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New hockey crew brews

New Canton group would handle hockey concerns at proposed Haggerty sports complex

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton hockey players may have a new organization to go along with a proposed sports complex.

With a wary eye on development, the Canton Hockey Association waits in the wings — Canton residents and business persons are forming the association to help regulate teams that would play in the sports complex, according to organizer Wally Hill.

Hill has spent the past year assessing the need for an association, which would be a separate entity from the existing Plymouth-Canton Hockey Association, he said.

"It's coming along slowly but surely. It's a little premature right now because the sports park is about six months away from construction," he said. "The sense I'm getting from people is that they're waiting to see the shovel in the ground."

Hill said the association will oversee organizing hockey teams, interview potential coaches and perform other administrative tasks such as ordering jerseys and scheduling ice times.

The sports complex was proposed earlier this year by Griffin Properties, a Southfield-based developer. Although originally planned as a community ice rink, the project soon grew to include other proposed facilities uses such as a basketball gym, indoor and outdoor soccer fields and volleyball courts. Other uses are possible, too, but nothing is definite yet according to Scott Griffin, president of Griffin Properties.

Griffin said that most of the sports park's operators have been lined up, at least informally. He has several firm commitments from a variety of users, but declined to name any because he doesn't want to affect firms that have not yet signed on to the project.

Griffin said he has secured an architectural firm, however. Kansas City-based HOC Sport will design the complex. The firm exclusively designs sports venues, and ranks among the world's largest, Griffin said. Other projects they had or are designing include professional sports stadiums such as the new Tiger Stadium.

Griffin said the architects will be meeting with Canton planners about uses allowed in the park, which will be developed as a Planned Development District (PDD). Later

this year, early phases of construction could begin on the 20 acre site, which is located on Haggerty north of Michigan Avenue. Griffin said several of the facilities should be operational by next fall.

That would suit Hill just fine. When construction begins, he said he will begin to organize the hockey association more thoroughly.

Anyone wanting to serve on the hockey commission board, or business willing to sponsor a team can contact Hill at (734) 451-1538.

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McCotter defeats Ryan, Whyman

BY BRYON MARTIN

Whether it was sound political strategy, his Supermajority issue or a solid reputation as a County Commissioner, it worked. Thaddeus McCotter beat out Jim Ryan and State Rep. Deborah Whyman for the Republican nomination in yesterday's primary election.

According to unofficial returns from the polls, McCotter took 7,723 votes in district. Whyman took 5,510 votes, while Ryan won 4,598.

McCotter said Ryan called him at his victory party in Livonia to concede the race. "It was a very classy thing to do."

McCotter will face Carol Poenisch Nov. 3 in the race for the 9th State Senate seat. The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community's long and consistent record of voting Republican bodes well for McCotter's chances in that contest. Nonetheless, he said, he

won't be underestimating the Democrats' chances.

"It's been eight years," he said. "They want it."

His campaign for this fall's general election will continue to center on the issues he carried through the primary: tax cuts, smaller, open and accountable government. "It sounds cliché. But I haven't changed (my positions)" he said.

Even if he is keeping an eye on the issues and the Democrats, the better part of his energy will likely be spent "doing everything I can for Loren Bennett," who is up for re-election in the 8th State Senate district. Guarding the GOP hold on the 8th State Senate seat has long been a party priority in P-C-N, according to McCotter.

That becomes the overriding question when you're the favorite in a race, he said. "How do we make this work for multiple candidates?"

Poenisch wins soundly in 9th State Senate

BY BRYON MARTIN

Calling in from Colorado where she is on vacation, Carol Poenisch had a simple question last night: "What are the numbers like?"

For Poenisch, who soundly defeated Marc Susselman for the Democratic

nomination in the 9th State Senate race, that's the kind of race it was — down tempo almost to the point of nonchalance.

Both she and Susselman were first-time candidates who have never before held public office. Neither actively sought endorsements nor reported

spending much if any money in the campaign that lead up to yesterday's primary election.

Judging from the commanding victory over her opponent, however — Poenisch took 7,080 votes in the district versus Susselman's 3,814 — she had at least

enough name recognition to earn the chance to face Republican Thaddeus McCotter in the Senate race Nov. 3.

Most of that recognition can be traced back to her work with Marion's Friends — an effort to create legislation supporting terminally ill adults' right to die in Michigan. Poenisch started the group to put a right-to-die proposal on the November ballot, naming the coalition after her mother who died of Lou Gherig's disease. Before they met on the campaign trail, Poenisch and Susselman worked together through Marion's Friends.

If that race was noteworthy for her downhill coast to victory, though, the road to a November win over McCotter will be a steep and exhausting uphill trip. She will be a little-known Democrat campaigning on GOP turf. McCotter is a popular Republican with a history of public service, a long list of heavy weight endorsements and political inroads to Lansing.

She's both optimistic and realistic at once.

"I'm very excited. I think I've got good chances for winning the seat because of (my stances on) education and health care," she said. "But it's a longshot. I'll be happy to come pretty close and Democratic issues out there."

Law over Mueller in 4-1 landslide

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Maybe the next millennium will be better for K.C.

Even as the final results from last night's Republican primary for the 20th State House run-off were trickling in, K.C. Mueller had conceded victory to her opponent Gerry Law and announced her candidacy for the same seat in the year 2000.

"I don't want to let my supporters down," she said on her announcement.

City Commissioner Dave McDonald has also announced candidacy for the seat.

Somewhere across town, the incumbent Law was celebrating a landslide victory. Unofficial results show that Law clobbered Mueller by more than a four to one margin, 9,008 votes to 2,152.

The victory means Law will face Democrat Fred Dilacovo in the Nov. 3 election.

For Law, such a resounding triumph last night is a good signal for the general election.

"The winner of this primary has a big leg up in November," Law said. Traditionally, the 20th State House District has voted Republican.

If re-elected, Law will be the most senior Republican in the State House, a major point of his current campaign. For Law that holds a lot of possibilities.

"The biggest advantage will be whether or not the Republicans retake the house," he said.

For Mueller, she is still persistent in her claims that Law does not represent his district the way he should. Mueller used that claim as the basis for her campaign.

"I still don't think the local everyday citizen realizes how Gerry Law doesn't represent them," she said. "I will be watching our state representative very carefully over the next two years."

Mueller's campaign manager, Bill Joyner, put it more bluntly. "I marvel at Gerry Law's ability to lie and get away with it," he said.

Law maintains, however, that he does keep in touch with his constituents and his overwhelming victory last night proves it.

Both Mueller and Joyner contend that Law's last minute campaigning, including two critical newsletters mailed out the last week, hurt their chances in the primary.

"I think if the election had been held two or three weeks ago it would have been a lot closer," Mueller said.

Sullivan makes surprise showing in Canton

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The biggest surprise in the 11th County Commission primary — at least for Canton officials — was the strong showing by Democratic candidate John Sullivan.

At press time, Sullivan seems the winner of the four candidates in Canton, with 1,213, or 19.6 per cent of the votes cast in his favor. Van Buren resident Dave Parrott followed with 657 votes and Canton resident Tom Hartnett finished with 534 votes. Fred Bolden drew 388 votes.

Official results from Van Buren and Sumpter townships and the City of Belleville — all within the 11th district — were not obtained and the final result of the election was not known at press time.

Canton Supervisor Tom Yack was one of the Canton officials surprised by Sullivan's strong support in Canton.

"I don't really know anything about him," he said. "I didn't think he had a lot of support here."

Likewise, candidate Tom Hartnett said he was also surprised.

"I thought Parrott did a good job of developing the issues in Van Buren, and I stuck with the things I knew about, like the family court and the roads, but Sullivan was a surprise," he said.

If Sullivan indeed won the Democratic nomination for the Nov. 3 general election, he will face one more hurdle before claiming the 11th County Commission seat vacated by 21st House candidate Bruce Patterson, and that is Republican candidate Melissa McLaughlin.

McLaughlin, a Canton Trustee, also has public service experience as a member of the planning commission and the Downtown Development Board. She also has experience at the county level, working with 11th district in what she dubs "The complaint department."

"Everything from getting pot holes fixed and dead skunks picked up to the noise issue in Huron Township," she said.

"My experience in the basics of government functions and the township board offers me a more realistic insight than people on the outside, looking in," she added.

Patterson storms through House runoff

Commissioner elected by 3-1 margin

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The campaign trail continues for Bruce Patterson.

After his convincing victory over Republican candidate Patricia Fatyma, Patterson sets his sights on the Nov. 3 general election against Democratic candidate Ray Bailey.

At press time it appeared Patterson carried all of Canton districts, and won by a convincing margin, with 3052 votes cast. Fatyma ended up with 1038, or about 15.6 per cent.

"I thought the campaign went nicely," Patterson said. "I was on budget, had more volunteers than I deserved and a lot of friends helping me out."

Patterson said he was encouraged by the support of the voters, and hopes his strong showing in the primary will reflect well on November election against Bailey.

Bailey, 67, of Van Buren Township, is a retired union worker. His experience of 42 years working at the Hyrdomatic Plant in Willow Run give a perspective that politicians in general lack, he said.

"I thought the people needed someone to represent the middle class perspective. We haven't had that in a while," he said. "If nothing else, the people should have a choice."

Bailey has lived in Van Buren for more than 40 years, he said. He considers the status of the educational and road systems as among the most pressing issues facing the state.

"If we don't take care of our kids, who's going to take care of us? I don't think we're doing a very good job of that right now," he said.



As election returns come in, Bruce Patterson talks GOP politics with former U.S. Rep. Carl Pursell at The Crier offices last night (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

"The road situation can't get much worse than it is now," he added. "All they're doing right now is putting band aids on it. We need to look at a complete fix."

He'll face a tough candidate in Patterson, fresh from the strong showing at the primary.

"I feel like this is a promotion from the people I serve and that's the ultimate reward," Patterson said. "The people have expressed a great deal of appreciation for the things I have done. After working for nine hours at the polls today several people wished me well, and for that I will be forever grateful. It's an awesome privilege."

Nield found with 'Vote no' signs

BY CHIARA CANNELLA

Northville Township police said they were alerted to a suspected case of political signs theft Monday — election eve.

Public safety officers said they saw James Nield at the corner of Six Mile and Northville roads at 1:11 a.m. Monday. He appeared to be taking down pro-township millage signs, firefighters reports said. Nield is the husband of Martha Nield, vice president of the Northville School Board, which is in a lawsuit with Northville Township over building a new high school.

Questioned by officers, Nield said he was putting up "VOTE 'NO' TO TOWNSHIP TAX INCREASE" signs and denied taking any down any signs, reports said. Nield did not have pro-millage signs in his possession, police said, and police reported they found no evidence that he had been taking signs down.

Northville Township Police say they have reported the incident to the Wayne County Clerk's Election Division.

McNamara victorious over McPhail in County Exec race

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Unofficial results have Ed McNamara as the winner in yesterday's Democratic primary election for Wayne County Executive.

P-C-N results show McNamara with a landslide victory, more than eight to one over his closest competitor Sharon McPhail.

On the Republican side, Edward

Romanowski shows a slight lead over Herb Scott. Unofficial P-C-N totals: 7,435 votes for Romanowski, 5,787 for Scott.

It also appears both Wayne County proposals — the "Supermajority" tax

proposal and Proposition J for jail millage renewal — have won overwhelmingly in P-C-N.

All results are pending other Wayne County results.

Canton road millage fails by 800 votes

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

For the second time in three years Canton residents have been asked if they want to contribute local funds for road improvements and for the second time in three years, they have said no.

The strength of the vote was the biggest surprise to Canton officials however: as of

press time, the unofficial results were 4,286 for and 5,042 against.

"I personally thought it would be very close," said Canton Supervisor Tom Yack.

The issue was clearly a strong one within the community, with about 9,328 of Canton's 41,200 registered voters casting votes, or about 23 per cent.

Yack said there were no plans for another millage on the November ballot, and township officials will try to glean some information from the process.

"It's difficult to tell why it failed because we didn't get a whole lot of feedback from the public at the informational meetings," he said. "We don't really know why it didn't pass. We didn't hear that it was too much to ask for, though."

Canton's last request for road improvement funds was a bond request in 1995 that failed by 48 votes. The nearly 800 vote margin in this election cast a decidedly stronger objection.

"Some people may have thought that they've already paid their taxes and it's someone else's responsibility to fix the roads," Yack said. "In the future, we shouldn't hold our breath to think that someone else will pay, because it just isn't going to happen."

Yack did say that Canton would

continue to fund road improvements as they had in the past, by applying for federal aid, requiring developers to pay for improvements and with general fund dollars. Canton usually spends between \$500,000 and \$1 million from the general fund on road improvements.

Yack said Canton will also continue to foster a better relation with Wayne County to try and get more funds.

"We've lived with the roads for as long as we have. We'll have to continue to live with them this way."

Canton results tarried

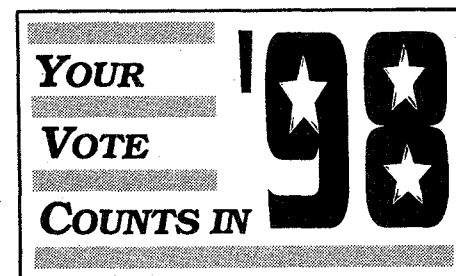
Continued from pg. 1

computerized equipment in both the City of Plymouth and the City of Northville provided results within minutes of the 8 p.m. poll closing.

A possible exception was Canton. With a total of 31 precincts to account for — including absentee ballots — Canton still relied on the punchcard method of tabulation. Results were displayed on computer screen in Township Hall until printouts could be obtained. Final unofficial results were not ready until almost midnight.

"We're actually quicker than we were in the past," Bennett said. "We used to finish tabulating votes until about 3 a.m."

Bennett said the results of the election are not official until approved by the election board of canvassers.



Voters reject all 3 Twp. millages

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

The voting results were posted at the Township Clerk's office around 9:30 p.m. last night, more than a dozen white sheets of printed numbers taped to a window.

Among those waiting for the results was Township Treasurer Ron Edwards. Edwards had been campaigning for fellow trustee K. C. Mueller earlier in the day, and now he was hoping to see if his efforts for her candidacy and his efforts with the Township millage proposals had paid off.

In one swift moment he saw that they hadn't.

"Well," Edwards said with a disappointed sigh, "the people have spoken."

In this case, however, he was only half right. The voters of Plymouth Township have done more than spoken, they've shouted:

"We don't want higher taxes."

Of the three millage proposals — 3.0 mills for increased police and fire services, 0.5 mills for recreation, and 0.75 mills for a WTUA transfer — only recreation made a respectable run of it.

Here are the final numbers with more than 6300 voters: Proposition 1 for police and fire lost by more than 1200 votes; Proposition 2 for recreation failed by 800 votes; and Proposition 3 for a WTUA transfer was shot down by more than 900 votes.

"I'm disappointed," said Sandy Groth, who co-chaired a citizens committee advocating a "yes" vote on the millages. "I guess we didn't do a good enough job of educating the voters. I think if people had truly understood the issues they would have voted for it."

Many at the Township expressed similar dismay at the resounding voter disapproval.

Township Trustee K.C. Mueller, who also lost her primary bid for 20th State House, said, "All we wanted to do was give the voters a choice, and the people's voice was heard."

"Apparently the old guard doesn't want change," she added. "We thought the time for the new families moving into the area had come."

Not everyone, however, was disappointed. Jerry Trumpka, the most vocal opponent to the Township millage proposals was thrilled with the turn-out.

"I'm real happy," he said.

Trumpka had criticized the Township for seeking such a large tax increase. "It was simply a matter of too much, too fast," he said.

Among the theories on why the millages failed several people noted the lack of a recreation plan and the size of the police and fire increase.

"The police and fire proposal was just too much money," Trumpka said. "I knew that was going to fail."

On the WTUA transfer millage, Trumpka blamed the voter's "fear of the unknown" for failure.

Bill Joyner, co-chair of the "Say Yes" citizens committee and author of the Township millage information letters, said while some issues may have been unclear, the millage proposals weren't unfair.

"In hindsight, there probably should have been better knowledge of how recreation was going to be administered," he said. "However, my sense is that with the passage of time people will recognize that the community has these needs."

It will take months before residents and officials can gauge the true effect of the millage failures.

Police Chief Lawrence Carey said the millage failure will inhibit his department's ability to solve more crimes and cover emergency situations.

"We just can't provide the quality type of services the citizen's deserve" without extra funds, Carey said.

Township voters will see no change by defeating the WTUA millage. The WTUA fee, for sewer access, will remain on the water bills. The garbage collection fee, expected to be covered by the Township if the police/fire millage had passed, will also remain on residents' water bills.

Possibly the most noticeable effect of the millage failure will be recreation.

Plymouth City officials are expected to meet Monday to discuss what a recreation millage defeat means to them. Several City officials have said that the City program, which currently provides recreation for both communities, will be severely reduced if the

Township can't garner their share of the costs.

That could force Township residents to seek recreation refuge elsewhere, possibly Canton or Livonia.

Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy said she doesn't see this overwhelming millage failure as a defeat of the Township Board.

"It's up to the voters to decide what level of service they want," she said. "That's been our position from the get-go."

Asked whether or not residents would see more millage requests on the November ballot, Keen McCarthy said "No. Not unless I'm outvoted."



Jerry Trumpka, lead opponent of the Township's millages, discusses their failure with Crier reporter Scott Goodwin after last night's election (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

1 of 3 N'ville Twp. millages passed

Parks & Recreation Dept., seniors and youth programs may be eliminated

BY CHIARA CANNELLA

The Northville Township municipal building was subdued as officials received good and bad news. And while some departments had reason to celebrate, their mood was dampened by disappointing verdicts.

Northville Township residents passed the 5.01-mill public safety millage by a scant 43 votes, and denied the other two township proposals.

The .58 mill shared services millage failed 2017 to 2431, and the .75 mill park development and acquisition proposal was struck down 1978 to 2433.

The unofficial tally for the public safety millage was 2276 to 2233.

"I think there was a lot of misinformation," said Karen Woodside, township supervisor.

People thought the millages called for a larger tax increase than the township board

actually proposed, Woodside said. The Detroit News incorrectly reported that the millage would increase 6.34 mills if all proposals passed, resulting in a 10.66 mills township tax.

The total township levy would have increased 2.02 mills above current rates to 6.34 if all millages passed because the current 4.32 mills tax expires in December.

The slim success of the public safety millage caused "an awful tense moment" before passage was confirmed, said Chip Snider, public safety director. He said confusion over a special assessment district may explain the closeness of the race.

Snider is looking forward to crafting a plan for the next fiscal year with funding secure, he said. "The first order of business is to target areas that need improvement and areas of growth."

Some voters didn't support the millage

because they feel commercial growth is putting financial strain on residents.

"We aren't asking for them to build a new Farmer Jack," said resident Ron Brotherton. "But if they're going to do it, they should pay for the improvements. There is an increased need for services because of commercial businesses, and they need to pay their share."

"It doesn't all have to be put on residents," said Karen Brotherton.

Other voters felt the proposal was reasonable.

"You need services and they aren't free," said John Willis.

Woodside said she is glad to see voters recognize the value of the public safety department. "This will support the current level of services," she said.

But the rejection of the other two proposals was troubling to many members of the

township board.

"The [township] board is very committed," said Woodside. "We will have to reassess."

The title of the shared services millage confused some people, she said.

There is a possibility the board will amend the failed millage for the November 3 election, according to Woodside.

"There is no other way to deliver the services we currently provide," Woodside said, than the millages.

The millage failures could result in the elimination of the shared services, Woodside said. These services include senior programs, general parks and recreation, and the Northville Youth Assistance, all of which are shared with the City of Northville.

"It's an extremely efficient way to run programs," Woodside said.

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Events

BATIK WORKSHOP

If you like color, you'll love batik! Stop by the Arts Council to see the wonderful works that novices have produced using this ancient Javanese wax-resist method. You just might get addicted to creating hanging works of art for your home. \$20 each session, all materials included. **Wednesday, Aug. 12 1-3 p.m.** and/or **Thursday, Aug. 20, 7-9 p.m.** Additional sessions as scheduled. For more information call the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Road (734) 416-4ART.

OLD TIMERS PICNIC

To be held **Thursday, Aug. 27 at noon** at Plymouth Township Park. Call Howdy Schryer for reservations (734) 453-0114.

MIDWEST STAMP SHOWS

On Aug. 21, 22, 23 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Midwest Stamp Shows will present another stamp show at the VFW Hall, 1426 Mill Street. More than \$500,000 worth of rare and interesting stamps, documents and old stamps on letters will be offered for sale. Entry to the stamp show is free, and all visitors will receive free literature, newspapers and expert advice concerning their stamp collections — or advice on how to start one. For more information call toll free: (888) 305-9918.

FRIDAY NIGHT CLOCK CONCERTS

Northville Arts Commission is sponsoring Friday Night Clock Concerts at the Gazebo on Main Street. This **Friday** Rick Eddy's Rockin' Oldies Band will perform. This free concert begin at 7:30 p.m.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES IN THE PARK

Canton's Summer Concert Series in the Park continues this **Thursday at 7:30 p.m.** with Hot Ice. Concerts are at the Amphitheater in Heritage Park, off Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill.

DDA'S ENTERTAINMENT ON US

The Downtown Development Authority of Plymouth presents Perry Hughes, who George Benson called the best jazz guitarist in the country 7-9 p.m. this **Friday** at Ann Arbor Trail and Main. An irresistible combination of voice and guitar and guest soloists.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY FLEA MARKET

The Canton Historical Society is holding its annual Flea Market Sale **Saturday, Aug. 8**. The market will be held on the grounds of the beautiful historic Cherry Hill School located at Cherry Hill and Ridge roads. Spaces are available for rent for \$15. No resale clothing, but antiques, crafts, collectible, garage sale items are welcome. Donations are also accepted. For more information contact Ronni Curtis at (734) 981-1475.

ILLUSIONS AND REALITY


Internationally popular illusionist Lou Leventhal will present his fun and highly entertaining program Illusions and Reality on **Saturday, Aug. 8**, at 8 p.m. at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road in Northville.

FIELD TRIPS


The Canton Parks and Recreation Department Field Trip **Thursday, Aug. 6**, will be to Rolling Hills Water Park. Canton Parks and Recreation playground leaders will supervise the field trips. Participants must provide their own lunch and or/money. Cost for the park is \$7.50/ The field trip is open to all Canton residents, who may sign up at the Canton Parks and recreation Office, or by calling 397-5110.

FALL FESTIVAL

Plymouth's non-profit community showcase is coming to town **Sept. 11, 12 and 13**. Enter The Crier's Poetry Contest by submitting a poem, any style about Plymouth or the surrounding areas to Poetry Contest, 821 Penniman, Plymouth, MI 48170 or email@Crier.com.



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Volunteer

HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The SHARE! Program still needs host families for students ages 15-18 arriving in August from over 28 countries including Germany, Japan, Brazil, China, and Poland. The students will be staying for 5 to 10 months. Interested Plymouth area families should contact Beth Schumann at the SHARE! National Office at 1-800-321-3738.

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Plymouth District Library seeks individuals, businesses, groups to donate the cost of a subscription to one of over 300 periodicals it subscribes to. Sponsor's name appears on front cover. Donation is federal, state tax deductible. Call 453-0750.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON HEADSTART PROGRAM

Plymouth-Canton Head Start located at Central Middle School is looking for volunteers to help in the classroom with group activities, recess and learning centers. If you have mornings or afternoons free please call 734-416-6196. Seniors and retiree's are very welcome.

CARRIAGE PARK SENIOR COMMUNITY

Contact Heather at Carriage Park. Share time, skills with seniors. Call 397-8300.



Groups

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA

Vietnam Veterans of America are holding their general meeting **Monday, Aug. 10 at 7:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held at 9318 Newburgh Road (Between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail). All veterans on active duty January 1, 1959-May 7, 1975 regardless of duty station, are eligible. For additional information, call Don Dignan (313) 446-3492 or (734) 525-0157.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITAN MEETING

P-C Civitan Club holds their monthly dinner meeting, on the third **Thursday** of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Water Club Bar & Grill. Call Barb Kobiela, 464-1129.

HEART CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The heart cancer support group meets the second and fourth **Monday** of each month, 7pm, at Northville's Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Call 422-1826.

GOD'S GOLDEN GIRLS

Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church invites women over 50 to join "God's Golden Girls." Meet third Friday of each month, noon. Free lunch with reservation. Call Pattie, 981-0286.

CANTON REPUBLICAN CLUB

Canton Republican Club meets on the third Thursday of each month at Cherry Hill School at 7 p.m. Call Melissa McLaughlin, 495-0304.

PLYMOUTH YMCA "Y" KIDS

For children ages 3-5. Openings for afternoon sessions. Age 3 meets Tuesday and Thursday, ages 4-5 meets Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Call YMCA, 453-2904.

PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCIETY

Society invites interested singers to join this year's performances, including Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzes and the Durufle Requiem. Practices held weekly. No audition necessary. Call Clark or Karen Chapin, 453-4765.

VILLAGE POTTERS GUILD

Guild is dedicated to advancement, education of ceramic arts; 25 members share space, equipment for pottery production. Classes each semester. Call 207-8807.

PLYMOUTH OPTIMIST CLUB MEETINGS

First, third Monday of month, 6:30 p.m. Mayflower Hotel. Includes dinner and speaker. Call Felix Rotter, 453-2375.

GUIDE to Entertainment

Go PCN

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; "Madeleine" "There's Something About Mary" "The Negotiator" "Disturbing Behavior" "Mafia" "Ever After"

CENTER STAGE

734-981-5122; Fri.-Sat.: *Dance to alternative music and more.*

CROWS NEST

734-459-4020; Tues.: *live 50's and 60's music.* Fri.: *Live Piano Bar Music.* Sat. *Karaoke*

ERNESTO'S

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

GENITTY'S HOLE IN THE WALL

248-349-0522; *Live Interactive Dinner Theater: "I Do...I Think."*

KARL'S COUNTRY CABIN

734-455-8450; Thurs.: *Live music: Big Dave and the Ultrasonics*

MARQUIS THEATRE

248-349-8110; *Live Musical Theatre "Raggedy Ann & Andy."*

MR. B'S PLYMOUTH

734-459-4190; Wed.: *Karaoke.* Thurs.: *Film Clips.* Sat.: *Live music*

PENN THEATRE

734-453-0870; Now playing: *"The Horse Whisperer"*

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

734-454-0178; Thurs.: *Plymouth Poets, Open mic* Sat.: *DJ Brian spins jazz.*

STATION 885 RESTAURANT

734-459-0885; Wed. - Sat.: *Live music with Wally Gibson;*

WAGON WHEEL LOUNGE

248-349-8686; Thurs. and Sat.: *Live blues*

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.

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WHAT IS VOLUNTARY PAY?

Like many community newspapers, The Community Crier is a "voluntary pay" newspaper: Your carrier is paid to deliver your paper even if you choose not to pay for it.

But let's consider for a moment what happens when you DO pay. In addition to being paid for each paper delivered, your carrier keeps 25 percent of his or her collections, and 100 percent of all tips. This first job experience teaches these youngsters valuable lessons in money management and budgeting and provides them with an opportunity to develop personal motivation. Crier carriers are also eligible to earn valuable gifts and prizes.

Crier carriers strive to do their best. Your carrier will be stopping by to see you at the end of each month. They would be more than grateful if you pay, but a friendly "I'd rather not pay" will also be accepted. Either way, a valuable lesson is learned; and you can be assured of continuous delivery. As you know, The Crier contains Plymouth-Canton community information and news, local ads, valuable coupons and more.

If you choose to participate in the voluntary pay program, the cost is only \$2.25 per month. And remember, 25 percent of this amount—plus all of your tips—goes to your carrier.

And if you don't want to receive your community newspaper, please call The Crier during business hours and we'll cheerfully stop delivery.

The Community Crier
Circulation Department
(734) 453-6900

821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth MI 48170-1694



Community deaths

Obituaries

For more information on listing a paid obituary notice in The Crier, contact your funeral director, or call (734) 453-6900.

EDWARD J. BOHANON

Edward J. Bohanon, an Ann Arbor resident, died July 26, 1998 at the age of 55.

Mr. Bohanon was born April 21, 1943 in Wayne, MI. He worked for Ford Motor Company for 19 years. He came to the Ann Arbor Community in 1987 from Canton. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and a former member of the Canton Lions Club.

He is survived by his wife, Gleece; sons, Frank (Judith) Bohanon of Canton; grandchildren, Melissa, Frank and John; and sister, Lawanda (Walt) Syroid of Canton.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with Kenneth W. Stoffers officiating. Burial was at Leland Cemetery in Northfield Township. Memorial contributions can be given to Leader Dogs for the Blind.

JAMES L. ATTRIDGE

James L. Attridge, a Plymouth resident, died July 28, 1998 at the age of 68.

Mr. Attridge was born Jan. 18, 1930 in Flint. He retired from General Motors (Willow Run Plant) in 1989 where he worked as a purchasing agent. He came to the Plymouth Community in 1982 from Livonia. He was a member of the Canton Calvary Assembly of God Church. He liked all outdoor activities such as golfing, fishing and kayaking. He enjoyed a warm fire, reading the Bible and his favorite books and was a faithful master of his dogs, Samson and Mariah. He and his wife Elaine were planning a trip to New Zealand.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine of Plymouth; daughters, Nancy McKendrick of Beverly Hills, MI, Lisa (Mike) Kirk of Dearborn, Laura (Eric) Thuma of Plymouth, Margaret Attridge (David Masko) of Ferndale, Julie Nordberg of Bloomfield Township, Carla (Chris) Wisari of Howell, Sarah (Terry) Schlusler of Howell; step-son, David James Philpot of Indianapolis; step-daughters, Michelle Ann Wilson of Irvine, CA, Jennifer Philpot of Chicago, IL; 12 grandchildren; one step-grandchild; mother, Hilda Attridge of Jacksonville, FL; and sister, Annabelle (Roger) Hehn of Jacksonville, FL.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to Canton Calvary Assembly of God Church.

ARDIS E. EDINGTON

Ardis E. Edington, a Plymouth resident, died July 28, 1998 at the age of 84.

Mrs. Edington was born Feb. 25, 1914 in Detroit. She worked for the Detroit Public Schools as a secretary, retiring after 20 years of service.

She is survived by her daughters, Karen (Donald) Shine of Wilmette, IL, Kathleen Badgley of Lansing; son, James (Judy) Edington of Plymouth; grandchildren, Jamie (Nichole) Sanifippo, Edward Shine; and great-grandchild, Ethan Sanifippo.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Gene McCornack officiating. Burial was at Acacia Park Cemetery in Birmingham, MI. Memorial contributions can be given to the Alzheimer's Disease Association.

BETTY LOU WALKER-WROE

Betty Lou Walker-Wroe, a Plymouth resident, died Aug. 1, 1998 at the age of 71.

Mrs. Walker-Wroe was born July 14, 1927 in Detroit. She taught school from 1949 to 1979 in Plymouth-Canton. She taught first grade and was a learning specialist. She presented several times at the Michigan Reading Conference. She initiated and led reading programs for the Plymouth-Canton Schools. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, the M.E.A., the N.E.A., the Michigan Association of Retired Personnel and the A.D.K. Teaching Sorority. She loved to travel, visit the ocean, and spend time with her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, James of Plymouth, son, Mark C. (Barbara) Walker of Winona, MN; daughter, Rita (James) Walker Kennedy of Plymouth; step-children, Sandy Wroe of Grapevine, TX, Amy (Corey) Hand of Long Beach, CA, Elizabeth (Tim) Gilmore of Phoenix, AZ, James M. Wroe of Columbus, OH; grandchildren, Jonathon Walker and Leslie, Walker; sister, Rita J. Ritchie of Dearborn; and brother, Robert Lyberg of Taylor.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Aug., 6 at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Tamara J. Seidel officiating. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home. Memorial contributions can be given to the Educational Excellence Fund Plymouth-Canton Schools Betty Walker Reading Fund.

MARY ESTHER THOMAS

Mary Esther Thomas, a Westland resident, died July 29, 1998 at the age of 63.

Mrs. Thomas was born June 4, 1935 in Munising, MI. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Peter W. Thomas of Westland; daughters, Patricia (Roger) Ann Ferguson of Redford, Pauline (Donald) G. Schmidt of Canton; son, Peter W. Thomas, Jr of Wayne; brother, Clarence W. Peterson of Detroit; sisters, Clarice Prunick of Munising, MI, Cynthda Rushlow of Skidway Lake; granddaughters, Doreen Green, Stephanie Ferguson, Angela Ferguson, Niccolle Schmidt; grandson, Carl W. Schmidt; great-granddaughter, Emily Green; and great-grandson, Alexander Aldridge.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Mark E. Auernhamer officiating. Burial was at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Memorial contributions can be given to the American Cancer Society, 29350 Southfield Road, Suite 110 Southfield, MI 48076.

THOMAS A. PALMER

Thomas A. Palmer, a Pontiac resident, died July 29, 1998 at the age of 51.

Mr. Palmer was born March 8, 1947 in Cynthiana, KY. He was self-employed.

He is survived by his son, Thomas A. Palmer II of Plymouth; daughters, Mona P. (Larry) Ortiz of Plymouth, Betsy Palmer of Plymouth; brothers, Charles (Donna) Palmer of Georgetown, KY, David R. Palmer of Cynthiana, KY; and sisters, Mary Ann (Jessie) Slade of Cynthiana, KY and Marsha (Larry) Nichols of Cynthiana, KY.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Drex Morton officiating. Burial was at Southern Michigan Service in Livonia.



Community deaths

Obituaries

For more information on listing a paid obituary notice in The Crier, contact your funeral director, or call (734) 453-6900.

Continued from pg. 16

GENE A. HARRIS

Gene A. Harris, a Plymouth resident, died July 30, 1998 at the age of 65.

Mr. Harris was born in Springfield, MO. He was a machine repairman at the General Motors Livonia Fisher Body Plant, retiring in 1996 after 41 years of service. He came to the Plymouth community in 1970. He loved to travel the country in his motor home.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda F. Harris, daughters, Tamara (Dale) Brown of Grass Lake, MI, Roberta L. Harris of Northville; son, Philip (Leisa) Harris of Newport, MI; sister, June Brown of Washington; brother, Jack Chandler of Washington; and four grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with Frank Cruise officiating. Burial was at Knollwood Memorial Park in Canton. Memorial contributions can be given to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI, 48154.

WESLEY B. LANE

Wesley B. Lane, a Plymouth resident, died July 29, 1998 at the age of 67.

Mr. Lane was born Sept. 11, 1930 in Lisman, NY. He was the vice-president of Computer Methods Corporation, retiring in February of 1993. He was a member of the Fraternal Order of United Irishmen. He loved to play golf and socialize.

He is survived by his wife, Susan of Plymouth, children, Patrick Lane of Hawaii, Colleen Jackson, Christopher Lane of Livonia, Daniel Lane of Detroit, John Lane of South Lyon, Kathleen Wansing of Livonia; four grandchildren; and sister, Audrey Jacobs of Wyandotte, MI.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Fr. Thomas J. Duffey officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the St. Patrick Senior Center, 48 Parsons, Detroit, MI 48201.

MARGARET M. ZAUHN

Margaret M. Zauhn, a former Plymouth resident, died July 31 at the age of 73.

Mrs. Zauhn was born July 10, 1925 in St. Mary's Kansas. She was a retired cardiovascular technician. She worked at St. Mary's Hospital for 30 years in the cardiology department. Her enjoyments were found in her children, grandchildren and great-grandchild and reading.

She is survived by her children, Larry Zauhn of Westland, Linda (Jerry) Hawes of Boyne City; grandchildren, Ty, Shani, Erin Hawes; and great grandson Davey Hawes.

Memorial services are pending at a later date in the Boyne Falls area. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to Angela Hospice.

1998 FALL GUIDE TO



The
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Sports shorts

Canton High School girls tennis begins Aug. 10 at 8 a.m. at the high school courts. A current physical is a must. For more information call Lisa at 207-8681.

Three Girl Scouts, trying to obtain the prestigious Silver Star Award, are hosting a **Sports and Crafts Day** for area kids at McClumpha Park in Plymouth Township.

The camp will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 12 from 2-5 p.m. and is open to all girls from kindergarten to third grade.

For more info call Katie at 451-7944.

Plymouth's Stefani Szczechowski, 13, was named to the Olympic Development Program's (ODP) Regional Team by the US Soccer Federation for the second year in a row.

Szczechowski, an eighth grader at Our Lady of Good Counsel, will represent the 13-state Region II team at the National Training Camp, Aug. 13-19. The camp will be held at the Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, California.

To earn the position, Szczechowski beat out 24 other goalies from 12 states at ODP's regional camp held at Northern Illinois University July 11-16.

Currently, Szczechowski is beginning her fifth season as goalkeeper for the '84 Michigan Hawks, a Livonia YMCA-sponsored under-15 soccer team.

Salem High School will begin holding tryout for the Boys Golf team on Monday, Aug. 10 at Hilltop Golf Course.

Proof of a current physical is a must, and should be brought to the tryout.

For more details and times call Coach Rick Wilson at 416-7762.

Sports

The 114th U.S. National Archery Championships



Competitors compete in the National Clout Championship Sunday at Heritage Park. Different than traditional shooting, targets are laid on the ground where archers must aim high into the sky, bringing the arrow down on the flat bullseye (Crier Photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

On the mark, get set, bow

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Archery is a quiet sport.

Despite a line of more than 100 competitors, when the first wave hits, it hits with a whisper.

The hush of an arrow as it's pulled from the quiver, the purr of the bow as the arrow is mounted and the near-silent whoosh as the arrow cuts through the air.

They come in a series, almost to a drone.

Hush. Purr. Whoosh. Hush. Purr. Whoosh. No cheering from the crowd, no bantering between players. Just a polite zone of competition.

Then with a belch from a loud whistle, it all stops and the next wave hits.

As the National Target Championships continue this week, more than 550 archers have taken aim on The Plymouth-Canton Community.

But have they done it too quietly for The Plymouth-Canton Community to notice? And for that matter, should the community notice?

Bill Kellick of the National Archery Association thinks so.

"If I had a chance to watch Olympic Gold Medalists compete in my own backyard, I would want to watch," he said.

And that really is the draw of this event (beside the fact that it's completely free).

To see the best of the best. Precision at its finest. The "World's Greatest" always has an

intriguing ring to it.

If you go this week, watch for Butch Johnson, number one ranked player in the world, or Justin Huish, defending U.S. champion. On the women's side look for top ranked Natilia Nasaridze.

Go Thursday to see the national champs

crowned. Go Friday to see the one-on-one U.S. Open Elimination round.

But you better do it quickly, because next year it may not return.

Without even knowing it, the tournament will have hushed, purred and whooshed its way by you.

Archery terms to know

If you are going to attend the Target Championships this week, you might want to freshen up on your archery lingo. Trust us, knowing the difference between a limb and a kisser could be crucial.

Bow Sling — A strap fastened to the bow or the archer's bow hand that keeps the bow from falling after release.

Cast — The ability of the bow to propel an arrow at a given distance.

Clicker — A thin metal strap mounted on a bow which signals a draw of exactly the same length of each shot.

Draw — The distance the draw string is pulled back.

Draw Weight — The force, measured in pounds, necessary to pull the bow string a specific distance.

Fletching — The feathers, vanes, or other devices attached to an arrow shaft which stabilize the flight of an arrow.

Handle Raiser — The thick portion of

the bow from which the limbs are extended.

Kisser — A raised or thickened area on the bowstring that touches the archer's lips at full draw.

Limb — The upper and lower parts of the bow above and below the handle raiser; where energy is stored before release.

Mat — Disk of woven straw or other materials that holds the target and stops the arrows.

Nock — The attachment placed on the bow string that holds the arrows to the string.

Snap Shooting — A fault in which an archer releases without first sighting and aiming carefully.

String Walking — When the archer varies the finger position location on the bow string with different shooting distances.

Tackle — An all-inclusive term for archer equipment.

Vane — Fletching that is made of plastic.

Canton couple packs light for championships



Jim and Jane Nickell have been together shooting archery for the last three years. Jim had began target shooting out of bowhunting more than 15 years ago. Today, however, it's almost all target for Jim. "I just don't get the thrill out of killing deer anymore," he said. (Crier photo by Scott Goodwin)

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

On Monday morning, as a warm summer sun peaked its early rays over the streets and businesses of The Plymouth-Canton Community, many of the contestants in this year's National Target Championship woke to the confines of a room at Quality Inn or the Budgetel.

That's fine, comfortable even with a

free continental breakfast. But it still doesn't compare to home. There's fumbling through baggage, waiting for the bathroom and wondering if the wait at Bob Evans is less than an hour to worry about. The everytime hassles of traveling.

For Jim and Jane Nickell, Monday morning was like any other. They awoke

in their own bed, in their own house. They too attended the Target Championships, only for them it was little more than stepping into their own backyard.

Jim and Jane are among the few competitors in this year's tournament from The Plymouth-Canton Community. While some competitors traveled more than 5,000 miles, across oceans and continents, the drive for the Nickells was less than three minutes.

And they like it that way.

"You don't have to drive 20 miles to eat," said Jane.

"Everybody I've spoken to loves it in Canton," said Jim. "I wish it would stay. Although I heard rumors it's not going to return for a couple of years."

This is the second year Jim has competed in the National Championships in Canton. It's Jane's first.

But Jim and Jane know the circuit. They've competed in more than a dozen national and state events, including ones in Las Vegas and Canada, over the past year. They know the archers, the judges and the organizers and vice-versa.

"If the Nationals were held in Florida I would probably still go," Jim said.

At last year's tournament, Jim won gold in the team competition. Along with friend Jim Davis, who this year is staying with the Nickells up from Kentucky, Jim and

teammates knocked off the Canadian team to grab the club-division championship.

This year Domino's pizza has agreed to sponsor Jim's team with T-shirts for the competition and free pizza all week.

While archery has been a passion of Jim's for more than 15 years now, it wasn't always his first love. From 1985-96 Jim threw himself into a much more dangerous sport: motocross.

"It was just something I had to do," he said.

But after several injuries and complaints from his wife over \$15 entrance fees to watch him race, Jim quit the motorcycle business.

To fill the void, Jim took up the bow again. Along with bowhunting, he had competed in archery several years before.

"Now, instead of broken bones I have to deal with mental anguish," a slightly miffed Jim said after a less-than successful round Monday.

Hoping to spend more time with her husband, Jane also took up archery when Jim dropped motocross.

Now it's in their blood.

"It would be nice to win the lottery and just do archery," Jane said.

Even their daughters, Sara, 11, and Ansley, 9, are getting into the act.

"Archery is really a family-oriented affair," Jane said.

Canton Rec crowns softball champions

Champions: Canton Ice Cream Center

Runner-up: ASAP Machine

After losing a division tie-breaker game versus Shark Club I Wednesday, Canton Ice Cream Center charged back through the playoffs, finally defeating ASAP Machine twice, 24-1 and 17-8, to secure the championship.

Division Champions


Red League: MSA Delivery
White League: Shark Club #1
Green League: Prudential


Final Standings


Red League: MSA Delivery, 13-1; Equitrust Mortgage, 11-3; Don Coleman & Associates, 9-5; Shark Club #2, 8-6; Canton Friendship Church, 6-8; Mobility Transportation, 5-9; Shark Club #1, 2-12; J & B, 1-13.


White League: Shark Club #1, 12-3; Canton Ice Cream Center, 11-4; ASAP Machine, 10-4; Shark Club #2, 9-5; Mexican Fiesta, 7-7; Fairway Club, 6-8; Greyhounds, 2-12; Geneva Church, 0-14.


Green League: Prudential, 13-1; 9 Jerks and a Squirt, 10-4; St. Michael #2, 10-4; Dental Diplomats, 9-5; Rose's Restaurant, 5-9; Fisher Group, 6-8; Rusty Nail, 3-11; St. Michael #1, 0-14.














A.S.A. National Championship

Girls 16 & Under

August 4 through 9, 1998
FOR TICKET INFORMATION, CALL
(248) 347-4000



Community opinions

Are we holding tightly enough?

It's not that hard to find: a small switch, right on the door, usually next to the handle. It's in the same place everyday.

And all you have to do is flick it. No 37-digit secret codes, just a brush with the fingers.

Yet some people seem to have a hard time finding the switch to lock their car doors.

Not only do people fail to lock their doors, they leave things on the seat. Valuable, desirable things, like cell phones, lap top computers, \$6,400 rings. Yes, \$7,000 worth of jewelry was left in plain view, in an unlocked car.

And so 16 cases of larceny from a car with no signs of forced entry have been reported to Northville City and Township police since June 5, totalling almost \$20,000 in theft.

Such carelessness strikes me as a little cocky.

Northville is not a small, isolated town. It is nestled among three major freeways, and the community is growing. Residents are fooling themselves if they think they can trust everyone who blows through the Office Depot parking lot or their neighborhood streets.

It's not that I care that much about cell phones. Frankly, I'd be happy to see fewer cell phones and more people paying attention to their driving. But leaving your car unlocked is such an agreeable way of getting your car broken into.

If you're going to mess up, make it a doozy. Go out swinging.

Get your window smashed.

There'll be glass all over the seat, maybe on the asphalt below. Dashboard cracked in two places from where the crowbar pried out the radio. Airbags gone. Perhaps the garage door opener gone too, for good measure.

But larceny with no force. What a piece of cake for someone looking for quick dough.

I say make them work for the \$60 they'll get for your sunglasses and wallet. Force them to take a risk while taking your goods. Don't just hand it to them. Make them draw blood cutting their hands on the glass. That's the way to go down fighting.

I parked my car on the streets of Washington D.C. for a year. A friend encouraged me not to leave my rainbow of rubber bands for my hair in plain view: "They're like bugs—they'll go after anything with bright colors." I was careful, but I still lost some things.

The worst part is not the loss of CD's or even my favorite running shoes ever, but the "worthless" tiny leather folio with the word "STAMPS" barely legible, embossed on the front. It was my grandmother's, my sole remnant of her elegant writing desk in her elegant apartment after the dust of family bickering settled.

I enjoyed mailing letters all the more because I got to think about her strong and graceful hands against the dark, worn leather. It made me feel close to her.

First inclination

By Chiara Cannella



I suppose it is in a landfill now, discarded by the thief who emptied my trunk.

That thief thought it was worthless.

But now my horrible secret: I don't really blame people for stealing.

It may be shocking to say, but as a culture, we place so much value in *things*, in the possession of stuff, we can't be surprised that everyone wants a bigger and bigger piece of the pie. And because money and affluence have become more important to most people than honesty and respect for others, people steal.

It's not that I care how many cell phones are stolen. But doesn't such carelessness reveal anything about our disregard for the value of everything?

There are the things that truly do not matter when we lose them.

But if we are letting those go so easily, are we holding tightly enough to the things that insurance won't replace?

Election lessons taught quietly

Election weekend and all is quiet — relatively.

It's with a mixture of relief and jealousy that I've watched the last minute campaigning happening in other races, such as the 9th Senate District and the 20th House race. Most of the politicking has been negative, a shadow not cast in the contests for party nominations in the 21st State House and 11th County Commission.

No matter who wins, the candidates should be congratulated. When they came to the Crier for our group candidate interviews, each one made one political promise that they kept: to keep the mud out of the race. They succeeded.

The temptation must have been there. It could be that the best way for Patricia Fatyma to succeed was to point out things Bruce Patterson had done, or not done, that would influence voters. Instead she concentrated on what she would do if she were elected to 21st House District. Part of the reason for her campaign was to get people interested in politics, and a positive campaign is a good start.

Likewise with County Commission candidates Tom Hartnett, David Parrott and Fred Bolden. Their debate, which aired on WSDP, sounded more like a group of

friends talking politics than a competition for a county seat. At the end of that debate, they all shook hands, promised not to run negative campaigns and wished each other luck.

What's more, they meant it. No reports of signs coming down, no daily updates of what the other candidates are doing, a la K.C. Mueller or Deb Whyman. Maybe it's because they thought the stakes weren't as high, or such information wasn't as readily available. Regardless, an important lesson was learned about how to campaign, and they should be congratulated on keeping the mud out of the race.

Another lesson learned this election year is when not to ask for public money: When the public body is asking for money.

When Burton-Katzman developers asked for \$3 million in bonds to help get their Ford Road mega-development project off the ground, they knew they would have to overcome a number of impediments. Wetlands regulation permits, state right-of-ways, dealing with more than a dozen landowners and securing a variance from Canton's tree ordinance were some of the obstacles they foresaw.

Bad timing was one they didn't.

Two weeks ago, Canton's Board of

Trustees adopted a 'Sense of the Board' resolution, something they had never done before. The rationale was to go on record and take action on something they hadn't officially been asked to take action on.

The reason was because Burton Katzman's request for public funds threatened the 2 mill increase for road improvements Canton had on yesterday's ballot. At the township's informational millage on the proposed meetings, the question kept coming up: Why do you want more money for roads if you have money to give to developers?

The answer is that it's a different kind of

funding. But with the primary looming close, it was best not to take chances.

In their defense, the board made the right decision. With the amount of development already going on in Canton, contributing money to one developer for a new shopping center — no matter how upscale it is, or what it contained — would be a tough sell.

Still, if it had not been an election year and the roads were not in the equation, the DDA would have had the chance to give their recommendation and Burton-Katzman would have had the chance to give their presentation.

But that's politics, quiet or not.

Off the cuff

By Scott Spielman



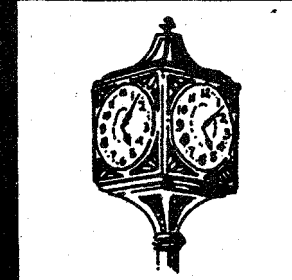
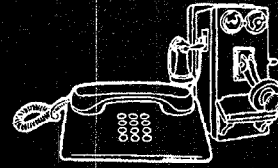
No matter who wins, the candidates should be congratulated. Each one made a promise they kept: to keep mud out of the race



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