

Around Town

Kindergarten registration underway

Chelsea School District mailed kindergarten registration packets for the 1998-99 school year this week. Parents should receive packets by March 31. Packets are due back by April 9. If parents of a kindergarten-aged child do not receive a packet by Monday, they can fax a note to the Community Education office at 475-3140 or call 475-9830 to receive a packet. Faxes should include the child's name, birth date, parents' names, address and phone number.

Children must turn four years old by Dec. 1, 1998, to be eligible for kindergarten.

Retirement community to hold egg hunt

Chelsea Retirement Community will hold an Easter Egg Hunt starting at 9:30 a.m. April 11, on the grounds of the retirement community, 805 W. Middle St. The event is sponsored by Chelsea Kiwanis and Liberty Title. Parking is available only along W. Middle Street.

Family violence prevention for men featured

The Domestic Violence Project and SAFE House will present its monthly program, "Being and Why: What Men Can Do To Stop Domestic Violence," from 12 to 2 p.m. April 14 at 4100 Clark Road in Ann Arbor. There is no charge for the presentation and the general public is encouraged to attend.

For more information call 973-0242 ext. 296.

Dexter Twp. to consider millage

Dexter Township Board will discuss next month a proposal to request a millage for fire protection.

Trustee Libby Brushhaber approached the board March 17 with language for similar proposals that passed in surrounding townships. Fire protection millages in those areas range from a half mill to 1.5 mills.

Brushhaber suggested the township ask voters to approve 1 mill, which is expected to generate \$150,000 for fire protection.

Clerk Bill Elsenbeler said the township currently spends \$130,000 on fire protection, which is 25 percent of its budget.

Treasurer Julie Knight suggested the board may want to consider charging township residents a 1 percent administrative fee for preparing the tax roll. She said that would generate \$50,000 for the general fund and could help out with the fire budget.

Dexter Twp. approves pay increases

Dexter Township Board of Trustees approved salary hikes for township officials and employees March 17.

The zoning inspector's salary was set at \$11,000, the blight inspector, \$6,300, and the assessor, \$19,000.

Hourly employees saw a 15 cent increase for clerical staff to \$10 an hour, and deputies and the administrative secretary from \$11.30 an hour to \$11.60.

The supervisor's salary was restored to \$22,350. The treasurer's was set at \$19,000, the clerk's at \$16,500 and trustees' at \$9,950.

Humanitarian Awards

Faith in Action presented its annual Humanitarian of the Year award last Saturday at its annual fundraising banquet at Chelsea Community Hospital. This year there were two awards. Top, Walt and Sandy Zeeb, owners of Chelsea Greenhouse, were honored for their many years of service to the community. They have donated their time and effort as well as countless flowers and plants to many organizations and causes. Below, Biff and Suzie Weber of Palmer Family Ford were honored for the dealership's annual sponsorship of the Toys for Tots and Teens program, which collects hundreds of toys for area needy families. The program is nearly a decade old.



School drains blamed for Freer flooding

By Eric Bowen
Staff Writer

Traveling along Freer Road south of town may be more easily accomplished by boat than by car lately after heavy rain and snow have caused the wetlands nearby to flow over the road. Residents nearby have complained of flooding on their property and have asked the county drain commissioner to do something about the water.

Drain Commissioner Janis Bobrin said that the construction of Pierce Lake Elementary and the new Chelsea High School have contributed to the drainage problem. She said the construction has caused more runoff than was present before the buildings were put in and the excess water is causing the flooding.

"Freer Road has had flooding problems where we haven't had problems in the past," Bobrin said. "It's altered the situation. The runoff changes dramatically when you develop."

As part of the construction, the schools built a series of detention ponds from both sites that feed water into nearby wetlands. According to Chelsea Schools Operations Manager Ron Livengood, the ponds are designed to limit the rate of water flow into the wetlands to correspond to county standards that say development should not affect the flow rate of the property.

Because the school district is a governmental agency, the county does not have jurisdiction over the drainage of the site, Bobrin said. But she said that had the school been a business in the community, she would not have approved its drainage system.

"There's no adequate outlet for storm water," Bobrin said of Pierce Lake Elementary's drainage. "We would have required a larger pond if they didn't have an outlet. It did not meet our standards and we would not have approved it."

Despite her determination that the drains were too small to handle the drainage from the site, Bobrin did say the district is to be commended for attempting a drainage system at all. She said some districts have neglected drainage systems and have caused problems for residents.

Bobrin's objections were news to school officials who said the architects built the drainage system according to county standards. Livengood said the school's engineers have done numerous projects of this sort and followed established guidelines in determining the flow of water out of the schools.

Ken Peregou, associate principal of O'Boyle, Cowell Blalock and Associates, the landscape architects who designed the drainage system,

(Continued on Page 14)

High school takes shape as building continues

By Eric Bowen
Staff Writer

Towering four stories above the newly poured concrete in the auditorium stage, construction crews work diligently in the hopes of finishing Chelsea School District's new high school building before the projected July opening date.

Rooms are beginning to shape up around the entire site as workers hammer, weld and caulk, attaching windows and doors to their moorings and finishing walls for the modern facility.

Entering the front door, which currently is not fully built, visitors will run into the high school offices, which are on the second floor. Principal Ron Mead, Assistant Principal Robin Raymond will have offices in this area. Counselors will have offices across the hall.

Once the walls are built, the offices will overlook the sun-lit expanse of the high school's common area. Windows abound here, with skylights giving natural lighting, which Mead said is important to learning. In fact, Mead said every room in the building, except for areas that need to be kept dark, will have some form of natural lighting.

Mead said the common area will seat 450 people and serve food in two lunch periods. Entrances to the school come into the center and then fan out to other parts of the building.

"We wanted a place where students could begin and end their day," Mead said. "It's a nice place for students to meet."

Inside the common area will be a store where students in a newly created marketing class will sell their wares. Students will likely be able to buy T-shirts and other school items as well as food.

The students' lunches will be served in a kitchen area next to the commons. The lunch line will enter in one side and exit the other. The lunch area lies close to the kitchens for easy access. Students will receive a debit card to which they can add money to buy lunches.

Near the commons will be the high school's media center. Aside from an array of bookshelves for more traditional media, the center will contain several computer stations with access to the Internet.

Down a short hall lies the high school auditorium. Crews recently finished pouring concrete and visitors can now see the outlines of the stage below a high ceiling designed for easy removal of sets and performance backdrops. The base for seats and the orchestra pit are also plainly visible.

The auditorium is large enough to fit 870 people. Mead said it was designed for school performances and to house traveling shows in the community. The lights, catwalks and other theater systems will all be college-level to provide for a boost when graduating from high school.

Next to the auditorium is a production area for sets and a small practice room with makeup rooms nearby. Also behind the stage will be a technology room where students will film and broadcast a daily television show during lunch. Editing rooms for video tape are attached.

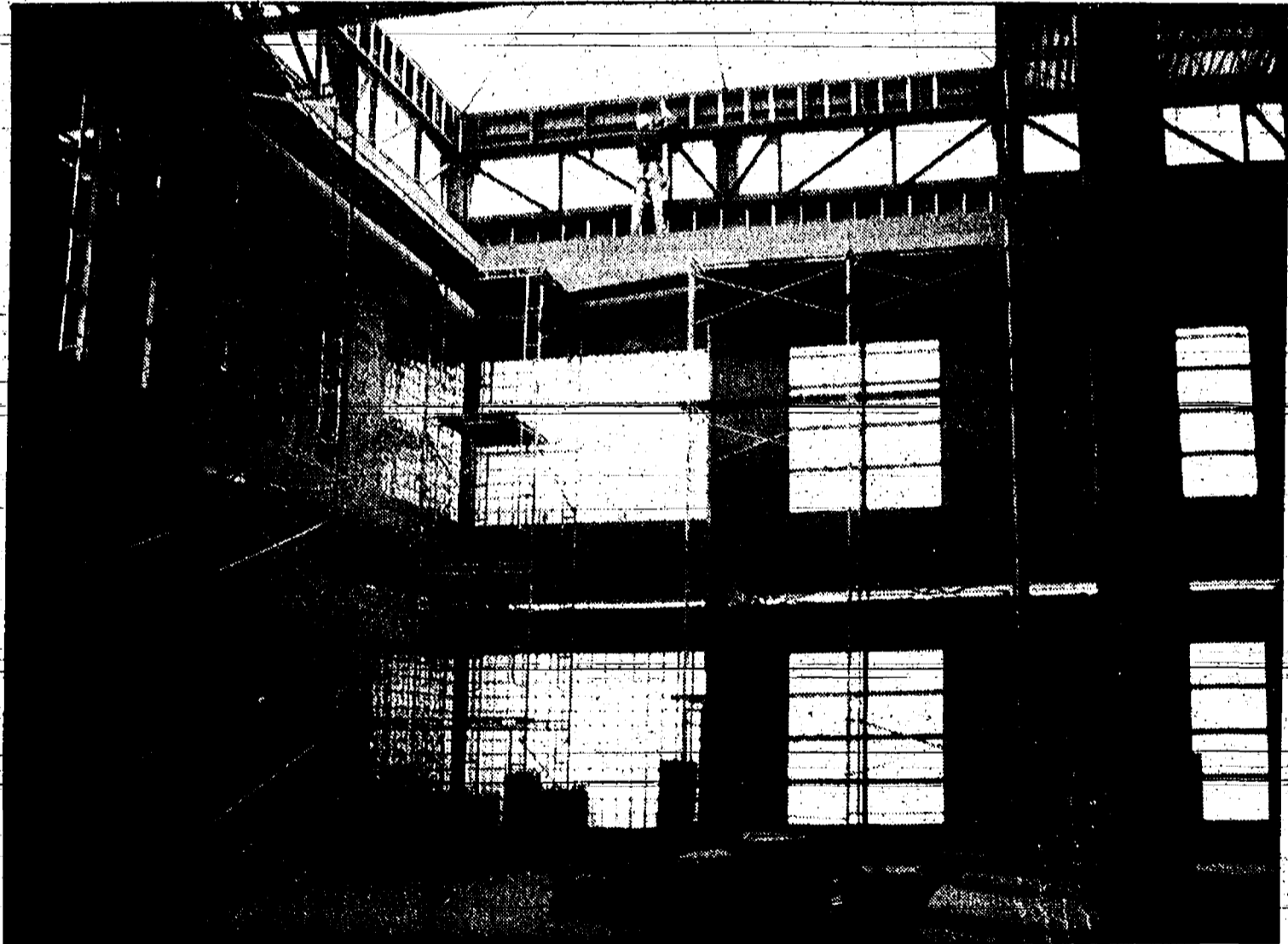
Leading away from the auditorium is one of two elevators in the building, included to be sure the school is handicapped accessible. The auditorium will have seating for the disabled throughout the hall, including the balcony, also accessible via the elevator.

The band, orchestra and choir rooms all lie near the auditorium in the northeast wing of the school. The rooms will all have acoustic treatment on the walls and the vocal music will have movable curtains to adjust the sound quality.

The walls for the music rooms are underway. Practice rooms surround the music area. The school has small rooms for individual practice as well as larger rooms for ensembles.

The art and pottery rooms nearby are largely complete. Builders have put in drywall.

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The new Chelsea High School is beginning to take shape as work crews make sure the building will open on schedule in July. The media center (above) will feature a skylight to give the room natural lighting while students work on a variety of computer terminals. Once the cabinets for the school are moved out, the gym (below) will hold 2,700 people. With the bleachers folded, the gym will be able to accommodate three full-court basketball games with dividers in-between.



The Chelsea Standard

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A Closer Look

By Eric Bowen

I've never been one who enjoys water. This probably goes back to the traumatic childhood experience of standing on the edge of our neighborhood pool at 7 a.m., drenched and freezing, waiting for my swimming instructor to explain the finer points of the crawl stroke. Needless to say water sports are not my forte.

So imagine my dismay last week when, while driving along Freer Road, I encountered a veritable rapids across the low-lying roadway stretching out before me like the River Styx. When Charon the Boat Keeper neglected to appear to cart my car across the water, I drove through, hoping my Toyota paid more attention in swimming class than I.

The flooding along Freer Road and in surrounding neighborhoods has been a growing problem of late and is likely to worsen as winter gives way to the storms of spring. Everyone in the area is looking for a scapegoat to take the blame for the hazards posed by the water and possible damage to houses nearby.

The schools seem to be an obvious choice. Residents in the area certainly think the building of Pierce Lake Elementary and the new high school at the least contributed to, or at the most was the sole cause of, the flooding. And a recent statement by County Drain Commissioner Janis Bobrin that the schools drainage system is inadequate seems to add credence to that claim.

But just blaming the schools is a little simplistic. Aside from El Niño-powered storms this season, the Drain Commission's standards, which the schools say they followed, make no mention of the total volume of water coming off of a property, limiting discussion to the rate of flow. The wetland, however, may not be able to handle the increased water volume.

The most distressing thing about the fiasco is the lack of responsibility taken for over-seeing the installation of drainage systems for two large buildings, which once in place

inevitably changed the runoff levels for the entire area.

On one side we have Bobrin, who seems to place the blame on faulty drainage from the schools. On another we have school officials who say they were built to county standards. Still another side is the state of Michigan, who can't seem to decide who is supposed to approve site plans and make inspections for school districts around the state. And last we have area residents who don't want their taxes raised to pay for improvements in a nearby drainage district.

Though there seems to be a lot of it going around, the laying of blame is less important than figuring out what to do next. There's no use bemoaning the new schools. The students of Chelsea need them in order to get a modern education. And although it would likely eliminate the problem, it certainly would be inadvisable to tear down millions of dollars of school buildings to return the wetlands to their former state.

The school district has made a good start on providing a solution. Having contracted for a study to determine the best way to alleviate the flooding, the district hit upon the idea of funneling the water from Pierce Lake Elementary, through two wetlands, across the high school and into the Palmer-Baldwin Drain.

Unfortunately the drain was built in the 1930s, when two schools were not even on the horizon, and the drain cannot accommodate the increased water. So residents are now haggling over whether improvements should be made and who is going to pay for them.

Superintendent Ed Richardson said he would be willing to recommend the school district pay for some of the improvements. Perhaps the residents, including Richardson himself, since he lives in the district, should take him up on his offer and get the job done.

Then maybe I can stop wearing a life-vest to work.

Uncle Apollo

I got a hot tip the other day that Congress started up a new Great Lake. Well, I checked into it, and it seems that this senator, Patrick Leahy from Vermont, wants to compete for \$50 million in lake research dollars, so instead of changing the scope of the grant, he figures it's easier to make Lake Champlain a Great Lake.

What scares me the most about this plan is that it sounds like something I would have come up with. Often I have had dreams about being separated at birth from my twin brother, Alf. In these dreams, we were born joined at the brain and when the doctors did the operation they accidentally gave me a lot more of the smart part than they gave to my brother. Is it possible that this Leahy guy is Alf?

If so, he's misguided. If Congress was to make a new Great Lake, they'd have to start with Cavanaugh Lake. After all, I sent in the applica-

tion years ago, although I didn't tell anyone because I figured it was a long shot and I wanted it to be a surprise. I'll tell you, it's not fair! If Congress would have listened to me, I'd have been a hero! I'd probably be Village President today. And if it was a Great Lake it would be no problem to get money for sewers, and probably street lights and maybe even a cow sign for the Cavanaugh Lake Party Store.

And while we're on the subject, what about Pierce Lake? Think about it. If it were a Great Lake, you could probably get big federal money to build a lighthouse on it so wandering geese wouldn't bump into shore and sink. And maybe we could get some local movie star to set up a migratory goose route between the two Chelsea Great Lakes, leading the geese back and forth with a motorized kite.

And what about the Twin Lakes on Freer Road? If they were Great, we could probably get some federal pork money to buy the Zilwaukee Bridge to span across both of them. Come to think about it, I have a low spot in my driveway that could use some federal funding. Maybe it's not Great Lake

material, but it could be a Mediore Lake, or at least a Great Puddle.

In fact, I think it's time we took this approach a little farther. I mean, if all we have to do is come up with the right label for things to get some big bucks from the government, seems to me we should start getting more creative. My former running mate, Arlotta Moofellow, is probably an ancestor of Elsie, who is a historical cow. Therefore, I think Arlotta should get her own shrine, financed by federal dollars and amounted prominently on the water tower.

And while we're on the sub-

ject, Arf bears a strong resemblance to Bigfoot. Seems to me there ought to be some research dollars in that. Or maybe we could convince Congress that the Jiffy Towers are kinda like the Eiffel Tower, so we should get a grant to make a billion Jiffy postcards to sell to the rush of visitors when Congress makes its declaration.

Since I have this long lost twin brother in the senate, I can really get some prime pork going here. So send me your ideas and together we'll get our share of Great U.S. dol-

lars.

Letters to the Editor

Calling fire department was expensive decision

Articles have appeared recently in *The Chelsea Standard* concerning the Village of Chelsea's fire-rescue services and how Sylvan Township residents pay for them.

My surprise charge of \$450 (in addition to the taxes I already pay) for a response to a carbon monoxide alarm was a

hard lesson learned.

Since then, other township residents have commented to me that they had no idea that they could unknowingly be charged for some or similar types of services.

First, I need to say something about carbon monoxide (CO). CO is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas that can kill

(Continued on Page 13)

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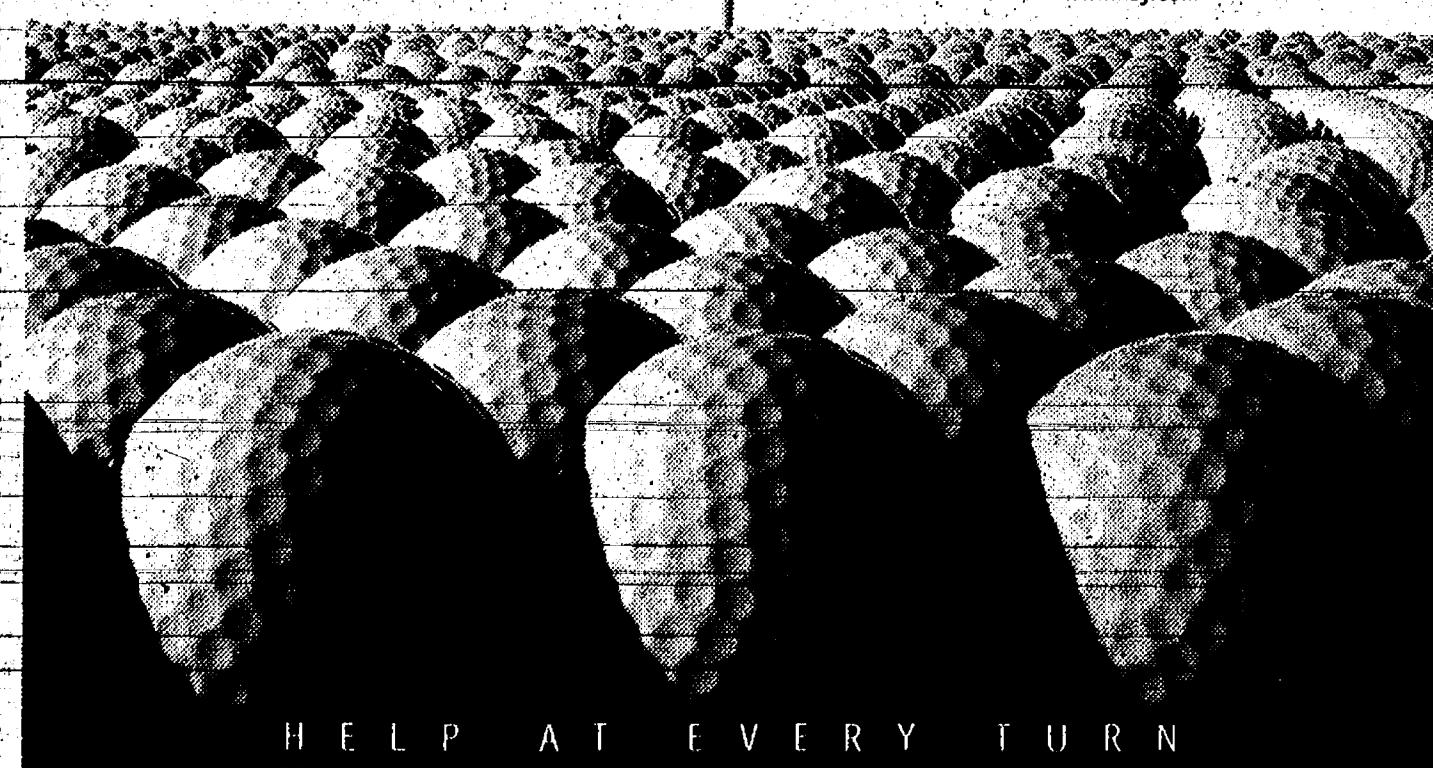
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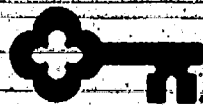
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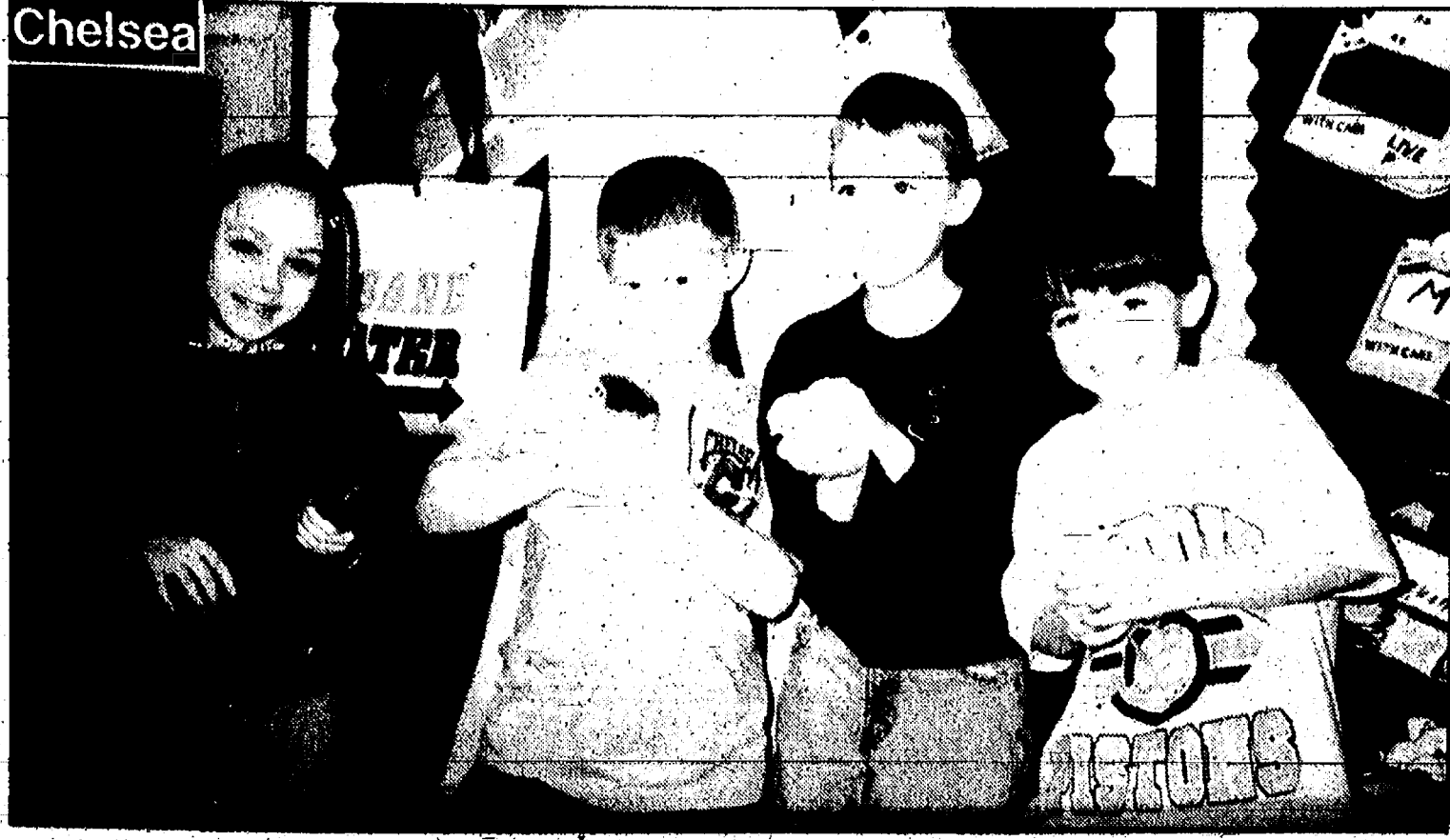
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Hatched Chicks

Students in Beth Newman's first-grade class at South Meadows Elementary successfully hatched 11 chicks in an incubator recently. Megan Brooks-Planck (left), Cameron Girard, Steven Collins and William Snyder hold some of the chicks.

Family Medicine

By John C. Wolf, D.O.
Associate Professor of
Family Medicine
Ohio University College of
Osteopathic Medicine

Question: I am a 51-year-old woman and I have had no "female complaints" until about three years ago. I started having very heavy menstrual bleeding. After several exams and a D&C, I was told I have fibroids.

What are my treatment options? I've read about a "uterine balloon therapy" that is done in Canada. How would I make contact with a doctor there for this treatment?

Answer: Before I directly answer your question, I need to explain uterine fibroids to the other readers of this col-

umn. The uterus is constructed largely from muscle. A fibroid is an "abnormal growth, a tumor, originating from this uterine muscle. These fibroids can form inside the cavity of the uterus, totally within the normal muscle, or on the outside surface of the organ. They are typically non-malignant with only about one percent being cancerous.

Fibroid tumors are often referred to by their more technical name, "leiomyoma" and occur in 25 to 30 percent of all women. Regardless of their name, they cause menstrual period symptoms like yours in most of those with them. In reproductive age women they may also cause difficulty with fertility or with continuing a

pregnancy. There are a variety of possible treatments for fibroids. The age of the woman, whether she is pregnant or may wish to become pregnant, the location of tumor, its size and the person's general health help determine which treatment is right for her.

The fibroid tumor is situated to grow by the presence of estrogen, one of the normal female hormones. Because of this, there are several hormonal treatments that often reduce the size of the tumor and also lessen the severity of the symptoms it produces.

As I suspect you know, the estrogen levels drop significantly as a woman goes through menopause. This change often brings about improvement or total elimination of the symptoms caused by the tumor. This is a form of "natural" hormonal therapy.

Hormonal treatment may be used alone or in conjunction with surgical treatment. Surgery may be as simple as the D&C you had. For other women, specific removal of the offending fibroid tumor or tumors, or removal of the entire uterus may be necessary.

There are quite a few ways a surgeon can remove just the fibroid tumors. The use of high-tech instruments and lasers are best for some conditions. The balloon therapy you mentioned is one of these newer techniques. In another form of treatment, the blood supply to the tumor is blocked, thereby causing it to die. In women who no longer desire to have more children, a hysterectomy may be recommended.

There are a number of procedures and medications available in other parts of the world that are not available in our country. It depends upon the success of the specific therapy whether the government is damned for maintaining conservative protective barriers or praised for keeping a harmful treatment away from our shores.

In the latter case, however, there is almost never much news coverage about the problems related to using the so-called "new and better" treatment because they aren't news here. They may be very big news in the countries where citizens are suffering from the consequences of the prematurely approved treatment.

In sort, a new procedure or medicine isn't necessarily as good as its supports claim. In the case of fibroids, there are already many very effective treatments available with a proven record of safety. Therefore, I'd suggest that you seek care in the United States. Save your excursions to Canada for a family vacation or a great fishing trip.

"Family Medicine" is a weekly column. To submit questions, write to John C. Wolf, D.O., Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Grosvenor Hall, Athens, Ohio 45701.

Story time to begin April 15

Spring Story Time will begin April 15 at Chelsea District Library with Youth Services Librarian Tina Diab. Toddler story time for children age two will be from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Pre-school children will be from 11 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays.

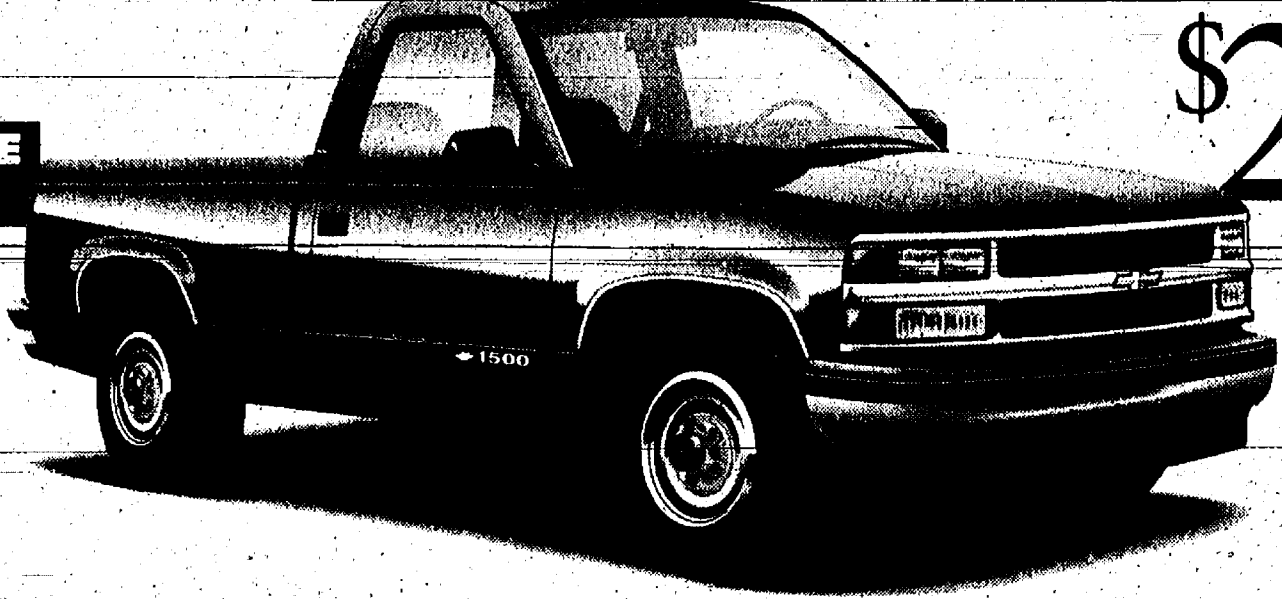
Registration begins April 1 for the six-week series continuing through May 20. Call 475-8732 for more information.

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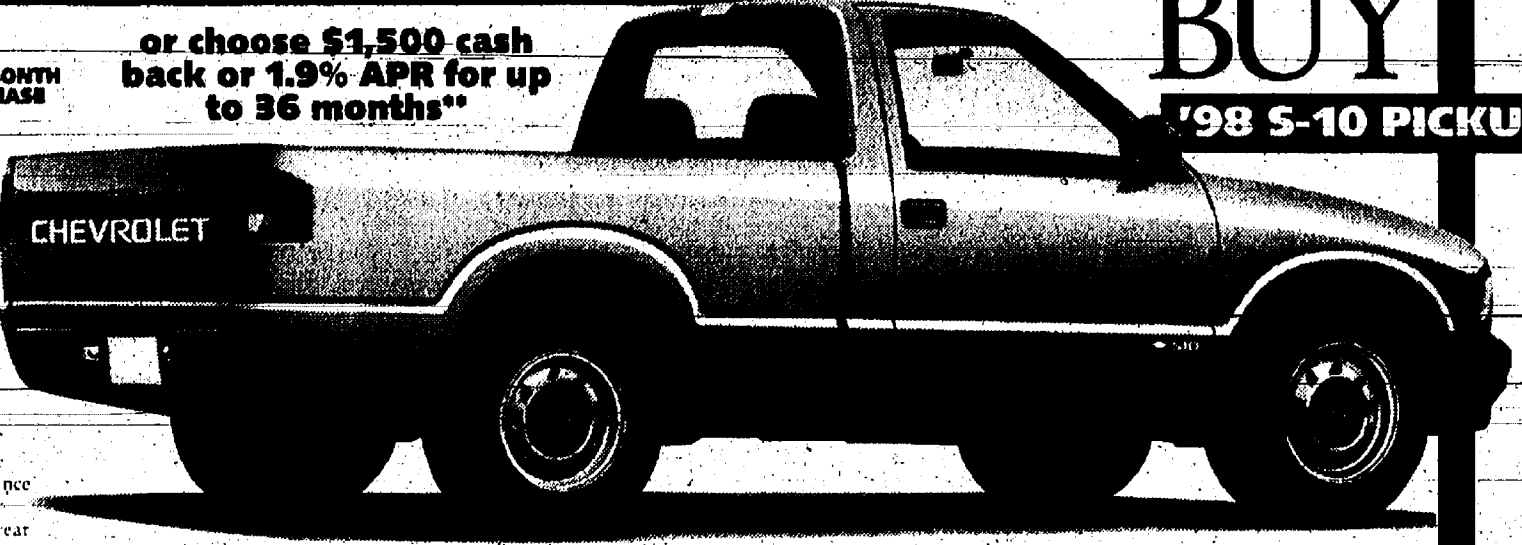
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GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY: Raymond and Emily Mosher celebrated 50 years of marriage March 8 at an open house hosted by their children. The couple were married in the United Church of Christ in Chelsea March 1, 1948, and now reside in Ann Arbor. The Moshers have seven children, Nancy Breitag of Ann Arbor, Barbara Alexa of Ann Arbor, Kathleen (Gene) Payne of Ann Arbor, Gordor (Diane) Mosher of Dexter, Gary (Gayle) Mosher of Dexter, Crystal (Bill) McCarter of Ann Arbor and Mary Mosher of Ann Arbor. The Moshers also have 17 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Chelsea Hospital to host many events

Chelsea Community Hospital Auxiliary is sponsoring a spring bazaar and bake sale, April 9, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the hospital dining room. There will be crafts and delicious baked goods.

A raffle will be held. The prizes are:

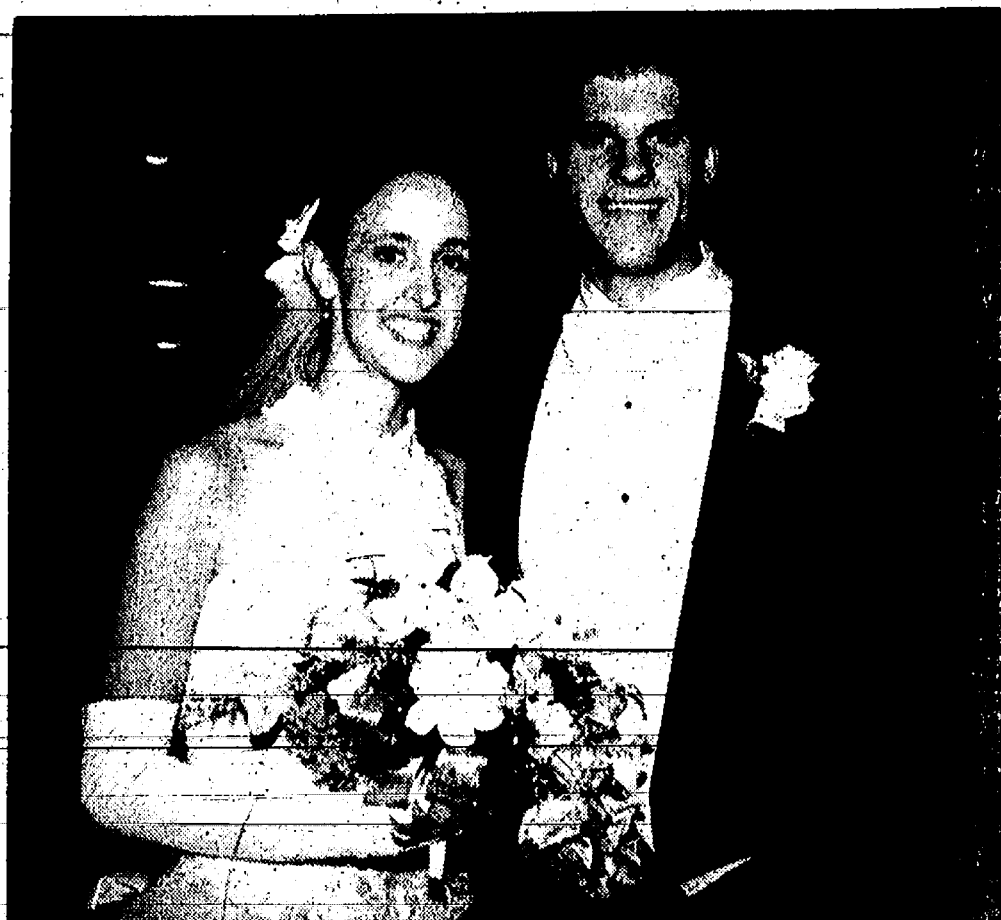
- Hot-air balloon ride for two donated by Bob's Ford, Stockbridge;
- "Princess Di" Beanie Baby donated by the Arbor Nook Gift Shop;
- Painting donated by Madeleine Valtier.

Call the volunteer office (734) 475-3913 for information and to purchase raffle tickets. The drawing will be held in the hospital dining room at 2 p.m. You need not be present to win. All proceeds will help fund hospital projects.

Chelsea Community Hospital presents "Everything you ever wanted to know about your vision," Wednesday, April 8, 7-8:30 p.m. in the hospital dining room. Dr. William Hawks, ophthalmologist, will discuss vision loss, glaucoma, children's vision problems and the latest in cataract surgery in this free lecture. Call 475-4103 for information.

Chelsea Community Hospital offers "Jazzercise" Mondays and Wednesdays, April 6-June 27 at the CCH Fitness Center. This popular dance and exercise class is fun and suitable for all exercisers from beginners to advanced. Please call 475-4103 for registration and information.

Weddings, Engagements and Anniversaries



Loring, Haugen exchange vows at ceremony in Denver

Rachel Paulette Loring and Christopher Olson Haugen were married May 24, 1997, at Galilee Baptist Church in Denver. The Rev. Andy Mevenden, along with the bride's father, the Rev. George Loring, presided over the ceremony.

Rachel is the daughter of Theresa and George Loring of Littleton, Colo. She graduated from Arapahoe High School in 1993 and attended Wheaton (Ill.) College.

Chris is the son of Ginger and Rik Haugen of Chelsea. He graduated from Chelsea High School in 1991 and from Wheaton College in 1995. He received a teaching certificate from the University of Michigan in 1997.

Wedding attendants from Chelsea were bridesmaid and flute soloist Karin Haugen. Best man was Rich Mason and groomsmen were Alex Hammerschmidt.

A traditional western barbecue dinner and dance were enjoyed by wedding guests during the evening garden reception held at the Loring residence. The couple honeymooned on a cruise in the Bahamas and now reside in Littleton.

AAA offers safety brochure

The old adage about safety first on the job and at home should also apply the moment you step into a new car showroom, according to AAA Michigan.

That's the message behind "Buying a Safe Car for Child Passenger," a new brochure created by AAA National and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"The brochure is designed to help new and used-car shoppers select a vehicle with the safety features they need to protect children," said Jerry Basch, AAA Michigan Community Safety Services manager.

It is part of a national effort to raise awareness of the need to take special precautions when transporting children in cars and light trucks, especially with the summer driving season around the corner.

"Rather than shopping for a vehicle based solely on appearance or performance, they should check for appropriate safety features such as child safety seat compatibility and a rear center seat lap/shoulder belt, for instance," Basch said.

The 21-page brochure also provides a checklist for parents shopping for a vehicle. The list includes:

- The number of children transported — their ages and sizes.
- Will you be installing child safety seats? Where will you place them?
- Will the vehicle's safety belt system meet the needs of your children?
- How frequently will you remove or install the child safety seats and what is the ease of their installation and removal?

"Other factors to consider involve convenience and safety, including how difficult it is to get to the back seat on a two-door model, and how seat types affect child safety seats," Basch added.

Charts in the brochure list safety features on 77 popular new cars and trucks, including manual air bag, on-off switches, built-in child safety seats and rear center seat lap/shoulder belts.

The brochure also reminds parents to transport children under 12 in the back seat, have all passengers properly secured and properly install child safety seats. Parents also are advised never to use a rear-facing child seat in the front seat of a vehicle with an active air bag.

The brochure is now available free at all AAA Michigan branches.

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Weddings, Engagements and Anniversaries



ENGAGED: Phoebe Strong of Chelsea and Jeff Harris of Canton are engaged and planning a May wedding. Parents of the future bride are Robert and Eleanor Strong of Chelsea. Parents of the future groom are James and Dianne Harris of Saginaw. Phoebe graduated from Chelsea High School in 1985 and from Grace College in 1991. She works as a secretary for the University of Michigan and Immanuel Bible Church, and as a sign language interpreter for Wines Elementary School. Jeff graduated from Valley Lutheran High School in 1988 and from Central Michigan University in 1992. He works as an accountant for Borders Group Inc.



ENGAGED: Amy Gillen of Chelsea and Michael Riske of Manchester are engaged and planning a May 23 wedding. Parents of the bride-to-be are Julie Gillen of Chelsea and Larry and Pam Gillen of Manchester. Parents of the groom-to-be are John and Lois Riske of Manchester. Amy is a 1991 graduate of Chelsea High School and is now self-employed. Michael is a 1992 graduate of Manchester High School and is employed at Manchester Tool and Die.

Girl Scout Council receives grant

Huron Valley Girl Scout Council recently received \$7,000 from the Michigan Women's Foundation to fund the council's leadership development programs for girls.

The council will host a leadership conference weekend Nov. 6-8 for 175 middle school and high school girls from seven Girl Scout councils in Southeastern Michigan.

Other workshops will be held for 170 Junior Girl Scouts (upper elementary), Cadette Girl Scouts (middle school) and Senior Girl Scouts (high school). After completing the training, girls will put their skills into action working as mentors to younger girls in troops, at events, or at camp.

The Michigan Women's

Foundation grant will provide honorariums and on-site staff for the conference and for later workshops.

The Michigan Women's Foundation was created in 1986 to respond to issues facing the state's women and girls. To date it has granted more than \$1.4 million to nonprofit agencies serving women and girls throughout Michigan.

Huron Valley Girl Scout Council serves more than 15,000 girls in 1,100 troops and groups in five counties in Southeast Michigan. The mission of HVGSC is to inspire girls to the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism and service in order that they become happy and resourceful citizens.

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ENGAGED: Christy Marie Wade of Saline and Aaron Nathan Lansky are engaged and planning an April 18 wedding. Christy is the daughter of Teri Decator of Grass Lake and a 1993 graduate of Chelsea High School. She works for Huron River Credit Union in Ann Arbor. Aaron is the son of Henry Lansky of Ann Arbor and is a 1992 graduate of Novi High School. He is also employed at Huron River Credit Union.

School sees stars during reading month

As part of March is Reading Month, the walls at South Meadows Elementary School in Chelsea are decorated with stars and rabbits to go with the school's theme Reading is Magic.

Each star or rabbit represents 15 minutes of reading. As of Friday, students had read for more than 2,397 hours.

There's also a mystery at South

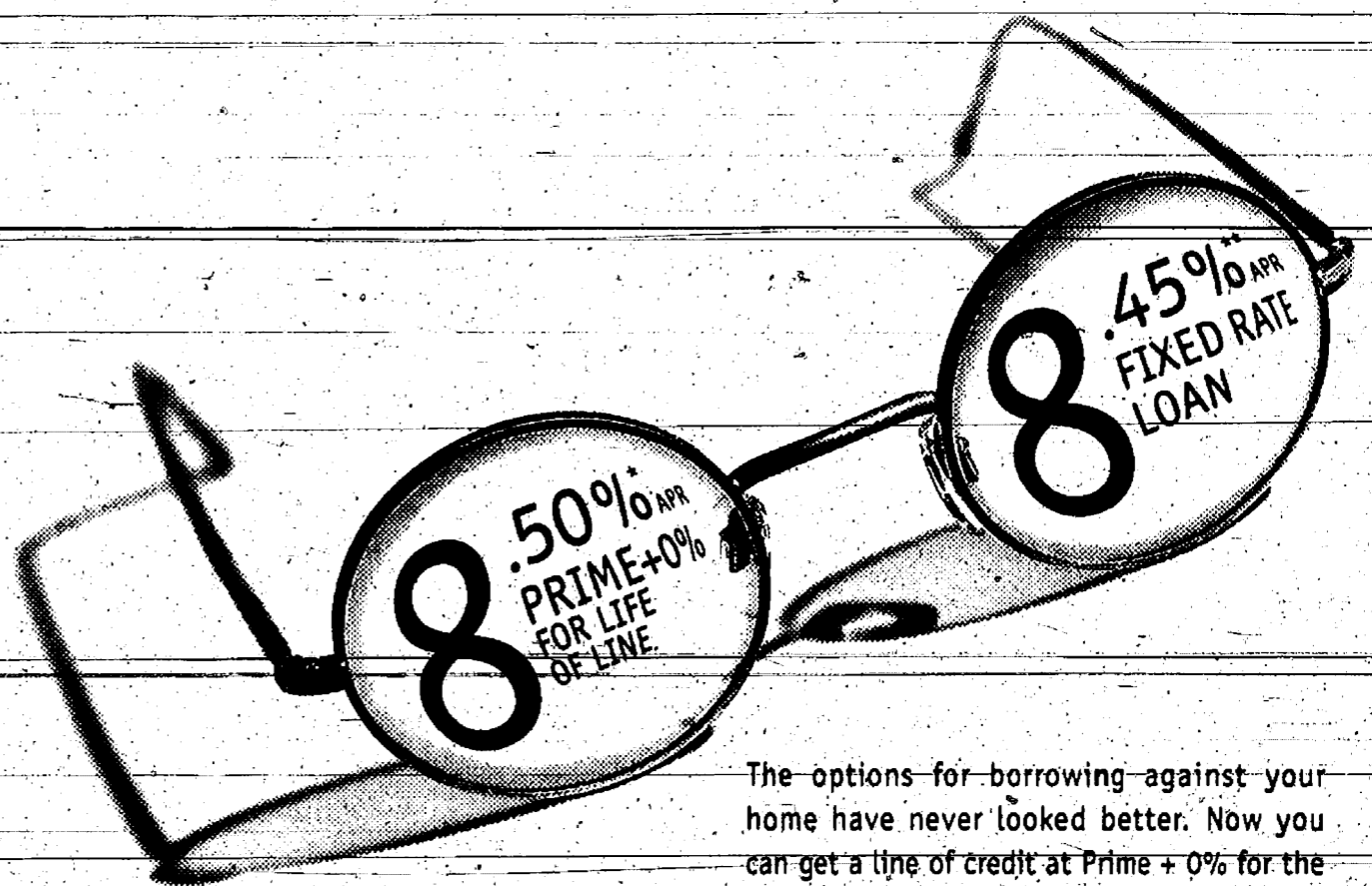
Someone is helping the famous principal Lisa-Nickel get books out of the library and into the hands of her students. Every day clues are posted on the South Meadows intranet and the clues change every day.

As of last Friday, students knew the suspect is female, wears glasses, and is tall.

The clues were posted on a computer in the media center, designated The Cave. To access it, students and staff went through the Network Neighborhood.

Shauna Mote wrote the clues based on the Carmen San Diego series, and Ric Sauer formatted them to work on the network. The idea is to give students and staff a sample of how information can be accessed through a network.

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Dexter Village Stolen Vehicle
A 1989 Ford Ranger pick-up was reported stolen from the Clark gas station and Hop-In convenience store located on Main Street near Alpine, March 18. A 38-year-old Pinckney man said he parked the vehicle next to the store while he went inside to purchase cigarettes. When he came out a few minutes later, the truck was gone. The man said he did not leave the keys inside of it. The truck is valued at \$2,000.

Drunken Driving
An 18-year-old Dexter man was arrested on Fourth Street near Hudson, March 17, for operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. A deputy spotted the teen speed-

ing 88 mph and weaving around traffic in a 1990 Plymouth Voyager van on Mast Road at 6 p.m.
The officer managed to catch up to the teen and stop him inside the village limits. The boy admitted to drinking alcohol earlier in the day. His blood-alcohol level was tested at .21 percent, which is more than twice the legal limit to drive.

Chelsea Village Vehicle Fire
A vehicle fire was reported at Village Mobil, 1629 S. Main St., March 18. A 64-year-old Plymouth man thought he had two gas tanks in a 1979 Ford F-250 truck he bought at Palmer Ford. He discovered he didn't, but only after spilling about five gallons of gasoline on the

ground.
When the man started his truck, the gasoline ignited and engulfed the area with flames. Chelsea Fire Department was called but the fire burned out on its own before firefighters arrived. The incident occurred at 10:22 p.m.

Suspicious Incident
A suspicious incident was reported at the Perky Panty, 501 S. Main St., March 18. A 21-year-old clerk told Chelsea Police that a 15-year-old boy stole cigarettes and fled the store, running toward the high school. An officer searched for the suspect but didn't find him. Contact has been made with the school and an investigation is under way.

A suspicious incident was reported at Beach Middle School, 445 A.D. Mayer Drive, March 21. A police officer driving past the school at 11:17 p.m. noticed several teens leaving the gym. He questioned a 17-year-old girl who said her coach gave her a key to the gym and told her she could use it any time. Police intend to talk with school officials about the situation.

Ordinance Violation Dispute
Chelsea Police were called to the 700 block of Flanders Street, March 13, initially to investigate a larceny. However, it turns out the case is an ordinance dispute between a resident and the village.

A 41-year-old Chelsea man told police that he contracts with a waste hauler despite a village ordinance prohibiting it. While he was gone, a neighbor saw a village employee remove the man's trash bin owned by the waste hauler.

The victim asked to report the incident as a larceny, but police told him that since the bin belongs to the waste hauler, the company will have to report the theft.

Property Damage
Malicious destruction of property was reported at Polly's Market, 1101 S. Main St., March 13. A 35-year-old Chelsea woman told police that someone damaged her 1996 Chevy Cavalier twice while it was parked at the supermarket.

The woman works at Polly's and said that she had a dispute with four employees. She suspects they may have damaged her vehicle. A five-inch scratch was reported March 10 and an eight-inch scratch was reported the next day.

Warrant Arrest
Martin J. Adkins, 25, of Munith was arrested at his workplace at Tuttle Spring Design, 18600 Old US-12, March 19. He was wanted by Ingham County Sheriff's Department on a bench warrant for violating probation.

Missing Person
A 35-year-old Chelsea man reported his wife missing from their apartment on Wilkinson Street, March 19. He last saw the 26-year-old woman two days earlier. He said they had separated but were getting back together. On March 17, she was moving her belongings into the apartment from their old residence in Dexter.

It was noted that the woman has a past history with drugs.

Family Trouble
Family trouble was reported at an apartment complex on Wilkinson Street, March 19. A 39-year-old man told police that his 37-year-old live-in girlfriend bit his arm during an argument over money. Police interviewed the suspect, who admitted to biting him but said he pulled her hair.

Larceny
Larceny was reported at Perky Pantry, 501 S. Main St., March 22. A 39-year-old clerk

told police that someone in a dark-colored Eagle Talon with a "No Fear" sticker pumped \$12.25 worth of gasoline and left without paying. Police checked the area but could not locate the driver or vehicle.

Dexter Township Larceny
Larceny was reported on Hankerd Road near North Territorial Road, March 16. A 35-year-old Ann Arbor man told police that someone damaged his vehicle while he was walking his dog at Pickers Lake Park between 2:50 p.m. and 4:10 p.m. The 1993 Chevy Cavalier sustained \$100 damage to a driver's side window. The victim's wallet, containing several credit cards, was stolen from the glove box.

Driving with a Suspended License
A 34-year-old Gregory man was arrested on Dexter-Pinckney Road near North Territorial Road, March 16, for driving with a suspended license. The man was initially stopped by police for speeding. A check of the Law Enforcement Information Network revealed his license was revoked. The man was given a ticket and released.

Webster Township Larceny
Larceny was reported on Strawberry Lake Road near Mast, March 22. A 42-year-old Dexter man told the sheriff's department that a wing cover was stolen off his airplane while it was kept at Cackleberry Airport between March 15 and March 22. The property is valued at \$20.

Lima Township Breaking and Entering
Breaking and entering was reported at Stiver's restaurant parking lot, 11 S. Fletcher Road, March 13. A Chelsea man told a sheriff's deputy that someone broke into his truck and stole a TV, three cameras, a CB and speakers, tool box, tools and inverter. The property is valued at \$1,600.

Someone gained access to the vehicle after smashing the passenger-side vent window and unlocking the door. The truck was parked in the southwest corner of the parking lot between 5:30 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Sylvan Township Breaking and Entering
Breaking and entering was reported at the 20000 block of Brown Drive, March 12. A 35-year-old Jackson man told a sheriff's deputy that someone stole tools totaling approximately \$4,500.

Domestic Violence
Domestic violence was reported on Lowery Road, March 15. A 10-year-old girl called 911 after she heard her parents fighting and saw her father strike her mother with a lamp shade. The girl's younger brother said he also watched as his father knocked his mother off the bed. He said his

mother curled up in a ball to protect herself.

Police discovered both adults had been drinking alcohol earlier and that the woman had taken sleeping pills. Two lamps were broken and there was a hole in the drywall.

The 34-year-old man was arrested for domestic abuse. His wife, 32, didn't want police to arrest him.

Sharon Township Warrant Arrest
Jason P. Adams, 20, of Sharon Township was arrested at his home in the 18300 block of Lehman Road, March 13. He was wanted by police for a probation violation.

Freedom Township Drunken Driving
A 33-year-old Manchester man was arrested on Parker Road between Ellsworth and Spiess, March 19, for operating a vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. Police stopped the man at 7:20 p.m. after watching him cross the center line 10 times within a half-mile distance.

The driver was unsteady on his feet and smelled of alcohol. A test revealed his blood-alcohol level to be .419 percent, which is more than four times the legal limit to drive.

The man was taken to Saline Community Hospital's emergency room as a medical precaution because of his high blood-alcohol level. A search warrant also was obtained to verify the test. Later, he was taken to jail.

Domestic Assault
Domestic assault was reported at Scio Farms Estates, 6655 Jackson Road, March 22. A 39-year-old man told police that his live-in girlfriend, 42, chased him with a knife after they argued about her wasting electricity.

The man told police that after he confronted her she came out of the bedroom swearing at him. He said she pushed his head, then threw a glass of water at his face. He said he retaliated by throwing water at her.

Afterward, he said, she got a knife from the kitchen and chased him around the residence. He threw a candy jar and hit her leg, then she threw him out the door.

The suspect denies threatening her boyfriend with a knife. However, police noted that the woman's story changed several times.

Domestic assault was reported on Dexter-Ann Arbor Road, March 15. A 47-year-old man told police that his 21-year-old son spit on him and tried to hit him during a dispute over money.

The victim told police that his son wanted money for gas and to go the bar. After he refused to give it to him and told him to get a job, the man said

(Continued on Page Nine)

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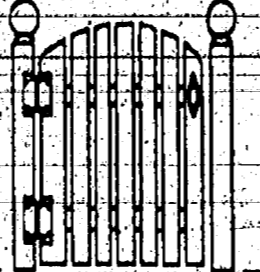
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Dexter Township residents to fight gypsy moths to prevent defoliation

Local homeowners, township and county officials hope to combat the spread of gypsy moths in Dexter Township. In military terms, they hope a series of "surgical strikes" will dissuade the hungry caterpillars from defoliating wooded areas off Dexter-Pinckney, Fleming, Horseshoe Bend and Alice Hill Drive.

In a special meeting March 16 at the Township Hall, nearly 40 residents heard from Washtenaw County coordinator John Frame about the county's plans for gypsy moth suppression this May. Fourteen townships and 50 different sites have been chosen, using funds

from the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Residents of Carriage Hills, led by Thomas Jenkins, hope to encourage as many of their 150 homeowners as possible to participate. They also need to mail in a check for \$25.

"For a very modest price, we can help save even more neighborhood trees," said Jenkins.

The caterpillars' brownish egg sacks can be found on the lower limbs and trunks of trees, under patio decks, house eaves and even bird houses. They tend to devour the leaves of oak trees as a first choice, followed

by evergreen trees.

An airplane will spray bacillus thuringiensis, or BT, on neighborhood trees. Caterpillars then eat the treated leaves and die.

"This is a natural bacteria, found in the soil, which is usually effective in combating the moth," Frame said.

"It has been used for over two decades throughout the state, and is totally safe around families, pets and wildlife."

Local homeowners need to sign a waiver, allowing their property to be sprayed. Homeowners who object will also prevent their next door neighbors from getting help. "We include a buffer zone around areas that do not give permission," said Frame.

Local residents unsure of the gypsy moth's appetite should drive up Island Lake Road to the Town Hall Road intersection. Old growth oak trees were weakened and defoliated by the crawling crit-

ters last summer.

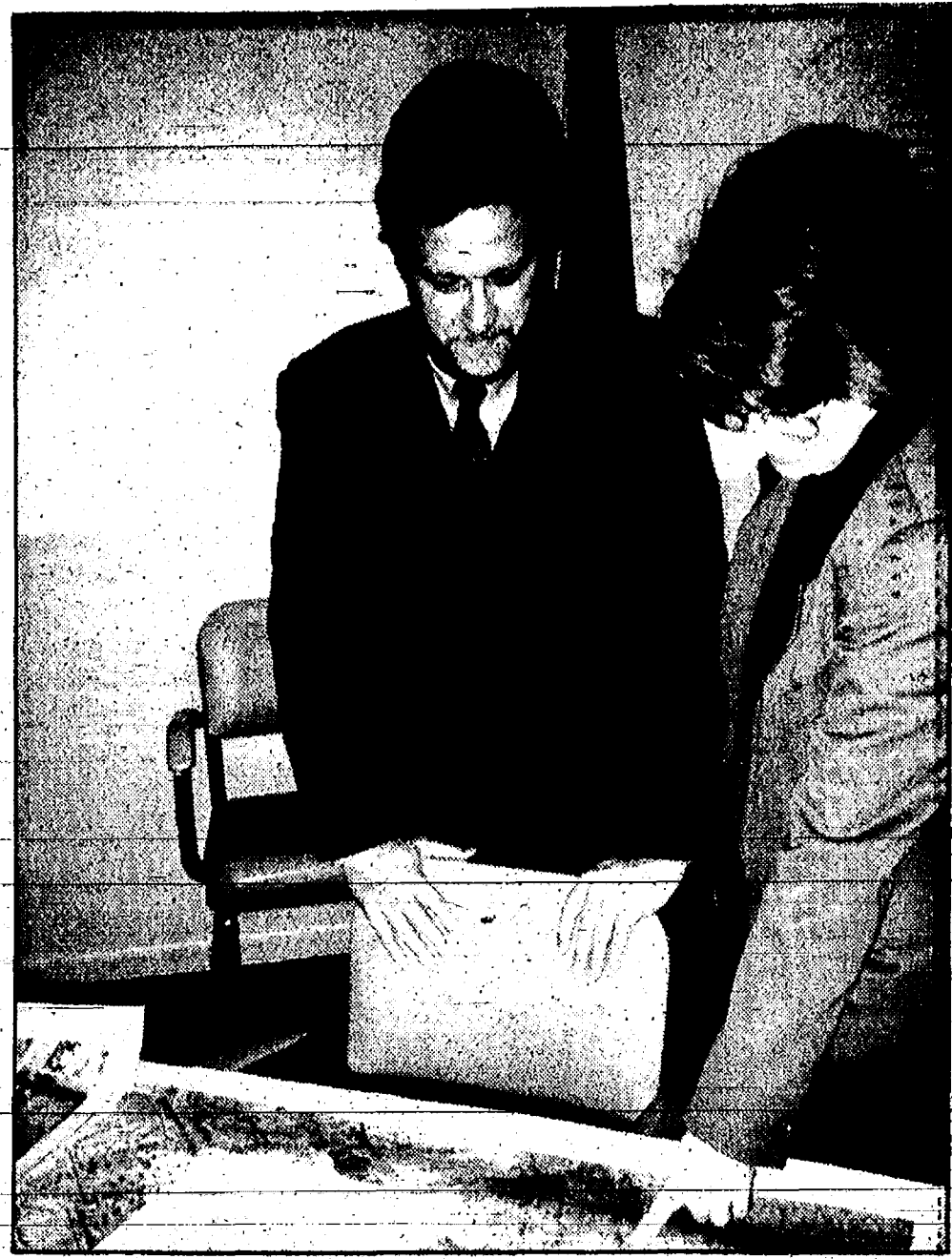
"They were the only trees without leaves, incredibly so!" said township Treasurer Julie Knight.

The aerial spraying program is more effective and far more economical than spraying trees individually. Jenkins' interest started with some egg masses on his front-yard maples.

"To have a single tree properly sprayed with anything is well over \$100," said Jenkins. "By participating in this county program we can treat a much larger area, and be more effective, for only \$25 per acre. That is a bargain."

Jenkins set up a special account with First of America Bank in Dexter Village, where participants can send in their checks. Send \$25 per acre/parcel to BT Special Spray Program, PO Box 99, Dexter, MI, 48130.

For more information about the gypsy moth problem, contact Frame at the Washtenaw County Extension office at 971-0079, ext. 2608.



Dexter Township Supervisor Robert Tetens and Treasurer Julie Knight attended a neighborhood meeting for Carriage Hills subdivision last week about gypsy moths. They are pictured examining maps of an area proposed for spraying to suppress the spread of gypsy moths.

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3. "Samson" — pure German Short haired Pointer, neutered male, liver and white, housebroken, 9 months, vaccinated, crate-trained, used to older kids, will jump up on small kids, lively, some obedience training, very sweet disposition.
4. "Tiny Tim" — Beagle and Dachshund mix, neutered male, under 1 year, tri-color, vaccinated, 15-20 lbs., short hair.
5. "Millie" — Dalmatian, spayed female, under 1 year, vaccinated, cruelly thrown from a van, fenced yard only, appears to be good with small kids, small.
6. "Elmo" — Doberman, 30 lbs., male must neuter, black and tan, used to other dogs, short hair.
7. "Jeremiah" — Cocker, parti-color, neutered male, adult.
8. "Sasha" — gray Persian cat, spayed female, long hair, vaccinated, leukemia negative, litter-trained, used to older kids.

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ON THE ROAD TO DISCOVERY

After the plaintiff's and defendant's positions are outlined in their pleadings, each side must engage in the "discovery process" before the trial can start. This stage involves the attorneys' attempts to find out as much information as possible about the merits of the other's case. This process of information collection is intended to uncover the facts of the allegations as set forth in the pleadings. It involves taking testimony (deposition) of witnesses under oath, as well as written questions (interrogatories) to the opposing side and requests to produce relevant documents. The discovery process is designed to create an even playing field of information so that the facts of the case, and not surprises, will forge the outcome.

Getting the right information depends upon knowing how to ask the right questions. The attorneys at the **LAW OFFICES OF KITCHEN & STRINGER, J.D.** have the necessary skill and experience to uncover the facts and present them in a court of law to your advantage. We are a full service law firm and handle cases involving civil litigation, business matters, real estate, family law, and probate. To schedule a consultation, call 426-4695. We are located at 3249 Broad Street in Dexter.

HINT: If the facts that come to light through discovery greatly favor one party, he or she may move for summary judgment, which means that he or she has satisfied the court that there is no basis for a lawsuit.

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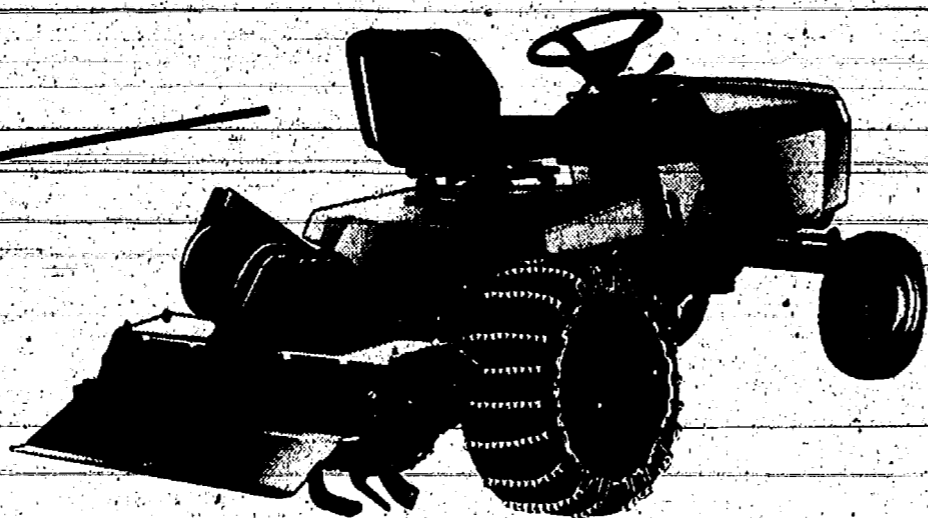
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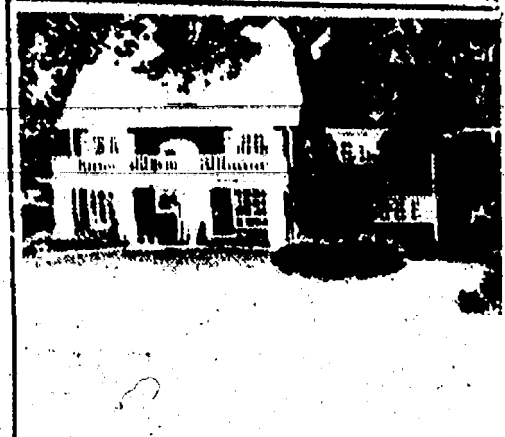
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Panel votes to repair drain

By Eric Bowen Staff Writer

When Freer Road resident Donna Baird looks out on the land she owns surrounding her house, she sees a lake. Of the 4½ acres she owns, 3¼ are underwater due to a wetland expanding onto her Chelsea property.

Baird looks down with concern to the places where her children used to play among trees, many now torn down by the flowing water. And she regrets the loss of a patch of trillium, endangered flowers she nurtured that until recently bloomed every year.

"My heart's breaking for things like that," Baird said of the flowers. "People have reached the maximum they can stand. This is a problem the entire village has."

Baird is not alone in her problems with water. Several residents in the area near where Pierce Lake Elementary and the new high school are being built have complained of flooding in their basements and on their property.

Mary Ann Heard, a resident on Freer Road, blames the school construction as contributing to the flooding. She said once the construction started, a tiny pond near her house ballooned into a moat.

"The village refers to me as the house on the island," Heard said. "My barn is in danger, and the water is getting close to the south side of my house. The schools were the straw that broke the camel's back."

Baird and Heard, along with other residents in the area, recently signed a petition submitted to the Washenaw County Drain Commission to address the problem of flooding along Freer Road. As provided by law, the petition asked the drain commission to form a panel to decide whether to do a study of the needs for the Palmer-Baldwin Drain District, which encompasses the area around the new schools, including Freer residents.

Straub said there was no doubt in his mind that the schools were part of the flooding problem. He said that while they have no legal obligation to participate he thinks the school board should help out with solving the drainage issues.

"Morally they have an obligation," Straub said. "Along with the neighbors and the drain commissioner, the ultimate solution will be a cooperative effort between all parties."

Superintendent Ed Richardson said he would be willing to recommend to the school board that it contribute to the drainage district. He said the district can voluntarily accept an assessment for part of the cost.

According to Drain Commissioner Janis Bobrin, the board of determination's vote enables the drain commission to pursue a study of the Palmer-Baldwin Drain and make any changes needed, including cleaning out the drain, improving it, or adding branches. She said improving the drain is the way to get a long-lasting solution, and she is glad the school district intends to be part of the process.

"This is a wide-open opportunity to take appropriate corrective action," Bobrin said. "I'm pleased that (the school district) is stepping forward and trying to work with us. I think that's great."

After a public hearing March 17, the three-person board of determination, made up of local residents not in the district, voted to pursue improvements to the Palmer-Baldwin drain, which siphons water away from the flooded area. The panel voted unanimously in favor of the proposal.

"We were asked to determine the necessity or lack of necessity of improving the drain," said Dexter Township resident Marty Straub, who was appointed to the panel. "I think the information presented was compelling."

For many residents in the drainage district, the prospect of paying for improvements is not a high priority. But for those whose houses are affected, it's of primary importance.

"It is a really big problem, and I don't know how (we're) going to deal with it," Heard said. "I am willing to pay to help with this; if it's going to solve the problem, absolutely."



Cars along Freer Road veer to avoid pools of water caused by flooding of nearby wetlands. Residents in the area have complained of flooding since construction on Pierce Lake Elementary and the new high school have begun.

Advertising Feature

Marketplace

Agent likes Chelsea's friendliness

By Ann Whitney Special Writer

Before opening up his Allstate insurance business two years ago, Jeff Beaubien first had to decide on a location. He looked at a variety of towns in southeast Michigan, but said it was the friendly people here that made him choose Chelsea.

"One hundred percent of the reason I wanted to be here was because of the residents," he said.

"All my business is because of the referrals. I stay here because of them."

Beaubien began his business career in Howell, where he owned his own lawncare service. It was while working at a client's house that the idea of becoming an agent was presented to him.

"One of my clients, who was an Allstate insurance agent himself, told me he thought I would make a good agent," says Beaubien. "So I looked into it and thought it would be a good opportunity and a rewarding career."

The Allstate training program is the hardest in the industry, and in addition to the two weeks of licensing required by the state, candidates must also complete four weeks of Allstate training in Southfield, and three weeks of sales training in Chicago.

Allstate offers a complete line of insurance policies, with the exception of health insurance. Beaubien's customers come to him for the services he offers, not necessarily the rates, because rates are always changing.

"Insurance is peace of mind," he says. "It's something people don't like to have to have, so they might as well deal with someone they like."

What's special about Beaubien's service is that it's live, meaning that service is available 24 hours a day in all 50 states.

"I wanted to help people," he says. "When they're stuck and they need help, I'm the person they call. That's what I like."

Beaubien says that insurance can be complicated and people always have a lot of questions. "Often people don't understand what they're buying," he says. "I can explain it to them in one sentence."

Beaubien's motto is to give fast, fair service with a smile and to go above and beyond for his customers. "I take good care of my people," he says. "You can't be in sales if you don't like people."

Beaubien's office is equipped with a special Allstate Rate Software, which lets him enter the customer's information and give them price quotes on new policies over the phone. In addition, Beaubien writes all the claim checks personally, so there is no long wait for the check to come in the mail. "I've written over \$50,000 worth of claim checks in two years," he says.

Allstate is located at 501 N. Main Street. Hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and evenings and Saturdays by appointment. Call 433-1155 for more information.



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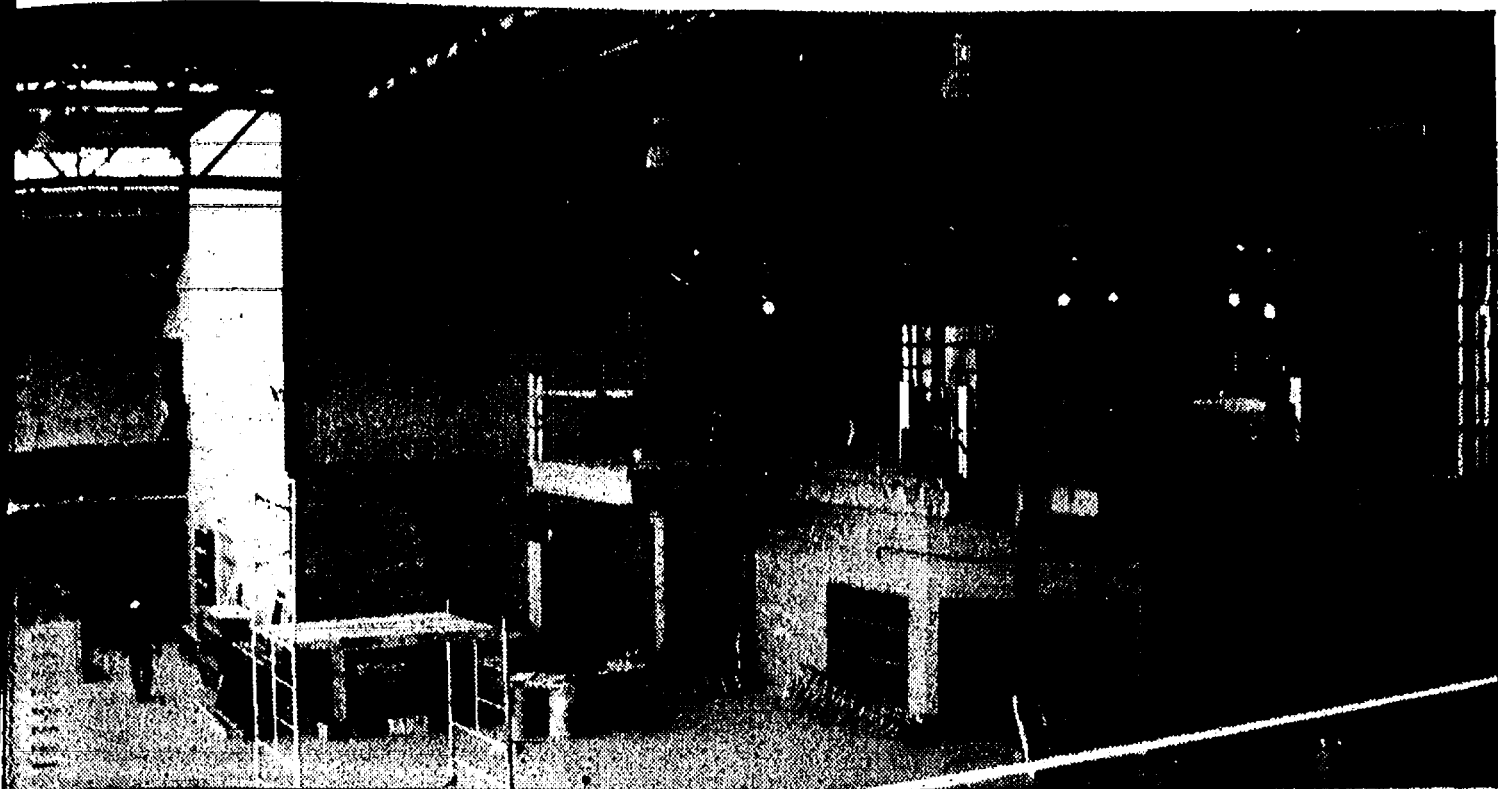
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The commons area of the new high school is centrally located with hallways fanning out to other parts of the building so students can meet with each other during the day. The commons will hold 450 people, serving lunch in two lunch periods. Above the commons will be administrative offices.

School begins to take shape

(Continued from Page One)

and display cases for artwork throughout the art area. The school contains a small dark room near the technology area. Mead said the school was focusing on digital picture-taking rather than traditional film so the small room was all that was necessary.

Chelsea's innovative special education classes have their own area. Here kids learn how to take care of themselves outside of high school, learning cooking, cleaning and some trades so they can become self-sufficient. The area also has a door to the outside so the kids can use the outdoors in their education.

South of the auditorium, past the commons, lies the new gymnasium. Sporting event-goers will enter the 2,300-seat facility on the second floor where a running track circles the expanse of floor.

Once the boxes and cabinets currently stored in the gym are moved out, the gym will be large enough to house three concurrent events, with full-size basketball courts running sideways in the gym. Competitive games will run lengthwise, allowing bleachers to cover some of the floor for greater capacity.

Surrounding the gym on the second floor will be a wrestling training room and a weight and rehabilitation room. Below, students have access to two sets of locker rooms, one for physical education classes, and one for sports. Visiting teams will even have their own area separate from Chelsea's lockers.

Behind the gym, students can go down the hall to "the curve," named for its parabolic shape. The curve will house all of the school's 24 classrooms, including two spe-

cial education rooms, two home economics rooms and eight science classrooms, seven of which will be used as such when the high school opens.

Work is currently being done to install glass curtain wall on the outside of the classrooms, giving plenty of light during instruction. Wall board and studs are being installed, as are cabinets, throughout the building site.

None of the classrooms is entirely complete, but when all is said and done they will house a wide range of technology. Each classroom will have a television and up to three computers, in addition to a computer for the teacher.

Between every two classrooms will be a small office and a conference room. The conference room can be a place for students to make up tests, or for teachers to speak to the student. The offices will contain a phone, and will be available for teachers to work in while not using their rooms.

Four rooms will have movable walls to allow for larger classes or joint teaching. All of the science rooms also have special pipes to allow for experiments.

Interfaith worship conducted recently

On Sunday, March 22, an interfaith worship service entitled, "Stand for Healthy Children" was conducted by nine different Chelsea faith communities. Over 75 people, ranging in age from kindergarten to retirement, participated.

The service brought together representatives from Chelsea area health, education and religious organizations. Reflections upon scripture readings and prayer were offered by William Wescott, principal of Beach Middle School, Dr. Brian Kennedy, Chelsea Pediatric Center, Dr. Richard Howlin, Chelsea Private Practice and University of Michigan, and Rabbi Alan Ponn, Temple Beth Israel, Jackson. A special musical contribution was made by members of the Beach Middle School Honors Choir.

The evening primarily focused on how the Chelsea community can be supportive of families as they struggle to raise healthy and "whole" children. "Whole" in this context was understood to include the physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual components of a child.

The service concluded with adults blessing children and youth, and they in turn bless-

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Letters to the Editor

(Continued from Page Two)

you. The popularity of CO detectors has increased rapidly over the past few years—and they may soon be as common place as smoke detectors.

If you have a CO detector, and it alarms, you need to take action. If you are experiencing CO poisoning symptoms such as headaches, or nausea, get out of your house and get into some fresh air. If you are unable to get out of the house, call 911 immediately.

If you are feeling well, then you may have some time to figure out how serious of a problem you have.

CO is measured in part-per-million. You can have the air measured by calling Consumers Energy, MichCon, or your local fire department. The utilities will charge you about \$45; the Village of Chelsea Fire Department and Sylvan Township charged me \$450.

The utilities will tell you in advance of their charges, the fire department did not tell us that we would be incurring charges even though I dialed the non-emergency phone number and specifically stated that this was not an emergency call!

Fire Department Chief (Dan Ellenwood) recently wrote in the paper, "when the department is called for a carbon monoxide alarm and the family involved is feeling ill, the run is considered a medical and is not billed." Then he further states, "If you suspect a faulty detector make it clear to the dispatcher that this is not an emergency run, a department member will check your house without a charge." Sounds to me like I shouldn't have been charged. I appealed to the Sylvan

Township Board to have the charges waived. The board decided to waive \$50 off of the total bill of \$450. This does not resolve the matter in my mind because it is unclear to me what I could have done differently. I do know that I will be much more reluctant to call the fire department in the future.

My advise to you is this: If your CO detector alarms and you are feeling well, call your local utility. If you don't want to pay at all, wait until you get a hold of Chief Dan Ellenwood personally to have the air measured. And next time you vote for Sylvan Township officials, be careful!

Kurt Koseck

Local man

died on Titanic

I am writing you this letter because of the recent movie "Titanic."

Our Sylvan Township lost a resident on the Titanic's fateful voyage. Mr. Lingane, who had recently become a widower, returned to visit his native Ireland. Unfortunately, he was one of the passengers and crew that met their fate on that horrible April night, 86 years ago.

As my husband recalled, Mrs. Lingane was a Bush daughter and that both of these Sylvan roads, Bush and Lingane, were named for these Irish families.

Mrs. Wilfred C. Lane

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District tries to fix flooding

(Continued from Page One)

said he was in "close contact with the county drain commission throughout the process. He said the plans were submitted and engineers at the drain commission said they were acceptable, though they didn't take jurisdiction over the plans to ensure they were formally approved.

Livengood said the district was not required to get approval from the drain commission for the school's detention system, but the district did ask the county and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for approval before building on the site. Livengood said DEQ only has jurisdiction over the wetlands and the county had no jurisdiction at all so both declined to give approval of the site plans.

"It wasn't a requirement that the Washtenaw County Drain Commission approve the plans," Livengood said. "The schools were designed

with accepted engineering criteria."

Bobrin confirmed that the Drain Commission did not approve the drains, but said she was not asked to go through a formal approval process. Such a request from the school district would have been unprecedented, she said.

According to Deb Small, spokeswoman for Michigan Department of Education, the ultimate authority over school site plans lies with the state Superintendent of Public Instruction, who oversees her department. She said the Education Department contracts out inspections to another state agency which determines if the building is built to code.

Irvin J. Poke, chief of the plan review division of the state Bureau of Construction Codes, said that his agency has done inspections of Chelsea School District for the Education Department. He said that Pierce Lake underwent a Fire

Marshal's inspection of the electrical system and an inspection for barrier-free design for the disabled, but nothing was inspected for drainage of the site.

When the buildings started to go in, the district began to notice problems with water along Freer and in the surrounding neighborhoods, Livengood said. In an attempt to address the problem, the school district paid \$17,000 to Midwestern Consulting to conduct a study of possible solutions to the flooding.

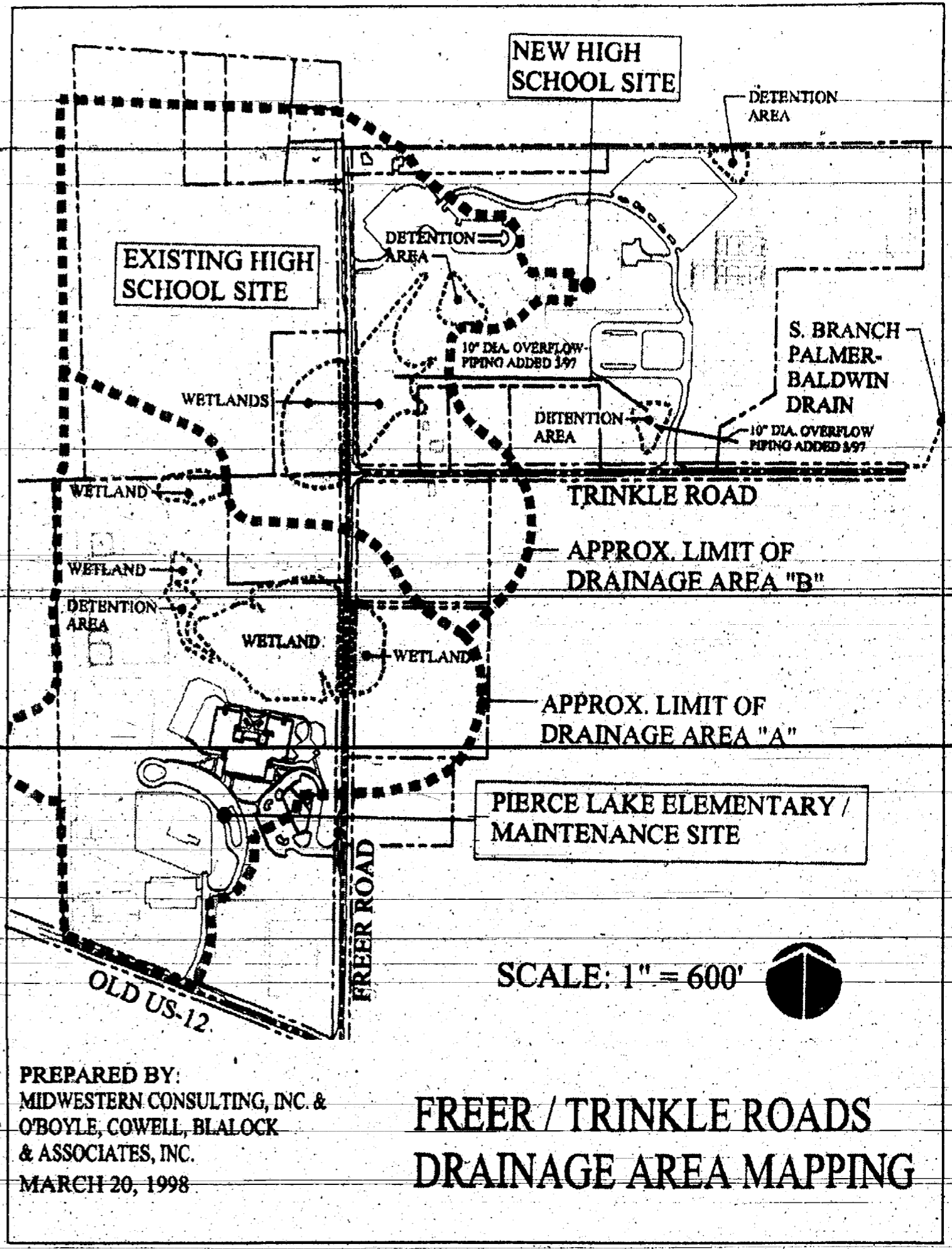
Midwestern's report gave five different options for the district, ranging from doing nothing to spending an estimated \$280,000 to raise Freer Road above the level of the water. The report recommends that the district construct drains so water flows from Pierce through the wetland behind it, up to a wetland near the new high school, across the high school property into the existing Palmer-Baldwin Drain on the east side of the school.

The report states that the proposed solution would cost an estimated \$162,000. Because it was more cost effective, and because it made a permanent solution, Midwestern felt it was the best choice.

Livengood said that the study was completed in May 1997. The district took the study to the drain commission for review to best see how to alleviate the flooding problems.

The district has already begun some of the work, putting in a drain from the northwest side of the new high school to the southeast detention pond, which regulates flow into the Palmer-Baldwin Drain. Livengood said the district is also pumping water from the wetland near Pierce Lake to the wetland near the new high school.

The problem with pouring water into the Palmer-Baldwin Drain is that it may be inadequate to handle the increased water flow, according to Livengood. Built in the 1930s, the drain has become overgrown



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and may need to be expanded to take care of the increased flow from the new schools.

The drain commission recently held a hearing (see related article) to decide whether to commit to a study of the drain. A three-person panel decided to go ahead with the study, which may conclude the drain needs to be expanded.

Once the study is completed, the drain commission will hold a hearing of residents in the district to determine whether to assess residents for improvements. Superintendent Ed Richardson said that he would consider recommending to the school board that the district pay for some of the improvements, which could make a long-term solution to the flooding.

"Right now we have to choose who doesn't like us, because if we take water from one place and put it into the Palmer-Baldwin Drain we could flood houses further down," Richardson said. "Right now we're asking the drain commission what we can do that they think should be done to help the Palmer-Baldwin Drain. We're willing to be part of the solution."

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—Forensics Team Wins Tournament—

The Chelsea High School Forensics Team was named tournament champion at the Brighton Invitational Tournament March 14. A mixture of Class A, B, C and D schools attended. Chelsea beat out Lansing Waverly, Livonia, Churchhill, Frankenmuth, Detroit Catholic Central and Ann Arbor Pioneer for the win. Front row are Hilary Spooner, Aaron Smith and extemporaneous speaking winner Ben Heumann. Middle row are storytelling winner Kate Fahrner, Katie Parker, Sally Walters, Lindsey Williams and Shannon O'Brien. Back row are student teacher Amy Carpenter, Chris Trudell, Angie Carpenter, duo interpretation winner Jessica Riffer, Joe Frost and coach Bill Coellus.

Commission to study shops in downtown

By Eric Bowen
Staff Writer

Chelsea Historical District Commission held an organizational meeting March 19 to begin interviewing local business owners about the historical significance of their buildings. Students from Eastern Michigan University will assist consultant Lloyd Baldwin with compiling a report that will be used to designate parts of Chelsea's downtown as a national historic district.

Historical District Commission Chairman John Frank said the project will be conducted over the next few weeks as students comb the neighborhoods of Chelsea for historical facts. The students will also make a report on the architectural significance of the buildings.

Frank said Baldwin's fee will be paid largely from a grant from Chelsea Community Foundation. Baldwin is a graduate of EMU and was approached by the university to include students in an educational project.

"He was happy to help his alma mater and involve some of their students," Frank said.

Frank intends to have some two blocks downtown designated as a commercial historic district. He said the boundaries go along Main Street from the clock tower to Park Street and on Middle Street about half a block east and west of Main Street.

Once the report is finished, Frank will submit it to Chelsea Village Council, which will have to decide whether to forward it to state and national registries to establish the historical district. Frank said a public hearing will be held prior to approval to give residents a chance to comment.

Based on past experience in Ann Arbor and other areas, Frank said he expects some opposition to the district. He said many residents in other areas, such as Ann Arbor, have been concerned about losing control over their property.

The controversy stems from the historic district's controls on the types of improvements and maintenance that can be made on a building once it has been declared historical. The limitations on building are based on standards set by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. The federal office sets out 10 guidelines for municipalities to follow when making their ordinances.

Generally the requirements state that the historical features will be maintained and that any changes will reflect the historical background of the building. Any deterioration will be repaired if possible and any archeological resources will be protected.

To determine if improvements or alterations comply with the guidelines, property owners must receive approval from the commission before making any changes, Frank said. He said the commission can serve as a resource to provide historical information for people interested in maintaining downtown buildings.

"Most people want to maintain the character and appearance of downtown," Frank said. "Unless what (owners) were going to do violated the character of downtown, we would allow it."

Despite Frank's assurances, rumors abound of problems residents have had with getting approval for improvements. Frank himself said a few highly publicized cases in Ann Arbor where residents have had trouble getting approval for a new door have made some people wary.

Council Trustee Steve Daut said that he has some reservations about the historic district. He said he would like it to be a voluntary program, whereby property owners can enter the district knowing that they will be restricted.

"I don't think we necessarily need more control to tell us what color we can paint our front door," Daut said. "I'm opposed to imposing additional controls over those kinds of decisions."

Daut also said that it is difficult for him to define what is historical. He said the federal government gives guidelines, but he would have a hard time imposing controls.

Daut said he does see potential benefit from the designation as a historical district. He said property values can be enhanced and the assurances made that architectural styles will be maintained.

Frank said that the benefits can be felt in increased tourism and stabilization of an area. He said some districts prospered increased dramatically after they were designated as historical sites.

Direct benefits are also apparent. Frank said business owners in historical districts can receive a 20-percent tax

(Continued on Page 17)

Growing up gay in a small town

By Michelle Rogers
Associate Editor

Ann Smith and Ralph Hoy grew up 50 miles apart but share something in common.

Smith, a senior at Chelsea High School who asked that her real name not be used, and Hoy, a 1993 graduate of Carlson High School in Gibraltar, are gay. Furthermore, both share the experience of realizing it while growing up in small towns.

Smith, 17, is among an estimated 7.2 million Americans under age 20 who are lesbian or gay, according to statistics provided by Karen Baker, a private-practice therapist and past president of the Ann Arbor chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, known as PFLAG.

All told, it's estimated that about 10 percent of the population is homosexual and one in every four families has a gay member.

Although Smith and Hoy share a common bond, their experiences are different in many ways.

Both agreed to be interviewed to help other teens who may be struggling with their sexual orientation to not feel so alone and, as Smith put it, "to stop the cycle of repression."

However, Smith did not want her name used because she has not come out to her parents. On the other hand, Hoy, 23, told his mother the day before he left for college, four and a half years ago.

"It's just part of me," Smith said about being bisexual. "As someone who lives in Chelsea, I feel like I should say something because a lot of people who are gay or lesbian would not."

Smith estimates at least 5 percent of Chelsea's population is gay. Her figure is lower than the national statistic, she said, because gay people typically congregate in big cities.

"I would say at least 5 percent of Chelsea people are gay. But they may not be actively gay," she said. "They could be repressing it. A lot of people are in the closet, like your neighbor could be and you don't know it."

Smith was 15 years old when she realized she was bisexual. Hoy was 10.

"I don't think I ever thought of it. I was too depressed to think of my sexuality. But then I met a girl," Smith said. "It wasn't a big thing like 'I am gay' or 'I am not.' It was like 'Oh, I think you're cute.'"

She thinks gay and lesbian teens typically go through a lot of soul searching before coming out, unlike her.

"I think I am soul searching over dating guys. That's more weird to me."

"I just don't think I thought about it. Going out with people is what other people did. It wasn't like a realization (that I was bisexual). It was like the way I was. I guess."

For Hoy, it was different because he was so young.

"The first time I totally realized I was gay was in fifth grade," he said. "It was kind of a feeling of wanting to be like an individual rather than an attraction. But you slowly start to realize you don't want to be like that person and that it is an attraction."

"It slowly clicked as I grew older. At first I didn't know guys could be attracted to other guys."

The median age of boys who are self-identifying as gay is 14 to 16 and for girls it's 15 to 17, according to Baker.

"Research is showing kids are coming out much sooner than they ever did," Baker said at a luncheon lecture about the vulnerabilities of gay youth presented last month by the Washtenaw Area Council for Children.

But Mike Laginess, principal at Carlson High School, and Dr. Dave Messner, principal at Dexter High School, say they've never had a student come out to them. Both have worked as school administrators more than a dozen years.

"I don't know of any students who are gay. If someone is indeed gay, they haven't made it known," Messner said. But Dexter High School counselor Larry LeBlanc said in his eight years in Dexter he has counseled two lesbians.

Both, he said, told him there are a lot more gay teens in Dexter than anyone realizes. Most, they told him, haven't come out because they don't feel safe doing so.

"We're not a cosmopolitan community," LeBlanc said. "I think the more cosmopolitan a community, the more acceptance there is for a variety of lifestyles."

As a counselor, LeBlanc



Ralph Hoy grew up feeling alone as a gay youth in Gibraltar. He is among a large population of gay youth looking for acceptance from the community. Hoy, a senior at Eastern Michigan University, is pictured with his boyfriend, Jason Tang, a sophomore at the University of Michigan.

said his first concern is for the well being of students.

"My first approach is to discuss their sexual preferences and all the issues affiliated with it. My role is to advocate for these students. What I have done in each of the cases is talk about the issues and how it impacts their life, in family, school and community."

"Both felt good about their preference in terms of the internal dynamics," he said. "The difficulty they felt was negotiating the external factors with their family, their friends, peer group and community."

Sandy Turner, a counselor at Chelsea High School, has not had a gay student come out to her in the three years she has been in Chelsea. However, she did counsel students in Pinckney who had.

"Basically, none of the kids have come out to me personally and said 'I am gay and I need some help getting through this,'" she said. "I had some in Pinckney, but not in Chelsea."

Like LeBlanc, Turner thinks it's harder for students to be as open in a small town.

"Ann Arbor is more cosmopolitan and open to those ideas," she said. "You can kind of get lost in the shuffle (in a small town). You can find that acceptance in Ann Arbor, where you have a more cosmopolitan atmosphere. You're able to seek out more people like yourself."

Robin Raymond, assistant principal at Chelsea High School, agrees. But he said that would be the case with anyone that appeared different in Chelsea.

"It would be much easier (to be a gay teen) in Ann Arbor than Chelsea," he said. "I don't think that's any different from kids who elect to dye their hair or wear a lot of earrings. They stand out in Chelsea and might fit in more easily in Ann Arbor."

Smith said she hasn't talked to a Chelsea school counselor about being bisexual because she is afraid the reaction will be "Do you need a psychiatrist?"

Raymond said he would react by offering outside support. But he stressed that it would be entirely up to the student whether to accept it.

"If she wanted to seek some professional counseling to talk to somebody, we have a lot of referral services. It would be no different than someone dealing with parental pressure at home," he said.

Like the other administrators, in Raymond's many years as a teacher, athletic coach and assistant principal, a student has never come out to him.

"Are there gay students? We may have a few gay students, but I don't know that for a fact," he said.

Bob Edwards, president of the PFLAG chapter in Ann Arbor, said students are typically

(Continued on Page 28)



—Hatched Chicks—

Students in Beth Newman's first-grade class at South Meadows Elementary successfully hatched 11 chicks in an incubator recently. Pictured are Caitlin Cottrell, left, and Rachel Lawrence standing near the incubator.

SPORTS

Lets Go Bulldogs!



Chelsea Hockey Club wins tough tourney in Chicago

Chelsea Hockey Club took first place in the Sports Weekend's Extravaganza Tournament held in the Chicago area last weekend.

The Chelsea Bulldogs played four games, beginning with a Friday night game, March 20 against the Chesterfield Falcons of St. Louis, Mo.

Held at the Darien Sportsplex, the Bulldogs went on to beat the Falcons 4-3 with Chelsea goals scored in all three periods.

During the first period, Pat Jaynes scored the first goal with an assist from Scott Cooney. Brett Poupard also scored with assists from Trevor Maveal and Russell Herrando. Sean Stickney scored a goal during the second period with an assist from T.J. Smashey and Poupard scored another goal in the third period with an assist from Todd Osborne. Winning goalie Michael Os-

borne made 13 saves on the Falcons' 16 shots on goal, while Chelsea had 20 shots on goal.

Day two of the tournament pit the Bulldogs against the Mason Comets of Mason, Ohio Saturday night. A hard-fought game was played which ended in a 1-0 loss for Chelsea. Chelsea goalie Ian Skidmore made 16 saves against the Comets' 17 shots on goal, while the Chelsea Bulldogs made 27 shots on goal. There was no score in the game until more than halfway through the third period.

Next came the Sunday morning, March 22, match up of Chelsea against the Tinley Park Hawks of Illinois at the Center Ice Arena in Glen Ellyn.

The Bulldogs skated to a 4-0 victory over the Hawks while the players' families cheered them on.

Smashey made all four goals of the game, with one

goal in both the first and second period and two goals in the third period.

Smashey's first-period goal was assisted by Mike McTaggart. His second-period goal was assisted by Rob Molina and Steve Williams. Both third-period goals were assisted by Todd Osborne.

Chelsea goalie Mike Osborne made 12 saves in this big win for Chelsea. Chelsea had 22 shots on goal.

This win secured the Bulldogs a playoff position and another chance at playing the Mason Comets for first place.

On Sunday afternoon, the Bulldogs and Comets came face to face again and Chelsea celebrated a 3-2 win that featured first-period goals by Cooney and Stickney.

Cooney's goal was assisted by Maveal and Stickney's goal was assisted by Jaynes and David Poupard.

Brett Poupard made the winning goal in the third period with an assist from Jaynes.



Chelsea Hockey Club won a tournament in Chicago over the weekend. It was a big win for the fledgling program.

Southeastern Conference still considering expansion

By Tim Russell
Special Writer

Trying to keep all teams competitive, the Southeastern Conference is re-exploring the options of expansion.

The SEC met with representatives from the Huron League last Tuesday in an attempt to broaden the amount of schools in the SEC.

More than a year ago, the conference looked the other way when both Ann Arbor Pioneer and Ann Arbor Huron asked about admission.

Central Conference with just three teams. Bedford competes in the Ohio-based Great Lakes League.

Last year, the SEC backed away from committing to the Ann Arbor schools, citing a concern about the size of the schools.

Pioneer has 2,283 students while Huron has 2,051. Bedford has 1,663 and Adrian 1,395.

The SEC wanted to counterbalance the entrance of the larger schools with smaller schools.

"We have a lot of concerns and a lot to address," Darga said. "This is only a conceptual thing to assess."

"The independents are rather large Class A schools. There was a concern whether we can be competitive with them."

Bringing the Huron League on board helps keep the SEC proportionate.

Huron League schools enrollment range from 870 students (Carleton Airport) to 453 (Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central). Other schools in the league are New Boston Huron (835), Riverview (632), Grosse Ile (622) and Flat Rock (469).

Saline is currently the largest SEC school with 1,244 students. Pinckney is next at 1,237, followed by Lincoln (897), Tecumseh (924), Chelsea (833), Dexter (718) and Milan (641).

With the proposed merger, the league would feature seven Class A schools, nine Class B schools and two Class C schools.

Transportation is a big concern for schools in the merger.

"That is a big issue," Darga said. "We need to do a cost analysis and see how it fits into a transportation budget."

Most of the Huron League schools are located southeast of most SEC schools.

Currently, there isn't more than a 20-mile difference between any of the Huron League schools.

With the merger, it would mean increased travel for all schools involved. Bedford is located on the Michigan-Ohio border and there is approxi-

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U 10 Boys	Chargos	2	Kristen Levinsohn
U 10 Girls	Chargos	4	Ted Neff
U 11 Boys	Dexter Destroyers	2	Gary Bruder
U 11 Girls	Dexter Destroyers II	4	Don Svetkoff
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U 12 Boys	Wild Bunch	1	Ted Neff
U 12 Boys	Vikings	4	Steve Butler
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Why You Should Neuter Your Male Dog or Cat
By Dr. Andrew Maglott, D.V.M.

Neutering, or surgical removal of the testicles, does more than just prevent your dog or cat from fathering unwanted puppies or kittens. In cats, neutering eliminates or reduces the strong urine odor associated with tomcats. Also, urine spraying (on vertical surfaces) which is a territorial behavior, is greatly reduced, if not eliminated in up to 90% of male cats after castration. Neutered cats are also less likely to be hit by cars, and have a lower risk of fight wounds, abscesses, and viral diseases, presumably because aggressive territorial behaviors are reduced. In dogs neutering reduces aggression towards other dogs, roaming tendencies, and may reduce some causes of aggression towards people.

From a medical standpoint, neutering eliminates the risk of testicular cancer, which is very common in older intact male dogs. Testosterone, which is a hormone produced primarily in the testicles, seems to facilitate the development of prostate cancer and prostate enlargement in dogs. Neutering early in life (around 6 months) greatly reduces a dog's risk of prostate cancer. When older dogs develop prostate enlargement, the first step in treatment is to neuter them. In both dogs and cats, neutering is a very safe surgical procedure that can reduce the risk for both behavioral and medical problems. Animals recover quickly from the procedure, and complications are usually mild and not very common. If you have any questions regarding neutering, or any other concerns, please call us at Westarbor Animal Hospital, at (734) 769-5391.

Everyone enjoys seeing Michigan's wildlife critters as they roam the fields and roadsides. And many even enjoy the visits to their backyards made by the occasional raccoon or cottontail rabbit.

But when these same creatures trespass into our homes and private places that we would rather not share with them, they become more than a minor concern.

The first that comes to mind is the cute, little woodchuck (or ground hog, if you prefer), that took up residence in my backyard one spring, several years ago.

He (or she, which ever the case might have been) was a lot of fun to watch as he scurried around our fenced-in yard, nipping the blossoms off the dandelions and eating them in the early morning and again in the late afternoon.

We thought he was cute until the day I found the whole row of green beans in my garden, that had barely sprouted to about two inches tall, snipped off at ground level. And that brown ball of fur stood at the end of the row,

smiling as though he had done no wrong.

I forgave him that first time with nothing more than the tossing of a small rock to help him on his way. But after replanting the same crop of beans the third time, I decided he would have to go.

I won't go into detail here telling how I finally got rid of him. Suffice to say, it took me most of the summer.

This critter only invaded my garden. It can be a more critical problem when creatures of the wild decide to move into your home with you.

The brown bat, which is the type most people are familiar with, will often take up residence in the attic of a home where it can find an opening large enough for it to squeeze into.

They're not really a problem, but most people would rather bats were not in their attic. Bats do much to help control the mosquito and insect population in many areas and are very beneficial to mankind. But due to the many false beliefs most people have

About the Outdoors

by Jerry D. Posey

about them, they are treated as second-class creatures, and when a homeowner finds that he has bats in his attic (or belfry, the immediate response is to remove them from the premises.

It is not usually difficult to get rid of these timid creatures if there are not too many entry holes that allow the bats access to the attic. The best method is basically, to wait until early evening when the bats have left their daytime hiding places, then plug up all entry holes. If the bat can't get in, it can't be a problem. (It will probably just move down the street and find an entry hole into your neighbor's attic.)

Mice and rats have long been unwelcome critters who like to share homes and buildings with humans. Both of

these pests can be trapped to eliminate them and care should be taken to also eliminate the foods and conditions that they prefer.

My mother always told me it is no sin to have a mouse or rat decide to move in with you, but it is if you let it remain.

Often as winter approaches, this type of pest will try to find a more comfortable place to spend the cold times they seem to know are coming. Again, keeping all possible entry holes plugged and covered will do much to discourage their presence. They, too, will probably move on down the street and move in with your neighbor who is not as fussy as you are.

Then there are the termites and carpenter ants that no one wants to hear co-existing in their place of residence. These destructive insects can do much damage to wood construction if they are not quickly brought under control

and removed from the premises.

And when the word gets out that you have a colony of termites as tenants you wouldn't believe what that can do for your property values. Even your neighbor that inherited your bats and mice will not be interested in purchasing your property. Removal of these problem insects is usually best left to the professionals. Call an exterminator.

The small black and red ants that show up on the kitchen counter about the same time each summer can usually be controlled with the use of ant-traps that can be purchased in most hardware or grocery stores. They contain an ant poison that when carried back to the nest, will destroy the whole colony and seem to work well in most cases.

There are several kinds of birds that insist on building their messy nests and raising their noisy offspring in spots often located in areas that we would rather they didn't occupy. Starlings and sparrows are good examples of this type of bird.

It sometimes seems that the only way to eliminate them is to keep removing their nests as they build them, before

they get a chance to lay their eggs. Most will find another spot where they will not be disturbed by a disruptive homeowner like you.

Probably the most unwanted guest I ever had was a family of raccoons that moved into the attic and basement of a rental property I owned. I say attic and basement because, though the mother stayed in the attic, the young ones were small enough to move around in the walls making themselves heard as they moved to the basement to play for the evening, then again in the morning as they scurried back to their mother in the attic.

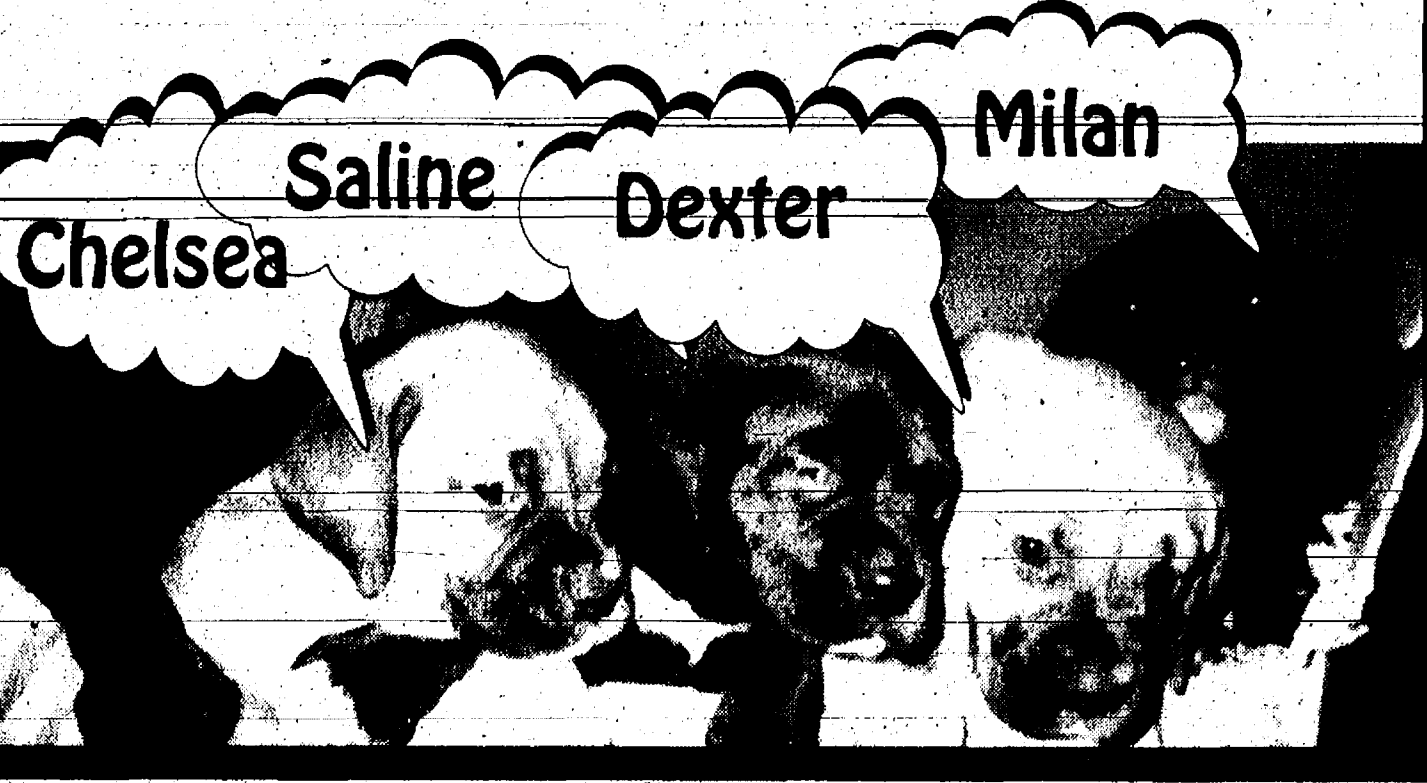
Before the four young ones were caught and disposed of, they really made a mess of the basement and the tenants' belongings. When the young ones were gone, the mother moved out and my very patient tenants could finally get a decent night's sleep.

There is place for each of God's creatures and I would rather they find one of their own. My home sometimes seems too crowded for just my wife and me. There is surely no room for unwanted squatters around here.



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Sewer authority takes on state

■ Half Moon and Silver Lake state parks have refused to hook up to Multi-Lakes Sewer system.

By Michelle Rogers, Associate Editor
The Multi-Lakes Sewer Authority Board has decided that it will take the state to court if Half Moon Lake and Silver Lake state parks do not

voluntarily hook up to the sewer system by April 29.

Public sanitary sewer is available to both, with facilities at Half Moon Lake falling within the 200-foot limit required by state law.

Dexter Township Board Trustee Libby Brushaber said the Multi-Lakes Sewer Authority Board has set a deadline of April 29 for the parks to voluntarily hook up to the system.

An estimated 75 taps set aside for the parks would generate over \$450,000 in revenue to help pay for construction of the sewer system.

Dexter Township Supervisor Robert Tetens was prepared to ask the Township Board to authorize its attorney to initiate legal action against the state until Tom Ehman, the township's representative to the Portage-Base Lake Sewer Authority, said it's the Multi-Lakes Sewer Authority Board's responsibility.

Tetens said he thought something should be done, despite State Rep. Mary Schroer's past insistence that it was unlikely the state would agree to connect.

Since the township has taken legal action against homeowners who have refused to connect, Tetens said it should do the same with the state. Otherwise, he said, it could be construed as an unequal application of the law.

Tetens thinks a bond proposal, under consideration by the state legislature, that includes \$50 million dedicated for state parks to use for sewer system hook ups, may turn things around. However, Michigan voters must still approve it.

Lima resident receives award

Lima Township resident Mary Jane Detting has received the 1997 Annual Christian Humanitarian Award from an organization called Love in The Name of Christ.

Detting was given the award and a gift certificate for her life-long faith and her commitment to share it with others.

"Love in The Name of Christ has elected Mrs. Mary Jane Detting for this award in regards to her dedication to make the lives of others better," said founder Dale Robbins.

"Please keep Mary Jane, her family and their family pets in your prayers at this time with their ongoing health concerns."

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—Some Lively Entertainment—

Members of the Chelsea House Orchestra performed at Faith in Action's annual benefit banquet last Saturday at Chelsea Community Hospital. The group played a number of Irish folk songs and some more contemporary bluegrass.

Citizens asked to form association

Leaf burning divides Forest and Stofer Court neighborhood.

By Michelle Rogers
Associate Editor

The battle lines were drawn early on when Forest Court and Stofer Court residents took their seats at Dexter Township Hall March 17.

They were invited by letter from the township to discuss leaf burning, a problem Forest Court residents brought to the board in December.

Forest Court residents sat on one side; Stofer Court residents on the other.

Forest Court residents asked the Township Board to modify the township ordinance to exclude open burning on parcels two acres or less in wooded areas.

Stofer Court residents objected on grounds that they have been burning leaves for years and only recently have they heard complaints.

Forest Court residents brought documentation from

the American Lung Association supporting the fact that leaf burning creates airborne smoke particles that aggravate the symptoms of respiratory disease patients.

"I've been to the hospital and to the doctor and they all agree my asthma attacks are brought on by leaf burning," said Patty Cooper, a Forest Court resident. "This is a health hazard and something that definitely needs a look at."

Stofer Court residents complained that they have no other alternative based on the volume of leaves generated by trees surrounding the 25 homes in the neighborhood.

"All the years we've lived here, we have burned leaves. That has worked well. It's the only way we can contend with the amount of leaves we have," said Kathryn Petty, a 20-year resident of Stofer Road.

In the end, Dexter Township Board took no action. Instead, Dexter Township Supervisor Robert Tetens asked that the neighborhood form an

association and discuss a solution, possibly contracting with a service to pick-up and dispose of the leaves.

Tetens said that the Dexter Township ordinance addressing open burning is consistent with state guidelines. It bans residents from burning such things as garbage, plastic, animal carcasses and other materials that give off hazardous, toxic or foul smelling odors. But it permits fires for such things as campfires, outdoor preparation of food, brush, dried vegetation and leaves.

Dexter Township Zoning Inspector Joyce Johnson found similar ordinances in Lima, Lyndon, Putnam and Webster townships. She offered suggestions shared by other zoning inspectors, such as creating a burn district or limiting burning to specific days and times of the year. However, she said that would require additional manpower to enforce and suggested an amicable agreement be worked out between neighbors.



INTERNET JOURNAL

TERRY LINDSTEDT

After only about two or three weeks of being on the Net, we realized that we were going to need a second telephone line — one that could be dedicated to our computer that was connected to the World Wide Web.

As anyone who has pre-teen and teen-age kids knows, the family telephone is almost never idle. I also had some concerns about how much time we were spending on the Internet — time in which family or friends might wish to call, only to find that our phone line was always busy.

Not wanting to give up my new found love — Net surfing — and having the cooperation of my husband and full support of the kids, it was decided to go ahead and get a second line. You see, the kids thought this meant that the family phone line was all theirs! What silly imaginations they have.

Once this "question" was settled, we proceeded to call the telephone company. Of course, there was the hook-up fee of between \$40 and \$50, which was to bring a second line from the telephone pole to the house and to place a second "gray box" on our outside wall. They offered to bring the line from the gray box into the house, but that was an additional fee, and we knew we were capable of (and had the supplies for) doing this part of the job ourselves.

We were able to take ad-

vantage of the rates for private lines, as opposed to the business line rate; although we may decide to use this line in the future for a business. Whenever we make the decision to list that business in the telephone book, the rate for the second line will increase.

In addition to the hook-up fee, there's also the monthly charge for the line, as well as any number of calls over a certain amount. For the family line at our house, that amount is 40 calls; but as often as we were getting on the Internet, we decided that the maximum number of calls we needed for the second line would be 100.

All these charges can certainly add up, and that's why it's a good thing to find an Internet Service Provider that has a local (non-long distance) telephone number.

Now that we've got that second line, everything has worked out to our satisfaction. We can spend as much time on the Web (as much as Internet etiquette deems fair) and not

worry that we're missing important phone calls. And, when we're not surfing the Net, we have two usable telephone lines. I hooked the telephone line into the computer, then back out to a desk phone, so that I could make phone calls without having to turn on the computer.

Although the computer has its own phone center, I'm not ready to use it for more than an answering machine and fax machine yet.

If you're already hooked up to the Internet, you might enjoy visiting this website: <http://www.att.com/telecommuting/telecommuting.html>. The AT&T Telecommuting page.

If you have comments or questions, please address them to Terry, in care of The Chelsea Standard, 20750 Old US-12, Chelsea, 48118.

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Blue Ribbon Club will meet tonight

On Feb. 26, the Blue Ribbon Livestock Club held a meeting.

Old business that was discussed was beef weigh-in March 7. Also, the judging team from the club gave a report.

The chicken group gave a presentation on how to show a chicken.

The club's next meeting is tonight.

—Tracy Parker
Club Reporter

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Bates Students Check Out Monet

Bates Elementary School students paid a visit to the University of Michigan Museum of Art Feb. 18-20 to see the Monet exhibit. Some students took journals along to take notes and record ideas about the visit. Pictured are students in teacher Laura Haas' class, which includes Brittney Abbott, Corey Beneke, Brayden Bell, Jonathon Breneman, Garret Courtney, Amanda Debruycker, Christina Derry, Christopher Dombkowski, Julia Egeler, Andrea Feldkamp, Erika Griffith, Samantha Harris, Emily Huddleston, Amy Jackson, Jacob Jarvis, Stephen Koch, Michelle Krull, Kiersti Kruzel, Jeremy Loy, Stephen North, Laura Raaen, Amanda Richard, Joshua Rook, John Smart, Matthew Snyder, Holly Storms, Emily Tweedy and Bradley Whitehead. They joined other fourth-graders and students from two multi-age classes.

Dexter



Photos by Mary Kumbler

School Spirit

Mill Creek Middle School eighth-graders Nate Xuereb and Kathy DeWolfe and teacher Patrick Davidson showed their school spirit during Backward and Inside Out Day March 16. They are pictured in the school cafeteria with Dawn Hartley, a member of the school's food and nutrition staff.



The Planning Commission will be accepting applications for a person to fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Requirements are:
 1. Village residency
 2. A commitment to attend one regular meeting and one work session per month.
 Send a brief resume to the Village of Chelsea, 305 South Main St. Ste. 100, Chelsea, MI 48118. Attention: Planning & Zoning Dept. Please submit by April 7, 1998.

Court upholds zoning ruling

After a two-year legal battle, Circuit Court Judge Michael Dodge ruled that Cass County's Jefferson Township Zoning Board of Appeals was correct in its decision to reject a request to rezone 300 acres of agricultural land to residential. That decision, at least for the time being, ends development plans calling for an 18-hole golf course and a 140-home residential development in this intensely agricultural area.

According to Mike Smego, a township trustee and a swine-farm operator near the proposed site, developers were originally turned down by the planning commission, the county board, and eventually the zoning board of appeals, before taking the case to court. The legal battle was a costly one for the township, which spent a little over \$16,000 in legal fees defending its actions.

Michigan Farm Bureau Livestock Specialist Kevin Kirk called the court's decision a wise one that will avoid numerous legal challenges and complaints against farmers in the area, which is ranked as Michigan's number one county for swine production.

"This would only have been a time bomb, waiting to go off once residential construction began," Kirk claimed. "The long-term impact would have displaced swine operations in the area."
 Involvement of neighbors — farmers and non-farmers alike — through a series of meetings was crucial in generating support for producers, according to Kirk. "We pointed out that this was happening across the road from Smego's operation today, but that it could be their operation the next time."

First-time township Supervisor Bernie Williamson won her election during the court case. "I knew the property was zoned agricultural and I saw how aggressive someone who

has a financial gain at stake would pursue a project like this," she said.
 "It's easy for a community to be blinded by the beauty of development pressure, but the bottom line is you grant rezoning you give them (developers) carte blanche to do whatever they want to do. That's not what the residents had in mind."

Keeping agriculture a strong component of his township's economy was also a strong factor in Smego's decision to run for trustee. "Our first priority is to save agriculture," he said.

A number of things were done correctly, says Kirk. "The township talked about this issue with farm and non-farm residents. They discussed the pros and cons of how this development would impact them. They quickly realized that the additional costs that their township was going to incur to provide services for the new golf course and all of these new homes far outweighed the returns."

According to Kirk, for every dollar generated in tax revenue by agriculture, only 40 cents worth of services are required.

"Contrast that with a new home, which typically requires in excess of a \$1.50 to a \$1.60 in services for every tax dollar that's generated. Just because you're attracting new homes doesn't necessarily mean that you're going to automatically generate more revenue for the township."

Although the judge's ruling could still be appealed, Kirk says it sends a very strong message for townships and developers.

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LIMA TOWNSHIP PUBLIC HEARING
 On April 6, 1998 a Public Hearing regarding the establishment of an Industrial Development District for P/M Krupp Technologies Inc. will be held at 8:00 P.M. at Lima Township Hall, 11452 Jackson Road, Dexter, MI. This district is pursuant to the authority granted by P.A. 198 of 1974. The proposed district will encompass the following property:
 Commencing at the Southwest corner of Section 17, T2S, R4E, Lima Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan; thence N00°51'45"W 829.66 feet along the West line of said Section 17 to the Southerly Right of Way line of Luick Drive, 70.00 feet wide, for a PLACE OF BEGINNING; thence continuing N00°51'45"W 460.34 feet along said West line; thence N86°18'50"E 245.82 feet; thence S00°51'45"E 454.52 feet; thence S84°57'40"W 246.17 feet along said Southerly Right of Way line at Luick Drive to the Place of Beginning, being a part of the W 1/2 of said Section 17, containing 2.58 acres of land, more or less, being subject to the rights of the public over the Southerly 70 feet thereof as occupied by Luick Drive, and being subject to other easements and restrictions of record, if any.
 Arlene R. Bareis, Clerk

AGENDA:
 1. An application for a Variance from the Private Road Ordinance by Burton & Jacoba Voss of 112 Blind Lake, Gregory, MI 48137.
 2. Board may consider other matters as deemed necessary.
 Written comments may be sent to: Lyndon Township Clerk, Janis Knieper, 17301 M-52, Chelsea, MI 48118.
 The Lyndon Township Board will provide, if time after the request allows, necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids or services to individuals with disabilities at the public hearing.
 Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Lyndon Township Board by writing or calling: Janis Knieper, Clerk, 17301 M-52, Chelsea, MI 48118 or phone 313-475-3685.
 A copy of this notice is on file in the office of the clerk.
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 Janis Knieper, Lyndon Township Clerk

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Budget Public Hearing called to order and opened with pledge of allegiance to the flag.
 Moved and carried to amend 97-98 budget.
 Moved and carried to set our millage at 1.0 mills in the General Appropriation Act for 1998-99.
 Moved and carried by roll call vote to adopt the General Appropriation Act for 98-99.
 Public Hearing adjourned without objection.
 Meeting call to order and minutes were approved.
 Township will be represented by Township Attorney at the Michigan Public Service Commission hearing for IPL Total Pipeline (USA) Inc.
 County Road Commission waived the \$600.00 public hearing fee for closing Lyndon Townhall Road.
 Offered and carried by roll call vote to concur with the Township and County Planning Commissions and adopt the Wireless Telecommunication Towers and Antennas.
 Offered and carried by roll call vote to amend the Bight Elimination Ordinance with Ordinance 14-A to establish and provide for civil infraction fines for violation of the ordinance in addition to other remedies.
 Offered and carried by roll call vote to amend the Anti-Noise and Public Nuisance Ordinance with Ordinance 17-A to establish and provide for civil infraction fines for violation of the ordinance in addition to other remedies.
 Moved and carried to extend Stockbridge Township Fire Protection Agreement for 1 year.
 Moved and carried to meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. as a work session on the proposed zoning ordinance.
 Set PRQV public hearing date April 6th.
 Moved and carried to approve disbursing \$116,126.46 to Multi Lake Area Water and Sewer Authority for payments made on the behalf of Lyndon Township.
 Moved and carried to authorize payment to township assessor for millage to date.
 Moved and carried to pay bills totaling \$32,049.18.
 Reports were given.
 Letter from C.A.T.S. requesting funding was presented. Noah will find out more information on their services.
 J. Lumm who is running for MI House of Representative 52nd District told about herself.
 Moved and carried to adjourn 9:08 p.m.
 Janis Knieper
 Lyndon Township Clerk

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Dexter man wins Silver Circle Award for TV contributions

Charles Derry of Dexter, adjunct assistant professor at Madonna University, received the Silver Circle Award at the Eleventh Annual Silver Circle Awards Ceremony held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Dearborn, in February. Other recipients included Jim Brandstatter, Robert Elnicky, Joe Spencer and Robbie Timmons.

Established by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, the Silver Circle Award recognizes individuals who have devoted a quarter of a century or more to the television industry, and who also have made a significant contribution to the Michigan broadcast community.

"Chuck has spent 37 years working in television, as well as demonstrating a real commitment to education which is a major part of his community involvement. It was such an honor for him to be nominated and to be recognized by his peers," said Patricia Derry, his wife and director of media services at Madonna University.

Derry was nominated by Suzanne Boyd the senior producer of "Madonna Magazine," a half-hour public service television program produced and directed by students in Madonna University's Video

Communications Program. "I nominated Chuck for his many contributions to Madonna University's Video Communications Program and his dedication to his students," said Boyd.

It was Derry, a photography instructor in 1970, who the Felician Sisters of Madonna University came to when they decided to offer television courses and build a television studio. Together, Sr. Lauriana, then academic dean, Sr. Dana, then president, and Derry walked the halls looking for a suitable location.

"Once we designed and built the T.V. studio and began offering courses, I wanted to make the experience more relevant. It was then that we created "Madonna Magazine" as a vehicle for teaching television production," said Charles Derry.

Now in its 13th year, over 350 programs have been produced and distributed to cable stations and WDWB-TV, Channel 20 to reach a viewing audience of over 30,000 per week.

"I was taught how important having a professional product was. Chuck expected quality from his students," said Rob Ade, 87 alumnus and assignment editor of CNN San Francisco.

"Everyday was a new challenge. I not only acquired the technical skills I needed, but Chuck gave me the self worth to make it in the production industry," said Mary Kay Heckman, '94 alumna and tape technician at Postique.

Just one of his many accomplishments, Derry also was recognized for his 37 years in the television industry, 30 of which have been as a stage manager and director at WXYZ-TV Channel 7.

"I felt pretty good when I found out I was being nominated for the award. When I was selected, I thought 'Hey, that is great' but it really hadn't settled in yet what the award meant and what an honor it was to receive such a prestigious award," said Derry.

"One of the greatest rewards in life has to be receiving recognition and appreciation for doing what you love to do. I am fortunate to have the best of two worlds. I've been able to combine my love for television and my love for

teaching for many years."

Presently video communications majors have the opportunity to work on different aspects of the 15 Madonna Magazines produced per term. The major is designed in a step ladder approach, and by the last course students are actually producing and directing the shows. Students plan, execute and critique the programs so they can understand the entire process. When they graduate, they have completed 45 half-hour shows. Other courses include television news reporting and production, and field production and editing.

"My goals for the video communications program include adding nonlinear editing, providing more experience for the students through special projects, developing a professional video association, working closer with high schools and their courses, and continuing to focus on making the students marketable," said Derry.

"The attitude which is per-



Students from Madonna University's video communications program congratulate Dexter resident Charles Derry, center, on receiving the Silver Circle Award.

vasive in this department is one of professionalism. I have just as much fun doing this show, as doing the news at the station. We try to establish a professional attitude right from the start so students will know what they will run into when they get out there," he added.

Derry resides in Dexter with his wife, Pat, and his daughter, Christina. An active member of his community, he is a member of the curriculum advisory committee for the Dexter Community Schools.

Madonna University is located at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia.

AREA DEATHS

WAYNE K. DANBORN

Chelsea
Age 82, died peacefully on Tuesday, March 17, 1998 in his home. He was born on March 15, 1916 in Flint. Mr. Danborn was a World War II Veteran who served in the South Pacific. He retired from Ford Tractor Division in Birmingham in 1978, and was a former member of the Presbyterian Church in Southfield, the Free and Accepted Masons, and the Elks.

He married Wyima J. Hunter in Allen Park on May 2, 1941, and she preceded him in death on May 2, 1993. Survivors include his daughter, Charlotte Danborn; his daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl and Frank Renton; and one grandson, Brandon Renton, all of Chelsea.

The family received friends at the Cole Funeral Chapel Thursday, March 19 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. The funeral and burial at Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkeley were both private. Memorial contributions may be made to Faith in Action or Arbor Hospice.

ARTHUR BUSSES

Chelsea
Age 86, died March 23, 1998 at his home.

Surviving is his wife, Agnes. Funeral service will be held Thursday, March 26 at 2 p.m. at the Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, Chelsea. For more information, please call the funeral home at 475-1444.

ANNABELLE GOCHANOUR

Chelsea
Age 81, died Saturday afternoon, March 21, 1998, surrounded by the loving care of her family and Individualized Hospice. She was born Jan. 8, 1917 in Jackson, the daughter of Walter and Laura (Marquardt) Vicary. Annabelle had been a resident of Chelsea since 1960 and formerly lived in Waterloo for over 70 years. She was a member of the Waterloo United Methodist Church, and for over 50 years she was the church pianist. She also taught Sunday school for many years. She was a former employee of The Chelsea Standard from 1956-1967, she then went to work for the State of Michigan, Corrections Department, retiring from Camp Waterloo in January, 1979. In addition she was a long time volunteer at Chelsea Community Hospital.

On July 27, 1941 she married William J. Woolley and he preceded her in death on March 10, 1945. On July 20, 1968 she married Walter E. Gochanour and he survives. Also surviving are her daughter, Judy (William) Spofford of Irons, Mich.; five grandchildren, David (Susan Vettese) Boyer of Battle Creek, Glenn (Jan Ziel) Boyer of Dexter, Jennifer (Marvin) Fischer, and Lee Boyer all of Chelsea, and Kathleen (Frederick) Wayward of Irons; six great-grandchildren, Randell, Stephanie and Boone Boyer, Kimberly Fischer, Brendan Schneider and Meredith Wayward; her brother, Richard (Margaret) Vicary of Goshen, Ind.; a nephew, Robert

(Sue) Vicary; and a niece, Linda Vicary. She was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Carl D. Schneider, on Jan. 26, 1992.

Funeral service was held Tuesday, March 24 at 11 a.m. at the Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home, with the Rev. Wilbur Silvernail and the Rev. Fr. David Harvey officiating. Burial was in Mount Hope Cemetery, Waterloo. The family received friends Monday from 2-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at the funeral home. Expressions of sympathy may be made to Individualized Hospice or American Cancer Society.



KATHLEEN A. CHAPMAN

Chelsea
Age 86, died Sunday evening at Cedar Knoll Rest Home. She was born Aug. 30, 1911, in Grass Lake, the daughter of George and Anna (Nagy) Toth. She was a life-long resident of the area. Mrs. Chapman was an integral member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Women of St. Mary's, was past president, secretary and treasurer of Christian Service of St. Mary's, served as vice president of the Knights of Columbus Auxiliary from 1991-1992, and past president and secretary of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Katie served as Chelsea Village treasurer from 1986-1996. She was a charter member and first treasurer of the Chelsea Rotary Club and was recently made an honorary member of Chelsea Rotary and received Rotary's highest award, the Paul Harris Fellowship. She was named Chelsea's Citizen of the Year in 1995 and was a charter board member of Faith in Action. She was a member of the American Business Women Club and was their Women of the Year in 1976 and 1991 and served as the treasurer, membership and hospitality chairperson of the club. She was selected as one of the top 10 women in Michigan in 1965 and was a 4-H leader from 1995-1997. She graduated from St. Mary's High School, Chelsea and from Cleary College in 1930. For 25 years she served as secretary and office manager to the director of the Co-operative Extension Service of Washtenaw County, retiring in 1976. She received a citation from Gov. Milliken for her 25 years of public service. Mrs. Chapman had been a member of the Chelsea Hospital Auxiliary for many years. In 1994 she received a personal note from President Bill Clinton for her President's Volunteer Action Award nomination commending her "outstanding work that has made a positive difference" to her community.

Katie was married to Wilbur Hatt in 1936 and he preceded her in death in 1949. She then married Leon Chapman in 1959 and he died in 1966. Surviving are her step son, Larry Chapman, and his wife, Shirley, of Chelsea; a step son-in-law, Howard Baker of Ann Arbor; grandchildren Steven Baker, Brent Baker, Julia Janich and Scott Chapman, three great-grandchildren, Megan, Erin, and Michael Baker; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by a step-daughter, Donna Baker; her sister, Mary Martin; and two brothers, Stephen and Frank Toth.

The Funeral Mass will be held Thursday, March 26 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, with the Rev. Fr. Phillip Dupuis officiating. The family received friends Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. and Wednesday 1-5 p.m. at the Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home. Further visitation was held Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, where the Vigil and Rosary were held at 7:30 p.m. Burial will be in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Chelsea. Expressions of sympathy may be made to St. Mary's Catholic Church building fund.

(Continued on Page 27)

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Growing up gay in a small town has its difficulties

(Continued from Page 15)

cally afraid of coming out to school staff for fear their sexual preference will be exposed to their parents before they're ready to tell them.

But Raymond said he doesn't think that would happen in Chelsea. "I think our professional staff here has a lot of integrity and would keep anything a student would want to keep confidential, kept confidential. I don't think that would be a problem here."

Edwards and Baker think the biggest struggle for gay youth is one of acceptance.

"These kids desperately want to belong, fit in, be accepted and be loved, and here they are faced with some very specific vulnerabilities," Baker said.

"I definitely believe being gay or lesbian is something they're born with, not something they choose," Edwards said. "So, families need to talk about it and learn together. At the very least, they need to take the time to try to understand."

LeBlanc agrees that gay youth are looking for acceptance. "It's a lifestyle (gay youth) feel they have to maintain a secrecy about. So the acceptance is the biggest adjustment."

LeBlanc has encouraged gay youth who have come forward to talk about it with their families.

"It's very important for the family to communicate with that student and to be supportive. It's also very important there be a dialogue," he said. "What you don't want is to see them risk closing communication with their son or daughter because they're not tolerant of their son or daughter's sexual practices. Otherwise, they run the risk of losing them."

Turner said she would take the same approach. "If you have a good family support system, you can basically make it through anything," she said.

Once gay youth gain acceptance from their families, Turner said, it's much easier for them in the outside world. "If you know you're going to be accepted, your self-esteem and

everything else follows."

Baker said in its most tragic and worst sense, kids are killing themselves over realizing they're gay.

Statistics show gay youth are three times more likely to commit suicide. She said every day 13 Americans ages 15 to 24 commit suicide and gay and lesbian youth account for as many as 40 percent of all suicides.

"This is very tragic," Baker said. "Young lives are gone, and for what reason?"

Although Hoy felt depressed that he couldn't express who he truly was in junior high and high school, he said he never felt suicidal.

"You can only take so much not being able to be who you are, walking on egg shells and censoring yourself," he said. "But I never felt suicidal. I had too many plans for my future."

While Smith has not told her parents that she is bisexual, she has told her older sister, who is a lesbian. Smith concedes that she looks up to her sister but said she isn't imitating her.

"I would definitely say I am my own person, otherwise I wouldn't get crushes on boys," she said.

As for Smith's relationship with her parents, she doesn't feel it's strong enough to endure the truth.

And she has reason to be wary. Statistics show one in four gay and lesbian youth are forced to leave home because of conflicts with their families about being gay.

"In Ann Arbor, there are a number of gay youth in homeless shelters and daycare centers because they're thrown out of the house," Edwards said.

Hoy recognizes it was easier for him than it probably is for most gay youth. He told his parents after returning from a summer of marching with a drum and bugle corps.

"I was never ostracized," he said. "I was really lucky not to get that from anybody in my family, including aunts, uncles and grandparents. To this day, I count that as one of the luckiest things about the situa-

tion."

Hoy said he waited until after he graduated, in part because he didn't feel safe coming out at Carlson High School. Hoy believes otherwise he would have been treated violently by students or endured name calling.

And he is probably right. Statistics show 45 percent of gay males and 20 percent of lesbians experience physical or verbal assault in high school. A total of 28 percent feel forced to drop out because of harassment based on sexual orientation.

"I think the majority (of Chelsea students) would treat them pretty harshly," Turner said about openly gay students.

She thinks Chelsea schools and the community at large needs more education. "I think there is a lot to be learned about that topic."

In order for there to be more education for students, Raymond said a proposal for a course addressing the topic would have to be introduced to the Central Curriculum Committee and eventually approved by the school board.

Messner said students in Dexter who harass gay students, or any student for that matter, face one to three days suspension based on the school's code of conduct rules.

Although sexual orientation is not identified in the district's non-discrimination policy, Messner said it would fall under gender. Other categories are race, religion, ethnic origin and handicap.

"We take a fairly serious approach to that. We don't want to hear (derogatory terms) from anybody," Messner said.

Carlson High School has a similar policy, Laginess said.

"When it's brought to my attention, I don't care if it's sexual harassment or any harassment, it is very serious and I address it in many ways," he said.

"Every student has freedom of choice and freedom of education, to feel safe and secure, and I work hard to retain that."

"The unfortunate thing in

school populations, there are going to be problems and kids are going to be harassing each other ... but we're going to try and stop that," he said.

Raymond said it really hasn't been a problem in Chelsea.

"Kids will utter things in the hallways but I don't think it has been directed at any individual student."

"The last three years, I really haven't had an incident where anyone was harassed for their feelings about homosexuals," he said.

If he had, Raymond said, like Dexter, Chelsea has a code of conduct that prohibits students from harassing other students. Raymond said harassing gay students over their sexual orientation would fall under sexual harassment like Carlson High School's policy.

As assistant principal, Raymond is responsible for immediately stopping any kind of harassment and preventing future occurrences. He said disciplinary action would range from suspension to expulsion, depending on the severity of the offense.

If a gay student came out in Dexter, Messner thinks there would be a variety of reactions. "I think there would be a wide range of reactions, from homophobia to total acceptance."

He said students who feel ambivalent about their own sexuality may feel threatened, which he said is a normal reaction of adolescents.

"At some high schools you could probably be more out in the public," LeBlanc said. "But certainly in this community it would be a great struggle for someone with a gay preference."

Smith has come out to her friends at Chelsea High School pretty much unscathed. "I don't think my friends really cared," she said. "It depends on what kind of friends they were."

She feels comfortable with her sexuality and has attended dances with another girl despite the whispers and dirty looks she received from some students.

"It felt weird," she said.

"But I really didn't care because it wasn't people I liked anyway, so it didn't make a difference to me."

"Often times, people who are straight are not weird or mean about you being homosexual, but they don't want to know about it or talk about it," she said. "Just the fact that they don't hate you though, that's not good enough."

Smith thinks it's more difficult for homosexual men.

"I think people are quicker to jump on gay men. It's like lesbians who are butch are much more picked on than lesbians who are femmes (feminine), like myself. It's much harder to pick on femmes because they're fitting into society's rules of womanhood."

She also said the stereotype that men are having random and frequent sex and lesbians are more committed feeds the misconception.

"I think when you examine all those stereotypes around it, there are big differences in how people are treated."

"You can be stone butch but mostly it's in between," she said. "There are high femmes, as well. To try lesbians as women who try to be men is wrong."

"Once people meet lesbians they see what they are like. But then they think 'I know her and she's OK.' It's always the one you know who is the exception. But in truth, the stereotype is what is wrong."

Some distance away from Gibraltar and his family's new home in Flat Rock, Hoy doesn't feel he has to repress his sexual orientation anymore.

"I am very comfortable with (being gay). I have no problem sitting close, giving someone a peck on the cheek or holding hands."

"But I am always looking over my shoulder," he said. "I suppose it's years of training. I am not ashamed of it, but I do think about whether it makes someone feel uncomfortable."

Smith and Hoy agree that growing up gay in a small town is more difficult. They think it would be easier and much less turbulent if there were sup-

port groups available in the schools and more education.

"I think we need a Gay Straight Alliance. That would be good," Smith said. "I think they should have teacher awareness because a lot of teachers are noncommittal homophobic. I think there needs to be a non-discrimination policy and postings of gay-lesbian activities available in Ann Arbor and other places."

However, Smith doesn't see that happening anytime soon in Chelsea, especially after the school board took an approach of silence when a student asked in January why sexual orientation was not included in the district's non-discrimination policy. The board's only response was to send the question to committee.

"Right now," Smith said, "Chelsea schools are setting a bad example in policy. They should be jumping up to support (gay youth), like 'Yeah, we can finally help people in our schools who are more prone to suicide. But instead, they're like 'Let's repress them more.' That's not right. They should be like 'What can we do,' not 'How can we stop them.'"

Wrapping up her last year there, Smith sees herself moving to a larger city, one that is more accepting. She plans to attend college, and possibly study literature.

Hoy will graduate from Eastern Michigan University this spring. A theatrical and film design student, he has plans to relocate to California.

"I'd like to settle down," he said. "I want the family, the big house, a dog — everything that falls under general human happiness. But I think I am a little far away from that now."

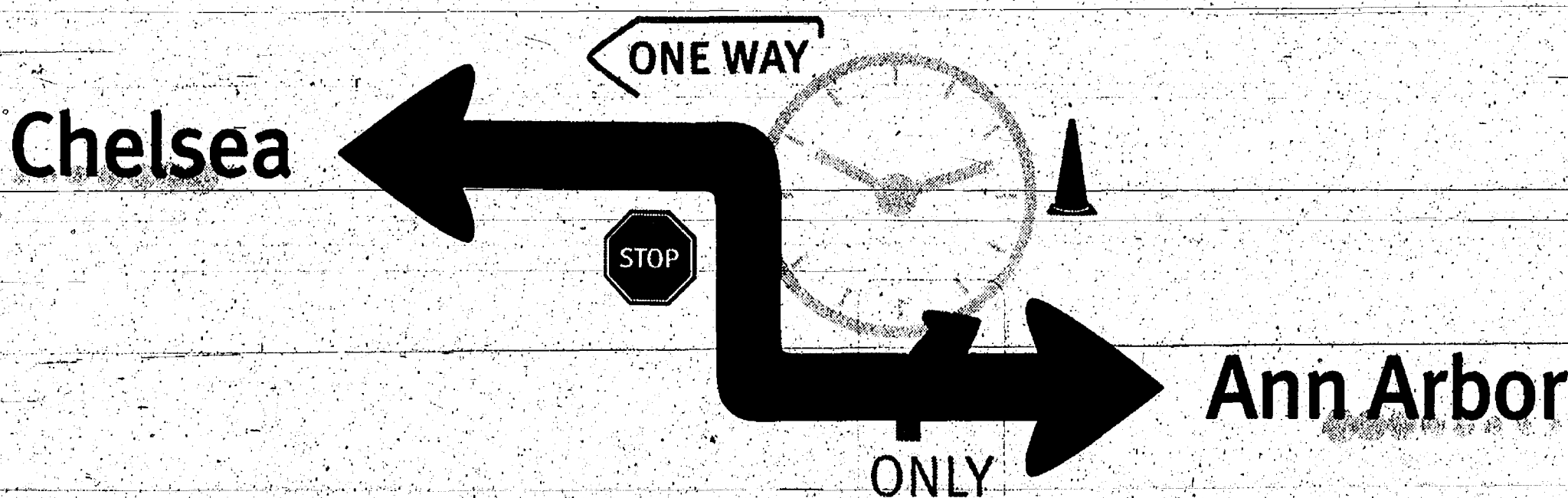
While Hoy is certain his life partner will be a man, Smith is unsure whether she will settle with a man or woman. But what both are convinced of, whether someone is male or female, young or old, religious or not, there needs to be more acceptance for the gay community, no matter what size the town that person lives in.

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MORNING DEPARTURES TO ANN ARBOR

Leave Polly's Market	6:43	7:13	8:43
Leave Train Station	6:50	7:20	8:50
Arrive downtown Ann Arbor	7:30	8:00	9:30

AFTERNOON RETURN TO CHELSEA

Leave downtown Ann Arbor	4:00	5:30	6:30
Arrive Polly's Market	4:43	6:13	7:13
Arrive Train Station	4:50	6:20	7:20

* More midday timepoints available.

Full fare: \$1.75 round trip. Less for handicapped riders, seniors, students, and riders who use AATA monthly passes and tokens.