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# The Community Crier

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

Vol. 24 No. 21

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June 25, 1997

## Banking on Plymouth

Plymouth District Library  
223 S. Main Street  
Plymouth, MI 48170-1687

### Two banks to open Plymouth branches

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER

It's 88 years old, but it's the newest force in western Wayne County banking.

Peoples State Bank, the \$174-million bank chartered in Hamtramck, has announced it will open operations in Plymouth as soon as state regulatory approval is granted, probably within five weeks, according to bank officials. Applications were filed June 17.

The bank will initially locate at 245 N. Main St. in Charleston Square. Although this will be Peoples Bank's sixth location, it will serve as a regional center offering a complete line of services: individual and commercial accounts; certificates of deposit; payroll deduction; commercial,

consumer auto and residential mortgage loans; ATM services.

Decisions for the region will be made by a management team based in the new offices, but with more than 50 years combined experience with banking in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community, Peoples Bank officials said.

Three of these local bankers — Mike Weaver, Bill Graham and Richard Bachman — will head-up bank operations in the I-275 corridor. Other personnel announcements are expected soon, according to bank officials.

Weaver will serve as regional president. Weaver, 37, served as vice president and

Please see pg. 11

### NBD to maintain downtown branch

BY BRYON MARTIN

They're going to stay.

Or at least that's the latest revision in National Bank of Detroit's plans to reconfigure their downtown Plymouth branch, according to David Smith, NBD first vice president and retail banking manager for the Western Wayne region.

The downtown branch will remain open, but with a change in the services available to customers, Smith said.

Less than two weeks ago NBD announced tentative plans to close the branch as part of its retail redesign effort, which will close 18 branches in southeast Michigan.

Monday morning the bank announced they had reconsidered, and will maintain their downtown presence.

"It was always in the back of our minds to ask what else we could do," Robert

Darmanin, NBD assistant vice president, communications and public relations, said. "We were always looking for alternatives to moving out."

Which financial services will be available at the branch is as yet uncertain, according to Smith; plans are in their early stages.

Teller services are certain to be discontinued at the branch, Darmanin said.

He also offered some of the changes being considered:

- Relocation of the safety deposit box to the Sheldon-North Territorial branch
- Relocation of one or two mortgage officers from the Sheldon-North Territorial location.
- Addition of a Private Banking and Investments area (PB&I).

The PB&I area would host investment experts, Darmanin said. "They work with

Please see pg. 11



On guard... VFW 528 stood vigil at the traveling Vietnam wall memorial in Belleville. Story on pg. 22 (Crier photo R. Alwood Jr.)

## County property nearly sold

BY MATT HUCAL

Wayne County last week announced the groups they have chosen to purchase and develop 926-acres of county-owned land in Northville Township.

The site, located between Five and Six Mile roads on both the east and west sides of Sheldon Road, will have a golf course community featuring an Arnold Palmer-designed championship golf course as its centerpiece, according to Wayne County Executive Edward McNamara.

The Economic Development Corporation of Wayne County approved McNamara's recommendations for the land development on June 16. The project needs final approval from the Wayne County

Commission at their meeting on July 17.

Along with the golf community, McNamara announced plans for senior housing, an adult life-style community, apartments and condominiums, and public recreation and public facilities.

The county expects land sales to devel-

Please see pg. 11

### Mission: possible

Plymouth man tries to turn Tigers from jokes to gems

See Friends & Neighbors pg. 6

### Happy birthday

Jack Demmer Ford celebrates

40 years in business

See Getting Down to Business pg. 8

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## Canton road survey results in

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Congestion, potholes and intersection configuration are among the biggest problems with area roads, according to a survey compiled by Canton's Blue Ribbon Roads Committee.

The survey, mailed randomly to about 2,500 Canton residents and businesses, was returned by 32 percent of the recipients. It asked them to list their safety concerns, as well as the three worst road segments or intersections as far as congestion, safety, and road conditions.

The results of the survey were released at the committee's public hearing Monday. The survey and the hearing were designed to give the committee more public input, according to committee chair Jim Kosteva, a former State Representative.

"This is our opportunity to see if public expectations are being met. It's another step in assisting us to reach out to the public and get some feedback," Kosteva said.

Most of the resident's comments were related to the Ford and Haggerty and Ford and Lilley intersections, which went along with the survey's identification of the entire Ford Road corridor from I-275 to Canton Center Road as an area of primary concern.

"What I want to know is why we're not

going to (Wayne County Executive) Ed McNamara," Canton resident John Manthe said. "It's a political football the way I see

*'This is our opportunity to see if public expectations are being met.'*

— Jim Kosteva

it. We're not getting any money back to Canton. The problem is in Lansing."

Providing funding for roads locally was one of the options discussed by the committee. The problem was that most residents preferred a township type of government, and a township government doesn't allow for maintenance of local roads, according to Municipal Services Director Aaron Machnik.

The survey rated the overall road network a three on a scale of one to 10.

The committee, which has been meeting since April, will present their findings to the Board of Trustees at the end of July, Kosteva said.

## Northville P.U.D. progressing

Continued from pg. 1

opers to produce \$38,155,680 in revenue, with \$20 million of it going to the downtown Detroit stadium projects, and no money going to Northville Township. The finished project is expected to be worth over \$1 billion.

The land development when completed

will contribute \$2.85 million in annual property tax revenue to the township, \$4 million to the county and about \$7 million to Northville schools.

The golf community will be developed by Toll Brothers, Inc., the nation's leading builder of luxury homes, and Troy-based Biltmore Properties Corporation.

### The Community Crier

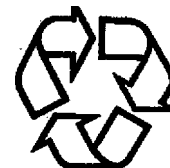
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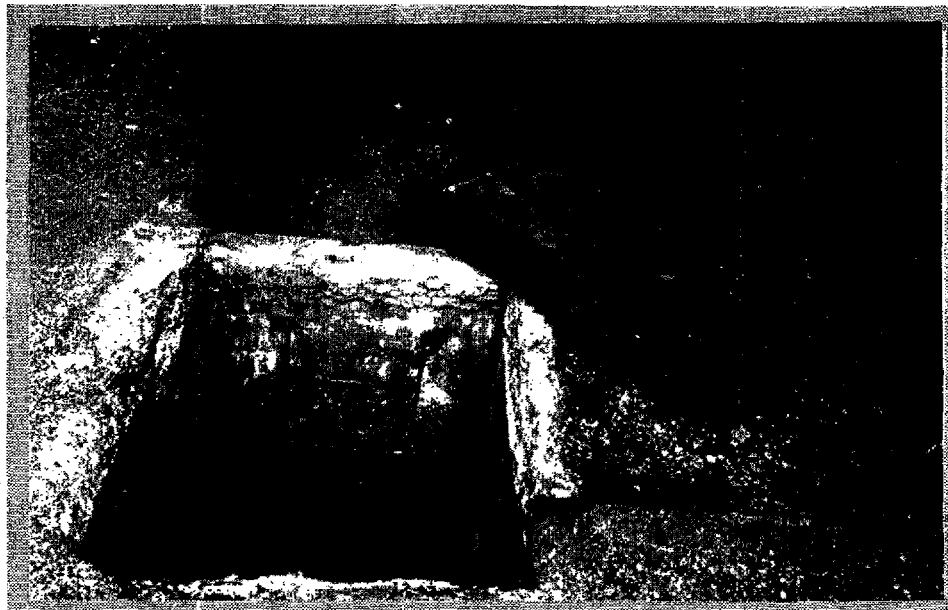
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# Up from the



# TUNNELS

A line of four cars turns off of Sheldon Road, passes a yellow barrier and onto the County-owned property at the Sheldon-Five intersection. Hidden from view by trees and brush, this is the place local kids call the Northville Tunnels.

Leading the cars is a GMC Police Suburban. Driven by Lieutenant John Sherman of Northville Township Police, the truck tires crunch down the crumbling, weedy road. The others slowly follow.

Sherman is leading a group tour of the

story and photos by  
**Bryon Martin**

property— Northville Township Trustee Marvin Gans, 35th District Court Judge John MacDonald, Township Supervisor Karen Woodside, her husband, son, and other Township workers follow the sturdy blue truck.

It's a tight fit for all. As they drive down the path, overgrown bushes and trees swipe

at their vehicles. Through the windows only the branches to the side and the car ahead can be seen.

Then, in a moment the view pops open — eyes fill with a panoramic view of grass, trees and brush growing unchecked, ruined brick buildings peeping here and there through crowds of green.

More than sixty structures lie across the site. Some are burned, some are missing parts of walls. Few windows remain. Graffiti, broken bottles, rusting desk frames and the occasional shoe litter the scene.

And although the place is totally abandoned there is a presence: inhabited and startled, as if someone was here just moments before the tour arrived.

Creepy.

"There aren't many birds around," Judge

MacDonald says. "I thought with all of these trees there would have been more birds."

There are a few, but mostly it's quiet.

What sound there is belongs to the group.

The scene suggests a ruined city, and essentially, it is.

The three- and four-story brick shells,

Please see pg. 10



Lt. John Sherman leads the tunnel tour.

## Not just another market

*Holiday Market will bring Sushi and cigars to Canton*

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Holiday Market is coming to Canton.

For a community that already hosts a Kroger, Farmer Jack and a Meijers Thrifty Acres — with another Kroger and a SuperKmart on the way — Canton may not seem like the best place to build another grocery store.

But then again, Holiday Market isn't just another grocery store.

Started in Royal Oak in 1953, Holiday Market is a legend in that community, according to John Pardington, co-owner of the Canton store.

"We've been known as the best specialty food store around for the last 40 years," Pardington said. "We're the ultimate one-stop-shopping place. We've got everything from Cornflakes to Chipotle sauce."

The market, a 45,000 square-foot building located at the southwest corner of Cherry Hill and Lilley roads, recently broke ground. It is expected to be open in February of 1998.

Similar to the recently opened Busch's ValuLand in range, if not in style, Holiday Market offers a variety of services that

Pardington feels will make his store more than competitive.

The store will feature a 50-foot meat counter, with a wide variety of meats and a meat smoker for customers who want custom smoking. It will also have a 75-foot

*'We've been known as the best specialty store around for the last 40 years.'*

— John Pardington

fresh seafood counter, a 48-foot gourmet cheese counter featuring more than 300 kinds of cheese from around the world, a coffee roaster and a bakery department.

What sets his bakery above others is the oven, Pardington said. "It's a 35,000 pound Spanish brick oven that will be built brick by brick on the site." Fueled by wood, the oven will churn out every type of thick, crusty bread one could imagine, Pardington

said.

Holiday Market will also offer a "gourmet to go" section, where customers can pick up a gourmet dinner to take home and prepare, a huge humidor, a sushi bar and an extensive wine selection, Pardington said.

Canton was the perfect place to expand according to Pardington, who purchased the land from Spartan Stores. "We're very proud of what we're going to put here," he said. "The demographics were perfect for the kind of thing we want to do. We felt like this was the right location."

Pardington isn't worried about competition from nearby Busch's, he said. "Every store has its own little style and culture."

Also in the works, a co-op agreement with Schoolcraft College to bring in chefs to give weekly demonstrations on the weekends. The Royal Oak location has a similar arrangement with Oakland Community College.

"We try and make shopping fun and light, and yet educational," Pardington said, "something that everyone can take something away from."

## Agenda

### THIS WEEK

- Today at noon in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth for PCAA's Music in the Park, the Chiladogs will perform jazz/reggae music.
- Tomorrow is the first of the summer concert series at the Heritage Park Amphitheater in Canton. "Fantastics" opens the season at 7:30 p.m. Free admission.

### WEEKEND

- The 1997 Medhealth Wellness Centers Futures Golf Classic will be played on Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Cattails Golf Club in South Lyon. Tournament ticket information is available by calling the MedHealth Futures Hotline at (313) 459-1800.

### NEXT WEEK

- Plymouth's Good Morning USA Parade on July 4 at 7:30 a.m. The parade will travel south on Main Street from Theodore to Hartsough. The festivities will begin with three skydivers landing on Main Street, in front of City Hall, holding the American flag.
- The Celebrate Northville Parade is on July 4 at 10 a.m. Call (810) 347-1919 or the Northville Chamber of Commerce at 349-7640 for more information.

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- Business .....pg. 8
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- Deaths .....pg. 11
- Sports.....pgs. 23 & 24
- Opinions .....pgs. 25-27

Crier plus sections focus on special events and aspects of The P-C-N Community. Business to business will run in the July 30 issue.

# Financial statement:

*Two new banks, reconfiguration of and old one and an expanding credit union — what does all this activity say about P-C-N?*

BY BRYON MARTIN

People's State Bank of Hamtramck is coming to Plymouth; so is Community Bank of Dearborn. NBD has decided to maintain the downtown branch it was set to close, and Community Federal Credit Union is building a new \$3-million facility.

What's going on around here?

It's no secret that The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community is experiencing a growth spurt. Commercial and residential developments of various kinds are quickly claiming unused and used space all in nearly all directions. And for banks, like any other business, that growth has opened up an attractive market.

But even with such growth, the flurry of activity among P-C-N's financial institutions begs the question, 'What will each do to win a share of the market?'

According to Michael Ross, president and CEO of Community Bank, his bank is not only coming to Plymouth Township to gain new members, but to follow they ones they have.

"Opening the Plymouth office is just a logical extension of our customer base," he said. "A lot of them are moving north and west."

And as they do they take out mortgages and new home loans, and open personal accounts — services common to most financial institutions; representatives from each of the four said they expect to get their share of these incoming consumer accounts.

Ross expects to open his branch at the Busch's development, at Five Mile Road and Sheldon, in August, across the street from about 900 acres that will get new subs and housing developments.

## Peoples comes to Plymouth

Continued from pg. 1

regional group manager at First of America in Plymouth, from 1983 until March.

Graham, former finance officer for the City of Plymouth and a banker with First of America and Comerica, will return to the community and to banking as vice president and manager of Peoples' Plymouth operations.

Graham has also served on the Canton Township Board of Trustees and is a past chair of the City of Plymouth Municipal Building Authority.

Bachman has 30 years' experience banking in this region, five of them in Plymouth. He will act as the new assistant

*The business climate here is good, and the customer base is large.*

vice president for retail loans at the bank.

"We're excited that locally-controlled banking is coming back to the I-275 corridor community," Weaver said.

"Just based on the rumors alone that Peoples Bank is opening in Plymouth, we've had many old friends and customers from our past banks contact us.

"The doors are yet to open officially, but we've already surpassed our loan projections for the western Wayne County operations for the first two months," Weaver said.

"Obviously, Peoples Banks' managers being so well known in banking circles here has attracted much interest in a locally run bank opening in town."

But businesses are coming too. And that is where each institution tries to distinguish itself from the others.

Peoples Bank is chartered in Hamtramck, but it's bankers are drawn from Plymouth Banks, according to Mike Weaver, regional president for the bank.

"We're excited to be coming to Plymouth," Weaver said. Among his fellow branch workers there is "more than 50 years of experience in Plymouth banking."

Because of its modest size in comparison to larger banks, Peoples Bank can cater to the smaller businesses, Weaver said. Institutions such as Comerica and First of America send loan applicants' credit analyses up to regional offices. This, according to Weaver, can complicate and depersonalize the loan process for applicants.

"[Other banks] are not serving small to medium sized businesses," he said. We've got a wide open market niche. We're bringing community banking back to the community."

Ironically, his competitors make the same claim as they try to set themselves apart.

Community Federal Credit Union, an institution with more than 40 years in Plymouth, has long offered small business loans. Its community-based role, he said, will be furthered by its focus on service and convenience with on-line banking and additional ATMs.

Again, competitors claim the same: NBD will add a Customer First center, mortgage, and Personal Business and Investment experts to its revamped Main Street office.

But even with all of the attempts to fill niches, Cantrell recognizes the similarity among the throng. "There aren't any services exclusive to any of us," he said. "you're going to offer people the same things."

Will this mean sink-or-swim competition between P-C-N's financial institutions? That's uncertain. But as Cantrell said, "the business climate here is good," and the customer base is large.

And whether or not all the banks succeed in the P-C-N market, they fact that they've come to Plymouth, as Ross said, makes one point clear:

"It's a big market. And it's going to get bigger."

## NBD stays downtown

Continued from pg. 1

affluent customers and their finances and offer a broad range of investments."

NBD will close 24 branches in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb and Monroe counties; 12 will be downsized, including the Main-Penniman branch.

Smith said the branches being closed are considered redundant, because of their close proximity to other branches. "It's like having two MacDonalds right next to each other," he said.

Others will be upgraded, according to Darmanin: Customer First centers specializing in non-cash transactions, major cosmetic and service redesigns and improved technologies are among the slated changes.

A research firm, hired by NBD, ques-

tioned customers about how they bank, the services they use and would want, and which banking technology is important to them.

Originally, the lack of a drive-through teller, a low volume of transactions and the presence of other branches nearby were given as rationale for closing the downtown branch.

"The whole retail redesign is customer-driven, because it's based on what they're telling us," Darmanin said.

Bringing in mortgage and PB&I experts should prove mutually beneficial, he said.

"A big reason why we're here is because we're committed to Plymouth. It will work both ways, for the community and the bank."



## Public notices

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO ESTABLISH A BANK BRANCH

Notice is hereby given that Peoples State Bank, 9252 Jos. Campau, Hamtramck, Michigan has made application with the FDIC for permission to establish and operate a bank branch at 245 N. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the Regional Director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at its Regional Office (500 West Monroe Street, Suite 3600, Chicago, Illinois 60661) before processing of the application has been completed. Processing will be completed no earlier than the 15th day following either the date of this publication or the date of receipt of the application by the FDIC, whichever is later. The non-confidential portion of the application file is available for inspection within one day following the request for such file. It may be inspected in the Corporation's Regional Office during regular business hours. Photocopies of information in the non-confidential portion of the application file will be made available upon request. A schedule of charges for such copies can be obtained from the Regional Office.

By: Robert L. Cole  
President & CEO

Published June 25, 1997

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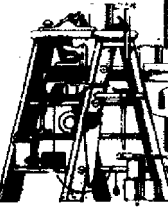
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# Friends & neighbors

## Listen for the growl...

### Neighbors in the news

Mark Warmbier, of Plymouth, was named to the Dean's List at Calvin College in Grand Rapids.

Chris R. Barbara, of Northville, and Carol E. Joy, of Plymouth, were named to the Dean's List for the winter term at The University of Findlay in Findlay, OH.

Sara Anderson, Nicole Arnold, Jill Barnett, Stacey Beck, Robert Bignell, Ryan Breen, Justin Buchhop, Kathryn Chamberlain, Jaclyn Conklin, Jennifer Connelly, Michelle Dean, Melissa DeLong, Samuel Epley, Carlos Escurel, Eric Fortman, Heather Gillif, Stacey Gravett, Dana Grondzieleski, Tracy Hruska, Andrew Ingersoll, Brett Kearney, Karen Kowalski, Kazuki Kurisu, Bryon Labumbard, Angela Lamerato, Hyun Lee, Jody Lehn, Marc Levitt, Suzanne Lindbergh, Ryan Mainz, David Markiewicz, Christopher Mazur, Eric Meszaros, John Mogelnicki, Alan Moran, Lawrence Morris, Jeremy Ohara, Stacey Pavlos, Brent Pernak, Nicole Pomaranski, Patrick Sarsozo, Andrew Soubel, Krista Tanner, Bridget Torigan, Michele Vanootighem, Wendy Vea, Kristi Wade, Daniel Zoltowski, Danielle Wren, Melissa Mcnamara, Steven Andriola, Kelly Sturgill, Erik Anderson, Michelle Butske, Sara Lind, Nicole Mercatante, Michelle Obeirne, Laura Ott, Christina Schafer, Heather Schafer, Erica Stevens, Caryn Tatterton, and Lisa Soash, from Canton, were named to the Dean's List for Michigan State University winter term. From Plymouth: John Bell, Carrie Benger, Holly Bowling, Jason Brooks, Keri Buttermore, Patrick Chun, Rebecca Cifaldi, Jennifer Curran, Stephanie Darmanin, Melissa Davis, Rachel Dory, Lisa Eisenhauer, Kelly Forbes, Jennifer Frost, Allison Fyke, Jannel Hemme, Erin Hindman, Kristin Honecker, Jill Huppenbauer, Leah Hutko, Kurt Krause, Brian Kuhns, Frederick Locke, Kirk Mayer, Steve McCauley, Leah Michaelson, Sandra Moore, Scott Mulder, Nadia Musleh, Ryan Niemiec, Julie Ratkewicz, Jill Repasky, Pamela Reynolds, Tracey Rigley, Jennifer Sabina, Katherine Saelzler, Philip Shipley, Erin Skene, Kathryn Socie, Melinda Sofen, James Thompson, Dante Tucker, Heather Verleye, Renee Veryser, Wallace, and Seth Watts.

*Amid the celebration of Red Wing Fever, Plymouth resident Randy Smith is quietly rebuilding the Detroit Tigers into a wild card contender.*

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

With Red Wing fever sweeping the area, it's easy to forget about Detroit's other sports teams.

And with the way the Detroit Tigers played last year, it's easy to forget them, period.

But Plymouth resident Randy Smith says the Tigers will be contenders within three years, either for a division title or a wild card spot.

What makes Smith's prediction more credible is his position: General Manager for the Detroit Tigers.

And before Detroit, he did the same thing in San Diego, initiating the Padres' comeback from 101 losses in 1993 to the National League West Division Title in 1996.

And Smith claims he can do the same thing in Detroit. "We've already done a lot since we've come here and we've got a lot more to do," he said. "The first thing I had to do was update the system. They didn't even have computers."

Smith's formula centers on player development and building from within, he said.

"A lot of teams ignore or cut down the scouting demands in order to use money to keep high-priced players," he said. "We want to put a lot of money into developing players. Some organizations just roll the ball at the minor league level. They don't teach the players, just let them

play."

Smith's strategy involves expanded scouting and teaching, he said. In his two years with the Tigers, the international scouting staff has quadrupled, from two to eight. He's also added five roving minor league instructors to teach different aspects of baseball.

It seems to be working. The Tigers, who ended last year's season with the worst record in Major League history, are within six games of .500, and their .453 winning percentage is better than eight major league teams.

All a result of player development, and some of the 23 trades he had made between his arrival in 1995 and February of this year.

One of the more controversial trades initiated by Smith was the trade of catcher Brad Ausmus to Houston for talented youngsters Brian Hunter and Raul Casanova.

"Brad was someone who would have been a big help to this ball club down the road," Smith said, "but Hunter and Casanova have done a great job and they're very popular."

The difficult part about developing younger players is keeping them, he said. "It's a question of when you get where you want to be, will these players all be there," he said.

His answer to that is simple, like his philosophy. "You try to create an environment that people want to work in."

Smith's philosophy is not that unusual, he said.

"These things we're doing aren't things that haven't been tried elsewhere; they just weren't tried in Detroit. There are a lot of teams that do a good job teaching."

Smith, now 33, has worked in baseball since he was 20, he said, working with the



RANDY SMITH

San Diego's AA team, the Beaumont Golden Gators in Beaumont, TX as an administrative assistant.

"I did everything from selling tickets to pulling the tarp to working at the novelty stands," he said.

He was named the Padres assistant director of scouting and became scouting director three years later. He held that position until 1991, when he joined the Colorado Rockies as assistant general manager.

One year later he became the general manager of the San Diego Padres. He was 29, and the youngest GM in major league history.

He is confident that he can do the same for Detroit that he did for San Diego.

"The biggest part is having the courage to stick to your plan and giving it time to work."

## Plymouth golfers join the LPGA-- for a day

BY MATT HUCAL

They may still be in high school, but two local golfers are scheduled to play with professionals in town for the Medhealth Wellness Center's Futures Golf Classic this weekend.

Jessica Hedges and Angela Jones of Salem are playing in the tournament's pro-am, being held tomorrow at Cattails Golf Course. This is the opening act of the tournament, which will feature about 120 golfers from the tour. The girls will be sponsored by Don Massey Cadillac, where Jones' father is employed.

The Futures Tour is a developmental tour for women striving to reach the LPGA Tour. The Futures Tour has seen 129 of its former players reach the LPGA.

Between 60 and 70 foursomes will play, with a Futures Tour professional in each group.

Both girls played on the Salem girls golf team last season, Hedges as a junior and Jones as a freshman. Their team finished second in the conference after Stevenson.

Although neither knows who they will play with, they said they are excited to play with professionals.

Jones said she enjoys watching Michelle McGann of the LPGA — formerly of the Futures Tour — because "she can hit the ball and she knows what she can do when she's in trouble."

This pro-am will provide Hedges and Jones with a chance to get first-hand tips

from the professionals, which they'll share with two other girls from Monroe, their partners.

Both girls said they've been playing golf for about three or four years, learning the game with the help of their families.

"I've been playing since the eighth grade," Hedges said. "My dad taught me the fundamentals, like how to grip the clubs and hit the ball."

Both girls have practiced playing Cattails and found it to be quite a challenge, Jones calling it "a tough course."

It may be tough now, but after a round of golf with professional golfers and the tips they are sure to receive, they may be on the Futures Tour themselves, someday.

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# Getting down to business

## Neighbors in business

The Plymouth Chamber of Commerce is seeking nominations for its annual Business Beautification Awards.

For the last six years the Chamber has recognized businesses that strive to make Plymouth a more beautiful place to do business.

Nominations are eligible in three categories: renovation, landscaping and new construction. Nominated businesses must be located in the City or Township of Plymouth.

To nominate a business, contact the Chamber at (313) 453-1540. Deadline for nominations is July 24.



**BILL GRAHAM**

Health Care Innovations has hired **Bill Graham** as director of finance.

Graham has eight years of experience in working with hospital primary care centers. He earned his CPA in 1984 and is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame.

Innovations Home Care serves the residents in the Plymouth area who are in need of home health care services.

The newest branch of the National Brokerage Firm A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. recently opened in Northville.

Located at 22260 Haggerty, Suite 230, the office has eight investment brokers who transferred from the Troy location.

Established in 1887, A.G. Edwards is a full-service investment firm with more than 2,000 investment brokers nationwide, making it the largest investment firm headquartered outside New York. The firm is a member of the New York, American and all other principle securities and commodities exchanges.

## Partnership dissolves after 20 years

BY JILLIAN BOGATER

Two Plymouth businessmen have decided to dissolve their partnership after 20 years of service.

Plymouth Mayor Ron Loiselle and Dan Herriman of Loiselle & Herriman will dissolve their accounting, tax services and condominium management services business effective June 30.

"Primarily our interests grew separate in the areas we prefer working and where we see ourselves in the future," Herriman said.

The division will allow the partners to focus on the part of the business each enjoys most.

Loiselle plans to devote his time to an investment broker/dealer operation selling stocks, bonds, mutual funds and life insurance while still providing tax and

### Loiselle & Herriman to focus on personal interests

accounting services. His new business, Loiselle & Associates, will remain in his present office at 865 S. Main, Suite 2, but will have a new phone number: (313) 459-9970.

Herriman will remain president of Herriman & Associates and continue to provide condominium management services. His offices will remain at 875 S. Main and will use the existing phone number: (313) 459-5440.

"Our years together have been very positive, personally and professionally, and I view this as an opportunity for each of us," Herriman said. "I will now concentrate on enhancing and expanding the condominium management services."

Currently his firm provides services to 2500 condominium dwelling units in Canton, Plymouth, Northville, Livonia, Westland and Birmingham.

"I want to expand the number of properties served and increase the level of service to condominium communities," Herriman said.

Although the two are parting ways business-wise, they still expect to work on some projects together.

"Dan and I will continue to assist each other in developing our respective interests," Loiselle said. "We will still maintain other business relationships and look forward to many years of continued cooperation."

## Jack Demmer Ford celebrates 40th anniversary

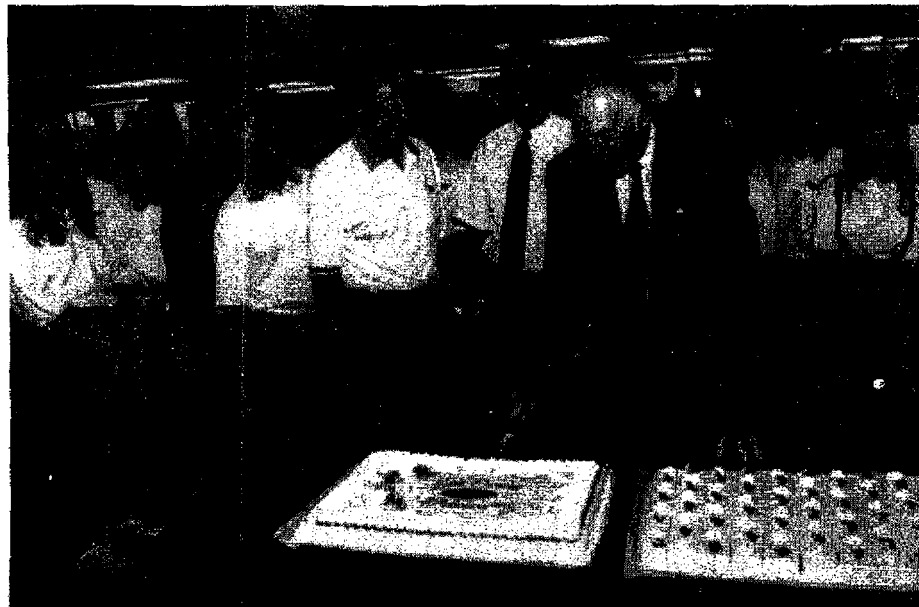
BY JILLIAN BOGATER

The Jack Demmer family in Canton reached a milestone this week — four decades of continual service through their Ford dealership.

More than 100 people came in to celebrate the occasion Monday afternoon. The crowd included family members, business associates, vendors, customers and employees from the Ford plant located across the street from Demmer's dealership.

The key to success their lies in respecting the customer, said Jack Demmer, president of the dealership.

"Take care of the customers and the customers will take care of us," he said. "I've run an honorable business by hiring good people and having good employees. I wanted to create a business where people



**Jack Demmer cuts his company's 40th birthday cake. (Crier photo, R. Alwood Jr.)**

come in and feel comfortable."

Demmer operates the dealership on Michigan Avenue with his two sons, Joe and Jim.

In 1957, Demmer opened an Edsel

dealership in Wayne. In 1960, he moved to South Lyon to open a Ford Mercury dealership, then returned to Wayne in 1963. He moved the store to its current location in 1969.



## Tasty reception

Dozens of merchants and customers recently gathered for the grand opening of Busch's ValuLand, located at the corner of Five Mile Road and Sheldon. The supermarket offers a new approach to grocery shopping, with a cappuccino bar, large wall murals and free coffee and donut holes for customers every day.

(Crier photo, R. Alwood Jr.)



# Plymouth Fire Depts may expand ambulance services

BY JILLIAN BOGATER

Union representatives from the Plymouth Community Fire Department (PCFD) recently met with city and township officials to discuss creating an advanced life support (ALS) ambulance service.

If approved in contract negotiations with the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township, the PCFD will add two ALS units to its department and cease its working relationship with Huron Valley Ambulance.

Huron Valley Ambulance, a private business, has serviced the Plymouth community since September 1991.

"We feel we can provide a better service," said Chuck Russo, a 10-year fire department employee.

Since the city and township fire departments consolidated in February 1995, department ambulance response times reduced from 6.5 minutes to 3.75 minutes.

"For each minute cut off, it dramatically increases the patient's chances of recovery," Russo said.

Firefighters are convinced they could maintain this level of service if an ALS ambulance service was created, Russo said.

A fire-based ALS system has many advantages over a private ambulance service, Russo said, including better response times and an average fee structure. Also, under the ALS employees cannot strike and must respond in all situations.

Private service ambulances, on the other hand, have a high fee structure, don't have to respond in certain circumstances, have the option to strike in labor disputes and are dependent upon making a profit.

A key issue for this proposal focuses on the number of personnel needed compared to what is allowed under the intergovernmental agreement, said Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen-McCarthy.

"This may be expensive to maintain, but it has revenue potential," she said.

Profits would come from ambulance charges: from \$400 to \$600 depending on level of care plus mileage. Russo projected potential monthly revenues at \$45,720.

The PCFD Union wants to include this proposal in its contract negotiations, which started two months ago.

Staffing an ALS ambulance requires one paramedic and one specialist, he said.

The proposed ALS plan would include the addition of six paramedics to the 21-member fire department. In addition to this, 14 firefighters would take ALS training while the remaining seven would take specialist training.

"Everyone is willing to train to upgrade their skills," Russo said.

The first year would add three firefighter paramedics, train the 21 firefighters and upgrade the squads. This, including overtime hours and testing fees, would cost \$396,205.

The second year would add three more paramedics, EMT bonus pay and additional equipment for \$262,000.

The third year would add equipment and EMT bonus pay for \$50,000.

Bill and Tammy Forbush of Emergency Education in Westland gave a presentation comparing what the PCFD ambulance provides now and what it could provide with ALS.

# MacDonald to lead judges

BY JILLIAN BOGATER

Judge John MacDonald of 35th District Court just added another title to his name.

MacDonald was recently elected as president of the Wayne County District Judges Association (WCDJA).

As president of the association, MacDonald will head monthly meetings and keep Wayne County judges informed about legislation and laws affecting courtrooms. His term will last one year.

About 80 district judges belong to the WCDJA.

Kerry Erdman, court administrator for the 35th District Court, said MacDonald was a logical selection for the position.

"It's an excellent choice, given Judge MacDonald's commitment to the 35th District Court and the judicial system," Erdman said.

MacDonald will replace Judge Glen Valasco, of Riverview's 27th District Court. Judge Charles Bokos of Westland will serve as vice president of the association.

MacDonald said it was nice to have a group of his peers elect him as president.

"It's an honor to have the position," he said. "And a lot of work."



Judge John MacDonald

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# Tunnel town

*At one time, abandoned county site was city*

Continued from pg. 3

dating from the early '30s, are what remain of Wayne County's Child Development Center. Built in years when the site was at the remote, western edges of Wayne County, about 1,000 kids lived here in its days as an orphanage and special education school.

Due to its then-remote location, the center was built equipped for functional independence.

"Everything was here," Sherman says as he leads the tour through tangled thickets and down shattered concrete paths. "What we had here was a totally self-sufficient city," he says, spreading his arms wide.

Woodshops, electronics labs, a theater, gymnasium, a power station, fire station, doctors' and dentists' offices — they were all here, along with everything else a town

After a few minutes looking for Gish's tree, the search is scrapped — stands in excess of 70 feet are common here; the needle in a haystack cliché at a giant scale.

But there is plenty to see and feel here. The group views a swimming pool through a gaping breach in an outside wall: energetic graffiti is frenetically sprayed on its sides and the walls around it. Graffiti left by trespassers who visited the tunnels.

Northville Township Police have been dispatched here in response to a variety of calls. Woodside makes sure the group gets a view of a building at the east end where a bomb was exploded.

"It's amazing what has gone on here," she says, standing among the rubble.

Sherman calls it the perfect place for gang activity.

The site began its descent into ruin in 1974, after county funds abruptly ran dry.



Karen Woodside's son considers his shot as he photographs the tunnels.

needs.

Sherman worked here in the '70s as an employee of The City of Northville. Likely, he knows the history of this place as completely as most alive today. What he omits from the tour, Township Treasurer Richard Henningsen supplies.

"Every species of tree in Michigan is represented here," Henningsen explains. Once a manicured grounds, the overgrowth muddles a group search for a tree of particular significance.

"Lillian Gish planted a tree here when she opened the center," Henningsen explains; the silent screen actress was involved in the center.

Residents were pulled out. All education stopped.

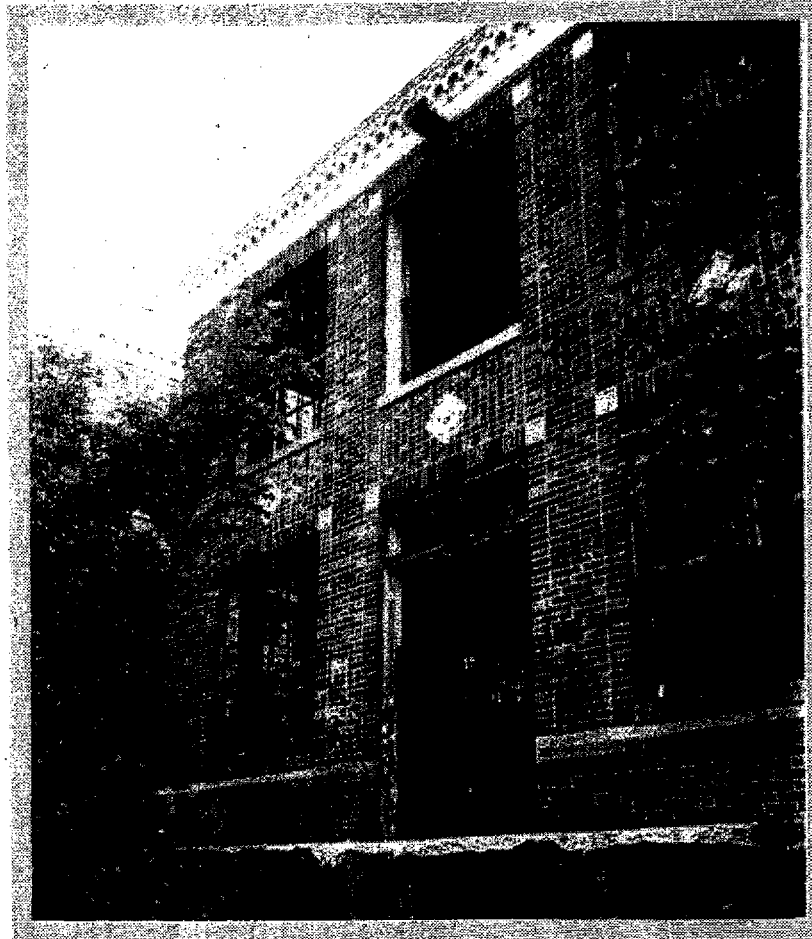
School supplies, dental tools, sports equipment, residents' records, a half-full coffee mug — all were abandoned.

"It's a classic Twilight Zone scene. Like everyone was beamed out," Sherman says.

Laws restricting the use of items bought with public money, and poor County stewardship, left most of the center's goods on site, according to Woodside and Sherman.

Most of the center was shut down by 1974. Portions were kept open and used as Township facilities until about 1982.

Little, if anything, was legitimately salvaged; trespassers picked up items of value



long ago.

In their place was left the violated remnants of a government project designed to help the challenged, parentless and misfits of Wayne County.

Tearing down these walls almost seems an act of mercy, and demolition has already begun.

The tunnels, and about 900 acres opposite them on the west side of Sheldon (another closed-down county site) are part of a Planned Unit Development recently approved by Wayne County's Economic

Development Corporation. Single family homes and senior centers will bring life to this place, soon.

After the tunnels have been torn out, kids will play here again. The precise landscape of a public golf course will bring shape to the jagged and shaggy growth here now.

And up from the tunnels will be built a community where a community once was, but was lost.



Richard Henningsen gives bits of the center's history to the tour group.

# Goodbye to a man of music

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Bob Jones, a former Plymouth composer, organist and teacher, died May 28 in San Diego.

Jones was born in Chicago and studied music theory at the Chicago Conservatory. He earned a bachelor's and master's degree in music. He retired as a music teacher from Schoolcraft College in 1982.

Jones will be remembered locally for the music he composed for the First Presbyterian Church in Plymouth, Salem High School, and the Plymouth Symphony.

"He was a wonderful composer," said Fred Nelson, for-

mer choir director for First Presbyterian. "He has a lot of music published."

Jones wrote music for the church, vocal music for one of Nelson's classes at Salem High School, and even a symphony for the Plymouth Symphony.

"He loved to compose on demand. Sometimes I would give him some text that needed music, and he would fill the blanks just like that. "He wrote music for everyone," Nelson said. "Young or old, beginners or symphonies."

For the last 10 years Jones lived in San Diego, where he was the organist at the Third Church of Christ Scientist in

University Heights. He also performed guest concerts on the Spreckels Pipe Organ in Balboa Park in San Diego.

Jones was also active in the San Diego Historical Society, San Diego Model Railroad Club, San Diego Theater Organ Society and the American Guild of Organists.

He is survived by his daughter, Gwyneth Evelyn Scafidi; son, Christopher Ian Jones, both of San Diego, and a granddaughter.

"He was very funny," Nelson said. "He had a great sense of humor. He was the only genius I've ever known."



# Community deaths

## Obituaries

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

### KARL D. ALLEN

Karl D. Allen, a Pinckney resident, died June 16, 1997 at the age of 48.

Mr. Allen was born May 8, 1949 in Detroit. He was a senior project engineer in the Hyno-Cell area at General Motors in Ypsilanti. He was with the company for 30 years at the power train plant. He lived in the Plymouth/Canton community from 1975 to 1997. He enjoyed boating, fishing, his family, working on cars, and was called "Mr. Home Improvement."

He is survived by his wife, Sue, of Pinckney; sons, Jeffery (Karen Stevens) Allen of Ann Arbor, Todd Allen of Pinckney; daughter, Andrea (Jason Washington) Allen of Pinckney; granddaughter, Caitlin Marie; parents, Don and Verta Allen of Farmington Hills; sisters, Audrey (Richard) Cairnes of Walled Lake, Patricia (Edward) Aubochon of Arizona, Anita (Michael) Williams of Illinois, Janice (Bud) Goffin of Redford, MI, Sandra (Jeff) Morrissey of Missouri, Nancy (Michael) Pride of Rhode Island; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Kenyon Edwards officiating. Burial was at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. Memorial contributions can be given to The American Lung Association.

### KENNETH WILLIAM HUBER

Kenneth William Huber, a Dearborn resident, died June 15, 1997 at the age of 65.

Mr. Huber was born May 2, 1932 in Plymouth. He retired from Harold Thomas Nursery in Livonia after 35 years of service. A graduate of Plymouth High School, he lived in Plymouth and Dearborn most of his life. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1951-1954, and he loved landscaping.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with Pastor James Parks officiating. Burial was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens in Westland. Memorial contributions can be given to The American Lung Association or The American Heart Association.

### ALEXANDER J. SANISLOW

Alexander J. Sanislow, a Shawsville, VA resident (formerly of Northville) died June 14, 1997 at the age of 97.

Mr. Sanislow was born May 29, 1900 in Salem Virginia.

He is survived by his son, Forest (Wendy) Sanislow of Richmond, MI; Nancy (Adrian) Wilhelmi of Shawsville, VA; grandchildren, Robin, Mark, Timothy, Stephanie, Bryan, Kym, Kurt; and seven great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth (Nee Hayball).

Services were held at Glen Eden Cemetery Chapel in Livonia. Burial was at Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia. Local arrangements were made by The Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the charity of choice.

### FREDDIE D. FOX

Freddie D. Fox, a Plymouth resident, died June 20, 1997 at the age of 43.

Mr. Fox was born Feb. 16, 1954 in Scottsburg, IN. He was a serviceman for Genesis Sprinklers of Plymouth.

He is survived by his wife, Brenda L. Fox; daughter, Elizabeth M. Fox of Plymouth; son, Freddie D. Fox, II of Plymouth; brothers, Carl E. (Joy) of Plymouth; Richard J. Fox of Austin, IN; mother, Emma G. Fox of Austin, IN.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. William C. Moore officiating. Burial was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia. Memorial contributions can be given to the charity of choice.

### Marie Heneretta Polderdyke, 90, homemaker

Marie Heneretta Polderdyke, a Canton resident, died June 9, 1997.

She is survived by two sons; daughter, Geraldine E. (Joseph) Melnik of Canton and one other daughter; one brother; 14 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great-great children. She is preceded in death by her husband, Eugene M.

Arrangements were made and services held at L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Canton. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

### Devon M. Cashero, 19

Devon M. Cashero, a Canton resident, died June 14, 1997.

She is survived by her mother, Linda Fratt of Canton; her father; her brother, Fidell Cashero III of Canton; and her grandparents.

Arrangements were made by and services held at The McCabe Funeral Home in Canton. Burial was at Knollwood Memorial Park cemetery in Canton.

### Mildred I. Wall, 77

Mildred Wall, a former Plymouth resident, died May 29, 1997.

She is survived by her husband; two daughters; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one sister; and two brothers. She is preceded in death by one son.

Services were held at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

### Hattie Mae Greenlee, 93, homemaker

Hattie Mae Greenlee, a Plymouth resident, died June 18, 1997.

She is survived by one son; daughter, Kathe Johnson of Canton; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and one sister.

Arrangements were made by and services held at Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Interment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens.

### Billie W. Magee, 69, painter for Ford Motor Company

Billie W. Magee, a Plymouth resident, died June 19, 1997

He is survived by his wife, Eunice Magee; son, Bill Magee of Canton; daughter, Diane Magee of Canton and one other daughter; brother, Fred Magee of Plymouth; two sisters; and one grandchild.

Services were held at St. Thomas A'Becket Catholic Church. Arrangements were made by the McCabe Funeral Home in Canton.



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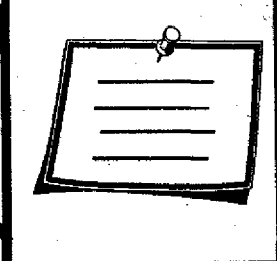
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 **Upcoming**

**POETRY CELEBRATION**

The Plymouth Coffee Bean Company, 844 Penniman, Plymouth, will host poetry readings from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. every Thursday night during the summer. The events are directed by Plymouth's poet in residence Rod Reinhart. Featured readers for July 3 are Guthrie Neidhardt and Lisa Barrett.

**SUMMER PARK PROGRAM**

Children may register for the Plymouth Recreation Department Summer Park Program starting June 30 at five locations: Kiwanis Park, Jaycee Park, Garden Club Park, Rotary Park and Fire House Park. Each location will provide a schedule of supervised activities from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The program is free; participants must be city residents. For more information call 455-6620.

**JEWS FOR JESUS**

Jews for Jesus Liberating Wailing Wall will be singing and telling their story at 11 a.m. July 27 at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy, Canton.

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If you witness an act of kindness, if an organization you are associated with plans a good deed, and if someone is especially kind to you, please write a letter to The Kindness Editor describing the act of kindness. We will gather the reports and publish some of them on a special page on July 23rd.

The Community Crier staff will choose an outstanding act of kindness and present a \$50.00 reward to the kind person, and \$25 each to the runners-up. So if you know somebody who deserves a reward, let us know. Who knows, maybe together we can help start new habits. We need to receive your nominations by July 18th to be considered for the May page.

- Elizabeth M. Johnson  
Atty. at Law
- The Community Crier
- COMMA,
- Specialty Pet Supplies
- Vassel's of Plymouth
- Quicksilver Photo

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**YOUTH SOCCER**

The City of Plymouth will take registrations for fall youth soccer during the month of July from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. All registrations require a birth certificate. Fee, \$40 for city residents, \$60 for non-residents. Also, the City of Plymouth will take fall youth soccer registration the entire month of June from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The department is located in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. All registrations require a birth certificate. Fee, \$40 for city residents and \$60 for non-residents. Call 455-6620.



**FLORAL ART SHOW**

The Plymouth Community Arts Council's Floral Art show will feature six watercolorists this summer: Marjorie Chellstorp, Johnnie Crosby, Joanne Porter, Kay Rowe, Mary Stephenson and Donna Vogelheim. The public is invited to the show, which will take place **June 24 to Aug. 31** from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesdays. The PCAC is located at 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth.

**ART CLASSES**

The Plymouth Community Arts Council is now accepting registration for summer art classes for children beginning the week of **July 7**. All classes held at the JWH Center for the Arts, 774 N. Sheldon, Plymouth. To register or for more information, call 416-4278.

**GOLF TOURNEY**

The Alexander McLaren Memorial Foundation will host its second annual golf tournament at 7:30 a.m. **Aug. 17** at Fellows Creek Golf Club, Canton. cost is \$60 per person. For more information, call Debbie Gambino at (313) 383-8800.

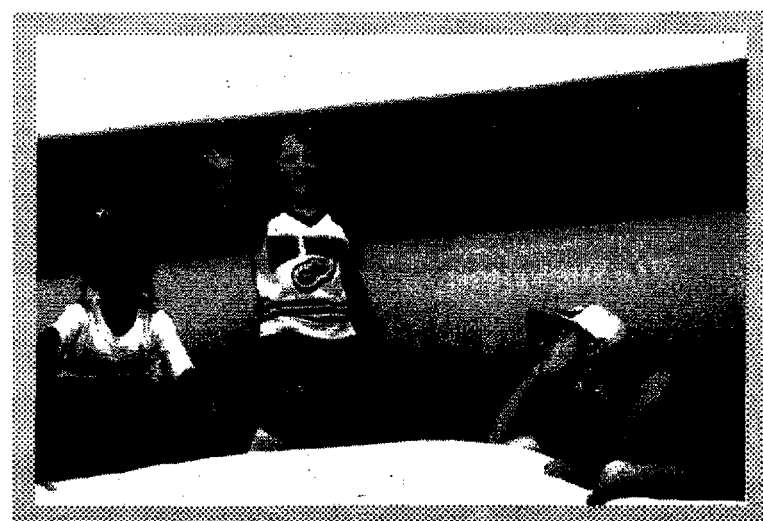
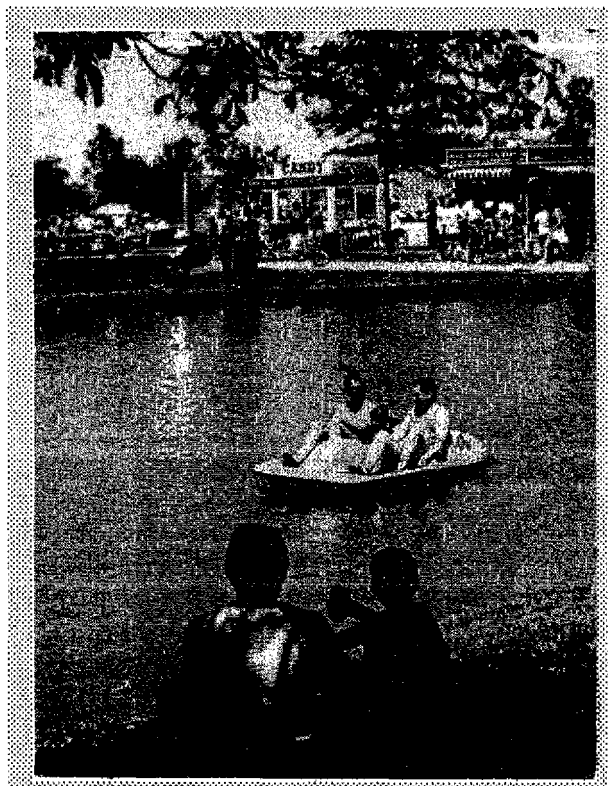
**GARAGE SALE**

St. Thomas A' Becket Catholic church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton, will have its annual garage sale from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. **June 26 and 27** and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. **June 28**. For more information, call Dawn Moss at (313) 981-4877.



# Sweet land of Liberty

Canton residents turned out in mass to celebrate the 6th Liberty Fest, held from June 19-22 in Heritage Park. (Crier photos, R. Alwood, Jr (top); Ryan Nunez (bottom)).



## Crowning Glory

BY LINDA KOCHANEK

Everything came up roses for 89-year-old Ms. Senior Liberty Fest Pageant winner Viola Dilley (right).

"It was a beautiful pageant," said Dilley. "I was so in awe that I just tried to relax and do the best I could."

Dilley and seven other senior contestants competed in this first annual Ms. Senior Liberty Fest Pageant at Summit on the Park Friday night.

"The roses are beautiful, but for me meeting all the lovely ladies was reward enough," Dilley said. "I'll remember each member of the group for their special smile or personality, everyone brought me a lot of joy."

"It was spectacular," Denise Aleardi, chairperson for the event. "We had 205 people attend. It was such a success that next year's pageant will include surrounding cities in Western-Wayne."

"I felt that it was really a worth while event," Aleardi said. "The judging focused on the inside of a person, not just the outside."

Other awardees included first runner-up Mary Ann Agner and second runner-up



Millie Hayes. Dolores Hrlie won Ms. Congeniality.

(Crier photo, R. Alwood Jr.)

**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**

**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.

**BLOOD DRIVE**  
 The American Red Cross will have blood drives during the month of July at the following locations: Salvation Army, 9451 S. Main, Plymouth, noon to 6 p.m. July 11. First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville, 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. July 30.

**CHORE PROGRAM**  
 The Senior Alliance offers a chore referral program that puts workers in touch with seniors who are in need of chores and home repairs for a reasonable fee. Those who are interested in offering their services should call (313) 722-2830.

**Groups**

**ADULT CHILDREN OF DIVORCE**  
 Single Point Ministries will present Adult Children of Divorce, Leaving the Past Behind at 9 a.m. June 28 in the Lighthouse, Ward Presbyterian Church, 17000 Farmington, Livonia. Register by calling (313) 422-1854.

**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. The camp takes place 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.

**Health**

**MOTHER-BABY SUPPORT**  
 The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer a mother-baby support group at 10 a.m. July 8, in the West Addition Conference Room B. To register, call (313) 655-1100.

**SAFE SITTER CLASS**  
 The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital will offer a safe sitter class for children aged 11 to 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 29 and 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. July 31 in Pavilion Conference Room B. Cost for class is \$40 per student. Register by July 20 by calling (313) 655-1100.

**PREMARITAL CLASS**  
 The Marian Women's Center at St. Mary Hospital will offer a premarital AIDS class from 7 to 8 p.m. July 10 in the West Addition Conference Room B. Cost is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. To register, call (313) 655-1100.

**BREASTFEEDING CLASS**  
 A breastfeeding class is scheduled for 7 p.m. July 24 in the West Addition Conference Room A at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. Cost, \$15. Register by calling (313) 655-1100.

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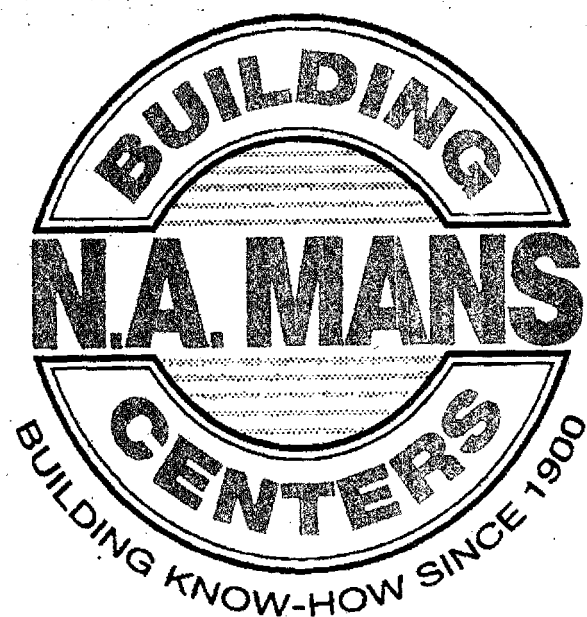
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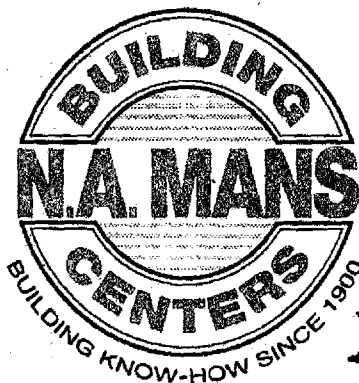
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## Twp. police catch man with carload of fireworks

BY JILLIAN BOGATER

A Farmington man with \$3,600 of illegal fireworks in his Jeep was arrested Friday morning in Plymouth Township.

The 41-year-old unidentified man will appear for arraignment July 18 in 35th District Court on charges of possession of unlawful fireworks.

"He told the officer he traveled to Ohio to buy the fireworks for himself and several friends in Michigan," said Sgt. Steve Rapson of Plymouth Township Police.

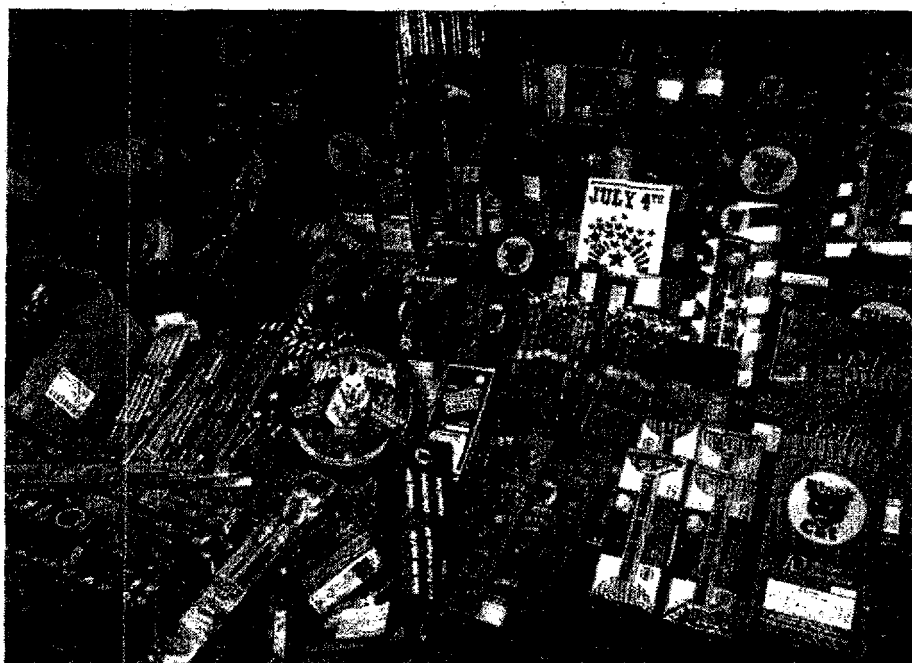
Rapson said Officer Steve Cheston witnessed a flash in the sky as he was patrolling the Sheldon and Five Mile roads area. As he drove toward the area the aerial firework came from, he witnessed a vehicle leaving the area.

Cheston stopped the Jeep and as he walked up he noticed several boxes covered by a blanket, Rapson said. Through an opening in the blankets, he recognized Black Cat fireworks.

"We confiscate quite a lot of fireworks this time of the year," Rapson said. "But these are the most dangerous fireworks we've come across."

Plymouth Community Fire Chief Larry Groth says all fireworks — even legal ones — have the potential to be dangerous.

"Most fireworks burns in hospitals come from legal fireworks like sparklers," Groth said.



This collection of illegal fireworks, worth about \$3,600, was taken from a Farmington man by Plymouth Twp. Police. (Crier photo, R. Alwood, Jr.)

## Liberty Fest reigns despite rain

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Mother Nature provided some light works of her own for last weekend's Liberty Fest, but the weather didn't affect attendance, according to Bob Dates, Canton Parks and Recreation Supervisor.

Friday night's Laser Light Show went off a little later than anticipated, due to a broken water pump, and was not without problems, according to Dates.

"They had another aerial laser, but with our close proximity to Willow Run Airport, the FAA wouldn't allow them use it, so we didn't get a complete show."

Threatening clouds rolled in from the west, but the rain held off and the laser show was only interrupted occasionally by rumbles of thunder and flashes of lightning — each accompanied by cheers from the audience.

A severe weather storm shut the festival down for an hour and a half on Saturday, Dates said. "But all in all, we were pretty lucky with the weather."

"It looked like it was clearing up," said Cheryl McCleay, a Canton resident who operated an air-brushing booth in the arts and craft tent. "The sun was coming out, and then everyone started shouting: Take Cover!"

*'The wind whipped up and the rain started coming down. Then we were running for cover.'*  
— Cheryl McCleay

"I said, 'Why? The sun's out,' and then whoosh! The wind whipped up and the rain started coming down. Then we were running for cover."

The storm cleared up in time for the fireworks Saturday

night, which drew a crowd at least as big as last year's, according to Parks and Recreation Supervisor Bob Dates.

"All in all, I think it went great," Dates said. "The fireworks were beautiful and we were prepared for the storm. We had everyone out of there in an orderly fashion."

The weather didn't dampen the spirits of festival goers who showed up in droves to take advantage of the coast-to-coast selection of vendors in the arts and crafts tent.

"It's been great so far," said Lynn Jenson, who operated a frechand wire sculpture booth with her husband, Gary Chaffin. Jenson, from Bend OR, learned of the Liberty Fest at a Michigan Welcome Center near the Ohio Border.

"Even with the weather, it's been fun," she said. "We'll be back."

"We're very happy with everything," Dates said. "Our Friday night and Sunday crowds were our biggest ever. All our new events were very popular. We're very pleased."

## Have you filmed a Ford video (in Plymouth), lately?

BY JILLIAN BOGATER

Canton resident K.C. Bartos pushed a baby stroller along in Kellogg Park as a new Ford Taurus pulled into a parking spot nearby.

A happy stroll in the park, it seemed.

But Bartos was actually an extra in a sales training video being filmed for Ford Motor Company.

Visual Services Inc. of Bloomfield Hills spent three days in Plymouth last week filming a video dealerships will use to explain new features on 1998 car models.

"This gives sales representatives an idea of what the vehicles are about and it helps them sell better," said Producer Matt Smiley.

After editing and duplication, the videos will go out to 2,500 dealerships nationwide, Smiley said. They will focus on the new Taurus, Explorer, F-Series, Contour and Club Wagon.

Plymouth was selected for the shoot because it fit the image they were looking for, he said.

"I've been here before. It's the perfect downtown setting," Smiley said. "The city keeps the park looking real nice. I couldn't ask for a better groomed area."

The crew also filmed shots in Grosse Pointe Woods and at the Detroit Polo Club in Milford.

Bartos, who moved to Canton two years ago, said he was pleased to work in his community.

"This is awesome," he said. "We go all

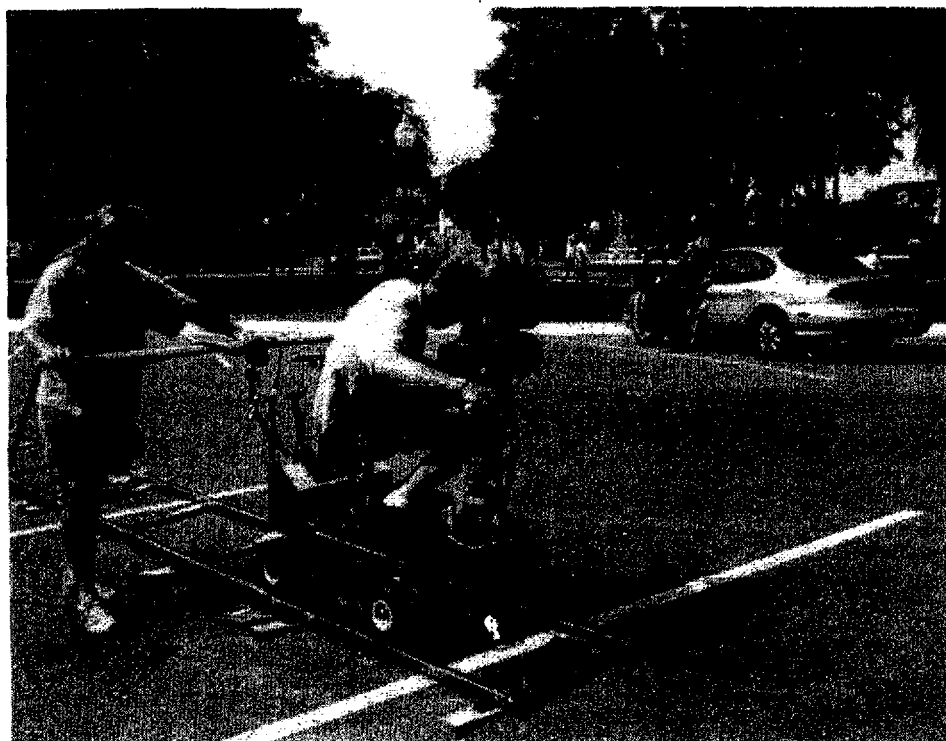
*'This is awesome. We go all over metro Detroit. To be so close to home is great.'*

— K.C. Bartos

over metro Detroit. To be so close to home is great."

Smiley submitted a 12-page application to City Manager Steve Walters to get permission for the shoot.

"Of all the sites we've worked at, Plymouth has been the most cooperative," Smiley said.



Canton resident K.C. Bartos was part of the cast in a video filmed in Plymouth for use at Ford dealerships. (Crier photo, R. Alwood, Jr.)

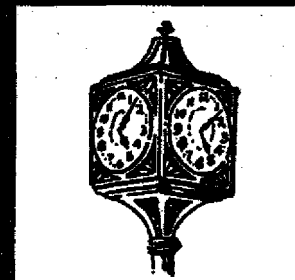




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 Are the wild Turkeys next?

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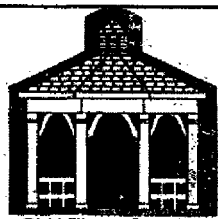
Happy Birthday to a guy who is NOT yet eligible to join The Community Club...

Congratulations on your victory strikers!

"I am not a vegetarian because I love animals...I am a vegetarian because I hate plants

Erick Carne's book "Shorelines of The Great Lakes" is now available from Plymouth Community Arts Council (313) 416-4278, and a Little Professor Books in Plymouth.

## Curiosities



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Plymouth-Canton Civitans -  
 Congrats on 25 years of service!

Mike MacLaren at Michigan Press  
 Association: Congratulations and Welcome!  
 -Mike Carne

Jack Selle still reads The Crier

Carl: was that a "Honda"?

MR. VACATION gets older soon.

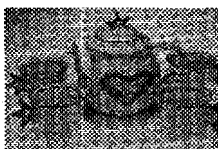
\*an eagle in "golfenese" is par less two (ie. on a 5 par hole an eagle would be three.)

BEAUREGARD eats Mexican Fiesta rice and beans after seeking shelter from the Liberty Fest rainstorms.

L.J. Christopher gets again older soon.

Artichoke soup is the nectar of the gods so the Lower Town Grill thinks and they are right.

Jillian Bogater "We hardly knew thee"  
 Now you are leaving to put your foot on another rung on your ladder of success. You're a good little writer. We shall miss you! G.G.



Watch For  
 Art In The Park  
 July 12  
 July 13

## Curiosities

\*Camper Advice from Kelly at the Waterclub: "Don't Live to Eat, Eat to live"  
 Thanks for the awesome wine presentation. Linda and Steven

Crier and Comma Staff- Let's welcome "slim pickins" to our ranks. (but watch out for her potty mouth)

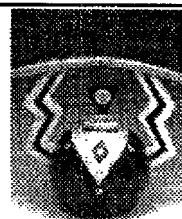
Thanks to Richard Alwood for helping me remember how to load a camera.

Winston rules!!

Adolf Menjou, to whom the impossible frequently happens. So your sons simply picked you up without your whole hearted consent, and flew you up to Alaska. Now aren't you glad, you lucky father?.

Yeah, but hat's eating Beauregard?

-Jess Wundrin



Coming Soon

Art in the Park

July 12th & 13th

To some of us: Nothing = the smell of a new car.

Ernie Archer- how wonderful to see you in the Crier office.

You are the greatest

Sally kicks Scrabblers Mom and Ed in GR.

How much would you pay for an ice sculpture on this hot day??

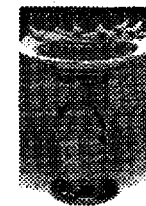
Dear Martha et al, One thing about Plymouth, there is always something doing. It would take one person and 7 bulldogs busy keeping track of everything. The latest "doing" was a High School reunion classes 1934 and 1935. 57 Attended dinner at the

Elks. Alice Bakewell who came from California and Highfield, Florida, the greatest distance. Some of them had not seen each other in 40 years. What a great time everyone had. Love to talk to you. Geneva

## Curiosities

Eileen Williams is using a walker part of the time and getting around. Her friends and relatives are most grateful.

The Lisa's are back



WELCOME SUMMER!  
 ART IN THE PARK  
 JULY 12 & 13, 1997

Blakey treats his grandmothe as though she is the red queen, (which she is)

**CRIER CARRIERS NEEDED IN CANTON, WESTERN PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP AND LAKE POINTE AREAS. CALL MAURA AT THE CRIER. (313) 453-6900.**

Dr. Tom C. One of the joys of living in a small town is having one's dentist available in an emergency.

Thank You GG

The editorial staff lives on the dark side. They can't seem to find the light switch.

Diane, you better watch what you do around this office-your job title may just change if you're not careful!

Kenn- Remember, my living room is only 10 by 14.....

WITCH DOCTORS ROCK!

..On to St. Louis...

Oh, yeah, right, DNA: "7,000 " marchers...maybe they just kept running around the building and passed by 100 times.....

J.O.A. = Journalism Obliterated by Avarice  
 Beauregard eats birthday cake today, I bet.....

Okay, OKAY! Getting Ed a kitten was a BAD idea, I realize that now. YOU think up the next idea.....

Hey, are you gonna eat those french fries?  
 Welcome, Danielle!

WHAT was the special at the Yacht Club the day after the Big Fish Kill???

COMING SOON - THE CRIER'S  
 GUIDE TO

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# Wall of tours, tears

*Plymouth-Canton's VFW stood vigil at the touring Vietnam memorial as many visited and remembered*

BY CHERYL VATCHER

Plymouth's Vietnam Veterans remembered their fallen comrades as they stood vigil at the Moving Wall in Belleville on Friday.

Members of Vietnam Veterans of America Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528 helped visitors locate names on the wall, do rubbings for the families, and were the Honor/Color Guard for all the ceremonies at the wall — a mini, mobile replica of the memorial in Washington, D.C.

Honor/Color Guard Commander Ron Wilson was happy with the turnout.

"We've had people from all over come to visit the wall," he said. "People have traveled from East Detroit and I've met chapter members who I've never known before."

The half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial lists the names of the more than 58,000 soldiers killed or listed as missing in action during the Vietnam conflict.

The panels are coated with glossy black paint to resemble the granite of the memorial in Washington, D.C. Names are silk-screened onto panels with white-epoxy-based ink so that the letters are slightly raised.

Names are listed in chronological order from the date of death, staring at the center of the wall with the year 1959, moving right then picking up again at the left side moving toward the starting spot.

Many individuals chose to leave items at the wall. Some left poems, letters, beer bottles, flags, hats, photographs and signs. All of these items will be collected and eventually exhibited in a special moving wall exhibit.

Don Dignan, of 528, said he saw the moving wall when it came to Ypsilanti a few years ago and is familiar with helping others coming to view it.

"It's nice to help people locate names and say hello to a few veterans. I'm glad to help out our chapter too," he said.

Dignan said that several hundred people passed through while he was working at the wall.

Wilson said he saw a few individuals unable to approach the wall and touch the names.

"They just sat on the bench for a while," he said.

Floyd Riley, of 528, helped families with rubbings on the wall. He said he enjoyed helping out Friday and Saturday.

Don Shannon, also of the Plymouth-Canton chapter, expected more people would want



Veterans stand vigil at the travelling wall. (Crier photo, R. Alwood, Jr.)

rubbings on the wall.

"I am really impressed with the turnout though, even with the heat and humidity," he said.

Shannon, who served in 1967 and 1968, helped many of those on the wall come home to their final resting places.

He said he hasn't seen the wall in Washington, D.C., but plans to visit. His daughter, Donna, saw the wall last year.

Dale Luebke made sure that the area of the wall was regarded as sacred, with no food, beverages or cigarettes allowed near it.

Dennis Shrewsbury, former president of 528, participated in the Color/Honor Guard ceremonies and manned the wall Saturday until midnight.

"I've made some rubbings and talked to some veterans. Some people come out here not looking for anything in particular," he said.

"It's interesting to be here at this moving wall and see the Mexicans, Orientals, blacks, Armenians — everybody shared in the sacrifice, but they are not all sharing in the rewards," Shrewsbury said.

Chapter member Doug Fox said he wondered if anyone he served with would come to visit the wall. He noticed that some people came and sat in front of the wall for a couple hours because they had difficulty dealing with it.

"Some veterans saw a lot of action and it affects them a lot more," Fox said.

He said he was impressed with the fine job the VFW did.

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# Sports

## Sports shorts

The Canton basketball program will be holding **basketball shooting camps** with two separate sessions. Campers can sign up for one or both sessions. The cost of the camps is \$50 and campers will receive a Canton basketball t-shirt and a red and white Canton logo basketball.

**Session I** will take place July 7-11 and **session II** will be July 14-18. Camps will be held at Canton Phase III. Grades 4-6 (Fall '97) is 9-10:30 a.m. Grades 7-9 (Fall '97) is 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and they'll be conducted by the Canton boys basketball team and coaching staff.

The first annual Canton basketball **golf outing** will be held **July 12** at 10:30 a.m. at Hilltop Golf Course in Plymouth. The outing is sponsored by Canton basketball coach Dan Young, the staff and the parent group.

The cost is \$240 and includes a foursome for an 18 hole scramble plus carts and meal afterwards at the Colony Farm Clubhouse in Colony Farm Sub. Present and past Canton basketball players and friends of the program are welcome.

The **Dan Young Basketball School** will take place July 21-25 at Phase III at Canton High School.

Young, Canton boys basketball coach and 1996 News and Free Press Coach of the Year, will provide individualized instruction on the floor, as well as in the classroom.

The emphasis will be on: a mental approach to high school/collegiate competition, fundamentals that will improve your game, individual offensive and defensive techniques, and team offense and defense.

The classes are limited to 30 students and will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. The cost is \$125 and includes a t-shirt, notebook and lunch on Friday.

Call Dan Young at (313) 495-1079 for more information on all three events.

The Plymouth Recreation Department begins registration for their **Summer Park Program** on Monday.

The five registration locations are Kiwanis Park (Auburn and Junction), Jaycee Park (Harding and Joy), Garden Club Park (Sutherland and Forest), Rotary Park (Wing and Herald) and Fire House Park (Holbrook and Spring).

Each location will provide a schedule of supervised activities from 10 a.m. - 4

Please see pg. 21

## Former Whaler wins Calder Trophy; 4 Whalers taken in NHL entry draft

BY BRIAN CORBETT

One former Whaler picked up an award, and four current Whalers put on new sweaters at NHL festivities last week.

New York Islanders defenseman Bryan Berard, a Detroit Whaler/Junior Red Wing from 1994-96, won the Calder Memorial Trophy on Thursday as the NHL's rookie of the year at the league's award banquet in Toronto.

Two days later, current Plymouth Whalers Harold Druken, Pat Parthenais, Eric Gooldy and Randy Fitzgerald were selected by four teams at the NHL entry draft in Pittsburgh.

Quite a week, but these developments didn't surprise the Whalers management and coaching staff.

General Manager and Head Coach Peter DeBoer correctly forecasted the round selection of the four Whalers drafted Saturday, and Assistant General Manager Kerry Kerch made note of his prediction three years ago that Berard would win the Calder Trophy.

Kerch had another prediction ready on Friday.

"He's going to win the Norris (Trophy as the NHL's best defenseman)," Kerch said.

That wouldn't surprise DeBoer, either. "Just like (Berard) said at the awards when he had won, he said he hoped to be back holding another trophy for best defenseman, the Norris, someday," said DeBoer.

This is the first time a former Whaler has won a NHL award. The organization's inaugural season was 1990-91. Winning the Calder Trophy adds to the list of Berard's achievements.

He helped the Whalers win their first J. Ross Robertson Cup as OHL champions in 1995, the same year he was made the NHL's first overall draft pick by the Ottawa Senators.

He was also named OHL Rookie of the Year and Defenseman of the Year in 1995.

Berard opted to play another season in Detroit instead of joining Ottawa. "He didn't want to go there," said Assistant Coach Greg Stefan.

Ottawa eventually traded Berard to the Islanders.

In DeBoer's first year as head coach, Berard flourished as team captain. He scored 31 goals and had 58 assists and 116 penalty minutes. Kerch said the Whalers are planning on retiring Berard's number 34, another Whaler first.

Whalers coaches believe Berard he is deserving. They praised Berard as the best player during the club's run of three straight West Division titles that included an appearance in the Memorial Cup tournament.



Plymouth Whaler Harold Druken was drafted by the Vancouver Canucks in the second round of the NHL draft Saturday in Pittsburgh. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

"He came in here as a rookie with a great desire to be successful. He had that hunger and dedication to play the game, and he could take it to another level," said Stefan.

"He was a team captain, a leader, both on and off the ice for us," said DeBoer. "He had a fantastic experience with us playing for the Memorial Cup. He's a great kid."

With the NHL draft picks Saturday, the Whalers have four more chances at another Calder Trophy.

Druken, a forward, is undoubtedly the Whalers' best candidate in the 1997 draft class. But he is also a long shot.

The St. John's, NFLD native, who had 27 goals and 58 points in 63 games last season, was selected in the second round, 36th overall, by the Vancouver Canucks.

"Vancouver had followed him around all year. They were excited to get him," said DeBoer.

The excitement is justifiable. Druken's potential is limitless. At 6-feet, 205-

Please see pg. 21

## Mets/Tigers win in 3-day PCJBL Invitational

Plymouth Township Park became the "Field of Dreams" for Plymouth-Canton Junior Baseball League's (PCJBL) 12-year-old Mets/Tigers as they took top honors in the first ever PCJBL Invitational held last Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Six recreational all-star teams of 11 and 12-year-old boys were invited from The Plymouth-Canton Community, as well as two teams from Northville.

After Thursday's games it looked like the White Sox were a good bet in division one with the Mets/Tigers combo and Cubs going at it Friday in division two. However, the league-leading White Sox couldn't cope with the Dodgers/Royals combo, and were eased out of contention, 10-9, in a thriller. On the other side of the field, the Mets defense prevailed over the Cubs in a 15-9 game.

# Local foosball fanatic wins state titles

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Practice with the best, and eventually you'll beat the best.

That's the training method Larry Hitchcock used, and it paid off this spring when he captured Michigan state foosball titles in the forward shootout and rookie doubles competitions.

Hitchcock, a Plymouth resident, has a friend who was a seven-time world champion.

So when Hitchcock decided to start playing competitively, he didn't hope to win, he expected to.

"I really wasn't surprised," he said of the titles. "In the forward shootout, maybe, but the rookie doubles, no. I would've been more surprised if I hadn't (won)."

Foosball, also known as table soccer, is enjoying a resurgence in popularity, especially with Generation Xers in college towns, though the best players are often 10 to 15 years older.

The game was invented in Germany to improve hand-eye coordination, Hitchcock said, and reached its peak in the 1970s.

That's about the time Hitchcock stopped playing pool at local pubs in exchange for foosball.

"I really didn't care at the time. I was just having fun. It was better than pool because you're playing against another person rather than the table," he said.

At the time, the professional foosball championships included money and cars for prizes.

Interest in the game waned during the 1980s, but Hitchcock and his friends kept playing. "We were just going over to friends' houses and playing," he said.

His game improved and his repertoire of shots widened.

"Everybody does the traditional stuff — the pull shot," he said. "What you have to do is work the corners of the goal, and show people you can score there. Then, they have to defend the whole net."

With decades of preparation, Hitchcock ascended quickly through the levels of competition with his 90 miles per hour shot.

The victories in Battle Creek, for instance, has moved Hitchcock out of the rookie category and into semi-professional. A player gets 25 points for each tournament victory.

Those wins may be harder to come by now that the competition is better and the sport is becoming popular again.

"There are a lot of new players out of Lansing. That town has been pulling up big time," Hitchcock said. "The young kids have live arms, but the best players are in their thirties these days."

## Diggin' in the sand



Eight teams competed in the Sand Volleyball Tournament held during Liberty Fest at Heritage Park in Canton on Sunday. The four-person, co-ed teams could've used a lake next to this artificial beach as temperatures were in the high eighties. Each team received a T-shirt for participating and the winning team was presented with an award. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

## 4 Whalers drafted by NHL teams

Continued from pg. 20

pounds, Druken is a fluent skater with breakaway speed and a natural scoring touch. He rebounded from a disappointing performance the first half of the season to become arguably the best rookie in the OHL by season's end. He led the Whalers in scoring with four points in five playoff games.

But Druken, who had 14 penalty minutes in the 1996-97 season, needs to improve his physical presence. "Definitely, that's what held him out of the first round," said DeBoer.

The same lack of physical play also confronts Parthenais, a late fifth-round selection at 127th overall by the Florida Panthers. "That's right... he certainly plays quiet. No doubt about it," DeBoer said of Parthenais. "But he's a heck of a hockey player. He's got all the tools. He's a good skater. He's got a good shot. But at 6'-4", 200 lbs., you've got to be physical."

In 58 regular season games, Parthenais had no goals, four assists and 88 penalty minutes.

On the other hand, the last two Whalers drafted Saturday — Gooldy and Fitzgerald — are known for their mean streaks.

Gooldy was taken by the Toronto Maple Leafs in the sixth round, 138th overall.

Gooldy, a 6'-3", 200 lbs. forward from New Hartford, NY, became increasingly belligerent as the season went on. He finished with 131 penalty minutes, and was one of only three Whalers to have a positive (plus-three) plus/minus rating.

But Gooldy had 18 points in 66 games, not particularly impressive for someone of his size and strength. "I think he has better hands than his numbers indicate," DeBoer said. "I think you'll see him step it up next season."

Fitzgerald appears to be a steal for Carolina, formerly the Hartford Whalers, in the eighth round, 199th overall. He had several key goals last season among his 30 points in 65 games. He had 123 penalty minutes.

Heralded by DeBoer as the team's hardest worker last year,

Fitzgerald covers the ice well, forechecking and backchecking. He sounds like the prototypical role player, but he doesn't look like it. In an era driven increasingly by size, Fitzgerald's 5'-11, 174 lbs., frame is a handicap. But don't count him out, said DeBoer.

"You can't go wrong drafting a kid like that," DeBoer said. "He's a character kid, hardest worker on the team. If he would've been 6', 200 lbs., he would've gone in the fifth round. But teams are drafting for size now, especially in the later rounds. And that continued this year. In the later rounds, teams are drafting the bigger kids and hoping that they'll develop. But the smaller guys have proven that wrong in the past."

Just ask Dino Ciccarelli.

**Chatter:**

DeBoer spent Monday on the phone preparing for the OHL's European draft, scheduled for Thursday. In typical draft-time fashion, DeBoer wouldn't say who the Whalers are hoping to draft. "We're hoping to take a good player to compliment the players we've have coming back," he said.

The Whalers have the 12th and 27th picks in the two-round draft. The players will more than likely hail from Russia, the Czech Republic or Sweden. The key, DeBoer said, is determining what players can be released from their European contracts to play for Plymouth next season. Swedish players are apparently paid handsomely and more difficult to bring to North America than their Czech and Russian counterparts...

DeBoer said the Whalers will likely wait until training camp before naming the captain and alternates for the 1997-98 season. That's because the top candidates — Andrew Taylor, Mark Cadotte, Jesse Boulerice, Fitzgerald and Troy Smith — will be attending NHL pre-season camps...

The Whalers hired former Peterborough Pete scout Mike Sadler as head scout last week. Sadler provides the Whalers with nearly 20 years of hockey experience.

## Sports shorts

Continued from pg. 20  
p.m., Monday through Friday.

Arts and crafts, active games, street showers, bowling, miniature golf and table game will accent the daily program.

Friday field trips are planned at the Detroit Zoo, the Skatin' Station, Rolling Hills Water Park, Kensington Metro-Park and the Oakland County Wave Pool. A fun-filled field day is planned for the final date on August 15.

Call the Plymouth Recreation Department at 455-6620 for more information. The program is free and participants must be City of Plymouth residents.

City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department's 1997 softball standings through June 19:

**Men's Blue Division:**

Varsity Ford 7-0; Rusty Nail 4-2; Nutro's Disposable Heroes 4-3; D & D Video Transfer 2-4; Dealers Specialites of Metro Detroit 2-5; Cantron Services 1-6.

**Men's White Division:**

Card It 6-0; UAW 845 Ford Sheldon Rd. 5-0; Roush Wheels 3-1; Crucam 3-2; Box Bar 2-2; Capital Communications Services 2-3; Soil & Materials Engineers 1-3; Adistra 1-4; Johnson Controls 1-5; Zena Comp/Infomix 1-5.

**Men's Modified:**

Portland Building 6-1; Hoechst Celanese 4-3; Insurance Exchange 3-4; Canton Sports 1-6.

**Women's Slow Pitch:**

All for One/Gallagher Kaiser 5-0; Shark Club 3-1; N.W.C. 3-2; Jamie's 4-3; Buddy's 3-4; Adistra 2-3; Rusty Nail 2-3; Lucas Landscaping 1-7.

**Co-ed Blue Division:**

Roman Forum 5-0; Big "K" 5-1; St. Michael 4-1; S.H.G. 3-3; The Great White Shark Club 1-4; The Catalysts 1-5; Fairway Club 1-6.

**Co-ed White Division:**

The Friends 5-1; GLA Surveyor 5-1; Risen Christ 4-2; Team #8 3-2; Crusaders 2-3; Comcorp Cougars 1-5; Stan's Market 0-5.

Western Lakes Activities Association all conference and all division softball selections.

All conference from Salem: catcher **Stefanie Volpe** and infielder **Carah Best**.

All Lakes Division from Salem: outfielder **Kristan Los**.

All conference from Canton: infielder **Angela Litwin**, infielder **Nikki Kovachevich**, outfielder **Jenny Sikora** and **Gretchen Hudson**, an at-large selection.

All Western Division from Canton: catcher **Amy LaGrow**, infielder **Kristen Witt** and outfielder **Tara Biro**.



# Community opinions

## Reporter leaves proud of P-C-N

Who says chivalry is dead?

While driving down Main Street in downtown Plymouth the other day, I witnessed an extraordinary sight.

A young woman with a baby stroller in tow was attempting to cross the street as a heavy rain poured down. She struggled to get the stroller over the curb as she pushed wet hair out of her eyes.

What happened next astonished me.

A gentleman sitting in a white Ford Explorer jumped out from the passenger side and handed the woman an umbrella. After a brief moment, she took it. The man ran back to his vehicle and went on his way.

Random acts of kindness like this are rare to find these

days. Occasionally newscasts will slip footage of a good deed in between the daily updates of horror and destruction.

But to actually witness one was enough to bring a lump to the back of my throat.

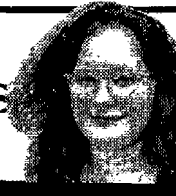
It is something like this that makes me proud to be a resident of The Plymouth-Canton Community. Despite the incredible growth I've witnessed since my family moved to Canton in 1975, we have managed to hang on to our smalltown kindness and respect.

I will miss this the most as I move on to a new job this week. It's truly been an honor to work as a reporter for my hometown newspaper.

Critics say this area is just getting too big for its

## Bread and roses

By Jillian Bogater



britches. With people willing to give selflessly despite all the rush-hour, McNow attitudes we carry like a cross, I say they're wrong.

Who says chivalry is dead?

They've obviously never visited The P-C-N Community before.

## Teacher gives his side of story

EDITOR:

I would like to explain to you and the community why I'm not finishing out the last seven days at Canton High School. It is not because I don't enjoy my profession. I love teaching and working with young people. It is because of the stress that has been put on me by some Plymouth-Canton employees.

I knew that when I started to communicate with the Board that pressure would be brought on me. I knew that my professionalism would be challenged. But, I did not know I would receive harassing phone calls, hate mail (unsigned), destruction to my home, and most recently, threats to me and my family.

I was warned by many people what to expect. However, because I care about my students, I still felt I had to try. The sad part is, they were right. I will continue to help students and parents at Canton High School. I am not retiring — I will be back for the 1997-98 school year.

I feel I need to set the record straight regarding a few things I have been quoted as saying.

1) I never said that all students at Canton

*I did not know I would receive harassing phone calls, hate mail, destruction to my home, and most recently, threats to me and my family.*

— Ken Smith

High School are breaking the rules daily. I have said that the majority of the students do what they are suppose to do and try to follow the rules. We do have great students. But, we also have a lack of discipline and

supervision by some of the adult population.

2) I never said, or will say, that all of the teachers, administrators and other professionals are not doing their best. I publicly apologize to anyone who thought that was my intention. There are many of you who are caring, dedicated teachers. I would like to be able to list all your names and all the great things you do and say to the students in your care. You know who you are. The parents and students at Canton High School know who you are.

I also have to say that some of our teachers and administrators are selling the students short. They are not acting or working as they should as professional members of the staff. They are not disciplining students as far as tardies, unexcused absences, hall behavior and classroom conduct.

To state my goals once again: I feel students need pre-established consequences for misbehavior and need to have these consequences administered right away.

Parents need to know right away about students not going to class so they can help.

All staff, teachers, social workers, psychologists, administrators, secretaries, maintenance workers, nurses, paraprofessionals, counselors and cafeteria workers must not tolerate infractions of the rules. We, as a team, must help these young people follow the rules of 1) no vulgar language 2) no verbal abuse 3) no classroom disruptions 4) no inappropriate dress 5) no loitering or undue familiarity. We should remember that discipline means "to teach."

I know there are many of you who support these goals and the need for change. Many of you feel you can't speak up for fear of your job security or what the system might do to you. If at all possible, I feel the board would like some of your opinions as to what is going on in, or near, your classrooms. The board needs facts.

I would like to thank this Board of Education for caring.

KEN SMITH

TEACHER, CANTON HIGH SCHOOL

## Generous support for local organizations

*More than \$6,700 generated for physically and mentally challenged children in the area*

EDITOR:

On behalf of the Father Victor J. Renaud Council of Knights of Columbus, I would like to thank the people in The Plymouth-Canton Community for their generous support during our annual Tootsie Roll Drive. This fund-raiser is held every year on the weekend of Palm Sunday.

The drive occurred this year on Friday, March 21 and Saturday, March 22. Over those two days, more than \$6,700 was collected to be given to organizations in the local community such as Our Lady of Providence Center and Plymouth Opportunity House.

These donations are used by these organizations to benefit physically and mentally challenged children in our area.

During these times when it seems that the news is filled with reports of selfishness, hatred and violence, it is very uplifting to witness concrete demonstrations of generosity and caring.

In view of the number of people in this area who demonstrated their generosity by happily donating to the Tootsie Roll Drive, it is obvious that people here do care

and that the hatred and violence in the news are a result of a very small portion of society.

Thank you again for your generosity.

CURTIS POWELL

GRAND KNIGHT

## Clothing bank thanks

EDITOR:

This will be our last year serving at The Plymouth-Canton Community Clothing Bank.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the many groups and individuals who have supported the Clothing Bank with clothing donations and financial assistance.

Your generosity has helped to provide needed items for our clients and made it

possible for us to serve the community successfully all these years.

We will fondly remember the many people who have touched our lives during this time.

It has been an honor to be associated with the Clothing Bank.

VIRGINIA KOCIK

JEANNE DUMAS

PAM LYLE



# Community opinions

## Thomas thanks voters

*Newly appointed school board member appreciates turnout on June 9*

EDITOR:

For our family it has been a long two and a half weeks since the election. I want to thank everyone who offered their prayers and continuing concern as my mother struggles to recover from her recent heart attack and bypass surgery. Your thoughtfulness has helped during this period.

I wanted to offer my thanks to those people in our community who voted on June 9. While much has been said about the low turnout, the number of people who voted this June versus a year ago was higher. The support that I received from the voters was very gratifying. Thank you to everyone who actively supported me and

encouraged others to vote by sending postcards and by placing signs in their yards. Your help is greatly appreciated!

We should all be pleased by the reduced number of "lost" votes. The higher level of voter awareness, the District's efforts to train the election workers and the efforts of the precinct "volunteers" helped lower the "lost" vote count.

However, we still have a lot of work to do in this area. The software needs to be fixed and I pledge that I will do what I can to make sure that for school elections, that happens.

During the next four years, I will work hard to ensure

that an atmosphere of trust and credibility is built to include our entire community and that we create an environment that is open to all new ideas so we can make the very best decisions that will enhance our children's education.

We need to build on the inclusion of our community in the educational process and to work hard to make our teachers and other staff major stakeholders in the decision-making process.

If you have questions, comments or ideas, please call me or any other school board member. We must work together for success!

ROLAND THOMAS

## Plymouth resident tired of 'eating dirt'

*—Editor's Note: This letter was originally sent to Thomas Hollis of the Plymouth Township Department of Public Works, and was later sent to The Community Crier.*

EDITOR:

Thank you for the copy of the May 23 action request to Wayne County — regarding the application of calcium chloride over fresh grading of the road shoulder on Ann Arbor Trail, between Haggerty Road and I-275.

The topping added to the shoulders has been called a course aggregate. There are some stones in the mix, but the rest is similar to talcum powder.

Therefore, dust clouds to no end and the filled chuck holes reappear almost immediately. The powder gets on and in our cars and A/C systems — this can, at the very least, aggravate the respiratory system.

We must stay in-house with the windows and doors closed. The county told me that maybe the request for calcium chloride could be executed by the end of the month.

By such a date we'll have eaten most of the dirt they laid down. It appears as if the county is not concerned with high-density air pollution, even if they are the source.

The grading of road shoulders is wasteful and destructive because it softens the desired hard surface; it cuts steps in front of the driveway and creates mosquito-breeding havens; stones roll onto

the road surface and chip car paint, crack windshields and chew up the road surface; the gravel on the roadway is dangerous to pedestrians — when cars take off at the

*We must stay in-house with the windows and doors closed. It appears that the county is not concerned with high-density air pollution, even if they are the source*  
—John De Giusti

intersection they propel rocks and the stopping distance is increased on the gravel.

I'm certain there is more to add, but this should suffice to paint a good picture of the problems at hand. According to my records, this situation has existed at least since June 7, 1984.

You promised to help if the county balked. As of this date, no luck. Please follow through.

Thank you infinitely for your time and patience.

JOHN DE GIUSTI

## Lions Club thankful for support of circus

EDITOR:

The Plymouth Lions Club would like to say thank you for supporting the circus.

It was a huge success. We hope you had

as much fun as we did bringing it to our community.

We take our hats off to our community.

BILL BAXTER

*For Your Convenience...*

We are pleased to offer this guide to **ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS** in the City of Plymouth.

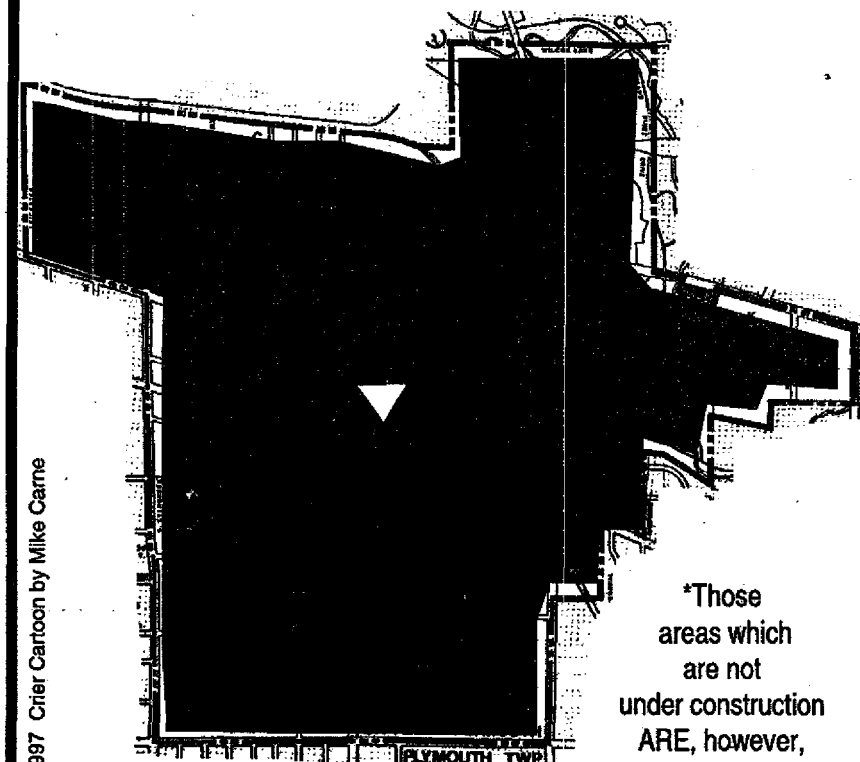
KEY TO MAP:



Areas shown in **BLACK** are under construction



Areas shown in **WHITE** are NOT currently under construction\*



\*Those areas which are not under construction ARE, however, blocked by a CSX train...

©1997 Crier Cartoon by Mike Carne





# Comma

## The 'burbs are a c...

Since returning from a four-year stint in Oregon, I've been amazed at how much Canton has changed from the Canton of my childhood.

The streets are clogged and falling apart. At certain times of the day, you just can't get anywhere quickly. Cars converge on Ford, Lilley and Sheldon roads and slowly trudge along like metallic turtles.

Yet amid all this growth, Canton doesn't seem to have taken on a personality of its own. While I was growing up, and even when I left, there wasn't a whole lot to "do" in Canton. The best place to go see a movie was in Livonia or Westland, the best parks were in Plymouth and to find a good bookstore? Forget it.

Now there are more businesses and houses. We have a few more bars and a few more restaurants. We have more grocery stores — even though they have the same name as the other two grocery stores.

But there's nothing to distinguish Canton from the suburban sprawl around us. The best place to see a movie is still Westland or Livonia, and so on. We didn't seem to get anything back from all the growth.

Until recently it didn't seem to effect me. I would wait in traffic, play with the radio and wonder if all the "short cuts" I knew were really any shorter.

But driving to my parents house recently, through the subdivision I once

delivered papers in, I noticed that my favorite copse of woods was being torn down and in its place, two new houses.

It wasn't a forest, probably no more than two acres, but I spent a lot of time there when I was a kid and the woods seemed a lot bigger. It was the last bit of nature in the sub; the last hold-out against the relentless carbon-copy subdivision house builders. I caught snakes there, hung out with friends there, got stuck in the mud there.

*There's nothing to distinguish Canton from the suburban sprawl around us. We didn't get anything back from all the growth.*

And now in its place will be no more than another pair of houses that look just like the two on the other side of the street, which look like the two next door.

The last time I felt such a pang of nostalgia was when I found out my family's first Michigan home is now part of a

Off the  
By Scott S

residents. Many may not distinguish and look around as if the pet they'd fed and nurtured all their lives gave up on them and set out to make it on its own.

Growth is inevitable. But the nature of growth and change is somewhat flexible, as is the rate. A better plan is to preserve some open space, and not be so quick to cram all the available land with strip malls, grocery stores and subdivisions.

I watched as the City of Eugene turned away huge companies like Mitsubishi and Sony, even though the economy was stifled and jobs were hard to come by. I didn't understand it then, but I'm beginning to see what would fuel such decisions. The desire to keep the town livable.

Canton is sacrificing livability for marketability. The Planning Commission should make more of an effort to preserve open space and park lands.

So other kids can have special childhood memories, too.

## Family loses sense of security

EDITOR:

As a recent retiree from the U.S. Armed Forces, my family and I returned to Michigan to live near my parents. We bought a small home in Plymouth Township and felt happy and secure, until today.

While we were at work, some dirtbag(s) broke into our small home and stole jewelry, coins, keepsakes and an old Russian rifle. Most of all, he/she/they stole our sense of security.

We never have had much in the way of money, like many families we are just struggling to get by.

The cost of moving every two or three years in the service never allowed us to save up any cash.

Money was always used to replace the damaged and lost items caused by the movers, to pay the hook-up fees for phone/utilities and other expenses associated with moving.

So, what little we did have is gone, and even this wasn't enough

for the thief(s), they couldn't even bring their own bag to haul it away in, they stole our pillow cases from the bed.

We can at least be thankful they didn't murder our pets while they killed what little happiness we had obtained here.

I have no idea how successful the Plymouth Township Police will be in recovering any of the property or catching the dirtbag(s) that did this to myself and my family.

Hopefully, the wonderful fingerprints that the police obtained will lead them to the apprehension and full prosecution of the dirtbag(s). I have lost my faith in the security of the community.

If the dirtbag(s) are reading this, the off-white Mother of Pearls necklace with the twisting screw clasp is the last memento my spouse had of her mother. It would be a great kindness to have it returned to her.

JAMES KIVELL

## Commission candidates deserve praise

EDITOR:

The City Commission of the City of Plymouth at their June 2 meeting approved the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. They're to be commended for keeping the city budget at last year's levels. That's the good news, now the bad news.

The city will be having an election for two city commission seats in November. There are eight people who have filed petitions to run for this very important job,

two of these eight candidates are incumbents. While attending the City Commission meeting I found it very saddening that out of the eight candidates there were only three candidates present, two being incumbents, for the discussion on the city budget. The third candidate present was Colleen Pobur.

The city held five budget workshops that all citizens could attend. A fourth candidate, Dave McDonald, did attend

three of the five workshops. I would like to say hats off to these candidates for showing interest in what happens in their city and hope they keep on attending these meetings on a regular basis.

Wouldn't it be unfortunate if one of these eight candidates was elected to the City Commission and the first time they ever attended a City Commission meeting is the day they are sworn in.

DEL TEMPLETON

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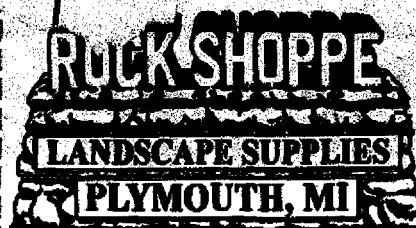
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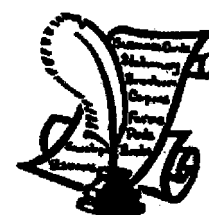
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