

Fishing on the ice

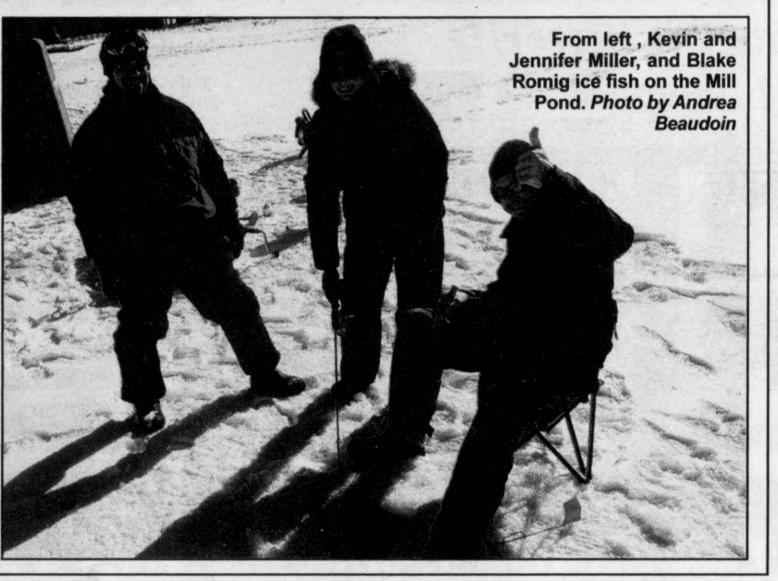
BYANDREAM. BEAUDOIN Clarkston News Staff Writer

Cold temperatures and record breaking wind chills did not stop a trio of friends from fishing on the Mill Pond.

"We are just enjoying our day off by fishing on the Mill Pond," said Kevin and Jennifer Miller, a married Clarkston couple on a day off from their job in the medical field.

Blake Romig, along on the trip with his Miller friends, said he loves fishing the Mill Pond because of the huge fish.

See page 3 for more ice fishing pics and info.



Sashabaw reconstruction this summer

BY ANDREAM. BEAUDOIN Clarkston News Staff Writer

Spring will eventually bring warm weather to Clarkston, but it will also bring a major construction project to Sashabaw Road.

Independence Township Board voted, Feb. 17, to approve the \$4 million reconstruction and widening project at Sashabaw and Waldon, and the I-75 interchange. Work, to begin in May, will include turn lanes to the area and dual left hand turn lanes on east bound Waldon. I-75, along with dedicated lanes for emergency vehicles.

Improvements are part of a Sashabaw Road Corridor Improvement Authority plan. Projects in the plan already completed include installation of a traffic light at the Flemings Lake intersection and completion of Sashabaw boulevard landscaping south of I-75. McLaren chipped in \$1.5 million towards the improvements. Funding also includes \$670,000 from the state for bringing the Magneti Marelli auto parts manufacturer to the township, and \$1.6 million in Tri-Party funds – Oakland County, Road Commission for Oakland County, and the township. The Sashabaw Corridor Improvement Authority will provide the rest.

In 2014, township officials focused on improvements to the Sashabaw Corridor while McLaren's hospital plan was debated.

McLaren's \$300 million medical campus plan was rejected, but officials said they are still committed to investing in Clarkston, and announced a plan for a smaller medical campus.

Bored? Check out our Around Town

on page 16 for Clarkston's weekly Community Calendar! (cut it out and put it on the fridge!)

\$1.48M for school tech

BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

Students and teachers are getting \$1.48 million in new technology, some of it within the next few weeks as they prepare for new state testing.

"The M-STEP (Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress) begins in seven weeks," said Angela Harrison, administrator of technology, at Monday's school board meeting. "There's a time crunch – it will take time to set up, configure, and install."

The school board voted unanimously to approve two technology purchase proposals – \$338,270 for M-STEP technology and \$1,143,450 for Technology Report priority purchases.

The M-STEP purchases include switches, assess points, and equipment, including \$157,248 for Chromebook computers. The technology will provide the minimum level needed for the test, Harrison said.

"To give us a fighting chance to pull off this testing," she said.

The M-STEP transition process has been disruptive for teachers and students, said board President Steve Hyer.

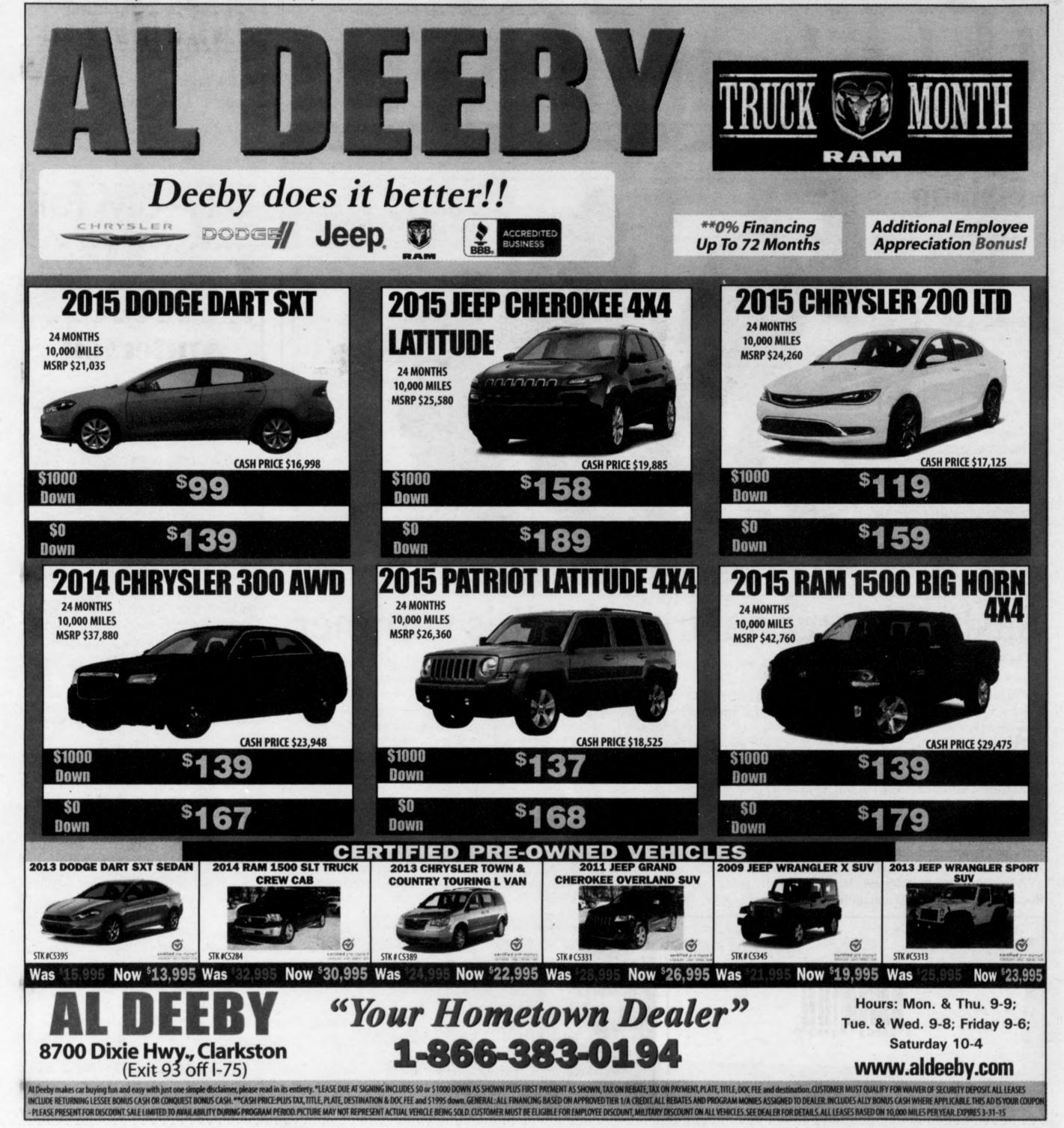
A new ramp to southbound Sashabaw Road will be constructed from northbound Independence Township Supervisor Pat Kittle said the township will provide information on alternate routes before construction begins. Stay tuned to *The Clarkston News* for updates. "Hopefully this will make it easier," Hyer said. "This is an opportunity we as a board can work on to get these devices in the hands of the kids."

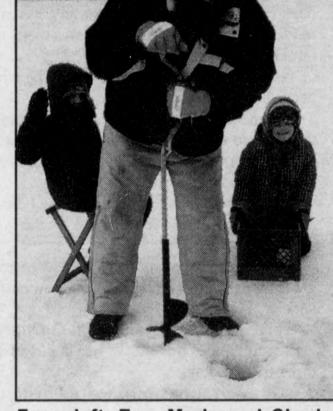
The new state test, which will be conducted online, replaces the Michigan Educational Assessment Program

Please see Technology on page 5

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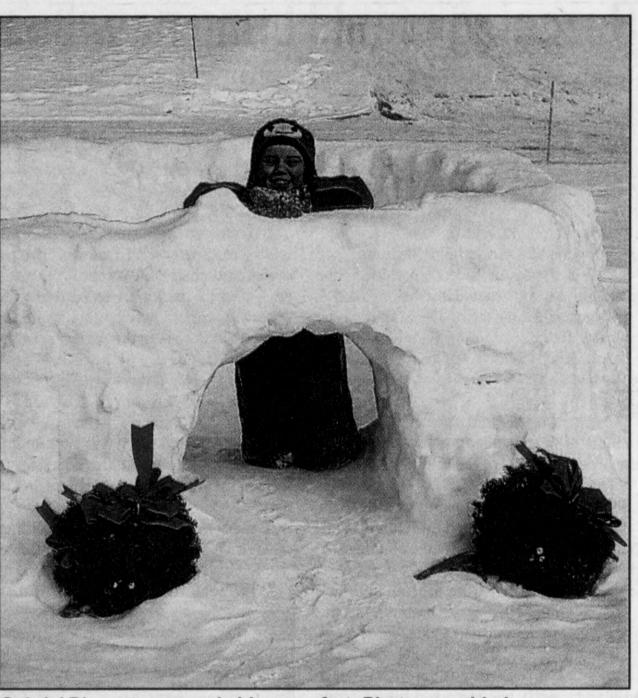




From left, Eva, Mark, and Charley Bousho, ice fishing on Crooked Lake.



Eva Bousho stays warm in the ice fishing shanty.



Gabriel Diver stays cozy in his snow fort. Photos provided

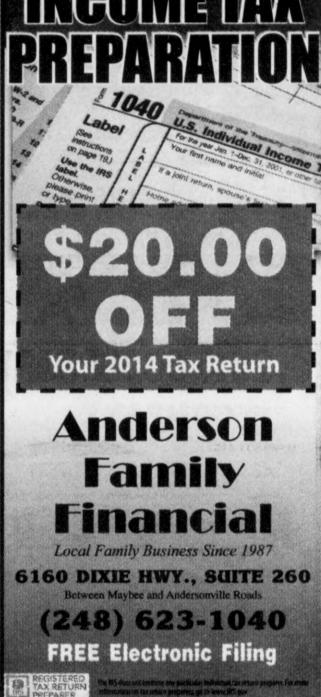
Fun in snow and ice

Classes at Clarkston schools were cancelled last Thursday, Friday, and Monday due to frigid temperatures, but that didn't mean kids couldn't go outside to enjoy the weather anyway.

The Bousho family took advantage of

the cold and headed to Crooked Lake at Independence Oaks on Thursday for some ice fishing, while Gabriel Diver of Independence Township, a fifth grader at Independence Elementary, built a snow fort at his home near the school, Feb. 20.

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Jennifer Caudill M.D. Dermatology

cutting edge medicine with small town values

Waters (and ice) belong to everyone

BYANDREAM. BEAUDOIN Clarkston News Staff Writer

As Kevin and Jennifer Miller, and Blake Romig were ice fishing on Mill Pond, a nearby homeowner told them they were not welcome.

The Clarkston trio ignored the complaint, but still wondered if the homeowner could really kick them off the pond. Who owns the Mill Pond?

Bob Roth, Clarkston resident and business owner, owns a dam on the south tip of the Mill Pond. Henry Ford ensured the dam was deeded with the property in downtown Clarkston. Ford built the dam to provide electricity to the mills. Roth said his control of the dam, and water levels, causes nothing but a headache.

"If I control the water levels, does that mean I own the pond," he asked. He is not sure, but he does admit the whole situation is stressful.

B. + . F. Y . 1

"I worry about the lake levels all the time," he said, adding he spends money controlling that dam.

The dam controls waters that flow under the Mills building to Depot Park millrun and into Middle Lake. If the dam is operated improperly, the city could flood.

Every year, Roth completes state mandated reports about dam activities he completes. He also hires an engineer to monitor water levels and make sure everything is OK with the water.

Roth has attempted to relinquish control of the dam to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the state of Michigan, but the offer was rejected.

Roth has even had some bad press over the dam and water levels.

A few years back, Roth's investment company was accused of stealing water from the pond, when lake levels were low. the second secon

Roth recalls stories on the front page of The Clarkston News - one story covered accusations of stealing water because lake levels were so low. Another addressed a drought in the area.

However, the law is clear. In 1787, under the rule of English Crown, large swaths of land were ceded to the federal government, including the Michigan Territory.

In 1787, as Michigan was created, a law addressed ownership of bottomlands: "The navigable waters leading into the Mississippi and Saint Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same, shall be common highways, and forever free."

When Michigan entered the union, that law was mandated as a binding promise to remain in effect forever.

Michigan is home to the Great Lakes, more than 10,000 lakes and over 35,000 miles of waterways and wetlands.



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Rezoning would bring new business downtown

BYANDREAM. BEAUDOIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Clarkston Planning Commission will consider rezoning 59 S. Main Street from multiresidential to commercial. March 2.

Dave Carter owns the at 59 S. Main Street property with two other investors at CBC Investments in Waterford.

Dubbed the "Sutherland Building" and located at the south end of downtown, the building was constructed in 1903.

Carter said owners of Da Eduardos, an up-scale Italian restaurant with locations in Grand Blanc, Detroit and Grosse Pointe, approached CBC with an offer to purchase the building.

Da Eduardos shared several ideas for the building which included adding a decked dining area to the rear of the building.

The restaurant's offer to purchase was contingent upon re-zoning approval.

However, CBC rejected Da Eduardos' initial purchase offer and issued a counter proposal. So far, the group has not received a response to the offer from the Italian eatery. Re-zoning the property to commercial use

would greatly increase its value, Carter said.

The owner said they will get more offers to purchase if re-zoning is approved, but to sell the property, the price and future theme of the building must be right.

Several factors make the property valu-

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able, including parking, he said.

Realtor Ron Seraphina said re-zoing a property from residential to commercial in a downtown area increases value tremendously, especially in a community like Clarkston where prime real-estate with great parking is a rare commodity.

"When you think about how the building relates to downtown Clarkston, it is worth more for its charm, the location, the historical draw and the parking. All of those factors make the property worth more," said Carter. "Whatever comes to this building in the future will be a nice. It is a tri-level building with almost over 4,500 square feet of space we have kept the building up since we bought it in the 70s, and when we bought it as a restaurant and bar. It was very rundown."

The Sutherland building was later transformed into its current use of five apartment units.

Experiencing changes to the building and downtown has been a journey for Carter.

"We have had fun, and enjoyed the building," he said, remembering the Sutherland

building's past.

The building's namesake is Dr. Sutherland, the only doctor around for miles. Carter said back in the day, seeing a doctor meant a trip to Flint or Pontiac, so Clarkston was lucky to have him.

As time passed, like many things, he witnessed the area as it changed.

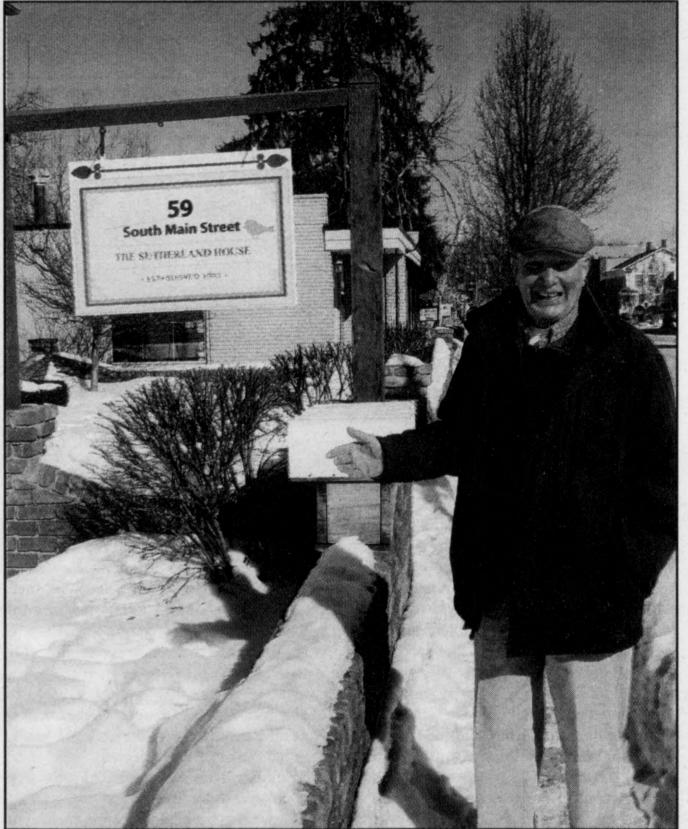
When he was just a boy, the happening thing to do during a visit downtown was a trip to Clarkston State Bank, or the hardware and drug store.

Whatever comes to the building will be a nice addition to the community, Carter assured.

"Remembering memories from a town you grew up in makes such an investment extra special," he said.

Thinking of changes through the years, Carter concludes downtown has kept something truly special.

"Downtown has retained its historic charm and poise even while the area grew so much," he said. "We love the building and care about what happens here."



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Dave Carter, owner of 59 S. Main Street, hopes to rezone it from residential to commercial. photo by Andrea Beaudoin

Petterson named interim fire chief

Mitch Petterson will serve as interim fire chief during a formal vetting process to find a new leader for Independence Township Fire Department.

Independence Township Supervisor Pat Kittle said the process to replace former fire Chief Steve Ronk will take 30 to 60 days, and will include placing notices in local papers for applicants.

"It is not a simple process," said Kittle.

Steve Ronk, who served on the department for 40 years, resigned from his position as chief and accepted a job in northern Michigan.

Petterson worked with Ronk for 22 years, and was serving as deputy fire chief until his current appointment.

Ronk strongly recommended Petterson as his replacement, and Kittle agrees Petterson should get the job.

"He has all the qualifications we are looking for," Kittle added. "Mitch has been instrumental in many many issues in the township including helping with millage and grants."

Independence Township Board voted unanimously, Feb. 17, to implement the search process.

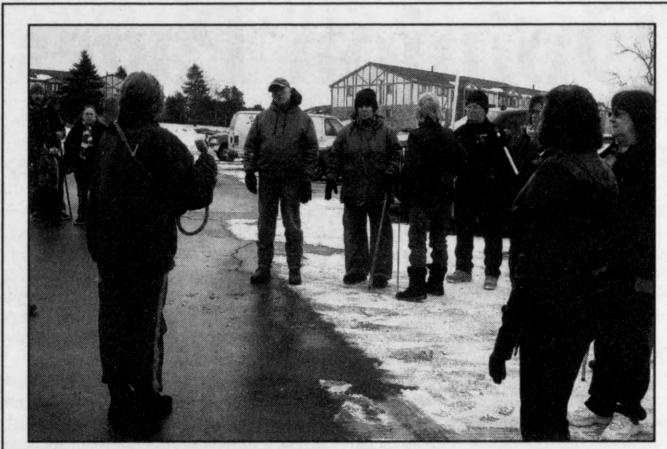
Snow ticket upheld

A local resident's appeal to Clarkston City Council over a ticket issued for not shoveling her sidewalk, Feb. 23, was unsuccessful.

She was charged \$125 for violating the sidewalk snow removal ordinance, which was approved by city council in January.

Mayor Joe Luginski and council members Mike Sabol and Sharron Catallo voted not to rescind the ticket.

The Miller Road resident said a warning the city placed on her door blew away and she did not find it until later. She also contracted with a company to remove snow from her home as well as two other homes of relatives she helps care for.



SEARCH FOR MISSING MOM: Melanie McDonnell, at left, explains to more than a dozen volunteers her plan to search for her mother, who has been missing since Feb. 1. Sharyn McDonnell, 67, was reported missing from her apartment on Tuson Boulevard by her boyfriend, who said he last saw her on Jan. 31. Subsequent searches have been unsuccessful. These volunteers gathered on Feb. 21 to search the area one more time. Call Oakland County Sheriff's Office at 248-858-4911 with info. Photo by Phil Custodio

Technology upgrades OK'd

Continued from page 1

(MEAP), and will be in the spring instead of fall. Testing starts April 13, according to Michigan Department of Education (MDE).

As with the MEAP, it will test students in grades 3-8 in English language arts - reading, writing, and listening - and mathematics. Science is moving from grades 5 and 8 to grades 4 and 7, and social studies from grades 6 and 9 to grades 5 and 8.

Board Secretary Craig Hamilton asked about 10 percent contingency funds in the proposals.

Harrison said the contingency funds are to cover unexpected costs and will be returned to the budget if not used. "We want to make sure we're covered – if something goes wrong, we have the money to cover anything that comes up," she said. The technology proposal for \$1,143,450 in purchases is based on a technology as-

sessment presented Feb. 9 by consultants Convergent Technology Partners.

It includes \$206,500 for cabling; \$200,000 for infrastructure; \$200,000 for wireless systems; \$375,000 for teacher computers; \$25,000 for battery backup systems; and \$33,000 for system upgrades and computer imaging setup.

The school board budgeted \$1,583,297 for technology purchases this year, leaving a balance of \$101,577.

The technology assessment, which cost \$20,000, presents a list of priotities for the district. Top priorities include recabling the high school, replacement of network

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Briefly Taste, art festival events combined

Clarkston City Council approved a request for a special permit to combine Taste of Clarkston and Art in the Village into one weekend this year.

The annual art festival and show will be on Sept. 19-20, and the downtown food festival will be on Sunday, Sept. 20.

Clarkston Chamber of Commerce, Independence Township Parks and Recreation and Clarkston Historical Society worked together to combine the events. Combining the festivals will help both events, and will also draw a bigger crowd to Art in the Village, planners said.

Council member Dave Marsh said he attends and enjoys both of the annual events.

"I'm excited about this," Marsh said. "I can see spending the whole day attending both events."

Alcohol sting success

A downtown business was included in a countywide "liquor sting," to test compliance with underage-drinking laws, and passed with flying colors, reported Oakland County Sheriff Independence substation Lt. Dirk Feneley to Clarkston City Council, Feb. 23.

Also, deputies issued 21 traffic tickets and 11 written warnings, and filed two accident reports.

Sup't contract OK'd

The contactor will only visit when over 1.5 inches of snow falls.

Luginski said the city is not responsible for ensuring residents receive warning tags.

The woman asked why was she issued a ticket but other homes cleared by the same contractor were not.

She also told council she works hard to make sure her sidewalks are clear.

Council members Sharron Catallo and Richard Bisio voted to rescind the charge.

Catallo said she wanted to make sure the resident was not issued a ticket for sidewalks on property she does not own.

Officials promised the resident they would will look why the ticket was issued.

– Andrea Beaudoin

equiment and router switchesdistrict wide, making the district wireless, replacing outdated computers, and eliminating obsolete XPoperating systems. Total cost recommended in the assessment for Priority One is \$2,021,500.

No board support for open enrollment

As school administration works on next year's budget, Deputy Superintendent Shawn Ryan wanted to know the school board's views on open enrollment.

"We've been pretty creative over the years, but we're losing more than we're taking in," Ryan said. "We're looking for feedback from the board."

Administration projects a loss of 100 students in 2016 and 75 students in 2017, he said.

"We're projecting losing over \$700,000 in revenue because of loss of students," he said.

to provide assessment of the address of

As in the past, board members oppose general open enrollment, but support limited open programs such as CSM Tech, Project Lead the Way, International Baccalaureate, and the Early Childhood Center.

"I'm not a fan of open enrollment," said Trustee Kelli Horst. "Any sort of broad open enrollment is a zero sum game - we'd all be fighting for the same students."

Administration will take the input and prepare a proposal for limited open enrollment and other revenue enhancements at a future meeting, Ryan said.

- Phil Custodio

Clarkston Board of Education voted unanimously, Feb. 23, to approve Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock's contract.

The contract, from Feb. 23, 2015, to Dec. 31, 2017, includes a salary of \$140,000 a year, \$2,800 for professional conferences, and \$5,000 for moving expenses. It also calls for the school chief to take 12 hours of Michigan Association of School Board classes annually.

The board also approved goals for the superintendent for this school year. Goals include 2 percent improvement in thirdgrade reading, 20 percent improvement in reading at Andersonville Elementary, and 2 percent improvement in fifth-grade math.

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Andrea's Anecdotes

A column by Andrea Beaudoin

Punish the world

When crushed inside and you punish this world with negative emotion, who gets hurt?

Wonderfully wise Napoleon Hill said any hurt you cause this world comes back to you times ten.

When inner strength feels foreign... how do we relinquish that

pain? When lost or broken...how do you begin again? As I write I hear that whisper say "Just begin."



In my next thought I thank God for the great blessing of my forgiving spirit. Forgiveness lives in

beauty and sets you free. In this thought I feel reminded to forgive myself as I do others. Learn from mistakes and shine on.

Inner debate is constant. Shall we seek what's easy or strive to find our purpose. It is said you alone create you heaven or a hell. This to me is truth. We pay a price, or gain reward. With each decision we stand stronger with good or evil.

Only we chose to break free from pain and fly. To a moment of clarity I listen. Control and restraint of the self, being kind and doing what's right for yourself and others, creates a brighter future.

Most people seek the light in life, the spark that makes you shine and thrive. Such beautiful things are born in places we find a happiness that awakens our higher self. In this life, wise souls find purpose, and realize each of us are bestowed with struggles. We must face our pain, seek what's missing, and heal ourselves from within to ignite positive change in our spirit. Or we wither, and die.

A life of pain or beauty is a personal fate

Opinion Pages Letters, columns & Editorials

Trustee calls for savings spending on roads

Dear Editor,

Recently, Oakland County got some bad news: Lansing is going to allocate less money for our road repairs in 2015 than they did in 2014. If you didn't like the roads last year, this year will surely disappoint.

When I heard this I began picturing Maybee Road, Clintonville Road, Clarkston Road, Waldon, Sashabaw, and several other dreadful pothole zones in the greater Independence Township area.

It is the county's responsibility to fix our roads. However, since Independence currently has a budget surplus, I support our township Supervisor Pat Kittle's proposal: we should use some of these extra funds to address dangerous road areas that the county would be forced to ignore, due to lack of revenue.

Of course our township cannot afford this supplementation every season, but since

the road damage in the Clarkston area is so severe right now, this year, we can not rely on the county alone to do a satisfactory job.

Independence Township will have between \$300,000-\$400,000 of extra revenue in 2015, without raising any taxes or millages, and without removing monies from any township services.

Independence could earmark \$250k of our surplus to severe pothole repairs that are urgently needed.

For the safety of our citizens, in 2015, we need to act on our own behalf. This would be money well spent. It can literally save lives, while also saving families thousands of dollars in auto-repairs and increased insurance rates, and take the stress out of driving around our great city.

Sincerely,

Jose Aliaga Independence Township trustee, resident

Thank you to Morgan's for neighborly help

Dear Editor,

Recently I experienced a hometown story that needs to be told.

Not since I grew up in a small town in upper Michigan some 40 years ago have I experienced such friendly and efficient service.

Like any day, I went to start my car in the morning to go to work, but the battery was dead.

I called Morgan's to see if they could help me out. They said they didn't usually do service calls to jump batteries, but they offered to send someone to assist since I lived nearby.

just smiled and said, "nothing." All he asked was that I keep Morgan's in mind the next time I need service.

Needless to say, I was dumbfounded. I know that I will not need to think twice about where I will go for service when I need it again.

Sometimes the advantages of living in a small town such as Clarkson are taken for granted, but the service of small businesses such as Morgan's is hard to come by and not taken lightly.

Please join me in supporting local busi-

A Look Back From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 2000

"Clarkston Great Lakes Bank robbed" The Clarkston Great Lakes Bank was robbed at 2:45 p.m. on Feb. 18 at the Mesquite Creek shopping center on M-15, south of I-75 by a man. Police said he took an undetermined about of cash.

"Curbing city truck traffic" Truck traffic continued to be a concern for many people in Clarkston - especially those who lived in historic houses. Many residents said the trucks rumbling through downtown were weakening the foundation of the structures.

"Cagers edge out Flint Northern" Clarkston Varsity Basketball picked up another win by defeating Flint Northern, 66-65 after trailing in the first quarter by 12 points. Ryan Marino led the Wolves with 28 points.

"Wolves dominate districts" The Clarkston Varsity Wrestling team wrapped up its fifth consecutive district title with a win over Grand Blanc, 71-6.

25 years ago - 1990

"No surprises in village primary" Except for the vast turnout of 101 of about 470 registered voters, there weren't any surprises at the Clarkston Village Council primary election. Re-elected to trustee seats were William Basinger, Eric Haven, and Dominic Mauti. The newcomer was Leslie Haight.

"Springfield's neighborliness spreads to Kentucky" Neighbor for Neighbor, Inc., a non-profit organization in Springfield Township, extended its love and concern a little further than the immediate area they serve. The group sent a truckload of clothing and some electric fans to Hazard, Kentucky. "CHS Wolves make history" History was made as six Clarkston High School wrestlers qualified for the Class A State Meet in Battle Creek. "I thought I'd be happy with three or four qualifiers. Six, though, are fantastic," said Coach Scott Strickler.

we each create. That whisper flow again and I write it... give love, mind your emotions, rise when you fall and be kind to the world.

Choices are ever present. Each move you make leads to a grand dream or a horrible nightmare. We are punished or rewarded by each choice.

Never turn away from what truly matters. Embrace it with everything you have. Even if you don't feel worthy. You are.

Such action takes work, but choosing the light leads our heart and soul to a beautiful place... where wishes come true...and happiness is a natural element.

Today is the day to begin again. Just begin. Go where you're meant to go, and you will be who you want be.

P.S....I hope great consideration is given to appoint Mitch Petterson as the new fire chief. In my experience he is always professional and very knowledgeable. And his 23 years serving the community....priceless. Within minutes a young gentleman was in my driveway to charge my battery and had my vehicle running.

When I asked how much I owed him, he

nesses such as Morgan's within our community – they are truly diamonds in the rough of the service industry. Thanks again, Morgan's!

> Elise Schmidt Clarkston

Voice of a free people

The Clarkston News reserves the right to edit for accuracy, brevity, or clarity. Letters must include the full name of the writer, home address and daytime telephone number (which will not be published). Anonymous letters will not be published.

For consideration for each Wednesday's edition, the deadline is

noon the Monday before (earlier is better!). Submission does not guarantee publication.

You can drop them off or mail them to 5 S. Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346; fax them at 248-625-0706; or e-mail ClarkstonNews@gmail.com. Any questions, call *The Clarkston News* at 248-625-3370.

50 years ago - 1965

"Girls Scouts attend International Night" Thirty Cadette Girl Scouts from Troop 547 traveled to Pontiac for International Night where they talked to teenagers from Germany, Denmark, Thailand, Chile, Uraguay and Cuba.

"Clarkston takes Northville" Clarkston Varsity Basketball won their sixth game in a row with a 74-57 win over Northville.

"Local news" Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Narrow attended the Master Salesman Guild Banquet in Windsor, Ontario.

Wed., February 25, 2015 The Clarkston (MI) News 7 Tips and fun from the 2015 Old Farmer's Almanac

• Do inspectors who don't find flaws in cars until after somebody buys them, and are recalled later, ever get fired?

· A Cardiac Specialist suggests drinking a glass of water before going to bed to avoid heart attacks. My drinking before bedtime advice is: Wear Depends.

• It must be easy writing commercials for medical equipment providers. They can eliminate lawsuits by adding (If you have any cough, running nose, inhaling, exhaling, itching, scratching, pain, or trouble combing your hair: CALL A DOCTOR!) Butt covered.

* * *

I bought the 2015 The Old Farmer's Almanac soon after it hit the stores. I glanced at their weather predictions, but found little for what my Jottings

readers expect.

Jim's

Jottings

a column by

ties.

I started reading it again this week, and found these helpers: To fight liver

> spots, sip some vinegar. (With my eyes as they are now, I can't even see if I have liver spots.)

Vinegar will speed up my metabolism. (Does that mean it will hasten my death?)

This Almanac had lots to say about "beauty on a budget" for women. But not a **Jim Sherman** single suggestion for helping we male beau-

They gave us the odds on a variety of subjects,

Like: I'm one in five who is claustrophobic. I am not one of five who has gotten a tattoo, I'm not one who always dreams in color, I am not a one in 10 having double jointedness; I am one in the 2,200 average golfers to have a hole in one.

I don't know where I rank in this one: two of three people turn their head to the right while kissing, and I'm not one of the 100,000,000 struck by lightening in a 12-month span.

Thank you, 2015 Old Farmer's Almanac.

• Why do cows have bells? (Because their horns don't work!)

• Is your doctor one of the very few doctors who do not have a Norman Rockwell painting on a wall?

 The only name I recognized during the introductions of Grammy award contestants was Madonna! I don't think any of the contestants were on NCIS, Law and Order, Wheel of Fortune or The Weather Channel.

I can't count the number of times a lead story on Detroit tv stations has left me befuddled after saying, "Stay tuned for our story on the biggest bust in Detroit last night." Why didn't they say "narcotics bust," and not waste my time waiting for my answer.

• My brother Don was about 17 when he told me, "Why tell the truth when a lie will do just as good." Maybe he could have had a future in politics, but he chose to enlist in the Marine Corp at the start of WWII.

A word of advice: don't go to Royal Oak!

Okay, I will be up front about this. I'm about to grind a proverbial ax. Your hero (that would be me) is whizzed off and before I explode into a heap of smoldering ash I needed to vent (or whine, your call).

Without further eloquence, I will cut to the chase: Don't spend your money visiting that southern Oakland County city known as Royal Oak.

They don't really want you there, they Don't only want your money (and city gov- Rush Me ernment has stacked the deck to make sure they get their cut of your money).

If you want to take your family out for a nice time, stay up here in God's country.

Visit our local eateries, theaters and places of entertainment -- in communities that actually want folks to visit A column by and are welcoming. Don't go to Royal Don Rush Oak, Michigan, they're money-grubbing types, whose sole purpose is to pickpocket you. Stay in Clarkston, Ortonville, Goodrich, Oxford or Lake Orion -- or if you're feeling sassy, trip on down to Auburn Hills, Waterford, Pontiac or even Birmingham. Just steer clear of Royal Oak, I don't want you to be forced to pad the city coffers with your hardearned dollars.

The boys (Shamus and Sean) and I dig that show, so I bought tickets. We had reservations at an Italian restaurant near the theater.

That evening, when I found a parking spot in a parking lot, outside with salty slush every where, I pulled in... and much to my chagrin noticed something we don't have up here in our local business districts: money sucking parking meters. I didn't see anywhere else to park in this unfriendly city called Royal Oak, Michigan!

It's not like the city doesn't charge enough taxes to the local business owners to take care of running their government. Nope, Royal Oak, Michigan's motto must be, "Let's ding the out of towners, too!" Money grubbing, nickel-diming pesky parking meters.

And, not the new ones where you can electronically make deposits, Royal Oak has the old crappy ones which burns through coinage like a whole in your pocket. We searched the car, put all the change we could scrounge up into the meter, then trudged through the shoddily unkept parking lot, through the windy, cold January night to our destination. I looked and didn't see any dollar to coin changers either. That convenience might cause the city's bank roll to shrink, I guess. Our local parking lots in our business districts have no meters. Our local business districts actually want people to come, have a good time, leave and then come back! I think Royal Oak, Michigan is living off their reputation as a "cool" city and figure if you don't come back, it's no skin off their backsides. Normally, I do stuff locally, but this one time I went against my routine and tried to do something different, nice. I pinched my pennies, and saved money for the big Saturday night event. Between dinner and the tickets, we spent close to \$400 in their city. I will not spend

another dime in their city and I will make sure I tell as many people as I can, to save their money for other communities. Royal Oak, Michigan doesn't want you to visit. Royal Oak, Michigan is a city that is not welcoming.

I just told you a lie. I will give them 25 more dollars. When we got back to the car, on the windshield was a \$10 parking ticket. Less than a month later, I got a notice in the mail from their local court my fine had more than doubled and was now \$25. I am gonna' pay the \$25 ransom. I am going to wrap the check in a copy of this column -- which will go, in print to about 20,000 households in northeastern Oakland County and Goodrich.

I am going to post this column on-line, where our website gets about 5,000 visits (not hits) a day to make sure the on-line readers can feel my pain. I am going to link it to as many Facebook, Linkedin and Twitter pages as I can encourage sharing.



I feel sorry for the businesses there, because there are some good ones. Oh, well, I reckon it sucks to be them.

What has caused this total outrage?

About a month ago I took my family there for my birthday.

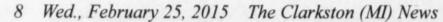
Two of the guys from the SciFy cable TV show, Ghost Hunters were in town, talking about their show.

I know, I am just a hick from "up north" and should not have expected those Royal Oak city slickers to be as accommodating us we yokels.

I know, I know: I should have gotten change in the restaurant, left my kids at the table, gone back outside, trudged back through the salty slushy parking lot and fed the meter my money, only to have walk back through the crappy Royal Oak kept parking lot to my family. I should have.

Or the city leaders could make it easy to park, easy to pay the meter instead of just paying somebody to write tickets.

So, one more thing, just to be clear: Don't visit Royal Oak, Michigan -- they only want your money. Hey, while we're at it, what's your crappy Royal Oak, Michigan experience?





CHURCH DRECTORY

Attend The Church Of Your Choice

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF

THE RESURRECTION 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

ST. TRINITY EVANGELICAL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod" Pastor: Rev. Kendall Schaeffer

www.sainttrinitylutheran.com e-mail: sttrinity@comcast.net Broadcast Worship - Clarkston CTV-10/20 Sun.200pm,Thurs.9:00pm

Broadcast Worship - Waterford CATV-10

6th and 8th Grade Confirmation Classes

Worship: Sunday 8:15 am & 11:00 am

Sunday School 9:45 am

Preschool: 3-4 years old

Sundays @ 6:00-7:30 pm

BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH

www.bridgewoodchurch.com 6765 Rattalee Lake Road

Nuture Center (birth-4)

Crave Students (6th-8th)

Clarkston, 48348 (248) 625-1344 Sundays at 9:30am & 11:00am

Preschool: 620-6154

- Adult experience

Kids Life (K-5th)

Sunday at 6:30am

"Lutheran Church -

7925 Sashabaw Road

DTE Music Theater)

Clarkston, MI 48348

(1/4 mile N. of

(248) 625-4644

Tues. 2:30 pm

Sat. 6:00 pm

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

THEFIRST

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

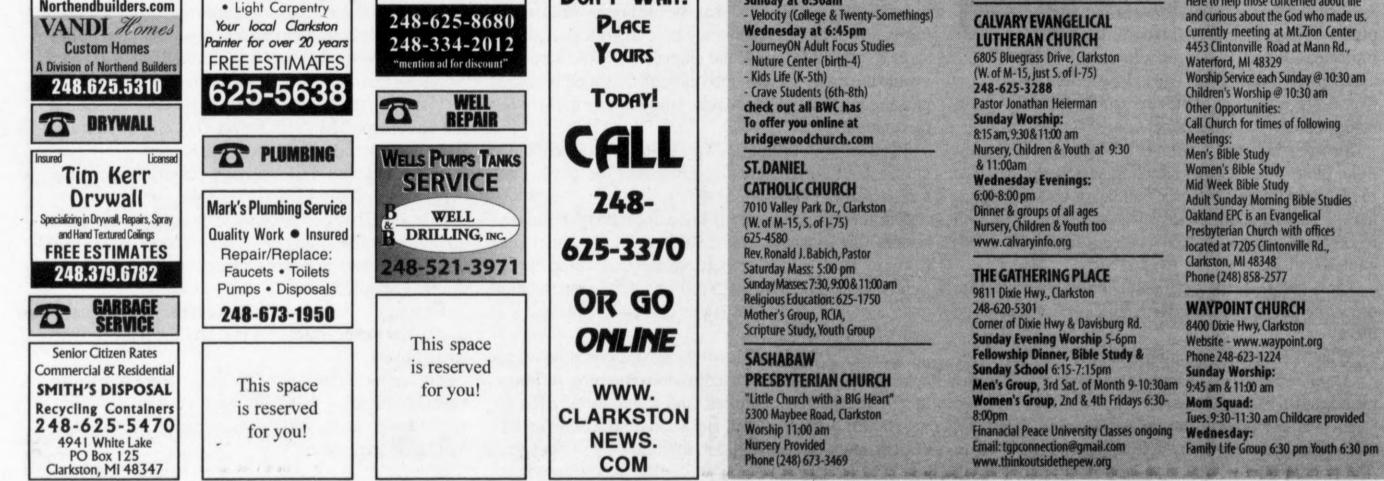
METHODIST CHURCH 6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston 248-625-1611 Website: clarkstonumc.org Sunday Worship: 9:00 am & 11:00 am Nursery available for all services

DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH

8585 Dixie Highwy, 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



Outstanding warrants

A deputy on patrol found the license plate of a vehicle in front showed no record, so stopped it at Dixie Highway and White Lake Road, 10:15 p.m., Feb. 13. The driver, a 38year-old Waterford man, had two outstanding warrants for failure to appear for driving offenses. He was advised and released on the warrants, and his vehicle was impounded.

Apartment marijuana

Responding to a report of marijuana in an apartment in the 5000 block of Dixie Highway, deputies reported a very strong odor of marijuana as soon as they walked inside the apartment building, 4:50 p.m., Feb. 13. The resident, a 21-year-old man, denied having marijuana of his own. A 21-year-old Independence Township man who was visiting, however, had a medical marijuana card. The resident was advised to stop letting his friends smoke marijuana in his apartment as it may lead to future problems for him.

Suspended license

On patrol on Dixie Highway, a deputy noticed an SUV with an expired registration sticker at Simler Drive and Dixie Highway, 9:51 a.m., Feb. 13, and ran a records' check on the license plate. The plate was registered to a different vehicle, so the deputy stopped it. The driver, a 47-year-old Milford man, was cited with improper plates, driving with a suspended license, and no proof of insurance.

Public Safety For Clarkston and Independence Township

Wanted on misdemeanors

An SUV was stopped for having a white light facing to the rear, 11:45 a.m., Feb. 16. The driver, a 47-year-old Independence Township man, had a suspended driver's license and misdemeanor warrants from 50th and 52-2 district courts. He was cited for driving with a suspended license and expired registration, and advised and released on the warrants since the courts were closed for Presidents' Day.

FOC warrant

A deputy stopped a vehicle at Dixie Highway and Ortonville Road, 8:23 p.m., Feb. 17, after running its license plate and finding the registered owner had a suspended license. The driver, a 28-yearold Auburn Hills woman, didn't own the vehicle, which belonged to her boss. However, a records' check showed her driver's license was suspended and she had a Friend of the Court warrant for her arrest for neglect of child support. She was arrested on the warrant, and cited with driving with a suspended license and no proof of insurance.

~Canterbury Village Events~ **Comedy at Canterbury** C-Dub \$35 Per Ticket • \$65.00 a Couple Es Paints, Masteral Fifl. March 61h Friday March 13th at 6pm / MVEMUSIGWITH CHILLFACTOR Doors Open 7pm Show Time: 8 - 10pm Must be 21 or older! St. Pat's Warm Up Party. 3 Hour Open Bar Included Great food, drinks, music, & fun all night long Call 248.391.1900 for reservations Saturday March 14th at 6pm THVEND

Marijuana arrest

Investigating a traffic crash at Indianwood Drive and Dartmouth Road, a deputy found a 21-year-old Lake Orion walking away from the scene, 6:34 p.m., Feb. 16. In his backpack was a box of marijuana, two used glass pipes, and half a bottle of rum. At the crash was the driver, a 20-year-old Independence Township man, who said he got into the accident because of ice and asked his passenger, the Lake Orion man, to take his backpack containing the marijuana away from the scene. The driver said he last smoked marijuana at 10 or 11 a.m., and did not have a medical marijuana card. He initially denied owning the alcohol, but later admitted it was his and had lied hoping he would not get in trouble. He was cited with possession of marijuana

No permit

A deputy stopped a roll-off dumpster truck at Deer Lake Road and Dixie Highway, 11:45 a.m., Feb. 17, after seeing a potato chip bag fall off it. The truck's business was cited for no waste hauler's permit.

PUBLIC NOTICE Because the People Want to Know INDEPENDENCE TWP. INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP **OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Charter Township of Independence 2015 March Board of Review will meet for its organizational session, MCL 211.29(1), at the Township Hall's Office of the Assessor on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 9:00 am

The Board of Review will meet for public hearings at the Township Hall Board Room located at 6483 Waldon Center Drive, Clarkston, Michigan to hear 2015 year assessment appeals of value, classification and hardship exemption requests on March 4th with appointment times between 12:00pm and 5:00pm, on March 5th with appointment times between 1:00pm and 8:30pm, and on March 6th with appointment times between 9:00am and 1pm.

Wed., February 25, 2015 The Clarkston (MI) News 9

Suspicious activity

A witness called police after seeing a person sitting in the passenger seat of a vehicle looking through the glove box in the 6000 block of Tuson Boulevard, 1:34 a.m., Feb. 17. The person, described as a Hispanic male about 15-17 years old wearing a red hoodie, ran away. There was no sign of forced entry, and the vehicle's interior didn't look like it had been rummaged through.

Call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-SPEAK UP, 1-800-773-2587.

PUBLIC NOTICE Because the People Want to Know INDEPENDENCE TWP. SYNOPSIS TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPEN-

DENCE **FEBRUARY 17, 2015**

- A. A Regular Meeting of the Charter Township of Independence Board was called to order at 7:00 PM at Independence Township Hall.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was given
- ROLL CALL: Present: Kittle, Pallotta, Brown, Aliaga, C. Lohmeier Ritchie, Schroeder Absent: None
- There was a quorum present
- Also Present: Ken Elwert, Parks, Recreation & Seniors Director: Colleen Hill-Stramsak, Associate: Hubble, Roth & Clark, Inc.
- D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: As presented
- E. CLOSED SESSION: None Scheduled
- BOARD/PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS: County Commissioner Tom Middleton
- G. PUBLIC COMMENT: None
- **PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled** H.
 - PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:
 - 1. 'Presentation: Colleen Hill-Stramsak; Update on Reconstruction and Widening Projects: Sashabaw Road at Waldon Road and I-75
- CARRYOVER / POSTPONED AGENDA ITEMS: None CONSENT AGENDA
- 1. Approval of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2015 and Special Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2015
- Approval of the Payroll of February 13, 2015 and Check Run of February 11, 2015 for a Total Amount of \$762,609.40
- Approval of Refund to Deer Lake Property Own-3 ers Association - 2014 Marine Patrol Services
- 4. Approval to Amend Previously Adopted Motion #2015-02-030-Tennis Courts Construction Contract
- Adoption of Resolution for Round-Up (Capture) 5. and Hold and Nest Destruction of Canada Geese-Deer Lake



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The latest you can call to set up an appointment is Thursday, March 5th by 4pm.****

If you wish to appear in person to appeal your assessed value, it is required that you have an appointment with the March Board of Review. The Assessed Value represents 50% of market value. Appeals are for the 2015 tax year only. An appointment can be made through the Assessor's Office by calling (248) 625-8114 between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm weekdays.

A resident or nonresident may also protest to the Board of Review by mail by submitting a completed and signed "Petition to Board of Review" (Form L-4035). This form is available on line at www.michigan.gov/documents/ 14035f 2658 7.pdf and at the Township Assessing Department at the address indicated above. This form should be mailed to the Independence Township Assessing Department, 6483 Waldon Center Dr, Clarkston, MI 48346. It must be received prior to the close of the March Board of Review and documentation supporting your opinion of value should be attached.

The Board of Review is an appeal process to review property values, not tax bills. The Board of Review has no jurisdiction over the millage rates that are multiplied against taxable values in order to calculate the tax bill. The year 2015 tentative equalization ratio is 50%, and the estimated multiplier is 1.0000 for all property classifications.

Sincerely, Kristen Sieloff, MMAO (4) Independence Township Assessor Publish February 11, 18, 25

- Adoption of Resolution for Goose Destruction-Cranberry Lake
- ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None
- M. REGULAR BUSINESS:
 - 1. Approval of Road Commission of Oakland County (RCOC) Cost Participation Agreement (Construction
 - 2. Adoption of Risk Management Policy-Parks, Recreation & Seniors
 - 3. Approval to Purchase Vehicle and Authorize Disposal of Asset with Cost Basis Greater than \$5,000.00-Parks Division
 - 4. Appointment of Interim Fire Chief
 - Acceptance of Proposal and Approval of Budget Amendment - Refurbishment of 1989 Pierce Dash Tankers 1 and 2
 - 6. Adoption of Proclamation Penny Shanks, Executive Director; Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce
- N. COMMUNICATIONS / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS / REPORTS
 - 1. Report: Building Department Monthly Report; January, 2015
- O. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: None
- P. ADJOURNMENT: The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara A. Pallotta, CMC **Township Clerk**

Published: Wednesday, February 25, 2015



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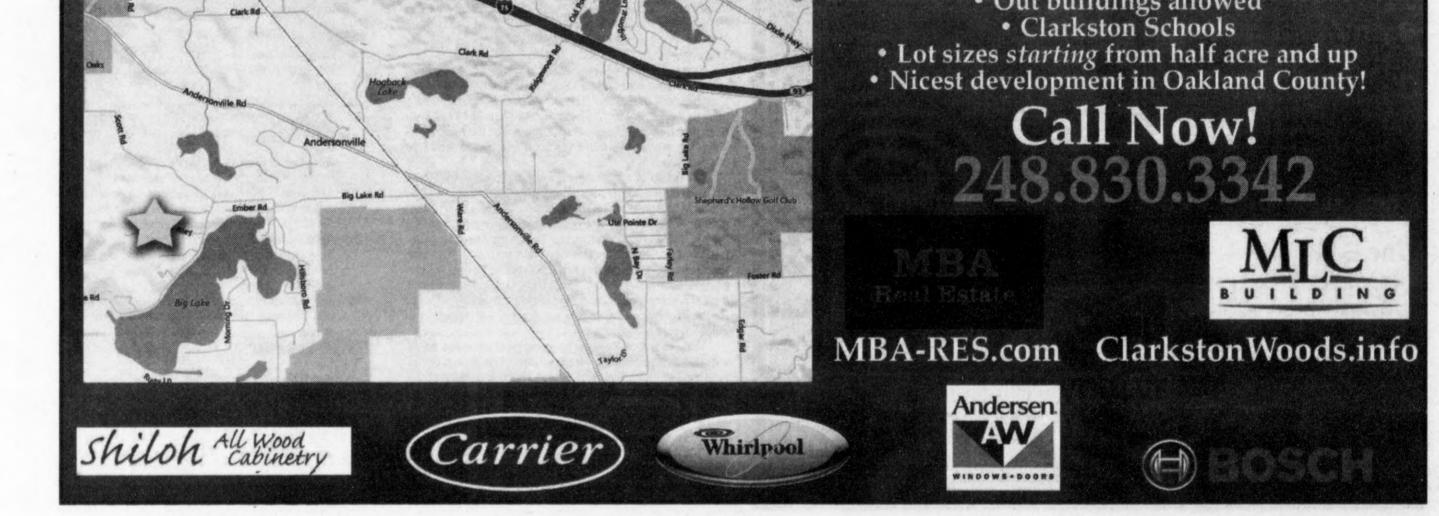


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clarkstonnews@gmail.com

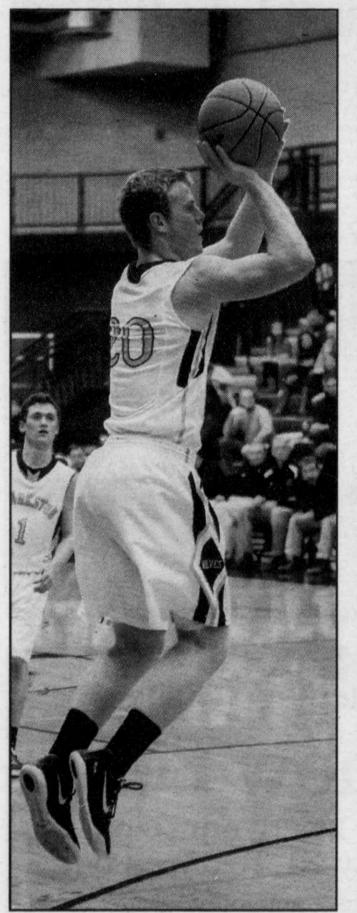
Sporting News Keeping skills hot in the cold ATHLETE OF

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Cagers were back in the gym early Monday morning for extra practice, taking advantage of schools being cancelled because of the cold.

They won their game on Friday against Southfield-Lathrup, 53-39, to remain undefeated, but they still needed time to get better.



"We played sloppy," Dan Fife, long-time head coach for Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball said about the victory. "We managed to make plays when we needed them. Any win is a good win."

The Wolves maintained the lead throughout the game and closed the first half with a a 24-17 lead.

They kept the Chargers eight points away from them on the board going into the fourth quarter.

They widened the gap to 14 points with a pair of field goals from freshman Foster Loyer.

Loyer led the game with 18 points, with five rebounds and five assists. Andrew Myers added 15 points to the score.

"They acknowledge they played sloppy," Fife said. "If they didn't think they were playing sloppy then you would have issues and making careless mistakes. It's my job to make sure they realize they can't continue like that. They are good kids and pretty good listeners. When you get to the 17th win of the season it is pretty much out of your hands. It's hard to change attitudes and what's been going on. We are still finding ways to win."

During the win junior Tabin Throgmorton came back onto the court after healing from an injury.

"He is getting better every day," Fife updated. "He is getting his legs back."

The boys also defeated Southfield during the week with a 61-47 win, Feb. 17. The boys held onto the lead throughout the game. They headed into the second quarter with a 3-point lead with the score 14-11. The Bluejays only scored eight points in the second quarter as the Wolves scored 13 to end the half 27-19.

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK Tough on the mat

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Senior Kas Waitkus reflected on his final year with Clarkston Varsity Wrestling and admitted it did not start out the way he envisioned it.

"Mentally I couldn't make anything work for me," he explained. "I just couldn't make a win happen. I couldn't finish strong. I came out hard against people and just ended up losing matches."

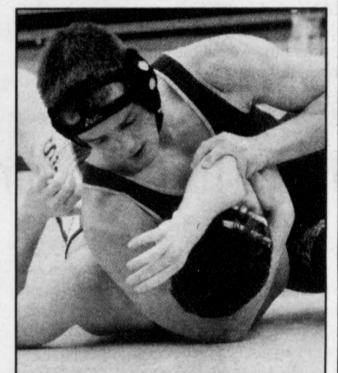
After a trip to Ohio for the Hammer and Anvil tournament the season turned around for him.

"Something clicked," he said. "Now I am hoping to really go out and have a good finish to my season."

He finished his season on Saturday at the MHSAA Individual Regional tournament.

One of his highlights for the season came at the OAA Red League tournament on Feb. 6 against Rochester Adams' Sam Addy. He beat Addy 10-4 for the first place spot in the 160-pound weight class.

"It was definitely a big turning point," Waitkus said. "He's ranked in the state and it was my first tournament wrestling down at 160. I had been wrestling at 171 during the whole season. It was a big win for me and helped me get a good seed in



Kas Waitkus

-back state champions.

He added being in both sports balance each other out with work ethic.

"I learned a lot from wrestling," he said. "A lot of conditioning crosses between the two. Some of the football coaches were wrestlers in the past. They knew you have to be tough to be a wrestler so they really like that about me."

Waitkus added what he enjoys about wrestling is the satisfaction of winning.

"With wrestling when you win a match it feels a lot more satisfying to me because

Senior Merrick Canada lines up his shot against Southfield in the first half of the game on Feb. 17. Photo by Larry Wright/WrightActionPix Myers led with 22 points. Loyer had nine rebounds and five assists. Jonah Newblatt helped with two 3-pointers.

The Wolves (17-0, 7-0) host North Farmington on Friday and head to Bloomfield Hills next Tuesday.

The last time Clarkston played North Farmington they won in overtime against the Raiders.

"They are a good ball team," said Fife. "They are good. They are very competitive. They have a lot of experience on the team and they are all good players. They play hard. It should be a good ball game."

He added the Wolves had their own strengths to match with North Farmington.

"They compete," he said about the Wolves. "They don't give up easily. They are fighters and they are competitors."

the district tournament."

He began wrestling in eighth grade during the middle of the season.

"I had met the coach and he invited me to practice even though the season was halfway over," Waitkus explained. "I went to practice. I liked it and continued."

"He has had four years of leadership," added Derek Moscovic, head coach. "He is a big part of the program. He is a pleasure to coach, hardworking and goes above and beyond for his team."

Waitkus also finished his senior season with the Clarkston Varsity Football team where he was a linebacker for the back-to it's just you out there," he explained. "You can't rely on anybody but yourself. It's really gratifying."

Next for Waitkus is getting ready for college and is looking at Michigan State University and Grand Valley State University as a few options to study engineering.

"I have just always been fascinated with math and science," he explained about his chosen path. "I really like it."

He isn't pursuing wrestling or football but if an opportunity arises he will consider it.



Swimmers edge West Bloomfield out of victory

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Wolves were keeping warm last Thursday as the swam laps at Clarkston High School to prepare for their upcoming OAA White League meet.

The swimmers just closed their dual meet season with a 8-0 record and 6-0 in the OAA White with their most recent win against West Bloomfield, 94-92.

"It was a big win," said Kenwyn Chock, head coach. "It was awesome. It was two undefeated teams going against each other. We were really closely matched. It didn't matter how we put our line up. I knew their strengths and they knew our strengths."

She added a couple of things didn't go the right way for Clarkston and they never

had a lead in the meet.

"A couple of times we caught up and it was tied but we never led," Chock said.

The Wolves had top finishes in four events leadin up to the last event. Dalton Pokley finished first in the 50-yard freestyle, 22.26. Junior James Nelson took first in the 200-yard IM, 2:10.26, and 100-yard breaststroke, 1:03.24. Junior Matthew Culver finished first in the 100-yard backstroke, 58.42.

Clarkston was down by four points heading into the 400-yard freestyle relay and the Lakers could win the meet by taking the last event. They had done it before at the Oakland County meet and beat the Wolves by a second.

But Culver, Pokley with juniors Isaac

Keer and Drew Vassilakos finished the relay at the time of 3:24.64 - to take first place.

"It was pretty exciting," Chock smiled.

She added it topped the season because all season Clarkston knew they had a good team.

"We dropped a division," Chock explained. "The good thing about it is we swam in division one last year and these kids know what's out there and at the county meet you can see what's out there. They knew what was out there. To swim in division two is kind of fun. Now we are undefeated."

She added it helps to have senior captains Pokley, who is a state returner, Christian Keer, and Patrick McGinty.

The Wolves compete in the OAA White League meet this week. The meet begins this Wednesday with the swim preliminaries. The dive event is on Thursday with the finals for the swim events on Friday.

"It's exciting," said Chock. "It is more exciting because we are hosting the OAA meet. It's at our pool and their friends can watch them swim."

"We have a good dual meet team. I don't know about the league meet because we don't have the numbers," she added. "In the league meet you can place the top 16. I am pretty good at putting two good swimmers up but I don't have the depth. West Bloomfield has the depth. I think it is going to be tough for us because we don't have the depth."

All the events are at Clarkston and begin at 6 p.m.

Hope for third time charm on ice in post season against Lake Orion

Icers hit a high and a low last week in Lake Orion on Saturday. their OAA Red games.

The high came against Farmington last Wednesday with a 6-2 win. Jagar Smith and Justin Stasevich helped the Clarkston Varsity Hockey team take control in the first period with two goals a piece for four goals.

"We pursued the puck," said Bryan Krygier, head coach. "We had a lot of shots on net. We were able to score first. We didn't give them any space to do anything and we pushed the puck to their net to get some opportunities that created some goals."

Smith struck again in the second period at 12:12 with assists from Matt Johnson and Brandon Barrow.

Barrow capped off the night with his own goal at the top of the third period off an assist from Kort Highducheck.

Junior Trevor Propson held Farmington at bay with 28 saves in the net. The Wolves made 30 shots on the goal.

With two goals from Riley Peickert and Danny Grohs, the boys ended the first period with a 2-2 tie. The Wolves were scoreless in the next two periods and the Dragons finished the game with a 5-2 win.

"Lake Orion outworked us," Krygier said. "They outworked us, and they controlled the puck and the front of their net. They played well. Our guys didn't continue to work hard. They didn't have the enthusiasm and didn't beat them to the puck."

The Wolves face Lake Orion for a third time in the MHSAA Pre-Regionals on Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Detroit Skating Club.

"I hope it helps them," Krygier said about the loss as they head into the post season. "We have played Lake Orion twice and we havehad the same result. Hopefully the boys figure out that the third time is not going to work like the last two times. They have to come prepared to play. They have to work hard and outwork their opponent and you have to be the first one to the puck. If that doesn't happen then we will lose to Orion." The Wolves (11-12, 4-7 OAA Red finish their regular season with two games this

week as they head to Howell (18-5) on Friday and Stoney Creek (8-13-2) on Saturday.

"Howell has a very strong team," said Krygier. "No matter what team it is we have to compete and when we compete we can play with any team. That is what the focus is this week is to get the guys to compete in practice and hopefully it transfers to the game and we have a good result."

The Wolves beat Stoney Creek in overtime on Jan. 15, 3-2.

"It was a tough game," said Krygier. "It was probably the hardest working game I have seen the boys play all year. Hopefully they can come back and do the exact same thing on Saturday."

~Sports Writer Wendi Reardon



"Propson has played excellent the last three games he has gotten us three wins," Krygier added. "Joe Popp and Austin Fullmer have helped us defensively."

The Wolves took on crosstown rivals

The Wolves block their opponents from getting into Clarkston's turf. Photo by WR

COATS - FUNERAL SERVICES Q. Can you help me purchase a grave marker?

Heather Coats

Managing Director CLARKSTON

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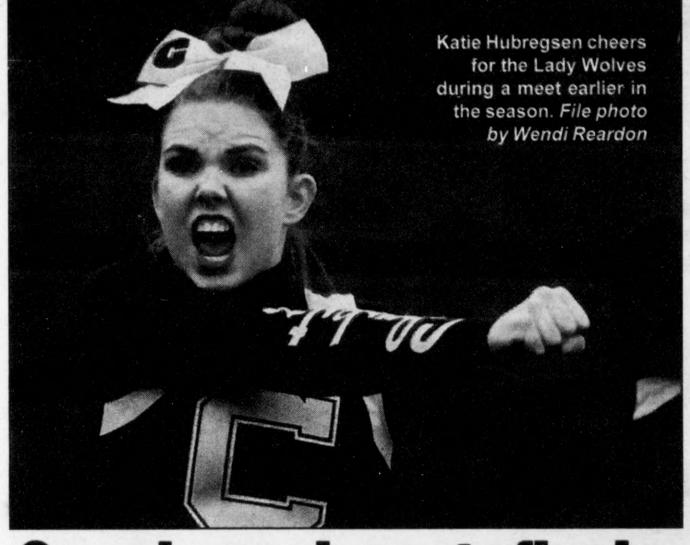


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Megan W., Waterford Lost: 184 lbs.

14 Wed., February 25, 2015 The Clarkston (MI) News



One cheer closer to finals

heading to the MHSAA Regional tournament on Saturday at Novi High School.

The Lady Wolves finished in second place at the district meet with a total score of 770.18 points, missing first place by a mere six points.

It was such an exciting week building up to the meet and the team really came together," said Beth Ann Markey, head coach.

"We've been working on cleaning up all the details of our material and it paid off. The Wolfpack held their second place spot through all three rounds and performed their highest round three score ever 317.4."

The girls finished the first round with 231.70 points and the second round with 223.08 points.

Lake Orion finished in first place and Grand Blanc and Oxford will also head to the re-

The Clarkston Competitive Cheer team is gional competition after placing third and fourth.

> The four teams will compete agains Brighton, East Kentwood, Grandville, Hartland, Holland West Ottawa, Jenison, Waterford Mott and Walled Lake Western.

> The top four teams from the meet will move on to the state finals set for next week.

> Markey and the team invite the community to join them in Novi this Saturday.

> "One of the things that pumps my team up is the fans," Markey added. "There was an awesome crew there this week and even had special appearances by some dance and football team members. It would be amazing if the stands were filled with blue and gold on Saturday."

> The regional competition begins at 2 p.m. at 24062 Taft Road, Novi. ~ Wendi Reardon



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.

Welcome! Clarkston Dermatology welcomes Dr. Schwartz's patients to their practice as he has entrusted Drs. McFalda and Kopitzki with your continued well being and care effective January 1, 2015.

We are happy to announce! Kelly Dooley, PA-C is now seeing patients daily for their dermatology needs.

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Wolfpack Update

week during MHSAA Regionals.

The Clarkston Varsity Wrestling team faced Hartland in the team regional meet on Wednesday and lost 61-10. Kas Waitkus (171) and Josh Cohoon (189) were the only to Wolves to post wins for the night.

Waitkus defeated Jack Smith and Cohoon won by a void. The two headed to the individual regionals on Saturday with teammates Nate Vandermeer and Kyle Masters.

Masters and Waitkus went 1-2 for the day in the 160-pound weight class. Masters defeated Battle Creek Lakeview's Jon Cox with a fall-at 3:06. He lost to Brighton's Beau Mourer, 15-4, and East

Grappers wrapped their season last Lansing's Kamyab Kamali with a 3:40 fall. Waitkus defeated Portage Northern

Cameron Pietrzykowski with a pin at 5:21. He lost to Kamali with a fall at 2:46 and West Bloomfield's Deshawn Cole, 9-5.

Cohoon went 0-2 for the day with losses to Howell's Austin Hansen with a fall at 2:30 and Lansing Everett's Mike Morgan by major decision, 15-6.

Vandermeer also went 0-2 in the 145pound weight class. He lost to Grand Ledge's Patrick Powers, 8-4, and Walled Lake Central's Hayden Kinjowski, 1-0.

See the Lady Wolves on Monday at Lake Orion as they play in the first round of the MHSAA Girls Basketball District playoffs at 7 p.m.

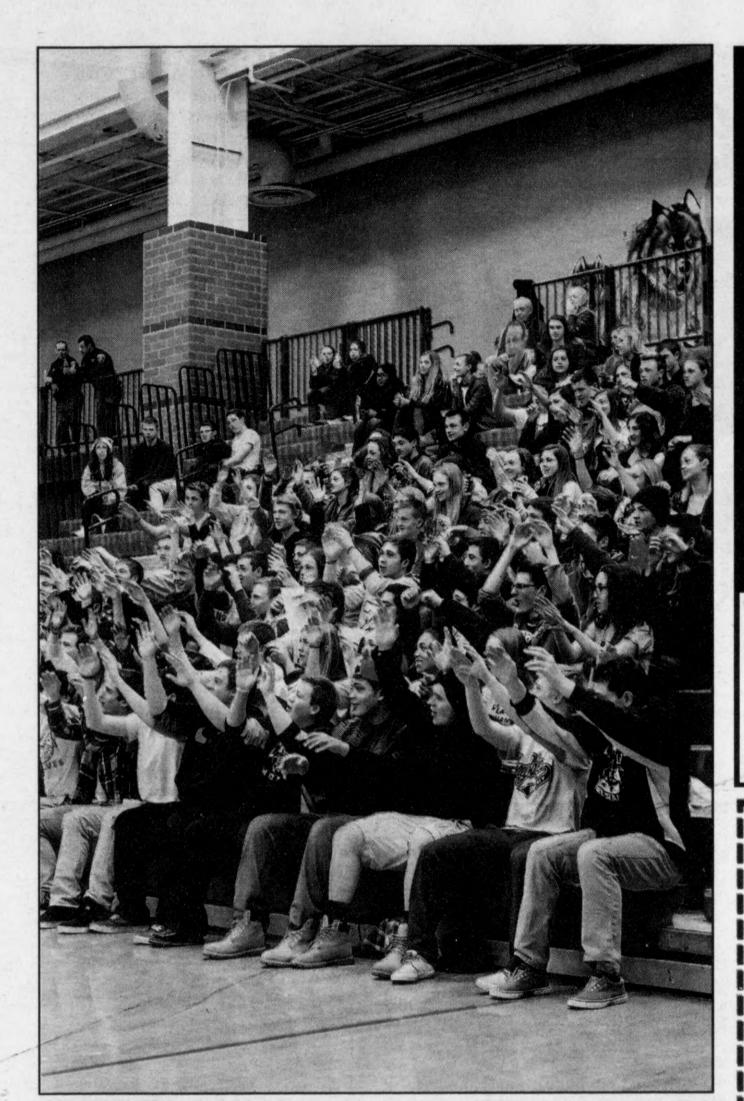
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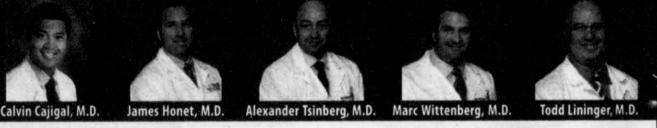
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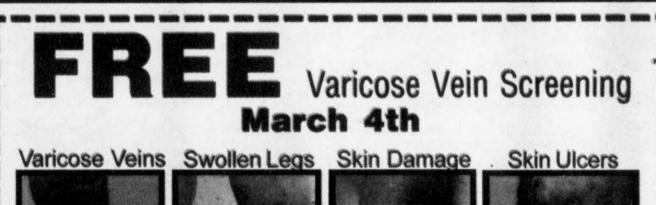
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FIRED UP! The Jungle cheers and goes on a rollercoaster ride during the Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball's win over Southfield on Feb. 17. Photo by Larry Wright/WrightActionPix





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Events

Bye Bye Birdie, Clarkston High School Drama Club, Feb. 26-28. \$14/adults, \$12/ students and seniors. 248-623-4024.

Pins for Paws and Strikes for Strays Bowling Fundraiser for Almost Home Animal Rescue League, 1-4:30 p.m., Feb. 28, AirWay Lanes in Waterford. \$25, bowling, shoes, pizza, pop, prizes, raffles. 248-200-2695.

Movie screening, "Catherine Zimmerman's Urban & Suburban Meadows: Bringing Meadowscaping to Big & Small Spaces," North Oakland Chapter of Wild Ones, 7:30-9 p.m., March 4, St. Daniel Church - Cushing Center Hall, 7010 Valley Park Drive. Free, www.northoakland.wildones.org.

Blood drive, American Red Cross, 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m., March 9, McLaren Cancer Institute Clarkston, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767).

Body Mind Green Community Expo, 5:30-8 p.m., March 12, Clarkston High School, 6093 Flemings Lake Road. Healthy food and living exhibits, demonstrations, speakers. Free: 248-625-8055.

Downton Abbey Afternoon Tea, 2-4 p.m., March 25, Senior Adult Center Carriage House. \$10. Tea, sandwiches, baked goodies, lively discussion, trivia. 248-625-8231. ***

Mom2Mom Sale, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., March 28, Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston koad. Early bird shopping from 8am-9am. Regular admission \$1, early bird admission \$2. Strollers after 10 am. Sellers, contact Debbie at mom2mom@clarkstoncommunity. com.

Edible and Ecological Landscapes with Mark

Angelini and Trevor Newman, founders of Roots to Fruits, 7:30-9 p.m., April 1, St. Daniel's Church, Cushing Center Hall, 7010 Valley Park Drive. Free, www.northoakland. wildones.org.

Around Jown

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



Scrapbookers fill the park hall for the event. Photo provided

Camp Scrap Lock In for county fair

Springfield Oaks County Park hosts the Oakland County Fair Semi Annual Camp Scrap Lock In, March 12-15.

The cost for the entire weekend is \$105, from Thursday at 6 p.m. to Sunday at 1:30 p.m. Cost for three days is \$80, beginning on Thursday at 6 p.m. and ending Saturday at midnight; or Friday, 3 p.m., to Sun-

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 6770 Dixie Highway. 248-625-3841. at Sashabaw. 248-623-7232.

day at 1:30 p.m. The cost also includes meals, snacks and raffle. For Saturday from 9 a.m. to midnight, the cost is \$60-including three meals and snacks.

The semi annual event is a fundraiser for the Oakland County Fair. For more information call 248-634-8830 or visit www.oakfair.org.

Tuesday

Wint's Healing Hearts Grief Support Group for all ages for those who have recently lost a loved one, 7 p.m., March 10, Carriage House in Clintonwood Park. Topic: "Does Any Good Ever Come Out Of Loss?" Free. Walk-ins welcome. 248-625-5231

Breast Cancer Survivor Group, second Tuesday, 7-9 p.m., 21st Century Oncology,

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. First Congregational Church of Clarkston, 5449 Clarkston Road.

Wednesday

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

Genealogical consulting with Dr. Thomas K. Stone, Wednesdays, March 25, April 22, and May 20, 10 a.m., Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center. \$1.

Thursday

Independence Township Conservatives Club, 6:30 p.m., March 12, King's Court Castle, Canterbury Village, 2369 Joslyn Court, Lake Orion. Panel led by state Rep. Jim Tedder on Proposal 1, Michigan Sales Tax Increase for Transportation Amendment

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.

Monday

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group, 10 a.m., March 9, Senior Adult Center Carriage House. Free. Sponsored by OLHSAa community action agency. Guardianship rights, substance abuse, incarceration, other issues. 248-209-2622.

Line Dancing, Mondays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600

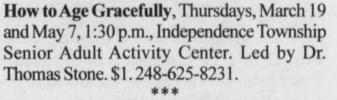
Bingo games, Community Singles, Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Big Boy, 6440 Dixie Highway. Dinner, dessert prizes. 248-812-0604.

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

Fitness 4 You classes, \$5 walk-in, New Hope Bible Church, 8673 Sashabaw Road. Call Patty, 248-520-3297.

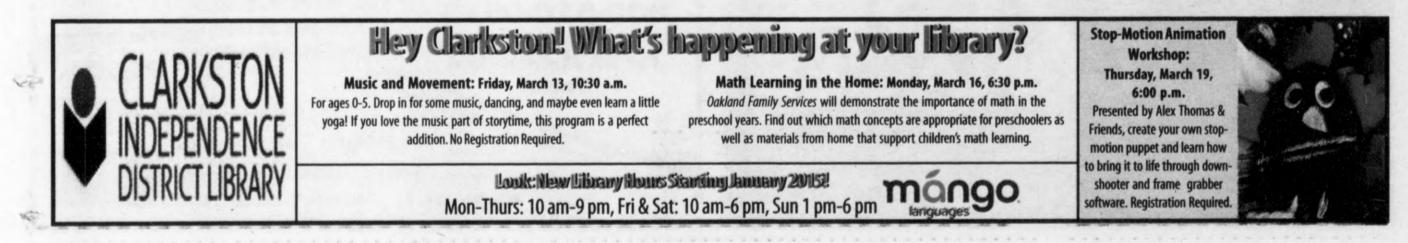
Clarkston Community Band rehearsals, 7-9 p.m., Tuesdays. \$30/semester, free for high school students. Band room, Sashabaw Middle School, 5565 Pine Knob Lane, clarkstonband@gmail.com.

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



Individualized Computer Tutoring, second and fourth Thursdays, 2-4 p.m., Senior Adult Activity Center. \$30/members, \$35/non-members. 248-625-8231.

Support group on "language" of memory loss, Please see Around Town on page 25



What business would you like to see in downtown Clarkston?



"I would like to see a Mexican restaurant, or more retail business. It seems like there may be too many restaurants downtown now. If you look at towns like Milford or Rochester Hills there is a lot more places for people to go and do things. I have lived all over the United States, and I like towns with little storefronts. More retail would be great." – Ron Serafina



"A nice restaurant. Besides a nice restaurant or bar in a big downtown building, the upper floor could be apartments and the bottom could be retail."

- Dave Carter







Wed., February 25, 2015 The Clarkston (MI) News 17

First year success for Clarkston Knights

BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

Knights of Columbus Council 15967 is celebrating a successful first year in Clarkston.

Based at St. Daniel Catholic Community, the council used to be part of Council 5436, which served St. Dan's and Our Lady of the Lakes in Waterford for more than 50 years.

"Our new council was established to serve the needs of our parish more directly, along with the local community," said council Wardon John Greaves of Clarkston.

"The name is different, but the effort to serve our community is not," said Geoff Wright of Independence Township, deputy grand knight. "We'll be able to focus on activities at St. Dan to support the youth and the church here."

Clarkston council knights help out all over the community at events including Taste of Clarkston, Concerts in the Park, Fourth of July parade, and Holiday Lights parade.

"We're able to mobilize a group of guys fairly quickly and get things done," said Jerry Roberts of Clarkston, past grand knight. "We're here to support any organization."

They also help out at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit, checking in coats, and donate sweaters and coats for Christmas at Holy Cross Children's Services. They donated \$1,600 recently to Angels Place in Clarkston, an effort to build a specialneeds house for 5-6 residents. "That's a great project, one near and dear to us," Greaves said. "The property has been donated. The Knights helped with the downpayment – there's more to do in the future."



From left are Knights of Columbus Council 15967 members John Greaves, Geoff Wright, Robert Reinelt, and Jerry Roberts. Photo by Phil Custodio

because of the economy - we couldn't support the expenses," Roberts said.

Fr. Christopher Maus, St. Dan's pastor at the time, called last spring to ask if they were interested in forming a council at the Clarkston church. This is the parish's first Knights of Columbus council.

The newly Clarkston-based council signed its charter on May 13, 2014, with about 55 charter members.

"We've grown the number significantly since the council was established," Greaves said. "We have about 85 members now."

Grand Knight Robert Reinelt of Clarkston

"I was raised to believe in charity of all manner, raising money, amd also acts of service – this gives us an opportunity to serve our fellow man," he said. "It's not limited to St. Dan's. It's a chance to serve friends, neighbors, and strangers in the community."

Greaves has been a knight for 28 years, and is a member of the color guard along with Roberts.

"It's something important," he said. "As a knight you have an opportunity to support your parish, give back to the community, grow in faith, build meaningful long term friendships, and gain exclusive access to top rated insurance programs." The council's annual Tootsie Roll drive benefiting SCAMP, Angels Place, New Horizons, New Gateways, Special Olympics, and other charity groups, is March 27-28. Knights will be at intersections and stores in the community, collecting donations.

"I would like to see more retail. I would not mind more food and beverage options, like a coffee shop." – Mike Damitio



"I think we need another restaurant. I grew up in Clarkston, and we have always been behind in terms of food variety. There is always a two to three hour wait when you come to popular downtown restaurants."

- Emily Ford

By Andrea Beaudoin

The knights sold their building on Maybee Road in 2013 and moved to Everest Academy campus for about a year.

"We lost the hall on Maybee at Sashabaw

joined seven years ago.

"I was asked by my father for years to join," Reinelt said. "I was impressed with the Color Corps. Then I found out how close the knights are – and it puts you one step closer to God."

Roberts, a knight for 46 years, also followed his father into the Catholic men's fraternal service organization.

"I joined because of camaraderie, faith, and community," he said.

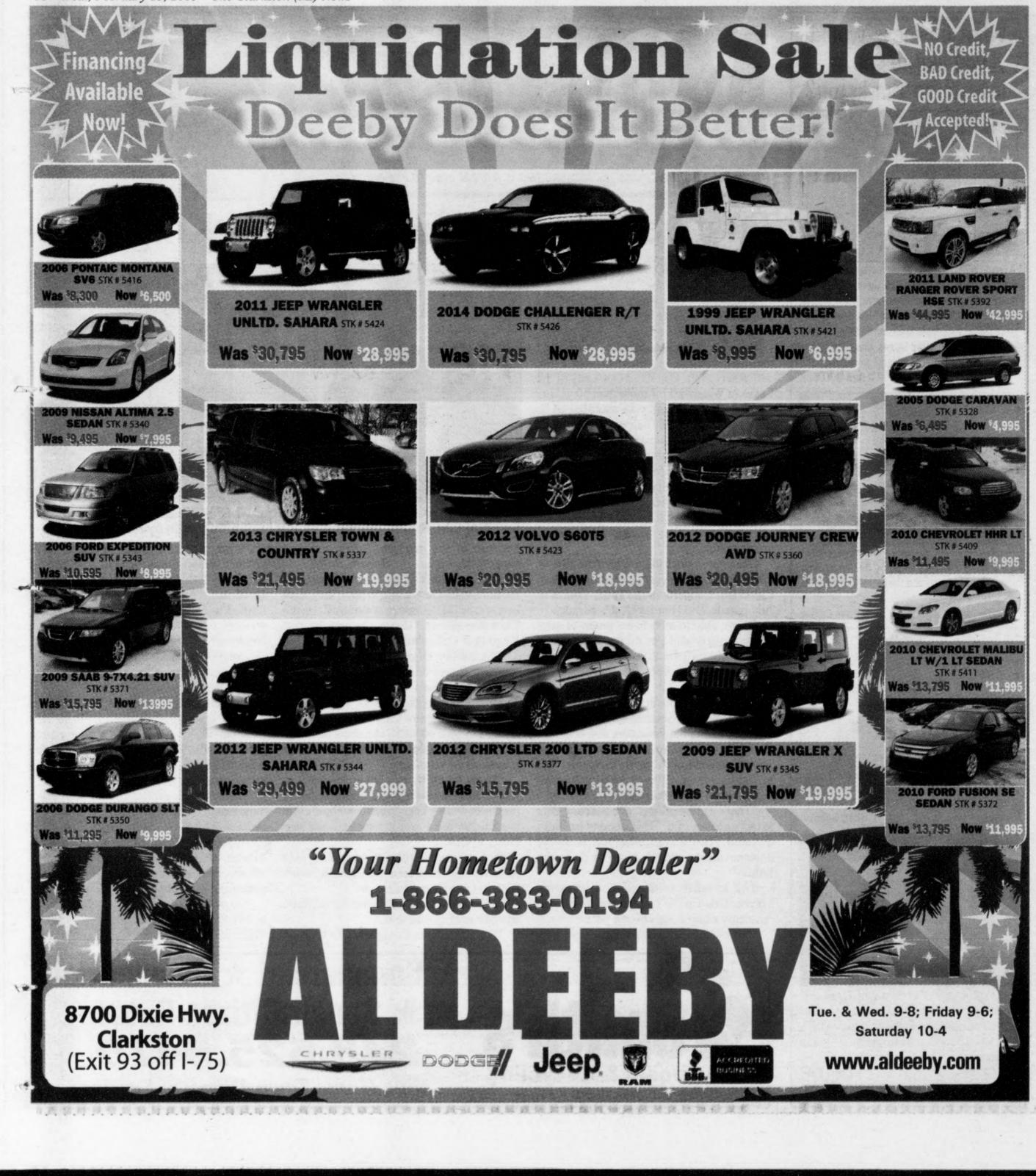
Wright has been a knight for 19 years.

For more information, call Robert Reinelt at 248-933-9179 or Dan Torres at 248-321-9782.

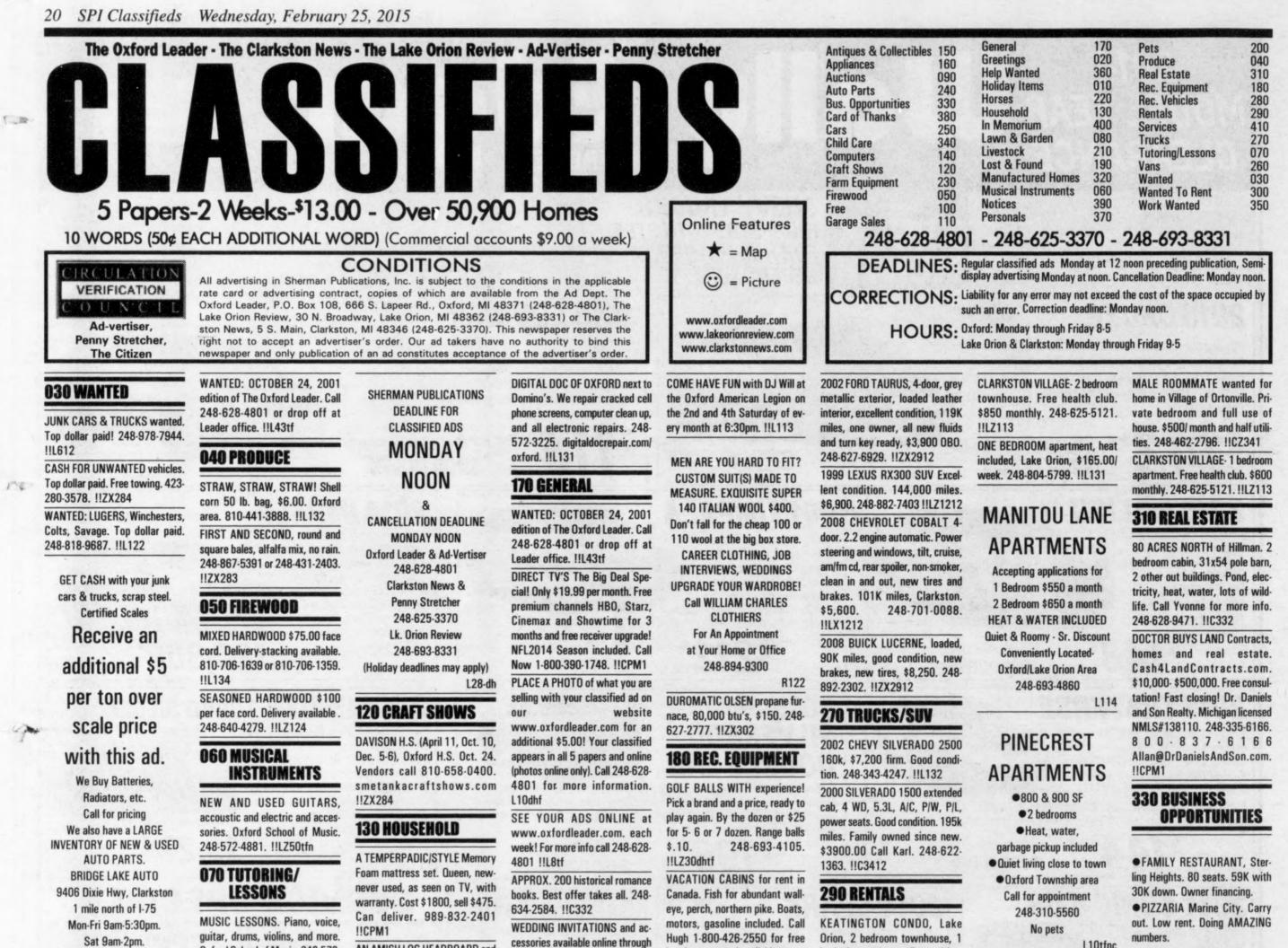
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Gary Korleski

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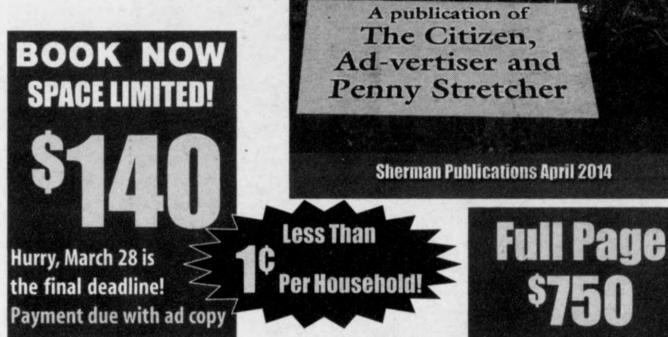
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Samantha Moyet demonstrates how open air is a poor insulator. Photo provided

Science shows speedy freezing temp

Samantha Moyet, sixth grader at Sashabaw Middle School and the daughter of Jesse and Sherri Moyet, saw a frozen shirt experiment on the news she figured she could do at her home on Pine Knob Road.

She ran to her closet and grabbed her

Around Town —

Straight Outta Clarkston shirt, put it under water and then braved the bitter cold.

"It was at sunset the night of Feb. 19, our thermometer read -8.5 and it took only three minutes for her shirt to freeze solid," Jesse said. "She was excited that her experiment worked. Science at it's finest!" Wed., February 25, 2015 The Clarkston (MI) News 25



Join us for a delicious

Continued from page 16

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.

Lunches for 50+, Thursdays, 12 p.m., madefrom-scratch. \$7. 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 par-

ties, 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.

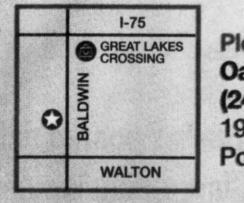
DivorceCare facilitated discussion, Thursdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road, room 122. 248-625-1611.

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

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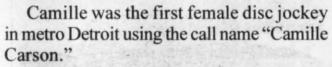
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Wed., February 25, 2015 The Clarkston (MI) News 26 Camille Drost, 59

Camille Drost (Bergerom) of Clarkston, formerly of Warren, passed away Feb. 23, 2015, at age 59.

She was the mother

of Kristine Drost: preceded in death by her parents Joseph and Mary Bergerom and brother Joseph Tripp; sister of Mark Bergerom, Daniel (Angela) Tripp and Richard (Gina) Tripp; friend and former wife of Kevin Drost.



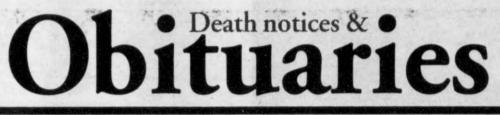
She was very involved in the Clarkston Equestrian Team and Oakland County 4H.

Funeral Celebration of Life Service, Thursday, 12:30 p.m., at the Lewis E. Wint and Son Funeral Home, Clarkston, where friends may visit Wednesday, 4-9 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the family. Private inurnment at Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

0 n e guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.





Barbara J. Doney, 87

Barbara J. Doney (Jensen) of Davisburg passed away Feb. 21, 2015, at age 87.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 62 years Thomas "Bill." She was the loving mother of Sandra (Mike) Eaton, Denice Auten, Beverly Goralczyk and Billy Doney; also survived by seven

grandchildren, 14

great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews; sister of Gwen Chalcraft; preceded in death by her siblings Marilyn Penzabene and Ed Jensen. Barb will be missed by her dog, Donuts.

She owned and operated Brandy Bar, Detroit, for many years along with her husband until their retirement in 1977. She enjoyed playing Bingo. The family would like to thank Hospice Compassus for the wonderful care they provided.

Funeral service was Feb. 24 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to an organization of your choice. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Martha E. Macdonald, 95

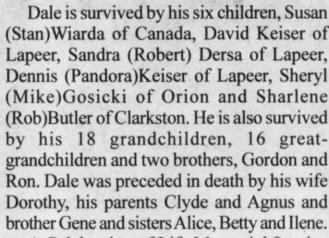
Martha E. Macdonald of Waterford, formerly of Clarkston and Royal Oak, passed away Feb. 16, 2015, at

age 95. She was the mother

Dale W. Keiser, 85

Dale W. Keiser, 85, of Lapeer (formerly of Davison and Waterford) went home to be with the Lord on

Sunday 2-15-15. He was born Sept. 30, 1929 in Berkley, Mich., to Clyde and Agnus Keiser. He married his sweetheart, wife Dorothy on 10-22-15. Dale was a Tool and Die Maker for GM-Pontiac Motors for over 36 years and then retired.



A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be on Feb. 28, 2015, at Faith Tabernacle Church on 1225 S. Center Rd in Burton, Mich., from 1-4 p.m. Dale is fondly remembered for his quick wit and humor, his mechanical abilities where he could fix anything, his love for music and bike riding. His greatest love was for the Lord, his loving wife and family. He was always there when you needed him with a helping hand or words of wisdom and advice or encouragement. He leaves behind a wonderful legacy and he will be forever loved and missed.

A special thank you from the family to Sunrise Senior Living in West Bloomfield and Hospice Compassus who faithfully loved and cared for Dale through his final years. "Great is thy faithfulness oh Lord unto me."

John Emory Reed, 86

John Emory Reed, 1929-2015, passed away at his home in Waterford, Mich., after complications due to his battle with cancer.

He was born in

Clawson, Michigan where he attended high school. John was a wonderful man, loved and respected by all who knew him. He was a builder, real estate broker, earning the status of Realtor Emeritus, a businessman, husband and father of nine



children, nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

John loved golfing and family vacations at Reed's Landing in Hillman, Mich. John was preceded in death by his parents, Azle and Rose McDaniel Reed, a son Tommy Reed, and his loving wife of 61 years, Mary Cole Reed. John is survived by five daughters and 3 sons, Dianne Reed (Dave Chester) of Fort Collins, Co., Mike Reed of Hillman, Mi., Kathy Hughes (Dave) of Laporte, Co., Mary Ann Hughes (Doug) of New Castle, Co. Barb Reed of Fort Collins, Co., Fred Reed (Nancy) of Hillman, Mich., Tim Reed (Joni) of Cheboygan, Mich. and Nancy Runyon (Chuck) of Waterford, Mich., a sister, Barbara Gorton (Fred), and a brother, Walter Reed (Carole); grandchildren: Cindy, Kristy, Michelle, Audrey, Jenny, Justin, Reed, Adam and Emily; great grandchildren Brandy, John, Leanna, Colter, and Myles.

Visitation was Feb. 19 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Memorial Mass was Feb. 20 at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church, Waterford. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Muriel Orlando, 86

Muriel L. Orlando (Bryant) of Clarkston



2015 State of the County

Wednesday at 8:30 Saturday at 8:00 Sunday at 7:00 County Executive L. Brooks Patterson delivers his annual message.

Bryan's Hope Wednesday at 9:00 Saturday at 8:00 Sunday at 8:00 A look at the non-profit organization and its battle against heroin and opiate addiction.

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

10

of Janice (John) Nelson; preceded in death by her sons Richard and H. Lee; Gram of Michelle Ledogar, Roxxey Ryan, Robert (Resha) Ryan and Nicole (Don) Hall; great grandma of Jerrit, Justin, Autumn and Steven; special aunt of Linda Ballard. Martha was a hairdresser for many years and had a beauty shop in her home. Funeral Service was Feb. 20 at the Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Inurnment Lakeview Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Disabled American Veterans. 0 guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Obituaries posted daily at Clarkstonnews.com

e

Joan B. Wells, 84

Joan B. Wells of Clarkston passed away Feb. 19, 2015, at age 84.

She was preceded in death by her husband Edwin "Ted." She was the mother of Sherry (Bob) Jedrek, Beverly Gnatek, Dennis Wells, Ricky Wells, Kim Wells and Terry (Tom) Alquiza; also survived by 11 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren; sister of Jane (Ron) Vanderlip and Jean Gagnon. Scripture service was Feb. 22 at Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Funeral mass was Feb. 23 at St. Daniel Catholic Church, Clarkston. Rite of committal All Saints Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Michigan Humane Society. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com. guestbookwww.wintfuneralhome.com.

passed away Feb. 21, 2015, at age 86.

She was the wife of Ralph; mother of Michael, Mark (Joanie), Tim, Patti, David (Dee), Suzi Hobson and Larry; preceded in death by her daughter Judith Moran; Nana of Libby, Ryan, Jessica, Andrew, Joelle, Nick, Alex, Kelly, Angela, Lauren and



Dan; great grandma of Cassie Rae; sister of Jacqueline (Joe) Pantano.

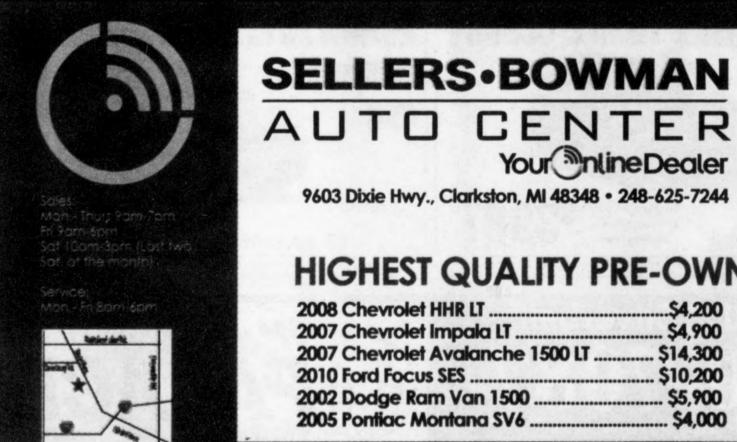
Mert was a devoted wife and dedicated her life to her family. She will be remembered for the love and kindness she showed to everyone.

Visitation was Feb. 24 at Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Funeral Mass, Wednesday, 1 p.m., at St. Daniel Catholic Church, Clarkston. Rite of Committal All Saints Cemetery. Online





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2008 Pontiac G5	\$7,500	
2014 Ford F-150 XLT	\$28,500	