

IN THE PAPER
TODAY
SPORTS

Twin wins: Clarkston's boys and girls track teams used their balance and depth to defeat Pontiac-Northern in an OAA I track meet Tuesday./C1

VINTAGE

CLARKSTON

Last week our two friends decided they had no choice but to push on after spending an entire night awake, fending off hungry wolves. Exhausted, without food or even a match for a fire, they pressed on. The story, published in the 1868 *History of Howell, Michigan*, continues:

"All that day we continued our journey, and by taking views of distant objects, managed to keep in a tolerable straight line. My companion, not so much inured to hardships as myself, soon grew weak and faint. Many times he fell down from exhaustion and declared he could go no further.

"However, by dint of persuasion, I succeeded in raising him to his feet each time. During the afternoon we became bewildered, and for the third time came back to the same large tree. Here my fellow traveler became thoroughly disheartened and said he could not take another step. Taking his money from his pocket and presenting it to me, he said, 'Take this to Miss G-- if you live to get through.'

"I tried every available means to get him started again... and he once more resumed the tramp. Night was fast approaching... and we commenced our preparations of defense against the wolves, cutting whips and placing our backs against a large tree. While standing in this position I discovered a flickering light in the distance."

Help is near! Who will save the weary travelers? Find out next week.

Vintage Clarkston is written by Kim Huttenlocher, a member of the board of directors of the Clarkston Community Historical Society.

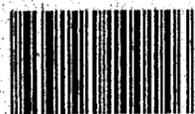
INDEX

- Apartments/F7
- At Home/D
- Automotive/C9
- Classified/B,C,F
- Calendar/B4
- Class. index/F3
- Crossword/F6
- Entertainment/E
- Jobs/B6
- Movies/E6
- Opinions/A8-9
- Real Estate/F3
- Service Guide/C7
- Sports/C1
- Springfield Twp. Legal Ads/A2

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Kathy G.



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Candidates' names to be on ballot



Clarkston school board candidates received a reprieve from Oakland Circuit Court. Their names will appear on the June 12 ballot. Meanwhile, the board approved putting a non-homestead property tax question on the same ballot.

BY SUSAN B. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER
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It's now definite. There will be names of school board candidates on the June 12 school board ballot.

Oakland County Circuit Judge Alice Gilbert on Wednesday morning ordered the names of incumbents Karen Foyteck and Mary Ellen McLean and

newcomer Stephen Hyer to be printed on the ballot. This overturns a decision by the Michigan Department Bureau of Elections.

The three candidates filed their intent to run for one of two, four-year school board seats by the required April 10 deadline. But due to confusion about a new supplemental affidavit form they didn't receive and therefore didn't fill out, the state's Elections

Bureau decided they weren't qualified to have their names appear on the ballot. They would have to run as write-in candidates.

Secretary of State Director of Elections Christopher Thomas recommended the school district try to remedy the situation through the courts.

"We think the voters of the Clarkston school district will be better served having candidates' names on the ballot rather than going through a write-in campaign election," he said. "We did concur to go through Circuit Court to get an order to allow a lawful election to be held."

Clarkston Community Schools filed

suit April 28 in Oakland County Circuit Court. School Supt. Al Roberts said the judge looked at the data and made her decision, citing the confusion caused by a new law requiring the different affidavit form.

In addition to the school board candidacy ballot, the Clarkston Community Schools District also is going to ask voters who live within its boundaries to approve an additional tax on non-homestead property.

The proposal asks for 3 mills levied against non-homestead property for three years, which means \$3 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation. Non-home-

Please see ELECTION, A2



Helping hands: Volunteer Robert Volmering hands a drill to a coworker during work on the Sashabaw Plains playscape Saturday.

Playground project

80 volunteers build playscape

Get ready kids in the Sashabaw Plains Park neighborhood. Tonight at 6 p.m. the new playscape will officially open. Independence Township children who will enjoy the new equipment can thank the approximately 80 people who took time over the weekend to help construct the slides, climbers, decks and swing set. Before the official first swing or slide, a little landscaping had

to be done and the concrete had to set, said Ann Conklin, Parks and Recreation director. The township paid for the materials, and volunteers put up the structure. Builders were recruited as well as baby-sitters. Others made food to keep the workers well-fed. "It was absolutely fabulous. It was really a great demonstration of a community coming together," she said.



Community build: Approximately 80 people helped build a playscape at Sashabaw Plains Park over the weekend.



Working carefully: Amanda Wells checks the depth of a hole during construction.

Judge sides with Springfield in water park case

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER
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An Oakland County judge has ruled in favor of Springfield Township in its lawsuit against the Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority, which wants to put a 20-acre water park at Indian Springs Metropark.

Circuit Court Judge Nanci Grant issued her order and opinion Monday.

"The bottom line is the judge ruled in the township's favor and against the metro authority on all counts," said township Clerk Nancy Strole. "It means the township won its case."

No one from the Authority could be reached for comment following the judge's ruling.

The lawsuit revolved around two issues, according to Springfield Township Attorney Greg Need: HCMA contended the township didn't give it proper notice concerning reclassification of the Indian Springs property and therefore it was unenforceable. HCMA's

second issue was that the resources conservation zoning is unconstitutional.

Grant agreed that notice given by the township of its 1990 reclassification wasn't done properly but that it did follow proper procedure in its 1995 reclassification. Thus, she said, the reclassification is enforceable.

"Judge Grant ruled the reclassification was properly implemented in 1995, which preceded any litigation," she said.

Please see WATER PARK, A2

Election from page A1

stead property includes commercial, industrial and residential property that isn't an individual's primary residence.

Board of education members unanimously approved the resolution Monday. Board members Sheila Hughes and Ronald Sullivan were absent.

Craig Kahler, director of business services for the school district, explained the need for the added millage.

He said when Proposal A passed in 1994, it provided for a local levy of 18 mills against non-homestead property for the school district's operating bud-

get. It also eliminated the bulk of property taxes paid by school district residents, thus causing the district to receive two-thirds less from taxes on residential property.

But because property values in the school district have risen higher than the rate of inflation, the Headlee Amendment, which passed in Michigan in 1978, stepped in.

That meant the school district has had to reduce the non-homestead operating millage for the past two years. This has resulted in a revenue shortfall of \$325,000 in the 1999-2000 school

year and of \$70,000 in 1998-99, according to Kahler.

"All indicators point to further declines in millage rates, resulting in further revenue shortfalls unless the Board of Education takes steps to avoid this condition," he added.

Kahler recommended a three-year time frame on the proposal. If it passes, the board can ask again for another three-year continuation if necessary in three more years.

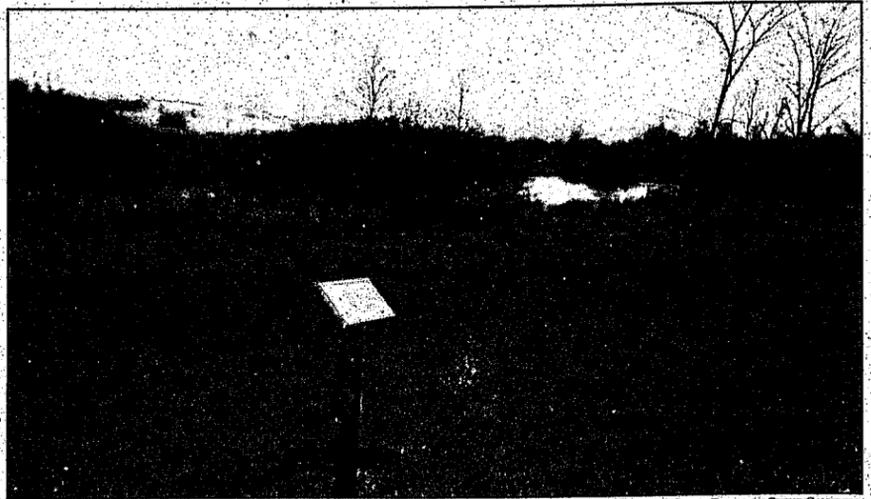
That would bring the entire millage issue before the voters in 2005 when the existing 18 mills expire.

Here's how the proposal will read on the ballot:

Voters within the Clarkston Community Schools boundaries will select either yes or no to cast their vote of an additional non-homestead operating millage in the annual school election Monday, June 12. This millage will allow the school district to continue to levy 18 mills against non-homestead and non-qualified agricultural property.

This is how the question will read:
"Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property,

exempting therefrom homestead and qualified agricultural property as defined by law, in Clarkston Community Schools, Oakland County, Michigan, be increased by 3 mills (\$3 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of three years, 2000, 2001, 2002, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in calendar year 2000 is approximately \$400,000 (this millage is to restore the 'Headlee' reduction)?



Scenic: Springfield Township officials and many residents say that a water park at Indian Springs Metropark would adversely affect its natural beauty.

Water park from page A1

tion," Strole added. She explained the township filed a lawsuit in spring 1996. It asked for a declaratory judgment since it believed HCMA was about to begin construction on the project, even though it wasn't consistent with the township's master plan.

"We have nothing against a

water park," Strole said. "It's about legitimate land use and authority."

The second issue challenged the township's zoning classification, saying it had no constitutionally acceptable justification for it.

"The court rejected this argument, finding that the ordinance advanced a reasonable governmental interest and did not arbitrarily and capriciously exclude legitimate land uses," Grant said in her judgment.

The conflict between HCMA and Springfield Township began almost a decade ago when the property was originally zoned recreation. The township rezoned the property to resource conservation in 1990. The Authority thought the park off White Lake Road would make a great place for a family water park.

Township officials and many residents disagreed, saying that went against how the property was zoned. The township wanted to keep it as a passive area. The 2,250-acre park has a golf course but also includes the Timberland Sanctuary.

In 1995, the township overhauled zoning in the entire township. Approximately 900 parcels were rezoned, Strole said.

The Metro Authority disputed the resource conservation zoning. In addition, it claimed as a property owner, it was not given proper notice about the rezoning back in 1990. It also said since it is a five-county entity, it is not bound by local zoning ordi-

nances. When HCMA went ahead with preliminary plans for the water park, the township asked the Circuit Court to intervene. Strole added that the water park was too intense a use even for the original recreation zoning.

Grant ruled earlier that the Authority did have to abide by local zoning regulations, Need said. The court also has said that HCMA was entitled to personal notification of the zoning change the first time around.

However, Need added that the township-wide rezoning in 1995 would have changed it anyway and individual notification was not necessary for that process to take place.

The fight between HCMA and the township has consumed an enormous amount of time, energy, emotion and money on both sides for almost 10 years.

Since 1992 when HCMA did its preliminary plans for the water park, it has spent \$900,000 on engineering studies and other plans for it, HCMA controller Dave Wahl said in an interview before the judge's ruling. In addition, \$285,000 has been spent in legal fees over the past five years, he said, since the Authority began defending itself in the lawsuit brought on by the township in 1996.

Wahl added that some of the preliminary work like the configuration for the water park might be transferable to other park sites if the need arose. He said the legal defense has been important because what happens at Indian Springs could affect development at other parks.

"It was important enough to stick with it," he said.

All the money came from the Authority's general fund. Money for that fund comes from a 0.22-mill tax levy on residents of the five counties served by the Authority.

Springfield Township has spent less than \$50,000 in legal fees, Strole said.

Staff writer Susan B. Tauber contributed to this story.

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Charter Township of Springfield
NOTICE
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD will hold a meeting on Thursday, May 18, 2000 beginning at 8:00 P.M. at the Springfield Township Hall, 650 Broadway, Davisburg, Michigan, to hear the appeal of:
UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
1. Request by Springfield Investors, L.L.C. 5110 Williams Lake Rd., Waterford, MI 48390 to approve the use of two (2) parcels of land P.I. #07-11-351-005 and P.I. #07-11-351-006, for a gas station, convenience store, and car wash pursuant to a site plan submitted by the petitioner and subject to certain expressed conditions.
NEW BUSINESS:
1. Richard and Charie Stapp, 8925 Rattaloe Lake Road, Clarkston, MI 48348 to create a 6.005 +/- acre parcel with an access strip of approximately 700 feet, rather than the required 660 ft. by 20, rather than the required 150 feet of road frontage. Parcel Address: Same as above. P.I. #07-11-101-002.
2. Mark Yovich, 6926 Dearhill Drive, Clarkston, MI 48346 to create a 5.811 +/- acre parcel with an access strip of approximately 608 feet by 30 rather than the required 150 feet of road frontage. Parcel Address: 10155 Davisburg Rd., Clarkston, MI P.I. 07-16-200-009.
3. Wanda Rothermel, 10685 Dixie Hwy, Davisburg, MI 48350 to allow construction of a building with a rear yard setback of 20 ft. rather than the required fifty (50) ft. and to interpret that the clear vision corner area can be used in determining the minimum frontage on the principal street. Parcel Address: 10645 Dixie Hwy., Davisburg, MI 48350. P.I. #07-03-177-007.
4. Joseph Dubre, 6680 Ridgewood, Clarkston, MI 48346, to allow construction of a building with a rear yard setback of 15 ft. rather than the required thirty-five (35) ft. Parcel Address: Same as above. P.I. #07-23-300-011.
5. All Points Construction, Inc., 360 E. Maple, Troy, MI 48063 to allow the construction of a home with a front yard setback of 14 ft. rather than the required 50 ft. and a 13 ft. side yard setback rather than the required 15 ft. In addition, a 47 ft. (to the north), a 36 ft. (to the west) and a 30 ft. (to the east) setback from a body of water rather than the required 50. Parcel Address: 9700 Susin Lane, Clarkston, MI 48348. P.I. #07-11-378-002.
6. Dr. Scott VanderVeen D.D.S., 7650 Dixie Hwy., Suite 120, Clarkston, MI 48346 to allow the construction of a parking lot within the front Greenbelt Buffer at 38 ft. rather than the required setback of 50 ft. from Dixie Hwy. to allow the construction of a parking lot within the front Greenbelt Buffer at 39 ft. rather than the required setback of 50 ft. off M.E. Cad Bly and to allow the construction of a building with a front yard setback of 43 ft. rather than the required 50 ft. Parcel Address: 7658 M E Cad Blvd., Clarkston, MI 48348. P.I. #07-14-478-032.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT the maps and variance requests may be examined at the Springfield Township Clerk's Office, 650 Broadway, Davisburg, Michigan, during regular office hours Monday through Friday until the date of the meeting. Anyone needing a special accommodation at the meeting should contact the Township Clerk at least two (2) business days in advance of the meeting.
NANCY STROLE, Clerk
Charter Township of Springfield
Publish: May 4, 2000

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Restaurateur seeks relief from parking woes

BY SUSAN B. TAUBER
STAFF WRITER

stauber@oe.homecomm.net

The parking monster in downtown Clarkston has reared its head once again.

The Clarkston Union Bar and Kitchen at 54 S. Main St. doesn't have enough parking for its dining customers, according to owner Curt Catalo. The problem is especially acute at night.

"This is a problem I hoped to have when I first opened the business," Catalo said. "I've spent a lot of time to have this happen."

But he's aware that the parking issue is causing another problem — possible conflicts with neighboring businesses.

One example is the parking problem with Prudential Chamberlain-Stiehl Realtors building at 32 S. Main St., directly next to the Union.

The building owns its own parking lot, which is private property.

Prudential office manager Beverly Bartus said the businesses in that building use the parking lot during day and evening hours. It's had signs stating its parking lot was only for clients and employees of its buildings. But an abundance of business at the Union restaurant also meant an overflow of cars parking at the Prudential lot.

Discussions between the two businesses over the past few years didn't seem to solve the parking problem, according to Bartus. So the property owner approached Clarkston Police and gave the department permission to enter the lot for the purpose of enforcing parking by issuing tickets.

The police issued the first of the parking tickets March 13, according to Clarkston Police



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

A warning:
This sign has helped keep downtown patrons from parking in this private lot.

Chief Paul Ormiston. The department has issued at least 50 tickets since then.

Catalo came before the Clarkston City Council last week to ask it to void the parking tickets given to its customers. Catalo said he's collected at least 30 of them, with the intent of paying them himself if they aren't voided.

He told the council he considers the tickets a deterrent to customers who want to come into Clarkston to shop and dine.

"In fact, we believe there is more that the city can do than just cancel these tickets," he added. "There is no question that parking is a linchpin, both long-term and short-term, for the viability of business in downtown Clarkston. In the short term, we believe the solution is cooperation," he wrote in his petition to the city. "I think we are just a very visible example of Clark-

ston's parking problems." Catalo had a sign made for the Prudential parking lot stating that it's a 24-hour private lot.

"The sign works well. It doesn't send people off with a bad attitude," he said.

Bartus said she doesn't understand why there's an issue between the Prudential building and the Union restaurant.

"I don't think there should be any issue," she said. "The lot belongs to this building. It's a business lot that our business people and clients use day and night."

Union customers were permitted to use the Prudential parking lot on Easter Sunday when the restaurant had a special brunch.

Ormiston said he realizes the restaurant needs parking, just as other businesses downtown do, but there is the legal issue at

hand. "That lot is a private parking lot. It's not a public lot," he said.

"They've (Prudential) been talking to me for about three years about ways to resolve the parking problem at their lot. They've tried other options, such as fliers, and the tickets, along with the sign, are the only ones that seem to be working."

As far as Catalo's request to void the tickets, Ormiston said he can't do that.

"It's improper," the chief said. "That's a criminal justice matter. The person who received the violation has a right to contest it if he or she doesn't feel the ticket is legal or fair or whatever."

"This (parking problem) isn't an easy matter," the chief added.

The city council will address the issue again at its May 8 meeting.

POLICE NEWS

Following are some incidents recently reported to police and fire agencies in Independence and Springfield townships and the city of the Village of Clarkston.

Independence Police

Malicious destruction of property

On April 30, someone spray-painted a garage, a child's slide and a trampoline at a home in the 7300 block of Deerview Court.

Minors in possession

On April 29, police officers ticketed several teenagers from Clarkston, Davisburg and White Lake for minors in possession of alcohol at a party in the 5300 block of Parview. Two Clarkston males at the party, ages 19 and 18, were arrested for assaulting a police officer and for resisting and obstructing arrest. The 18-year-old male had an additional charge of possession of marijuana. Police were called to the residence due to a fight in the driveway.

Larceny from a building

On April 28, a 17-year-old Clarkston male received appearance tickets for trying to remove a bottle of liquor from the Farmer Jack store at 6555 Sashabaw Road without paying for it and for being a minor in possession of alcohol.

Operating under the influence of liquor

On April 28, a 41-year-old Lapeer man received tickets for driving with a suspended license, for careless driving, for operating a vehicle under the influence of liquor and for unlawful body alcohol levels. The man was driving a vehicle on northbound I-75 at Sashabaw Road when he swerved, causing his van to roll over in the median. A witness from Ortonville saw the man leave the scene. The witness called 911 and followed the Lapeer man to a gas station on Sashabaw Road, where police apprehended him. The man scored 0.18 on a preliminary blood alcohol test. The legal limit is 0.10.

Larceny from a vehicle

On April 27, the owner of a vehicle parked in the 8400 block of Allen Road reported someone entered the vehicle and removed 150 compact discs, an AM-FM compact disc car radio, an amplifier and speakers.

Traffic accidents

On April 27, a 43-year-old man from Clarkston turned into a gas station at 6889 Sashabaw Road and collided with a second vehicle driven by a 65-year-old man from Highland. The collision caused the second

car to collide with vehicles driven by a 40-year-old Howell man and a 38-year-old Oxford man. The Highland driver and his occupant were taken by ambulance to Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac. The man was treated for minor injuries and released. The passenger remained in the hospital as of Tuesday morning in fair condition. The Clarkston man was issued a ticket for failure to yield to a vehicle.

On April 27, a 25-year-old man was driving a vehicle south on Timber Ridge Trail when he passed out, due to a possible medical condition, according to the police report. He drove left of the center line and struck a second vehicle, driven by a 33-year-old Clarkston man. Neither driver required medical attention.

Springfield Township

Larceny from automobile

On April 30, someone removed speakers from a truck belonging to a Waterford man. He was visiting a friend on Blue Water Drive at the time.

Malicious destruction of property

On May 1, police received a report that someone broke a window of the Springfield Township Fire Department at 10280 Rattalee Lake Road sometime over the weekend.

On April 29, someone damaged the front windshield, passenger side window and driver's side door of a vehicle parked in the 9700 block of Davisburg Road. The person also caused damage to a pole barn door and a bathroom door at the residence. Police have a suspect.

Clarkston Police

No major reports.

Independence Fire

Fire calls

Independence Township Fire Department responded to 19 calls from April 27-30. These included eight medical calls, four personal-injury calls, and one each for a building fire, lock out, vehicle fire, grass fire, fuel spill, complaint and an automatic alarm check.

Crash victim 'stable'

Jared Kinkle, who was injured in an accident April 24 on White Lake Road, remained in POH Medical Center in Pontiac as of Tuesday afternoon. His condition had been upgraded to stable from critical.

Kinkle, 18, is formerly from Clarkston and Lake Orion. He was a passenger in the rear seat of a vehicle driven by Erika Stanisha-Neff, 17, last Monday afternoon. The car swerved across the center line, colliding with a pick-up truck driven by a 36-year-old Madison Heights man.

Stanisha-Neff of Goodrich and Aaron Suddeth, 15, formerly from Clarkston, both died in the crash. Suddeth was sitting in the front passenger seat of the car.

The cause of the accident remains under investigation.

Community Awards MICHIGAN WEEK

Send in your nomination for the following categories:

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Individual who has given of their time, energy and talents to improve our community. Qualifying activities do not have to be exclusively volunteer in nature.

YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR

Young person (18 and younger) who has given of time, energy and talents to improve our community. Qualifying activities do not have to be exclusively volunteer in nature.

ADULT-YOUTH VOLUNTEER

Individual who has given of their time, energy and talents, in a volunteer capacity, to help our area young people. This award seeks to recognize individuals who provide ongoing volunteer efforts for the young in our community. Only volunteer activities will qualify for this category.

BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

Local business person who has contributed to the community making this a better community in which to live and do business. Qualifying activities do not have to be exclusively volunteer in nature.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION

Individual, group or business that has made a significant contribution towards the preservation of our historical community. Qualifying activities do not have to be exclusively volunteer in nature.

Please check only one category. Use separate forms for each nomination. Previous winners in an award category may not be nominated for the same effort for which they have already been recognized.

NAME OF PERSON BEING NOMINATED:

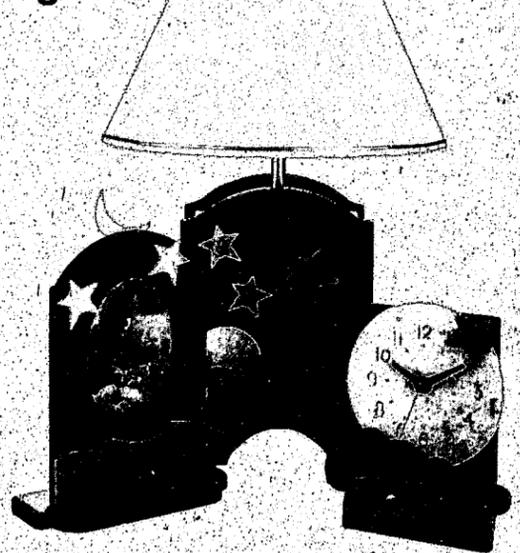
Phone number and address of nominee: _____

Why does this nominee deserve this award? (If you prefer, you may attach a letter of recommendation not to exceed one page.)

Nomination submitted by: _____

Please include your phone number and address so we can contact you after the award selections are completed: _____

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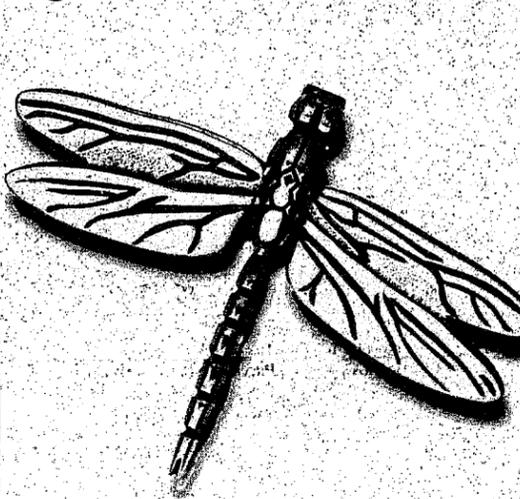
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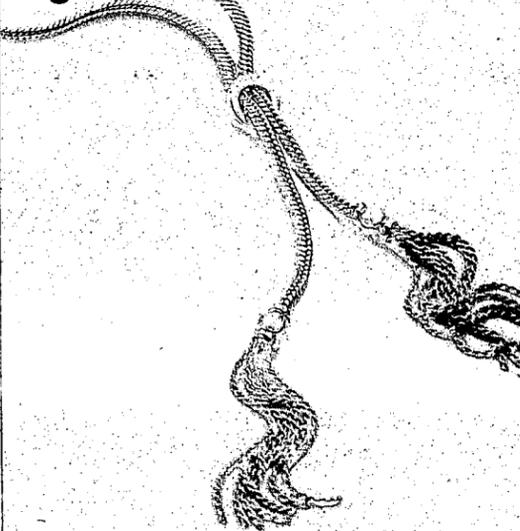
Make a grand entrance. Distinctive dragonfly door knocker from Michael Healy is signed by the artist. Handpolished, tarnish resistant brass and bronze. Made in the USA. \$120. In Gifts.

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Clarkston man helps keep sport of horseshoes alive

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY
STAFF WRITER
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It's a sport you would think had gone the way of Sunday picnics and railroads. A sport that seems hopelessly low-tech, old-fashioned and absent any of the razzle-dazzle now so much a part of modern athletics.

But horseshoe pitching is alive and well, thank you very much, at the Lake Orion Horseshoe Club, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year.

Club president Marc Brown, who's been a member for about 15 years, thinks the club's longevity is at least partly because the sport allows pitchers (as the players are called) to walk away from their cell phones and pagers and get back to nature.

"They leave it home," Brown said. "It's very relaxing for a night. You can just chill out. It's really a lot of fun."

Horseshoes is an ancient sport. According to the Encyclopedia Britannica (www.britannica.com), the sport is believed to have derived from an earlier game called quoits, in

'The competition is great. You always are competing against people as good as or better than you; there's no 'gimmies' . . . You get little things going between each other.'

Doug Bailey
—Clarkston horseshoe pitcher

which rings were tossed at a stake.

Horseshoes is believed to have begun when Roman soldiers occupying Britain in the first through fifth centuries began using horseshoes in the absence of quoits. (The encyclopedia goes on to say, however, that the existence of iron horseshoes is not documented to that time period.)

The game was brought to the new world by English colonists and is now most popular in the U.S. and Canada. In the U.S. it has been governed since 1926 by the National Horseshoe Pitching Association of America.

The Lake Orion Horseshoe Club, the oldest in the state, was founded in 1960 in the Bunny Run Subdivision. Three or four residents got it started, none of whom is still in the club.

In 1965 the club received permission from the Village of Lake Orion to develop some land next to Children's Park for horseshoe courts. The village still owns the land, which borders Paint Creek and is leased to the club. The club maintains it, with members taking turns mowing the grass and taking care of 15 regulation clay courts.

The Lake Orion club is affiliated with the state and national horseshoe pitchers associations and is one of 18 clubs in Michigan. In fact, according to Brown, the 20-year-old Michigan/Ontario Friendship Tournament got started in Lake Orion.

Brown said the club has about 35 members ranging in age from 9 to 90, men and women, boys and girls. Men pitch from 40 feet away, women generally 30 feet.

"It is a great sport. You can play this from the time you're an early teen for the rest of your

life. There's not too many sports you can do that."

Most of the members were first exposed to the sport of horseshoes through older family members and backyard games. That was true for Brown, who said his grandfather used to play.

"One day, after moving to Lake Orion, "I just happened to drive by and saw guys pitching, and I've been here ever since," he said. His wife also pitches on the team.

Judy Narducci saw an article in a newspaper a year ago and joined "because I love playing horseshoes and I grew up playing with my dad and three brothers," she said. She played on clubs in Dearborn and Berkley before moving to Lake Orion, where she's about to begin her second year on the club.

Narducci is one of the rare women who pitches from 40 feet. She does so because that's how she learned, even though it wasn't on regulation clay courts.

"So when I did start (on clay) I had to teach myself to throw a little bit," she said. "I think a lot of the guys here were a little surprised to see me throw from 40 feet."

Members come from all over, including Clarkston, Oxford, and Auburn Hills. Some participate regularly in tournaments, some, like Narducci, don't go that route at all.

Doug Bailey of Clarkston, a retiree from General Motors, placed second in the state last year. He and his wife travel to tournaments just about every other weekend and he is considered the club's best pitcher.

Bailey enjoys tournament play. "The competition is great," he said. "You always are competing against people as good as or better than you; there's no 'gimmies' . . . You get little things going between each other."

Like Narducci, Bailey has belonged to other clubs over the years. "This club here is just so much better than any I've ever been in," he said. "There's a lot of nice people to talk to and be friendly with, and the competition."

"It's not real serious, you know. The Wolverine tournaments are real serious. Here, you



STAFF PHOTO BY LAWRENCE L. MCKEE

The pitch: Doug Bailey of Clarkston, who's been pitching horseshoes for 29 years, just missed being crowned state champion last year.

can play around and nobody takes the competition too seriously."

The club's current success hasn't always been assured. Brown said the club nearly died off a few years back. "It got down to a dozen members," he said, but has been increasing in membership in recent years. Bailey credits Brown and his wife Lori, who

live nearby and have "adopted" the club, in Bailey's words. All league play is handicapped, like bowling. The season runs May through August; play begins at 7 p.m. on Tuesday nights. Club dues are \$30 a year and guys can play for \$4 per night.

For more information about the club, call 693-0208.

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6-10	Furniture Polish	Turpentine	Metal Polish
11-15	Oven Cleaner	Primer	Fuel Oil
16-20	Scouring Powders	Varnish	Kerosene
21-25	Spot & Stain Removers	Glue	Engine Cleaners
26-30	Chlorine Bleach	Wood Stain & Preservative	Gasoline
over 30	Toilet Cleaners	Photographic Chemicals	GARDEN
	Grout sealer/primer	Household Batteries	Bug Spray
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Engler pledges \$70 million to solve 7 Oakland traffic bottlenecks

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER
pmurphy@oe.homecomm.net

The news from Gov. John Engler was excellent: Michigan will spend \$70 million on seven traffic bottlenecks in Oakland County.

"All our begging for seven years didn't fall on deaf ears," a jubilant L. Brooks Patterson, county executive, said following Monday's press conference at which Engler talked about how "Build Michigan III" projects will ease traffic congestion and help Oakland County sustain its bustling economy.

The road improvements will also benefit property owners, according to a real estate appraiser who listened intently as Engler outlined the improvements.

"The better the road system, the higher the property values," said Luke Clyburn, who owns a real estate appraisal service in White Lake Township.

But there are some blind spots in the governor's package, according to State Sen. Gary Peters (D-Bloomfield Township) who said he is knowledgeable about Build Michigan III and some of the difficulties it may have winning approval in the Legislature.

"I didn't attend the press conference," Peters said Tuesday. "But I know what's in the proposal (Build Michigan III), and it may have difficulty getting legislative approval."

Peters is particularly concerned about Engler's plan to go into debt to finance road projects at a time when the state has good revenues and a surplus. The Democrat was referring to the fact that \$100 million of the \$900 million total will come from the state's general fund and \$800 will be raised from the sale of bonds.

"Other states are using their money to improve roads and pay down their debt," said Peters, "but Engler wants to raise the money by selling bonds that will have to be paid off."

"We should use more of the state surplus to pay for road improvements," he insisted.

Peters was also disappointed that Oakland — whose residents, he said, pay a disproportionate share of taxes compared to state benefits received — will

Emphasis put on I-75 corridor

Oakland County road improvements included in Build Michigan III projects outlined by Gov. John Engler Monday include:

- Widening local roadways in Pontiac with added turn lanes to support access to the General Motors Powertrain facility where 500 new jobs are to be created.
- Extending Centerpoint Parkway, widening Bradford Street and adding a turn lane on Opdyke Road to support expansion at the GM Truck Center in the Opdyke/1-75 area.
- Widening and constructing local roads in support of expansion of GM's Proving Ground in Milford.
- Widening Grand River and adding left turn lanes to improve access to the Novi Expo Center.
- Interchange improvements at I-75 and Square Lake Road.
- Relocating the intersection of Williams Lake Road at M-59.
- Constructing a local road to serve the new interchange at Adams Road and M-59.
- Improvements on M-59 between Crooks and Ryan roads.

Build Michigan III includes improvements along I-75 between I-696 and M-59. But specific improvements — such as widening the interstate — won't be determined until completion of a design study, according to Susan M. Shafer, the governor's deputy press secretary.

get such a meager percentage of the \$900 million project.

One of the dozens of Republicans attending the press conference privately characterized the \$70 million as "chump change" when compared to the state's overall spending for roads. "But don't quote me on that," he added hastily, "you'll get me in trouble."

But Peters insisted voters should be aware Oakland is not getting what he believes is the county's fair share. "We're happy to be getting \$70 million," he said. "But we (Oakland taxpayers) are still far behind what other areas of the state are getting in terms of return on our tax dollars."

Peters was also concerned the lion's share of Oakland's \$70 million share will go to roads and highways controlled by the state. Little, if any, will go to the road commission for improvements on local roads.

"Much of the congestion is on the Mile Roads and other local roads," said Peters. "Until we change the basic formula (for Public Act 51, under which road funds are distributed), Oakland County will continue to get short-changed."

Clarkston businessman Rudy E. Lozano, chair of the Road Commission for Oakland County, said he is "pleasantly surprised" by the governor's plan to earmark \$70 million for area. "We had talked to the governor about these problems," he said,

"but we had no advance notice this was coming down."

"It does show, however, the governor listens to our state representatives," Lozano said, referring to Robert Gosselin (R-Troy) and Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) who lobbied on behalf of improvements at the intersections of I-75 and Adams and Williams Lake Road and M-59, respectively.

Engler said his program addresses the "worst roads first," while making them safer and more convenient for motorists.

"The governor also mentioned 'congestion' as a factor in determining what road problems would be addressed," said State Rep. John Pappageorge (R-Troy), "that hadn't been part of the mix before."

As it has on previous occasions, Engler's visit to Oakland County triggered speculation about possible political motives — on behalf of presidential candidates George W. Bush, incumbent U.S. Sen. Spencer Abraham or the dozens of elected officials attending the press conference.

Peters referred to it as "blatant election year politics."

But Republicans had their suspicions as well, although they didn't want to be quoted. "After what happened in February," said one wag, referring to the state presidential primary when challenger John McCain defeated Bush despite Engler's support, "Engler has to deliver Michigan for Bush."



STAFF PHOTO BY DONNA MCLAUGHLIN

Political trail? Michigan Gov. John Engler uses a map of I-75 as he outlines his "Build Michigan III" package of road proposals at a press conference Monday. Oakland County will receive a \$70 million share of the projects.

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New farmers' market opens

BY MARY IACOBELLI
STAFF WRITER
miacobelli@oe.homecomm.net

The long-awaited Downtown Rochester Farmers Market is now open for visitors Saturdays at East Third and Water streets.

"We're doing quite well, especially for our first year," said Janet Manning, director of Rochester's Downtown Development Authority.

The market, open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., is on the southwest corner of East Third and Water streets in downtown Rochester, and will run through October.

The DDA has already secured vendors for 20 of the 40 spots in the market.

"To begin with, we have a lot of vendors doing flowers," Manning said. "Right before Mother's Day, it's just the per-

fect thing." Bedding plants, fresh and dried flowers, day lilies, and perennials and annuals will be available on opening day, some in handmade grapevine baskets or terra cotta pots.

In addition to flowers, vendors will offer some early spring vegetables, salad dressings and jams, baked goods, and fresh eggs and herbs.

"We're really pleased with our variety, especially this early in the season," Manning said.

Vendors will come from several areas, including Shelby Township, Lapeer, Metamora, Leonard, and Rochester and Rochester Hills.

Manning said as the growing season progresses, customers can expect to see an increasing amount of fresh vegetables,

fruits and berries.

"We'll have everything from asparagus in early spring to sweet corn and pumpkins in the fall," she said.

Banners and signs will be posted to direct market shoppers to the location.

With the lure of fresh and handmade products, the open air atmosphere, plenty of parking within walking distance, and positive feedback from the community, Manning is expecting a healthy turnout.

"We're getting a lot of good response from the community," said Manning. "Every place we go and mention it they say, 'It's about time.'"

For more information on the Downtown Rochester Farmers Market, either as a customer or vendor, contact Janet Manning at (248) 656-0060.

Group invites families to network

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER
sslaughter@oe.homecomm.net

In this hectic world, families are often far from older relatives and even distant from next-door neighbors.

A feeling of isolation can come quickly, but it doesn't have to be so, says Maria Rotondo Mark, founder of WEunite.

The Independence Township business owner and others in the group are planning an evening of visiting for families in the Clarkston area. The gathering is dubbed "What Is Family" and is part social event and part fundraiser. It's a chance for all sorts of families to get together and network. It's a way to know they are not alone and have common problems or family situations, Rotondo Mark said.

The event is from 4-9 p.m. May 21 in Deer Lake Athletic Club, 6167 White Lake Road. Rotondo Mark said people from Clarkston and surrounding communities including Springfield,

Waterford and Ortonville are encouraged to attend. Tickets are \$15 per family or \$5 for individuals.

WEunite is a non-profit, non-denominational group that encourages interaction between senior citizens and youth as a way to strengthen the entire community. The group meets monthly at St. Daniel's Catholic Church. Rotondo Mark said normally around 30 people attend, but the group is more an idea than a club.

She said it focuses on young people and elderly people. Both generations often feel segregated. At the same time the age group in between is often overwhelmed with responsibilities. Many times they are trying to raise children, hold down a job and care for aging parents all at once.

The idea for the "What is Family" night came about to try to connect families so they can form a support system.

"In the world today, there is a lack of understanding of where

we're going or how fast we're going," Rotondo Mark said.

The evening will offer raffles and refreshments. More importantly, Rotondo Mark said, is that several families will talk about how they keep it all together in "today's hectic, mechanized, digitized and depersonalized society."

Visiting with other families also will be a focal point for the evening. She said families come in all shapes and sizes from traditional two-parent households to grandparents raising grandchildren and everything in between. She said when both parents work, it is often hard to connect with neighbors, for example.

As an added treat, artwork from Clarkston High School students will be on display that evening.

People should make reservations by May 14 by calling Rotondo Mark at 623-9348 or Victoria at 625-4624.

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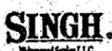
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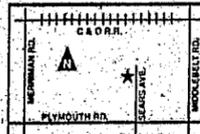
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The Food Bank of Oakland County will co-sponsor its annual Postal Food Drive with the Macomb Food Program Saturday, May 13. Residents from both counties are asked to place a bag of canned or boxed food near their mailboxes that day for postal carriers to pick up.

Last year the Food Bank of Oakland County gathered 212,000 pounds of food during the Postal Drive. The Macomb County Food Bank amassed 152,000 pounds.

Daniel Florowski, president of the Michigan State Association of Letter Carriers, said, "It is our pleasure to keep this food drive going each year. It has become our personal way to make a difference for all hungry people in the world."

The community is invited to attend the press conference at the Food Bank of Oakland County, 120 E. Columbia, Pontiac, between Baldwin and Joslyn Roads, from 9-10 a.m. Monday, May 8.

The Food Bank of Oakland County is one of 189 Second Harvest National Food Banks. It serves all of Oakland County's emergency food providers.

OCC'S 'COLLEGE FOR KIDS'

College for Kids, a series of two-week programs for seventh through 10th graders, will be offered at Oakland Community College's Highland Lakes Campus this summer.

Presented in cooperation with Waterford Schools, the series presents courses in such topics as studio art, sports and exercise sciences, and the computer sciences. Classes are team-taught by Waterford Schools and OCC faculty members.

Two separate programs are offered for students entering the seventh or eighth grades this fall:

- **Studio Art** enables students to hone their skills in the OCC art studio. The program runs July 17-28.

- **Sports and Exercise Science** enables students to practice a variety of sport and physical activities. Students will also learn the basics of exercise science, fitness and nutrition. The program runs Aug. 7-18.

Tuition is \$200, including general materials and all lunches. The application deadline is June 19.

Other programs are offered for students entering the ninth or 10th grades this fall:

- **Computer Science** provides hands-on experience including Internet use, web page design, basics of programming and other software applications. The program runs July 17-28.

- **Studio Art** enables students to explore the question "what is art?" practice various art forms and develop skills in the OCC art studio. The program runs Aug. 7-18.

Tuition is \$220, including general materials and all lunches. Participation may count for summer school elective credit; participants should check with their high school counselors for details. Application deadline is June 19.

For further information and a program brochure, call (248) 942-3242. The Highland Lakes Campus is at 7350 Cooley Lake Road in Waterford.

Organizers ready to fill buses for mom's march on Washington

BY JUDITH DONER BERNE
SPECIAL WRITER

"We all feel pretty strongly about gun safety legislation, but frankly I've never seen a handgun or a trigger lock," Barb Case acknowledged to about 60 Oakland and Wayne organizers and supporters of the Million Mom March for sensible gun laws.

The Plymouth resident was introducing Wayne County Sheriff Robert Ficano, who obliged by opening up a box full of gun locks so the audience could not only see one but take it home.

Ficano says his department started giving them away more than eight years ago and has probably gone through more than 20,000. But, he said, the largest number of requests — 2,000 — came in the wake of the killing of a 6-year-old Kayla Roland by a 6-year-old in Flint earlier this year.

He called on the Moms to stay with the sane gun law issue after the Million Moms March.

"The history of the whole issue has been very difficult," he said. "Things never happen in great strides. Things happen incrementally. The key is persistence. Your opponents will count on you going back to your normal lives."

"All the coordinators are in it at least through the November elections," answered Lori Spillane, a Troy resident.

Ficano didn't have all the answers at the last organizational meeting before the national Million Moms March in Washington, D.C., and the local spin-off in Lansing. Both are scheduled for May 14 — Mother's Day.

But he gave those who gathered in a community room, made available by Busch's Food Store in Livonia, a lot to think about.

"There are more guns in metro Detroit than people," Ficano told his audience. "That really stopped me," said Amy Pines a Birmingham resident who had not heard that statistic.

What also scared her was his take on concealed weapons proposals that the state Legislature is ready to re-address. The legislation, according to Ficano, will basically allow anyone to carry a concealed weapon who is not a felon or mentally unstable.

That's considered a "Shall Issue" stance.

A major problem is that it is already difficult to determine applicants who might be mentally unstable, because those records are usually sealed. Ficano says county gun boards have better access to that information.

Ficano suggested that movement can be made with hunters, manufacturers and Congress.

"Most hunters think the NRA has gone too far, he said. "Gun manufacturers don't have the kind of wealth that big tobacco, for example, has. They're more willing to come to the table." And, "Hopefully legislators will listen to their mothers rather than the NRA," Ficano said.

An estimated 1,000 people from Oakland and Wayne counties will make the trip to Washington, reports Spillane, who is organizing bus transportation.

Buses will leave from the Cosco store at Square Lake and Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills and from the parking lot at the Ferndale Baptist Church, both at 6 a.m. May 13. They will head for Busch's, 6 Mile and Newburgh, loading there at 6:30 a.m.

Rochester area

Buses will leave for Lansing from the John Fisher Chapel at Oakland University, Walton east of Squirrel, at approximately 11:30 a.m. May 14, according to Susan Masiak who is organizing the Rochester area. That bus will make a stop at Denny's Restaurant in front of the Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi to pick up west side Oakland County residents at about 12:30 p.m.

Spillane herself is flying to D.C. She urged everyone to make signs they can carry with them. "I'm taking mine — Love Kids Not Guns — on the plane."

Moms marching from Michigan can attend a party at the Westin Grand Hotel 7:30-10 p.m. Saturday, May 13. Expect to pay \$5 at the door. Michigan's senators and members of Congress are expected.

Sunday is an all-day affair beginning at 9 a.m. with activities aimed at children, followed



One in a million: Lori Spillane is helping to organize the Oakland County effort

by an Interfaith Service (10 a.m.) and a Stroller March (11 a.m.) toward the National Mall, and Moms with small children will lead the way.

The heart of the march is noon to 3 p.m. Comedienne Rosie O'Donnell is emcee. Celebrities scheduled to appear include Roseanne Cash, Patty Smythe, Emmylou Harris, Melissa Manchester, John McEnroe and Raffi and the Ted Christopher Band.

The Michigan contingent will gather at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Smithsonian Castle near 10th Street. At 2 p.m. marchers from Washington and Lansing will stand together in support of "common-sense gun legislation," including licensing and registering of all handguns, requiring gun safety locks and limiting purchases to one handgun per month.

Case reminds people who are going but may have not formally registered for the march to do so at www.millionmomsmarch.com or by calling (888) 989-MOMS. It's important so the Washington, D.C. Police can know how many officers to assign and also for the final count on how many people attend.

For local information about the march, call 248-443-5307, or e-mail Mimmomarch@yahoo.com

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- 9:00 a.m. Status Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Marketing Meeting
- 11:00 a.m. Committee Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Parent-Teacher Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 2:00 p.m. Technology Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. Finance Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. Subcommittee Meeting
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THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2000

Courage, honesty Kids know what leaders need

Adults often debate the qualities a person in power needs to have to be a good leader.

For example, some say the choices a leader or politician makes in his or her personal life has no impact on the job he or she performs.

Others argue that someone who makes improper or immoral choices in their personal lives will make improper or immoral decisions in their public positions. They say character matters.

■ 'I do not think a good leader would ever tell lies.'

Sixth-grader
Clarkston Middle
School

Perhaps we adults can learn something from what they wrote.

Some folks at GM certainly think so. The wife of the students' teacher, Howard Andress, took excerpts from what the students wrote to GM, where she works. Her coworkers liked what they read so well that they made copies to circulate around the giant automaker.

Penny Shanks, executive director of the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce, whose husband also works for GM, was equally impressed with the students' thoughts. She shared them with the Clarkston Eccentric in the hopes more people could read them.

Andress had the students describe the characteristics a leader needs after reading a couple of novels. They agreed a leader needs courage.

"Leaders have to be brave when something has gone wrong," one wrote.

"Courageous also means to be strong, not muscle strong but mind strong," wrote another.

What else should a leader be? Read on: "Most of all to be a good leader you must be trustworthy."

"I do not think a good leader would ever tell lies."

"What makes a good leader is someone who cares."

"Most of all a leader cares about whom they're leading."

"A good leader is someone you can trust and who supplies inspiration. The worst thing about leadership is it eventually ends. The best thing is that it is perpetual in spirit."

Sure, it's party time! But let's not invite the booze

The weather's getting warmer, the buds are on the trees... and, oh yes, there are a couple of additional signs that spring is truly here.

■ A newspaper story recently on how to cut down on the high cost of high school prom-going.

■ A telephone call came from an Oakland County parent who wanted to know about publicity for the all-night parties, which are now as much a part of the high school graduation scene as caps and gowns.

If this is early May, high school proms and graduation parties aren't far down the road. No, indeed, 'tis almost the season for these annual "rights of passage."

Very soon, newspaper stories will appear (if they haven't already) about how the fancy hotels in our area won't be allowing young revelers to party down in their establishments after the prom or graduation. It's getting to be a real perennial, that story.

One of the more trendy hostilities in Oakland County started getting tough several springs ago, the managers pledging not to rent to teens on a toot. It seems to have dawned on the hoteliers that they can be held responsible if alcohol or drugs are consumed on their property.

And that brings us to the crux of the teen party problem — drugs and alcohol, especially the booze.

Now, we'd like to think that things are changing for the better on the prom and party scene, and maybe they are. Long and always, we applaud the parents who plan and carry out the all-night parties for school seniors.

■ We'd like to hear parents say that it's not OK for their teens to drink. It's not OK at home with the parents, in a restaurant, at a post-prom party or in the back seat of a limousine on the way to the prom.

We understand that tons of work go into these affairs. The booze-and-dope-free shindigs seem to have caught on big with the graduates. But let's be honest about it: There's often some serious drinking going on at these less-than-official parties. Over the years, we've been shocked to learn that alcohol is consumed with the full consent of the parents and other so-called responsible adults.

We'd like to hear parents say that it's not OK for their teens to drink. It's not OK at home with the parents, in a restaurant, at a post-prom party or in the back seat of a limousine on the way to the prom.

If that attitude seems a bit on the Grinchy side, teens and their parents should remember what an Oakland County police officer told a group of high school students one spring a few years back.

"Not a graduation has gone by since I've been with the department that I haven't buried an 18-year-old," the officer said. "I don't want to scrape any of you off the street this year."

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:

Do you agree with the jury's verdict of guilty in the Sheriff Hackel case?



"Yeah... I didn't follow it that close to get all the details."

Nancy Huffman
Independence
Township



"Yes. I felt he was guilty when his lawyer asked her why she didn't report it fight away and she said, 'He's the law. Who was I supposed to report it to?'"

Ersella Ferguson
Waterford



"Yes. Because I think he did it, and I also think there are a lot of cops that are criminal out there. They're people too."

David Calne
Waterford



"How can you tell unless you hear all the evidence? Based on what's been written in the papers, she wanted to be more than a friend."

Bill Maler
Independence

LOCATION:

This question was asked at Kmart on Dixie Highway in Independence Township.

LETTERS

Truckers would help us all by obeying the speed limits

It is not surprising that the trucking industry would like to get the local police off of their backs. They have already achieved this at the state level. When was the last time you saw a semi stopped on the interstate by a dark blue state police car? Why? The regular state police (dark cars) do not pay any attention to trucks. The state police in the light blue cars are charged with enforcing the laws on trucks. These light blue police are the ones who run the weigh stations. Pretty hard to cite a trucker for speeding while you are watching scales.

Trucks by law have a maximum speed of 55 mph. I usually set my cruise control on about 68 mph and on I-94 west of Ann Arbor, I have trucks pass me all the time.

Recently I was going north on I-65 and came upon a road stoppage just north of Birmingham, Ala. The stoppage was in the southbound lanes and was about 18 miles long and growing. A bit further on, another was forming. Next day, at breakfast, I was told that it was caused by trucks blocking the highway — I guess to show their displeasure at the high price of fuel. If trucks would drive at the speed limit, they could save about 10 or 15 percent on fuel. If they did observe the speed limits, they could stop buying protection that allows them to set their own speed limits. This might hurt those who live on soft money and it might mean that some would not get all those easy dollars in campaign funds, but it sure would be nice for the rest of us.

Russell J. Buller
Clarkston

New "safer" cigarette still very dangerous

Despite all of the unsubstantiated claims of lower smoking risk, RJR's supposedly "safer" Eclipse cigarette does only one thing for sure — eclipse the truth about the harmful effects of tobacco.

Touted as the "next best thing" to quitting, this newest concoction does nothing to protect smokers from cardiovascular disease and stroke by RJR's own admission. Each year, more than 400,000 people die from smoking, and the largest portion of these deaths were cardiovascular-related. Only the tobacco industry, it seems, would boast about the lower risks of a product that has the potential to kill hundreds of thousands of people.

Indeed, RJR admits that the new Eclipse cigarette generates higher carbon monoxide levels than regular cigarettes, making it even more dangerous for smokers from a cardiovascular standpoint.

As for RJR's claim that switching to Eclipse cigarettes will mean a lower risk for cancer and related lung diseases, we are not buying it. Indeed, we have no way of verifying these claims, no process of independent scientific validation or medical review of the science involved. What we do have is years of tobacco industry deception and misrepresentation.

The tobacco industry needs to be regulated by the Food and Drug Administration so unsubstantial claims, like those made by RJR for its Eclipse cigarettes, would be subjected to rigid, independent scientific scrutiny.

Perhaps the most damaging aspect of this so-called "safer" cigarette is the false sense of security it gives smokers about their life-threatening habit.

Smoking one of RJR's new Eclipse cigarettes is like playing a "safer" game of Russian Roulette, with one difference. With the Eclipse cigarette, all the chambers are loaded with bullets.

M. Cass Wheeler, CEO
American Heart Association

Another chance

The U.S. government is providing Elian an opportunity to become reacquainted with his Dad and the family he must join. After their divorce his mother provided most of the love, nourishment and direction for Elian; his home was not with his father's new wife and child.

Elian left Cuba in an unsafe boat sneaking away under the cover of darkness. He will probably return in a first class aircraft, met by Cuban authorities and TV cameras. It is too bad his mother can't be there, but she died taking him away from all this.

Hank Borgman
Farmington

Opinions are to be shared: We welcome your ideas, as do your neighbors. That's why we offer this space on a weekly basis for opinions in your own words. We will help by editing for clarity. To assure authenticity, we ask that you sign your letter and provide a contact telephone number.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Clarkston Eccentric, 7073 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346. Or e-mail to: ksmith@oe.homecomm.net

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— Philip Power

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You can write to Board Members at:
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POINTS OF VIEW

Wise words: Live your life as though today may be your last

My life is just as hectic as yours may be. I go to school, work, I do homework, chores, I visit with my family, and I try to hang out with my friends. Your day is probably a steady schedule; you work almost every day.

Then you go home, cook dinner, clean up the house, and prepare yourself for the upcoming days. We are both guilty of pushing things off until the next day. There may not be a tomorrow.

Can you answer a question for me? If someone or something could tell you when you were going to die, would you want to know?

In the wake of the two high school deaths last week, plus all of the freak accidents that have been happening to teens lately, my friend and I were contemplating the question stated above. I made him answer the question first. He told me that he would not want to know. He further explained that he would rather live his life the way he wants. He said that he would dread that day for the rest of his life, that he would have a constant plague around him. I felt differently than he. I told him that I would want to know. My reasoning was simple: I would want to experience things, talk to people and work any conflicts out with them. I would want to call my family, I would sit down with my family and friends to tell them what an impact they have had in my life, to tell them that I loved them. Then he asked me a question: "Why are you waiting?"

When my friend asked me that I thought back to my sophomore year in high school. I had gone to a SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) conference. One of the motivational speakers brought up this question. He brought up on stage a real tough-looking guy. He asked the guy, "If you had one phone call left, who would you call? Why are you waiting?" He then handed the guy a cell phone, and the really tough guy broke down, started crying and called his mom.

In front of all of us, he started crying and just sat there telling his mom how much he loved her. Why does it take someone else to make us see what precious time we are wasting? Why do we push things off to another day? I don't mean to sound morbid, but what if today is our last? What if there was no tomorrow? The day-to-day things that consume our thoughts are trivial in the big picture. Why are we waiting?



JAIME GREEN

The Clarkston and Lake Orion students who passed away last week in that dreadful car accident on White Lake Road don't have another chance for someone to hand them a cell phone to call their parents. The accident on I-75 a couple of weeks ago involved one of my friends. When I heard that it had been him and his brother in what was left of that truck, I was in disbelief. What were the last things I had said to him? They weren't, "You've been a great friend, I love you." They were, "I gotta go, talk to you later, bye." If he would have died in that accident, I could have never forgiven myself for never telling him what a great friend he is. I thank God everyday for the chance that I have now. I'm not going to miss the opportunity that I am now given.

Our lives are never too busy or stressful, and things are never too important that it should stop us from picking up the phone and calling the ones we love. The conversation may last two minutes or two hours. Time doesn't matter; all that matters is that the person on the other end of that phone line knows you care. Life is a precious gift. You only get one. Don't waste today, looking to tomorrow.

My best advice comes from a cheesy chain letter e-mailed to me. At the bottom was a quote that really stuck with me. I don't know whom it was by; it was real short and sweet. It read: "Work like you don't need the money, love like you've never been hurt, and dance like you do when nobody's watching."

Jaime Green is a junior at Clarkston High School and lifestyles editor of PawPrints, the CHS student newspaper. Her column alternates with one written by Clarkston Community Schools Supt. Al Roberts.

Education is great investment

I admit it. I'm a sucker for ceremonies like weddings and graduations. I suppose it's mostly because the ritual makes concrete and intensifies the emotion of the event.

I like university commencements best of all. I never fail to be moved at the sight of a young person — often the first in the entire history of the family — receiving a college degree and thereby entering "the community of educated men and women." The grin of the newly minted graduate turns incandescent and nobody minds when the family's whoops of joy punctuate the decorum of the ceremony.

There were a lot of grins throughout Michigan last weekend. Something like 45,000 graduates and their families piled into Michigan Stadium for the University of Michigan's ceremonies, while President Clinton spoke on Sunday to a packed house at Eastern Michigan's commencement exercises in Ypsilanti.

So when I was invited to say a few words at the commencement of the College of Natural Resources and the Environment at U-M, I was happy to put on my academic robe and proceed down the aisle to the tune of Jeremiah Clarke's fine air for trumpet.

Sitting on the stage and listening to the awards being handed out and the speeches being given, I found myself reflecting on what is really going on at the core of this gigantic enterprise that takes adolescent high school graduates and over four years or so turns them into educated men and women.

I had no idea what would become of the kids sitting before me, only partly solemn in their black robes, some with flowers stuck to their academic hats. Some would become landscape architects, while others would challenge the captains of industry as leaders of the environmental movement. Some might not even have a career in natural resources; they might go off to law school or become teachers.

But each would have received while at the university an enormous injection of what might be called "human capital." And the value added to each graduate — value for society, value for the graduate — by the university experience is perfectly enormous.

The dry data in the *Digest of Education Statistics* sum up the value added in cold, hard cash.

In 1997 (the last year for which statistics are available), men with less than a 9th grade education earn on the average \$19,291 per year. Average annual earnings for male high school graduates rise to \$31,215. But the average BA



PHILIP POWER

graduate earned \$48,616.

The earnings gains are even more remarkable as the years of investment in human capital increase. At the master's level, average earnings jump to \$61,051, while those who go on to a professional degree earn an average of \$85,011.

I'm not certain measuring human worth in dollars and cents is the best ways of doing it, but the facts possess a certain solidity. Investing in human capital through college education pays off better than any other investment I can think of.

Those in Lansing who preside over the allocation of taxpayer dollars might bear this fact in mind, especially when they consider the trade off between appropriating money to educate young people at Michigan universities and warehousing criminals in prisons.

In my experience, universities don't make this point very well when they lobby the legislature at appropriations time. A Bartlett Giamatti, the former president of Yale, understood the issue when he wrote in his book, *A Free and Ordered Place*: "Of all the threats to the institution, the most dangerous come from within. Not the least among them is the smugness that believes the institution's value is so self-evident that it no longer needs explanation, its mission so manifest that it no longer requires definition and articulation."

It's no loss of dignity for university presidents to point out that their institutions add more value than any other. And it's hardly crass to point out that a dollar spent in developing young minds pays off better than any other investment that the state can conceivably make.

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper and served as a Regent of the University of Michigan from 1987-98. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@homecomm.net

Spring brings plenty of new opportunities to help hungry in Oakland County



The Clarkston office of Lighthouse Emergency Services is bustling with projects now that spring has arrived. We have just finished our annual children's and seniors' Easter Basket program. We received such an overwhelming number of donated baskets that we were able to bring Easter joy to more than 789 children and 133 seniors this year. Most of the hand-made, colorful baskets were artfully decorated and brought in by the many churches in our service area, along with local service organizations such as Scout troops and by Clarkston High School service clubs. It is only with the generosity of our community supporters that we are able to have such a successful program.

Although receiving an Easter basket is not considered an emergency, it does bolster the self-worth of those children who might go without. It also helps those parents who might have to choose between buying Easter basket supplies or putting nutritious food on the dinner table. For our older adults who live on a very limited income who must sacrifice personal care items to pay for food and prescription drugs, these baskets containing treats and personal care items are very welcomed. Thank you so much for your kind and generous donations.

The Waterford Harley HOGS had their semi-annual clothing drive to benefit our clothing closet April 28. This organization of several hundred members collects gently used clothing from their members for distribution to our clients. The Harley HOGS' generous and continual support of our efforts is greatly appreciated.

On May 13 the annual Post Office Canned Food Drive will take place in the Clarkston delivery area. Please place your canned food items in your mailbox and one of the wonderful postal delivery persons will make sure it is received by Lighthouse for distribution to the needy families of northern Oakland County.

We know many people are so busy these days with children, home and work, that although they would like to help more in the community, they just cannot find the time. Putting just a

few food items in your mailbox will make a difference in the lives of many people in our community. A special word of appreciation for Paul Sharkey and the letter carriers in the Clarkston area who plan this event each year. Everyone associated with Lighthouse appreciates your generosity of time and spirit.

Lighthouse Emergency Services would like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Al Roberts, superintendent of Clarkston Schools, as he chairs the Hunger Walk from the Clarkston service area. The Hunger Walk will take place on Saturday, May 20, at the General Motors TPC-Central Main Entrance, 2000 Centerpoint Parkway. The 3.9-mile walk will begin at 9 a.m. with registration starting at 8 a.m.

More than 1 million people live in Oakland County, the wealthiest county in Michigan, and the second wealthiest in the country. But did you know that more than one quarter of those people qualify for emergency assistance, and 8 percent of the children live in poverty and hunger? Help Lighthouse help the hungry. Please join us by becoming a team leader and recruit a few friends or coworkers to collect pledges and walk with us. We would also like to invite families, neighborhoods and sport teams in the area to challenge each other and join us in this effort. For more information, call us at (248) 673-4949. Thank you Dr. Roberts for taking time from your busy schedule to help feed the hungry in our community!

The Caregiver Program is looking for persons to help drive seniors and the disabled to doctor appointments and to deliver FOCUS: HOPE food. If you are willing to help on an on-call basis or can help one day a month, have a good driving record, and enjoy working with people, please call us at (248) 673-4949 and ask for the volunteer coordinator. Lighthouse can always use volunteers in other areas as well. Please call.

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Oakland County Republicans honor circuit judge

Oakland Circuit Judge Wendy Potts has received the John N. O'Brien Award in recognition of contributions to the community through public and volunteer service.

Potts, a circuit judge since 1997, received the award April 26 during the annual Salute to Justice fund-raiser sponsored by the Republican Party of Oakland County.

"She is an outstanding jurist and an outstanding individual," said Circuit Judge Joan E. Young, who presented the award at the Bloomfield Open Hunt.

"She is dedicated to improving the legal system for lawyers and litigants," Young said of Potts, a member of the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Evidence and a member of the board of directors of the Child Abuse and Neglect Council of Oakland County.

The O'Brien award honors the late circuit judge who was on the Oakland bench from 1973 until he died in 1993. Prior recipients include Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Henry Saad and Oakland Circuit Court Judges Edward Sosnick, Hilda Gage, Fred Mester, Gene Schnelz and Young.

Governor appoints Oakland County residents

Area residents named to state boards and commissions recently by Gov. John Engler have included:

■ **Sarah Grey Deson-Fried**, of Birmingham, and **Beth Chappell**, of Bloomfield Hills, were appointed to the Michigan Economic Growth Authority, which provides incentives in the form of tax credits to selected businesses that are expanding in Michigan or relocating to Michigan.

Deson-Fried is a member of Paramount Investments. She earned a BBA degree from the University of Michigan School of Business Administration in 1984 and a JD degree from Wayne State University Law School in 1986.

Chappell is executive vice president of corporate communications and investor relations for Compuware. Previously, she was CEO of The Chappell Group. Chappell earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in marketing from Michigan State University. She has served on the board of directors for the Detroit Chamber of Commerce, the board of trustees for the Citizen Research Council of Michigan and as chairperson of the United Way of Southeastern Michigan's Loaned Executive Program. Chappell was first

appointed to MEGA in 1995.

Terms expire in April of 2003.

■ **Wendy Anderson**, of Commerce Township, was reappointed to the State Board of Ethics, which hears complaints concerning alleged unethical conduct by a public officials.

Anderson is a self-employed consultant. Her term expires in February of 2004.

■ **Renee Turner-Bailey**, of West Bloomfield, was reappointed to the State of Michigan Certificate of Need Commission, which reviews certificate of need standards for new health facilities, changes in hospital bed capacity and health care equipment expenditures.

Turner-Bailey is executive director of Ford Motor Company's Healthcare Quality Consortium. Her term expires in January of 2003.

■ **Ian Minicuci**, of Troy, and **Lynne Tamor**, of West Bloomfield, were appointed to the state Developmental Disabilities Council, which oversees programs to help the developmentally disabled in Michigan.

Minicuci is a consultant for

Very Special Arts Michigan. He was appointed to represent consumers.

Tamor is an educational consultant. She was appointed to represent secondary consumers.

Terms expire in September of 2001.

■ **Kathryn Dodge**, of Sylvan Lake; **Deborah Scott**, of Farmington Hills; and **Theodore Lewis**, of Farmington Hills, were reappointed to the Community Health Advisory Council, which takes community input about state mental health policy.

Dodge is director of the Macomb County Department of Senior Citizen Services. She was reappointed to represent the general public.

Scott is director of government programs for Care Choices HMO. She was reappointed to represent the general public.

Lewis is executive director of the Children's Center of Wayne County. He was reappointed to represent the general public.

■ **William McKnight**, of Northville, was appointed to the Interstate Rail Passenger Advisory Council, which is studying a high speed intercity

rail passenger system which would travel between the states of Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Illinois, West Virginia, Kentucky and Michigan.

McKnight is retired. Previously, he was corporate secretary for the Grand Trunk Corp. He was appointed to represent the general public.

His term expires January 1, 2002.

■ **L. David Kellett**, of Bloomfield Hills, was appointed to the Residential Builders and Maintenance and Alteration Contractors' Board, which licenses builders and contractors.

Kellett is the owner of Kellett Construction Co. He was appointed to represent licensed residential builders for a term expiring March 31, 2001.

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Clarkston Life

The Eccentric

INSIDE:
Rochelle Smith, B2
Clarkston Community
Calendar, B4
Page 1, Section B

Karen Hermes Smith, Editor 248-625-1900

on the web: <http://observer.eccentric.com>

Thursday, May 4, 2000



SHAWN SPRY

Words of wisdom for mothering well.

Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself. They come through you but not from you, and though they are with you yet they belong not to you. — Kahlil Gibran, 'The Prophet'

I am reminded of these words today as we celebrate the birth of our son. He is now 2, and I am in awe. In these brief 24 months, he has brought a whole new element of laughter and life to our family. How amazing to be a mother to him and our daughter!

Bearing children takes great strength. Raising them requires unparalleled patience and stamina. Understanding that all the love and effort we invest has no guarantees is a bitter pill to swallow. My mother always said, "You can't take all the credit, or all of the blame." Those words have echoed in my mind many times in the past four years as I've pondered the mistakes I and my children have made. Those words creep to my consciousness whenever I take too much pride in their beauty or intelligence.

As I am immersed in the moment of mothering, it's hard to imagine not being needed or wanted so much. It's so flattering to see my son clamor for

Please see SPRY, B2

Nature abounds — if you take time to notice



Local nature enthusiasts tell where and how to view wildlife in Clarkston-area parks.

BY SALLY SLAUGHTER
STAFF WRITER

sslaughter@oe.homecomm.net

Look up and see blue herons landing in their tree-top nests. Look down and notice the rare trillium flowers popping up everywhere.

Springfield Township's Shiawassee River Basin Preserve is home to a huge diversity of rare and common plants and animals. It's a public park and there for everyone to enjoy. There are several spots similar in their serenity and beauty in Springfield and Independence townships.

Along with the preserve in Springfield is Indian Springs Metropark and Springfield Oaks County Park. Independence Oaks County Parks also has trails and nature galore. Add to that little hidden places and the Clarkston area is perfect for anyone who wants to take time to slow down and notice nature.

A walk through the Shiawassee Basin reveals a carnival of interesting plants and critters. Doug McInnis and his wife, Ann, take treks about monthly, he said. The 25-year Springfield residents take more frequent trips on their own property. McInnis said early morning or early evening are the best times to see animals.

There is plenty to see, too. In the middle of the day, the blue herons were coming and going from the nests high in the trees.

"There have to be 30-40 nests. This is amazing," McInnis said.



STAFF PHOTO BY STEVE CANTRELL

Dodging raindrops: Kim Fitzpatrick and her son were prepared for a rainy day at Indian Springs Metropark. Fitzpatrick says she tries to enjoy nature as often as her schedule permits.

The birds nest high up, but feed on fish, frogs and other aquatic animals. They hunt in Long Lake. McInnis figures the preserve is "town square" for the blue herons. Called a rookery, many trees house several of the large nests.

A casualty or the remnants of house-

cleaning was evident. A blue eggshell about the size of an extra-large chicken egg lay on the ground directly underneath a nest. Whether it fell out and its content killed or the bird had hatched and the mother was getting rid of the shell is anyone's guess.

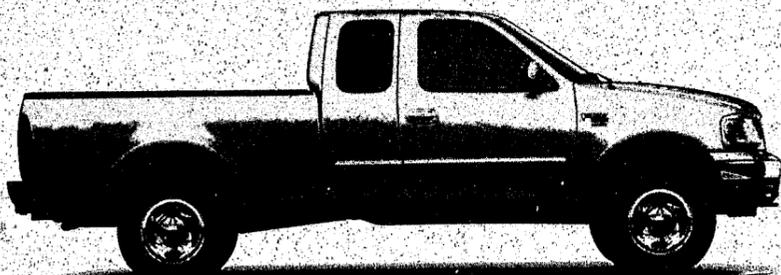
Sandhill cranes are easily mistaken

for blue herons, according to Karen Blake at Indian Springs. They are found in Indian Springs and have a red cap. They are found more in meadows, while the herons hang out in wetland areas.

Please see WILDLIFE, B3

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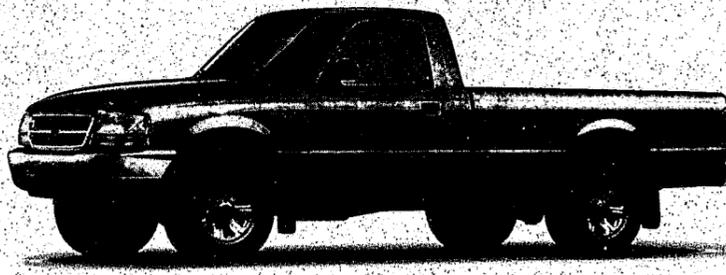
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Spooky story has good morals

In my last column I told you about my career path and started sharing an experience with you that involved my recent trip to a very scary-looking warehouse to supervise the movement of 400 boxes of legal documents. I had just arrived at the dilapidated building, honked my horn (per the instructions on the door) and was greeted by a rather shaky-looking fellow:

I proceeded, from the safety of my van, to relay to the gentleman at the warehouse door, that I was supposed to be meeting someone and wondered whether that person had arrived. "Park over there and come in," I was instructed. Dutifully I parked where he pointed and quickly debated my options while I nervously packed away the cell phone I had borrowed from the office. I could call the office and say I changed my mind and I'm not willing to supervise the move — in which case many people would be disappointed with me — or I could go into this huge deteriorating warehouse with a stranger and pray I come out alive. I glanced at the door and realized that the gentleman was staring at me and waiting for me so he could unlock the door. OK, duty calls. I hid the cell phone in the glove box, locked my van and hurried toward the door with a forced smile on my face. "Don't let him sense fear," I told myself.

As I listened to the numerous bolts being locked behind me, I tried to adjust my eyes to the darkness. Even though there was nothing, except broken glass, obstructing the numerous windows, the place was unbelievably dark. "I think Bob is upstairs," the gentleman advised and started leading me up a very dark and shaky staircase. When we reached the next level, my guide started yelling for Bob, the person who had given me the directions to this death trap. As we walked through the second floor in search of Bob, I slowed down as I felt the spongy floor giving way under



ROCHELLE SMITH

my feet. "Come on, you won't fall through," the man, who had gotten several yards ahead of me, called back. As he continued to yell for Bob, I started questioning my mental capacity. Here I am, following a complete stranger — and one that does not look particularly trustworthy, either — further into the bowels of a ramshackle warehouse. This was not in my job description!

With no luck on the second floor, we reached another rickety staircase and ascended to the third floor. Again the yelling for Bob started. My mind was racing. What if Bob is not here. What if this man is just leading me further from safety — not that I felt particularly safe on the ground floor anyway. Fear was setting in.

A quick trip to the fourth floor did not produce Bob either. As my fear escalated, we started descending yet another shaky staircase and I noticed my guide staying very close to me. "Watch your step; some of these stairs are not real good," he said. Since all of the staircases were pitch dark, watching one's step was an absolute impossibility. I wasn't sure which bothered me more — the fact that this stranger was going very slow and appeared to be getting ready to grab me or the fear of falling through a step and plummeting down three floors. With a bit of a laugh he explained, "I'm walking slow. In case you fall, you'll land on me. At least I'll get some enjoyment out of it." Although I wasn't thrilled with the content of his joke, I did feel slightly better to see a sense of

humor emerge from the otherwise gruff exterior.

Much to my relief, as we exited the staircase, there stood Bob. Although I had met Bob only a couple times before, he suddenly looked like an old friend. Since Bob was busy getting the boxes ready to move, he instructed me to go to the front of the building and wait for the moving truck. Even though the outside of the building did not seem like a very safe place to stand, inside the building had not been a picnic either so I agreed to walk around to the front of the warehouse and look for the movers. Unfortunately, as I waited for the moving truck, I noticed two men walking down the railroad tracks. Since they appeared to be carrying all of their worldly possessions, I again found myself reflecting back to a recent news report about murderers living in trains and riding the rails. It seemed like a good time to get into my van and lock the doors.

Anyway, to make a very long story a little shorter, the moving truck finally arrived, the boxes were loaded, I made it back onto the expressway (after a few more wrong turns) and everything turned out fine. So why did I just tell you two weeks worth of a very long story? Because maybe it has a moral or two. My guide at the warehouse turned out to be a very helpful and pleasant person (Moral No. 1: Looks can be deceiving.) As it turned out, my imagination had caused me more concern than any actual event (Moral No. 2: The greatest fear is fear itself.) One more thought for the road: Even though my story had a happy ending, I don't recommend making a career out of following strangers into dark, deteriorating warehouses. That's a career path it's best to avoid.

Rochelle R. Smith is a freelance writer who lives in Independence Township.

Spry from page B1

me when no one else will do to cuddle away his sorrows. Then I think ahead to the day when I won't be needed for morning hugs or bedtime kisses. Thankfully that will be a while yet.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts, for they have their own thoughts. You may house their bodies but not

their souls, for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams. You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you. For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday. — Gibran

It's so easy to adore my daughter as she scrubs the kitchen

floor and sings "Tomorrow" from "Annie." But when it's time to leave the house and she stubbornly refuses to change out of the pitiful rags she's wearing, I'm not amused. I want her to be adorable and well-dressed.

So I have finally figured out that conserving precious moments involves choosing my battles wisely. "But it's a matter of principle," I try to convince myself. Then I get over it and remember that it's what's on the inside that counts... that is the value I'm trying to teach them.

As I gaze at my children at the day's end — sleeping peacefully with angelic faces — I pray that when they are old enough to remember my faults, they will still forgive me. Thank God He does. I also thank Him for allowing me to care and learn from such magnificent creations.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth. The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite, and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far. Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness; For even as He loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is stable. — Gibran

"It's the hardest job you'll ever love," a friend told me before I became a mother. Now it's hard to remember my life, or even imagine it, without children. But I would be dishonest if I didn't admit having moments of desperation when I want to curl up in some hidden corner and hide out from the madness.

Then I have to ponder those "seize-the-day" kind of moments when I'm blind sided by an embrace from Bailey who cros, "You're the best mom I've ever had." Then Jacob exclaims in a jealous tone, "No, my mommy!" I know I am loved. I am overwhelmed with joy.

Shawn Spry is a Waterford resident. Her column on mothering in the new millennium appears the first Thursday of every month. She can be reached by e-mail at ddean@oe.homecomm.net

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God is good — don't blame Him for the bad in your life

Upon returning from a few days away, I found so many catch-up things to do I decided to delay checking the phone messages awaiting me; it was a decision I would later regret. Finally settling down in my study about 10 p.m., I pushed the "play" button on my answering machine and started jotting down the phone numbers of callers and making notes of the reasons for their calls.



REV. ROGER CAMPBELL

The messages I logged that night were quite routine, until the last one — a shocker that raised me to my feet to rewind and play again the tortured words of an angry man who said he was going to end his life. He had made the call at 6:17 that morning (according to my not-always-reliable answering machine) and he gave me no hint of where he was or how I could reach him. Since he had mentioned the name of a restaurant in an earlier call, I quickly dialed that number but received no answer. "Too late," I sighed, hoping those words wouldn't describe my efforts to prevent a suicide.

Knowing where this suicidal man had been living, the next day found me making contacts there, trying to find out where he was and why he was in this state of mind. I discovered he had been out of money and had no place to stay so had started hitch-hiking south, probably heading for the area that had once been his home.

But why this fierce anger? And why was it directed

toward God and all churches, as his phone message had made so clear?

Did he blame God for his misfortune?

He wouldn't have been the first to do so, in spite of God's great love for us all. Nor would he have been the first to blame believers and churches for not coming through with offers of help in a time of need.

What could be more useless or foolish than being angry at God?

"The Lord is good," said Nahum, the prophet (Nahum 1:7). And from creation to the cross, God's goodness is seen in the provisions He has made for the sustenance of life and assurance of heaven. Why then would anyone be angry with this loving one? The only answer to this question seems to lie in our mistakenly blaming God for things we bring upon ourselves or that others do to us. This produces anger toward God and those who love Him.

My disturbing phone message had come on Thursday

(heard late that night) and for the next three days I tried to find a man bent on his own destruction. I called police departments, missions, shelters, a church and a family I thought might be in the area he would travel through, all to no avail.

My wife, Pauline, and I kept praying for this desperate man to be found and with each passing day I became more desperate, causing unwanted questions to surface. Why had I waited so long to hear those phone messages? How would I handle the death of this man if I was unable to find him in time?

Then, on the fourth day, a call came from a police dispatcher, saying, "I've found him." The man who had been angry at God had been picked up by a good Samaritan and taken to a church shelter where loving people of faith were caring for his needs.

"You're under great stress when you are the only one who knows someone is considering suicide," I said, trying to justify my small faith during this ordeal.

"You weren't the only one who knew," Pauline replied. She was right, of course. Again.

The Rev. Roger Campbell is an Independence Township resident and author of more than 20 books. His radio program, *Higher Ground*, is on WUFL-AM at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sundays.

Wildlife from page B1

Other species noticeable at Indian Springs include the barred owl, pileated woodpecker, red-backed salamander, eastern massasauga rattlesnake and mink.

Independence Oaks Naturalist Kathleen Dougherty said wild turkeys can be found in Independence Oaks, but visitors have to look carefully. The male turkeys have iridescent black or brown plumage and red wattles. Females don't have the wattles but are similar in color.

Back at the Shawassee Basin, pockets of water hold salamanders and on a Tuesday morning walk, a small brown frog hopped along. Red-winged black birds were easy to spot because they look like what their name says. Even an amateur spotted a gray snake and a small tree where all kinds of little caterpillars were getting ready for their transformation.

McInnis pointed out small blue and black/brown butterflies. May apples and trilliums point to the health of the woodland. The tril-

liums get their name from the three leaves and three-petal white flowers. McInnis said they are threatened and shouldn't be picked.

Although they can be elusive, McInnis said the woods and meadows are home to fox, deer, raccoons, coyotes and hawks.

"My wife and I have even seen vultures," he said.

After about a month of sleuthing, Ann McInnis finally figured out that it was a red-bellied woodpecker that was making a raucous kind of call in the trees, her husband said.

"Small pools of water collect water from rain and the uplands. It drains, taking its mineral-rich contents with it. The special quality of the water makes the fen a special habitat for plant and wildlife species."

"You get these small pockets of water, and you just don't know what you're going to see," McInnis said.

McInnis said he often brings his camera along on his excursions.

Another Springfield resident who enjoys capturing nature on film is Dan Collard. A Springfield resident since 1993, Collard likes to explore Indian Springs and other areas. He goes out about three times a week to observe and photograph wildlife, he said.

"Seeing something and being able to preserve it as beautifully as I first saw it," he said is a big motivation for him.

"There are coyotes, you can call hawks and just about anything you want," he said.

Collard sets up a small chair and waits for the animals. He can find a deer run and sit and they come on by. A call makes a sound like a wounded animal. That attracts other animals like foxes, coyotes and hawks, he said. They come as close as 35 feet before they realize a human is around.

He said getting acquainted with an area is important.

"If you're just traipsing around, you'll just see their tails as they run away."

Naturalist offers tips for viewing wildlife

Here are some tips for viewing wildlife from Kathleen Dougherty, a naturalist at Independence Oaks County Park.

- Choose your season. Different kinds of animals can be found in different seasons.
- Stay quiet and leave pets at home. Stop, look and listen.
- Keep your distance.

Wildlife should only be observed and never approached.

- Let it be. If you see a young animal, don't pick it up.
- Leave only footprints, take only memories.
- Report any problems to park authorities.
- Be prepared with proper clothing, sunscreen and insect

repellent. Take water and something to eat if it's going to be a long hike.

- Take a map.
- Learn about the area through field guides and nature programs that can educate about wildlife.
- Have patience. Keep trying if you don't see anything the first couple of times out.

Video series on parenting offered

The nationally acclaimed series "Parent-to-Parent" will be offered to Clarkston area parents/guardians 7-9 p.m. May 11, 18 and 25 in Clintonwood Park Senior Center, 5980 Clarkston Road.

This video-based and facilitator-led three-part awareness/drug prevention training series, developed by Bill Oliver and Milton Creagh, will teach proactive parenting skills aimed at increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors so that your child will be

more likely to achieve a drug-free passage through adolescence.

Research has shown that a three-pronged approach to drug prevention is most effective: a school component, a parent component and a community-wide component. Although principles discussed will apply to all parents, the series will hold special interest and practical application tips for parents of children in grades 4-8 when parental influence is strongest and peer

selection is in process.

"Parent-to-Parent" was initiated locally with Clarkston Community Schools' Safe & Drug-free Schools & Communities Grant and is endorsed by the Clarkston Coalition for Youth (formerly Task Force).

Although free-of-charge, it is necessary to register for the series in advance at (248)394-0252 as a minimum of 20 participants is necessary for this program to take place.

NOTABLES

Richard L. Clark, a Clarkston resident, recently received the Kent State University (Ohio) Distinguished School of Technology Alumni Award at the third annual Vision 21 Banquet. Clark was one of 21 recipients honored with the award that recognizes school alumni who have made outstanding professional

accomplishments.

A certified manufacturing engineer with Daimler-Chrysler Corp., Clark is the supervisor of computer-aided technologies education. He manages two teams that deal with computer-aided design (CAD) and deploying technologies in the assembly process. Clark also serves on the

corporate advisory board for the College of Technology's CAD program at Eastern Michigan University and received the Outstanding Faculty Recognition Award from that school two consecutive years. Clark graduated from Kent State in 1978 with a master's degree in industrial arts education.

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CLARKSTON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Clarkston Eccentric! publishes calendar items free of charge. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing an event. Type or print event, date and time, location, telephone number and any additional information and mail to the Clarkston Eccentric, Attn: Marsha Wengrow, 7073 Dixie Highway, Clarkston, MI 48346, or fax to (248) 625-5712. E-mail to mwengrow@oe.homecomm.net. The deadline is noon Friday for the following Thursday.

THURSDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 4-6

GIANT GARAGE SALE
9 a.m.-6 p.m., Calvary Lutheran Church, 6805 Bluegrass, Clarkston. Fund-raiser for the youth of Calvary Lutheran to attend the Tri-Annual Evangelical Lutheran Church of America National Youth Gathering in St. Louis, Mo. in June. For questions or information, call (248) 625-3288.

THURSDAY, MAY 4

WIDOWED SUPPORT GROUP
7 p.m., Independence Twp. Senior Center in Clintonwood Park, Clarkston. Topic: Loneliness. Objective: To discuss a way of healing by telling our stories. Facilitator: Guest Speaker Alicia Brown, M.A., L.P.C. No registration required. Free of charge. For men and women recently widowed, all ages, refreshments served. For questions or information, call (248) 625-5231.

SATURDAY, MAY 6

VOCAL ARTS ACADEMY AUDITIONS
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Room 134, Varner Hall, campus of Oakland

University, Rochester. Early auditions for 2000 first semester of Vocal Arts Academy. Final auditions will be Saturday, Aug. 26. For questions or information, call Mr. or Mrs. Grier at (248) 625-7057.

HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

Home Health and Hospice will have a volunteer training class 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 5395 Dixie Hwy., Bldg. A, in Waterford. Volunteers can use their own talents and interests to bring joy and comfort to someone's life. If interested, contact (248) 357-3650.

FRIDAY, MAY 12&13, 19&20, 25-27

A BAD YEAR FOR TOMATOES
7:30 p.m. Thursdays; 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Depot Theater, 4861 White Lake Road, Clarkston. The Clarkston Village Players will be presenting this hilarious comedy about a famous TV actress who attempts to escape life's demands. She soon learns that her new Vermont neighbors and her fictitious sister keep getting in the way. Tickets for Thursday are \$10, Friday and Saturday are \$12. For information, phone (248) 625-8811.

TUESDAY, MAY 16

MICROSOFT PUBLISHER
6-9 p.m., Clarkston High School, 6093 Flemings Lake Road, Clarkston. Class runs for two weeks. Cost: \$65. Class No. 1028-02

SUNDAY, MAY 21

WEUNITE - "WHAT IS FAMILY?"
4-9:30 p.m., Deer Lake Athletic

Club, Independence Twp. Weunite will host a celebration of families. It will be a dinner dance and sharing time about family. Weunite is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to bring together the wisdom of elders and the energy of youth. They meet every fourth Wednesday of the month at St. Daniel's Church, to relate, interact and play. Their purposes are to foster intergenerational acceptance that will lead to supportive, caring, loving communities.

MONDAY, MAY 22

CAREER CONNECTIONS EMPLOYMENT FAIR
2:30-4:30 p.m., Clarkston High School, Clarkston. Looking for a summer job? Career Connections, a partnership between Clarkston Community Schools and the Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce, is sponsoring an employment fair. Free food and beverages will be offered to students who stay after school May 22 to attend the job fair. While most employment opportunities will be targeted at students 16 and older, Career Connections is working with participants to identify which businesses and what types of jobs might be available for 14- and 15-year-old students. For more information, call (248) 625-8041.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3

5K RUN AND ONE MILE FUN WALK
Camp Fire Boys and Girls North Oakland Council invites area runners/walkers to participate in the 10th annual 5K run and one-mile fun walk on Saturday, June 3, at Independence Oaks County Park, 9501 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston. Funds raised from the run/walk will help send low-income, at-risk youth to summer

camp. Camp Fire Boys and Girls operates a camping program at Independence Oaks in Clarkston. Participants who bring in \$20 in pledges will be eligible to win hotel overnights, meals and gift certificates. Runner awards will be given to the overall male and female runners and the first two places in each age division — 15 and under, 16-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65 & over. Call 248-618-9050 for more information.

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

MASS APPEAL
Depot Theater, 4861 White Lake Road, Clarkston. Clarkston Village Players, in association with Dramatists Play Service Inc., will present this drama that is both tragic and humorous about an older, worldly priest and a young idealistic seminary student that takes a look at conscience versus mass appeal. Starring Verne Vaccaro and Bob Geric. For more information, call (248) 625-8811.

MONDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 10-14, JULY 17-21, JULY 24-28

CAMP FIRE BOYS AND GIRLS DAY CAMP
Independence Oaks, Clarkston. Boys and girls 1-8 grades. Adventure Bound July 10-14, Jungle Safari July 17-21, Oweki Olympics July 24-28. Extended hours are available at Independence Oaks for working parents. Financial aid is available for low-income families. Opportunities for camp counselors. For more information: (248) 618-9050; website: www.comnet.org/campfirenoc

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, JULY 29-30

RELAY FOR LIFE
Clarkston Middle School, Clarkston. A 24-hour celebration of life. An opportunity to honor cancer survivors and remember those who have lost their lives to this devastating disease. A community party created by team members camping out, enjoying entertainment, food, games and camaraderie. Create a team with your coworkers, family and friends and make a difference in the fight against cancer. Call your American Cancer Society to join the Clarkston Relay for Life. (248) 488-4313.

EVERY TUESDAY EVENING

BAYPOINTE'S SINGLES
7-9 p.m. BayPointe's Singles meet in a home in Clarkston. The group offers Bible study, fellowship and sharing about how to cope with daily life. Call Dave for more information at (248) 620-1774.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

NORTH OAKLAND COUNSELING ASSOCIATES - STRENGTH IN NUMBERS: A WOMAN'S PREVENTION GROUP
7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, North Oakland Counseling Associates, 6401 Citation Drive, Clarkston. (248) 620-1019. This free 10-week educational group focuses on issues such as building self-esteem, developing communication and conflict management skills, learning about alcohol and other drugs and practical ways to develop a healthy, happy lifestyle.

1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

SPRINGFIELD GARDEN CLUB
9:30 a.m. Hart Community Center, Davisburg. Affiliated with Woman's National Farm & Garden Association, this group offers gardening advice, fellowship, field trips, speakers and much more. Meet people in your community who share the same interests. Call Mary Bertolini at (248) 620-9281 for general information or membership.

3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

NORTH OAKLAND COUNTY LYME DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP
7 p.m., Independence Township Library, Clarkston. For information, call Carol 625-5275 or MLDA 1-888-784-LYME.

NORTH OAKLAND CO-OP PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

10 a.m.-1 p.m., North Oakland Co-op Preschool, 5300 Maybee Road. Bring your children to see the school and meet the teacher. Spaces available for the fall in 3-year-old and 4-year-old preschool classes. For information, call Ellen at (248) 623-6250.

EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY

WEUNITE (WISDOM OF ELDERS, ENERGY OF YOUTH...CONNECTING GENERATIONS)

7-8:30 p.m., St. Daniel Church, 7010 Valley Park Drive, Clarkston. Contact person: Maria Rotondo Mark at 625-9154 or 623-9348.

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Observer & Eccentric Newspapers — oeonline.com/webpgs/html
- WHOLISTIC WELLNESS**
Roots and Branches — www.reikplace.com
- WOMEN'S HEALTH**
PMS Institute — www.pmsinst.com
- WOODWORKING**
Art Squared — www.artsquared.com
- WORSHIP**
First Presbyterian Church Birmingham — http://pcbrirmingham.org
Rochester First Assembly Church — www.rochesterfirst.org
Unity of Livonia — http://unityoflivonia.org
- YOUTH ATHLETICS**
Westland Youth Athletics Association — www.wyaa.org

Put your business On-Line!, call 734-953-2297

THE Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS
HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

Apartments

Your HomeTown Classified ad is automatically posted on the internet! Visit us at...
www.oeonline.com

This Classification Continued from Page F7.

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

SIMPLE FAST • FREE Apartment Search

- Your #1 Source for Finding an Apartment.
- Our Expert Consultants Will Save You Time
- Short/Long Term
- Corporate Relocation
- Open 7 Days

Ann Arbor 800-732-1357
Canton 800-235-1357
Farmington Hills 800-858-5051
Novi 800-648-1357
Clinton Twp. 800-472-1357
Rochester Hills 800-937-3585
Royal Oak 800-688-1357
Southfield 800-777-5616
Troy 800-457-1357

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

SOUTH LYON AREA FROM: \$509

- Large 1 & 2 Bedroom
- Walk-in closets
- Fully carpeted
- Swimming pool, clubhouse
- FREE HEAT

KENSINGTON PARK
Across from Kensington Metro Park located at I-96 & Kent Lake Rd.
248-437-6794

Troy: Great location. Heat & water included. Air. Reasonable rates. SUTTERS CREEK APTS. Call today! (248) 362-1940.

Troy **THREE OAKS APTS.**
WATTLES (17 Mile) Btwn. Crooks & Livernois
248-362-4088

- All electric kitchen
- Neutral Carpet
- Vertical & Mini Blinds
- Storage Room
- Free Carpet
- Pool, Fitness Room & Tennis Courts
- Security Deposit - \$400

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

HAMPTON COURT APARTMENTS
"The place to live in Westland."
1 Bedroom from \$505
2 Bedroom from \$595
Extra Large Apts. feature storage in your Apt.
Swimming Pool
Carports Available
OPEN WEEKENDS
(734) 729-4020

Westland: Open Sunday
WOODLAND VILLA
Livonia Schools
2 bedrooms, super closets, breakfast bar, appliances, pool, laundry facilities, security doors, intercom, cable ready, central heating & air conditioning
SECURITY DEPOSIT \$400
734-422-5411
Warren btw. Wayne/Newburgh

Westland
ORCHARDS OF NEWBURGH
Larger Apartments
1 & 2 Bedroom Plans
Playground Area
Beautiful Courtyards
Carport Included
Rents starting at \$530/mo
(734) 729-5090

Westland
VENO PINES APARTMENTS
1 & 2 bedroom apts. some with fireplace
Clubhouse
CENTRALLY LOCATED IN WESTLAND
(734) 261-7394

400 Apartments/Unfurnished

"SPRING SPECIAL"
WESTLAND CARRI California Style Apts.
• 1 bedroom from \$525
• Heat & water included
• Cathedral ceilings
• Balconies • Carport
• Fully carpeted
• Vertical blinds
• Great location to malls
• Livonia school system
(734) 261-5410

401 Apartments/Furnished

Birmingham • Novi
Royal Oak • Troy
Furnished Apts.
• Monthly Leases
• Immediate Occupancy
• Lowest school system
• Newly Decorated
SUITE LIFE
248-549-5500

BLOOMFIELD LAKES
Furnished. 1 & 2 bedroom apts. in small, quiet complex. Includes dishes, linens, etc. Cleaning services available. Beach privileges. No pets please. Rents from \$650. Heat & water included. Short term leases. 248-681-8309

401 Apartments/Furnished

FARMINGTON - Furnished apartments 2 bedroom 2 bath, \$1499/mo. Utilities included. 248-474-2884. Farmington Oaks Apts. on Farmington Rd. south of 9 Mile.

FARMINGTON HILLS
Furnished Apartment Homes
MUIRWOOD

Immediate Occupancy. Completely furnished. Superior accommodations. Month to month or long term. Deluxe housewares. Utilities included. Resort style health facility. Centrally located in Farmington Hills.
MUIRWOOD
(248) 478-5533.

FOWLerville - 1 bedroom includes utilities. Quiet, country, lakefront, acreage. Available June 1. \$550/mo. (517) 223-4277

SOUTHFIELD - 1 bedroom. Includes utilities, washer/dryer, deck, private, newly decorated. \$650. (248) 352-0572

402 Condos/Townhouses

BIRMINGHAM - 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, den, large kitchen, living & dining rooms, pool, no pets. \$1000/mo. (248) 952-5552.

BIRMINGHAM - Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, finished basement, air, hardwood floors. \$1000/mo. + security. (248) 539-0673.

Introducing The NEWLY UPSCALED...

Hawthorne Club
Apartment Homes
"Fully Renovated Apartment Homes at Exceptional Prices!"

1 & 2 Bedrooms include Free Heat! *Pet Section Available

- NEW Interiors
- NEW Kitchens with Modern Appliances
- NEW Bathrooms
- NEW Ceiling Fans & Fixtures
- Newly Updated Flooring

(734) 522-3364
Come see our new LOOK!

Located in Westland on Merriman Road, between Ann Arbor Trail and Warren
Open 7 Days
A CMI COMMUNITY
Superb Service Since 1964

402 Condos/Townhouses

BIRMINGHAM - on Grandfield, 2 bedroom, updated, hardwood floors, appliances, washer/dryer. Nice! \$990/mo. 248-647-3944

FARMINGTON - Cute 1 bedroom condo close to downtown, patio w/great view, washer & dryer & pool. \$625/mo includes heat & water, non-smoking, no pets. (248) 926-8384.

Eagle Pond Heights

Brand New "Never Been Lived In" Apartments!

- Health and Fitness Facilities
- Swimming Pool
- Covered Parking
- Fully Equipped Kitchens
- Blinds Included
- Maintenance Free Living

From \$625 a Month! Call Us Today! 248 926-3900
Walled Lake Area

NOW SHOWING YOUR NEW HOME

CANTON/PLYMOUTH FRANKLIN PALMER APARTMENTS On Palmer between Livery & Sheldon Spacious 1 & 2 bedrooms STARTING AT \$570 FREE HEAT 734-397-0200 M-F 9-6, SAT 10-2, SUN 12-3	PLYMOUTH HILLCREST CLUB APARTMENTS 1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments From \$585 HEAT INCLUDED 734-453-7144 Near Plymouth/Haggerty Road
NOVI WATERVIEW FARMS Spacious 1 & 2 bedrooms with "All the Comforts" on Pontiac Trail between West and Beck Roads 248-624-0004 M-F 9-6, SAT 10-2, SUN 12-3	NOVI WESTGATE VI On Pontiac Trail between West and Beck Roads HUGE 2 Bedrooms With Lots of Closets 248-624-8555 M-F 9-6, SAT 10-2, SUN 12-3
WESTLAND HUNTINGTON ON THE HILL On Ann Arbor Trail, W. of Inquirer 1 and 2 Bedrooms from \$565 Free Heat 734-425-6070 M-F 9-6, SAT 10-2, SUN 11-3	DEARBORN DEARBORN CLUB APARTMENTS Apartments & Townhouses FREE HEAT AND WATER On Inquirer Rd. N. of Ford Rd. 313-561-3593 M-F 10-6, SAT 10-2, SUN closed

MORE LOCATIONS! 248-569-8880

Southfield

COME HOME to relax at Franklin River Apts.
12 Mi. & Telegraph
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Summer Fun At Westwood Village LARGE One & Two Bedrooms PLUS
• 2 Outdoor Heated Pools
• 2 Tennis Courts
• Workout Facility
• Sauna
• Park Like Settings & Much, Much More
CALL OR STOP IN TODAY
734-459-6600
On Joy btw. Hix & Newburgh

Introducing The NEWLY UPSCALED...

Chatham Hills
Apartment Homes
"Fully Renovated Apartment Homes at Exceptional Prices!"

1 & 2 Bedrooms with Attached Garages

- NEW Interiors
- NEW Kitchens with Modern Appliances
- NEW Bathrooms
- NEW Light Fixtures
- Newly Updated Flooring

Come see our new LOOK!

(248) 476-8080

Located in Farmington on Grand River between Halstead and Drake
Open 7 Days
A CMI COMMUNITY
Superb Service Since 1964

ROCHESTER HILLS

"Elegant Apartments For Your Comfort"

- 1 & 2 bedroom terraced apartments and 2 bedroom townhomes
- Fireplace in select units
- Tennis courts • Swimming pool
- Cathedral ceilings
- Furnished units available

From \$675 a month

NORTH RIDGE OF ROCHESTER
On Avon Rd., between Rochester and Livernois
(248) 651-1091
www.singhapartments.com

SINGH
a tradition of excellence

WEST BLOOMFIELD

"The Ultimate Apartment Experience In West Bloomfield"

- Luxury 2 bedroom apartments
- Attached garage
- Cathedral ceilings
- Fireplace available
- Excellent location
- Furnished units available

From \$1,335 a month

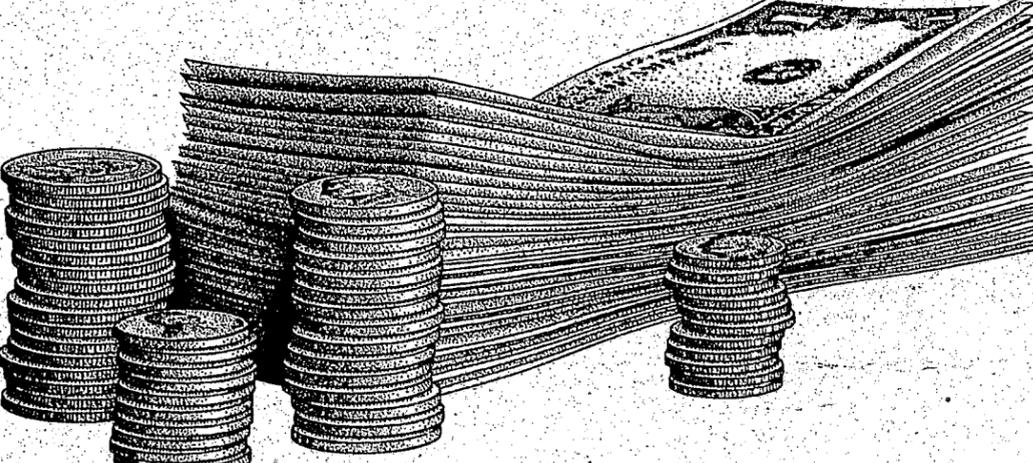
ARBORS OF WEST BLOOMFIELD
On 14 Mile just west of Halstead
(248) 661-5870
www.singhapartments.com

SINGH
a tradition of excellence

What can you buy for

\$20.61

that could put hundreds of dollars in your pocket?



If you said an Observer & Eccentric Classified Ad, you're right. Right now you will pay only \$20.61 to sell your used furniture, appliances, sporting goods, bikes or anything you're no longer using—up to \$500 worth—with this special offer

Here's all you do:

- First, describe your item in three lines. Remember, items must total less than \$500 (Asking price must appear in your ad)
- Next, run your ad for two days (Sunday-Thursday or Thursday-Sunday)
- Your cost? One low price of just \$20.61.

Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

Employment

Your HomeTown Classified ad is automatically posted on the internet! Visit us at... www.oonline.com

HELP WANTED 500's Employment
500...Help Wanted-General
501...Help Wanted-Computer/Info Systems
502...Help Wanted-Office
503...Help Wanted-Engineering
504...Help Wanted-Dental
505...Help Wanted-Medical
506...Help Wanted-Food/Beverage
507...Help Wanted-Health & Fitness
508...Help Wanted-Sales
509...Help Wanted-Part-Time
510...Help Wanted-Domestic
511...Help Wanted-Couples
512...Entertainment

Policy
All advertising published in The Observer & Eccentric is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the Advertising Department, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, MI 48150, (734) 591-2300. The Observer & Eccentric reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer & Eccentric Ad-Takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Please Check Your Ad
The Observer & Eccentric will issue credit for typographical or other errors only on the first insertion of an advertisement. If an error occurs, the advertiser must notify the Customer Service Department in time to correct the error before the second insertion.

402 Condos/Townhouses
FARMINGTON, model condition, one bedroom, roomy, second floor, view of the park and river in downtown Farmington. You will love it! Call Lupka 248-471-544 or page 248-400-3163.

405 Homes
BIRMINGHAM - 2 bedrooms. Updated kitchen & bath, stove, fridge, dishwasher, washer/dryer. \$750/mo. Also 2 bedrooms, 1.5 bath, stove, fridge, dishwasher, washer/dryer, garage. \$650/mo. No pets. 248-646-2728.

403 Duplexes
BIRMINGHAM - 2 bedroom/1 bath, nice duplex, downtown. Central air, 1939 Stanley. \$1100 a month. (248) 855-2050

404 Flats
DOWNTOWN ROYAL Oak - 2+ bedrooms, bath, fireplace, garage, washer/dryer, cedar storage area, leaded glass, \$1200. 248-646-7408.

405 Homes
AUBURN HILLS HOMES - 2 bedroom, \$700, 3 bedroom, \$825, 3 bedroom, \$875. Others available. RENTAL PROS (248)373-RENT

406 Lake/Waterfront Home Rentals
BRIGHTON, HURON River, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, plus pool, full basement, 2 car garage, air, no pets/smokers. \$1200 per mo. (810)231-0375

411 Vacation Resort Rentals
ALDEN - Torch Lake from your porch swing, 1800's Victorian, sleeps 6, two baths, no smoking or pets. (248) 349-7696

412 Living Quarters to Share
Crescent Lakeland, Shares nice, 3 bedroom home, \$600 mo. plus utilities. 313-285-9922

414 Rooms
NORTHVILLE or PLYMOUTH Downtown, Furnished sleeping rooms. Newly decorated. \$75 weekly. Security deposit. 734-455-2010

HELP WANTED Employment/ Instruction Services #500-598
500 Help Wanted General
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE POSITION
HomeTown Newspapers is looking for an organized, energetic Account Executive for the Wallied Lake Advertising Sales Department.

500 Help Wanted General
AM DELIVERY OVER \$500/MO.
Dependable people for early AM delivery for national newspaper. 7 days per week, average 1.5 hrs. per day. Self independent contractor. Call 248-477-1280.

405 Homes
LEONARD - 3 bedroom farmhouse, 1600 sq. ft. Basement, updates, Oxford schools, \$825. RENTAL PROS (248)373-RENT

411 Vacation Resort Rentals
LEWISTON, MICHIGAN - Log cabin on Big Wolf Lake, 3 bedrooms, sleeps 8, large kitchen & bath, toll free 1-866-284-2413.

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500 Help Wanted General
Budget Rent A Car
At Budget Rent A Car customer service is our #1 priority. We are currently looking for service-oriented individuals to fill positions in the following classifications:

500 Help Wanted General
CONSTRUCTION HELP
Madison Heights & Warren, Part-time. Up to \$12/hr. Weekdays & Weekends. (248) 398-6667

500 Help Wanted General
CONSTRUCTION SUPERINTENDENT
An established restoration company seeking qualified superintendent with construction remodeling experience. Send resume to P.O. Box 751, Hazel Park, MI 48030

500 Help Wanted General
CUSTOMER SERVICE SALES
CALL CENTER \$10-\$13/HR.
The Home Depot's new centralized Special Order Center is exploding with growth and opportunities.

500 Help Wanted General
DISPATCHER POSITIONS
Excellent opportunity for motivated individuals. Full time only! Company paid benefits & good work environment. Requirements include customer service, typing speed of 25 wpm, & good communication skills.

500 Help Wanted General
DATA ENTRY OPERATOR
Livonia & Auburn Hills Area
Quest Diagnostics Incorporated, a leading clinical diagnostic laboratory is currently seeking DATA ENTRY OPERATORS for the LIVONIA & AUBURN HILLS AREA.

500 Help Wanted General
DIETARY & HOUSEKEEPING
Part-time positions available. Apply in person, American House Retirement Residence, 1660 Venoy Rd., Westland, MI

500 Help Wanted General
DRY CLEANER/UTILITY PERSON
For manufacturing co. Air-conditioned shop, B/C/B's, Detroit, 401K. Knowledge of metro Detroit helpful. Good driving record a must. \$9/hr. starting pay. Walled Lake, 248-624-2583

500 Help Wanted General
ESTIMATORS
Field take-off experience helpful. Blueprint take-off experience a must. Looking for highly motivated, self-starter for fast growing insulation company. Pre-employment drug screen. Excellent benefits! Call 248-669-0660

500 Help Wanted General
ESCHOW CLOSER & CLOSER/PROCESSOR
Lovers Title is looking for experienced escrow people. Pay commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits including 401(k). Send resumes via fax to JJ (248) 649-2494. EOE M/F.

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Must be able to shop, body & assemble. Machine shop experience helpful. Southfield location. Respond by phone: 248-353-2450.

500 Help Wanted General
FARMINGTON HILLS
Full-time position, 20-30 hrs/wk doing board work. Ideal for college. Flexible hours, Monday-Friday between 7am and 6pm. Send or fax resume to: Human Resources Team, P.O. Box 757, Novi, MI 48378-0757. Fax resume: 248-349-0244

500 Help Wanted General
DELIVERY DRIVER
Growing florist looking for contract drivers for Pontiac, Waterford, W. Bloomfield & Detroit area. Order delivery. MaryKay at area. 248-203-2884.

500 Help Wanted General
COURIERS/INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS
HIGH EARNING POTENTIAL
24 hour airport and local courier service needs owner/operators with valid driver's license and appointment. 734-728-2020.

500 Help Wanted General
DRIVER - OWNER OPERATOR
Full-time. Sheet metal products. Must be able to excellent driving record. Chauffeurs license required. Call Andy after 3pm. 248-447-0410

500 Help Wanted General
DRIVERS - ARE YOU LOOKING FOR...
39cents/mile Earning Potential. Complete Benefit Package. 24hr. Guaranteed Home Time. THANWAY 1-800-247-8040. SMITHWAY MOTOR. X P R E S S. www.smx.com

500 Help Wanted General
DIRECT CARE
Afternoons, midnights, weekends. Oakland County areas. Full or part-time. \$7.75/hr. Call: 248-674-3882

500 Help Wanted General
DIRECT CARE AIDE
Group home openings for afternoons, midnights. Valid driver's license, paid training. Competitive wages & benefits. Call Sharon 734-946-4971. Brenda: 734-942-9166. Tary: 734-458-8140

500 Help Wanted General
DIRECT CARE AIDE
No experience needed. Includes all training, personal time, health and dental plans. Competitive wages. Advance start dates. Full and part time openings. Aid developmentally disabled with home, work and rec activities. Lakeville area. 910-798-2517.

500 Help Wanted General
DIRECT CARE STAFF
Hiring For All Shifts
In Southfield, to work w/developmentally disabled in their own apt. Call Cheryl for apt: 248-336-0007

500 Help Wanted General
DIRECT CARE STAFF
For group home in Plymouth, all shifts. \$7.30-\$7.80 to start. Good benefits. A hiring bonus. Make a difference in someone's life. Call Garin 313-304-4877 or Ruth 734-420-0876.

500 Help Wanted General
DIRECT CARE STAFF
For a loving group home in Dearborn Heights. Afternoon & Midnight shift. \$7.30-\$7.80 to start. Good benefits. Call Stephanie 313-274-1890 or Paty 313-304-4877.

500 Help Wanted General
DISPATCH
Day & afternoon shift. Excellent benefits. Send resumes to P.O. Box 4387, Dearborn, MI 48126 or fax 313-945-6885. Attn: HR

500 Help Wanted General
DIVISION CONTROLLER
For a marketing firm (Birmingham). Responsibilities: accounts receivable, forecast, & budgets, asset allocation and management, cash management, monthly financial audit & compliance, GAAP compliance & percent of job completion. Qualifications: BS in accounting, CPA-MBA + plus, 5 yr accounting & audit experience, 2 yrs management experience. Requirements: detail oriented, hit-the-ground-running approach. Compensation: \$70,000 plus bonus, 401k, & benefits. Applicants please fax resume to: Kendra Connor 248-258-9671 or e-mail Kendra at khsena@q3img.com

500 Help Wanted General
DOCUMENT IMAGING
Company located in South Lyon needs full time help. Flexible hours available \$6.50 per hour to start (248)437-7677

500 Help Wanted General
DOOR PRE-HANGERS
with experience in mill work needed by wood door manufacturer. Advancement possibilities. Wages commensurate with experience... 734-414-7100

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Field take-off experience helpful. Blueprint take-off experience a must. Looking for highly motivated, self-starter for fast growing insulation company. Pre-employment drug screen. Excellent benefits! Call 248-669-0660

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The FOURMIDABLE Group
Service (Maintenance) Technicians Needed!
The FOURMIDABLE Group, a property management leader, specializing in the marketing, leasing and managing of conventional, senior and government-assisted apartment communities has immediate openings for full-time Service (Maintenance) Technicians at communities in the Rochester/Rochester Hills area.

Graphic Artist
Are you able to visualize and execute the production of high quality, visually appealing graphics?
We want to speak with you if you have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent, with at least 2 years experience in newspaper design & layout as a Graphic Artist. Applicants must have extensive knowledge of QuarkXpress, PhotoShop, Freehand, and Illustrator. Experience with NewsEdit preferable. Must be able to produce original artwork and illustrations. Must have good communication skills and ability to work well with others.

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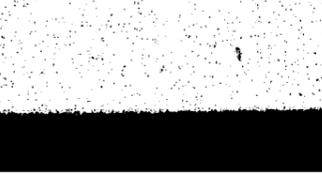
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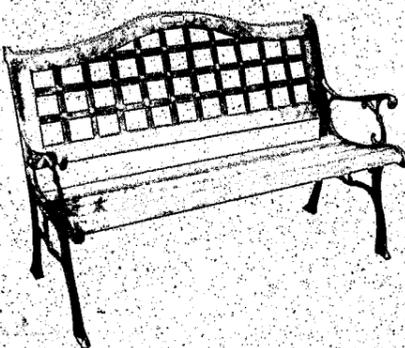
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Sports & Outdoors

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INSIDE:
Girls Track Leaders, C2
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Page 1, Section C

Daniel Stickrad, Sports Editor 248-693-4900

on the web: <http://observer-eccentric.com>

Thursday, May 4, 2000



DANIEL STICKRADT

Comerica Park has its good sides and bad

I am one that likes to form his own opinion, which is why I entered the gates of the new Comerica Park Sunday for the first time with an open mind for the Tigers-White Sox game.

I've heard a lot of positive and negative comments during recent weeks about the latest of many new stadiums that have been erected in recent years around the country — and much of what was said of Comerica Park is true.

So, if you haven't ventured down to Detroit to see a game at Comerica, here's what you might expect.

Parking

If you want to park relatively close, be ready to flip open your wallet or purse, because there is far from ample parking within a half mile of the stadium and the available spots are quite expensive.

Many of the small lots adjacent to the stadium boast a price-tag within the \$15-\$20 range. So pack a lot of people into your vehicle of choice and split the cost.

The only other suitable alternative is to park near the old Tiger Stadium for a \$5 fee, and take an \$2 shuttle to and from Comerica. The shuttle buses are very quick and take about five minutes to and from the ballpark. This is perfect for those who want to save a few extra bucks for concessions and other expenditures inside the ballpark.

Concessions

The number of choices are quite nice, as you can get everything from gyros to hot dogs to submarine sandwiches. But for the common fan that enjoys the basic ballpark items, such as hot dogs, pizza, popcorn, pop and beer, be prepared to wait.

While there are plenty of booths from which to choose from, the lines at Little Caesars and the lines for hot dogs and most beverages are long.

As for the quality, I've had much better and I've had much worse. The prices are also a little steep — \$14.50 for a whole pizza and \$7 for a large beer, for example — but pick your venue: All ballparks and arenas are expensive. That is something we must all accept.

Someone's got to help float the bill, don't they?

Seating/View

The view obviously differs from wherever your seats are located. But overall, it's not bad, at least from the lower level. There isn't any restricted-view seats, and many sections in the lower level are in the wide-open under the skies (perfect for a farmer's tan), while some near home plate are in the shadows from the deck above. Overall, you can't complain.

Although I did not venture up into the upper deck, there seems to be a difference in opinion in the seating arrangements. Some that I conversed with didn't seem to mind, while others felt they were too far from the action.

When it comes to the seating, there is plenty of leg room. Young children don't even have to stand up when others are passing down their aisle, as there seems to be plenty of room for you to scoot by. Being able to sit back and enjoy the game is a reality ... well, unless your hoping for the Tigers to win a lot of their games this season, but that's another subject all together.

Another fine addition that anyone will like is the cupholders that are conveniently placed on the back of each box seat, so you don't worry about someone knocking over your beverage.

Restrooms

Ahhh, one of the most important items. There seems to be enough restrooms. However, there may be a small wait, pending on how many people are at the ballpark and what inning the contest is in. I noticed an increase in the wait at bathrooms went up a little every few innings. Don't get me wrong, however, because it appears the waits were usually under five minutes per visit.

Intangibles

There are a few things to do at the ballpark, especially if you lose inter-

Please See **STICKRADT, C2**

Clarkston's Marino commits to Saginaw Valley



One of Oakland County's premier scoring threats, Ryan Marino, made an oral commitment to Division II Saginaw Valley State for basketball earlier this week. Marino averaged around 22 points a game this past winter.

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
STAFF WRITER
bmonastiere@oe.homecomm.net

Those pull-up, signature 3-pointers that became such a common sight in the Clarkston High School gym the past two years can be seen again in the future, at a facility about 100 miles to the north.

Clarkston 6-foot-1 senior guard Ryan Marino, one of the top scoring threats

in Oakland County the past two years, has committed to play at Division II Saginaw Valley State University next year. Marino is the second Clarkston player to sign on with a college team this year. Pete Ritzema, a 7-foot-1 center, will play for Cleveland State University next season.

Marino, one of the best 3-point shooters in Clarkston history, said SVSU was appealing to him because of the

academics and the opportunity to play at the same school for four years.

"I thought about walking on at CMU (Central Michigan University) but I wanted to go somewhere and be a part of a team for four years at a place I would stay at and play at," he said. "I'm not sure what I want to study there yet, but I was very impressed with the academics there, and the coaching staff were stand-up, truthful guys."

Marino started for the Wolves for two years and led the team to two district championships. He led the team in scoring both years, and was the second-leading scorer in Oakland County

this season, averaging nearly 22 points per game. His best offensive game came Dec. 17 at Ferndale, when he exploded for 39 points, seven rebounds and eight steals in a win over the Eagles.

Marino is currently a starting pitcher on the Wolves' varsity baseball team, where he's earned two letters during his prep career.

Other schools Marino considered included Lake Superior State, Aquinas — where 1996 Clarkston graduate Tim Wasilk was the leading scorer this past winter — Albion and Lincoln Memorial

Please See **MARINO, C2**

Wolves on track against Northern

Clarkston posts big track sweep of rival Huskies to remain in 1st-place tie with Adams

BY DANIEL STICKRADT
STAFF WRITER
dstickradt@oe.homecomm.net

In the sport of track & field, a team usually needs points from someone in the most unlikely places to fend off a competitor. Clarkston received just that Tuesday in a dual meet against arch-rival Pontiac Northern.

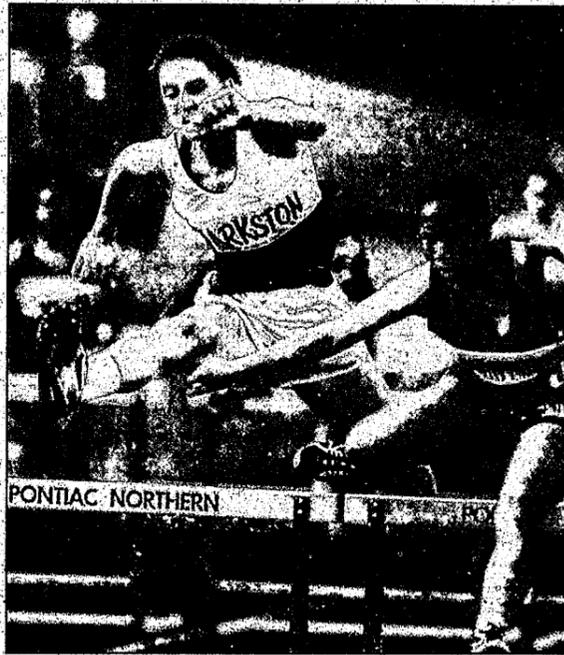
With the meet going down to the final four events, Clarkston's boys team benefited from an unexpected second-place finish from junior Adam Gebus in the 200 meters — one of the Northern's signature events over recent years — and those three points proved to be crucial as Clarkston held off the Huskies 66-62 in an Oakland Activities Association Division I showdown at Northern.

Clarkston's girls also rallied late to post a thrilling 70-58 triumph over the Huskies.

"Any time you can beat Pontiac Northern, it's a great accomplishment," said Clarkston veteran boys coach Walt Wynnemko, whose squad nipped Northern in a dual meet last season. "Look at the type of program they have. They won our league last season, they've won the county meet the last 6-7 years, and they have a couple of state championships in their history."

"I don't care if they are a young team," he continued. "They always have a lot of talent. Beating them is always a great accomplishment. We had guys like Adam Gebus stepping up and placing in the 200, and we scored a lot of points in the distances. It took a lot of good performances for us to beat them."

For Clarkston girls coach Gordie Richardson, he was pleased to receive plenty of points in the field events, and



STAFF PHOTOS BY STEVE CANTRELL

On the run: Clarkston's Brittani Brewer and Pontiac Northern's Janeva Bullock (above) glide down the track in the 100-meter intermediate hurdles Tuesday. Meanwhile, Kevin Breen (left) lands in the long jump pit. Breen and his teammates won 66-62, while Brewer and the Wolves were victorious in the girls meet, 70-58.

those points proved to be pivotal as Northern dominated in the sprints and the Wolves the distance events.

"We had some pretty good performances from our throwers, and overall in the field events," beamed Richardson. "That is where the key points came from. I knew we would dominate the distance events, but we don't quite have the foot speed to beat a team like Northern in the sprints. The field events were a big key for us."

Clarkston sealed the outcome of both the boys and girls meets by sweeping the top three places in the 3200 meters, but there were several quality performances leading up to the dramatic finish during the final events.

In the boys meet, Clarkston (3-0, 3-0) received wins from Ryan Clement in both the shot put (47-0) and discus

(124-6), and a win from Rafael Fauza in the high jump (6-3).

David Sage broke the tape in the 1600 (4:35.0); led the sweep in the 3200 (10:06); was second in the 800 behind teammate Brett Quantz (2:01.5), and teamed up with Quantz, Kevin Breen, Jon Chenet and Matt Haver for the winning 3200 relay (8:50.0) quartet.

Breen also gutted out a win the 400, outdueling Northern's Jamar Landrom for a 50.8 clocking.

Dayman Hamler was a quadruple winner for Northern (2-1, 2-1), crossing first in the 100 (11.0) and 200 (22.5) while running on the winning 400 relay (43.5) and 800 relay (1:32.2).

Aaron Herring also won the long jump (20-2), Daryn Moore the 110 hurdles (15.9), Richard Armstrong the 300 hurdles (40.6), and Moore also ran a

leg on the winning 1600 relay (3:33.4).

In the girls meet, Alidia Figuerola led the sweep in the 3200 (14:20) as the Wolves (3-0, 3-0) clinched the meet, setting up next Tuesday's showdown against defending league champion Rochester Adams.

Clarkston won just seven of the 16 events, but their depth was too much for Northern (2-1, 2-1) to overcome.

Carla Delvecchio won the 1600 (6:07.0), Rachel Ughman took the long jump (15-9), Lindsay Hawley was victorious in the discus (102-3), and Katie Jerge won the shot put (32-2) and was second in the discus (102-1).

Clarkston's unit of Meghan Poes, Allison Spinweber, Kristen Sorensen and Lisa Gauthier also won the 3200 relay (11:21.0), while Brittani Brewer,

Please See **TRACK, C2**

A wild affair

Clarkston kickers draw even with West Bloomfield, 4-4

BY DANIEL STICKRADT
STAFF WRITER
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If you were looking for a defensive-minded soccer game that would rival an intense World Cup battle, then Clarkston wasn't the place for you Tuesday night.

In a game full of ample scoring opportunities and plays destined for the highlight reel, visiting West Bloomfield and Clarkston came away with 4-4 Oakland Activities Association Division II tie in a game that provided more offense and scoring chances than the final score indicated.

Clarkston outshot West Bloomfield 19-18 in this wild affair, which featured four goals over the game's final 12:27. Junior forward Jessica Thomas scored twice for Clarkston, while Erin Konheim, one of the top sophomores in the Midwest, notched two goals and two assists for the Lakers.

"This was an exciting one to watch,"

said Clarkston coach Tami Mitchell, "especially in the second half."

Clarkston held a 3-1 lead with under 15 minutes remaining, but West Bloomfield (1-6-2, 0-3-2) stormed back to score three straight goals for a 4-3 advantage only to let Clarkston (5-3-3, 1-3-2) notch the equalizer with 1:01 left.

"That was nice to see us come back," said Mitchell. "We got the lead and then the girls got a little bit too comfortable and they came right us and took the lead just like that. But when we were down, we played hungry and we were able to tie it up."

It was Konheim who, after being tightly marked most of the first half, spurred West Bloomfield's comeback. The gifted striker set up junior midfielder Geneva Hulslander for a goal in the 67th minute to cut the deficit to 3-

2. Konheim later scored off an assist from senior midfielder Rebecca Doigan with 7:52 to play, and then set up freshman midfielder Jen Russart for the go-ahead tally with just 3:12 remaining. Doigan also drew an assist on the play.

"She's a talented player. She creates so much for us," said West Bloomfield coach Beni Karamucco. "We have strong players up the middle, and Erin is usually found around the ball. We have Michelle Wayman at sweeper, Rebecca (Doigan) and Jen Russart are good defensive

■ **...But when we were down, we played hungry and we were able to tie it up.**

Tami Mitchell
—Clarkston soccer coach

midfielders, and with Erin up top, we strong in the middle."

Konheim was tightly marked in the first half and with her contained, Clarkston drew first blood in the 15th minute when senior forward Kelly

Plante collected an unassisted goal.

But Konheim finally broke free and scored unassisted on a breakaway goal with 11:37 left before halftime, where the two teams settled for a 1-1 tie.

Clarkston regained the lead when Thomas collected a through ball from junior midfielder Angela Humphreys and fouled the back of the net six minutes into the second half, and sophomore midfielder Lauren Welbourn gave the Wolves a 3-1 advantage with 20:32 left in the game when she knocked in a rebound off a shot by freshman midfielder Kristen Brundage, setting up the wild and frantic finish.

Both teams also hit the goal post or crossbar three times apiece in the game, and both goalkeepers, Clarkston junior Sarah Morgan (eight saves) and West Bloomfield freshman Sarah Fonero (eight saves), each had to come with some key stops down the stretch to keep more flashes off the scoreboard.

GIRLS BEST TRACK TIMES

Birmingham Seaholm coach Jeff Devantler will compile the best girls track listings on a weekly basis for schools in the communities of Auburn Hills, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Clarkston, Lake Orion, Orchard Lake, Oxford, Rochester, Southfield, Troy, Walled Lake, Waterford and West Bloomfield. Coaches are urged to send their updates to Devantler via e-mail (jd3obps@mlckey.moa.net) or by fax at 203-3713.

SHOT PUT

1. Erin Wicker (Seaholm)	37-1
2. Jane Schell (Rochester)	36-9
3. Dmitris McWille (W. Bloomfield)	34-10
4. Lonnie Grace (Groves)	34-5
5. Brittany Fuller (Troy)	33-1
6. Rachel Moulth (Athens)	32-11
7. Rachel Jarnagin (Marlan)	30-7 1/2
8. Sylva Nazoyan (Andover)	30-7
9. Chiara Franz (Seaholm)	30-1
10. Cassie Yonick (Lahser)	29-6

DISCUS THROW

1. Cardace Johnson (W. Bloomfield)	111-11
2. Amy Blackwell (Rochester)	108-10
3. Brittany Fuller (Troy)	108-3
4. Sara Johnson (Lahser)	103-1
5. Rachel Moulth (Athens)	97-8
6. Lonnie Grace (Groves)	97-3
7. Alexis Haftka (Adams)	95-7
8. Christi Lange (West Bloomfield)	90-2
9. Julie Burdakh (Seaholm)	89-2
10. Cassie Yonick (Lahser)	89-1

LONG JUMP

1. Taylor Washington (Southfield)	16-8
2. Leah Hill (Lahser)	16-2
3. Samantha Essian (Troy)	16-1 1/2
4. Lauren McDonnell (Marlan)	16-0
5. Olivia Mansour (Andover)	15-6 3/4
6. Amy Tomczak (Kettering)	15-2
7. Gleason (Lake Orion)	15-1 1/4
8. Kristy Walford (Clarkston)	14-11
9. Chizzy Nwaniko (Athens)	14-9
10. Walter (Lathrup)	14-8

HIGH JUMP

1. Amy Klefer (W. Western)	5-4
2. Krystin Williamson (W. Western)	5-2
2. Casal (Andover)	5-2
2. Lindsay Bond (Southfield)	5-2
5. Melissa Kuess (Adams)	5-0
5. Ashley Patton (Lake Orion)	5-0
7. Laureh McDonnell (Marlan)	4-10
7. Lindsay Brandt (Clarkston)	4-10
7. Allison Bzdok (Marlan)	4-10
10. Ashley Delzer (Avondale)	4-8
10. Vicki Scheffler (Athens)	4-8

100-HIGH HURDLES

1. Lisa Bond (Southfield)	14-9
2. Samantha Essian (Troy)	15-9
3. Ashley Patten (Lake Orion)	16-1
4. Amy Ketter (W. Western)	16-2

5. Melissa Kuess (Adams)	16-3
6. Kerl Gross (Seaholm)	16-7
7. Britanni Brewer (Clarkston)	16-8
8. Nikki Baxter (Waterford Mott)	17-0
9. Yvonne Liang (Groves)	17-5
10. Lisa Fair (Troy Athens)	17-6

300 INTERMEDIATE HURDLES

1. Ashley Patten (Lake Orion)	45-1
2. Lisa Bond (Southfield)	45-6
3. Samantha Essian (Troy)	47-8
4. Lauren McDonnell (Marlan)	50-1
5. Yvonne Liang (Lathrup)	50-3
6. Kerl Gross (Seaholm)	50-6
7. Melissa Loomans (W. Western)	50-9
8. Vikki Scheffler (Troy Athens)	51-2
9. Malana (W. Central)	51-3
10. Aracana (Rochester)	51-5

100-METER DASH

1. Leah Hill (Lahser)	12-6
2. Pam Treppa (Adams)	12-8
2. Crystal Kuzma (W. Western)	12-8
4. Thomas (Lake Orion)	12-9
5. Damella Garrett (Groves)	13-3
6. Nikki Baxter (Waterford Mott)	13-6
7. Erica Crumb (Athens)	13-8
8. Stephanie Lafave (Seaholm)	13-9
9. Jennifer Hawkins (West Bloomfield)	14-3
10. Patty Shay (Andover)	14-9

200-METER DASH

1. Crystal Kuzma (W. Western)	26-9
2. Merritt (W. Central)	27-4
2. Thomas (Lake Orion)	27-4
4. Lindsay Crocker (Adams)	28-0
4. Cray (Adams)	28-0
6. Danette Garrett (Groves)	28-2
6. Tobin (West Bloomfield)	28-2
8. Jillian Harkey (Southfield Christian)	28-3
8. Kristy Walford (Clarkston)	28-3
10. Ashley Maxwell (Marlan)	28-5
10. Owen (Lahser)	28-5

400-METER DASH

1. Erin Taylor (Adams)	1:01-9
2. Amara Okoll (West Bloomfield)	1:02-5
3. Lindsay Jansla (W. Western)	1:03-1
4. Rachel Uchman (Clarkston)	1:03-5
5. Rebecca Bartkowski (Marlan)	1:04-1
6. Lauren Raetz (Rochester)	1:04-8
6. Susan Fath (Marlan)	1:04-8
6. George (Lake Orion)	1:04-8
6. Sue Owen (Lahser)	1:04-8
10. Jillian Harkey (Southfield Christian)	1:04-9

800-METER RUN

1. Julie Goldhof (Troy)	2:25-0
2. Julie Hufnagel (Marlan)	2:26-3
3. Leah Christian (Rochester)	2:28-4
4. Andrea Moreland (Adams)	2:29-5
5. Nicole Fischer (Clarkston)	2:31-5
6. Jillian Harkey (Southfield Christian)	2:31-9

7. Megan Coughlin (Waterford Mott)	2:34-0
7. Rebecca Walter (Groves)	2:34-0
7. Miller (Andover)	2:34-0
10. Chizzy Nwaniko (Athens)	2:34-3

1,600-METER RUN

1. Katie Boyles (Adams)	5:21-3
2. Megan Coughlin (Waterford Mott)	5:30-0
2. Rebecca Walter (Groves)	5:32-0
4. Julie Hufnagel (Marlan)	5:35-0
5. Jessie Lair (Southfield Christian)	5:39-4
6. Lindsay Mosher (Seaholm)	5:40-0
7. Rebecca Lewis (West Bloomfield)	5:41-0
8. Kelly Waldo (Marlan)	5:43-0
9. Taylor Bones (Lahser)	5:46-0
9. Rebecca Bartkowski (Marlan)	5:46-0

3,200-METER RUN

1. Katie Boyles (Adams)	11:54-0
2. Jessie Lair (Southfield Christian)	12:02-0
3. Prince (W. Central)	12:17-0
4. Taylor Bones (Lahser)	12:19-0
5. Julie Hufnagel (Marlan)	12:31-0
6. Kristin Jarrell (W. Western)	12:33-0
7. Brady (Troy)	12:43-0
8. Nan Reason (Southfield Christian)	12:49-0
9. Stephanie Epiry (Seaholm)	12:50-0
10. Sarah Elson (Seaholm)	12:51-0

4X100 RELAY

1. Southfield	50-70
2. Bloomfield Hills Lahser	52-23
3. Walled Lake Western	52-57
4. Lake Orion	52-62
5. West Bloomfield	53-03
6. Rochester Adams	54-50
7. Southfield-Lathrup	55-49

4X200-METER RELAY

1. Rochester Adams	1:50-0
2. Walled Lake Western	1:51-1
3. Walled Lake Central	1:51-7
4. Lake Orion	1:51-4
5. West Bloomfield	1:51-9
6. Southfield-Lathrup	1:53-7
7. Bloomfield Hills Andover	1:57-0
8. Birmingham Seaholm	1:59-8

4X400-METER RELAY

1. Lake Orion	4:20-1
2. Rochester Adams	4:23-0
3. Rochester	4:25-0
3. West Bloomfield	4:25-9
3. Birmingham-Marlan	4:25-0
6. Troy Athens	4:26-0

4X800-METER RELAY

1. Birmingham Marlan	10:07-0
2. Rochester Adams	10:17-0
3. Southfield Christian	10:36-0
4. Walled Lake Central	10:40-0
5. Troy Athens	10:46-0
6. Rochester	10:49-0
7. Birmingham Groves	10:50-6

NORTH OAKLAND SPORTS BRIEFS

Soccer leaders

Dave Muczynski, the varsity girls soccer coach at Auburn Hills Avondale High School, will be compiling the area leaders chart this spring for girls soccer teams within the Eccentric coverage area.

Varsity coaches and team statisticians can e-mail their weekly numbers to Muczynski at dmuczynski@yahoo.com from Friday-through Sunday each week. The listing will include goals, assists, points and hat-tricks for field players, and games played (to the nearest .25), goals allowed, goals-against-average, shutouts, shots faced, saves and save percentage for goalkeepers. The listing will run on either Thursdays or Sundays, depending on space.

The high schools included in the Eccentric coverage area are Auburn Hills Avondale, Auburn Hills Oakland Christian, Birmingham-Detroit Country Day, Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Marian, Birmingham Seaholm, Bloomfield Hills Andover, Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood, Bloomfield Hills Lahser, Bloomfield Hills Rooper, Clarkston, Clarkston Springfield Christian, Lake Orion, Lake Orion Shalom Baptist, Oxford, Oxford Christian, Rochester, Rochester Adams, Rochester Hills Christian, Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest, Southfield Unified, Southfield Christian, Troy, Troy Athens, Troy Bethany Christian, Walled Lake Central, Walled Lake Western, Waterford Kettering, Waterford

Mott and West Bloomfield.

If there are any questions, please call Eccentric sportswriter Daniel Stickrad at (248) 693-4900.

Post-season

The Observer & Eccentric Sports Department will publish copies of all-league, all-district, all-region and all-state teams for each of the winter prep sports when space is available.

Coaches and athletics directors can send in lists to: Daniel Stickrad, The Eccentric Sports Department, 790 Lapeer Rd., Lake Orion, Michigan, 48382, or fax to either (248) 693-9716 or (248) 901-2553.

Girls Hockey league being considered

Suburban Hockey is looking into the feasibility of a fall hockey league for girls ages 12 and under, with all games to be played at the Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills and the Novi Ice Arena. The league would adhere to all the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association and USA Hockey rules, which means no checking.

Anyone interested in joining such a league should contact Amy Jones at Suburban Hockey at (248) 478-1600. The deadline for this phase is April 17. If enough interest is generated, registration will begin immediately.

Please See BRIEFS, C3

Clarkston netters swat Kettering

Clarkston's boys tennis team kept up its dominating ways Tuesday, sweeping Waterford Kettering 8-0.

The Wolves improved to 7-1 overall and 5-0 in the Oakland Activities Association Division II, continuing its best season in a number of years.

None of the Wolves were challenged in their matches, the closest game coming at No. 1 doubles, where Dustin Kring and Eric Herzog pulled out a 6-4, 7-5 win.

Freshman Andrew Brown (6-0, 6-0 at No. 1 singles), senior Pat Heber (6-0, 6-0 at No. 2 singles), junior Scott Barnett (6-3, 6-3 at No. 3 singles) and sophomore Mike Rashid (6-0, 6-1 at No. 4 singles) all won their matches.

Clarkston went with some new combinations at No. 2-4 doubles, and those players came through with wins. At No. 2 doubles, Paul O'Connor and John Szilvagy came away with a 6-0, 6-0 win. At No. 3 doubles, Clarkston's Matt Poley and Jacob Rodrick breezed to a 6-0, 6-1 win, while at No. 4 doubles, Mike Claus and Barth Surapaneni were 6-3, 6-1 victors.

The win maintains Clarkston's advantage in the OAA Division II race, which could help the Wolves capture their first league title in over a decade.

Track from page C1

Amanda Sawyer, Lindsay Brandt and Rachel Uchman won the 1600 relay (4:16.0), where Uchman held off Northern's Janeva Bullock for the victory on the anchor leg.

For Northern, Dietra Officer won the 100 hurdles (16.7) and 300 hurdles (49.4), Tabatha

McFarland the 500 (2:40.0), Danielle McGhee the 200 (27.8) and Latasha Burks the high jump (5-1).

The Huskies also won the 400 relay (50.2) and 800 relay (1:50.3).

Clarkston's girls team will be at the Romeo Invitational Fri-

day, while their male counterparts head to the Waterford Mott Ashley Relays Saturday, before the two take on Adams next Tuesday.

"It doesn't get any easier," concluded Wyniemko.

Marino from page C1

Part of Marino's success this year came from the work he put in last summer. He worked out every day with assistant coach Scott Muska, working on his defense, his dribble drives to the

basket, his strength, and of course, his shot. "I have never stopped enjoying the game of basketball," Marino said. "It never gets old to me. I played a few games with the guys on SVSU's team, and the

play is so much faster paced, I know I'm going to have to work even harder to keep up with them."

Stickrad from page C1

est in the contest. There is a food court behind home plate which features a merry-go-round for young children, where you can sit and relax for a while. This seemed to be a very popular place before the start of the game.

In right field, there is also a porch where you can sit under canopies and watch the game, eat, or just have a good time with friends and family. There are also a handful of souvenir stands just like any other venue for those interested in picking up a few items for your collection.

On a down note, there aren't the number of souvenir stands on the outside of Comerica as there was at the old Tiger Stadium, or like you would find at places like Comiskey Park or Wrigley Field. The atmosphere outside Comerica is somewhat

stale, except for a huge Tiger statue outside the west gate that seemed to draw plenty of interest from passing fans.

Another negative point is that you don't feel like you're at a ballpark until you actually reached your seat. It seems like you're entering an amusement park, with the merry-go-round and food court and a decorative entrance. You also can't detect the aroma of the grass, which is one of the things that once made baseball stadiums such as Tiger Stadium so special.

I could tell something was amiss right away when I walked into Comerica Park. If you're somewhat of an old school fan — a fan of old ballparks such as the above-mentioned Tiger Stadium, Comiskey Park and Wrigley Field in Chicago, or others such as Fenway Park in Boston — be

prepared to be a little disappointed.

Overall As you can tell, Comerica Park has its fair share of pros and cons. While it offers a lot, there is still a lot missing, at least in my eyes. Perhaps over time, it will get better.

Overall I give it a B-, although don't completely take my word for it.

A day at Comerica Park is at least the trip. Daniel Stickrad is sports editor for the communities of Clarkston, Lake Orion and Oxford within the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Group. He can be reached at (248) 693-4900, or e-mail dstickrad@pe.homecomm.net

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Observer & Eccentric

Briefs from page C2

Summer hockey tryouts

The Clarkston area hockey club will host its annual summer conditioning clinic on due dates during the month of May.

The clinics will be held on May 21 at 6:45 p.m., and again on May starting at 7 p.m., both at the new ONYX arena in Rochester.

All players who will be entering grades 8-12 in the Clarkston School District are welcome.

Form further details, contact Jack Leech at (248) 394-0513.

Wildcats seeking donations

As the Oxford girls soccer team heads into the second half of the spring season, they are seeking that final advantage — to look sharp on the field.

The Wildcats varsity players are participating in fundraisers and accepting donations from those individuals and businesses who might be inclined to help the Oxford program.

For those who donate, the Oxford athletic department will be happy to write a donation letter for tax purposes.

For more questions or to make a contribution, please call (248) 969-1881.

Clarkston soccer clinic

Clarkston High School's girls soccer program will be conducting a soccer clinic for area soccer players from the ages of 5-13.

The clinic will take place on Saturday, May 6 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Clarkston Soccer Stadium. Cost is \$25 per athlete.

For more details, call the Clarkston High School Athletics Department at (248) 623-5040.

Golf leagues

Copper Hills Golf & country club are taking applications for various spring and summer golf leagues, and time is running out.

Copper Hills offers men's house leagues, ladies house leagues, mixed social league, morning senior leagues, daytime leagues, and senior evening leagues. Cost is \$25 per week.

For more details, call (248) 969-9808, or look up information on its website at: www.copperhills.com

Meet MSU Coach Williams

Michigan State University head football coach Bobby Williams will be the featured speaker at the 'Meet the Coach' night scheduled for 7:30 p.m. May 3 at Birmingham Groves High School.

Williams took control of the Michigan State University football program when former coach Nick Saban accepted a job at Louisiana State University after the 1999 college football regular season.

Williams, an assistant coach under Saban, guided the Spartans to a victory over Florida in the Citrus Bowl.

The 'Meet the Coach' night is being sponsored by the Birmingham Groves Falcons Athletic Committee and everyone is invited to attend free of charge.

Spartans alumni auction

The Michigan State University Alumni Club of Oakland County, the largest alumni club in the country, will host its 15th Annual Auction on starting 6 p.m. Friday, April 28, at the Main Event banquet room at the Pontiac Silverdome.

Tickets are \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door. Call Club president Helen Dyke at 248-553-3283 for ticket information, or to donate an item to the auction.

Just kickin' around



Road kick: The Clarkston Shadows U-12 girls soccer team traveled to Indianapolis in March and came home with a 1-1-1 record in the team's first trip out of Michigan for a tournament. Pictured are (front) team manager Mary Pinkos; (middle row, L-R) coach Bruce Mercado, Nicole Kirby, Marie Timm, Kaya Khani, Kirsten Roche, Lauren Humphreys, Emily Pierce, Nikki Whiteford, Melonie Entrek; (back row L-R) Natalie Bennik, Cori Pinkos, Kati Kretz, Lisa Sickman, Danielle Summers, Rachel Hurley, Lyndsay Smith, Kristen Mercado and coach Skip Roche.

Emerging from the shadows

The Clarkston Shadows U-12 girls soccer team made its first venture out of state for a tournament recently, and came up with good results.

The Shadows went 1-1-1 in the three-game tournament held in Indianapolis the last weekend in March. The Indianapolis Round Robin Tournament served as a warmup to the Select

Soccer season, which begins in late April. The team was strong defensively in the tournament, which was a key factor in its win.

SCHOLAR ATHLETES

SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Below are the Clarkston High School Scholar-Athlete Award winners for the 1999-2000 school year, as based on the criteria of having a 3.5 cumulative grade-point-average and having lettered in a varsity sport.

SENIORS — Arakelian, Phillip (football); Bates, Courtney (track, cross-country); Brewer, Brittani (track, cross-country, volleyball); Carpenter, Jeff (track); Churay, Mark (golf); Coe, Blake (tennis); Combs, Mercedes (soccer); Decker, Derek (soccer); Denstaedt, Geoffrey (track, cross-country); Facione, Anthony (hockey); Fischer, Nicole (track, cross-country); Ginn, Jeffrey (track, cross-country); Griffith, Brent (tennis, cross-country); Heber, Patrick (tennis, cross-country); Hess, Timothy (track); Hines, Kacie (pom-pon); Hodges, Francis (baseball); Jacobson, Michael (soccer); Kalush, William (soccer, track, hockey); Kenerson, Erik (track, skiing); Knoebel, Alice (swimming); Komorowska, Paulina (track, cross country); Linenger, Jennie (tennis); Logozzo, William

(track); Manojlovich, James (hockey); McMillan, Lauren (pom-pon); Morgan, Candace (softball, basketball); Rea, Jesse (track, cross-country); Robinson, Jonathan (baseball, football, wrestling); Sage, David (track, cross-country); Salata, Jenni (track, cross-country); Schermerhorn, Brent (track, football, skiing); Schornak, Steve (football); Schubring, Courtney (tennis); Schwab, Ryan (tennis); Steen, Heidi (cheerleading); Szilvagy, Jennifer (cheerleading); Tate, Emily (tennis); Thomas, Jessica (soccer); Thomas, Ryan (track, football, basketball); Tripi, Katherine (soccer); Uchman, Rachel (track, basketball); Walters, Jeffrey (golf); Wicklund, David (tennis).

JUNIORS — Banycky, Kiley (softball, tennis); Barnett, Scott (tennis); Blanchard, Christine (track, cross-country); Brandt, Lindsay (track); Chesney, Austine (skiing); Claus, Daniel (track, cross-country); Davis, Lindsey (cross-country); Davis, R. Patrick (track, football); Erk-fritz, Karyn (track); Evans, Matthew (skiing); Flores, Rebecca (cheerleading); Gauthier, Lisa (track, cross-country); Gebus, Adam (track, football); Gower, Andrea (volleyball); Graven-

streter, Jonathan (track); Haggard, Kelly (swimming); Haladik, Jennifer (skiing); Hart, Rebecca (soccer); Hertzler, Jeremy (wrestling); Hill, Laura (skiing); Holody, Daniel (baseball, golf); Humphreys, Angela (soccer, volleyball); Jackman, Andrew (baseball); Janowiak, Stephen (hockey); Kleinedler, Andrew (baseball, football); Klemm, Peter (soccer); Kraut, Joseph (swimming); Kruk, Jennifer (track); LeMarbe, Jason (baseball); Lenhardt, Christopher (soccer); Lynch, Allison (track); MacKinnon, Ryan (hockey); McGregor, Scott (baseball, cross-country); Moehlig, Aaron (track, football); O'Dea, Andrea

(track, swimming); Poes, Meghan (track, cross-country); Sampson, Christie (track); Schermerhorn, Rebecca (skiing); Senkyr, Cody (track, basketball); Stanton, Ryan (track, skiing); Swendsen, Dustyn (football); Tyler, Aaron (swimming); Verlinden, Craig (track, soccer); Wheaton, Ryan (swimming); Whisner, Ryan (skiing); Zerba, Mark (soccer).

SOPHOMORES — Barnett, Laura (pom-pon); Bassett, Sydney (tennis); Bennett, Shane (track, football); Bergkoetter, Alyssa (track, volleyball); Bucin-ski, Jessica (swimming); Catanese, Mark (tennis, football); Coe, Derek (baseball, cross-country); Delvecchio, Carla

(track, cross-country); Denstaedt, Scott (cross-country); Dougherty, Sean (soccer); Doyle, Diana (softball, volleyball); Dunlavy, Sara (swimming); Ferguson, Jane (softball, swimming); Garcia, Nathan (track, football); Gibson, Andrea (tennis); Goodman, Stacie (swimming); Gozdziński, Bethany (swimming, volleyball); Harding, Jessica (tennis); Harlow, Kendra (pom-pon); Henderson, Grant (track, soccer); Hop-cian, Lisa (track, tennis); Karstensen, Jennifer (softball, basketball); Kieras, Eric (football); Kinney, Amy (gymnastics); Kraus IV, Mark (track, football); Lauzin, Victoria (softball); Mahrle, Matthew (baseball, basketball, football); McDonald,

Erin (swimming); McGeogh, Megan (soccer, swimming); McIntyre, Maureen (track); Moran, Sheena (volleyball); Nowakowski, Jessica (pom-pon); Plante, Eric (baseball); Rea, Aimee (swimming); Roche, Patrik (soccer); Schneider, Kathryn (swimming); Seibert, Steven (soccer); Shook, Zachary (golf); Sitar, Kaitlyn (softball); Spinweber, Allison (track, skiing); Steele, Jeffrey (wrestling); Sweeney, Eric (track, cross-country); Turner, Nicholas (hockey); VanderWeel, Ashley (basketball); Welbourn, Lauren (soccer, skiing); Wiegand, Kathleen (softball, cheerleading); Wood, Michael (track, cross-country).

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QUANTITIES LIMITED **www.sidingworld.com** Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30-5:30, Sat. 8-2

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PaineWebber is an independent, full-service securities firm with leadership positions in selected individual and institutional businesses and a reputation for outstanding research... as well as quality client service.

REGISTERED OR NON-REGISTERED SALES ASSISTANT

In this position, you will provide administrative and clerical sales support to one or more Financial Advisors. We'll rely on your skills for handling customer inquiries, problem solving, providing quotes, and interfacing with other branch and firm personnel in resolving issues.

We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. For consideration, please forward your resume INCLUDING cover letter AND salary requirements to: Robin Flay, Branch Administrative Manager, fax: 248-645-7890. EOE

Thank You PaineWebber

SERVICE TECHNICIAN

Packaging & Bakery Machine Repair. Minimum 5 years experience. Mechanical. Full Time. \$50,000 per year. Call Sal 734-817-3104

SHOP MECHANIC for heavy metal industry. Experience preferred, but will consider training the right person. Full time. Minimum 40 hrs. Milford. (248)684-0555

Siding Installers and all individuals for new construction work. No trim. Experience helpful, but will train. Year-round work. (248) 473-2061

SUMMER CAMP near Ann Arbor seeks counselors & staff. Room, board & salary. (734) 878-6628

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT. Asbestos abatement contractor seeks honest, hard working and dependable individuals to work throughout Michigan. Training provided. \$12-\$15/hour. Send resumes to P.O. Box 80771, Lansing, MI 48909-0771. EOE

500 Help Wanted General

SCHOOL STAFF POSITIONS

Independent, read day school seeks to fill three openings. Development/public relations/publications, full time position available immediately. Experience in independent schools required. Writing and organizational skills necessary.

TEACHERS

International consulting firm is seeking ESL and foreign language teachers. Send or fax resume: TOR Global Services/Gall, 1701 N. Woodward, Ste. 210, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304. Fax: (248) 644-2452.

FIELD SERVICE TECHNICIAN

Solid technical skills and the ability to work effectively with customers is required in order to provide field service and support for robots and robotic systems. A technical degree and/or 2+ years experience in a technical role is required.

TECHNICIAN - RICOH

RICOH is one of the world's top manufacturers of office automation. We are known as a leader with our quality digital and multifunctional products, as well as our nationwide Service Network.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Demolition & Environmental Remediation. 40+ hours per week. \$13-\$21 per hour. Excellent opportunity for college students. Please fax resume to: (248) 546-7862 or call our Ferndale office at (248) 546-2707, work in Metro Detroit area. EEO Employer.

SUMMER JOBS

Air monitoring/analysis at environmental projects. Please call for info: (734) 678-6799 or fax resume to: (734) 451-1581

SUMMER JOBS

Air monitoring/analysis at environmental projects. Please call for info: (734) 678-6799 or fax resume to: (734) 451-1565

SUMMER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

An Environmental Consulting Firm is looking for Summer Employees. Free training is provided. Some overtime is necessary. Must have reliable vehicle and valid driver's license. Good pay & mileage compensation. Ideal for Science Majors. Please fax resumes to Kary at 734-930-2969 or call Kary at 734-930-0995.

TEACHER DIRECTOR

needed for Bloomfield Preschool. Full/part time. Early childhood experience necessary. Good pay & mileage compensation. 248-883-2920

AM PRESCHOOL TEACHER

for new child care center in Garden City. Young students & toddlers welcome. Please call for interview: 734-625-9800

500 Help Wanted General

TEACHERS

International consulting firm is seeking ESL and foreign language teachers. Send or fax resume: TOR Global Services/Gall, 1701 N. Woodward, Ste. 210, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304. Fax: (248) 644-2452.

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for new child care center in Garden City. Young students & toddlers welcome. Please call for interview: 734-625-9800

500 Help Wanted General

TOW TRUCK DRIVERS

\$1000 Signing Bonus! Experienced wrecker drivers needed for busy towing company. Full time position with 401(k), medical, dental benefits available. Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI 48185 (734) 722-7100

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Experienced in leisure travel in small office. Fax resume to: (248) 553-4158

TRUCK DRIVER/WAREHOUSE

For HVAC wholesaler. Must be in good physical condition. Great pay & benefits including profit sharing & 401k. Apply in person: 80541 8 Mile, Livonia, or fax: information: 248-478-9308.

TRUCK DRIVER, 1998 LB000 Tri-Axle. Haul gravel and move equipment with tag trailer, \$15/hr. to start (248)477-1055

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for Oakland Community College, Royal Oak Campus, Fall & Winter Semesters in the following subject areas: Computers, Math, Accounting, Science, and Economics. Also needed:

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Flexible schedule required. Contact the P.A.S.S. Office at (248) 246-2480 to schedule an appointment.

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VIDEO PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

for busy Southfield video production facility. Pre-production, post-production and production assistance, project management and administration. Good communication skills and the ability to work in a multi-task environment a must. Video, television or radio production experience preferred. Please fax resume to: Paige at 248-269-6310

WHOLESALE - Troy based co. seeks team player for Shipping/Receiving Warehouse position. Person will be member of customer service warehouse team with duties eventually including computer order entry & telephone customer relations. Great benefit package. Send resume: Warehouse Manager, PO Box 969, Troy, MI 48069.

WAREHOUSE HELP

Must be 18 & have valid driver's license. Night shift, overtime benefits. Dependability will train. FiberClass Insulation, 29769 Anthony Dr., Wixom, MI: 248-669-0660

500 Help Wanted General

VP of Construction Operations

for 30 yr. old residential construction company building in multiple subdivisions. Candidate should have ten years experience, be self-motivated and direct all aspects of construction operations including bidding, negotiation, overseeing superintendents, cost control and quality control. Computer experience required. Excellent salary plus incentives, 401(k), health care and other benefits. Send resume with salary requirements:

VP of Construction Operations

31500 Northwest Hwy., Suite 195 Farmington Hills, MI 48334

WAREHOUSE

Distributor of building materials has full-time position open in Shipping & Receiving. Duties include pulling orders, loading & unloading trucks. Outdoor year-round work. Experience with Hi-Lo helpful, but not required. Permanent position with benefit package.

WARRANTY ADMINISTRATOR

Saab of Troy is accepting applications for the above part-time position. We have a brand new facility with a great work environment. Contact John Wilson, Service Manager, @ 248-614-3166

WATER HEATER Installers, some experience required. Must have own tools, van will be provided. Call John, 248-435-2340

WELDER/FITTERS

\$10.00 - \$12.00 per hour for experienced Welders, \$12.00 - \$14.00 for experienced Fitters. Full benefit package including 401K. Call for details 248-624-2410 or apply in person at 1947 Haggerty Road, Walled Lake.

WELDERS

MIG production work. Full time + OT. \$9-\$12/hr. w/benefits. Trainees welcome. Apply 8-4:30. BMC Manufacturing, 100 S. Mill St., Plymouth. 734-453-5400

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501 Computer/Info. Systems

MAC WIZARD. Seminar firm seeking multi-talented, part-time Mac wiz to manage data, graphics, site and hardware (248) 383-2000 ext. 202

PC TECHNICIAN

Fast-paced, Bloomfield Hills investment management firm seeking skilled PC Technician. Approximately 20 hours per week, flexible schedule. Responsibilities include: Windows 98 Application installs, PC repair, PC building and troubleshooting. Good communication skills necessary. Interested applicants please submit resume to:

Personnel Department 3893 Telegraph Rd. Suite 100 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302 or fax to: (248) 642-6741.

502 Help Wanted - Office Clerical

BILLING ACCOUNTANT

Livonia office looking for a full-time Billing Accountant. Must be experienced and proficient in Excel. Please send resume to: Accounting Manager 19575 Victor Fwy., Suite 300 Livonia, MI 48152 Fax: (734) 462-4149

ACCOUNTING

Join INNOVISION Technologies, Inc., a premier Information Technology Consulting Firm and discover what you can become with an organization that encourages entrepreneurial spirit and rewards achievement.

We are seeking a detail oriented, organized, highly motivated, reliable, and trustworthy professional with 3 years accounting experience to process Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, General Ledger, collections, financial reporting, etc. Knowledge of Peachtree software required. Strong aptitude for computer based productivity tools a plus.

We offer career advancement opportunities along with an excellent compensation package.

Mail or fax resumes to: INNOVISION TECHNOLOGIES, INC. 35555 Orchard Hill Place #100 Nov, MI 48375 Fax: (248) 449-7694.

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ACCOUNTING SUPPORT

Inventory Management - manufacturing and distribution. Controller support - full time for experience, also long term. Accounts Management - Financial services and manufacturing. Data Entry - transportation and services.

Call Dorothy or Email: bjm@astaff.com Birmingham 248-646-7663 Clinton Twp 810-226-9642 Farmington 248-473-2033 Taylor 734-284-6457

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CLERK

Some experience needed. Good keyboard skills a MUST. Must be detail oriented. Good benefits and salary. Farmington Hills office. Please call RoseMarie at (248) 352-0000.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounting firm seeks a full-time Accounts Payable Clerk who is dependable and detail-oriented. Must have prior computer experience. Excellent benefit package. Please send resume & salary requirements to: Office Administrator, 44744 Helm, Plymouth, MI 48170-6023.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & RECEIVABLE

Fast-paced service business seeks experienced A/P and A/R Clerk. Qualified applicant should have strong PC background and experience in Excel. Send resume/salary requirements to: Comptroller, 30600 Telegraph, Suite 2156, Birmingham, MI 48025-4532 Fax 248-644-6072

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/SECRETARIAL

Fast-paced Farmington Hills home builder needs self-motivated individual to handle accounts payable and invoice/contract data entry, as well as some secretarial duties. Candidates must be efficient in Microsoft Office with good communication and organizational skills. Experience with construction, accounting and PO systems a plus.

Please send resume and salary requirements to: The Selective Group, Attn: Human Resources, 27655 Middlebelt Road, Suite 130, Farmington Hills, MI 48334 or fax to: 248-471-1930

502 Help Wanted - Office Clerical

Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable

for Bloomfield Hills Commercial Manager/Developer. Duties include data entry, making collection and vendor calls, and filing. Computer skills including Peachtree and Microsoft Office are required. Please send resume & salary requirements to: Whittell Enterprises 1471 S. Woodward Suite 290 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Attn: Jeff.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Gehring L.P. has an immediate opening for an Administrative Assistant. We are a drug-free workplace and offer competitive wages and excellent benefits. You will be assisting the Accounting and Sales departments with responsibilities that include telephone, filing, typing etc. Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel required.

Send or fax resume to: Attn: Controller 24800 Drake Rd. Farmington Hills, MI 48335 Fax: 248-478-9787

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

A leading international corporation seeks an executive assistant for Director of Sales. Strong interpersonal and organizational skills are essential. Ability to work independently in executive's absence. MS Project a plus. Top benefits.

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www.jobsdrc.com 248-344-6700 Fax 248-344-6704 Call For Other Openings!

Administrative Assistant \$23-\$26K

We are seeking an individual to assist Human Resource Manager with administrative tasks in our Southfield office. Must be proficient with Microsoft Word and Excel. Must have excellent organizational communication and phone skills.

Send Resume to: Human Resource Manager 26329 Southfield Rd Lathrup Village, MI 48076 Fax: (248) 557-8912 Email: hmrg_intlrfm@yahoo.com

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ASSISTANT - for President of Birmingham Real Estate office.

Qualified applicants will possess strong organizational, computer and communication skills. Base of \$25k with opportunity to \$35k. Fax resume to 248-645-8828 or call 248-645-6002.

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Experience in A/P & A/R, GL reports, bank statements, flexible schedule. Non-smoking office. FAX resume with pay requirements: 248-336-8107. Call for more details: Re: Job Cheryl (248) 336-0007.

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on

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April 27, 2000

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Deanna Account Executive BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY Observer & Eccentric

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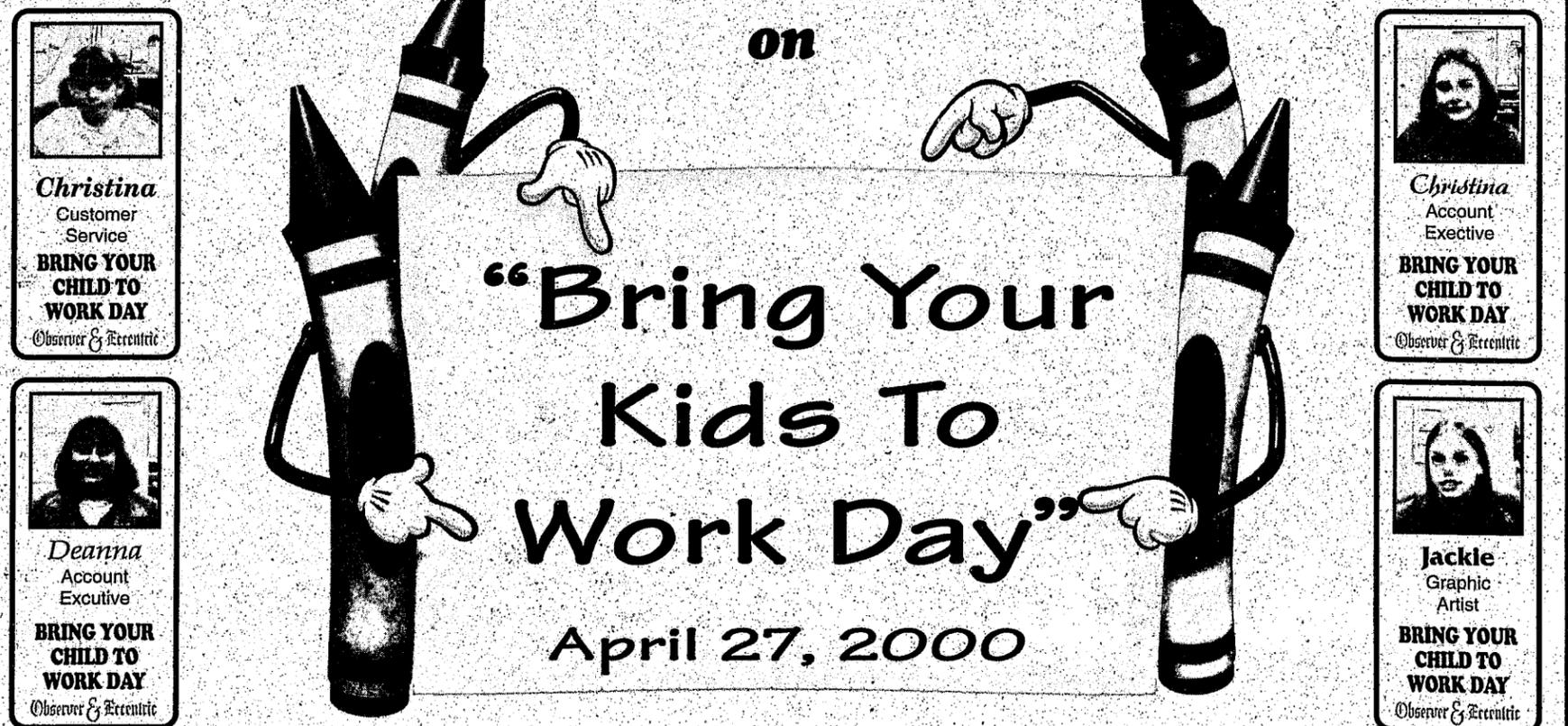
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600's Announcements 600... Personals 602... Happy Ads 604... Graduations...

702 Antiques/Collectibles DEL GIUDICE ANTIQUES We Make House Calls!

710 Estate Sales A BIG SOUTHFIELD ESTATE SALE Fri., May 5, 10am-5pm...

DO YOU ENJOY WORKING WITH PEOPLE? A real estate career in 2000 could be most rewarding for you...

ATTENTION: RECRUITERS Looking to fill those open positions before everyone hits the beach?

520 Help Wanted-Part-Time ALL POSITIONS - Wetzel's Pretzels, Twelve Oaks Mall...

ATTENTION: RECRUITERS Looking to fill those open positions before everyone hits the beach?

538 Childcare Needed BABYSITTER NEEDED in my Troy home. Need vehicle, Mon. & Wed. (248) 512-1828...

700's Merchandise For Sale 700... Absolutely Free (1 day) 702... Antiques/Collectibles...

706 Auction Sales AUCTION ESTATE Sat. May 6, 7PM CULTURAL CENTER...

706 Auction Sales AN ESTATE SALE SAT., MAY 6th, 10-5 SUN., MAY 7th, 12-3...

FRIENDLY TOYS & GIFTS has openings for party demonstrators & managers Home Decor, gifts, toys, Christmas, Earn cash, tips, recognition...

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540 Elderly Care & Assistance ASSISTED LIVING - Troy area, licensed, 6 residents, tender loving care for elderly...

780-793 Animals/Pets 780... Animal Services/Supplies 781... Breeder Directory...

706 Auction Sales EQUIPMENT AUCTION Sun. May 7, 2000 at noon. Imlay City Fairgrounds...

ANNOUNCING 2 GREAT SALES! By Everything Goes! #1. Fri-Sat. May 5 & 6, 10-4...

GORMAN'S FURNITURE DESIGNER/SALES Gorman's, one of America's premiere home furnishing companies...

RECRUITER We are a well-established Employment Agency looking for an overachiever...

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HURRY!!! DEADLINE IS MAY 15, 2000. CONTACT: CHAR WILSON 734-953-2070

540 Elderly Care & Assistance ASSISTED LIVING - Troy area, licensed, 6 residents, tender loving care for elderly...

780-793 Animals/Pets 780... Animal Services/Supplies 781... Breeder Directory...

706 Auction Sales EQUIPMENT AUCTION Sun. May 7, 2000 at noon. Imlay City Fairgrounds...

ANNOUNCING 2 GREAT SALES! By Everything Goes! #1. Fri-Sat. May 5 & 6, 10-4...

INSIDE SALESPERSON needed for N. Oakland County Manufacturing Co. Great work environment \$35,000/yr + benefits...

OUTSIDE SALES Growing wholesale distributor of Kitchen & Bath Cabinetry, Appliances, & Whirlpool Tub...

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570 Attorneys/Legal Counseling DIVORCE \$195.00. Property, children, missing spouse ok. Bankruptcy \$225. Credit Repair \$375...

636 Lost & Found FOUND - Adult male Shelly, 4-30-00 in 13 Mile & Farmington Rd. area...

700 Absolutely Free WOOD PALLET Free for pick-up. Gills Electric (734) 425-1011

SHADKO LIVING ESTATE AUCTION More than a Dozen Clocks - Victorian Furniture - String Holders...

INSIDE SALES Responsible, organized, energetic team player with a positive attitude & excellent communication skills...

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574 Business Oppl. (See Class 590) BUSINESS OWNERS. Accept minor credit card. Free setup. Absolutely NO UPFRONT CHARGES...

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524 Help Wanted-Domestic A MATURE live-in person for our Bloomfield home to start in July. Older children care with housekeeping...

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636 Lost & Found FOUND - Adult male Shelly, 4-30-00 in 13 Mile & Farmington Rd. area...

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DEL GIUDICE ANTIQUES We Make House Calls! Estate & Private Sales! Also Insurance & Estate Appraisals.

Take control of your career and join our successful team at Weir, Manuel, Snyder & Ranke. Our free, on-going training program will have you assisting sellers and buyers in the Rochester, Birmingham, West Bloomfield and Plymouth areas.

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708 Rummage Sale/ Flea Markets ANNUAL CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE WITH BOUTIQUE Sat., May 6, 9-4. American Legion Hall, Downtown Rochester...

ANOTHER ESTATE SALES BY IRIS Fri-Sat. May 5, 10-4 30701 Country Ridge Circle in Country Ridge Sub. W. Bloomfield



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Market Place

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Real estate and household goods classifieds. Includes sections for Estate Sales, Garage Sales, Moving Sales, Household Goods, Business & Office Equipment, and Miscellaneous For Sale. Each section contains multiple listings with details on items for sale, prices, and contact information.

HOMETOWN CLASSIFIED

Home & Service Guide

Home & Service Guide

Home & Service Guide classifieds. Includes sections for Accounting, Carpet Repair, Concrete, Gutters, Housecleaning, Painting/Decorating, Plastering, Roofing, Tile Work, and more. Each section contains multiple listings for various home services, including estimates, warranties, and contact details.

752 Sporting Goods
POOL TABLE - 4x8 Brunswick...
RIGHT HAND Ladies golf club...

754 Wanted to Buy
BUYING ANY & all slot cars, jets, track, accessories...

780 Animal Services
CLASSIFIED ADS work for all your needs.

784 Dogs
AKC YORKSHIRE terrier pups, 8 weeks, shots & wormed...

785 Farm Animals/Livestock
ADORABLE PET Pygmy Goat babies, 1 week old, 2 boys, 2 girls...

786 Horses & Equipment
LADIES RIDING BOOTS - 2 pair size 7, 2 pair breeches...

788 Household Pets-Other
COCKATIELS - Buy from the one who raised them Young, hand-fed, lovable...

Automotive
Recreational Vehicles
#800-899

800 Airplanes
CLASSIFIEDS WORK FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS

802 Boats/Motors
ALUM BOAT 12' deep V 495, Brand new 16' galvanized trailer...

807 Motorcycles/MiniBikes/Go-Karts
1998 HARLEY Davidson, Dyna wide glide, Orange & cream...

810 Recreational Vehicles
HONDA 1997, 300 EX FMF pipe, K & N air filter...

812 Campers/Motor Homes/Trailers
COACHMAN 1998 - 25' Class C, 27K, generator, excellent...

802 Boats/Motors
OLD TOWN 13' equinox stern Discovery Sport Canoe...

812 Campers/Motor Homes/Trailers
COLEMAN COLUMBIA, 1996 pop-up, good condition, \$1,000...

822 Trucks For Sale
CHEVY C1500 1991 ext'd, cab, 350, auto, cassette, cap, bed...

824 Mini-Vans
AEROSTAR 1994 - fully loaded, all wheel drive, \$4799...

826 Vans
GMC, 1989 1 ton window van, No rear seats, excellent work truck...

828 Jeeps/Wheel Drive
Grand Cherokee Ltd 1993 - 4x4, V8, Sharp all options, wired, 97K...

836 Buick
PARK AVENUE ULTRA 1994, loaded, mint, 45,000 miles...

812 Campers/Motor Homes/Trailers
DUTCHMEN 1995 33ft. trailer, 12 ft. slide out, fully equipped...

822 Trucks For Sale
CHEVY 1998 - 350 motor, 4WD, ext cab with 3rd door, extras...

824 Mini-Vans
AEROSTAR 1994 - fully loaded, all wheel drive, \$4799...

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PARK AVENUE ULTRA 1994, loaded, mint, 45,000 miles...

838 Cadillac
BIARRITZ 1984 - leather, 80k, true Florida car, Mint, a classic...

840 Chevrolet
BERETTA 1995 like new 2 dr, 8spd, 50k, 2 yr warranty left...

828 Jeeps/Wheel Drive
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Appliances Bikes Rugs for your ad! That's right! Right now you pay only \$20.61 to sell your used furniture, appliances, sporting goods, bikes—anything you're no longer using with this special offer: 1. Describe your item in 3 lines. Remember, items must total less than \$500 (Asking price must appear in your ad) 2. Run your ad for 2 days (Sunday-Thursday or Thursday-Sunday) 3. Your cost? Low price of just \$20.61. You could say our 3-2-1 plan is as easy as 1-2-3! THE Observer & Eccentric NEWSPAPERS HOMETOWN CLASSIFIEDS Part of HomeTown Communications Network™ Oakland County — 248-644-1070 Wayne County — 734-591-0900 Rochester-Rochester Hills — 248-852-3222 Clarkston, Lake Orion, Oxford — 248-475-4596 Visit our website: www.observer-eccentric.com

Automotive

Your HomeTown Classified ad is automatically posted on the internet! Visit us at... www.oonline.com

Table of car listings with columns for make, model, year, and price. Includes Chevrolet, Chrysler, Dodge, Ford, Lincoln, and Pontiac models.

Automotive Service Directory Check Here For A Dealer Near You



BUICK listings including Bill Cook Buick, Fischer Buick, Bob Jeannotte Buick, Inc., John Rogin Buick of Livonia, and Tamaroff Buick.



CHEVROLET listings including Gordon Chevrolet, Holiday Chevrolet, Lou Lariche Chevrolet, Matick Chevrolet, and Tennyson Chevrolet.



DODGE listings including Crestwood Dodge and Tamaroff Dodge.



FORD listings including Avis Ford, Inc., Blackwell Ford, Inc., and Bill Brown Ford.



Ford listings including Jack Demmer Ford and McDonald Ford.

IMPORTS

Imports listings including Bill Cook Nissan, Mazda, VW, Audi, Porsche.

Imports listings including Fox Toyota, Volkswagen.

Imports listings including Jaguar of Troy.

Imports listings including Fred Lavery Company, Porsche, Audi, Land Rover, Infiniti.

Imports listings including Page Toyota.

Imports listings including Red Holman Toyota.

Imports listings including Tamaroff Honda.

Imports listings including Tamaroff Nissan.

PONTIAC

Pontiac listings including Red Holman Pontiac-GM Truck, Inc.

Pontiac listings including Bob Jeannotte Pontiac, GMC Truck.

See Your Local Dealer.

Table of car listings continuing from the top section, including models from Saturn, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Oldsmobile, Plymouth, and more.

Find it here! OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC CLASSIFIEDS

They're looking for a bike on our web site.

Just one more reason to call us when you want to sell something with a classified ad—your ad goes on our web site for thousands of serious shoppers to see. If you're looking for a great bike, or have one to sell. We have them! In your hometown newspaper and online. Check them out today!

oonline.com

To place your Classified Ad, call 734-591-0900 in Wayne County, 248-644-1070 in Oakland County, 248-852-3222 in Rochester-Rochester Hills, or 248-475-4596 in Clarkston, Lake Orion, Oxford and Waterford



Real Estate

Board is doing its job

REAL ESTATE QUERIES



ROBERT M. MEISNER

Our daughter owns a condo. She is troubled by the attitude of her board. The board wants new siding and downspouts costing several hundreds of thousands of dollars. This may or may not be legitimate; the board refuses to disclose the details.

Since the individual's share of the expenses is based on the square footage of the unit, shouldn't a blueprint of the complex be available? Shouldn't a professional inspector be brought in for an opinion?

The decision as to how to fix the condominium and/or repair it is generally vested in the board of directors exercising sound business judgment. Association members may have a right to obtain certain information that is a matter of record at the association, but the ultimate decision rests with the board.

Your daughter's ownership interest may be a determining factor as to what portion of the assessment she will have to pay, usually based upon what the condo documents say.

There is also the political recourse of getting the co-owners at the condo to request that the board give a more detailed explanation and/or to reconsider its decision with the possible threat that the board may be removed.

You can always hire an expert to give the board some additional food for thought, since the board may not choose on its own to do so.

Robert M. Meisner is an Oakland County area attorney concentrating his practice in the areas of condominiums, real estate, corporate law and litigation. You are invited to submit topics that you would like to see discussed in this column, including questions about condominiums, by writing Robert M. Meisner, 30200 Telegraph, Suite 467, Bingham Farms MI 48025. His e-mail address is bmeisner@mich.com, and his Web site is www.meisner-law.com. This column provides general information and should not be construed as legal opinion.

HOME SEEKER'S CHECK LIST

- SELLER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (REQUIRED BY LAW)
- LEAD DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (REQUIRED BY LAW)
- HOME SUMMARY FEATURE SHEET (ROOM DIMENSIONS, ETC.)
- SCHOOL DISTRICT SERVING NEIGHBORHOOD (WHERE EXACTLY ARE BUILDINGS, BUS STOPS)
- AGE OF MAJOR MECHANICAL/STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS (FURNACE, WATER HEATER, SHINGLES, WINDOWS, ETC.)
- APPLIANCES INCLUDED?
- PROPERTY TAXES (BASED ON SELLING PRICE, NOT CURRENT RECORDS)
- MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDED (TRASH COLLECTION, LEAF PICKUP, SNOW REMOVAL, LIBRARY)
- CONDITION OF NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JACDFELD

And loving it: Carol Frick says she's enjoyed all aspects of the real estate business, from working with buyers and sellers to helping other Realtors succeed as managers.

Loving her job

State president is having a good time

BY DOUG FUNKE
STAFF WRITER
dfunke@oe.homecomm.net

Carol S. Frick wears a couple of different real estate hats. She's an associate broker and office manager at Ralph Manuel Associates in Birmingham, a Real Estate One company. She also serves as president of the Michigan Association of Realtors, a professional affiliation of 26,000 around the state.

The Birmingham Bloomfield Rochester South Oakland Association of Realtors and the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors are two of the largest in Michigan.

Frick, 54, a Birmingham resident, got into the business of selling and buying houses 29 years ago. "This job is now a perfect combination of two things I loved doing - teaching and real estate," she said. "It's perfect."

Following is an edited account of a recent interview with Frick.

Q: What major mistakes do sellers typically make?

Frick: They try to sell their own. Others? The house has to be presented well, clean. They should leave the home during a showing to allow buyers the freedom of walking through and commenting.

They tend to over-price, take everyone else's advice except the professional.

Q: What about buyers?

Frick: They want to see everything out there. They're unable to appreciate that the perfect house may be one of the first ones they see. The biggest mistake is the inability to bite the bullet and make a decision.

They what-if themselves to death. They lose the ability to focus on the big picture. They'll walk away from a perfect house for \$2,000.

Q: What advice do you have for first-time buyers?

Frick: Listen to your Realtor. Listen to the professional. Pay a little less attention to well-intentioned friends and family who are less familiar with the market.

Q: What do you see for the real estate market here near term?

Frick: If interest rates get much higher, we are going to see a slowing down of the market. A house is a function of how much

■ The biggest mistake buyers make is the inability to bite the bullet and make a decision. They what-if themselves to death. They'll walk away from a perfect house for \$2,000.

does it cost you to own rather than ticket price.

As interest rates go up, mortgage rates go up. There will be a point people will say, "Wait a minute. The payment was \$75 or \$100 a month less a year ago. I can wait."

If people have taken a beating in the stock market, they're less willing to take money out to make a down payment. They'll wait for the market to go back up.

I think that housing price is like any business - reflective of supply and demand. Now, there's greater demand than supply. As long as that continues, we'll have an up market.

Q: Why is it important that Realtors get involved in their professional association?

Frick: We will help protect your rights as an independent business person. We're protecting our inventory, our ability to list and sell real estate, without undue restriction from government.

Our association provides structured educational opportunities in commercial real estate, residential real estate, brokerage, financing and, to a limited extent, the legal aspect.

We have designations. It's a way of showing the public the Realtor has achieved a certain level of education and experience in the industry.

Certainly cooperation among Realtors is a big issue. When you have gotten to know the Realtor at the other end of the deal, the process of negotiating moves much more smoothly.

Q: What makes for a successful Realtor?

Frick: You know what I tell new agents? If you don't get up excited in the morning about going to work, you're not doing the right thing.

You have to love to negotiate. You have to enjoy people. You have to be self-motivated. You have to be able to

put in irregular, demanding hours.

You have to be able to accept rejection. That's tough for most people. You have to have a high level of self-confidence.

Q: What are major issues facing Realtors?

Frick: We're working on legislation that would modify the agency disclosure law. It would introduce ... "designated" agency.

As a designated agent, you would be either a buyer's or seller's agent through the whole transaction, even if your company was involved in both ends of the transaction.

In dual agency (now), technically the agent/company represents both parties to a transaction. That limits the fiduciary responsibility they can exercise to either client. How can you represent two masters?

Designated allows for complete fiduciary. It's best for the consumer. It allows them to maintain a relationship they thought they had all along.

The year 2000 is an election year. Realtors will be supporting candidates who will protect two values important to us.

Certainly we represent small business. Ninety percent of us are independent contractors. We are one of the few organized political action committees that represents private property rights.

The whole area of land use is one of our biggest issues. We started working with a coalition last year for mutual agreeable guidelines for intelligent land use.

Q: How is the work of a Realtor important?

Frick: When you're working with a buyer who is making one of the most significant investments they'll ever make and probably one of the most emotional investments they'll ever make, it's so important buyers like what they end up with.

On the seller's part, no matter how excited they are about moving, that's still their home they're selling and still a traumatic experience.

You're helping people make the job easier. Service is the big thing now. We are no longer purveyors of information. They can get that on the Internet.

Two big things - depth of experience as professionals and depth of exposure - we can provide them.

Buying may be cheaper than renting

HOME LOAN UPDATE.COM



DAVID C. MULLY

Part 1 of 2

Just because you can't afford to rent doesn't mean you can't afford to buy. At first glance, that statement might not appear to make much sense, but stick with me for a few minutes and you'll see how and when this can be true. The key to understanding this concept is to recognize two important facts:

(1) When you pay rent you are paying your landlord's mortgage. You get a place to eat and sleep and play for as long as you pay your rent. You never own anything.

(2) When you buy a house, your monthly payment is going toward your own mortgage, and aside from giving you a place to eat and sleep and play, it also gives you ownership and equity in the house, as well as a major tax deduction. It's the income tax deduction that can make buying a house actually cheaper than renting.

Today's rent payments are often the same as mortgage payments on comparable or even more expensive living quarters. Many landlords - especially at apartment complexes - run the same kind of credit check on prospective renters that a mortgage company runs when you want a loan to buy a home, said mortgage banker Mark Organe, a loan officer at Wallick & Volk.

If your income and credit are good enough to qualify to rent, they are often good enough to qualify to buy. The problem for many people, however, is coming up with the down payment. A zero-down payment mortgage can solve that problem. The mortgage market is so competitive nowadays that lenders are actually willing to lend you money with no money down.

You'll pay a bit extra for the privilege, but you can still get the loan, as long as you have reasonable credit. The better the credit, the better the interest rate. Of course, it won't be as good as the interest rate you'd get if you could put 20 percent, or 10 percent, or even 3 percent down. It will, however, open the door to home ownership.

Mully's company, Mortgage Detroit, surveys the area residential mortgage lenders daily. Mully's weekly mortgage column and more than 80 mortgage lender and related links appear at www.homeloanupdate.com. To contact Mully, call (248) 305-7337 or e-mail dmully@mortgagedetroit.com.

Quarterly Report	
Here's a comparison of residential building permits issued Jan. - March last year and this year, by county in Southeast Michigan	
Oakland	1192 / 1227
Macomb	1059 / 1189
Wayne	668 / 871
Livingston	381 / 419
Washtenaw	412 / 1999
Genesee	365 / 2000
St. Clair	147 / 148
Lapeer	87 / 87
Total	4,311 / 4,736

Source: Housing Consultants, Inc.
HELEN FURCEAN / STAFF ARTIST

Realtor Full Page Ad Index

Realtor	Page #
Century 21 Town & Country	6 & 7F
Coldwell Banker, Schweitzer Real Estate	10F
Cranbrook Associates	8F
Hall & Hunter Realtors	3F
Hannett, Wilson & Whitehouse	5F
Max Brook Realtors, Inc.	11F
Prudential Chamberlain-Stiehl Realtors	12F
Ralph Manuel Associates	9F
Real Estate One	1 & 6G
Remax In The Hills	2G
Snyder, Kinney, Bennett & Keating, Inc.	4F
Weir, Manuel, Snyder, & Ranko	2F

HOME Of The WEEK

SOPHISTICATED ELEGANCE

Stately 1925 French Chateau so beautifully renovated with quality and charm! Large grand foyer. Gourmet kitchen with Pewabic tiled island. Luxurious master suite with high vaulted ceilings, two master baths with Jacuzzi. Elegance throughout with premium Bloomfield location. Custom decor by Brian Killian. LIT295

\$1,675,000 • 248-646-6200

Hannett, Wilson & Whitehouse



HOMES SOLD IN OAKLAND COUNTY

These are the Observer & Eccentric-area residential real-estate closings recorded the week of Jan. 31 - Feb. 11, 2000, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office and compiled by Advertising That Works, a Bloomfield Township company that tracks deed and mortgage recordings in southeast Michigan. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

Table listing real estate sales in Auburn Hills, Clarkston, and other areas. Columns include address, price, and date.

Table listing real estate sales in Commerce Township, Davison, and other areas. Columns include address, price, and date.

Table listing real estate sales in Farmington Hills, Grosse Pointe Woods, and other areas. Columns include address, price, and date.

Table listing real estate sales in Lake Orion, Oakton, and other areas. Columns include address, price, and date.

Table listing real estate sales in Rochester Hills, Troy, and other areas. Columns include address, price, and date.

Table listing real estate sales in Westland, Dearborn, and other areas. Columns include address, price, and date.

Table listing real estate sales in Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, and other areas. Columns include address, price, and date.

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REAL ESTATE BRIEFS

Real estate briefs features news and notes on professional associations, office activities, upcoming meetings and seminars, new services products and consumer publications. Write: Real estate briefs, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150. Our fax number is (734) 591-7279.

PROPERTY INVESTORS The Real Estate Investors Association of Oakland presents a panel discussion on auctions and acquisitions Thursday, May 11, at the Knights of Columbus, 870 Main, Clawson. Dinner, \$14 for everyone, starts at 6:30 p.m. The seminar, free for members, \$10 for non-members, starts at 7:30 p.m. To register, call (800) 747-6742.

REDEVELOPMENT The Institute of Real Estate Management Michigan Chapter 5 presents a breakfast program on redevelopment in Detroit 8 a.m. Wednesday, May 17, at the Westin Southfield-Detroit, 1500 Town Center, Southfield. Speaker: Peter D. Cummings, real-estate developer and chairman of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for nonmembers. To register, call Bea King at (248) 615-3885.

Advertisement for a home sale. Features a photo of a large house and text: 'Majestic Colonial stands tall on hilltop overlooking 1/4+ acres surrounded by huge maples. Grand pillars grace the front of this 1870's home while colossal rooms, 6-1/2 ceilings occupy the interior.' Price: \$369,900.

Advertisement for a home sale. Features a photo of a house and text: 'Approved Mortgages sponsors a free, no-obligation seminar on how to sell your home 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18, at the Weight Watchers Building, 28555 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. To register, call (248) 851-2975 or e-mail ovlee@titlemichigan.com.'

Advertisement for a home sale. Features a photo of a house and text: 'The Mortgage Bankers Association of Michigan hosts Sen. Spencer Abraham as keynote speaker at its membership luncheon program noon Monday, May 22, at DoubleTree Hotel, 27000 Sheraton Drive, Novi. Cost is \$30 for members, \$35 for nonmembers. To register, call Joanne Misuraca at (248) 945-3875.'

Home Loan Update advertisement. Includes a table of mortgage rates for various terms (30 yr, 15 yr, 1 yr) and programs (Flagstar Bank, Golden Rule Mortgage, Main Street Mortgage, etc.).

Century 21 Associates advertisement. Features the text 'OPEN HOUSES AND LISTINGS BY APPOINTMENT' and a grid of 12 small property listings with photos and descriptions.

Advertisement for Century 21 Town & Country. Text: 'Century 21 Town & Country, with several local offices and headquartered in Sterling Heights, topped the list of all Century 21 offices last year in terms of fund-raising for Easter Seals. Town & Country raised \$602,715 of the \$1.8 million general system-wide. It was the fifth year in succession that Town and Country has set the pace nationally. John Kersten is the broker/owner. "We feel that linking Century 21 Town & Country to a nationally recognized charity that has such a great impact on a local basis brings us closer to the hearts of our customers," Kersten said.'



TROY - Sharp home with 3 bedrooms and 2 full updated baths. Newer windows, furnace, central air and siding. Fireplace. Oversized garage. Great North Troy location. Call today. \$199,000 (87HAR) 248-524-1600



STERLING HEIGHTS - Utica schools. Great room ranch with 3 bedrooms, den, 3 baths. Finished basement with bedroom and bath. First floor laundry, fenced yard, 2 car garage. \$224,900 (77NOB) 248-524-1600



SHARP NEWER COLONIAL - The Preserve in Commerce, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, unfin. walk-out basement, 3 car garage, bedrooms with cathedral ceilings, 1st floor laundry, family room with fireplace, central air, large deck, formal living & dining rooms, gorgeous medium oak trim thru-out. \$299,900 (55FAI) 248-363-1200



TROY - Great 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick ranch in Troy with Troy schools. Finished basement, first floor laundry, nice private yard. All appliances are included. Attached garage. \$209,900 (39GAM) 248-524-1600



OAK PARK - Move-in condition! Three bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, new paint and carpet, white Formica kitchen with all new appliances, huge family room, finished basement with additional bedroom, newer windows and more. \$134,900 (23GAR) 248-626-8800



MIRRORED BY THE LAKE - One look and you will be sold on this wonderful walk-out Ranch with beautiful landscaping, quality cabinetry and windows, 3 full baths, 2 fireplaces and too many amenities to list. Lakefront!! \$259,900 (04ALL) 248-363-1200



TROY - Emerald lakefront colonial with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, finished walk-out basement. Large deck overlooking lake. Newer windows, updated kitchen and baths. Adjacent to lake access. \$299,900 (54LYS) 248-524-1600



FARMINGTON HILLS - Fabulous 4 bedroom ranch in northern Farmington Hills. First floor laundry, finished basement with wet bar, newer roof & carpeting throughout, windows replaced plus much more. Completely updated! \$238,000 (28BEL) 248-626-8800



LIKE BRAND NEW - Built in '98, home shows like a model with all the extras. Three bedroom, 2 bath ranch has island kitchen with hardwood floors & overlooks great room with fireplace, large master suite with walk-in closet, ceramic bath with separate tub & shower. \$239,000 (67OAK) 248-363-1200



BERKLEY - Three bedroom brick home in Berkley's prestigious St. John Woods. Large lot, 2 1/2 car garage, basement. All redone with a lot of charm. Hardwood floors. Home warranty included. \$225,800 (98KEN) 248-524-1600



KEEGO HARBOR - Fantastic income property! Two houses on one lot. One larger & one smaller. Privileges on Dollar Lake that leads to Cass Lake. Excellent opportunity. Call today!! \$159,700 (29HEN) 248-626-8800



LAKEFRONT "HOME SWEET HOME" Three bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, 2 decks and hot tub. Very recent remodeling to enjoy, no work required! Master suite with new bath is very private, with breathtaking views. \$237,500 (50KIN) 248-363-1200



TROY - Newer, upgraded 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath brick ranch. Master suite with Jacuzzi tub. Great room with sky lights and fireplace. Library/study. Finished basement, attached garage. \$299,900 (94MER) 248-524-1600



WEST BLOOMFIELD - West Bloomfield townhouse! Three bedroom, 3 1/2 bath Contemporary with hardwood floors, first floor laundry, master bedroom suite has built-in furniture, lower level with walk-out and much more! \$309,000 (53FAI) 248-626-8800



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Contemporary quad level. Three bedroom, 2 full baths, 2 lavs., family room and living room with fireplaces, white kitchen with island. Vaulted ceiling in living room; appliances included and home warranty. \$409,900 (58DAR) 248-642-8100



ROCHESTER HILLS - Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial with attached garage, large deck and sprinklers. Family room with fireplace. Updates include windows, roof and a lot more. \$224,900 (38PAR) 248-524-1600



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Fabulous Middle Straits lakefront ranch with 2 bedrooms and 1 1/2 baths. Beautiful views & over sized lot. A lot of charm. Must see. \$329,900 (74LAK) 248-626-8800



BEVERLY HILLS - Updated 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial with newer kitchen and baths. Family room with fireplace, formal dining room, Florida room and rec. room. Great neighborhood with Birmingham schools. Home warranty included. \$374,900 (75KIN) 248-642-8100



TROY - Beautiful Troy colonial with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Great room with cathedral ceiling, marble fireplace. Custom built-in appliances in kitchen. Library with French doors. Three car side entry garage. \$419,900 (92PIN) 248-524-1600



BIRMINGHAM!!! Unique 2 story contemporary features 3 bedrooms, great room with fireplace, recessed lights and walk-out to tiered deck. Cooks delight kitchen, marble foyer, hallway and powder room. Full basement. \$315,000 (11LIN) 248-626-8800



FARMINGTON HILLS - Extremely spacious colonial in Ramblewood, a gate house community. Four bedroom, 3 1/2 bath with library, family room with marble fireplace, master bedroom with walk-in closet, security & intercom system, finished lower level with hot tub. \$359,900 (90TAN) 248-642-8100

CENTURY 21
Ameri
CENTURY



TROY - Beautiful Oak River ranch with 4 bedrooms and 4 full baths - one each in lower level. Treed lot, great room, work shop in basement. Call today to see this great home. \$524,900 (97RIV) 248-524-1600



ROCHESTER HILLS - Ultimate contemporary. Great room with soaring ceilings, fireplace and wet bar. Incredible first floor master suite, huge walk-in closets in all bedrooms, den, lower level with full basement. \$364,900 (90RIV) 248-652-8000

Cent

Town &



LAKE ORION - "WOW" - A perfect 10! Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, hardwood foyer and kitchen, dual staircase, freshly painted, custom finished garden basement. Backs to woods. Pool and sidewalk in premium sub! \$327,000 (60SEN) 248-652-8000



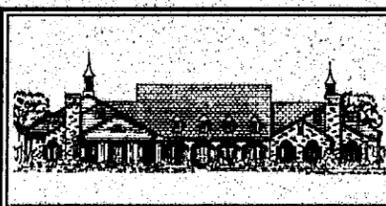
ROCHESTER HILLS - Special updated ranch. Extra large master suite with jet tub and shower, custom kitchen cabinets, 2 fireplaces, sun room, 4 car heated garage. Beautiful pool with equipment on private wooded lot. \$299,900 (87CHR) 248-652-8000



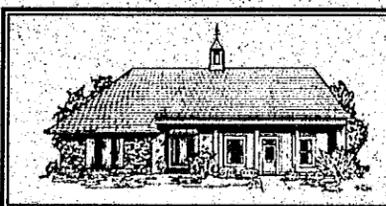
LAKE ORION - Contemporary 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath, 2 car heated garage with circular drive, large deck, oak kitchen cabinets. Also has a mother-in-law quarters with private entrance. One year home warranty. \$289,900 (65JOS) 248-652-8000



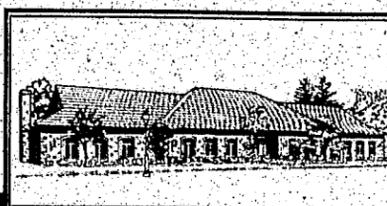
294 E. Brown, Birmingham
(248) 642-8100



4820 Rochester Road, Troy
(248) 524-1600



4310 14 Mile Rd., Sterling Hts.
(810) 939-2800



722 W. University, Rochester
(248) 652-8000

Town & Country
Real Estate's #1
Franchise Firm!



BIRMINGHAM - Three bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial with open floor plan, gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, library, attached heated 2 car garage and master bedroom opens to deck. Located on double lot. \$454,900 (52BIR) 248-642-8100.



A SHOWCASE HOME IN BRENTWOOD - This is a one of a kind home, impressive great room with formal dining room and a study, sunken shower, fireplace, just a few of the beautiful features. Wonderful landscaping. \$324,900 (16HAV) 248-363-1200.

Century 21
Town & Country



BERKLEY - Every amenity possible in this 4 bedroom brick colonial just minutes from downtown Royal Oak and Berkley. Finished basement, 2 1/2 car garage, Florida room with hot tub. Large lot. \$199,900 (56CAT) 248-524-1600.



NORTHERN FARMINGTON HILLS! - Four or five bedroom Tri-level with 2 1/2 baths, library, living room with cathedral ceilings, family room with fireplace, hardwood floors, newer kitchen & updates throughout. \$244,000 (32NES) 248-626-8800



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Fantastic 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial! Kitchen, baths, carpet & window treatments updated in 1998. Freshly painted. Master bedroom with his & hers closets, 2 1/2 car garage and more! \$305,000 (53WAT) 248-626-8800



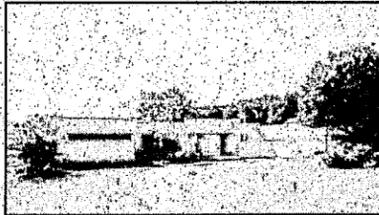
FARMINGTON HILLS - Great location! Private retreat. Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 4-season glass enclosed family room, finished basement with room for artist studio. Well maintained & updated. Great landscaping. \$335,000 (33YOR) 248-626-8800



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Best value in West Bloomfield! Four bedroom, 3 full & 2 half bath colonial. Great floor plan. Library has French doors, formal dining room, luxurious master bedroom suite. Must see!! \$539,900 (45SOU) 248-626-8800



WEST BLOOMFIELD - Fabulous 4-bedroom, 4 bath, 2 lav. Contemporary on wooded lot. Custom built, 2 story foyer, marble floor, granite island, his/hers walk-in closets, finished walk-out basement, wet bar & much more. \$699,000 (60OAK) 248-626-8800.



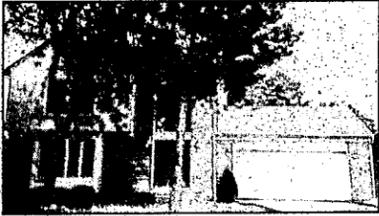
WEST BLOOMFIELD - Custom Walnut lakefront. Six bedroom brick ranch with lower level walk-out. Extensive use of glass & marble. Custom built with thought to every detail. Two kitchens, 5 car garage, circular drive, in-ground pool. \$1,699,000 (20LON) 248-626-8800



LAKE ORION - Move-in condition. Sharp colonial with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths is waiting just for you. Amenities include: large master suite and bath, hardwood floors, natural fireplace, paver brick. \$269,900 (78RIV) 248-652-8000



WEST BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP - Ready for you. Freshly painted and newer neutral carpet, updated white kitchen with garden window, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath Cape Cod on heavily wooded 1/2 acre lot. Lake privileges. \$265,000 (96BAY) 248-652-8000



ROCHESTER HILLS - Spectacular contemporary colonial backing to natural wooded area, walk-out basement on large lot. Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, open & bright country living. Close to city. \$234,900 (50EAG) 248-652-8000



BEVERLY HILLS - Large 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath brick ranch. Hardwood floors, newer roof and furnace and 2 car garage. Sun room, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen and finished basement with wet bar. Great location and great floor plan. \$295,500 (25AMH) 248-642-8100



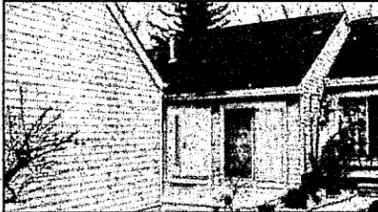
BIRMINGHAM - Three bedroom, 2 full bath colonial with updated kitchen and bath. Professionally finished basement, hardwood floors and 2 car garage. \$264,900 (04HEN) 248-642-8100



BEVERLY HILLS - This home is in move-in condition! Fabulous master suite addition with full bath & walk-in closet. Updated kitchen with appliances, living room with fireplace, family room, finished rec. room. Newer windows, furnace, central air & 2 car garage. Beautiful lot. \$244,900 (40KIR) 248-642-8100



BEVERLY HILLS - Super sharp ranch on beautiful large lot. Living room with fireplace, formal dining room leading to family room, 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths & finished lower level. Newer roof, furnace/central air. Move in tomorrow! \$239,900 (75DUN) 248-642-8100



PORT COVE RANCH CONDO with 2 car garage, private patio and in-ground pool just outside your doorwall. Boat docking in private marina upon availability, sandy beach & cabana and beautiful interior with open layout. \$227,000 (41POR) 248-363-1200



A SHOW STOPPER WITH COMMERCE LAKE PRIVILEGES! Three bedroom home with extensive room addition/remodeling approximately 5 years old. Newer carpet & open kitchen with eating area. Finished lower level with natural fireplace. Paved road and 2 car garage. \$184,900 (50WOR) 248-363-1200



IRON GATES LEAD TO 3 BEDROOM RANCH - Over an acre - a lot of trees & flowers. Breakfast room off kitchen, fireplace in living room, easy to turn 3-season room into family room (already heated), in-law quarters, oversized garage, a lot of storage, partially finished basement. A must see. \$168,900 (55BAN) 248-363-1200



THE SCHOOLS YOU WANT await your children as the owner of this clean 3 bedroom brick ranch in highly regarded Walled Lake school district. Master bath, office, large mud room, 2 car attached garage. Easy commute, large safe fenced yard. Family prices. \$163,911 (71ASH) 248-363-1200



PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP - Super clean 3 bedroom, 2 car attached garage, large fenced yard, central air, maintenance free exterior, updates include: windows, furnace & carpet. Great starter home, close to x-ways & parks. Walled Lake schools. \$156,900 (21WEN) 248-363-1200



BEVERLY HILLS - Three bedroom, 2 bath ranch with many updates. Kraftmade kitchen with ceramic tile, hardwood floors, finished basement with rec. room & office. Newer windows, doors and 2 1/2 car garage. Birmingham schools. \$229,900 (96MAR) 248-642-8100



BLOOMFIELD HILLS - Gorgeous updated first floor Condo in great area. Bleached cabinets, in-unit laundry, Corian and central air. Newer everything!! \$104,900 (00HIC) 248-642-8100



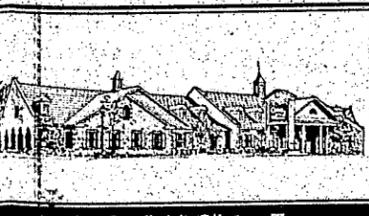
ORION TOWNSHIP - Lots of storage. Wonderful 2 bedroom ranch with finished walk-out basement. Soaring ceilings in great room with natural fireplace, double doorwall leading to private deck overlooking commons. \$192,500 (32VAL) 248-652-8000



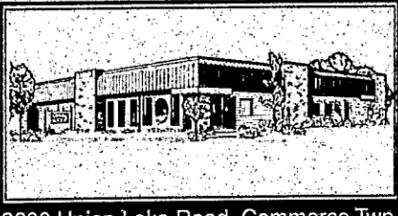
ROCHESTER HILLS - Too cute for words. Great curb appeal & even cuter inside. This adorable 3 bedroom bungalow sits on a premium 1/2 acre beautifully landscaped lot. Updates galore. All appliances included. Home warranty. \$175,000 (05HAZ) 248-652-8000



ROCHESTER - Feels like an inn. Own a part of Rochester's history. Charm galore! Updated kitchen, cozy den, a lot of hardwood. Three bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, basement and 2 car garage. Covered front porch. \$169,600 (01PAR) 248-652-8000



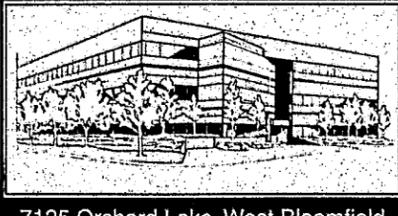
39750 Garfield, Clinton Twp.
 (810) 286-6000



2600 Union Lake Road, Commerce Twp.
 (248) 363-1200



48680 Van Dyke Avenue, Shelby Twp.
 (810) 731-8180



7125 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield
 (248) 626-8800





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ROCKSOLD RESULTS IN REAL ESTATE



BLOOMFIELD HILLS
 • Dynamite contemporary ranch, approx. 6,400 sq. ft.
 • Nestled on a private treed site
 • Three steam showers and jetted tubs
 • Thermador appliances; exercise room. (WA457)
 \$1,049,000 • 248 324-3800



NORTHVILLE - ALMOST NEW
 • This custom Cambridge Cape Cod sits amidst prestigious homes & has its own extras to offer
 • Features extra large rooms, spectacular lower level
 • Three car garage, lush landscaping. (ST174)
 \$599,000 • 248 324-3800



DEERWOOD SUBDIVISION - CLARKSTON
 • Model home built in 1997 offers dramatic vaulted ceilings & large open island kitchen w/ Corian countertops
 • Marble foyer, crown moldings, walkout lower level to patio
 • Deck off kitchen. Breathtaking wooded lot w/ pond. (MO895)
 \$499,900 • Laxmi Jeswani • 810 695-1990



ROCHESTER HILLS! ROOKERY WOODS SUBDIVISION
 • Marvellous 1998 built Tudor offers soaring 2 story entry and fireplace with marble surround in great room
 • Beautiful open kitchen & nook with Corian countertops, bay window, & French doorway, 3 car garage. (RO298)
 \$459,900 • 248 641-1660



WEST BLOOMFIELD - OPEN SUN. 1-4
 • 2501 W. Long Lk. - S. off Long Lk., W. of Middlebelt
 • Million dollar look on private .51 acre setting with choice trees & landscaping surrounding contemporary brick ranch
 • 3 bedrooms with private baths, 3 fireplaces, modern kitchen, recreation room to die for, & 2 car garage. (LO250)
 \$449,000 • 248 851-4400



IMPRESSIVE NEW COLONIAL ON CUL-DE-SAC
 • Desirable North Farmington Hills location
 • 4 bedrooms, sumptuous master suite with his & her closets
 • Living room, dining room, den, fireplace in family room
 • Deep basement, 3 car side entry garage. (CR294)
 \$439,900 • 248 651-8850



IDEAL LOCATION IN DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER
 • This new construction offers French doors off dining room to porch & marble trim fireplace
 • 2,300 sq. ft., jetted tub in master bath, hardwood floors
 • Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths; attached oversized garage. (PI823)
 \$430,000 • Cecelia Brown • 248 656-4401



OUTSTANDING COMMERCE TWP. LAKEFRONT RANCH
 • Golf course across the street plus lake frontage
 • Lower level family room offers fireplace & wet bar, full bath & guest bedroom; Large master bedroom
 • Lots of windows, newer siding, trim, & baths. (GO841)
 \$418,000 • 248 851-4400



FORMER MODEL HOME IN ROCHESTER HILLS
 • Beautifully maintained with premium amenities
 • Hardwood floor in entry, curved staircase, island kitchen
 • Formal dining, newer carpeting, 3 car side entry garage
 • Private treed lot, immediate occupancy. (SU320)
 \$399,500 • 248 651-8850



STERLING HEIGHTS - ALMOST NEW CONSTRUCTION
 • 1999 built Colonial with 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1 half bath
 • Lovely 2-story foyer with circular staircase & crown moldings throughout
 • Large kitchen with tile floor, master with jacuzzi & separate shower
 • Living & dining rooms, family room + library/study. (SW436)
 \$399,000 • Christine Hennings • 248 647-8081



TROY - SUPERB SETTING & AMENITIES
 • Lovely Bench Road area, end of cul-de-sac lot
 • Site with beautiful yard and cedar deck
 • Huge cathedral great room with wall of windows
 • Many updates - furnace, central air, & windows. (R1538)
 \$385,000 • 248 641-1660



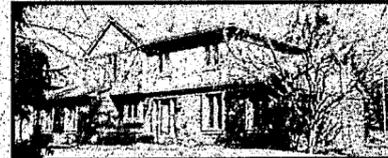
WATERFORD - 105 FEET ON THE LAKE
 • Prime Sylvan Lake locale with sandy beach
 • Three bedrooms, over 1,600 sq. ft., 1.5 baths
 • Two fireplaces, flexible floor plan, 2 car attached garage
 • Deck, immediate possession. (WY966)
 \$370,000 • 248 324-3800



WATERFORD - COUNTRY ATMOSPHERE
 • Fabulous bedroom Colonial on private sports Watkins Lake
 • Handily updated! New kitchen, cabinetry & baths
 • Great room with wood stove & circular stairway off central family room, library/study, fenced yard with 8-car parking! (WA198)
 \$354,900 • 248 625-5700



LOON LAKE A LAUNCHAWAY
 • Pride of ownership evident with vintage authentic woodwork
 • Over 3,000 sq. ft., French door to library, 2.5 baths
 • Separate living quarters with kitchen, living room, bath, & bedroom; 2 garages, deck. Great location. (SO417)
 \$329,900 • 248 624-3015



CAPTIVATING BLOOMFIELD TWP. TUDOR
 • Premium amenities include 2-way fireplace, built-in bookshelves in family room, ceramic foyer & deck
 • Kitchen with breakfast nook plus formal dining
 • Partially finished basement, side entrance garage. (QU482)
 \$319,900 • 248 851-4400



EXCEPTIONAL VALUE IN LAKE ORION
 • Traditional floor plan, 2,100+ sq. ft.
 • Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, hardwood floors
 • First floor laundry, security system
 • Beautifully landscaped. (V1408)
 \$255,000 • Nancy Ritter • 248 656-4420



HUNTINGTON WOODS - OPEN SUN. 1-4
 • 10144 Talbot - E. of Wyoming, S. of 11 Mile
 • 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath bungalow located on tree-lined street
 • Recently updated white kitchen with appliances included
 • Lovely living room with gas fireplace, hardwood floors throughout
 • Finished rec room. Roof replaced in '99. (TA101)
 \$269,900 • 248 647-6400



ROCHESTER HILLS CLASSICAL COLONIAL
 • New kitchen cabinets, appliances, and flooring
 • All new carpeting, foyer accented by Wilson-Art tiling
 • Enclosed sun room & deck face private yard
 • Excellent value. (W1276)
 \$269,000 • 248 651-8850



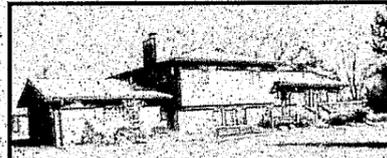
CUSTOM BRICK RANCH - HUNTINGTON WOODS
 • Open floor plan with large rooms! 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths
 • Master with half bath & walk-in closet with built-ins
 • Formal kitchen with breakfast area, appliances included
 • Formal dining room, marble foyer & hearty, warm classic interior. (VE107)
 \$250,000 • 248 647-6400



TOUR THIS HOME ON-LINE
www.prudential-michigan.com
CAPTIVATING 2-STORY IN HUNTINGTON WOODS
 • Marble floor in foyer plus marble fireplace surround & built-in bookcases in living room, cove ceilings
 • Crown moldings, berber carpet in April of 2000
 • Refinished maple hardwood floors & more! (SH133)
 \$249,921 • 248 647-6400



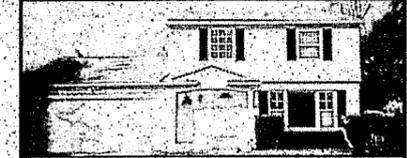
BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS - OPEN SUN. 1-4
 • 2066 Lakeshire - N. of Quanton, W. off Inkster
 • Loaded with appeal on the inside & charm on the outside
 • The best kitchen/family room layout around - & it's new too!
 • Upstairs master has bath plus 4th bedroom or office
 • 2 baths, full, partially finished basement. Walk to the beach! (LA206)
 \$249,000 • 248 647-6400



ROCHESTER HILLS - HOUSE BEAUTIFUL!
 • Hardwood floors, updated baths and kitchen
 • Loads of light, bright space
 • Large lot with sprinklers & pavers
 • Great location close to Oakland University. (RA315)
 \$239,900 • Joyce Dibbs • 248 656-4422



WEST BLOOMFIELD - ASPEN RIDGE CONDO!
 • Gorgeous open wooded view
 • Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths
 • Freshly painted and updated
 • All neutral and in move-in condition! (AS627)
 \$239,900 • 248 851-4400



TROY - JUST IN TIME FOR SUMMER!
 • Classic updated 4 bedroom Colonial in Western Troy
 • Updates include: spacious white kitchen, shingles, central air, carpet, garage, entry door, & much more!
 • Natural fireplace in family room. Subdivision park. (MI146)
 \$233,900 • 248 641-1660



TERRIFIC NORTH ROYAL OAK LOCATION
 • Spacious 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home
 • New maple kitchen, beamed cathedral ceiling in living & dining rooms, 2 fireplaces. Clean, neutral decor
 • Heated garage. Attractive setting with mature trees. (PO620)
 \$229,900 • 248 641-1660



INSTANTLY APPEALING - ROCHESTER HILLS
 • Original 3 bedrooms on entry level & 2 additional on lower level, large family room with fireplace in addition
 • Newer vinyl siding, windows, roof, furnace, central air
 • Original living room & 3 bedrooms with hardwood floors. (OK234)
 \$224,900 • 248 651-8850



BLOOMFIELD RANCH
 • New carpet, windows, & paint
 • Updated kitchen & bath
 • Sits on oversized lot, two car garage, fireplace
 • Home warranty. (BA176)
 \$224,900 • 248 641-1660



LAKEFRONT TRANQUILITY
 • Two bedrooms, 1 bath, and nice size living room
 • Use year-round or as a weekend getaway
 • 148 feet of all sports Hemmingway lakefront
 • Wooded lot, home available on 50 feet lot. (CU467)
 \$220,000 • 248 647-6400



TROY RANCH - BIRMINGHAM SCHOOLS!
 • 3 bedrooms & 2 full baths. Located on large, treed lot
 • Beautiful interior with vaulted ceilings & expansive windows
 • 2-way fireplace adjoins living room & family room
 • Newer carpet, paint, kitchen, baths, roof, etc., & hot water heater. (BO276)
 \$209,000 • 248 647-6400



UPDATED TRI-LEVEL IN COMMERCE
 • Many recent updates include windows, baths, water softener & septic. Four bedrooms, 1.5 baths
 • Hardwood floors, freshly painted inside & out
 • Walkout lower level, aboveground pool, fenced. (B1185)
 \$203,900 • 248 851-4400



WIXOM - WALKING & BIKE PATHS IN SUBDIVISION
 • Fireplace and bay window highlight great room
 • Three bedrooms, freshly painted, 1st floor laundry
 • Heated garage with 110/220 electrical
 • Walk to beach, Walled Lake Schools. (CH131)
 \$195,000 • 248 624-3015



TOUR THIS HOME ON-LINE
www.prudential-michigan.com
WIXOM - WOW!
 • Beautiful ranch home w/ gorgeous wooded scenery in family neighborhood
 • 3 bedrooms, family room with cathedral ceiling & gas log fireplace, living room with bay window, large country kitchen
 • Garage. Nicely landscaped yard. Walking/bike paths. (TE200)
 \$165,000 • 248 624-3015



ROYAL OAK - OPEN SUN. 2-5
 • 2721 Woodland Ave. - N. off Webster bet, Woodward & Crooks
 • This 3 bedroom brick ranch is impeccable in every respect
 • Bright, fresh decor & spacious open floor plan
 • Updated kitchen & baths, double closets in master
 • Sharp lower level office with cable & modem access. (WO272)
 \$164,850 • 248 647-6400



BEAUTIFULLY KEPT WATERFORD RANCH
 • Serene neighborhood with tree-lined streets
 • Wood floors under new living room carpet
 • Stunning custom Italian ceramic tile
 • Lake Oakland beach and boat launch (fee). (AQ388)
 \$159,900 • 248 625-5700



WARREN RANCH!
 • Great 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home in well-kept neighborhood
 • Spacious kitchen with large dining area, all appliances stay
 • Great room sizes, hardwood floors, central air conditioning
 • Nice curb appeal, 2 car garage, quick occupancy. (ST827)
 \$153,000 • Christine Hennings • 248 647-8081



ROCHESTER HILLS CONDO
 • Sharp and clean upper level unit! Hardwood floor in living room, master bedroom with parquet floor
 • Extra bonus room at entry level. New dishwasher & range
 • Golf, tennis, pool, and shopping all close by! (LO223)
 \$142,000 • 248 641-1660