



Sudoku puzzle
has strong appeal

See Page 1-B

Charles Ritter was
community watchdog

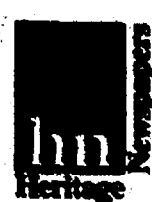
See Page 6-C



A look back at
Chelsea athletics

See Page 1-C

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The Chelsea Standard

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Vol. 134, No. 34

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2006

Top 5 stories of 2005

No. 1: Water woes continue

By Michelle Rogers
Editor

The city was plagued last year with numerous operational problems at the city's water treatment plant, but was expected to find some relief after authorizing the issuance of up to \$1 million in bonds to construct two

new water wells and entering negotiations with Sylvan Township to establish an emergency interconnection between the two municipal water systems.

Last January, Chelsea and Sylvan Township officials began discussing the importance of establishing an emergency connection between the two water systems.

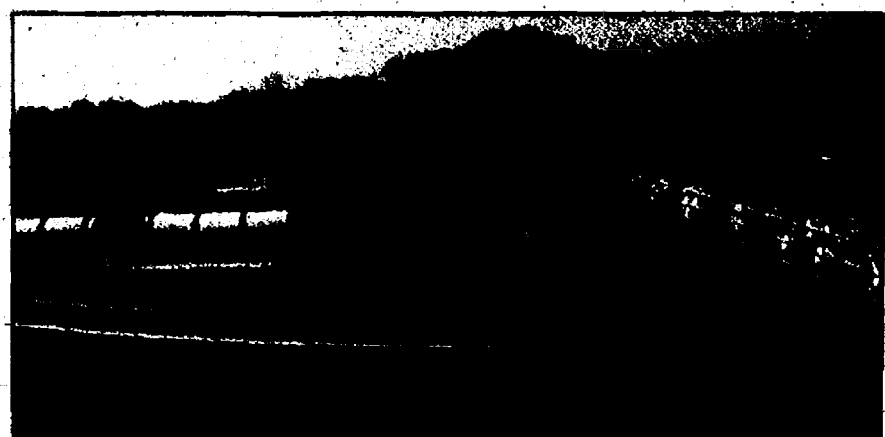
An emergency interconnect could be used in the event of water system failure caused by pumps malfunctioning, damage of control systems and other circumstances that would cause loss of pressure in either of the two systems.

At the time, officials agreed that formation of an interconnect would probably

have to wait until Sylvan Township's water softening system came on line.

The following month, the city approved the hiring of Robert Jones, a former consultant with Tetra Tech Inc., as the city's new water superintendent. Jones was expected to help iron out the ongoing operational problems

See WATER — Page 3-A

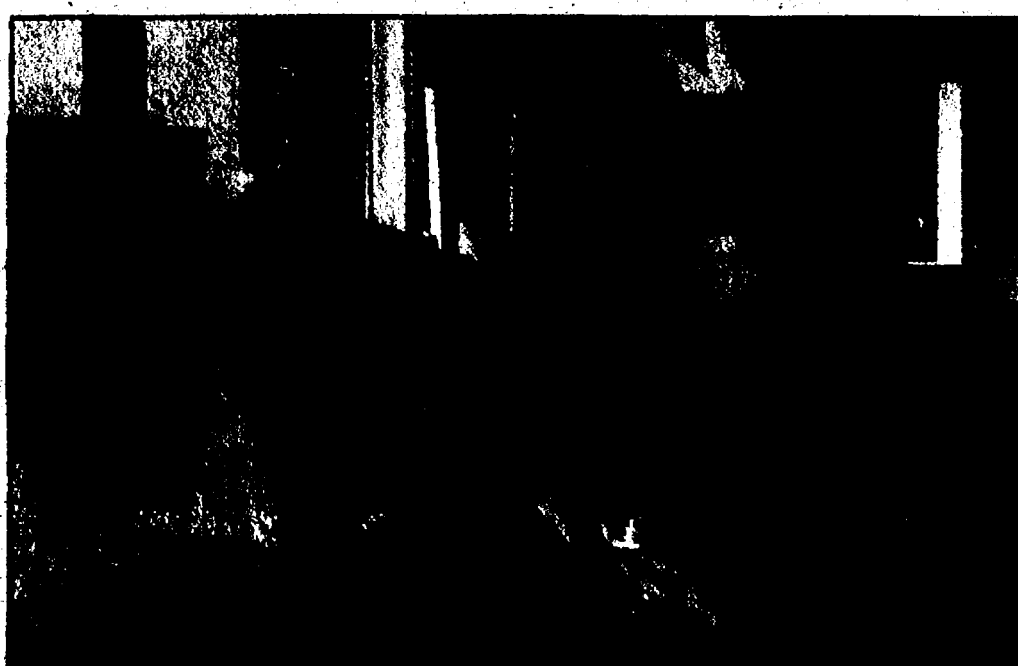


Chelsea officials are appealing to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to allow an increase in the amount of phosphorous the city can discharge into Letis Creek from its wastewater treatment plant, which is pictured above.

File Photo

Grass Lake resident Cala Hale mails letters at the Chelsea Post Office. Plans for a new Chelsea Post Office are up in the air despite several public meetings last year called by the U.S. Postal Service.

File Photo



No. 2: Plans up in the air for new post office

By Michelle Rogers
Editor

The year started out with promise as the U.S. Postal Service talked of bigger digs for the Chelsea Post Office after reviving plans previously scrapped to expand the facility.

But talk of moving the post office outside of downtown prompted outcry from residents and local leaders and, by the end of 2005, the city seemed to be back at the drawing board, anyway.

In 2000, the U.S. Postal Service was considering a proposal to build a new facility at the

Palmer Ford-Mercury property at 222 S. Main St., but abandoned the project because it was \$18 billion in debt.

In late February 2005, the Postal Service announced that it was again considering moving the Chelsea Post Office from 200 S. Main St. to a place outside of the city's central business district after reducing its debt to \$3 billion.

But the suggestion of moving the post office out of town stirred controversy in the community as local preservationists and city officials expressed an interest in maintaining a

See PLANS — Page 3-A

No. 4: Chelsea fire chief retires; Payeur hired

By Michelle Rogers
Editor

With the announcement that longtime Chelsea Area Fire Chief Dan Ellenwood would retire in 2005, a search was on for a new fire chief and Chelsea found a successor in a former Pittsfield Township fire marshal.

James Payeur was hired in late October, six months after Ellenwood ended his 35-year fire-fighting career. The move brought a new reign in Chelsea and higher expenses, as the Chelsea Area Fire Authority decided to hire someone in a full-time capacity, rather than part time, to supervise two part-time lieutenants, 35 paid

See CHIEF — Page 3-A

No. 3: Voters reject jail millage, county threatens subsidies

By Michelle Rogers
Editor

The year 2005 started out with county leaders asking taxpayers to dig deeper into their pockets to fund expansion of the Washtenaw County Jail, construction of a new 14A District courthouse, more reintegration services and increased mental health services at a cost of \$314 million.

But voters rejected the measure and a battle ensued over the County Board's decision to fund the project regardless with sheriff's subsidies offered to local municipalities for years.

See MILLAGE — Page 3-A



Washtenaw County Sheriff's Cmdr. Karl Filsinger shows off plans for an expansion of the county jail.

File Photo

No. 5: Residents lend helping hand to victims

By Michelle Rogers
Editor

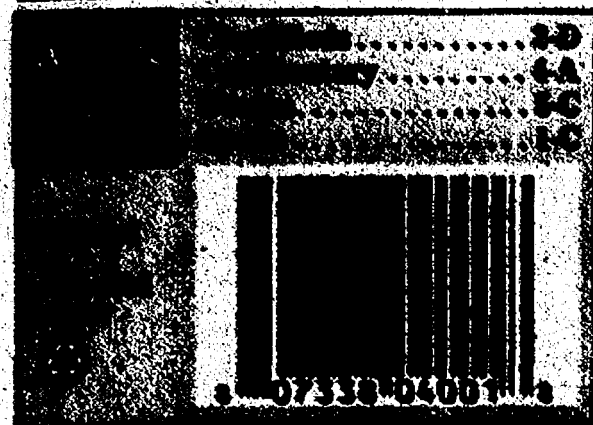
When local residents heard of the devastation Hurricane Katrina, and later hurricanes Rita and Wilma, had on the South last summer, they wanted to help. From local blood drives and church fund-raisers to volunteer efforts in the Gulf Coast region, Chelsea-area residents did their part in 2005.

See VICTIMS — Page 3-A



Chelsea native Dr. Ravi Vadlamudi is pictured at his parents' Chelsea home during a visit last summer. Vadlamudi, a Chelsea High School and University of Michigan graduate, talked to residents about Hurricane Katrina.

File photo



BRIEFLY...

Story time set at Chelsea Library: The Chelsea District Library will hold winter story times for children up to 6 years old. Story time with Miss Jackie will be held from 10:30 to 11 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays Jan. 11 through Feb. 16 for 2- and 3-year-olds and from 11:30 to noon for 3- through 5-year-olds. Registration is required.

Story time for youngsters up to 23 months old will be held from 10:30 to 11 a.m. on Mondays throughout the month of January. No registration is required.

Evening story time will be held from 7 to 7:30 p.m. Jan. 23 and 30 for children ages 3 to 6. Registration is not required.

For more information or to register, call 475-8732.

Adult Learners Institute to hold open house: The Adult Learners Institute in Chelsea will hold an open house from 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 17 in the boardroom at the Washington Street Education Center, 500 Washington St., in Chelsea.

Pre-registration for classes will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Jan. 13 at the Chelsea Senior Center. Call 475-9242.

Bonanza Lot Mark Downs!!!

WATER

Continued from Page 1-A

that beset the city's water treatment plant.

About a month later, the council was asked to give emergency authorization to replace three water pumps that had failed or were failing. The move cost the city \$22,522.

The problem was discovered after city workers disassembled two pumps, which drew water from ground storage tanks and eventually out of the city's water distribution system, and found the pumps severely corroded. This came as a shock to city leaders, who were told the three-year-old pumps were designed to last between 10 and 20 years.

Officials said the premature corrosion could be a result of too much chlorine pumped through the water plant in its first year of operation and that water flowing through the pumps was too soft, a result of the water treatment plant's reverse-osmosis softening system.

In April, Chelsea officials were faced with another problem as they contested a Michigan Department of Environmental Quality rule that limited the amount of phosphorus the city's wastewater treatment plant could discharge in Letts Creek.

Chelsea's limit for phosphorous discharge, they said, could stymie operations and the growth of the wastewater treatment plant, which has come under increasing strain as more housing developments have been built in the city.

Through the water cleaning process, wastewater treatment plants produce phosphorous and, in Chelsea's case, extra phosphorous discharge coming from the city's water treatment plant was being piped into the city's wastewater plant. The discharge hindered the water-cleaning process.

City Manager Mike Steklac said funneling the reverse-osmosis concentrate into Sylvan Township's sewer system, which sends waste for processing in Leoni Township, would give Chelsea's wastewater treatment plant more years of service before expansion would be necessary.

The city spent another \$33,000 on the water system in June when trustees approved

a study of the electric, water and wastewater system cost and fees.

Also in June, Chelsea's water woes impacted developers as the MDEQ imposed a moratorium on the issuance of new water permits in Chelsea. The city also imposed a moratorium on issuing new sewer permits because its wastewater treatment plant couldn't accommodate more sewage.

The MDEQ said it would not allow the city to issue new water permits until the city could increase its water system's firm capacity. The move set back construction at Fieldstone Village condominiums and Heritage Pointe.

The next month, the water treatment plant made headlines again when Steklac released a report disclosing mineral content, or water hardness levels, exceeded original goals, and noted there were seven shutdown or bypasses of the water softening system.

The report indicated mineral hardness levels of 108 to 182 parts per million, which is more than the 100 parts per million residents were told to expect.

Water softener bypasses or shutdowns occurred for reasons ranging from high water system demands and malfunction of equipment used to lower water acidity to heavy rains, and trouble with city water pumps and wells.

Steklac said Jones would conduct a pilot study to replace the softeners' anti-

scalant chemical with a non-phosphorus chemical in hopes of lowering the discharge's phosphorous content to a level acceptable by the MDEQ for release into Letts Creek. Otherwise, the discharge would continue to be released into the city's wastewater treatment plant, reducing the plant's capacity. Steklac said the city would need to construct two new water walls to expand the water system's firm capacity, a measure of the wellfield's ability to supply a historical, maximum, daily demand level if the city's largest well malfunctions.

Relief finally came in October when the city announced it would build two new water wells in an effort to lift the building moratorium caused, in part, by insufficient water capacity.

The city hired Tetra Tech Inc., an engineering firm that designed Chelsea's much-maligned water treatment plant, to draw up a "request for proposal" document. Plans called for two new 12-inch wells off Werkner Road.

The proposal was expected to bring wellfield expansion in two stages. Phase I work would cost the city up to \$100,000 and Phase II would cost between \$200,000 and \$300,000. The City Council authorized the issuance of a bond, not to exceed \$1 million, to cover the costs.

In addition, a citizens advisory committee formed to find solutions to Chelsea's water woes recommended in October that the city continue

using its water softening system. The recommendation assumes, however, that the city would receive a permit from the MDEQ to release discharge from its reverse-osmosis water softeners into Letts Creek.

The committee also recommended that the emergency interconnection between the city and Sylvan should be established and pumping capacity in one or more of three existing city water wells should be increased.

As long-term water supply goals, the committee recommended increasing ground-water pumping capacity by upgrading water wells or building new wells and implementing a public education program focusing on water conservation to reduce peak water demands.

Long-term water treatment recommendations included continuing to use the reverse-osmosis system and adding a third reverse-osmosis unit when treatment capacity

needs to be increased.

As of November, Sylvan Township officials had expressed a willingness to work with the city up to a certain point. Supervisor Michael Williams said an agreement for an emergency interconnection, from the township's standpoint, would not be intended as a general

aid for Chelsea's water system.

Steklac said the city probably would pay for construction costs, as well as half of the cost of maintaining the interconnection. Sylvan Township would pay the other half.

At year's end, negotiations were ongoing.

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WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE A DOCTOR WHO READ THE TEXTBOOK, OR THE ONE WHO WROTE IT?



M

VICTIMS

Continued from Page 1-A

Hurricane Katrina struck Aug. 29 and was a Category 5 storm before downgraded to Category 3 when it made landfall. One of the strongest storms ever recorded in the Atlantic basin, it hit the central Gulf Coast region with 125-mph winds and breached the levee system that protected New Orleans from Lake Ponchartrain and the Mississippi River.

Most of New Orleans was flooded and heavy damage was inflicted on the coasts of Mississippi and Alabama. As of Nov. 22, 4,000 people were still missing and 1,383 were reported dead.

Sharon Young and her 87-year-old mother, Zelma White, led the humanitarian charge Aug. 31, just two days after Hurricane Katrina struck, collecting \$1,600 in donations from local businesses and residents in just one day. Chelsea Boy Scout Troop 425 joined in the effort, holding a mum sale to benefit survivors.

Businesses got in on the act, as well. The Common Grill held a benefit dinner Sept. 26, raising \$18,000 for the Salvation Army. Dr. Lisa Olszewski of Precision Spinal Care in Chelsea

exchanged services for a donation to the American Red Cross and Chelsea Teddy Bear Co. donated more than 2,000 teddy bears to the effort to help survivors rebuild their lives.

In addition, employees at Sheridan Books in Chelsea raised more than \$10,200 for hurricane relief efforts and the company matched the number, donating a total of \$20,512 to the American Red Cross.

Neighbors banded together, too. Residents on Butter-nut Court collected donations of clothing, blankets, towels and other items survivors would need.

Hotrods and Hawks raised \$3,200 Sept. 11 at a local event that included a car show, carnival and pig roast, donating the proceeds to the Red Cross. Artist Linda Kolic did her part, as well, pledging 20 percent of the proceeds of her book, "Our Hearts of Passion," and 50 percent of the proceeds from her Locket Cards line to the agency.

Chelsea native Dr. Ravi Vadlamudi, a New Orleans physician who works at Tulane University Hospital, talked to local residents Sept. 15 about the devastation. He was in close contact with colleagues who stayed behind, and said many were upset that the federal gov-

ernment failed to adequately evacuate hospitals in advance of the storm. Many hospitals gave up on the Federal Emergency Management Agency and used funds to hire private contractors to evacuate patients, he said.

Vadlamudi also said mistakes occurred at the local level and logistics planning inside the Louisiana Superdome, a refuge for stranded survivors, was poor. He also said the city failed in evacuation planning as about 15 percent of the population had no access to cars.

Ted Graham, a 1968 Dexter High School graduate, and his wife, Ruth, were among the survivors. They shared stories of their efforts to flee the Big Easy before the storm and the aftermath of the hurricane's destruction.

Graham, who performs with The Sindells, lost all of the recordings he had made since high school, as well as his musical instruments. Family photographs and other sentimental items were destroyed, too, by floodwaters.

The couple witnessed windows getting sucked out of the house they sought refuge in 100 miles inland, and saw 80-foot tall pine trees come crashing down on homes around them. There was no electricity or telephones. Finally, they fled to Michigan

and sought help from family and friends.

Hearing such stories prompted Sandra Dunn, a special education teacher in Chelsea schools, and Mary Parks to get involved. They drove more than 1,000 miles South to give respite to volunteers in Alabama helping hurricane survivors. Parks said the trip made her appreciate life and everything she has.

Also joining the relief effort was a church group from Chelsea. Twelve members of Chelsea Free Methodist Church volunteered Nov. 5 through 12 in Mississippi. They helped in the rebuilding effort, and served thousands of meals to volunteers and the needy.

Susan Pickering-Rothamel, owner of USArtQuest in Grass Lake, wanted to help ease some of the pain she had been hearing about through news reports. She and 18 volunteers created 420 "We Care" card kits and shipped them to Mississippi in an effort to provide art therapy to survivors.

The Palmer Ford-Mercury dealership in Chelsea helped, as well, allowing a father and son from Saline to borrow a truck that they loaded with supplies and drove to Alabama as part of a relief convoy.

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PLANS

Continued from Page 1-A

postal presence at the building's current location, saying it was a vital part of downtown.

While representatives from the Postal Service talked of safety concerns and heavy population growth that necessitated a new building, a public meeting was called. John Frank, chairman of the Chelsea Historic District Commission, said removing the post office's foot traffic would have a devastating impact on Chelsea's economy. He also said the abandonment of the building would hurt the town's character.

Ed Moore, manager of communications for the Postal Service's Detroit district office, said the area's population growth had rendered the Main Street building obsolete. He said that although the Postal Service is still under a capital-spending freeze, it had money to build new facilities when there is a "dire need."

Moore said Chelsea's facility has insufficient parking for employees, has to accommodate larger mail trucks and is unsafe for postal workers. He also said a supervisor's office at the building had to be removed to make way for routing functions.

Moore indicated there was a possibility the post office could stay downtown, but that the Postal Service would need to find sufficient land to keep it there.

At a March 9 public meeting, Postal Service representatives agreed to a 90-day period of review for proposals, up from 30 days, after residents expressed concern. Bryant Schroeder, a U.S. Postal Service real estate specialist, said the city needed about two acres to build a larger post office.

Preferred sites, he said, would fall within an area bordered by Wermer Road to the north, Interstate 94 to the south, Freer Road to the east and Wilkinson Street to the south.

Bryant also said the Postal Service would accept a proposal to expand the existing site. Schroeder assured residents and local leaders that the Postal Service would look into expanding the existing building before looking at new sites to build on. But a national Postal Service committee would make the final determination, he said.

Within the next week, the city had organized an ad-hoc committee and identified six sites near Chelsea's central business district as potential homes for a new post office. Among the group's recommendations was to keep the

current facility and purchase neighboring property so the building could be expanded.

Another possibility was a combined post office and city hall at the former BookCrafters building at 140 Buchanan St.

Recommendations also included building on the site of Federal Screw Works at 425 Congdon St., using a site across the street from a former trailer park near the Clocktower Complex at 320 N. Main St., redevelopment of the Longworth building on Main Street and looking at redevelopment of the Palmer Ford-Mercury dealership lot on Main Street.

Before the end of March, however, the Postal Service announced in a letter to Mayor Ann Feeney that it would not consider keeping the Chelsea Post Office at its current location. Two major

factors in the decision were a lack of known available land adjacent to the existing facility and a lack of available space to reconfigure the interior of the facility to meet future operational requirements.

The Postal Service gave the city until June 9 to present alternative sites for a new facility. The date was later changed to Sept. 9, and Biff Weber, owner of the Ford-Mercury dealership, at the time was putting together a proposal that included his property, the Chelsea Post Office and the United Auto Workers Amalgamated Local Union 437 building at 218 S. Main St.

The topic didn't surface again in print until last week, when City Manager Mike Steklac told The Chelsea Standard that plans for a new post office had been temporarily postponed by the Postal Service.

Mayor Ann Feeney said the move is likely a result of post offices destroyed in Mississippi and Louisiana by Hurricane Katrina Aug. 29 and the money that must be spent to rebuild them.

Steklac said the city continues to look at possible sites adjacent to the downtown area.

While the Postal Service had established a Sept. 9 deadline for proposals, it had not set a deadline for selecting specific plans.

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The Chelsea Standard

COMMENTARY

PAGE 4-A

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2006

EDITORIAL

Turning 29, one step closer to 30

By the time you are reading this, I will have been 30—er, 29 years old for about a week now.

Before you continue, I'm sure any reader 35 or older is going to get a really big laugh out of this column. You seriously may not relate at all to it. But please try to sympathize with me as much as you can.

I enjoy celebrating milestones. I'm not one of those women who won't tell anybody her real age or feigns some kind of ladylike modesty about it. If you have a problem with me broadcasting my age, that's your problem.

Honestly, I am 29 years old. I turned it last week. I didn't hit the big 3-0 yet and am now trying to deny it. That's next year.

Oh, actually it's this year. When you have a birthday at the very tail end of the year, it's easy to get confused. You seem to age that much faster when you look at the calendar. "What? I'm turning 30 this year? I just had a birthday!"

My point is that this age is a really in-between number. I feel like I will cling desperately to my 20s for the next 12 months

and yet I will readily say I'm almost 30. It's almost like turning 16. When you're 15, you're eager to say how close you are to 16 because you'll be getting that wonderful driver's license, a rite of passage.

But what is the big prize for turning 30? Not much, except grouping yourself in another category of Americans who are above a certain age.

I think there are advantages to turning 30. You can answer personal ads of men looking for women between 30 and 45 for fun, friendship and romantic walks on the beach. But being engaged, I will not be able to do that.

I could join a church singles group for those 30 and older. (No kids allowed.) Another dud.

Being 29, I realize that I will need to figure out what turning 30 will mean to me. Are there things I should accomplish before then? Are there things I should try so I can say, "I did that in my 20s"? I don't know yet.

How morbid. I act like I'm going to turn 90 or something. It's not like the tribe is going to ask me to go jump off a cliff because I will become a burden on the group's resources.

One thing is, I never thought I would be one of those women who, when she learns



HEATHER CONNOR

she is the same age as another woman, will say, "My gawd, do I look as old as she does?" Anyone who gets asked this question by a woman knows that there is no right answer to it.

For the first time in my life, I appreciate the fact that I still have pimples and occasionally I still get carded for buying alcohol.

Another odd thing is how humbled I am when I hear of someone my age who has accomplished a lot.

It's not that I'm jealous, but it's hard not to make comparisons. You ask yourself, "How come I haven't done that yet?" or "Where did she find the time?"

Here's a depressing statistic. Since turning 27, my odds of conceiving a child have nearly dropped by a third. God has no mercy on those who want to wait to have children.

Yet, I think those 30 and older garner a little more respect in this world, although they're still considered "kids" by many people. Most people in their 30s are married,

have children and are chugging along at a promising career. They are mostly considered knowledgeable, mature and "settled down."

None of these will be true for me, except for being married, but I'm not worried about it. In fact, I look forward to starting a new chapter in my life. I think no matter how old we are, we need to act like today could be

the last day of our lives.

I plan to do the things that I've always been afraid of doing out of fear of being called "irresponsible" or "unladylike" or, my favorite, "stupid."

I think a benefit of growing older is we begin to let go of our childish notions that we can't do the things we want to do without our parents' or other people's permission. We fear their judgment.

More importantly, I'm realizing that it's time to stop comparing myself to others. We only have one life to live, and by the time I get done criticizing myself it will be all over with.

I'm grateful to have had the experiences that I have and, God willing, I will have many more to come.

My mother always says life begins at 30. I can't wait to get there.

Staff Writer Heather Connor can be reached at 475-1371 or hconnor@heritage.com.

"I'm grateful to have had the experiences that I have and, God willing, I will have many more to come. My mother always says life begins at 30. I can't wait to get there."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Try traveling by train this year

Yes, oil and gasoline prices are rising. Yes, we're at war in Iraq and it looks like it's about oil. Yes, there is pressure to drill for oil in Alaska's precious nature preserve. And, yes, traffic is becoming more congested and frustrating everywhere.

How can we use less oil, rather than feeling we need more, more, more, when we know oil is a limited resource?

When is the last time you took a train ride? Maybe it takes more time, but think of what you get to do in that extra time—perhaps read a book, focus on the scenery, enjoy a meal, stretch your legs, or have a nap or a night's sleep.

Our government is providing huge subsidies for the oil and motor industries, but very little for rails. Wouldn't it be wonderful to get more of the trucks off the highways and onto the rails? Wouldn't

it be interesting to reach a destination by train instead of fighting traffic?

In 2006, let's pledge to take at least one trip by train and rediscover the adventure and pleasure of this form of transportation that works very well for many Europeans. And let's urge our government to support better rail service for the sake of the Earth and our children's future.

Lynn Meadows
Lyndon Township

STREET TALK

By Jennifer Sinkwits

Do you think the Lions will ever make the playoffs?



"Poor little guys."
Dianne Smith
Dexter Township



"Not unless Ford sells them."
Norm Galeska
Waterloo Township

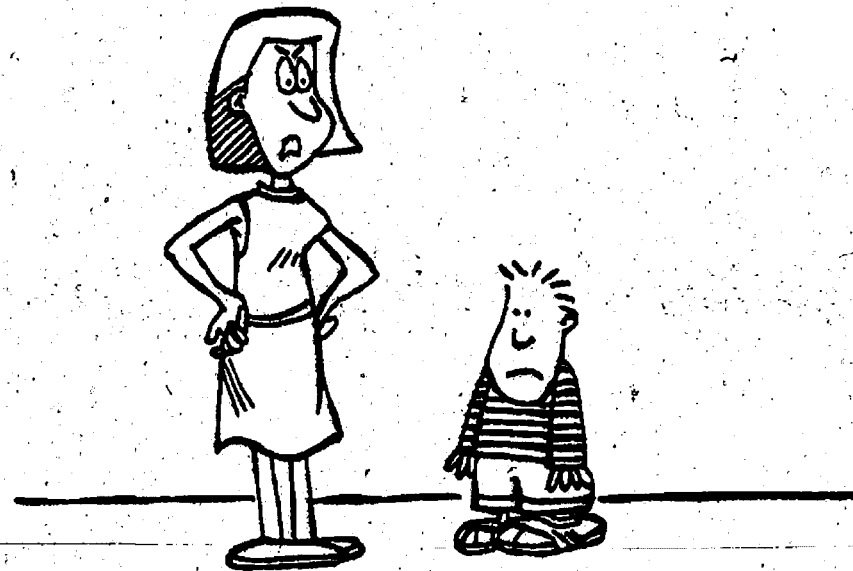


"Not in my lifetime."
Dan Wankuck
Lyndon Township



"(Steve) Mariucci is the only one with a Super Bowl ring. If they bring him back, maybe."
Frank Mackus
Gregory

DANIEL FENCICH
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"THERE IS NO 'UPON FURTHER REVIEW'...NOW GO TO YOUR ROOM."

OTHER VOICES

Students were unruly but showed passion

Remember when your mother told you, "If you can't say anything nice about somebody, don't say anything at all?"

Rest assured there is not a journalist in this state who listened to that advice. If they had, they would be social workers.

If you want proof that motherly wisdom is being ignored, take a gander at the media "pile on" concerning a recent out-of-control meeting of the State Board of Canvassers involving student demonstrators.

The students were vilified. "It was despicable."

"It was contemptible."

They were a "radical fringe group."

And in keeping with the holiday spirit, one scribe warmly labeled the students a bunch of fascists.

Make no mistake: What the 250 Detroit high school students did was unruly and over the top.

Their chants of "No voter fraud" and "They say Jim Crow. We say hell no," brought the board proceedings to a grinding halt.

They were successful for the moment in effectively blocking the board from placing on the statewide ballot an anti-affirmative action amendment.

Without condoning the near-riot conditions, however, students were involved in the democracy.

If anyone had bothered to listen closely to some of them, you heard future leaders intelligently express their passion about being denied equal rights.

As you pawed over the negative reporting of the unruly event, you had to wonder how many of those critics would have written in the '60s that it was wrong for civil rights leaders to dis-

rupt meetings to advance their moral and social agenda of freedom for everyone.

Democracy is not a spectator sport. When citizens truly believe that a law is unlawful, don't they have a right to civil disobedience?

The students do not deserve high marks for tipping over a table and for disrupting a meeting. We all understand that some of them were there because it

was a day off from school, but others where there out of conviction.

Hopefully, as they mature, they will have learned a lesson from that day at the capitol.

There is a right way and wrong way to play the democratic game, but at least they were in the game.

Tim Skubick hosts the public TV show "Off the Record" and provides regular commentary for WWJ Radio 950.



TIM SKUBICK

The Chelsea Standard

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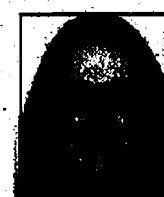
JAMES K. WILLIAMS JR.
President, Heritage Newspapers
jwilliams@heritage.com



MICHELLE ROGERS
Editor
mrogers@heritage.com



DON RICHTER
Sports Editor
drichter@heritage.com



HEATHER CONNOR
Staff Writer
hconnor@heritage.com



COLLEEN COOPER
Customer Service
ccooper@heritage.com



MICHELLE WRIGHT
Advertising Consultant
mmicklewright@heritage.com



BETH HARRIS
Advertising Consultant
bharris@heritage.com

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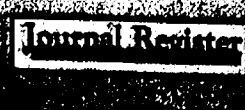
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MILLAGE

Continued from Page 1-A

Voters were asked to approve a 0.75-mill, 20-year tax Feb. 22 that would have cost the owner of a home valued at \$200,000, and assessed at half, \$75 per year.

Critics of the measure argued that the new tax would be spent unwisely on more beds as jail officials planned to add about 200 in the next 10 years. Calling themselves the No Giant Jail Committee, a group of opponents, spearheaded by Scio Township Trustee Chuck Ream, said many inmates don't belong in jail and that incarceration is not the answer to substance abuse. By the end of March, the

County Board was discussing cuts to sheriff road patrols, with about 90 deputies' jobs on the chopping block.

Chelsea-area officials began looking at a multi-jurisdictional police department to solve the problems as the county proposed eliminating a \$90,000 subsidy for every police service unit, or deputy, a municipality contracted for, essentially doubling the cost of each law enforcement contract.

While Sylvan, Lima and Lyndon townships rely on the Michigan State Police and don't contract with the Sheriff's Office, local leaders said they were concerned because the state police could cut back as well. So, they pushed the Chelsea Police Department to consid-

er branching out.

A forum held May 4 in Chelsea resulted in angry criticisms of the county, with accusations that the county's valuations of police service units were inflated.

Chelsea Police Chief Scott Sumner emphasized that the Sheriff's Office provides crucial mutual aid and training to city police, and that Chelsea is not looking to take over the county's role.

Washtenaw County Sheriff Dan Minzey proposed a plan to double the number of beds at the jail for half the price tag the county administration proposed in February, but said the county administrator can figure out funding. He said the county could look at putting together another ballot proposal or finding

funds in capital reserves.

Minzey's proposal called for modular-designed, prefabricated cells, with at least 225 beds, by late 2006 at a cost of \$10.7 million. The jail currently has a 332-bed capacity, and overcrowding is causing the county to board inmates at other facilities and release some inmates early. Minzey said based on the county's population, national jail standards recommend 752 beds.

In July, County Administrator Bob Guenzel added a new courthouse in Saline to the mix as part of a 96-bed jail expansion, new courthouse and increased rehabilitation services at a cost of \$30 million, and called three community meetings to gather input.

By September, a grassroots committee calling itself the Citizens to Save Our Sheriff's Department had organized and was looking to bring the county's plan to eliminate subsidies to a public vote. This was in response to the Washtenaw County Board's decision Sept. 7 to eliminate sheriff's subsidies by 2008 to free up money for construction of a new county jail and courthouse. The board approved a proposal to sell \$29.9 million in bonds to fund the project.

On Sept. 28, the citizens' group turned in nearly 23,000 petition signatures, surpassing its goal of 20,000, in hopes of forcing a public referen-

dum. But in October, it was announced that the petition drive, if 15,000 signatures were verified, may not force a public vote because the County Board would have to agree to it.

On Nov. 22, the signatures were verified. Two weeks later, the County Board voted to accept, certify and file the signatures, but did not make a decision as to what to do with them. They said they would revisit the issue Jan. 4.

The board also voted to support four-year contracts from municipalities despite a push from area leaders for two-year pacts with increases in the PSU rate expected by 2008.

CHIEF

Continued from Page 1-A

on-call firefighters and a team of six fire investigators.

The Fire Authority Board hired The Rehmann Group, a Saginaw-based consulting firm, in March to help with the search for a new chief. Assistant chiefs William Paul and Steve Jaskot, who served as co-chiefs during the interim, both indicated they would be interested if the post was part time.

Also in March, the board decided that it wanted someone with management skills to help the Fire Authority embark on a plan to build substations in the surrounding townships, seek a bond issue and operational millage.

The next month, Ellenwood officially stepped down and was honored with a parade featuring trucks and fire personnel from 14 area fire departments. The 62-year-old chief was recognized during a gathering at the Chelsea Fairgrounds, where fire chiefs from throughout the area, local officials, firefighters and residents met to wish him well.

By September, Fire Board members had announced that they had narrowed down a field of 60 applicants to four for interviews. Finalists, who hailed from Grand Rapids, Alpena and Wisconsin, were to be interviewed in public and hired at a salary range between \$55,000 and \$65,000 for the full-time post.

Interviews were set for Oct. 7 and included Payeur, 51, who had been serving as fire chief of Allouez in Green Bay, Wis., after leaving the Pittsfield Township Fire Department in 2003. Payeur had served as shift com-

mander and assistant fire chief, as well as fire marshal in Pittsfield.

The other candidates were Kenneth Hubbard, deputy fire chief in Alpena; Michael Quint, assistant fire chief and training director at the Watertown Fire Department in Watertown, Wis.; and John Parrott, fire chief at the Buena Vista Fire Department in Saginaw County.

The Fire Authority voted later that month to award the position to Payeur. Jamie Bollinger, chairman of the Fire Authority's Personnel, Policy and Procedures Committee, said at the time that Payeur's local ties, as well as his drive to succeed, made him stand out among the other candidates. He also

said Payeur's teaching experience was a plus.

In late October, Payeur officially accepted the Fire Board's offer, which included a salary of \$61,000 per year and a benefits package valued at \$9,000 per year. His new salary was \$4,000 less than what he was making in Wisconsin. He planned to start work in Chelsea Nov. 21.

Payeur and his wife were officially welcomed Dec. 10 during an open house at Chelsea's main fire station.

Also that week, the Fire Authority released its 2006-2007 fiscal-year budget, which included a 22 percent increase in staff costs over the previous year.

The budget, totaling

\$908,900, is based on runs from last year, as well as operating expenses, labor fuel, insurance, upkeep of buildings and training costs.

Chelsea's share of the budget, which totaled \$409,515, was a shock to council trustees as the city saw a 39 percent increase over last year. Lima Township saw an 18 percent jump, Sylvan Township saw 17 percent, Lyndon Township's share increased 13 percent and Dexter Township will pay 6 percent more.



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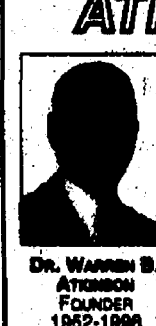
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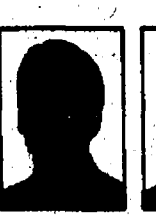
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Winter Family Reading Fun!

at the **Chelsea District Library**

Jan. 9 — Feb. 23

Grab a book, cozy up with your family, and get ready to read away the winter cold. This year's theme: Life through the Ages! Fun, prizes, and special events! Sign up today!

Kick Off Fun!

Mr. Science!

Wednesday, January 11, 7 pm

Want to see a librarian blow up like a balloon? Ever seen melting steel? Enjoy Mr. Science (aka Dave Mastie) and his hands-on, audience participatory science fun! Free and no registration required.

U of M Family Science Workshops

Saturdays at 3 pm in the meeting room. Recommended for ages 6-11; parents must accompany child. Registration is required and begins Jan. 9. All events are free!

Jan. 21: Phenomenal Paleozoic — Out of the Water

Feb. 4: Magnificent Mesozoic — Into the Air

Feb. 18: Sensational Cenozoic — Back to the Sea

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COMMUNITY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2006

PAGE 1-B

PEDIATRIC CORNER



DR. SCOTT MOORE

Is your child too sick for school?

With winter upon us, many parents now find themselves asking the perennial question, "Is my child too sick to go to school today?" or fielding the dreaded phone call, "Please come pick up your child from daycare."

When deciding whether your child can attend school or daycare, there are several considerations. According to the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care, a primary consideration is the safety and well-being of your own child.

Ask yourself whether your child will be able to keep up with most activities and whether your child will receive needed extra attention without compromising the care of other children.

You are often the best judge of whether your child has sufficient energy and alertness to keep up with the pace of activities and learning at school. But sometimes, to determine whether a sufficient level of care can be provided, the decision should be made in collaboration with your child's teacher or daycare provider. You may need to defer to their judgment of what level care they are capable of providing.

Another consideration is whether your child has an illness that poses a risk of spreading serious disease to others.

If you find it confusing to decide when a child's symptoms signal infectious conditions, you are not alone. A recent study conducted by researchers at the University of Cincinnati found that even pediatricians and childcare providers don't always get it right.

Your child's school or daycare facility will have a temporary exclusion policy that spells out what symptoms require exclusion and when children can return. This policy most likely will have been based on a set of national guidelines developed in 1992 and updated in 2002 by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The guidelines stipulate when sick children should be sent home or remain at home. You can access this list by going to the Web site for the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care at www.nrc.uchsc.edu. The guidelines can be found in Chapter 3 of "Caring for Our Children, Second Edition." You will find a comprehensive list of symptoms that warrant temporary exclusion accompanied by the rationale for each symptom on the list.

Symptoms on the list include uncontrolled coughing, persistent crying, diarrhea, vomiting, severe lethargy, an oral temperature of 101 degrees or higher, and contagious conditions some of which are strep throat, impetigo, chickenpox, hepatitis A, measles, rubella, shingles or herpes simplex. One surprise for many parents is that a runny nose without fever is not on the list.

For contagious conditions that respond to antibiotic therapy, such as strep throat, your pediatrician can help you determine how long after antibiotic therapy has been

See CHILD — Page 2-B

The object of the game is to deduce how to fill the empty squares so that every row, column and 3-by-3 area includes the digits 1 through 9.

Photo By Larry Carnes

Numbers game

Popular puzzle has global appeal

By Klint Lowry
Herald Newspapers

Like many epidemics, its true origins are debatable. Some say it has been with us for decades. What is known is that it first struck in force in Japan several years ago, and has spread around the globe in just over a year. It quickly overran England, and during the past summer it showed up all over America, already claiming countless people and likely to claim countless more over the holidays.

You don't catch it by talking to foreigners or having shishkebab as a snack. For many, exposure can be as simple as picking up a newspaper.

Chances are good — likely, in fact — that you or someone you know already has been infected by sudoku.

Sudoku (pronounced spo-DOO-ah) is that numbers game that has been popping up in newspapers, online and in bookstores around the country. By most accounts, it's the biggest thing to hit the world of puzzles since crosswords started appearing regularly in newspapers in the 1930s.

"There's a funny thing about everyone jumping on the bandwagon," said Will Shortz, crossword puzzle editor for the New York Times. "It's a hot thing. It could have become popular several years ago. It had been around. But once it became a craze in England, that spawned the craze here and around the world."

In addition to his job at the Times, Shortz is generally recognized as a leading authority in puzzles. He is the first (and still possibly the only) person in the world to hold a university degree in enigmatology, the study of puzzles, which he got from Indiana University in 1974.

He is the puzzle master for National Public Radio's "Weekend Sunday Edition" and the founder and director of the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament. He also founded the World Puzzle Championship in 1988 and still is U.S. team champion.

Shortz has edited more than 100 puzzle books, including some recent sudoku collections.

At a bookstore near you

"My publisher, St. Martin's Press, called me in May or June and said, 'This is going to be big; we'd like you to do three sudoku books, and we'd like you to have them in 10 days,'" Shortz said.

In some sense, the rapid rise in sudoku's popularity has been a case where the chicken and the egg arrived together, at least as far as this country's book industry.

"Some of the publishers we work with have branches in the U.K., and they were talking about the phenomenal success," said Christine Edwards, a category manager for the Borders Group, owners of Borders Books and Music and Waldenbooks.

About 2 million sudoku books have been sold in Great Britain in the past year. At one point, six of the top 10 nonfiction titles were sudoku books.

Morgan Burns, a buyer for Borders, heard people talking about the game during the summer. For the most part, they had all picked up on sudoku from newspapers.

Burns decided it would be a good idea to put a few titles on shelves to see what would happen. Customers grabbed them up, and he knew they had something.

"It went from no stock — in July we had nothing — to now we have shelves full," Burns said.

Shortz' "Sudoku" is among the most popular, as is "Su Doku for Dummies" by Arnold Kobler.

See NUMBERS — Page 2-B

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CHELSEA

Thursday, Jan. 5

Michigan Alzheimer's Association will hold a program called "What's New in Treating and Preventing Memory Loss?" 7 p.m. at the Chelsea Retirement Community, Dancy House Theatre, 805 W. Middle St. The program is open to the public, and no registration is required. For more information, call 433-1000, ext. 416.

Dance Dance Revolution will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Chelsea District Library, 500 Washington St., as part of the Teen Winter Nights program. No registration is needed. Call 475-8732.

Friday, Jan. 6

Cancer Prevention and Survival Cooking Course will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1515 S. Main St., in Chelsea. This free, eight-week course is open to the public and will be held every Friday through March 3. Registration is required by calling 475-1404.

Sunday, Jan. 8

"Annual Winter Gathering" event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Park Lyndon South's East Lot, 18801 North Territorial Road, in Lyndon Township. The event will include a short hike followed by a potluck. Bring a dish to pass. Call 971-6337, ext. 318.

Washtenaw Literacy is holding a one-hour orientation 2 p.m. at Cranesbill Books in Chelsea for volunteers who want to help teach English as a second language. For more information, call 769-1320.

Monday, Jan. 9 through 30

"Babytime" will be held from 10:30 to 11 a.m. for youngsters up to 23 months old and their caregivers at the Chelsea District Library, 500 Washington St. For more information, call 475-8732.

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Dave Mastle, who is also known as "Mr. Science," will kick off the Winter Family Reading Program 7 p.m. at the Chelsea District Library, 500 Washington St. The event is free and open to the public. No registration is required. Call 475-8732.

Story time with Miss Jackie will be held from 10:30 to 11 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays Jan. 11 through Feb. 16 for 2- and 3-year-olds and from 11:30 to noon for 3- through 5-year-olds at the Chelsea District Library, 500 Washington St. Registration is required. Call 475-8732.

Thursdays, Jan. 12 through 26

"Excel Basics" will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays at the Chelsea District Library, 500 Washington St. The three-part workshop provides an introduction. Registration is required and space is limited. Call 475-8732.

Thursday, Jan. 12

American Red Cross Family Caregivers program "Caring for a Loved One with Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia" will be held from 2 to 3 p.m. at Silver Maples, 100 Silver Maples Drive, in Chelsea. The class is free and open to the public. Registration is required by calling 971-5300.

CHELSEA

MISCELLANEOUS

Thursday

Alzheimer's Association Family Caregiver Support Group meets from 2 to 3:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at the Chelsea Retirement Community, 805 W. Middle St. Call 1-800-337-3827.

Books & Banter Group meets 1:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the Chelsea District Library, 500 Washington St. Copies of the books are available for registered readers. For information, call 475-8732.

Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors meets the third Thursday of the month. Call 475-1145.

Friends of Chelsea District Library meets on a regular basis. For more information, call Marie Brooks at 475-8732 or Jennifer Kundak at 475-2424.

Mastering Motherhood group meets every Thursday during the school year from 9:15 to 11 a.m. at Chelsea Free Methodist Church, 7665 Werkner Road. For more information, call 475-1391.

Senior Nutrition Program meets noon every Thursday for dinner at the Waterloo Township Hall, 8061 Washington St., in Waterloo. Call 475-7439.

Friday

Al-Anon meets 12:30 p.m. every Friday at Chelsea Community Hospital, 775 S. Main St., in the White Oak Center Great Room. Call 475-1462.

Bingo is held 6:30 p.m. every Friday night at Chelsea Rod and Gun Club, 7103 Lingane Road, in Chelsea. Call 475-7910.

Saturday

Hope Clinic, for people with no health insurance, is held 9 a.m. to noon on the second Saturday of the month at Faith In Action, 775 S. Main St. Call 475-3305.

Western Washtenaw Republicans meets from 9:30 to 11 a.m. the second Saturday of the month at Cleary's Pub, 113 S. Main St. Call 996-9467.

Prayerful Hands Group meets monthly at Our Savior Lutheran Church, 1515 S. Main St., in Chelsea. Call 475-1404 or 475-1295.

Sunday

The Parkinson Education and Support Group of Washtenaw County meets from 1:30 to 4 p.m. the second Sunday of the month. Call 1-800-852-9781.

Monday

Al-Anon meets 7:30 p.m. every Monday at Chelsea Community Hospital, 775 S. Main St. Call 475-1462.

Chelsea AA group meetings are held 8:30 p.m. Monday, 8 p.m. Thursday, 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Chelsea hospital dining room, and noon on Tuesday and Wednesday at First Congregational Church, 121 E. Middle St.

Chelsea Area Garden Club meets noon the second Monday of the month at First United Methodist Church, 128 Park St. Call 475-1493.

Chelsea Kiwanis Club meets 6:15 p.m. every Monday at Chelsea Community Hospital, 775

S. Main St. Call 475-6128.

Lima Township Board meets 8 p.m. the second Monday of every month at the Township Hall, 11452 Jackson Road, in Chelsea. For more information, call 475-2246.

Masonic Lodge 156 of Chelsea meets 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of the month at 113 W. Middle St. Call 433-1452.

Mystery Book Club meets 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of the month at the Washington Street Education Center, 500 Washington St.

Taste of Home Café serves lunch at noon Monday through Friday at the Washington Street Education Center, 500 Washington St. It's open to the public with a \$2.50 donation for senior citizens 60 years or older, and \$5 for all others. Reservations are required one day in advance. For information or reservations, call 475-9242.

Overeaters Anonymous meets from 6 to 7 p.m. every Monday at the Covenant Church, 50 N. Freer Road. Call 995-1835.

Tuesday

Chelsea District Library Board meets 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at the Washington Street Education Center, 500 Washington St.

Chelsea Lions Club meets 6:45 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at Chelsea Community Hospital, 775 S. Main St.

Chelsea Rotary Club meets 12:30 p.m. every Tuesday at the Common Grill, 112 S. Main St.

Euchre Party is held 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Chelsea Senior Citizen Center, 512 E. Washington St. Call 475-9242.

Grandparents as Parents program is held 12:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at First United Methodist Church, 128 Park St. Call 712-3625.

"Senior Computing: One to One" workshop is held from 10 a.m. to noon the first and third Tuesdays each month at the Chelsea District Library, 500 Washington St. There is no charge, but registration is required. To register or for more information, call 475-8732.

Senior Nutrition Program meets noon every Tuesday for dinner at the Waterloo Township Hall, 8061 Washington St., in Waterloo. Call 475-7439.

Women's Club of Chelsea meets 1 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month at The Pines, 325 Wilkinson St. For information, call Marjorie Hepburn at 475-0467.

Wednesday

Chelsea Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4076, 105 N. Main St., meets 7:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month. Call 475-1448.

Muscle toning classes are held 11 a.m. every Wednesday at the Chelsea Senior Center, 512 Washington St. Chair exercises are followed by walking. The class is free and open to the public. For more information, call 475-9242.

Narcotics Anonymous meets 7 p.m. every Wednesday at Chelsea Community Hospital Main Dining

Room, 775 S. Main St., in Chelsea.

The Evening Primrose Garden Club meets 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month at the Chelsea Depot, 125 Jackson St.

DEXTER

Tuesday, Jan. 10

American Red Cross Family Caregivers program "Caring for a Loved One with Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia" will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Generations Together, 2801 Baker Road, in Dexter. The class is free and open to the public. Registration is required by calling 971-5300.

Saturday, Jan. 14

"Under the Wolf Moon" winter hike will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at Independence Lake, 3200 Jennings Road, in Webster Township. Meet at the Beach Center. Hot drinks will be provided. Call 971-6337, ext. 318.

Monday, Jan. 16

Winter story time for toddlers and preschoolers will begin Jan. 16 and run until March 9 at the Dexter District Library, 8040 Fourth St. Registration will begin Jan. 3. Space is limited. Call 426-4477.

Saturday, Jan. 21

The Huron River Watershed Council will hold a family event called "Life Under the Ice in Mill Creek" 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Pre-registration is required by Jan. 11. Call 769-5123, ext. 11.

DEXTER MISCELLANEOUS

Thursday

Dexter AA group meets 7:30 p.m. every Thursday at St. Joseph's Parish Hall in the education building, 3470 Dover St., in Dexter.

Dexter American Legion meets 8 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the American Legion Post, 8225 Dexter-Chelsea Road. Call 426-3112.

Dexter Community Band meets from 7 to 9 p.m. every Thursday at the Dexter High

School band room, 2200 N. Parker Road. Call 426-2734.

Dexter Historical Society meets 7:30 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at the Dexter Area Museum, 3443 Inverness St.

Dexter Rotary Club meets 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. every Thursday at Creekside Intermediate School, 2615 Baker Road.

Dexter Downtown Development Authority meets 7:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month at the Copeland Administration Building, 7714 Ann Arbor St.

Dexter Lions Club meets 6:45 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays at DAPCO Industries, 2500 Bishop Circle East, in Dexter.

Friday

Friends of Dexter District Library meets 10 a.m. the second Friday of the month at the Dexter District Library, 8040 Fourth St. Call 426-4477.

Saturday

Monthly Book Sale by the Friends of the Dexter District Library will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. the first Saturday of each month through June at the library, 8040 Fourth St.

Monday

Dexter, Board of Education meets 7 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays at Creekside Intermediate School, 2615 Baker Road.

Dexter Village Council meets 7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays at the Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Ann Arbor St.

Dexter Village Planning Commission meets 7:30 p.m. the first Monday of the month at the Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Ann Arbor St.

Dexter Village Zoning Board of Appeals meets 7 p.m. the third Monday of the month at Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Ann Arbor St.

Tuesday

Dexter AA Group meets 8 p.m. every Tuesday at St. Joseph's

Parish Hall Education Building, 3470 Dover St.

Dexter Kiwanis Club meets 6:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of the month at Lighthouse Café, 8124 Main St., in Dexter.

Dexter Township Planning Commission meets 7:30 p.m. the first and fourth Tuesdays at Dexter Township Hall, 6880 Dexter-Pinkney Road.

Dexter Township Zoning Board of Appeals meets 7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at Dexter Township Hall, 6880 Dexter-Pinkney Road.

Wednesday

La Leche League meets monthly in Dexter. The league is a support and information group for pregnant and nursing mothers. Call 426-5648.

TOPS Weight Loss Group meets weekly from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Ann Arbor-Dexter Road. Call 426-4031 for more information.

Western Washtenaw Democrats meets 7 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of the month at the IBEW Hall, 7920 Jackson Road.

ANN ARBOR

Tuesday, Jan. 10

"Teens Using Drugs Part 2: What to Do" free seminar will be held from 7:30 to 9 p.m. the second Tuesday through June at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, in Superior Township. Call 973-7892.

Thursday, Jan. 12

Heartland Hospice is offering a six-week series called "Living with Grief" from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Heartland Hospice office in Ann Arbor. The series is free and open to the public. Call 973-1145.

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CHILD

Continued from Page 1-B

Initiated your child can return to school or childcare. With strep throat, for example, a child can typically return 24 hours after an antibiotic has been started, but the length of time varies for other conditions.

Although the rationale for temporarily excluding children includes the goal of reducing the spread of communicable disease, we must not overestimate its effectiveness. The University of Cincinnati study found that childcare providers and parents are frequently overconfident about the ability of exclusion to prevent the spread of disease.

"Because the period of infectivity precedes the manifestation of symptoms for so many of these common childhood viral illnesses," lead researcher Dr. Kristin Copeland says, "most of the other children and staff in the center have already been exposed once the child becomes ill. Routine hand-washing and sanitation procedures are much more effective than exclusion at preventing disease spread within childcare centers."

This does not mean you should send a symptomatic child to school on the grounds that the damage probably already has been done. You are still protecting the health and safety of the other children, but it does

mean that we should not neglect other highly effective forms of infection-control, such as hand washing.

Dr. Scott Moore is a pediatrician in Chelsea. To reach him with any questions, call 475-4500.

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7				6				
5			7	9				1
		9				7		
	6		2			3		5
		4	3		5	1		
3		2			8		9	
	7					5		
8				2	7			4
			4					6

EASY #28
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.

5								1
			9		8		2	
	8	2		1		9		
		7		5	3			
	9	5				2	6	
			2	9		5		
		4		8		6	7	
	5		1		2			
7								8

MEDIUM #24
Solutions published in this newspaper, or check "JNC Publications" on the Solutions page of www.sudoku.com

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CHELSEA

Events set Jan. 16 to mark MLK Day

One World One Family will hold its fifth annual celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day Jan. 16 in Chelsea. The date also marks the 20th anniversary of the first celebration of the federal holiday.

The goal of the celebration, the group said in a press statement, is "to help the community recognize the diversity of the human family while promoting understanding of the world's cultures through activities and educational events."

Chelsea City Offices are closed in recognition of the holiday and, for the second year, Chelsea School District has the day off.

Afternoon activities for young people will begin at 1 p.m., with a movie, a craft project, stories and a snack at the Washington Street

Education Center, 500 E. Washington St. People will gather in the cafeteria and move to the auditorium for the movie, "The Color of Friendship."

Students from the Chelsea High School Diversity Club will help during the afternoon activities, so parents are welcome but do not have to remain with their children, the group said. Children younger than 6 years old should have parental supervision, however.

Local residents may join a march downtown at 5:30 p.m. and a community program will begin at 7 p.m. at the Washington Street Education Center. The march will begin at the Municipal Parking Lot on Park Street. Individuals, groups and organizations are

encouraged to bring banners and signs reminding people of the original civil rights protests.

Immediately following the march, refreshments will be made available at the Washington Street Education Center at approximately 6:15 p.m. Refreshments will include pizza, coffee and hot chocolate.

The evening program will begin at 7 p.m. It will include an announcement of the winners of the second One World One Family "I Have a Dream" essay contest. Winners from each age division will read their winning entries. Deadline for essays is Jan. 6. Forms and entry details are available at www.owof.org. Other notable essays will be displayed in the lobby

before the program.

The organization also will present the winner of its annual Carrying the Dream Award presented each year in honor of a group or individual who best represents the spirit of King in Chelsea.

In addition, members of the diversity club will present a short dramatization honoring the late civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks. Also, a film showing actual footage of King delivering his "I Have a Dream Speech" will be presented.

The Chelsea Area One World One Family Task Force was founded in January 2002 and organized Chelsea's first community celebration of Martin Luther King Day that year.

NUMBERS

Continued from Page 1-B

Dummies," by Andrew Heffon and Edmund James, and "Book of Sudoku," by Michael Mephram.

Sudoku desktop calendars also are available, as well as board and electronic handheld games.

Edwards travels a great deal in her job, and she has noticed that with the popularity of the game spreading so quickly, many sudoku fans don't even realize yet that the books, calendars and games are on the market.

With all the sudoku merchandise priced under \$20, retailers like Borders think sudoku will be a hit.

And that can only further the spread of sudoku fever.

An idea whose time has come

So the books are on the shelves, practically every newspaper in the country carries a sudoku puzzle — including The Chelsea Standard and The Dexter Leader in the Community section — but that's the effect.

What's the cause—of sudoku's popularity? After all, the puzzle isn't new. Its roots can be traced back to the late 18th century, and it's been on the puzzle world's radar for more than 20 years.

Shortz believes it is at least in part a matter of technology, as have been other puzzle crazes.

Crosswords, for instance, exploded in the 1920s in part because enough of the population had enough education to do them, but also because printing technology finally allowed newspapers to easily publish them.

"The reason I think sudoku is big now is because of the rise in personal computers," Shortz said.

Most sudoku puzzles found in books and newspapers are designed by computers, with humans picking the ones that are the most appealing for publication.

Designing a sudoku puzzle by hand is difficult, painstaking work, Shortz said. You have to make sure there is one solution for the puzzle and only one.

"People have told me they've run across sudoku online that were unsolvable," Shortz said. "And someone showed me a sudoku online that had two solutions. He showed me the solutions, and he was absolutely right."

If you can't solve that puzzle in the paper, though, it's probably your fault, not the puzzle's.

"Another thing a computer

can do, if you've programmed it correctly, the computer can tell you exactly how difficult the puzzle is," Shortz said. "It will know how deep the logic has to go to complete."

As any sudoku player knows, seeing that difficulty level indicator is part of the game's come-on, its challenge to take it on.

So simple, but so complex

Technological breakthroughs aside, the main reason sudoku has caught on is that it simply is a good puzzle.

"It's small, it takes up a small amount of space," Shortz said. "The instructions are incredibly simple. A single sentence can explain what you have to do."

For those who have never played, a sudoku puzzle is a 9-by-9 square grid. The grid is divided into nine 3-by-3 square segments.

Some of the squares have digits in them. The rest are empty. Using the clue digits provided, the object of the game is to deduce how to fill the remaining squares so that every row, column and 3-by-3 area includes the digits 1 through 9.

"The grid of blank squares is appealing," Shortz said. "They say nature abhors a vacuum. If you're the right sort of person and you see empty squares asking to be filled in, it's very difficult to turn the page without filling them in."

Like the crossword, sudoku appeals to the intellect and the ego. But while crosswords depend on vocabulary and cultural knowledge, sudoku requires a different part of the brain. It is a number puzzle that doesn't require math.

"It's a very deep puzzle for something that's so small and simple," Shortz said. "There are many layers of logic needed to solve difficult sudoku. So it's a puzzle you can spend months on but not fully master."

Shortz knows some people who love crosswords, but turn their noses at sudoku because it doesn't require knowledge. Others like it just for that reason, because it depends solely on deductive reasoning.

Some sudoku "experts" suggest trial and error as a valid method for solving a sudoku puzzle. Shortz believes that's a bad idea.

The word "sudoku" comes from Japanese, and roughly means "only single numbers allowed" or "numbers singly," depending on who does the translating. The gist of it is that there's only one correct digit for each square.

"In all the puzzles with my name on them, and I think in all newspaper sudoku, guessing is not needed," Shortz said. "You should be able to solve the puzzle using step-by-step logic. If you do make a guess and you guess wrongly, then every bit of logic you use solving afterward is going to be wrong."

This, he added, is one of the toughest parts about sudoku. One false move, if not detected quickly enough, usually means having to start all over.

"I suppose it's possible to reach a certain level of expertise where it's possible to make intelligent guesses and be able to speed up your solution rather than step-by-step," Shortz said.

At a sudoku championship in Great Britain about two

months ago, the top two contestants — who were both women, which runs counter to the conventional wisdom that logic puzzles appeal more to men — were given what Wayne Gould, a former New Zealand judge many credit as the person most responsible for bringing sudoku to England, said were the hardest sudoku he'd ever seen. The champion did it in eight minutes.

"You just think what kind of brain could do that," Shortz said. "I have to think maybe these champions' brains can see steps it takes me longer to see. But I think they're getting a feel for a puzzle as a whole and sensing where certain numbers have to go and making intelligent guesses."

"Unless you're at a level like that, you should use step-by-step logic."

Here for good

Whether a puzzler claims allegiance to crosswords or sudoku or loves them both, Shortz considers that this is a "golden age" for puzzles. Crosswords are better than ever, with fun themes, entertaining clues and puzzlemakers who have gotten away from resorting to "Crosswordese," words that are found nowhere but crossword puzzles.

He believes that like the

crossword, sudoku will last well beyond this initial burst. There are a total of 6,670,903,752,021,072,936,960 possible sudoku grids, meaning the sun will likely burn out before the supply of a game Shortz describes as "genuinely addictive."

"It's very easy for a sudoku puzzle to get under your skin and become part of your daily routine," he said.

Kliff Lewry is a reporter for Heritage Newspapers. He can be reached by telephone at 1-734-246-2615 or via e-mail at klwry@heritage.com.

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The Chelsea Standard

PEOPLE

PAGE 4-B

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2006

Fun with LEGOs

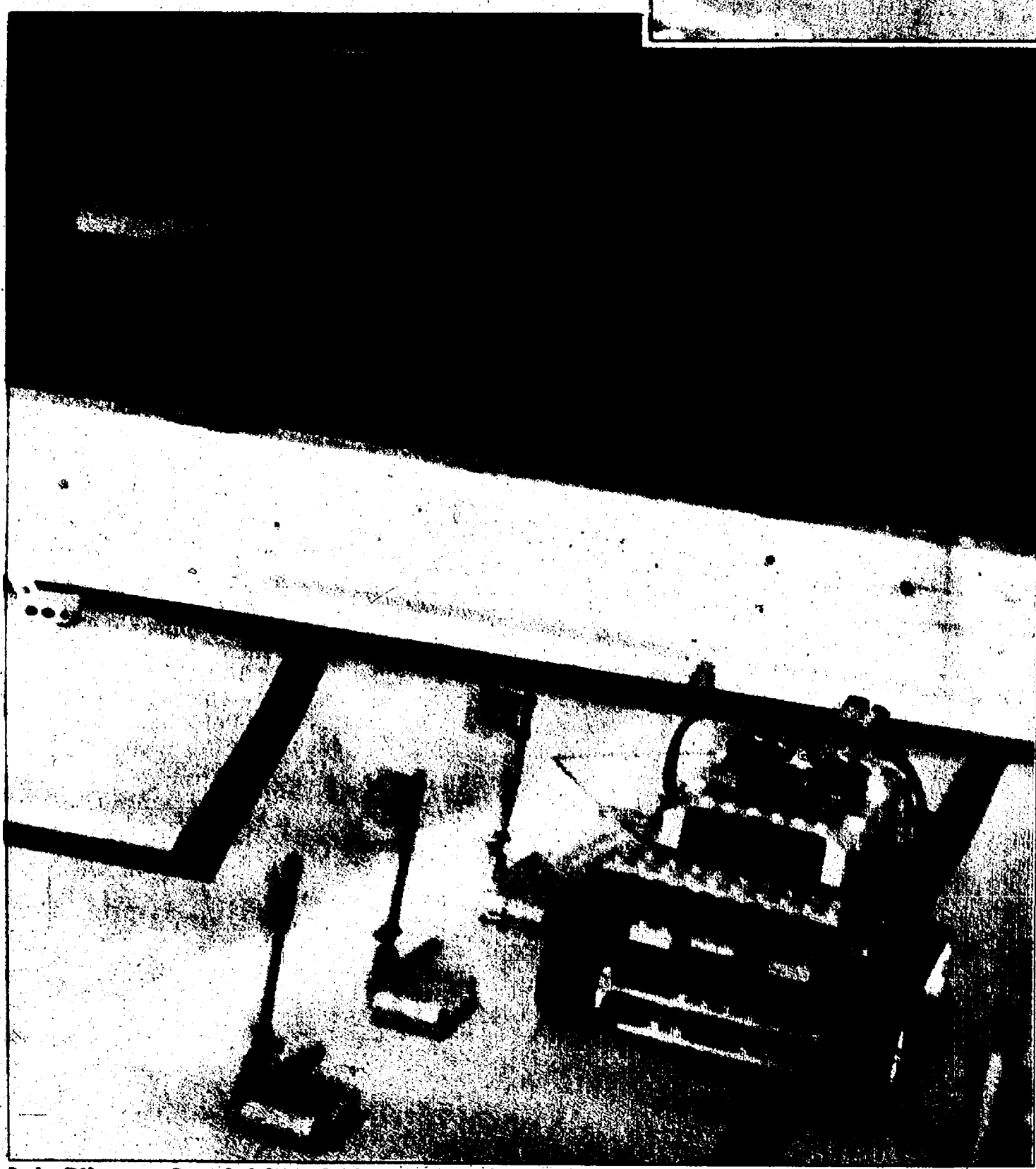
The Beach Robotics Guild, led by technology teacher Duane Mess, is in its first year and was started to give pupils an opportunity to experience firsthand what it means to come together in a team setting, rise to a challenge and understand that everyone has something valuable to contribute.

The program gives pupils hands-on experience with gears, motors, sensors and computer programs as they build, create and test various solutions using Legos.

... Photos by Rita Fischer ...



Ross Agir (left), teacher Duane Mess and Viktor Resca test their know-how as part of Beach Middle School's FIRST Lego league. FIRST is an acronym for For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.

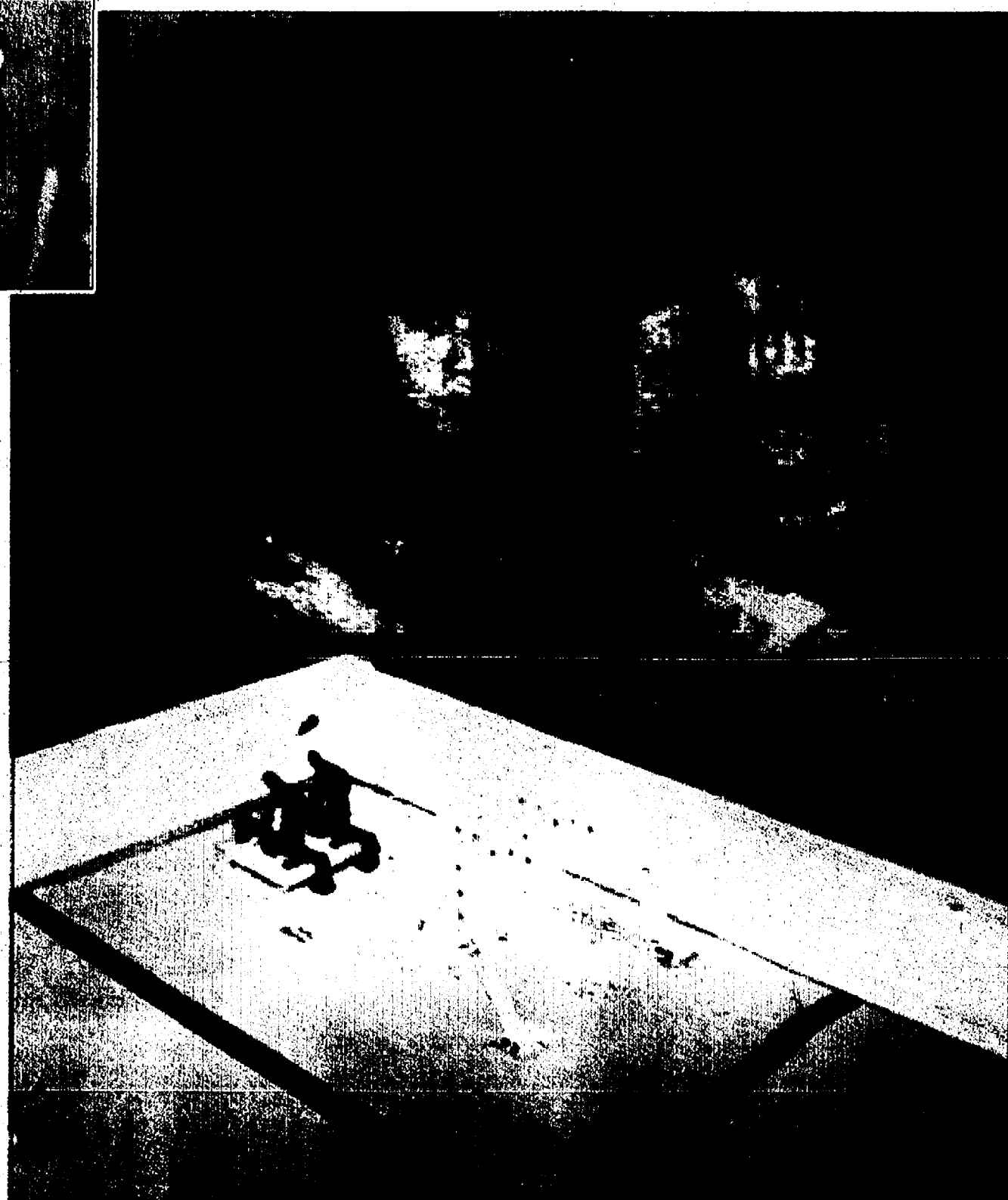
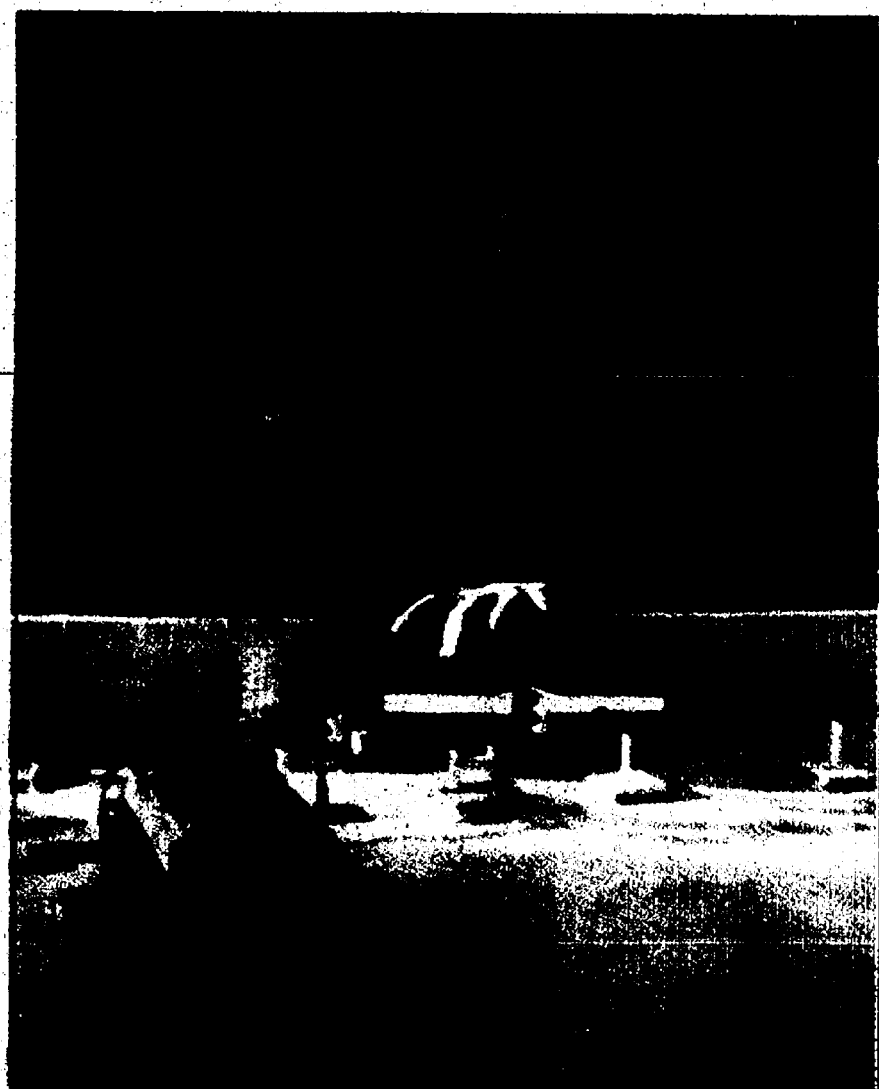


Luke Riley uses Lego bricks and other elements, such as sensors, motors and gears, to gain experience in engineering and computer programming principles.



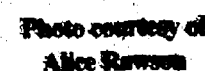
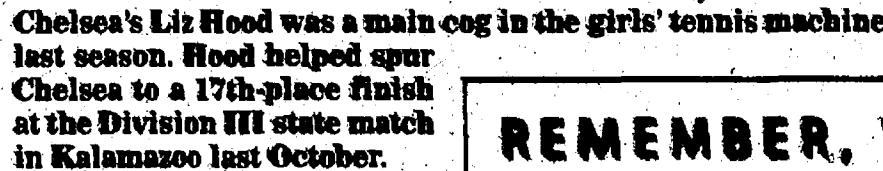
Chris Harris is a member of the Beach Robotics Guild at Beach Middle School. The group, comprising pupils with an interest in science, technology and engineering, is in its first year.

Heather Cooper gets hands-on experience with gears, motors, sensors and computer program as part of the group.



Luke Riley and Paul Kilar helped the Beach Robotics Guild bring home fourth place among 22 teams at a recent competition.

July 14 - Chelsea's Niko Coffman, 10, finished first in the 1,500-meter run and second in the 800-meter run at the Junior Olympics regional meet in Lexington, Ky. To qualify for the meet, Coffman won state titles in the 1,500-



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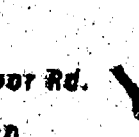
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REVIEW

Continued from Page 3-C

Kryt Olejniczak each shot a 38, pacing the Bulldog boys' golf team to a second-place finish at the SEC White Division quad. As a squad, Chelsea recorded a score of 158.

Sept. 29 - The Chelsea equestrian team finished fifth overall in a meet at the Ingham County Fairgrounds. Hannah Stalhandske led the Bulldogs, placing first in Equitation Over Fences and fifth in Hunt Seat Fitting and Showing.

Sept. 29 - The Bulldog girls' tennis team beat rival Dexter 7-1 in a dual match.

Sept. 29 - Chelsea football accumulated 442 yards of total offense in its 63-19 win over Ypsilanti Lincoln.

Oct. 6 - The Bulldog boys' golf team placed eighth at the Division II district match at Marshall. Senior Kevin Todd led Chelsea individually, shooting an 83.

Oct. 6 - The Chelsea girls' tennis team won its fourth straight SEC White Division championship. The Bulldogs finished with 21 points. Chelsea captured six of eight flights for the crown.

Oct. 6 - Bulldog football lost to Saline 21-14 in overtime in front of 4,500 Homecoming fans at Jerry Niehaus Field.

Oct. 13 - Former Chelsea softball standout Joann Tobin was inducted into the University of West Florida Hall of Fame. The 1985 Bulldog graduate set five West Florida pitching records.

Oct. 13 - Chelsea blanked Ypsilanti Lincoln 3-0 in boys' soccer action. The victory was the Bulldogs' fifth straight. Jaime Laeder, Sean Dzobel and Steve Tapping each scored for Chelsea.

Oct. 13 - The Bulldog girls' basketball squad defeated Dexter 46-36. Junior point guard Leah Morrison paced Chelsea with 11 points, five rebounds and three steals.

Oct. 13 - The Chelsea girls' tennis team finished second at the Division III regional in Haslett with 19 points. The placing qualified the Bulldogs for the state final. Hannah Schindler captured a regional championship at No. 4 singles for Chelsea.

Oct. 13 - Bulldog football defeated rival Dexter 36-36 in front of 3,500 fans at Jerry Niehaus Field. Senior quarterback Cam Hawkins ended up 20-of-31 for 322 yards and three touchdowns for Chelsea.

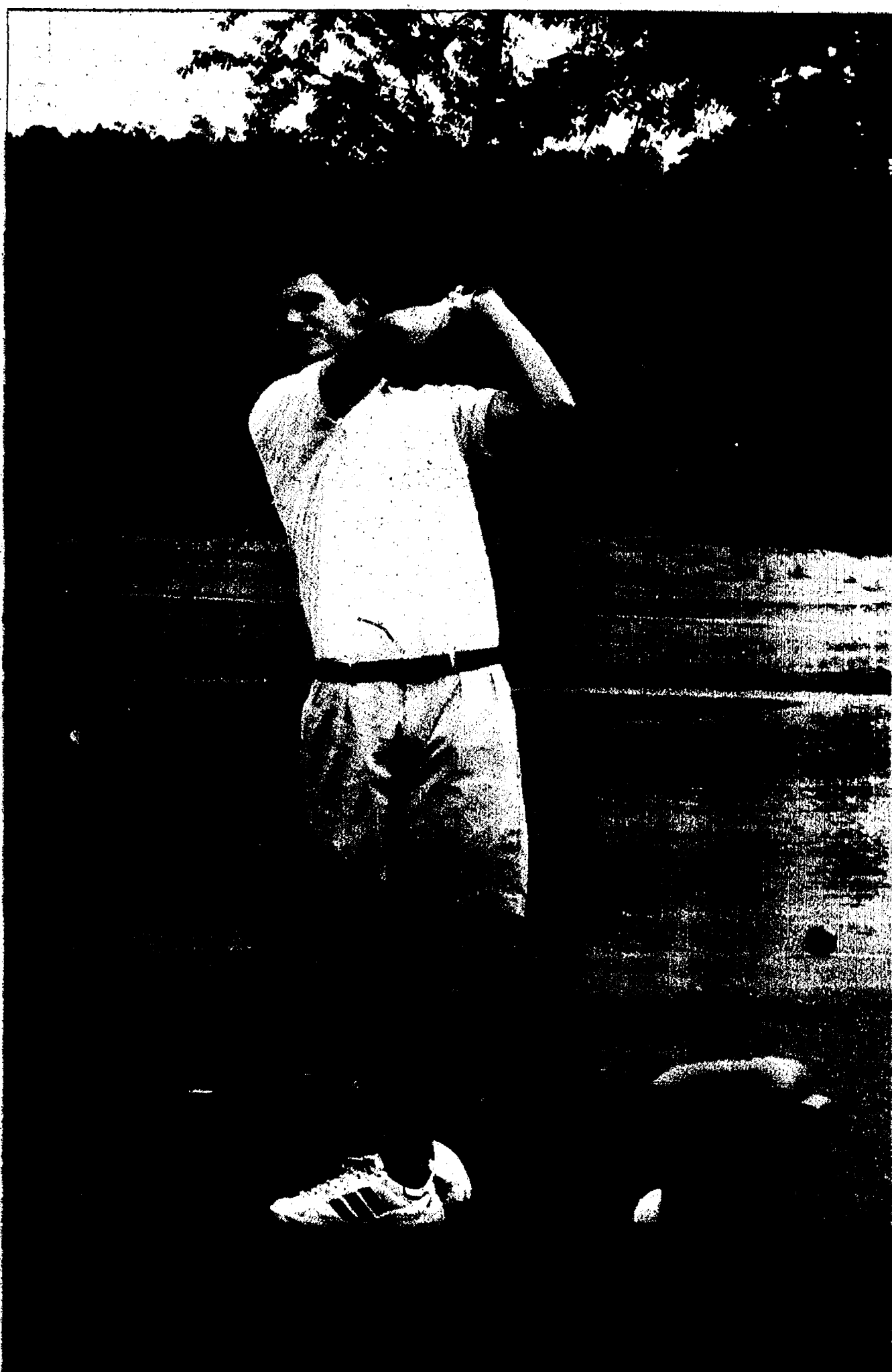
Oct. 30 - Chelsea junior Amanda McKenzie set a cross-country course record in winning the Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard Invitational with a clocking of 19:13.

Oct. 30 - Bulldog football beat Ann Arbor Pioneer 41-28. Senior quarterback Cam Hawkins finished 17-of-23 for 212 yards, while junior half-back Antwan McClendon had 117 yards on 25 carries for Chelsea.

Oct. 27 - The Chelsea girls' basketball team clinched a SEC White Division title with its 52-41 victory over Tecumseh. Senior Emily Woodruff led the Bulldogs with 21 points and six steals.

Oct. 27 - The Bulldog girls' tennis squad finished 17th at the Division III state match in Kalamazoo. Senior Ariel Schepers was named Chelsea MVP. The four-year varsity performer and co-captain ended the season with a 17-9 record at No. 1 singles.

Oct. 27 - The Chelsea boys'



Chelsea senior Kevin Todd shot an 83, leading the Bulldogs to an eighth-place finish at the Division II state district match in Marshall last October.



Bulldog Josh Stiles played No. 1 singles for Chelsea this past season. The freshman was a key reason for the Bulldogs' 16th-place finish at the Division II state match in Kalamazoo last June.

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Only One Stands Tall As Parity Strikes NFL, Power Points Players

Midwest Results Week 16 - Just when you think you have all the trends figured out across the NFL, you get a Week 16 of last week's variety. Indianapolis, after winning 13 straight, drops its second in a row and Cincinnati's bandwagon topples over, costing it a first-round bye in the playoffs. And those weren't the only bizarre happenings. Also-rans such as Houston and Arizona all of a sudden, are winning. Parity lives!

As a result, scores in Week 16 of the Midwest Power Points Football Contest plummeted. One contestant, however, stood way above the rest. Robert McCormick, of tiny Plattsburg, MO - one of the smallest participating markets - tallied a staggering 129 of the possible 136 points to claim grand prize honors and the accompanying weekly cash bonanza of \$1,000.

He entered through *The Leader* newspaper in Plattsburg.

Local high scorers in Week 16 were:

Midland... Phillip Duvall, Beaverton (104 points); 2nd to Bill Hawk, Midland (96 points); 3rd to Chris Presnell, Midland (95 points) and TB1 of 40 beats Blake T. Robinson, Midland, also with 95, who gets 4th; 5th to Douglas Duvall, Beaverton (94 points)

Monroe... James Nowak, Toledo, OH, (101 points)

Mount Clemens... Andrew Tackett, St. Clair Shores (115 points)

Pontiac... Richard Kania, Pontiac (104 points)

Saline... Kim Perry, Milan (91 points) and TB1 of 42 beats Victoria Sasin, Milan, also with 91

Southgate... Roger R. Shehan, Taylor (112 points)

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1	6	7	2	4	9	3	5	8
9	8	4	3	7	5	1	9	2
3	5	2	6	1	4	9	7	8
4	7	3	9	8	1	5	2	6
5	1	8	5	2	7	9	3	4
2	9	5	4	6	3	7	1	8

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REVIEW

Continued from Page 3-C

swimming and diving team finished second in the Southeastern Conference White Division meet with 293 points. Bulldog junior Jillian Drow won the diving competition with a career best score of 362.45 points.

Nov. 10 - The boys' cross country squad placed 16th at the Division II state meet with 360 points. Senior Ian Girard paced Chelsea, finishing fifth overall with a season-best clocking of 15:38.

Nov. 10 - The Chelsea girls' cross country team finished fifth at the Division II state final with 242 points. Leading the squad individually was junior Amanda McKenzie, who placed sixth with a school record-tying time of 18:17.

Nov. 17 - Ausable Schiebert was selected Bulldog boys' soccer MVP. The All-State senior ended his career as Chelsea's all-time leading goal scorer with 40. He also ended up second in school history with 95 offensive points. The Bulldogs concluded their season with a 14-6-3 overall record and captured the SEC White Division title with a 6-2-2 mark. Chelsea ended its season losing to South Haven 3-2 in a Division II state regional.

Nov. 17 - Senior Ian Girard was named Chelsea boys' cross country MVP. Sophomore Teddy Eystre was selected Most Improved.

Nov. 17 - The Bulldog girls' basketball team beat county rival Dexter 41-38. Senior Emily Woodruff, playing her last home court game, led Chelsea with 12 points.

Nov. 17 - Chelsea's Kelly Jo Milliken signed a national letter-of-intent with Saginaw Valley State University for softball. The senior pitcher/shortstop was 12-10 from the circle and batted .400 with two home runs and 24 RBIs last season.

Nov. 24 - Bulldog seniors Rachel Severin and Ian Girard competed for Team Michigan at the Mid-East Cross Country championship in Kettering, Ohio. Severin placed 19th overall, while Girard was 31st.

Nov. 24 - The Chelsea girls' basketball team lost to Riverview 40-35 in the Class B district championship. Senior swing player Emily Woodruff and junior forward Rachel Fitzsimmons paced the Bulldogs with 13 points each. Chelsea finished 13-9 overall and 8-2 in the Southeastern Conference.

Nov. 24 - Bulldog hockey opened the season defeating Muskegon Reeths-Puffer 3-2. Schuyler Williams with two goals and Eric Cremer with one led Chelsea.

Nov. 24 - The Chelsea girls'



Chelsea junior point guard Nate Schwarze and the Bulldogs lost to Saline 43-40 in last year's Class A district semifinals.

swimming and diving team finished 14th at the Division II state final at Oakland University in Rochester. Bulldog senior Jessica Lodewyk placed second in the 500 freestyle with a time of 5:06.17 and fifth in the 200 freestyle in 1:55.23. Jillian Drow finished third in one-meter diving for Chelsea.

Dec. 1 - Bulldog gridders seniors defensive tackle Austin Rodgers (6-2, 230), linebacker Robbie Moffett (5-10, 195), placekicker Cam Hawkins (6-2, 215), offensive lineman C.J. Boyer (6-3, 255) and offensive lineman Levi Brezee (6-7, 270) were selected to the inaugural Heritage Newspapers-West first team football squad.

Dec. 8 - Chelsea's Kendra Moyle and partner Andy Seitz placed fourth at the Junior Grand Prix Figure Skating final in the Czech Republic.

Dec. 8 - Chelsea's Austin Moore, 11, finished second in the Punt, Pass and Kick state final at Detroit's Ford Field.

Dec. 15 - The Bulldog boys' swimming and diving team beat South Lyon 117-69 to begin its season. Nick Armstrong placed first in the 50 freestyle and the 100 freestyle, while teammate

Rick Kinsey was first in the 200 freestyle and 500 freestyle for Chelsea.

Dec. 15 - Chelsea wrestling placed second at the 16-team JAWS Tournament in Jackson. Individually, sophomore James Connelly finished 5-0 on the day in the 171-pound weight class for the Bulldogs.

Dec. 15 - Bulldog boys' basketball opened its season defeating Pinckney 57-31. Junior point guard Nate Schwarze led Chelsea with 14 points, five rebounds, five assists and one steal.

Dec. 22 - Chelsea volleyball lost to Fraser 26-24, 15-25, 10-

15 in the final of the Portage Northern Invitational. Sarah Iverson sparked the Bulldogs with 34 kills and 38 digs.

Dec. 22 - Bulldog hockey tied Grand Rapids Catholic Central 4-4 in the Division III Showcase Tournament in Gaylord. Taylor Hooper scored three goals for a hat trick to pace Chelsea (9-0-2).

Dec. 22 - The Chelsea boys' basketball team defeated Temperance Bedford 55-43, improving its overall record to 3-1 on the young season. Senior forward John Mantel (6-foot-8) led the Bulldogs with a double-double of 19 points and 10 rebounds.



Photo courtesy of Alice Rawson
Bulldog infielder Bryan Dunn was selected Most Improved last year. The senior hit .297, as Chelsea captured a Southeastern Conference White Division crown, and finished 26-9 overall.

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BOWLING

FRIDAY'S FRIENDS - 12-16-05			
Both Ways	41	15	21
Huggins Heroes	40	16	22
Chelsea Ladies	34	22	22
MTF Secretariat	27	29	29
Kiss This	26	30	30
On A Roll	25	31	31
Gutty's Posse	25	32	32
Jimmy	18	38	38
Jackson Road Rollers	18	38	38
Kmwaes	16	40	40
High Game: Terry Lynda, 200; Rob Lynda, 255			
High Series: Terry Lynda, 563; Rob Lynda, 724			
B & G BOWLING			
9 PM NO-TAP FUN - 12-17-05			
Bill Me	50	6	56
Team #3	35	20	55
On What Up?	35	21	56
Tracey's Heroes	34	22	56
Not My Fault	33	23	56
Just One More	26	30	56
Clearly Heroes	23	33	56
Meyer/Demontou	22	34	56
Puzzles Without a Purpose	22	34	56
P.T.S.	18	38	56
Girls and a Guy Gone Wild	13	43	56
Emily Team	10	46	56
High Game: Becky Bush, 191; Dor Bush, 288			
High Series: Shannon Myers, 459; Roger Locks, 604			
LEFTOVERS - 12-18-05			
You're Up	46	24	70
The First Thru	45	25	70
Our Aching Bones	41	29	70
Empty Threats	40	30	70
Family Circus	39	31	70
Half Your Age	38	32	70
East & West	38	32	70
The Gang	37	33	70
Bye Bye Pans	34	36	70
Wits and Wits	33.5	36.5	70
Messy's Muffs	33	37	70
Bombers	33	37	70
Off the Couch	28	42	70
M & M's	26	44	70
Buds Boners	25.5	44.5	70
Gutter Dusters	25	45	70
Gutteries	24	46	70
High Game: Debra Vinorman, 192; Glenn Boyer, 279			
High Series: Debra Vinorman, 526; Glenn Boyer, 730			
KALUNA LEAGUE - 12-18-05			
Red Neck Yet Club	129.5	54.5	184
Apple & Orange	107.5	78.5	186
The Gutter Busters	105	79	184
We Are Back	100	84	184
Life Bloomers	85.5	98.5	184
Crusier Four	82	102	184
"Noonies"	80.5	103.5	184
Haines	38.5	132.5	184
High Game: Barb Miller, 234; Mary Friske, 246			
High Series: Shirley Whiston, 533; Ken Ramon, 578			
SUNDAY NITE COME ONE 12-18-05			
Strokers	43	20	63
The Freshmen	38	25	63
What's Left	37	26	63
St. Clara	36	27	63
Who Dares	35	28	63
CS & Full House	33	30	63
Fire & Ice	32	31	63
Just 4 Fun	31	32	63
Just 4 Fun	31	32	63
Striders	30	33	63
One n' Done	27	36	63
Poo Poo	27	36	63
B & G	27	36	63
Pin Dusters	27	36	63
Ten Pins	24	39	63

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DEATHS

CHARLES S. RITTER JR.

Charles S. Ritter Jr., 85, of Chelsea died peacefully Jan. 1, 2006, in his home. He was born March 3, 1920, in Pittsburg, Kansas, the son of Charles S. and May (Squires) Ritter Sr.

Mr. Ritter retired from the U.S. Army, where he served during World War II.

He worked for Copeland-Twist Drill in Detroit, owned Louie's Restaurant in Chelsea and worked many years in sales.

Mr. Ritter was an inventor and investor. He was active in the Chelsea Village Council, and served

as village president. He also served on numerous village committees, and was a founding member of the Chelsea VFW.

Mr. Ritter was very supportive of his children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Mary Catherine Birch, who he married Nov. 17, 1945. He was also preceded in death by an infant daughter, an infant son and a brother, James Ritter.

Survivors include two daughters, Margaret "Mega" (Tom) Beller of Novi and Cecilia "CeCe" (Kevin) Corazza of Livonia; two sisters-in-law, Bernidene Visel and Harriet Birch; six grandchildren, Julie, Jennifer, Thomas, Mary, Maggie and Charlie; four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass will be held 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Mary Catholic Church in Chelsea. The Rev. William Turner will officiate. Burial will follow at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Chelsea.

The family received friends Tuesday and Wednesday at Cole Funeral Chapel. Memorial contribu-

tions may be made to St. Mary Catholic Church in Chelsea or the American Heart Association.

JUDITH A. BOYER

Judith A. Boyer, 87, of Chelsea died Jan. 1, 2006, at her home. She was born June 1, 1938, in Royal Oak the daughter of Arthur and Marjorie (Jordan) Karvel.

Mrs. Boyer worked for 18 years at the Chelsea High School cafeteria and retired in 1986. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church for 48 years. Knitting, flowers, watching birds and her grandchildren meant the world to her.

On March 30, 1957, she married Winston E. Boyer in Chelsea and he survives.

Also surviving are five children, James (Kathy) Boyer of Chelsea, Bonnie Burchett of Chelsea, Jeffery (Lisa) Boyer of Stockbridge, Joel (Betty) Boyer of Sparta and Heidi (Daniel) Ray of Chelsea; one brother, Arthur "Bud" (Janet) Karvel Jr. of Dexter; two sisters, Marilyn Benson of Jonesville and Jean (Robert) Fenton of Mancelona; 16 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter-in-law, Mary Beth Boyer; and one brother-in-law,

George Benson.

A funeral will be held 11 a.m. Thursday at the First United Methodist Church. The Rev. Joy Barrett will officiate. Burial will follow at Oak Grove East Cemetery in Chelsea.

Memorial contributions may be made to First United Methodist Church Summer Youth Camp Scholarship Fund, the American Cancer Society or St. Joseph Mercy Hospice.

The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until the time of service at Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home in Chelsea.

— See DEATHS — Page 6-C

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CHELSEA

Ritter was Chelsea watchdog

Former village president known to speak his mind to council

By Heather Connor
Staff Writer

Acquaintances of Charles "Charlie" Ritter remembered the former Chelsea Village president Tuesday as someone who was never afraid to speak his mind.

Ritter died Sunday in his home in Chelsea at the age of 85.

"He had his opinions, but he was an honorable man," said Jim Machnik.

Machnik, who ran unsuccessfully for a seat on the

City Council, said he met Ritter in 1992 when he was regularly attending what were then village council meetings.

Ritter had lived in Chelsea since 1939. A former U.S. Army officer and retired manufacturer's representative, he served as village president from 1980 to 1981.

He also served on several village committees and as a Village Council trustee in recent years. He lost his bid for both mayor of the new city and president of Chelsea Village in 2004 to Ann

Feeney.

Feeney told The Chelsea Standard then that Ritter came prepared to every government meeting.

"He has the best interest of Chelsea at heart," Feeney said in 2004. "He considered it his personal responsibility to guard the village purse."

The village was, at that time, contemplating becoming a city while developers were coming in and the fire department was trying to break away from the village, Machnik said.

Ritter was not happy about

these events and spoke his mind, although it was not easy to dissent, Machnik said.

"He often had his opinions about my opinions," Machnik said. "He was a character. He spoke his mind and tried to stay involved in community politics."

Former Village President Richard Steele said Ritter often purchased bicycle licenses for children who did not have them while he held the president's post. He often contributed anonymously to community causes as well,

such as Relay for Life, Steele said.

"He certainly was unique," Steele said. "Anyone who had any interaction with him would say the same thing. He was quite a guy."

Steele said Ritter made a dedicated effort to attend many village meetings and would always let people

know if he agreed with them or not about the issues.

"He was totally committed to the community and tried, in his way, to make things better for the community of Chelsea," Steele said. "In that way, he served well."

Staff Writer Heather Connor can be reached at 475-1371 or hconnor@heritage.com.

DEXTER VILLAGE

Senior center to provide help

Senior citizens need not look far for help with the new Medicare prescription card program.

The Dexter Senior Center is taking appointments for seniors who would like to meet with a Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program volunteer for a free, one-hour private session.

The volunteer will meet with seniors face-to-face to help with filling out online forms for the Medicare prescription card program. Seniors also will be able to discuss medication and

insurance concerns.

Seniors should bring their current prescriptions, the name of their preferred pharmacy, insurance information, Medicare card and know their current coverage and co-pay for each prescription.

Valerie Hibbard, program director for the Dexter Senior Center, said the new Medicare program is complex, confusing and time consuming for those who don't often use a computer.

"These seniors need help understanding this system," Hibbard said. "They don't

use computers, and the people who set up the program counted on computer literacy."

Hibbard said complimentary refreshments will be provided.

In addition, the senior center will help seniors secure a ride to their appointment through the Chelsea Area Transportation System for those who need it.

Hibbard said family members are also welcome to sit in on the appointment. Appointments are available between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30

p.m. every Thursday. Afternoon and evening appointments are also available.

To make an appointment, call the senior center 428-7737 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Dexter Senior Center is located at 7720 Ann Arbor St. in Dexter.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of: Esther B. Heilwold
Date of Birth: February 23, 1912
Esther B. Heilwold, Trustee of the
Esther B. Heilwold Revocable Living Trust
dated November 16, 1999, born on February 23, 1912, who lived at 200 Silver
Maple Drive, Chelsea, Michigan 48118,
died on November 29, 2005.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Deborah A. Moore and/or Anthony R. Wisniewski, Successor Co-Trustees of the Esther B. Heilwold Revocable Living Trust dated November 16, 1999, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Deborah A. Moore/
Anthony R. Wisniewski
Successor Co-Trustees
c/o Susan Zale
114 N. Main St., Ste. 10
Chelsea, MI 48118
(734) 475-5777

Susan E. Zale, P-53736
Attorney
114 N. Main Street, Suite 10
Chelsea, MI 48118
(734) 475-5777
Publish: January 5, 2005

DEATHS

Continued from Page 5-C

ALBERT L. WEBER

Grass Lake

Albert L. Weber, 82, of Grass Lake died Jan. 1, 2006, at Cedar Knoll Care Center. He was born April 11, 1923, in Chelsea the son of George and Adeline May (Fisk) Weber.

Mr. Weber had lived in the Chelsea-Grass Lake area most of his life. He married Helen L. Grattan Sept. 16, 1944, in Maybrook, N.Y., and she preceded him in death May 13, 1994.

Survivors include three daughters, Nancy (James) Heydlauff, Linda Sue Weber and Cathy May Weber, all of Grass Lake; one son, Michael L. (Judi) Weber of Manchester; three grandsons, Jim, Ron Heydlauff and Tyler Weber; two brothers, Duane and Ernest; and three great-granddaughters, Brianna, Megan and Elizabeth.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Hilda Davis, and three brothers, Norbert, Don and William.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Friday at Cole Funeral Chapel in Chelsea. The Rev. Carolyn Harris

will officiate. Burial will follow at Maple Grove Cemetery in Chelsea.

The family will receive friends from 3 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday.

Memorial contributions may be made to Cedar Knoll Care Center.

REANN and WAYNE LUCKHARDT

Big Rapids

Formerly of Napoleon

Reann J. Luckhardt, 52, and Wayne A. Luckhardt, 55, of Big Rapids, formerly of Napoleon, died Jan. 1, 2006.

Funeral arrangements are pending. For more information, call Staffan-Mitchell Funeral Home at 475-1444.

CHRISTOPHER JAMES DUFKE

Brooklyn

Christopher James Dufek, 44 of Brooklyn, died Dec. 29, 2005. He was born May 27, 1961, the son of Leon and Gloria (Blake) Dufek.

Mr. Dufek enjoyed time with his family, fishing and snowmobiling. He was a wonderful, loving husband, father, brother and will be truly missed by all.

He is survived by his loving wife,

Vanessa; daughters, Kristin, Whitney and Makayla; two brothers; and two sisters.

He was preceded in death by his father, Leon Dufek.

Memorial contributions may be made to the funeral home in care of the family to defer final expenses.

Sign Mr. Dufek's guest book at sherwoodfh.com.

Arrangements were by Sherwood Funeral Home in Grass Lake.

SYLVAN TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO BE HELD THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2006, 7:00 P.M.
SYLVAN TOWNSHIP HALL
18027 OLD US 12, CHELSEA, MI 48118
www.twp-sylvan.org

SUBJECT OF MEETING:

Variance application has been received for an appeal for a side yard setback on the South property line at 2450 Crooked Lake Rd., Chelsea, MI 48118.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act) MCLA 41.72a(2)(3) and the American With Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Sylvan Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, upon 14 days notice to the Sylvan Township Board.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Sylvan Township Board by writing or calling the following:

LuAnn S. Koch, Clerk
18027 Old US 12
Chelsea, MI 48118
(734) 475-8890

A copy of this notice and application with supporting documents are on file in the Office of the Clerk.

LUANN S. KOCH, CLERK

Posted: December 28, 2005

Publish: January 5, 2006

DEXTER

Resident on dean's list

Tricia Turelli, a 2002 graduate of Dexter High School, recently made the dean's list at Purdue University in West

Lafayette, Ind. Turelli is studying business management at the dean's list at Purdue Krannert School of Management.

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LYNDON TOWNSHIP ATTENTION RESIDENTS - NOTICE -
LYNDON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEALS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2006 AT 7:00 P.M. THE LYNDON TOWNSHIP HALL 17751 N. TERRITORIAL ROAD, CHELSEA, MI 48118

AGENDA:
To review the application of George Lemmon, 880 N. Peoria, Chicago, IL 60622, for Parcels I.D.# E-05-32-258-005, E-05-32-258-006, E-05-32-258-007, for a variance to Section 3.03 and 9.2 of the Lyndon Township Zoning Ordinance, involving dual residential and commercial use for the Neighborhood Commercial zoned property at 1534 Sugarloaf Lake Road, otherwise known as the Sugarloaf Lake Party Store.
Written comments may be sent to: Carol A. Morrow, Office Manager, 17751 N. Territorial Road, 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: Linda Reilly, Clerk, 17751 N. Territorial Road, Chelsea, MI 48118, or phone (734) 475-2401.
A copy of this notice is on file in the Office of the Clerk.
LYNDON TOWNSHIP
Linda Reilly, Clerk
Publish: January 5, 2006

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