



DATELINE: DeWitt

August 6, 1984

Stories and Photos by Tina Steger

CITY POLICE GET INFO FROM SCOTLAND

DeWitt City Police recently received packages from Jim McDonald, the police officer in Greenock, Scotland, who has been telephoning and writing since June.

Marjean Pelkey, dispatcher for the city police, said McDonald's letters have been interesting and informative. The packages that came contained maps, brochures and information on Scottish customs, activities and special events. One event mentioned was the Cutty Sark tall ships race being held this weekend.

In one of her letters to McDonald, Ms. Pelkey wrote about the types of weather in Michigan. McDonald wrote back that he was surprised to hear about Michigan's extremes in weather. In Scotland, he wrote, the weather is mild; temperatures in the 70's would be hot. McDonald mentioned that they would not be prepared for extremes and things would be chaos if it snowed!

Responding to Pelkey's information about the DeWitt police, McDonald wondered what was meant by open intoxicants. Ms. Pelkey said she would write and explain that. Not all is different, though; she noted that the job descriptions were similar for both the DeWitt Police and the Greenock Police.

McDonald wrote that Scotland was currently full of American tourist and that the American dollar was still

good here. He asked how the Detroit Tigers were doing. (They're still in first place, Jim, 12 games ahead of the Toronto Blue Jays.) And he said he noticed that our upcoming elections are heating up.

Officer McDonald said he is looking for a poster of a Scot in a kilt to send to hang in city hall offices.

London Calls, Too

As a result of the telephone number mixup earlier this summer, the DeWitt City Police have also been corresponding and talking to S.F. (Frank) Luford, 37, from London, England. Luford, who is currently unemployed, calls about twice a week, said Marjean Pelkey, police dispatcher in DeWitt.

Luford recently sent a package to the police department which contained a tie with the insignia of the London Metro Police, a scarf commemorating the Royal Wedding, collectors stamps and information on the police department's training and history.

Luford said he lives in a \$42 a week flat, three miles from Buckingham Palace and that he drives a Ford Escort.



Officer Jim McDonald of the Greenock, Scotland, Police Department, has been corresponding with the DeWitt City Police since June. McDonald is pictured with his wife Margaret and daughters.

Co-op To Hold Benefit

DeWitt Cooperative Pre-School will be holding a benefit pig roast August 26 to help defray expenses for cancer patient Larry Anderson. Anderson has undergone chemotherapy treatment and recently finished radiation treatment. He and his wife Cheryl have two children, Benjamin, 6, and Emily, 4.

Cost of the benefit roast is \$15 per family. Activities will be held at the Laingsburg Sportsmen's Club on Woodberry Road from 1 pm until dusk. Activities and games will be provided for children and Ray Rodriguez and Kilo Band will entertain.

For tickets and information, call Judy Pfaff, 669-3798. Directions to the Sportsmen's Club will be provided to ticket purchasers.

DeWitt Cooperative Pre-School is located at 768 E. Wieland Road. Enrollments are open for junior and senior classes. Junior classes (3-4 years old) meet twice a week, either morning or afternoon, the cost is \$28 a month. Senior class (4-5 years old) meet three days a week and classes cost \$35 a month.

For Pre-School registration, call President Tina Brander, 372-9025, or Linda Vernon, 669-9227.



Saturday, August 18, 1984





Marjean Pelkey, dispatcher for the DeWitt City Police Department, reads over the latest letter from Officer Jim McDonald, Greenock, Scotland. Shown are some of the items sent by McDonald and by S.F. Ludford, both of whom have been corresponding since June with the police department.

In This Corner . . .

By Tina Steger

One of the benefits of my job is meeting interesting people and learning new things from them. This week I spent some time with Marjean Pelkey, dispatcher for the DeWitt City Police, who showed me all the letters and information sent by Jim McDonald. Marjean has been corresponding with McDonald since June (See related story on this page). She said she tells him about Michigan -is planning to send him a booklet on Michigan history - and about DeWitt. I found it fascinating to see how someone from another country views us here in the United States. And it's fascinating to learn about other around the globe.

Marjean showed me McDonald's letter where he wrote about a reporter making a "fatal mistake" in referring to the Queen of England. In the July 2 edition I wrote that McDonald wondered what Americans hear about the Queen and of England. Queen Elizabeth rules the United Kingdom of which Scotland is a part. My sincere apologies, Jim McDonald. Chalk it up to ignorance or just plain carelessness. You can be sure I've learned my history and geography lesson for the day.

Speaking of policemen, Officer Charles Janeski began working two weeks ago for the DeWitt City Police. Janeski joins ranks with Sgt. Albert Van Steenkiste, Officer Jim Wilson and Chief Wendell Myers.



Saturday, August 18, 1984

SCOUTS RETURN

Seven Boy Scouts from Troop 77 returned home Friday from a week's backpacking trip through Michigan's Pictured Rocks area. Scoutmaster John Lance and Lynn Thayer accompanied them.

Participants were John Lance, Jr., Rusty Rieves, Greg Segraves, Brian Scott, Dan Thayer, Mark Thayer, and John Urbain, all of DeWitt.

In addition to backpacking the 25 mile Pictured Rocks Trail, the scouts took the Lake Superior boat tour along the scenic coast.

Other scouts from Troop 77 returned Saturday from Northwood Reservation near West Branch. Campers included Robert Beckwith, Terry Gimmy, David Hengesh, Dean Reed, David Rethamel, Chris Seigle, Chris Shaw, Mike Shooltz, Scott Taylor or Troop 77, and William Semraw of Troop 516. They were accompanied by Bob Segraves.

AUGUST 6
DeWitt City Council
8 pm Municipal Bldg.

AUGUST 7
Primary Election

AUGUST 13
Board of Education
7:30 pm, 608 Wilson St.
DeWitt Charter Township
7 pm, 4700 Brook Rd.

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For Pre-School registration, call President Tina Brander, 372-9025, or Linda Vernon, 669-9227.

JUMPY FROGS NEEDED FOR LEAPING CONTEST

Start looking in the swamps and rivers for the best frog around because the August 18 Ox Roast festivities will again include a frog leaping contest.

Hank Lotoszinski is returning to supervise this year's contest which is to be held at Riverside Park at 1 pm. Conducting the contest is the DeWitt Columbian Squires, Circle No. 2915, of St. Jude Catholic Church.

Contestants can register at noon at the park. Entry fee is \$1. Prizes totaling \$100 will be awarded and the top ten finalists will receive t-shirts.

Defending champion is Rene Rieves, 11, daughter of Russell and Lynn Rieves. Last year's event was videotaped by WJIM-TV.

In other Ox Roast activities, Linda Hodges, booking agent for the Memorial Board Assoc-

iation which is coordinating events, said there are now almost 40 parade entries. Entries may still be submitted, she added. (Entry blank is printed elsewhere in the Shopping Guide.)

Although various local groups conduct the festival's events the Memorial Board Association is the sponsoring organization. Members include Lee Hodges, president; Mary Eyke, secretary; Fred Grove, treasurer; Linda Hodges, booking agent for the building; Joe Brown, custodial and maintenance; and board members Mark Arney, Tom Dowling, Terry Gartside, Paul Kleeman, Vi Pennington, Jim Ryan, Don Walter and George Walter. All serve three year terms. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month in the Memorial Building on Washington Street.



This frog is probably not destined to be a winner since it's a blue velvet, bean-stuffed variety. Nevertheless, Jamie Emmons, 8, Brandy Hodges, 10, and Amber Ratcliffe, 7, demonstrate the proper technique to encourage an entrant in a frog leaping contest.



DATELINE: DeWitt

August 13, 1984

Stories and Photos by Tina Steger.

38th OX ROAST HERE SATURDAY

Months of planning and preparation comes to fruition this Saturday when the 38th Annual Ox Roast takes to the streets of DeWitt. First held in the spring of 1946, the Ox Roast has become an annual event to provide funds for the operation and maintenance of the Memorial Building, a community facility dedicated to veterans of all wars.

In addition to housing a modern library, the building is a meeting place for about 20 organizations. Non profit groups may use the facility rent free once a week in exchange for working at the Ox Roast. For other groups, rental information is available by calling 669-9602. There are two meeting rooms available, one of which has kitchen facilities.

This year's Ox Roast events and their coordinating groups are: Downtown Food Tent - Lions Club; Riverside Park Food Tent - DeWitt Lioness; Progressive Pot-Of-Gold Raffle - DeWitt Lions Breakfast Club; Parade Line-Up - Millbrook Association; Bingo Tent - Booster Club, Donna Gartside; Las Vegas Night - Newcomer Bulb, Mark Arney; Memorial Building, Open House - Friends of the Library, Rita Violetta; Beer Tent - Ushers Club, St. Jude Catholic Church, Fred Grove; Frog Leaping Contest - Hank Lotozinski; Game Tent - Scouts, Chicki Rieves and L.J. Scott; Art Show/Sale - Historic DeWitt Art Council, Vicki Arndt.

About 50 entries are expected for Saturday's parade which begins in Millbrook meadows at 10 a.m. Parade will include Ronald McDonald, the clown of the McDonald franchises, who will also do a magic show at noon near the Bingo tent on Jefferson Street. Also in the parade will



Honored in May as Citizen of the Year, Clarence Fuerstenau will be among those riding in the 38th Annual Ox Roast Parade this Saturday. Superintendent of DeWitt's schools for 43 years, Fuerstenau retires in 1966. He and his wife Beatrice maintain a home in DeWitt and spend winters in Bradenton, Florida. When Fuerstenau came to DeWitt in 1923 the school had four teachers and went through tenth grade.



be the DeWitt High School Marching Band and the McLeod of Lewis Pipe Band for St. Johns.

Bath Shooting Stars, a square dance group will hold a demonstration and dance at noon at Riverside Park. Other events are a petting zoo and pony rides which will be located on Bridge Street between the park and downtown.

DEADLINE TODAY FOR TOURNEY

Today is the last day to sign up for the Ox Roast Tennis Tournament, said Diane Szewczyk, parks and recreation director. Interested participants may call DeWitt City Hall, 669-2441.

The tournament has adult and junior divisions with singles and doubles events. Entry fee for adults is \$3 and for the junior events \$2. Trophies will be awarded to winners in each division. Runner-up trophies will be awarded in each division which has eight or more entrants. All play will be at the DeWitt High School tennis courts, this Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Playing schedule will be available on Wednesday.

In case of rain, the tournament will be held August 24 - 26. Questions may be directed to tournament director Mark Servis, 351-5259.



Council, Vicky Arndt.

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be the DeWitt High School Marching Band and the McLeod of Lewis Pipe Band for St. Johns.

Bath Shooting Stars, a square dance group will hold a demonstration and dance at noon at Riverside Park. Other events are a petting zoo and pony rides which will be located on Bridge Street between the park and downtown.

88 COMPLETE LIBRARY'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Coco Netta the Clown entertained at last Friday's party for the DeWitt Bookworms. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, the party honored 88 children who read in the library's summer reading program.

For each book read, a child earned a star. Those reading the most books received gift certificates to Dalton Booksellers; 1st, \$10 certificate, 2nd and 3rd, \$5 certificates. All readers received certificates noting their participation.

Coordinator of the party was Helen Davis, a member of the Friends of the Library. This was the first year the group sponsored a summer reading program. According to Merib Kruger, assistant librarian, the number of children involved was phenomenal. "We never anticipated this much response," she said.

Friends of the Library meet the first Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. in the Memorial Arts Building. The group welcomes any volunteers to assist in fund raising and with other programs. President of the organization is Rita Violetta, 669-9246.

Summer Reading Club Participants:

Erin Baird, Brian Brown, Matthew Brown, Misty Brown, Jennifer Butler, Jenny Brya, Mike Brya, Stephanie Carlson, David Cole, Melissa Cole.

Rebecca Cole, David Curcovic, Kristina Cucovic, Matt Cusick, Amye

Davis, Cheno Dorn, Shandra Dorn, Jamie Emmons, Kristi Enderle, Gorman Fritch.

Mari Fullmer, Kristen Grauer, Art Groshong, Jason Hamblet, Jennifer Hamblet, Marie Hasslebach, Jenny Heightchew, Joshua Horn, Capalene Howse, Tony Jenkins.

Angela Jones, Christopher Jones, William Keusch, Tim King, David Klan, James Lott, Michael Maloney, Kim Marcy, Anne Mauro, John Mauro.

Brent Mazer, Nikki Mazer, Shambus McClure, Robert McConnell, Jennifer McKinnon, Alaina Miller, Frank Mortl, Theresa Mortl, Christie Mulford, Joshua Mulford, Matt Mulford, P.J. Mulford, Katie Murry, Chad Muscott, Paul Muscott, Kenny Nash, Julie Nurnberger, Greg Opsommer, Georgia Oxender, Tony Pearson.

Kristen Percell, Annette Putz, Amanda Ramirez, Amy Reddy, Nikki Reddy, Damon Robertson, Evan Robertson, Erin Ruble, Laura Ruble, Jeremy Russell.

Angela Sanborn, Chris Shooltz, Kristen Shopbell, Robyn Shopbell, Jenny Showers, Christopher Spangler, Meredith Stevens, Brandy Teftt.

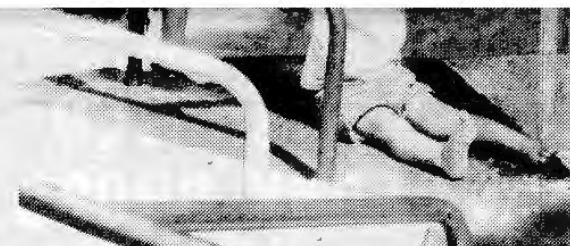
Derek Thurston, Greg Thurston, Robin Wardell, Amy Wilson, Jason Zeller, Jeremy Zeller, Tina Collins, Brandy Howse.

ART SHOW, SALE AT PARK SAT.

Art show and sale to be held at Riverside Park this Saturday will feature the works of 65 Michigan artists. Various mediums will be represented, such as, painting, crafts, dried flower arrangements.

The Historic DeWitt Arts Council is sponsoring the show and sale for the 4th year, said council member Madeline Brockway. Proceeds from entry fees of the exhibitors go to the Ox Roast Committee and to the Art Council. General Chairperson of the event is Vicky Arndt.

In addition to hosting the show this Saturday, the council hosts a gallery exhibit in October at Country Meadows, gives art demonstrations to 5th and 6th graders and gives \$50 grants to two art students. This year's recipients were Jim Pennington in music and Jaime Trierweiler in dance and theatherics. Both were 1984 graduates of DeWitt High School.



Taking advantage of the remaining summer days in Riverside Park are Jake, 6, and Luke, 2, Sickles, sons of Betty and Jeff Sickles, 3688 E. Lehmann Road, Laingsburg. School begins September 4 for DeWitt students.

Photo by Mike Steger

In This Corner . . .

By Tina Steger

Around DeWitt this week...Merib Kruger, assistant librarian, took time to talk with me about the summer reading program that recently ended. She said she was amazed at the turnout of participants (88 children). She thought perhaps people were returning to reading, instead of parking in front of the television because she said the library has done a terrific amount of book checking this summer. As a former high school English teacher, I applaud that news! Keep reading DeWitt.

Also this week I spent some time with Clarence Fuerstenau, octogenarian who was honored last spring as DeWitt's Citizen of the Year. We traded teaching information. He says he called teaching eight classes in high school; today's teachers have five classes. Clarence remembers doing much extra work as teacher/principal. In fact, he said that for many years he didn't have a secretary and would have a senior business student act as secretary for the principal's office. In 1923 when Clarence came to DeWitt, the school system went only through the tenth grade. He said he stayed here five years, then went to Laingsburg for three years and spent one year in Flint before returning to DeWitt. He retired in 1966. A very deserving "Citizen of the Year".

Photo by Mike Steger



DATELINE: DeWitt

August 20, 1984

Stories and Photos by Tina Steger

SENIORS READ PROTEST TO SCHOOL BOARD

Five DeWitt High School seniors attended last Monday's meeting of the DeWitt Board of Education to formally register a protest over the cancellation of football practice last week.

Spokesman Jim McCarthy read a prepared statement from members of the football team. It asked, in part, why team members should be concerned with the teachers disputes, when they, too, have concerns. Rosalie Challiss, mother of senior Mike Challiss who is on the football team, addressed the board and said the boys feel caught in the middle. They have worked hard, she said, all summer and wished the dispute could be settled quickly. Also in attendance were seniors Bob Greenhoe, Jon Holland and Tim Miller.

The board negotiated Thursday, Saturday and Sunday with the DeWitt Education Association for a new contract to replace the one that runs out on August 31. Teacher Larry Baird, a member of the DEA negotiating team, said "The negotiations are not progressing as well as we think they should be." A decision was thus made to not have the coaches report for football practice August 13.

According to rules of the

football in the seventh grade when the program was cut for middle school students.

School is scheduled to open September 4 with a teacher work day planned for August 30.

In other action at last Monday's meeting, superintendent Stephen Garrett said that contractor bids for roof repairs were to be submitted by August 24. A special meeting will be held August 27 to review the project bids, to approve elementary teacher hirings and to evaluate last year's audit. Garrett reported that the district was \$60,040. in the red last year.

The board approves purchase of a Nebco scoreboard for the high school gym, costing \$4371, including installation. Approval was also given to sound renovation for the gym, at a cost of \$2256, bleacher repair and replacements to cost \$4860 and weight room equipment at a cost of \$3070.

Approved was the purchase of three Apple IIe computers for the middle school and three for the elementary school. Board stipulated a cost limit of \$995 per computer.

Board approved Garrett's recommendation of Mrs. Sheryl Ezze to teach high school math.

Mead reported the personnel committee recommended that two



Senior citizen nutrition meals are served each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon in the DeWitt Township Hall, 4700 Brook Road. Meals come from Lansing as part of a county program which began in the township 15 months ago. Joyce Whitlock, who has volunteered to help serve the meals since the program began, said. "We have a good time. I really like the great camaraderie here." Others who help with the meals are Bernice Judge, a volunteer, and Zella Custard, of the Green Thumb organization of Clinton County. Whitlock said any senior citizen may come for the meals. She said many of the participants stay afterward to play bingo.

DEADLINE FOR COUNCIL VACANCIES

Only five persons have filed petitions to run for the three vacancies on the DeWitt City Council. According to the city charter, item 3.14, twice the number of vacancies (6) are needed for the November 6 election.

Persons interested in filing have until 5 pm today to contact clerk Marge Lotre at city hall, 669-2441. Council terms are for four years beginning in November.

Running for the pos-

each of the last three elections.

On the agenda for tonight's city council meeting are bid openings on the Webb Road sewer extension project. Clerk Lotre said about 9 or 10 companies have expressed interest in the project.

Also on the agenda

is a report from the finance committee in regard to a yearly feasible amount which could be raised for a municipal building.

Scheduled is a recommendation from the superintendent of the Department of Public Works in regard to cement bids for the salt shed.

FOOD CO-OP BENEFITS MEMBERS

uating team, said "The negotiations are not progressing as well as we think they should be." A decision was thus made to not have the coaches report for football practice August 13.

According to rules of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, schools must begin football practice by August 20 in order to play the first scheduled game. Organized team practices may not occur without supervision, according to MHSAA rules and board policy.

Athletic Director Ron Mead said this group of seniors feels particularly shut out since they were also denied

elementary school. Board stipulated a cost limit of \$995 per computer.

Board approved Garrett's recommendation of Mrs. Sheryl Ezze to teach high school math.

Mead reported the personnel committee recommended that two or more people be hired for supervisors of activities at the high school on week nights and at weekend sports events. No additional cost would be added since the work would be distributed among more than persons.

At 8:25 the meeting was adjourned with the board returning to closed session at 8:35 for purpose of negotiation strategy planning.

Also on the agenda
for the salt shed.

filing have until 5 pm today to contact clerk Marge Lotre at city hall, 669-2441. Council terms are for four years beginning in November.

Running for the position of mayor are present mayor Lynn Thayer and former mayor Bill Drouin.

Clerk Lotre said that she thinks citizens are becoming more interested in local government because the number of people filing to run for office has increased with

Also on the agenda

for the salt shed.

FOOD CO-OP BENEFITS MEMBERS

DeWitt Food Cooperative, which began its fourth year in April, is looking for new members, said chairperson Marilyn Unger. Presently 34 families belong. Unger said the co-op can take up to 65 families.

According to Unger the advantages of belonging to a food co-op are many. "We get good wholesome food at reduced prices," she said. "It's good quality food. In fact, we eat better now than we did before."

Most food is purchased from Peoples Warehouse in Ann Arbor. Other items are bought from the local farmers and specialty places such as Mid City Produce Company.

The group meets once a month to order items. Two weeks later when the food is delivered, the group meets at the DeWitt Community Church to "batch" the food. This requires members to break down the large bulk quantities into individually ordered amounts. Food will next be batched on August 30.

Unger said the co-op charges a 2% markup over wholesale prices. In addition members pay a \$20 a year fee to cover the organization's business expenses. New members must attend an orientation meeting upon joining and are required to donate five hours a quarter to working for the co-op.

Largest savings, said Unger, are on spices and cheese. Five pound blocks of cheese are probably the most frequently ordered item, she said.

Various kinds of flour are also a popular item. Unger noted that canned fruits and vegetables obtained from the co-op do not contain sugar or salt.

Most unusual item ordered, said Unger, was the labor-ease she recently ordered for her pregnant daughter. Labor-ease is an herb that makes labor easier. Unger also recently ordered nettles which are said to be high in iron content.

If interested in joining the Food Co-op, contact Nancy Ryan, 669-9524.



DATELINE: DeWitt

August 27, 1984

Stories and Photos by Tina Steger

COUNCIL AWARDS BID FOR SEWER EXTENSION

Bids were opened at last Monday's city council meeting for construction of the E. Webb Road sewer extension. Low bid of \$69,708 from J.C. Harte and Sons of Brighton was tentatively awarded, pending final verification that it is in fact low bid.

Final verification of the proposed bid will be done by the city engineer O.E. McGuire and project engineer Art Rowland of Range Finders, Lansing.

Lee Hodges, co-chair of the Ox Roast, appeared before the council to thank them for the help and support for the annual event. Hodges said that approximately \$9000 to \$10,000 profit would be added to the coffers of the DeWitt Memorial Association for the expenses in operating the community facility.

Carroll Ward, Superintendent of the Department of Public Works, recommended Mel Butler for labor in cementing the floor of the salt shed. Butler's low bid for labor was \$650. City will buy approximately 30 yards of cement to cost about \$1300. Work is to begin as soon as possible.

Also on the agenda was a report from the council's Finance Committee with regard to how much the city could afford as an annual payment toward a municipal facility. Committee's recommendations were: \$30,000 for

highway funds for a facility if the building houses the Fire Department and/or the DPW.

City engineer McGuire spoke on the soil problems in Milbrook Meadows. He said his office was waiting to see results of soil compaction tests before any blacktopping of streets is done.

James C. Ryan, 1120 Geneva, was drafted as the sixth candidate to run for council in the November 6 election. According to city charter, there must be two candidates for each vacancy. Three council seats are up for re-election; only 5 persons have filed for the positions.

Carl McIntosh, consulting engineer for the Bridge Street road improvement project, reported that funds for the project were approved in July by the Technical Committee of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission. Final approval is to be granted September 26 by Tri-County.

McIntosh said that although the project originally did not cover any work on the bridge, some improvements will be done in order to meet state specifications, and receive funding. Construction will include new guard rails on the bridge. No additional project cost is involved, because of project cuts in other areas.

Steven Cook has been hired as

TENNIS WINNERS

Winners in the second Ox Roast Tennis Tournament are:

MEN'S A SINGLES: Dennis Dunnebacke. Runner-up, Larry Schumaker. **MEN'S B SINGLES:** Tom Norman. Runner-up, Bill Tenant. **WOMEN'S SINGLES:** Katie Noirot. Runner-up, Mary Ellen Maidlon.

MEN'S DOUBLES: Larry Schumaker and Andy Chiplocke. Runners-up Jason Abbey and Curt Stedron.

BOYS' AGE 17 SINGLES: Tony Curtis. Runner-up, Chris Odum. **GIrlS' 17 SINGLES:** Jennifer Russell. Runner-up, Teresa Bordui.

BOYS' 13 SINGLES: Fred Simonson. Runner-up, Ron Egress. **BOYS' DOUBLES:** Mike Dorr. Runner-up Kevin Crockett.

Diane Szewczyk, parks and recreation director, holds one of the trophies presented to all the winners and runners-up in the second Ox Roast Tennis Tournaments. About 50 people entered the tournaments this year.



WACOUSTA

TO HOLD FESTIVAL

The 29th Wacousta Labor Day Weekend Festival is scheduled for September 1, 2, and 3 from noon until midnight each day. Sponsored by the Watertown Township Parks and Recreation Board, the festival will feature hot air balloon rides, a frog race, a softball tournament and a night band.

Board member Tom Mauro said all events

CONSERVATORY OFFERS PRE-SCHOOL CLASS

The DeWitt Conservatory is offering a new program this fall for pre-schoolers. Owner/operator Chris Farmer said "The program is one-of-a-kind in the DeWitt area."

Called "Developing the Arts for Pre-Schoolers", the program is designed to expose children to the arts at a pre-school level.

The program begins September 10 and is built around four 8 week terms. Farmer said it would not be necessary to enroll for all four terms.

First term of the program is "Large Muscle Development." Pre-Schoolers would learn body awareness, dance, tumbling and some fundamental motor skills.

The second term will begin in November and is called "Art and Music Appreciation." Children would be exposed to various art media, learn simple songs and make and use simple instruments.

from the council's Finance Committee with regard to how much the city could afford as an annual payment toward a municipal facility. Committee's recommendations were: \$30,000 for the fiscal year 1985; 5% more than that each year for six years; \$40,000 a year thereafter.

Council approved the recommendation and will forward the report to the Building Authority. A new municipal facility would house city offices, the fire department and the police department. About \$100,000 is currently in funds set aside for building. Councilman Carmen Seats said that the values of the community will increase each year and that this yearly amount will seem insignificant later.

Administrative assistant Bob Peterson said there is a remote possibility of receiving some state

state specifications, and receive funding. Construction will include new guard rails on the bridge. No additional project cost is involved, because of project cuts in other areas.

Steven Cook has been hired as assistant engineer for the city, said Peterson. A graduate of Michigan State University, Cook will begin work in September. Peterson reported that Cook will eventually become assessor and building inspector after completing the necessary educational requirements.

Until Cook is appointed assessor, Peterson said his office is in the process of reviewing assessing firms before the end of the year the city hopes to begin reassessing the entire city, reported Peterson.

Next council meeting is Tuesday, September 4, 8:00 p.m.



Current DeWitt City Council consists of (left to right) Deborah Christensen, William Simonson, Carmen Seats (mayor pro tem), Virginia Martlew, Lynn Thayer, (mayor), Gary Gillespie (second from right), Dan Stevens (right). City Clerk Marge Lotre is to the right of Mayor Thayer at this July 16 meeting. Terms expire in November for Gillespie, who is not running for re-election, and Martlew, Stevens and Thayer who are seeking re-election. Other council candidates are Dan Bourbon, Mike Brown, Gerald Gabrion, James Ryan and for the mayor's position, William Drouin.

rides, a frog race, a softball tournament and a night band.

Board member Tom Mauro said all events take place at Heritage Park which adjoins the township hall in Wacousta. Approximately six miles west of DeWitt, Wacousta is at the intersection of Herbison Road and Wacousta Road.

The festival includes carnival rides and games, a food tent and a beer tent. Saturday's events feature a parade through Wacousta at noon. Contact parade chairman Don Mestemaker, 626-2125, if interested in marching in the parade.

Monday's events are highlighted by several raffles of merchandise. A chicken barbecue will be served at 1 p.m. Frog races are at 3 p.m. and hot air balloon rides will occur from 6 - 8 p.m.

Men's softball tournament has openings for entrants. Contact Jeff Huntoon, 626-6846, to enter.

A special Board of Education meeting is scheduled for tonight, 7:30, at the board room, 608 Wilson.

Agenda includes reviewing bids for roof repairs and hiring some elementary teachers.

The second term will begin in November and is called "Art and Music Appreciation." Children would be exposed to various art media, learn simple songs and make and use simple instruments.

The third term is "Drama", featuring puppets, stories, finger plays, pantomime and acting in skits.

The fourth term of the program, "Overview," will concentrate on skills enjoyed over the entire program, finish programs and add new events if necessary.

Instructor for all terms of the program is Judith Panetta, of Lansing who has a bachelor's degree in elementary education. Registration is at the conservatory, 115 N. Bridge St., DeWitt or by calling 669-5365.

Classes are scheduled for 9 - 10 or 10:30 - 11:30 on Wednesdays. Fee is \$28 a term plus a \$1 registration fee.

In This Corner . . .

By Tina Steger

Working in the DeWitt area has certainly increased my knowledge of Michigan geography. This week I learned where Wacousta is. Actually, I had never heard of it, let alone know where it is located. Talking with Tom Mauro, one of the organizers of the Wacousta Labor Day Weekend Festival, he noted that it is "just a little burg, really." But he did tell me it would be worth my time to find the village and come see the beautiful parks there.

Congratulations to all who worked to make the 38th Ox Roast a success. In addition to earning over \$9000 for the Memorial Association, the festival showed the spirit of cooperation and friendliness of DeWitt.

Since I started writing the DeWitt news, I've had several opportunities to talk with Debbie Johnson in the office of School Superintendent Stephen Garrett. Officially, in writing, thank you Debbie, for all your help in supplying information and answering my questions. No matter how busy I know you were when I called, you always had time. An example, again, of the friendliness and cooperation of DeWitt people!