

# YEAR IN REVIEW

News

Sports

People

1996

Politics

Opinions

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## The Community Crier

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

Vol. 23 No. 48

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December 31, 1996

### Thieves strike Twp. home on Christmas Eve

BY BRYON MARTIN

'Tis the season to be wary.

A home on Woodlands Court in Plymouth Township was broken into around 9 p.m., Dec. 24, according to Sgt. Robert Smith of the Plymouth Township Police. The Christmas-Eve thieves tripped an alarm while entering the house through a window, and escaped with a few items.

According to Smith, most burglars enter looking for items of opportunity — things out in the open, easy to carry away.

The break-in may have left the household a little poorer materially, but also a little wiser about home security.

Smith suggests discouraging break-ins by making premises as unattractive as would-be burglars as possible. "Simple measures work best:

- "Try not to have too many bushes around your house; thieves can hide in them.

- "Leave exterior lights on. Keeping them lit doesn't cost much, and crooks

Please see pg. 3

### COMMA, Crier to close at noon today

The Community Crier and COMMA, offices will be closed at noon today, except for paper distribution.

The printing schedule for The Crier will return to normal next week with a Wednesday publication.

### Boom

1996 marked another year of great business in community

See Getting down to business pg. 8

### People

Many Plymouth and Canton residents made a difference

See Friends & neighbors pg. 6

### Whalers win

Detroit dominates London in high-scoring game in Twp.

See Sports pgs. 30-32

### Whalers arrival tops 1996 news



#### Team makes big splash in Twp.

The arrival of the Detroit Whalers was the top news story for 1996. The overall impact of the new, 4,000-plus-seat arena and the economic improvement to Plymouth Township helped the Whalers make a splash in the community. What else happened in 1996? Check The Crier's "Year in Review" section, pgs. 11-26. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

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**P-C School representatives meet with State to finalize bond schedule**

BY BRYON MARTIN

After meeting with State officials in Lansing last week, the Plymouth-Canton School Board is a short but significant step closer to getting a 1997 bond proposal on a spring ballot.

Representatives from the board and groups involved in drafting the bond showed a tentative version of it to Dick Kelley, manager of the School Bond Loan Section of the Department of the Treasury, in a Dec. 19 meeting.

In what amounts to a step around bureaucratic hangups, Kelley reviewed the bond for the board before its formal presentation to the State, checking for items that would keep the bond from being approved.

"He made sure all of our ducks were in a row," Susan Kopinski, chairperson of the bond steering committee, said. "The meeting went well. There weren't a whole lot of changes."

Revisions the bond did receive were mostly clerical, according to Mark Horvath, P-C School Board President. "They went over spending, enrollment figures, building-by-building details of what's going to be done — all bond components — with no major changes."

The bond presentation reviewed by Kelley was assembled by Roy G. French & Associates, one of the firms planning the proposed high and elementary schools.

In its revised form, the proposal will

*When is vote?*

*If everything goes as planned, voters will head to the polls this spring to decide the fate of two new schools — one high school and one elementary school.*

appear before the school board at a special meeting Jan. 7, 1997. If the board votes to adopt the bond, they will then formally present it to Kelley's office.

Optimistically, State approval of the bond would take four weeks, Horvath said. After that, the board could call an election to be held no sooner than 45 days later.

So far, this is the timetable for which the board has planned and hoped, said Horvath. "It looks like a vote could come in mid-March or early April," Horvath said, acknowledging there are still many steps to be taken.

"I'm pleased and impressed that Mr. Kelley met with us [before our formal presentation]," Kopinski said. "He could have just thrown the bond back to us to make corrections, putting us off-schedule by weeks. This is a real time saving step."

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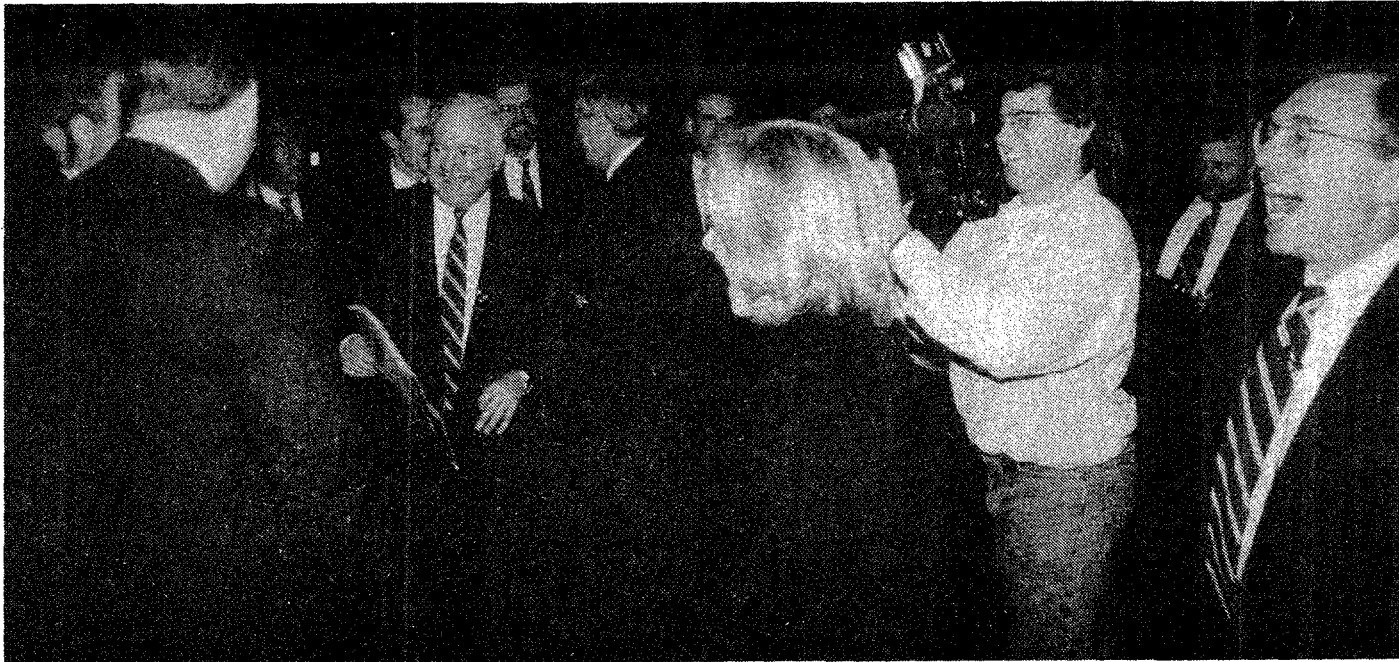
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# Marching under the sun



Watch for the Fred Hill Briefcase Drill team at the Fiesta Bowl Parade. The group was recently interviewed while they practiced at their secret training grounds: the Central Parking Deck. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

## Chiumento still waiting for definition of P-C Schools' harassment policy

Mike Chiumento is still waiting for the answer to a question he asked two years ago — a reply the Plymouth-Canton School District and Board felt it gave the middle school music teacher in the late winter of 1994.

"What is a 'covered individual'?" Chiumento said, referring to the school district's harassment policy and guidelines.

He has returned to P-C School Board meetings several times to ask that definition since a 1994 incident began his campaign.

"I came back from Christmas vacation, and walked up to my (classroom) door. Someone had written 'faggot' on it, 'fagit', they spelled in wrong," he said.

"If I was an Italian American and they had called me (by a derogatory term), I'd be covered."

So he took his plea to the school board, attempting to change what he perceived was inadequate protection of sexual harassment on the basis of sexual orientation. That was Feb. 13, 1995.

And if you ask Chiumento, a 20-year employee of the district, he'll tell you the school board was prepared to add sexual orientation to its harassment policy. "They said it was a matter of adding two words," Chiumento said.

"Then they went into executive session to get a legal opinion, and what hap-

pened in there, we'll never know, because I went to court to find out — and lost. Two or three weeks later, they had all changed their mind."

On March 20, "It was pretty much a done deal," Chiumento said. "I mean, we all got up, spoke, but they had made their decision."

Then-school board President David Artley said the new policy was a "substantial" change from earlier versions of the policy but that it was in line with the direction of the district.

Superintendent Charles Little said at the meeting: "This policy will serve everyone."

Chiumento didn't think so. "There is no federal or state protection for gay and lesbian youth. You as the board have the right to exceed the law," Chiumento said.

Errol Goldman, the P-C Schools assistant superintendent for employee relations, said the district simply followed Michigan anti-discrimination laws, which does not include sexual orientation. "We've just decided to go with the state law," Goldman said.

Some speculated that making the policy naming sexual orientation as an explicit part of the policy would have caused the district problems and expensive lawsuits.

Chiumento continued his petition. That lawsuit he filed charged violation of

the Open Meetings Act, but Judge Carol Youngblood ruled attorney/client privilege.

Earlier this year, Chiumento was passed a Plymouth-Canton Educational Park handbook that specifically named sexual orientation. Chiumento said a person whom he did not name told him, "We've had this here (in the student handbook) for a long time because it's a big problem here at the high school."

"That's going to be changed to compliment the board policy," Goldman said.

If there are harassment problems anywhere in the district, Goldman said administration reacts efficiently and effectively. "Anytime we hear about those complaints, we take action. Anytime someone defaces school property, we take action on that," he said.

Chiumento isn't satisfied. He said young adults who believe they are homosexual are three times more likely to attempt suicide. And without a specific reference to assist these people who likely feel isolated, Chiumento said, "(they are) less likely to come forward (with a sexual orientation/harassment complaint) because they're not sure they're covered."

He has hope. Eight states and the District of Columbia now list sexual orientation in their anti-discrimination laws, so does the Birmingham School District. "Policies can always be changed, but I don't think this board would be interested in doing that right now. I don't plan on doing anything specifically right now, just monitor what's happening," he said. "I do plan on continuing to educate."

But he doesn't believe his action hasn't been rewarded. "If anything, it brought the issue to light. I don't think anyone had said the words 'gay' or 'lesbian' in that school board before that,"

## Crooks spoil holidays for Twp. homeowners

Continued from pg. 1  
like the dark.

• "Ask neighbors to keep an eye on your place when you're gone."

Residents can also notify Township Police when they will be away for long periods of time. "There are forms they can fill out, and we'll check on their residence periodically," Smith says.

"This kind of thing occurs over the holidays," Smith says. "There isn't a lot of Christmas theft, but it happens because people are out for a few hours at a time more often."

And while it's the season for goodwill toward all, citizens should know Santa might not be the only one trying to come down the chimney.

# Agenda

## THIS WEEK

- Garbage pickup in Plymouth Township will be collected one day later than the regularly-scheduled pick-up day during the weeks following New Year's Day. Christmas trees and natural wreaths will be picked up curbside on the scheduled collection day this week for compost disposal. Trees must be free of tinsel, garland, non-organic materials and plastic tree bags.

## WEEKEND

- The Canton basketball team faces Farmington Friday at Farmington.
- Salem High School will be the site of the Salem "16" Invitational at 8:30 a.m. Saturday. Both Canton and Salem will be wrestling in the tournament.
- The Canton volleyball team will participate in Walled Lake Central Varsity Invitational Saturday at 9 a.m.
- Salem basketball faces Ypsilanti Lincoln Friday away.

## NEXT WEEK

- The Plymouth City Commission meets Monday at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

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The Community Crier examines the issues and events that shaped the P-C Community in 1996. See the Year in Review section, pgs. 11-26

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# Obituaries

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

### HARRY J. SHOEMAKER

Harry J. Shoemaker, 80, loving husband, father, grandfather and retired Air Express Agent, died Thursday, Dec. 19, 1996 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Born in Mackinaw, Mr. Shoemaker moved to Plymouth at the age of 11.

Mr. Shoemaker graduated from Plymouth High School in 1935, lettering in all sports and receiving a gold medal in the Decathlon. Mr. Shoemaker, prior to his stroke four years ago, was an avid golfer. He loved all sports and was a "died-in-the-wool" U of M fan. Mr. Shoemaker had been an active member in the Plymouth Elks Club — a member since the '50s and Elk of the Year in 1971. At one time, he booked the entertainment for the Elks, a member of the Trustee and House Committee and handled publicity and the Elks

Magazine.

Mr. Shoemaker was always willing to help others and asked nothing in return. He loved life and people to the fullest.

In addition to his wife, Althea, Mr. Shoemaker is survived by his daughter, Susan; grandchild, Candy; son-in-law, Byron Taylor; sisters, Joyce, Althea, Elnor, Barbara; brother, Jerry; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 11 1997 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

Mr. Shoemaker's ashes will be scattered in four places: Mackinaw, the city of his birth; Trout Lake, the town where his beloved uncles lived; Caseville, a city filled with happy, youthful memories; and Plymouth, the city he made his home.

Your suffering is over and you are in a far better place and the world is a lesser place without you.

Memorial tributes can be made to the Plymouth Elks 1780.

### ERIN NICOLE MILLS

Erin Nicole Mills, the child of Lawton, OK parents, died shortly after birth on Dec. 20, 1996.

She is survived by her parents, Sgt. James and Beth Mills of Lawton, OK; brother, Tyler Mills; grandparents, Patrick Mills of Wayne and Sharon Mills of Inkster and Joseph and Jacquelyn Belcher of Livonia; and several great-grandparents.

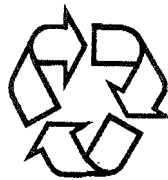
Arrangements were made by and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with Rev. Harold Edmonds officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery.

### JOSEPH JAHODA

Joseph Jahoda, a Canton resident, died Dec. 22, 1996 at the age of 58.

Mr. Jahoda moved to the community in 1973 from

Please see pg. 5



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# Community deaths

## Obituaries

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Continued from pg. 4

Dearborn. He was a member of St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton.

Mr. Jahoda is survived by his son, William (Elaine) Jahoda of Canton; daughters, Cheryl (Jim) Dingeldey of L'Anse and Katherine (Ken) Truesdell of L'Anse; sister, Theresa Gallagher of Long Island, NY; and eight grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with Rev. Drex Morton officiating. Memorial tributes can be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

### MARY A. DELANO

Mary A. Delano, a Plymouth resident, died Dec. 25, 1996 at the age of 94.

She was born May 16, 1902 in Collingwood, Ontario, Canada.

Mrs. Delano came to the community three years ago from Garder City. She was a former machine operator for 17 years at Fabricatec Parts in Taylor. She was a member of the Garden City Presbyterian Church and a member of the Garden City chapter of the Order of The Eastern Star Number 522, and the Rebekah Lodge No. 522 Garden City.

Mrs. Delano is survived by 11 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Harold, in 1966 and daughter, Loretta Barnard. She is also preceded in death by 12 siblings.

Arrangements were made by and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with Rev. Tamara J Seidel officiating. Burial was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia. Memorial tributes can be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Association.

### John George Grotz, 69, manager

John George Grotz, a Plymouth resident, died Dec. 25, 1996.

He is survived by his wife, Mary E. Grotz; daughter, Nancy A. Grotz of Plymouth and one other daughter; one son; one sister; and three grandchildren.

Services were held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth with Fr. John J. Sullivan officiating. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

# Remembering those who died in 1996

## January

Theron F. Hicks, Leon T. Scharmen, Magdalen "Dolly" Geriach, Betty I. Ross, Lodema M. Schnurstein, Jean Laux Hill (Knechtges), Gary P. Franken, Fern C. Moore, Frederick C. Heidt, Cecilia Nedolski, Dorothy P. Zak, Betty J. Wedemeyer, Helen Miller, Alden Ray Castro, Gordon H. Banks, Marcelina M. Gatioan, Velma N. Conklin, Hazel Herrick Markham, George C. Parsons, Sr., Steven H. Nowak, John Early, Margaret P. Grybas, Eudora M. Rutherford, Emma V. Errian, Ray F. Sanderson, Paul Peter Kantor, Peter Galambus Jr., Max Christopher Lafferty, Burnice Audrey Pulido, Cecile Taylor, John Duncan, Norma E. Homier, Jennie Siebert.

## February

Lola Alice Ventola, Ronald MacDonald, Louisa M. (Doherty) Wright, John R. Hopkins, Joseph Hulack, Pearl Patricia Kessler, Kenneth J. Deichert, Eva L. Clark, Ruth D. Miller, Patricia Ann Mills, Victor A. Maletta, Ratan Patel, Julia B. Pelack, Robert B. Watson, Yvonne Underwood, Agnes Knoerl, Louis J. Potocki, Warren H. Dedow, Robert Gasaway, Mary Katherine Chase Penhale, Pamela Kersten, Lora L. Stage, Mauro Bargas, Richard Glyn Williams, Sr., Thomas W. Hayes, Mildred Faye Wilcox, Nette S. Walker, Virginia Luella Gibson, Jennifer Ann Doyle.

## March

Carl R. Krolicki, Noelita M. Norris, Gary Joseph Smith, Glen H. Buck, Albert O. Heindryckx, Richard J. Woelfle, Marian L. Trumbull, Paul D. Smith, Clarence G. Wolf, Mary Pearl Burrows, Rodrigo Cruz Marcelo, Mary Louise Nagy, Josephine A. German, Norma K. Bilby, Irene M. Zawlocki, Hah M. Walters, Ruby C. Brainard, Jean Rehner Berry, Ervin E. Lowe, Marvin A. Thorman, Robert A. Wingard, Marilyn E. Rafferty, Clarence E. Hiller, Roger William Stanley, Bernice M. Morphew, Marion Wilma Gale Mathews, Ruth C. Simons.

## April

Charles P. Cude, Ruth J. Quinn, Thelma R. Barrett, H. R. Bob Smith, Irene E. Berridge, Mary Ann Roberts, Robert Joseph Nuismar, Lillian Nebus, Marilyn Stebbins, Bernard T. Wagar, Mary W. Valicento, Josephine L. Chute, William R. Henrion, Joseph L. Kennedy, Dorothy Northrop, Robert R. Barbee, Joan Patricia Louwers, Opal Lunn, Irene B. Shaw, Vila S. Goodsir, Denver A. Rocker, Ellen Julia Schuyler, Mary Matthew, Sharon Warnemuende, Ralph B. Damron.

## May

Gordon F. Arthur, John Antonio Serra, Donald Frasier Tripp, Joan D. Brandt, Hurley Darold Mitchem, Jr., Dr. Deborah Iverson, Janice E. Hills, Vera R. Jefferson, Carl L. Thornton, Robert M. Sculthorpe, Wilma Hawk, Ralph E. Alloway, Florine Christ, Perry Donald Ferguson, Harriette R. Parmenter, Jack Emmett Powers, Rev. Robert R. Reeves, Clinton B. Foreman, Phillip Daniel Cox, John McCarthy, Peter Ralph Miller, Norma K. Albus, Garnett F. Montgomery, Rose A. Martinitis, Audrey J. Jacobs, Ada K. DePlanche, Helen Papastergion.

## June

Charles Kenneth Hirschlieb, James A. Thomas, Edith G. Cooper, Marilyn E. Blake, Joyce I. Miller, Alexander Werabelski, Delphine Memering, Margaret J. Martz, Frankie J. Lamirand, Kathleen M. Gordon, Mary Louise Fern, Delbert W. Haddock, Erwin Leroy Priest, Mildred Mae Ziegler, Louise R. Ahonen, Dorothy Ann Hartledge, Ronald "R.J." Johnson, Ralph E. Brant, Marilyn M. Kremer, Margaret J. Kropf, Clifford McNitt Kehoe, Bernadette C. Magnusson, Anna Wilburta Bartz, Erwin Charles Kersten, Zelma J. Huebler, Erick Carne.

## July

Edward J. Peper, Hermann Ballmert, Martha D. Jenkins, Geraldine F. Kirby, James W. Robertson, James P. McCarthy, Burt C. Pugh, Phillip Arthur Larrabee, Walter Russell Hehmeyer, Beatrice Dickie, Charles Richard Kelly, Lorne A. Campbell, Rita Marie Patak, Merton H. Slater, Olive (Irene) Leith, William J. Varga, Ansley F. Osborn, Ben F. Kelly, Blanche G. D'Haene, Frances C. Bushey, Lillian T. Kotylo, Mabel Ruth Coffey, Thelma Dee Taylor, Onvia J. Robinson, Leonard F. Widman, Jason M. Matthews, Charles W. Steele, Arthur Robert Armstrong III, Anna Kunec, Patricia A. Spratt, Vera A. Rivers.

## August

Frederick B. Krueger, Erin M. Dice, Sophie M. Daley, Harvet Arthur Schoenberg, Lena A. Baron, Cecil V. Duke, Marion I. Bernash, Mymonie Jabara, Clyde Perry Younce III, David E. Richardson, Susanna Drew, Fermina Juco, Raymond R. Labeau, Jr., Ario P. Centofanti, Edith E. Best, Erma M. Webb, Reinier J. VanderPutten, Dorothy Dibble.

## September

William James Morrison, Amanda S. "Molly" Murphy, Mary Ann Martin, Lawrence Peploski, Benjamin J. Soleau, Florence Peterson, Joseph Carli, Ruth E. Hehmeyer, Alice Mae Maxwell, Jessie Marion, Susan Nacci, Grace E. Sparks, Robert E. Rowland, Donald A. Kaszyk, Irving W. Milligan, Jr., Sarah Inez Stafford, Helen Zamboras, Mary E. Schulta, Charlotte A. Woody, Constance Coon, Cynthia Joan Bejma, Letha M. Wassenaar, Homer Pope, Homer E. Clickner, Mabel Louise Cain, Harold Joseph Cismoski.

## October

Robert Arthur Shuman, James L. Van Alstine, Parnell E. Johnson, Delsa Abney, Louise Davis, Howard W. Stark, Patrick John Callan, Mark Wayne Newsom, Gertrude Allen, Rodger W. Smith, Marie M. Post, Margaret M. Britcher, Maxine G. Willoughby, John M. Hopkins, Louis E. "Pooie" Wilder, June A. Woolsey, Earl Robert Olson, A. Roy Wadsworth, Jr., Parnell E. Johnson, Nancy J. Dart, Verna G. Slater, Betty Ruth Morrell, Charles T. Long, James A. Lauer, William Young, Henrietta G. Burch, Pamela Lynn McPherson, Helen P. Steinhauer, Juanita E. Dann, Lawrence K. Kiernan, Francis P. Leary, Jr., Walter C. Zakul, Joseph H. Roose, Irene Merkel, Harvey Robert Barker, Jr., Thomas R. Craffey, Edna M. Jennings, S. David Spencer, Catherine J. Wagner, Edythe H. Fredericks, Jeanne C. Schoen, Mabel Taylor, Richard J. Park, Rosalie Davis, Warren B. Lewis, Baily B. Green, Betty A. Nelson, June Patricia Adams-Slovik, Mary Childs.

## November

Mary A. Gilles, Karen A. Vickerman, Alice A. Mahon, Marilyn J. Walker, Walter B. Workman, Paula Bosse, Ola Dean Montgomery, Frances M. Hayes, Ralph G. Fitzpatrick, Robert V. Spayth, David G. Joiner, Jr., Ethel Annabelle Johnson, Walter Thomas, Sr., Albert John Taylor, Frank Stump, Wanda L. Hall, Helen Elizabeth Rupnow, Rose A. Barnes, Frank J. Cervelli, Geneva A. Taylor, Joan Marilyn Monteen, Lillian N. Dibble, Mildred L. Swartz, Opal Adams.

## December

John Henry Ones, June Cleo Lajiness (Buddie), Mary J. Goulette, Velma V. Rice, Linda Jane Luker, Letha (Georgie) Hiller, Elsie G. Rowland, Pauline Lois Owens, Eldred L. Willman, Gordon L. Detter, Wilma M. Kaiser, James R. Greenshields, Judith Irene Hunter, Emil Mucha, Dorothy C. Jacups, Marcella (Marcie) J. May, Lester L. Pitt, Dora June Messacar, George Robinson Berkaw Jr.

# YEAR IN REVIEW

*News Sports People 1996 Politics Opinions*



## Friends & neighbors

### People make P-C-N Community special

#### JANUARY

• First-grader Kaylie McLeay beat out 4,000 other children to become one of seven kindergarten through six grade students to have artwork featured in the 1996-97 Ameritech PagesPlus Yellow Pages directories.

McLeay received a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond for winning and her school — Eriksson Elementary school — received \$1,000 to purchase educational supplies. The artwork appeared to the public in March when the yellow pages was distributed to 1.5 million homes and businesses in the area.

• Former Plymouth resident Shawn Santo's love for Detroit helped bring about the creation of The Left Bank — a publication showcasing art and culture in Detroit.

Santo, the editor-in-chief, says her target market is a 20-something, WDET-listening, wine-drinking market. The magazine is published bi-monthly.

• Bill Thomas, an Allen Elementary School crossing guard for the past four years, received the Extra Miler Award from the Plymouth-Canton School Board for consistently going beyond job expectations day-after-day while being on guard for the safety of the children.

#### FEBRUARY

• Three students from West Middle School took the top prize in the 27th annual America & Me Essay Contest. Courtney Hutchings took first place, Michael Belvitch took second and Jennifer Wrobel received the third-place prize. The topic of the 1995 contest was "Why I am Proud to be a Part of My Community."

#### MARCH

• Plymouth resident John Tregembo collected more than one million pennies over a 17 year time period. The total weight of all the pennies was about 6,975 pounds. His reward for the collection: the purchase of a \$24,000 GMC Sierra pickup truck.

#### APRIL

• The Plymouth Symphony Society, celebrating 50 years of performing in The Plymouth-Canton Community, was the subject of a black tie fund-raiser at the Fox Hills Country Club. The event was held with the hope of big donations toward the Endowment 2000 campaign, which will create a \$250,000 endowment



Country singer Johnny Little, who grew up in Canton and is working on a recording career in Nashville, TN, symbolizes the diversity of people who make up The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. (Crier photo by Janet Armstrong)

for the symphony by the year 2000.

#### MAY

• More than 100 former students of James R. Griffith — the Plymouth-Canton band director for 38 1/2 years — reunited under his direction to perform in the second Band Alumni Reunion Concert at Salem High School Auditorium.

Students came from as far as California, Texas, Georgia and Vermont and some graduated as many as 25 and 30 years ago. The reunion tribute included a weekend of activities for the band director.

• Four local teenagers who auditioned and won a spot in the Fairlane Youth Pops Orchestra performed in 12 live concerts in two weekends at the Fairlane Town Center mall in Dearborn. The four musicians were able to performed live and received a \$1,000 college scholarship.

Geoffrey Rahie, Leslie DeShazor and Steve Penzien all reside in Plymouth and Prabhat Bhama lives in Canton.

#### JUNE

• Heather Karriker and Mathew Reuter were one of nine Metro Detroit students to attend Space camp in Cape Canaveral, FL. Karriker, a fourth grader at Hoben Elementary School and Mathew Reuter, a seventh grader at East Middle School,

qualified by submitting an application form that beat out 55 of their peers. They received six days at NASA's Kennedy Space Center.

• Plymouth native Tom Hulce grabbed the national spotlight with the lead role in the Disney movie, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame." Hulce was featured as the voice of Quasimodo. He attended Salem High School and his movie credits include "Amadeus" and "Animal House."

#### JULY

• Jim Rawlinson, 56, ran for 25,000 miles — in 16 years. Beginning on New Year's Day in 1980, Rawlinson began his venture and averaged five-and-a-half miles a day, except for six months in 1987 when he broke his leg skiing.

Rawlinson's running took him to such places as London, Australia, Switzerland and Costa Rica while he was on vacations. His running was equal to a trip around the world when he crossed the finish line July 21 near Sheldon Road in Plymouth. Among Rawlinson's future plans — another 25,000 miles, which he should finish in 2020.

#### AUGUST

• Mike Middel of Plymouth received grocery bagger recognition by winning a bronze medal in the 1996 Kroger Best

Bagger Olympic Competition Aug. 1. Middel was judged on five different criteria: speed, organization, efficiency, weight distribution and appearance/attitude. All medal winners in the bagger competition won a duffel bag full of sweatshirts, t-shirts, Detroit Tiger tickets, a watch and a walkman.

• Girl Scout Elizabeth Vink, 11, of Plymouth was one of 54 Cadettes and Senior Girl Scouts who acted as the Governor's Honor Guard for official events on Mackinac Island. The scouts raised and lowered the island's official flags each day along with serving as tour guides for the island's attractions.

#### SEPTEMBER

• Richard Perfetto, the parish priest at Resurrection Catholic Church in Canton, celebrated his 30th anniversary of being ordained in the Catholic Priesthood. Perfetto has spent the last 10 years of his career in The Plymouth-Canton Community, including four years at Our Lady of Good Council in Plymouth and Resurrection in Canton.

#### OCTOBER

• Jack Tornga, a member of the Plymouth Rotary Club, was selected to lead a team of four professional men and women to Taiwan as part of a Group Study Exchange.

#### NOVEMBER

• Johnny Little, a 1995 Salem High School graduate, has signed with Ancy Records to make a CD, played the club scene in Nashville and met his idol Garth Brooks. His CD should be released by February and he hopes to be signed with a major label like RCA or MCA. Little is also hoping to be famous by this time next year.

• Four PCEP honor students were selected to march in the fifth annual Thanksgiving Parade. They were chosen along with 296 other honor students from public and private schools throughout southeastern Michigan. Seniors Amy Siegrist and John Levandowski represented Canton High School, and seniors Emily Fiegenshuh and William Chapin participated from Salem High School.

#### DECEMBER

• Breanne Hoernschemeyer, a fifth-grader at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, was chosen the winner of the second annual Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village holiday poster contest.

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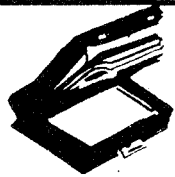
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# YEAR IN REVIEW

*News Sports People 1996 Politics Opinions*



## Getting down to business

### P-C Community: hotbed for business growth

#### JANUARY

- Plymouth Township-based Cadillac Dealer Don Massey purchased Dreisbach & Sons Cadillac Co. of Detroit. Massey is the number-one dealer of Cadillacs in the U.S.
- The Canton Board of Trustees approved the expansion plan of Carriage Park Seniors' Apartments. Construction is now underway on the two-story, 53-unit senior citizen assisted living center.

#### FEBRUARY

- Rumors circulated that a Jaguar dealership would fill the building vacated by Bob Jeannotte on Ann Arbor Road, whose new dealership was being finished on Sheldon Road in Plymouth Township. The rumors became reality as Jaguar/Saab of Troy opened their new location in the Township.
- AVL North American, the world's largest privately held engine research and development organization broke ground on a building in Plymouth Township's Metro West Technology Park.

#### MARCH

- The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community was the first place in the nation to have competitive cable television companies looking to attract customers. The first volley in the cable television battle was launched by Ameritech, who charged Continental Cablevision and Home Box Office with unlawfully denying consumers access to HBO and Cinemax programming. The FCC would later uphold Continental's

exclusive contract with the popular movie channels.

- Although heavy community opposition was expected when Kmart announced plans for a Super K center in Canton, few complaints arrived when the Canton Board of Trustees approved the plan for the 27-acre, 200,113 square-foot complex, which is currently under construction behind Builders Square on Ford Road.

• Linda Shapona stepped down as executive director of the Canton Chamber of Commerce to take a similar position at the Westland Chamber of Commerce. She was later replaced with Carleigh Flaharty, who came to the chamber from the Seattle, WA area.

• Gino's Pizza in Plymouth Township celebrated 30 years in business on March 20.

• Edward's Catering opened in Plymouth and Animation Station expanded to their Penniman Avenue-Main Street location.

#### APRIL

• Arctic Rentals in Canton and Vico Products in Plymouth Township received tax exempt bonds from the Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) as part of the two companies' expansion and renovation project.

#### MAY

• K & Y Screw Machine Corporation announced plans to move to Canton. The component supplier built a 28,000-square-foot building.

• The Plymouth Downtown Development Authority began Friday Night Freebies promotional program. The music and expanded store hours lasted throughout the summer.

• The Canton Chamber of Commerce named Tim Ford the Small Business Person of the Year and Bonnie Berg the ATHENA Award winner.

• The Mayflower Square in Plymouth was sold.

#### JUNE

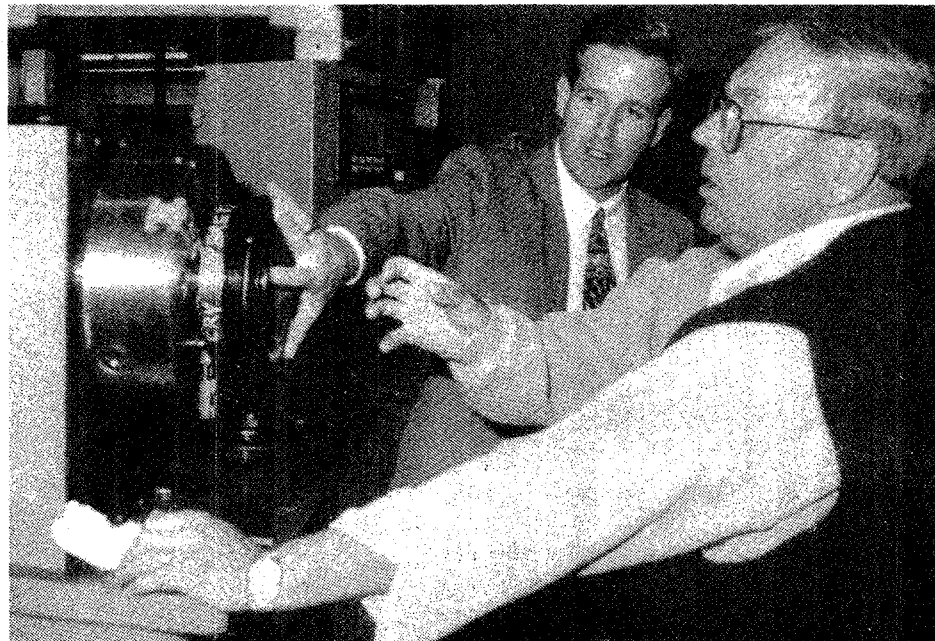
• A fire at Plymouth Nursery caused \$175,000 in damage. No one was injured in the blaze, but the main barn and part of one greenhouse were gutted.

• McCabe Funeral Home in Canton sponsored a veterans' book drive.

• Ray and Jeff Stella of Ray R. Stella Contracting in Plymouth were named to the "Big 50" by Remodeling Magazine.

#### JULY

• Paula Winkler-Doman was appointed manager of the Ford Motor Company



Simpson Industries in Plymouth Township is just one of the many new businesses to move the The Plymouth-Canton Community in 1996. Glen Holtz, the director of engineering production at Simpson, shows a visitor some of the high tech industry found in the community. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Sheldon Road Plant.

• The Building Industry Association of southeast Michigan (BIA) honored Superior Township resident and Plymouth Township businessperson James S. Bonadeo for 50 years of service to the industry.

• Naturally Home & Bath Essential opened in downtown Plymouth as did American Pie Ice Cream Parlor.

#### AUGUST

• Johnson Controls bought Holland-based Prince Automotive.

• Plymouth Township-based Freudenberg-NOK announced plans for a \$41 million expansion and realignment project.

• Construction began on Community Federal Credit Union's new corporate office in Plymouth.

#### SEPTEMBER

• The Longaberger Company recognized Kristine Moga as a 1996 Sales Achiever and a 1996 National Top Sponsoring Award winner for generating annual sales of more than \$20,000 for the basket company.

• Plymouth resident Jay Densmore, owner of Plymouth Furniture Refinishing, celebrated 20 years in the refinishing business.

• Ford Motor Company's Sheldon Road

Plant earned an ISO-9000 certification.

#### OCTOBER

• Local apple crops were down as much as 70 percent because of poor weather and bee-killing mites.

• Kook-Wah Koh and Kwang Koh, CEO and president respectively of Plymouth Township-based Chrysan Industries were selected by the U.S. Small Business Administration as Michigan's Minority Small Business Person of the Year.

• The Lower Town Grill opened on Liberty Street in Plymouth's Old Village.

#### NOVEMBER

• After several years in business, the Outback Cappuccino Bar in Plymouth closed.

• United Memorial Gardens in Superior Township was sold to Meadco, a statewide cemetery ownership firm.

• Plymouth attorney Mike Gerou was elected Canton Chamber of Commerce president.

#### DECEMBER

• Johnson Controls, whose Automotive Systems Group is based in Plymouth Township, achieved \$10.4 billion in sales for 1996.

• Professor Marilyn Oberst of Plymouth became the interim dean of the Wayne State University College of Nursing.



Downtown Plymouth continued to be a vital shopping district, especially during events such as the sidewalk sales. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

# Win a Night on the Town!

Stop by one of the participating dealerships & drop off your completed entry form.

One winner from each dealership will receive:

- Two tickets to the North American International Auto Show and Dinner for Two on Saturday, January 11, 1997

One lucky grand prize winner will receive tickets and dinner for 4 PLUS a limousine for the evening.

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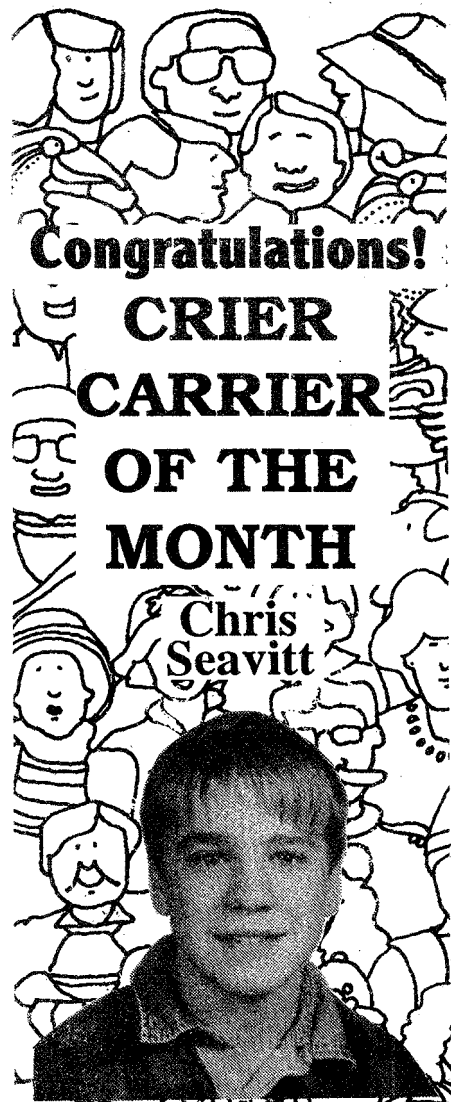
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Dealership Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Contest Rules:

No purchase necessary to win. Drop off or mail completed entry form to participating dealership. All entries must be received by Friday, January 3, 1997, 5 PM. Winners will be notified Monday, January 6. Night on the Town prize is valid for Saturday, January 11 only.

Participating dealerships: Blackwell Ford, Jack Demmer Ford



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**What's Happening**

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

**Volunteer...**

**SONGS OF THE SEASON DECORATING CONTEST**

The Plymouth Beautification Committee and the Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular have joined to sponsor a home and business decorating contest. Participants should decorate their home, neighborhood or place of business in the theme of a winter-season song. Judging will take place during the Ice Sculpture Spectacular, Jan. 15-20, 1997. Entry forms are available from the committee at 201 S. Main, and must be received by Jan. 10, 1997.

**ST. MARY COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE**

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will host the American Red Cross Thursday, Jan. 16, 1997. Those interested in donating blood can go to the Pavillion Conference Rooms from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call Cheryl Delaney at (313) 655-2980.

**GUEST SPEAKERS NEEDED AT P-C SCHOOLS**

The Plymouth-Canton Business Education Partnership is looking for individuals to share information about their occupation to students in classroom settings. To volunteer, call 416-4903.

**DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS TREE OF LIGHTS**

Each \$5 donation to honor an individual will illuminate a light and place a personalized angel on the Tree of Lights. Proceeds benefit patient related projects. For more information, call 467-2530.

**DONATE PERIODICAL SUBSCRIPTION**

The Plymouth District Library is seeking individuals, businesses, and community groups to donate the cost of a subscription to one of the more than 300 periodicals to which the library subscribes. Sponsor's name will appear on the front cover of the periodical. Donation is federal, state tax deductible. For more information, please call the library at 453-0750.

**Upcoming...**

**WOMAN'S CLUB OF PLYMOUTH**

Will convene at 12:30 p.m., Friday Jan. 3, 1997, at Fellowship Hall, First United Methodist Church, Plymouth. Information on "An artistic opportunity" in Plymouth will be provided, all are welcome.

**BENTLEY ELEMENTARY BOND-ISSUE FORUM**

An informational forum featuring Dr. Charles Little, superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, will be held to discuss the proposed 1997 bond issue. The meeting will be held Thursday, Jan. 9 1997 at 7 p.m. in the Cafetorium at Bentley Elementary, 1100 Sheldon Rd., Canton. The forum will also feature Supervisor Tom Yack, and is open to the public.

**CANTON COMMUNITY CABLEVISION TALENT SEARCH**

Canton is beginning a search for talented residents who are interested in helping with the creation and production of its expanding television network. Residents who would like to offer their services for cable television work should call the Communications office at 397-5472 or Scott Zuchlewski at 397-5360. Residents can also send a resume to Zuchlewski at 1150 S. Canton Center, Canton MI 48188. Interested residents will be interviewed and auditioned for various programs. Voice-overs, narration, writing, producing, on-camera, etc.

**SATURDAY STORY TIMES FOR CHILDREN**

Story times are open to children in kindergarten through third grade. Dates are Jan. 4, Feb. 1, March 1 and April 5. Sessions begin at 10 a.m. and are 45 minutes long. No registration required. For more information, call 453-0750.

**Groups...**

**PLYMOUTH UNITED WAY AND ROTARY TOY DRIVE**

The United Way and Rotary and Midas Muffler of Plymouth are collecting new, unwrapped toys at various locations through the holiday season. Plymouth locations include: Community Federal Credit Union, First of America, Midas Muffler, NBD, Papa Romanos Eatery Tavern, P-C Schools District Office, Bird Elementary School, East Middle School, Plymouth City Hall, Plymouth Cultural Center, Plymouth Township, offices, Township Police Department, United Way and Water Club Seafood and Grill. For more information, call 454-4130.

**PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS AUDITIONS**

Open auditions Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m., and auditions by appointments Jan. 14, 21 and 28 at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd., west of Sheldon Road in Plymouth. All voices, but especially tenors are needed. Call 455-4080.

**WOMENS' CYBERSPACE PRESENTATION**

Alicia Jones, WORD Communications, Inc., will present "Surfing Through Cyberspace," at the Jan. 22, 1997 luncheon meeting of the National Association of Career Women. The luncheon will run from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Mayflower Hotel. Cost, \$15 for members and guests. Call Linda Beckett at (810) 268-7770 for reservations.

**GROUP ENTERTAINMENT BOOK GROUP FUNDRAISERS**

The Plymouth Business and Professional Women, the Plymouth Symphony League, Plymouth Community Chorus and Plymouth Optimists are selling Entertainment Books '97 for their respective group functions. The Entertainment Book '97 contains hundreds of 50 percent and two-for-one discounts on dining, travel, movies, sports and more. Plymouth BPW: call Joanne Delaney at 455-5171; a portion of the \$40 cost will go to scholarships. PSL: call 453-3016, profits will benefit Symphony. PCC: Call Stan at 459-6829, the \$40 costs will help fund Chorus' charitable and educational activities. Optimists: Call Bill at 453-8253 or Ken at 728-7619, the cost is \$40.






YEAR IN  
**review**  
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THE FOLLOWING IS A SPECIAL SECTION  
REVIEWING LIFE IN  
THE PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY IN 1996

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# 1996 YEAR IN REVIEW 1996

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# Growth dominates 1996 in Canton

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

Canton began where it left off last year — growing rapidly. The beginning of the new year brought the official grand opening of the Summit on the Park community center.

The Summit quickly became the community focal point. Season passes to the fitness center sold briskly and the Summit was the site of many community gatherings, including a visit from Governor John Engler, and the hosting of events such as the Canton Chamber of Commerce Auction and the State of the Township address.

## Canton's own post office

Following years of lobbying, phone calls and negotiation, Canton found out the community is finally getting a post office of its own. Although a final site has not officially been chosen, officials are leaning toward a Griffin Park site.

The post office will be a full service facility with retail sales and postal delivery routes.

It's been a long road for the many Canton residents, administrators and government officials who have gone to bat to secure a full service post office for the community. For years, petitions and phone calls flooded the U.S. Postal Service in support of the project.

Committees were formed to advance the project and elected officials were lobbied to push the Canton post office plan.

The push for the post office went through many peaks and valleys of activity. The final push began last year when Canton Clerk Terry Bennett began making telephone calls to the U.S. Postal Service headquarters in Washington, the district office in Chicago and the local office in Detroit.

The persistence of the many people who worked on the project finally paid off with the help of Rep. Lynn Rivers and Sen. Spencer Abraham.

## New Catholic grade school

Canton will also be the first community in southeast Michigan in 30 years to be the home of a new Catholic grade school.

During a September groundbreaking ceremony attended by several local church officials, dignitaries, parishioners and children, Cardinal Adam Maida named the K-8 elementary school — scheduled to open in the fall — All Saints. Mary Rita Allen, who previously served as associate superintendent in the Office for Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of Detroit, as the school's first principal.

Located on the property of Resurrection Parish on Warren Road between Ridge and Beck roads, the school will draw enrollment from three additional parishes: St. Kenneth, St. John Neumann and St. Thomas a' Becket.

## Replacing Fire Station One

In 1996, the Canton Board of Trustees approved a plan to replace



With the huge influx of people in the Canton community, events like the Easter marshmallow drop have drawn thousands of people. There is an incredible strain on Canton's resources. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Fire Station One, which currently sits on the corner of Canton Center and Cherry Hill roads.

The old station will be replaced with a new facility that will serve as Fire Station One, a fire headquarters building and be used partially by the Canton Public Safety Department.

Preliminary drawings are complete and construction is expected to begin in the spring.

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New Year

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# School bond proposal began in 1996

BY BRYON MARTIN

It's like a photograph that takes a year to develop.

Since April, while beginning to deal with overcrowded schools, the Plymouth-Canton School Board has envisioned a bond to build more schools.

Those facilities most overcrowded in the P-C District are in southern Canton. Bentley Elementary currently buses overflow students to Hulsing Elementary more than three miles away. A temporary relief plan designed by the district's Housing Committee would ship next year's new students, including would-be walkers, to Hulsing as well. The committee has already approved the relocation of nearly 200 students.

Current overcrowding combined with the nearly continuous construction of new subdivisions in Canton prompted the board to hire Stanfred Associates to project district enrollment for each of the next five years.

Originally "not of an opinion" about the necessity of new schools, board President Mark Horvath was convinced by Stanfred's findings.

"I've been very concerned since the beginning. All we were getting was numbers without explanations of where they came from," said Horvath, who holds a Masters' degree in Statistics.

Fred Ignatovich, one of two partners who own Stanfred, went over the model used to do the enrollment projections, "in great detail," he said. "The model is tried, tested and true."

According to Ignatovich's model, high and middle school enrollments will jump by 544 and 387 students, respectively, by the year 2002; elementary enrollments will increase by 237, peaking in the 1998-99 school year.

"I'm comfortable with the model, its validation and the projections," Horvath said.

With these figures in mind, the board convened three community forums in October and November to gather public opinions and suggestions on the construction of new facilities.

According to Susan Kopinski, chairperson of the Bond Steering Committee, public input influenced the appearance of the bond the

Committee proposed.

"We (district residents) created this growth, so we've got to be responsible and accountable for it," Kopinski said. "So we used ideas we got from the public when we designed the bond."

Although a final version has not yet been seen, a few features with popular support will certainly be the core of the bond.

## What is likely

About \$48 million would pay for a 1700-student high school to be built on PCEP property at the corner of Joy and Beck roads. No auditorium or pool would be built; students at the new high school would share the pools and auditoriums at Canton and Salem.

About \$10 million would go to build a new elementary school, probably in southern Canton, and on one of five parcels of land the district already owns, according to a Steering Committee packet. These criteria come directly from public wishes, the packet says.

About \$18 million would go toward refurbishing the district's existent schools.

The bond's total projected cost is nearly \$80 million, costing taxpayers an additional \$87.50 per \$100,000 of their home's value, annually.

That these elements of the bond are likely to appear in its final form is due to their priority with the community, according to Kopinski.

## What is uncertain

Other areas are unclear in the bond picture. Where the two new schools will actually be built has been the subject of debate at board meetings.

The desire to build the elementary school in southwest Canton is contrary to the desire to build on district-owned land, simply because the district doesn't own any there. The proximity of the Joy-Beck site to Canton and Salem has been criticized by many, including board Secretary Carrie Blamer.

The logistics of student interaction between the new and existing high schools, pool and auditorium use and other concerns of detail heard from the audience at board meetings have not yet been addressed.

Please see pg. 22

## WORLD TRAVEL

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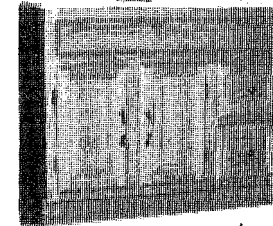
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# Mayflower provides headaches, hope for City

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

1996 will be known as a year of great despair and great hope for Plymouth's grand lady — the Mayflower Hotel.

By June, the status of the Mayflower was unclear at best.

Its owners owed \$88,000 in back taxes, according to City and Wayne

## Mayflower Hotel progress?

*From all signs, construction has not begun on the Mayflower Hotel since the Plymouth City Commission forgave nearly \$50,000 in back taxes. Although the owners of the Mayflower did send a check to the City for \$51,290, hammers have been silent and no new plans have been put forth.*

County tax records. Its occupancy rate hovered at 60 percent. Last year, the property was reassessed from \$2.74 million to \$741,548.

In July, the Plymouth City Commission discussed erasing as much as \$50,000 in back taxes to help jump start the proposed \$2 million-plus renovation project.

There was just one thing that stood in the way — a bank willing to take the chance on the shaky property.

The City Commission did agree to erase some of the Mayflower's tax bill — on the condition the remainder would be paid.

The Mayflower's owners missed their first deadline to pay the rest of the taxes, but eventually sent the City a check for \$51,290 for back taxes.

Possible construction plans have been presented to the public, but as of yet, the Mayflower remains a shell of what it once was.

Although 1996 has been a rocky year for the Mayflower owners and those who love the classic hotel, it seems 1997 may be the defining year.

Only time will tell.

# City Finance Director fired because of job performance

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

The City Finance Director was fired by the Plymouth City Commission March 4 for alleged poor job performance.

Bill Graham was with the City for nine years.

City Manager Steve Walters said Graham's performance had dropped over the past several years.

"It's not one little thing — this or that," he said. "But there were some negative descriptions in the audit report."

The annual audit was presented to the City Commission at their Jan. 16 meeting. The auditor called the City's accounting "clean," but added that there were some computer problems and mentioned slow billing. The Plymouth Downtown Development Authority complained that its statements — compiled by Graham — were slow in coming.

By early May, the City had compiled a list of 18 candidates to fill

Graham's position, which included 11 men and seven women.

The salary for the finance director was set between \$35,000 and \$50,000. Graham earned \$48,000 at the time of his termination.

A three-member panel of Plymouth officials searched for the new finance director. Carol Stone, the City's administrative services director, along with Walters and Assessor Judy Zirblis narrowed the field down and began interviews.

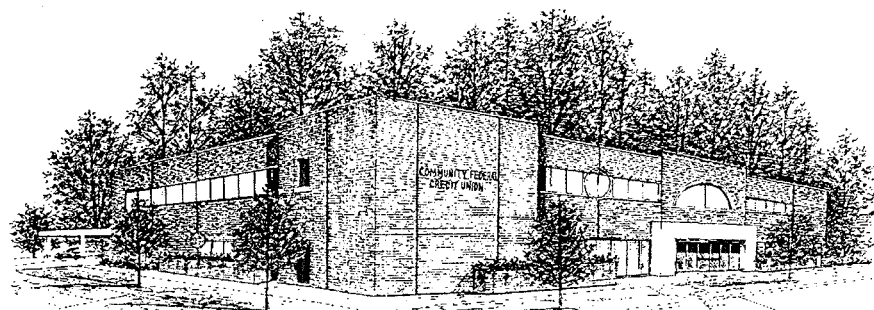
The committee nominated Mark Christiansen. His nomination was approved by the City Commission July 15.

Christiansen has more than 20 years of experience in municipal finances, including the last six years working for the City of Northville. Walters originally hired Christiansen in Northville in 1990.

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# YEAR IN REVIEW

*News Sports People 1996 Politics Opinions*

## Snapshots of the community

by R. Alwood Jr.

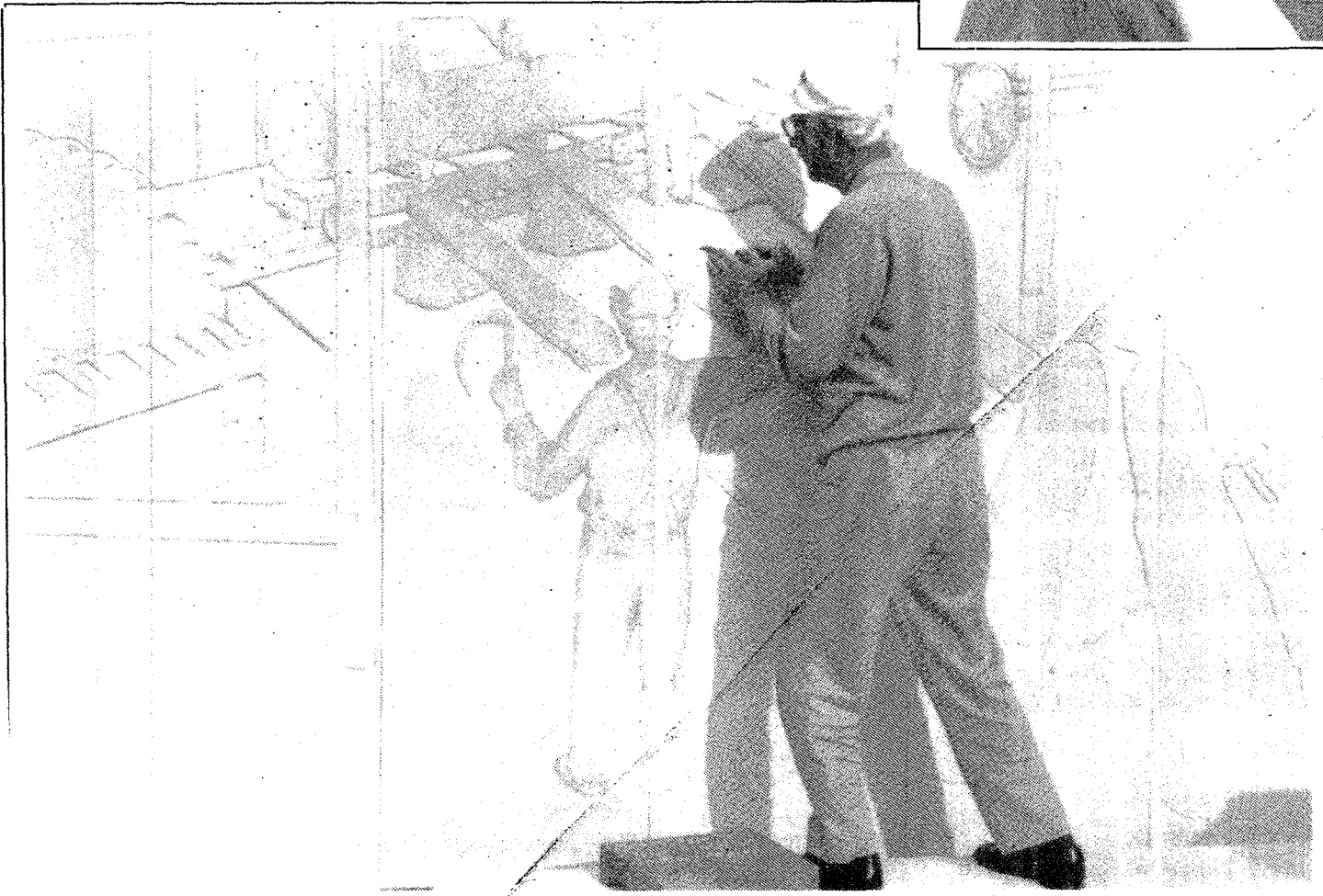
(right) Cardinal Adam Maida helps the children of Canton break ground on the new Catholic grade school. (bottom, right) A Vietnam veteran salutes his fallen comrades during a Memorial Day service. (below) Proud library board members and supporters broke ground this year for the new Plymouth District Library.





# YEAR IN REVIEW

*News Sports People 1996 Politics Opinions*



(top left) Tanks rolled into Canton as engineers stress-tested a bridge. The graffiti under the bridge read "love and peace" in a heart. (above) A bus driver welcomes children aboard for the first day of school. (left) Artist Steven Veresh crafted the molds that were used for the new murals at the Plymouth Historical Museum, donated by Margaret Dunning.

**Snapshots  
of the  
community**

by R. Alwood Jr.





# Election 1996 provided little excitement, few changes

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

There were several major elections in 1996 — few of which were hotly contested.

Early in the year voters headed to the polls (in pitifully small numbers — 2.87 percent) to elect Liz Givens and Jack Farrow to the Plymouth-Canton School Board.

Givens, a political newcomer from Canton, received the highest number of votes in the election. Farrow, an incumbent, followed in second.

Farrow succeeded in keeping his seat while Givens earned the seat left by Barbara Graham, who decided not to run for another term.

Givens and Farrow defeated Paul Schrauben and Jeff Phillips.

Following the election, Farrow said he fulfilled his goal: returning to the school board.

"Liz campaigned a bit," he said. "I didn't campaign at all. I spent absolutely zero. I knew to keep my seat, I had to finish second. That's what I did."

Political energy was something most every campaign lacked in 1996. Few incumbents were challenged and most who were, faced primary election opposition, but none in the November general election.



**Long-time Plymouth politician Carl Pursell watched the returns from his house election night, but he wasn't pleased with the results from the stadium proposal. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)**

The surprise of the 1996 election year came in the Aug. 6 primary. Ron Edwards handed long-time Plymouth Township Treasurer Mary Brooks a stunning loss.

Edwards defeated the incumbent by pounding the pavement, and looking for votes door-to-door throughout the Township.

In the end, Edwards' hard work paid off. "It feels fantastic," he said election night. "How do you thank all your supporters? My kids were going door-to-door asking people to vote for their dad."

Edwards, along with the rest of the incumbent candidates for office in Plymouth Township, faced no opposition in the general election.

The 1996 general election will be remembered because of their long lines and even longer ballots. Voters faced a dizzying array of Wayne County candidates and ballot issues, but for many local races, the outcome was known before voters headed to the polls.

There was no opposition to incumbent candidates in Canton except for a last-minute, unsuccessful write-in effort for supervisor by Michael Witten and the only race in Plymouth Township was decided in the primary.

None of the Plymouth City Commissioners were up for election, but a City road bonding plan received voter attention. The bond issue passed easily, changing the way the City finances road repairs from the traditional special assessment

district method to a City-wide bond.

Local political master Carl Pursell led the fight against Proposal S, a plan to build new Detroit sports stadiums with a 1 percent excise tax

Please see pg. 21

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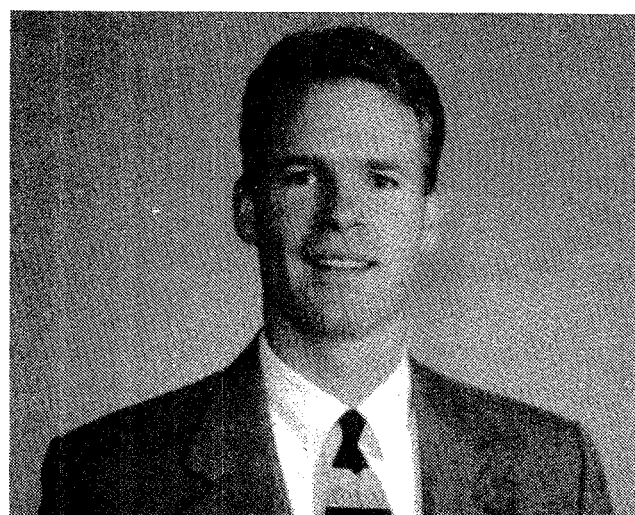
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# Few election surprises

Continued from pg. 20

on hotel/motels and car rentals. Although he fought tenaciously against what he called "corporate welfare," Pursell lost the fight both locally and county-wide.

Republican Thaddeus McCotter easily defeated Democrat R. Karl Burnett in the 10th County Commission District, after being bloodied, but not beaten by his primary opponent, Jeff Schroder. Republican Bruce Patterson faced no competition to keep his seat on the Wayne County Commission in the 11th District.

Republicans Gerry Law and Jerry Vorva faced off again in the primary election for the 20th State House slot in the general. Once again, incumbent Gerry Law prevailed. He went on to easily defeat Democrat Deborah Hoadley in the general election.

Republican incumbent Deborah Whyman faced a tough opponent for her reelection bid in the 21st House District. Democrat Deborah Nesbit gave Whyman a run, but came up short on election night.

Incumbent Democrat Eileen DeHart also faced a rough-and-tumble general election against Republican challenger Dennis LeMaitre for the 18th State House District. DeHart managed to squeak by and keep her office for two more years.

In a battle of the pocketbooks, Republican Joe Fitzsimmons lost to incumbent Congresswoman Lynn Rivers in the 13th Congressional District. Rivers also defeated Libertarian James F. Montgomery, Workers World candidate Jane Cutter and Socialist Equality candidate Jim Hartnett.

The biggest story of the 1996 election year may be the 1998 election. That's when term limits take effect. Many candidates are expected to take hard looks at higher office in 1998.

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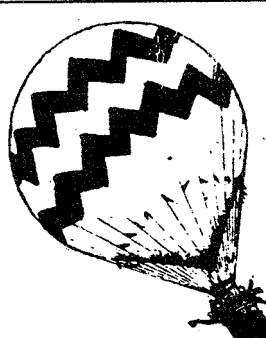
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**1996**

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# Teacher negotiations lasted most of 1996

BY BRYON MARTIN

In the Plymouth-Canton School District, most of 1996 was spent by teachers, their union and the school board in deadlocked negotiations.

In more than six months of debate, the district saw teacher picketing, board fact-finding, contentious talks and a student walkout at PCEP before an agreement was reached between the board and teachers.

The board's desire to renegotiate teachers' Blue Cross/Blue Shield coverage clashed with the salary and benefit demands of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Association (PCEA).

The board wanted teachers to accept a salary freeze and to pay more of the Blue Cross co-pay, or opt for a preferred provider organization (PPO); the PCEA wanted a 3.5 percent pay increase and a continuation of Blue Cross coverage.

Further complicating the debate were lesser but significant issues, foremost among them the fate of elementary art, music and physical education, and pay for extra duties such as coaching.

Apropos of the negotiation spectacle, both sides dug-in, and lapsed into standard administration/employee roles, claiming the proposed terms were unwarranted, unfair and economically unacceptable.

Negotiations stretched from February into October. Teachers worked more than 50 days without a contract. In protest, some teachers refused to support extra-curricular activities or write letters of recommendation for outgoing seniors.

Proving that the proverbial apple doesn't fall far from the teacher's desk, 200-800 PCEP students organized a protest of their own, and walked out of their fifth-hour classes. With megaphones, they gathered in the football stands to decry the effects the contract impasse had on their education.

It seemed nobody's interests could be met simultaneously with the needs of others: students needed support and guidance from the teachers, teachers needed health care and a raise from a school board who needed to spend less money.

There was no joy in Mudville.

Not until late October was an agreement reached. The board

consented to a 5 percent raise over two years (partially off-schedule, but 1.5 percent more than originally asked), and the PCEA accepted the co-pay increase, and alternative PPOs (one of their original demands).

Roughly 300 of 800 teachers voted against the contract, the most in recent history, but the contract passed, giving each camp portions of its original demands. This took nearly seven months. Members of the board said plans should be in place to prevent future deadlocks.

Chief Negotiator for the PCEA Tom Cotner agreed: "We're very interested in sitting down...and discussing ways of preventing this from happening again."

Of all those needs discussed, that to avoid gridlocked negotiations would cost the least to meet, and benefit the most.

## Bond vote likely in March

Continued from pg. 14

"We can't answer these questions because we don't know yet," Charles Little, superintendent, said. "If you ask me, 'Will there be a pool?' I can say no. Ask me, 'What will the mascot be? What are the school colors' and I don't know. These are not our priorities."

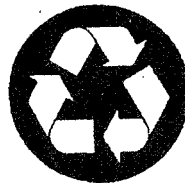
Some of the less-crucial details would work themselves out, and should not impede bond approval or construction. But without answers as to the specific location of the schools, it is unlikely voters will approve the bond.

"Without assurance that the new schools, particularly the high school, will offer students the same resources and opportunities as existing schools, parents will not approve the bond," Dead Swartzwelder, former board president, said. "Without a poll or a survey, I can tell you that right now."

According to current timetables, the board is scheduled to vote on the adoption of the bond at its Jan. 7, 1997 meeting; if the State approved it, the board could hold an election by mid-March or early April.

But as it can often be heard, the board must supply answers soon, and give voters a clear picture of what they would be voting for.

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# Teachers protest



Teachers picketed every P-C School Board meeting early in the school year carrying signs like the ones above. (Crier photo by Lisa Lepping)

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## YEAR IN REVIEW

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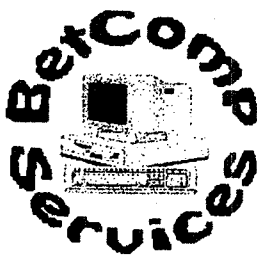
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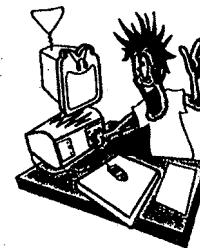
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# Edwards used audit to stun Brooks in election

BY BRYON MARTIN

If Ron Edwards' performance as Plymouth Township Treasurer is anything like his campaign for the position, the Treasury may receive the shaking up some say it needs.

## Twp. senior project ongoing

BY BRYON MARTIN

Despite some months of apparent inactivity, plans to convert the defunct Radisson hotel into a 203-unit senior housing complex remain online.

"The site plan has been approved by the Township, and we will seek construction bids from subcontractors beginning in February," John Hayes, president of P.M. Group, Inc., said.

In early April the Brighton-based firm first presented to the Township a plan to rehabilitate the deteriorating Radisson.

The hotel's banquet hall and meeting facilities will be torn down and replaced with 51 units for independent-senior living, according to Hayes. The units will include full kitchens, as well as a meal plan provided by the complex.

An existing portion of the hotel will be expanded for central facilities. Hotel rooms in the main five-story building would be converted into a total of 152 assisted- and independent-living units.

Assisted-living units will contain a kitchenette, and services will include three meals daily, aide staff and an on-site nurse.

The plan for the new complex, to be named Independence Village, has been complete for months. According to Hayes, however, bidding will not begin until February.

"The construction market is very, very busy now, so nobody is bidding competitively," Hayes said. "At the request of our subcontractors we are waiting to take bids."

Once a builder is found, construction could begin in May or June, Hayes said. "We may have to wait, but we're still on track."

Brooks in this year's election. He and his supporters cite a grassroots method of campaigning as the reason for his success.

"I put a lot of energy into (this campaign). I lost 34 pounds from the beginning up until (the end)," Edwards said.

Others, including Brooks, attribute the upset not to the method, but the content of Edwards' campaign.

His strategy was to call attention to others' criticisms of Brooks accounting methods, and to cite his own strengths in contrast.

In May of this year the Township's annual audit was accompanied by a letter recommending a streamlining of "the entire tax collection and distribution process," according to the report completed by Jackson-based Rehmann Robson CPAs & Consultants.

The letter urged the Township to devise new methods of disbursing current and delinquent taxes, "in order to comply with applicable laws and regulations," it said.

Brooks contested the accusations, pointing to the lack of computer support she had been requesting for three years. She also described the criticisms leveled at her as, "based on politics, not finances or job performance."

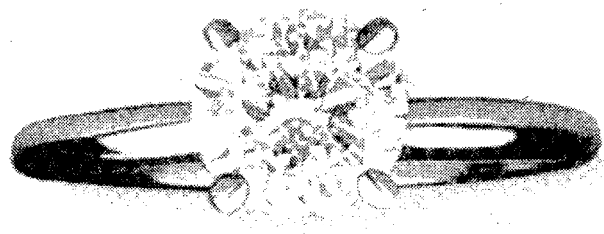
Regardless of the motivation behind the criticisms, their use was clearly political. Edwards implemented them in casting himself in the role of the better-abled candidate, a role he used to win the race.

"When you run a smear campaign it's hard to beat you," Brooks said, questioning the accuracy of Edwards' portrayal of her, and of himself. "I think it will be interesting to see how he relates to the Treasurer's Office and the Township Board."

This may be challenging for Edwards as his role changes from able candidate to new guy, filling a position last held by someone with over twenty years of Township service.

Another challenge, possibly more significant, would be to convert his savvy and energy for campaigning into improving efficiency at the Treasurer's Office.

That effort might cost him more than 34 pounds. The last person, despite 12 years of effort, lost her job while trying.



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# Police have busy 1996

The Canton Township, Plymouth Township and City of Plymouth Police Departments had a busy year with crime in 1996.

The biggest newsmaker of the year was the second murder-suicide in two years at the Ford Sheldon Road Plant in Plymouth Township on Aug. 18.

## JANUARY

• The Plymouth Township Police and the FBI caught a suspect in a Plymouth community bank robbery for the second time in less than a year. In both robberies the thief was captured less than a week later.

• More than 4,300 students and teachers were evacuated from Canton and Salem high schools on Jan. 26 because of a bomb threat. No evidence of a bomb was found after a thorough search.

## FEBRUARY

• Plymouth police officer Ron Bianchi spotted smoke from an apartment house in downtown Plymouth early in the morning on Feb. 15 and was able to wake the residents. His actions were a big reason why nobody died and five people are still alive.

## JULY

• Arbor Drugs Assistant Manager Skip Barnett was able to wrestle a gun away from a robbery suspect and Plymouth Township police officer Eric Anderson handcuffed the man on July 15 at the Arbor on the corner of Morton Taylor and Joy Roads.

## OCTOBER

• A Plymouth Township Police car struck a Plymouth-Canton bus early in the morning on Sept. 26. The patrol unit was responding to an armed robbery in progress. The bus was not carrying students and nobody was injured.

## DECEMBER

• At least four downtown Plymouth businesses were burglarized over the weekend of Dec. 1. Muriel's Doll House, Penniman Deli, The Animation Station and Heide's Flowers & Gifts were all hit.

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--	---	---

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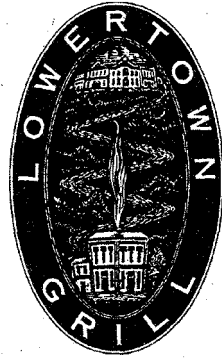
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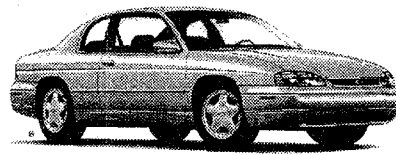
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1997 Monte Carlo



1997 Blazer

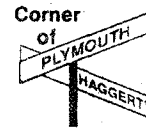
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## \* Free \*

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

Player Piano-needs work 459-5020 After 6  
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**45500 Moonlight Dr.** Large home in Beacon Trail Sub. \$249,500.

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**387 Hamilton** (condo) attached 2 car garage. 2 blocks from Park. \$134,900  
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## 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.** Call now! 313-453-6900  
1 year: \$40.00  
OR

send your check (or VISA/MC#) with your name and address to  
Community Crier  
821 Penniman Ave.  
Plymouth, MI 48170-1624

**SANTA CLAUS REEVES.** We miss you and your generous gifts of dolls to the little ones. We have not forgotten you and we have one of your dolls, a little angel, on the top of our Christmas tree. Bless you.

How's your Hudson's memories coming along? You say they're not? Well, get on it! Send your thoughts to the box number listed elsewhere in the Curiosities!

## Curiosities

**MASTERING MEDITATION.** A 3 week program covering basic techniques of relaxation and meditation; self-improvement. Free. Sri Chinmoy Centre of Ann Arbor: (313)994-7114 Lose up to 30 pounds in 30 days. Guaranteed (810)447-2425

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Lose up to 30 pounds in 30 days.  
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**SANTA SAYS ERICA & KIMMIE** were very good girls



I wonder what they got for Christmas

**ANNIE SAYS** That MITCH Buzzes Honey.

I wonder if his middle name is BEE?

**FAWZI** probably alters the Easter Bunny's fur!

**DAVE COOK**  
is 50!

**THAT'S NOT A FIRE ENGINE,** it's Lisa Filar's hair.

**SALLY REPECK ASKS ALL** present recipients to open their gifts and look for her car keys.

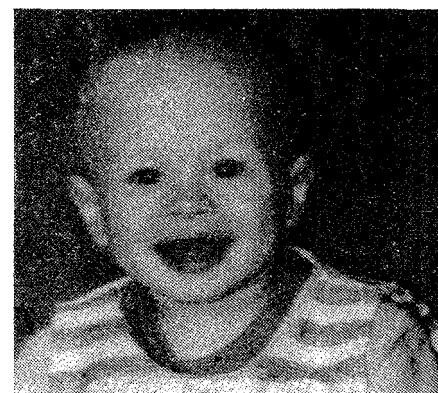
**BEAUREGARD** eats Dianne Quinn's ham.  
**MR. VACATION** does South of the Border up North.

**CINDY, BRENT, TERRI:** sorry, but you gotta watch out for scorned women.

**MIKE McGLINNEN** is alive.

**PHYLLIS AND BOB CAMERON** aren't done with the addition yet.

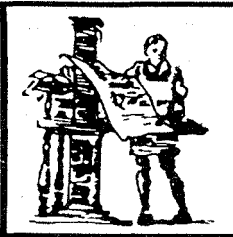
**LIZ -- THE NEW YORK TIMES.** Another step up. Remember! Don't you dare let them cap your teeth! (I am so proud of you.) Love, Geneva



Happy 1st Birthday Mick Harrison Bregel!  
Love, Grandma Judy & Grandpa Ernie  
Annie says that Mitch Buzzes honey  
I wonder if his middle name is bee?

## Curiosities

**Fawzi** probably alters the Easter Bunnies Fur!



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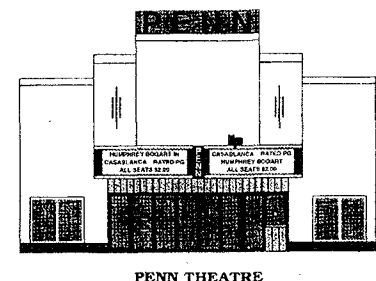
## Curiosities

Memories of the old  
**J. L. Hudson building on Woodward Avenue** in Downtown Detroit wanted. What do you remember best about the store on a retail level? On an architectural level? If you worked, shopped or day-dreamed there, please share all of your memories. Send all information and/or photos, plus name, address and phone number to:  
 "Memories"  
 P.O. Box 5315  
 Plymouth, Mi 48170

AMY- This is a "Watchbird" watching you! No smoking is the Watch Word.  
 CREON you are the greatest. Jack and I don't always agree, but we do on you!  
 Geneva

Linda & Stephen the ring on the finger means there are bells in your future. Congrats to you both!  
 Marge & John: Fried iquana tastes like Chicken-- Your friend Linda & Steven of Mt. Clemens  
 Jane Osler  
 is 30!

Lindak & Steven Woods are engaged! It's enough to Mike Matt Gantz cry.  
 May 1997 be healthy and happy for you.  
 SAM & KAY HORTON: lock up the wine Diane Herbruck will be staying in town.  
 "M-DESIGNS" Moe, I wanted to sincerely thank you for creating my truly unique and amazing engagement RING! It's beautiful. Stephen & I will treasure it always best of luck with your new shop, Linda



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CAROL KNAPP- Thank you for caring we knew that life was'nt easy, but no one told us that it was this hard. Lovingly, Geneva  
 MATT GANTZ hasn't cried since 8th grade - till now

SALLY was suprised--altho' all of Fleet Street knew.  
 Vince Herbruck has "tried dogs." Interesting looking feet, Vince.

Snow...shovel,shovel, shovel  
 "THAT HANDLE THING"©  
 Mathisons'...Canton  
 Blacks'.....Northville  
 Saxtons'.....Plymouth

JESS eats cream cheese blintzes made fresh by Aunt Diane.

## Curiosities

SPRINT eats RUTABAGA.  
 DAVE COOK is 50!  
 Snow's coming  
 Lift that shovel easier  
 "THAT HANDLE THING"©  
 Saxtons'...Plymouth  
 Blacks'...Northville  
 Mathisons'...Canton



JESS eats airplane food (!)  
 BEAUREGARD was happy to attend stephanie's MEAT FEST.  
 "THAT HANDLE THING"©  
 Better get one soon...  
 Blacks'.....Northville  
 Mathisons' Canton  
 Saxtons'.....Plymouth

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**\*ATTN: Plymouth\***  
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**NEEDED: SITTER.** My kids need a child-friendly place to do homework and eat their dinner after school until 6:30. If you're loving and flexible, have the space, time and heart, call Grace 313-454-6685

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 Line Cook, Prep Cooks, Great Pay! Call or in person Lowertown Grill 313-451-1213  
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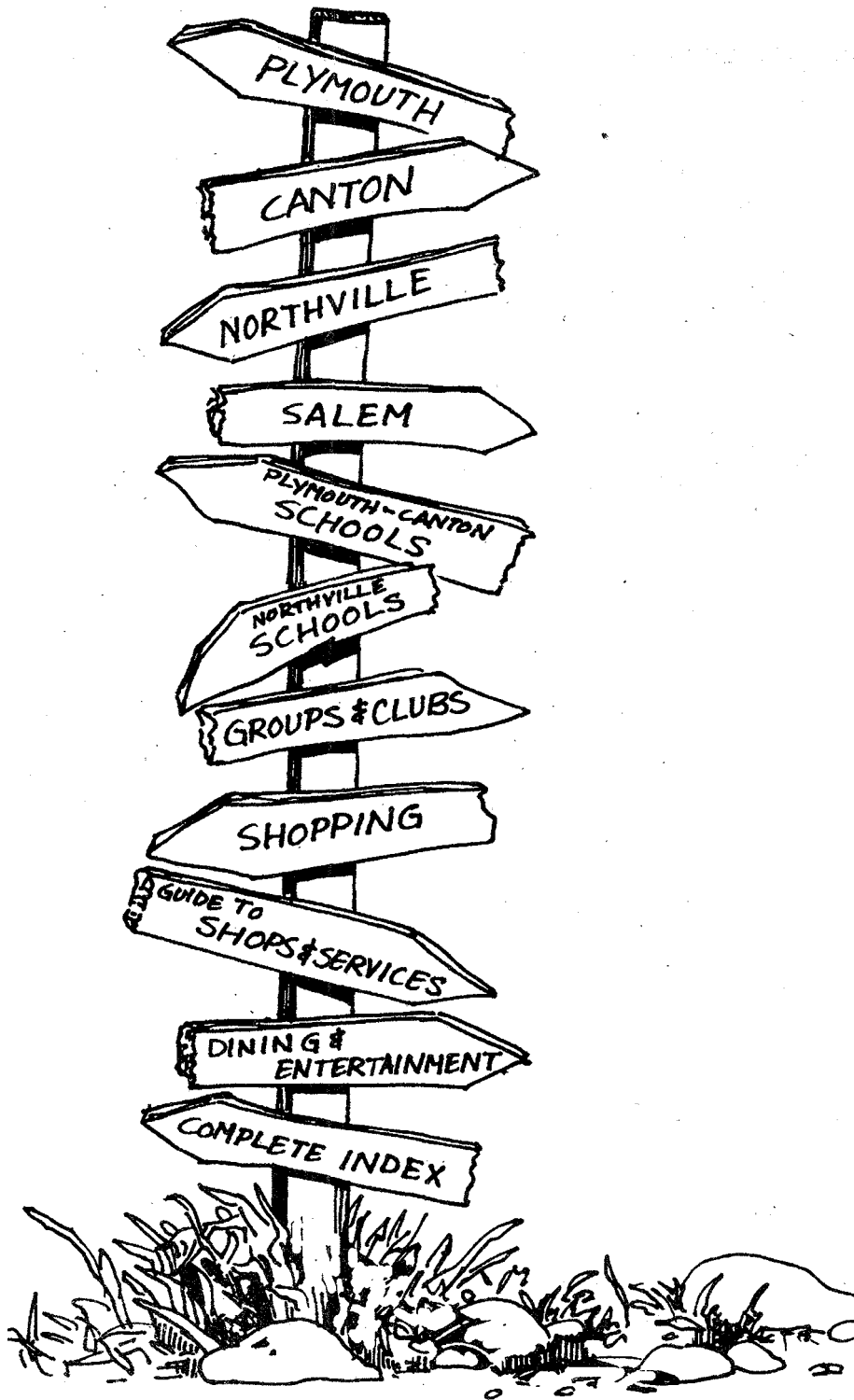
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# YEAR IN REVIEW

*News Sports People 1996 Politics Opinions*



## Sports

### On deck

#### SALEM BOYS BASKETBALL

Salem's next game is at Ypsilanti Lincoln on Friday with the J.V. game starting at 5:30 p.m. and varsity beginning immediately afterwards.

At home versus Milan on Tuesday, J.V. starting at 6 p.m.

#### SALEM BOYS SWIMMING

The Rocks' next meet will be at North Farmington on Jan. 9 at 7 p.m.

#### SALEM WRESTLING

At home for the Salem "16" Invitational Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

#### SALEM GYMNASTICS

Always one of the best team in the state, Salem gymnastics' next meet is next Wednesday at home versus Hartland.

#### SALEM VOLLEYBALL

The next varsity match is in the Portage Northern Invitational Saturday at 8 a.m.

#### CANTON BOYS BASKETBALL

Canton's next game is at Farmington Friday with the J.V. game starting at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity beginning immediately afterwards.

At Ann Arbor Huron on Tuesday, J.V. starting at 5:30 p.m.

#### CANTON BOYS SWIMMING

After the holidays the Chiefs travel to Ypsilanti to face Ann Arbor Huron Tuesday at 7 p.m.

#### CANTON WRESTLING

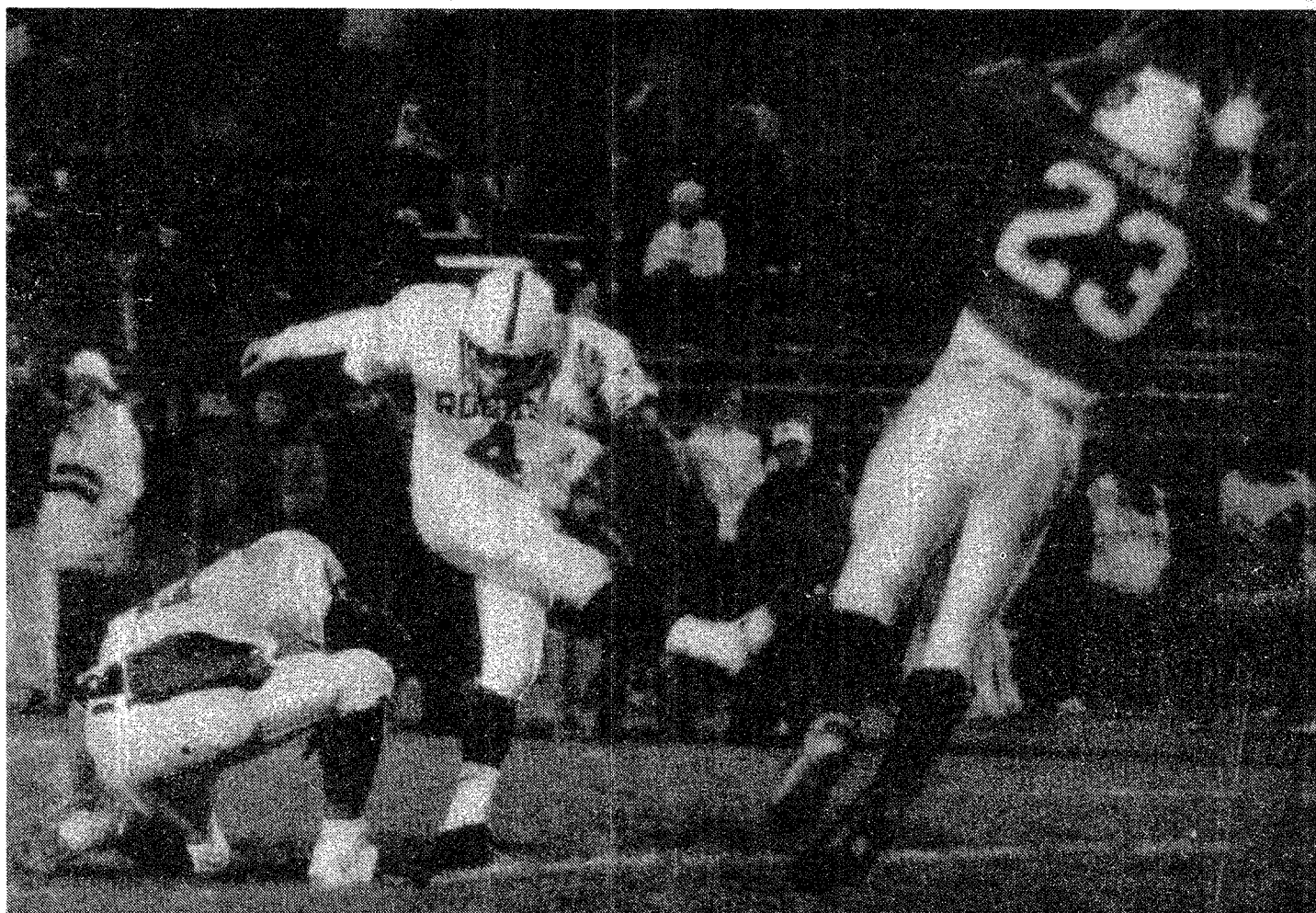
At Salem for the Salem "16" Invitational Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

#### CANTON GYMNASTICS

The Chiefs next match takes place at Northville next Wednesday at 7 p.m.

#### CANTON VOLLEYBALL

At the Walled Lake Central Varsity Invitational Saturday at 9 a.m.



Whenever the Canton and Salem football teams clash, it's a close game. In fact, there were many close games throughout the year for the Chiefs and Rocks. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

## Team spirit alive in community

### JANUARY

In a battle of the volleyball titans, the Salem Rocks crushed the Canton Chiefs in the semifinals of the 10-team Plymouth Invitational, 15-2, 15-2. Canton would continue its winning ways later in the month by capturing the U of M Dearborn Invitational title.

It was another court classic Jan. 23 when the Canton and Salem boys basketball teams played each other. For the second year in a row, the game went into overtime, but this time the Chiefs won, 65-64, to remain unbeaten at 9-0. The winning shot was made by forward Ron Hunter, who finished with 23 points. Salem's leading scorer was Andres Lopez (23 points).

### FEBRUARY

A perfect season. Often just a dream, it was reality for the Salem High School

freshmen boys basketball team. Coached by Tom Williams and led by centers Andy Brandt and Justin Carls and guard Aaron Rypkowski, the Rocks went 19-0, punishing their foes by an average score of 63-39.

The Salem Rocks boys swim team completed an undefeated season (9-0) by winning the Western Lakes Activities Association conference meet with a total of 441 points. Mark Dettling (100-yard butterfly) was the Rocks only first-place finisher.

### MARCH

The Canton Chiefs gymnastics team finished second at the state finals competition in Troy; Salem finished 10th. Chiefs star Katey Gilles finished in third place in Division I. Kristin Kosik was the Rocks' top Division I gymnast finishing in seventh place.

The Detroit Whalers of the Ontario Hockey League announced plans to build a 4,000-seat, 150,000-square-foot hockey arena with two ice surfaces in Plymouth Township.

The Rock volleyball team ended their season with the second-best team record in school history, 44-8-2.

The Canton Chiefs boys basketball team was bumped from the playoffs in a first-round regional game, 73-57, by the top-ranked team in the state, Detroit Pershing. Their 22-2 record was the best in school history.

### APRIL

The Rocks' girls track team was off and running early in the season when they took fifth place out of 47 teams at the Spartan Relays.

After losing their first three games o

Please see pg. 3.

# YEAR IN REVIEW

News Sports People 1996 Politics Opinions



## Sports

### Sports provided area with excitement in 1996

Continued from pg. 30

Season, the Canton baseball team caught fire when they scored 18 runs in 10 games against Ann Arbor Huron, proving their record to 5-3.

#### MAY

In a showdown of soccer powerhouses, Salem took out Canton, 3-0. Jodi Hyle, Mia Sarkesian and Jennel Davis scored for the Rocks.

The Canton and Salem tennis teams played to a 4-4 tie.

Construction of the Detroit Whalers rink — Compuware Sports Arena — was full swing.

Canton beat Salem, 2-0, in the soccer district final game.

#### JUNE

Canton resident Mark Tate's Smokin' Joe's unlimited hydroplane was knocked out of the final heat during the Detroit Thunderfest.

The Canton girls soccer team captured the Class A state title when they defeated Troy, 2-0, at the PCEP. Kelly West and Penny Parviainen scored, and goalie Sarah Warnke stopped all 10 shots she faced.

#### JULY

The Canton Softball Center held the United States Slow-pitch Softball Association 14-and-under World Series. Approximately 4,000 people attended the event, which was won by the Arkansas Patriots.

Former Canton High School football player Ron Hunter played in the high school all-star football game at Michigan State University.

#### AUGUST

Plymouth resident Suzan Daoust and the rest of her crew team participated in the Henley Royal Regatta, one of Great Britain's premier college rowing events dating back to 1839.

The Canton Softball Center hosted the Michigan Special Olympics Sports Classic. More than 800 athletes from across the state participated.

#### SEPTEMBER

The Detroit Whalers moved practices from Bloomfield Hills to Compuware Sport Arena in Plymouth Township.

The Canton Chiefs girls basketball team got off to a great start at 7-1, including a 56-38 victory over Flint Powers.

#### OCTOBER

The Detroit Whalers won their home



The Canton girls basketball team was hot this year. The Chiefs won seven of their first eight games, including this commanding victory over Flint Powers, 56-38. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

opener, 2-0 versus Kingston, before 3,877 spectators. Goalie Robert Esche pitched the shutout. Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen-McCarthy dropped the puck at the first-ever OHL game played in Plymouth Township.

The Canton and Salem boys soccer team played to a 2-2 deadlock. The Chiefs battled back from a 2-0 deficit to tie the defending state champions.

Several Plymouth residents are on the Ann Arbor Sun & Snow Stingrays who captured the National In-Line Hockey Association International Tournament title for boys ages 9-11.

The Canton boys varsity cross country team finished third in the WLAA.

#### NOVEMBER

The Canton boys soccer team was booted from the state tournament in the regional final game, losing 1-0 to Livonia Stevenson.

The Salem gridders completed a successful season by beating cross-campus rival Canton 36-20, for PCEP bragging rights. Salem finished 6-3 and just missed the playoffs. Canton was 4-5.

The Canton and Salem swim teams finish seventh and second, respectively, at the WLAA meet.

The Detroit Whalers posted the first sellout in franchise history, a record topped the next week when even more fans watched Detroit beat Sudbury, 6-1.

#### DECEMBER

The Canton varsity girls volleyball team started the season off on the right foot by winning the Allen Park Invitational, going 12-0 in games.

The Salem wrestlers finished second at the Salem 8 Tournament.

The Canton and Salem boys swim teams finished first and second at the WLAA conference relays.





# Sports

## Whalers solve London's puzzle, pound Knights, 8-4, in offensive battle at Compuware Arena

BY BRIAN CORBETT

The defensive-minded Whalers unleashed their hidden firepower and defeated the London Knights, 8-4, in a three-hour Saturday night shootout at Compuware Sports Arena.

Detroit jumped out to a 3-0 lead prior to the midway point of the first period, and led 8-2 early in the third period before London narrowed the margin with two goals late in the game. The victory snapped the Whalers' two-game losing streak and gave goalie Nathan West his first-ever OHL win.

West, who made 30 saves, has been starting in place of Robert Esche, who is playing for Team USA in the junior world championships in Europe.

The game retained a few aspects of a typical divisional grudge match, but with several of each team's bruisers out of the lineup, the skill players took center stage.

It was the first time this season Detroit (14-19-1) had so handily disposed of London, who is 6-26-1 overall but 3-2 against the Whalers. Detroit's special teams were spectacular. The power play unit continued to improve by scoring three goals. The penalty killers scored shorthanded and held London to one goal on five power play chances.

The lopsided victory is even more impressive considering it came without regulars Esche, forward Jesse Boulerice, and defensemen Sergei Fedotov and Kevin Holdridge who are all playing in international hockey tournaments during the holidays. Also, captain Mike Morrone is still sidelined following back surgery, and Steve Dumonski was scratched to attend to a personal matter.

"When you look at how many regulars were out, the other guys really stepped up and played well," said Whalers Coach Peter DeBoer.

Harold Druken had two goals and one assist for Detroit. Teammate Mark Cadotte used his quick play to score two goals. Scrappy forward Dan Pawlaczyk had one goal, two assists and 19 penalty minutes. Randy Fitzgerald, Luc Rioux and Julian Smith also scored for the Whalers, who improved their record to 5-5 this month.

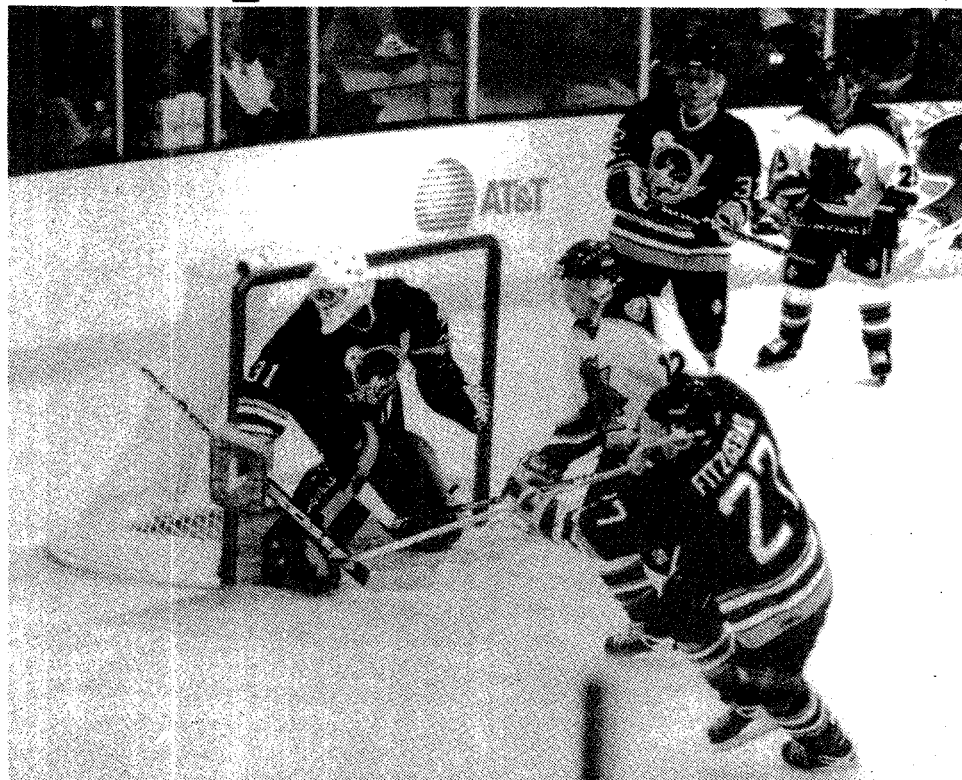
"The team and the coaches were not happy with the last two or three efforts we put in just before the break," DeBoer said of losses to Windsor and North Bay. "When you look at the way we were playing, we had become a little unfocused in our game. So we decided to try and get our focus back, and I think we did a good job of that (Saturday). I think the team we saw in the last two games before Christmas was not the Whalers team we know."

Detroit took an early lead when Andrew Taylor passed from behind the London net to Druken, who was stopped by goalie Gene Chiarello. But the rebound bounced to Chiarello's right and was poked in by Fitzgerald for his eighth goal of the season at 3:11. With Detroit on the power play, Steve Wasylko carried the puck into the right circle and backhanded a pass across the slot to Pawlaczyk, who beat Chiarello to his right at 7:22.

On the power play again, the Whalers took a commanding 3-0 lead when Pawlaczyk roped a centering pass from the left circle to Druken, who waited for Chiarello to go down before shooting high.

Center Ron Newhook scored for London before the period was over. At 3:36 of the second period, London's Jim Moss answered a score by Cadotte 1:16 early, but Detroit scored four unanswered goals to cruise to victory.

**Dec. 21 versus North Bay** — Host Detroit lost in overtime to the East Division North Bay Centennials, 5-4. Shawn Gallant, called up from his Tier II to back up West during



The Whalers have faced the London Knights several times this season. On paper, Detroit should dominate, but they've had trouble with London's aggressive style of play. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Esche's absence, started the game, making 12 saves. North Bay jumped out to a 2-1 first period lead, and scored 1:23 into overtime to win.

Julian Smith (two goals), Chad Cavanagh and Jan Vodrazka scored for Detroit.

Gallant said he hopes he gets a chance to redeem himself when Detroit plays in North Bay this weekend. "That was my first game back in three weeks or so. I thought I could've played better, but I did as best as I could. That's all I could do. I thought I played an alright game, but I let in that bad goal in overtime and let the team down," he said.

**Chatter:**

Team USA is 1-0-1 in junior world championship competition following Saturday's 4-4 tie with Canada. "That was a huge point for them," said DeBoer...

Canada is the defending champion. Esche remains in a backup role, but Boulerice has been playing regularly. "He was excellent (Saturday)," DeBoer said...

DeBoer will not make the three-game swing through northern Ontario this weekend. He will join Holdridge, who is the captain for Team USA, in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada for the under-17 tournament.

**WHALERS STATISTICS**

**Season leaders:**  
 Goals-Taylor (16)  
 Points-Taylor (31)  
 Penalty Minutes-Boulerice (189)  
 Power Play Goals-Taylor, Cavanagh (6)  
 Shorthanded Goals-Cavanagh, Cadotte, Terzo, Fitzgerald (1)  
 Game winners-Cavanagh (4)  
 Plus/minus-Pawlaczyk (+3)  
**Team stats:**  
 Power play-34 for 188, 19.7%, 16th OHL  
 Penalty killing-34 for 196, 82.3%, 2nd OHL

**CATCH OF THE DAY:**

Who?	When?	Where?
North Bay	1-2-97	7:30 away
Sudbury	1-3-97	7:30 away
S.S.M	1-5-97	6:00 away
Sarnia	1-9-97	7:30 away

East Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
Ottawa	27	4	2	9-1-0	56
Oshawa	20	11	3	6-2-2	43
Peterborough	19	15	2	5-4-1	40
Kingston	13	18	3	4-5-1	29
Belleville	12	19	5	4-5-1	29
North Bay	8	30	2	0-9-1	18
Central Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
Guelph	20	11	3	5-5-0	43
Kitchener	19	11	3	7-3-0	41
Owen Sound	20	13	1	9-1-0	41
Barrie	18	15	3	5-3-2	39
Sudbury	11	19	3	3-6-1	25
Erie	11	22	3	1-8-1	25
West Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
S.S.Marie	20	10	7	4-2-4	47
Sarnia	20	9	4	4-5-1	44
Windsor	13	18	5	7-2-1	31
DETROIT	14	19	2	7-2-1	28
London	6	27	1	7-2-1	13

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# Community opinions

## The Community Crier is your paper

The Community Crier is your newspaper.

Congratulations to all those listed on this page. Everyone listed took the time to write a letter to the editor. By writing a letter, different opinions and points of view are expressed to the community.

Through these letters, a dialogue is developed — a dialogue that is important to the community — a dialogue that is important to everyone at The Community Crier.

We strive to bring the reader the latest news and opinions, but without the help of the reader, our job would be much more difficult.

Take the time to write a letter to the editor. Let the community know what you think!

There are many ways to contact the editor.

Write a letter to: "Letter to the Editor," 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170.

Call the editor at (313) 453-6900. E-mail at RKirkbride@aol.com.

THE COMMUNITY CRIBER

## Community editorials

### Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce should represent local businesses first

EDITOR:

Knowing of your commitment to the City of Plymouth and the success of businesses that have located in your community, we have chosen to write you with what we feel is a disservice being done to the Plymouth business community by the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce.

On Dec. 18, Jennifer Littrell called the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce inquiring about a printer and wondering what printer the chamber of commerce would recommend. The first printer that was given to her was a business located in Canton.

Our print store was the last of four names given out.

We recognize that every member of a chamber of commerce should be able to solicit business from this community, however, we are concerned that businesses located in Plymouth, paying taxes in Plymouth, and supporting Plymouth programs are not given preferential treatment by an organization that is set up to promote the community and businesses located here.

We would like your support in contacting the chamber of commerce and asking them to establish a policy of identifying businesses, when requested by residents, by the community they are located in.

For example, when asked for printers the chamber of commerce should respond by stating "in the City of Plymouth we have Sir Speedy and Pen and Ink. If you are interested in Plymouth Township we have xyz printer. From Canton we have abc printer."

We need to recognize that businesses paying taxes in Plymouth (either the City or Township) should be acknowledged first, before businesses that are from outside the community. After all, we do belong to the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, not the Plymouth-Canton Chamber of Commerce.

Your help in addressing this issue will be greatly appreciated.

ROSE GADWELL

JEFFREY MCCONNELL

THE PEN & INK PRINT SHOPPE

EDITOR'S NOTE: This letter was addressed to Mayor Ron Loiselle.

## Letters to editor made difference in community

### January

Thomas V. Adamusik, Michael J. Gerou, Richard and Donna Bargowski.

### February

Courtney Hutchings, Richard Giles, Jeff Phillips, Michelle Plumb, Charlene A. Miller, Lisa Yount.

### March

Dennis Campbell, Linda Williams, Sylvia Smaizys, Beth Stewart, Sheryl Tripp Khoury, Joan Palmer, Jorge L. Rodriguez, Janet Sockolosky, Steven L. Walters.

### April

Michael E. Duggan, John Pappas, Phyllis J. Wordhouse, Jeffrey M. Phillips, Patty Mundy, Abe A. Munfakh, Derrick S. Liebau, James Maahs, Nancy Pilon, "A concerned, long time Plymouth resident", Earl Harrington, Arlene Deforest, The family of Burnetta Forbing, Kenneth Way.

### May

Del Templeton, Terry Bennett, Smith Elementary School Staff, Students and Families, Maureen K. Karby, Rob Myers, Elden Zang, Joanne Lamar, Janet Campbell, Scott D. Kappler, Cameron A. Miller.

### June

Lisa Benages, Bill Bailey, David Pierce, Nick Ristich, Audrey Guilfoyle, Gregory W. Dean, Pat Bunyea, Judith M. Stone, Chuck Childs, John R. Dubes, Roy L. Rennolds, Jo Ann Steuwe, Derrick S. Liebau, Ann Marie Wagner.

### July

Robert Welch, E.A. Sund, Marilyn Henry, Steve Harper, David P. Artley, Dorothy Driscoll, James Hollingsworth, Melissa McLaughlin, Bill Baxter, Stewart Olford, Roger Kehrier, Alan & Marilyn Faber, Kathryn Pumphrey, Andrea Frey, Sandy Baranski.

### August

Bill Bailey, Anne Sullivan, Thaddeus G. McCotter, Jerry

Vorva, Susan Stoney, Mike Gerou, Bill Case, Jerry Trumpka, Rob Myers, James F. Maahs, Phil Menendez, Don Dignan, Maureem McInerney, Abe A. Munfakh, Peter Broderick, John Triebwasser, Bill Black, Ann Smith, Connie Toniolo, Don Schneider, Nick Ristich, Earl Hall, Dave Pugh, Avia Powell, Graham Laible, Sally Repeck, Frank Kuszak.

### September

Dudley Barlow, Ronald Carlson, Kathryn Pumphrey, John Guettler, Marilyn Henry, Barbara Wicher, Bud Martin, Andrew Lennington, Carol Davis, Judy J. Donegan, Ted Bohlen, Joan Pence, Del Templeton, Rosita Smith.

### October

Barbara B. Masters, Bill Keith, E.J. McClendon, Sheryl Tripp Khoury, Bob Carr, Erik M. Mayernik, Linda and Jim Demmer, Mark T. Slavens, Erica D'Angelo, Shirley Bulson, Corrine Kert, Jim McKeon, Dolores Thibeau, Gayl Parr, Carol Stone, Doris S. Wernett, Peggy Wingard, Don and Jessie Schaufele, Karen and Michael Wagner, Dwight Eckler, M.L. MacDonald, D. Jewell, Helen Clinansmith, Walter Scott, Harry Krumm, G. Olson, Frank Kuszak, Mike Carne.

### November

Kathy Lake, Nancy Wecker, Mark Lloyd and his "Amazing Chemistry Class", Dave Siegrist and John Warner, Del Templeton, Fran Toney, Sheryl Tripp Khoury, Martha Schultz, Thomas Turner, Janet Campbell, Mark Lloyd and his "Metrically-Inclined Chem Class", Jan Donaldson, Ron Lowe, Jan Sockolosky.

### December

Mary Heskett, Verne E. Keeth, Peter Tiboris, Paul Munzenberger, Beth A. Stewart, Janet A. Warrick, Randy J. Lee, E. Hammonds, Charles Little, Bonnie Holyoak, George Dodson, Joanne W. Hulce, Debbie Madonna, Rev. John J. Sullivan, Mary Heskett, Del Templeton.





# Community opinions

## As Fred said...the race is on

You've read the ongoing controversy about the Three Wise Men's trek across Kellogg Park on the recent opinion pages here.

It's time to put the argument to rest. As you've read, the argument is not whether there should be such a religious exposition in a public park, but whether the wise guys are moving at appropriate speeds.

Only the City of Plymouth DPW — oops Department of Municipal Services — knows for sure what their marching orders are for moving the wise men slowly across the park. Only they know which of the three will wind up in first place at the manger.

To borrow an idea from the late, great Newspaper Editor Fred DeLano of Plymouth Mail days, here's the final word on the subject:



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## Growth issues will dominate 1997

It's hard to believe 1996 is over.

What a year it's been for The P-C Community and myself.

While we look at the past for guidance, it's fun to look to the future for hope.

One thing is for certain. My son Liam, who was born Aug. 5, 1996, will get bigger this year.

Other things aren't quite as clear.

What will happen in 1997 — and more importantly to me as the editor of The Crier — what will be newsworthy?

I see several issues dominating the news in 1997.

The Plymouth-Canton Schools are expected to present voters with a bond vote in March or April to build a new high school and elementary school.

What will happen if the bond fails? What will the district put the bulging number of students?

And if the bond passes? We know the district is planning to build a high school and elementary school, but there are simple issues that will be discussed in 1997 as well. What

# Angry?

Write a letter to the editor.

The Community Crier, 821 Penniman Ave.,  
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## No curves

By Rob Kirkbride



will the schools be called? What will happen to the Salem and Canton sports teams when each loses players to a new high school?

In Canton, growth again will dominate the agenda. Plans are underway for a new post office. The fire station will be underway. A new Catholic grade schools will be in place. Road paving will be a hot issue, as will the possibility of a new Canton theater.

Plymouth faces the monumental task of implementing the road bonding program, the construction of a new library and more parking headaches. Will Plymouth see more new restaurants in 1997? Will the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority collect money for a marketing campaign?

In the Township, government organization will be the top issue. Will the police department expand? Will there be a push to build a new Township Hall? Will Township Treasurer Ron Edwards smoothly and successfully assume his role as a board member and administrator?

Predicting news is a tricky business. It's hard to tell when the next news story is waiting to explode in The P-C Community.

But it's always fun to find out. And we'll be there to let you know.

## The Community Crier



THE  
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WITH ITS  
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CANTON  
COMMUNITY

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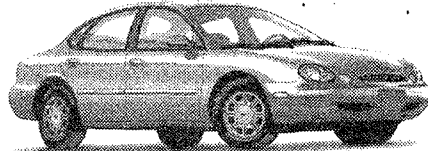
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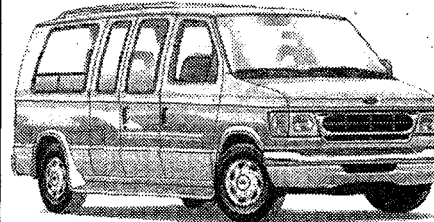


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**Hurry... Only a Few Left!**

### 1996 F150 XLT

Tilt, cruise, air, power mirrors, aluminum wheels, power windows, locks, AM/FM cassette, sliding rear window. PEP507A. Stock # 63677

Was \$19,835  
**NOW \$13,990\***  
 24 Month Lease **\$179\*\*** a month

**91 CONTOURS AVAILABLE**

### 1997 Contour GL

Pep 236A, tilt, cruise, air conditioning, power locks/mirrors, premium sound, AM/FM cassette. Stock #70769.

Was \$16,805  
**NOW \$13,865\***  
 24 Month Lease **\$216\*\*** a month

**106 WINDSTARS AVAILABLE**

### 1996 Windstar GL

Seven passenger buckets, speed, tilt, light group, defrost, air, cassette, power convenience group, 3.8 liter, mats, extended range fuel tank, privacy glass, PEP 472A. Stock #64392

Was \$23,865  
**NOW \$17,895\***

**86 RANGERS AVAILABLE**

### 1997 Ranger XLT

AM/FM cassette, XLT trim, aluminum wheels, power steering, power brakes, sliding windows, PEP864. Stock # 71722

Was \$20,705  
**NOW \$15,695\***  
 24 Month Lease **\$149\*\*** a month

**FREE MOTOROLA FLIPLESS PHONE**  
 With Purchase (requires two year activation with Cellular One)

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# JACK DEMMER

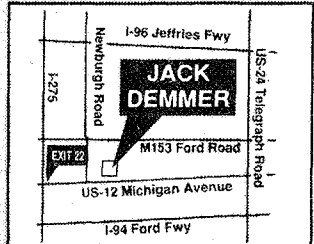


MODEL	SECURITY DEPOSIT	TOTAL DUE AT INCEPTION
Ranger	\$125	\$1879
Contour	\$250	\$2118
F-150	\$200	\$1992
T-Bird	\$275	\$2173
Taurus	\$225	\$2095
Taurus Renewal	\$200	\$2078
'97 F150	\$175	\$1942
Van Conversion	\$300	\$733

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\*Plus tax, title, destination and any applicable rebate assigned to dealer. \*\* Closed end lease payments are with \$1500 down payment. 12,000 miles per year, 15c per mile over 24,000 miles. Lessee has no obligation to purchase vehicle at lease end but may arrange to purchase vehicle at a price to be negotiated with JACK DEMMER FORD at lease inception. Subject to approval. Lessee is responsible for excess wear & tear. Payments do not include monthly use tax. To figure total payments add 6% tax and multiply by term.