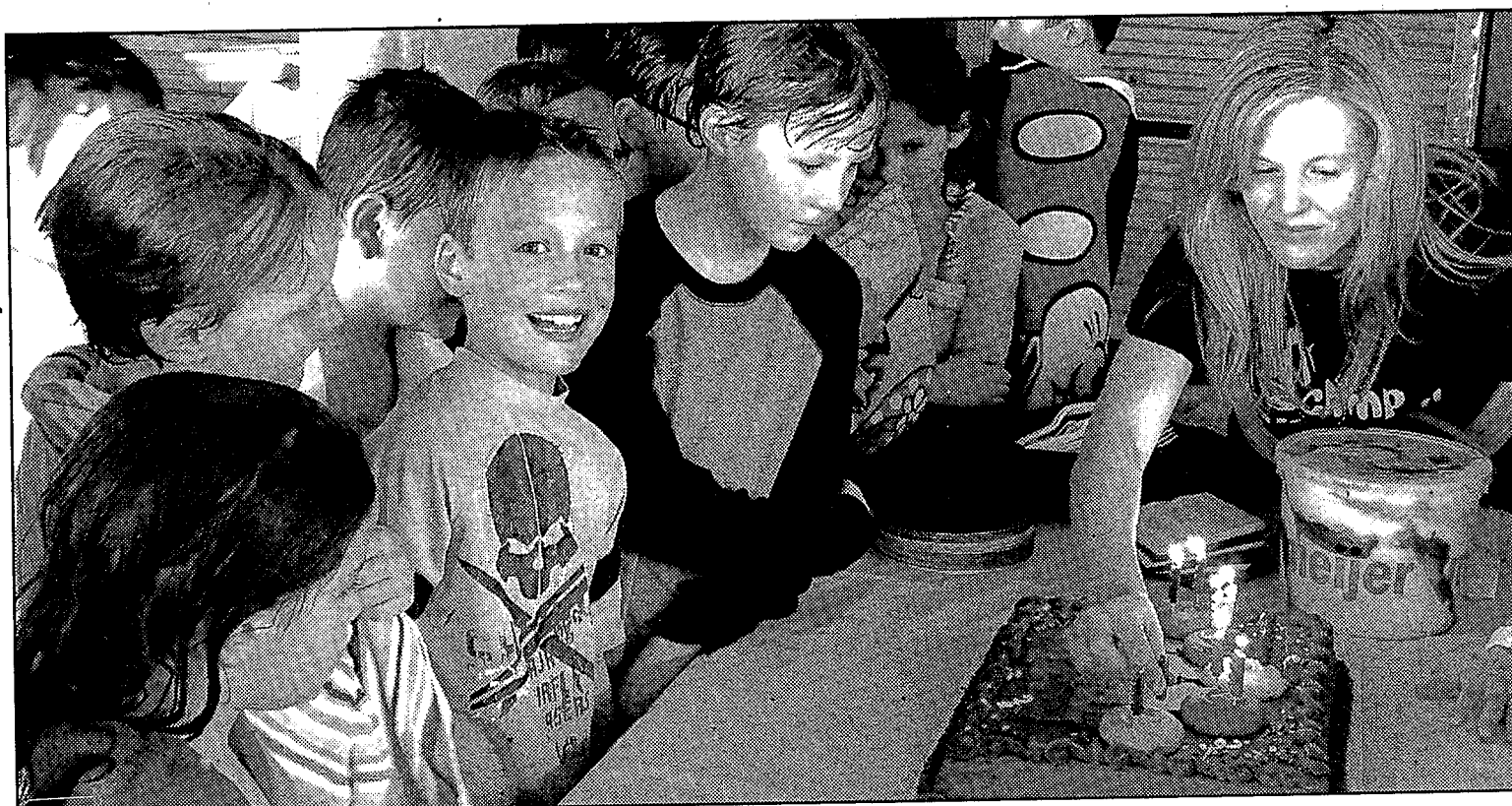
A section dedicated to showcasing the reasons this is a great area to live and work!

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Andrew Roeser celebrates his ninth birthday with his third grade class. Photo by Mary Keck

## Birthday partiers raise \$1,000 for SCAMP

On his ninth birthday, Andrew "Drew" Roeser decided to collect donations for SCAMP instead of opening presents. He invited his whole third grade class from Andersonville Elementary to a party where he was able to raise \$1,000 to support his school during SCAMP's Walk and Roll event, which took place on May 6 in Depot Park.

The school that raises the most funds gets a trophy, but every year Andersonville has won second place. Roeser hoped his birthday donation would give Andersonville an edge in the competition.

According Donna Clancy the executive di-

rector of SCAMP funding corporation, "with Drew Roeser's help, they came out on top!"

Andersonville Elementary will be presented with SCAMP's Golden Shoe for getting the highest number of pledges.

Roeser's fundraising wasn't only about winning a prize. He also wanted to support SCAMP, which offers a camp to special needs kids each summer.

His 11-year-old brother has high function autism and has enjoyed attending SCAMP's five-week camp.

"It makes me feel happy that they're happy," Roeser said.

SCAMP was able to reach their goal of raising \$25,000 during their Walk and Roll event.

Roeser not only helped to support SCAMP, but he and about fifty of his friends had a wonderful time splashing in the Deer Lake Pool and eating cake and ice cream.

"It was really fun," he said. "It was better than getting presents!"

Andrew's ninth birthday will be one he and his classmates will not soon forget!

If you'd like more information on SCAMP or want to make a donation visit [www.clarkstonscamp.com](http://www.clarkstonscamp.com).

- Staff Writer Mary Keck



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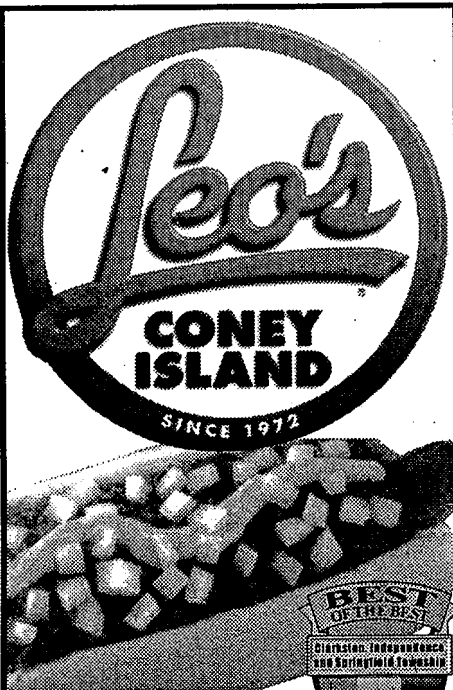
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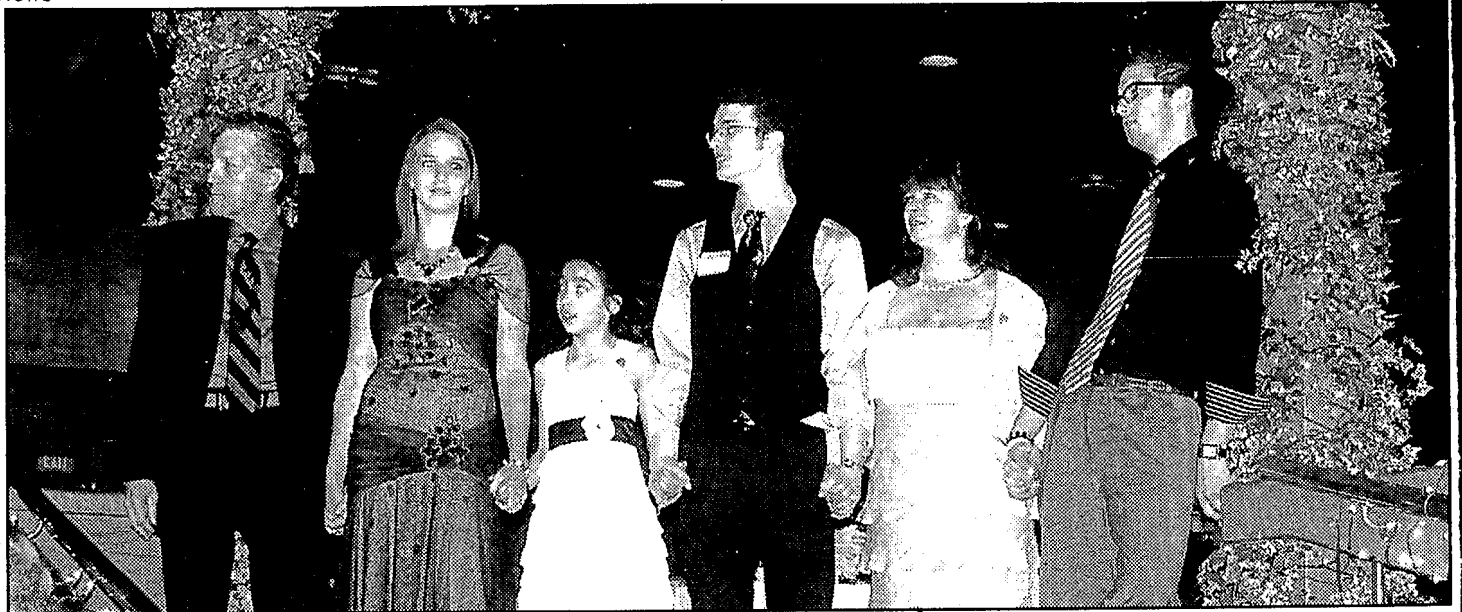
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Erica Cale, second from left, with her parents Jeff and Nancy Cale, older brother Sean Cale, younger brother Trevor Cale and younger sister Savannah Cale, inspire the audience at the Ruby Ball for Helping Hearts Helping Hands. Photo by Phil Custodio

## Ruby Ball raises over \$46,000 at event

The community gave a healthy boost to Helping Hearts Helping Hands, May 5 at Deer Lake Athletic Club.

The grand total donated during the non-profit group's Ruby Ball fund raiser was \$46,400.15, with more expected from people

unable to attend.

"We are blown away by this grand total and we are so thankful to have raised so much in one night," said Erica Cale of Clarkston, founder of the mission. "We brought in almost \$10,000 more than last year's

event."

She created Helping Hearts two years ago after graduating from Clarkston High School to help children in need in Honduras. For more information, check [www.helpingheartshelpinghands.org](http://www.helpingheartshelpinghands.org)

## Around town: a calendar of community events

**Vocal Pops Concert**, 7 p.m., May 17, Clarkston High School, 6093 Flemings Lake Road. Clarkston Vocal Music Department singers perform solos, duets, small and large group songs. \$5.

\*\*\*

**Treasurers and Treats Neighbor for Neighbor**

### Our Little Centurian



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Mom and Dad*

**Hey Mom & Dad,**  
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Call Don Rush  
at 248-625-3370.  
Deadline: May 31.  
Published: June 6  
Cost: \$63.

Published in The Clarkston News!

bor spring fund raiser, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., May 18-19, Hart Community Center, downtown Davisburg. Rummage and bake sale. 248-634-0900.

\*\*\*

**Angels' Place Race**, 9:15 a.m., May 19, St. Dan's church. Participants will run and walk through the Deer Lake Farms Subdivision during the event, 9:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m.; [www.angelsplacrace.org](http://www.angelsplacrace.org).

\*\*\*

**Fund raiser**, 4-7 p.m., May 20, Red Knapp's, 6722 Dixie Highway; 20 percent of all sales go to the new fieldhouse at Clarkston High School.

\*\*\*

**Clarkston school retirees luncheon**, 11 a.m., May 21, First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. RSVP, 248-673-1417.

\*\*\*

**Boater's Safety Course**, 6-9 p.m., May 22, 24, McLaren Cancer Institute, Conference Room, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. \$20. Topics: fundamentals, maintenance, boat operation, legal requirements, personal preparedness, survival skills. 248-338-5389.

\*\*\*

**Rummage Sale**, May 25-26, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; May 27, 12-3 p.m. St. Trinity Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road. Donations for the sale accepted, May 20-24. 248-625-4644.

\*\*\*

**One Day to Change the World 3 Day Event**,

Bridgewood Church, 6765 Rattalee Lake Road. June 1, 7 p.m., Community Block Party with rock climbing wall, bungee trampoline, velcro wall, bounce house, prizes, games, large outdoor movie screen, with "Cars 2." June 2, Motorcycle Fun Run, Classic Car Show. June 3, 5K Run For Change, 1 Mile Family Walk. 248-625-1344.

\*\*\*

**Perennial Plant Exchange**, Clarkston Farm and Garden Club, 9 a.m., June 2, Clarkston Village Parking Lot, Washington and Main streets. Trade divided, thinned plants with others. 248-620-2984.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

**Pickleball**, Tuesdays, Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., 5449 Clarkston Road, \$3, drop in, all levels welcome; Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m., \$4, drop in. First Congregational Church of Clarkston, 5449 Clarkston Road.

\*\*\*

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

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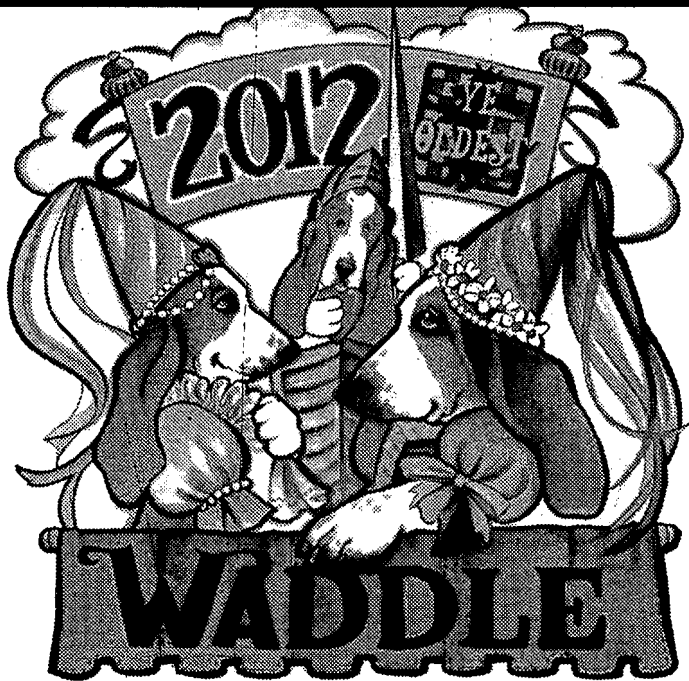
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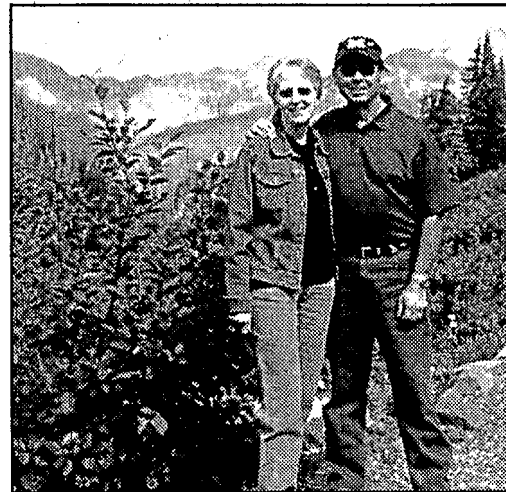
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*Where you come first.*

## 55 years of marriage



Jeanette and Ken Barks

Ken and Jeanette Barks of Clarkston celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary this year.

They grew up in Pontiac, Mich., and met at Slankster and Jones Drug Store. "My dad mopped floors at night and my mom worked at the soda fountain in the store," said Michele Barks, their daughter.

The children also include June, who is married to Patrick, Dave, and Mary.

They have five grandchildren, Matthew, married to Janine, Sarah, Christina, Doug, and Duncan.

They married at St Michael's Church in Pontiac on May 4, 1957. They have lived in Clarkston since the early 1960s.

## Students achieve success

Kara Wandrie, the daughter of Glenn Wandrie and Faith Wandrie of Clarkston and a graduate of Clarkston High School, will receive a blanket as her senior-year varsity award after playing in 38 games.

A center fielder, Wandrie hit .298 with five doubles and six runs batted in.

Hope College student J. Davis Vanderveen of Clarkston was inducted into Mortar Board national honor society recognizing students for scholarship, leadership, and service. He was also awarded a monogrammed blanket for participation in athletics.

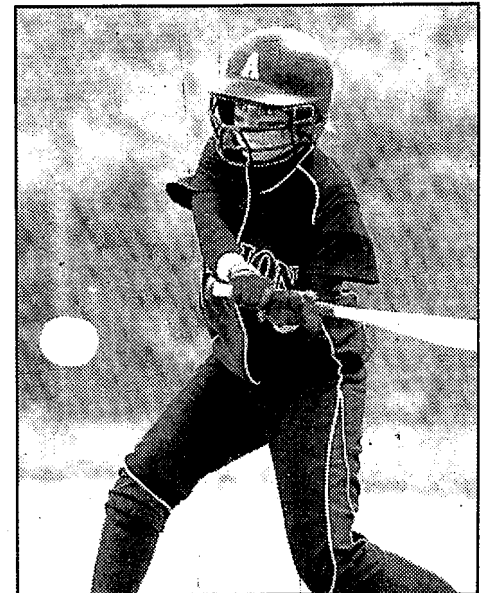
\*\*\*

Benjamin Parker of Clarkston was named to the Dean's List at Villanova University for the fall 2011 semester. Parker is enrolled in the Villanova School of Business.

\*\*\*

Leah Schmidt, Clarkston High School Class of 2006, completed a masters in Speech Language Pathology at Central Michigan University on May 5.

Her brother, Brandon Schmidt, 1999 Clarkston High School, completed his mas-



Wandrie

ters in Computer Security at Walsh College last June.

Their parents are Gerry and Gina Schmidt of Clarkston.

## Poetry corner

### Closing Circles

Weightless bundle, swaddled soft in cotton white.  
Squinty eyes, huge and deep, blink and tear  
Stare silent; safe and new; tiny in her arm.  
A mom is born.

Reaching high with smile so wide,  
Springtime treasures, tendered up by loving hands.  
Sticky, golden, priceless; dandelion bouquet.  
A mom's eyes dance.

The big fat cat sat on the hat.  
Stumbling sounds from first grade lips.  
Form magic words that swell with pride.  
A mom's smile grows.

Brilliant blue, four corner cap with flowing gown,  
Marching, tall and jaunty, line by line,  
Smiling bravely, dreaming eyes look on beyond.  
A mom looks back.

Tripping lightly, clasping tightly, hand in hand.  
Gazing; lost in eyes of green.  
Happy vows of everlasting love and life.  
A mom's heart swells.

Weightless bundle, swaddled soft in cotton blue.  
Huge, round eyes, blink and tear.  
Stare silent, safe and new, embraced in warmth.  
A mother loves.

-By Carol Richard of Independence Township



# Religion

## Habitat for Humanity in Clarkston

I am excited about some networking currently going on here in Clarkston. Our church has participated in several Habitat builds in Pontiac.

Recently, however, we've been discussing the possibility of a build in Clarkston.

With our tough economic times, many people even in Clarkston have lost homes. Wouldn't it be great if we could help some of these families get back on their feet?

We are seeking to form a coalition of businesses, government officials, houses of worship, nonprofits, and schools to connect with people in Clarkston who are in need of a hand up--especially people who need safe, decent, affordable housing.

Habitat for Humanity's Oakland County affiliate has agreed to provide project management and support to the movement, starting with the acquisition and renovation of a foreclosed or vacant house in the Clarkston area for a local family.

Clarkston Community Church will provide seed funding and leadership for the project, culminating in a com-

munity volunteer effort in September and October.

Upon the renovation of the home in October, the family will move in before Thanksgiving.

Habitat for Humanity will help coordinate various community education, training, and work projects to go along with the effort.

The total budget for the home renovation project will be \$100,000 and will require 100 - 150 volunteers.

There are all sorts of ways to contribute. Obviously, money is a big factor. If many organizations from around town cooperate, we can easily raise the money to build a house.

For those physically able, it will be fun to swing a hammer or paint or put up dry wall. We will need people to prepare lunches and park cars.

No matter what your skill level, there will be something to do. What a great way to build a sense of community!

Maybe you would like to get involved? Maybe you have someone in mind that is in need of a house? I encourage you to give me a call (248-625-1323).

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." - Jesus

*The Rev. Greg Henneman is pastor of Clarkston Community Church.*

### Spiritual Matters



Pastor Greg Henneman

## In our churches...

**Bethany North**, peer support to all faiths dealing with divorce or separation, 7:30 p.m., fourth Monday, Cushing Center, St. Daniel Catholic Church, 700 Valley Park, 248-628-6825.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

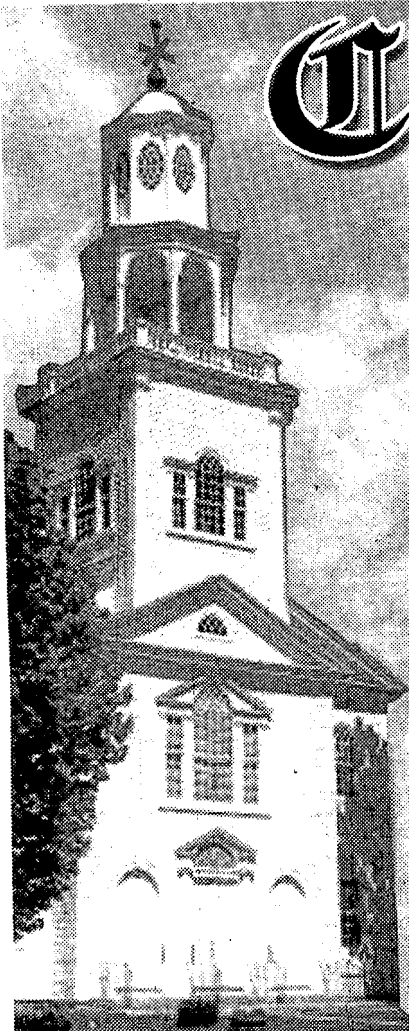
**Tapping the Source** movie, 6:30 p.m., May 24. Science, business, New Thought, futurists share insights on being happy, healthy and successful, discussion follows. Free-will love offering. Peace Unity Holistic Center, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-625-5192.

\*\*\*

**Peace Camp**, July 9-12, for ages 6-11, art, music, drumming, meditation, yoga, peace-making tools and practices. Led by Three Moms for Peace. \$100. Peace Unity Holistic Center, 8080A Ortonville Road. 248-892-0196.

Like to join in Spiritual Matters?  
Call us at 248-625-3370

# Church Directory



### ST. TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod"  
Pastor: Rev. Kehdall 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-10/20 Sun. 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

### CALVARY MISSIONARY CHURCH

"A Place to Worship & Grow"  
1361 Giddings Rd., Pontiac MI 48340  
248-373-0311  
Services: Sunday - 10 am & 6 pm  
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Children's Ministry: 10:30 am  
Tues. - 10 am Morning Prayer  
Wed. - 7 pm Bible Study  
New Series - "Relentless"  
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### OAKLAND EPC

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Currently meeting at Mt. Zion Center  
4453 Clintonville Road at Mann Rd., Waterford, MI 48329  
Worship Service each Sunday @ 10:30 am  
Children's Worship @ 10:30 am  
Other Opportunities:  
Call Church for times of following Meetings:  
Men's Bible Study  
Women's Bible Study  
Mid Week Bible Study  
Adult Sunday Morning Bible Studies  
Oakland EPC is an Evangelical Presbyterian Church with offices located at 7205 Clintonville Rd., Clarkston, MI 48348  
Phone (248) 858-2577

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston  
Sunday 10 am  
Holy Eucharist  
Sunday School 9:55 am  
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www.clarkstonepiscopal.org  
248-625-2325

### 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: 7:00 pm Awana Club  
6:30 pm Teen Ministry  
7:00 pm Prayer Meeting & Bible Study

### 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

### 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

### THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston  
(248) 394-0200  
Fax: (248) 394-2142  
Interim: Rev. William Lange  
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

### 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: 9:45 am Worship Service  
11:00 am Sunday School for all ages  
6:00 pm Worship Service  
Wed: 7:00 pm Children and Teen Clubs & Adult Bible Study  
Nursery available for all services.

### CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

### BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH

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

### SASHABAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

### 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

### CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

6300 Clarkston Road • Clarkston  
(248) 625-1323  
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Pastors: Greg Henneman, Bonita Laudeman, Kevin Kuehne, Dan Whiting, Geoff Black  
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Olivia Packard, Ricky Johnson, Sarah Falkowski, Michael Ignagni and Joy Fullerton from St. Joseph Elementary School in Lake Orion Stomp Out Cold Feet. Photo submitted

## Bank helps warm feet

Olivia Packard, Ricky Johnson, Sarah Falkowski, Michael Ignagni and Joy Fullerton from St. Joseph Elementary School in Lake Orion conducted a winter boot drive this past February to help those in need in Michigan.

The StompOutColdFeet boot drive was a culmination of a four month investigation into the needs of their community.

The students collected and distributed 175 pairs of boots to the Department of Human Services in Pontiac.

The community service project was part of a competition the kids participated in through Destination ImagiNation. Destination ImagiNation is the world's largest creative problem solving program for kindergar-

ten through college aged students.

The students placed first in the state of Michigan and will compete at the global competition located in Tennessee where students from all states and over 30 countries will compete.

The team thanked Clarkston State Bank for opening their doors and participating as a collections site.

"Because you allowed your bank to be a collection site, a child from your community was able to have warm feet this past winter season," Johnson said. "Thank you."

To support the team, go to stjosephlakeorion.ejoinme.org/supportdi. Check out StompOutColdFeet on Facebook.

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# Look Who's Waking Up With Us!



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Cindy Kochendorfer, Melaleuca

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Jennifer Wildey, Applied Health Initiatives

Gary Zirwes, DAS International

Susan Reddy, Schollegiate College Advisors

Molly LaLone, Ortonville DDA

Gary Gozdar, [Bus.fm](http://Bus.fm)

Gerry Ward, Gerry's Auto Care

Toni Mariucci, Moon Body Works

Darwin Moore

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Mark Kelly, MPK Photo

Doug Semans, Cavalry Computing

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## John E. Bowman, 73

John Elden Bowman of Clarkston, born Sept. 5, 1938, in Springfield, Ohio, to Thelma and Samuel Bowman, died May 9, 2012, at age 73.

He was the loving husband of Sharon, stepfather of Garrett Simonis; proud father of Katie (Gordy) Coleman, Karen (Rick) Williams and Mimi (Ralph) Ridings; cherished "Goppa" of Emme, Grant and Grace Coleman; devoted brother of Sam (Grace) Bowman of New York City, Julie (late Jack) McGregor and Gail LeFevre, both of Springfield; also survived by former spouse Barbara Bowman Schirmer, many nieces and nephews, employees and friends.

Mr. Bowman was the President and Owner of John Bowman Chevrolet, Inc. for 28 years. Along with his dealership, he supported Clarkston SCAMP, Easter Seals, Clarkston Area Youth Assistance, Angels' Place, The American Red Cross, Clarkston Area Schools, community youth sports teams and music programs.

John was a superb athlete, receiving 14 varsity letters in four years at Millbrook School in Millbrook, New York, and played baseball and basketball at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, where he was a member of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity.

John also loved his native Ohio where he owned a family farm near Springfield.

Celebration of Life Service was May 12 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston.

Memorials may be made to SCAMP or Easter Seals. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

## Stephen J. Kross, 80

Stephen J. Kross of Port Charlotte, Fla., originally of Buffalo, N.Y., passed away, May 8, 2012, at age 80.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy. He was the father of David (Barbara), Michael (Bethany), Jeff (Debbie) and Lynn (Jim) Ricca; grandpa of Bryan (Kathleen) Kross, Brad Kross, Angie (Kris) Piculi, Dawn Kross, Brittany and Taylor Ricca; great grandpa of Tyler Piculi; brother of Mary O'Laughlin.

Scripture Service was May 14 at the Lewis E. Wint and Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Funeral Mass was May 15 at St. Daniel Catholic Church, Clarkston. Rite of Committal All Saints Cemetery, Waterford. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Tidewell Hospice or D.A. Jacobson VA Home. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Obituaries posted daily at Clarkstonnews.com

## Obituaries

### Ron Erb, 56

Ron Erb, 56, formerly of Clarkston, passed away April 23 in Speedway, Ind., after a long illness.

Mr. Erb worked in Powder Coat Painting, and enjoyed custom cars and motorcycles, and attending the Indy 500.

He is survived by his mother, Betty Erb of Indiana (the late Kenneth Erb), brothers Rick (Mary Carroll) Erb of Santa Cruz, Calif., and Randy (Gail Tower) Erb of Murfreesboro, Tenn., nephews Scot Erb of Santa Monica, Calif., and Eli Erb of Huntington Beach, Calif., and niece Kim (Marc) Krueger of Deltona, Fla.

Cremation has taken place.

### Raymond Lingle, 76

Raymond L. Lingle of Lewiston passed away May 12, 2012, at age 76.

He was the husband of Jo Ann, father of Matt (Cindy), Andrea Romano and Amy (Billy) Campbell; grandpa of Meghan and Erika Lingle and Joey Romano; brother of Gary (Connie); also survived by nieces and nephews.

A Pontiac High School graduate, Mr. Lingle received a B.A. from Eastern Michigan University, was a member of Kappa Phi Alpha and completed two Masters degrees at Wayne State University. He taught for 34 years Industrial Arts, Voc Ed and started the Driver Education program in the Troy school district, mainly at Athens High School.

Funeral service, Friday, 10 a.m., at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston, where friends may visit, Thursday, 3-5 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Hospice of the Sunrise Shore, Alpena; Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

### Yvonne M. Pruett, 62

Yvonne Marie Pruett of Pontiac passed away May 11, 2012, at age 62.

She was the loving mother of Brooks (Lisa) Wilcox; beloved fiancée of Arthur Coleman; proud grandma of Paige, Brooks Jr., and Lindsay; dear sister of James (Delia) Pruett, Marlys Moilanen and Brian Pruett; preceded in death by her parents Geraldine and James Pruett. Yvonne was employed with General Motors.

Funeral Service was May 15 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the American Liver Foundation. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

### George Thompson, 93

George Clayton Thompson Jr. of Clarkston passed away May 13, 2012, at age 93.

He joins his beloved wife of 38 years Ruth in Heaven. He was the loving father and dad of Patricia VanOver of Coldwater, Robert Coy of Clarkston, Richard (Lori) Coy of Oxford and Amy (Kenneth) DeFord of Clarkston; survived by 17 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren (with one on the way); 18 great great grandchildren and canine companion Mac.

He was preceded in death by parents Mildred Barnett and George C. Thompson, Sr., sister Betty McDonald, sons Roy Ricco, James Coy and daughter Carol Ann Todd.

Mr. Thompson was born on June 30, 1918, in Punxatawney, Pa., and retired from Ex-Cello Heating and Beaver Precision. He was also known as Mr. George while he moonlighted weekends at Ted's Restaurant on Woodward Avenue and he worked with the children at Clarkston Community Church.

George was an avid softball player for Independence Township Senior Center and Clarkston Community Church teams.

He was well known for speaking out about his World War II experiences in Clarkston Schools and was a favorite at the Clarkston Fourth of July parade, proudly wearing his WWII uniform.

Friends may visit at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston, Thursday, 3-9 p.m. Funeral service, Friday, 11 a.m., at Clarkston Community Church. Interment Lakeview Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Clarkston Community Church or Independence Township Senior Center. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

## Buddy baseball

Independence Township Parks and Recreation's Buddy Baseball League.

Buddy Baseball is a non-competitive recreational league for boys and girls with special needs. Each player will be paired with a "buddy" to assist the player as needed. Players can be ages 7-13; Buddies ages 10-13.

Residents of Independence can register for a discount. Buddies are free. Both players and buddies will receive uniforms. In addition to players and buddies, sponsors, coaches and volunteers are needed.

For those interested in participating, visit the Parks and Recreation website at www.itpr.org, click on FORMS/FLYERS.



# Cultures of thinking of Project Zero

As the school district works to overcome its biggest challenge of updating its educational infrastructure with limited resources, it continues to thrive and strive toward excellence.

Highlights of the outstanding district include high quality professional learning for all teachers and administrators, excellent literacy programs, outstanding curricula, advanced offerings, premier athletic programs, the world's best teachers, and the highest quality facilities.

Clarkston is a destination place, both for its wonderful and charming amenities, its beautiful homes and neighborhoods, and the outstanding quality of its schools.

This fall, Clarkston will play host to nearly 1,000 educators from around the globe as they engage in a Project Zero Conference, Nov. 1-3.

The site of this conference is Clarkston High School and all of the CCS teachers will participate. Saturday morning will include a parent session.

Project Zero is a research and professional learning institute and think tank at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education.

Founded over 40 years ago by preeminent scholars, Howard Gardner and David Perkins, it now reaches around the globe offering profound insights into learning and teaching.

This is a tremendous honor for Clarkston as this is the very first time in the history of Project Zero that the entity has offered a conference at a public school.

In the past, Project Zero has held conferences on Harvard's Cambridge, MA campus and at private, international schools in Amsterdam, Atlanta, Washington DC, New York City, Australia, and elsewhere in Europe. This honor will bring both world-wide recognition and amazing opportunities to Clarkston.

Project Zero researchers presenting at the Clarkston conference include Gardner, Perkins, Ron Ritchhart, Shari Tishman, Tina Blythe, Daniel Wilson, and Veronica Boix Mansilla. Local, regional, state, national, and international educators will also

present sessions during the conference.

A culture of thinking is a learning space where every member's thinking is honored, made visible, and advanced each day. The theory behind a culture of thinking is that learning is a product of thinking and that students whose minds are deeply engaged in thinking will perform well on standardized tests and beyond.

## Words from the Sup't



Dr. Rod Rock

As students use their basic skills and knowledge of facts in combination with their thinking skills to solve problems and create products, deep understandings result.

As an example, suppose you are teaching your child to cook a soup for the very first time. You begin with water, stir in vegetables and meat, add spices and broth, and--stirring occasionally--allow the contents to boil, simmer, and become soup.

Afterward, when your child ladles the soup into a bowl, he or she better understands soup as a combination of parts and processes compared to having simply seen the finished soup poured from a can to a pot to a bowl. Without the basic skills, knowledge of facts, and thinking skills, the full understanding of soup may never have developed in the child.

The same could be said of building a motor, starting a fire, or climbing a tree. The understandings go from parts to wholes and back to parts again. The basic skills and knowledge combine with thinking and experience to become solid understandings.

In a culture of thinking, teachers use structured thinking routines to help stu-

dents slow down their thinking so that they can fully notice the parts and wholes.

As they engage in these routines, their teachers pose questions, asking students to dig more deeply into the problems and issues at hand. As students use these routines over and over again in their educational experiences, patterns of recognition, slowing down, critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, collaboration, and communication develop into habits.

These thinking habits then transfer from the school setting to settings beyond school where students possess the motivation, inclination, skill, and awareness to put these habits to use.

During the 2010-2011 school year, members of the Clarkston Community Schools' Board of Education, teachers, administrators, and community members engaged in a comprehensive analysis and rewriting of the district's vision, mission and learner profile.

The resulting strategic plan framework now provides direction for all of the decisions made within the district.

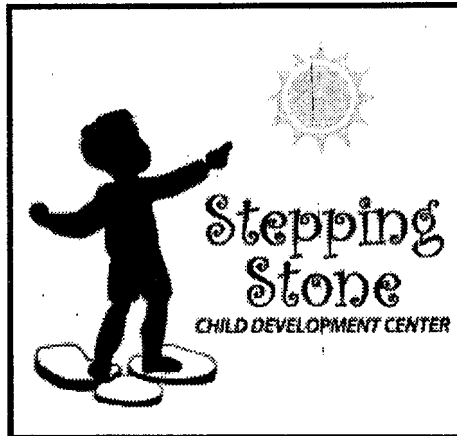
In the fall of 2011, a teacher and principal team from each of Clarkston's 12 schools came together four times with Project Zero researcher, Ron Ritchhart, for day long sessions of studying cultures of thinking. Between these sessions, teachers and principals practiced thinking routines with their fellow teachers and their students.

In the winter of 2012, four additional teachers from each school joined the teams in four additional sessions with Ron Ritchhart. Members of these teams then returned to their schools and utilized thinking routines with their students and fellow teachers.

In each school, additional professional learnings, such as book talks and examination of students' thinking during delayed starts, also took place.

Please check out the district's webpage for Cultures of Thinking perspectives from building principals.

*Rod Rock, Ed.D., is superintendent of Clarkston Community Schools.*



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# Walk for animal rescue on Sunday

Michigan Animal Rescue League Kicks Off Tail-Wagger Two-Step Fundraiser

The Michigan Animal Rescue League (MARL) has kicked off the 19th Annual Tail-Wagger Two-Step and is adding new activities for this year's event.

This year's Walk kicks off at 9 a.m., Sunday, May 20, at Independence Oaks County Park. Walkers are invited to participate in a beautiful stroll around the lake, have lunch in the park, visit with adoptable animals and

win prizes.

"We are planning a great day with plenty of activities for the entire family, including our four-legged friends," said MARL Executive Director Kayla Allen. "This event is designed to share in the simpler things in life, a day at the park with old and new friends, families taking a walk with their dogs, all while raising funds for our organization."

Join us on the day of the event for food, fun and festivities. Walkers who raise \$200

or more get a free T-Shirt. Any individual who raises \$1,000 or more in donations will receive a \$100 Target gift card. All proceeds directly benefit the dogs and cats of metro Detroit who need a second chance at life and a place to call home.

The Michigan Animal Rescue League is a private, nonprofit animal shelter serving Oakland County and beyond since 1951.

For more information visit [www.michigananimalrescueleague.org](http://www.michigananimalrescueleague.org).

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Flagstar Bank is a proud sponsor of the 2012 Chevrolet Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix going on June 1-3. Visit [flagstar.com/events](http://flagstar.com/events) to learn more.

## Clarkston Girl Scouts honored with Gold

Clarkston Girl Scouts Paige Miller, 17; Melissa Pavlik, 18; and Rebecca Turner, 16, are three of 23 recipients of Girl Scout's highest honor, The Gold Award, presented by Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan.

The Gold Award is presented to Senior and Ambassador level Girl Scouts who display exemplary service to their communities and beyond.

For her Gold Award project, "Running to the Future on the Trails of the Past," Miller partnered with the Walter P. Chrysler Museum in Auburn Hills to create an educational booklet directed at children in grades 1-8.

In her booklet, Miller demonstrated how vehicle innovations through the decades have made historical and/or cultural contributions to our society as a whole. Miller offered tours where students were given the opportunity to use the booklet.

For her Gold Award project, "Sibling Support Group," Pavlik worked with AutismAsk, an organization serving southeast Michigan through resource provision, direct service, and autism awareness materials, to start a sibling support group workshop aimed at middle-school aged siblings that have brothers or sisters with Autism.

Pavlik used her leadership skills to create lesson plans and activities for her group that addressed the social and communicative obstacles that families of individuals with autism face every day.

For her project, "Peer Listening," Turner, a student at Clarkston High School, took action by developing a comprehensive Peer Listening Program to address the issues of teen anxiety, stressors, depression and suicide within her school.

She decided to do the project after two high school graduates during Turner's sophomore year committed suicide.

She successfully built a comprehensive program to recruit and train a Peer Listening Team of students to provide peer to peer listening support to fellow Clarkston High School students.



Miller



Pavlik



Turner









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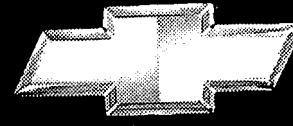
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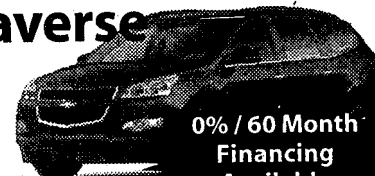
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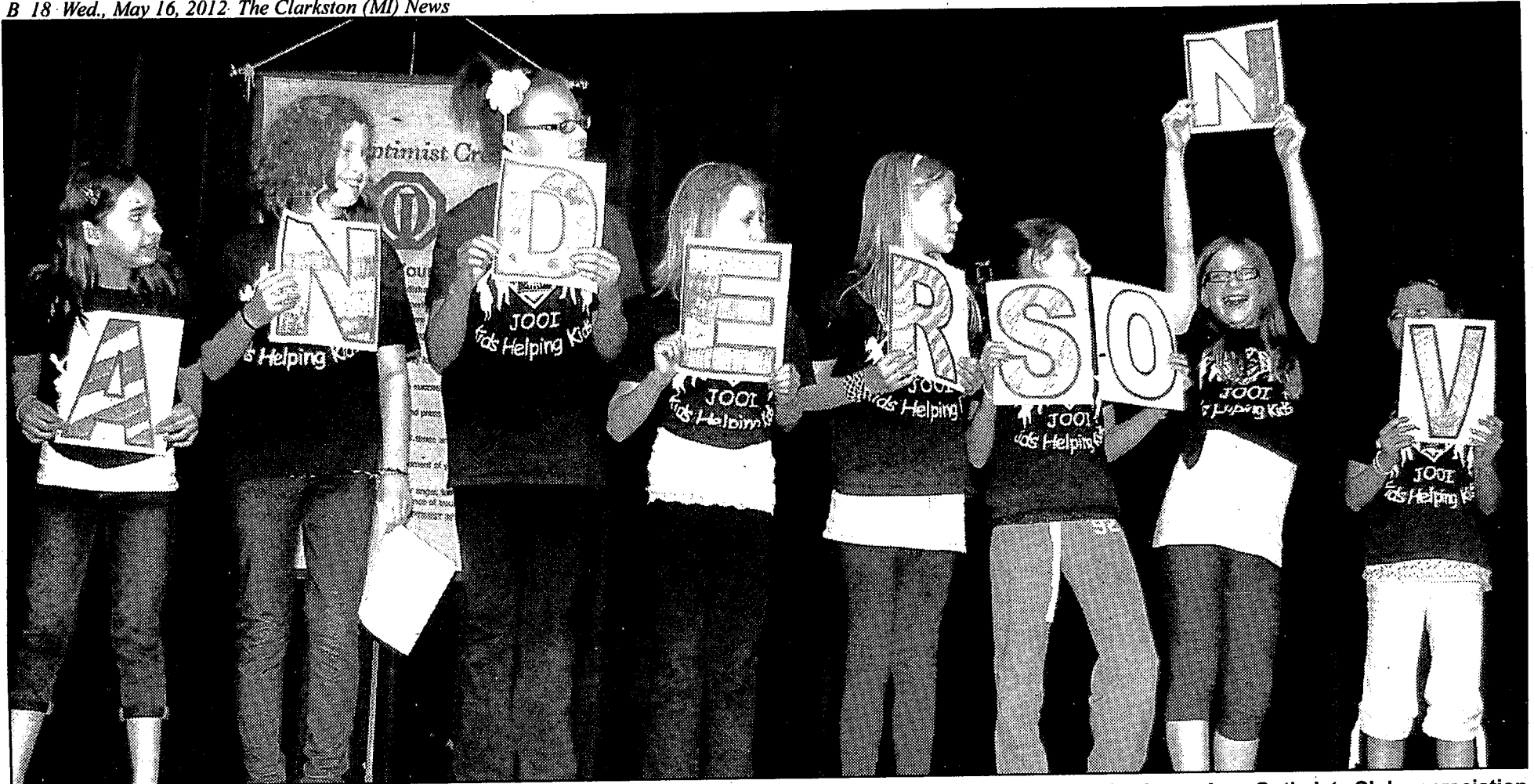
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**OPTIMISTIC AND PROUD:** Junior Optimists from Andersonville Elementary School show their group spirit at the Clarkston Area Optimists Club appreciation event, May 1 at Clarkston Junior High. Optimists Vice President Robin Brose, overall coordinator Sandy Diederich, and other club members treated the youth groups to pizza dinner, and each group presented what they've been up to during the year. "We've had more Optimist Clubs in our elementary schools and high schools than ever in 26 years of Optimists," said Optimist Roger Diederich. "We're pretty proud of that." Photo by Phil Custodio

### Community events?

Tell us about them at  
ClarkstonNews@gmail.com  
or 248-625-3370

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

#### INDEPENDENCE TWP. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS SPECIAL MEETING

The Independence Township Board of Appeals will meet on Friday, June 1, 2012 at 6:00 PM, in the Independence Township Hall Conference Room, 6483 Waldon Center Dr., Clarkston, MI 48346, to hear the following case:

Case #12-0007 Callahan, Patrick, Petitioner  
APPLICANT REQUESTS A 6' SIDE YARD SETBACK VARIANCE FROM ARTICLE III, DIVISION 24, SECTION 50-837 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO INSTALL INGROUND SWIMMING POOL  
7424 Foxburg Ct., PRD  
Oakhurst, Unit 215  
08-24-128-034

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT THE ABOVE REQUEST MAY BE EXAMINED at the Independence Township Building Department during regular hours each day, Monday through Friday until the date of the Public Hearing. For Further Information call (248) 625-8111.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara A. Pallotta, Clerk

The Township will provide the necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at a public hearing/meeting upon advance notice in writing or by calling the Township Building Department (248) 625-8111

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

#### INDEPENDENCE TWP. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Independence Township Board of Appeals will meet on Wednesday, June 6, 2012, 7:00 PM in the Independence Township Hall Conference Room, 6483 Waldon Center Dr., Clarkston, MI 48346, to hear the following cases:

Case #12-0008 Grogan, Edmund, Petitioner  
APPLICANT REQUESTS A 20' FRONT YARD SETBACK VARIANCE FROM ARTICLE III, DIVISION 25, SECTION 50-890 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO CONSTRUCT ADDITION ON NONCONFORMING LOT OF RECORD WITH NONCONFORMING USE  
4729 Monterey, C-1  
Sunny Beach Country Club, Lots 41-43  
08-12-454-012

Case #12-0009 Denning, Todd, Petitioners For USA Fireworks  
APPLICANT REQUESTS A VARIANCE FROM ARTICLE III, DIVISION 24, SECTION 50-849 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW TENT PLACEMENT IN PARKING LOT FOR SEASONAL SALES  
5480 Sashabaw Rd., C-1  
08-34-201-040

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT THE ABOVE REQUESTS MAY BE EXAMINED at the Independence Township Building Department during regular hours each day, Monday through Friday until the date of the Public Hearing. For Further Information call (248) 625-8111.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara A. Pallotta, Clerk

The Township will provide the necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services to individuals with disabilities at a public hearing/meeting upon advance notice in writing or by calling the Township Building Department (248) 625-8111

## Stay open to different opinions

Our current society seems to be blocking opinion and thus making another's opinion like a judgments or disqualifier. There was a time where human communication was often about sharing opinions at the dinner table with family, local markets, hair salons, barber shops, company picnics, coffee shops and festivals, thus growing in knowledge of self and others.

Technology, media, texting and other forms of social networking often give an illusion of knowing it all. No time to look into a person's eyes, tone of voice or gesture. All this is considered progressive society with all the tools/toys to keep us occupied, ultimately making life easier to eliminate self from other human beings.

Information is reported via the network news broadcasts, Internet and other means of mass produced reporting in the form of absolutes. This confusion is prevalent as it relates to politics. Families are often divided; if there is a difference of opinion as to what political party is the correct one, then there is another disqualifier.

This brings us to diversity of opinions, customs, thinking, ways of learning and physical appearance are just a few common denominators that connect each of us as 'unique.'

Yes, we are different and we are definitely

alike in that we differ. What is different attracts us; this is learning and growing toward understanding about what being human is all about.

Technology is here and it has its value; yet to replace human interaction and communication is to regress toward impersonal and self-serving society. Balance, moderation, education and socialization are accessible tools; as one becomes aware, checks and balances are realized. This is too high of a price to pay for what is perceived as progress. On occasions it may pay to take a step back and question; only to realize you've moved two steps

### Guest viewpoint



Maria Rotondo-Mark

forward.

If these thoughts bring you to pause, question, observe, aware or be awake in your observations, then the reflection and action is well worth the investment.

Maria Rotondo Mark lives in Independence Township

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24 Mo. Lease

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## 2012 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Express

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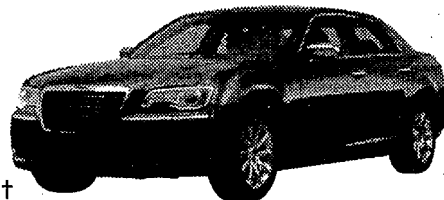


MSRP \$25,395

## 2012 Chrysler 300 Limited

36 Mo. Lease

**\$189<sup>†</sup>** mo.



MSRP \$27,290

## 2012 Jeep Liberty Sport 4x4

24 Mo. Lease

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MSRP \$25,770

## 2012 Dodge Charger SE

24 Mo. Lease

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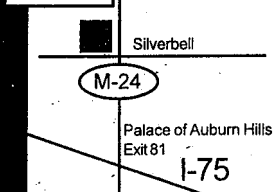


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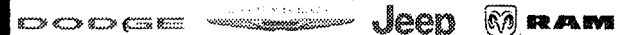
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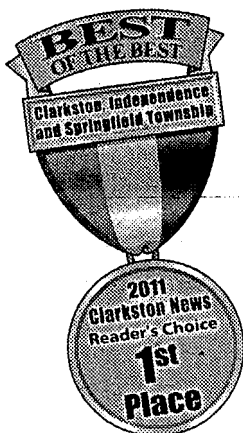
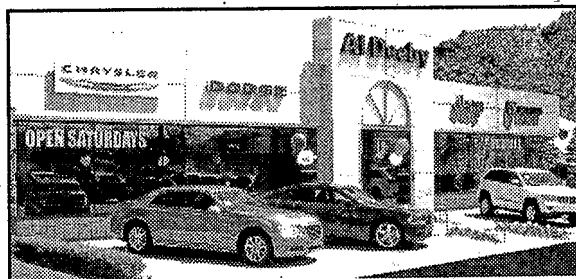


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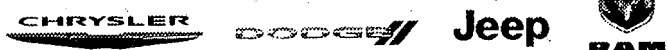


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