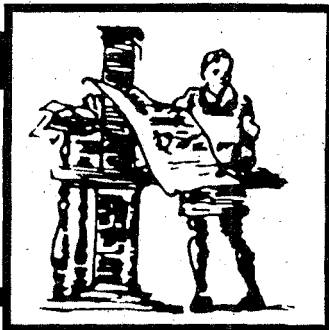


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The Community Crier

Vol. 24 No. 48

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December 31, 1997

12-31-97
Hot news
When the 35th District Court burned down July 2 this year, it dislocated court staff, confused court proceedings for the public and became one of the biggest stories in the Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. Flip to The Crier's plus section, pages 11-28, for a look others of the top stories that defined the news in P-C-N. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.).



Twp. Board OKs senior center PUD

Trustee questions 911 needs

BY CHERYL VATCHER

Plymouth Township's Board of Trustees has approved a planned unit development for Regent Street, clearing the way for an senior citizens' assisted living center.

The five-acre site will be located between Edward Hines Drive and Haggerty Road, north of Plymouth Road.

At their meeting, Regent Street, Inc. representative Micheal Rein described the development of the Township Board.

"Residents will have two rooms per dwelling unit," he said. "(The units) are without cooking facilities, but there is a centralized dining and sanitary facility. We have proposed the assisted living site to contain 140 unites and 160 beds to be built in two phases through the PUD option."

This proposal, he said, meets population density requirements. Density is not to exceed 25 units per acre, according to Rein.

The development will also include 45 parking spaces for staff, 85 for residents. "We don't anticipate traffic will conflict with the area's traffic patterns," Rein said.

Concern over the center's dependence on The Plymouth Community Fire Department was raised at the meeting.

"Since Tonquish Creek Manor has been here they've been using our fire department more than any others," Trustee Charles Curmi said.

Some senior centers use 911 services more frequently than others because their residents experience more medical emergencies.

Rein addressed Curmi's concerns: "We're willing to work with the Township and the Fire Chief. We try to avoid any emergency situations."

"We want to make sure that the residents do not have emergencies that require calling the fire department and others," said Phyllis Howard, president of Regent Street Development. "These individuals will be looked after on an ongoing basis. They will be constantly monitored."

Please see pg. 5

YEAR IN REVIEW

A look at stories that defined the news in The Plymouth-Canton Community

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Court
page 12

Court burns, travels, finds home in '97
Staff, communities, avoid political ugliness in relocation, rebuilding processes

Bond
page 15

Drama in story of stymied school bond
Court case, appeal delay school building

Growth
page 16

Canton masters growth, shapes identity
Commercial, cultural development define '97

Mayflower
page 19

Mayflower's fate?
Stalled renovation project brings back questions about historic hotel

Neighbor news
PCN residents who made their mark in '97's news
See Friends & Neighbors pg. 4

Biz goes hi-tech
Businesses came to town, brought technological edge
See Getting Down to Business pg. 6

Whalers update
Special spread on Plymouth's mid-season progress
See pgs. 20-21

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Canton student takes step toward Olympic soccer

Morrell named to national team

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

When it comes to the Olympics, one Plymouth girl has her first foot forward.

Robynn Anne Morrell recently was named to the Girls 1982 National Pool by the Youth Division of the United States Soccer Federation, a step toward playing in the year 2000 or 2004 Olympics.

It has been a long road for 15-year old Morrell, who has played soccer almost since she could walk. It was this summer though, that Morrell said she went after the Olympics.

"First you have to tryout for the state team," she said. "If you make the state team, and you're good enough, then you're appointed to the regional pool."

The regional pool is a group of about 30 girls who are chosen from various state teams, she said. From the pool, 18 are chosen to play at the regional level. U.S. Regional teams are the East, Midwest, South and West, she said.

"The South usually dominates because they can play all year long," Morrell said.

Morrell said she was selected for the national pool after her performance in inter-regional tournaments in Blaine, MN, and Bradenton, FL.

"The coaches watch us play and pick the girls from the regional teams," she said.

Players are selected specifically for the Olympic Development Program, she said, and lessons learned are geared toward an eventual Olympic appearance.

"The coaches teach you things they think the women's Olympic soccer team needs to work on," she said. "We'll work on those and improve as we go, and hopefully we'll get there."

A member of of soccer-playing family, Morrell started playing soccer at the age of four with the Plymouth PeeWee team. With

her two older brothers, older sister and now her younger brother, she almost has a team of her own.

She has since played in teams through various organizations such as the YMCA and the Michigan team. Playing in Livonia, the Michigan team is coached by members of the Detroit Rockers.

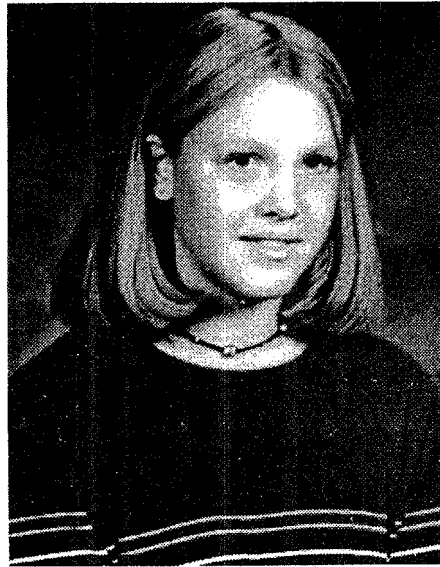
Morrell's next step toward the Olympics: waiting.

One of the 28 members of the National Pool, she won't know if she has made the team until the national coach calls and invites her to the next tournament.

"They tend to keep things hush-hush," she said.

She'll spend her spare time keeping in shape, which involves playing other sports like basketball and volley ball, and running.

"I don't set out with a certain distance to run," she said. "I'll jog, then sprint because that's what it's like when you're playing in a game. When you're playing, you don't think



ROBYNN ANNE MORRELL

about how much you're running, you just go out and do what you have to do."

Morrell said she's eager to hear if she has been selected to the national team, and that selection will come some time in 1998.

If not, she'll have to start the entire process all over again, trying out at the state and regional levels. But she isn't worried about that.

The next goal for the freshman at Canton High School is trying out for the varsity soccer team.



'Cold cuts...' Ted Wakar, of Canton, gets in close to his work as he sculpts an ice statue in Kellogg Park Sunday. Wakar, who travels later this year in ice-carving competitions, will also be on hand for the Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular, Jan. 14-19. Wakar's sculpture depicted a dancing couple. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.).

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Friday, regular business hours resume at the Canton Administration building, which will open at 8:30 a.m. Before then, payment by check of tax and water bills may be placed in the night deposit box located on the building's northwest side.

NEXT WEEK

- Monday, Plymouth Canton schools Adult Education will begin registration for second semester classes for new credit students. Paid students can begin registration Jan. 12. All registration will take place at Starkweather Education Center, 550 N. Holbrook. Classes will begin Jan. 26.
- Wednesday, the Northville Senior Citizens Center begins its Body Workout exercise class. The class will run through Saturday, Feb. 6, 10 - 11 a.m. Cost is \$18, or \$3 per session for drop-ins. Pre-registration is required. Call (248) 349-4140.
- Thursday, the Plymouth Historical Museum begins its first in a special series of Civil War presentations, "A Day in the Life of a Civil War Soldier." Rob Webb of 17th Michigan Infantry will speak. Call for show time.

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Crier Plus sections take an interesting and informative look at issues of interest to PCN. Call for advertising rates, (734) 453-6900.

Hospital fire

BY BRYON MARTIN

As cleanup efforts continue, patients and staff at the Northville Psychiatric Hospital are settling back into the dormitory wing damaged in a fire Saturday morning.

"The whole floor was basically black inside," Lt. Ron Lane, of the Northville Township Fire Department (NTFD), said.

The fire was contained to one room on the second floor of the two-story building. All 48 patients were evacuated from the building.

Lane said that when the NTFD arrived, hospital workers informed them that one patient was still missing following the evacuation. Firefighters went in to find her.

"We found the second story full of heavy, black smoke, but found (the patient) conscious and brought her out."

Safely outside of the building, a Huron Valley Ambulance took the 52-year-old female patient to St. Mary Hospital where she was treated for smoke inhalation, Lane said.

YEAR IN REVIEW 1 9 9 7



Friends & neighbors

P-C-N residents leave their mark on 1997

January

• Plymouth's Helen Fortney celebrates 50 years of writing to pen pal Kurt Maybaum of Germany. The pair began corresponding through the International Student Society in 1947, and met only four times throughout their long correspondence.

• The Plymouth-Canton Jaycees establish the Mary Childs Memorial Award to reward the efforts of volunteers, and honor the contributions of Mary Childs, former Plymouth mayor and volunteer.

• Plymouth's Sharon Marson displays her Master of Arts Thesis project at the Guild Gallery in Ann Arbor. Based on a courtship/marriage theme, the exhibit, named "He asked her to marry him and she said," is based on people and events in her life.

• Plymouth Canton physical education teacher Ron Callison is chosen to take a trip to Scotland as part of the Michigan Teachers Exchange Program.

One of 20 Michigan teachers to spend a week with host teachers in various Scottish cities, Callison has spent time teaching overseas before. He taught on a military base in Gelhausen, Germany and in Newbury, England.

February

• The Plymouth VFW Woman's Auxiliary charity Bowl-A-Thon features 90-year-old bowler Charlotte Elton. The charity event raised funds for the American Diabetes Foundation and American Heart Foundation.

• Julie Hopkinson of Canton is selected for Steelcase University's highly competitive summer interior design program. The four-week program explores the business aspects of interior design by examining the business world.

March

• Long-time resident Geri Wojcik is recognized for her many years of volunteer work.

Wojcik, who all but invented Canton's beautification committee, is responsible for many of the aesthetic pleasures along Canton's roadways.

• Mark Voight, manager of Superbowl on Ford Road in Canton, co-sponsors Canton's Turnaround Achievement award.

Voight, himself rewarded as a Community Achiever, learned of the programs from other areas where it was sponsored. It recognizes children who have made a significant turnaround in their life.

April

• Plymouth's Robert J. Garen takes over the helm of the Detroit Public Library's public services. Garen has been working with the library since 1970.

• The first Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC) art show in their newly expanded arts center on Sheldon Road features the work of the late Plymouth architect Erick Carne.

The exhibit features watercolor paintings such as those featured in Carne's book 'Shorelines of the Great Lakes,' which is released to bookstores in June.

• Plymouth's Aleksandr Kokoszka goes to Washington, meets local senators and saves the free world as part of the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C.

Kokoszka is a junior at University of Detroit Jesuit Academy in Detroit.

May



Joe DeLauro and his wife, "Wan," at the unveiling of his latest work, a bronze sculpture of Giovanni Caboto, commissioned by the Caboto Club in Windsor, Ontario.

• Christian singer Kim Moore releases 'Beyond Redemption,' her first CD. Moore is also Creative Arts Director at Canton Community Church.

• Joe DeLauro, Canton's pre-eminent sculptor, unveils his latest work, Giovanni Caboto, a bronze sculpture of the explorer.

Commissioned by the Caboto club in Windsor, Canada, the sculpture stands at the intersection of Parent Avenue and Tecumseh East in Windsor.

June

• Senior Keith Morency graduates from Northville High School with a perfect attendance record.

In fact, Morency has not missed a single day of school since he started kindergarten.

• 'Shorelines of the Great Lakes' by the late Erick Carne hits the bookstores of P-C-N. The book features several water color paintings of places Carne visited, and historical vignettes to go with each one.

• Randy Smith has a tough job — as general manager for

the Detroit Tigers, the Plymouth resident is responsible for turning the often-lamentable team around.

At year's end, Smith's wizardry has shown promise: the Tigers, after a MLB record-setting losing season in 1996, rebounded to one game short of .500 for 1997.

July

• Former Plymouth resident Joseph Skinner takes command of the U.S.S. Louisville on July 4, another plume in the cap of a long and distinguished naval career.

• Northville's Ken Guertin celebrates the release of his first feature-length motion picture, 'The Incorporated.' Filmed and produced in Michigan, the film was released to more than 37 countries world wide.

August

• Mark Sassard, Plymouth resident and owner of Centurion One Toys, wins People's Choice and Best Sports Car, 1956 or later awards in the 1997 Concours d'Elegance at Meadbrook Hall in Rochester.

September

• The first portions of the Lincoln Exhibit begin arriving at Plymouth's Historical Museum. The exhibit will contain more than 12,000 pieces, including photographs, legal documents, books and personal items and is scheduled to open on Lincoln's birthday.

October

• More than 20 relatives join Dean Saxton in Tucson, AZ to help him celebrate his 100th birthday.

Saxton opened his first business in Northville in 1928 and opened a Plymouth location six years later. The business moved to Ann Arbor Trail in 1937 and has remained there ever since.

• Plymouth attorney J. Thomas Lenga is elected president-elect of the State Bar of Michigan. Lenga, who has more than 30 years of legal experience, will begin his term in September of 1998.

November

• Canton's Senior Kitchen Band marks their 20th anniversary.

The band has grown in popularity and notoriety, playing every place from local senior citizen homes to the state fair, and even received some radio air-play.

The band has seven original members, including 90-year old Canton resident Trudy Redger

December

• Nine-year-old Olivia Wofford of Canton learns some new dance moves courtesy of the Rockettes.

Wofford won a dance lesson at the Fox Theater with the dancing troop, along with four tickets to the show for her and her family.

Attn: Friends & Neighbors

Know of a story that needs telling? Tell us.

The Community Crier is always on the lookout for stories about our neighbors in the news. We'd like to know about the interesting things happening to members of The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community.

Contact Scott Spielman with your story ideas at :

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CrierNews@aol.com

Retailers look back on season, '97

Perspectives depend on location, consumers buying trends

BY LINDA KOCHANEK

Looking back on the last month, most retailers will say they experienced the spike in sales the season brings each year. The cause is obvious — holiday shopping.

Looking back on the year, however, retailers' reports become less regular. From business to business, 1997 brought varied results. Whether due to trends, the economy or general business conditions, retailers offer a perspective on the past year.

The Little Professor on Plymouth's Main Street had a very good year according to Mary Millington, sales associate.

She said that Plymouth's downtown shopping success is dependent on surrounding businesses.

"What happens to one local business happens to us all. If businesses like the Mayflower stay closed it hurts everyone.

We are thrilled to see a new restaurant open right next store."

The trend toward cigar smoking doesn't surprise Herb Anderson, owner of Wellington Tobacco, LTD in Plymouth, who had a prosperous holiday season.

"Cigars have always been popular," he said. "Even with lady customers. We had a pretty good year, but it can always be better."

"We had a very good year," said Doug Mans, store manager of N.A. Mans on Ford Road. "Local economy is strong and with all the new home building it's a hot area. That's our major influence."

Mans says that people are spending more upgrading items such as decks, kitchens and baths.

"Our year was fair," said T.J. Martin; sales manager at Arnoldt Williams Music on Canton Center Road. "Some periods were slower than normal. Sales tricks aren't working anymore. We may need a new approach."

Martin said guitars and amplifiers always do very well and the new computer based hardware sales were good. On the downside, synthesizer and keyboard sales were down.

"Compared to last year we did less in '97," said Martin. "It's unsettling and doesn't make much sense."

Sales of in-line skates were also down

according to Fred Hoshowski, owner of Bladesports Unlimited, Inc. on Joy Road.

"We did okay being that we've only been open for a full year prior," said Hoshowski. "I'm not that disappointed. We like the people in the community. It's a nice place for business."

From new locations to new organizations, Northville entrepreneurs are ready to 'bring in the new' with ideas to help bring in customers.

Golfers got their gloves on the newest Ping irons at the Oasis Golf Center, Inc. on Five Mile Road in Northville.

"Christmas was tremendously busy," said General Manager Mike Ashley. "We did pretty good overall. We have experienced a lot of growth in our retail and soon we'll see a new addition of a 8,000-10,000 square foot clubhouse in 1998."

Northville's Art Source owner Barbara Davies said that 1997 was unpredictable.

"We had spells that were off and on," she said. "Days that usually are slow would end up being busy."

Davies works with the Northville Central Business Association helping to bring people into Northville.

"We need to market our town," she said. "This year we worked with WOMC radio and gave away gift certificate packages including things like dinner at Genitti's."

Cause of fire still sought

Continued from pg. 3

According to Hospital Director Walter Brown, the patient was back to her hospital residence Monday morning.

That patient, along with the other 47 who had been living on both floors of the building, were dislocated by the fire.

Fire and water damage were minimal, but heavy smoke from the blaze ruined beds, linens and stained walls in the room where the fire burned, Brown said. The first floor of the building sustained no damage in the fire, according to Brown.

"We've had to take patients from the (first- and second-story) wards and house them throughout the hospital," Brown said.

Patients living in the first-floor ward could be back to their rooms this week, he said. But second-floor patients will stay in temporary locations as repairs are made to the ward over the next few weeks, Brown said.

Lane said that no cause for the fire has yet been determined, and that the Michigan State Fire Marshall has taken over investigation.

911 demands a concern

Continued from pg. 1

"They will be getting to the hospital or doctors when it is necessary. We will (have) enough staff," she said.

Curmi said that 911 services "are great for P.R., but are very costly."

"I want from you some specifics. I'd like to see...telephone numbers for private ambulances...for these residents to call in non-emergencies," he said. "At Tonquish Manor there are more runs and more flashing lights. That is not good."

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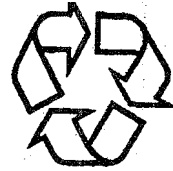
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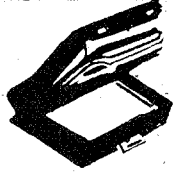
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YEAR IN REVIEW 1 9 9 7



Getting down to business

P-C-N businesses go high-tech

January

• United Auto Workers strike at Johnson Controls in Plymouth Township. Strikers were after wage and benefit packages commensurate with other unionized plants.

The tide for the strike turns when Ford Motor Company announces it would not use parts produced by replacement workers.

February

• Quantum Controls, which relocated to Plymtouh Township in June of 1996, achieves \$11 million in sales and launches a new subsidiary, expanding to provide computer solutions as well machinery to production companies.

• Bushel's Cafe brings a new taste into Old Village.

Bushel's features preservative-free vegetarian items such as tabuli, hummus and grilled eggplant.

March

• Plymouth based POOF Products, Inc. acquires Chasco Toy Company.

Chasco manufactures a variety of toys, including Ram Rocket, a launching foam-rocket toy used as a teaching aid in science classes and the BeamBag, a lighted playball that was among the best-selling toys at the International Toy Fair.

• Golden Bear Golf, Inc. purchases Oasis Golf with the intent to change the courses 18 par-3 holes into an executive nine- or twelve- hole course.

Plans also include adding 50 natural grass hitting stations to Oasis' 125, and a 5,000 square-foot retail shop.

April

• Einstein Bros. Bagels opens its first Plymouth location. Although it's Michigan's 10th store, it's the only one in the state with a drive-through window.

The national bagel chain opens another Plymouth location in September at Sheldon and Five Mile roads.

• Northville and Canton Home Depot stores are among the four Michigan locations cited for failure to properly price store items.

The corporation was fined \$25,000, and although they agreed to the settlement, the corporation admitted no wrong-doing.

May

• Venture Outdoors is among the first downtown Plymouth stores to leave the City for a new shopping center at Five Mile and Sheldon roads.

The new location has an 80-yard by 40-yard pond behind it to allow customers to try out kayaks.

• Plymouth resident Tom Carmody develops a special wind-proof luminary for his company, C.F. Sales Company, in Canton.

Magic Glow Candle Cones were designed to burn up to 18 hours, and withstand winds of up to 60 miles an hour.

June

• Busch's Valuland opens at the corner of Sheldon and Five Mile roads in Plymouth Township.

The upscale grocery store features murals and literary quotations on the walls, a cafe atrium and a cappuccino bar.

• Carousel Crafts and Antiques opens in the old Rose Shores Health Club building on Ford Road in Canton, proving that antique stores can exist outside the Plymouth City limits.

• Jack Demmer Ford celebrates 40 years of selling cars.

July

• Adistra begins coordinating Ford Motor Company's dealership supplier network for 10,000 car dealers in 19 countries. The company test and choose which parts meet Ford standards and produce catalogues for international clients.

• Robert and Maureen Kraemer of Plymouth form the Kraemer Design Group, a Detroit-based architectural firm, hoping to cash in on Detroit's upcoming casino and stadium projects.

August

• For the third time in 10 years, Gabriala's expands in downtown Plymouth.

Gabriala's Hidden Secrets for the Home opened in the shop's lower level, providing upscale furniture and accents for homes, and includes a one-of-a-kind nite-lite gallery.

• Lennie Bowser's Plymouth Heritage Cookbook combines regional recipes and Plymouth's history, heritage and pictures.

Some of the book's recipes date back to 1837, and others are submissions from local restaurants such as the Cafe Bon Homme, Ernesto's, Cozy Cafe and Station 885.

September

• Community Bank of Dearborn and People's State Bank both open Plymouth locations, and the Community Federal Credit Union opens its new 25,000-square foot headquarters.

The three new financial institutions overshadow the closing of NBD's downtown Plymouth location.

• Super Kmart opens its doors at Ford

and Haggerty roads in Canton, about three weeks before the Sheldon-Ford store closed.

• The Ford Motor Company Sheldon Road Plant is part of a corporate change; Ford's Automotive Product Operations (APO) of which the Sheldon plant was a part, is changed to Visteon Automotive Services (VAS). The change also signals a change in focus for the plant, from parts operations to systems and growth.

• Ramon and Sarah Miller open Life in the Spirit,

a Christian-oriented bookstore in Old Village.

The store offers Bibles, study guides and youth-oriented christian fiction as well as games, T-shirts and christian art.

• The Crier ad department comes through again, and wins several awards in 1997's ADCon Display Advertising Contest. Blackwell Ford's 1997 GUIDE Ad won Best Use of Newspaper Art Service; Heide's Flowers and Gifts won Best Ad Idea, Color for their 1996 Fall Festival edition advertisement.

October

• Two young entrepreneurs open Northville's newest restaurant. John Janviriyā and Cary Beale, both 23, introduce Stir Crazy, a mongolion-style buffet into Northville's downtown.

• Elegant Accents relocates from Farmington Hills to Canton's Golden Gate Plaza on Lilley Road, just south of Joy Road. Owner Bev Shamie brings more than 20 years of interior design expertise to the shop.

• Michael and Jan Grass open their third Music Man store, this one on



1997 saw the launch of several high-tech industrial complexes, including Sumitomo Auto Electric (above), Quantum Solutions, Inc., and Yazaki North American's new corporate headquarters.

Penniman Avenue in the building vacated by Venture Outdoors. Other locations include Brighton and Livonia.

• The Gitfiddler Music Store closed after 25 years in Northville. Maintaining the music store, providing music lessons and operating The Raven, a folk club designed after a silimar club open in the '50s, '60s and '70s in Detroit, proved too much for owner Tom Rice.

November

• Sumitomo Electric Automotive Inc. becomes the latest hi-tech addition to R.A. DeMattia's Metro West Industrial Park at Sheldon and Five Mile roads.

December

• Central City Diner opens in Canton. Owned and operated by life-long residents Tom Alonzo and Randy Blaylock, the restaurant hopes to take up where the diners of the '50s and '60s left off.

• Neb Brankovic brings family recipes to his new restaurant, Crepes 'n Coffee, on Main Street in downtown Plymouth.

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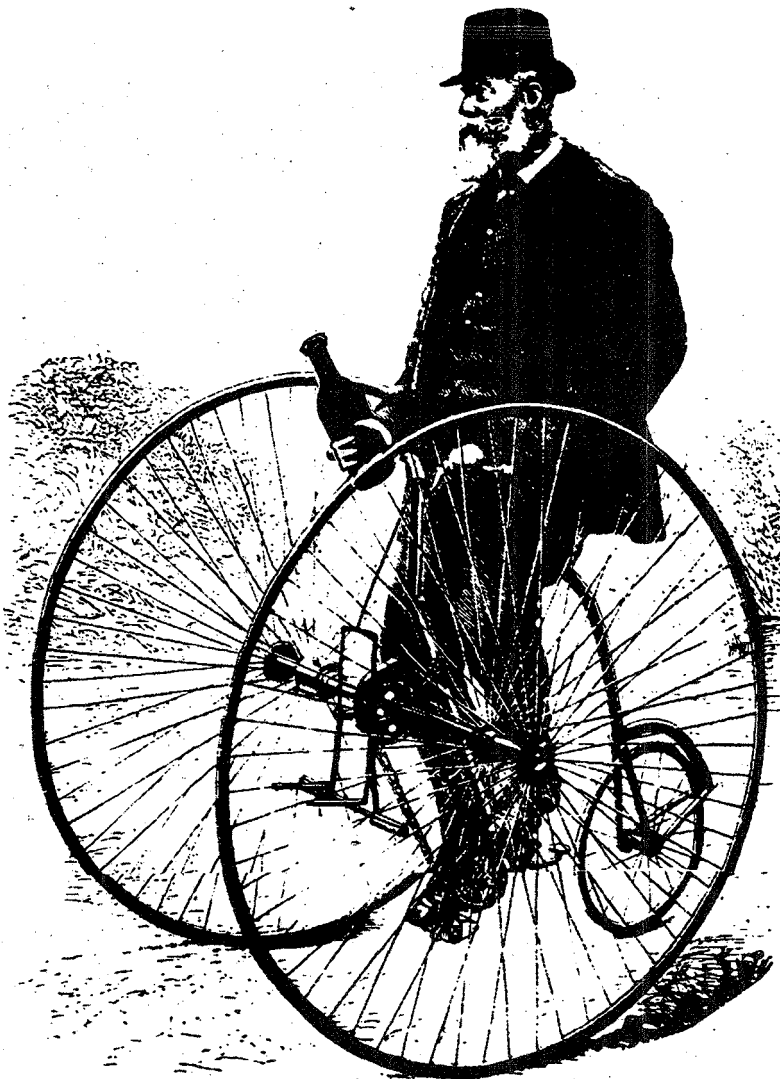
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Things are happening in the community!

<p>PLYMOUTH — January —</p> <p>8: Plymouth Historical Museum "A Day in the Life of a Civil War Soldier" 455-8940</p> <p>14-19: Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular</p> <p>24: JWH Center For The Arts Dedication. Call 451-2112</p> <p>31: Plymouth Symphony 8:00pm Plymouth-Canton Little Theatre</p> <p>— February —</p> <p>12, 14 & 15: Plymouth Historical Museum "Lincoln Comes to Plymouth" 455-8940</p>	<p>13-15, 20-22, 28 & 28: Plymouth Theater Guild "Sweet Charity" 10: 248-349-7110</p> <p>21: Plymouth Community Arts Council Annual Dinner & Auction. 14: Call 416-4ART</p> <p>21 & 22: Plymouth Symphony "Mischief in Music". 4: Sat. 3:00pm Belleville H.S. Auditorium; Sun. 3:00pm Plymouth Salem Aud. 451-2112</p>	<p>CANTON — January —</p> <p>Youth Variety Series Brad Lowe's Puppets 1-2pm Summit Banquet Center</p> <p>Corporate Wellness Seminar 8:30am Summit</p> <p>— February —</p> <p>"State of the Township" address 12noon Canton Chamber of Commerce @ Summit</p> <p>Canton Clean-up @ CWR site on Van Born Rd. Call 397-5801</p> <p>21: Youth Variety Series Chataqua Express 1-2pm Summit Banquet Center</p>
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Community deaths

Obituaries

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

JOHN ROBERT LEE ANUSAVAGE

John Robert Lee Anusavage, a Westland resident, died Dec. 18, 1997 at the age of 17.

Mr. Anusavage was born Nov. 14, 1980 in Westland. He was in his junior year at John Glenn High School in Westland.

He is survived by his mother, Janet Anusavage of Canton; father, Robert Anusavage of Westland; sisters, Stacy L. Anusavage of Belleville, Kori (Nathan) Burkeen of Van Buren Township; step-mother, Sharon Phillips of Westland; grandparents, Leo Anusavage of Westland, Eileen Anusavage of Canton; and nephew, Christian Burkeen of Van Buren Township.

Services were held at the First Baptist Church of Wayne with Howard Burkeen of Canton Community Church officiating. Burial was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland. Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home in Westland. Wishes of the family would be appreciated.

EILEEN P. WILLIAMS

Eileen P. Williams, a Plymouth resident, died Dec. 19, 1997 at the age of 81.

Mrs. Williams was born Dec. 4, 1916 in Rosebush, MI. She retired in 1975 after 40 years of service with McLaren Oil Company. She came to the community in 1925 and graduated from Plymouth High School in 1935. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth and a member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary Post No. 6955 for 40 years. Her work with the V.F.W. included taking food to the V.A. Hospital and helping with summer picnics. She was also a member of Stste Champion Drill Team with the V.F.W. She was also on the womens' basketball team at Plymouth High School.

She is survived by her daughter, Linda J. McNutt of Plymouth; son, Bruce R. (Janet) of Canadian Lakes, MI; grandchildren, Maria Powers of Milford, Michael Williams of Westland, Renee Rock of Toledo, OH; great-grandchildren, Erikah, Easton and Savannah Powers, Krystal, Jessikah and Jenna Williams,, Brandon and Blake Rock; and brothers, Joseph Archer of Ann Arbor, Ernie Archer of Plymouth, Jim Archer of Carlton, MI. She is preceded in death by her husband, Harold E; sister, Rita Stolte; and brother, Lorne (Bud) Archer.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Dean Klump officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

VIOLET ROSE FISHER

Violet Rose Fisher, a Plymouth resident, died Dec. 25, 1997 at the age of 85.

Mrs. Fisher was born Oct. 2, 1912 in Detroit. She worked for the Detroit Public School System. She loved cooking and gardening.

She is survived by her husband of 68 years, David W. of Plymouth; son, Douglas L. (Gail) Fisher of Westland; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her son, David C. Fisher; and daughter, Rose M. Mitchell.

Services were held at Tobacco Twonship Cemetery in Beaverton, MI with Pastor David Sprang officiating. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to Saline Evangelical Nursing Home, 407 Russell, Saline, MI.

LOIS H. RANDALL

Lois H. Randall, a Northville resident, died Dec. 22, 1997 at the age of 73.

Mrs. Randall was born Jan. 18, 1924 in Lincoln Park. She was a school teacher for the Plymouth Canton Schools for 20 years. She was a member of the Michigan Education Association. She received her Bachelors and Masters degrees from Eastern Michigan University.

She is survived by her husband, Wiliam E. of Northville; sons, Dale (Eugenie) of Plymouth, Bill (Denise) of Canton, Gary of Northville; and eight grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell

Funeral Home with the Rev. Roy G. Forsyth officiating. Burial was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock. Memorial contributions can be given to Alzheimers Disease Association or the Angela Hospice.

LEONA M. HOFFMAN

Leona M. Hoffman, a Livonia resident, died Dec. 23, 1997 at the age of 88.

Mrs. Hoffman was born Dec. 19, 1909 in Johnsonburg, PA. She was a homemaker. She was a member of the Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church in Livonia.

She is survived by her daughters, Nancy (Roy) Speight of Oregon, Emily (Robert) Hillbish of Texas; son, Benjamin (Georgia) Leece of Westland; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and three sisters.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Richard I. Peters officiating. Memorial contributions can be given to Rosedale Presbyterian Church.

LLOYD C. FRANSON

Lloyd C. Franson, a Livonia resident, died Dec. 26, 1997 at the age of 83.

Mr. Franson was born Jan. 1, 1914 in Duluth, MN. He was a deputy clerk with the U.S. District Court. He retired from Hoskins Manufacturing Company after 37 years of service. He was a member of Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia, belonged to the Senior Citizen Sunshine Unit, the Western Wayne Parkinson Support Group and the Western Wayne Sportsman Club. He enjoyed reading, fishing, walking nature trails, target shooting, and photography.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth N. Franson of Livonia; son, Lloyd C. (Beverly) Franson, Jr.; daughter, Ruth Anne (John) Zimmer of Northville; grandchildren, Paul (Evelyn) Zimmer of Waterford, Eric (Claudia) Zimmer of Livonia, Becky (Jeffrey) Miebach of California, John C. Franson of Texas; great-grandchildren, John E. Zimmer and Geoffry Panafak; and sisters, Edna Franson of Westland, MARY Ann Markert of Portage; Betty Tomion of Port Huron.

Memorial service will be 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 3 at the Newburg United Methodist Church in Livonia with the Rev. THomas Badley officiating. Arrangements wee made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to Michigan Parkison Foundation, Alzheimer's Disease Association, or the Newburg Unite Methodist Church.

IRMA PALLOTTA

Irma Pallotta, a Plymouth resident, died Dec. 20, 1997 at the age of 64.

Mrs. Pallotta immigrated to Michigan from Bagnoli del Tringo, Italy in December of 1947. She worked for Michigan Bell Telephone Company prior to her marriage to Anthony Pallotta. She then became a full-time homemaker. She was deeply devoted to her family and highly respected by Italian and American communities and had a knack for making people feel good.

She is survived by her husband, Anthony Pallotta; daughter, Pam; son, Scott; and brother, Saverio.

Services were held at St. Mel's Catholic Church. Entombment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Arrangements were made by the Martenson Funeral Home in Allen Park.

Please see pg. 28

Vivian G. Smith, 86, homemaker and worker at Hudsons

Vivian G. Smith, a former Northville resident, died Dec. 18, 1997.

She is survived by one son; daughters, Barbara (Gary) Allison of Northville and one other daughter; one brother; two sisters; nine grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Burial was at Lakewood Memorial Park in Hines County, MS.

Louise Bell, 79, homemaker

Louise Bell, a former Plymouth resident, died Dec. 26, 1997.

She is survived by two sons; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and one brother.

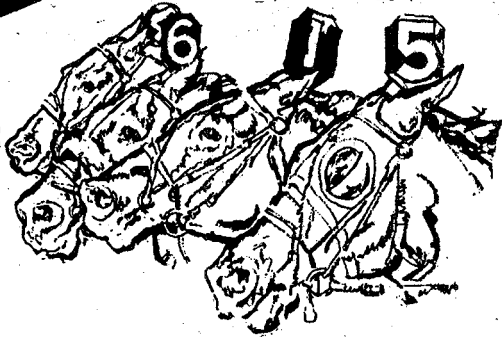
Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Burial was at Knollwood Cemetery in Canton.

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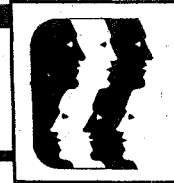
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What's Happening



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



Groups

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS AUDITIONS

The Plymouth Community Chorus is looking for people who love to sing. Open Auditions will be held Tues. **January 6** at 7:30 p.m. Auditions by appointment on Jan. 13, 20 and 27 at 7:00 p.m. Call 455-4080 for further information.

SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY CHOIR AUDITIONS

Experienced singers are invited to audition for the Schoolcraft Community Choir on Tuesdays, **January 13 and 20**, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27457 Five Mile Road in Livonia. To schedule an audition call Shari Clason at 248-349-8175 or 734-462-4435.

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON AGING

"How and why to have more fun" will be presented by Karen LaMoria of Family Nurse Care. On Monday, **January 12**, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth. For more information call 453-1234.

DRAMA

Plymouth Baptist Church is sponsoring a drama series entitled "Close Encounters of the Best Kind." The series begins this **Sunday**. For more info call 453-5534.

NEW! PIONEER CLUB FOR CHILDREN

The Pioneer Club provides a good learning experience and fun skill building activities. Clubs from 6:45-8:30 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church. 459-9550.

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY WRITER'S CLUB

Second and fourth Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Writers of all experience levels are welcome. Call 416-0418.

CELIAC SPRUE SUPPORT GROUP

For people who have Celiac Sprue and Dermatitis Herpetiformis, their families and friends. Monthly meetings at Southfield Presbyterian Church. For more info call Sue Gentilia 248-926-1228 or Marcia Campbell 248-477-5953.



Volunteer

MICHIGAN CANCER FOUNDATION

Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute is looking for volunteers to provide transportation for cancer patients in P-C-N area. Call 561-8880, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program need volunteers in Canton to help children needing tutoring in basic math, reading. Free training. Call 883-2100 ext. 368.

FISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FISH of P-C in need of volunteers to assist in aiding neighbors who can't help themselves. To be a driver, caller, or run errands, call 261-1011, leave a message.

SUMMIT SHUTTLE

Summit on the Park, Canton, offers shuttle service from east parking lot (next to playscape) to north door of Summit. Enclosed eight-person cart provides service 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. If P-C Schools close because of bad weather, tornado or severe thunderstorm warnings, shuttle won't operate. Senior Office, 397-5444.

STUDENT EXCHANGE

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GUEST SPEAKERS NEEDED AT P-C SCHOOLS

P-C Business Education Partnership in need of individuals to share occupation information to students in classroom settings. Call 416-4903.

CHORE PROGRAM

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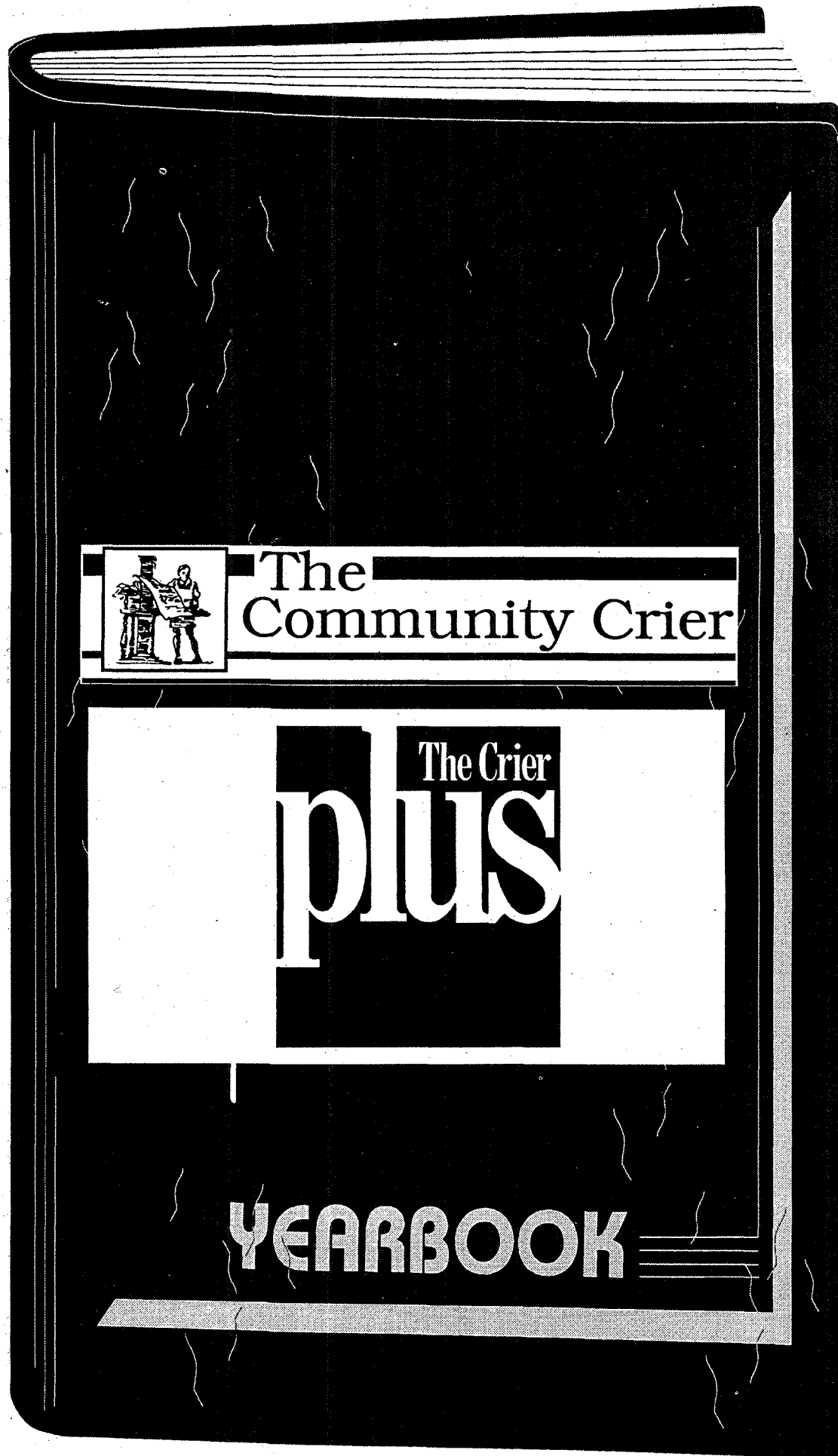
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YEAR IN REVIEW 1997

A look at stories that defined the news in The Plymouth-Canton Community





Court burns, travels, finds home in '97

Court staff, communities avoid political ugliness in relocation, rebuilding processes

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Anyone hoping for a break on their tickets or trials has run out of time.

The 35th District court spread across three separate locations in surrounding communities since a July 2 fire reduced the Dunbar Davis Hall of Justice to ash, finally settled into a temporary location Dec. 15.

A powerline, knocked down by the shearing winds that wreaked havoc throughout southeast Michigan, fell on the roof and charged the building with electricity until flames burst from the northwest corner of the roof.

Plymouth firefighters, on the scene as early as 6 p.m., were hampered in their early efforts to fight the fire. The downed wires laid across the building and around its perimeter, effectively formed an electrically charged fence that the firefighters could not cross.

"It was very frustrating," said Larry Groth, Plymouth Fire Chief. "The hardest thing for any firefighter is watching a building burn down while there's nothing you can do about it."

Detroit Edison workers did not arrive to shut down the power in time to save the building. The fire was under control at about 12:30 a.m. July 3, but many firefighters stayed through the night to extinguish the last hot spots.

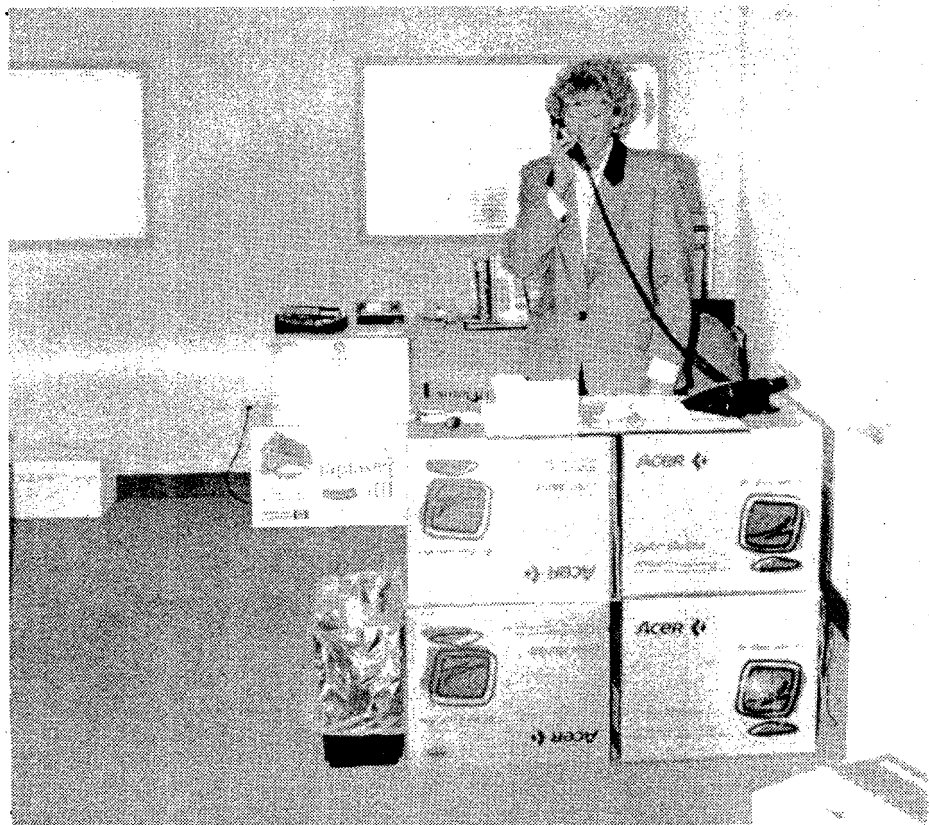
Several things happened during the rebuilding process that surprised and encouraged members of the community.

The court staff, led by newly hired Court Administrator Kerry Erdman, banded together to ensure the operation ran as smoothly as possible.

And it could not have been easy. Throughout the months of July, September and October, the court operated from three locations, including administrative offices in the Unisys building and a traveling probation department, which moved from Unisys to Canton's Fire Station No. 1.

Court itself met in a different place nearly every few weeks. The staff, calling itself "the Road Show," held court in chambers in Livonia, Westland, Romulus and finally settled in the lower level of Canton

Please see pg. 26



Secretary and court stenographer to 35th District Court Chief Judge John McDonalds Carol Richardson does business from a make-shift desk at the trailer court, exemplifying what the entire staff has done in the five months since the court burned down: smile and makes the best of a temporary space. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

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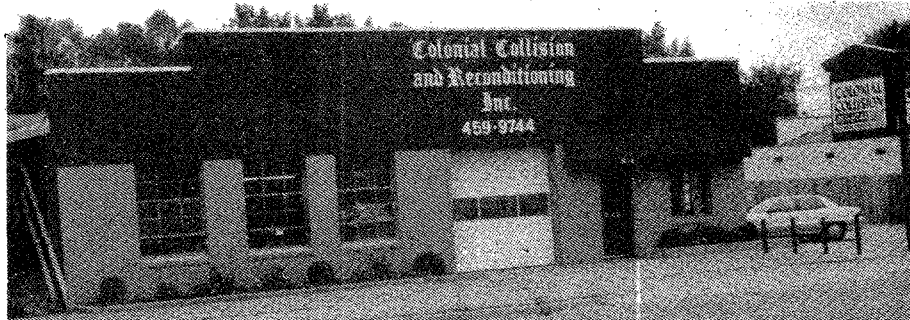


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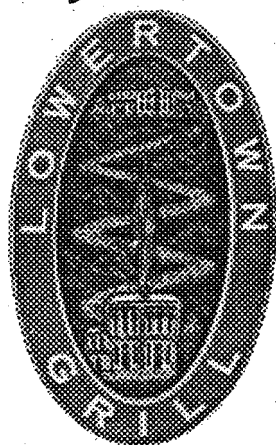
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1997

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Drama in story of stymied school bond

BY BRYON MARTIN

It smacks of an Oliver Stone film: democracy in jeopardy, alleged vote fixing, loud political figures, court cases and children in need.

And while there is an intermission now, the story isn't over yet.

As calendars flip from '97 to '98 the Plymouth-Canton Schools' bond to fund construction of a new high school, elementary school, renovations and computer and bus purchases, still languishes in court.

Jerry Vorva, a former state representative, aspiring lawyer, P-C politico and plaintiff in the suit, continues in his self-described quest for justice.

Vorva is appealing the decision Wayne County District Court Chief Judge James Rashid handed down in August. Upholding the findings of local and County boards of canvassers and the Secretary of State, Rashid ruled that the election was valid, and dismissed Vorva's case.

Vorva had, and continues to allege that the March 22 vote — which approved the bond by 96 votes — is invalid, because 720 out of 10,124 voters miscast their votes. Their votes were not counted.

Vorva charges the school with failing to

proved voters with equal protection under the law, and with trying to skew the election's results by holding the vote on a Saturday in March.

During that month many P-C senior citizens, who often vote against such bonds that result in tax increases, are out of the state, Vorva said. And holding the election on a Saturday, rather than a Tuesday, was another ploy to confuse voters and reduce their turnout, not to increase it as school officials said.

Through the late summer and early autumn months, action around the bond was regular.

Local and county boards of canvassers recounted the votes, and tested the computerized Unilect balloting systems the schools used. Vorva claimed that voters, using the machines for the second time since the school district had purchased them, had not been given enough instruction. Their function was unclear, he said, and therefore defective.

Both boards, as well as the Secretary of State, found the machines in proper working order, and the election valid.

That's when Vorva and attorney Steven Boak, of the Plymouth law firm Sempliner, Thomas and Boak, filed his suit in district court.

Rashid threw out the case.

Vorva appealed.

Things slowed down.

"After they all said we didn't do anything wrong, you think that Vorva would recognize that it's time to move on," said Mark Horvath, school board president.

In a way, Vorva has. But the plot thickens.

What Vorva has moved on to is Horvath himself, and his cohorts. School representatives await their late January court date to ask for a dismissal of Vorva's appeal. Meanwhile, Vorva's attention has turned to a recall of the school board seated at the time of the election.

"They failed to do their job," by not fighting for a revote he said.

Until the appeal is decided, the bond project, though approved, is stalled. It is unlikely anyone will buy the bonds before the legal questions surrounding them are answered.

And until the bonds are sold, the schools cannot begin construction of the new elementary school, or the third high school to be built on the CEP campus at the corner of Joy and Beck roads. New busses and district-wide computer upgrades will have to wait, too.

In the meantime, school officials say,

news '98
in

what's ahead for p-c

Jan 22: both sides in the bond suit appear in court as school representatives seek a dismissal of Vorva's suit.

overcrowding at the schools continues to worsen. Enrollments this year have not matched those projected at the time the bond was being formulated, but Little says the schools were overcrowded before this year even began.

"The need is real," he said.

John Birchler, P-C schools executive director of business and operations, said "if (the project) doesn't start happening soon, we won't make the September 1, 2000 deadline" for completion of the new buildings. That was at the beginning of August.

As January comes and brings the new year, the schools bond continues to grow stale in court, bringing to mind a different movie.

"Bond. Lame bond."



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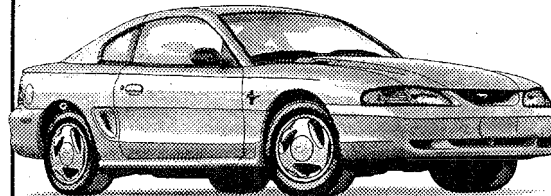
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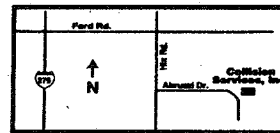


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Canton masters growth, shapes identity

Commercial development defines '97

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

By now, everyone knows Canton is growing.

And while growth and development have been predominant themes in Canton for several years now, 1997 saw township planners and trustees taking additional steps to ensure Canton has something else: an identity.

Early in the year, Canton planners and trustees split into groups to examine the direction of development in Canton. They proposed changes for Canton's Master Plan based on their findings, and the results of several of these changes can already be seen throughout the township.

Several projects are underway along Michigan Avenue and Haggerty Road. Both recently were rezoned to further foster their commercial development, exemplified by the 100-acre research park on Haggerty Road, developed by Stuart Frankel, and a 230-acre



Yazaki North American's \$60-million, 400,000 square-foot headquarters is one of a number of major industrial and commercial investments companies have made in Canton this year. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

industrial research park along Michigan Avenue near Beck Road, developed by Ashley Capital.

Also in the works in formerly agricultural Canton is the Central Park Planned Development District (PDD). Consisting of

more than 680 acres, Central Park will combine about 894 dwelling units, a nine-hole golf course, and a 40-acre soccer complex.

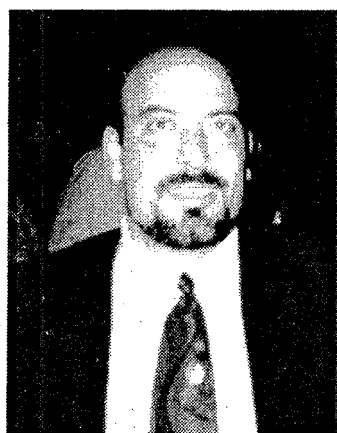
Grass has been planted at the soccer fields at Denton and Proctor roads, and due to an exceptionally successful planting, they may

be ready for use this fall.

Also breaking ground this year were Yazaki North American's \$61 million, 419,000-square foot corporate headquarters at Haggerty and Warren roads, and Canton's

Please see pg. 24

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Vincent Pollicella, President

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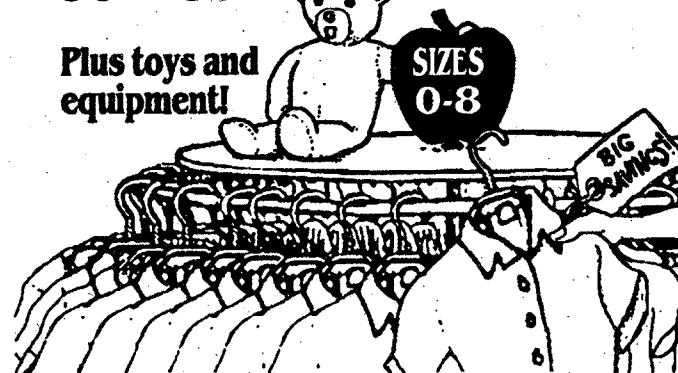


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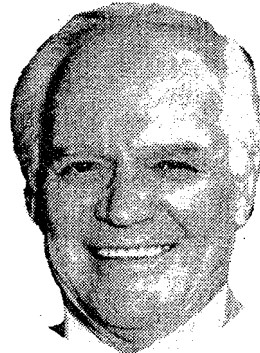
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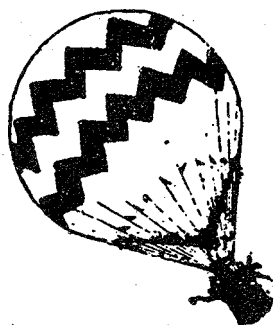
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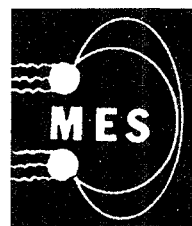
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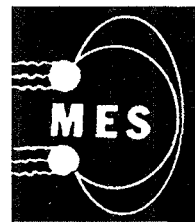


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Fate of the Mayflower?

Stalled renovation project brings back questions about the historic hotel

BY BRYON MARTIN

Since it opened in 1927, the Mayflower hotel has always been near the center of attention in downtown Plymouth.

When visiting the City, Hollywood actors, politicians and other luminaries have stayed at the hotel.

In recent years, however, the Mayflower has become known more for its dirt than its stars. A broken window, drain and peeling paint, for which the City ticketed the hotel earlier this month, are minor but tell-tale examples of the hotel's decline.

And since investors Matt and Keith Karmos took over the hotel, rumors and questions have surrounded the Mayflower's fate. What would they do with the City landmark?

In mid-January, that speculation seemed to come to an end: the Karmos announced that they had developed a plan to renovate the hotel that would not only restore it, but upgrade exterior and interior elements. Construction, they said, could start as early as spring.

The \$2.5 million project, designed by Birmingham-based architect Victor Saroki, included an external redesign with an ornate cornice and wood trim; a two-story service addition between the hotel and annex; and build-out of the annex that would give it a look to match rest of the hotel.

Inside, the plan would have added a fireplace parlor to the lobby; a restaurant with windows looking out onto Ann Arbor Trail; a 200- to 240-seat ballroom; and a cafe-bakery and coffee bar.

These elements, said Matt Karmo at the plan's unveiling, would "create a downtown

boutique hotel. This (construction) plan will make the hotel more upscale and position us in that market."

Rumors of the plan had circulated since the previous summer. As early as June, 1996 drafts of possible renovation plans were published in community newspapers, but no construction was begun.

In August, 1996, the City made a gesture to signal its support for such renovations: Commissioners voted, 5-2, to waive \$50,000 in back taxes, penalties and interest assumed by the Karmos when they bought the hotel. This tax gift was part of a package that also rewrote the agreement that leases "air rights" to the Mayflower for its annex, which sits over City-owned land.

The tax gift and air-rights lease were granted a full five months before the renovation plans were finalized. So when the Karmos announced they would proceed with the project this January, the time of rumors seemed to be ending, the time of construction soon to follow.

Nearly a year later, little has changed at the Mayflower hotel.

In late March, valuable remnants of the original hotel, such as the Mayflower bench, the mermaid from the Crows Nest bar, victorian chairs and brass beer taps, were auctioned off; the hotel was gutted, the way clear for renovation.

Interior demolition was done in June; exterior elements were removed by July. The hotel sat.

So did the renovation plans, approved by Plymouth Building Official James Penn, but left at City hall during the summer months when work was to be done.

'There's a certain amount of skepticism in the community about when this is going to be done.'

Steve Walters
Plymouth City Manager

Please see pg. 24

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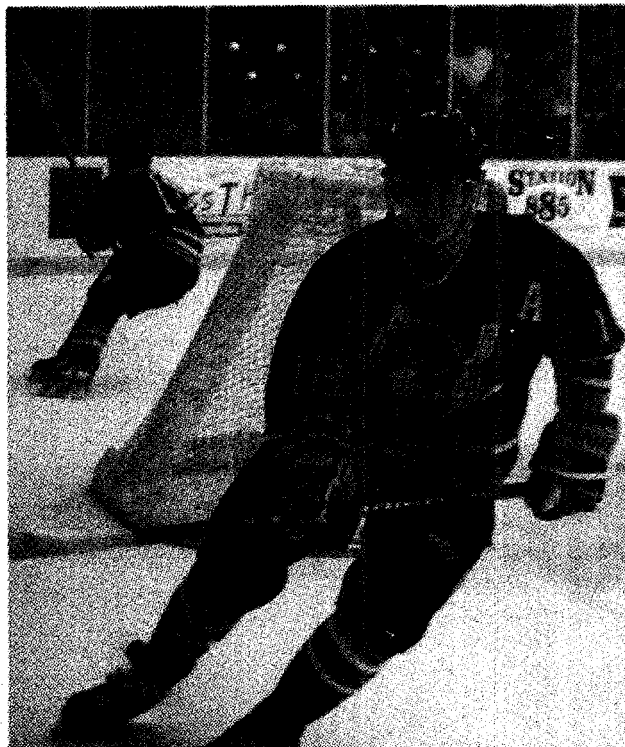
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WHALERS UPDATE 1997-1998

With 34 games down, and 32 games to go, the Plymouth Whalers have their eyes set on the West Division title and an OHL championship.



JESSE ALT, CAPTAIN BOULERICE

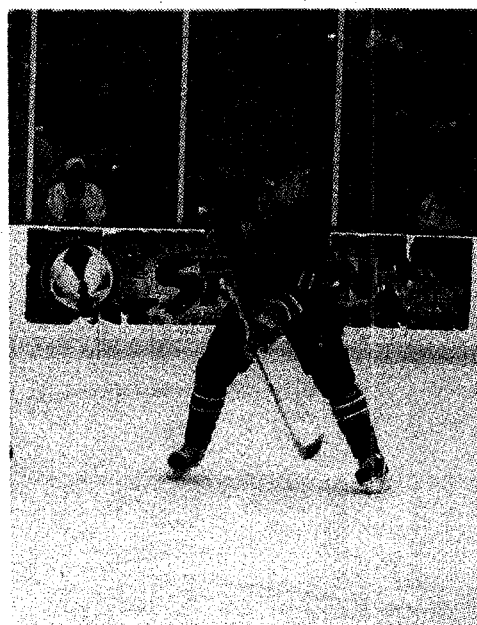
18 RIGHT WING
DRAFT: PHILADELPHIA

STATS:

In 28 games, Boulerice has 23 points, one point shy of his season total last year.

performance this season:

Boulerice continues his reign as the OHL's premiere enforcer. His 111 penalty minutes and eight game misconducts lead the team. Boulerice has a +11 plus/minus ranking.



DAVE LEGWAND

11 CENTER
DRAFT: ELIGIBLE IN 1998

stats:

Legwand, a rookie, has 36 goals and 59 points in 30 games this season.

performance this season:

Legwand has taken the OHL by storm this season. He had a 10-game goal scoring streak earlier this season, and has recorded 11 power play goals.

The Plymouth Whalers were also-rans in 1996-97, battling for a playoff spot and quickly ushered from the post-season in five games by the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds.

Now, one half of the way through the 1997-98 season, there's talk of an OHL championship and an appearance in the Memorial Cup round-robin tournament. How did the Whalers manage such a dramatic turnaround? Turn to page 36 and find out.



YURI BABENKO

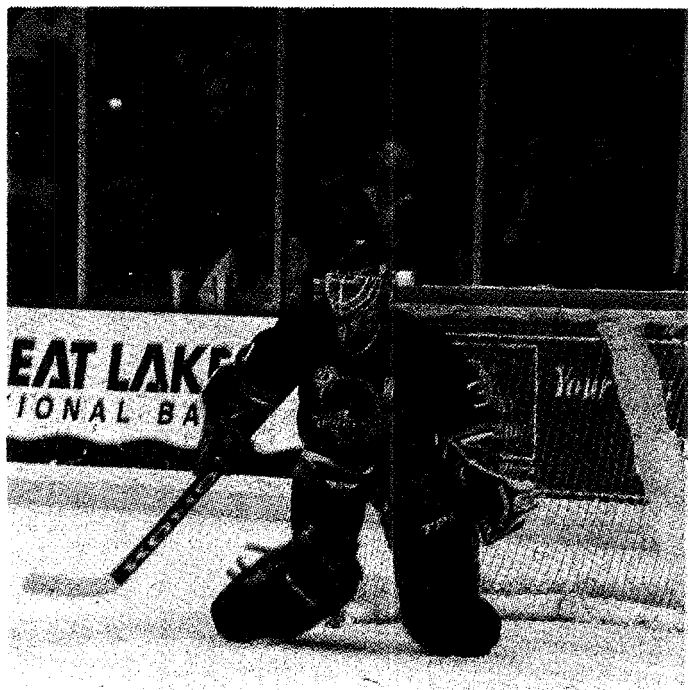
12 FORWARD
DRAFT: COLORADO

STATS:

Babenko, a rookie, is the Whalers' second leading scorer with 11 goals and 34 points.

PERFORMANCE THIS SEASON:

Babenko has added speed and creativity to the Whalers' offense. He has a +15 plus/minus rating, the fourth best on the team.



**ROBERT
ESCHE**

31 GOALIE
DRAFT: PHOENIX

STATS:

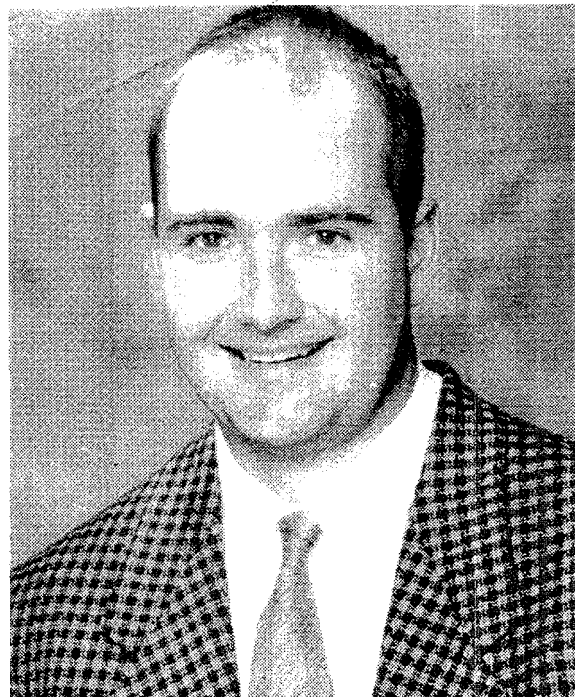
Esche is 16-5-1 in 23 appearances. He has a 3.07 goals against average (GAA) and a .887 save percentage.

PERFORMANCE THIS SEASON:

After a slow start, Esche has regained his OHL All-Star form. He is among the league leaders in minutes played (1,390), wins and GAA.

**PETER HEAD COACH
DEBOER**

Regardless of how the Whalers' season ends, one record is almost certain to be broken: Head Coach Peter DeBoer (82-64-13) is five victories away from setting the franchise record for regular season wins.



COME & GONE

The Whalers have made several trades and added numerous players since opening night in September. The following list will help you keep up:

Hello: defensemen Nikos Tselios, Shaun Fisher, Sergei Fedotov, and Paul Mara; forward Rick Smith; and goalie Scott Holsinger.

See Ya: forwards Mark Cadotte, Joel Trottier, and Andy Burnham; defensemen Jason Lawmaster, Mark Ridout and Luc Rioux; and goalie Stevie Lyle.



**STEVE
WASYLKO**

22 CENTER
DRAFT: CAROLINA

STATS:

Wasylko has two goals and three assists in nine games this season.

PERFORMANCE THIS SEASON:

Wasylko is returning from a shoulder injury that caused him to miss the first two months of the season. He has knack for scoring big goals, one of his two this season came in overtime.



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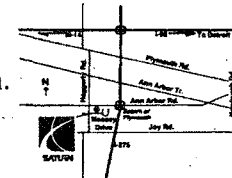
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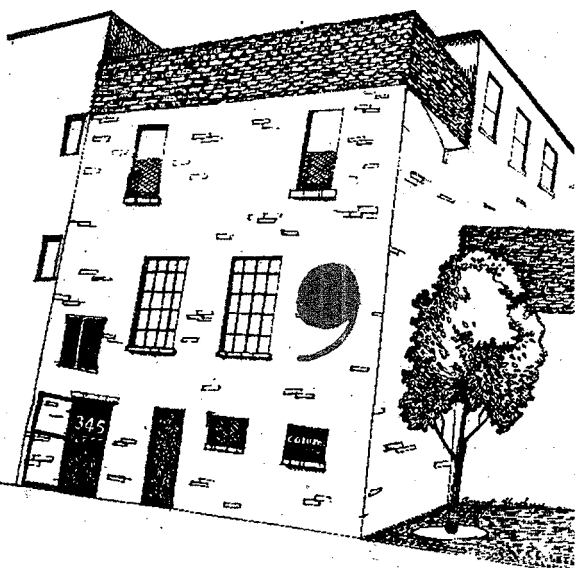
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Downtown look to reach Canton borders

Expanding look helps capture cash

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton Township's Downtown Development Authority (DDA) will be making major changes along the Ford Road corridor in 1998.

Canton's Downtown Development District (DDD) was expanded in 1997 as a way to capture tax dollars for improvements along Ford Road. It's just one more example of how Canton government is raising funds for much-needed improvements that otherwise would be years in coming.

The new DDD will stretch from Canton Center Road on the west, to Canton's eastern border. Improvements are scheduled for virtually every intersection in between.

First the DDA proposes widening the Lilley-Ford intersection and creating dedicated left-turn lanes on Lilley. Similar improvements are scheduled for the Sheldon-Ford intersection. Electronic signalization, which would change the timing of stoplights

news '98
in

what's ahead for p-c

depending on traffic flow, is proposed for Ford from I-275 to Canton Center.

Aesthetic improvements are also planned, such as the installation of street lights along the DDD, and burying the overhead power cables.

The DDA will also make a decision in early 1998 to possibly contribute \$4 million in funds toward a major mixed-use shopping, residential and commercial development at Ford Road between I-275 and Lotz Road.

Burton-Katzman Inc., the site's developer, asked for the funds in the form of initial infrastructure improvements last month. The DDA will meet in early 1998 to discuss the pro's and con's of the idea.



Elements of Canton's Downtown Streetscape, including streetlights and brick walls will be a part of the landscapng requirements for every new business being developed in the Downtown Development District. The requirements also holds true for existing business doing extensive remodeling, but not to new stores in strip malls. (Crier photo by Jessica McCartney).

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Industrial, cultural development in Canton identity

Continued from pg. 16

own post office, on Canton Center Road near Cherry Hill.

Almost as significant as the major industrial developments underway are arts and recreation projects being discussed.

A decision on an ice rink in Canton should be coming shortly. Township officials are negotiating the price of township-owned land

for a proposed ice rink, and should have an idea if an agreement can be made in early 1998.

Rumors of a minor league baseball stadium seemed to have dropped out of sight like a Greg Maddux curve ball.

The township board also expects some preliminary information about the feasibility of a community theater for Canton in 1998.

The board met with interested citizens and user groups in the summer, and hired a consulting firm based on the strength of interest in the project. The theater would be used by such local groups as the Plymouth Symphony, Canton Project Arts, Plymouth-Canton Ballet and Schoolcraft college. The theater would require corporate sponsorships to be cost-effective, according to Canton

Supervisor Tom Yack.

With projects such as these, as well as nearly finished projects such as Canton's new fire station (which should be finished by spring) and the new St. Joseph Health Center on Canton Center Road (scheduled to open in February) Canton is not merely subject to growth, but in control of its evolution into a well-rounded community.

Project stalled; questions of Mayflower's fate return

Continued from pg. 19

Sept. 30 — the date stipulated in the hotel-City tax agreement as the deadline for completion of the renovations — arrived; the new Mayflower did not.

Rumors and questions about the project returned.

"There's a certain amount of skepticism in the community about when this is going to be done," City Manager Steve Walters said then.

The Karmos had told the City that the project stalled because bids from contractors came in nearly double the original estimate of \$2.5 million. The summer was a busy one for builders and construction companies in Southeastern Michigan, increasing demand and costs. The Karmos needed to refigure their plans.

The City Commission voted to extend the project deadline until Dec. 1.

"We're still interested in working with (the Karmos), but we're concerned," Walters said. "On Dec. 1, we're looking for some kind of

commitment."

Dec. 1, the Commission voted unanimously to dissolve its agreement with the hotel: no plan was ready, and new talk was heard of razing the hotel and building from scratch.

Mayor Don Dismuke met with the Karmos, and said he does not think the dissolution of the agreement suggests that the Karmos are backing away from the project.

"I walked away from our meeting pretty encouraged that the project would go forward," he said. "Now they can explore costs without a City deadline hanging over them."

The deadline for popular support may be passing, though. The Mayflower may become the center of tension, as one-time supporters again question the landmark's fate.

"There's some erosion of the support that was there initially," said Steve Guile, director of the Downtown Development Authority. "But I still believe they're going to do something there."

news '98
in

what's ahead for p-c

- **Jan. 5** is the deadline for repairs to the broken window and drain, and repainting the second-story portion of the south exterior wall, per the City's ticket.

- **February** brings the City's winter tax deadline, by which time the hotel must pay the \$28,900 it owes, originally forgiven in the nullified hotel-City agreement.

- **January or early February** is when Mayor Dismuke said that he expects to have received a new project plan from the Karmos.

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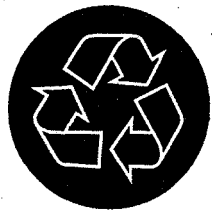
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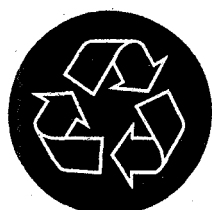
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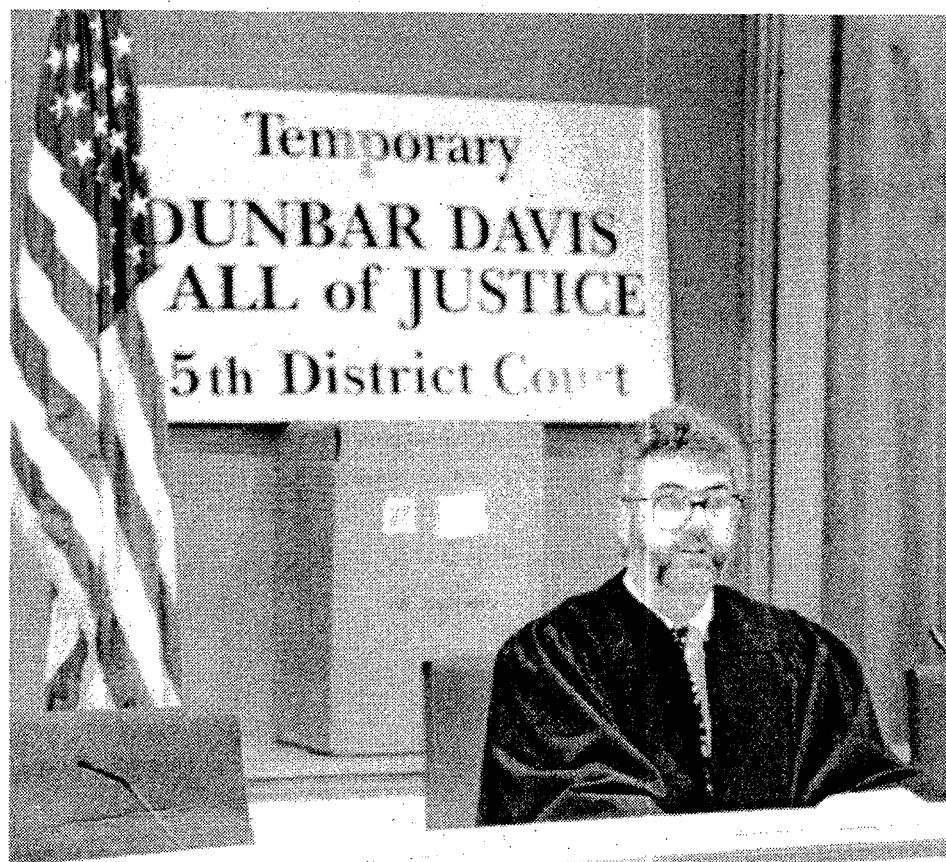
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Who pays what? Court in case with Detroit Edison



Judge Ron Lowe prepare to rap his gavel and begin the first day of what would be a five-month tour of the 35th District, as staff from the ruined Dunbar Davis Hall of Justice held court in various locations in P-C-N. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.).

Continued from pg. 12

Township's Administration building.

It took much longer to decide where to set up the temporary long-term location than it did to decide where to rebuild the courthouse.

Instead of a long, political bickering match of where to locate the permanent structure, the court reconstruction committee settled unanimously on rebuilding the courthouse on the same site.

The reconstruction committee was made up from representative of each of the five communities the 35th District serviced and headed by retired Judge Jim Garber. While speculation ensued that each community would want the new court located within its borders, community leaders decided that the best place to rebuild was in the footprint left behind by the old courthouse.

"We all knew that it would probably end up where it was," said Steve Walters, Plymouth City manager. "It's the most economically feasible place and in a central location."

Cooperation from government and non-government representatives made the decision easier for the board; Riverside Cemetery board agreed to reconfigure the cemetery's property lines to allow for increased parking for a new, larger courthouse.

The architectural firm of Coquillard, Dundon, Peterson and Argenta, Inc (CDPA), was chosen to design the new courthouse. They have set a timetable of 14 months from bidding to completion, which would have the new courthouse ready for use by late summer, 1999.

Many questions have to be answered by then, however. The biggest question of all is perhaps whose funds will ultimately be responsible for rebuilding the courthouse.

The court is involved with lawsuits with Detroit Edison that will ultimately determine how much damage is left to be covered by the court's two insurance policies. And the two insurance companies still have to determine who will pay for what.

Likewise, CDPA, still in the early stages of design for the courthouse, does not have a specific budget to work from. Their initial design consisted of a 35,000-square foot courthouse with four courtrooms, at a cost of about \$4.5-\$5.5 million.

Until these questions are answered, the court will remain in its home: modular buildings in the Unisys parking lot. Directly across the street from the old building it gives court staffers the perfect vantage point with which to oversee the construction of the new building.



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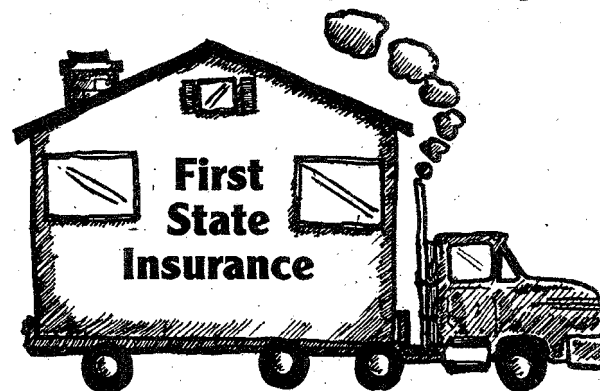
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February

Edna V. Burnham, John J. Kostin, Donald L. Dempsey, Ina M. Dawson, Charles J. Guideau, Harold Edward Hodgdon, Clayton Gotts, Angela A. Skrzicki, Chad T. Bergmann, Marion Edith Graves, Stanford W. Block, Diana M. Rich, Carla A. Bondch Gall, Isabel K. Hendry, Jane Egly, Lucille M. Otto, Norma J. Pilch, Florence J. Tibbits, Ruby M. Creel, Gladys Ann Nyquist, Opal, Mac Malek, Catherine R. Van Dusen, Stuart S. Morrow, Ellen Kennedy, Alma I. James, Jeffrey Lee Haskell, Grace B. Wesa.

March

Mariette Goodale, Roy Featherstone Kincade, Dale Frederick Houghton, Robert Vern Henry, Sylvan Diamond, Grace G. Goldsboro, Robert T. Swartz, Rose Bogatinoff, Grace L. Rix, Nellie I. Van Otten, Evelyn M. Smith, Anna Telvin, Florence Recknagel Hallam, Thomas L. McInerney, Maryann Trammell, Eleanor C. Waite, Gerald D. Engwis, Robert E. Sexton, Kenneth Edward Symeon, Josephine E. Carnell, Paul E. Woodruff, Feliza Deogracias Rosario, Claudia Ann Byrant, Vivian M. Stroud, Evelyn A. Allison, Nellie M. Roberts.

April

Norman Ruehr, Gil Camp, Thomas A. Foley,

Alice R. Hovey, Phyllis J. Mann, William Pierce, Ann P. Wood, John R. Harriman, William H. McCowan, Glenda Faye Berghoff, Edward J. Briand, Sr., Dorothy Jean Werth, Stanley Russell, The Rev. Samuel Martin Backman, Vera Opal Blackshear, Donald A. Babcock, James ALfred Poulson, Ethel Foushee Burns, Geraldine E. Ripper, Ruby F. North, Marjorie E. Ackerman, Norman Reinhold Ruehr, Francis A. Jamieson, Richard W. Kelch, Harold C. Mackinder, Raymond J. Karas, Sr., Lila Grey Wolcott, Geraldine Janet Cwik, Hedwig, Serwinek, Zachary Thomas Walkley, Mary D. Mitchie.

May

Joseph A. Ciccoretti, Doris I. Ritchie, Edna G. Lomas, William R. Nagel, Janiece E. Goetzke, John Lee MacDiarmid, Earlene Mae Smith, Sarena "Sparky" Kallunki, Lottie C. Whittemore, Robert H. Fitzner, Dorothy Vartanian, Pete Mitchell, Irving E. "Duke" Wolfe, Carmela Phillips, Robert W. Yahr, Marie Emily Hokenson, Alice E. Fahlquist, Howard D. Dermire, Julie Anne Kelly, Charles F. Brien III, John Steve Maczko, Margaret Mary Miller, David C. Schlick, Morton Wylie, Wilhelmine H. Schultz, Helen V. Brown.

June

Russell A. Rasmussen, Harold Jacob Sitter, Emily "Marie" Hokenson, Glenn Eugene SMith, Zepharene Otylia Smith, David O. Sill, Louis Joseph Bohn, Lucille T. Pena, Richard E. Harlan, Robert "Bob" Hadley, Nita L. Tighe, Harold Fischer, Alice B. Porter, Lowell Harold Hitt, Thomas M. Laird, David C. Schlick, Alice M. McDonald, John Shollack II, Laura M. Kennedy, Christopher John Williams, Anna Volante, Frank Bolterstein, Irene M. Ritchie, Marie P. Rawlings, Nancy A. McDaniel, Marie A. Cochran, Wayne Lewis Stockwel, Charles "Bob" Gow, Elberta Fischer, Karl D. Allen, Kenneth William Huber, Alexander J. Sanislow, Freddie D. Fox, Marie Heneretta Polderdyke, Devon M. Cashero, Mildred I. Wall, Hattie Mae Greenlee, Billie W. Magee.

July

Herbert W. and Carol Ann Felker, Genevieve M. Habermas, Kenneth Joseph Zawlocki, Violet C. Fulton, Frederick Alvin Jackson, Harry E. Anderson, Mary M. Cathers, Clara M. Petrone, Charles L. Miller, Doris M. Korow, Russell Dawn Kaiser, Grace M. Ayotte, Stevan A. Fisher, James G. Ryan, Donald A. McClung, John McDonald Simpson, Lillian H. Hartmann, Vincent R. DiNatale, Geraldine S. Flnk, Kenneth A. Jozwiak, Ann Adams, Patricia L. Carreathers, Gustaf B. Carlson, Jr., Margaret E. Jones, Bob Barbour, James Robert Preston, Betty Ann Michalak, Shirley R. Griffin, Neva M. Baumer, Donald Edward Lajiness, Gertrude M. Ottensman, Emma Frances Semuchko, Gladys G Copland, Delores K. MacDonald, Betty Koch, Mary Margaret Gliha, James G. Schomberger, Joan R. Geyer, Grace H. Ownes.

August

Robert A. Gibbins, Phyllis M. Crocker, Robert E. Wood, Lois Caldwell Dicks, Mildred "Millie" Anderson, Nona Urban, Susan Kay Decker, Betty C. Julian, Nancy B. Fleming, Peter B. Zauha, John J. Falatine, Jerome P. Miller, Laurence L. Brown, Helen A. Navarre, Charles A. Bublin, Donald Hoyt Teeters, Theresa M. Marek, Clara Marjorie Edwards, Lowell Alvary Hole, Bernice E. Wriska, Bennie J. Hansen, Diana T. Keiffer, Andrew Alexander Celso II, Grace M. O'Flaherty, Rowaldia (Sis) Elizabeth Tomlinson, J. Craig Bowlby, Howard F. Wendel, Helen C. Garber, John (Pat) McNeely, Sandra Nicole Young, Grant C. Lenox, William Albert Thompson.

September

Mike Hoben, Ray Hoedel, Jean Wendover, Sandra Nicole Young, Ellen Virginia Laing, Anthony N. DeMink, James Riley Snow, Mabel Robbacher, Helen Ruth Parks, Sylvia Manderachia, Dorothy Folkner Chandler, Joseph F. Benyo, James Edward Angell, Doreen C. Siegner, Steve Veresh, Beatrice Armstrong, Mark F. Martin, Scott M. Ziobro, Robert Morrison Blair, Hermine Behr, Hazel Anna Barton, Dustin DJ Schell.

October

Halle Marie Acerrano, Mary J. Roose, Robert J. Coopersmith, Alice Harb, Jean W. Harrison, Lloyd A. Sullivan, Ellwood W. Morey, Dominic M. Bommarito, Helen L. Sutuak, Richard Vernon Smith, William R. Harris, Marye L. Turkett, Jacqueline M. Berthiaume, Frances M. Delisi, Ellen L. Moody, Richard J. Malone, George La Verne Oury, Earl M. Sumner, Gordon Delbert Thiel, James H. Sutherland, Irene Miller, Hildegard, Elizabeth H. Palmer, Lee A. Miller, Lynda L. Petranek, Mabel T. Landeene, Helen Louise McDonald, Charles L. McGorey, Bertha M. Peterson, John Dan Wills, Marie A. Lucas, Ralph L. Shaw, Florence M. Hickok, Bertram M. Condron, Bert E. Tripp, Joseph Charles Schwall, Kenneth D. Richards.

November

Julie Pheley, Earl Robert Minch, John A. Jarvis, Charles Robert Bailey, Margaret I. Ringer, Theresa M. Fecco, Joann M. Vettese, Anita J. Aldrin, Aaron J. Solano, James R. Troutman, Cecil D. Packard, Oscar E. McDonald, Jacqueline Lea MacGregor, Leonard S. Bellanger, Donald Heppner, Joanne Carol Berndt, Evelyn R. Edgar, Irma L. Gothard, Roy H. Rasmussen, Doris M. Beckstrom, Louis W. Bertrand, Jean Waneta Clark, Lillian Margareta Mangel, Malcolm W. MacNiven, Denver W. Barker, Walter L. Bickel, Clara E. Mooney, Norma Nemith, Robert L. Koski, Sidney Waters.

December

Margaret Williams, Peter Wolak, Ardis R. Atkinson, Genevieve A. Stephenson, Grace E. Brennan, Viola Bernette Mott, Daniel Joseph DeLaGarza, George Rattenbury, Charlie Stilec, Helen D. Neff, Ulysses "Bubba" Hale, Jr., Kay M. Long, Alejandra Olivarez Sethi, Donald Milton Kimmel, Claude R. Yoe, George Kolb III, Gregory De Brincat, Michael T. Tkach, Patricia J. Wertanen, Dorothy M. Kelley, Robert G. Richter, Joyce E. Chumbley, Antonina Ealovega, David James Embury, Shirley Ann Buck.

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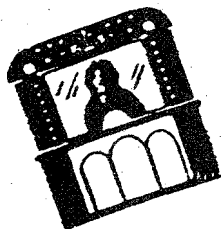
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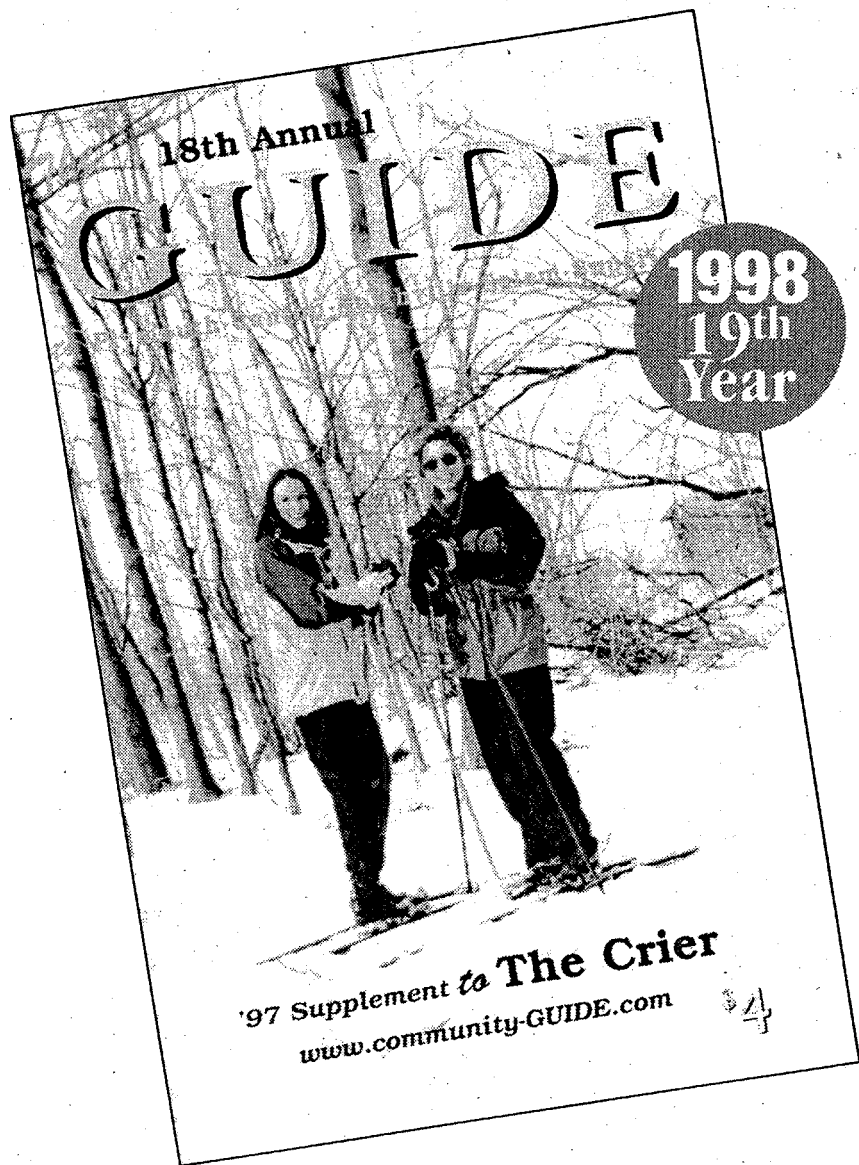
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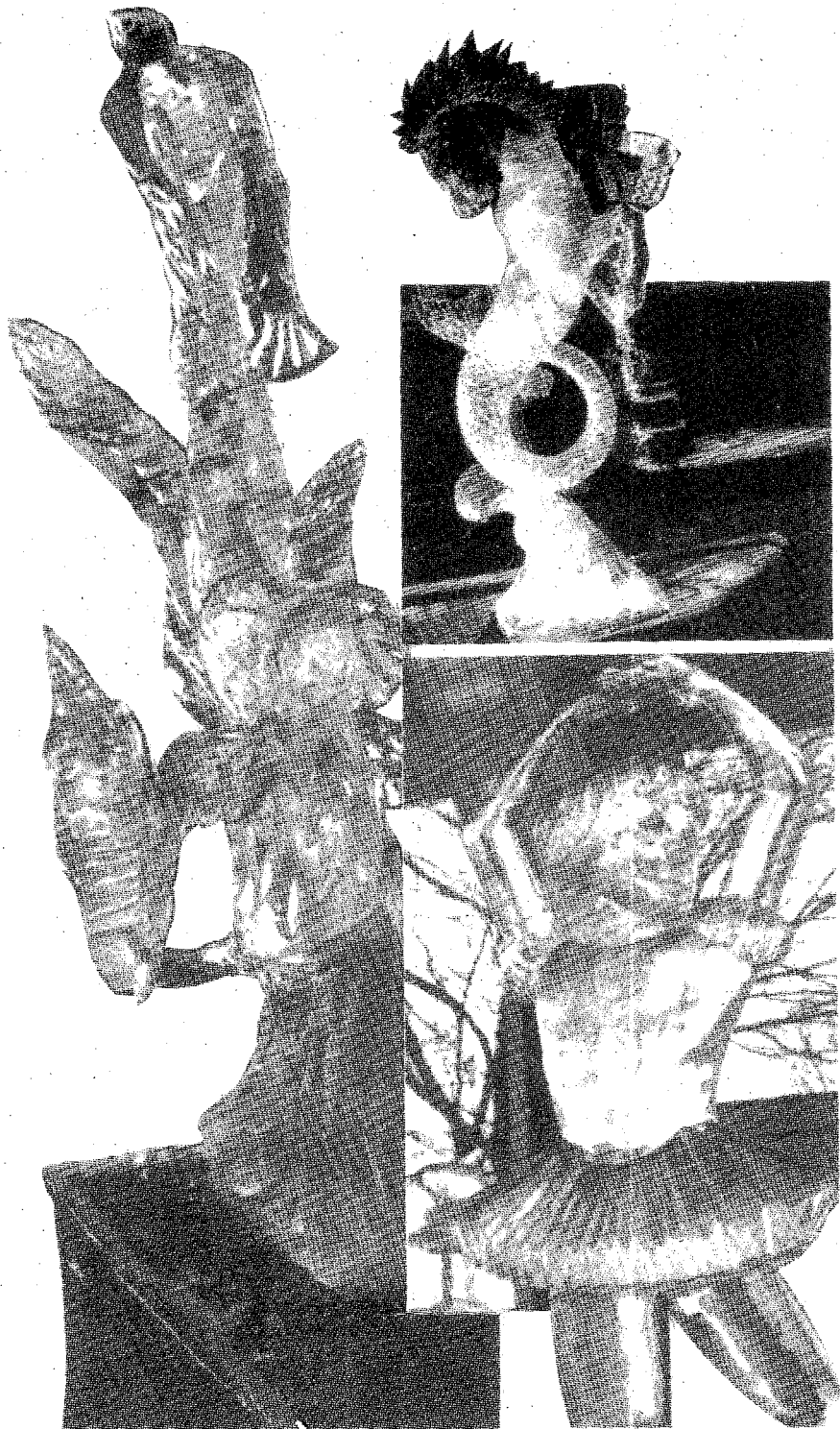
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- Emergency Phone Numbers
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What's Happening

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The VFW #6695 Ladies Auxillary will be holding an All-U-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast Sunday **January 4**, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$3.50 and the Public is welcome to attend. Call Ann Smith 453-1529 or Ann Riley 459-2394.

CANTON WINTER BALL

The fourth annual Canton Winter Ball is Friday, **January 9**, 1998. The dinner dance is held at Laurel Manor in Livonia. The evening includes an elegant gourmet meal, open premium bar and music. The reception begins at 6:30 pm. The ticket price is \$60 for an individual; tables of ten are available for \$600. Corporate sponsorships are also available. For more information or to make a reservation call (313) 398-5000.

MAID OF ERIN PAGEANT

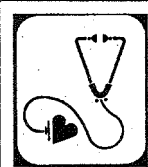
We are looking for girls ages between 17 & 23 of Irish descent for the "Maid of Erin" pageant to be held **February 28** at the Gaelic League. For further details call Bridie Flynn at 313-464-8556 or Peggie Bolland at 313-255-5677.

CRAFTERS NEEDED

Crafters of every ilk are encouraged to apply for a spot in the 1998 Spring Craft Show at Schoolcraft College **March 7**. The show features all types of handmade crafts including painting, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, textiles, needlework, photography, glass, leather, and woodcarving. The fee for a 12' by 12' space is \$90; 10' by 10' costs \$55; 8' by 9' space costs \$40; and there is a \$40 fee for an 8' by 4' hallway space. There is an additional \$15 fee for electricity. For additional information call (734) 462-4417

SPRING YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION

The Plymouth Recreation Department will be taking Spring Youth Soccer Registration the entire month of January at the Recreation Office, during business hours, Monday thru Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm. All registrations require a birth certificate. The fee is \$40.00 for residents and \$60.00 for non-residents. For more information call 455-6620.



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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HANDBOOKS

40-page handbook contains current domestic violence laws, women's rights, community resources list, and more, in Arabic. Pick-up copies at Arab-American and Chaldean Council, Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services, Wayne County prosecutor's office and department of public health clinic in Dearborn. English, Spanish versions available. Call (313) 224-6994.

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SENIOR VAN

Ply. community seniors van available for free transport to destinations in city or township five days a week, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Take Ply. seniors to medical, dental, other appointments or planned trips to nearby malls. Call 459-8888.

RESPIRATORY DISEASE ASSISTANCE

For those with respiratory diseases. Second Wednesday each month, Arbor Health building, Plymouth, 2-3 p.m. Free. Call 712-5367.

THERAPIST REFERRAL NETWORK

People with mental health problems, call 1-800-THERAPIST to be directed to a licensed professional or mental health agency.

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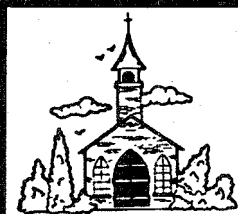
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9:00 AM
&

11:00 AM
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9:30am Lifeline-Contemporary Service

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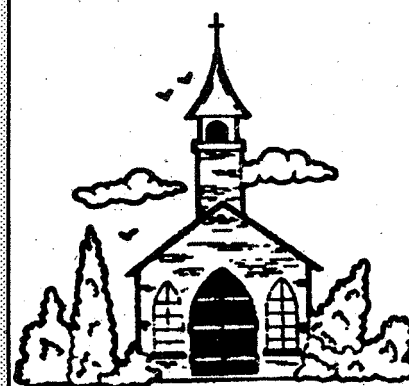
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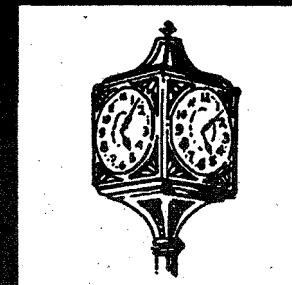
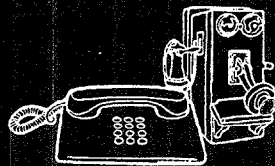
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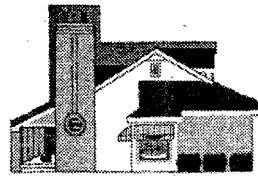
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"It's like a glass of water," he said.

HOFF-DADDY LIVES!

RAB: "Go big early and go big often."

Congratulations to **ANNETTE WHI-**, I
mean, **HOFFMEYER**, on her new job.

YAMS BURNING! Call the Redford Fire
Dept. quick! --Rhonda's new recipe

MARY (of Little Prof): thanks for the
sweets. --Your **COMMA/Crier** friends.

DON DISMUKE is no longer a "mayor
under 30 years old." Friday was a B.D.

Congratulations **Dr. P. Swan**, your family is
very proud of your achievement.

Love, Margery, Clariece, Barb

Is it possible to "Live Left Downtown?"
Hey Linda, How did you do this semester?
Just Kidding! You Go Girl!

Curiosities

Thank-You Crier & Ginoopolis for a great
Sunday afternoon Christmas party.



Len & Rose (standing in a completely dark
room) are amazed at the amount of light
put out by Len's Birthday Cake Candles. I
wonder what a young lovely lady like Rose
is doing with such an elderly man like
Len? - Happy Birthday -

Bryon is old enough to watch R-rated
movies (if he has his drivers license).

Bryon: here's to another year of
pig-kicking

BEAUREGARD eats Ginoopolis ribs:
OOOPA!

VILLAGE POTTERS:
(esp. Tom) thanks! Beautiful work!
--Your Crier/COMMA, friends.

JACK'S RUN IN: he hit a "female
attorney." Look out Jack!

THE U-M, O FLAGS may be M.I.A., but
that new E.M.U. flag up there looks great!
HAPPY 1998 everyone - May it be a year
full of peace and happiness!

Bobby - Looking forward to another won-
derful year with you! Me

Sissy - I'll miss you on NYE have a great
time!

Thanks Daddy and Mario for our great
presents.

PHYLLIS - You knocked at my door but I
could not see who it was because your
halo was throwing off such a shining light.
Then I heard the flutter of wings and knew
it was you. I love you. Geneva

CREON, CREON, CREON. You make my
days and feed me besides. Love you.
Geneva

ERICA OF HEIDE'S. Thank you for your
patience and being so very kind to me.
Geneva

DEAN J. - I wish I could tell you how
wonderful you are. Thank you for what
you do for myself-esteem. I needed that.
Aunt Geneva

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN - Two
weeks is a long time and you're probably
hoping we'll forget you, but we won't. So
there! The Girls

DEAR MARTHA ET AL - I do look forward
to our little talks on Sunday. They some-
how make my week complete. I used to
feel that going to church made my week.
Now I am confused and I find myself very
critical. I have no right to be either. I've
only attended church twice since Peter
left. The first time, I went with a friend and
it was a pretty emotional time for me.
However, the next time, I went by myself.
The man next to me helped me find my
place in my Hymnal, and I appreciated it.
That was the one and only friendly look
and gesture I had from anyone in the con-
gregation. A young woman did shake
hands with me at the door however I
should have spoken to people, I know, but
they all looked so grim I felt uneasy. As
you may recall I used to be a church sec-
retary. My minister used to tease me
about having to start my own church.
Love Geneva. P.S. Don't they have song
leaders any more rather than the organ
dragging the congregatin in song? Love
Geneva



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Curiosities

ED AND SALLY what a beautiful party!
 Thank you.
 New babies in '98 - can't wait!
 CARLOYN - I'm sorry Madelyn did not arrive
 in time for your Christmas party. It was all
 her fault. She was so fussy about her
 clothes that Anne Featherstone made her.
 I'll bet you received a lot of gifts for
 Christmas, because you're so nice.
 Love you. Geneva
 JULIE AT RUSTY Nail: we hope he bought
 dinner at Ernesto's.
 Tom & Amy Lenga - Thanks for making me
 feel so welcome during the holidays. -Linda

Curiosities

LINDA
 3.58
 GPA
 Congrats!
 --Beauregard
 (EXCEPT FOR JEFF'S stingy "B")
 MOOSE: will you soon be cleaning out her
 gutters too?
 HANK: no pay phones in the Meijer store?
 How can Jess call home to say, "Quick!
 Take the angel food cake out of the oven - I
 forgot!" And what about when we forget our
 shopping lists? Ed
 IS THERE A NEW toy at the Lowertown?

Curiosities

BONNY & EARL: sorry to hear about your
 loss. They do become a part of our families
 don't they?
 PHOTO FINISHES are fine, but what about
 a photo of that bend in the back? How
 many horses on the track?
 VI PIE, now DI PIE: great stuff...er food for
 the Editorial staff.
 ERICA: eat your mushrooms
 (or no more rutabaga!)
 LUCKY: you should unwrap those choco-
 lates before you eat the whole box! A sick
 Canton dog, eh?
 885 KEEPS Tom!

Curiosities

MIKE: just think of the operation as "trying
 to cram 10 pounds in a five-pound sack."
 --Ed
 JESSE VARGA is a real Mr. Wizzard. But
 we hope he covers from his Tubers.
 KENN is only wired for 25 more days.
 HOPE THE WOLVERINES do better than
 the Spartans.
 HEATHER MIRTO met the Indians. Fabe
 and Edith were the Zookeepers
 Maggie has an expensive new litter box -
 Rhonda's new Saturn
 Jack - COME BACK!
 Happy New Year Kibikos!

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YEAR IN REVIEW 1997



Sports

Sports shorts

City of Plymouth and Canton recreation departments co-ed volleyball standings:

Blue Division — Over the Hill Gang, 21 points; We Dig, 19 points; Toe Jams, 17 points; Back Again, 12 points; Ball Busters, nine points; Team #4, four points; Ward Presbyterian, two points; Carol's Crew, no points.

White Division — Team #13, 21 points; Buddy's, 19 points; Mr. B's II, 14 points; Lear Headliners, 12 points; SKF-NATC, nine points; Mr. B's I, seven points; Canton Road Running Club, two points; Ward Presbyterian Church #2, no points;

City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department basketball standings:

Women's Division — Happy Hoopsters, 13 points; All for One, 12 points; Laurel Manor/Mr. B's, seven points; T-Rex, 5.5 points; Team #3, three points; Birch Construction, 1.5 points.

Men's Division — Head Graphics, 12.5 points; Clark Building Supply, 11 points; Ludwig & Karas, 11 points; UpTempo, nine points; McAuley Pharmacy, eight points; The Sting, seven points; Midnight Raiders, 6.5 points; SKF-NATC, five points; Mr. B's three points; The Outlaws, three points; Dick Scott Dodge, one point.

Results from the Canton girls gymnastics team's 132.65-118.9 victory over Salem. (First-place finishers for each team.)

Vault: Canton's **Marcie Emerick**, (8.9); Salem's **Allison Bracht**, (8.8).

Bars: Canton's **Liz Fitzgerald**, (8.35); Bracht (8.3).

Balance Beam: Emerick (8.45); Salem's **Lindsay Hawraney** (7.75).

Floor: Canton's **Amy Driscoll**, (9.15); Hawraney (8.65).

All Around: Fitzgerald (34.15); Hawraney (31.85).

'98 has tough act to follow

January

- The Detroit Whalers play before a record crowd of 4,207 at Compuware Sports Arena in a 4-3 loss to the West Division's first-place team, the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds.

- The Salem gymnastics team defeats cross-campus rival Canton, 131.85-128.45, in a dual meet. Salem's Kristin Kosik wins the vault with a score of 9.1

February

- The Salem wrestling team hosts an eight-team tournament, and finishes second behind Livonia Stevenson. Salem's Eric Coburn (119 pounds) and James Greene (135 pounds) take first place.

- The Salem girls volleyball team defeats Canton — 15-13, 15-5, 15-5. Salem's Jenny Trott records seven digs, and teammate Anne Alioto has 10 kills. Kari Flynn adds 22 assists for Salem.

- Livonia Franklin upsets Salem, 74-66, in the WLAA basketball tournament.

March:

- The Canton boys basketball team wins its fourth straight WLAA tournament with a 43-40 win over Farmington Hills Harrison.

- The Salem volleyball team captures its fifth consecutive district title. Jenny Trott has 31 digs and Amanda Abraham records 27 kills and 15 solo blocks.

- The Salem boys basketball team beats Canton, 49-43, in the state district final. Andy Power leads Salem with 13 points.

- Teono Wilson (189 pounds) is Salem's top performer at the state wrestling finals, taking fourth place.

- The Detroit Whalers are bounced from the first round of the OHL playoffs in five games by the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds.

APRIL

- Salem softball pitcher Shannon Coultas pitches a no-hitter in the Rocks' 11-5 win over Livonia Stevenson.

- The Salem girls track team wins the West Bloomfield Relays.

- The Canton and Salem baseball teams split a doubleheader. The Rocks win the first game, 5-2, behind the pitching of Tom DeMetsenare. Canton takes the nightcap, 6-4, with lefthander Jason Cox on the mound.

MAY

- The Detroit Whalers change their name to Plymouth. It's the fourth name for the franchise founded in 1990.

- The Canton girls track team loses its first dual match in three years. The cul-



Giuseppe Ianni and the Salem boys soccer team went 20-1-3 in 1997. The Rocks' only loss came to Troy Athens, 2-1, in the state finals. (Crier photo W.H. Bill Dean)

prit? Cross-campus rival Salem, which defeated the Chiefs, 94-34. The Rocks go on to win WLAA and regional titles.

- In a classic battle of state soccer powers, Canton and Salem battle to a 1-1 tie. The teams meet again two weeks later in the state tournament, and Canton outlasts Salem for a 2-1 overtime victory. Emily Stachura scores the winning goal.

JUNE:

- The Plymouth Whalers select Compuware Ambassador center Dave Legwand in the OHL Entry Draft. The same week, Whaler Head Coach/GM Peter DeBoer is named to the Canadian National team's coaching staff.

- The Canton Hornets, an Under-14 Little Caesars premier soccer team, win the Michigan State Cup.

- Harold Druken, Eric Gooldy, Pat Parthenais and Randy Fitzgerald of the Plymouth Whalers are drafted by four NHL teams at the NHL Entry Draft in Pittsburgh.

- Former Detroit Whaler defenseman Bryan Berard wins NHL Rookie of the Year honors.

JULY

- Plymouth resident David Koshizawa attends the second annual World-Scholar-Athlete Games at the University of Rhode Island.

AUGUST

- Salem High School graduate Dena

Head finishes her first season with the Utah Starzz of the WNBA.

- Canton hosts the National Archery Championships in Heritage Park. Organizers say the event will return to the same site in 1998

SEPTEMBER

- The Salem boys soccer team lays claim to the state's No. 1 ranking, a spot the Rocks would hold on to for the rest of the season.

- The Salem girls swim team defeats arch-rival Canton, 123.5-62.5.

OCTOBER

- The Canton boys golf team, winners of just two matches in 1996, capture the WLAA regular season and tournament championships.

- The Salem boys cross country team wins the WLAA meet with 45 points, led by junior Jon Little, who finishes second overall with a time of 16:28.

NOVEMBER

- Salem (6-3) survives a scare from Canton (1-8) and wins the Halloween gridiron battle, 10-7.

- The Salem boys soccer team (20-13) loses its first game of the season, a 2-1 loss in the state finals to Troy Athens.

DECEMBER

- The Canton girls basketball team is bounced from the state tournament by defending Class A champion Birmingham Marion, 42-36.

Whalers passing — and scoring — at midseason

These guys should be used to report cards, right?

But I won't expect the 16 to 20-year-old members of the Plymouth Whalers, most of whom currently are attending either high school or college while playing hockey, to bring the following progress reports to their coaches or parents.

The Whalers have hit the midway part of their 66-game season, and it's become increasingly clear that the coaching staff is hoping this class of hockey players will skip a grade and move right on to championship contenders, rather than taking another step in the rebuilding process started last season.

The Whalers were 12-19-2 through 33 games last year. Plymouth finished the season in fourth place with a 26-34-6 record, and was ousted from the playoffs by Sault Ste. Marie in five games.

Today, the Whalers (21-10-3) have the second fewest losses in the OHL, and are battling for first place in the West Division with the London Knights — thanks to a flurry of trades to shore up the defensive corps and key contributions from several draft picks.

The Whalers are quick and tough. Patient and aggressive. They have strong leadership and are laced with character.

Is it too early to talk of an OHL cham-

ampionship and an appearance in the Memorial Cup tournament?

Is that simply too much to expect from a team with so little playoff experience? Do they have enough balanced scoring up front, and enough defensive warriors to win crucial battles in their own end? Who must step up to lead the club through periodic nights of inconsistency and to the division title?

Read on.

FORWARDS

There isn't the depth here that there was in the preseason, but the forwards have provided a dangerous mix of speed, scoring and belligerence, and they are the primary reason for the Whalers dramatic turnaround from last season.

The skill players: Dave Legwand, Yuri Babenko, Steve Wasyenko and Harold Druken.

• Legwand: has been simply amazing, and the Whalers' only constant scoring threat this season; shows you something new every game, whether it's his game-breaking speed, creative play making, game instincts or physical contributions;

Truth is Tough

By Brian Corbett



has 36 goals and 59 points in 30 games. A prime time player

with six game-winning goals. Grade: A+

If anyone can match Legwand's acceleration, speed and creativity, it's Babenko. But with his pure scoring talent, the European draft pick should have more than 11 goals in 25 games; needs to shoot more. What an import. Grade: B+

• Wasyenko: missed the first two months of the season because of a shoulder injury; The Whalers missed his big play ability; still trying to get into midseason form; needs to be consistent offensive threat, to take pressure off Legwand. Grade: Incomplete.

• Druken: wasn't scoring or playing defense during the first two months of the season; has noticeably picked up his game since a three-game road trip earlier this month. His open ice moves and skating could take focus off Legwand, Babenko. Grade: C+

The grinders: captain Andrew Taylor, Jesse Boulerice, Eric Gooldy, Jamie Lalonde, Randy Fitzgerald and Kris Purdy. The Whalers' experience is here.

With the exception of the rookies Lalonde and Purdy, everyone is in at least their second OHL season, but at times they've been woefully passive. That can't be tolerated.

• Taylor: a three-year veteran, has led by example; A team player who has given and received hits, or passed off to set up goals. His importance during the playoffs will be immeasurable. Grade: B+

• Boulerice: likely will double his 24-point total from 1996-97, but as the league's top intimidator, he should be skating around like a man possessed.

Please see pg. 37

Otters skunk Whalers, 6-0

Otter goaltender Steve Valiquette (25 saves), acquired in the same multi-team deal that brought defenseman Paul Mara to Plymouth two weeks ago, stopped 25 shots in a 6-0 win over Plymouth Monday at Compuware Sports Arena.

The Otters turned the 2-0 game into a rout with four third period goals. Colin Pepperall scored twice for Erie. Scott Holsinger (19 saves) got the loss in net for Plymouth.

WHALER WATCH

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WEST					
LONDON	22	10	1	8-2-0	45
PLYMOUTH	20	9	3	8-2-0	43
SARNIA	15	14	6	4-5-1	36
ERIE	15	19	1	2-8-0	31
S.S.MARIE	11	21	5	4-5-1	27
WINDSOR	10	24	1	4-6-0	21
EAST					
OTTAWA	19	10	6	5-3-2	44
BELLEVILLE	21	14	2	6-3-1	44
KINGSTON	20	13	3	4-6-0	43
PETERBOROUGH	14	19	3	4-6-0	31
OSHAWA	13	22	2	5-3-2	28
TORONTO	10	19	6	3-6-1	26
CENTRAL					
BARRIE	25	10	1	6-4-0	51
GUELPH	22	9	3	6-4-0	47
OWEN SOUND	15	16	2	6-4-0	32
KITCHENER	13	16	5	5-5-0	31
SUDBURY	13	20	4	4-6-0	30
NORTH BAY	10	23	4	2-7-1	24

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Whaler defenseman Troy Smith zeroes in on Windsor's Mike Rupp in a game earlier this season. The Whalers need an improved physical presence at the blue line to continue their pursuit of a West Division title. (Crier photo R. Alwood Jr.)

Midseason report: Whalers making a splash

Continued from pg. 36

Grade: C+

- **Goody:** (6-foot-3, 200 pounds) increasingly is becoming an effective power forward; has developed a nice pair of hands; an iron man. Will be counted upon as a key role player come playoff time. Grade: B

- **Lalonde:** when he's playing, has continued the fearless, hard-working game attitude that won him a roster spot; Contributions can't be gauged by stats; a relentless forechecker; An agitator everywhere on the ice; will get more ice time with trade of Andy Burnham. Grade: B

- **Fitzgerald:** (25 points, 53 penalty minutes in 22 games) continues to be the Whalers' most reliable role player while improving his scoring ability. Grade: B

- **Purdy:** a rookie left wing, has spent most of the season as an extra forward; a hard worker along the boards, corners. Plays physical, but has just 13 penalty minutes in 16 games; Needs to spend more time in front of opposing team's net. Grade: C+

The utility men: Julian Smith and Brian Passmore have been reliable two-way forwards.

- Smith has remained one the Whalers' most under-appreciated players; needs to use his blinding speed, play more physical, and cause more turnovers. Grade: B

- Outside of Legwand and Babenko, Passmore is the Whalers' top rookie; has immediately contributed with intelligent play both offensively and defensively. One of the Whalers' spark plugs. Grade: B+

DEFENSEMEN

Considered to be the Whalers' weakness in the preseason, the blue line now carries a completely different style — nobility. Nikos Tselios, Shaun Fisher, Sergei Fedotov and Paul Mara — all added since the season began — are crisp

passing, offensive-minded defensemen. Gritty blue liners Jason Lawmaster and Luc Rioux have been traded, which leaves stay-at-home duties to Troy Smith, Kevin Holdridge and Pat Parthenais. Expect another trade by next week's deadline for a veteran defenseman to help the Whalers in their own end.

- **Tselios'** smooth passing on the power play has been a great asset, but he's prone to turning the puck over in his own end. A first-round pick of the Carolina Hurricanes, Tselios still hasn't proved his NHL potential to some observers. Needs to improve his skating. Grade: C+

- **Fisher** is the Whalers' leading scorer on defense (not including Tselios' games with Belleville), but 17 of his 18 points are assists. Misses too many open shots. Needs to improve his shooting accuracy. Grade: C+

- **Fedotov:** just returned this month from the American Hockey League; was the Whalers' best defenseman late last season. Should flourish with so many skilled forwards skating ahead of him. Grade: Incomplete.

- Two weeks ago, the Whalers gave up their top defenseman in Rioux to acquire Mara. He must live up to his reputation as the league's best blue liner or the trade is a big-time bust. Can the speedy defenseman handle the pressure? Grade: Incomplete.

- Smith has had an outstanding season; has consistently taken opposing forwards out of the play; needs to lead by example in the playoffs. Grade: B+

- **Holdridge** is the most improved player leftover from last year's squad; plays smart, clears puck well and on-ice vision has greatly improved; starting to become assertive leader in the dressing room; must be a huge factor in the playoffs. Grade: A

- Why did it take more than a season for Parthenais, a leviathan at 6-foot-4 and 202 pounds, to become a physical, ornery

presence? In a game against North Bay recently, Parthenais was a one-man wrecking crew; has realized role as toughest defenseman on roster; must carry over recent spurt into the second half. Grade: C+

GOALIES

The Whalers started the season with an OHL all-star goalie and a highly experienced back up. Right now the position is in the hands of rookie Scott Holsinger. What happened?

- **Robert Esche** will return from the World Junior championships next month with his 3.09 goals against average. The Whalers post-season hopes are Esche; a comforting thought if you think of his pre-season performance with the Phoenix Coyotes, or his last month with the Whalers; a disturbing thought if you remember how he played during the first month of the season. Esche can't afford another slump. Grade: B

- **Holsinger**, who joined the team last month when back up Stevie Lyle departed, has filled in admirably during Esche's absence; has made clutch saves. Awesome or terrible, he's the No. 2 goalie when Esche returns. Grade: B

COACHING

There is great chemistry between Peter DeBoer, Greg Stefan and Steve Spott, and an open relationship with the players. Give them credit for being proactive by making several trades that they believe will make the Whalers a legitimate contender for the OHL championship.

But they may have spread themselves too thin at forward, and the defense needs another tough veteran. Regardless, DeBoer, Stefan and Spott have quickly rebuilt a team decimated by departures after the 1995-96 season. Grade: B

On deck

SALEM BASKETBALL

Tuesday at Milan. JV begins at 6 p.m.

SALEM SWIMMING

Jan. 8 at home versus Novi at 7 p.m.

SALEM WRESTLING

Saturday at home for the Salem Varsity Invitational at 9 a.m.

SALEM VOLLEYBALL

Saturday at the Portage Northern Invitational.

SALEM GYMNASTICS

Jan. 7 at Farmington at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 10 at home for the Salem Invitational at 9 a.m.

CANTON BASKETBALL

Tuesday at Ann Arbor Huron. JV begins at 6 p.m.

CANTON BOYS SWIMMING

Tuesday at home versus Ann Arbor Huron at 7 p.m.

CANTON WRESTLING

Saturday at the Salem Varsity Invitational at 8:30 a.m.

CANTON GYMNASTICS

Jan. 7 at home versus Hartland at 7 p.m. Jan. 10 at the Rockford Invitational at 9 a.m.

CANTON VOLLEYBALL

Saturday at the Walled Lake Central Invitational at 9 a.m. JV at the Brighton Invitational Jan. 10 at 9 a.m. At home for the Salem Varsity Invitational Jan. 17 at 8 a.m.

YEAR IN REVIEW 1997



Community opinions

April 30th:

Continuing bond questions frustrate CEP student

EDITOR,

I am so sick and tired of hearing complaints about the recent school bond election! There was even a recount, and the bond still passed. What is so hard to understand about this?

As a Plymouth-Canton High School senior, I can tell everyone out there that we are in desperate need of another high school. PECP is very crowded right now, and the population is expected to increase in the next few years. The average class contains about thirty students, if not more. What's next? Are classes of forty or more students what we want. I don't think so!

To M. Johnson (letter in 4/19/97 issue), our teachers deserve to be paid as much as they are. Many literally spend hours after school helping their students because there is not enough time to get to everybody during the class period, due to the overwhelming class sizes.

I think that the community needs to accept the fact that the bond issue passed and get on with their lives. Do we demand a revote when a candidate for the Presidency we do not like wins? No, we have to accept it.

So, I leave you with a final question. What is more important — the children of a community receiving a good education and ensuring a successful future, or not wanting to pay more taxes?

The answer should be quite clear — education lasts a lifetime.

A CONCERNED PLYMOUTH-CANTON HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR

'97 news inspired poetic letters

April 16th:

A troublesome thing

'Twas the first day of spring, and a troublesome thing,
has divided our Township and town;
the question at hand, was the worth of a plan
to make taxes go up and not down.

Will we build a new school? Will it have its own pool?
Will we pay for it lock, stock and carrel?
Some people said yea, but others said nay,
so the school board was over a barrel.

So, the school bond measure, to everyone's pleasure,
(well, not everyone, then at least half)
was passed and approved, and the motion was moved,
until someone found one little gaffe.

The turnout was good, in each neighborhood,
and the tension dramatically mounted;
but the votes that were cast, from the first to the last,
inexplicably weren't all counted.

September 10th:

'Owed' to Farmer Street

I know the wheels of progress turn slowly-
But this Farmer Street repair project, Holy-Moly!
Am I mistaken or are they inexperienced and slow-
Perhaps low bidder is not the best way to go?
You folks have seen the work that has taken place-
I mean come on, we're going at a snails pace.
First they put stuff in then they take it out-
What in the world is this all about?
These folks have to be getting paid hourly-
No contractor can make a profit working that slowly.
Folks across town are also moving like a snail-
Look at the mess on Ann Arbor Trail.

Pure Speculation By W.H. (Bill) Dean



The reason, they found, after looking around,
was that some of the voters got sloppy;
A computer-sized glitch, a mysterious switch,
sent their votes to the comet, Halle-Boppy.

What now — a petition? Acts of Sediton?
Now let's not go off the deep end;
Sure the system seems broken, but the people have spoken!
Let's run with the money and spend!

The first thing to do, with that tax revenue,
is to buy a big box with a slot;
So the next time we vote, we merely need to tote,
to find out if we passed it or not!

Just have patience they'll have Farmer fixed as soon as they can-
In the mean time though, they are wrecking Harvey and Ann.
You'd think they'd realize there's a bump on Ann-
Left by the last low bidder man.
Trucks and loaders are always racing up and down-
Scattering dirt and rocks all around.
I'd venture to say this repair situation-
Is taking longer than the original installation.
We're not talking a few days, but weeks-
And the original installer used antiques.
His machinery was primitive compared to the new-
I'll bet he stayed within his bid too! Are you?

VIRGIL NORRGROVE

August 20th: Truth about bond between the camps

EDITOR,

There are two sides to every story. And somewhere, sandwiched between the conflicting camps of opinion, are the facts.

The ultimate resolution of the bond lawsuit brought against our school district, begs for the wisdom of a King Solomon.

While everyone is entitled and encouraged to express their own opinion (as I'm now doing,) every writer has an obligation to take care that opinions expressed are not being conveyed to the reading public as if they were facts.

For instance, several letters to the editor printed in all the local papers accused our publicly elected school board and the district administration of: election engineering (both

through the choice of the voting device and the date of the election "arguing away this loss of votes...through some technicality of the election commission," "using public money to silence us," and "making thinly veiled threats to our constitutionally guaranteed rights." Another recent writer added, "this superintendent...this school board would rather play the legal system than abide the ethical system."

We should all think long and hard about these opinions. Is there any substantive evidence that would validate these allegations as facts? Or, like a tiny snowball, are they gathering credence the more they're rolled around? Ethically and legally speaking, does any public figure deserve to

be accused of wrongdoing in the absence of concrete, valid proof?

On the other hand, facts are easily substantiated by research, studies, supportive evidence, etc. It's a fact that there are always miscast votes whether voting machines, paper ballots, or computer screens are used. It's a fact that there is no 'good' time to hold an election—March, June or November. It's a fact that the local board of canvassers and state election officials are bound by laws governing the election process—laws that 'we the people' put in place.

If anyone feels those laws are outmoded due to current technology, the opportunity exists for 'we the people' to do something

about it. Chastising the board of canvassers for upholding those laws is neither logical or productive.

In my own opinion, our school board and school district officials have always conducted the public's business in professional, ethical and legal manner. They have vigorously sought public input on issues, they have consistently made the effort to keep the community informed and have tried to make responsible decisions on our behalf. Our public school district pursues the betterment of the entire community through the education of the community's children.

MARTHA TRAFFORD
Canton



Community opinions

October 8th:

Court committees made right decision

Dunbar Davis, courthouse namesake, would be pleased with community collaboration; the courthouse is in the right place

The 35th District Court "ad hoc" reconstruction committee made a good decision in keeping the courthouse at its former location.

With all five of the communities of the 35th District experiencing a phenomenal state of growth, the decision on where to build a new courthouse could have turned into a political quagmire.

The reconstruction committee, made up of representatives from the five communities, the court, and headed up by retired 35th District Judge Jim Garber, put aside political feelings and concentrated on the good of the court.

Time and again, when it looked like the courthouse might be located somewhere besides the site which it occupied for more than 15 years, something would happen to bring it back.

The court had all but signed a lease for a temporary facility in the Highland Appliance/Western Electric building when the owners backed out and left the

court with the option of using used modular buildings in the Unisys parking lot across Plymouth Road from its once and future site.

It was almost like a higher force was guiding the court, and keeping the courthouse coalition together. Perhaps the kindly ghost of Dunbar Davis.

Another force was Canton's Finance Director Tony Minghine. He was instrumental in

pushing politics aside, questioning the dollars and sense of any proposed location and weighing the needs of the court and communities above all else.

But Minghine was not alone in his endeavor. Garber should be commended for focusing on the committee's goal and 'just getting the thing done.' (He said he

The P-C-N Communities banded together during a time they could have been reduced to arguing like spoiled children. They set aside political gains for the need of the court as a whole.

Community Opinions

The Community Crier

The Community Crier



THE
NEWSPAPER
WITH ITS
HEART IN THE
PLYMOUTH-CANTON
COMMUNITY

821 Penniman Ave.
Plymouth, MI 48170-1624
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PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY
by The Plymouth-Canton
Community Crier, Inc.
CARRIER DELIVERED
\$2.25 monthly, \$27 yearly
U.S. MAIL DELIVERED:
\$40 yearly in U.S.A.

Member:



Printed on
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Paper

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COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

345 Fleet St.
Plymouth, MI 48170-1656
(734) 453-6860

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October 1st:

Memo to the Mayflower, City

MEMO: Oct. 1, 1997

TO: Matt Karmo, Mayflower Hotel
Owner; Ron Loiselle, Mayor of
Plymouth; City Commissioners; Steve
Walters, City Manager

FROM: At least 100 folks who asked
this week

TOPIC: WHEN?!!!!!!

Nothing — and I mean, nothing — has occurred at the Mayflower Hotel other than tripping the place.

Originally, the exterior work was to be tarted LAST YEAR.

Here's a quote: "I'm skeptical it (the /hole project) will be done by Sept. 30... ese kind of jobs always take longer." That's what Walters said on July 23rd.)

Maybe he meant "STARTED" not DONE BY!"

Granted, everything takes longer and sts more.

Karmo said yesterday that the original \$2 illion price tag is now around \$4 million.

Also on July 23rd, Karmo said he'd be bmitting the plans to get under way.

Those plans were approved by the City three weeks ago now, but nobody from the Mayflower has stopped by to pick them up. Does this sound like a business that's in as much of a hurry as it says it is?

And Mr. Mayor.... the commission stipulated that construction would be completed "ON OR ABOUT SEPT. 30, 1997."

For the edification of the commission and the city manager, that was yesterday.

Well?!!!!???

Construction isn't even starting yet. Get the taxes back.

Karmo said yesterday that with re-bidding going on and the length of time it will take, the hotel renovations won't be complete by the 43rd Fall Festival (1998).

But, he continues to maintain, "We are committed to this renovation."

Yeah, so is town.

Not only is the shuttered hotel dining room-saloon-meeting rooms a blow to downtown business, but the hulking PR mess is even worse. (Especially across from the

With malice
toward none

By W. EDWARD
WENDOVER



shuttered Amoco station.)

After months-years of hearing that work will start soon, one local political watcher told a city official, "The Fire Department should station a man there full time." Strong and scary humor.

But typical of how comments have gotten harsher as no progress at the Mayflower Hotel is seen. As if the City Commission didn't draw harsh criticism from businesses that paid their taxes and didn't get a tax gift.

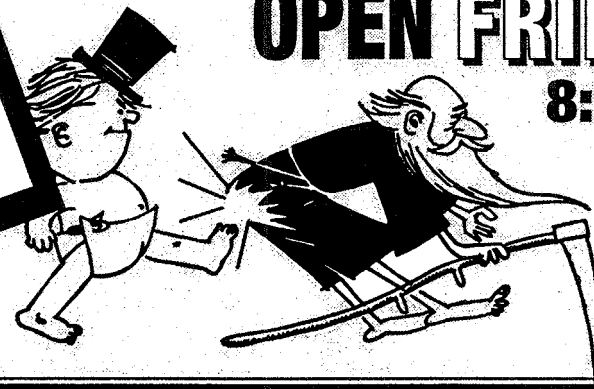
Mr. Mayor: please expect this topic to pop up during your re-election campaign. (Don Dismuke too.)

Matt: your approved plans are gathering dust at City Hall.

Steve Walters: WELL?!!!!!! Is the hotel like paying on Ann Arbor Trail — in time zones unto themselves? When DOES the city call the question?

Everybody who asked: don't ask us, call 453-1620.

January
1
1998



OPEN FRIDAY JANUARY 2ND

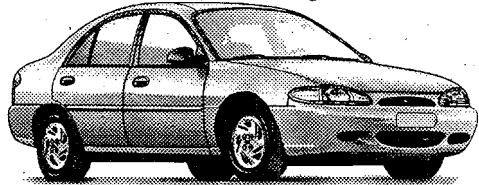
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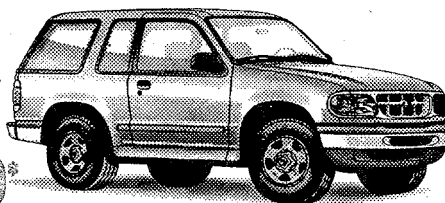
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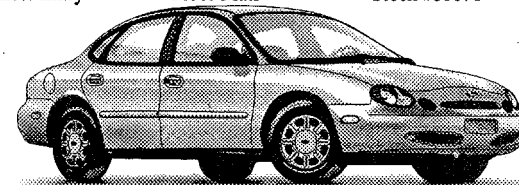
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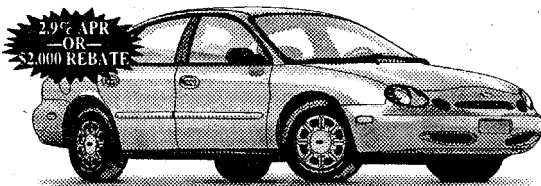
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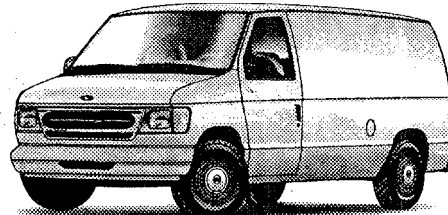


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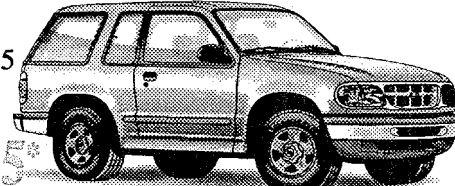
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- Stock #74102



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Now **\$23,395***

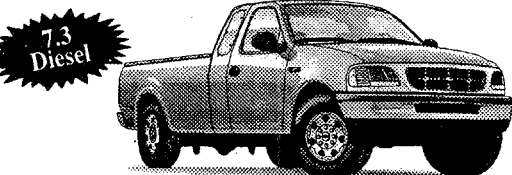
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- Air Cond.
- Tilt Wheel
- Speed Control
- AM/FM Cassette
- Alum Wheels
- Pwr Windows
- Pwr Stroke
- Ltd Slip Trailer Tow
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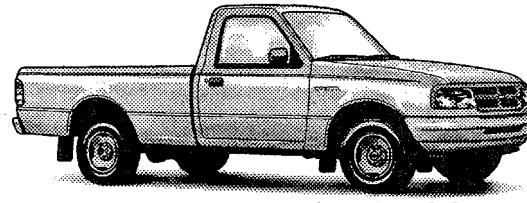
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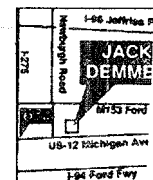


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MODEL	Security Deposit	Total Due at Inception
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97 EXPLORER SPORT 0 Down \$1,500 Down	\$450 \$400	\$893 \$2,362
98 EXPLORER 0 Down \$1,500 Down	\$450 \$375	\$906 \$2,348
98 ESCORT 0 Down \$1,500 Down	\$250 \$175	\$572 \$2,014
98 WINDSTAR 0 Down \$1,500 Down	\$400 \$325	\$894 \$2,347
98 TAURUS 0 Down \$1,500 Down	\$325 \$250	\$696 \$2,140

*Plus tax, title, destination and any applicable rebate assigned to dealer. **Closed end lease payments are with \$1500 down payment. 12,000 miles per year, 15¢ per mile over 24,000 miles. Lessee has no obligation to purchase vehicle at lease end but may arrange to purchase vehicle at a price to be negotiated with JACK DEMMER at lease inception. Subject to approval. Lessee is responsible for excess wear & tear. Payments do not include monthly use tax. To figure total payments add 6% tax and multiply by term. Lease requires a \$250 disposal fee (on 97 models).