

Hazardous waste dump to be cleaned next week

BY CRAIG FARRAND

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and 3M Corp. have announced plans to clean up a portion of the south bank of the Rouge River near Michigan Avenue and I-275 in Canton, after it was discovered that a former hazardous chemical dumpsite may be eroding into the waterway.

A spokesperson for the company confirmed that preliminary tests of the ground reveal the existence of "hazardous" chemicals, but added that none have entered the river.

However, he said, "recently the river has begun cutting into this area; 3M is going to try to document exactly what's there and make a listing."

3M will remove chemicals from bank of Rouge River in Canton near Mich. Ave.

Actual cleanup is expected to begin next week and last about six months, he said.

The spokesman went on to say that the hazardous waste was produced by 3M's former Wayne plant, which made abrasives, adhesives and finishing materials for Detroit automakers. The plant closed in the mid-'80s, he said.

Although 3M has admitted responsibility for some of the waste material and has agreed to clean up the site, the spokesman said that the documentation process should help 3M and the EPA identify other chemicals and their sources.

According to the spokesman, the area south of the Rouge River was used as a dumpsite in the 1950s and '60s.

Already, the company has begun installing road barriers near the site, and is shoring up the south bank of the river to prevent further erosion. In the meantime, 3M and EPA officials continue to monitor the water quality of the Rouge River.



The Community Crier

The Newspaper with Its Heart in The Plymouth-Canton, MI Community

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May 5, 1993

Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street
Plymouth, Mich. 48170

50¢

Retirees protest Unisys health care

Company offered retirement in exchange for health care; now will phase out care by '96

BY AMY KIDWELL AND ALEX LUNDBERG

A broken promise. A broken commitment.

That's what Unisys retirees and union supporters were protesting Thursday outside the Unisys plant at Plymouth and Haggerty roads.

The protest was held at Unisys sites across the country, including the headquarters in Pennsylvania where stockholders met for their annual meeting.

At issue is the company's alleged promise to maintain health care for those individuals who took early retirements to avoid layoff. According to the company, plans now call for a phase out of that coverage by 1996.

The company's position is that it had to make cuts in order to survive.

"This very painful decision was taken, along with others, to sustain the company's financial recovery.

"Without these actions, the long-term viability of the company would be in doubt," the company said in a press release.

"People work all their lives, are given a promise and then have to face a situation like this; it's terrible," said Ken Koeppen, an international representative for the UAW, adding that the protest was conducted nationwide by all unions that represented Unisys.

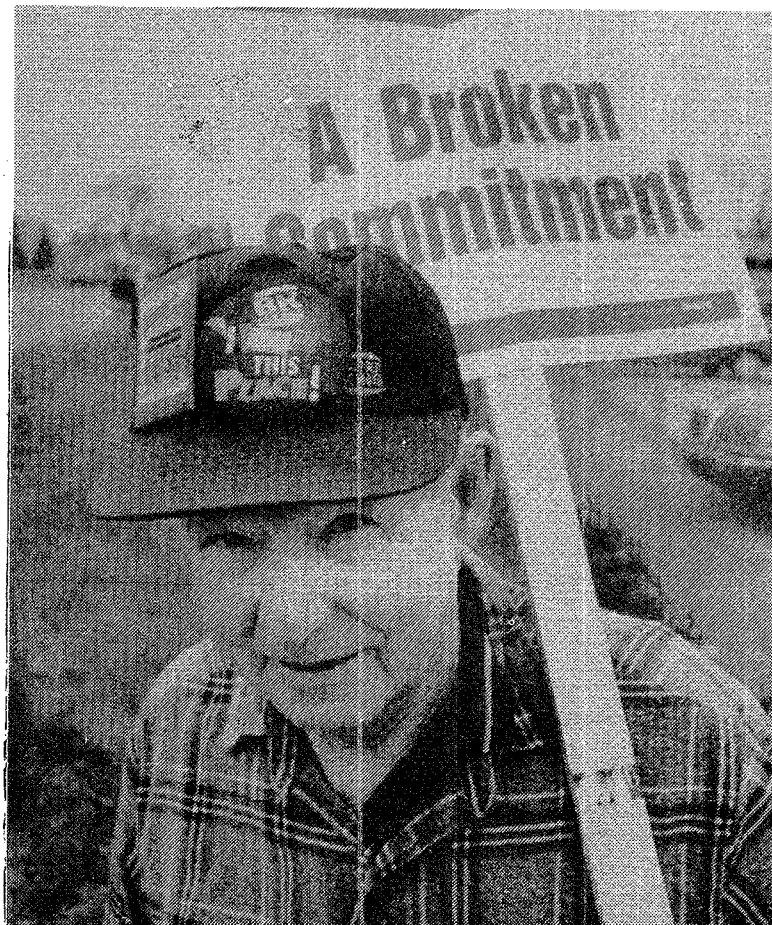
The stories told up and down the street were all too similar. According to the protesters, Unisys has stopped honoring promises it made to its employees concerning health care.

Vonda McIntyre, a retiree and speaker at the event, retired in 1988 after putting in 30 years with the company.

"We were promised health insurance and told if we didn't take early retirement, we would probably be laid off.

"We had no other way to go

Please see pg. 29



Augie Dobson, a Unisys retiree, supplements his income by working at a fast-food restaurant. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik)

Riegle, Levin no-shows; others speak out

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

While several hundred retired Unisys workers trudged up and down Plymouth Road to protest the company's cutting of health benefits, the featured speakers of the event were nowhere to be found.

They were in Washington D.C.

Instead, the first speaker, Dick Shoemaker,

explained that U.S. Sens. Donald Riegle and Carl Levin could not make it to the rally, but that they sent their warmest regards.

He also said that while United Auto Workers' (UAW) chairman Owen Bieber could not be at the meeting, his thoughts were with the retirees.

Please see pg. 29

St. John's, county site get major developments

Five Mile Road will be the center of activity this summer as two separate projects get under way on property located just down the road from each other.

On the Plymouth Township side of the street near Sheldon Road, plans have finally been announced for a major senior citizen housing complex to be created from the former St. John's Seminary property.

And on the Northville Township side of the street near Beck, plans were announced late last week of a new, high-tech flat-panel computer screen plant to be built on 70 of the 900 acres owned by Wayne County.

The \$175-million St. John's project tentatively calls for the creation of 1,500 apartments over a 10-year span, in addition to the renovation of the existing seminary into 250 units.

The \$100-million computer project, funded in part with a \$50 million U.S. Department of Defense grant, will result in the first major investment in the American production of flat-panel computer screens — expected by experts to be the leading edge in new computer technology.

The developer of the St. John's property, Eric Lindquist of Detroit, is reported to have said the existing Catholic chapel will be restored and a Protestant chapel built, and that both will be open to the public.

The company behind the computer screen project, Optical Imaging Systems is majority-owned by Northville-based Guardian Industries.

See what women are doing in business, education and society in today's PLUS section, pg. 13

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City police ready plan for 'cruisers'

BY CRAIG FARRAND

Cruisers, beware!
The Plymouth Police have their eyes on you — and starting this weekend, getting around downtown isn't going to be the frolicking good time you hoped it would.

Beginning Friday and lasting through the summer, the police will begin its crackdown on cruisers who patrol the night streets hobnobbing, showing off and otherwise taking in the sights and sounds of the evening.

For cruisers, it's an annual ritual as old as the American love affair with the car; for residents, it's an annual battle against noise, congestion and annoying invasions of their otherwise quiet nights.

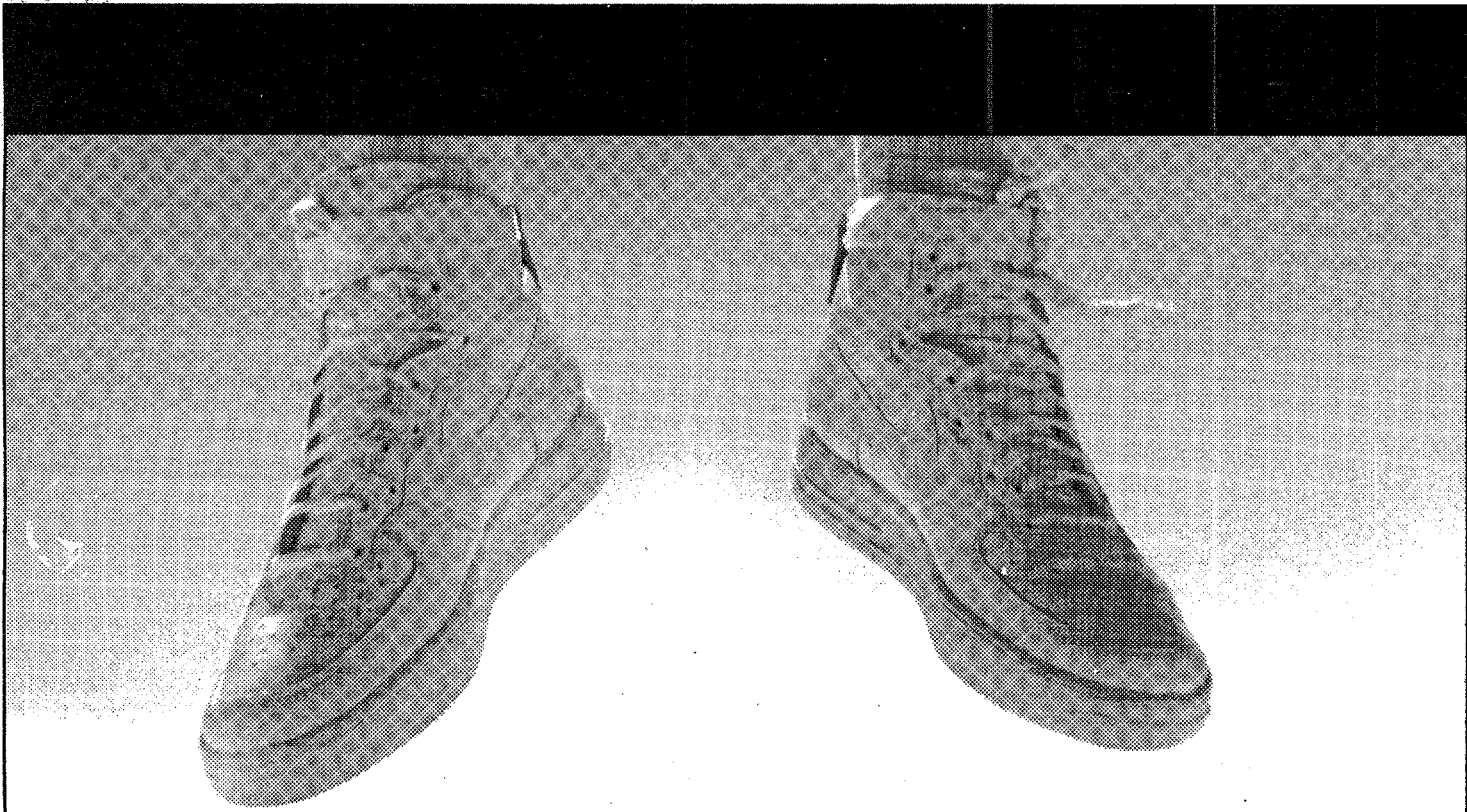
For Plymouth Police Chief Robert Scoggins, it's yet another opportunity to use non-confrontational tactics to keep both sides happy.

According to department plans, on Friday and Saturday nights — from 9 to 11 p.m. — residential streets lining Main Street will be closed to traffic, effectively routing cruisers on a tour of the city designed by police.

And what about residents living on those sidestreets?

"We'll have alternate routes, but if someone gets in the middle of (the cruising), officers will be available to either let them through the barricades or help them through a parking lot to their street."

To help prepare residents for the invasion of the auto monsters, Scoggins is already readying letters to be sent to homeowners living in the besieged area, telling of his plans and of their options.



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Bordine farm market opens as tax appeal looms

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

With the fate of his family farm hanging on the decision of the Michigan Tax Tribunal, Duane Bordine has gone ahead and opened his farm market for another season of business.

According to Bordine, the store will open no matter what.

"It's going to be a little late this year," he said. "We'll open on the 10th rather than the first of the month."

And "we'll be here as long as we can make the rent."

Bordine, whose property tax assessments on his farm and other land rose as high as 700 per cent this spring, is still going through the process of appealing them to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

"Oh yeah, we're jumping through those hoops now," Bordine said. "We've filled out the forms and sent them off to the state."

According to Bordine, he's still unhappy about the way the township is handling the whole affair. He said the officials are sending mixed signals.

"Tom Yack told us at the meeting at Cherry Hill (school) that our best bet would be to vote for Proposal A," he said.

"Thursday's Detroit News had an interview where (Yack) said that approval of Proposal A should be voted down because it would be a bad thing for the townships."

Onward and upward

Mike Homes to bid farewell to P-C schools; hello Wisconsin

BY CRAIG FARRAND

Don't hang black crepe on Mike Homes' door just yet.

He's still here — but he *will* be gone Aug. 1

Homes, assistant superintendent for instructional services, is leaving the Plymouth-Canton School District this summer to take on the superintendency of the Fon du Lac School District in central Wisconsin.

And with that move comes fulfillment of one of Homes' central career goals: to lead his own school district.

After almost 16 years with the P-C district — his anniversary is in July — all of them in the same position, Homes has watched the district become one of the most stable in the state.

But his leaving coincides with the beginning of one of the most uncertain of times: The district is facing a nearly \$5 million budget deficit, massive layoffs and cutbacks and is hinging its short-term future on the success of a 4-mill tax increase at the polls in June.

None of this, however, had much to

do with his leaving: "It was simply a timing thing," he said.

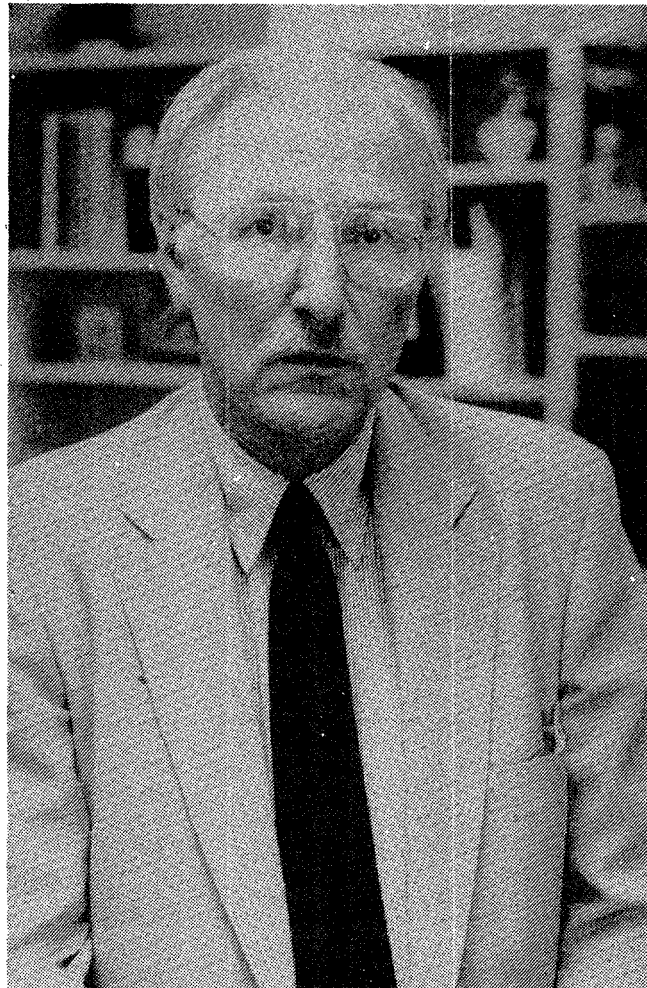
Mike Homes, Plymouth-Canton's assistant superintendent of instructional services, will be leaving the district Aug. 1 for Fon du Lac, Wisconsin, where he will take over as superintendent. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik)

"When I took the (P-C) job, our kids were in preschool, and I thought I'd be making a five-to eight-year commitment.

"But our experiences here have been very good ones," he said.

"When the kids were in middle school we did look around, and I had two opportunities (out of state), but I didn't accept them."

Why? "They just didn't offer any particular professional advantage over what I had here.



"It then became a family decision: once the kids were in high school we wouldn't interfere with their high school education."

This year, however, Mike and Lynne Homes' oldest son, Michael II, is in his freshman year at Purdue; their youngest, Matt, is a graduating senior at Salem.

So the situation changed — and the opportunity arose again.

"I had my hat back out in the ring again this year" — and Fon du Lac came calling.

Please see pg. 7

Bell makes pitch; officials 'resigned' to new code

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER

"It looks like there's not a whole lot that can be done."

That was Northville Township Supervisor Karen Baja's sigh of resignation about the new 810 area code boundary line which Michigan Bell will run through the middle of her community.

"I think we will all have to live with it," Baja opined.

She led a meeting Friday between Bell and local community leaders in response to shock and ire expressed by local residents and businesspeople when Bell's

definitive boundary line maps were sent to phone customers four weeks ago.

At that meeting, Baja, State Rep. Jerry Vorva, Wayne County Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter, Northville City Manager Gary Word, Northville Chamber Director Laurie Marrs, and Northville Township Clerk Sue Hildebrand heard from Bell's Marcia Buhl, Joe O'Connor and Northville business Paul Foster about how the area code boundary was moved from its original proposed route in Oakland County down to between Five and Six Mile.

Bell officials also met with Salem Township officials at their meeting last night.

O'Connor, a businessman who headed the citizen's committee established by Bell to review the area code implementation, said that drawing the line "was much more difficult" than they thought. "We underestimated the task to begin with.

"It's difficult to please everybody," O'Connor said. "Telephone boundaries in no way follow community boundaries."

Please see pg. 5

Lowe gets good grades in annual city review

BY AMY KIDWELL

City Attorney Ron Lowe received "passing grades" from the city commission Thursday during a special meeting in which his performance appraisal was held.

Carol Levitt was present as a member of the public and was upset when Mayor Robert Jones didn't let her speak.

To his defense, Jones said, "The commission was making comments about the attorney. I didn't ask for public input. After meeting was over, she spoke to us."

Levitt aired her comments at Monday's meeting saying she would like to see Lowe be more "pro-active."

"Overall, his performance was good," Jones said.

Commissioner Stella Greene said Lowe received an acceptable evaluation and said there were a few areas where improvements could be made, one of them being regular reports. Since other department heads are required to provide monthly reports, she suggested a quarterly general information report and, she said, Lowe agreed.

"Very satisfactory" is the term Commissioner James Jabara used to describe the evaluation. "Overall, the performance was very good...His grasp of municipal law is very good and we've had a good relationship with him."

Commissioner John Vos III said the meeting was a "good give-and-take session...I'd say he had very good marks. I wouldn't say excellent, and I wouldn't say mediocre."

Commissioner Dennis Shrewsbury said that with Lowe present at the meeting, "it was not as easy to give criticism."

As to a possible pay increase, Jones said, "He requested a change in his pay structure," and that he will put something together on paper and bring it to the board for approval.

Jabara added that his proposal will most likely include a slight adjustment in his base pay and that it was justified because of what other cities are paying for legal counsel.

Lowe said the evaluations are "healthy." He added, "I had been working for the city for 10 years and received no feedback," prior to last year's first evaluation.

Festival deadline nears

It's getting time to submit applications for the Plymouth Fall Festival.

So goes the announcement from the fall festival board, which also holds its monthly meeting tonight at 7:30 at the Plymouth Township annex building.

The deadline for organizations to submit their applications is May 21. The address is P.O. Box 177, Plymouth.

74-year-old man killed crossing Ford

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

Tragedy struck Friday night when a 74-year-old Canton man was killed while crossing Ford Road.

According to Canton police reports, Peter Smarsh was walking back from Kroger's with his groceries when he crossed Ford Road and was struck by a car driven by a 32-year-old Ann Arbor man.

The Canton Fire Department then rushed Smarsh to St. Mary's hospital, where he was declared dead on arrival.

According to Canton Officer Tammi Colling, Smarsh was jaywalking and wearing dark clothing.

She also said that the Canton Accident Investigation Team was looking into the particular causes of the accident.

The driver of the car was not ticketed.

Commission rejects church zoning

The City Commission, by a 6-1 vote Monday night, denied the Plymouth Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses' request to change its 744 N. Sheldon Road's property zoning from R-1, single family district, to O-1, office district.

The church will be moving soon and had a prospective buyer who was interested in using the facility child therapy business.

Several neighbors of the property voiced there concerns that changing the zoning of the property would downgrade

the value of the surrounding real estate, which is zoned residential.

The church could leave the building and suffer no consequences since they are not required to pay taxes. The church would only be required to cut the grass when it's 12 inches high.

The church could go back and ask the commission for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) which would specify how the building could be used, alleviating fears that the building could be sold to a different type of business.



Public notices

CITY OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE TO INTERESTED CANDIDATES

Pursuant to the General Election Laws of the State of Michigan, all persons desiring to qualify as candidates in the City Primary Election of the City of Plymouth to be held on Tuesday, August 3, 1993, for the office of:

CITY COMMISSIONER
FOR THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH
(4 VACANCIES)

You are also hereby notified that Nominating Petitions for such offices are available at the office of the City Clerk. Interested Candidates must be registered voters of the City of Plymouth. These non-partisan petitions must be filed with the Clerk at City Hall, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI. no later than Tuesday, May 18, 1993 at 4:00 p.m.

Linda J. Langmesser
City Clerk

PUBLISH: The Crier, April 21, 1993
May 5, 1993

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1993

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:35 and led in the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. All members were present with an exception of Ron Griffith who was excused.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes of the April 6, 1993 Work Session meeting as submitted. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes of the April 12, 1993 Special meeting as submitted. Supported by Mrs. Brooks. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes of the April 13, 1993 Regular meeting as submitted. Supported by Mrs. Mueller. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes of the April 14, 1993 Special meeting as submitted. Supported by Mrs. Brooks. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the agenda for the April 27, 1993, Regular Meeting as submitted. Supported by Mr. Curmi. Ayes all.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy asked for comments from the public. There were none.

Mrs. Mueller moved to rescind Resolution No. 92-10-27-38 approving an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for Rofin-Sinar, Inc., for a facility located at 45400 Helm Street, Metro West Industrial Park as a lease agreement could not be agreed upon. Supported by Mr. Curmi.

Roll call:

Ayes: Curmi, Mueller, Arnold, Brooks, Massengill, Keen-McCarthy

Nays: None

Absent: Griffith

Motion passes.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy opened the public hearing at 7:54 p.m. A letter was received from Stephen G. Harper, President of the Plymouth District Library Board, opposing the granting of a tax abatement. Supervisor Keen-McCarthy closed the public hearing at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Curmi moved to approve a 12 year Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate as requested by Rofin-Sinar, Inc., for a facility located at 44064 Plymouth Oaks Drive, Plymouth Oaks Business Park Subdivision. Supported by Ms. Arnold.

Mr. Curmi moved to amend his motion. Supported by Mrs. Mueller.

Roll call:

Ayes: Mueller, Brooks, Curmi, Keen-McCarthy

Nays: Arnold, Massengill

Absent: Griffith

Motion carries.

Mr. Curmi moved to amend his motion granting an 8 year Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate as requested by Rofin-Sinar, Inc., for a facility located at 44064 Plymouth Oaks Drive, Plymouth Oaks Business Park Subdivision. Supported by Mrs. Mueller.

Roll call:

Ayes: Mueller, Curmi, Keen-McCarthy

Nays: Brooks, Arnold, Massengill

Absent: Griffith

Motion fails.

Mr. Curmi moved to place Rofin-Sinar, Inc., on the May 11, 1993 Regular meeting for reconsideration of an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate. Supported by Mrs. Massengill.

Roll call:

Ayes: Arnold, Curmi, Mueller, Massengill, Keen-McCarthy

Nays: Brooks

Absent: Griffith

Motion carries.

Ms. Arnold moved to approve the second reading and final adoption of Ordinance C-93-02 to amend Chapter 73 of Part 7 of the Code of the Charter Township of Plymouth. The Ordinance is to become effective upon publication. Supported by Mrs. Brooks.

Roll call:

Ayes: Arnold, Brooks, Curmi, Mueller, Massengill, Keen-McCarthy

Nays: None

Absent: Griffith

Motion passes. The entire Ordinance is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Mrs. Brooks moved to approve the Utility Easement for James S. and Earline C. Bonadeo. Easement has been approved by the Township Engineer as to form and Township Attorney as to form and content. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Curmi moved to approve the Utility Easement for the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Easement has been approved by the Township Engineer as to form and Township Attorney as to form and content. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved the acceptance of the sanitary sewers, watermains, and Township storm sewers for continuous operation and maintenance for Pod A&B, Moeller Manufacturing, and American Standox per the recommendation of the Public Works Manager. Supported by Mrs. Brooks. Ayes all.

Mrs. Mueller moved to support the Plymouth Historical Society in the amount of \$50.00, upon receipt of the usual signed contract. Supported by Mr. Curmi. Ayes all.

Mrs. Mueller moved to award contract to Pollution Control Services, Inc., in the amount of \$116,719.49 for the 1993 Sanitary Sewer System Rehabilitation Program and authorize Clerk and Supervisor to execute same. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Mueller moved to award contract to Pollution Control Services, Inc., in the amount of \$116,719.49 for the 1993 Sanitary Sewer System Rehabilitation Program and authorize Clerk and Supervisor to execute same. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Arnold moved to authorize the Supervisor to sign a contract with Majesty Services to provide lawn maintenance and shrubbery trimming services at six (6) Township properties consistent with the bid specifications in the amount of \$7,951.00. Supported by Mrs. Massengill. Ayes all.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy updated the Board regarding the progress of the Western Township Utilities Authority (WTUA).

A resident asked Mr. Anulewicz for an explanation of the safety of Plymouth Township's drinking water.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy recognized the following Township personnel that received letters of appreciation: Officer Erik Mayernick; Officers E. Gauthier and E. Anderson; Krista Andree in Human Resources; Captain F. Honke and Fire Fighters Jim Jury and Martin King.

Mrs. Brooks moved to receive and file Communications, Resolutions and Reports as listed. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

It was moved by Mrs. Massengill and supported by Mr. Curmi to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Ayes all.

Marilyn Massengill, Clerk

Charter Township of Plymouth

The foregoing is a synopsis of the minutes of the Board of Trustees held on April 27, 1993. The full text is available in the Clerk's Office for perusal. They will be submitted for Board approval at the next regular meeting on May 11, 1993.

Publish: May 5, 1993



Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Several Canton residents were recently honored by Schoolcraft College for their academic achievement in the fields of accounting, business administration, computer information systems, management, marketing and office information systems.

They are: **Debora Cavill, Amy Denstedt, Bobby Desmarais, Kenneth Fanelli, Elke Harwood, Stephanie Hill, Susan Kowalski, Rosina Kung, Michelle Malone, Dalton Murrah, Stacie Nyschick, Kimberly O'Donnell, Gayle Parkinson, Nancy Peskievitch, Ronald Przybylski, Peggy Robichaud, Marek Sowul, Julie Washington, Louise Wehrheim and Barbara Zantop.**

A team of East Middle School students participated for the third year in the international Knowledge Master competition. Faculty coaches **Toni LeMaster and Delores Prom** announced that the team placed seventh in the state and ranked 130 out of 1561 internationally.

The students consisted of: **Megan Bell, Brandon Bending, Matt Bright, Bill Chapin, Mike Dempsey, Stephanie Elliot, Jeremy Hamrick, Dan Holland, Nancy Kindraka, Dan Lobelle, Rima Makiwala, Sarah McGlone, Afia Mensa, Brian Ott, Angkana Roy, Phil Sands, Brooke Schupra, Anjali Shah, Neha Shah and Jason Ueda.**

Several Canton High School students competed in this year's Southeastern Michigan regional arts awards. **Candace Banners and Stacey West** received gold keys which qualifies them for a national competition in New York. Students **Keith Rypkowski and Masaki Kibo** received Silver Keys and certificate of merit awards were given to **Marissa Napolitano and Masaki Kibo.**

Student broadcasters at WSDP were honored by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters at the Great Lakes Radio Conference. **Paul Thomas** placed first for sports, **Alyson Nouné** placed second for sports and **Paul Phelps** placed third for promo announcement.

The following full-time students at Lawrence Technological University earned on the Dean's List by maintaining a 3.5 GPA for the winter term: **Cheri Burns, Julie Casler and Ralph Jones**—all of Plymouth and **Lawrence Dudley, Kevin Oberholtzer and Stephanie Whitehall**—all of Canton.

K-9 cop... for real

This Dutch Shepherd is one 'special partner'

BY AMY KIDWELL

The next time you get pulled over by a Canton police officer, you may be in for a surprise.

The officer who writes your ticket may have man's best friend at his side.

The township's newest officer, **Bas** (pronounce Boss) is a trained, 3-year-old Dutch Shepherd who accompanies Officer **Todd Koch** everyday to work.

Koch says he loves working with his new partner and says he is getting "lots of stares" from people who see the dog in the car.

"Some people have asked if I picked him up as a stray dog."

Canton had a program like this several years ago and had to get rid of it because of a law that regulated how such a program is funded, according to **John Santomauro**, Canton's director of public safety.

Since then, he said, they have had time to look at the law and figure out how to fund the program correctly.

Now, Koch said, the program is funded with forfeiture money.

"When drug dealers get stuff taken away, police can use that money to fight drugs and for education," he said, explaining that since Bas is trained to search for drugs, he is "self supporting."

Bas was bred in Holland — the country, not the Michigan city — and got his training from an organization called K-9 Concepts, a dog training school that specializes in police and security dogs.

He started his training at 18 months and can search for drugs, track suspects and patrol or apprehend suspects.

According to Koch, shepherds make good police dogs because they are well-rounded. Although trainability of a dog depends on its personality, he added, some breeds are better than others.

As Koch explained, the dogs are tested



Officer Todd Koch and his new partner, Bas (pronounced 'Boss') are now patrolling Canton Township. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik)

at a very early age to determine if they are trainable.

"And even then, some don't make it," he added.

Koch started working with trained dogs seven years ago when he worked with explosive detecting dogs in the Air Force.

He traveled to Louisiana for the last three weeks of Bas' training.

"It was a good school. I learned a lot. There's many different ways to train a dog. It's good to learn different ways."

He explained that a dog's training is continuous: "Dogs can't remember (long-term), so it's an on-going process until the day he retires."

Bas stays with Koch during the off

hours and Koch says that living with his partner is not frustrating at all.

"At home, he's like a regular dog. He tries to get in to the trash... We've been working for three weeks now and he already knows when it's time to go."

"He paces back and forth as I get ready for work."

Koch said he likes having a dog for a partner because, "you don't have to worry about your partner's personal life interfering with performance."

Besides, "It's neat to take a dog and train him to the point that someday he may save a life — someone else's or mine."

Officials hear new area code explanation from Bell

Continue from pg. 3

As the boundaries were drawn, Bell officials said, a number of chambers of commerce, residents, businesses and elected officials were surveyed. "We tried to make the process as comprehensive as possible," O'Connor told the group Friday.

Previously and at the meeting, Vorva suggested that former officials in the area had not stood up for preserving the community's identity when the boundary line was shifted.

"You start to go one way and because of the political power of Novi and Oakland (County) they come here," the state representative said.

Foster, who had served on the citizen's committee as a representative of the

Northville Chamber, disagreed.

"(Former Wayne County Commissioner **Maurie Breen**) was lambasting back and forth all day. He wanted to know why (the line was splitting his area) and then he came to the rationalization that it made sense," Foster said.

Word, who had also been involved in early Bell discussions, agreed. "There was a significant amount of apprehension at the time."

Vorva countered, "What would Michigan Bell have done if Northville officials said, 'Over my dead body!'"

O'Connor said the choice to move the boundary into Northville and Salem Townships was made because it affected some 7,200 fewer customers in split com-

munities than the northern version. "At some point, the line had to be drawn," he said.

Baja said, "This is not the first time Northville Township has heard this... 'the lowest number affected'... it's almost like salt in the wound."

Buhl stressed that numbers between the Plymouth and Northville exchanges would be granted seven-digit dialing — meaning no area code need be dialed. She emphasized that the new area code would not affect rates.

Bell plans to implement the new area code on Aug. 10, 1994. Citizens who have concerns, questions or comments on the new area code may call Bell's information line at 1-800-831-8989.

City awaits insurance grading; could impact local rates

BY GARY GOSSELIN

Plymouth's Fire Department will soon be getting a report card that will have a direct effect on area home and business insurance rates.

The "grade" will be coming from the Insurance Services Office (ISO), which performs the service to evaluate the ability of fire departments to battle fires. The report helps participating insurance companies set guidelines and rates, according to ISO spokesman Roger Wesch.

The final grade is rated on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the best. Plymouth currently rates a 6 - from a 1976 rating - which is about average for a city its size,

according to Wesch.

Ron Rogowicz, vice president of First State Insurance in Plymouth said that it's very rare for a city to be rated down, and added that, if anything, the rating might improve.

According to officials, the test is based 50 per cent on the Fire Department, 40 per cent on water - availability and pressure - and 10 per cent on communications.

"I'm optimistic," said Fire Chief Alan Matthews, "we've got a good department, and a good strong water supply. I'd like to see a 5 come August."

Wesch said that the rating is primarily for businesses, but can affect homeowners. If the rating improves to a 5,

businesses may see less than a 3-per cent decrease in their rates, but homeowners may see no reduction at all.

"Homeowners pay the same if they're rated 1 to 6, (but get) a different rate from 7 to 10," said Wesch.

What if the rating goes to a 7?

"(The rate on) a frame home might go up as much as 10 per cent," said Wesch. "Brick and masonry homes would stay the same."

Rogowicz said that people shouldn't be up in arms over the new rating, saying that he feels it will probably improve to a 5.



Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the Positively Plymouth Business Expo at the Mayflower Meeting House on May 13 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

The chamber has six-foot display tables available for \$45 for members and \$75 for non-members. The business, resident and government mixer will feature awards and door prizes as well as an opportunity to meet others in the community.

Plymouth resident James Bonadeo will be honored May 8 with an honorary doctoral degree in business administration from Madonna University.

Bonadeo is founder and chairman of Bonadeo Builders in Plymouth, a business that has been operating for 46 years.

He is on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Home Builders and the Michigan Association of Home Builders. He also serves as the "president for life" of the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan.

For several years, he has been helped the school with fund-raising.

"(My involvement) first started when the sisters came in to the store for paint," explained Bonadeo, who got involved, "because they came for help."

Bonadeo played an "instrumental" part in assisting the university with its \$10 Million Campaign for Academic Excellence in December. He serves as chairman of the 1992-93 Corporate Fund Campaign and has been a member of Madonna's Board of Trustees since 1989.

Being given the degree, "is a great honor," he said.

His solution for successful fund-raising: "All you have to do is just work away at it."

A 'younger' Adistra

Daughters spend day on the job with their parents

BY GARY GOSSELIN

Adistra Company was host last Wednesday to 20 young women as part of the national "Take a Girl to Work Day."

The youngsters, ranging from age 12 to 18 were "treated" to a full day of activities at the company in a program organized by the Women's Support Group at Adistra.

The young women started their day at 8 a.m., and spent two hours working with their sponsor at their work station.

Next, they were treated to a tour of the facilities with supervisors, managers and directors giving 15 minute explanations of who they were, what their job was and what qualifications are necessary to perform each job.

Next on the agenda was lunch-pizza and salad-provided by the company.

Following lunch, the tour continued until 3 p.m., after which the young women were allowed to go to a department which interested them and spend the remainder of the day.

"It was a very successful program," said Administrative Assistant Kathy Hincer, "we did get some complaints about sore feet though. If nothing else, they now know why their parents are tired when they come home from work."

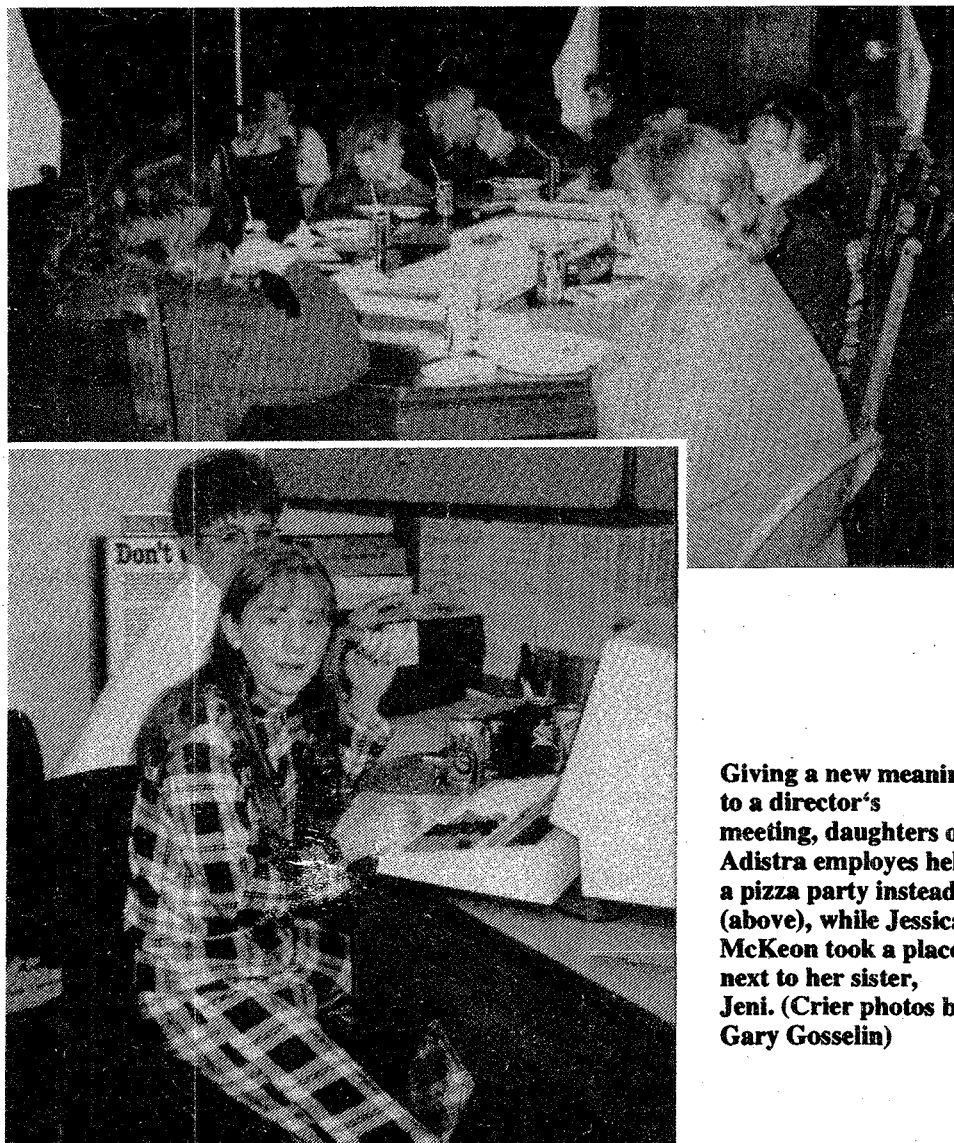
The Women's Support Group that organized the event was founded three years ago, and helps provide information about education and opportunities, said Hincer.

The group is also involved in community activities including first step safe house for women—a program for abused women.

Hincer also said they run an education center with books, magazines, and self-help tapes.

"This career day was a natural outgrowth of our organization," said Hincer, "It was a lot of fun for us I think as much as for the girls."

When given the opportunity to visit their area of interest, said Hincer, the young women gravitated towards



Giving a new meaning to a director's meeting, daughters of Adistra employees held a pizza party instead (above), while Jessica McKeon took a place next to her sister, Jeni. (Crier photos by Gary Gosselin)

computers.

"All of the girls were impressed with the computers. Many of them are interested in the field but didn't realize the diversity—from electronic publishing, to main frame and personal computer programming. It was very educational all around."

Hincer said that throughout the day, the importance of education was stressed, "Many of the girls didn't realize how much education and training is necessary

for almost any job nowadays. But I think we impressed the importance of education on them."

Hincer said the day was a good morale booster for the employees as well. She said they also had the opportunity to show off their skills to an enthusiastic audience.

When asked if Adistra will participate again next year, Hincer said that it had been discussed but added that they have a long time to decide.

Homes saying goodbye to P-C, hello Wisconsin

Continued from pg. 1

Homes said he was only involved in the hunt for the Wisconsin job since January, and became one of two finalists later in the winter. By March, he and Lynne were making trips to Wisconsin to meet with school district leaders and community groups.

And this month they'll be heading back house-hunting.

"Yep, you'll be seeing a 'for sale' sign on my front lawn soon," he said.

Although happy to be moving on to his own top spot, Homes leaves the district concerned about its future — particularly in areas of curriculum develop-

ment.

Homes said he doesn't believe his position will be filled when he leaves — but making matters worse is the fact that the district's two curriculum coordinators were among 16 administrators given their pink slips last week.

"I see it as essential for them to be back," Homes said. "Especially, if my position isn't filled."

In comparing where he is to where he's going, Homes sees both similarities and differences. In terms of size, the Fon du Lac district is about half that of P-C: 7,500 students vs. 15,000; a \$40 million budget vs. \$70 million.

In terms of similarities, the districts share strong commitments to "solid curriculums," Homes said.

While his P-C experience would seem to be limited to curriculum and other educational responsibilities, Homes credited Supt. John Hoben with giving him the kind of well-rounded experience Fon du Lac was looking for:

"The superintendent has always encouraged a strong team relationship," Homes said, "we always see finance, personnel and instruction working very close together — giving me a good feel for finance."

So, does the fulfillment of this goal

put the exclamation point on his educational career?

Not quite.

"Oh, no, there's still something beyond that," Homes said. In fact, there are three somethings:

"Someday, I want to go back to the university environment and teach; I'd also like to take the opportunity to do some consulting — I enjoy that kind of thing.

"And finally, I'd like to get involved in the process of searching for and selecting school superintendents."

As a member of a board of education?

"No way."

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Community deaths

Meier, 74, payroll coordinator

Helen A Meier of Plymouth, who worked for Ford Motor Co. for 40 years, died April 19, 1993, in Ann Arbor at the age of 74.

Miss Meier was born in Huntington, IN, on August 29, 1918. She worked for Ford Motor Co. as a payroll coordinator for 40 years and is survived by her brother, James Meier of Berkeley Springs, WV, and one niece and nephew.

Funeral services were held at Vermeulen Funeral Home, with the Rev. William Myers officiating. Interment was at Mount Hope Cemetery in Huntington.

Davis, 57, Bank Vice-President

Sandra Kay Davis, 57, of Plymouth Township, died April 29, 1993 in Plymouth. Born on Oct. 19, 1935 in Northville, Mrs. Davis worked for National Bank of Detroit for 27 years.

After graduating from Plymouth High School and then Cleary College she started her career as the assistant manager of the Plymouth branch of NBD and later the senior assistant manager at other locations, Mrs. Davis became the 2nd vice president of custom banking at the Detroit office. In 1989, she joined her husband Bob's accounting firm.

Mrs. Davis was a past president of the Plymouth Business and Professional Women's Organization, a member of the Fall Festival Committee, and a board member of the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation. She was also a past president of the Rainbow Girls-Masonic Lodge.

Mrs. Davis is survived by her husband, Bob, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services for Mrs. Davis were held Monday, May 3 at the Schrader Funeral Home with the Rev. Thomas Burnbridge officiating. Memorial contributions can be made to Arbor Hospice.

Sousa, 77, WWII veteran

Walter Frederick Sousa of Plymouth died April 16, 1993 at the age of 77. Mr. Sousa retired from automotive sales in 1977 and then drove a handicapped bus for Plymouth-Canton Schools.

He was born Feb. 29, 1916, in Ann Arbor and moved to Plymouth in 1950. He served in the Army during World War II in the European Theatre and also served as past commander of the VFW Post 4012 in Northville. His club membership included the American Legion and the Eagles — both of Ann Arbor.

Preceded in death by his wife, Eileen, in 1977, Mr. Sousa is survived by his daughters, Lou Ann Smith, Patricia Jones, Jo Ellen Sousa and Jean Wellman — all of Plymouth; nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at Schrader Funeral Home, with interment at Forest Hills Cemetery in Ann Arbor. Memorial contributions can be made to the Veterans Administration Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Dallas, 94, postal employe

Violet E. Dallas, a former Plymouth resident who worked for 20 years in the Plymouth Post Office, died April 15, 1993, at the age of 94.

She is a graduate of Wayne State University and in 1947 was named the Democratic Woman of the Year. She was also a member of the Tonquish Senior Citizens.

Mrs. Dallas is survived by her son, William of Livonia; daughter, Carol Loudon of Illinois; four grand children and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the Schrader Funeral Home, with the Rev. William Lindholm officiating. Memorial contributions can be made to the Salvation Army.

Chapman, 75, clubmember

Donald Lee Chapman, who moved to Plymouth in 1958, died April 8, 1993, at the age of 75.

Mr. Chapman was born July 18, 1917, in Lime Ridge, WI. He retired in 1985 as Michigan district sales manager of Gardner Machine Co. He was also a member of the Plymouth Elks Club.

He is survived by his daughter, Sandra Voss of Wisconsin; son, Dennis of Plymouth brother, Stanley of Texas and three grandchildren.

Funeral services, arranged locally by the Schrader Funeral Home, were held in Wisconsin with interment at Eastlawn Cemetery in Beloit, WI. Memorial contribution can be made to the Alzheimers Disease Association.

Armstrong, 74, Tool and Die Maker

William P. Armstrong, 74, of Garden City died April 23, 1993 in Garden City. Born February 26, 1919 in Ann Arbor, Mr. Armstrong worked with the Boy Scouts.

After working extensively with the Boy Scouts, Mr. Armstrong worked as a tool and die maker for Purolator Co. in Wayne. He was also a veteran of WWII where he served the Coast Guard.

Mr. Armstrong is survived by his wife Dorothy, daughter Kathleen, son John Canton, and sisters Dorothy Day and Marion McWilliams. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Services were held Tuesday, April 27 at the Schrader Funeral Home with the Rev. Steven Poole officiating.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

Houghton, 82, Sales Clerk

Dorothy F. Houghton, 82, of Plymouth died April 20, 1993 in Ann Arbor. Born July 30, 1910 in Livonia, Mrs. Houghton had lived in Plymouth since 1916.

Mrs. Houghton worked as a sales clerk at United Rent-All in Plymouth for five years. She was also a member of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth.

Mrs. Houghton is survived by her son Dale, of Canton, and her daughter Marilyn Parmenter of Plymouth. She had four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Services were held at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church on April 22, with Pastor Peter M. Berg officiating. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader Funeral Home.

Memorials can be made to the American Heart Association.



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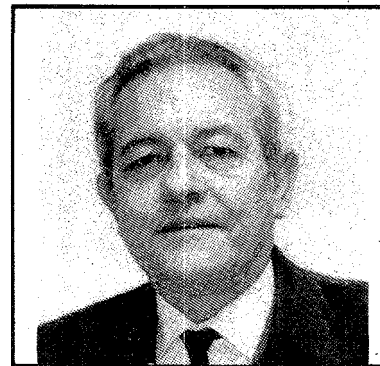
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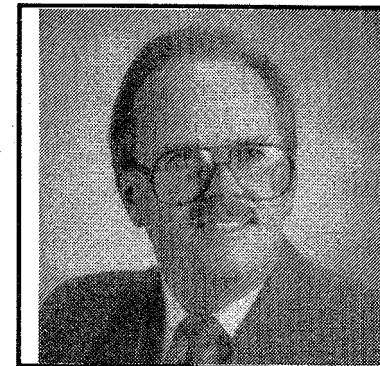
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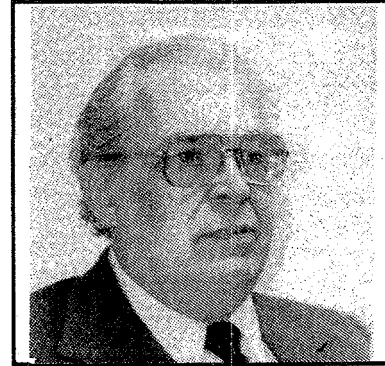
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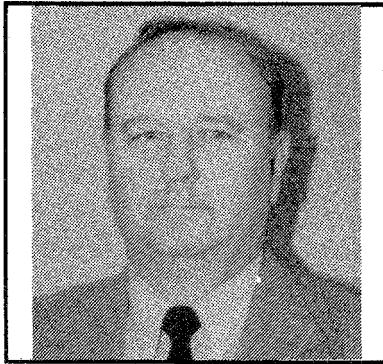
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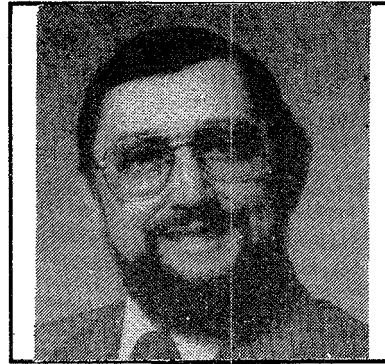
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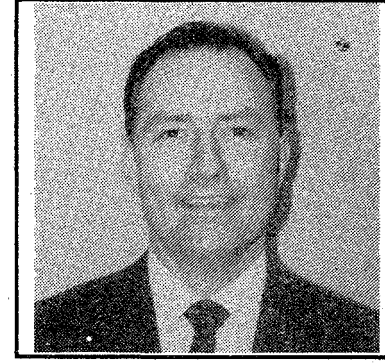
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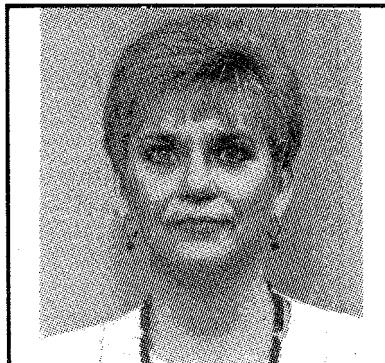
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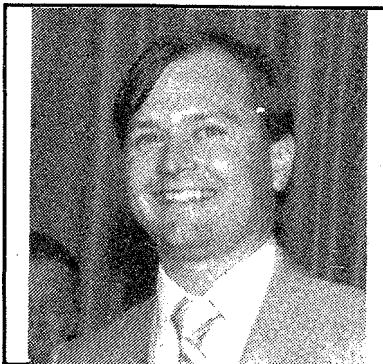
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What's Happening

To list your group's event in this calendar, send or deliver the notice IN WRITING to: The Crier, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170. Information received BY NOON FRIDAY will be used for Wednesday's calendar (space permitting).

AAUW BOOK SALE
 The American Association of University Women (AAUW) will host its annual book sale May 6 through May 8 at the Starkweather Center Gym, 550 Holbrook, in Old Village. On May 6 and May 7, the book sale will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and on May 8, it will be open 9 a.m. to noon. In addition to the hundreds of books, records will be available for sale. All proceeds from the sale go to support scholarships to women in The Community. Donations of books can be dropped off at the Starkweather Gym entrance or the Dunning-Hough Library.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR "TREASURE MART":
 The Plymouth Community Arts Council is preparing for its second annual "Treasure Mart" garage sale. The immediate need is for community members to set aside items as you spring clean. Donations are being accepted at the Wilcox Mill from today through May 8 from 10 a.m. to noon. Items should be pre-priced and you will receive a receipt for tax purposes. The sale begins at 6:30 p.m. May 12. For more information, call 455-5260 between 9 a.m. and noon.

"NOISES OFF"
 The Plymouth Theatre Guild is preparing for "Noises Off," a comedy production. Performances will be held at 8 p.m. on May 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 and 22. A Sunday performance will be held at 6 p.m. on May 16. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$7 for youth and seniors. Advance tickets are sold for \$1 less. Each performance will be held at the Water Tower Theatre on Seven Mile Road, west of I275. Call 349-7110 for information and reservations.

VIETNAM VETERANS PARADE SEEKS PARTICIPANTS
 The Canton Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 528 is looking for organizations who wish to participate in their Memorial Day Parade. The parade will be held at 10 a.m. on May 31, and will honor the veterans. For more information, contact either Henry Giles (591-3068), Tim LaGrow (981-2848), or Mike Schlott (455-9381).

CHURCH DEDICATION
 The public is invited to the dedication of St. Michael Lutheran Church May 9 at 7 p.m. The church is located at 7000 Sheldon Road in Canton.

Readers give P-C Supt. Hoben one of the lowest ratings: 1.5

BY CHRIS MACHNIAK
 Three weeks ago The Crier published the results of the school board in the first annual Reader's Rate. The respondents gave the board a grade of 1.730 or a "D." This week's evaluation concerns the services the Plymouth-Canton School District provides. The lowest grade was given to Superintendent Dr. John M. Hoben who received a 1.55. Dr. Hoben, who has held his post for 23 years and has had an elementary school named after him, responded to the grade by saying, "The buck stops here. I am responsible for the district's actions." Explaining the low grade, Hoben said, "School board candidates have drawn up negative publicity." Hoben also cited economic problems as a cause to current district problems. "The state has dumped on us, we have no control over what they do," Hoben said. "But often we get blamed for it."

Readers Rate

Hoben summed up his comments by saying, "We are having problems just like other districts but I believe that this is a good system and we have many innovations that make us a forerunner in education." The remaining categories scored as follows: Elementary Schools 2.72, Middle Schools 2.51, High Schools 2.35, Community Continuing Education 2.84 (highest in this category), Central Administration 1.76, Building Principals 2.47, Teachers 2.62, and Parent-Teacher Groups 2.57.

3 more join city race; 7 now running

BY AMY KIDWELL
 Three more people pulled petitions this week with the intention of running for the city commission. The total is now seven: Tom Prose, David McDonald, Mike Caffery, Rosita Smith, Richard Arlen, Stella Greene and Ronald Loiselle. Dr. Tom Prose has turned in his petition to the clerk's office and therefore has officially filed. "I've been active with the city for many years. It (running for city commission) is a natural evolution," said Prose who serves on numerous boards and committees. Lt. Col. David McDonald will be

retiring from the army in May and said he feels obligated to make Plymouth a better place to live. Commissioner Stella Greene is running for a seat because, "I enjoy working with the commission and feel I have something to contribute." Rosita Smith currently serves with the planning commission and the parking study committee. Richard Arlen is a former school board member and Michael Caffery is a former candidate for the Wayne County Commission. The deadline for filing with the city clerk is May 18.

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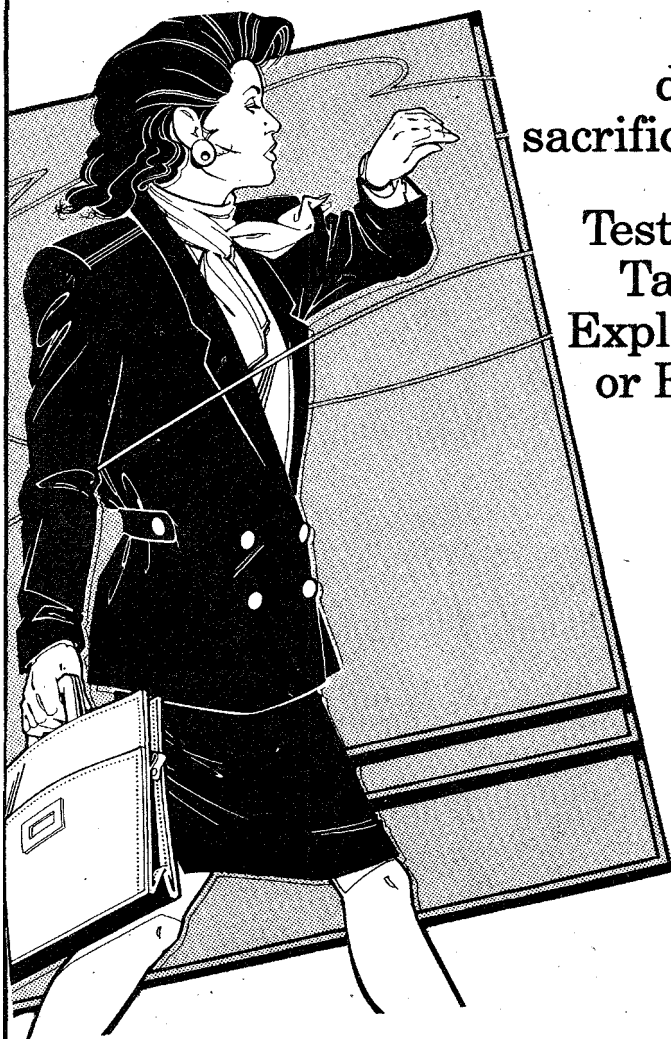


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In business Breaking old notions

BY GARY GOSSELIN

Many political observers have said that 1992 was the Year of the Woman, and with Hillary Rodham Clinton playing such a large role at the White House, maybe they're correct.

But it didn't take political pundits to make area women realize that they could take charge of their own businesses and declare every year the year of the woman.

Phyllis Wordhouse owns a financial planning office in Plymouth, and it's staffed entirely by women, not "typical" for a financial planning office.

But then again, the hugs her clients give her aren't textbook either. "About 75 per cent of my clients hug me," said Wordhouse, "because they've learned to trust me."

Earning that trust means about 90 hours a week for Wordhouse, who spends 12 hours with a client—in three hour sessions—before advising. "It takes time to do this right," she said, "but I'm trying to cut back on hours and give myself some time."

Besides owning and operating her own business, Wordhouse also teaches courses on how to obtain financial aid—knowledge she gained from experience—and also lectures at conferences. She adds that 75 per cent of her clients are women.

Wordhouse said that all women should plan on being self-sufficient, pointing out that at one point or another, most women will be alone.

Look a few miles south to Canton, and you'll find Frankie Middleton, owner of Better Built Fence Co.

Middleton said the road in this male-dominated business was somewhat difficult, but after the first two years people began to accept her.

"When I first started, some men wouldn't even sell supplies to me," she said, "they said I wouldn't last a year." Now, some eight years later, even the skeptics have realized she's in for the long run.

Middleton said the secret to her success is knowing your limitations, and using your strengths. "I don't physically put fences in myself," she said, "but I have a great staff, and I'm a good manager. I use my skills and my staff uses theirs"

Dawn and Debra Clancey are two attorney sisters working for Draugelis & Ashton. They say there's nothing unusual about women in law firms, but Dawn's situation is somewhat different.

She has two children, and wanted to work part-time. "I has to take clerk

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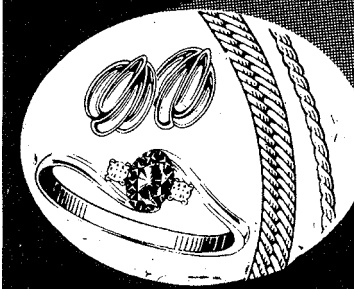
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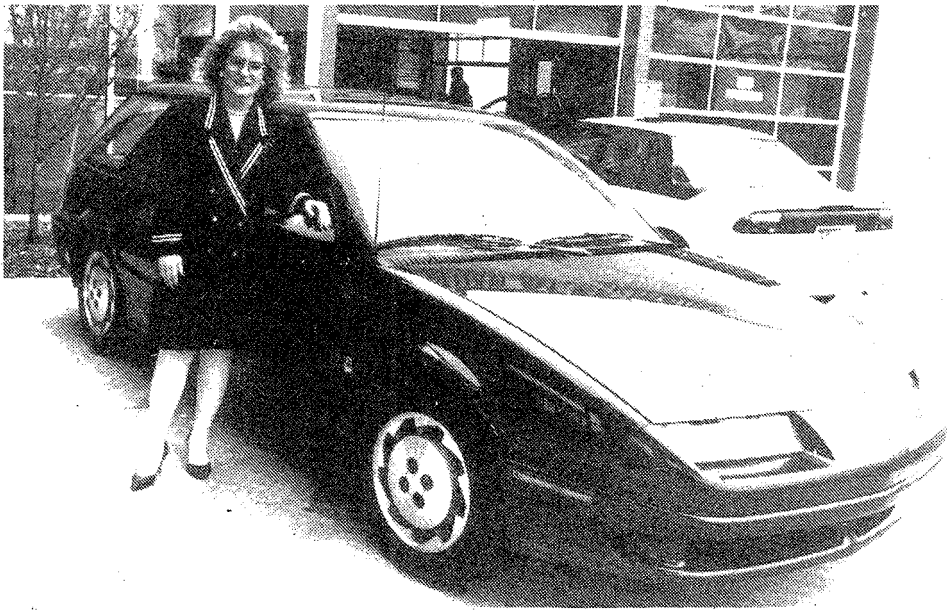
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In the spotlight



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Karen Tibus, Co-owner of 3 Saturn dealerships, shows off a new model. (Crier photo by Gary Gosselin)

Breaking old notions

CONTINUED

jobs in order to work part-time," she said. But that was before her present position.

The women say they only know of one other firm that hires part-time attorneys, and they feel that the profession has been dominated by men for so long that part-time was never a concern.

The women said that other than that, they see no barriers that women have to look out for. Although they say they get calls about domestic issues and divorce, and people often request a woman.

"People sometimes feel that we're (women) more caring" said Debra, "and divorce and custody issues are tough."

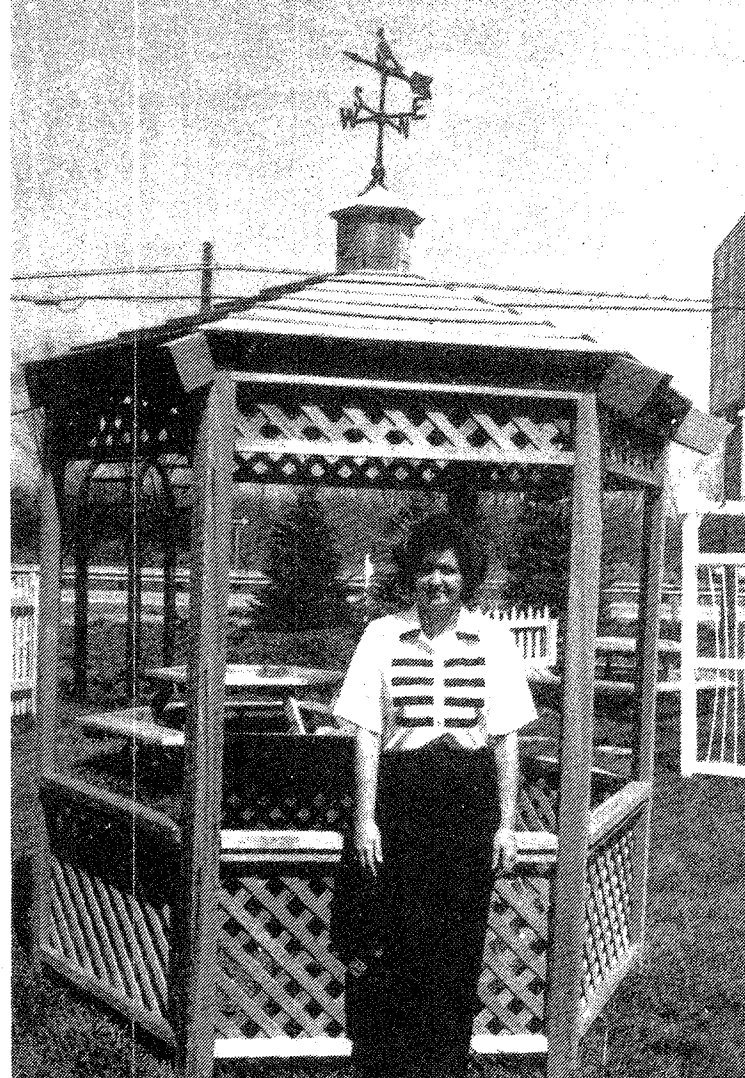
Both women said they wouldn't change their profession, saying that law can open doors for both men and women in business, government, and the community.

Karen Tibus, owner of the Saturn dealership in Plymouth started out as a switchboard operator at Don Massey Cadillac in 1975, and eventually worked her way up to General Manager.

She now co-owns three dealerships with Don Massey, and directs a staff of 77. Tibus said the climb wasn't easy, but said that she's done things her way in a male-dominated field.

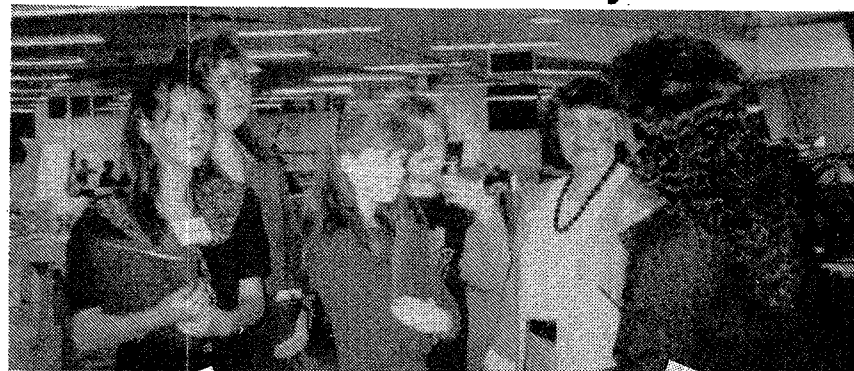
"Women can do things their own way. We don't have to try to act like men to get things accomplished," said Tibus.

She also has advice to everyone—men or women. "Follow your dreams. If you know what you want for that goal. If you fall on your knees just get up, brush yourself off and keep going."



Frankie Middleton, owner of Better Built Fence Co., shows one of their gazebos. (Crier photo by Gary Gosselin)

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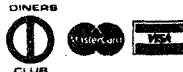
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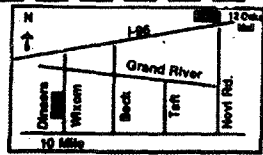
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In the marketplace Changing the way the market works

BY CHRIS MACHNIAK

One doesn't see the those large engine, high-performance cars as frequently as one did fifteen to twenty years ago.

They're still around, but not as prevalent. The reason?

"Women," answers Esther K. Shapiro, the director of the Consumer Affairs Office in Detroit, "they have changed their part in the marketplace."

Major businesses have also recognized this new trend. Len Gossman, sales manager of Blackwell Ford, commented, "We have really benefited from training Ford has given us and our 'New Generation Salespeople' have shown us the techniques of the future."

According to Gossman, many of the newest features on cars are designed with women in mind.

"Safety, easy maintenance, and 24 month leasing have been popular with the ladies," Gossman said.

On the subject of sales pitches, he said that most of the time wives make the decision about what's affordable. He also said that over 50 per cent of his Probes have been purchased by women. During the 80's and the early part of the 90's, the climate of business and advertising shifted to accommodate the working woman.

Cars are not the only area that women have affected.

"Women have to handle the household and their careers so they need more time," remarks Shapiro.

To fill those needs, new services such as cleaning, shopping, child care, and errand services became common practice for some working women.

"It's more than that, they're coming up with pop-in medical clinics and dental care in malls, catalog shopping, T.V. home shopping and supermarket delivery all have helped women save much needed time," says Shapiro.

The other monumental change is in the advertising realm itself. "One of the changes is that women are used less as a sex object. You see a more sharing or unisex role between men and women. This you would not find twenty years ago," said Shapiro.

Fran Toney of the local chamber of commerce said, "There are many companies that are working hard to target women ages 30-50."

Overall, the experts agree that the role that women play in molding the marketplace has significantly changed.

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In the community

Stepping forward to government positions

BY AMY KIDWELL

In decades past, they took care of the home, watched the kids, cooked the meals and were known in the community only if their husbands or sons were public figures.

Today, they still take care of the home, watch the kids and cook the meals. However, women today are publicly known for their own accomplishments rather than those of their husbands and sons.

The trend started during World War II. As thousands of men stepped forward to fight the war, women stepped forward to fill their positions in the factories.

Since then women have stepped forward into higher positions in business and in The Community.

Take a look at the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees. Five of the seven are women: Kay Arnold, Marilyn Massengill, Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Mary Brooks and K.C. Mueller.

No doubt about it, being a member of the board makes for a busy lifestyle, but Kay Arnold, who also works as business manager for Colonial Collision, says she doesn't have a problem with managing her time. "I've always done volunteer service. It didn't take anymore of my time...the people and places are different," said Arnold who was named "Volunteer of the Year" by the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce.

Being a member of the board, "is a real learning experience. I can't believe how much there is to learn," she added.

Arnold is the mother of four and says she did not work when her kids were young. Instead, "I dedicated my time to making them better citizens."

Mary Brooks is serving her third term as treasurer for the township. She started working there in 1972 when her three daughters were young

teenagers (one was a preteen).

She explained that she had taken some time off to raise her kids and then, "I thought, gee, I need something for me now. So, I applied here and Elizabeth hired me. I looked at her two days later and said, 'I found a home.' It's been 21 years now."

Brooks, who will celebrate her 39th wedding anniversary in June, went back to school and last year earned a Certified Municipal Finance degree from Central Michigan University.

She is a member of the Plymouth Business and Professional Women club which gives about \$5,000 per year in scholarships to local women who need to return to school.

"There are women who haven't been in the workforce for a while and need schooling to help support their families," Brooks said.

Brooks said women are, "more in the forefront than they ever use to be. They learned that they can have it all. There are more choices," she attributes these changes to education and family support.

She said she notices that the current board is more "open" in terms of communication. "Women will communicate with more people," she said.

Ron Griffith, also a member of the current and past board, agreed that there is a difference in the current board but did not attribute the difference to the fact that the board now consists of mostly women.

"I don't think the board is different based on gender. It's different because there are different people," he said.

Griffith, a dean at Schoolcraft College, was also quick to note that he helped start the Woman's Resource Center at the school and that he is, "very

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Stepping forward

CONTINUED

supportive of women being anywhere they want to be where they can do the job."

Marilyn Massengill started working for the township in 1969 when she got a job with the building department.

Before being elected Clerk, she regularly attended township meetings and, "always wanted to say something...I felt that if I was going to work, I may as well go for the whole thing," so she ran for the clerk position in 1992.

Massengill will celebrate her 40th wedding anniversary in November and has four children.

"Women have become more business oriented...They are setting goals and working toward them," she said.

Another trend she has noticed is that women are encouraged to attend school and that they are not as stereotyped.

K.C. Mueller, is a "career oriented" woman, is currently serving her first term on the township board. She will celebrate her 25th wedding anniversary in June and has one daughter who is in graduate school.

She is a graduate of Theil College with a degree in political science. She also did some post graduate work in accounting.

A participant in many community activities, she says she knows a lot of women who dedicate their time to community projects.

Mueller has been in real estate since 1971 and in 1987 started her own business called K.C. Colonial. She started the company because she was asked to market some properties in the Plymouth area. She later merged that company with Red Carpet Keim and now is a real estate broker and shareholder with Remerica.

"When I had my own business, I had to drop my community activities. I didn't like that," she said.

When she had her daughter, she, "lasted six months without working. After six months I went bonkers and had to start working."

She definitely sees a change in women's attitudes over the years.

"We've accepted the fact that we can do more," Mueller said. "We were always told our place was in

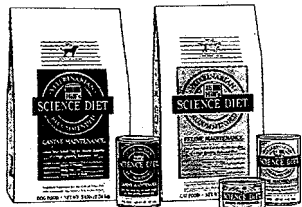
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Stepping forward to govern

CONTINUED

the home, and we accepted that."

She also noted that when she first went in to real estate, she felt a lot of resentment from men who felt she was "taking bread from the table...Today, there are probably more women than men," in real estate.

Mueller says her new position on the board is "very challenging...I have two jobs now, one that pays and one that doesn't really. That's alright though because if you enjoy it, you enjoy it."

Sitting on the board of trustees is nothing new for Elaine Kirchgatter, treasurer for Canton Township. She was elected to the treasurer position in 1992 after serving as a trustee the previous term. She has a BS degree in home economics from Iowa State University.

In June she will have been married for 30 years and has three daughters, the youngest of whom is currently at the University of Michigan.

She took time off to raise her children and once that was accomplished, working "was something that just evolved. My responsibilities as a mother day-to-day were no longer needed...The time was right for this position...It was a chance to serve The Community as well." Kirchgatter was previously involved in The Community including serving nine years on the Plymouth-Canton School Board.

One difference that she has noticed: "When I was in school, subjects were different...I almost went in to math...I received absolutely no encouragement (from the school system) at all, even though I excelled in math." She also noted that if she were starting out today, she would take business or math in school.

Other trends that she has noticed is that careers for women are becoming "long-term." When she was younger, she said, careers were viewed as "short-term," something to fill the time before and after children. Today, she noted, women are not quitting when they have kids.

Although she said that there are opportunities that exist today that didn't 30 years ago, "There are times when the good-old-boy network is still alive and well. We need to work within the system.

In the City of Plymouth, Stella Greene is the only woman who sits on the city commission. She is married and has two teen age children, one boy and one girl.

She attended both Michigan State and Wayne State universities and earned her teaching degree from Wayne State.

"I came out of school and went directly into the business community," said Greene, explaining that she spent time working in purchasing and administration.

For Greene, time scheduling has helped her handle her part time job at Lee wards, her full time job as a mother and her duties as a commissioner.

Prior to being elected to the commission she did the "normal volunteer activities" which included working on the Downtown Development Authority, Historical District Committee and the Arts Council.

She says that being a member of the commission has been, "very interesting. it requires a lot of time, but it is well worth it.

"Women are taken much more seriously now," said Greene, noting the dramatic change has occurred since she got out of school.

She said the men on the board treat her "with a degree of respect...I like that."

In the home

Taking care of business

"At-home moms need some serious recognition, it's the hardest job in the world."

—Darlene Jardine

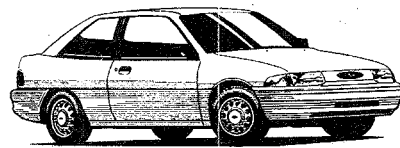
BY ALEX LUNDBERG

Darlene Jardine started her career at the Holiday Inn near Metro Airport as a waitress. She worked hard, impressed her bosses and rose through the ranks of the company.

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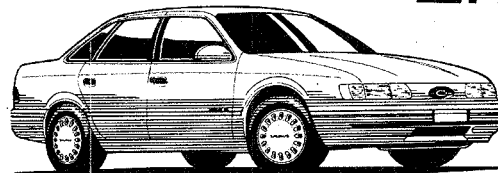
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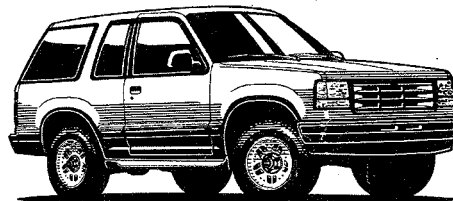
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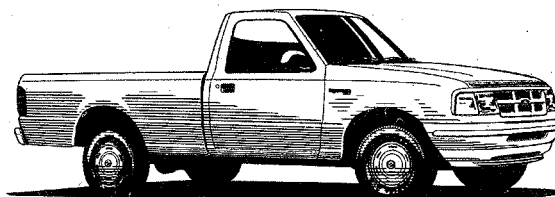


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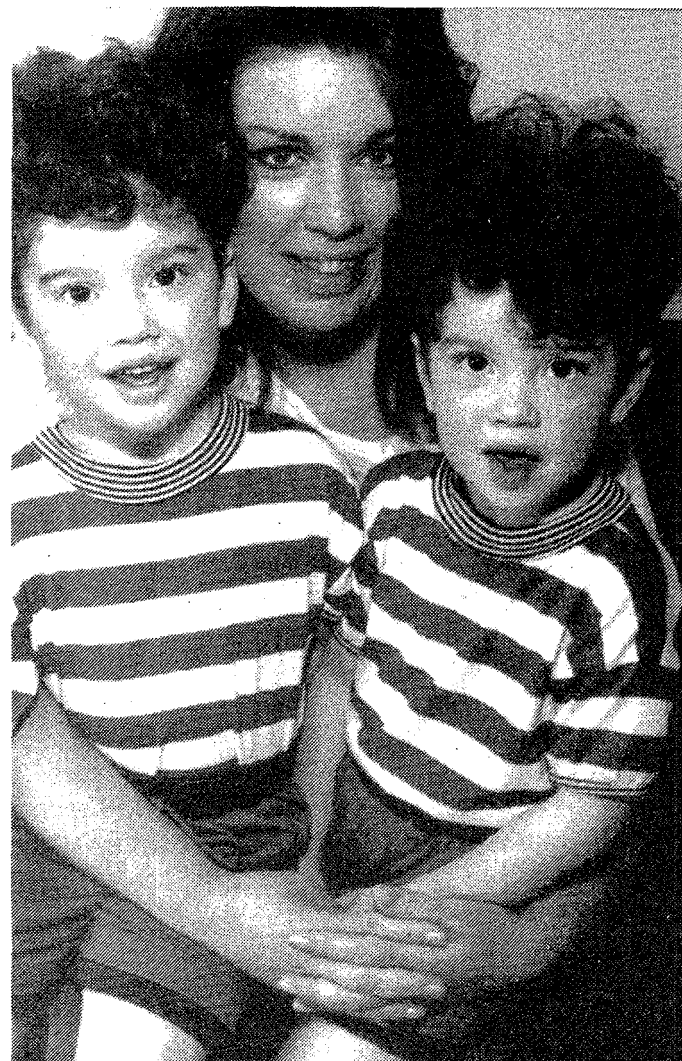


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Darlene Jardine with Andrew and Shane. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik)

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Taking care of business

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She became the Director of Sales and Marketing.

Pretty spiffy, huh?

After nine years at the hotel, Jardine gave her bosses two weeks notice and quit her job.

Why?

Because she wanted to take on a bigger job.

Darlene Jardine, 39, quit her job at the Holiday Inn to raise her family.

At the time, she had two young daughters.

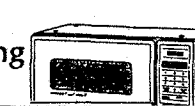
"It was not an overnight decision," Jardine said. "I had a really great job."

She said that the inspiration for the move came from a cartoon in

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Taking care of business

CONTINUED

Reader's Digest. The caption said: "In the end, no one wishes that they spent more time at work." Jardine said the cartoon made her think about her choices in a whole new light.

"Of course," she said. "Everyone wishes that they had spent more time with their kids."

"I feel strongly that, dad or mom, someone has to be home with the kids."

So she tendered her resignation and the office threw her a party on her last day. According to Jardine, they didn't carry a torch for her very long.

"After I left they filled my position and things went on as if nothing had happened," she said. "I was easily replaced."

"You can't be replaced at home."

Jardine's two daughters are Becca (17) and Stephanie (15). She also has three and a half-year old twin boys, Shane and Andrew. She says that turning her back on a perfectly good job (and solid second income) wasn't as tough as she thought it would be.

"You can cut back," Jardine said. "I got rid of the housekeeper and ate lunch at home."

"When you're having peanut butter sandwiches instead of power lunches, you save a lot of money."

Jardine said that once her youngest children are older, she'd like to look into going back to work on a part-time basis.

"I'd like to get into a shared position with another working parent," she said. "We would be redundant but it would bring other mothers back into the workforce."

Jardine said she misses the pats on the back she got at work ("There's not a lot of praise handed out at home), but she gets perks that no corporation could ever offer.

"There's the unconditional love," Jardine said. "You can wake up in the middle of the night, with mussed up hair and a torn nightgown, and your child says 'I love you mommy.'"

"No job can give you that, no job."

In education Guiding our children's growth

BY AMY KIDWELL

Women in education is nothing new.

What is new is the amount education they seek for themselves, the topics they choose to study and the methods they use to teach.

Three examples of this can be seen everyday at Canton High School.

Liz VanWestenburg, Barb Marshall and Sandy Downs are all math teachers at Canton and all have a master's degree.

Each of them said that knew early on that they wanted to be math teachers and each had a female role model to look up to in school. Once in college, each knew that a master's degree would be necessary for their careers.

Once out of school, they found themselves in math departments that consisted mostly of men. Today, they make up a math department that consists mostly of women.

Each knew in college that they would need a master's, and they earned that degree while working.

Teamwork is part of their strategy to educate the students. For the past five to six years, they have been phasing in what is called Outcome Based Education (OBE). They like to call it Opportunity, Better understanding and Expectation.

The goal of the program is for the kids to have a better understanding of classroom material.

What the program does is raise expectations of a students work by providing them with more opportunity to learn.

Here's how it works. Each student is required to have a least a 75 per cent (C-) to pass the class and move on to the next level.

To help them meet this goal, each student is allowed to retake a test. The idea being that the student learn what she did wrong, correct that mistake and then display that she now knows the material.

The same holds true for homework assignments. If a student turns in bad work, she is asked to do it again.

They describe the program to be more like a work environment saying that if you turn in unsatisfactory work to an employer, he or she will tell you it stinks and to do it over again.

The program takes a lot of time to establish itself and initially is more

CONTINUED



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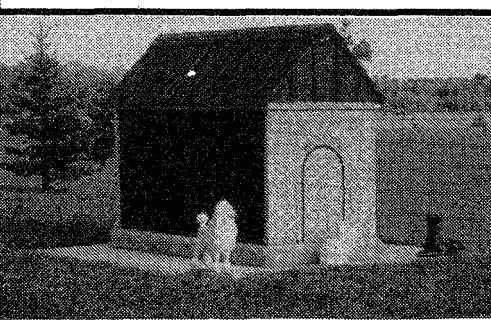
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Guiding our children's growth

CONTINUED

work for the teachers. however they are all pleased with the results. Class averages have gone up and students are more interested in learning as opposed to just getting through the class.

"It takes them a long time for kids to learn that they have to shoulder the responsibility. Parents love it," said Marshall, "We didn't like passing



Three teachers in Canton High schools math department. Sitting: Liz VanWestenburg, standing (L-R) Barb Marshall and Sandy Downs. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik)

kids (that didn't deserve it). We were setting them up for failure."

The learning process takes longer with this system, but Marshall said, "Who cares how long it takes. The bottom line is do they know it when they leave us."

Downs added, "The nice change is that now they look at their mistakes, not the grade."

The three teachers said they definitely see themselves as role models for the female students, and said it was important to encourage girls as well as boys to excel in math.

In the services Providing for the safety of all

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

She has two kids, a college education, and a steady job that lets her wear a badge and carry a gun.

Officer Tammi Colling, 34, of the Canton Crime Prevention Unit and director of Police-Community Relations, works as a liaison between The Community and the police.

CONTINUED

plus

Providing for the safety of all

CONTINUED

"I talk to children's groups and the schools," Colling said. "I am also an instructor that is available to homeowner's groups and neighborhood watch groups."

In early April, Colling ran a children's fingerprinting operation at the Meijer's on Ford Road. Before she and the other officers closed up operations at the store, 363 children were fingerprinted and logged into police computers.

According to Colling, she likes her present job better than her old job on patrol.

"I like talking to people and meeting the community," Colling said. "That is, talking to people other than suspects."

"It's different when you're first starting out," she said. "In the beginning you're excited about everything you do for the first time."

"I still enjoy what I do for a living, but I like the new work a lot better." Colling said. "Patrol work really takes it out of you."

While she says that the fact that she is a woman hasn't caused her any problems with her co-workers, there is no place for stereotypical female behavior.

"You can't be too conscious of your hair or your looks," Colling said. "You have to be durable."

According to Colling, she was going to school to be a teacher before deciding to become a cop.

"I went to Wayne State and took teaching classes," Colling said. "That's when I became a cadet with the Wayne State police."

Later, in 1980, Colling left the university to teach at a home for female adolescent offenders. After teaching there for three years, she decided to go through the hiring process at Wayne State to become a police officer.

According to Colling, it was while she was at Wayne State that she first proved herself to her co-workers.

"We were in pursuit of a suspect downtown when he headed down an alley, I got out of the car and continued the chase on foot," Colling said. "It was a snowy night and visibility was very poor."

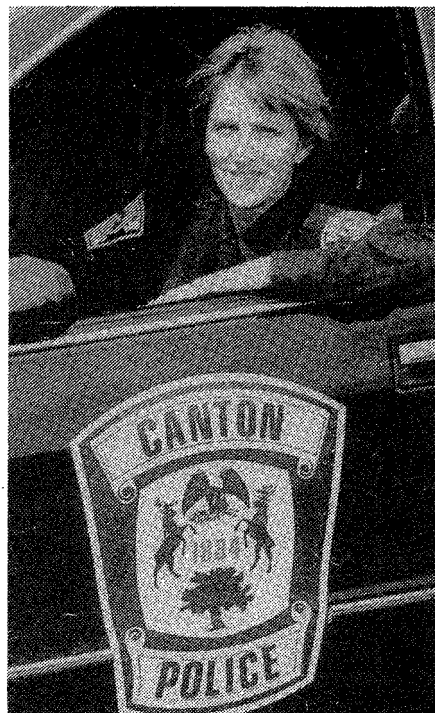
"The other officers were surprised that I came back with the suspect."

Colling was hired by the the Wayne State Police Department and they paid for her training at the Detroit Metro Police Academy.

She graduated in 1984, seventh in her class and was hired by the Canton Police Department in 1989.

Colling is the mother of two boys, 5 and 2 years old. She says that neither has expressed any interest in following their mother's career path.

"My 5-year-old wants to grow up to be a doctor and a Barney fan."

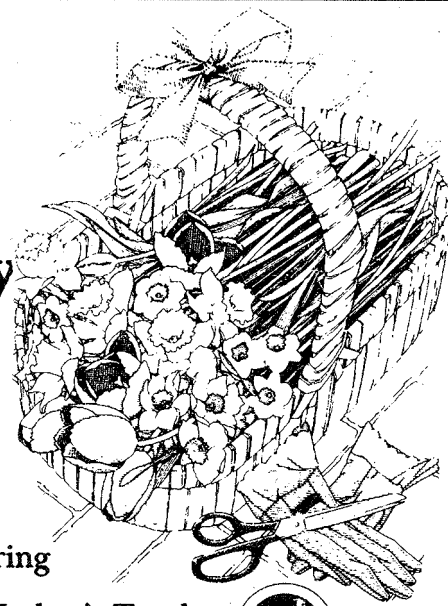


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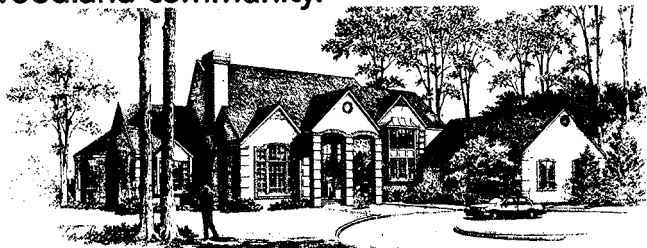
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WOMEN IN PUBLISHING



These publishing professionals bring you The Community Crier every Wednesday, as well as providing custom publishing services to the many clients of COMMA, The Crier's publishing affiliate.

(Left photo, front row) Elizabeth Scoggins, Rebecca Jardine, Wendy Harless; (rear row) Elaine Wisniewski, Michelle Tregembo Wilson, Karen Guyor.

(Above photo) Margaret Glomski, Geneva Guenther, Lisa Stuart, Amy Kidwell. (Not pictured: Ellen Tracy, Anne Sullivan)





What's Happening

To list your group's event in this calendar, send or deliver the notice IN WRITING to: The Crier, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170. Information received BY NOON FRIDAY will be used for Wednesday's calendar (space permitting).

PLYMOUTH YMCA CLASSES

The Plymouth YMCA is offering several classes for local residents. "Half Pints in the Kitchen," "Supersitters," "Driver's Education," "Bumper Bowl," "Pillo Polo," and "Arts and Crafts" are just some of the classes available at the YMCA. For further information, please call 453-2904 during regular business hours, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday

WOMEN'S CLUB LUNCHEON

The Women's Club of Plymouth will host a luncheon and book review for its members at noon on May 7 at the First United Church, 45201 N. Territorial.

After the salad potluck luncheon, Rabbi Sherwin Wine will give a book review of Gloria Steinem's "Revolution From Within."

DONATE BLOOD

The American Red Cross will be setting up mobile blood donations units in the area during May. A truck will be set up in Canton at St. Michael Lutheran Church on May 24 between 2:30 and 8:30 p.m. And on May 25, a truck will be set at Woodland Glen Apartments in Northville.

BAKE SALE

On May 8, there will be a bake sale at the church at Fairground and Ann Arbor Trail between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Delicious pastries and bread will be on sale just in time for Mother's Day

HEAD START PROGRAM RECRUITING

The Plymouth-Canton Head Start program is recruiting children for its 1993-94 season. The program, sponsored by the school district and federal government, provides education to parents and 3 to 4-year-olds. The program is free to those who qualify. For information, call 451-6656.

ARTIST TO SIGN WORKS

Corinne Layton will be signing her art work May 8 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the Pictures Plus Gallery in Northville, 117 E. Main Street.

ART FOR SALE AT LIBRARY

During the entire month of May the Plymouth Community Arts Council will be selling selected works of art on the second floor of the Plymouth District Library (Dunning-Hough), and will be open on Wednesday from 10 am until 8:30 pm.

RAGGEDY ANN & ANDY

The Cotton Candy Theatre Kids of Northville's historic Marquis Theatre will be entertaining young audiences with the presentation of "Raggedy Ann and Andy," by Patricia Thackray, May 15 thru June 19. Tickets are \$5. For more info please call 349-8110.

BUSINESS EXPO

On Thursday, May 13 the Positively Plymouth, Business Expo/Mixer will be at the Mayflower Meeting House. The admission is free. For more info contact the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 453-1540.

BOOKS NEEDED

The Canton Public Library is collecting used books for its Big Book Sale to be held May 13 - 16. Bring donations to the library, 1200 S. Canton Center Road of call 397-0999 for more information.

MEETING CHANGED

The Woman's Club of Plymouth has changed its annual scholarship awards meeting from May 19 to May 24. Conflicts with the students' schedules was the reason for the change. The event will be in honor of 48 Plymouth-Canton students who will be awarded scholarships.

It is to take place at 6:30 p.m. May 24 at the Plymouth Manor.

ART SALE

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is holding its annual sale at the art rental gallery on the second floor of the Plymouth District Library. The sale will be held each Wednesday of the month from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

BOOK SALE

Friends of the CPL present the Big Book Sale at the Canton Public Library running May 13 through May 16. Hardbacks are \$1 and paperbacks are 50 cents. The sale will take place in the library's meeting room.

Police crack down on under-age liquor purchases in Canton Twp.

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

With summer just around the corner, the Canton Police Department is making the rounds to see that local establishments have done all of their spring cleaning.

As of May 1, the Canton P.D. started working with the Liquor Control Commission (LCC) to make sure that local eateries, bars, supermarkets, party stores, and all establishments that are licensed to sell alcohol are playing by the rules and checking the I.D.'s of all customers suspected of being under age.

According to Captain Alex Wilson of the Canton P.D., the crackdown that started on Saturday will take two forms.

"There will be ongoing inspections made by uniformed officers," Wilson said, and "there will also be covert operations."

According to Wilson, the inspections will be carried out by uniformed officers with explicit guidelines as to what does and does not comply with regulations.

According to Wilson, the move should come as no surprise to liquor license owners.

"Compliance with the rules of a liquor license is understood at the time of purchase," Wilson said. "And they have been sent letters."

While there is no set schedule for inspections, the police will "at some point make it around to everyone."

In the future, Wilson said that periodic checks will be made once every three to six months.

Covert operations will take the form of underage police volunteers — members of the local Explorer Scout troop — serving as the decoys for the operations.

According to Wilson, the volunteers will have to try to buy alcohol on their own.

"They won't be given fake I.D.'s," Wilson said. "We're not trying to deceive anyone."

Part of the reason the checks are going on in May, according to Wilson, is the graduation season.

"Kids are going to be getting out of school and thinking of partying," he said. "It's a good time to make these checks."

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Sports

Same score, different winners this year when Canton, Salem face off on tennis courts

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

Turnabout was fair play for the Canton and Salem netters last Wednesday as they faced off on the courts.

Always an emotional meet, this year Salem won the meet, defeating Canton 5-

3. It was the same story as last year, except the winners changed.

"It's usually a cliff hanger when Salem and Canton play," said Salem coach Judie Braun. "It was exciting, both teams have a pretty good bunch of guys."

"It's been a while since Canton beat

Salem, it felt good," said Braun. "That's a quote you could probably get from every player."

Salem won 1-3 singles and 3-4 doubles.

Jason Grimm, Salem's number one singles player had to take an injury break early in the match, but came back and beat Canton's Eric Braden 6-4, 6-2.

Harry Lee defeated Canton's Steve Dale 6-4, 7-5.

Mike West won the number three singles for Salem, defeating Canton's Scott Boersma 7-5, 6-3.

Canton's Chris Bray took the number four singles competition, defeating Kevin Laber 7-5, 6-4.

On the doubles court, Canton and Salem split.

Canton's Jeff Feurst and Alex Warden beat Salem's David Bell and Ryan Hawley 6-3, 6-1 in the number one slot.

Joe Kim and Mark O'Keefe beat Mike Cermak and Chris Dusbiber 6-2, 7-5.

Salem's Matt Dalley and Li Xinning beat Brent Pernak and Joe Hunter 6-11, 6-2 in the number three doubles position.

Alan Jenkins and Corey Laber took the number four doubles spot, defeating Dave Markiewicz and Dane Grube 6-1, 6-0.

The Rocks went on to tie for first place at an invitational tournament in Bay City.

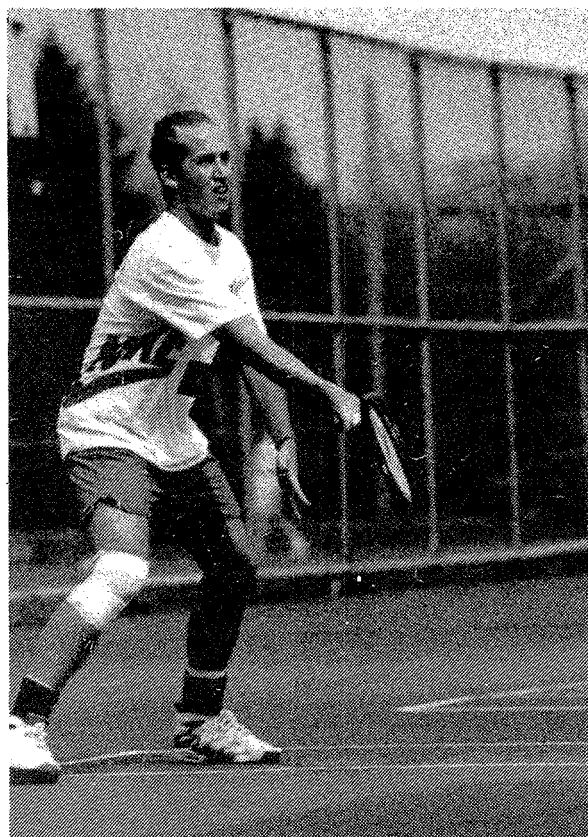
Kevin Laber won the championship in the number four singles, defeating his opponent from Chesaning 6-2, 6-4.

He went on onto defeat Rochester 6-1, 7-5 and his opponent from Troy Athens 6-3, 7-6.

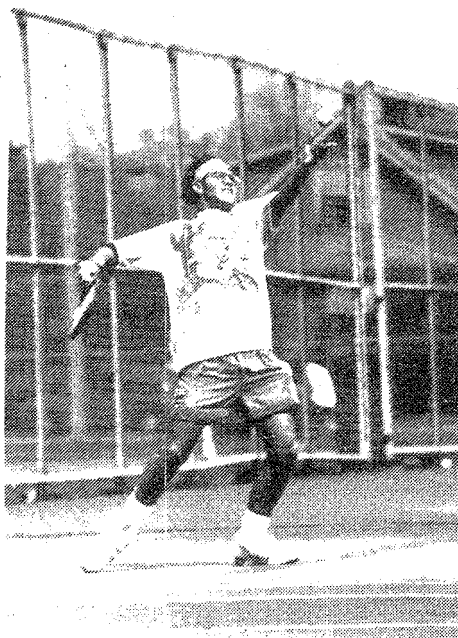
Canton won 8-0 over Walled Lake Western Friday.

"It was a match that could have gone either way for a few points," said Canton coach Fred Libbing. Both Canton and Salem have only one loss this season.

Salem is now 5-1 overall, Canton is 6-1.



Jason Grimm, Salem's number one singles player, prepares to return a serve. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik.)



Steve Dale serves against Clinton. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik.)

Canton kickers remain undefeated, Salem battles it out

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

Canton remains undefeated this season, earning two wins last week, defeating Walled Lake Western 4-0 Wednesday and Farmington Harrison 7-0 Thursday.

Coming Up...

Baseball: Canton plays Churchill Thursday at home...Salem plays Stevenson Thursday on the road.

Golf: Canton faces off with Northville on Monday...Salem plays Walled Lake Western today.

Soccer: Canton plays Stevenson tonight at home...Salem plays Troy Saturday at home.

Softball: Canton plays Churchill Thursday in Livonia...Salem plays Stevenson Thursday at home.

Tennis: Canton plays Northville Friday in Northville...Salem plays Farmington Friday at home.

Leah Hutko scored two goals against Western and three goals against Harrison.

Angie Page kicked in one goal against both teams, and Melissa Tomei scored a goal against Western.

Mandy Salin and Kara Moylan each

had one assist against Western.

Alyson Nounne scored two goals against Harrison and offered one assist.

Julie Majewski had one goal and one assist Thursday. Amy Westerhold, Salin and Tomei each had one assist.

Canton is 7-0-1 overall, 4-0-1 in the

Canton softball on a roll

Canton faced with Livonia Franklin Monday on the softball diamond and the Chiefs won 6-4.

Colleen Baker and Kelly Holmes shared the mound. Baker had six strikeouts and got the win. She allowed all four runs, two were unearned.

Baker is now 2-2. Holmes 6-0.

Sarah Rowe was the hitting star, going 3-4 with two singles, a double and one RBI.

Tina Shaefer was 1-2 at bat with 1 RBI. Tracy Ligner was 1-3 with one RBI.

Canton won the Chelsea Softball Invitational tournament Saturday with a 2-1 win over Jackson Northwestern.

To get to the championship round, Canton won three of four games.

The Chiefs beat Holt 5-0 in the first game, lost the second game 1-0 on a pass ball in the sixth inning, came back to beat Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard 8-1 and take the championship game against Northwestern.

The Chiefs are 8-2 overall, 3-0 in conference play.

conference and 4-0 in division play. The Chiefs have had five shutouts.

Salem suffered a heart breaking 4-3 loss in the last 20 seconds of its battle Saturday with number three ranked Troy Athens.

The Rocks started out on a roll, scoring in the first minute and led 1-0 at half-time. Shortly into the second half, Athens tied the game. Salem took the lead at 56 minutes, and one minute later Athens tied it at 2-2.

With 10 minutes left, Salem led again and held the lead for seven minutes. With three minutes on the clock, Athens tied again.

In the final seconds, Salem was called for a foul, and an Athens kicker put the ball into the net and won the game.

Caryn Tatterton scored the first two goals, Kris Goff scored the third goal and had one assist. Mari Hoff had one assist.

The Rocks beat Walled Lake Central 8-0 last Wednesday and are now 3-2-2 overall, 3-1-1 in the conference and 1-1 in division play.

Chiefs split double header, win in league

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

It's hard to come from behind to win a baseball game, and it was impossible for Canton when Mike Stafford was thrown out of the first game of a double header against John Glenn last Saturday.

After the team made its third out in the sixth inning, Stafford was ejected from the game for tossing his helmet across the infield. His intention was to have his teammate pick up the helmet and bring his glove out to his field position.

Stafford was one of two runners on base with two outs, and the go ahead run was at the plate.

"I didn't do anything wrong," said Stafford after he was ejected from the game Saturday. "He and Mr. (coach Mark) La Pointe don't get along, maybe he took it out on us."

Stafford not only couldn't return to the field for the final inning, he couldn't play the second game and was unable to play with his team Monday night as well.

Canton lost the first game 2-0 to Glenn.

Craig Benedict was on the mound for Canton, he gave up three hits, no walks and threw nine strikeouts. His record is now 2-4.

Glenn scored two runs in the third inning.

Greg Nesbitt was on the mound for Glenn, he gave up seven hits, no walks and threw two strikeouts.

"Craig Benedict pitched well," said

Mark La Pointe, Canton's coach. "He's not getting the support with bats or defense."

In the second game, Canton loss to Glenn, 9-1.

The chiefs were able to recover Monday when they played Livonia Franklin and took home a 9-3 win.

Canton is now 10-7 overall.

Stafford will play for Ohio State

When Mike Stafford was a sophomore on the Canton baseball team, his coach, Fred Crissey told him he had talent and could play division 1 baseball in college.

He will head to Columbus, Ohio in the fall to play for Ohio State.

Stafford's baseball ability is a combination of his hard work and dedication to the sport as well as good genes. His father pitched for the New York Yankees for eight years (1960-68), and his grandfather played five years in the minor

league for the Yankees.

He hopes to keep the family tradition alive and eventually play in the Yankee uniform, wearing number 22, the same number his dad wore.

"I wear 22 here," said Stafford, "I've got it for college. Hopefully I'll get it if I make it to the next level."

But his more immediate goals are to finish his senior year in the Chief uniform, play hard at Ohio State and hopefully in his tenure as a Buckeye play in a College World Series.

Salem baseball was 'air tight'

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

A step in the right direction is how Salem baseball coach John Gravlin described Thursday's 8-1 win over Farmington.

"We almost played air-tight defense," said Gravlin. "We pitched well and played good defense. Anytime you put the two together, you can win."

Salem is 6-7 overall, 1-1 in the conference.

Nirav Kher made his debut as a starting pitcher and earned the win for the Rocks Thursday. Gravlin said he plans to make him the second starting pitcher, rather than using him only in relief.

Kher pitched six innings against Farmington, he threw eight strikeouts, gave up one run on two hits and two walks.

"We played good defense," said Gravlin "But Nirav was the dominant force, they didn't even come close to scoring, their run was unearned."

Brandon Walton came in for the final inning, gave up three hits, no runs and struck out one batter.

Jamie Owens was the offensive star, getting two hits, scoring two runs and stealing one base.

In Saturday's tournament, Salem won one and lost one. The Rocks beat Trenton 4-3. Eric Kida was on the mound and went five innings. His record is now 3-0.

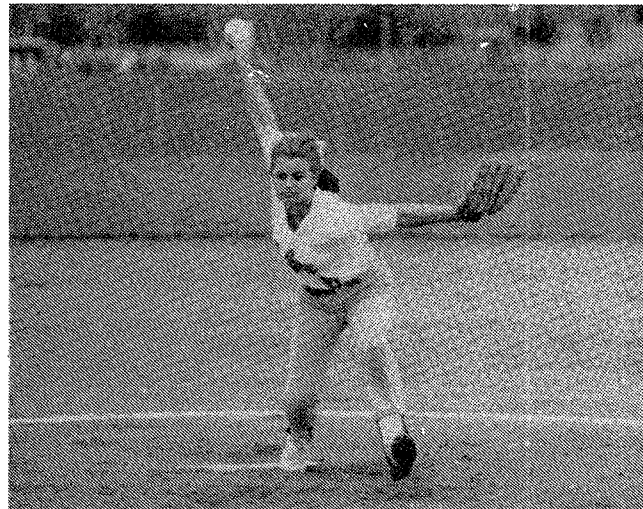
Mike Marsella got the save.

In the second game against Thurston, Salem lost 3-2 on an error in the seventh inning.

Walton was the starting pitcher. Kher went in for relief and got the loss.

David Knight was the hitting star for Salem Saturday, he got two hits against Trenton and two RBIs; three hits and one RBI against Thurston.

Salem plays Stevenson Thursday.



Salem's Jenny Garvey pitches a winner Thursday against Farmington. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik.)

Salem softball earns win

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

After a sluggish start this season, the Salem softball team earned its second win Thursday, defeating Farmington 10-3.

The Rocks are now 2-4 overall, 1-3 in conference play, and 1-1 in the Western division.

Amanda Tubaugh had an excellent day for Salem. She was 3-4 at bat, hitting a triple, two doubles and knocked in three runs.

Amber Trombetta had two hits and crossed the plate three times for the Rocks.

Jenny Garvey was on the mound for

Lady trackers call it close

Canton and Salem girls track took a 1-2 finish at the Stafford Invitational Saturday.

The Chiefs finished the meet with 76 points, one point ahead of Salem with 75 points. The Chiefs claimed first place in two field events, the discus and shot put relays.

Selina Bastine, Stephanie Gray and Becky Baigrie set a new school record, collectively tossing the discus 304'4" Saturday.

Bastine, Gray and Mary Israel won the

Salem, gave up two hits, three walks and struck out one batter. She is now 1-2.

Garvey pitched six innings and Amy Ruthig went in as a reliever in the final inning.

"I'm happy with the results," said Al Campbell, Salem coach. "We fundamentally did the things we should be doing. We played a good game."

Salem had 10 hits against the Falcons and six walks. The Rocks scored three runs in the first inning, two in the second, three in the third, and two in the fifth.

Salem will face Stevenson Thursday at home.

shot put relay, with a combined footage of 91'1.5".

Salem took first in six event.

Tonya Wheeler, Marcia Parker, Sarah Hamilton and Stacy Witthoff took first in the sprint relay, finishing in 4:18.6.

Courtney Sheldon, Lynda Sebestyen, Kelly Stankov and Witthoff won the 3200 relay in 10:04.

Melissa Hopson, Dana Driscoll, Parker, and Vanessa Benning won the 400 relay in 51.5.

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Levin, Riegle no-shows at protest; others speak

Continued from pg. 1

"Mr. Bieber said that this group has the total internal support of the union," Shoemaker said. "The retirees built this

union and the union fully intends to fulfill that debt."

Shoemaker also said that retirees made financial decisions based on their deal with Unisys.

"These workers were asked to retire in exchange for health benefits," Shoemaker said. "What they (Unisys) have done is an outrage, a despicable act."

Eventually, Shoemaker's speech touched on the topic of national health care.

"We need to support Bill Clinton in his efforts to formulate a national health care plan, to cover all Americans' health needs," he said.

At the end of his time, Shoemaker drove home the message that the UAW was behind the retirees.

"The entire UAW is with you," he said. "And they'll be with you tomorrow and tomorrow, and tomorrow after that,

and the tomorrow after that."

Following Shoemaker to the podium was Earl Scribner of the AFL-CIO, who talked about the other unions that have expressed sympathy for the Unisys retirees.

"This is not a Unisys or UAW issue," Scribner said. "The metro labor community must stand side-by-side."

And finally, an unlikely speaker, Wayne County Sheriff Robert Ficano, also spoke out in favor of the retirees.

"My father and grandfather were in the UAW and fought for their rights as workers," Ficano said. "You have fought, you need to get what is yours."



Your Guide to Worship

Calvary Baptist Church

43065 Joy Road, Canton
455-0022

Dr. David A. Hay, Senior Pastor

Sunday School for All Ages 9:45 am
Sunday Services 11:00 am, 6:00 pm

Wednesday
Bible Study & Clubs 7:00 pm

Plymouth Christian Academy 459-3505

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)
46250 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
(one mile west of Sheldon)
453-5252

Sunday worship 8:30 & 11:00 am
Family Sunday
School Hour 9:45 am

Rev. K.M. Mehrl, Pastor
Hugh McMartin, Lay minister

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10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
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Geneva Presbyterian Church (USA)

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Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am
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Rev. Abe deVries

Worship
with us
this
Sunday



Several hundred Unisys retirees appeared at the Plymouth Township plant Thursday to protest the company's plans to eliminate health care by 1996. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik)

Retirees protest Unisys health plan

Continued from pg. 1

but out," she said, adding that at age 57 she would have a difficult time finding a job.

Jim McClean, a 38-year Unisys employee and former vice-president of his local union, said that they used to have power.

"When we first got into bargaining, we were as powerful as the Big Three," McClean said. "That's not true anymore."

John Button, a Livonia resident, worked for the company for 30 years as an industrial engineer. He said he noticed a downfall in the company when CEO W. Michael Blumenthal took over.

"After they got the workforce down, they started taking away insurance," he said.

John MacKenzie, who worked for the company for 38 years and retired in 1975, drove in from Berkley to take part in the protest:

"This is really hurting. They made me a promise and now they are taking it away."

Augie Dobson of Farmington Hills, came to the demonstration to make sure that people knew what the loss of benefits would mean to the retirees.

"I worked here from 1951 to 1982," Dobson said. "If I didn't have my job at Burger King, I'd starve."

Peter Semonick of Redford retired in 1983 after more than 35 years.

"I always fought for full medical coverage. We gave up our wages for it. What hurts is that this isn't on paper. It was verbal promise.

There was a day when you could shake a guy's hand and it would be binding, not today," he said.

"More of these people are going to get shafted. People are supposed to come

first."

Virginia McComas, a 32-year Unisys employee, says that she's glad she hasn't had to try the insurance that the company has substituted for Blue Cross.

"There's a list of certain doctors and pharmacies that you can go to," McComas said, "and none of those are good out of the state."

By afternoon, several employees at the plant stepped out for their lunch hour to talk with old friends and show their support. They were not allowed to carry signs but they did walk with their friends and talk.

One employee said he's scared because he wants to retire in a couple of years, but he does not know what to expect.

Elsie Dick, another employee who was out during lunch, said that she's been here "for 38 years and I'm leery about retiring."

"They made some bad business moves and they want to take it away from the employees, the ones who made the company."

He added that because of what's going on, he's trying to make some investments with his money, "so I'll have extra money. That's the only way to do it."

Janet and Ty Ford were there and had a front row seat to listen to the speakers. Ty helped form the union and since retirement has suffered a stroke.

"I realize that the costs are high but why do they always have to hit the ones who are the most vulnerable," said Janet.

Plymouth resident Lois Davis, a retiree since 1984, called Unisys "a very nice place to work."

Now, however, "we can't imagine that they're doing this to us."

\$4.50 for the first 10 words, 20¢ each additional word. Deadline: Monday, 4pm. Call 453-6900

Crier Classifieds

Curiosities

GIL DINELLO AND JACK WELBORN: shut up!

AUNT MID is getting older again in Ontario. Happy Birthday! -- Sally, Jess and Ed.

ANONYMOUS DIRT DONORS: thanks for spreading your generosity -- The Fleet Street Garden Club.

Happy Mother's Day, Lois

"ART REPRESENTS a social necessity that no nation can neglect without endangering its intellectual existence." -- John Ruskin.

"YOUR TURKEY IS COOKED!" -- Jack -- whatever happened to "Goose"?

BENJAMIN -- Hurry up and get well!

Emma Petrowsky
Have a great Mothers Day
You're the best!

Curiosities

WOW! YOU CAN BUY the Penn Theatre (in miniatrue) at Country Charm . . . along with other Plymouth buildings.

What's worse . . . Special Specials or plants over type?

"Stampeded ignorance is nothing more than democratic tyranny." -- Thomas Jefferson

Conceit makes little squirts thing they're fountains of knowledge.

I have a Siamese-twin relationship with my son. We're joined at the wallet.

Childish games: Those at which your spouse beats you.

Happy Mother's Day, Bernie . . . You're the GREATEST.

Happy Mothers's Day to Joan too! Thanks for your help with the house.

Happy Mother's Day Grandma from Mariah

Curiosities

Buy it -- Sell it -- Rent it -- Trade it -- Find the help you need -- Find the job you need -- Sell a vehicle -- Buy a vehicle -- Advertise a Garage Sale -- Sell your home -- Buy a home -- Sell an unused item -- Tell someone you love them -- Announce your meeting -- You can do it all in The Crier classifieds. Please call us at 453-6900

AUNT SILVIA can't really be older again!

MARY REPECK is older again. Party Sunday. (30 years older than . . . you figure.)

"PARENTS ARE LIKE CHILDREN, they don't listen." --SALLY REPECK.

Harold -- when are we going to play golf?

Hooray! Michelle is back better than ever.

Tom says he will never lift his head during his golf swings again. P.S. Joy says he better not.

Margaret did it to Jack.

Gary needs 2 more hands & 12 more hours in a day.

Larry says boo Red Wings - so much for sure bets.

RUSS IS LIKE TOM SAWYER: his friends want to move coolers.

LOOK OUT TROUT! May 23 is close!

DIANE HERBRUCK can't hide in the shower in Chicago to avoid her 40th Birthday... the GORILLA KNOWS! (That'll teach you to skip your 7:30am seminar)

Happy Mother's Day Mike (She's not heavy, she's my mother)

Curiosities

Dale needs help - if any of you ladies are done with your Bic throw away razors he could use several of them.

Jack needs all his copy for the next 2 weeks in by Fri. and please buy lots of ads so he can visit his sick mother.

ETHEL BURNS-- Come back! Come back, wherever you are!

SARA CHRISTOPHER goes to "take a daughter to work day" so she can "do lunch" at the Money Tree. (Great job Aunt Sheila)

CONGRATULATIONS CENTRAL girls' swimmers -- winners of the Middle School swim meet.

I vote for the stand-up comic (but have you noticed he always tells them sitting down)

THE CANTON PHILOSOPHER had another birthday.

LOU LaRICHE CHEVROLET had so many people lined up down Plymouth Road Thursday morning-noon, the police closed the road. Congratulations to Ron Chaudoin for such a successful promotion.

TINA JONES lets Tom pay The Crier carrier and give him salesmanship lessons too.

Thanks Ann & World Travel -- I had to get to Fl. quickly & at a good price and you covered my needs in 5 minutes. You're the BEST!

Because of her great job, (Ann) she is not appearing in this weeks paper without a hat.

Carol! Only 13 days to the Big Bash. By the way, AARP is running a special on their membership.

AMERICA'S BUDGET STORAGE 40671 Joy Rd., Canton, MI

Will sell contents of the following units for unpaid rent to the highest sealed bid on May 13, 1993 at 12:01

E4/37 = Cole/Lorraine -- boat, motor, trailer & motor cycle trailer
E11 = Harbin -- rocking chair, dresser, shelves, end tables, fishing equip. etc.

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Swedish Girl 17 -- anxiously awaiting host family. Enjoys sports, music. Other Scandinavian, European high school students arriving August. Call Eileen (517)875-4074 or 1-800-SIBLING.

Why Not Host An Exchange Student? Students from 35 different countries - Scandinavia, South America, Europe, Japan, arriving August. You can make a difference!! AYUSA International 1-800-765-4963.

Sincere Singles, For a free copy call 313-258-4220. Listen and respond to recorded messages of quality suburban Detroit singles. Call 1-900-454-3727 access code 93, \$1.69 per minute.

Romantic Connections for singles in the Metro Detroit area. Record your personal ad free, call 1-800-374-2494. Listen and answer others, call 1-900-776-5002. It's only \$2 per minute.

Allsun & Wolff Tanning Beds New commercial-home units from \$199.00. Lamps-Lotions-Accessories. Monthly payments low as \$18.00. Call today. Free new color catalog. 1-800-462-9197.

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Happy Jack Skin Balm: Promotes healing & hair growth to hot spots on dogs & cats without steroids. Available O-T-C at FARMLAND CO-OPS.

A Doctor Buys Land Contract and gives loans on Real Estate. Immediate service 313-335-6166 or 1-800-837-6166.

Friendly Home Parties now has openings for demonstrators. No cash investment. Part time hours with full time pay. Two catalogs, over 700 items. Call 1-800-488-4875.

Kill Lake Weeds -- Proven marble-sized pellets spread like grass seed. Works effectively at any depth. For facts call 1-800-328-9350. Aquacide Company, 1627 9th Street, Dept. MIC, P.O. Box 10748, White Bear Lake, MN 55110.

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Crier Classifieds

Curiosities

Your message could be here.
Place your curiosity today!

"YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING older when the police chief moving two doors down is a good thing." -- Craig Brass, 1993.

CRAIG - now you have the degree that says you know all things you know you've known all along. Congratulations! - Amy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHIEF. - Love, Liz.

Tracy what's that blinking on your lawn?

Elaine is my friend.

Mike, when are we going to the driving range?

Is it bird or skunk? - L.S.

Becca - let's do lunch

Moms - Visit Big Boy in Canton on Mother's Day for a free carnation!

Wendy - will you miss me when I'm gone?

Monica does great on mirrors! "But I don't do windows!"

Jamie says no lima beans for Mom! Bring Mom to Riffle's Sunday for Mother's Day Brunch 11:00am-3:00pm or dinner 4:00pm-9:00pm.

Jack was measured the other day and came up short.

Emma Rose is a big girl now.

JOYCE FAUST - I hadn't seen you for a long time when we met and it struck me how much you resemble your mother in spirit and have the same lovely look that she had. She would be proud as I am to know you.

JAN B. - You are a ray of sunshine! You lift everybody's spirits!

Isn't it strange? No matter how old I am, I still miss my mother and father as though it was only yesterday that they left.

Steve: Nice to see you at The Crier!

LAST CALL - Send your recipes in for Mr. Vacation's cookbook calendar (next issue is nearly full!)

JACK not only sells you the turkey at Porterhouse, he'll stuff it and cook it, too.

BEAUREGARD eats French fries from the Box Bar, while Elvis eats Pizza from Woolly Bully's.

Rita A. is learning to sew faster & faster & faster.

The Vikings are coming! The Vikings are coming! Get out your fire hoses.

Happy, Happy Birthday to Barb Danskin! How old?! In Sunny Dunellon, Fl. Love - your sister.

D. Do high thighs help your golf game?

EVEN BONNIE AUSTIN, a known seal-hugger, is yelling at the pigeons! P.S. Congratulations on the new addition to your family.

LOOK OUT CROWD at the Kimball Track meet: beware of the flying discus.

MARTHA & DUNBAR - the prayers of all of Plymouth are with you!

Althea got a haircut! Don't believe she will be recognized. After twenty years of the same "Hair do".

ROSE McCLINTOCK & TERRY - Welcome to Plymouth. We can't compete with Cleveland in size, but in "spirit" and "caring" we have them beat all hollow.

I knew Mike was a cut up but a 'tear down'!?

Jack and Karen skip town at the same time?

Curiosities

Newsman winding up the nation. A little bad news helps circulation.

Every once in a while Steve hits what he throws at.

Happy Mother's Day to all the great ladies in the community & not to forget the single dads who cover both roles.

Great hair cut Diane.

MOM ON MELTON: Remember I'll be gone next week.

I got news for ya: my "Christmas" cactus is STILL blooming. Now what?

Is Mike McLaren a computer wizard, or what? Thanks, Mike.

Tom & Donna are looking for a place to rent in Plymouth. We'd love to have you live in our town. Good luck!

"CHICKEN LITTLE", I miss you!

HELEN MERRILL and JUDY SLADE (whose daughter was the best paper person we ever had) were the two people whose names suddenly left me speechless at the DIA when we met at the exhibit. I do apologize!

What a beautiful baby!! Grandma and Grandpa Dazer should be proud!

MEL MECK'S QUICK-WIT response after learning that Dave Pugh spreads dirt around town: "Isn't that The Crier's job?"

Curiosities

NEED TO FIND
A BUSINESS
in Plymouth-Canton
or Northville?

They're listed in your '93 GUIDE! (See pages 131-145 to find all Chamber of Commerce members and other major businesses serving our community.)

Antiques

ANN ARBOR ANTIQUES MARKET - THE BRUSHER SHOW Sunday May 16, 5055 Ann Arbor Saline Road, Exit I-75 off I-94. Over 350 dealers in quality antiques and select collectibles. Admission \$4.00, third Sundays, 25th season, The original!!!

I.N. M.Y. ATTIC. - Lots of fun stuff antiques, jewelry, salts and peppers, cups and saucers, postcards, linens, 2000 Avons, misc. 865 Wing, Plymouth. 455-8970. Wed & Sun. 12-6: Thur., Fri., Sat. 11-6.

Articles for Sale

Plant a tree, save the Earth! Potted evergreens: 1' to 5' \$8 each. Evenings 455-8625.

IT'S TIME FOR SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENTS - and this is the place people look to find someone to do the job! Call 453-6900 to place your ad.

5 bikes: Schwinn, Evans, Huffy, 3-speed, 10-speed. Call 455-6968 or 453-7453.

Articles for Sale

Barn wood for sale. Lots of choice sizes. 595-6251.

Sony stereo, excellent condition, \$250. Oak entertainment center, excellent condition, \$250. Evenings 459-0962.

Apartment for Rent

PRIME DOWNTOWN PLYMOUTH APARTMENT FOR RENT. Available immediately: one of downtown's most desirable one-bedroom locations with unique style in 100-year-old building with deck. \$455 per month plus utilities, one month security. Call Mike, 453-6900.

Plymouth finest one bedroom apartment only \$515. 453-2800.

Downtown Plymouth. One bedroom \$400. 453-2990.

Vacation Rentals

Plan your next vacation on beautiful Norris Lake in the mountains of Tennessee at Deerfield Resort. Rent a modern home on the lake. Pool, tennis, volleyball, miniature golf, and boat rental available. Ask for lot GG#1 1-800-458-8455.

Office Space for Rent

Plymouth Professional offices. 1000 sq. ft. Immediate occupancy. Incentives available. 459-3434.



Employment Market

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"Can you clip a newspaper article?" If so why not turn it into cash. This can be done right from the comfort of your own home. All you need is a newspaper & a pair of scissors. For more details send .75¢ postage & handling to GM Inc. PO Box 5517 Plymouth, MI 48170.

OUTDOOR-TYPE PERSON to assist part-full time with weed control and farm chores. 453-5494.

Girls wanted from MI, between 7-19, to compete in this year's 7th annual 1993 Detroit pageants. Over \$20,000 in prizes and scholarships. Call today 1-800-PAGEANT-ext. 3942 (1-800-724-3268)

Part - time/full - time position available for car cleaning. 459-8088

Help Wanted

Children's Orchard seeks part-time help for customer service. Call 453-4811.

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REAL ESTATE SALES - Position and training available for individual interested in dynamic career with unlimited income potential in lovely Plymouth location. Call Pat Ryan Jr., Coldwell Banker, Schweitzer, 453-6800.

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National publishing firm needs people to label postcards from home. \$800/wk. Set your own hours call 1-900-740-7377 (\$1.49 min/ 18 yrs+) or write: PASSE-C1124, 161 S. Lincolnway, N. Aurora IL 60542.

Full time maintenance person needed for apartment complex. Must have general maintenance skills, experienced only apply. Call 1pm-5pm. Mon-Fri 453-5536.

Warehouse help needed full time. Livonia. Call 458-5200.

Packaging people needed full time, will train. Livonia. Call 458-5200.

Receptionist needed Plymouth area. Must have clear, pleasant voice. Math and typing abilities. Must have own transportation and enjoy working with the public. Call 773-3300 between 9 and 5.

Help Wanted

Responsible teenager willing to babysit evenings, weekends, summer. Call Breona at 420-0571.

Drafters - designers - engineers - meter - mix-dispense - experienced. Send resume and salary history. Engineering Manager P.O. Box 701460 Plymouth, MI 48170.

After school - summer help wanted. Must be at least 16 years old. Apply in person at Main Street Auto Wash. 1191 S. Main, Plymouth.

ATTENTION TEACHERS

Leading educational publisher needs several teachers for interesting summer positions. Fantastic work, flexible hours, exceptional income. Send resume to C. Knapp, 38800 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, MI 48150.

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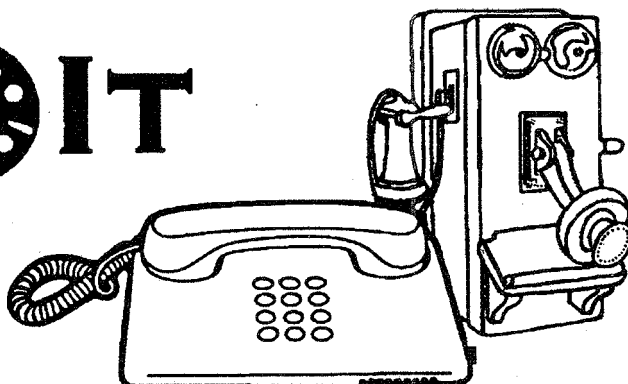
Crier Classifieds

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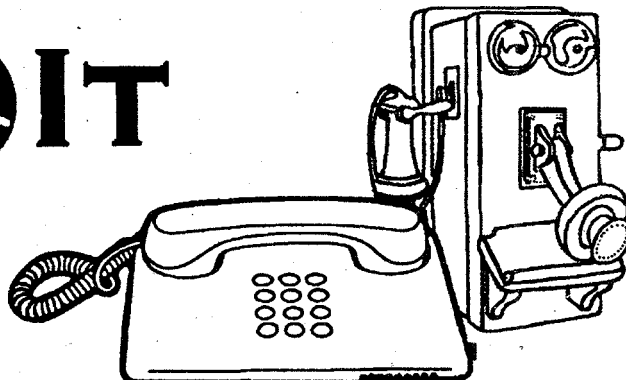
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Community opinions

Shared services redux

Current cutback threat underscores need

Did the city and township of Plymouth and their respective fire unions speak too soon? Based on a letter received by The Crier Monday, the answer certainly appears to be yes.

Just last week, both communities announced they were at an "impasse" over trying to hammer out details that would lead to shared fire protection between the towns, a shared service that would not only improve fire response time, but would also increase the efficiency within each individual department.

Nope, the parties said, we just can't come to terms with the idea. Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen-McCarthy said the problem hinged on staffing levels and the definition of "improvements" in service.

Now let's move forward one week. According to a letter submitted by Jim Haar, president of the Plymouth Township Firefighter Union (which appears on this page), the township is now considering reductions in staffing that could ultimately, he claims, result in the closing of Fire Station No. 3. This possibility is not refuted by Keen-McCarthy.

Of course, some might argue, "how can you miss what has seldom been there?"; the station was built (clock and all), equipped and then left dormant until a part-time crew was finally installed.

But it is that crew at risk — not to mention fire protection for that family or business unlucky enough to run into trouble — that best illustrates the point of calling for renewed efforts in finding a shared service solution. Do we need to wait for tragedy to strike before politicians and labor groups quit quibbling over definitions and numbers?

In fact, isn't the point of shared services to prevent precisely the scenario painted by Mr. Haar? Absolutely. It's designed to keep people living in Plymouth and Plymouth Township safe and secure in their possessions and in their homes, at a cost that could be borne by a larger population.

In short, it's like the classic group insurance policy: the bigger the pool of customers, the more broadly the risk (and the cost) is spread.

It's time for the city and township to pull out Economics 101, think about that tragedy waiting to happen and get back to the table. Not next month or next week, but now.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Reminder:

An open meeting is just that — open to all

The time has come to remind Mayor Robert Jones the meaning behind "open meeting."

It means that the meeting is open; open to any member of the public to attend, comment on and even to criticize, according to the commission's own rules.

Mayor Jones failed to remember this last Thursday when a resident waited through a five hour meeting to comment on a posted agenda item.

The citizen had comments and sought to be recognized to voice her opinions. But Jones ignored her.

The special meeting of the City Commission was called Thursday to discuss two things: the budget and the performance appraisal for the city attorney. Although it could also be argued that placing an agenda item for 10 p.m. on Thursday isn't really in the spirit of openness, it was a legally posted meeting.

The citizen, also an attorney, had a working relationship with the city attorney and said she had special insight regarding his performance.

By denying her the right to speak, the mayor made a terrible mistake.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Union president says Township fire cutbacks will hamper efforts

EDITOR:

The Plymouth Township administration is contemplating reducing the number of firefighter/EMTs currently staffing the township's three fire stations. These staffing reductions would facilitate the closing of one of the fire stations as an attempt to bridge a budget gap.

If this were to become a reality, the residents and community would suffer by:

- 1) Longer response times for fires and medical emergencies.
- 2) Fewer firefighters on duty to respond to emergencies.
- 3) Equipment and fire stations left unmanned.
- 4) Higher instances of small fires becoming large, uncontrollable ones.
- 5) Greater chance for loss of

life.

You will need to make your voice heard on this issue. Your lives and your property would be placed in jeopardy.

Public safety is a vital service and should be the highest priority of the Plymouth Township administration.

Call the township board (and/or) attend the township board meeting on May 11 and voice your concern.

Should public safety be put on the block as a discretionary program?

Support your firefighters so we can be there to help you and your family in time of need.

JIM HAAR
PRESIDENT
PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP
FIREFIGHTERS

With malice toward none

By W. EDWARD WENDOVER



Get involved!

It's time to get behind a candidate for City Commission — or become one yourself

City voters arise!

With the deadline for the City Commission race two weeks from yesterday, there's still time to get on the ballot. All you need to do is see City Clerk Linda Langmesser in her new office hidden at 201 S. Main St., get a petition and then get 25 registered voters to sign on before returning the completed petitions by 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 18.

You say you don't want to run?

Then get behind these folks who say they will run:

Thomas Prose, Stella Greene, Richard Arlen, David McDonald, Mike Caffery, Rosita Smith and Ron Loiselle.

Or get pushing on these two incumbents who say they're unsure: John Vos and Doug Miller. (Incumbent Jim Jabara can't seek another term under the City Charter's two-term limitation.)

Or, call these folks and urge them to run: Fred Hill, Phil Pursell, Russ Webster, Betsy Volaric, Jean Morrow, Ed Ochal, Bob Mundt, Judy Morgan, Marda Benson, Sharon Pugh, Niles Beaugrand, Lita Popke, David Schaff, Steve Ragan, Sally Repeck, Jack Wilcox, Bill Leonard, Geneva Guenther, Terry Bixler, Dennis Nisch, Jack Kenyon, Larry Bird, Scott Lorenz, Jeff Horton, Sue Voyles, Mark Hyland, Tom Webber, Jack Coxford, Paul Nastoff, John Bida, Jan Olson, Ken Vogras, Fred Beitner, Joan Gerigk, or Hugh Harsha.

Surely, you can convince one or more of them to take up the challenge.

Or just do it yourself.



Community opinions

Proposal A

It's neither the best plan, nor even a good start

Hello P-C,
Don't like it, won't support it.

Yep, Gov. Engler's strange Proposal A will be going down in flames in my household next month — well, I can't speak for my wife, but I think we agree.

And why, Proposal A, do I hate thee?

Let me count the ways:

First, contrary to all the publicity surrounding this proposal, it doesn't address the structural problems inherent in our public education system.

Second, if you look closely as to when the sales tax increase takes effect (July) and when the assessment rollback takes effect (October), you're looking at a three-month net tax increase.

Third, sales tax isn't deductible on my federal income tax return; property tax is.

Fourth, the two Detroit dailies support the proposal by saying, in essence, that it's a step in the right direction or at least better than nothing. It is neither.

Fifth, anything Lansing comes up with is, by its very nature, suspect.

Of these points, let me dwell on two:

•That Proposal A doesn't address the structural problems inherent in our public education system.

•That Proposal A is not a step in the right direction and is certainly not better than nothing.

For more than 17 years I've covered education at the community level; I've covered "rich" districts, like Grosse Ile, relatively "rich" districts, like Plymouth-Canton (yes, you are), and "poor" districts, like Ecorse.

And in all that time, you know what I haven't seen? A difference.

I don't care if the child is from Plymouth or River Rouge, it's a child needing an education; I don't care if the parents are from Grosse Ile or Detroit, they want the best education possible for their kids.

I don't care if it's Gibraltar or Livonia, the teachers are trying to do the best they can; I don't care if it's Allen Park or Highland Park, school boards are looking to provide the best education money can buy.

Yet, we all know there is a difference: the amount of money available to be spent on a child's education.

And why is that? Why should a geopolitical line in the sand doom some Michigan children and bless others?

I always found it fascinating during the '80s, when Americans were wringing their hands over the low performance levels of American children compared to their Japanese counterparts.

"Why are American schools coming up short?" Magazine cover after magazine cover blared the accusation.

My response? "Excuse me, but which American schools are you talking about? — we have more than 500 different school systems in Michigan alone, and Michigan's only one of 50 different states!"

Is Ecorse coming up short? Yep.

Plymouth-Canton? I'm not so sure.

But the point is that at no time has any politician addressed the actual structural problems of public education funding in America — or, for the sake of this discussion, in Michigan.

Instead, we consistently are driven off target by politicians who coat this issue with a completely irrelevant one of property assessments.

Property assessments per se, you see, aren't the problem: The problem is that such assessments are determined on otherwise completely arbitrary (but historical) geopolitical boundaries called counties, cities and townships that then help create other arbitrary boundaries called school districts.

Gatekeeping

By Craig Farrand



And what does this system get you?

•Monroe County's Airport School District reaps all the property tax benefit from Edison's Fermi Nuclear Power Plant. But all I get is an emergency evacuation plan in my bill about every third month. Why? Because I live within sight of the plant, but just outside the district.

•Plymouth-Canton stands to lose when Highland Appliance shuts its headquarters, but it won't much bother Livonia.

•Auburn Hills will gain, but Highland Park will be the loser from Chrysler's move out of the city.

My point? The issue isn't how assessments are calculated at the district or community level — and then how the related taxes go to support local education.

The issue is why the state's entire economic tax base — industrial, commercial, retail and utility — isn't pooled to provide statewide educational funding on a per-capita basis?

Sound radical? Nope.

Again, consider my complaint about Proposal A — that it is not better than nothing: The proposal actually includes precisely such a "pool" provision in a limited form:

Proposal A would take the additional 2 cents in sales tax collected from across the state, pool and redistribute it; people buying gum in Marquette will be paying for P-C kids' education.

Likewise, the proposal would take statewide revenues from the lottery, pool and redistribute it; a bettor in Plymouth will be supporting Ecorse education.

In addition, Proposal A also includes a per capita redistribution of the sales tax and lottery proceeds — but the governor calls it a "grant."

Proposal A a good start? Only if it was still in the talking stages and not on a June 2 ballot — it's got a long way to go.

My plan: Pool all state agricultural, industrial, commercial and retail property taxes (taxed at statewide millage rates different for each category and indexed by prevailing real estate market prices) and redistribute the money on a per capita basis — and only then allow for local millages applied to personal property.

(By the way, this plan has a hidden advantage: It would kill the cutthroat competition and movement of business directly related to tax abatements. Ask Willow Run about that one!)

This plan would in no way eliminate the individual character of existing school districts or local towns, but it would finally put the children of Michigan ahead of any one parochial notion of superiority or isolationism.

In fact, it reminds me of the oil filter commercial: pay me now or pay me later.

Either we come to grips with educating *all* our children now — not just the ones who happen to live nearby — or we're going to pay to support those adults 20 years from now when their opportunities are gone.

Funny, isn't it: We provide identical social services to Michigan residents regardless of where they live — reactive medicine — but we can't do the same for our children — proactive medicine.

It's time to quit taking the double talk out of Lansing and demand something better — no, something superior.

Proposal A is neither.

The Community Crier



THE
NEWSPAPER
WITH ITS
HEART IN THE
PLYMOUTH-
CANTON COMMUNITY

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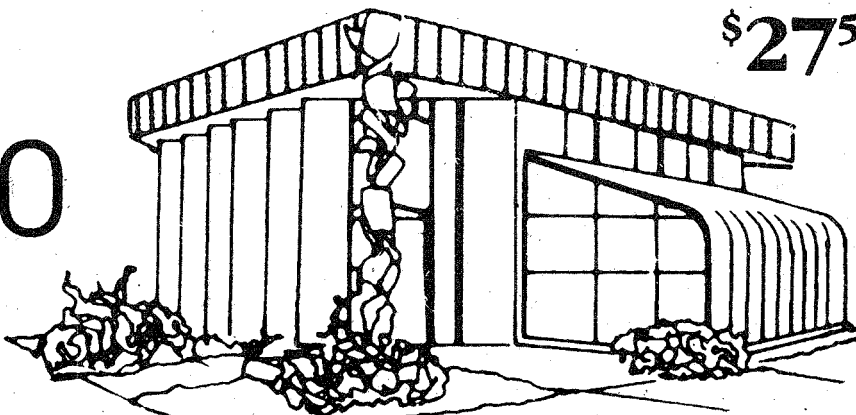
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