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The Community Crier

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

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August 7, 1996

Edwards upsets Brooks in Twp.

BY BRIAN CORBETT AND JANET ARMSTRONG

The surprise of the 1996 primary elections came courtesy of Ron Edwards, in the form of an upset victory over Republican incumbent Mary Brooks for Plymouth Township Treasurer.

Unofficial totals show Edwards with 1,691 votes and Brooks with 1,535.

Edwards, a CPA who owns a private accounting firm in Novi, campaigned to unseat Brooks citing his accounting strengths against unfavorable Plymouth

Township audit recommendations for the past three years.

In a post-election interview Edwards said he was thrilled with the win.

"It feels fantastic," he said. "How do you thank all your supporters?"

"My kids were going door-to-door asking people to go vote for their dad," he said with a tired grin.

Edwards immediate election-night plans included getting some much needed rest, he said.

"I put a lot of energy into this (the



CRIER ELECTION COVERAGE

campaign). I lost 34 pounds from the beginning of this campaign up until five o'clock tonight (Tuesday)," said Edwards. "Now it's time to go to sleep,

believe me folks."

Edward's victory brings an end to 23 years of Township service by Brooks, including 12 years as Treasurer.

"I'm fine," said Brooks. "I will have more time for my family and my husband, Bob, now."

"All of the people at the Township Hall have strongly supported me and I've had 23 years of enjoyment," she said. "I'm grateful for that."

Brooks added that the loss did come as a bit of a shock.

"I was surprised," she said. "But when you run a smear campaign it's hard to beat you. I think it will be interesting to see how he (Edwards) relates to the Treasurer's Office and the Township Board."

Since there is no Democratic opponent challenging Edwards for the Treasurer's job, he is almost assured of a November election. Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy, who had backed Brooks, credited Edwards' victory with grass roots campaigning. "Ron worked really hard with a lot of door-to-door campaigning. It was obviously a very close race."

City Commission approves Mayflower tax gift proposal

City waives hotel's \$50,000 debt; owner approval awaits

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER

Despite citizen comments overwhelmingly to the contrary, the Plymouth City Commission voted, 5-2, to waive \$50,000 in taxes, interest and penalties for the Mayflower Hotel.

The tax gift was part of a proposed package to rewrite the agreement between the City and the hotel, which leases "air rights" over the Weidman Parking Lot.

Since the agreement proposed to the City Commissioners was amended at Monday's meeting, it was not clear whether the changes would meet with the approval of the Mayflower's owners. The owners, Matt and Keith Karmo, did not attend Monday's meeting and did not return phone calls Tuesday.

Under the amended motion approved Monday, a final agreement must come back to the City Commission for final approval, said City Attorney Donald Morgan.

The proposal approved Monday with Commissioners Dennis Shrewsbury and Joe Koch opposing, calls for:

•Waiver of \$14,492 penalties and interest on the Mayflower II.

•Adjustment of delinquent personal property taxes for 1993-95, plus waiver of \$5,215 interest and penalties.



Avia Powell announces her support for the Mayflower's tax gift at Monday night's City Commission meeting.

(Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

•Cancellation of delinquent property taxes on the combined Mayflower Meeting House and Mayflower Hotel (now owned separately) plus waiver of accumulated interest and penalties of \$30,748.

•The hotel owners must complete the mortgage agreement they have secured, apply for a building permit by Nov. 30 and continue to operate the facility as a hotel and restaurant for at least three years from the date of completed renovation.

•In the event the owners decide to sell the hotel, the owners can give the City secret notice of at least 90 days and that the owners will consider buyer recommended to them by the City.

•Four 10-year renewal options replace the current two renewal options.

•The purchase of the Weidman Lot by the hotel would be \$144,000 plus the \$50,456 tax gift amount. It was this point that was amended by a 6 to 1 vote Monday (Shrewsbury opposed) on a motion made by Commissioner Don Dismuke. (Originally, the proposal from City Manager Steve Walters set the amount at the \$125,000 past lease agreements called for.)

Mayor Pro Tem John Vos questioned whether the hotel's former bankruptcy or a

Please see pg. 3



Ron Edwards takes a breather last night after learning he was elected Plymouth Township Treasurer. (Crier Photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Artrageous

Plymouth festival is growing
See Friends & neighbors pg. 6

Olympians

Special Olympics in Canton

See Sports pgs. 20-21

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Continental offers Internet access to P-C Schools

BY BRIAN CORBETT

The Plymouth-Canton School District will have Internet access via cable modems free of charge, compliments of Continental Cablevision, the company's corporate affairs department announced recently.

Sometime during the 1996-97 school year, the high speed data services will be introduced to every consenting elementary and secondary schools passed by cable in its service area. "Besides free cable, we provide training to teachers with materials, and we provide them with everything to help them integrate the education program that runs on cable," said Bill Black, director of corporate affairs for Continental Cablevision.

The educational initiative is part of a nationwide effort, and is not a result of the heated battle for customers between Continental and Ameritech, who entered the Plymouth-Canton-Northville cable television market last year. "This is something we're doing nationally. It has nothing to do with Ameritech or anything like that," said Black.

In fact, "Cable's High Speed Education Connection" is just the latest step in a seven year commitment to public and state-accredited private schools, which includes free cable service and materials, enabling teachers to take advantage of "Cable in the Classroom" — commercial-free, educational programming.

"We have consistently provided support to the schools since 1989, when we publicly made a commitment to education with "Cable in the Classroom." Continental Cablevision is proud of this latest educational initiative," Black said. "The goal of Continental's new generation technology is to empower our customers to do things they never thought they could do. Our cable technology will help students and teachers explore a whole new world of information, including faster access to new products and services with capabilities and values unmatched by any other telecommunications provider of technology."

Most noticeable, Black said, is the downloading process. "The best part of this program, besides the free equipment, we feel, is the speed involved," he said.

A file that previously required 90 minutes to download over a standard telephone will require just 20 seconds on Continental's system.

Plymouth Republicans head to Grand Old Party in San Diego

BY PATRICK WILSON

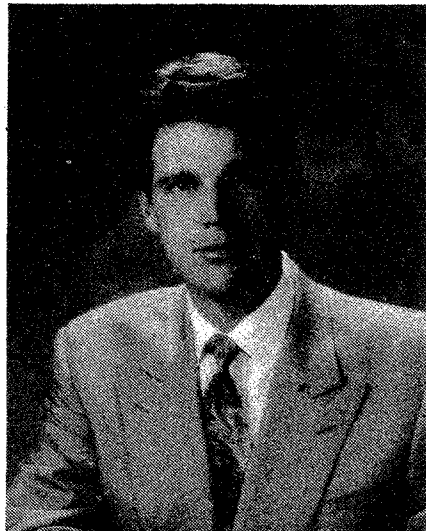
Plymouth's David Brandon and Steve Ragan are traveling to San Diego for a Grand Old Party.

So are another 50,000 people, who are expected in San Diego next week for the Republican National Convention. And if Bob Dole becomes the nation's next president, Brandon and Ragan will be one of the thousands of Republicans who helped.

Brandon, 44, an executive and vice chairman of the CMU Board of Trustees, is one of three delegates to the convention from the 13th Congressional district and a solid Dole supporter.

Ragan, 30, is an alternate delegate to the Aug. 12-15 convention. He said alternate delegates are important to this year's convention. If a delegate is unable to attend the convention or can't make a vote there, an alternate will.

"The best thing about alternates is you really get all the same access as a delegate," the Dole supporter, Ragan, said. "It gives people more access to the



Plymouth Township resident David Brandon is a delegate to the Republican National convention in San Diego next week.

convention." Brandon said the convention is of utmost importance to the party and success of Dole's candidacy, and he plans

to take his role as delegate seriously.

"It's a learning opportunity for me as well as a way for me to make a further contribution to the party," said Brandon. "We've got to come out of that convention with a battle plan that's well thought out and puts us in a position to beat Bill Clinton."

Dole will tighten the race after the convention, Brandon said, and isn't overly concerned about Clinton's double digit lead in national polls.

"I think the bounce he'll get from the convention is going to be substantial," he said.

America will become more familiar with Dole and begin focusing on the election more after the convention, said Brandon, president and CEO of Valassis Communications, Inc.

Brandon has worked for about 18 years at the printing and publishing company, which has 1,300 employees and does about \$650 million in annual sales. He also sits on the board of trustees at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia. He graduated from U of M in 1974 with a degree in speech communication.

Brandon's GOP involvement includes precinct delegate and his current position as finance chairman for the Michigan Republican Party.

Brandon believes Dole's May resignation from the Senate proves he's a serious contender.

"He's not screwing around. He's totally committed to this race," said Brandon.

Like Ragan, Brandon wants Dole to push for a flatter income tax rate. Dole did not propose a flat-tax, but rather a \$548 billion income tax cut.

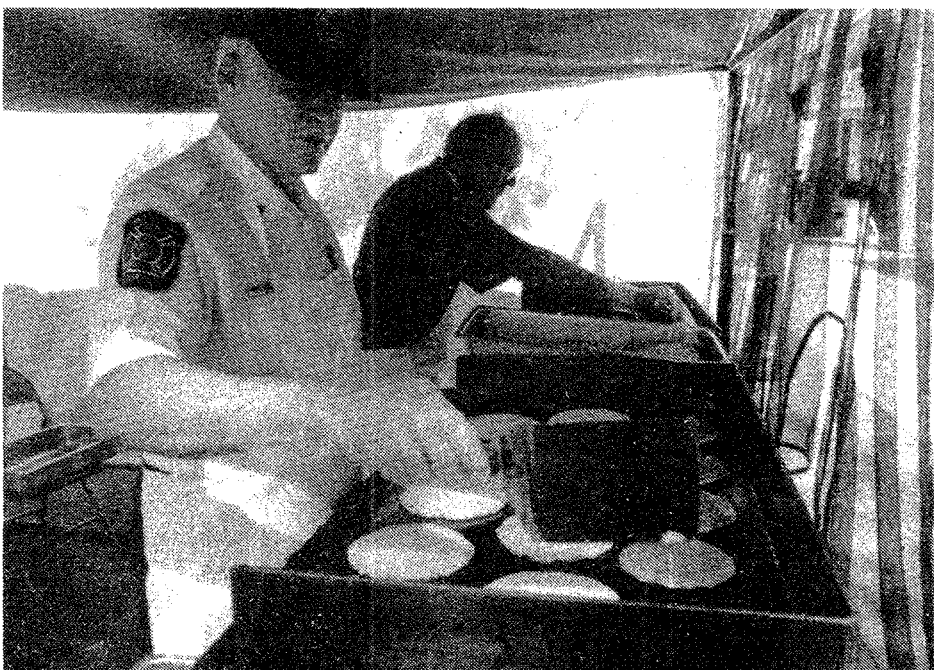
"The American people are overtaxed like crazy," Brandon said. "Those dollars are being squandered by a lot of people who don't have a lot of respect for the people who earned (them)."

Gov. John Engler would not only make a good vice president, but also a great president, Brandon said. But he said he will support Dole's decision, whoever the choice is.

Ragan is the director of capital campaigns at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor and was formerly the director of EMU capital funding campaigns.

He graduated from U of M in 1989.

Flapjack Flippin'



Plymouth Community Assistant Fire Chief Al Matthews lends a hand, and his culinary skills during Saturday morning's D.A.R.E. Pancake Breakfast, held in conjunction with the Side Walk Sales. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Commissioners approve Mayflower tax gift

Continued from pg. 1

renewed bankruptcy would lessen the City's chances to collect back taxes. Morgan said it's impossible to know.

"It's hard for me to justify this," Koch said. "Knowing full well the taxes were owed, they (the hotel owners) proceeded. I'd be hard-pressed to give this to them and not give it to another corporation."

As Koch questioned the proposal, at one point Commissioner Doug Miller interrupted to answer a question, and Koch replied, "No. Wait until I'm done." Much of the commission discussion was Koch raising concerns, Miller attempting to keep the proposal headed to passage. Koch later attempted to amend the proposal

but his motion died for lack of support.

"We don't need to be involved," Koch said.

"It's smart to do it from an investment standpoint over time," Miller replied. "You voted for other tax abatements," he said to Koch.

Shrewsbury said, "There are a lot of people struggling with taxes, my hats are off to them. I'm opposed to this philosophical." A number of citizens — including one Mayflower employee — spoke to the issue. (See pg. 23 for most of their comments.)

After the commissioners debated the issue and the amendment, Miller said, "In this modified form, this is the fair thing to do." The Mayflower tax gift proposal was one of seven such tax gift requests received before Monday's Commission meeting.

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- The Canton Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly luncheon today. For more information, call 453-4040.
- The Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department will show "Pochontas" at dusk tomorrow at the Central Middle School Playground, next to the Plymouth Cultural Center. The cost for adults is \$3, and children are \$1.50. For more information, call 455-6620.

THE WEEKEND

- The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce Farmers Market is scheduled for Saturday morning from 7a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Gathering in downtown Plymouth.
- Ursula Walker and Buddy Budson will appear Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Plymouth Community Arts Council building, 744 Sheldon Rd. Tickets are \$12.50 and may be purchased at the Plymouth Guitar Gallery and Francis Jewelry Gallery. For more information, call 416-4278.

NEXT WEEK

- The Canton Board of Trustees have a meeting Tuesday at 7 p.m.

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The Fall Bridal Guide is coming — Aug. 14. Call 453-6900 for advertising information.

Here comes the Chief

Canton resident Lawrence Nunn named Chief of Staff at Boys National

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Lawrence Nunn wasn't quite satisfied with being named governor of Boys' State from a field of 800 high school students earlier this summer, earning him the right to attend Boys' National in Washington D.C. recently.

Nunn, a Canton resident who will be a senior at Salem High School this fall, ran for president of the national high school simulated government setting

that includes all the politicking and spin-doctoring done by the actual senators and representatives.

He was defeated in his presidential bid, but was named chief of staff. "He's a good kid. He did very, very well," said Nunn's father, Larry.

"He was a little upset, because he felt he could have done a better job than the person who won. Nevertheless, we're proud of him."

"I was really excited, and a little disappointed. But it was definitely still exciting. After the disappointment, I had a lot of fun," said Nunn.

Boys' Nation, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary, is the program that allowed President Bill Clinton to meet his boyhood idol, then-President John F. Kennedy.

Nunn, who met Clinton as part of the Boys National program, is optimistic his fate will be the same.

"I'd like to be a senator one day, and then maybe run for president," said Nunn.

Don't underestimate him — he is, already, Chief of Staff and Gov. Nunn.

Those titles are the result of spending a week at Michigan State University earlier this summer, and 10 days in the nation's capital creating and experiencing government at city, county and state legislature levels.

"I got to see how government was supposed to work, and how it really works," he said.

Nunn helped form city, county and national positions and participated in conventions for the Nationalist and Federalist parties. "It was a good experience," said Nunn.

"I saw some of the wheeling and dealing that takes place on the floor with delegates at the conventions."

The rallies followed. Nunn surprised no one by setting his sites high and running for governor and president.

He was successful as a gubernatorial candidate, but he lost in his presidential bid.

"I put everything I had into winning. I had prepared for months," he said. "I figured if I didn't win, there was nothing more I could've done."

His political platform focused on education, welfare reform and the environment. And what does this young reformer have in mind? Rewarding students who perform community service, have an exemplary grade point average and no criminal record with funding for college.

The plan won over the crowd in Michigan, but a rival Nationalist party candidate was nominated in Washington D.C.

So Nunn switched his allegiance to the Federalist party, and coached the nominee through the debate.

"I helped him out with the debate and told him a few things to say, and he went out there and ripped it up," said Nunn, who was rewarded for his help by being named chief of staff.

It's the culmination of a politically active life for Nunn, who is also a successful athlete.

"Being politically aware is just another part of being patriotic. The people who complain to the government, I guess you could say, get what they want," he said. "It's the classic case of the squeaky wheel gets the grease."

And Nunn plans on making a lot of noise in the future. He wants to continue his political career after attending law school at one of the nation's military academies. "He has a knack for it," said Larry. "It's pretty much a priority for him."



Public notices

PUBLIC NOTICE


The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its regular monthly meeting Tuesday, August 20, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. at 705 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following:

Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary
Plymouth District Library
705 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
313-453-0750

Publish: Aug. 7, 1996

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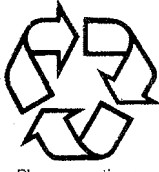
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Law beats Vorva again; McCotter wins

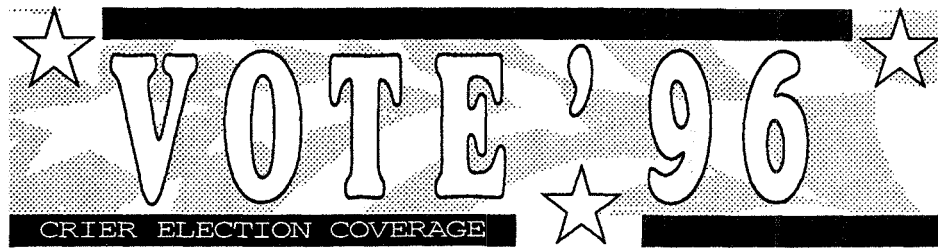
Law defeats familiar rival; McCotter takes every community from eager opponent

BY BRIAN CORBETT AND THE CRIER STAFF
There weren't many surprises in yesterday's primary elections. As expected, voter turnout was low and several incumbents won the right to do the same routine all over again Nov. 5 — the general election.

The shocker came in Plymouth Township, where long-time Plymouth Township Treasurer Mary Brooks lost to Ron Edwards in the Republican run off. Incumbents fared much better in the 10th County Commission District and the 20th House District.

Wayne County Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter won handily — 7,835 to 4,204 — despite the aggressive campaign waged by Jeff Schroder, a former GOP precinct delegate and campaign manager for State Rep. Deborah Whyman.

And State Rep. Gerald Law, a Township resident, defeated Jerry Law — 6,503 to 3,805 — securing a return visit to the November general election where he will face a challenge from Deborah Hoadley. Law convincingly defeated Vorva, his same opponent in the 1994 Republican primary. The State Representative won in all four communities, including the City — Vorva home turf. "That was a moral victory," Law said, who credited a family-run campaign and his commitment to local legislative issues for his victory. "The last two years, I've been working hard to do a good job. I've worked on a lot of important local legislation," he said. "I've worked with my constituents — it pays off." McCotter also swept every community — the City, Township, the Northvilles and part of Livonia — against his opponent. With the victory, McCotter will run for re-election against Democratic challenger R. Karl Burnett.



Primary winner



To the Victor's goes... a kiss from mom. Wayne County Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter receives a celebratory kiss from his mom, Joan McCotter — Livonia Clerk — after last night's primary victory. McCotter celebrated Idyl Wyld Golf Course. McCotter's 7,835 votes were enough to defeat Jeff Schroder and his 4,204 votes (totals were unofficial at press time.) McCotter swept every community in the primary election — earning him the right to face Democratic challenger R. Karl Burnett in the November general election. McCotter, a Livonia resident, defeated Schroder, a Northville resident, in Plymouth Township by an unofficial tally of 1,873 to 1,016 — a margin of 857 votes.

Other elections:

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER AND MATT HUCAL

Yesterday's elections might have been basically boring in The Plymouth-Canton Community, but not so in the neighboring townships.

In Northville Township, Karen Woodside narrowly edged Robert Grant — by 1,308 to 1,246 in the Republican race. Since there is no Democratic candidate, Woodside is virtually assured to be Northville Township's next supervisor.

She'll succeed the Karen Baja stormy regime although Baja backed her candidacy. In deciding not to run again for supervisor, Baja sought a Republican trustee spot — but ran fifth of five candidates.

Woodside, an assistant Wayne County prosecutor, made a notable run for judge of the 35th District Court two years ago.

In other Northville Township races, Clerk Sue Hillebrand easily beat Christopher Schultz 1,839 to 711. Richard Henningsen bested Gini Britton 1,362 to 1,068 in the treasurer's race. Both races had no Democrats running.

The four trustees elected — Mark Abbo, William Selinsky, Marv Gans and Russell Fogg — face a single Democrat in November, Shirley Klockenga.

Salem Township Democratic incumbent Supervisor Donald Riddering came close, but lost in his primary as he ran to be elected after a two year appointment. Thomas Homrich defeated him by a vote of 100 to 94.

Homrich meets Republican winner and Salem Township Trustee Michael Penn in the November election for the supervisor seat. Penn beat out Northville Police Chief Rodney Cannon and Salem Township Office Manager Marie Sherry.

The incumbent clerk of Salem, Republican Marcia Van Fossen, won 368 to 317 in her bid for re-election over Linda Hamilton.

Another incumbent winning in a re-election was Salem Treasurer Richard Rhinehart. He defeated fellow Republican William Remski by a vote of 340 to 320.

In the Salem trustee race, which finished very close, incumbent William Baxter will stay in his position and will welcome Joel Dunlap, who takes over for supervisor hopeful Penn. Dunlap received 409 votes, Baxter had 342 votes and Christina Hamilton failed to find a seat although she came close to knocking Baxter out with 330 votes.

The clerk, treasurer and trustee



Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Michael James Duffy of Plymouth was named to the dean's list at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for the spring semester.

Shannon Wirth of Canton made the dean's list and honor roll and earned a certificate of merit in research and writing at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing. She is the daughter of Carol and Richard Wirth of Canton.

The American Legion Post 391 of Plymouth served as honor guard for the opening ceremonies of the 1996 USSSA Girls World Championship Softball Tournament on July 25 at the Canton Softball Center.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Steven A. Edford, son of Gregory and Rita J. Edford of Plymouth, recently participated in a 17-day multinational exercise aboard the U.S. Sixth Fleet flagship, USS LaSalle. Steven is a 1991 graduate of Salem High School.

St. Mary Hospital employees were recently honored for their service during a ceremony at Schoolcraft College's Waterman Center. The awards went to: Betty Barker and Shirley Tevis of Plymouth for 30 years; Elizabeth Carnahan and Emogene Rogers of Canton for 25 years; Mary Blaszkiewicz, Linda Cheek, Deborah McLaughlin and Aurelia Piotrowski of Plymouth and Doris Emery of Canton for 20 years; Patricia Aho and Robert Carefelle of Canton and Nancy McDonald, Deborah Meck and Robert Woodfield of Plymouth for 15 years; and Carole Brooks and Joann McCray of Canton for 10 years.

William Betera III of Plymouth was named to the dean's list at Huron University in Huron, SD for the spring semester.

Donald S. Miller, a Canton High School graduate who will enter Albion College this fall, received a Webster Scholarship. The Webster Scholarship is given to students who are in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class. Donald is the son of Jonathan and Bonnie Miller of Plymouth.

Brian J. Drummond and Nancy O'Keefe of Canton and Christine Theresa Ervin and Michelle M. Mandell of Plymouth were named to the dean's list of Siena Heights College for the spring semester.

Art and Image

Plymouth is Artrageous has grown from a small, local event to a region-wide art walk

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

In its first two years of existence, the "Plymouth is Artrageous" festival has grown and changed.

As Artrageous heads for its third year, scheduled for Sept. 27-29, organizers said the annual art walk through downtown Plymouth will be bigger and better than ever.

"We wanted to showcase Plymouth to residents and friends," said Artrageous Chairperson Annette Horn, owner of Native West Gallery. "We wanted to let people know that Plymouth has a cultural awareness — an art awareness — in its business district."

The focus of Artrageous is on the creation of the art itself, said Horn. The artists showcased will actually be in downtown galleries. "The idea is to expose the techniques of the artists to the public — to actually show how the work is created."

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

While some high school kids spend their summer skateboarding or working part-time jobs, Kelly Moore of Plymouth has an important internship in the medical field.

Moore, a 10th grader at Canton High School, is spending her summer volunteering in the surgical department at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Ann Arbor.

Moore and 25 other young men and women are part of the VAMC's Summer Youth Volunteer Program. Now in its second year, the program matches a student volunteer with an employee mentor in a one-to-one work environment, promoting training, teamwork and personal development skills.

Moore said she knows her job is important — and even though she just turned 15, she takes her work very seriously.

"They treat me like an adult," she said. "But I had to show them I'm responsible."

Moore actually attends surgeries, although she just watches. After the surgery is complete, Moore works in the recovery



Former Canton High School students Josh Tolbert and Denice Burns created sidewalk murals as part of last year's Plymouth is Artrageous art walk. (Crier photo by Janet Armstrong)

So far, 10 artists have committed to the event. Some of those nationally-known artists featured will be: Hopi kachina carver Michael Kahe at Native West Gallery; photographer Maureen Electa Monte at Frameworks; painter Ruth Ann Mersino at Creative Framing and Gallery; and animation artists Nick Pritula and Steve Stanchfield at Animation Station.

"Student artwork from the local high schools will also be featured," Horn said. "We wanted to give them that experience of having their work in a gallery."

Although their works will be shown in galleries throughout the weekend, the student artists will be showcased on Sunday afternoon. Students will once again create chalk murals Friday. The winner of the juried mural contest will be given \$100. The mural event is sponsored by the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

"The murals are all part of the event," Horn said. "People will be walking on the

art, hearing the musicians and talking to the artists and students in the galleries.

This year, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the automobile, Artrageous will feature car designs from Center for Creative Studies students. Also, several local automobile dealers will feature their most "artful" automobiles.

"It's a great event not only for those participating, but also for residents and other downtown businesses."

The cost of Artrageous is picked-up by the participating galleries, although Horn said donations from other area businesses help cover the cost of the roving musicians and printing.

Participating Artrageous galleries include: Animation Station, Chameleon Gallery, Creative Framing and Gallery, Frameworks, Francis Jewelry Gallery, Gabriela's, Native West Gallery, Penniman Showcase, Wild Wings Gallery and the PCAC.

Classroom to operating room

Canton student volunteers for surgical department at Ann Arbor VA hospital

room hooking-up patients to EKG machines and other monitors.

She said the volunteer work is helping her decide her future. "When I went into this," Moore said, "I really liked engineering. I also liked medicine. I found I could mix the two in biomedical engineering."

The students spend three mornings a week at the medical center, providing support in a variety of services, including research, nursing, occupational therapy, information resources management and several others.

Getting into the program is highly competitive — each student must complete an application and go through an interview, then wait to find out if they "got the job." Once accepted, the youth volunteers are placed in one of the various VA Medical Center departments, based on interests listed during the application process. Each student is assigned a mentor, who teaches the teenager about his or her job at the medical center. The students work a minimum of 15 hours per week assisting the mentors with both clerical work and patient interaction.

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The
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Vol. 23 No. 2a

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February 15, 1996 SPECIAL EDITION

Fire guts Plymouth apartment building

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE
An apartment house on Penniman Avenue was completely destroyed as flames ripped through the building early this morning.
All five adults in the building at the time of the fire, which broke out at approximately 4:51 a.m., escaped with their lives — but with little else.

Darin Bosak, who moved into the building on 870 Penniman Ave. just three weeks ago, said everything he owned was in the apartment.
"Besides the few handfuls of clothes I could grab, all I had was in that apartment," he said. "I don't know what I'm going to do now."

Plymouth Community Fire Chief Larry Groth said the fire was spotted by a Plymouth Police officer making regular patrols coming out of the peak of the house," he said. "I think those people (in the building) are very lucky he did."

Groth said the fire started in the attic area of the house — a house believed to be built in the 1860s. Since the fire was above the living area, he said the fire detectors would not have caught the smoke.
By the time the fire department arrived — just a few minutes after the fire started — the roof of the house was fully engulfed in flames.

Firefighters battled the 30-foot flames, along with frigid temperatures for more than an hour with ground hoses and aerial equipment before the fire was under control.
"This fire is what we call an 'all call general alarm,'" Groth said. "We had the entire fire department out here — all full time and part time."

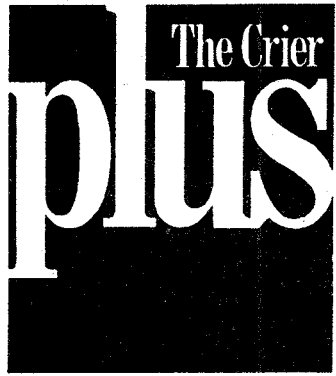
Groth said the exact cause of the fire is unknown, but an investigation would begin when all the "hot spots" were extinguished.
The Salvation Army was at the scene soon after the fire began and according to Salvation Army Disaster Services Team Director Ross Meyers, food, clothing and shelter will be provided to the residents of the building.

"We want to get them settled and see if they need food or clothing right away," Meyers said. "We will also provide accommodations for any of the residents that need it at a local motel."
"Tragedies like this are never easy. We've seen tornadoes, fire, floods — it's never easy."

By the time the fire department arrived at the scene, the apartment on Penniman Avenue was engulfed in flames. (Crier photos by R. Alwood Jr. and Rob Kirkbride)



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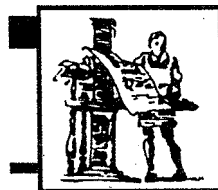
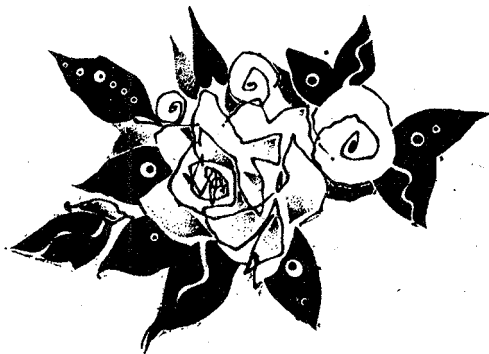
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Schools...

NEW MORNING SCHOOL SUMMER MATH CAMP

Aug. 12-16. Ages seven to 11. For more information, call Marilyn at 420-3331.

WAYNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE FALL REGISTRATION

Aug. 19-24 registration for the fall semester. The western campus is located in Belleville at 9555 Haggerty Rd. For more information, call 699-0200.

YOUNG MOMENTS PRESCHOOL

Fall 1996 vacancies for four-year-olds girl in our afternoon classes (M-W-F 12:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.; T-TH 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.) Children must be four-years-old by Sept. 1. For more information, call 453-3020 or 451-1895.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING DAY CHANGED

Regular meetings of the Plymouth-Canton School Board will now be held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. (except on the fourth Tuesday in December and the fourth Tuesday in May) at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 Harvey St. in downtown Plymouth. During the school year, fourth Tuesday meetings may be moved to school sites.

ACADEMY APPLICATIONS

Nov. 1 is the deadline for men and women between the ages of 17 and 22 (by July 1996) to submit applications to one of the U.S. Service Academies to U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers. Application forms and full information may be obtained by writing Congresswoman Rivers, 3716 Newberry, Wayne, MI 48184. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, unmarried and legal residents of the 13th District.

FREE SUMMER SESSION FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

The P-C Schools Infant and Preschool Special Education Program is providing free summer services to parents of special needs children. Infants to five-years-old. Aug. 15 session. For more information, call 420-7001.

NEW KIDDIE CREW PROGRAM

Preschool activities for three-year-olds. Registration will begin on a first come, first serve basis Monday at Canton High School in the Community Education office. For more information on requirements, call 416-2937.

SALVATION ARMY-TINY TOTS PRESCHOOL

Tiny Tots preschool-Salvation Army are taking applications for the fall 1996 school year. It's a four-year-old program. Must be four-years-old by December 1. For more information, call Peggy at 459-1358.

NEW MORNING SCHOOL DAY CLASSES

Discovery Day classes. There are many classes to choose from, all with an emphasis on hands-on activities. Ages three to 11. Twelve students, one teacher and one parent aide per class. For more information, call 420-3331.

PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL/CLASS OF 1971 REUNION

The 25th class reunion will be held at the Summit in Canton Aug. 31. For more information, call Marilyn Miller Smith at (810) 486-6060 or (810) 437-8517.

CLASS OF 1976/SALEM HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

Saturday at the Novi Hilton. Class Reunions Plus, P.O. Box 806010, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080-6010. Call 886-0770.

CLASS OF 1976/CANTON HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

Oct. 12 at the Holiday Inn West-Livonia at Six Mile Road and I-275. For more information: Canton Class of 1976, P.O. Box 461, South Lyon, MI 48178.

Health...

PLYMOUTH BREATHERS

For those with respiratory diseases. Second Wednesday of each month at the Arbor Health building in Plymouth from 1:30-2:30 p.m. Free of charge. For more information, call 712-5367.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM FOR SENIORS

Available twice monthly by appointment at Plymouth Township Hall. For more information, call Frances Rudd at 455-7526 between 1-4 p.m. weekdays.

OAKWOOD CLASSES/SCREENINGS

Blood pressure checks, breast feeding support groups, childbirth preparation classes and infant CPR. For more information, call 454-8001.

AEROBIC AND STEP CLASSES

At St. John's Church, 574 Sheldon Rd. Morning, evening, and weekday classes. Classes ongoing, join anytime. For more information, call (810) 348-1280.

LUNCHTIME EXERCISE

Lunch hour open skate at the Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St. Fees are reduced from regular open skate fees. Mondays: 12:30-1:50 p.m.; Wednesdays: 1-2 p.m.; Fridays: 10:50 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. \$2 for City resident or full time worker in the City (please bring pay stub). \$2.50 non resident. Fifty cents skate rental. For more information, call 455-6623.



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Upcoming...

LIGHTHOUSE CAR WASH FUND-RAISER FOR VIETNAM VETS
Lighthouse Car Wash in Canton will hold a fund-raiser for the Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans of America from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Tax-deductible donation.

ANTIQUÉ FLEA MARKET
Aug. 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post #6695-Ladies Auxiliary, 1426 S. Mill St. in Plymouth. To set up a table, call Alice Fisher at 728-7619. Small table is \$10 and large table is \$15. For more information, call Ann Riley at 459-2394.

CONGREGATION BET CHAVERIM ICE CREAM SOCIAL
For returning, new and prospective students to its religious school. The open house will be held Sept. 8 from 7-8 p.m. Opportunity to meet the teaching staff, preview curriculum and text books and meet other families. For more information, call 480-8880.

OLD TIMERS PICNIC
Aug. 29 at Plymouth Township Park, beginning at noon. For reservations, call Russ Ash at 453-2649 or Howdy Schryer at 453-0114.

CANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY FLEA MARKET
The second annual flea market will be held Aug. 17. The deadline for applications to rent spaces is Aug. 1. \$15 for each 10 foot x 10 foot space. For more information, call Mary at 455-6145 or Joan at 453-5231.

GETTYSBURG HISTORICAL TOUR
The Plymouth Historical Museum is offering a trip to historical Gettysburg, PA Sept 30 to Oct. 3. The tour will be led by Civil War historian and teacher Bob Zaetta. The trip includes round-trip motor coach transportation, three breakfasts, three dinners, and two full days at Gettysburg. For information and reservations, call the Plymouth Historical Museum at 455-8940.

TUESDAY NIGHT BINGO
Play begins at 6:30 p.m. at Cherry Hill Hall, 230 S. Venoy in Westland. Proceeds go to the general fund to support the Plymouth-Canton Junior Baseball League. For more information, call 453-2040 or 326-3344.

PARENTS DAY OUT PROGRAM
The First United Methodist Church of Plymouth is exploring the possibility of beginning a Parents Day Out Program, a baby sitting service for properly registered children. The purpose of PDO is to provide a safe, educational environment while parents attend to personal business. Age appropriate classes from birth to kindergarten. Same calendar year as P-C Schools. If interested, call 453-5280.

PLYMOUTH LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS
Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17. For more information, call 453-0750.

Volunteer...

YMCA NEEDS FALL FEST VOLUNTEERS
Volunteers are needed at the YMCA Fall Festival booth. Cooks, sandwich preparation, waiters, set up, take down and runners. To volunteer for four hour time slots or less, call the YMCA at 453-2904.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS
The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is always in need of volunteers, especially preparing information handout packages. For more information, call 453-1540.

FISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
FISH of Plymouth/Canton is always looking for volunteers to assist in its purpose of aiding neighbors who cannot help themselves. If you would like information on being a driver, a "caller", or just running errands, call 261-1011 and leave a message.

HOSPICE OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN
The hospice is seeking patient care, patient companion and team support volunteers in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. For more information, call 291-9700.

ADOPT-A-MAGAZINE
The Plymouth District Library is looking for individuals, businesses and community groups to donate the cost of a magazine subscription to one of the over 300 periodicals the library keeps in stock. The sponsor's name will appear on the label and the donation is federal and state tax deductible. For more information, call the library at 453-0750.

PLYMOUTH COURT NURSING CENTER
Plymouth Court Nursing Center in Plymouth is looking for volunteers to help with activity programs for residents. For more information, call Maralena Howard at 455-0510.

MICHIGAN CANCER FOUNDATION
The Michigan Cancer Foundation-West Region is looking for volunteers to provide transportation for cancer patients in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. For more information, call 561-8880 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

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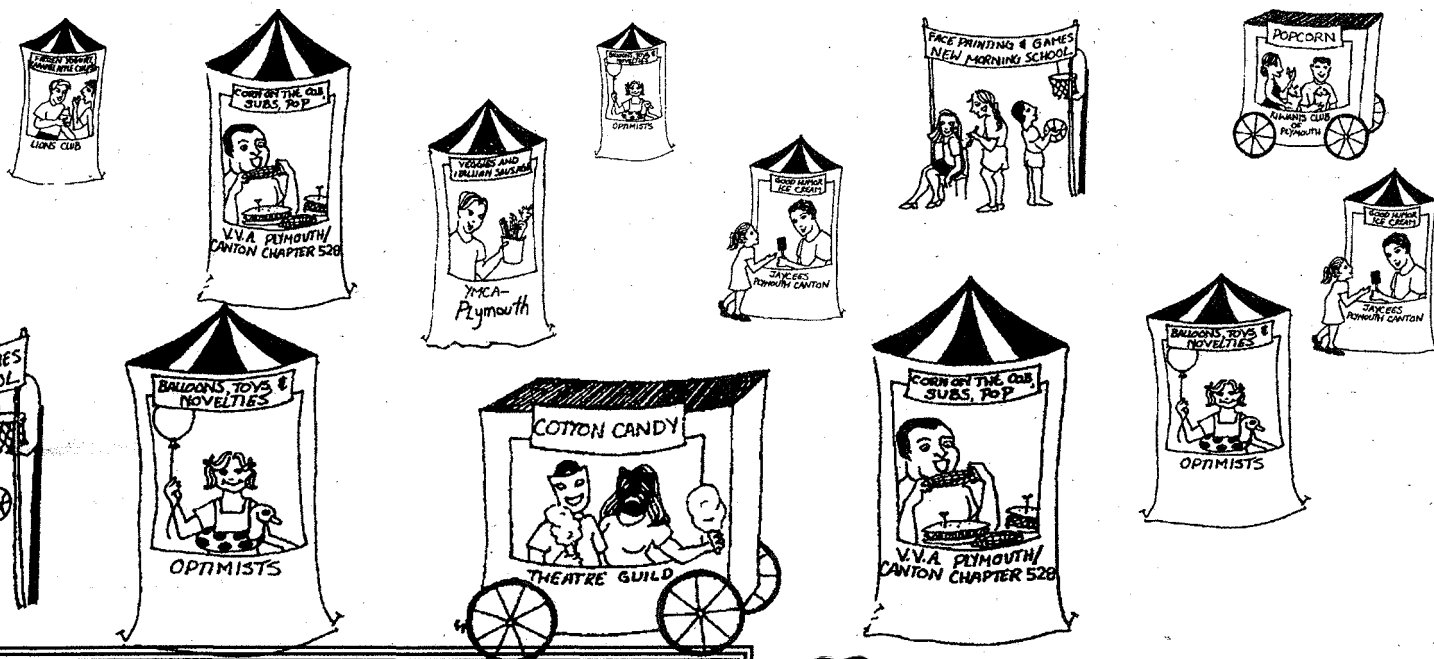
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Community deaths

Canton resident, race car driver dies at MIS

Clyde Perry Younce III, a Canton resident and race car driver, died Saturday in Eaton Rapids after an accident while racing at Michigan International Speedway. He was 35. Younce was born on February 4, 1961 in Ann Arbor.

Younce began racing at the age of 12. He raced professionally for 20 years under the sponsorship of Younce Racing, R.J.S. Safety Equipment and Great Lakes Steamway.

Younce was a member of St. Thomas A' Becket Catholic Church in Canton and was a member of A.R.C.A., the N.A.M.A.R.S. and U.S.A.C.

Younce is survived by his fiancée,

Tina McGill of Canton; sons, Taylor and Alexander; parents, Clyde Perry Younce II and Shirley Younce of Canton; brother, Martin (Terry) Younce of Canton; sisters, Karen (Hugh) Sutherland of New Jersey, Mary (Don) McFarland of Livonia, Cecilia (David) Harrah of California, Marilyn Younce of Oregon, Cynthia (Randy) Fleming of Wisconsin, and Cory (Kevin) Sultana of Plymouth; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held at St. Thomas A' Becket Catholic Church with the Rev. Fr. Richard Kelly officiating.

Burial is at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Memorial tributes can be made to the education fund for the children.

Obituaries

For more information on listing a paid obituary notice in The Crier, contact your funeral director or call (313) 453-6900

RAYMOND R. LABEAU, JR.

Raymond R. LaBeau, Jr., a Plymouth resident, died July 29, 1996 at the age of 62.

Mr. LaBeau was born Oct. 5, 1933 in Wyndotte, MI. He moved to Plymouth in 1965 from Southgate. He was a U of M graduate and served in the U.S. Air Force from 1953-57. He then worked for Michigan Bell for 30 years before retiring in 1991.

Mr. LaBeau is survived by his wife, Mary Jo (Faulder) LaBeau, to whom he was married for 40 years; daughter, Susan (Daniel) Lough of Canton; sons, Christopher (Sherri) of Livonia, Joseph (Lisa) of Plymouth, and Michael of Ann Arbor; and three grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by and services were held by Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home in Plymouth. Burial was at Riverside in Plymouth.

ARIO P. CENTOFANTI

Ario P. Centofanti, a Plymouth resident, died Aug. 4, 1996 at the age of 88.

Mr. Centofanti was born April 19, 1908 in Dellslow, West Virginia. He moved to Plymouth in 1983 from Traverse City, MI. He was an automotive inspector for the Ford Motor Company.

Mr. Centofanti is survived by his wife, Janina J. Centofanti; daughter, Joyce C. (Herbert) McCausland of Garden City; sons, Roger W. (Patricia) of Canton and Leonard M. (Martin) of Jackson; brothers Arthur of Detroit and Andrew of Masontown, WV; 13 grandchildren; and 17 great grandchildren.

Services were held at Divine Savior Catholic Church in Westland and was officiated by Rev. Alexander A. Kuras. Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial tributes can be made to Mass Offerings; Community Hospice Services, 32932 Warren Rd., Westland, MI 48185; or Karmanos Cancer Institute, Plymouth Region, 744 Wing St., Plymouth, MI 48170-1235.

Dorothy Dibble, 83, librarian's secretary

Dorothy Dibble, a Wickenburg, AZ resident and former resident of Plymouth and Northville, died July 27, 1996.

She is survived by her husband, Samuel L. Dibble; son, Samuel L. (Charlene) Dibble of Plymouth; one daughter; and three grandchildren.

Services were held at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth with Mr. Sanford Burr officiating. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial tributes can be made to the First Presbyterian Church of Wickenburg, AZ.

Reinier J. VanderPutten, 68, bakeshop owner

Reinier J. VanderPutten, an Indian Harbor Beach, FL resident, died July 23, 1996.

He is survived by his wife, Christina VanderPutten; daughter Yvonne Coogan of Canton; three brothers; and three grandchildren.

Services were held at St. Thomas A' Becket Catholic Church with Rev. Fr. C. Richard Kelly Jr. officiating. Arrangements were made by the McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel.

Erma M. Webb, 86

Erma M. Webb, a Canton resident, died July 27, 1996.

She is survived by two brothers; one sister; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Westland with Rev. Myron F. Sordahl officiating. Arrangements were made by the McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel. Memorial tributes can be made to Our Saviour Lutheran Church or Hope Nursing Home.

Edith E. Best, 88

Edith E. Best, a Canton resident, died July 27, 1996.

She is survived by her son, Gary Best of Canton, and one other son; one daughter; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Arrangements and private services were held at the McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel. Memorial tributes can be made to St. Jukes Children Hospital in Memphis, TN.

Wedding Day!

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The Crier will print basic information about your engagement and or wedding, including a photo. (Street addresses will not be published, but we would like them for our records). Sorry, photos will not be returned. *Polaroid or Xerox photos will not be accepted.* If you need additional room, attach a piece of paper.

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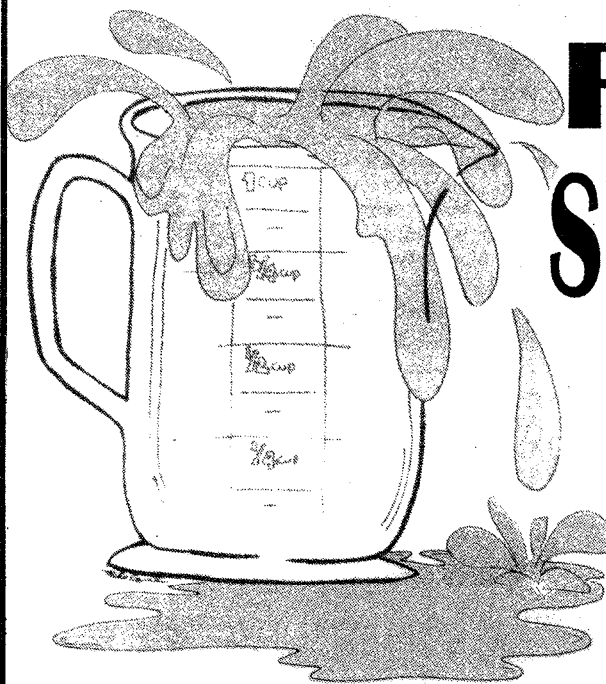
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Sports

Sports shorts

On July 25, 47 Junior Olympic finalists from Canton attended the Detroit Metropolitan area Youth Fitness meet at Metropolitan Beach Metro Park in Mount Clemens. Over 1,500 boys and girls ages 7-14 competed in this 39th Annual Youth Fitness Track and Field meet with 38 communities being represented in the finals.

Out of 47 finalists from Canton, five participants placed in their event and came home with plaques. These winners represented Class A (13-14), Class B (11-12), Class C (9-10) and Class D (7-8).

Winners from the Canton Junior Olympic Program:

John Farmer, seven years old from Sunflower Park, placed first in Class D chinning with 12 chin-ups. **Matt Farmer**, eight years old from Sunflower Park, placed first in Class D running long jump with a jump of 9'. **Janet Hanchett**, eight years old from Glengarry Park, placed first in the Class D 50 yard dash with a time of 7.22 seconds. **Angela McKinney**, 14 years old from Windsor West Park, placed first in Class A different age classes, standing long jump with a jump of 7'1/2". **Kendra McKinney**, 11 years old from Windsor West Park, placed first in Class B chinning with nine chin-ups.

Brian Bacyinski, a graduate of Salem and a captain of the 1995 Michigan Class "A" State Champion soccer team, has signed a letter of intent to play soccer for the Lindenwood College Lions this fall.

He played goalkeeper for high school and club soccer teams, was a junior member of the Plymouth/Canton Rotary Club and received a Western Lakes Activities Scholar Athlete Certificate for academic and athletic achievement. Bacyinski plans to major in secondary education with an emphasis in history.

The Salem girls basketball teams will begin practice this Monday at the Salem gym. Tryouts for ninth and tenth graders will be from 9-11:30 a.m. Varsity tryouts will be from 5:30-8 p.m. For more information, call Fred Thomann at 459-7315.

Please see pg. 21

Row, row, row your boat

Plymouth resident has 'opportunity of a lifetime;' crew team travels to England for prestigious regatta

BY MATT HUCAL

A generous president gave Suzan Daoust of Plymouth and the rest of her crew team from Grand Valley State University (GVSU) what she calls, "the opportunity of a lifetime."

Daoust and her crew members were given the chance to travel to England from June 19 to July 10 and take part in the prestigious Henley Royal Regatta, one of Great Britain's premier college rowing events that dates back to 1839 and takes place on the famous Thames River in London. Twenty-six colleges from the U.S., Great Britain and other European nations took part in the event.

"These races are such a big deal in England," Daoust, a soon-to-be junior at the school, said. "It was interesting to see how other countries ran them."

Daoust competes in the women's eight seat and four seat in racing shells. She is positioned in the stroke seat, located in the stern of the shell, right in front of the coxswain. The coxswain is the person who faces the crew and orders commands during a race.

The GVSU women's eight seat crew were matched up against a powerful Newcastle crew for their first race. With 32 crews in the women's eight, the crews go one on one and once you lose you're finished. Daoust and her crew lost to

Newcastle, who eventually reached the finals before losing to the champion Nottingham crew.

There were some differences between American and European rowing that the GVSU crew team had to get used to while at the race. In the U.S., the races include six or seven different crews racing against each other at one time while in England the races are one on one.

The length of the race differed greatly in England as well. Women's races are usually 2000 meters in the U.S., but they were 1400 meters in England. Men's races were longer in England at 2200 meters compared to 2000 meters in the U.S.

Daoust said she also noticed a dramatic difference in the style of racing between the U.S. and England.

"We start races a lot quicker and fade a bit after the halfway point, where the English aren't as quick at the beginning, but in the middle they pick it up," Daoust said.

Daoust said that the president of GVSU has been quite generous to the crew team for the two years she's rowed, giving extra money for buying shells and oars and then topping it off by getting the team into the Regatta.

Daoust didn't begin rowing until she reached college.

"I knew it was a club at Grand Valley and it was a sport I was interested in," Daoust said. "So one day I went down to the boathouse to check it out and I really liked it."

Daoust plans on continuing to race for at least the rest of her college years and said she hopes all future crew members get the chance she got to race in the Regatta.

Take a walk in the park

Wayne County Parks is encouraging people of all ages to break out their walking shoes and head over to Hines Park to "walk for the health of it."

The annual fitness program organized by Michigan Parks and Recreation Association will be held in Plymouth Aug. 14 at 6:30 p.m. and Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. at Hines Drive and Wilcox Road, and in Northville Aug. 28 at 6:30 p.m. at Hines Drive, south of Seven Mile Road.

Up and coming

Young but dangerous; local baseball team enjoys successful season, builds for future

BY MATT HUCAL

While the Canton Connie Mack baseball team was having themselves a great season this summer by making the playoffs, the Mickey Mantle team may have been a bit overlooked. But this junior varsity team to Connie Mack finished the season with an 11-8 record and in the top half of their division.

Coleman Flaskamp, who coached both teams, said he was impressed with the level of play his Mantle team exhibited, although they were usually younger than most of the teams they faced.

"We were so young, but we ended up with a pretty good season," Flaskamp said. "Everything about it was positive."

The team included four sophomores, two freshman who played on the junior varsity team at Canton High School last season and the rest were freshman on the Canton freshman team.

"A lot of the guys played on the freshman team then had to make the jump up to Mantle," said Flaskamp, "but our confidence level picked up throughout the season."

Helping to lead the team in offensive output this season was sophomore Pat Van Hull with a .418 batting average and a team-

best 24 runs batted in (RBI). Andrew Copenhaver is a freshman shortstop who batted .428 and compiled 10 stolen bases. Flaskamp said Copenhaver is the best defensive shortstop that he's seen at that age.

Leading the hurlers on the mound this season was freshman Ben Tucker as he built a 3-2 record with a 2.20 earned run average (ERA) and 35 strikeouts in 35 innings. Sophomore Mike Rourk was a late pickup for the team and he finished the season with a 3-1 record and a 3.15 ERA and freshman Ron McCue had a 3-2 record with three saves and a 3.01 ERA.

Phil Ross was second on the team in RBI's with 21 and had a .353 batting average, Brent Kossick had a .380 batting average and Jon Deboe had a .306 batting average.

Another quality that made Flaskamp proud of his team was the level of class they displayed throughout the season.

"No matter if we won or lost, people would come up to us and tell us that we played with a lot of class," Flaskamp said. "That was real nice to hear."

"With this class of freshman Canton has, they will have a great class to build future teams with."

An Olympic moment

Canton Softball Center hosts Special Olympians ; athletes from around state compete in softball, golf

BY MATT HUCAL

The 1996 Michigan Special Olympics Summer Sports Classic took place successfully last Friday and Saturday at the Canton Softball Center for the seventh year in a row.

The Classic is an event showcasing Special Olympians as 827 athletes from across the state participated in softball and golf competitions.

As tournament co-director Terry Jobbitt can attest to, these athletes don't mess around. They put their all into everything they do on the playing field.

"This is just always a joy to work with the athletes," Jobbitt said. "They put more into every event than you, him or I."

Along with the athletes, there were over 1257 coaches and chaperones at the Classic. There were also over 400 volunteers, people who have no ties with the athletes but just want to help make a difference.

"The volunteers do it for the love of it, for people who they feel may be less fortunate," Jobbitt said. "But I've



Hots Shots infielder Andrea Vettrano scoops up a grounder and makes the throw to first base during the Special Olympics Summer Sports Classic held Saturday at the Canton Softball Center. More than 800 Special Olympians from across the state participated. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

never seen a person work as a volunteer who didn't walk away feeling like they didn't accomplish something special. I think working as a

volunteer is one of the best donations you can make."

Softball competition took place at the Center on Friday and Saturday afternoon.

There were a total of 53 softball teams, 11 from the Wayne County area.

There was an Opening Ceremonies on Friday night, followed by a Victory Dance held at U.A.W. Hall 735.

Fifty-seven Olympians participated in the golf competition at Pine View Golf Course in Ypsilanti on Friday.

The Summer Sports Classic was one of the many tournaments the Special Olympics holds each year. There are county level, regional level and state level tournaments.

At the state level there are numerous sports that Olympians take part in. Soccer, hockey, basketball, winter and summer games (with sports similar to the actual Olympics) are just a few of them.

The Summer Sports Classic at the Center was a state competition.



It's never too late to learn. The umpire calls time as a Far Stars coach offers a few batting tips to a Far Stars player during Friday's Special Olympics competition at the Canton Softball Center. Hots Shots catcher Todd Colombo looks on. A total of 53 softball teams entered the games. Another 57 Special Olympians competed in golf at Pine View Golf Course in Ypsilanti. (Crier photo by R. Alwood)

Sports shorts

Continued from pg. 20

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department presents Walt Disney's "Pocahontas" tomorrow at dusk in a big surf drive-in movie at the Central Middle School playground, next to the Plymouth Cultural Center. There will be a giant video projection system with great surround sound at a price of \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Tickets are on sale at the Parks office and also can be purchased the night of the show. For more information, call 455-6620.

The Canton Parks and Recreation Services is sponsoring a family trip to Cedar Point for Canton residents on Aug. 17.

A bus leaves the Summit on the Park parking lot at 7:30 a.m. and leaves Cedar Point at 8 p.m. The cost is \$28 per person and includes admission to Cedar Point and bus transportation.

Registration began July 29 and runs for Canton residents only until Monday, then is open to anyone. Space is limited, so sign up early and for more information, call 397-5110.

The Salvation Army is now taking registrations for the fall basketball league and must be in no later than Sept. 6. Games will begin Sept. 17 with a limit of six teams.

The volleyball team is looking for more senior citizen players. If interested stop at the Salvation Army on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m.

There's an annual cost of \$10.

The Korean Tae Kwon Do class meets every Monday and Thursday evening. Call Master Joe Hernandez at 313-389-5180 if interested.

There's "open gym" basketball Monday through Friday from 1-4 p.m. for \$1 a person.

Call the Salvation Army at 453-5464 for more information on any of the events listed above.

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, sponsored by Blackwell Ford, is holding their Annual Golf Classic on Sept. 10 (rain date is Sept. 17) at the Fox Hills Country Club. Check-in is at 9 a.m. and teeing off will begin at 10 a.m.

Individual tickets will cost \$175, a twosome sponsor is \$440, a foursome sponsor is \$600 and dinner is \$50. Sponsoring includes tickets for golf, cart rental, meals, open bar, refreshments, sponsor prize and a sponsor sign.

For more information, call 453-1540.

**For the best in local sports
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Community opinions

Continental: FCC upheld exclusive contracts

EDITOR:

As many people will recall, Ameritech filed a complaint against Continental Cablevision with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in February. At a press conference to which local government officials were invited, the phone company alleged that Continental's exclusive programming

agreement with HBO violated the Commission's programming access rules and was therefore meant to hamper competition. Ameritech, seemingly eager to create public opinion, failed to provide the whole story.

At that time, Continental said the phone company's claims had "no legal merit" because the 1992 Cable Act

protected exclusive contracts such as Continental's, which existed prior to June 1, 1990. In fact, exclusive programming contracts have been considered legitimate in the broadcasting industry for many years.

In an order released June 5, the FCC decided in Continental's favor and said that it found the Cable Act provision cited by Ameritech to be "clear and unambiguous." The FCC has thereby upheld Continental's right to be HBO's exclusive cable television distributor in its franchise areas until the exclusivity provisions of the agreement with HBO expire on Dec. 31, 1997.

In finding the programming access provisions of the Cable Act to be straightforward, the FCC could not have spoken more loudly about the baselessness of Ameritech's claim against Continental and HBO. Congress and the Commission considered this issue during the development of the provisions, obviously believing that they would not restrict competition. People understand the traditional exclusivity in the areas of movies, entertainment and sports, and that choice is the driving force behind competition. It would be meaningless for all cable providers to supply the exact same services as it would be for all car dealers to sell a single make of automobile.

In fact, Ameritech has formed partnerships of their own with companies such as motion picture and television giant Walt Disney Corporation in order to provide programming, and they are touting other services also not carried by Continental at this time. They have also chosen not to match Continental's

commitment to important local programming such as high school sports, Chamber of Commerce programs and other important local events. Rather than complain about the options that customers will have, Continental is encouraged by this activity. It is exactly what competition is all about, and customers will benefit from the exciting new choices in the marketplace.

It is not surprising that Ameritech has chosen to stage battles with Continental at media and governmental levels. They are very familiar with the FCC complaint process, having been fined \$200,000 last August for violating Section 214 of the Communications Act by initiating construction of a cable system without FCC permission. They also entered into a consent decree with the FCC in 1995 stemming from an audit which disclosed inaccurate allocation of costs between regulated and non-regulated accounts, and they paid \$675,000 in penalties as a result.

As much as the FCC's affirmation of our HBO contract is welcomed, we find it unfortunate that the Commission, HBO, Continental, and some local government authorities have had to spend time and resources answering another of the phone company's frivolous charges. But since the most important part of our business is and always will be our customers, it's a relief for us to have this issue resolved so that we can devote our efforts toward continuing to provide them with the best and most complete service possible.

BILL BLACK
CONTINENTAL CABLEVISION
DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE
AFFAIRS

Residents benefit from City Parks and Recreation Dept.

EDITOR:

To start with, please let me apologize, this letter of appreciation is way over due. I should have written a couple of years ago — to thank everyone in the City government for having such a tremendous Parks and Recreation playground program for our children.

My grandson has been very fortunate to have benefited from all of the

supervised activities that are offered. Bowling, swimming, skating, arts & crafts, trips to the lake, and the zoo — just to name a few.

The young adults who supervise the playgrounds are very good at what they do, and make the playground experience an unforgettably happy one for the children.

ANN SMITH

Local 'mysteries' list grows; readers find Plymouth peculiarities

EDITOR'S NOTE: These local "mysteries" came in response to the "No Curves" column in the June 19 issue of The Community Crier.

We will continue to publish these questions in the future.

EDITOR:

I envisioned beautiful flowers cascading from the new cement planters...what happened?

CONNIE TONIOLO

EDITOR:

Why aren't there any bike racks in downtown Plymouth?

PETER BRODERICK

American Red Cross blood supply low, donors needed

EDITOR:

As a member of the Board of Directors for American Red Cross, Southeastern Michigan Blood Services Region and a resident of the Plymouth community, I am appealing to adults in the community to donate blood for the benefit of those in need.

While summertime means fun times for people of all ages — summertime is a critical time for the American Red Cross.

During the summer months, the Red Cross experiences a decline in blood collections primarily due to school closings, family vacations and changes in business operations.

However, the need for blood donations continues. Hospitals throughout southeastern Michigan rely on the Red Cross to supply blood for ill and injured patients.

In turn, the Red Cross depends on the support and commitment of caring people in the community to donate blood. A single donation can help save the lives of up to four patients.

We need blood donations to win the battle against blood shortages. An appointment to donate blood can be made by calling 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

JOHN TRIEBWASSER, M.D.
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

**Local opinions.
Every week —
in The Crier**

Write to: 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, Mi 48170



Community opinions

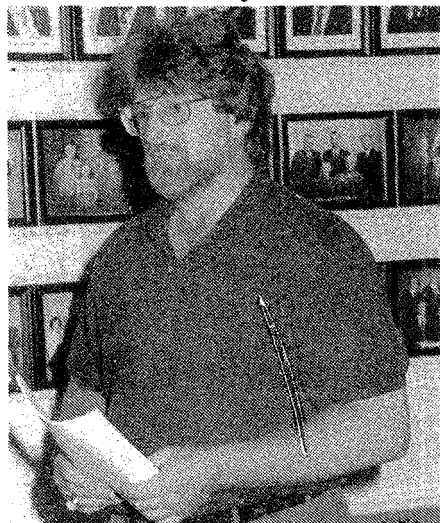
Citizens speak on Mayflower Hotel tax gift proposal

Most oppose approval to forgive hotel's \$50,000 debt

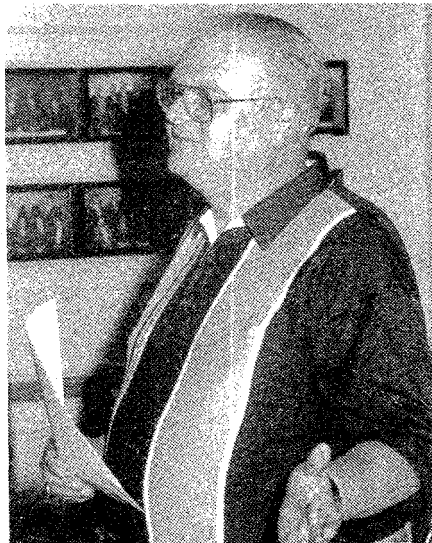
EDITOR'S NOTE: Some 30 citizens attended Monday night's Plymouth City Commission meeting to watch proceedings and comment on the proposed tax gift to the Mayflower Hotel. Of those speaking, most opposed the \$50,000 gift or expressed concerns with it. Crier Photo Editor Richard Alwood captured these citizens speaking.



"I wish the (Mayflower Hotel owners) Karmos were here. A lot of questions should go to them. If you were going to give me \$50,000, I'd be here." — Frank Kuszak



"If you pass this, I suspect we'll be dealing with a different group of City Commissioners within four years." — Don Schneider

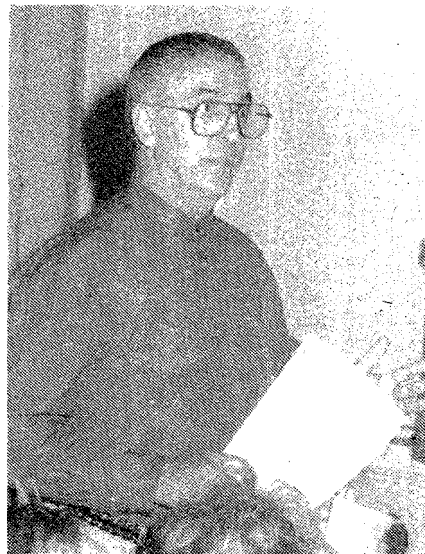


"This is going to cost us (on the Board of Review) a lot of aggravation." — Graham Laible

"I've worked at the hotel, seen it gradually deteriorate. The doors have been close to closing. Here's a hotel investment team that's very interested. They're good-hearted people; they're asking themselves, 'This is what we're getting from the newspapers and people in this town.'" — Avia Powell

"All of us want the hotel to succeed; in all honesty, my confidence level is very low." — Sally Repeck

As a member of the DDA, we were blindsided in a way — the promises being made and the services continuing to deteriorate. They (the Karmos) don't live here; I don't know if that has a great deal to do with this. There's some value in us knowing what they're going to be doing." — Dave Pugh



We've got over \$1 million invested between Cozy Cafe and Plymouth Manor. In 14 years, we've never asked anybody for anything. To give them the gold medal when the Olympics are over is ridiculous." — Nick Nistich



"This should really not be a government issue.

"If they then turn around and sell it, the jewel it once was it would become nothing more than an old folks home." — Earl Hall

The Community Crier



THE
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WITH ITS
HEART IN THE
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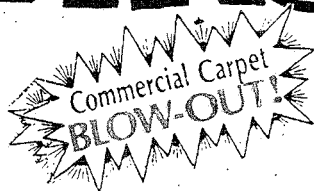
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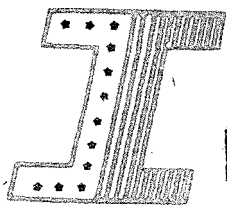
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