

The **Clarkston News** My Clarkston. Buy Clarkston.

Wishing you a safe, prosperous New Year!

Vol. 87 No. 45 Wed., December 31, 2014

1 Section, 24 pages \$1.00



FAREWELL TO 2014: North Sashabaw Elementary students celebrate the end to the calendar year at their holiday party, Dec. 19. Photo by Andrea Beaudoin

Season of politics, football in fall 2014

Football and politics dominated the second half of 2014, with local races determining the fates of Clarkston City Council and Clarkston Board of Education, and the Wolves of Clarkston High School taking the field in pursuit of their second consecutive state championship.

June 25

School board OKs budget free of pink: For the first time in years, Clarkston school budget was approved with no layoff notices for teachers. The total for the 2015 budget has \$75.7 million in spending.

July 2

Big improvements planned for parks: Clintonwood Park off Clarkston Road was first up in a 10-year plan for improvements to Independence Township. In 2015, the township budgeted \$210,000 for the park.

Independence Township commemorates Vietnam War anniversary: A proclamation commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War was presented to veterans by Independence Township Supervisor Pat Kittle during the Independence Fest Veterans Celebration July 4 at Clintonwood Park.

Township safety paths up for almost \$1m: A 10-year plan to extend Independence Town-

ship safety path system totaled \$950,000. The Capital Improvement Plan for the path system also includes \$80,000 in equipment expenses.

July 9

Cameras in Depot Park: Clarkston Medical Group's Dr. Tim O'Neil donated \$1,000 towards new security cameras for Depot Park, a gesture which City of the Village of Clarkston Manager Carol Eberhardt hopes will kick off a fundraising effort.

Salute to vets: People took time out of their Fourth of July festivities to honor veterans at Clintonwood Park. Bart Clark, retired

U.S. Navy captain, led the veterans program, recognizing vets of all American wars.

July 16

Downtown videos wrap up as M-15 work starts: State contractors finished videotaping historic homes and businesses in downtown Clarkston in advance of a \$4.5 million project to resurface 8.6 miles of M-15 from Dixie Highway in Independence Township to Wolfe Road in Ortonville.

School meetings too long?: At the first school board meeting of the new school year, Trustee Steve Hyer had an idea-fewer meeting. *Please see Road on page 3*

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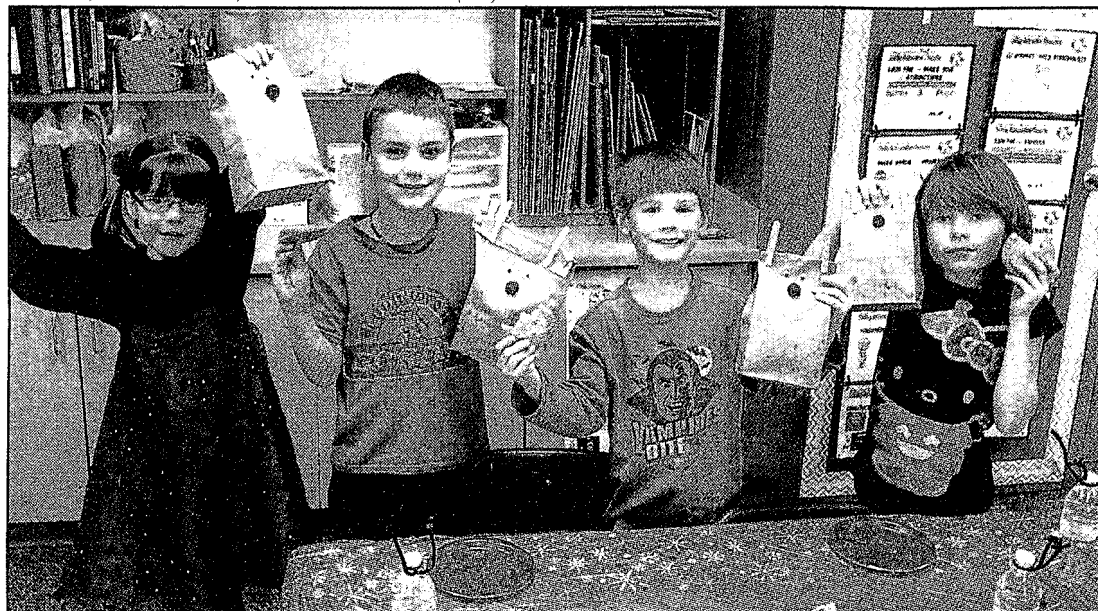
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From left, Allana Davidson, Dane Webb, Wesley Zeemer and Lareina Rodriguez show off their reindeer decorations.



Students make gingerbread houses out of graham crackers and candy.

Holiday fun at North Sashabaw

North Sashabaw Elementary students enjoyed their classroom holiday parties, Dec. 19, with gift exchanges, gingerbread houses,

crafts, and games.

They and the rest of the Clarkston Community Schools district head back to class on Jan. 5.



A gift exchange was part of the fun.



Ice cream cones made excellent trees. Photos by Andrea Beaudoin

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Road work on M-15 all summer

Continued from page 1
ings. The majority of the board rejected the idea, voting 5-2 to approve a Board of Education Meetings schedule with two a month except for December and July.

Bonuses for township: Department heads could earn an extra \$1,500 under a new incentive plan adopted by the Independence Township Board.

Cameras for Depot Park: In response to the vandalism in Depot Park, Clarkston City Council approved installing three cameras at their July meeting. City Manager Carol Eberhardt said two local donors have offered to pay for the cameras.

July 23

State investigation started: After he was told Oakland County prosecutors' declined to pursue charges, Cory Johnson of Clarkston thought legal issues he has with the city manager were over. Johnson said he spent \$2,500 on legal fees, and was not going to spend anymore. Johnson filed a police report with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office regarding Freedom of Information Act violations and deletion of city records.

CNews catches repeat city petition error:

It would have been *deja vu* for candidates interested in running for office in the City of the Village of Clarkston. A notice on the city's website stated the filing deadline for candidates for the November election was July 24. *The Clarkston News* pointed out this deadline was incorrect.

Eight candidates vying for state representative seat: Clarkston Area voters will narrow the field of candidates for state representative and other offices, and decide the future of the library and other issues in the Aug. 5th primary. Voters will narrow a field of eight candidates for Michigan District 43, a two-year term representing Independence Township. City of the Village of Clarkston, city of Lake Angelus and parts of Waterford.

July 30

Safety concern quash tri, du races: Athletes' hopes of putting their training to the test at the 10th annual Village Tri and Du are dashed-this year's event is canceled. Officials with the township and the City of the Village of Clarkston pulled the plug on August triathlon over safety concerns.

Sidewalk work planned on Main: Clarkston is looking to to save some money on a sidewalk project by linking it to current work in the area. City Council gave Manager Carol Eberhardt the OK to sign a contract up to \$20,000 to extend the sidewalk on the west side of Main Street from Miller north to the city limits, where it connects to an Independence Township sidewalk.

Incentive program renovates local roads: Wealthy Street residents in Independence Township accepted a check for \$7,852 to help improve roads in their neighborhood. The check accounted for about 5 percent of the cost of the project.



The Fourth of July is a big deal in Clarkston and Independence Township. File photo

Youth Hope to 'Enkindle' faith at park: Organizers hope to fill Depot Park with prayer and worship at the second annual Enkindle the Remnant Event, a youth prayer group event. During the previous years event, over 300 people attended. Youth Pastor Randy Goldsworthy of New Hope Bible Church helped organize the event, which was sponsored by local churches.

August 6

Water concerns in wake of roadwork: As workers continue the Main Street renovation project, Tammie Heazlit of Independence Township is concerned about impact on local water. Heazlit said fabric used to filter sediment through the drains during road and sidewalk work is inadequate in protecting against storm water pollution because it does not extend around the entire perimeter of the drain.

Clarkston test scores up: Clarkston High School student continue to show improvements on state test scores, based on results of Michigan Merit Exam (MME) and ACT tests taken last spring. MEAP scores also showed every grade level had increased or maintained math scores compared to the year before, with grades 4 and 7 showing an increase of 11 percent and 13 percent; every grade level was above Oakland County in reading and writing; and Clarkston was above Michigan by 10-19 percent in reading and 11-22 percent in math.

Case Closed: Oakland County Sheriff's office and Michigan State Police investigators have determined City of the Village of Clarkston Manager Carol Eberhardt did nothing wrong criminally in regards to police reports filed by a local resident over Freedom

of Information Act requests and deletion of city records.

Ground breaking for new Habitat home: Work is underway for Shannon Chatman's new family home in Springfield Township, with the help of My Habitat Clarkston. Chatman joined with family, friends and volunteers with the Habitat group to kick off the project, building a house from the ground up. The build is budgeted at \$130,000 for the purchase of land and materials for a "ground up" construction this summer.

Reliving their happy days: The Clarkston High School Class of 1954 were in good spirits at Shepard's Hollow Golf Club, celebrating their 60th reunion with lunch and memories.

August 13

Primary sets fall race off for Tedder, Ritter: Voters have spoken and Democrat Dennis Ritter and Republican Jim Tedder will face off in November for District 43 state representative.

New admin team takes on middle school: Principal Elizabeth Walker and Assistant principal Jennifer Johnson are ready for a new year at Sashabaw Middle School. Getting students to work and learn together as they merge into one class after six years at elementary schools across the district. The administration team plans to accomplish their mission included an introductory camp for the kids. They will also form student and teachers into teams so they can work with the same people as much as possible and get to know each other.

Funds for playground: Ryan Kennedy

Please see Snow on page 5

Briefly

City website down

Those looking for information on the City of the Village of Clarkston's website over the holidays were out of luck - Villageofclarkston.org was down from Dec. 26 to at least Dec. 29. According to Go Daddy, the website provider, the page was down pending renewal or deletion.

City Manager Carol Eberhardt said the previous administration and Councilman Steve Hargis created the website about five years ago.

"He is the only one that can reinstate the website and recover the password," she said, adding city officials were able to contact Hargis and he did not even remember setting the site up.

Eberhardt said once Hargis resets the password, it will quickly be up and running. She estimated the site would be up and running on Monday.

Resident Steven Orasco, commenting on Facebook, said "I have to say it is totally ridiculous that no one knew the bill was coming due on the web page. It seems they should be able to get a .gov thru the state."

Eberhardt said in order to prevent similar issues from occurring in the future, she will set up an single email address for important city business to be sent to. Calls to Mayor Joe Luginiski were unreturned as of press time.

Road work continues

"Proceed as planned" was the opinion given to Independence Township after Supervisor Pat Kittle asked engineering firm Carlisle Wortman about the I-75 and Sashabaw Road improvement project.

Even without a new hospital, construction in the area will include \$4 million in improvements to the Sashabaw and Waldon Road intersection and the I-75 interchange.

Work will include new lanes, traffic light at the park-and-ride south of a newly rebuilt gas station, new ramp to southbound Sashabaw Road from northbound I-75, and dedicated lanes for emergency vehicles.

About \$500,000 has already been invested by the township, and all necessary approvals as well as necessary easements for construction have been obtained.

Correction

In a Dec. 3 Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home ad, we incorrectly listed the name of a guest speaker. *The Clarkston News* apologizes for any inconveniences this may have caused.



Coming up this week:

Happy Holidays from Independence Television!

Tune in to Comcast channel 10 for great holiday specials all week long. We're offering great seasonal music and movies, plus Clarkston Community School concerts and the Clarkston Holiday Lights Parade. Make Independence Television part of your holiday celebration!

For a complete schedule, visit our web site: www.independencetelevision.com or find us on Facebook.



RDM, a Clarkston accounting firm, wrapped gifts to give to local families in need at their 2014 company Christmas party. Photo by Andrea Beaudoin

Company party wrap time for families in need

Staff at RDM Associates, a Clarkston accounting firm, used their annual Christmas party as an opportunity to collectively wrap gifts they purchased to support Oakland Family Services' Adopt-A-Family program.

"RDM staff volunteered to adopt two area families," said RDM President Rick Miller. Staff bought and wrapped gifts, which

were items requested by the families.

"It was a fun project and a rewarding experience for the entire team," added Miller.

Each year OFS coordinates with families in need to bring holiday joy to kids who might otherwise go without.

Oakland Family Services' Adopt-A-Family program was created in 1985. This year, it helped

180 families with 395 children, said Kathryn Ribant-Payne, OFS Director of Marketing.

"We are so appreciative of the teamwork between those who donated, our staff, and the wonderful volunteers who coordinated the huge effort of taking delivery on so many gifts," said Miller.

-Andrea Beaudoin

The Clarkston News

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Snow talks in summer

Continued from page 3

Playground Planning Committee members and representative from the Clarkston Area Optimist Club attend an event to accept a donation from the Optimist Club to build a playground in memory of Clarkston's Ryan Kennedy.

August 20

Donation for new Depot Park bridge: Bart and Diane Clark have been active and generous residents of the community since 2005, but their latest commitment to fund a new bridge in Depot Park left people amazed. At a city council meeting, the couple announced they were donating up to \$80,000 for a new bridge in the south end of Depot Park. The bridge donation was made in honor of Bart's brother, Jeff who had planned to move to Clarkston but passed away before he could move. The bridge has been a source of complaints, controversy and conflict. Earlier in the year, the city spent \$4,000 to have the bridge inspected by an engineering firm to determine structural integrity.

Family businesses owners legacy to continue: Long-time Clarkston business owner David McNeven planned to retire years ago, but he never did. The owner of Coach's Corner and Village Apparel and Gifts on Main Street for 36 years, McNeven passed away suddenly at the age of 74. McNeven had two Coach's Corner locations with one in Clarkston and one in Waterford. He had closed the location in Clarkston earlier in the year. Christina Calka and her brother John Paul Calka decided to keep the family business going.

August 27

'No to snow enforcement': A public hearing on a snow shoveling tax, ended in a city of the village of Clarkston council vote not to enforce an existing snow removal ordinance. The public hearing was to let residents express opinions regarding a Special Assessment District which if created would charge each resident \$65 for the city to shovel, but not salt, sidewalks after snowfalls. Council members Mike Sabol and David Marsh insisted the existing ordinance should be enforced. The council voted no saying more discussion is needed.

Enrollment higher than expected: Clarkston Board of Education voted unanimously to hire two new Kindergarten teachers, for Springfield Plains and North Sashabaw Elementary. The hiring takes care of only two contract-overload classes in the district. Officials had estimated a loss of 70 students during the school year which would result in a \$495,000 loss in funding. After enrollment, the district was only looking at a loss of 12 students compared to the previous year. Deputy Superintendent Shawn Ryan said the housing market is strong, and people are moving into Clarkston.

New car for lucky raffle winner: Jon Curlee was one of about 10 people in attendance at Bowman Chevrolet for a drawing for a new car. Curlee held just five tickets out of 2200 tickets sold for the car. Tickets for the raffle were each sold for \$25 to benefit Grace Centers of Hope, a shelter in Pontiac that helps people who are homeless for a variety of reasons from mental illness to drug and alcohol abuse.

\$20,000 for Dixie Highway plan: A Dixie Development Project has \$20,000 to work with after Independence Township Board approved a budget amendment at a special meeting. The money was to be used on a Dixie Highway Development Action Plan, which off-

Please see Teacher on page 9

Death notices & Obituaries

Charles W. Griggs, 91

Charles W. Griggs of Clarkston died suddenly, Dec. 20, 2014, at 91 years of age.

He was the beloved husband of Genevieve Griggs; dear father of Bruce (fiancé - Kim Maki) Griggs; dear grandfather of Kira Griggs.

Mr. Griggs was a veteran of the U.S. Army in World War II. He had retired from the U.S. Postal Service.

Funeral service was Dec. 26 at **Coats Funeral Home-Waterford**. Final resting place, Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. To send a condolence visit www.CoatsFuneralHome.com/obituaries.

Monsour Nassar, 84

Monsour J. Nassar, "John," of Ortonville, formerly of Warren, passed away Dec. 24, 2014, at age 84.

He was the husband of Mary; father of GERALYN (Gary Jelin) Nassar, John (Rose) Nassar, Gary (Susan) Nassar and Pamela (George) Buhler; grandpa "Jidi" of Gary Jr., Scott, Ryan, George, Jennifer, Chelsey, Michaela and Matheu; also four great grandchildren.

Rosary service Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015, at 6 p.m. at the **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston, where friends may visit, Thursday, 3-8 p.m. Funeral Mass, Friday, Jan. 2, 2015, at 10 a.m. at St. Anne Catholic Church, Ortonville. Private entombment Cadillac Memorial Gardens East. Memorials may be made to St. Anne Catholic Church or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Cody D. Petzold, 21

Cody Dylan Petzold of Holly passed away suddenly, Dec. 26, 2014, at age 21.

He was the son of David and Susan; brother of Jacob; grandson of Marion (the late Clarence) Petzold and the late John and Beth Sukup; nephew of Cheryl (Ken) Wyman, Gigi (Rick) Thibault, Tom (Linda) Sukup and Edward (Linda) Petzold.

Cody graduated from Holly High School as Valedictorian in 2011. He studied Human Resources at Oakland University and served as Resident Assistant and Academic Peer Mentor. Cody had been employed at Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce as Executive Assistant.

He volunteered with L.G.B.T., interned with Chrysler and was recently hired.

Visitation was Dec. 30 at the **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Celebration of Life service, Wednesday, Dec. 31, at 12:30 p.m. at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Donations may be made to Oakland University for G.S.A. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com

Obituaries posted daily at
Clarkstonnews.com

Wed., December 31, 2014 The Clarkston (MI) News 5 Joyce E. Labarge, 81

Joyce E. Labarge (Smith) of Lewiston, Mich., and Lakeland, Fla., passed away Dec. 28, 2014, at age 81.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ray. She was the mother of Rennie (Bert) Kovacs of Clarkston, Brian (Ria) LaBarge of Gaylord, Michigan and Naples, Florida and Gina (Kevin) Daniels of Clarkston; grandma of Kelly (Victor) Pena of Clarkston; great grandma of Manuel and Layla; sister of Thelma (the late Richard) Lynch of Memphis, Tennessee; also survived by many nieces and nephews.



Joyce lived life to the fullest. She enjoyed gardening, dancing and spending time with family and friends.

Family services have been held. Inurnment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for brain tumor research.

Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Vincent E. Lowes, 80

Vincent E. Lowes, "Vince," of Clarkston passed away Dec. 25, 2014, at age 80.

He was the loving husband of Terry for 42 years; father of JoAnne (Dave) Vidlund, Joyce Lowes, Jim (Susan) Lowes and Jayson "Jay" (Cyndi) Lowes; grandfather of 13; great grandfather of five; son in law of Mary Jane (the late Glenn) Rumble and the late Carl Leary; preceded in death by his parents Clayton and Laura Lowes and siblings Leroy, Paul, Glen, Fred, Dorothy, Helen, Clayton, Jr. and Carl.

Vince retired from General Motors on Jan. 1, 2012.

Funeral Service was Dec. 30 at the **Lewis E. Wint and Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Interment Lakeview Cemetery. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Marian E. Mills, 94

Marian E. Mills (Porter) of Groveland Township, formerly of Birmingham, passed away Dec. 23, 2014, at age 94.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 67 years, Osmun. She was the mother of Nancy Mills, Norman Mills, Karen (Mac McRoberts) Stanisz and Colleen Brown; proud Nana of Adam (Jenny Martin) Stanisz, Lisa Wood, Calvin (Rachel) Brown, Clifton (Katie) Brown, Carissa (Brandon Nielsen) Brown; great grandma of Gage and Quinten Wood; sister of Dorothy Simpson; sister-in-law of Evelyn Brondige and Bernetta (John) Seling; preceded in death by her parents, Norman and Amoric Porter, and siblings, Jane Behrens, Eleanor Ehrenfeld, Phyllis Pettypiece, Jack Porter, and Norman Porter.

Marian was a longtime member and Sunday school teacher at Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church and Women's Society Christian Service. She was a nutritionist for Michigan State University Coop Extension Service, active with 4H and a Brownie Troop leader.

She was a city girl who met her husband square dancing and blossomed into a country homemaker, known for her cooking, canning and cake decorating.

Funeral service was Dec. 29 at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Interment White Lake Township Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church or Hartland Hospice. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.



Phil in the Blank

A column by Phil Custodio

Future's finally here

I'm ready for 2015. To me, and probably lots of folks who grew up in the 1980s, this year is officially "the future" – as defined by our foremost authority on time and space, "Back to the Future."

It took longer to get here from 1985 than it would have using a flux-capacitor equipped Delorean at 88 mph.

But we're here. That's good news for meme makers, who have been making prints and posters announcing we've arrived at the Back-to-the-Future future for years now. Doc Brown programmed his time machine to go 30 years into the past, then 30 years into the future, no more, no less.

Math still persists as a problem here in the future.

Looking around, it's clear there are no flying cars, highways in the air, holographic projectors, or hoverboards, all things portrayed in "Back to the Future II."

Inventors have been busy working on other things instead. Computers are certainly of the future.

My family had a Radio Shack TRS-80 back in 1985, among the latest in home computing. It used a cassette tape recorder for memory storage. It came with about four KB of RAM. My old thumb drive I use for work can hold two GB of info, about 500,000 times as much.

The cell phone I carry in my pocket can handle two million times as much as the old Radio Shack machine (if these numbers are incorrect, please refer back to the math thing).

Cassette tapes back then could hold maybe 20 songs. Soon devices will be able to hold all the songs ever made.

Cable television was the latest in entertainment back in 1985. I don't even have cable anymore, because I've found it to be obsolete. I stream Youtube and Netflix wirelessly (cablelessly?) through my Wii into my laptop computer and television at the same time.

What the movie got right is how people use the technology we have.

In the film, a high-tech, 3D, fully immersive holographic system was used to advertise the latest "Jaws" movie.

Now, lots of the internet is used to create "memes" and other, frivolous things.

At least the Back to the Future memes now feature the correct year. And usually Doc Brown, dumbfounded by the way 2015 is actually turning out.



Opinion Pages

Letters, columns & Editorials

Website woes show need for newspaper notices

As the state legislature considers HB 5560, which would eventually allow local governments to post public notices to their government websites instead of local newspapers, we present the City of the Village of Clarkston.

The city website was down over the holidays – not the victim of North Korean hackers, the site was locked by its provider due to lack of payment for renewal.

A call to City Manager Carol Eberhardt was less than reassuring. It wasn't her fault, she told us. Officials before her paid for five years for the site, and then apparently forgot about it.

We think public notices, which keep residents informed of what government is doing and when, are too important to entrust to government itself, especially one like this.

–PMC

Thanks for help with Holiday Party

Dear Editor,

We want to thank you for your recent donation to our Holiday Party Silent Auction. Your donation was a wonderful addition to our gift table and we had a very successful evening.

Proceeds from this event support the Clarkston Heritage Museum and all the items in our Clarkston collection.

The museum collects and cares for Clarkston artifacts, as well as provides

exhibits, programs, field trips and many other events. Your generosity helps make all this possible. We can't thank you enough for your continued support of the Historical Society and Museum.

Your commitment to our mission will be evident in our collections and to this community for many years to come.

Thank you again.

*Toni Smith, director
Clarkston Heritage Museum*

Reader rejects state road fix proposal

Dear Editor,

I am genuinely incensed at the recent actions taken to "fix the roads" by our lame ("duck" omitted intentionally) legislature.

Based upon what I have read, the current 19-cent-per-gallon gas tax and 15 cent diesel tax will be replaced with a 14.9 percent wholesale fuel tax.

It is being said that "at current prices" this results in 41.7 cents per gallon tax for gasoline and will raise \$1.2 billion dedicated for roads.

I purchased gasoline this morning for \$1.99 per gallon retail. At the current wholesale price, 14.9 percent tax would generate less than 30 cents per gallon of revenue. A whole-

sale fuel tax of more than 20 percent would be required to generate 40 cents per gallon.

If the price of gasoline were to remain at the current level, the "fix the roads" revenue will fall short and we will be stuck with the seven percent general sales tax that will be used to payoff the special interest groups that will support the legislation. The road fix will not be funded.

Not only do I think that this "fix" is a bad deal for taxpayers, but I also feel that all representatives and senators and the governor who supported this "compromise" should be made lame ducks at the next election cycle.

*Rick Gutowski
Independence Township*



HOLIDAY SKATE: From left, Clarkston residents Olivia Berard, Madison Dryden, Gabby Tuson, Isabel Holloway, Rachel Horton and Erica Murrell performed in the Lakeland Skaters performance of "Elf" on Dec. 15 at Lakeland Arena. Photo submitted

A Look Back

From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 1999

"Township, other officials make final preparations for Y2K" In midst of 2000, Y2K, township officials and other agencies were making the final preparations in case of any new year's glitches. Independence Township Supervisor Dale Stuart said he "did not expect anything to go amiss over which we have control."

"STARServe kids are shining examples" Andersonville Elementary fifth grade students in STARServe (Students Taking Action & Responsibility in Service) collected \$130 in cash donations and several boxes full of new toys and clothing for H.A.V.E.N of Oakland County.

"Debate continues over Clarkston Creek Golf Course" Debate continued over Clarkston Creek Golf Course and no decision was made. For the third time, Independence Township Board members and residents wrestled over the issue which proposes the township would buy the 144-acre course on Maybee Road.

25 years ago - 1989

"More growth likely in the 1990s" Growth, growth and more growth was on the top of the list of predictions for 1990s among local school and government agencies. Many also recognized the need for projects to go with the growth such as waste management, the need for better state legislation and patience among all people.

"Girl qualifies for pre-teen national pageant" Fifth-grade Clarkston Elementary student Becky Olsen found out first hand how it felt to be on center stage. She competed against 65 other girls in the Miss Pre-teen Grand Rapids pageant and was named second runner-up.

"Wolves beat bug" Hit by the flu bug, Clarkston Varsity Basketball players relied on fresh faces to keep their record perfect. The Wolves won their game against Detroit Catholic Central, 74-65, bumping their pre-Christmas vacation record to 5-0.

50 years ago - 1964

"State police increase patrols for New Year's weekend" With Michigan near the end of its worst years for traffic deaths, The public was asked to cooperate in safety practices to help increased State Police patrols over holiday weekends.

"Clarkston locals" The day after Christmas when most were resting, there was a gathering at the Kidd family home where relatives enjoyed the extra day with an exchange of gifts and dinner.

Big Jim Admits: Mistakes I have made

This is a best of Jim's Jottings, that was first published on November 26, 1970. Please enjoy!

* * *

Through my nearly two decades of newspaper work I have made some mistakes that have been real beauties. I'm not referring to misjudgments or things done in poor taste.

In news stories, I don't use the title after the full name is first mentioned. It's Jim Sherman first, and after that it's just Sherman. However, as

Jim's Jottings



A column by Jim Sherman

the woman caller pointed out, leaving off the title on a death notice shows lack of respect for the dead. I agree.

The only mistake involving a dirty word I can recall being responsible for came while working at the *Gladwin County Record*. As a proofreader, I missed a bold faced headline that read **Mystery Sister Party**.

Naturally the story was from a church related group and the sixth letter in the alphabet replaced the "P" in party. Shortly after the paper hit the streets, as the big city boys say, publisher Paul Moon got a call. He in turn called me.

He said the caller had threatened to sue the paper for blackening of charac-

ter. Right now I think he was joking, but I didn't then.

Generally, mistakes are just that and can be amended or laughed at. Hopefully, the most recent big blunder (it could have been our biggest) was taken lightly by the man involved. His letter pointing out our mistake would indicate this.

The guy we "picked" on was N.C. "Red" VanNatta. He was supervisor of Springfield Township until the Nov. 3 election. Some years ago, Red lost his left arm in an accident on Telegraph Road. Another car side-swiped his and he had his arm resting out the open window at the time.

In his campaign for re-election, Red ordered an ad with us in *The Clarkston News*.

It showed him sitting at a desk signing some papers.

Well, you can guess what happened. In this mixed up offset printing operation it's real easy to get a picture reversed . . . and we did.

There, big as can be, sits Red signing a paper with his *left* hand.

He sent a note with his check for the ad that read, "*Enclosed please find check covering your invoice of Nov. 10. It is a real cheap price to pay for the rejuvenation of my left arm. I enjoyed it immensely.*"

Red, I love your sense of humor. I'm not sure I would feel the same and I know many others wouldn't have enjoyed our mistake a bit.

Drum roll please: Don's favorites of 2014

It's a wrap on 2014

Yep, it may be sad, but it's true: 2014 is all but over, merely memories of the things we did and said. And, for my last column of this calendar year, I'm gonna go back and revisit said year's *Don't Rush Me* "gems." (Or at least just the headlines that caught my attention, whilst reviewing.)

When I put on my columnist hat, I write differently than when I am donning the editor or reporter's caps. While still fashionable, the columnist's hat is a little flamboyant when compared to regular news writing or editorial writing head wear. When I am wearing the columnist cap, I hope to be an entertaining, educational, awe-inspiring and sometimes anger inducing writer.

* * *

Headlines are the hook, which hopefully gets you to stop on the page and read what's under those big, blocky, bold words. In 2014, I believe I started off with a bang! The very first *Don't Rush Me* headline of the year told all readers: **Don says, this year don't be stupid!** (Is it any wonder I only have four regular readers – Mom and my three younger sisters?) If I want to build readership maybe I should always be nice and tell you what you want to hear and read?

I probably should have been a more positive role model and headlined that column, **Don hopes you'll**

Don't Rush Me



A column by Don Rush

be smart this year. Tough rocks, kiddies. I didn't and I think the rest of the year went down hill from there.

* * *

I liked this headline from January 22, "**Marijuana's the bomb and hillbilly logic.**" I have no idea what I wrote about, but I got to use the words "*marijuana*" and "*hillbilly*" in the same sentence and when you put those two things together, you just know it's gonna be exciting.

* * *

My favorite headline of the year came in February, "**Swamnee Don proven right . . . again!**"

* * *

March 3 was probably my most educational column of the year. With the aid of the internet as to avoid asking actual smart people questions, I was able to research the wonder of the human body, in particular our ears. And, with a headline like "**Lets give some love to earwax,**" you know you're in for a good read! Readers learned about both kids of earwax (wet and dry) and learned the stuff is really only made out of dead skin cells, sweat and oils.

Who woulda thunk it?

* * *

Like every columnist worth his or her salt, sometimes you have to write about what readers are talking about and the big story this year was Polar Vortex and snow. At the end of March, hardy Michiganian types were still stuck in winter. My March 26 headline shared the sentiments of at least 50 percent of our state's population: "**Record schmecord. I am done with snow!**"

(For Your Information: last year at this time we had 15 inches of snow.)

* * *

I got a little philosophical this year, too. Column headlines included, "**Civil discourse a thing of the past?**" and "**Artificial outrage gets his goat.**" and, "**Thud, thud. Thrown under the bus and more.**" Also, together we pondered one of life's great mysteries with this column, "**What's the meaning of Don's ice-scraper?**"

Readers, riddle me this: What is the meaning of philosophy, anyway? That's your 2015 goal, to enlighten me.

* * *

In 2014 a lot of readers wrote me and not without a little prompting. In July I put out this headline, "**Here's your chance to make 50 bucks the easy way.**" I asked readers to explain why they like their community paper – the winner got 50, one dollar bills. The winner was Diane DeClerck, who then had me give the \$50 to the Devoted Friends Animal Society in Ortonville.

* * *

All in all, 2014 was a fun year to pen columns for you – I even got to fill in as a guest writer for the blog, *Ready Dressed Go!*

Thank you for your support and heres to an entertaining, educational, awe-inspiring and anger-inducing 2015!

As always, e-mail your comments to Don@ShermanPublications.org

In 2015 make it a resolution to get involved in your community. Go to city meetings, volunteer your time and read The Clarkston News every week!

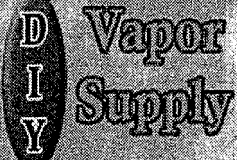
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Public Safety

For Clarkston and Independence Township

Treated for drugs

A 44-year-old resident in the 4000 block of Kootima Drive was found unresponsive in his bedroom, 2:17 p.m., Dec. 13. Responding deputy and Independence Township paramedics didn't find drugs at the scene, but the man was given naloxone, a heroin antidote, and he responded. He was taken to McLaren Oakland for treatment.

Car crash

A 47-year-old Clarkston man responsible for a car crash at Dixie Highway and White Lake Road, 4:48 p.m., Dec. 14, was cited for driving while unlicensed.

Disappearing hockey bag

A bag filled with about \$6,500 in hockey equipment fell out of a pickup truck on M-15 at Clarkston Road, 4:57 p.m., Dec. 15. By the time the owners could circle back, the bag was gone.

Jewelry thief

Jewelry and money were taken from a business in the 5000 block of Dixie Highway, 10:18 a.m., Dec. 15. There was no sign of forced entry. The owner said a white man with brown eyes and black hair, about 30 years old, 5-foot-9-inches in height, 160 pounds, with a scraggly beard and a shiny black jacket was in the store the Saturday before, taking pictures until she asked him to stop. He left with buying anything.

Lost credit card

A 19-year-old Goodrich man lost his credit card on Dec. 10 at a business in the 5000 block of Sashabaw Road. On Dec. 15, he found it was used at convenience stores and restaurants on Sashabaw Road on Dec. 12-13.

Theft from park

An apartment complex employee in the 5000 block of Deepwood Court watched as a man stopped at the property's dog park and took its stock of dog waste bags, 12:05 p.m., Dec. 16. The license plate was traced to Waterford. The vehicle's owner, a 59-year-old Waterford man, wasn't home to talk to a deputy, but later called, apologized for taking the supply, and said he would replace the bags.

No license in crash

A 20-year-old Independence Township woman responsible for a traffic crash at Dixie Highway and Ortonville Road, 6:52 p.m., Dec. 18, was cited for driving without a license, which she had never obtained.

Suspended license

A deputy stopped a 34-year-old Holly man because his vehicle's license plate was covered in mud and driver's side mirror, missing, 9:14 p.m., Dec. 21, at Dixie Highway and White Lake Road. He was cited for driving with a suspended license and equipment violation for the lost mirror.

Lawns destroyed

Residents reported a vehicle drove across their lawns in the 7000 block of Devins Ridge and 5000 block of Hilltop Estates Drive, Dec. 19.

Felony warrant

A deputy noticed a car going 40 mph in a 50 mph zone and stopped it to check the welfare of the driver at Sashabaw and Maybee roads, 9:24 a.m., Dec. 19. A record's check showed the driver, a 28-year-old Oxford woman, had a Sixth Circuit felony warrant for violation of probation on a larceny in a building charge. She was jailed on the warrant and her vehicle was impounded.

Identity theft

When an Independence Township woman tried to use her credit card, it was declined, Dec. 19. Her credit company said someone used her Social Security number to change her account settings and password, and made a \$1,600 purchase with it.

Shoplifter

The manager of a store in the 7000 block of Dixie Highway saw a shopper put nine foil packs of gaming cards in her purse and walk out without paying for them, 12:40 a.m., Dec. 22. The shopper, a 41-year-old Ortonville woman, said she took the cards for her kids for Christmas. She had paid for several other items at the store, and had 6-8 bags of groceries in her vehicle. She was cited for Retail Fraud III.

Arson arrest

A 38-year-old Springfield Township man was arrested in an arson investigation in the 9400 block of Cherrywood, 2 a.m., Dec. 22. The man's wife said she woke to the smell of a comforter burning on the bed. She then noticed there were fires in her closet and in a laundry room. She and her three children put out the fires with water from the kitchen sink. Springfield Township firefighters and sheriff's deputies responded to assist. She said she and her husband are in the middle of a divorce. Investigators determined the fires to be arson. No injuries were reported. The husband was jailed pending issuance of warrants.



Clarkston sends off summer each year with a Labor Day Parade. *File photo*

Teacher, hospital talks in fall

Continued from page 5

cialists said was needed to stimulate new investment, provide jobs, and increase the tax base and services to consumers along the aging commercial corridor.

September 3

More crosswalks, signals for Main Street: As part of the M-15 work, Michigan Department of Transportation agreed to replace and install crosswalks at Waldon Road and Washington Street.

Farewell summer: Kids, parents, and parade participants bid farewell to summer break, if not the warm summer weather that never quite got here, with the annual Clarkston Labor Day Parade.

September 10

Storm knocks out power: A storm swept through Michigan leaving many areas, including downtown Clarkston, without power. The vicious storm disappointed Clarkston Wolves football fans after a Friday night game was disrupted by mother nature.

Teachers in orange for raise: Several teachers were wearing orange to send a message regarding ongoing contract negotiations. "The message is we're feeling a little disrespected," said Brooke Davis, Clarkston High School teacher and president of the Clarkston Education Association (CEA). "We think we should have had a fair contract by now." The teacher's union is looking for a permanent salary increase, he said.

September 24

All is not right in the city, so sayeth the mayor: Mayor Joe Luginski announced the way City of the Village of Clarkston conducts business is illegal.

Luginski said city auditors informed the city of the problem last week. The errors are not intentional, however, Luginski said.

Rule change could revive hospital plan: A proposed state law offered new hope for the proposed \$303 million McLaren hospital in Independence Township. State Sen. Randy Richardville, Republican senate majority leader from Monroe, introduced Bill 1037 last week to change certificate-of-need rules.

October 1

First anniversary for manufacturer: With \$7.3 million invested so far, Magneti Marelli makes Independence Township a player in the global automotive manufacturing industry. Magneti Marelli celebrated its first year in Independence with a ceremony, tours, and family events, Sept. 26.

October 8

Meet the court: The 2014 Clarkston High School Homecoming Court included sophomores Remy Zaremba, Sydney Houstina, Drue Froeschke, Renee Rogowski, Tiger Hutchons, and Patrick McKillop; juniors Lauren Tait, Mitchell Thompson, Kayleigh Patrick, Mike Baker, Sabrina Parks, and Nate Gipe; and seniors Brian Mendiola, Isaac Mansour, Olivia Montgomery, Paige Barnhardt, Jenny Lussenhop, and Erich Uhlig.

October 22

Candidates' views contrast on issues: All five candidates for Clarkston Board of Education agreed technology upgrades and student achievement were important goals for the district. The school board's *Please see Year on page 22*

Clarkston's Sporting News

Who is the next AOW?
Nominate your favorite athlete by contacting Wendi at 248-625-3370 or at clarkstonnews@gmail.com

Victory at tournaments

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Junior Nate Vandermeer claimed the Oakland County championship in the 152-pound weight class with a 5-4 victory over Walled Lake Central at Lake Orion, Dec. 20.

"Nate wrestled very well," said Clarkston Varsity Wrestling Head Coach Derek Moscovic. "He kept his composure in the finals. It was a close match. He did a nice job of just keeping focused. Anytime you are at the Oakland County meet you aim to win - that within itself is a huge accomplishment. It was probably the best performance of the day in the finals not only for him."

Vandermeer went 5-0 over the two-day tournament with defeats over Detroit Catholic Central Defeat with a technical fall, 15-0, Farmington with a fall at two minutes, Ferndale with a technical fall, 15-0, Troy Athens with a technical fall, 17-2, and Walled Lake Central, 5-4.

Two more wrestlers placed for Clarkston - senior Josh Cohoon, fifth place in 189-pound weight class, and junior Kyle Masters, seventh place in 160-pound weight class.

"Both of them wrestled good tournaments," Moscovic added. "They probably hoped to place a little bit higher, but it is early in the season and they both work very hard."

Cohoon went 5-2 during the tournament with two wins on the first day against Novi,

a fall at 51 seconds and Lakeland, a fall at 3:54.

During the second day he beat Stoney Creek with a fall at 2:06 and Ferndale with a fall at 1:51. He lost to Lakeland, 7-6, and South Lyon with a pin. He defeated Pontiac for fifth place with a 7-3 win.

Masters went 3-3 for the tournament and also started with two wins on the first day. He had two pins against Novi and Seaholm.

He began the second day with a loss to Detroit Catholic Central with a fall then beat Milford in a major decision, 15-6. He lost to West Bloomfield and Seaholm to finish the day.

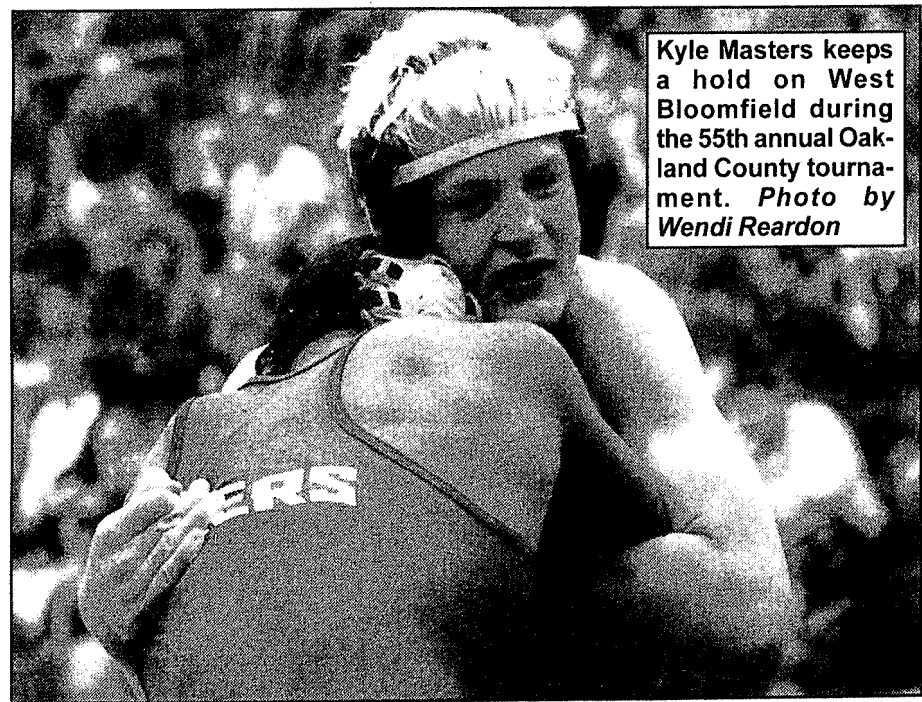
Clarkston finished in 12th place with 112.5 points out of 39 teams for the 55th annual tournament.

"We had some guys out of the line up who were sick or injured," Moscovic explained. "I don't think it was a real good indication of what our true potential is."

For more results visit www.clarkstonnews.com.

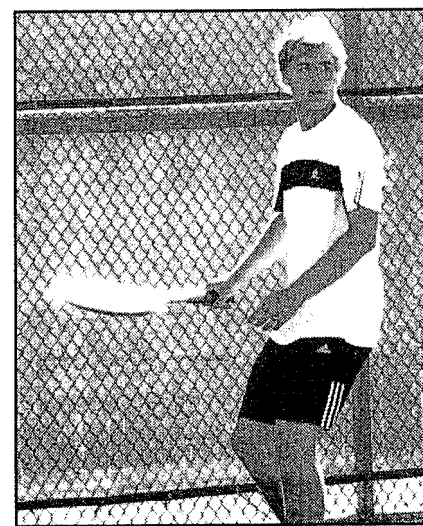
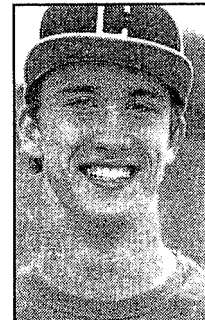
The Wolves head to Detroit Catholic Central Invitational on Saturday at 27225 Wixom Road in Novi.

"It is an extremely tough tournament this year and there are some tough teams in the state of Michigan," said Moscovic. "Hopefully we can have some good performances that we are capable of. We have a couple days off for the holiday. They can rest up and get better then it's up and onward."



Kyle Masters keeps a hold on West Bloomfield during the 55th annual Oakland County tournament. Photo by Wendi Reardon

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR



Congrats Athletes of the Week, July - Dec.

July

Clarkston Varsity Baseball team, Clarkston Sea Wolves swimmers, Clarkston Boys Varsity Golf, Hitter Michael Bednarczyk, Clarkston Boys Varsity Lacrosse team

August

Clarkston Chargers Flag Football team, Footballer Will Scarlett, Icer Roman Reiner, Hitter Mikayla Blaska

September

Clarkston Equestrian Team, Clarkston Varsity Volleyball team, Tennis players Brendan Greenlee and Mitch Rogowski, Spiker Ashley Schwartz

October

Golfer Samantha Weber, Footballer Cole Chewins, Clarkston Boys JV B Soccer team, Tennis player Alex Matisse, Gymnast Baylee Tweed

November

Clarkston Boys Varsity Tennis team, Runner Tyler Dunn, Runner Kaitlyn Cavallo, Gymnasts Emma McLean and Jacquelyn Yates

December

Footballer Adam Matich, Cager Ashley Skaggs, Footballer Merrick Canada


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Fall season of champs in 2014

The community rallied behind their favorite Clarkston teams and athletes in the second half of 2014 as the fall teams found success.

The Lady Wolves Volleyball team won their eight consecutive district title against crosstown rivals Lake Orion and the Clarkston Boys Varsity Soccer team took Walled Lake Northern down in a shootout for their second

For the gridiron heroes, fans celebrated as the varsity football team went to Ford Field for the second time - and won their back-to-back state championship. The Wolves also went 14-0 for the season, going on their 27-1 streak.

Here are a few highlights from the second half of 2014.

August 20

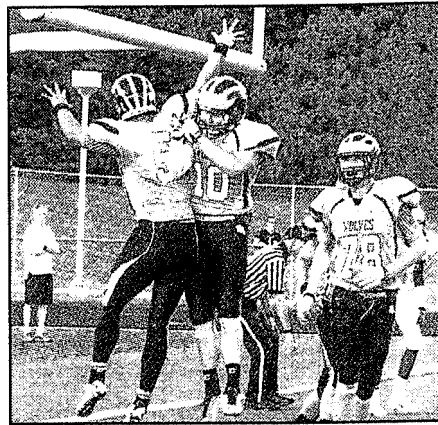
Touchdown in cancer fight: It was the Pink team to prevail during the Gridiron Heroes' Sixth Annual Football for a Cure with a 23-14 win.

August 27

Record-breaking: Clarkston Gridiron Heroes collected 7,463 pounds of food for the 17th Annual Rush for Food to feed their community. It was a record breaking year as they collected 1,066 pounds more than they raised in 2013.

September 3

Back on the gridiron: Seniors continued



The Wolves take the field to start their championship fall season. File photo

the Wolves post-game tradition of dancing after a victory as the Clarkston Varsity Football team opened the season with a 24-22 victory over Macomb Dakota.

Everest charges in season with win: The Clarkston Everest Collegiate Football team kicked off their second season for the program with a 22-14 win over Allen Park Cabrini.

Lady Wolves ace quad: Clarkston Varsity Volleyball team went undefeated in the Fenton Quad as they beat Davison, Brighton and Fenton.

Wolves sink Falcons, 6-1: Sophomore Kyle Hayes helped his team make a state
Please see Titles on page 12

Dr. Wendy L. McFalda
Dr. Brian A. Kopitzki
Carol Ecker, R.N.
Kelly Dooley, PA-C

Congratulations! Clarkston Dermatology congratulates Dr. Richard Schwartz on his retirement and thanks for his 35 years of service to this community.

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Titles won in football, track, soccer, volleyball, swim

Continued from page 11

ment in the Clarkston Varsity Soccer team's season opener as they beat Rochester, 6-1. Hayes scored two times in the first three minutes of the game.

October 1

Homecoming victories for Everest: Everest Collegiate Football team defeated Lenawee Christian 45-0 and the Lady Mountaineers upperclassmen won the seven annual Powderpuff game 21-14.

October 15

Running to first: The Clarkston Boys Cross Country team finished in first place in the JV and varsity races at the Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard meet. The Lady Wolves finished in second place in the first race and Kaitlyn Cavallo took first in the JV race.

October 22

Wolves win shootout for district title: It was a battle until the end and the end result was Clarkston Boys Varsity Soccer claiming their second consecutive MHSAA District title after they won in a shootout against Walled Lake Northern. Grant Gotaas made two saves and Jon Tonks, Alex Komatz and Jared Suddon scored during the shootout.

Winning streak continues: It took a 62-yard run to wake up Clarkston Varsity Football players at Lake Orion High School. The long run led to a touchdown for the Dragons but it was the last for them as the Wolves



The two-time state champ Wolves celebrate their victory at Ford Field. File photo

went on to win the game 42-7.

Lady Wolves win tourney, league: History was made as Clarkston Varsity Volleyball won the sixth annual Beast of the East tournament for the first time. The Lady Wolves also went undefeated in the OAA Red to win the league title.

October 29

Runners shine at MHSAA Regionals, head to finals: The Wolves ruled Delta College as both cross country teams qualified for the MHSAA State Finals. The Lady Wolves sealed their trip by winning the regional title and the boys finished in third place.

November 12

Spikers slay Dragons in playoffs: The Clarkston Varsity Volleyball team swept their crosstown rivals in three games to claim their eighth consecutive district title.

November 19

Final four showdown: Clarkston Varsity Football moved on to the Final Four in their playoff run after defeating Walled Lake Central for the Wolves' second consecutive regional title, 40-22.

November 26

Heading back to Ford Field: The gridiron heroes were heading to Ford Field once again for the MHSAA Division 1 Football

State Championship. They earned their second consecutive trip with a 35-13 win over East Kentwood in the semifinals.

Splash at state finals: The Lady Wolves finished their fall season taking 25th place at the MHSAA Division 1 Girls Swim & Dive State Finals with sophomore Kelsey Gilbert and junior Ceren Ege scoring points in the final rounds.

December 3

Congratulations two-time state champ Wolves!: Gridiron heroes who have played together since they were 7- and 8-years-old made the MHSAA Division 1 Football State Championship game a special one. It was even more special as the Wolves defeated Saline, 33-25, for the back-to-back state championship.

First win on the ice: Senior forward Drake Gentile led the Wolves to their first win of the season, scoring four goals in the Clarkston Hockey team's victory over Lapeer, 4-2.

December 17

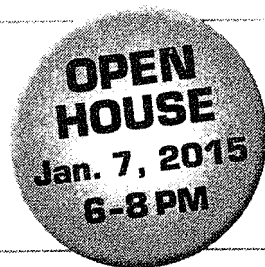
Cagers sink two opponents: The Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball team opened their first week of the season knocking down two opponents - St. Mary's Prep and Avondale.

Congrats to all Clarkston athletes on your achievements in 2014. We look forward to seeing what you do in 2015.

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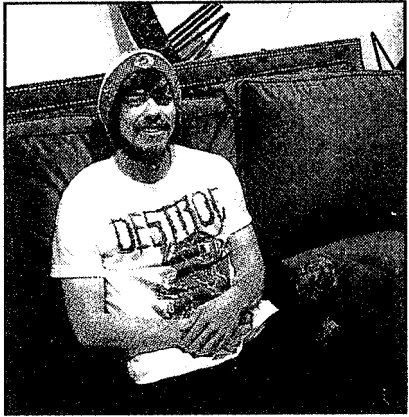
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What's your New Year's resolution?



"To focus on studies at Oakland Community College. I also want to focus on music."

- Kyle Johns



"To spend more time with my family. I have not spent that much time with my little brother and little sister."

- Joe'l Molina



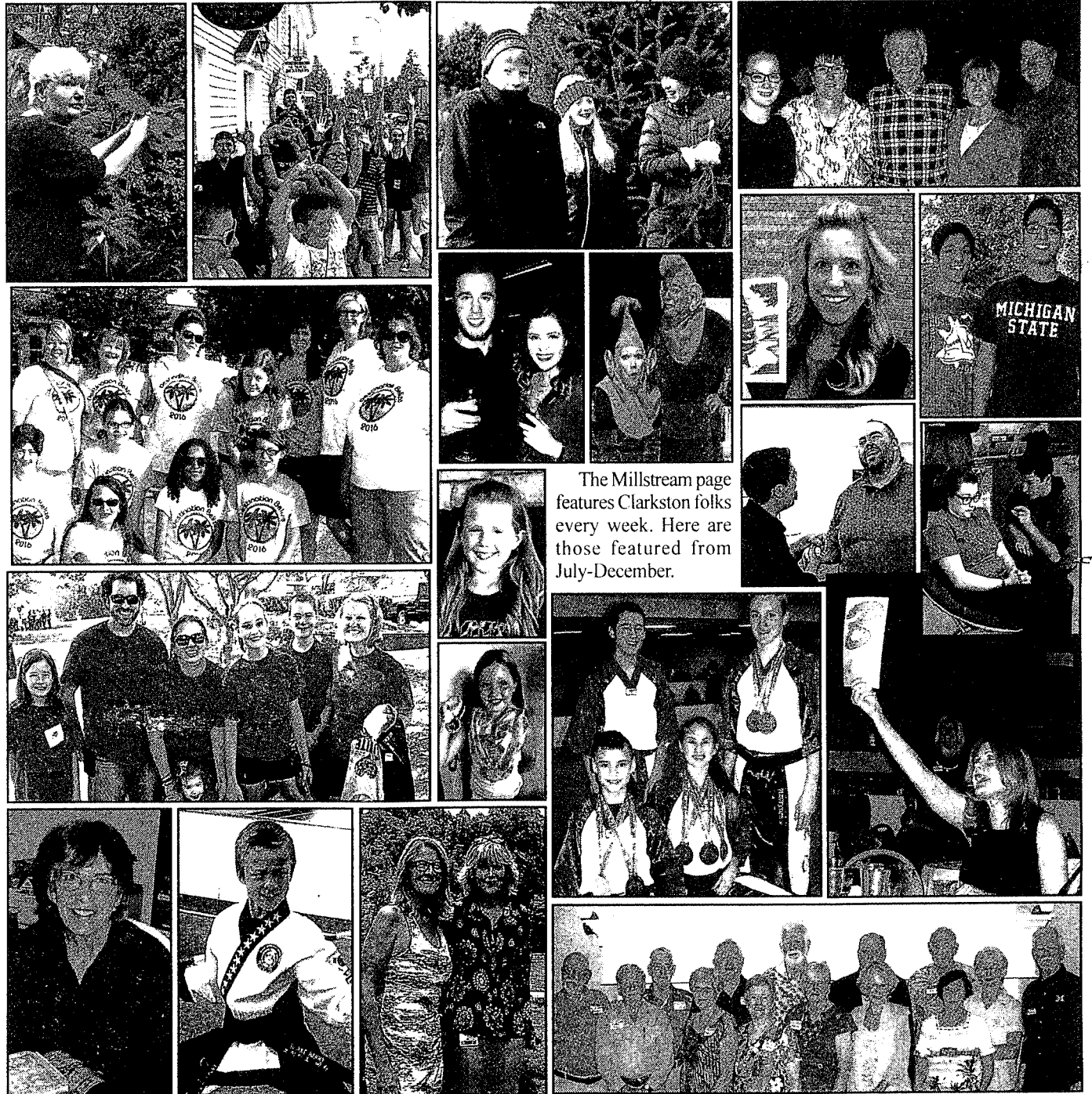
"I want to try to quit smoking."

- Kevin Johns

By Andrea Beaudoin

The Clarkston News' Millstream

Dedicated to showcasing the reasons this is a great area to live and work!



The Millstream page features Clarkston folks every week. Here are those featured from July-December.

The Holidays are Over!
Let us take the stress out of cleaning your home

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First-rate, less wait ER

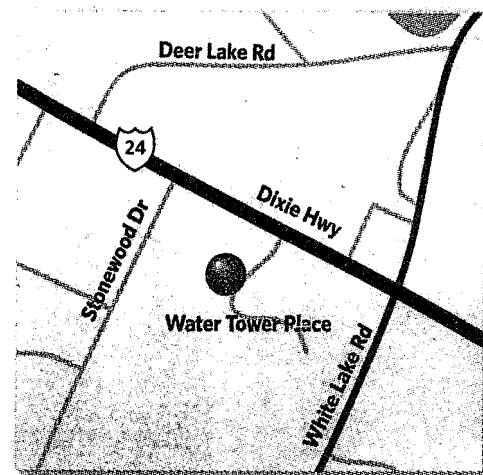
▶ 24/7 ER care in Clarkston within 15 minutes or less!

If you or a loved one requires emergency care, come to Clarkston ER, operated by McLaren Oakland. Conveniently located and open 24/7, we're committed to providing immediate treatment to all patients who come through our doors. In fact, you'll see a doctor within 15 minutes or less!

All of our doctors are board-certified or board-eligible emergency physicians, and our registered nurses are specially trained in emergency care. Plus, our ER features state-of-the-art diagnostic technology, an on-site laboratory and sports physicals that are available around the clock.

Choose the first-rate ER with quick wait times—Clarkston ER.

CLARKSTON ER



5625 Water Tower Place · Suite 166
Clarkston, MI 48346
(248) 620-4245



Events

Blood drives, American Red Cross, 10 a.m.-3:45 p.m., Jan. 2, Clarkston Brandon Community Credit Union, 8055 Ortonville Road; 8 a.m. - 1:45 p.m., Jan. 11, Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. 800-RED CROSS, 800-733-2767.

Monday

Line Dancing, Mondays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Country, salsa, cha-cha, rock and roll with Rosemary Hall. All welcome. \$3/drop in.

Clarkston Rotary Club, Mondays, 6:30 p.m. Buck Shots Bar and Grill, 7048 Gateway Park Drive. 248-880-0027.

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

Bingo games, Community Singles, Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Big Boy, 6440 Dixie Highway. Dinner, dessert prizes. 248-812-0604.

FOP Post 132, third Monday, 7 p.m., American Legion Post 63, Ortonville Road.

Tuesday

Breast Cancer Survivor Group, second Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., 21st Century Oncology, 6770 Dixie Highway. 248-625-3841.

Clarkston Community Band rehearsals, 7-9 p.m., Tuesdays. \$30/semester, free for high school students. Band room, Sashabaw Middle School, 5565 Pine Knob Lane, clarkstonband@gmail.com.

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

Clarkston Community Women's Club, third Tuesday, 7 p.m., Clarkston Independence District Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Community service group for all ages. 248-421-7699.

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

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

50+ Pickleball, Tuesdays, Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., \$3; Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m., \$4; Saturdays, 9-11 a.m., \$3. All welcome.

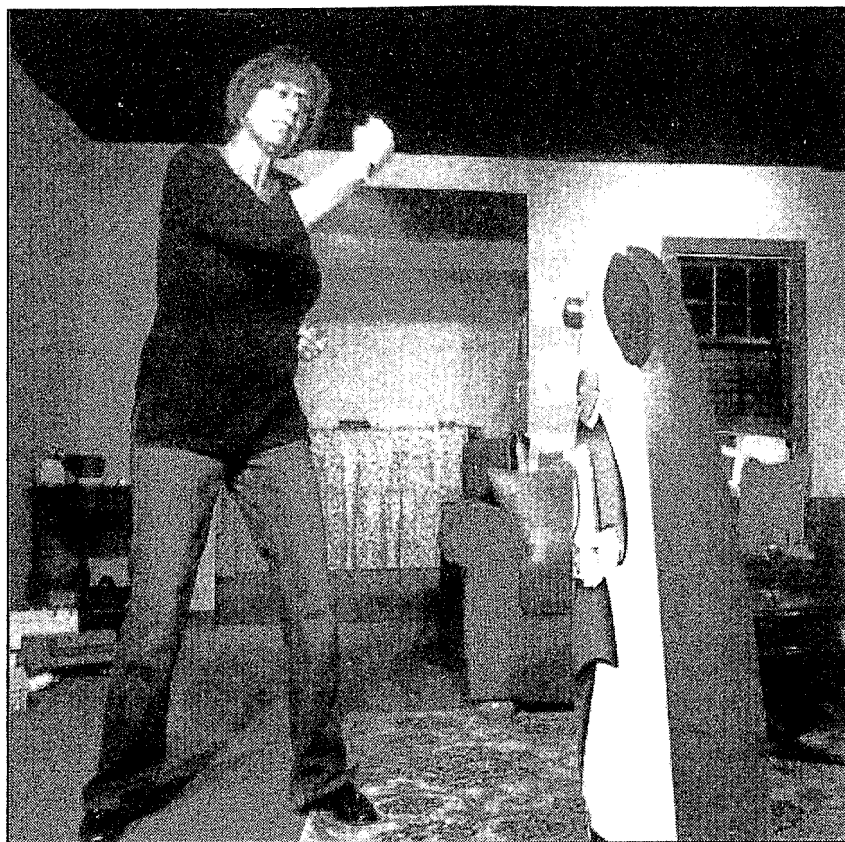
LegalShield and Identity Theft Shield information sessions with Carol Compagnoni, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., Colombiere Center, 9075 Big Lake Road. 248-420-3126.

Wednesday

Clarkston Area Optimist Club, 7:30-8:30

Around Town

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



Cynthia Haaseth as Marsha takes out her frustrations on an inflatable Bozo. Photo provided

Dramedy first show of the year

Clarkston Village Players' production of Sybille Pearson's "Sally and Marsha" opens Friday, Jan. 9.

The heartwarming dramatic comedy is about Sally, played by Meredith Zaviski. She is a young mother who moves from South Dakota to a cramped New York City apartment with her two children and traveling salesman husband.

Desperate for a friend, Sally strikes up a

conversation with her next-door neighbor, Marsha, played by Cynthia Haaseth. The character is a cynical, wise-cracking native New Yorker. Often compared to a female version of "The Odd Couple," the women gradually become friends.

Performances are Jan. 9-10, 16-18, and 22-24. For Tickets, email tickets@clarkstonvillageplayers.org or call 248-425-5842.

a.m., Wednesdays, Clarkston United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 6600 Waldon Road. 248-622-6096.

Clarkston Area Youth Assistance, second Wednesday, 7 p.m., Independence Township Hall, 6483 Waldon Center Drive. 248-623-4313.

Thursday

Clarkston Masons/Cedar 60, first Thursdays, 8 p.m., 1 East Washington. 248-625-4610.

Clarkston Area Lions Club, second and fourth Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., Carriage House, Clintonwood Park. 248-802-8603.

Support group on "language" of memory loss, dementia, and Alzheimer's disease, 1-2 p.m., every other Thursday through March 5, Mendelson Home for assisted living, 2450 Watkins Lake Road. 248-674-2241.

Grief Support Group with Coats Funeral Homes, third Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., Community Presbyterian Church, Fireside Room, 4301 Monroe Ave, Waterford. 248-674-0461.

Office hours, Clarkston City Councilman Mike Sabol, third Thursday, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Village Bakery, 10 S. Main Street.

Local Business Network, Clarkston/Auburn

Hills Chapter, first and third Thursday, 7:30-8:45 a.m., North Oakland County Board of Realtors, 4400 W. Walton Blvd., Waterford. 248-370-8029.

Lunches for 50+, Thursdays, 12 p.m., made-from-scratch. \$6. Independence Township Adult Activities Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. Make reservation by Monday before, 248-625-8231.

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

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

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

DivorceCare facilitated discussion, Thursdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road, room 122. 248-625-1611.

TOPS 1093 Clarkston, Take Off Pounds Sensibly, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., \$1/week. First Missionary Church, 4832 Clintonville Road. 248-673-5540.

Friday

Line dance class, Fridays, 2-4 p.m., Waterford Senior Center, 3621 Pontiac Lake Road. \$4, all levels. 248-682-9450.

Saturday

Project Kidsight, Clarkston Area Lions Club, second Saturday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Independence District Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Photos taken of child's eyes to check for potential vision problems. Immediate results. Free. 248-625-2212, www.clarkstonlions.org.

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

Volunteer opportunities

Avalon Hospice, sit with patients, hold their hand, listen to stories, personal care, or just be there. Two hours a week or more. 800-664-6334; **McLaren Hospice**, not-for-profit, companionship-type to visit and provide emotional support for patients living with terminal illness, 248-320-0106. **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Oakland County**, 55+, opportunities at hospitals, cultural institutions, food pantries, tutoring. 248-559-1147 ext. 3911. **Service With Love**, RSVP of Oakland County. Older adult volunteers, call seniors regularly to check on health and safety, share friendly conversation. 248-559-1147 Ext. 3937.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Attend the Church Of Your Choice

ST. TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod"
 Pastor: Rev. Kendall Schaeffer
 7925 Sashabaw Road
 (1/4 mile N. of DTE Music Theater)
 Clarkston, MI 48348
 (248) 625-4644
 www.sainttrinitylutheran.com
 e-mail: sttrinity@comcast.net
 Broadcast Worship - Clarkston CTV-10/20 Sun. 2:00pm, 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
 6th and 8th Grade Confirmation Classes
 Sundays @ 6:00-7:30 pm

BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH

www.bridgewoodchurch.com
 6765 Rattalee Lake Road
 Clarkston, 48348 (248) 625-1344
 Sundays at 9:30am & 11:00am
 - Adult experience
 - Nurture Center (birth-4)
 - Kids Life (K-5th)
 - Crave Students (6th-8th)
 Sunday at 6:30am
 - Velocity (College & Twenty-Somethings)
 Wednesday at 6:45pm
 - JourneyON Adult Focus Studies
 - Nurture Center (birth-4)
 - Kids Life (K-5th)
 - Crave Students (6th-8th)
 check out all BWC has
 To offer you online at
 bridgewoodchurch.com

ST. DANIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

7010 Valley Park Dr., Clarkston
 (W. of M-15, S. of I-75)
 625-4580
 Rev. Ronald J. Babich, Pastor
 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

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 Worship 11:00 am
 Nursery Provided
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6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston
 Sunday 10 am
 Holy Eucharist
 Sunday School 9:55 am
 Nursery Provided
 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 Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
 Wed: 6:15-8:00 pm AWANA (Pre-school-Gr.6) Semper Fi (Teens, Gr. 7-12)

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

6300 Clarkston Road • Clarkston
 (248) 625-1323
 Home of Oakland Christian School
 Pastor: Greg Henneman
 Sunday Worship:
 9:15 and 11:00 a.m.
 Nursery Care at both services
 Children's Ministries: September thru April
 Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
 Youth Ministries:
 September thru April
 Sunday, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Tuesday,
 Wednesday and Thursday, 3:00-8:00 p.m.
 www.clarkstoncommunity.com

CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

THE GATHERING PLACE

9811 Dixie Hwy., Clarkston
 248-620-5301
 Corner of Dixie Hwy & Davisburg Rd.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5-6pm
 Fellowship Dinner, Bible Study &
 Sunday School 6:15-7:15pm
 Men's Group, 3rd Sat. of Month 9-10:30am
 Women's Group, 2nd & 4th Fridays 6:30-8:00pm
 Financial Peace University Classes ongoing
 Email: topconnection@gmail.com
 www.thinkoutsidethepew.org

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston
 (248) 394-0200
 Fax: (248) 394-1212
 Rev. Dr. Matthew Webster
 Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
 Children's Sunday School 10:00 am
 Dream Keepers Youth Group
 Sunday's 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
 Bible Study
 March - May and Sept. - Nov.
 www.FirstCongregationalChurch.org

CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

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.

OAKLAND EPC

"God's Word, God's Power; Life Worth the Living"
 Here to help those concerned about life and curious about the God who made us. 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

WAYPOINT CHURCH

8400 Dixie Hwy, Clarkston
 Website: www.waypoint.org
 Phone 248-623-1224
 Sunday Worship:
 9:45 am & 11:00 am
 Mom Squad:
 Tues. 9:30-11:30 am Childcare provided
 Wednesday:
 Family Life Group 6:30 pm Youth 6:30 pm

Religion

Events Preaching

Keys to a Happy New Year

Ever feel like the man who just had his annual physical exam and was waiting for the doctor's initial report? After a few minutes the doctor came in with his charts in hand and said, "There's no reason why you can't live a completely normal life as long as you don't try to enjoy it."

Some people feel that way about Christianity.

They think that to be a Christian means that you can't enjoy life. The truth is just the opposite.

Most people settle for too little joy when God wants them to experience tremendous joy.

Scripture is replete with commands to "Rejoice always! Be joyful always! Be thankful!"

It's sad that more Christians don't experience more happiness. Happiness would help their light to shine.

As we enter into 2015, I want to share with you three keys to a truly Happy New Year. I have found these keys to be a powerful help in my own life.

Key #1: Realize that happiness is a gift from God. It's fascinating that the Bible commands us to be happy - as if we can do something about it! The fact is, we can't do anything about it, without God's help.

This world is full of people trying to get happy in all the wrong ways. Joy is a fruit of the Spirit, so as we deepen our relationship with Christ and seek his Presence, we can call on his Spirit to give us joy.

Key #2: Take charge of your attitude. Dr. Swindoll has written, "The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more im-

portant than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do.

"It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company, a church, a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past -- we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude -- I am convinced that life is ten percent what happens to me and ninety percent how I react to it. And so it is with you -- we are in charge of our Attitudes."

I would qualify that last statement by saying, "We are in charge of our attitudes, but cannot consistently change our attitudes without dependence upon the Spirit of Christ."

Key #3: Develop honest and open relationships. God has wired us to be in relationships. This is why God created the family. This is why God created the church. The church is supposed to be God's family, where we come together and relate to one another on the basis of our common commitment to Christ.

As we worship together and live the adventure of life together, we learn how to laugh and cry together. Someone has said, "A sorrow shared is half the sorrow, while a joy shared is twice the joy."

Don't go through life alone! It will double your sorrow and decrease your joy!

I encourage you to try these three keys. They will unlock a HAPPY NEW YEAR for you!

The Rev. Greg Henneman is pastor of Clarkston Community Church

Spiritual Matters



Pastor Greg Henneman

In our local churches...

Wednesday Evening Feast, 6 p.m., dinner; classes for all ages, 7-8 p.m. Free nursery. Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. Call 248-625-3288 or check www.calvaryinfo.org

DivorceCare 13-weekly seminars, Thursdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon

Road. For more information, call 248-625-1611.

First Friday Family Fun, 7 p.m., St. Trinity Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road. Board and video games, snacks for all ages, kids movies. Call 248-625-4644 for more information.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Ring in the New Year!



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& Champagne Toast
at Midnight
OPEN New Years Day**

**Special Dinner Menu
Prime Rib,
Lobster Ravioli
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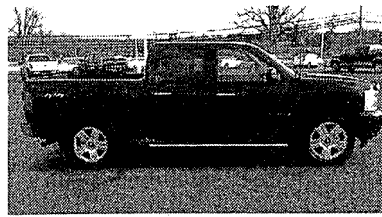
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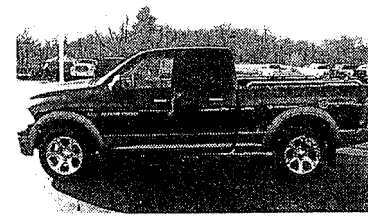


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2010 GMC Sierra Ext. Cab SLT 4X4 leather interior, moon roof, navigation, low miles.....	\$23,488
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2008 Dodge Ram 1500 Mega Cab Laramie 4X4 leather interior, power everything, only 54K miles.....	\$22,377
2008 Ford F150 60th anniversary edition Supercrew 4x4 Only 44K miles, fully loaded leather interior, moon roof... \$22,377	
2008 GMC Sierra 3500H Crewcab SLE2 DRW 4X4 Duramax Diesel, power everything 45K miles.....	\$24,988
2008 GMC Sierra 2500HD Crewcab SLT 4X4 all the right options, 69K miles.....	\$25,377
2007 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab SLT 4X4 55K miles, 20" chrome wheels, Only.....	\$19,488
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2002 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Ext. Cab 4X4 Duramax Diesel, long bed, beautiful inside and out.....	\$15,377
2002 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab SLT 4X4 Hemi V8, long bed, new tires, clean.....	\$7,988

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The Citizen

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Online Features

★ = Map

☺ = Picture

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

Antiques & Collectibles	150	General	170	Pets	200
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Computers	140	Livestock	210	Tutoring/Lessons	070
Craft Shows	120	Lost & Found	190	Vans	260
Farm Equipment	230	Manufactured Homes	320	Wanted	030
Firewood	050	Musical Instruments	060	Wanted To Rent	300
Free	100	Notices	390	Work Wanted	350
Garage Sales	110	Personals	370		

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

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

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

HOURS: Oxford: Monday through Friday 8-5
Lake Orion & Clarkston: Monday through Friday 9-5

030 WANTED

WANTED: OCTOBER 24, 2001 edition of The Oxford Leader. Call 248-628-4801 or drop off at Leader office. !!L43tf

LOOKING FOR Repairable cars/ trucks. Up to \$5,000 cash paid. Quick pick up. 810-724-7647, 810-338-7770. !!L2.4

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Receive an additional \$5 per ton over scale price with this ad.

We Buy Batteries, Radiators, etc. Call for pricing

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1 mile north of I-75
Mon-Fri 9am-5:30pm.
Sat 9am-2pm.

Nation Wide Part Locator
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050 FIREWOOD

Seasoned Mixed Hardwood

\$80
Delivery/ Stacking extra!
Call Tim
248-379-6782

CZ262

060 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

NEW AND USED GUITARS, acoustic and electric and accessories. Oxford School of Music. 248-572-4881. !!LZ50tfn

070 TUTORING/ LESSONS

MUSIC LESSONS. Piano, voice, guitar, drums, violins, and more. Oxford School of Music. 248-572-4881. !!LZ50tfn

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100 FREE

FREE SMALL "Winnie the Pooh" T.V. 248-693-9456. !!L51f

110 GARAGE SALE

ESTATE SALE, Jan. 3-4, 9am-5pm. 1300 Nakomis Trail, Lake Orion. 248-693-0257. Furniture, antiques, collectibles, tools, single size pullout couch, wicker chairs, computer desks and bookcases, 2 piece country cupboard, dishes, steins and misc. !!LZ52

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NEXT TO AN AD? Check our classifieds on-line for a photo or a Google map. Oxfordleader.com !!L19-tfdh

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Clarkston News &

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Lk. Orion Review

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(Holiday deadlines may apply) L28-dh

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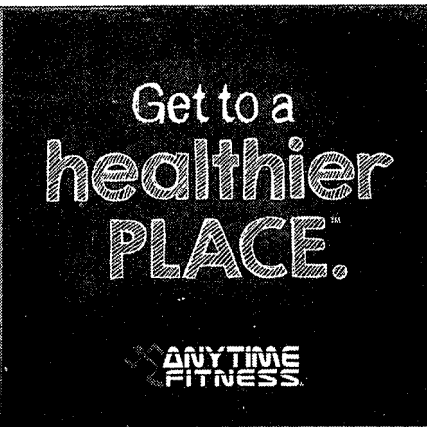


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GOOD LUCK!



Clarkston teachers gather before a school board meeting last September in support of a new contract. File photo

Year ends with election, hospital vote

Continued from page 9

role in achieving those goals is a point of disagreement. Incumbent candidates Elizabeth Egan, Steve Hyer, and Rosalie Lieblang, and challengers Donald Deering and Kelli Horst shared their opinions at the candidate forum, Oct. 16, hosted by the League of Women Voters and Clarkston PTA.

October 29

Clean audit for schools: Clarkston schools headed into the new fiscal year with a clean audit. The audit by Hungerford, Aldrin, Nichols and Carter, P.C., was approved without modification by the Board of Education, Oct. 27.

Township to vote on 2015 budget: Independence Township's proposed general fund budget for next year called for an increase in revenues over 2014 of 2.3 percent — \$7,346,507, up \$167,212 from \$7,179,295.

November 5

New homes, businesses coming to Independence: After almost a decade stall, growth is back in Independence Township. Last year, 170 new home building permits were issued, and 111 permits for new homes were issued through October 2014. Subdivisions platted and started in the mid 2000s are now being completed, said David Belcher, township building department director.

November 12

Horst voted to school board: Clarkston Board of Education will have a new face as a result of last week's election. Kelli Horst was elected to the board, Nov. 4, with 7,315 votes, 24.71 percent of total votes cast. She joins incumbent Elizabeth Egan and Steve Hyer on the board, all elected to six-year terms.

Bisio back on city council: Clarkston voters returned Richard Bisio to city council in the November election. He received 233 votes, 24.73 percent of votes cast. Also returning to the council were incumbent

council members Michael G. Sabol, with 258 votes, 27.39 percent; and Sharron Catallo, 255 votes, 27.07 percent.

November 19

Hitting the road for hospital project: A bill to authorize a special exemption to state Certificate Of Need requirements, which would allow construction of a McLaren hospital, was discharged from committee on Nov. 12 and sent to the state senate. Meanwhile, Independence Township Supervisor Pat Kittle was pounding the pavement gathering support for a new \$300 million hospital on Sashabaw Road.

All-day military salute for Bulldogs: Bailey Lake Elementary students saluted veterans and active duty members of the military, many of whom have children at the school, with a Salute To The Armed Forces, Nov. 13.

December 10

State vote goes against McLaren: Michigan Senate voted against changing the state Certificate of Need process, dealing a blow to McLaren's hopes for a new \$300 million hospital on Sashabaw Road. Local officials were disappointed in the decision.

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Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-625-1559 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Staff will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.

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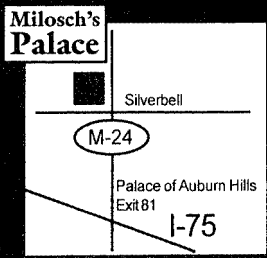
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