

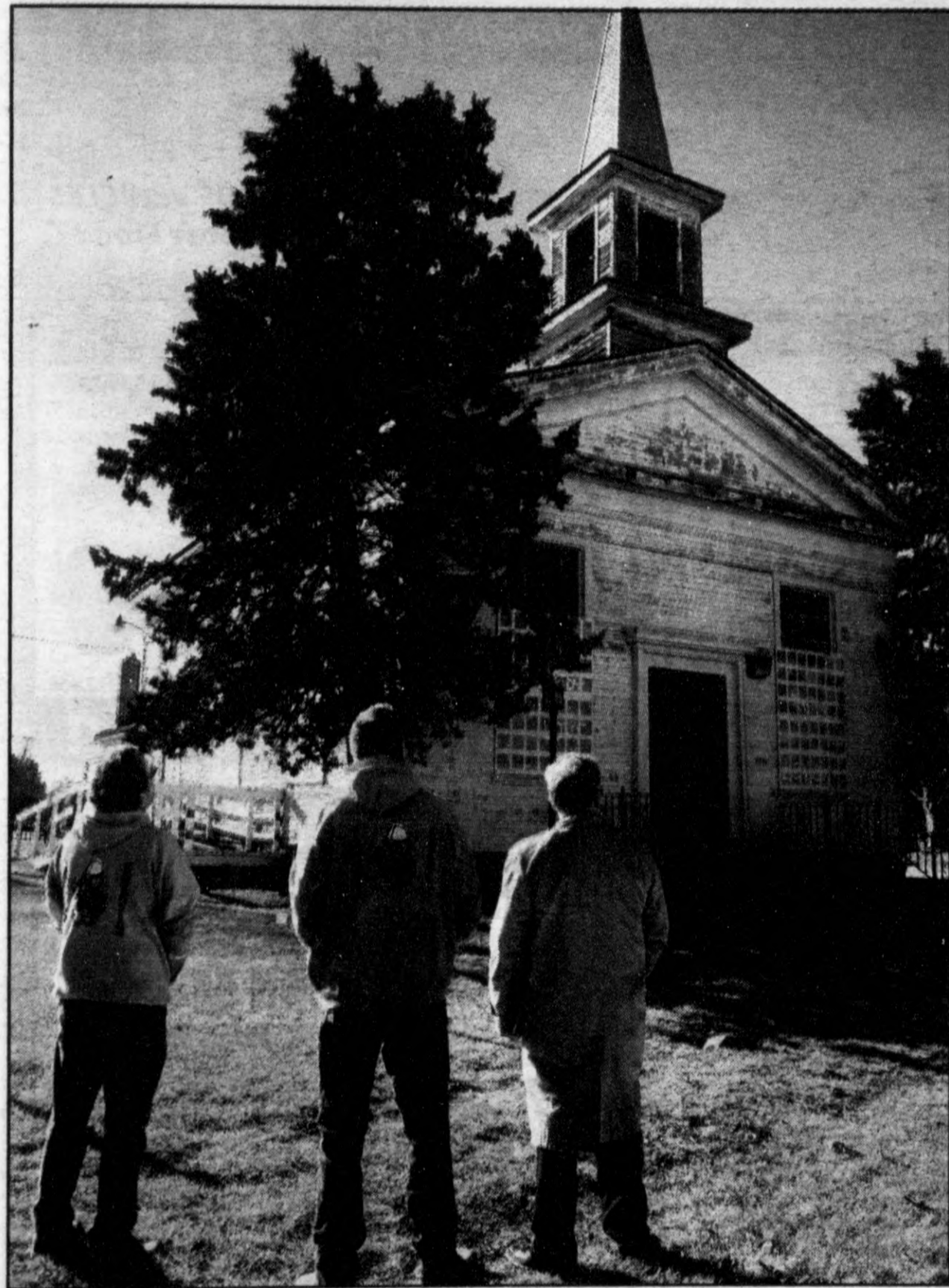
The **Clarkston News** My Clarkston. Buy Clarkston.

Vol. 89 No. 10 Wed., December 6, 2017

1 Section, 32 pages \$1.00



Stuff A Bus this weekend!  
See page 3 for details



**UNDAUNTED:** From left, Jeff Peariso, Steve Wyckoff, and Henry Woloson are supporting a Clarkston Junior High Construction Tech project to renovate the historic Sashabaw Presbyterian Church on Maybee Road. Please see page 4 for story and more pictures. *Photo by Phil Custodio*

## Historic District denial appealed to state

**BY PHIL CUSTODIO**  
*Clarkston News Editor*

When the city appears before an administrative law judge to defend a Historic District Commission decision next week, city attorney Thomas Ryan will defend it.

"The alternative is to have no one there," said City Manager Jonathan Smith at the Nov. 27 meeting. "If no one is there, there's a good chance the decision would be reversed."

"I think we need Tom's help," said Council member Eric Haven, who joined in the 6-0 vote to have Ryan represent the city at the hearing.

Council member Scott Reynolds, who was elected last month, said he was concerned with Ryan's record of service to the city, especially in regards to a Freedom of Information lawsuit with which

the city is involved in Circuit Court, and asked about a "plan B."

Smith said he could attend instead. Mayor Steven Percival said he would rather send a lawyer.

Lehman Investment Company, which owns the Clarkston Mills on W. Washington Street downtown and includes developer Ed Adler, applied to the HDC for a Certificate of Appropriateness to demolish its house at 42 W. Washington, just to the west of the Mills building, and create an empty lot.

The commission denied the certificate with a 3-2 vote on Aug. 8, saying in a letter to Lehman Investment the demolition and resulting open space would "negatively affect the character of the historic district and in particular adjacent historic resources."

*Please see Property on page 5*

## Suspects sought in home invasion

**BY PHIL CUSTODIO**  
*Clarkston News Editor*

Deputies are looking for four masked men who broke into a home, threatened to burn alive the couple inside, and stole their money, 12:59 a.m., Nov. 30, in the 7000 block of Chipmunk Hollow.

A 63-year-old Holly Township man, who is still hospitalized in stable condition, said he and his girlfriend, a 64-year-old Independence Township woman, were watching TV in the residence's basement when four male suspects wearing ski masks and brandishing firearms ran down the basement stairs and held them at gun point.

The suspects tied up the victims using

zip ties on their wrists and ankles, and demanded money.

The male victim says he previously owned a marijuana dispensary outside Independence Township, and believed the home invasion was related to that business. He claims he got out of the business due to a man he knew who was pressuring him to sell him marijuana plants, which the victim refused.

During the home invasion, the male victim was kicked repeatedly in his rib cage. The suspects also poured gasoline on the victims, threatening to set them and the house on fire if they did not give them money. The suspects stole \$7,200 cash from a closet in

*Please see Home invasion on page 9*

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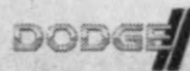
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Transportation department drivers and administrators are volunteering to fill a school bus with donations for Lighthouse. Photo by Phil Custodio

## Stuff bus for Lighthouse this weekend

Clarkston school bus drivers will be collecting non-perishable food, gift cards, and other gift items especially for teenagers at the 14th annual Stuff A Bus, Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 9-10, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Kroger on Sashabaw Road at Maybee Road, and Neiman's Family Market on Dixie Highway at White Lake Road.

The busful of donations will be taken to Lighthouse in Independence Township, said Tina Fay, bus driver and organizer.

"We want to thank Clarkston Community Schools for allowing us to do this, Sandy at Signs by Tyke for the new banner, Neiman's

and Krogers, our life skills students and all our volunteers," Fay said.

"It's very important for all of us," said Colleen Mayes, transportation director. "I think it's great."

## The Clarkston News

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## Visit with Santa

Springfield Township Parks and Recreation hosts Breakfast with Santa at 9 a.m., followed by Visits with Santa at 11:30 a.m., on Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Hart Community Center, 495 Broadway in Davisburg.

These brand new events are for families with children 12 and under to meet Santa, sit on his lap, receive a small present, get a professional family photo with him, decorate Christmas cookies, and make cheery holiday crafts.

Late registration by Dec. 7 is \$12/child, \$7/adult. Tickets will not be sold the day of the event.

Register at [www.stpr.us](http://www.stpr.us).



## Join Team RUSH for the 17th Annual



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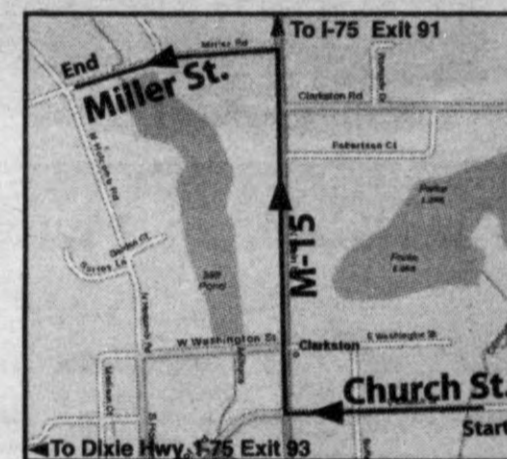


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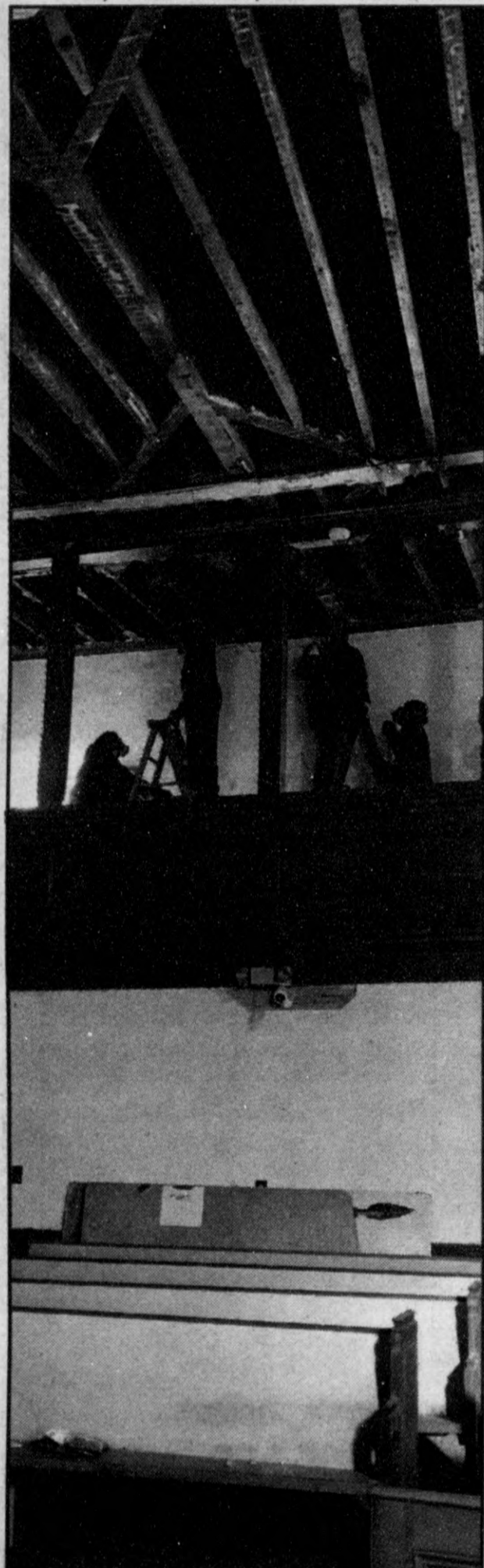
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The students work on the choir loft.



The junior high students are masked and ready to work.

## Construction tech students renovate church

BY PHIL CUSTODIO  
Clarkston News Editor

The David W. Elliott Memorial Foundation awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Clarkston Schools Construction Tech program for renovation of the historic Sashabaw Presbyterian Church on Maybee Road.

"It sounded like something David would have supported," said Henry S. Woloson. "It's a good fit. He was very much into manufacturing and construction, and he supported a lot of worker education."

"This is incredible for the kids," said Steve Wyckoff, construction technology instructor at Clarkston Junior High School. "I've been an educator for 28 years, and this is the cat's meow, an opportunity to pick up something to give to the community. Kids are more involved moving around than sitting in a classroom."

They have received about 40 donations so far, including wood from Ace Hardware to help cover up broken the windows; as well as a stainless steel countertop and sinks, power tools, scaffolding, material, and volunteer hours by adults and students.

Donations of these types of items are still needed, as well as antique lights, chandeliers, and heirlooms.

"If your kids and grandkids don't appreciate your heirlooms, we will," Woloson said.

Work started about three weeks ago. So far, 72 students filled two 40-yard dumpsters,

donated by TNR, with material from four rooms and kitchen in the basement

The restoration, which will take years to complete, will give students hands-on experience with wiring, construction, and math skills.

"It's pretty solid," said Construction Technology teacher Jeff Peariso.

"This has great bones," Wyckoff said. When complete, it could be used by the community for meetings, music and theater performances, banquets, weddings, and other events.

"It can be used for all kinds of things," Wyckoff said.

The program, which he learned about from reading articles about it in *The*

*Clarkston News*, will benefit students and the entire community, Woloson said.

"The governor talks about the need for enhanced education in the skilled trades," he said.

Sashabaw Presbyterian's historic church at 5331 Maybee Road was built by Ebenezer Beardslee and congregation members in 1855.

The church, presently located across the street at 5300 Maybee Road, partnered with the Clarkston Construction Technology program to restore the building earlier this year.

For more information or to donate, email [sashabawpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com](mailto:sashabawpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com), or check [sashabawpresbyterian.org](http://sashabawpresbyterian.org) or "Sashabaw Presbyterian Church - USA" on Facebook.



Henry Woloson, middle, presented a \$5,000 grant to construction teachers Jeff Peariso, at left, and Steve Wyckoff for the project. Photo by Phil Custodio

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# Property was previously denied for rezoning

Continued from page 1

Also, the owners did not submit a plan for redevelopment, so the commission "had no way to determine whether future proposed new construction on this lot would meet the standards."

The house is more than 50 years old and could be worth reconsidering as a historic resource "as recording an important place and time within the community," according to the HDC letter.

The owners appealed the decision to the State Historic Preservation Office, saying the HDC was inconsistent in its decisions – in 2004, the commission approved demolition of a home built in 1957 on Waldon Road.

The house was built in 1953 and includes a residential structure and garage, both cinder-block construction, with "no redeeming historical structure or architectural features," according to the property owners' brief.

They also said then Commissioner Cara

Catallo has a "personal animus" against the developer stemming from a stop-work order placed in April 2015 on a tree-clearing operation on vacant land at M-15 and Waldon Road.

A consent agreement was filed in June 2016, removing the stop-work order and requiring the property owners to grade the property, clean rubbish, debris, branches, wood chips, garbage, and vegetation, and plant, mow, and maintain grass, as well as plant nine redbud trees at the owner's expense. Under the agreement, neither admitted liability or fault, with both paying their own costs, expenses, and attorney fees.

Adler and Lehman Investment Company applied this past spring to rezone 42 W. Washington from residential to commercial for use as a wedding and meeting place, in connection with its Clarkston Mills property.

City Council voted on May 22 to deny the rezoning request. Their reasons included zoning ordinance standards were

not satisfied, the Planning Commission recommended against it, Master Plan is against non-residential intrusions into residential areas, preserve property values, the plan was incompatible with adjacent residential areas, a petition against rezoning was signed by every adjacent property owner, the Mill Pond serves as a natural dividing line, and there was already sufficient commercially zoned property in the city.

The hearing on HDC's demolition denial is scheduled for Dec. 14 in Lansing. The administrative law judge could make a ruling at the hearing, which could go against the city, Smith said.

"He could throw it out then and there," he said.

Haven said the commission's decision should be defended.

"It could have a tremendous impact – it would demolish what I think is a beautiful home," he said.

# Superintendent rated 3/4 by school board

BY JESSICA STEELEY

Clarkston News Staff Writer

The Board of Education gave Clarkston Schools Superintendent Rod Rock an "effective" rating in the superintendent evaluation, or a score of 3.

It is the second highest score, behind "highly effective," or a 4.

"The board thanks you for inspiring our students, staff and community and setting higher standards of excellence every day at Clarkston Community Schools," Board President Elizabeth Egan wrote in the superintendent evaluation letter.

The board evaluated him in seven categories: governance and board relations, community relations, staff relations, business and finance, instructional leadership, student growth, and progress toward district-wide goals.

Governance and Board Relations has a weight of 20 percent and was split into six parts. Rock received a 3 on policy involvement, a 3.5 on goal development, a 3 on information, materials and background, and board questions, and a 4 on board development; 3.25 overall.

Community relations is weighted at 15 percent. Rock received a 3 on community feedback, a 3.5 on parent feedback and media relations, and a 4 on communication with community, district image, and approachability; 3.7 overall.

For staff relations, weighted at 15 percent, Rock received a 3 in staff feedback and staff communication, a 3.5 in personnel matters and recruitment, and a 4 in delegation of duties, labor relations, and visibility in district; 3.6 overall.

Business and Finance had a weight of 20

percent. Rock received a 3 in resource allocation, a 3.5 in budget development and management and financial controls, and a 4 in facility management and budget reports; a 3.6 overall.

In instructional leadership, with a weight of 30 percent, Rock received a 3 in student feedback and student attendance, a 3.5 in performance evaluation system, school improvement, curriculum, and support for students, and a 4 in professional knowledge, staff development, and instruction; 3.5 overall. These five categories combined gave the superintendent a score rounded to 3.5 or 88 percent, which is called the professional practice rating.

Additionally, with a weight of 25 percent, Rock received a 3 on student growth, and a 2.5 on progress towards district-wide goals, weighted at 10 percent. These scores added with the professional practice score give Rock a 3.3 or 82 percent, this is the summarize evaluation score. Some numbers included are rounded.

\*\*\*

Phase I of Clarkston Community Schools' bond project is almost complete, with new secure entry and sitework completed at Andersonville Elementary and Bailey Lake Elementary, as well as sitework and playground updates at Springfield Plains Elementary and athletic and sitework improvements at Clarkston High School. The cost of this phase came in at \$5,807,395.

Phase II includes creating secure entrances for North Sashabaw, Clarkston and Pine Knob elementaries. Springfield Plains and Independence Elementary will also have getting secure entrances by additions to the building, as well as

classroom technology and interior renovations. Independence will also have updates to their parking lot and roof.

Clarkston Junior High will also have new secure entry and some sitework completed in this phase. Phase II work is scheduled to take place in the spring/summer of 2018 and is estimated to cost a total of \$14,000,000.

\*\*\*

The Clarkston Board of Education accepted two donations at their Nov. 27 meeting – a claw foot bathtub for Clarkston Junior High School's Construction Tech program for their Bailey House restoration project. The second was a monetary donation of \$500 to North Sashabaw Elementary for classroom supplies.

The school board also approved three changes to their support staff, two additions and one subtraction. They added a preschool teacher at the Early Childhood Center and a payroll assistant, \$35,370. A paraprofessional at Pine Knob Elementary resigned.

\*\*\*

Shared Services Director Billie Pambid presented an update of Clarkston Community Schools Shared Time Program to the Board of Education.

Clarkston currently partners with 10 schools through this program: Our Lady of the Lakes Waterford, Orchard Lakes St. Mary's, Oakland Christian, Everest Academy, St. Regis, Loyola, University of Detroit—Jesuit, Most Holy Trinity, Grosse Pointe Academy and Auburn Hills Christian.

Clarkston has 132 teachers, full and part time at shared schools, with 3,318 students served and 290 students taking one or more online courses.

## Briefly

### Student count

Clarkston Community Schools, combined with shared time services, counted 8,318 students during the Oct. 4 student count day, 68 fewer than last year.

Slow growth for Oakland County communities is projected from 2010 to 2040. During this time the population of school aged children in the county is expected to decrease by six percent, said Deputy Superintendent Shawn Ryan to the Board of Education, Nov. 27.

For grades K-5 in Clarkston, 715 students have free or reduced lunch, there are 96 out-of-district students, and 115 English as a Second Language (ESL) students.

For 6-12, there are 775 students with free or reduced lunch, 167 out-of-district and 62 ESL students. This data doesn't include shared services, Ryan said.

### Drinking law OK'd

A new city ordinance making the first underage drinking a civil infraction instead of a misdemeanor will take effect on Jan. 1, after second reading on Nov. 27.

The revised city Ordinance 133 on underage drinking of alcoholic beverages makes alcohol purchase, possession, and consumption by minors a civil infraction, like a traffic ticket, punishable by not more than a \$100 fine for a first offense, with options for community service and treatment classes.

A second offense would be a misdemeanor, with imprisonment of up to 30 days, with treatment and community service and fine of up to \$200. Third or more, up to 60 days and \$500 fine. Fraudulent identification by a minor would remain a misdemeanor, punishable by up to 93 days in jail and/or \$100 fine.

The new ordinance reflects changes to state law also taking effect at the start of the new year.

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## Phil in the Blank

A column by Phil Custodio

### Closing time

The curtain has fallen (or more like slid across the stage) on the Clarkston Village Players show I've been working with, "Morning's At Seven."

It's my fourth production so far, all with CVP within the last couple years. Its closing leaves me with the same bittersweet sense of accomplishment and loss I've felt with the others.

No more lining up for make up, walking on stage near the end of Act I to trigger the main plot, sneaking behind a curtain to get into position stage-right for an Act II entrance, or Debbie Kramer's awesome chocolate chip cookies, which she made for us a couple times.

My role was relatively small but my character, David, liked to lecture Jim Pike's character, Carl, so I had some sizable passages to learn.

Only after getting the lines down, almost two months, did I realize what they were saying.

David spent most of his scenes on stage trying to help Carl with his "where-am-I spells." He would wander around, wondering who he was, saying he should have been a dentist.

Sort of like Hermey the elf in the "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" television special. Being a dentist was just one of those things back then, I suppose.

The other characters thought he just needed to calm down, but David decided he was having where-am-I-in-life existential crises.

I told him he would have those thoughts no matter if he was a builder, which he was, or a dentist. Pretty deep, David.

It was also near the end of rehearsals just before opening night before I realized what David was doing in his last scene with Esther, my stage wife played by Kay Lewis.

I thought he was being defensive, with lines like "we've kept our lives clear and intelligent" and "we've kept ourselves to ourselves," but then decided he was actually trying to explain himself and his actions to his wife.

She takes him back. "You see, I've always had you, David," she would say.

I would say "thank you," and rub my head abashedly. That got at least one "aww" from the audience.

That was cool. I'll remember that one.



# Opinion Pages

Letters, columns & Editorials

## Join us in blue light campaign for Overall

Dear Editor,

The City of the Village of Clarkston's light the night with blue lights campaign for the month of December had a great kick off.

Over 300 lights have been picked up from the City Hall and donations are coming in steadily. Other communities are also joining in our tribute as well.

Remember, this campaign is to honor Deputy Eric Overall Who was killed in the line of duty in the early morning on Thanksgiving day.

We have had many individuals from outside the city also stop by to give donations and pick up blue lightbulbs.

However, as we scour the area for blue light bulbs, we are finding it difficult to keep a supply on hand at the city office. I would ask that any citizen who, during their Christmas shopping, purchase a blue light bulb at any store that you may be shopping.

And, also remember it does not have to be single light bulb, it can be a string of blue

lights or a single blue light replacing a candle light in a window.

Please join us in this small token of our gratitude to all fallen hero by placing a blue light, or a string of lights, or any display of blue lights on your property that signifies our gratitude and shows Deputy Overall's family that we share in their grief and have them in our thoughts and prayers during the month of December and the holiday season.

Please stop in person or mail your donation to the city offices. All donations will go directly to the family.

We will be organizing a vigil later in the month to further show our support and gratitude to the family.

Please standby for further details and thank you to all those who have stopped by the city offices to show their support and all those who brightly display the blue light in honor of Deputy Eric Overall.

Steven Percival  
Clarkston Mayor

## A call to end gerrymandering in Congress

Dear Editor,

I too have been searching for elusive Rep. Bishop. He has no time for town halls, unless you live in Livingston County, and when you write to him you get a generic form letter 2-3 months later that does little to answer your inquiry.

Also, a call to his D.C. office is noncommittal on any position he has on a bill. He calls himself a conservative but is willing to vote to increase the deficit and debt if it will help the billionaires.

That is why I signed the petition "Voters Not Politicians" to end gerrymandering. Hopefully, it will be on the 2018 ballot and we Michiganders will vote to end gerrymander-

ing and have an independent, non-partisan group to draw districts.

When an elected official is gerrymandered in, they don't need to answer to their constituents only to the large money donors who keep them in office.

If you want a politician to represent the people of your district, regardless of party affiliation, please go the web site "votersnotpoliticians.com" and find a location where you can sign the petition to end this unfair gerrymandering of districts.

J. Pierson  
Independence Township

## Reader not impressed with tax cut talks

Dear Editor,

Folks, I am not kidding. The Conservative Paul Ryan, fiscal hawk, proposes they borrow tons of money in order to give a huge tax decrease.

What a great idea!

Why didn't I think of that? I can borrow up to the hilt and live high on the hog.

Then, when I win the lottery, I can pay it back.

With apology to Kris Kristofferson, "Let

the devil take tomorrow, tonight I need a friend."

Now get this great idea, 10 years from now, when I am not in office, perhaps the Democrats will have to pay it back. Genius. Believe me, Ryan and Trump actually think they can pull this scam off.

Lock 'em up. We deserve better.

Not a sucker,

Dale Bond  
Clarkston

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

## A Look Back

From The CNews archives

### 15 years ago - 2002

"Clarkston students star in upcoming ballet at high school" Clarkston residents were getting ready for the Lake Area Civic Ballet performance of "Nutcracker" at Clarkston High School with Emily Wiggins as Clara, Ashley Shaw as Columbine, and Stephanie Lang as the Snow Queen.

"Reflective addresses from fire department aids rescues" The Independence Township fire stations sold green and white reflective address signs for a year and noted it helps them find homes quickly when time matters most.

"Morin notches two goals in victory against Brighton" Steve Morin assisted the Clarkston Varsity Hockey team in their 4-3 win over Brighton with two goals during the first game of the annual Cranbrook Thanksgiving Tournament. Prior to the game they defeated league foe West Bloomfield, 3-1.

### 25 years ago - 1992

"The gambler visits township" Country music star Kenny Rogers visited Independence Township to check out Michigan's first Kenny Rogers Roasters franchise, which was in Independence Town Square at Waldon and Sashabaw roads intersection.

"Raises: three percent" The Independence Township board unanimously approved a three-year contract with Local 2720 for full-time workers of the township. Part of the contract included a 3-percent raise in 1992 (retroactive), a 3-percent raise in 1993, and a 4-percent hike in 1994.

"Mitten drive" Derek Weddle and his sister, Danielle, were collecting hats, socks, mittens, coats and boots to donate to Children's Village of Oakland County and Lighthouse North.

### 50 years ago - 1967

"Federal grant could allow library construction to start next week" Plans for a new library to serve Independence Township residents received a boost when notification of a Federal grant for \$38,546 to aid construction was received.

"Lake property purchased by County Parks and Recreation" Crooked Lake in Independence Township was purchased by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission for \$1,600 per acre for the 337-acre parcel.

"Girl Scout news" Girl Scout Troop 89 sent several dozen turkeys tray favors to Pontiac General Hospital.

## Thanks for art support

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the PTA of Springfield Plains Elementary, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to the generous businesses and volunteers that made our second annual Art Inspiration event a huge success.

Ms. Ryanne Shiner, SPE's art teacher; April of McCourt's Musical Instruments; Joanne of Joanne Gentile Photography; Leanna of Picasso's Grapevine; Roxana's Dance Expressions; Clarkston High School band students and National Honor Society students; and Lauren Burgess, event photographer and student at CHS.

It is because of their generous donation of time and artistic talents that we had 125 children explore music, art, dance and photography.

Students are encouraged to take another step in their art journey and enter the National PTA Reflections contest. The PTA Reflections is a nationally acclaimed student art recognition program to encourage artistic creativity in the classroom and at home.

Sincerely,

Mollie Harrison, Kelly Hyer, Christie McElroy,  
Carrie Ouelette, Ryanne Shiner, Maria Siwek, and  
Melisa Taylor, 2017 SPE PTA Art Inspiration  
Committee



Springfield Plains Elementary art teacher Ryanne Shiner shows students how bubble tile art is done. Photo provided

# Backroom dealings makes us Michiganders

I woke up groggily the other Monday (I believe it was Nov. 26) to the TV news babe commenting something or other about a new bill our very own Governor Snyder had signed into law.

Eyes closed, but ears opened, I thought I heard the sad news, delivered way too cheerily, "It's official! Governor Snyder has signed a law -- residents of Michigan are now officially Michiganders."

WHAT THE . . . ?

I shot up straight in bed, awake, alert and on point. I focused my adrenaline-fueled attention to the television news. Alas, it was too late. They had gleefully moved on to the next sorta' news item.

Michi-schmackin' frackin'-gander. Me?!

How do I impeach The Gov this minute? Now, before his term ends next year? Read my lips, "I am not a goose. I do not squawk like one. As a resident of Michigan, I am a Michiganian. We are not Michiganders!"

Except now, by the swipe of a hand, behind closed doors and with secret, backroom deals, we are.

I

am

a

Michigander.

Say it ain't so!

Way back in 2010, I voiced my concerns. I publicly, and in print, pointed out the error in then candidate Rick Snyder's use of the term "Michigander." Actually, both he and his Democrat adversary (Virg

Bernero) continuously insulted Michigan residents whenever they said, "Michigander."

Even after Snyder was elected, for about a year, I would send messages to his office whenever he used the derogatory term.

"Dear Governor, the term is Michiganian. Michigander is a not a term of endearment, in fact it is just the opposite . . . blah, blah, blah."

Deaf ears. Blind eyes. My messages obviously were sent straight to the garbage. You know, I almost forgot about Snyder's misuse of Michigander, until I heard the news that fateful Monday morning. I am, or was, surprised I had not heard rumblings of this atrocity actually being considered in Lansing.

Blasted! It was signed into law before I could even stand on my soapbox and rail against the legislative obscenity.

Still in bed, I looked up to the heavens, clinched my fists in rage and screamed to nobody and everybody, "Curses!"

Thankfully, age has mellowed your hero (that would be me) and instead of tweeting something like the other "Donald" who likes to go to Twitter for good or ill, I held my cool. I waited. Meditated, "ohm . . ."

Today (Dec. 4), I jumped on the information highway and found an article in the *Detroit Free Press* dated Nov. 25 by Kathleen Gray. Wrote she, "Are you a Michigander or a Michiganian?"

"In the eyes of the state Legislature, Michigander is the official term for the residents of Michigan and they have a bill that passed unanimously in both the House and Senate this week to prove it.

"Tucked into an obscure package of bills that modernizes the 1913 statute creating the Michigan Historical Commission is a passage that strikes out a

reference to Michiganians in favor of Michiganders."

Just as I thought, the bill was "tucked away into an obscure package of bills" and passed unanimously in both houses. Dangblab! Can't trust Democrats or Republicans. Awesome.

Didn't they know, or did they not care? Don't they know the term Michigander was coined by those hooligans in Ohio over 180 years ago? That's when Michigan was en route to become the 26th state of the Union.

We petitioned to have our southern border go down to about Toledo, Ohio. Which, didn't make Ohioans too happy. The Ohio-Michigan War of 1835 ensued. In the end, they won Toledo (we got the Upper Peninsula as a runner-up prize), we complained, they said we squawked like geese and called us Michiganders.

Some say Honest Abe Lincoln (then a Congressman from Illinois) was the first to insult Michigan in 1848, with the term Michigander. I, and others say it was about 12 years earlier. Big whoop! The fact remains: It was an insult.

And, now our lame duck governor gets the last laugh by actually changing the law, striking from the history books the simple fact Michigan residents were officially called "Michiganians." The dastardly act of wasting hard-earned taxpayer money to change this saddens me. Political shenanigans, I say!

Heavy sigh.

But, since I am writing this on #GoodDeedsForZach day (December 4), I am going to forgive our governor, Rick Snyder. It is the nice thing to do. (It doesn't mean I have to forget, though.)

Send your comments for that old-schooler Don to [DontRushDon@gmail.com](mailto:DontRushDon@gmail.com)

Don't  
Rush Me



A column by  
Don Rush

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##### 1-3p @ T-Mobile

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#### Ribbon Cutting—December 6, 2017

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# Public Safety

For Clarkston and Independence Township

## Soft lockdown

A friend of a 43-year-old Ortonville man called the Oakland County Sheriff's Office saying the 43-year-old had called him and made suicidal statements, and said he had a handgun.

The Ortonville man had a doctor's appointment on Bow Pointe Drive and had left the office upset before 10 a.m., Nov. 29. The doctor's office said he was upset with his pain management.

A cell phone check resulted in pings in Grand Blanc Township and another in Davison. A deputy reached him through text messages, and he said he overreacted with his doctor due to frustration. He declined to meet with sheriff's deputies and turned off his phone, and a be-on-the-lookout report was sent to Genesee and Lapeer counties for officer safety and welfare check.

The incident resulted in a "soft lockdown" at the nearby Pine Knob Elementary School on Sashabaw Road, with students and staff remaining inside the building that morning and afternoon. Classes continued as normal. The lockdown was lifted by 1:40 p.m.

## Home invasion

*Continued from page 1*  
the victim's home.

The male victim was transported to a local hospital by paramedics from The Independence Fire Department, for a non-life threatening injury to his ribs. The male victim was listed in stable condition.

An OCSO K-9 Unit responded to the scene and established a track, which was later terminated when it was determined the suspects fled the area possibly in a white van. An evidence technician responded to the scene to process the scene. The incident has been turned over to detectives for further investigation.

Independence Township ordinances ban possession or use of marijuana, but includes a medical exemption. The township has no medical marijuana dispensaries, according to the sheriff's Independence Township substation.

Call Oakland County Sheriff's Office with tips at 800-SPEAK-UP or 1-800-773-2587

## Funeral for fallen deputy

Oakland County Deputy Eric Overall, 50, a 22-year veteran who lost his life early Thanksgiving morning by a suspect eluding police on M-15, was laid to rest Nov. 28 at Mt. Zion Church in Independence Township.

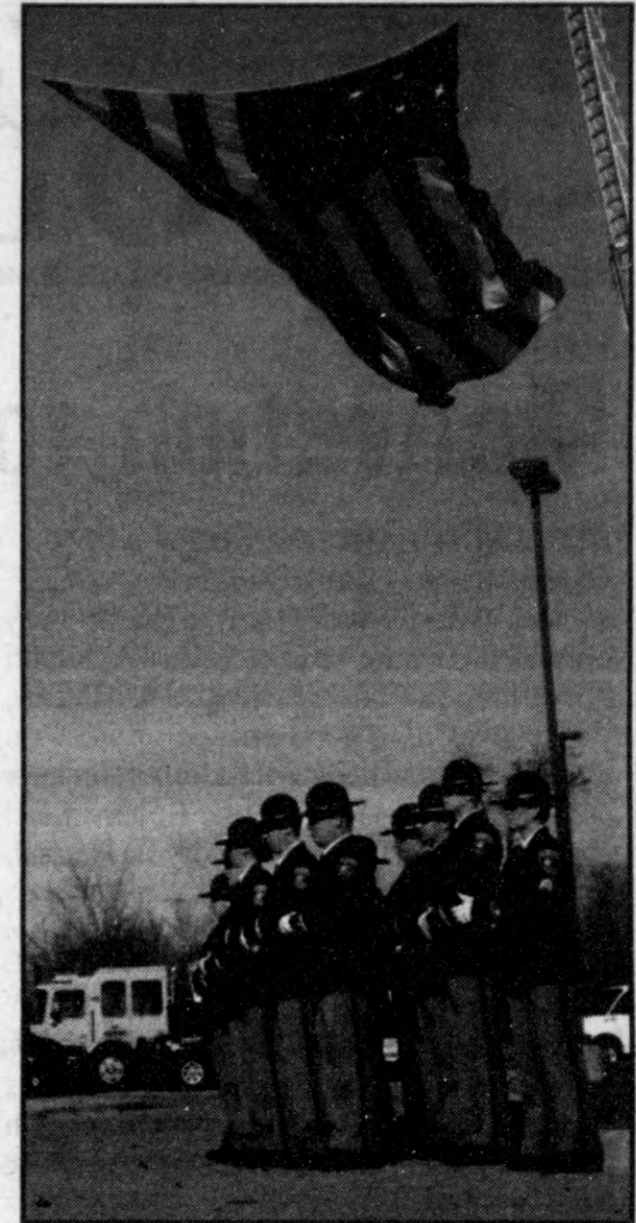
Hundreds of law enforcement officers from throughout Michigan and nationwide gathered with Oakland County deputies and thousands of wellwishers at the church to recall and celebrate his life.

"It's a huge loss to us," said Oakland County Sheriff Mike Bouchard. "He was a great deputy and a great person in the sheriff's office and out of the office and in the schools as a liaison officer. His death is a huge blow to his family and friends."

Eric is survived by wife Sonja; son Ken and the late Cameron; grandson of Lois Overall and the late Kenneth; son of Chris (Heidi) Overall and Denise (Rick) Houston; brother of Randy (Karla) Overall, Darryl (Sandy) Overall, Kevin (Debbie) Overall, Brett (Jody) Overall, Beth (Jeff) Fahr, Susan Overall and Matthew Overall.

The deputy, who was assigned to the Brandon Township Substation, served six years as a liaison officer at Walled Lake Schools and two years in Brandon. He was killed Nov. 23 when he was hit by a car after deploying stop sticks on M-15 near Seymour Lake Road.

Christopher Berak, 22, of Macomb Township is charged with first-degree murder in the case.



Hundreds of law enforcement officers gathered to honor Deputy Eric Overall. Photo by David Fleet



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# 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](mailto:clarkstonnews@gmail.com)

## Motivation to work harder

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE  
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Wolves held their own as they opened the winter season against Ypsilanti Arbor Prep last Thursday with a 48-45 loss.

"It gives us a good chance to work on the things now which will be important later in the season," said Christine Rogers, head coach for Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball. We are going to be a good team once we settle in a little bit more. Arbor Prep was a very physical, challenging team."

"We played really tough and really hard," said senior Kayla Luchenbach. "It was a really fast-paced and physical game. It was good to see everyone could keep up with that energy and that physicality especially the younger players. Obviously there is some stuff we need to work, but it being our first game we came out a lot stronger than some of us had hoped."

Luchenbach and senior Maddie Beck explained it was a team effort.

"We really worked well as a team," Beck said.

"We shared the ball well," added Luchenbach, explaining one of this season's goals is to share the ball more than they did last year. "Everyone had a good run of shots. Our points were spread amongst the team which was good."

The Wolves held the lead at the beginning of the game as they were able to slow down Arbor Prep's leading scorer in the first half.

"She was playing smarter and getting dif-

ferent opportunities - we weren't able to stop her," Rogers said about the second half. "She can hit from anywhere on the floor."

Senior Molly Nicholson led the team with 15 points, 15 rebounds, five steals and four blocks.

"It was an incredible night. She had an amazing game," Rogers said.

Luchenbach finished the night with 13 points, 11 rebounds and four blocks.

"She was very dependable and reliable," Rogers added. "She had a tough defensive assignment but was still able to score 13 points."

The players added the loss will help them as they go into the rest of the season.

"It will definitely help us knowing we can play at a high level," said Luchenbach. "We will think back to that game and remember we came out hard the first quarter. We know we can do it."

"They are a really good team and being able to match up with a team like that will prepare us for any other team because they were a physical team," said Nicholson. "It helps us with the mindset also in practice knowing we have to prepare for each game."

"A loss motivates you to work a little bit harder," Rogers added. "It's not always a bad thing to go into the season a little hungry."

The Wolves opened the week against Notre Dame Prep on Tuesday. They host Royal Oak on Friday and Groves on Tuesday. JV begins at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.



Senior Kayla Luchenbach looks for an opportunity to move the ball in the Wolves' scrimmage against Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes. Photo by Wendi Reardon Price

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK Kick for the win

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE  
Clarkston News Sports Writer

As senior Jermaine Roemer was getting ready to kick his 30-yard field goal in the MHSAA Division 1 Football State Championship, his mom was in the Ford Field stands saying her mantra.

"Over the branch and out to the road," shared Gina, Jermaine's mother, explaining their side yard was about half the size of a football field. "When he was kicking for Clarkston Chiefs we could stand at the end and say - 'see tree branch on the Oak, half high, you have to get it that high. Not only that high but to the dirt road.' That's what I am saying at the games. Listen to the coach, but mom said over the branch and out to the road."

He made it - giving the Clarkston Varsity Football team three points which would win them their third state championship in five years. It was also his sixth field goal for the season.

"It was huge for me because the game before I had a lot of punts which were pretty good," Jermaine said. "I attempted a field goal at the end (against Detroit Catholic Central) and didn't make it. KR (Head Coach Kurt Richardson) trusted me with the kick and I made it. The rest is history."

He added he wouldn't have been able to make the kick without his team.

"I don't kick unless my team puts me in that position. I wouldn't be able to kick those field goals without my team behind me especially with that field goal," he said.

Jermaine also punted for the team and a total of 41 punts his senior year for 1,615.5 yards, including a 69-yard punt in the playoff semifinals against Detroit Catholic Central and only six punts had a

return in the season.

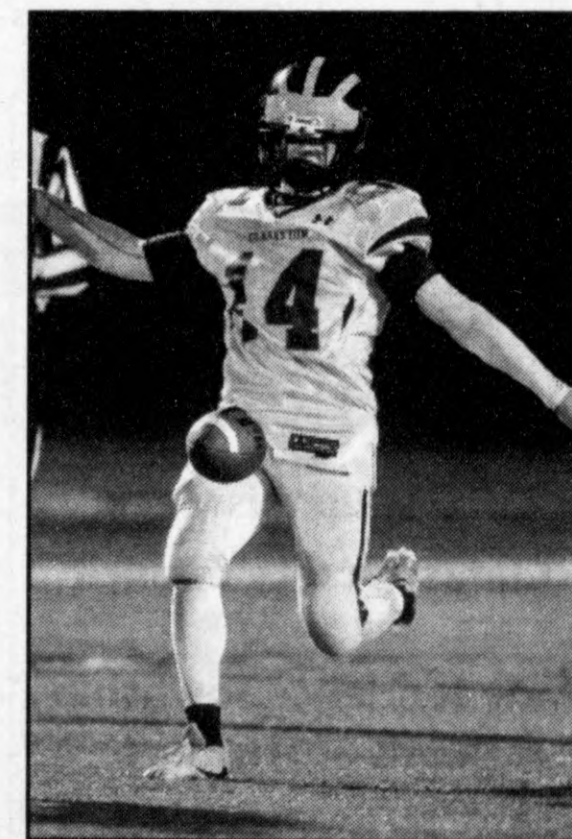
"Punters are weapons," said Karsten, Jermaine's father.

Jermaine began playing football when he was around 7/8-years-old with Clarkston Chiefs. It was with Chiefs his kicking started when his coach, Tim Brennan, asked players who were interested in kicking with Chiefs JV Blue to come early to practice.

"I was the only one who showed up," he remembered.

"We knew he could kick the ball because he played recreational soccer," said Karsten. "He had talent for hitting the ball."

Please see Kicker on page 11



Senior Jermaine Roemer kicks during the Wolves win over Lake Orion, Oct. 13. Photo by Larry Wright



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# Kicker overcomes injuries for success on field

Continued from page 10

A talent which earned him the nickname the "Boot" in recreation soccer when he kicked for the goalie to the center of the field even though he was in the striker position and "Big Foot" by Brennan.

Jermaine explained he was always the kicker.

"I got good at kicking field goals," he said. "Once we started doing the training I saw there was potential for something more."

"I am big on mechanics, how the kick is supposed to work, you drill," Karsten said. "Most of these guys hate drilling. You repeat over and over because you get better and better. Two years ago I knew nothing about football. My wife can tell you, she signed him up for football. I said you are crazy. Then, somehow kicking started in and talent was recognized."

Jermaine went to his first camp run by Filip Filipovic, a kicking coach from Chicago, and K.C. Lopata, former University of Michigan kicker, in January 2016 where he saw college kickers in action.

"I want to be like them," he said.

"We went to the first camp and it really started it," Karsten said. "My function

became to convey to my son to get to that level you have to regularly practice. I was the nagger trying to get him onto the field to practice three times a week."

Jermaine admitted he didn't like going to the field to practice.

"Once I got there I thought it was fun," he said. "The time you put in isn't always fun because you want to go hang out with your friends and I had to be at the field."

Jermaine went to his next camp in April 2016 where he got hurt in the camp because he hit too many kicks.

"We thought 'oh man, have to wait for a groin injury to heal,'" Gina said.

"Jermaine could not goal field kick but he could punt," Karsten said "He never really punted much before, but he learned punting off of an injury."

He got injured again at the end of his junior season which impacted his punting leading him to six months of physical therapy with Ken at ATI in Clarkston.

"He did a kick off without warming up and ruptured a tendon on his quad muscle," Karsten said. "He started from scratch because he couldn't do much for five months. We went to Sunday clinics at

Oakland Yard - signed up for ten and did five."

Jermaine felt something was wrong when he ran to the ball and kicked it. An MRI showed his femur bone wasn't round but an oval shape.

"So when he swings his leg backwards very far to kick hard, the head touches the lining of the socket," Karsten explained. "He felt it. We decided no kick off during the season. It made him a specialty kick off guy. He had a hard time getting used to the steps again. Filipovic changed his step pattern in June right before the pre-season. He improved over the season and became more accurate."

"Ken at ATI made him do dry kicks," Gina added. "We drew a kicking pattern on the carpet and made the steps. Ken designed his physical therapy around the kicking. The first time we went in he found out his weaknesses and developed those muscles."

Jermaine's advice to aspiring athletes is to listen to the coaches and be more focused on the team than yourself.

"West Bloomfield had a ton of great talent and great athletes, but we won the game off heart and knowing we are brothers," he said

about the state championship game. "We have known each other since we were eight-years-old. We have been on the same team - we are family."

One of his favorite aspects of Clarkston Football was building great relationships with people who had similar goals to his.

"They push me to reach what I want and I push them to reach what they want," he shared. "I have met some of my best friends through football and have treated them like brothers since we were eight. My favorite moments have been training and preparation times of the season. Even though the training sucked at the time, it taught me hard work isn't easy. Being in sports isn't all about all lights and awards. I have been extremely fortunate to be part of the Clarkston program because our coaches never let up on us. They want us to succeed. Even though I was a kicker, I was treated like everyone else. I have pushed others and turned constructive criticism to further my abilities."

Next for Jermaine is winter camps with Filipovic starting this month as he continues to decide on a college to attend. Then, he gets ready for discus with Clarkston Boys Track & Field's spring season.

# Grapplers to be forged in fire this season

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Grapplers open their season this week as they travel to Dundee on Wednesday where they will face two schools. They take on Dundee first at 1 p.m. in an assembly dual.

"We will be wrestling them in front of their student body," explained Joe Wood, head coach for Clarkston Varsity Wrestling. Then, the Wolves will compete against Davison.

He added some of the wrestlers just finished their varsity football season so they are still deciding the line up.

"We give them a little bit of a break just because it was a long season," Wood said. "You are going to see us back to full strength

at Oakland County Championships, Dec. 15 and 16."

The Wolves prepared with Gold vs. Blue Intramurals last Thursday in 16 matches.

"They went really well," said Wood. "Ten of the matches where the finals of our varsity wrestle off. The kids got to set up for a match and competed in front of their families which was nice. The community could come out if they wanted. It was a good night."

The Wolves will compete against six ranked teams before their holiday break, which doesn't count the teams they will see at the county championship.

"We have a tough schedule," Wood said. "I am under the belief iron sharpens iron -

see what the guys need to improve on and get better. We expect a lot of big things from this group of kids, but it's up to them."

He added it's tough to say right now what is going to happen, but the team has a lot of returners which is going to make it a good year. The team is looking forward to quite a few matches this season including the post season when they see Waterford Kettering in the MHSAA Wrestling Team District. If they win, they could go against Oxford in the regional meet at home. Wood added the biggest focus is on the team.

"Individually we want them to do the best they can, but we want them to think they are here for the team," he said.

The Wolves head to John Glenn for a tournament on Saturday, 9 a.m. before they head into the Oakland County Championship at Lake Orion High School, Dec. 15 and 16.

\*\*\*

Join the Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball team as they host their home opener against Carman Ainsworth this Thursday.

The Wolves are back in action on Monday when they host crosstown rivals, Lake Orion. JV begins at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.

\*\*\*

The Clarkston Boys Swim and Dive team head to Stoney Creek this Thursday for their season opener. They are home next Thursday, Dec. 14 as they host Rochester, 5 p.m.

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Junior Austin McKay grabs control of the puck and gets it out of Clarkston territory.

# Victory in overtime

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE  
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Wolves defeated West Bloomfield again with a 3-2 score - this time it was the Clarkston Varsity Hockey team with an overtime win at Lakeland Arena, Nov. 29

"It was great," said Karl Daiek, head coach. "We played well the whole time. Their goalie was outstanding and our goalie played well. I loved the mentality. We are moving the puck better and it really showed."

The winning goal was scored by Trevor Gilman with an assist from Yuri Karpushenkoff and Brandt Botterill with 2:21 remaining in the overtime period.

The first two goals came from Nik Hughducheck and Danny Milano, with assists from Austin James and Karpushenkoff.

The Wolves played Farmington last Thursday and lost the home game, 7-4.

Farmington opened with the first goal less than two minutes into the game. Austin McKay tied the score as the scoreboard marked 13:45 left in the first period, with an assist from Botterill.

The Falcons took the lead back a minute later before Clarkston finished the first period in the lead at 3-2 after Brent Bachusz scored on a short-handed goal at the 7:49 mark; and Botterill scored off an assist from McKay three minutes later.

Farmington took the lead during the second period, scoring on two of their 11 shots on the net to take the lead, 4-3. They added three more goals to their tally during the third period.

Botterill closed the game with the fourth goal for Clarkston with seconds left, with an assist from Drew Stark.

"It started out really well," said Daiek, adding they lost Trevor Gilman and Trey Roy for the night leaving them down a center and right wing. "Trey was laboring a little

and I want him to play the rest of the year. I don't want him to get hurt more. We got short handed and that hurt us more than anything else. Then, they were losing focus."

He added the loss helps if the players can learn from it.

"All we can do is give them the information and they go out and battle it out," he said. "My hope is they will get tougher mentality. We've got room to improve and time to improve."

He added quite a few players stood out for the night.

"Botterill is a sophomore. He is a pure hockey player," Daiek said. "Whatever you tell him - he does it. Bachusz plays hard all the time. He is a smart player and he has a lot of responsibilities because he is a center. He has to go low on both ends. He is a good player. Karpushenkoff played well on defense and Nik played well when we were down."

They continued the week with a 4-2 loss to Lake Orion on Saturday. Karpushenkoff and Bachusz scored one goal each. Marcus Chiappelli had one assist.

"We have to tighten up the shots," Daiek said. "We just need to get more consistent. We will get there."


The Wolves went 1-1 in Birmingham's Thanksgiving tournament, Nov. 24 and 25. They defeated Bloomfield Hills, 4-2, with goals from Roy, Milano, Bottrill and Bachusz. McKay had two assists while Botterill, Karpushenkoff, Brendan Tungol and Gage Stamper had one assist each.

They lost to Lowell/Caledonia the first day, 4-3. Botterill, Gilman and Austin James had one goal each. Karpushenkoff had two assists and James had one.

The Wolves (2-4) play Bloomfield Hills at Detroit Skating Club on Thursday, 5:30 p.m.

They head to Mount Pleasant on Friday and Saturday.

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Junior Daniel Milano edges the Wolves closer to Farmington's net in the first period. Photos by Wendi Reardon Price

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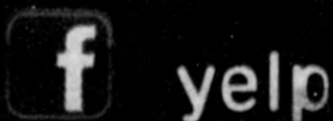
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Susan Marquis, campus pastor, with handmade gift ideas in the Bridgewood Church Christmas Story Experience marketplace. Photos by Phil Custodio

## Month-long Christmas celebration

BY PHIL CUSTODIO  
Clarkston News Editor

The Christmas Story Experience at Bridgewood Church on M-15 offers gift ideas helping people locally and worldwide.

"We are so excited for the Christmas season at Bridgewood Church," said Susan Marquis, campus pastor. "Christmas is about giving and the entire gallery has been transformed into a marketplace where you can buy Christmas gifts for a cause."

The market is offering Monte Real coffee and merchandise for Hope International, a Christian non-profit charity providing free

medical care, aid, disaster relief, and ministry; soap, lip and body balms, honey, and other items from Dutton Farms, non-profit group offering employment opportunities to individuals with mental, physical, and emotional impairments; Bold Venture Coffee, supporting the Engage Your Destiny ministry for veterans; handmade jewelry and home decorations for Living Waters; jewelry and inspirational signs for Power Company Kids Club; as well as items for The Warriors Journey, serving veterans, active service members, and their families with guidance, support, and resources; and Key of Hope.

The market, with hot chocolate by an outdoor fire, Christmas tree, and activities for the kids, is part of a month-long program celebrating the Christmas season.

Each week focuses on one part of Jesus' life and ministry, starting with a manger scene the first week; Jesus healing the sick during week two; and a Crucifixion scene in week three.

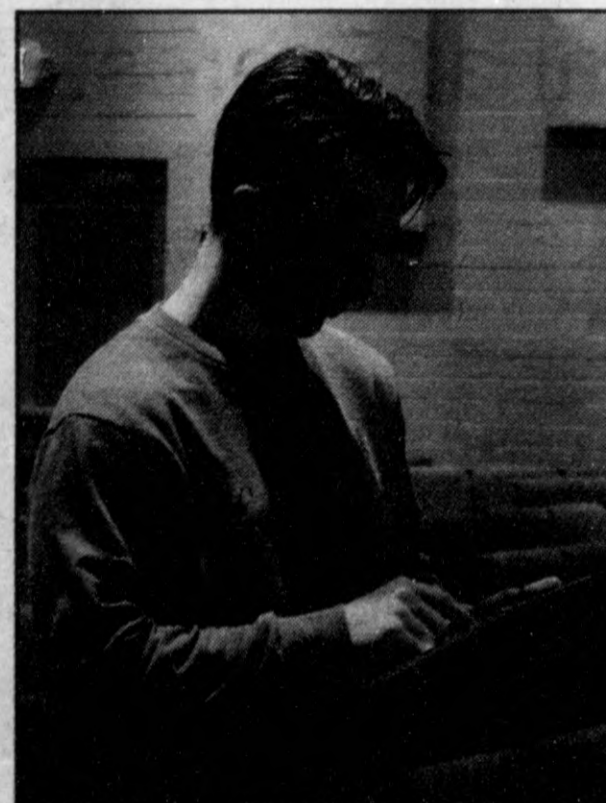
"On Christmas Eve, we'll bring it all together in a powerful, creative way," Marquis said.

Christmas Story Experience includes Sunday services at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.; and marketplace on Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. All proceeds go to the charities and non-profit groups.

Bridgewood's Christmas Story Express, a drive-through program outside the church, was not held this year so they could help VisionPointe Church in Otisville launch their outdoor program.

Christmas Story Express will return next year, Marquis said.

For more information, call 248-625-1344.



Kaleb Weaver, worship and creative arts director, prepares a multimedia presentation to celebrate the Christmas season.



Clarkston Garden Club members and chairs of the Main Street planters team Diane Putvin and Beth Kerrcheck out the mittens left on the Mitten trees. Photo provided

## Mitten Trees downtown

This year's holiday trees downtown are also Mitten Trees, adorned with mittens donated by citizens and visitors for local charities.

The Main Street planters are planted with blue spruce trees which are lighted at night. Each spruce is decorated with a twig star made by Clarkston Farm and Garden Club member Betsy Travis.

Downtown businesses and shops have small baskets with clothes pins inside the store available to affix mittens to the trees. Patrons are urged to bring their mittens, stop by a store or business with a poster in the window for clothes pins, and decorate the tree. Mittens will be given to local charities

before Christmas.

The planters are decorated seasonally by the Clarkston Farm and Garden Club. The twinkling lights are visible between 5-11 p.m. each night.

The Clarkston Farm and Garden Club is celebrating their 70th birthday in 2018. The club's mission is beautification and education. They support the students living in the Clarkston community with assemblies, mini grants, and professional development for teachers focused on science and the environment, and scholarships. The club maintains the library and the Main Street planters year around.

— Joette Kunse

## Coach of the Year at Everest

Michael Pruchnicki, Everest Collegiate Head Football Coach, was named Associated Press Division 7-8 Coach of the Year.

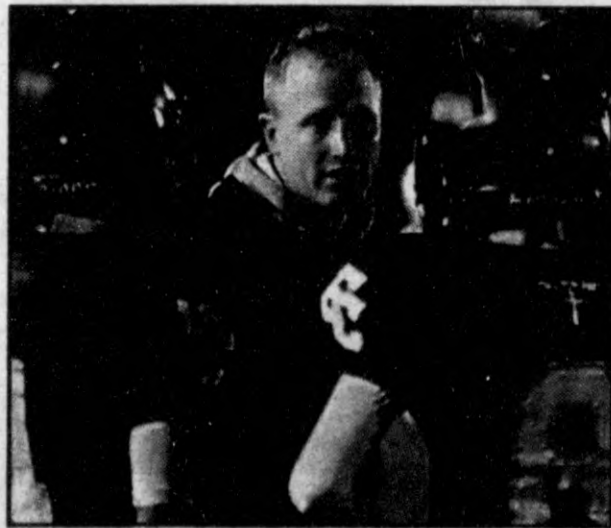
"The students at Everest are so lucky to have such an amazing coach and teacher working with them day in and day out," said Ann Lowney, athletic director. "Congratulations to Mike, his staff, and the amazing 15 young men who played for him this season. Everyone involved with the program provided the Everest Community with memories that they will talk about for years."

Pruchnicki guided the Mountaineers to their first-ever CHSL League Title and the school's first-ever district championship.

The team finished the season 9-3. What makes the record even more impressive is two of the team's three losses were to Saginaw Nouvel and Ottawa Lake Whiteford, who both made it to the final two teams in the division. The other loss came at the hand of Division 4

Regional Finalist, Cranbrook, in the CHSL Prep Bowl game.

Everest senior, Grant Burgess received Honorable Mention, All-State Honors from the Associated Press.



Michael Pruchnicki talks to the players during a game. Photo submitted

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**GOODFELLOW:** Fred Pellerito of O.A.T.S., now in Groveland Township, volunteered for the first time, Dec. 1, to sell Goodfellow newspapers for Clarkston Rotary's Shoes for Kids program. "The Rotary helps out a lot – they're a great group of guys and this is a great cause," Pellerito said. The service organization has 311 children signed up for Shoes for Kids, Dec. 9 at Oakland Woods Baptist Church, said Rotarian Joel DeLong. The event will also include Project Kidsight by Clarkston Lions, Opti-Socks by Clarkston Area Optimist Club, and photos with Santa by MPK Photography. Volunteer at [clarkstonrotary.org](http://clarkstonrotary.org), and call 248-625-9741. Photo by Phil Custodio

## Wednesday for alumni

Clarkston Community Schools will host "Welcome Back Wednesday," an alumni lunch gathering and moderated panel, from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 20, in the Clarkston High School cafeteria and performing arts center.

Alumni from Clarkston High and Renaissance High classes of 2013-2017 will enjoy a free school lunch,

visits with Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock and other faculty members and administrators, and a moderated panel discussion on "life after high school" with other alumni and current students.

In 2016, more than 90 young alumni home for the holidays attended the event.

RSVP at [www.clarkston.k12.mi.us/alumni](http://www.clarkston.k12.mi.us/alumni).

## Success with Tuesday

The Amyloidosis Foundation of Clarkston collected more than \$10,000 during #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving, Nov. 28.

"We are thrilled to have raised over \$10,000 this year on #GivingTuesday – up from 2016, \$4,380; and 2015, \$3,550," said Kelly Pacifico-Loush, communication/marketing manager for the foundation. "Donations came from near and far, Poland to California, Pennsylvania to Georgia. We are proud to serve these amazing patients and their families, as we fight for a cure."

The annual #GivingTuesday is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, Black Friday and Cyber Monday to kick-off the holiday giving season.

The local nonprofit group, with a staff of four, raised enough funds since 2005 to award more than \$1.4 million in grants all over the world for patient support, education, awareness and research.

Amyloidosis is a rare and serious disease caused by the accumulation of amyloid-fibril proteins in body tissues.

For more information, check [www.amyloidosis.org](http://www.amyloidosis.org).

*Clarkston SCAMP would like to thank  
our generous donors of the  
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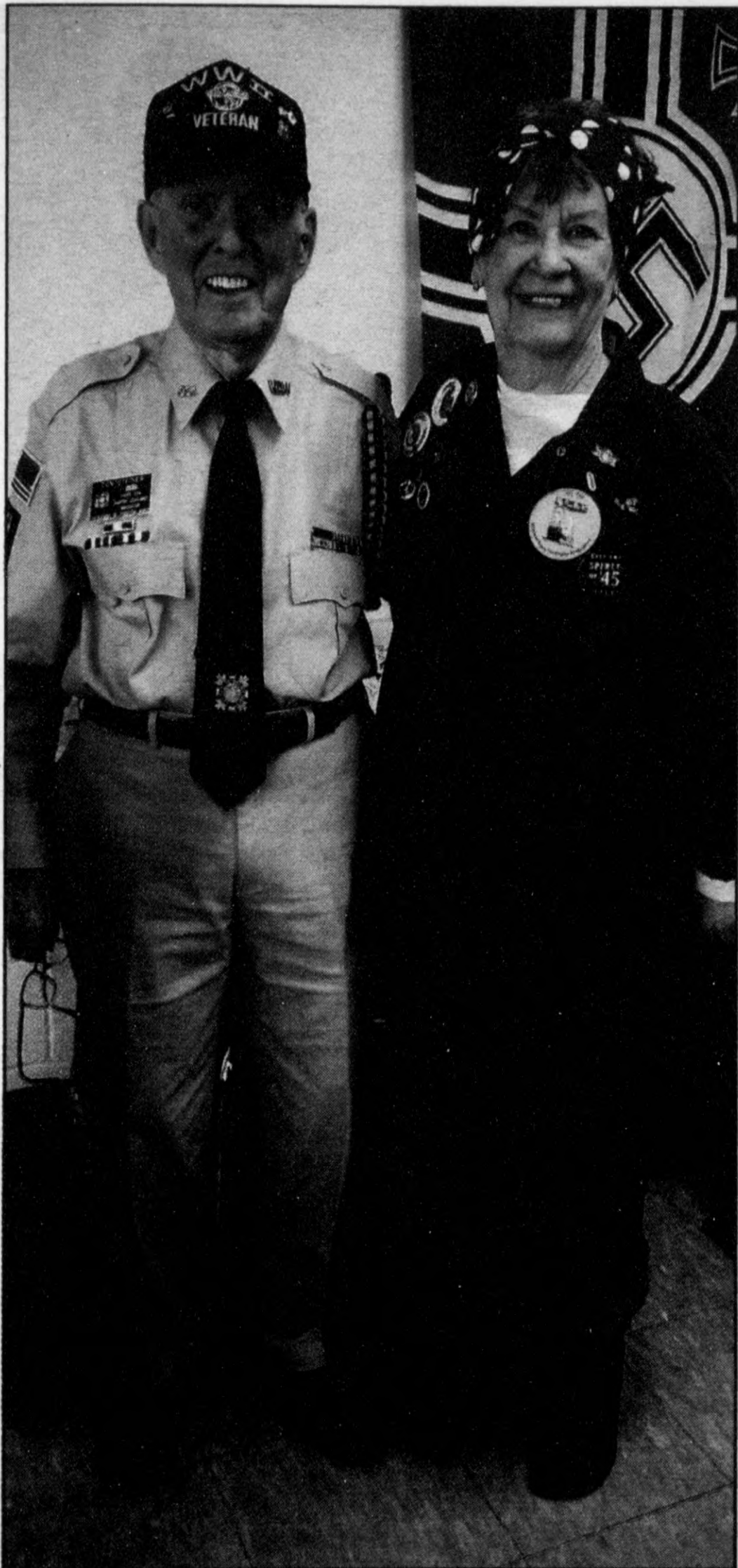
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Don Steiner and Donnaleen Lanktree provided first-hand knowledge of World War II to the students.

## War history from those who served

BY JESSICA STEELEY  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Ninth graders in Laura Murray's history class started their World War II unit by hearing a first-hand account of the war.

Don Steiner, a WWII Navy veteran, visited the classes on Nov. 27 and 28 to share his experiences during the war. He served from June 1942 to November 1945.

"This is really exciting to me because I attended Clarkston Schools from Kindergarten up through high school," Steiner said of speaking to the students.

At the age of 17, Steiner began his military service, starting with his training in Illinois. He served on five different ships throughout his three-year tenure and traveled around the world, including North Africa, the Caribbean, the Philippines and Italy. He shared a few stories with students, including this one:

"While we were going into port from San Juan, Puerto Rico, I was aboard ship and I was with binoculars. I happened to see what looked like a small boat out in the ocean leaving a trail," Steiner said. "We signaled the shore Navy base, and they told us to come on into the port. They sent a destroyer out, the next morning we got word they sunk a German sub."

After the war, Steiner returned home, married and had children, but he didn't receive his high school diploma until 2002, at age 77.

"I was invited to Clarkston schools and on June 5, 2002, I was invited to graduate with the rest of the seniors and they presented me my diploma," he said. "They gave me a standing ovation, they didn't know Don Steiner from anybody, but I represented WWII service people, so that was just a very big honor for me."

Rosebud Donnaleen Lanktree also spoke to the students about women's role in WWII and her father's service during the war.

Dressed as Rosie the Riveter, Lanktree shared different stories she collected from Rosie's over the years, as well as her mother's story as a Rosie during the war.

Steiner and Lanktree both thought the classes were attentive and interested in their stories about the war.

"The kids really enjoy it. It's one of the most memorable things from this school," Murray said.

Murray explained the WWII speakers event is held every year, this year it was held at the beginning of the classes' WWII unit.

"They're all super happy when they come," Murray said of the speakers. "The veterans, they'll write me notes or tell me how much they enjoy it and how respectful the kids were and how special it made them feel to get invited here, which is so interesting to think about that point of view, because they feel honored to come here and we're honored to have them."



Some of Don Steiner's WWII relics. Photos provided by Laura Murray

It's On Jesus

Friday, December 15, 7:00 PM  
Sunday, December 17, 11 AM

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From left, Marie VanBuskirk, of Rochester Hills, and Bill Singleton, of Clarkston, display their rewards from the Michigan Intramural Recreational Sports Association. Photo provided

## Awards for sports leadership

Bill Singleton of Clarkston was recently recognized by the Michigan Intramural Recreational Sports Association.

Singleton, assistant director for Oakland University Recreation Department Facilities, and Marie VanBuskirk, assistant director of Leadership and Engagement from Oakland's University Recreation and Well-Being department, were both honored at the recent MIRSA state conference held in East Lansing.

Singleton received with the Dr. Michael J. Stevenson Outstanding Service Award, which is presented to a MIRSA member who demonstrates outstanding service and has made a significant contribution to the MIRSA and to recreational sports in the state of

Michigan during the past year.

Singleton demonstrated outstanding leadership and service as a member of the Finance Committee, and served as co-host of the state conference at Oakland University in October 2015. He is the new State Director Elect. Singleton has also served on the National Conference Program Committee for two years.

VanBuskirk, of Rochester Hills, was named the recipient of the Dr. Tom R. Jones Outstanding Member Award, which is presented annually to the MIRSA member who demonstrates outstanding leadership and service in the MIRSA and to recreational sports in the state of Michigan.

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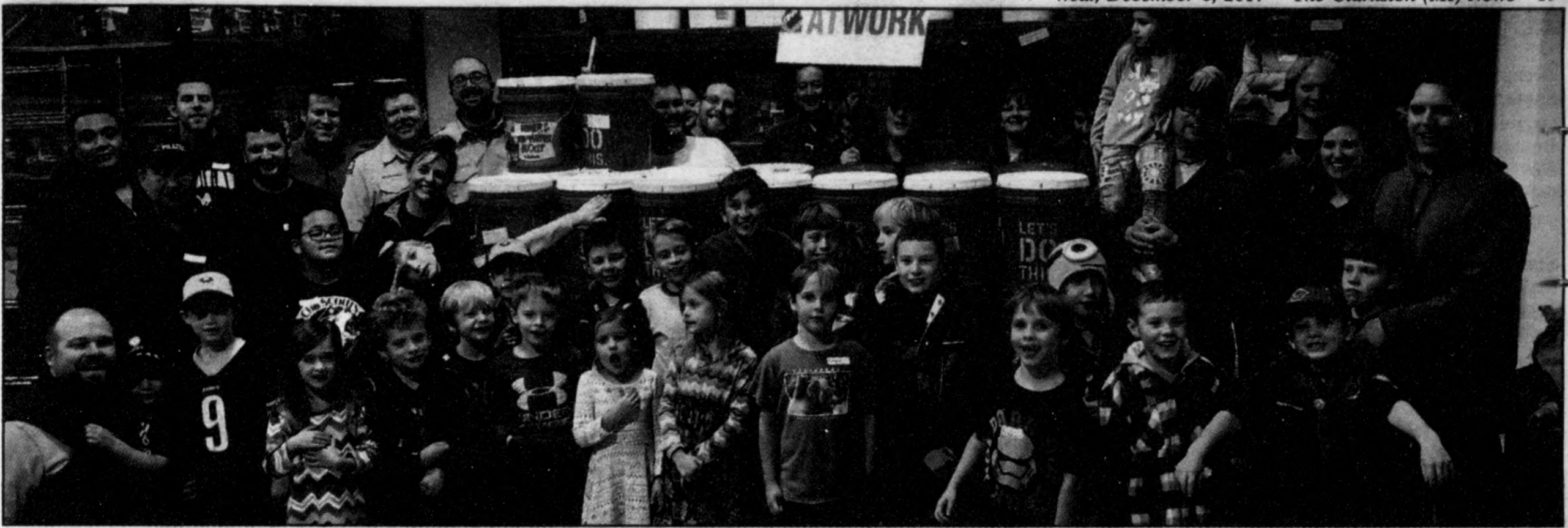
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Cub Scouts of Clarkston Pack 163 gathered to help DRAW. Photos provided

## Scouts pack DRAW buckets

The Cub Scouts of Clarkston Pack 163 have been learning about giving back to the community this holiday season.

Along with area Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts they participated in the Scouting for Food program this month, gathering groceries for area food banks.

They also participated in a project to prepare emergency relief supplies for DRAW (Disaster Relief Action Work).

DRAW buckets are filled with household items for people affected by disaster and who have lost most of their personal and household possessions.



Cub Scouts Nate and Vaughn help pack supplies.



Assistant Packmaster David Harpster fills a bucket.



Scouts Mike, Mason, and AJ help out at the Scouting for Food program.



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**Events**

**Breakfast with Santa, 9 a.m., Visits with Santa, 11:30 a.m.,** Springfield Township Parks and Rec, Dec. 9, Hart Community Center, 495 Broadway, Davisburg. Early registration by Nov. 30, \$10/child, \$5/adult; late registration by Dec. 7, \$12/child, \$7/adult. No tickets sold day of event; [www.stpr.us](http://www.stpr.us).

\*\*\*

**Shoes for Kids, Dec. 9,** Oakland Woods Baptist Church. Clarkston Rotary, with Project Kidsight by Clarkston Lions, Opti-Socks program by Clarkston Area Optimist Club, and photos with Santa by MPK Photography. Volunteer at [clarkstonrotary.org](http://clarkstonrotary.org). 248-625-9741.

\*\*\*

**Benefit concert** for Sanctum House, jazz flutist Alexander Zonjic with Serieux Motown group, 4-6 p.m., Dec. 10, Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive. Free, offering taken.

\*\*\*

**Holiday Memorial Candle Lighting Ceremony** by Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Dec. 12, 7 p.m. Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road. 248-625-5231.

**Sunday**

**Donation-only class** benefitting O.A.T.S., Sundays, 9:30 a.m., Yoga Oasis, 6160 Dixie Highway. All welcome. 248-770-5388.

**Monday**

**Line Dancing, Mondays,** Independence Senior Community Center, 6000 Clarkston Road, Beginner, 10-11 a.m.; Intermediate, Advanced, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Country, Salsa, Cha Cha, Rock and Roll with Rosemary Hall. \$3.

\*\*\*

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

**Tuesday**

**Grief Share, 13-week seminar/support group** for those suffering loss, 7-8:30 p.m., Tuesdays, 9811 Dixie Highway. 248-694-9351.

\*\*\*

**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](mailto:clarkstonband@gmail.com).

\*\*\*

**Clarkston Area Coin Club, second Tuesday,** 6:30 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 5464 Waterford Road. 248-345-8555.

\*\*\*

**Needlework Night, fourth Tuesday,** 6:30-8 p.m. Stitch and visit. Everyone welcome. Springfield Township Library, 12000

# Around Town

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



Last year's parade filled Main Street with color. File photo

## Lights, state champs on parade

The Holiday Lights Parade will be on Dec. 16, 6:30 p.m., from Renaissance High School to the corner of Miller and Holcomb.

New to 2017 are three cash awards – \$250 for the Most Creative STEM Award, sponsored by Advanced Disposal; \$250 for Best Overall Float, sponsored by Team RUSH; and \$100 for the Clarkston Commu-

nity Schools - Wolf Pride Award by Wright & Filippis.

Highlights include Santa Claus and the 2017 Division 1 Football State Champions, CHS Varsity Wolves.

Come cheer them all on! We hope to see you at the parade!

– Jason Richards,  
Team RUSH senior captain

Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

\*\*\*

**Seniors On With Life Group** forming for widowers, widows, divorced. Dinners, breakfasts, golf, social gatherings. 248-393-8553.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

**Networking Get-Together, Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Network, fourth Tuesday,** 9-10 a.m., Picasso's Grapevine, 12 S Main Street. Free for chamber members.

\*\*\*

**Big Chief Barbershop Chorus, 7:30 p.m.,** Tuesdays, Waterford Oaks, 2800 Watkins Lake Road. Call Jack, 248-334-3686.

**Nuview Nutrition Meet & Greet, 6:30-8 p.m.,** first Tuesdays, free, 7300 Dixie Highway Suite 500. Pre-register, 248-625-5143.

**Wednesday**

**Clarkston Area Youth Assistance, second Wednesday,** 6:30 p.m., Independence Township Hall, 6483 Waldon Center Drive. 248-623-4313.

**Thursday**

**Clarkston News' Coffee Club** business networking, 7-9 a.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Free. [Facebook.com/coffeeclubmi](http://Facebook.com/coffeeclubmi), and [www.clarkstoncoffeeclub.com](http://www.clarkstoncoffeeclub.com).

\*\*\*

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

## Civic groups

**Clarkston Rotary Club, Mondays, 6:30 p.m.,** 7048 Gateway Park Drive. 248-880-0027.

\*\*\*

**Clarkston Community Women's Club, third Tuesday, 7 p.m.,** Clarkston Independence District Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Call President Pat Smolen, 248-909-3920.

\*\*\*

**Daughters of the American Revolution, Sashabaw Plains Chapter, second Tuesday,** [www.sashabaw.michdar.net](http://www.sashabaw.michdar.net).

\*\*\*

**Clarkston Optimist Club, 7:30-8:30 a.m.** Wednesdays, American Legion Post 63, 8047 Ortonville Road, north of I-75, [www.clarkstonoptimist.org](http://www.clarkstonoptimist.org)

\*\*\*

**Clarkston Area Lions Club, second and fourth Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m.,** 6644 Dixie Highway. 248-802-8603.

\*\*\*

**Clarkston Area Genealogy, 10:15 a.m.,** third Thursday, Clarkston Independence District Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. 248-620-2984.

\*\*\*

**Lunches for 50+, Thursdays, 12 p.m.,** made-from-scratch. \$7. Independence Township Adult Activities Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. Make reservation by Monday before, 248-625-8231.

\*\*\*

**50 Plus 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. \$8 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.

\*\*\*

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

**Friday**

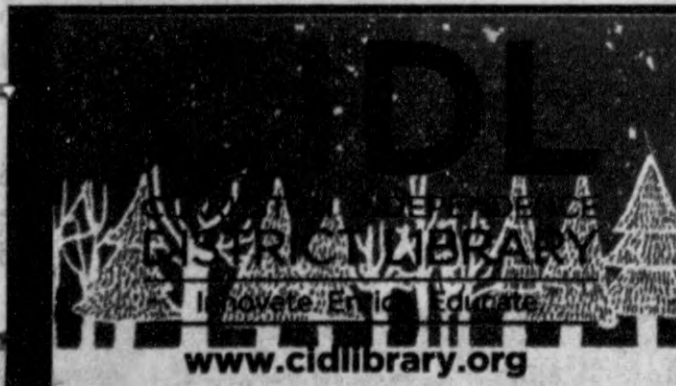
**Line dance class, Fridays, 2-4 p.m.,** Waterford Senior Center, 3621 Pontiac Lake Road. \$4, all levels. 248-682-9450.

### HEY CLARKSTON! WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY?

**MINECRAFT MONDAY**  
Monday, December 11 @ 6pm  
Join us at the library to battle, survive, and create in this gaming sensation. Interested in trying out Minecraft but don't have a login? Have no fear! The library has licenses available for use and can provide you with the basics for building in Minecraft! Registration Required

**Maker Madness**  
Tuesday, December 12 @ 5:30pm  
Crafting, robotics, and more? Oh my! Come check out our newest Maker Kits, Star Wars littleBits, and BB-8 Sphero! Registration required. Grades 6-12

**A Seussified Christmas Carol**  
Friday, December 8 @ 6pm  
Clarkston High School will present a performance at the Library called, A Seussified Christmas Carol (one act) by Peter Bloedel.  
This event made possible thanks to the James C. Dance Award for the Performing Arts from the Metro Detroit Book and Author Society.



# Religion

Events Preaching

## Time for renewal of creation

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way - in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of its noisiest authorities insisted on its being received, for good or for evil, in the superlative degree of comparison only." Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*, 1859.

We certainly live in interesting times. For many people hope springs anew and for many others they feel helpless and hopeless. While most of us are somewhere in between. Although, there doesn't seem to be a lot of middle ground; most people I talk with and listen to seem to have very strong opinions one way or the other.

One thing that I've learned is that the more we choose to actively listen to each other and move beyond the opinions to the hopes and dreams and desires of the person, the more able we are to see that we are the same.

We all just want what is best for us and our children, for everyone.

The Holidays are a loaded time for many of us, we all have friends and relatives with strong opinions that we do not share. And, it is a time for us to set aside our differences and come together in spirit of harmony and good will. Good luck!

This past Sunday we began the Christian Season of Advent: the four Sundays leading up to the Christ Mass on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24.

Advent literally means "coming" and originally referred to the period of preparation for new members to be baptized into the church in anticipation of the second coming of Christ.

As Christianity became the state religion it adopted the earlier Roman celebrations of Brumalia and Saturnalia ushering in the New Year and the return of the sun. It was not until the 6th century, when the

Christ Mass was moved to Dec. 25, that Advent was associated with the birth of Jesus.

Traditionally, with some variation amongst churches, over the four Sundays we light candles in celebration of the divine qualities of Hope, Peace, Love and Joy. Hope in anticipation of the coming, the consciousness of Peace which passes understanding, the Love which is God in expression, and Joy in the realization of Heaven on Earth.

In Creation Centered Spirituality, we recognize the creation story in the book of Genesis as a description of the evolutionary process and consistent with modern sciences theories of creation. Out of nothing: the darkness, energy, potentiality, came something which we call the Universe.

In addition to the traditional qualities, we honor all that has come before us in preparing the way for the birth of the Christ level of awareness first into our collective evolutionary process and secondly into our own individual consciousness of life and living. This is when here on earth will truly become as it is in heaven.

On the first Sunday of Advent we honor the mineral kingdom, the potential for growth in awareness, the hope for Divine expression. On the second Sunday we honor the plant kingdom, the beginning of new growth, and the peace of mind we find in nature.

On the third Sunday we honor the animal kingdom, the evolutionary jump to independent movement, and the ability to express love.

On the fourth Sunday we honor the kingdom of humanity, the conscious awareness of self, and the joy that comes with the awareness of a greater reality that we call God.

On Christmas Eve we light candles for all the divine qualities that constitute the birth of the Christ level of awareness within humanity collectively and individually. Hope, peace, love and joy are available to each of us here and now; they transcend the petty differences that divide us and can serve to unite us if we let them.

May this Holiday Season bring you a greater awareness of the hope, peace, love and joy that are yours to experience and express.

*Blessings of peace, joy & love. Rev. Matthew E. Long, Peace Unity Community*

### Spiritual Matters



Pastor Matthew Long

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Attend The Church Of Your Choice

### ST. TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod"  
Pastor Mike Duchene  
7925 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston  
(1/4 mile N. of DTE Music Theater)  
(248) 625-4644  
www.sainttrinitylutheran.com  
e-mail: sttrinity@comcast.net  
CABLE BROADCAST WORSHIP SCHEDULE -  
Clarkston CATV-10 Sun. 2:00pm, Thurs. 9:00pm  
Waterford CATV-10 Sun. 12:30 pm,  
Tues 2:30 pm  
WORSHIP:  
Sunday 8:15 am & 11:00 am  
Sat. 6:00 pm  
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 am  
ST. TRINITY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL  
Phone: (248)620-6154  
Email: sttrinityps@comcast.net  
Programs for 3 & 4 year old's

### BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH

www.bridgewoodchurch.com  
6765 Rattalee Lake Road  
Clarkston, 48348 (248) 625-1344  
Sundays at 9am & 10:45am  
- Adult experience  
- Nurture Center (birth-4)  
- Kids Life (K-5th)  
- Crave Students (6th-8th)  
Tuesdays at 7:00pm  
- 501 (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 Bridgewood has  
To offer you online at  
bridgewoodchurch.com

### SASHABAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1st, 3rd and 5th weekends of each month,  
Sunday at 11:00 am 2nd and 4th weekends  
of each month, Saturday at 6:00 pm  
5300 Maybe Road, Clarkston  
Website: www.sashabawpresbyterian.org  
(248) 673-3469

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston  
Holy Eucharist - 10:00 am  
(248) 625-2325  
Reverend Heather Barta  
www.clarkstonepiscopal.com

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLARKSTON

5972 Paramus, Clarkston  
(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  
Pastor: Greg Henneman  
Sunday Worship:  
9:15 and 11:00 a.m.  
Nursery Care at both services  
Children's Ministries:  
September thru April  
Wednesdays, 6:45-8:00 p.m.  
Student Ministries:  
September thru April  
Tuesday: 3:00-8:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 3:00-7:00 p.m.  
www.clarkstoncommunity.com

### CALVARY LUTHERAN (ELCA) CHURCH

Clarkston Campus  
6805 Bluegrass Drive, Clarkston  
248-625-3288  
Pastor Jonathan A. Heierman  
Sunday Worship:  
8:15 am, 9:30 & 11:00 am  
Nursery, Children & Youth  
9:30 & 11:00am  
8th & 9th Grade Confirmation  
12:30 pm  
"Come as you really are  
... become more!"  
www.calvaryinfo.org

### THIS SPACE COULD BE USE FOR YOUR CHURCH

### THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston  
(248) 394-0200  
Rev. Tim Chappell  
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.fcclarkston.com

### CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

### DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH

8585 Dixie Highway, Clarkston  
(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.

### ST. DANIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

7010 Valley Park Dr., Clarkston  
(W. of M-15, S. of I-75)  
(248) 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

### WAYPOINT CHURCH

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

# Death notices & Obituaries

## Seth Cummings, Jr., 86

Seth B. Cummings, Jr. of Clarkston passed away Nov. 29, 2017, at age 86.

He was the loving husband of Sheila for 63 years; proud father of Randall (Erin) Cummings and Sharon (Michael) Klein; special grandpa of Amanda (Jeff), Sheila, Chad, Shannon (Ian) and Shane; great grandpa of Benjamin and Adam. Brother of Helen (the late Bob) Lynch, MaryAnn Sutphen and Jennifer (Bruce) Renken; preceded in death by his sister Lela (Stan) Hunt.



A proud veteran of the United States Army, Seth had several careers including teaching mathematics and shop in the Oakland County Children's Home.

He then transitioned to a design engineer working for Pontiac Motors. He later went to work for Cadillac Motors and patented a suspension system component, along with pioneering CAD/CAM systems for 3-D design and model making.

The Clarkston community benefitted from his years as a cubmaster and scoutmaster; which included fabulous pack meetings and many camping and canoeing trips.

His retirement years were filled with countless rounds of golf, playing cards, gardening with his wife, and attending to his grandchildren's many events. Most importantly, he was dedicated to his family and loved them dearly. His family will miss his words of wisdom, affection, and constant encouragement.

At Seth's request, there will not be a funeral service. Memorial donations may be made in honor of Seth to an organization of your choice.

Arrangements entrusted to **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

## Toy drive at Bowman's

Bowman Chevrolet is working with The Bottomless Toy Chest, which delivers art projects, crafts, and interactive games to hospitalized pediatric cancer patients, in the third annual Season of Giving toy drive. Residents can drop off new toys at the dealership, 6750 Dixie Highway, now through Dec. 13.

On Dec. 14, the toys, games and arts and crafts will be delivered to non-profit group's warehouse in Troy. Toys are distributed throughout the year to hospitals around the state.

## Richard Leo Ellis, 83

Richard Leo Ellis of Clarkston passed away Dec. 3, 2017, at age 83.

He was the loving husband of Lorrie; father of Steven Ellis, Mark Ellis and Lori (Todd) Aldrich; stepfather of Scott (Bela) Janis and Randy (Vero) Janis; grandpa of Bryan, Jared, Lauren, Sam, Nicolas & Samantha; great grandpa of Parker and Laine; brother of John (Arlene) Ellis and Martin (Jeri) Ellis; preceded in death by his first wife Janis; also many family and friends.

Dick retired from General Motors after over 35 years in management. He was a member of Clarkston United Methodist Church, the Optimist Club and was a longtime mentor for Clarkton Schools.

Friends may visit at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston, Thursday, 4-8 p.m. Funeral Service Friday, 10 a.m., at Clarkston United Methodist Church. Interment Lakeview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Michigan Animal Rescue League or Elizabeth Lake Animal Rescue. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

## In our local churches

**Adult Bible Fellowships, Sunday School**, 11 a.m., Dixie Baptist Church, 8585 Dixie Highway, 248-625-2311.  
\*\*\*

**Coffee and Conversation**, first, third, fifth Sunday, 12:30 p.m., for adults and interested youth. Sashabaw Presbyterian Church, 5300 Maybee Road. 248-673-3469  
\*\*\*

**Sunday Night Youth Group**, games, snacks, etc., 6 p.m.; devotion time, 7 p.m., First Congregational Church of Clarkston, 5449 Clarkston Road. 248-394-0200.  
\*\*\*

**Bible Study**, Mondays, 10 a.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6490 Clarkston Road. 248-625-2325.  
\*\*\*

**Bible Study by the Fire** for adults and older youth, Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Sashabaw Presbyterian Church, 5300 Maybee Road. 248-673-3469.  
\*\*\*

**Cove gatherings** for teens, grades 6-12, Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Waypoint Church, 8400 Dixie Highway. 248-623-1224.  
\*\*\*

**DivorceCare**, Thursdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Call 248-625-1611.  
\*\*\*

**First Friday Family Fun**, 7 p.m., St. Trinity Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road. 248-625-4644.

## Students achieve success

Northwood University sophomore **Holly Rachel** of Clarkson won sixth in oral interpretation at the Bowling Green State University Falcon Classic Tournament for competitive speech, Nov. 11-12. The Northwood team earned first place in Division II Team Sweepstakes, and first place in Pi Kappa Delta, a national speech honorary award.

In competition, students engage in public speaking events in a variety of categories, such as extemporaneous, impromptu, persuasion and poetry.

The team also competed at Bowling Green State University's "Birds of a Feather," a swing tournament format with randomized judging pools. Rachel was fourth in the program oral interpretation category.

The team's next test will be at the Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League, December 9 at Oakland University.

\*\*\*

Clarkston High School's **Detroit Voice** and **Synergy** will be featured on the annual Best of High School A Cappella (BOHSA) compilation.

Hundreds of tracks are submitted for the honor to be included in this "best of" playlist distributed world wide by Varsity Vocals through iTunes, Spotify, and other



From top to bottom, left to right, Mark Marciniak, faculty member and director of competitive speech, Lance Johnson, Holly Rachel, Olivia Grocholski, Sydney Murphy and Zoe Baglien.

digital music retailers and streaming services.

This is the fourth appearance for Detroit Voice and the first for Synergy. Last year's Synergy group was all 8th and 9th graders and were recognized for this honor.

Synergy's track "Love Like Woe" features a solo by Hana Walsh.

Detroit Voice's "Turn the Page" features solos by Ben Neideck, Madelyn Kopsch, Kate Leithauser, and Georgia Zelinsky.

## Holiday Memorial Candle Lighting Ceremony

• Step away from the busy activity of the winter holidays to honor a loved one.  
• Bring friends and family.

We have a candle for you to light  
in your loved one's memory

Tuesday, December 12, 2017  
7:00 PM

Clarkston Community Church

6300 Clarkston Road, Clarkston

A special evening with a soloist,  
guest speakers and a  
Candle Lighting Ceremony

Light refreshments will be served

RSVP encouraged to: (248) 625-5231  
or email: [wintfuneralhome@gmail.com](mailto:wintfuneralhome@gmail.com)

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Because the People Want to Know  
**INDEPENDENCE TWP.**

**SYNOPSIS**

**TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD  
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE  
NOVEMBER 21, 2017**

- A. A Regular Meeting of the Charter Township of Independence Board was called to order at 6:00 PM at Independence Township Hall.
- B. The Pledge of Allegiance was given
- C. ROLL CALL: Present: Kittle, Pallotta, Brown, Aliaga  
Absent: Loughrin, Ritchie Schroeder

There was a quorum present.  
Also Present: Wendy Hillman, Finance Director; David McKee, DPW Director; Mitch Petterson, Fire Chief; Derek Smith, PR&S Director; Rick Yaeger, Budget and Operations Analyst; Peter Keenan, Karlstrom Cooney, LLP; Justin Sand, Johnson & Anderson Engineering; Karyn Stickel, Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.; Tom Traciak, Umbaugh & Associates

- D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: As presented
- E. CLOSED SESSION / BUDGET SESSION / STUDY SESSION: None

F. BOARD/PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS: Trustee Aliaga; Supervisor Kittle; Treasurer Brown

G. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

H. PUBLIC HEARING:

- 1. PY 2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application (Derek Smith, PR&S Director; Barbara Rollin, Senior Division Supervisor)  
The Public Hearing OPENED at 6:07 p.m.  
Public comment received from: Debbie Wertz, CAYA; Sarah Robinson, HAVEN.  
The Public Hearing CLOSED at 6:17 p.m.

- 2. 2018 Budget (Patrick J. Kittle, Supervisor; Rick Yaeger, Budget and Operations Analyst)  
The Public Hearing OPENED at 6:18 p.m.  
There was no comment received from the public.  
The Public Hearing CLOSED at 6:18 p.m.

I. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:

- 1. Presentation: Independence Township SAW Grant Project Completion Overview (Karyn Stickel, P.E., Hubbell Roth & Clark, Inc.; Tom Traciak, Umbaugh & Associates)

J. CARRYOVER / POSTPONED AGENDA ITEMS: None

K. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Approval of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2017
- 2. Approval of the Payroll of November 17, 2017 and Check Run of November 14, 2017 for a Total Amount of \$812,564.44
- 3. Authorization to Submit RCOC 2018-2020 Permit Application - Municipality Community Event
- 4. Authorization to Submit RCOC 2018-2020 Permit Application - Municipality Maintenance

L. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None

M. REGULAR BUSINESS:

- 1. Approval of 1st Reading - Amendment to Chapter 30: Offenses - Article VIII; Offenses Concerning Minors In Possession
- 2. Amendment to Previously Approved Motions #2017-11-213-b & -e: PY 2017 Subrecipient Agreement and Allocation Adjustment - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- 3. Approval of 2018 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application and Conflict of Interest Certification
- 4. Adoption of the 2018 General Appropriations Act
- 5. Waiver of Bid Process - 2018 Spring & Fall Soccer Jersey Re-order
- 6. Acceptance of Proposal - Perpetual Care Fund Analysis from Perpetual Care Adequacy
- 7. Award of Bid and Acceptance of Proposal - Lakeview Cemetery - Phase I Columbarium Site Work
- 8. Award of Bid and Acceptance of Proposal - Lakeview Cemetery - Phase 2 Columbarium & Benches
- 9. Acceptance of Quote for Purchase of Ambulances - Fire Department
- 10. Approval of One Year Extension - Professional Legal Services Agreements

N. COMMUNICATIONS / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS / REPORTS:

- 1. Minutes: Information Technology Oversight Committee (ITOC) - Final; October 3, 2017
- 2. Report: 3rd Quarter Financial Report
- 3. Report: Fiscal 2017 Actual to Budget Update for Period Ending October 31, 2017
- 4. Report: Building Department Monthly Report - October 2017
- 5. Report: Fire Department Monthly Reports - Au-

- gust-October 2017
  - 6. Report: Oakland County Sheriff's Department Monthly Report - October 2017
  - 7. Communication: Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Award Notification (Received October 16, 2017)
- O. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: None  
P. ADJOURNMENT: The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barbara A. Pallotta, CMC  
Township Clerk

Published: Wednesday, December 6, 2017

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Because the People Want to Know  
**INDEPENDENCE TWP.**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
DECEMBER 14, 2017**

**INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Independence Township Planning Commission, Oakland County, Michigan, will hold a Public Hearing on:

**Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.**

At Independence Township Hall Meeting Room, 6483 Waldon Center Dr., Clarkston MI, 48347-0069, to consider the following:

**Wetland Permit File # 2017-002**

Petitioner: JLG Properties Inc.

Project Name: Wetland Permit Approval  
**TWO REQUESTS, 1) APPROVAL TO FILL A 0.13 ACRE WETLAND AND, 2) DISCHARGE OF STORMWATER INTO A 1.33 ACRE WETLAND, BOTH FOR THE PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTING A 79 UNIT SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPMENT.**

West side of Clintonville Rd., south of Clarkston Rd.  
Parcel #08-23-200-006, -007  
R-1R Rural Residential

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT THE ABOVE REQUEST MAY BE EXAMINED at the Township Building Department during regular business hours. Written comments may be sent to the Planning Commission c/o the Independence Township Building Department, 6483 Waldon Center Dr., P.O. Box 69, Clarkston, MI 48347-0069 prior to the Public Hearing/Meeting.

For further information call (248) 625-8111.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Because the People Want to Know  
**CLARKSTON SCHOOLS**

**CLARKSTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
ADVERTISEMENT TO BID**

Clarkston Community Schools will be accepting bids for a Light Truss for the Junior High Auditorium. Bid packets may be obtained online at Sigma, and the district web site www.clarkston.k12.mi.us/bid-advertisements starting Tuesday, November 28, 2017. Bids are due December 13, 2017 prior to 12pm at the Clarkston Facility Services office 6590 Middle Lake Road. All questions regarding the project should be directed to Wes Goodman, at Clarkston Community Schools, wrgoodman@clarkston.k12.mi.us

SIGNED: Steve Hyer, Secretary,  
Board of Education

STATE OF MICHIGAN FILE NO:  
PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF OAKLAND  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

Estate of Michael Fred Schliter, Sr., Date of birth: February 8, 1943  
TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Michael Fred Schliter, died August 21, 2017

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

Nick Schliter  
4325 IslandPark Dr.  
Waterford, MI 48329  
248-219-6548

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**\$8<sup>95</sup>/Week\***

\*Based on pre-paid 17-week contract. Call The Clarkston News at 248-625-3370. Deadline used Thursday prior to publication. Reach Home & Businesses Every Week With An Advertising Message On These Pages.

Some of these services require licensing. If in doubt, ask your contractor for their license or check with the State of Michigan.

<p><b>CHIROPRACTOR</b></p> <p><b>RUMPH</b> Chiropractic Clinic OFFICE 5732 Williams Lake Rd. Waterford 248-673-1215</p>	<p><b>HOME INTERIOR</b></p> <p>Licensed/Insured <b>CABINETS BY DESIGN</b> Kitchen &amp; Bath Remodeling New Construction 248-618-9450</p>	<p><b>SEPTIC</b></p> <p><b>EB Sewer</b> Since 1942 MICH. LIC# 63-030-1 <b>SEPTIC TANKS PUMPED</b> All Plugged Lines Cleaned (Sewers, Sinks, Tubs, Floor Drains, Etc.) Locate Dig &amp; Pump All Septic Tanks <b>SEPTIC FIELDS</b> Installed &amp; Repaired Septic Field Inspections 248-625-8680 248-334-2012 *mention ad for discount*</p>	<p><b>WATER/SEWER</b></p> <p><b>DPW&amp;SON</b> Call For a Free Estimate 248-535-5693 www.dpwsn.com Waterline Installation Sewer Line Installation Grinder Pumps Directional Drilling Minimally Invasive Techniques: Save Your Landscape Hardscapes River Crossing Serving South Eastern Michigan for over 35 years</p>
<p><b>CONSTRUCTION</b></p> <p>(248) 625-4177</p> <p><b>MOSCOVIC BUILDING CO., LLC</b> New Homes &amp; Major Renovations A DESIGN BUILD COMPANY www.mosovicbuilding.com</p>	<p><b>HEATING</b></p> <p>248-431-8526 <b>Scrib's</b> Heating &amp; Cooling Inc. Licensed/Insured Furnaces Air Conditioning Gas Lines New Construction Humidifiers Air Cleaners</p>	<p><b>WELL REPAIR</b></p> <p><b>WELLS PUMPS TANKS SERVICE</b> WELL DRILLING, INC. 248-521-3971</p>	<p><b>WELL DRILLING, INC.</b> 248-521-3971</p>
<p><b>DRYWALL</b></p> <p>Licensed Insured <b>Tim Kerr Drywall</b> Specializing in Drywall, Repairs, Spray and Hand Textured Ceilings <b>FREE ESTIMATES</b> 248-379-6782</p>	<p><b>MICHIGAN PURE COMFORT LLC</b> HEATING and AIR CONDITIONING CLARKSTON, MI 248-390-2688 michiganpurecomfort.com</p>	<p><b>HARRISON INCORPORATED</b> <b>Septic Tank Cleaning:</b> Locate, Dig &amp; Pump <b>Septic System Repairs &amp; New Installations</b> 248-627-5600</p>	<p><b>The Word is Out!</b>  The Clarkston News &amp; PENNY STRETCHER <b>CLASSIFIEDS REALLY WORK!</b></p>
<p>This space is reserved for you!</p>	<p><b>PAINTING</b></p> <p><b>JR's CREATIVE PAINTING</b> Quality Workmanship • Interior • Exterior • Drywall Repairs • Textured Ceilings • Light Carpentry Your local Clarkston Painter for over 20 years <b>FREE ESTIMATES</b> 625-5638</p>	<p><b>TURNER SANITATION, INC.</b> Installation Residential Cleaning Industrial Repair Commercial Servicing Oakland &amp; Lapeer Counties Year Round Service MI License No. 63-008-1 Port-A-John Rental <b>CALL 248-628-0100</b> or <b>248-693-0330</b> for Oakland County</p>	<p><b>CALL 248-625-3370</b> OR GO ONLINE WWW.CLARKSTONNEWS.COM</p>
<p><b>HANDYMAN</b></p> <p><b>Fixed in a Flash</b> Drywall, Plumbing, Electrical Carpentry, and much more! Fast, Friendly Service Over 15 Yrs. Experience Licensed &amp; Insured <b>FREE Estimates</b> 248-394-0204</p>	<p><b>PLUMBING</b></p> <p><b>Mark's Plumbing Service</b> Quality Work • Insured Repair/Replace: Faucets • Toilets Pumps • Disposals 248-673-1950</p>		





**360 HELP WANTED**

**THE VILLAGE OF LAKE ORION** (pop. 3,200) is seeking qualified applicants for the part time position of Deputy Finance Director/Treasurer. The position typically works 20 to 29 hours per week. The Deputy Finance Director/Treasurer is under the general supervision of the Finance Director/ Treasurer and assists with planning and directing the general operations of the Finance and Treasury department. This position is responsible for assisting with all financial operations of the village, including ensuring accurate accounting of all village funds, investing idle cash, collecting receivables, administering payroll and accounts payable, assisting with debt issuances and management, and assisting in the preparation of the annual village budget. The deputy director assists in supervising and training employees, preparing departmental policies and procedures, preparing departmental budget and administering same. The deputy director assists in performing all administrative functions for the department. Compensation depends on qualifications and experience. Pay range \$19.30- \$22.86 per hour. Interested candidates should send a cover letter, resume, five professional references and completed Village of Lake Orion employment application to: Village Clerk, Village of Lake Orion, 21 E. Church Street, Lake Orion, MI 48362. Position is open until filled. For a complete job description and a copy of the employment application form, please visit our website at <http://www.lakeorion.org/index.php/human-resources>. The Village of Lake Orion is an equal opportunity Employer. !!L22

**SELF STORAGE Professional:** Looking for personable, self-motivated hard working employees that possess excellent customer and people skills for busy Clarkston area self-storage facility. Must be able to work independently multi-task in a fast paced environment. Computer knowledge helpful. Send resume to [sharon@manmgt.com](mailto:sharon@manmgt.com). !!CZ LABOR, APPRENTICE, and journeyman carpenters. Part time and full time. 586-784-5144. !!L523

**OFFICE STORAGE BUILDING,** assistant manager maintenance tech position available, full and part time. Great location. Hourly rate plus bonus potential. Experience with customer service a plus, email resumes to [privatecorp@live.com](mailto:privatecorp@live.com). !!L2505

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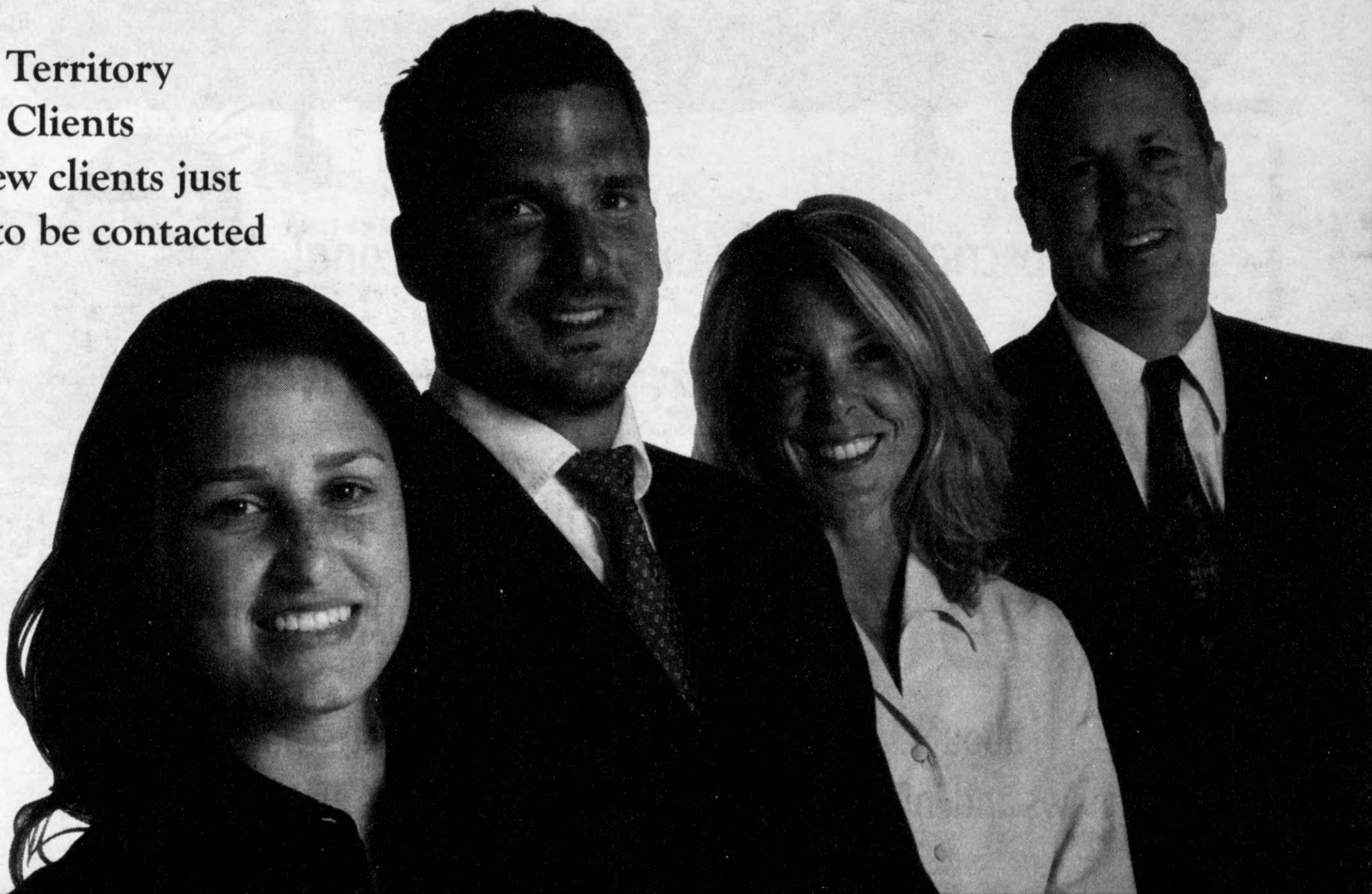
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The Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, all dressed up for their annual meeting, Nov. 16, is ready for a new year of business success. Photo provided



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# Chamber honors dedication

Kevin Smith of Independence Television was honored with the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce President's Award, based on his dedication to filming community ribbon cuttings, chamber events, and the CACOC television show, "Chamber Chatter."

The award, given to a member who has made significant contributions to the chamber throughout the year, was the most prestigious recognition at the chamber's 30th Annual Membership Meeting, Nov. 16 at the Pine Knob Carriage House.

Chamber Choice Awards were also presented to Small Business Leader of the Year, David and Fritz Jackson of Ideas For You; Young Professional of the Year, Keri Milner of Farm Bureau Insurance - The Milner Agency; Chamber Volunteer of the Year, Ginny Hechinger of Costco Auburn Hills; Non-Profit Organization of the Year, McLaren Oakland Foundation; and Rising Star of the Year, Cody Simpson of Bowman Chevrolet.

Charter President Dr. Bruce P. Mercado, DDS., opened the program with a history of the organization and its development in the past 30 years. He also recognized all past presidents at the event. Outgoing chamber President Tim Martin of Planned Financial Services recognized how the Chamber of Commerce benefits the community and was awarded the Past President's Plaque.

Clarkston Community Schools Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock was inducted as the 2018 chamber president.

"People who give themselves to a community, is truly what it is all about. I did not understand what a community was until I came to Clarkston and this is truly a community," Rock said.

His goal is for the community to do "the best we can to make sure this is a great place, not only for kids, but for us as adults, for business people, and everyone who is lucky enough to be here," he said.

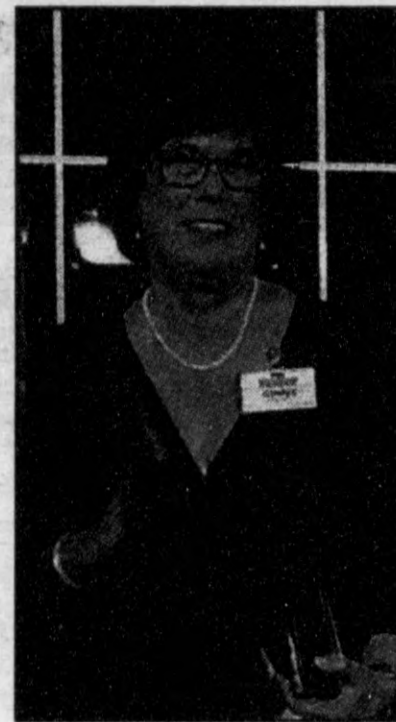
Award winners were selected based on qualifications, number of submissions by members, and relevancy to the award category. These awards were presented by Janelle Best, executive director of the CACOC, state Rep. Jim Tedder, and Deputy County Executive/CIO Phil Bertolini.

The presentation ended with recognition of Board member Bryan Cornwall of Advanced Petcare of Oakland, for his nine years of outstanding service.

Presenting sponsors were Bowman Chevrolet and St. Joseph Mercy Oakland Hospital. Our Hospitality Sponsors were Nuviev Nutrition LLC, Cislo Title Company, The Milner Agency, MSU Federal Credit Union, Lowrie's Landscape Inc., Birmingham Bloomfield Credit Union, and Coats Funeral Home.



Keri Milner of Farm Bureau Insurance - The Milner Agency earned the Young Professional of the Year award.



Earning the Volunteer of the Year award is Ginny Hechinger of Costco Auburn Hills.



Kevin Smith of Independence Television earned the President's Award.



For Non-Profit Organization of the Year, the winner is McLaren Oakland Foundation.



The winner of the Rising Star of the Year, Cody Simpson of Bowman Chevrolet, with chamber Executive Director Janelle Best.



In the category of Small Business Leader of the Year, the winner is David and Fritz Jackson of Ideas For you, with presenters Jim Tedder, at right, and Phil Bertolini, at left.

# Celebrate

## CHRISTMAS

DEC 24

11:00 AM  
12:30 PM  
2:00 PM

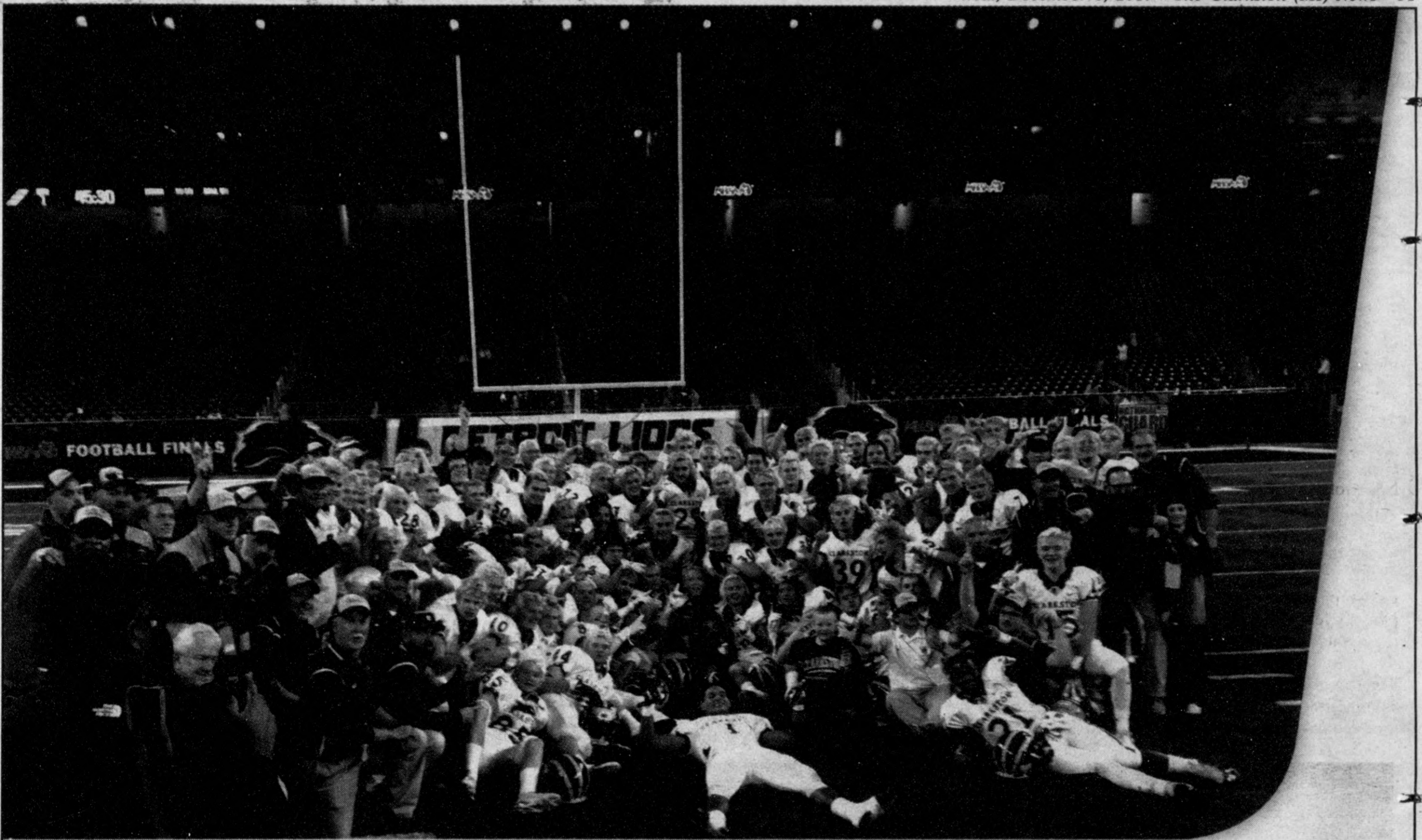
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9:00 AM  
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Achieving the school's third state football title in five years is a major accomplishment and a tribute to the coaching staff and students who have worked so hard to build a tradition of excellence.

*We're proud to care for the Clarkston community.  
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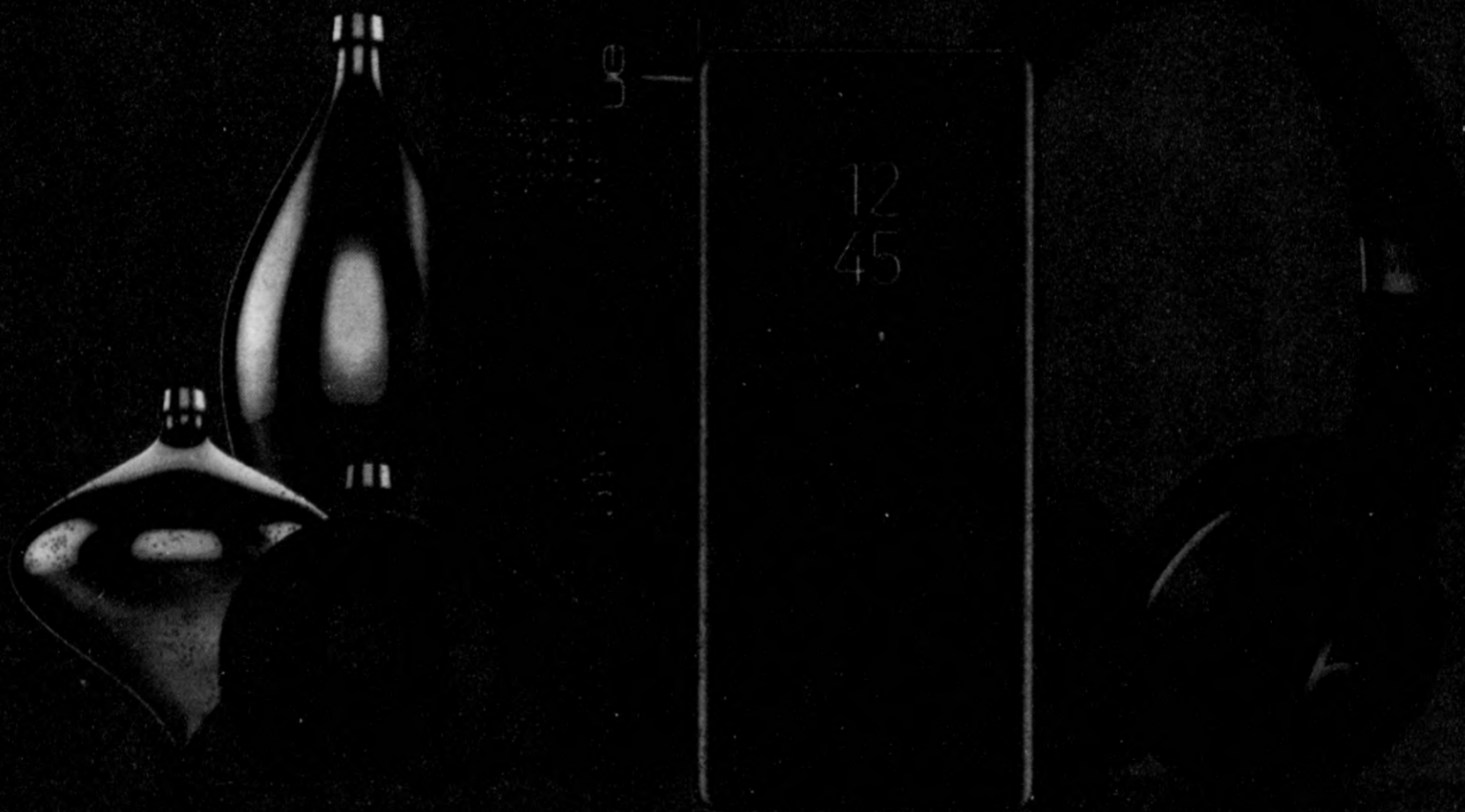
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