

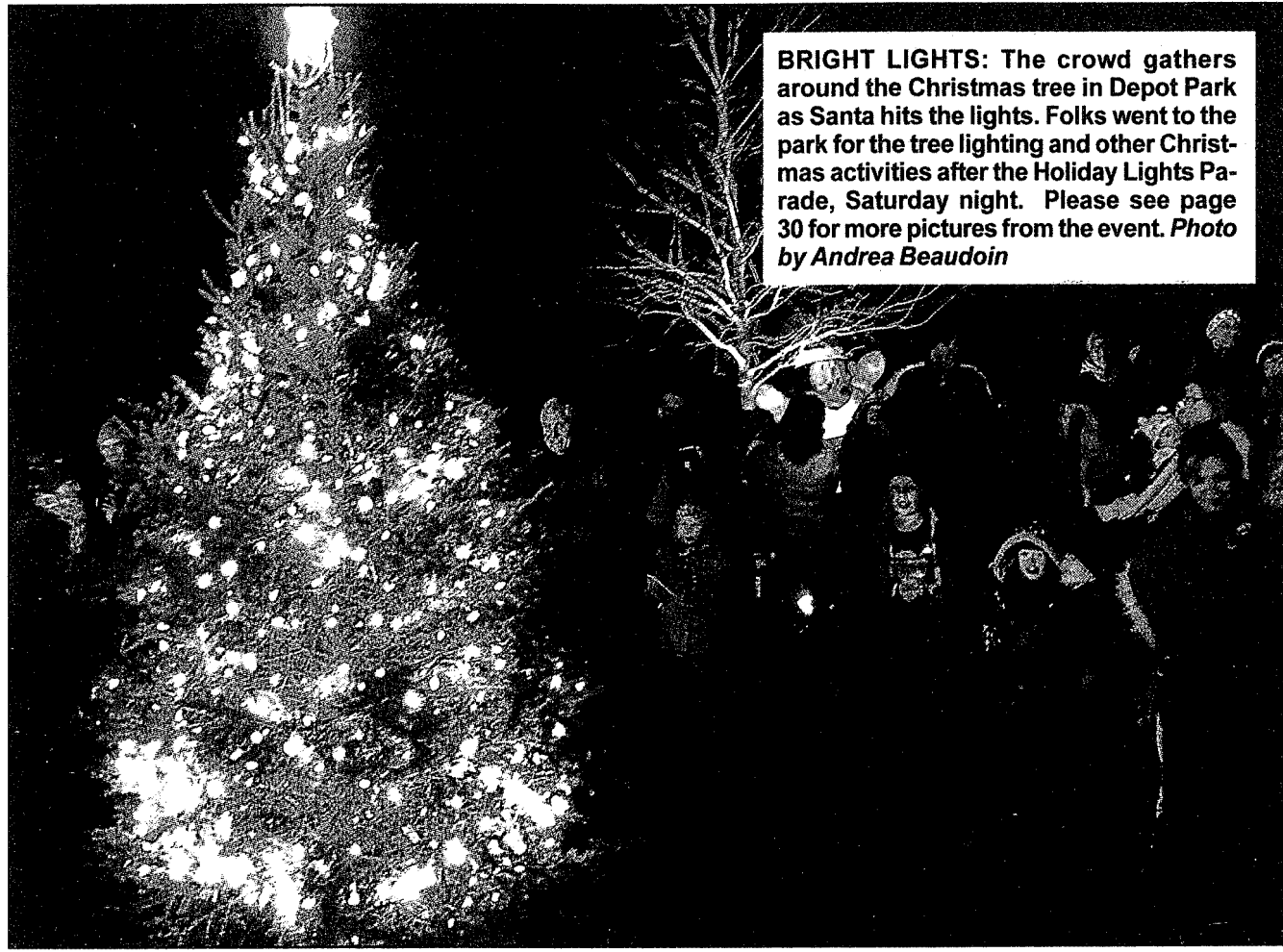
# The Clarkston News

My Clarkston.  
Buy Clarkston.

Vol. 87 No. 44 Wed., December 17, 2014

1 Section, 32 pages \$1.00

In next week's edition  
*A final look at  
the year 2014*



**BRIGHT LIGHTS:** The crowd gathers around the Christmas tree in Depot Park as Santa hits the lights. Folks went to the park for the tree lighting and other Christmas activities after the Holiday Lights Parade, Saturday night. Please see page 30 for more pictures from the event. *Photo by Andrea Beaudoin*

The power of local buying, local marketing  
**Thank you, Clarkston!**

**By Don Rush**

Holy Mother of Local Buying Power, Batman!

Did you know when you drive down the street and look at all your neighbors' homes, that nearly three of every four of the families inside make decisions on what goods and services they will purchase based on what they have seen in our papers?

Yep, 'tis true.

Just last week, a national auditing firm released their findings based on a phone survey they completed of Clarkston area residents – you, the reader. They asked about paper readership and local buying trends for the next 12 months. The findings, I am happy to report, are staggering.

Circulation Verification Council (CVC), an independent, third-party reporting audit company based in St. Louis, MO, audited *The Clarkston News* and *Penny Stretcher* circulation numbers – making sure what we report to the community is what we are delivering. (Hint, we are.)

So, after their audit, what did they find with their simple, *Yes* and *No* questions of local residents?

The average net circulation of the *Penny Stretcher* and *Clarkston News* is: 18,641 addresses (residential and commercial).

Of the random residents surveyed:

**98 percent** recognized they received our paper.

Please see *Independent* on page 29

## Find last minute gift ideas at local shops

**BY ANDREAM BEAUDOIN**  
*Clarkston News Staff Writer*

A reader survey conducted on behalf of the *Clarkston News* and *Penny Stretcher* polled the 13,794 households that read *CNews* and discovered some major buying power in the area.

Almost 6,000 residents plan to spend over

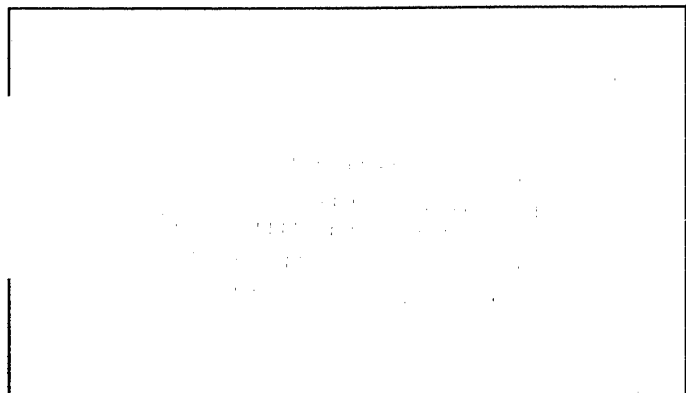
\$13.4 million on furniture and home furnishings. On home improvements and supplies 5,241 residents plan on spending \$10.7 million. On women's apparel and jewelry, our readers plan to spend over \$33 million. We're sure some major spending will happen locally this holiday season.

**KH Home** has beautiful jewelry and home

décor. Decorations for the home are a specialty at KH, and the store is filled with two floors of furniture, art and home décor. The entire bottom floor of the store contains home décor and furnishings.

KH has all favorite furnishings, accessories, jewelry, books and tabletop to custom-

Please see *Christmas* on page 5



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MSRP \$42,760



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Down

**\$197**

\$0  
Down

**\$218**

## 2014 CHRYSLER 300S AWD

24 MONTHS  
10,000 MILES  
MSRP \$37,880



CASH PRICE \$23,948

\$1000  
Down

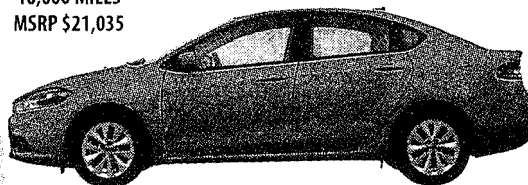
**\$139**

\$0  
Down

**\$167**

## 2015 DODGE DART SXT

24 MONTHS  
10,000 MILES  
MSRP \$21,035



CASH PRICE \$16,998

\$1000  
Down

**\$119**

\$0  
Down

**\$149**

## 2015 PATRIOT LATITUDE 4X4

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10,000 MILES  
MSRP \$26,360



CASH PRICE \$18,525

\$1000  
Down

**\$137**

\$0  
Down

**\$168**

## 2015 CHRYSLER 200 LTD

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MSRP \$24,260



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\$1000  
Down

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\$0  
Down

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## 2015 JEEP CHEROKEE 4X4 LATITUDE

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MSRP \$25,580



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Lea Ferer, at left, Dayana Rodriguez and dozens of other volunteers sorted through stacks of donated shoes and boots for kids in need at Shoes for Kids.



Jim Jacques's Santa visits at Shoes for Kids, here with young volunteers Sarah Ostheirmer and Liam Zoromski.

## Shoes for the holidays

With Christmas wreaths all over the walls and carols over the sound system, dozens of volunteers filled Oakland Woods Baptist Church with the holiday spirit at Saturday's Shoes for Kids.

Organized by Clarkston Rotary Club for the past 63 years, the program provides new winter boots, shoes, hats, and mittens or gloves to more than 400 Clarkston school children in need.

Photos by Phil Custodio

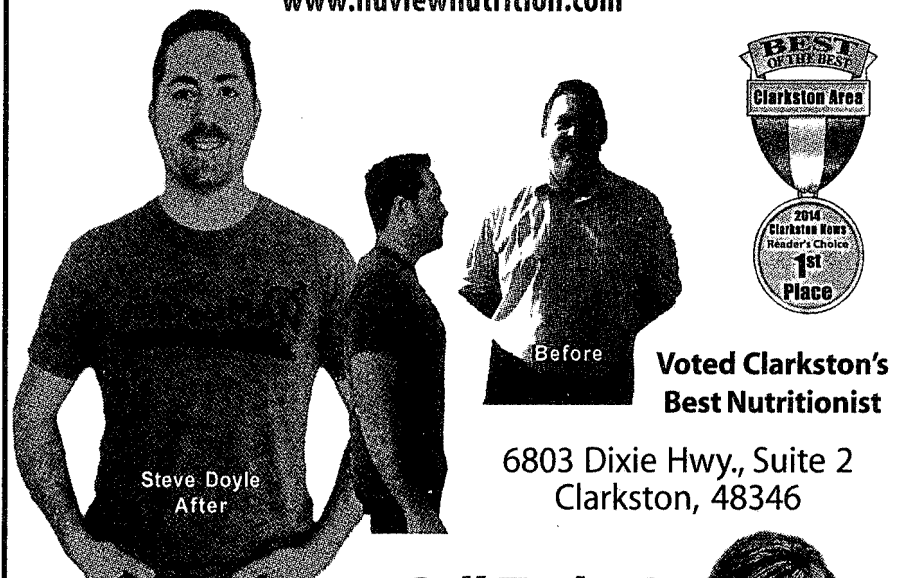
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Check out our website for more life changing stories!

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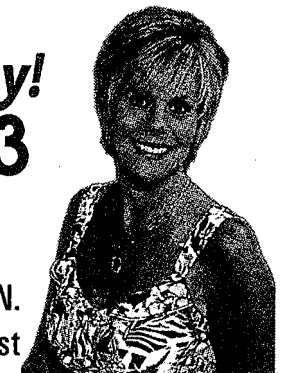
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Cindy Crandell R.N., C.N.  
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In front from left, Mary Beth Rogers, Shelby Hopper, and Lisa Christensen; middle from left, Amy Laboissonniere, Kelly Hyer, and Lisa McCoy; and in back from left, Devin Kling, Vicki O'Bezil, Kim Larson, and Tim McNeil worked to fill the new recreation guide with activities. Photo by Phil Custodio

# New rec guide on the way

BY PHIL CUSTODIO  
 Clarkston News Editor

Find out about a full year's worth of activities in the new 2015 Independence Township Parks, Recreation and Seniors Recreation Guide, hot off the printer and on the way to residents throughout the Clarkston area.

Printed by *The Clarkston News*, the guide also includes Clarkston Community Education's Adult and Youth Enrichment programs on the flip side.

The guide is filled with information on township parks, programs, classes, and special events.

Registration is already underway for the Daddy Daughter Dance, Feb. 7.

"It's already half full - it sells out early," said Kelly Hyer, recreation supervisor.

Spring Break Clarkston Style, organized with Clarkston Coalition for Youth, is in its fourth year of organizing discounts, coupons, and a travel camp with field trips.

"That sells out, too," Hyer said.

Beginning 2015 year, the township and Clarkston Community Schools' Community Education are closer than ever. As of Jan. 1, the township will provide customer registration services for Community Education and Aquatics programs.

"It's ready to go - I'm really excited," Hyer said.

With the start of the new year, walk-in registration for Community Education will be available at Township Hall, 6483 Waldon Center Drive, lower level, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., closed for holidays. An afterhours drop box is located on the parking lot side of the Independence Township offices.

Mail registrations to Independence Township, 6483 Waldon Center Dr. Clarkston, MI 48346. Download registration forms at [www.clarkston.k12.mi.us/cec](http://www.clarkston.k12.mi.us/cec). There will be instructions on how to register including registration forms and packet information.

Phone 248-623-4326 and press 1 for a registration attendant. Fax registration forms and pay by credit card at 248-620-7454.

On-line Registration is available for most programs at [www.clarkston.k12.mi.us/cec](http://www.clarkston.k12.mi.us/cec). To request a new user account, email Kim at [klarson@indetwp.com](mailto:klarson@indetwp.com). Checks should be made payable to Independence Township.

The parks department will also be busy this year preparing for national accreditation, Hyer said. They have to document every policy and procedure on succession plans, cross training, customer service, equipment management, training, facilities, amenities, and maintenance.

"It's a lot of work - the next level of standards for parks and recreation," she said. "The department is ready for this."

Site visit is planned for the spring of 2016. "It'll be here before you know it," she said.

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 ★ Steve and his instructors are the real super stars!  
 - Sally P., Lake Orion  
 ★ A new perspective on the entire process of learning.  
 - Christine R., Ortonville  
 ★ Wow. Great program, great fun!  
 - Bonnie R., Goodrich  
 ★ Best investment I've ever made.  
 - Joe K., Davisburg

  
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## Christmas shopping

*Continued from page 1*  
ers in their retail shop. Candles to make any room smell like heaven is among the products at KH. Gift wrap always provided at no charge.

For home design services, owner and designer Kevin Harrison has worked for over 18 years on numerous commercial projects. Design services to re-decorate homes or commercial property is a specialty of KH. Harrison provides a free one hour consultation for design services. Planning for any budget.

Visit KH at 27 South Main Street, Clarkston. For more information call 248.625.1655 or visit their website at [www.khhomeonline.com](http://www.khhomeonline.com)

A subscription to *The Clarkston News* is the gift that keeps on giving all year. For just \$32 you can give the gift knowledge about what is going on in the community. *The Clarkston News* is always full of news and all the activities in your community. We work hard to highlight you, your children and your event. Call 248-625.3370 today.

A full salon, **Randolf's Salon**, a Redkin elite salon, has been named a top 200 salon five years in a row by Salon Magazine. Randolf's is located in the Kroger Plaza at 5890 Sashabaw. For more information call 248-620-2000.

The latest in fashion and jewelry is found downtown at **Village Fashion Boutique**. Owner Christina Calka invites visitors to come in and shop for the perfect gift. The boutique carries the latest trends in clothes, purses and jewelry.

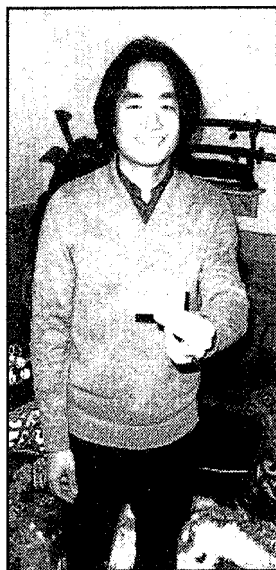
Calka said a wide selection of Brighton Jewelry available at the store is in style and very popular. No matter where they are purchased, the pieces can be exchanged anywhere in the country. If pieces are purchased in Clarkston and shipped to another state as a gift, finding another store carrying the line is not a problem.

Village Fashion Boutique is located at 6 North Main Street Suite 1 in downtown Clarkston. For more information call 248-241-6901

**Lavida Massage** is running a special right now – buy \$150 in gift cards and get a free massage. Another coupon, get a \$10 gift certificate with the purchase of a \$50 gift card. Several skin care options include waxing and custom facials. Also, check for massage and facial specials for the holidays. For more information, visit [www.lavidamassage.com](http://www.lavidamassage.com).



The staff at **Randolf's Salon** in Clarkston said don't forget to treat yourself while also giving the gift of beauty for loved ones.



**Sagano Japanese Bistro** off Sashabaw offers gift certificates.



Christina Calka of **Village Fashion Boutique** offers all the latest in fashion and jewelry.



**KH Home** offers free gift wrapping services.



A nice relaxing evening is complete with a bottle of wine and dinner from **Rudy's Market**. Photos by **Andrea Beaudoin**

## Briefly

### Holiday hours

*The Clarkston News* office will be closed on Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 24-25, for Christmas, and Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for New Year's.

Classified deadlines are Friday, Dec. 19, and Friday, Dec. 26. Call 248-625-3370 for more information.

### Grants for repairs

Independence Township Trustees approved \$47,000 in community development block grants for minor home repairs.

Theresa Gordon, the clerk at the Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, said she is currently working with \$30,000 in 2013 CDBG money to help low-income residents with home repairs.

Minor home repairs are intended to benefit income-qualified homeowners in the township or Clarkston with home repair problems considered a safety hazard.

Eligible projects include window replacements, furnaces, roofs and other repairs. The maximum amount allotted for each grant is \$5,000.

The funds will not be released and cannot be utilized until around Sept. 2015.

There is currently a waiting list now, whereas there was not in previous years.

"We have a long waiting list for repairs, but we never used too," said Gordon. "For the longest time I had money left from previous years to help with minor repairs. We had a surplus."

Gordon said the list of repairs needed mainly includes new roofs and a furnaces.

"There are nine people now on the waiting list for repairs.

For more information about the grants call Independence Township Senior Center at 248-625-8231

### Clarkston Wolves Day

Clarkston City Council passed a resolution acknowledging the Clarkston Wolves football team for their back-to-back state championship wins. The proclamation included making Jan. 9 Clarkston Wolves Day.

An audience member said he was against the resolution because it singled out the team, while there are so many other good things going on in Clarkston.

City Manager Carol Eberhardt said the council frequently recognizes good things happening and it's not just for the Wolves.

Eberhardt gave several examples of city proclamations including Team RUSH 27 winning the State Championship this year.

The resolution passed.

## Wendi's Word

A column by Wendi Reardon

### Spirit of Christmas

It's amazing how this time last year we were bambarded with snow and this year there hasn't been as much or even half as much in December. But lots of fog.

It kind of messes me up when I hear Bing Crosby crooning, "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas, just like the ones I used to know. Where the tree tops glisten and children listen to hear sleigh bells in the snow."

I believe that's why I can't believe we are so close to the Christmas holiday. There is no snow - it is really wrecking with my psyche. "You don't need to do holiday shopping - there isn't any of that cold, white stuff on the ground. Stay home."



But looking at the date on the calendar makes me feel a little more rushed. It is time to get a move on with the shopping because the next step after it is wrapping.

I find shopping for my nephews the easiest - most of the time. The two boys are sons of a woman I have known since she was two-years-old. I was probably six-years-old when her family moved next door to my family. We grew up together and we are as close as sisters without the whole "she took clothes out of my closet again."

My nephews are under the age of six-years-old and still delighted with any toy. It's this I have to remind myself as I gaze over the shelves - left to right, right to left, top to bottom, bottom to top. I start thinking will they want this for Christmas? I have to stop the thought.

One, I am an aunt - not Santa Claus and not mom or dad. Less is expected of me. Though, I really do want to be the cool aunt. Drumsets? Definitely out of the question...well, this year.

Two, it's the season for family. The gift is family and being able to spend time with family. It was this I was thinking after 8 a.m. on Black Friday when I was getting ready for work.

Yes, to get ready for work. I did not wake up and hit the stores or the malls. Nor did I travel to the malls on Thanksgiving Day in the evening to partake in the good deals. Don't get me wrong, there were some great deals but nothing needed. Want, maybe. Need, no.

I could make the shopping experience easy and buy Clarkston Football Back-to-Back State Championship gear for the nephews. It's still blue and gold and they love University of Michigan colors.

### Help for snow shoveling

Dear Editor,

I just received notice from the City of the Village of Clarkston - they've voted down taking care of the sidewalks and want to charge \$130 if they shovel your sidewalk and can fine a homeowner up to \$500 if they do not shovel two inches of snow within 24 hours ("Snow ordinance to be enforced," Nov. 27).

They also attached an opinion form, a little late, asking homeowners/tax payers what we think is important, including shoveling the sidewalks.

I work many hours, live alone, don't know my neighbors - one is an empty lot next to me and the other lives out of town. I also travel on business, but know there are a lot of older folks as well. Does the city have any ideas for those who are not able to shovel the two inches of snow within 24 hours?

Any recommendations would be appreciated. Are there any local kids or folks who would be interested in doing this service for the folks affected by this decision? I'm sure we're all willing to pay for the help.

Ellyn Rogers  
Clarkston

*The City said residents with difficulty could call City Hall at 248-625-1559.*

### Former gas station ideas

Dear Editor,

The gas station property being demolished at Dixie and M15 ("Station demolition makes way for redevelopment," Dec. 10) does have significant redevelopment "challenges including traffic, safety and contamination." These three issues existed long before the station closed its doors. It is a very dangerous intersection which leads me to believe why "several plans for the property had fallen through - unable to satisfy township requirements," And rightfully so.

The old saying, "trying to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear" comes to mind.

Has there been any consideration to turning it into a green space? Simple landscape scene with a well done sign reading something like "Welcome to Clarkston, Independence Township and Springfield Township." Maybe a display of our community's great service organizations, not a park, but a simple no entry triangular green space which would eliminate the traffic and safety issues likely to continue to kill all "redevelopment" plans that may be submitted for consideration.

I realize the property has monetary value and has the potential to generate tax revenue. But at what price? Years of time and energy by our local government rejecting development proposals, which will stop eventually when developers realize it just isn't gonna happen? At the price of significant potentially tragic traffic/safety issues, which residents and visitors will be subjected to, assuming the property will ever be developed?

Supervisor Pat Kittle was quoted as saying "developing the property would have a ricochet effect on the area by encouraging neighbors to

upgrade properties and storefronts." Agree. But must the development be brick, chrome, glass, increased traffic hazards, unsafe conditions, and more. Why not a warm welcoming low maintenance green space that eliminates the traffic and safety issues and looks good? Did you ever notice when one neighbor spruces up their yard others soon follow? Examples. Look at our beautiful downtown Christmas light displays. The constantly improving and beautiful landscape/gardens of homeowner's in our community. These, and more, did not happen all at the same time on day one. "Ricochet" indeed!

Realize "money talks" and the tax generated on a property valued at \$209,000 could add to our tax revenue. Not sure if I'm buying that the property "will increase to over \$525,000." Based on what, land that will probably never be or dangerously developed? Don't think so.

The concept to implementation will certainly be a challenge, especially with several governmental bodies involved, but please let's at least explore other financial/development possibilities.

Mike Cascone  
Clarkston

### 'No' to new hospital plan

Dear Editor,

Our family has lived in Independence Township for over 30 years. As parents of two boys, we've had our share of emergencies. In those 30 years, we've never thought our or our children's lives were in danger. After all, a hospital is just eight miles away. We've found this distance to be safe and reasonable. We also realize hospitals can't be on every corner like Rite Aid or CVS pharmacies. Considering it's not unusual for northern Michigianians to have to travel four times that distance for emergencies, we question a new hospital is needed for our "safety." We don't buy it, just as the CON board (twice), the courts, and the legislature (twice) didn't buy it. Senate Bill 1073 (a.k.a. the McLaren bill) was McLaren's most recent attempt to exempt itself from our laws.

If ever there was a bill meant to benefit one group, S.B. 1073 was it. Fortunately the bill was overwhelmingly rejected on Dec. 4 by the state senate. They saw this bill for what it was, a scheme that would have changed Certificate Of Need laws to allow building hospitals every eight miles in our state. How did the sponsors of this bill come up with the not so arbitrary distance? Because eight miles is the distance from McLaren Pontiac to the proposed hospital in Independence Township. A distance purposely written into the bill to create a "need" for a hospital in Independence Township where no such need exists. This type of bill isn't good governing. We applaud the state senate for voting this down.

It's time for McLaren to accept the rule of law, pick up their marbles, leave our community and go elsewhere with their hospital proposal.

Michael and Lori Powell  
Independence Township

See page 17 for more letters

## A Look Back

From The CNews archives

### 15 years ago - 1999

#### "Master Plan Vision 2020 adopted"

The long-awaited adoption of the Independence Township Master Land Use Plan and Vision 2020 Strategic Plan was soured by approximately 100 residents in support of an anonymous letter circulating the neighborhood which contained several misconceptions of the plan.

"Village Town Center OK'd by planners" Long-awaited plans for a "pedestrian-friendly" town center were approved by the Independence Township Planning Commission. The 11-acre land off Sashabaw and Waldon roads was planned to feature a mix of retail and office spaces as well as a 14,000-square-foot day care center.

"Young at heart" Jim and Marge Bohlman play Mr. and Mrs. Santa Clause three days a year and were getting ready for their annual roles at the Family Holiday Fest at Bay Court Park, sponsored by the Independence Township Parks and Recreation Department.

### 25 years ago - 1989

"Five percent pay hike OK's for non-union employees" Independence Township board members voted unanimously for a five percent pay hike for 16 non-union township employees for 1989.

"Parents ask for school bus stops on private roads" With children in tow, parents protested to the Clarkston school board about the bus stops their children must use. The talk focused on whether school buses should use private roads. The school policy remained the same - no private roads would be used by Clarkston school buses.

"Wolves live up to lofty ranking" The Clarkston Varsity Wrestling team won the Ferndale Invitational for the second year in a row with 237 points. Twelve won medals including tourney champs John Terpstra, Damon Michelson and Joel Davis. The win came after the team was ranked 10th best in the state.

### 50 years ago - 1964

"Local teen band wins three wars in a row" The Majestics, a band consisting of four boys from Clarkston High School, competed against three bands at the Whaler Club and won the war. It was the third straight win for the group.

"Superintendent tells of immediate school need" Immediate projections pegged enrollment at 7,000 by the fall of 1969 prompting a need for classroom needs and providing 55 elementary rooms and 16 secondary rooms.

# Merry Christmas From The Grandkids

## And the Jotter

When we first started this *Jim's Jottings* holiday tradition, the two grandchildren Dan and Karen Offer (inset picture) were small enough to fit on my knees. It was 1988. Dan was 3-years-old and Karen was four-months-old. In that first picture, Karen had no hair, I had more and I still wore a suit and tie to work every day. Now they are grown and living out west and I only wear a tie if the occasion arises. They are the children of our daughter Luan and her husband, Bob Offer. The Offer children both live in Colorado.

Back then, the three grandchildren standing around me, were only being dreamed of and anxiously waited for. Now, too, they are growing and becoming fine young people. The Speed siblings standing with me, from the left are Haley and then Trevor (both 14) and Savannah, 18. Their proud parents are our daughter Susan and her husband, Tim Speed.



In 1988, I wrote, "From time to time their names appear in *Jottings* and I thought you might like to see who we're writing about." These days, I sometimes mention m'dog Shayna (she didn't make the cut for this year's photo shoot).

While situations, and stations have changed in the 26 years since 1988, some things do not change. We still find more joy in giving than in receiving and me and the grandkids still wish you a Merry Christmas!

— Jim Sherman, Sr.



## Oh (sigh, Donald) Tannenbaum, oh Tannebaum

I've written before about growing up in one of Clarkston's ghettos — and, back then it meant anywhere that wasn't located in the square mile of Clarkston proper (basically anywhere in Independence Township). If you lived in the township, folks from the village would scrunch their faces at you if you said you lived in *Clarkston* but really lived in the township.

And, that was cool. We all knew our places and acted accordingly.

There were certain benefits growing up in a Clarkston ghetto. In the summer we walked down to Walters Lake to fish or swim — sometimes in our bare feet. In the spring and fall we could explore the woods when Ma Nature was just waking up after her long, winter's nap or when she was getting ready to rest before the annual big freeze. And, in the winter...

Winter was absolutely wonderful (as long as you were not an adult and had to drive anywhere). There were hills to sled everywhere, right outside our back door at 4925 Clarkston Road (between the curves created by Clintonville Road and Walters Lake). It was the best sledding anywhere — just don't ask my younger sister, Patty. When she was about seven or eight, she and her girlfriends piled onto a toboggan. There were three or four of them all together. Patty sat on the end, facing the back. From our yard they shoved off and lickity-split, as they raced down the short hill, her friends seeing the fast

**Don't  
Rush Me**



**A column by  
Don Rush**

approaching corner of the house down the hill, jumped off the sled Patty didn't and broke her leg in about 57 places when she crashed. She was in a cast from the waist down 'til way past spring and basically had to learn to walk again.

But that is not what this column is about.

One of the perks of growing up on Rush Hill was our two neighbors directly to the south each had about 10 acres of pine trees. In the summer we played in them and in the winter, they sold Christmas trees — but not to the Don & Shirley Rush family. We were able to go out and cut our own. Like I said, living in a Clarkston ghetto had its privileges.

In the winter of '74, I was 11 and cut down my first Christmas tree. I don't know if in the eyes of Pops Rush I old enough to go out on my own and get the family tree, or if it was only because we had a snow day from school and Mom needed to get the kids outside to save her sanity. Whatever the reason, armed with a crappy little handsaw and with my trusty hound Lady by my side, we trudged to the back 40 in search of the "best" Rush Christmas tree *ever*.

It was the first week or so of December and we had had a ton of snow. I remember that. And since I was shorter than I am now, making our way back to the pine trees was tough going. I think it was up to my knees. (I just Googled Detroit Winter 1974 — guess what — On Dec. 1 of that year we got like 20 inches in one day! Now, back to the story...) I don't remember if any of my three younger sisters came out with me or not. But, I recall once the "best" tree was found it took forever to hack it down and even longer to drag it home and into the garage to dry out. The idea was when Dad got home from work, we'd put it up.

Said father got home.

Said father looked at the afore mentioned pine tree as he walked into our 900 square foot home.

Said father looked at said mother and then to Number One Son, sighed, rolled his eyes and then opened the fridge for an ice cold can of Altes beer. He motioned me to join him in the garage. We trimmed the branches off the bottom and, trunk first, squeezed it through the back door. The tree was huge.

If it was seven feet tall, it was 10 feet around. It was so big we had to hack the top off a wee bit to get the tree topper to fit. It was full and smelled wonderful, but it was basically a big, green, barrel of needles from the ground up. It didn't taper off from a wide bottom to a pointed top of your run of the mill, quintessential Norman Rockwellesque Christmas Tree.

It took up a ton of space and I don't think we had enough strings of lights or ornaments to cover it properly. The following weekend Mom may have purchased another package of those silvery, shiny, strips of plastic stuff, commonly referred to as "icicles" (some of which always managed to wind up in Lady's doggie doodie out in the yard).

I am not sure if I was assigned the duty of getting another tree for any the Christmases that followed throughout the 1970s or 1980s. But, I do remember that one, overly massive tree and the presents under it, I am sure looked marvelous on Christmas morning.

(Oh, and I still have the little hand saw I used all those years ago.)





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# Public Safety

For Clarkston and Independence Township

## Heavy truck

A deputy pulled over a truck because of improper reflective tape on I-75 at Sashabaw Road, 9:49 a.m., Dec. 4. The truck was 5,319 pounds overweight. The company was cited for plate violation, reflective tape violation, and no license plate light on the trailer.

## Cocaine found

A server found a plastic baggie containing a white substance in a booth at a restaurant in the 6000 block of Dixie Highway, 8:29 p.m., Dec. 5. After making the report, a customer returned to the restaurant, checked the booth, and left quickly. The suspect is described as a black man, about 20 years old, 5-foot-10-inches tall. The substance field tested positive for cocaine. Investigators are checking video surveillance.

## Construction heists

Someone took about \$2,600 in carpenter tools from a home under construction in the 10000 block of Cliff View Court, Dec. 5, and tried to pry off a padlock to a construction trailer. There was no sign of forced entry to the house.

## Armed robbery suspects

Deputies are looking for two suspects in an armed robbery of a restaurant in the 5000 block of Sashabaw Road, 10 a.m., Dec. 5. Employees told deputies two men walked in as they were cleaning up. One suspect, described as a dark skinned man about 5-foot-10-inches in height, weighing 170 pounds, and wearing a hoodie and red mask, pointed a black semi-automatic pistol at them. A second suspect, described as 5-foot-10-inches and 170 pounds, blue eyes, wearing a white mask, kept watch near the front door. The employees told the suspects they were not able to open the safe. One of the employees ran out the back door and over to a neighboring restaurant to call 911. Both subjects fled the store on foot without getting any money, across the street into a nearby parking lot. A K9 unit lost the scent in the parking lot. Investigation continues.

## Work sites targeted

A home under construction in the 10000 block of Cliff View Court had its door kicked in and a shop vac taken, Dec. 6. Someone also pried out three screen windows on a house in the 10000 block of Majestic Boulevard in an attempt to break in, Dec. 6.

## Rock through window

Someone threw a rock through the back window of an SUV parked in the 6000 block of Tuson Boulevard, Dec. 6. Nothing was taken from the vehicle.

## Death investigation

Investigation continues into the death of a 44-year-old Independence Township man, 5:43 a.m., Dec. 7, in the 7000 block of Williams Drive. The victim's girlfriend told deputies they both had been snorting heroin most of the night. She woke up to find him sitting in a chair with blood coming from his nose and mouth, and not breathing. His skin was blue, and there was a cut above his eye. She called 911 and started CPR. He was pronounced deceased by a McLaren Oakland doctor.

While investigating, deputies found the 36-year-old Independence Township woman had a misdemeanor warrant out of White Lake Township, 10:15 a.m., Dec. 6. She was turned over to White Lake Police.

## Possible package thief

A resident in the 6000 block of Maybee Road reported a possible package thief, 8:41 a.m., Dec. 11. A man, described as Hispanic, around 30 years old, medium build, around 5-foot-6-inches to 5-foot-8-inches in height, wearing a dark colored jacket, ran from the edge of a nearby wooded area to an older, S-10 size tan pickup truck. He threw an unopened cardboard package into the truck bed, then jumped into an older red full-size SUV, possibly Chevy or GMC, then both vehicles left.

## Skier dies from crash injuries

Investigation continues into the death of a 51-year-old Shelby Township woman, who died of injuries suffered when she crashed into a fence at Pine Knob Ski Resort, 7:41 p.m., Dec. 12. She was rendered unconscious by the crash, but regained consciousness and was treated by Independence Township paramedics and deputies. She said she fell while skiing, struck a tree, then ran into a retaining fence where she became tangled up. Pine Knob ski patrol personnel freed her, and took her down the hill by snowmobile to the ski patrol office. The skier was complaining of chest pain and was taken to McLaren Oakland Hospital by STAR ambulance for treatment. Detectives are conducting a follow up investigation.

## Fire calls

In November, Independence Township Fire Department responded to a total of 255 calls. Crews responded to 12 fires, 183 EMS rescues, two hazardous condition calls, 27 service calls, 21 good intent calls and 10 false calls.

Call Crime Stoppers of Southeast Michigan at 1-800-SPEAK UP or 1-800-773-2587

# City praised by auditor

BY ANDREA M. BEAUDOIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

City of the Village of Clarkston received high marks on an audit, although Mayor Joe Luginski previously said the way the city spent money was illegal.

At the meeting, Luginski was missing again, an issue he previously said he would improve.

City officials were praised by auditor Rana Emmons from PSLZ, LLC, a certified public accounting and auditing firm, during an audit presentation at the Dec. 8 city council meeting.

Emmons also acknowledged the city paid down debt this year as well as received a \$167,000 grant for new DPW trucks.

Several audience members and residents praised the city for their work.

"The audit was a team effort and the city manager, treasurer and clerk were very helpful and accommodating," said Emmons.

She added city staff were very professional and the city continues raising the bar.

"I give a lot of credit to the city manager," said Emmons about Manager Carol Eberhart. She added it was a pleasure to work with Eberhardt, Treasurer Sandra Barlass and Clerk Sandy Miller.

Emmons said the city's 30 percent fund balance of about \$247,011 is a healthy fund balance and considered average for a municipality.

Councilman Richard Bisio has questioned the size of the fund balance as well as the capital improvement fund. He was the only one to ask questions about the audit.

"I criticized use of the capital improvement fund because it is not functioning as required by the resolution that established the fund," he said.

Bisio added a prioritized list of projects was supposed to be created for the capital fund but did not happen. He said instead, funds were spent without prioritizing projects and council approved spending on a case by case basis by transferring money from the general fund.

"This amounts to just spending down the general fund balance on projects as they come along," he said, adding the council persisted in regularly dipping into the fund balance to pay for otherwise unbudgeted one-time expenses.

Bisio has also questioned the fund balance.

"I have, in the past, advocated a refund

to the taxpayers of part of these accumulated surpluses and relied on information that a 15-25 percent fund balance is adequate," he said.

Emmons said municipal fund balances differ, but any money saved in the fund balance is what would carry the city through in a bad emergency if no money came in. Emmons said the fund balance is where it should be.

The City of the Village of Clarkston includes about 440 housing units, according to the Southeast Council of Governments. That means about \$561 per household is held in the 30-percent fund balance.

Previously, controversy arose after Luginski said the auditor informed the city how they were spending money was illegal and any money spent must be budgeted first.

Luginski said once council makes a resolution to spend the money, the state of Michigan considers it already spent.

Miller said the auditor informed staff the way money was spent and approved for projects is considered illegal.

"When we approve projects not even on the agenda, it's the wrong way of doing things," she said.

Miller added the way money is spent for projects must first be allocated from the appropriate fund in the budget. "We need to know where the money is coming from before it is approved," she said.

During a Sept. 8 meeting, examples of wrongdoing was discussed, including approval to pave Womphole Drive and plans for a bridge approved on the same day residents donated money for the project.

Miller said paving Womphole was not on the agenda, but discussed by council before the project was approved with the stipulations it would cost \$2,000 or less.

Council discussed projects and voted on them at the same city council meeting, without knowing how they would be funded.

Luginski also said city committees need to meet more often, present reports and know what projects they want to complete ahead of time rather than having council approve projects the same day.

He insisted the errors were not intentional.

Eberhardt had said city staff will work harder to ensure the accounting of various city business before the meetings.

During the presentation, the auditor never mentioned illegal activities.

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# Clarkston's Sporting News

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## Cagers sink two opponents

BY WENDI REARDON  
*Clarkston News Sports Writer*

Senior Josh Bonzheim and freshman Foster Loyer sank 3-points a piece outside the line to kick start the game against Avondale last Friday night.

From there the Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball team was on fire as they won their second game of the season, 79-41.

"It was a good win for our kids," said long-time head coach Dan Fife. "I was happy for them."

The Wolves finished the first with an 11-0 run on the scoreboard, finishing junior Tabin Throgmorton scoring a basket and one point from the free throw line with 19 seconds remaining. The three points put the boys up 24-9.

Avondale opened the second quarter with a field goal attempt, missing the hoop. They would score with 4:22 left to half-time but not before Throgmorton and senior Cole Chewins sank baskets on the free throw line with two from Throgmorton and one from Chewins.

The Yellow Jackets scored seven points as the Wolves scored 12 to end the first half 36-16.

The boost of the score allowed Fife to put more players in from off the bench.

"It was good for us and it was good for the kids," he added. "Avondale has a young team with a new coach who has been there for two years. We are starting kids who have a lot of experience. It is just a difference right now - we are a seasoned program and they are a young program."

Loyer led the team with 20 points on his

second time out on the courts with the varsity team. He score three 3-pointers.

"Foster has played with our kids since eighth grade so our kids treat him like he is one of them," said Fife. "They have confidence in what he does. For him to score 20 points it is a process - he is learning where to get his shots. Foster is also learning how to play with fouls."

Throgmorton scored 13 points during the game and shot two field goals. Senior Jonah Newblatt added 12 points to the board.

"We were really good defensively and off the boards we were good," said Fife. "Our guards were coming back, rebounding and helping us out."

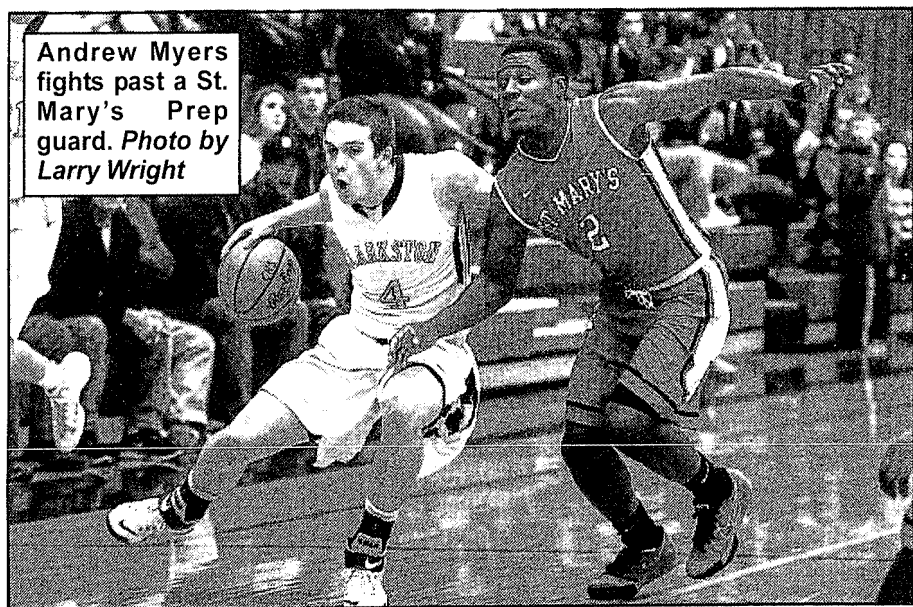
Clarkston opened the season against St. Mary's Prep with a 68-49 win after coming back from a 9-point deficit in the first quarter. By the end of the second quarter the Wolves took control of the game with a 9-point lead.

Throgmorton led the team with 18 points. Newblatt contributed 11 points and ten rebounds and Foyer scored ten points.

The Wolves played Macomb Dakota on Tuesday in their first away game.

"We don't know much about them," Fife said. "They are good in football so they are athletic and physical. Basically with our competitive spirit, first and foremost, if we are good I am comfortable playing anybody. I think this team has a lot of character. I could never be happy losing but I could be happy losing with these kind of kids - they play the Clarkston way."

They are back home on Dec. 30 when they host Ann Arbor Skline at 7 p.m.



Andrew Myers fights past a St. Mary's Prep guard. Photo by Larry Wright

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK Canada's key to success

BY WENDI REARDON  
*Clarkston News Sports Writer*

Senior Merrick Canada knows hard work pays off in life, school and sports.

For his teammates and him it paid off by becoming back-to-back state champions in MHSAA Division 1 Football for Clarkston on Nov. 29.

Canada, a receiver and a defensive back, helped his team quite a few times during the season.

One of the moments came less than two minutes into the second half of the championship the Wolves scored on a 52-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback DJ Zezula to Canada.

The score brought the Wolves into the lead and kept them there until they won their back-to-back state championship against Saline, 33-25.

During the game Canada caught two passes for 66 yards and also had four tackles and two assists to slow Saline's players.

"It was good," he said about his final season with the football team.

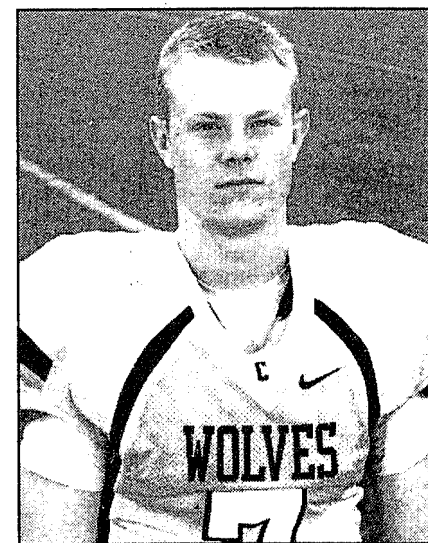
"I enjoyed it. I like the team. You can't go wrong with the state championship," he smiled.

Canada is now on the court during the winter season as a forward with the Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball team. During the spring, he is on the track and field team and last season finished All-State in long jump with a 22' 1" jump.

He added both sports help with conditioning for football.

"Basketball is guarding and man-to-man," Canada said. "It helps with cross training."

He received an offer to play football at Hillsdale College in the fall where he is leaning towards studying business. He added winning two state championships helped him decide what sport he would play in college.



Merrick Canada

"I just like football the best," he smiled. He began playing football in seventh grade. He started because his older brother, Chris, played and he also played the sport during recess.

He added was great playing varsity football with the same guys since he was young.

"All the dads and the families are awesome around Clarkston and the kids are really nice," Canada said. "It's fun."

He added the Clarkston program taught him to work hard and pay his dues.

"There are a lot of talented kids and so many kids at Clarkston you have to work hard," Canada explained. "When your time comes perform the best to your ability."

His advice to aspiring athletes is to work hard during the off season.

"Get stronger and stay motivated," he added. "There is always going to be a guy who is better than you, but if you work harder and you will get better than he is."

He enjoys fishing with his friends and reading magazines - especially sports.

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# Cagers challenge for ninth straight league title

Cagers opened their season with two wins and the momentum will only keep building.

"This is a typical Clarkston team," said Dan Fife, long-time head coach of Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball. "They have to play hard, play smart and be able to adjust to what is going on with them on that particular night. We have to be consistent in our effort - mentally and physically good. The kids are working hard and have a good attitude."

The team has nine returners coming back with seniors Josh Bonzheim, Merrick Canada, Cole Chewins, Andrew Myers, Jonah Newblatt, Will Scarlett, Dayton Wallis; juniors Mitch Heaton and Tabin Throgmorton.

"We have a lot have a lot of seniors who have been on the team together for a long time and we have a good chemistry," Canada said.

"Cole and Jonah are starting to be factors in the games on both ends of the floor," Fife said, adding all the players are typical Clarkston kids. "They win the right way and they lose the right way which was established before this group. They want to continue the legacy of the effort."

Newcomers include senior Brad Austin; juniors Kordell Kirkland, Luke Rekuta, Ryan Holmes; sophomore Ryan Prisby and freshman Foster Loyer who already made an impact, scoring 20 points against Avondale.

"He is exciting to watch," Canada said about the 6-foot freshman.

Fife added Loyer has played with the team before joined this year.

"Our kids treat him like he is one of them," he said. "They have confidence in what he does because he has shown them that over the years he has been playing with them he is capable of playing with them."

One of the goals of the season is to win the ninth consecutive OAA Red league title

and Fife added just like every year it will be tough.

"We know every team wants to beat us," he said. "It doesn't matter who they are."

Another goal is to have a long run in the post season starting with getting to regionals winning it.

You make your own luck but you have to be lucky to win those games, especially in overtime. There are things that happen, strange things, in overtime," Fife said. ~WR



Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball team. Photo by Visual Sports Network

# Lady Cagers aim for best season for 2014-2015

The Lady Wolves are back on the courts and every day are working towards their ultimate goal - play their best basketball by the end of the year.

"We have a really good mix of returning players and newcomers," said Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball Coach Tim Wasilk. "Our post play is going to be strong with Erika Davenport, Jessica Altene and Kayla Luchenbach, who is a 6'1" freshman. She is a very talented freshman. We are looking forward to big things from her."

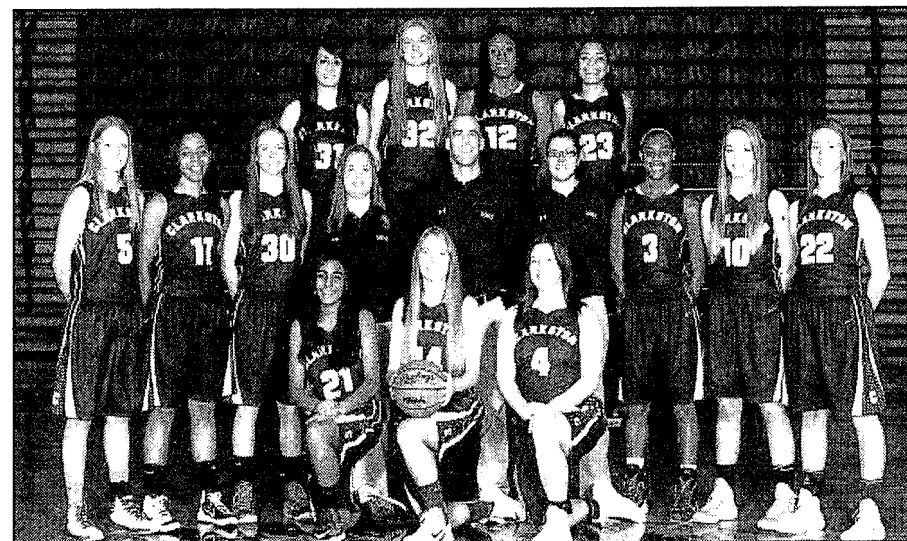
Returners include seniors Altene, Davenport, Taylor Mullins, Emmalee Peck, Ashley Skaggs and junior Kayla Russell.

"Ashley played a lot of minutes for us last year," Wasilk added. "Taylor is our main point guard so we are looking for people to step up and fill that role which would be a good position for us this year."

New to the varsity team is senior Bre Bitzer; juniors Alyssa Bey, Kailan Mehta, Kelsey Hunt; sophomores Meghan Deardorff, Kristen Page and freshman Luchenbach.

Wasilk pointed out the girls worked on their shooting during the fall with the shooting machine at the high school.

He added this season will be exciting to watch because the games are going to be very competitive.



Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball team. Photo by Visual Sports Network

The highest competition will be in the league and the Lady Wolves will face a new competitor for the OAA Red league title as Rochester Adams moves up a division.

"Most of the teams have big players back so it is going to make it really tough," Wasilk added about the rest of the teams in the league - Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison, Southfield Lathrup and Stoney Creek.

"The teams in the league are good from

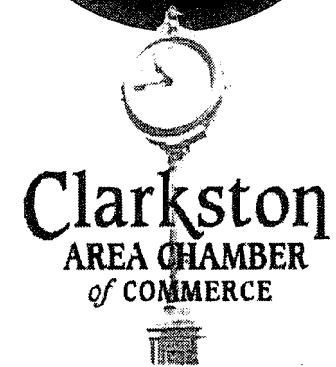
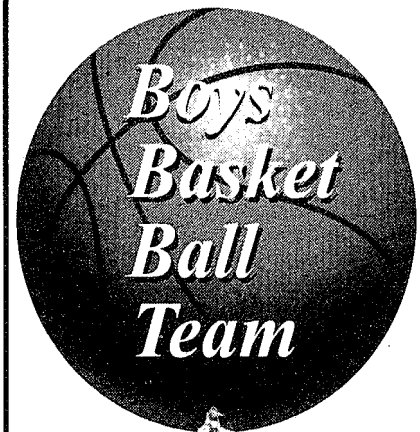
top to bottom," Wasilk said. "You could flip a coin any of those nights to see who is going to win. It is just a matter of being prepared and making sure we are doing the little things to make us successful."

He added the Lady Wolves have the talent to do special things on the court and they will have to play a solid defense.

See the girls at home Dec. 30 at 5:30 p.m. as they take on Ann Arbor Skyline.

~Sports Writer Wendi Reardon

## Good Luck



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# Lady Wolves dance to their own beat

The Clarkston Varsity Pom Pon team is dancing their way into the 2014-2015 competitive season.

"We have a lot of talented girls who are very passionate about dance," said Kelsey Chewins, head coach about the season. "They give it 100 percent every time they are on the floor."

The Lady Wolves begin 2015 with a competition at Royal Oak High School on Jan. 4. Then, they head to the annual Palace Classic at the Palace of Auburn Hills, Jan. 17.

The Lady Wolves perform during half time at the Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball's home games. The home games are Dec. 30 vs. Ann Arbor Skyline; Jan. 6 vs. Pontiac; Jan. 15 vs. Rochester; Jan. 30 vs. Southfield-Lathrup; Feb. 6 vs. Bloomfield Hills; Feb. 17 vs. Southfield; Feb. 27 vs. North Farmington; and March 5 vs. Rochester Adams.

The Lady Wolves are Lauren Baenziger, Selena Brennan, Chloe Brimacombe, Elise Cameron, McKenna Cameron, Jennifer Checkowsky, Emily Comos, Megan Frick, Shelby Geisler, Isabelle Hernandez, Angee Kerr, Allison Layson, Lauren McKay, Taylor McKay, Megan Nicholson, Caylee



Clarkston Varsity Pom Pon team. Photo by Larry Wright/Wright Action Pix

Price, Angela Sedano, Mikaela Smith, Head Coach is Kelsey Chewins and Angelina Torres and Maria Tremblay. assistant coach is Danielle Reynolds. ~WR

## Cheer team ready to take over the OAA Red

The Lady Wolves are fired up for their winter season as this year they move up to the OAA Red division.

"The season looks good," said Beth Ann Markey, head coach for the Clarkston Varsity Competitive Cheer team. "We have a tough line up of meets and competitions. We are in the OAA Red division this year which is huge. We are going up against the top teams in the state - three different times."

Facing the teams in the division will help because they are high scoring teams.

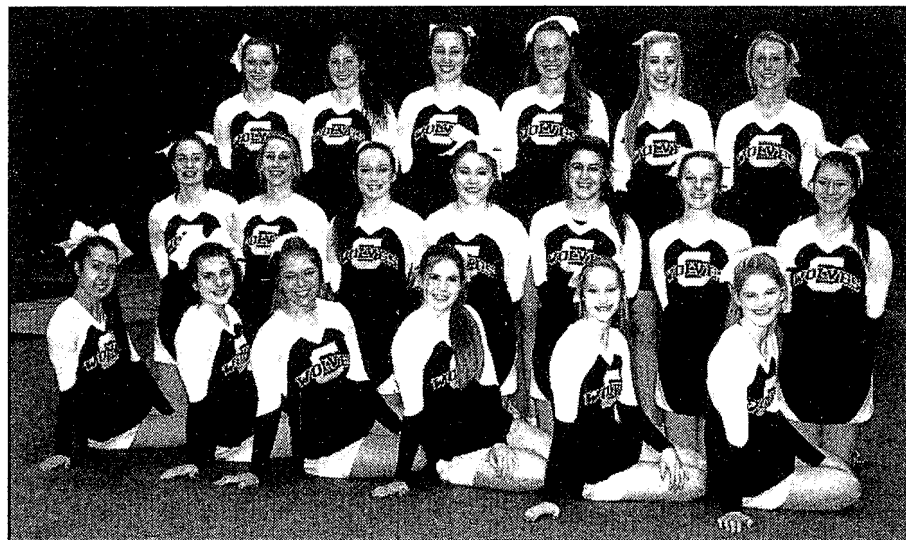
"Being able to perform in the OAA under that pressure gives us an advantage we haven't had before," Markey. "It's really neat. It will be fun."

The roster includes upperclassman Markey has watched grow over the last few years.

"It is really cool to see them grow, change and show their stuff," she smiled. "They are super strong."

She added they perform with an intensity she hasn't seen as a cheer coach.

"They really attack their material, they want to be out there performing no matter what. You see it in practice, you see it in what they do every day. It makes it really neat to witness it at a competition," she added. "This team is accumulation of a lot of years of hard



Clarkston Varsity Competitive Cheer. Photo by Wendi Reardon

work since they are all upperclassman. I am really proud of them. It's going to be hard to say goodbye to the seniors because they stuck by me when I was new as a coach. Now they are seniors and in their prime."

The Clarkston Varsity Competitive Cheer team is: seniors Katie Brewer, Gabby Carusello, Rachel Christensen, Katie Clements, Kayleigh Goodrich, Katie Hubregsen, Kaitlyn Milano, Tyler Pearce, Rachel Rooks, Shelby Weiler; juniors Brianna Callahan, Bailey Carter, Rebecca Milano, Alex Ottman, Alyse Richards, Lauren Scott, Elizabeth Sheill, Julia Smail and Sydney Steger. ~Sports Writer Wendi Reardon

## 2014-2015 SCHEDULE

- Dec. 17, Wed., OAA Meet #1 - Oxford
- Jan. 10, Sat., Novi Invitational
- Jan. 14, Wed., OAA Meet #2 - Lake Orion
- Jan. 24, Sat., Rochester Royal Rumble at Rochester High School
- Jan. 31, Sat., Grand Blanc Classic
- Feb. 7, Sat., OAA League Championship - Troy
- Feb. 14, Sat., Delta Plex Competition
- Feb. 21, Sat., MHSAA District - Lake Orion
- Feb. 28, Sat., TBD - MHSAA Regional
- March 7, Sat., TBD - MHSAA Finals

## CLARKSTON Cheerleading



# Go Wolves!

## BOWMAN



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## Wrestlers prep for county

Grapplers were successful this weekend posting three wins during the Rocket Duals, their first tournament of the season.

The Clarkston Varsity Wrestling team defeated Wyandotte, 49-17, Warren Lincoln, 41-33, and Belleville, 35-29.

They lost to John Glenn, 54-16, and Southgate Anderson, 45-13.

"We had an up and down day," said Derek Moscovic, head coach. "We wrestled well against some teams. It is the beginning of the year. We will keep working at it and keep moving forward."

He added they had some performances which helped to seal wins for the Wolves.

"A couple of kids were a little outmatched but found a way to win. One of them Percy Fowler, who is a heavyweight. He got a pin for us and it was a huge win," Moscovic said. "Jacob Rogowski got a win in a close match. We had some big pins from Nate Vandermeer, Kas Waitkus and Josh Cohoon. Those were good matches for us."

The team opened the season at a dual meet at Waterford Kettering, Dec. 10 where they beat St. Mary's Prep, 61-6.

The Wolves tied with the Captain, 33-33 but lost in criteria.

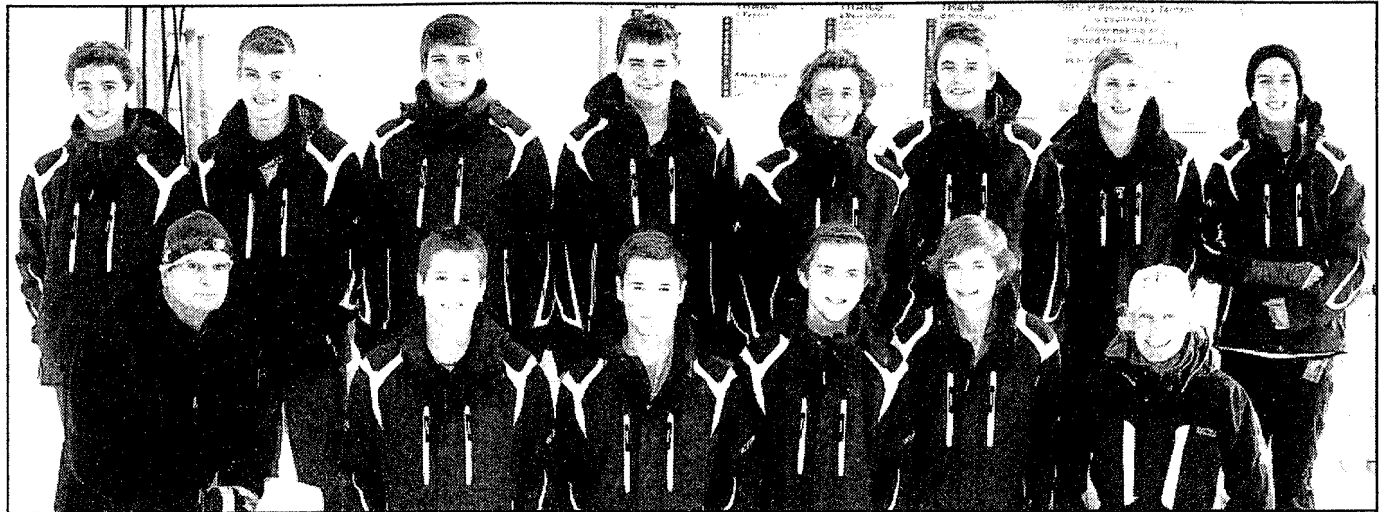
"Hats off to Kettering," Moscovic said. "We had some guys still coming off football who weren't at their right weight classes and had some guys out of line up but it was a good opener. We wrestled well at some weight classes. We found a way to tie it up. I was proud of them for keeping in the dual and not giving away a straight up loss."

Clarkston heads to the Oakland County Tournament this Friday and Saturday before they head into holiday break.

Moscovic added the Rocket Duals will help the boys as they prepare this week.

"We always face some tough teams like Southgate Anderson and John Glenn," he said. "It helps us to prepare mentally and evaluate what we need to work on. It gives us a week to come back, prepare and fix some mistakes. Maybe improve on some things we did right. Hopefully for Oakland County we will be ready to go."

The Wolves start on Friday at 3 p.m. at Southfield High School. They continue on Saturday at 9 a.m. at Lake Orion High School. ~Wendi Reardon



**Clarkston Boys Ski Team:** from left in back row, Max Weidemann, Evan Raddatz, James Haven, Bobby Dixon, Captain Derek Vanitallie, Jack Muhleck, Luke Smoger, Tom Wozniak; front row, Coach John Sych, Sean Lemieux, Jacob Shook, Brandon Imirowicz, Captain Reis Weidemann and Coach Ken Brackney. Not pictured Jacob McIntosh, Keith Zacharey, Justin Osborn. *Photo by Wendi Reardon*

## Skiers ready to reign the mountains

Racers will find the contour of Pine Knob steeper and longer for this winter season - but for the Clarkston Ski teams it won't be a problem.

"It suits our racers really well," said Coach John Sych. "Our core trains up north every weekend so they are used to fast racing and they will transition what they learn up north very easily."

Senior Derek Vanitallie added it will make it more of a challenge.

"It will benefit our team because we are all in shape," he added. "We have all skied out west and up north."

"It separates us from the rest of the competition," said senior Madeline DeClercq.

It is that separation which will help them get back to the state finals again this year. Both teams finished last year in the top ten with the boys varsity team in third place and the girls varsity team in seventh place.

The Lady Wolves are setting their sights on winning the championship.

"This is the team to do it," added senior Caroline Spytman.

The girls team consists of freshman Katie

Kop, Katherine Bayley; sophomores Micah Angus, Kaely Bolio; junior Casetti; seniors DeClercq, Spytman, Megan Gasser and Lauren Martin.

"We have a lot of potential," said DeClercq. "A lot of our top skiers are going to pull out some top finishers. We are going to be the team to watch and people aren't going to expect it."

The boys team lost seniors from last year but Vanitallie said they have a lot of underclassmen ready for the slopes including new freshman racers.

"I definitely think they have talent," added junior Reis Weidemann. "A lot of them really want to race and that is going to help them stay strong on the hill."

The boys team is freshman Jusin Osborn, Evan Raddatz, Max Weidemann; sophomores Sean Lemieux, Jacob McIntosh, Jacob Shook; juniors Robert Dixon, James Haven, Jack Muhleck, Reis Weidemann, Keith Zachary; seniors Vanitallie, Luke Smoger and Tom Wozniak.

"I am excited and hope I can contribute to the team this year," Max smiled.

The new faces will also make it an

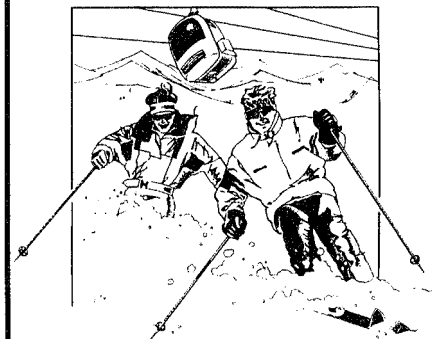
exciting season to watch.

"We have gained a lot of new teammates," Vanitallie added. "The results are going to be different and the way we race."

Sych added both teams are close-knit and have raced with each other for years which adds to their dynamic on the slopes.

The Wolves' first race is Jan. 7 and 8. All home meets are at Pine Knob. ~WAR

### Time to Hit the Slopes Clarkston Ski Team!

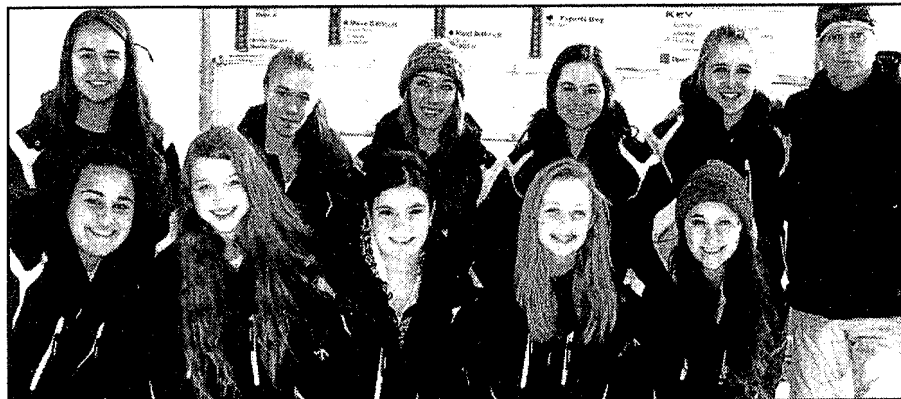


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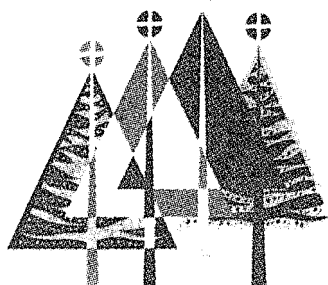


**Clarkston Girls Ski Team:** from left in back row, Amanda Casetti, Micah Angus, Lauren Martin, Megan Gasser, Madeleine DeClercq, Coach John Sych; front row, Kaely Bolio, Madison Lambouris, Katie Kop, Katherine Bayley and Caroline Spytman. *Photo by Wendi Reardon*



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**CHRISTMAS CHEER:** Student fans filling the stands in the Jungle put on a festive look for the Christmas season as the Wolves took on Avondale last Friday. *Photo by Wendi Reardon*

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## Strong leaders on the lanes

BY WENDI REARDON  
*Clarkston News Sports Writer*

Juniors Timothy Cuthrell and Vicki Wolfgang are leading the way for the Clarkston Bowling teams.

Both finished in the OAA Singles Tournament at Collier Lanes in first place, Dec. 8.

"We had a great showing," said Lenny Kersten, boys bowling coach. "We had two boys and two girls make it to the final round."

Participants bowled a three game block and the top eight bowlers with the highest series move on to the finals.

Cuthrell bowled a 692 series and Wolfgang had a 615 series.

Senior Chelsea Turk finished in fourth.

"She delivered an outstanding performance," said Clarkston Girls Bowling Coach Elanor Hallman. "We can't wait to see where this season takes us."

For the boys junior Jacob Kersten bowled a 622 series; senior Nick Treece, a 614 series; and sophomore Alex Clifford, a 600 series.

Wolfgang received a medal in the first tournament of the season at the Early Bird at Drakeshire Lanes, Dec. 6.

"She has started out the season

swinging and is coming out on top," said Hallman.

Wolfgang received a medal for her three game series as she shot a 224, 191, 200 for a 615 series.

The boys team finished in second place.

"We missed the championship by two pins which was of heartbreaking," Lenny said. "However we missed a lot of spares. The boys know now what it takes to win a championship. We have to get the spares and do what's necessary to win tournaments."

Jacob led the team with a 279 game with a 732 series. Treece had a 269 game and a 672 series. Cuthrell had a 227 game with a 655 series.

The teams competed against Ferndale on Tuesday. They bowl against Troy Athens at Cherry Hill Lanes North on Thursday before they head into the holiday break. The meet begins at 3:15.

"I do like our chances in the OAA Red," said Lenny. "We have a strong veteran leadership team. Everybody feeds off each other. They are very supportive of each other."

Look for a preview on the season in an upcoming edition of *The Clarkston News*.



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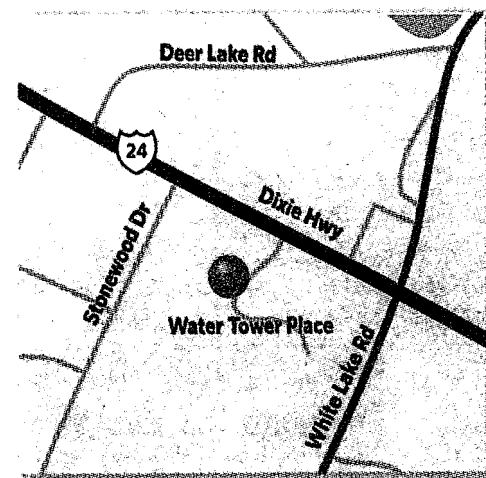
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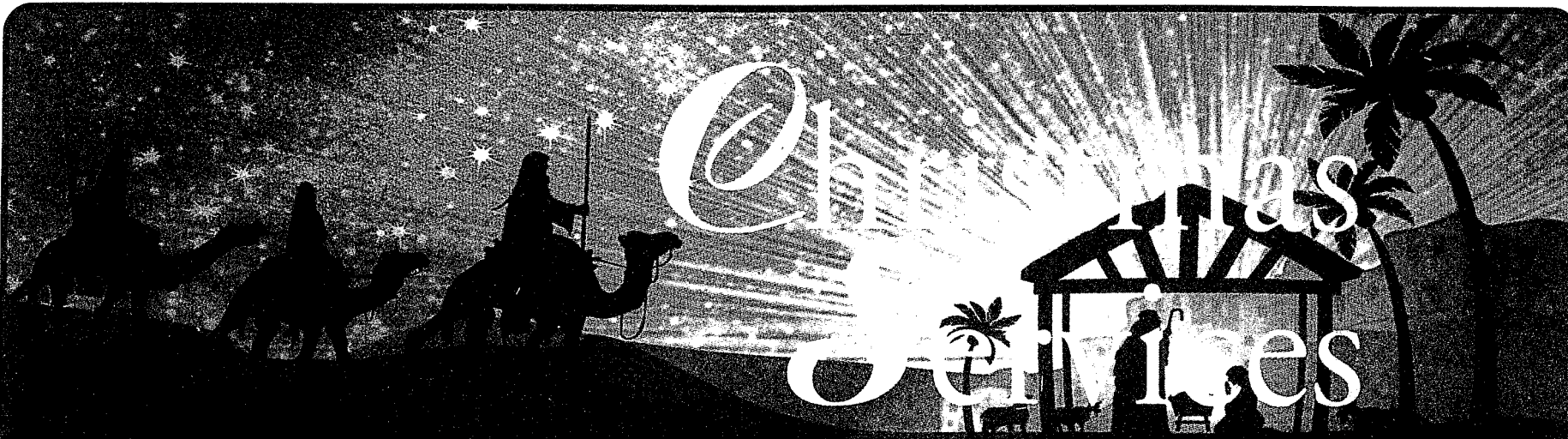
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7:00 pm Worship & 11:00 pm Candlelight Service

**Christmas Day Service**  
10:00 am with Communion

**New Year's Eve Service**  
3:00 pm Worship w/Communion

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7:00 pm Traditional Communion Service  
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**GOODFELLOWS:** Clarkston's Peg Roth, with Clarkston Rotarian Joel DeLong's grandson Liam during the club's annual Goodfellow paper drive. Liam accepted a \$500 donation from Roth and her family's business, Washington Street Management. *Photo by Don Rush*

## More letters... Gift fair thanks

### Thanks for Shoes help

The Clarkston Area Lions were again privileged this year to participate in our local Rotary Shoes for Kids distribution program. We wish to commend the Rotary for this wonderful event where 300-400 local children received new boots and shoes as well as hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks and toothbrushes!

I don't know of any other charitable event as effective as this one where donations are collected one weekend and the benefits disbursed the next.

There was a cadre of cheerful volunteers and so many happy children and their families. On our part we performed 122 of our free Project Kidsight vision screenings and received countless shy little "thank you's" from our participants. What a delight!

We want to thank the Clarkston Rotary and Oakland Woods Baptist Church for providing us with this opportunity to serve. We think special kudos should go out to Joel DeLong and his family for the tremendous amount of work they put into this project though out the year.

And last, but not least, none of it would be possible without the generosity of the Clarkston community. Thanks for buying all those White Canes and Goodfellow papers!

Happy Holidays, everyone. You made it a brighter season for many of the families in our area.

*Chris Savage  
Project Kidsight Coordinator*

Dear Editor,

A big thank you to the greater Clarkston community, who helped make the 2014 Clarkston United Methodist Church Alternative Christmas Gift Fair a big success! The local, regional and global mission agencies who participated will realize a total of \$22,091.59 for the benefit of the artisans and workers they support. We wish you and yours a blessed holiday season.

*Mary B. Gladstone-Highland  
Community outreach director  
Clarkston United Methodist Church*

### Donations for troops

Dear Editor,

The third grade students at Andersonville Elementary School thanks the families and staff for their generous donations during their Academic Service Learning Project Militarygiving.

During the last weeks of November, over 700 items were collected that will be sent to troops serving overseas. A special Thank You goes to Taco Bell on Dixie Highway in Clarkston and Arby's on Dixie in Waterford for their incredible donation of sauce packets to be added to our collection of items. Our students learned through their research these sauce packets are a special treat and highly sought out by our service men and women. We appreciate the opportunity to give to our troops who give up so much to protect us.

*Third grade students from Ms. Moore's and Mrs. Comp and Mrs. Roehl's classes*

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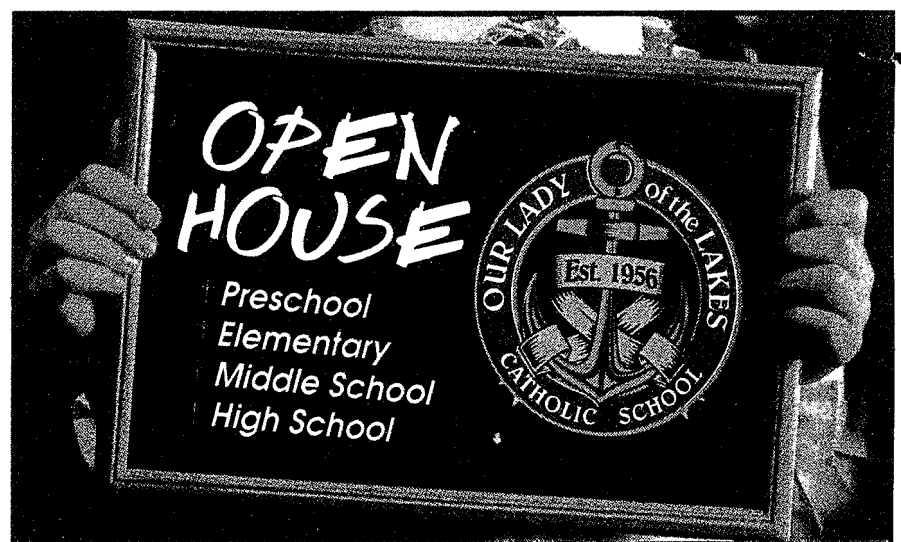
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**Events**

**Blood drive**, American Red Cross, 7 a.m.-5:45 p.m., Dec. 18, Independence Township Fire Department, 6500 Citation Drive. 800-RED-CROSS (800-733-2767).

\*\*\*

**Clarkston Monthly Recycling Day**, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Dec. 20, Community Education Center, 6558 Waldon Road. Electronics, scrap metal, batteries, appliances. Free pickup, call 248-240-4899.

\*\*\*

**Open auditions** for Clarkston Village Players' "A Few Good Men," 7 p.m., Dec. 21-22, Depot Theatre, 4861 White Lake Road. Large and small roles, speaking and non-speaking parts for men aged 18-50. Performance is in March. 810-348-9960.

**Monday**

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

**Tuesday**

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

\*\*\*

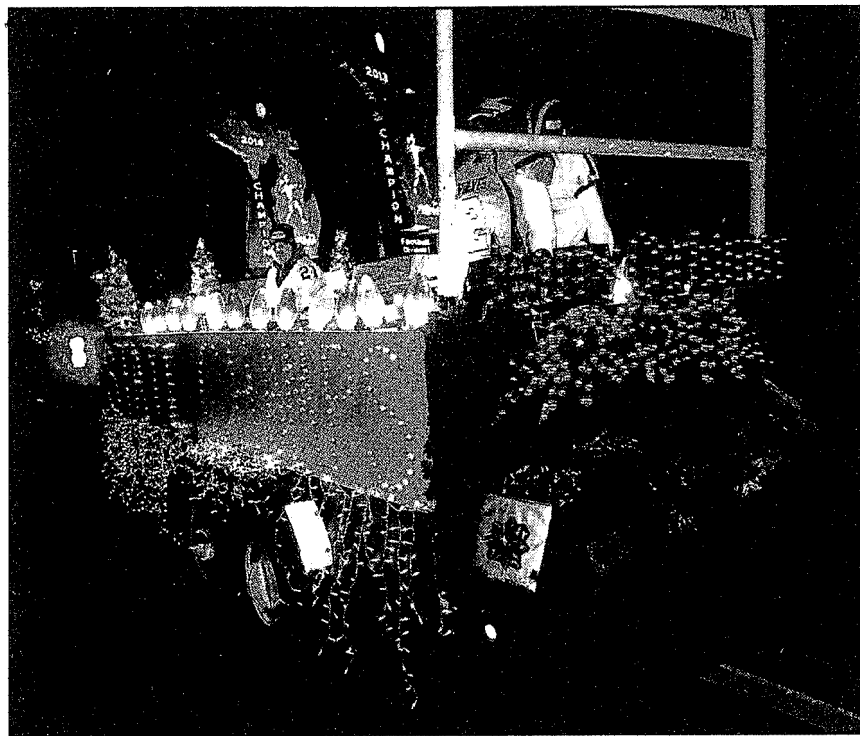
**Clarkston Community Band** rehearsals, 7-9 p.m., Tuesdays. \$30/semester, free for high school students. Band room, Sashabaw Middle School, 5565 Pine Knob Lane, clarkstonband@gmail.com.

\*\*\*

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

# Around Town

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



**CHAMPS IN LIGHTS:** Clarkston's gridiron heroes dazzled fans all season. Their float dazzled fans with bright lights at the Holiday Lights Parade last Saturday. Photo by Andrea Beaudoin

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

**Wednesday**

**Clarkston Area Optimist Club**, 7:30-8:30 a.m., Wednesdays, Clarkston United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall, 6600 Waldon Road. 248-622-6096.

\*\*\*

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

**Thursday**

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

\*\*\*

**Clarkston Area Lions Club**, second and fourth Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., Carriage House,

Clintonwood Park. 248-802-8603.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

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

**Friday**

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

**Saturday**

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

\*\*\*

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

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## What do women want for Christmas?



"They want to be pampered with a gift certificate to their favorite salon. They want to be given the gift of beauty."

— Mary Randolph



"They want a brand new look for the New Year."

— Kelly Hamilton



"They want to look good for their men."

— Lauren Angelos

By Andrea Beaudoin

# The Clarkston News' Millstream

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## Karate takes teens on world adventure

BY PHIL CUSTODIO  
Clarkston News Editor

Four local kids' love of karate earned them a chance to take on challengers from around the world.

"It was a nice experience to actually get out of the country and see different styles of karate," said Roger Reppuhn of Holly, 12, who went to the World Championship with Lynne DeGroot of Clarkston, 14, AJ Basirico of Oxford, 13, and Chris Gorham of Waterford, 16.

All are students at Waterford Tae Kwon Do. They traveled to Dublin, Ireland, for the World Karate Commission's championships, Oct. 5-9.

"It was fun to see the sights and go downtown," said DeGroot, who earned bronze medals in Continuous Sparring and Korean Forms.

"It was kind of cool to go — how many kids do this," said Basirico about his first trip overseas. "It's kind of different — Ireland was pretty interesting."

"The accent was hard to understand sometimes — the phrasing," DeGroot said.

"The place was beautiful, with all the towers and all that," said Reppuhn, who won gold in Korean Forms and silver in Point Fighting.

Gorham took gold in Point Fighting and silver in Korean Forms.

"We got to see different ways to look at life, the different cultures, and food," said Gorham, who has also competed in Portugal, Spain, Canada, and Italy.

"The food is really different — rice with vegetables, squid," DeGroot said.



Standing from left are AJ Basirico and Chris Gorham and, in front from left, are Roger Reppuhn and Lynne DeGroot. Photo by Phil Custodio

"They put ranch and mayo on everything," Gorham said. "And they had lots of sandwiches."

To earn spots at the world competition, they had to place in the top four in their divisions at regional and national contests.

That accomplishment took a lot of training, they said.

"A lot of extra hours — Friday was the only off day," DeGroot said.

"I had to prove to my dad I wanted to go," Reppuhn said.

That took extra nights of training at home, he said.

"Karate is the only thing I done for a long time," said Basirico, who has studied karate for four years. "I thought it was time to take it to the next level."

DeGroot, who has learned karate for 7 1/2 years, said her little brother started first.

"I watched for a couple months and it looked like so much fun so I joined," she said. "I tried other sports but I didn't like them."

"My grandma signed me up at five. I thought it was really fun," Reppuhn said.

Gorham has studied karate for 12 years.

"My parents own the karate school," he said. "I'm a very competitive person. I've enjoyed so many years."

"He's a great kid. He puts in a lot of hard work and sacrificed a lot to compete at that level," said Dawn Gorham, fifth degree black belt and owner of the studio with her husband Scott — they're Chris' parents. "I'm proud of all of them."

All their students learn self discipline, respect, and how to defend themselves, DeGroot said.

"Skills to use if you're in danger," Reppuhn said.

"Or in here," Basirico pointed out.

The 2015 World Championship will be Orlando, Fla. Training has already begun, with a prequalification round in Ohio in March, the students said.

"Training never stops — it's year round," said Michelle DeGroot, Lynne's mother.

"They take it extremely seriously."



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 www.FirstCongregationalChurch.org

## CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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 Website: clarkstonumc.org  
 Sunday Worship: 9:00 am & 11:00 am  
 Nursery available for all services

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# Religion

Events Preaching

## Get to know gift of Christ

I wonder what Jesus wants for Christmas – for his birthday – this year?

I have been pondering this question while preparing for my Advent and Christmas sermons at Calvary Lutheran. It's an interesting question because in most cases the one having the birthday is the one who receives gifts. However at Christmas it seems most of the focus is on what gifts we will either be receiving or giving someone else for Jesus' birthday.

Of course these can be very kind and loving gifts we give to others. And the Bible teaches us that especially when we give to those in need we are giving to Jesus in a very real way. But still, I wonder how often we really stop to ask the question, "What does Jesus want from me for Christmas this year?"

I heard this little story recently which might make you smile, as well as offer some insights into answering this question:

A couple days before Christmas there was a long line at the post office as people were frantically trying to get things in the mail for loved ones far away. An exasperated woman finally reaches the counter and asks, "Can you get this to my dad in California by Christmas?"

The clerk responds, "Yes we can, but it will cost you to get it there overnight."

"How much?"

"It will be \$53.25."

The woman continues, "Wow, that is a lot, but I've got to do it. This present is for my dad and it has to be there by Christmas...because Christmas is also his birthday."

To which the clerk responds: "What a bummer that is...having a birthday on Christmas day. I sure am glad I don't know anyone

born on Christmas."

Someone from the back of the line with a quick wit and a vital faith says, "I sure am glad I do!"

I believe that Christmas, at its deepest level, is really all about knowing someone born on Christmas day – really knowing him, and loving him, and living our lives for him. Because of that I am convinced the best gift of all we can give Jesus, and what he wants most, is our hearts and our lives and our first love.

This is what he wants, because he knows when we do put him first, our lives will begin to have more purpose, hope, joy, peace and love – for God and for others. God sent Jesus to us at that first Christmas to be the gift that would truly keep on giving.

So what does this look like? Here is what Paul writes in Colossians chapter 3:

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

I think Jesus would jump for joy, do a dance, even some somersaults, if we lived this out as our gift for his birthday this Christmas and into the future.

*The Rev. Jonathan Heierman is pastor of Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church*

## Spiritual Matters



Pastor Jonathan Heierman

## In our local churches...

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

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

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

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

# Death notices & Obituaries

## Doris S. Oliver, 80

Doris S. Oliver of Waterford, formerly of Pontiac, passed away suddenly Dec. 7, 2014, at age 80.

She was the devoted wife of Richard for 58 years; dear mother of Kirk (Mary), Kelly, Kraig, Kevin (Patty), Kerry (the late Denise), Kim (Tim) Murphy and Kristi (Brett) Sharpe; beloved grandmother of 24; sister of Charles Lindeberg, Norman Lindeberg and Lucille (Jim) Burt.



Rosary service was Dec. 11 at the **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Funeral mass was Dec. 12 at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church, Waterford. Rite of Committal All Saints Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

## Stephen Parrott, 67

Stephen Kyle Parrott, 67, of Duluth, Minnesota, passed away, Sunday, Dec. 7, 2014. He was born Aug. 20, 1947, to Bernard and Cathleen (Little) Parrott in Pontiac, Mich.



Steve grew up in Clarkston and graduated from Clarkston High School. He attended Northern Michigan University and then Ferris State University. He graduated from Ferris State University with a business degree. Upon graduation he took a job with the State of Michigan as an Economic Analyst.

In 1974, he moved to northwest Minnesota and lived off the land near the Mississippi River until 1990 when he moved to Duluth. He retired from Holiday Inn at the beginning of 2013 due to health complications. He worked at Holiday Inn for nearly 12 years and enjoyed his Holiday Inn "family."

He was a loving father and grandpa. He enjoyed cooking, literature, movies, music, and baseball. He also enjoyed playing cribbage and having lively conversations about current events.

Steve is survived by his daughter Megan (Bill) Wentela; granddaughter Sarah Wentela; four siblings, Jon (Julia) Parrott, Mark (Julianne) Parrott, Linda Bartnik, and Tom Parrott. A very special thank you to my Dad's Holiday Inn family for their care and support. A memorial to Celebrate Steve's Life is being planned for the spring.

## Wayne Johnson, 89

C. Wayne Johnson of Waterford passed away Dec. 9, 2014, at age 89.

He was preceded in death recently by his childhood sweetheart and wife of 68 years Violette K. He was the father of Susan (Michael) Absher, Jeffrey (Sandra) Johnson and the late Sherry Peltola; grandpa of seven and great grandpa of seven.



Wayne served in the Marine Corp. during World War II, seeing action in Iwo Jima, Guam, and Guadalcanal. He earned a Master's degree in education working in the Waterford School System for over 25 years.

Visitation was Dec. 13 at the **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Private Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

## Carol Rademacher, 81

Carol E. Rademacher (Jaeger) of Clarkston, formerly of Dumont, New Jersey, died in the loving arms of family Dec. 9, 2014, at age 81.

She was preceded in death by husband Thomas. She was the mother of Teresa (Shaun) Clasby, Carolyn (Martin) Thomas, Trish (James) Rademacher, Annie (Paul) Mooradian and Cathrene (David) Baetens; "second" mother of Holly Radoye Baldwin, Tina (Brian) Blago Gaffney, the late Sharon (Tom) Knibbs; grandmother of Tom (Kate), Shaun, Maria, Spencer, Annie, Jay, Alex, Will, Allison, Morgan, Drew, Casey, Everett, Elliott, Caroline, William and Tommy; great grandmother of Anna; sister of Doris (John) McKeon, Robert (Kathy) Jaeger and Virginia White; aunt to many nieces/nephews; also survived by many dear friends throughout her life including the amazing loving caregivers at The Pines of Clarkston. Carol treasured her family and friends and was devoted to her faith.



She was a compassionate Registered Nurse at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital and co-owned Rademacher Chevrolet with her husband. She will be deeply missed.

Scripture service was Dec. 12 at the **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Funeral mass was Dec. 13 at St. Daniel Catholic Church, Clarkston. Rite of Committal Lakeview Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Clarkston Area Youth Assistance or Lighthouse North. Online guestbook [www.wintfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintfuneralhome.com).

Obituaries continue on page 22

## ~Canterbury Village Events~

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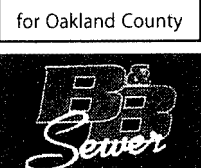
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**SCAMP DONATION:** Clarkston State Bank's Executive Vice President Dawn Horner, at left, and Deanna Hart and Megan Holt, co-owners of High-Five Races, at right, present a \$4,400 donation to Wendy Clufetos, Clarkston SCAMP interim executive director, and Liz Porter of Blessings in a Backpack. The donation was from the Clarkston State Bank's Back Roads Half Marathon and 10k, Nov. 9. Porter said the donation will feed 22 children each weekend for an entire school year, and Clufetos said it will be used to fund SCAMPerships, SCAMP scholarships, for the 2015 summer camp. Photo provided

**Coming up this week:**

**The Snow Queen**  
Wednesday at 8:00  
Saturday at 8:00  
Sunday at 7:00

The classic story that was the basis for the Disney movie "Frozen".

**Clarkston High School Sports**  
Saturday at 12:00  
Tuesday at 7:00

Catch the Wolves in action as we offer the most recent contests recorded by the Independence Television Staff.

For a complete schedule, visit our web site:  
[www.independencetelevision.com](http://www.independencetelevision.com)  
or find us on Facebook.

## Donald Kevern, 81

Donald H. Kevern of Clarkston passed away Dec. 7, 2014, at age 81.

He was preceded in death by his wife M. Christine. He was the father of Susan and Barbara; twin brother of Ronald (Marilyn); brother in law of Elaine (Bob) Greene and Kathy (Dean) Atkins; uncle of Debra (John) Bronkema, Brent (Jennifer) Kevern, Brad (Alison) Kevern, Steve (Kate) Greene, Andrew Greene, Krista (James) Voss and Greg (Amber) Atkins.

Don retired from Bloomfield Hills school district as a teacher and principal. He served Clarkston United Methodist Church as a support minister and Stephen minister and was a U.S. Army veteran.

Don leaves behind a legacy of former students, friends, and other family members with whom he loved spending time.

Celebration of life was Dec. 10 at the **Lewis E. Wint and Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Funeral Service was Dec. 11 at Clarkston United Methodist Church. Interment Ottawa Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Clarkston United Methodist Church Cobeil Scholarship Fund.

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





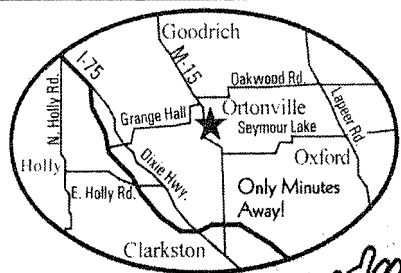
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<b>2006 BUICK TERRAZA</b> <b>\$5,427</b> F2484PB	<b>2009 HYUNDAI SONATA</b> <b>\$8,993</b> F14611A	<b>2010 DODGE JOURNEY R/T</b> <b>\$14,759</b> F14767C	<b>2011 CHRYSLER 200</b> <b>\$10,858</b> F2502J	<b>2011 CHEVY MALIBU</b> <b>\$11,877</b> F2515J



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Wednesday and Thursday  
Dec. 24th and 25th  
for Christmas, and  
Wednesday Dec. 31st and  
Thursday, Jan. 1st  
for New Years.

Have a safe and happy holiday!  
LZ3dhf

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\$999 DOWN

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## 2015 MALIBU

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## 2015 IMPALA

FWD, 6 Speed Auto. Trans., 10 Air Bags, 4 Wheel Antilock Brakes, Cruise Control, Power Locks, Driver Info. Center, Remote Keyless Entry, Tire Pressure Monitor, Power Windows, Bluetooth For Phone, 8 Way Power Driver Seat And More.



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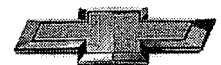


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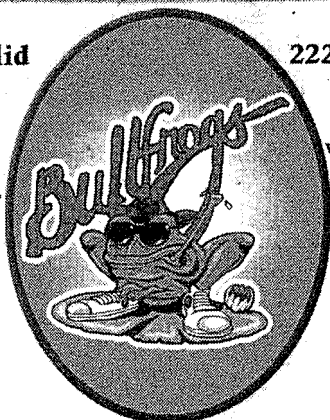
\*Lease payment examples for Camaro, Cruze, Equinox, Impala, Malibu, Silverado, Traverse and Volt at GM Employee Discount Price plus tax, title, plate, zero security deposit, first month payment and doc. fees due at signing with all rebates including USAA Private Offer assigned to dealer. Lessee responsible for excess wear and tear as well as exceeded contracted mileage. ^Spark and 2013 Camaro sale prices at GM Employee Discount Price plus tax, title, plate and doc fees due at signing with all rebates including USAA Private Offer assigned to dealer. Due to advertising deadlines, prices subject to change.

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2008 Dodge Ram 1500 Mega Cab Laramie 4X4 leather interior, power everything, only 54K miles,.....	\$22,377
2008 Ford F150 60th anniversary edition Supercrew 4x4 Only 44K miles, fully loaded leather interior, moon roof,.....	\$22,377
2008 GMC Sierra 3500H Crewcab SLE2 DRW 4X4 Duramax Diesel, power everything 45K miles,.....	\$32,988
2008 GMC Sierra 2500HD Crewcab SLT 4X4 all the right options, 69K miles,.....	\$25,377
2007 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab SLT 4X4 55K miles, 20" chrome wheels, Only,.....	\$19,488
2007 Dodge Ram 2500 Mega Cab Laramie 4X4 leather interior, center console, only 44K miles,.....	\$24,988
2006 Ford F150 Lariat Supercab 4X4 88k miles, fully loaded with every option,.....	\$15,377
2004 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE Ext. Cab 4X4 Low miles, all power options, extra clean,.....	\$13,988
2002 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD Ext. Cab 4X4 Duramax Diesel, long bed, beautiful inside and out,.....	\$15,377
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CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON  
ARTEMUS M. PAPPAS VILLAGE HALL  
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MINUTES

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 10, 2014**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Luginiski, followed by the pledge of allegiance.  
Roll Call: Present—Mayor Luginiski, Bisio, Catallo, Marsh, Hunter, Sabol, Haven. Absent Roth.  
The Swearing in of Mayor Luginiski and Catallo, Sabol and Bisio the new members were elected November 4, 2014. Certificate of Appreciation for Peg Roth's service of 8 years.  
Approval of agenda moved by Haven Supported by Bisio to approve the Agenda All Aye Motion Carried.  
Thank You Certificates were given out to Think Camp volunteers that organized and put on a fund raiser for 3 Handicap picnic tables for Depot Park. Think Camp Members were Will Pospo, Emily Pyscher, Emily Herrmann, Andrew Herrmann, Lucas Isaac, Trevor Busyn and Allison Mayo-Moyle.  
Tree Committee Report 4 Pear trees planted at 55 N Holcomb, 37 E Washington, 73 N Holcomb, 28 N Holcomb. There is a 5 year Guarantee from Bordine's.  
Motion by Catallo Supported by Sabol to approve the Consent Agenda Motion Carried.  
First Read Zoning Ordinance Amendment for 55 S Main was Multi Family but should be Village Commercial. Next step is new Zoning Ordinance Map then 2 nd read then 20 days after that amendment is finalized.  
David Marsh, chairman of the Streets committee, started the discussion regarding the decision of the City to remove the snow from residential sidewalks. The issue will be put on the November 24, 2014 agenda.  
Moved by Haven, supported by Marsh to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. All Aye Motion Carried.  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Sandy Miller  
City Clerk

# Independent audit confirms paper's reach

Continued from page 1

74.1 percent said they, or someone in their home regularly reads or "looks through" our paper

73.5 percent said they "frequently" purchase products or services from local business ads seen in our papers.

Wow! Nearly three quarters of the households in this community use our paper when making buying decisions. Can any other form of local marketing boast those numbers?

For the skeptics out there, hold on a second. Let me tell you about CVC. First, they audit thousands of editions nationwide with a combined circulation over 55 million. Their auditors pour over our US Postal statements, printing statements and any other statement they can find, to come up with their findings. Their audits cover printing, distribution, circulation, websites, digital editions, mobile, email, social

media and readership studies to give an accurate picture of a publication's reach and market penetration.

Oh, and we did not pay for this audit.

According to CVC founder and president, Tim Bingaman, "CVC uses a for-profit business model, which allows our company to remain completely objective in its reporting practices. We run our business the same way as financial auditors and auditors of all other media. There's no power of influence because most publishers do not pay us directly for our services, so we can be totally impartial and just report the facts. Today, CVC is known as the premier source of audit, circulation and readership data, and I'm proud of the work we do."

Aside from assessing our papers' reach, Bingaman's company also got the pulse for locals' projected buying trends. Here are some of the answers you provided:

■ 17% of your neighbors say they will buy a new automobile. That means 2,344 households will each spend about \$25,777 (national average cost) on a new car — \$60,446,549 in new car sales!

■ 18% will be in the market for a "new" pre-owned vehicle. With the average cost being,

\$13,145. This represents another \$32,637,963 in sales.

■ Let's see . . . oh, 7% of you say you will need a real estate agent (that's just under a 1,000 transactions). If the average transaction is \$240,000, local real estate agents will be inking over \$231 million dollars in contracts. Talk about the benefits of fiduciary relationships!

■ Over 1,100 of you plan to seek the advice of an attorney this coming year, representing over \$1.1 million worth of legal advice. I think local counsel may think about marketing in our pages to get a piece of that pie before all the billboard and TV commercial lawyers take all the action!

Over the course of the next few weeks, I will publish more results — reinforcing the power of the local buying market. Until then, thank you to the community — you local residents and businesses — who continually supports this local paper and for taking the time to respond to the survey. There are naysayers who cry newspapers are dying. Bah! Once again, those who say that do not live in the Clarkston area. Your community papers continue to thrive, insuring readers will be informed and entertained for years to come!

**TO ALL CREDITORS:**

The Grantor, Marlene Woods Barrett (date of birth April 29, 1936), who address was 5800 Water Tower Place, Independence Twp., MI 48346, died on November 13, 2014. There is no personal representative of the Grantor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Marlene Woods Barrett Trust dated November 19, 2001, as amended and restated, will be forever barred unless presented to Colleen A. Schon, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

William G. Zabel P22671  
Attorney of Trustee  
6480 Citation Drive, Suite A  
Clarkston, MI 48346  
248-625-3330

Date: November 24, 2014  
Colleen A. Schon, Trustee  
8424 Pine Hollow Ct.  
Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439  
810-691-8931

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

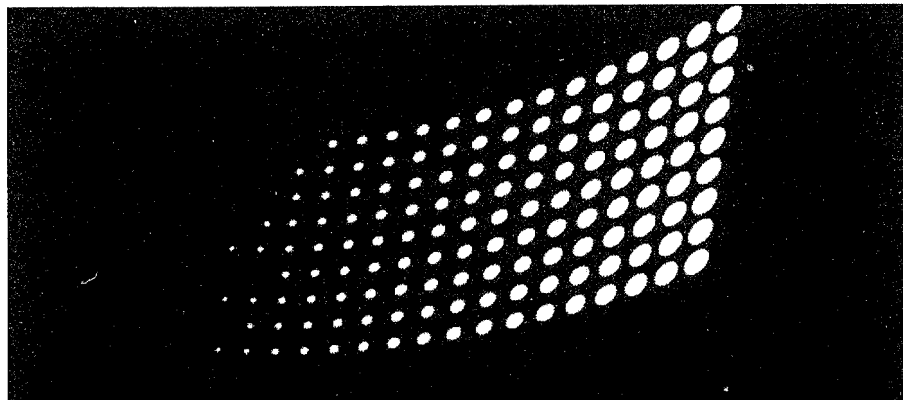
**SYNOPSIS  
TAKEN BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD  
THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF INDEPENDENCE  
DECEMBER 9, 2014**

- A. A Regular Meeting of the Charter Township of Independence Board was called to order at 7:00 PM at Independence Township Hall.
- B. The Pledge of Allegiance was given.
- C. ROLL CALL: Present: Pallotta, Brown, Aliaga, Lohmeier, Ritchie, Schroeder  
Absent: Kittle  
There was a quorum present.  
Also Present: Ken Elwert, Parks, Recreation and Seniors, Director; Linda Richardson, DPW Director; Barbara Rollin, Senior Supervisor  
Approval to Appoint Clerk Pallotta as Acting Chair for the December 9, 2014 Regular Meeting.
- D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: (Below Comment made by Trustee Schroeder under F. BOARD/PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS)
- E. CLOSED SESSION: None scheduled
- F. BOARD/PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS: Trustee Schroeder; APPROVAL OF AGENDA; Trustee Aliaga
- G. PUBLIC COMMENT: None
- H. PUBLIC HEARING:  
Public Hearing opened at 7:07 PM  
After receiving public comment, the Public Hearing closed at 7:11 PM  
1. Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) Program Year 2015 Application and Subrecipient Agreement  
a. Approval of Program Year 2015 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding Application and Subrecipient Agreement  
b. Approval of Allocation of 2015 CDBG Funding for Public Services / Independence Township Senior Center  
c. Approval of Allocation of 2015 CDBG Funding for Public Services / Youth Services (Clarkston Area Youth Assistance)  
d. Approval of Allocation of 2015 CDBG Funding for Public Services / Transportation Services (Senior Center)  
e. Approval of Allocation of 2015 CDBG Funding for Other (Minor Home Repair)
- I. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS:  
1. Report: Update — Planning Commission Update

- (Ronald Ritchie)
- J. CARRYOVER / POSTPONED AGENDA ITEMS: None
- K. CONSENT AGENDA:  
1. Approval of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes of November 25, 2014  
2. Approval of the Payroll of December 5, 2014 and Check Run of December 3, 2014 for a Total Amount of \$321,980.60  
3. Approval of Budget Amendment for the Parks Division  
4. Approval of Budget Amendment for the Recreation Division  
5. Approval of Budget Amendment for the Seniors Division  
6. Confirmation of the Video Center Administrative Board 2015 Meeting Schedule
- L. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA: None
- M. REGULAR BUSINESS:  
1. Adoption of the Board of Trustees 2015 Regular and Budget Meeting Schedule  
2. Approval of the 2016 Budget Review/Approval Process  
3. Amendment to Previously Adopted Motion #2014-10-191 Verizon Wireless  
4. Request to Amend Previously Adopted Motion #2014-10-206; No Action Taken  
5. Request to Approve Budget Adjustment and Accept Proposal for the Installation of the Channel Monster System; No Action Taken  
6. Request to Accept Quote for Valve Replacement — Clarkston Gardens; No Action Taken  
7. Amendment to Previously Adopted Motion #2014-11-224 - Parks, Recreation & Seniors  
8. Approval of the 2015 Specialized Services Operation Assistance Program Third-Party (SMART) Contract  
9. Approval of Budget Amendment and transfer funding for pending 2014 Capital Improvement & Donation Projects for Parks, Recreation & Seniors Divisions from FY 2014 to FY 2015
- N. COMMUNICATIONS / FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS / REPORTS:  
1. Report: Fire Department Monthly Reports for October and November 2014
- O. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: Trustee Lohmeier
- P. ADJOURNMENT: The Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barbara A. Pallotta, CMC  
Township Clerk

Published: Wednesday, December 17, 2014



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BANCARD®**

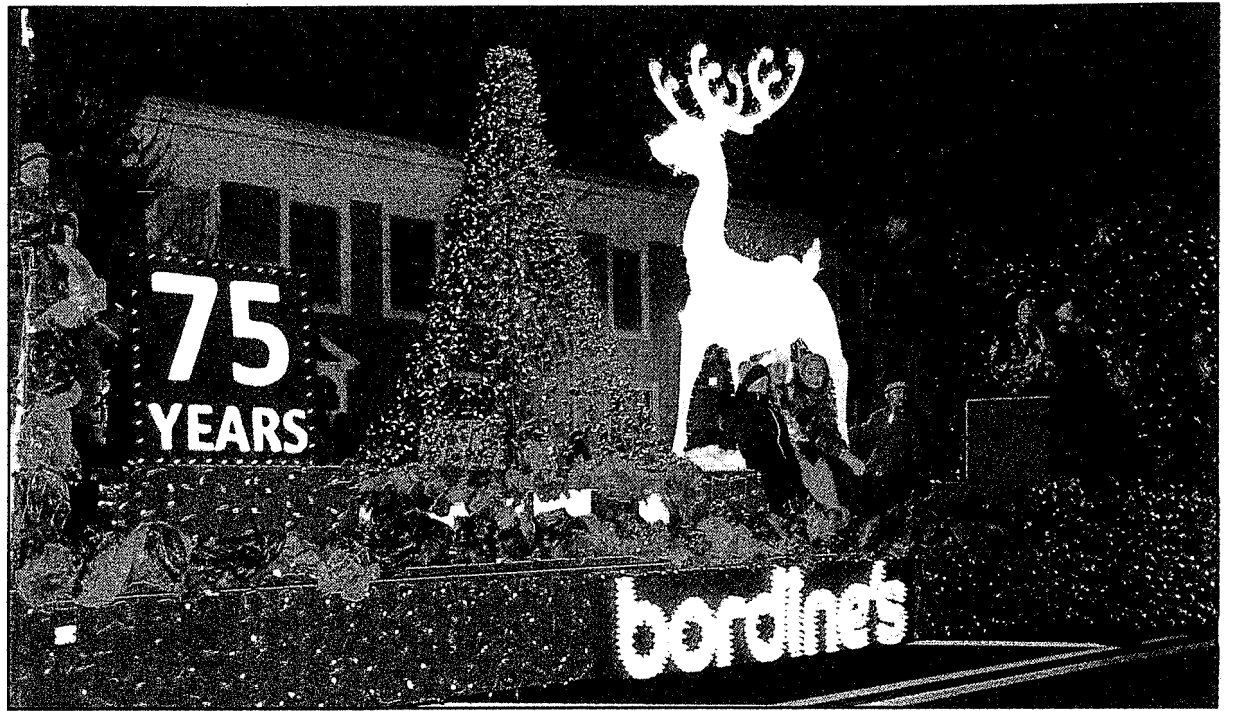
**Thomas Koenig**  
Account Executive

P: 517.574.7835  
M: 989.277.0189  
F: 517.574.7835  
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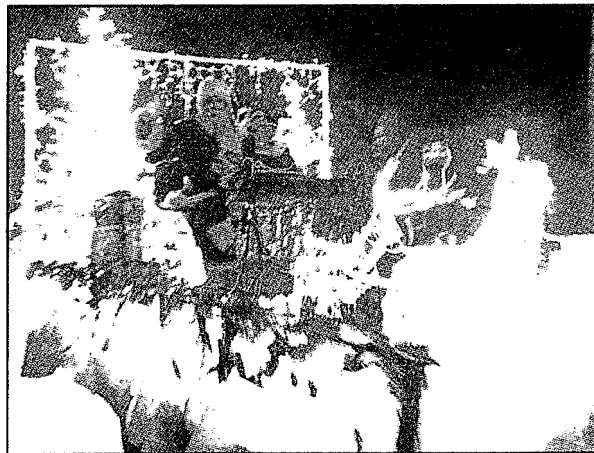
Alyana Ramos was all hugs for this friendly looking polar bear.



The Bordine's float was full of lights as it rolled down Main Street. Photo provided by Kyle Hughes



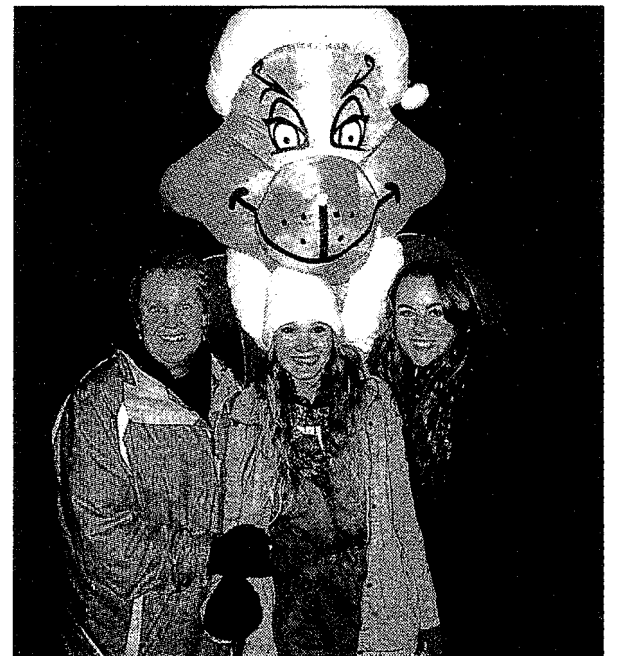
Raquel Rudder gives her son Dustin a kiss to mark a special night.



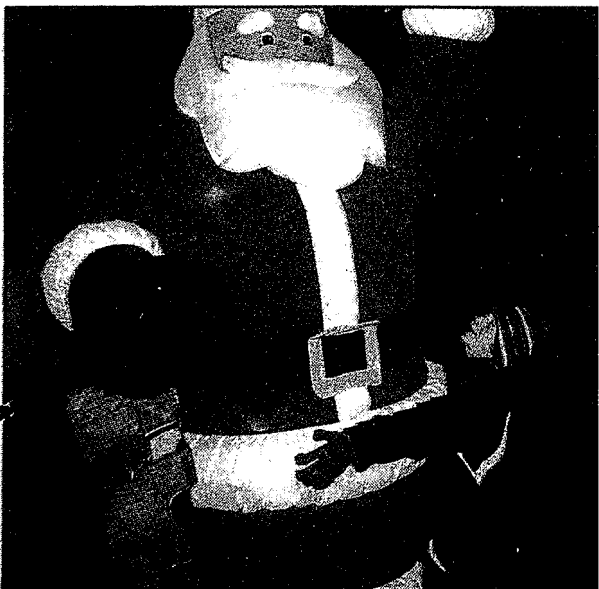
Santa Claus really lit up Main Street when he visited Clarkston.

## PARADE OF LIGHTS

People packed downtown Clarkston for the Holiday Lights Parade and Christmas tree lighting last Saturday night. Local community groups, sports teams, clubs, and organizations decorated floats with thousands of lights in all colors for the after-dark parade.



Deb and Kaylee Perciva along with Hannah Chadwell smile for the Grinch.



Camryn Budzik told Santa she has been good all year. Photos by Andrea Beaudoin



A group of Cub Scouts watch as the crowd enjoys all the wildlife on their float. A big green dinosaur was a favorite for many.



New State Representative Jim Tedder helps Santa and Mrs. Claus and the elves dazzle the crowd.

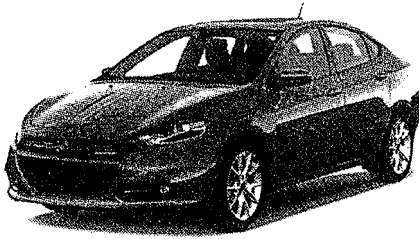
**Milosch's PALACE**  
CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE

DODGE Jeep RAM

**BIG FINISH 2014**

Open Monday & Thursday 8:30 am - 8 pm, Tues., Wed., Fri. 8:30 am - 6 pm  
New Saturday Hours: Sales 10 am - 3 pm & Service 8 am - 2 pm

**2015 Dodge Dart SXT**



27 mo. Lease Employee 1 Pay 27 Month Lease Starting From  
**\$99\*** mo. **\$3326\***

**2015 Chrysler 200 Limited**



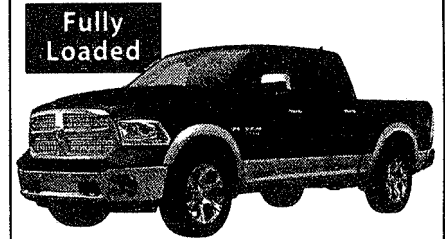
27 mo. Lease Sale Price  
**\$132\*** mo. **\$18,927\***

**2014 Ram Crew Cab 4X4 Big Horn**



27 mo. Lease Employee 1 Pay 27 Month Lease Starting From  
**\$149\*** mo. **\$3587\***

**2014 Ram 1500 Laramie Crew Cab 4X4**



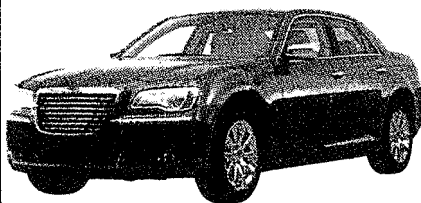
27 mo. Lease Employee 1 Pay 27 Month Lease Starting From  
**\$199\*** mo. **\$3988\***

**2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo 4X4**



27 mo. Lease Sale Price  
**\$259\*** mo. **\$27,760\***

**2014 Chrysler 300 S**



27 mo. Lease Employee 1 Pay 27 Month Lease Starting From  
**\$89\*** mo. **\$3987\***

**2015 Jeep Patriot Latitude FWD**



27 mo. Lease Employee 1 Pay 27 Month Lease Starting From  
**\$109\*** mo. **\$2988\***

**All New 2015 Dodge Journey RT AWD**



27 mo. Lease  
**\$179\*** mo.

**2014 Dodge Charger R/T**



27 mo. Lease Employee 1 Pay 27 Month Lease Starting From  
**\$99\*** mo. **\$2988\***

**2014 Chrysler Town & Country Touring L**



27 mo. Lease Employee 1 Pay 27 Month Lease Starting From  
**\$169\*** mo. **\$3987\***

**All New 2015 Jeep Cherokee Latitude 4X4**



39 mo. Lease **\$195\*** mo.

We make car buying fun at Milosch's Palace. Please call to schedule an appointment for a demonstration drive. All rebates to dealer. Deals apply to stock units only. Must be a Chrysler employee. \$1995 down, plus destination, taxes, title, plates. Must be Chrysler Employee. \$500 Military and TDM included. Lease calculated at 10,000 miles per year. Vehicle shown not actual vehicle. WAC. See dealer for details. \*\*Lease and prepay examples are plus destination, taxes, title, plates, \$0 sec deposit required. Includes Conquest Trade-in and must be Chrysler Employee. Expiration date is 12-24-14. \*\*Programs subject to change.

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Silverbell

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Palace of Auburn Hills Exit 81

I-75

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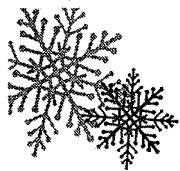
Hours: Mon & Thurs 8:30 am - 8 pm • Tues., Wed., & Fri 8:30 am - 6 pm  
New Saturday Hours: Sales 10 am - 3 pm • Service 8 am - 2 pm

[www.palacecjd.com](http://www.palacecjd.com)

**Milosch's PALACE**  
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# Holiday Sale



**CHEVY'S GIVING MORE**  
*Chevy's Year End Event*  
**BOWMAN**  
**CHEVROLET**  
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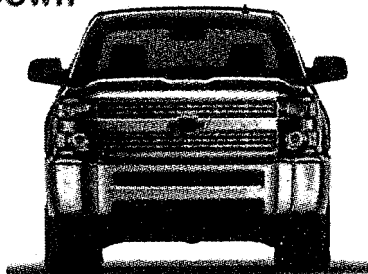
Sales:  
 Mon, Thurs 9am-8pm  
 Tue, Wed, Fri 9am-6pm  
 Sat 9am-3pm, Sun Closed

Service:  
 Mon, Thurs 7:30am-7pm  
 Tues, Wed, Fri 7:30am-6pm  
 Sat 9am-2pm, Sun Closed

*Sale*  
**\$149\*** 2014 CRUZE 1LT  
 AUTOMATIC  
 Per Mo./10k/39 months No Security Deposit  
**\$0 Down**



*Sale*  
**\$235\*** 2015 SILVERADO  
 DOUBLE CAB 4X4  
 Per Mo./10k/39 months No Security Deposit  
**\$0 Down**



*Sale*  
**\$169\*** 2015 EQUINOX  
 1LT AUTOMATIC  
 Per Mo./10k/24 months No Security Deposit  
**\$0 Down**



*Sale*  
**\$159\*** 2015 MALIBU 1LT  
 AUTOMATIC  
 Per Mo./10k/39 months No Security Deposit  
**\$0 Down**



**\$14.95** Certified Service  
**Oil Change**

Can be used at Bowman Chevrolet or Sellers Bowman Auto Center. Plus tax and disposal fee. Up to 5 qts. conventional oil. Dexos and synthetic extra. Excludes Corvettes. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires 12/31/14.

**15% off** Certified Service

**On ALL Customer Paid Parts & Labor on Service**

Excludes Body Shop. Not to be combined with any other offer. Maximum discount amount \$100.00\* Expires 12/31/14.

**\$10 off** Certified Service

**Coolant Flush Special**

Can be used at Bowman Chevrolet or Sellers Bowman Auto Center. Not to be combined with any other offer. Expires 12/31/14.

\*Must qualify for all rebates. 10,000 miles per year. Plus tax, title, license, doc fee, and acquisition fee. Must qualify for all rebates including GM Employee pricing, Lease Loyalty and trade-in bonus. First month's payment, tax on rebates and license due at signing. Subject to credit approval. \$0 Security Deposit. See dealer for details.



**SELLERS • BOWMAN**  
**AUTO CENTER**  
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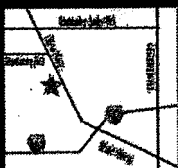
*Happy Holiday Deals!*



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- 2008 Chrysler 300 .....\*\$8,900
- 2012 Ford Expedition XLT .....\*\$24,700
- 2013 Dodge Avenger .....\*\$11,700
- 2012 GMC Acadia SLE .....\*\$22,600
- 2011 Buick Regal Turbo .....\*\$14,100
- 2009 Dodge Ram .....\*\$21,000

- 2008 Chevrolet Avalanche .....\*\$22,300
- 2009 Chevrolet Malibu .....\*\$11,200
- 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee .....\*\$20,300
- 2009 Ford Edge .....\*\$17,000
- 2004 Chevrolet Silverado .....\*\$20,700
- 2014 Ford E-250 .....\*\$22,500



\*Plus tax, title, license, doc fee, and acquisition fee. Subject to availability. See dealer for details.