

Independence Village opens — see special section inside, pgs. 13-18

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The Community Crier

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

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August 12, 1998

P-C Schools bond: Vote set for Oct. 3

BY BRYON MARTIN

As their Oct. 3 bond election draws near, Plymouth-Canton school officials want one thing to be clear: voters' understanding of the bond.

"Passing any bond is always difficult. The onus is on the School Voard to fully educate the public on this bond," Superintendent Charles Little said.

Unlike the now contreverial March 1997 bond, which would build a third high school at C.E.P., the case for the October bond is "clear cut," he said.

"This isn't about new buildings. We lost our lease, and we need the space," Little said.

If approved, the bond would levy roughly \$19 million for a new middle school and new buses. The middle school would serve the students now attending Lowell Middle School, a facility the P-C district has rented from Livonia public schools since 1980. Livonia is in the midst of redrawing its school boundaries and

Please see pg. 12

County to help fund underpass

BY BRYON MARTIN

Within three years, commuters on Sheldon Road may be driving under the train tracks south of M-14 instead of slowing down and bumping over them.

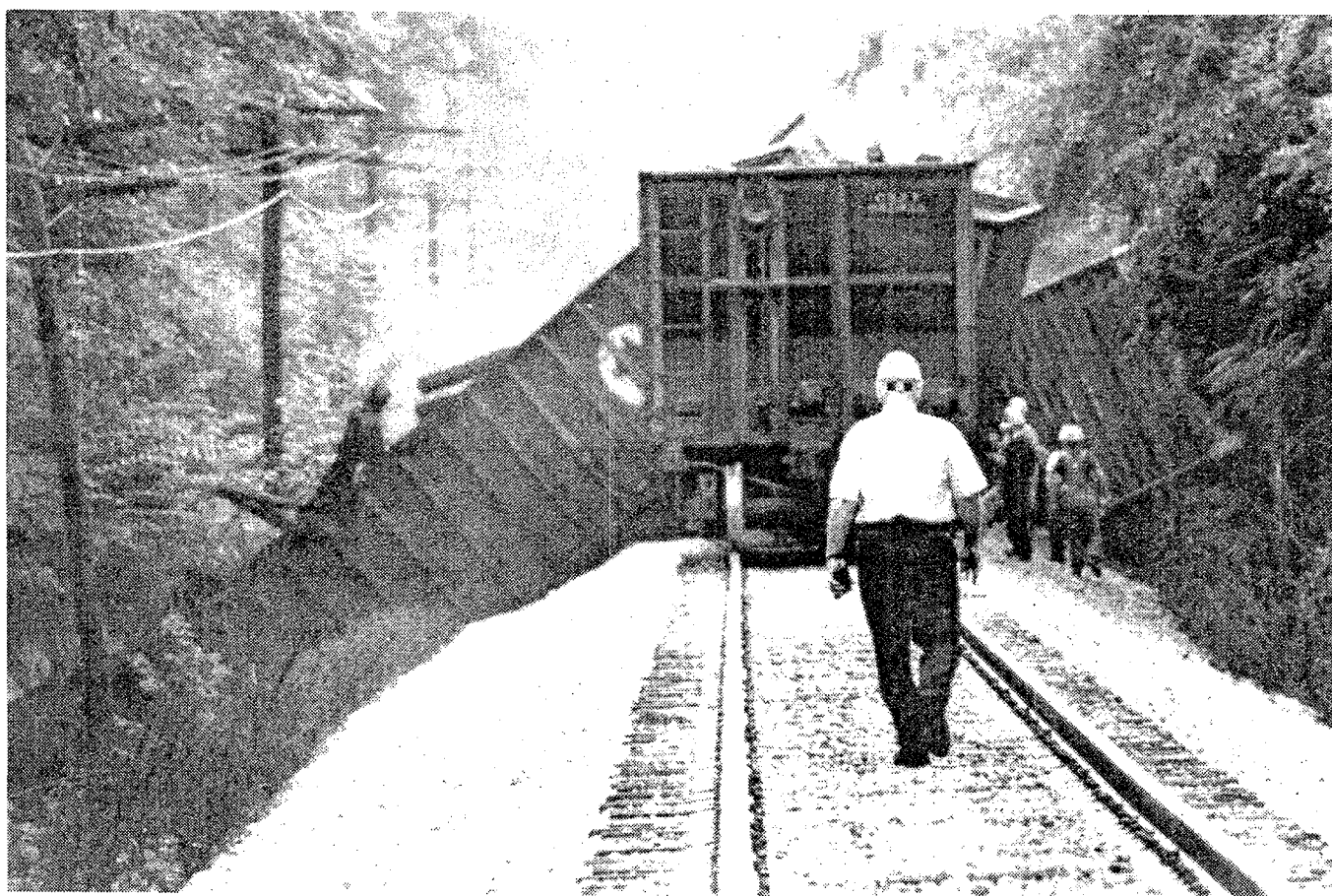
In a meeting Monday between Plymouth Mayor Don Dismuke and Cameron Priebe, a Wayne County construction official, an informal agreement was reached that would secure county dollars to partially fund construction of a \$6.5 million underpass at the Sheldon train tracks, according to Dismuke.

He said he expected the deal to be finalized at a meeting with representatives from the City, Township and Wayne County within the next few weeks.

At this point the county is "informally committed," Dismuke said, but has said it will:

- Contribute 10 per cent of the \$6.5 million construction costs;
- Supply the money up-front, and collect reimbursement from local governments later.

Please see pg. 7



Train in vain... Workers from CSX, the EPA and a Flint-based environmental firm have been working since Thursday to clean up the mess left when a train derailed in Northville Township. Heavy rains came early that morning and washed out an embankment and the tracks above it, leaving a chasm that caught four box cars. Diesel fuel which leaked from a ruptured fuel tank was carried by flood waters as far down stream as Newburgh Lake. See the story, pg. 12. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

No NAA in Canton in '99

Officials pass on chance to bring back archery tournament

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Although this year's National Archery Tournament in Canton was considered a success by most — despite the rain — it will not return for a third year next August, according to Bill Kellick of the National Archery Association.

"We would have loved to stay in Canton," Kellick said, "but they didn't invite us back for next year."

According to Canton Supervisor Tom Yack, Canton did not submit a bid this past spring to host the event in 1999 because experiences they had with the event in 1997 were not favorable.

Canton had already committed to this year's tournament before the 1997 event.

"We did not have a very favorable experience last year," said

Please see pg. 12

Festival business

*Fall Fest Board pays some bills,
gets ready for big weekend*

See Getting Down to Business pg. 8

Earth legends

*Sunday poetry reading stresses
ecology, folklore*

See Friends & Neighbors pg. 6

Canton P.D. catches elusive thief

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

A man arrested Friday after a car and foot chase attempted unsuccessfully to escape from Canton's lock up facility Monday.

According to Canton Police Ofc. Leonard Schemanske the suspect, who has not yet been identified, apparently climbed up into the ceiling tiles when he was using the phone.

Schemanske said he didn't know exactly how the suspect made it into the ceiling, but doubted he could have managed to escape that way. Police had no trouble catching him again.

"There's cement all the way around, and

that was a lucky thing," Schemanske said. "He would have had to drop to the floor and make a run for it."

The would-be escapist was arrested Friday, after police responded to a call of a break-in in progress at the Jet's Pizza at Warren and Lilley roads.

"The business was not open yet, but an employe just happened to be in early, setting up," Schemanske said.

The suspect allegedly broke the window near the front door with a rusty iron bar, according to reports. The employe called the police and frightened off the intruder.

The suspect then fled west on Warren Road in a white van, Schemanske said.

Ofc. Mike Tulip was heading east on Warren when he saw the van fleeing the scene, Schemanske said.

"The suspect and the officer made eye contact, and the suspect saw the cruiser make a U-turn," Schemanske said. "So then he took off at a high rate of speed."

The van sped through a red light at Warren and Morton Taylor roads, then turned south on Bath Street. The suspect spun out and drove onto a resident's lawn, running through some bushes before he regained control and maneuvered the van back on the road, Schemanske said.

The van then skidded through the intersection of Pittsford and Simsbury and

came to a stop. The suspect fled on foot, Schemanske said.

Tulip quickly checked the vehicle, followed the suspect and eventually caught and arrested him, Schemanske said. He was transported to the Canton Police department.


Schemanske said the van was reported stolen from Plymouth Township.

Canton police are pursuing warrants for breaking and entering a business, fleeing and eluding police and possession of a stolen vehicle, Schemanske said.

Police are still waiting on a positive identification of the suspect, according to Schemanske. "He's changed his names a few times and his fingerprints don't match up."

In today's Crier, look for an insert from:

National Business Association



Search goes on for Depot thieves

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton Police are still looking for a pair who allegedly stole several items from Home Depot and fled, taking a store security guard with them.

Store security observed a female suspect — described as about 42 years old, with black hair, brown eyes and burn scars on both forearms — walk out of the store without paying for a generator and several other items, according to police reports.

Canton Police Ofc. Leonard Schemanske said the woman took the merchandise to a black, 1985 Ford Bronco that was waiting at the front of the store.

While attempting to apprehend the suspect, security officer Jeffrey Riggs was pulled into the suspects' vehicle by the woman and the driver, who was described as a man in his 30s.

"He said the driver reached over and pulled him in by his belt buckle while he

was fighting with the woman," Schemanske said.

The Bronco, which had been reported stolen from South Lyon, then fled east on Ford Road, Schemanske said. The guard managed to fight his way free and escape from the vehicle, he said.

"He told us that he threw the Bronco in park and climbed out," he said.

Police are investigating the incident, but have no suspects, Schemanske said.

Whadd'ya think? Read Community Opinions pgs. 30 & 31 in this issue of The Community Crier

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Plymouth-Canton School District Voters

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My address is _____

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State

Zip

Signature _____

Also I am requesting to be placed on the permanent Absentee Ballot List

Mail this application to:
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Plymouth, Michigan 48170
Att. Election Office

SCHOOL ELECTION ALERT!

Dear Neighbor,

As you are aware I and 716 others are suing the school district to make sure that everyone who voted in the last bond election have their votes counted.

It is our opinion that the school district intentionally and maliciously manipulated the election by, holding the election in March, changing the voting day, failing to send out absentee ballot requests, failing to train more than 10% of the election workers, failing to instruct voters on how to use new equipment, failing to follow election laws and using defective voting machines.

Now they are up to their old tricks again! They have changed the regular voting day in hopes of fooling you and are not planning to send out absentee ballot requests again!

Please protect your right to vote, your pocketbook and your property! Fill out this application if you are a senior citizen, handicapped or think you may not be home on election day! And send it in!

Your Friend,



P.S. we are also planning a march on the school board prior to the election. Call me at my real estate office at (734)459-3600 for more information.

Paid for by Jerry Vorva • 1349 Elmsdale • Plymouth, MI

A new game plan:

City decides recreation future

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Before they break out the scissors, The City of Plymouth will give Plymouth Township one more chance to salvage their dying recreation system.

Following last week's failure of the Township recreation millage, City commissioners convened at a special meeting Monday night to discuss ways they could maintain their recreation programs on limited funds. They decided to ask the Township for the last time if they are willing to fund their share of a community recreation program.

According to a letter the City sent to the Township, commissioners saw two possible short run solutions that would "allow a recreation program to continue in spite of the millage defeat." They suggested the Township contribute matching monies either from their general fund or from revenues generated by their golf course.

"I don't want to step past asking the Township if they still want to be involved," said Mayor Don Dismuke.

Some in attendance, including former

mayor Doug Miller, and some commissioners were skeptical whether or not the Township would consider the proposals.

Miller cited the political implications of the Township contributing monies from their general fund after they asked for a millage increase.

"How would it look if they said, 'Well, I guess we did have the money all along?'" he asked.

Miller also expressed disappointment in the City's last-minute scampering. "I guess I'm a little surprised there is no plan B," he said.

Monday night's meeting was plan B, commissioners said.

"Plan B is to work within the budget to determine what needs to be cut," said Mayor Pro-tem Joe Koch.

Several commissioners, particularly Dave McDonald, expressed displeasure for the Township's handling of the recreation matter.

"(The Township) doesn't consider recreation a priority," said Commissioner Ron Loiselle.

SEE RELATED STORY, PG. 7

"I think it's disappointing that we have to ask them again," McDonald said. "I think we've cried 'wolf' too many times. Bottom line is we have to make a decision."

That decision could come soon, as City officials have placed an Aug. 19 deadline on a Township response. If the Township declines to contribute funds, as expected, City officials will have to seek other options.

The question for many is what those options will entail.

"In my mind you've got two major options," Dismuke said. "You either raise non-resident fees substantially or you eliminate non-residents all together."

Both of those options, however, might lower participation to a point that would jeopardize the programs, other commissioners and citizens attending the meeting said.

"I don't think anybody up here wants to toss people out of programs," said Commissioner Colleen Pobur. "But I don't think we want to look like wimps on the issue."

Resident presidents

Men and women from P-C-N lead state professional associations

BY CHIARA CANNELLA

Residents of Plymouth and Canton are taking state-wide professional associations by storm.

When Tom Lenga takes the helm of the State Bar of Michigan, he will bring the number of Plymouth and Canton residents leading major state-wide associations to four.

The presidents of the Michigan Nurses Association, the Michigan Press Association, the Michigan chapter of the American Association of University Women, and the Bar will all reside in Plymouth or Canton.

"It is unusual for a community our size to have so many presidents of the 10 most visible associations in Lansing," said W. Edward Wendover, Michigan Press Association president.

Each of the associations exists to provide services to their members and communities.

The State Bar

Plymouth Township resident Tom Lenga was elected president elect by the State Bar of Michigan board in June 1997, and will take office in September.

The principle function of the bar is to represent the concerns of lawyers in the state.

Bar leadership is "working hard to make it relevant to the lives of lawyers, and to do things helpful to the judicial system and the public, especially the poor and working poor," said Lenga.

In Lansing, the bar works with legislators on issues affecting legal education, continuing legal education and the efficacy and efficiency of the judicial system.

Lenga said his top priority will be getting the Michigan Supreme Court to pass a continuing legal education requirement for lawyers, similar to the demands put on physicians. "Michigan is one of only nine states that does not require any type of continuing legal educa-

tion," Lenga said. "It is very important to help lawyers better serve, and to enhance the public image of lawyers. Sixty to 70 per cent of lawyers comply voluntarily, but we want to address those who don't and should."

In keeping with its commitment to helping the poor, the bar will soon launch its Access to Justice program. Congress has cut so much funding for representation of poor citizens in civil trials that programs would have been eliminated, according to Lenga. The bar hopes to raise \$20 million by the year 2020 for the program in an effort to make up for the shortfall in federal funding, said Lenga. The bar hired two full-time staffers to oversee the project, and create computer networking for all legal services offices in the state.

Lenga's decision to serve as president is his way of helping others, he said.

"The practice of law has been good to me. You've got to do something, regardless of your profession, to give back. This is my way."

Top Nurse

Kimberly Hickey has always gravitated toward leadership roles, said the Michigan Nurses Association president.

"Whenever they ask for volunteer to work on a project, I have to sit on my hands or else they pop right up," she said. Hickey has held the MNA presidency since October 1997, and was on the board of directors for four years before her election to the two-year term.

Hickey, who is also sits on the Plymouth Library Board, is active with Republican party activities, the American Nurses Association, her children's schools and has served as a precinct delegate, as well as other professional leadership said leadership roles offer more gratification. "For me, it is the best way to get involved and have fun with what you're doing," she said.

The 9000-member MNA is the largest nurs-

es association in the state, according to Hickey. There are more than 20 nurses associations in the state. The MNA has a governmental affairs department and is more active in legislative issues than any other group, said Hickey. The MNA addresses any legislative issue relating to health care, including pain management, assisted suicide and seat belt laws, she said, though the MNA does not lobby.

But the mission of the association is to act as a general advocate for nurses, which Hickey said always enhances patient care.

Hickey said her main concern now is the public perception of nursing care, because patients often do not know who provides their care.

"Hospitals are substituting RN's with less skilled people. People have to understand that when you pay more for an RN, you get someone who has much more training," she said. Many nurse assistants in hospitals may have less than six months of training, and often do not clarify to patients that they are not nurses, according to Hickey.

"For some services assistants are fine. But people need to be aware of the skill level, and know that they always have the right to request an RN, and often need to," she said.

"And hospitals are finding that their quality of care decreased when they reduced the number of nurses. They were looking at bottom-line finances," Hickey said, but time-consuming research and numbers-based analysis showed how much their quality of care suffered.

Hickey said the most important progress nurses are making right now is in learning to present a united front. "We are learning to disagree behind closed doors, but come out as a group," Hickey said, which is important for hospital bargaining and working with legis-

Please see pg. 9

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Thursday, U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers will hold coffee hours from 8:30 - 10 a.m. at the Plymouth Coffee Bean Company, 884 Penniman Ave.
- Thursday at 7:30 p.m., Shout will play a free concert in Canton's Heritage Park, behind the Administration Building. Sponsored by Canton Parks & Rec.
- Friday at 7:30 p.m., The Schoolcraft Wind Ensemble will put on a free concert in the gazebo on Main Street in downtown Northville. Sponsored by the Northville Arts Commission.

NEXT WEEKEND

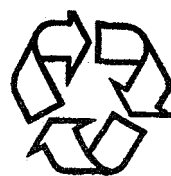
- Today, The City of Plymouth's Planning Commission meets at 7 p.m. in City Hall.
- Today, from 6 - 9 p.m., John Cleveland's Water Club Grill, 39500 Ann Arbor Rd., will host a silent auction to benefit First Step, a shelter and agency working with victims of domestic and sexual violence. Call 734-454-0666 for details.
- Tomorrow, The City of Plymouth's Downtown Development Authority Board meets at 7 p.m. in City Hall, 201 S. Main St.

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SEE PG. 62 of

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Subsidy changes confuse at Commons

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Low income residents of Canton Commons may face changes in how they receive their HUD rent subsidies after all.

Residents received a letter last week from Highland Management, the firm that owns and operates the apartment complex. The letter said that next year, Highland would not renew its contract with HUD, which brings federal dollars to the complex and subsidized residents' rent payments.

According to Carol Martin of Highland Management, this may not be true. The letters were sent out after Highland renewed this year's contract with HUD, she said.

"The letters were just to let residents know what could happen," she said. "We want to be able to keep our options open and give people adequate notice."

Martin also said that rumors about the sale of the property were untrue.

If the contract is not renewed next year, low income residents will get individual rent vouchers they can take wherever they move, according to Bob Brown, director of Multi-Family Housing for HUD.

Residents faced a similar threat last year when HUD announced it was revoking its subsidy of the complex due to Highland Management's improper management of

properties in Colorado.

HUD later allowed Highland to resume its contract.

"This is a different situation," said Sharon Thomas, director of the Plymouth Housing Commission. "This is the owner of the complex saying that they will not renew the contract."

According to Brown, a one-year contract with the agency is now the norm. While in the past firms had contracts that lasted as long as 15 years, when these older contracts expire, they too will be renewed on a yearly basis.

"There's no need for a panic," he said. "The contract has been extended for a year and that's as much as it can be extended."

Brown said Canton Commons operates under a project-based Section 8 contract, which means HUD subsidizes the entire complex. Should the contract not be renewed next year, low income residents will receive Section 8 subsidies in the form of portable 'vouchers.' The vouchers are distributed to a person rather than a developer, Brown said.

"If something develops we will extend protection to the residents in the form of vouchers. Residents can use them to stay there or go elsewhere," Brown said. "They usually pay 30 per cent of their income and HUD pays the remainder up to a pre-established amount."

Construction halted at N'ville High School site

BY CHIARA CANNELLA

Construction on Northville School District's much-debated new high school came to a halt Thursday.

John Jones, environmental specialist for the Land Resource Management Division of the Wayne County Department of Environment, said he issued an order to the A.J. Etkins construction company to stop work. The site did not comply with state laws regarding water outlet and slope erosion, Jones said, despite a warning last month.

Jones inspected the site July 22 and formally directed Etkins to correct three soil control infractions. The site did not comply with state regulations because it was missing: • a silt fence; • a water outlet for the detention pond; • and stabilization of surface soil, Jones said.

The department allows 10 working days for compliance, Jones said. As of Thursday 11 days later, water outlet and stabilization of surface soil had not been added.

The site plan approved by Jones showed a water outlet from the detention pond.

Del Titus, site superintendent for Etkins, said that the contractors could not make the changes Jones called for until he received approval from David Bolitho, Northville Schools assistant superintendent.

Bolitho said that he didn't know anything about Jones' July 22 visit to the site.

Bolitho said he needs to approve work only when construction is behind schedule or if a budget concern arises. He said the contractor does not need his approval to complete specific projects or to change the order in which pro-

jects are completed.

Drainage pipes and the completion of the pond were scheduled for this week, Bolitho said.

The stop-work order prevents any other work from being done or any resources to be spent on the site until the infractions are corrected, Jones said.

The south wall of the pond, which runs between the school and the pond, has been built, and the north wall, which will prevent water from running off onto adjoining homes, can not be constructed until the drainage pipes are installed, Bolitho said.

Both Titus and Bolitho said heavy rains have delayed progress at the site. Drainage pipes can not be put into the pond until the ground dries out, Bolitho said.

Bolitho confirmed that no specifications were made in the schools' original plans to prevent water and soil run-off from the property during construction. He said last week's abrupt heavy rains revealed that the need for a detention pond was "abundantly clear."

Soil erosion is a water quality issue, Jones said: construction sites pose a threat because removal of vegetation and scraping of top soil allow free flow of silt, he said, especially during rain.

Though the department inspects only for soil erosion concerns - not storm water issues - residents of the adjoining Woods of Edenberry subdivision blame Etkins failure to install adequate drainage for heavy flooding that occurred at their homes, which abut the site.

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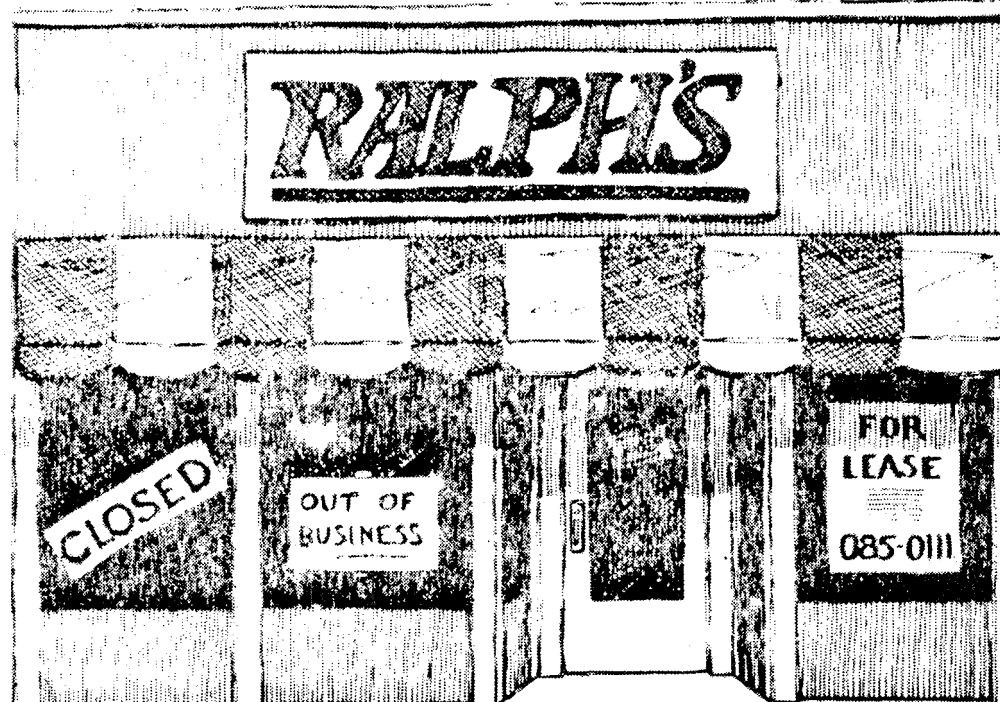
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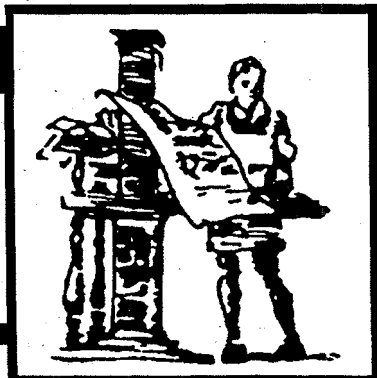
The Crier's advertising consultants, the largest-numbered, longest-serving ad specialists serving The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community have heard it all.

We thought we'd share a few of our "favorite" reasons we've heard why some business people don't advertise.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| #1 Advertising never works. | #59 My customers don't read. | #113 I'm waiting for a check from my last customer. |
| #4 I'm going through a divorce and my wife is suing me. | #68 My competitors advertise. | #121 The newspaper ran a story on my business. |
| #5 I'm going through a divorce and my husband is suing me. | #69 My competitors will know my prices. | #122 The newspaper hasn't run a story on my business. |
| #8 I spent all my money on stocking the shop. | #76 I'm saving all my money for a buying trip to Toronto. | #123 The newspaper ran a story on one of my competitors. |
| #12 I've never had to advertise. | #82 My brother-in-law is taking a marketing course in night school and he says advertising doesn't work. | #124 Your newspaper ran a story when I crashed my car into the hotel lobby. |
| #17 The newspaper makes too much money. | #84 My cousin's next-door-neighbor's kids are putting flyers on windshields downtown-I think. | #137 The newspaper prints "negative" letters. |
| #25 I don't have anything to advertise. | #88 I advertise on our matchbook covers. | #140 The newspaper favors Canton High School. |
| #31 I have to paint the outside of my store. | #89 I mail to our customer list. | #141 The newspaper favors Salem High School. |
| #38 My accountant says I can't spend any money. | #93 I don't get any advertising allotment from the home office/parent company. | #142 The newspaper favors Northville High School. |
| #39 My lawyer says I can't spend any money. | #98 I don't have any co-op dollars. | #143 The newspaper favors the Rotary Club. |
| #40 My husband says I can't spend any money. | #101 My ad budget's set until 1999. | #144 The newspaper favors the Lions Club. |
| #41 My wife says I can't spend any money. | #106 The road in front is under construction. | #145 The newspaper favors the Kiwanis Club. |
| #42 My partner says I can't spend any money. | #110 My name is well known in town. | #148 The newspaper prints too much Plymouth news. |
| #47 We're not trying to make any more money right now. | #112 I don't have a checkbook yet. | #149 The newspaper prints too much Canton news. |
| #54 I only need the yellow pages. | | #150 The newspaper prints too much Northville news. |
| | | #155 The newspaper is in league with Township Hall |
| | | #156 The newspaper is always picking on Township Hall |

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



Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

The following students from Northville were named to the Dean's List at Michigan State University: **Tim Beemer, Dan Belanger, Lance Bethell, Greg Brown, Joel Carolan, Nathan Connell, Kristin Domeracki, Mark Fagnani, Bethany Gengler, Mathias Goebel, Lauren Graves, Ronald Hackett, Mellisa Hayes, Katrina Heckmeyer, Amy Hepler, Paul Hertlein, James Holman, Sarah Howland, Laurie Hrydziusko, Kristina Juntunen, Marsha Keller, Catherine Kulp, Joseph Leo, Mark Leo, Jeffrey Lower, Patricia Mazzola, Scott Meininger, Ryan Moak, Risa Oram, Mark Ritter, Victoria Sanocki, Stephanie Schimpf, Justin Schlanser, Elen Sciba, Bradley Smith, Natalie Sommerman, Ben Szostek, Rodney Thompson, David Vock, Ana Wolke, Matthew Yageman, and Daniel Zumbrennen;** from Plymouth: **Heather Allen, Rebecca Bartel, Phillip Bec, Leanne Boughner, Patrick Chun, David Dismody, Rachel Dory, Joseph Foster, Kevin Guse, Nancy Hixson, Lindsey Janz, Jonathon Kandes, Brendon Masterson, Cynthia McClure, John Mclenaghan, Rebecca McMullen, Jacqueline Nicastri, Lori Polkowski, Suzanne Ratkewicz, Jill Repasky, Jason Sims, Melinda Sofen, Jason Stolaruk, Renee Veryser, Sarah Warbelow, Seth Watts, Erin Williams and Donald Zalsek.**

Marine Pfc. **Timothy L. Murphy**, son of **Frances K. Lourie** of Canton, recently graduated from the Unit Diary Clerk's Course at Personnel Administration School, Marine Corps Service Support Schools, Camp Lejeune, NC.

Army Pfc. **Michael D. Sawchuk**, son of **Donald M. and Rose V. Sawchuk** of Canton, has been decorated with the Army Achievement Medal. Sawchuk is an assistant machine gunner with the 75th Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Columbus, GA. and a 1993 graduate of Salem High School.

Marine Sgt. **Robert F. Mooney**, son of **Sandra L. Donlon** of Canton was recently promoted to his present rank while serving with Marine Corps Security Force Company, London, England.

Legends of the Earth

Savannah Poetry Series presents Poetry Puppies, a reading for kids

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

What do puppets, puppies, percussion and poetry have in common?

Well, besides all starting with the letter 'P,' they will be a part of special poetry presentation at the Plymouth Coffee Bean Sunday.

A continuation of the Savannah Poetry Series, this one is for the kids, according to coordinator Donna DeMeyer.

The poetry reading will feature the works of Matt Smith, a popular poet in the Detroit Metro area, according to DeMeyer. Accompanied by a percussionist and possibly a trumpet, Smith will read poetry with a specific theme, DeMeyer said.

"He's going to use puppets as props to talk about the legends of the Earth," she said. "It's going to be very ecologically oriented."

The reading will take place at 4 p.m. Sunday at the Plymouth Coffee Bean on Penniman Avenue in Downtown Plymouth.

DeMeyer said she hopes to offer the reading as a part of the Savannah Poetry Series' regular routine.

"We want to extend poetry to younger children and make contact at a younger age," DeMeyer said. "If you can reach out at the elementary school level you can use symbols to legends. That makes it much easier for the children to care about them when they get older."

DeMeyer said the program is oriented toward children, but adults will appreciate it as well. The hour-long program will appeal to everyone, she said.

"He's not the kind of performer that would bore an adult," DeMeyer said.

The Savannah Poetry Series grew out of DeMeyer's association with the Rev. Rod Reinhart, founder of the Plymouth Poets she said.

"I ran the summer series for the Plymouth Poets last year, and I developed our own little niche," DeMeyer said. "There's more than enough of an audience to support two poetry venues in town."

Poetry Reading

Savannah Poetry Series
Plymouth Coffee Bean
(734) 453-3463
Sunday, Aug. 16, 4-5 p.m.



Steppin' Out... (Left to right) Ann DeGhetto, Julie Snitzer, Nicole Hunt, Barb Scott, Ofc. Scott Linton, McGruff, Sgt. Jim Jarvis, Ofc. Steve Cheston, Aurora Vigil, Dave Mengel, Mike Richardson, John Wood, Ofc. Kevin Lauterwasser, Ofc. Eric Anderson, Sgt. Jeffrey Felts, Michelle Carpenter and Ofc. Jamie Senkbeil kickoff the National Night Out event in Plymouth Township.

The event solicits participation from citizens to turn on outside lights and meet outdoors with police officers, neighbors and local crime prevention coordinators. In some neighborhoods the police and local businesses sponsored block parties, cook-outs, youth bike parades and flashlights walks.

It was designed to heighten crime- and drug-prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in anti-crime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit, improve police/community relations and deter crime.

Miller: bring Recreation issue back in spring

Former City Attn'y says he'll pressure Twp. Board

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Could the recreation millage proposal, shot down by Township voters last week, be back on the ballot by next spring?

If it were up to Cameron Miller, former City Attorney and current Township resident, it should be.

Miller said yesterday he would push the Township Board of Trustees to bring the recreation millage before the voters again.

"I am going to ask the Board what we (as citizens) can do to get this back on the ballot," Miller said.

Miller blames poor voter education and

poor planning for the recent millage failure. In particular, Miller cited the Township's inability to develop a firm recreation program — who would run it, what it would include — before last Tuesday's vote.

"I think it's extremely rude to ask for more taxes when you don't know what you're going to do with it," he said. "The Township Board didn't do it's job last time.

Shame on the board for that."

Also, Miller said, the recreation millage should stand on its own.

"It's crazy to to put three new taxes on the ballot," he said. "Next time, bring it back bny itself." He said he would consider a petition drive if necessary.

"We'll do anything we can to bring this back," he said.

N'ville Twp. issues may return in Nov. election

BY CHIARA CANNELLA

Northville Township trustees have their work cut out for them. Voters rejected 2 of 3 proposed millages August 4, forcing officials to examine other funding possibilities.

Karen Woodside, Northville Township supervisor, said the board will revisit the issues voters did not approve: millages for park development and acquisition, and shared services with the City of Northville.

Woodside said the board will look at options for continuing the programs, including re-submitting the millage on the November ballot. First, however, the board would have to

educate voters on how much their taxes would increase, she said.

Board members think there was a "great deal of confusion [among voters] as to what shared services means," according to Woodside.

She cited a Detroit News article which incorrectly reported that residents' taxes would more than double if all millages were approved. In fact, the proposals called for a 46-per cent increase.

The .58 mill Shared Services millage would have replaced the current .40 mill levy which expires in December.

Woodside said many residents did not understand that the proposed millage was a renewal with an increase, not a .58 mill increase on top of the current tax.

If no township funding is secured for services shared with the City of Northville - including senior services, parks and recreation and the Northville Youth Assistance - township residents' participation in the programs could be discontinued, according to Woodside.

Woodside said she thinks more education of voters would improve the likelihood of voter approval. "I don't think, when people fully understand the issues, they would choose to not support them. They really affect the quality of life in the township," she said.

Traci Sincock, Northville Parks and Recreation director, said the department will wait to hear from the Township Board before making any changes. Funding is set through the end of the year.

The township's portion of department revenues, all of which comes from the current millage, covers less than a quarter of the department's total income, Sincock said.

The department has the ability to raise program fees, which would be an option if the township does not renew it's financial support, said Sincock. Non-resident fees are one possibility, she said.

The department could also expand it's efforts to seek private sponsorship, but Sincock said grant monies are generally used for special projects, not department operations.

The recreation acquisition and development millage would have provided matching funds necessary to secure state recreation grants, Woodside said. Many residents didn't know that, she said.

The Township's "Yes" committee spent \$2,000 to educate residents on the ballot proposals.

Twp. match uncertain

Continued from pg. 1

• Pay 50 per cent of any engineering costs.

Dismuke said he has not spoken with the Township about their participation.

"I've got no reason to believe this is a City issue alone," he said.

Federal grants will fund 80 per cent of the project.

1998 FALL GUIDE TO



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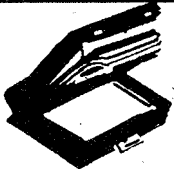
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Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

Brighton Gardens of Northville, a new assisted living community managed and operated by Marriott Senior Living Services, has appointed **Sam Silverstein** as General Manager and **Kathi Racinski** as director of Community Relations.

The new management team, together with approximately 90 full and part-time associates, will oversee daily operations of the new 115-suite assisted living community.

Cary G. Varblow, CFP, LUTCF, FIC, a Lutheran Brotherhood representative from Plymouth, has qualified for membership in the Million Dollar Round Table.

The Million Dollar Round Table is an independent, international association of nearly 19,000 life insurance agents, each of whom has met strict ethical and production requirements.

Douglas Teubert, FIC, a representative from Northville, has also qualified for MDRT.

Lutheran Brotherhood, a fraternal benefit society, offers a broad range of financial products and services to Lutherans nationwide.



Paul Cho, MD, has joined the department of neurosurgery at Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center in Dearborn.

Dr. Cho, a Plymouth resident, specializes in general neurosurgery. He is a candidate member for the American Association of Neurological Surgeons and a resident member of the Congress of Neurological Surgeons.

Taking care of Festival business

The 43rd Fall Festival is almost here, and the Fall Fest Board is ensuring it will be bigger and better than ever

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

At its heart, the Plymouth Fall Festival is a business, with expenses to meet, people to coordinate and a product to sell.

Heading into the final month of preparation before the annual event, the festival's finances were looking pretty good, partially because of profit turned during last month's Art in the Park, according to Sue Clark, Fall Festival treasurer.

"We made about \$3,300 selling water at Art in the Park, which gives us a balance of about \$18,000," Clark said.

Festival Board president Curt Lamar said he was expecting additional donations this month, and that all the funds were accounted for, and then some.

The festival board has an outstanding balance of about \$9,000 with the City of Plymouth, and is expected to pay about \$11,000 for entertainment this year.

The entertainment budget came in higher than expected in part because of the addition of a second stage this year, said Kathy Turnquist, vice-president of entertainment.

The second stage, also located on Penniman Avenue in front of the Penn Theater, will ensure that there is no down-



President Curt Lamar, along with Co-managers Fred Eagle, Jay Horsely and Ken Holmes are finalizing the last details before this year's Fall Festival.

time between performances, according to Turnquist.

"Many of the groups that volunteered to perform for free either changed their minds or backed out entirely," Turnquist said. "That's another reason why the cost edged up a bit."

The board voted unanimously to pay about half of that balance to the City, and also authorized spending \$2,500 for insurance and \$1,000 for initial entertainment bills.

The extra stage is not the only change you'll find at this year's Fall Festival. The Antique and Performance Car show has been expanded and long-time participants the Trailwood Garden Club will have only a minor role.

The Garden Club, which in the past had sponsored contests such as the Garden Face Contest — where children created faces out of produce — and other contests such as dried and fresh floral arrangements, will be holding a perennial exchange Saturday, Sept. 12.

"We just didn't have enough participation to justify asking sponsors for a tent," said Georgia Randinitis, Trailwood Garden Club president. "If you only get 16 or 20 people exhibiting from the whole community, it's not a lot of bang for your buck."

More information about the Fall Festival can be found at the festival's website, at www.fallfest@plymouthlib.com.

Chamber, Kiwanis restart Hall of Fame

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

With a little help from the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, the Plymouth Hall of Fame is again open for nominations.

The Hall of Fame was started by the Plymouth Kiwanis in 1980 according to long-time Kiwanis member Bill Miller.

"We wanted a way to honor people who were important to the community and display their achievements," he said.

The program has been inactive since 1986, when Dunbar Davis and Frank E. Henderson were voted in. Discussions had been ongoing to start the Hall of Fame back up, but the Kiwanis wanted a broader

base to pull from.

That's where the Chamber of Commerce came in.

"It's been one of our goals to help get this reactivated," said Fran Toney, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce. "We didn't want to take it over, we just didn't want it to die."

The chamber helped form a steering committee with representatives from the City, the Historical Society, the library, as well as the Kiwanis and the chamber.

To be nominated to the Hall of Fame, a candidate must have been a resident of the Plymouth Community for at least 10 years, 30 years of age and made a recognizable

contributions to the community in terms of time and effort in the building or rebuilding of the well being of the community. They do not necessarily have to live in the City of Plymouth, Miller said.

"We wanted to expand who could be honored, so we consider the Plymouth Community to have the same boundaries as the school district," Miller said.

To nominate someone for the Hall of Fame, please submit a letter with background information about the nominee to the Chamber of Commerce, 386 Main Street, Plymouth by Dec. 1, 1998. For more information call (734) 453-1540.

Canton may feel road loss in long run

Improvement plan's 1st-year projects already underway with outside funds

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton residents rejected the proposed road millage in last week's primary election, but it may take a year or so to notice — many of the early projects are already funded.

"In the short term, we'll probably still see some road improvements," said Canton Supervisor Tom Yack. "We have some county and federally funded projects planned over the next few years, and it's likely that we will continue to commit a portion of our general funds to improvements."

Yack said that many improvements are already underway, with others to follow. Still scheduled for improvement is Canton Center Road, between Cherry Hill and Ford

roads. Construction began on that project last week and should be complete by November, according to Yack.

Also on the board is the paving of Beck Road between Cherry Hill and Ford Road; Hannan Road from Palmer to Glenwood; and widening and improving the Cherry Hill-Lilley intersection.

"That's a very dangerous intersection," Yack said. "In every accident at that intersection there's a potential for a lawsuit."

Yack also holds hope that Morton Taylor Road will be paved between Ford and Warren roads.

These projects can proceed because they are funded with outside dollars, Yack said. The Canton Center as well as the Morton

Taylor Road projects have received federal dollars, while the Beck, Hannan and Cherry Hill-Lilley projects will be paid for with Wayne County funds.

Improvements along Ford Road will still happen with DDA revenue, Yack said. The Township will sell bonds to pay for the improvements to the Ford-Lilley and Ford-Haggerty intersections.

Most of the other major proposed projects will not happen, Yack said. The road millage would have financed improvements on

Cherry Hill and Warren Roads.

Yack said a meeting is in the works with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to examine ways to improve traffic flow along Ford Road, such as 'smart' or computerized traffic lights. The proposal was rejected by MDOT before, Yack said.

"There's different leadership now with Jim DeSana," Yack said. "He's assured us a change in attitude, as well, and we're going to test him on it."

“In the short term we'll probably still see some improvements.”

— Tom Yack
Supervisor, Canton Twp.

4 resident prezs put P-C-N on professional map

Continued from pg. 3

tors.

Nursing appealed to Hickey as early as high school because it incorporated her talent for science, but wasn't confined to a lab. She considered medicine, but there were very few women doctors at the time, she said. She's found that nursing has its own place, and nurses serve a very different purpose than doctors.

Though Hickey has worked in a variety of medical fields, she said she always goes back to geriatric care. "It strikes me on a daily basis that an older person always has a story to tell," she said. "People are always so appreciative of everything you do for them. There are lots of hugs."

Upcoming MNA goals will increase the support the organization provides for nurses working outside of hospitals, according to Hickey. "There are nurses working in factories, companies, schools. We have done a good job supporting in hospitals, but now we need to look at other groups in the industry," Hickey said.

"It's a lot of fun just to get out and work on something."

Hickey said she will seek another term when her current stint ends. It is standard for presidents to serve two terms, she said. She can be more effective since she will be more comfortable. "A new term at the turn of the century will be exciting, too."

"My father always told me that I could be president if I wanted to, he just never told me of what," said Hickey.

Michigan Press Association

Michigan Press Association president W. Edward Wendover said it's time for change at the MPA. Elected 130th president in January, Wendover has been a member since acquiring The Community Crier in 1974.

"It is a new day at the MPA," he said. "We are trying to catch the press association up with the 90's. The MPA has not kept up with the times."

Wendover said that newsroom staff traditionally alienated themselves from their communities by struggling for objectivity at all costs. News professionals didn't participate in their communities in an effort to attain perfect objectivity, he said. "We didn't do a good job trying to be pure. We do better as active participants in the community."

All of the state's 50 daily newspapers and 99 per cent of its 253 weeklies are MPA members, but Wendover said the association is trying to increase membership. One of his goals for the MPA is to encourage the participation of non-traditional papers. He cites the recent memberships of The Jewish News, the Metro Times and the Michigan Chronicle as evidence of the MPA's new direction. Wendover said the MPA seeks participation from papers with broader definitions of community.

"This is all the more true with the Internet. Papers are serving communities defined by something other than geography."

There are many culturally oriented papers Wendover hopes will soon qualify for and join the MPA, including some Hispanic and American Indian publications. A paper must publish at least weekly for two years for MPA eligibility. "We are trying to let them see the advantages of joining," he said. More student papers are also important to Wendover, for the benefit of the future professional journalists.

The Sunday Journal, a weekly put out by locked-out Free Press and Detroit News union workers, finally joined the ranks of the MPA two-and-a-half years after striking workers began the journal, an alternative to the Detroit News and Free Press. "Despite problems, we're getting better participation from all papers," Wendover said.

"Ironic as it seems," he said, "we are also pleased to welcome on board Bob McGruder, executive editor of the Detroit Free Press. We're pleased that they see what we're trying to do."

These changes come about in part because there is a new breed of leadership in the MPA. Wendover said not everyone is happy with that.

"Some people were happy with an association that just did golf outings. Golf may be wonderful, but it is not the purpose of the Michigan Press Association."

Wendover feels the MPA's biggest accomplishment is supporting diversity in the newsroom and in the association. "We are trying to get more folks involved than just the good old boys," he said. "We are trying to bring about change."

The MPA has always lobbied legislators on issues of access to information, Wendover said. Currently, state universities are trying close presidential searches closed from public review.

"Presidential searches should be public just like other public searches," said Wendover. "You do it because it's for the good of the community."

Wendover said the MPA can foster better journalists and better newspapers in the state. "It improves our ability to service our communities. All of us, no matter what profession, exist in a climate where they're passing laws that affect us. For the good of the profession, you have to participate."

AAUW

Carol Parker of Canton is the president of the American Association of University Women of Michigan.

The 117 year old AAUW was founded to promote equity for all women and girls, provide lifelong educational opportunities, and work towards

positive social change. The Michigan chapter, has more than 4000 members in 53 branches.

Parker has been a member of the AAUW in Michigan and Indiana for more than 25 years. "That's the joy of the AAUW. It's there all over the country," she said.

A strong belief in the importance of equity in education and social issues affecting women have kept Parker involved for many

years, she said. And becoming president of the state chapter will allow her to lead the association in areas that need work.

"A major goal is to improve communication with branch members," she said. "We need to encourage more participation in activities."

Such AAUW activities currently include election-centered projects and a major seminar in conjunction with the League of Women Voters.

"There will be a forum that all candidates for governor and attorney general have been invited to," she said. The forum will address policies and candidates' voting records, and will offer workshops on issues.

The goals is to work with voters to encourage them to


vote for issues and the candidates who support them, according to Parker. "We don't support specific candidates, we support issues," she said.

The non-partisan association is open to men and women who hold baccalaureate degrees, and also offers student affiliate memberships.

“The practice of law has been good to me. You've got to do something, regardless of your profession, to give back.”

— Tom Lenga
State Bar of Michigan

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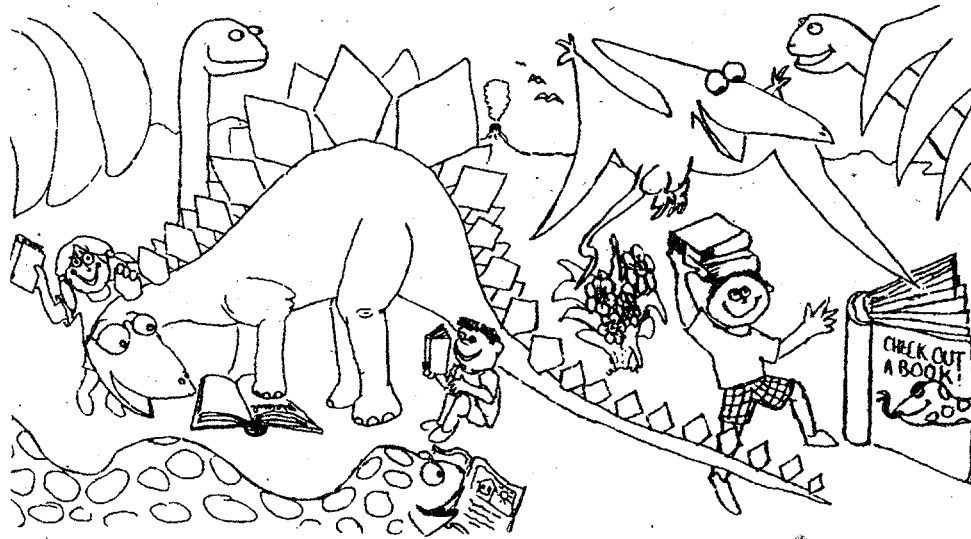
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Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
Rev. Wm. Branham - Assoc. Pastor
Nursery Provided
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Worship with us this week!

 **Events**



That's dedication... The Plymouth District Library will present a special unveiling and dedication **Sunday, Aug. 16 at 2 p.m.** of the Dinosaur Mural painted by more than 800 children during last month's Art in the Park. The mural was designed by Plymouth's Mike Carne.

BATIK WORKSHOP

If you like color, you'll love batik! Stop by the Arts Council to see the wonderful works that novices have produced using this ancient Javanese wax-resist method. You just might get addicted to creating hanging works of art for your home. \$20 each session, all materials included. **Wednesday, Aug. 12 1-3 p.m.** and/or **Thursday, Aug. 20, 7-9 p.m.** Additional sessions as scheduled. For more information call the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Road (734) 416-4ART.

OLD TIMERS PICNIC

To be held **Thursday, Aug. 27 at noon** at Plymouth Township Park. Call Howdy Schryer for reservations (734) 453-0114.

MIDWEST STAMP SHOWS

On **Aug. 21, 22, 23** from **10 a.m. to 6 p.m.** **Friday and Saturday** and **10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday**, Midwest Stamp Shows will present another stamp show at the VFW Hall, 1426 Mill Street. More than \$500,000 worth of rare and interesting stamps, documents and old stamps on letters will be offered for sale. Entry to the stamp show is free, and all visitors will receive free literature, newspapers and expert advice concerning their stamp collections — or advice on how to start one. For more information call toll free: (888) 305-9918.

FRIDAY NIGHT CLOCK CONCERTS

Northville Arts Commission is sponsoring Friday Night Clock Concerts at the Gazebo on Main Street. This **Friday** Rick Eddy's Rockin' Oldies Band will perform. This free concert begin at 7:30 p.m.

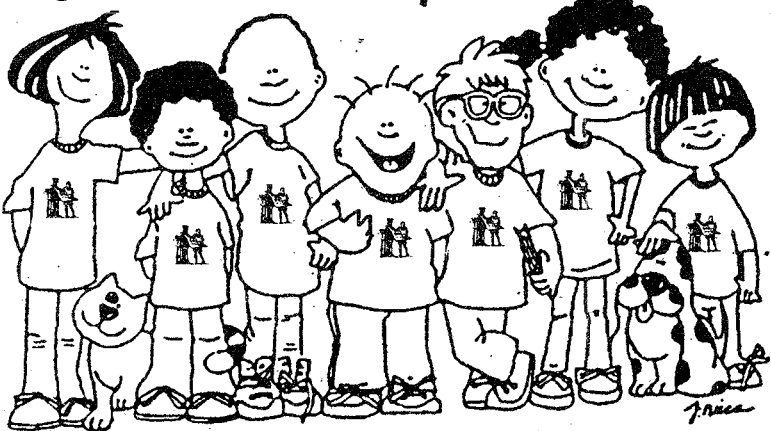
SUMMER CONCERT SERIES IN THE PARK

Canton's Summer Concert Series in the Park continues this **Thursday at 7:30 p.m.** Concerts are at the Amphitheater in Heritage Park, off Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill.

DDA'S ENTERTAINMENT ON US

The Downtown Development Authority of Plymouth presents Robert Noll/Blues Mission 7-9 p.m. this **Friday** at Ann Arbor Trail and Forest. Fasten your seatbelts! Main Street may be called Blues Avenue after this one.

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Volunteer

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.

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.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON HEADSTART PROGRAM

Plymouth-Canton Head Start located at Central Middle School is looking for volunteers to help in the classroom with group activities, recess and learning centers. If you have mornings or afternoons free please call 734-416-6196. Seniors and retiree's are very welcome.

CARRIAGE PARK SENIOR COMMUNITY

Contact Heather at Carriage Park. Share time, skills with seniors. Call 397-8300.



Groups

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

Plymouth Business and Professional Women are holding their dinner meeting **Monday, Aug. 17 at 6:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at Ernesto's on Main Street just west of Haggerty Road. Fall Festival bingo will be discussed. For reservations call (734) 420-0320. Visitors are welcome.

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

Plymouth Business and Professional Women are holding their dinner meeting **Monday, Aug. 17 at 6:00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at Ernesto's on Main Street just west of Haggerty Road. Fall Festival bingo will be discussed. For reservations call (734) 420-0320. Visitors are welcome.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON BALLET COMPANY AUDITIONS

The Plymouth-Canton Ballet Company will hold open auditions for dancers **Friday, Aug. 21 at Joanne's Dance Extension, 9282 General Drive, Suite 180-190, Plymouth MI.** Two audition classes will be held: **Ages 9 years to 12 years: 5-6 p.m.; ages 13 years and older: 6-8:30 p.m.** There will be a \$5 audition fee. For more information call (734) 397-8828.

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.

GUIDE to Entertainment

Go P.C.N

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; "Madeleine" "There's Something About Mary" "Snake Eyes" "The Negotiator" "Disturbing Behavior" "Mafia" "Ever After"

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 music: The Reefermen*

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: *"The Truman Show"*

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

734-454-0178; Thurs.: *Plymouth Poets, Open mic* Sat.: *DJ Brian spins jazz.*

STATION 885 RESTAURANT

734-459-0885; Wed. - Sat.: *Live music with Wally Gibson;*

WAGON WHEEL LOUNGE

248-349-8686; Thurs. *Tom Willett and the Blues Devils,* and Sat.: *Redford Steve's all blues band*

WEST SIDE SINGLES

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

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

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Rains washout tracks, carry spill

BY BRYON MARTIN

Some 2,500 gallons of diesel fuel leaked from the ruptured tank of a train that derailed Thursday morning in Northville Township, flowing into a nearby creek and, eventually, three area lakes.

The train wrecked south of Six Mile Road after a flooded stream spilled over its banks and washed out a portion of tracks and its embankment.

Water ran down from the site and flooded Newburgh Lake, which has been dry for more than a year during a

nationally funded project to remove contaminated soil from its bottom. The flood waters carried the smell of gasoline and slicks of the red fuel on its surface.

According to CSX spokesperson Bob Gould, damage to the track, the four cars and engine involved in the derailment total about \$40,000.

Trains were back on the tracks Friday afternoon but clean up is expected to continue over the next three weeks, according to Bob

Young, owner of Young's Environmental Cleanup.

Young's took more than 30,000 gallons of contaminated water from a pond on the east side of the tracks, and from Phoenix and Wilcox lakes, which are fed by the stream. Most of the fuel went no further than Wilcox, according to Young.

Young said his company is taking the contaminated water to the CSX waste water treatment facility in Toledo, where it will be separated from the fuel.

Young's company has a contract with CSX and was also responsible for rebuilding the washed-out section of track.

According to Young, the embankment was rebuilt and tracks were down a little more than a day after the wreck. "The first trains were running by 2 p.m.," he said. "Tracks are money. When tracks aren't in, they're losing cash."

The flood

Frank Palmer has lived for more than 30 years at his home off of Northville Road.

The CSX embankment runs parallel to the back line of Palmer's property, which

flooded near the road when the tracks washed out the tracks.

Crews from Young's have worked for days on Palmer's property, one of the first places downhill from the tracks where the leaking diesel fuel began to collect in standing flood water.

Palmer's house is on a hill and he said floods don't concern him when they come, usually once a year.

Thursday's heavy rains weren't surprising to him. But the sound of the train sitting on the tracks for more than an hour was.

"We knew something was wrong," he said. "That's all."

“We knew something was wrong. That’s all.”
— Frank Palmer



Tad Simpson, a hazardous materials technician with Young's Environmental Cleanup, sucks contaminated water from Frank Palmer's yard and into a tanker. The water is being treated at a facility in Toledo. (Crier photo by Bryon Martin.)

Wanted: '97 bond resolution, '98 bond awareness

Continued from pg. 1

has said it will need Lowell back for the 2000 school year.

Mark Horvath, former School Board president, is heading up the district's steering committee for the Oct. 3 bond. Horvath echoed Little, saying that educating voters is the primary objective for his committee and the schools. High voter turnout is a priority, too.

"This will be similar to past elections," he said. "We want as many voters as possible."

To make it easier for voters to reach the polls, Horvath said, the Oct. 3 election will be held on a Saturday. The March '97 bond election was also held on a Saturday and brought out about 12,000 voters, the second-largest turnout in district history, he said.

If voters reject the October bond, the 760

students who now attend Lowell will be squeezed into classes at the four existing middle schools, according to Little.

Although Little expressed confidence in the schools' ability to convey the seriousness of such need, he said he could not guess whether voters would hold the lingering March 1997 bond against the district.

That issue has been in the courts for more than a year since Jerry Vorva, a local real estate agent and former State Representative, filed suit against the schools over 716 "spoiled" ballots that were cast in the election. The bond passed by 96 "yes" votes.

Since Vorva followed his lawsuit, five local, county and state entities, including the Lansing court of appeals, have upheld the election.

The Lansing court threw out Vorva's case. The bond continues its state-wide tour of the courts as, once again, Vorva has appealed for a rehearing.

Meaningful compromise

Former U.S. Representative Carl Pursell is working to avoid another court bout for the bond. His work has been quiet, mostly conversations, he said, with Little, Vorva and John Thomas, one of Vorva's attorneys.

Pursell said he became involved after the Lansing appeals court bounced the bond suit, and Vorva announced he would fight on, possibly to the State Supreme Court.

"I thought, maybe I can be helpful here," he said. "I grew up here. My kids went to

school here. It's a time for healing." Pursell said he is concerned with the configuration proposed for the third high school, now planned for construction on C.E.P. property at the corners of Beck and Joy roads. "I want to meet with some of our community leaders," to amend that plan, Pursell said, adding that his contact with the schools was "at the top."

Little confirmed that he had met with Pursell, but would not divulge the content of their discussions.

"I'm not in a position to say. What I can

tell you is that he's working very hard to keep our community in a positive light."

Pursell said he thinks that, if the March '97 bond comes to fruition, the district will be overbuilding.

"You don't have to spend all \$79 million — that's a cap on the bond. You can get a configuration to reduce that cost."

Pursell said he watched the Livonia School District overbuild during the '70s while a State

Senator for that community.

Pursell said he has used the reconfiguration proposal to entice Vorva and company into a "meaningful compromise."

"He's been talking to me and other people about some kind of

resolution," Vorva said, explaining that he still wants the district to hold another election for the 716 voters who miscast their ballots. The particulars of the third high school's plans aren't his motivation.

"If they wanted to hold a special election I would drop my suit and live with whatever the results are," he said. Short of that, Vorva said citing the strength of his case and his lawyer's expertise, he's won't stop the suit short of a High Court decision.

"We're David, but I think we've got all the rocks."

“You don't have to spend \$79 million. You can get a configuration to reduce that cost.”

— Carl Pursell
Former U.S. Rep.

Tourney 'takes effort'

Continued from pg. 1

Yack, citing difficulties within the NAA in particular. "Most of the problems dealt with behind the scenes disorganization."

This year, he said, the tournament ran smoothly. Thanks to some managerial changes within the NAA, the Canton experience was much more positive in 1998.

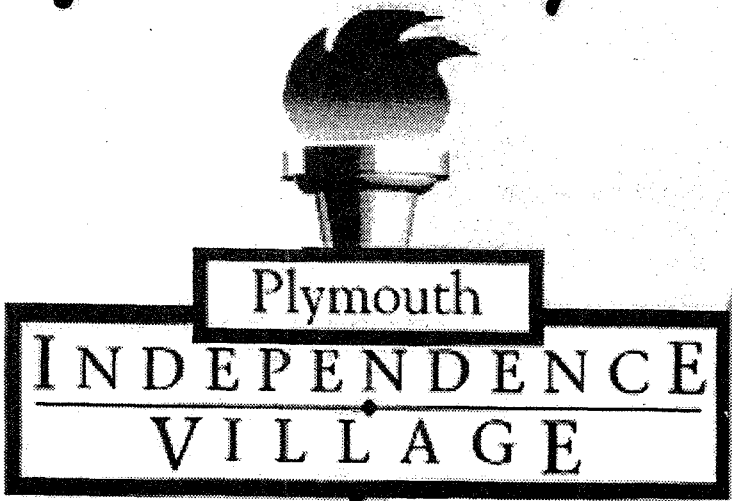
"If we had known then what we know now (about the revamped organization) things would look much different," Yack said.

Yack said there is a chance the NAA could return in 2000, but economic impact studies would have to be performed first before Canton would bid again.

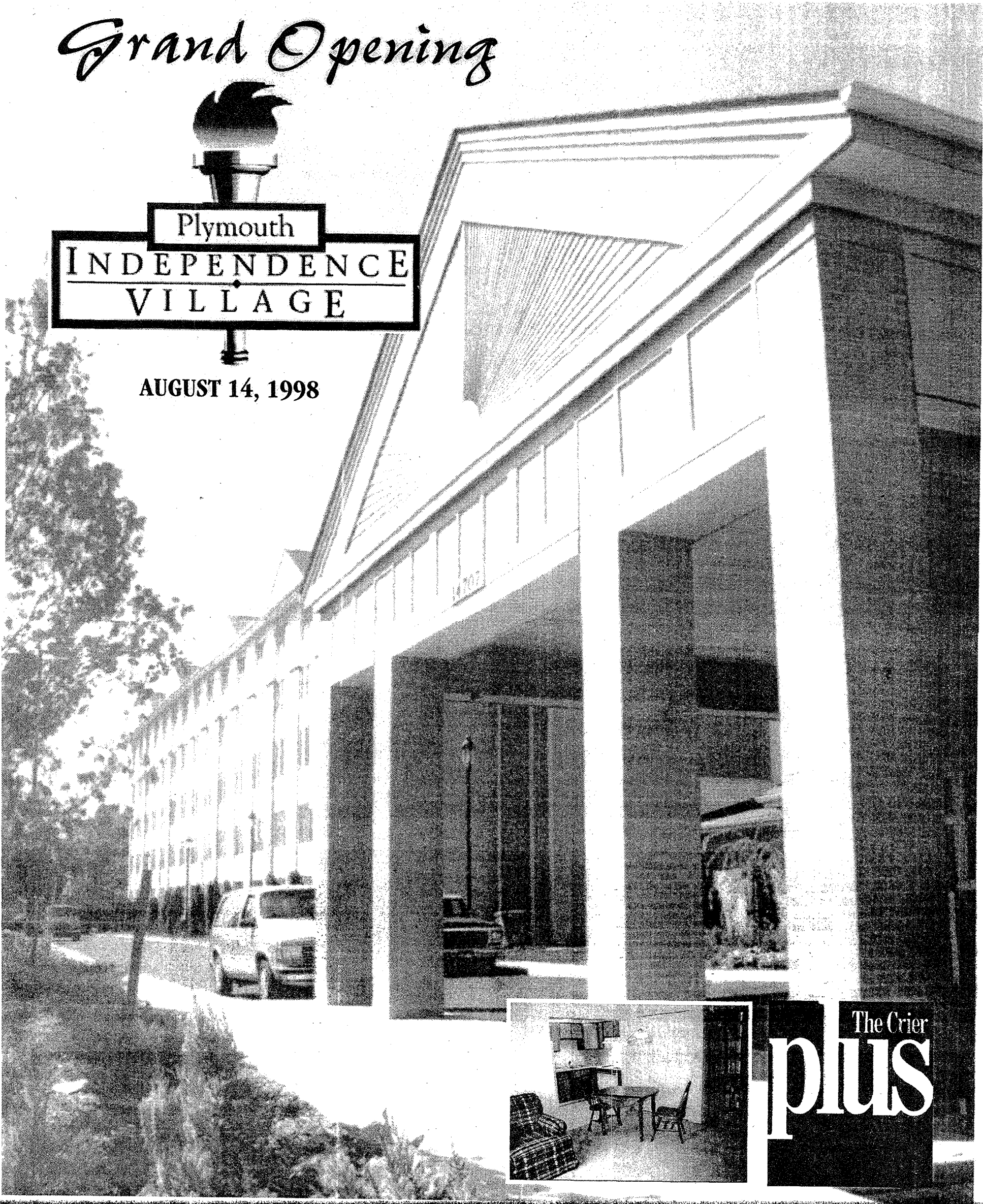
"Even though the publicity is nice, it takes a lot of effort and some money to host these events. If we're not getting the money back, it's not worth it," Yack said. "If we ask for it again, (the NAA) will be looking for a long-term commitment."

Next year the tournament return to Oxford, OH, where it was held before the move to Canton.

Grand Opening



AUGUST 14, 1998



The Crier
plus

Independence Village opens Friday:



Old friends, new neighbors

Among the first of Plymouth Independence Village's residents were these three long-time friends. From left: Mel Blunk, former assistant superintendent of Plymouth Schools; Fred Hadley, last surviving charter member of the Plymouth Goodfellows; and Bob Nulty. They are typical of the Independence Village residence most of whom boast ties to The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community, says Linda Barnwell, marketing director of the facility. The three men enjoy a morning cup of coffee in the Plymouth Independence Village Cafe.

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER

Call Fred Hadley, Mel Blunk and Bob Nulty the "typical" new residents of Plymouth Township's newest neighborhood.

Plymouth Independence Village has been quietly open for three weeks now. But this Friday marks its official grand opening — and — the end of an era for the township.

What was once the Thunderbird Inn, then the Plymouth Hilton, then briefly the Plymouth Radisson, had sat vacant and decaying for five years.

Enter The PM Group.

After a year in demolition, reconstruction and new construction, a sparkling \$19.5 million, 202-unit apartment complex is Plymouth Township's newest jewel. The facility will offer both independent and assisted-living one and two-bedroom apartments.

John Hayes, president of The PM Group, credited his company's divisions and managers with the successful project.

"Larry Wilkinson, president of PM Group Investment Corporation, was the quarterback. They found the site," he said.

PM's Delcor Construction took the ball from there, Hayes said.

"With Project Manager Ken Bartalucci and (Project) Superintendent Victor LaRue in charge, we finished this successfully. It being both a rehab and a new construct, that can be tricky," Hayes said.

LaRue had previously spearheaded the Plymouth Pointe Condominium project in Plymouth Township for Delcor too. Hayes praised LaRue's abilities at bringing Independence Village in "on time, on budget."

Delcor uses LaRue to help other projects when they encounter difficulties, Hayes said. "When we need a little more fire power to solve a problem, we send Vic in."

Hayes said the project's "on budget" status was in line even with the change orders that were added in progress. "We made conscious decisions to upgrade." Some of those changes meant slight delays,

Independence Village Cast

THE PM GROUP:

Daniel D. Armistead, founder
Robert J. Pendergast, founder
John Hayes, president

PM GROUP INVESTMENT CORP.:

Larry Wilkinson, president

DELCOR CONSTRUCTION:

Ken Bartalucci, project manager
Victor LaRue, project superintendent

PM ONE, LTD.:

John Morrissey, executive vice president
Linda Barnwell, marketing director
Karen Beer, sales counselor

PLYMOUTH INDEPENDENCE VILLAGE:

Amy Nugent, building manager
Cheryl Haylock, activities director
Felicia Peck, dietary supervisor
Pat D'Agostino, office manager
Dale Hoard, maintenance supervisor
Jennifer Finley, nurse

but the project is considered "on time."

"(LaRue) is an excellent superintendent who watches his deadlines," Hayes said.

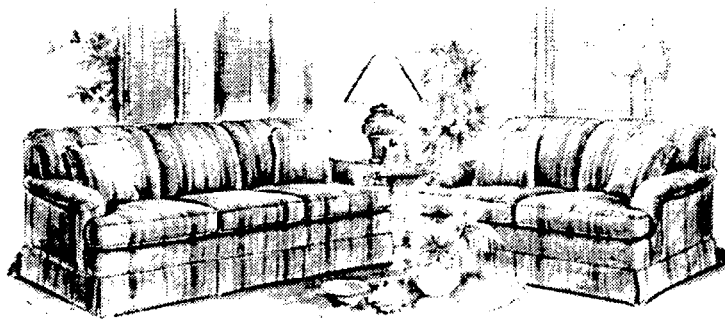
Another PM Group subsidiary, PM One Ltd., has handled the marketing and operating parts of Plymouth Independence Village. John Morrissey is that group's executive vice president, but many prospective tenants and community leaders know Linda Barnwell, the marketing director for PM One Ltd.

Barnwell began working out of a mobile office last July as the project moved into high gear. "The response has been fantastic.

"We've got a lot of people moving back to Plymouth from Florida and elsewhere," she said. "We're getting a lot of local people, people with families nearby. It's a nice mix of men and women. We've got more men here than at any of our other retirement communities."

Fifty residents — like Hadley, Blunk and Nulty — are already living in the

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complex. Another 200 are expected to be in by Thanksgiving.

Workmen are putting in the finishing touches working around the residents already there. Meals are being catered in by Plymouth's Station 885 until the new,



Felicia Peck, dietary supervisor, will oversee the Village's dining operations. (Crier photo by Scott Spielman)

modern kitchens open later this week.

"We've already got activities going in the building," Barnwell beamed. She listed: Kellogg Park concerts, Penn Theatre visits, shopping excursions, fitness classes, speakers, movie nights, bingo and a wine and cheese party as some of the activities planned.

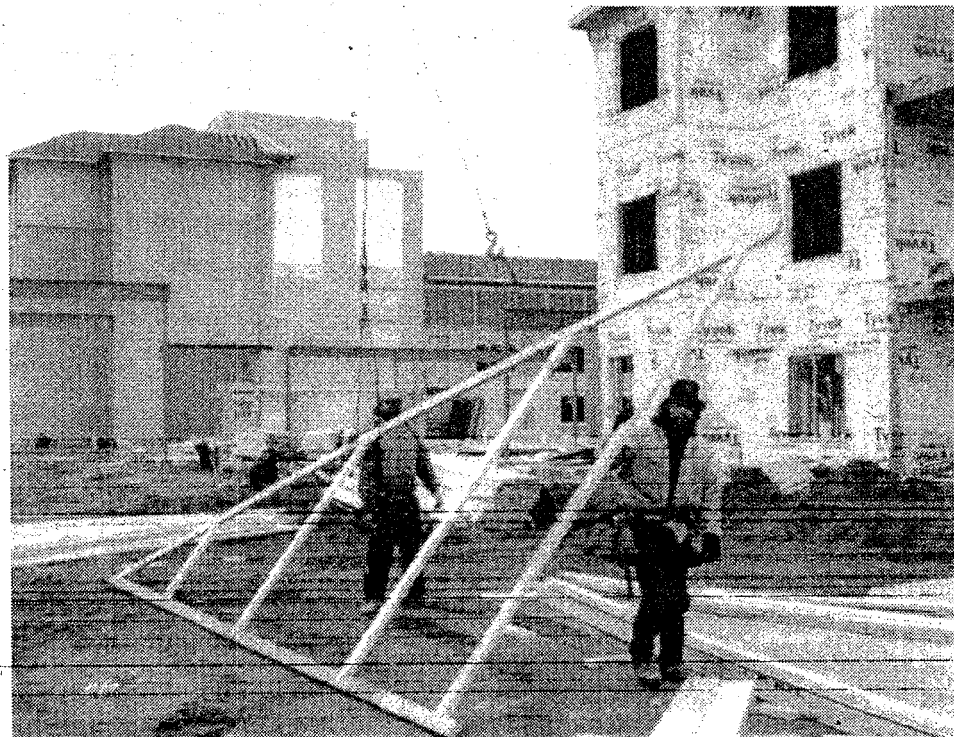
"The community support has been tremendous," she emphasized.

But Plymouth Township Clerk Marilyn Massengill put the ball back into Independence Village's court after it volunteered to house a voting precinct there. "It's refreshing to get a volunteer site for a precinct. That shows their community spirit."

LaRue also praised the facilities neighbors. "I met a couple of the neighbors across the street. They were just tickled that we're doing something here when the old hotel had sat vacant so long. I'm inviting them to our grand opening party."

Project superintendents can often have harsh words for local building inspectors and local officials. Not so in this case. "They've been very professional to work with," LaRue said. "They've been firm but fair."

The mutual admiration of the community and the Plymouth Independence



"This was one of the toughest projects I've ever been on. It was tricky because it was both a rehab and new construction," said Victor LaRue, Delcore Construction's project superintendent. He managed some 300 tradespeople on the job. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Village staff and residents are expected to attend.

crest this Friday when the grand opening is slated for 2 p.m. The public is invited to

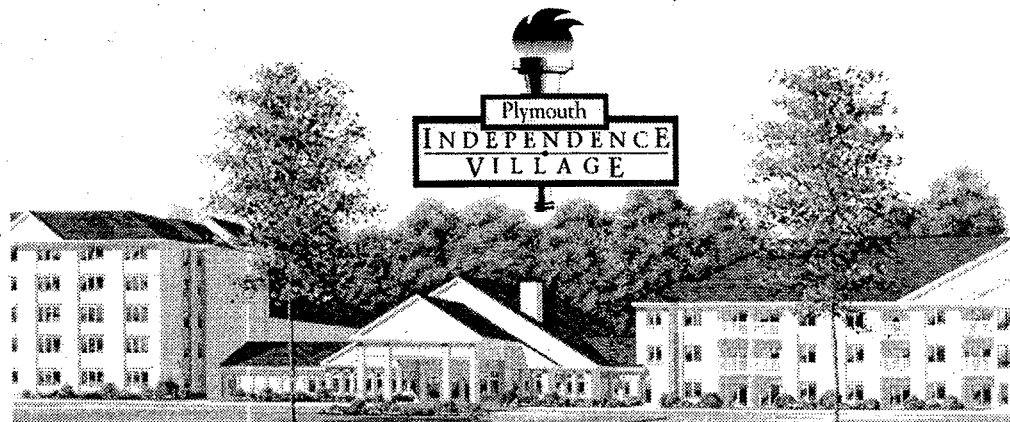
"We're very proud of this project. We want everybody to see it," said Hayes.

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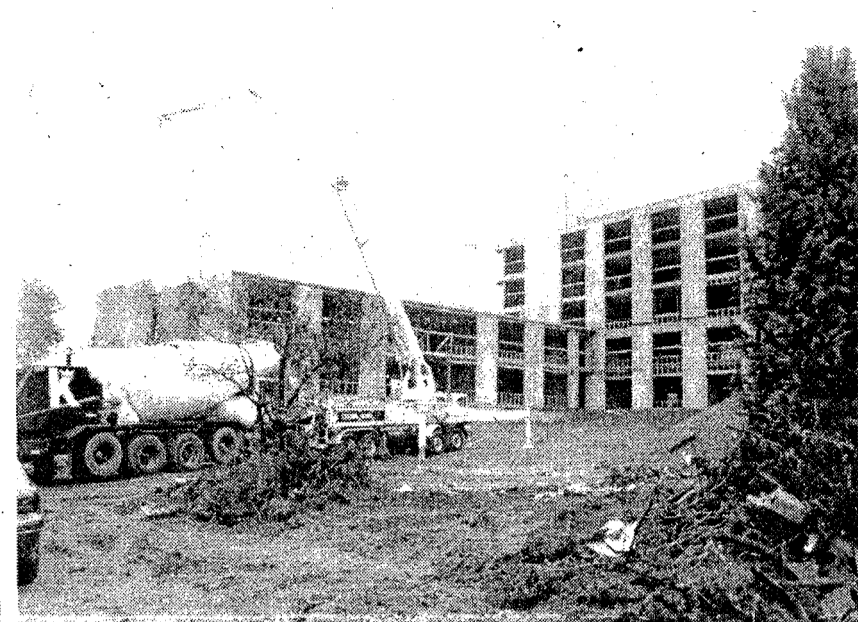
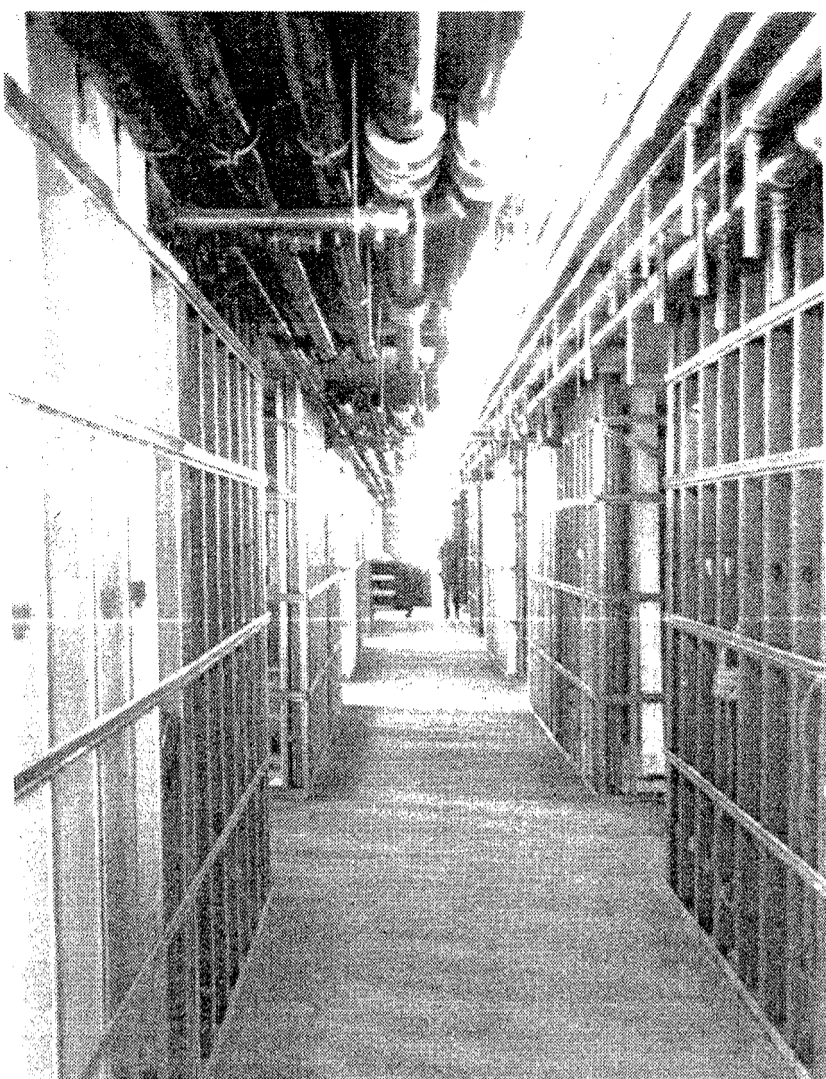
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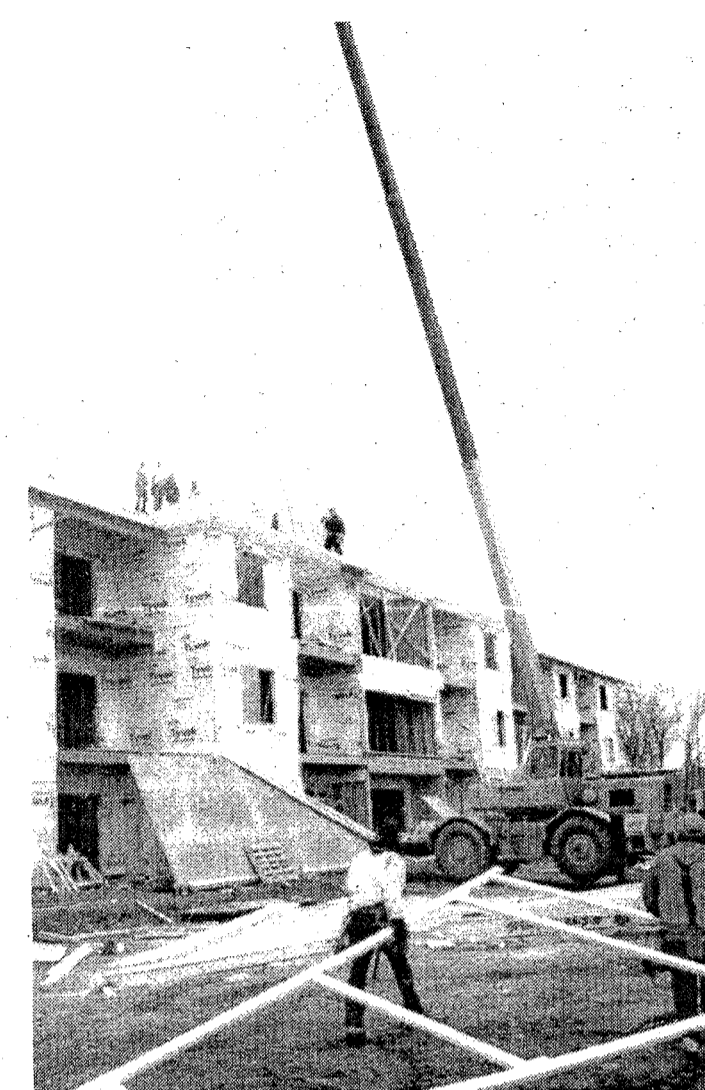
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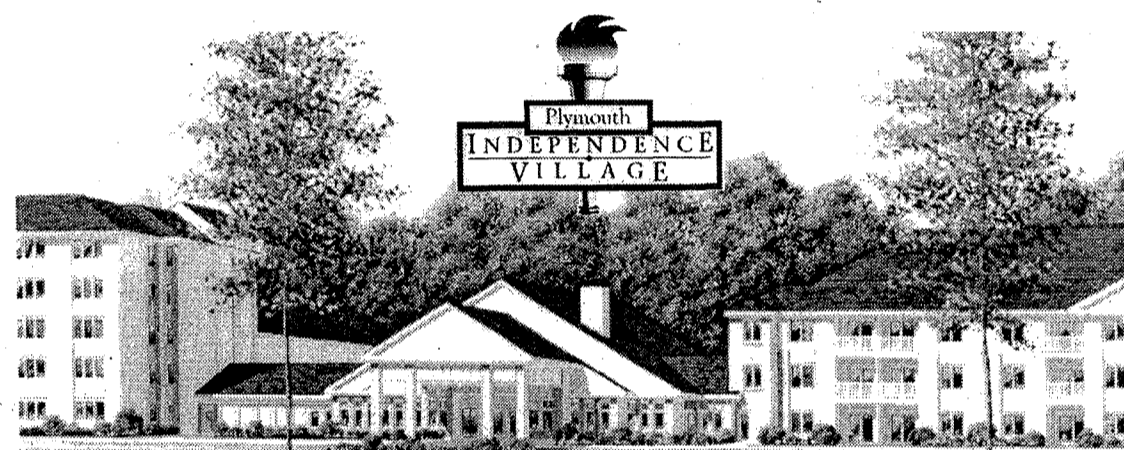
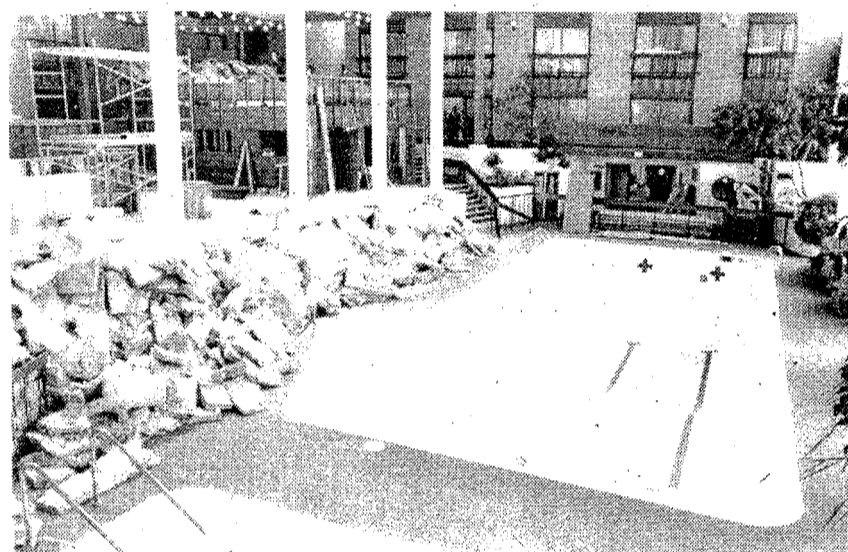


Proud to Celebrate the Grand Opening of Plymouth Independence Village at 2 pm, Friday, Aug. 14, 1998



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Delcor Construction Inc., a division of The PM Group, is proud to have spearheaded the Plymouth Independence Village 202-unit Senior Citizen Housing complex in Plymouth Township, MI. This \$19.5 million project is a combined rehab and new construction project.

CLOCKWISE FROM LOWER LEFT:

Demolition of the former restaurant and banquet rooms was the start of the project. Meanwhile, the former swimming pool atrium became the staging area as the entire interior of the five-story former Hilton Hotel was gutted. Once the demolition was completed, new walls, new electric and utilities were added. Cement floors were poured on the third story to create an elegant formal dining room with panoramic vistas of Hines Park. A new entrance, administrative office and modern kitchens were the centerpiece of an entirely new constructed three-story wing. Delcor's staff worked closely with Plymouth Township officials to satisfy the local community's standards. Vic LaRue, Delcor's project superintendent, and Charles E. McIlhargey, Plymouth Township's chief building official, confer during the site's final inspection. The finished apartments are already attracting seniors from The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community — some of whom had previously retired and moved away.

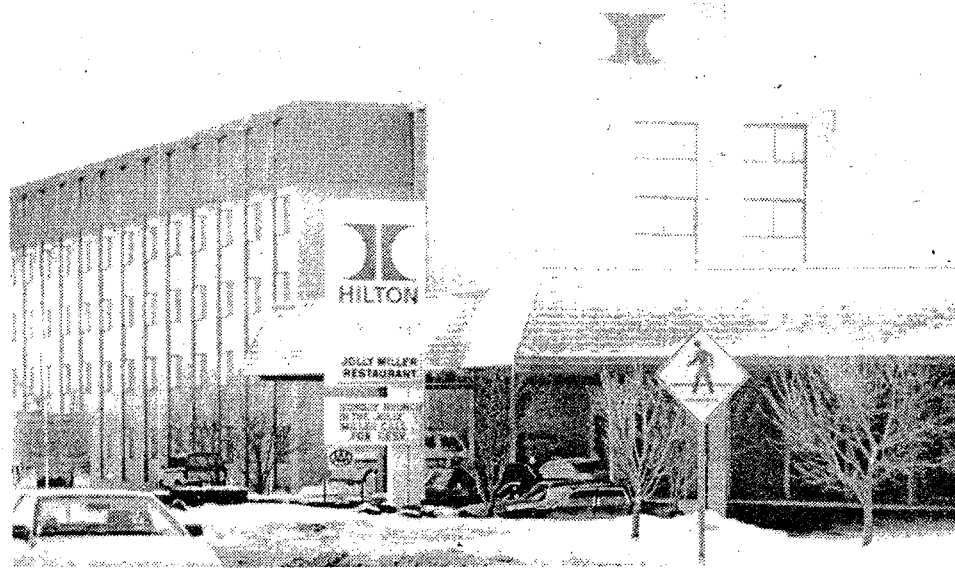
"Delcor is proud of its role in turning a vacant eyesore into a community center that will be fully leased by November. Not only was the project completed on time and on budget, but its net impact on the community — an active senior center — is a proud moment for Delcor and The PM Group."

--Ken Bartolucci, project manager





Across Northville Road from the new Independence Village was the site of Carl's Place, a tiny breakfast greasy spoon. It was demolished to make room for the M-14 expressway. (Crier file photo).



The Thunderbird Inn became the restaurant and lounge for the five-story Plymouth Hilton, which opened in 1975 (Crier file photo)

Village opens new Township era

The site of the newly-opened Plymouth Independence Village on Northville Road has a glorious and a not-so-glorious past.

Its bright present and future uses are a community success story when weighed against the sites previous ups and downs.

In its prime days, the Thunderbird Inn was a favorite gathering spot for the Northville Downs owners, drivers and super fans.

As the "new Thunderbird Inn," from 1960 on, there were more than few wagers placed amongst the track folks at the long dark bar in the northeast corner of the restaurant.

Lamb stew was a noted special and gala New Year's Eve parties were packed. Many senior prom dates from old Plymouth High School and Northville High School included dinner at the Thunderbird.

In 1972, the Thunderbird Inn launched a five-story Hilton Hotel addition. Plymouth's Mardon Construction, owned by Don Bidwell, was hired as the general contractor. Plans were predicated on an expressway exit coming for Northville Road.

But by 1974, the project was stalled —

partially completed — because an economic downturn piled on top of a "no expressway exit" verdict at Northville Road. The property defaulted to Investors Diversified Services (IDS) and many investors and contractors — like Mardon — lost huge sums.

Then, IDS called on Deane Baker, a Dearborn builder, to finish off the Hilton project.

At the end of 1975, the new 195-room Plymouth Hilton opened with great fanfare. Its ballroom was the largest meeting space in all of Southeast Michigan.

The hotel drew many conventions to its facility and the restaurant and lounge — The Jolly Miller — was frequently packed.

Plymouth's Chamber of Commerce held its largest ever dinner-annual meeting (before the auction part was added) at the Hilton. Former Nixon lawyer, John Dean, was the keynote speaker, introduced by local lawyer, John Thomas.

Many community banquets and functions were courted by the Plymouth Hilton's community-minded general manager, Ken Windsor.

Then, during the late 1980s, a glut of

With malice toward none

By W. EDWARD WENDOVER



hotels-motels opened along I-275 and — just like the Mayflower Hotel in downtown Plymouth — the Plymouth Hilton found it tougher to compete without expressway-easy-access.

The Hilton fell on rough times — there were fewer quality conventions-meetings and a lower occupancy rate.

Then, the hotel owners lost the Hilton franchise. The Plymouth Hilton, formerly the Thunderbird Inn, became the Plymouth Radisson Hotel.

A facelift of the restaurant and bar never quite was enough to reverse the downward trend. After a brief stint as the Radisson, the hotel abruptly closed.

As the building sat vacant for five years, Plymouth Township officials tried to encourage other uses. Public safety issues at the abandoned building included

vandals and teenage parties and the shutoff of the building's sprinkler system.

The darkened hallways of the vacant hotel made an excellent training site for the Western Wayne County Special Operations Team. SWAT teams practiced there.

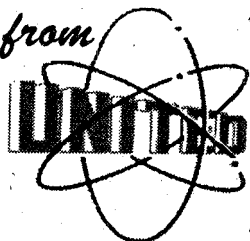
Several attempts were made to rejuvenate Plymouth Township's tallest building. Finally, Walsh Development bought the property from Prudential Insurance and visualized a senior citizen complex.

Larry Wilkinson, president of PM Group Investment Corporation, found the site and negotiated with the Walsh owners. That sale was the end of the checkered past, and the start of the property's present and future:

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THE COMMUNITY CRIER: August 12, 1998 Page 19



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Linda Barnwell

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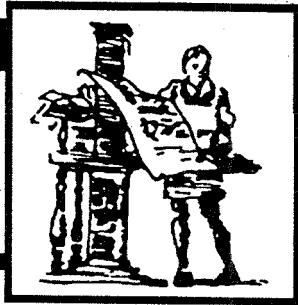
FALL

BRIDAL

GUIDE

The Crier

plus



The Community Crier



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plus

The key to happy wedding: Know your contractors

BY CHIARA CANNELLA

"Where are the carafes?"

The moment I heard the irritation in her voice, I know we were in for trouble.

"There are supposed to be carafes on every table for the mimosa and bloody Marys!"

I turned around to watch.

"I'm the groom's mother. I thought there were going to be carafes for the drinks on all the tables. The bride's father said we'd have pitchers on the tables. Where are they? Why don't you have them?" she demanded.

Jenna smiled. "Because I am the baker. I made the cake, and I'm setting it up. I wouldn't know anything about carafes."

Okay. It's easy to identify what's wrong with this story. (Other than that it actually happened to me and threatened to ruin a very nice wedding.)

But people make these mistakes all the time: poor communication in the family; expectations not clearly outlined before the event; people not knowing who should be talking to who. This could all be avoided, with a little preparation.

I'm sure you know exactly how you want

your wedding to be. Good contractors know the best way to do their job and get the results you're looking for. But if you expect them to work miracles, you'll be disappointed. Knowing how to work with the caterers, florists, photographers and other contractors you hire can help make the day a dream.

Here are some basic guidelines for making the most of what you are paying for:

Catering cautions

Tell your contractors what you want ahead of time. Don't wait until you are sitting down to tell caterers you want coffee available all through the meal, not just for desert. They won't have someone waiting for something to do.

Keep your crowd in mind, and communicate that. My mother tells the story of buying wine for an engagement party. She calculated as a good Irish would for her family, and ended up with twice as much wine as necessary.

Ask guests about diet restrictions on their response cards. Everyone will feel horrible if Aunt Agatha only eats a baked potato. Good caterers will offer a vegetarian option other

Please see pg. 24

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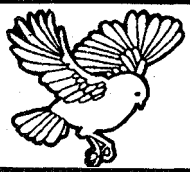
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Community weddings, anniversaries and engagements



DIEDRICK

Ralph and Doris Diedrick of Plymouth celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with friends and family July 11. A dinner party was held at the Dearborn Inn.

The couple were classmates at Plymouth High School and started dating in the tenth grade. They were married July 9, 1948 at the Methodist Church.

Their children are daughter Connie Jacobs of Northville, and Pam of Manassas, VA, who is deceased. They have four grandchildren.



COVINGTON

Theresa and Bill Covington of Plymouth celebrated 50 years of joyful marriage June 12. They met in 1945 at the University of Detroit Dental School and married in 1948 at St. Theresa's Church in Detroit.

Bill practiced dentistry in Plymouth for 39 years. He has been a member of the Plymouth Rotary since 1956, and served as president from 1969-70. Theresa was recognized by "Hands Across America" in 1996 as an outstanding Michigan Mom.

The have 9 children and 15 grandchildren and are members of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth.



WELCH-DACRE

Olivia Jean Welch, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Welch of Plymouth, will wed Brent Andrew Dacre, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Dacre of St. Joseph, MI August 15.

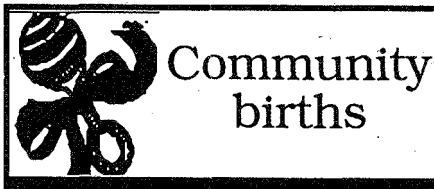
The nuptials will take place at the First United Methodist Church in Plymouth.

The bride-to-be graduated from Plymouth Salem High School in 1993, and from Hope College in 1997. She works as an office manager in Dayton, OH.

The bridegroom-to-be graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1990, from Hope College in 1994, and from the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in 1997. He works for the Tobias Funeral Home in Dayton.

Baby! Wedding! Anniversary!

Send your announcements to
The Crier, 821 Penniman Ave.
Plymouth, MI 48170



PAUL DAVID MOORE

Douglas and Shannon Townsend (formerly of Plymouth) Moore proudly announce the birth of their son, Paul David Moore, June 9, 1998 at 2:48 a.m. He weighed 7 pounds 7.3 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long.

He joins his older brother, Lee, at home. Proud grandparents are Dave and Carol Townsend of Plymouth, and Bruce and Sandy Moore. Proud great-grandparents are Geraldine Townsend, formerly of Plymouth, Virginia Munoz, Lee and Marjorie Moore, and Emma Howard.

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Planning saves hassles

Continued from pg. 22

than pasty pasta primavera.

Know who the catering supervisor will be at the reception, and address any concerns to her or him. It's best to always interact with the same person, and one who knows about everything that's going on. The fellow who collects empty glasses will not be able to make sure the roast isn't too rare.

Don't make any assumptions. If you want women served before men, say so ahead of time. Your caterer might not normally do that.

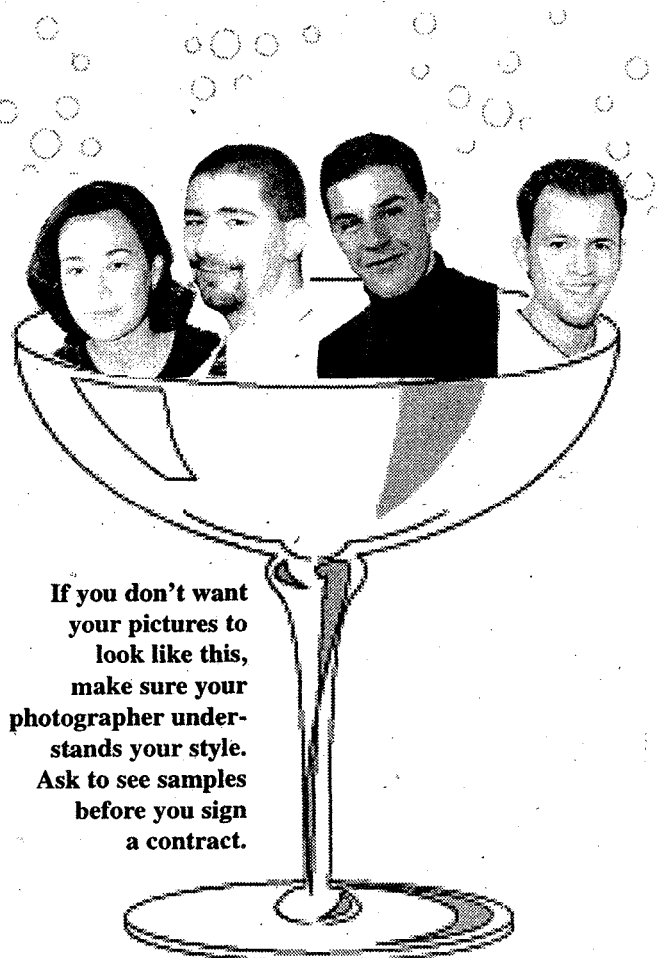
No one can control the weather, and it will effect food and flowers. (And guests.) If you are set on an outdoor wedding in July, tell the baker and be flexible about your cake frosting. Be prepared for sagging and get cake pictures early.

Floral faux pas

Remember your contractors are working with other variables, too. Your florists may receive the flowers for your bouquet at 6 a.m. that day so they are as fresh as possible. If the tulips arrive a shade off, they can't re-grow them in two hours.

Listen to staff suggestions, and be open to something you hadn't thought of. A good florist will have ideas on how to use a small budget to make big impact. Large flowering plants on the alter look great from the pews and cost a lot less than big arrangements.

Make sure that what you are asking is possible. If you want the florists to put big bows on the ends of the pews,



If you don't want your pictures to look like this, make sure your photographer understands your style. Ask to see samples before you sign a contract.

make sure the church allows tape or has hooks for that purpose.

Every little thing

Try not to get too hung up on the details. Your guests are not going to remember if the sauce was on the fish or under it. They will remember that the groom spent 40 minutes in the kitchen and then got in a fight with the chef. (Trust me.)

For florists, bakers, photographers, everyone: ask to see samples of work before you sign any deals, and look for a variety of styles. It shows they aim what you want, not what they like. A photographer who shows you only airbrushed pictures of couples inside champagne flutes might not be receptive to your style.

Friends and relatives like to be involved, so let them help. Ask responsible guests to make sure the corsages and boutoneires are distributed, or to collect all the disposable cameras at the end of the night. (Not necessarily best friends, but responsible ones, who aren't likely to taste all the wine when counting the bottles.)

Most of all, have fun with your guests. My grandmother always lectured us not to wear shoes that are too small because of vanity.

"People will not remember the size of your shoes. They will remember the grimace on your face if you are in pain all night."

Translation: your guests will take a cue from you. If you are unhappy, they will think the service was awful. If you are having fun, they won't notice the napkins were folded in a fan, not a swan.

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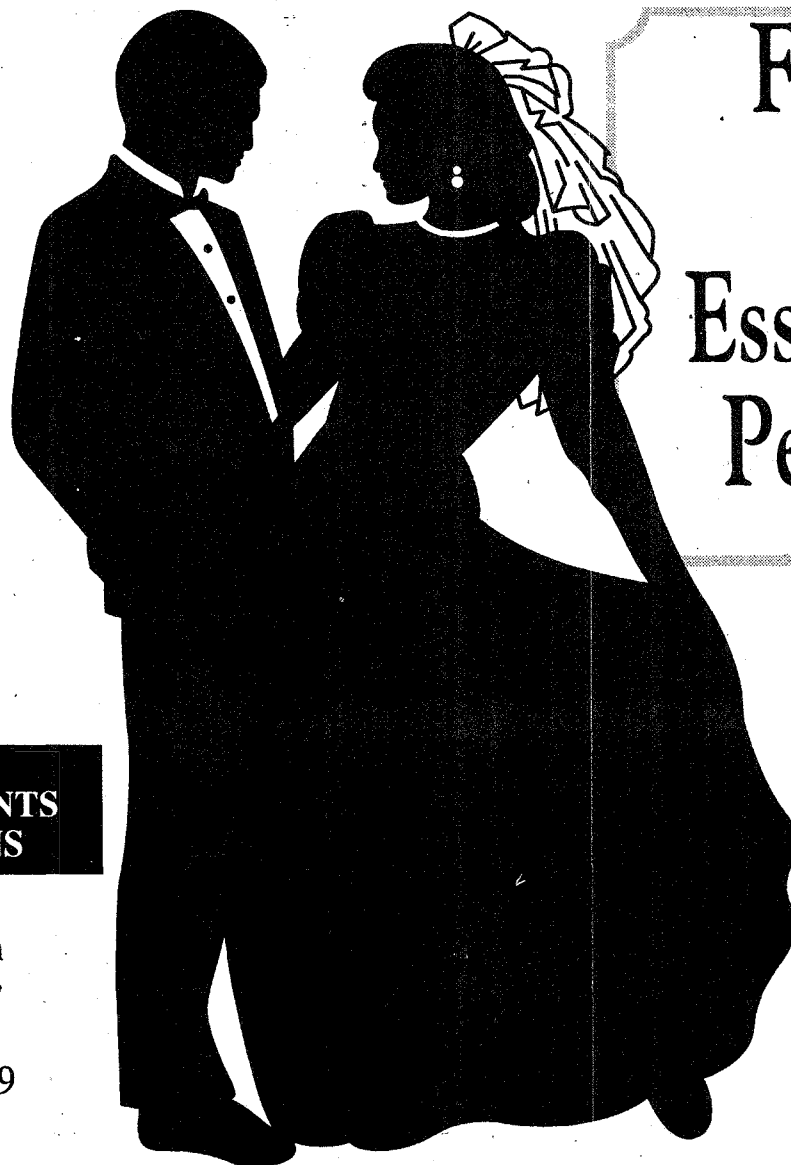
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Young, single, male, professional looking
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Non-smoker

Curiosities

Dear
Martha,
et. al.



By Geneva Guenther

Fall is in the air. I could smell
it on my way to work. Not only that, but
young football players were out jogging,
-panting, I might add.

I have been getting a little
wordy lately, therefore I am just going to
give you a few highlights that brightened
my week.

For one thing, two of my
favorite people stopped by, neither of
them live in Plymouth anymore.
Coincidentally, both of them are from
old, old Plymouth families. Velora Smith
is here from Texas. Remember Grandma
Smith who lived on Union? Lois Thomas
West now lives near Brighton. Her moth-
er, Bernice, was one of our favorite peo-
ple, who took care of our four boys very
often. Then, of course, our mutual friend,
Ed Edwards. Torb made a sculpture of
him, and I look at his dear kind face
every day.

They were sorry to hear that
Daly's Drive-In will be closing. So pass-
es the Village of Plymouth. At least
Northville is holding on to its image.

I'm getting wordy again,
Bless You, Geneva

Leona - What are you doing with a cane?
Damn that leg nerve.

Carriers Needed to deliver The Crier each
Wednesday in Plymouth, Plymouth Twp.
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SALEM-SUPERIOR
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Allen's Alley is magnificent. Take time to
look for yourself. Hope it continues until
Sally and Stewart (his sister and brother-
in-law) come for their long awaited visit.

Bunny M's earring is back where it
belongs - on her ear. What was lost was
found!

visit: cantonMI.com

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get your name in the hat to be drawn out and serve on Compensation Commission. (Set the commissioners' pay.)

visit: CRIER.com

Hurrah! Edith and Fab are home. Let the games begin!

Scott - to avoid confusing the days, may I suggest the following? You know how during a holiday, sometimes "Friday is Monday," and "Monday is Tuesday?" Well, think of it this way: during Fall Fest, "August is Tuesday".

ALEX and KATRINA eat pot roast made by Katrina. Beaugrand says, "Yummm!" too. visit: northvilleMI.com

Bentley Class of '78 hasn't forgotten how to party!

Lots of lasts and lots of firsts tires me out!

Curiosities

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WENDY GONZALEZ share beer now that she knows who I am --Beaugrand

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SEE "FAMILIAR FACES" at PCAC

from Aug. 30-Sept. 18

--GO JILL ANDRA YOUNG

Lt. H., "Are you feeling loved yet?"

Forever, Mrs. H

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail. Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine splendor of heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein, you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary conceived without sin; pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Holy Mary I place this cause in your hands. (3 times). Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it and it will be granted to you. KML

"THE THING ABOUT a hot seat, is your butt doesn't get cold." -Jerry Vorva, 1998

Curiosities

The Train Chronicles - Catching up...

All right, all right we've been gone for awhile. OK maybe more like AWHILE! But we've been watching, waiting (a necessity in this train-riddled burg) and chronicling numerous things. So, let's get to a few...

The Main Street and Ann Arbor Trail Islands - We've taken our time in order to give em a fair and objective appraisal. The determination... they SUCK! They turned what was formerly a spacious, wide Main Street and a barely navigable Ann Arbor Trail into cramped, dangerous areas. Yeah, the flowers are pretty, but, seriously, how many times have you almost taken off someone's car door or nearly had yours removed when traveling down or parked on Main??? Plus, the apparent proximity of the islands to the sidewalk promotes people crossing Main without respect to the color of the traffic lights at the time. Never a good idea, except for low IQ population control. One last note giving credit where way overdue --Mr. Beitner was right on in his valiant battle against the Ann Arbor Trail island. On practical and esthetic bases, it's only a matter of time till another driver does us all a public service and removes the ugliest lights ever placed on a costly, totally unnecessary downtown street obstruction that serves no good purpose.

The 'bump outs' and corner 'planters' - Once again, time spent observing these "Streetraps" gems has failed to alter the first impressions of them. The "bump outs", those things that are built out from the curb line to waste badly needed parking spaces, are the dumbest, most unnecessary and aggravating aspects of the "Streetraps". They're followed closely by the concrete, machine gun bunker like, "planters" uglifying every downtown corner. These, too, waste former parking spaces. In fact, a TC pace off performed last fall approximates that the combination of "bump outs", "plant bunkers" and painted parking space separators manage to

eliminate 21 parking places! But hey, who needs more parking places in Plymouth????!!

Art (????) In The Park - How about "Sheet" in the Street instead. As radio bad boy Thayrone (The Bone Conduction Music Show, 89.1 FM, 7-11 pm every Sunday) puts it, "If it matches the couch, it isn't art." This year the melange of middle-class muddle, including florescent parrot paintings that made velvet paintings look like Monets, achieved a new low in the torturous use of the word "Art". If tastelessness had a critical mass there could've been an explosion rivaling Vesuvius producing a dreck-filled dust cloud that would end global warming and began the next Ice Age. Of course that could only result in a months long Ice Festival, so all would not have been lost.

OK, TC is there anything good to report??? - Weee!!! let's see, no one's won the "Who'll Knock the Clock?" pool yet... Speaking of the clock, another better than just "good" thing is that the delightful donor is now adding more than a touch of class to this area of the paper with her regular contributions... We've got a new noise ordinance to protect the tender ears of Old Villagers from nasty blues bands, but the catalyst for it has been closed for two months as greed triumphs over fun and music... The Chili Cook Off/Motorcycle Event has managed to retain its small, coolness and not attract hordes of out-of-towners... A creative black hole of an individual, who shall and should remain nameless, hasn't attempted to incorporate the name "William Shakespeare" just because no one'd done anything with it for awhile and it's easier than doing all that hard work of developing something on your own... There's talk of thinking about how we might plan to maybe build a railroad underpass for the Sheldon road blockade... Oh, we're baaaaaaaaaacccccccccckkkkkkk!

Gates are up, gotta slide, but stay tuned.

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Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1387 EOE/M/E

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Laborers for brick paving. \$7 to \$9 per hour to start, depending on experience. Call Jim at COBBLESTONES (734)453-1167

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No nights. No Sundays. No holidays. 18 and over, please. Apply: Harvey's Deli, 696 N. Mill St. (734)453-3705

Podiatric assistant. Permanent part-time. Must be flexible with us.

No medical experience required. Will train. Call (734)455-0770

Mature person, dependable, non-smoker for part time work in Plymouth. Mon.-Fri. 8am to 12 noon. Past experience in general office work. Must type. If interested please call (734)455-5080 or fax resume to (734)455-4809

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Community deaths

Obituaries

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

CHANELLE T. MARSDEN

Chanelle T. Marsden, a Dearborn resident, died Aug. 5, 1998 at the age of 32. Mrs. Marsden was born Oct. 7, 1965 in Flint, MI. She was a homemaker. She was a member of Geneva Presbyterian Church of Canton.

She is survived by her her husband, Doug of Dearborn; daughter, Emily of Dearborn; parents, Jennie and Robert LaValley of Davison, MI; sister, Aurelia LaValley of Davison; brother, Robert (Amy) LaValley of Dearborn; and grandmother, Patricia P. Gilson of Florida.

Services were held at the Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton with the Rev. Bryan Smith officiating. Burial was at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be given to the Leukemia Foundation of America, Michigan Chapter, 21617 Harper Avenue, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080 or the Geneva Presbyterian Church Memorial Fund, Geneva Presbyterian Church, 582 Sheldon Road, Canton, MI 48187.

JACK O. D'HAENE

Jack O. D'Haene, a Northville Township resident, died Aug. 7, 1998 at the age of 70.

Mr. D'Haene was born Oct. 9, 1927 in Detroit. He was a superintendent in the construction field with Waterloo Trucking Company in Wixom for 47 years. He was a life-time member of the Elks Lodge B.P.O.E. No. 1740, Plymouth. He served in the Coast Guard during World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret of Northville Township; sons, George D'Haene of Washington, David (Wendy) D'Haene of Northville, Dirk (Shelley) D'Haene of Pennsylvania; 15 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and sister, Marcella Dodes of Plymouth. He is preceded in death by his daughter, Jacqueline Lea LacGregor; son, Michael D'Haene; and brother, George D'Haene.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with Pastor Lance Rubringer officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the Michigan Heart Association.

JOSEPHINE G. MOVINSKI

Josephine G. Movinski, a Plymouth resident, died Aug. 5, 1998 at the age of 85.

Mrs. Movinski was born March 6, 1913 in Detroit. She was a homemaker. She came to the Plymouth-Canton Community 17 years ago from Detroit. She was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church.

She is survived by her sons, Richard Movinski of Canton, James Movinski of Sacramento, CA; daughter, Diane (Frank) Shinsky of Atlanta, GA; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brother, Walter Wiacek; and sister, Aveline Wiacek. She is preceded in death by her husband, Frank Movinski.

Services were held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. Burial was at Holy Cross Cemetery in Detroit. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the Humane Society.

JAMES R. GEARNES

James R. Gearnes, a Belleville resident, died July 30, 1998 at the age of 75.

Mr. Gearnes was born July 2, 1923 in Standish, MI. He retired from the Burroughs Corporation in 1982. He served in Italy and Africa during WWII. At the age of 69, he began working at Chesly Odom Design Associates in Belleville as a gardner and groundskeeper.

He is survived by his wife, Norma of Belleville; sons, Eric L. (Bobbie) of Atlanta, GA, James M. (Virginia) of Belleville, Christopher R. (Karen) of Plymouth, Craig W. (Kimberly) of Westland, Jeffrey P. (Kristin) of Westland; daughters, Pamela A. (David) Graham of Canton, Patricia M. Gearnes of Belleville; 14 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and sisters, Madelyn McDonald of Plymouth, Grace Smith of Plymouth.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Fr. William Lanphear officiating. Burial was at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville. Memorail contributions can be given to Hospice of Washtenaw, 806 Airport Blvd, Ann Arbor, MI 48108.

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Sports

Sports shorts

The Plymouth Shooting Stars have repeated as champions in the U-10 3 v 3 Micro-Soccer Tournament held at the University of Michigan. The Stars outscored their opponents 24-4 en route to the five straight victories. They won the championship game 3-1 over the Ypsilanti Magic Cleats.

Attention Soccer Players: Our Lady of Good Counsel JV Boys Soccer is looking for six additional boys to fill their roster for their fall season beginning the first week of September.

Fourth, fifth and sixth-grade boys are eligible to play. Current recreation or select players are not eligible per CYO rules.

Call Mark Seifert at (734) 454-0038 for details.

The Salem High School Cheerleaders will host a cheer-leading camp for all interested elementary and middle school students on Saturday, August 15, 1998 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Canton High Schools Phase III gym.

Participants will learn cheers, jumps, dance, sidelines and spirit chants taught by the nationally ranked Salem Cheerleaders.

The fee is \$30 and includes a T-shirt and lunch. In addition, campers will be invited to perform at a Salem home football game.

Participants must pre-register. For more info call JoDee Dillion at (734) 459-3393 or Kerri Gillespie at (734) 844-3515.

Former Plymouth resident Dennis Bida II recorded his first hole-in-one Saturday August 2.

The ace came on the par three 182-yard sixth hole at Edgewood Country Club in Union Lake. He used a seven iron.

Usually reliable sources said Bila was obliged to buy a round in the clubhouse as a result — it was a \$1,700 hole-in-one.

Keeping a champion's smile

Dentist offers at-cost mouthguards for P-C-N athletes

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Walk 10 steps out the front door of John Robison's dental office in Canton and you can see the fields of both Salem and Canton High School, the sports fields where football, softball and tennis are played.

Thousands of P-C-N kids every year use these fields, throwing balls, hitting balls and catching balls. For most, it's a place where athletes are formed and, sometimes, dreams are fulfilled.

But for Robison, who has practiced out of the Canton office for 23 years, it's a place where injuries take place.

For years Robison watched as area kids with dislodged teeth were brought to his office by worried parents. Sometimes, if the tooth was kept, he could reattach it with only minor difficulties. Othertimes, however, the lost tooth could result in years of dentist work and dentist bills.

Accidents happen. Robison will admit that. But, in most cases, they can be prevented.

Last week, Robison announced a program he hopes will aid in that prevention.

He has agreed to provide area athletes with at-cost custom-made mouth guards. Normally, a mouthguard made by a dentist, formed to a particular mouth, can cost more than \$90. But Robison is offering his mouthguards for only \$35, a price, he says, that actually comes at a cost for him.

Store-bought mouthguards are often too large and uncomfortable for the mouths of children playing sports. They can inhibit breathing and speech, and oftentimes don't last long with an impatient child.

With custom-made mouthguards however, the plastic mold is designed to fit perfectly over the athletes mouth. It's thinner for better speech and breathing, but still provides more protection.

The process requires two visits. The first so the mold can be made, and the second for pick up.

Why would a dentist, who can charge a high price for any service rendered, offer this product so cheaply?

Robison admits it's good publicity, but insists his reasoning runs deeper than that. He has seen too many unnecessary injuries to sit back and do nothing.

"I've been called a lot of nights and a lot of weekends when a kid got nailed," Robison says. "We're not just talking about helping people out. We're actually doing it.

"Rehab of a single tooth can be 20 times the cost of a mouthguard," he says. "Still, costs for a custom-made mouthguard are



Dr. John Robison fits a mold in the little mouth of Lauren Geong, 6, as part of his new program to get guards into the mouths of more area kids. At \$35, Robison's mouthguards come without profit for the dentist (Crier Photo by Scott Goodwin).

prohibitive for most kids. We just want to make it affordable."

Rehab of a single tooth can be 20 times the cost of a mouthguard.

— John Robison
Dentist

According to statistics by the National Youth Sports Foundation, more than 5,000,000 teeth a year are knocked out in sports-related injuries. Compare that to the 200,000 teeth injuries prevented each year, and for Robison, that's adds up to one thing: a need for more mouthguards.

"Here's a perfect example," Robison says. "In football, where mouthpieces are required, mouth injuries account for only 0.7 per cent of the total injuries. In basketball, where they are not required, 35 per

cent of all injuries are in the mouth."

Thus far, Robison is still waiting to see the public response to his mouthpiece offer. He sent a letter to the CEP's athletic director, but thus far hasn't heard much back.

"The schools aren't showing much support for this," he says.

Robison says that everyone is eligible to buy the at-cost mouthguards, including adults. But for Robison and his office, it starts with the kids.

"Kids are the future patients and they need good dental care," he says.

In addition to the mouthpieces, Robison holds Make-A-Wish Foundation fundraisers every year to help a terminally-ill child.

The office also opens it's doors for kindergarten field trips, has computer games available for young patients, and even has a high-tech micro-abrasion system for painless, no-drill mouthwork.

"I believe enough in kids to do these types of things," Robison says. "We're not claiming to be unique, just committed to our community."

The 114th U.S. National Archery Championships

Tournament Winners

WOMEN

MEN

* National Records

U.S. Open Champ:

Salley Wunderle

Senior Recurve Resident:

Janet Dykman (El Monte, CA) - 2615

Senior Compound Resident:

Salley Wunderle (Mason City, IL) - 2733*

Senior Barebow Resident:

Rita Torres (Tucson, AZ) - 405

Master Recurve Resident:

Maxine Bots (Marthasville, MO) - 2328

Master Compound Resident:

Bobbie Metzler (Elkhart, IN) - 2605

FITA Competitive Recurve:

Lorinda Cohen (Angola, NY) - 2486*

FITA Competitive Compound:

Ashley Kamuf (Dale, IN) - 2711*

Intermediate Recurve Resident:

Margaret P. Burns (Sterling, VA) - 1612

Intermediate Compound Resident:

Theresa Collora (Mt. Pleasant, IA) - 1426

Junior Recurve Resident:

Amy Green (Coventry, CT) - 1910

Junior Compound Resident:

Shawnda Heath (Kingsman, KS) - 1954

Cadet Recurve Resident:

D L McCullough (Sharpsville, PA) - 1974

Cadet Compound Resident:

Amy Raffa (Rochester Hills, MI) - 1985

U.S. Open Champ:

Vic Wunderle

Senior Recurve Resident:

Vic Wunderle (Mason City, IL) - 2634

Senior Compound Resident:

Matt Cleland (Swanton, OH) - 2760*

Senior Barebow Resident:

Tim Humphrey (Fort Worth, TX) - 1592

Master Recurve Resident:

Steven Robinson (Bucyrus, OH) - 2431

Master Compound Resident:

Ronald C. West (Wash. D.C.) - 2703*

FITA Competitive Recurve:

Brad Fiala (Chatham, NJ) - 2510*

FITA Competitive Compound:

W. Ruchniewski (Philadelphia, PA) - 2734*

Intermediate Recurve Resident:

Michael Valka (Saline, MI) - 1878

Intermediate Compound Resident:

William Hartzel (Pottsville, PA) - 2071

Junior Recurve Resident:

Kevin Ikegami (Tempe, AZ) - 2002

Junior Compound Resident:

Daniel DiCenzo (Elma, NY) - 2111

Cadet Recurve Resident:

Corey McCormick (Joliet, IL) - 2041

Cadet Compound Resident:

Kyle T. Belles (Shickshinny, PA) - 2126



Gun slingers... The Plymouth-Canton Silver Bullets, a girls fastpitch softball team, recently finished in first place in the Western Wayne County 16/under softball league with a 12-2 record. Currently, the Bullets are ranked eighth in the nation by the USSSA for their age group. The team also took first at the Clio Mustang Classic. Members of the Silver Bullets include: Jennifer Allen, Kaitlin Anderson, Kristy Barber, Katie Conlon, Theresa Horn, Jennifer Jablonski, Katie Kelley, Christina Kiessel, Lisa Niemiec, Sarah Pack, Krysta Tinsley, Jennifer Warnick and Danielle Weber. The scorekeeper was Ryan Allen, with Kristen Warnick serving as batgirl. Jon Anderson, Buck Horn, Bob Kiessel and Joe Niemiec coached.

Community Opinions:

Boulerice treated unfairly by media

EDITOR'S NOTE: Former Whaler Jesse Boulerice has been accused of maliciously slashing an opponent's face with his stick during an April 17 OHL hockey game.

Since the incident, Boulerice has been suspended by both the OHL and the AHL, and charges of assault with intent to do great bodily harm were filed against him by Wayne County Prosecutors.

A preliminary examination is set for Monday, at which time the case could be bound over for trial. According to Det. Jim Jarvis of the Plymouth Township Police Department, the case is a good one and worth prosecuting.

But others disagree.

Many questions about the nature of sports and the relations to law have been raised by this incident. Others have questioned how objective outside observers, in particular the media, have been in this case.

Nick Gismondi, a student at CEP, is a part time announcer for the Whalers. His opinion does not reflect the official statement of that organization.

EDITOR:

As a media representative in both newspaper and broadcasting, I am often too familiar with the speculation that arises in the pursuit of a "scoop." Sometimes

our need for the facts is overlooked by our want for a juicy, speculative piece that satirizes the most often powerless victim.

The most recent of which has stemmed up in our own little Hockeytown. It is an issue that has kept the public wanting to know more. The issue is front-page news, local gossip and not always true to fact. It was, and still is, Sportscenter material. And like that game of telephone, the story changes every time you flick the channel or turn the page.

The "alleged incident" that I am referring to is that of former Plymouth Whaler Jesse Boulerice.

After becoming friends with "Bouler" it is hard to fathom this gentleman intending any damaging harm to a fellow player. For instance, I remember one time where Boulerice and myself were playing golf. The twosome behind us had a child with them. By the fifth hole, the father of the child, a Red Wing-T-shirt-wearing hockey fan, realized who was in front of him. As Jesse planted his tee and addressed the ball, I heard "Um, Mr. Boulerice, may I have your autograph?"

Jesse set his driver down, smiled, and said "Sure pal, you betcha" and signed the autograph.

That is not the kind of person who could injure another intentionally:

After watching the local news — who didn't spell his name right — make him out to be the Big Bad Wolf, and by having the reporter who is probably ignorant of the game of hockey anyway, demonstrate the alleged chop, I paused and thought, if I didn't know Jesse, I would think of him as a goon.

A little tip about journalism, always be objective, always present both sides. The media had lacked to do so in this instance. Instead it is coming from people who know nothing about the incident and most definitely not the game.

Yes there was an accident. Yes it was between Boulerice and Long. Yes Long collapsed after being struck with the stick. No, it was not intentional.

I am a hockey player myself and a coach so I am very familiar with the risks that one incurs during participation in the game. However, when an incident does arise, I feel as though it should stay where it started: on the ice. Let the league handle it. Let them be the discipline figure.

What's next? If there is a fight on the ice and someone breaks an opponents nose, is that assault? What if someone gets checked hard and a tooth breaks, can the injured player sue for damages? I should surely hope not.

A few years back, a member of the

Detroit Red Wings, Kris Draper was maliciously attacked during a game, having his face thrust into the boards. The attacker, Claude Lemieux of the Colorado Avalanche, knowingly did so, shattering many of the bones in his face, and almost ending his life. The penalty? A few games suspension which meant didily to Lemieux, who got paid for the games he missed. No criminal charges were brought, and Mr. Cheap Shot continues to stalk the NHL for other victims.

Where is the consistency in the justice system?

In conclusion, my sincere and deepest apologies go out to Andrew Long. God knows our prayers are with him and we all hope that he makes a full recovery. In no way can I, or do I justify the incident in question. However, I do believe in giving someone a chance and that they are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Right now, those who told one side of the story are up one to nothing in the game to bias the jury. Now that you have the other side of this make your judgements.

Remember Boulerice called Andrew Long and personally apologized for the incident of his own free will. That doesn't sound malicious to me. But that's just my opinion.

NICK GISMONDI



Community opinions

Wedding plans: have a laugh

There's an old saying that goes something like: 'Man makes plans, God laughs.'

This is especially true for weddings. No other event requires so much planning, causes so much stress or provides as much conversation fodder as a wedding. My own wedding was the cause of much conversation in its own right; the church, the drive, the reception, and the fight.

There's a fine line to walk between too much planning and not enough planning. And while there's certainly no guarantee that preparation can make for a smooth event, it can certainly reduce the opportunity for chaos. A loosely planned affair like mine was bound to hit a few bumps, and they came early.

When we first decided to get married, Rachel had a particular church and pastor in mind. She had been going to the church for as long as she had lived in Canton, and had a positive relationship with him.

Or so we thought.

When we met to finalize the date and type of service we wanted, he noticed that Rachel and I had the same address. He could not justify marrying someone "in our state," because it went against the beliefs of his congregation. We tried to argue. To us, it seemed that if he married us, we wouldn't be living in sin anymore. He could say that he converted us; he could be a hero.

But apparently if you open your church to sinners the whole thing goes to pot. We were left with no church to use and we were running out of time.

We chose a nondenominational chapel in Fowlerville, a small town about an hour north of P-C-N. It had a quaint look about it, rental cost only \$100 and the minister seemed a nice enough chap. Check.

All that was left to do was find a reception hall. We were paying for the wedding ourselves and we wanted to go cheap. Since Rachel's father owned a bar in Garden City, we decided to have the reception there. He said he would even find some entertainment, and he wouldn't even charge us for it.

Good enough.

The day of the wedding arrived. It was a pristine day, a beautiful April 21. Our service was going to be a small one with just immediate family and a few close friends: a dozen in all.

About 15 minutes before the ceremony was to start, I found that I had left the marriage license at our apartment in Westland. As the nice chap minister pointed out several times: no license, no marriage.

My brothers Chris and Mike were quickly dispatched to retrieve the document while my best man, Erik, took everyone else to Taco Bell. (I had to occupy them somehow. There isn't much else to do in Fowlerville.)

Turns out, Chris and Mike were the right guys to send. They made the trip to Westland then to Canton and back to Fowlerville in a little more than an hour, and arrived in a different car than they left in. I didn't ask any questions.

The license was signed, apologies were made and the ceremony was underway.

Almost.

The chapel hadn't been used all winter. It was about 45 degrees inside and covered in a fine layer of dust. So instead, the dozen

or so of us crowded into the minister's living room where I kept Rachel giggling by wiggling my ears while she was trying to complete her vows.

Had we planned for this? No. But all in all it could have been worse. Still, we

were ready to loosen up and party.

With a certain amount of chagrin we headed for the bar, confident that ours was the only wedding reception in town where you could still get Black Label beer in a can. When we arrived, the place was packed. Our group of 12 had grown.

"Who are all these people?" I asked Rachel, thinking one of us would know.

I was wrong. Rachel's father hadn't closed the bar for the occasion, so our small celebration had expanded to include a few dozen complete strangers. I knew something was up when Rachel went to ask her dad and returned carrying two bottles of champagne, one of which she gave to me. She shrugged her shoulders, which seemed to be the best thing to do at that point. We toasted each other and I thought: 'What's the harm?'

The fight broke out about fifteen minutes later. One of the patrons, a regular, had insisted that he didn't need any help walking outside. Another regular assured him that he did, and a slight pushing match ensued.

The drunk, who I later learned went by

Off the cuff

By Scott Spielman



the nickname 'Duffy,' lost his balance, careened off a pair of dancers and, arms pinwheeling wildly, headed for the cake.

He only got half of it. Even as I watched, it seemed to happen in slow motion. He reached down, trying to catch his balance and leaned on a portion of the cake tray that was hanging over the lip of the table. Part of the cake broke free and sailed in a graceful arc, then followed Duffy to the floor.

Instinctively, I cringed. But a quick glance at Rachel showed that she was laughing as hard as I was.

It occurred to me then that you shouldn't ask for a perfect wedding; the things that go wrong are more memorable than the things that go right. Heck, if it's really bad, you can even make it on a talkshow now-a-days.

I know Rachel and I had a good laugh on the way to the Mayflower Hotel, where we were staying that night. (We were probably one of the last guests that enjoyed their stay at the hotel).

So, regardless of any old sayings go ahead and make your plans, and have your own good laugh.

Voters overlooked K.C.

EDITOR:

Gerald R. Law must be jubilant that he trounced K.C. Mueller by a 4-1 margin in the 20th District State House race.

It was to be expected.

He spent many times more than K.C. could afford in his campaigning, flooding our mailboxes with his literature, littering the area with his lawn signs and placing numerous newspaper ads.

He made unfair and untrue claims against K.C. and his rhetoric convinced the voters. If the public had carefully examined his service to the community he would not have won the nomination.

I know K.C. to be a very capable, hard-working, very knowledgeable, dedicated and honest person and she deserved to win. It is proven once again that a big campaign chest and mud slinging can win elections.

Let's hope the voters take a hard look at the facts and then give K.C. a fair look the next time around.

STANLEY M. KOVACHEFF

School committee's lack

EDITOR:

Senior citizens, a soon-to-be first time father, community members without school-age children, and many moms and dads make up the newly-formed Citizens Committee for Plymouth-Canton Children.

The diverse members of this group are working together toward a common goal: the passage of the October 3 replacement bond for the building of a middle school. The district's lease of Lowell from the Livonia Public Schools expires the summer of 2000, necessitating the replacement bond vote.

The Citizens Committee for Plymouth-Canton Children is chaired by former school board president, Mark Horvath.

The new committee still lacks an important element — you. An hour or two of your time, your ideas, and your commitment are welcomed by the current committee members.

The Citizens Committee for Plymouth-Canton Children meets each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. The August and September meetings will be held at 40500 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100 (directly across from the Hines Park Lincoln-Mercury dealership).

Giving a little of your time means that you will have a significant impact on the future education of every child in the Plymouth-Canton Community.

MARTHA A. TRAFFORD

Committee member, The Citizens Committee for Plymouth-Canton Children



Community opinions

Bad timing (belt)

Missing an election is no big deal — unless you've never missed one before

EDITOR:

"I'll vote on my way home from work."

It was last Tuesday, the day of the August primary election and, since I had to be at work early, it sounded like a good idea.

I do not know how many elections I have voted in since gaining the right to vote 25 years ago, but I have not missed any. On most election days, I vote before 8 a.m. It makes the day seem nicer.

On this day, however, things would change. A little after 5 p.m., not far from

my office, the timing belt on my little red car snapped. I knew my streak could end, and I was worried.

To many, the prospect of not voting every once in a while is not serious. There is another election in a few months, right? To me, though, missing an opportunity to vote is a big deal. I see casting an informed vote as the rent I pay for the privilege of living in America. When the rent comes due on election day and I pay it, I buy the right to sit in a coffee shop or on a bar stool and complain about my government,

politicians and taxes.

That point was hammered home to me by the tow truck driver. As we bumped along Ford Road on the way from Romulus to Plymouth, he groused about the high taxes on small businesses and families. He was hopeful the people he voted for could change things for the better. It was hard for me to comment, knowing the polls would close in half an hour.

I have seen politics from the inside as a precinct delegate and candidate. As a reporter, I covered many politicians. Some were paragons of virtue. Some were weasels. In spite of it all, I believe in our political system in much the same way Jefferson Smith, Frank Kapra's accidental senator, would.

We have a fine system of government, but it does not work without our input. How much does it take to read what the candidates have to say about the important issues and know why you plan to vote for the candidate of your choice? An hour? Two? None of us are so busy that we cannot spend that amount of time to "pay the rent."

I learned a painful but valuable lesson last Tuesday. "Timing is everything," the saying goes, and my timing Tuesday (and the belt's) was bad.

From now on, I will not take time for granted and will treat the polls as if they close at 8 a.m.

RUSS FRANZEN

Millage loss a Twp. lesson

EDITOR:

Upon reading this news ("Voters reject all 3 Twp. millages," The Community Crier, 5 Aug., 1998), I can understand the millage defeat. Township waste in spending appears, at times, to run rampant.

For instance, the Township ordinance officer Ms. Bumphery stated that she sends skilled DPW workers utilizing expensive road equipment and trucks to remove "For sale by owner" signs that residents post when selling their homes in their own neighborhoods.

This is not responsible spending. Cut the waste and the residents will vote for adequate millage.

JEAN SULLIVAN

A City needs a Hotel

Starbucks, a national chain coffee shop. E.G. Nick's, an upscale Metro Detroit restaurant. Gabriela's, Native West, Georgia's — all local stores that draw shoppers from southeast Michigan.

What else do we need now in downtown Plymouth?

A hotel.

Despite the Mayflower's current plight and appearance, it is obvious that the City had a hotel.

For the better part of this century, The Mayflower was a cornerstone, an anchor, a social kiosk for the City of Plymouth. Service clubs, business people at cocktail hour, reunited families at Thanksgiving dinner — the Mayflower

brought them all together, and not just as a convenient locale. The hotel both influenced and exemplified the character of Plymouth.

From a third-story room at the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street, looking out at Kellogg Park, the Penn, the shops along Main, any Plymouthite could say it: "That's my little town."

And from that same window any guest — residents and vice presidents, movie stars, or visiting business people — could see the festivals, evenings of music in the park and find the same feel.

It's been a few years since the Mayflower has played that important role of showcasing our town. In that time Plymouth has grown, and continues to do so. Our local economy has strengthened. Shops are open later, and new regional and national chains are looking to



Plymouth. Now more than ever, we're a city, one poised for further growth and prosperity. Investment is up. Money is coming in.

Where will it stay?

Plymouth needs a hotel in operation once again in the downtown area: a hotel to host business people on the move; a hotel where people from Ann Arbor, Birmingham, Toledo and other points removed can come for a restful weekend.

Novj-based developer John Vincenti might fill that need. He and his company, Trimout, are in the midst of a feasibility study to determine whether a hotel can successfully compete in this area.

The motels along I-275 and the new Hilton Gardens being completed at M-14 and Sheldon Road are certainly factors in that consideration. They're all very close to the City, but none are *in* the City.

It's time to make the Mayflower a place where visitors can stay and have a view of what this emerging Plymouth has to offer; a place where residents can look out again and say, "That's my city."

The Mayflower was a vibrant hotel and a focus of community activity. Plymouth needs it to be those things again.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

*Now more than ever,
we're a city.
Investment is up.
Money is coming in.
Where will it stay?*

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

The Community Crier



THE NEWSPAPER
WITH ITS HEART IN
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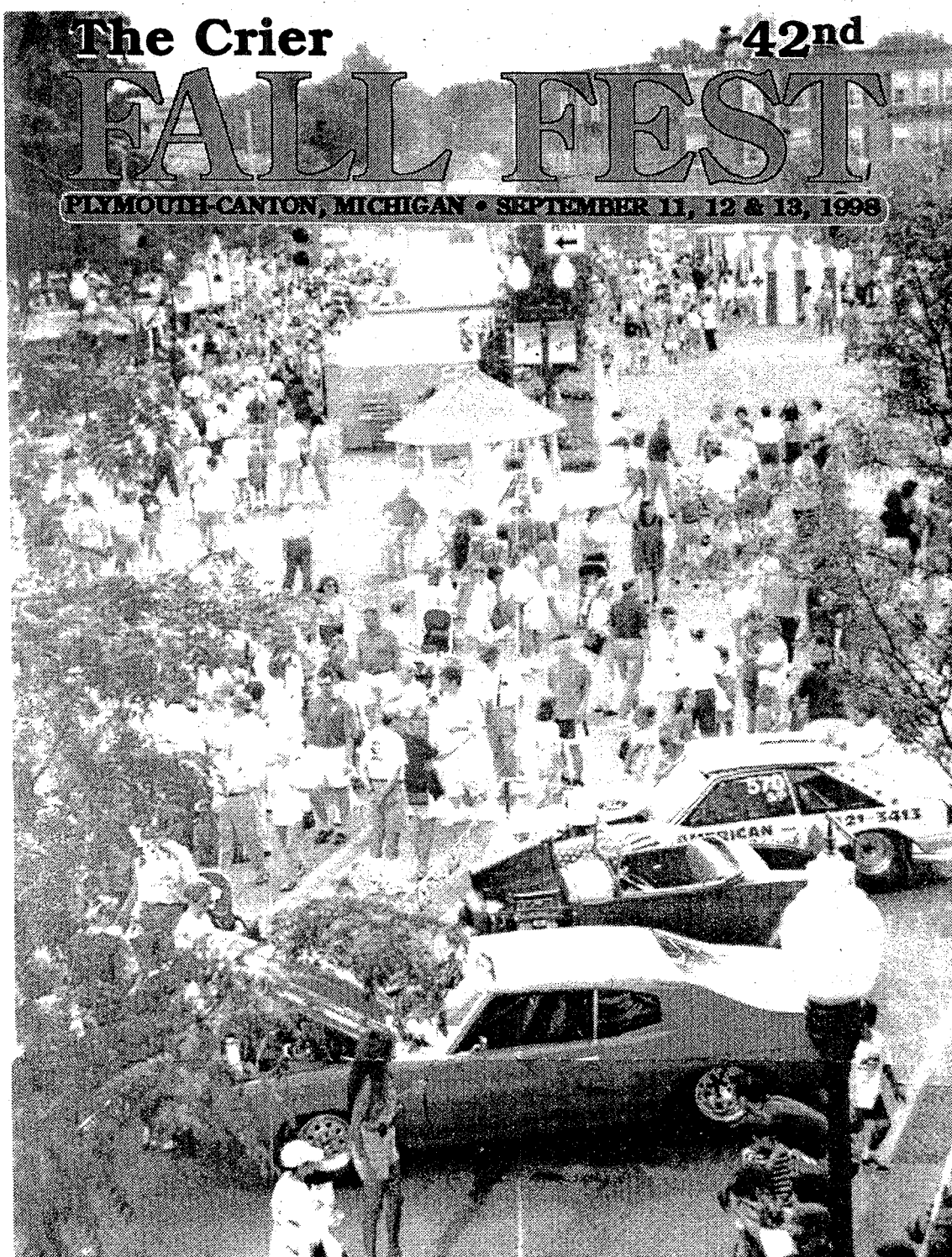
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The Crier

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