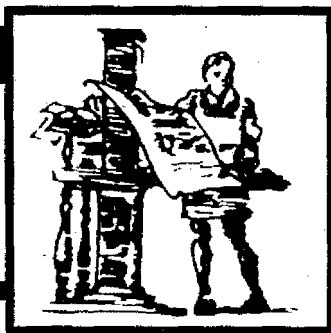


Candidate endorsement

The Crier sizes up those running for School Board Trustee, pg. 22



The Community Crier

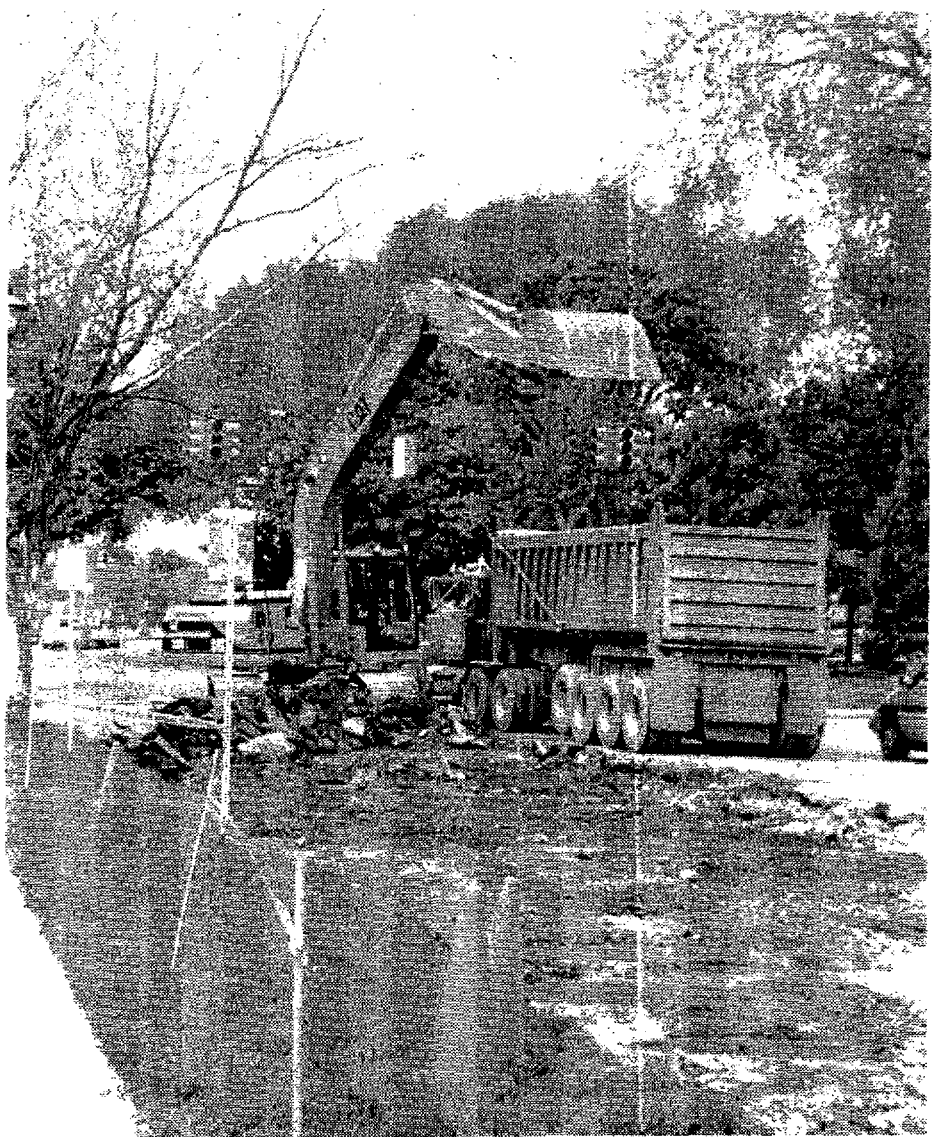
The Newspaper with Its Heart in The Plymouth-Canton, MI Community

75¢

Vol. 24 No. 18

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June 4, 1997



Canton hits census target

Twp. now awaits State certification of count

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton Township hit its projected mid-decade census goal at 2 a.m. Wednesday morning, according to Canton Clerk Terry Bennett, and they're still counting.

"We're still doing some clean-up," Bennett said. "There are still some apartment complexes with a significant number of no responses. We could get 80 to 100 more."

Enumerators have counted between 67-68,000, according to Bennett, 2,000 more than the 15 percent growth goal of 65,996.

"With the final counts being tabulated, we may have a real number of 70,000," Bennett

Please see pg. 10

Harvard bound

Plymouth Twp. Supervisor wins Taubman Fellowship

BY JILLIAN BOGATER

Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen-McCarthy has been named the recipient of a fellowship that will allow her to attend a national government program at Harvard this summer.

Keen-McCarthy received the 1997 Taubman Company Fellowship for Executive Excellence. As a fellow, she will participate in Harvard University's Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Governments.

"I'm delighted for the opportunity," she said. "A lot can be learned. I look forward to bringing back ideas for our community."

The July program will examine ways to develop effective leadership in local govern-



Kathleen Keen-McCarthy

Please see pg. 10

Where the streets have one lane

Workers tear up a section of Ann Arbor Trail, part of a city-wide street improvement made possible through last November's millage increase. The project began May 15 and work on Ann Arbor Trail started last week. Elizabeth, Farmer, Garling, Park View, Harvey, Fralick, North and South Main will see work, too. City officials say the project will be complete by the end of September. (Crier photo, R. Alwood Jr.).

Open houses

Symphony League sponsors home tours as fundraiser

See Friends & Neighbors pg. 6

Silver who?

The name has changed but the food's the same at Vassel's

See Getting Down to Business pg. 8

Girls BATTLE

Canton Chiefs eliminate Rocks from softball tourney

See Sports pgs. 18-19

Plymouth Twp. trustees approve preliminary plat for sub Huntington Park would bring 163 lots, greenspace and pavement to Powell and Napier Rd.s

BY JILLIAN BOGATER

The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees approved a final preliminary plat for the Huntington Park Subdivision at its May 27 meeting.

This moves toward the final phase in the platting process — approval of the final plat — which will allow the developers, Real Estate Interest Group (REI), to begin construction.

Shirley Barney said she expects REI to file for a final plat sometime this summer.

The proposed subdivision is located on 91.7 acres of land south of M-14 between Powell and Napier roads. The majority of the 163 lots exceed 20,000 square feet.

At the Plymouth Township Planning Commission's recommendation, REI made several changes to the final preliminary plat before last week's meeting.

Changes include submitting a landscape plan outlining the species and quantities of plantings, the type of underground irrigation, an agreement that the developer will replace landscaping material that dies, the installation timing and areas slated for seeding and sodding.

The developers plan to install a pathway joining M-14 and an open space area, pave Powell and Napier roads and put in sidewalks along both roads.



Public notices

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 27, 1997

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led in the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. All members were present.

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes as submitted for the May 13, 1997, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill amended the agenda by adding under New Business Item J.1 Request for Reimbursement - Supervisor and J.2 Request - Recreation Survey. Mrs. Massengill then moved to approve the agenda for the May 28, 1997, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees as amended. Seconded by Mrs. Mueller. Ayes all.

Mr. Griffith moved to approve Final Preliminary Plat for Application No. 1429B/397, Huntington Park Subdivision, located north of Powell Road, on the south side of M-14 Expressway, west of Plymouth Commons Subdivision and east of Napier Road. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Griffith moved to approve the Supervisor's request for reimbursement of the roundtrip air fare to Boston and business related expenses to attend the Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government at Harvard University July 6 - July 25, 1997. Seconded by Mrs. Massengill. Ayes all with Supervisor Keen-McCarthy abstaining.

Ms. Arnold moved to authorize the Supervisor's request to sign a contract with Schoolcraft College to complete the Recreation Survey for a cost not to exceed \$8,000.00 and further approve sending a letter to Human Synergistics stating the Township will not be needing any further service from them as their scheduling appears to conflict with the Township's need to complete the recreation survey. Seconded by Mrs. Massengill. Ayes all with Mr. Griffith abstaining.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy scheduled a Study Session for Tuesday, June 17, 1997 to hear a Consumers Energy presentation.

Acting Police Chief Robert Smith reported Plymouth and Canton police departments will be working together to police school year and activities.

Trustee Curmi asked for an update regarding the landscaping plans for the Ann Arbor Road/Ann Arbor Trail Park.

Trustee Mueller asked for an update regarding the Sidewalk Committee.

Trustee Curmi requested a report on the status of capital projects.

Trustee Curmi asked the Township Attorney the status of the arson that took place at the Township Park.

Trustee Arnold commented she would like to see the Board of Trustees agenda on cable television.

Mr. Loyd Sharland addressed the Board expressing his concern related to the Temple Baptist Church traffic during special events.

Mr. Griffith moved to receive and file Communications and Reports as listed. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

It was moved by Mrs. Massengill and supported by Mrs. Mueller to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Ayes all.

Marilyn Massengill, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Supervisor
Charter Township of Plymouth

The foregoing is a synopsis of the Board of Trustees meeting held on May 27, 1997. The full text is available in the Clerk's Office for perusal. They will be submitted for Board approval at the next regular meeting on June 10, 1997.

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

Publish: June 4, 1997

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS Plymouth, Michigan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW THE PROPOSED 1997-1998 OPERATING BUDGETS

PUBLIC ACT NO. 43 OF 1963 REQUIRES SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGETS. THIS HEARING WILL BE HELD:

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 1997 - 7:00 P.M.
E.J. MCLENDON EDUCATIONAL CENTER
454 SOUTH HARVEY STREET, PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

The purpose of this hearing is to review the proposed Operating Budgets, receive testimony, and comply with the formal legal requirements prior to adopting the 1997-98 operating budgets.

Copies of the proposal 1997-98 budget are available for public inspection in the office of the Executive Director of Business and Operations at 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, Michigan.

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

Carrie F. Blamer, Secretary
Board of Education

Publish: June 4, 1997

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF LEXINGTON

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

SUMMONS & NOTICE BY
PUBLICATION

PLAINTIFF
VS

DOCKET NO. 97-DR-32-0457X

Sheila Locklear Lara, Jimmy Stevens,
Keith Christopher Stevens DOB: 7-2-89
Travis Edward Lee Stevens DOB: 8-29-86
DEFENDANT(S)

TO: JIMMY STEVENS

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to answer the Termination of Parental Rights Complaint concerning the minor children above and that you have failed to contact the agency in regards to your whereabouts, in this action, the original of which has been filed in the office of the Clerk of Court for Lexington County, a copy of which will be delivered to you upon request; and to serve a copy of your answer to said Complaint upon the undersigned attorney for the Plaintiff at their office at 314 W. Main St., Lexington, S.C. 29072-2636, within 30 days of service upon you, exclusive of the day of such service; and if you fail to answer said Complaint within the statutory time allotted, the Plaintiff in this action will apply to court for the relief demanded in said petition.

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN LEXINGTON COUNTY
Date: May 14, 1997
Lexington, South Carolina

Canton raises water, sewer rates this summer

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton residents will notice an increase in their water and sewer rates this summer.

The increase is in response to a re-evaluation of a 1989 plan to support water and sewer services, including the western part of the township, according to Canton accountant John Spencer.

"In the past we had raised the rates 10 cents per 1,000 gallons of water and 15 cents for sewer, but (Finance Director) Anthony Minghine re-evaluated the plan and found a 29 cent increase was more reasonable," Spencer said.

'With a 10 and 15 cent increase we would never reach a break-even point.'

— John Spencer

The rates will raise by 12 cents per thousand gallons for water, and 17 cents per thousand gallons for sewer treatment, Spencer said.

"With a 10 and 15 cent increase, we would never reach a break-even point," Spencer said. The increase would allow the Township to break-even by the year 2003, according to Spencer.

The average residence uses 33,000 gal-

lons of water per quarterly billing cycle, Spencer said. At an increase of 12 cents per thousand gallons, the average resident will see an increase of \$3.92 for water, and \$5.61 for sewage treatment.

Commerical rates are figured differently, Spencer said, because businesses tend to use more water, and they are billed monthly.

The new rates will take effect July 1,

Spencer said, and will be pro-rated on the August bill.

"Of course, the rates are subject to change every year, depending on what Wayne County charges," Spencer said.

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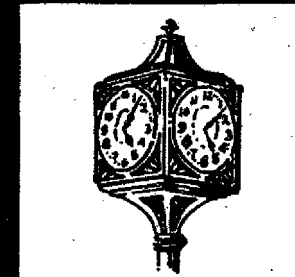
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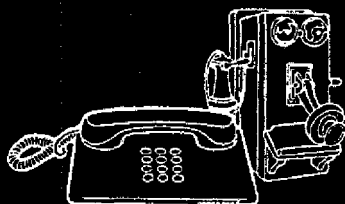
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DIAL O IT



LibertyFest gets bigger, brighter

Road rally, laser show among new events in Canton celebration

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

This year's Canton LibertyFest promises to be bigger than ever, according to Bob Dates, Park and Recreation supervisor.

The LibertyFest will feature many of the attractions that brought more than 40,000 people to the festival last year, as well as some exciting new attractions, according to Dates.

The biggest new attraction will be a laser-light show Friday night, Dates said. "I'm always on the lookout for new attractions so when I heard about it I was intrigued."

The light show will be performed by Minneapolis-based Lasertainment, the company that produced laser light shows at the Atlanta Olympics and 1997's Superbowl halftime show.

"We're very excited," Dates said. "It's a new addition, and we think it has the potential to draw a lot of people."

Dates had been looking for a big attraction for Friday, he said. "Saturday was packed, with the fireworks, and I wanted something equally big, if not bigger."

The laser show, which will cost around \$7,000, promises to fit the bill.

It will feature multi-colored laser beams, laser sculptures and a six-story-high inflatable projection screen showing different laser designs and logos. All will be fully choreographed to upbeat, family-oriented music.

"The screen will be taller than the Canton administration building," Dates said, explaining that the cost of the show will be offset by local business sponsorships.

Also new to this year's festival will be a Friday night road rally, Dates said. "As I was looking into it, I found out that there were a lot of road rally fans." A pancake breakfast will be added to Sunday morning's festivities.

Many attractions will be returning that emphasize the LibertyFest's family-oriented theme, according to Dates. The Saturday night concert will feature "Three Men and a Tenor," a four-man a cappella song-and-comedy-show that Dates first saw at the Ann Arbor art fair. "They get the whole family involved," Dates said. "They're really spectacular."

The quality and scope of the entertainment for the festival is getting bigger and better, Dates said, and shows that the LibertyFest is becoming a premier event in Southeastern Michigan.

"We've grown every year," said Dates, who looks for new talent year-round from an ever-growing stack of auditions tapes and requests.

The 6th Annual Fine Art and Fine Craft Show will be held at the Festival June 21 and 22. It will feature artists from near and far, including Canton artists that work in every medium from water colors to wood to air-brushed clothing.

The LibertyFest will open again on Thursday night, according to Dates, this time including a special free presentation of Disney's live-action version of "101 Dalmations."

The movie and entertainment sets the tone for the whole festival, Dates said. "It's fun for the whole family."

N'ville numbers good in mid-decade census

Twp. count meets State minimum

BY MATT HUCAL

Northville Township's mid-decade census showed a total of 20,348 people, a 17.53 percent rise from 17,313 people in 1990.

The township needed a 15 percent population increase from the 1990 Federal Census to receive additional funds through the Michigan State Shared Revenue Program.

Communities with at least a 15 percent population increase get back a share of state sales tax revenues.

Northville Township could receive

Canton count qualifies

Continued from pg. 1
said.

The township's deadline for Information Management Consulting, Inc., the firm paid by the township to complete the census, was May 31, but that was an arbitrary deadline and designed to be flexible, Bennett said. The deadline to have the census information submitted to the Secretary of State is June 30.

Canton now qualifies for a portion of state-shared revenues, but the main benefit is long-term, she said.

"Once you figure in a formula where population is a factor, such as community block grants, we're going to benefit," she said. The township also qualifies for additional liquor licenses, Bennett said, one for every 1,500 people.

"The main function is to increase state-shared revenue," she said. "That was the motivating factor."

about \$300,000 in additional revenue because of the increase, according to Township Manager Dawn Flynn.

The money for communities that

'Northville Twp. could receive about \$300,000 in additional revenue.'

increase 15 percent is in a general fund that has only \$800,000 in it now. There is a need of \$4 million, said Connie Ross of the Department of Treasury.

According to Ross, the appropriations for the special census are in a general government bill. That bill has passed through the state Senate and is now in the House of Representatives. It should be dealt with before the end of the month. If it doesn't, then the payments to the communities will be pro-rated.

Brad Whitman of the Bureau of Elections said it's feasible that 46 jurisdictions could increase by 15 percent or more.

The census was conducted by the Bardon Kruman Associates, who finished last week after about three months of work. They sent the results to the Bureau of Elections for certification.

The Bureau will make the results official by June 30, Whitman said, thus com-

School 'oversight'



Theodore Behn, principal of Our Lady of Good Counsel school in Plymouth, spent last Friday on the school roof after losing a bet, he said. "We overspent our budget," on reading books, he said. OLGCFundraisers bet Behn they could recoup the money with monthly wholesale food sales at the school gym, as well as other events. They were right, got the money and put Behn in a better position for budget "oversight." (Crier photo, Bryon Martin)

Supervisor wins fellowship

Continued from pg. 1
ments.

Keen-McCarthy said she looks forward to talking with other communities about how they handle similar problems.

"I want to find out what works and what doesn't instead of struggling through the learning curve by myself," she said.

Major issues facing local governments, she said, include how to do more with less and improving the public image of politics.

"We're facing a situation where people don't want to be involved in government," she said. "The credibility of the government is always in question. Overcoming that and providing a quality of life in our community is a challenge."

A committee of Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) officials interviewed candidates and selected the Taubman fellow. This is the seventh year the Taubman Company has funded the fellowship, which includes tuition along with room and board at Harvard.

Keen-McCarthy represents Wayne County's townships on SEMCOG's executive committee and is actively involved with the Conference of Western Wayne, the Wayne County Supervisors Association and the Wayne County chapter of the Michigan Townships Association.



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).

Groups...

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church of Canton, 46001 Warren, will hold vacation bible school from 6:30 to 8 p.m. **June 23 to 26** for children age 4 through sixth grade. The event is free and open to the community. To register, call (313) 522-6830.

SUMMER DAY CAMP

The Salvation Army is now taking registrations for the summer day camp program. Children must be between 6 and 12 years old. There are two sessions: **June 16 to July 11** and **July 21 to Aug. 15**. Cost, \$125. Financial scholarships available. Call 453-5464.

SPEECHCRAFT SEMINAR

The Holy Smoke Toastmasters Club is offering Speechcraft, a world renown speaking program for non-members. The Sunday night seminar will take place at 7 p.m. throughout the months of June and July in the auditorium at the Plymouth Township Clerk's Office. Cost, \$30. For more information, call Marc Sullivan at (248) 455-1635.

VOLLEYBALL TOURNNEY

The Sand Volleyball Tournament at Liberty Fest is set for 10 a.m. **June 22** at the Heritage Park Sand Volleyball Court. Registration begins May 19. Cost, \$30 per team. Format: coed, four-person teams, eight teams maximum. Register in person at Canton Township Parks and Recreation, 4600 Summit Parkway or call 397-5110.

SPRING SOCCER REGISTRATION

The City of Plymouth is registering for Spring Soccer at the Plymouth Cultural Center from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Bring a birth certificate and registration fee. \$40 for City residents, \$60 for non-residents. For info, call 455-6620.

Health...

SIBLING CLASS

The Marian's Women's Center next to St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer a sibling class from 10 am. to noon **June 7** in the Miracle of Life Maternity Center Postpartum Lounge on the third floor. Cost, \$10 per family. Registration is required; call (313) 655-1100.

PREMARITAL AIDS CLASS

St. Mary Hospital will offer a premarital AIDS class at 7 p.m. **June 5** in the West Addition Conference Room A and at 11 a.m. **June 21**. Those who wish to marry in Michigan are required to take this course before applying for a marriage license. Cost, \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. To register call (313) 655-1100.

STRESS MANAGEMENT CLASS

A stress management class will be offered from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. **June 9, 16 and 23** at St. Mary Hospital in the Pavilion Conference Room B. Cost, \$25 for all three sessions. Register by calling (313) 655-2922.

PRE-POSTNATAL EXERCISE CLASS

The Marian Women's Center will offer a six-week pre-postnatal exercise class for new or expectant mothers from **June 5 to July 17**. The class meets of Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. cost, \$35 per person. To register, call (313) 655 1100.

Schools...

STEP PARENTING CLASS

A step parenting class looking at how blended families can better deal with problems will take place from 7 to 8:30 p.m. **June 5** at Field Elementary, 1000 Haggerty, Canton. For more information, call 397-3698.

MARSP LUNCHEON

The Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP) will have a program and luncheon at 11:30 a.m. **June 11** at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 19801 Farmington Road, Livonia. Reservations before June 4. Call 421-1296.

DAY CLASSES

New Morning School is now accepting registrations for Discovery Day Classes and science and math camps. The first set of week-long classes begins **July 7**. Topics include puppets and masks, bugs and other critters, monsters and dragons and science in a bag. Call 420-3331.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS SOUGHT

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is seeking community members for three district committees: the Housing and Facilities Committee, the Citizen's Finance Committee and the Long Range Planning Committee. The Board of Education will select the members at its **July 8** board meeting by a random draw. Those interested should contact the District Community Relations Office before July 2. Call 416-2755.

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Upcoming...

YMCA ACTIVITIES

The Plymouth YMCA will have a day camp at Camp Tonquish (Plymouth township Park) for children aged 6 to 12, and Camp Jellybeanz for children 3 to 5. The YMCA is also accepting registration for t-ball leagues ages 5 to 6, coach pitch leagues for ages 7 to 8 and youth softball league ages 9-14. For more information, call 453-2904.

BOOK SIGNING

Author Tom Grace will sign his new book "Spyder Web" at 7 p.m. **June 5** at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 17111 Haggerty, Northville. Also, Merrill Lynch financial consultant Michael Duffey will conduct a retirement seminar from 7-8 p.m. **June 10**.

JAZZ NIGHT

The Lower Town Grill in Old Village will host a jazz night from 7 to 11 p.m. **June 8**, featuring the Lance Loiselle Trio. No cover.



The annual Art in the Sun art and crafts show will take place **June 21 and 22** in downtown Northville. More than 140 exhibitors will take part in this juried show. For more information, call the Northville Chamber of Commerce at (248) 349-7640.

BENNETT OFFICE HOURS

Senator Loren Bennett, of Michigan's 8th Senate District, will hold office hours from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. **June 6** at Sumpter Township Hall in the Board of Review Room.

CHURCH YARD SALE

The Metropolitan Adventist Church will have a large church yard sale from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Sunday June 8** and **Monday June 9**. The church is located at 15585 N. Haggerty, north of Five Mile Road.

CANDLEMAKING CLASS

Naturally Home and Bath Essentials, 550 Forest Ave., Plymouth, will host a Beeswax, Candlemaking and More class from 7 to 9 p.m. **June 11**. A Basic Beading class will be offered **June 18**. Cost, \$15 per session. For more information, call 453-9491.

DISCOUNT AMUSEMENT PARK TICKETS

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department now sells discount tickets to the following amusement parks and attractions: Cedar Point, Cedar Point's The Beach Water Park, Sea World, Greenfield Village/Henry Ford Museum, the Detroit Zoo and King's Island. Tickets can be purchased from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call (313) 455-6620.

SYMPHONY OF HOMES

The Symphony of Homes home tours will take place from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. **June 6** and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. **June 7**. This year's tour will feature 10 homes in the Plymouth-Canton-Northville area. Presale tickets are \$15, same-day purchase \$18. Call (313) 207-0666.

YMCA RUN

The Plymouth YMCA's 18th Annual Run will take place on Father's Day, **June 15**. The day will start at 7:30 a.m. and includes categories for all ages. All events take place at the Gathering in downtown Plymouth. Call 453-2904.

SUMMER BLAST

St. John Neumann's Singles Group is having its annual Summer Blast Dance from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. **June 14**. Cost, \$8. For more information, call Patrick Belanger at 277-6083.

GARDEN WALK

The Women's National Farm and Garden Association Trailwood Garden Club will host the second annual Flowers are Forever Garden Walk from noon to 8 p.m. **June 24**. Cost, \$6 presale, \$7 day of tour. For more information, call Jeanne Hutko at 459-5285.

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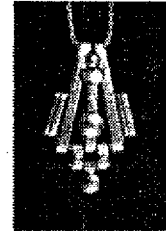
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Art In The Park
July 12
July 13



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Linda--Your work on the Huron paper was
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wanted to aid your wife, who is ill with
arthritis. you may pick it up at the
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DEAR MARTHA ET AL: Missed calling you
this weekend. Lots going on in our little
town. Garage sales are everywhere you
look. The Historical Museum was
especially successful with theirs but they
should have been, they have a great group
of volunteers. Did you ever wonder what
happens to the left-overs at a garage sale?

The Plymouth Historical Museum gives
theirs to the Salem Historical Museum and
their people pick it up when Plymouth
closes. They in turn give their left-overs to
another group, and this goes on ad
inifinitium. Isn't that neat?

We're waiting, all your friends, to see how
great your tests are. Bless you! Geneva

You're Welcome. Had many "thank you's"
from Plymouth Garden Club for Lisa
Lepping becoming a member of their club.

Mrs. John Kennedy: Except that her hair
isn't quite as long as yours, you have a
"look-alike" right here in River City
(Plymouth). Her home hardly compares to
yours, Mrs. Kennedy, and neither does her
husband. However your resemblance to
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Why am I always so surprised when my
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Curiosities

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Learning's rewards

Humanities grant gives Salem English teacher another chance to learn and recharge

BY BRYON MARTIN

Under their desks their legs bounce on the balls of their feet; they tap their feet, play with their pencils. They look at the clock.

They're high school freshmen 10 days before summer vacation, five minutes before lunch.

And Mary Beth Carroll, a Plymouth-Salem English teacher, has to keep them focused.

But odds are Carroll can relate to her students' excitement. At the end of this month she flies to Paris for a six-week seminar, thanks to a competitive grant awarded to her by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Carroll and fourteen other grant recipients, selected from a group of 171 applicants, will study from June 28 - August 8. Cornell University professor Robert G. Calkins will lead the seminar entitled, "The Gothic Cathedral as a Mirror of Medieval Culture."

It isn't Carroll's first N.E.H. grant, however. In 1987 she attended another seminar on narrative in the Old Testament.

According to Susan Welker, who team-teaches Humanities classes with Carroll, winning the competitive grant is quite an honor.

"They give out a total of about thirty of these across the country in a year," Welker said. "It's weird to be chosen once, let

alone twice."

The grants are awarded by the National Endowment of the Humanities (N.E.H.), a federal fund that sponsors summer seminars each year for the advanced education of humanities teachers.

"They treat us like scholars, rather than teachers," Carroll said.

In contrast to seminars that provide new or different teaching skills, the N.E.H. programs are knowledge-based; teachers study in areas of personal interest.

But the knowledge trickles down, according to Carroll. "The idea is that if you inform the person, they will become a better teacher," she said.

"I've got a reading list as long as my arm; I'll have to write a paper," Carroll said. "It's funny, but the summer reward for teachers is learning."

The key word, Carroll says, is *reward*. Architecture is one of Carroll's "special loves," she says. The walls of her room are covered with posters and photos of architectural details and elements.

Studying medieval architecture should prove invigorating, she says, much as her Old Testament seminar was.

"It renewed and deepened my love. I came back passionate about it," she said. "It was one of the peak experiences of my life."

Cyndi Burnstein, who also won an N.E.H. grant in 1987, says she agrees.



Mary Beth Carroll works the room, keeping kids attention. Carroll travels to Paris this summer on an N.E.H. grant. (Crier photo R. Alwood, Jr.)

Burnstein's seminar was on Grimm's Fairy tales. She met folklorists and studied with Jack Zipes, a nationally known scholar of American culture.

For Carroll, the N.E.H. programs help her curriculum because the seminar examines the matter of the subject, rather than techniques for relaying it to students.

"We're learning for content, not teach-

ing techniques," she said. "Teaching is a different set of skills. The content brings a scholarly edge to the high school.

"It renews you," she said. "You remember to be an intellectual and forget the day-to-day struggles," of teaching.

And in a room full of bouncy 9th-graders anxious for summer, remembering to be an intellectual can be tough.



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Whalers prepare for OHL draft

BY PETE KRUPSKY

While the Detroit Red Wings and Vipers chase the Stanley and Turner Cups respectively, the Plymouth Whalers start a new season by participating in the annual Ontario Hockey League Congress meetings in Toronto this Thursday through Saturday.

The annual OHL Priority Selection will be held at Maple Leaf Gardens Saturday. For some teams, the draft is one of the most efficient ways to rebuild.

Need proof? The Whalers are a prime example. After four consecutive winning seasons — leading to three division titles and an OHL championship in 1994-95 — Detroit needed to fill holes everywhere in 1996-97.

Selecting wisely through the draft, the Whalers played 17 rookies at one time or another in a rebuilding year, which, outside of first-year expansion teams, is close to a Canadian Hockey League record. Although Detroit's record was under .500 at 26-34-6, Coach Pete DeBoer's young team earned a reputation as being one of the hardest working teams in the league.

DeBoer praised his scouts often for a

job well done.

Something DeBoer said last season is a blueprint for every draft. "A lot of credit for these players goes to our scouts," he said.

"I've been trying to put the focus on them all year for this group of kids they brought in. We gave them a mandate before the season that we were going to lose 12 or 13 regulars. We needed to come out of the draft with kids that could step in and play — we didn't have time to pick seven or eight or nine kids that were a year or two away. We needed kids to come in and contribute immediately. They took that (mandate) and ran with it and as a result you see the kids we have today and I think a very competitive team on a nightly basis."

The Whalers have a pleasant problem this year because roster spots are at a premium.

Still, DeBoer and his scouts are looking to blend finesse and scoring to go along with veterans who work hard every night.

"I'm real optimistic going into the draft," DeBoer said. "It's a pretty deep draft compared to other years."

Canton, Salem baseball ousted in districts

BY BRIAN CORBETT

It wasn't suppose to end this way.

The Canton High School baseball team entered last Saturday's district final game versus Livonia Stevenson with a 13-15 record, winning four of their five games — including an impressive 9-8 win over Redford Catholic Central in the district semi-final.

The Chiefs appeared to peaking at the right time. But so was another team. The Spartans, who had beaten Salem earlier last week, scored 12 runs in the second inning on the way to a 16-8 victory and the district championship. The loss ended Canton's season at 13-16. Sophomore Ben Tucker (5-3) started the game for Canton; he was knocked out in the second-inning. Chiefs coach Scott Dickey used three more pitchers that inning to try and stop the Spartans' hitting barrage.

Canton, who had led 1-0 on Dave Kwiatkowski's homerun in the top of the second inning, faced the harrowing challenge of battling back from a 11-run deficit. Fortunately for Canton, there's no mercy rule in district championship games, and the Chiefs responded to Dickey's comeback speech by scoring two runs in the third and four in the seventh. "I was happy to see us

come back like that," Dickey said.

But the margin proved to be too much. Kwiatkowski finished the game going three-for-four with three RBI.

Canton 9, Catholic Central 8 — The hardworking Chiefs used everything at their disposal — bunts, sacrifices, stolen bases — and Tucker picked up the win in one and two-thirds innings of relief.

The Chiefs strung together six runs in the second and third innings for a four-run lead. But the Shamrocks rallied and Canton needed a clutch base hit by Pat Marsac in the bottom of the seventh, scoring Kyle Richardson from third to win the game.

Jason Mortiere started the game for Canton. He went five and one-third innings, allowing nine hits, four walks and four earned runs. He struck out five.

Stevenson 8, Salem 2 — The Spartans' Mike Allison tossed a one-hitter in seven innings of work. Ryan Rumberger had Salem's only hit, a solo homerun, in the fourth inning. Tom DeMetsenare was the starting pitcher for Salem. He allowed four runs on six hits in the first inning.

Kurt Berlin relieved DeMetsenare and went five innings, allowing four runs and six hits.

Salem finished the season at 11-18.

Canton, Salem track teams run wild at states

No titles this time — the trophy cases for Canton and Salem's track teams must be full — but that doesn't detract from the tremendous performances given by several Canton and Salem athletes at the state finals last weekend.

Salem Girls — Katie Bonner provided the highlights for Salem, the Western Lakes Activities Association champion who finished tied for 26th with six points at states.

Bonner set two school records and placed in the top ten in three events. She ran the opening leg of the 4 x 800 relay, "and gave the other three kids a chance to be in the hunt for a title," said Salem coach Mark Gregor.

She handed off in second place, but the

team — which also included Kristie Giddings, Nicole Bolton and Ellen Stemmer — slipped back to fifth while setting a new Salem record by finishing in 9:31.7. "The other kids did a pretty good job of maintaining what (Bonner) started," said Gregor.

Bonner also set a school record (2:18.2) in the 800 meter dash, taking seventh place. Then, Bonner ran her best split of the season in the 4 x 400 relay. The team — Giddings, Lisa Maul, Ruth Viforneau and Bonner — slashed four seconds off its previous best time and finished in ninth place. "She was powerful. As a junior, she's set herself up for a run at a title next year," Gregor said of Bonner.

Maul was ninth (15.6) in the 100 meter

After the expansion Toronto St. Michael's Majors select first, the rest of the OHL selects with the teams with the lowest point totals going in order. Detroit has the ninth pick overall and may not have to leave its own rink to make the choice.

Compuware Ambassador forward David Legwand is rated in the first round by Central Scouting and would be a perfect fit for the Whalers.

An excellent offensive player, Legwand scored 20 goals with 38 assists in 42 games for the Ambassadors in the North American Hockey League. DeBoer, associate coaches Steve Spott and Greg Stefan and Whaler scouts saw plenty of Legwand last season.

"David's definitely a guy we would look at taking," DeBoer said. "As of right now, he's still undecided about what his future's going to be for next year. As a player, he'd be a fantastic fit for us. He's come up through the Compuware system. He's a 6-foot-2 centerman that's probably the best skater in the draft and has great offensive skill. He's definitely going to be a pro down the road somewhere. I really believe he's a can't-miss prospect."

Some observers compare Legwand to former Whaler Bill McCauley, but Legwand is actually bigger and can be more physical than McCauley, now in the Boston Bruins system.

"The thing that Legwand does well is move the puck," one scout said. "That's something that can't always be taught. But he does it as well as anyone I've seen this year."

Legwand is in a great position. Does he stay with the Compuware Ambassadors and keep his college eligibility open? Does he decide to play for the Whalers? Or will he opt to play for the new U.S. National Development Team in Ann Arbor?

It's a question that might be answered as early as Saturday.

For now, DeBoer is looking for some spice and goals to help out the Hardest Working Team in the OHL.

"We're definitely looking at someone on the blue line that is mobile and can move the puck out of our zone and play some power play," he said.

"We're also looking for some skilled guys up front to compliment Harold Druken and Julian Smith. We're in a good spot as far as character-role players go with the return of Eric Goodly, Jesse Boulterice and Randy Fitzgerald and hopefully Mark Cadotte or Andrew Taylor. If we can add some skill and size up front and on the blue line, we'll be in pretty good shape."

hurdles, and 12th (47.6) in the 300 hurdles. In the field events, Jessica Ash's 37-foot-four-inch shotput throw landed her in 10th place, and Angie Sillmon was 12th (15'-6") in the long jump.

Canton Girls — Long jump extraordinaire Nkechi Okwumabua took third in the event. She also ran on the 4 x 100 relay team which finished in 51.2, its fastest time of the season. Alina Boyden, Tiffany Williams and Doris Igwe made up the rest of the line up.

Salem Boys — Ian Searcy was third in the 800 meter run. The all-state runner finished in 1:55.4. Nick Allen finished the 3,200 run 9:56, but didn't place. The 4 x 800 relay team of finished in 8:09.

Sports shorts

The Plymouth Canton baseball coaching staff and players will sponsor the **Canton Chiefs Baseball Camp** for boys 7-14 years old, from 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on June 16-20.

The camp will be at Canton's varsity baseball field and will include five days of group and individual instruction in all phases of the game. The cost is \$85 before June 6 with late registration being \$90. Lunch and T-shirts will be included and baseball hats can be purchased for \$10.

It is recommended to sign up early because the camp is limited to 150 players.

Registration forms are now available at Canton Sports and The Trading Post in Plymouth.

For more information on the camp call Ken or Diane Oplainski at 981-7313, Ron or Sharon Mortiere at 981-5113, or Mike or Diane Kwiatkowski at 981-2024.

Canton Parks and Recreation Services Softball Standings:

Red League — First Place Bar, 5-0; Mobility Transportation, 4-1; Pogo's State Farm, 4-1; Mark's Midtown/Enquitrust, 3-2; Remax Classic Realty, 3-2; Target, 1-4; Shark Club II, 1-4; Don Coleman & Assoc., 0-5.

White League — Mexican Fiesta, 5-0; Shark Club #3, 4-1; Shark Club #1, 4-1; Beaver Creek/ARAMark, 3-2; ASAP Machine, 3-2; Falcon Builders, 1-4; American Yazaki #1, 0-5; Rusty Nail, 0-5.

Green League — Fairway Club, 3-1; Prudential, 3-1; St. Michael #2, 2-2; Dental Diplomats, 2-2; Ancor, 2-1; Greenfield Dye & Mfg., 2-1; St. Michael #1, 1-2; Bad Influence, 0-4.

Northville Downs will simulcast the 129th Belmont Stakes race this Saturday along with a complete 11 race card. The Belmont Stakes is the mile and one-half final leg of the Triple Crown for 3-year-olds, which also includes the Kentucky Derby and Preakness. Silver Charm will attempt to become the 12th horse to win the Triple Crown. If Silver Charm wins the Belmont, there is a \$5 million bonus for the Triple Crown winner.

Northville Downs will open at 11 a.m. and will also simulcast Harness and Thoroughbred racing from 23 other tracks.

Registration is currently being held at the Starkweather Center, 550 N. Holbrook in Plymouth, for the Plymouth-Canton School District's **Summer Swim programs**.

For more information, call 416-2937.



Sports

Sports shorts

Dawn Allen, Rachel Hofner, Kristen Thomas and Jenna Van Wagoner from Plymouth took first place in the Battle Creek Gus Macker three-on-three basketball tournament held May 17-18. The Wildcats finished with a perfect 5-0 record which included a 13-9 victory in the championship game.

Salem finished in third place and Canton finished tenth in the 1997 Western Lakes Activities Association Boys Conference track meet on May 20.

The Rocks finished with 113 points behind John Glenn with 132 points and Harrison with 117.8 points. Salem finished first in the 1600 meter run, the 300 meter hurdles, the 800 meter run and the 1600 meter relay.

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department offers a three-week open skating schedule, running from Sundays through Friday.

It ends on June 15. Prices range from \$1 to \$2.

Call the open skate hot line at 455-1782 for more information.

The department will also offer five separate martial arts camps this summer at the Plymouth Cultural Center. The camps are ninja (June 16), judo (June 20), karate (July 7), aikido (July 14) and tai chi (July 21).

Call the Department at 455-6620 for more information.

The Canton Parks and Recreation Services is sponsoring the 16th annual Father's Day 3-Person Golf "Scrambles" Tournament on June 15 and Adult Tennis Lessons from June 16-July 24.

Call the Services at 397-5110 for more information.

Canton stops Salem in district softball Chiefs play in regional Saturday at Ann Arbor Huron

BY BRIAN CORBETT

The Canton softball team wasted no time taking care of cross-campus rival and district final opponent Salem Saturday.

"It was a long first inning," said Salem coach Bonnie Southerland. The Chiefs scored eight runs in the opening frame, and went on to an easy win, 13-1, over Salem (14-19) and advance to regionals this Saturday at Ann Arbor Huron High School. Canton (31-5) will play the winner of the Monroe regional.

The blowout differed greatly in comparison to the teams' more competitive meeting last month, won by Canton, 8-2. But one similarity was Canton's overpowering pitching. Gretchen Hudson (14-2) allowed four hits and struck out eight. "She was really sharp. She was on her game," said Canton coach Jim Arnold.

For Salem, Shannon Coultas went the distance, allowing 12 hits and striking out two. After the eight-run first inning, Canton added one run in the second, third and fifth innings and two more in the sixth. Salem's only run came in the fifth when Coultas scored from third base on Maureen Buchanan's ground ball.

Salem 9, Livonia Stevenson 5 — Buchanan and Becky Esper had two RBIs a piece. Coultas was wild on the mound, walking 10 and hitting five batters, but she allowed only two hits.

Canton 8, Livonia Churchill 1 — In the Chiefs' first game Saturday, Sarah



Salem picks up a base and a couple runs against Stevenson during Saturday's game. Salem won the game 9-5 but went on to lose against Canton in the district finals. (Crier photo, R.Alwood Jr.)

Carson (16-3) threw a three-hitter and struck out six. Leading 3-0, the Chiefs scored five runs in the sixth inning.

Canton 2, Livonia Ladywood 1 — The Chiefs moved on to Saturday's brack-

et with a one-run victory May 27, against the Blazers (18-14). Tara Biro scored the game's winning run in the third inning on a short, fly ball single by Angela Litwin.

Hudson pitched a four-hitter.

Chiefs lose soccer battle to Spartans

BY BRIAN CORBETT

There are no more games left on the Canton soccer team's 1997 schedule.

"I don't like that feeling," said Chiefs coach Don Smith.

Canton's season-long nemesis, Livonia Stevenson, ended the Chiefs' quest for a second consecutive Class A state title with a 3-0 win last Wednesday at Southgate Anderson.

Canton, who finished the season with a 14-2-2 record, went 0-2-1 against the Spartans, including a loss to Stevenson in the Western Lakes Activities Association championship game. The Chiefs were shutout in every game. "They're an explosive team, but I thought we played better defensively in this game than we did

the other two," Smith said.

The Spartans scored two goals off of corner kicks in the game's first 10 minutes, and added another before the half was over. Stevenson battered Canton goalie Kristin Lukasik with 10 shots on net in the opening half, while the Chiefs were held to four shots.

Canton controlled the midfield, normally a key to winning, but didn't capitalize on the limited scoring opportunities. "They were playing good, solid defense — team defense," said Smith. "We had trouble breaking them down. We did make them make mistakes, but we didn't capitalize."

The Chiefs had four shots on goal in the second half, and Stevenson had three.



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Community opinions

More tools needed for flood relief

'Tools from the Heart' drive for North Dakota continues through June 24

Have you ever thought about what our lives would be like without the essential items that make each living day complete? Food, power, water and transportation are only a few of the conveniences that most of us take for granted. We could maybe even call these conveniences "tools."

Earlier this month, the Plymouth-Canton Community provided many essential personal tools of survival, such as food and hygiene items, for the flood victims of North Dakota. As a matter of fact, our community filled an entire 24-foot truck with those types of personal tools. Without the support of our community, that project would not have been complete. After the endless hours of time given by project coordinator Sharon Shemon and all of her hard-working volunteers, it was possible to distribute our donations into the hands of the people that were desperately in need of some personal tools.

Since that project was, to say the least, an overwhelming success, Shemon and the

Let me encourage those who, in the midst of spring clean-up find old or even new tools, to come forth and donate them to tools from the heart.

Plymouth-Canton Community have been asked to return to North Dakota for an encore performance. But this time, the tools requested are literally that —**TOOLS!**

The devastation in the flood-ravaged areas of Grand Forks, ND and East Grand Forks, MN have incurred indescribable amounts of damage to homes and businesses alike. In order for the people in those areas to rebuild their homes and lives, there is a desperate

In The Workshop By Maura Cady



need for crowbars, hammers, saws, screwdrivers, drills, and many other types of hardware to stock a tool lending facility being established in Grand Forks.

Through June 24, the Greater Detroit Community will become part of an innovative tool donation program called "Tools from the Heart," based at Pioneer Middle School in our community of Plymouth. I am fortunate enough to have become a part of this unique program that is obviously paramount to the reconstruction of the affected areas. I am certain that my experiences as a result of this program will remind me of the selfless generosity that our community displayed once-before. I am also certain that this experience will remind us of the "tools" that even I take for granted.

Let me encourage those who, in the midst of spring clean-up find old or even new tools, to come forth and donate them to "Tools from the Heart." Or how about forming a mini drop-off site at work? Or a group of volunteers to help out at Pioneer Middle School? Anything you can do to help rebuild the loss in North Dakota and Minnesota.

Always remember, it's the little things that mean a lot. In this case, your donations will help rebuild the lives of those less fortunate than us. Who could ask for a better feeling?

For more information on "Tools from the Heart," contact Sharon Shemon at (313) 455-9112. For a list of needed tools stop by The Community Crier office at 821 Penniman Avenue in downtown Plymouth.

Volunteers drove drive

EDITOR,

I wish to personally thank the Plymouth-Canton Community for your generosity and caring during the North Dakota Flood Relief Drive, held at Pioneer Middle School on Ann Arbor Road. As a result of your incredible generosity, the truck was staffed on a daily basis, thousands of flyers were circulated, hundreds of telephone calls were made and a 24-foot moving truck was filled, top to bottom. Your outpouring of donations enabled me to cover my expenses, far exceeding my expectation. The people in Grand Forks, North Dakota were deeply touched and appreciative, as was I.

It is particularly important to express my gratitude to those of you who volunteered endless hours of your time. I thank you for your support and encouragement up front and behind the scenes. The names and faces were many and you are not forgotten. Those of you who set up drop sites at your places of employment or at your homes, then transported the donations to the truck, provided many bursts of excitement with your regular and numerous visits to the truck. It is with this level of support that a project such as this becomes a success. Words can not express my gratitude.

Several individuals deserve special recognition. To University of North Dakota graduate and Plymouth resident, Bob Hess who worked 12 hours a day for two weeks, thank you. To Plymouth Township resident Debbie Hoadley, who gave countless hours on a daily basis, packing and coordinating donations for delivery to North Dakota, thank you.

To Kevin Adams from Warren, Michigan who drove the moving truck, and to my son Aaron who accompanied me on the trip to North Dakota, thank you. To my husband Dan and to my son, Zach, for support beyond measure, thank you. To Tom Owens and the staff at Pioneer Middle School, for your role in our success, thank you.

To Joe, Mary and Tony Schmidt of Hitone, for the signs on Ann Arbor Rd., thank you. To those of you who supported the effort with cash donations for truck expenses and checks to the American Red Cross, thank you. To my Parents, Joe and Veronica Fettig of Napoleon, ND, and to my brother, Kevin, his wife, Colleen, and their two daughters of Fargo, ND, who assisted in the coordination and disbursement effort at that end, thank you.

The level of commitment shown by hundreds of people, along with the overwhelming reality of what remains to be done, has inspired a return trip to North Dakota.

If you missed the opportunity to participate in the first drive, or if you wish to continue the effort, you can lend a hand to "Tools from the Heart." From now until June 24, 1997, you will have the opportunity to be a part of the rebuilding in Grand Forks, North Dakota, as we coordinate with the folks there to establish a tool lending facility. Tools and money collected here will become part of a "Tool Lending Library," in which residents

and volunteers can borrow tools to help rebuild a home, then return them.

The tool collection drive will once again be held at Pioneer Middle School on Ann Arbor Rd., one mile west of Sheldon road. Volunteers will be available to accept your donations from 2-8 p.m. daily, through June 24. For more information or to volunteer, please call Sharon Shemon at (313)455-9112.

It is heartwarming to see how our gifts of generosity had such a positive impact on the lives of those affected by the flood. On behalf of the residents of Grand Forks, ND, thank you.

SHARON SHEMON

Memorial day activities proves it: Kellogg Park needs new P.A.

EDITOR:

The Memorial Day Parade this year had a nice "Americana" atmosphere. It was moving to see so many people turn out to honor those who died in service to our nation.

It was a shame though, that the audio system at the ceremony in the park was so inadequate as to provide decent coverage to everyone attending.

Were we attempting to imitate the ceremonies of a hundred years ago before public address systems? This is the '90s and we should be able to have an adequate P.A. system.

We stood as close as possible, yet could only make out about one word in 10. We were surrounded by people who were also anxious to hear the speeches, but could hear nothing.

It would have helped the situation if the speakers by the fountain were working.

It's such a special occasion — next year lets allow everyone who wishes to join in the festivities be able to hear.

DI DELLINGER



Community opinions

Writer: Vorva's skewed-vote allegations have merit

Vorva et al., trying to make district work, 'efficiently and honestly'

EDITOR,

Susan Kopinski says: "I love living in the country because it allows publicity seekers such as Jerry Vorva to say whatever they want, even though it doesn't make sense or what they say is incorrect. But freedom of speech also allows citizens, like myself, to debate people like that."

Kopinski says that Vorva is all wrong when he indicates that the March bond election was so that people would not have an opportunity to vote. Personally, I'll bet many other taxpayers also wondered why an extra, costly school election was held in March. The regular school election is to be on June 9, 1997.

Kopinski says that Vorva "contends that the election was held in March so that senior citizens would not be afforded the opportunity to vote," and that he is "again, wrong." According to Kopinski, the Citizens' Election Committee's intent was "to go after the senior vote by

educating senior citizens on the state of our school district and what the bond issue was about."

It was commendable that two well respected senior citizens made presentations at a number of meetings (which were held prior to the March election, when many senior

There has to be a winner and a loser in every election, except maybe for school bond elections. Apparently in some cases there can only be winners.

Regarding Vorva's "controversial past": Kopinski pointed out that he was a "former state representative that was voted out of office." Well, there has to be a winner—and a loser—in every election, right? (Except maybe for school bond elections. Apparently in some cases there can only be winners.)

And why does the perfectly legitimate profession of real estate agent (and current law school student) sound less than honorable the way Kopinski presented it?

— M. MANSON

Kopinski needs to lighten up. It's hard to believe that

Vorva's and others' efforts on behalf of our community are meant to be personal.

Nobody is trying to ruin educational progress for Kopinski's son. They're only trying to make sure our school district works as efficiently and as honestly as it should, and that our tax money is spent wisely and properly.

M. MANSON

Writer wants revote, says 'Kopinski wants buildings'

EDITOR:

All of us who read the opinion page in the Crier and the Observer are well aware of Susan Kopinski's opinion on the March election results. She wants the new buildings, no matter that 700 hundred or so people voted and could not be counted for some reason or another. No matter that these 700 or so people took the time and made the effort to vote.

That this many votes could not be counted because these voters didn't know how to use the machine on a one issue ballot tells me these voters must be stupid, which I find hard to believe, and yes I do know that a new type of machine was used. And yes I do believe that another election should be held. There seems to be money for everything else, and this bond issue is important to every tax payer.

Maybe Kopinski's vote wasn't counted and we know she voted yes, yes, yes!

Then there is the issue she brings up about Vorva, calling him a publicity seeker and accusing the local papers (yes, yours) of not telling the public of his background. Well she certainly had a lot of nasty things to say of his background, and I wouldn't know Vorva if he rang my doorbell. So Kopinski either knows him or has researched him with a vengeance.

I wonder if Kopinski remembers ESY (Extended School Year)? That was supposed to be the answer to everything. I fought against it and not because I was a working mother with baby-sitting problems. It was bad while it lasted, for the students. Constant review when they went back to school after being off for weeks. How about when Hulsing school was built — the great "open-close room concept." I remember it well, I worked there for one year.

Has Kopinski read the letters printed by a 20-year teacher Kenneth Smith about all the troubles at the high schools? As many as eight absences by a student before parents are notified, making out in hallways, the language used by students, and pagers? Pagers? None of this allowed according to school law — but is allowed! Smith is right — no discipline! What's going on? These are things that Kopinski should get involved in.

You can throw all the money you want at the schools, but that isn't going to make things better. You can have 40

kids in a classroom, and if they know how to behave and act and are there to learn, they will, and the students that need some extra help will have a teacher willing to give it.

And then Kopinski brought up all the educating of seniors that was given prior to the election. However, she neglected to mention that no absentee ballots were sent to

Maybe Kopinski's vote wasn't counted, and we all know she voted yes, yes, yes! — Beverly Cullen

registered voters. First they had to fill out an application to get an absentee ballot. Tell me, was that fact advertised?

Kopinski, in her last paragraph, says Vorva is "attempting to ruin educational progress for her son and all

the children." I suggest she give her pen a rest and begin a crusade for the schools to enforce some discipline. Are the rules written to be broken? It seems so.

Everyone in the Plymouth-Canton area with children is entitled to a public school education. If you aren't satisfied there are alternatives, Kopinski.

One last thing. If a few more teachers were as willing to speak up as Smith is, the whole community would be better off. When eleven extra police are required June 4 and 8, the last day for seniors and graduation, it tells all of us a lot.

I support Vorva. Those 700 voters are important and I will be writing to the attorney general regarding a new election. Thanks to Vorva for fighting for fairness for all of us. This family supports your efforts.

BEVERLY CULLEN

Support for new election

EDITOR,

I've read the recent editorial barbs traded by persons with opposing viewpoints concerning the recent passage of the school bond issue, and the ensuing lawsuit which seeks a new election.

The opinions expressed by each author on the validity of the election have coincided with their respective positions on whether the bond should have been approved.

To me, the outcome of the vote is immaterial. The integrity of our election system is paramount.

I voted for the bond, encouraged others to vote for the bond, and in the event of a new election would continue to do so. Nevertheless, I believe there should be a new election.

The present authority to require a new election, as I understand it, requires a mechanical failure in the recording of the votes, which presumes the votes are to be mechanically recorded. This vote was not mechanically recorded. A fair, modern interpretation of the law should

include software deficiencies. The software in this case was clearly deficient, in my opinion.

This vote involved only one issue. How complicated can that be? This issue was decided by a razor thin margin, yet one out of every fourteen votes cast at the polls didn't count. I find this unacceptable.

When I voted I found it difficult to determine when I had finished voting. If you didn't close your vote, I am told the next voter's selection replaced your vote.

It would have been simple to devise software which concluded by thanking you for voting, and which let you know that your vote had been tabulated.

I do not believe that anyone purposely altered this vote; rather, it was poorly designed software.

This is a correctable error and given the gravity of the result, (\$78 million bonded over 25 years) it should be corrected.

MICHAEL J. GEROU



Community opinions

endorsement School Board Candidates

Crier endorses Thomas

When voters go to the polls for the Plymouth-Canton School Board election June 9, they've got a tough choice to make.

In part because in this election, like many state and national races, definitive issues were scarce.

In absence of an emotionally charged or crucial cause, without a lucid vision for the schools, attention has centered on how Carol Bollman, Suzanne Dershem and Roland Thomas each relate to the current board and its recent actions, whether they would have supported or dissented with those decisions.

But even without a spotlight issue, each has experience and expertise that could benefit the board.

Bollman is a plain talker, her frank and direct manner would compliment the current board's openness.

But she has often appeared lukewarm about her candidacy, at times reducing it to a "popularity contest," and saying that she is running only to oppose Thomas.

While it's laudable that she offers herself as an alternative to Thomas, she hasn't offered voters any other reason to vote for her; if during her campaign she represents the anti-Thomas, what would she represent after elected?

Suzanne Dershem is a member of Superintendent Charles Little's legislative action council. Her campaign flyers list lower class sizes, equitable state school funding and the smooth incorporation of the third high school as "The Issues" she supports.

More intimate teaching, more state money and hassle-free construction projects — who wouldn't be supportive of these things?

Her support becomes damaging, though, when the topic is the recent bond vote.

More than 700 ballots were miscalcated in the March 22 bond election, when voters failed to correctly use the Unifect touch-screen stations.

Dershem said she hopes voters "pay attention this time. If they didn't understand they should have asked someone. They need to be more careful."

Dershem worked to get the bond passed as a member of the citizens' election committee; it makes sense that she would defend the bond and want it to stand.

But her judgement seems impaired when the ability to vote is eclipsed by her personal attachments and sensibilities. Ultimately, it is the process at large, not this bond in particular, which is most important.

When the votes were lost Thomas petitioned the board for a revote. Whether this was done out of a sincere interest in the integrity of the vote or as a gesture for political gain, it is still a move in the community's interest and is one bolder than any made by Dershem or Bollman.

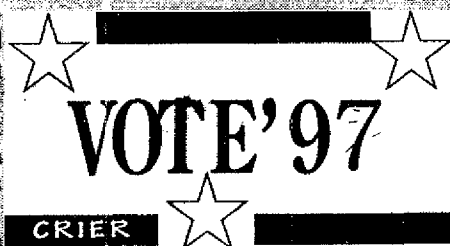
Thomas is a big-picture man, too. At times when others are debating minutiae, Thomas is able to pull back to a clearer, wider view and ask more fundamental questions, ones whose answers are more likely to have lasting virtue.

This ability would seem to come from his experience in business and recent work with information technology. His rational, analytical approach to problem solving seems very compatible with that of Board President Mark Horvath, who approaches things in much the same way.

But this is a change for Thomas, as he admits. After a two-year hiatus from the the board, he has "come back with a new pair of eyes," he said.

Well, maybe. But it's the community who will see what change they actually bring.

Vote for Roland Thomas for School Board Trustee, June 9.
THE COMMUNITY CRIER



Why we endorse

Because the staff of the Community Crier watches the day-in, day-out activities of government, the Crier closely witnesses the community's political personalities in action.

In addition, through vigorous campaign season reporting, the Crier staff has an opportunity to meet and interview the newcomers, the challengers, the "wannabes" — and to reevaluate the incumbents (if any).

Accordingly, The Crier offers its endorsement of those races that have special impact on The Plymouth-Canton Community. Newspaper endorsements should be used by voters as one more criteria for making their own choices, not the sole basis for voting for a candidate.

This endorsement is the collective opinion of the newspaper's editorial staffers who vote on the races following heated debate. During this election's editorial debates, each candidate received some support during the initial two rounds of voting. It was a difficult choice because each candidate brought something fresh to the campaign.

The Crier's endorsement can help differentiate between the

candidates, but these opinions are not nearly as important as the vote of every person who casts a ballot on election day.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Why you should vote

Why should you vote in this Monday's school board election? Because each single vote has power — great power when only 2.87 percent of registered voters turn out, as in last year's election.

And because voting for school board members needs to be thought out — it's the future of our district. We cannot follow the high March turnout

with fewer voters in June.

You should vote, because elections bring the community together to decide on issues relevant to everyone within it.

Without the full input of the constituency, elections aren't fully successful.

In order to make the best decisions we all must vote, and sustain our voice.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

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(313) 453-6900

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W. Edward Wendover
- GENERAL MANAGER:**
Mike Carne
- EDITOR:**
Bryon Martin
- PHOTO EDITOR:**
Richard Alwood
- SPORTS EDITOR:**
Brian Corbett
- REPORTERS:**
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