

The Clarkston News

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Buy Clarkston.

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Vol. 86 No. 18 Wed., January 28, 2015

1 Section, 36 pages \$1.00

Sup't re-evaluation Thursday

3 board members say they will skip it

BY PHIL CUSTODIO

Clarkston News Editor

The school superintendent re-evaluation meeting is set for Thursday, but three members of Clarkston Board of Education say they will not participate.

"Craig Hamilton, Joan Patterson and myself will not be attending the redo of Dr. Rock's evaluation on Thursday," said board Vice President Susan Boatman in an email, Jan. 27. "The new board majority wants to change the superintendent's rating and we will not help legitimize the corruption of our agreed upon evaluation process."

The meeting was set by a vote at the Jan. 12 school board meeting, said board President Steve Hyer.

"I am not sure what has happened since then," Hyer said. "I look forward as the board leader to putting politics aside, and keeping the focus on spending our time as a board on the things that matter most, and that is the achievement of our students."

The agenda for the meeting will include reconsideration of evaluation parts "G" through "K," which includes Evaluations, Progress Towards the School Improvement Plan, Student Attendance, Student/Parent/Teacher Feedback, and Student Growth and Achievement.

It will also include finalization of the 2014 Superintendent Evaluation Letter, superintendent evaluation process and

Please see Contract on page 5

New plan: smaller McLaren hospital

BY ANDREAM BEAUDOIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

It's time to move on to plan B for McLaren, officials say.

"We are going to continue to expand the depth and breadth of the health care services at our Clarkston campus serving Independence Township and northern Oakland County," said Greg Lane, senior vice president and chief administrative officer. "We have always planned the development of Clarkston in a phased approach."

McLaren's \$300 million plan for a hospital is on hold, and instead the health care group is planning to build a smaller medical campus with a 30-bed "short-stay" hospital with an emergency room.

The short-stay facility and emergency

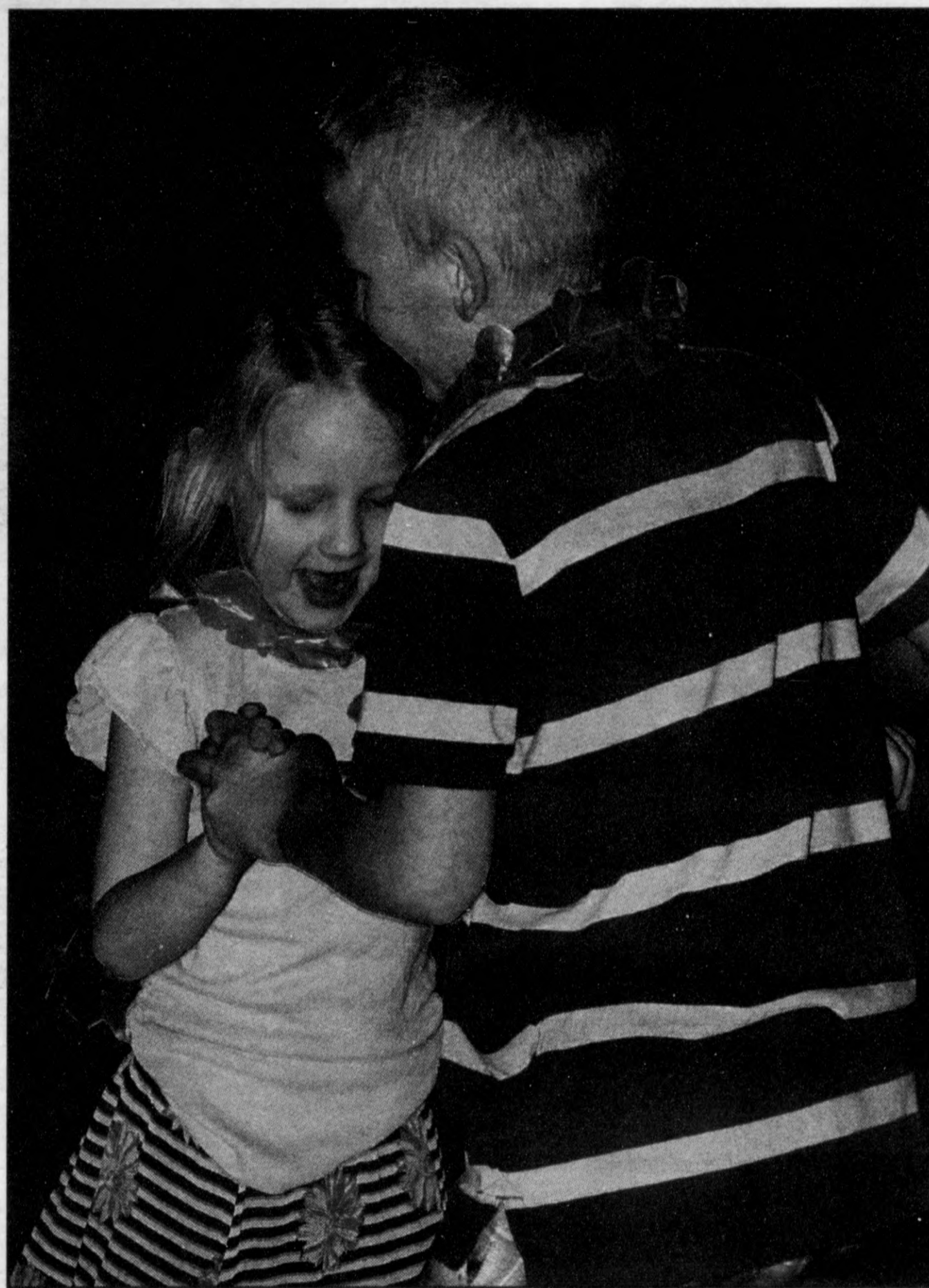
room would be a \$30 million-\$50 million investment in Clarkston. It would allow patients to stay up to 24 hours, which is on target with market needs, Lane said.

"Today, the majority of health care services are delivered on an outpatient basis. A 30-bed short-stay hospital, combined with advanced technology and diagnostics and a 24-hour emergency room, can provide much of the services needed by the community," he added.

Independence Township Supervisor Pat Kittle said the new proposal is a great plan and will be good for the community in several ways.

"I love the idea. It will provide the emergency care we need in the community, and

Please see Plans on page 5



WINTER DANCE: Elle Brody and Dru Brody dance during Clarkston Elementary's Blizzard Beach Bash last Friday. For more photos, visit page 33. Photo by Wendi Reardon

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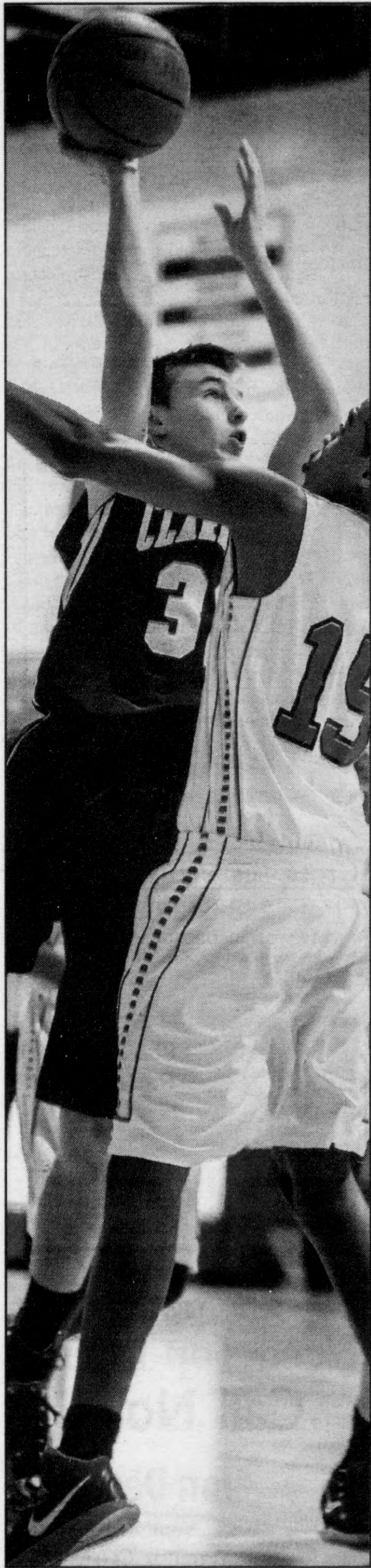
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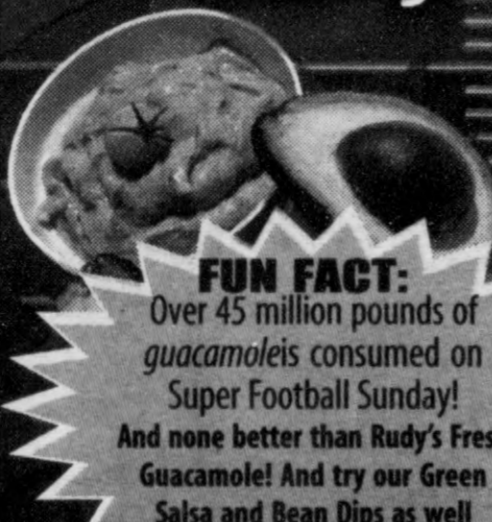
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TAKE A SHOT: Nick Wells reaches past an Oak Park guard in the JV's win over the Knights, 67-47. Photo by Larry Wright/WrightActionPix

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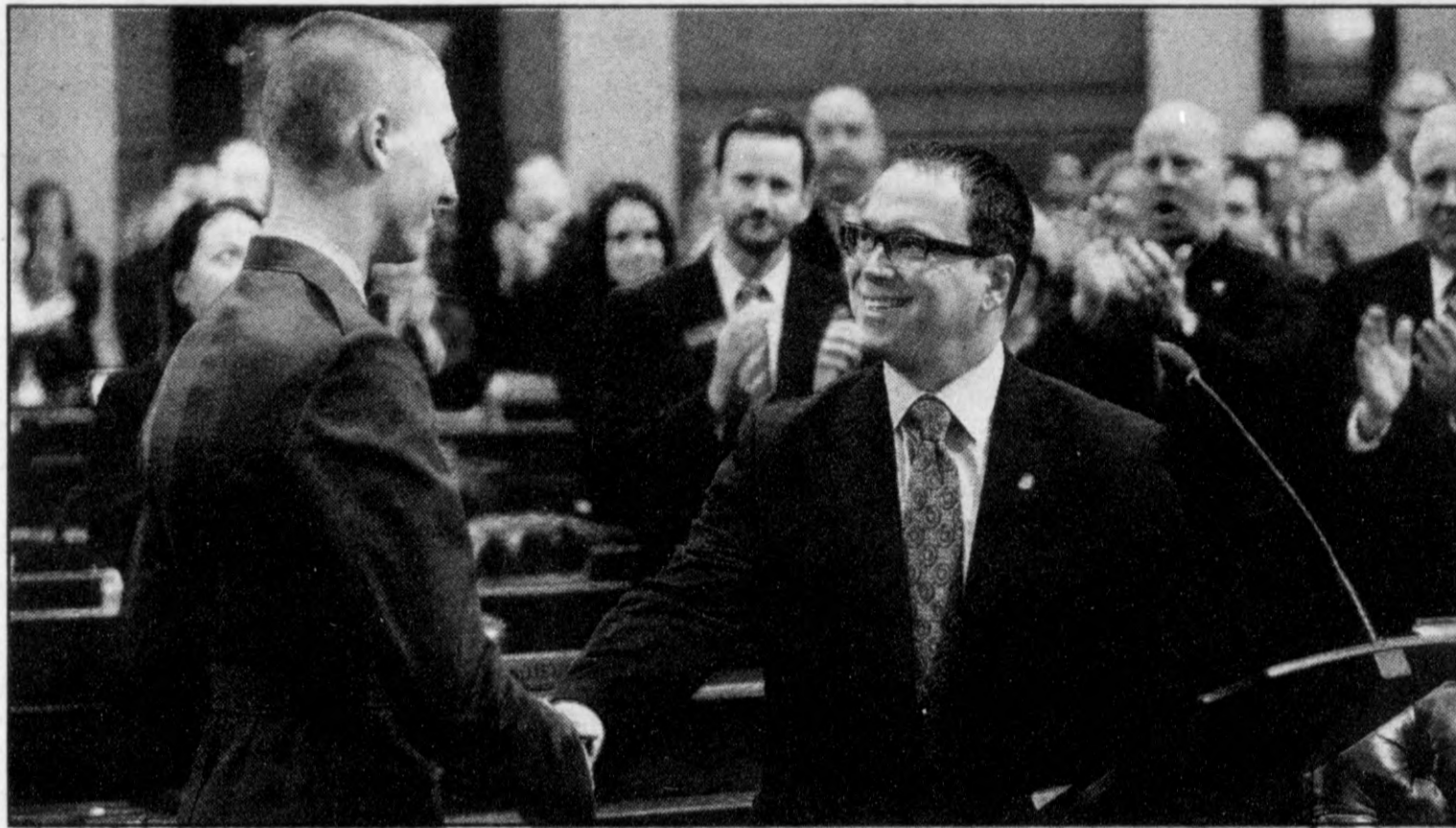
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Rep. Jim Tedder thanks Pvt. Vincent Savino on the House floor. Photo provided

Clarkston grad, Marine honored at state Capitol

State Rep. Jim Tedder recognized Clarkston resident and U.S. Marine Pvt. Vincent Savino, Jan. 22, with a flag presentation at the state Capitol. Savino, a 2013 graduate of Clarkston High School, recently graduated from Marine basic training.

"I am honored to welcome Private Savino to the Capitol to celebrate this excellent achievement," said Tedder, R-Clarkston. "Vincent has made a very courageous decision to dedicate him-

self to serving and protecting our country. It was a privilege for me to give him a small token of our appreciation in presenting him with a U.S. flag that was flown over the Capitol. I wish him success and safety in his service."

Savino spent that last two summers working at Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming. He hopes to one day become a state police officer or an officer with the Department of Natural Resources.

County official weighs in on bridge

Joseph Gardner, supervisor of the Soil Erosion Program for Oakland County, attended the Jan. 28 Clarkston City Council and said the city is compliant with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality requirements in regards to the new Depot Park bridge.

County officials have met with city staff at the bridge and they have always been helpful and did any work needed at the site, said Gardner at the meeting.

Work included adding straw netting and stones under the bridge, and fixing a silt fence. The work was completed within five days, as required by state law, he said.

Independence Township resident Tammie Heazlit spoke at the council meeting, saying changes were made to the work area because of her complaints to the MDEQ about soil erosion entering the river.

Heazlit said the city was not in compliance when her complaint was filed, and she disagreed with Gardner's statement that the site is completely up to par.

Gardner said staff fixed the issues at the site.

"I have had many conversations between Clarkston, myself and my staff that include information you are not privy to," he said to Heazlit.

Mayor Joe Luginski said city officials are not experts in soil erosion, and rely on paid advisors to help guide staff through certain project requirements.

Councilman Richard Bisio said City Manager Carol Eberhardt has been bullied over the issue online, and commended her for the way she handled abusive and critical comments.

Heazlit disagreed, and said she feels harassed and bullied over her efforts to protect the watershed.

Council member Mike Sabol said the most important aspect of the entire project has been lost in all these issues. "The donated bridge is a beautiful addition to this city thanks to the generosity of residents."

Bart and Diane Clark of Clarkston donated \$80,000 for the bridge.

A meeting with Oakland County officials and local residents, including Heazlit, was scheduled at the site on Tuesday, Jan. 27.

-Andrea Beaudoin

The Clarkston News

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Plans still in works for full hospital

Continued from page 1

the services we need for our aging population. It will also spark interest in other development along Sashabaw," he said.

McLaren's plans for a \$300 million hospital and medical campus in Clarkston fell through after continual rejection by lawmakers and a group that oversees a process to determine an area's hospital needs.

In December, the Michigan Senate voted against changing the state Certificate of Need process, dealing a blow to McLaren's hopes for the new hospital after judges, lawmakers, and a committee which oversees the process continually denied the request to move transfer 200 beds from a hospital in Pontiac to build a new facility in Clarkston.

However, starting the smaller project will just be the beginning of McLaren's investment in the area.

"As the community continues to grow, I believe the need for a full service inpatient hospital will become apparent. Until that time, this approach to health care delivery represents a very sound addition to the services already in place in Clarkston," Lane said.

In 2009, McLaren Health Care Village off Sashabaw Road welcomed visitors to the campus. McLaren's Health Care Village, which also houses Clarkston Medical Group, focuses on outpatient care and includes 20 specialty medical care services including the Great Lakes Cancer Institute.

That campus is a success and has a tremendous demand for care, said Kevin Tompkins, vice president of marketing. The new campus will be built in the same area as the Health Care Village.

Tompkins said the McLaren team is already working on plans to build the new ER and short-stay hospital. Details of those current plans include assessing the market, planning the size of the new facility and designing the building with an architect.

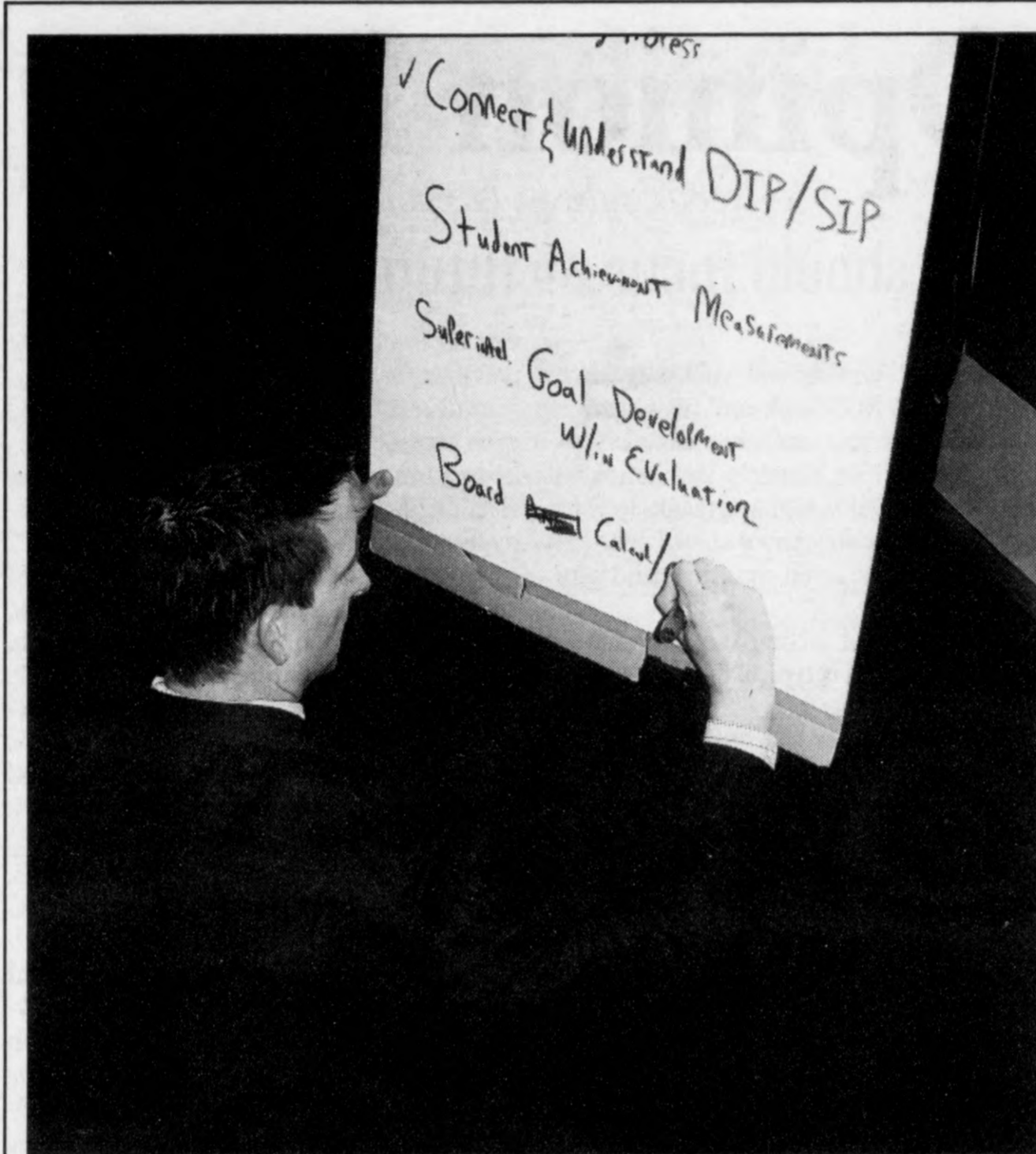
Since the project is over \$2 million, the Michigan Department of Community Health must also approve the plans, which will not be a problem, added Tompkins.

"We will also work closely with the Independence Township Planning Commission and Supervisor Pat Kittle," said Tompkins. "We want to demonstrate to the township where the project may go in the future, and if everything looks good we will go forward."

The ER will be open 24-7 and be staffed with a team of physicians and health providers to handle full emergencies, or transfer patients to another facility if required.

Details on the new campus are still being planned out, and the plan will most likely include several health care services.

A study to determine the true investment in the facility will be completed in the next four months.



GOAL SETTING: Shawn Ryan, deputy superintendent for Clarkston Community Schools, writes down school board members' goals during Monday's meeting. Goals included review of board operating procedures, improve board governance, review budget timeline, board use of social media, develop technology plan, district and student improvement plans, student achievement measurements, communication between school board and administration, and other ideas. The goals will be tabulated and presented to the board for further discussion at the next meeting, said board President Steve Hyer. Photo by Phil Custodio

Contract, other items up for discussion

Continued from page 1

tool for the 2014/15 school year and 2015 calendar year, superintendent goals for student achievement data for the 2014/15 school year, and renewal of the superintendent's contract – these items are for discussion, not necessarily action by the board, Hyer said.

"If the board is comfortable and ready to move forward – it is not my intent to push the board through any of these items," he said.

The board met on Dec. 8 with the superintendent for the evaluation, resulting in a "minimally effective" rating. Hyer submitted a proposal on Jan. 12 to re-evaluate objective-based portions of the evaluation, based on a written request from Rock.

The re-evaluation meeting was approved 4-3, with Boatman, Hamilton, and Patterson voting against. Hyer, and trustees Elizabeth Egan, Kelli Horst, and Cheryl McGinnis

voted for it on Jan. 12.

Speaking during citizen comment, Jan. 26, Independence Township resident Betty Reilly said Horst, who was elected to the board this past November, should abstain from the vote.

"As a new school board member, you were not involved with the evaluation last year," Reilly said.

The Jan. 29 meeting was set for open session as of Monday, but Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock can request closed session for the evaluation portion of the meeting, Hyer said.

After the meeting, Rock said he did not know if he would request closed session.

"Choosing a closed session for my evaluation is simply a matter of exercising my rights under the law," Rock said in an email, Jan. 27.

Any decisions of the board will be made in open session, Hyer said.

The meeting is set for 6 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 29, at the school administration building.

Briefly

City will enforce fines

Clarkston City Council gave City Manager Carol Eberhardt approval to begin enforcing fines for residents violating a snow and ice removal ordinance.

If residents do not remove snow and ice from their sidewalks, the city ordinance officer will visit the home or business and place a tag on the door notifying the property owner they must clear the snow and ice from their sidewalks within 24 hours or be fined \$130.

Costs in the fine include staff salaries, and fees for the tractor, plow and gas needed to clear sidewalks. All property owners violating the ordinance will be charged the same rate.

Council also requested Eberhardt explore costs to salt icy sidewalks.

Grants for service clubs

The Clarkston Area Optimist Club will offer grants to community groups, schools, and groups supporting the young people of the Clarkston community. In 2014, the club distributed \$45,000 to organizations supporting youth.

Grant applications are available at www.clarkstonoptimists.org. Deadline is March 2, to Clarkston Area Optimist Club, P. O. Box 891, Clarkston, MI 48347. For more information, contact 248-514-1729 or Info@clarkstonoptimists.org.

Hoops for Troops

Join the Clarkston Girls Basketball teams on Feb. 13 for their second annual Hoops for Troops.

The event is held in honor for 2006 Clarkston High School graduate Jenna Beno who passed away October 2012 from injuries she sustained while serving in Iraq.

All funds raised during Hoops for Troops is donated to Operation Second Chance, which is an organization which helped Beno. Contact Megan Goldberg at HoopsForTheTroops@gmail.com or call 248-496-5226 for more information.

Lacrosse clinic

The Clarkston Girls Lacrosse program is holding a free clinic at the Clarkston High School on Feb. 7, 3-5 p.m.

Any skill level is welcome as well as players in sixth through 12th grade. Please contact Clarkston Girls Varsity Lacrosse Coach Leanne Stickle, 585-406-4329, or Clarkston Girls JV Lacrosse Coach Nicole Cummings, 619-914-3967.

Wendi's Word

A column by Wendi Reardon

Make your way to theater

What should a person experience at least once in his or her lifetime?

Once I start thinking about it there are a ton of options for people to experience - flying, painting, climbing a mountain, swimming in the ocean and the list could go on. (Because I am really great at making lists.)

For the month of February - experience going to the theater. Particularly going to the Clarkston Junior High School to see "Rosie the Riveter" on Feb. 6 and 7. Then, going to Clarkston High School to see their production of "Bye, Bye Birdie" on Feb. 26-28.

Both will take you back in time and give you a theater experience.

I am a fan of movies but there is something about watching a play on the stage. There is more life to it on stage and it is always fun when the actors break the fourth wall (the imaginary wall between the actors and the audience and the actors interact with the audience.)

The story about "Rosie the Riveter" is in this week's edition and look for the story about "Bye, Bye Birdie" in an upcoming edition of *The Clarkston News*.

It's been a week and the media is still buzzing about the National Football League. (Yes, I brought it up.) Not really much about the upcoming Super Bowl. Instead it's about deflategate - in which the league is investigating the New England Patriots because 11 out of the 12 footballs they used in the American Football Conference were underinflated. As of Monday, there was a person of interest.

What do you think about deflategate? Are you over it? How much does it make you want to watch the Super Bowl on Sunday?

For the 2015 Reading Challenge update: I finished the first book for the year about a week ago. It was "Insurgent" by Veronica Roth. Ironically I am using it for the book never finished challenge since I began it before National Novel Writing Month and never got back to it.

I am almost 500 percent into the next book in the challenge, "Allegiant" by the same author. Though both are part of a trilogy and one of the challenges is reading a trilogy, I am using "Allegiant" for the challenge book with one word title

What kind of challenge would it be if I already started the trilogy last year?

Well, one down and 48 and a half to go.



Opinion Pages

Letters, columns & Editorials

Board should focus on future, reader says

Dear Editor,

We were not surprised with your story about Superintendent Rod Rock and his negative evaluation by the previous school board. Anyone paying attention certainly isn't surprised by his low approval rating. And thanks to your story ("Low score for school chief," Jan. 15) the public has once again seen first hand why his rating is so low.

The stalling and incomplete information your paper received is typical of the Rock administration. Requests for specific information such as yours would take an effective superintendent less than a day to complete, yet your simple request required a 10-day extension to complete. Some board members have also run into the same problems getting information they were promised from the Rock administration. So it isn't any surprise why he has such a low approval rating among a majority of previous board members. What is surprising is how board members Steve Hyer, Elizabeth Egan, Cheryl McGinnis, Kelli Horst, and Superintendent Rock foolishly believe they can go back in time and change an evaluation that is impossible to erase from the public records.

The absurdity of those board members was multiplied ten fold when they voted to reopen a past superintendent evaluation because the superintendent disliked the results. This shows us how "arbitrary and capricious" the new board already is. Deciding to go into the past to sub-

vert an evaluation made by members of the previous board reminds me of the Eagles song, "Get over it." The notion that this board would even consider a subversion of the past makes it very transparent to us that the November election has given us a board that is as "minimally effective" as Superintendent Rock.

Good luck to the public, the press, and to board members Susan Boatman, Joan Patterson, and Craig Hamilton. The days of free speech, free press, and a board answering to the people is a thing of the past. The public can now expect four board members who will re-install the draconian "shut up, don't ask questions, and don't micromanage" bullying of past boards, all while they hypocritically sing unquestionable praise of a "transparency" that never is, and never will be in the future of the Clarkston schools.

The school board and superintendent should stop wasting our time and money trying to change a past evaluation, and focus on doing better in the future. They could start by apologizing to the public for insulting our intelligence, accept the evaluation for what it is, learn from it, move forward and stop trying to change the past. This decision has shown the public the new board is as "barely adequate, and minimally effective" as the Superintendent is. Too bad for the kids!

Michael and Lori Powell
Independence Township

A call for more focus on the middle class

Dear Editor,

I wish *The Clarkston News* would have more coverage about the plight of the area's middle class and working poor to better inform readers about the real condition of the national, state and local economies as the Michigan legislature appears to once again embark on an agenda hostile to the middle class.

The nation's wealth continues to be increasingly concentrated among the very wealthiest while middle class incomes stagnate and decline. There appears to be little legislative interest in rectifying a tax system that rewards the wealthy with a plethora of tax breaks, deductions and loopholes while failing to have them taxed at progressive rates which reflect their growing incomes and wealth.

Meanwhile, the legislature purports to be interested in saving taxpayers money. It does this by imposing new taxes on already retired pensioners on fixed incomes, attacking the

prevailing wages of skilled workers, and supporting increases in fuel and sales taxes, which disproportionately and adversely affect the middle class.

Legislators claim to be reluctant to make purported "job creators" pay their fair share. Never are the state's wealthiest looked to for more revenue via taxes they can afford to pay.

Instead, the middle class stagnates among low wage jobs and sinking financial security.

Of course, there is a need to educate and skill-equip workers, but not just so they can labor in what is fast becoming the futility of middle class life, with its legions of relatively low paid workers whose labors mostly benefit the wealthy while the legislature contemplates more ways to squeeze the already repressed middle class. Voters must make their voices heard, not just through voting, but also through decisions about how and where they spend their (diminishing) incomes.

Mike Fetzer
Independence Township

Please see page 23 for more letters to the editor

A Look Back

From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 2000

"Accident sends one to area hospital" Another accident at the intersection of Big Lake Road and Dixie Highway sent one man to an area hospital after being broadsided by a vehicle running a red light. It was the second accident in one month at the intersection.

"Gateway to Independence" Since it served as a gateway to Independence Township, great care was being taken to plan the Northwest portion of Dixie Highway. The area, which was combined with a mix of residential, office/service, and commercial, was slated in the township's Vision 20/20 Strategic Plan as a prime corridor for development.

"Wolves freeze out Port Huron Northern" Clarkston Hockey verified their presence in the season's rankings at No. 6 was legitimate by controlling No. 10 Port Huron Northern's offense in the match-up to win the game, 4-3.

25 years ago - 1990

"Stoptlight in place by month's end" The long-awaited stoptlight at M-15 and the north ramp of I-75 was planned to be in place by Jan. 29, state highway officials confirmed. The light came on the heels of complaints from the public.

"Tin toys 'fascinate' Clarkston area collector" Bitten by the bug after going to a garage sale and finding old toys, Lon Harmon became an avid collector of antiques toys. He was planning to participate in the upcoming Flint Area Antique Toys and Collectibles Show in Independence Township.

"Scoreboard" The Clarkston Varsity Boys Basketball team remained undefeated in their tenth game of the season. They beat Waterford Kettering, 76-40. Jason Brown and Reggie Reed led the team with 16 points a piece. The JV team also beat Kettering, 57-38.

50 years ago - 1965

"Girl Scouts add badges" Skating badges were awarded to several Girl Scouts at the end of a 10-week course at the Clarkston Rollercade. Awards were also given to the scouts by the Roller Skating Association.

"Boy breaks leg whiling skiing" Twelve-year-old Gary Evans broke his leg in a skiing accident at Pine Knob Ski Resort. It didn't break his spirit for the sport - he was looking forward to the next year.

"Local news" Lynn Christiansen celebrated her eighth birthday with cousins and birthday treats of cake and ice cream.

Cracking concrete and bad roads. Why?

On January 4 my interest in flawed and cracking concrete was aroused by a front (full) page newspaper article.

Since then, I've read more articles about cracking concrete, and watched a 3-hour tv show on the subject.

Why are our concrete highways, airport runways and parking lots needing so much repair?

I thought surely university thinkers, scientists and homegrown thinkers could figure out how to make long-lasting concrete.

However, like many of my thoughts, this one too was faulty.

A runway at Detroit Metro is being rebuilt because of deteriorating concrete. Of course the first thing they did at this project was apply for a grant.

Cracking concrete is a freezing and thawing problem across Michigan and the upper US.

Jim's Jottings



a column by Jim Sherman

they scoop up that stuff, remelt it and lay it back down.

Another Metro \$25-million runway built to last 30 years in 2001 started forming cracks in three years.

A major road contractor in Michigan is building some concrete roads seven inches deep, as opposed to the usual 12 inches, then they apply two inches of asphalt over that first layer.

When deteriorating starts

Of course, experiments have been tried with laboratory made chemicals mixed in the concrete.

Larry Sutter, director of MDOT's Transportation Materials Research Center at Michigan Technological University in Houghton says there is no one overwhelming factor that causes pavement deterioration.

He believes inadequate funding for road maintenance in Michigan being demanded by the traveling public is a major problem. Pour more money at it.

* * *

Tax refunds are in season, and will be until April 2014. Tax refunds are loved by many, and disliked by even more. The average refund from the Internal Revenue Service is \$2,800.

Sounds good, but it's just a case of our government taking more than they needed to, so they could feel smug when they brag about returning it to us.

* * *

Smile!

Classifieds from United Kingdom newspapers:

Free Yorkshire Terrier. 8 years old; hateful little bastard. Bites!

Free Puppies: 1/2 Cocker Spaniel, 1/2 sneaky neighbor's dog.

Free puppies: Mother is a Kennel Club registered German Shepherd. Father is a Super Dog, able to leap tall fences in a single bound.

Cows, Calves: never bred. Also one gay bull for sale.

The birthdays keep stacking up and it's a good thing

I guess there's a certain moment in every American's life when he or she knows he or she is getting older. There comes a point in time when all the pretending in the world won't keep you hip, or cool, or of the younger-generation.

I know. I got these hipster cool glasses and even their hipness cannot hide the fact they are bi-focals. Damn.

But, it has nothing to do failing eyesight or with much more gray hair. Or, less hair in general.

Little to do with wrinkles around the eyes.

Less to do with aches and pains.

It has everything to do with the structure of American politics.

The other day when I celebrated a birthday, I realized I am older than the first lady, Michelle Obama.

I grew up wide-eyed and in awe of *the President* of the United States. *The President* was top-dog, our leader, world leader, and some one to admire. *The President* was a man (cuz that's the way it was/is) to respect. He had to be wise and honorable . . . after all he was "old." Some one to look up to, some one who was always older than I was. And, all *old* people were smart and full of wisdom.

Right?

The world spins. New fads give way to newer ones. Your waistline grows and . . .

. . . then, one day you wake up and realize you're

closer in age to the dude who is in the Oval Office than you ever were before.

Holy Get Out The Geritol, Batman!

Gulp.

Does that make me old? Gee whiz, I don't feel wisdom oozing out of my pores, though I do feel some aches and pains if I fall asleep on the floor; if I don't shave, my beard is graying, and there are wrinkles around my eyes and on my hands.

I sure don't feel presidential.

* * *

I wonder if the President is a member of AARP, or if he throws out their mail as junk like I do? Speaking of the American Association of Retired People, why are they sending me stuff? I am not retired. And, how do I get them to stop wasting their time on me. I will never join. (And, I know you are never 'sposed to say "never," but I never will join. Ever.)

* * *

Of course, based on my hypothesis on presidents and age, you'd think folks would start feeling old, younger. Article 2, Section 1 of the United States Constitution says, to be president, a person needs only be at least 35-years-old (a natural-born citizen of the US and must have lived in the United States for 14 years). So, shouldn't we start feeling older in the mid-30s?

* * *

Sometimes I wonder, if a person was elected president at the age of 35, would his hair be gray at the end of his first or second term?

Even President Obama's hair is grayer now than it was when he first got into office -- and he was younger

and hipper than most presidents before him.

Then I think some more.

It is a real possibility a woman could be elected president in a couple of years. Hillary Clinton is the odds on favorite to win. And, she is old. If a woman becomes president, would we even know if her hair was gray? Would she be honest and let it go, or would she have it dyed?

Is wondering about stupid stuff a sign of old age or the harbinger of more-wise things to come?

* * *

So, when I had my birthday on Sunday, I hit 52. I really don't "feel" old. I think my mind still thinks I'm 25, or 35. I feel I can still do the things I did back then, but I don't because I'm wiser.

I don't stay -- or go -- out late.

I'm in bed before 10. Sleeping by 10:02

I drive the speed limit and don't take chances when making lane changes on the highway.

I feel good. My mind is happy. It must be all the people around me, friends and family. So, thank you for making me feel younger than I am or deserve to be!

* * *

Is admitting you don't know, a sign of age or wisdom?

* * *

And, finally Gary Hintz of Coldwell Banker Shooltz said it best recently, "It's better to be seen than viewed."

Comments, suggestions and cursing can be emailed to Don@ShermanPublications.org

Don't Rush Me



A column by Don Rush

Send your letters to the editor to ClarkstonNews@gmail.com



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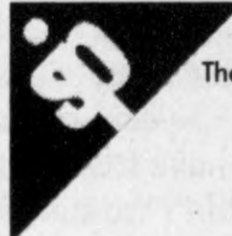
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The Clarkston News
5 South Main, Clarkston, MI 48346



Investigators are looking for two women in connection with purse thefts in Clarkston.

Suspects sought in purse thefts

A Main Street store employee reported her wallet stolen from her purse, Jan. 19. Two women were in the shop at about 5:45 p.m. One woman spoke to the employee while the other wandered about the store. The wallet was found missing after they left.

At 6:21 p.m. the same day at a shop in the 6000 block of Dixie Highway, two women did the same thing – one talked to a saleswoman while the second shopped. After they left, the saleswoman found her wallet had been taken from her purse, which had been left in an open back office.

Video is available from the second incident. The suspects are described as a white woman, about 30 years old, about 5-foot-5-inches in height weighing about 130 pounds with two-toned hair; and a black woman, about 30 years old, 5-feet in height, 180-200 pounds, with shoulder length black hair wearing gray sweatshirt and sweatpants.

Call 800-SPEAK-UP or 800-773-2587 with tips.

Probation, fines in border shutdown

Kyle Martens of Clarkston, 29, and Ernest Edwards of Alba, 18, pled guilty to possession of prohibited weapons in connection with a three-hour shutdown of the Windsor-Detroit tunnel, receiving probation and fines.

Martens pled guilty to possession of brass knuckles, and received three years probation and a \$100 victim-fund surcharge. Edwards pled guilty to possession of brass knuckles and two butterfly knives, receiving three years probation, \$500 fine, plus a 30 percent victim-fund surcharge.

They were arrested around 5 p.m., Jan. 20, after Canada Border Services officers found two knives, brass knuckles, and a cardboard cylinder with a fuze attached in the SUV they were driving into Canada, according to media reports.

The tunnel was evacuated and closed for three hours during the incident. The cylinder was found to be a smoke bomb, and ruled as non-explosive.

Public Safety

For Clarkston and Independence Township

Debit theft

An Independence Township woman was checking her bank account online when she found her debit card had been used at three Macomb County stores for \$370 in purchases, Jan. 14. She cancelled the card.

Identity theft attempt

An Independence Township resident was notified by her credit card company on Jan. 12 of an unauthorized purchase attempt of an I-pad. The order was supposed to be shipped to an address in Pontiac. The credit card company declined the order, as well as other attempted orders.

Theft from light poles

Responding to a transponder alert indicating low battery voltage at two telephone pole locations in the 6000 block of Maybee Road, Jan. 13, workers found six marine batteries were stolen from two telephone poles. A suspect, who worked as a cable-company subcontractor, was arrested on Jan. 19 by Westland Police for the same type of theft.

Smash and grab at school

When an Independence Township resident returned to her car in the Independence Elementary parking lot, 3:59 p.m., Jan. 16, she found a window busted out and her purse taken from the back seat. She had parked it at about 3:10 p.m. to drop off some supplies. She didn't notice anyone suspicious when she arrived. The front driver's door window had several strike marks from a window punch type object, and the driver's side rear window was completely shattered. "This is also a reminder to not leave any valuables in your car when you are at the school," school officials said in a news release.

Stop sign runner

Due to multiple complaints of people running the stop signs, a deputy was stationed at Balmoral Terrace and Parview Drive, 5:47 p.m., Jan. 17. The officer was there about three minutes when a truck drove through without stopping. The driver, a 37-year-old Ortonville woman, said she didn't see the stop sign. She was cited for driving with a suspended license and running the stop sign.

Credit fraud

An Independence Township resident was called by her credit union, Jan. 18, to ask if she had bought anything from stores in Illinois. She hadn't. She had seven unauthorized purchases in Illinois, totaling \$219.

Suspended license

A deputy stopped a car with a broken headlight at White Lake Road and Dixie Highway, 6:43 p.m., Jan. 18. The driver, an 18-year-old Pontiac man, was cited for driving with a suspended license and defective lighting. A small amount of marijuana was found in a small gym bag on the passenger seat and confiscated.

Marijuana arrest

An 18-year-old Independence Township man called police for help and signed a waiver form after he locked his keys in his car at a gas station in the 5000 block of Sashabaw Road, 6:15 p.m., Jan. 19. In plain view in the center console was a water bong. The deputy opened the car and took the bong, finding it smelled of marijuana. He also found some THC-concentrate wax, another bong in a satchel, and a box for a gram of marijuana from a medical marijuana distribution center. He was cited for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Cable fraud

An Independence Township resident received a call from a collection agency looking for \$341.59 in overdue cable bills out of Colorado, Jan. 20. She told them she had a cable account at her residence in Michigan and did not open a second account in Colorado. They cancelled the account.

Drunk driving

A deputy stopped a car weaving into oncoming lanes on northbound M-15 near Hubbard Road, 3:17 a.m., Jan. 21. The driver, a 29-year-old Lapeer man, said he had a couple beers at the Red Wings game. With a preliminary breath test result of .157, he was jailed for drunk driving.

Catalytic converter taken

A driver started up her car and it sounded like something was wrong, 4:35 p.m., Jan. 21, at the Park and Ride on Sashabaw Road at I-75. She looked underneath and found her catalytic converter was missing.

Low speed chase

A 22-year-old Independence Township man was arrested for fleeing and eluding, 1:36 p.m., Jan. 22. He reportedly ran a stop sign on Sunnyside Drive, then ignored the lights and sirens of a deputy's patrol car behind him, continuing at about 25 mph for several blocks to a driveway in the 4800 block of Pine Knob, where he resides. He had been smoking marijuana and he told deputies he did not stop "because I am afraid of the cops." A small amount of marijuana and narcotic paraphernalia was found in the vehicle.

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Coming up this week:
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 Saturday at 8:00
 Sunday at 7:00
 Community leaders are honored at this annual event recorded at Clarkston Community Church.
Independence Update
 Weekdays at noon & 6pm
 Weekends at 7am & 5pm
 The latest news from our community, plus updates from School Superintendent Dr. Rod Rock and Township Supervisor Pat Kittle.
 For a complete schedule, visit our web site:
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Clarkston's Sporting News

Who is the next AOW?

Nominate your favorite athlete by contacting Wendi at 248-625-3370 or at clarkstonnews@gmail.com

Work pays off in overtime win

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Senior Andrew Myers ran under the basket and threw the ball to senior Merrick Canada who turned it into a quick jumper at Oak Park, Jan. 20.

The shot tied the game at 57-57, sending Clarkston fans to their feet and the game into overtime after the Wolves had climbed back up on the scoreboard.

The Wolves would end overtime with another win, 69-63, with Myers leading the way with six points during the extra period.

"Oak Park was a really test of our character and probably one of the bigger high school teams we have played since I have been coaching as far as size," said Dan Fife, long-time head coach for Clarkston Varsity Basketball. "They are very talented and it seemed like 30 times we could have lost but we kept fighting and ended up beating them in overtime. It was outstanding win for us."

He added the boys worked for the win.

"They hung in there, believed in the system and went with it," he said. "They fought through it and wore them down. They made things happen. They made big plays when it counted."

The Knights led by one point at the end of the first half, 28-27. They held onto the lead at the end of the third quarter by four points, 38-34.

The boys came back with a team effort including three 3-pointers from junior Tabin Throgmorton, who finished the game with 24 points.

Myers scored 15 points and had eight assists, freshman Foster Loyer had 14 points and seven assists and Canada had 10 points.

The game also marked Fife's 616th win - putting him fifth in the state with the most career wins.

"Again I have withstood the test of time and coach at a great school and a great community," he said. "I have been here a long time. I love this community. I loved it so much I came back here."

Fife marked his 617th win last Friday as the Wolves won

their first OAA Red game, beating Southfield, 55-39.

Fife added defense was solid in both wins.

"I was really proud of them," he said. "It was more athletic than Oak Park. It was good competition and a good, hard fought game. We were able to pull away in the last three minutes. It is the depth of the program and the work ethic of the kids and how they play with each other and believe in what they are doing."

Loyer led the game with 27 points with six assists and six rebounds.

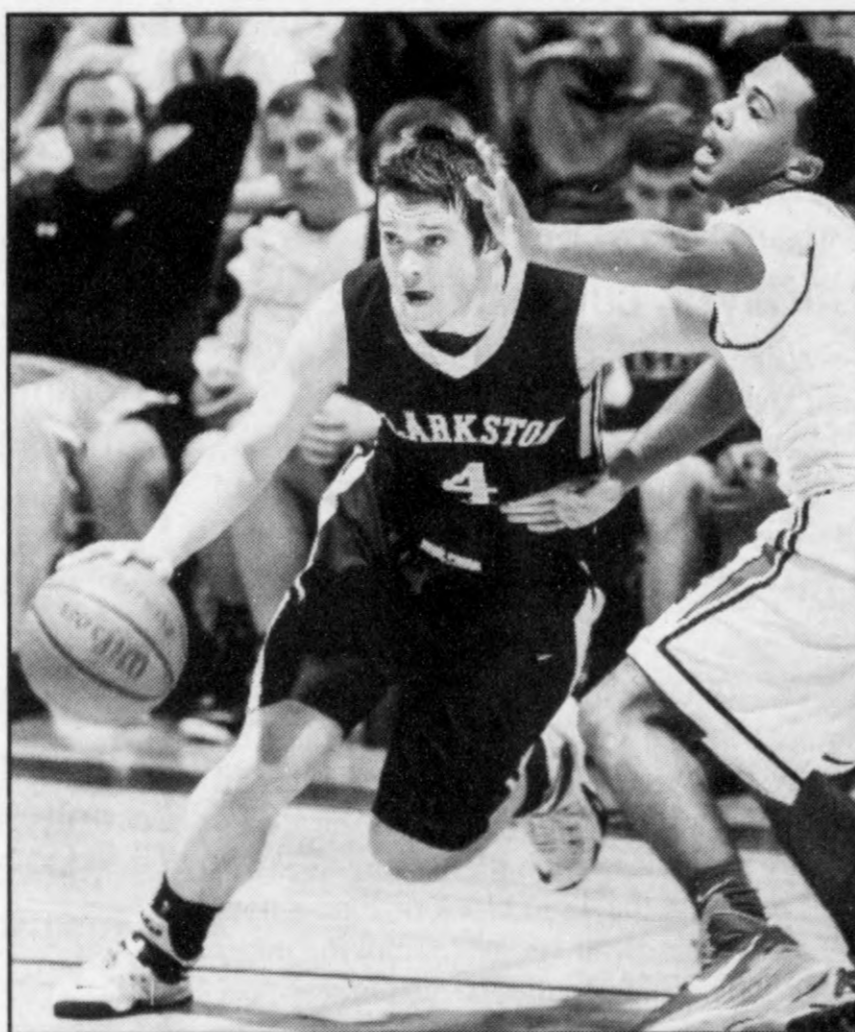
"He had a good game," Fife said. "He had to take care of the ball in two game situations. He didn't have Myers 100 percent in the second game. He had a very good week for us."

Throgmorton scored 11 points. Fife added Myers was sick during the game.

The Wolves (11-0, 1-0) host Southfield-Lathrup this Friday and head to North Farmington on Tuesday.

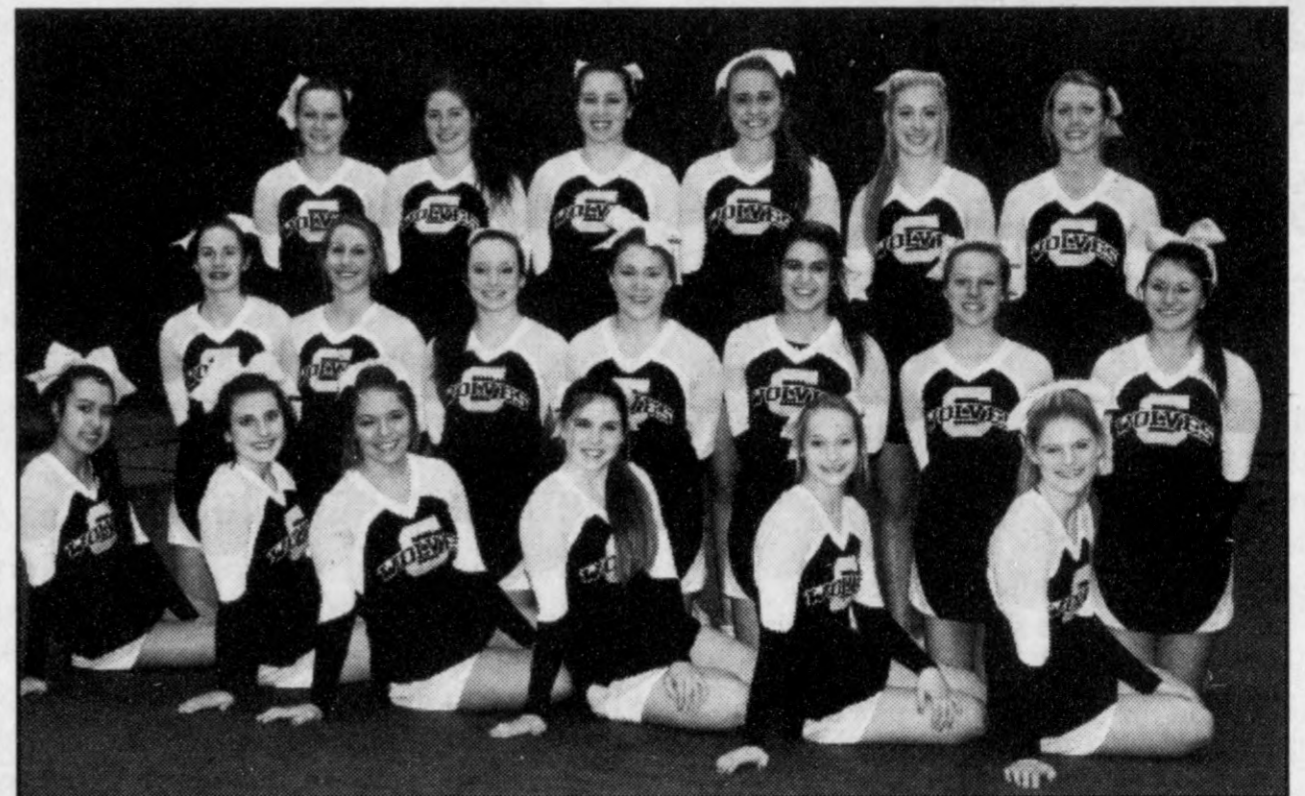
"Everyone we play wants a piece of us," said Fife. "Our kids are starting to understand it. And maybe they don't want to beat us. Maybe they want the league championship and they want it just as much as we do."

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



Mitchell Nelson gets a strong hold on Waterford Kettering. Photo by Wendi Reardon

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Clarkston Varsity Competitive Cheer team. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Cheer team in top 10

The Clarkston Varsity Competitive Cheer team ruled Novi High School in early January as they won the Novi Invitational.

"It was so fun to pack the stands with Clarkston fans and have a lot of noise for our school," said Beth Ann Markey, head coach.

The Lady Wolves finished in sixth place at the Rochester Rumble on Saturday as they competed against OAA Red league foes Rochester, Lake Orion and Troy Athens, which were three of the nine teams.

Clarkston scored a total of 738.96 points after three rounds of competition.

Following the second meet in the OAA Red on Jan. 14, they were in the top ten in the state for highest average score in Divisions 1.

Markey added it was new territory for the girls.

"The team this year has been like no other I have coached," she said. "Their drive to improve and put their best out on

the mat is so amazing. They are intense and competitive one moment, but then will have fun and joke with each other the next. Most of these kids I've coached for three years so it has been such a proud experience to watch them improve, perform at such a high level, and earn respect amongst other competitive cheer teams."

Cheer on the the Lady Wolves as they head to the Grand Blanc Classic this Saturday before they compete in the OAA Red League Championship at Troy, Feb. 7.

Their post-season begins with the MHSAA District meet on Feb. 21 at Lake Orion High School.

The 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.

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Gearing up for post season

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Pine Knob Ski Resort is a cold place to be this time of year, but Clarkston racers are heating it up during their weekly meets as they get closer to the post-season.

Derek VanItallie led the Wolves in both races last week against Waterford and Rochester Adams/Waterford.

During the slalom race, he finished in first place at 41.03 on Jan. 20.

Teammates Jacob McIntosh finished in sixth place overall at 43.13 followed by Reis Weidemann, seventh place, 43.77; Bobby Dixon, 14th place, 46.54; Jack Muhleck, 18th place, 47.26; Jimmy Haven, 24th place, 48.87; and Justin Osborn, 25th place, 49.26.

The boys won both their races during the slalom against their two opponents with a 16-20 win over Rochester Adams/Stoney Creek and 13-no score over Waterford.

VanItallie finished overall at 34.29 for first place during the giant slalom race, Jan. 21.

Weideman finished in fourth place at 35.24 followed by McIntosh, fifth place, 35.45; Haven, 22nd place, 37.59; and Tom Wozniak, 39th place, 42.35.

During the giant slalom, the boys defeated

both teams again. This time they beat Waterford, 11-26, and Rochester Adams/Stoney Creek, 17-22.

"They are skiing well," said Mike Foyteck, head coach.

Caroline Spytman led the Lady Wolves during the slalom race, finishing in fourth place at 48.02.

Madeleine Declercq finished in seventh place at 48.85; Lauren Martin, 14th place, 51.44; Micah Angus, 36th place, 1:09.13; Madison Lambouris, 38th place, 1:17.50; and Katie Kop, 39th place, 1:27.61.

The girls beat Waterford, 12 to no score and lost to Rochester Adams/Stoney Creek, 19-20 during the slalom race.

Declercq led during the giant slalom, finishing in fourth place at 37.25.

Martin finished in 13th place at 38.47 followed by Spytman and Megan Gasser tied at 20th place, 39.30; Lambouris, 41st place; and Kop, 42nd place, 56.48.

The girls beat both teams during the giant slalom. They had a 14-22 win over Rochester Adams/Stoney Creek and a 10 to no score against Waterford.

Foyteck added both teams have had a few losses in the terms of athletes. One racer from the boys team and two from the girls team have injuries.

"It has been a tough go at it for the healthy racing," he said.

The teams began their last week of dual competition on Tuesday as they went against Lake Orion.

Both teams head into the races with only one loss to Bloomfield Hills and six wins.

"A few weeks ago it was so cold," Foyteck said. "Other than that it has been a great season so far."

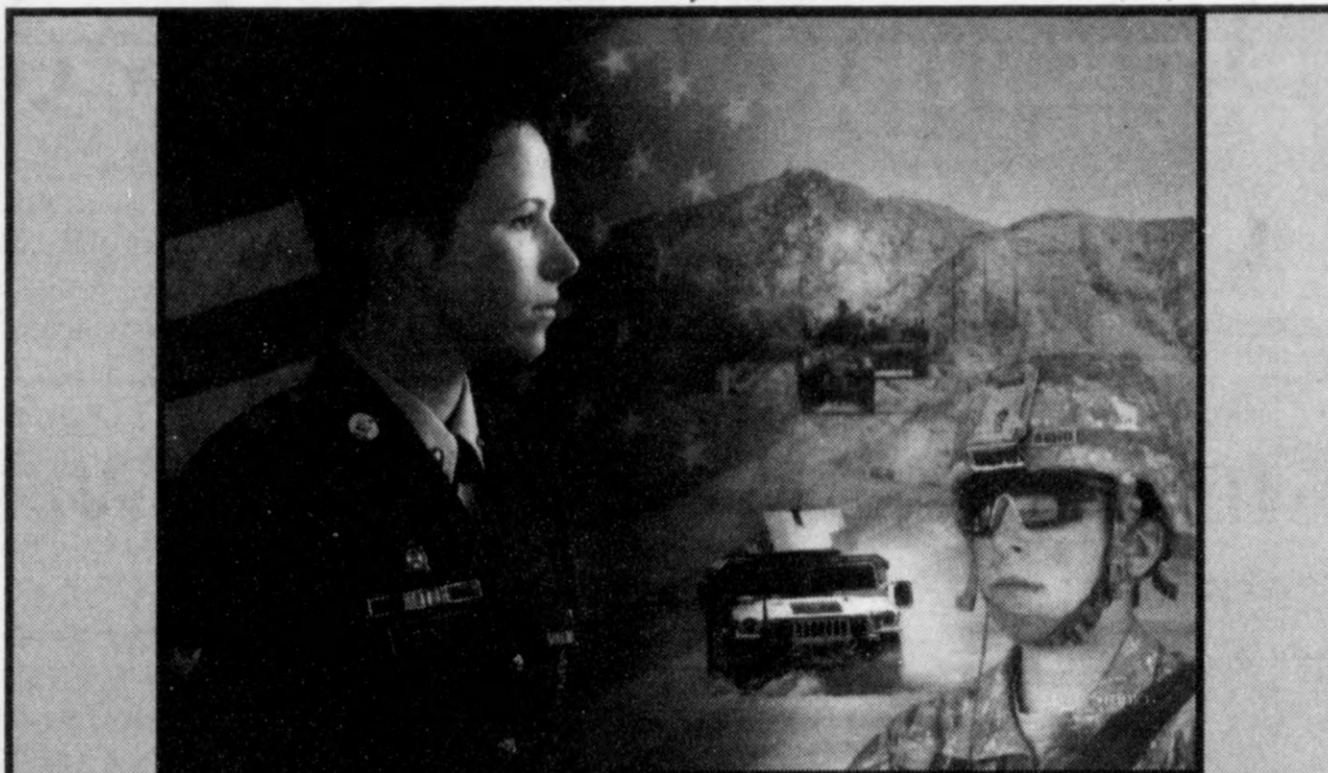
We are working on some things with the girls team and on the boys team we are working with them. We are trying to gear up to go into post season.

Next week the teams have their slalom Divisional race, Feb. 4 and the giant slalom Divisional race, Feb. 5.

"We have a pretty fast division out there," Foyteck added.



Megan Gasser clears a gate during her race. File photo

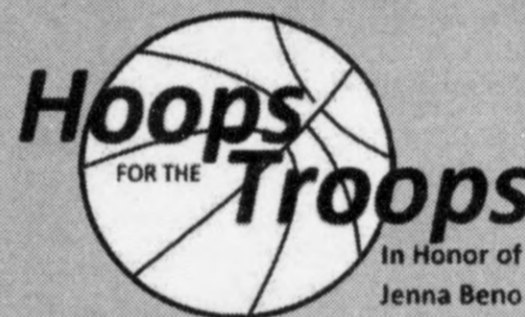


Have Fun & Help Great Cause 2nd Annual Hoops for Troops

The Clarkston Lady Wolves host the North Farmington Raiders. Friday, February 13 at the Clarkston High School Gym.

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Davenport leads Lady Wolves to victories

BY WENDI REARDON

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Lady Cagers know going into this week - anything can happen as they go against Rochester Adams and Stoney Creek.

"They are both tough league opponents and both are good teams," said Tim Wasilk, head coach for Clarkston Girls Varsity Basketball. "It is a coin flip who wins the game you have to come out with intensity and have a few things go your way."

He added Stoney Creek, who they face on Friday, has a mixture of returners and new players, and they shoot the ball really well.

The Lady Wolves went into Tuesday's game against Adams with a 8-3 record. Their most recent win was against North Farmington last Thursday, 63-60.

"North Farmington played really well," said Wasilk. "They pressed and trapped us during the whole game. They forced us into a lot of turnovers. They had their share in turnovers as well."

The Lady Raiders were ahead for a majority of the game until Clarkston began to change the end result.

With less than a minute to go in the game, senior Erika Davenport put the Lady Wolves into the lead, 56-54.

Senior Taylor Mullins scored next after senior Kayla Russell stole the ball from the Raiders' possession. Senior Ashley Skaggs kept the lead going with her four shots on the free throw line.

"We turned up our defensive intensity with our full court press," Wasilk said. "They have a really good player who

scored 34 points on us and we tried to do the best we could to limit our touches of the basketball. It was a good defensive effort especially by Mullins."

Davenport led the team with 29 points and 15 rebounds. Skaggs had 14 points and sophomore Meghan Deardorff scored nine points on 3-pointers.

The Lady Wolves opened the last week with a win against Avondale, 58-21. They began the game with a 10-point run, with Luchenbach scoring six of the points. When the first quarter ended, the girls led 14-5.

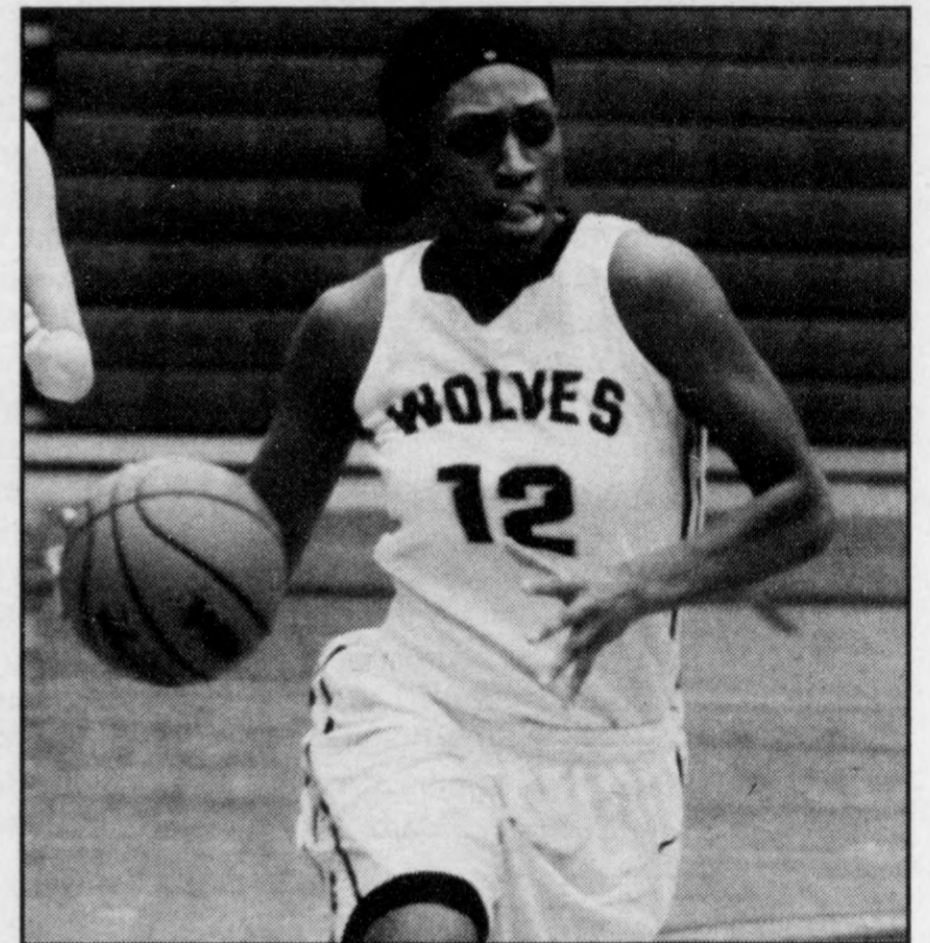
The Yellow Jackets scored five more points before the first half finished. Clarkston kept the momentum going with 22 more points, ending the half 36-10.

"It was a good all around game," Wasilk said. "It was good to see everyone play from off the bench. We passed the ball really well and defended the ball. It was probably our best game so far this year as far as playing four quarters of basketball."

Davenport led the team with had 19 points, nine rebounds, three assists, and two steals. Luchenbach scored 18 points and had seven rebounds and two steals. Senior Jessica Altene added nine points.

He added Luchenbach and sophomore Meghan Deardorff have grown quite a bit since the beginning of the season.

"Kayla is really starting to get comfortable as a freshman," Wasilk said. "We have played her a lot of minutes this year and she is starting to get confidence shooting the ball well and rebounding well. She is going to be a really nice player by the time she leaves this place. Deardorff is just getting more confident. She is one of our best shooters. She shot



Erika Davenport drives the ball down the court in the Lady Wolves game against Avondale. Photo by Wendi Reardon

two 3-pointers against Oxford and one against North Farmington. She is a really smart player and really intense."

The Lady Wolves are back home next Tuesday when they host Huron. JV begins at 4:30 p.m., varsity follows.

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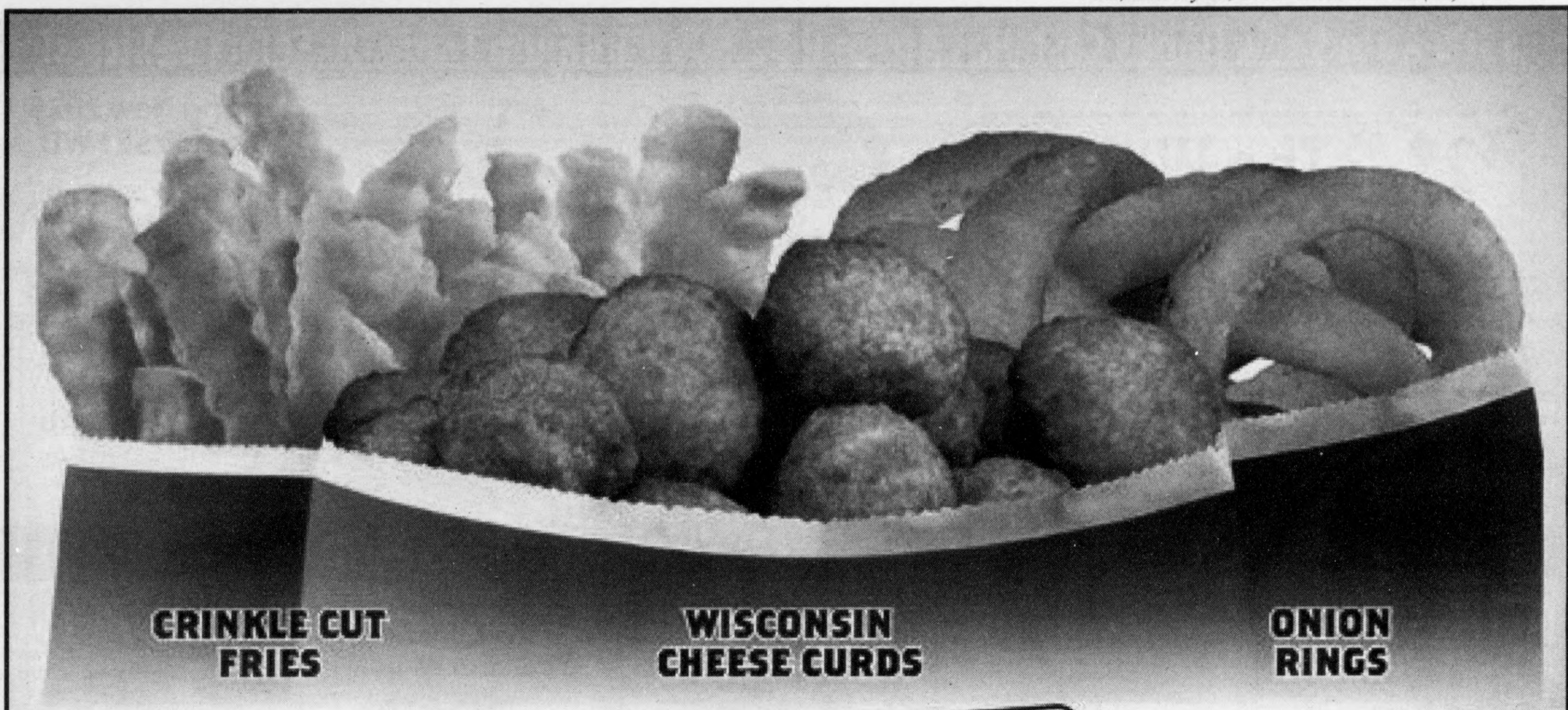
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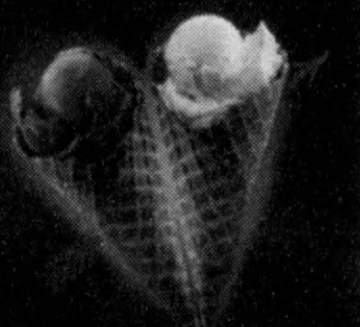
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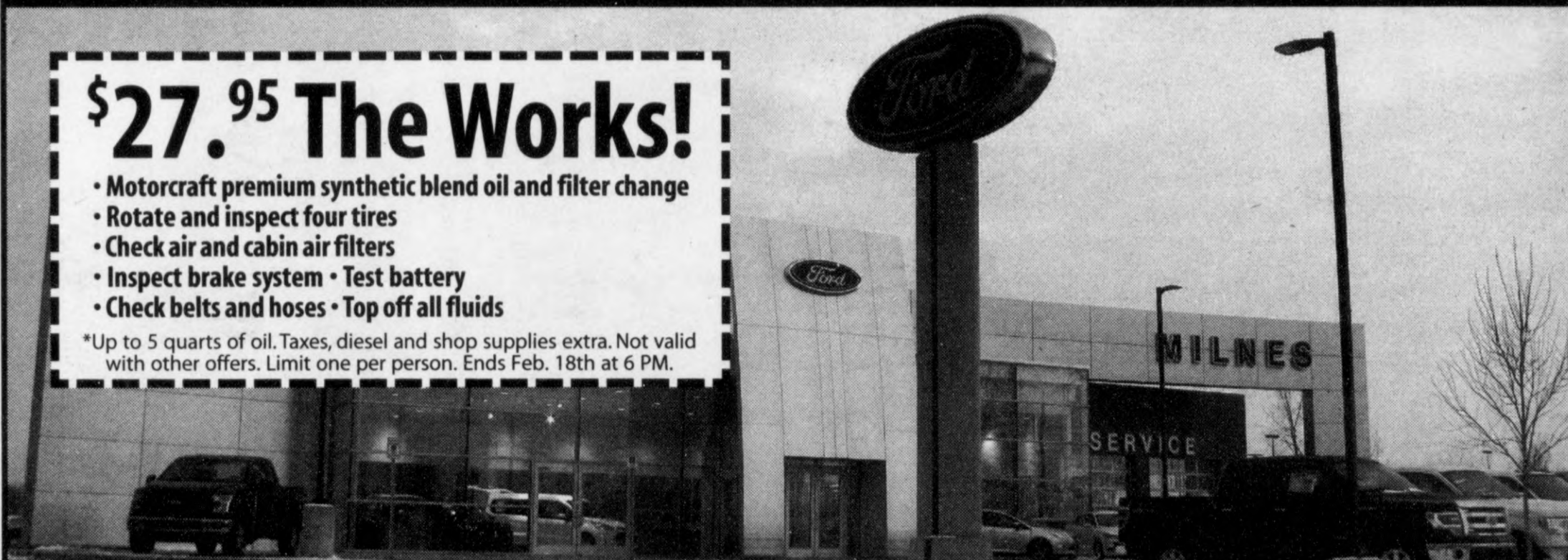
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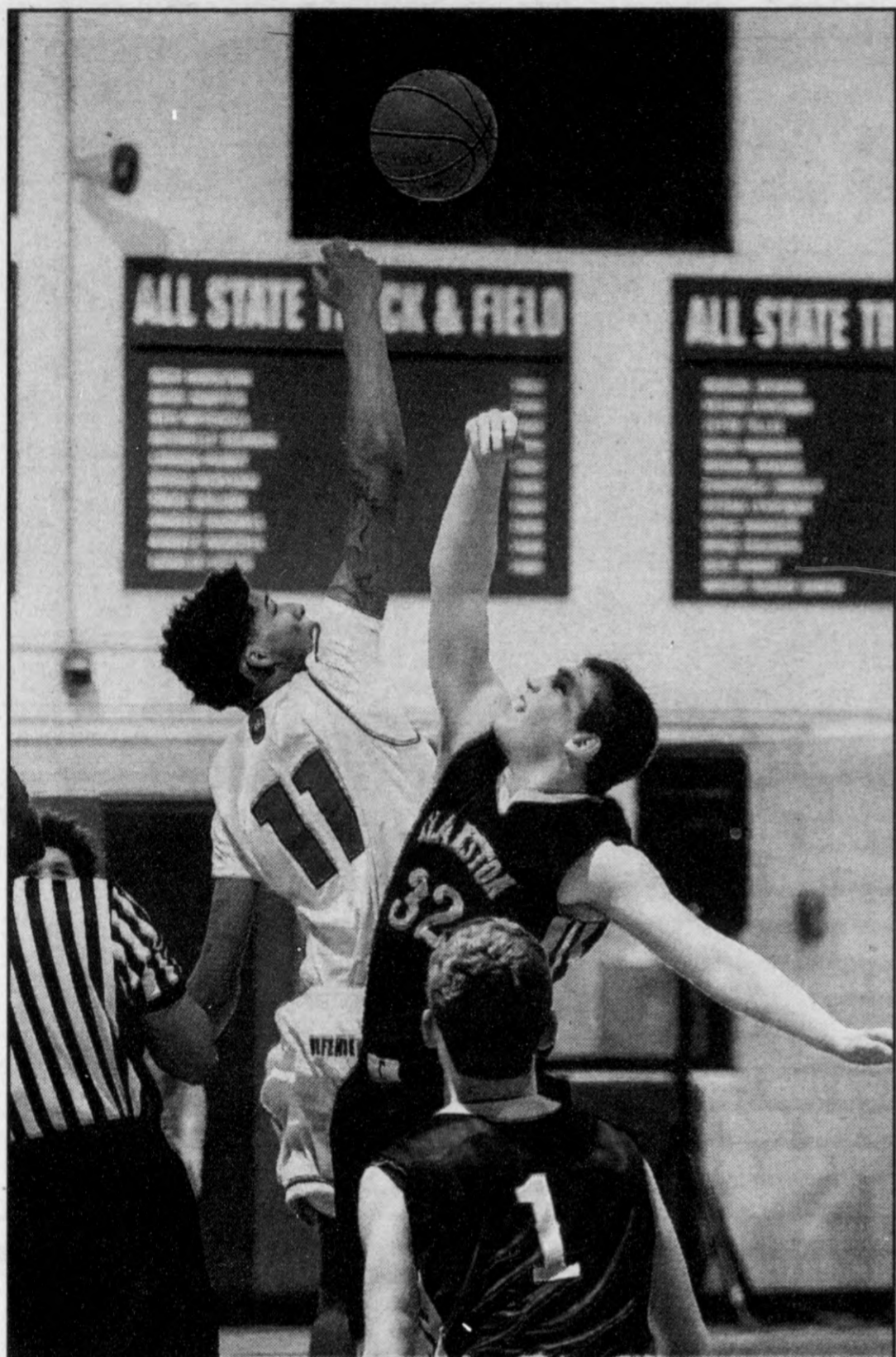
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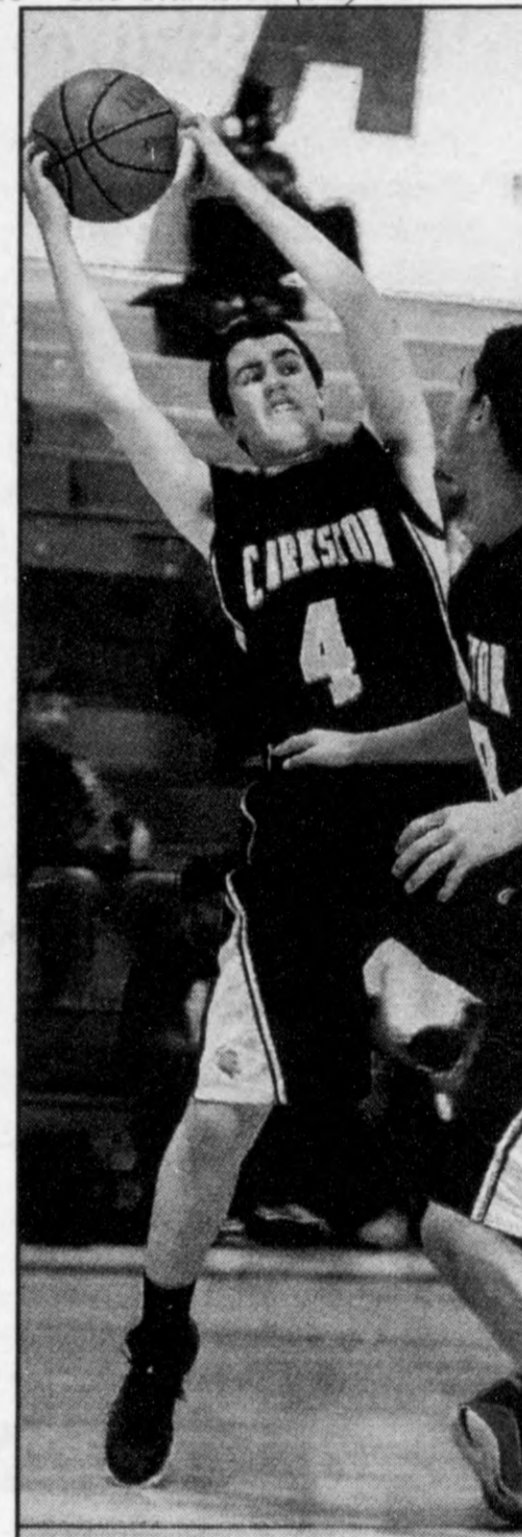
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Senior Jonah Newblatt jumps for the ball at the start of the varsity game against Oak Park.



Freshman Foster Loyer and Andrew Myers block.



Sophomore Mitch Piazza reaches out.

Wins across the board

The Clarkston Boys Basketball teams rallied six wins last week - two wins each for varsity, junior varsity and freshman.

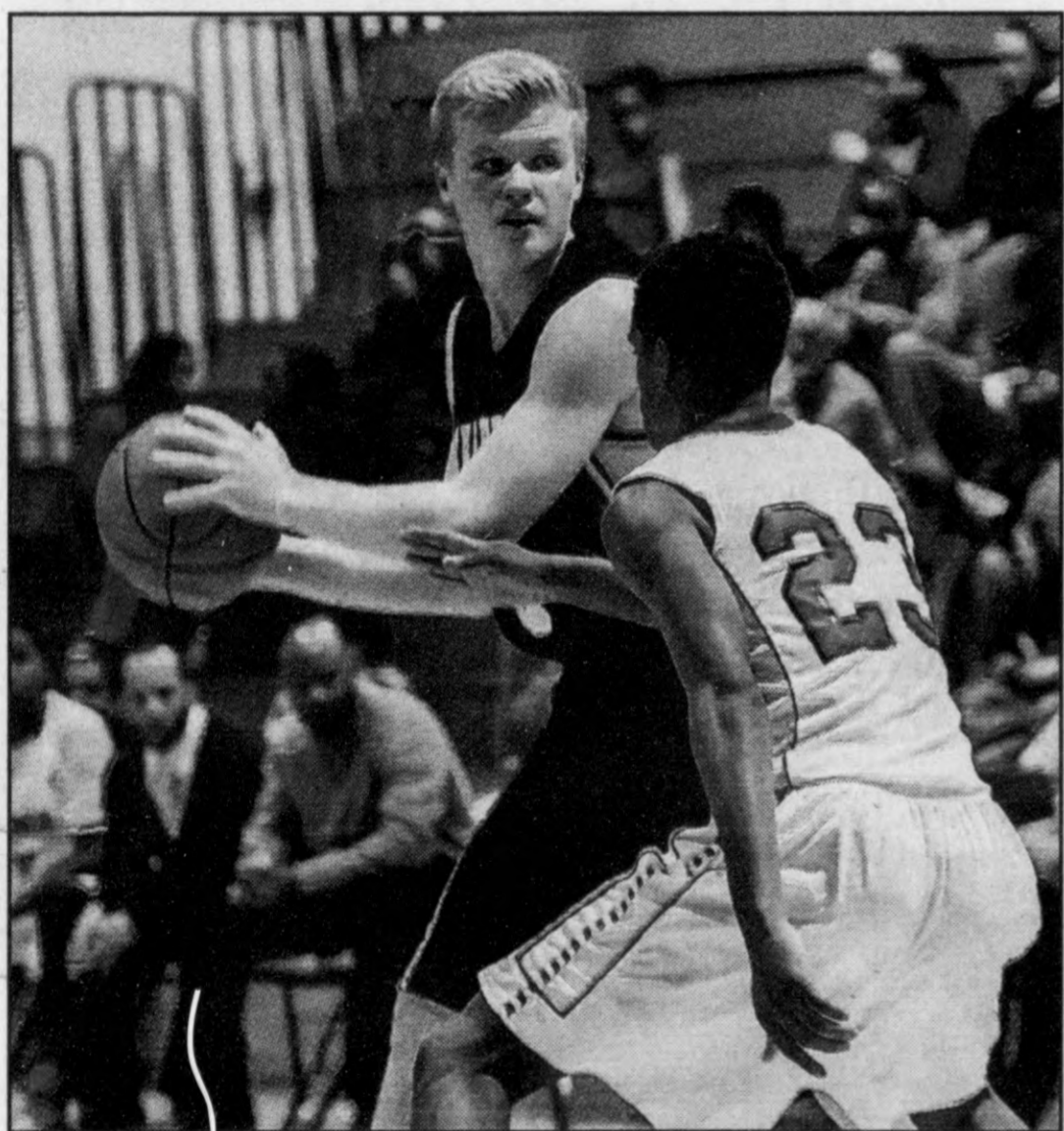
The freshman started the trend

with a 41-34 win against Oak Park, Jan. 20. The JV team was next as they scored 20 points in the last quarter to win, 67-47.

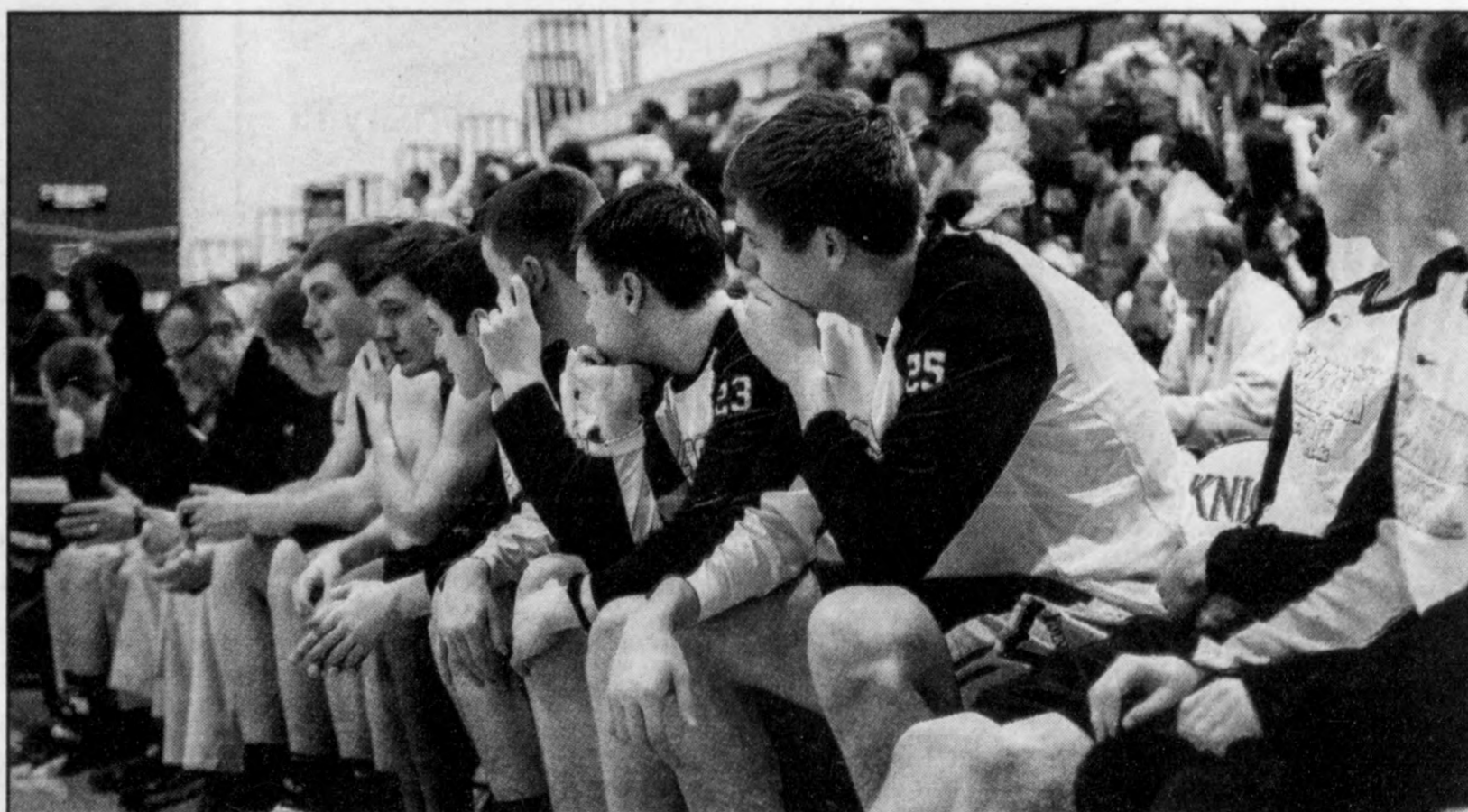
The varsity team won their

game, 69-63, in overtime.

The teams also posted their first OAA Red wins over Southfield. Join the boys this week as they host Southfield-Lathrup on Friday.



Sophomore Ryan Prisby finds a Knight standing guard as he tries to get by him during the JV game.



The varsity team watches the close game. Photos by Larry Wright

Plans changing for DPW building

Plans to build a Clarkston DPW facility at Deer Lake Beach are dropped, and instead a city committee will explore other options like an addition to Clarkston City Hall.

Improvements needed for the Deer Lake site outweighed what the city can afford. Wetlands also made any build there more difficult, said former councilman and Facility Committee member Jim Brueck at a council meeting on Jan. 26.

Years ago, the city explored an addition to city hall, including improvements to administrative offices, where city council meetings are also held.

Councilman Richard Bisio said improvements to City Hall would be nice, but he is worried about the cost.

City Manager Carol Eberhardt said construction onto City Hall may also require the city be compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

Brueck said it will take a few weeks to dust off old plans and then meet with an architect to design building concepts.

Costs for other options like a "floating" DPW building will be considered. More information will be presented to city council at another meeting. -A.B

Michigan Extreme Girls Volleyball!

7th & 8th GRADE

Sign up your team or individually be placed on a team. Everyone makes a team. Individual players will be placed on House teams according to skill level.

Sunday Afternoon Games 8 Games • Beginning March 15

All players must be registered by March 8
Teams must have a minimum of 6 players.
Players without a team

must be at evaluation session Sunday March 15, 4 PM

All players must register by March 8, 2015
A \$10 late fee will be added if accepted after deadline

5th & 6th GRADE

Sign up your team or individually be placed on a team. Everyone makes a team.

Individual players will be placed on House teams according to skill level.

Sunday Games 8 Games • Beginning March 15

All players must be registered by March 8
Teams must have a minimum of 6 players.

All players must be at evaluation session March 15 at 2 pm

Registration must be paid by March 8, 2015 • A \$10 late fee will be added if accepted after deadline

2nd, 3rd & 4th GRADE

Session includes

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Everyone makes a team

Girls that want to play with friends will stay together.

Thursday Games • 5:30 pm • 8 Weeks • Beginning February 19

All players must be registered by February 12

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Girls - Monday Games

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Ages 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-17

8 Weeks - Girls Beginning March 23 • Boys Beginning March 25

All players must be at evaluations - Girls March 23 and Boys March 25

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MAIN STREET SWEETS: Patti Lane works hard creating goodies like these chocolate cupcakes, one of many treats available in downtown Clarkston, at the Union General. Photo by Andrea Beaudoin

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The Clarkston High School DECA team competed at regionals, Jan. 10. Photo provided

Six students advance to DECA State Conference

Six members of the Clarkston High School DECA marketing club advanced to the State Conference in Grand Rapids on March 13-15.

The students who advanced to the State Conference are Alex Tanielian, Joey DeFinis, Monica Auger, Sabrina

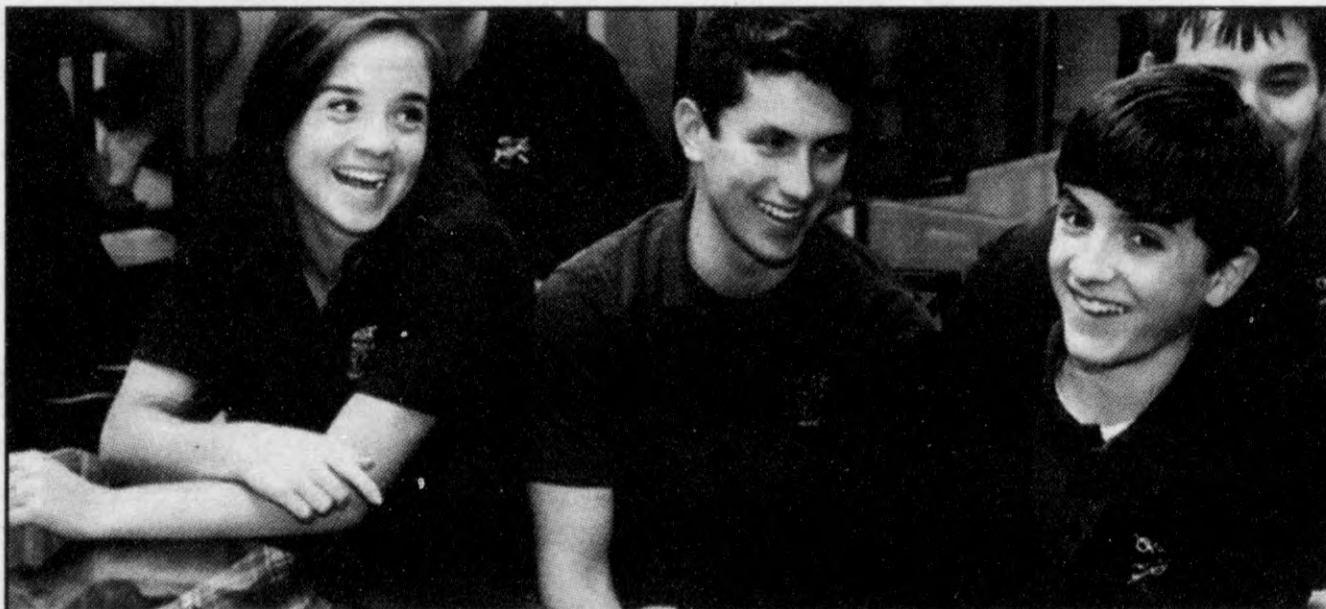
Parks, David Wakefield and Keegan Adams.

The CHS DECA club competed at the District 6 regional conference on Jan. 10 at Lakeland High School.

As part of the competition, the students have to take a standardized test. At the event they are given a problem

to solve and then present their solution to a judge.

DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges around the globe.



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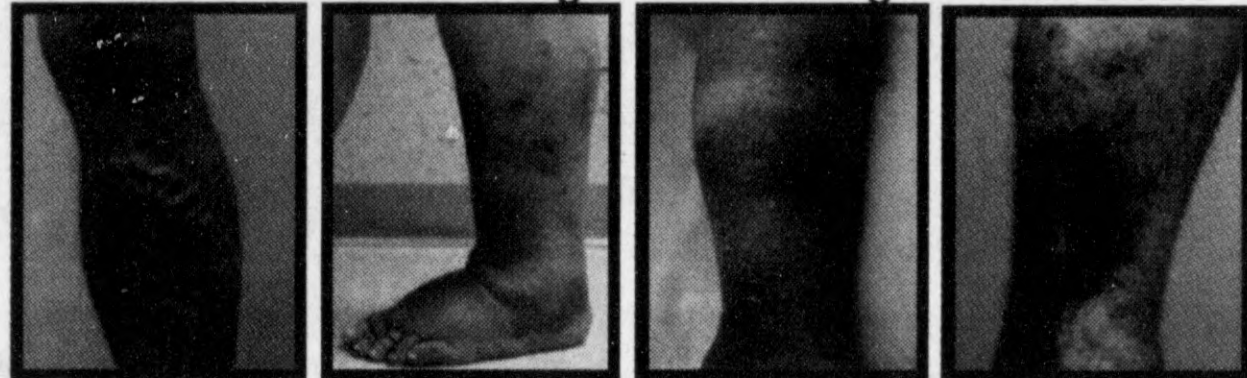
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BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive, hosts Laughter and Illusions, a benefit for Youth Missions and My Habitat Clarkston, Saturday, Feb. 7.

Taylor Hughes will entertain with comedy and illusions at two shows, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Hughes has earned "Best Comedy Magic" and "Best Illusion" awards by the Society of American Magicians, and has been featured on the television series "Masters of Illusions." He was booked through the Clean Comedians group.

"We chose to hire one of their entertainers to assure that this would be a family-friendly event and because of their passion to support youth," said Susan Batchik, youth ministry coordinator.

"He's a really good comedian—he really fits the bill," said Senior Pastor Jonathan Heierman. "I'm excited about it. One of the things he does is saw the pastor in half. But which pastor will it be?"

The event, including silent auction, raffle prizes, free desserts and coffee, is a "faith raiser," not fund raiser, for the church, Heierman said.

"Its purpose is to raise faith and community investment in kids and the future," he said. "We hope to raise funds

with a great evening, but more importantly, invest in kids."

"We intentionally do not call this a fund raiser because our focus is on raising faith and growing relationships through outreach into the community," Batchik said. "We count the blessings first—then the dollars."

The benefit will be a fun, family-friendly event, also featuring the Clarkston High School Mime Troupe as special guest performers.

"Each year, our faith raiser is a witness to not only the youth who host the event, but also to the community of how we can be better together," Batchik said.

Past faith-raiser events included golf, dinner, and drama, said Ken Fouty, associate pastor and youth pastor.

"Once a year, we ask for monetary support for youth ministry," Fouty said.

Proceeds will support mission trips, social services for foster kids, My Habitat Clarkston, and travel and lodging at Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's National Youth Gathering in Detroit this July.

About 30-40 youth from Calvary Lutheran will participate in the five-day event, he said.

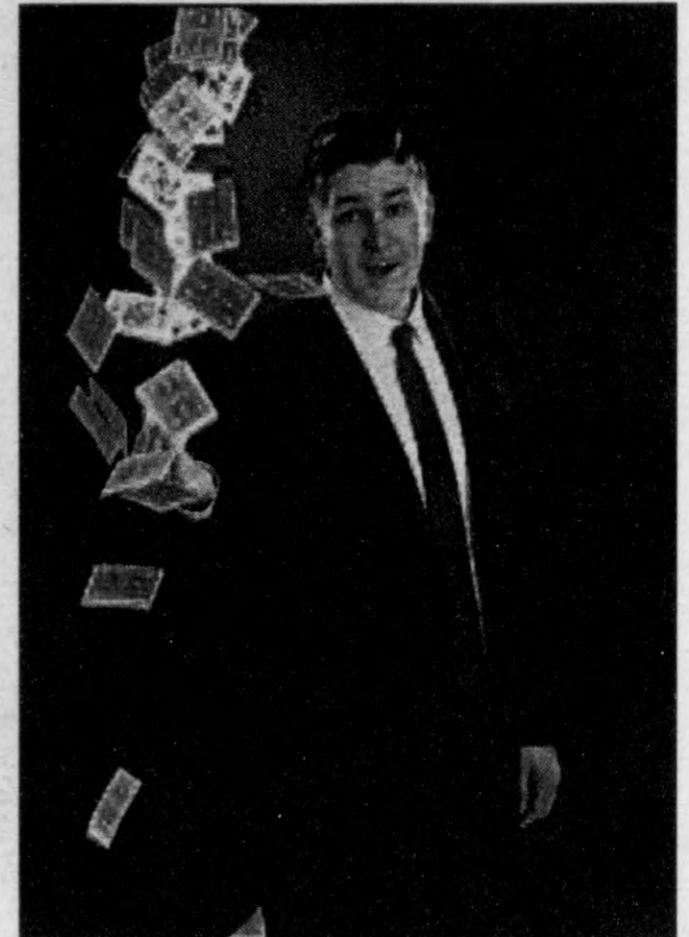
"It's a big thing—30,000 people from all over the country," Fouty said.

The Clarkston Habitat project to build a home for a family in Springfield Township is in the home stretch, Heierman said.

"It will be complete in the next month or so—it's exciting to be finishing the work," he said. "Calvary Lutheran has been part of it all along. It's a lot bigger than just Calvary—My Habitat is a community coalition working together to build a better habitat for all of us, invest in a house, invest in youth, and invest in community to make a better community."

They also work with Clarkston Coalition for Youth, Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce, Independence Township Senior Center, and Clarkston Independence District Library on community programs, Fouty said.

All local church youth groups are also



Taylor Hughes presents Laughter and Illusions at Calvary Lutheran Church, Feb. 7. Photo provided

invited to participate in a Youth Lock In for Grades 8-12 following the second show, from 10 p.m. on Feb. 7 to 7 a.m., Sunday, Feb. 8, at Calvary Lutheran Church. Admission is \$10 or free with ticket stub from Laughter & Illusions. Bring chips, cookies, brownies, rice krispy treats, candy, or other treat to share with the group, blanket, pillow, and air mattress, comfy clothes, and toothbrush and toothpaste.

"It's to encourage all of us to get to know each other and discover how we can be better together in all we do," Batchik said.

RSVP to sbatchik@calvary-lutheran.org, 248-625-3288 ext. 206, or 248-214-7674 mobile.

Laughter & Illusions tickets are \$12/adults; and \$10/seniors ages 65+ and students K-12. Childcare will be available onsite for kids under 5.

Doors open an hour before each show. Order tickets at www.laughterandillusions.com. Call the church, 6805 Bluegrass Drive, at 248-625-3288.

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Poppy Sale volunteer Peg Roth, left, and Poppy Sale co-chair, Uni Marbutt.

Looking for vets to help

By Don Rush

Each year volunteers for Clarkston's American Legion Post 63 can be seen at local street crossings and businesses with handfuls of red poppies. They seek donations that in turn are used to help those veterans of the United States Armed Forces in need.

Each year, the volunteers are able to trade thousands of paper poppies for thousands of dollars in donations. "Each year, this community is very generous," post trustee Keith Marbutt said.

"There are a lot of wonderful people out there," echoed his wife and Poppy Sale co-chair, Uni, recently sitting at round table, situated between a shuffle board table and bar. Behind them, and above the shuffle board, a painted picture of Old Glory "waves" proudly.

There's only one problem with the picture: There's money to spend, but not enough people (veterans) to spend it on.

"We generally try to keep the money local," Uni said. "There are very strict rules on how we can spend. Funds from the Poppy Sales go to the needs of veterans - or their families - in need. But, we can't give it to them, unless they ask."

Each year, Post 63 helps just under 20 veterans with things like making rent, mortgage or utility payments, money for groceries, medical treatments and even

travel.

"Thing is," Keith said, "We can probably help double that number of veterans given the opportunity."

New medical regulations dealing with patient confidentiality and the veteran's own displeasure of asking for help make it hard to find those who could use a hand. "And," Uni said, "they are out there. In Detroit alone there are over 4,900 homeless vets. I am sure there are some up here, too."

The volunteers said many of their referrals come from wives and mothers of veterans, rather than the veterans themselves.

Recently, the Post has helped veterans needing travel expenses to get home, and they have even helped Habitat For Humanity build a home for another local veteran. When the Post helps financially, all checks are made out to the group that needs to be paid, the landlord, utility company or mortgage holder.

Post 63's Service Officer in charge is Jack Pierce. He's trained in evaluations and working with the veterans and their families. If you know of a veteran in need, contact Pierce by calling and leaving a message at the Post (248-625-9912) or e-mail, Legion63Mi@gmail.com

This year's Poppy Sale is slated for May 14-16. The Post is also actively seeking new members, veterans or children of veterans who have served prior to 1996. Membership dues are \$35 year.

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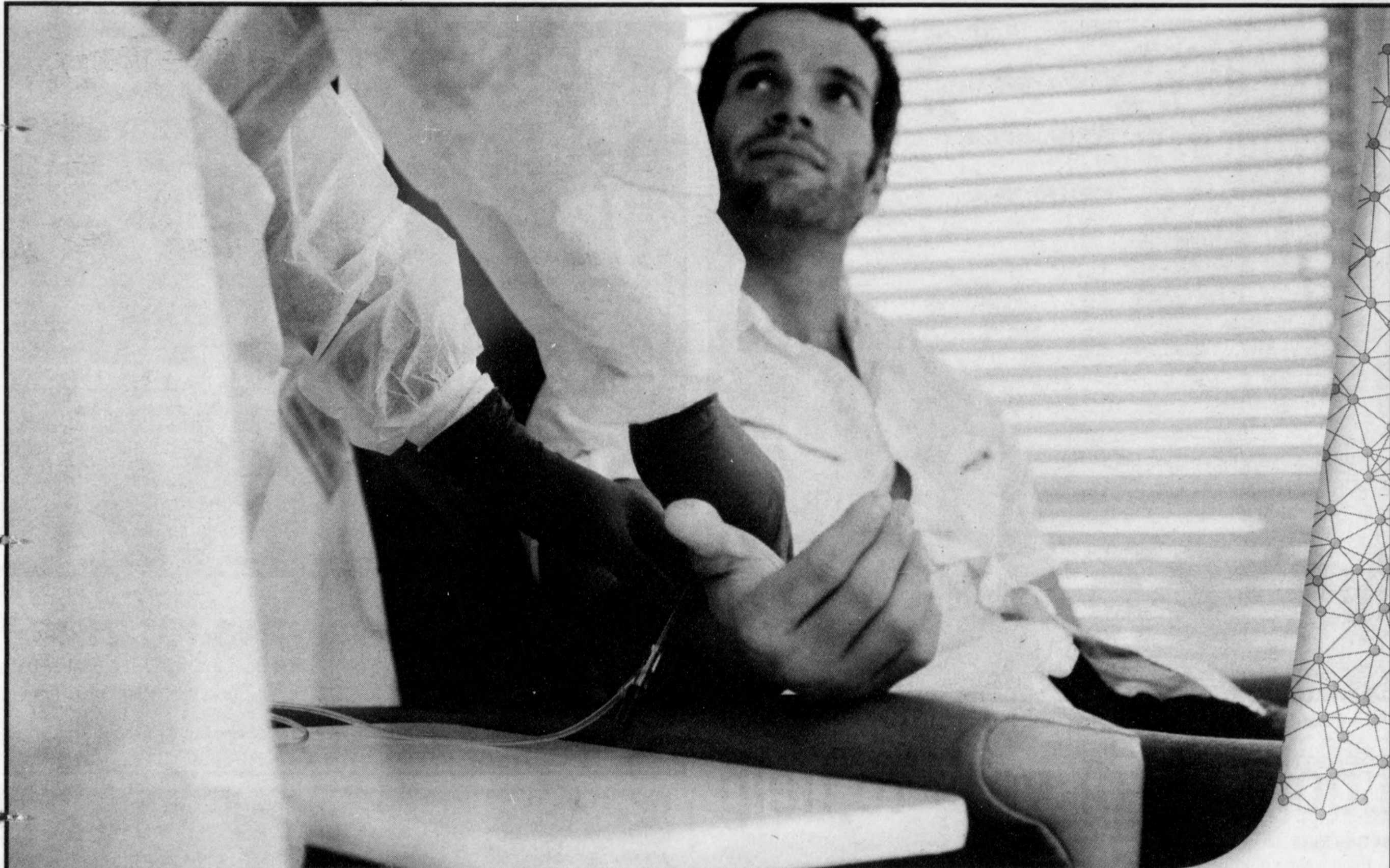
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- Katie Klockow



"I stay organized. The only way I can stay focused is if I am on top of things. I get enough sleep and I eat well."

- Erika Harris



"I drink lots of coffee"

- Allison Hall



"I prioritize throughout the day. I keep on it."

- Sarah Dysart

By Andrea Beaudoin

The Clarkston News' Millstream

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Ritter remembers decades of service

BY ANDREA M. BEAUDOIN
Clarkston News Staff Writer

When Sandy Ritter officially retired as trustee for Oakland Community College on Jan. 1 after almost 37 years of service, she had the honor of being the longest serving board member in the history of the college.

Ritter's first run for OCC trustee was in 1978. She won. That was six terms ago, almost four decades.

"When I was sworn in, I was holding my 5-month-old son in my arms, and I looked down and thought, 'when I finish this term, you will be 6,'" she remembers.

Fellow Clarkston resident and longtime OCC faculty member Tom Stone said he finds the span of Ritter's term fascinating.

"She ran for and won a seat on the board as a mother with a newborn, and left office as a grandmother. That's amazing, and really says a lot about the amount of respect and appreciation she earned to be continuously returned to the board all those years," he said. "She was always committed to doing a great job. She has always been generous and unassuming with her leadership and the way she invested herself in OCC."

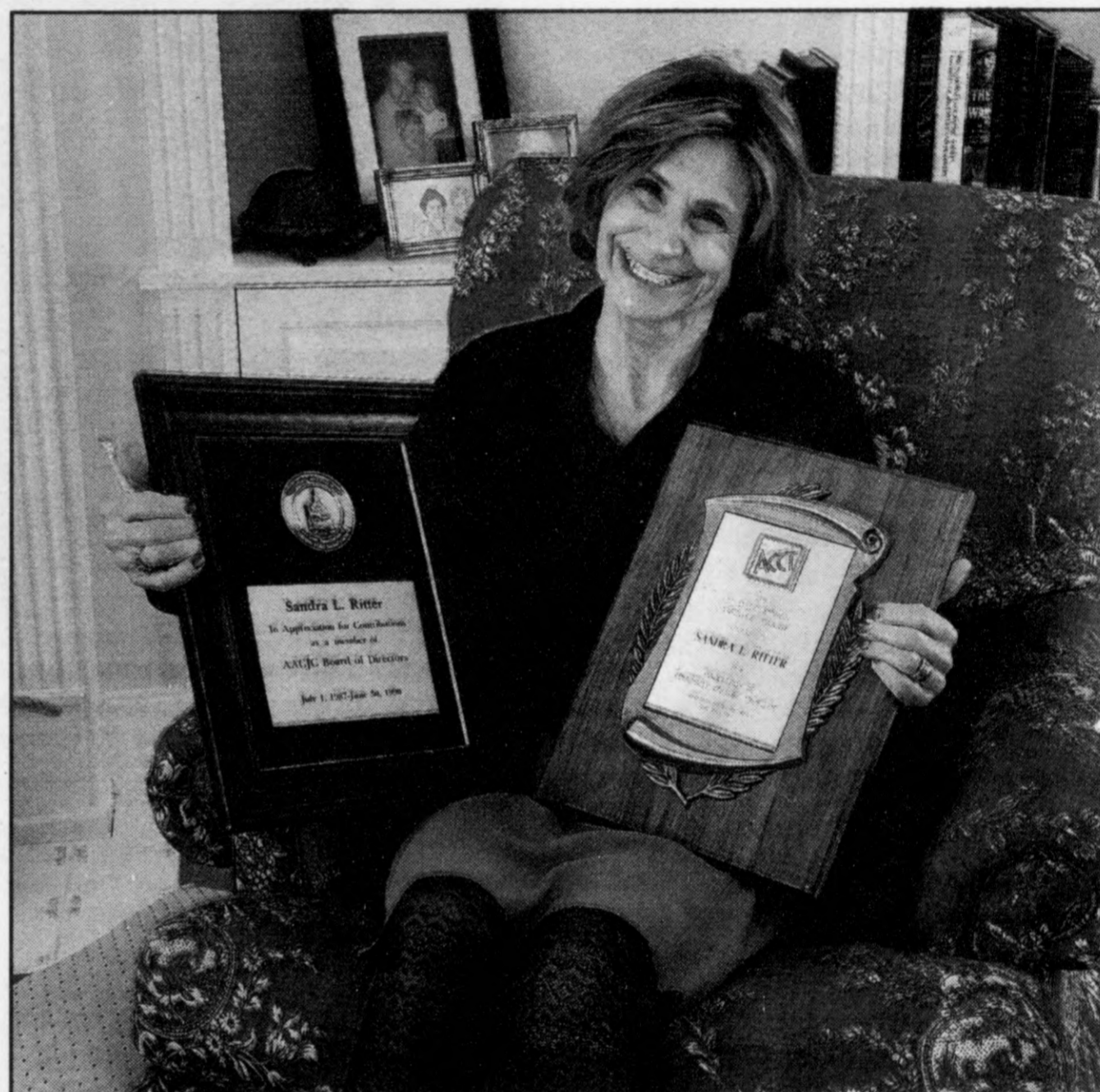
Ritter originally wanted to be a pharmacist when she enrolled at the University of Michigan. Instead she chose a career as an educator, a path it seems she was destined for.

During her career, she testified before U.S. Congress and received numerous awards for her work.

Her first teaching job was in 1968 working with third graders in Detroit. After that first job, she stayed in the city, but taught middle school for the next 15 years.

Those 18 years spent in Detroit earned her a wealth of knowledge in education.

When asked if it was tough working in the city, Ritter explains, "it was a great ex-



Sandy Ritter holds a couple awards she earned over 37 years of service at Oakland Community College. Photo by Andrea Beaudoin

perience. There were problems then, but the problems today are much different."

Problems today are more complex, she admits.

"We know a lot more now than we did then about how kids learn, and students nowadays are bombarded with a lot more stuff to learn."

Technology is one example.

"I love technology, but the one down-

fall is kids are learning things today, we would not have taught them," she said.

Many schools still teach handwriting, which is good, but Ritter worries future generations may lack socialization skills like the art of having a conversation.

"Schools still do a good job teaching kids how to communicate," she assures.

After leaving the middle school, Ritter

Please see Ritter on page 26

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Events

Blood drive, American Red Cross, 1-6:45 p.m., Feb. 3, First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road; 8 a.m.-1:45 p.m., Feb. 15, Clarkston Community Church, 6300 Clarkston Road. 800-RED CROSS, 800-733-2767.

Alzheimer's fidget quilt workshop, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Feb. 7, First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. Bring sewing machines to stitch lap blankets with variety of trims, lace, buttons, zippers for local Alzheimer's facilities. Potluck. Call Nancy, 248-394-0637.

Wild Game Dinner, American Legion Post 63, 6-8 p.m., Feb. 21, 8047 Ortonville Road. \$20. Elk, white tail deer, pheasant, turkey, wall-eye, trout, salmon. Gun, kayak, Booze Basket raffles. 248-625-9912.

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

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/drop in.

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

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

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

50+ Spanish Lessons, Mondays, Jan. 26-March 2, 6-7 p.m., \$40. Language fundamentals, history. Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

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

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

Around Town

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



TIME TO DANCE: Lane Hurd, physical education teacher and DJ for the night, leads the students and parents in the "Cupid Shuffle" at the Clarkston Elementary dance. Photo by Wendi Reardon

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.

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

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

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

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

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

50+ Adaptive Yoga, Tuesdays, Jan. 13-Feb. 17, \$35, all types of bodies and abilities. Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. Register, 248-625-8231.

LegalShield and Identity Theft Shield information sessions with Carol Compagnoni, Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., Colombiere Center, 9075 Big Lake Road. 248-420-3126.

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.

50+ Individualized Computer Tutoring, Thursdays, Jan. 8-22, 2-4 p.m., \$30/hour, Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. Call to schedule, 248-625-8231.

Local Business Network, Clarkston/Auburn Hills Chapter, first and third Thursday, 7:30-8:45 a.m., North Oakland County Board of Realtors, 4400 W. Walton Blvd., Waterford. 248-370-8029.

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

Young At Heart Active Adults, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., lunches, guest speakers, musical performances, field trips, holiday parties, movies, bingo, games. Hart Community Center in Davisburg. \$5 yearly membership, \$5 lunch. 248-846-6558.

Free General Support Group for any type of cancer and caregivers, fourth Thursdays, 2-4 p.m., Please see Around Town on page 33

CLARKSTON INDEPENDENCE DISTRICT LIBRARY

Hey Clarkston! What's happening at your library?

Open House: Sunday, February 8 at 1:00-5:00pm
Join us as we kick off the New Year with a showcase of our new programs and services. Enjoy refreshment, interactive kid's activities, games and more. Don't miss storytime with our special guest Clifford the Big Red Dog @ 1:30 & 3:30pm.

We are now offering free access to Zinio, a digital newsstand available through the library. Zinio allows you to download popular magazines to your computer, tablet or mobile device! 125 magazines are now available including The Economist; Newsweek; Us Weekly; Popular Science; O, the Oprah Magazine; Consumer Reports; Rolling Stones; and many more!

Look: New Library Hours Starting January 2015!
Mon-Thurs: 10 am-9 pm, Fri & Sat: 10 am-6 pm, Sun 1 pm-6 pm

Family Craft Club
Thursday, February 12 at 6:30pm

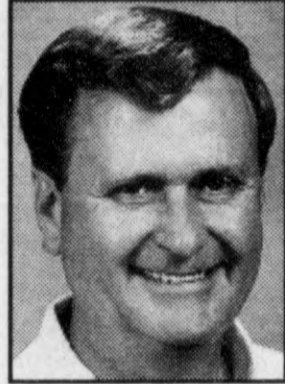
Join us for crafting fun with family and friends. This month we will be crafting with mason jars and chalk paint to create unique candy jars. The Family Craft Club is open to all patrons, ages 8 & up. Registration Required.



Robert A. Agar, 69

Robert A. Agar of Gladwin, formerly of Waterford, passed away Jan. 24, 2015, at age 69.

He was the husband of Norma for 32 years; father of Todd Agar, Tammy Ross and Tyrone Agar; stepfather of Tony (Judi) Garbovits, Brenda (Don) Boutwell, Sherron Metrick, Debbie (Clarence) Head, Margaret (Jerry) Lazenby, Rich (Lisa) Garbovits and Roxanne (Steve) Nelson; also survived by several grandchildren and great grandchildren; brother of Roseanne Davenport and Gary Agar; preceded in death by parents Earl Agar and Annette Fisher and many brothers and sisters.



Bob retired from Waterford Township, Animal Control. He enjoyed fishing and traveling.

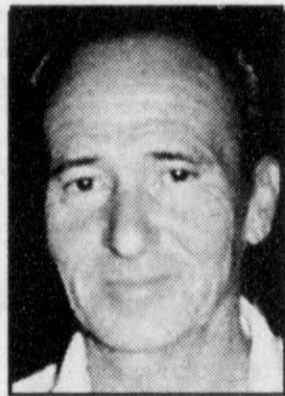
Funeral service, Thursday, Jan. 29, at 12:30 p.m. at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston, where friends may visit Wednesday, 3-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Memorials may be made to Wounded Warrior Project.

Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Donald T. Brooks, 85

Donald T. Brooks, "Don," of Clarkston passed away Jan. 20, 2015, at age 85.

He was preceded in death by his wife Mary Frances "Fran", son Dennis and grandson Eric. He was the father of Kay (Doug) Green and Kyle Brooks; grandpa of Tamara Green and Christine (Scott) Green; great grandfather of Samantha, Hannah and Eric; and great great grandfather of Layla.



Funeral service was Jan. 22 at the **Lewis E. Wint and Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Interment Perry Mount Park Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Leader Dogs for the Blind.

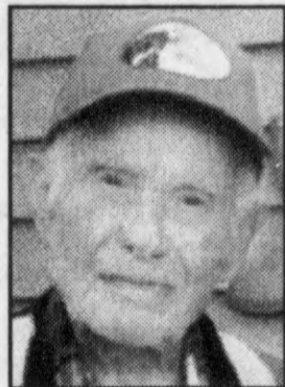
Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Edward J. Hockey, 89

Edward John Hockey, born Sept. 5, 1925, passed away Jan. 16, 2015, at the age of 89.

Edward and his wife Shirley celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary on Jan. 13.

He is preceded in death by his son Parry, 1999, and his daughter Monica, 1979; his father Harry C. Hockey and mother Veva (Hockey) Bird; step father Basil Bird; two brothers, Eugene and Jack Hockey; and five step siblings, Basil Jr., Willis, Rolin, Barbara, and Ruth.



He enjoyed being raised at the Bird Homestead, which was once located at the corner of Maybee and Sashabaw roads in Clarkston.

He is survived by his wife Shirley and one daughter, Renee Bridgewater, and her husband Joe; one granddaughter, Carrie Faitel, and her husband Bret; two grandsons, Aaron Bridgewater and wife Christine, and Adam Bridgewater; three great-grandsons, Cody Hockey, Matthew Faitel, and Nick Bridgewater; three great-granddaughters, Madelyn and Veda Faitel, and Amber Bridgewater; and two great-great-grandchildren, Anabelle and Hunter Hockey.

Edward loved driving trucks for Jones Transfer Company. He was proud to have served in the U.S. Navy from 1943-1947. Celebration of his life will be a memorial in early summer.

Joseph B. Lutey, 32

Joseph B. Lutey, "Joe," of Grand Blanc passed away Jan. 21, 2015, at age 32.

He was the loving husband of Jen; cherished father of Aiden; amazing son of Joseph and Gloria Lutey; dear brother of Christalyn (David) Palazzola and Katelyn Lutey; brother in law of Jeremy Frederiksen, Jessica Carlson and Robert Carlson; uncle of Ginalyn and Michaelyn Palazzola; grandson of Allan and Donna Frick; son in law of Diane Davis; grandson in law of Bob and Barb Sigety; also survived by many extended family and friends.



Joe was a dedicated Retail Manager at Wojo's Greenhouse of Ortonville.

Visitation was Jan. 24-25 at the **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Funeral Service was Jan. 26 at Clarkston Community Church. Memorials may be made to the family for the future education of Aiden. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Deborah Novak, 63

Deborah L. Novak of Clarkston passed away Jan. 21, 2015, at age 63.

She was the loving wife of Scott for 25 years; mother to Jeff (Susan) Albright; grandmother to Ashley, Hannah and Jaren; daughter to Mary Margaret Albright; sister to Barry (Pam) Albright, Jaymee (Steve) Poniowski, and Brooke (Larry Zaroni) Novak; aunt to Ashlynn Sue and Peyton.



Visitation was Jan. 25 at the **Lewis E. Wint and Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Memorials may be made to the Debbie Novak Memorial Fund atgofund.me/knvxqc. Online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Gerda Lundquist, 95

Celebrating the life of Gerda Anna Margareta (Jansson) Lundquist who went to be with Jesus her Savior, Jan. 24, 2015, at age 95.

She was preceded in death by her husband Bror Eric, daughter Katherine and son-in-law, Gary Konow. She is survived by her son John Lundquist and his wife Carolyn Ann; her daughter Ann and her husband Jim Rogers. She was deeply loved by her family including 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



During this life she gave praise and worshipped in faith at Orchard Lake Community Church and Mt. Zion Temple in Clarkston and was a core leader in Community Bible Study. She loved spending time with her family, studying her Bible, playing tennis and golf.

Visitation to be held 2-7 p.m., Feb. 3, 2015, at **Elton Black & Son Funeral Home**, 1233 Union Lake Road, White Lake, Mich. Final viewing to be held at 12 p.m., Feb. 4, at Mt. Zion Temple, 4900 Maybee Road, Clarkston, with funeral service at 1 p.m.

**Obituaries posted daily
at Clarkstonnews.com**

More Letters to the Editor...

A lifetime of work

Dear Editor,

Hi Jim's Jottings – here's my "work done" list (re "Depression thinking, clowns and computers," Jan. 21).

I grew up during the depression years, a time when money was scarce and jobs were few.

My first recollection of work, other than household chores, was when I was about 10 years old.

My father had brought home an array of evergreen branches, which he laid on the kitchen floor. My sister and I then wired them around coat hangers, making them into wreath. They hung in the windows of the Clarkston State Bank at a cost of 50 cents each. Another early seasonal job was picking strawberries – five cents a quart.

My first real job was dipping ice cream at Cheeseman's Ice Cream Parlor when I was 13. This paid 18 cents an hour. Evening workers earned 25 cents an hour. I worked there three summers.

My next job was selling in the ladies' ready-to-wear department at Sears Roebuck store in Pontiac. I worked Saturdays 9 a.m.-9 p.m. during the school year and then full time during the summer.

While in college I earned money babysitting, making salads for the cafeteria, weekly cleaning of an apartment and modeling for an art class.

Other jobs I have had are as a chamber maid at a hotel on Lake Michigan, a kitchen helper at a Christian summer camp, an interviewer of credit card applicants in a large department store and as a post office mail sorter during the Christmas season.

My longest and last employment was as a school teacher for 30 years, the last 28 in Clarkston. In our generation, all legitimate work was honorable. There were no "jobs Americans won't do."

Happily retired,

*Ethelyn Hyde
Independence Township*

Retirement ends era

Dear Editor,

Last month Sandra "Sandy" Ritter attended her last meeting as an Oakland Community College Trustee, after having served in that capacity for 36 years. She may be the last of a generation of the iconic Ritter family to serve in public office.

Sandy began her OCC tenure as a mother of a very young child and left it a grandmother. She began as a caring community volunteer and left as a proud veteran.

Her generation of Ritters has served us in Washington, Lansing, Oakland County, and locally. As descendants of a local grocer, they served us willingly and well.

"Whether you know it or not, we leave parts of ourselves wherever we go." The Illusion of Separateness, Van Booy. Everyone leaves something behind.

We are the recipients of the unique legacy of the Ritter family. Fortunately, their community service will not end with Sandy's retirement as an elected official. We are, and will be, all the better because of it!

*Tom Stone
Clarkston*

Religion

Events Preaching

Reflect on 'big rocks' first to fill life

Even though it was just a few weeks ago, Christmas and New Year already seem like long ago memories.

I'm already used to saying and writing 2015 as if it's been here forever. Life moves on so quickly. Now its Super Bowl weekend and all of the hype and controversy surrounding that big event makes me stop to think again about what really matters in my life and how I spend my precious time.

It seems like most of us try to pack more and more into the time we have. Of course, even with all of the advances in technology and "time-saving" devices, time still moves along as in God's original design, with 24 hours in a day and 365 days in a year.

We have not figured out a way to make more time, so we are left with the ongoing challenge and opportunity of making good use of the time given us.

Though I did hear that a leap-second will be added in June this year so we stay on track with solar time. Wow, an extra second, wonder how I will use that?

You may have heard about the seminar presenter who placed a jar on a table and carefully filled it with some large rocks and asked, "Is the jar full?" The students responded, "Yes!"

Next she took some gravel and added it to the jar, filling the spaces between the rocks, and again asked, "Is the jar full?"

Being quick learners, the students replied "Probably not."

So the presenter dumped some sand into the jar filling in the spaces between the rocks and the gravel and once again asked, "Is the jar full?" "No!" the students all said.

Finally, she filled the jar completely with water and asked the students what they had learned.

Someone answered, "If you try really hard you can always fit more things into your life."

In our local churches...

Wednesday Evening Feast, 6 p.m., dinner; classes for all ages, 7-8 p.m. 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

The presenter replied, "No, the point is this, if you don't put the big rocks in first you will never fit them in."

I believe this principle can be applied to all aspects of life. The fundamental question for each of us to ask is, "What are the big rocks? What are the super bowls, the most important things in life, and have I made room for them?"

So I have been thinking and praying about this. For me, my relationship with God is primary, then my family, work, community service, recreation, etc. My participation in church is also very important because it reminds me what really matters and how much we matter to God.

At Calvary this winter we are studying an interesting book with a very long title, "Why Nobody Wants to Go to Church Anymore and how 4 Acts of Love Will Make Your Church Irresistible."

It addresses the issue that for many in the US today, church is not one of the "big rocks" of life. Of course going to church and believing in God are not the same thing, and all too often there is a disconnect between Jesus and our experiences or perceptions of the church.

Authors Thom and Joani Schultz lift up the four major reasons their research shows people don't attend church: "I feel judged, I don't want to be lectured, Christians are a bunch of hypocrites, and your God is irrelevant to my life."

They then suggest these four responses: "radical hospitality, fearless conversations, genuine humility, and divine anticipation." Interesting stuff.

This has given me some good things to reflect on about my life and our church. Sometimes it's not just what the "big rocks" of life are, but also how we put them into the jar that matters.

I am glad that the bottom line for me is God's grace and loving acceptance that gives me a fresh start each new year, and each new day!

The Rev. Jonathan Heierman is senior pastor at Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church

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.

Spiritual Matters



Pastor Jonathan Heierman

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Attend the Church Of Your Choice

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

6490 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston
Sunday 10 am
Holy Eucharist
Sunday School 9:55 am
Nursery Provided
www.clarkstonepiscopal.org
248-625-2325

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF CLARKSTON

5972 Paramus, Clarkston, MI
(248) 625-3380
Located 2 blks. N. of Dixie Hwy.
(E. of M-15)
Pastor: Russell Reemtsma
Sun: 9:30 am Sunday School
& Adult Bible Fellowship
10:30 am Worship Service
6:00 pm Bible Study & Prayer Meeting
Wed: 6:15-8:00 pm AWANA (Pre-school-Gr.6) Semper Fi (Teens, Gr. 7-12)

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH

6300 Clarkston Road • Clarkston
(248) 625-1323
Home of Oakland Christian School
Pastor: Greg Henneman
Sunday Worship:
9:15 and 11:00 a.m.
Nursery Care at both services
Children's Ministries: September thru
April Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Youth Ministries:
September thru April
Sunday, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Tuesday,
Wednesday and Thursday, 3:00-8:00 p.m.
www.clarkstoncommunity.com

CALVARY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

6805 Bluegrass Drive, Clarkston
(W. of M-15, just S. of I-75)
248-625-3288
Pastor Jonathan Heierman
Sunday Worship:
8:15 am, 9:30 & 11:00 am
Nursery, Children & Youth at 9:30 & 11:00am
Wednesday Evenings:
6:00-8:00 pm
Dinner & groups of all ages
Nursery, Children & Youth too
www.calvaryinfo.org

THE GATHERING PLACE

9811 Dixie Hwy., Clarkston
248-620-5301
Corner of Dixie Hwy & Davisburg Rd.
Sunday Evening Worship 5-6pm
Fellowship Dinner, Bible Study & Sunday School 6:15-7:15pm
Men's Group, 3rd Sat. of Month 9-10:30am
Women's Group, 2nd & 4th Fridays 6:30-8:00pm
Financial Peace University Classes ongoing
Email: tgpconnection@gmail.com
www.thinkoutsidethepew.org

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

5449 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston
(248) 394-0200
Fax: (248) 394-1212
Rev. Dr. Matthew Webster
Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Children's Sunday School 10:00 am
Dream Keepers Youth Group
Sunday's 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Bible Study
March - May and Sept. - Nov.
www.FirstCongregationalChurch.org

CLARKSTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

DIXIE BAPTIST CHURCH

8585 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI
(248) 625-2311
website: www.dixiebaptist.org
Home of Springfield Christian Academy & Children's Ark Preschool
Pastor: J. Todd Vanaman
Sun: 9:45 am Worship Service
11:00 am Sunday School for all ages
6:00 pm Worship Service
Wed: 7:00 pm Children and Teen Clubs & Adult Bible Study
Nursery available for all services.

OAKLAND EPC

"God's Word; God's Power; Life Worth the Living"
Here to help those concerned about life and curious about the God who made us. Currently meeting at Mt. Zion Center 4453 Clintonville Road at Mann Rd., Waterford, MI 48329
Worship Service each Sunday @ 10:30 am
Children's Worship @ 10:30 am
Other Opportunities:
Call Church for times of following Meetings:
Men's Bible Study
Women's Bible Study
Mid Week Bible Study
Adult Sunday Morning Bible Studies
Oakland EPC is an Evangelical Presbyterian Church with offices located at 7205 Clintonville Rd., Clarkston, MI 48348
Phone (248) 858-2577

WAYPOINT CHURCH

8400 Dixie Hwy, Clarkston
Website - www.waypoint.org
Phone 248-623-1224
Sunday Worship:
9:45 am & 11:00 am
Mom Squad:
Tues. 9:30-11:30 am Childcare provided
Wednesday:
Family Life Group 6:30 pm Youth 6:30 pm

ST. TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod"
Pastor: Rev. Kendall Schaeffer
7925 Sashabaw Road
(1/4 mile N. of DTE Music Theater)
Clarkston, MI 48348
(248) 625-4644
www.sainttrinitylutheran.com
e-mail: sttrinity@comcast.net
Broadcast Worship - Clarkston CIV-10/20 Sun. 2:00pm, Thurs. 9:00pm
Broadcast Worship - Waterford CATV-10 Tues. 2:30 pm
Worship:
Sunday 8:15 am & 11:00 am
Sat. 6:00 pm
Sunday School 9:45 am
Preschool: 3-4 years old
Preschool: 620-6154
6th and 8th Grade Confirmation Classes
Sundays @ 6:00-7:30 pm

BRIDGEWOOD CHURCH

www.bridgewoodchurch.com
6765 Rattalee Lake Road
Clarkston, 48348 (248) 625-1344
Sundays at 9:30am & 11:00am
- Adult experience
- Nurture Center (birth-4)
- Kids Life (K-5th)
- Crave Students (6th-8th)
Sunday at 6:30am
- Velocity (College & Twenty-Somethings)
Wednesday at 6:45pm
- JourneyON Adult Focus Studies
- Nurture Center (birth-4)
- Kids Life (K-5th)
- Crave Students (6th-8th)
check out all BWC has To offer you online at bridgewoodchurch.com

ST. DANIEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

7010 Valley Park Dr., Clarkston
(W. of M-15, S. of I-75)
625-4580
Rev. Ronald J. Babich, Pastor
Saturday Mass: 5:00 pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am
Religious Education: 625-1750
Mother's Group, RCIA, Scripture Study, Youth Group

SASHABAW

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Little Church with a BIG Heart"
5300 Maybee Road, Clarkston
Worship 11:00 am
Nursery Provided
Phone (248) 673-3469

Junior high play tackles women's role in workplace

BY WENDI REARDON
Clarkston News Staff Writer

The roles of women are about to change in Cook County, Illinois, as World War II changes the lives of everyone around the globe.

The change comes alive on the Clarkston Junior High School stage as the drama club presents "Rosie the Riveter" by Trey Clarkson, Feb. 6 and 7.

"It is a play about how World War II shaped women's roles in the family and in the workplace, and how are women dealing with it," said Mark Magni, teacher and director.

Rosie O'Connell, who becomes the future face of Rosie the Riveter, played by Mary Shutty, sees the effects of the war first hand when Eddie's Auto Parts Factory is struggling with a hold on making car parts. She thinks of a plan to help the factory, her workplace, to secure a government contract and make airplane parts.

"Rosie is a complex character," Shutty said. "She is growing up in a society where people tell her she can't do it or is talked down. She rises above all that. She sticks with what she knows and trusts in herself which gets stronger over the play. She is unsure of herself but as time progresses she is trying to do this right."

Shutty added what she likes about Rosie is she sees something in everyone.

"She is a tough character but at the same time she cares for everyone. She gives everything," she said. "Like with John, she threw herself into the war effort to make sure he would be safe. She hides her emotions and near the end of the play she opens up a lot more because more stuff has happened to her. She breaks open and shows a lot of raw passion. Her passion is inspirational."

John Stanley, played by William Wallace, is a friend and salesman at Eddie's Auto Parts Factor and has enlisted in the army.

"When the war started I said I need to fight in this war," Wallace said.

John is also engaged to Helen Henley but is in love with Rosie.

"It's hard to explain the difference between them," Wallace added. "One is more traditional and one is more modernistic."

He added what he enjoys about John is he is a strong person but still has feelings.

"He isn't just a tough guy going into the war to fight," Wallace said. "He wants to protect. I like how he is well-spoken but he does hold back. It is his downfall and he can't make up his mind between Helen and Rosie."

Rosie finds help to recruit factory workers from Janet Sidaway, playing Katherine Hartley, a young woman who just moved from California to attend college in Chicago.

"She wants to help in the war anyway she can but she thinks helping with managing is more important than the little things," Sidaway said. "So she goes to work with Rosie in the factory and she does whatever she can to help."

Sidaway enjoys how Katherine is also a strong person. "She is willing to do anything," she added. "She gives everything to help with the war effort."

Rosie and Katherine find resistance in the community for women to work at the factory, especially from Helen Henley, who is a traditionalist and head of the women's social club.

"The resistance comes from women in the community like Helen's group," Magni said. "The view is 'we are mothers, we are wives, we are this and that.' That's not a role and not how can contribute best. The play is also about how these gender roles are being smashed by this war."

The show dates were selected because it corresponds with the ninth graders learning about World War II, which

began Jan. 20.

"When I decided to do the play I went to the department and said this is something I want to do but not at the normal time we do plays," Magni said. "I knew the unit would be over or hadn't started yet."

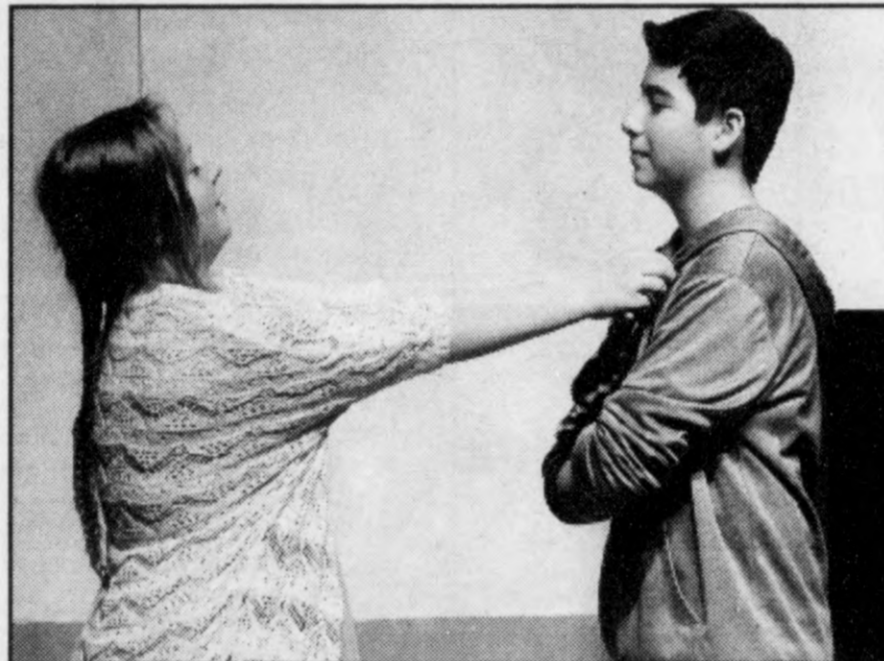
The unit includes European history, the home front, fighting the war and the aftermath of the war.

"By the time they see this play, they will know about part of the home front including rationing, riveting and war industries," Magni added.

Shutty added the play has helped learning about the war.

"It has put a lot of perspective behind it," she said. "You hear things about what happened, but you think it's history. It's hard to think about when you hear about the casualties and imagine how bad it was until you are put there."

"You see how tough it was for everybody," Wallace said. "Everything could fall apart if they don't win this war and everyone gives each other hope."



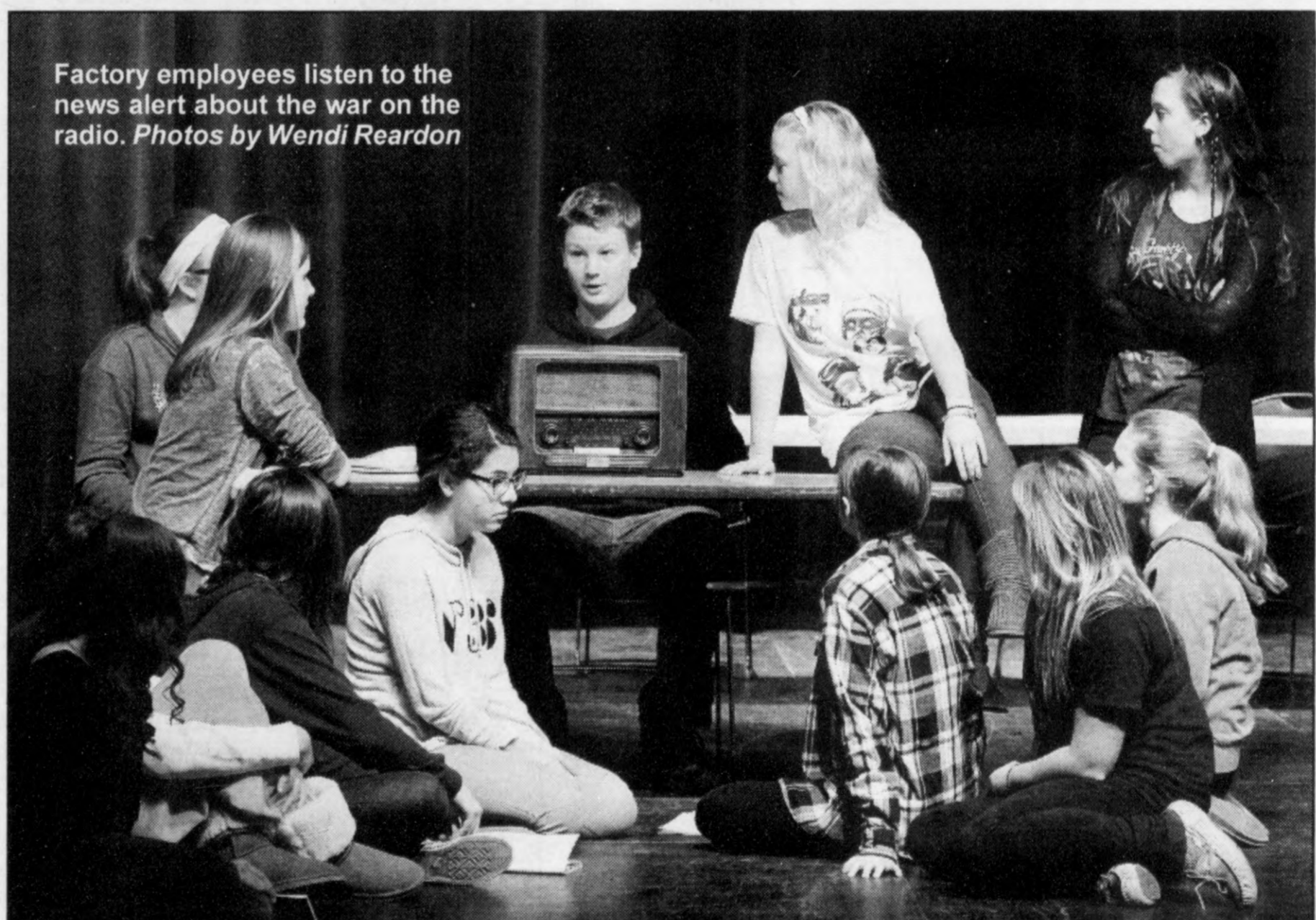
Rosie, portrayed by Mary Shutty, fixes the tie worn by John, played by William Wallace.

He added it is a great play to come out to see.

"It's educational and entertaining," said Sidaway.

"A lot of people can connect with the characters," Shutty added. "There is Katharine who gives 110 percent. She is there for everyone. Or maybe it is John who is confused on where he is but he knows what he should do and he sticks to his gut instinct. Then, there's Rosie who I think a lot of people can relate to as keeping their feelings inside. They can relate to how Rosie finally lets it all out and she survives. She walks through it and she's okay."

The shows are Feb. 6 and 7 at Clarkston Junior High School Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m. Tickets are general admission and \$5.





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Ritter to stay in education

Continued from page 21

accepted a job as administrative assistant to Congressman Bob Carr.

That job opened doors to her future career and showed her a new world.

"Working in that capacity is much different than working in the classroom," she admits. "It opened my mind, and I realized there was so much more to education than you see when you are working in the classroom."

She witnessed needs of Michigan residents on a wider scale, and was surprised at the widespread pockets of poverty across the state.

Ritter's job was to identify needs of the people, and take that information to lawmakers' staff so problems were addressed.

"I helped identify needs and took those needs to Carr and staff in Washington."

She worked with coworkers, and rallied support in favor of policies created to address needs they helped identify.

"I worked as part of a wonderful team," she said. "When you are working on those types of issues, no one does anything alone. We all worked together towards one common goal."

Ritter spent four years in the position.

"My major role on that team was listening, and communicating with staff," she said. "And that is what I did, I listened and communicated."

While working with Carr, Ritter still worked with educators, but from a much different perspective than working as a teacher in the classroom.

Ritter later returned to serve in education and accepted a job at the Michigan Department of Education as the coordinator in Southeast Michigan in the Adult Literacy Initiative.

That initiative was started after a deadly fertilizer spill in Michigan.

Investigators discovered the accident was caused because workers could not read information on the fertilizer bags.

"That accident turned lot of attention towards literacy and caused a lot of changes. The state started looking into illiteracy rates," she said.

She helped build literacy programs across Michigan, including the Oakland County Literacy Initiative, a program that still remains.

"My job was to develop a model for the program and help train people to develop similar models and literacy councils across Michigan."

Ritter became familiar with 29 community colleges, including OCC, while working as a liaison between the state and colleges to promote literacy.

"It was phenomenal to know OCC supported literacy programs," she said.

Her work throughout her life earned her a great deal of respect from others in edu-

cation.

John Duffy, a trustee at Elgin Community College in Illinois, met Ritter in 32 years ago during an ACCT Central Region Nominating Committee when they waited for candidates to interview for a director position.

No candidates ever came to the interview, so Duffy nominated Ritter for the seat.

Both served five years together on the AACT Board of Directors and continued to be annually appointed to the ACCT-AACC Joint Commission on Federal Relations boards.

Duffy said Ritter is one of the most remarkable people he has ever known, and he admires her calm and deliberate manner, and how she never swayed from important issues.

He added that she examined issues deeply, and worked tirelessly as a team-player to reshape issues.

"She listened to everyone's point of view and challenged them when they needed to be challenged," he said.

Even when tensions mounted during deliberations, Ritter maintained an exceptional and spontaneous sense of humor that lightened moods, a spirit that made working with her a joy.

Stone agrees.

"She is very personable and a joy to know as a person," he said.

Ritter's husband, Dennis, also served in several government roles including Waterford Township supervisor and city manager of Clarkston.

He said his wife is very humble about her achievements – "there are a lot of good deeds and accomplishments she'll never tell you."

Ritter will no longer serve on the OCC board, but she will continue working part-time supervising student teachers at University of Michigan, a job role in which she coaches students to transition into teachers.

Her off-time will be spent with family, completing various projects and browsing estate sales.

Although her time serving at OCC is now a memory, being part of a college so focused on students is an experience she will remain proud of forever.

"What an education," she smiled. "I learned so much from the faculty, the staff, the community and the students."

She will miss graduation most, a day when OCC students from all walks of life gathered for commencement.

"I will miss all the students, from the kids graduating college while they are still in high school to elderly students, crossing the stage to claim their diploma," she said.

"They all shared one common dream, and I will miss shaking their hands, and seeing them as they achieve that dream."

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030 WANTED

LOOKING FOR Repairable cars/ trucks. Up to \$5,000 cash paid. Quick pick up. 810-724-7647, 810-338-7770. !!LZ64

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WANTED: OCTOBER 24, 2001 edition of The Oxford Leader. Call 248-628-4801 or drop off at Leader office. !!L43tf

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MIXED HARDWOOD \$75 face cord. Delivery available. 810-706-1352. Snow removal. 810-706-1639. !!L74

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UKULELES- Soprano \$40, two tenors \$100- \$185 with cases. 810-636-7681. !!X2

070 TUTORING/ LESSONS

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LZ8tfdh

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L74

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180 REC. EQUIPMENT

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WEDDING INVITATIONS and accessories available online through Carlson Craft. Check our website at www.shermanpublications.cceasy.com or call 248-628-4801 for more information. !!L9tfdh

PLUS SIZE LADIES clothing. Gently used. 4X-5X. Bigshirts, pants, jeans and more. Cash only. Oakland. 248-765-5301. !!L82

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2001 MAZDA minivan. Good condition, runs good. \$900. 248-693-8243. !!LZ212

290 RENTALS

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2008 SATURN VUE, 48K MILES, Alabama car, loaded, exc. condition, new tires, front wheel drive, sun roof, \$11,000. 810-210-4171. !!ZX1712

1999 DODGE DAKOTA FWD. Rusty but runs good. Newer tires and brakes. \$1,200. Call 248-701-7778. !!L82

2009 JEEP LIBERTY 4x4, Excellent condition, .37L V-6, with 68,XXX easy miles, black, power everything, 110V outlet. All oil changes, non-smoker. \$10,500. Must sell! Clarkston. 248-802-8200 !!LZ712

1987 GMC SIERRA 4x4 pickup. New paint on rust-free truck. 4" lift, 33" tires, bedliner, rebuilt transmission, 350tbi, resealed transfer case. New positraction unit with complete rebuilt rear-end. New bearings, U-joints, shocks, battery & heater blower motor. After-market stereo CD. PW/PL/PS. New steering box. \$7,900 obo. Bob: 586-996-8967 !!LZ5212

260 VANS

1997 ONE TON DODGE CAB and a half dually. Extras, fuel tank, Jake brake, lights, good tires, new batt. -2 and brake lines. 5-speed manual, very good truck, \$6,500. 810-422-4948. ZX144

280 REC. VEHICLES

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TWO SNOWMOBILES plus trailer. \$3,750. Both just over 3K. 248-391-1078 !!L64
SNOWMOBILES- INDY 600 Polaris, XCP 700 Polaris with M10 suspension. Both have new tracks and studded, covered aluminum trailer, \$3,300. Also vintage 1972 775 TNT Ski Doo parts. 586-651-0269. !!CZ302

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L64

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LAKE ORION VERY nice 2 bedroom apartment. Stove, refrigerator & utilities included. \$800/ month. 586-915-7079. !!L94

CUTE, COZY sleeping room, downtown Orion, \$85 weekly plus security, 248-505-8314. !!R91

UP NORTH ATMOSPHERE 2 bedroom Brandon Twp. house, on Bald Eagle Lake. Private sandy beach. Brandon Schools. \$750/ month. No pets. No smoking. 248-894-6223 !!CZ292

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STATE OF MICHIGAN FILE NO:
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COUNTY OF OAKLAND

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Estate of Harold Adkins. Date of Birth: May 5, 1959

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Harold Adkins, died August 4, 2014.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jon B. Munger, personal representative or proposed personal representative to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, MI 48341 and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

January 22, 2015

Munger & Associates, P.C.

Jon B. Munger P54736
4545 Clawson Tank Dr, Ste 100
Clarkston, MI 48346
248.618.1200

Jon B. Munger
4545 Clawson Tank Dr, Ste 100
Clarkston, MI 48346
248.618.1200

STATE OF MICHIGAN FILE NO:
PROBATE COURT 2014-360, 246-DE
COUNTY OF OAKLAND

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Estate of Kenneth Eugene Neeley. Date of Birth: June 6, 1967

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Kenneth Eugene Neeley, died September 18, 2014.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jon B. Munger, personal representative or proposed personal representative to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, MI 48341 and the named personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

January 20, 2015

Munger & Associates, P.C.

Jon B. Munger P54736
4545 Clawson Tank Dr, Ste 100
Clarkston, MI 48346
248.618.1200

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Victories posted at tournaments

The Wolves posted six victories against Rochester last Wednesday though the Falcons won the match against Clarkston Varsity Wrestling, 42-29.

Winning with pins were Jacob Rygielski in the 130-pound weight class with a fall at 1:36 and Josh Cohoon (189) at 1:09.

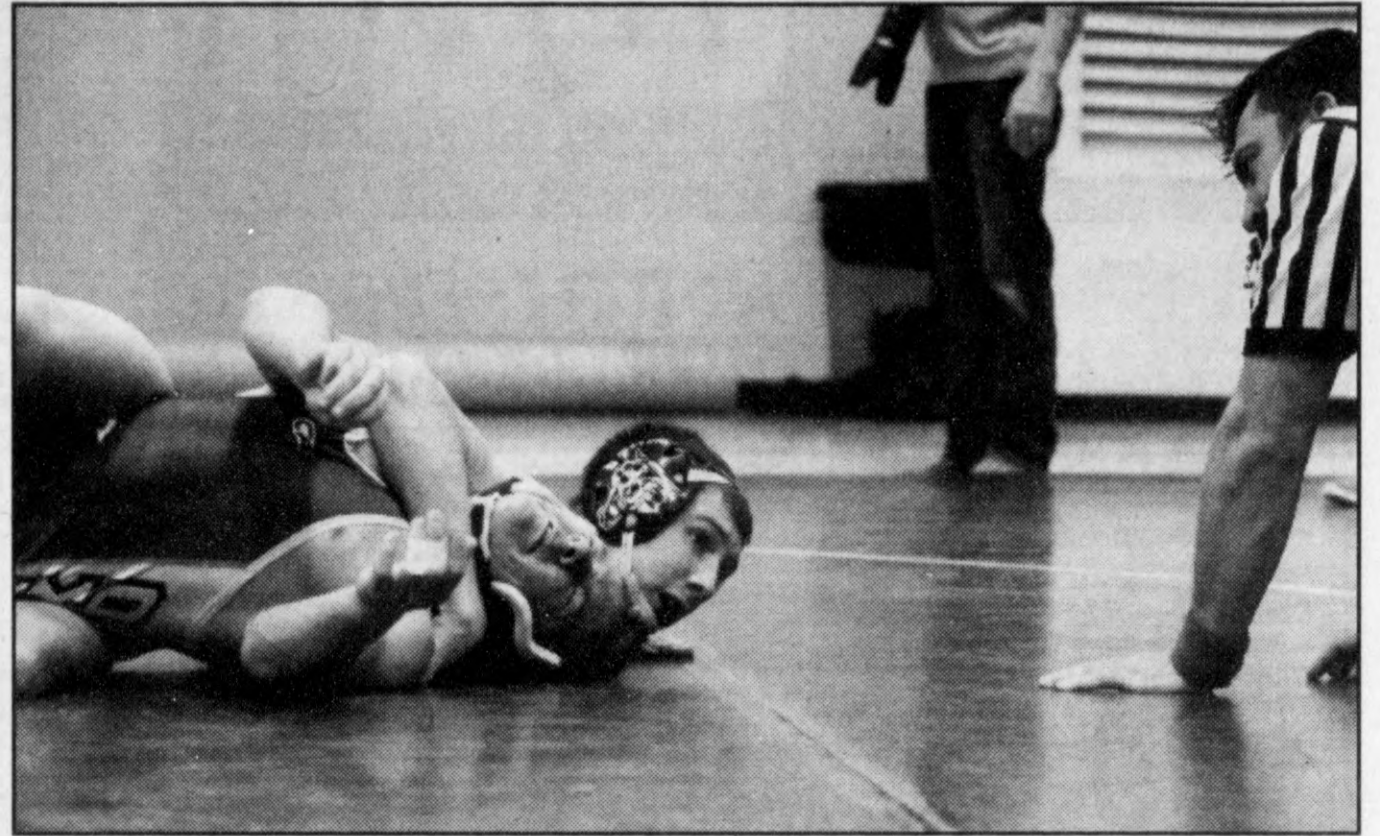
Nate Vandermeer (152) and Kas Waitkus (171) won their matches with technical falls. Vandermeer won with a 16-0 score at the 2:59 mark and Waitkus won his match as the score hit 17-1 at the 5:16 mark.

Kyle Masters won with a major decision in the 160-pound weight class, 14-1 and Jake Calvano (140) won his match, 11-7.

The Wolves had six wrestlers place at the Hammer and Anvil tournament in Ohio, Jan. 17.

"It is a pretty tough tournament," said Derek Moscovic, head coach. "It was a good competition and strong competition from Ohio. We wrestled well. It was one of our better performances just because kids seemed a little bit more relaxed and a little bit more confident. Even though we lost some matches they were close matches. We were in the matches. It was a good weekend."

Vandermeer finished in third place, leading the pack. Cohoon finished in fifth place and



Nate Vandermeer pins an Oxford wrestler to the mat during his match on Jan. 14. Photo by Wendi Reardon

Percy Fowler, Calvano, Waitkus and Masters finished in seventh place.

The Wolves host Rochester and Lapeer on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

The Clarkston Hockey team lost to Rochester United on Saturday, 8-0.

The Wolves prepare for a busy week as they host Farmington United on Thursday at Detroit Skating Club, 5:30 p.m.

They play L'Anse Creuse on Saturday at Onyx Ice Arena.

Clarkston (5-9) begins the fifth annual

Michigan Public High School Hockey Showcase on Sunday as they play Bay City Central, 3 p.m. They continue the showcase against Reeths-Puffer on Feb. 6 at 10:15 a.m. and Port Huron on Feb. 7 at 8:30 a.m.

All game at Chelsea South Rink,

The Mountaineers defeated Marine City Cardinal Mooney on Jan. 20, 57-40. Jimmy Thibodeau led Clarkston Everest Collegiate as he scored 27 points during the game. Danny McMahon added 14 points to the score.

Around Town

Continued from page 22

3 p.m., Great Lakes Cancer Institute, 5680 Bow Pointe Drive. Walk-ins welcome. 248-922-6610.

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

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

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

Friday

Woodcarving Class, Fridays, Jan. 9-30, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., \$40; \$10 material fee. Senior Adult Activity Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. 248-625-8231.

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.

Volunteer opportunities

Avalon Hospice, sit with patients, hold their hand, listen to stories, personal care, or just be there. Two hours a week or more. 800-664-6334; McLaren Hospice, not-for-profit, companionship-type to visit and provide emotional support for patients living with terminal illness, 248-320-0106. Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Oakland County, 55+, opportunities at hospitals, cultural institutions, food pantries, tutoring. 248-559-1147 ext. 3911. Service With Love, RSVP of Oakland County. Older adult volunteers, call seniors regularly to check on health and safety, share friendly conversation. 248-559-1147 Ext. 3937.

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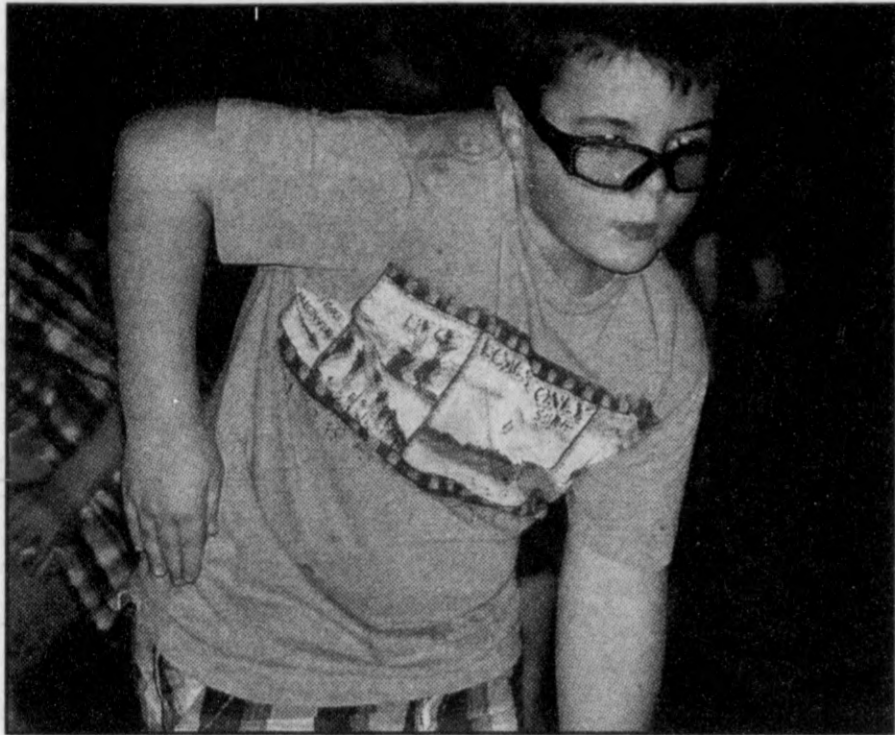
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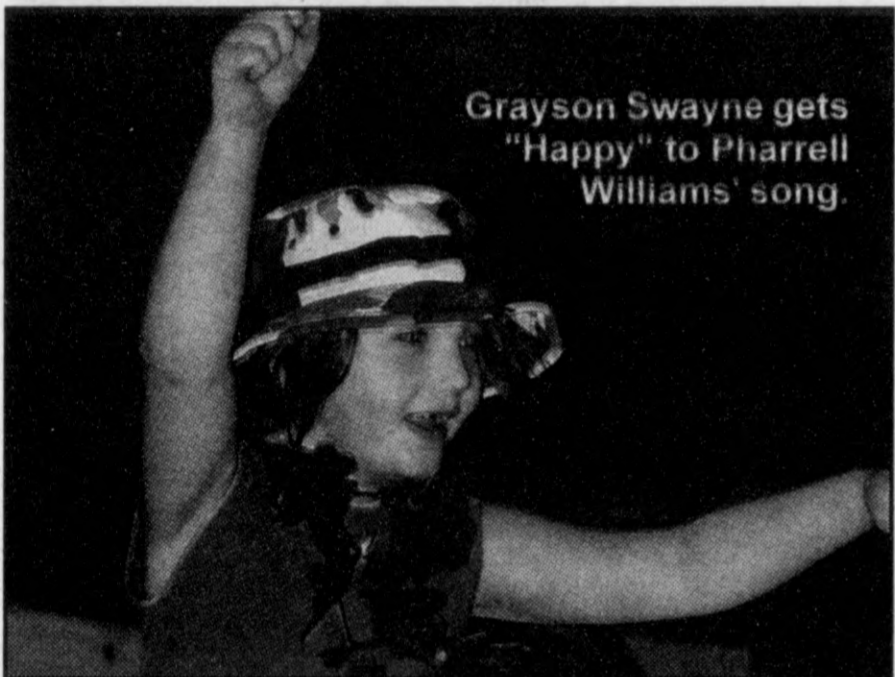
(Inside the Deer Lake Athletic Club)
6167 White Lake Rd. Suite 1
Clarkston, MI 48346
P: 248-620-4260



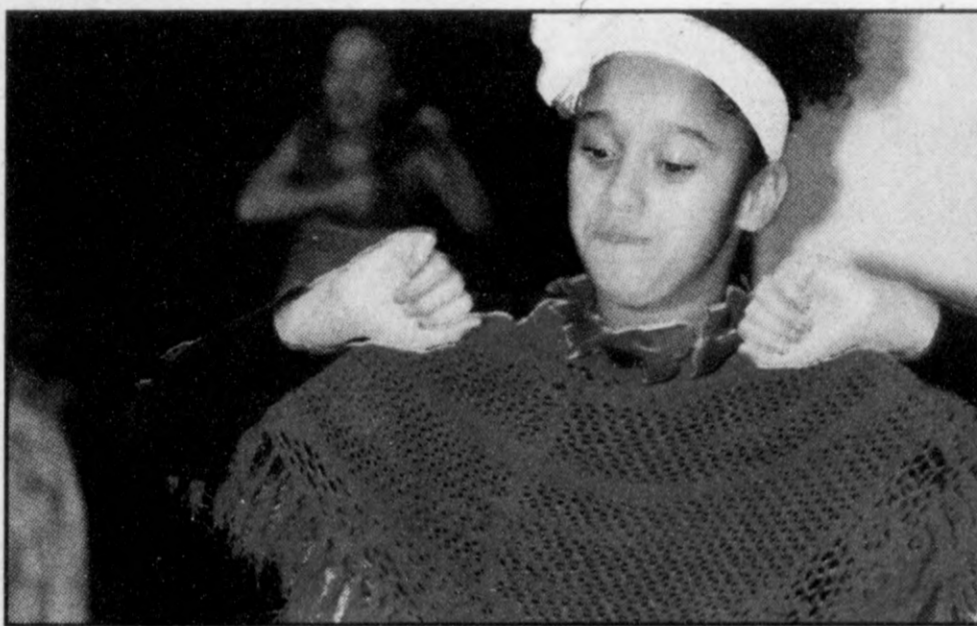
Josh Visintine shows off his robot moves.



From left, Carleigh Ottman, Emma Bradley, and Christen Cogan enjoy the tunes of "Shake It Off" by Taylor Swift. Photos Wendi Reardon



Grayson Swayne gets "Happy" to Pharrell Williams' song.



Leyna Weir hula hoops with friends.

Island getaway

With dropping temperatures outside, families escaped the cold at Clarkston Elementary for the Blizzard Beach Bash.

The gymnasiums became a dance floor for students (and a lot of parents) as they enjoyed their favorites songs and also participated in a limbo contest.

The Dragon Cafe, the cafeteria, was turned into a tropical luau as students snacked and hula hooped.

Photos by Wendi Reardon

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New Clarkston chamber director is Best for the job

BY ANDREAM BEAUDOIN

Clarkston News Staff Writer

Janelle Best has come a long way in her two years working at the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce.

On Jan. 16, the chamber Board of Directors announced Best was chosen as the new executive director after Penny Shanks announced her retirement from the position after 18 years serving the community.

During her first two years working with the chamber, the community seen Best always working right alongside Shanks, attending every event with a smile and her get-the-job done spirit.

Congratulation messages to Best from the community were plentiful.

"Janelle, congratulations on your new position. You will do an awesome job," Ron and Chris Ritchie wrote on Facebook. Several others echoed the same sentiment.

Chamber President Kevin Harrison said the board is very confident in Best and how Shanks spent those years preparing her for the job.

"I know that Janelle will do a great job as our new executive director. Janelle is very thoughtful, very well spoken, and a hard worker," said Harrison. "When Penny hired Janelle almost two years ago, the thought was to groom Janelle to be the executive director after Penny retired. So Penny and Janelle have worked closely for the last two years and Penny has done a great job of teaching Janelle the process of the chamber."

Shanks said Best has done a lot of training, and when she hired her, she was looking for someone with the skills to eventually take her place.

"I think she is exceptional, and I cannot speak highly enough of her. She is not impulsive, she takes her time to research ideas and think about things. She has a great skill set, incredible people skills. Throughout the two years we worked together, she continued to amaze me. It's impressive to me that as young as she is, she has such depth of knowledge," said Shanks.

Shanks added Best comes up with great ideas, and unique ways to execute those ideas.

Shanks asked her last summer if she would be interested in the position. Best took some time to think about it, and later told Shanks she would love the job.

Working alongside Shanks, Best attended ribbon cutting ceremonies welcoming new businesses and monthly luncheons, and helped plan numerous events hosted by the chamber each year.

Best spent her first two years as the director of Economic and Workforce Development at the chamber.

"I developed educational programming based on needs in the community, I worked a lot on Placemaking, Oakland County Main Street program, and planning along the Dixie



Janelle Best is the new executive director of Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce. Photo by Andrea Beaudoin

Corridor," she said.

Best also put in the work required to take the job. She attended a variety of courses focused on training new chamber of commerce directors. She learned legal policies directors need to know about a non-profit organization, how to handle volunteers, and many other educational courses focused on an executive job.

One thing Best has learned working at the chamber is it is an all-encompassing job, and you often have to do a variety of work you may not have expected.

During the very first event she worked for the chamber included cleaning up after pets at an event in Depot Park. It needed to be done to keep the area clean for vendors and visitors.

Best confesses she is fine with doing whatever it takes to make sure events are a success, and a variety of work is a part of the job.

"You learn to wear many hats, and embrace them all," she smiled.

Her first week was been busy with

change. Best and her staff worked on restructuring positions in the office.

"We are focusing on tackling some changes and finding what works best for our staff," she said.

One new employee, Kristy Kaer, will start in February as the education communication specialist. Kaer will focus on educational programming, and keeping the community informed of events through flyers and press releases.

A new bookkeeper, Amanda Chappell, was also recently hired.

Best said her first week was also spent preparing for the chamber's busy season, when the We Biz Series starts.

"We have fantastic speakers, and I want people to know these classes are for everyone," she said.

We Biz starts on Jan. 27 with a luncheon and speaker from Taxi Stand, teaching business owners and marketers how to understand and utilize digital media.

In February, Angela Avery will teach Backbone Building 101, a class which focuses on

how to use your "natural backbone" to handle conflicts at work and home.

Classes run through April. In March, six-time Emmy Award winning media coach Shawne Duperon will speak on self-forgiveness. In April, Cindy Crandell from Clarkston's Nuview Nutrition will teach "Strategy Guide for Health Living" and how to navigate the health food trends of 2015.

"I have hit the ground running," said Best. "We have a lot of big events coming up including the Body, Mind, Green Expo in March and our Golf Classic in summer."

In between planning events, chamber staff continues working on promoting businesses and enhancing opportunities by creating unique ideas to promote members. She and the Chamber Board are working together on a strategic plan and mission.

Best, a Clarkston native and Clarkston High School graduate, resides in Grand Blanc with her husband, Brendon.

For more information about the Clarkston Chamber or the We Biz series visit www.Clarkston.org.



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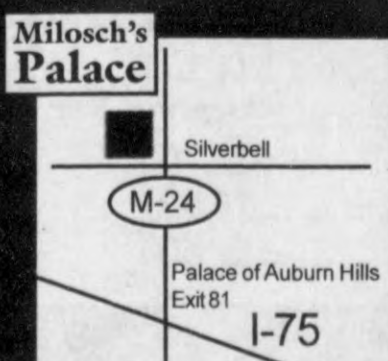
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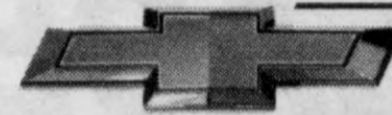
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