



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

Community Crier

Vol. 20 No. 1

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February 3, 1993

Assessments rise average 10 per cent in P-C area

BY CRAIG FARRAND

According to newly released figures by the state of Michigan, local property assessments will rise an average of nearly 10 percent in The Plymouth-Canton Community this year.

The figures indicate a 9.8 per cent rise in residential assessments in Canton, 10 per cent in Plymouth and 8.7 per cent in Plymouth Township.

These increases, however, do not reflect home-by-home property assessments; instead, taxpayers will be receiving formal notices later this month spelling out any increase.

In Plymouth, the 10 per cent figure is a change from the original 11.5 per cent that was announced earlier in the wek: According to assessment coordinator Judy

ASSESSMENT BREAKDOWNS

(percentage increase by property categories)

Category	Canton	Plymouth	Twp.
Residential	9.77	10	8.7
Commercial	7.53	no change	3.03
Industrial	no change	no change	no change
Agricultural	no change	none	none
Developmental	7.53	none	none

Zirblis, the county agreed to a rollback on Tuesday.

In Plymouth Township, Treasurer Mary Brooks said the increases would not be felt across the board, since many homes are already being assessed correctly and that the increases actually represent adjustments to bring all property in line.

"Some are already at the 50 per cent (assessment level)," she said. "So this (increase) is not going to be throughout the township."

Although Canton and Plymouth Township stayed below the 10 per cent level of increase, Zirblis said her town's increases reached double digits because of the assessment freeze last year.

"It appears that the other towns' assessments were a bit more accurate (before the freeze), so now we have to rise further to make up the difference.

"Still, a lot of communities are hurting more than us," she said.

And she's right: According to the state figures, Wayne County as a whole averaged a 14 per cent jump in assessments — from a high of 20.3 per cent in Romulus, to an actual drop of 3.5 per cent in Highland Park and zero change in Detroit.

Residency

rule forces

city action

three times

BY AMY KIDWELL

The city's residency rule was squarely

behind the scenes Monday night as the

City Commission not only appointed

two new department heads, but extended

the grace period for another trying to meet

appointed an acting recreation director — replacing former director Chuck Skene,

who left because he couldn't meet the

residency requirement — a new city

treasurer and gave Police Chief Robert

has been working in the recreation

department for 13 years — will fill the

shoes of recreation director. He has served

as assistant recreation director since 1985.

Please see pg. 7

Starting Feb. 6, Tom Willette - who

Scoggins more time to meet the rule.

In separate actions, the commission

Please see pg. 7

Ain't no sunshine . . .

Family can't get township sunroom OK

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

What is a 5-foot variance — the approval to stray from building codes — worth?

If you ask the Nimmerguths of Ridgewood Hills, the answer could stagger you.

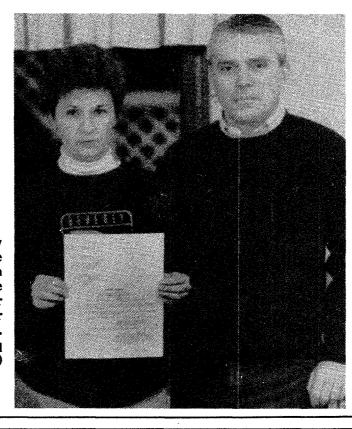
How about \$3,000 in legal fees and document costs, court appearances and 10 months of waiting?

And still no variance.

The story began when Gary and Linda Nimmerguth decided that their Ridgewood Hills home needed something more than the existing deck in the backyard.

They thought a sunroom, enclosing the same amount of space as the deck, would look nice.

Please see pg. 2



Linda and Gary Nimmerguth have spent more than \$3,000 fighting the township for approval of their sunroom plans. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik)

BY AMY KIDWELL

Following an incident last week, when a stranger reportedly tried to lure children to his car, pupils from Allen Elementary School are now getting bus transportation to school.

According a Plymouth Township police report, at 3:45 p.m. on Jan. 25, some Allen Elementary school youngsters were waiting to cross Ann Arbor Trail by Brownell.

The kids reported that a blue station wagon pulled up beside a party store and a man inside the car motioned to the kids to come to him.

The kids ran and the man left the scene, driving east on Ann Arbor Trail.

The man was described as a white male in his 30's,

with short blonde hair and a blonde mustache.

the rule.

Because buses pass by the school and had extra space, Allen Elementary school kids in third through fifth grades are being transported by bus.

Before the incident, only pupils in kindergarten through the second grade were being transported by bus.

Dale Goby, director of transportation and safety for the Plymouth-Canton school district, said "we thought it would be best (to transport them by bus).

"It's a shorter distance for them to walk."

The area where the incident occurred is the same in which a 16-year-old girl was raped in early December when she was walking to her bus stop.

Police are still investigating that attack.

Kids get curb service after man approaches area bus stop

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CALIFORNIA **CARROTS**

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Township won't approve sunroom

Continued from pg. 1

So, in April 1992, before going on vacation, they put their builder, Bill Day of Village Remodelers, in charge of getting the variance they needed to start the project.

Day reassured the Nimmerguths that he had secured permits for clients before and there would be no problem.

But, when they returned from vacation, the project had not been started.

And that, according to Linda, that was the beginning of a long ordeal.

"When we saw that nothing had started in the back yard, we knew that something had gone wrong.'

And what had gone wrong? The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees decided that the Nimmerguth's proposed sun room was not a good enough cause to grant a variance.

The zoning regulations specify a 50foot rear setback on the Ridgewood Hills properties," said Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen-McCarthy.

Despite the fact that the Nimmerguths collected the signatures of the eight neighbors on an affidavit saying they didn't mind the project, the board would not reconsider.

"The township has ordinances (and) we will enforce those ordinances," McCarthy said. "We have to keep the community moving according to the master plan.

"Whatever the neighbors say, the board does not feel that the Nimmerguths apply for a hardship under these conditions,' McCarthy said.

In some editions of today's Crier look for an insert from:

harm

Home Furnishings and Accessories 322 S. Main St. • 455-8884

According to the township's zoning ordinance, applicants for variances must meet four requirements.

The Nimmerguths, however, feel thev have met all of those requirements — and have since taken their case to the next level, Wayne County Circuit Court.

"Other people in our area have been given variances with no questions asked," Mrs. Nimmerguth said. "Some of them were for 16 feet, one was for three quarters of a foot.'

Judge Michael Talbot, of Wayne County Circuit Court, awarded the Nimmerguths their variance on Dec. 21.

With that ruling, the Nimmerguths thought they would be able to finally start their project and have it done by this

In a closed meeting on Jan. 26, the board decided that it would appeal the court's decision - something the Nimmerguths found out when they went to pick up their building permit.

'After all the time and money (more than \$3,000 in legal fees and document costs) we spent we're back at square one." Mrs. Nimmerguth said.

So what's behind the township's actions?

Mrs. Nimmerguth thinks she knows.

We (the Nimmerguths) and Bill Day from Village Remodelers campaigned against Charles McIlhargey when he ran in the primaries for township supervisor," she said.

"We think that this is his way of paying us back."

> Look in today's Crier for inserts from:

S & W Pro Hardware 875 Ann Arbor Rd. • 453-1290

The **Community Crier**

USPS-340-150 Published weekly at 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth. MI Plymouth, Mi Carrier delivered: \$20 per year. Mail delivered: \$30 per year. Mailed 2nd class circula-



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Special paving assessments get township board OK

BY AMY KIDWELL

The clock is ticking for residents in Arbor Village and Plymouth Colony subdivisions.

Following last Tuesday's public hearings on special assessments for those subdivisions, the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees approved each one.

Residents now have 30 days to add or delete their names from a petition asking for a special assessment for the pavement of the roads in those subdivisions.

During the hearings several concerns were addressed.

Some residents were concerned that the speed limit would not be enforced and people would be hurt.

Police Chief Carl Berry, however, reassured residents that there are ways police can deter speeding.

Other citizens favored the pavement because of the value it would add to their homes.

Smith Horton gave an example of a homebuyer who, after turning on to the non-paved road, didn't even want to look at the house. The estimated cost for paving 32,000 feet of Arbor Village is \$99,000, and the estimated cost for paving 34,000 of Plymouth Colony is \$187,000.

The reason for the higher price of Plymouth Colony is bad soil, said Jim Anulewicz, director of public services.

"(In Plymouth colony) They will have to go in, scrape off the bad soil and add good gravel," he said.

Cost for the projects will be divided among residents.

In Plymouth Colony, cost will be \$3,937.50 per lot. Residents also have

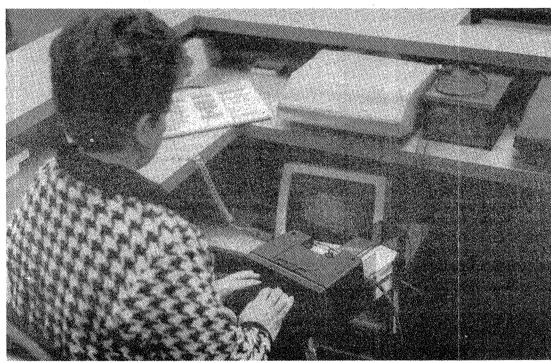
the option of paying it over a 10-year period with 8 percent interest. Cost for that will be \$586.80 per lot every year for 10 years.

In Arbor Village, each lot will be taxed \$2,020.41 up front or \$301.10 every year for 10 years.

Only a few residents took there names off the petition according to the township's clerk's office.

If at the end of 30 days, the petition is still valid, an engineer will prepare final plans and secure bids and a second public hearing will take place.

A new kind of justice – part II



As Carole Goodfellow takes down testimony on her traditional stenographer machine, her computer system creates a television display that can help the deaf. (Crier photo by Craig Farrand)

Computer system expands court into world of deaf

BY CRAIG FARRAND When Carole Goodfellow types, people listen.

Judges, attorneys, plaintiffs and defendants.

As the only certified court reporter in 35th District Court — working for Judge James Garber — she has a most unique view of daily proceedings.

But, thanks to the wonders of modern technology, now even more people are able to "listen" as justice is served — via a special computer system she uses in the courtroom.

This system, which incorporates the traditional stenographer machine into a mid-sized personal computer, keeps a running, accurate record of the proceedings.

And it can go one step further: In dealing with witnesses, plaintiffs or defendants with hearing problems, her system can bring them right into the dialogue by displaying almost instantaneous transcriptions of the conversation on a small video screen.

The system itself is almost identical to any home computer — with its own keyboard, screen and



CAROLE GOODFELLOW

hard drive and additional drives for floppy disks.

Where the difference comes, however, is in the cable-connect to the traditional stenographer machine, an otherwise mysterious instrument that is used to manually take down courtroom testimony and arguments in phonetic shorthand just as fast as the words are spoken.

And how fast might that be?
"To be get a certificate of merit
(as a court reporter)," Goodfellow

said, "I had to pass three speed typing tests — with a 95 percent accuracy — at 260 words per minute, 240 and 200."

"And that's just to meet minimum standards."

From the instant the words are typed, the computer takes over, translating the phonetic steno notes into proper English.

At that point, Goodfellow reviews the computer version, correcting any misunderstood words, name spellings and partial abbreviations.

She then can print out a final copy of the transcripts — or even supply an attorney with a "read only" copy of the floppy disk for him to use in any further pleadings.

In a completely functional courtroom — what experts call a "computer integrated courtroom" (CIC) — a video display terminal would be mounted in front of the judge, in front of both attorneys and made available to any hearing impaired individual participating in the proceedings.

Please see pg. 12

Man gets second exam in sexual assault case

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

The attorney for a Belleville man charged with two counts of criminal sexual conduct stated at his preliminary exam that her client was "not competent to stand trial" and was granted a forensic's exam to determine his fitness.

In 35th District Court on Friday, attorney Ina Zeemering said that Leonard Joseph Richey was on medication and would not speak before the court.

In addition, she said, "my client has made a statement that he would rather commit suicide than go to prison."

Zeemering then asked that Richey undergo a forensic examination to establish whether or not he is competent

Please see pg. 16

Woman 63, killed in weekend crash in Canton

A 63 year-old Ypsilanti woman died at University of Michigan Hospital Sunday morning as a result of injuries sustained in a car crash early Saturday morning in Canton.

According to Canton police, Ypsilanti resident Thelma Conley's Buick Sable was struck near the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Lotz.

Rescue workers arriving on the scene transferred Conley via helicopter to U of M Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Preliminary police reports said that the driver of the Beretta, a 32 year-old Novi man, was heading west on Michigan Avenue when his car struck Conley's.

At the time of the crash, Conley's car was partially in the road.

According to Canton police, the Accident Investigation team is still revewing the crash.

The other driver was reported to have sustained "some injuries" in the crash, according to police, but did not go to the hospital.

No charges stemming from the crash have been brought at this time.

Kindergarten registration coming up; shot records needed

Registration for fall 1993 kindergarten classes will take place March 8 through March 12, with orientation and class visitations to follow during April and May.

Children who will be 5 on or before

Dec. 1 are eligible to attend classes.

Public notices

To register, parents or guardians must bring the child's birth certificate, Social Security number and record of immunization to the school that the child will be attending. Proof of residency may also be required, according to district officials

Those uncertain of which school their child would be attending can contact pupil accountant Ginnie Murdoch at 451-3137.

Immunization includes four doses of diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus; three doses of polio vaccine; and two doses of the measles, rubella and mumps vaccines. Additional doses of some vaccines are required if the series was administered when the child was under 4, according to officials.

Immunization are available from local doctors or can be obtained free from the

Wayne County Health Department office on Merriman Road near Michigan Avenue in Wayne.

Birth certificates for children born in the state can be obtained from the Office of Vital and Health Statistics, Michigan Department of Public Health, 3423 North Logan Street, Lansing, 48909. The fee is

Although registration for kindergarten can be made anytime during the year, district officials are urging parents to register their children during this period in order to permit adequate planning for fall classes.

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The Board of Education of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is soliciting proposals from qualified companies for the following construction related projects: Fiegel and Isbister Elementary School Additions and Renovations Work. Interested companies can obtain bid documents at the offices of the Construction Manager, on or after January 25, 1993:

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Barton-Malow Company C/O Plymouth-Canton Schools 987 S. Mill Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170 313-451-6611

All proposals must be submitted on or before 2:00 PM, local time, February 11, 1993 on the approved bid proposal forms to:

Raymond K. Hoedel Associate Superintendent of Business/Operations Plymouth-Canton Community Schools 454 South Harvey Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept any or reject all bid proposals, as they judge to be in the best interest of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

David P. Artley Secretary Board of Education

Publish The Crier: January 27, 1993, February 3, 1993

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is soliciting proposals from qualified companies for the following construction related project: District Wide Digital Voice, Data, Video Communications Project. Interested companies can obtain bid documents at the office of the Construction Manager, on or after February 02, 1993:

Barton-Malow Company C/O Plymouth-Canton Schools 987 S. Mill Street Plymouth, Michigan 48170 313-451-6611

All proposals must be submitted on or before 2:00 pm, local time, March 05, 1993 on the approved bid proposal forms to:

Raymond K. Hoedel
Associate Superintendent of Business/Operations
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
454 South Harvey Street
Plymouth, Michigan 48170

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept any or reject all bid proposals, as they judge to be in the best interest of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools.

David P. Artley Secretary Board of Education

PUBLISH, The Crier: February 3, 1993 February 10, 1993

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1993

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:30 and led in the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. All members were present

Mrs. Massengill asked that the minutes of the January 12, 1993 meeting be corrected on page 5 item J.9 by striking out "February 16, 1993" and inserting "February 23, 1993", so that the motion reads: "Mrs. Massengill then moved to amend the motion to establish February 23, 1993, for public hearing on request of Michigan Instrumentation and Controls, Inc., for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate". Mrs. Massengill then moved to approve the minutes of the January 12, 1993 meeting as corrected. Supported by Mrs. Brooks. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill asked that the agenda be amended by adding a Closed Session Meeting for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. With that addition, Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the agenda of the January 26, 1993 meeting as amended. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy asked for comments from the public. Mr. Gary Nimmerguth addressed the Board with information regarding the Zoning Board Appeals case to be discussed in the Closed Session Meeting.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy opened the Public Hearing at 7:47 p.m. on the proposed Special Assessment District for Arbor Village Subdivision which includes the paving of Marlin Avenue, Marilyn Avenue, Bruce Avenue and Southworth Avenue. Many residents expressed the following concerns; increase in traffic, speed bumps; children's safety; assessment value increase; maintenance; engineering cost obligations, and other residents commented on the benefit of paved streets. The public hearing was closed at 8:04 p.m.

Mr. Griffith moved to approve Resolution No. 93-01-12-03 authorizing the Engineer to complete final Engineering Drawings, to take bids, and have the Supervisor prepare final Special Assessment Roll for the Board's approval upon completion of the thirty (30) day waiting period, provided no objections have been filed. Supported by Ms. Arnold.

Roll call:

Ayes: Brooks, Griffith, Curmi, Mueller, Arnold, Massengill, Keen-McCarthy Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted. The entire resolution is incorporated in the official minutes on file in the Clerk's Office.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy opened the Public Hearing at 8:11 p.m. on the Special Assessment District for Plymouth Colony Subdivision which includes the paving of John Alden, Priscilla Lane, Turkey Run and Gov. Bradford. Many residents expressed the following concerns; increase in traffic; children's safety; assessment value increase; maintenance; signage; financing procedure; the voting process to reaffirm signatures on the petition; and other residents commented on the benefit of paved streets. The public hearing was closed at 9:43 p.m.

Mrs. Mueller moved to approve Resolution No. 93-01-12-04 authorizing the Engineer to complete final Engineering Drawings, to take bids, and have the Supervisor prepare final Special Assessment Roll for the Board's approval upon completion of the thirty (30) day waiting period provided no objections have been filed. Supported by Mrs. Brooks.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy stated she will direct the Director of Public Services and the Clerk to send notification to each home within the subdivision of the prices; what it means to each homeowner; and the processes for them to change their mind and after the 30 days do a recalculation.

Roll call:

Ayes: Arnold, Mueller, Griffith, Brooks, Massengill, Keen-McCarthy

Nays: Curmi

Resolution declared adopted. The entire resolution is incorporated into the official minutes on file in the Clerk's Office.

Mr. Griffith moved to approve the proposed Ordinance #C-93-01 for the purpose of being consistent with the changes in the State Law which became effective on January 1, 1993. This is the second and final reading. Supported by Ms. Arnold.

Roll call

Ayes: Arnold, Mueller, Griffith, Curmi, Brooks, Massengill, Keen-McCarthy Nays: None

Mr. Curmi moved to support and approve the general process for the Intergovernmental Cooperation Service dated January 20, 1993. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all on a roll call vote.

Mr. Griffith moved to approve Resolution No. 93-01-26-05 and grant the request of ABB Graco Robotics, Inc., to transfer employment from Plymouth Charter Township to the City of Auburn Hills. Supported by Ms. Arnold.

Roll call:

Ayes: Arnold, Mueller, Curmi, Griffith, Brooks, Massengill, Keen-McCarthy

Nays: None

Resolution declared adopted. The entire resolution is incorporated into the official minutes on file in the Clerk's Office.

Mrs. Mueller moved to approve the expenditure of \$2,450.00, for SEMCOG Annual Membership Dues. Supported by Mrs. Massengill. Ayes all.

COMMUNICATIONS Letter from Jeff Felts, P.D., thanking Firefighters James Haar, James Jury, Clayton Miller and Mark Wendel

Letter of thanks from Anne Facione-Russell and Milissa Kujawa expressing gratitude to Charles McIlhargey and Cathy Subatch, Building Department

Letter from Richard J. Hartigan and Cynthia Norman, American Standox, Inc., expressing appreciation to Charles McIlhargey and the Building Department and Rick Miner of Dietrich Bailey and Associates, Township Engineers

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy recognized Township personnel that received letters of appreciation.

Mrs. Brooks moved to receive and file Communications and Reports as listed. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Curmi and supported by Mr. Griffith to move into Closed Session at 10:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. Ayes all on a roll call vote.

This is a permissible purpose under the Michigan's Open Meeting Act, Public Act No. 267 of 1976, as amended by Act No. 256 of 1978, Article 15.268, Section 8, Paragraph e.

It was moved by Mrs. Mueller and supported by Mr. Curmi to return to the regular meeting at 10:45 p.m. Ayes all.

It was moved by Mrs. Massengill and supported by Ms. Arnold to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 p.m. Ayes all.

Marilyn Massengill, Clerk Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: February 3, 1993

1993 Guide!



Steve Harper (1992), P.O. Box 401, Plymouth, 455-8484.

Plymouth, 455-8484.

The Canton Public Library moved to its independent facility just south of the township Administration Building on Canton Center Road almost four years ago now. Since then the facility has become one of the most widely used library facilities in western Wayne County. The building is located at 1200 S. Canton Center Rd.

The library is open from 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday. In the summer it is closed Sundays.

is 397-0999.

Canton residents pay 1.70 mills for the operation of the library.

Canton Public Library Board: library director, Jean Tabor; Katherine Baldrica (1992), 43057 Devion Lane, 981-5102; David Bone (1992), 6849 Carriage Hill, 981-2657; Mary Gyorke (1992), 8451 Orhan, 453-8416; Beverly Polcyn (1992), 1529 Ranier, 981-1445; James Gillig (1992), 4750 Napier, 455-4750; William Simmerer (1992), 39763 Cheviot, 397-3463.

(1942), 39/63 Chevaot, 39/-3463.

The Northville Library serves residents of Northville and Northville Township. It is located on the lower level of the city's Municipal Building at 215 W. Main St. Due to recent budget troubles the library has had to scale back its hours.

The library is now open from 11 a.m.-8.

Monday through Thursday; 10 a.m.-5.

non Friday and Saturday; and closed on

The phone number of the Northville brary is 349-3020.

orary is 343-3420.

Residents of Northville and Northville wwnship pay for the library operations, but as funds are appropriated through the general fund budgets of each government. There is no special millage levied to operate the library.

Northville Library Advisory
Commission: library director, Patricia
Orr; Barbara Gougeon (1993); chairperson,
Paul Dawson (1994); John Buckland
(1993); Frances Mattison (1994) Wendy
Gutkowski (1992); Sally Williams (1993);
and Lynn Parkllaa (1993).



Happenings in the community

The active nature of Plymouth-Canton-Northville residents shows itself all year round as a variety of special events fill the calendar from Eight Mile Road to the north, Michigan Avenue to the south, Napier Road to the west and Haggerty Road to the east.

to the west and Haggerty Road to the east.

JANUARY, FEBRUARY: Despite several bad years recently, the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular (now in its 11th season) has carved a niche in the community's winter calendar. Held for one week at the beginning of the year, the ice festival remains one of the premier ice shows in the state, if not nation, drawing competitors and interest from all over the U.S. and the world.

The first two months of the year also offer

The first two months of the year also offer residents plenty of chances to enjoy the various winter recreational facilities available for fighting cabin fever. There are sports

tournaments, skating, sledding, skiing at nearby parks, and lots of concerts, plays, fun fundraising events, and school shows to fill the evenings with something new each night.

MARCH, APRIL Spring fever reaches its highest levels during the annual annual Easter egg hunts for kiddies in each of the P.C.N communities. By early April, shoppers are out in force in downtown Plymouth and Northville and Plymouth's historic Old Village gears up for another year of special events.

Those seeking a more natural experience can join in the spring tours at William P. Holliday Nature Preserve in Canton or the annual Miller Woods Walks held in the unique climax-beech forest in Plymouth Township. There are usually two or three each spring.

For culture lovers the local theatre group community band, community chorus and symphony wrap up their seasons during these months.

MAY: Northville takes the spotlight this month with the annual community-wide garage sales and historic festivals. Later, Memorial Day is marked with special memorial services in all of P-C-N. There are parades in Plymouth and Northville and wreath-laying ceremonies at local veterans memorials. May is also the time for the annual farmers' markets in Plymouth-Canton-Northville.

Until this year the Canton Challenge Festival also took center stage in May. But the two-week program of athletic and fitness events has been replaced this year by the Liberty Festival planned for June this year.

The ever-popular Canton Memorial Weekend Soccer Tournament, is still planned for May and will again likely draw 200 or so teams from across the state and the country.

teams from across the state and the country.

JUNE: June is a month for light outdoor activities throughout P-C-N, including Friday night street dances or music in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth, concerts at Plymouth Township Park, the Summer Song Festival in Northville and now the Liberty Festival in Canton. Old Village offers a celebration of Dearie Days and local high school seniors put on cap and gown for annual graduation commencements.

The Guide Knows (since 1980) Coming to Plymouth-Canton-Northville March 3 The The Newspatter with its Heart in The Plymouth Canton. MI Community

Community Call your Crier Ad Consultant to reserve your ad space

Deadlines Fast Approaching!



Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Rajendra Sinha of Canton, the director of the Wayne County Public Health Air Pollution Control Division, has been named to the state Air Pollution Control Commission.

Sinha earned a bachelor of science and a master of science degree in chemistry from Rejesthan University and Birla Institute of Technology and Science in India. He also earned a bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering from Tri-State University in Indiana and a masters of engineering in chemical engineering from Wayne State University.

He was appointed by Gov. John Engler to represent full-time air pollution control officers. His terms expires June 15, 1994.

Judith Stone of Canton, the principal of West Middle School recently participated in a statewide informational conference on middle level teacher certification and preparation at Central Michigan University.

Four area residents have been elected as new officers of the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees: Plymouth resident Mary Breen, as chairperson; Plymouth resident Stephen Ragan, as vice chairperson; Northville resident Patricia Watson as secretary; and Canton resident Michael Burley retained his seat as treasurer.

A total of 17 local residents have been named to the fall dean's lists at four different Michigan colleges and universities.

At Grand Valley State University, the students were: Anthonius Collins, Tammy Felt, Christy Parker and Jennifer Ratcliffe, all of Canton; and Jennifer Wong from Plymouth.

At Kalamazoo College, the students were: Erin Bagozzi, Anne Dibble, Candic Jones, Patrick Meyer and Bryan Schultz.

At Lawrence Technological University, the students were Susan Hoy of Plymouth and Debbie Harju, Terry Lytle, Gordon McDonald and Mary Rochon, all of Canton.

The Albion College students were Holly Quick and Stephen Sedore, both of Plymouth.

Death with honor

Resident's work with hospice helps dying, survivors

"A time to be born and a time to die..."

— the Bible

BY AMY KIDWELL

For most people, death is a part of life they simply would rather not think about or deal with.

For Kim Johnson, however, it's a fact of life she deals with and sees every day as a clinical case manager for Hospice of Southeastern Michigan.

In fact, quite simply put, her job is to diagnose whether a patient will die in 72 hours — and if so, she assigns a special short term care team to take care of that person during those final days.

"When somebody dies and you're in the home, it's a privilege," she said. "You are there when they need you most; I feel very blessed."

Although a frightening prospect to many, Johnson describes the deaths she's witnessed as beautiful, spiritual and peaceful.

Johnson, a Plymouth Township resident, started as a volunteer for hospice more than four years ago.

After the birth of her son, Joseph, she attended the University of Detroit Nursing School and it was during a Death and Dying class that she learned about the hospice philosophy; that the end of life does not have to be painful or lonely.

She volunteered.

"The timing was perfect," she said.

She then worked for hospice as a nurses aid, while still in school.

When she graduated from UofD in May 1992, she worked in a hospital unit that took care of children with AIDS.

"In a hospital, there is not a lot of time left for the one-on-one," Johnson said. So in November she went back to hospice and started her new position.

"I will always be with hospice," she said. "I feel like I'm serving my purpose in life."

KIM JOHNSON



Johnson said she hopes to work with children's hospice in the future and wants that aspect of hospice to be used more.

Most of her patients die of cancer, and she said she expects that AIDS will be seen more in the future.

"There are so many children being born with AIDS; it's running rampant."

The local hospice recently opened a residential unit for people with AIDS—just in time, according to Johnson, who said that many AIDS patients have been shunned by their families and have no where else to turn.

Hospice of Southeastern Michigan is one of the oldest and largest of its kind in Michigan, founded in 1980. It serves patients in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties and has an average patient load of 400 a day.

While the patient may be seen by some as the central player in hospice care, Johnson said the program often focuses on the needs of the patient's family.

For 13 months after the death of a loved one, she said, hospice checks on the family to make sure they are healing. By using hospice, the patient and family have access to a whole range of professionals that are trained to help in any situation.

Hospice is covered by Medicare and Medicaid and many other insurance

Whyman, Vorva get committee posts; vote against raise

BY CRAIG FARRAND

The Plymouth-Canton Community's two new lawmakers have ended up with some unexpected — and potentially powerful — committee assignments in the new state House of Representatives.

Rep. Deborah Whyman (R-21st District), has been named vice-chairperson of the House Education Committee, and Rep. Jerry Vorva (R-20th District) has been given the vice-chairman seat of the Senior Citizens Committee.

In addition, however, Vorva was also assigned a seat on the education committee, giving the Plymouth-Canton area two voices on the powerful panel. He also was appointed to the committees on Insurance, State Affairs and Housing and

Urban Development.

Besides her education assignment, Whyman was appointed to the committees on Human Services, Taxation and House Oversight and Elections.

Committee vice-chairman take over meetings when chairmen are unable to attend.

What make this arrangement noteworthy is that through the shared-leadership agreement in the House, the two Republicans will be next in line to chair meetings on alternating months.

In other Lansing news, both Whyman and Vorva voted against the pay raises recently allowed to go into effect for elected state officials.

"I strongly opposed the pay raise," Whyman said. "Rejecting this increase would have been a way to demonstrate our commitment to the taxpayers.

"The issue is not whether legislators deserve a pay raise; the fact is that the state of Michigan is faced with a \$500 million deficit.

"The state simply can't afford this," she said.

A two-thirds majority — or 74 votes — was needed to kill the increase. The attempt to reject the increases failed by a 66-to-37-vote margin.

The increases went into effect Monday.

Please see pg. 16

City makes new appointments

Continued from pg. 1

Skene's last day on the job Friday.

Skene will be taking his 18 years of experience to Westland to serve as its recreation director.

Willette, who does not live in Plymouth, was granted a 90-day grace period to move into the city.

The commission will begin seeking a permanent replacement for Skene in March.

separate the treasurer's responsibilities from that of the finance director, the commission appointed Teresa Cischke as the new city treasurer.

Cischke started her career with the city's finance department in 1974, and for the past five years has served as the accounting manager.

She is a resident of Plymouth, so the residency requirement will not be a

In related news, the city manager, Walters announced the reappointment of Police Chief Robert Scoggins.

His position was vacated Jan. 22 when he failed to meet the residency requirement. He was reappointed to the position the same day.

Scoggins, who lives in Canton Township, has agreed to move into the city and was granted the same 90-day grace period to allow him time to sell his custom-made Canton home and move into the city.

In some editions of today's Crier, look for an inserts from:

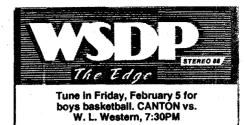
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for our community? Answer: See pg. 114 of The '91 Guide!



The 1993 GUIDE

OUTH-CANTON'S RADIO STATIO

Deadlines Fast Approaching

Assessments rise 10 per cent

Continued from pg. 1

Other communities experiencing increases larger than Plymouth's include Dearborn (16.9 percent), Flat Rock (19.1 per cent), Rockwood (17.3 per cent) and Wyandotte and neighboring Northville (20.1 per cent).

In Canton, however, the figures came in at about the level expected by Treasurer Elaine Kirchgatter.

"That (9.8 per cent) is about what I anticipated," she said, "with some individual assessments ranging up to 11 or 12 per cent."

Residents in all three communities should expect to receive new assessment notices in the mail in the next three weeks, according to officials.

These notices will explain the process of reassessment, state the new figure and will include a brochure from the county explaining the Headlee Amendment and the impact of assessments on taxes

Officials from the three towns recommend that if homeowners suspect a mistake in their assessments they should first examine records concerning their home that are kept in city or township

"The first thing they should do," Zirblis said, "is to check for any errors in the field record."

In fact, Kirchgatter said, the first thing to verify is that the notice describes your property and not that of someone else.

This record would not only include a legal description of the property, but also list any additions or improvements that were used to determine the new assessment figure.

Should a homeowner feel that his or her individual assessment is out of whack with their expectations, there is an annual process available for relief: the Board of Review.

Such a board will meet in each community during the month of March to hear taxpayer's challenges to their assessments.

And the process doesn't end there: A final arbiter, the Michigan Tax Tribunal will hear any appeals from the various Boards of Review (see related story).

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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

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

Worship With Us This Sunday

Geneba Presbyterian Church (USA)

5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton 459-0013

Worship Service & Church School 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Reverend Bryan Smith

Boards of Review set for appeals

If you're not satisfied with the new assessment of your property's value, don't despair: there is an appeal process - beginning with the local Board of Review.

This three-person panel of residents - none of whom are elected officials - annually meets to hear taxpayer challenges of new assessments.

But they aren't a pushover, according to area officials: You have to come loaded for bear to have a chance.

And that means doing your homework before you arrive:

· Review the "field record" of your home, kept on file in city or township hall. This record will list a legal description of your property and the types of features, improvements and additions that were used to calculate your assessment. Sound too easy? According to officials, mixups can

occur; make certain it's your property that's being reassessed.

• If you've just purchased the house, bring a copy of the deed that shows the purchase price - since assessments are based on market values, here's the best way to prove what your property is really worth.

• If other homes in your neighborhood - that are almost identical to yours - have been sold, get those purchase prices. Again, these are perfect indications of the marketplace and home values.

• Go to city or township hall and fill out a form requesting a formal hearing with the board. Although not all dates have been set, the boards will meet early in March and continue to meet until everyone has been heard.

• Not happy with the outcome? Then get a petition to file with the Michigan Tax Tribunal. That's the next - and often the final - step.



Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

Sheriff sale is up in air

Although the Mayflower Hotel has been in receivership for more than a month, an expected sheriff's sale has yet to take place.

According to Neil Gudson, attorney for Heritage Federal Bank, the date has been postponed three times and the next date for the sale has "not yet been determined."

In most bankruptcy cases, the largest creditor buys the property in the sherrif's sale. In this case, Heritage Federal bank is the largest creditor and would be expected to buy the property.

The hotel was placed in receivership on Dec. 21. Owners of the Mayflower, Creon Smith and Randy and Scott Lorenz, have six months to raise the \$1.5 million needed to pay its creditors.

Canton resident Louis P. Contini has been appointed senior vice president of Public Works, and elected to the Board of Directors of the architectural and engineering firm of BEI Associates Inc.

Contini earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering at the University of Detroit, and is a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers.

Fitness Things, Inc. of Plymouth, and Imperial Images of Canton, will have exhibits at the first annual Spring Home and Garden Show at the Novi Expo Center.

The show runs February, 4-7. For more information call 252-2200.

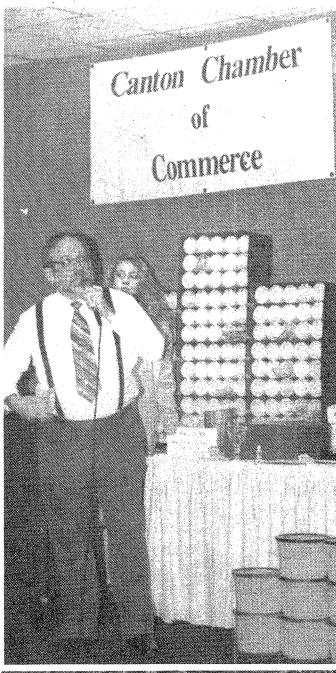
Two Canton residents have been appointed to positions at Eastern Michigan University.

Barbara Zednick has been appointed to secretary II in the biology department and Dawn Durham has been appointed account clerk in the accounts payable department.

Robert A DeMattia, president and CEO of Plymouth-based R.A. DeMattia Co. has been elected chairman of the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents.

'Do I hear?'

Canton Chamber auction keeps 'em bidding



Auctioneer David
Artley (right)
secretary of the
Plymouth - Canton
Board of Education keeps things going for
the crowd (below)
attending the Canton
Chamber of
Commerce auction
Saturday. (Crier
photo by Gary
Gosselin)



BY GARY GOSSELIN

The theme of the Canton Chamber of Commerce auction Saturday night was "Get Lucky" — and more than a few people did just that, often picking up auction items at considerably less than retail value.

Although the auction ran over the planned hour and a half, attention and participation remained high throughout the evening.

"We've gotten a lot of feedback from members already, and it was all positive. Everyone seems to have had a great time," said Canton Chamber Executive Director Linda Shapona.

The vocal auction was interspersed with the Chinese auction (raffle), as well as the presentation of gems to the various bidders.

Adding to this variety was the occasional "bidding war," which sent some prices above retail value — to the benefit of the Chamber.

Some of the best deals could be found at the gem table, which featured an assortment of emeralds, blue topaz, sapphires and citrine jewels.

The gems, which ranged in value from \$80 to \$800 went for prices that "would make a gemologist cry," said auctioneer David Artley.

Silent bids on the gems rarely strayed above \$50, and a few lucky bidders walked away with more than \$100 in jewels for a mere \$20 or \$30.

The jewels are new this year," said Shapona, "and we're finding that they went over very well, they really helped keep the auction interesting. I'm sure we'll use them again next year."

In contrast to the jewels, however, the \$13,000 starting bid on the 1992 Buick Skylark was too rich for the bidders, with no takers.

Turnout at the auction was 150 persons said Chamber President Tom Adamusik, adding that they actually had to turn people away late last week.

Adamusik said that although figures aren't available yet, the Chamber expects to top last years auction revenue of \$9,712.

"It (the auction) was a booming success. We had such a good turnout, and a great mix of business owners and even politicians," said Adamusik.

Although the dust has barely cleared from the Saturday auction, Adamusik says he's already looking ahead.

"We have a lot of fun events coming up, I'm already looking forward to the Liberty Fest raffle and the golf outing, and thinking of other ways we can bring revenue to the chamber."

Registration continues

It's still not too late to register for classes through The Plymouth-Canton Community School District's Community Education program.

The brochure outlining all class offerings were sent to every resident in the district, according to district officials, and although most classes began Monday, registration continues through the week.

In addition, registration for so-called leisure classes will continue until classes are filled.

An adult high school completion program is also available at no charge for people who do not have a high school diploma. Course offerings include English, math, science, social studies, business, computer instruction, health

News notes

occupations and GED preparation.

For more information about the programs and registration, call 451-6660 or 451-6555.

Senior help available

If you're 60 or over and live in The Plymouth-Canton Community, you may be eligible to get low-cost help with your outdoor winter chores.

The Senior Alliance Chore Referral Program provides a list of three workers - including referrals — who are willing

to do a variety of household tasks, including snow shoveling.

Once a senior chooses a worker, it is the senior's responsibility to establish a work schedule and payment plan.

For more information about the chore referral program, call 722-2830.

IRS office open to help

It's that time again when Americans conduct that special correspondence with their government: filing their income tax

And to help make that process go a little smoother, the local Internal Revenue Service office in Livonia is once again open to help provide forms, booklets and answers to questions by taxpayers.

The office, located at 37405 Ann Arbor Road, is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and

In addition to local help, taxpayers can call a toll-free number to order forms and publications. The number is 1-800-829-3676, and is operational from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

And remember, tax filing day is April

Retirment session set

The Michigan Public School Employees Retirement Systems will be holding an informational meeting a 4:30 p.m. March 18 at the Plymouth-Canton High School Little Theater to review benefit programs.

The session is free.

Allen



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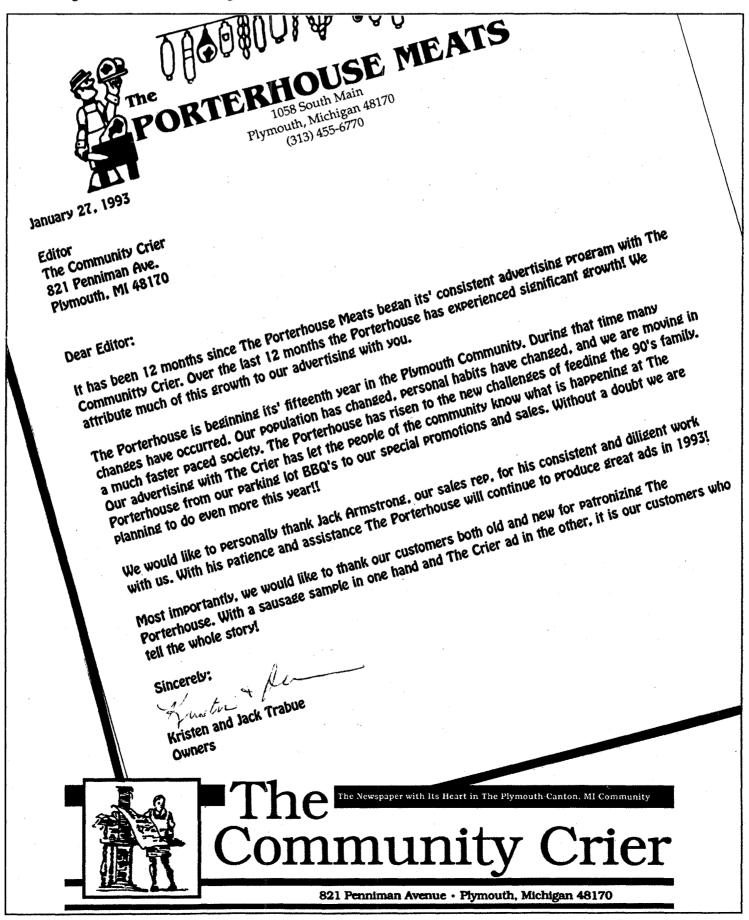


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What's Happening

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

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION SUPPER

The Scottish Association of Southeast Michigan invites Scots and friends of Scotland to the fifth annual Burns Supper on Sunday Feb. 27. The supper will be held at the Hoyt Conference Center at Eastern Michigan University and will feature traditional Scottish fare. There will also be Highland dancing, bagpiping, singing and poetry.

Reservations are required and \$25 per person attending must be received by 5 p.m. on Saturday Feb. 20. Scottish attire is encouraged but not required. Please contact William H. Kincaid, 2864 Baylis Court, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. Or call 973-1838.

P-C VIETNAM VETS GENERAL MEETING

The Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528 Vietnam Veterans of America announces its general membership meeting for Monday, Feb. 8. The meeting is being held to encourage membership and participation among the area Vietnam era veterans.

The meeting will be held at the Mayflower-Lt. Gamble V.F.W. Post #6695 1426 S. Mill St. For more information call 525-0157.

BOATING SKILLS WORKSHOP

The local chapter of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary announces 12 week boating skills classes. All classed are taught by certified instructors of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. There will be a minimum charge to cover the cost of books (\$20 for the first family member, \$10 for each additional family member if they share books). Students under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Register at the first class, payment is due then. For more information call Hal Young, public education officer, at 453-7548

AMERICAN LEGION MEETING

Passage-Gayde Post 391 will hold its regular business meeting at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11 at 173 N. Main St, Plymouth. Veterans needing assistance or interested in Legion membership should contact Commander Jim Maahs at 455-5541 or Adjutant Jim Barbour at 451-8659.

NORTHVILLE ANNUAL FLORIDA REUNION

The annual Northville Reunion will be held Feb.19 at the Holiday Inn 6525 U.S. 27 North, Sebring, Florida.

For reservations, placement on the waiting list, or for further information please contact one of the following coordinators: Connie Burgess Wahlberg, 591 N.E. Town Terrace, Jensen Beach, FL. 34957 (407) 334-3715; or Dick Simmons P.O. Box 635, Minneola Fl. 34755 (904)

BREAST CANCER DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT DISCUSSION

The Business and Professional Women's Club invites Deborah Madison to the Mayflower Hotel to discuss new developments in the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer at 6 p.m. Feb. 8.

The Plymouth and Canton BPW clubs will also present the Young Careerist Award. The award is presented to a young professional who best exemplifies the professional and service goals of the BPW club.

For reservations please contact Liz Johnson at 455-9000 or Marcia Rapnicki at 437-7408.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE SPRING CRAFT SHOW

Schoolcraft College is taking applications now for its Spring Craft Show. The show will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 13 in the college's physical education building.

Booth spaces measuring 12-by-12 feet will cost \$60, 10-by-10 feet are \$45; and 8-by-9 feet are \$35. All spaces come with two chairs but crafters must supply their own tables. Electricity is \$10 extra.

Over 150 exhibitors from all across the state will be selling an array of hand-crafted items. Admission is \$1.50, refreshments and free parking will be available. Proceeds will fund student scholarships.

For booth applications and further information call 462-4417.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

The Southeastern Michigan Red Cross will hold a blood drive Feb. 11 at Hawthorne Center, 18471 Haggerty Road, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Call 422-4090 for information

On Feb.12, it will hold a blood drive at Meijer Thrifty Acres, 45001 Ford Road, from noon to 6 p.m. Call 422-1425 for information.

SELF DEFENSE / RAPE PREVENTION CLASS

The Plymouth Community Family YMCA is offering a Women's Self Defense Rape Prevention Class. The course teaches rape resistance techniques as well as risk reduction methods. The first session of classes will be held from March 1 through April 5, the second will be held April 19 through May 24.

For more information call Arleen Zylka at 453-2904.

FALL FEST MEETING

Organizers for the Fall Festival will meet 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3 in the Clerk's office building next to Plymouth Township Hall, Lilley and Ann Arbor roads. They will review applications for the festival and review and approve the budget.

They also send their thanks everyone who helped support them.

AUCTION

New Morning School will hold its 17th annual auction on April 3.

The school is looking for organizations to make tax deductible donations to help support the school. The school serves 85 families within a 20 mile radius.

The auction itself will be held at the Hellenic Center in Westland.

For more information, call Ellen Arble at 420-3331.

SPORTSMANSHIP WEEK

The week of Feb. 8, all 12 WLAA schools will be celebrating Western Lake Activities, Sportsmanship week.

Various activities will be offered to show that sportsmanship is an extension of school.



What's Happening

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TALENT SHOW

The PCEP High School Band presents the 28th annual Variety Is talent show. Performances are Feb. 5 and 6 at 8 p.m. in the Plymouth Salem High School Auditorium. Tickets are available at the door. For reserved tickets, call 453-3615.

INTERIOR DESIGN IDEAS

The Woman's Club of Plymouth will meet Feb. 5 at 12:30 p.m. at the First United Church, 45201 N. Territorial Road.

The program will feature "House Beautiful," an interior design presentation of ideas to spruce up your house for spring. Presenters will be Dawn McAllister Buda and Associates from Designer's Choice.

For more information, call Grace Rix at 453-5178.

GOSPEL MUSIC SHOW

The Great Adventure is coming to the Plymouth Church of the Nazarene on Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

Valet parking, a nursery, baby sitting and refreshments will be available at this show featuring contemporary southern gospel music.

Admission is free. Call 453-1525 for more information.

YMCA MEETING

The Plymouth Community Family YMCA Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Feb. 7 at 6 p.m. at Ernesto's.

VALENTINE PARTY FOR KIDS

Kids ages 3 through 12 can attend a Valentine party and Clown show, sponsored by Canton Parks and Recreation, on Feb. 13 from 10 to 11 a.m.

The show, to be held at Canton's Recreation Center, will feature games, a cartoon, refreshments and a special clown performance.

There is no fee to attend. Call 397-5110 for reservations.

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL

The Canton Newcomers Club will hold its 2nd annual Children's Carnival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 6.

The event, to be held in the cafeteria of Canton High School on Canton Center Road, will feature games, prizes, a raffle and craft booth and refreshments.

All proceeds will benefit Hospice Services of Western Wayne County, located in Garden City and Plymouth.

SPORTS CARD SHOW

The Canton High School Baseball Parents club is hosting its second annual Sports Card Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.Feb. 6 and 7.

The show will be held at East Middle School, will feature an hourly raffle and a free giveaway each day.

Bill Stafford, two-time World Series champion, and Billy Hoeft, a former Detroit Tiger, will be on hand for autographs.

All proceeds will benefit the Canton High School baseball program. for more information, call 455-3564.

FAMILY SKATE NIGHT

Heritage Park Ponds, behind Canton Township Hall, will be the site of Family Skate Night, sponsored by Canton Parks and Recreation. From 7 to 9 p.m. on Feb. 11 the ponds will be lighted, music will be played and families from all areas will enjoy a free night of fun.

A.A.U.W. MEETING

The Plymouth branch of the A.A.U.W. will hold its monthly meeting at Ernesto's at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 17.

Harriet Kozyn will present a hands-on demonstration of jewelry making.

Guests are welcome. Call 455-3662 for more information.

EX-NEWCOMERS MEETING

The Plymouth Ex-newcomers winter luncheon will be at Plymouth Landing Feb. 16 at noon.

Order from the menu. No reservation are required.

BOWLATHON

Mayflower Gamble VFW is hosting Bowlathon Feb. 13 at noon at Plaza Lanes on Ann Arbor Road.

Cost is \$125 per game. Bowlers and pledgers are needed.

All proceeds will benefit the Special Olympics and the homeless. For more information, call Alice at 728-7619 or Jim Dray at 420-3095.

SUNSHINE CLUB PICNIC

The Plymouth Sunshine Club will hold its annual picnic March 2 at Florida's Highlands Hammock State Park, near Sebring.

Potluck lunch begins at 1 p.m. Bring your own service and beverage.

Call (813) 385-0011 to make reservations for a camp ground in the park.

For more information, call Lew or Fran at (813) 775-4946.

VALENTINE CONCERT AND CRAFTS SHOW

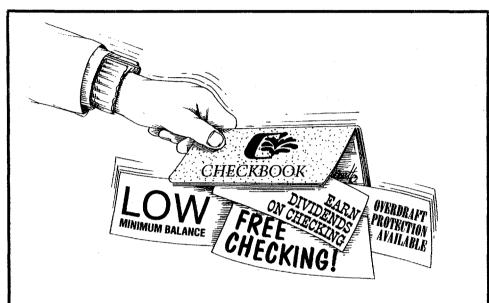
The Schoolcraft College Women's Resource Center will host a free Valentine Concert and Crafts for parents and children from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 13 at the college's Waterman Center

Geri Green, music and movement specialist, will perform songs of love, self-esteem, and laughter. Members of Schoolcraft's honor society (Phi Theta Kappa) will help the participants make their Valentines extra-special.

The event is being presented by the Schoolcraft College Student Activities Office and the Out Wayne County Council on Child Abuse and Neglect.

Reservations are required. Children between 2 and 13 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. For further information, call the Women's Resource Center at 462-4443.





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Computer system expands courtroom for deaf

Continued from pg. 3

In fact, it is this aspect — helping those with hearing disabilities — that has been a special cause for Goodfellow; she wrote a letter to The Crier in December calling for new technology to help the hearing impaired deal with the courts.

Already, she said, she has made her video display terminal available to both witnesses and defendants in Garber's courtroom.

And, she said, the Michigan Association of Professional Court Reporters has made specially trained personnel and equipment available around the state for trials involving the disabled.

Which is only the beginning, she said: With enactment of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, courts will soon have hearing impaired jury members to serve — which, she said, will mean an explosion in the use of video display terminals.

"The use of merely video cameras just won't work," she added.

Currently, the 35th court has no such computer equipment at its personal disposal — Goodfellow uses her own gear for daily work — and, according to the court reporter, no plans exist to introduce the system.

Unlike the current video camera

system in visiting Judge Charles Kaufman's courtroom, Goodfellow feels strongly that her new hybrid system is far superior than either a pure video- or pure tape-recording system.

"For instance, people say it's faster to transcribe from video because they can match the words with the person's moving lips," Goodfellow said.

"The problem is, however, that there is a slight delay as the camera switches to the new voice speaking," Goodfellow said, "and the person can't be seen right away.

"And then there's the instances where the lawyer is looking down at his notes as he's talking."

Although not completely hostile to the use of video systems in the court, Goodfellow does question their need and certainly questions their reliability when compared to that of a human stenographer.

"With the computer integrated courtroom, you simply get more than you do with video; each attorney, for example, could scroll back to an earlier point and review something," she said.

"The judge, who may be taking his own notes, can go back over a word in an attorney's objection that he may have missed."

The biggest difference between the world of video and the world of court reporting, Goodfellow said, is when it comes to intervention.

"If it's merely a video system and someone doesn't speak up enough to be picked up over the other noise in the courtroom, no one's going to stop and ask a question," she said.

"But if I didn't hear it, I'm going to stop them right then and there."

A classic example of this, she said, is when an attorney is questioning a witness and continually steps on the witness' answer with the next question.

"How could a video machine every bounce back and forth fast enough to catch both part accurately?"

As a case in point, Goodfellow pulled out a transcript from a recent trial in which, after more than two pages of testimony, the witness' name was never asked for the record.

"As you can see," Goodfellow said, "when there was a short break in the questioning, I asked the person's name and how to spell it.

"No video system will ever do that."
And why the interest in such details?

"Because I'm the one interested in the record (of the proceedings)," she said.

In addition to the video system being used by Kaufman and the court reporter used by Garber, a third system is also in use in 35th District Court: a court "recorder," used by Judge John MacDonald

This method of recording proceedings, Goodfellow explained, employs an individual to take enough notes to be able to later transcribe the taped recordings of the hearings.

The court "recorder" position, however, calls for nowhere near the educational background of a "reporter."

"A court reporter is required to have a degree from a certified court reporting school," she said, adding that Central Michigan University offers such a course, but that one of the most popular schools for such training is the Elsa Cooper Court Reporting School in Detroit.

A 14-year court reporter — with the last eight working under Garber — Goodfellow said that her line of work seldom gets the attention of the other players in the courtroom.

"We're the silent member; we just don't toot our own horn very often — but we've been doing a great job.

"Court reporters are perfectionists."

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Sports

Rocks pace, team effort cultivates win

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

A slow and steady lead that continued to grow through the last quarter led the Salem hoopsters to their 10th win this season.

Coming off their only loss this year, the Rocks defeated North Farmington 64-51 and are now 10-1 overall.

Salem's size dominated the court Friday night as the Rocks defense forced the Raiders to take a lot of outside shots.

North sank eight three-pointers against Salem, but it wasn't enough to battle Salem's total team effort. Team defense and nine players putting points on the board secured the win for Salem.

The game was close in the first half. North led at the end of the first quarter, 10-7. But its lead was short-lived.

In the second quarter, Salem tossed in 15 points, North doubled its score, tossing in 10. The Rocks took the lead at halftime, 22-20 and never looked back.

In the third quarter, Salem added 14 points to its score and North tossed in 10. Salem led at the end of three 36-30.

Both teams were in the bonus in the final quarter. The Rocks and the Raiders made several trips to the free throw line. And when the quarter was over, Salem

had tossed in 28 points and took the win, North added 21.

"We forced them to foul and put us to the line late in the game," said Salem Coach Bob Brodie. "Our defense was strong; they got the majority of their points in three (quarters)."

Mike Slone led Salem in scoring with 22 points. Brandon Slone tossed in 14 points and James Head had 10.

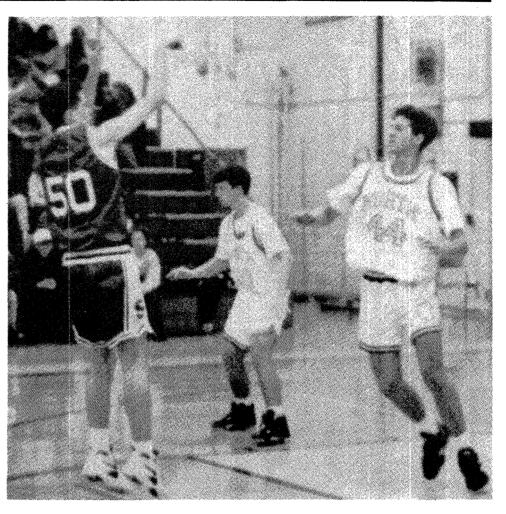
Last Tuesday Salem suffered a heartbreaking loss as Farmington Harrison pulled off a 95-94 win.

It was a high scoring game from the start, as Salem tossed in 30 points in the first quarter, and Harrison scored 25. Salem scored 17 points in the second, Harrison added 13, and the Rocks led 47-38 at halftime.

In the third quarter, Salem scored 22 points and held Harrison to 15, to end the third quarter with Salem leading 69-53.

The final quarter Harrison tossed in a whopping 42 points and walked away with the win. Salem added 25.

The Slone brothers had a strong game. Combining for 67 points, both Mike and Brandon hit career highs. Mike Slone tossed in 37 points, hitting six three-



Salem dominated the basketball game against North Farmington Friday night. The final score was 64-51. (Crier photo by Rick Sperry.)

Salem spikers take 3rd win over Canton

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

It was the same old story with a different tune for the Canton and Salem volleyball teams.

For the third time this season, the Canton and Salem spikers faced off and Salem captured the win.

This time the Rocks and Chiefs met in dual meet competition and Salem took the match in four games, 15-2, 0-15, 15-9, 15-7.

Against Canton, Karen Gundry had a great night for Salem.

In the fourth game, Salem was trailing 2-0 when Gundry came to serve. She served 10 consecutive points, gave her

team a 10-2 lead, and the Rocks went on to win the game and match.

"The first two games are indicative that volleyball is a game of momentum," said Allie Suffety, Salem coach. "In the first game we had it and they didn't, in the second they had it and we didn't, and there was no way for us to get it back in the second game or for them to get it in the first game."

Cyndi Platter had 13 kills for Salem and Caryn Tatterton had seven.

In digs, Jenny Garvey was 13-14, Jamey Viau was 10-10, and Tatterton was 12-15

Salem is now 21-8-3 overall, 5-0 in

the league, and Canton is 13-23-4 overall and 2-2 in the league.

Last Wednesday, Canton fell to Churchill in three games, losing 15-10, 15-8, 15-5

The Chiefs passing game was off and the squad suffered several service errors which cost them the match.

Coach Jackie Getz is working up a new line-up, rotating players because of illness and injury.

Ndu Okwumbua had a good game at the net, and Tina Schaefer had a good game offensively.

"It's been a real team effort this year," said Getz. "Everybody is contributing.

Please see pg. 15

Salem gymnasts remain undefeated

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

Salem gymnasts took to the apparatus this week demonstrating why they are ranked number one in the state.

The Rocks have scored in the 140's, handily beating their last two conference challengers. Salem defeated Northville 141.8-125.65 last Wednesday, and captured a 140.4-114.15 win over the combined Walled Lake team Monday night.

Courtney Gonyea had a strong

performance in both dual meets. Last Wednesday, she scored her season best all-around, 36.35, and topped that performance Monday night with a 36.50. To attain her season best Monday, Gonyea took first in three events and all-around.

Traditionally, Salem has been strong on the floor and Monday night was no exception. Three Rock gymnasts scored in the 9's. Sofios took first with 9.55. Makins was second scoring 9.4, and Gonyea took third with 9.35.

Gonyea scored an impressive 9.45 on the beam to win the event. Sofios was second with 8.8. Makins took third scoring 8.75, and Stefanie Anguilo was fourth with 8.7.

Monday on the vault, Gonyea scored 9.0 for first. Alysia Sofios was second with an 8.7.

Gonyea and Melissa Hopson tied for Please see pg. 15



Canton gymnasts beat Huron, now 7-1

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

With a few rotations in the line-up Canton gymnasts pulled off a win over Ann Arbor Huron and managed to qualify two competitors for the upcoming regional meet.

The Chiefs defeated Huron 131.1-125.75 Monday night.

Canton gave a strong performance, placing first in all four events.

On the vault, Kim Lewke was first, scoring 8.6. Kari Jackson took fourth with 7.9, and Adrienne Brenner was fifth with 7.85.

On the bars, Jenny Tedesco was first

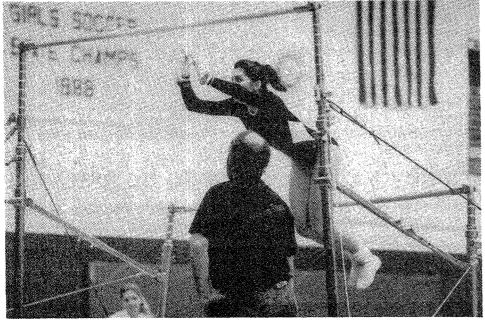
with 8.8, Kim Rennolds was second with 8.6.

On the beam, Canton took first, second and third. Rennolds was first with 8.65, Tedesco was second with 8.4, and Lewke was third with 8.3. Kim Nowak took fifth with 7.8.

On the floor, Rennolds scored 9.1, good for first. Tedesco and Nowak tied for second with 8.85, and Mindy Sofen was sixth with 8.1.

Nowak took fourth all-around with 30.35, and Brenner was sixth with 29.8. Canton is now 7-1 overall.

"I tried some new kids on the floor."



Canton gymnast Adrian Brenner goes through her routine on the uneven parallel bars. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik.)

said John Cunningham, Canton coach. Kari Jackson and Mindy Sofen gave some exceptional performances."

Jackson's first performance on the floor won her a 7.8 and she qualified for

the regionals. Sofen gave her fourth regional qualifying performance on the floor.

Canton will compete in the Plymouth Invitational Saturday.

PCJBA teams advance

Only one team remains undefeated in the girls "B" league of the Plymouth Canton Junior Basketball Association.

The Lakers hold a 7-0. Second in the league are the Nets with a 6-1 record. The Celtics and Pistons are 3-4. The Rockets are 2-5, and the Kings are 0-7.

In the girls "AA" league, the Lakers remain undefeated with a 3-0 record. The Pistons hold a 2-1 record, the Kings are 1-2, and the Celtics are 1-3.

In the boys "B" league National division, the Jazz and 76ers are 7-0. The Celtics are 5-2, the Magic are 4-4. The Pistons, Lakers and Nets are 3-4, the

Kicker honored

Salem's Tom Baker has been named to the first-team All-State soccer team this year and was also named Mr. Soccer.

A four-year starter for the Rocks, Baker had the opportunity to play for the team twice when the Rocks battled for the state championship. He was also recognized as a First All-American Soccer Player.

Baker will be recognized for his achievements at halftime during Salem-John Glenn game, Feb. 12.

Bulls are 2-5. The Blazers are 1-6, and the Kings are 0-7.

In the boys "B" league, American division, the Rockets are 7-0. The Pacers are 6-1. The Spurs and Suns are 5-2, the Warriors and Knicks are 4-3. The Hawks and Sonics hold a 2-5 record, the Hornets are 1-6 and the Bucks are 0-7.

Boys "AA" league, National division, the 76ers and Knicks are 3-1. The Celtics, Nets, Rockets and Bulls are 2-2. The Hawks are 1-3, and the Jazz are 0-4.

In the American division, the Kings and Pistons are 4-0, the Lakers and Pacers are 3-1, the Sonics and Spurs are 1-3, and the Bucks and Hornets are 0-4.

A Third win for Salem spikers

Continued from pg. 14

Now we're struggling, but I think the teams cohesiveness and desire will carry us through. This is a hard working group of girls."

Salem earned another win last Wednesday as they defeated Livonia Franklin in three games, 15-3, 15-6, 15-5.

Salem gymnasts still undefeated

Continued from pg. 14

first on the bars with an 8.8. Sofios was third with 8.7, and Sarah Makins took fourth, scoring 8.5.

Three additional Salem gymnasts qualified for the regional meet on floor, Dana Driscoll with an 8.2, Zoe Yockie with 7.85, and Mindy Andrews at 7.8.

Outstanding performances Wednesday include Kim Miller's 9.4 on the bars, and on the beam, Gonyea scored 9.45 and Sofios 9.15.

The squad was also dominant on the floor. Gonyea scored 9.35, Sofios had 9.3, and Miller scored 9.2.

The Rocks compete Saturday in the Plymouth Invitational.

Rocks' hoopsters now 10-1

Continued from pg. 14

pointers, and Brandon Slone scored 30 points, including two three-pointers.

"We shot the ball well," said Brodie.
"Brandon Slone got a lot of baskets on rebounds."

The Rocks face Walled Lake Central Friday night.

CEP Highlights

Basketball:

Canton, 4-7 overall, 3-2 in conference play.

The Chiefs chalked up two wins last week, defeating Farmington 56-52 last Tuesday and Livonia Churchill 65-42 Friday night.

Against Churchill, Canton led at halftime 32-24 and held onto the lead throughout the night. The Chiefs strongest quarter was the third when they scored 19 points and held Churchill to seven

Brad Paskievitch tied his best scoring performance this season, tossing in 22 points. Ryan Cox had 12.

Owen Crosby led in rebounds with 13.
The Chiefs face Walled Lake Western
Friday at home.

Swimming:

Canton, 2-3 overall.

The Chiefs lost 118-68 to Northville last Thursday. The Mustangs claimed the Western Division championship when they beat Canton.

The Chiefs took only one first place finish. Craig Steshetz, Ryan Hinkel, Jeff Clark and Mike Orris won the 200-yard freestyle relay, 1:33.77.

Three Chief tankers gave personal best

performances against Northville. Daryl Ballios was second in diving and racked up 229.20 points.

Jason Sterling swam his best 500-yard freestyle race, 5:36.04.

Steshetz had his best performance in the 100-yard breaststroke, finishing in 1:06.39, good for second place.

Salem, 5-1 overall, 1-0 in division.

The Rocks defeated North Farmington 106-78, securing the win with their depth swimmer's performances and five first place finishes.

Scott Helmstadter, Phil Hoffmeyer, Matt Erickson and Fred Locke took first in the 200-yard medley relay, 1:44.74.

Locke won the 50-yard freestyle, 22.98. Teammate David Bracht was in second place, swimming his personal best, 23.3.

Woody Thomas took first in diving, earning 233.10 points.

Chris Lynn had his best time this season in the 100-yard butterfly, 58.29, taking first.

Helmstadter was first in the 100-yard backstroke, 58.84.

Wrestling:

Canton, 1-9 overall, 0-4 in league. The Chiefs were defeated 45-30 by Walled Lake Western.

Canton took four matches, all in falls. Freshman Rob Gumber (125) captured his first win as a varsity wrestler, executing a pin in 1:43.

It took Nick Spano (135) only 49 seconds to win his match.

Dave Smith (140) executed his pin in 1:39.

Bill Buslipp (152) pinned his opponent in 2:21.

Salem, 5-3.
The Rocks beat Walled Lake Central

Salem captured 10 wins, three on pins, five on decision and two by forfeit.

Executing pins for Salem were:

Phil Mitchell (130), 1:35; Wade Langdon (171), :47; and John Rakozy (189), :59.

Winning by decision for Salem were: Bryan Herrald (119), 10-2; Dan Barnett (125) in a come from behind win, 14-7.

David Craig (135), 8-4; Aaron Lapinski, (145), 7-3; and John Svec (160), 13-5.

Scott Hughes (103) and Ryan Guiliani (heavyweight) both won by forfeit.

At Saturday's Belleville Invitational, Guiliani and Hughes placed third, and Phil Mitchell (130) placed fourth.



Community Deaths

Hechlik, educator

Patricia Ann Hechlik, 50, of Plymouth, died Jan. 20, 1993. Mrs. Hechlik worked as a teacher for emotionally disturbed and autistic children and was the first recipient of the Teacher of the Year for Autistic Children award.

Mrs. Hechlik, born on Jan. 28, 1942, completed her undergraduate studies and master's degree work an Eastern Michigan University. She came to Plymouth from Ann Arbor in 1978 and was active in the Michigan Cancer Association. Hechlik was also a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, MI.

Hechlik is survived by her husband, Dr. John Hechlik; brother, Steve Shepherd of North Carolina; son, Timothy of Plymouth and daughters, Tamara and Tara.

Funeral Services were held on Saturday at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Harrisville. Hechlik was buried at Harrisville Catholic Cemetery. Arrangements were made by Schrader Funeral Home.

La Vergne, salesman

Levi P. LaVergne, 92, of Canton, died Jan. 28 1993. Mr. LaVergne worked as a manager with Kroger supermarkets for ten years and a salesman for Electro-lux vacumm cleaners for 30 years before that.

Mr. LaVergne, who was born in Seattle, WA on May 25, 1900, moved to the Plymouth area in 1939. He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church and a former member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his daughter, Phyllis (Millard) Mitchell of Plymouth; granddaughters Annette Frederick of Plymouth, and Michelle Mitchell of Battle Creek. Mr. LaVergne is also survived by two great-grandchildren; Cody and Kyle Frederick.

Funeral services were held Jan. 30 at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, with the Rev. John J. Sullivan officiating. Local arrangements were made by Schrader Funeral Home. He was buried at St. John's Cemetary in Ypsilanti.

Fletemier, auto worker

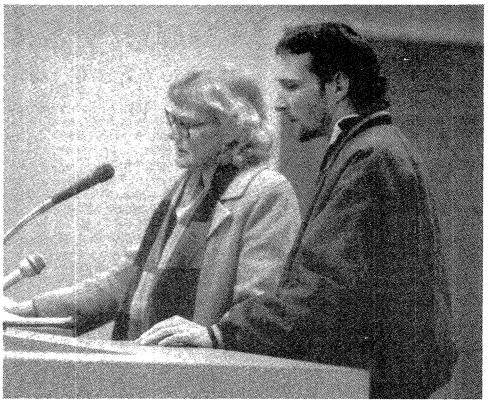
Richard E. Fletemier, 69, of Burton township, died Jan. 25 1993 in Plymouth. Fletemier worked for Chrysler Corp. in Trenton for 32 years.

Born in Detroit on April 17, 1923, Fletemier served in the U.S. Army in World War II. He was also a member of the Adersgate United Methodist Church in Redford.

Fletemier is survived by a sister, Helen Horst; a son, Edward; five daughters; Beth Heleski, Debra Heberhold, Mary Fletemier, Lori Gifford, and Karen D'Agostino. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren.

Private memorial services were held with the local arrangements made by Schrader Funeral Home. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society.





Leonard J. Richey and his attorney stand before Judge John MacDonald. Richey is accused of two counts of criminal sexual conduct. (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik.)

Richey's competence to be assessed

Continued from pg. 3

to stand trial.

Judge John MacDonald agreed and set a March 12 date for the next exam.

Richey was arraigned Jan. 17 on two counts of CSC — one in the first and one in the second degree — in connection with the alleged assault of a Canton boy.

In a report filed by the boy's mother, Richey was reported to be known to both the victim and his mother at the time of the alleged assault.

According to police reports, the alleged incident occurred in Sherwood Mobile Village.

While no other charges were brought against Richey at the Friday exam, Canton police said that investigations into the case are still ongoing.

The age and identity of the victim is not being released.

Hospice provides valuable service

Continued from pg. 6

companies. If someone has a problem with paying for the service, social workers find a way to pay, according to Lynne Rutherford, a hospice spokesperson.

Hospice of Southeastern Michigan also hosts fund-raisers to pay for extras to

its care, such as flying in family members so they can visit the patient before death.

Its next fund-raiser, the eighth-annual Crystal Ball, is scheduled for April 24 at Neiman Marcus in Troy. The event is a formal dinner dance and the Crystal Rose award will be presented. Anyone who wants tickets can call 559-9209.

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Curiosities

Janet will be home the last part of March & the first part of April.

it's not how many tickets you buy that makes you a winner.

Wendy sleeps late in February.

"Shoot the Puck" is the new in phrase in the G.M. office. Did he come from the N.H.L.?

it beats "shoot the messenger" doesn't it? - The GM

The Figures in the Creche are grateful to be taken out of the cold. Thank you.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Voyles are pleased to announce the arrival of a little girl who will be making tiny foot steps in their home. What nice news!

Bill B.- Why don't you run for something? I would love to vote for you.

Good job Emma Rose

Tom- Joy- Karen- Christy- Dennis- Tony-JoAnne- Chrisy and anybody I missed-Thanks for a Great Super Bowl Party!

Kim & Jack win 50% of the time- 500 average ain't bad- P.S. Their average is even better when they play against Dennis.

There were a lot of guesses on the Belly last week & not all of them were Larry.

Curiosities

EVERY BODY knows Jack

Karen collects hearts! Her best one is the one her husband gave her.

A very special couple are ecstatic over the news that "little foot steps "are in the future.

Elaine - Good Luck with the show. We miss you.

Welcome Elena Mariee Voyles!

Born Jan. 27, 1993; congratulations Sue and Ken! – Your Crier/ COMMA, friends

Geneva - Thanks for almost buying me a belt.

Okay, it's February . . . now I have a reason to be grumpy. KG

it's hard to remember what day of the week it is when you work every day!

Jackie and Pauline Work – How wonderful of you to call and let me know you missed me. Peter and I always loved you & for good reason.

Guess who got me hooked on cigars? Clue: It wasn't Groucho!

Check out the blonde bombshell in Kriss

Curiosities

Curiosities

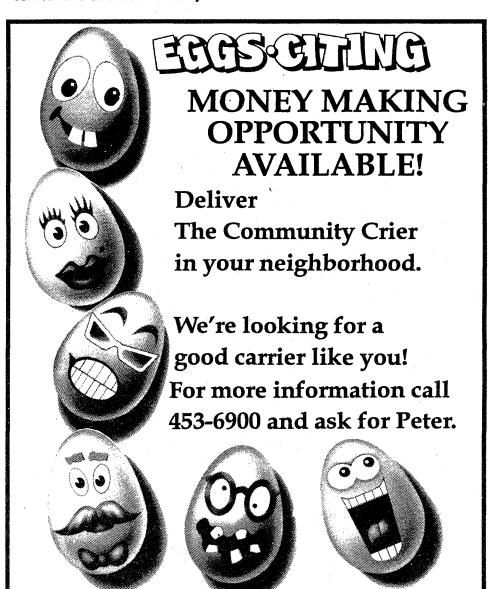


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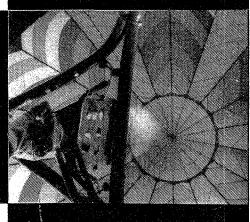


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Curiosities

Rita A. reads the curios

A new toothbrush can improve your love life & lead to extra - long lunches.

Welcome to the world ELENA MARLEE VOYLES!!

ZACK & STEVE - Convince your mom and dad to make a detour on the way back from Florida. Washington is on the way...

Hey Peter, would you happen to have an extra toothbrush?

Geneva is the crossword champ followed closely by Margaret.

Hey cousin- Good to hear from you. Can we do lunch?

Valentine's Day is coming. Don't forget to send in your 'Lovelines' to your sweetheart!

Karen is a party pooper- George should straighten her out

"Bad manners" give you away

Harold- COME HOME!

Congratulations Ken, Sue & Elena Mariee Voyles. What a family!

Dave Artley is moonlighting as an auctioneer-

Curiosities

A NEW VOYLES ARRIVES!

... To my darling Elena Mariee Voyles ...

You came into this world at exactly 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 27, 1993, weighing 6 lbs., 13 oz. and stretching 19.5 inches. Elena, you are the first child of Sue and Ken Voyles, of Plymouth, and grandchild of JoAnn and Gary Slumpff, of Dover, NJ; Jerry and Lisa Floyd, of Staten Island NYC, NY; and Oren T. and Marge Voyles, of Livonia. An Aquarian, born on Mozart's birthday (and Crier day), you are a precious blue-eyed angel who has already stolen your parent's hearts... "Golden slumber fills your eyes, smiles awake you when you rise. Sleep little wanton, do not cry, and I will sing a lullaby..." Love, Dad



Guide is fast approaching - be sure to be in it!

it's wonderful to have a brother with a computer tax program. THANX P.S.— I'm not done yet!

Curiosities

Ad Staff: You're doing a great job of getting your ads in.

Donna G.- Isaiah Thomas was the person who put the TWO lanterns in the North Church Tower - not THREE as you had in your upper window.

PETER- NO! NO! DON'T GO!

Dunbar Davis- Isalah Thomas hailed from Mass. long before the game of basketball was invented in the same state. He was America's first newspaper publisher -- suggesting first in print separation from the Crown. The current Piston star of the same name (spelled differently) is great too, but 200 years later.

Congratulations Jenny D.!

"What do you call the head cook at the soup factory?"-- Damon Tyman-- "Souper Man"

Miles misses COMMA,

Zack- Where are you? We haven't seen you lately. Did you go to visit you Grandma and Grandma?

Brook Jabara- Where are the Girl Scout cookies? I need to order from you right away.

Who is this short little guy?



(on hie knoce)

Curiosities

Chelsea can walk! Watch your step world!

Jacquie watched all day Sunday & still can't understand why Michigan wasn't in the Super Bowl.

is Charette's in your √ speller- are you spelling it right?

Yes Nancy P., I talk to Becky A. more than to Tim!

Maybe next year Jacquie! Make sure you watch.

Why did Peter buy a toothbrush before he went to lunch with his girlfriend?

COMMA, Crazies- Are we ready for this?



Zan's first snowman!

Liz- Works late in February (It's fun on payday!)

I'm proud of Steve- He keeps trying.

Dale wore his pajamas to the party

The Crier staff had a great time at the Canton C of C Auction – We just can't afford lunch till pay day.

Harold, it was great seeing you again. Sharp date you had with you.

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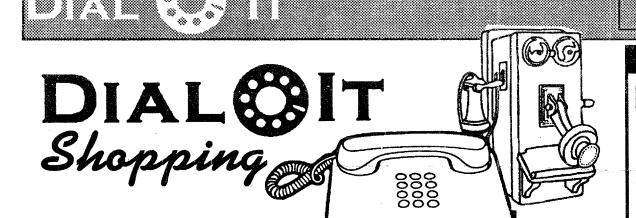
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Community opinions

Enjoy Miller Woods

EDITOR

Many thanks to the Plymouth-Canton school board members who listened and listened at three recent board meetings as they reconsidered whether to give a natural area a little more protection from the ravages of civilization.

Kiwanis has patiently waited three years while we tried the alternatives of an ordinance, daily patrols, neighborhood education and increased communications.

Problems increased (instead), especially those (involving) dogs and bikes. Kiwanis and Friends of Miller Woods will share the cost of a strong, low-maintenance fence. It will be set back

behind trees and edge growth, barely visible — and Friends will encourage the natural growth to further obscure it.

Biologists have found that the special spring wildflowers gradually return to their former glory when dogs are fenced out, and low-nesting birds have greater success with an occasional fox instead of many neighboring dogs.

As always, Friends will continue to invite all of the community to our guided tours and meetings. Or you can go anytime: The gate is always open for you to visit, to study, to enjoy historic Miller Woods.

FRIENDS OF MILLER WOODS

In Plymouth-Canton residents want shared services; schools too

What next? As far as some Crier readers are concerned, officials in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community are on the right track when it comes to exploring shared services

And they also think that the Plymouth-Canton School District should be brought into the equation.

In an informal survey conducted by The Crier, readers were asked how they felt about sharing services such as public safety, waste control, public works and planning and the school system.

Of all respondents, only one responded that shared services was a bad idea altogether. The rest of the letters we received said that, in one way or another, shared services were something that must be explored in the future.

And, in all cases (with the one notable exception) respondents stated that involving the school districts in shared services was something to be considered.

So, now that this unofficial poll is over — and America loves polls — it's back to work. And back to getting beyond the talk stage and into the first action stage.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Guns are not weapons

EDITOR

I don't have any information to help the gun collector (whose letter appeared in last week's Crier) — I do have quite a problem with you, though. As you can see, I've circled the problem (the word "weapon") in the editor's note.

I can only assume you are calling Mr. Christian a criminal by calling the gun he purchased a weapon. I do not understand: did he use this gun in a hold up or a break in of some sort? Or is he just displaying this gun in his home for his own pleasure?

You must believe that all guns should be taken away from the public. Let all the real crooks and criminals own the guns.

Guns should be issued to more people—how about fighting back for a change? We all know how well the justice system works for the crooks.

It's a real shame when people like you have the power to write something like that — weapon — in a paper. A person purchases a gun for his own enjoyment and you make him a criminal and a gun a weapon!

Thanks for nothing. RICHARD MULLER

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The term "weapon" is one ingrained in those who served in the U.S. military and in no way carries any stigma concerning Second Amendment rights.)

Wordsmith

By Alex Lundberg



Help shred the pavement

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has plans for the fair city of Plymouth. A contracting company is preparing to roll into town with their diesel-belching, street-eating machines this summer.

They're coming to change the way the streets look. They've got the tools and they know how to use them.

Sound draconian? Well, if it does, then now's your chance to get your two cents in

The DDA's plans for the proposed streetscape renovations aren't final. Yes, *they are technically complete and ready to be built, but nothing is set in stone.

What do you want downtown Plymouth to look like? Have you had a pet peeve about the way that the city looks that you've been dying to get off your chest?

This is your chance.

Now let's say you don't like the way the two-hour parking signs on Penniman are placed, or you think that Plymouth needs concrete ottomans to accompany the new benches. The thing to do is stop by the DDA office and drop off your plans for urban beautification.

But wait, don't knock down Steve Guile's door yet; you'll need a little bit more than a good idea.

You'll need the signatures of a couple thousand like-minded Plymouthonians.

If Joe Shmoe draws up plans for municipal coffee and shoeshine huts in Kellogg Park, the Fleet Street parking structure, and in front of City Hall and submits his plan to the DDA, he probably won't get results.

But if Joe Shmoe and 3,500 of his close friends decide that Plymouth dearly needs coffee and spit-shined shoes in three convenient locations, then he'll at least get a fair chance to present his case.

Hey people, time is running out. Whatever happens with the DDA's streetscape plan two things will definitely happen.

1. Large machines are coming to town this summer to rip up the streets and shred the sidewalks.

2. Plymouth will look \$1.8 million different when they leave.

Since this is going to happen, for God's sake get involved. Form an activist group and push for gardenias in the planters.

Get together with some friends and see about the cost effectiveness of changing the angle of the parking lines.

Talk to the people in your church/social club/bowling league about having every third tree be a flowering lilac or a weeping cherry tree.

Get your group together and then go to the DDA. It's your town, you are the ones who will have to live with it.

And I'm looking into the coffee/shoeshine thing, maybe a tent with hammocks and attendants with chamois mittens, or a Fotomat booth with a dentist chair and espresso i.v. drip...

A new notion

By Amy Kidwell



Good turnout at meeting

The citizen participation that was seen at the last Plymouth Township meeting was very encouraging.

The meetings room was filled wall to wall with people who wanted to put in their comments about the special assessment to pave Arbor Village and Plymouth Colony subdivisions.

Despite the fact that there were people on both sides of the issue, each person was given a fair opportunity to speak their mind.

Even though the meeting lasted twice as long as usual, each board member listened carefully and patiently to every speaker. And congratulations to Charles Curmi who went against the grain and voted no to passing the special assessment for Plymouth Colony subdivision.

On to another topic.

The residency requirement for department heads in the City of Plymouth is proving once again to be a royal pain for the City Commission and department heads.

The city has lost a fine recreation director and the police chief must lose his home to keep his job.

And what's up with the Penn Theater? Get a new movie. I'm waiting patiently.



Community opinions

Eat scrod; help save Hotel

EDITOR:

Let's take a vote on saving the Mayflower Hotel.

One local Plymouth paper raised the question, "How can the community help?"

The answer is simple, vote with your dollars.

Lunch at the fast food franchise costs \$3.50, so if you would like to keep the hotel, spend \$5.00 for lunch there—and do it often. It's better, healthier food and an atmosphere that is irreplaceable.

If you eat dinner at the Roundtable and/or the hotel once a month, make it once a week for awhile.

Ask your friends and relatives visiting for the weekend to vote for the Mayflower Hotel instead of the Red Roof Inn. I did and was pleasantly surprised to hear my friends say it was one of the finest hotels they had experienced in Michigan.

If you haven't stayed at the hotel you may be surprised at their reasonable, competitive rates. Or splurge with the honeymoon (Starkweather) suite; it is a delightful anniversary idea.

Everywhere I go in the community people are saying what a loss it would be if we didn't have the Hotel, the heartbeat of downtown Plymouth.

Well stop wishing and start voting with your business patronage.

There is no problem the Mayflower family can't solve if the business is good — so see you at the famous Mayflower Hotel.

It is simply good business for the community to do business in the heart of downtown Plymouth.

TOM GOEBEL

Send Wendover to Rotary club

EDITOR:

Regarding your recent "With Malice Toward None" column, why are these always filled with malice?

To start, I am a Rotary member and don't consider myself one of the "good old boys." Maybe the Rotary fellows should be called "good fellows," instead of "good old boys."

Who put up the Plymouth Gathering? Who put in the fountain in the park? Who provides scholarships to students? Who rings the bell for the Salvation Army? Rotary members. Where do the proceeds from the chicken barbecue go to? Charities.

Blanket statements are often wrong.

By the way, I thought Kathleen McCarthy ran against the "good old boys" candidate that your paper supported. Perhaps you're in with the good old boys.

By the way, the Rotary's membership includes women. To be politically correct you should at least call it the "good old people."

Times change, politics change, the Rotary changes.

Maybe you should come down and see the diversity of people who attend these meetings and find out a little bit more of how they service the community.

JOSEPH VAN ESLEY

Racing Commissioner? All bets off

For some ancient reason, The Plymouth-Canton Community has always been horse happy.

Situated between Northville Downs (celebrating its 50th year of racing and 11 millionth visitor), Ladbroke Detroit Race Course, and a number of private horse farms, Plymouth became Michigan's horse capital when the office of the Michigan Racing Commissioner was moved below the Mayflower Meeting House by then Racing Commissioner Fidel Fauri.

For many years under Commissioners Fauri, Fred Van Tiem, Bill Ballenger and Bill Cahalan, the state kept a watchful eye on racing from Plymouth.

Then, the late Ralph Lorenz, a well-known horse racing handicapper, bet wrong in the office rental game backing a fade-in-the-stretch stockbroker over the racing commissioner's office. The result? The state moved its offices into hiding at a nondescript Livonia location faster than War Correspondent rounded the final turn in the 4th at Northville Downs on Saturday evening, Jan. 2.

But now the Michigan horse racing spotlight is back on Plymouth.

Luke Quinn's term as racing commissioner is up and Governor John Engler is searching for a replacement.

Former Congressman Carl Pursell's name has been mentioned, but he says he is more interested in serving on a host of board's like the Eastern Michigan University Board of Trustees now (as of two weeks ago) chaired by Plymouth Developer Robert DeMattia. (As if Bob doesn't have enough headaches.)

With malice toward none



So scratch Carl out of the perfecta -- probably. Who's in the race?

There's a two-way Plymouth heat -- known to some trackies as the "defecta" -- with former Plymouth Township Supervisor-former State Representative Gerry Law and former Plymouth Township Supervisor candidate-former Deputy Racing Commissioner Carol Levitte both champing at the bit.

Law's ties to horse lobbyist Jim Karoub have raised a protest with the stewards (not to mention his bungling of the Plymouth Township-WTUA role) and Levitte's reluctance to complete all the application hoops makes her candidacy appear headed in the wrong direction on the track. (Even Ballenger admits surprise, though, that Levitte walked into the Governor's reception after the "State-of-the-State" with the Guy Himself-himself.)

Odds-makers give Law 20 to 1 to win, Levitte 5 to 1 to place (the Deputy's job again), and 2 to 1 for someone outside the state to win.

"And," to quote Jack Riggs, "theyyyyyyy're off."

The Community



Crier

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