

Growth in The P-C-N Community

plus

Northville
Downs
50 years of racing

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

The Community Crier

50¢



Vol. 19 No. 49

©PCCC Inc.

December 30, 1992

Hotel in receivership; city caught unaware



'We're still open'

the Mayflower Hotel

Bed 'n Breakfast

Operated by the Lorenz Family Since 1939
827 W. Ann Arbor Trail at Main Street
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
(313) 453-1620

December 28, 1992

Don't give up the ship! My orders come from the man who loved The Plymouth Community and Mayflower equally. That man was Ralph Lorenz. With that in mind, I have assumed the title of general manager, while Creon's full time responsibilities will be exerted to raise venture capital.

For the next six months, Scott, Creon and I have the exclusive right to redeem the hotel from the receiver. We will leave no stone unturned in our endeavor. Our mission, (to raise \$1.5 million) can be accomplished in less than six months.

The bank, the receiver and the community have all been extremely supportive in their efforts to keep the Mayflower in the Lorenz family (Creon has long been considered family). When all is said and done, everything will work out in the end.

The hotel and restaurants will remain open, while the Round Table Club and the Meeting House are totally unaffected. These two entities, are not, and will not, be in receivership, or bankruptcy.

The entire Lorenz family would like to express its sincerest appreciation for the much needed and continued support for the Mayflower.

RANDALL M. LORENZ

BY AMY KIDWELL and
THE CRIER STAFF
For the first time since 1939, the Mayflower Hotel is being operated by someone outside the Lorenz family. On Dec. 21, the hotel was placed in receivership.

In the meantime, the hotel and its restaurants remain open for business. Operation of the Mayflower Meeting House and the private Round Table Club are unaffected, say hotel spokesmen.

After almost a year of operating under a Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization plan, the Mayflower II (a Michigan co-partnership which owns the hotel-related real estate west of Main Street) and Heritage Federal Savings Bank of Taylor separately filed motions to dismiss the bankruptcy case.

The motions were granted Nov. 3 by federal bankruptcy Judge Ray Reynolds Graves.

As part of the deal, the hotel was placed in court-ordered receivership on Dec. 21 and, two days later, its longtime general manager, Creon Smith, resigned.

Please see pg. 9

Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street
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When

Where

Why

How

What

Who



The '93 Guide Knows

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Former Canton fire chief files suit over retirement

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

Former Canton Fire Chief Melvin Paulun has filed a breach of contract lawsuit against the township alleging that the township reneged on agreed retirement benefits.

According to his lawsuit, filed in Wayne County Circuit Court, Paulun is seeking benefits he claims he was promised by the township and that he is entitled to under the personnel policy manual.

Paulun's attorney, Steve Pitzer, said that the former chief did not bring the suit out of malice.

"Mr. Paulun didn't think he'd be involved in a lawsuit at his age," Pitzer said. "He's not the lawsuit type of guy."

After being employed by the township for 28 years, Paulun developed heart problems, and in October 1991, Pitzer said Paulun was advised by three township officials that he would receive 18 months of short-term disability benefits if he applied for early disability retirement rather than just take the 18 months off.

The three, according to Pitzer, are Public Safety Director John Santamauro, Administrative Services Director Dan Durack and personnel analyst Dave Medley.

The contract in question is the Merit System Commission Personnel Policy Manual.

According to the lawsuit, the township promised and was obligated by contract to provide to Paulun pay and fringe benefits that included pension contribution, life insurance and dental and optical coverage.

The suit goes on to state that the township paid Paulun as per its agreement until January 1992, but without contributing fringe benefits or pension contributions.

According to the suit, after six months of short-term sick leave benefits, the township stopped payment of those benefits in April and only continued payment of the disability retirement benefits.

Please see pg. 7



Artist Wendy Harless may not be well-known, but her work is — such as this full-color rendition she did for the Nov. 25 Community Crier. (Crier photo by Erik Lukaszik)

P-C Jaycees looking to extend reach into Canton

BY CRAIG FARRAND

Its name is the Plymouth-Canton Jaycees, but its top officials want to emphasize that the second part of their title is just as important as the first.

Prompted in part by a recent Crier article examining the role of the Canton Community Foundation, three Jaycee officers not only responded to specific points of that article which referred to the Jaycees, but also took the opportunity to highlight their goals and their relationship with Canton.

In the Dec. 19 Community Crier report on the Foundation, Executive Director R. William Joyner was quoted as saying that the Jaycees had approached his organization for help with their fall haunted house project.

Joyner said he then arranged for students involved in the school district's Close-Up program to help out, and in turn, the Jaycees made a \$2,000 contribution to the program.

"Not true," said Jaycee President Kristin Rowe. "Joyner had nothing to do with us hooking up with Close-Up."

"We got with Close-Up last year, and had already lined up some Close-Up kids (to help them) through the program organizer," she said.

Rowe, and Don McDurmon, the Jaycee's community development vice president, both said that their group had approach Joyner about helping — but only in helping with clearing up problems they had encountered with Canton officials over the haunted house itself.

"We had started getting frustrated," McDurmon said, "so we hooked up with Bill at the Fall Festival and hold him we were having some problems."

"He knew people in Canton, and the next thing we knew he had gotten with (Canton Supervisor) Tom Yack and Yack handed us the house," McDurmon said.

Nevertheless, the relationship between the Jaycees and the Foundation does go back several years: Scott Kappler, chairman of the Jaycee board, said "The Foundation really supported the Jaycees when we tried to get re-established in Canton."

"They held a membership night for us

La artiste

You've seen this woman's work and probably never knew

BY AMY KIDWELL

Wendy Harless.

The name may not sound familiar, but her work is:

Many people in the community have seen her work adorn city streets, readers of *The Community Crier* see her work in every edition and local high school students see

her work everyday.

In fact, merchants and people in Boston have also seen her work.

Harless is a 22-year-old artist who grew up in the community and works at COMMA, The Crier's production arm.

Harless' interest in art started when she was a child. She said she

remembers drawing pictures for her older sister.

"She wanted me to draw her stuff just for the heck of it," Harless said, "I've drawn all my life."

"I've always enjoyed it, and my mom has saved all my work."

Her unending creativity allows

Please see pg. 7

In some editions of today's Crier look for a **NORTHVILLE DOWNS** 50 Years of Racing Special Golden Keepsake Edition

The Community Crier

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WHAT clubs are active in the area? Answer: See pages 93 through 97 of The '92 Guide!

WHERE do I catch the bus to go downtown Detroit? Answer: See pg. 77 of The '92 Guide!

HOME ST.

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Greeting new neighbors is a tradition with WELCOME WAGON - "America's Neighborhood Tradition." I'd like to visit you. To say "Hi" and present gifts and greetings from community-minded businesses. I'll also present invitations you can redeem for more gifts. And it's all free. A WELCOME WAGON visit is a special treat to help you get settled and feeling more "at home." A handy get-together is easy to arrange. Just call me.



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459-1797

CEP marching band makes Fiesta parade

BY CRAIG FARRAND

If you're anywhere near a television set early New Year's morning, grab a cup of coffee, tune in Channel 4 around 9 o'clock and pay attention:

The CEP marching band should be strutting across your screen in no time at all.

Although it won't be live -- the actual Fiesta Bowl parade from Tempe, Ariz. is the night before -- the thrill should be the same for area parents and boosters of the band.

About 200 band members, 15 chaperones, 14 staff members and between 140 and 150 parents left Sunday for the southwest.

During the band's stay in Tempe, not only will it be practicing for the New Year's Eve parade, but will also have been preparing for yesterday's square off against 10 other nationally renowned marching bands.

A national champion itself in two of the last three years -- finishing third this year -- the marching band's trip to Tempe wasn't a lock: Although invited to play, it came down to a matter of money -- with the band's highly successful booster club coming through once again.

According to Jim Vassallo, chairman of the booster club's finance committee, the organization was in a fund-raising mode right up to the end, helping offset part of the \$868 per musician cost of the trip.

In addition to the trip out west,

however, Vassallo said his group also is heavily involved throughout the rest of the year, raising almost another \$400 per musician to help the band compete in national finals, pay for buses and hire professionals to write its shows and choreograph its routines.

For this trip, the boosters are paying part of the costs for the students and for the staff personnel; all chaperones and parents pay their own way, Vassallo said.

Still, coming up with the money for the trip has not been easy, leaving the booster fund \$9,000 to \$10,000 short of their goal, he said.

For those wanting to make a tax-deductible contribution to the club, checks can be mailed to the Plymouth-Canton Music Boosters, P.O. Box 87026, Canton, MI 48187-0026.

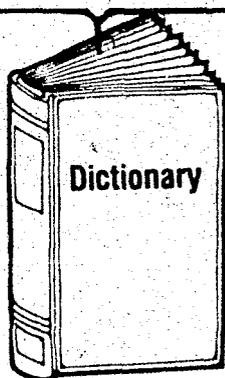
During their stay, Vassallo said, band members will not only be taking in the sights of the Tempe-Phoenix area, but will also be taking a tour of the Grand Canyon and spend one afternoon at a true-to-life old west ghost town.

Vassallo, who will act as one of the chaperones during the week-long stay (the band returns to the Detroit area on Saturday), said he's looking forward to the trip and to watching the kids perform in front of a national television audience.

"I hope everyone gets up to tune in and watch them do their thing," he said, adding, however, that the restrictions of a parade will keep the band from performing its more intricate maneuvers.

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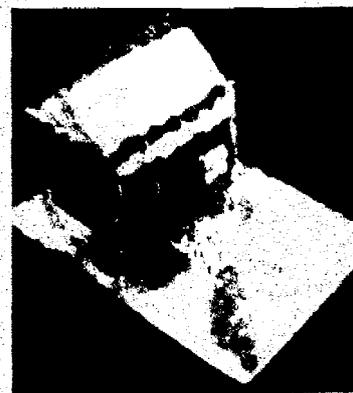
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The Community Crier

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This gingerbread house was an award winner in last year's ice show contest and organizers are looking for even more entrants this year.



The ice show gets closer; organizers getting ready

Frozen water never had it so good.

The Plymouth Ice Carving Spectacular is less than two weeks away. The annual event, running Jan. 13-18, is the eleventh of its kind.

But the ice artisans aren't the only ones gearing up for the five-day festival.

As a repeat of last year's successful sidelight to the ice carving, there will be a gingerbread competition.

Nancy Horst, one of the confection competitions organizers, said that this season's competition will run

concurrently with the outdoor ice competition and displays. The competitors will be split into four categories.

Each category will offer a \$25 prize for the best gingerbread creation.

In addition to the traditional gingerbread house competition, there will also be a competition for non-gingerbread "cookies and such." There will be a children's category for those 10 and under.

The displays of all gingerbread items and cookies will be in front of Days Gone By at Westchester Mall.

Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Constance Kanla is the recipient of a High Achievement Award at Madonna University's School of Business. She is one of 96 students to receive the award.

To qualify, the students have to have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours and 15 semester hours within their major with a G.P.A. of 3.5 or above.

The R.A. DeMattia Company recently promoted Michael Genrich from project manager to project manager/estimator. Genrich has been with the company for over five years.

The company, located in Plymouth, is a development, architectural engineering, design and build construction firm.

Three area residents will receive master's degrees from Michigan State University this semester.

Lisa Ann Vanbuhler, of Canton, will receive a Master of Arts in Education Administration.

Joel V. Visnyak, of Northville will receive a Master of Science on Agriculture and Extension Education.

Jullann M. Smith, a resident of Plymouth, studied Public Relations and will receive her Master of Arts degree.

Plymouth residents Elizabeth F. Lichty-Mayes and LaSalle S. Mayes, both retired English professors from Schoolcraft College, have been awarded "English Professor Emeritus" status by the College and the Board of Trustees.

To be eligible for the honor, and individual must be an administrator of full-status faculty member with a minimum of 20 years of service in education and at least 10 years at Schoolcraft College.

Airman John R. Haddock of Canton has completed Air Force Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio Tx.

Haddock, a 1991 graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School, studied mission, organization, and customs. He received special training in human relation.

Washenaw Community College announced associate degree and certificate candidates for December 1992. Plymouth residents Lou Ann Hamblin and E. Michael Davis were honored.

Who are these people?

Now we know: 3 out of 4 portraits identified

BY CRAIG FARRAND

One is a grandmother, one is an engineer, one still wants to remain anonymous -- and one is still a mystery -- which is three out of four.

Still, batting .750 in the majors wins you a place in the Hall of Fame.

The fact is that the Dec. 9 Crier story on the four portraits looking for subjects proved to be a great success story.

Crier readers began calling the newspaper's offices within hours after the paper hit the streets, and other callers overwhelmed the two women who had the portraits in their possession.

"This is absolutely wonderful," said Elsie Brown, who, with her daughter, Stephanie Rutter, had first brought the portraits to the public's attention.

The duo brought the portraits -- the last four of a total of 10 done by the late Marion Sober -- to The Crier offices in the hopes of friends and relatives coming forward to help identify the people in the pictures.

All they knew, they said, was that one was "Alice," one was "Sandy," one was "Greg" and one was "Steve."

Which proved to be only partly correct: As it turned out, the Steve was a "Greg," as well.

The reason for the confusion was easy to understand, since when the portraits were done, each subject agreed to be identified by a first name only.

For Sober, who died in 1988, the whole point of her pastel collection -- which she did over a 12-month period from 1983 to '84 -- was to highlight the



Sandy McDaniel and her "lost and found" portrait.

faces of people in The Plymouth-Canton Community who otherwise go unnoticed:

Her collection included two grocery clerks, a post office clerk, a laundry worker, a dry cleaner clerk, an arts council teacher, basket weaver, two merchants and a local historian.

And so who are these people?

Well, "Alice" remains simply, "Alice"

-- and Brown said that when they finally contacted her to give hand over the portrait she was "very shy about it."

"She still wanted to remain anonymous, I think," she said.

But not so, the case of "Sandy" and "Steve" -- no, "Greg."

"Oh, I'm a grandmother now," Sandy
Please see pg. 7



Greg Delatore shows his profile then and now.



Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

Canton Township resident Jack A. Seamonds has joined the public relations firm of Anthony M. Franco, Inc.

Seamonds will be responsible for counseling the firm's clients in public relations, media relations and crisis communications strategy as well as assist in new business development. Seamonds earned a journalism degree at Marshall University and has held a number of journalism-related positions.

Ford Motor Co.'s Climate Control Division, located in Plymouth, recently received AutoAlliance International's Most Valued Supplier Award.

Only 12 suppliers are chosen for the honor which recognizes performance based on cost reduction, quality control, delivery and service.

Local businessman Robert A. DeMattia, president and CEO for the R.A. DeMattia Company of Plymouth, has been elected to the Michigan Biotechnology Institute board of trustees, he will serve a three-year term.

St Mary Hospital has hired two new employees and has promoted another.

Sister Mary Cynthia Ann has been promoted from Administrative Assistant to Vice President of Mission Effectiveness and Diagnostic Services.

Diane D. Torres, R.N., was recently hired as Vice President of Patient Care Services. Torres was previously employed as Vice President of Patient/Professional Services at Northern Michigan Hospital, Inc.

Wayne George was hired as Vice President for Financial Services. George was most recently employed as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at McPherson Hospital in Howell.

Dr. John H. Trichwasser of Plymouth has been elected to a one-year term on the National Safety Council's Board of Directors. He will serve as a member-at-large.

The council is comprised of safety directors, engineers, researchers, academicians, law enforcement officials and others engaged in safety programs.

Northville Downs celebrates 50 years

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

In 1944, they said it couldn't be done. They said that there was no way there could be night harness racing at what was then the Wayne County Fairgrounds.

According to the wisdom of the time, horses would not race under artificial lighting. It had never been tried anywhere in the country.

Also, the cost of renovating and illuminating the racetrack would be prohibitive.

Despite the throng of nay-sayers, a group of investors from Buffalo, NY, put up the money to expand the clubhouse and build the stadium lighting at the fairgrounds.

Look for a special Northville Downs section in today's Crier

The rest of the story is harness racing history.

Now, 50 years later, Northville Downs is getting ready to celebrate its golden anniversary.

Jan. 2 will mark a half century of successful pari-mutuel harness racing at what used to be the fairgrounds.

The result of Downs' success, according to Margaret Zayti, one of the Northville Downs partners, is the fact that Northville is a city rather than a village.

"Under the Michigan Racing Law, only a city or township can receive state matching funds," Zayti said.

Since 1944, more than \$1.7 billion has been wagered under the lights at Northville Downs. In terms of the Michigan Racing Law, \$15,381,858 has been returned to Northville in state funds.

Northville Downs now represents the largest share of the city's tax income: Since 1944, the Downs has paid \$368,500 to the Village of Northville and \$5,644,804 to the city of Northville.

The first race of the second half-century of pari-mutuel racing at Northville Downs will be run on Jan 2, 1993.



William Pratt (left) and Michael McKernan now offer their expertise to help other businesses.

These hired guns can help your business

BY GARY GOSSELIN

Two Plymouth Township residents -- Michael McKernan and William D. Pratt -- have joined forces to form a small business consulting firm to help area firms succeed.

The men, longtime friends and neighbors, bring more to their endeavor than just an idea, though.

McKernan, along with earning degrees in accounting and finance from the University of Detroit, has also worked at a variety of retail businesses.

He has most recently worked at F&M Distributors Inc., and Borman's Inc. (Farmer Jack Supermarkets).

Pratt has an accounting degree from Bowling Green University and has

experience in manufacturing and wholesale distribution.

He has held positions at McGraw-Edison Co., United Technology Corp. and most recently served as Vice President-Finance and Treasurer at J.H. Bennett & Co., Inc. of Novi.

"We have a diverse combination of experience and skills," McKernan said, and "we feel that we can translate that combination into a more secure and profitable business for our clients."

Along with their own experience, the men are affiliated with Leadley, Gunning & Culp/ General Business Services (LGC/GBS), a business counseling firm with more than 600 members in the United States and Canada.

"(LGC/GBS) gives us and our clients 600 associates to exchange information with and receive expertise from," Pratt said, adding that, "it gives us more substance -- more so than a free-standing enterprise."

Services provided by McKernan and Pratt include business planning, organization, personal and business expenses, budgeting, compliance with government regulations and forms, maximum use of financial statements and business projections.

McKernan said that one of the keys to helping small businesses is to "establish a relationship with the business owner and build a level of trust so that we can

Please see PG. 8

Her work is well-known -- and now, so is she

Continued from pg. 3

her to work on a variety of projects.

At the age of 9, she designed a Girl Scout patch and when she was in high school, she designed the United Way fundraiser "thermometer" that is still in use today.

She is also responsible for drawing the mural of Salem High School's crest, which remains above the school's pool.

In 1988, her senior year at Salem, the art department gave her an honor key.

Harless also participated in a high school ice carving competition during the 1987 and 1988 Ice Festivals.

During her four years at Massachusetts College of Art in Boston, where she earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Illustration, Harless participated in several art shows where her work was put on display for people to enjoy.

She also made and marketed postcards

P-C Jaycees reach out to township

Continued from pg. 3

and put us in contact with a lot of businesses that helped up with our food basket program," Kappler said.

Not surprisingly, the Foundation soon became a "very attractive candidate for a donation from us," Kappler said.

This formal entrance into Canton and a growing relationship with Canton officials was a long-awaited moment for the Jaycee officials.

Rowe, McDurmon and Kappler all agreed that one of their major goals in 1993 will be to expand their recognition in Canton.

Now we know faces in portraits

Continued from pg. 5

McDaniels said. "Both my daughter and son are married, and I've gone back to school to study computers."

Sandy, who works as a phone operator for AT&T and lives in Belleville now, keeps in touch with friends from the Plymouth area.

And, yes, she was the one who worked at the cleaners -- and, yes, she's still a blonde.

As for "Steve" (who is really "Greg") he still works in the area -- at two jobs: as an engineer with Capital Communications and as a real estate agent with Remerica.

Although single and working at Farmer Jack's at the time of the portrait, "Steve" (no, "Greg") is married now and has a 5-year-old daughter.

OK, his real name? Greg Delatore.

In separate interviews, both Sandy and Greg added another dimension to this story when they revealed that each of the subjects who posed for Sober received a smaller original of the portrait from the artists at the time of their sitting.

"I still have mine," Sandy said, "so I really don't know what I'm going to do with this one."

For Greg, there's no such problem: "My parents have the other one at their house, so I guess I'll keep this one for myself."

With three portraits matched to their subjects, though, the final portrait -- that

which sold in a Boston shop.

"That was a good experience," she said.

Harless explained that during her last year in college, her style completely changed.

"I had to learn to paint darker and bolder in order for my work to be reproduced," she said.

Prior to her senior year, most of her work was too light to be reproduced.

"I don't think my teachers thought the work was mine because of the different style," she said.

"I learned to use acrylics because it reproduces better," she said.

Her experience includes using acrylic and water paints, pen and ink drawings, sculptures, glass blowing and ice sculpture.

Some of her recent works include the poster announcing President Bush's

The hurdles they face, however, is two-fold: The fact that they had to take over the former Canton Jaycees about four years ago -- which created a stigma of inactivity -- and the name of their new organization: Plymouth-Canton.

The move into Canton hasn't been easy, but Rowe said she made the community one of her prime objectives when taking over the presidency:

"We had tried several projects in the past, and not all of them worked too well, but I made a vow as president that by the end of the year we'd be only the Plymouth Jaycees or Plymouth-Canton."

of the other "Greg" -- remains a mystery, although Greg said he thought "Greg" used to work in some kind of a print shop on Ann Arbor Road.

(Following this so far?)

Elsie Brown, however, said she and her daughter have had little luck in tracking this other "Greg" down.

"I heard from one person who said (Greg had) left town recently," Brown said, "but couldn't remember his last name."

Sandy said she also remembers "Greg" as the one who worked at a local laundry when his portrait was done -- but she couldn't remember his last name, either.

So, left with one last portrait, Brown and Ruiter still are looking for a home for the sole survivor of Marion Sober's view of life in the area.

"I really don't know what we're going to do with it," Brown said.

And the mystery continues.

Paulun files suit

Continued from pg. 3

Durack declined to comment on the case other than to say that the township denies the claim brought by Paulun.

Canton Township attorney Andrew Baran said that the "case has no merit" and that he is confident that "the court will agree."

Paulun's suit seeks damages in excess of \$10,000.

arrival to Plymouth, the cover of The Crier's Nov. 25 "Come home for the holidays" issue and the cover of this week's "Growth" section.

Walt Disney is her biggest influence.

"I like animation. It's illustration, but it's alive," she said. "It's great just to look at because they do such a good job."

Other influences include Maurice Sendak, who does illustrations for kids, Lewis Carrol, author of Alice in Wonderland, and Dr. Seuss.

Harless enjoys illustrating what she reads in books and said that ultimately she would like to do book illustrations for a living.



Wendy Harless also competed in the high school ice carving competition in 1987 and 1988. This photo was from her efforts in 1988.



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Community Deaths

Manore, consultant

Michael Manore, the executive director of community development for Taylor who had also worked for the township of Canton, died of leukemia Saturday, Dec. 19, 1992, at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills.

During the most politically-turbulent times in Canton's development — the 1970s — Manore often found himself in the hot seat as homeowner groups challenged the policies of the rapidly-growing community.

Mr. Manore was 50 years old and also served on the Clarenceville School Board.

From 1972 to 1987, Manore worked as planning director for Wade, Trim, & Associates of Taylor. He was a private consultant for Canton and Taylor on community development and improvement planning.

Mr. Manore is survived by his wife, Diane, his son and daughter, Jason and Heather, and one grandson.

Services for Mr. Manore were held at St. Alexander Church in Farmington Hills, burial was in Holy Sepulchre Catholic Cemetery in Southfield.

Memorials can be made to the Children's Leukemia Foundation of Michigan, 19022 W.10 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48075.

Cover, war veteran

John Addison Cover, formerly of Plymouth, died in his home in Grass Valley, Ca on Dec. 16, 1992, of congestive heart failure. He was 72.

Mr. Cover, a veteran of WWII and Korea, is survived by his wife of 50 years, Jean Hadley Cover, daughters Suzanne and Patricia, four grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were held on Saturday at the Hooper-Weaver Funeral home in Grass Valley. The service was conducted by Sierra Fines Methodist Church and concluded by a 21-gun salute by the local V.F.W.



Your Guide to Worship

Geneva Presbyterian Church (USA)

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459-0013

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Church School
9:00 am & 11:00 am

Reverend Bryan Smith

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(north of Michigan Ave., near Palmer)
326-0330

Sunday Services
8:30, 10:00, 11:30am, 6:00p.

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Risen Christ Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)
46250 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
(one mile west of Sheldon)
453-5252

Sunday worship 8:30 & 10:00 am

Rev. K.M. Mehrl, Pastor
Hugh McMartin, Lay minister

Calvary Baptist Church

43065 Joy Road, Canton
455-0022

Dr. David A. Hay, Senior Pastor

Sunday School for All Ages 9:45 am
Sunday Services 11:00 am, 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Study & Clubs 7:00 pm

Plymouth Christian Academy 459-3505

Neighbors in the news

The 1993 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" named Cynthia L. Belanger of Plymouth as one of 37 Siena Heights College students that are national leaders.

Editors of the national annual directory select students on the basis of their academic achievement, community service, leadership in extracurricular activities, and potential future success.

Laura E. Hanis of Plymouth and Julie Spring Tighe of Plymouth — both from Madonna University — joined more than 58,000 people nationwide who were inducted into the Sigma Xi chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the national education honor society.

Airman Keith D. Pawenski of Canton has completed basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tx.

As part of his six-week training, Pawenski studied Air Force mission, organization, and customs. He received special training in human relations.

Suzanne O'Day of Plymouth is one of 504 persons who has received a diploma from Northern Michigan University as part of its commencement ceremonies for the Fall 1992 semester.

O'Day received a Bachelor of Science degree in speech and communication disorders.

Robert W. Mayes of Plymouth and Richard V. Minuth of Canton are Among 1,170 students receiving diplomas and awards from Bowling Green State University.

Mayes received a B.S. in business administration and Minuth received a bachelor of arts degree.

Two residents honored for their efforts

Two Plymouth residents — Carey Rinke and Mary Smith — were among 22 individuals honored earlier this month by Brighton Hospital officials for their volunteer efforts at the facility.

The hospital, which specializes in treating and preventing substance abuse and has become nationally recognized for its programs after more than 40 years of work in the field, honored its volunteers at a special dinner on Nov. 5.

"Volunteers have played an extremely important role in our work for almost four decades," said hospital President Ivan Harner. "We depend on them in almost every aspect of our work and truly appreciate their interest, enthusiasm and commitment"

While praising its current volunteers, hospital officials said there are many more opportunities for others to help at the site.

According to a hospital spokesperson, volunteers help out in operating the facility's bookstore, helping with its Family and Friends Program and Children's Support Group, assisting in a several community awareness projects, helping with patient craft activities and helping in numerous offices and in the maintenance department.

Individuals interested in volunteering their time to the hospital can call 227-1211, ext. 323 weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Community births

Aiden Mitchell Ebanks was born on Dec. 12, 1992, to Sarah and Rusty Ebanks. The boy weighed 9 pounds, 4 ounces. The baby's grandparents are Al and Jean Stanwood.

To have the announcement of the birth of your child published in *The Crier*, simply drop off or mail the information to our office.

These hired guns can help business

Continued from pg. 6

discuss plans and goals candidly, and help the client reach those goals."

Pratt added that he and McKernan, as well as the business owner, must understand their role.

"We don't make the decisions for them," he said. "We give them the information and let them make an informed decision."

McKernan told of one situation he'd already encountered: A man had an invention and a buyer who would sign the deal if the inventor could get financing.

The bank said it would finance only if the buyer signed the papers.

McKernan and Pratt then stepped in and helped the inventor arrange the financing and close the deal.

"Sometimes people can't or don't want to deal with certain aspects of business," McKernan said. "That's what we're here for."

The men say that they've already gotten a positive response from area businesses, and say they're looking forward to serving the area for years to come.

Hotel in receivership; city caught unaware

Continued from pg. 1

He is a partner (along with Scott and Randy Lorenz) in the hotel property arm.

Smith was not at the hotel this week and could not be reached for comment.

Randy Lorenz, who had been running the private Round Table Club, has taken over Smith's job under direction of Hotel Investment Services Inc., the court-appointed receiver.

Randy Lorenz said, "There was no other way to work out an arrangement with the bank. It was a mutual agreement (with the bank) to dismiss the case and appoint a receiver."

Smith's "full-time responsibilities will be exerted to raise venture capital," he said.

In addition, attorneys close to the situation confirmed that a "sheriff's sale" has been arranged for hotel property, but would not specify what would be sold, nor when the sale would take place.

During a sheriff's sale, the property is sold to the highest bidder -- usually the largest creditor, which puts in a bid to protect its interests. The original owners of the property (in this case the Lorenz-Smith) are then given six months to buy it back.

Hotel Investment Services Inc. will be in charge of operating the hotel during those six months unless the property is redeemed in the meantime. If the property is not redeemed in six months, operation and management of the hotel will be decided by the new owners.

Both Randy Lorenz and Ron J. Wilson, the president of Hotel Investment Services, said the two Lorenz brothers and Smith would have the exclusive right to redeem the hotel from the receiver.

"We will leave no stone unturned in our endeavor," Randy Lorenz said. "Our mission, to raise \$1.5 million, can be accomplished in less than six months."

Wilson, said yesterday that appointing Randy Lorenz as hotel general manager was a logical choice.

"We think it's important that a family member be in place...to continue the quality and standards of service at the Mayflower."

He described the hotel's receivership as a "financial rather than an operational issue."

Hotel Investment Services Inc. was formed in 1989 by Wilson, who served as banquet manager of the Plymouth Hilton in 1980. It is a business that operates and manages hotels for individual owners and banks.

In this case, it is acting as a court-appointed receiver. Based in Bloomfield Hills, it operates hotels throughout Southeast Michigan.

The Mayflower Hotel's property arm filed Chapter 11 on Jan. 10, 1992, while attorneys attempted to renegotiate its mortgage debt with Heritage. Its operating company, The Mayflower Hotel, has not filed bankruptcy.

According to court records, the hotel has two mortgages with Heritage: A \$3 million refinance of a 1981 loan, and a second \$380,000 mortgage.

Together, the two loans called for monthly payments in excess of \$33,000.

Each also contained balloon payment provisions, with the smaller loan due in 1998 and the larger loan due in 2007.

According to Mayflower II bankruptcy court records, the city of Plymouth is owed more than \$33,000 in back taxes and water and sewage charges; and Quality Construction Co. of Dearborn is owed more than \$65,000 for repairs done to the building.

Top officials in Plymouth said the city was never informed of the decision to have a receiver appointed even though the city was officially listed as a creditor.

City Attorney Ron Lowe first heard of the receivership when called by The Crier on Monday -- and his surprise was followed in short order by that of Mayor Bob Jones, City Manager Steve Walters and Chief Financial Officer William Graham.

hotly-contested proposal before the City Commission, 12 years ago the hotel addition built over the city's parking lot was granted a tax abatement and use of air rights. The abatement expires Dec. 31, 1993.

Although all parties were reluctant to criticize the Mayflower in any way, nearly all of those close to the situation agreed that the assignment of a receiver to oversee operations generally means that the creditors feel management of a company is performing unsatisfactorily.

Documents filed with the federal bankruptcy court give an indication of what Heritage Bank felt about the Mayflower's management:

In a filing dated Aug. 4, the bank said that Mayflower II "would be left, after payment of operating expenses, with sufficient revenues to service the indebtedness owed to Heritage."

"We will leave no stone unturned in our endeavor. Our mission, to raise \$1.5 million, can be accomplished in less than six months."

- Randy Lorenz

"No, I hadn't heard a thing," Lowe said early Monday afternoon, adding that it was possible some other official had been notified.

That was not the case, according to other officials.

"Well, I only heard about it when Lowe called me," Graham said minutes later. "I didn't know a thing."

The major concern in city circles was that since Plymouth was one of the three largest creditors and recognized as a member of the creditors' committee, it should have been informed of the bank's actions.

So complete was the surprise that Graham's initial thought was to contact Smith to determine what had happened -- unaware that Smith had already resigned.

"It comes as a total surprise to me," Graham said. "Normally, you'd think we'd get some kind of forewarning."

"We got no notification at all."

This lack of notification also surprised one metropolitan Detroit banking expert.

"That (notification) is part of the proceedings," he said on condition of anonymity. "In any bankruptcy the creditors are a part of the committee and should know everything that's happening."

"That ensures that every creditor gets an equitable recovery (of money owed)," he said.

From the outset, the city has used an outside bankruptcy attorney to examine the proceedings involving the Mayflower and, as Lowe put it, "see if the city should do anything to protect its interests."

In this development, however, the specialist has yet to be called in for advice.

The hotel property and buildings are the city's fourth-largest taxpayers. After a

In July, Heritage filed not only to dismiss the bankruptcy proceedings but also to seek receivership, indicating the bank felt that while the Mayflower owners could be paying their debts, they weren't.

Overall, bank officials are saying that a plan for reorganization of the Mayflower simply fell short of the bank's expectations. Court documents, however, say that Mayflower owners felt the banks demands were unfair and had never been negotiated in advance.

In either case, Robert Peuraph, the Mayflower's attorney in the case, said, "the bank didn't agree to the hotel's proposal," and therefore sought dismissal and the appointment of a receiver.

One intriguing possibility for Heritage's move to dismiss the bankruptcy was suggested by the regional banking official who said that the downriver bank has "been on the auction block for some time."

"Maybe they were looking to tie up some loose ends," he said, adding that Heritage stock had fluctuated wildly in the past year as rumors spread of periodic overtures from prospective buyers. From a 1992 low of \$9.75 per share, Heritage's stock was trading at \$20 yesterday.

In early September, Heritage announced it was "studying ways to boost shareholder value... including sale or merger of the company."

The Mayflower filed for voluntary bankruptcy after nearly a year of negotiations with Heritage over payments on the mortgages.

For Mayflower owners, bankruptcy was seen as a way of staving off foreclosure proceedings being threatened by Heritage; proceedings that, according to court records, would have commenced

that day.

From the bankruptcy filing until early summer, several court hearings were held during which income statements were examined and a creditors' list was drawn up.

On July 2, however, Heritage bank made its first bid to dismiss the bankruptcy case, thereby reopening the door for foreclosure. That motion was motion was denied on Aug. 6.

On Oct. 14, Heritage made yet another motion to dismiss the case -- an action that was matched by the Mayflower two days later when it made an identical motion to dismiss.

Judge Graves dismissed the case Nov. 3 and Hotel Investment Services was appointed to run the Mayflower on Dec. 21.

Coincidentally, the order to dismiss the case came the day after Ralph Lorenz, father of Randy and Scott and the original Lorenz owner, died of congestive heart failure in Florida.

Ralph Lorenz had purchased the hotel in 1965 after running it for 26 years. He sold the hotel to Randy, Scott and Smith in 1986.

Kirk Lorenz, another son and owner of the Brookside and Frankfort Hotels in northern Michigan, had been mentioned as a possible operator of the Mayflower following his father's death. He had run the hotel previously.

Contacted late Monday, Kirk Lorenz confirmed that "there has been talk since my father died."

He added, however, that no one had yet approached him about becoming involved in the operation.

Operation of the 1,643-member Round Table Club is continuing. However, its board is investigating its options and plans to meet with Wilson this week.

Wilson said the receivers would continue to honor the existing Round Table agreement with the hotel which includes supplying employees to the club.

One member of the Round Table Club board of directors, Bill Sliker, said the board met Saturday and expects to meet again this week -- this time with the hotel's receiver.

Randy Lorenz said, "the (Round Table Club) board has sought legal counseling."

Jack Selle, founding president of the club was reached in Florida, said, "there's no change -- that's my interpretation."

"We hope to carry on the club tradition in the same way," he said, adding that since he has not been at the club board meetings, he has spent a lot of time on the telephone to Plymouth.

John Beems, secretary to the club's board, refused to comment on the matter yesterday.

Wilson said his company has signed a management agreement with Lorenz Square -- a separate entity which owns the Lorenz properties east of Main Street including the Mayflower Meeting House -- to manage the banquet facility. That agreement is not court-ordered.

Randy Lorenz emphasized that the Meeting House and the Round Table were not in bankruptcy and would not be in bankruptcy.

Thank you for your continuing business and support in 1992. Wishing you the best in the coming year!



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PLYMOUTH-CANTON'S RADIO STATION

WHO do I call to get some information on senior citizen groups? Answer: See pages 105, 106 and 107 of The '92 Guide!

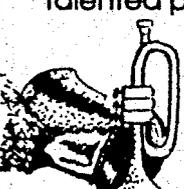
To: All Employees of the Plymouth-Canton Community School District

Thank you all for an excellent year in 1992. May you and your families have a Joyous and Happy Holiday Season and Best Wishes to you all for 1993.

Dean Swartzwelter
Treasurer,
Board of Education

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What's Happening

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

WOMEN'S CLUB MEETING

The Women's Club of Plymouth will host a meeting at the Plymouth Historical Museum on Jan. 8 at 12:30 p.m.

The program, "The Changing Roles of Women in the 19th Century," will be presented by Beth Stewart, the museum's director. A tour of the museum is part of the program, including a special display of inaugural ball gowns of the countries First Ladies.

There is no charge for admission and reservations are not necessary.

P.O.S. REHEARSALS

Rehearsals for the Plymouth Oratorio Society begins Jan. 4 at 7:30 p.m. and continue every Monday through April. This year rehearsals will be held at St. John Neuman Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Rd.

The society, which will be starting its seventh season, is open to all interested singers without audition. For additional information, contact Robert Pratt at 761-2991 or Mary Bozell at 455-6512.

DIVORCE RECOVERY WORKSHOP

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd. will present a Divorce Recovery Workshop starting Jan 18 and running through Jan 23.

The workshop will be run by Paul Clough will help participant to forgive their former spouse, put the divorce on perspective and experience new growth.

The two hour session will run Monday through Friday and begin at 7 p.m. Saturdays session, which includes a potluck lunch runs from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Child care will be provided and pre-registration is encouraged but not required. Cost for the program is \$25.

For information, call 459-9550.

LEARN TO SKI

Canton Parks and Recreation is offering three sessions of the "Learn to Ski" program at Riverview Highlands. Each session consists of two lessons per week for beginners and/or intermediate skiers. Each session will last 45 minutes, with free skiing after the lessons. Skiers provide their own transportation to Riverview Highlands Ski Area.

Cost is \$45 and includes four lessons, two per week, four lift tickets and four equipment rentals. Cost is \$35 if you have your own equipment.

The first session will run the weeks of Jan. 4 and 11. Second session runs the weeks of Jan. 18 and 25, and the third session will run the weeks of Feb. 1 and 8.

During each session, two classes will be offered. The first is for people ages 8 through 15 and will start at 5 p.m. The second class starts at 7 p.m. and people who are 16 or older.

There are no residency requirements. Call 397-5110 for details.

Call 1-800-582-4383 to make an appointment at the Renaissance Center Donor Center.

YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

The Livonia Symphony Orchestra will present its annual Young Artist Competition on Jan 16 and 17 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Madonna University's Kresge Hall.

The competition is open to all Michigan instrumental, piano and vocal students under the age of 25 who aspire toward a classical music career. Prior experience as a soloist is not required. Students will be judged on musicianship, technique and stature.

Instrumental and Vocal are the two main areas of competition. First place winners receive \$1,000 and second place winners receive \$500.

For further information, call a 24 hour hotline at 458-6575 or the Symphony office at 421-1111 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m.

OPEN SKATING

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department is offering open skating at the Cultural Center during the holidays.

The center will be open Dec. 21, through Jan. 3 (excluding Dec. 25 and 26 and Jan. 1 and 2) with hours in the mornings and afternoons.

Skate rental is \$1.25 and admission is \$2.75 for adults and \$2 for kids. Call 455-6620 for exact skating times.

CHORUS AUDITIONS

The Plymouth Community Chorus will auditions on Jan. 5 at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church on North Territorial, west of Sheldon Rd.

Auditions will be held for all voice parts.

Call 455-4080 for more information.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to assist in Physical Therapy and in the Urgent Care Office at the Canton McAuley Health Building on Ford Road. One four shift a week is requested.

Please call Volunteer Services at 572-4159 for more information.

STORYTIME REGISTRATION

Registrations now open for "Storytime" at Plymouth District Library.

For toddlers, there are morning and afternoon times. Registration for the morning session, which runs on Thursdays Jan. 14 through Feb. 4, begins Jan. 7, 10 a.m. for in person registration or 10:30 a.m. to register by phone. Registration for the afternoon session, which runs every Tuesday Jan. 12 through Feb. 2, is Jan. 5, 7 p.m. in person or 7:30 p.m. by phone.

Preschool times are on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., Jan. 12 through Feb. 2. Registration is Jan. 5 at 10 a.m. in person or 10:30 by phone.

60+ CLUB MEETING

The 60+ Club will meet Jan. 4 at First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd. The Pot luck will be at noon. Participants are asked to bring their own service.

Mr. Joseph Yanake of Toastmasters International will speak on "The Magic of Humor."

The Crier plus



W. HARTLEY



From Oakland County to Western Wayne

N'ville development has slowed

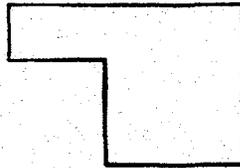
BY MIKE McGLINNEN

Like Plymouth and many other small towns in America, development in the city of Northville has slowed down recently, as most of the prime space within city limits is already occupied.

According to Northville City Manager Gary Word, the large growth of the past few years has slowed down to a crawl.

"Our greatest boom in recent years has been in the residential area. We've seen a leveling off in that area in the last year or so," said Word.

The city has only seen five permits for residential



Northville

developments and one for commercial development in 1992, according to Ruth Bartz of the Northville Building Department.

"We've not seen the rapid development of the recent past in 1992, although there are some residential lots available in certain developments," Word said.

The primary focus of the city's

growth in 1993 will be on revitalizing the downtown shopping area.

"There have been some store closings and there has been an effort to recruit new owners to some of the storefronts," he said.

"It is still ongoing and is in the initial stages right now.

"Perhaps we will fill some of the vacant store spaces by the end of 1993," Word said.

One of the main attempts to spur growth within the city is not a business or a residence, it is a parking garage which would be located at the corner of Center Street and Cady, according to

Please see pg. 17

N'ville Twp. growth is residential

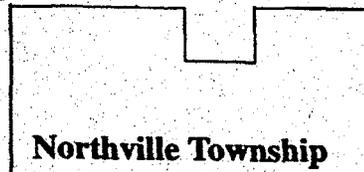
BY CHERYL VATCHER

If you're looking for growth in Northville Township, don't look for big industrial projects or commercial developments; instead, keep your eye on the bouncing homes.

Although Supervisor Karen Baja is new to the job, she knows that the key to development in her town will be the growth in residential subdivisions.

In short, "this is a bedroom community," she said.

In fact, she said, "there are housing starts happening now, and there always have been housing



Northville Township

starts."

The question, then, is not what kind of growth will occur in Northville Township in 1993, but where that growth will appear. Her taxpayers want to see growth, Baja said, but they want to see some kind of plan behind it, too.

And for good reason: Quite a bit of property that might otherwise be

open for development is actually in the hands of the county and the state and federal governments, she said.

"Because of (this) ownership," she said, "it precludes us from certain development.

There is, quite simply, she said, a "lack of available land," which mean, of course, that "the people are anxious to see how the county land will be developed."

To illustrate the nature and amount of development in the township, Michelle Charron, assistant to building inspector

Please see pg. 16

Canton looks to a busy new year

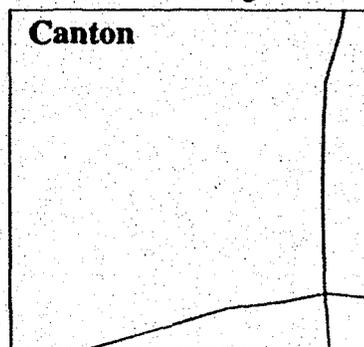
BY ALEX LUNDBERG

Canton is looking at a busy year in 1993.

In fact, with new houses popping up everywhere, a golf course with adjoining housing on the drawing board, a community center in the works and its industry expanding, the township will look radically different by 1995.

"Approximately 400 houses were built in Canton last year," Tom Yack, Canton Township Supervisor, said. "We're expecting at least that this year."

According to the 1991 Building Activity report, 1,574 permits were issued for commercial, industrial



Canton

and family construction and renovation projects.

The total value of the projects undertaken in 1991 was more than

\$70 million.

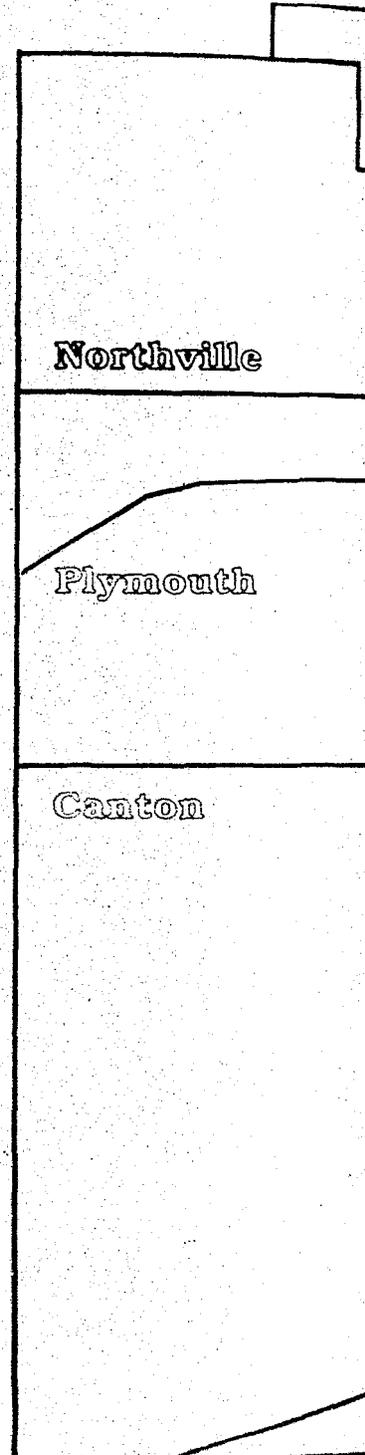
In comparison, and with the December numbers still not in, 1992 construction already exceeds \$64.5 million.

Canton industry is also expanding: Steel Technologies and Procoil will both be expanding their operations in the township.

Aga Gas, a Swedish firm that supplies hospitals, will be building a \$10 million plant on Michigan Avenue in 1993. The building plans have already been approved.

The new community center is tentatively due to start construction in the end of 1993.

Please see pg. 16



plus

... 1993 spells G-R-O-W-T-H — and then some

Plymouth looks to finish '92 projects

BY CRAIG FARRAND

Where do you go from up?

That pretty well sums up the city of Plymouth's "plight," as the end of one year nears and a new year begins.

The fact is that 1992 was a pretty good year for the city -- but as a result, it's going to be tough to beat in '93.

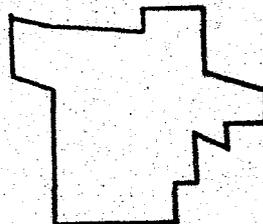
"I think there are three things (from '92) that will continue to be on the front burner in '93," said Plymouth Mayor Bob Jones. "The parking situation downtown, the streetscape project and the Jack Wilcox development.

"Oh, and the Farmer Jack's property."

Taken one at a time, each point seems to have had a life of its own: The parking situation has been discussed for some time, and only recently came to a head, with the parking commission finally viewing an end to the "credit" program.

And that's a development Jones would like to see bear fruit: "Personally, I'm in favor of doing away with the parking credits and then pursue buying private parking (downtown) and make it public."

The "streetscape" project is another that has its roots in the past, but will finally be realized next year. The project involves new



Plymouth

curbing, sidewalks, street improvements and landscaping throughout the central business district.

But, as Jones pointed out, what shows up in the spring will be a scaled down version of the original, \$5 million grand plan.

"We just couldn't afford that," Jones said, "so we sent the project designers back to the drawing board."

When asked what the specific improvements would be, Jones laughed and said he was waiting to see himself; that the designers were literally reworking the plan as he spoke.

The third hot topic on the city's mind, Jones said, was the long-anticipated development of the Jack Wilcox land into a multi-story condominium complex.

Until this year, the mayor said, the hold up had always been the required upgrading of the massive

main house that sits at the east end of Kellogg Park.

This year, however, that renovation appears complete, Jones said, and he hopes plans for a twin-tower, three-and-a-half-story complex can get under way sometime in '93.

The last "problem" for the city, Jones said, continues to be one surrounding the former Farmer Jack's store on Main Street.

"I still would like to see something (in that building) in '93," Jones said, but the problem is that Farmer Jack's continues in its lease of the building, effectively preventing its use by any other grocery outlet -- and thereby preventing any competition with its Ann Arbor Road store.

If there is any one area that Jones sees as key to the city's future, however, it's the community's exploration of sharing services with neighboring towns.

Already, Plymouth officials have met with their counterparts from Plymouth Township, Northville, Northville Township and Canton -- the latest one on Dec. 22 -- and another meeting is scheduled for Jan 8.

From these meetings, Jones said he hopes some real progress can be made in areas of pooling resources.

Please see pg. 17

Plymouth Twp. takes a visual approach

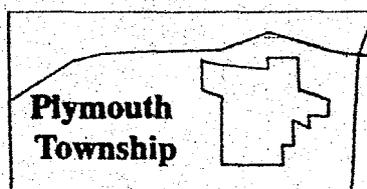
BY AMY KIDWELL

What will Plymouth Township look like in December 1993?

Well, the entrance to the community will look better, more residential areas will be available and new businesses will be open for operation.

Although it may not seem like the most important development, according to Supervisor Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, plans to improve the looks of the townships entrances fits in precisely with an overall plan to control the appearance of the town.

For the entrance ways, a contest will be held in March and students from the University of Michigan, Wayne State University,



Schoolcraft College and Lawrence Technological University will be given the opportunity to look at the township entrances and make a design to improve its looks.

In particular, students will try to beautify the stretch of Ann Arbor Road between Haggerty and Sheldon roads.

"Ann Arbor Road is still a concern," Keen-McCarthy said. "What we do not want is a jumbled kind of a look."

The township is known for being strict when it comes to landscape and beautification, she said.

"Other people say it's tough in Plymouth Township," she said.

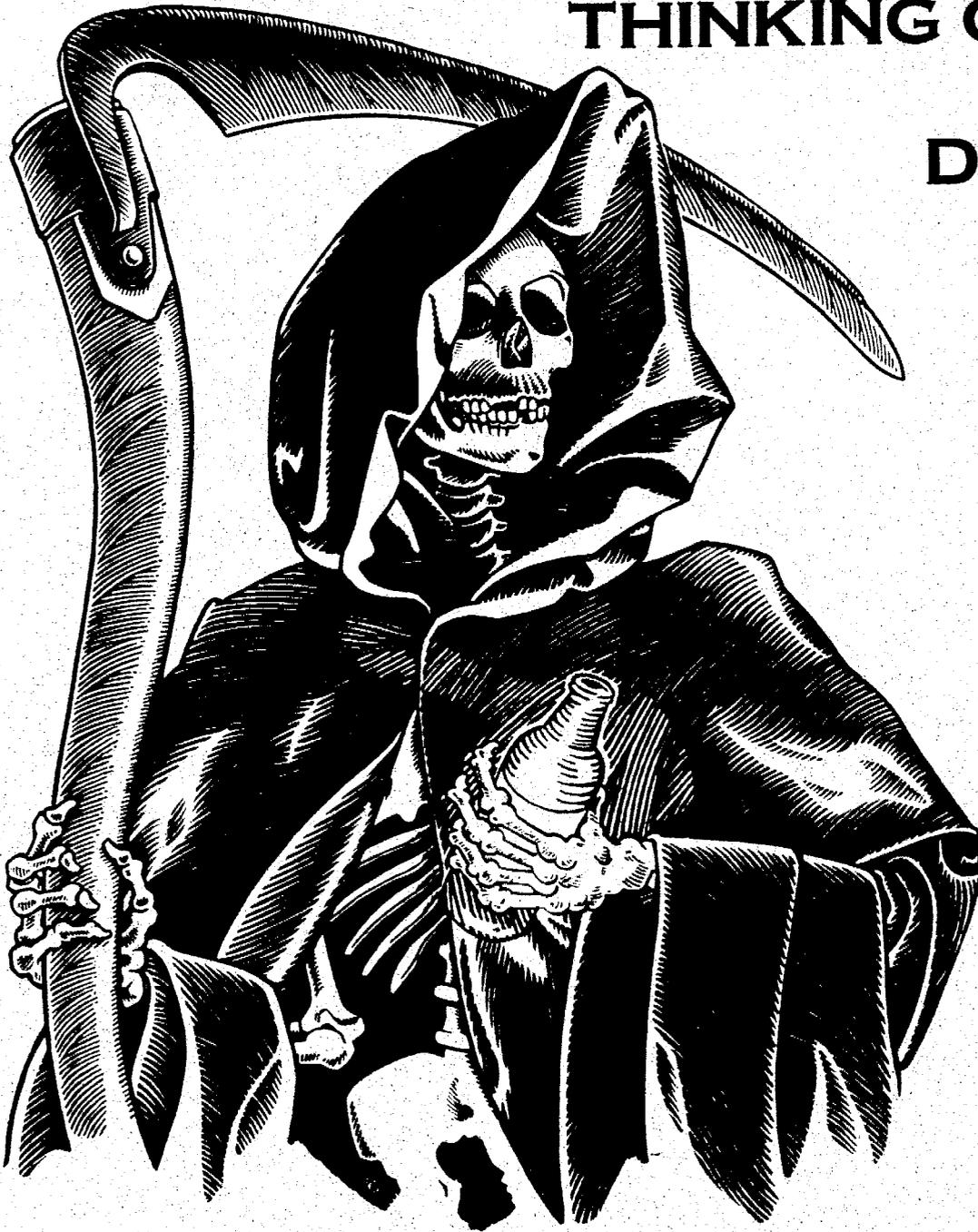
The township supervisor also noted that residential and commercial development will be kept separate and that most industrial development will be kept north of M-14 to create a buffer "for the safety and comfort of residents."

"(The board) is committed to following the master plan," Keen-McCarthy said, referring to a master plan for development that was implemented in the 1970's.

Please see pg. 16

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454-4500

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459-9000

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Plymouth
453-6860

Heide's Flowers & Gifts
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Plymouth
453-5140

McMurray Insurance
5773 Canton Center Road
Canton
455-3200

Milano Fine Apparel
470 Forest Place #18
Plymouth
453-0790

**Bob Jeanotte Pontiac
GMC Truck Inc.**
14949 Sheldon Rd. • Plymouth
453-2500

The Community Crier
821 Penniman
Plymouth
453-6900

Blackwell Ford
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Plymouth
453-1100

Computer Connection
44473 Ann Arbor Rd.
Plymouth 455-2983

**Kipco's American Speedy
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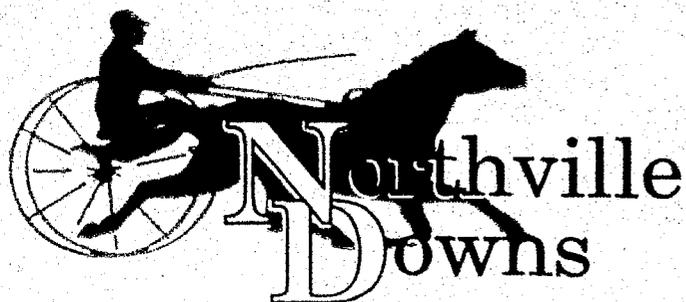
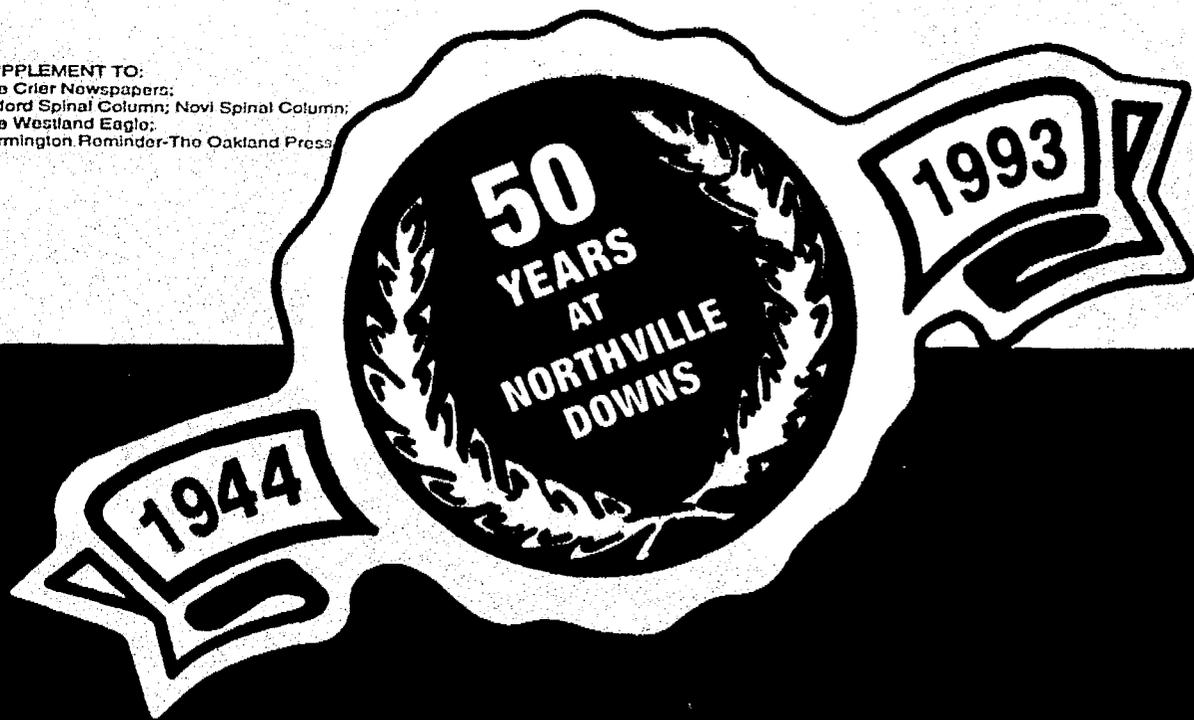
McDonald Ford
550 W. 7 Mile Rd.
Northville
349-1400

Quicksilver Photo
1313 Ann Arbor Rd.
Plymouth
455-3686

Saturn of Plymouth
9301 Massey Drive
Plymouth
453-7890

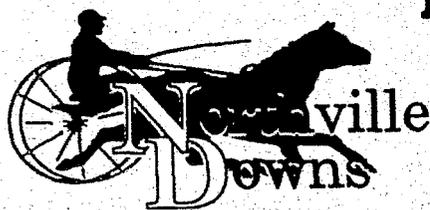
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Golden Keepsake Edition



January 2, 1983

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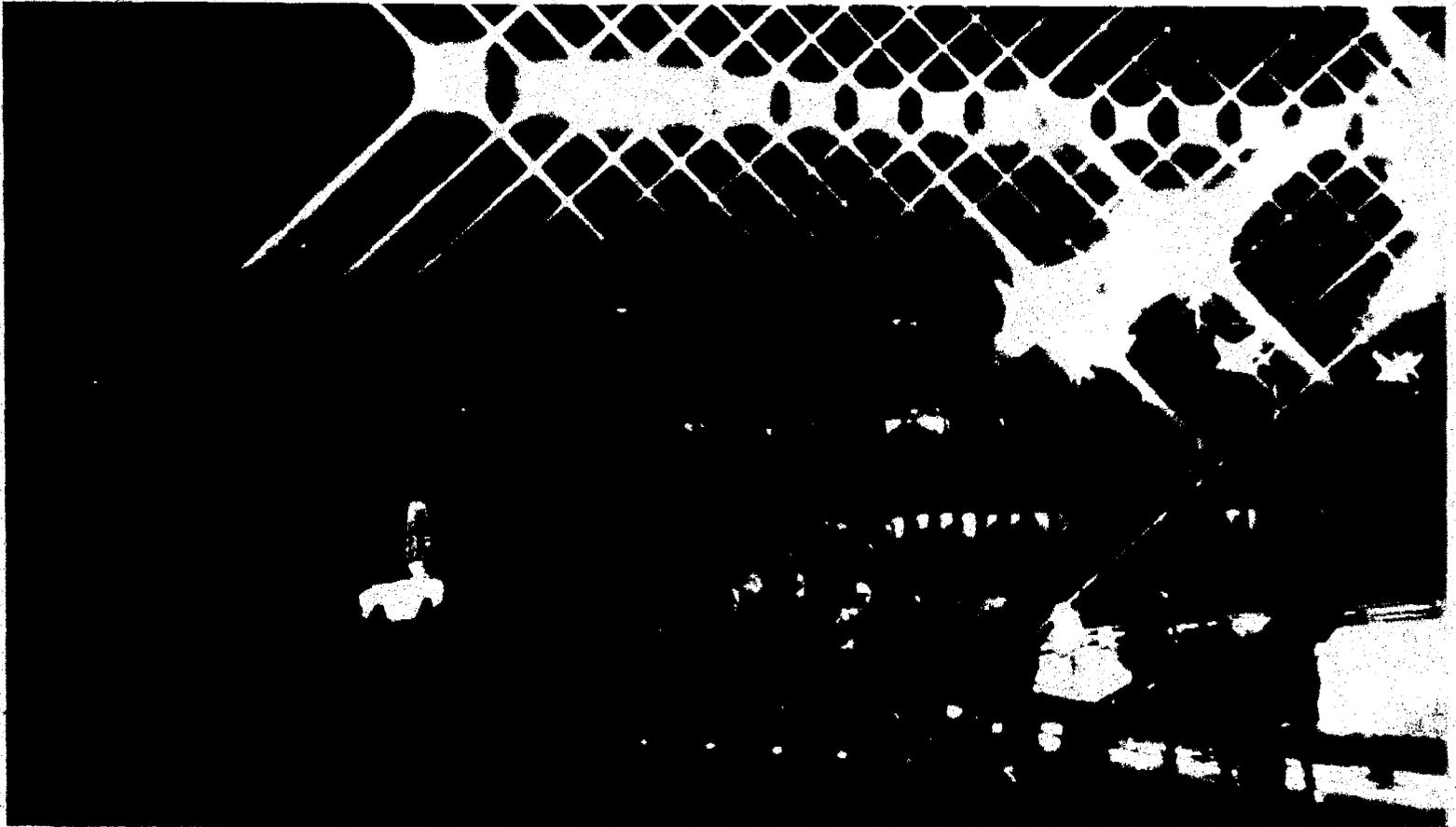


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50 years of racing thrills

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

On Jan 2, 1993, Northville Downs Racetrack will celebrate 50 years of pari-mutuel harness racing.

Originally, the track was part of the Wayne County fairgrounds. At that time there were no night races and all racing was a seasonal thing.

In 1944, the Northville Driving Club was approached by a group of businessmen from Buffalo, NY to discuss night racing and pari-mutuel betting. The prospect was not received with great enthusiasm at first. There was no precedent for night racing anywhere in the country. It was a widely-held belief that horses would not race under lights and that harness racing was not a nighttime sport.

There were some difficulties in procuring light poles, lights, wiring, and the steel girders needed to make the grandstand safe for a capacity crowd. The truly difficult task undertaken by the Buffalo group was convincing owners and trainers that it would not be a waste of money to run their horses under the lights.

In the end, each owner was promised a flat fee of \$100 for each horse entered at the Downs. This fee was completely separate from whatever purse was shared by the winners.

The first race day in the fall of 1944, with the revamped grandstands and lights in place, featured less than 30 horses. With a nod to the

traditions of the county fair, the field in the first race came back for the fourth and seventh, the second returned for the fifth and eighth, and the starters in the third race came back in the sixth.

Since then, fifty years have proven that horses race as well at night under lights as they do during the day, Northville Downs has been an active and profitable part of Northville's business community.

Over the years, the track has had a considerable effect on Northville's growth as a community.

"Northville became a city because of the racetrack," said Margaret Zayti, one of the Northville Downs partners. "As a village, Northville could not receive the state funds generated by the track."

Under the Michigan Racing Law, only a city or a township can receive matching funds from the state. When Northville received funds as a village it got \$368,500 towards the Northville Community Building.

As a result, the Village of Northville became the city of Northville in 1960.

Since 1944, more than \$1.7 billion has been wagered at Northville Downs. Of that money, \$15,381,858 has come back to Northville through state funds set down by the Michigan Racing Law.

Over the years, the Downs has also paid taxes to the former Village of Northville (\$368,500) and to the City of Northville \$5, 644, 804.

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Northville Downs

50 YEARS OF RACING
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EDITION
JAN. 2, 1993

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CONTROLLER

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CONTRIBUTORS:

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Bill Sliger

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Tim Shuller

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- Northville Historical Society
- Northville Chamber of Commerce
- Northville City Hall
- Jane Frederick
- The Crier newspapers

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The Downs has come a long way since its hurdle start

BY AL COFFMAN

To look at Northville Downs today, it's hard to believe the little half-miler on the outskirts of Detroit got its start as a harness track in the early years of the 20th century as a simple county-fair operation.

The Downs is a small gem of a place, as picturesque and modern a track as you'll find anywhere for its compact size.

Its history goes back to 1902 when a group of local residents pooled their money, bought a tract of land, carved out a track and started the Wayne County Fair.

It wasn't until 1926 when the same group decided they needed a grandstand and held a stock sale - 300 shares at \$10 each - to build a structure holding 2,000 people.

That's the Northville Downs I remember upon seeing it for the first time in 1945 shortly after World War II.

It was the year after a group of Buffalo investors had come to terms with the Northville Driving Club and put on a midsummer harness meet with parimutuel betting and night racing.

Earlier there had been short but disappointing thoroughbred meets on the site at Northville Road and Seven Mile.

The runners were in action four days in 1939 and 11 in 1940. A Jackson group tried night harness dates in 1943, but went broke.

Then in '44 along came a group from Buffalo - John Carlo, Sam Weidrick, Harold Dennison, Abe Goldberg, Earl Reed and Max Brock - and they got things rolling.

It was a struggle for them at first. The Downs opened with a mere 30 horses on the grounds, and there were double heats with 24 horses in action in a single night. Sometimes the same horses would race three or four straight nights.

A 20-night fall meet averaged a mere \$20,000 in betting.

With the end of the war many more fans found their way to Northville, a tedious 30-mile trip from downtown Detroit via public transportation.

I was one of those early fans, me and an office-boy sidekick from the Detroit Free Press - Sid Berkowitz, destined to become my brother-in-law.

We'd catch a DSR streetcar or bus at Capitol Park a few blocks from the newspaper offices, ride up Grand River Ave. for 45 minutes and then catch a shuttle to the track from Seven Mile Road.

Sid and I had spent many a night at the Free Press watching the Northville results come in via telegraph. Our appetite for racing was whetted by a one-armed oldtimer at the Morse key - Randall (Prince) Hann. He'd regale us with tales of the local tracks - the old

Detroit Fairgrounds, where the thoroughbreds ran, and of Northville, of course.

With a couple of other Morse operators, Prince converted us to horse betting - on a very modest scale considering our \$15 weekly pay.

Northville Downs was a delight for all its modes of facilities. There was the fresh country air and the excitement of the trotters and pacers.

In 1947, when Free Press racing writer John Sabo left to buy a bowling establishment, I inherited the horse racing "beat" and began a lifetime career.

Over the years I watched Northville Downs weather one storm after another - disputes with the Driving Club on leases, squabbles with racing commissioner on dates and facilities, competition with bigger harness rivals at the Detroit Race Course and Haze Park Raceway.

The Downs, which started out with the prized summer dates, had to settle later for spring, fall and even winter meets, but in 1959 it got a valuable tenant in Jackson Raceway run by Leon Slavin.

That Kalamazoo paper mill owner and sportsman made a success of his outstate half-miler, then branched out to Northville through a lease and paved the way for more Downs improvements.

In the 1980's John Carlo passed from the scene, but left the Downs in the capable hands of his nephew Lou and his longtime assistant Margaret Zayti.

Lou had come out of college to enter harness racing at his uncle's harness track in Lebanon, O, and he went on to pick up valuable experience as parimutuel manager at Northville.

Mrs. Zayti, who had come to this area as a young girl from Canada in the mid 1940's, got a job as secretary at the track in 1948. Gradually she took on added duties until she reached her present position of executive manager, while Lou Carlo serves as director of operations.

Together they have carried out major improvements, particularly in 1988, and these have made the Downs the showplace it is today.

Not only are the facilities attractive and crowd pleasing, but the Northville executives have added such touches as small closed-circuit television sets at front-window locations in the stands to give fans an even closer look at the action on the track.

Truly the Downs has done itself proud and hopefully it will carry an honored horse racing tradition for another 50 or more years.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Al Coffman was better known as "Al Speed" for when he covered horse racing for The Detroit News and the Detroit Free Press from 1947 until he retired in 1990. He still follows the track while free lancing in Farmington Hills.

N'ville Driving Club is forerunner of track

BY BILL SLIGER

While Northville Downs celebrates its 50th year of harness racing, another local group with a keen interest in sulky-style racing can point to a history nearly twice as long.

Back around the turn of the century these sulky enthusiasts would hold races on a five block straight-away stretch of Dunlap street. Six abreast they ran flat-out from Rogers to Center street.

They were the pioneers who formed the Northville Driving Club in 1907. Today, the Driving Club corporation owns approximately 70 per cent of the track property.

The Northville Driving Club is Northville Downs' landlord.

Its history is marked by both high-flying and rocky times in its relationship with the Downs, the community of Northville and within its own membership.

In the beginning, the sulky drivers would race down Dunlap street for prizes like bridles, hobbles or a blanket. History records that the early contestants included Bob Thomas, Bill Lockwood, Prine White, Claude Shafer, George Rattenbury, George and Bill Van Fleet, George Stanley, M.B. (Soupy) Burrows and W.A. (Bill) Ely.

At that time Bill Ely was chairman of the Wayne County Board of Supervisors and manager of the old Ambler Hotel, meeting place for all the horsemen. The Ambler stood at the southwest corner of Main and Center before it was destroyed by fire.

Harness racing interest ran so high that a track was built on the old Ed Starkweather farm on West Seven Mile road, a mile or so out of town. Starkweather operated one of the finest harness racing horse breeding farms in the state.

Three years later the enthusiasts banded together and purchased 26 acres on the south boundary of the village just east of Center street.

It would be 37 years before the site would become the home of Northville Downs. Today the facility covers 40 acres.

It was 1907 when the one-half mile track was constructed through a series of "building bees" and free labor. The organizers incorporated as the Northville Driving Club and sold 159 of the 300 capital shares of stock. Local citizens taking leading roles in construction of the track included Frank and Heme Hamilton, George Gibson, Ed Starkweather, Lou Bullen, George Rattenbury and Ulie Tibbitts.

Barns were constructed and soon matinee races were staged with entrants from throughout Michigan and Indiana. The track became known as the best in this region of the country and attracted racing fans in such droves that the streets of the village were lined with vehicles over-

flowing onto the lawns surrounding the track.

All this before the introduction of pari-mutuel betting.

In 1916 it was decided that a county fair should be held in conjunction with the race meet. Local citizens heading up this effort included T. G. Richardson, Marvin Sloan and Cass Benton.

It marked the beginning of 27 annual County Fairs on the grounds that would one day become Northville Downs.

At that time it was also decided that a more appropriate name for promotion of the fairs was needed. Thus the Northville Driving Club became Wayne County Fair Association.

In 1940 the Northville Driving Club name was restored. The action came about when the director of fairs for the state ruled that because Northville's Wayne County Fair Association was a profit sharing corporation it was not entitled to receive state money for fair premiums. This after 25 years of staging the fairs.

The non-profit association would conduct two more county fairs at the track in 1942 and 43.

In 1944, the old Driving Club was back in action. Encouraged by State Racing Commissioner William Dowling, pari-mutuel night harness racing was born at the Northville Driving Club's track.

A contract between Northville Downs Association and the Driving Club was signed in 1944. That fall, fans watched and wagered on the sulkies from open grandstands and the rails at a 16-night meet.

It wasn't many years before the success of the race meets at the Downs sent the price of the limited number of Driving Club shares soaring to \$500 per share. To bring the price down to \$10, all shareholders were given 50 shares for each one they owned.

The most powerful figure in those days of Driving Club activities was Dr. Linwood Snow, an MD and homeopathic physician. In the late 1930's Dr. Snow served as manager of the Michigan State Fair, a job he enjoyed even though his practice as a physician was demanding.

He had strong community ties and was politically active in a behind-the-scenes role. Northville was a village in those days and there was no provision for racing revenue rebates. When state law was enacted to return a share of the state's take from local pari-mutuel betting to the "city" in which the track was located, the village of Northville was still "outside looking in" at such potential revenue. In reality this carrot at the end of the city-hood stick served as a strong influence in the vote that led to the incorporation of Northville as a city in the end of 1955.

Meanwhile, Dr. Snow was the man in Northville when it came to activities of

Please see pg. 14

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The author, Bill Sliger, is the former owner-publisher of Sliger Home Newspapers, which included The Northville Record, Novi News, South Lyon Herald and Brighton Argus. Early history accounts of the Driving Club were taken from an article believed to have been written by Dr. Linwood Snow.)

OFFICIAL BALLOT

Northville Driving Club Corp.

ANNUAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Friday, January 9, 1953

	JOHN LITSEMBERGER
	ARTHUR SCHNUTE
	NELSON SCHRADER
	GERALD TAFT
	EDMUND P. YERKES

Please indicate number of shares you are voting.

If you are using cumulative method of voting, indicate the exact number of votes opposite each candidate's name for whom you desire to vote. Make sure total vote cast does not exceed five times the number of shares voted.

Mary
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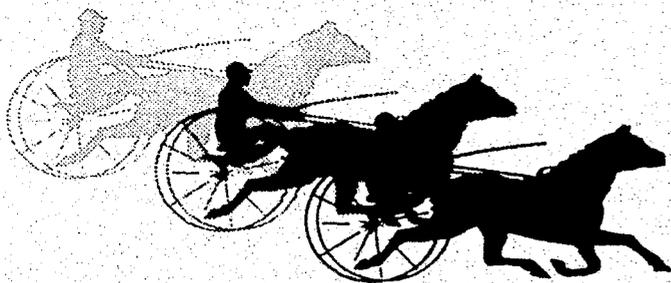
50

Much gratitude and appreciation to our many racing fans and to Northville Downs who brought us all together.

The Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association



GEORGE RATTENBURY



Drangelis & Ashton congratulates Northville Downs, the pioneer harness track of the midwest, on 50 years of successful harness racing. To Lou Carlo, Margaret Zayti and all the men and women of Northville Downs we say - "Well Done!"

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The Family...

Rattenbury is Downs' history personified

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

It would be easy to say that George Rattenbury is a regular fixture of Northville Downs. The opposite is true.

Rattenbury is Northville Downs.

At age 93, Rattenbury still races at Northville Downs competitively. Rattenbury, a member of the Michigan Harness Racing Hall of Fame, has been involved in harness racing from a very early age.

"My uncle, George Rattenbury, and Ed Starkweather built the racetrack," Rattenbury said. "My father bred and trained horses for a living. I've been doing this all my life."

"I grew up before cars and trucks were common," Rattenbury said, "so horses were the thing, it was the way that people got around."

Rattenbury's career as a jockey started by chance in 1917 when he was 19 years old.

"My father was unable to make it to the track due to the weather. I asked who would run the horse and I was the only one who he trusted."

Rattenbury came in 2nd place in his first professional harness race. Later that day, he took first place.

"When he (his father) heard about the day that I had at the track he never raced again. From then on, I was the one that raced the horses."

Rattenbury has raced every year for the last 75 years since that eventful day. According to Rattenbury, the sport has changed greatly since the days when he started racing.

"It used to be that every town had a fairground where there were races," Rattenbury said. "One week we would be in Northville, then Redford the next, then Plymouth, Farmington, there were always places to race."

In the off-season, back when there wasn't winter racing, Rattenbury worked at the local A&P as the manager of the meat department. He takes pride in the fact that they offered personal service rather than the "prepackaged way they serve people now."

Rattenbury also traveled around the country going to races. "Before there was year-round racing we had to follow the fairs to keep racing. I went to New York, California, all across the country," Rattenbury said.

While his career spans 75 years, Rattenbury's record isn't clear. "The rules used to say that 3 heats qualified as a race, now each heat is considered a race by itself," Rattenbury said.

According to Rattenbury, the judging of races is not the only thing that has changed in those 75 years.

"When I started to race, the bookies would set up stands at the track and make book themselves," he said.

"One person would take bets and the other would work out the odds in their handbooks. Now all the betting is done by the track.

"A horse now can make more in one race than we used to make in a whole year. Racing used to be a pleasure sport, now it's a business," Rattenbury said.

Rattenbury's horse, a seven-year-old named Chicory Norm, has been lame for the last few months and been unable to race. In the meantime, Rattenbury has kept busy at the racetrack.

"I do what I do best, nothing."

Rattenbury will be back on the track on Jan. 2 at the reins of Chicory Norm for another year of racing at Northville Downs.

'Temporary Clerk' Zayti enjoys 47th year at Downs

In 1946, Margaret Zayti took a job as a temporary payroll clerk at the recently opened Northville Downs.

Almost fifty years after taking the "temporary" job as a clerk, Mrs. Zayti is a Northville Downs partner and recording secretary. No one in the front office has worked at the track longer.

A mother of three grown children, Mrs. Zayti has been active in the businesses and community of Northville for most of her adult life. She is a Vice President and stockholder in J.J. Zayti Trucking, Inc.. Zayti also worked for the United Fund directing the local business drive and was active in the Northville Community Chamber of Commerce and was its secretary for 11 years until 1976.

From "gal Friday" to "executive manager," Mrs. Zayti's role at Northville Downs has been anything but temporary.



JOHN CARLO and NERO

From uncle to nephew, Downs is still family

Lou Carlo, executive manager of Northville Downs, has been involved in racing for most of his life. His uncle, the late John Carlo, was one of the founders of the Downs back in 1944.

When Carlo, a native of Buffalo, NY, went to work for his uncle at age 19 he was green and was considering dropping out of high school. After working for and with John Carlo (who supported his continuing education) he developed a powerful drive towards excellence in whatever he set his mind to accomplishing.

After his uncle's death in 1986, Carlo took over the operation of the Downs and other tracks in Ohio and Kentucky.

A Michigan State graduate with a degree in economics with honors, former member of the army, and a father of six, Carlo runs the Downs from his home in Ohio.



MARGARET ZAYTI (Crier photo by Tim Shuller)

Carlo defied critics, built harness legend

John Carlo was one of the original six investors that made up the Buffalo group that brought pari-mutuel harness racing to Northville Downs. A native of Buffalo, NY, Carlo came to Northville to discuss the possibility of running horses at night.

Although Carlo, an attorney, and the rest of the Buffalo group weren't expected to make their plans for the Northville track work, they sunk both time and money into the project.

With the nay-sayers in full force, the Northville Downs track opened on time and now represents the largest share of the city's tax base and is a horse racing success story.

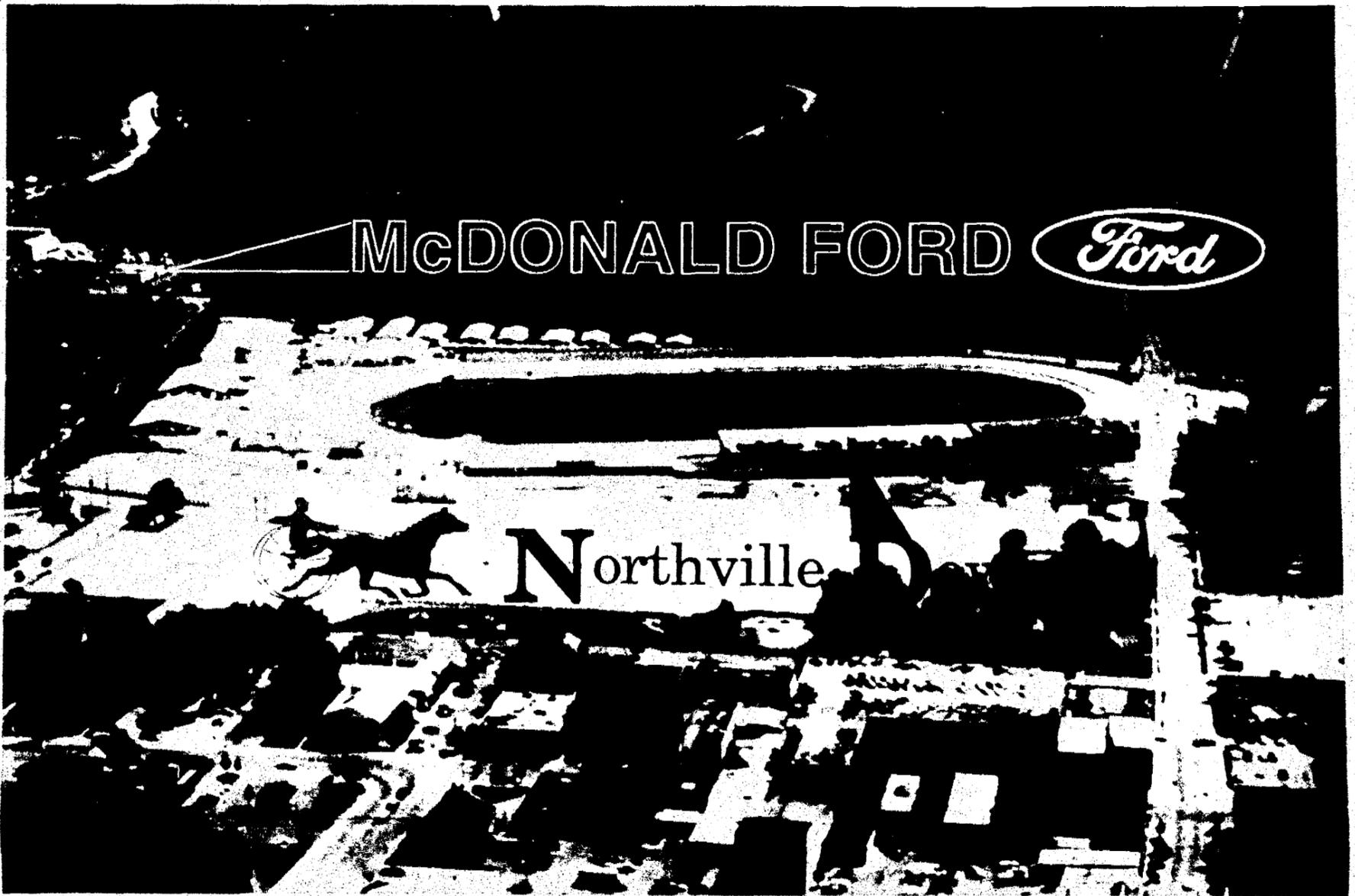
After bringing his nephew, Lou Carlo, on as a partner he used the Downs as a base from which he ran racing operations in three other states.

In the late seventies, with his health failing, Carlo passed the running of the out-of-state operations to his nephew Lou. He passed away in 1986, at 88 years of age.



LOU CARLO (Crier photo by Tim Shuller)

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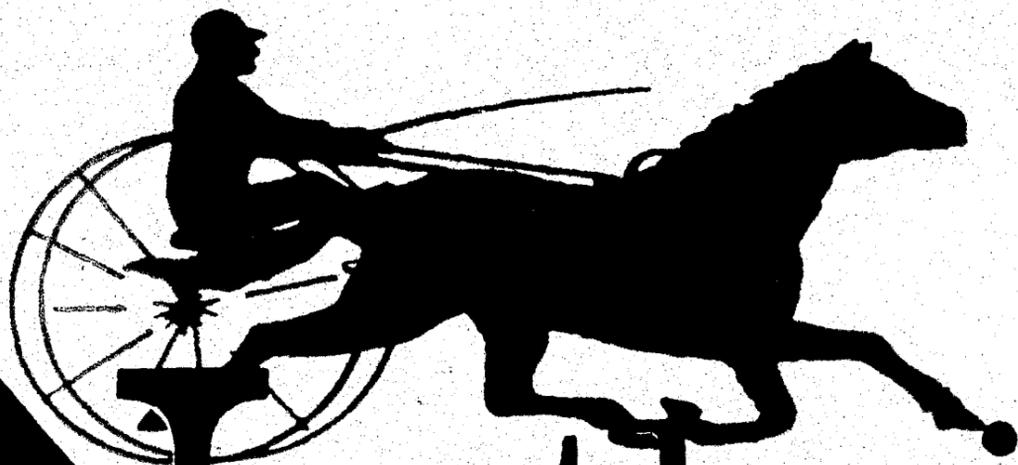
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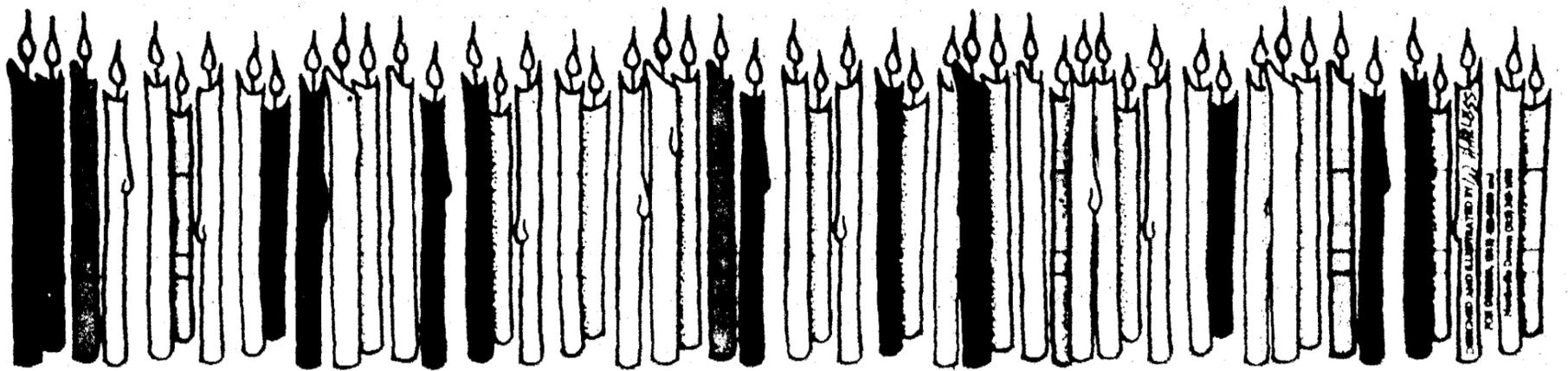
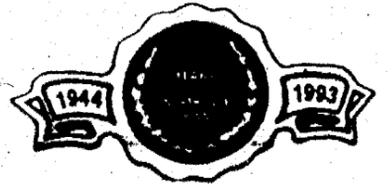
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Northville Downs



Northville Downs Harness Records

PACERS

Aged Horse	ABER TIME (R. Mancik) 12-1-90	1:56 ²
Aged Mare	SHARON AGAIN (J. James) 1-12-91	1:57 ²
Aged Gelding	WA THIAMINE (M. Jordan) 10-27-90	1:56 ²
4 YO Horse	SACHEM (K. Crawford) 10-20-90	*1:55 ⁴
4 YO Mare	PUNCTUALITY (J. Perttunen) 11-3-90	1:58 ¹
4 YO Gelding	ARMBRO IRVING (J. James) 12-17-91	*1:55 ⁴
3 YO Colt	FORTYSIX EXTRALONG (T. Boring) 11-2-90	1:57 ²
	CRABBY YANKEE (C. Boring) 10-14-91	1:57 ²
3 YO Filly	WINTER ALERT (D. Wright) 11-13-87	1:59
3 YO Gelding	YOU SNOOZE YOU LOOZ (R. Wrenn) 11-1-91	1:56 ¹
2 YO Colt	STRAIGHT SEAL (C. Putnam) 10-17-90	2:00
2 YO Filly	POMPANO MISS (Jo. Putman) 10-18-88	2:00 ³
2 YO Gelding	STANDUP COMEDIAN (J. James) 11-25-91	2:00 ³

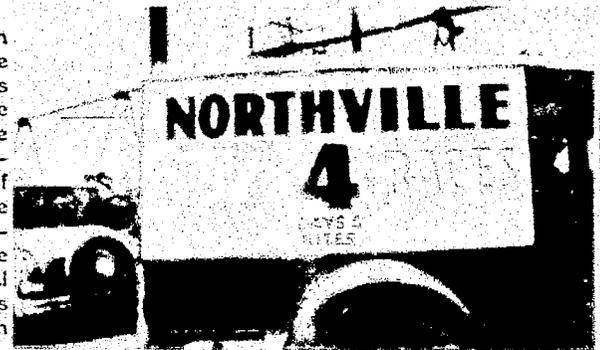
TROTTERS

Aged Horse	IGNITOR (L. Smith) 10-23-87	2:00 ²
Aged Mare	MS LA MIRAGE (T. Boring) 2-26-89	2:01
Aged Gelding	JEFF'S PLAYBOY (C. Putnam) 10-29-90	*1:59
	HEY FOXTROT (P. Wrenn) 10-29-90	*1:59
	PIECE DERESISTANCE (K. Crawford) 10-18-91	*1:59
4 YO Horse	A. CS VIKING (S. Russell) 6-28-63	2:01
4 YO Mare	MS. LA MIRAGE (T. Boring) 11-26-88	2:00 ²
4 YO Gelding	LORD ARNOLD (D. Venier) 3-20-92	2:00 ¹
3 YO Colt	M W HOOSIER (P. Norris) 10-25-91	2:01 ¹
3 YO Filly	EQUINOX JOIE (D. Venier) 12-9-88	2:02
3 YO Gelding	TEDDY'S TOY (R. Mancik) 10-27-89	2:00 ²
2 YO Filly	HIGHLEY JAY DEE (A. McMurray) 10-15-85	2:06 ²
2 YO Gelding	TEDDY'S TOY (D. Currier) 12-17-88	2:04 ¹

*Track Record

Fairs and racing are a big part of Northville's History

This sign promoted the harness races at the 1932 Wayne County Fair - on the site of Northville Downs - From the Historical Society's collection



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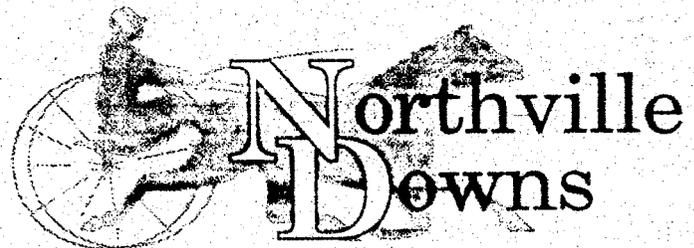
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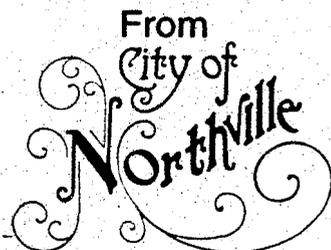
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ON 50 YEARS OF RACING



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AND ALL THE STAFF AT

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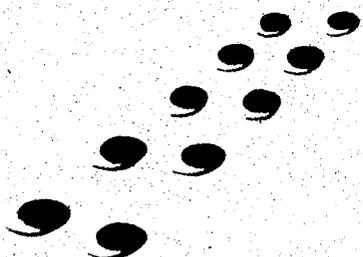


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Driving Club is forerunner

Continued from pg. 5

the Driving Club. His negotiations with John J. Carlo, general manager of the Downs, usually boiled down to dollars.

While Dr. Snow owned the most shares of Driving Club stock, there were other influential shareholders. Nelson C. Schrader, a furniture store owner, and Attorney Clifton Hill were two of the Driving Club's chief spokesmen. Later L. W. (Buz) Snow, Jr., would take an active role representing his father.

Still later, A. M. Allen, Dr. Snow's son-in-law, would become a director after serving as Northville mayor for 19 years.

Dr. Snow was proud of the contributions the Driving Club (and Northville Downs) made to the community. In an article he authored in 1955 he noted that "Northville Driving Club inserted third party beneficiary clause in its contract with the Downs providing for payment of \$500 per night during the racing season, all monies to be used for construction of a community building." The building, now used for recreation activities, stands on Main street west of City Hall.

Even though there were frequently stormy sessions as Northville Downs and the Driving Club negotiated landlord-tenant contracts, Dr. Snow and Carlo maintained a good working relationship. In the late 1960's the Driving Club agreed to a sharp cut in its lease agreement for a period of 10 years to assist the Downs in paying for major improvements. A new clubhouse was constructed along with

modernization and enclosing of the grandstands. The Driving Club stood to gain in the long run. All buildings - constructed or improved upon their property belonged to them.

The Driving Club had been receiving from one to one and one-half per cent of the mutuel handle (money wagered) as its rental payment. The Downs also paid all property taxes above \$10,000 and gave the Driving Club half the rent it received from Jackson for its fall meet at the Downs. One per cent of the mutuel handle then amounted to as much as \$300,000 annually. For 10 years the Driving Club cut the rent to \$65,000 per year.

Today a 10-year lease running through 1998 calls for annual rental payments of 1 1/2 per cent of the mutuel handle.

While in the late 1950's Dr. Snow wrote that the 220 stockholders of the Driving Club were "practically all residents of this community . . . including such well known names as Mainville, Lapham, Amerman, Schrader, Clark Hill, Van Atta, Litsenberger, Casterline, Haller, Ely and Capuzzi," the composition of directors and major stockholders of the Driving Club was to change dramatically in 1978.

The late Nelson C. Schrader was president of the Driving Club board when the local organization found itself split by controversy.

Newspaper reports of events leading

Please see pg. 17

CONGRATULATIONS

LOU & MARGARET

On 50 years of racing

AT NORTHVILLE DOWNS



&

Thanks for our
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**COMMERCIAL
SOUND DESIGN, INC.**

11 million fans + Downs = Impact!

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER

The impact of Northville Downs is felt throughout Southeast Michigan.

During the next couple months, the 11 MILLIONTH VISITOR will walk through the turnstiles and into Northville Downs. (A fitting event to mark the start of a Half Century of Racing at the Downs!)

And those millions of horse racing enthusiasts have a big impact on the area.

That impact is seen in cash registers of community businesses and at Northville City Hall.

"They're probably the most invisible visible thing in town," sums up John Genitti, who owns Genitti's Restaurant with his wife Toni. He praised the impact that the Downs' crowds have on town and the neighborly way the Downs owners and employes react with the

community.

"Even though its the biggest thing in town, they don't interfere.

"And anytime we ask for something for town, they can be counted on," Genitti said. "Money for fund raisers, free parking for an event in town like the Victorian Festival - they always come through.

"We're very lucky to have them," the restaurateur added.

Bill Sliger, the former publisher of Sliger Newspapers which were once published in Northville, agreed. "We've editorialized many times in the past that the track was good for town.

"One of our community's economic advantages is that, unlike most industries, the Downs operates six months of the year and brings no school children to town," Sliger said.

"But it's also that they're community-minded, allowing their facilities to be used for events," the retired newspaperman noted.

The track means other business too.

Every improvement to the grounds - and there have many over the years - means a contractor is hired, materials are purchased and jobs are created. According to statistics from 1944, the total of improvements to the land by Northville Downs amounts to some \$8,180,000. That's quite a few two-by-fours from Northville Lumber!

Horse racing as an industry provides many other jobs as well.

Perfecta Farms in Salem Township provides 112 stalls for training and stabling. (As of press time, 101 horses were in stall; about 60 per cent of them were running during the Jackson at Northville meet.) Its the largest of a dozen "public" stables and training centers in the Canton-South Lyon-Milford-Nov- Northville area and includes a swimming pool for training equines.

Gary Van Buren, Perfecta's owner when he's not busy running Van Buren Electric, credits the Downs with being more than a business creator.

"It definitely creates jobs in our community," he said. "People work when the races are on but year round too. It brings a lot of income to the state."

But he also noted the impact of the Downs on the businesses and the community in other ways.

"When they have matinees, those ticket sellers all go out to lunch somewhere in the Northville-Plymouth area," Van Buren pointed out.

"It also gives Northville an area where they can hold other events - and all those

events, as well as racing, bring people in," he said.

Many of the Downs' symbiotic business relationships go back a long way.

Jack Hertenstein, is vice president of operations for Sportservice - the food and beverage vendor of the Downs. "They're definitely one of our oldest clients along with Detroit baseball and Chicago baseball," he said.

The Buffalo, NY based company handles some 60 clients at major facilities around the country. "Our relationship with the Downs has been very satisfactory," he said. "They've had the same people over a long period of time - it's consistency."

Northville Downs' impact at Northville City Hall is significant too.

While the crowds may at times pose traffic control duties on the city's police force, the track's property taxes, direct payments and state re-imbursments have helped the city add projects and fund services used elsewhere in the town.

Over \$20 million in property taxes and state reimbursements has flowed through Northville City Hall through the Downs arrangement with its host landlord, the Northville Driving Club (and its new name, the Northville Harness Raceway, Inc.). Additionally, when Northville was a village, \$368,500 was paid as the Downs' share towards the Community Center construction.

In many ways, Northville Downs has a big impact on the community.

With 11 million visitors, how could it help but add to the local economy?

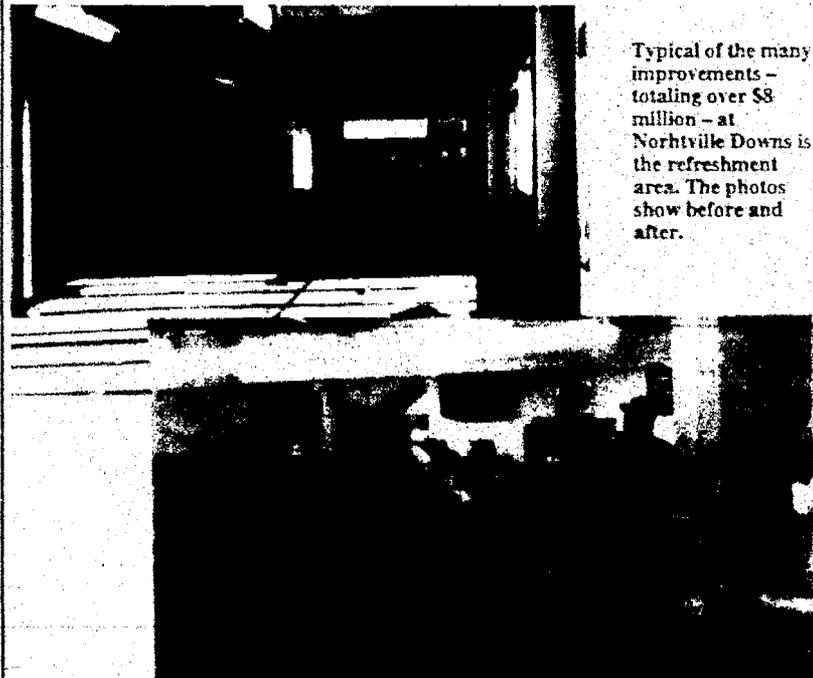
But its family-ownership-operations have contributed to the community for 50 years by being a good neighbor too, say the experts.

EDITOR'S NOTE: W. Edward Wendover is publisher of The Crier newspaper and president of COMMA. - the publishing company that has aided Northville Downs in preparing this 50 year anniversary book for the community.

Mutuel Handle & Attendance

Year	Northville Downs			Jackson at Northville		
	Days	Attendance	Handle	Days	Attendance	Handle
1944	35	49,594	\$ 1,134,556			
1945	59	108,501	3,985,569			
1946	57	188,370	7,577,812			
1947	47	189,668	7,512,255			
1948	59	260,148	11,508,681			
1949	51	221,058	8,437,889			
1950	51	216,591	8,427,802			
1951	52	232,222	10,463,156			
1952	53	202,223	12,130,530			
1953	48	195,824	11,512,019			
1954	38	147,853	8,810,557			
1955	38	156,906	9,568,720			
1956	35	141,174	8,954,509			
1957	38	179,959	9,496,850			
1958	36	182,850	8,715,882			
1959	36	180,125	8,577,675			
1960	39	195,623	9,368,572			
1961	38	186,172	8,530,933			
1962	42	195,185	9,488,973			
1963	45	197,136	10,767,010			
1964	48	232,416	13,349,075			
1965	57	255,228	15,760,090			
1966	35	153,119	10,251,346			
1967	54	207,211	13,859,534			
1968	54	229,978	16,783,589			
1969	54	244,807	18,576,249	30	76,473	\$ 6,250,165
1970	54	264,663	19,907,318	40	139,063	10,139,063
1971	79	329,835	24,952,586	42	127,873	10,763,640
1972	75	282,031	23,394,628	71	208,032	18,294,828
1973	75	278,794	23,120,636	69	220,891	20,444,950
1974	62	278,794	21,050,919	81	220,891	24,391,264
1975	82	315,447	31,360,445	61	188,822	19,493,742
1976	86	287,935	30,777,239	57	174,634	19,866,561
1977	84	261,074	30,625,794	57	188,822	23,650,400
1978	84	251,240	33,418,397	59	185,061	25,186,646
1979	84	281,581	39,758,688	59	174,047	23,759,666
1980	83	284,278	40,558,347	61	182,462	25,605,207
1981	79	273,216	39,401,156	62	174,289	25,182,423
1982	78	219,168	31,978,680	63	212,957	32,133,606
1983	78	265,254	40,896,958	62	176,553	27,980,954
1984	85	274,926	44,188,504	64	206,522	35,258,987
1985	87	244,218	43,895,766	66	190,795	36,258,987
1986	97	278,515	53,106,279	61	178,355	33,861,497
1987	95	266,758	50,061,038	61	167,313	33,592,227
1988	92	230,910	45,708,231	64	159,490	33,121,399
1989	88	212,647	42,976,493	65	168,656	34,514,674
1990	88	221,856	44,774,483	66	169,538	33,586,802
1991	87	221,562	42,900,307	67	168,307	32,840,770
1992	88	226,025	44,980,905	(NOT COMPLETED)		
Totals	3006	10,940,821	\$1,117,293,680	1388	4,067,300	\$586,563,780

NOTE: State records show the Fair at Northville also had four racing days in 1939 (attendance, 3,896; wagered, \$25,996) and 11 racing days in 1940 (attendance, 54,787; wagered, \$343,634).



Typical of the many improvements - totaling over \$8 million - at Northville Downs is the refreshment area. The photos show before and after.

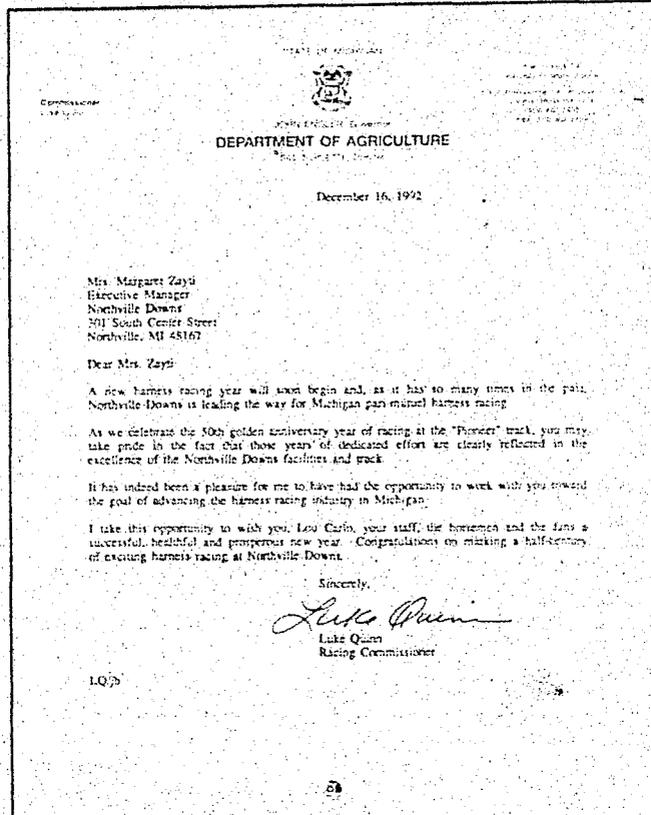
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Driving Club is track forerunner

Continued from pg. 14

to the March, 1978 Driving Club annual stockholders' meeting reveal an offer by Downs General Manager Carlo to buy all stock of the Driving Club triggered the shareholder storm.

For a number of years both the Driving Club and the Downs had tossed around the idea of single ownership of the track property and track racing license (the latter owned by the Downs).

According to Schrader, the board of directors had instructed him to meet with Carlo and come back with an offer for the Driving Club stock. Schrader said he reported the \$100 per share offer without a recommendation. The going price at the time was \$50 per share.

The old Driving Club stock had been considered worthless until the introduction of harness racing accompanied by pari-mutuel betting. Slowly it became a highly profitable investment. The biggest stockholders enjoyed well-paid positions on the board of directors. Frequently they awarded these posts, which required little more than attendance at meetings, to sons or sons-in-law.

And the dividends! Shareholders surely came to enjoy the dividends that in some years ran as high as \$10 up to \$20 per share.

So it was that while many stockholders might feel that \$100 per share was a generous offer for their \$50 stock, others believed it might be worth four times that much.

Up until the day before the March 10,

1978 annual stockholders meeting, Schrader believed that the board would place the question of the sale to the Downs before shareholders. But action had been taking place of which Schrader was not aware.

Enter James H. Karoub, regarded by many as Lansing's most effective lobbyist.

What had been taking place was the formation of the "voting trust," conceived by a coalition of Karoub, Dr. Snow and his son, Buz, among others. Some 47 stockholders owning 7,302 shares committed their voting rights to the newly-formed trust. This represented a voting majority of the 14,187 shares outstanding at that time.

The new coalition had offered any stockholder \$100 per share for their stock if they favored the sale for that price to the Downs. Those shareholders who wished to retain their stock were asked to pledge their voting rights to the trust.

Among those not contacted by the new coalition were Board President Schrader and Margaret Zayti, a partner in Northville Downs and a member of the Driving Club board.

When President Schrader called for election of directors at the shareholders meeting, the Voting Trust flexed its muscles.

Instead of Schrader's son, N. C. II, and Clayton A. Pethers being re-elected to their seats on the board, the Trust announced that it had voting majority and its candidates were Allen (Dr. Snow's son-in-law) and Marshall Davis and

William Fenkell, Karoub-sponsored candidates from Southfield. Pethers was prepared for the occasion. His father-in-law was attorney Hill who had agreed to sell his shares to the trust.

But Schrader was so incensed by the rejection of his son that he resigned from the seven-member board on the spot.

The voting trust would soon revamp the board. After Schrader's resignation and when Mrs. Zayti was not re-elected to the board, new faces appeared. One new member was Karoub's sister.

Dr. Snow died in November, 1978 at the age of 82. Several years later Buz Snow would sell his stock to Karoub for \$250 per share. That left Allen, who soon found himself without a board seat. The Allens sold their 1,561 shares to Karoub, also for \$250 per share.



DR. LINWOOD W. SNOW

Today the board of directors has been reduced to three members: James H. Karoub, president; William Fenkell, vice-president; and Marshall Davis, secretary-treasurer.

Congratulations

Margaret Zayti, Lou Carlo

and the

Northville Downs Team

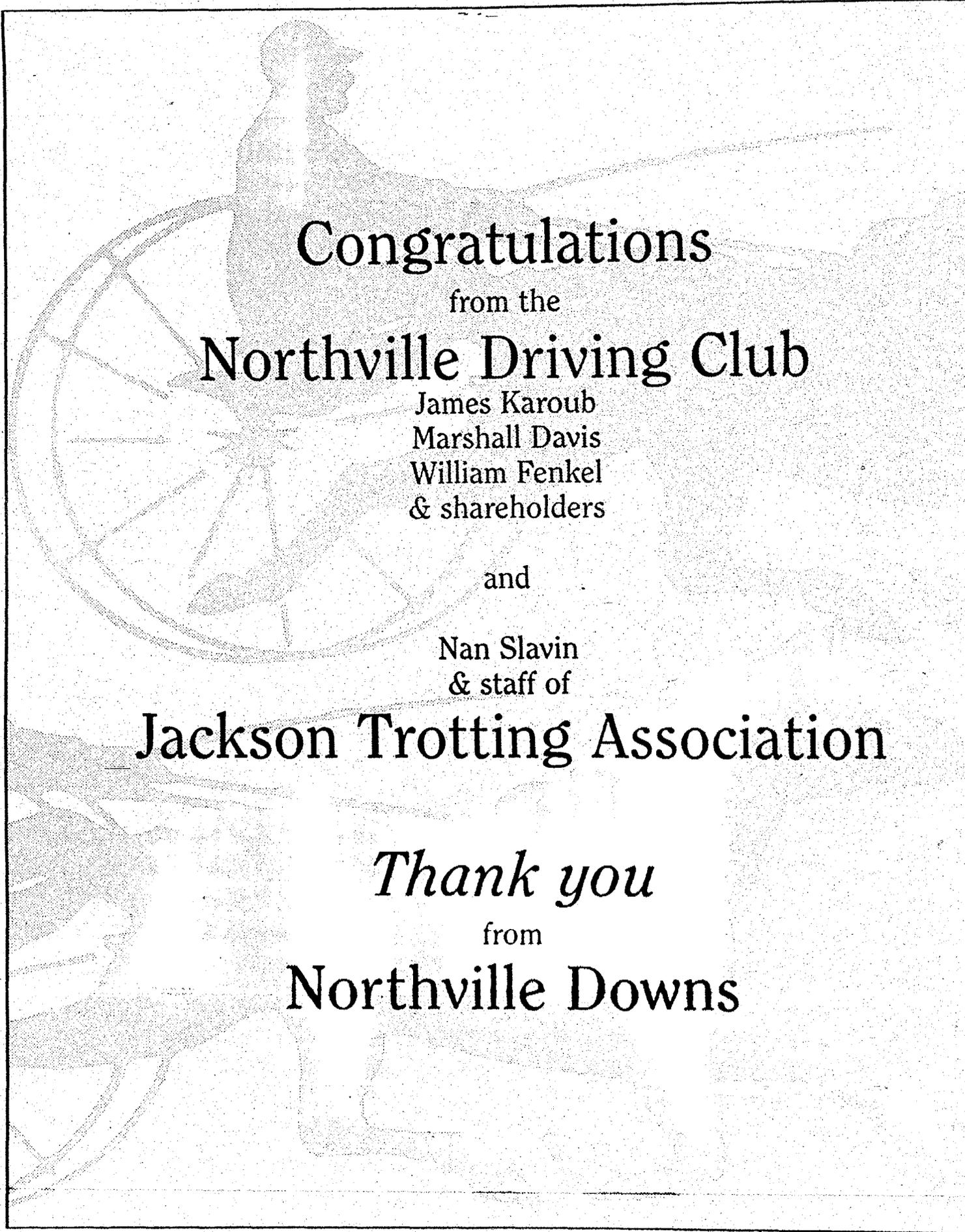
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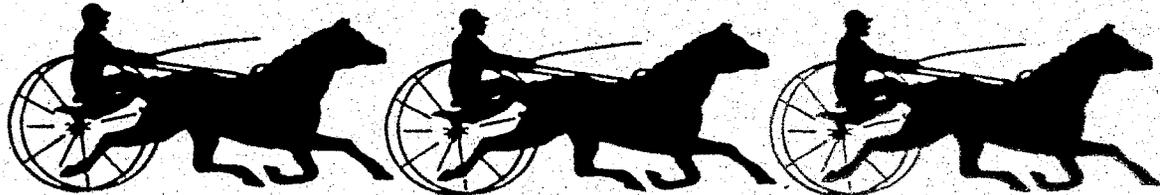
Northville Downs

Michelle Lorenzo gives her horse a bath while Melissa, 3, looks on.



It's once around the track, then home for dinner.

Northville Downs Congratulations on 50 years of racing



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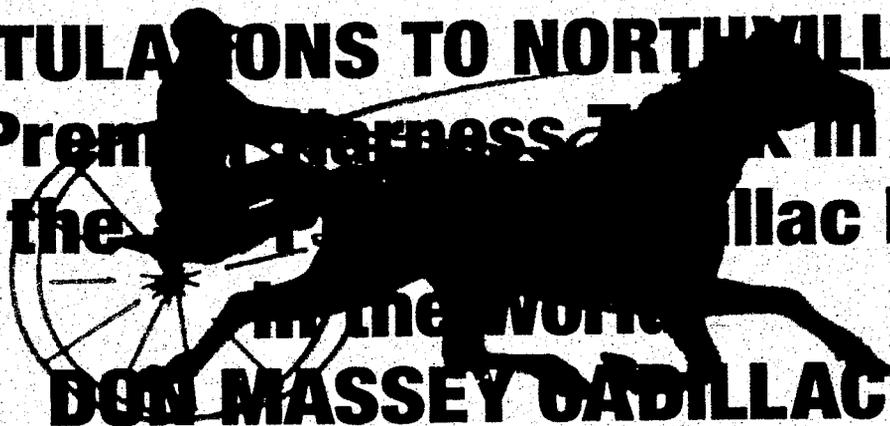
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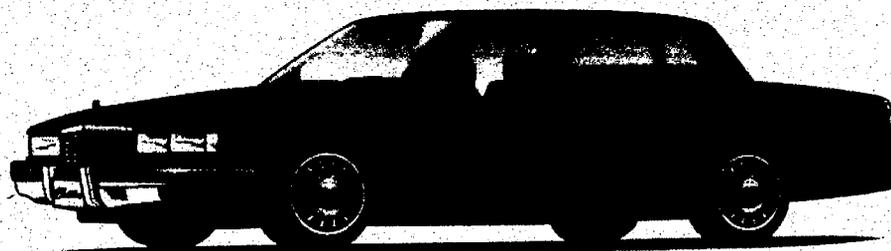
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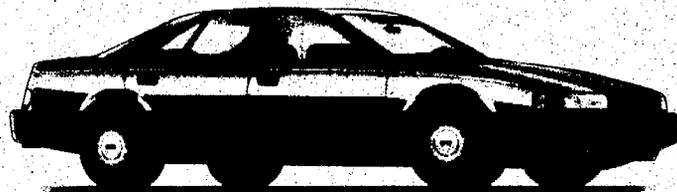


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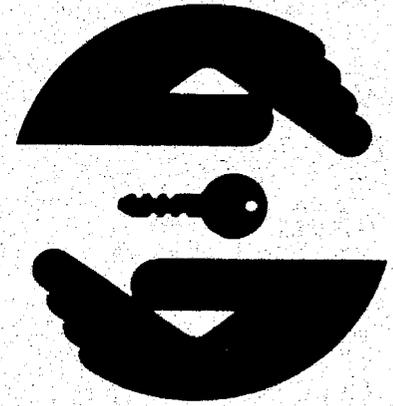
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Canton Supervisor Tom Yack

Canton eyes new growth

Continued from pg. 12

"The center will be built to suit the needs of the whole community," Yack said. "There will be exercise and recreation facilities, but there will also be facilities for non-athletic activities."

One of the projects undertaken by the township that will come to fruition in 1993 is the veterans memorial.

"It (the memorial) is not just for veterans of the war in Vietnam," said Ken Voyles, assistant to the township supervisor. "The memorial will be for all veterans of all wars."

A \$50,000 granite monument is slated to be dedicated at the second annual Liberty Festival.

The festival, which will have free concerts, fireworks and

fairway games, will be held June 25-27 at Heritage Park.

"This is going to be a family festival," said Yack. "There will be games but no rides."

The festival will also have arts and crafts, a classic car show, and a group of different bands in the Heritage Park amphitheater.

"After that we'll entertain bids from construction firms, which should be another two months."

The center, which will be paid for in part by a state grant and landfill royalties, will have a swimming pool, conference rooms, a multi-purpose gymnasium, and a running track.

"We're still in the process of finding an architectural firm that can plan the center," Yack said, "that may take two to three months."

Northville Township sees housing starts jump in 1993

Continued from pg. 12

Michael Druszewski, offered these figures:

In 1992, there were permits issued for 150 single family homes, up from 112 housing starts in 1991.

Compare those figures with that of commercial and industrial development: According to Charron there has been no new commercial construction in town, and while there were 12 industrial permits issued in 1991, none were issued in '92.

As far as commercial development was concerned, however, a central reason for the lack of activity, Charron said, was that the permits that were issued were for the eastern part of the township; a region without any room for growth.

Twp. looks ahead

Continued from pg. 13

The plan calls for commercial and residential development to be separate, and that no commercial development be approved on Ann Arbor Road west of Sheldon.

"That (promise) has been kept," she said.

Also part of the master plan is "to encourage and be supportive of Plymouth's downtown." She noted that the township will continue with the conscious decision not to compete with Plymouth's downtown retail market.



Northville Township Supervisor Karen Bala

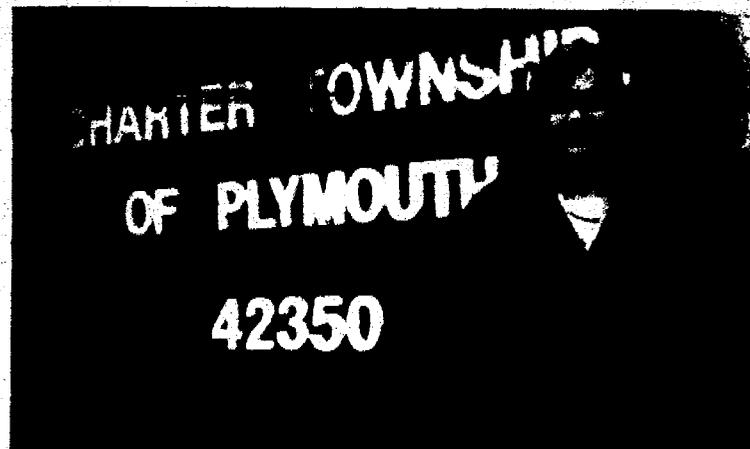
And that regional look at the township is playing a key role in residential development as well: "Our growth comes from the

western part of Northville Township," Charron said, pointing out that there are two subdivisions planned for the Six Mile and Beck area.

One of these developments is Sherwood Condo, which will consist of 30 units.

She said there would also be some more construction occurring at Haggerty and Five and Six Mile, including the "Country Club Village, which will be condos," she said.

In other developments, township officials talked about Ward Presbyterian Church apparently willing to purchase the St. John's Seminary property, which is zoned for residential and office space, Charron said.



Plymouth Twp. Supervisor Kathleen McCarthy

plus

PLYMOUTH City Hall POLICE FIRE

Plymouth Mayor Bob Jones

Plymouth to continue '92 plans

Continued from pg. 13
combining purchasing power and that the communities can find ways of "buying" goods and services from each other.

"I'm very serious on this combined services issue," Jones said, adding that "we have a greater need now than ever"

The key to the concept's success, he said, would be the ability of each community to clearly explain what shared services can be and what they might not be: "Too often, people think immediately of

combining police and fire departments and get turned off by the idea.

"This time we're making sure that everyone knows we're not aiming for making everything a 'joint' operation," he said, "only that there are other ways of doing things.

"I really think we're going to get something to fly out of this."

In the end, this search for a coordination of activities could far outstrip the importance of any other single project -- even parking on Main Street.



Northville City Manager Gary Word

N'ville slows down a bit

Continued from pg. 12
Word.

"Our focus right now is on the construction of a 470-space parking area," Word said.

The parking area is intended to provide needed spaces for the existing shops and offices, while attracting new tenants, Word stated.

to overcome before this project starts. If things go well, we might see some construction on the project before the end of 1993.

"This is something that has been in the planning stages for the last several years," he said.

On another growth front, Northville's business district has had a mostly successful holiday shopping season, he said.

"There are a number of hurdles

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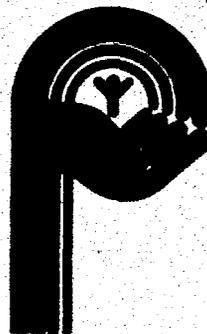
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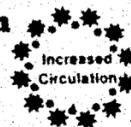
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COED VOLLEYBALL

Canton Parks and Recreation Services, in conjunction with the Plymouth Community Family YMCA, is sponsoring another session of recreational coed volleyball for adults starting Jan. 14.

Games will be played at West Middle School, from 7:45 p.m. to 9:45 p.m., and will run for six weeks.

Cost is \$22 per person and the program is open to anyone 18 and over.

Call 397-5110 for more information.

PLAY IN AUBURN HILLS

Athol Fugard's drama, "Master Harold . . . and the boys," opens Jan. 7 at 8 p.m. for a four-week run at Oakland University's Meadow Brook Theatre. Performances will be given Tuesdays through Sundays until Jan. 31, at the theater on the university's campus in Auburn Hills.

For times and ticket information call 377-3300. Group sales may be arranged by calling 370-3316. Tickets may also be obtained through any Ticketmaster outlet or by phone at 645-6666.

HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

The Class of 1958 from Detroit Cooley High School is having its 35 year reunion July 23-25.

The theme for the event, which will take place at the Sheraton Oaks Hotel in Novi, is "Lost In The Fifties."

For more information, call 887-3921.

CINDERELLA

The Plymouth branch of the A.A.U.W. will present "Cinderella" at Salem Auditorium on Jan. 21, 22 and 23.

Tickets are \$2.50 and go on sale at all Plymouth Canton Elementary Schools on Jan. 12 and 13. All remaining tickets will be sold at the Rainbow Shop beginning Jan. 17.

For more information, call 455-7153.

FUN WITH MUSIC

Canton Parks and Recreation Services in conjunction with Arnoldt Williams Music is sponsoring a "Fun with Music" for all age groups. It will provide hands on playing experience by using the latest in digital piano technology.

Several classes will be available for adults, kids and teens starting the week of Jan. 11 and running for six weeks. Cost for the program is \$29.95 per person.

Call 453-6586 of sign up directly with Arnoldt Williams Music in Canton, 5701 Canton Center Rd.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Family Home Care Inc., in conjunction with Beyer Drugs, will offer free blood pressure screening the first Monday of each month.

The next screening will be held Jan. 4 at Beyer Drugs, 480 N. Main St., from 1 to 5 p.m.

RACQUETBALL

Canton Parks and Recreation Services is sponsoring a 15-week men's racquetball league beginning Jan. 13.

Players are divided into divisions based on their playing ability. Matches will be held at 7:30 and 8 p.m. at Rose Shores of Canton.

Total cost per person is \$95. Space is limited. Call 397-5110.

MCAULEY OPEN HOUSE

In Conjunction with the 11th Annual Plymouth Ice Festival, The Arbor Health Building will hold an open house to provide festival goers with shelter, hot cider and entertainment. The building, located at 990 Ann Arbor Trail, will be open Jan. 16 and 17 from noon to 6 p.m. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided from 1 to 5 p.m.

TRAIN SHOW AND APPRAISAL

The Bluewater Michigan Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society and the Detroit Historical Society are hosting the Fifth Annual Toy Train Appraisal and Show.

The event is scheduled for Jan. 2 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward Ave.

Experienced appraisers will donate their time

ART CLUB MEETING

Three Cities Art Club will meet Jan. 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Dunning-Hough Library. An art video and business meeting will be held. Guests are welcome.

For more information, call Sue Anginoff at 422-8106.

CPR COURSE

St. Mary Hospital in Livonia will offer a "Heart saver" CPR course on Jan. 12 from 6 to 10 p.m. The course will feature training in one-person adult rescue and choking techniques. The class will be held in the Pavilion Conference Room B in the Marian Professional Building.

Cost is \$15 per person and includes course materials. Deadline for registration is Jan. 4.

For more information, or to register, call 591-2922.

COAST GUARD AUXILIARY MEETING

The Plymouth Community Coast Guard Auxiliary will hold its monthly meeting on Jan. 26 in the connector's office, on the second floor of Salem High School, at 7:30 p.m.

Call 455-2676 for more information about the meeting or organization.

PLAY AUDITIONS

Schoolcraft College is holding auditions for its winter theatre production of Eugene O'Neil's drama Long Day's Journey Into Night.

The auditions will take place on the evenings of Jan. 26 and 27 at 7 p.m. in the Liberal Arts Theatre of the College's main campus located on Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads.

For more information, call 462-4400 ext. 5270 for more information.

INCREDIBLE BUT TRUE!!!!!!

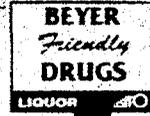
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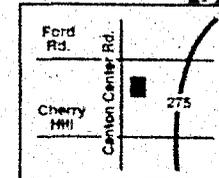
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Sports

Rocks claim victory

Salem tankers win conference relays

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

Ten teams competed in the Western Lakes Conference Relay meet last Saturday at Salem — and the Rock, who hosted the event, claimed the first-place award, earning 245 points.

Behind Salem was league powerhouse Livonia Stevenson, with 225 points. Northville edged out Canton, earning 204 points, the Chiefs had 202 points for fourth place. North Farmington was fifth with 194 points.

Although his squad took first place, Salem coach Chuck Olson isn't laying any claims for the rest of the season.

A lot can happen in the next three months of the swim season, and although the Rocks edged out Stevenson, he still believes the Spartans will be the team to beat at the end of the season.

"Overall we swam pretty well," said Olson. "They did what they had to do that day, we'll have to see if they're doing what they have to for the conference meet (at the end of the season)."

Olson believes the season could go to any of the top five finishers in the conference relay meet, and admits a lot has to do with how healthy the team stays this season.

"The top five teams all have the ability to win the conference," said Olson.

"They all have good individual swimmers, and every team has at least one classified as outstanding throughout the league."

In all the events, Salem finished in at least third place, which led to the first-place finish.

The Spartans of Stevenson actually claimed more first-place finishes, but Salem's depth catapulted them to the top.

The stiffness of the competition this year was evident as four meet records were set, two by Stevenson in the 200-yard breaststroke relay (1:57.37) and the 200-yard medley relay (1:41.94).

Please see pg. 21

Canton gymnasts second in Freeland

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

If the kick-off meet for the 1992-93 season is any indication of how the year will go, the Canton gymnastics team is in for a good season, according to coach John Cunningham.

The squad traveled to Freeland last Saturday for the Freeland Invitational meet and claimed second place in the four-team competition, earning 127.60 points, finishing behind the host team, Freeland, with 133.75 points.

Pleased with the performance of his squad last Saturday, Cunningham hopes the opening meet will act as a springboard for the team as it prepares for the rest of the season.

The coach was a little apprehensive going into the first meet this season, acknowledging that it's always tough to prepare for and compete in a December meet.

With just over six weeks of practice, and several new girls on the team, Cunningham was concerned whether the squad would have enough time to hone their tricks and work them into the routines.

PCJBA Champs "A" league

The Pistons and the 76ers are the league champions in the boys "A" league competition of the Plymouth Canton Junior Basketball Association held earlier this month.

In the national league, the Pistons claimed the championship with an 8-3 record.

In their final game, the Pistons defeated the Sonics 79-63. The Sonics ended their season play with a 7-4 record.

Also ending with a 7-4 record were the Spurs. The Spurs topped the Bucks 64-61 in their final game of the season. The Bucks ended with a 6-5 record.

Please see pg. 21

Two freshmen, Kim Nowak and Katie Demey placed in the top 10 in at least one event at their first high school meet.

"Kim Nowak earned 8.65 on the floor," said Cunningham. "As a freshman out for gymnastics, to walk out and get an 8.65 (taking fourth place), it was a "WOW" routine and it will get better."

Nowak, who hasn't competed in gymnastics for three years, also placed 10th on the bars (6.35) and on the beam (7.3).

"It was very good competition with the new kids," said Cunningham. "In my best estimation, we did very well."

Freshman Katie Demey also placed for the Chiefs, taking ninth place on the vault, earning 7.7 points.

Veteran Kim Lewke earned the only first place award for the Chiefs at Freeland, scoring 8.7 on the beam.

She also earned points for the team on the bars, placing ninth with 7.05 points. On the floor, Lewke scored 8.35 and took sixth place.

Two Chiefs placed as all-around gymnasts.

Kim Rennolds was third with 34.95 points.

She earned second-place honors on the bars, scoring 8.65, and earned 9.25 on the floor, also good for second.

On the beam, Rennolds took third place, 8.65, and was fourth on the vault, 8.6.

Adrienne Brenner placed eighth as an all-around, scoring 28.75 points.

She placed seventh on the beam with 7.9 and tied for 10th place with teammate Kari Jackson on the vault, earning 7.5.

Jackson also placed on the beam, earning 7.6 points, claiming ninth place for the Chiefs.

Jenny Tedesco has a sprained ankle, and only competed on the bars. She took fifth place with 8.25 points.

Canton competes again on Jan. 6 against Walled Lake.



Canton gymnasts Jenny Tedesco, sitting on the beam, and Kim Rennolds practice before the first meet. Both are senior captains, and both earned points in Freeland, even though Tedesco was limited in her competition. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukashik)

Salem scores big, Canton is fourth

Continued from pg. 20

Northville set a record in the 200-yard butterfly relay (1:44.25). John Glenn set the record in the 200-yard backstroke relay (1:47.55).

Salem took one first place and five second places.

The team of Joe Ervin, David Bracht, Ryan Petroskey and Aaron Berlin took first in the 400-yard freestyle relay, finishing in 3:32.70.

Eric Seidelman, Andy Dettling, Chris Lynn and Fred Locke took second place in the 400-yard medley relay, finishing in 4:00.80.

Salem's divers finished in second place, scoring 401.05 points. Woody Thomas scored 208.80 and Justin Richardson scored 192.25 points off the board.

Tom Satwicz, Scott Wiklund, Tim Nixon and Matt Erickson took second in the 200-yard butterfly relay in 1:44.31.

Scott Helmstadter, Phil Hoffmeyer, Matt Erickson and Fred Locke took second in the 200-yard medley relay, finishing in 1:43.22.

Drayke Shackelford, Nixon, Marc Levitt and Bracht took second in the 200-yard freestyle relay, finishing in 1:37.23.

Canton took third place in three events in the conference relay meet.

The Chiefs finished the 400-yard medley relay in 4:14.74, and the 400-yard freestyle relay in 3:35.19, taking third in both.

The diving team of Jason Fowler and Daryl Balios earned 390.390 points.

In the 200-yard breaststroke the Chiefs took fifth place, finishing in 2:09.52.

Canton finished sixth in the 200-yard backstroke, 2:02.61.

In the 200-yard butterfly relay, Canton was fifth in 1:57.73.

In the 400-yard individual medley relay, Canton was fifth in 4:16.73.

In the crescendo relay, Canton took fifth in 5:02.71.

Canton was fourth in the 200-yard medley relay, finishing in 1:54.34. The Chiefs were also fifth in the 200-yard freestyle relay in 1:46.33.

In dual meet competition, Canton is 0-1. Salem is now 0-1 in dual meets.



Salem's Alex Beard pulls ahead of Canton Freshman Derrik Lang.

Hayes takes 1st in Salem-8 tourney

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

Phil Hayes took the only first-place finish for the Salem wrestling team, as the Rocks hosted the Salem 8-team tournament last Saturday.

The Rocks finished in fourth place with 176 points, tied with Holt.

Adrian won the tournament with 233 points. Brighton was second with 197.5, and Belleville was third with 192.

Canton placed sixth with 106.5, behind Romulus with 133 in fifth. Ann Arbor Huron finished with 93 points.

Hayes earned his award in the 189 weight class and was one of six Rock medalists.

Medals were given for first, second and third place.

Phil Mitchell was second in the 130 weight class. John Svec was second in 160, he lost a close overtime match, 8-6.

Wade Langdon also claimed a second-place award, competing in the 171 weight class.

Also medaling for Salem were Mark Burley and Ryan Guiliani. Burley took third place in the 125 weight class.

Guiliani was third in the heavyweight class.

Bryan Harreld took fourth place in the 119 weight class.

Four additional Rocks earned points for Salem, all taking sixth place.

Scott Hughes (103), Dave Craig (135), Aaron Lapinski (145) and Jeremy Breithaupt (152).

"The competition was good and we did pretty well," said Ron Krueger, Salem coach.

In the short time the season has progressed, Krueger has noticed improvement in his young squad.

In the final week of school, the squad competed against Catholic Central, and for the first time in the history of the school beat Catholic Central 39-25.

"This tag tag team beat the No. 5 team in the state," said Krueger, who accepted the win with mixed emotions since he

coached against two of his sons who wrestle for Catholic Central.

The Rocks are 1-2 in dual meets.

PCJBA hoop

Continued from pg. 20

The Pacers ended with a 6-5 record, defeating the Pacers Kings 79-69. The Kings 5-6.

The Bulls ended the season 4-7, defeating the Hawks 67-64. The Hawks went out with a 2-7 record.

The Warriors were 1-10 and lost their final game to the Celtics 86-75. The Celtics finished their season in the American league with a 1-10 record.

In the American League, the 76ers were undefeated, and ended with an 11-0 record.

In final action, the 76ers topped the Blazers 72-63. The Blazers finished with an 8-3 record.

The Rockets and the Knicks ended with 7-4 record. The Knicks defeated the Rockets 60-55.

The Jazz, Lakers and Nets ended with a 4-7 record.

The Jazz defeated the Lakers 69-60, the Nets beat the Hornets 61-58.

The Hornets ended the season with a 2-9 record.

It was a three-way tie for girls "A" league competition in the PCJBA.

The Celtics, Pistons and Kings each finished with a 7-3 record.

The Rockets ended with a 5-5 record. The Lakers are 4-6, and the Hornets are 0-10.

The final two games went as follows: Rockets over the Pistons 38-35; Celtics defeated the Lakers 35-26; the Kings over the Hornets 59-52.

The Kings defeated the Celtics 62-60. It was the Rockets over the Hornets, 52-38, and the Pistons over the Lakers 68-48.

Spano wins medal

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

Canton wrestlers saw competition twice last week. With half the squad representing the team, Canton traveled with seven wrestlers to the Pinckney five-team tournament last Wednesday.

Four of the seven wrestlers won their competition. John Miller (189) won 3-5. Dan Grunewald (103) won 3-5. Frank Tormina (112) claimed a 4-5 victory, and Bill Buslipp (152) won 4-5.

Last Saturday, it was a great meet for Canton's Nick Spano as he was the only Chief to medal in the Salem eight-team wrestling tournament.

The Chiefs finished sixth with 106.5 points.

Spano competed in the 135 weight class and won all his matches, pinning all but one opponent, and winning the fourth match by superior decision.

Three Canton grapplers took fourth place, Dave Smith (140), Buslipp (152) and Ryan Conner (145).

"We did an excellent job," said Ray Givens, Canton coach regarding the team's performance in the Salem tournament.

Canton's next match is Jan. 1 at home against Northville.



Team captain Frank Tormina goes to the mats against Romulus Grappier.

\$1.50 for the first 10 words, 20¢ each additional word. Deadline: Monday, 4pm. Call 453-6900

Crier Classifieds

Curiosities

Check out the film developing prices at Beyer Friendly Drugs on Ann Arbor Rd. - the lowest around!

Dave makes a great doorman. I wonder what Sharon paid him.

Curiosities

Thanks to my oldest friend for a great birthday lunch at AJ's!

ED - Reset your watch, "Island Time" is over. Welcome home, mon! - DA GANG!

Curiosities

Do you need firewood, your chimney cleaned, or your basement waterproofed? Read "Dial It Shopping."

Cassey! When are we going to get together? Emma Rose.

Dawn didn't wear her wings Christmas Eve.

Thanks Phyllis - Great party & great friends.

Plan your ad for the '83 Guide now! It's never too early.

Genitt's has great B-B-Q pork sandwiches - Thanks Brad.

Thanks Kay - The prime rib was great!

Jack got so many pairs of suspenders for Christmas - It makes you wonder if everyone thinks he needs to keep his pants up!

Shopping for Christmas gifts is a lot better than shopping for bargains the day after.

ED - Here's a hint for using up all that gingerbread: serve it with rutabaga. - Mr. Vacation.

Porterhouse did it again. Great roast. It was so good everyone had seconds and there was none left to go with the extra potatoes and gravy.

Curiosities

Thanks Mom & Dad, and Jen & Dave for two great holiday meals!

Didn't get what you really wanted from Santa? Visit Steve Petix Clothier's "After Christmas Sale" and save 15-50%!

Vicky is the nicest girl in Plymouth! This is the result of an unofficial poll taken at the Side Street.

Thanks for the gift Nancy - now I can get into shape!!!

The Guide is coming!

The Guide is coming!

Are you Jack's daughter?

Rumor has it there was a big Smurf at the Side Street Christmas party - or was that Smurfette!

Need your windows done? All you have to do is buy Bob a drink. Need references? Check out the front door of the Side Street.

Have windax - will travel!

Buy it - Sell it - Rent it - Trade it. - Find the help you need - Sell an unused item - Tell someone you love them - Tell a secret - Announce your rummage sale - Sell a vehicle - Sell a house - You can do it all in The Crier classifieds. Please call us at 453-6900 and we will be happy to help you write your ad. YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

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Teens - Michigan Teen Pageant search for contestants. For information write: Pageant Headquarters, Dept. 8, 347 Locust Avenue, Washington, PA 15301. Deadline is January 18th!

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Help Wanted: Person wanted to provide live-in care for elderly women. Good pay. Room and board, transportation provided. Experience preferred. Call anytime: Carekeepers, Inc. 1-800-926-8920; 616-548-5741 or 313-380-8237.

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Crier Classifieds

Curiosities

"Can we trade them for a microwave?"
Karen did NOT spill her Spanish coffee at the May flower.

John Niemiec (route 44A) wishes his customers a Merry Christmas and thanks for the wonderful tips.

No Nancy! Sally's not!

Danielle winked at me! Boy those 1st of A. sure have friendly letters.



I actually hit the number I was aiming at. Lets celebrate!

"I was so BAD, I didn't even get a lump of coal!" Mark P.

Joy & Tom put on a great party. Thanks from all your regulars and their families.

Please don't snap Jack's Christmas presents.

Karen is the best and nicest waitress at the Side Street??

I bet Christy knows who ?? is.

EIGHT PORTS (three "see," five "air") in one day!

LOUIS POULOS
HITS
BIG 211

Happy Birthday - Jessica, Sally, & Ed.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone.

YAH MOH!

DO JACKIE & TOM DRURY read Curiosities in Canton, N.C.?

BEAUREGARD SEZ: "Thanks" to Andrea, Matt and Quenters.

HAPPY BOXING DAY

GOOD LUCK WOLVERINES! -- The Spartans (We hope you can win there this time)

So now we know who the big spenders on the staff are. (Or do I mean big drinkers?)

Lee - Did you have fun on your holiday?

Peter sure can clean fast!

Jack sure can make a funny cake!

Good eats COMMA, /Crier staff.

Ed - Thanks for the Christmas presents.

Wendy - Where are you? Hope you had a great vacation!

Item on Mellen: How 'bout that bean soup? 'Sunny Boy' is a good cook.

CHERYLL - Happy New Year! Love, Mike.

Ed: We know you'd been gone when we could see our tabs! tap on Tuesday morning!

Curiosities

MICHAEL knows how fast he's pedalling; BILLY knows what CD'S he wants; and JOHN knows what color shirts he likes.

Crier Sales Staff - Thanks for the Christmas gift, and I really enjoyed having lunch with all of you!

Brent - How is Stimpzy?

Liz says she is the good one. Her little sister is the trouble maker.

BAH HUMBUG - 360 shopping days till Christmas.

At least Liz doesn't have to worry about being in an accident.

All I really needed to get Brent for Christmas was toys!

Ask him about "The Mighty Thor"!

Harold - It's about time you came home away from the pretty nurses at University Hospital.

Elaine (Smiley) goes with a winner. U of MI

Karen it would show up better without the buttons.

I had to tell The Production Staff that there wasn't one at The Crier.

Jack beat Rich and Julie.

How come Steve only throws good darts when no one else is around?

Where was J.J.?

Curiosities

Ed & Mike - Thanks for the book and the great lunch we had at the Mayflower.

Snug neckties are bad for health - they restrict oxygen flow to the brain and constrict the vital carotid arteries, important blood carriers in the neck. That makes it harder to think. Common problems: Headaches, sweating, tension.

Brent - Thank you for the best Christmas ever!

Side Street Gang - Sorry I missed your Christmas party! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you!

Thanks to the entire Crier staff and management for a great holiday season and an extra ten pounds!

Everyone looked great at the Christmas party except R.B. He never looks good! Jack and his daughter.

Get ready for the 11th Annual "Plymouth Community Ice Sculpture Spectacular." January 13-18.

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5 day, 4 nights overbought corp rates to public. Limited tickets. \$249.00 per couple. 407-331-7818, EXT. 2484. Mon-Sat 9 to 9.

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Full time ad sales person, experience preferred. Commission plus bonus. Send resume (no calls) to: Mike Carne, The Crier, 821 Penniman, Plymouth, MI 48178.

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Full-Time reporter wanted. Excellent opportunity for beginning journalist. Must be enthusiastic, motivated and willing to learn. Degree or mix of college and experience desired. Send letter, resume and clips to The Community Crier.

Looking for loving mother to care for our 5 yr. old. Mornings w/ transportation to Farrand School afternoons. 438-1226.

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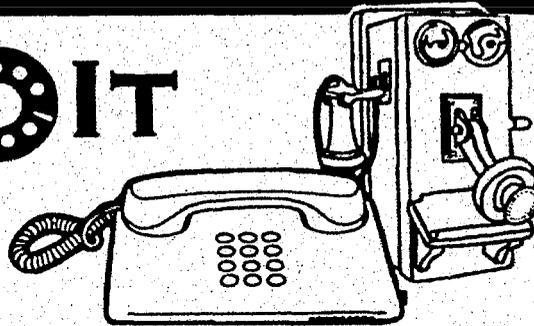
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Community opinions

A new notion

By Amy Kidwell



As I sat inside the Crow's Nest, the lounge inside the Mayflower Hotel, last Thursday, I remembered the time that I had spent working for the Mayflower in high school.

Now, as a Crier reporter, I was working on a very simple story about non-alcoholic drinks for this week's paper.

Behind the bar was Gladys Szatkowski, whom I knew from my past employment. She was very friendly and was happy to supply some drink recipes.

As I sat and copied the recipes, two Mayflower employees walked in and talked about a meeting they had just attended, the meeting that announced the resignation of Creon Smith -- the popular long-time hotel general manager.

Knowing the history of the Mayflower Hotel and how tight management has been since Ralph Lorenz started running it in 1939, I was stunned when I overheard the news.

Smith is also part-owner of the property and has been considered part of the Lorenz family for as long as I can remember.

I didn't know what to think. Why would Creon leave?

Immediately, I knew that there was a bigger story.

A man like Creon doesn't decide to resign without a very good reason. No one would comment on why he was resigning, so I started to dig.

I was very surprised when I discovered that the hotel had been ordered into receivership.

But why would Creon resign? He could have remained general manager during the receivership.

Was it a family squabble? Did he feel that, after the death of Ralph, it is his time to move on to something else?

According to Randy Lorenz, Creon is now focusing his attention on raising capital to redeem the hotel.

Unfortunately, I have not been able to reach Creon and ask about his motives. I can only speculate of his whereabouts because no one will release that information.

During high school, I worked at the Meeting House and remember Creon as the best of the top management. He was the friendliest and, from my perspective, the most effective manager.

His style and character were respected by all, and in my years there, not one bad word was directed toward him.

So what will happen to ownership of the Mayflower Hotel?

I seriously doubt that the Lorenz family will lose it, but the possibility does exist.

We will know for sure in six months.

Postman acts quickly, saves city girl's life

EDITOR,

Recently, while working at his job as a mail carrier in the Mayflower Townhouses on Plymouth Road, Lawrence Joseph noticed a little girl 4 or 5 years old, choking.

Mr. Joseph rushed to her side, and performed the Heimlich maneuver on her

and a piece of candy was dislodged from her throat.

No doubt, the child would have choked to death if Mr. Joseph had not acted so quickly, and, as a resident of Mayflower Townhouses, I would certainly like to express my sincere gratitude for his quick action.

JEAN MORROW

Lawyers are good

EDITOR,

Your Dec. 9 column "With Malice Toward None" -- what gives? Some of your best friends are lawyers. Lawyers fight JOA's, advance the cause of the First Amendment, and protect your legitimate business interests.

JOHN J. RONAYNE, III

Picking up the chips



By Randy Eaton

The night we burned old Hough sub's forest

Those Plymouth residents living on Woodland Place probably don't realize they have a sacred tree on their street.

This area, once known as Hough Woods, was a sacred retreat for the youngsters living in the area. On a given summer day, around 1948 or '49, a couple of us (names best left out) decided that a cookout in Hough Woods would be just the thing.

We packed up a couple of cans of beans, snatched some cooking pots and matches from our parents, disappearing into the woods for a private day campout. Once settled in the (now) 1400 block of Woodland Place, we started a fire to cook our 'stuff'...not a person, or house, in sight.

Our own private 3- or 4-acre world. Of course our fire spread to a nearby tree and then the forest around us. I ran to a house on Elm Street and they called the Plymouth Fire Department.

After the fire was put out, as I stood trembling in fear that my Dad might find out, the fire chief sauntered over to me, looking down said, "Well, Randy, wait 'til your dad gets the bill for THIS!"

Couldn't get away with a darn thing in that small town.

Last week I found that tree on Woodland Place, found traces of scorch marks, and gave it a big, old hug. The people living there must have thought me crazed. I was just glad that it, and I, had survived.

Of course we didn't get caught for all of our "indulgences."

Would believe that Dr. Carney's son, Don, had a natural inclination for electronics? Don, Denny Campbell, Bob Isbister and I enjoyed a close camaraderie inspired by Don's ability to fiddle with electronics, such as: When the Michigan telephone company switched from party lines (in the early '50s), Don figured out

how to tap into telephone calls.

There we would be, alligator clips attached to his basement ceiling, heart racing, listening to the most boring phone calls. Perhaps the funniest "electrical incident" happened off of Don's wiring up the new television sets just on the market (only a few Plymouth families had them then).

He had borrowed bits and pieces from his dad's new unit and set up a radical, bizarre and certainly unworkable television 'set' in his attic. One day, with Don operating and Denny, Bob, and I sitting in, Don told us he was, "Now broadcasting to all of Plymouth."

How he could do this, we had no idea, but were mightily impressed. After making up no end of gobbledegook to transmit on our useless television system I had to go home for lunch. On returning to Don's I found my pals still there transmitting in earnest.

I told them that my father had said, "My God, Randy, what are your friends DOING? Their voices are being heard all over Plymouth!" I'll never tell them whether this was true or not, better to cherish the remembrance of them scrambling off, returning Dr. Carney's missing TV pieces, chagrined, and pleased that, at least, they had created an effect in Plymouth.

I needn't mention much, as my father wrote an entire column about it, the night Carl Williams, Denny Campbell and I (and a few others) made a bloody dummy and dropped it out on Ann Arbor Trail to see what would happen to drivers.

The police came, we ran, they caught Carl. He squeaked on Denny, and the police picked him up, too. When the police asked Carl why he fingered Denny, he said, "Because he's my best friend." So much for friends, naughtiness, indulgences and youth.



Community opinions

The Hotel's new chapter

And what of the Mayflower Hotel?

In an increasingly-intense war of nerves, the hotel has entered receivership.

Unable to resolve its \$3.5 million loans with the Heritage Bank, the Lorenz family has agreed to a receivership of the hotel operations. In essence, this gives the family six months to match the amount for which the hotel will be sold at the sheriff's auction.

The Mayflower Meeting House and the Round Table Club are technically separate operations unaffected by these moves, but, in reality, there are close ties. (The company in receivership will operate the Meeting House under a new management agreement and expects to provide employees to the club under the existing agreement.)

As the centerpiece to downtown, the hotel's survival is of interest to all.

In its heyday, the Mayflower ruled the roost for both lodging and dining in Western Wayne County.

Thousands of weddings, receptions, banquets, service club meetings, business meetings and other functions at the Mayflower have brought thousands of visitors to The Plymouth-Canton Community.

Then, with I-275's opening, hotels popped up from Michigan Avenue to Eight Mile Road.

To compete, the Mayflower had to provide more personalized service at a time its operators, the Lorenz family, saw its patriarch, Ralph G. Lorenz, winding towards retirement and his children dispersing toward other interests. Two Lorenz sons, Scott and Randy, and

With malice toward none

W. EDWARD WENDOVER



Mayflower General Manager Creon Smith, took over the operations.

Competition also intensified from banquet centers and restaurants. Even the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce annual dinner has not been held at the Meeting House since 1989 -- a fact which had irked Smith.

Ralph Lorenz died Nov. 2 in Florida -- in some ways it's fortunate that he won't be watching these tough times at the hotel.

On the other hand, receivership was granted the day after he died. Perhaps it was his presence (even if only by phone from Florida that kept the bank at bay).

Now the Lorenz family struggles to retake the operations. The receiver sees the value in continued family involvement and the symbiotic relationship between the hotel and the community.

Can the hotel be saved? At this point, everyone seems to be working together and saying, "yes."

Just as when the community rallied around "Plymouth's greatest need" when the hotel was built, now is the time for the community to do that again -- or risk losing a downtown hotel.

Plymouth-Canton or Canton-Plymouth?

Hello P-C,
Or is it C-P?

Does it even matter?

Remember Shakespeare's famous line in Romeo and Juliet when he writes:

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose"

By any other name would smell as sweet."

The point he was making certainly could be applied to the Plymouth-Canton (Canton-Plymouth) area; on the surface it really makes little difference which name comes first -- residents know what kind of region this is.

Right?

Well, not exactly.

Although not completely succumbing to a north-south battle over words, the fact is that some Canton residents have grown tired of being the suffix; they'd like to be the prefix now and then.

A case in point was brought up two weeks ago when a woman stood at the Canton Economic Club luncheon to question P-C (C-P?) school Supt. John Hoban about the district's name.

How could the district possibly be called P-C, she asked, if as the superintendent reported, the student population was 50 percent Canton-origin

Gatekeeping

By Craig Farrand



and is therefore the largest of the six governmental units feeding kids into the system?

Of course, the long answer has to do with names of school districts being a state issue and not a local one and therefore something that would require Lansing intervention -- but the short answer is: 'cause.

That explanation, however, does quite fit when applied to, let's say, the varsity jackets at the high schools: The come in two colors -- red and blue -- but both sport only a nice capital "P" on the front. (I guess they either forgot the "C" or felt it wasn't important to include -- or maybe there just wasn't enough room on the front.

Fortunately, the backs of the jackets are a bit more explanatory: The red Canton jackets say -- surprise! -- Plymouth Canton; and the blue Salem jackets say -- you guessed it: Plymouth Salem.

Of course, if I were from Canton I'd want to know why the word Plymouth has to appear on both jackets. Or, if I couldn't win that argument, how about at least having the "other" high school say Canton-Plymouth?

From a Plymouth point of view, I'm sure all this talk is strictly sour grapes, but I certainly can understand Cantonite's gripes: Who wants their town always linked secondarily by name to another?

I mean, what if the tables were turned: Canton-Plymouth or Northville-Plymouth or Livonia-Plymouth.

Wouldn't like it, huh?

So, as a newcomer to the area, I guess the best solution for now is for Plymouth residents and officials to be sensitive to the feelings of their neighbors to the south.

And remember that, although sticks and stones may break my bones, words can still inflict some nasty damage to my psyche.

The Community Crier



THE NEWSPAPER WITH ITS HEART IN THE PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY

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