

# The Clarkston News

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Vol. 89 No. 17 Wed., January 24, 2018

1 Section, 28 pages \$1.00



Power of positive poetry, on page 4



Mcallister Keippala, in front at left, and his family, parents John and Brandy and siblings Therrien and Halliwell, spent Christmas break visiting a real wolf pack. Photo provided

## Wolf time for Clarkston Wolf

BY BRENDA DOMINICK  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Mcallister "Cal" Keippala, a third-grade student at Andersonville Elementary School, takes his role as a Clarkston Wolf seriously.

"Cal literally calls himself 'Lobo' (Spanish for wolf), and when he's having a meltdown, he literally barks and whines. I mean, this was a really big deal and the entire time John and I looked at each other like, 'we did the right thing, we're going to be successful at this,'" said his mother, Brandy Keippala.

John and Brandy took their family to the Seacrest Wolf Preserve in Chipley, Fla., to visit two wolf packs and other critters over Christmas break.

"They are softer, bigger, and more fierce than dogs," said Cal, 10. "I think they've

had human interaction before, because they weren't as afraid as the wolves I saw at Wolf Haven."

The Davisburg family visited Wolf Haven International Sanctuary in Seattle, Washington a couple years ago.

The Seacrest trip was a private VIP tour. "Normally their regular public tours have a large group (up to 50 people), and you go into an enclosure with the whole group and then four or five wolves," Brandy said. "Cal is very, very socially anxious. So, it would not be possible for us to do it like that. He would not be successful at all."

Cal always felt a unique connection to wolves. He refers to his previous teacher, Leanna Young, and other teachers as his

Please see Wolf on page 16

## Tragedy moves parents to action

BY BRENDA DOMINICK  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

For several parents and students, the tragic death of a 15-year-old Clarkston High School sophomore last week is a call to action.

"They need to enforce the bullying policy as it's written, because if they did it like it's written, it would work," said a parent, who requested anonymity, at an informal meeting of concerned citizens Monday night at Neiman's Family Market Café. "It's a zero tolerance policy. But they have zero tolerance only on the bullied."

Oakland County Sheriff's Department said the 10th-grader took his own life last Thursday. Bullying is not part of the investigation because none was reported to the sheriff's office, but dozens of parents calling *The Clarkston News* and posting on social media say bullying was a factor.

Officials with the Clarkston Community Schools district declined to answer questions about it. According to a statement by CCS, "I am sure you can understand that we, as a district, will not be commenting or speculating about the circumstances of the student's death. At this point, we are taking our cues from the parents and respecting their wishes as to

what gets communicated out and to whom. It's my hope that the *Clarkston News* would grant them this courtesy as well."

CCS' bullying policy requires school officials to investigate reports of bullying or harassment within three days. Remedial actions include expulsion for students, discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position or requests to resign for officials. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement.

"We address it. We get the staffs trained on what is the appropriate responses," said Nichole Dean-Kraatz, president of the Clarkston PTA Council, Springfield Plains PTA Board Member, and CCS parent, at the cafe meeting. "When I get involved, and have some conversations with the schools or the administration, it sounded like our voices are being heard. I think there are people who want to help this and I'm here to help."

One attendee of the meeting was a former CHS student who recently transferred to Renaissance High School because of bullying.

"This has been going on for two and a  
Please see School on page 2



From left, Clarkston Community Schools Board of Education President Elizabeth Egan, Interim Superintendent Shawn Ryan, and Board Treasurer Gregory Need at Monday's school board meeting. Photo by BD

## Packing party for troops at legion hall

Campbell-Richmond Unit 63 American Legion Auxiliary is collecting items for a Troop Packing Party on Feb. 13, at 7 p.m. at 8047 Ortonville Road.

Drop off donations before Feb. 12, at Independence Township Parks and Rec, 6483 Waldon Center Road; senior center, 6000 Clarkston Road; Washington Management, 20 W. Washington Street, Ste 15; and American Legion Post 63.

Items in need include dental floss pickets, meat sticks, instant soup, crackers, individual-size cereal, instant breakfast packets, hot sauce, trail mix, canned meat, lip balm, baby wipes, gum, green socks, cards, and other small items.

If you have a soldier address to supply or need more information, contact Amy Laboissonniere at 248-892-1203 or adtdsb@gmail.com.

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## Parents call for better anti-bullying policy

Continued from page 1

half years," said the sophomore, who requested anonymity. "I actually stood up from my table where I was with my friends. There was food being thrown at us. It has escalated to where they've come to my house, physically assaulted me, threatened to rape my mom and my sister, break into my house, and steal my money and personal items."

The student said it's not an isolated incident, receiving daily threats.

"It's not just something that's just once in a while," the student continued. "I've been assaulted at school. The kid was suspended for half a semester and was able to come back. The administration has done nothing for me at all except to push it off and wait until the next incident comes."

Some of the parents discussed possible coping strategies for victims of bullying, as well as changes they would like to see happen.

"I'm not sure every teacher is following the policy," one parent said. "The teachers are ignoring a lot of what's going on. The administrative at the schools is not following it and the policy is inadequate - it has to have an escalation policy. But it has to be really clear; first offense, second offense, and third offense, you're out. None of this 'one-day suspension, and I'm not going to

include the other two girls because I like you. Then, the other two, you can just be suspended for two days.' It definitely has to be consistent."

"I'm interested in the social and mental well-being of our kids ultimately and bullying is one of the big pieces. There are others as well," a parent said. "I want to hear and listen and talk more about it and see what I can personally do from my own advocacy, then talk to the PTA Board about what we can more involved in."

"There have been friends of mine who have come to me with issues and concerns about their kids and students with bullying," Dean-Kraatz said. "From more of a parent's perspective, I really want to understand what the parents in the district are going through."

"We want somebody there who they (students in trouble) can talk to, who is a licensed counselor or licensed therapist - there for the kids that need some extra help or just want to talk without the adults being there," said a parent.

Several parents who wished to remain anonymous called *The Clarkston News* to share stories of bullying in Clarkston schools.

One parent said his daughter, who attends CHS, had to drop a class because of bullying.

His daughter told him teachers are in the

hallways during class changes, but many just talk to each other and don't pay attention to students.

"They are basically just sweeping it under the rug," he said, adding the bullying problem his daughter faces is not new, but has been happening for quite a while.

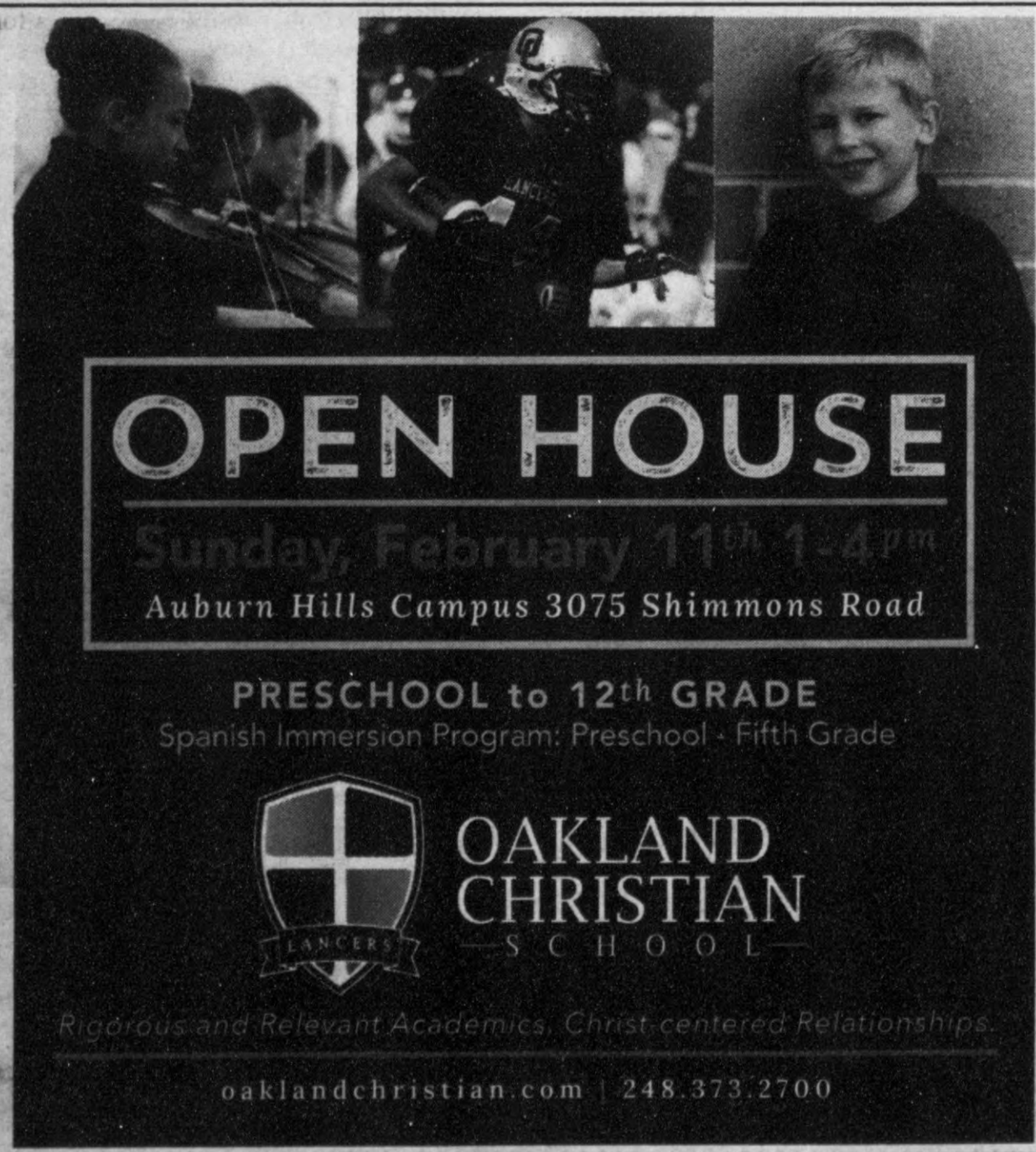
"The last two years have been a pretty dark, black hole with the school," he said. "If I had to do it over again, I would have gone to a different school system."

After Monday's meeting of the Board of Education, a parent approached Interim Superintendent Shawn Ryan about the group and their goal to stop bullying.

"I'd like to meet with your group at some point," said Ryan, who was appointed last week after the sudden resignation of Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock. "I wasn't even aware there was a group. The first thing is I want to sit down with them before I make any kind of comment directly, so I can understand where they're coming from."

Elizabeth Egan, School Board president, said the board has a plan for addressing the anti-bullying policies and making them priority.

"We're looking at those policies and administrative guidelines with Mr. Ryan," Egan said. "We were all affected by the events of last week. We're taking it seriously."

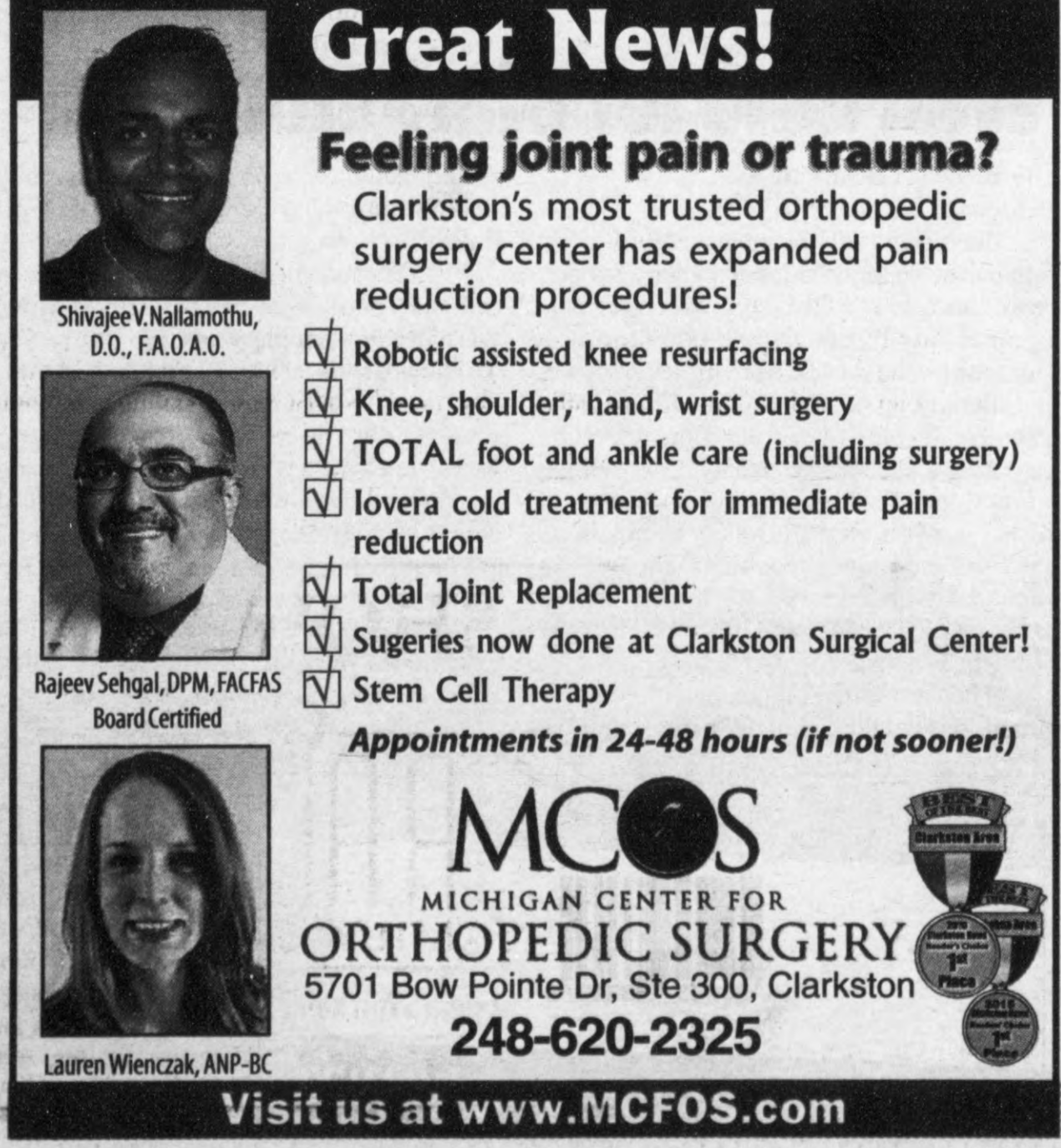


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## Buffalo parking at issue

Now under consideration: making Buffalo Street off Waldon Road a no-parking zone.

"In light of what (city engineer) Gary Tressel said about AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials) compliance, I'd like to propose removing parking from just South Buffalo coming off Waldon, between Waldon and Church," said Council member Rick Detkowski at the Jan. 22 meeting. "Our backs are against the wall with AASHTO compliance."

The AASHTO standards call for a 22-foot road width. Parked cars make the road too narrow, Detkowski said.

Council member Scott Reynolds agreed, saying drivers coming from opposite directions sometimes play a "game of chicken" when moving through there.

"Two vehicles really cannot come through there safely at all," Reynolds said.

Council member Sharron Catalo said some Buffalo residents use the street for parking.

"I drive it all the time – I never have a problem," Catalo said. "I don't see why this is all of a sudden a problem. There has always been parking there."

Parked cars also slow traffic, she said.

Council member Jason Kneisc warned of unintended consequences, if the area is made no-parking.

"I think we want people slower there," Kneisc said.

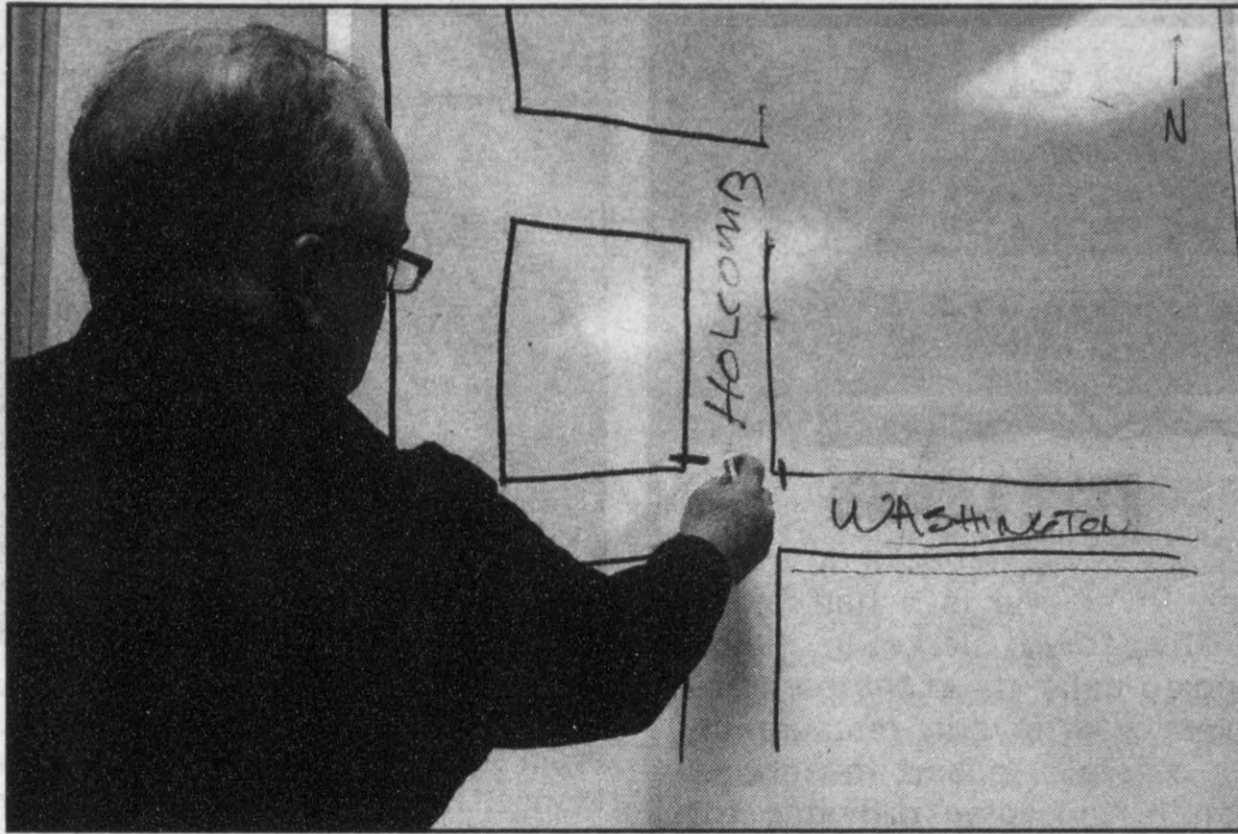
Council member Susan Wylie asked if it could be made one way.

During public comment, resident Cara Catalo said she was concerned because the issue was added to the agenda at the meeting.

"Residents of the neighborhood didn't see it on the agenda," Cara said. "It seems the neighborhood should have the opportunity to know about it and possibly appear (at the meeting)."

Detkowski said the committee will gather more information about this and other parking issues for presentation at a future City Council meeting.

– Phil Custodio



City Manager Jonathan Smith illustrates where a stop sign could be added to Holcomb Street at Washington. Photo by Phil Custodio

## New stop sign could slow Holcomb

BY PHIL CUSTODIO  
Clarkston News Editor

Council member Jason Kneisc called for a stop sign and pedestrian-crossing sign on southbound Holcomb Street at Washington Street.

The addition would make the intersection, just to the west of downtown, a three-way stop. There are currently stop signs on both sides of Washington, but traffic on Holcomb doesn't stop at the intersection.

Due to a jurisdictional quirk in the map, the city can place a stop sign on Holcomb facing south, heading towards Deer Lake, but not on the northbound side. That sign would have to be authorized by the Road Commission for Oakland County.

"If we put a stop sign with the stop-for-pedestrian-traffic sign on our portion of Holcomb, I think that would greatly reduce the speed," Kneisc said. "It could potentially help the county decide to put in a stop sign coming north on Holcomb."

Council member Scott Reynolds said it could be confusing to drivers.

However, the crosswalk sign, which would be identical to the \$450, spring-loaded pedestrian sign on Main Street at Church Street, would lessen confusion, Reynolds said.

The intersection is currently marked with crosswalk stripes, painted on the pavement.

"The three-way stop makes me nervous, (but) I like the pedestrian-crossing sign idea," said Council member Rick Detkowski.

People would become familiar with it, said Kneisc said.

"The whole point is, this is what we're doing to make the community safer," he said. "We'd still have to rely on people to obey traffic laws – right now, it's just a speedway."

"If we had that stop sign and pedestrian crosswalk, it would click with people," said Council member Sharron Catalo.

Council member Susan Wylie said they should consult with a professional traffic engineer to see if it's a good idea for safety.

City Manager Jonathan Smith will check with RCOC to see if a county official can attend the next meeting to answer questions and provide more information.

## Briefly

### Apology on council

Council member Sharron Catalo said she was sorry for confronting resident Lorry Mahler after the Jan. 8 City Council meeting.

"I want to apologize to the Clarkston community for having lost my temper after our last meeting," Catalo said at the Jan. 22 meeting. "I have thought about it and decided it was inappropriate of me to do that – I'm sorry. I'll try my best not to lose my temper again."

Mahler, who prepared a statement about the incident, noted Catalo apologized to the entire city instead of her, and called on Catalo to recuse herself from all issues before the council whether she has a direct financial interest or not. Also, City Council should vote Catalo has a conflict on issues regarding her family and cannot act in a fair and impartial manner, and the council should review and amend, if necessary, its Conflict of Interest policy and Charter to address known-bias situations.

Council took no action on the matter at the meeting.

### Coats for Lighthouse

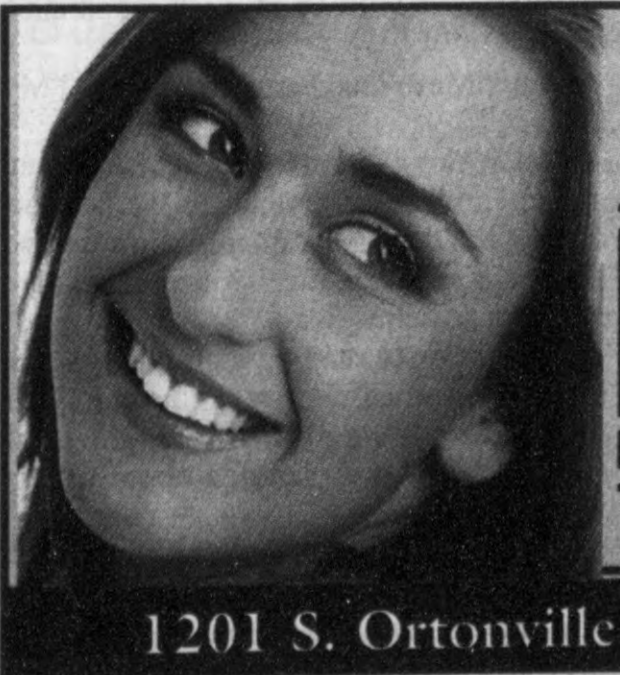
Hidden Lakes is collecting coats for Lighthouse North through Jan. 31.

Drop off new or gently used coats at the apartment leasing center, 5800 Deep Woods Drive, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Site manager Kassia Bailey and Stephanie Linton, marketing coordinator for Dart Properties, kicked off the coat drive on Jan. 15, Martin Luther King Day and Day of Service. They will drop off the coats at Lighthouse.

"It's a great way to get the community involved and help Lighthouse of Oakland County," Linton said.

Call 248-620-2960 for information.



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From left are poets Addison Newblatt, Morgan Lozzi, Rylee Harris, Natalia Monnet, Ava Dowd and Abbey Clauw. Photo by Brenda Dominick

## Power of poetry at slam

BY BRENDA DOMINICK

Clarkston News Staff Writer

It was a day for youth to find their voice and inject their creativity into words at Bailey Lake Elementary last Friday.

Anne Martinez and Carol Barber's fifth-grade classes wowed their guests with talent, wit, and reality at their Poetry Slam. This event has been an ongoing tradition there for seven years.

Martinez said, "Poetry seems to be a dying artform and yet it is a genre that is easily accessible to all students."

Students have discovered poetry can be very personal and can be whatever they want it to be.

"It's especially perfect for students who otherwise struggle with writing," she said. "They usually find the genre of poetry to be something they can manage."

Students also learn how to convey meaning with figurative language, sensory details, word choice and line breaks. Not only did students spend time learning how to

write like a poet, but they also spent time learning how to read their poetry in front of an audience. They also had a little help from their friends from Clarkston High School.

"We had Mr. Eisele's English students from the high school work with our fifth graders on public speaking at a poetry slam," Martinez said. "This partnership of students helping students was an amazing experience for all involved."

On the day of Bailey Lake's 'Slam,' the talented fifth grade students impressed their families by reading their poetry and educating their guests on what they learned in class.

Trent Greene read his poem, "Football" with excitement and passion to the packed audience in the classroom.

"The receiver caught the ball 'Touchdown!' The new Super Bowl champs were sobbing babies as they took home the trophy," he said.

Abbey Clauw read her funny and sarcastic "I am a Sister" poem, describing her not-so-sisterly love for her real-life sister.

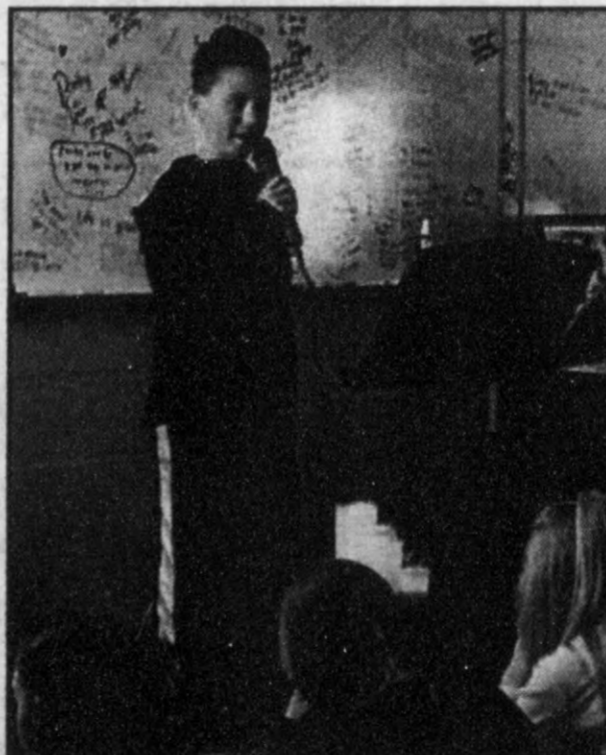
"I want to sometimes shove her in a box and ship her away to Canada. I am her sister. I pretend to step on her and then I'm king of the world," Clauw read, as the audience laughed.

Marie Mazo read her poem entitled "My Brother."

"I don't know what to say, but I am going insane. He blames everything on me, he treats me like I'm three. I'd rather live in a tree, so he doesn't bother me," Mazo said, also getting a few chuckles.

In addition to reading their poetry, each student had at least one speaking part. This was the way the students taught their families what they learned about poetry writing.

Clauw and Addison Newblatt, shared with their guests the importance of including figurative language which separates mediocre poetry from great poetry.



Johnny Walker reads his poem, "Hail Storm."

## Maxine Andrews, 92

Maxine C. Andrews of Clarkston, formerly of Waterford, passed away Jan. 21, 2018, at age 92.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ford. She was the loving mother of Beth (Dennis) Brown and Kyle (John) Kraft; grandmother of Veronica (Jason) Leung, Hope DeLargy, Jeff (Karen) Brown, Ryan (Beth) Kraft and Lindsey (Noah) Dorfman; great grandmother of Chayse, Reece, Miles, Jesiah, CJ, Spencer, Piper and Ira. Maxine was preceded in death by her sister, Rose Mary Carland.

Maxine loved traveling, volunteering and her Red Hat Society.

Friends may visit Thursday, Jan. 25, 2018, at Christ Lutheran Church, Waterford. Viewing at 10 a.m., service at 11 a.m. Private interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to the Michigan Animal Rescue League or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

## Evan I. Borgerson, 15

Evan Inho Borgerson of Clarkston suddenly passed away on Jan. 18, 2018, at age 15.

He was the beloved son of Jim and Mary; big brother of Cara; grandson of Jim and Sharon Borgerson; preceded in death by grandparents Joseph and Rosalie Hajash; nephew of Todd (Gia) Borgerson and Lourdes (Bryan) Smith; cousin of Todd and Joe. Evan was a sophomore at Clarkston High School. He played violin in the symphony orchestra and was working toward being an Eagle Scout with Boy Scouts of America Troop 189.

Visitation was Jan. 21 at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Funeral Mass was Jan. 22 at St. Daniel Catholic Church, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to Boy Scouts of America. Online guest book [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

## Blanche Klopman, 94

Blanche Klopman of Goodrich, formerly of Pontiac, passed away Jan. 16, 2018, at age 94.

She was preceded in death by her husband Henry and her brothers Harry and James. She was the mother of Carol Ferguson and Michael (Susan) Klopman; grandmother of three; great grandmother of three.

Blanche was proud of being a Gray Lady.

Rosary Service was Jan. 19 at **Lewis E. Wint and Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Funeral Mass was Jan. 20 at St. Perpetua Catholic Church, Waterford. Private interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. Online guest book [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).



# Death notices & Obituaries

## Jonathan Rae Baenziger, 26

Jonathan Rae Baenziger of Clarkston passed away suddenly Jan. 20, 2018, at age 26.

He was the beloved son of Jennifer and Doug; big brother of Mitchell and Lauren; grandson of Millie (late Richard) Ziemann; preceded in death by his sister Chelsea Rae and grandparents Helen and John Baenziger; nephew of Richard (late Irena) Ziemann, Dave (Donna) Ziemann, Don Ziemann, Judy (Pete) Alongi, Jack (Audrey) Baenziger and Jill Barker; also survived by many cousins.

Jonathan loved family, cars, sports and life itself. He was a 2009 Clarkston High School graduate, where he enjoyed playing basketball.

Visitation was Jan. 23 at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Funeral Service Wednesday, Jan. 24 at 10 a.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church, Clarkston. Private interment Oakview Cemetery, Royal Oak. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Dawn Farm Addiction Treatment Center, Ann Arbor. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

## Dorla L. Marino, 88

Dorla L. Marino (Venier) of Clarkston passed away Jan. 21, 2018, at age 88.

She was preceded in death by her husband Lee. She was the mother of Lee "Mick" ( Marcia) Marino, Lynette (Mike) Kuznar, Terry Marino and Bruce (Kristie) Marino; grandma of Stephanie (John) Junga, Tony (fiancé Kaila) Marino, Paige (Brandon) Hollek, Thomas Kuznar, Lauren and Kelsie Davis; sister of Alice Brenner; preceded in death by her daughter Cindy Kraft, and sisters Rio, Annette, and Pearl.

Friends may visit at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston, Thursday, 4-9 p.m. Funeral service Friday, 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment All Saints Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Make A Wish Foundation.

Online guest book [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).



## Mary C. Muscat, 84

Mary C. Muscat (nee Zwicker) of Clarkston passed away Jan. 18, 2018, at age 84.

She was preceded in death by her husband Frank. She was the loving mother of Dan, Jim (Loren), Jon (Kristina), Terese (Andrew) Schroeder and Kate (Mark) Hanna; proud grandmother of 11; dear sister of Paul (Sally) Zwicker.

Rosary Service was Jan. 22 at the **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Funeral Mass was Jan. 23 at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church, Waterford. Rite of Committal Lakeview Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Colombiere Center. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

## Joseph Tombrella, 88

Joseph Tombrella of Clarkston passed away Jan. 14, 2018, at age 88.

He was preceded in death less than a month ago by his wife Mary. He was the father in law of Kim (late Joseph Anthony); grandpa of Emelia; brother in law to Lorene Tombrella; survived by many beloved nieces and nephews.

Joseph retired from City of Centerline and formerly owned/operated The Pretzel Peddler.

Visitation was Jan. 17 at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Private interment at Great Lakes National Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Leader Dogs for the Blind, Rochester Hills, <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/ldb>. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

Obituaries posted daily at [Clarkstonnews.com](http://Clarkstonnews.com)

In our local community churches...

**Bible Study by the Fire**, 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.

## Lucia Vander Velde Wilford, 99

Lucia Vander Velde Wilford, a former resident of North Main Street, Clarkston passed away in the early morning hours of Sunday, Jan. 7, 45 days shy of her 100th birthday.

Born in Grand Rapids on Feb. 21, 1918, to A. W. and Hanny Vander Velde, she and her family moved to Royal Oak when she was still a toddler. She graduated from Royal Oak High School and attended the University of Michigan, studying Fine Arts. Lucia moved to New York City to work at the 1939 World's Fair, returning to Michigan after the fair closed.

She married Jerry Wilford in 1941. They remained married until his death in October 2007. They lived in Clarkston from 1954 until she and Jerry moved to Cincinnati to be closer to family in 2007.

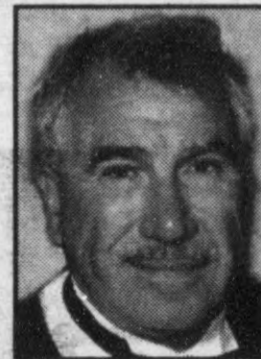
Lucia was proud of her Dutch heritage. She was always present on her front porch on parade days with a large coffee pot and chairs for friends who happened by. She was the first woman president of the Clarkston Village Council and with her husband were founding members of the Wednesday Night Dance Club and Church of the Resurrection Episcopal Church. They were members and supporters of the Clarkston Historic Society and the Clarkston Players. Lucia was a long-time member of the Clarkston Garden Club. She loved her family, traveling in Michigan, the United States and Europe, playing Bridge and antiques. Lucia believed strongly in the power of art; encouraged both children and adults to draw and held both formal and informal art classes.

Lucia is survived by her sister Pat Benson in New York, her children (and spouses) Jody (Ardel) Barkley, Peter (Jan) Wilford, Lucia Wilford, Tom (Carrie) Wilford, Julie (Michael) Wilford-Gold, and Jay (Kate) Wilford as well as grandchildren Alexandra Fanning, Jessica Lisis, Rebecca Janha, Jacob Wilford, Hannah Gold, Ellen Gold, Leah Gold, Joshua Wilford and Eliza Wilford and eight great grandchildren.

The family will be at 239 Kearney Street, Cincinnati, 45216 at 2 p.m. on Feb. 17, the weekend closest to her 100th birthday, for a private memorial gathering. Friends may express their condolences and share fond memories from 3-5 p.m. at the same address. Anyone wishing to make a Memorial Donation is encouraged to contact the Clarkston Historic Society housed in the Public Library in Clarkston, Mich.

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

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



## Brenda's Beat

A column by Brenda Dominick

### Don't bury bullying

Last Thursday, another shockwave hit the close-knit town of Clarkston. A tenth grade student from Clarkston High School took his own life. Of course natural human behavior ensued, and the typical assumptions, questions, concerns and gossip have begun around the community.

Every time I hear something troubling like this about a child, I generally put myself in the shoes of the parents. As a parent myself, I am furious about the amount of testimonies I am hearing from parents who actually have kids getting bullied at CHS.

Let me give you an example, one parent told me just recently another student just threatened to stab their child.

Is this acceptable to you? What if it was your son, daughter, granddaughter, niece or nephew? If it was me, I would get as involved as I can, with not only the staff but also the school board. I would not rest until it got resolved.

Don't get me wrong, I believe Clarkston Community Schools is a great district with good intentions. I have met many teachers who are caring and compassionate. However, the district's anti-bully policy needs to be enforced.

Did you know Michigan has anti-bullying laws and regulations? According to the stopbullying.gov website, Michigan law states all pupils are protected and bullying is equally prohibited without regard to subject matter or motivation.

What are the teachers, principals and school board doing about it? They are getting our tax dollars to help our children, right? Wouldn't you expect them to mediate or resolve this in a positive way? Sadly, the majority of responses from parents who I have spoken with are...nothing.

Most are saying school officials are "turning a blind eye," and even blaming the students who are being bullied. Their resolution? Move the victim to another class, not the bully. What? Unacceptable!

What are you as a community going to do about it? Let's rally together as parents and community to be more proactive.

These kids rely on their elders to teach them compassion and to work together with others. Let's help not hurt. #stopbullying



## Editorial:

# Save time, money hire Ryan

It's been a tough couple of weeks for the whole of Clarkston — coming out of the much respected Clarkston Community Schools District.

As the investigation by Detroit Law firm Dickinson Wright continues into the particulars of the previous superintendent of Clarkston schools, Shawn Ryan has accepted the duties as Interim Superintendent. Based on Ryan's time and experience with the district and his investment in this community, we urge the Board of Education to give Ryan the job on a permanent basis.

In his more than 20 years with Clarkston Community Schools, Ryan has proven himself to be an extraordinary educator and leader. In her "letter" to the community last week, school board president Elizabeth Egan said, "... We are grateful for his (Ryan's) clear-headed, steadfast leadership and firmly believe that under his guidance, we can begin to move forward as a community..."

We agree.

Instead of hiring an outside firm to seek and hire an outside person, let's save the district's (taxpayers') time and money and offer the job to Ryan.

Ryan knows the district. He served as a guest teacher (1995-1996), student teacher (1996), science teacher (1997-2002), Clarkston High School assistant principal (2002-2004), Clarkston Middle School principal (2004-2005), Clarkston Junior High School principal (2005-2010), and deputy superintendent (2010-2017).

## A call for more open information at meetings

Dear Editor,

Mayor Percival had a very nice letter in the *Clarkston News* about everyone working together for the greater good ("Many work together to make city a success," Jan. 10).

I like the mayor and he is one of the most active and involved mayors the City of the Village of Clarkston has ever had. That said, I don't know how the city will ever achieve the stated goals given their current policies.

As I have mentioned numerous times, the city has been fighting the intent of Michigan's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in court for more than two years and not complying with it for even longer.

The current battle is the city defending a city official's ability to withhold city information from the City Council and public, and be paid for that with our tax dollars even though there is no known formal decision by the city council to do this or defend it.

You can ponder that for a while as it is difficult to understand.

I give immense credit to Council member Susan Wylie as the only member of the city

His career accomplishments include spearheading the middle school/junior high reconfiguration in 2004; a restructuring that reduced the district budget by \$10 million in 2010; and passing a \$76 million bond for technology and facilities updates. His strong administrative leadership also brought about the incorporation of the *Whole Child* initiative and *Leader in Me* program, which revitalized the district's focus on the broader social-emotional needs of children.

Most recently, Ryan was instrumental in the introduction of improved co-curricular opportunities in all of Clarkston's elementary schools, and the addition of instructional technology and reading coaches across the district.

Ryan resides in Clarkston, with his wife Gina, and he is the father of 2017 Clarkston High School graduate Jake and Clarkston Community Schools students Alec, Evan, and Elly.

We believe he is a natural community builder, and has an ability to create unique community connections.

Ryan knows what the district promised from the \$76 million bond passed in 2016. He understands the district's structure, strengths and weaknesses. He knows the staff, students, parents and community. Instead of trying to find another person to fit into Clarkston's footprint, or god forbid, change the district's direction, hire from within.

Let's keep the course and keep Ryan at the helm. — DPR

council to publicly affirm this is not right. What about everyone else?

Related to this is a new twist that the public cannot comment on items when they are discussed and decided at council meetings. Apparently, the council has all the information they need when the discussion starts and doesn't need or want more, at least not from the public that must pay the bill for what the council decides.

This is totally arbitrary, not in keeping with the City Charter, and hardly what anyone would call good democratic government of and by the people.

How does anyone make good decisions and work together when one part of our government is withholding information from another and the public?

How do any of us participate in the democratic process if we don't know what is going on, have no way to find out, and cannot participate in the process?

Please ask your elected council members and let me know.

Cory Johnston  
Clarkston

## A Look Back

From The CNews archives

### 15 years ago - 2003

**"Gaining insight to law at 'teen court'"**

Law students from Clarkston High School participated in the Oakland County Teen Court at 52-2 District Court. They took on the identity of jurors, prosecuting and defense attorneys, bailiff and clerk.

**"A real life knight's tale for engaged couple"** Joyce Ashley was surprised by her boyfriend and knight in shining armor, Terry McNeil, at work. He appeared at her work dressed as a knight, got down on one knee and asked if she would marry him. She answered with yes.

**"Braun to make figure skating debut at Senior Olympics"** Seventy-four-year-old Phyllis Braun, who took up figure skating six years prior, was planning to compete in freestyle skating at the Michigan Senior Olympics.

### 25 years ago - 1993

**"Township board cuts cars, cost"** The Independence Township Board of Trustees voted 5-1 to reduce its car fleet by two vehicles, saving \$10,000 annually over three years.

**"From puppy love to true love"** Twelve years after their first kiss, Kristin Nowlen and Todd Zeller were married the same place it happened. They met when they were five years old at Clarkston Free Methodist Church. The kiss at 12-years-old came about because of a dare as Kristin's family was moving.

**"Seven seconds"** During the Clarkston Invitational wrestling tournament it only took seven ticks on the clock for grapplers P.J. Vandermeer and A.J. Grant to pin their opponents, breaking the previous team record of ten seconds.

### 50 years ago - 1968

**"MYF president attending seminar"**

Clarkston High School senior Bob Nicoson headed to New York City and Washington, D.C. with a group of 100 young people from the Detroit Area of Methodist Churches taking part in the United Nations - Washington Peace Seminar.

**"Chief defends radio location"** Village Police Chief Robert Phillips defended his position in having the police department headquarters in his residence on Clarkston Road. He explained it was no cost to the village and the village didn't have space for the department.

**"Cookie sale starts Friday"** Northern Oakland Girl Scouts were getting ready for their annual cookie sale and to take orders beginning Jan. 26. Five kinds of cookies were available: peanut butter patties, mint, sandwich cremes, shortbread and new almond swirl.

## A call for caution with development by pipeline

Dear Editor,

Maybe it was ironic, but in the Jan. 10 *Clarkston News*, I read a comment from Independence Township Supervisor Pat Kittle that the Encore at Deerhill Villas development, approved by the Independence Township Board in 2016 in spite of objections by local Clarkston residents, will break ground in spring of this year.

The same week I read Mr. Kittle's comments confirming the start of the Encore at Deerhill Villas development, it was also made public the cause of the November 2017 natural gas explosion in Orion Township was the weight of "fill material" added over the top of the pipeline by a third party.

The weight of the fill stressed the pipeline and caused it to sag due to the compressibility of the supporting soil layer. Following this recent Orion Township incident, Consumer's Energy stated it will take immediate action to help ensure a similar incident does not happen again by enhancing inspection patrols of all gas transmission lines; revisiting their construction standards to evaluate soil compressibility; and implementing comprehensive remediation plans that meet or exceed state and federal requirements.

The Orion Township incident reminded me of an article I submitted to *The Clarkston News* in 2016. I have walked the Buckeye Pipeline property that runs through the property to be developed as the Encore at Deerhill Villas many times and it would appear to me when and if the development of this property does take place, significant amounts of "fill material" will be required over the existing pipeline.

Discussions with Buckeye officials at the time the Encore at Deerhill Villas project was approved by the Independence Township Board did confirm the material traveling through the Buckeye Pipeline was in fact a liquid petroleum product.

Depending on the volatility and flash point of this material it may be less subject to an explosion due to rupture or break as the result of development of this site. I shudder to think of the environmental contamination such an event could cause to residents near the Encore at Deerhill Villas site and as well to our pristine Deer Lake.

At the very least I feel given the recent Orion Township incident, the Independence Township Board, as well as Buckeye Pipeline and developer Michael Furnari need to provide written and detailed confirmation as to how an Orion Township incident will be prevented before the development of the Encore at Deerhill Villas site commences.

What I am aware of to date is a Catastrophic Failure and Recovery Plan was provided by Buckeye officials and a secured bond required by Independence Township from Mr. Furnari to protect the township and its residence against environmental and property damages that could result in the event of a breach of the Buckeye Pipeline caused by development of the property, but neither of these remedies focus on prevention of a breach of the Buckeye Pipeline and neither remedy addresses the short and long term monetary impact and environmental impact should a breach occur.

Robert White  
Independence Township

## Ryan for superintendent

Dear Editor,

Well, perhaps a PhD isn't the most necessary qualification to be a school superintendent.

Are Dr. Rod Rock's lemmings on the school board going to resign as well, the ones so hot on re-writing his evaluation?

Maybe it's time to hire from within, someone with character, integrity and morals. Say, Mr. Shawn Ryan.

My two cents,

Gerry Schmidt  
Springfield Township

## Hospital push appreciated

Dear Editor,

I was happy to read in the Jan. 10 issue Supervisor Pat Kittle is still pushing for a hospital ("Big 2018 plans in township," Jan. 10).

I was disappointed to hear the Beaumont deal for the property on the corner of M-15 and Cranberry Lake Road fell through. As I understand it, the Beaumont project included not only a hospital, but walking trails and other health programs for our residents.

Mr. Kittle's points about jobs, housing, and taxes are all valid points that support a hospital. As a nearby property owner, I feel the last thing we need on the property is a 24-hour store like Meijer or Walmart.

Ann Margaret Johns  
Independence Township

## Say Stage III Anaplastic astrocytoma 3 times fast

So, there I was minding my own business and sharing it on social media, whilst reading up on everybody else's business on same said social media when ...

PING!

... I got a message from a young lady I had a crush on when we were both in the third grade at Bailey Lake Elementary in Clarkston. Unfortunately she wasn't messaging her unfulfilled and undying love for me. No, much more serious and not at all fun. Cheri's sister, Maggie Barnard Wade, has Stage III Anaplastic astrocytoma (which has too many syllables for me to say) ... well, let me let Cheri (who has started a GoFundMe page) tell the story in her own words.

\* \* \*

In July this year, my youngest sister, Maggie (aka Georgetta) was 46 years young. She went shopping for a baby shower present and had a sever seizure. Not a little one...a BIG one. She felt no symptoms before it happened. No warning.

She woke up as the ambulance was taking her to Beaumont Hospital in Troy. Seizure means brain, so they did the first of many MRIs. There was a mass - but with no defined edges - meaning cancerous.

I got the call and immediately headed south from Harbor Springs. My sister Penny started the drive from Wisconsin, and our sister Cameo made arrangements to fly in from California. We all met at sister Ronnie's in Ortonville and headed to the hospital where we would stay... for the next seven days.

We left our suitcases in our cars and took turns spending the night, running for food, washing clothes. Between her

husband, children (Lake Orion grads, Dallas, 22 and Madelyne, 19), and sisters - someone was with her 24 hours. She was never alone. We dealt with this head on and as a family.

It was determined that Beaumont was not the best place for her to be because of the type of tumor she had. A bed opened up at Henry Ford and off we went...all of us...more like a parade than a caravan.

Something else was happening. We five sisters had had our ups and downs over the years. Sometimes we weren't speaking to that sister, or was mad at another sister. We honestly could NOT remember the last time the five of us were in the same room together. It has been YEARS! Like over 20! From the moment we all walked into Maggie's room - the years honestly melted away (I know it's a cliché - but it really happened).

It is horrible that this is what brought us together, but it did. We talked for hours and laughed so hard we actually cried! We ate all of the meals together (we would order out, or bring food from home) and rarely had less than six people in her room at any time, often over a dozen! ... And we have continued to strengthen the sister bond since. We now have a group sister chat where we chat daily online! We are closer as a family than we have ever been!

Maggie is strong in her faith. God works in mysterious ways THAT'S for sure. This wasn't in the cards. This wasn't in the plan. This wasn't in the budget. But it was happening, like it or not, one way or the other. I cannot begin to say I understand what she was feeling or thinking, I can't even imagine. But with each doctor discussion, and with each question and answer...she said...out loud... I got this...and I believe she did.

Day of the surgery...we had the LARGEST group in the waiting room. I think we counted 21.

Maggie is my baby sister. I feel an extra sense of protection over her. But to see your baby sister, in a bed, tubes everywhere, her head wrapped in a bandage is gut wrenching. Helpless and powerless - you can't cry - you have to be strong. We were warned - she may not be able to speak, or lift her right side. We prepared for the worse and got the BEST. She held our hands, and talked. WOW! She had 50 some odd staples from right to left a crossed her head - but she was beautiful and alive and our baby sister. The darkness of despair was drowned out by the light of hope.

She has Stage III Anaplastic astrocytoma. It is my understanding that stage III means it's growing, but not spreading. So next came the chemo and radiation. Kill the bastard, retard the growth. Radiation meant hair loss - she's still beautiful - with or without a hat. MRI in October showed that the chemo was doing its job and no new growth - just a big ol' whole where that nasty thing had been which would eventually fill with fluid.

So...life moves on, doesn't stop for anyone for any reason. Life may be a merry-go-round but you're not allowed to get off. They had sold their house in Orion, were living in an Oxford apartment while their house was being finished in Florida when this happened.

It's hard to ask for help. It's embarrassing and feels shameful to have to tell friends and families your "personal" problems - that you can't make it on your own. But it's a necessary evil. If you don't ask, you won't know. ~ Cheri

\* \* \*

I have communicated with Cheri since I received the above story. Maggie and Scott (both Clarkston High School grads), after insurance and not including upcoming medical costs are in the red over \$20,000. If anybody would like to help, hop online and go to [www.gofundme.com/MaggieMatters](http://www.gofundme.com/MaggieMatters). Thanks, Cheri and prayers to you and yours.

Don't  
Rush Me



A column by  
Don Rush

## Local playwright featured at showcase

Jennifer Ward, Clarkston High School's theater director, joins fellow playwrights Stephen Sussman, an architect from Bloomfield Hills; Shawn Henry, a librarian at the University Liggett School; Myron Stein, a retired art teacher and juvenile court probation officer; Julia Spina-Kilar, voice-over artist; and copy editor and writer Barbara Schmitt in a presentation of their original 10-minute plays at Ridgedale Theatre, 205 W. Long Lake Road in Troy.

The plays, selected in a competitive process from works by residents from throughout the metro area, will be presented on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26 and 27.

Comedy predominates, and subject matter ranges from an older couple's quandary when they discover they've booked a vacation at a nudist resort to a young Bogart wannabe's first legal drink.

Tickets are \$11, at [ridgedaleplayers.com](http://ridgedaleplayers.com) or by calling 248-988-7049.

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The writers meet with Elissa Slotkin. Photo courtesy of Bill Haney

## Writer's group makes NBC News

The "One Cup at a Time" writers group met with Elissa Slotkin, candidate for Michigan's Eighth Congressional seat, at their Monday morning meeting at Brioni's, and NBC Nightly News was there.

The meeting will be part of NBC's coverage of Slotkin, one of many female congressional candidates nationwide in "the pink wave," said Clarkston author Bill Haney.

"They deemed her a highly qualified candidate in one of the nation's most prominent and contested congressional districts," Haney said. "Ms. Slotkin has a unique background, having served this

country in both Republican and Democratic administrations, with three tours in Iraq over five years."

She was a Middle-East analyst in the Central Intelligence Agency and worked for the Department of Defense at the Pentagon, including acting assistant secretary of defense.

"Our Monday Morning coffee group of geezers found it refreshing to have an experienced candidate who has worked for both Republican and Democratic leaders who put the good of the country over politics," Haney said.

## Birders Club to talk bluebird nests

Featured speaker at the Jan. 31 meeting of the Clarkston-area Backyard Birders Club will be Mark Jones, a volunteer at the Oakland County Parks who has monitored bluebird nest boxes for over 30 years.

"From Mark we'll learn some surprising things about the importance of bluebirds, and how to attract and protect them through proper feeding," said club President Bob McGowan.

The public is invited to the informal gathering at 7 p.m. at the Gateway Lifestyle Shops, 7150 N Main Street. There are no charges or dues at the meetings, where

stories of interesting sightings are shared and questions answered.

"We quickly built a solid and loyal membership in our very first year," McGowan said. "We obviously have a lot of folks in the area who care about and enjoy watching and learning a bit about birds. We've had a succession of guest speakers who know their stuff and are entertaining as well. And, not least, we have the best venue imaginable—the atrium and park-like patio of the Gateway."

First-timers are welcome, and free coffee and cookies are provided.



Backyard Birders founder and president Bob McGowan demonstrates a bluebird nesting box. Photo courtesy of Bill Haney



## Loose hay

A deputy on patrol stopped a truck and trailer carrying unsecured bales of hay on White Lake Road at Andersonville Road, 11:33 a.m., Jan. 11. The owner of the truck was cited with registration violation for not having the proper license plate, allowing a person to drive without the proper commercial license, no driver medical certificate, no U.S. Department of Transportation number listed, tinted windows, broken trailer breakaway brake cable, no truck or trailer annual inspection, no fire extinguisher or triangles, all three rear trailer marker lights missing, and no trailer license plate light. Warnings were given for improper load and improper registration for having a stake truck registered as a pickup.

## Arrest warrant

A 34-year-old Fenton man driving a vehicle with a broken headlight was stopped on Sashabaw Road at I-75, 2:35 a.m., Jan. 12. He was found with a warrant out of Livingston County. He was turned over to a Livingston County Sheriff's deputy and the vehicle was impounded.

## Accidental discharge

A 24-year-old Springfield Township man said it was an accident when he fired a round from a pistol into a neighboring house in the 17000 block of Louise Drive, 4:37 p.m., Jan. 16. The man told deputies he was removing items from a dresser drawer where he keeps his loaded 9mm handgun when he accidentally knocked the gun from the drawer to the floor. He picked it up and inspected it for damage, at which time he discharged the firearm. The bullet went through several walls in the home before striking the front door of the home across the street. No one was injured inside the man's home and the residents across the street whose home was struck were not home. A detective responded to the scene and the residents whose home was struck were located and told of the incident. The complainant's firearm was collected as evidence. The suspect was released at the scene pending review.

Call the Sheriff's Office with tips at 800-SPEAK-UP

## Essay contest on 'respect'

Clarkston Area Optimists Club hosts the 2018 Optimist Essay Contest, open to all middle school, junior high, and high school students who live in the Clarkston Schools area.

Topic for the 2018 Essay Contest is "Can Society Function Without Respect?"

Clarkston Optimists will evaluate the essays. First place essay writer will receive \$200; second place essay writer receives \$100; and third place, \$50.

The first place essay will be sent to the

# Public Safety

For Clarkston and Independence Township

## Suspect arraigned in north Oakland bank robberies

Davicia Swift, 40, was arraigned on two counts of Armed Robbery and one count of Bank Robbery before Judge Joseph Fabrizio in 52-2nd District Court, Jan. 17.

Bond was set at \$300,000 cash/surety, no 10 percent allowed. Her next court date is Jan. 30.

She is accused in the armed robbery of Comerica Bank, 7565 Dixie Highway in Independence Township, 12:18 p.m., Nov. 20.

Bank tellers reported the suspect walked up to the teller windows yelling for everyone to put their hands up. The suspect implied she had a gun and told the tellers to fill it up, producing a black bag. She was able to walk away with an unknown amount of cash.

Swift, a Flint resident, was also arraigned on two counts of Armed Robbery and one count of Bank Robbery on Jan. 16 in 52-3rd District Court. Magistrate Maria Soma set a \$300,000 cash/surety bond, no 10 percent allowed. Her next court date for those charges is Jan. 29.

She is accused of robbing the Huntington Bank at 4983 S. Baldwin Road in Lake Orion, 10:07 a.m., Jan. 13. The suspect also implied she had a weapon, but a weapon was not seen.

By chance, a deputy watching traffic on northbound I-75 observed a vehicle matching the suspect vehicle description. The vehicle was being driven by a female that fit the suspect description.

Deputies continued to follow the vehicle until additional units arrived to initiate a traffic stop. They initiated a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle at I-75 south of I-475 into Genesee County.

The vehicle came to a stop on the shoulder of I-75. Deputies made contact with the driver and ascertained that she was the suspect wanted in connection with the bank robbery.

A black canvas bag containing assorted denominations of U.S. currency was found in the back seat of the vehicle.

All of the money taken in the robbery was recovered. Detectives responded to continue with the investigation. The OCSO Forensic Science Laboratory responded to process the scene.



Swift

The suspect was transported to the Orion Township Substation to speak with a detective.

The suspect was lodged at the Oakland County Jail pending criminal charges.

Deputies were assisted at the scene of the traffic stop by the Grand Blanc Township Police. The FBI was notified and law enforcement agencies across southeast Michigan have also been notified to see if she has been involved in other robberies.

She has a prior conviction for Bank Robbery in Grand Blanc Twp. in 2000 and three convictions for embezzlement.



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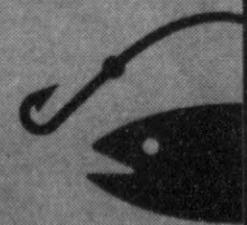
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# Clarkston's Sporting News

**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)

## Fierce defense on Raiders

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE  
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Cagers went on a shooting spree in the first half to close out their OAA Red foes North Farmington last Friday, 42-15.

"I thought they did a heck of a job tonight guarding people - like old Clarkston (basketball). It is the kind of effort you need to have all the time," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach Dan Fife. "Defense was much better. I have been getting on them about their effort guarding people."

Within the first 22 seconds of the game, senior CJ Robinson scored a 3-point shot and teammate senior Nick Wells added one more field goal to put the Wolves up, 6-0.

Clarkston would continue the scoring frenzy going on a 26-0 run going into the second quarter.

The run included three more field goals from Robinson and two field goals from senior Foster Loyer.

"We shot the ball well early and they just got out," said Fife. "It's tough for a young team to come back."

North Farmington's Donny Dreshaj broke the run with 4:40 remaining in the first half to put the Raiders on the board for two points.

Senior Chase Wasilk gave Clarkston more edge, scoring his own field goal before Robinson scored one point on the free throw line to close the half, 30-2.

Fife explained focus didn't change for the team with the huge lead.

"I have been getting on them about their effort continually," he said. "I don't want anything to change regardless of the score in how we approach the game. Often times in a game like that you might lax and that's how you hurt yourself. It's what would happen to me. I would turn an ankle."

Robinson led with 16 points during the night and Loyer had 13 points.

"They are two as good guards as there are in the state," Fife added. "Those two together, they move the ball well and play well together, share the ball well. Even in high school when you have to guard two or three players. It's tough no matter who you are."

The Wolves (10-1, 4-0 OAA Red) host West Bloomfield this Thursday and during the night will raise money for the Chad Tough Foundation.

Fife added going forth his concern still remains on defense.

"Offense will work itself out," he said. "Often times if you don't shoot well, you don't guard well. I want our defense to get better. You have to guard people and have them earn their wins."

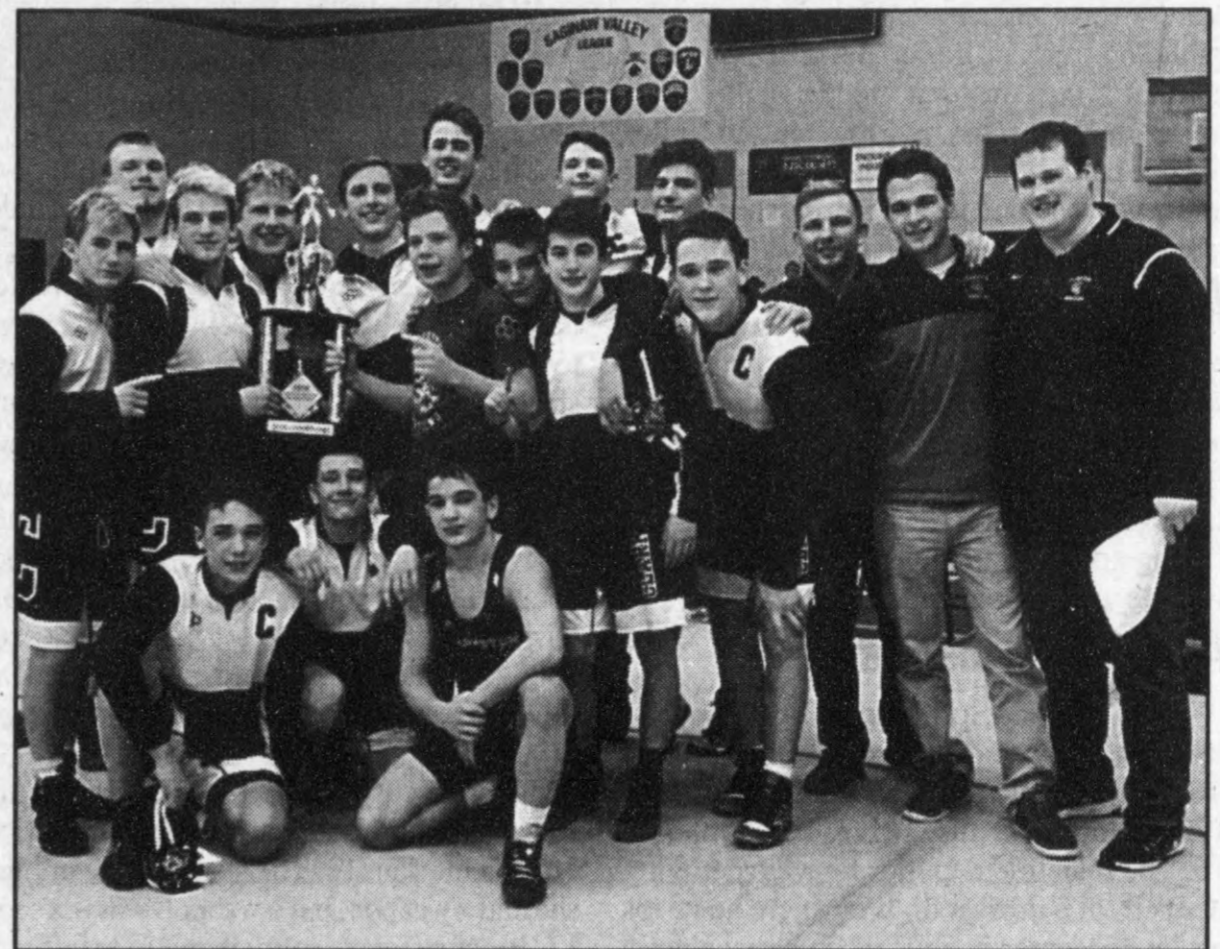
They head to Hazel Park next Tuesday and are back at home as they host Bloomfield Hills.

JV starts at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.



CJ Robinson, right, and North Farmington's Kamon MacNear rush to the ball to gain control for their teams. Photo by Larry Wright

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



The Clarkston Varsity Wrestling celebrates finished the Michigan Duals in first place. File photo

## Top of tourneys

Grapplers are ruling the mats, and they aren't done as they have a few more weeks before the go into the post-season.

The Clarkston Varsity Wrestling team finished the Michigan Duals at Bay City Western High School, Jan 13 claiming the title after a close win over Hudsonville, 31-29. They defeated Grand Ledge, 40-23; HH Dow High School, 60-12; and Shepherd, 61-9 to go 4-0 for the day.

They also celebrated being ranked eighth in Division 1 for wrestling last week.

Another great finish for the team was

taking second place at the Oakland County Meet at Lake Orion, Dec. 16 while 11 wrestlers placed in the top eight.

Also, they finished in third place at the John Glenn Rocket Duals as they went 4-1 for the day, Dec. 9.

Join the Wolves this Saturday as they head to the Oakland/Macomb Duals at Oxford beginning at 9 a.m.

Then, they are off to OAA Red Championships at Rochester Adams on Feb. 2, 4 p.m. before they start the post-season with the MHSAA Wrestling Team District at Waterford Kettering on Feb. 7, 5:30 p.m.



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# Experience deepens with every lap

**BY WENDI REARDON PRICE**  
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Swimmers keep achieving their goal of improving each time they compete.

"We have a young team as far as experience," said Clarkston Boys Swim and Dive Head Coach Amber Miller. "Each meet we are looking at them to drop time and improve. It's what they are doing consistently throughout meets."

The Wolves came back from holiday break with a 88-82 win over West Bloomfield, Jan. 11.

"We had an amazing meet," Miller said. "Oxford was our last opponent before break and we really had some time to really dive deep into technique. They came back from break and dropped huge amounts of time. It looked like a different team. It was exciting to see."

Scoring points for Clarkston for the relay events were: **200-yard medley relay** with William York, Owen Brown, Luke Bartley and Jarod Rutenber finished in first place, 1:54.40; and the team of Sam Gipe, Bill Osmun, Lamont Williams, Carter Kochanski, third place, 2:05.70. For **400-yard freestyle relay**, York, Williams, Valen Kurmaniak, Cody Taylor, second place, 3:48.12. For the **200-yard freestyle relay**, Taylor, Kochanski, Bartley, Rutenber, second place, 1:41.83; and Kurmaniak, Charley Osmun, Bill Osmun, Max Atterberry, third place, 1:52.92.

Scoring points in the individual events were: **500-yard freestyle**, York, first place, 5:52.07; Devon Roodbeen, fourth place, 6:25.04; **200-yard freestyle**, Kurmaniak, second place, 1:59.14; York, third place, 2:07.59; Charley Osmun, fifth place, 2:21.97; **200-yard IM**, Williams, second place, 2:23.88; Roodbeen, fourth place, 2:47.62; Charley Osmun, fifth place, 2:54.46; **100-yard butterfly**, Bartley, second place, 1:00.65; Williams, fourth place, 1:02.75; **100-yard freestyle**, Kurmaniak, first place, 52.58; Taylor, second place, 53.54; Rutenber, fourth place, 55.56; **100-yard backstroke**, Gipe,

third place, 1:18.97; Charley Osmun, fourth place, 1:20.08; Aaron Bogden, fifth place, 1:20.95; **100-yard breaststroke**, Bartley, second place, 1:17.98; Jack Storey, third place, 1:24; Bill Osmun, fourth, 1:27.69; **50-yard freestyle**, Taylor, first place, 23.93; Rutenber, second place, 24.48; and Kochanski, fifth place, 26.29.

Justin Hallet finished in first place for **1-meter diving** with 230.55 points. Ronan McLaughlin finished in fourth place, 136.35; and Kevin Hardtke, fifth place, 131.70.

"Justin is doing amazing on diving, reaching his personal best every meet," Miller added.

The Wolves hosted Rochester and lost 119-67, Jan. 16.

Scoring points for the relay events: **200-yard freestyle relay** with Rutenber, Kurmaniak, Bartley, Taylor, first place 1:39.15; **400-yard freestyle relay**, Kurmaniak, York, Taylor, Kochanski, second place, 3:53.78; and **200-yard medley relay**, York, Brown, Bartley and Rutenber finished in third place, 1:04.04.

Scoring points in individual events were: **500-yard freestyle**, Roodbeen, fourth place, 6:24.28; Philip McGinty, fifth place, 6:45.18; **200-yard freestyle**, Kurmaniak, third place, 2:02.71; York, fifth place, 2:08.9; **200-yard IM**, Charley Osmun, fourth place, 2:39.82; Max Atterberry, fifth place, 3:04.17; **100-yard butterfly**, Bartley, second place, 1:01.13; Williams, fourth place, 1:05.10; **100-yard freestyle**, Kurmaniak, second place, 53.24; Taylor, third place, 54.31; Rutenber, fourth place, 56.78; **100-yard backstroke**, York, fourth place, 1:07.45; Charley Osmun, fifth place, 1:19.22; **100-yard breaststroke**, Bartley, third place, 1:15.01; Brown, fifth place, 1:19.45; **50-yard freestyle**, Taylor, first place, 23.84; Rutenber, second place, 24.21; and Williams, fourth place, 25.60.

For **1-meter diving**, Hallet finished in first place with 248 points. McLaughlin finished in fourth place, 127.10, and Hardtke, fifth place, 120.75 points.

Clarkston hosted their final home meet of

the season and celebrated their six seniors during their 116-70 loss to North Farmington last Thursday.

Scoring points for Clarkston for relay events were: **200-yard freestyle relay** with Rutenber, Kurmaniak, Bartley, Taylor, first place, 1:36.99; **200-yard medley relay**, York, Brown, Bartley, Rutenber finished in second place, 1:54.66; and **400-yard freestyle relay**, Kurmaniak, York, Taylor, Williams, second place, 3:34.26.

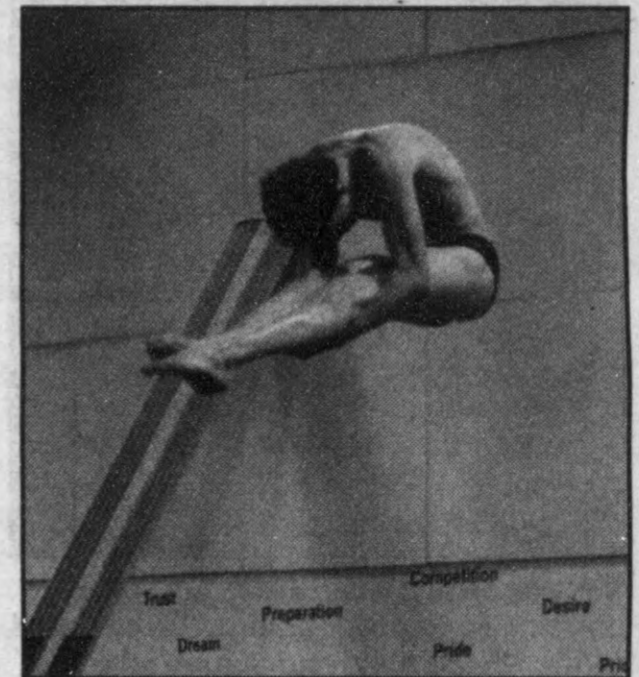
Scoring points in individual events: **500-yard freestyle**, York, second place, 5:52.72; Roodbeen, fifth place, 6:38.69; **200-yard freestyle**, Kurmaniak, third place, 1:58.26; York, fifth place, 2:08.9; **200-yard IM**, third place, 2:21.68; Bill Osmun, fifth place, 2:46.75; **100-yard butterfly**, Bartley, third place, 1:01.04; Williams, fourth place, 1:04.21; Kochanski, fifth place, 1:09.60; **100-yard freestyle**, Kurmaniak, first place, 52.63; Taylor, third place, 53.53; Rutenber, fifth place, 58.14; **100-yard backstroke**, Charley Osmun, fourth place, 1:16.36; Gipe, fifth place, 1:20.36; **100-yard breaststroke**, Bartley, third place, 1:13.50; Brown, fifth place, 1:20.55; and **50-yard freestyle**, Taylor, first place, 23.75; Rutenber, third place, 24.25.

For **1-meter diving**, Hallet finished first with 229.85 points. Hardtke finished in fourth

place with 119.50 points and McLaughlin finished in fifth place with 105.75 points.

"They did what they needed to to - come out, race and put in their best swim," Miller said.

The Wolves head to Lake Orion this Thursday, 6 p.m. Then, they are off to the Oakland County meet, Feb. 1-3, before heading to Berkley on Feb. 8.



Justin Hallet tops the diving event, finishing in first place against North Farmington.



Smiling seniors, from left, Felix Tran, Joe Morgan, Jarod Rutenber, Sam Gipe, Carter Kochanski and Cody Taylor.



Max Atterberry swims a lap in the 200-yard freestyle event in the Clarkston's meet against West Bloomfield, Jan. 11. Photos by Wendi Reardon Price

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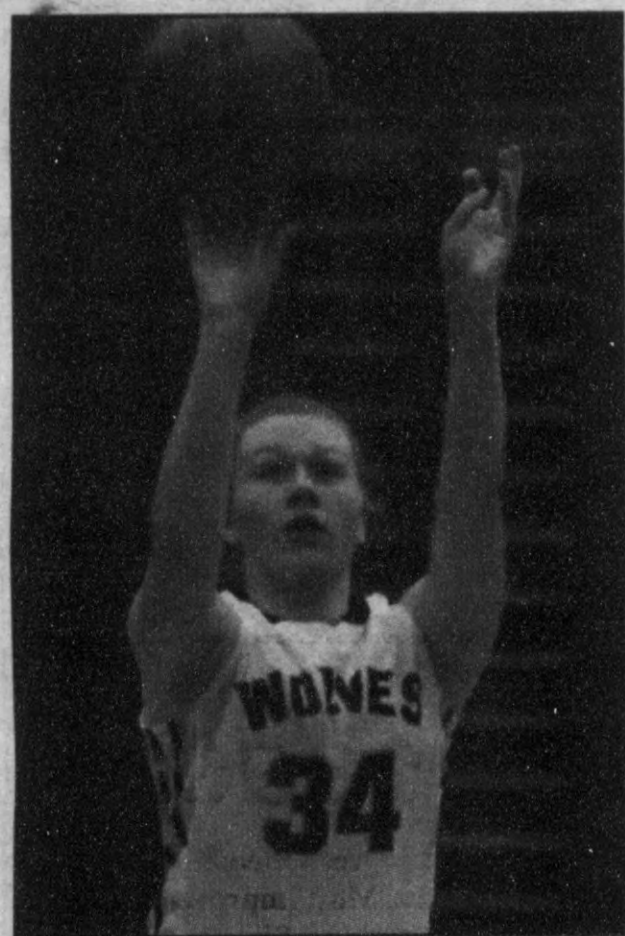
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# Come-from-behind win over Bloomfield Hills



Senior Molly Nicholson shoots from the line for a point against Bloomfield Hills. Photo by Wendi Reardon Price

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE

Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Wolves climbed out of a 9-point deficit against Bloomfield Hills last Thursday to win their OAA Red game, 43-39.

"It was a good win," said Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball Head Coach Christine Rogers. "We battled back."

Bloomfield Hills opened the game with the first basket and senior Molly Nicholson brought the Wolves into the lead with one point off a free throw and two more from a basket with an assist from sophomore Taylor Heaton.

The Blackhawks responded going on a 9-2 run before closing the quarter. Senior Kayla Luchenbach scored the two points to put the score, 11-5.

The Wolves tied the score within a few minutes of the second quarter with points off free throws from Nicholson and Luchenbach and a basket from Luchenbach.

The Wolves were sent to the line again where senior Maddie Beck scored one point to bring her team into the lead.

Bloomfield Hills fought back scoring on four field goal attempts to help boost them to a 27-18 lead as the half ended.

"We rode out their three-point barrage," Rogers said. "We knew they were going to hit a bunch. We just had to play through it. We did in the second half. We adjusted our defense a little bit. Everyone came out determined to win this game. It didn't matter if we came out at half time down by nine - we were determined to turn it around. People stepped up, had free throws, we took advantage of our height, and did what we needed to do to get the win."

Clarkston kept the Blackhawks to five points in the third half as they came back to score 16 to take the lead, 34-32.

Beck kept the momentum going starting the final quarter with a 3-point shot.

Bloomfield closed in with their own three point shot and a basket to tie the score at 37 points only to have it shortlived as Luchenbach broke the tie with her own basket.

The Blackhawks went for another 3-point attempt which Beck quickly blocked the ball before it could make it halfway to

the hoop with 3:20 remaining in the game.

Thirty-five seconds later their next attempt to score made it to the basket to tie the game at 39 points.

With a minute remaining, Nicholson put the Wolves back into the lead after using Heaton's rebound as a scoring opportunity. They added two more to the board with three seconds remaining off two free throws from Beck.

Luchenbach led the team with 15 points and had eight rebounds. Beck scored 13 points and had eight rebounds. Nicholson had nine points and Heaton had six points, off two field goals.

Bloomfield Hills' Maryam Hashim scored 20 points, with four field goals during the night.

Clarkston opened the week at Rochester Adams. They are back home when they host Stoney Creek on Friday. During the night, all money raised is donated to the Chad Tough Foundation.

They host Lake Orion on Tuesday, making up the cancelled game due to weather on Jan. 12.

JV begins at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.

# Grapplers defeat Dragons as icers shut out league foe

Clarkston Varsity Wrestling took down two OAA Red opponents last Wednesday as they faced Lake Orion and Rochester.

The Wolves defeated the Dragons, 43-29.

Clarkston won three of their matches with pins. Cole Wieggers had a fall over Nicholas Nowakowski at 3:50 in the 119-pound weight class; Ethan Polick (135) over Andrew Miller, 2:55; and Houston Hemingsen (140) over Austin Dolland, 3:14.

Anthony Welch (125) won his match over Jakob Gregg by a major decision, 12-2. Jake Billette (145) won his match over Dominic Orselli in a 11-5 decision.

Mac Hanselman (130), Adam Sprague (103), and Grady Castle (112) won their

matches with voids.

Clarkston also defeated Rochester, 52-9.

The Wolves won five of their matches with pins beginning with Castle (112) over Owen Fisher at 3:00. Wieggers (119) had a fall over Jordan Meacham, 1:29; Billette (145) over Giorgio Hama, 2:04; Ian Wilson (171) over Max Hale, 1:11; Rocco Spindler (285) over David Robinson, 2:52. Welch (125) added another four points as he won his match in a 10-1 major decision over Ian Carroll.

Also winning their matches, Hanselman (130) over Brandon Troy, 5-3; Polick (135) over Aidan Fitzgerald, 10-4; Hemingsen (140) over Ben Kable, 5-1; Carter Hoogewerf (152) over Christian Fortress, 7-0; Hayden Payne

(160) over Andrew Morales, 6-5; and Sprague (103) over Kavan Troy, 9-4.

Clarkston ended their week going 2-3 at the Gary Rivers Memorial Duals at Lowell High School last Saturday.

The Wolves head to the Oakland Macomb Duals this Saturday at Oxford High School, 9 a.m. They finish the regular season as they head to the OAA Red Championships on Feb. 1 at Rochester Adams, 4 p.m.

\*\*\*

The Clarkston Varsity Hockey team defeated Oxford/Avondale with a 8-0 win at Detroit Skating Club last Thursday.

Trevor Gilman led the team with three goals. Brandt Botterill had two goals. Nik

Highducheck had one goal and two assists, Austin McKay had one goal and one assist, and Daniel Milano had one goal. Brent Bachusz had two assists.

They lost to Grosse Ile during the OAA Metro Showcase, 8-3. Botterill scored two goals in the game and Highducheck had one goal. McKay, Gilman and Austin James had one goal each.

The Wolves host Walled Lake Northern on Thursday, 5:30 p.m. They host Jersey Give-away Night on Saturday when they host West Bloomfield. All kids who attend will receive a free alumni jersey.

The game begins at 8 p.m. at 888 Denison Court in Bloomfield Hills.

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Assistant Coach Steve Pearson shares a few stories.



Tieler Houston shares words with teammates, coaches and families. Photos by Kyle Hughes

## Stories shared of successful season

Gridiron heroes closed out the season sharing stories and favorite memories during their award banquet on Jan. 7.

Many shared the players have a lot to be proud of from the season and learned lessons they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

Awards for the 2017 MHSAA Division 1

Clarkston Varsity Football State Champion team are: **Most Valuable Player Offense**, Josh Cantu; **Most Valuable Player Defense**, Zach Scott and Gino Paese; **Coaches Award**, Teiler Houston and Michael Fluegel; **Hog of the Year**, Stewart Newblatt; **Heart Award**, Noah Nicklin; **Special Teams**, Jermaine Roemer and Tristan Mattson; **Unsung Hero**, Cameron Pass and Cody

Hughes; **Most Improved Offense**, Nate Uballe and Conner Heaton; **Most Improved Defense**, Javier Suggs and Anthony Simmons; **Student Athlete**, Josh Luther; **Scout Team**, Jack Holmes and Kobe Barragan; and **Rookies of the Year**, Rocco Spindler and Garrett Dellinger.

Congratulations on a "Never Give Up" season. We will see you in August!



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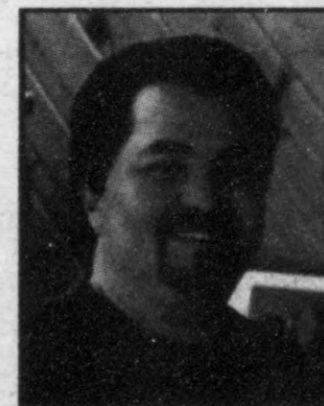
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# Daughter inspires mom to help hearts

BY PHIL CUSTODIO  
 Clarkston News Editor

Christina Schuetz of Clarkston has a mission — be the kind of woman her daughter Sylvia would have been.

"I believe she would be a woman who wanted to give her heart to people, figuratively, as she did literally to the CHD (Congenital Heart Disease) community," Christina said. "I want to be that kind of woman, to be a walking Sylvia on this Earth."

She moved to Clarkston with Sylvia, husband Evan, and daughter Lillian from Sterling Heights in July 2016. Three weeks later, Sylvia was hospitalized at Mott and required one of the most difficult pediatric open heart procedures possible.

Her left ventricle did not recover and she waited for a transplant for three months on life support before she passed away just a couple days shy of 10 months old on Oct. 11, 2016.

"Since Sylvia passed away, one of my major goals as her mom is to keep her legacy alive and one way I strive to do that is to bring awareness and funding to the CHD community," Christina said. "Feb. 7-14 is specifically CHD Awareness week."

February is Heart Disease Awareness month. Congenital Heart Disease is the most common disease amongst children, yet it is also one of the most underfunded and least acknowledged, she said.

"Sylvia was a pioneer in the CHD community in her short life and I believe that makes her a hometown hero, even if this was only her hometown for a few short months," Christina said.

Problems started during her pregnancy with Sylvia. At 18 weeks, her doctor had trouble seeing the baby's heart.

"My motherly instinct was something was wrong," Christina said. "I pressed a little bit. Maybe they saw a hole. That would be horrible enough. But everything was getting worse and worse. They had never before seen such a series of severe defects. It was an anomaly for sure."

The diagnosis of Congenital Heart Disease was difficult for the young family.

"It changed my whole pregnancy, obviously," she said.

Surgery would be difficult, but doctors felt it was possible, and, if successful, could allow Sylvia to live a fairly normal life.

She was born on Dec. 14, 2015, and her first open heart surgery, to put in a shunt, was two weeks later.

"The surgeon was the biggest blessing to us. He fell in love with Sylvia. The first surgery was as flawless as it could be," Christina said.

After the surgery, they had six months at home with Sylvia.

"Life was not normal, but it became our normal," she said.



Christina Schuetz with Sylvia.

A nurse came by every week and they had many hospital appointments, but if you looked at her, you would have no idea she was so sick, her mother said.

"She was beautiful. She was happy. Only if you saw her scar would you know she was sick," she said.

Then in June 2016, they were looking at homes and fell in love with one in Clarkston.

"Clarkston felt like home automatically. Our land is beautiful, walking in the field, sunlight shines on the lilies," she said. "I'm in love with it. I love the small town feel, with access to everything you need. It feels like it's back in time a little bit. I grew up like that and I wanted that for my kids."

The purchase was difficult, she said. "The previous owners, John and Cindy Williamson, liked us, and felt we were the right family. They chose our offer," she said.

The Williamsons got to meet Sylvia, among the few who did so because the baby was homebound.

"We were not allowed to take her out in public — a cold could be fatal," Christina said.

But the home routine was not to last. "I noticed she not acting her normal self. She was getting bluer and fussing a lot. I knew her shunt was starting to fail," Christina said.

They were told it would probably happen at about a year old, but it was seven months. The surgeon decided it was time for a Senning-Rastelli procedure, a double switch surgical correction of the heart's ventricles and valves to treat a combination of defects never seen before.

She had surgery on Aug. 1, 2016. The parents received updates every hour during the 8-9 hour surgery, which were encouraging.

"The surgery was difficult but they felt it was going well," Christina said.

Then a nurse came back and asked them to accompany her to "the room."

"I knew she was going to tell us something horrible. Good updates are in the open. 'The room' is only if something bad happened," Christina said. "It was no more than 20 feet. My feet felt so heavy. It was the longest walk of my life."

The baby's left ventricle was not pumping and she had to go on life support. Doctors hoped with some rest, maybe Sylvia's heart would recover, but that was not to be.

"She went off life support and would do well for a few hours, but then start to fade again," Christina said. "She coded a couple times in front of us. It was very difficult to see."

She was placed on the list for a heart transplant, but she suffered a stroke and an infection, and she passed away.

"Her body so tired by this point," Christina said. "She was fighting so very hard. She was so strong. She gave us hope several times, but it would always end with fever or sickness."

When a child is in the hospital on life support for months, a lot happens you don't notice, like its effect on appearance, she said.

"She looked like a doll, big blue eyes, a huge smile. When you look at pictures, you think about what it has done to your child," she said. "Despite it all, I could feel it was her. She was still fighting. She was still there."

She was under an incredible amount of sedatives, but she was still there under all of it, she said.

"If you put her finger in your hand, she would squeeze with every ounce of strength she had. It was incredible. That was Sylvia," she said.

Her doctor fought to convince his colleagues to allow him to try a donor stem cell treatment to regenerate cardiac tissue. The procedure was in use for adults, but not yet for children. His efforts were successful, but Sylvia passed away before it could take effect.

"My goal now is to make that easier to get, to make this therapy more accessible for pediatric treatment," Christina said. "She was the first, so there has to be a second, third, fourth. If it works for adults, why not for kids?"

Sylvia's doctors, nurses, and surgeons said she taught them more about CHD and her particular defects than they could have learned in years, Christina said.

"We donated her heart to research — hopefully they will learn even more," she said.

They are still in contact with a lot of her doctors and especially her nurses, who were with them every day.

"The nurses become your family. Her nurse was also her mom in my head,"

Please see Sylvia on page 15

# Sylvia's legacy lives on

Continued from page 14

Christina said. "The staff there (at CS Mott hospital in Ann Arbor) was just incredible. She was just incredible. She still is."

Her goal now is to give Sylvia's life purpose.

"I will never understand the reason why she is gone. There's nothing natural about losing a child. Every instinct you have is just shattered. It is work now to exist. A huge piece of my heart is missing and it always will be," Christina said. "My very strong faith gets me up in a morning. I know I will see her again, even if it's a long time to wait."

But she still has dark days when she feels stuck in muck.

"It's a delicate balance, the passion of the CHD community and also being so angry there are people who get to wake up with kids and I don't," she said. "I have to learn in therapy to take care of myself. It's hard. Grief is erratic, it's not a cycle. There is no rhyme or reason to grief, not a pretty set of stages. It depends on the day."

A psychologist helping her asked what was the number one thing intimidating her.

"It was waking up every day knowing your child will die before you do. What a daunting thought for a parent. What scared me was living life without her," Christina said.

Reaching out and pressing for more CHD research for kids still in need of help is a way to do that.

"Any chance to speak publicly, I take," she said. "Sylvia was a pioneer. The only way I can actively parent her now is to tell her story. She would have been an incredibly generous woman. She was amazing."

Rowan was born on Sept. 13, 2017. Doctors said Sylvia's condition was not heredity—"they called it a big, horrible fluke," Christina said—so they shouldn't worry about their son.

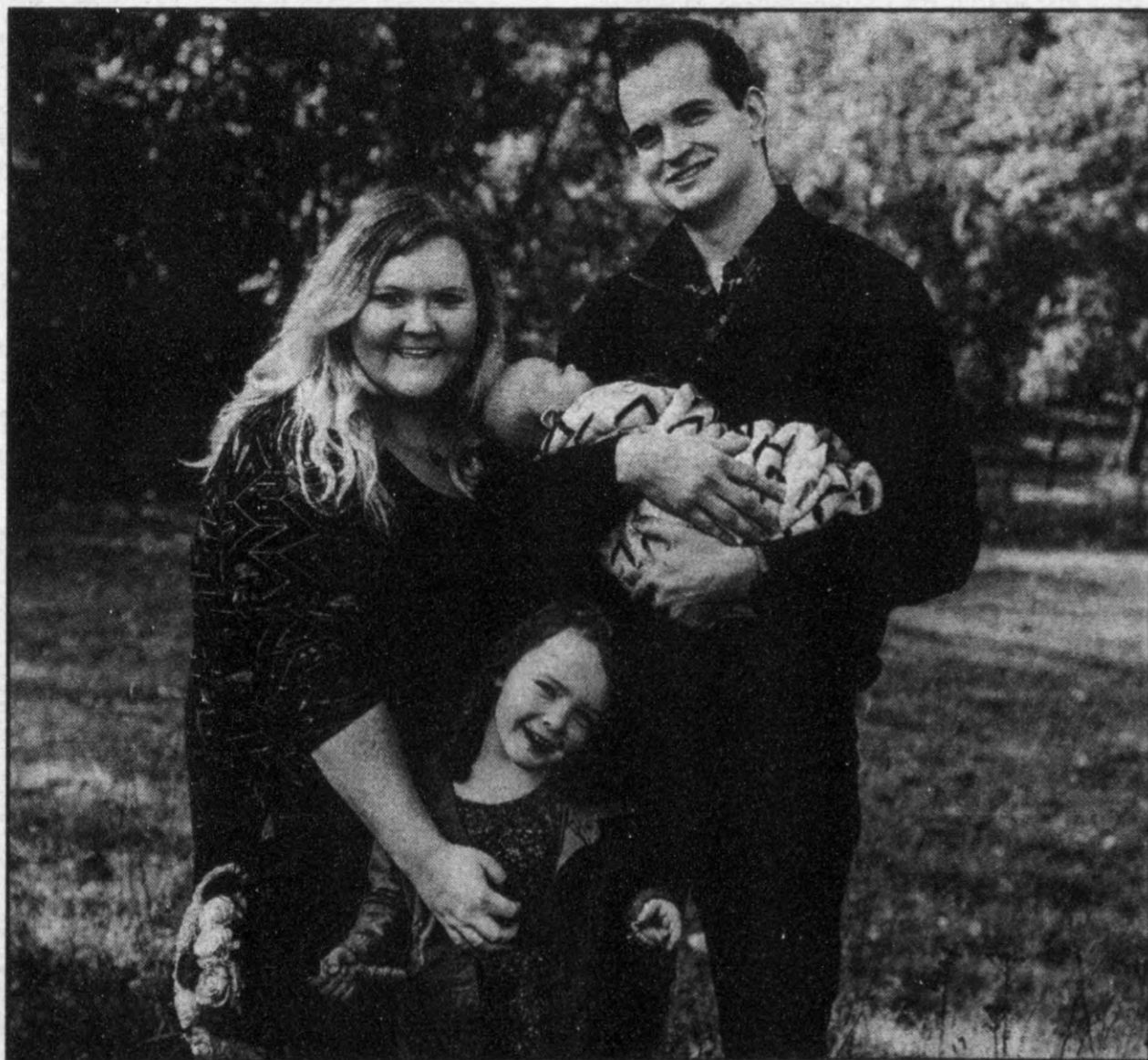
"He looks exactly like Sylvia, the same mannerisms, her smile," Christina said. "We have a little glimpse of her in him. He's such a happy baby. The hole doesn't get filled, but he added a piece to my heart I didn't know I needed."

But when asked, she tells people she is the mother of three.

"One is just waiting for me," she said.

Sylvia is buried in Lakeview cemetery in Clarkston, which they noticed when looking for a new home.

"What a beautiful cemetery—that's where we'll be eventually," Christina said. "Placing her here didn't give me any anxiety. God gave us the opportunity to live here, to put our roots down just before she passed away."



The Schuetz family, Christina and Evan and their children Lillian and Rowan. The purple flowers are in Sylvia's memory. "Sylvia's color is purple," Christina said. "Every single person who came to her celebration of life service wore purple. This bouquet of wooden flowers was given to me by my best friend, Kristina, after Sylvia passed. She knew I'd get a lot of flowers and wanted me to have a bouquet of purple ones that would never die—just like Sylvia's legacy." Photo provided by Ericka Mae Photography



**CELEBRITY SIGNINGS:** Young fans line up for autographs from their favorite Clarkston Boys Varsity Wolves at last Friday's game, an annual event for the team. Photo by Wendi Reardon Price

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## Wolf visit treat for wolf fan

Continued from page 1  
"wolf pack."

The teaching team at Andersonville won local awards for their efforts to tap into Cal's wolf passion as a learning tool. They also give positive reinforcement by offering "Paw Points" and a "wolf den" of prizes. Inspired by Cal's passion, Young suggested the family visit the Seacrest Wolf Preserve in Florida, and showed a video of visitors at Seacrest interacting with the wolves.

After months of saving, planning, and discussions with Seacrest workers, Cal got to interact with real wolves with his family. The 1,000-mile drive was tough, but well worth it, Brandy said.

Being raised by humans since birth, "human imprinted," the wolves were conditioned to behave well around people.

To ensure visitors' and wolves' safety and comfort, rules included no fur or leather, and long sleeve shirts were recommended.

"You're not allowed to wear a jacket, because if you have anything with strings or that makes noise, the wolves think it's a toy," Brandy said. "You can only have a sweatshirt."

Other requirements included minimum size and age - 10 years old.

"You need to be a certain size because they are so big, they could knock you over, and they don't mean to, but they are big and kind of puppy-ish," Brandy explained.

The private tour made it easier for Mcallister and the whole family.

"The entire time the caveat was, 'If at any time, we feel like your family is unsafe, say if Cal is starting to spiral backward or he doesn't listen, we have to take you out, and that's it,'" she said.

In two-and-a-half hours, the family visited four enclosures at Seacrest; two wolf packs, arctic fox, and silver fox. They also visited some raccoons and other animals. Brandy said despite the challenging issues and not

much training or experience with special needs children, the tour guides handled the Keippalas' adventure with professionalism, patience, and caution, which is just what Cal needed.

"They just really took their time with Cal," she said. "If he was getting too excited, they would say, 'we need to calm down. We can't stay in here because it's not safe for you.' Cal really responds like a pack member, so if you kind of treat him like a dog, with single, clear, commands, he responds really well a lot of the time. He was trying really hard because, of course, he didn't want to mess up and miss out on anything."

The youngest of the Keippala pack, Therrien, 8, said although his favorite animal was the ocelot, he was happy to make the acquaintance of the famous wolves.

"I did like petting the wolves," he said. "It was fun and it was nice meeting real live wolves. I don't necessarily like to travel but it was nice going out of Michigan and exploring more."

He added he didn't mind receiving fewer Christmas presents so they could take the vacation.

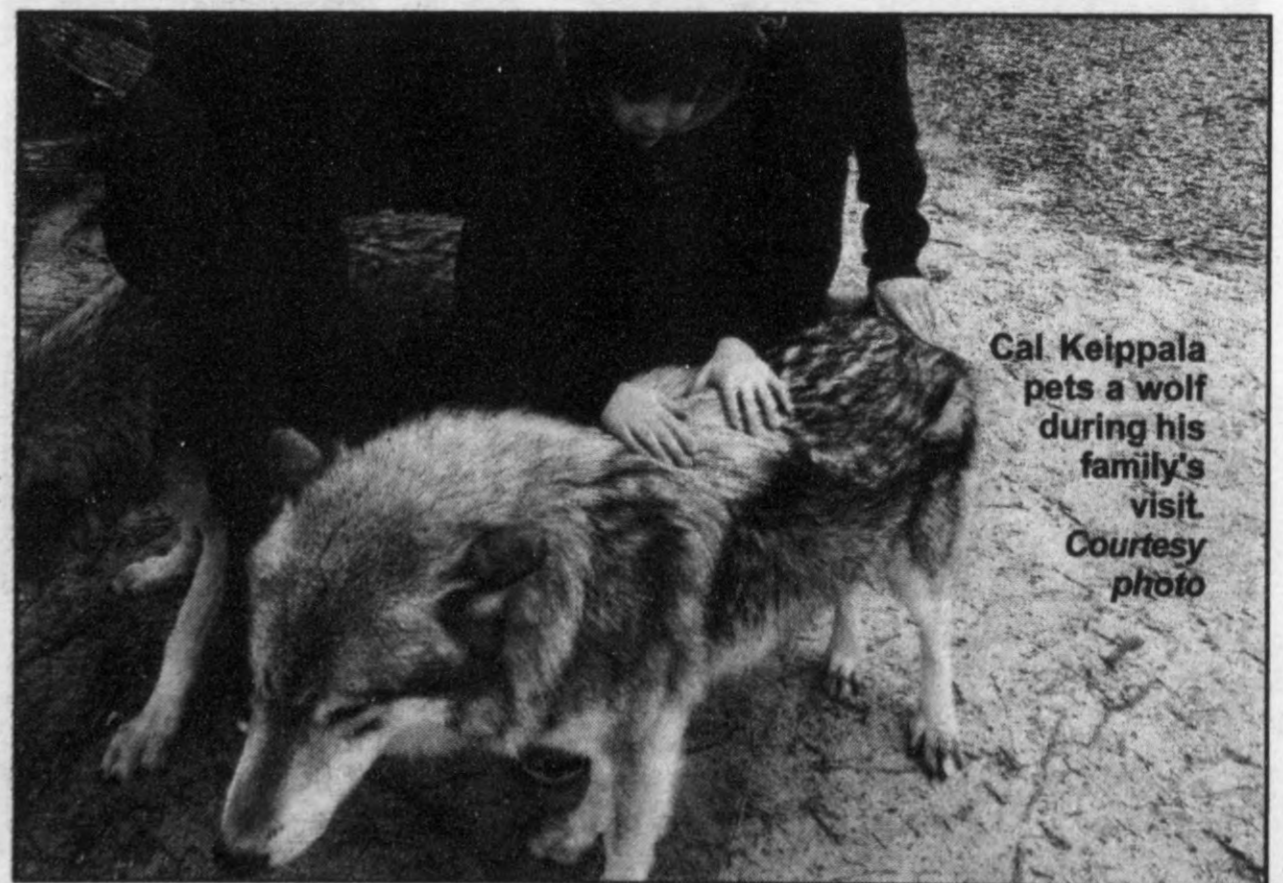
Brandy said Therrien is currently writing a paper on the ocelot, his favorite animal, and wolf facts in school.

"I thought it was a really cool and I was pretty excited," said Cal's sister, Halliwell, 14.

"They want people to experience wolves, but they are very safety oriented and I liked that," said John Keippala, Brandy's husband and Cal's dad.

The trip also included some pitstops. In Cincinnati, they visited friends and the Cincinnati Zoo; Opryland Hotel in Nashville; and Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky.

After Chipley and the wolf preserve, they stopped in Atlanta and visited the Georgia Aquarium.

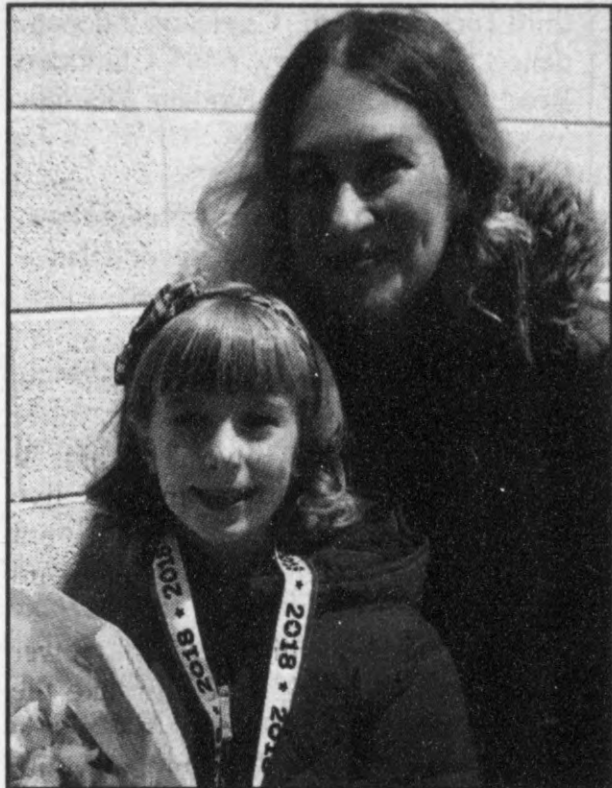


Cal Keippala pets a wolf during his family's visit. Courtesy photo

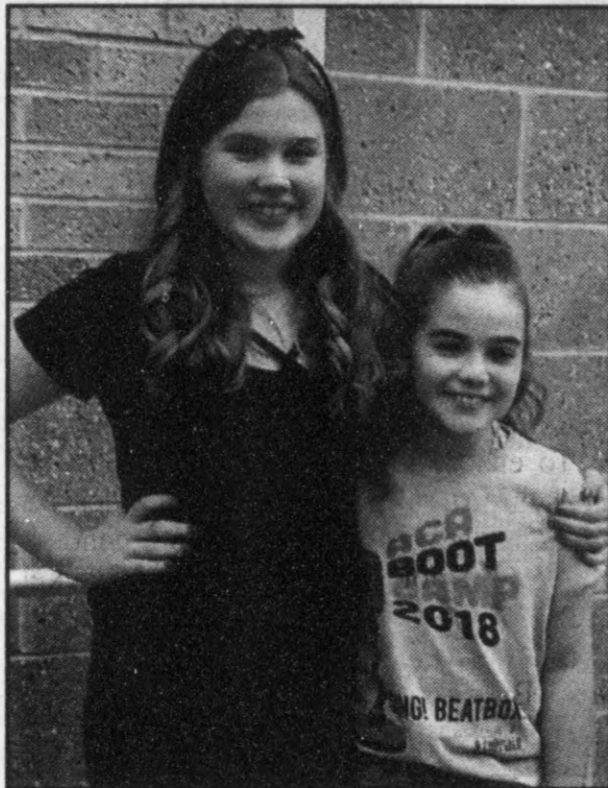


# The Clarkston News' Millstream

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



Emerson Rinke, first place winner in the K-1-2 Division with her mom after the show.



Singing sisters Gracie Leahy, with Encore, and Kenzie Leahy, with ACA Boot Camp.



First place Clarkston Idol winners, from left, Keith Garrison, Sammie Carpentier, Emerson Rinke, Paige Colby, and Haley Phillips. Photos by Brenda Dominick

## Magical night at Clarkston Idol

BY BRENDA DOMINICK  
Clarkston News Staff Writer

The Clarkston Idol LIVE Show was about friendly competition, very talented kids singing, and a bit of dancing as well, Jan. 13.

The Masters of Ceremony were Kelsey Phillips and Brady Stewart, who are members of Detroit Voice.

Emerson Rinke sang a song called "L-O-V-E" by Nat King Cole, a song her mom, Lauren, said she has sang to Emerson at bedtime since she was a baby. After the show, Emerson shared comments about her experience.

"I felt surprised and excited when they called my name for first place. It feels awesome and I feel proud," she said.

Keith Garrison sang a song called "Praying" by Kesha while playing ukulele, which he picked up last summer.

"I was excited about being in the Clarkston Idol," Garrison said after the show. "I love to sing. I love all of the people who were there. There was an A Cappella thing added this year I did it for the first time. I love the friendships I've made."

Sammie Carpentier sang "Skinny Love," a piano ballad by Birdy. After the show she explained why she chose the song.

"I really had to practice hard and I had to choose the right song for my voice,"

Carpentier said. "I guess that's a part of it (training), too."

"Last year, I did 'Mad about Angels' (by Birdy), and it was a good song for my voice," she said. "I tried to go with the same artist since she has a high voice and that's what I have."

Paige Colby sang "Wasted Time," by the Eagles. Colby thanked her mom for all of her love and support and for inspiring her to be the best she could be. She also had some very humble and candid comments about winning first place at Clarkston Idol.

"I was not expecting it, that's for sure," Colby laughed. "It was my first time ever doing it. I was a nervous wreck beforehand, not really expecting to get first or second. My voice wasn't how it usually is because my throat was screwed up that day. The girl who won second is usually in first anyways, so I didn't expect to be any better than her."

Haley Phillips, tenth grader, sister to Kelsey Phillips, sang "Jolene" by Dolly Parton.

"This is my fifth year in it. I've won sixth grade and ninth grade. I was kind of surprised when I won this year," Haley said. "I love Dolly Parton. My dad listens to a lot of old songs, so I've pretty much heard all of them."

Although Haley just began playing guitar

a year and a half ago, she played very skillfully while singing at the show.

When asked about practicing singing and playing guitar, she said, "yeah it took a while to learn."

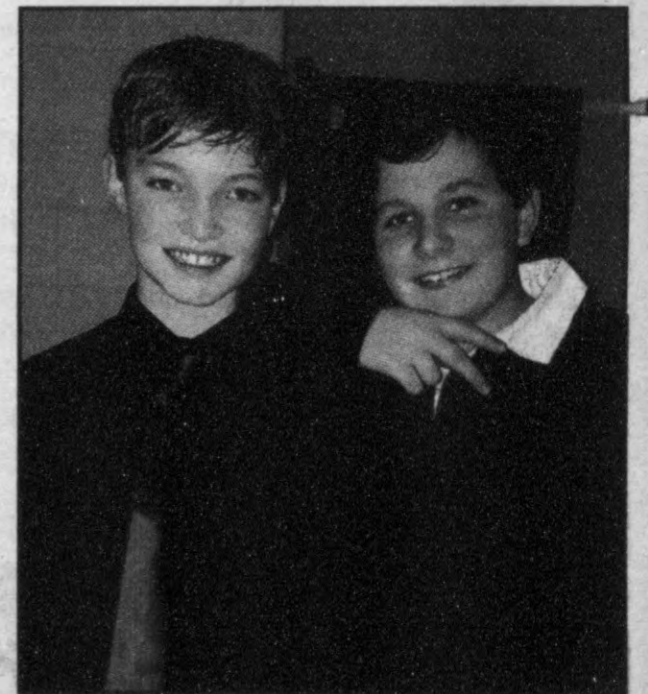
Additionally at Idol, there were amazing performances by Maddy Kopsch, a Clarkston A cappella singer and Clarkston High School sophomore, and exciting beat box, singing, and dancing performances by Detroit Voice, Clarkston A Cappella, Synergy and Encore groups.

Kopsch sang and played guitar which was original acoustic music for three songs she wrote herself

The audience showed overwhelming support for all of the singers by cheering, singing along, tapping their feet, and clapping to the beats. Choral Director Brian Haverkate was in awe and all smiles as he proudly watched the performers on the side stage.

The judges at the show included Chad Schon, Christopher Brody, Kyle Harwood, and Kayla Aue. These judges made up 70 percent of the votes, and live Twitter polls made up 30 percent of the votes.

First-place winners are Emerson Rinke, second grade, North Sashabaw Elementary; Keith Garrison, fifth grade, Pine Knob Elementary; Sammie Carpentier, sixth grade,



Encore singer Max Izydorek and Ricky Rottach dazzled the audience at Clarkston Idol

Sashabaw Middle School; Paige Colby, ninth grade, Clarkston Junior High School; and Haley Phillips, tenth grade, CHS.

Second place winners are Izzy Wheeler, Kindergarten, Sashabaw Plains Elementary; Camryn Farrell, third grade, SPE; Lena Richardson, sixth grade, SMS; Abby Mundy, eighth grade, CJH; and Anna Cyr, tenth grade, CHS.

Third place winners are Stella Shires, first grade, Independence Elementary; Avery Phillips, fifth grade, SPE; Aubrey Drouin, sixth grade, SMS; Destiny Daniels, seventh grade, SMS; and Reilly Kerrigan, 12th grade, CHS.

**Events**

**Pizza and Preplan**, 11:30 a.m. or 6 p.m., Jan. 24, Coats Funeral Home, 8909 Dixie Highway. Info on memorialization options, Q&A, free pizza. 248-962-3386.

\*\*\*

**Christmas tree recycling** through Jan. 29, Independence Oaks; Springfield Oaks, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. No charge, but plastic, tinsel and wire must be removed. No commercial trees accepted. OaklandCountyParks.com.

**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/ members, \$4/non-members.

\*\*\*

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

**Tuesday**

**Wint's Healing Hearts** Grief Support Group for all ages for those who have recently lost a loved one, Tuesday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m. Topic: "What should I be doing to help myself?" Led by a bereavement counselor for Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home, Clarkston. Carriage House in Clintonwood Park. Walk-ins welcome, free. 248-625-5231.

\*\*\*

**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.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

**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.

\*\*\*

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

# Around Town

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



With Valentine's Day in just a few weeks, Debbie Kenrick of Commerce Township checks out some cards at Essence on Main, 4 South Main Street, in downtown Clarkston. Photo by Brenda Dominick

**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, 7:30-9 a.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Free. Facebook.com/coffeeclubmi, and www.clarkstoncoffeeclub.com.

\*\*\*

**Coffee and Conversation**, April 19, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, Clintonwood Park. \$1.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

**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.

**Saturday**

**Project Kidsight**, free vision screening for children, Clarkston Area Lions Club, second Saturday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Independence District Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Photos

## 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.

\*\*\*

**Clarkston Optimist Club**, 7:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesdays, American Legion Post 63, 8047 Ortonville Road, north of I-75, 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.

taken of child's eyes to check for potential vision problems. Immediate results. 248-625-2212, www.clarkstonlions.org.

\*\*\*

**Upwards Basketball** for K4-eighth grade, Dixie Baptist Church, 8585 Dixie Highway. Evaluation/practice, Feb. 17, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.; or Feb. 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m. First practice, March 13, games start March 17, and continues on Saturdays through April. Register at the church or at https://registration.upward.org/UPW64983, \$70. Call Heather, 248-625-2270.

**Volunteer opportunities**

**Avalon Hospice**, sit with patients, hold their hand, listen to stories, personal care, or just be there. Two hours a week or more. 800-664-6334; **McLaren Hospice**, not-for-profit, companionship-type for patients living with terminal illness, 248-320-0106. **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Oakland County**, 55+, opportunities at hospitals, cultural institutions, food pantries, tutoring. 248-559-1147 ext. 3911; **Meals on Wheels**, for homebound elderly or handicapped individuals in Independence Township and Clarkston, 248-625-8231.

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



**SHIVER BY THE RIVER**  
Saturday, January 27 1-4 pm  
Celebrate winter in Clarkston at Depot Park with games, food, and fun.

**MEGA MINECRAFT COMPETITION**  
Monday, January 29 4 pm  
Join us for our new Mega Minecraft Competition. Ages 10 and up! Registration is required

**WEIRD FOOD TASTE TEST TEEN TUESDAYS**  
Monday, January 30 6 pm  
Curious about cinnamon spice oreos? Or pickle flavored chips? We will be doing a bracket of taste tests to see which strange flavor foods are the best...or worst! Our monthly teen event created by teens for teens! Registration required.

# Religion

Events Preaching

## God completes human puzzle

Well, I finally finished my Christmas puzzle. For many years now my mother-in-law has sent me jigsaw puzzles for Christmas. I enjoy the mental exertion and the concentrated effort they require.

This is especially calming in the relatively quiet time between the holidays, after the busy run up to Christmas Eve and before the New Year begins.

This puzzle was exceptionally difficult for me. It had very little in the way of ley lines such as trees or buildings or fences to follow.

It was mostly vines and bushes and flowers with not much in the way of continuous structure to guide me.

An added difficulty I soon learned was most of the pieces could essentially fit almost anywhere.

Occasionally I would realize a piece I was trying to fit in went where a piece already was.

Removing the almost perfectly fitting piece I would then notice the nearly imperceptible differences in shape and color it had had with the correct piece.

I was triumphantly nearing the end, placing the final pieces, when a loud groan was heard by all in the house.

With victory nearly at hand, in those last satisfying moments when all the pieces just begin to fall into place, I came to a point where I had six pieces left and six holes but none of the pieces fit in any of the holes.

Determined to complete my task I closely examined the pieces around each hole, noticing minor inconsistencies in color or shape, I would remove the offending piece(s) and rearrange them so the missing pieces would fit in.

My wife found all of this especially funny. She could barely contain her giddiness.

She had been struggling with putting together her lesson for Sunday. Now she had what she called the perfect metaphor for life, the missing piece for her talk. I'm still processing my frustration.

This does remind me of the story of the woman who was given a puzzle with a picture of the world on it.

She had great difficulty putting it together, the picture didn't have all the artificial lines that you normally see on maps and the pieces were all the same shape.

Eventually she noticed there was the picture of a man on the back. Once she got the man together the world just naturally came together. Now that's a metaphor even I can understand.

Collectively, we are all a necessary piece of the puzzle. Every man, every woman, every child is a necessary part of the whole.

Every church, every state, every religion, every political point of view is an essential piece of the puzzle.

We are stronger because of our diversity. God is too big to fit inside of one religion; we need everyone in order to see the big picture.

Individually, I know when I finally get myself together, when I am clear on my goals and intentions, my world comes together with abundant support.

It begins when I get myself centered in an awareness of the greater reality I call God, when I take the time to be holy. Prayer helps me to focus my mind and heart on this greater reality.

Meditation lifts my soul into an experience of my connection with the Divine Mind and increases my conscious awareness of God, of good, in every aspect of my life.

With a conscious awareness of God as my Source, I know all I need and desire is readily provided. I know this is true for me and for you as well.

Invest your time in being holy; realize your wholeness. Invest your talents in helping others; realize the peace that surpasses understanding. Invest your tithe in supporting your spiritual source; realize the abundant life that is God's will for you.

Please know and affirm with us, "I am happy, whole and free just as God created me to be!"

*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

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLARKSTON

5972 Paramus, Clarkston  
(248) 625-3380  
Located 2 blks. N. of Dixie Hwy. (E. of M-15)  
Pastor: Russell Reermsma  
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)

### THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston  
(248) 394-0200  
Rev. Tim Chappell  
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Children's Ministries: 10:00 am  
Nursery Available During Service  
Youth Group Sunday 6:00pm  
Multiple Bible Studies  
Call for days and times  
[www.fcclarkston.com](http://www.fcclarkston.com)

### 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](http://www.sainttrinitylutheran.com)  
e-mail: [sttrinity@comcast.net](mailto:sttrinity@comcast.net)  
CABLE BROADCAST WORSHIP SCHEDULE -  
Clarkston CATV-10 Sun. 2:00 pm, Thurs. 9:00 pm  
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](mailto:sttrinityps@comcast.net)  
Programs for 3 & 4 year olds

### 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](http://www.clarkstoncommunity.com)

### CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston  
(248) 625-1611  
Website: [www.clarkstonumc.org](http://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](http://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.

### BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH

[www.bridgewoodchurch.com](http://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](http://bridgewoodchurch.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](http://www.calvaryinfo.org)

### 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

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

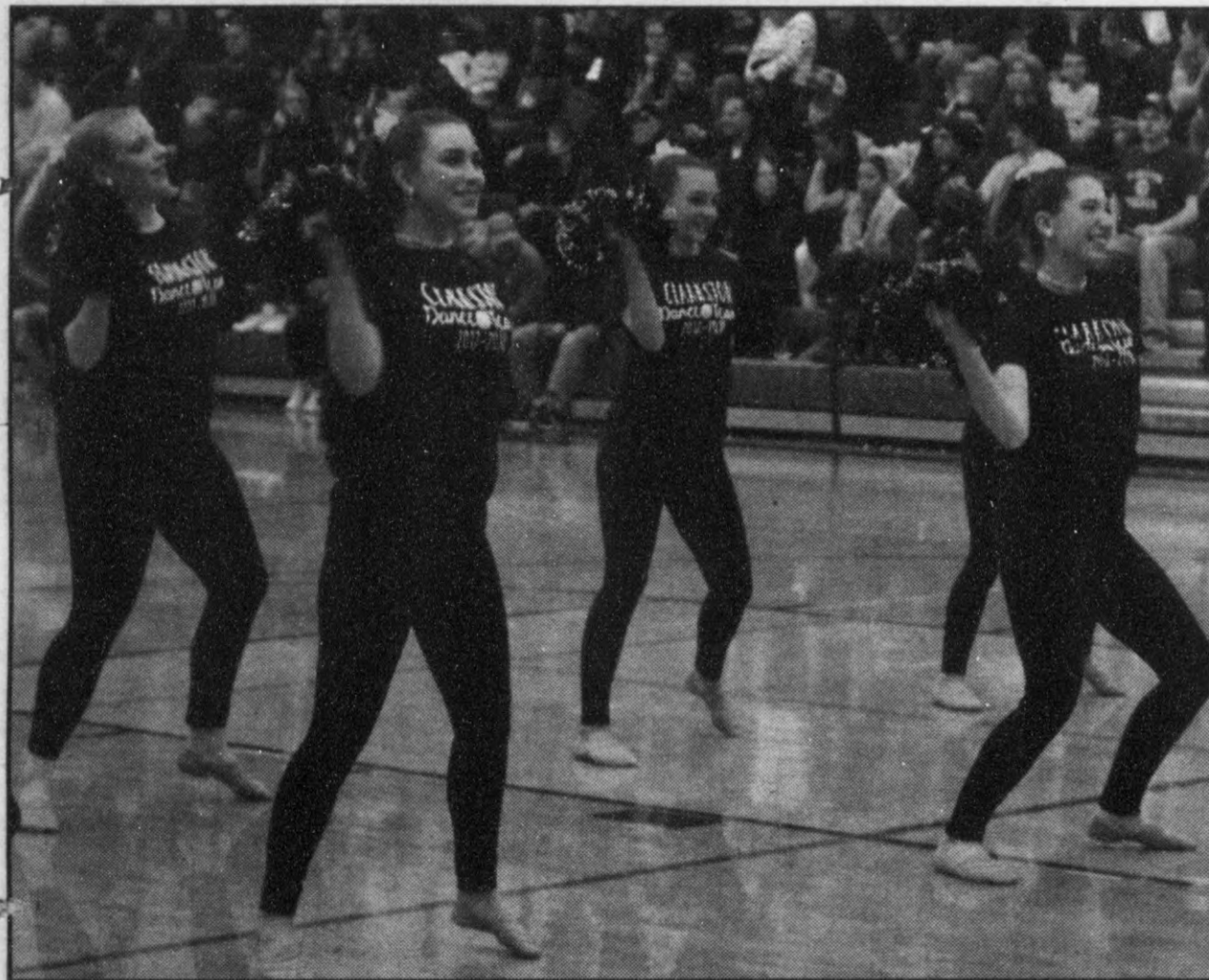
6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston  
Holy Eucharist - 10:00 am  
(248) 625-2325  
Reverend Heather Barta  
[www.clarkstonepiscopal.com](http://www.clarkstonepiscopal.com)  
Christmas Eve 4:00 pm

### KENSINGTON CHURCH

6595 Waldon Rd., Clarkston  
Website - [www.kensingtonchurch.org](http://www.kensingtonchurch.org)  
(248) 786-0600  
Services:  
9:00 & 10:30 am  
Childcare for birth through 5th Grade,  
9am and 10:30am  
Middle School Program, Sunday 10:30am  
High School program, Sunday 6:00-8:00pm

### WAYPOINT CHURCH

8400 Dixie Hwy, Clarkston  
Website - [www.waypoint.org](http://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



**TIME OUT FOR DANCE:** The Clarkston Varsity Dance team performs as the Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball players take a time out during the second half of their game last Friday. *Photo by Wendi Reardon Price*

**STATE OF MICHIGAN FILE NO:  
PROBATE COURT 2018-380, 754-DE  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate**

Estate of Claude William Parker. Date of birth: 11/11/1927  
**TO ALL CREDITORS:** including Ernest G. Parker, whose whereabouts is unknown.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Claude William Parker, died 1/6/2018

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Lon D. Livingston & Mark J. Livingston, 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.

01-12-2018

Lon Dale Livingston/Mark J. Livingston  
4840 Huston Drive/3887 Thomas Road  
Orion, Michigan 48359/Oxford, Michigan 48371

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Because the People Want to Know  
**OAKLAND CONSERVATION**  
**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING**  
**AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**  
**OAKLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

To all residents of the Oakland Conservation District, notice is hereby given that on the 28th day of March, 2018, at the Lookout Lodge, in the town of Waterford located at 1702 Scott Lake Rd. Waterford, MI 48328, an Annual Meeting and Directors Election will be held. On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 2018 being at least 45 days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting, absentee ballots are available for voting in the election by writing to or calling the Conservation District Office located at 7150 Dixie Hwy, Suite #2, Clarkston, MI 48346, phone number 248-922-7822, during the regular business hours of the District which are between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:30 pm. For more information regarding time and costs, please call the number listed above. RSVP is required.

Residents are individuals of legal age who can demonstrate residency in the Conservation District via one piece of identification.

Patrick Costello, Director

**OAKLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**OAKLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S**  
**SPRING TREE SALE**

The Oakland Conservation District's Spring Tree & Shrub Sale is scheduled for April 28, 2018 at the Waterford Oaks Greenhouse with pick up between 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Trees and shrubs offered are bare root. For more information, please call 248-922-7822 or go to [www.oaklandconservationdistrict.org](http://www.oaklandconservationdistrict.org).

**TO ALL CREDITORS**

The Settlor, VIRGINIA R. JOHNSON, date of birth 4/26/1927, who lived at 217 Reymon Road, Waterford, MI 48327. There is no personal representative of the Settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

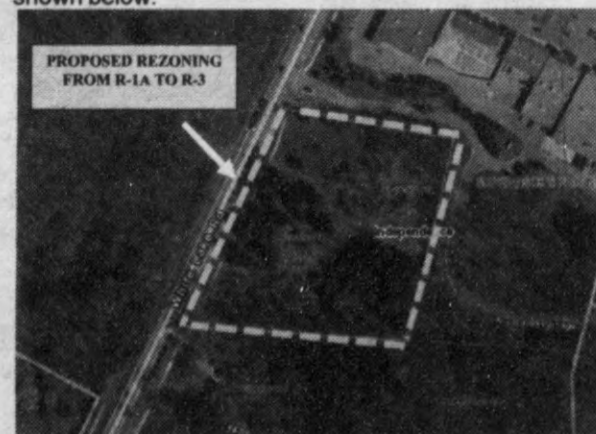
Creditor of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Revocable Living Trust of Virginia R. Johnson dated February 21, 2014, as amended, will be forever barred unless presented to Kathryn M. Caruso, Esq., 6480 Citation Dr., Clarkston, Michigan 48346 or Kathryn M. Caruso, Successor Trustee, 6480 Citation Dr., Clarkston Michigan 48346 within four months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

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

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE**  
**NOTICE OF PROPOSED**  
**ZONING ORDINANCE**  
**MAP AMENDMENT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That at a regular meeting of the Charter Township of Independence Board of Trustees held on January 9, 2018, the Township Board approved a First Reading and authorized a Second Reading of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map for 5850 White Lake Road from R-1A Single Family Residential to R-3 Elderly Housing Residential located on the east side of White Lake Road, south of Dixie Highway as shown below:



The motion to approve this rezoning was moved by Trustee Ritchie, Seconded by Trustee Aliaga. The vote on the motion was as follows: Yes: 6; Absent: Loughrin; No: 0. The motion carried.

**PUBLISHED:** January 24, 2018

Barbara A. Pallotta, Township Clerk

**Who To Call**  
**\$8<sup>95</sup>/Week\***

Service Providers In Your Area

\*Based on pre-paid 17-week contract. Call The Clarkston News at 248-625-3370. Deadline noon Thursday prior to publication. Reach Homes & 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.

**CHIROPRACTOR**

**RUMPH**  
Chiropractic Clinic  
OFFICE  
5732 Williams Lake Rd.  
Waterford  
248-673-1215

**CLEANING**

**LMA**  
Cleaning Service  
Residential:  
Weekly/Bi-weekly  
Commercial Offices  
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**CONSTRUCTION**

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**MOSCOVIC**  
BUILDING CO., LLC  
New Homes &  
Major Renovations  
A DESIGN BUILD  
COMPANY  
[www.mosovicbuilding.com](http://www.mosovicbuilding.com)

**DRYWALL**

Licensed Insured  
**Tim Kerr**  
Drywall  
Specializing in Drywall, Repairs,  
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**FREE ESTIMATES**  
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**HANDYMAN**  
**Fixed in a Flash**  
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Fast, Friendly Service  
Over 15 Yrs. Experience  
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**CABINETS**  
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Heating & Cooling Inc.  
Licensed/Insured  
Furnaces Air Conditioning  
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**PURE**  
**COMFORT LLC**  
HEATING and  
AIR CONDITIONING  
CLARKSTON, MI  
248-390-2688  
[michiganpurecomfort.com](http://michiganpurecomfort.com)

**PAINTING**

**JR's**  
**CREATIVE**  
**PAINTING**  
Quality Workmanship  
• Interior • Exterior  
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Your local Clarkston  
Painter for over 20 years  
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Quality Work • Insured  
Repair/Replace:  
Faucets • Toilets  
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**BB**  
**Sewer**  
Since 1942  
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**TANKS PUMPED**  
All Plugged  
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**SANITATION, INC.**

Installation Residential  
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Lapeer Counties  
Year Round Service  
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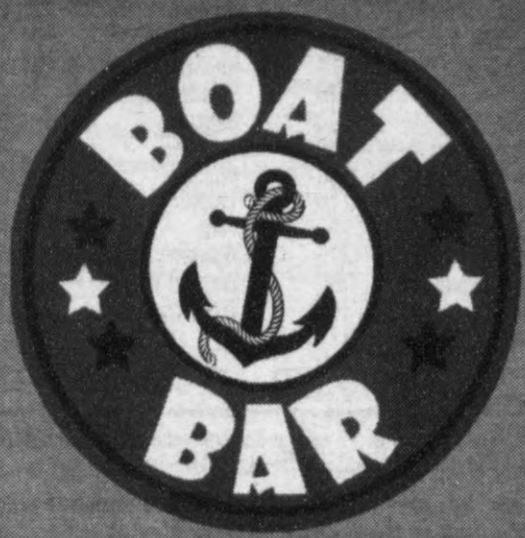
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WELL  
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# GREAT BANDS

EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY

- ✓ FRIDAY, JAN 26 Super Fakers
- ✓ SATURDAY, JAN 27 Rachel Rae Band, The Banned
- ✓ FRIDAY, FEB 2 Super Fakers
- ✓ SATURDAY, FEB 3 Super Fakers
- ✓ FRIDAY, FEB 9 Volcanic Funk
- ✓ SATURDAY, FEB 10 Exit 69
- ✓ FRIDAY, FEB 16 Static
- ✓ SATURDAY, FEB 17 Static
- ✓ FRIDAY, FEB 23 Seventh Alley
- ✓ SATURDAY, FEB 24 Jolt

## CHANCE TO WIN



# 55" SMART TV

Guess the ending score. Must be present entire game to win.



## FAN-TASTIC FOOTBALL SPECIALS

Sunday, Feb 4, 2018

Party Starts at 5pm

Kick Off at 6:30pm

**\$1.50 CONEYS** FLINT STYLE

**\$4 PITCHERS PBR**

**DRINK SPECIALS**

**FULL MENU AVAILABLE**

## PLAY KENO HERE!

Play all your favorite Michigan Lottery games here!

THEBOATBAR.COM



**OPEN DAILY**  
7AM-2PM • 7DAYS/WK

**CARRY OUTS**  
WELCOME

2000 Ortonville Rd., Ortonville • 248-627-4419

The Oxford Leader - The Clarkston News - The Lake Orion Review - Ad-Vertiser - Penny Stretcher

# CLASSIFIEDS

5 Papers-2 Weeks-\$15.00 - Over 50,900 Homes  
10 WORDS (50¢ EACH ADDITIONAL WORD) (Commercial accounts \$9.00 a week)

## VERIFICATION

Ad-vertiser,  
Penny Stretcher,  
The Citizen

**CONDITIONS**  
All advertising in Sherman Publications, Inc. is subject to the conditions in the applicable rate card or advertising contract, copies of which are available from the Ad Dept. The Oxford Leader, P.O. Box 108, 666 S. Lapeer Rd., Oxford, MI 48371 (248-628-4801), The Lake Orion Review, 30 N. Broadway, Lake Orion, MI 48362 (248-693-8331) or The Clarkston News, 5 S. Main, Clarkston, MI 48346 (248-625-3370). This newspaper reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Antiques & Collectibles	150	General	170	Pets	200
Appliances	160	Greetings	020	Produce	040
Auctions	090	Help Wanted	360	Real Estate	310
Auto Parts	240	Holiday Items	010	Rec. Equipment	180
Bus. Opportunities	330	Horses	220	Rec. Vehicles	280
Card of Thanks	380	Household	130	Rentals	290
Cars	250	In Memoriam	400	Services	410
Child Care	340	Lawn & Garden	080	Trucks	270
Computers	140	Livestock	210	Tutoring/Lessons	070
Craft Shows	120	Lost & Found	190	Vans	260
Farm Equipment	230	Manufactured Homes	320	Wanted	030
Firewood	050	Musical Instruments	060	Wanted To Rent	300
Free	100	Notices	390	Work Wanted	350
Garage Sales	110	Personals	370		

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

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

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

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

## 030 WANTED

**CASH FOR Cars:** We buy any condition vehicle, 2002 and newer. Competitive offer! Nationwide Free pick up! Call now for a free Quote! 888-366-5659! I!CPM1

**SIMPSONS AUTO PARTS** We buy all unwanted vehicles. Top dollar paid. 248-681-5135. I!LZ74

**LOOKING FOR** Repairable cars/ trucks. Up to \$5,000 cash paid. Quick pick up. 810-724-7647, 810-338-7770. I!LZ84

**DONATE YOUR car** to charity. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pick up. Call for details. 855-413-9672 I!CPM1

## 050 FIREWOOD

READERS  
THIS PUBLICATION

does not knowingly accept advertising which is deceptive, fraudulent, or which might otherwise violate the law or accepted standards of taste. However, this publication does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of any advertisement, nor the quality or quantity of the goods or services advertised. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all claims made in any advertisement and to use good judgement and reasonable care, particularly when dealing with person unknown to you who ask for money in advance of delivery of the goods or services advertised or the advertised price is suspect. I!LZdhtf

**SEASONED FIREWOOD**, \$60 face cord. Oak, cherry, maple. Free delivery. 248-460-6884. I!C292

## 060 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

**NEW AND USED GUITARS**, acoustic and electric and accessories. Oxford School of Music. 248-572-4881. I!LZ44tfn

## 070 TUTORING/ LESSONS

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

## Need Help Writing?

- ESSAYS -  
(High School & College)  
- WEBSITE CONTENT -  
- EMAIL CAMPAIGNS -  
- DOCUMENT EDITING -  
If it's going to be read, let an award winning writer look at it before you send it out!  
DontRushDon@gmail.com  
www.DontRushWrites.com  
LZ20tfdh

## 090 AUCTIONS

**LIONEL TRAINS** Online Auction Sunday, Jan 28, 4:00 pm. Bidding Open Now.  
www.PaceHongAuctions.com  
**Fishing Auction**, February 18. Consign your collection today: 989-727-0011. I!CPM

## 130 HOUSEHOLD

**THOMASVILLE QUEEN** Bedroom set vintage, dark wood. Headboard, nightstand, 2 dressers and mirror \$325.00. 248-804-6889. I!LZ

**ADJUSTABLE BED** Brand new with Imcomfort gel memory foam mattress. Retail \$5,900.00. Sacrifice for \$997.00. Call for showing or delivery; 989-615-2951. I!

**AMISH LOG** Headboard and queen pillow top mattress set. Brand new- never used, sell all for \$275. Call anytime 989-832-2401. I!C

## 150 ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

## Mich. Antique Arms Collectors

500 TABLE GUN SHOW  
FEBRUARY 3RD & 4TH  
Antique & Modern  
Firearms & Knives  
BUY • SELL • TRADE  
Suburban Collection Showplace  
46100 Grand River Ave.  
Novi. Admission \$6.00  
Open to Public 9:00am.  
More info call:

248-556-6590

## 170 GENERAL

**BERETTA A300** Outlander shotgun. Woodstock. 12 gauge, 28 inch barrel. \$690.00 obo. 248-229-4962 I!CZ302

**SEE YOUR ADS ONLINE** at www.oxfordleader.com. each week! For more info call 248-628-4801 I!L8tf

**FOR SALE- 2006 28" Cub Cadet** (828 SWE) snow blower, self propelled, cab enclosure, 11 hp electric start. Tecumseh engine, excellent condition. 248-931-0299. I!LZ92

**WOOD/ COAL STOVE** for heating, US Stove Company. Includes hotblast blower, multi-wall stock and duct work. \$500 obo call after 5pm. 248-330-1584. I!LZ31tf

**DVDS, SPORTS** items, lots of items for sale. Dvd's are \$2 each. Furniture, home decor and more. May have what you are looking for. Text 248-804-8889. I!L83

## 180 REC. EQUIPMENT

**GOLF BALLS WITH** experience! Pick a brand and a price, ready to play again. By the dozen or \$25 for 5-6 or 7 dozen. Range balls \$1.0. 248-693-4105. I!LZ30dhtf

## 200 PETS

**PUPPIES TO GO!** Pitbull mix \$50.00 each. 248-895-6687 I!L92

**PET SITTING** by Kathy- specializing in horses and dogs. 810-513-0838. I!ZX234

## 250 CARS

'06 CHEVY COBALT, stick shift, 2-door, red, excellent condition, new tires, new brakes, 150K miles, turn key condition, ready to go! \$2,400 obo. (248)627-8929 leave message. I!ZX1812

1966 MUSTANG Coupe, project car. Good solid car, no rust. Parts included. Stored for 20 years. \$2,600. 248-625-1365. I!CZ2

2007 CHEVROLET IMPALA LT. 179,537 miles, very dependable, new tires, 2 owners, no accidents, good working condition, can get well up to 300,000 plus miles with very little problems if any. \$3,200 obo. (248)802-8728 I!LZ412

2011 CADILLAC DTS Premier. Loaded. 58K. White. Perfect condition. Sunroof. Navigation. \$15,900. 586-915-7079. I!LZ

2014 DODGE CHALLENGER RT, 35,500 miles w/100,000 drivetrain warranty. 5.7 liter, Hemi w/ 6 speed manual trans. All black \$20,500 obo. 248-408-0314 I!LZ5312

2007 SATURN ION, 5 speed manual transmission, high mileage, newer brakes, tires, fuel pump and tune up. Adult owned \$1,200.00 or best offer. 248-701-0706 I!CZ2912

## 260 VANS

2010 HONDA ODYSSEY 8 passenger, color burgandy, 93,000 miles, runs great. \$10,900. 248-431-7364. LZ812

2002 GMC VAN 3/4 ton, 195,000 miles. Runs great and well maintained. \$1,800 obo. 248-420-0915. I!LZ712

## 270 TRUCKS/SUV

1999 GMC SIERRA ext cab v8 4x4. 225k, cd, good tires, new springs, body rusty. One owner, well maintained, records available. \$1800 obo. 248-568-7666. I!LZ5112

CHEVY ONE-TON extended cab dually, 8 foot box with raised cap. Gas power. Runs like Usain Bolt. 1993, solid, but looks a little rough on the edges. \$3,600. 248-625-2195. I!ZX2012

2007 SAAB SUV 152K, \$5,200 OBO. V-8, all wheel, navigation, moon roof, on-board air compressor, Bose sound, fold-down seats, 3 place remote, compass, steering wheel audio control. 248-623-1263. I!LZ212

## 290 RENTALS

**SLEEPING ROOM**, downtown Lake Orion. \$100 weekly plus security. 248-505-8314. I!R91

**CUTE ONE BEDROOM**, lower level apt. Located downtown Lake Orion. Nonsmokers, no pets. \$800 per month. Jim- 248-496-0515 I!L91

**METAMORA HOME** on 1 acre. 1,500 sq. ft., stove, refrigerator, large deck, washer/ dryer hookup. \$900 monthly. 810-678-3414. I!LZ93

**DOWNTOWN OXFORD** Apartment for rent. \$850 month. Heat included! beautiful! 248-693-7137. I!L64

**SHARE MY Home**. I'm a senior and looking for someone same age or close. Quiet clean ranch near downtown Lake Orion with separate kitchen, living room, bedroom and bathroom. All utilities included, A.C.. No smoking or pets. \$700/ mo. 810-334-1543 I!L82

**SHARE MY 2 bedroom** condo in Lake Orion, \$400/ month, utilities included. Call Bill 248-309-1797. I!LZ82

**ON LAKE ORION**, 1 bedroom apartment. Heat furnished. Clean. No pets. 248-693-6063. I!R91

**FOR LEASE** Medical office retail space in Oxford. 248-821-0752 I!LZ74

**OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE** 1,300 sq. ft., downtown Lapeer. \$800 monthly, plus utilities 248-628-3433. I!LZ91

**FOR LEASE** fully furnished salon/ barbershop in Oxford. For information call 248-821-0752 I!LZ74

3,000 SQ. FT. RETAIL Office including basement. \$1,000 monthly. Downtown Lapeer. 248-628-3433. I!LZ91

**TWO BEDROOM** apt. for rent on all sports Lake Susin in Clarkston, includes washer and dryer \$900. 248-807-2161 I!L82

**3 BEDROOM**, Fenced in yard, LO schools. \$1,100 monthly. 248-210-1310. I!R92

**ROOM FOR RENT**. Large furnished sleeping room, Waterford area. Includes all utilities, cable, internet. Older gentleman preferred. \$110/ wk. 810-355-8097

## 310 REAL ESTATE

**FOR SALE**  
Excellent opportunity-commercial building in Clarkston (2000 plus sq. ft. zoned C3) on busy street with high traffic count.  
Call Tammy Bowles at 248-770-3557.

Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Michigan Real Estate 20 W. Washington, Clarkston. \$299,900.

**FOUR BEDROOM RANCH** For Sale. Tan Lake Subdivision, Oxford Township. 1,874 sq. ft. 248-895-3955. I!L92

**FOR SALE BY OWNER**. Beautiful setting, Pebble Creek home. Clarkston Schools. 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Baths, 3 Car Garage. Views from every level of this 2,700 sq. ft. home. Call Sharon: 248-421-3135. Listed on Zillow. 10053 Boulder Pass, Davisburg. Brokers protected. I!LZ82

## 330 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

\*Pizzeria with seating, Well established, Can rent or buy building, Low rent, Great sales, Tremendous Opportunity. \$99,000 with terms, Owner financing, Pontiac.

\*Pizzeria franchise with seating, Amazing location, \$75,000 with terms, Owner financing, Farmington Hills

## MUTUAL BUSINESS BROKER GARY KOLESKI

248-882-8931

LZ91

## 340 CHILD CARE

**STATE LAW REQUIRES** all childcare facilities to be licensed and some to be registered. Call Dept. of Human Services at 1-866-685-0006, if you have any questions. I!LZ8tf

## 360 HELP WANTED

**POSITIONS AVAILABLE**. Parks Superintendent. Visit http://oriontownship.org/General Information/Information/ EmploymentOpportunities.aspx For application requirements. I!R91c

## HOME MANAGER & ASSISTANT MANAGER

Positions available in Oakland County group homes. Must be M.O.R.C. trained and have at least 1 year experience.

248-369-8936

LZ74

**HIRING CAREGIVERS** for private duty home care for the elderly, in Oakland, Lapeer, and Genesee counties. All shifts and weekends possible. 248-625-8484. Resume to: jason.lambart@nohnc.com I!LZ84

**SNOW PLOW** Drivers and shovelers wanted, also landscape help for 2018. Top pay, call 248-625-9920. I!LZ210

## ARE YOU A ROCKSTAR?

Hiring 3 energetic, organized, outgoing real estate agents.

Join our team at our new location in Oxford! We offer flexible hours, great location and fantastic co-workers.

Apply Today at: coldwellbankerprofessionals.com or Call:

248-628-1900

LZ74

**MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT** Wanted: Springfield Township is seeking a responsible, motivated, and detailed-orientated individual, 18 years and older. The position is for a flexible part-time year-around Maintenance Assistant.

Prior maintenance experience is preferred. Candidate must possess and maintain valid Michigan driver's license and have the ability to work flexible hours, working indoors and outdoors in all kinds of conditions. The pay range for this position is \$11.00 to \$13.00, approximately 14-21 hours per week. For additional information and a job application, please contact the Springfield Township Supervisor's office at 248-846-6502. I!C301

**ROOTS HAIR SALON**- A beautiful, fun place to be and prosper! Join Us! 248-693-7137. I!L64

**OFFICE CLEANERS** FT & PT days/eves, Auburn Hills, Novi & Troy. Weekly pay and benefits. Apply @saberbuildingservices.com. 248-598-5255. I!LZ73

**DIRECT CARE WORKERS**, licensed group home. Competitive wages, benefits. 248-620-0047. I!LZ74

**EXPERIENCED NAIL TECH** wanted for Oxford spa. Call: 248-821-0752. I!LZ74

**WANTED, EXPERIENCED** Massage Therapist for Oxford Spa. 248-821-0752. I!LZ74

**CAREGIVERS NEEDED** for adults with disabilities in their home. Full and part time available. Afternoon or midnight shift. Weekends required. Must have a valid drivers license and good driving record. Call after 4pm 248-377-1940. I!R64

**DIRECT CARE STAFF**. Caring, motivated people wanted to assist adults in our group homes. Holly Oxford and South Lyon \$10.03 hr. to start with benefits available. 248-486-5368. I!LZ93

## ORION SPORTS BAR

HIRING EXP. COOKS ASAP

Apply Tues-Fri., Noon-4pm  
1172 S. Lapeer Rd., Lake Orion

248-693-3015

R84

**AUTO DEALER**- Porter (Clarkston) Al Deby Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram has an immediate need for two New/ Used Car Porters. Must be hardworking and have a valid drivers license and good driving record. 40 hours/ week. Please apply in person (between the hours of 9am-6pm) 8700 Dixie Hwy, Clarkston. Ask for Fiori or Nick. I!LZ91c

**HIRING 3 PEOPLE** for real estate sales. Real Estate License required. Flexible hours. Great income potential & will train. Real Living John Burt Realty. 248-628-7700. I!L7tfc

**P.M. LINE COOK** part-time, flexible schedule, 15-20 hours/ week. No late nights, no Sundays. Culinary students welcome. Victoria's Downtown Oxford. Apply in person.

**RECEPTIONIST**- FULL TIME: 37.5 hours/ week. Responsible for Conference Center administrative duties including answering phones, greeting guests, as well as some marketing. Performs other miscellaneous duties for the departments as needed. Benefits include: Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, Disability, 401k, PTO. Please email resume to Megan Ewert at mewert@colombiere.com or pick up an application at Colombiere Center 9075 Big Lake Road, Clarkston, MI 48346. I!LZ82

**AUTO MECHANIC** wanted: Must have strong mechanical knowledge/ background, able to diagnose and repair mechanical issues start to finish. Clean driving record. Certification required. Need tools and reliable transportation. Must be dependable and able to work independently. Please email resume to patty@hopkinsautorepair.com or call 586-615-1396 to schedule an interview. I!LZ2c

**360 HELP WANTED**

**PART TIME MORNING** caregiver needed for adult male Quadriplegic. 248-818-9049. !!LZ92  
**CASA REAL** is hiring all positions! Come in fill out application 21 S. Washington St. or call 248-969-2801 !!L82

**HIRING HAIRSTYLISTS!** Busy Great Clips looking for professional stylists to join our team! Requirements: Cosmetology license, excellent customer skills and enjoy being part of a team. PT & FT positions available. Must able to work some nights and weekends. Aggressive hourly wage plus commission, paid vacation, personal days, on going training, healthcare and retirement plan. Call for interview, 248-330-6402. !!C303

**390 NOTICES**

THIS PUBLICATION does not knowingly accept ads which are deceptive, fraudulent, or which might otherwise violate the law or accepted standards of taste. However, this publication does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of any ad, nor the quality of the goods or services advertised. Readers are cautioned to investigate all claims made in any ad and to use good judgement and reasonable care, particularly when dealing with person unknown to you who ask for money in advance of delivery of the goods or services advertised. !!LZdhtf

**Charter Township of Orion FOR SALE SURPLUS VEHICLE**

Sealed bids being accepted by the Charter Township of Orion for the following vehicle:  
 2004 Ford F150- 100,031.5 miles, 2WD, STX, Automatic Transmission, A/C, Power Steering & Brakes.  
 The vehicle may be viewed at the Orion Township Hall parking lot at 2525 Joslyn Rd., Lake Orion, Michigan, between the hours of 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information please contact the Parks & Recreation Department at (248)391-0304, ext. 3501. Sealed bids clearly marked Vehicle Bid- Ford F150 must be submitted no later than 12 noon, February 7th to the attention of Penny S. Schultz, Clerk, Charter Township of Orion, 2525 Joslyn Rd., Lake Orion, MI 48360. All vehicles will be sold "as is" without warranty. Orion Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

**SHERMAN PUBLICATIONS DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADS MONDAY NOON & CANCELLATION DEADLINE MONDAY NOON (holiday deadlines may apply) 248-628-4801**

**410 SERVICES**

**A PLACE FOR MOM.** The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is free/ no obligation. Call 1-877-915-4031 !!CPM1

**CUSTOM PAINTING**  
 INTERIOR/EXTERIOR. Residential Specialists Drywall Repairs LICENSED-INSURED  
**248-634-6500** L17tfc

**HOME REPAIR**  
 RENOVATIONS • 25 YRS. EXP. PROMPT • RELIABLE CALL MARK:  
**248-431-4818**  
 OR KEVIN:  
**810-820-0615** LZ94

**STOP OVERPAYING** for your prescriptions! Save! Call our licensed Canadian and International pharmacy, compare prices and get \$25.00 off your first prescription. Call 1-855-403-4552. Promo Code CDC201625 !!CPM1

**JR's CREATIVE PAINTING**

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR Textured Ceilings Drywall Repair Fully Insured/Free Estimates  
**248-625-5638** CZ28tfc

**E & A HANDYMAN SERVICES**  
 Carpentry, Drywall Electrical, Painting, Plumbing & Powerwashing Senior Discounts  
**248-241-6992** L74

**J&A DRYWALL**  
 Installation to finish! We Do It All! For the best job & price  
**248-693-1678** Ask for David L74

**Dave's Custom PAINTING**

Licensed & Insured 25+ Yrs Exp. Free Estimates  
**248-202-0807** L84  
 WE BUY LIFE INSURANCE policies! If your policy is worth \$100k or more, call: 1-800-238-7149. !!CPM1  
 HOUSECLEANING BY Amanda. Weekly, Bi-weekly or monthly! Reasonable rates. 248-396-5305. !!CZ301

**EARTHLINK High Speed Internet.** As low as \$14.95/month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable high speed fiber optic technology. Stream videos, music and more! Call Earthlink Today. 1-844-275-3510. !!CPM1

**Barry McCombe**  
 •HANDYMAN SERVICES  
 •HOME REPAIRS  
 •INSURED  
 Serving area for over 30yrs. SMALL JOBS WELCOME!  
 FREE ESTIMATES  
**248-693-6321** R84

**BUILT BEST BARNs**, Michigan's largest pole barn company. Best quality, best service. January Specials. Order now and save!  
 24'x24'x8' - \$7995.00;  
 24'x32'x8' - \$8995.00;  
 24'x40'x10' - \$10,995.00;  
 30'x40'x10' - \$12,495.00  
 30'x40'x12' - \$13,495.00  
 32'x48'x12' - \$17,995.00  
 Completely built, (Concrete Floor Optional) License/ insured. 1-877-802-9591 (Office) 989-205-2534 (Cell) !!CPM1

**Elkour Lawn Service**  
 Call Now For Snowplowing  
 Specials!  
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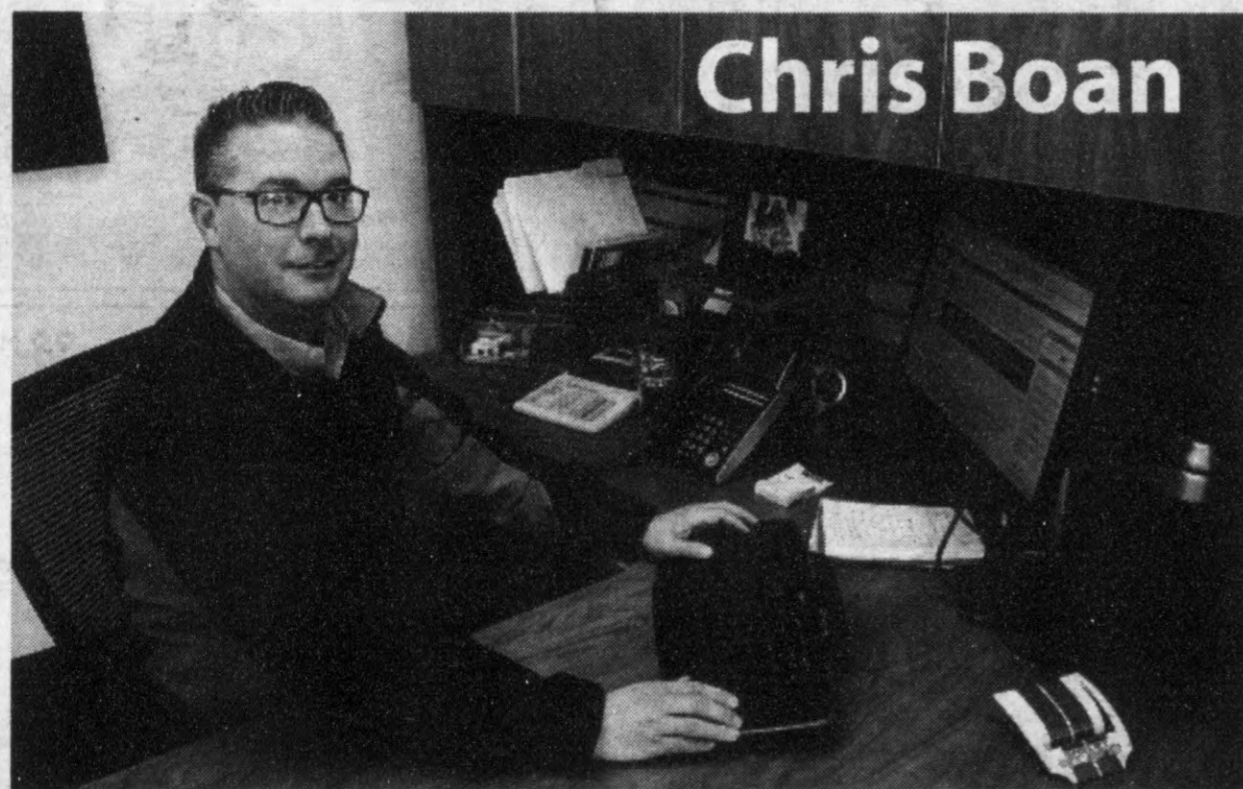
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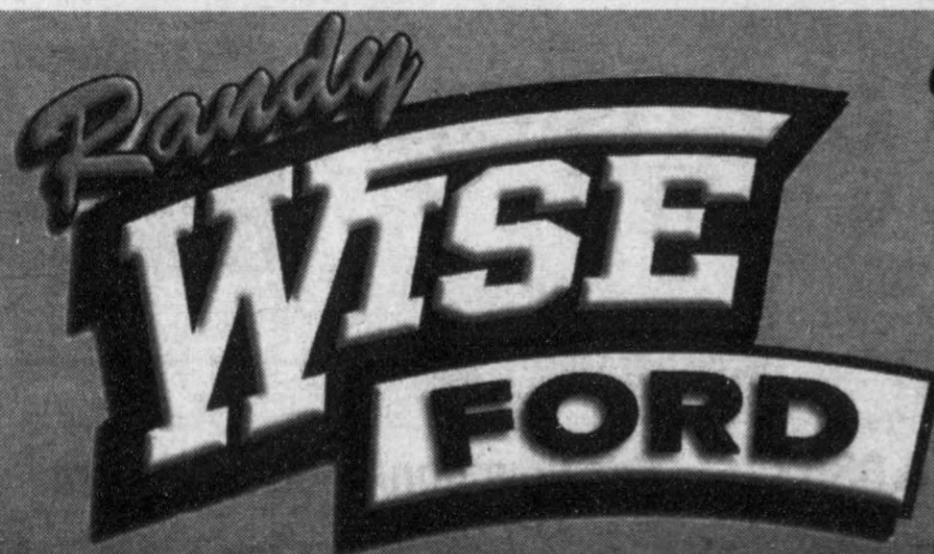
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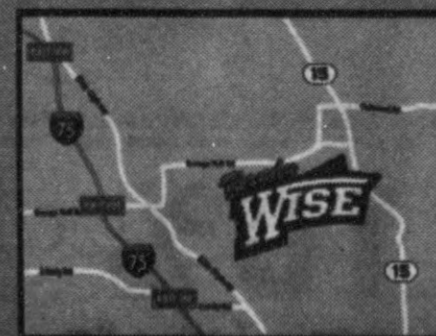
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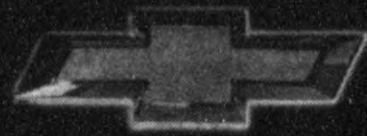
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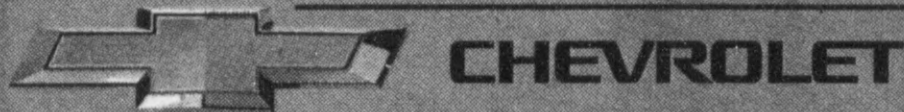
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24 MONTHS / \$0,000 DOWN / 10K MILES PER YEAR



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