

The Community Crier

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

75¢



Vol. 25 No. 24

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July 22, 1998

Nay to B-K

Canton rejects Ford Rd. development deal

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The message is out: no public funds will be used to subsidize the Burton Katzman project.

They hadn't been officially asked yet, but Canton's Board of Trustees went on record to say they won't contribute public funds to a proposed development at Ford and I-275.

That project, a 120-acre residential, commercial and business development

313 changes to 734 Sat.

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER

Like it or not, you're about to become a "734."

This has been "313" since phone numbers in The Plymouth-Canton Community were switched from the likes of "Plymouth 1" (Cass Hough) or "Plymouth 307" (the old Plymouth Hospital).

It goes "734" on July 25. Much of Canton had numbers originally known as "Plymouth 000" before exchange names were added.

When that happened, the "real" Plymouth blue-bloods had phone numbers that started with "GLenview." Eventually, these "GL"s became "453" prefixes. The newcomers to The Plymouth-Canton Community got "455"

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that also included several restaurants and a movie theater, was proposed to the Canton DDA Board last year.

Developer Burton-Katzman then said the project wouldn't happen unless the Township sold bonds to provide about \$3 million in initial infrastructure improvements to the site.

Canton's DDA has remained split on the issue, with the last vote recorded as six for the proposal, three against, and two undecided.

The Township Board had a much less difficult time making up their minds. They adopted a "sense of the Board of Trustees" resolution last night to create closure on the issue, according to Canton Supervisor Tom Yack.

"When the DDA voted to take the issue to the next level there was a public perception that that meant we would give them the funds," Yack said. "The DDA didn't really make a formal recommendation. This is just a way to show the board's sense of intention."

Yack said that the Board of Trustees was overwhelmingly opposed to the contribution of public funds to the project. Although a joint Board of Trustees and DDA meeting was planned to discuss it, that meeting was never held, Yack said.

Neither did the developers give a presentation to the Board of Trustees, who got their information instead from DDA meeting minutes and through the media, Yack said.

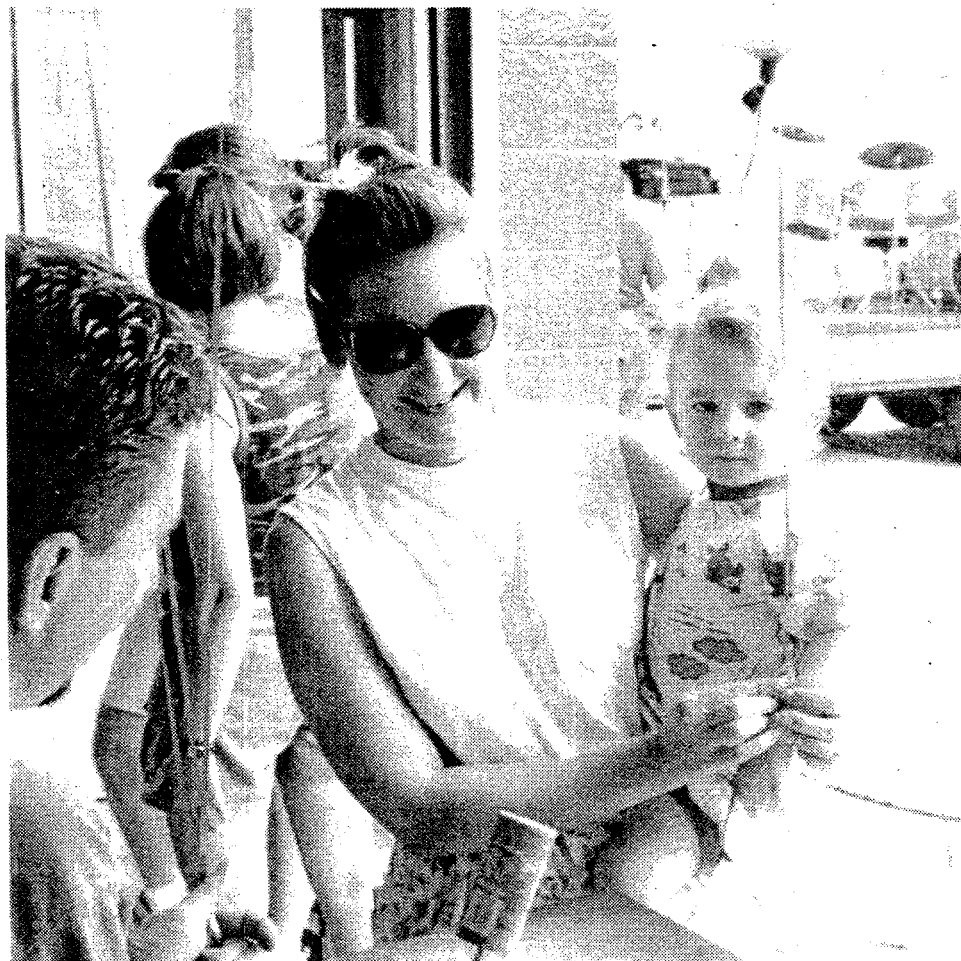
"(Burton-Katzman) asked to, but the board's sense was that they couldn't present anything that would change their minds," Yack said.

Yack and fellow trustee Melissa McLaughlin also serve on the DDA board, and had approved of the project at that level. They voted against contributing public funds with the rest of the Board of Trustees, however.

"I was supporting it at the DDA level because I agreed with the mixed-use development," Yack said. "I felt the concept merited moving it to the board level."

DDA Chairperson Ralph Shufeldt said he would accept the board's decision. Shufeldt was in favor of the project

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Chillin'... Little Dakota Kay hangs out with his mom, Patty, and gets a free frozen treat from Rick Stanhope at the Old Village Ice Cream Social Saturday (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.).

Lip service

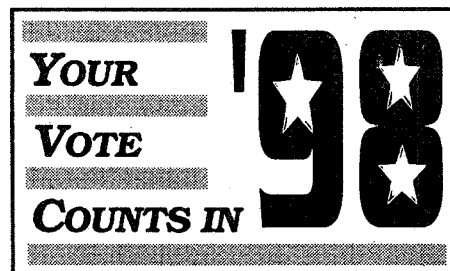
Senate hopeful Ryan doesn't have all the support he claimed

BY BRYON MARTIN

If you tune in tomorrow when WSDP broadcasts The Crier's interview with Republican candidates in the Ninth State Senate primary election, bear this in mind: part of it is untrue.

Jim Ryan said State Representatives Gerald Law and Lyn Bankes have endorsed his campaign, but both legislators telephoned The Crier within an hour after the interview to say that such is not the case.

County Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter, State Rep. Deborah Whyman and Ryan, a former state representative, face each other in the Aug. 4 primary election. The



winner will run as the Republican candidate in the Nov. 3 general election.

All three candidates attended a group interview with The Community Crier's editorial board Wednesday. WSDP taped the interview for broadcast this week. Each candidate gave their views on issues, described their backgrounds in public office and trotted out the endorsements they've received from community groups and lawmakers.

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**STATE
REPRESENTATIVE
PATTERSON**

VOTERS-PLEASE CONSIDER - Primary Ballot 1998 (Bottom left hand corner)

**COUNTY OF WAYNE
Proposition "A"**

Shall Section 3.115(13) of the Wayne County Charter be amended to require a 2/3 vote of Commissioners serving to place on any ballot any proposal for a tax increase, and a vote of more than 60% of the qualified electors of Wayne County voting thereon to adopt any such proposed tax increase?

YES (X)

NO ()

(The ballot question appearing above [called the Super-Majority Tax Protection Measure] was designed to protect us from the tax & spend liberals. It was co-authored by Bruce Patterson-candidate for State Representative. Mr. Patterson even went to court to protect our right to vote on the measure. He fought off the opponents of this ballot measure and won the case ensuring that you would have the chance to vote for it. Did anyone ever think that would be possible in Wayne county? No one. Not until Bruce Patterson went to bat for us! We can thank Bruce Patterson for giving us the chance to stop the endless tax increases of the past.)

That is one reason the Detroit News endorsed Bruce Patterson for State Representative saying:
"Mr. Patterson has an admirable record fighting county tax hikes..." --Detroit News (July 17, 1998)

"Bruce Patterson has been at the fore-front in fighting to make it harder for Wayne county politicians to raise taxes. That is why my colleague, Senator Joanne Emmons, asked him to come before her Finance Committee to testify on how he led the Charter Amendment measure requiring a Super Majority approval from voters to increase our taxes." -
State Senator Loren Bennett [R-Canton; 8th District] April 28th, 1998

(Paid for by the Friends of Bruce Patterson for S.L.C., 42479 Redfern Dr., Canton. Tom Minielly, Treasurer)

Closer, but no contract yet

P-C principals, administrators hung up on proposed merit-based pay

BY BRYON MARTIN

After working for more than a year without a contract, the principals and assistant principals who run Plymouth-Canton's public schools and other district administrators may be closing in on a settlement.

A subcommittee of district management and members of the Plymouth Canton Administrators Association met yesterday to discuss changes in the way administrators are evaluated and earn raises, according to PCA President Jim Burt.

The issue has been a hot one for the PCA, the union which represents the district's 45 principals, assistant principals and special program directors. According to Burt, the union's head negotiator and Allen Elementary principal, management wants

to begin a merit-based evaluation and pay system. The PCA has been slow to assent.

"It's not a practice that is in place anywhere else in The State of Michigan that we can find," Burt said. Merit-based pay is a corporate tool, one that hasn't adapted well to education, he said. In parts of the country where it has been used in schools, "merit pay hasn't been successful," according to Burt.

The difficulty, he said, has been in creating objective criteria for assessing how well an administrator has maintained and fostered an educational environment. "It's hard to quantify. It's not like the business world," he said.

In addition to the criteria, the PCA is concerned with what portion of administrators' pay will be based on merit review, Burt said.

Until last July, administrators had received raises the same way teachers did: when a contract was settled everyone got the same increase, he said.

But according to Verna Anible, executive director - of instruction, administrators and management have agreed that a new method is needed for performance review.

"We want to develop a good, quality evaluation instrument," she said.

Now, she said, review is "generally based on goals and job concepts," and how well an educator fulfills them.

In creating new criteria, she said, she and Burt and other participants in yesterday's meeting consider how to measure performance and how salary will be tied to results.

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As firefighters from Northville Township and Plymouth look on, crews from Consumers Power repair a broken gas main at Beck and Five Mile roads Wednesday afternoon. Contractors hired by Detroit Edison struck the main with a backhoe (Crier photo by Scott Goodwin).

Who's to blame for N'ville gas leak?

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Construction workers and Detroit Edison officials say Wednesday's gas leak at Beck and Five Mile roads wasn't their fault, but Northville Township plans to bill them nonetheless.

The four-inch gas main pipe line that ruptured at the northeast corner of the intersection was caused by contractor negligence, said Chip Snyder, Northville Township's director of public safety.

The break caused a 30-foot high-pressure gas geyser, and forced officials to close large sections of both Beck and Five Mile roads for most of Wednesday afternoon.

Township Supervisor Karen Woodside

said both Northville and Plymouth townships plan to bill George A. Odien Inc. for emergency crew costs. Those costs, according to a report by Snyder, total about \$17,500.

"This was negligence on the part of the contractor," Woodside said. "It was an accident, but one that could have been avoided."

Some, however, disagree that the contractor is at fault.

According to Mike Nye, an engineering technician with Detroit Edison who was on the scene, it's Consumers Power, not the contractor, who is to blame for the gas line break.

"Due care was exercised by the contractor," he said. "The 'Miss Dig' information was incomplete."

"Miss Dig" is the Consumers Power office which marks gas lines in a construction area.

According to Nye, Consumers Power did mark one of the gas lines at the scene of the accident, but failed to mark a second gas line located below it. It was that second gas line that contractors ruptured, Nye said.

Although it was a large mechanical backhoe that caused the break, Nye said contractors spent all morning using hand shovels around the site, a practice that is

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Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Thursday at 7 p.m., the Plymouth Republican Club will host a forum with 20th State House candidates K.C. Mueller and Gerald Law at Schoolcraft College's McDowell Center.
- Today and tomorrow at 5 p.m., WSDP 88.1 FM will air The Community Crier's interviews with State House and Senate candidates running in the Aug. 4 primary election. Today: 21st State House Repubs., Patterson-Fatyma; Thurs.: 9th State Senate Repubs., McCotter-Whyman-Ryan.

THIS WEEKEND

- Friday is Canton's second annual Comedy Night in Heritage Park. Bill Thomas and O.J. Anderson to perform for family

NEXT WEEK

- Tuesday at 7 p.m., Canton's Board of Trustees meets in the Canton Administration Building.

NEXT WEEKEND

- Friday & Saturday, Plymouth's downtown merchants bring out their bargains for the City's annual sidewalk sale. Call 734-453-1724 for details.

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Public notices

**CITY OF PLYMOUTH
PRIMARY ELECTION ON AUGUST 4, 1998
LEGAL NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that a PRIMARY ELECTION will be held in the City of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1998, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing candidates for the following offices:

- GOVERNOR
- REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS (13th Dist.)
- STATE SENATE (9th Dist.)
- STATE REPRESENTATIVE (20th Dist.)
- COUNTY EXECUTIVE
- COUNTY COMMISSIONER (10th Dist.)
- DELEGATES TO COUNTY CONVENTION
- 2 JUDGES OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - 3rd Judicial Circuit, Regular Terms, Non-Incumbent Positions
- 2 JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS - 1st District, Regular Terms, Incumbent Positions
- PROPOSITION "J" - Jail Millage Renewal Proposal
- PROPOSITION "A" - Wayne County Proposal

Applications for absentee ballots may be requested from the City of Plymouth, Office of the Clerk, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, telephone number 453-1234 x 234.

Absentee ballots will be handed to qualified absentee voters in person at the City Clerk's Offices from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., on Saturday, August 1st, 1998. On Monday, August 3rd, absentee voters shall receive their ballots and vote them in the Clerk's Office until 4:30 p.m.

All City polling locations are handicapped accessible.

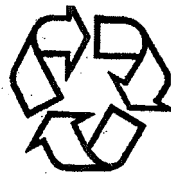
Polling places in the City of Plymouth are as follows:

- PRECINCT 1, 2, 4 CULTURAL CENTER, 525 FARMER STREET
- PRECINCT 3 CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL, 630 W. CHURCH ST.

Please take note that the City Precinct Locations may NOT coincide with your school precinct locations.

LINDA J. LANGMESSER, CMC
CITY CLERK

PUBLISH: Community Crier-7/22 & 7/29, 1998



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Postmaster, send change of address notice to The Community Crier, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170-1694.

N'ville Twp. to hold millage info meeting

BY CHIARA CANNELLA

Northville Township will hold an informational meeting about the August 4 millage vote Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the municipal offices.

A current millage of 4.32 mills which supports police, fire, roads and dust control, senior programs, and youth assistance will expire in December.

The replacement proposal would levy 6.34 mills for four years and 5.59 mills for the following four years, an initial increase of 2.02 mills.

The new millage calls for .75 mills for four years for park development and acquisition, which was not a part of the expiring millage.

No allocation is made in the proposed millage for roads and dust control, which previously used .08 mills.

The 1.17 mill public safety increase is necessary to maintain a fast response time, according to information distributed by the township.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ELECTION NOTICE

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS of the Charter Township of Canton, notice is hereby given that a general Primary Election will be held in the Charter Township of Canton on Tuesday, August 4, 1998 from 7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. for the purpose of nominating candidates of the Democratic, Republican, Reform Parties and non-partisan candidates for the following offices:

- Governor
- Representative in Congress - 13th District
- State Representative - 18th or 21st District
- State Senator - 8th District, 9th District
- County Executive
- County Commission - 11th District
- Delegates to County Convention
- 2 Judges of Court of Appeals - Regular Terms, Incumbent Positions
- 2 Judges of Circuit Court - Regular Terms - Non Incumbent Positions

and to vote on the following proposals:

PROPOSITION A

Shall Section 3.115 (13) of the Wayne County Charter be amended to require a 2/3 vote of Commissioners serving to place on any ballot any proposal for a tax increase, and a vote of more than 60% of the qualified electors of Wayne County voting thereon to adopt any such proposed tax increase. YES NO

PROPOSITION J - Jail Millage Renewal Proposal

To RENEW the millage authorized in 1988, shall Wayne County be authorized to continue to levy this millage at the 1997 rollback rate of .9532 mills (about 95 cents per thousand dollars of taxable valuation) for four more years, (1998 through 2001), to continue these exclusive uses: To acquire, construct, and/or operate jail, misdemeanor, or juvenile incarceration or detention facilities, and for adult penalty options such as work release, home detention and community restitution; with at least one-tenth of the millage used to acquire, build and operate a juvenile offender work/training institution?
This renewal is estimated to generate at least \$31,636,566 in property tax revenue in 1998. YES NO

CANTON TOWNSHIP PROPOSAL - Dedicated Road Improvement Millage

Shall the total tax rate limitation on property in the Charter Township of Canton be increased by an additional amount, not to exceed 2 mills (\$2.00 per \$1,000 of Taxable Value; upon all real and personal property in the Charter Township of Canton for eight (8) years beginning in 1998 through 2005 inclusive thereby raising in the first year an estimated \$3,600,000.00 for the exclusive purpose of construction, reconstruction, resurfacing, repairing, maintaining, and/or purchasing road right-of-way, easements, and land to improve roads within the Charter Township of Canton. YES NO

CANTON TOWNSHIP PRECINCT NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS

Precinct No.	Name of Facility	Address
1 & 23	First Baptist Church	44500 Cherry Hill Rd.
2	Canton Recreation Center	44237 Michigan Avenue
3, 10, 21	St. John Neumann Church	44800 Warren Road
4 & 13	Miller Elementary School	43721 Hanford Road
5 & 18	Field Elementary School	1000 S. Haggerty Road
6	Royal Holiday Clubhouse	39500 Warren Road
7	Plymouth Salem High School	46181 Joy Road
8	Resurrection Catholic Church	48755 Warren Road
9	Eriksson Elementary School	1275 N. Haggerty Road
11 & 19	Tonda Elementary School	46501 Warren Road
12 & 14	Hulsing Elementary School	8055 Fleet Street
15	Walker Elementary School	39932 Michigan Ave
16 & 17	Bentley Elementary School	11608 Sheridan
20 & 26	Canton Administration Bldg.	1150 S. Canton Center
22	Hoben Elementary School	44680 Saltz Road
24 & 25	Plymouth Canton High School	8415 N. Canton Center

The Office of the Township Clerk, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, will be open from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 1, 1998 for absentee ballots. Qualified voters must appear in person to receive a ballot, or a ballot can be mailed on that date.

On Monday, August 3, 1998 qualified absentee voters shall receive their ballots and vote them in the Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m. Emergency absentee ballots ONLY will be issued on Election Day August 4th.

Handicapped Voters with an inaccessible polling place (that being Precinct 6, Royal Holiday Clubhouse, 39500 W. Warren Rd.) are eligible to vote without notice at the Clerk's Office until the close of voting at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

If you are unsure of your voting location please refer to your voter registration card or contact the Clerk's office at 397-5452.

Terry G. Bennett, Clerk

PUBLISH: Community Crier, July 22, 1998

Canton's new fire station: 8 months late, but maybe a bit cheaper

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The bad news is Canton's fire station number one is almost eight full months behind schedule.

The good news is the department could move in next month, and due to fines imposed on the contractor for falling behind schedule, could save up to about \$35,000.

Under a liquidated damages clause in the contractor's agreement, the contractor is fined \$250 a day for each day after the fire station's scheduled completion date of Jan. 1., according to Mike Rorabacher, Canton fire chief.

"We're trying to move in in August," Rorabacher said. "We just have a few more

things to work out."

Contractors applied an additional coat of sealant on the station's floors and completed the ventilation system, which had held the project up previously, Rorabacher said.

Rorabacher said the department is waiting for some concrete in front of the structure to be replaced and the radio system to be

installed. They currently are using the building's training room for ongoing Advanced Life Support (ALS) classes, Rorabacher said.

According to Tony Minghine, Canton Finance director, the amount the contractor will be fined depends on when the structure was available for "beneficial occupancy." Beneficial occupancy is when the building is ready for the use it was designed for, Minghine said.

"We have a date that we feel we took control of the building, but the contractors will probably have a different one," Minghine said. "We may think it applies to when it's 100 per cent complete to our satisfaction and they may say its as soon as the rain doesn't hit you on the head. The right answer is somewhere in the middle."

Make that a Grand Slammer—to go

After receiving a tip that a man wanted for drug charges in Alabama was holed up at the Red Roof Inn on Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township police sent two officers to make the arrest.

The call came in around 4 p.m., saying that Clifton Haygood was at the hotel. Police in

Sardis City, AL had issued a warrant for Haygood's arrest in connection with charges of receiving and possessing narcotics. Haygood had fled the state before police there could arrest him.

Sardis officials knew Haygood might be in Michigan because he delivers cars in the area.

But by the time Township officers Ed Gauthier and Bill Fetner arrived at the hotel, the man was gone.

Gone, but not far.

"They were informed that he was eating a late dinner at the Denny's next door," Lt. Bob Smith said. "His meal was interrupted."



Public notices

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH LEGAL NOTICE PRIMARY ELECTION ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1998

Notice is hereby given that a primary election will be held in the Charter Township of Plymouth, Wayne County, Michigan, on Tuesday, August 4, 1998 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., for the purpose of electing candidates for the following partisan offices:

Governor
Representative in Congress
State Senator
State Representative
County Executive
County Commissioner
Delegates to County Convention

and the following non-partisan Offices:

Judges of the Court of Appeals - 1st District, Regular Terms, Incumbent Positions, Terms ending 01-01-05 - Vote for not more than two.
Judges of Circuit Court - 3rd Judicial Circuit, Regular Terms - Non Incumbent Position, Terms ending 01-01-05 - Vote for not more than two.

and to the following County of Wayne proposals:

PROPOSITION "A"

Shall Section 3.115 (13) of the Wayne County Charter be amended to require a 2/3 vote of Commissioners serving to place on any ballot any proposal for a tax increase, and a vote of more than 60% of the qualified electors of Wayne County voting thereon to adopt any such proposed tax increase. YES___NO___

PROPOSITION J JAIL MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSAL

To RENEW the millage authorized in 1988, shall Wayne County be authorized to continue to levy this millage at the 1997 rollback rate of .9532 mills (about 95 cents per thousand dollars of taxable valuation) for four more years, (1998 through 2001), to continue these exclusive uses: To acquire, construct, and/or operate jail, misdemeanor, or juvenile incarceration or detention facilities, and for adult penalty options such as work release, home detention and community restitution; with at least one-tenth of the millage used to acquire, build and operate a juvenile offender work/training institution?
This renewal is estimated to generate at least \$31,636,566 in property tax revenue in 1998. YES___NO___

and the following Charter Township of Plymouth Proposals:

PROPOSAL 1

Shall the total tax rate limitation on property in the Charter Township of Plymouth be increased by an additional amount, not to exceed 3 mills (\$3.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value) upon all real and personal property in the Charter Township of Plymouth for twenty (20) years beginning in 1998 through 2017 inclusive thereby raising in the first year an estimated \$3,709,604 and the funds thereby derived be used for police, fire and communication services? YES___NO___

PROPOSAL 2

Shall the total tax rate limitation on property in the Charter Township of Plymouth be increased by an additional amount, not to exceed .5 mill (\$.50 per \$1,000 of taxable value) upon all real and personal property in the Charter Township of Plymouth for twenty (20) years beginning in 1998 through 2017 inclusive thereby raising in the first year an estimated \$618,267 for the exclusive purpose of designing, acquiring, constructing, implementing, maintaining and/or operating recreation programs, services, equipment, facilities and/or property? YES___NO___

PROPOSAL 3

Shall the total tax rate limitation on property in the Charter Township of Plymouth be increased by an additional amount, not to exceed .75 mill (\$.75 per \$1,000 of taxable value) upon all real and personal property in the Charter Township of Plymouth for twenty (20) years beginning in 1998 through 2017 inclusive thereby raising in the first year an estimated \$927,401 for the exclusive purpose of payment of obligations to the western townships utilities authority (WTUA) under the construction, finance and service agreement dated September 28, 1988 among Canton, Northville and Plymouth Townships? YES___NO___

Applications for absentee ballots for the Charter Township of Plymouth, may be obtained at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number 453-3840 extension 224 or 228. Absentee ballots will be delivered to qualified absentee voters in person at the Clerk's Office from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 1. On Monday, August 3 qualified voters shall receive their ballots, and vote them in the Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m.

All polling places in the Township of Plymouth are accessible to the elderly and the handicapped.

Polling places are as follows: (Please note that the Township precinct locations or precinct numbers may not coincide with your school district precinct location or number).

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

Precinct 1	Farrand School	41400 Greenbriar
Precincts 2 & 8	Friendship Station	42375 Schoolcraft
Precinct 3	Allen School	11100 Haggerty Road
Precinct 4	Township Clerk's Office	42350 Ann Arbor Road
Precinct 5	Bird School	220 N. Sheldon Road
Precinct 6	West Middle School	44401 Ann Arbor Trail
Precinct 7	United Assembly of God Church	46500 N. Territorial Road
Precinct 9	Church of the Nazarene	45801 Ann Arbor Road
Precinct 10	Fiegel School	39750 Joy Road
Precinct 11	First Baptist Church	45000 N. Territorial Road
Precinct 12	Pioneer Middle School	46081 Ann Arbor Road
Precinct 13 & 16	Lutheran Church of the Risen Christ	46250 Ann Arbor Road
Precinct 14	Isbister School	9300 Canton Center Road
Precinct 15	First United Methodist Church	45201 N. Territorial Road

Marilyn Massengill, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

PUBLISH: July 22, 1998
The Community Crier



Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Lila Gould, O. Jeffrey Noe, Joseph Stevens, and Amy Tolstyka of Canton; and Lynn Hough of Northville have been awarded scholarships to Walsh College.

The following students from Canton were named to the University of Michigan College of Engineering Honor list: Matthew Abbott, Uzmaa Balbale, Sarah Banfield, Todd Lee, Jason Lehn, Claire Brown, Michael Chappell, Zachary Deedler, Mark Dettling, Patrick Marsac, Rodrigo Palm, Jeremy Fox, Daniel Grube, Michael Hjelmstad, Christopher Seadeek, Neha Shah, Rebecca Steinhebel John Tran and Shengbin Yang; from Plymouth: Matthew Ammons, Christopher Lake, Aaron Leanhardt, Theodore Betley, Matthew Cruz, Paul Dersey, Kristin Miller, Paul Moore, Jennifer Munfakh, Aaron Niemiec, Elizabeth Oatley, Christopher Pratt, Mark Reed, Ryan Schrieber, Kelly Sharland, Neelesh Varde; and from Northville: Joseph Allen, David Leone, Jared Cromas, David McCulloch, Edward Murphy, Cynthia Phillips, Timothy Polsinelli, Steven Hall, Amity Heckemeyer, Jason Kiehler, Jennifer Sloane, Paul Stachura, Amber Stephens, Adam Weber, Sarah Weber, Luke Wilcox and Devon Woodruff.

Degree candidates from Michigan State University include: Dana Anderson, Jennifer Bagozzi, Julie Bak, Elizabeth Berger, Jennifer Bryan, Shawn Champlin, Yudong Chen, Julie Davis, Melissa Delong, Andrew Feierfeil, Melissa Francis, Stephanie Frye, Dana Grondzieleski, Kristen Hack, Michelle Ann-Hoefler Herman, Brian Jansen, Gerald Jimmerson, Mykel Johnson, Rebecca Johnson, Laura Kamm, Jason Krolicki, Bryon Labumbard, Heather Lagrow, Shelby Mathew, Eric Meszaros, Jason Miller, Philip Moore, Andrew Morelli, Howard Norris, Kelly Prezioso, Todd Price, Suzanne Salo, Justin Sarrach, Leanne Savola, Heather Schafer, Jown Spears, Edward Stachowski, Erica Stevens, Caryn Tatterton, Wendy Vea, Kristi Wade, Rachael Walsh, Kurt Westermann, Wendy Widiger and Jeffrey Wildman.

Pictures of Plymouth

Set of postcards captures the charm of Kellogg Park, downtown

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

If a picture is worth 1,000 words, the new postcard collection by Plymouth photographer Jill Andra Young has 5,000 nice things to say about town.

The set of five postcards frame varying vistas of Kellogg Park and capture the charm of a scenic downtown, Young said. They debuted at local stores Monday.

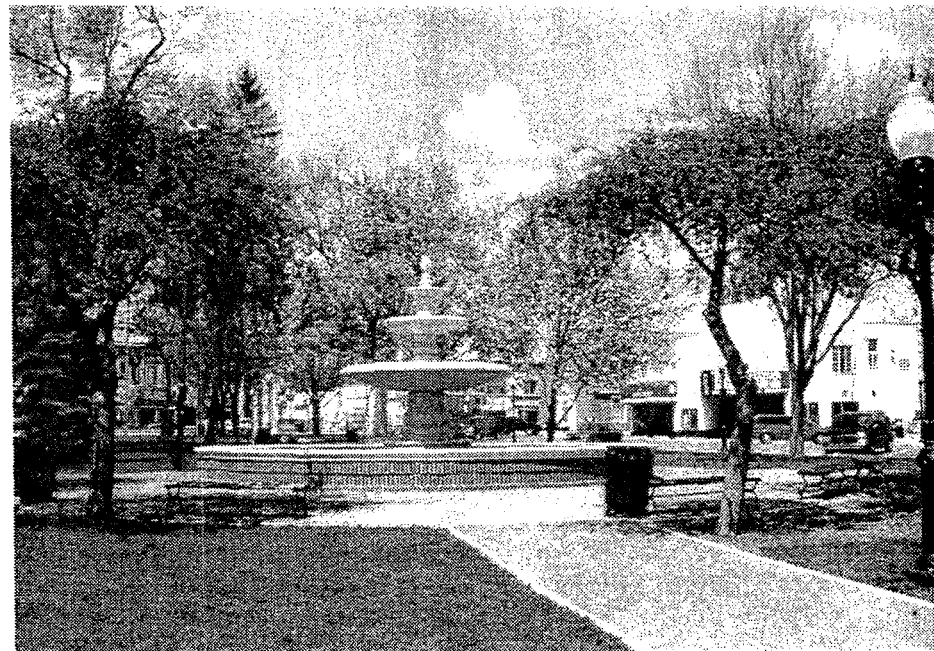
"There is a lack of images of Plymouth. The only ones I've seen have been really old Ice Fest pictures," Young said. "There are no nice, recent images in postcards so I thought I'd take the plunge."

The pictures were taken earlier this year and focus on the fountain in Kellogg Park. Taken from different angles and at different times of the day, they capture the lush greens and subtle lighting of the park.

Young said when she decided to try and publish her own postcards, the park was a natural subject.

"I've always loved the park and I wanted to show how inviting it is," she said. "It's probably the best thing downtown has to offer."

In addition to postcards, the park



Jill Andra Young's postcard collection centers on landmarks in and around Kellogg Park, such as the new fountain (above) or the clock (below).

images also adorn T-shirts and tote bags, which are produced in Young's Penniman Avenue shop. She has owned and operated Jill Andra Young Photography in Plymouth for more than eight years. Specializing in pet portraits, the shop has been located on Penniman Avenue for the

past four years, she said.

Her postcards and other items can also be purchased at the Little Professor Bookseller on the Park, Michigan Made, Sideways, Wiltse's Pharmacy and the Plymouth Historical Museum. Tote bags and T-shirts can be found at most of the locations, too, Young said.

Young is also selling signed sets of five postcards from her studio.

"I will probably do more postcards in the future, but who knows if I'll reprint this same set again," she said. "This has all been a great adventure for me, and I hope it works out."

Calling all poets

Fall Fest contest wants poems about Plymouth

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

There's a call going out to the sentimental, the wordsmiths among P-C-N residents, those who love the town or just have something to say about it: Enter The Crier's Plymouth Poetry Contest.

The Crier and the Plymouth Poets started the contest to create a venue where budding and professional poets could air their views on town, according to Plymouth poet Rod Reinhart.

"We all love our community; it's a wonderful place to live," Reinhart said. "A lot of people enjoy writing about the things they love."

The contest rules are simple. Write a poem in any style — be it free verse, blank verse, an old-fashioned sonnet or something else entirely, Reinhart said. Poems should be about your insights on The City of Plymouth or its surrounding areas.

"They should show something interesting, beautiful or sad about the life, people

or history of Plymouth," Reinhart said. "It can be about anything in Plymouth: the geography, trains, trucks, people or places."

Poems should be no longer than 40 lines, and should not contain obscene or crude language. Winning entries will be published in the Fall Festival edition of The Community Crier, which is published Sept. 9.

The contest is open to poets of all ages, Reinhart said, and will be judged by a committee of Plymouth poets. The grand prize is a \$50 gift certificate to Little Professor Bookstore. If a large amount of children's poetry is received, a special kids prize will be awarded, Reinhart said.

"We want people of all ages and skill levels to write," Reinhart said.

Poems are due by Aug. 7 and can be submitted to the Crier at 821 Penniman Avenue, Plymouth, MI 48170 or email@Crier.com.



'Conservative' choices in 9th Senate

Continued from pg. 1

"I have the endorsements of the two state representatives that represent this area: Lyn Bankes and Gerry Law," Ryan said during the interview. "I think those two endorsements say more than anything else in that they've been there, they know what it takes and they support my campaign."

"That's not correct," Bankes said. "I find them all good candidates, so I don't want to show a preference." But this wasn't always the case.

"I've vacillated," she said, explaining that before the 9th Senate race began outright she had planned to endorse Ryan.

During Ryan's first and only term in the

House from 1994 - 1996, Bankes was his mentor and showed him the political ropes around the capital.

"We shared Redford as a district," Ryan said. "We spent a lot of time discussing issues and had a very close working relationship. Still do."

Bankes said she planned to endorse Ryan in 1997 when he was gathering support. At that time Bankes was in a "clash" with McCotter after he recruited a candidate to run against her in the 10th County Commission race.

That candidate has since dropped out and things have cooled down between McCotter and Bankes; earlier this year, she said, she

decided not to endorse any of the three candidates. Neither is Law.

"I'm not involved in the race," he said. "It's not that I think he's a poor candidate. I know all the people running, so I'm not endorsing anybody."

Ryan and Law served on the judiciary committee and drafted legislation together, but knew each other prior to Ryan's term in the legislature, Ryan said.

Both are Catholic Central graduates, where Ryan also taught for seven years prior to his two years as a representative. "Our families know one another," he said.

Law viewed the situation with a bit of humor. "I don't know what he thinks Gerry Law is going to do for him anyway."

Bankes said she hasn't been strident in her denial of Ryan's claims because of the close history they've had. "I'm giving him a little latitude here."

Ryan said he has spoken with Law and Bankes since the interview and that communications with them must have become confused at some point.

"It was a misunderstanding between them and me," he said. "Their position in this race is between us. It should've been kept that way."

WSDP 88.1 FM will air the interview tomorrow at 5 p.m.

Where they stand

All three candidates describe themselves as conservative Republicans and weigh in with similar positions on what have been



JIM RYAN

favorite G.O.P. issues.

All oppose abortion and have earned equal support from Right to Life, Michigan, although the pro-life group has said it will not endorse any of candidates for the primary.

Differentiating himself from his fellow Republicans, McCotter said his priority in the Senate would be lower taxes and greater rights for individuals — "protecting people from government." He cited his county super majority proposal as a record of such efforts. That proposal would require a 60 per cent voter approval to pass county tax increases.

Whyman said the power of her ideas — an ongoing fight against affirmative action and racial preferences, and her successful drive to dismantle Detroit Records Court — and NRA endorsement are among her strengths.

Ryan distinguishes himself with two bills he passed in the House: no-form, no-file tax revisions, and a ban on partial-birth abortion in Michigan. He also touted his ability to create coalitions with other legislators.

'A better direction'

Continued from pg. 3

Establishing new criteria, however, is not an effort tied to bargaining per se, she said.

The bargaining climate has been "improving somewhat" Burt said, but hasn't yet felt the sunny optimism and cooperation that warmed teacher contract talks after National Education Association President Bob Chase visited the district in March.

"I'm encouraged," said Errol Goldman, assistant superintendent for employe relations and personnel, stating that he is hopeful about speculation that a settlement might be reached by summer's end.

Other concerns between management and the PCA have been resolved, he said. The merit pay issue is the primary hurdle left to clear. "It's been one of the biggest issues. That's why we broke into a subcommittee" to address it, he said.

Although Burt and his peers have spent more than a year without a commitment from the district and now face a potentially unpopular method of evaluation, he agreed labor-management relations have taken a turn for the better.

"There's some optimism," he said. "Things are moving in a better direction."



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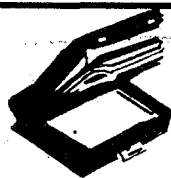
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Getting down to business

Neighbors in business



Mike Kolb of Hines Park Lincoln Mercury has been chosen at the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce's 1998 Volunteer-of-the-Year.

Kolb, who has served as a chamber president and co-chaired the chamber's annual auction, is a charter member and past chairman of the Ann Arbor Road Committee. He also researched and developed Chamber's web page.

Kolb will be honored at the Thursday morning coffee tomorrow from 8 - 9 a.m. at the Chamber office on Main Street.



Karen J. Priemer of Northville has been promoted to Regional Vice President. In addition, the company rewarded her with a new Mercedes Benz automobile.

Priemer left a nursing career less than two years ago to pursue a career with Arbonne International, an 18-year-old skin care, health and nutrition company.

Evola Music opens in Canton

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Anyone trying to find Evola Music may have to look a little harder, but the end result would be worth it.

The music store, located in Plymouth for the past 10 years on Ann Arbor Road near Lilley Road, has moved south of the border and is now operating in Canton.

The new location on Haggerty just north of Warren is on the edge of one of Canton's largest industrial areas. Surrounded by large, boxy buildings, the store is slightly off the beaten path, according to manager Paul Cusumano.

"At four or five o'clock the freeway is like a parking lot," Cusumano said. "We have a lot of freeway visibility and there are exits within a mile in each direction. It's not that hard to find."

The store, which officially opened to the public Monday, required a zoning variation to allow the commercial use in an industrial area, Cusumano said. To achieve the variance, they added a 3,000-square foot warehouse to the building to allow for dual industrial and retail purposes.

The warehouse isn't the only addition shoppers will find at the new store. At about 12,000 square feet, the building boasts a recital hall, eight private lesson rooms, separate show rooms for their top-of-the-line grand pianos, digital pianos, and an organ showroom that doubles as a classroom, Cusumano said. Another large multi-purpose teaching room can handle about 15 digital pianos, he said.

The recital hall, named the J. J. Gallagher Hall, is named after Ben Evola's father-in-law, who started the business in the 1930s, Cusumano said. It seats 80 people



Manager Paul Cusumano sits in Evola Music's new showroom, overlooking I-275. The new store opened Monday (Crier photo by Scott Spielman).

and has a stage large enough for two grand pianos.

The additional private lesson rooms prompted the hire of four extra teachers, Cusumano said.

"We're trying to expand that aspect of the business," he said. "That's really how you generate traffic through the store. Not everyone who comes in here is looking to buy a piano."

Evola plans to expand into other markets as well, according to Cusumano. The larger facility has room to display and sell band instruments, a niche in the marketplace Evola couldn't service before.

"We didn't really have the room,"

Cusumano said. "Band is really big in this town and we want to attack that corner of the market."

This expanded and improved service is what prompted the move, Cusumano said. The size of the Plymouth location dictated the kind of service it could provide, and with the closing of Arnoldt Williams, the market is bigger than ever, according to Cusumano.

"We're committed to serving the community. That's why we moved the store. We thought we could do a better job in a bigger building," he said. "The location may be a problem, but the building really stands out. Plus, we have a good name in the community. They'll find us."

Planners OK Farmer Jack site plan

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

After receiving special land use approval earlier this month, the Farmer Jack proposed for the corner of Canton Center and Cherry Hill road is picking up speed.

The project's site plan was approved 5-1 Monday, at an uncharacteristically quiet planning commission meeting.

Compromise has been the name of the game for Michael Rein of Bowers & Rein Associates, the firm designing the development.

The plan approved Monday is about 6,000 square feet smaller than the one originally proposed in May. The Farmer Jack building, which anchors the development, has been reduced to 53,921 square feet, while the smaller retail building has been turned to face Cherry

Hill Road instead of Canton Center.

The major change in the plan, however, is the detention pond. Originally located on the southern portion of the site, it will be relocated to the northern portion of the land and combined with the existing Kingston Estates pond, Rein said.

"It will handle the storm water run off from both locations and the gas station as well, to current standards," Rein said.

Moving the pond also provided more room for the building on the south side of the site, which meant the developers were able to provide a greater buffer between adjacent property, Rein said.

"One of the problems with having a detention pond requirement is that you get these little ponds everywhere," said Commissioner Melissa McLaughlin. "It's

nice to see that we can have one pond service three sites. I think it will be a dramatic improvement to the overall complexion of the area."

The project had met with strong opposition from residents in neighboring Kingston Estates and Pheasant Glen Condominiums, who were concerned the project was too intense for that area.

It was a sentiment still shared by Commissioner Catherine Johnson.

"I've been against this project from the start," she said, before casting the solitary nay against the site plan. "I'm not against developers building something on the site, I just thought it was too large for the corner. I still believe that's so."

The site plan will go to the Township Board for approval July 28.

You're a 734 now

Continued from pg. 1
and even "459."

As the population boom of the 1970s and 1980s continued here, very different (non-GLenview) exchanges were added. Canton got the "981"s and "397"s, while northern Plymouth Township/southern Northville Township got "420"s.

Then cell phones and faxes pushed by Michigan Bell (now a part of Ameritech; soon a part of a larger monopoly) meant a new area code required more exchanges by adding a new area code to Southeast Michigan.

At first, the dividing line went up into Oakland County to split off "810" from "313." After public hearings, the area code boundary line was changed down into the middle of Northville Township, Salem Township, Livonia and other communities because the

'SCREE-ee-EECH, you must first dial one plus the area code' is a rude greeting to a local caller who is merely a few feet away within the same area code

northernmore Oakland communities complained that the zig-zag line as proposed would split their towns. That decision was not followed by the same amount of notice of the proposed new line or any public hearings in the Plymouth-Northville-Salem.

Thus when "810" was announced to take effect on Aug. 10, 1994, local officials in Northville Township, Salem and Livonia tried to get the proposed line to change. But it was too late — Ameritech had made the decision. The phone company at first offered seven-digit dialing (no area code needed) between Plymouth and Northville, but then discontinued that.

At that point, many Northville Township residents who were parents of students in the Plymouth-Canton School District had to dial an area code to reach their children's schools. Businesses with overlapping customer bases between Plymouth-Canton and the Northvilles complained that they lost existing customers because having to dial an area code meant that some customers would not perceive them as a "local" business.

Then, on Sept. 13, 1997 — three years and a month after "810" — Ameritech made those residents and businesses in the southern end of "810" into a "248" area code. Businesses screamed about reprinting business cards and stationery again and about having to re-program their phones and faxes twice in three years. Residents in the

communities split by the area code division (like Northville Township and Salem) complained that nobody would ever be able to find them through directory assistance.

It was confusing where the boundary line ran and who was what area code when.

Even Ameritech — or whatever they are today — seems confused.

The newest residents and businesses here can't even get local calling from traditional "313" numbers BEFORE the looming July 25 area code change.

Calling Arborlink at their two-month-old Plymouth location (313-414-8818) requires using the area code from an old-time "453" number just five feet away. "SCREE-ee-EECH, you must first dial one plus the area code" is a rude greeting to a local caller who is merely a few feet away within the same

area code.

The successor to "Plymouth 1" has proudly retained that number despite numerous offers to sell it. "This is it," she proudly maintains. And when her family has no further need of that number, it will be donated to the Plymouth Historical Society in the Dunning Memorial Building. She maintains that the new changing area code (no matter how many times they do it) won't detract from her number being "the original" Plymouth number.

But for others, being called "734" will take some getting used to.

Take Charlie Roebuck, of Plymouth Township, who's been a "313" all of his (damn near) 50 years.

"I've been out of the 313 area code before," said the widely-travelled Roebuck, "but I've always lived there." The Ford engineer was born a "313" in Detroit, attended U of M in "313" Ann Arbor, moved back to Detroit, then to "313" Plymouth Township in February, 1979. The information operators could always find him.

Roebuck admits he'll adjust. After all, he said, it's better than being in Northville where folks had three area codes in three years without moving.

"810 came and went pretty fast," he said.

Now, Roebuck and you become "734"s on Saturday, July 25.

Will this new area code stick longer than the seven-digit dialing promise or "810"?

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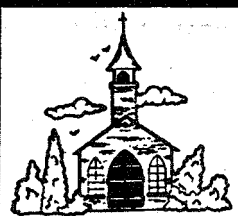
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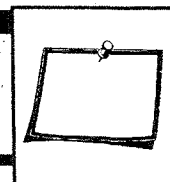
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Events

HISTORIC OLD VILLAGE WIDE GARAGE & SIDEWALK SALE

The Old Village Development Authority is holding a garage and sidewalk sale **Saturday Aug. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** A walking map of homes and businesses that will be participating will be available to those who wish to travel the streets of Old Village looking for bargains and treasures. For more information call Jan at the Brew Ha Ha (734) 354-9432.

THIRD ANNUAL BARGAIN BAZAAR

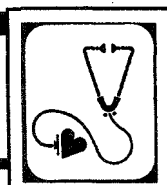
The Northville Central Business Association announces the Third Annual Bargain Bazaar on **Saturday, August 1, from 9a.m.-5p.m.** on Main and Center Streets in historic downtown Northville. Booths are available now. Call Lorie Wyant at 248-349-3537 for details.

CANTON COMEDY NIGHT IN HERITAGE PARK

Canton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring its second annual Comedy Night in Heritage Park this **Friday, July 24, beginning at 7:15 p.m.** Comedians Bill Thomas and O.J. Anderson will delight you with their humor designed for the whole family. Silver Sounds D. J. will be providing music throughout the evening as well. Concessions will be available. Admission is free.

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Meet Republican state representative candidates Gerald Law and K.C. Mueller this **Thursday, July 23, at 7 p.m.** at the McDowell Center at SchoolCraft College. Law and Mueller are running for the 20th House District seat and will be answering questions from citizens. The meeting is being hosted by the Plymouth Republican Club.



Health

SUICIDE LOSS PROGRAM

Arbor Hospice offers a group for adults who have experienced a loss through suicide. The group meets at Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth on the first and third Monday evening of each month from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information call 734-662-5999 or 248-348-4980.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HANDBOOKS

40-page handbook contains current domestic violence laws, women's rights, community resources list, and more, in Arabic. Pick-up copies at Arab-American and Chaldean Council, Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services, Wayne County prosecutor's office and department of public health clinic in Dearborn. English, Spanish versions available. Call 313-224-6994.

WEIGHT AND CHOLESTEROL MANAGEMENT

St. Joseph Mercy Health System is sponsoring the Nutriway weight and cholesterol management series. The program includes cooking demonstrations, taste testing, label reading, restaurant survival and more. Classes available at Canton Summit on the Park. Call 313-712-5110 for details.

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.

OAKWOOD CLASSES/SCREENINGS

Blood pressure checks, breast feeding support groups, childbirth preparation classes, infant CPR. Call 454-8001.

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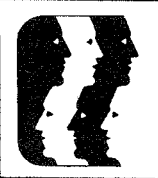
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Groups

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITAN MEETING

P-C Civitan Club holds their monthly dinner meeting, on the third Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Water Club Bar & Grill. Call Barb Kobiela, 464-1129.

HEART CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The heart cancer support group meets the second and fourth Monday of each month, 7pm, at Northville's Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Call 422-1826.

GOD'S GOLDEN GIRLS

Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church invites women over 50 to join "God's Golden Girls." Meet third Friday of each month, noon. Free lunch with reservation. Call Pattie, 981-0286.

CANTON REPUBLICAN CLUB

Canton Republican Club meets on the third Thursday of each month at Cherry Hill School at 7 p.m. Call Melissa McLaughlin, 495-0304.

PLYMOUTH YMCA "Y" KIDS

For children ages 3-5. Openings for afternoon sessions. Age 3 meets Tuesday and Thursday, ages 4-5 meets Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Call YMCA, 453-2904.

PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCIETY

Society invites interested singers to join this year's performances, including Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzes and the Durufle Requiem. Practices held weekly. No audition necessary. Call Clark or Karen Chapin, 453-4765.

VILLAGE POTTERS GUILD

Guild is dedicated to advancement, education of ceramic arts; 25 members share space, equipment for pottery production. Classes each semester. Call 207-8807.

PLYMOUTH OPTIMIST CLUB MEETINGS

First, third Monday of month, 6:30 p.m. Mayflower Hotel. Includes dinner and speaker. Call Felix Rotter, 453-2375.

60+ CLUB

Meet every first Monday of month, noon, First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd. Bring a dish to pass. Call Lola Schueder, 453-7999.

NEW! PIONEER CLUB FOR CHILDREN

The Pioneer Club provides a good learning experience and fun skill building activities. Clubs from 6:45-8:30 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church. 459-9550.

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY WRITER'S CLUB

Second and fourth Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Writers of all experience levels are welcome. Call 416-0418.

CELIAC SPRUE SUPPORT GROUP

For people who have Celiac Sprue and Dermatitis Herpetiformis, their families and friends. Monthly meetings at Southfield Presbyterian Church. For more info call Sue Gentilia 248-926-1228 or Marcia Campbell 248-477-5953.



Volunteer

NATIONAL ARCHERY TOURNAMENT

Canton Township is looking for volunteers to assist at the National Archery Tournament August 2-7. Assorted positions available. To volunteer call Kathleen Salla at 313-397-6450.

HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The SHARE! Program still needs host families for students ages 15-18 arriving in August from over 28 countries including Germany, Japan, Brazil, China, and Poland. The students will be staying for 5 to 10 months. Interested Plymouth area families should contact Beth Schumann at the SHARE! National Office at 1-800-321-3738.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Plymouth Chamber of Commerce is always in need of volunteers. Call 453-1540.

DONATE PERIODICAL SUBSCRIPTION

Plymouth District Library seeks individuals, businesses, groups to donate the cost of a subscription to one of over 300 periodicals it subscribes to. Sponsor's name appears on front cover. Donation is federal, state tax deductible. Call 453-0750.

GUIDE to Entertainment

Go PEN

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 Happening*.

CANTON CINEMA 6

734-981-1900; "Mulan" "Madeleine" "The Truman Show" "X-Files" "Out of Sight" "There's Something About Mary" "The Perfect Murder"

CENTER STAGE

734-981-5122; Fri.-Sat.: *Dance to alternative music and more.*

CROWS NEST

734-459-4020; Tues.: *live 50's and 60's music.* Fri.: *Live Piano Bar Music.* Sat. *Karaoke*

ERNESTO'S

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

GENITTI'S HOLE IN THE WALL

248-349-0522; *Live Interactive Dinner Theater: "I Do...I Think."*

KARL'S COUNTRY CABIN

734-455-8450; Thurs.: *Live Rythm and Blues: Twistin' Tarantulas*

MARQUIS THEATRE

248-349-8110; *Live Musical Theatre "Raggedy Ann & Andy."*

MR. B'S PLYMOUTH

734-459-4190; Wed.: *Karaoke.* Thurs.: *Film Clips.* Sat.: *Live music*

PENN THEATRE

734-453-0870; Now playing: *"Deep Impact"*

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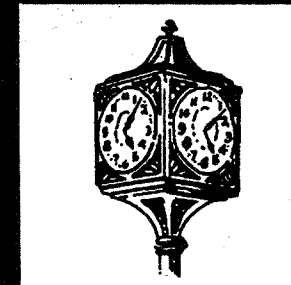
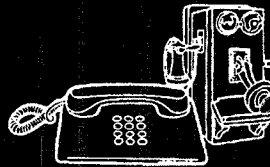




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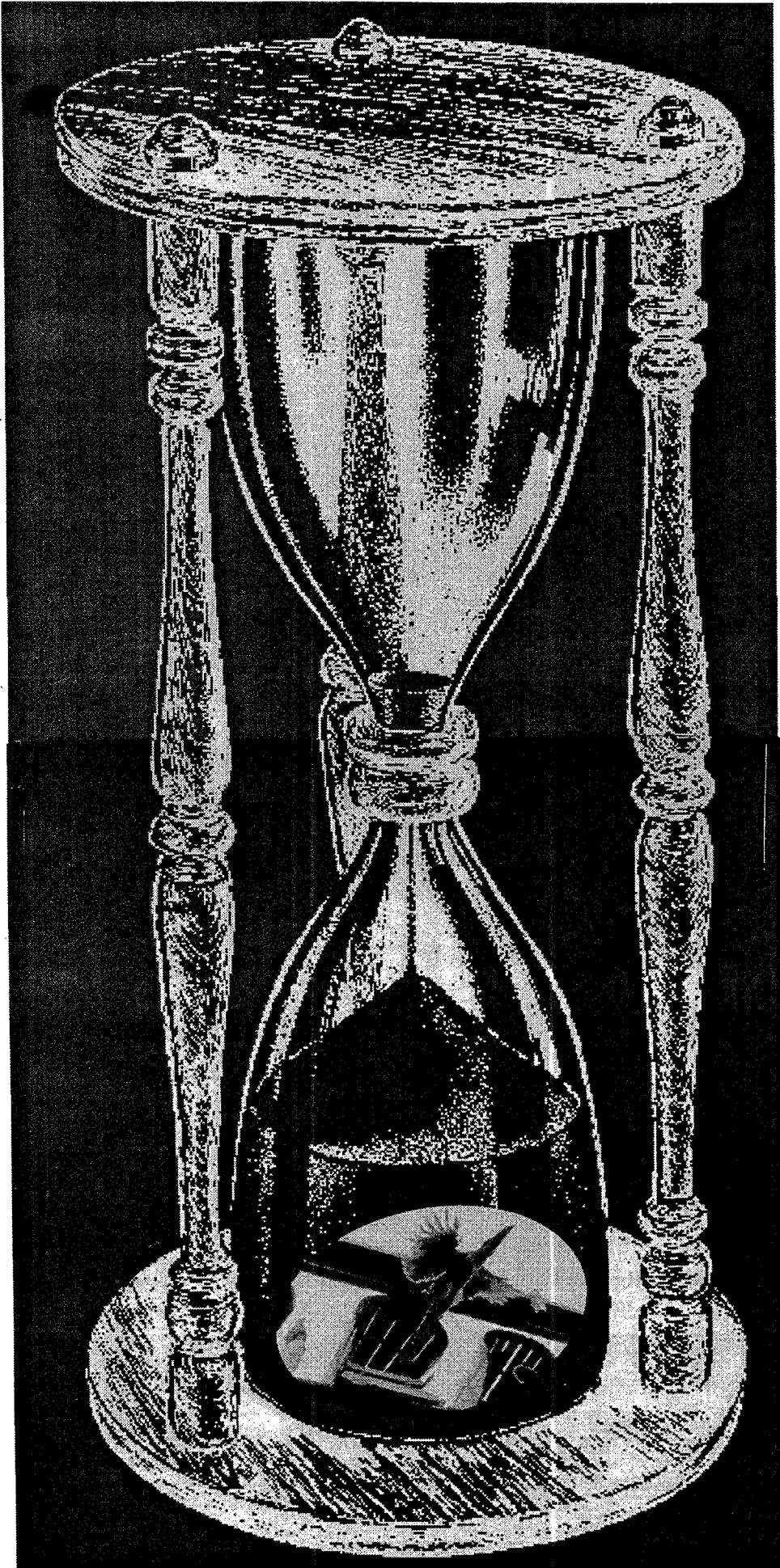
HISTORY

Look inside for
a look back at
and update of
some of our
community's
most intriguing
stories.

The Crier
plus



The
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History. The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community is full of it. Whether taken from yesterday's newspapers or books, stories from the past can serve us well in the present. In honor of P-C-N's rich and varied history, The Crier has

assembled this special section of stories that still have relevance today. They're issues we've dealt with before, and ones we may see again. Take a Look Back in History with The Crier, and see what you can learn from our community.

The tragedy at Van Sickle Cut

When the Federal Department of transportation announced funds would be available for a railroad track grade separation in Plymouth, it was the biggest railroad news since July 20, 1907.

Early on that Saturday morning, an eastbound train filled with about 800 passengers collided with a six-car freight train about four miles west of Plymouth.

The tragedy, which became known as "The Salem Wreck," remains one of the worst disasters in Michigan railroad history. All told, 33 people were killed and 100 more injured in the collision.

The *Plymouth Mail* later reported instances of miraculous escapes from the wreck, including one couple in one of the coaches thrown high in the air helped themselves out, walked to Plymouth and had dinner.

An inquest later blamed the collision on the crew of the freight train, who had misread orders.



Schools grope for growth solutions

Overcrowded schools has long been an issue in our community. This article from the Nov. 14, 1979 Community Crier tells just how long crowded schools have been a problem. Many of the solutions discussed still exist today

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BY PATRICIA BARTOLD

"What's needed to separate the Plymouth-Canton school district into two units so that they are economically independent of one another?" That question and similar ones concerning splitting the district in two were fielded by the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education at its public forum on Monday night.

Some citizens think that the district should be divided so that Canton Township, where most of the growth in the school district is taking place, can absorb the cost of growth itself.

It would take passage of a state-wide referendum to change the district's school boundaries, he added. "We cannot control it ourselves. We're under governmental control," he added.

To house the increasing number of students in the Plymouth-Canton schools, officials have expressed interest in either buying or renting schools from Livonia.

Lowell and Webster Elementary School may be available — if Plymouth-Canton decides that cross-district bussing would not

pose any legal problems and the added cost of gas and buses could be absorbed by the district's operating budget.

According to Ray Hoedel, assistant superintendent for business, Livonia school officials have placed a tentative price tag of \$1 per square foot for renting a school for one year. Lowell has 96,000 square feet and Webster has 57,000 square feet.

"It's a reasonable price, but we're in the process of negotiating all the other aspects of the buildings — maintenance, desks, and other costs," said Hoben.

A bond proposal, which is expected to be placed before the voters in February, 1980, will help pay for some of the cost of growth in the school district, but bond money cannot be used toward rental costs, according to Hoedel.

Renting and setting up another school with teachers, books, desks, plus the cost of bussing students there, will put a "whale of a strain on the operating budget," said Hoben to the crowd of parents Monday night.

The latest Fourth Friday counts of the School District places Plymouth-Canton as

about the 11th largest district in the state, with more than 16,500 students. Also, according to Wayne County figures quoted by Hoben, Plymouth-Canton will be the second largest school district in Wayne County after 1983 when 20,000 students may be enrolled.

Today's fourth grade is the peak grade, said Hoben. As the "bulge grade" moves into middle school and then onto high school, those schools will be more and more crowded, said Hoben.

With nearly 4,700 students enrolled at Salem and Canton High schools this year (Their building capacities are about 4,400), housing students is at "a critical point there," said Hoben.

To alleviate overcrowding there, school administrators are considering two alternatives: adding an additional seventh hour of classroom instruction to that the lab rooms and other specialized classrooms could be used more than one hour during the day; and, retaining the eighth grades at

Don Hay, 67, 'Mr. Plymouth Lion'

Don Hay, a Plymouth resident, died July 20, 1998 at the age of 67.

Mr. Hay was born Dec. 20, 1930 in Detroit. He was a former milkman in town, and a driver for Stroh's Brewery. He was also an interior decorator and wallpaper-hanger.

He came to the Plymouth community in 1954. He was a member of the Lion's Club

of Plymouth for more than 30 years, served as a club officer for 26 years and was a past president. He was also a member of the Plymouth Elk's Club. He enjoyed woodcrafts, snowbowling and boating, and liked to travel and play golf. He was very active in the community, particularly in Lion's Park, helping to make it look like what it is today. He was in the midst of

planning to replace the park's swings.

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Jané of Plymouth; daughters, Nancy (James) Rudorffer of Canton, Donna (Paul) Feldvebel of Richmond, VA, Carol (Bill) Sawyer of Pinckney; six grandchildren; sister, Beverly Boyd of Vanderbilt, MI; and brother, Henry James Hay of Japan. He is preceded in death by his brother, Robert Hay.

Visitation will be held from 4-9 p.m. today at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Services will be held tomorrow at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Memorial contributions can be given to the American Heart Association or the Plymouth Lions.



Community deaths

Obituaries

For more information on listing a paid obituary notice in The Crier, contact your funeral director, or call (734) 453-6900.

NELLIE RUTH CARDINAL

Nellie Ruth Cardinal, a Canton resident, died July 14, 1998 at the age of 74.

Mrs. Cardinal was born Feb 25, 1924 in Columbus, OH. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her daughter, Debra (William) Covington of Canton; son, Jeffrey (Elizabeth) Cardinal of East Lansing, MI; brother, Jack T. Huston of Commerce Township; grandsons, Brian Covington, Adam Covington, Michael Cardinal; granddaughter, Margaret Cardinal; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. David Woodby officiating. Burial was at Oakland Hills Memorial Park in Novi, MI. Memorial contributions can be given to Arbor Hospice 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

HELEN LEGOCKI

Helen Legocki, a Canton resident, died July 11, 1998 at the age of 82.

Mrs. Legocki was born Nov. 7, 1915 in Elizabeth Township, PA. She was a candy salesperson, and a member of Divine Savior Catholic Church.

She is survived by her daughter, JoAnn Konkel of Canton; brothers, Stanley (Frances) Wais of Roseville, MI, Frank (Mary) Wais of Sterling Heights; sisters, Mary Kondrat of Lapeer, Alvira Ploucha of Dearborn Heights; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held at the Church of the Divine Savior with the Rev. Alexander A. Juras officiating. Burial was at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Mass offerings can be made or memorial contributions can be given to the Alzheimer's Association, 17220 W. Twelve Mile Road, Suite 100, Southfield, MI 48076.

MARY VICTORIA WIKTOR

Mary Victoria Wiktor, a Canton resident, died July 17, 1998.

Mrs. Wiktor was a homemaker. She came to the Canton community in 1976 from Detroit. She was a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton, St. Hedwig Catholic Church in Detroit, the Polish National Alliance and the Daughters of Isabella (The Tekakwitha Circle). She was also a member of St. Marys of Orchard Lake Moms and Dads Club. She loved to read, she prayed the rosary every day, and was very active in following the education and careers of the family members. She loved the annual family reunion and liked to be with her friends. She did envelopes for St. Thomas A'Becket Church for many years.

She is survived by her sons, Ron (Theresa) Wiktor of Livonia, Michael (Geraldine) Wiktor of Canton, Ralph (Bonnie) Wiktor of Romeo; daughter, Marianne (Dennis) Swatosh of Canton; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. She is preceded in death by her husband, Michael.

Services were held at St. John Neumann Catholic Church with the Rev. Fr. Jack Quinlan officiating. Entombment was at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Heart Association.

JOSHUA DAVID OSTAPOWICZ

Joshua David Ostapowicz, a Taylor resident, died July 15, 1998 at the age of 20.

Mr. Ostapowicz was born August 27, 1977 in Columbia, South America. He was a student.

He is survived by his mother, Patricia (Larry) King of Canton; father, Jerome (Allie) Ostapowicz of Englewood, FL; sisters, Teresa (Ken) Nelson of Minneapolis, MN, Lori (Channing) Smith of Leavenworth, KS, Teri (John) Ivaniszyn of Canton, Carrie Quirk of Saginaw; brother, Ryan King of Farmington Hills, Tim Leithead of Englewood, FL; grandmother, Ella Beyerlein of Rochester Hills, MI; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services were held at Christ the Good Shepherd Church with the Rev. Roger F. Aumann officiating. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, 1669 Hamilton Road, Suite 210, Okemos, MI 48864-1809.

BERNICE ANN KOPENSKI

Bernice Ann Kopenski, a Plymouth resident, died July 19, 1998 at the age of 83.

Mrs. Kopenski was born May 21, 1915 in Grand Rapids, MI. She was a homemaker. She lived in Plymouth for 50 years, and was a member of the Plymouth V.F.W.

She is survived by her daughter, Janet (David) Elliott of Shelby Township; son, Jack (Cindy) Kopenski; sisters, Sophie Preston of Canton, Dorothy Archer of Hagerstown, MD; brothers, Ed Smith of Plymouth, Ted Smith of Troy, MT; grandsons, Michael Elliott, Kevin Kopenski; and granddaughters, Wendy LePage, Kristin Kopenski.

Services were held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev. J. J. Mech officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be made to the Karmanos Cancer Institute Plymouth Region, 744 Wing Street, Plymouth, MI 48170 or Beaumont Hospice, 811 South Blvd, East Suite 220, Rochester Hills, MI 48307.

EARL ROY CHRISS

Earl Roy Chriss, a Westland resident, died July 18, 1998 at the age of 66.

Mr. Chriss was born Oct. 17, 1931 in Detroit. He was a rigger-iron worker. He was a member of Iron Workers Local 25 for 38 years.

He is survived by his wife, Louise D. Chriss of Westland; sons, Daniel Roy Chriss of Canton, Richard Earl Chriss of Charleston, SC, Joseph K. Chriss of Canton; brothers, Paul C. Chriss of Saginaw, MI, Carl E. Chriss of Farmington Hills, MI; granddaughter, Jennifer Chriss; and grandsons, David and Joey Chriss.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. today at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Kurt Lambert officiating. Burial will be at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home. Memorial contributions to Angela Hospice 14100 Newburg Road, Livonia, MI 48154 or the Scleroderma Foundation 24655 Southfield MI 48075.

Cecile B. Toupin, 91, Dietician for Livonia Public Schools

Cecile B. Toupin, a Dearborn resident, died July 16, 1998.

She is survived by her daughter, Loretta Young of Plymouth; two sons; two sisters; nine grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services were held at St. Maurice Catholic Church in Livonia. Arrangements were made by the Fred Wood Funeral Home in Livonia.



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Curiosities

Dear
 Martha,
 et. al.



By Geneva Guenther

How great to hear your voice with the happy news that your daughter is engaged to be married. I know how delighted everyone is. You made my day! Things do seem to work out, don't they? Remember how concerned we were that you would have to move to Colorado? It's pretty hard to remember that "there is good here somewhere", but it does seem to manifest itself.

Trying to keep up with the happenings in Plymouth keeps us busy: Wednesday noon concerts in the park, Thursday evening concerts, interviews with candidates, Lower Town Sidewalk Sale. The list goes on and on.

Another of the things that make it great it seems to me is people here seem to care about each other. It is the underlying spirit that holds the town together.

I am reminded many of you will want to hear how Ernie Archer is. He is doing very well except that he is extremely lonely. If anyone has enjoyed his beautiful flower garden, it would be nice if they would drop him a note at the Plymouth Manor or if there is time take a companion and go to see him. It need only take a few minutes and would please him immensely.

Let me see. What else? Liz Hartwick fell and had to have surgery on her foot. It would be nice if her friends would send her a note at Tonquish Creek. You can be sure she isn't feeling sorry for herself but is knitting like mad on the children's caps she gives at Christmas time. (How am I doing Liz? I'm still trying to follow in your footsteps).

I could go on and on. Will tell you later of the wonderful experience I had at Sinnetts Holistic Health Studio in Livonia. As you know, I believe in faith healing. Even so, I was really shaken.

Mustn't take up any more space.
 Bless You, Geneva

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Curiosities

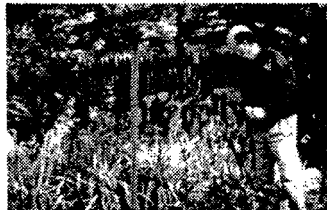
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"Perhaps I'll play the number 734 in the July 25 Michigan 3 Lottery Game."

--Charlie Roebuck on the new area code

MODEL RAILROAD SUPPLIES are only one of the 3,007 things you can find in Downtown Plymouth!

Ralph & Doris, what a wonderful dinner party at Dearborn Inn to celebrate your 50th Wedding Anniversary. May you have many more happy years.

Lisa's havin' a party!

Curiosities

Congratulations Bob and have a great time at your graduation party!

FINE FURNITURE is only one of the 3,007 things you can find in Downtown Plymouth!

Hey Bulldog!

Remember when the Side Street Pub used to sell those "I survived Another Festival in Plymouth" t-shirts? I miss those.

Friends: Fun is fun, but I know who the REAL pirate was on the Detroit River last Wed...and walking the plank over Love Canal would be too good for him!

--Juan Whonose

Pat Came - What are you doing on our side of the tracks at 7:30am? I must confess, "you lend enchantment to the view".

The flowers that Allen planted in the spring tra-la need more water than heaven can bring. Right Nancy, Marilyn, Jim

Nick Olson, from Portage, Michigan has just ended a weeks vacation with his Grandma and Grandpa. When he leaves his older brother will come and spend a week. Then, a third grandson will come for a week. Now that's what being a real grandparent means, if you can hold up.

There was a mass exodus today of Plymouthites moving into Plymouth Independence Village. We will be anxious & eager to hear how they like it. Many in our town are hoping it is an answer for a number of us.

Sharon Pugh: I'm sorry for disturbing your meeting (Now can I have the Jaguar??)

-Maura

Happy Birthday Big-Bro, Mark Cady, Jr. of Royal Oak!

Crier Staff: Take a look at The Crier archives, but don't touch (or else)!

Happy Birthday to My Dude, Mark Cady III of Royal Oak!

Damon & Work are not best friends!

Curiosities

The Crier's Poetry contest Will be published in our Fall Fest So if you've a gift for rhyme or images sublime

Why not put it to the test?

Thanks again to the Bunyee family for having the Giant Plymouth Reunion on their farm. There was lots of food, friends - people who related to Plymouth, its schools, its churches, and the town itself. How can we ever thank you enough for your labor of love and the joy you bring to Plymouth?

Bless you.

"It feels like a hybrid of jet lag & culture shock. And all while staying in the same location." --Charlie Roebuck on switch to 734 from 313.

"MY STOMACH MUST BE expanding, I'm not as full as I was before dinner." -- Shannon Tyman dining in the Grand Hotel STATION 885's mushroom soup is great -- Beauregard (and Damon Tyman).

FALL FEST

is

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Tuesday

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Election

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in

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MR. VACATION: older isn't so bad --in case you need a (stiff) shoulder to cry on.

BEAUREGARD eats ice cream with Pete Lenga. What a cool cat and a cool dog!

HEY KIBILKOS! Those big pink and white flowers right in the front are amazing! P.S. Hope to see you Saturday!

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Sports

Sports shorts

Canton High School girls tennis begins August 10th at 8 a.m. at the high school courts. A current physical is a must. For more information call Lisa at 207-8681.

Eddie Jeffery of Plymouth recently won a field goal competition at Eddie Murray's 3-day kicking and punting camp at Adrian College.

Jeffery scored 15 out of a possible 18 points to win the first place medal in the 12-year-old division. Jeffery is a member of the Our Lady of Good Council Varsity Football team.

The Canton Firefighters Charity Foundation will be hosting a golf fundraiser and sports auction Monday, August 3 at Fellows Creek Golf Course in Canton.

The four-person scramble begins at 9 a.m. The cost is \$99 per person and includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, beverages on the course, lunch at the turn and chances to win prizes.

Golf will be followed by a banquet with open bar and a sports auction.

All proceeds from the golf outing and the dinner auction go to the Canton Firefighter #2289 Charity Foundation

The Our Lady of Good Council Football camp will be held August 10-14, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. everyday.

The cost, which includes lunch, drinks and t-shirts, is \$50 per person. It is open to all fourth through eighth grade boys. You do not need to be a member of O.L.G.C. to participate.

Physical examination form and fees must be returned prior to August 3.

For more information contact Art Fediuk at 416-5068.

VIOLENCE IN SPORTS:

When does 'rough play' become assault?

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

The case of former Whaler Jesse Boulerice, accused of an on-ice assault, raises several questions about the nature of sports in regards to the laws of the common world.

Are actions in sports held in a different light than actions on the street?

At what point does a good tough play become a matter a malicious intent?

Are sports given a double standard by the law?

There is no question that in the sports arena, certain actions, be them aggressive, competitive, or even violent, are not only allowed but encouraged.

Boxing is the perfect, most extreme example. The object is simple: knock out your competitor. And while boxing experts will contend that the sport is much more than that—strategy, skill and will—they cannot deny that the end intent is to beat the other player down before he (or she) beats you.

But that is understood about boxing. There have been several cases where a match has resulted in the hospitalization, even the death, of one of the fighters. Most of those case, however, did not result in criminal charges.

So at which point should the law intervene?

According to Lee Goldman, sports law professor at the University of Detroit-Mercy, in extreme cases of aggressive behavior, where players engage in actions "beyond the scope of what is expected," policing agencies might need to get involved.

But, Goldman says, deciding what is standard and what is extreme can lead to other problems.

"Where that line is it's tough to say," he says. "Historically, the government bringing action against a player has been a losing cause." The difficulty for prosecutors, Goldman says, is the matter of content.

"The general idea in sports is that you are consenting to whatever usual dangers that sport entails," he says. "As opposed to someone who gets into a fight at a bar, who is affecting everyone at that bar, certain behavior in sports is allowed because of the others' consent."

Sherwood (Sherry) Bassin, part-owner of the OHL Erie Otters and former interim commissioner of the OHL, agrees.

"There is a difference in the standard of care between sports and the street," he says. "We understand a certain sense of recklessness in sports."

But, Bassin says, "that still does not tolerate assault if it falls within the definition of assault."

When viewing a possible assault case in sports, like Boulerice's, Bassin says the impassioned state of a player has to be considered.

"(Hockey) is not a contact sport. Dancing is a contact sport," he says. "Hockey is a collision sport. And when you are involved in a collision sport, there are emotions of the moment. There is a difference between the heat of the moment and pre-meditation."

What then decides if an in-sport action should result in criminal



charges? Is it the physical damage done to a player, or is it the intent?

"It has to be the intent," says Bruce Madej, assistant athletic director at the University of Michigan. "If the intent is to do great bodily harm, in my estimation the authorities should do something about it."

As an example Madej sites the check Claude Lemieux laid on Red Wing Kris Draper during the 1996 Eastern Conference Playoffs that left Draper with severe facial injuries.

"That was a terrible check," he says, "but do you really think that was what he intended?"

Andrew Long, the injured player in the Boulerice case, said that if what happened to him—a stick to the face—happened on the street, Boulerice would have been in jail that night.

Why would Boulerice, however, who doesn't have a criminal record, ever be in a position to attack Andrew Long on the street?

Are actions in sports held in a different light than actions on the street?

It's likely that he wouldn't. But should that excuse his actions on the ice, actions that almost resulted in the death of another player?

"You can't condemn or condone that sort of situation without seeing the whole picture," Madej says. "You have to take a look at the whole picture played out."

But, Madej admits, sports are given something of a double-standard.

"It's like pornographic standards," says Madej. "In some areas it's viewed as offensive. In other areas it's viewed as free speech. Different people view situations in different ways."

But whose standard should we go by?

"Each case must be viewed in its own merit," Madej says. "I don't think there is one answer."

A summer conversation with Peter DeBoer

Whalers Coach talks about Boulerice, future of young franchise

BY PETE KRUPSKY

July is usually vacation month for OHL players, coaches and management. All the drafts, trades and preliminary planning has gone away with June, and now is the time to rest before another long season begins.

But this summer has been a little different for the Whalers. With the Jesse Boulerice assault situation keeping the team in the spotlight, and expectations for next year's team running high, DeBoer has been working hard over the summer months to iron the kinks out early.

Recently DeBoer sat down with broadcaster Pete Krupsky for a one-on-one interview.

Q: Any comment on the Jesse Boulerice trial? Although the Whalers will do all they can to cooperate with authorities in the trial, the fact remains that Boulerice spent three years in a Whaler uniform.

‘It's been outstanding in Plymouth. It far exceeded our expectations.’

**— Peter DeBoer
Whalers Coach**

DEBOER: It's an unfortunate incident and everyone involved, including Jesse, wishes it hadn't happened. But it did and now the due process has to occur and the courts are taking it. We have to hope for the best. From our point of view, it a criminal proceeding now and our organization really can't comment on it, except to wish everyone the best in a tough situation.

Reviewing last season, it was supposed to be the second year of a rebuilding program that turned into a chase for first place in the West Division. The Whalers got a major jump-start early from Dave Legwand. Last summer, you talked about Legwand being the best skater out of the draft. I don't think anyone anticipated him becoming the Most Valuable Player in the entire Canadian Hockey League.

DEBOER: No, nobody did. That's an understatement. We thought David would

contribute, but in no way did we predict what he would do for us.

It was a great year, top to bottom, led by David. A lot of other guys made some giant strides to put us in the position this summer where we've really raised the bar as far as what our goals are for next season.

Looking at next season, Warren native (first round pick) Kris Vernarsky is a player the fans will be watching. Early on, he may not get the ice time with veteran centers Legwand, Harold Druken and Julian Smith returning. Like most Whaler rookies, Vernarsky will have to earn his ice time.

DEBOER: Kris has a huge advantage in that he's entering our league a year younger than David Legwand did. The year Legwand was Kris's age he played Tier II for the (North American Hockey League) Compuware Ambassadors. This is a total learning year for Kris. He's going to come in and contribute where he can. He's still two years away from his NHL Draft year, so there's no pressure on

him that way. But he's a good enough player that we expect him to come in and contribute regularly.

In goal, Robert Esche has graduated. You look at the depth chart in training camp and goaltenders include Dwayne Bateman, Scott Holsinger, Brandon Sacco among others. Looking at goaltending right now, is it fair to say it's a position that will sort itself out early next year?

DEBOER: Last year was the first year in the last six or seven that we didn't have a question mark coming in net. Even back to the days of Jason Saal, who took the ball and ran with it as a 19-year-old (1994-95), and then Robert Esche came in as a second-year guy on a rebuilding team and came in to become one of the best goaltenders in the league after only



Peter DeBoer (center) orchestrating his troops from the sidelines at a game last year. (Crier Photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

playing 23 games as a rookie (1995-96). So this year we find ourselves in a familiar position we've been in over the last six or seven years. We've got some capable guys there, we think guys are talented enough like Bateman and Holsinger and Rob Zepp, and we're going to give them the opportunity to prove that they can be a number one goaltender in the league.

With Nik Tselios, Troy Smith, Kevin Holdridge, Shaun Fisher and possibly Paul Mara returning, the Whalers should be strong on the blue line. Do you like to have a mobile defense that's capable of moving up on the play?

DEBOER: What we were looking to improve on was size. But size doesn't do you any good if it doesn't have any mobility. So those are the keys we look for in defensemen. We want big guys that can move and can skate. When you look at our defense with Kevin Holdridge, Nik Tselios, Troy Smith, Shaun Fisher—all those guys are big, they can move, have great lateral movement and also have some skill. Picking up (free agent) Maxim Linnick from St. Thomas Jr.B (second round pick of St. Louis), another 6'4", 210 pound mobile defenseman, and with the potential of Paul Mara coming back at some point next season, gives us a real solid defense. You add to the mix a kid like Jared Newman (Lincoln Park), who's a very high pick for us and we feel can step in and contribute right away for us because he played a big role on a Tier II championship team last year at Compuware. It give us some real good options on defense.

The Whalers have enjoyed some success in bringing in European players through the Canadian Hockey League Import Draft. The statistics aren't much on Tomek Valtonen and Denis Arhipov, but it should be interesting to see how they develop in the OHL.

DEBOER: We've had some good success over the last few years in the European Draft

with guys like Yuri Babenko, Sergei Fedotov and Jan Vodrazka. Skillwise, these guys compare to the best guys we've ever brought in. The question is, what's the transition period going to be for them, getting used to Canadian-style hockey? I think with Valtonen it'll be a little shorter transition. He a Finnish player and they play a more North American-style over there. Arhipov's a Russian and they have to change their game almost totally around to play over here, so we expect more of a transition period with him. But they both have the talent to come in and contribute right away.

With Mississauga and Brampton joining Ontario Hockey League, there's been more realignment. Do you like the West Division as it stands now with the Whalers, Sault Ste. Marie, London, Windsor and Sarnia?

DEBOER: I don't think you could ask for five teams that are more suited to play each other, both from a travel and logistical point of view, but also from a style-of-play point of view. There's a lot of character in this division, a lot of rinks that are tough to play in on the road. It's a real entertaining brand of hockey, the best in the league.

The Whalers are about to start their third year at the Compuware Sports Arena. It hasn't taken the fans in Plymouth very long to catch on to the team and the Ontario Hockey League.

DEBOER: It's been outstanding in Plymouth. It far exceeded our expectations. The way the community has embraced the players with the host families as well as in the school and the way the fans have come out and supported the kids night in and night out, has been just exceptional. We've shown a great move in growth from year one to year two and we expect the same in year two to year three. If that's the case, then we'll be in a pretty exciting building on Friday and Saturday nights.

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City split over pay board

BY BRYON MARTIN

Let the taxpayers decide.

That's the word from City Commissioners arguing for and against the formation of a board to decide when they deserve a raise, if at all.

By a narrow margin, the commission approved the draft of an ordinance Monday to establish a Local Officers Compensation Commission (LOCC).

According to the ordinance, five City residents would sit on the LOCC and would meet in odd-numbered years to review commissioners' salaries.

Whether or not the commission received a raise would be up to the LOCC, although if one was recommended the commission could reject it with a two-thirds majority.

And that's just what Commissioner Dave McDonald said he would do, despite his vote of support for the ordinance Monday. McDonald said it's not a matter of money, but principle.

Commissioners now receive \$10 per meeting — a level is set in the City Charter and unchanged since 1951. Commissioners attend about 35 meetings each year.

"I'd rather have nothing than \$10," McDonald said. "It's kind of embarrassing." Besides, he said, simply creating the board isn't a guarantee for fatter commission paychecks.

"I don't think this is a done deal that if a compensation commission is established that they will give us a raise," he said. What the LOCC would provide is a tool for taxpayers to adjust the commission's salary when deemed appropriate.

But that point is the center of debate between those commissioners who supported the ordinance draft, and those who opposed it.

Commissioners Stella Greene, Dennis Shrewsbury and Ron Loiselle voted against it. All based their opposition on one point: taxpayers already have a voice — their vote.

For any change to the City Charter, an election must be held. In 1993 City residents defeated a proposed raise for the commission.

"I feel the voters spoke clearly on it," in 1993, Loiselle said. Putting it on a ballot again, as was done in 1993, is a better way to deal with raises, he said.

Shrewsbury agreed. "It's a big deal to residents who said 'No, we don't want you to have it,' last time," he said. "I see it as a backdoor way of doing what the City residents said they don't want to do."

Commissioners Joe Koch and Colleen Pobur, and Mayor Don Dismuke supported the measure.



Reunited... The Bunyea family farm in Ann Arbor played host again this weekend to a Plymouth High School all-class reunion. Anyone who graduated from PHS, now Central Middle School, was invited to the fun. Here, some of PHS's earliest grads pause for a pop and pose for a photo: (left to right) Helen Wallace (1932), Dorothy Butler (1925), Heloise Travis (1929) Evelyn Straub (1930) and host Margaret Bunyea, center. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

N'ville, 2 utilities: It's not our fault

Continued from pg. 3

required within a Consumers Power staked-off area.

Charles Adams, part owner of George A. Odien, Inc., said that a further investigation of the incident will reveal they were not negligent.

"Nobody told us that line was there," he said. "It wasn't our fault. As a matter of fact, we're looking to get reimbursed ourselves."

According to Lt. Ron Lane of the Northville Fire Department, the contractors are working for Detroit Edison, and that may explain Nye's comments.

Optical Imaging Systems and three houses along Five Mile Road had to be evacuated because of the break. Inmates at Scott Correctional Facility were moved to the west side of the building,

while eight pregnant prisoners were moved to the male prison down the road.

A spokesperson for the Michigan Department for Corrections, however, denied this claim.

Traffic finally resumed after 9:30 p.m. that night, more than six hours after the line was broken.

According to Lane, while there was some fear of an explosion, the primary concern with a gas leak is the fumes getting people sick.

He said the fire department responds to gas line breaks all the time, but rarely to this scale.

"It could have been a lot worse," said Woodside. "We're lucky this was all it cost."

Strong opposition at the board level

Continued from pg. 1

because it would have been a step above a typical piecemeal development.

"It's really their call. The DDA is strictly an advisory board and we were split six to five," Shufeldt said. "I'm disappointed. I thought it would be beneficial to the township and could go a long way to determining how the area was developed."

Shufeldt wasn't the only person disappointed to hear the board's intent. Chuck DiMaggio, project manager for Burton Katzman said he planned to go to the meeting to try and sway the board's

decision.

He and Burton-Katzman president Peter Burton didn't get that chance. The vote was held and passed that night despite Burton's request table it.

"We were very disappointed. We really didn't have an opportunity to discuss the issue," DiMaggio said. "We never really formally addressed the Board of Trustees and we're not very sure why they didn't want to discuss it further."

McLaughlin said there was a strong feeling of opposition at the board level that would have been a significant hurdle for the developers to overcome.

"I don't think anybody disagreed that it was a good way to develop the land, but there was the feeling that it wasn't special enough to contribute funds to," she said. "That wasn't likely to change with a glitzy presentation."

DiMaggio said the vote would probably change the nature of the project.

"Without the township funds, we can't do the project we had proposed," he said. "We do have a number of other options and we are taking a hard look at them, and will be discussing them with the landowners. We may have a better idea in a few weeks."



Community opinions

Dark side of recreation moon

When copies of "The Plymouth Courier" arrive in City mailboxes this week, residents will be given the City's second official statement on the future status of recreation in The Plymouth Community.

The first appeared last week after an article in The Crier quoted Recreation Director Tom Willette as saying recreation in the Plymouth Community would all but be eliminated if Township voters don't pass the 0.5 millage August 4.

City officials reacted harshly, issuing a letter of refutation and saying the statements made by Willette were "contrary to the policy of the City Commission.

"Mr. Willette does not speak for the City of Plymouth on policy previously established by the City Commission," they wrote, adding, "If the Township voters decide not to fund community recreation at this time, the City remains committed to the importance of recreation services for the City residents."

Fair enough. The City, including City Manager Steve Walters, have said all along that this is not about abandonment of the recreation system. It is about what

The City can and cannot afford.

But were Willette's statements untrue? In their newsletter printed this week, City officials write that if Township voters reject the recreation millage "some programs may have to be operated differently than in the past, other programs may have to be eliminated."

A statement made in a Township millage education pamphlet sent out last month goes even further.

An educated voter is a better voter, and awareness of both sides is part of that education.

"The City of Plymouth is on record stating that they will eliminate their recreation department, unless there is financial participation from Plymouth Township," it says.

If this statement is true, then it correlates with, and even extends, much of what

Willette had said. If it isn't true, the Township has misrepresented the City's recreation stance, a dangerous election year mistake.

Unlike their reaction to Willette's statements, the City Commission did not write a letter refuting the Township's claims.

All rhetoric aside, one simple statement remains true: City recreation will be affected by the Township voters' millage decision.

If it passes, recreation will get bigger, better and more extensive.

If it doesn't pass, Plymouth Community residents will be scampering for a place to play.

This is not an endorsement of the millage, merely a fact.

The City can no longer afford a full recreation program supporting two communities paid for by only one.

According to the City newsletter, capital improvements have suffered for years because of financial limitations. And plans are not being made to accommodate future strains on the program, even as more residents seek City recreation.

I applaud both the City and the Township's efforts to keep the negative aspects of the millage proposals out of the campaign. Voters have grown tired of hearing institutional threats of decreased services and programs — "pass this millage or else."

But on the same token, if City and Township residents will be affected by a millage failure, they should know about it. An educated voter is a better voter, and awareness of both sides is part of that education.

The City and its residents are in a difficult spot. They need the Township, in terms of both finances and population, to help maintain a solid community recreation service.

If the millage doesn't pass, Walters has said the City will probably pursue recreation collaborations with surrounding communities, including Canton and Northville townships. This would probably be the best alternative scenario for City residents, although it could mean traveling to other communities for some of their recreation needs.

Township residents, however, would no longer be able to turn toward the City. All their recreation bodies—including more than 2,000 soccer players—would have to move to another recreation program and pay non-resident fees. But which community would be able or willing to handle that sort of influx?

Township voters are facing a difficult millage choice, one whose effects extend beyond the boundaries of their municipality. And this is something they should know, whether they choose to approve the millage or not.

Write of way

By Scott Goodwin



Wayne Co. press releases keep us up to date

I always look forward to faxes from the Wayne County Department of Roads because they contain the latest, most up-to-date information.

Yeah right.

Takes this week's missive, for example. Dated July 16, it contained several projects with rather dubious completion dates.

Among them was the Canton Center realignment project, with an estimated completion date of July 15, the day before the fax was sent out. Now a quick look down the road or even a phone call to the workers on the site could tell that this isn't even close. Work on the site is proceeding so slowly that it wouldn't surprise me to see it back on the sheet for next year.

Likewise, the section of Hines Drive between Jughandle and I-275: this section of road is scheduled to be closed during the restoration of Newburgh Lake and

resurfaced during the final stage of that project. Estimated completion date: July 1, 1998. I include the date so as not to confuse readers with July 1, 1999, which is probably a whole lot closer to the truth.

This one really mystified me. I don't think there's anyone in P-C-N who believes the project is still going along on schedule. I myself, watching the project unfold until the Wayne County Sheriffs come to chase me away, am now a little more inclined to believe it takes thousands of years of glacial flow to carve out a lake. At the rate this project is proceeding, maybe it should have been contracted out to the North Pole simply for the sake of expediency.

The "update" from the roads department actually could have done some good here, if it had included a more realistic estimate. Why not simply give an estimate of, say, September or October? No one's going to

believe it anyway, but it would have at least bought some breathing room.

The update was not without good news, however. Stamped 'completed' in big block letters, underlined and with an official-looking exclamation point tacked on to the end, is the half-mile stretch of Haggerty Road from Joy to Ann Arbor Road.

The press release does mention that off-road restoration work may still result in brief lane closures. This just means prying the 'Short term delay means long term relief' signs off the side of the road. It's a

good thing, too. They were there so long that they were beginning to rust and look really shabby. Keeping them there any longer would have probably required a ordinance variation and some landscaping.

That's bureaucracy for you. The part of government designed to inform the citizens works even slower than the rest of it. Maybe someday someone will have the idea to eliminate all the paper-pushing positions and everything will be done quickly.

That's a press release everyone can look forward to.

Off the cuff

By Scott Spielman





Community opinions



Construction Manager Vic LaRue and Charles McIlhargey, Plymouth Township building official, stand outside the soon-to-open Independence Village, on Northville Road. The development, a rehabilitation and expansion of the former Plymouth Hilton site, will provide assisted living for area seniors. In short, it makes a proud addition to P-C-N. Located between The City of Plymouth and Northville Township, it is certain to be a lively center of senior activity (it will even have it's own voting precinct). The Crier welcomes Independence Village and new neighbors it will soon bring to our community (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.).

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Mayor clarifies City Rec. policy

EDITOR:

A recent article in the Community Crier quoted statements by the City Recreation Director Thomas Willette which is contrary to the policy of the City Commission. As a city department head, Mr. Willette does not speak for the city of Plymouth on policy previously established by the City Commission. I hope the following statements will clarify the City's position.

If the Township voters approve the proposed one-half mill for recreation on the August 4th Primary Ballot, the City Commission remains committed to its share of the community recreation funding in resolution adopted on April 6, 1998. Then on June 1st the City Commission confirmed this commitment by including a one-half mill allocation for recreation in the 1998-99 City Budget.

However, if the Township voters decide

not to fund community recreation at this time the City Commission remains committed to the importance of recreation services for the City residents. The City will continue to provide the best City recreation program possible within the resources available to the City for the purpose.

DONALD R. DISMUKE, MAYOR,
AND THE PLYMOUTH CITY
COMMISSION

It's gettin' deep around here

It's the Age of Manure Spreaders.

The every two-year election cycle is extremely mucked this year because the first Michigan term limit bubble bursts.

That opens many races and propels politicians who can't find real jobs to seek other offices. This only adds to the standard election-year manure spreading that voters have come to expect.

But take the 9th Senate District Republican nomination race between Thad McCotter, Deb Whyman and James Ryan.

Everyone expected this race to steal the thunder and spread the most manure. In fact, the GOP shoot-out is totally eclipsing the Democratic primary of two unknowns.

Why was this expected? Because Whyman's faction and McCotter's faction detest each other.

But SURPRISE!

It's not the strangest because Thad and

Deb are going at it — though they can. (Listen to WSDP, 88.1 fm, at 5 p.m. tomorrow for a bit of Deb-Thad hostility seeping through.)

It is strange because of Jim Ryan spreading manure! In interviews at The Crier last week, Ryan said his state senate candidacy had the endorsement of the district's two sitting state reps — Lyn Bankes and Gerry Law. (Earlier, Ryan said he expected retiring State Sen. Bob Geake's endorsement too. Ryan said he was leaving an earlier Crier interview to attend the Livonia Rotary meeting where Geake was speaking — but Ryan never showed.)

"Tain't so," say Bankes, Law and Geake about endorsing Ryan. (Bankes said there

With malice
toward none



might have been an explanation, but is not endorsing.)

Why would Ryan try to put one over like that?

See Sentence One above. Maybe he sees his third-place finish falling so far behind he's reaching as far as he can.

Ryan gets the TOP LIAR award for the 1998 campaign season thus far. His MANURE tops the Thad-Deb feud that everyone expected would top this election year's "most interesting" contest.

The Community Crier



THE
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WITH ITS
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