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For 19 years, early March has meant one thing in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville-Salem-Superior Community: The GUIDE has arrived. Home delivery and mail subscribers to The Community Crier will find the 1998 edition of The GUIDE inserted in today's edition of the newspaper. The GUIDE will also be available at vending outlets throughout the community, and at The Community Crier office, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth.

The GUIDE, in its 19th year of production, is a

community resource book that provides general and detailed information on a plethora of topics including lawmakers, local governments, activity groups, parks, recycling, schools, libraries, utilities, and much more.

Phone and fax numbers, along with mailing addresses and Internet addresses have been updated for The 1997 GUIDE.



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

Vol. 25 No. 6

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March 11, 1998

# **Board seats opening**

## Farrow resigns from school board, Horvath doubts he'll run again

BY BRYON MARTIN

As the gavel came down to close the meeting last Tuesday, Jack Farrow stood up to speak.

"I got up and I said, 'Mr. president, fellow board members, I have an announcement. I'm resigning'." And with that, Farrow handed his letter of resignation to Board President Mark Horvath and brought to a close his time with the Plymouth-Canton School Board.

The end of a six year stint with the board, Farrow says he gave up his position as trustee so that he could make the most of a career opportunity: he has applied to the district for

a job as executive director of research and technology. That spot has been vacant since David Rodwell resigned to pursue a similar job with the Walled Lake school district.

"I've been good friends with Dave Rodwell. And quite frankly, I envied him," Farrow says. "When Dave announced his resignation I thought: Hmmm, there might be an opportunity here," Farrow said.

His 25 years of engineering with the Farmington Hills-based electronics firm Medar has fostered a knowledge of and fascination with computers, Farrow says; coupling

# Student's death shocks

#### Apparent heart attack claims Salem Jr.

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

More than 550 friends, fellow students and family members packed Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Monday morning to say goodbye to Mike Kilgore.

Kilgore, 16, died of an apparent heart attack at his home Wednesday night.

"He loved school and touched a lot of lives," his father, Tim Kilgore said. "I didn't know how many until today."

Kilgore was an honor student at Salem High School with a grade point average of 3.9 and a member of the Salem swim team, according to swimming coach Chuck Olsen.

"He was an important part of our swim program with a lot of talent and enthusiasm for the sport that he shared with his teammates," Olsen said. "He was well thought of by the administration and staff.

It was just last weekend that Mike had one of his best performances when Salem dominated the W.L.A.A. men's swimming conference tournament, according to Olsen. Kilgore's scores in the 200 and 500 freestyle helped Salem secure a victory.

"He was so happy about winning the championship," Olsen said. "It's hard to believe someone could be so high on Saturday and then something like this could



The Whalers need a win Wednesday and a London loss Thursday to make Friday's game at London for the OHL's Western Division title. Here, Yuri Babenko follows Julian Smith into the Greyhound zone during the Whalers' 5-1 victory over Sault Ste. Marie Saturday night at Compuware Sports Arena. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

#### Whalers dash for the division title

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Don't get coach Peter DeBoer wrong—the Western Division title is still a goal for the Whalers this season. But, he said, a second place finish wouldn't be the end of the world.

"Either way we won't get a first round bye," DeBoer said. "First place would be nice, I don't want to understate it. But between Sarnia and Erie in the playoffs, I think I'd take Sarnia."

Please see pg. 24

happen."

Mike went to his bedroom at about 5 p.m. Wednesday, according to Tim. About unconscious there. She dialed 911.

With instructions from a Canton dispatcher, Tim performed CPR on Mike until Canton Police Ofc. Keith Myers arrived an hour later his mother, Barb found him and took over. Canton firefighters arrived

#### Improv

Ann Arbor group brings improv theatre to Summit See Friends & Neighbors pg. 6

# Setting the pace

Dürr Industries wins industry innovation award See Getting Down to Business pg. 8

#### Last second shot

Rocks hoopsters grab conference tourney over John Glenn See Sports pgs. 23-25



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In past years the 35th District Court has returned unused operating funds, derived from tickets, court fees and other assessments, to the communities from which the assessments originated. To recoup from the costs of rebuilding after the July 2 storm, the court has temporarily held back some of the revenue it normally would return. Retained funds could be redirected toward defraying costs of the court reconstruction project.

Source: 35th District Court

# **Court board begins** round 2 of plan review

Key to finance may be in middle ground

The court may delay the

return of funds to

governments in the

35th District to defray

construction costs

#### BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Members of the 35th District Court Advisory Board will meet today to discuss the second round of plans for a new courthouse, according to Kerry Erdman, court administrator.

"Hopefully we'll be able to nail down a building design," he said.

In order to do that, the board will have to consider the designs, the questions and the math.

#### The DESIGN

The board asked architects Coquillard, Dundon, Peterson and Argenta (CDPA), Inc. for a total of five designs. They range in scale from a new version of the old 35th District courthouse, to the \$9 million courthouse proposed last month, according to Judge Ron Lowe.

The \$9 million design CDPA proposed was more than 50,000 square feet with four courtrooms and security features that would satisfy the court's needs well into the next century.

This design was bigger and more expen-

sive than the board anticipated because early estimates of the square footage of the old courthouse were off, Lowe said. Also, the board did not restrict the size or budget of the new courthouse design, Lowe said.

Among the plans the board will look at today are an identical rebuild of the original courthouse on the original site. They'll also consider a plan to reconstruct the previous building with adjustments for current codes, such as handicapped accessibility.

CDPA will also propose scaled back versions of the \$9 million proposal, a similar but smaller design. With these plans, the board





and the court insurance carriers can get a sense of possible high-and low-end costs for

#### The QUESTIONS

The cost to rebuild the same courthouse has been estimated at \$2.2 million, according to Erdman.

'We think that's a bit low," he said.

CDPA's estimate to rebuild the same structure was about \$3.2 million, but that didn't take into account current building codes, he said. Doing so and bringing the courthouse to current standards raises the estimate to \$4 million, he said.

Those figures are still difficult to put together," Erdman said. "We've told CDPA the problems we face, but not exactly how to solve them.

> Rebuilding the same building raises other questions as well, according to Erdman. The cour advisory board only voted to rebuild o the same site if th structure would sa isfy the court needs until the ye 2020

To date, the court's insurers have yet agree on who is the court's primary insure who pays first and how much. Even so. larger courthouse may be more feasible th it seemed at first.

#### The MATH

The financial aspects of a new courtho are still unclear. The old building v

Please see p

# Yack speaks on State of Township

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Prosperous, stimulating and productive were three words Canton Supervisor Tom Yack used Wednesday to describe Canton in his annual State of the Township address.

Yack said Canton's current prosperity is a result of objectives he and the Board of Trustees have pursued since they were elected nine years ago. Those goals included raising the quality of life by developing a positive image for Canton, a strong sense of community and a responsive government, he said.

"For a long time Canton was a place people just passed through," he said. "Now it's a place people want to stay."

Presented in front of an audience of about 150 in Canton's Summit on the Park, Yack's speech emphasized the quality of life in Canton. Major issues are public safety and education, according to Yack. "These are things that touch everyone," he said.

Canton's Public Safety Department brought its community policing philosophy to new levels in 1997, with programs designed specifically for senior citizens and elementary school children, according to Yack.

The department is also expanding services with the completion of its new fire station and providing Advanced Life Support (ALS) training, he said.

"It will probably help save some lives," he said. "At the very least it means their bag of medical skills will be greatly enhanced."

Yack also talked of future community improvements, including three new parks under development. Independence Park, at Denton and Proctor roads, will contain soccer fields and other community facilities. Freedom Park, at Palmer and Sheldon, will feature Canton's first frisbee golf course.



Not yet a year... Sunday was a blessed day in Canton for those younger than a year old. Adam Cardinal Maida, Archbishop of Detroit was in town to dedicate All Saints Catholic School, which opened less than a year ago. All Saints is the first Catholic School built in the Archdiocese in 32 years. While there, he had special words for Terri Lynch-Carris and her three-month-old son, Andrew. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

Canton has also received a grant to buy a 205-acre parcel at Ford and Napier roads that Canton would set aside for park land, Yack said. Negotiations with the landowner are underway.

Yack also promised further studies about a regional theater, a concept which has been discussed for years but recently disappeared from view, he said.

"We've finished interviewing firms that will test our theater idea among the people who have the funds to help support it," he said.

"Right now the economy is in growth mode but it won't always be," he said. "We want to develop a balanced community that people will want to stay in, whether they buy a starter home and move into the larger houses in western Canton, or retire in a senior residence."

# 'Nothing we can explain'

Continued from pg. 1

minutes later and rushed Mike to Oakwood Hospital on Canton Center Road. Attempts to revive him were unsuccessful.

"He was a great kid," Tim said. "I'm still in a bit of shock. Fortunatley we've had a lot of help from friends and the school to deal with this."

"It's one of those hard lessons you have to learn. There's nobody to be angry at. There wasn't anything anyone could have done to change the situation," Olsen said. "It's nothing we can explain."

Tim said that although his son had been diagnosed with a heart murmur, he had recently been given a clean bill of health. Chest x-rays in August showed that his heart looked fine, he said.

"They told me he could do anything he wanted," Tim said.

Although Mike's first love was soccer, Tim said that Mike was also a natural in the water, and had been swimming since he was

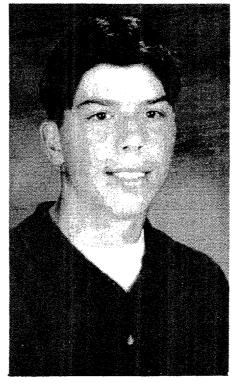
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a baby. Mike also loved to play golf, water ski and build computers. He planned to apply to the computer engineering program at the University of Michigan, Tim said.

Mike is survived by his parents, Tim and Barb Kilgore of Canton; sister, Sherrill; brother, Kevin; grandparents, Gilbert and Marjorie Gildner of Ann Arbor; grandfather, Isac J. Kilgore of Tennessee; grandmother, Barbara Barrett of Canton; uncles, Doug (Veronica) Gildner of Southgate, Scott (Julie) Kilgore of Riverview; and aunt, Tammy (Dave) Loeman of Romulus.

Services were held Monday at Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Canton with Pastor Roger F. Aumann officiating. Burial was at Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the Michael Kilgore Scholarship Fund.

अअबको छ। मालकुर्य , मेर्नियो ए कन्द्रान वासित ६ व्योप रोष्ट्रा रा



..... MIKE KILGORE

# Agenda

#### THIS WEEK

 Tomorrow is Irish Writers Night at the Box Bar in downtown Plymouth. The Rev. Rod Reinhart and company will read and sing traditional Irish poetry and music, beginning at 8 p.m. \$5 at the door.

#### THIS WEEKEND

- Saturday from 9 11 a.m. in the Canton High School cafeteria, Plymouth-Canton Schools will hold registration for Kiddie Kampus and Kiddie Crew. Call 416-2937 for rates.
- Saturday, three instructors from the Plymouth Community Arts Council will hold a photo workshop for kids, ages 10–14, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Cost, \$32. Call 416-4ART to register.

#### **NEXT WEEK**

- Tuesday, the Plymouth Community Council on Aging will make a trip to London, Ontario for a Special St. Paddy's Day Ragtime Revue. Cost, \$53. Call the council for more information, at 453-1234 ext. 236.
- Wednesday the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce holds its State of the Community breakfast. Space is limited. Reservations: 453-1540.

#### INDEX

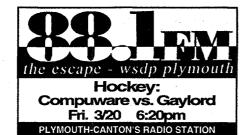
Business	pg. 8
Friends & Neighbors	pg. 6
Happeningspgs.	10 - 11
Deaths	pg. 19
Sportspgs.	23 - 25
Opinionspgs.	26 - 27



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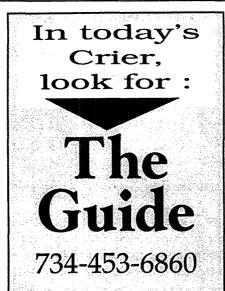


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#### **NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is requesting proposals for a Group <u>Dental Insurance Program</u>. Interested and qualified companies may obtain information and proposal forms by telephoning (734)416-4834-- Personnel Department-- during regular business hours. Proposals are due on or before 2:00 P.M. on Friday, April 3, 1998.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept any or reject all proposals, as they judge to be in the best interest of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

John F. Farrow, Secretary **Board of Education** Plymouth-Canton Community Schools

Publish: March 4th and March 11

# Hanford Road steps closer to Canton Center connection

Road could be traffic-ready by July

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton's Board of Trustees voted Tuesday to deed the Hanford Road right-of-way to Wayne County, bringing the project one step closer to comple-

The project has been a thorn in the side of township engineers since they undertook to connect Hanford Road with Canton Center Road.

The project began in May when Canton was forced to condemn the property to obtain the right-of-way from property owners. Under the condemnation procedure, the township claims the land for the public good and offers the owners fair market value for it.

The project also faced other setbacks, such as relocating a Detroit Edison telephone pole, filling in hand-dug wells and replacing inadequate sewer lines, according to Tom Casari, Canton engineer. The final cost of the project rose to more than \$500,000, he said.

Originally scheduled to be complete July."

last fall, the project was shut down by the county for the winter.

Deeding the right-of-way to the county was necessary for the county to take over jurisdiction of the road, Casari

"The right of way had been deeded to us by the property owners," he said.

Casari said that the project will still be completed by the township.

"We've already done a lot of prep work and hired contractors," he said. "They'll inspect the construction, we'll finish it.'

The deed only requires the signature of the Township Clerk and Supervisor before it is ready to be delivered to the county, Casari said. Construction will begin again as soon as the weather

"We should be out there early in the spring," he said. "We should have it completed by June. I don't see any reason why it won't be open to traffic by

### Goal is 'no money from taxpayers'

Continued from pg. 2

insured through MMRMA for \$3.4 million, which covered the building and its contents, according to Erdman. In addition, the building itself was insured for \$1.9 million by the city of Plymouth.

The court has already spent about \$1.5 million on the temporary buildings, new equipment and other costs of operating out of several locations while the temporary buildings were erected, Erdman said. Depending on the outcome of the insurance negotiations, the court could have an additional \$2-\$4 million to use to rebuild the court.

If the court board can balance needs and costs to find a midway point with the architects, the building could cost about \$6 million. Including the \$1 million in debt from the old building and the insurance funds, the court could be looking at financing about \$5 million.

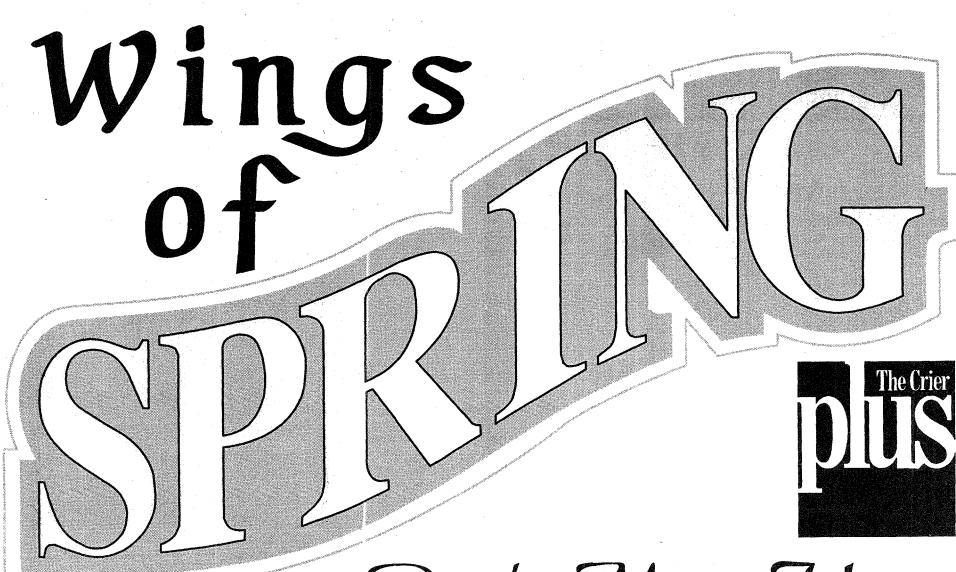
The court more than supports itself, according to Erdman. The court operates from a budget generated from ticket and court fees from the five communities, according to Erdman. Excess funds generated are returned to the five communities based on the percentage each community contributes to the caseload, he said.

"We return an average of \$1.2 million back to the communities," Erdman said. This year, instead of returning the excess funds to the communities, the board could redirect a portion of the funds to rebuild the courthouse, Erdman said.

Bonds could also be sold to finance the balance, according to Lowe. "Ideally we could withhold from revenues what the bond payments will be," he said. "If the communities are willing to tighten their belts in two years maybe they will be willing to tighten them now."

"The goal is not to take the money for rebuilding the courthouse out of the pockets of the taxpayers," Erdman added.





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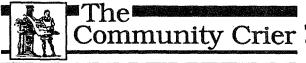
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# Friends & neighbors

# Neighbors in the news

Amy Sonnanstine, daughter of Alan and Kathy Sonnanstine of Plymouth, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall, 1997 semester at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio.

Sonnanstine, a 1997 graduate of Canton High School, is majoring in Biology and Theater. She is also a member of the Varsity Swim Team, the Symphony Orchestra and the Flute Choir.

Steven G. Decker of Plymouth has been named to the Dean's List at Iowa State University.

Andrew Allison, of Northville and Juby Thuruthumaly of Plymouth were among the Ferris State University graduates following the fall semester of 1997.

The following students from Canton were named to the fall semester's honors list at Central Michigan Univesity: Heather Aquino, Jennifer Bologna, Jennifer Carter, Tonya Drain, Margaret Gross, Nicole Packard, Anthony Randazzo, Jeanine Swanson, Vanessa Thomas, and Karen Woodburn; from Northville: William Brenner, Jennifer Chalifour, Shannon Colligan, Joseph Hammond, Neil Harrington, Jeanette Hursey, Michelle MacKinder and Jason Petrie; and from Plymouth: Denae Malinowski, Andrew McDonald, Kelli Perkins, and Margaret Tibaldi.

The following students from Plymouth were among the graduates from Central Michigan University: Stuart Gaft, Julie Hogan, Christopher Johnson, Carol Marshall, and Cynthia Swift; from Northville: Sharon Bass, Tracy Delcampo and Shannon Kokila; and from Canton: Richard Bobosky, Kyle Buchop, Kelly Dividock, Corinne Flynn, kristin Manini, James Meyette, Debra Michels, Daniel Pezolt, Mary Polce, Anthony Randazzo, David Robin, and Michael So.

Matthew P. Mosley of Plymouth, a student in Feris State University's College of Pharmacy, was recently selected for inclusion in the 1997 edition of 'Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.'

Selections are based on Academic achievements, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success

# **Dueling pianos**

Father and son pianists, Plymouth Symphony play Concerto for Two Pianos in D Major

The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra and guest pianists, Joseph and Michael Gurt, will perform Poulenc's 'Conerto for Two Pianos in D Major.'

An Ann Arbor resident, Joseph Gurt graduated from the Juilliard School of Music and has studie under Dorothy Taubman. In addition to performing in the United States, Gurt has also performed in Australia, Canada and Isreal. He has also performed in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore. Gurt has played with many professional and community orchestras and chamber music groups, including the Detroit Symphony.

In addition to his live work, he has made a wide variety of recordings such as two compact discs and has premiered the works of several important composers. Since 1967, he had served on the faculty of Eastern Michigan University, where he is currently a professor of music. He also serves on the summer faculty of the Dorothy Tauban School of Piano at Amherst College.

Michael, his son, is a chip off the old block. He received his early training from his father and went on to graduate with top honors from the University of Michigan School of Music. Michael also is a graduate of the Juilliard School in New York, where he won several honors, including the William Petschek Scholarship.

After winning First Prize in the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, Michael was invited to give recitals in several cities throughout the U.S. He is presently Associate Professor of Piano and chair of the piano department at Louisiana State University and serves as the head of the piano department at the Sewanee Summer Music Center in Tennessee.

The performance will be held at 8 p.m., Saturday, April 4, at the Novi High School Auditorium. Tickets range from \$12 for



adults to \$10 for senior citizens and college students, and \$6 for K-12th grade students.

An afterglow wil be hled at the Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River in Farmington Hills.

For tickets or more information call the Plymouth Symphony office at (734) 451-2112.

# Improvisation group to perform at Summit

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The Empatheatre troupe would like to tell you about their upcoming show at Canton's Summit on the Park, but even they don't know what it will be about vet.

They won't know until the night of their March 28 performance.

The improvisational troupe's performance depends on the audience, according to Kathleen Salla, volunteer coordinator with Canton Township.

"Their usual format is to invite the audience to submit situations they want

the troupe to enact," Salla said. "They pass out cards before the show and people write down what they'd like to see."

Salla said Empatheatre members collect the cards, put their heads together and act out the situations they chose. No scripts, no rehearsals.

"It can be either very funny or dramatic depending on the situation," she said. "It's often very thought-provoking. I get's people to think about the situation."

The improvisational group performs every month at the Kerrytown Concert House in Ann Arbor, where Salla first

saw them. They also host workshops on improvisational and drama techniques, she said.

The show starts at 8 p.m. and will feature several skits, Salla said. Empatheatre will also ask the audience to draw something on a blank canvas and interpret the drawing through pantomime, she said.

Tickets for the show are \$10 and can be purchased at Arnoldt Williams at Canton Center and Maben roads; or at the Summit, Salla said. For more information, call (734) 397-6450

"It'll be a fun, informal evening."

# Art show features minority heritages

Canton Project Arts and the Arts League of Michigan are teaming up to provide a special touring art exhibit, according to Kathleen Salla, volunteer coordinator for Canton Township.

Entitled "She Be Me," the exhibit features work by female artists with African American, Asian American Hispanic American and Native American heritage, she said.

"It's a juried exhibit, and it has had a tremendous response," Salla said. "We have about 30 pieces."

She Be Me features works of art such as water colors, oils, sculptures, and photography as well as other fine arts, Salla said. They will be on exhibit in the Summit on the Park's banquet center grand hall, she said.

The Arts League of Michigan, Inc. is a non-profit artist organization that supports the needs of minority artists and arts organizations.

For more information Call 397-6450.

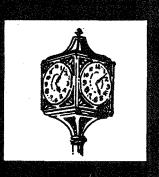


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# Getting down to business



Estate Builders of Troy has announced the grand opening of the new Royal Pointe West subdivision in Canton.

Located at Ridge and Warren roads, the luxury single family homes feature cathedral ceilings, custom appliances and other amenities.

Models are open from 12 to 6 p.m. daily. For information call 254-9430.

The board of directors of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Executives (MCCE) has recognized Carleigh Flaharty of the Canton Chamber of Commerce with a Michigan Chamber Professional Award.

The award is given to those who have achieved specific educational and training goals. The program was developed in 1990 to encourage and maintain high standards among Chamber of Commerce executives.

MCCE is a statewide organization of individuals involved in the management of Chambers of Commerce.

Plymouth's **Sunshine Honda** is organizing a Child Safety Day event on April 4 as part of a national campaign to educate parents about child safety-related issues like mising children, pedestrian and motor vehicle safety and fire safety.

Events already scheduled for the day include a car seat and safety belt demonstration, chld safety literature and a child safety video. For more information call Debbie Normali at (734) 453-3600.

Absopure Water of Plymouth will make an appearance at the 80th annual Builders Home and Detroit Flower Show at Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center March 12 - March 15.

Paul E. Tait has been named executive director of SEMCOG, the Southeastern Council of Governments.

Tait has been with SEMCOG since 1972 and has served as SEMCOG's deputy executive director since 1982.

Prince, a Johnson Controls company based in Holland, MI, has won a 1998 PACE award from Automotive News and Ernst & Young for its industry-leading priduct innovation.

Prince received the award for developing CorteX, an advanced energy-absorbing material for use in vehicle overhead systems, door panels and other interior products.

## Dürr industries sets the PACE

Plymouth firm wins PACE Award for innovative automotive paint oven

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Plymouth's Dürr industries, Inc. was one of six automotive suppliers to be honored with a 1998 PACE Award.

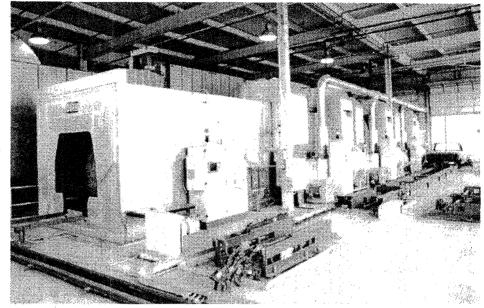
The Pace award stands for Premier Automotive suppliers Contribution to Excellence, and is co-sponsored by Automotive News. It recognizes product, manufacturing and service achievements by automotive suppliers of all sizes.

Dürr was recognized for the development of its Ecocure Radiant Floor Construction oven (RFC), according to Dave Crompton, senior engineer in charge of research and development at Dürr.

The RFC oven was designed to revolutionize the way automobiles are painted, Crompton said. Traditionally cars are sprayed with paint and then cured in paint ovens. It differs from conventional ovens because it utilizes the floor as its main heat source, Crompton said

"It's in response to trends in the automotive industry," he said. "The use of plastic is becoming more popular and it presents unique challenges in the painting process."

Plastic car parts have different maximum temperatures and require different uniform cooking temperatures than do metal car parts, he said. The RFC oven could make it more cost effective to cure paint on plastic and metal car parts simultaneously, allowing the car to be painted in one piece, Crompton said.



The Radiant Floor Construction oven (RFC), developed by Dürr Industries, Inc, won the Plymouth company a 1998 PACE Award.

Cars move through the RFC on a conveyor belt, which moves them through three stages: a bring-up zone, an equalizer zone and a hold zone, Crompton said.

The first two zones, which heat the car up quickly and then equalize the temperature of the car's surface, are augmented by radiant heat walls. These walls concentrate the necessary heat on the lower, denser car parts, according to Crompton.

The hold zone uses only the radiant floor to maintain the car's body temperature. It eliminates the need for air circulation, which reduces the possibility that dirt may be deposited on the vehicle during the curing process, Crompton said.

Since the RFC requires fewer filters and parts, it's also cheaper to build, according to Sally West, marketing director at Durr.

"It doesn't require as much to build and it gets hotter faster, so it doesn't require as much energy," she said.

Already supplying about 80 per cent of paint systems for automotive assembly plants, Durr has some RFC ovens online, according to West.

# New charges confuse consumers

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Residents may notice an additional charge on their phone bills beginning this month.

Called a federal universal service fund charge, the extra fee is mandated by the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

"The federal government requires it of all telecommunications companies," said Mary Jackson, a spokesperson for Ameritech.

Although the charge may just now be showing up on telephone bills, it has been a part of telecommunication philosophy for years, according to Gail Boesky, chief of staff for U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers.

"It was never specifically put on the bills before," she said.

According to Boesky, telecommunications firms have charged business and urban users more than the cost of their services to subsidize the costs of connecting phone lines to lower use, rural

"Universal service has been in effect for years and called redistribution costs," she said. "Because the cost of connecting rural phone lines is much more if you charged rural customers for hookups it would cost them a lot more. The concept has been in place for a long time."

The concept was expanded this year to set aside funds to support Internet connections for schools, libraries and rural health care providers—organizations that could benefit from the hookups, but who do not have the funds to pursue them.

Some residents feel they are being unjustly charged to subsidize these services.

"Our school and libraries are already hooked up," said Plymouth resident Eli Nichols. Nichols noted the charge of \$.65 will soon be added to his Ameritech phone bill for the Universal Service Fund.

Boesky said the fund was designed to level costs between rural and non-rural customers. The school and library subsidies are designed to set federal matches for state and local funds.

Even so, the bill isn't popular, even among the lawmakers who signed it.

"We're getting a lot of noise over this issue," Boesky said. "It's difficult to tell who is being charged what. You literally have to sit down with each individual's phone bill. Some of these are hidden provisions that no one knew about and didn't have enough time to pursue."

Boesky said lawmakers are looking at the bill, to determine better ways of implementing the USF.

"It's a crazy area, and it's very difficult to sort it out."

# Twp. bides time buying ballot machines

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

After the State of Michigan passed a to require all districts across the state to double their required number of voting units, Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill was a bit weary.

She knew that not only would the new purchases be costly, the number required by the state may also be unnecessary. That's because, according to Massengill, the current voter registration number is inflated by as much as 1,500.

'Unless we are notified by that person, there is no way for us to tell when a registered voter has moved out of the township," said Massengill. "It is illegal, according to the National Voter Registration Act to remove voters from because of low activity."

Therefore the current registered voter number of 19,580 includes persons who no longer live in the township. "1,500 is just a guess of how much we are over," Massengill said, "but I would be surprised if it were much less than that."

There is a state-run system currently in the works that would eliminate inflated registration

# Landlords monitor flooding

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Defective Products

BY JACLYN CRUZ

In downtown Plymouth, some business owners are closely watching Tonquish Creek. Each year the creek's waters reach over the banks and seep into the businesses and basements of downtown Plymouth. In 1977 and 1978 flooding caused damage in the central business district.

Heavy rainfall late Sunday night and early Monday morning caused flooding in the Plymouth-Canton Community and filled creeks and rivers to near capacity. As some residents know flooding in years past has created a bother and a hazard.

The Landlord Committee, an informal group of landlords in downtown Plymouth affiliated with the Chamber of Commerce, says the creek is a threat. The committee recently presented City Manager Steve Walters with their concerns.

In response, the city will send city engineers through the Tonquish Creek tunnel with a video camera to check the tunnel's condition. "Checking the tube periodically," said Walters, "is the prudent thing to do." So is the repair of the inlet at Harvey Street, he said, which was approved at the last City Commission meeting. According to Walters, the walk-through will take place as soon as weather conditions, and safety regulations

In Canton, township engineer Tom Casari said that although "no real damage was done" in the weekend's rains, residents should regularly check their sump pumps to see that they are operating properly. In lower levels, moving valuables to higher shelves is also a good

Called the Qualified Voter File (QVF), it is a large database of all the registered voters in the state. Anytime someone moves from one city to another, as recorded by the Secretary of State's office, the QVF would take that person off the list of the township or city that they previously had lived in.

"Everybody will be registered with the State program," said Massengill. "We have sent in our disk (containing the registered voter list) already.

Originally slated to be up and running by the first of the year, the QVF is yet to get online. The current target date is for the August primary," said Ed Loomis, an analyst for the QVF.

For Massengill, that should be in plenty of time. The state's new requirements of having one voter unit per 200 voters (as opposed to the old law which required one per 400) won't be met by the township this year, she said. Therefore, the inflated number wouldn't affect the township until they purchase every unit required.

The township currently owns 74 voter units, according to Massengill. In order to meet the new requirements, they must have 109. "My intent is to order 16 new units this year, then 16 next year, and the rest in the year 2000" she said.

According to Massengil, the reason for spreading the purchases out is financial. "This way we can afford them," she said. 16 units costs the township about \$34,000.

The law was passed by the state last year following loads of complaints from residents who had to deal with long lines during the 1996 elections. Although there are no time line specifics laid out in the law, Massengil said she hopes the state will allow her to spread out the purchases as she has.

"If the state comes in and says that we are not complying, I might have make all the purchases this year," she said. "We would have to amend the budget in order to buy the new ones."

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Community Crier

If you witness an act of kindness, if an organization you are associated with plans a good deed, or if someone is especially kind to you, please write a letter to The Kindness Editor describing the act of kindness. We will gather the reports and publish some of them on a special page on March 18th.

The Community Crier staff will choose an outstanding act of kindness and present a \$50 reward to the kind person, and \$25 each to the runners-up. So if you know somebody who deserves a reward, let us know, who knows, maybe together we can help start new habits. We need to receive your nominations by March 13th to be

considered for the March page.

Elizabeth M. Johnson Atty. at Law

The Community Crier

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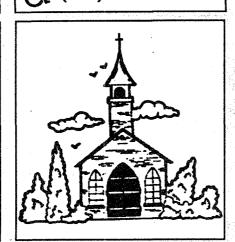
FAMILY WORSHIP CHILDREN'S CHURCH NURSERY

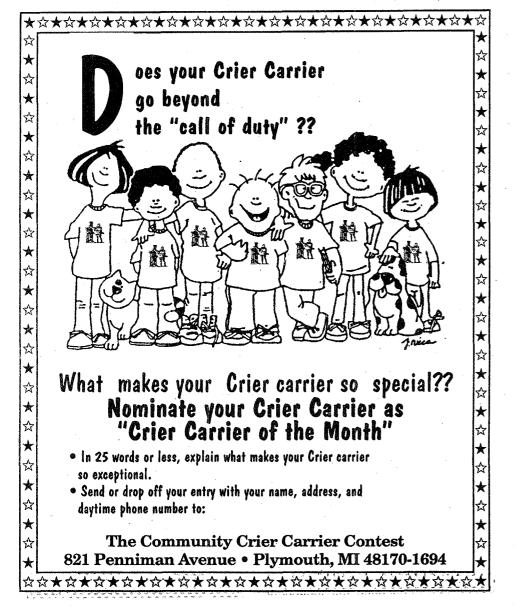
#### TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth at Gotfredson & Ann Arbor Rd. (From M-14 take Gotfredson Rd South) 8:00am Praise & Worship Service

9:30am Lifeline-Contemporary Service 11:00 am Traditional Service
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Rev. Wm. Branham - Assoc. Pastor
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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).



# Volunteer

#### MICHIGAN CANCER FOUNDATION

Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute is looking for volunteers to provide transportation for cancer patients in P-C-N area. Call 313-561-8880, 10 a.m to 4 p.m.

#### MENTORS NEEDED

Growth Works is recruiting and training mentors for the Plymouth-Canton Youth Assistance program. The program is aimed at mentors age 21 or older. If you have two hours a week to help with reducing delinquent behavior in adolescents, call Lynne Ponder at 734-397-3181 or 734-455-4095

#### RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

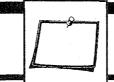
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program needs volunteers in Canton to help children with basic math and reading tutoring. Free training. Call 313-883-2100 ext. 368.

#### FISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FISH of P-C's in need of volunteers to assist in aiding neighbors who can't help themselves. To be a driver, caller, or run errands, call 734-261-1011, leave a message.

#### NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

St. Mary Hospital seeks retired medical professionals to volunteer for a new screening program for newborns. Volunteer services at 734-655-2912 or 1-800-494-1652.



# **Events**

#### CANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANTIQUE SHOW

The Canton Historical Society is hosting "An Antique Show and Tell" Thursday, at 7:30 p.m. at the Canton Historical Museum. This event is open to the public and newcomers are invited to bring a few collectables and antiques of their own to share. Refreshments will be served. Call 734-397-0088 for details.

#### IRISH WRITER'S NIGHT

The Plymouth Poets are hosting Irish Writer's Night Thursday at 8:00 p.m. at the Box Bar in Plymouth. A night of serious listening, performances and open microphones. This program will be videotaped for broadcast on The Poet and the Power on Media One. Cost is \$5 at the door. For more information call Rod Reinhart at 734-459-7319.

#### SPRING FLING MOTHER/SON HOEDOWN

Grab your partner and join in the fun Friday, at the Mother -Son Spring Fling Hoedown at the Northville Parks and Recreation Center from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Ages 4-12 are welcome and tickets are \$18 per couple and \$22 for Mom and two dates. Enjoy music, dancing and refreshments and one complimentary Polaroid photo. Call 248-349-0203. VFW #6695 ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day, March 17, with a traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner at the VFW Hall #6695, 1426 S. Mill, Plymouth. The public is welcome and tickets are \$5.50 per person. Serving from noon until the food runs out. Call 734-459-6700.

BOWLING/SILENT AUCTION FUND RAISER

Friends of Gary Johnson are putting on a Bowling/Silent Auction Fund Raiser Saturday, March 21 to help in his fight with cancer. The fund raiser starts at 8:30 p.m. at Vision Bowling Lanes on Ford Road. Cost to bowl is \$15 per person which includes three games and shoes. Call Jerry Gibson at 734-453-0555 for more information or to make a dona-

#### 1998 TASTE OF NORTHVILLE BUSINESS SHOWCASE

The "Northville's Got Taste" showcase will feature 70 exhibitors from retail, service, and professional businesses in the Northville Community. This is a chance for business networking, excellent food, and promotional goodies. The event is at the Northville Community Center on March 24 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.
PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY LEAGUE

March 25, the Plymouth Symphony League will host a Game and Card Party at the Golden Fox Country Club from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A luncheon and fashion show are included. Tickets are \$25. For more information call 734-451-5598.

LIBERTY FEST LOGO CONTEST

Canton Township Parks and Recreation is sponsoring the Liberty Fest '98 Logo Contest for P-C's School children, grades 3-12. The Logo contest gets artistic youth actively involved in the community. Return entries to D & M Studio's at 8691 Lilley, Canton. Entry deadline is March 27th. Call Sharon Dillenbeck at 734-453-3710.

BARBIE DOLL/ GRANTS-A-WISH WEEKEND

The Creat Lakes Parkie Dell Callectors Club is generating the Ninth Append Creat A

The Great Lakes Barbie Doll Collectors Club is sponsoring the Ninth Annual Grant-A-Wish Weekend from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., March 29, at the Livonia Marriott. Bring your old dolls, clothing and accessories for appraisals. Admission is \$4 to benefit children's charities. Call Kathleen Dinga 734-432-5146.

#### **CRAFTERS WANTED**

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation is looking for crafters for its Annual Spring Arts and Crafts show April 4. An 8 ft. table space is \$50 and admission and parking are free. Interested crafters call 734-455-6620.



#### What's Happening

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Information received BY NOON FRIDAY will be used for Wednesday's calendar (space permitting).



FISHY FRYDAY... Summit on the Park in Canton will host a Fish Fry every Friday through April 10. Each week's proceeds will go to a different charity. Carry-outs are available and dinner is served from 4 -7:00 p.m. Call 734-397-6800.



# Groups

#### FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

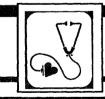
The Northville District Library presents a series of free computer classes. The first class "How to buy a computer" is presented by Richard Truxall, coordinator of Continuing Education for the library network Thursday, 7:00 p.m. The Northville Library is located at 212 W. Cady St. Call 248-349-3020 for registration.

#### ECUMENICAL LENTEN GATHERINGS

The Plymouth Ministerial Association is once again sponsoring its annual Ecumenical Lenten Gatherings Wednesdays during Lent through April 1. A luncheon of bread and soup will be provided and all proceeds will benefit the Plymouth Salvation Army. Call 734-453-0326 for details.

#### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS APRIL BOOK SALE

New and used books are needed for the League of Women Voters book sale fundraiser. Hardcover and paperback books in different categories of nonfiction and fiction for all ages are received. Call Esther Friedrichs at 734-427-0222 or Marge Gade 734-261-3191.



# Health

#### IMMUNIZATION CLINIC FOR CHILDREN

Saturday, St. Joseph Mercy Health System located at 990 W. Ann Arbor Trail., Plymouth is offering children's vaccinations for \$5 per child (except for chicken pox) from 10 a.m. to1 p.m. For more information call 734-414-1000.

#### CHILDBIRTH EDUCATION CLASS

Learn what to expect during pregnancy, labor and delivery. A six-week session will be held 7-9 p.m. every Tuesday through March 17. To register or for more information call 734-655-1100 or toll free 1-800-494-1615.

#### ASSAULT/ SELF DEFENSE LECTURE

MedHealth Wellness Center is hosting an interactive lecture on assault prevention and self defense Thursday, March 26, from 7-8:00 p.m. Participants will learn useful, common sense tips providing realistic ways to avoid assault and self-defense techniques. The program is free to Medhealth members, \$5 for non-members. Call 734-459-1800 to reserve a space.

#### **FOCUS ON LIVING**

A self-help group for cancer patients and their families meets the first Wednesday of each month at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. Meetings are from 7-8:30 p.m. in the hospital auditorium. Call 734-655-2922 or 800-494-1650 for details.

Your GUIDE to commercial entertainment in the Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. Also note community and non-profit groups' events, listed in this Crier under What's

CANTON CINEMA 6
734-981-1900; "Titanic" "Good
Will Hunting" "As Good As It
Gets" "Kissing a Fool" "U.S.
Marshals" "Hush" "Twilight".

#### CENTER STAGE

734-981-5122; Thurs. - Sat.: Dance to mainstream music rock, alternative & more.

#### COFFEE STUDIO

734-416-9288; Wed.: Open Mic. Night.

#### ernesto's

734-453-2002; Mon.-Thurs.: Strolling Musicians; Tues.-Sat.: Live Music in Piano Bar.

#### KARL'S COUNTRY CABIN

734-455-8450; Live Blues Music every Thursday night.

#### THE LOWER TOWN GRILL

734-451-1213; Fri. & Sat.: The Witchdoctors.

#### LUCILLE'S TAVERN

734-397-1988; Thurs. – Sat.: Dixie Cross Road Band.

#### NORTHVILLE DOWNS

810-349-1000; Harness racing. Every night except Sun. & Wed.

#### PENN THEATRE

734-453-0870; Now playing: "The Boxer" (R) & "Anastatia"

#### **PLYMOUTH WHALERS**

734-453-8400; Tonight: Home against Windsor. Sat.: Playoffs begin at Compuware Arena.

#### STARTING GATE

248-349-5660; Fri. & Sat.: Live music w/Rick & Becky.

#### STATION 885 RESTAURANT

734-459-0885; Wed. - Sat.: Keyboardist Wally Gibson; Fri. & Sat.: with special guests.

#### **WEST SIDE SINGLES**

734-981-0909; Every Fri.: Friday dances at Burton Manor.

These listings are free of charge and are accurate as of noon Friday, prepared for Wednesday's Crier. Bookings reservations, cover charges and capacities may change, so please call to verify information. A venue wishing to be listed or to update information should call The Crier at (734) 453-6900 by noon Friday.

# PLYMOUTH'S



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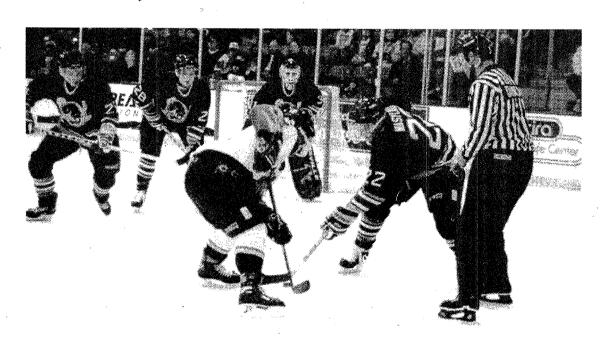
# PLAYOFF HOCKEY IS HERE

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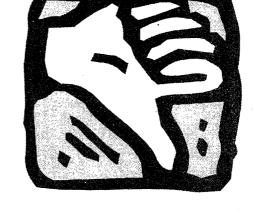
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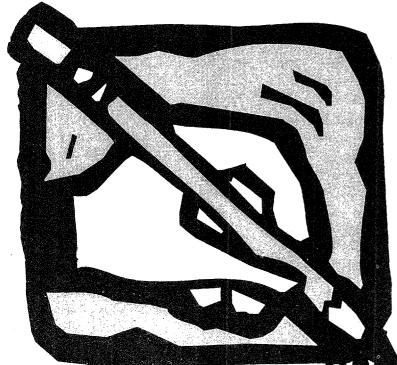
YOU tell us what's Best... and Worst about Life in The

**Community!** 









Return by April I to your choice of:

- The Crier821 Penniman Ave.Plymouth
- The Plymouth Library
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# The Crier presents Readers Rate for 1998



What's your opinion?

The Community Crier once again asks you, our readers, your opinions of a whole host of services you use — including ours.

We'd like to invite you to tell us what you think about your community and about The Crier.

Give a letter grade by circling the answer on topics you are familiar with, listed on this page and the next.

This survey gives you the chance to rate a number of community services you frequently read about in your newspaper. Tell us what you think. We'll publish the results once they've been tabulated. Our editors will use these findings to help focus on issues that most affect you. While this survey isn't a scientific sampling, it is one way you can register your opinions, and how

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARDS** 

they stack-up against those of your neighbors.

Of course, The Community Crier is always interested in hearing what you think — by phone (734) 453-6900; by mail, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170; or by E-mail, CrierNews@AOL.COM. The Readers Rate survey is a good place to start, too.

To add some friendly encouragement, all completed surveys will be entered in a drawing for four "dinners for two" at four different restaurants in The Plymouth-Canton Community.

Please return your survey to by 5 p.m., Wednesday, April 1, to:

The Community Crier

821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170-1694

Or to the Plymouth or Canton Library

Please do not fax your responses. Faxed responses will not be tabulated.

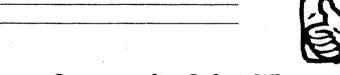
**ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICE PROVIDERS** 

#### Circle your letter choices below: A= Excellent E=Awful

#### City of Plymouth Commission D E В C Plymouth Township Board $\mathbf{C}$ D E Americast В $\mathbf{C}$ D E В C В D E Canton Township Board В $\mathbf{C}$ D E Media One A C D C В E Plymouth-Canton School Board D WSDP, 88.1 FM B E В $\mathbf{C}$ D E $\mathbf{C}$ The Community Crier Plymouth-Canton Schools, overall В D E C $\mathbf{C}$ The GUIDE to P-C-N В D E Elementary schools В D E Α $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{C}$ Oakwood Hospital, Canton В D E Middle schools В D E $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{C}$ McCauley/Arbor Health, P-C В D E High schools Α В D E В C D E $\mathbf{C}$ St. Mary's Hospital, Livonia Community continuing education В D E Α $\mathbf{C}$ Henry Ford, Plymouth, Canton В $\mathbf{C}$ D E School Superintendent $\mathbf{B}$ D E Ċ $\mathbf{C}$ M-Care, Plymouth, Northville В D E Central Administration В D E $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{C}$ В $\mathbf{D}$ В D E Plymouth Community United Way E **Building Principals** Α Α **Teachers** В C E $\mathbf{C}$ A D **Canton Foundation** В D E $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{C}$ Parent-Teacher groups В D D E GrowthWorks В E Α $\mathbf{C}$ Schoolcraft College В $\mathbf{C}$ A D E Plymouth Family Services В D E Α Plymouth library $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{C}$ В D E **Canton Family Services** В D E A $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{C}$ Canton library В D E First Step A В D E Canton Parks & Recreation В $\mathbf{C}$ Salvation Army $\mathbf{C}$ Α D E В D E A City of Plymouth Parks & Recreation В $\mathbf{C}$ Goodfellows ·C Α D E В D E Α Plymouth Twp. Parks & Recreation $\mathbf{C}$ C В D E Service Clubs В D E Α Wayne County Parks C $\mathbf{C}$ A В D E United Way В D E A **Huron-Clinton Metroparks** $\mathbf{C}$ C E Α $\mathbf{B}$ D Plymouth Senior Citizen programs $\mathbf{B}$ D E Plymouth Cultural Center Ice Rink $\mathbf{C}$ C $\mathbf{B}$ D E Canton Senior Citizen programs В D E A Plymouth Township, overall В $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{C}$ Α D E D.A.R.E. В D E Α Canton Township, overall В $\mathbf{C}$ E C E A D Ply. Comm. Chamber of Commerce В D Α City of Plymouth, overall $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{B}$ D E В D Α Canton Chamber of Commerce A E Plymouth City Manager В $\mathbf{C}$ D $\mathbf{C}$ Α E **YMCA** В D E Α Canton Supervisor В $\mathbf{C}$ D $\mathbf{C}$ E Close-up В D Α E Plymouth Township Supervisor $\mathbf{C}$ В $\mathbf{C}$ D E **Community Literacy Council** A В D E $\mathbf{C}$ Secretary of State, Canton В D E A M.E.S.C., Canton office $\mathbf{B}$ $\mathbf{C}$ D E **PUBLIC SAFETY** Α Plymouth Post Office/Delivery В $\mathbf{C}$ D E Α City of Plymouth Police $\mathbf{C}$ Α В D E $\mathbf{C}$ Canton Post Office/Delivery B D E Plymouth Township Police $\mathbf{C}$ В D E Canton Township Police $\mathbf{B}$ $\mathbf{C}$ D E Α Which of the previous groups listed are unfamiliar to you? $\mathbf{C}$ 35th District Court $\mathbf{B}$ D E Wayne County Circuit Court $\mathbf{C}$ В D E Wayne County Sheriff $\mathbf{C}$ В D E $\mathbf{C}$ State Police В D E Plymouth Community Fire & Rescue В $\mathbf{C}$ D Α E Canton Township Fire & Rescue В $\mathbf{C}$ Α D E Have you ever called the police? Yes No Do you feel safe here? Yes No

#### – The Crier presents Readers Rate for 1998 –

EV	ENTS	i			<b>ABOUT ISSUES IN THE NEWS, YOU SAY</b>					
Plymouth Fall Festival A			C	D	E	The City and Township of Plymouth should share recreation serv	ices			
Canton Liberty Fest	Α	В	C	D	E		Yes	No		
Ice Sculpture Spectacular	Α	В	C	D	E	The YMCA should run such a program	Yes	No		
Art In the Park	Α	В	C	D	E	The City and Township of Plymouth should share police services	Yes	No		
Good Morning USA				P		The City and Township of Plymouth should unify governments	Yes	No		
(July 4th parade, Plymouth)	Α	В	C	D	E	Plymouth Township should increase its fire and police millages				
Canton Businessperson of the Year	Α	В	C	D	E	this year	Yes	No		
Santa comes to Canton	Α	В	C	D	E	Plymouth Township should build a township hall	Yes	No		
Plymouth Christmas Kickoff	Α	В	C	D	E	Downtown Plymouth should change its parking requirements	Yes	No		
Kellogg Park Nativity scene	Α	В	C	D	E	The City of Plymouth needs a stricter noise ordinance	Yes	No		
Canton Chamber Auction and						Canton should become a city	Yes	No		
Dinner Dance	Α	В	C	D	E	Canton should pass a local road millage	Yes	No		
Plymouth Chamber Auction	Α	В	C	D	E	Canton should invest \$3 million in a Ford Road-I-275				
Chili Cook-off	Α	В	C	D	E	development	Yes	No		
						Plymouth Township, Canton and Northville are growing				
CULT	URAI	L				too quickly	Yes	No		
Plymouth Community Arts Council	Α	В	C	D	E	P-C Schools should hold a revote for its contested school bond	Yes	No		
Canton Historical Society	A	В	Ċ	D	E	If the Lowell Middle School lease is lost, P-C Schools should				
Plymouth Historical Society	A	В	C	D	Ē	pass a bond to build another	Yes	No		
Plymouth Symphony	A	В	C	D	E	Overcrowding is a problem in Plymouth-Canton's:				
Canton Seniors' Kitchen Band	A	В	C	D	$\mathbf{E}$	Elementary schools	Yes	No		
Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps	Α	В	C	D	E	Middle schools	Yes	No		
Plymouth Theatre Guild	Α	В	C	D	E	High schools	Yes	No		
Plymouth Community Band	Α	В	C	D	E	You get your money's worth for local government taxes in:				
Plymouth Community Chorus	Α	В	C	D	Е	City of Plymouth	Yes	No		
CEP Park Players	$\mathbf{A}^{\tilde{a}}$	В	C	D	E	Plymouth Township	Yes	No		
CEP Marching Band	Α	В	C	D	E	Canton	Yes	No		
CEP Symphony	Α	В	C	D	Ε	You get your money's worth for Plymouth-Canton School taxes	Yes	No		
CEP Percussion Ensemble	Α	В	C	D	Е	If one road/intersection were to be improved in 1998, it should be	e			
Plymouth Whalers	Α	В	C	D	E	Your favorite pothole is located at				
•						The most under-covered issue has been				
Your additional comments on these	or othe	r issue:	s: EDIT	OR'S	NOTE -					
These may be quoted with the tabulat	ed repo	ort on th	nis surv	ey.		On The Crier's opinion pages, you have heard enough bickering	ng abo	ut the		
					<del></del>	contested school bond	Yes	No		
						ताले हारा ताले हारा	M	(.2		
						マン いら マン いら	12.	W		
							13			













#### Rate your Community Crier: What would you change in the newspaper? Rate your Community Crier: (circle one) What would you change in The Crier?







		. 1100				Run More	No Change	Run Less
School coverage	Α	В	C	D	E			
Canton coverage	Α	В	C	D	E			
City of Plymouth coverage	Α	В	C	D	E		<u> </u>	
Plymouth Township coverage	Α	В	C	D	E			
Northville City/Township coverage	Α	В	C	D	E			
Police-Court coverage	Α	В	C	D	E			
Business coverage	Α	В	C	D	E			
Sports coverage	Α	В	C	D	E			
Opinion pages	Α	В	C	D	E			
Letters to the editor	Α	В	C	D	E			
Friends and Neighbors	Α	В	C	D	Е			
What's Happening	Α	$\mathbf{B}$	C	- <b>D</b>	E			
Go P-C-N	Α	В	C	D	E			
Local history	Α	В	C	D	E			
Classified ads	Α	В	C	D	E			
Curiosities	Α	В	C	D	E	. 0		.0
Display ads	Α	В	C	D	$\mathbf{E}^{^{a}}$			
Other	. A	В	C	D	Ε			

#### - The Crier presents Readers Rate for 1998 ——

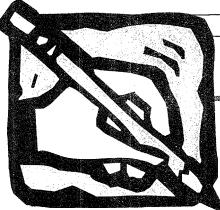
In our entire community, readers nominate

Best coffee spot, dine in:	
Best cup of coffee, to go:	
Best burger:	
Best meal:	
Best new restaurant:	
Best store to shop:	
Best barber/stylist:	
Best police officer:	
Best waiter/waitress:	CATEGORY NOMINEE (who, what, where?)
Best bartender:	
Best doughnut/bagel/muffin:	
Best breakfast spot:	
Best lunch spot:	
Doot dinner spots	
Best bar/pub:	
Best car repair:	
Best U.S. Mail/postal carrier:	
Best delivery person:	
Best School bus driver:	
Best event:	Add comments to any nominations or to your rating of answers on issues:
Best spot to spend two hours:	
Best community volunteer:	
Best elected official:	
Best store clerk:	
Best tradesperson:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Best City/Twp. worker:	
Best local website:	
Best vegetarian meal:	
Best ice cream shop:	

# GUIDE IS HERE!

The 1998 GUIDE to
Plymouth-Canton-Northville-Salem Superior is here!
Highlighting the BEST of our community!
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RETURN your completed Readers Rate Survey by April 1st to:

The Crier
821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
or to:

The Plymouth Library or The Canton Library

#### THIS NEXT PART IS ENTIRELY OPTIONAL:

You need not include your name and address to participate. However, for those who do, four respondents will be picked at random to receive Dinner for Two gift certificates at Plymouth-Canton Restaurants.

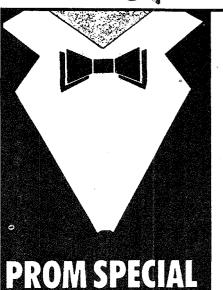
Your name:	
Address:	



# Happy St. Patrick's Day!

75

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St. Patrick's Day

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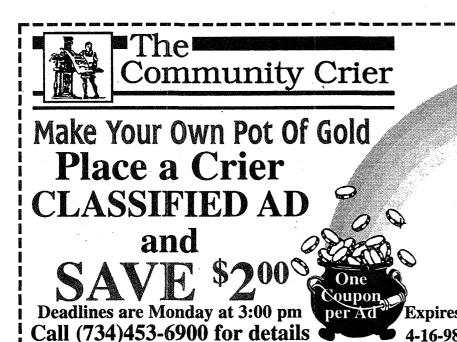


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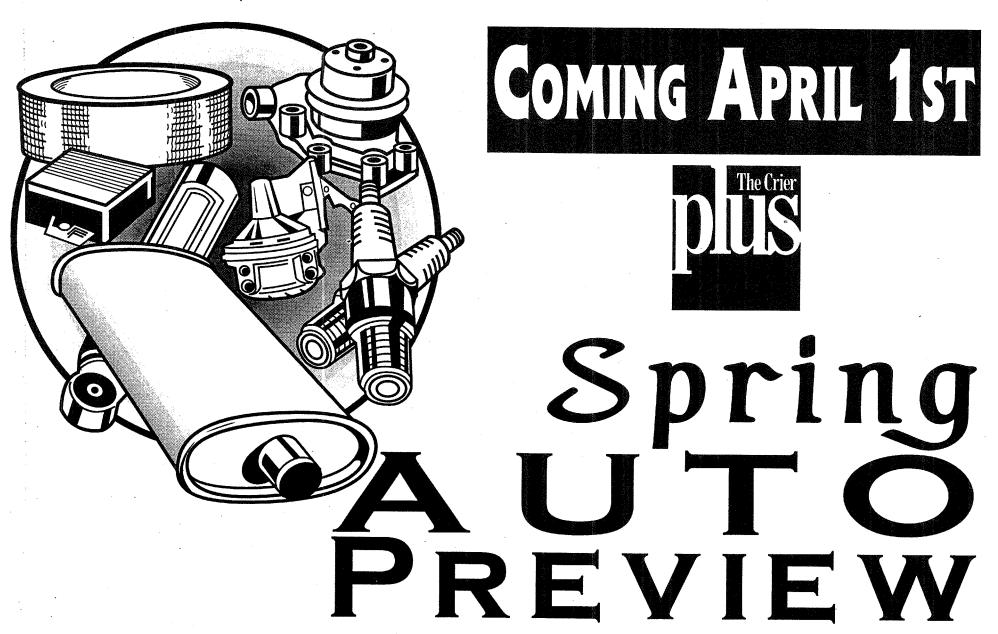
Sun 11am-9pm

Join Hosts Gary Lepak, Mary O'Donnell & Chef John Turner Call (248)449-6770

18730 Northville Rd. (btw. 6 & 7 Mile)



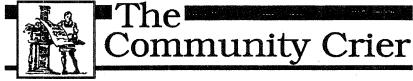




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# Community deaths

# **Obituaries**

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

#### ROBERT J. HOLTEN

Robert J. Holten, a Canton resident, died March 2, 1998 at the age of 54. Mr. Holten was born Dec. 26, 1943 in Detroit. He was a social worker with Michigan Social Services. He recently retired after 30 years with the State of Michigan Protective Services Department. He was a member of the Church of the Divine Savior. He ran in 12 Detroit Free Press Marathons, and enjoyed gardening and cooking.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Holten of Canton; mother, Madeline Cousins of Westland; son, Mark (Cheryl) Holten of Dearborn; daughter, Rachel Holten of Westland; and sisters, Ann Robinson and Beverly Vojeck, both of Detroit. He is preceded in death by his father, Elmer Holten.

Services were held at Divine Savior Catholic Church with the Rev. Alexander Kuras officiating. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Mass offerings can be made or memorial contributions given to the Hospice of Southeastern Michigan, 16250 Northland Drive, Suite 212, Southfield, MI 48075.

#### WILLIAM J. SCHULZ

William J. Schulz, a Plymouth resident, died March 4, 1998 at the age of 68. Mr. Schulz was born Jan. 26, 1930 in Saginaw, MI. He was self-employed most of his life. A resident of Plymouth since 1965, he was a member of St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict, stationed in Panama.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen of Plymouth; sons, William J. Jr (Karen) of Midland, MI, Stephen L. (Linda) of Plymouth, Leland M. of Farmington Hills; and grandson, William III (B.J.). He is preceded in death by his wife, Roselyn; and brother, Howard.

Services were held at St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Mass offerings can be made.

#### **DORIS M. BENTLEY**

Doris M. Bentley, a former Plymouth resident, died Feb. 26, 1998 at the age of 85.

Mrs. Bently was born Aug. 17, 1912 in Michigan. She was a homemaker. She came to the Plymouth community in 1930 and was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth.

She is survived by her son, Michael M. Bentley of Alberta, Canada. She is preceded in death by her husband, Carvel Bentley,, former principal of Plymouth High School.

Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

#### IRENE I. TAYLOR

Irene I. Taylor, a Plymouth resident, died March 4, 1998 at the age of 82. Mrs. Taylor was born July 4, 1915 in Plymouth. She was a homemaker. Her husband, Elvin was the former owner of Plymouth Stamping Company on Ann Arbor Road. She was a life-long Plymouth resident, a 1933 graduate of Plymouth High School and a 1959 graduate of the University of Michigan. She was a former member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, the Plymouth Study Club, and the Plymouth Symphony. She was an avid traveler.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Elvin A. of Plymouth; daughter, Mary E. Taylor of Plymouth; son, Richard (Irene) Taylor of Plymouth; grandchildren, Craig (Kim) Meyers of Pinckney; Mark (Marie) Meyers of Westland; Merrial (John) McArdle of Canton; Kristal (David) Smith of Canton; Geoffrey (Maureen) Taylor of Pittsburgh, PA; and seven great-grandchildren

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Tamara Seidel officiating. Memorial contributions can be given to the Karmanos Cancer or the Alzheimer's Disease Association.

#### PAUL D. GASCOYNE

Paul D. Gascoyne, a Livonia resident, died March 3, 1998 at the age of 69. Mr. Gascoyne was born Aug. 21, 1928 in Ferndale, MI. He was a maintenance worker in the Plymouth Canton School System prior to his retirement in 1991. He served in the U.S. Army in WWII. He loved to read.

He is survived by his wife, Olive of Livonia; sons, William (Janis) McDonald of Plymouth; Kenneth (Patricia) McDonald of Plymouth; Larry (Sharon) McDonald of Pinckney; Robert McDonald of Livonia; brother, Warren of Bellaire, MI; 14 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by hs son, Oscar; and daughter-in-law, Alice.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with Pastor Mark Krachkow officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be given to the charity of choice.

#### **WILLIAM CURTIS HANN**

William Curtis Hann, a Northville Township resident, died March 9, 1998 at the age of 63.

Mr. Hann was born July 19, 1934 in Northville. He was the owner/operator of the Mayflower Beauty Salon, the Total Image Beauty Salon and the Classy Lady Beauty Salon. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Plymouth. He enjoyed shooting sports and the out-of-doors.

He is survived by his sons, Curtis (Ruth) Hann of Northville, Craig Hann of Pontiac; daughter, Amanda Hann of Pontiac; grandchildren, Tanner Hann, Marin Hann, Charllotte Hann; mother, Esther Hann Le Pore of Plymouth; and loving friend, Donna Blumer of Northville.

Services will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, March 12 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with Pastor Steve Baker officiating. Visitation will be 1-4 p.m. Thursday. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

#### **MARJORIE STEWART**

Marjorie Stewart, a Livonia resident, died March 7, 1998 at the age of 100. Mrs. Stewart was born Nov. 8, 1897 in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. She was a homemaker, and worked for the Canadian government as a secretary in the Deputy Minister's officer prior to being married. She was a member of the Presbyterian faith.

She is survived by her sons, Robert Bruce (Mary Jane) of Livonia, Richard (Patricia) of Connecticut, Harold (Carol) of Illinois; 10 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild. She is preceded in death by her husband, John; and her son, John.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. today at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. James Skimins officiating. Burial will be at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Memorial contributions can be given to the charity of choice.

#### CARLOS M. SYMONS

Carlos M. Symons, a canton resident, died March 5, 1998 at the age of 75. Mr. Symons was born Jan 21, 1923 in Flint. He was a general foreman with Fisher Body in Livonia, retiring after 34 years of service. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth, the Plymouth Elks Lodge #1780 and the Plymouth Rock Masonic Lodge #47 F & A.M. He was also a member of the Plymouth Mayflower Lt. Gamble Post #6695; was the treasurer and coach of little league baseball in Plymouth and played fast pitch softball for Plymouth teams.

He is survived by his sons, Gregory (Susan) Symons of Lincoln Park, Gary (Kelli) Symons of Canton; grandchildren, Ryan, Melissa, Joseph, Jenna, Jessica and Kaitlyn; and sister, Norma Hill of Linden, MI. He is preceded in death by his brother, William.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. David A. Davis officiating. Burial was at Crestwood Cemetery in Flint. Memorial contributions can be given to the American Heart Association of Michigan.

#### TERESA STOWELL

Teresa Stowell, a Plymouth resident, died March 8, 1998 at the age of 59. Mrs. Stowell was born Dec. 24, 1938 in Plymouth. She was a homemaker. She was a life-long Plymouth resident, a member of St. Kenneth Catholic Church and a 1956 graduate of Ladywood High School. She enjoyed crafts and volunteered as a room mother for her grandshilden.

volunteered as a room mother for her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Wendell E. of Plymouth; sons, Steven Stowell of Iowa, Michael (Kathleen) Stowell of Plymouth, Daniel (Sandra) Stowell of Dearborn Heights; daughter, Elizabeth Foote of Plymouth; and grandchildren, Joshuia Foote, Jeremy Foote, Sean Stowell, Emily Stowell and Danielle Stowell.

Services wil be held at 11 a.m. today at St. Kenneth Catholic Church with the Rev. Fr. Joseph Mallia officiating. Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Memorial contributions can be given to Angela Hospice.

# NEA President lauds cooperation, local efforts

districts have been reticent to abandon traditional "lobby

and grieve" tactics, Plymouth-Canton has worked toward

BY BRYON MARTIN

Other school districts have resisted it. Some have called it sleeping with the enemy.

"In Plymouth-Canton, something different is happening," Bob Chase, president of the National Education Association, told a crowd of some 800 assembled in the Salem High School auditorium.

Chase delivered a speech Thursday explaining his "New Unionism" movement and its emphasis on cooperation between labor and management. He said while some school

collaborative measures.

"The simple black-and-white world of 'us versus them' is passing," he said to the mixed crowd of educators, administrators, residents of Plymouth-Canton and other communi-

bringing together."

Although not designed for bargaining, collaborative efforts between union district's nascent Labor-Management

ties. "Collective bargaining is the ideal framework for

Team is an example of this coming together of

Although not yet publicized, the district's nascent Labor-Management Team received a nod from Chase as an example of new unionism in action.

"People want a map or a manifesto," he said. "It's people like you who are writing the script."

The Labor-Management Team may be part of that script. A 40-member panel of representatives from the district's administration and its seven bargaining units, the team is designed to identify and solve problems, according to Lee Harrison, team member and principal of Isbister Elementary.

The idea for the team, according to Harrison, came from meetings facilitated by a labor relations consultant for district employes and administrators.

It was about a year ago that the board voted to hire a consultant to help the district improve labor-management relations after years of hostility had built up. Chase hinted at this difficult history, saying that districts "willing to act differently, where risk taking and creativity are the norm," often are districts with "fresh memories of bitter, adversarial contract talks."

In 1996 the Plymouth-Canton saw more than six months of debate, teacher pickets, board fact-finding, contentious negotiations and a student walkout before a contract settlement was reached. Both labor and management were locked in respective negotiation positions.

Harrison said the creation of the team shows that the district is moving ahead.

"It's taken a while to get to this point, but people are very positive. We built a lot of camaraderie working on the team and we look forward to expanding that to the rest of the district," he said.

More details about the team will be available after administrators have finalized specifics and briefed district employes on the team, according to Superintendent Charles Little.

Harrison said the team will include smaller units. A coordination team will be responsible for monthly meetings, and a solution team will work to resolve conflicts. "They will be folks close to the issue who will devise solutions to problems."

As yet, the team's responsibilities do not include contract negotiations. Its basis in collaboration between union members and administrators, however, would fit Chase's notion of "non-traditional allies," one based on examples from the business world.

"Adversarial contexts can be avoided through focusing on shared interests and on what can be done... not on what can't be done."

That's what new unionism is about, something Chase said the P-C district has begun to learn.

"As one local educator said, 'It's a snappy new name for what we are already doing'."



Bob Chase, President of the NEA, spoke to a crowd of some 800 about cooperative labor management relations during his speech at Salem High School Thursday. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

## Board to appoint Farrow replacement March 17; 2 have applied

Continued from pg. 1

that interest with a cause he believes in — public education — the job as computer czar for the schools is too attractive to pass up, he says. "I've got to go for it."

After stepping down, Farrow says he is keeping distance from his former fellow board members.

"I want to be a million miles away from any appearance of favoritism," he says. "If I get hired for the position I want it to be on my own merits. If I'm the best person for the job, great. If it's somebody else, that's fine."

The board has until March 16th to accept applications for a replacement for Farrow, a job that will run until the regular board election June 8. So far, Judy Mardigian and John

Stewart have applied for the position. Others interested should call 416-3095.

Tired of politics, he said, Mark Horvath is unlikely to seek another four-year term on the board. Sue Davis, whose term also expires, said she will run again.



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# Crier Classifieds

\$5.50 for the first 10 words, 20¢ each additional word. Deadline: Monday, 4 p.m. Call (734) 453-6900







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America's Budget Storage 40671 Joy Rd., Canton, MI will sell contents of the following units for unpaid rent to the highest bid on March 21, 1998 at 12:00pm:

J30 Lewis: Furniture, boxes, tools 112 Cuellar: TV, washer, dryer, bike, furniture, boxes

F9 Speiser: Auto parts, motor, trans, etc. 15/36 Kalisch: Tools, file cabinets, shelves, 4 wheel carts

K40 Kalisch: Stage lights, shelves, deer mounts, file cabinets, kitchen cabinets Schwinn AirDyne-- \$325.00 AVITI Rowing Machine -- \$150.00 Excellent Condition (734)453-2764

#### Garage Sale

When you are planning your sale, don't forget to get the word out by putting it in The Crier. Remember, it pays to advertise. Call your COMMUNITY CRIER CLASSI-FIED DEPARTMENT for details (734) 453-6900.

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Girl: "Mommy, my cat ran away."

Mom: "We should put an ad in The Crier." Girl: "Don't be silly. Kitty can't read

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Make up to \$700 or more weekly in the comfort of your own home. Send \$4.00 and a self-addressed, stamped envelope

> to: C.L. Smith PO Box 51235 ivonia MI 48151

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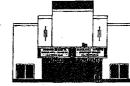
RAWLINSON PHOTOGRAPHY Elegant Wedding Photography (734) 453-8872

#### Curiosities

Carriers Needed to deliver The Crier each Wednesday in Plymouth, Plymouth Twp. and Canton. Call Circulation Department at (734)453-6900

Thanks to Jenn & Pat, the workers at K-Mart at Ann Arbor Rd. & Haggerty. Found & returned my lost Gold Bracelet. Thanks Again-You are great folks. Rebecca M.

#### **Curiosities**



Penn Theater

Own a piece of Plymouth History. 15 Buildings to choose from including the Penn Theatre, Mayflower Hotel, Wilcox House, & Post Office. Stop in today or call for a complete list. Gabrialas, 322 S. Main St., Plymouth, (734)455-8884.

ATTENTION CRIER READERS Are you without a carrier in your neighborhood? It is now possible to receive The Paper With Its Heart In The Plymouth-Canton Community, by mail, at a SAVINGS. Call now! (734)-453-6900

1 year \$40.00

send your check (or money order) with your name and address to The Community Crier 821 Penniman Ave

Plymouth, MI 48170-1624 Conroy, Doing good job at 2, prepare for a longer stay.

And The Crier thought they got rid of Maura! They musta wanted sum-maura! Maura who?

Happy Belated Birthday to Crier Carrier Rae Tacia. She was 12 on March 4th. ASK BOB MUNDT about the woodpile murals in Austria.

(All neatly stacked wood.)

VINCENT HERBRUCK celebrates national Reading Day (early) with good old Dr. Seuss. GO VINCE!

--Aunt Ed and Uncle Sally SCOTT: Sorry for the embarrassment.

Bryon's OLD teacher Bryon - You'll shoot you eye out!!!
--Your Edit Staff

DAN SHOWALTER is older... ask him HOW old he is. (He's not 49 any more.)

DAVE VARGA eats Oysters Rockefeller -Barb Van Pelt gets the credit but

John Cleveland wins the points. Leah mase the cake. BEAUREGARD prefers his Villages Salas

first, followed by his lamb platter all from Ginopolis -- BUT ONLY if served by Shane (who offered to add in a nice bottle of light wine).

BEAUREGARD eats hot dogs at the Plymouth Whalers concession stand... he'll be there for the playoffs too.

ERIN REPECK is THREE! And she can already read this: HAPPY BIRTHDAY. GO WHALERS in London Friday and throughout the Playoffs.

"CHEMISTRY IN COLLEGE makes me

feel like a freshman in high school who can't get her locker open in front of the senior boys." --Linda Kochanek WHAT'S DAVIDSON?

Wolverines will find out. GO SPARTANS, (sorry EMU) Go Titans, Go Broncos, Go Wolverines (men & women).

WHAT WAS NICE was the bed didn't even spin.": --Pam LaMarsh, 1998. LUELLA B. - In spite of mis-spelling you name and having you move to the wrong place instead of American House, I still think you are wonderful to have made such a stupendous decision. Most of us are still lacking in courage where changing our life style is concerned. Good Girl!



# Crier Classifieds

\$5.50 for the first 10 words, 20¢ each additional word. Deadline: Monday, 4 p.m. Call (734) 453-6900







#### **Curiosities**

DEAR MARTHA ET AL: Didn't get to call you on Sunday, but will this week. Miss our little chats. This last week was rather quiet in Plymouth, though not for us. The Guide comes out this week so things have been a bit hectic. When life becomes a little out of control, silly as it sounds, I escape by renting movies, always happy ones. Mike of the Video Theater says I have rented "Chapter"

Two" nine times. Little does he know it's because Marcia Mason makes the best speech on equal rights and self esteem I have ever heard. Another one I rent fairly often is "When Harry Met Sally". It's rather bawdy, but again "Harry" talks about commitment. He has met Sally and decides, not because he is lonely-or depressed, but because he loves her and wants to spend

because he is ionery-or depressed, but because he loves her and wants to spend the rest of his life with her. (Would that all marriages were based on that premise.) Take Care, Geneva

#### **Curiosities**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
So glad you're home!
MAURA - How I've missed you! Geneva
WHITNEY G - Your Grandmother is proud
of you whether you win in soccer or not.
However it's nice to know how good your
team is. Grandma G.

ERNIE ARCHER - Miss seeing you, Geneva LEE CADY - How nice of you to speak to me. I used to enjoy the Latin Mass and old version of the Bible so much. I guess this is

progress.

Rhonda is back - I wonder if things (COMMA,) will stay looking the same.

"Hi Jason (Did you forget to shave?) OH!

Meet Jack."

Don't forget the wearing of the Green on Tuesday - I just hope Chuck isn't singing the Blues.

Michigan Looks good - 1st Ever Big Ten Playoff Champions!

#### **Curiosities**

By the way Chuck - Thanks for lunch, thanks for lunch, thanks for lunch, thanks for lunch.

Walter - See you & Mary Thurs. night.

#### **Curiosities**

Did everyone get a Guide - If not stop in at
The Crier and pick one up
Congrats "Big Mama"
Crackers for breakfast-Mmmm...

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ASSEMBLERS: Excellent income to assemble products at home. Info 1-504-646-1700 Dept. MI-2318 BABY SITTER NEEDED Tuesday and Thursday 8:45 to 10:15 AM. Call Plymouth Y.M.C.A. (734) 453-2904.

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Large credit union seeking a full time New
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branch office. Candidates must have experience with opening new accounts, CDs and
IRAs. Experience with consumer lending a
plus. Must be professional in appearance,
have strong customer service and communication skills. Send resume with salary
requirements to: Community Federal Credit

Union, Attn: H.R., 500 S. Harvey, P.O. Box

8050, Plymouth, MI 48170-8050

PART-TIME ASSISTANT FOR
PODIATRISTS OFFICE. No medical
training needed. Will train. Must be
flexible, familiarity with computer helpful but
not necessary. Call (734)455-0770

Part-Time Babysitter needed in our Plymouth Home. Monday evening 7:30 to 10:30pm, School Holidays and others as needed. Must be dependable, energetic and mature. Call (734)416-9717

Part-time counter help needed in Plymouth Perfect for retiree. Expert Tech Center (734)455-3011

PLYMOUTH LAW OFFICE - Family Law/Criminal office seeks legal secretary with 3+ years experience, WordPerfect 5.1 Fax resumes to (734)459-2102, or mail to Baker House, Attn: TERI, 233 South Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170

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#### Teller Supervisor

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teller and management experience.
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Tim Hortons

Now Accepting



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# Sports

#### **Sports** shorts

Seniors are invited to drop a t the Northville Community Center for morning volleyball with the gang.

All levels of play are welcome. It's a fun way to get some exercise.

Held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee is \$1.00.

T-Ball Registration will be held by the City of Plymouth parks and recreation department at the Plymouth Cultural Center April 20-May 1. It is open to all 5-6 year old boys and girls. Games will be played on Saturdays beginning June 20th and running through August 8th. Also, the department is looking for volunteer coaches. All head coach's children play for free. For more information call 455-6620.

The City of Plymouth parks and recreation department will again be offering the following adult softball leagues in 1998: Men's Slow Pitch. Men's Modified, Women's Slow Pitch, and Co-ed Slow Pitch. League play begins in April. For more information call Recreation Director Tom Willette at 455-6620.

The Canton parks and recreation department will Adult Softball hold Registrations all next month: Registrations will be held at the Summit, Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Men's returning teams can register today through March 13; Men's new teams, March 16-27; Women's teams, today through April 3; Co-ed returning teams today through March 13; and Co-ed new teams, March 16-27. Call 397-5110 for more information.

# Salem rockets past Glenn

# Rocks grab conference tourney on last-second shot

BY ERICA D'ANGELO

Salem boy's basketball will enter the Class A state tournament after winning the Western Lakes Activities Association championship game last Friday against Westland John Glenn, they won 65-64.

The game lived up to any classic championship game, with Salem getting the points they needed to win just before the buzzer. Also, John Glenn was the only team they lost to in the league season.

Westland took the lead at the end of the first quarter, 21-19. With less than a minute before the intermission, Salem's senior Andy Power helped the Rocks to tie the Rockets at 32 with a couple of free

In the third quarter, the Rocks were able to surge ahead when Tony Bernhardt got a triple, with only 45 seconds left. Entering the fourth quarter, the score was close at

Salem again increased their score when Aaron Rypkowski got two three pointers, and Power contributed one of his own. The score was then 57-49.

#### BASKETBALL

But Westland tied the score again at 59, and shortly took the lead, 61-59. With 23 seconds left, Salem's Jeff McKian the helped out his team, and propelled Salem back into the lead, 63-61.

However, three seconds later, Westland was able to grab a point on a free throw ad and two more right after that. They took the lead, 64-63, only seconds after McKian made his move.

Then Matt Mair, who would soon emerge as Salem's hero, shot the hoop at 5 seconds left. Salem then captured the lead.

Mair was fouled on the play, but missed his free throw. With one

umphant, and closed championship game at 65-

Salem's Power, who was taken out during the home stretch of the game due to an injury to his ankle, led the Rocks in scoring with eight points. Bhavin Patel had ten. Salem shot 27 of 56 field goals.

#### Rocks corral Mustangs

Matt Mair scored 17 points, and Jeff McKian added 14, as Salem rolled over the Mustangs 47-34 in the first round of the district playoffs Monday night.

The win sets up a match-up between Salem and Canton, who had a bye, tonight at 8 p.m. at Novi High School. The winner advances to the district final to be played Friday night.

# Bernhardt was fouled, but he also missed his free Canton places But it didn't matter, the Rocks emerged tri- 2nd, Salem 10th, at regional meet

BY KRISTEN VAN DUSEN

Saturday, March 7, Canton and Salem gymnastics teams attended the regional competition. Fifteen teams competed

#### GYMNASTICS

Northville-Novi came out on top with 146.100. Canton placed sec-

ond with 136.350. Hillsdale closed up the top three with 134.950.

Salem came in tenth place with 122.600, ahead of Jackson/Grass Lake by 0.300 of a point.

Canton's Liz Fitzgerald and Marcie Emerick placed in the top eight in the All Around. Fitzgerald obtained a compulsory score of 35.850, making second place. Emerick placed fifth with a total score of 34.950. Both are state qualifiers.

Emerick placed second on vault with an 8.850. Fitzgerald placed fourth with an 8.550.

Fitzgerald placed third with 9.000 points on beam. Emerick took fourth with 8.900 points.

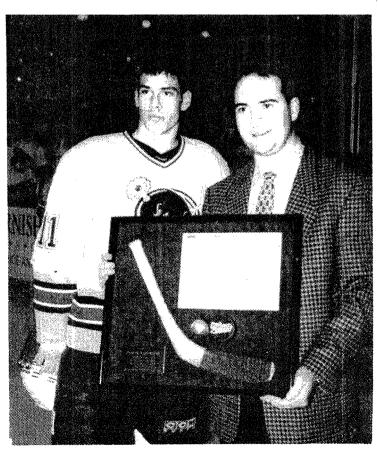
Fitzgerald took fifth place on the floor with 9.150. Emerick placed tenth with 8.650.

On the bars, Fitzgerald obtained 9.150 points, taking second place. Emerick scored an 8.550, taking ninth place. In division II, Nicole Vaagenes placed fifteenth in the All

Around with a cumulative 32.350 points.

Holly Graham qualified for states with her sixth place in beam. The score was an 8.550.

Vaagenes placed eleventh on bars with a score of 8.600. She also placed seventeeth on floor with an 8.450. Graham took twelvth place with 8.600 points.



Rookie turns 50...Rookie sensation David Legwand and Whaler's general manager and coach Peter DeBoer pose with a plaque celebrating Legwand's 50th goal at CSA Saturday night. Legwand is the first Whaler rookie to acheive that mark. "He's definitely our most dominate player," said DeBoer. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

# Fans rage at Compuware; Soo escapes with OT win Mysterious late-game penalties lead to disappointing loss

#### Continued from pg. 1

If the Whalers finish second, Sarnia would be their likely first round opponent. DeBoer said he likes that match-up because of Plymouth's record against them this season, and the shorter driving time for away games. "I think it's going to be a tough first round



either way," he said. "Were going to have to come prepared to battle."

#### **Division Dash**

The division title still hangs close for the Whalers though, like the carrot before the mule. Up until Sunday night, the chance to grab that carrot was within the Whalers power. As a result of Sunday's loss, however, control now belongs to London, who will win the title outright if they beat Windsor Thursday night.

A London loss, on the other hand, combined with a Whaler victory over Windsor on Wednesday night, would make Friday's match-up at London for the divsion championship,

"I expect us to go out and win Wednesday's game," DeBoer said. "We could still tie London if they win their game this week, but a tie would go to them because they have more wins.

**Priority: Playoffs** 

More important to the Whalers now is their play

heading into the playoffs. At times, especially early in games, they've been brilliant, looking the part of the fastest, most talented team in the OHL. Other times, particularly late in the games, their lack of experience has dulled their otherwise shiny play.

It should be noted that, of late, the third period hasn't been a complete collapse for the Whalers. They did score three in the third to topple Sarnia last Tuesday night. However, it isn't the lack of come-from-behind

victories that is the problem. It's holding onto the lead when they need to.

Every one of the Whaler's losses or ties in the past three weeks—five in all—have come as a result of poor third period come prepared and battle' play. It seems if they enter the final period with a lead, they begin to skate on their heels, waiting for the downfall to come. The aggression that characterizes

the first two periods, both offensively and defensively, begins to falter.

The Whalers held a meeting last week on how to handle this odious pattern. "We talked about composure and making sure guys took a leadership role when things started to get tense instead of just sitting back, panicking and letting things happen," DeBoer said. "Obviously that

didn't happen (Sunday night)."

Peter DeBoer

Whalers' coach

Sault Ste. Marie 4, Plymouth 3 — Amid red-faced fans, an endless barrage of curses and half-filled Pepsi cups thrown onto the ice after the game, something strange happened at Compuware Sports Arena Sunday

It was a night of changing momentum, phantom calls, and ultimately for the Whalers, another disappointing third-period collapse.

> The scoring started halfway through the first period when Eric Gooldy recieived a pass from Steve Wasylko, flipping in a backhand shot stickside against Greyhound goalie Jake McCracken.

> Less than two minutes into the second, Shawn Fisher slapped a powerplay goal through traffic,

assisted by Jesse Boulerice and Wasylko. And the Whalers got another power-play goal at the beginning of the third when David Legwand notched his 53rd of the season to grab a 3-0 lead.

The Soo managed only eight shots on goal through

Please see pg. 25



Catering Specialists-555 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth, MI 48170 (734)459-2930

OFFICIAL PIZZA OF THE PLYMOUTH WHALERS

	(1.12)	ragii marc	,		
WEST	w	L	· <b>T</b>	Last 10	Pt
LONDON	38	21	5 7	6-3-1	8
PLYMOUTH	36	21		5-3-2	7 7 7
SARNIA	-31	20	13	4-2-4	7
ERIE	33	28	4	8-2-0	7
S.S. MARIE	18	38	7	3-7-0	4
WINDSOR	19	40	5	1-7-2	4
***	***		-	* .10	ъ.
EAST	W	L	T	Last 10	Pt
OTTAWA	39	17	9	7-1-2	8
BELLEVILLE	40	22	3	6-3-1	7
KINGSTON	35	. 26	4	4-5-1	7
OSHAWA	24	31	8	4-3-3	5
PETERBOROUGH	19	35	10	0-6-4	
TORONTO	14	40	9	2-8-0	3
Ciris Impo I V			ź.	* . 10	
CENTRAL	W	L	Ţ	Last 10	Pt
GUELPH	41	18	6	6-4-0	7
BARRIE	38	21	5	5-4-1	
KITCHENER	27	28	9	4-6-0	6
OWEN SOUND	26	34	5	6-3-1	5
SUDBURY	24	34	7	1-8-1	
NORTH BAY	15	43	6	2-8-0	3

OHL STANDINGS

#### WHALER STATISTICS

It's going to be a tough first

round either way. We have to

#### Team Leaders:

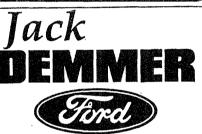
Goals: Legwand (53) Assists: Legwand (48) Points: Legwand (101) PIM: Boulerice (170) +/-: Legwand (+46) GAA: Esche (2.88)

#### CATCH OF THE DAY

Dave Legwand holds the longest point streak in the OHL this season at 14 games

#### **UPCOMING GAMES:**

- Wed. vs. Windsor at CSA (7:30 p.m.)
- Fri. at London (7:30 p.m.)
- Sat. playoffs begin (time and



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# Several gymnasts on road to states

Continued from pg. 23

"Saturday was our best team effort ever," said senior Heather Zawol. "We pulled together as a team and encouraged each other throughout the entire meet. Coach [John Cunningham] said to us before we got our results back that if we didn't make it to states, there was no way we ever could've. Our perfomance was spectacular."

Canton will compete as a team this Friday in Rockford against Northville/Novi and Hillsdale. Individual qualifiers will compete on Saturday.

Salem's Alison Bracht was their sole state qualifier. Bracht

placed sixth on floor with an 8.950.

Bracht also placed fifth on vault with an 8.45. With a 7.2 on beam, she took twelvth place.

In division II, Kate Deroche placed thirteenth on beam. Her score was a 7.950.

Beth Steinhelper placed ninth on floor with an 8.800, just short of qualifying. The state qualifiers are the top eight of each event.

"We did really well on Saturday," said Deroche. "The entire team performed great. We're all proud of our accomplishments."

Both teams will be in attendence at the state competition in Rockford this weekend. Fitzgerald, Emerick, and Graham will compete for Canton and Bracht will compete for Salem.

# Playoffs begin Saturday

Continued from pg. 24

the first two periods. But by the time the game ended 25 minutes later, they had more than tripled that total.

It took the Soo only two minutes to erase the Whaler lead. After the first Greyhound goal at 7:37 of the third, the Whalers fell into penalty trouble. Boulerice was whistled twice, once for hooking and once for roughing. Both resulted in a Greyhound power-play goal.

With less than a minute to play in regulation, an already hostile Whaler crowd got even more hostile when Dave Legwand was called for a mysterious four-minute spearing penalty. According to DeBoer, the Whaler star wasn't even on the ice when the call was made.

"Legwand hadn't been on the ice for more than a minute when the call was made," DeBoer said. "We're not sure what the official saw."

Already short-handed during overtime, the Whalers were called for another penalty, a bench minor, at 2:52. Then, amidst the confusion from that call, the Whalers got whistled for a delay of game. Play was stopped for several minutes while the officials sorted everything

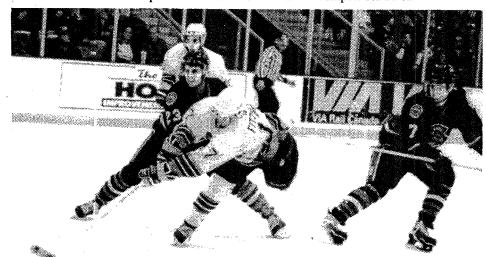
"The linesman who made the (bench minor) call wouldn't tell us why he called it. We weren't verbally assaulting him or anything," DeBoer said. "It was just a poor job of officiating."

The penalty left the Whalers

two men short. And less than a minute later the Greyhounds capitalized when Chad Spurr, the game's first star, banged home the game winner.

Several fans, disgusted with the officials, expressed their anger at the end of the game. They littered the ice with garbage and shouted as they left.

DeBoer seemed less affected by the officiating than he did by the work of his



Whaler forward Randy Fitzgerald, flanked by the Soo's Richard Jackman and Oak Hewer, stretches for the puck Saturday night at Compuware Sports Arena. With the playoffs beginning this weekend, the Whalers consistency will need to stretch into the third period if they hope to make a run at the Memorial Cup. Speaking of stretching, don't think the Whalers season is winding down, it could extend into late-April. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

players. "I don't think it's fatigue" that caused the third period letdown, he said. "I attribute it more to a lack of experience. We've got a very young team here. And you've got to hope we're learning valuable lessons now that are going to pay off down the road."

Plymouth 5, Sault Ste. Marie 1 — One week after becoming the first Whaler rookie to get fifty goals in a season, Dave Legwand passed the century

Legwand hadn't been on

the ice for more than a

the official saw'

minute when the call was

made. We're not sure what

mark for p o i n t s Satuday night leading the Whalers to a 5-1 victory over the Soo in the first of a back-to-back homestand.

Jesse Boulerice, Nik Tselios, Kris Purdy,

and Brian Passmore also scored for the

Peter DeBoer

Whalers' coach

Robert Esche's chance for a shutout was ruined when he was beaten by Greyhound Jake Gibson with less than three minutes left in the game. The Whaler defense, led by second star selection Kevin Holdridge, held the Soo to only 20 shots on goal.

Plymouth 4, (at) Sarnia 4 — Sarnia forward Ryan VanBurskirk scored with

less than two minutes remaining in the game Thursday night to to lock the score at four, robbing the Whalers of a two-game sweep.

The tie spoiled another steller performance from Whaler forward Harold Druken, whose six point effort included two goals and two assists. Eric Gooldy and Andrew Taylor each stuck one between the pipes, and Dave Legwand dished out three assists for the Whalers.

Sarnia nearly doubled their shots on goal total from Tuesday night, shooting 37 Esche's way. Despite 17 shots-ongoal for the Whalers in the third period, they couldn't get the insurance goal they needed:

Plymouth 3, Sarnia 1 — Held scoreless through two periods, the Whalers, behind two Steve Wasylko assists, poured it on in the final twelve minutes last Tuesday night to beat the Sting at home. The win snapped a Whaler twogame losing streak.

Captian Andrew Taylor (powerplay), Eric Gooldy and Jesse Boulerice each notched a goal for the Whalers. Dave Legwand, Harold Druken and Robert Esche each tallied an assist.

Esche made 21 saves for his 28th victory of the season.

Chatter: The Whalers don't get much of a rest following their final regular season game at London Friday night. They will be right back here on Saturday to face either Sarnia or Erie for their first playoff game.

#### Scores

િકા કો એ એ માન એ ફાર્યું મુખ્યાં છે. જ્યાર છે અડ્યા અને કોર્યું અને કોર્યું છે છ

#### BASKETBALL

#### **Thursday**

Franklin 60, Canton 54 Friday

For W.L.A.A. Tournament Championship:

Salem 65, John Glenn 64

#### Monday

In the first round of the ditrict playoffs:

Salem 47, Novi 34

#### VOLLEYBALL

#### Saturday

At the District Playoffs: Salem over Canton 15-3, 15-0 Salem over Northville 15-10, 15-7

#### **GYMNASTICS**

#### Saturday

At the regional meet: Canton (2nd place) 135.35 Salem (10th place) 122.6

#### On deck

#### SALEM BASKETBALL

Tonight versus Canton in district playoffs at Novi. Game begins at 8 p.m. With victory, they will play Friday for district championship.

#### **SALEM SWIMMING**

State finals this weekend. Several area swimmers and divers will participate.

#### SALEM VOLLEYBALL

Hosts regional playoffs Saturday. Will play Detroit Mercy at 10 a.m. With victory, they will play at 1 p.m. for regional championship.

#### SALEM GYMNASTICS

Will attend state meet at Rockford this weekend.

#### CANTON BASKETBALL

Tonight versus Salem in district playoffs at Novi. Game begins at 8 p.m. With victory, they will play Friday for district championship.

#### **CANTON SWIMMING**

State competition this weekend. Several area swimmers and divers will compete.

#### **CANTON GYMNASTICS**

Will attend state meet at Rockford this weekend.



# Community opinions

#### Minor in possession:

# A strong opinion—Vorva is wrong

I am a sophomore at Canton High School, I am quite aware of Jerry Vorya's actions, partly because my father was on the school board and my mom is active in the community. But I don't want to be in the minority as a concerned citizen. What Vorva is doing is not right. I do not think it is reasonable for one man to go on a crusade that keeps nearly 5,000 kids from getting the space they need to get the best education they can.

At my school I observe fights, people skipping class and people smoking. Even thought the faculty may try hard to keep these everyday occurrences from happening, it is a fact that it is a challenge to monitor a little more than 4,700 kids on a campus meant for less than 4,000. But the problems of overcrowding do not stop here.

There are teachers who have to go from room to room to teach because there are not enough classrooms for them to have their own room. There are classrooms that are set in rooms that were not even built for a teacher and 30 students. There are certain places in the halls where two masses of students come together between classes and people are trying to squeeze past the crowd to get to their destination. It seems almost as if a traffic light would be useful in this situation. The fact is that Canton and Salem are two schools with more kids than they were meant to hold.

This problem was to be assisted by the building of another school on Beck and Joy roads. This school would proved space to spread out the student population, therefore making a better learning environment. The building of this new school was passed by the people who voted. Now, Vorva seemed to think that the election was fraudulent because some people did not know how to vote on the machines that were present. Well, I think that it is not only a person's duty to vote, but it is a person's duty to vote carefully. If someone was unable to work the voting machine, they should have asked someone else for help. Besides, it is not as if the voters

were asked to perform brain surgery in order to cast their votes. All they had to do was push a couple of well-labeled buttons in a way indicated by clear instructions.

This vote was in favor of building the new school. The people made the choice to to build a new school. The majority chose to give our community's students a better learning environment. All this, and then one man decides it's fraud. One man decides to take it all the way to the supreme court if he has to.

> Vorva plans to appeal and appeal, until he gets his way. I do not see him ever getting his way in a courtroom with a ruling in his favor, but right now the school system cannot build. The school system is forced to fight these unreasonable claims in court. As judge after judge throws out Vorva's case, time passes without the school being

> As this time passes, building expenses grow. Soon the school won't even have enough funding to be built. The time that Vorva is consuming as one citizen is destroying the vote of the majority. But possibly more importantly, Vorva is keeping this community's students, like me, from getting the best education that this system can offer.

> In fifth grade I took a field trip to the sate capitol and I remember going into a room to hear a man named Jerry Vorva speak. I remember what he said, too. I remember

him telling my peers and me how we did not legally own anything, not even our underwear, because we were minors. Now, I may not be able to own the clothes that I wear, but I can own a strong opinion. My opinion is that Vorva is wrong. Why should one man keep kids from getting the education they deserve? Why should one man overrule the vote of the majority? The answer, plain and simple, is that one man shouldn't.

WES FARROW

Why should one man keep kids from getting the education they deserve? Why should one man overrule the vote of the majority?

Wes Farrow

# Digital landscape is virtually correct

#### BY SCOTT GOODWIN

As soon as the wheels of my Cessana 182 Skylane pulled up from the Mettetal runway, I knew I was in for a bumby ride. Twice during takeoff the plane had nearly skidded off into the bordering weeds, and when I finally did get up, only about ten feet of concrete airstrip remained in front of me.

Nevertheless, I was airborne. And considering this was only my fourth solo flight, that was no small accomplishment.

Steady for now, I climbed toward the thin clouds above. The engine hummed, pulling the plane and its sole occupant further and further into an euphoria-inducing avian fantasy. Below, Plymouth and Canton shifted and slithered through their daily routines, the treetops of summer passing beneath me in clumpy green waves.

As I reached 1,000 feet, I started to get cocky. Blinded by flying skill, limited as it was, I decided to attempt some more difficult maneuvers. I grabbed the flightstick and thrust it forward and to the right, hoping to roll the plane along a longitudinal axis. The plane banked sideways and the nose shot down, but I had done it too quickly.

Before my senses could get the best of me, I knew I had made a lethal mistake. The altimeter twirled counterclockwise as my plane plummeted towards earth in an uncontollable tailspin. I tried desperately to lets players engage in a pull out of it, but it was too late. Gravity was low in command.

The ground came up quicker than expected, as if it had elevated to meet me halfway. There was a thud as the plane's right wing and nose drove into the soil, and a thousand snaps sounded through the cockpit as the windshield fissured into a web.

Shocked but unscathed, I sat motionless for a moment, staring blankly at the horizon and toward the sky I had just left. I cursed a couple of times in frustration as the engine finally sputtered to a halt.

The flight had lasted less than five minutes. And although it was my longest flight to date, I still expected more from myself. I had hoped not every one of my flights would end in a firey inferno. So, determined to remount the horse, I reached over, took a sip of lemonade, and restarted the game.

#### Down on the farm

On the cover of the box that Microsoft's Flight Simulator '98 came in, it claims the game is "As Real as it Gets." As far as flight simulator's are concerned, that claim may very well be true. No other flight simulator on the market will allow you to fly out of your hometown airport like this one does. With airports as small as Mettetal, the game unique atmosphere: their own backyards.

Don't go out and buy the game expecting to spot your house, however. Bill Gates' version of the Plymouth-

Canton area differs a bit from reality.

For example, Microsoft's landscape is largely agrarian. Instead of the strip malls, fast-food restaurants and new housing developments you might expect, the area is populated by yellow fields of wheat and corn. Trees are sprayed out haphazardly, naturally, rather than lined up in neat rows along subdivision streets.

The game isn't vacant of all familiar landmarks, however. The entire freeway system is there, with I-275 providing the boundry between us and a distinctly industrial Livonia. A blue river that meanders through farms and under the dirt roads might be the Rouge, although I suspect they got the color wrong.

Despite its inconsistencies, though, the Microsoft landscape is somewhat refreshing. There are no Ford Road traffic jams, mothers in mini-vans, or bulldozers tearing up the earth behind my house. There would only be the sound of

Write of way By Scott Goodwin



wind rustling through tall grass and the smell of maple being sapped from the

The scene is an enticing one. And sometimes, huddled too close to my computer at night, I wish the game weren't a game at all. Sometimes I wish I-275 was a levee stopping the flood of urban sprawl, holding back all the developments, all the technology, and all the other baggage of modern society.

But then I remember what I'm doing. I'm playing a game on my computer designed by Microsoft, the virtual ushers of the information age. This fantastical farmland scene I aspire toward is merely a digitalized imposition of binary numbers and electrical impulses.

Singed by my own hypocracy, I turn off the game and the computer. It's late and I'm hungry, and I remember that over on Ford Road, the Taco Bell drive-thru is open until 3 a.m.



# Community opinions

# Keeping a great neighbor

It's a sure bet that horse racing will change as it is now known.

A bigger question may be: WHERE will it change to?

With the advent of casino gambling hitting Southeast Michigan, it's no wonder that this state-government-forgotten part of agriculture is in turmoil.

Last week saw a surprise press release that Ladbroke DRC is selling the Livonia thoroughbred track that brought the company to this continent in 1984. Ladbroke had already sold off its dog track in Texas, and sold Canterbury Downs in Minnesota.

And in Northville, the city's mayor and council can't wait for the same announcement to come from Northville Downs.

Instead of praising a half-century old tradition that is Northville's largest taxpayer and one of its largest employers — plus a real attraction to town — city officials are in a hurry-up mode to develop the property into something "more Northville" (read that as: "cute, with little ducks.")

Instead of recognizing the Downs current contributions and potential, the city fathers have pushed the fast-forward button at Carlisle/Worthman Associates, Inc. to come up with a new master plan showing new development in the Race Track District (RTD). While Northville's master plan has a number of issues needing updating, it's the City-Hall-Wish to replace the track that drives this sulky.

What if the Plymouth City Hall had been out trying to level and then redevelop the Mayflower Hotel while that property was still a viable concern? Plymouth's Pilgrims would be marching on City Hall!

But in Northville, few of the citizenry have stood up to City Hall's desires to level the Downs and add cute condominiums.

It will be interesting to see whether the Northville Planning Commission can act independently from the mayor's office on future planning — and recognize the unique opportunity a facility like the Downs offers.

If the Northville "powers" don't get it, the Downs can pack up and move on down Sheldon Road where The Plymouth-Canton Community would welcome them at Five Mile Road with the Plymouth Symphony (marching in its first parade eyer), the nationally-renowned CEP marching band, the Plymouth Community

# With malice toward none



Band and the Canton Senior Citizens Kitchen Band. Look at the success of a vary similar operation here: the Plymouth Whalers at Compuware Arena. (One Whalers official beamed at the idea of adding wagering to the mix of sports fans here.)

There are a few good spots left for the Downs to relocate into The Plymouth-Canton Community — and maybe add thoroughbred racing at the same time. (Build a one-mile dirt thoroughbred track, with a harness track inside — for year-round use.)

One perfect spot would be the intersection of Ford Road and I-275 on that clump of parcels that Canton is considering giving away millions to develop.

Another spot that would make sense is a location near the Compuware Arena and the Whalers. Shared marketing could be added to the similar roles the Downs and the Whalers provide to the community

Plymouth Township could benefit greatly — the Downs meant \$326,560 in 1997 for "breakage" PLUS property taxes. Canton could also enjoy that revenue, especially when the landfills close.

Salem Township, a growing part of The Plymouth-Canton Community, also boasts a potential site for a new horse track at M-14 and Gotfredson Road. A facility there would fit in well with the "horse and buggy" mentality of the Salem Township board. It would be within view of township trustee Bill Baxter, the most antiquated buggy-whip Salem Township Trustee.

But most importantly, the Downs is western Southeast Michigan's sole hope for a major part of the agriculture industry. Ever notice those horse farms out North Territorial Road?

And what the Downs adds to restaurants and downtown retailing in both Northville and Plymouth, plus its historical aspect, is what really makes them a great neighbor.

# Bond vote an 'absolute sham'

EDITOR-

Usually someone writes an editorial that mirrors my views on controversial subjects, thus relieving my anxiety. There are a couple of points which I believe, have not been properly addressed to this date. I feel it is important to bring them to the people's attention.

One of the very first and important lessons taught to me as an apprentice tool and die maker was Murphy's Law: "anything that can go wrong, will." Another, more poignant version is "If they can they will."

In the most recent publication of the Plymouth-Canton Community School's Newsline, Superintendent Charles Little again points out that there have now been four hearings, whereby local canvassers, Wayne County canvassers, the Michigan Secretary of State and the Wayne County Circuit Court found no fault with the district, or the equipment used in March 1997 School Bond election.

The first point I wish to make is this: Given that all of these good people who were involved in these hearings are probably all very likely to be competent in their various fields, they nevertheless demonstrate an extreme lack of understanding of very basic and simple electro-mechanical devices. When it comes to their consensus that there was nothing wrong with the equipment used in the March 1997 election — baloney!

Point number two. I find it incomprehensible, unless it was the desire of the UniLect Corporation to openly demonstrate their inability to design and build a reliable and dependable piece of equipment, that the machines could not be inadvertently misused by an uniformed, unaware, unsuspecting unsophisticated, trusting voter. In doing so they would make a complete admission of their incompetence.

What I believe this company did was to build these voting machines to the very "specific requirements" of the people who purchased and paid for them.

The person that purchased these imperfect pieces of excrement was Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill. Perhaps it was

though ignorance, perhaps by design. At any rate these machines provided by Little and the School Board the means to sway the voting in their favor, possibly in a deliberately immoral and criminal manner.

What I would like to know is, why in Hell didn't a red flag go off in these machines to warn an unwary voter that he did something wrong and voided his vote. He then could have had the machine reset by an election official, recast his vote, and had it counted.

It is my conclusion that this election was a complete and abstruse sham. To attempt to place the blame on human error is ludicrous and downright shameful. The persons claiming this, should be ashamed of themselves.

What is at the issue here is not that the bond vote passed or failed, but the manner in which the election was conducted.

In conclusion, if this editorial causes Little, Massengill and a host of others to lapse into a sudorific state, it well should.

RAMON E. LAVINS

#### The Community Crier



THE
NEWSPAPER
WITH ITS
HEART IN THE
PLYMOUTH-CANTON
COMMUNITY

821 Penniman Ave. Plymouth, MI 48170-1694 (734) 453-6900 CrierNews@AOL.COM

Located in historic downtown Plymouth's tallest building

PUBLISHER: W. Edward Wendover GENERAL MANAGER: Mike Carne

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> PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY by The Plymouth-Canton Community Crier, Inc. CARRIER DELIVERED \$2.25 monthly, \$27 yearly U.S. MAIL DELIVERED: \$40 yearly in U.S.A.









345 Fleet St. Plymouth, MI 48170-1656 (734) 453-6860

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