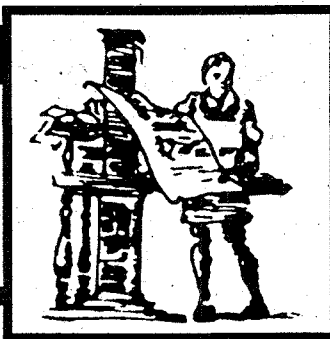


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The Community Crier

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

Plymouth District Library
223 S. Main Street
Plymouth, Mich. 48170

Vol. 20 No. 20

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June 16, 1993

Voters split millage questions; Artley wins

Renewal passes; 4-mill increase fails

Voters give incumbent another term

BY CRAIG FARRAND

"It's going to be awfully quiet in the high schools this fall."

Plymouth-Canton school board Trustee Jack Farrow's comment was the mildest uttered by district officials Monday night as voters rejected a 4-mill tax increase proposal that would have maintained nearly \$5 million in school programs.

Although a companion 17.74-mill renewal was approved overwhelmingly by voters — by a 65-to-35 per cent vote margin — the 4-mill increase lost by a mere 1,209 of more than 16,000 votes cast.

The final totals for the two proposals were:

Complete election results — pg. 17

•17.74-mill renewal: Yes-10,722; No-5,664.

•4-mill increase: Yes-7,558; No-8,767.
All results remained unofficial until late yesterday.

The large turnout of 16,600 voters — 28 percent of those registered to vote — was slightly higher than the previous record set in 1989, when residents approved a similar 4-mill increase.

For Trustee David Artley, who won re-election by fending off a strong challenge by Stephen Kilijanczyk, the night

Please see pg. 17

BY CRAIG FARRAND

David Artley has been re-elected to the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education Monday, defeating surprise challenger Stephen Kilijanczyk by a 36-to-30 per cent vote margin.

Rounding out the balloting was, in order, William Myers, Terry Chuhran and Robert Burger. (See pg. 17 for vote totals.)

Although victorious in his bid for re-election, Artley was subdued throughout most of Monday night as other election results were posted.

"Any elation I feel about winning personally," he said, "is tempered by this failure of the 4-mill (increase)."

Saying earlier that he had "never

worked as hard before; I can't do anymore," Artley, along with nearly every other board member and candidate, turned his attention to the millage race.

In fact, with his re-election, Artley will now serve on a board that will have to implement nearly \$5 million in program cuts forced by the rejection of the 4 mills.

For his closest rival, however, the millage outcome expected: Kilijanczyk, whose candidacy centered on fiscal responsibility and a rejection of the millage, said thought the vote reflected a conscious decision by the residents.

"If you look at the no votes for the renewal and then for the increase, I think you see that people had to want to

Please see pg. 17

Petitions filed for vote on \$2.4 million city bonds

BY CRAIG FARRAND

Sometime Friday Plymouth residents should learn whether a much-ballyhooed "Streetscape" plan to give the downtown shopping district a facelift has moved one step closer to reality.

That's when petitions calling for a vote on the matter during the August primary should be certified by the city clerk.

If validated, the subsequent ballot language would allow the city to borrow \$2.4 million to fund the project — and the beauty is that, if approved, it probably

How will the bonds be repaid? — pg. 3 Who was behind the petition drive? — pg. 3

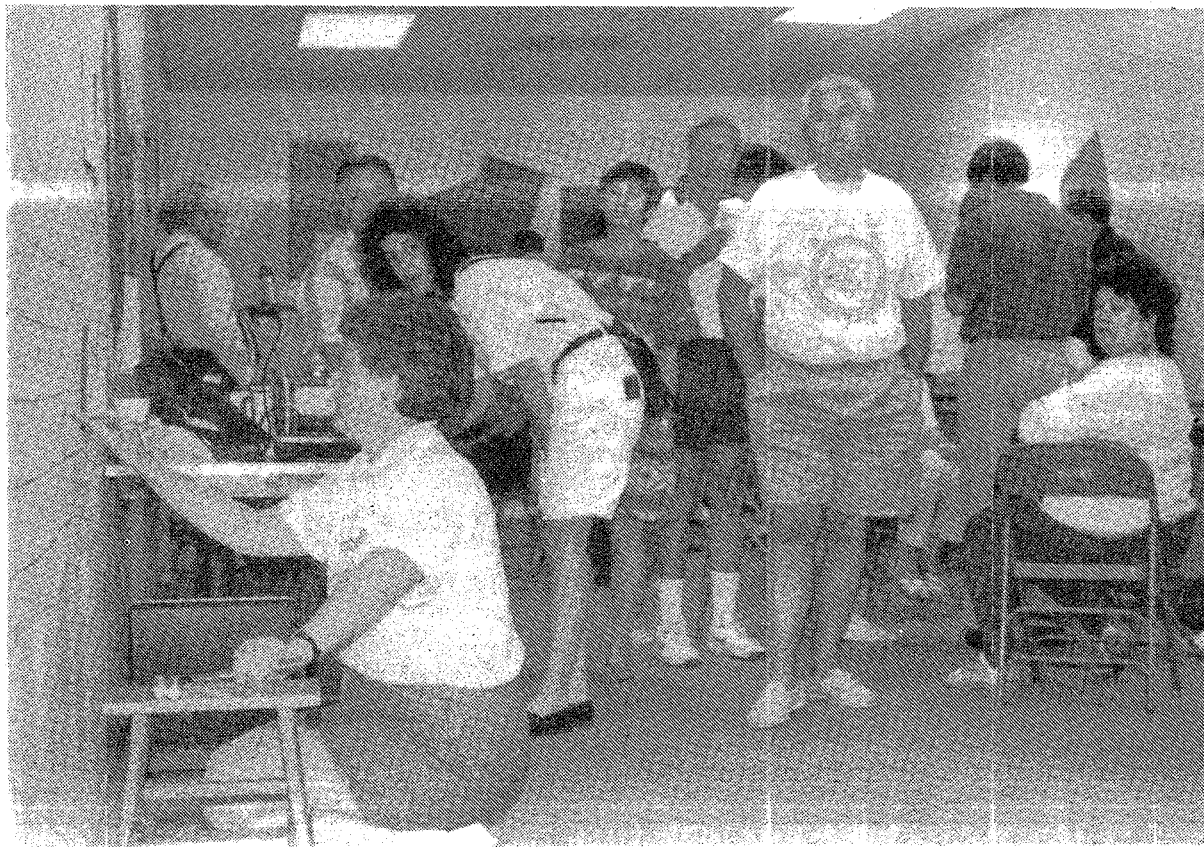
won't cost residential taxpayers a dime.

Instead, some of the money already being collected by the Downtown Development Authority as property taxes within the downtown business district would merely be allocated to pay back the loan over a 15-year period.

Plans call for selling limited general obligation bonds at, city officials hope, will be interest rates in the 5.5 per cent

Please see pg. 2

Betty Block fills in the final millage election results early yesterday morning on a tote board at the millage committee headquarters in Canton. The somber faces tell the story, as the 4-mill increase proposal was rejected by Plymouth-Canton voters. (Crier photo by Craig Farrand)



Reactions to state purchase of Mettetal mixed

Canton's interests are protected — pg. 7

BY ALEX LUNDBERG

In the wake of the state's official announcement that it will be buying Mettetal Airport, reactions around The Plymouth-Canton Community have been mixed.

For his part in the proceedings, Canton Supervisor Tom Yack is happy that it's almost over.

"Mettetal has been an enormous time sponge," Yack said, adding that the township board was pleased by the atten-

tion paid by the governor's office and Pat Nowak, director of the Michigan Department of Transportation.

He feels that they have had Canton's best interests at heart.

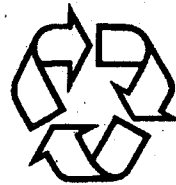
According to Yack, the agreement between the state and the township will be ready for board action by next Tuesday's township board meeting.

Mark Merlanti, a member of the citizen's committee that spelled out the

Please see pg. 7

Canton Chiefs fall to Troy Athens in state soccer championship game — pg. 18

In some issues of today's Crier, look for an insert from:
Don's Small Engine Repair
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Petitions filed for streetscape vote

Continued from pg. 1

As a result, voter approval is required since the bond issue would be backed by the city itself. Only if the DDA were unable to pay back the loan, would the city be liable. The option would have been for the DDA itself to issue revenue bonds.

"The problem is that revenue bond (rates) are higher," said City Manager Steve Walters, who added that if the DDA were unable to meet the payments, the city would have to assume the debt — but would not be able to raise taxes to do so.

"The city can't increase the millage to pay (off the bond); the City Commission would just have to adjust the budget," he said.

Based on city figures, the annual repayment on the bond issue would average almost \$245,000 a year in a sliding amount that would start at \$197,460 in 1993-94.

According to those same figures, however, the DDA will be collecting about \$460,000 a year in downtown property taxes, of which \$250,000 is earmarked for the streetscape bond issue.

The remaining tax dollars are already being used operate the DDA and to pay back the 25-year, nearly \$1.7 million bond issue used to build and operate the downtown parking deck.

(Actually, the DDA is paying back the

city its portion of three different building authority bond issues that funded the construction of the deck.)

In fact, and quite coincidentally, should voters approve the new bond issue, both the parking deck and streetscape bonds will be paid off the same fiscal year: 2008-09.

The scope of the original, \$5 million streetscape plan was cut in half earlier this year after the City Commission redrew the downtown district boundaries and excluded the Meadows Condominiums located on Deer Street at the south end of town.

According to DDA Director Steve Guile, once the condominiums were eliminated, tax revenue projections falls by nearly \$200,000 a year — forcing the streetscape downsizing.

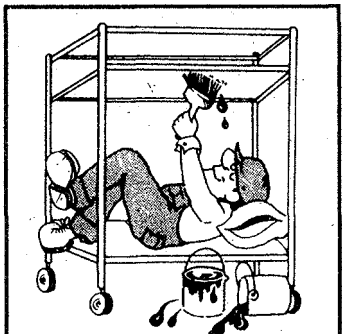
(For more on the financing of the loan, see pg. 3)

All in all, Walters described the bond issue and the DDA budget for the streetscape project as a "pretty conservative financing plan." As an example, he pointed out that the city estimated future DDA property tax revenues at only a half-per cent per year growth rate.

While the DDA district encompasses most of the downtown area, the "streetscape" plan deals with only the central business district — which includes Main Street, Penniman, Fralick, Harvey (from Penniman to Ann Arbor Trail), Ann Arbor Trail and Forest (from Ann Arbor Trail to Wing).

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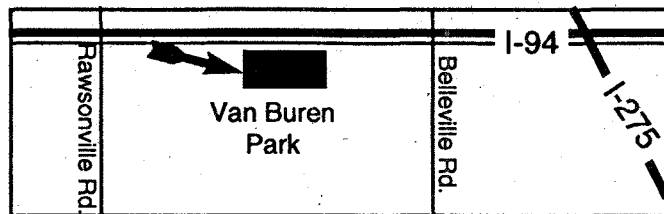
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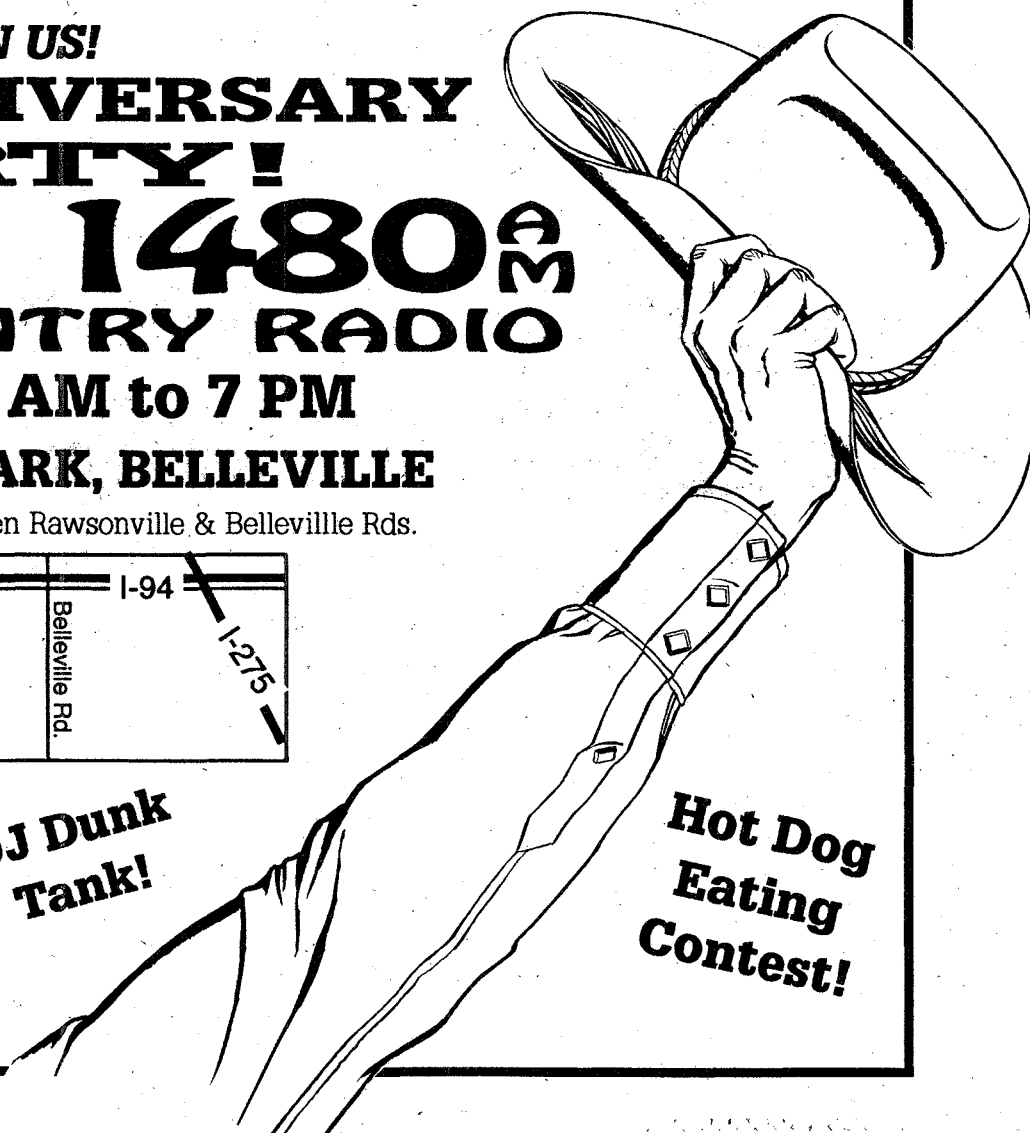
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Plymouth Twp. eyes 1 per cent fee on tax bills

BY MIKE McGLINNEN
and AMY KIDWELL

In a move that would generate desperately needed additional revenue, the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees is considering levying a 1 per cent administrative fee on all tax bills, beginning with the summer 1993 tax bills.

The board will consider the plan June 21.

The idea, proposed by Finance Director Rosemary Harvey, would add

the fee to all property taxes collected from July 1, 1993, through March 1, 1994.

"The law gives us options to do this," Harvey said. "The state provides that you can do this so the township alone doesn't have to bear the burden of tax collecting."

The fee is one option to correct the projected \$346,700 deficit for 1994. If approved the fee would raise \$422,000.

Additional options being considered

by the board include: closing Fire Station No. 3; eliminating two police department positions; reducing expenses in each department; or reducing pension contribution for non-union employees.

The administrative fee is under consideration now because the summer tax bills will be sent out shortly, according to Harvey.

"To my knowledge they had an administration fee a couple of years during the seventies," Harvey said.

The impact to the typical homeowner who pays \$5,000 in taxes would be an additional \$50, according to the township's newsletter.

Harvey added that such an administrative fee is not uncommon throughout southeastern Michigan, as numerous communities levy similar fees.

Among the local communities that administer these fees are Redford, Belleville, Grosse Pointe Park, Wayne, Westland and Taylor, Harvey said.

In my country...

The beard looks good but where's the cigar? Mark Venske, played Fidel Castro — as classmate Trisha Kelly looked on — during a special international event at West Middle School. During the two-day celebration, students transformed their classrooms into the nations of the world, including Cuba. The project was designed to make students look at their subjects in a different light as they researched their respective countries. (Crier photo by Eriq



Hey, music lovers:

Kellogg Park to host lunchtime melodies again starting today

If you're one of those who makes a point of spending leisurely lunches in Kellogg Park, get ready:

Starting today — and continuing every Wednesday through Aug. 18 — The Plymouth Community Arts Council will be bringing free concerts to the park.

Today's music will be provided by acoustic American musicians Betsy Beckerman and Baird Sterns. Next Wednesday will feature Kids Take Note.

Petitions need to pass muster; organizer pleased

BY CRAIG FARRAND

Petitions were filed Monday in Plymouth City Hall calling for an Aug. 3 vote on whether \$2.4 million in limited general obligation bonds should be sold to pay for the downtown business district's so-called "Streetscape" plan.

The petitions, circulated by resident Jean Morrow and "10 to 15 volunteers," still have to be certified by city officials before the measure can be put before city voters.

In the meantime, however, City Clerk Linda Langmesser said she had already received suggested ballot language from the city's bond counsel and that it had been forwarded to the county Elections Commission for formal approval.

Langmesser said she received slightly more than 780 signatures from Morrow late Monday morning, and said she hopes to have the names checked by Friday.

Only registered voters in the city were able to sign the petitions. Morrow and his companions were required to gather signatures from at least 10 per cent of registered voters in the city — or 715, according to Langmesser.

On Monday, Morrow said he had submitted 790 signatures to Langmesser and that, even though his 45-day deadline was not until tomorrow, he was finished circulating the petitions.

"I'm done," he said. "But I want people to know that I'm not against the project; I just feel that the voters should have a chance to say yes or no."

Had the petition drive never started, or should the petitions fall short of the needed number of signatures, the city could have gone ahead with the borrowing of the \$2.4 million without voter approval.

Although he says he's "not very popular with some

people" who want the streetscape to go through unchallenged, Morrow said he started the petition drive after he read the public notice concerning the bond issue.

"When I read the second half (of the notice) about the bonds being levied without a vote of the people unless an election was requested, I said 'by George, at least the voters should have a say.'

"I got a little infuriated, I guess."

Although Morrow's total number of signatures exceeds the minimum required, Langmesser said she had her concerns about their validity.

"He's got a lot of renters (on the petitions)," she said, "and that's not in his favor."

"Renters do a lot of moving in and out, and they're not always registered voters at their current address."

As a result, she said, "I'll target those signatures first." Although state law gives the clerk's office 10 days in which to certify petition signatures, she said she would be acting "as quickly as we can."

"We have all the information for the City Commission race, so we really need to act fast on this."

Officials say money is there to repay bond debt

BY CRAIG FARRAND

Should Plymouth homeowners face an Aug. 3 ballot question asking for approval of \$2.4 million in city bonds to pay for a downtown "streetscape" plan, they will probably ask one thing in return:

What will it cost them?

And the answer is, probably nothing.

The fact is that the plan to borrow the money centers on the Downtown Development Authority's ability to repay the loan singlehandedly — and, based on figures released as part of the city's budget review, that should be easy.

According to those figures, the DDA's annual payment will average almost \$245,000 a year for 15 years, and it plans on using the following revenue sources to pay back the loan:

- About \$250,000 of the nearly \$460,000 it collects each year in downtown business property taxes;
- an average of about \$8,000 a year in interest earned

on an initial \$300,000 transfer from its reserves (for a total of almost \$130,000 over the life of the loan);

• almost \$21,000 a year (for only 10 years) in revenue from a sidewalk assessment levied against downtown businesses (for a total of \$207,000);

• almost \$14,000 a year in electricity savings from the installation of more cost-efficient lighting (for a total of nearly \$200,000).

To help keep interest rates down, the city would be issuing limited obligation bonds on behalf of the DDA, which City Manager Steve Walters hopes will keep borrowing rates in the 5.5 per cent range.

The DDA would then be paying back the loan through the city — the same type of arrangement used to finance the downtown parking deck.

With all of these revenue sources, then, city officials are confident that the repayment schedule can be met — but since it is the city borrowing the money, there still is

Please see pg. 4

Plans set for this year's Art in the Park festival

BY AMY KIDWELL

It's been 13 years running for this downtown event, an attraction that draws crowds and talent to line Plymouth's streets.

You guessed it: Art in the Park is back for another year.

It started 13 years ago when Plymouth resident Dianne Quinn organized the event by combining artists and art lovers.

The artists love the show, she said.

"It's a very artist friendly show; the city is crazy for two days.

"Last year, all the ATMs ran out of money."

New to the show this year will be an information book with detailed informa-

tion on what is available and where different booths are located. The book can be found at the information desk near the center of the show.

And this year the show is bigger than ever: More than 350 artists from 18 different states will line Ann Arbor Trail, between Forest and Union, Penniman Avenue, between Union and Harvey, and Main Street, between Ann Arbor Trail and Fralick.

Kellogg Park will also see some festival action, with face painting, children's activities, silhouette cutting, sand art and clowns — all located near the fountain.

Some of the artists this year include James Cape, a well-known clothing and

jewelry designer who has worked with Aretha Franklin; award-winner John Chen, of Florida, who does water colors; West Bloomfield resident Susan Cobb, who makes custom inlaid rugs; bronze sculptor Martin Borja of Arizona; Bill Monroe, a nationally published cartoonist; Tom LeGault, who will make pottery and windchimes; and Mike Monroe, a member of the national Arts Honor Society.

In addition to arts and crafts, the show will also feature the art of music. For two days, Bakra Bata, a steel drum and per-

cussion ensemble will perform. Also at the festival for two days will be the Chautauqua Express, an entertaining and educational children's program that requires audience participation.

On Saturday, the Lunar Octet, a Latin jazz band, will take the stage and perform its own music. And on Sunday, festival-goers will be treated to a life size puppet production called Hip Squeak Puppet Theater.

Quinn noted that Art in the Park is rated as the second best art show next to the Ann Arbor show.

Officials: money is there for debt

Continued from pg. 3

a slim chance residents could end up holding the bag.

And because the city would be unable to raise taxes to make the payments, the impact would be felt in the form of reduced services.

According to Walters, the city would be faced with adjusting its existing budget to meet the bond obligation. But he said he doesn't expect any problems with the arrangement.

While some residents might still be leery about that possibility, however, Walters said there are at least two good reasons for voters to say yes to the proposal should it appear on the ballot:

•"The downtown shopping district is

an asset that is directly related to home values and the quality of life in Plymouth," he said. "So this project has a great bearing on everyone's future."

•"The fact is that the sidewalks and curbs need repair, and if the DDA doesn't fund it, the city will face repairing them," he said, adding that such an expense would be split 75-to-25 per cent between businesses and the rest of the city, respectively.

And the potential cost of such repairs?

"It would cost between \$250,000 and \$300,000 just for the city's share of the cost."

Which would mean a shift of that kind of money from other city operations, he said.

Public notices

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 1993

Mrs. Massengill called the meeting to order at 7:32 and led in the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. All members were present except Supervisor Keen-McCarthy who was excused.

Ms. Arnold moved to approve the minutes of the May 18, 1993, May 19, 1993 and May 20, 1993 Special meetings as submitted. Supported by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Mrs. Brooks moved to approve the minutes of the May 25, 1993 Regular meeting as submitted. Supported by Mrs. Mueller. Ayes all.

Ms. Arnold asked that the agenda be amended by removing under New Business, item J.1, 1% Property Tax Administration Fee and by adding a Closed Session Meeting at the end of the meeting for the purpose of discussing pending litigations. With that change and addition, Ms. Arnold moved to approve the agenda for the June 8, 1993, Regular Meeting as amended. Supported by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Mrs. Brooks moved to authorize the Township Supervisor to sign the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project Grant Finance and Service Agreement. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Curmi moved to grant the request From Child and Family Service in the amount of \$8,000 supporting the Adult Day Care Program. Supported by Ms. Arnold. Nays all. Motion fails.

Mrs. Mueller stated that the Mettetal Airport will be purchased by the state and remain basically as is. Canton Township will be asked to maintain control of the property to the south. The state will also be purchasing the easement located north of Joy Road in Plymouth Township. The runway will not be extended. Some changes will be made in the taxiing and a new ground communication system will be implemented in order to insure safety.

Mr. Tom Kalis mentioned his concerns regarding the hiring of the new law firm and any campaign contributions that may have been made by any members of that law firm. Mr. Dave McCarthy addressed Mr. Kalis concerns regarding campaign contributions.

Mr. Griffith moved to receive and file Resolutions as listed. Supported by Mrs. Brooks. Ayes all. CLOSED SESSION

It was moved by Ms. Arnold and supported by Mr. Curmi to move into Closed Session at 7:55 p.m. for the purpose of discussing pending litigation - Victory Lane vs. Plymouth Township and Nimmerguth vs. Plymouth Township. 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 Ms. Arnold and supported by Mr. Griffith to return to the regular meeting at 9:00 p.m. Ayes all.

It was moved by Mr. Curmi and supported by Mrs. Mueller that the township not proceed with appealing in the Michigan Court of Appeals the decision of the Wayne County Circuit Court, concerning the law suit of Nimmerguth vs. the Charter Township of Plymouth and instruct the township attorney to proceed with the process to drop the appeal.

Roll call:

Ayes: Arnold, Curmi, Mueller, Brooks, Massengill

Nays: Griffith

Absent: Keen-McCarthy

Motion passed 5-1

It was moved by Mr. Curmi and supported by Ms. Arnold to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Ayes all.

Marilyn Massengill, Clerk

Charter Township of Plymouth

The forgoing is a synopsis of the minutes of the Board of Trustees held on June 8, 1993. The full text is available in the Clerk's Office for perusal. They will be submitted for Board approval at the next regular meeting on June 22, 1993.

The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the following:

Catherine A. Broadbent, ADA Coordinator, Charter Township of Plymouth, 42350 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth, MI 48170, (313) 453-3840, TDD users: 1-800-649-3777 (Michigan Relay Service)

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Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Airman Michael R. Rockwell & Airman Robert E. Bouchillon graduated from Air Force basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio. Rockwell is the son of Albert R. Rockwell of Canton. Bouchillon is the son of Paula and Lloyd of Canton.

Julianne Thomas of Canton has been selected for membership in Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society at Alma College

Julie Roe, a senior at Plymouth Salem High School, has been awarded a \$14,000 scholarship to the Columbus College of Art and Design as a result of a national portfolio competition held at the college. In addition, Roe has won a \$4,000 scholarship through the National Art Honor Society.

Michele A. Davis, a Senior at MSU and 1989 Graduate of Plymouth Canton High School, was recently inducted into Phi Beta Kappa.

Virgina Klien, Amella Chan, Dennis Siegner, and Megan Reece all from the Plymouth area were elected to the Huron Valley Girl Scout Council's Board of Directors.

Wayne County Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter (R-10th District) was named vice chair of the Commission's Special Task Force on Small and Minority Business, which will focus on increasing economic opportunities for small and minority businesses with Wayne County and the private sector.

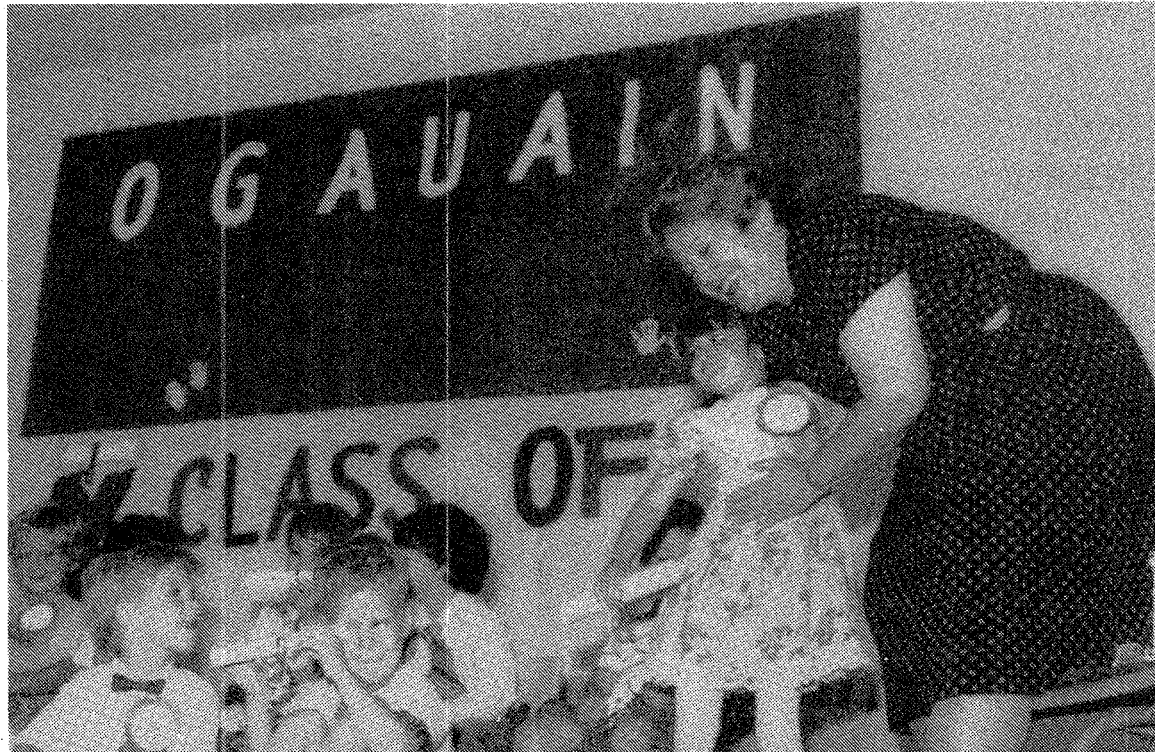
Faith Reece, Robin Currier, Peggy Esper, and Carol Villeneuve of Canton and Peggy Fisher of Plymouth recieved the Green Tree award for supporting Girl Scouting through their combined talents that cover more than 44 years of experience.

Tracy Prybylski of Canton recieved the Catholic Student Award for the 1993-94 academic year at Madonna University. The award was worth \$800.

Rosemary Pomaranski, of Canton, is the recipient of Catherine, Agnes and Sister Grace Marie Prybys Scholarship for the 1993-94 academic year at Madonna University and is majoring in psychology.

Li'l grads

Last Wednesday, students in Linda Bright's Head Start program marched across the stage to the strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" — Fisher Price style. Amanda Darling, one of the honorees, took a diploma that qualifies her for entrance in Kindergarten in a ceremony held at Central Middle School (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik).



Happy father's day, dad

Winner announced in Crier holiday contest

1st place

Dear Dad,

A little note to say thank you to a very special person in my life. I am so blessed to have had such a wonderful, wise and understanding father.

You always had time for me and always encouraged me in so many ways.

I remember the year I won the Detroit News School Spelling Bee in fifth grade due in great part to your encouragement to study for it.

I remember fondly your humor, companionship and love.

Though I lost you at the tender age of 11 years old you will always remain in my heart.

Love, Barbara



Barbara Leeds of Plymouth was the winner of The Community Crier's Father's Day Writing Contest. Her entry, "Dear Dad," took top honors in competition against dozens of other odes to family patriarchs. Coming in second was Kathy Belisle of Canton. In winning the top prize, Leeds took home a \$250 shopping spree consisting of gift certificates from Steve Petix Clothier (\$100), Man's Do-It Center (\$100) and Little Professor on the Park (\$50). (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik)

2nd place

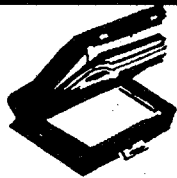
I remember my Dad . . .
 . . . driving to the beach and swinging me in the water.
 . . . looking so handsome in his firefighter's uniform.
 . . . taking our family fishing and horseback riding.
 . . . bought the family a Blue Mustang and always let me drive it.
 . . . not being overly protective or strict during High School days.
 . . . helping me move into my college dorm.
 . . . asking, "Are you sure?" when he walked me down the aisle.

. . . when I called and said, "You're a grandfather."

. . . never judging me. Always accepting me for who I was.

You were and always there when I need you. Thanks for the memories.

Kathy Belisle



Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

Plymouth, Canton shops get ready for sales specials

Plymouth and Canton shopkeepers are getting ready for big sales promotions in the coming weeks — beginning this weekend in Plymouth, with the annual sunrise sale Saturday.

The event, which begins at 5 a.m. — that's right, five in the morning — will offer a variety of discounts for shoppers trying to get a jump on summer sales.

Discounts are the order of the day, with some retailers offering all-day discounts and others offering discounts from 5 until 10 a.m.

Another unique discount being offered by some merchants will be a decending discount. The discount varies, but will be high at 5 a.m. (as much as 50 per cent some places) and will decrease as the morning wears on.

Canton's merchant special begins two days later: The Canton Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the second annual Canton-wide Liberty Fest sale days from Monday to Sunday, July 4.

Chamber officials said bargain-hunters should be on the lookout for red, white and blue banners hanging at participating stores.

There will also be midnight madness sales on Friday night at several area strip malls. The chamber said these sales should be easy to find, because they'll be equipped with spotlights.

C.L. Finlan & Son Insurance Company has been awarded the President's Council Award by Citizens Insurance.

The award, given to independent agents, recognizes exceptional production and underwriting results.

Community Federal Credit Union has announced the winners of the 1993 Margaret Dunning Scholarship Awards. The two local winners are: **Todd Price**, Canton, \$1,000, and **Katherine Bahr**, Plymouth, \$500.

The Society for Technical Communication and the American Medical Writer's Association are sponsoring a program entitled "Establishing a Checklist for a Trouble-free Presentation."

The dinner/program is June 23, 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Livonia. For further information, call (313) 677-3614.

Growin' on up

Gil-Mar gets too big for old site, will build new facility

BY GARY GOSSELIN

Tucked away in the industrial park on Ronda Drive, due east of controversial Mettetal Airport is the 23,000-square-foot manufacturing facility of Gil-Mar Industries.

But that's now: By October, the company expects to have its new 46,800 square foot headquarters and additional manufacturing building up and ready to go.

"We've got the site plans in and the land is ours," said Canton Plant Manager Bob Zucker, "We've had this on the drawing board for four years and now everything's finally ready to go."

Zucker refers to a four-year wait because the southern part of Mettetal's runway is adjacent to the Gil-Mar property behind the present plant.

Original plans called for the new building to be constructed in a cul-de-sac behind the plant, but due to runway restrictions, that plan had to be scrapped.

"Our new building will be right next to us," said Zucker, "Everyone's looking forward to having the company back together again."

Gil-Mar headquarters is located in Farmington. Zucker said they just



The field adjacent to Gil-Mar Industries' facility in Canton will soon be home to a new plant, according to company officials. (Crier photo by Gary Gosselin)

outgrew the location and that Canton is perfect for the expansion.

The company makes tank track parts for U.S. Army tanks and has contracts with Chrysler and Ford — manufacturing brackets for their cars.

Gil-Mar was one of only 12 companies nationwide that was given an award in 1991 by the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command (TACOM) for "outstanding support" of Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

"We're very proud of that award," said a beaming Zucker, "we were operating seven days a week, 24 hours a day to fulfill our obligations."

Gil-Mar has been in business for 11 years, and opened its Canton location three years ago. Zucker said that 30 employees work in Canton and 40 are employed in Farmington. He added that he expects to add an additional 10 manufacturing positions to the combined operation by the end of the year.

Zucker said that combining operations in Canton is a great idea because Gil-Mar will now be able to utilize that land they own here. He also cited tax advantages.

He also said that it will be nice to have the headquarters next door.

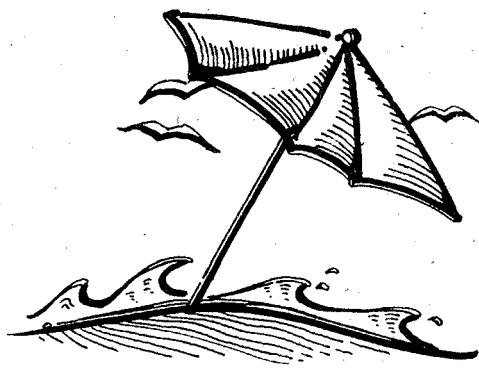
"It'll be a lot easier to walk next door rather than drive 11 miles every time you want to talk with some face to face."

History marches on



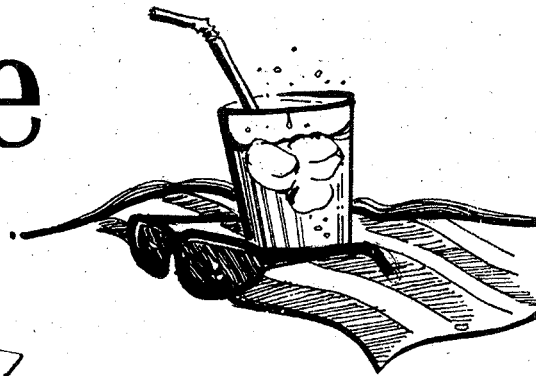
Among those on hand Saturday to help NBD-Bank begin three Saturdays of celebrations to mark new lobby office hours at its downtown Plymouth location were branch Manager Richard Seaman (front), Beth Stewart, Minnie Johnson, Steve Broughton, Verna Katz, Diane Rayha, Kelly McCarthy, the "Town Crier," Ramona Edwards, Joan Hale, Cheryl Greenshields, Kitty Brozek and John McGonage. Lining up at the tellers' booth were Bryan and Sarah Frawley and Checkers the Clown. Behind the glass were tellers Lori Eluskie and Carol Mikaelian.

As part of NBD-Bank's opening of its downtown Plymouth office on Saturdays, bank officials made a formal presentation Saturday of a 90-year-old grandfather clock to members of the Plymouth Historical society. Making the presentation was branch Manager Richard Seaman (left), along with Beth Stewart of the historical society, Kitty Brozek, Minney Johnson and Steve Broughton. (Crier photos by Rudy DeChavez)



Plymouth Sunrise Sale

Saturday
June 19, 1993
5:00am - 10:00am



**OUR SALE STARTS AT 9:00AM
AND RUNS FOR ONE FULL WEEK**

Porterhouse Meats

1058 S. Main Plymouth
455-6770 • FAX-IT: 455-6777

We freezer wrap, no charge

Prices in effect thru June 26, 1993

OPEN: M - SAT 9am-7pm

**BABY BACK
SPARE RIBS**
\$2.49 lb.  OINK OINK

**CHICKEN
BREASTS**
(WHOLE ONLY)
\$1.29 lb.  Limit 10 lbs.

**WHOLE
FRYERS**
59¢ lb. Limit 3

**BONELESS ROLLED
RUMP ROAST**
\$1.99 lb.

**GROUND
CHUCK**
\$1.59 lb. LEAN
10 LB. OR MORE

**CLUB
STEAKS**
\$4.99 lb. 

**WORD OF MOUTH
B-B-Q Sauce**
Smokey or Spicy

75¢ OFF

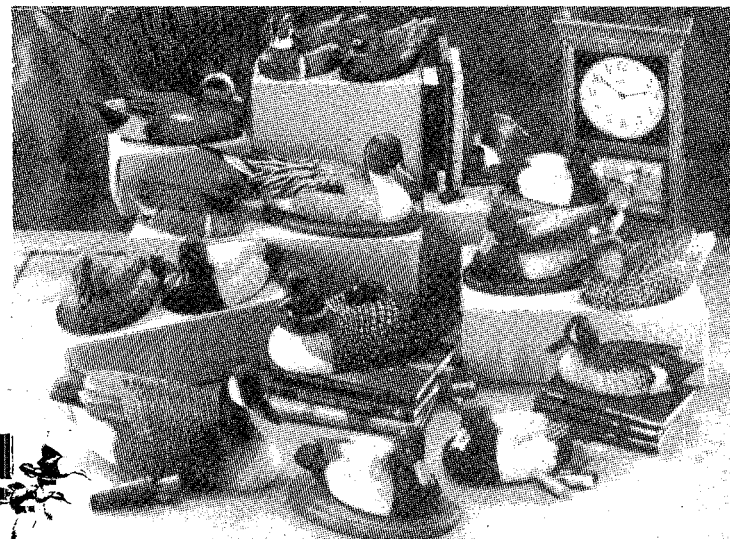
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CHICKEN SWEET ITALIAN
SAUSAGE**

50¢ OFF

W/Coupon Expires 6/26/93
Made w/skinless chicken breasts

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Ultimate
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Father's
Day Gift.



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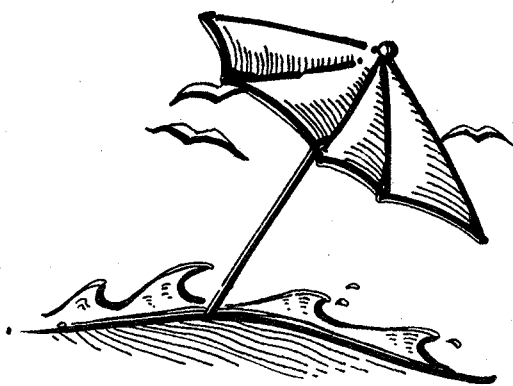
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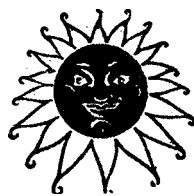
Plymouth Sunrise Sale

Saturday
June 19, 1993
5:00am - 10:00am



M I L A N O

FINE APPAREL



5 a.m. - 6 a.m. - 50% off
6 a.m. - 7 a.m. - 40% off
7 a.m. - 8 a.m. - 30% off
8 a.m. - 9 a.m. - 20% off
9 a.m. - 10 a.m. - 10% off

Men's Suits • Sportscoats • Italian Slacks • Leather Jackets • Sportswear
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Next to Cozy Cafe • Mon-Th. 10-8, Fri 10-9, Sat 10-6
Expert tailoring for men & women • All major credit cards accepted

50%* at 5:00am

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Sunrise Sale

Open 10a.m.-4p.m.
June 19

All Day Special Prices

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481 W. Ann Arbor Trail 455-3030

Start your day with savings from Little Professor on the Park



5:00-6:00am 20% off
6:00-7:00am 15% off
7:00-8:00am 10% off

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Save
15% to 50%!

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TRI-KOR GOLF AND
Driving Range
Open 7 days 7am-9pm
5988 Gotfredson Rd.
Between M-14 & N. Territorial
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MICHAEL J. POMANTE P.G.A. IS BACK!

\$1.50 OFF
Any Medium or Large
BUCKET OF BALLS
Clip & Save

Rock Shoppe
LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES
6275 Gotfredson
at N. Territorial
455-5560

WE DELIVER!

ALLEN BLOCK JUNIOR
Stackable Retaining Walls
EVERY DAY LOW PRICE
\$1.50 NATURAL \$1.75 GREY COLORS

CARTER LUMBER
Whitmore Lake
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DRIVEWAY COATINGS SEALER
• Rubberized tar emulsion; long wearing; water clean-up while wet • Resistant to gas and oil spills
\$8.69 5 gal.
Expires 6-29-93

OPEN 7 DAYS

Specialty PETS SUPPLIES, INC.
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Open 7 Days
M-F 10-8
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THISTLE 59¢ per lb.
Limit 15 lbs. Expires June 23, 1993
1498 S. SHELDON RD. at Ann Arbor Rd.

PLYMOUTH POWERWASH
RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL
HIGH PRESSURE CLEANING SERVICES
453-8755
7 DAYS A WEEK

DECK CLEANUP SPECIAL
POWERWASH AND SEAL
FROM \$179.00

CANTON

LIBERTY FEST '93

Friday, June 25 - Sunday, June 27



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).

BOYCHOIR ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS

The Boychoir of Ann Arbor, now preparing for its eighth season, announces auditions for places in the choir. Parents of boys aged 8 to 13 are invited to arrange for an audition by appointment with the director, Dr. Thomas F. Strode. Call 485-1534 before July 15 to arrange for an audition.

MUSIC IN THE PARK 1993

The Plymouth Community Arts Council begins its summer session by announcing a series of free Wednesday afternoon concerts in Kellogg Park. Starting today with acoustic American musicians Betsy Beckerman and Baird Sterns, the performances will run through Aug. 18. The Penniman Deli will sell hot dogs and pop. Be sure to show up early to get good seats.

SUMMER DAY CAMP

The Salvation Army will host Summer Day Camp in three locations. The first session will run from June 21 to July 16 and the second from July 26 to August 20. For more information, call 453-8480.

YMCA NEWS

Volunteers needed for Plymouth YMCA run on June 20. Please contact Carol at 453-2904. The Wayne Westland YMCA is offering summer swim maintenance classes. The class will cover stroke techniques, drills and a variety of workouts. Contact the YMCA at 721-7044 for more information.

NEW MORNING SCHOOL

Registrations are being accepted for summer classes at New Morning School in Plymouth Township. Classes are open to children age 3 to 14 years. Students choose from a variety of classes and subjects. For further information call 420-3331.

BRICKS FOR FATHER'S DAY

Bricks are available for \$100, engraved with the name(s) you choose, and will become a permanent part of the Canton Veteran's memorial. For further information please call 397-5421 or 397-8975.

HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

The combined classes of Canton and Salem is holding their five year reunion on August 7. The party will be held at the State Theatre in downtown Detroit. For tickets and information, write: Class of 1988 Reunion Committee, P.O. Box 700091, Plymouth, MI 48170-0942.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

St. Peter's Lutheran Church 1343 Penniman, Plymouth will hold its annual Vacation Bible School during the week of June 21st (9-11:45 am). The course of Bible stories, crafts and songs is entitled "I am Loved," and is geared for children 3-13. There is no charge. Pre-registration is appreciated. Please call 453-3393.

GARAGE SALE

On Saturday and Sunday June 26 and 27 District No. 8 Rebekah's will be having a Garage Sale at the Plymouth I.O.O.F. Hall, 344 Elizabeth, Plymouth, MI. from 9 am to 5 pm.

ROAD TO RECOVERY

The American Cancer Society is seeking volunteers to drive cancer patients living in Macomb, Oakland, and Wayne counties to and from medical facilities. If you have a car and are willing to offer some of your time, please call the patient Services Department at 1-800-925-2271.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The American Cancer Society is looking for volunteers to assist in the Patient Service office between the hours of 8:30 am and 5 pm Monday-Friday, in our Southfield Office. If you could spare one morning or afternoon a week, we could use your help. Please call 1-800-925-2271.

NAFR MEETING

The National Association of Federal Retirees will meet the fourth Tuesday (June 22nd) at 1 pm in the Canfield Community Center, 1801 North Beech Daly Road, Dearborn Heights, Michigan. Ray Levendoski will speak on "Keeping the the Gold in your Golden Years."

SOCCER TRYOUTS

The Plymouth Soccer Club will be having open tryouts for the following Select and Premier Boys Plymouth Kicks and Girls Plymouth Lightning teams. All Premier and Select level players are invited to attend their respective age group. Please bring both a light and dark shirt. For proper phone numbers contact Tom Willette at the Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department.

"MAKE A SPLASH"

Registration in person for the Plymouth District Library's Summer Reading Program for children 6-12 years old and the Read-to-Me program for children 6 years old and younger, begins June 21. This year's theme is Make a Splash. Read. People with handicaps who need assistance should notify the Youth Services Department before the registration date.

GED TESTING

GED testing will be offered through the Plymouth-Canton Community Education Department. The testing will take place from 9 am to 1 pm on June 22,23, and 24 from 6 pm to 10pm. The test will be held at the Starkweather Center, 550 N Holbrook, Plymouth. The GED exam may be applied as credit toward the high school diploma only until June 30, 1993. This is the last opportunity to pass the test before that day. Contact the Community Education office at 451-6555 for more information.

"WHAT'S NEW UNDER THE SUN"

Fun day for children with diabetes. To be held in the University of Michigan Hospital central courtyard on Saturday, June 19 from 1pm to 4 pm. Lots of fun activities for the whole family: magician, storytelling, face painting, balloons, nutrition demonstration, "Ask the Expert" booth. Free and open to the public. New information on the latest research, update on information and equipment. Several area providers of diabetes equipment and supplies will be attending.



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HOCKEY SKATING SKILLS LESSONS

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department will be offering hockey skating skills classes this Summer. Classes will be offered on Friday afternoons, or Saturday mornings starting in mid-June. The Friday afternoon classes will start on June 18, and run for 10 weeks. The cost is \$90 for Plymouth residents, and \$99 for non-residents. The Saturday morning class will start June 19, and run 8 weeks. The cost of this class is \$72 for residents, and \$80 for non-residents. For more information, call 455-6620.

HEAD START PROGRAM RECRUITING

The Plymouth-Canton Head Start program is recruiting children for its 1993-94 season. The program, sponsored by the school district and federal government, provides education to parents of 3 to 4-year-old's. The program is free to those who qualify. For information, call 451-6656.

A NOVI PLAYERS PRODUCTION

The Novi Players, in cooperation with Moosehead Productions, will close its season with "Masters Degrees," a three act comedy at the Novi Center. The show is the third produced for local authors Marc Holland and Michael Davis-both Canton High School graduates.

The show will run the first three weekends in June with 8 p.m. performances on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. performances on Sundays. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door.

CANTON FIVE MILE RUN

On June 19, Canton Parks and Recreation will host the 15th annual Canton Five Mile Run. Men and women of all ages can participate. Registration is \$8.50; late registration (anything after June 17) is \$10. The race begins at 9 a.m. and starts on Proctor Road next to the administration building. Awards and prizes will be handed out after the race. This year's grand prize is a travel gift certificate.

Register in person or by mail to: Canton Parks and Recreation, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188. For more information, call 397-5110.

"RING OF FIRE"

Beginning June 19, the Detroit Science Center, located at 5020 John R at Warren in Detroit's Cultural Center, will feature the new Omnimax film "Ring of Fire." The film features scenes of a fiery volcanic eruption in Hawaii and the flattened forests on Mount St. Helens. Viewers will experience the center's six-track, total-surround sound system and a 67-foot domed screen that literally wraps around them.

A special opening rate of \$4 will be offered on June 19 and 20. The film will be shown daily through Dec. 31. For more information call 577-8400.

CANTON SOFTBALL

Canton softball is accepting registration for its 1993 summer season beginning June 29. Entry fee is \$495 per team, and there is no residency requirement. Men, women, and coed leagues will be offered. Call 483-5600, ext.102, for information.

SUPERVISED SUMMER CAMP

Canton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a summer camp for kids ages 5 through 15. Camp will run Monday through Friday from June 21 to August 6. Heritage Park, behind the township building, will be the site of the camp. Cost is \$33 per child per week or \$195 per child for 7 weeks. Fee includes beverage, one hot dog cookout per week, field trip, special activities, use of equipment and take-home craft projects. Register by mail or in person to the Canton Township Parks and Recreation Department.

SPITFIRE RUNNING CLUB ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The Spitfire women's summer track team and the men's and women's road running club are accepting membership applications. There is a \$25 membership fee for either program. If interested, call Mike or Betty Krafchak at 451-5966.

CANTON CRICKETS

For children ages three and four. Preschool program that offers crafts, low organized games, story time, special events, snack time. The program runs from July 6 through August 12. Registration began June 7. For more information call 397-5110.

FUN WITH INSECTS

Explore the world of insects with your children or just for your own enjoyment. Participants will learn how to find, identify, mount, and explore the insect world in your backyard. Participants must be at least 8 years of age. For reservations call Kris Broderick at 464-3616

GENEALOGICAL WORKSHOP

The Sarah Ann Cochrane Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will be sponsoring a genealogical workshop June 19 at Dunning-Hough library. The workshop is open to anyone interested in working on family lines. Family work sheets will be provided. If you attend, bring helpful data concerning your ancestors. For more information, contact Sue Peters at 344-4635 or Gloria Collins at 348-1857.

HEARINGS ON AGING

This is your opportunity to express your viewpoints to policy makers about this three-year plan. This plan addresses how approximately \$61 million in federal and state funds each year are used for services to Michigan's older citizens.

The meeting will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on June 17 at the Inkster Recreation Complex, 2025 Middlebelt Road. Written comments to the Office and Commission on Aging will be accepted until June 25.

COURSE IN BABYSITTING

The American Red Cross is offering an eight-hour Babysitting Course for people ages 11 and up. The course will be held from noon to 3 p.m., June 16 to 18, at the Cross' Northwest Service Center, 29691 W.Six Mile Road in Livonia. Call 967-0966 to register.

New Morning School SUMMER CLASSES Ages 3 - 14



Science & Math Camps
Discovery Days Classes
School Success Program

420-3331

Thanks to Adistra Corp., for sponsoring these classes.



Broadcasting from the Liberty Festival
June 26th and 27th. Tune in for
Festival Information.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON'S RADIO STATION

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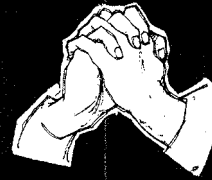
New address?
WELCOME WAGON®
can help you
feel at home

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

Welcome Wagon

In Plymouth
Call Marge
454-1574

In Canton
Call Arlene
459-1797



Your Guide to Worship

Calvary Baptist Church

43065 Joy Road, Canton
455-0022

Dr. David A. Hay, Senior Pastor

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

Wednesday
Bible Study & Clubs 7:00 pm

Plymouth Christian Academy 459-3505

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

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
at Gotfredson & Ann Arbor Rd.

Worship Services
8:15am and 11:00am
Sunday School for all ages 9:30am

Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
Rev. Wm. Branham - Associate Pastor

Nursery Provided
459-9550



Geneva Presbyterian Church (USA)

5835 Sheldon Rd., Canton
Across from Baker's Square
459-0013

8:30 a.m.—Continental Breakfast
9 a.m. Education—All Ages
10 a.m.—Family Worship

Child care provided:
Nursery through Pre-school

Handicapped accessible
Resources for hearing & sight impaired

*Worship
with us
this
Sunday*

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

7000 Sheldon Rd., Canton
(1 block S. of Warren)
459-3333

Saturday Worship 5:30pm
Sunday Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am
Sunday School 9:30 & 11:00am
Nursery & Transportation Available

Rev. Dr. Jerry Yarnell, Senior Pastor
Rev. Drex Morton Rev. Dave Woody
Rev. Abe deVries



Community deaths

Johnson, 92, homemaker

Jane P. Johnson, of Plymouth, a homemaker who was born in Ireland on March 12, 1901, died June 6, 1993, at the age of 92.

Mrs. Johnson, who was preceded in death by her husband, James, and a son, Thomas, is survived by another son, William; a daughter, Helen Nichols; 11 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two sisters; and two brothers.

Services, arranged by Casterline Funeral Home, were held at St. John Neumann Catholic Church, with the Rev. George Charney officiating. Interment was at Rural Hills Cemetery.

Batts, 77, homemaker

Ada Batts of Plymouth, a homemaker who moved to The Community 20 years ago, died May 31, 1993, at the age of 77.

Born Aug. 31, 1915, in Tennessee, she was preceded in death by her husband, James. She is survived by her step-daughter, Joyce Mills; two grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a sister; and a brother.

Services, arranged by the Schrader Funeral Home, were held in Tennessee.

Miller, 69, Elks Auxiliary member

Barbara E. Miller, formerly of Plymouth, who was at one time a member of the Elks Lodge Ladies Auxiliary, died June 1, 1993, at the age of 69. Mrs. Miller, who was born Oct. 7, 1923, in Detroit, lived in Plymouth from 1936 until she moved to Florida in 1988.

She is survived by her husband, Douglas; son, Bradley; daughters Cathy Hartzel, Jacquelyn Gasorski and Cynthia Stancell; eight grandchildren; and one brother.

Services were held at the Schrader Funeral Home, with the Rev. William Myers officiating. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Heart Association or the Arthritis Foundation of Michigan.

Fry, 81, Navy veteran

Lorimar Fry of Plymouth, a Navy veteran of World War II, died June 7, 1993, at the age of 81. Born Jan. 8, 1912, in Calumet, Mr. Fry also served in the National Guard Calvary in the 1920s, and a member of the Naval Reserve from 1933 to 1937.

He retired from Ford Motor Co. as a cutter-grinder at the Livonia Transmission Plant, and was a former member of the VFW and the Moose.

He is survived by his wife, Ellen; sons James, Glen and John; daughter, Janice Fry; six grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and one sister.

Services were held at the Schrader Funeral Home, with the Rev. K.M. Mehrl officiating. Interment was at Riverside Cemetery.

Egly, 70, Ford supervisor

William E. Egly of Plymouth, who had worked as a supervisor at the Ford Motor Co. Transmission Plant for 13 years, died May 14, 1993, at the age of 70. Mr. Egly, who was born March 22, 1923, in Indiana, moved to Plymouth in 1965.

He was a longtime member of the Plymouth Elks, the Masonic Lodge, the Shriners and Mensa. He served in World War II as a technical sergeant with the Army Air Corps.

Mr. Egly is survived by his wife, Jane; sons William and Robert; and one sister. Services were held at the Schrader Funeral Home, with the Rev. Leland Seese officiating. Entombment was at Riverview Cemetery in South Bend, IN.

Memorial contributions can be made to the American Heart Association or the National Kidney Foundation.

Ehlers, 92, church member

Maude T. Ehlers of Plymouth, a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, died May 31, 1993, at the age of 92. Mrs. Ehlers, who was born Dec. 19, 1900, in Sanford, FL, moved to Plymouth 30 years ago from Flint, and was also a member of the Easter Star.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William, and is survived by her daughter, Carmen Cook of Plymouth; and two grandchildren.

Services were held at the Schrader Funeral Home, with the Rev. Leland Seese officiating. Interment was in Riverside Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

Burns, 73, college volunteer

Margaret A. Burns of Plymouth, who worked as a volunteer counselor at the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College, died June 1, 1993, at the age of 73. Mrs. Burns, who was born May 13, 1920, in Findlay, OH, received an associates degree in gerontology from Madonna College in the mid 1970s.

She was a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church and had been active as a Girl Scout leader.

Mrs. Burns was preceded in death by her husband, James, and is survived by her daughters, Mary Proctor, GERALYN Fisher and Juliann O'Connor; sons, James III, William and Stephen; and 13 grandchildren.

Services, arranged by Schrader Funeral Home, were held at St. John Neumann. Interment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Memorial contributions can be made to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit.

Kurczynski, 65, retired teacher

Leon J. Kurczynski of Plymouth, a teacher in the Dearborn School District for 26 years, died June 1, 1993, at the age of 65. Born Dec. 1, 1927, in Hamtramck, he moved to Plymouth from Redford in 1976.

Mr. Kurczynski received his baccalaureate and masters degrees from Wayne State University (he was a member of the Wayne State Alumni Association), and was a graduate of the Chrysler Institute. He worked for 26 years at Henry Ford Community College and served in the Army during World War II. He was also a member of the Holy Cross Polish Catholic Church in Hamtramck.

He is survived by his wife, Eugenia; sons Gary and Alan; daughter, Gail; a brother; and his mother.

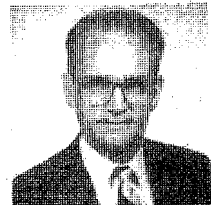
Services, arranged by Schrader Funeral Home, were held at Holy Cross, with the Revs. Mark Furmanek and Edward Sobolewski officiating. Interment was at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Barker, 80, World War II veteran

Raymond L. Barker, a retired railroad clerk who served in the Army during World War II, died June 9, 1993, at the age of 80.

Mr. Barker, who was born in Pennsylvania, is survived by his wife, Mary; daughters Margaret Glomski, a business assistant with The Community Crier, and Sister Mary Faith Bell; sons Raymond, Kenneth and William Barker and Theodore and Edward Bell; 23 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services, arranged by the Northrop Funeral Home in Detroit, were held at St. Mary of Redford Church. Interment was at Grand Lawn Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to St. Joseph's Hospital in Tawas.



Edwin A. Schrader Jr.
Director

Schrader - Howell

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PLYMOUTH-CANTON
SINCE 1904



Michael V. Howell
Director

PREARRANGEMENTS

Many people ask about Prearrangements, funeral arrangements in advance of need. They can take many forms. From a simple funeral instruction form (available free of charge) with no fundings to very complete arrangements with money paid in advance to a trust or insurance. This can be paid in one payment or over a period of time.



Carol Moore, the pre need coordinator for Schrader Howell is very knowledgeable about the laws regarding Medicaid and pre need. We would consider it a privilege to answer your questions regarding funeral costs and prearrangements.

Please consider us your source of pre need information

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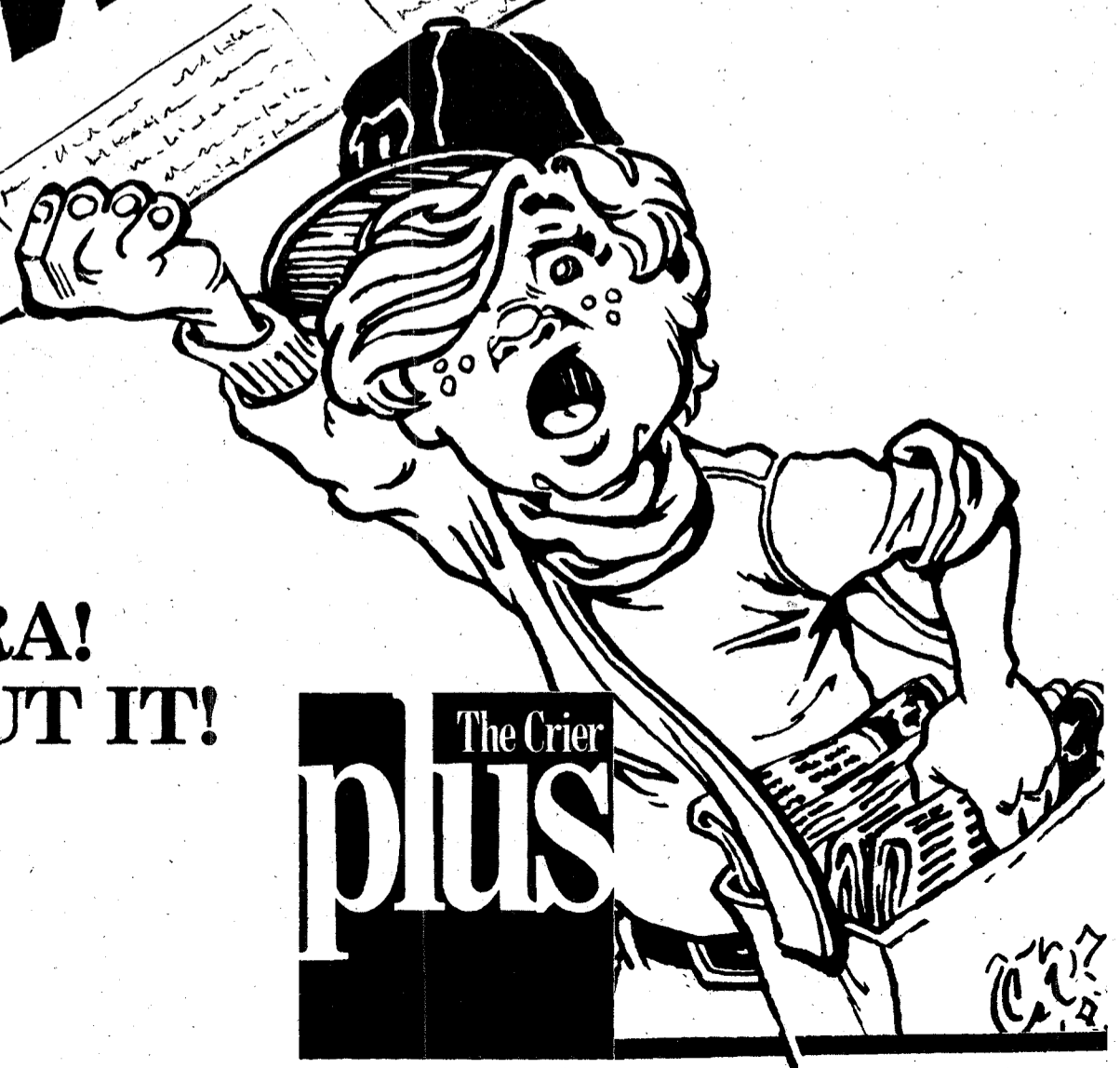
The
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Businesses in
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Details inside

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

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June 16, 1993

Dealer celebrates 10 years *top selling cars help contribute to success*

It's been 10 years since Blackwell Ford, 41001 Plymouth Road, opened its doors to the public and customers will see some of the same things now that there were then — professional attitudes, friendly service and big deals.

Len Gossman, general sales manager, is proud of the business that he said has made a good reputation for itself and become a top-notch enterprise.

He backs up his words by boasting about the business recently receiving the first quarter award of 1993, an award for outstanding customer satisfaction given to Ford dealers throughout the Detroit region.

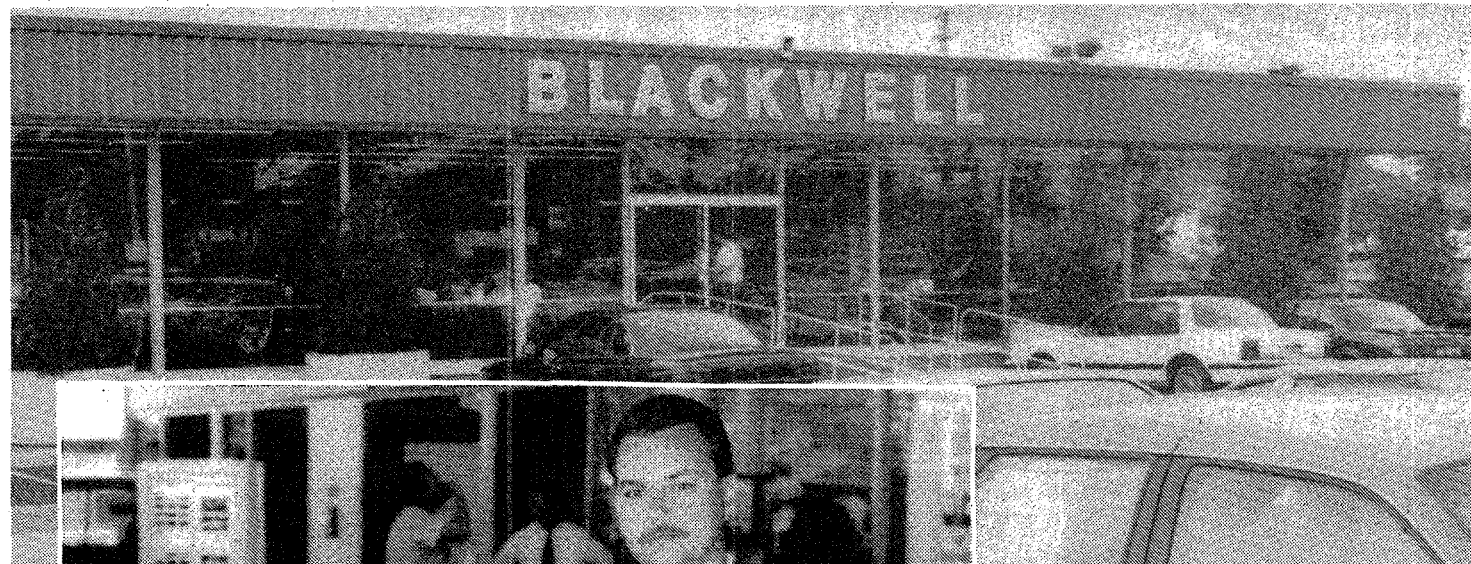
Not only has having a top sales team helped keep the business booming for the last 10 years, but the fact the dealership has some of the top selling cars and trucks has helped launch their business into success, too.

The Ford Taurus was the #1 selling car of 1992, the F-Series was the top selling truck of that year and the Probe GT is the Motor Trend Car of the Year for 1993, according to Gossman.

Business has picked up in most every aspect of the business, including the leasing department which now makes up about 50 per cent of the dealership's business.

Gossman said customers appear to be attracted to the lower monthly payments of a 24-month lease and turning in the vehicle for another new one.

"It makes getting a new car affordable," Gossman said. "It seems to be the American way anymore — always having a car



Blackwell Ford, Inc., is located at 41001 Plymouth Rd., Plymouth. At left General Sales Manager Len Gossman shows off the latest convertibles. Below, John Blackwell Jr., executive vice president oversees operations of family business.



and house payment. Leasing takes about a third off the price of a financed vehicle."

One of the biggest changes Gossman has noticed within the past 10 years is the increased number of woman car and truck buyers. He said there is no way dealerships can ignore the woman shopper.

In fact, about 50 per cent of the dealership's Probe owners are women.

"More women have the deci-

sions in the household anyway," Gossman said. "They know the budget. Single women make up a lot of our Ford Ranger pickup and Ford Explorer truck sales, too."

Gossman also pointed out that car buyers in general are much more educated now than in years past about the vehicle they intend to purchase and no longer simply go in for just the style and color.

He said that they want to know about safety features, too, such as air bags and antilock brakes.

Looking back on the past years,

Gossman said the dealership has been able to put a lot of feathers in its cap. He appears to enjoy seeing his customers ride the wheels of his business' success.

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The Community Crier

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

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June 16, 1993

McDonald Ford announces expansion and renovation for customer comfort



McDonald Ford's showroom at 550 W. Seven Mile (Seven Mile and Northville Roads) will soon see an additional 700 square feet.

In their ongoing effort to provide customer satisfaction and present the best possible product in a pleasant environment, McDonald Ford has announced plans for the expansion and renovation of their new car sales and service facilities.

McDonald Ford, located at Seven Mile and Northville Roads, plans to add 700 square feet to their present showroom, and remodel both inside and out. Work is expected to be completed by mid-September.

General Manager Dave Rekuc said the space will be more effectively used, and will be more user friendly.

"We're condensing work areas, and giving the customer more space," said Rekuc, adding that, "the customer will also have showroom access to the service cashier and parts department."

Salespeople will also deal with customers a little differently, said Rekuc. He explains that salespeople and customers will sit at a round table, much like sitting at a

"kitchen table" for a more relaxed atmosphere.

Additional plans call for land-

scaping and an exterior facelift, said Rekuc, "we're presenting a pleasant exterior for our neighbors and the community in general.

"This new construction is part of an ongoing process to provide the customer with the best possible environment," said Rekuc.

He adds that owner T.J. "Joe" McDonald's philosophy of customer satisfaction has contributed to the longevity of the dealership.

"We follow-up on all sales and service," said Rekuc, and adds, "we're involved in the community, and encourage all of our people to get involved. We're not only a business, but an integral part of the community."

He said that employees are involved in many civic activities, including; the Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, coaching local sports,

Boy and Girl Scouts and various area churches.

McDonald Ford recently celebrated its twenty-fifth (silver) anniversary, a distinction that only a select few Ford dealers can claim.

"Joe" McDonald first opened his Ford dealership in Detroit in 1968. He moved to the Northville location in 1982. The family-run business now boasts four rental locations (including the original Detroit store), the new-car showroom at 550 W. Seven Mile, a truck service department (at 17000 Northville Rd.) and more than 100 employees.

The new expansion and renovations ensure continued service and satisfaction, said Rekuc, and will help propel McDonald Ford well into the next century.

McDonald Ford earns service award

McDonald Ford has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award by Ford Motor Company.

The award, which recognizes outstanding achievement in all areas of sales, service and customer satisfaction was presented by Ford Motor Company Executives to owner T.J. "Joe" McDonald at a ceremony last month.

McDonald Ford, located at Seven Mile and Northville Roads in Northville is one of only 10 Detroit metro area dealers to receive this award. This is the 20th time the dealership has earned the award in the last 25 years.

General Manager Dave Rekuc said it's an honor to be recognized

for your efforts. "We always strive to give the best service, and satisfy the customer," he said, "and this award shows that Ford Motor recognizes that effort."

Rekuc invites customers and prospective customers alike into the showroom where numerous other awards are proudly displayed.

"We've been one of the leaders in sales and customer service and satisfaction," said Rekuc, "and we're proud to display the awards that reflect our achievements."

Rekuc also said that "Joe" McDonald and the rest of the staff aren't ones to rest on past achievements.

"We're very happy to receive the award, but it doesn't stop there," he said, "we're always

shooting for the highest standards, and will always continue that policy."



McDonald Ford's General Manager Dave Rekuc proudly displays Ford's Distinguished Service Award - one of only 10 awarded to Metro Area dealerships.

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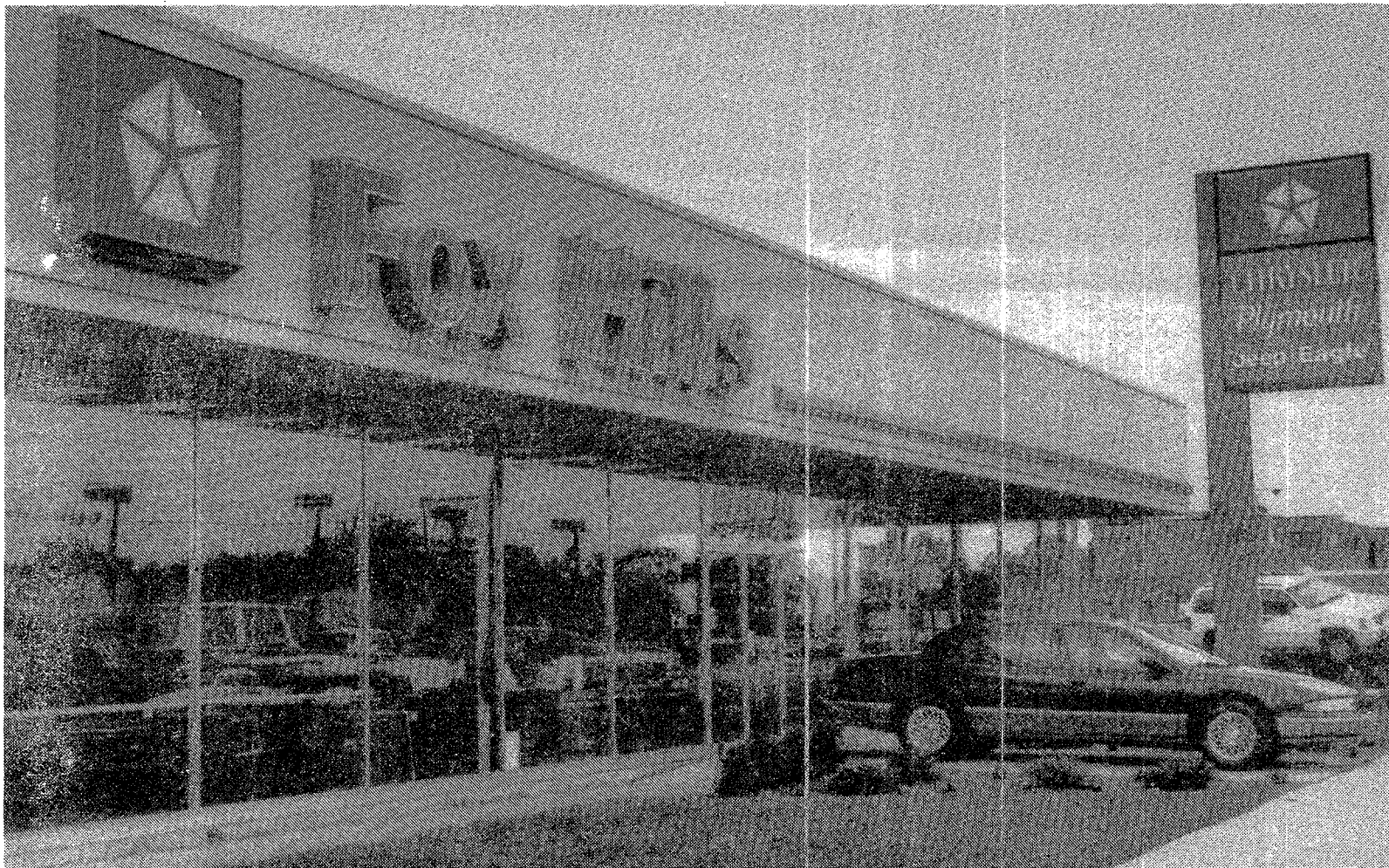
The Community Crier

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June 16, 1993

Dealership thrives in hard times; cites customer satisfaction



**Fox Hills
Chrysler-
Plymouth-
Jeep/Eagle is
located at 111
West Ann Arbor
Road in
Plymouth.**

While many auto dealerships folded over the last decade because of the sagging economy and foreign competition, Fox Hills Chrysler-Plymouth-Jeep/Eagle has continued to thrive.

The dealership, owned by Jim Schebil, has been a fixture in the Plymouth area for 11 years. Dave Galdes, sales manager, credited a commitment to selling and servicing quality products and developing a good rapport with customers for the dealership's stature in the community.

That commitment has enabled Fox Hills to sell between 1,200 and 1,500 new Chrysler vehicles alone last year, he said. One of the reasons for the dealership's success has been sales figures for

the new Chrysler Concord, one of the company's new LH-based cars that has won rave reviews from critics and buyers alike.

"We've been taking in business for this vehicle from all over," Galdes said. "From Livonia, Birmingham, Grosse Pointe, Farmington Hills. Business has been phenomenal, and we've been busy the last few years with repeat customers," he said.

"Probably our biggest asset as a business is our Customer Service Index (CSI) rating," he said. "We've had the highest CSI score for any Chrysler-Plymouth-Jeep/Eagle dealership for the last four years."

The dealership's CSI rating is determined at the corporate level

and is based on many factors, he said, including how new and used vehicle sales are handled and how vehicles were serviced.

And if that isn't enough, consider this: Fox Hills Chrysler-Plymouth-Jeep/Eagle has also won the company's Award of Excellence for the last nine years. This award, even more prestigious than a high CSI rating, is bestowed upon the top dealerships in the country, Galdes said.

Like the CSI rating, the Award of Excellence is based on many factors, including sales volumes, overall customer service and community relations.

Unlike some dealerships, where high-pressure salesmen give

customers little room to breathe, the sales staff at Fox Hills abide by a different philosophy, he said.

"I have my sales staff treat customers like they would want to be treated if the roles were reversed," Galdes said. "All the customer wants is honesty and integrity. And I don't allow my staff to have a pushy attitude, either. I don't allow that here."

"There are some businesses that use that philosophy, but they only get customers once while we pull in the repeat customers."

Fox Hills Chrysler-Plymouth-Jeep/Eagle is located at 111 West Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth. For more information, contact the dealership at 455-8740.

Voters reject 4 mills; board must implement cuts

Continued from pg. 1

was filled with contradictions.

"Any elation I feel about winning personally," he said, "is tempered by this failure of the 4 mills."

In fact, by 12:30 a.m. offers of congratulations were sprinkled with comments about how "lucky" Artley was for being re-elected to overseeing the "dismantling" of the district.

The Rev. William Myers, who finished third in the school board balloting, said he was "very disappointed" by the outcome.

"The only thing I can make out of (the rejection) is that people were sending some kind of message to the board and the administration.

"Unfortunately, our kids will take the hit."

One of those not surprised by the outcome was board candidate Stephen Kilijanczyk, who finished a relatively close second to Artley, and whose campaign cornerstone was voter rejection of the 4 mills.

"I think it proved that we have a pretty informed populace," he said yesterday morning. "I think that's the only way you can explain the movement on the vote; the people wanted to switch.

"I knew (the increase) was going to fail."

The "movement" Kilijanczyk referred to was the fact that about 3,000 swing voters supported the renewal, but rejected the increase.

Because he was the lone board candidate opposed to the increase, Kilijanczyk was blamed by some for helping produce the defeat — especially in light of campaign literature he distributed in some neighborhoods Sunday calling for a no vote.



Re-elected board Trustee David Artley (right), Trustee Jack Farrow (second from right) and a handful of millage supporters await final results of Monday's school elections at millage campaign headquarters. (Crier photo by Craig Farrand)

Artley wins close re-election against Kilijanczyk

Continued from pg. 1

switch," he said.

"I think it proved that we have a pretty informed populace.

Concerning his own strong showing, Kilijanczyk said he "loved it."

"It exceeded my expectations," he said, "which means I'm going to continue to be involved.

"And that means I'm going to run against next year."

When asked about accusations that his anti-millage campaign may have had an impact on the outcome, Kilijanczyk discounted the notion, saying instead that "I didn't influence voters, they influenced me."

In fact, he said he felt he would have gotten even more support had voters specifically connected him with the mil-

What next? Board to approve budget, cuts June 28

BY CRAIG FARRAND

Anticipating passage of a 4-mill tax increase, the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education was expected last night to issue recall notices to teachers and administrators previously given pink slips.

But based on Monday's voter rejection of the proposal, that part of the agenda became moot.

Instead, some district officials have suggested that the board may begin taking a look at planning another millage election sometime in the fall to gain approval of the 4 mills.

Without the increase, the board is

being forced to cut nearly \$5 million in programs and staff. That action, trustees said Monday, will come with approval of the 1993-94 district budget on June 28.

Based on state election law, the election day "window" for holding another vote on the issue may not be until October — too late, if approved then, to help fall sports and other other extracurriculars.

In fact, several administration officials said it would be nearly impossible to restore any programs until the second semester of the school year, in order to prevent any major disruption

of classes.

When asked throughout the evening whether the board would actually consider holding another election, Trustees David Artley, Dean Swartzwelter and Jack Farrow said their inclination was to await the final outcome of the millage vote.

Artley explained later that a close vote on the 4 mills might prompt another try in the fall, but that an overwhelming rejection would make it "difficult to come back again."

The 4 mills were rejected by a 54-to-46 percent vote margin.

But that was an accusation the candidate took exception to:

"I'll talk to anyone who thinks that," he said.

"Everyone should remember that I was in the camp early against the millage; I didn't deviate at all," he said. "But I didn't influence voters, they influenced me.

"I was not changing minds; their minds were already there.

"In fact, it looks like I missed about 5,000 people (who voted against the increase, but not for him); if I would have had an impact, I would have gotten more support."

Nevertheless, the postmortems were being made early in the evening to lay blame for the millage's rejection.

Among the possibilities, in addition to Kilijanczyk's candidacy, were the recent double- — and in some cases, triple- — digit increases in property assessments

and general voter anger over all taxes.

Another possibility was offered late Monday by Pat Liljestrand, one of the citizen co-chairs of the millage committee.

"I think this election indicated that we need better communication between the board and the community," she said as the election outcome became clear.

"Even we had problems getting clear directions from the board until there were only about 60 days left (until the election)."

Sitting quietly at one end of election headquarters as the final results were coming through, Liljestrand was one of the last to leave the campaign headquarters on Ford Road in Canton.

Earlier in the evening, more than a 150 volunteers and district officials had jammed the two-room storefront, keeping a running total of millage results as they were phoned in from the board office.

By 10:30, however, the group had dwindled to about half that number — and those who had been at the board office earlier had either gone home or were among the faithful few.

And two hours later, when the last numbers had been posted, the only thing left to do was clean up the room and turn out the lights.

Early in the evening at the board office, the first returns carried ominous warnings for millage supporters: Precinct 14 at Bird School reported that the 4

mills lost by almost 200 votes.

And by 9 p.m., with 10 precincts reporting, the 874-votes against margin was already insurmountable.

In fact, within an hour school Supt. John Hoben issued a prepared statement conceding the outcome.

"We are saddened to see the failure of the request..." the statement began. "We know these are difficult financial times for everyone. Yet we hoped that with the additional millage funds, further drastic cuts would not be necessary next year.

"We would like to thank voters for approving the millage renewal, although these funds alone will not allow us to offer a complete program next year."

Even with the concession, however, supporters held vigil until 12:25 yesterday morning when results from Canton High School sealed the proposal's fate.

Although voters there supported the millage, the 140-vote margin fell far short of offsetting the defeat — a point that was underscored only moments later when absentee ballots totals were finally announced: 703-287 against.

As the last volunteers filed out of the campaign headquarters, one person was overheard to compare the somber feeling to a funeral.

SCHOOL ELECTION RESULTS Plymouth-Canton School District

Property tax proposals	YES	NO
17.74-mill renewal	10,722	5,664
4-mill increase	7,558	8,767

Board of Education (elect one)

David Artley	4,467
Stephen Kilijanczyk	3,734
William Myers	1,520
Terry Chuhran	1,431
Robert Burger	1,192

Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees (6-year term; elect two)

Patricia Watson	11,776
John Walsh	11,387
Linda Chuhran	7,260
Catherine Broadbent	6,349

(4-year term; elect one)

Richard DeVries	11,225
Winifred Fraser	9,695

(winners in boldface)

lage increase.

Coming in third in the balloting was the Rev. William Myers, whose own candidacy became an issue after he announced he was leaving the district in July to take a ministerial position in Muskegon.

When interviewed late Monday night at millage campaign headquarters in Canton, however, the school board election was the last thing on his mind.

"I'm very disappointed (about the millage vote)," he said. "I thought this was one of the best organized campaigns I've ever seen.

"The only thing I can make out of (the rejection) is that people were sending some kind of message to the board and the administration."

One surprise in the election was the

showing by Burger, who had undergone heart surgery less than two months ago, and as a result, had hardly campaigned. Nevertheless, he received 10 per cent of the votes cast.

"Yes, I was disappointed," he said yesterday morning, "but I don't think I did too bad considering that I couldn't be out to talk about my stand on the issues."

And, like Kilijanczyk, Burger plans on returning to the campaign trail next year.

Concerning the millage increase defeat, Burger said he was "concerned," about the now-expected cuts in programs "that are doing a lot of good for our kids.

"I think a lot of it was the assessment increases," Burger said.

Chuhran, whose wife, Linda, also lost her bid for the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees, could not be reached.



Sports

Canton kickers finish second in state, fall to Troy Athens, 2-0 in loss at home

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

Canton soccer team keeps getting better each year, playing harder and harder, adding more games to the win column, but the big one slips away.

For the second straight year, Canton ended its season with a loss in the state championship game. The Chiefs ended their season with a 2-0 loss to Troy Athens Saturday, at home, to end the year 20-2-1. Winning more games than any soccer team has in the history of the school.

"Last year, no one expected us to get there, we just didn't lose a game until the state championship," said Don Smith, Canton coach. "This year we expected to do better and we did do better. Some people still say we didn't belong there. But they gotta beat us to stop us."

Canton had a sluggish start, and Athens was able to take advantage of it. The Chiefs only made two shots on goal in the first half. Athens put both of its goals in the net.

But the Chiefs came back strong in the second half, had opportunities to score, but only found the net once, and the goal was disallowed.

Even with the disallowed goal, Canton kept pounding at Athens.

The Chiefs made it to the championship game after winning a shootout with Portage Central on Thursday, 4-3, outscoring Central 5-3 in the shootout.

The Central game was delayed a day because of field conditions. Whether it was the loss of a day of rest after a tough comeback against Central, Smith couldn't put his finger on why his team was shutout in the state championship game.

"We played hard in the second half and had quite a few opportunities to score," said Smith. "We kept it in front of their net, put the pressure on in the second half, but that's the way it goes. They were still tired after Thursday's double overtime (and shootout). I'd like to say it didn't make a difference, but it was a hot day and even though you feel a little better (after the win) it catches up with you after a day or so."

Canton will be losing eight seniors this year. Colleen Connell, Jori Welchans, Leah Hutko and Kathy Bahr were four-year starters. Amy Westerhold and Kelly Reeves were with the varsity team since they were sophomores.

Becky Cifaldi and Erica Swegles played two years with the Chiefs.

Goalie Welchans guarded the goal for 78 games, won 44 shutouts and had only 44 goals scored against her in her career at Canton, including eight goals by Portage Central this year.

"She gave a solid performance, was

very dependable, a good leader and always came ready to play," said Smith.

Welchans will be heading to the University of Detroit-Mercy to play on its first-year soccer team.

She was all-state as a junior and made all-conference and all-Ann Arbor team this year.

Leah Hutko came of age this year on the field. In her four-year career at Canton, she scored 47 goals and had 21 assists. This year she kicked in 23 goals and had 12 assists, a season record for her school.

She scored or assisted in every Canton game this year, except the team's 0-0 tie with Salem and in the championship game.

Hutko will be playing soccer at Michigan State University in the fall.

Colleen Connell had an abbreviated season this year. She contacted spinal meningitis while she was on spring break in Cancun this year and missed 10 games with the Chiefs.

She recovered and suffered no complications, according to her coach. Even with a shortened season, she kicked in five goals and had two assists, including scoring in the conference playoff against Stevenson, in the district final against Salem, and kicking in the winning goal against Troy earlier this year.

Connell missed the championship game last year also with mononucleosis.

Kathy Bahr is a four-year starter on defense, who scored a big goal against Portage Central, enabling her team to advance to the state championship game.

Bahr and defender Kelly Reeves both

made all-district.

Amy Westerhold made the all-conference team and kicked in the winning goal against Northville in the regional finals.

Becky Cifaldi made the all-division team in her senior year.

Erica Swegles missed 12 games with a shoulder separation this year, and didn't get much of an opportunity to play

Seven of his eight seniors made either all-conference or all-division this year, and Smith said the seniors will be missed.

"Sure they'll be missed, but they'll be replaced," said Smith. "On thing, when you have a tradition, girls look forward to playing and feel they've got to step up to the challenge. Someone will step in to take their place. They are a year older and will step in."



Canton's Melissa Tomei makes an attempt at a goal Saturday in the state championship match at PCEP soccer field. The Chiefs fell 2-0 to Troy Athens to earn a second place finish in the state (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik).

Rock sluggers end '93 season in regionals

BY ANNE SULLIVAN

It was a rough day for the Salem baseball team Saturday as the Rocks ended their season in the regional finals with a 7-2 loss to John Glenn, after a come from behind 7-5 win over Ann Arbor Pioneer in the first round of region 8 competition.

In the bottom of the seventh inning, with two outs, it was a fly ball to short left field, caught by Salem's Jamie Owens that ended the game, and moved the Rocks to the championship game.

But no one was certain if he made the catch.

Owens and third basemen David Knight, who was also chasing the ball, collided at full speed. Owens was down, Knight didn't have the ball, and no one could see the ball.

The crowd was shouting "show the ball". Pioneer's coach was saying he didn't make the catch, but when Owens couldn't move, the infield umpire went to him, saw the ball in his glove and called the batter out.

The game was over and Salem advanced to the regional finals.

Owens was taken to St. Joseph

Hospital in Ypsilanti. He suffered internal bleeding, and the hospital has not been able to identify the cause of it. He was able to make graduation the next day, but has to return to the hospital this week to be checked out again.

Owens took a knee to abdomen from Knight when the two collided. "It knocked the wind out of him, blood was coming from his mouth, and he couldn't breathe" said his mother, Gale Owens, Monday afternoon. "I'm thankful he's o.k."

Please see pg. 19

Salem falls to Glenn in baseball finals

Continued from pg. 18

The game started out strong. Salem scored two runs in the first inning, but Pioneer came right back at them and put five runners across the plate to take the lead after one inning.

John Klask led off the second inning with a solo home run which kept the spark alive for Salem.

The third inning was a big one for Salem and put them ahead of Pioneer.

Eric Kida started the inning with a base hit. Brandon Los' bunt bounced over the head of Pioneer's third baseman and he got on base. Jim Cunningham had a base hit.

Klask got onto base on a fielding error by the third baseman.

Owens got on base and Pioneer changed pitchers. Two runs scored on a pass ball before Ann Arbor got out of the inning. Neither team scored again.

Nirav Kher was on the mound for Salem. He gave up five runs (two earned) on six hits and two walks. He threw three strikeouts.

"We were prepared and ready to play," said Salem coach John Gravlin, who credits "A total team effort and Nirav getting it together on the mound," for the win. "The first inning was a shock. We knew we wouldn't shut them down." But after the first inning, Pioneer didn't score. The win put Salem in the final 16.

The Rocks came back to the diamond to face John Glenn in the regional championship. Gravlin isn't sure why it happened, but the Rockets took Salem out of its game, and the Rocks had difficulty getting hits off Glenn's pitcher.

Glenn had dominated Salem twice before this season, but he said his team was ready to play.

The squad may have been a little rattled from Owens' injury in the previous game, but Gravlin said when the Rockets scored three runs on a home run in the first inning, he knew the team was in for a rough game.

The Rocks only got three hits against Glenn, two were by Matt Abbott, Owens' replacement in the game, the other by Charlie Winstel.

Salem ends its season with a 21-14 record.

"The story of this team is their maturity," said Gravlin. The Rocks were 6-9 at one point and went 15-5 for the rest of the season, eliminating a lot of mistakes they made earlier in the season.

Los was an intelligent player behind the plate, according to his coach. A great defensive player, stopping many balls in the dirt, and had a .340 batting average.

Brandon Walton was the only senior pitcher returning and provided leadership early in the season, showing the ropes to the junior pitchers.

Winstel will play in the all-star game on June 24. He will play first base for the eastern squad. He will be joined by Gravlin, who was selected to coach the team this year.

"Charlie is one of the great players in Michigan this year. He will be considered for all-state honors. We made the sweet 16, so he has a chance."



Salem's Charlie Winstel tries to put the tag on a John Glenn baserunner as Brandon Walton looks on. The Rocks lost the regional championship game to Glenn (Crier photo by Eriq Lukasik).

Anne-ecdotes

By Anne Sullivan



What is really important?

Dangers exist in sports, and getting hurt is one of those dangers. But the reality of those dangers fades until we witness one or are involved in one.

The potential was obvious Saturday at CEP when Salem outfielder Jamie Owens and third baseman David Knight collided on the field, both chasing that final out to secure a win over Ann Arbor Pioneer in the first round of regional play.

There is no denying it was a key out. Salem would win if it was a catch, Pioneer stood a chance if it wasn't.

But as fans were screaming "Show the ball," it's hard to understand where their priorities are. Sure it was a big play. But is a game more important than the well being of a high school boy who is laying on the ground, unable to move?

It's hard to understand how some adults can be so callous, setting horrendous examples of what they deem is important to the players and young fans in the stands, and still call themselves "fans" of a high school team, from either school.

Jamie had spit up blood from an internal injury at the time of the accident and wasn't able to show the ball he had caught. When the field umpire saw the ball in Jamie's glove, he called the out.

An instant of glory for Rock fans before the mood shifted to concern for their downed player, who was transported by ambulance to St. Joseph Hospital.

Coach John Gravlin provided an update on Jamie's condition Monday morning.

Later in the day, I spoke with Gale Owens, Jamie's mother, inquiring about Jamie's condition and she said he would have to be checked again but everything was looking good.

The family received dozens of calls from well wishers, players and fans, people listening to the game on the radio who didn't even know Jamie or his family, checking on his condition.

Talk over what some called a disputed catch changed to what was really impor-

tant, Jamie.

Jamie's dad reassured his son's teammate that it was an accident and that no hard feelings existed toward him.

Jamie was able to make his graduation, fielding inquiries from fellow students and staff. He will be checked again this week to be sure there is no more internal bleeding.

When Jamie learned his team lost the next game, he said to his mother "At least my (high school) baseball career ended on a positive note."

A sign to his mother that he is "o.k."

Schoolcraft College hosts golf tournament

Schoolcraft College is hosting its 10th annual golf tournament. The tournament is Monday, June 21, at Fox Hills Country Club.

Golfers can cover the links with professionals as well as attend clinics, and have your picture taken with a pro.

For more information, call 462-4417.

MS bike tour

Raising money for multiple sclerosis and having fun is the idea behind the eighth annual MS 150 Bike Tour starts at Schoolcraft College June 26.

The two-day biking tour includes an overnight stay at Eastern Michigan University.

Nearly 2,000 cyclists are expected to participate in the event to raise money for MS research.

MS is a chronic, often debilitating disease of the central nervous system. It affects approximately 15,000 Michigan residents.

To register for the bike tour, call the MS Society, 1-800-247-7382. Deadline is June 18.

MGM

Bicycle & Fitness Equipment

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Crier Classifieds

Curiosities

Brent - thanks for the best vacation ever!

Jack - you did such a great job while I was gone, that I'm going to let you do it again the first week in July.

D'Angelas - thank you for helping in our neighborhood effort to find Toto, who gets her kicks by running away.

Liz is off making new discoveries!

Who had the bluest feet in the wedding party?

Kay, Kay quite contrary, how does your garden grow?

Jack lost 5 lbs. and sore feet after this weekend.

Who said Karen had the bluest feet?

Rita A. takes one GIANT STEP forward.

Brother on Surrey Heights: If I write you a message here will you call me?

Amy looked like Cinderella!

Peggy did the whole wedding parties hair (just the girls) and they all looked great.

Nickey was voted the best looking bridesmaid.

Amy and David have had and will continue to have a lot of ups and downs.

High thighs, boomers, a good swing, red nets, nothing, no grey hairs, and keeping her own score. Working hard for a top ten finish aren't we.

Jack - you're not centered

MIRACULOUS INVOCATION TO SAINT THERESE

O glorious Saint Therese, whom Almighty God has raised up to aid and counsel mankind, I implore your Miraculous Intercession. So powerful are you in obtaining every need of body and soul our Holy Mother Church proclaims you a "Prodigy of Miracles... the Greatest Saint of Modern Times." Now I fervently beseech you to answer my petition (mention here) and to carry out your promises of spending Heaven doing good upon earth... of letting fall from Heaven a Shower of Roses. Henceforth, dear Little Flower, I will fulfill your plea "to be made known everywhere" and I will never cease to lead others to Jesus, Holy mother, Holy Spirit, St. Joseph, St. Clare & St. Jude for all prayers answered. I.C.



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Plymouth, MI 48170

Curiosities

Are you going to throw that heart or eat it?

Heads up Steve - there's a heart with your name on it.

Wendy wants to skip work on Thursday.

MR. VACATION IS

CALL DAVE VARGA when you need a piano moved.

CITY RESIDENTS: register to vote NOW for Aug. 3 elections.

Craig floats like a butterfly on the dance floor.

Nobody wears their island hat to a wedding! Do they Mike?

Carla had a much better score 2 weeks ago. Just ask Jack.

We went to Apricot Center and ate musselsprouts!

Sally & Ed - our thanks to you! You saw a need and filled it and now it will be our pleasure to enjoy the fruits of your labor all summer. Planting flowers in the receptacles on Penniman and sowing Wild Flowers on Fleet Street is a lovely gesture. Thank you.

You're only here for a short visit. So be sure to stop and smell the flowers!! - Walter Hagen.

DUNBAR DAVIS - Last weeks quotations, as you no doubt know, were by Rudyard Kipling. I was tempted to give you "The Face on the Ballroom Floor," but I wasn't sure of the author.

Elaine can tell you about every booth in Art in the Park.

DUNBAR: we thought you should know that Geneva has to look up some of those quotes -- she doesn't know them all by heart (even though she has a very big heart). -- Ed

Look for Porterhouse's special prices in today's paper.

MICHAEL - an angel if I ever saw one, found Toto and made her day by giving her a ride home on his bicycle. Thank you.

AMY AND DAVID - Have a wonderful forever.

Harold Guenther - light of my life!

Curiosities

Tim look pained. You would of thought it was his wedding Saturday.

Curiosities

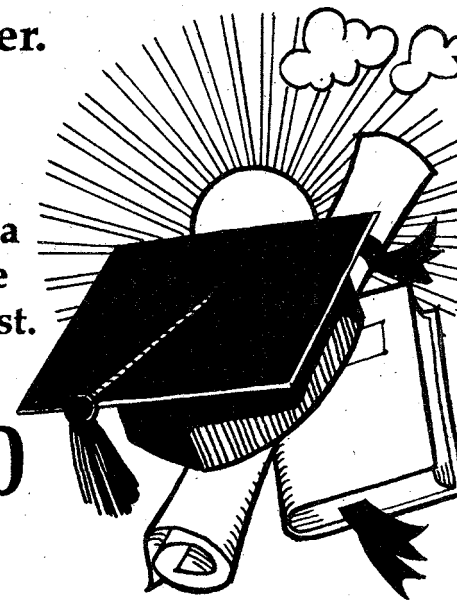
Congratulations Joannè and Jeff - Many Happy Years.

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The Community Crier

Employment Market

Help Wanted

KIDS THRU SENIORS

The Crier is now looking for carriers on many routes! If you are interested in a money-making opportunity call 453-6900.

Wanted babysitter/ light housekeeping: M-Th mornings. My house only. 455-1021.

GIANT LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY Exciting income. Full or part-time. 313-486-1043.

Exciting career available. Wanted: outgoing, mature female or male to sell radio advertising, in The Plymouth - Canton area. Some college necessary, experience preferred. Send resume to: WSDS Radio, 580 W. Clark Rd, Ypsilanti, Mich, 48198, Attention: Sales Manager

OUTDOOR-TYPE PERSON to assist part-full time with weed control and farm chores. 453-5494.

Part-time/full-time position available for car cleaning. 459-8088

Help Wanted

REAL ESTATE SALES - Position and training available for individual interested in dynamic career with unlimited income potential in lovely Plymouth location. Call Pat Ryan Jr., Coldwell Banker, Schweitzer, 453-6800.

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Curiosities

It would be interesting at a High School Graduation Exercise to suggest that only those who deserved it would come to the stage to receive their diplomas. Parents, no doubt, would rise up en masse to receive their rightful reward.

MARGARET - We know that nothing can ease your sorrow, nor would you want it to, but knowing your friends care about you and yours, we hope, will help a little.

Curiosities

Who had the longest tie?

And who tied one on the longest?

Amy is going to have to wear bigger earrings so they can be seen

Steve's new nickname is Candyman.

The Princess looked great but she is still going to change hair dressers.

Happy Birthday
George Guyor

Curiosities

TED BOLOVEN parks on hills to make his 50¢ worth of gas go further. God Bless Meatball Counters!

BEAUREGARD eats bagels and lox. A Penniman Deli Delight.

Walter is unable to participate until he gets the cast off.

Has Jeff made up his mind on THE GOLF DATE yet?

Curiosities

Debbie, give me a call for lunch.

ZAC likes to eat stars.

JACK M. - We care about you.

ERNIE ARCHER - Your flowers bless everyone that comes in The Crier office. Thank you.

JACK W. - you made my day!

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Curiosities

Chris, I liked that movie you sent me - from Jeff.

Jack plays "Scuba Golf"; while the original Mike Watts goes "Scuba Biking."

CONGRATULATIONS DANA KELLY ON YOUR H.S. GRADUATION.

AMY AND DAVE have different ups and downs now.

DIANE AND ROSANNE: let your conscience be your GUIDE in Wisconsin.

Congratulations Joanne and Jeff! Beautiful ceremony, great reception!

The Side Street regulars clean up pretty good.

Geneva always smiles. (Sometimes through her tears)

"HOW DO YOU ATTACH the reels to those golf clubs when you're fishing?" Mike Carne to Kevin Brown.

BOB BROOKS tests better than stress. Hope you're OK.

Dusty's a pretty good aim with his heart!

Too bad he was aiming for Steve.

Fran & Bob Henning - there are those among us who need to be sweetened. Thank you for your gift to one of the most needy. (No, I didn't share them, I ate them all myself)

Althea - "Last night your hair had a golden rinse. Today no rinse we see." On you it looks good!

Curiosities

MOM ON MELTON: Friday we'll have birthday dinner at my house.

SOME LAWYERS NEVER DIE, they just lose their appeal.

N.B.D.; MORRISON, STANWOOD, POLACK, & HIWARD; CREDIT INFORMATION CORP.; PUGH-CANNON PROPERTIES; DRAUGELIS, ASHTON et al; THE CRIER AND COMMA, all help Penniman Ave. - Fleet St. flower! Thanks. (And thanks to the City D.P.W. for dirt and water)

There sure was a lot of tie watching at the reception!

Amy: Bet you're thinking about us today (HA! HA!)

KENN CHRISTOPHER got older Monday, we tried to call him at work and congratulate him but he was fishing.

TONQUISH CREEK the Lyons Club added a lovely dimension to the lives of the people who live there by rebuilding the bridge. The hazard now is the debris on the path that makes it hard for people who walk there. Isn't there a group or even an individual who would take that on as a project? To see a need and fill it is the first sign of maturity.

STORMS are not Whitney G's favorite kind of weather.

Situations Wanted

Office cleaning daily, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or by special arrangement. Reliable thorough references for a free estimate call Lisa at 453-3321.

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Garage Sale

11054 Sandalwood - neighborhood effort. West of Sheldon and east of Beck. Bikes, clothing, household, etc. Thurs.-Fri., 9-4pm.

Garage Sale Friday and Saturday. June 18 and 19. 9 to 5. 44705 Albert Dr., Plymouth. South of Ann Arbor Road, West of Sheldon.

Articles for Sale

Barn wood for sale. Lots of choice sizes, 8 x 8 beams, etc. 595-6251 please leave message.

Sharp Z 60 copier, 8 1/2" x 11", 8 1/2" 14". \$200 new masterpack included. Worth \$70. 981-1436.

Air conditioner for sale. 1,500 BTU, 220-watt. Used only one season, asking \$200 or best. 453-0581.

Small riding lawn mower. \$100. 455-6279.

Articles for Sale

LOSE WEIGHT FAST
I lost three pounds in three days and one inch off my waist. Eat anything. for more info call 464-3344.

Vehicles for Sale

1987 Chevy Cavalier Sta-wagon. Auto trans. Power Steering. AM/FM stereo/cassette, A/C, rear defrost. \$3300 or BEST OFFER. 455-9565.

1976 MGB. Runs good, new top and tires. \$1450. 455-6018.

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'89 Dodge Shadow ES - Turbo 5 speed, fully loaded, sunroof. 54,000 miles \$5000.00. After 5:00 455-8672.

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Lost and Found

Lost. Small calico cat. Lost on 6/7/93. 451-7409.

Lost - Beige tabby in Woodlore North Subdivision. Call 455-6895.

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Community opinions

Mettetal's future

New 'advisory board' is the key to retaining a local voice at the site

Now that the dust has cleared — although it has yet to completely settle — around the Mettetal Airport issue, it's time for those who were both for and against the state purchase of the site to move on. And that means move closer together on defining the future of the facility.

Certainly there are those who were critical of the state purchase because of how they perceived otherwise reasonable airline ticket surcharges being spent; likewise, there were those who remained opposed to the purchase because they felt — understandably so — that the state would be just as independent and relatively unaccountable in its operation of the airport as it was in its purchase.

Which is the point of this discussion: That the key to retaining a local voice in the future of Mettetal is to endorse, support and keep watch over the yet-to-be-created permanent, local advisory board. For although even the outline of the board has yet to be determined, it is abundantly clear that this panel will play a critical role in defining operations at the facility.

In fact, this board, which should be composed of people from both townships — since Plymouth Township certainly endures its share of flyovers during takeoffs and landings — and from both sides of the original debate, will in all probability be the sole voice responsible for influencing future state actions.

Of course, there are those who will underscore the word "advisory" in the panel's name and bemoan that it will have no real clout in Lansing. But such an argument ignores the already documented influence of opponents to the original purchase; had there been no input, there would have been no final agreement.

In short, the advisory board will be just as influential in the decision-making process as its members choose to be — and as the public demands it be; *advisory* can just as easily be considered *advocacy*, with the right people in place.

Which lays the future of Mettetal at the feet of every person involved on both sides of the debate: Continue to be involved, continue to be heard, continue to show interest in what happens at Joy and Lilley roads. Let this advisory board, whenever it is created and whatever its complexion, know what you think. That is the ultimate guarantee that protects everyone's interests.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

These candidates to forego signs . . .

EDITOR:

Two years ago, candidates for the Plymouth City Commission set a positive standard for successive campaigns by voluntarily agreeing not to use yard signs.

We, the (undersigned) candidates for Plymouth City Commission, plan to maintain this precedent for the 1993 city election campaign.

All the candidates are concerned with the quality of our community. Cluttering our streets and lawns with political signs for as much as six months is not the type of burden we feel is necessary to impose on our friends and neighbors.

This is our collective commitment to maintaining the quality of Plymouth.

ROSITA SMITH
GLEN MACKIE
STELLA GREENE

DAVID MCDONALD
MICHAEL CAFFERY
DOUGLAS MILLER

. . . but what about Vos?

EDITOR:

I note that candidates are refraining from cluttering our city's landscape with lawn posters, except for Mr Vos.

I know very little about Mr. Vos, but it seems likely to me that his values are such that I could never vote for him.

He clearly feels that the ends — winning in this election — justifies the means, that include defacing our city

People with such values to not belong in positions of political or any other power.

NORMAN THOBURN

Wordsmith

By Alex Lundberg



Dear '93 grads: party on, but if you're drinking . . .

A note to the graduating class of 1993 in Plymouth-Canton.

Congratulations on graduating high school. You deserve whatever reward you treat yourselves to. That being said, I need to say something else.

Please don't drink and drive.

Truth be told, it's great to leave high school behind (I remember the day I got out dearly), and there's going to be a lot of partying going on.

And rightly so.

Graduation from high school is a big turning point in a person's life. From that moment on, your further education is entirely up to you. It's one of our society's few official rites of passage.

But let's not lose sight of why we choose to party on these occasions.

Graduation is a celebration of life. It's you looking at the end of your life as a child and saying "It's time to move on to higher ground."

But remember, no matter what happens, don't make a road trip anywhere if you've got a few beers in your stomach. Like the Surgeon General's advice on the label says, "...CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO OPERATE A MOTOR VEHICLE..."

It's true. Alcohol, like crack, PCP and LSD, is a drug. Without even considering what it does to your thought processes (impaired judgment, dramatically shortened attention span, and states of psychosis with high consumption), alcohol slows your reaction time, ruins your coordination and lessens your depth perception.

Even if you don't die in a hunk of twisted, burning metal, getting caught can be almost as bad.

Between legal fees, court costs, fines and sentencing you could lose your car and your freedom.

According to Plymouth Township Police Chief Carl Berry, the costs of a first offense can be "oppressive."

"The first offense is a \$500 fine and loss of a driver's license for up to two years," Berry said.

"After court costs, legal fees and loss of work, a first offense can cost between \$5,000 and \$8,000."

Berry said that even considering the staggering financial burden of a trip through the court system, it doesn't compare to what happens if someone is killed in an accident.

"If you kill somebody," Berry said, "you've got to live with that."

I know that the convention in a column like this is to say, "Don't drink this graduation season, have a sober celebration." I'm not going to say that. There are more than enough people that will tell you not to drink.

All I want to say is — if you've been drinking, don't drive. If you're not drinking, offer to drive.

Call your parents, they'll be more than happy to pick you up. Believe me, they'd rather get up at 3 a.m. and drive to the party you're at than wake up at 4 to identify your body in the basement of a hospital.

The reason I am writing this column is because one of my friends died last month. He was the same age as me.

He was driving drunk. Booze made him adventurous and he lost control of the car during a high-speed turn. Police reports say he died instantaneously. A passenger in the car was also hurt.

I can't help thinking about him when I hear about the statistics that define the drunk driving problem in this country. He's a number now. Dehumanized.

To the Plymouth-Canton 1993 graduates, I say congrats, good luck with your lives. Isn't it great to be out of high school?

Let the good times roll.



Community opinions

Is it worth \$11,000 to run a popularity poll?

How much is it worth to know that Margaret Dunning and Carl Pursell have higher approval ratings than Bob Jones and Jerry Vorva?

\$11,000?

The "approval ratings" were part of a host of items to be gleaned from a marketing study commissioned — at taxpayer expense of \$11,000 — by the Plymouth Library District Board.

Those same "scientific" results could have been obtained by a random sample selection by picking every other customer at the Main Street Auto Wash or just by having elected officials (presumably in touch with their constituents) give their read of the mood.

There is a danger in the latter method — re-elected school board Trustee Dave Artley was CERTAIN Proposal A was passing statewide by a 55-45 margin and the Pro-P-C-millage folks really believed their phone polling would win a successful "Yes on Increase" Monday.

Politicians IN the process run the preaching to the choir vulnerability.

With malice toward none

By W. EDWARD WENDOVER



So the Plymouth Library Board said, "We'll have an independent source poll."

The other results?

Show up at the Plymouth Library tonight at 7:30 p.m. to measure responses to the survey against its \$11,000 cost to the taxpayers.

At least the library folk saved \$25,000 on the cost of a special election to produce that same results as the \$\$\$\$ survey, rationalizes Library Prez Steve Harper.

The survey's in the library.

The Crier's position on Mettetal Airport is well-known

EDITOR:

You leave no doubt regarding your convictions on the preservation of Mettetal Airport. Your editorial opinions, even your so-called news items, are very obviously biased in favor of public funding of Mettetal.

The facility cannot be preserved with federal funds unless expanded according to federal guidelines. That could be very costly to those of us with homes in Mettetal's vicinity.

We have lived in this area for 20 years, about the same period of time that you have been publishing your little newspaper.

It is ironic that few of the aviation enthusiasts you support even live in the community served by your publication and its advertisers.

There seems to be resentment over our having come into the area to build roads, homes, parks and schools (subdivision) as well as attracting new services and

businesses (strip malls).

We have somehow intruded into an area where you and your friends want to continue playing with your loud, expensive toys.

Yet without this detested growth I doubt that your little enterprise would have survived. We are the ones who buy your publication and patronize your advertisers.

You have made it plain the divergence of your interests and those of the commu-

nity upon which you wish to impose an expanded airport.

I will continue reading your paper to see which of our local merchants support you in this effort. It is certainly not in my best interests to give them my patronage, and there are many fine businesses that do not provide you with advertising revenue.

I will, of course, share those feelings with my friends and neighbors.

SAM BARNES

Readers Rate The Crier: newspaper gets B-minus

BY CHRIS MACHNIAK

After allowing readers of The Crier to rate nearly every organization and service offered in The Plymouth-Canton Community, it seemed only fair to have them rate The Crier as well.

And they did — giving the newspaper an overall average of B-minus in its coverage of the area.

Some of the criticisms were far more harsh than that average would suggest, however: Many readers complained about proofreading and negative reporting, and one reader believed the inaccuracies to be so blatant that the paper's name should be changed to "The Liar."

On the positive side, the highest grade The Crier received was for its city of Plymouth coverage, in which it received a solid B or 3.099.

The lowest mark was given to the Curiosities section: It received a 2.244 rating and many negative comments.

One reader wrote simply that they were a "waste of paper," while others said "eliminate," and asked "why?" Some respondents said that "most can't be understood."

The category known as "other" received a wide range of responses, both critical and positive.

For example, "Craig Farrand is one of the best writers. I enjoy and look forward to his column."

However, the whole editorial page didn't get the

same praise. One reader gave "With Malice Towards None" — a column by Crier publisher W. Edward Wendover — an E.

"Mr. Wendover's column is done in very poor taste," the respondent wrote. "His articles are inaccurate and off the wall."

"Of course, I personally was somewhat amused by the reader who suggested that the newspaper fire

READERS RATE THE CRIER

Category	grade point	coverage		
		more	same	less
School coverage	3.063	40%	53%	6%
Canton coverage	2.761	23%	62%	15%
Plymouth coverage	3.099	37%	62%	1%
Plymouth Twp coverage	3.000	37%	62%	1%
Police-Court coverage	2.642	41%	54%	5%
Business coverage	2.664	49%	47%	4%
Sports coverage	2.895	24%	53%	23%
Opinion pages	2.878	44%	48%	8%
Letters to the Editor	2.925	54%	43%	3%
Friends and Neighbors	2.874	32%	60%	8%
Places to be/Happenings	2.811	49%	50%	1%
Local History	2.688	47%	50%	3%
Classified Ads	2.382	44%	51%	5%
Curiosities	2.244	10%	41%	49%
Display Ads	2.867	15%	74%	11%

me," Wendover said.

"No doubt, like all the responses on the entire survey, there are other readers who agree."

When asked which sections should be larger in The Crier, Letters to the Editor was chosen by more than half of respondents (54 per cent).

In most subjects, the highest percentage of responses said that the categories should stay the same.

The only exception was Curiosities, where 49 per cent feel that The Crier should run fewer of them.

One reader stated The Crier should quit covering Canton and said that "Canton needs to quit hanging on to Plymouth. Leave us alone. Stick to your strip mall mentality."

After looking over the results Wendover said, "In our efforts to constantly improve the Plymouth-Canton Community, we appreciate the overwhelming response from our readers in our 1st 'Reader's Rate' annual survey.

"Overall, The Crier staff's efforts received favorable ratings, and we will use these suggestions to do an even better job."

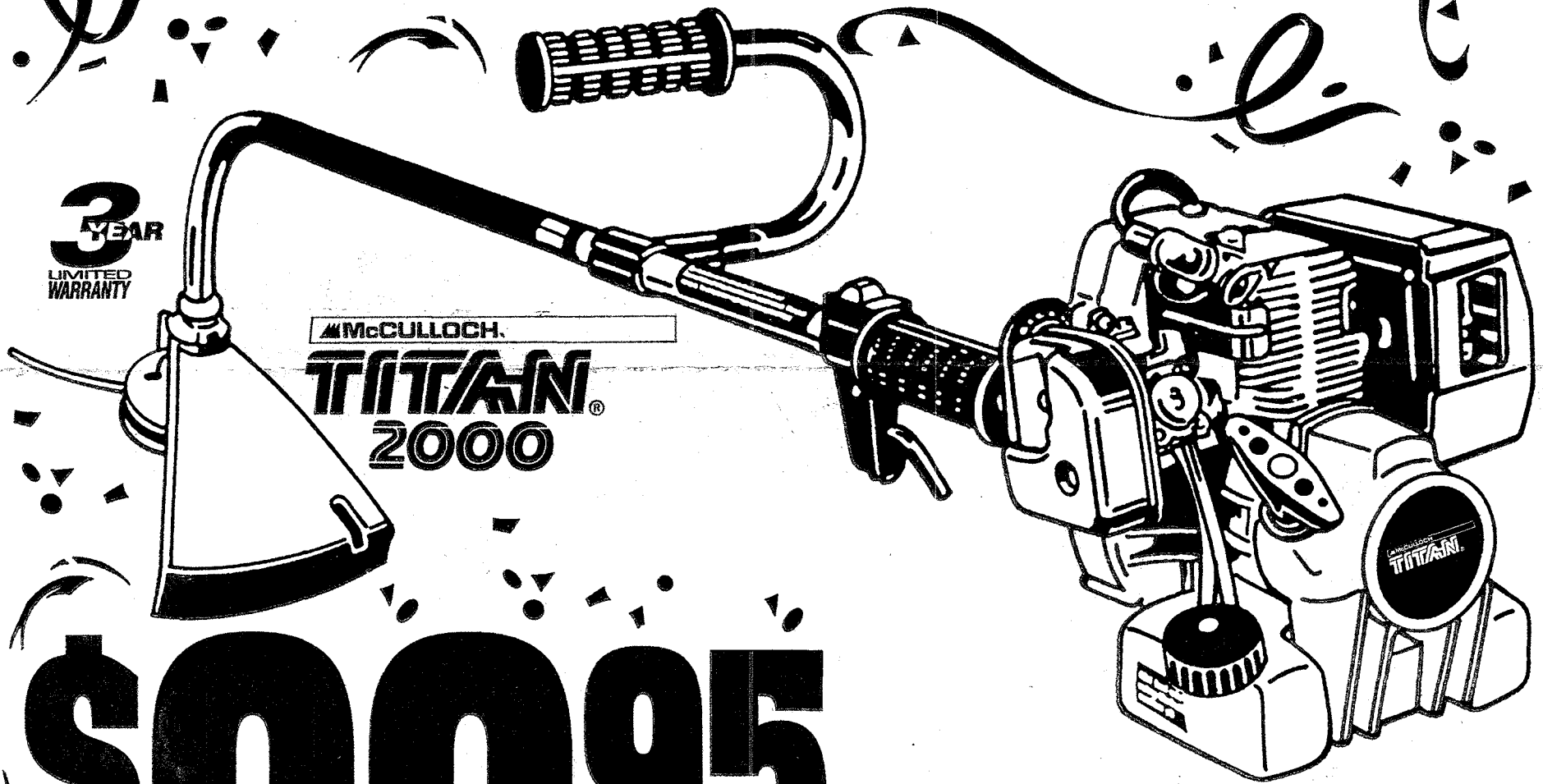
At left are the complete results (respondents were asked to grade each category and then suggest whether more, less or about the same type of content should appear each week; the percentage reflects how many respondents agreed with each statement):

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- 15" Cutting Swath
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Plymouth, MI 48170
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- 21.2cc engine
- Chrome cylinder
- Primer carburetor for easy starts
- Automatic centrifugal clutch
- Double cutting action with heavy-duty dual-line stringhead
- 3-year limited warranty

TITAN®2100

\$129⁹⁵

TITAN



- Heavy-duty dual-line stringhead for double cutting action
- 25cc engine with primer carburetor
- Chrome cylinder
- Ball-bearing mains for increased durability
- Automatic centrifugal clutch
- Large fuel tank for extended use
- 54" curved shaft for greater reach and maneuverability
- 3-year limited warranty

TITAN®2250

\$149⁹⁵

TITAN



- Solid steel drive shaft reduces vibration while withstanding heavy torque loads
- 21.2cc engine
- Chrome cylinder for durability
- Ball-bearing mains
- Easy-start primer carburetor
- Automatic centrifugal clutch
- 3-year consumer warranty/6-month commercial warranty
- Optional brush cutter kit available

TITAN®2300

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TITAN



- Special in-line, anti-vibration system
- Solid steel drive shaft reduces vibration while withstanding heavy torque loads
- 25cc engine
- Chrome cylinder for durability
- Ball-bearing mains
- Easy-start primer carburetor
- Automatic centrifugal clutch
- 6-month commercial warranty/3-year consumer warranty
- Optional brush cutter kit available

TITAN 2500AV

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- Powerful 38cc 2-cycle engine
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- The McCulloch TITAN 40 puts powerful, high-tech features to work in a lightweight package.
- 2.3 cubic-inch vertical cylinder engine
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- Anti-vibration system reduces user fatigue
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- Gear-driven automatic oiler
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Includes free carrying case a \$39.95 retail value

\$259⁹⁵

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- Work Gloves



•Let the powerful, yet lightweight, McCulloch Pro Mac™ 3200-14 cut tree trimming and other chores down to size.

- 32cc 2-cycle engine
- Reversible 14" sprocket tip bar and chromed chain for longer life
- Automatic and manual chain oilers provide proper lubrication in all cutting situations
- Hard chrome-plated cylinder provides cooler running for longer engine life
- Wraparound Chain Brake®/Hand Guard reduces the possibility of injury from kickback accidents by stopping chain in milliseconds

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Includes free carrying case a \$39.95 retail value



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Get power and performance at a great price with a McCulloch TITAN®57 Chain Saw.

- 3.5 cubic-inch engine
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- Chain Brake®/Hand Guard and anti-vibration system
- Easy-start electronic ignition
- Professional hard-chrome cylinder bore
- One-year consumer warranty (six-month professional warranty)

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•Professional loggers look to the McCulloch Pro Mac™ 700 to take on the biggest jobs.

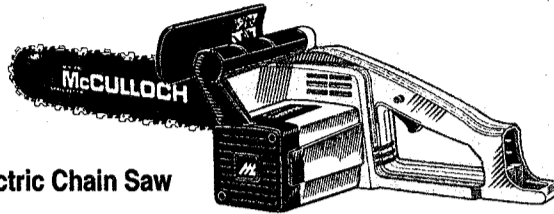
- 70cc engine •20" sprocket tip bar is reversible for twice the life
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- Automatic chain oiler provides proper lubrication in normal cutting situations
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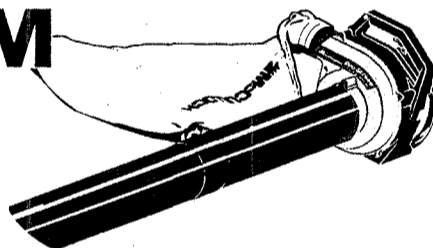
McCulloch Mac-Vac®

- Wide 19" vacuum nozzle sucks up dirt, debris, leaves and lawn clippings
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- Large eight-gallon collection bag is easy to empty
- Two height settings adjust vacuum for all uses

\$109⁹⁵

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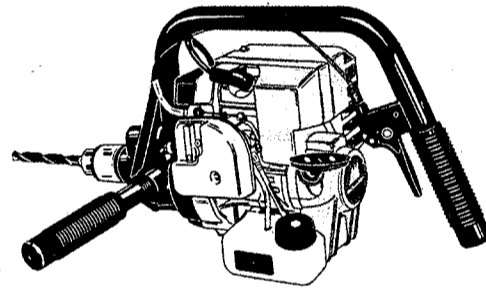


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The McCulloch Pro-Stream™ Blower/Vac is built to meet the demands of lawn-care professionals or homeowners who want professional results, so it will take care of any job you dream up.

- 21.2cc gas engine
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- 11.1-pound unit packs power into a lightweight package
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Community opinions

Re-elected board Trustee David Artley spends a moment with Kevin Shankie, who had been staring at the millage election results, trying to will a victory for the 4-mill increase. With the proposal's defeat, Kevin is considering a move to another district in order to follow his dream: football. (Crier photo by Craig Farrand)



Was millage vote merely a public divorce?

Hello P-C,
Goodnight, P-C schools.

I've seen it happen before, and I don't like watching it happen again: A district struggles with its finances in the face of uncontrollable actions (read: Lansing and property assessments), while at the same time doing battle with its own demon: Credibility.

The result? A crucial millage fails, people start pointing fingers and all indicators show the path to devolution.

Yes, devolution; a move away from progress, and in fact, a true step in reverse.

Now, the truth is that there's no indication whatsoever that the P-C school board has been mismanaging money; in fact, given the unique pressure wrought on every Michigan school district, it's quite impressive to see how some systems find ways to survive.

But therein lies the contradiction: By dealing with the pressures and absorbing most of them over time, districts have effectively isolated the populace from their impact; residents see only open schools and moving buses.

They rarely see how the classes stay open or the buses stay rolling.

So, given time, something is sure to happen to shake this vision: ridiculous assessment increases, murmurs of cutbacks for some difficult-to-understand reason, odd reactions by board members to otherwise reasonable questions from the public.

Whatever it might be — and it's often more than one thing — and soon the public begins to doubt the word of its elected officials; it begins to wonder where all these "surprise" financial problems came from, and wonder — more importantly — why the district can't deal with it.

I mean, surely there's enough money, isn't there?

Such is the situation in P-C today: Some voters, for whatever reason, felt compelled to say no to a tax increase that would have kept the district's programs operating at a 110 per cent.

For some it was certainly a personal wallet question — but for others, and these are the people everyone should think about, it was something else.

It was distrust. It was disbelief. It was annoyance. It was confusion. It was frustration.

In short, it was something that could have been — and should have been — within the realm of the school board and the

Gatekeeping By Craig Farrand



administration to address.

Clearer messages. Clearer and earlier messages. Clearer, earlier and personal messages.

For when you get right down to it, voting is not such an abstract action; it is, instead, a very personal, very emotional act, filled with all the qualities brought to a marriage — or a divorce.

Suspicion. Anxiety. Fear. Caring. Affection. Anger. Frustration.

Just ask Kevin Shankie, a soon-to-be senior at Canton, who was planning on being the starting quarterback for the Chiefs this fall.

Staring at the tote board at millage campaign headquarters Monday night, all he could do was hope and wish and dream of an outcome that would preserve his future here.

But by midnight, those hopes and dreams had evaporated — and instead of talking of a wonderful life in his senior year, he spoke of divorce.

He talked about how he may have to divorce the district to play football elsewhere; to cut his ties with his current sweetheart and learn to love another.

For those who voted no Monday night because they really can't afford the tax increase, bless you; you did the only thing you could do.

But for those of you who voted no because of some imagined wrongs, some hurt feelings, some misunderstanding, remember how you deal with that in the rest of your life:

You talk it out and don't walk away; you try to make it work and don't give up.

Unfortunately, it looks like several thousand of you elected to say farewell instead. Your next concern should be the terms of that divorce.

I guarantee it will be ugly.

The Community Crier



THE
NEWSPAPER
WITH ITS
HEART IN THE
PLYMOUTH-
CANTON COMMUNITY

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