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Look for **THE GUIDE** in next week's Crier



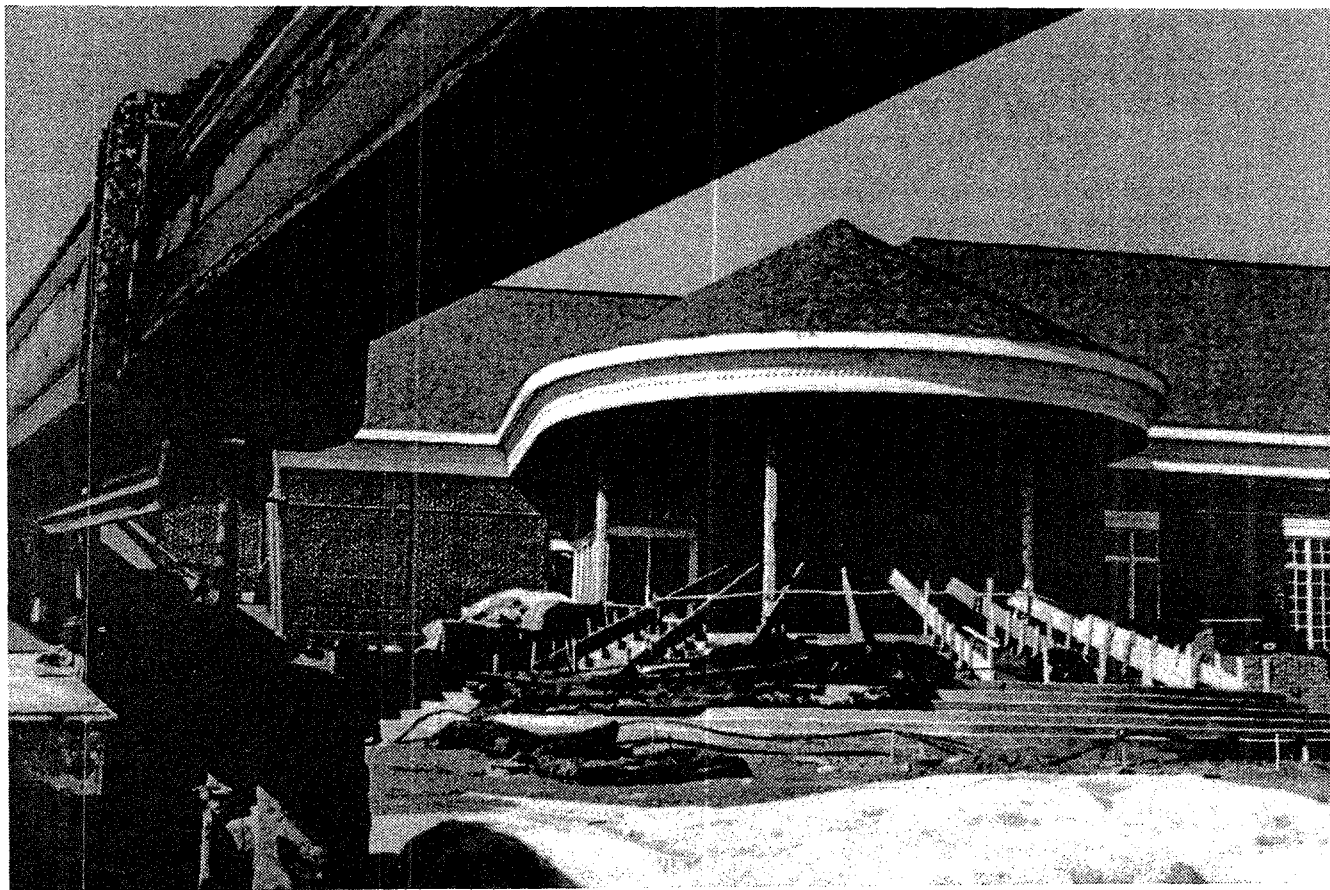
The Community Crier

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

Vol. 25 No. 5

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March 4, 1998



Overdue?... The Plymouth District Library, originally scheduled to be open about a month from now, should be ready for Plymouth readers near the end of April according to Library Director Pat Thomas. The 42,000 square foot library has been under construction for more than a year. Thomas says compared to projects of similar size, being a month or so behind schedule isn't too bad. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

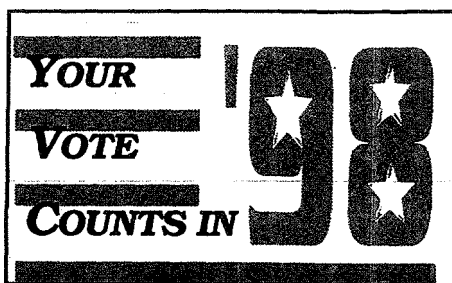
Mueller to run for House

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Inspired by a belief that her district was not receiving the representation that it deserved, K. C. Mueller announced her candidacy for State Representative in 20th House District last week.

"I believe I can make a difference," Mueller said. "Certain township officials asked me to run because they thought there was a lack of state support for our area. They said they wanted someone that was more responsive to our district."

Mueller, a member of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees since 1992, said she hopes to bring "a sense of practicality and reality" to state politics. "We need the laws to be looked at more closely, to see the way they will actually affect the cities and townships involved."



Please see pg. 2

Twp. examines Ridge Rd. paving, again

Project fate uncertain after residents' petition, change of heart

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

When Dick Kruse came before the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees last Tuesday night, he told them he just wanted to hear his wife stop complaining. For years the dust kicked up from Ridge Road behind their house had kept the Kruses from opening their windows or sitting on their back porch.

But last month when a proposal to pave Ridge Road was presented to residents, Kruse signed a petition opposing it. The reason, he said, was a letter sent to explain the proposal had muddled up the issue by falsely projecting the cost to each resident.

"We don't even use Ridge Road," said Kruse, who lives on Red Maple Drive, a road parallel to Ridge. "When the first letter told us we would have to pay \$1,700 to pave a road we don't even use, I thought that was too much. Now that I only have to pay (\$447) over ten years, that's something I can live with."

According to Jim Anulewicz, Director of Public Services, the first letter sent out was unintentionally confusing. "If we did anything wrong it might be that we gave out too much information," he said.

The first letter was meant only to announce an informational meeting for those living within the Special Assessment District (S.A.D.), Anulewicz said. The S.A.D. includes all units bordering Ridge Road between Powell Road and Ann Arbor Road, and units located in the Pine Ridge Subdivision. Included with the letter, though, were details of the proposal, including a sentence which indicates that each resident will have to contribute \$1,791 per unit.

Anulewicz said the \$1,791 number represented only a rough estimate, not exactly what each resident would pay. At the informational meeting, Anulewicz gave a

Please see pg. 10

Writers' night

Plymouth poets hold annual Irish Writers night at Box Bar
See Friends & Neighbors pg. 6

CFCU unhurt

Supreme Court ruling affect change credit union members
See Getting Down to Business pg. 8

Whalers drown

Friday win over Oshawa keeps Plymouth within 4 points of 1st
See Sports pgs. 19-21

Canton rezone OKd despite resistance

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Despite concerns of nearby residents, Canton's Board of Trustees rezoned 2.25 acres of residential property for commercial uses Tuesday.

Located on Cherry Hill Road just east of Canton Center, the site abuts the Amoco gas station on the southeast corner. Added to the other 24 acres of commercial property adjacent to the site, it will become a commercial shopping center.

The site will eventually contain two stand-alone structures, according to Bryan Amann, who represents owners of the land.

"Plans are for a Farmer Jack grocery store and another, smaller building that hasn't been leased yet," Amann said. "We're looking forward to a productive project," he added. "I'm glad the rezoning was approved."

It was an uphill battle.

The rezoning request went before Canton's Planning Commission twice in the last two months, according to Jeff Goulet, Canton Community Planner.

The commission first heard the request Jan. 5, when they denied the request due to traffic concerns, Goulet said.

"They didn't think the intersection could handle the additional traffic impact," he said.

Amann said that since that time, the property owners and developer have agreed to pay \$115,000 to extend intersection

improvements east to the end of the property.

The intersection is scheduled to be widened by Wayne County to five lanes as part of the Canton Center Road improvement, which would widen the road from Cherry Hill to Ford Road. That project is scheduled to be let out for bids in April, with construction to begin in June, according to Alan Richardson, deputy director of engineering at Wayne County Department of Public Services.

"The improvements originally extended 250 feet east of Canton Center and 280 feet south of Cherry Hill," said Fred Steinhart, who represented the site's developer. "We propose to extend it 270 feet to the east, and 420 feet to the south."

Steinhart said the agreement is contingent upon site plan approval for the project.

Under the agreement with the county, the developer agreed to pay 20 per cent of the road construction costs and 100 per cent of the cost of designing and constructing the developer's driveways and sidewalks, according to Richardson.

It was under these conditions that the rezoning request was approved Feb. 16 by the Planning Commission and by the Board of Trustees Feb. 24, according to Goulet.

Nearby residents are still skeptical.

"The road improvements may be closer to a reality, but they aren't done yet," said Rose Lahiff, a representative from the Pheasant Glen Condo Association. "I have very little faith

that the improvements will happen. The corner is congested enough without adding more driveways."

Lahiff said she didn't believe the intersection improvements were a complete solution, and the rezoning should be delayed until the roadwork was completed.

"We need to know what effect the improvements have on the traffic first," she said.

Michael Yates, president of the Kingston Estates Subdivision, agrees, but said the he was opposed to the development for other reasons, as well.

"I think it will have a negative impact on the infrastructure of the township and set a precedent in the way they make changes down the road," he said. "You can ask just about anyone in Canton if they need another 24 hour market in Canton and they'll say no. The situation with traffic is already bad. It just sounds like there's nothing anyone can do, and that's a sad state of affairs."

The project will now return to the planning commission for a special land use request, according to Goulet. The special land use is necessary for a development such as a Farmer Jack or other grocery store located on property zoned for community shopping, he said.

"That's when we'll take a close look at the site plan and land and traffic issues," Goulet said.

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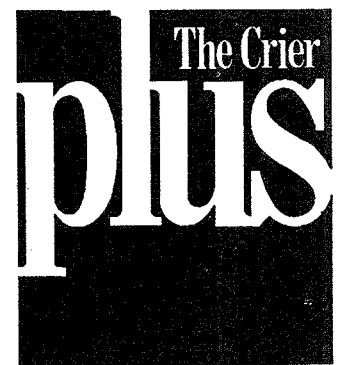
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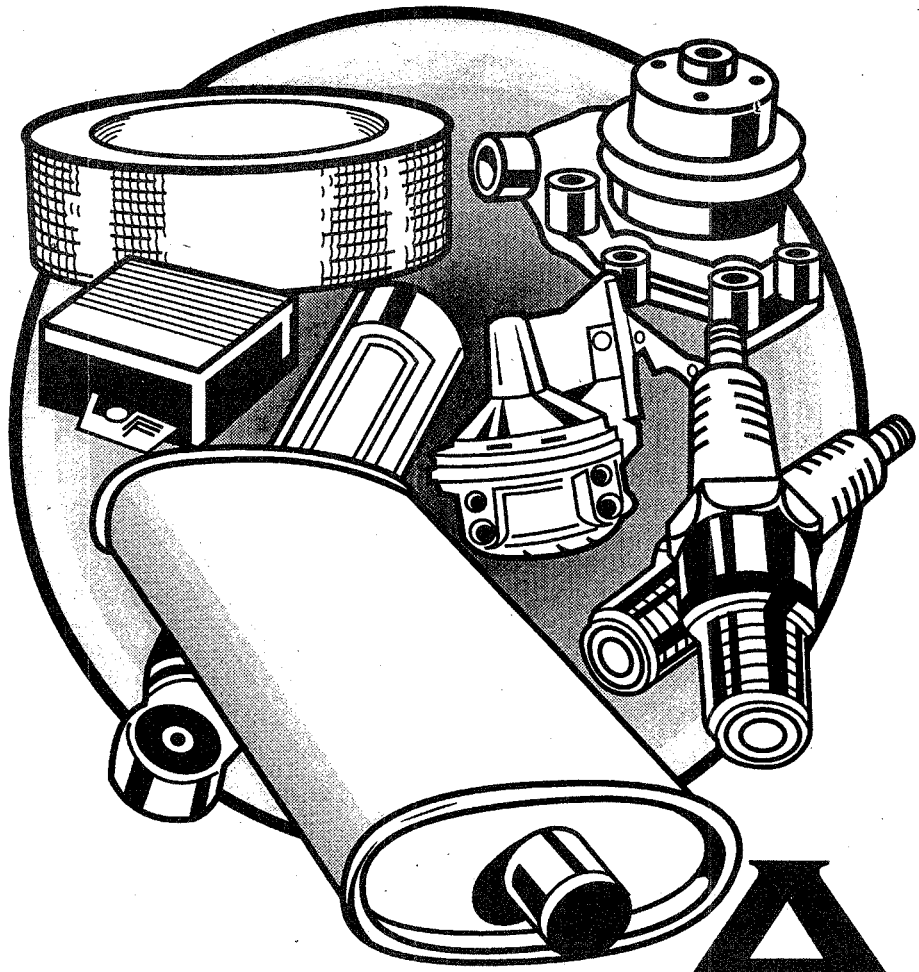
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The
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Plymouth City Commission: *Attendance troubles?*

BY BRYON MARTIN

"I'm furious."

They were simple words that did not need embellishment Monday night as Plymouth City Commissioner Colleen Pobur reacted to the unexcused absences of fellow commissioners Joe Koch and Dennis Shrewsbury.

Monday's was the second consecutive regular meeting of the commission to barely achieve the quorum necessary to vote and conduct city business. It was also the second missed by Mayor Don Dismuke, who was "excused out of town," for the Feb. 17 meeting, according to commission minutes.

Commissioner Ron Loiselle was also "excused out of town" Feb. 17. Dennis Shrewsbury did not arrive until almost an hour into the meeting.

"One wouldn't want to see this develop as a trend," Pobur said as she waited with commissioners Stella Greene, Dave McDonald and others.

The three half-jokingly discussed a motion to send their absent cohorts reminders about the City charter and its attendance standards. Ironically, though, there weren't enough commissioners present to pass such a motion.

The commission did not have a quorum until Loiselle showed up at 10 minutes after 7 p.m., just as Greene was ready to rap the gavel and postpone the meeting until the following Monday.

The meeting proceeded as normal.

When the point in the agenda for commissioner comments came up, Pobur described the unexcused absences as "rep-

rehensible. We all have jobs. We all have pressures," but still make the meetings, she said.

McDonald also voiced concern.

"We ran for this job, sought the public's trust. We owe them our level best to be here," he said.

Jack Wilcox, a lifetime Plymouth resident, volunteer and commission watchdog who is present at nearly all its meetings, called the continued absences, "unprecedented."

According to City Manager Steve Walters, two provisions in the City Charter address commission attendance standards, but are at odds with one another.

In practice, he said, absences are considered excused if they are due to personal or family emergency, are to attend engagements on behalf of the commission, or are for trips out of town far enough to make attendance at the meeting impractical.

Walters said he will send copies of city attendance standards to the commission, in response to directions from Greene who presided over Monday's meeting as acting mayor.

Absences also must be reported in advance to the mayor or city clerk.

Koch did report his Florida trip to Dismuke, according to Walters, but city "communications fell down."

Dismuke is in New York on business, Walters said.

"I believe Dennis (Shrewsbury) is out of town too, but I haven't made contact," Walters said yesterday. "That's unusual because he's very careful about that sort of thing."

Preventing another '78

Continued from pg. 3

washed out soil under and around the grate and have compromised its structure and safety, according to Sincock. The Earth Specialists' repairs need to be made before the area is again safe for workers and a backhoe.

"The retaining walls have collapsed. It fell apart during the last major storm (Feb. 17) and we've got to take action or we'll have a real problem on our hands," he said.

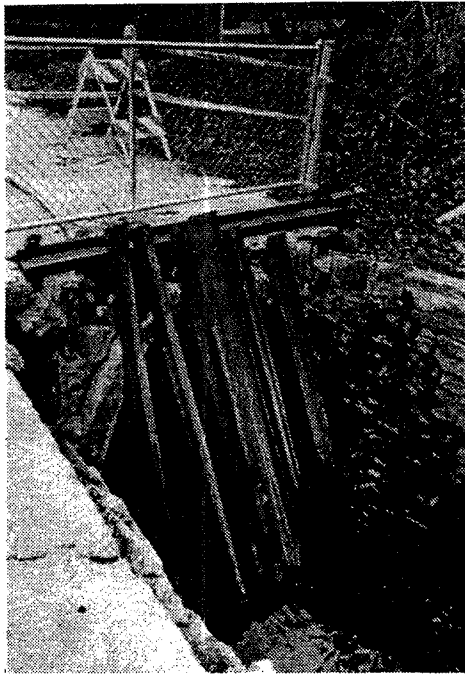
The flood of '78 was just such a problem.

During heavy rains such as those that fell Feb. 17, debris can quickly accumulate inside the tunnel and against the I-beam grate. Flow through the tunnel slows, and overflow begins. That's when the creek leaves its normal course and begins its tour of the city.

When rains come suddenly, before DMS workers can respond, flash flooding can occur as they did in '78, an instance Sincock said he remembers well.

"I was working part-time in Parks and Rec back then," he said. "It was a very substantial flood that came up over the grate and into town."

Crier coverage of that May 30, 1978 storm reported it as "the most flooding in recent memory." The Central Parking Lot (before the deck) was flooded; Hines Drive was closed and school bus traffic was disrupted. (Many cars) were stalled by foot-high floodwaters on Harvey Street."



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'What the majority wants'

Continued from pg. 1

more detailed run-down of the finances but by then it was too late.

According to Henry Healy, who attended the informational meeting, residents came in "with their shotguns blaring. They had already drawn a conclusion," he said.

Two-thirds of those who signed the petition objecting to the project live on Red Maple Drive. Of all the residents that live within the Special Assessment District, they would actually pay the least, according to Anulewicz.

Even after Anulewicz explained that

some of the residents would pay much less than they expected, no one withdrew their name from the petition. Healy said he understands why, "They wouldn't have withdrawn it in a public setting. No one wanted to step forward in front of the others."

"The irony of the situation is that these people are getting a really good deal," Anulewicz said.

Normally, Wayne County contributes only 20 per cent of the total cost to pave roads, with the residents paying the rest, he said. In this case, however, thru a special program, the county is willing to pick up 80 per cent of the cost. The Ridge Road project was the only one in Plymouth Township eligible for such funding.

As it stands now, the project is in

limbo, but not quite dead, said Anulewicz. Without the objecting petition, the project could have proceeded without approval from the residents. Now, in order to proceed, it must be pursued the "hard way," Anulewicz said.

"In the true sense of a democracy, it will come down to what the majority wants," he said.

A citizen petition, containing signatures from at least 51 per cent of the total frontage and 60 per cent of all those living within the Special Assessment District, must be presented to the township clerk.

A group of citizens, led by Henry Healy, currently are initiating this process. "We are confident that we are going to get that road paved," he said.



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If you witness an act of kindness, if an organization you are associated with plans a good deed, or if someone is especially kind to you, please write a letter to The Kindness Editor describing the act of kindness. We will gather the reports and publish some of them on a special page on March 18th.

The Community Crier staff will choose an outstanding act of kindness and present a \$50 reward to the kind person, and \$25 each to the runners-up. So if you know somebody who deserves a reward, let us know, who knows, maybe together we can help start new habits. We need to receive your nominations by March 13th to be considered for the March page.

Kiddie Kampus, Crew registration

Plymouth-Canton's Community Education Department announces registration for Kiddie Kampus and Kiddie Crew will be held Saturday, March 14 from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Canton High School cafeteria.

Kiddie Kampus is a 30-week, pre-kindergarten program for children who will turn four years old on or before Dec. 1. All classes are taught by certified elementary teachers. Costs for the 14-week, fall semester:

- Two day-sessions, \$280;

- Three day-sessions, \$350.
- Cost for the 16-week winter semester:
- Two day-sessions, \$320;
- Three day-sessions, \$390.

The Kiddie Kampus at Canton High School will hold an open house next Thursday, March 12 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. Please do not bring children.

Kiddie Crew is a pre-school program for three-year-old children whose birthdays fall between Sept. 1, 1994 and Dec. 1, 1995. Program meets twice a week, for 30 weeks. Cost, \$300.



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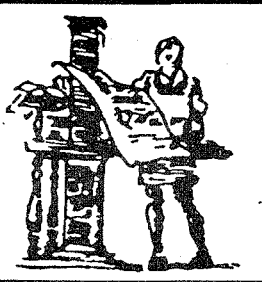
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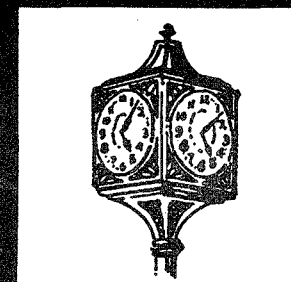




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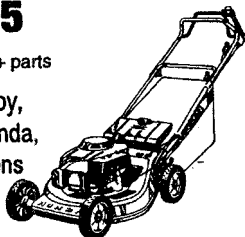


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NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

St. Mary Hospital is seeking retired medical professionals to serve as volunteers for a new screening program for newborns. Call hospital volunteer services at 734-655-2912 or 1-800-494-1652.

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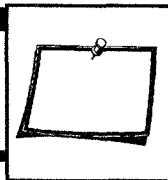
Growth Works is recruiting and training mentors for the Plymouth Canton Youth Assistance program. The program is aimed at mentors 21 or over. If you have two hours a week to help with reducing delinquent behavior in adolescents call Lynne Ponder at 734-397-3181.

NEW MORNING SCHOOL NEEDS CHILD CARE AIDE

Attention students and seniors: Plymouth New Morning School is looking for a child care aide Mon.-Fri. from 7-9 a.m. Could be volunteer or paid position. For more information call 734-420-3331.

Classic Country
AM 1480
Eight Classics Every Hour!

Artists listed: Faron Young, Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty, Patsy Cline, Charley Robbin, Charles Martin Smith, Statler Bros, Dolly Parton, Floyd Cramer, Skeeter Davis, Dolly Parton, Williams, Sr., Don Gibson, Floris Show, Charlie Pride, Ray Price, Johnny Horton, Presley.



Events

WALTONWOOD GRAND OPENING

Waltonwood Assisted Living Residence is celebrating its grand opening on March 5 from 3 to 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome and tours will be given. Call 734-844-3060 for more details.

GENITTI'S PRESENTS: "BEANIE BABY CAPERS"

This is an interactive show for anyone who loves Beanie Babies. In addition to the mini luncheon and children's theater, two Beanie Babies will be raffled off. The show will be presented March 7, 14, April 18, 25, and May 23, 30. For more information call Genitti's 248-349-0522.

CRAFTERS NEEDED

Crafters of every ilk are encouraged to apply for a spot in the 1998 Spring Craft Show at Schoolcraft College Saturday, 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.

BOYCHOIR OF ANN ARBOR CONCERT

The First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth is presenting a performance by Boychoir of Ann Arbor at 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 8. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the church office. Call 734-453-6464 for details.

CANTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANTIQUE SHOW

The Canton Historical Society is hosting "An Antique Show and Tell" on March 12, at 7:30 p.m. This event is open to the public and newcomers are invited to bring a few collectables and antiques of their own to share. Refreshments will be served. Call 734-397-0088 for details.

SPRING FLING MOTHER/SON HOEDOWN

Grab your partner and join in the fun on Friday, March 13 at the Mother and Son Spring Fling Hoedown at the Northville Parks and Recreation Center from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Ages 4-12 are welcome and tickets are \$18 per couple and \$22 for Mom and two dates. Enjoy music, dancing and refreshments and one complimentary Polaroid photo. Pre-registration is required by March 6. Call 248-349-0203.

DANDY THE CHIPBEAR

The first series of Dandy the Chipbear books, a character for children of divorced families, will be read by Michael Campbell at the Little Professor Book Store in Plymouth on March 14 at 1:30 p.m. Also, there will be a Dandy hour for coloring and drawing.

1998 TASTE OF NORTHVILLE BUSINESS SHOWCASE

The "Northville's Got Taste" showcase will feature 70 exhibitors from retail, service, and professional businesses in the Northville Community. This is a chance for business networking, excellent food, and promotional goodies. The event will take place at the Northville Community Center on March 24 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Does your Crier Carrier go beyond the "call of duty" ??

**What makes your Crier carrier so special??
Nominate your Crier Carrier as "Crier Carrier of the Month"**

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

The Community Crier Carrier Contest
821 Penniman Avenue • Plymouth, MI 48170-1694



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).



FALL FESTIVAL... The sights and sounds of Plymouth's Fall Festival may be seasons away... but the Fall Festival Board has already begun planning this big event. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)



Groups

PLYMOUTH FALL FEST BOARD

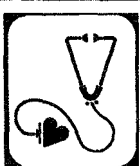
The Plymouth Fall Festival Board is meeting **tonight** at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Township Hall Annex (formerly Friendly's). All organizations who are considering participating in the 1998 Fall Festival should send a representative to this meeting. For further information call Curt Lamar at 734-453-7820.

COMMUNITY LITERACY COUNCIL

The Community Literacy Council is offering a TOEFL prep class for all ESL individuals. This class focuses on preparing students for the TOEFL test used by colleges and employers. The first class is **tonight** and runs six consecutive Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9:00 p.m. at Canton High School. Tuition is \$80 and the book fee is \$30. Call for registration and questions at 734-255-9255 or 734-416-4906.

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

The Northville District Library presents a series of free computer classes. The first class "How to buy a computer" is presented by Richard Truxall, coordinator of Continuing Education for the library network on Thursday, **March 12** at 7:00 p.m. The Northville Library is located at 212 W. Cady St. Call 248-349-3020 for registration and information.



Health

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Every Wednesday cancer patients and their families will confront the illness of cancer. The next meeting is **tonight**, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the hospital auditorium at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. Call 734-655-2922 or 1-800-494-1650 for more information.

FOCUS ON LIVING

A self-help group for cancer patients and their families meets the first Wednesday of each month at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. The next meeting is **tonight**, from 7-8:30 p.m. in the hospital auditorium. Call 734-655-2922 or 800-494-1650 for details.

PROSTATE AND BREAST CANCER SCREENING

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer a Prostate and Breast Cancer Screening Day on Saturday, **March 7**, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Screening is free and preregistration is requested. Call 734-655-2922 or 1-800-494-1650.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC FOR CHILDREN

\$5 per child for all vaccines available except chicken pox. The clinic is on Saturday, **March 14**, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at St. Joseph Mercy Health System located at 990 W. Ann Arbor Trl., in Plymouth. For more information call 734-414-1000.

GUIDE to Entertainment

Go PC-N

Your GUIDE to commercial entertainment in the Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. Also note community and non-profit groups' events, listed in this Crier under *What's Happening*.

CANTON CINEMA 6

734-981-1900; "Titanic" "Good Will Hunting" "As Good As It Gets" "Sphere" "Kissing a Fool" "LA Confidential" "Palmetto."

CENTER STAGE

734-981-5122; Thurs. - Sat.: Dance to mainstream music rock, alternative & more.

COFFEE STUDIO

734-416-9288; Wed.: Open Mic. Night.

ERNESTO'S

734-453-2002; Mon.-Thurs.: Strolling Musicians; Tues.-Sat.: Live Music in Piano Bar.

KARL'S COUNTRY CABIN

734-455-8450; Thur.: *Evil Genius*.

THE LOWER TOWN GRILL

734-451-1213; Fri.: *Glen Eddie Band*; Sat.: *The Hatchetmen*.

LUCILLE'S TAVERN

734-397-1988; Thurs. - Sat.: *Dixie Cross Road Band*.

NORTHVILLE DOWNS

810-349-1000; *Harness racing*. Every night except Sun. & Wed.

PENN THEATRE

734-453-0870; Now playing: "I Know What You Did Last Summer" (R) & "Anastasia" (G).

PLYMOUTH WHALERS

734-453-8400; Sat. & Sun.: Home against *S.S. Marie*.

STARTING GATE

248-349-5660; Fri. & Sat.: Live music w/ *Rick & Becky*.

STATION 885 RESTAURANT

734-459-0885; Wed. - Sat.: Keyboardist *Wally Gibson*; Fri. & Sat.: with special guests.

WEST SIDE SINGLES

734-981-0909; Every Fri.: Friday dances at *Burton Manor*.

These listings are free of charge and are accurate as of noon Friday, prepared for Wednesday's Crier. Bookings, reservations, cover charges and capacities may change, so please call to verify information. A venue wishing to be listed or to update information should call The Crier at (734) 453-6900 by noon Friday.

WEST SIDE SINGLES

Friday Dances Every Friday

at *Burton Manor*

Dances Every Friday in Livonia on Schoolcraft Rd., 1 block west of Inkster Rd. Exit 176 off I-96

ADMISSION \$2.00

with this coupon through 3/13/98

21 & over • Dressy attire • Cash Bar • No jeans • 8:00pm to 1:00am • Admission \$5.00

HOTLINE: (734)981-0909



PLYMOUTH'S ENTERTAINMENT CENTER



FRI. 3/6/98
GLEN EDDIE BAND

SAT. 3/7/98
THE HATCHETMEN

Lowertown Grill
Home of the Drooling Moose Saloon
195 W. Liberty • Plymouth
(734)451-1213

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Buy a Classified Ad for two weeks & get a 3rd week FREE!
CALL THE CRIER AT (734)453-6900

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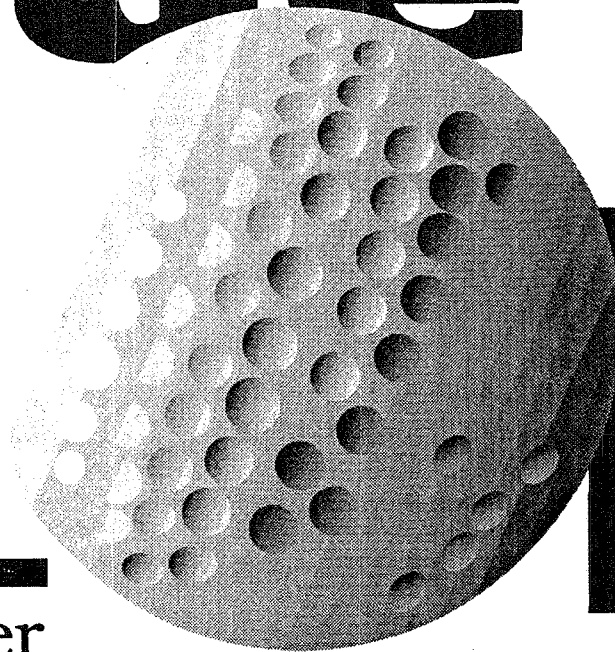
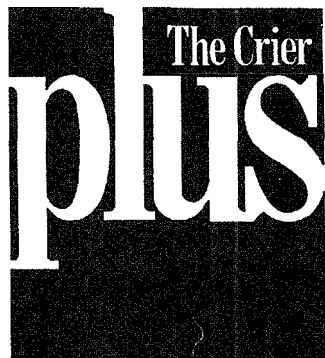
It's easy... just call (734)453-6900 and say...

"Charge it!"

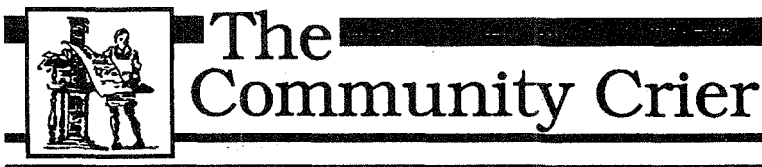


Golf Guide

Coming
April
8th

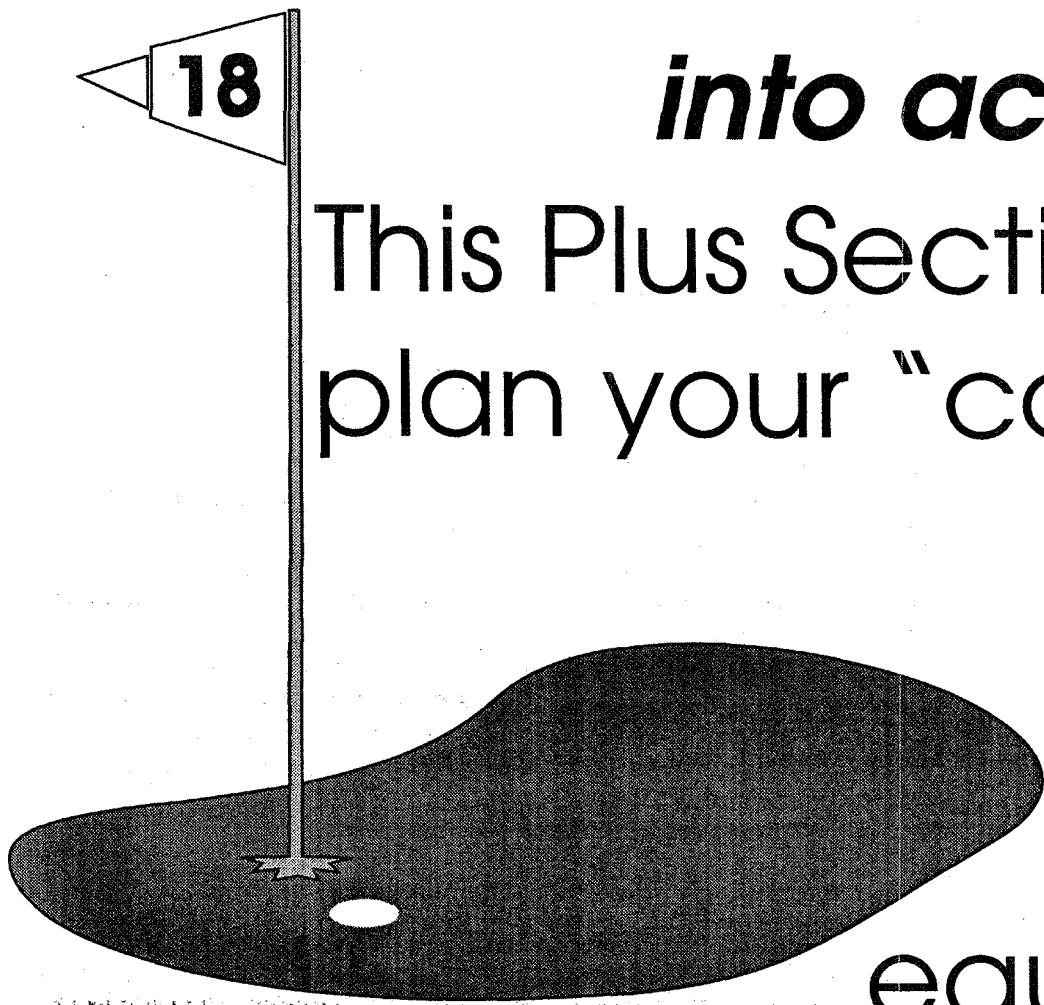


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***The 1998 Golf Season swings
into action this month.***

This Plus Section will help you
plan your "course" of attack
on Michigan's
abundant golf
facilities and
equipment outlets.





Community deaths

Obituaries

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

MARY F. BLANEY

Mary F. Blaney, a Plymouth resident, died Feb. 22, 1998 at the age of 85.

Mrs. Blaney was born April 29, 1912 in Alpena. She was an editorial proofreader for Western Publishing Company before retiring. She came to the Plymouth Community in 1968 from Detroit, and was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church.

She is survived by her sisters, Anne Featherston of Plymouth; Margaret Blaney of Farmington, MI, Therese Marie O'Brien of Jackson, MI; and several nieces, nephews; great-nieces and great-nephews. She is preceded in death by her brothers, John and Patrick Blaney; and her sister, Catherine Blaney.

Services were held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev. Fr. John Sullivan officiating. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Arrangements were made by the Shrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to Capuchin Soup Kitchen, 1740 Mt. Elliott Avenue, Detroit, MI 48207.

CELESTE C. VERBOS

Celeste C. Verbos, a Plymouth resident, died Feb. 22, 1998 at the age of 39.

Mrs. Verbos was born May 31, 1958 in Freeport Long Island, NY. She was a self-employed domestic worker.

She is survived by her mother, Christine D. Malone of Livonia; sisters, Dorene (Joe) Sheridan of Canton, Caroline (Dennis) Jackson of Livonia; brothers, Michael J. Malone of Burbank, CA, John (Catherine) Malone of Plymouth; and friend, Jerry Galdoni of Plymouth.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. George Charnley officiating. Burial was at Parkview Cemetery in Livonia. Mass offerings can be made or memorial contributions can be given to the family.

KATHLEEN JUNE KALOWICK

Kathleen June Kalowick, a Green Oaks resident, died Feb. 26, 1998 at the age of 34.

Mrs. Kalowick was born Aug. 27, 1963 in Garden City. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Michael K. Kalowick of Plymouth; parents, Thomas M. and Geneva J. McMullen; son, Nathan M. Kalowick of Plymouth; daughter, Nicole K. Kalowick of Plymouth; brother, Kenneth D. McMullen of Canton; sister, Karleen M. Mrazik of Clio, MI.

Services were held at Tri-City Christian Center with the Rev. Rocky A. Barra officiating. Burial was at United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to Tri-City Christian Center Building Fund 39390 Michigan Avenue, Wayne, MI 48184.

WALTER J. SROKA

Walter J. Sroka, a Westland resident, died Feb. 21, 1998 at the age of 84.

Mr. Sroka was born Feb. 11, 1914 in Detroit. He was a Tool & Die Marker with Detroit Diesel.

He is survived by his daughter, Carolyn (Patrick) Leap of Hollywood, FL; sisters, Mary Chrysler of Dearborn, Cellie Wojnar of Dearborn;

brother, Peter Sroka of Taylor, MI; six grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter. He is preceded in death by his wife, Helen Sroka.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home with the Rev. Jack H. Baker officiating. Burial was at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Memorial contributions can be given to the charity of choice.

BERTHA S. SHONVO

Bertha S. Shonvo, a former Plymouth resident, died March 1, 1998 at the age of 92.

Mrs. Shonvo was born Nov. 3, 1905 in Magog Quebec, Canada. She was a methods office employe at Michigan Bell Telephone and a member of First Baptist Church.

She is survived by many nephews and nieces; and her friend, Reid (Carolyn) Becker of Canton.

Arrangements were made by and services held at Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Paul White of First Baptist Church of Plymouth officiating. Entombment was at Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkley, MI. Memorial contributions can be given to First Baptist Church 45000 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth, MI 48170.

JOHN PAUL (JACK) BELLMORE

John Paul (Jack) Bellmore died Feb. 28, 1998.

Mr. Bellmore retired in 1987 from Ford Motor Company after 50 years of service. He was employed as a manufacturer's representative from 1987 through 1998. He served in the army during WWII.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Marie; children, Camille (Buzz) Elliott, Christopher (Laura Jane), Susan (Michael) Mikail, and Mary Lou Ely; grandchildren, Jeffrey, Molly, Max, Amanda, Carl, John, Christopher, Christine and Zachary; brother, Ivan Bellmore of Florida; sister, Olive Oldfield of Novi; and many nieces and nephews.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. today at St. Colette Catholic Church, 17600 Newburgh Road, Livonia. Private entombment will be at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Mass offerings can be made or memorial contributions can be given to Karmanos Cancer Institute, Plymouth Region, 744 Wing Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

LINDA KAY ABNER

Linda Kay Abner, a Plymouth resident, died Feb. 26, 1998 at the age of 52.

Mrs. Abner was born Oct. 8, 1945 in Detroit. She was a homemaker. She was a member of the Church of Christ in Plymouth for 42 years. Her hobbies included reading and baking. She loved her grandchildren and enjoyed her friends at church.

She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Charles of Plymouth; daughter, Kimberly (Mark) Kays of Canton; sons, Chuck (Lorrie) of Wayne; Paul (Lisa) of Plymouth; six grandchildren; and brothers, William Newbill of Tennessee; Bobby Newbill of Westland, Kenneth Newbill of Waterford.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with David Thomas officiating. Burial was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens in Westland. Memorial contributions can be given to Church of Christ, 9301 Sheldon Road, Plymouth MI 48170.

Mary H. Shestak, 80, retired from Anderson Company

Mary H. Shestak, an Ann Arbor resident, died Feb. 17, 1998.

She is survived by her daughter, Arlene (John) Jensen of Plymouth; one grandson; one granddaughter; and many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. She is preceded in death by her husband, John; and her daughter, Maryann.

Services will be held Saturday, March 7 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev. John Sullivan officiating. Local Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home.

Dinersty gets liquor license, 34 on health inspection

BY BRYON MARTIN

Environmentalists from the Michigan Department of Public Health will pay a follow up visit this week to Dinersty in Plymouth.

The asian-cuisine restaurant is in the process of complying with codes that health department inspectors found the restaurant had violated during recent visits, according to Don Edmunds, chief of code compliance for the division of environmental health.

Dinersty, which last month received the state liquor license it had requested through The City of Plymouth, scored a 34 out of a possible 100 points in its Feb. 3 inspection, according to Edmunds.

Part of that score included eight critical violations, the inspection report said. There were also 22 non-critical violations.

Critical items directly relate to food and restaurant safety, according to Edmunds, and require immediate response from those cited. Among other

violations, Dinersty was cited for hazardous meat storage temperatures and storage of poisons in an unlabeled container.

At an informal hearing Wednesday with Edmunds, he said, Dinersty told him that all critical violations had been corrected; a follow up inspection was to be completed by this week.

Dinersty management and owners could not be reached for comment.

"Major items have been corrected,"

Edmunds said. "Some items of a less critical nature are outstanding," he said, explaining that under state law Dinersty has up to six months to remedy those non-critical violations.

Edmunds stressed that the number of points in a citation report are of less concern than educating food sellers about safe food service practices.

They could "score as high as a 95, but a 5-point item could easily wipe out a number of people."

Schools committee looks for Lowell alternatives, growth

BY BRYON MARTIN

The last four weeks have been busy ones for the Plymouth-Canton community schools Housing and Facilities committee.

If designing ways to cope with the district's purported elementary and high school overcrowding isn't challenge enough, the committee must also figure a plan to absorb some 750 students who will be displaced if Livonia public schools takes back Lowell Middle School in 1999, as it has said it might.

The P-C district has leased Lowell from Livonia since 1981. The latest agreement expires July 31, 1999. "Past that we don't have any assurances," said John Birchler, executive director of business and operations for the schools.

Livonia schools are now in the process of deciding whether or not they'll need Lowell back at that time, according to John Rennels, Livonia assistant superintendent for personnel.

That district is now examining possible

changes in attendance areas and a transfer of sixth graders from elementary to middle schools, according to Rennels. They're also looking at growth in areas around Lowell, located on Hix Road south of Joy Road in Westland. "Any of these could affect our need for buildings."

In case Livonia does want Lowell back, Anible said, the committee — student's parents, members of the community without children, teachers, school administrators and Anible — are in the brainstorming phase of devising housing alternatives].

A new building hasn't been ruled out, she said. Neither have temporary measures such as distributing Lowell students among the district's four other middle schools.

"No solution is ideal, because our buildings are at their max now," she said, but it is clear that some manner of tempo-

rary facilities would be needed. "We haven't ruled anything out."

Since Verna Anible took over as facilitator for committee about a month ago, the 15-member panel has met every Wednesday to discuss the district's housing concerns, she said.

Their assessment of the district's continued growth and suggested ways to deal with overcrowding will also be part of the committee's coming report to the school board.

Expected to be complete by the end of this month or by early April, the report will also provide the board with strategies

for fitting 750 middle schoolers into a district suddenly short one school.

Whether Livonia will take back the school is still unclear. As soon as the Livonia school board has a sense of its needs, Rennels said, they'll notify the P-C district of its decision. "They've been great tenants and we would like to keep it that way. But things change."

No solution is ideal, because our buildings are at their max now. We haven't ruled anything out.
— Verna Anible
P-C Schools Housing & Facilities

Mueller aims at skipped issues

Continued from pg. 1

She said the district's current representative Gerald Law has failed to tackle issues that are important to his district. She says problems such as the goose population, the appearance of the Scott Correctional Facility on Five Mile Road and the lack of grade separation for area trains are problems Law hasn't addressed.

"He could at least show us that he was trying to help, and give us reasons why something wasn't going to work, but we really never got a response," she said.

Like Law, Mueller will run as a Republican. "I understand that the Republican party would not like the idea of me running against an incumbent seat," she said. "However, we would still have a Republican seat if I were in there."

Mueller says she has been active in the township for more than 15 years, including stints as president of the Plymouth Symphony Society and as a member of the Women's Club of Plymouth.

She works at Remerica Real Estate, where she is relocation director and part owner. "I wear many hats," she said. "I can look at things from many different angles."



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<p>92 VOLVO 940 GL Leather; Loaded; Extra Clean; Low Miles \$10,495</p>	<p>94 MAZDA 626 LX 53K Miles; Loaded; Like New; 12/12 Warranty \$9,995</p>	<p>93 TOYOTA CELICA Teal Green; Sharp; Moon Roof; Loaded; Good Miles \$9,995</p>	<p>93 JEEP WRANGLER Sport; V-6; Both Tops, Loaded; Like New; Low Miles \$11,895</p>



Crier Classifieds

**\$5.50 for the first 10 words, 20¢ each additional word.
Deadline: Monday, 4 p.m. Call (734) 453-6900**

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Curiosities



Rhonda-- you should have known that Ed wouldn't let you off on vacation until the GUIDE was finished

ZIPPER LADY! Enjoy your rest-- STEWART AND SALLY "Oh to be in England now that spring is here," wrote the poet. Just think, you will be there for the most glorious time of the year with the added joy of visiting your family. No need to tell you to enjoy yourselves. Love you.
DEAR MARTHA ET AL: So happy to hear your voice on the telephone and know that

Curiosities

Florida's disasters did not touch you-- though near enough. Feel so very sorry for those it did touch. Know that we can pray for people, but then you don't just stand there. The people who want to help are almost as confused in how to help as those who have a need. Your friends are anxious about you, and inquire often. Take care.
Geneva

MARY BLANEY passed away last week. I sent a dozen roses to her funeral and wept because I had not sent them when she could have enjoyed them.
LOUELLA B.-- Every day I meet people who are struggling with the decision to sell their homes and go into one of the many complexes designed for "so-called" old people-- myself included. Most of us do not have the courage you have displayed in your decision to enter Indian Village. Instead we are trying to hold onto the past, and afraid to face the future. How your friends and families must admire your strength. You know, of course, that You will never grow old as

Curiosities

long as you can accept change with a smile, and know it is another of life's challenges-- hard though it be. Bless you.
LIZ HARTWICK-- WELCOME HOME. So glad you are back at Tonquish Creek Apartments. Wish I could write in the same interesting way you used to for the Plymouth Mail. I try.
FRANK K.: a pulled groin muscle? Tell it to the judge!

Curiosities

Boy does Dusty work fast-- He probably wanted to be sure the wedding took place during a Democratic Administration
Chuck is one year older-- does that make him the old Speed limit--55--?
CHUCK got older--almost in Sharon's back seat. ("This is 1998 isn't it?"--Chuck.)
Amanda-- Crash tests are done on autos, not computers

DRIVERS NEEDED

- MUST BE:**
 - RELIABLE
 - AVAILABLE ON WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
 - AT LEAST 18 YRS OLD
 - ABLE TO LIFT APPROX. 20LBS.
- MUST HAVE OWN TRANSPORTATION:**
CRIER CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT
(734) 453-6900

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BABY SITTER NEEDED Tuesday and Thursday 8:45 to 10:15 AM. Call Plymouth Y.M.C.A. (734) 453-2904.

Bathtub refinisher wanted. Some experience needed. Good pay. Full or part time. (734)459-9299

COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION Support specialist

Fast growing Plymouth based financial institution is looking for an individual to join our information systems team. Applicants must have excellent problem-solving skills and be familiar with at least one operating system. Send resume with salary requirement to
Community Federal Credit Union
Attention H.R. 500 S Harvey P.O. Box 8050
Plymouth, MI 48170

Concession Help Wanted. Nights and Sunday Matinees. Apply at Penn Theatre after 6 pm.

CONSERVATION CAREERS
Forest rangers, Game Wardens, maintenance, etc. No exp. necessary. Now hiring. For info call (800)280-9769 Ext. 7636, 9 A.M. to 11 P.M. 7 days.

EXTRA INCOME FOR '98 Earn \$500-\$1000 weekly stuffing envelopes. For details-- RUSH \$1.00 with SASE to:
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Colorado Springs, CO 80918

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Hairstylists
Immediate full time stylist opportunities for licensed stylists in busy salons.

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- Complete health benefits
- All equipment provided
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•Management opportunities available now
Positions available at BoRics in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti or Belleville. Apply in person or call Krista at 1-800-668-8484

HELP CHILDREN SUCCEED-- consultant needed, work 20-30 hrs./wk., income \$20,000. Training allowance, commissions, plus bonus. Homemakers, teachers and community volunteers do well in our work.
Call C. Knapp (734)464-0931. EOE

High School student wanted for part time work in local sign company. Experience preferred, but will train. 734-451-0222

MAKE EXTRA \$\$\$ WHILE YOUR KIDS ARE IN SCHOOL Work at home mom, looking for mature woman to care for a 9 month old in my home. Nice Plymouth environment, flexible hours, 10-15 hours a week. \$7.00/hour.
Call Beth at (734)459-4412

Models wanted between the ages of 7-23 to model casual and formal wear in National's 1998 Detroit Pageant Competitions. No past experience necessary/ training will be provided. Call anytime 1-800-643-9701 for more information.

Part-time counter help needed in Plymouth
Perfect for retiree. Expert Tech Center
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PLYMOUTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has an opening for full-time clerical. Proper grammar, typing, flexible, able to work on several projects at once, computer/word processing, \$8.50 per hour, (734)453-6090.

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HELP WANTED: The Crier's '98 GUIDE is coming next week...and it is so chock-full of great community information you may need help to read it!!!

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Sports

Sports shorts

Seniors are invited to drop in at the Northville Community Center for morning volleyball with the gang.

All levels of play are welcome. It's a fun way to get some exercise.

Held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fee is \$1.00.

Plymouth Canton Junior Baseball League registration will be held March 7 at the Canton High School cafeteria between 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Ages served: 7-18 years.

The City of Plymouth parks and recreation department will again be offering the following adult softball leagues in 1998: Men's Slow Pitch, Men's Modified, Women's Slow Pitch, and Co-ed Slow Pitch. League play begins in April. For more information call Recreation Director Tom Willette at 455-6620.

Boys AAU Basketball try-outs for ages 13 and under will be held from 4-6 p.m. March 5 at East Middle School in Plymouth. Participants must have born on or after Sept. 1, 1984. Players who are in the seventh grade and were born on or after Sept. 1, 1983 are also eligible. For further information contact Bob de Bear at 459-0543.

The Canton parks and recreation department will hold **Adult Softball Registrations** all next month. Registrations will be held at the Summit, Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Men's returning teams can register today through March 13; Men's new teams, March 16-27; Women's teams, today through April 3; Co-ed returning teams today through March 13; and Co-ed new teams, March 16-27. Call 397-5110 for more information.

Two wins in basketball tourney

Canton bounces by Stevenson

BY ERICA D'ANGELO

The Canton boys basketball team took a win to Livonia Stevenson last Friday, 42-30.

The game started off with Canton leading 5-4 at the end of the first quarter, but in the second quarter, Canton surged into the lead 16-9. At the half, the Chiefs still lead 21-13, and only managed to score eight more points by the end of the third. Through the fourth quarter, they held as much as a fifteen point lead at times, to close in the game at 42-30.

Joe Cortellini lead the scoring for Canton with eleven points, and was the only one to reach double digits. Nick Cabauatan came in with eight points, and Dan McLean had seven.

The Chiefs, who have been struggling off and on all season with only one senior on the team, are now 6-12.

As expected, Rocks roll on past Churchill

BY ERICA D'ANGELO

Salem, who is the leader for the Western Lakes Activities Association basketball playoffs, was victorious over Livonia Churchill last Friday, 68-48.

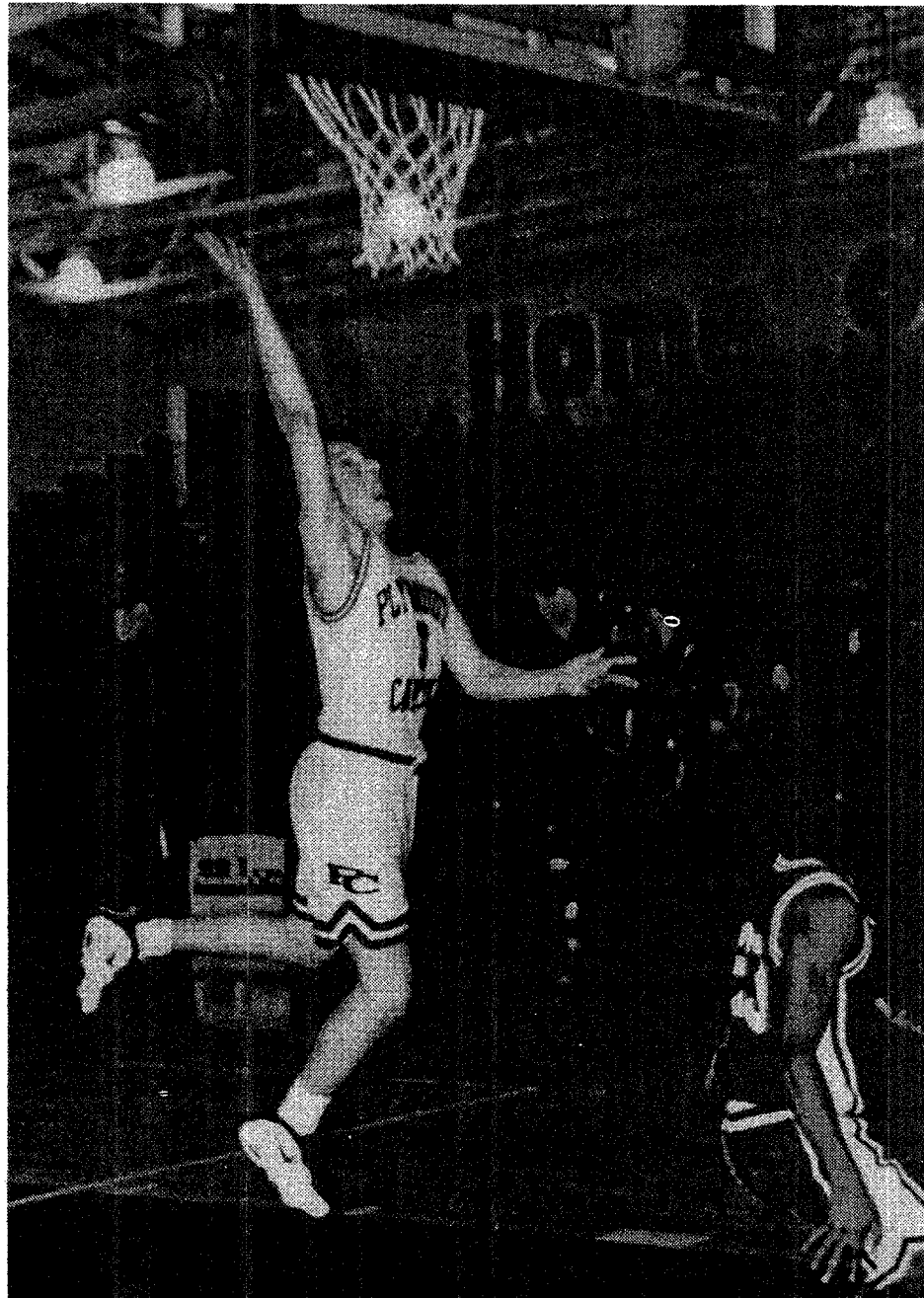
Salem dominated play of the game, capturing a ten point lead in the first quarter, to bring the score to 21-11. Nine of those points were contributed by Tony Jancevski.

Early in the second quarter, Churchill closed the lead to 21-17, but Salem then pushed forward again scoring fourteen points, bring the score to 37-21 by halftime.

In the second half, Salem continued to lead the game, and Churchill couldn't close the gap more than fifteen points. The game closed out at 68-48, landing in Salem's lap, just as expected.

Jancevski and Matt Mair lead the crush with thirteen points each, and Andy Power had nine points in the first half. Jeff McKian played a strong role, sinking eight points, and taking ten rebounds and four steals.

The Rocks are now 15-3 and will keep moving forward in the playoffs.



Despite early season woes, Canton is flying high so far in the Western Lakes Activities Association basketball playoffs. They square off versus Franklin Thursday night. J.V. begins at 6 p.m. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Salem, Canton perform in meet

BY KRISTEN VAN DUSEN

Canton and Salem gymnastics teams attended the W.L.A.A. conference meet last Thursday. The Chiefs placed sixth and the Rocks placed eighth, out of the eight teams that competed.

Northville-Novii placed first with 145.05 points. Hartland took second with 140.05 points. Brighton grabbed third place with 139.8 points. Walled Lakes followed with 132.95, Plymouth-Canton with 130.25, Westland John Glenn with 128.1, and Plymouth-Salem with 121.7.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON

"We had an excellent conference

GYMNASTICS

meet," said coach John Cunningham. "We broke 130 without our number one and two gymnasts [Liz Fitzgerald and Marcie Emerick]."

Amy Driscoll placed tenth with an 8.8 on the floor routine. Driscoll performed a difficult land on the vault. If she lands it again in regionals, she has a good chance at states.

Michelle Farnsworth performed well on beam and Nicole Vaagenes did well

Please see pg. 21

Whalers drown in Erie; drop 2 straight

Friday win over Oshawa still keeps team within four points of first

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

This note is for the optimistic Whalers fan: by this time next week the Whalers could be in first place.

And this note is for the pessimist: by this time next week the Whalers could be in fourth place.



That's how close the Western Division is becoming. Only 10 points separate first place London from fourth place Erie. And when the regular season ends less than two weeks from now, the division standings may be scrambled.

"The way the playoffs shake down, those four teams (in the Western Division) may be playing each other," said Peter DeBoer, Whalers' coach and general manager. For that reason, where each team places is important because of the way it affects home-ice advantage.

With two games this week against a hot Sarnia team, the Whalers are skating on thin ice. Two losses would drop them to third place, and would put them in serious danger of losing any chance for home-ice advantage during the playoffs.

Two wins, on the other hand, and they are right back in the hunt. Despite two weekend losses, the Whalers

trail London by only four points. A small hot streak, combined with a few London losses, and the Whalers could yet stand atop the division heap.

As the weeks wear on though, the hill they face becomes steeper and steeper. Not only have they failed to show they can win the tough ones on the road, they have also failed to show the consistency required for a

"I hope we're learning to deal with the pressure now during the regular season"
— Peter DeBoer
 Whalers' coach

strong playoff run.

Most noticeable has been their inability to hold the lead late in the game. Last week, they dropped what seemed to be a sure win against Owen Sound by giving up three goals in the final twenty minutes. And twice this weekend against Erie, they allowed four goals in

the final period of play.

"We addressed that (Monday) with our team," said DeBoer. "I would attribute that to a lack of experience and mental toughness. We haven't handled the pressure situations well, I think, because a lot of these guys haven't been in these sorts of situations before. I hope we're learning to deal with the pressure now during the regular season."

Plymouth 4, (at) Oshawa 2 — David Legwand notched his fiftieth goal of the season Friday night as the Whalers outbattled the Generals on their home-ice.

"We played a real good game," DeBoer said. "I don't think we've won there in five years."

Andrew Taylor added two goals and Harold Druken tallied three more points for the Whalers as the Taylor-Legwand-Druken combination continued to impress. "They are really playing well," said DeBoer. "There is no reason to break them up now."

Despite being outshot 12-9, the Whalers scored three of their four goals in the final period to secure the victory.

Robert Esche made 26 saves in the win.
 (At) Erie 8, Plymouth 2 — The Otters scored four
 Please see pg. 21

WHALEER WATCH

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WEST		W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
LONDON	37	20	4	6-4-0	78	
PLYMOUTH	34	20	6	6-3-1	74	
SARNIA	30	19	11	7-1-2	71	
ERIE	32	26	4	9-0-1	68	
WINDSOR	19	38	5	1-7-2	43	
S.S.MARIE	16	37	7	1-8-1	39	
EAST		W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
OTTAWA	37	15	9	7-1-2	83	
BELLEVILLE	38	22	3	6-3-1	79	
KINGSTON	33	24	4	4-5-1	70	
OSHAWA	24	30	7	4-3-3	55	
PETERBOROUGH	17	33	10	0-6-4	44	
TORONTO	14	38	9	2-8-0	37	
CENTRAL		W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
GUELPH	39	18	5	6-4-0	83	
BARRIE	36	19	5	5-4-1	77	
KITCHENER	26	27	8	4-6-0	60	
SUDBURY	24	33	6	6-3-1	54	
OWEN SOUND	23	34	5	1-8-1	51	
NORTH BAY	15	41	6	2-8-0	36	

WHALEER STATISTICS

Team Leaders:
 Goals: Legwand (51)
 Assists: Legwand (44)
 Points: Legwand (95)
 PIM: Boulerice (162)
 +/-: Legwand (+41)
 GAA: Esche (2.93)

CATCH OF THE DAY
 The Whalers are unbeaten this season when leading after the first period (25-0-4).

UPCOMING GAMES:
 • Thur. at Sarnia(7:30 p.m.)
 • Sat. vs. S.S. Marie at CSA (7:30 p.m.)
 • Sun. vs. S.S. Marie at CSA (6:00 p.m.)

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Legwand threatens Whaler record

Continued from pg. 20

goals in less than three and a half minutes during the third period Saturday night to hand the Whalers their first loss in seven games.

Down 4-0 after two periods, the Whalers scored two quick goals to open the third. The game was over six minutes later though, as the Erie front peppered Whaler goalie Robert Holsinger with a barrage of shots.

"I think Saturday night was a letdown from the Oshawa game," said DeBoer. "Friday was such an intense, physical game, we might have been worn out. Erie hadn't played all week and they were playing in front of a sell-out crowd."

On Robert Holsinger, who made 27 saves against 35 shots, DeBoer said "It never really crossed my mind to pull him. If I had thought after the second period that it was Robert's fault I might have pulled him. But, I think it was more a factor of the guys in front of him not playing that well."

Jesse Boulerice and Legwand scored Plymouth's two lone goals.

(At) Erie 5, Plymouth 3 — The weekend ended for the Whalers on a sour note, as Erie completed the back-to-back sweep.

The Otters erased a 3-1 Whaler lead by scoring four goals in the third period for the second consecutive night.

"It was a game we should have won," said DeBoer. "Their two power-play goals in the third scored on bounces that shouldn't have gone in."

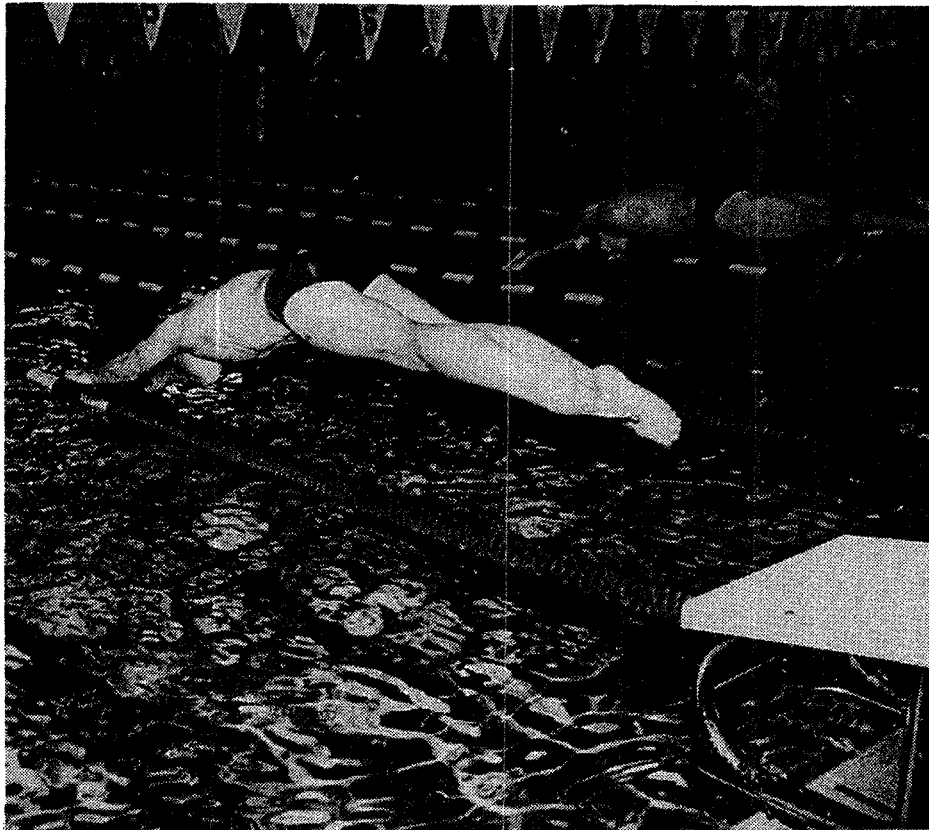
Druken scored twice and Legwand assisted twice for the Whalers. The loss marked the first time the Whalers had dropped a game when leading after the first period.

Chatter: Following the two games against Sarnia this week, the Whalers come home this weekend for two games against last-place Sault Ste. Marie.

"The games at home are must-win games," DeBoer said. "We are healthy right now, injury-free and suspension-free."

With six games remaining, Legwand still has a shot at the Whalers single-season goals record. Currently he stands at 51. The record, set by Sean Haggerty during the 95-96 season, is 60.

In case you're wondering the single-season points record for the Whalers is held by Bob Wren. He had 145 during the 92-93 season. Legwand, the current Whaler points leader, would need 50 points to tie that record.



Head first into states... Salem dominated the W.L.A.A. Mens swimming conference finals this past week. Standouts for Salem include Nick Corden (200 and 100 freestyle champ), Tim Buchanan, and Andrew Locke. Canton placed high as well, with noteworthy performances from Kurtis Hornick, Jason Musson, and Don LeClair. Several area players will appear at the state finals next week. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

W.L.A.A. Men's Swimming Conference Finals Results

Place	Team	Points
1	Salem	504
2	Livonia Stevenson	430
3	North Farmington	360
4	Canton	351
5	Farmington Harrison	260
6	Northville	244
7	Farmington	200
8	John Glenn	175
9	Livonia Franklin	158
10	Walled Lake	148
11	Livonia Churchill	129

Despite placement, Rocks proud of play

Continued from pg. 19

in the all-around. Kristin Schilk scored an 8.4 on bars.

"We were very relaxed," said Cunningham. "We are approaching our optimum performance."

"Those that performed did their best," said senior Kristin Brooks. "Even though we were without Marcie and Liz, we had a decent meet. There were many good performances."

PLYMOUTH-SALEM

Salem's top three performers were Janine Schmedding, Allison Bracht, and Ashley Heard.

Schmedding scored a 7.95 on vault, 8.0 on bars, 7.35 on beam, and 7.50 on floor.

Bracht scored an 8.15 on vault, 8.65 on bars, 8.4 on beam, and 8.15 on floor.

Heard scored an 8.6 on vault, 7.6 on bars, 6.5 on beam, and a 7.2 on floor.

Beth Steinhelper had an exceptional

performance on the floor with a score of 8.15.

"We were pleased with our performance," said coach Melissa Hopson. "The girls knew we wouldn't place first, but they had a great attitude. They obtained scores they liked for themselves."

"We were without one of our top athletes, Lindsay Hawraney, who re-injured her foot on the first event. However, we did better then we have in the past," said Steinhelper.

"The entire team tried hard," said Schmedding. "Hopefully we'll have it all put together for regionals."

"Despite our circumstance, we all did really well," said Kate Deroche. "We're working on perfecting our performances."

Canton and Salem will be attending the regional competition this weekend.

On deck

SALEM BASKETBALL
Friday or Saturday,
Playoff Finals, time, place,
and opponent TBA.

SALEM SWIMMING
Tuesday, Regional
Diving, time and place
TBA.

**SALEM
WRESTLING**
No wrestling this week.

**SALEM
VOLLEYBALL**
Saturday, Districts, at Novi,
beginning at 11 a.m.

SALEM GYMNASTICS
Saturday Regionals at
Canton, 10 a.m.

**CANTON BASKET-
BALL**
Thursday, Playoff versus
Franklin at home. J.V.
begins at 6 p.m.

**CANTON BOYS
SWIMMING**
Tuesday, Regional diving,
time and place TBA.

**CANTON
WRESTLING**
No wrestling this week.

**CANTON
GYMNASTICS**
Saturday, Regionals at
Canton, time 10 a.m.

**CANTON
VOLLEYBALL**
Saturday, Districts, at
Novi, beginning at 11 a.m.



Community opinions

Optimistic about Hines

I wasn't the only one that took advantage of the nice weather this weekend, although dressed only in shorts and a t-shirt, I may have shown a little more optimism than most.

For me, it was a Friday that ended a really, really long week. (The last page of the Crier's annual GUIDE had been put in the box earlier that day, marking the first free weekend many Crier/Comma staff members had had in more than a month).

The sun hung in a seamless blue sky. The ground slowly dried, and I decided to ride my bike through Hines Park.

Entering the park where Starkweather turns into Northville Road, I turned and rode east on tires gone soft (like my muscles) from sitting through the winter.

The park has seen better days. In some places, pollution from the river hangs in the air in nearly palpable clouds. The corner of Wilcox and Hines

Drive, for example, reeks of sulfur and sewage.

I rode past boarded up 'comfort stations,' restrooms designed to be elegant in their day, but now reduced to varying stages of graffiti-covered disrepair. I rode past muck and sludge so thick even the ducks got stuck in it. It was a far cry from the park I remembered from my childhood.

Much of the shabby look of the park stemmed from the season — everything looks worse when the greens of spring and summer are replaced by the browns of leafless trees and dormant grass. (Although the river, flowing along like antifreeze, had a nice, rich green hue to it.)

The rest of it is neglect and abuse, pure and simple. The park has definitely suffered too long by being funded through Wayne County's general fund. Money for improvements was often shouldered to make way for other

Off the cuff
By Scott Spielman



projects which probably occurred in Livonia, or somewhere else closer to Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara's sight.

Now, that's changing. The improvements currently underway in the park are funded through a special millage passed in 1996, which sets aside .25 mills specifically for Wayne County parks. Passing the millage and seeing the results could be the beginning of a trend: if you want any money from the county, you have to find a way to circumvent the county's jurisdiction.

This weekend showed me something

else, too. Even in its run-down state, the park is still a popular place to go. Many people jogged along the road, gathered in picnic areas or rode bikes on the paths in family-sized packs.

The potential is there. The new soccer fields at Haggerty and Hines are a step in the right direction. Now that the park has some of its own funding (although it shares funds with other Wayne County parks), the improvements will come more quickly, and the park will soon become a greater resource, and less of an embarrassment.

Of course, that could just be the optimism talking.

More than one message in Chase visit to P-C

An unusual event taking place tomorrow bodes well for the future... and perhaps speaks volumes about the intellectual integrity of The Plymouth-Canton Community.

When Bob Chase, president of the National Education Association -- the parent group of the local school district's teachers union -- steps up to the podium at 3 p.m. in Salem High School Auditorium tomorrow, history will be made before he even utters a word.

Chase's being here (with school released early tomorrow to enable teachers and others to hear his speech) at the invitation of both Plymouth-Canton Education Association President Chuck Portelli and Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Chuck Little shows that a new attitude towards labor and management pursuing a common goal is alive and well here. Most school districts are too paranoid, too controlling or just too "bunkered in" to accept such a major address that dares to question the role of teachers, schools and unions.

It certainly helps that Chase has used his presidency of the 2.3 million member NEA to foster the cause of "new Unionism" toward getting teacher union members, school board members, school administrators, and parents and their students all working together toward improving education in America.

But it's a sure sign here that his visit is marked by cooperation between the schools and the teachers' union.

Community Editorials
The Community Crier

The public may attend the address of Bob Chase, NEA president, at 3 p.m. Thursday, March 5 in Salem Auditorium.

The Plymouth-Canton Community showed its stripes during the Johnson Controls picketing — a neutral position by the community encourages labor and management to resolve differences in a proper way. (This is in marked contrast to Sterling Heights where the city has become a private vigilante squad for the Detroit Newspaper Agency during its almost-three-year-long labor dispute.)

The recognition of labor here even goes deeper with the local UAW's representation through the United Way and in other community activities. While Plymouth-Canton may be conservative in many ways, its independent thinking comes through.

Congratulations to the Plymouth-Canton Schools for hosting this major speech.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Sweet bells are back

EDITOR:
How sweet it is— to hear the bells from the Presbyterian Church. With all the world in turmoil at present, we can all reflect in prayer while the bells chime.
Thanks for the wonderful gift. I, for one, appreciate their thoughtfulness in "ringing dem bells."
HELEN CLINANSMITH

Thanks for flood help

EDITOR:
I personally would like to thank , Paul Reeves, Pioneer Middle School vice principal; his secretary; and Plymouth Township's School Central Maintenance Department for their quick response to our flooding problems.
The ditch and culverts behind our home were plugged and over flowing, causing water to run off into the yards of both mind and our neighbors.
This was not an easy job working in the cold and hard pouring rain.
I also noticed the Supervisor was out in the rain helping to solve the problem. This job was too difficult for the hand shovels that they had tried at first. within one half hour the heavy equipment pulled up and the problem was solved.
Two thumbs up for people who care!
JOE RINNA

Thanks for the camera

EDITOR:
The Plymouth Community Professional Firefighters would like to thank the Kiwanis Club and Sandy Groth for making the Thermal Imaging Cameras a reality.
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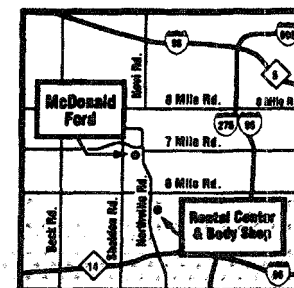
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Expedition	24 MO.	24,000	\$425	\$1,253.21	\$495	\$2,187.34
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