



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

A large yellow poster saying "700" rose in the bleachers as the scoreboard counted down the final seconds in the Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball regional win over Orchard Lake St. Mary's at West Bloomfield, lofted by fans of coach Dan Fife.

The 58-35 win marked the 700th win for the long-time head coach, March 15. "He's a great role model for his players, has an incredible work ethic and



expects the same from his team," said fan Karen Hagen S a n d e r s o n . "Congratulations Dan Fife!"

"The boys become young men with Dan," said fellow fan William Tymkow. The victory

also marked the

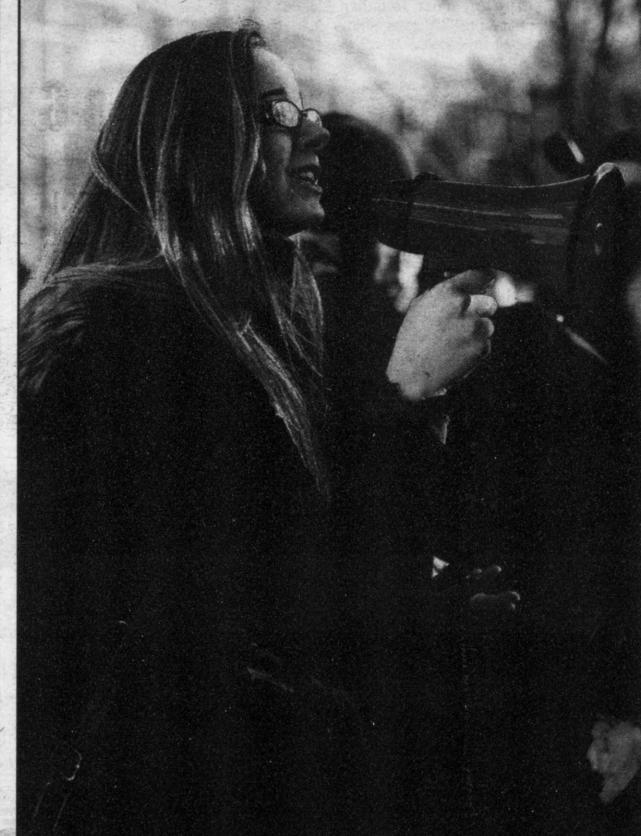
fastest ever in state

Fife

Street.

history to reach the milestone, and Fife is the only coach in state history to do it at one school.

As Fife was getting closer to the milestone, he attributed the success of the program to all of the players and who they become as adults as well as who they are as fathers.



# Pleading for safe schools

Congrats Foster Loyer,

AKA Mr. Basketball!

# Students make voice heard with silence

# **BY PHIL CUSTODIO**

Clarkston News Editor

About 200 Clarkston High School students took part in the National School Walkout last Wednesday, but walking out of class wasn't the point.

"This event was held as a way to honor those who were lost, not to protest anything political. We were mourning the lives of our peers," said senior Courtney Blackett, who took part in the memorial to mourn the lives of those lost in the Feb. 14 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. "Regardless of what people's views are, I think we all agree that no more lives should be lost. We want to go to school knowing we are safe."

Students marked the one-month anniversary of the attack with a memorial gathering in the high school courtyard. A group of students put together a table with photos of each of the 17 students and teachers killed and a biography about them, hung up photos of the victims in a tree, placed flowers, and talked about them on a megaphone, Blackett said.

Students announcing the biographies were Taya Alani, grade 11; Hayley Wilson, grade 11; Maddison Dryden, grade 10; and Kylie Kalinowski, grade 12.

At 10 a.m., the group held a moment of silence for 17 minutes, one for each of those killed.

"To be in this for so long, my trophies are the kids walking around representing Clarkston Basketball and the Clarkston *Please see Milestone on page 14* 

Clarkston High School senior Kylie Kalinowski talks to classmates about students and teachers lost in last month's school shooting in Florida. *Photo provided by Courtney Blackett*  "The memorial was emotional and peaceful," Blackett said. Please see Memorial on page 3

# CLARKE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION MICROFILMING 142 PARK CMU MT PLEASANT MI 48859-0001 MT PLEASANT MI 48859-0001

# Search for new school district superintendent is on

Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB) is on the hunt for a new Clarkston Community Schools superintendent, after being hired by the Board of Education, Feb. 26, for \$8,900 plus expenses for mileage, meals, lodging, and advertising.

A bid was also received from Ray and Associates of Iowa for \$20,000. Applications will be accepted through April 18, with a projected start date of July 1. Public input sessions are Monday, March 26, at 7 p.m.; and Tuesday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m. at the CCS Administration Building, 6389 Clarkston Road. A special board workshop is Thursday, March 29, at 7 p.m. An online survey is also at www.surveymonkey.com/r/clarkstonsearch, open until 11 p.m. on March 27. Superintendent Rod Rock resigned on Jan. 14, citing an "inappropriate" relationship with a recent Clarkston High School graduate. Shawn Ryan has served as interim superintendent since then.

# The. **Clarkston News**

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# Teacher avoids Pitt of despair in game show

# **BY BRENDA DOMINICK**

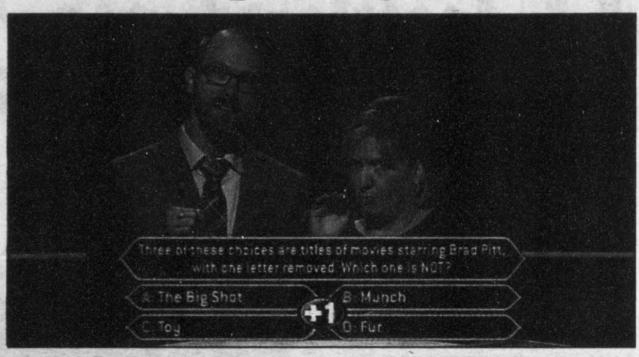
Clarkston News Staff Writer With 10 grand banked and another \$20,000 on the line, it all came down to Brad Pitt.

"My plus one I brought with me, I brought her specifically for this reason she's a huge Brad Pitt fan," said Clarkston Junior High science teacher Jonathan Paddock, contestant on the TV game show "Who Wants to be a Millionaire," March 9. "I brought her with me because she's into movies and stuff, maybe more than me."

Amy Paddock, his sister-in-law, was there as his plus-one lifeline, a feature in the show to provide limited help to contestants. She helped him with the question, "Three of these choices are titles of movies starring Brad Pitt, with one letter removed. Which one is NOT?" - A. The Big Shot; B. Munch; C. Toy; or D. Fur.

"Here's what I first thought. Big Short and Troy you got. I think Munich is B, but that's not a Brad Pitt movie," Amy said. "I think D is Fury, and I think that's a Brad Pitt movie. So, if we're looking for one that Brad Pitt was not in, we're looking for B, Munich, that's my gut."

She was right, and Jon was happy to move on to the next step. Having used all of his lifelines, including "Ask the Audience" and "50/50," he had a big decision to make.



Jonathan Paddock and Amy Paddock, one of his "lifelines," work out the answer to a question on the game show. Photo provided

"That was a critical question because if I got it right, I went up to \$50,000. But, if I got it wrong, I would lose \$25,000 and drop to \$5,000," he said. "Or, if I saw the (next) question, and I wasn't confident I knew the answer, I could walk. So, I saw the question, I wasn't more than 50 percent confident, so I took my money and walked away with \$30,000."

Joey Mansour, one of Paddock's eighth grade students, said his whole class watched the show and were cheering him on.

"I'm very proud of him," Mansour said. "He's very cool. He lets us pet the animals during class. He's a great teacher. He explained to us what was going to happen (in the show)."

Originally from Dearborn, Paddock was a contestant on the March 9 episode of the show with host Chris Harrison, also host of "The Bachelor." "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" airs weekdays at 3 p.m. on CBS.

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About 200 students gather in the high school courtyard for the memorial. Photos provided by lize Lucero



Students sing in honor of the fallen.

# Memorial was for students, by students

Continued from page 1

"It's truly impressive to see our students working together to accomplish a goal," said Interim Superintendent Shawn Ryan in an email to the community. "I am pleased to report that, by and large, our students conducted themselves in a respectful way, and returned to class without incident or significant disruption to the school day."

These events were coordinated

entirely by students, for students. Activities also included singing, balloon release, and candles for each of the victims at the school district's secondary school campuses, Ryan said.

This event was planned by students in consultation with high school administration for safety purposes, said CHS Principal Gary Kaul in an email to parents.

"We are very thankful and proud of our students who partici-

Wed., March 21, 2018 The Clarkston (MI) News 3



Flowers are placed for the victims of the school shooting.



Students light candles during the memorial. *Photo provided by Courtney Blackett* 

pated today, particularly with those who engaged with school staff in a meaningful and productive way to organize the event," Kaul said. "The students who planned the event were very conscientious of school rules, student safety, as well as staying on message with their classmates. They worked cooperatively with school personnel in planning an appropriate event which was well received by staff and their peers."

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# City backtracks on Buffalo one-way vote

# BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

Buffalo Street will remain "two way" after Clarkston City Council reversed an earlier decision.

"I honestly thought we were sending it out to be discussed with (city engineer) Gary Tressel – whether it would work or not, not that we were making a permanent decision," said Council member Sharron Catallo at the March 21 meeting. "That seems strange to me."

City Council discussed a city engineer study of one-way traffic at the Feb. 12 meeting, but the final word before the vote was "approving one-way traffic pending engineering."

City Council voted 5-2 to approve the motion, Feb. 12. On March 21, Council voted 7-0 to set it aside.

"I think it should be two way," said Council member Sue Wylie, who was one of the "no" votes, Feb. 12.

However, parking should be removed from that part of the road, Wylie said.

"I think we should listen to our residents – those people do not want parking there," she said. "Something's got to give."

A motion to remove parking from Buffalo was defeated, 4-3. Catallo and council members Eric Haven, Jason Kneisc, and Scott Reynolds voted "no." Voting "yes" were Wylie, Mayor Steven Percival, and Council member Rick Detkowski.

The city should try more street signs, markings, and enforcement before removing parking, Catallo said.

"I thought the initial charge to this was to find parking – you can't just continue to remove it," she said. "That just keeps pushing into other people's neighborhoods."

Kneisc said he was not prepared to vote for removing parking.



Mayor Steven Percival, at right, and City Council member Jason Kneisc discuss city streets. *Photo* by Phil Custodio

"If it's because residents say they don't want parking, we might as well allow every resident to make their own determination, if they allow parking in front of their house or not," he said.

Haven said they should consult more with the city engineer.

"We're a group of amateurs," he said. "My recommendation is, over time, we have our professionals advise us – we need professional input on this issue."

Cara Catallo, downtown resident and Sharron's daughter, said removing parking would increase traffic speed and decrease safety.

Curt Catallo, restaurant owner and Sharron's son, added removing parking could change the business equation they made when moving into town.

"When decisions are made haphazardly, it has a direct impact on our confidence – it makes us nervous as a business," Curt said.

Resident Joe Luginski, former mayor, said the decision

should be made as part of a comprehensive parking plan for the city.

"Look at the larger picture as opposed to putting bandaids on a whole bunch of cuts," Luginski said.

Percival said another issue brought up by residents is conflict of interest by Catallo, who owns a rental home on Buffalo and whose son, Curt Catallo, owns three restaurants on Main Street. Residents have said employees and patrons contribute to parking problems on city streets late into the night.

Reynolds said it seems to be a conflict, and he will not vote on parking issues on E. Washington Street, where he lives.

"I would give input, but the charter asks us to not participate in a vote – that's what I will do," he said. "It's the appearance of what it creates."

Sharron didn't see a conflict of interest, and recusing from the vote would set a "strange precedent."

"We're such a small community," she said. "I'm not sure it's the right answer, every time we vote on something close to your house, you have to recuse?"

Kneisc did not see a conflict of interest.

"It is absurd," he said. "Every single decision made up here affects (council members) personally."

"This stretches the issue of conflict of interest to the absurd," Haven said.

Asked if parking presents a financial conflict of interest, city attorney Thomas Ryan said the property is not Catallo's residence and has more than enough parking, so doesn't present a conflict in a parking issue.

A motion to recuse Catallo from the vote died without a second.



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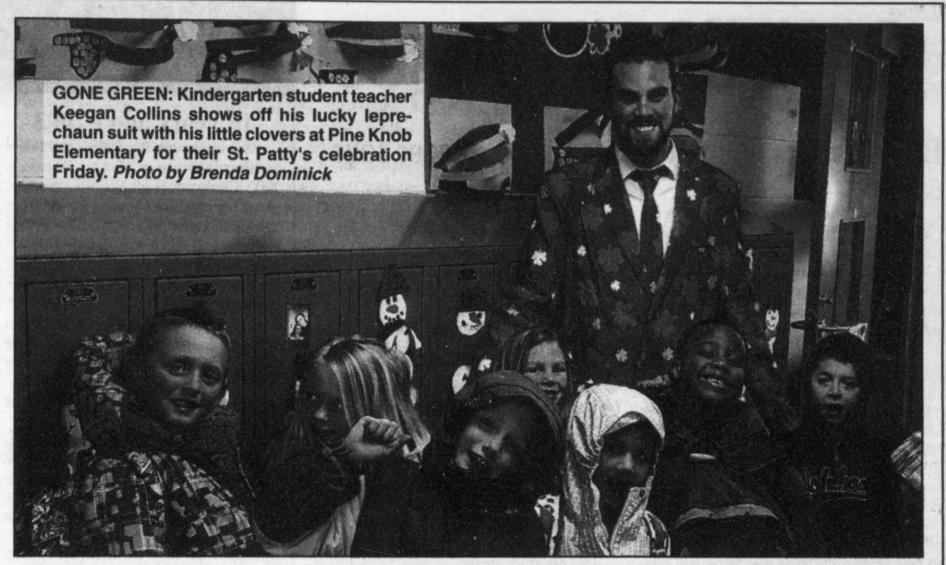
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# Planners OK plan for assisted living center

# **BY BRENDA DOMINICK**

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Independence Township Planning Commission voted to approve conceptual site plan for the Comfort Care Senior Living Facility, proposed for 5850 White Lake Road, March 8.

The 5.16-acre site is currently single family residential. Petitioners Mike Rybicki, an engineer with MLR Engineering, Sean Elkhatib from Comfort Care, and John Costa, architect, are proposing a 51-unit assisted living and memory care facility on the east side of White Lake Road, south of Northcrest Crossing Road, which neighbors White Lake Commons to the south.

According to township ordinances, the allowable number of units is 49. Township planner Brian Oppmann said they meet requirements for a variance.

"In terms of the dimensional

Oppmann said the petitioners may seek a variance for the room sizes, which would reduce the number of rooms to 49, the required amount by ordinance.

The design of the parking lot was also a concern.

"It's extremely difficult to maneuver this designed parking area," Oppmann said.

A fire department report showed they were also concerned with maneuverability, he said.

"We've asked they extend a sidewalk out to the safety path that's currently there," he said. "Our main concern is really in relation to the density and in relation to the circulation on the site. They will need a variance because the room sizes are a little bit smaller than what's required. They are going to seek a variance after this meeting."

Randy Ford, an engineering consultant for Hubble, Roth and Clark, Inc. (HRC), also

"There's 37 assisted living, and it's not anticipated any of them will have cars," Tully asked Elkhatib. "We have a lot of facilities and honestly, in over 250 beds, we had one person park a car that never used it, and nor is it something we will promote."

Tully also asked, "How many visitor parking spaces will you have? I think that's often a problem; there's not enough spaces for visitors."

"At peak shift, we'll have about 10 employees per shift, so about 26 visitor spots remaining. It's ample," Elkhatib said. R. Brent Savidant, Planning Commission chairperson, said Rybicki, Elkhatib, and Costa are in a good spot.

"There's some minor tweaks; by reducing the number of units, and reducing the number of parking spaces would afford you the opportunity to get a little more creative with the detention," Savidant said. "If you can,



# **Backyard birders**

Clarkston-area Backyard Birders Club meets at 7 p.m., March 28, at The Gateway.

Topics will include spotting migrating warblers at Point Pelee in Canada, building bluebird nesting boxes at Bittersweet Farms on Allen Road, information from Michigan Songbird Protection Coalition about possible hunting of sandhill cranes and mourning doves, sharing reports of sightings in local backyards, bird feeding in the spring, hummingbirds with member Phil Reid, and suggestions for future meetings.

# Zoning app

A new application on the Independence Township website offers residents, business owners and township members news and updates on development projects under construction or going through the planning phase in the township.

The "Development Planning Explorer" application is at www.twp.independence.mi.us/ Departments/Building, Planning & Zoning, said township planner Brian Oppmann at the Township Planning Commission meeting, March 8.

In the search bar area, enter the address and search radius, and the app will provide detailed information such as conceptual and final site plans. When the construction is finished and the project is complete, it is removed from the site, Oppmann said.

# **Kiosk update**

The new parking kiosk is operational at the Main and Washington street lot, and should be ready to charge for parking on Monday, April 2.

The charge will be \$1 per hour from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Monday through Saturday; free on Sundays and New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

requirements in the ordinance, they meet all of those requirements," Oppmann said. "In looking at the density and the requirements for the elderly housing district, they exceed the allowable units by two. They are well aware of that requirement."

The building would include 28 studio units, 19 one-bedroom units, and four twobedroom units. The overall building blueprint, including courtyards, is approximately 59,000 square feet.

Parking lot requirements include one space per two units, plus a space per employee. The lot width is 546 feet. Lot acreage requirements are two acres and building length maximum is 250 feet. commented on the issues he saw with the parking lot.

"The ability for an emergency vehicle to be able to turn around internally within the site and exit is really not apparent with the parking lot wings, if you will, with the way it's drawn up," Ford said.

Other issues brought up were concerning passing lanes, center turn lanes, buffering trees, drainage questions, and parking spaces. The required amount of parking spaces by ordinance is 37 and the senior facility plans to provide 47. Planning Commission Secretary Judy Tully voiced her concern regarding the ratio of parking spaces versus residents and visitors.

maybe get creative in terms of the fire emergency turnaround – perhaps a connection to Northcrest Crossing or

something innovative. Work with our engineer to come up with something that's going to work for our fire department."

Elkhatib responded, "it's definitely something we can do. I think that restructuring of the parking lot and we've been working on a few things, I think we will end up with a pretty favorable parking lot for those emergency vehicles with the entrance in the front. We will be able to meet that demand."

Unit size variance will be sought from the Zoning Board Appeals (ZBA). The current permit parking and 2-hour time limit will be removed when paid parking begins.

Drivers can pay with coins or credit cards at the kiosk in the southeast corner of the lot, and enter the vehicle's license plate number. They can also use smartphone apps such as ParkMobile and PayByPhone.

Paid parking will be enforced daily with a \$25 fine for unpaid or expired vehicles. Vehicles left overnight will be subject to towing.

Phil in the Blank

A column by Phil Custodio

# In a foreign land

My trip to Israel earlier this month was excellent, a nearly perfect expedition with a superb tour guide, an Arab Palestinian Christian Israeli with encyclopedic knowledge and experience of the area, history, and culture.

It was a pilgrimage trip with a group from my church, St. John's up in Davison. We visited as many of the churches and holy sites as we could in Jaffa, Galilee, Nazareth, Jericho, Bethlehem, and

Jerusalem, a profoundly meaningful shared experience for all of us. We also toured the Masada mountain fortress and floated in the Dead Sea – one big water bed.



All the people I met were cordial to friendly,

even those not trying to sell us stuff. Most seem to be good people who just want to live their lives the best they can.

I put that to the test when I would go out for morning runs by myself. I have mostly brown skin, especially after a few days under the Israeli sun. Maybe they wouldn't even know I was American. But as I was running a shop keeper called out, "good morning."

"Good morning," I yelled back. I'm not so good at undercover work.

We had a free day before our flight home, which I spent wandering the Old City of Jerusalem by myself. I wanted to walk on the city walls, so I spent a couple hours in the back alleys of the Muslim Quarter of the city looking for a way up, well away from the crowds. I had just a couple interactions with residents.

"Welcome," said one man.

One of a couple women passing by with their kids asked if I was lost.

"Yes I am," I said. She gave me directions in Arabic, and I thanked her.

# Opinion Pages Letters, columns & Editorials

# Buffalo mess points to larger issue, reader says

### **Dear Editor**,

The Clarkston Buffalo Street parking debacle is just one more small, but key, indicator of the serious decline in American ethical political leadership at every level, local, state and national, that is continuing to erode the moral authority of the United States as an international power.

Worse yet, it is adversely affecting a whole generation of young Americans who have few ethical political leaders to serve as role models and mentors. More than ever, politicians are running a system where "winners" spin and scam, defend and deny, refuse to give direct answers to simple but direct questions, and bully those who raise legitimate issues.

Locally, we've seen city officials and their advisors collude to limit disclosure of records to taxpayers with valid questions and concerns about how local government operates. A council member, apparently, and hopefully, feigning ignorance fails to recuse from voting on a parking issue affecting property she owns and which potentially advantages the finances of her relatives.

Another apparently ethically challenged or just plain ignorant, or arrogant, council member characterizes those who questioned her fellow council member as being "rude."

She questions whether she and another council member might be oh so unfairly restricted from voting on matters affecting their own financial interests. Avoiding conflicts of interest or appearances to that effect are simply not the concern of these politicians. They are special.

Of course, these local spats may be small potatoes, but the same mindsets and failures to speak out are affecting folks on the state level, too. Michigan's schools and infrastructure continue to deteriorate and fail at rates exceeding those of most other states, and educated young people continue to seek

11 0

success outside the state.

Meanwhile, the state legislature continues to look for ways to give more tax deductions, schemes and cuts to wealthy corporations and elites as middle class Michiganders continue to stagnate even with their new found wealth in GOP "tax reform."

Nationally, lip service, thoughts and prayers have been offered, again, but Trump and the Congress have done nothing substantive to protect our children from guns.

Of course, lowly compensated teachers struggling with resource limitations and low incomes might now get to pack heat in the classroom if congress and Trump have their way.

We'll have money for that gun training. But no money is available for infrastructure, social security, healthcare or education.

Our priorities are record military spending and ill advised foreign military ventures for ungrateful nations. For that and tax relief for the wealthy we have billions of dollars available.

As Trump ignores Russia's efforts to attack our electrical grid, nuclear power system, telecommunications and elections so the Trumps can curry Putin's favor to develop and protect Trump Enterprise interests in Russia, our congressional reps and most senators stand silent.

They are afraid of a lying, blustering blowhard. Tax relief for wealthy donors and re-election are more important.

Americans should be seriously concerned about our conditions and a system that would dupe so many and allow the likes of a Donald Trump to be elected president. The nation is in crisis. It is up to decent middle class folks to fix it. Thankfully, young voters and about-to-be-voters seem to understand the problem.

### Mike Fetzer Independence Township 1 11 1

# 50 years ago - 1968 "Fire destroys Food Town" By the time firefighters made it to Food Town after 10:51 p.m. on March 18, the roof had already collapsed. Independence, Waterford and Lake Orion fire departments sent out

# A Look Back From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 2003 "Spring break for CHS grad takes an alternative turn" Ashley Wilson, a 2002 Clarkston High School graduate, spent her freshman spring break from Michigan State University volunteering her time and services as an all girls or-

phanage in Mexico. "Non-violent offenders to produce community garden" A community garden was set to spring at the McCord Farm because Judge Dana Fortinberry and Judge Michael Batchik from 52-2 District Court entered an agreement with Community Corrections to use non-violent offenders as a labor pool.

"Clarkston's JV Prep team brings home championship title" Clarkston's JV Prep hockey team claimed first place in Little Caesar's Tier 1 Divisional playoffs with a 3-1 win over Farmington Hills JV team.

# 25 years ago - 1993

"Pouring pennies" Clarkston High School students raised money through dances, penny drive and more events for fellow student Jeremy Leach, who needed a bone marrow transplant for a chance to cure his leukemia.

"Library staff considers numerous changes in future" Despite budget cuts, Independence Township Library employees were looking forward to innovative changes. One change was the addition of a \$100,000 automated library system with 17 terminals which would allow patrons to locate reference material by key word searching.

"Anderson first, Roughton third at finals" Jerry Anderson, a Clarkston High School senior competing in the 135pound weight class in The MHSAA Class A Wrestling Individual Finals finished in first place. Jason Roughton finished in third place in the 145-pound weight class.

"Money," she said, asking for a gratuity.

"What," I responded.

"Shekels," she suggested.

"Ah, shekels," I said, getting the hint. She sent her little girl to collect. "Shekels, shekels, shekels," the girl sang as I dug out a few of the coins for her.

I eventually made it up to the ramparts. Turns out they sell tickets for that at Jaffa Gate. I was also able to tour the nearby Tower of David Museum, along with school tour groups, both Jewish and Muslim, I believe. The kids seemed happy to be there, with lots of "hello," Continued on page 7

# A call for reasonable gun control for the children

# Dear Editor.

A sad world when our kids have to take the inititive to address the need for a reasonable gun policy in this country! I only hope that the adults and politicans see the need to ban assult weapons, limit the size of magazines, regulate gun show sales and insure

sound back-ground checks.

The right to bear arms is not a warrant to have any type of weapon.

Let's get behind our children and adopt some reasonable restraints on guns.

Jim Reed Clarkston

# Write a Letter to the Editor

Please keep them short and to the point. We take the liberty of publishing (or not) all letters we receive. Please sign your letter(no photo copies!) and include a daytime phone for verifications. Deadline is noon, Monday. Drop them or mail them to 5 S. Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346; fax 248-625-0706; or e-mail Clarkstonnews@gmail.com

nine trucks to put out the blaze.

"Round the town" A bridal shower was held for Mrs. Agathe Vines who married Mr. Ronnie Vinces on Feb. 11, 1968.

"Neighborhood honors helpers" Special recognition of people who helped the Girl Scout movement in Clarkston highlighted the sixth annual Mother-Daughter banquet of the Clarkston Neighborhood.

# Keep light shining on local issues

### Dear Editor,

Last week was Sunshine Week, a time "to enlighten and empower people to play an active role in their government at all levels, and to give them access to information that makes their lives better and their communities stronger."

March 16 was Freedom of Information Day and the birthday of James Madison, who is widely regarded as the Father of the Constitution and as the foremost advocate for openness in government.

The Village of Clarkston government had the opportunity at the Monday, March 12, meeting to celebrate this and Michigan's 41-year-old Freedom of Information Act.

An involved resident even gave them the opportunity during public comments, but in a 3 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hour meeting, there was very little sunshine.

The City of the Village of Clarkston is still in the Michigan Court of Appeals trying to gut Michigan's 41-year-old Freedom of Information Act. The council has taken no official action other than silence.

There are issues of conflict of interest, expenses are incurred prior to funds being budgeted, resolutions made that do little to define what is being voted on, and vague meeting minutes that neither define what is being done or why. There is a serious lack of planning, priorities, enforcement, dealing with the cost of ongoing legal issues and a long term budget.

Fortunately, there are some signs of progress on these issues from some of the new council members.

The mayor has raised issues of charter and ordinance compliance.

Issues are at least raised and discussed, but poor or no documentation leads to confusion and lack of a defined action.

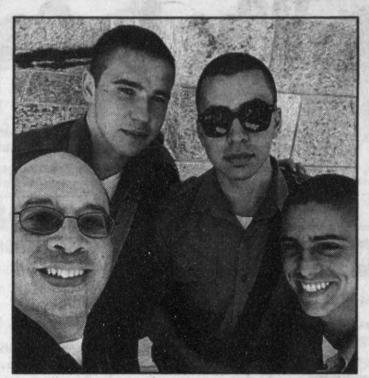
Issues are abandoned only to be discussed all over again at some time in the future. What does it take to make informed and well documented decisions where future councils and residents will know why it was done instead of starting all over?

The Village of Clarkston is a nice place, with a long history, nice businesses and many good people. We even have a local newspaper that prints letters.

There is immense potential given the growth around us and the desire of many to live in a place much like this. That potential will only be achieved with clearly defined goals, a plan to achieve them, and public participation.

Shining a little light on all of this will help.

Cory Johnston Clarkston



A selfie with a group of Israeli Defense Force soldiers, patrolling a plaza in the Jewish Quarter of Old City Jerusalem.

### Continued from page 6

"shalom," and other greetings as I passed by.

Of course, the place is still deeply divided religiously, politically, and culturally. People continue to kill and die over those differences.

A week after we left, two Israeli

soldiers were killed and two others injured when a Palestinian man rammed them with his car, according to local news.

Wed., March 21, 2018 The Clarkston (MI) News 7

The soldiers, Ziv Daos, 21, and Netanel Kahalani, 20, were at a military observation post along a highway in the northern West Bank when they were hit, March 16, close to where we visited or at least drove by.

The next morning, a 32year-old Israeli civilian named Adiel Kolman was stabbed and killed in the Old City itself, right where I was nine days before. The killer, identified as Abd al-Rahman Bani

Fade, a 28-year-old Palestinian, was shot and killed by police.

Mr. Kolman worked at the Tower of David Museum, so I might have met him during one of those visits. I still think I was mostly safe. Things are seriously personal there and I was a foreigner and guest.

# Controlling the narrative gives you the edge

Last week area students joined a nation-wide movement, walking out of class and gathering as a memorial to the 17 lives lost at a Parkland, Florida high school — 17 dead at the hands of a very disturbed individual. Like most movements, this one got the cogs in mind to twirl.

Twirl and spin. Grind and turn and, the bottom line thought which came to be was, "This movement of kids is a good thing." Just like when I pondered on the movement of conservatives in the Tea Party age, it is a good thing Americans — whatever their political leanings and whether or not you agree with those leanings — get involved. Why?

For too long, in our cozy, safe and selfabsorbed worlds, Americans have let the proverbial foxes run the hen houses. So long as we had food to eat, big cars to A column by drive, cable TV and the latest smartphones to use, we were "okay." Never mind Don Rush government types and special interest money spent more and more time sleeping together and making policy affecting us all, while exempting them. So, I swing back round to and stand by my statement, it's a good thing the kids are getting involved. That said, we need to teach them critical thinking skills, how having civil discourse to work towards solutions is a positive, all the while steering them away from today's "winner take all" debate mentality. We adults need to lead by example. And, as an adult, I will start the leading. \* \* \*

You could call them illegal immigrants, and be 100 percent correct. Or, you can call them "Dreamers" and control the narrative. Come on, what person with any sort of a heart could even think, let alone talk about sending any person called a Dreamer to their country of origin? That would be super mean, and who wants to be seen as mean?

Not me.

Topic done.

Poor old Hilary Clinton is still trying control the narrative on why she lost the 2016 Presidential Election to Donald Trump. Just this past week, whilst pushing her book, she was reported as saying, Trump voters were "backwards" and people who don't like "black people getting rights" or "women getting jobs." And, she blamed married women for not standing up to their husbands and vote correctly. "We don't do well with married, white women," she said, because

\* \* \*

and tried to get some numbers to figure out how safe American schools are from mass shooters. First, area school districts have spent a ton of money on making area schools safer. To gain access to many of these schools, if you are not a student, you need to be buzzed in, then checked out. Okay, back to the numbers.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, in America there are just over 98,000 public schools (another 33,619 private schools). In the fall of 2017, there were 50.7 million students in public schools and each year three million plus students graduate from public schools.

From what I was able to find, since 1999, Columbine, when two students fatally shot 15 people, there have been 25 fatal school shootings in American schools, 122 killed. Working some fast Don Rush math and rounding up the amount of dead to 1,000 and keeping the number of students who have gone to and through public schools in America static since 1991 to 50.7 million, if I divide 1,000 by 50.7 million students, I get the percentage of American students killed by school shootings as .0000197239 percent.

# Rush Me

Don't

We all need to understand those who control the narrative, control the outcome and words are powerful. Don't believe me? What do you call a group of people who are in this country illegally — brought here illegally by their families. of "ongoing pressure to vote the way that your husband, your boss, your son, whoever, believes you should."

She is trying to control the narrative, however, she puts so little trust in Americans' ability to see through her story. Interestingly, 30 percent of those who voted for President Obama, voted for Trump. Oops.

So, children today are not feeling safe while in school, they fear for their lives and they want change and they want it now, dammit!

Is it any wonder they feel this way, the narrative from the major media and those who wish to disarm Americans has been set. "Mass" killing has come to mean a shooting with four or more victims. The word "mass" sounds bigger, and is more powerful than say, "multiple" killing. Narrative gained.

What about safety in American schools? I went online

Based on that, it is equivalently true: If you are a student in America it is pretty much a given you will not be shot and killed. Which begs the question, why the movement to ban guns?

\* \* \*

Critical thinking. Asking questions and being open to answers to your questions are all a part of being an educated member of society. Stay involved, question yourself, question authority and practice civil discourse when engaging someone with an opinion different than yours.

Shy away from media outrage and those who believe in shaming or demeaning those they disagree with. Be kind and "trust, but verify."

Send comments to: DontRushDon@gmail.com



# Public Safety For Clarkston and Independence Township

# Warrant pick up

An Oakland County Sheriff's deputy was dispatched to Dixie Highway and Silver Circle in Waterford to meet with Waterford Police to pick up a 38-year-old Auburn Hills man with an Oakland County Friend of the Court warrant, 6:27 p.m., March 15. He was jailed on the warrant.

# Expired tabs

A deputy on patrol stopped an SUV with expired tabs at Clintonville and Mann roads, 5:33 p.m., March 10. The driver, a 26-yearold Independence Township man, was found with an Oakland County Friend of the Court warrant. He was jailed on the warrant, and his vehicle was impounded.

# Murder suspect on trial

Christopher Berak, 22, has been bound over for trial in the murder of a police officer. The Macomb County man was charged with first-degree premeditated homicide and murder of a peace officer in the death of Oakland County Sheriff's Deputy Eric Overall, Nov. 23. He was accused of leading deputies on a chase and deliberately hitting and killing the deputy on M-15 at Seymour Lake Road. Overall, 50, was deploying stop sticks designed to deflate vehicles' tires when he was struck.

# Drug overdose

A 60-year-old Independence Township woman was treated for drug overdose, 3:28 a.m., March 15. Deputies and Independence Township firefighters responded to a residence in the 5000 block of N. Marshbank Lane for a subject who had overdosed on prescription medication. Deputies found the subject unconscious and not breathing. The caller advised deputies she believed her mother had taken approximately 30 Hydrocodone tablets. The subject's daughter believed she had intentionally overdosed on her prescription medication in an attempt to commit suicide. The subject had a history of abuse of prescription medication and prior suicide attempts. Deputies administered one dose of Narcan to the subject, who began breathing on her own but remained unconscious. Paramedics from the Independence Township Fire Department transported the subject to McLaren Hospital - Oakland for further treatment.

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







RIBBON CUTTING: Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, at right, and Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce members join employees, family, and friends of Springfield Urgent Care for a ribbon cutting ceremoney at their new location at 9749 Dixie Highway, Suite B, Feb. 22. *Photo provided* 

# Legacy 925 hosts grand opening

# First 500 folks through the door get free fan cards

### **BY ELISE SHIRE**

Special to the Clarkston News

Looking to have some fun with the whole family?

Legacy 925 will host a grand opening event on Saturday, March 24 from noon to midnight at 925 N. Lapeer Rd. in Oxford.

Owner Christian Mills is inviting the community to enjoy a day of fun, food, live music, entertainment and giveaways.

The first 500 people through the door on

will receive a "fan card," which gives guests free, several of Legacy 925's cluding bowling at Legacy Lanes, go-kart rides and laser tag.

Throughout the day, Legacy 925 will be offer-

ing other giveaways related to the 30-plus businesses that occupy the 208,000-squarefoot facility.

Legacy 925 opened its doors in 2015 as The Legacy Center and is focused on family entertainment, fitness and wellness, sports training, swimming, art, education, life-skill development and dining.

Over the last few years, Mills, owner of the Mills Real Estate Ventures, has been pouring all his time, effort and resources into renovating and repurposing Oxford's old Sea Ray

boat plant, which had degenerated into quite the eyesore over the years.

The result has been a privately-ownedand-operated community center situated on a 19.74-acre piece of property overlooking a scenic lake, just outside the heart of historic downtown Oxford.

As Legacy 925 prepares to open its restaurant/bar and a 500-seat theater/event center, Mills said there's no better time to host a grand opening event to celebrate the Oxford community's ongoing sup-

port.

"We've always thought of Legacy (925) as a community hub. It's a place for everyone," Mills said. "We really want people to reconnect. To get off - Legacy 925 owner their cell phones, to get off Christian Mills their computers and have some old-fashioned family fun.

> There really is something for everyone in this building."

> Just what kind of opportunities does Legacy 925 offer?

Here's what a few of the businesses and organizations located inside Legacy 925 had to say:

**On Pointe School of Dance: Oxford's "most** loved dance studio" is in Legacy 925! We offer classes for ages 2 and up in ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop; contemporary/lyrical & more.

Ideal Escape Rooms: Come enjoy live ac-

tion group games for families and friends. Find clues, solve puzzles and work together to beat the clock. All rooms are fully themed, challenging, and fun.

PKSA Karate Oxford: PKSA Karate Oxford offers beginner programs for all ages. No experience necessary to become part of our martial arts "family."

Escape VR: Escape VR provides immersive virtual reality experiences for all ages. With over 30 titles. Perfect for birthday parties, corporate events and more.

The Yo Club: The Yo Club is a self-serve frozen treat shop offering premium fro-yo, custard, gelato, dairy-free Italian ice and sorbet with a variety of topping choices.

Extraordinary Ventures Michigan: Extraordinary Ventures Michigan is a non-profit organization focused on employing differentlyabled adults. EVM operates a laundry service, indoor garden and a small parts assembly program.

Bullz Boxing Club: Bullz Boxing Club is a family-friendly gym teaching boxing and kickboxing, plus, Rock Steady Boxing to fight Parkinson's Disease. All ages and fitness levels welcome.



9

Wed., March 21, 2018 The Clarkston (MI) News

# **PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR:**

**Clarkston City Council Independence** Township **Board of Trustees** 

**Clarkston School Board** 

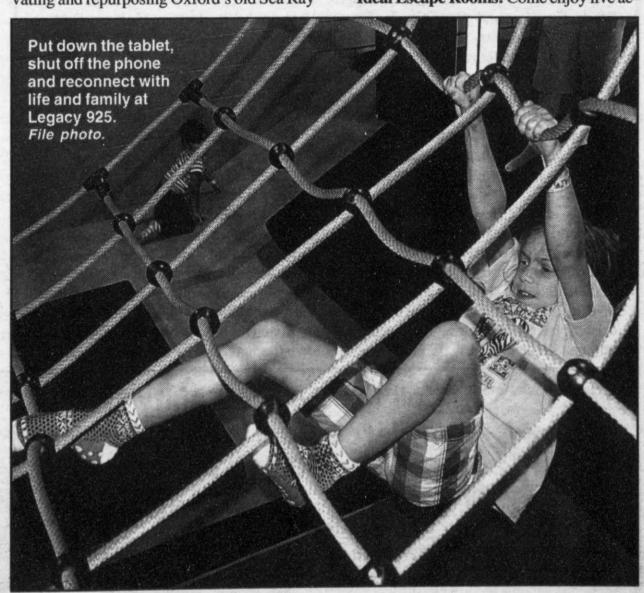
**Clarkston Independence District Library Board** 

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**On Comcast channel 20 and** AT&T Uverse channel 99.

For a complete schedule, Visit our website: www.independencetelevision.com or find us on Facebook.





'We've always thought year-long access to of Legacy (925) as a exciting attractions, in- community hub. It's a place for everyone."

# Sporting N Wolves stop Eaglets' flight

# **BY WENDI REARDON PRICE**

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Clarkston's cagers jumped to a quick start on their way to their 13th MHSAA Class A Boys Basketball Regional Championship last Thursday against Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 58-35.

"It's important for us to come out and make that first initial effort - that first punch," said senior Foster Loyer, who was named winner of the Hal Schram Mr. Basketball award on Monday afternoon. He added it was doing a lot of the little things Dan Fife, head coach, teaches them every day. "Tonight we came out, threw that first punch and led from the get-go."

"They have been here before," added Fife. "They have been in these circumstances so they come out knowing they have to win. It starts with effort mentally and physically."

The Eaglets opened with the first opportunity to shoot and Lorne Bowman's attempt missed.

Loyer connected a pass to senior Nick Wells, who scored to put Clarkston on the board and starting a 14-3 run with contributions coming from seniors CJ Robinson, Chase Wasilk, Taylor Currie and Loyer.

Robinson closed the first stanza with a three-pointers, his first of three for the night, which also put him as the 11th player in Clarkston Basketball history to make 100 career field goals. His total is 102 as he holds onto tenth place.

Loyer opened the second quarter with a

3-pointer and another two points from Currie put the Wolves lead to 22-5 before Eaglets'Bowman hit a 3-pointer.

The Wolves scored 16 more points to close the first half, 38-19. They held St. Mary's to 11 points in the third stanza to hold onto a 49-30 lead going into the final quarter.

"We know we have the bullseye on our back all the time," said Fife. "I have told our kids don't be nervous about scoring, be nervous about guarding. With that approach, they don't put a lot of pressure on themselves having to score. It's not so much pressure to shoot. The shots they shoot, I am fine with them because I watch them shoot every day and how hard they work. Everybody knows where their shot is coming from."

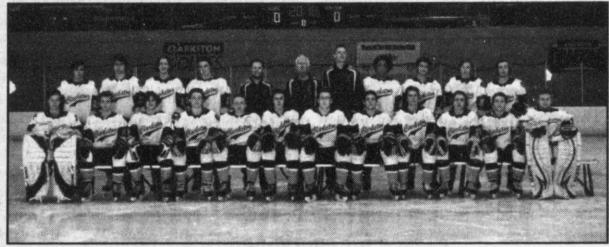
Despite the defense pressure from Chizi Nwaopara, Loyer led with 24 points, six assists, seven rebounds and three steals.

"It's what all the great ones do," Fife said. "They don't let anyone take them out of the game – mentally and physically. He knows he is going to get that. Every game he plays, he has a huge bullseye. I have talked to him, not a lot but sometimes, about keeping his composure. He is a great competitor."

Robinson had 13 points, four steals, five rebounds, four assists; Currie had ten points, 12 rebounds, five blocks; and Wasilk had seven points, five rebounds, three steals and two blocks.

Bowman led St. Mary's with 18 points. Please see Elite Eight on page 12

# **ATHLETES OF THE WEEK**



The Clarkston Varsity Hockey team including Brent Bachusz, Brendan Borawski, Brandt Botterill, Austin Burrum, Alex Carlson, Marcus Chiappelli, Cameron Exline, Trevor Gilman, Nik Highducheck, Austin James, Doni James, Yuri Karpushenkoff, Austin McKay, Daniel Milano, Trey Roy, Gage Stampe, Daniel Tremblay, Brendan Tungol and Billy Waite. Photo by Visual Sports Network

# Turnaround on ice

The Clarkston Varsity Hockey finished their winter season with a winning record.

The Wolves finished the season with a 15-8 overall record and 8-2 in OAA White for a second place finish. They had total of four shutouts against Bloomfield Hills, Royal Oak, and Oxford/ Avondale.

It was a turn around from last year's 4-16-2 overall record.

"It is a vast improvement," said Karl Daiek, head coach, adding they knew what the difference was in the two seasons.

The team finished the season to Orchard Lake St. Mary's in the MHSAA PreRegional on March 1, 10-2. The Clarkston Varsity Hockey team is freshman Billy Waite; sophomores Brandt Botterill, Austin Burrum, Marcus Chiappelli, Doni James; juniors Alex Carlson, Trevor Gilman, Nik Highducheck, Austin McKay, Daniel Milano, Drew Stark, Brendan Tungol; seniors Brent Bachusz, Brendan Borawski, Cameron Exline, Austin James, Yuri Karpushenkoff, Trey Roy, Gage Stamper and Daniel Tremblay.

Who is the next AOW?

Nominate your favorite athlete by

contacting Wendi at 248-625-3370

or at clarkstonnews@gmail.com

Daiek shared he believes any team is a reflection of the senior class.

"This senior class is important because, I believe, they got the program back on track," he added. "It was a very positive year primarily it is on the shoulders of the senior class. They had a good attitude, great approach to it. It proved in the results. They established the culture in the locker room and the approach on how to play in the game. We owe them a lot from that stand point."



CJ Robinson and Nick Wells block Chizi Nwaopara as the Wolves win the regional championship. Photo by Larry Wright

"We competed - that's the main thing," said Daiek. "The score wasn't indicative of the play," Daiek said. "We played certainly well enough to have a better outcome than what it was."

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The Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball team stands together for the national anthem before the quarterfinal game. Photos by Larry Wright

# Season ends in quarterfinals

# **BY WENDI REARDON PRICE**

Clarkston News Sports Writer

The season came to a heartbreaking end as the Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball lost their game to Saginaw Heritage in the quarterfinals, 70-25, on March 13.

"Losing anything, by one, by however many is going to be painful because that's the end of your season," said Christine Rogers, head coach. "We are choosing to remember how great the season really was. We are regional champs – we made it to the Elite Eight."

Clarkston scored within the first 20 seconds with a basket from Kayla Luchenbach off a pass from Taylor Heaton.

The Hawks' Shrine Strickland-Gills tied the score 26 seconds later, starting a 14-point run. They finished the first quarter with a 18-7 lead after Molly Nicholson had scored four points and Luchenbach scored one from the free throw line to help boost Clarkston.

"It was an off night shooting," added Rogers, as in the first half Luchenbach scored seven points, Nicholson had six points, and Heaton and Maddie Beck had three points each.

"Molly and Kayla, inside, were hitting their shots better," she said. "Our outside shots just weren't falling. You have those night and unfortunately it happened tonight. Our shooters had the confidence to keep are that good," she said about the Hawks, which finished as state champions in Class A with a 57-36 win over East Lansing on Saturday. "They are balanced. They are disciplined. They play at a high level. They moved the ball pretty quickly and it was always half a step ahead of us tonight which I didn't expect. I expected our defense to be like it has the last couple of weeks."

The Wolves (20-5) finished the season as co-champions of the OAA Red, district champions and regional champions.

"This was a very tight team," said Rogers. "One of the best teams I have coached. They get along and support each other. They will look back on their successes – we beat Waterford Kettering, we beat Marian, we shutdown Holly. We have had incredible successes. It's just too bad it had to end this way."

The Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball team returns freshmen Sam Aris, Piper Bosart, Kaelyn Kaul, Olivia Toderan; sophomores Taylor Heaton and Lexi Linton.

Rogers added making it to the Elite Eight will help them for the next coming seasons.

"It will give them good experience in high pressure games," she said. "This is what they know. They will expect to go into the post season, to make a run at it. They are going to expect to work hard and expect to be here every year."

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shooting and continued taking their shots. They didn't give up. They kept fighting."

During the second half, the Wolves scored six points with four from Luchenbach and two from Nicholson.

Rogers added they expected Saginaw Heritage to be able to hit a lot of field goals, work the floor and capitalize on turnovers.

"They are a very good team and we expect them to make a run for the title because they



The Wolves graduate seven seniors Beck, Luchenbach, Nicholson, Kiana Ayotte, Ali Buscher, Kelly Cousino and Meg Seilaff.

"They are an amazing group of girls," Rogers said. "They have worked so incredibly hard to develop their own skills and bring along our younger girls. This was heartbreaking to see them end this way. Maddie and Kayla will go on and have incredible college careers. My other seniors are going on to be just amazing people in whatever they decide to pursue. They gave the young girls an excellent chance to see their role models how hard they work. These seniors have set a legacy the younger girls coming up will expect to work hard, expect to be successful and have bright futures of their own."

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# Spring has sprung as competitions begin

Friday, March 23 Clarkston Girls Soccer hosts Davison. JV plays at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows Monday, March 26 Clarkston Girls Soccer host Anchor Bay. JV plays at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows Tuesday, March 27 Clarkston Baseball hosts Troy Athens. Both JV and varsity begin at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 28 Clarkston Track & Field teams host Lake Orion at Clarkston High School, 4 p.m.

For updates postponed games or cancelled games, please check Facebook – Clarkston Athletics, or follow the athletic department on Twitter @CtownAthSec.

# Elite Eight drive for final four spot

### continued from page 10

The Wolves opened the regional tournament with a 71-46 win over Troy on March 12. Loyer led the team with 23 points, eight assists and seven rebounds. Robinson had 22 points, six assists, five rebounds and four steals; Currie had 16 points, 17 rebounds and four blocks; Wells had four points and ten rebounds; and Wasilk had four points, six rebounds and three assists.

Clarkston (23-1) headed to their third quarterfinal in four years against Carman Ainsworth on Tuesday, which was played after *CNews* went to print.

"It's something we have been through. We go in each and every year – that's our expected outcome," said Loyer. "It's not a surprise with all the hard work we put in each and every day at practice, each and every day in the off season is what has gotten us here. We keep standing together and keep playing as a team and a family and we will be okay."

"I am proud of the way we played and represented our program," Fife added. "All the young kids can see how hard they play. It helps us in the idea we have had this bullseye, it's been growing here, for three to four years, and our kids have been playing with a lot of pressure."

The winner moves on to the state semifinals on Friday, 12 p.m. for an opportunity to play in the state championship on Saturday, 12:15 p.m. Both games are in the Breslin Center at Michigan State University.

# Lacrosse, soccer opens this week at home

Small snow piles are scattered over the grass, but athletes are ready to get the spring season going with competitions kicking off this week.

The Clarkston Girls Soccer team opens their season as they host Davison at Clarkston High School on Friday. JV begins at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.

Clarkston Boys Lacrosse have their sticks ready as they host Okemos on Saturday at 2 p.m.

"Okemos is traditionally a pretty good team," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Lacrosse Head Coach Brian Kaminskas. "It's a nice way to start off. We should be pretty evenly matched, going back into history. It's going to be a good kick off. I think it's going to be a little slow to start, but it will be good."

He added the players are coming off of a slow week as they have spent the first week of the season in the gym.

"We return a lot of offense players which is obviously a good thing," Kaminskas said. "Our defense is young, but they are certainly capable of playing for us. It will be what it is which is an early season non-divisional spring game. A chance for us to go out and test the waters for some guys and start to really mold others we know we will count on for the year."

He added Okemos will be a good test as boys lacrosse heads to Orchard Lake St.



Clarkston makes a play on Bloomfield in last year's playoffs. *File photo* 

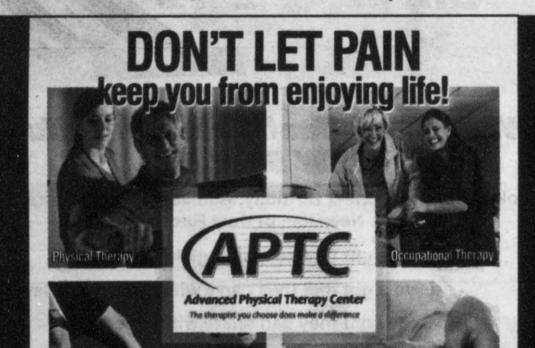
Mary's Prep next Tuesday with JV playing at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.

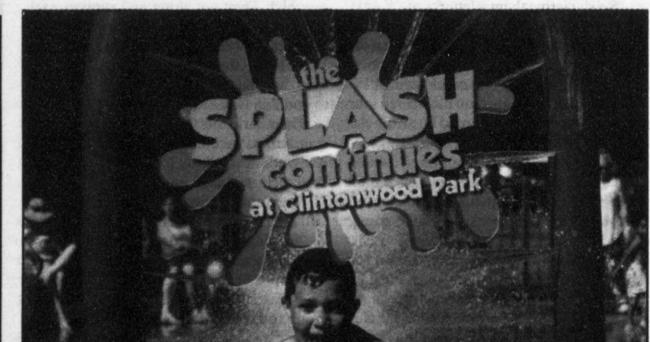
"It will expose us in some ways," he said. "It will reinforce us in others we knew we were strong in. It will allow us to do what you do at the start of the season – go in with a plan and then start rapidly changing the plan to see where you fit."

St. Mary's has a new coach, has increased participation within the program and also returns some of their offense players.

The Wolves are back home as they host Bloomfield Hills. Location was announced after this week's *CNews* went to print.

The Clarkston Girls Varsity Lacrosse team opens their season at Stoney Creek on March 29, 5 p.m. ~WARP





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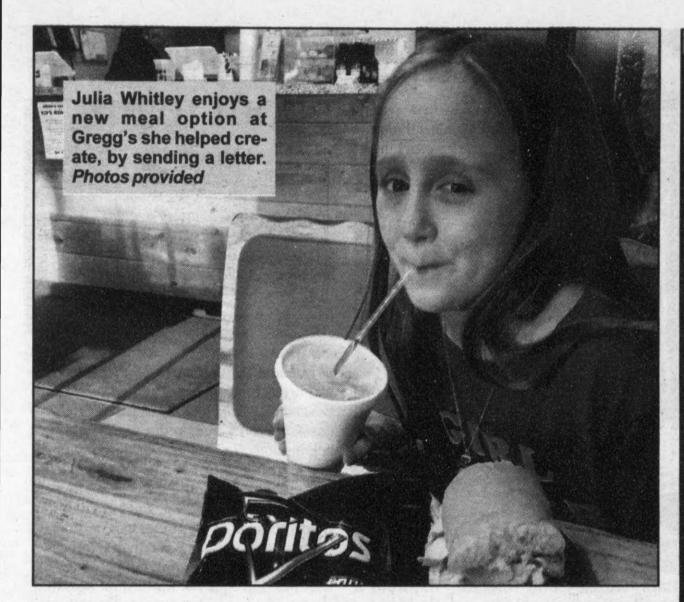
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# Splash Pad at Clintonwood Park A Community Fundraising Effort



The Splash Pad at Clinton and Park is undergoing a much needed overhaul and we need your helpf. Join us in this community fundraising effort to continue the splash at Clinton wood Park. Contact Amy Laborssonniere for more information! amyl@indetwp.com [ 248-625-8223 [ itprs.org



# Letter leads to new menu

Folks love the pizza at Gregg's Gourmet. For Julia Whitley, however, it can be too much of a good thing.

So she wrote them a letter.

"Dear Gregg's Gourmet," she wrote. "My family and I always go to Gregg's. I love your pizza and especially your breadsticks. But sometimes I get sick of pizza. I would like to have pasta, but I don't eat a lot of food, and there is a bigger food portion. I am 10 years old, the youngest of five kids, and I just don't eat as much as my brothers and sisters do. I wish there was a smaller portion of food for children, like a Kid's Meal. I just get sick of pizza, so I want to have something new once in a while. I hope you consider my idea. Love, Julia Whitley, a kid who loves Gregg's and who hopefully makes a difference at Gregg's Gourmet and in the world."

The pizzeria responded with a new Kid's Menu, offering pasta alfredo or marinara, sub, or chicken, with three breadsticks. "Julia is quite a little entrepreneur. She opens up little businesses at our house daily, charging just pennies or tickets for food service, counseling, gymnastics shows, ballet class, amusement games, massages, etc.," said Chris Whitley, Julia's mom. "So I wasn't surprised when she showed me the letter she wrote to Gregg's. She typed it, edited, revised, and added colors all by herself. She is so proud her letter made a difference." Her latest endeavor is a Lent activity in which she sells candy to earn money to send to Catholic Relief Services for children in need in Haiti, a location she chose because her cousin recently spent time volunteering there. "She's earned over \$20 so far just from her family," Chris said. "She cares about people and is always creating new services and products."

Her school, Clarkston Elementary, is a Leader In Me school and Julia really embraces its values, her mom said.

"The school has emphasized each child has a voice, a story, that is important, and now Julia can see that is true. Share your ideas with others, take risks, learn from your mistakes," she said. "She wants to invent something. So I keep telling her to look for problem and then find creative solutions for it. Her problem was her family getting pizza a lot and mom's unwillingness to buy a huge portion of another food for a little girl who eats small amounts. So, the light bulb in her head went on and she devised a plan. I'm happy Gregg's was receptive to her idea and hope other kids are inspired by her."

- Phil Custodio

Wed., March 21, 2018 The Clarkston (MI) News 13

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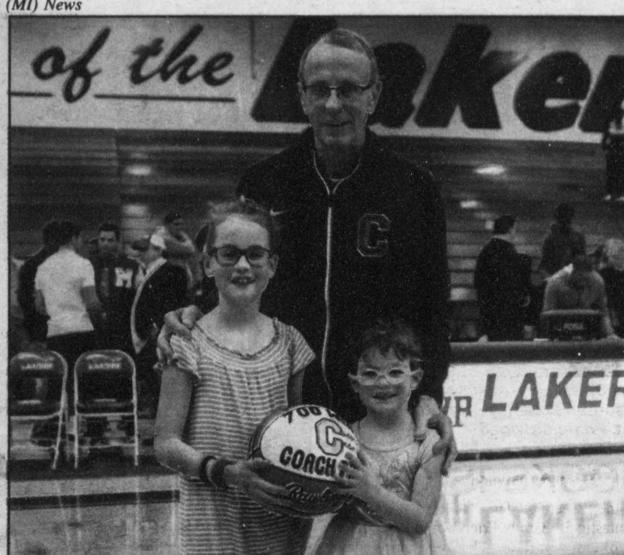
Gregg's posted the new kid's menu, and the letter inspiring it. This minimally invasive, out-patient procedure can heal your legs before they get worse. **Treatment is covered by most insurances, including Medicare.** 

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Coach Dan Fife and his granddaughters, Quinley and Raegan Fife, hold a "700" basketball presented to the coach after the regional win over St. Mary's. The design and painting is by Clarkston High School senior Christine Wakefield. Photo by Larry Wright

# Milestone all about team

# Continued from page 1

community, who they become," he shared. "It's really awesome. I just had five come and see me tonight after the game. We have to have trophies for all the right reasons, but we also have to produce kids to be involved and be a part of their life. I am so proud of all this. I couldn't have the success without the support of the kids, their families, the community and the teaching staff, the administration. The recognition is throughout the community."

Players begin their journey with McGrath Basketball during the winter, led by Fife with assistant coaches and varsity players helping and offering tips. During the summer, the learning continues as boys entering seventh through ninth grade can participate in Fife Basketball Camp; and boys entering fourth through sixth grades can participate in Fife Fundamentals Basketball Camp.

"I am proud of our program, proud of the kids who have played for me and who they become and how hard they played here," Fife added. "If they play hard they are going to be successful in life. They are used to it."

# Dance student small in size, big in talent

Therrien Keippala of Clarkston, 8, has the chance to represent Michigan in Dance Masters of America, a 10-day dance competition and convention in Anaheim, Calif., this June. But he needs help to get there.

"We have to fundraise almost all of the expenses, which are estimated to cost over \$6,000 if just Therrien and I go and about \$8,000 if the family goes," said his mother, Brandy Keippala. "While Therrien will receive some scholarships for the event, it doesn't cover all the expenses and none for his family."

They are a single income family with a special needs son, Cal.

"We really want our entire family of six, five family members and Cal's service dog, because my entire extended family lives in California," Brandy said. "My grandmother is getting older and I'm not sure my children will have many more opportunities to see her. My mom, sister, and nephews live a mile from the convention hotel as well. My dad is about 8 miles away while my various aunts, uncle, cousins, and my brother live about 25 miles. I'm hoping to have a great big family reunion while we are there. We haven't been to California in years due to finances and Cal's inability to travel, which has changed greatly since he was blessed with a service dog from Paws with a Cause."



**Therrien Keippala** 

Spotlight Dance Center, 7183 N Main Street, #B, with Session 1 from 4-5:30 p.m. for kids 4-9 with a parent; and session 2, 6-7:30 p.m. for pre-teen to adult, 10 and over. Suggested donation is \$20 per participant, which includes one pointe shoe and decorating supplies. Call or text Lizz Kaarlela at 428-250-3538, or email lizabethkaarlela@gmail.com. Therrien is a third grader at Andersonville Elementary. He started dancing in recreational hip hop classes while in preschool, and took more classes when his sister started dancing as well. He takes about six classes a week at Spotlight Dance Center. His solo is "Thomas O'Malley" a musical theater dance based on the movie Aristocats and was choreographed by Elizabeth Kaarlela. This is his first year on the dance team at Spotlight and his first ever solo.

The regional competition was Feb. 2-4 in South Lyon and included interview, rehearsals, and solo performance. Therrien won the title of Master Dance of Michigan 2018, and also won the interview portion of the event.

He will be traveling to Anaheim, Calif., from June 28 through July 8 for the DMA (Dance Masters of America) convention and competition. The 10-day event will include interview and talent presentation for the title of Master Dance of America.

"Therri really loves all the friends he makes at dance. He also loves that dancing helps him so many other ways like math, learning beats and counts and such, and hockey ballet is awesome for hockey players," Brandy said. "He is a really good teammate and always takes time to congratulate other dancers. I think he enjoys being the only boy on the team a bit. It does give him a ton of extra attention, but he would love if more boys tried dancing. He is always saying he wasn't born to be fit into a box and he just wants to try everything." He won first overall for his solo in the. Mini Competitive division at Dupree Dance Competition in Dearborn, and his group dances, lyrical and tap, took second and third overall. Follow Therrien's journey on his Facebook page, Master Dance of Michigan Therrien Keippala, or on Instagram @tKeippala.



Apply at OakGov.com/jobs

KLAND OaklandCountyParks.com

RES #OCPRJOBS

They are hosting a Pointe Shoe Decorating Fundraiser and Contest on March 24 at

- Phil Custodio



The North Sashabaw Elementary team The Bionic Puppy Readers, from left, Erica Klebba, Alison Lehigh, Scarlet Anderson, and Charley Bousho, are ready to take on readers from all over the district. Photo provided

# Battle of the Books is on

**Clarkston Community Schools have teamed** up and are ready to rumble, academically speaking, at the first-ever District Battle of the Books, 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 27, at Independence Elementary.

Two teams from each of Clarkston's seven elementary schools will compete, including Andersonville Elementary's The Hazardous Readers and Otherwise Known

Well-read students from all over as the Sweet Readers; Bailey Lake's Five Fantastic 5th Grade Friends and Big Green Bookers; Clarkston Elementary's The People Who Read the Books and Dabbing Pugicorns; Independence Elementary's Book Broncos and Brainy Bunch; North Sashabaw's Mr. Pig and the Pugs and The Bionic Puppy Readers; Pine Knob's Starbursts and Reading Rangers, and Springfield Plains' The Golden Read-trievers and Reunited Radical Readers.



Wed., March 21, 2018 The Clarkston (MI) News 15

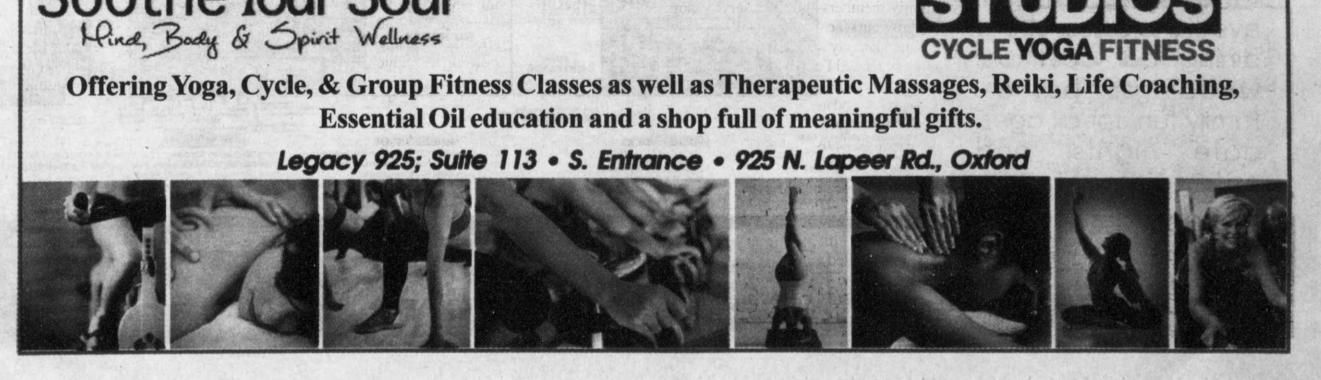
Here at Fuel Your Life Café, it is our Intent to Fuel the community with REAL Whole Foods, made with Love and attention to details. From our hands on and demonstration style Cooking Classes for all ages, to our healthy grab and go meals. Fuel Your Life Café and Cooking School is committed to providing YOU, our extended family, with a place to Fuel your life with culinary experiences & wonderful foods to support your busy life.

We use Organic and All-Natural ingredients whenever possible including organic, unbleached flour & sugars in our baked goods. Our customer favorites are our Blueberry Lemon Scones; Chocolate Chip and Snickerdoodle Cookies; Quiches; Daily Soups; Salads; Breakfast Bowls & Power Bowls along with our Smoothies made with REAL Fruit. We are very proud to serve Organic Chazzano Coffee - straight up or featured in our coffee house specialty drinks. Go to www.fuelyourlifecate.com and visit our events page for class offerings. Follow us on FB and Instagram for Daily Soups and Specialty Dishes.



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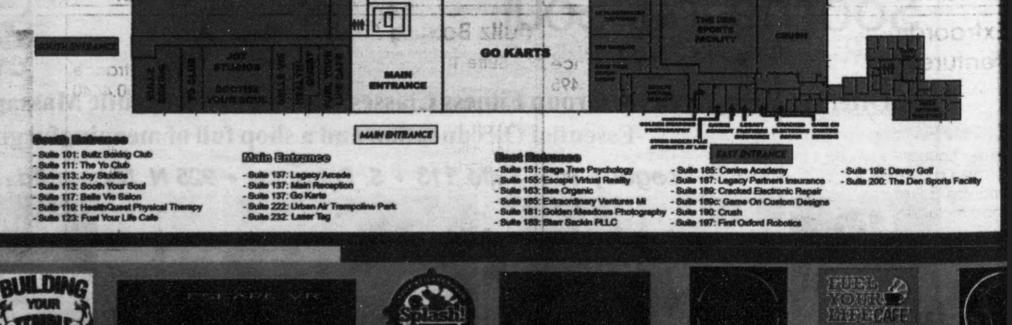




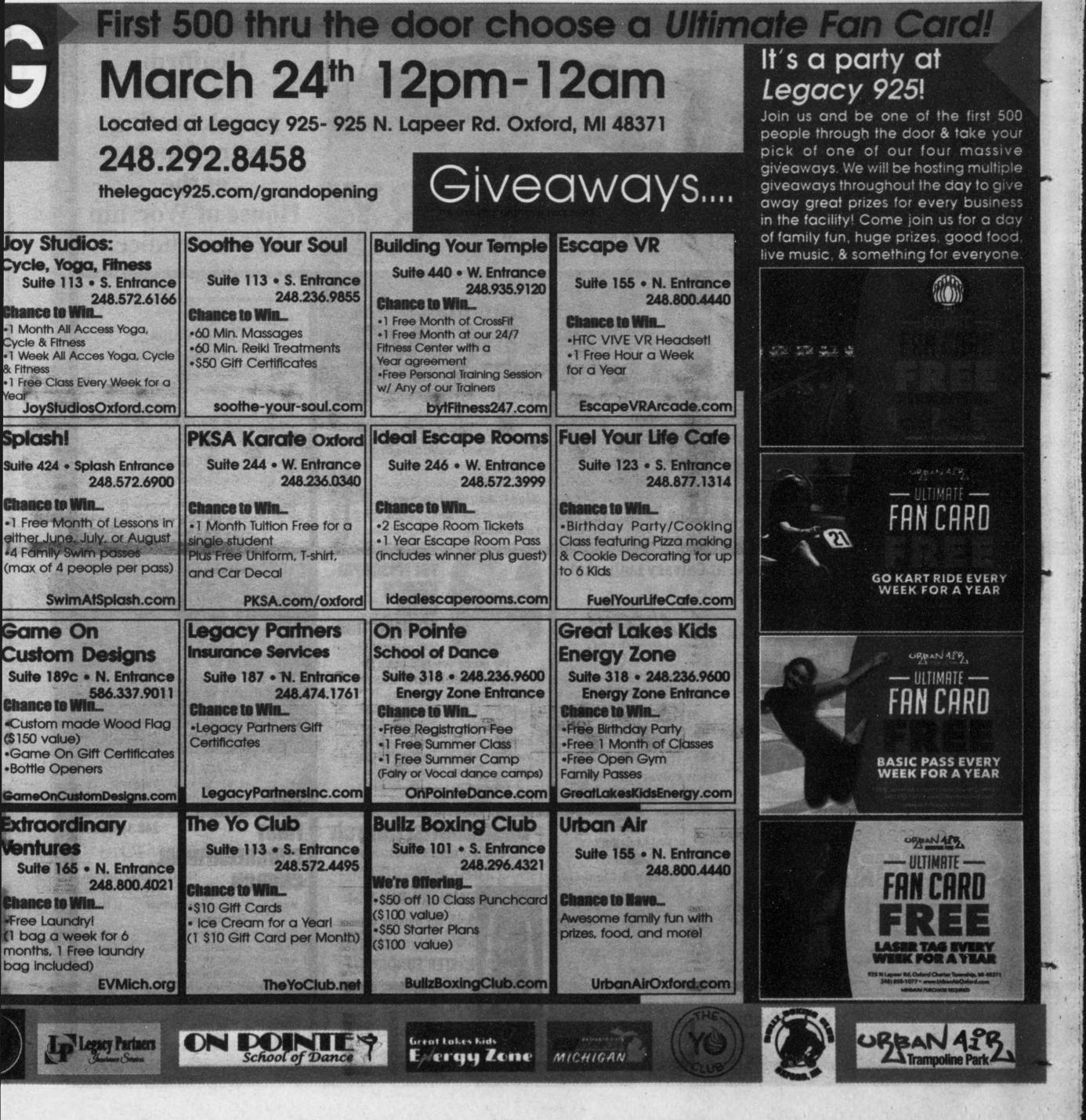
events, classes, street dining, bar, cocktails, weddings, parties, family fun, for all ages, date nights, and entertainment for everyone!

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fundraising, shops,









# CELEBRATE EASTER

Clarkston United Methodist Church 6600 Waldon Rd. Clarkston MI www.clarkstonumc.org 248-625-1611 PALM SUNDAY March 25 9am & 11am MAUNDY THURSDAY March 29 7pm GOOD FRIDAY March 30 12pm & 7pm EASTER SUNDAY April 1 9am & 11am Bixie Baptist Church 8585 Dixie Hwy, Clarkston (248) 625-2311 PALM SUNDAY-3/24 9:45 am Sunday Service 5:30 pm Evening Service EASTER SUNDAY-4/1 9:45 am Easter Service 5:30 pm Sunday Service

www.dixiebaptist.org Dr. J. Todd Vanaman

	REGATIONAL 5449 (larkston)	Rd Clarkston		
CHUR		5449 Clarkston Rd, Clarkston Just East of Sashabaw		
March 25	Palm Sunday Youth Dinner Easter Egg Hunt	11:15am		
March 25	Palm Sunday Choir Concert	3:00pm		
March 29	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00pm		
March 30	Good Friday Service	Noon		
April 1	Easter Sunday Service	10:00am		

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firstcongregationalchurch.org



From left, Sandra Deering, Eileen White, Verne Vackaro, Gina Joy Roemer, Katie Hendrikson, and Sean Harbert react to a puzzling piece of evidence. Photos provided by Emily Dowd, ejphotos.com

Sean Herbert as Mile Jarvis tries to comfort Katie Hendrikson's Olivia Hebdon.



**Nik Khator as Rhamat Singh explains** the way things are.





# Mystery in music

Clarkston Village Players presents "The Swan Song, A Study in Terror," by Mike Johnson, March 23-25 and 29-31 at Depot Theater.

Katie Hendrikson stars as Olivia Hebdon; Sean Harbert as Miles Jarvis; Nik Khator as Rhamat Singh; Verne Vackaro as Gary Krager; Sandra Deering as Aletha Dru; Gina Joy Roemer as Lolinda Hebdon; and Eileen White as Emma Thorpe in a harrowing tale of mystery, murder, madness and revenge.

Tickets are \$15 Friday-Saturday; \$13 Thursday and Sunday. Call 248-425-5842 or email cvptickets@comcast.net.

### Events

Sparkle Awards Special Education Appreciation Evening, 6 p.m., March 21, Clarkston Junior High School Auditorium. Sparkle Awards recognize individuals and student groups who support local students with IEPs, ccssparkleawards@gmail.com.

Road Rally Through the Decades, Young Professionals Network, 5-8 p.m., March 22. Shuttle bus provided by Bowman Chevrolet.

Battling Cognitive Decline and Alzheimer's One Brain at a Time, 6 p.m., March 22. Free presentation at Nuview Nutrition Wellness Center, 7300 Dixie Highway, Suite 500. Call 248-625-5143 to reserve seat.

Fund raiser for Clarkston Area Youth Assistance, March 22, 5-8 p.m., Leo's Coney Island, 6325 Sashabaw Road. Leo's will donate 10 percent of all proceeds to CAYA. 248-623-4313.

**Community Egg Hunt**, Clarkston United Methodist Church, 2 p.m., March 24. Hunt for 3,000-plus eggs, photo with Easter Bunny, refreshments. Free.

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Spring into Action for My Habitat Clarkston, 6-9 p.m., March 24, Bowman's Auto Center, 9603 Dixie Highway. Strolling dinner, silent auction, entertainment. \$50.

Easter Egg Hunt, 1 p.m., March 31, Oakland Woods Baptist Church, 5628 Maybee Road.

### \*\*\*

40th reunion, Clarkston High School Class of 1978, June 30. Contact Diane, 248-251-7314.

### 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. Around Jown

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



Mt. Zion Youth Theatre presents "Flapper," a madcap musical comedy tribute to the 1920's written by Tim Kelly with music and lyrics by Bill Francoeur, at the Mt. Zion Theatre, 4900 Maybee Road, Friday, March 23, at 7 p.m.; and Saturday, March 24 at 1 p.m. 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 at mtzionarts.org. *Photo provided* 

April 10, 7p.m. Topic: "The Seasons are Changing but am I?" Led by a Bereavement Counselor for Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home. Carriage House in Clintonwood Park. Free. Walk-ins welcome. 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. \$40/semester, free for high school students. Band room, Sashabaw Middle School, 5565 Pine Knob Lane, clarkstonband@gmail.com.

Needlework Night, fourth Tuesday, 6:30-8 p.m. Stitch and visit. Everyone welcome. Springfield Township Library, 12000 Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Network, fourth Tuesday, 9-10 a.m., Picasso's Grapevine, 12 S Main Street. Free for chamber members.

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

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

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# **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.

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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.

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.

Saturday

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### \*\*\*

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

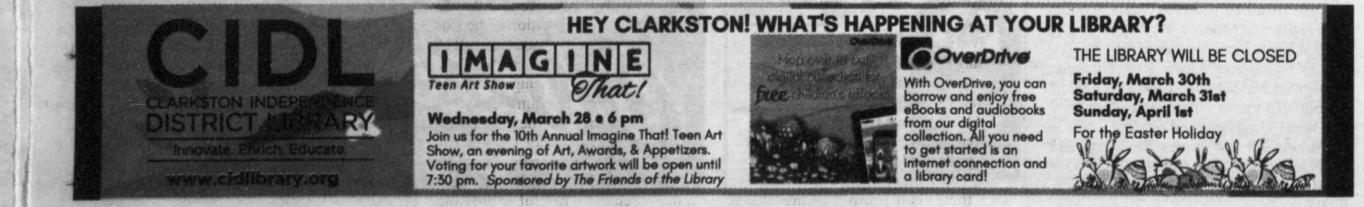
Tuesday Wint's Healing Hearts Grief Support Group, Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

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

Networking Get-Together, Clarkston Area

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

Lunches for 50+, Thursdays, 12 p.m., madefrom-scratch. \$7. Independence Township Adult Activities Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. **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 taken of child's eyes to check for potential vision problems. Immediate results. 248-625-2212, www.clarkstonlions.org.





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



# Jumpers top \$10,000 for heart health

### **BY BRENDA DOMINICK**

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Clarkston kids jumped their hearts out last month and proved their true commitment to health.

Anthony Taormina, physical education teacher at Pine Knob Elementary, thanked PKE families last week for helping the school break their record for the highest "Jump Rope for Heart" fundraising donation total of \$11,280 for the American Heart Association.

"The money collected is donated to the AHA, and they have incentives for the Physical Education teachers and schools if you collected a certain amount of money," Taormina said. "I think it's \$500 increments, then \$1,000, \$5,000; they will give you \$100 gift cards to U.S. Games, a supplier for physical education equipment. organization funds research, advocates for stronger public health policies, and provides public health education. Currently, the AHA has 22.5 million volunteers and supporters, and more than 3,000 employees.

When Taormina began at Pine Knob in 2012, he started giving his own incentives to the kids such as a "Jump Rope for Heart" banner, in which the class raising the most money were able to hang their banner up for a week. Also, if the class goal was reached, the teachers participated in "pie in the face" event. "I just started really motivating the kids in class, and going over heart to heart education, explaining to them about the heart and why it's important to keep it healthy," he said. "I've tied it into academic service learning projects." "It's basically a couple days of jumping, and I talk to the students about why it's important. We learn about our heart rates, how to check our heart rates. Also, this year I did something different with our third, fourth and fifth graders. I let them make their own groups and they came up with their own jump

routine. Then, on the last day of our unit, they did their jump routine in front of the class, it was 30 seconds to a minute."

Taormina encouraged the **Taormina** 

kids to do their best, while allowing them to take their time and go at their own pace. Some of his students are personally dealing with heart conditions or have close family with it.

Some of our students do have heart issues, maybe murmurs, or things that they tell me 'I have a heart condition." he said. "I say (to the kids), 'this is why we do these things, we promote the AHA to help people with broken hearts, and that money goes to scientists and researchers to develop medicines and things that help people fix their hearts."" The students asked family members, friends and neighbors for donations, but what Taormina thinks really helped was the convenience of payment options. He said since the AHA began taking donations on their website



"I don't know how much we earned this year, because everything just got submitted. So I'll find out in the next few weeks," he added

AHA was founded in 1924 by a group of cardiologists, and is the nation's largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. The

# Students practice CPR, using Annie Manikins mannequins.

about three years ago, donations have increased tremendously.

"This has been our best year for online donations. I think we had between \$8,000-\$9,000 in online donations," he said.

Taormina said Nichole Piche, the AHA representative, did an amazing job at preparing his classes for Jump Rope for the Heart. Piche and the Physical Education classes met a couple times before the campaign started, as well as when it finished. He added she was very helpful in providing the materials they needed and in a timely fashion and she also joins the school for opening and closing assemblies each year.

Piche assists the PE classes with motivation by scheduling a jump team to come to PKE and perform at our opening assembly. Last year, she was able to provide CPR Annies (Manikins) so they were able to teach the fifth graders the proper technique for "Hands-Only CPR."

For more information, visit www.heart.org.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

# **Attend The Church Of Your Choice**

# **IRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

FCLARKSTON 2 Paramus, Clarkston ated 2 blies. N. of Dixie Hwy. (E.of M-15) at Bible Fello 6:00 pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Wed: 6:15-8:00 pm NA (Pre-school-Gr.6) per Fi (Teens, Gr. 7-12)

# CLARKSTON

**COMMUNITY CHURCH** 6300 Clarkston Road • Clarkston 248) 625-1323 astor: Greg Hen 15 and 11:00 a.m. idren's Ministries: aber thru April sdays, 6:45-8:00 p.m. nt Ministries: iay: 3:00-7:00 p.m. ww.clarkstoncommu

### **CALVARY LUTHERAN** (ELCA) CHURCH larkston Came

### 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 ery Available During Service Group Sunday 6:00pm Call for days and times www.fcclarkston.com

### CLARKSTON UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH Road, Clarkston 48) 625-1611 bsite: www.clarkston Sunday Worship: 9:00 am & 11:00 am Nursery available for all services

# DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH 8585 Dbde Highwy, Clarkston (248) 625-2311 vebsite: www.dixiebaptist.org fome of Springfield Christian Academy & Thildren's Ark Preschool tor: J. Todd Van Sun: 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am Sunday School for all ages 6:00 pm Worship Service d: 7:00 pm Children and Teen Clubs & ilable for all services. lursery ava

# Religion Events Preaching

# **April is Autism Awareness Month**

Spiritual

Matters

**Pastor Greg** 

Henneman

grandparents now.

Both of our grandsons appear to be healthy, but we know that every parent nowadays worries about the health of their children.

As a pastor I have several friends who have autistic children. In fact, two families on my staff have autistic children. I know their stress and strain is much greater than normal.

Since April is autism awareness month, I think we all should become more aware of what autism is and how

to help families that are facing this challenge.

I searched online and learned in the United States, 1 in 68 children is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

Boys are 4.5 times more likely than girls to be identified with ASD.

Signs of autism often start between 12 and 18 months of age. Sometimes a child will appear to be developing normally until the second year of life, and

My wife and I are privileged to be then the onset of autism is evident.

Since I know some parents who have refused to give vaccinations to their children, I was very interested to learn that extensive research over the past 20 years has shown there is no link between vaccinations and ASD.

I found the above information online at www.magellanhealthinsights.com.

I am so grateful for the friendships and support that churches bring to our lives. We are a community and we do not have to face these challenges alone.

I am pleased that on Sunday, April 8, we will have Ron Sandison be our guest speaker in both of our services, 9:15 a.m. and 11 a.m..

Ron is a young married man who has autism. He has an amazing story to tell.

He has published a book called "A Parent's Guide to Autism: Practical Advice. Biblical Wisdom." He has spoken all over the country, bringing hope and help to families facing the challenge of autism.

I invite you to join us as we learn how to support each other. For more information go to www.clarkstoncommunity.com.

The Rev. Greg Henneman is pastor of Clarkston Community Church

# In our local churches...

Adult Bible Fellowships, Sunday School, Bible Study by the Fire for adults and older youth, October-May, Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Sashabaw Presbyterian Church, 5300 Maybee Road, 248-673-3469.

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ST. TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

or Mike Duchene habaw Road, Clarkston le N. of DTE Music Theater) 248 625-4644 CABLE BROADCAST WORSHIP SCHEDULE -Clarkston CATV-10 Sun 200pm, Thurs.900pm Waterford CATV-10 Sun. 12:30 pm, ry 8:15 am & 11:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 am ST, TRINITY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL Phone: (248)620-6154 Email: strinitos:@concast.net ns for 3 & 4 year old's

### **HEDGEWOOD CHURCH**

n, 48348 (248) 625-1344 ys at 9am & 10:45am



11 a.m., Dixie Baptist Church, 8585 Dixie Highway, 248-625-2311.

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

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

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

\* \* \*

\* \* \*

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

DivorceCare 13-weekly seminars, Thursdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Call 248-625-1611.

\* \* \*

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



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That a regular meeting held on January 23, 2018 the Charter Township of Independence Board of Trustees approved the Introduction and First Reading of the amendments to the following sections of the Charter Township of Independence Zoning Ordinance as presented and to schedulethe Second Reading on the next available Board of Trustees Regular Meeting to consider adoption of the ordinance as follows:

\*\*NOTE: This is a tracked version showing the proposed changes to the existing ordinance provisions. Underlined words are proposed to be added to the ordinance. Words that are struck through are proposed for deletion from the current ordinance. Words not underlined or struck through are to remain in the current ordinance.

### STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF OAKLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE ORDINANCE NO. 2018-TBD ORDINANCE AMENDING ZONING ORDINANCE (TEXT AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE)

An Ordinance to amend the following Sections of Chapter 50, "Zoning Ordinance," of the Independence Charter Township Code: Section 2.02 "Definitions" to add a new definition of the term, "commercial indoor recreation facility"; Section 4.23 "ML Limited Industrial Zoning District" to add a new subsection 8 allowing commercial indoor recreational facilities as a permitted principal use; Section 9.04, "Sashabaw Town Center Overlay District" to NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That a regular meeting held on July 25, 2017, the Charter Township of Independence Board of Trustees approved a First Reading of an amendment to the Township's Code of Ordinances and scheduled a Second Reading of the amendment at a regular meeting to be held on August 8, 2017 to consider adoption of the ordinance as followsdelete the requirement for Township Board approval and require only Planning Commission approval; and Section 13.05, "Nonconforming Lots of Record" to delete the prohibition of ZBA variances for

side yard setbacks of less than 5 feet.

### THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE OR-DAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 of Ordinance

Chapter 50, "Zoning Ordinance," Article 2, "Definitions," Section 2.02, "Definitions," of the Independence Charter Township Code is hereby amended to add the newlydefined term "commercial indoor recreational facility" in alphabetical order with all other existing definitions, which newly defined term shall read as follows:

Commercial Indoor Recreation Facility. An enterprise conducted entirely within a building, which receives a fee in return for the provision of some recreational activity. Such activities and facilities include, but are not limited to, racquetball, tennis courts, gymnasiums, swimming pools, skating rinks, performance studios, indoor skateboard parks, climbing facilities, indoor driving ranges, batting cages, firing ranges, basketball courts, indoor soccer fields and similar activities or facilities. Such facilities may provide ancillary accessory uses such as pro shops or snack bars.

### Section 2 of Ordinance

Chapter 50, "Zoning Ordinance," Article 4, "District Regulations," Section 4.23, "ML Limited Industrial Zoning District," of the Independence Charter Township Code is hereby amended to add a new subsection 4.23.B.8 to read as follows: fields and indoor gymnasiums. C. Special Land Uses.[Unchanged].

- D. Area, Height, Bulk, and Placement Requirements.[Unchanged].
- E. Special Development Standards.[Unchanged].

Section 3 of Ordinance Chapter 50, "Zoning Ordinance," Article 9, "Planned

Districts, Overlay Districts, and Other Special Development Regulations," Section 9.04, "Sashabaw Town Center Overlay District," of the Independence Charter Township Code is hereby amended to change subsection 9.04.B to read as follows:

### SECTION 9.06SASHABAW TOWN CENTER OVERLAY DISTRICT

A Intent and Purpose. [Unchanged].

- Applicable Area and Requirements of the Town Center Overlay District. The "Sashabaw Town Center Overlay District" (sometimes also referred to in this section as the "town center" or "area") encompasses the area as illustrated in the Sashabaw Town Center District Overlay Map which is attached as an amendment to and made part of the official zoning map of the Township.
- 1. All developments within the Sashabaw Town Center Overlay District shall be submitted for approval in accordance with the standards and procedures set forth in this Ordinance; provided, however, that all development of property within the Sashabaw Town Center Overlay District shall comply with the standards and requirements of this section in addition to all other regulations under this Ordinance. The standards and requirements of this section are in addition to and supplement all other regulations under this Ordinance, which remain applicable to the extent that they do not expressly conflict with the provisions of this section. To the extent a Township official or body reviewing a plan or application under this Ordinance determines in its discretion that a conflict exists between the standards under this section and those of other sections of this Ordinance, the standards under this section shall apply.

 The following uses shall not be required to be treated as a planned unit development or special land use, but shall otherwise be subject to the requirements of this section:

- Uses located within the IOP industrial office park district; or
- Uses existing at the time of adoption of this section for which there is an approved and effective site plan.

3. Unless submitted as a planned unit development under Section 9.02, all development of property within the Sashabaw Town Center Overlay District, except as noted in subsection 2.b. of this section, shall require the grant of special land use approval and site plan approval. Both of such approvals may be sought and obtained concurrently upon request of the property owner and approval of such request by the Planning Commission. The grant of special land use approval and site plan approval shall be made by the Township Board, following the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Subject to the specific provisions of this section, special land use approval and site plan approval shall be based upon the standards and procedures set forth in Articles 6 and 7, respectively.

4. With respect to the town center area, the standards and requirements of this section d. are in addition to and supplement all other regulations under this Ordinance, which remain applicable to the extent that they do not expressly conflict with the provisions of this section. To the extent the Township BoardPlanning Commission determines in its discretion that a conflict exists, the tion of an adequate dwelling, the storage of family automobiles, (in recognition of the fact that on street parking is not desirable) the maintenance of sufficient open space to permit fire protection and reasonable light and air, as well as room and views to permit and encourage property maintenance.

B. All nonconforming lots of record shall have required side yard setbacks of at least one (1) side of five (5) feet, and a total on two (2) sides of fifteen (15) feet.
C. No permit shall issue hereunder, except as provided in subsectionD. of this section, except with approval of the Board of Appeals after public hearing in accordance with Article 14. The application to the Board of Appeals shall simply state, Nonconforming Lot of Record," and the Board of Appeals shall permit the use of such nonconforming lot or lots if it finds that the following standards have been met:

- Permits shall not issue hereunder unless the construction that will result from the issuance of said permits will be in keeping with the general character of the neighborhood in which the construction will take place;
- The proposed use will not have an adverse effect on adjoining and nearby property owners;
- 3. Subject to the above, where the owner of a nonconforming lot of record cannot reasonably acquire sufficient land to enable him or her to conform to the requirements of this Ordinance relating to lot area, lot width, or both, such nonconforming lot of record may be used by such owner as a building site; provided that such owner meet such conditions as required by the Board of Appeals; and
- The nonconforming lot of record shall meet all other requirements of this Ordinance, which requirements for the purpose of this section shall be deemed to include reasonable provisions for automobile parking.
- D. For the purpose of maintaining building sites in compliance or near compliance with this Ordinance in those instances where the same owner has adjoining nonconforming lots of record, the following regulations shall apply:
  - Where two (2) abutting lots of record or portions thereof are held under one (1) ownership and where one or both of these lots or portions thereof are nonconforming, they together shall be considered as a single lot of record and are subject to the provisions of subsection D. of this section, and no portion of said parcel shall be used or sold in a manner which diminishes compliance with lot width and area requirements established by this article; and
  - 2. Where three (3) or more abutting lots of record are held under one (1) ownership, and where one (1) or more of these lots are nonconforming, the lots shall be held and maintained in such a manner as to comply with the area and width provisions of this Article, and the provisions of this Ordinance relating to lot area and lot width shall not be avoided by the sale or conveyance of or any portion of such lots of record.
- E. Where three (3) or more abutting lots of record are held under one (1) ownership, and where one (1) or more of these lots are nonconforming, the lots shall be held and maintained in such a manner as to comply with the area and width provisions of this Article, and the provisions of this Ordinance relating to lot area and lot width shall not be avoided by the sale or conveyance of or any portion of such lots of record. Section 5 of Ordinance

Savings. Amended only as specified in this Ordinance, the Zoning Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

### Section 6 of Ordinance

Severability. If any section, clause or provision of

### Wed., March 21, 2018 The Clarkston (MI) News 23

than fifteen percent (15%) of the total vote cast for all candidates for governor at the last preceding general election at which a governor was elected. **Section 8 of Ordinance** 

Enactment. This ordinance is declared to have been enacted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Independence at a meeting called and held on

\_\_\_\_\_, 2018, and ordered to be given publication in the manner prescribed by law.

Auges	1018			27
Ayes:				
Nays:				
Abotonti		1.00		

Absent: STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF OAKLAND

I, the undersigned, the qualified and acting Clerk of the Charter Township of Independence, Oakland County, Michigan, do certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the Ordinance adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Independence at a meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2018, the original of which is on file in my office.

which is on file in my office. CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE Barbara A. Pallotta, CMC

SS.

Clerk of the Charter Township of Independence Introduced: January 23, 2018 Published:

# STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF OAKLAND

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS FOR TRUST

In the Matter of Robert E. Allison, settlor of the Robert E. Allison and Alice J. Allison Family Revocable Living Trust.

Date of Birth: August 1, 1930

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Robert E. Allison, died February 10, 2018.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Robert E. Allison and Alice J. Allison Family Revocable Living Trust Dated February 29, 2000, will be forever barred unless presented to Alice J. Allison, Trustee(s) within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

 ROBERT G. ISGRIGG, JR. P-24924
 Alice J. Allison

 Attorney for Alice J. Allison
 Trustee

 2475 Pontiac Lake Road
 2601 Hatchery Road, 320

 Waterford, Michigan 48328
 Waterford, Michigan 48329

(248) 682-8800

### PUBLIC NOTICE Because the People Want to Know INDEPENDENCE TWP. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Independence Township Hall

6483 Waldon Center Drive, Clarkston, MI 48346

- A CALL TO ORDER
- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES
- C. ROLL CALL:
- D. REVIEW OF AGENDA: Agenda additions or deletions require a majority vote of Board Members present.
- . PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:
- F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
- G. NEW BUSINESS:
  - Case #18-005, Ralph Claus, Petitioner, Requesting: Two (2) total variances: 1) A 60 foot lot width variance and 2) A variance to exceed the ¼ width to depth ratio maximum; both from Section 4.06(D), Table 4.06 for the purposes of a lot split.

### **SECTION 4.23 ML LIMITED INDUSTRIAL**

- A Intent.[Unchanged].
- B. Permitted Principal Uses. Permitted principal uses in the ML limited industrial district include the following:
  - Data processing and computer centers, including sales, service and maintenance of data processing equipment.
  - 2. Warehousing, refrigerated and general storage, except that there shall be no outdoor storage.
  - Manufacturing or assembly of professional, scientific and controlling instruments, photographic and optical goods.
  - 4. Experimental or testing laboratories.
  - Basic research, design, and pilot or experimental product development.
  - Executive, administrative, professional, accounting, writing, clerical, stenographic, drafting, and sales offices.
  - 7. Printing and publishing and allied industries.
  - <u>Commercial indoor recreation facility, such as</u> but not limited to golf driving ranges, athletic

- provisions of this section shall apply.
- C. Permitted Uses and Structures within the Town Center Overlay District. [Unchanged].
- D. Town Center Design Guidelines and Other General Design Principles and Standards Within the Town Center Overlay District. [Unchanged].
- E. Specific Design Standards within the Town Center Overlay District. [Unchanged].

### Section 4 of Ordinance

Chapter 50, "Zoning Ordinance," Article 13, "Nonconforming Lots, Uses, and Structures," Section 13.05, "Nonconforming Lots of Record," of the Independence Charter Township Code is hereby amended to delete subsection 13.05(F)andread as follows:

# SECTION 13.05NONCONFORMING LOTS OF RECORD

- A. This section applies to those districts in which singlefamily residential is the principal permitted use and is intended to provide relief for the owners of nonconforming lots of record where said lot or lots in combination do not meet the minimum standards of this Ordinance. It is not intended that this section be used to permit construction of a dwelling on all nonconforming lots of record; it is recognized that some such lots are simply too small to permit the construc-
- this Ordinance shall be declared to be unconstitutional, yoid, illegal or ineffective by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such section, clause or provision declared to be unconstitutional, void or illegal shall thereby cease to be a part of this Ordinance, but the remainder of this Ordinance shall stand and be in full force and effect. Section 7 of Ordinance

Effective. The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective eight (8) days from the date of publication, unless a notice of intent to file a petition requesting submission of this Ordinance to a vote of the Township electors is filed within seven (7) days of publication. If the notice of intent is filed within seven (7) days of publication, the Ordinance shall take effect thirty-one (31) days from the date of publication, unless a petition determined to be adequate by the Township Clerk is filed within thirty (30) days of publication, in which event the Ordinance shall be submitted to a vote of the Township electors, and if approved, the effective date of the Ordinance will be the date that voter approval is determined. A petition requesting submission of this Ordinance to a vote of the Township electors shall be deemed adequate by the Township Clerk if it is signed by a number of registered electors residing in the portion of the Township outside the limits of cities and villages equal to not less

9680 Sashabaw Rd., Parcel #08-03-451-013, R-1A Single Family Residential.

 Case #18-006, Comfort Care Senior Living (Sean Elkhatib), Petitioner, Requesting: A 75 square foot room size variance for efficiency units, 124 square foot room size variance for one (1) bedroom units, and 95 square foot room size variance for two (2) bedroom unit, all from Section 8.16(F), Table 8.16-4 in order to construct an assisted living facility, 5850 White Lake Rd., Parcel #08-30-476-004, R-3 Elderly Housing Residential.

### H. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. Regular Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2018
- DISCUSSION:
- ADJOURNMENT:

NOTICE: The above requests may be examined at the Building Department during regular business hours. Written comments may be sent to the attention of the Zoning Board of Appeals c/o Charter Township of Independence – Building Department; 6483 Waldon Center Drive – Clarkston, Michigan 48346 prior to the Meeting / Public Hearing. For further information call (248) 625-8111. Barbara A. Pallotta, Clerk

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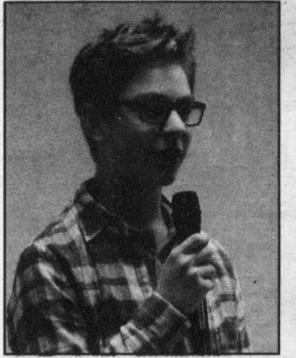




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Parker Szachta earned second place in the essay contest.

Catherine Laube won first place and a gold medal.

# Writers 'optimistic' about respect

# **BY PHIL CUSTODIO**

Clarkston News Editor

Clarkston Area Optimists' 2018 Essay Contest, March 14, asked students "Can society function without respect?"

"We received 15 excellent entries this year. They were wonderful," said Optimist Kelly Schaller. "We're glad we got to recognize youth in our area."

Catherine Laube, 17, earned the first place gold medal, winning a \$200 prize and the chance to represent the Clarkston Optimist Club in district competition for a \$2,500 prize. The Clarkston High School student is the daughter of Renee and Tim Laube.

Parker Szachta, 14, earned second place, \$100 and the silver medal. The Clarkston Junior High School student is the son of Heather and Keith Szachta.

Earning third place was Sara Houstina, 17, winning \$50 and the bronze medal. She is a Clarkston High School student and the daughter of Angela and George Houstina.

Judges were Bruce Mercado, Ken Ermer, and Robin Brose.



Most of our life, actions, and events revolve around interpersonal relationships, Laube wrote in her winning essay.

"Communication within these relationships is due to the respect we have for the other person in the relationship," she said. "All relationships — employer/ employee, dating, marriage, parent/child, friendships, and acquaintances — rely upon respect as the crux of that connection and dialogue. We have all experienced a relationship that did not have the foundation of respect. It becomes difficult, stressful, confusing, and unbearable. Eventually, the relationship crumbles and no longer exists."

If respect vanishes, interpersonal relationships could not exist, she said.

"If our relationships were missing in our society, then our functioning society would be gone. Therefore, I believe a society cannot function without respect," she said. The world needs people who respect one

The world needs people who respect one another for safety, said Szachta in his essay.

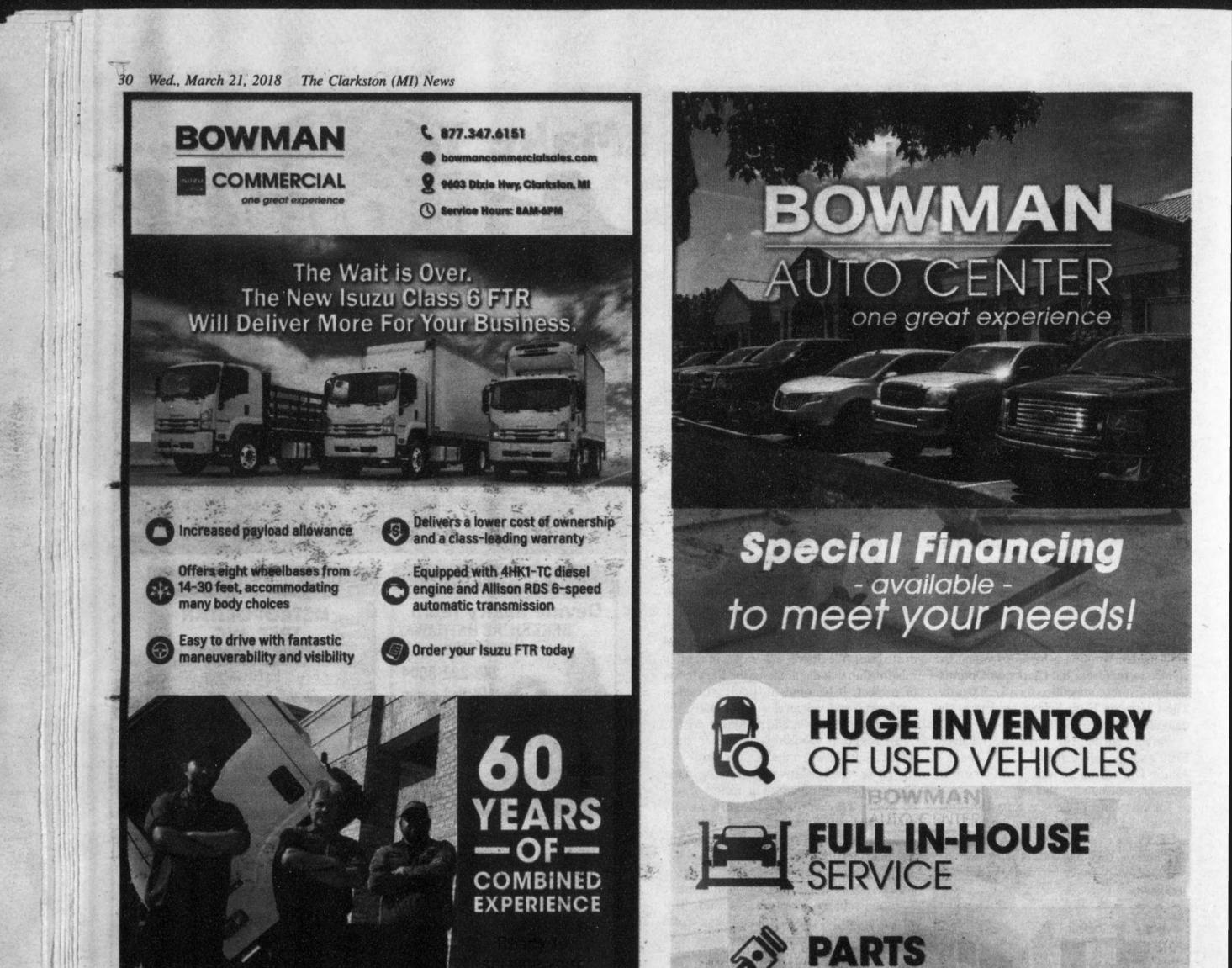
"People have been nice and treated others with respect, ending in a more collaborative and safe world for all," he said. "If it weren't for people like this, our world would become a dystopia filled with people that didn't care about others. People need to be respectful in a society to improve, as this gives off a muchneeded, more kind world."



Sara Houstina receives her third place certificate and medal from Optimist Kelly Schaller. *Photos by Phil Custodio* 

The most established leaders throughout history placed respect at the top of their lists, Houstina wrote.

"Countries and leaders that destroyed others and their land, never lasted to see their impact. Respect is not only the foundation of a society, but something to live by," she said. "A community must take a step back and change their perspective in order to accept those around them and come to agreements. If a group of people do not realize the impact of their attitude and tolerance of others, they have no chance of living coherently."







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