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The Community Crier

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

Vol. 23 No. 3

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February 21, 1996

Ticket dismissals make schools smokin' mad

BY BRIAN CORBETT

The Plymouth-Canton School Board is not about to let its desire to have a drug free school system go up in smoke.

The recent dismissal of at least 28 Plymouth-Canton Educational Park students from Wayne County Probate Court, Juvenile Division on charges of possession of tobacco and marijuana has lit a fire under Secretary Sue Davis and the remaining members of the school board.

"I believe this is a serious situation,"

Davis said. "If they're going to have laws, they need to enforce them."

To show their displeasure, the school board drew up a memo, with all their signatures, that will be sent to Judge Freddie G. Burton, who is chief judge of the Wayne County Probate Court, Juvenile Division. "My hunch is," said Davis, "all these people got a letter asking for a \$25 fine, and that was the end of it."

Davis also disapproved of the language in the current school district's

drug policy. "How can the consequences for one joint be the same as a truck load?" Davis asked. "That doesn't make sense to me."

In the student handbook for the PCEP, students are suspended for first and second drug possession offenses, and expelled for their third.

In the memo to Burton, the school board notes Canton Police have attempted to end reoccurring dismissals by meeting with Out-Wayne County Court Executive David Fargo and Traffic and

Ordinance Referee Derrick Glass. "However such dismissals continue to take place," the letter says.

Glass said the accusation that the cases had been dismissed is incorrect. "Twenty-five of the 29 tickets," said Glass, "had a court appearance case where the kid and their parents paid court costs. I'm really not sure, with our limited time and schedule, what else we could do for possession of tobacco."

Glass said prior to a meeting in May with PCEP Director of Security Thomas George, "we didn't hear possession of tobacco tickets. We're the biggest juvenile court in the state. We're the busiest juvenile court in the state — we just can't hear everything. We've extended ourselves to hear them (the possession of tobacco tickets)."

Treasurer Michael Maloney's suggestion to invite Burton to a school board meeting was met with approval from the rest of the school board. "He can share with us his concerns and issues," said P-C School Board President David Artley. "I'd love to hear them."

A copy of the school board's letter will also be sent to Juvenile Court Register Alexander Luvall, who is scheduled to meet with Davis tomorrow, as well Plymouth-Canton's police chiefs, commissioners, heads of government, Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara, PCEP security and Superintendent Charles Little.

Trustee Jack Farrow said the school district should make an all-out effort to abide by the "Drug Free School Zone" signs posted at schools. "If we're going to have that little sign out front," he said, "it would be dishonest of us not to do everything we can to make that statement true."

Saving Lives

A keen eye and swift action may have saved the lives of the residents at 870 Penniman Ave.

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

For Ron Bianchi, it was just another day at the office.

But for the residents of 870 Penniman Ave., Bianchi's actions early Thursday morning could have meant the difference between life and death.

Bianchi is the Plymouth Police officer who saw smoke coming from the apartment house in downtown Plymouth, waking residents and helping them from the burning building.

The seven-year veteran of the force said he was just doing his job. "I was glad to be in the right place at the right time," he said.

So are the five people Bianchi saved.

"One of them said 'Thanks for being there'," Bianchi said. "But this is not the kind of thing you go out looking for. It just so happens I came across the fire."

Plymouth Police Chief Bob Scoggins said Bianchi's quick thinking helped avoid a tragedy.



Plymouth Police officer Ron Bianchi stands at the scene of last Thursday's fire. Bianchi spotted the smoke and woke residents of the apartment house — a move many feel saved the lives of people inside. (Crier photo by Rob Kirkbride)

"In my 21 years with the department," he said, "I have never seen a piece of work where an officers' action saved so many lives. It was a tremendous piece of work."

Bianchi's keen eye and police instincts caught the fire while it was still smoking.

"It was about 5 a.m. and I was headed south on Harvey Street making block checks of downtown businesses," he said. "I thought I saw steam moving across Penniman. My eye just followed it."

"It didn't really look like steam to me. I got on the radio and notified dispatch to 'call a hook' (call the fire department)."

Bianchi said since it was so early, he assumed everyone in the building was asleep, so he sounded his siren for eight or 10 seconds, but with no response.

Please see pg. 2

Hollywood
Plymouth screenwriter takes his craft to seminar at Oakland U.
See Friends & Neighbors pg. 6

Empowerment
Johnson Controls unveils plans to build in Empowerment Zone
See Getting Down to Business pg. 8


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Officer's quick action, keen eye may have saved lives

Continued from pg. 1

"I started banging on doors," he said. "I knew there were several rooms subdivided in the apartments.

"I went upstairs, because I knew there was a man up there who is hard of hearing."

When Bianchi asked if everyone was out, residents said there was a woman who lived upstairs who was unaccounted for.

By this time, the smoke turned into flames.

"(Officer Kevin) Chumney went up the back steps up to the apartment," Bianchi said. "I tried to call him and let him know she was out, but I guess he didn't hear me. I just went in and woke people from a smoking building, but Chumney went into a building that was on fire to save someone."

Bianchi said within a few minutes, the smoke gave way to flames. That's when the fire department arrived.

"Chumney went next door to alert the people living above the Plymouth Coffee Bean Company that there was a fire," he said. "When the fire department arrived, they took over and did their job. Their response time was excellent."

Saving lives is just a part of being a police officer, said Bianchi. He said he has assisted in CPR and helped people at accident scenes, but has never been this directly involved in saving lives.

Bianchi, his wife and his two-week old son live in the community.

Rose Bianchi, Ron's mother, said she is not surprised he risked his life to help others.

"We are very proud of him," she said.

"He is an exceptional young man.

"(Ron's son) Tanner sure has someone to look up to. I'm sure we'll be telling him these stories about his father for years to come."

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Plymouth-Canton Junior Baseball League & Girls Softball

1996 Registration

Sat. February 10, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sat. February 17, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wed. March 13, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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how...
do I contact the governor?
See Page 130
in The '95 GUIDE

The Community Crier

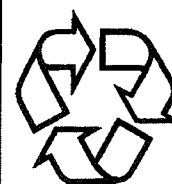
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Community helps catch car larceny suspects

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Two Canton juveniles were arrested in Ridgewood Hills subdivision by Plymouth Township Police for alleged involvement in several recent car larcenies.

In addition to the two cars in the township and three cars in Canton that the suspects were arrested for, Sgt. Steve Rapson said the suspects may be responsible for additional car larcenies. "There's a good possibility," he said. "One youth has been cooperative in giving us information. This is his first time he's done it."

There has been a rash of car larcenies in the township this year. As a preventive measure, police suggested removing valuable items and parking cars in a well lit area when left outside. Also, Rapson and Police Chief Carl Berry reiterated their call for community involvement in preventing crime.

It seemed to have worked in this instance.

According to Rapson, two men were working in a nearby garage when they heard some suspicious noises and went outside to investigate.

"They opened the garage door," said Rapson, "and saw two men carrying some stereo equipment away from the victim's car."

When police arrived, one of the suspects had been trapped in the getaway car by the two men. The other suspect, who owned the car, returned to surrender himself while police were still on the scene. "As it turned out," said Rapson, "they had three cellular phones, two radar detectors, and a knife. And, as it turned out, there were three cars, I guess; attacked in Canton along with the two cars in Plymouth Township."

Rapson said in order to break into the car, the suspects "used a screwdriver to damage the door, along with just smashing the window."

Fire guts downtown apartment building

EDITOR'S NOTE: Portions of this article appeared in the Feb. 15 Special Edition of The Community Crier, which covered the fire on Penniman Avenue.

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

An apartment house on Penniman Avenue was completely destroyed as flames ripped through the building early last Thursday.

All five adults in the building at the time of the fire, which broke out at approximately 4:51 a.m., escaped with their lives — but with little else.

Darin Bosak, who moved into the building just three weeks ago, said everything he owned was in the apartment.

"Besides the few handfuls of clothes I could grab, all I had was in that apartment," he said. "I don't know what I'm going to do now."

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

Groth said the fire started in the attic area at the east end of the house — a house believed to be built in the 1860s. Since the fire was above the living area, he said the fire detectors would not have caught the smoke.

"This fire is going to be listed as undetermined," he said. "There was just too much burn to determine what exactly caused the fire. We don't suspect arson."

By the time the fire department arrived — just a few minutes after the fire started — the roof of the house was fully engulfed in flames.

Firefighters battled the 30-foot flames, along with frigid temperatures for more

Please see pg. 5

Toasty fire



(left to right) Lierin, Tery, Kellan and Jim Holly take a break from skating on Wilcox Lake to warm themselves around a fire with Wayne County Parks and Recreation employees Sue Swihart, Denny Lesczynski and Joan LaJuesse. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Resident pushes for return of school orchestra program

BY BRIAN CORBETT

She may be conducting a musical crusade on her own for right now, but Salem Township resident Felise Kruk believes her actions will garner growing support.

Kruk, who made a presentation last month to the Plymouth-Canton School Board petitioning for the reinstatement of the orchestra program in the middle schools, returned Monday night to reaffirm her position. Kruk said she wants the orchestra program, removed from the middle schools in the 1980s for budget reasons, to receive the same amount of financial attention as the band and vocal programs. "I'm just saying: Whatever

money you have," she said, "you split it equally. That's not what is happening right now."

Currently, middle school orchestra students must travel to the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park to receive instruction. "The students' interest in orchestra," she said, "should be given the same opportunity and encouragement as band and chorus."

Kruk also expressed her displeasure over the school district denying her permission to distribute a survey to determine interest in the middle schools for the orchestra program.

Please see pg. 9

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- The conference preliminaries for boys swimming begin tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Salem High School.
- The conference gymnastics meet is set for tomorrow at Canton High School. Call the school for times.

THE WEEKEND

- The Plymouth Theatre Guild's performance of "Oklahoma!" continues this weekend at the Watertown Theatre. Performances will be held Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 6 p.m. Tickets can be purchased from Sir Speedy Printing, Piccadilly Petal'er or by mailing a request to: PTG Tickets, P.O. Box 700451, Plymouth MI 48170.
- U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers will be holding coffee hours in Plymouth at the Outback Cappiccino Bar on Friday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. All constituents are encouraged to drop by, have a cup of coffee and discuss their concerns with her. For directions or more information call Rivers' district office at (313) 741-4210.

NEXT WEEK

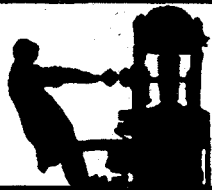
- The Canton Board of Trustees meets Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Canton Administration Building.

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The GUIDE is coming March 6 — Get ready!



Public notices

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES • REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1996**

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and led in the pledge of allegiance to the Flag. All members were present.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes as submitted for the January 23, 1996 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Mrs. Brooks. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes as submitted for the February 6, 1996 Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes as submitted for the February 6, 1996 Work Session Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Mr. Curmi. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes as submitted for the February 13, 1996 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Mrs. Brooks. Ayes all.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy read the following proclamation honoring Captain Frederick Honke.

WHEREAS, Frederick Honke has been employed by the Charter Township of Plymouth in a full-time capacity since May 15, 1960; and

WHEREAS, Frederick Honke has devoted thirty-five years of full-time service to the firefighting profession; and

WHEREAS, Frederick Honke has served the citizens of the Plymouth Community through his efforts as a full-time Firefighter, Sergeant, Captain and Emergency Medical Technician; and

WHEREAS, Frederick Honke has, through his own time and initiative, devoted countless hours to devising and maintaining a complete historical record of the Plymouth Township Fire Department, as well as the newly formed Plymouth Community Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, "Fred", decided to retire from his full-time position of Captain in the Plymouth Community Fire Department effective December 31, 1995 a position he has held for so long that is difficult to remember a time when "Fritz", as he is affectionately called, has not been an exemplary leader and mentor in the fire service; and

WHEREAS, the employees of the Charter Township of Plymouth, the members of the Plymouth Community Fire Department, and the community will miss the presence, leadership, sense of humor and compassion displayed by "Fritz" on a daily basis; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Supervisor of the Charter Township of Plymouth, do hereby proclaim the day of February 13, 1996 in honor of Captain "Fritz" Honke.

Fire Chief Groth presented Captain Honke with a plaque.

Mr. Steve Walters, standing in for the out-of-town Mayor Loiselle, read the following proclamation honoring Firefighter John Morrissey

WHEREAS, John Morrissey was hired by the City of Plymouth Fire Department on June 6, 1969; and

WHEREAS, he served the community faithfully and effectively for over twenty-six years as a firefighter; and

WHEREAS, he participated in the merger of the City and Township Fire Departments and became a charter member of the Plymouth Community Fire Department in 1995; and

WHEREAS, he retired from the fire service on December 31, 1995; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Ron G. Loiselle, Mayor of the City of Plymouth, hereby express to John Morrissey the appreciation of the Plymouth City Commission, the Plymouth Community Fire Department, and the citizens of our community for your loyal service and extend our best wishes for a happy retirement.

Assistant Fire Chief Matthews presented Firefighter Morrissey with a plaque.

Mr. Steve Walters, standing in for the out-of-town Mayor Loiselle, read the following proclamation honoring Captain Donald Belsky.

WHEREAS, Donald Belsky was hired by the City of Plymouth Fire Department on June 14, 1969; and

WHEREAS, he served the community faithfully and effectively for over twenty-six years as a Firefighter, as a Fire Captain from July 1, 1980 to his retirement, and as a training officer from 1984 to 1988; and

WHEREAS, he participated in the merger of the City and Township Fire Departments and became a charter member of the Plymouth Community Fire Department in 1995; and

WHEREAS, he retired from the fire service on December 31, 1995; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Ron G. Loiselle, Mayor of the City of Plymouth, hereby express to Donald Belsky the appreciation of the Plymouth City Commission, the Plymouth Community Fire Department, and the citizens of our community for your loyal services and extend our best wishes for a happy retirement.

Assistant Fire Chief Matthews presented Captain Belsky with a plaque.

Mr. Jim Haar, Lieutenant, thanked the retired Plymouth Community Fire Department members, Captain Fred Honke, Captain Don Belsky and Firefighter John Morrissey for their years of service and contribution to the Plymouth Community.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy opened the public hearing as 7:47 p.m. for the establishment of an industrial Development District for property located at 41555 Ann Arbor Road, as requested by Vico Products Company. Hearing no comments, Supervisor Keen-McCarthy closed the public hearing at 7:48 p.m.

Ms. Arnold moved to approve Resolution No. 96-02-13-01, granting the establishment of an Industrial Development District for property located at 41555 Ann Arbor Road, as requested by Vico Products Company. Seconded by Mr. Curmi. The entire resolution is on file in the Clerk's office.

Roll call:

Ayes: Arnold, Brooks, Curmi, Griffith, Massengill, Mueller, Keen-McCarthy
Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted.

Mr. Griffith moved to establish February 27, 1996 for the public hearing concerning the Community Development Block Grant funds for 1996. Seconded by Mrs. Brook. Ayes all.

Proposed 1996 Projects	
1. Plymouth Council on Aging	\$ 6,000.00
2. Senior Transportation Program	10,000.00
3. American Disability Act Accessibility Program Plymouth Township Facility Alterations	88,692.50
4. Administration	11,632.50
	\$ 116,325.00

Ms. Arnold moved to authorize the Township Engineer to complete plans and bid documents for the 1996 Park Improvement and advertise for bids which will be brought back to the Board with a recommendation for award. Seconded by Mr. Curmi. Ayes all.

Mrs. Brooks moved to authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the Annual Permit "C", allowing the Charter Township of Plymouth to perform street sweeping operations, to apply Calcium Magnesium Chloride to the streets in Exhibit A and to excavate for the purpose of making repairs, inspections and routine maintenance of water mains and sanitary sewers within the right-of-way of the roads under the jurisdiction of the County of Wayne in Plymouth Township. Seconded by Mrs. Mueller. Ayes all.

Exhibit A includes the following streets

Brookline	General Drive	Gov. Bradford
Elmhurst	Eastside Drive	John Alden
Marlowe	Micol	Turkey Run
Oakview	Firwood	Priscilla Lane
Northern	Burger	Hammill
Corinne	Gilbert	Garland
Ball	Russell	Parkhurst
Mayville	Morgan	Lakeland Ct.
Judson (between Main & Sheldon)	Brownell	Phoenix Ct.
Southworth	Francis	Finch
Martin (between Main & Sheldon)	Butternut	Amherst Ct.
Gold Arbor	Ferguson	Nicholas Lane

Ms Arnold moved to approve the donation of seventeen bicycles to the salvation Army that were not sold at a public auction held last year. Seconded by Mrs. Massengill. Ayes all.

Mr. Curmi moved to approve the Utility Easements for Northland Container located at 9060 and 9070 General Drive. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy recognized Carl Anderson and Jim Thomas of the DPW for their letter of appreciation.

Ms. Arnold moved to receive and file Communications as listed. Seconded by Mrs. Brooks. Ayes all.

It was moved by Mrs. Massengill and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. ayes all.

Marilyn Massengill, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Supervisor
Charter Township of Plymouth

The foregoing is a synopsis of the minutes of the Board of Trustees held on February 13, 1996. The full text is available in the Clerk's Office for Perusal. They will be submitted for Board approval at the next regular meeting on February 27, 1996.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township Meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the Meeting/Hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the following: Supervisor's Office, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number: (313) 453-3840 * 200. TDD users: 1-800-649-3777. (Michigan Relay Services)

Publish: February 21, 1996

Facelift

Twp. park will undergo changes

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Plymouth Township Park has received a lot of attention lately.

And after the Jan. 13 Plymouth Township Board of Trustees meeting, it appears more is on the way.

Township Engineer Michael Bailey was authorized to advertise for bids to build a new parking lot, and repair and repave an existing road and parking lots.

Cost estimates for the improvements are \$259,000.

Township park received \$140,000 in improvements for the sledding hill last fall. Another \$200,000 has been earmarked for the summertime construction of a new pavilion, which was destroyed in a fire last month.

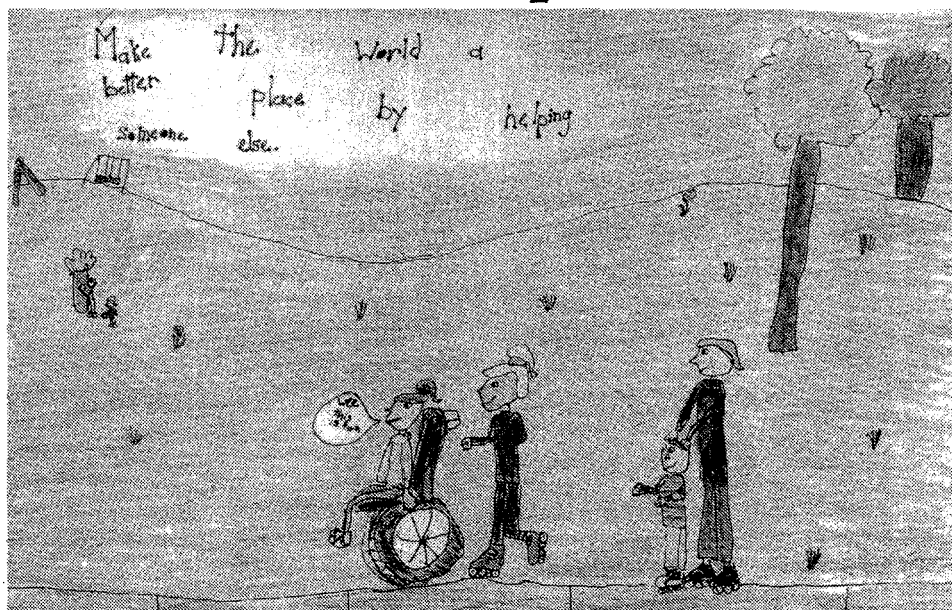
While the construction bid for a new pavilion is expected to be awarded in March, a bid recommendation for the parking lots and road paving is not scheduled to be presented to the board of trustees

until July, a fact that bothered Trustee Charles Curmi. "With as busy as a construction schedule as there is," he said, "I'd think you'd want to get (the bid) out earlier."

Bailey said bids could begin in May when plans and specifications will be completed. But whenever bids are awarded, Bailey said, work will be commenced in September. "The window of opportunity to get it done is the month of September," he said.

This will avoid doing work in the park during its busiest time of the year: June through August. Also, according to Bailey, block grant funds ample enough to construct the new parking lot, near the number two shelter, aren't available until after July 1. "That will meet our criteria for block grant funding," he said, "because we are planning on using block grant funding."

A better place



Victoria Haber, a first grader at Gallimore Elementary School, is the winner of the Plymouth Rotary Club's Kid's Poster Contest. The theme of this year's contest was "How to make the world a better place to live."

Fire guts apartment house

Continued from pg. 3

than an hour with ground hoses and aerial equipment before the fire was under control.

"This fire is what we call an 'all call general alarm'." Groth said. "We had the entire fire department out here — all full time and part time."

The Salvation Army was at the scene soon after the fire began and according to Salvation Army Disaster Services Team Director Ross Meyers, food, clothing and shelter will be provided to the residents of

the building.

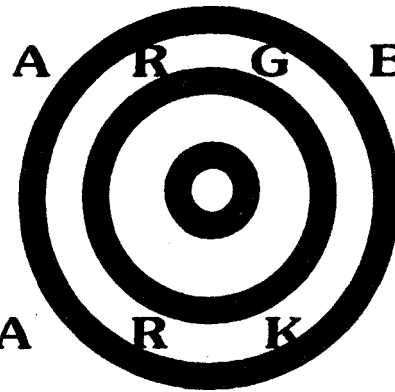
"We want to get them settled and see if they need food or clothing right away," Meyers said. "We will also provide accommodations for any of the residents that need it at a local motel."

"Tragedies like this are never easy. We've seen tornadoes, fire, floods — it's never easy."

Groth said damage caused to the structure, which was demolished Friday, is estimated at \$200,000. Loss of contents is listed at \$100,000.

REACH YOUR

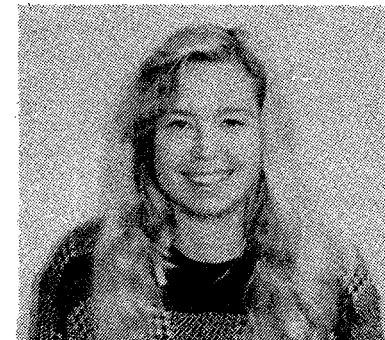
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Public notices

NOTICE 1996 CITY OF PLYMOUTH NOTICE OF HEARINGS ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW

The Board of Review for the City of Plymouth will convene in the City Commission Chambers, 201 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI, 48170, for an Organizational Meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 1996 at 12:00 Noon.

The Regular Board of Review session will begin:

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1996	12:15 NOON TO 6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 1996	3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1996	12:00 NOON TO 6:00 P.M.
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1996	3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1996	12:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M.
THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1996	3:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

Other hearing dates and times may be scheduled as needed.

Hearings are by appointment only. COMPLETED 1995 BOARD OF REVIEW PETITIONS ARE NECESSARY and must be submitted to the Front Office, located on the First Floor of City Hall before an appointment can be made. The "DEADLINE" for submitting petitions for all persons wishing to appeal in person before the Board of Review is Wednesday, March 6, 1996 by 9:00 P.M.

A resident or non-resident taxpayer may file a petition with the Board of Review without the requirement of a personal appearance by the taxpayer or a representative, agent must have written authority to represent owner, by Monday, March 18, 1996.

Copies of the notice stating the dates and times of the meetings will be posted on the official public bulletin boards and also in the local newspapers.

All Board of Review meetings are open meetings in compliance with the "Open Meetings Act".

If you have any questions regarding the March Board of Review, you may call (313) 453-1234 x 223.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH
ASSESSMENT DEPARTMENT
PUBLISH: THE CRIER, FEBRUARY 14, 21, 28, MARCH 6

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Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

New Morning School will hold their annual auction March 23 from 5 p.m. to midnight at the Laurel Manor. Advanced registration is required and can be made by calling (313) 420-3331. The cost of the event is \$50 per person.

Anthony Maura of Canton and Erin Marie Harvey of Plymouth graduated from Siena Heights College this fall.

Jeffrey S. Williams and Stephanie E. Leshan of Plymouth were recognized recently by the Columbus College of Art and Design (CCAD) for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the dean's list for the fall 1995 semester.

Canton residents Diane Coffin, Todd LaJoy, Kathryn Luddecke, Christina Simpson and Karl Wukie, along with Plymouth residents James Fordyce, Matthew Gold, Jill Hanert, Christopher Michalek and Robert Porterfield graduated from Western Michigan University at the end of the fall semester.

Rebecca Hoon of Canton and Jane DeCourcy of Plymouth are participating in the Foreign Language Enrichment Series (FLES) at Albion College. Hoon is teaching German during the spring semester to elementary students in the Albion area. DeCourcy is teaching Spanish. FLES participants visit local elementary and middle schools for one hour each week teaching the basics of foreign language, such as colors, numbers and holiday words and phrases.

Graham Kimmel, a student in Mrs. Brackett's third grade class at Field Elementary School in Canton has won the McDonald's Playplace Essay Contest. Graham was announced the winner Feb. 11 during the last day of the McDonald's Playplace week long grand opening celebration at the new Michigan Avenue restaurant.

Allene Boughton of Plymouth's Old Village Yarn Shop is holding a knitting circle at Borders Books and Music in Novi Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. Knitters and purlers of all skill levels are welcome.

Hollywood

How do Michigan writers get published?

A successful Hollywood screenwriter from Plymouth, freelancers, editors and an agent will provide answers at a one-day seminar, "To Market! To Market!" March 9 at Oakland University.

The seminar is designed for both experienced writers and novices.

The keynote speaker, screenwriter and

sports enthusiast Jim Burnstein of Plymouth will explain how to sell writing in any field from right here in Michigan.

Burnstein's movie credits include "Renaissance Man" (with Penny Marshall and Danny DeVito), "Mighty Ducks III" (Disney) and "D3," which is scheduled to premiere in March. His new sports screenplay "Me and All" is being reviewed by Hollywood producers and

Burnstein takes writing craft to Oakland University

directors. Burnstein is on the faculty of the University of Michigan, where he teaches screen writing.

The seminar will focus on selling both fiction and nonfiction, with a range of presenters. A Scribner Publishing editor from New York will tell what editors are looking for, and an agent from The Literacy Group International, headquartered in Manhattan, will discuss how writers can get representation.

Cosponsored by Detroit Women Writers, the 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. seminar will conclude with a speaker panel addressing marketing strategies and providing answers to questions from attendees.

Deadline for registration is March 1. Tuition, \$95, includes the 1:30 p.m. keynote speaker. Optional lunch is \$7.50. For information, call the continuing education office (810) 370-3120, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Ford donates \$25,000 to PCAC

The Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC) dinner theatre on Saturday night was special in more ways the one.

In fact, it was special 25,000 different ways.

The Ford Sheldon Road Plant donated \$25,000 for the first phase of renovation to the PCAC's building on Sheldon Road. "It was wonderful," said Jo Hulce, PCAC president. "It was a gift to all of us. We felt very fortunate to get a contribution like that."

The presentation was made by Sheldon Road Plant Computer Programmer Dan LeBlond after the dinner theatre performance held at Fox Hills Country Club. "Many of our employees who sit on the non-profit boards," he said, "such as the Plymouth Community Arts Council and their committees, give a lot of their time and talent. But it takes more than that, it takes dollars."

The donation from the Ford Fund will enable the PCAC to better utilize their building. "It's going to be used for classroom expansion," said Hulce, "we need to have available for handicap people, new restrooms, lounge area — making the building much more flexible. It allows us to have several things going on at the same time."

Hulce said there may be additional phases to the renovation depending on funding. Whatever the future may bring, Hulce said she is grateful for Ford's commitment to the arts. "We are very fortunate to have Ford in our community," Hulce said, "someone who recognizes the importance of the arts."

Thinking Day



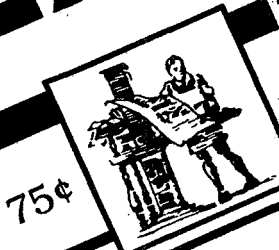
This personalized card sent to The Community Crier symbolizes "Thinking Day" — celebrated each year on Feb. 22 by Girl Guides and Girl Scouts worldwide to think about their sisters in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. Feb. 22 is the birthday of both Lord Baden-Powell, founder of Boy Scouting, and his wife, Lady Baden-Powell, World Chief Guide. This card was made by a Girl Scout from the Huron Valley Girl Scout Council as a symbol to think about ways to work together for world peace.

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The Community Crier
 The Newspaper with Its Heart in The Plymouth-Canton, MI Community
 Vol. 23 No. 2a ©FCCC Inc. February 15, 1996 SPECIAL EDITION



Fire guts Plymouth apartment building

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

An apartment house on Penniman Avenue was completely destroyed as flames ripped through the building early this morning.

All five adults in the building at the time of the fire, which broke out at approximately 4:51 a.m., escaped with their lives — but with little else.

Darin Bosak, who moved into the building on 870 Penniman Ave. just three weeks ago, said everything he owned was in the apartment.

"Besides the few handfuls of clothes I could grab, all I had was in that apartment," he said. "I don't know what I'm going to do now."

Plymouth Community Fire Chief Larry Groth said the fire was spotted by a Plymouth Police officer making regular patrols coming out of the peak of the house — a house believed to be built in the 1860s. Groth said the fire started in the attic area of the house — a house believed to be built in the 1860s. Since the fire was above the living area, he said the fire detectors would not have caught the smoke.

By the time the fire department arrived — just a few minutes after the fire started — the roof of the house was fully engulfed in flames.

Firefighters battled the 30-foot flames along with frigid temperatures for more than an hour with ground hoses and aerial equipment before the fire was under control.

"This fire is what we call an 'all call general alarm,'" Groth said. "We had the entire fire department out here — all full time and part time."

Groth said the exact cause of the fire is unknown, but an investigation would begin when all the "hot spots" were extinguished.

The Salvation Army was at the scene soon after the fire began and according to Salvation Army Disaster Services Team Director Ross Meyers, food, clothing and shelter will be provided to the residents of the building.

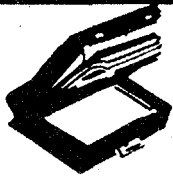
"We want to get them settled and see if they need food or clothing right away," Meyers said. "We will also provide accommodations for any of the residents that need it at a local motel."

"Tragedies like this are never easy. We've seen tornadoes, fire, floods — it's never easy."

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



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Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

The Plymouth Downtown Development Authority Board and the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon cutting ceremony at **Healthy Exposure Too**, located in the walkway between Penniman Avenue and the Fleet Street parking deck Friday at 5:30 p.m.

Leadership Plymouth is designed to serve the community by developing and enhancing leadership skills for current and potential leaders — both collectively and individually. And to increase the leaders awareness of the issues and opportunities in the Plymouth community.

Development of leadership skills will be accomplished by following a dual track curriculum of investigating an area of community life each session, and providing leadership skills training in a classroom setting. Skills training will include: consensus building, facilitation skills, meeting effectiveness, negotiating skills, conflict resolution, dealing with difficult people, overcoming objection and problem solving.

The seven main elements include: Human Needs and Services, Business and Economic Development, Local/County/State Government, Education and Learning, Criminal Justice System, Human Relations and Labor Unions, Quality of Life and Culture. For more information, call the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce at 453-1540.

The chamber's monthly **Membership Coffee** is held on the fourth Thursday of each month from 8-9 a.m. at the chamber office, 386 S. Main St. The event is free and no R.S.V.P. is needed. Tomorrow's coffee will host the Plymouth City Commission, including new Commissioners Joe Koch and Don Dismuke, as well as Mayor Pro-tem Jon Vos III, Stella Greene, Doug Miller and Dennis Shrewsbury.

The chamber's **Economic Development Council Plymouth Business and Retention Survey** results have just been returned. Committee members will meet at the chamber to begin preparing a work plan on how to address the issues of concern.

The **Canton Economic Club** will be held at noon today at the Summit on the Park community center. The guest speaker is Schoolcraft College President Richard W. McDowell. His topic will be "Customer Service" as it relates to today's market place. The cost of luncheon is \$15. To make a reservation, call Joan at 981-3002.

Creating **J**obs *Johnson Controls, General Motors, Chiva Products expand into Detroit Empowerment Zone*

Plymouth Township-based Johnson Controls, Inc., Automotive Systems Group plans on being part of the revitalization of Detroit.

As part of an arrangement with General Motors, Johnson Controls, and Chiva Products Ltd. of Sterling Heights and Canton, both manufacturers of interior automotive components, have plans to establish a new manufacturing facility within Detroit's Empowerment Zone.

Construction of the new plant could begin in early 1998. Preliminary designs call for a 70,000 square foot facility, employing 140 people, with production start up expected in the middle of 1999.

The building is just part of a six-year contract worth an estimated \$900 million the two companies recently signed with General Motors to produce seats, door panels and interior trim for model-year 2000 vehicles. The deal marks the largest single business award ever given by General Motors to a minority source — Chiva Products, a privately held company.

"We welcome General Motors' decision," said Chip McClure, vice president and general manager for North and South American operations for Johnson Controls, "to award this contract to Johnson Controls, and look forward to working with a proven and capable minority-owned supplier. Johnson Controls is committed to promoting and supporting minority suppliers as part of our corporate-wide minority sourcing strategy."

Chiva Products currently supplies interior trim and lighting, plastic and energy-absorbing foam products to automakers and major suppliers for the North American market including, General Motors, Johnson Controls, Ford and Mazda. Chiva Products Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Joe

Anderson said the company is looking forward to working on the project. "We are excited," Anderson said, "about this opportunity to work with Johnson Controls and General Motors on this project. And to participate in the interior systems business with a company that is an industry leader. We look forward to strengthening our relationships with

General Motors and Johnson Controls, and commend them for their minority business development efforts."

Johnson Controls, the world's largest supplier of automotive seating and headlining, is coming off a record year in sales. Its four divisions, including the Automotive Systems Group, achieved \$8.3 billion in sales for fiscal year 1995.

Leading the 'Way'



(left to right) Plymouth Community United Way Board President Al Steavens presents outgoing Board President Sid Disbrow with a presidential award for his year of service.

DeMattia announces 3 new industrial projects

The growing industrial parks in northern Plymouth Township are sprouting two new developments.

The R.A. DeMattia Company, a Plymouth-based design, construction and land development firm, announced it is creating new homes for Perceptron, Inc. and AVL North America.

A 70,000 square foot research and development facility will be constructed for Perceptron, which develops laser measuring devices. Perceptron's facility, which will be located in the Metro West Technology Park, will consist of 47,000 square feet for office space, and 23,000 square feet of high bay area.

As it was disclosed last week, AVL North America broke ground on a headquarters facility, also in the Metro West Technology Park. However, some specifics are now available. The building will be 68,500 square feet, approximately one-third of which will be used for office space. AVL, which is an engine research and development organization currently located in Novi, will use the additional 46,620 square feet for manufacturing space.

DeMattia is also busy outside of Plymouth; the company will construct a 30,000 square foot addition to the existing Motorama facility, located in Farmington Hills at Nine Mile and Gill roads. The additional space will be used for an engineering area. The existing facility is 75,000 square feet, consisting of 25,000 square feet of office space and 50,000 square feet of manufacturing space.

Recognize your coworker

Send their name and achievement to The Community Crier, c/o Neighbors in Business, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth MI 48170.

Twp. police arrest break-in suspect

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Residents of LakePointe subdivision can rest easy.

Detroit resident William Cooley, a.k.a. William Smith, who is accused of 10 New Year's Eve breaking and enterings in the northeastern neighborhood of Plymouth Township, was arrested by Dearborn Police on Valentine's Day.

Cooley is also accused of more than 35 breaking and enterings in Northville Township, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Detroit, Redford and Livonia.

Cooley was tracked down by a collaborative effort of several police agencies, including Plymouth Township, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights and Inkster. "It was a good case," said township police Detective David Hayes. "It was a good, cooperative effort between the agencies."

According to Hayes, instead of charging Cooley with 46 breaking and enterings in several communities and one count of car theft in the township, police will seek charges against Cooley for four breaking and enterings in Inkster. "Those are the real solid cases," said Hayes. "They actually watched him go in."

Besides, Hayes said, Cooley is accused of stealing firearms in the Inkster breaking and enterings. "That alone entitles him to life in prison," said Hayes.

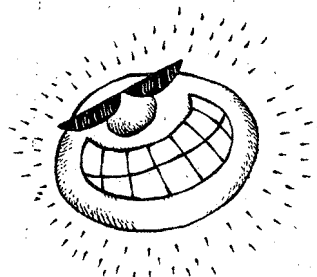
Township Police became involved in the effort to arrest Cooley after a foot and vehicle pursuit on New Year's Eve. Cooley escaped that evening by allegedly stealing a car from a LakePointe home. But police said they were able to recover a 70-pound bag of stolen items they said Cooley dropped while eluding officers. Also, the stolen car was recovered by police in Detroit a few days after the incident. Unfortunately, Hayes said, any stolen items that have not been recovered by police, probably will never be found since Cooley allegedly sold the stolen items to support what police are calling "a crack cocaine habit." "If it hasn't been recovered," Hayes said, "it probably isn't coming back."

Resident wants school orchestra

Continued from pg. 3

After Kruk had made her comments, P-C School Board President David Artley said he didn't believe enough money — he estimated \$400,000 — was available to bring the orchestra program back to the middle schools. "I personally don't see that happening," Artley said.

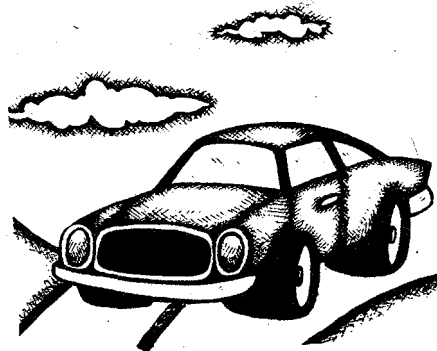
Artley also said it is not uncommon for school administrators, who receive numerous petitions to survey students, to turn down a request to survey. "If we let one in," he said, "do we let them all in?"



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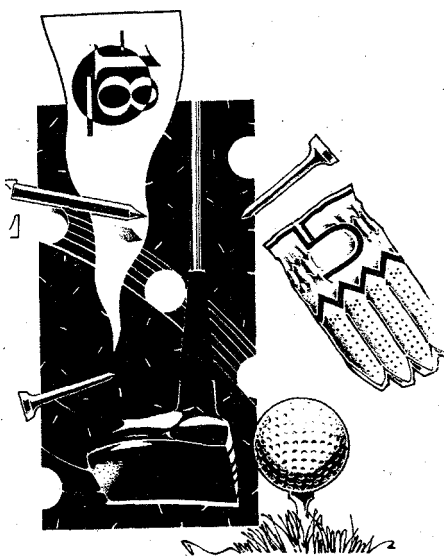
Each year this excellent advertising vehicle sparks consumer's interests in what's "new" and "exciting" for the coming season.




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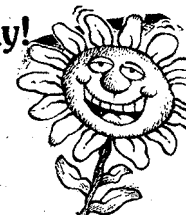
The 1996 Golf Season swings into action this month as thousands of Plymouth-Canton-Northville golfers plan their "course" of attack on Michigan's abundant golf facilities and equipment outlets. Advertisers don't miss this chance to increase your share of the market by placing your message in our annual GOLF GUIDE.



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Community deaths

Obituaries

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

JOHN R. HOPKINS

John R. Hopkins, a Kalamazoo resident, died Feb. 12, 1996 at the age of 62.

Mr. Hopkins was born July 3, 1933 in Kalamazoo, where he spent his childhood and college years. He received his bachelor's degree in French education from Western Michigan University. After teaching French at Plymouth Salem High School in the early 1960s and 1970s, Mr. Hopkins went on to become an owner/operator of several different businesses, among them a horse and drawn carriage company based in Plymouth, Banbury-Cross, and a landscaping company in Kalamazoo.

Mr. Hopkins is survived by his daughters, Denise DeRaud, Michele Rice and Annette Russo; grandchildren, Adam, Sara, Nicholas, Emily and Colette; brother, William; and mother, Agnes.

A memorial service was held at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton with Fr. Christopher Maus officiating. Memorial tributes to the American Cancer Society are appreciated.

JOSEPH HULACK

Joseph Hulack, a Plymouth Township resident, died Feb. 11, 1996 at the age of 62.

Mr. Hulack was born in Detroit on May 13, 1933. Mr. Hulack worked for three years in sealant equipment and engineering.

Mr. Hulack is survived by his wife of 33 years, Geneva; daughters, Anita Ann (Jeff) Williams of Novi, and Julie M. (Doug) Hite of Holiday, FL; sisters, Delores Welkie of West End, NC, Patsy Lovejoy of Bryon, OH, and Darline Hulack of Illinois; brothers, Leonard of Brimley and Jerry of Westland; and two grandchildren

Services for Mr. Hulack were held at the Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home with Rev. Leonard Partensky officiating. Burial was at Lapham Cemetery in Salem Township. Memorial tributes to charity of choice are appreciated.

RONALD MCDONALD

Ronald McDonald, a Canton resident, died Feb. 15, 1996.

Mr. McDonald was born March 10, 1907 in Inverness, Scotland. He moved to Detroit at age 19. Mr. McDonald was a professional golfer. He played the Pro Tour and was club pro at Gowanie, Birmingham and Hillcrest Country clubs in Metro Detroit. Mr. McDonald later moved to Texas where he continued his golf career and worked as an insurance salesman for Western & Southern Insurance Company. He retired to Canton in 1985.

Mr. McDonald is survived by his daughters, Ginger (Ronald) Springer and Kathleen Angell both of Canton; sons, Jeff (Pam) of College Station, TX and Ronald of Sparks, NV; 11 grandchildren; and four great grandchildren; Mr. McDonald was preceded in death by his wife, Eileen.

A memorial service for Mr. McDonald, who was cremated, will be held in Texas. Local arrangements were made by John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home. Memorial tributes may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154-5010 or to the Canton Senior Kitchen Band, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton, MI 48188.

PEARL PATRICIA KESSLER

Pearl Patricia Kessler, a Plymouth resident, died Feb. 19, 1996.

Mrs. Kessler was born Nov. 10, 1901 in Bronson. She came to the Plymouth community in 1937. Mrs. Kessler was a homemaker and a member Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church.

Mrs. Kessler is survived by her children, Mary Kathryn (Donald) Skinner of Plymouth, Patricia Ann (Donald) Daly of Rapid City, SD, William (Mary Ann) of Grass Lake, Frederick (Shirley) of Macomb Township, Ertman of Plymouth and Claudia Jean (Thomas) Hinnebusch of Los Angeles; 29 grandchildren; and 36 great grandchildren.

Services for Mrs. Kessler will be held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with Fr. Jim Livingston officiating. Burial will be at Cherry Hill Cemetery in Canton. Memorial tributes to the Angela Hospice in Livonia are appreciated.

Kenneth J. Deichert, 52, factory worker

Kenneth J. Deichert, a Canton resident, died Feb. 14, 1996.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda S.; three daughters; one son; one mother; brother, Lawrence of Plymouth and two other brothers; and one sister. He was preceded in death by one son.

Services were held at St. Mary Catholic Church with Fr. Michael Vincent officiating. Burial was Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

Eva L. Clark, 69, homemaker

Eva L. Clark, a Canton resident, died Feb. 15, 1996.

She is survived by her son, Richard A. of Canton; daughters, Beverly (James) Steele and Sherrie (David) Smith both of Canton; sister, Sandy Jackson of Canton; two grandchildren; and three great grandchildren. Preceded in death by her husband, Clyde A.; and daughter, Cathy M.

Services were held at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home with Rev. Roy G. Forsyth officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

Ruth D. Miller, 87, homemaker

Ruth D. Miller, a Canton resident, died Feb. 15, 1996.

She is survived by her son, Frederick (Chong) of Canton; one daughter; one son-in-law; five grandchildren; one great grandchild; and one brother.

Services were held at the Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton with Rev. Bryan D. Smith officiating. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

Patricia Ann Mills, 61, photography technician

Patricia Ann Mills, a Canton resident, died Feb. 8, 1996.

She is survived by her half brother and many friends.

Services were held at the Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton with Rev. Bryan D. Smith officiating. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

Victor A. Maletta, 66

Victor A. Maletta, an Ann Arbor resident, died Feb. 14, 1996.

He is survived by his wife, Josephine of Plymouth; one brother; and one nephew.

Services were held at St. John Neumann Catholic Church with Fr. George Charnley officiating. Local arrangements were made by Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Burial was at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights.

Ratan Patel, 57, automotive engineer

Ratan Patel, a Canton resident, died Feb. 15, 1996.

He is survived by his wife, Gauri; son, Rocky; and daughter, Monica all of Canton.

Services were held at the McCabe Funeral Home-Canton Chapel. He was cremated.

Julia B. Pelack, 77, homemaker

Julia B. Pelack, a Canton resident, died Feb. 11, 1996.

She is survived by her husband, Daniel F.; daughter, Barbara (Ed) Lademan of Plymouth; five grandchildren; two great grandchildren; one sister; and one brother. She was preceded in death by two sons.

Services were held at St. John Neuman Catholic Church with Fr. Chris Maus officiating. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Burial was at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights.

Robert B. Watson, 62, human resources administrator

Robert B. Watson, a Beverly Hills, FL resident, died Feb. 16, 1996.

He is survived by his wife; son, Scott of Canton and two other sons; one daughter; three grandchildren; and one sister.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

The Aftermath

of a fire



Jody Hardy, who lived in the Penniman Ave. apartment house receives a helping hand from Plymouth Community Fire Captain Doug Eldridge early Thursday afternoon.



Coping with a devastating fire is never easy. Thanks to the help of volunteers, firefighters, police and other charitable agencies, the victims of last Thursday's blaze in downtown Plymouth are putting their lives back together. Fire destroys, but in its place sprouts hope.

Crier photos by R. Alwood Jr. and Rob Kirkbride



Plymouth Community Firefighters assess the scene following the blaze.



Few who witnessed the fire will forget the huge flames and frigid temperatures during the early morning hours of the blaze.

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(313)455-0022

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

Wednesday
Bible Study & Clubs 7:00 pm
Plymouth Christian Academy

(313) 459-3505

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)
46250 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
(one mile west of Sheldon)
(313) 453-5252

Sunday worship
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Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

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

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Rev. Tonya M. Arnesen, Associate Minister
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Sunday School for all ages
Nursery Provided

What's Happening

To list your group's event in this calendar, send or deliver the notice IN WRITING to: The Crier, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170-1624. Information received BY NOON FRIDAY will be used for Wednesday's calendar (space permitting).

Upcoming... Groups...

COMMUNITY MID-DAY LENTEN SERVICES
"Journeying Through The Cross" sponsored by the Plymouth Ministerial Association. Everyone is welcome. Noon services on Wednesdays of Lent will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St. in Plymouth, followed by luncheon of bread and soup. Donation to cover lunch and benefit the Plymouth Salvation Army. Worship today through March 27. First Presbyterian, Our Lady of Good Counsel, New Life Lutheran, Salvation Army, First United Methodist and St. John's Episcopal.

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP POLICE/DETROIT LIONS FUNDRAISER
The Plymouth Township Police have accepted a challenge to play the Detroit Lions in a fundraiser basketball game May 2 at the Central Middle School Gym, 650 W. Church. The game will benefit many local charities such as, the United Way, Salvation Army and the Boy Scouts. Kids participating in Special Olympics will attend as honored guests. Family, \$45; couples, \$25; singles, \$15. For more information, call 453-1049.

ST. PATRICK'S BENEFIT DINNER/DANCE
A benefit for Community Hospice Services. March 9 at the Mgr. Alex J. Brunett Activity Center, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. For more information, call Maureen or Lori at 522-4244.

SPRING ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW
Hosted by the City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department at the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St., March 22-23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and March 24 from 12-5 p.m. 65 crafters. Free admission and parking. For more information, call 455-6620.

POLICE COLLECTORS SWAP MEET AND EXHIBIT
March 9 at Madonna University, 33150 Schoolcraft Rd. Open 9 a.m. For more information, call Frank at 596-1922 or Tom at 591-6252.

BABYSITTING CLASS
The Plymouth District Library is offering a seven-week program of training for ages 11 to 15. A certificate will be awarded to those meeting attendance requirements, but CPR is not included. Registration begins today at 9:30 a.m. The group will meet Wednesdays, today through March 27 at 7 p.m. at the library. For more information, call 453-0750.

PLYMOUTH NEWCOMERS
March 7 from 9-11 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 701 N. Church St. Plymouth Nursery representative will offer gardening tips and answer questions. R.S.V.P. by March 4. Babysitting is available. \$8.50, includes continental breakfast. For more information, call Lori at 416-9001.

NETWORK OF CARING WOMEN
Aglow Fellowship Interdenominational Network of Caring Women are holding a Bible study in Canton Tuesday at 7 p.m. For more information, call Paulette at 397-2973 or 453-6894.

CANTON ECONOMIC CLUB
Schoolcraft College President Dr. Richard W. McDowell will be the guest speaker today at noon at the Summit on the Park community center. \$15. To make a reservation, call Joan at 981-3002.

AARP-FREE TAX ASSISTANCE FOR SENIORS
The tax aide program sponsored by AARP is entirely free until April 15 at the Summit on the Park, the Cultural Center and the Northville Senior Center. Home visits are available. Appointments are a must. In Canton, call 397-5444; In Plymouth, call 455-6620; In Northville, call (810) 349-4140.

COMMUNITY HOSPICE SERVICES GROUP COUNSELING
A free six-week grief counseling program for children from 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday nights at the Westland office, 32932 Warren Rd., at the corner of Venoy Road. For more information, call Yvonne Strand at 522-4244.

THE SENIOR ALLIANCE AREA AGENCY ON AGING
Current entry level positions available through the Senior Community Service Employment Program. Positions are currently available in non-profit and governmental agencies. Individuals must meet some guidelines. For more information, call 1-800-815-1112.

CODEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS
A new CODA group is now meeting Friday at 10 a.m. downstairs in the First Presbyterian Church, 701 Church St. CODA is a 12-step program.

THE PLYMOUTH YMCA ANNUAL MEETING
Today at 7:30 p.m. at the YMCA office at 248 Union St.

THE PLYMOUTH-CANTON JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE
Register March 13 from 7-9 p.m. at the Canton High School cafeteria, ages seven to 15 for boys and ages seven to 16 for girls. Fees vary from \$55 to \$65 per player. Family plan available for \$140. Birth certificate required. Playing age as of July 31, 1996. Adult help is needed. Call 453-2040 or 455-1402 for baseball and 455-3422 for softball.

PLYMOUTH REPUBLICAN CLUB
The Plymouth Republican Club hold their regular meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month at the Water Club Grill at 6 p.m. For more information, call Tom Hickey at 455-7110.

CANTON PARKS AND REC
The Recreation Center on the corner of Michigan Avenue and Sheldon Road will be available for community group and individual rental through April. Canton groups and residents only. For more information, call 397-5110.

STU ROCKAFELLOW AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
The Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society will hold their regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month on the second floor of the Plymouth City Hall. For more information, call 455-7652. Amateur radio classes will be held Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m. at the Plymouth Township Hall. For more information, call 454-4061.

PLYMOUTH OPTIMIST CLUB
The Plymouth Optimist Club meets every first and third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the Mayflower Hotel. Meetings include dinner and a speaker. For further information contact Felix Rotter at 453-2375. The Optimist Club will sell entertainment books for \$40 until Monday. For more information, call 453-8253 or 728-7619.

V.F.W. FISH FRY
Every Friday, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the V.F.W. Post #6695, 1426 S. Mill St. For more information, call 459-6700 or 459-2394.

PLYMOUTH BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB
The club is offering two scholarships for women who live in the City of township, are a single head of household; have financial need, high school or GED diploma; and be accepted to or attending school. Apply throughout the year. Awards based need. Call 453-4845.

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY WRITER'S CLUB
The second and fourth Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Writers of all experience levels are welcome. For more information, call 416-0418.

CLOTHING BANK
The Clothing Bank will be open to distribute donations of clothing to families in need on Tuesdays only from 9-11:30 a.m. and from 1-3:30 p.m. during the school year. To make an appointment or for more information, call 416-6179.

CANTON REPUBLICAN CLUB
The Canton Republican Club, which meets on the third Thursday of each month, will be meeting at Cherry Hill School at 7 p.m. For more information, call Melissa McLaughlin at 495-0904.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON JAYCEES
The Plymouth-Canton Jaycees hold monthly meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Plymouth Cultural Center. The meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the Jaycee Hotline at 453-8407.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITAN MEETING
The Plymouth-Canton Civitan club will hold their monthly dinner meeting on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Water Club Bar & Grill. For more information, call Margaret at 455-6989.

GOD'S GOLDEN GIRLS
Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church invites women over 50 to join "God's Golden Girls." The organization meets the third Friday of each month at noon. Lunch is free, but reservations are a must. For more information, call Pattie at 981-0286.

SMOKERS' RIGHTS MEETING
People supportive of smokers' rights can meet on the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at Denny's. For more information, call Marc at 455-1635.

U-W ALUMNI CLUB FUNDRAISER
The University of Wisconsin Alumni Club is raising scholarship funds for Michigan students attending U-W by selling Entertainment books, which contain hundreds of two-for-one and 50 per cent discounts to a variety of activities. For more information, call Chuck at 454-5749.

PLYMOUTH PARKS AND REC
Lunch hour open skate at the Culture Center, 525 Farmer St. Fees are reduced from regular open skate fees. Mondays: 12 noon to 1:20 p.m.; Wednesdays: 11:30 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.; Fridays: 11:50 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. \$2 for City resident or full time worker in the City (please bring pay stub). \$2.50 non resident. Fifty cents skate rental. For more information, call 455-6623.

Schools...

CANTON/SALEM SENIOR CLASS PARTY
Committees need help in preplanning stages to provide a festive atmosphere on graduation night for students in a safe and controlled environment. Business are urged to donate. Parents are urged to volunteer. Call Steering Committee members Pam Capaldi at 455-3869 or Andi Schmiedel at 397-6936.

NEW MORNING SCHOOL AUCTION
New Morning will hold an auction March 23 at Laurel Manor in Livonia. The \$50 ticket includes hors d'oeuvres, dinner, open bar, silent and live auction and late-night stack. For more information, call 420-3331.

GREENHILLS SCHOOL BENEFIT AUCTION
At Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth Township, Feb. 29 and March 2 (main auction.) \$80 per person, includes dinner. Fifteen students from The Plymouth-Canton Community attend Greenhills. The auction will benefit the school's financial aid and enrichment programs. For more information, call 995-5172.

SCOTT HIGH SCHOOL / CLASS OF 1956 CLASS REUNION
Any lost souls out there? Fortich class reunion, 1956, Scott High School, Toledo, OH. At the Toledo Ramada Inn Sept. 28. For more information, call Joyce Arnold at 981-1218.

PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL/CLASS OF 1971 REUNION
The 25th class reunion will be held at the Summit in Canton Aug. 31. For more information, call Marilyn Miller Smith at (810) 486-6060 or (810) 437-8517.

VOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS
Sponsored by the Plymouth Community Chorus; one \$800 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior, and two \$400 scholarships to sixth-11 graders. The deadline to apply is March 1. For more information, call 533-4796.

WSDP RADIO CONTEST
Open to all ages. The theme is "Radio." Writing may be in story, essay, or poem form, fiction, non-fiction. Entries will be judged on originality and creativity. The winner will receive an alarm clock and will be invited to help produce and broadcast their entry on WSDP. Writers should include name, address and phone number and send entry to: Radio Writing Contest, WSDP Radio, 46181 Joy Rd., Canton, MI 48187, no later than today.

WSDP, 88.1-FM REUNION
WSDP, the student-operated station of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is planning its 25th anniversary reunion for 1997. Former staff members are asked to send their current addresses to the station at 46181, Joy Rd. Canton, MI 48187 or call 416-7732.

P-C HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI DIRECTORY
Will include names of current alumni all over the country, from Salem, Canton and Plymouth high schools. Current names and addresses needed. To update, call 1-800-659-7995, fax 1-800-238-8332, mail Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company, Inc. ATTN: Richard Bradley, 313 E. Anderson Ln., Ste. 300 Austin TX 78752.

CLASS OF 1976/SALEM HIGH SCHOOL
Aug. 10 at the Novi Hilton. Class Reunions Plus, P.O. Box 806010, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080-6010. Call 886-0070.

OVERSEAS STUDY
Youths ages 16-18 have an opportunity to spend a year abroad learning culture and language of another country. No application fee. Travel Aug. 1996 to July 1997. 22 foreign countries. For more information, call (313) 453-6879

PCEP NEEDS FITNESS EQUIPMENT
The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park is looking for used fitness equipment (steppers, fitness tapes, stationary bikes, treadmills) for a new fitness program for students with disabilities. For more information and to make a donation, call David Gerlach at 416-7708.

PLYMOUTH CHILDREN'S NURSERY OPENINGS
Plymouth Children's Nursery still has openings for three-year-olds, Wednesday a.m.'s, and four-year-olds on Monday, Wednesday, Friday p.m.'s. For more information, call 459-3111.

WILLOW CREEK PRESCHOOL
Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool will offer classes for three and four-year-olds on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For more information, call Kaylynn at 981-1305.

88.1 FM
the escape - wsdp plymouth

Boys Basketball
Western Lakes Playoffs
Friday Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m.
PLYMOUTH-CANTON'S RADIO STATION

where...
is the nearest
emergency room?
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The '95 GUIDE

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Does your Crier Carrier go beyond the call of duty?

What makes your Crier carrier so special?

Nominate your Crier Carrier as "Crier Carrier of the Month"

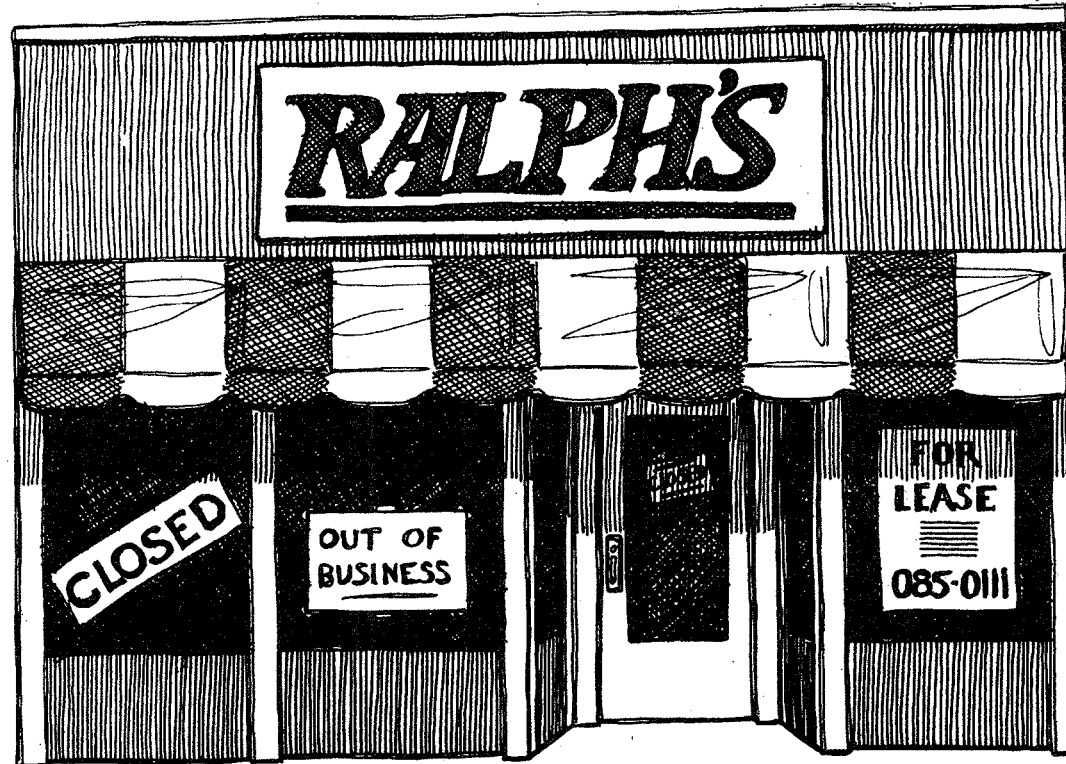
- In 25 words or less, explain what makes your Crier carrier so exceptional.
- Send or drop off your entry with your name, address, and daytime phone number to:

The Community Crier Carrier Contest
821 Penniman Avenue • Plymouth, MI 48170-1624

Excuse not to advertise No. 109:

**“I don’t need to advertise.
I have enough business.”**

This ad is dedicated to a produce store on Main Street who less than a month after using Excuse No. 109, moved out – in the middle of the night.

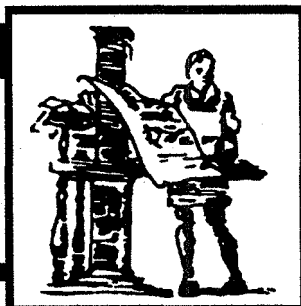


The Crier's advertising consultants, the largest-numbered, longest-serving ad specialists serving The Plymouth-Canton Community have heard it all. We thought we'd share a few of our favorite reasons we've heard why some business people don't advertise.

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| #1 Advertising never works. | #54 I only need the yellow pages. | #112 I don't have a checkbook yet. |
| #4 I'm going through a divorce and my wife is suing me. | #59 My customers don't read. | #113 I'm waiting for a check from my last customer. |
| #5 I'm going through a divorce and my husband is suing me. | #68 My competitors advertise. | #121 The newspaper ran a story on my business. |
| #8 I spent all my money on stocking the shop. | #69 My competitors will know my prices. | #122 The newspaper hasn't run a story on my business. |
| #12 I've never had to advertise. | #76 I'm saving all my money for a buying trip to Toronto. | #123 The newspaper ran a story on one of my competitors. |
| #17 The newspaper makes too much money. | #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. |
| #25 I don't have anything to advertise. | #84 My cousin's next-door-neighbor's kids are putting flyers on windshields downtown — I think. | #137 The newspaper prints "negative" letters. |
| #31 I have to paint the outside of my store. | #88 I advertise on our matchbook covers. | #140 The newspaper favors Canton High School. |
| #38 My accountant says I can't spend any money. | #89 I mail to our customer list. | #141 The newspaper favors Salem High School. |
| #39 My lawyer 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 the Rotary Club. |
| #40 My husband says I can't spend any money. | #98 I don't have any co-op dollars. | #143 The newspaper favors the Lions Club. |
| #41 My wife says I can't spend any money. | #101 My ad budget's set until 1997. | #144 The newspaper favors the Kiwanis Club. |
| #42 My partner says I can't spend any money. | #106 The road in front is under construction. | #148 The newspaper prints too much Plymouth news. |
| #47 We're not trying to make any more money right now. | #110 My name is well known in town. | #149 The newspaper prints too much Canton news. |
| #48 We have enough business. | | #155 The newspaper is in league with Township Hall. |
| | | #156 The newspaper is always picking on Township Hall. |

*Don't look for excuses not to advertise your business!
Call your Crier ad consultant for advice at no obligation.*

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The CRIER **(313) 453-6900**



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Ask for Michelle!

Crier Classifieds

\$4.50 for the first 10 words, 20¢ each additional word. Deadline: Monday, 4pm. Call (313) 453-6900

Antiques

ESTATE AUCTION

Friday, Feb. 24th, 7:00 p.m.
doors open at 6:00 p.m.

at the
Plymouth Cultural Center

525 Farmer, Plymouth
(off North Main Street
West of Starkweather)

• Antiques
• Household

J.C. Auction Services
(313)451-7444

AGE-OLD WINTER ANTIQUES MARKET

Ann Arbor. Feb. 24-25. U of M Sports Coliseum. 200 Dealers in Quality Antiques from Furniture to Jewelry. Sat. 8-6; Sun. 9-4. I-94 Exit #175, north to Hill St., right to 5th. Adm. \$4. Free Parking. 1(800)653-6466

Autos for Sale

'92 Ford-F-150 loaded--\$10,500 or best offer--after 4:00--455-8672

1985 Oldsmobile Cutlass Ciera, Excellent Condition, just over 100,000 miles, air conditioning, cruise control, cloth seats, power locks, very clean and reliable. \$750 firm. Call 416-1559

Business Opportunity

Own your own apparel or shoe store, choose: Jean/Sportwear, Bridal, Lingerie, Westernwear, Ladies, Men's, Large Sizes, Infant/Preteen, Petite, Dancewear/Aerobic, Maternity, or accessories store. Over 2000 name brands. \$26,900 to \$38,900: Mr. Loughlin, (612)888-6555

Builders

HOME IMPROVEMENTS, roofs, decks, basement, kitchens and more. Licensed. Paul (313)451-0106.

Child Care

Stay at home Mom would love to watch your child in my home Monday-Friday. References available (313) 728-5753.

Children's Resale

Need extra CASH? Children's Orchard pays cash for children's clothing, toys and equipment in excellent condition. Call 313/453-4811 for appointment.

For Sale

BAHAMA CRUISE 5 Days/4 Nights. Underbooked! Must Sell! \$279/Couple. Limited Tickets. Call 1-800-935-9999, ext. 2494. Mon. -Sat. 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

BRASS BED-QUEEN COMPLETE WITH ORTHOPEDIC MATTRESS. New in box--Cost \$1,000. Sell \$325. (313)981-3472

Dining room table-48" across modern-white pedestal-reasonable, Call 459-6081

Excercise Bike--Low mileage--only ridden to church on Sundays--\$25. 455-6279

NORDIC TRACK PRO MODEL. Excellent condition, \$500. Phone (313)459-0289

For Sale

WEDDING PILLOWS

Beautiful ruffled and lace pillows using your wedding invitation for a treasured keepsake. Reasonably priced. Designs by Denise, (313)459-2080

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This classification is FREE to those offering objects for free to the public. It is not intended for commercial use.

GAS STOVE WITH ATTACHED OVERHEAD MICROWAVE. Everything works. Beige color. Call (313)459-3325

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Pianos, organs, keyboards, music, accessories. Sales, lessons, service. Evola Music, 215 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth (313)455-4677

Lost

1-22-96 Gold rope necklace, 18", and baby ring with 2 Turquoise stone in zip lock bag in Forest Place Mall--Call (517)851-7177

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Real Estate

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwelling advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

PLYMOUTH SPECIAL \$99,000

MUST SELL in the City! 3 bedroom ranch, newer countertops & facelifted cabinets in kitchen, newer flooring and carpeting, full basement, attached garage, fully fenced

Call K.C. Mueller for details
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Services

LOSE WEIGHT!! Like to be trim by spring and have more fun in the process? My program works because I'm your personal coach! EVELYN KATZ, Ph.D., LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST (313)973-7858

Wanted to Rent

LOOKING TO RENT: Older, mature college student looking to rent studio apartment or one bedroom flat in the Plymouth community. \$300-\$350 per month. Call (313)453-1558

Wedding Dress For Sale

Wedding dress and veil for sale. BRAND NEW-NEVER WORN. Call (313)453-5496 for details!

Curiosities

ATTENTION CRIER READERS

Are you without a carrier in your neighborhood? It is now possible to receive The Paper With Its Heart In The Plymouth-Canton Community, by mail, at a **SAVINGS**.

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1 year: \$40.00

OR

send your check (or money order) with your name and address to

Community Crier

821 Penniman Ave.

Plymouth, MI 48170-1624

WHAT A VALENTINE'S DAY at the new Club C.

BEAUREGARD eats pig ears.

JESS eats John Cleveland's baked brie

LEAP DAY SPECIAL--Buy 1 cookie, get the 2nd one for 29¢ (2-29-96 ONLY) at Aunt Clara's, 960 W. Ann Arbor Trail

GREAT FISHING GIFTS for heart's day. Thanks.

CREON-thanks!--Your "late" guest.

FOR THOSE WHO MISSED THE PCAC'S DINNER/DANCE SATURDAY NIGHT, you missed a great party! The music was fantastic! Thank you all that attended! Frank Kuczak

Curiosities



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STAFF: great job on the EXTRA! EXTRA! A 4:30 a.m. fire on the streets at 10:30 a.m.! Wow!--The Shop Steward

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ASK SHARON NEWBECKER about her stunning "fashion show" at the Fox Theatre.

THANK YOU CAM MILLER, MIKE BARTNICKI AND SCOTT KAPPLER! THE DINNER WAS WONDERFUL!

No one asked, but, --"No, I do not care for the artist's rendering of a new Library to replace the old structure. A great deal, it seems to me has been lost in the translation."

Friday Night's newest hot spot: Steph and Rob's. First they cook you dinner, then they let you win in UNO. Add to that a brand new tv, and you won't want to leave. (Thanks for the hospitality)

To my Valentine (one of them) Megan Nicole Wherrett, not yet two, but she sure can play a mean game of hide and seek. Love, Brian

Steph, if you have a boy, don't let Rob dress him.

I hate to say it Brian, but compared to some of my combinations--especially the non-traditional ones--you'd might rather see Rob dress Baby K.

But at least I got to play volleyball. So what if I looked like Forrest Gump--wasn't he a millionaire? Brian

HANDS ON LEATHER NEEDS LOANER JACKETS. FREEZING.

DAVE AND BARB YOU NEED REFLECTORS. I'm your new mailbox post.

Margaret and Karen recently changed their names to "Stinky" for short.

Crier Classifieds

Curiosities

The mystery man is no longer a mystery.

NEAL AND NATHAN-After last week's curiosities, you must think I don't love you anymore! Of course, that isn't the case. I tried to include you but, let's just say typing errors do happen! I love you! (Smoochie, smoochie)—Aunt Maura

Chin up—Kristy!

Steph—Your gift of flowers brightened my day and my office! Thank you so much. —Maura

TORB AND KIM are true art afficianados. Buenos y muchos gracias. The Guild

Maura gave away her heart(s) for Valentine's Day.

JOURNALISM is the first draft of history

AN INFORMED ELECTORATE is the foundation of democracy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY COLLEEN! You're still the greatest! Bob

If someone came into your office and said, "I have my family and their Grandmother in my car, could you suggest a nice, but moderate place for us to eat here in downtown Plymouth?"

OR... "My company is thinking of transferring me to this area. Could you suggest a place for me to stay that wouldn't be too expensive, while I look around?"

OR... "I have a sports minded teenager and two younger children. What are your school like and where are they?"

OR... "I'd like to rent a house or possibly buy one. To whom should I go to get that information?"

OR... "What does your town offer a family in the way of extra curricular activities?"

OR... "Is there anything offered for the Grandma of our family?"

OR... "Why are there so many empty stores? Are rents out of line, or can't merchants afford them?"

OR... "Do you consider your town friendly to strangers, or are some of your neighborhoods guilty of freezing newcomers out?"

Don't sluff the inquirer off. Don't send him to the Chamber of Commerce. These are answers you should know, if you love our town, and care about its future. I can tell you what I do. First I give the person "The Community Crier" and "The Guide to Plymouth-Canton-Northville." Then I try to answer as many questions as I can and make them feel that our community is truly a friendly "town", and place to live.

MISS BETTY'S "MISTER" So glad you have recovered from your surgery. Better use some judgement on the ladies who want to "climb upon your knee." Good luck!

"GUITAR IS THE NAME OF THE GAME."-- Heaven help us if all seventy (plus) students start playing at once! Hey wait! Just maybe by that time, they will be good!

"DID YOU KNOW that a store in Plymouth has the largest inventory of Disney Memorabilia in the United States? It is well worth your time to go to Georgia's, to see it.

MIDDLE POINTE REUNION. Sounds like a gathering of the Hobbits. They didn't wear socks either, but of course, they had furry feet.

I AM INDEED TOUCHED by the many people who have spoken or written to me so lovingly about my sister. Thank you

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SENT ME CHICKEN DINNERS (4) from the Boston market. last week. They are still my favorite food! You are the greatest!

Steve, thanks for the lovely roses, you made my day! L

Beany-or is it, Beanie--Turning 50? It can't be true!!

Curiosities

THANKS ALLEN ODELL-for being such a friendly and obliging "runner" for us in our RUSH time! The Crier and COMMA staff.

CHARLENE MILLER-THERE ARE DEER ALERTS that can be purchased at most hardware stores to aid in deterring deer from crossing in front of cars. good luck! Carol W.

TWO GENTLEMEN FROM VERONA PLUS ONE. Thank you for my wild and crazy weekend. What with nudity in the picture gallery at the DIA and brunch at Fox Hills, you nearly "done me in" Thanks for the memory! I'll never be the same!

THE GENTLEMAN GREETER AT THE FRONT DOOR is indeed an asset to the Fox Hills Country Club. Making everyone feel sincerely welcome is a talent not to be taken lightly.

THANKS TO THE GUILD MEMBERS and especially Chris (sp?) Darby we have greatly enjoyed our pottery classes--every week we so look forward to going--Steph, Lisa and Terri

Brian--thanks for the thoughtful notes--its funny that you're getting into these curios! You're welcome at our home anytime--Steph

Video club watch out! A new tv in Apt. 1 will greatly improve your aesthetic experience(S)-R & S.

Two old duffers, who frequently had breakfast together at the Mayflower were discussing a vacant store that had appeared on the Main Street and their concern for the image that it was projecting of Plymouth. This led them to take major steps to see if something couldn't be done. Eventually, they found a young man, Fred Hill, who was interested in starting a men's clothing store. With a little encouragement from those two elderly men, "John Smith" was born. Would that there were more "old fogies" in Plymouth who cared as much.

Interestingly enough that same store, a good many years later, was vacant again, and this was during Fall Festival. Sheets of paper covered the windows, and that was it. Plymouth's image apparently was no one's concern.

Never thought "throwing pots" could be so much fun!

SALLY-Thanks for keeping ED away last Thursday morning!

Bob--looking forward to Shamrocks--think Madison, WI, will sprout some too?

What's the difference between in-laws and out-laws? Outlaws are wanted!

Thanks to all the truly generous and kind people that Rob and I have come in contact with this week-from Pizza Hut to Heide's Flowers to Francis Jeweler's--Thank you Rob and Steph

BULLWINKLE AND ROCKY FINALLY have a roof over their heads! YAY!

ED LIKES DROOLING MEESES!

Thanks Janet for sharing--Rob and Steph

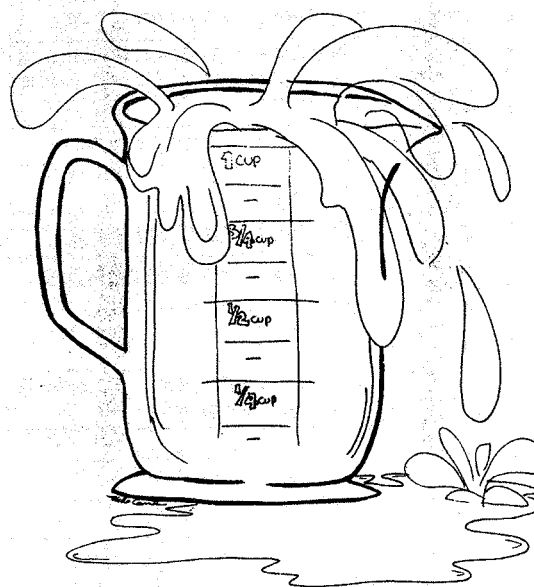
Mrs. Graye's blooms have decorated our apt. well--we love all our unusual but lovely growing things recently purchased from her! Steph and Rob

LUNN FAMILY--Hope things are warmin' up for ya this weekend--Did you get any paczkis? (you know those great polish delights stuffed with cream and tastin' a bit like donuts?)

Reen thanks for entertaining me this week--good to know that you still can make me laugh--I love ya--Steph

Congratulations to all of the Plymouth Afghan Drawing winners: Delores Hamblin, Matt Gantz, Carole Roney, Ann Bonarek, Marion Thompson, Donna M. Brown, John Barrett, Peggy Frazier, Lou Wasik, Melvin & Nancy. And to the Ice Quiz winner, Frank Geiger of Livonia.

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Sports

Sports shorts

The Michigan High School Football Coaches' Association Hall of Fame Banquet will be held March 16 at U of M's Crisler Arena with cocktails starting at 6 p.m.

Twenty-two high school football coaches throughout Michigan will be inducted to the publicly open event that includes special guest speaker Fred Jackson — offensive coordinator at U of M.

Salem's James Jarvey will be one of the 22 coaches inducted.

Tickets may be purchased by sending a check and self addressed stamped envelope to: Mr. Ike Muhlenkamp, 2627 Willa Dr., St. Joseph, MI 49085. Tickets are \$20 per person and checks should be made out to "Hall of Fame Banquet."

Canton Parks and Recreation will be holding softball informational meetings for men at 10 a.m., co-ed's at 10:30 a.m., and women at 11 a.m. this Saturday at the Summit on the Park.

Canton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a trip to see Beauty and the Beast performance at the Masonic Temple Theatre on April 11. It's for all ages and is \$15 per person (includes reserved ticket and bus transportation). Canton residents began registration Feb. 5 and non-residents begin on April 1.

Call 397-5110 for information on either event.

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department, in cooperation with Bianco Tours, will be offering a one day trip to the Windsor Casino and the Northern Belle Casino on Feb. 27. The tour cost of \$26 includes round trip transportation, lunch at a local Windsor restaurant, and \$14 of pre-paid tokens. Transportation to and from the Northern Belle Casino is provided by shuttle service from the Windsor Casino.

They will also be offering upcoming senior trips. The first trip is to Myrtle Beach — the new "Branson of the Southeast" — beginning March 24 and lasting seven days and six nights for \$599.

A tour to Washington D.C. and Gettysburg, PA begins April 11 and lasts for four days and three nights for \$415. Call 455-6620 for more information.

Leader of the

Track

John Gravlin takes cross country skiing to new heights

BY MATT HUCAL

It began as a way to improve his health and turned into so much more.

John Gravlin, a Plymouth resident and Salem High School teacher, has so much desire and drive to succeed in cross country racing that if the local area is low in snowfall he'll travel up to Mount Brighton.

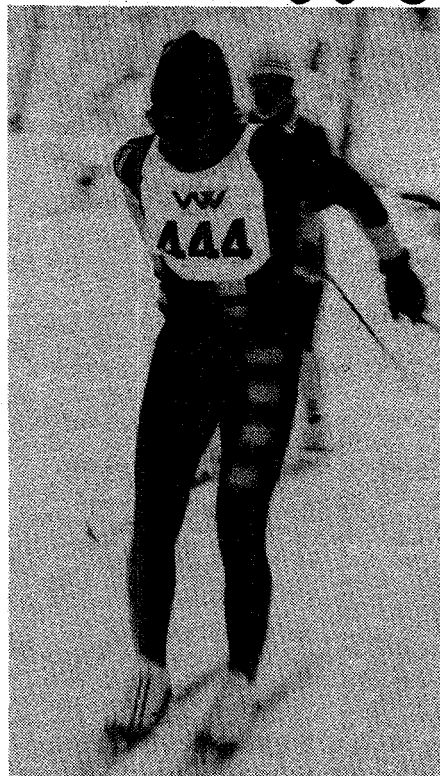
That may not seem like such a big deal, but he doesn't go for the same reason as most skiers go. He skis up the mountain. This year alone he's gone about five times. With this kind of work ethic he's become one of the top racers in the state in his age bracket.

Until recently, the sport of cross country racing was simply recreational. That was until 1984, when a group of racers from around Michigan formed teams to compete in a series of races. There were three formed in the Metro Detroit area — Ann Arbor, Mayberry State Park and on the east side of Detroit.

These series of races are much like those that take place in the auto racing world. They travel in Michigan from venue to venue, resort to resort, and depending on the snow conditions, there could be up to 12 races in the series.

Two kinds of racing styles are used. Classical style racing is a track in the snow that racers follow that is more endurance than speed. Free style racing is faster and is comparable to ski skating or even rollerblading.

Gravlin started cross country skiing right after he finished college and has been competing for years. He entered the upper echelon of racers in 1991 when he was the outright Michigan Cup Series



Gravlin began cross country skiing as a way to keep in shape. Now he's racing competitively.

winner. After that, he began his sponsorship with Fischer Skis, and every year since then, he's finished in the top five overall. Last year, he was second overall in the over 40 age group.

Fischer supplies Gravlin with a ski suit and boots in exchange for using their skis.

"The idea is to get their name passed around to people who like skiing," Gravlin explained. "I was probably selected to expose the southeast part of

Michigan."

In order to stay good enough to keep the sponsorship, Gravlin maintains a strict training regimen. This winter has been a tough one for him to ski locally because of the temperature changes, so he drives until he finds the snow. Other ways he stays in shape is by running, working out on skis with wheels, distance training and interval training.

The age groups are divided from under 13 to 13-19 years of age, 19-39 years of age, and an over 40 group. Men, women and children compete and in the over 40 group, an 88 year old man recently participated.

The races are usually held at resorts or golf courses. Two weeks ago, the biggest race in Michigan was held — the Vasa Race in Traverse City. Other places include Schuss Mountain and Shanty Creek, Boyne Mountain and Wilderness Golf Course.

Gravlin wants people to learn more about the sport and discover what he's found.

"People who eat a lot should know that they can consume 4,000 calories and be all right. If you like to eat, this is your sport," Gravlin said about the benefits. "Nordic Track made millions claiming that this was the best way to get exercise, and I can testify to that."

Gravlin suggests for those wanting to join a cross country racing team to get a hold of himself or Ken Dawson at (810) 477-4566 to gain information about the Ullr-Mayberry team.

And remember the next time you're skiing at Mount Brighton to watch out for that skier flying up the hill.

Spots open for junior baseball, softball

Sign-up starts March 13 at 7 p.m. in the Canton High School cafeteria

BY MATT HUCAL

Baseball. Softball.

Children can't possibly go through the summer without playing baseball or softball. They shouldn't be denied the sound of the bat hitting the ball, the feel of catching a fly ball, an umpire screaming, "You're out!"

And children don't have to go through the summer without it. A final chance to register for the Plymouth-Canton Junior Baseball League and Girls Softball is on March 13 from 7-9 p.m. in the Canton High School cafeteria.

The league is open to all Plymouth-Canton boys ages seven to 15 years and girls ages seven to 16 years. Registration fees are from \$55 to \$65 with a family plan of \$140. Playing age is age as of July 31, 1996 and birth certificates will be required.

With 2,200 boys and girls participating in the league, the competition is good and fun is always in the air. The league has been around since 1960 helping children play the sport.

The playing fields being used are the fields behind Salem and Canton high schools, the fields at Plymouth Township Park, the fields at Griffin Park, and the fields at West Middle School.

The president of the league is Milt Thackaberry-453-2040. In charge of the boys is Tom Alberty-455-1402, and in charge of the girls is Tom Madole-455-3422.

The league does not get full, so just make sure to show up between 7-9 p.m. on March 13 at the Canton High School cafeteria and give a child the chance to run out a grounder.

Postseason play

Canton, Salem basketball ready for playoff action

BY MATT HUCAL

The postseason is underway.

CANTON

The Chiefs have lost one game all year, are the top team in the conference, and that was without two of their top players — Ron Hunter and Rob Johnson. Hunter is healthy and Johnson is, according to Canton coach Dan Young, "real close" to returning to action for the first time since Jan. 5.

That along with the scoring punch that Mark Bray and Nick Hurley provide

game in and game out should make for quite a combination in the playoffs. Young's squad is a very impressive 16-1 overall and 10-1 in the league.

Wrapping up their division play last Friday at Churchill, Canton was on their toes all night long en route to a 66-54 victory.

"We were really sharp and ready to play," Young said of the win. "Our defense and passing was on during the whole game."

The Chiefs held Churchill to only 17

points in the first half while they tallied up 36. In the third quarter both teams finished with 20, then Canton was able to hold on during the fourth quarter for their 16th win of the year.

Leading the team in scoring, as he's done lately, was Bray with 16 points. Hurley contributed with 14 points and eight assists, Hunter and Brandon Hartke each had 10 points, and Matt Ammons had nine points, 10 rebounds and seven assists.

Canton's first challenge in the conference playoff race will be against Walled Lake Western at home this Friday

SALEM

Coach Bob Brodie's team finished the regular season the way it has to in order to go far in the postseason — with a convincing win against division foe North Farmington last Friday.

Led once again by their leading scorer Andres Lopez — who is averaging 16 points a game and scored 23 points on Friday — the Rocks kept North Farmington close until pulling far away in the fourth quarter. Salem's halftime lead of 34-30 was extended to 55-48 after the third quarter. "We turned on the after burners in the third quarter," Brodie said.

They did that and carried it over to the fourth quarter, where they held North Farmington to only one three-pointer and two free throws, and outscored them 24-6. Andy Power was the only other Rock in double figures as he scored one above his average with 11 points.

Salem's game this Friday is at John Glenn, a team that they lost to 67-55 earlier this year on January 26.

The Rocks chances against Glenn will be raised if they continue to receive the scoring punch Lopez and Power have been providing and if they, as Brodie said, "get help from the other guys."

Salem has been up and down this whole season, but they're going to have to be very up and very on at all times in order to get themselves far in the playoffs and then into the districts.

Rocks, Chiefs wrestling face disappointing end

BY MATT HUCAL

It's narrowing down.

Last Wednesday the Salem and Canton wrestling teams traveled to John Glenn to compete in the team districts. Salem's first match was against Glenn and they handled them pretty well by the score of 67-18. Canton wrestled against Wayne Memorial and wound up losing, ending their season as a team.

So Salem had the chance to beat Memorial after coming off a strong win against Glenn, but they fell apart and lost 46-25. That loss ended the Rock's team hopes of traveling to team regionals today.

"I expected more out of the guys," Salem coach Ron Krueger said. "We had a very up and down day. We beat Glenn, then I thought we'd handle Memorial a little better."

The fact that Salem is a young team was taken into account for some mistakes that were made, but they had the chance to win a few more matches that would have gotten them further.

At the individual districts last Saturday, Salem qualified four wrestlers and Canton qualified two wrestlers for this Saturday's regional at South Lyon.

At 119 pounds, Salem's Eric Coburn finished in third place. In his first match

at the regionals, Coburn will take on a wrestler he's beaten twice this season. If Coburn beats his opponent, he'll likely take on someone he's lost to this year.

At 145 pounds, Salem's Dave Popeney and Canton's Tom Keeling qualified, with Popeney finishing in third place and Keeling finishing in second place. Their bracket is going to be the toughest to get out of with one wrestler in it who's won the state title three times in a row, and another wrestler who placed in the state last season.

At 152 pounds, Jeremy Breitaup won the weight class. In regional competition Breitaup will be taking on a wrestler he's pinned earlier this year, and if victorious in that match he'll likely take on another wrestler he's pinned this season. Breitaup has a good chance to make the state meet, Krueger said.

At 171 pounds, Teono Wilson came in fourth place, and as a sophomore won't be favored to win his class at the regional, but he will likely put in a good effort.

Heavyweight Doug Cooper won his weight class in districts and will take part in a tough regional this upcoming weekend.

If any of these wrestlers win in their brackets they'll take part in the individual finals on either March 8 or 9.

Northville Downs closed today, tomorrow afternoon to upgrade simulcast equipment

Northville Downs will be closed today and tomorrow afternoon in order to switch to a new American Tote system.

The track will reopen for live racing and simulcasting at 5:30 p.m. tomorrow, with the first post set for 7:30 p.m., in addition to simulcasts from Pompano and Meadowlands.

Last week, Director of Operations Lou Carlo said Northville Downs' simulcasting abilities were limited, and improvements were ongoing. "We're still doing some modifications," he said.

Carlo said a grand opening is scheduled in two weeks.

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On deck

CANTON BASKETBALL

At home versus Walled Lake Western on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

CANTON SWIMMING

At Salem for conference preliminaries tomorrow at 1 p.m. At Salem for conference diving on Friday at 2:30 p.m. At Salem for conference finals on Saturday at 1 p.m.

CANTON WRESTLING

Tom Keeling and Doug Cooper compete in the individual regionals this Saturday at South Lyon.

CANTON GYMNASTICS

At home for the conference meet tomorrow.

CANTON VOLLEYBALL

At the conference meet tomorrow.

SALEM BASKETBALL

At John Glenn on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

SALEM SWIMMING

At home for the conference preliminaries tomorrow at 1 p.m. At home for the conference diving on Friday at 2:30. At home for the conference finals on Saturday at 1 p.m.

SALEM WRESTLING

Eric Coburn, Dave Popeney, Jeremy Breitaup, and Teono Wilson compete in the individual regionals this Saturday at South Lyon.

SALEM GYMNASTICS

At Canton for the conference meet tomorrow.

SALEM VOLLEYBALL

At the conference meet this Saturday.



Community opinions

Firefighters, police save lives

Far too often, people forget police and firefighters' most important job: saving lives.

At best, police officers and firefighters are taken for granted. At worst, they are dismissed as power hungry thugs.

The apartment fire on Penniman Avenue last Thursday is a perfect example of the great job our officers and firefighters do every day.

If it wasn't for the quick thinking and bravery of the police officers and firefighters involved, lives would have been lost. The police officers and firefighters are quick to pass the praise on to others. They are a humble group who feel they are just doing their job.

What an important job it is.

Every now and then, it's important to take a moment to think about the excellent job our police officers and firefighters do every single day.

Take the time to stop and thank a police officer or firefighter. After all, they help make The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community what it is today: A safe, wonderful place to live and work.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Fire donations ease pain

During the holiday season, they seem to be on every corner. But exactly what is that dollar bill stuffed into the Salvation Army's red bucket used for?

The money is used to help people.

Before the flames were extinguished at the Penniman Avenue apartment house fire, the Salvation Army and the Red Cross were there to offer help to the victims.

They were not the only ones to offer assistance to the fire victims.

The owner of the Venture Outdoors, whose store is located right across from the site of the fire, donated coats to all the fire victims.

The owners of the Plymouth Coffee Bean Company, located next door to the fire, have taken donations for the victims.

It's good to know helping hands are still there.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Too much emphasis placed on physical education classes

EDITOR:

I was recently quoted in your paper and would like to clarify my statements and position. I stated (at the Feb. 12 school board meeting) that I don't believe that physical education as a high school graduation requirement, makes a significant impact on the lifelong health of students.

Consider that an overwhelming majority of Americans are overweight and that almost all of us have gone through PE in our high school years. If it didn't help us, why would we think that it will help our kids? I also stated that two semesters of PE will not overcome 18 years of habit forming at home.

The examples set by moms and dads far out weigh any education that any school could hope to give. Someone commented that our kids "needed" high school PE to not become overweight and slothful. If that is true, then all of the time spent teaching PE in elementary and middle schools was wasted. If the school system wants to impact kids' overall health, these are the years to focus on it, not high school where other concerns are on their minds.

I fail to understand why we place precedence on PE and not on art and music, other than "crowd control" at the PCEP. I watched as a young lady told the school board of her career goal: to enter the field of performing arts. She would not be able to participate in vocal music and take a foreign language in addition to her academic requirements, because she would have to take PE.

You might say that it would be good for her to get some exercise, except that she appeared to be in great physical condition, my guess would be from participating in dance. The fact that

some students need PE is indisputable, but that ALL students need it is ridiculous and totalitarian.

A board member is quoted as saying that the board should no longer impose its views on the best methods of achieving cardiovascular fitness, yet it still does by requiring students to take PE. Another board member, in voting to eliminate the swimming requirement, did it for students like the one above, except that it didn't help the student. She is still required to take one year of PE and will not be able to take Spanish and vocal music.

I think most would agree that driving is a "life skill" that any effective member of society will need to possess in the coming years. It is, if not equal to one's health, very close in importance, as poor driving skills can end a person's life just as quickly as poor health. Students can take driver's education through the school system, or they can take it at a private driving school. The school system, the state and everyone else could not care less where driver's education was administered, as long as it is completed. Why can't we do the same with physical education? If students can show that they are participating in physical activity(ies), in or out of school, they could be exempted from taking PE in school and instead, use the time for something more beneficial.

Other districts do it. Why can't we? Since the goal is the students' health, why not let them choose the activity(ies) that will carry them toward this goal.

They will enjoy physical activity more and will be more likely to continue it throughout their lives, rather than enduring it for two semesters in high school.

JEFF PHILLIPS

Community Editorials

Write a letter to the editor



Community opinions

Little hope

No one could survive heat, smoke from fire — or could they?

Plymouth Community Firefighters had little hope when they entered the charred wreckage of the apartment in downtown Plymouth last Thursday.

The fire was devastating. There was almost no chance firefighters would find anyone alive in the building.

Despite the confusion at the scene of the fire at 870 Penniman Ave., all residents of the 100-year-old house were accounted for — except one.

It had been six hours since the fire was extinguished and Jim Gaffard stared at the black carcass



No curves

By Rob Kirkbride

of a building he used to call home, knowing he would never see his friend again.

No one could have survived the heat, the smoke, the water.

The firefighter shuffled out of the burned house, head held low. Gaffard prepared himself for the worst possible news.

But despair turned to joy as the

firefighter gave Gaffard the "thumbs up." By some miracle, Gaffard's turtle Thunderbolt survived the fire and was going to be okay.

Thunderbolt isn't just any turtle — it's Gaffard's friend — a companion of more than three years and he was fine. The turtle may not be fast, but he's strong.

DPBA off and running

Will the started-yesterday Downtown Plymouth Business Association become the newest economic force in The Plymouth-Canton Community?

Only if everyone participates, as Annette Horn of Native West pointed out yesterday. (She's one of downtown's movers and shakers).

Some 70 retailers, service businessfolk, landlords and political types gathered yesterday morning to discuss the launch of this new group. In addition to discussions about the structure of the new effort, talk turned (as inevitably it does) to broader ranging problems of downtown Plymouth.

In fact, that's the VERY reason this new group should get to work. Its focus, if downtown stakeholders follow Annette's advice, will be towards the entire downtown — a much broader focus than the Plymouth Chamber's Retail Committee can exert.

A much broader focus AND a more concentrated geographic focus.

Because the Downtown Plymouth Business Association is the brainchild of the Downtown Development Authority, there has been speculation that this new move was a rivalry between the DDA and the chamber.

In part that is true. In small part.

The inability of the chamber and the DDA to communicate came to an all-time low when they both struggled to staff Ice Fest information booths across from each other. Also, the DDA had begun launching this group just as bickering was dominating some Chamber efforts — so it looked reactive, rather than proactive.

But the DPBA concept is larger.

That larger importance of the new downtown group makes it a force that City Hall will listen to. Just as Plymouth Mayor Ron Loiselle and Commissioner Joe Koch watched yesterday, along with four of their DDA appointees, the new DPBA will be wired in.

Because downtown stakeholders all pay (like it or not)

With malice toward none

By W. Edward Wendover



into the DDA, it differs from the voluntary chamber activities. The mostly-retailers who help the chamber promotions go through ups-and-downs frustration of carrying the entire load even though others don't participate. A DDA-supported DPBA will not suffer that problem. It is technically authorized to push on. Lee Harrison, chairperson of the DDA, emphasized that his board looks to the DPBA to be independent.

As DDA Director Steve Guile said, "This (DPBA) should stand on its own and be self-generating. It should set goals and COMPLETE goals."

Which brings it back to Annette's statement — "don't complain about the DPBA's direction if you're not involved."

There's every reason to participate.

"It's a win-win situation — a partnership," said Fran Toney, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, at Tuesday's meeting. (Chamber President Mike Kolb and a number of chamber directors were there too).

As Sharon Pugh, the Sideways mover-and-shaker, described it: "To have two groups (the DDA and the Chamber) focus on a common issue is tremendous."

Frank Kuszak, of Francis Jewellery Gallery, called the question on whether the group should proceed. An overwhelming show of hands said "yes" — but will the bodies, minds and souls attached to those hands participate? So it's off. The Downtown Plymouth Business Association can become a force; should become a force; will become a force.

But only if — as Annette says...

The Community Crier



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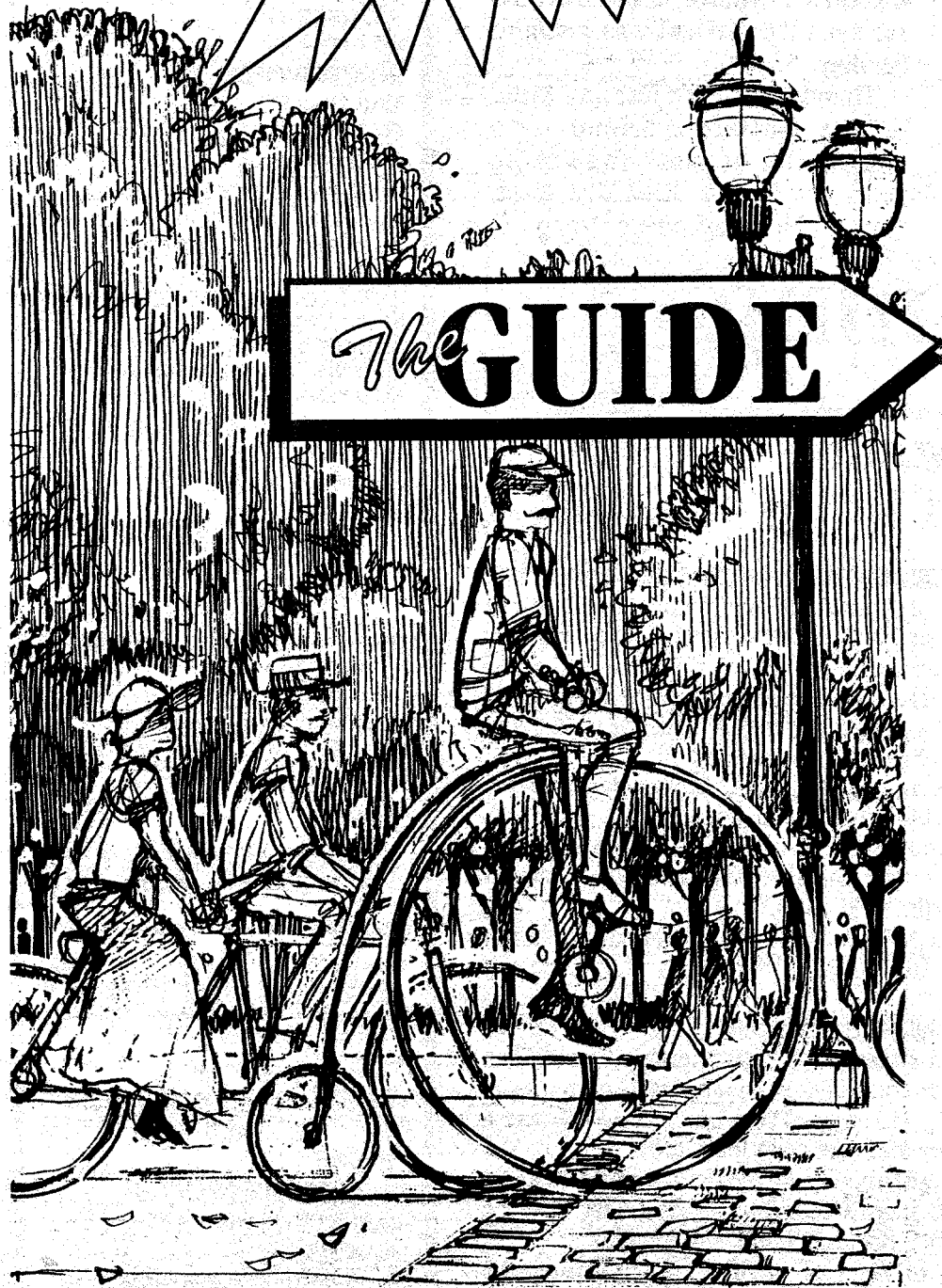
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