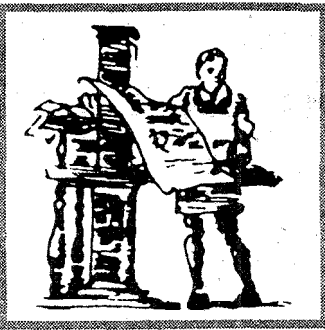


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The Community Crier

Plymouth District Library

The Newspaper with its Heart in The Plymouth Community
223 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48157-0168

Vol. 24 No. 1

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February 5, 1997

Amoco land ready to develop

Gas station site clears environmental hurdles

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

The vacant Amoco gas station on the corner of Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street in downtown Plymouth may be taken off Michigan's environmental clean-up list within six months.

That would clear the way for the development of the valuable property located in the heart of the downtown shopping district.

According to Kent Barry, Amoco spokesperson, December testing results were "generally favorable" placing the property well within state standards.

"If this continues to be the trend for the next six months," he said, "we'll ask that the property be delisted by the state."

Plymouth Downtown Development Authority Director Steve Guile said he met with company officials in January, and will meet with them again in the next few weeks to discuss marketing the property. "It's very encouraging at this point," said Guile. "This year we should have some idea what will happen with that property. The site could be developed a lot sooner than we thought."

Barry said the land could be developed now. "As I've said all along, Amoco has a strong interest in getting that property in a productive situation as quickly as possible," he said.

Guile said the DDA might be interested in buying the land itself. "There are lots of things that could be done with the land because of its position downtown," he said. "It might be a retail store, a park. Obviously, there are ways to configure the property to provide adequate parking."

The property could be developed with public restrooms, Guile said, and a storefront rented out to a retailer by the DDA.

The Amoco property was closed in the 1980s. According to Barry, the company has spent "many hundreds of thousands of dollars" to clean up the land.

Moving violations



There was a traffic jam of geese at Hines Park last weekend as weather warmed up. The "feathered friends" seemed to like the warmth of the blacktop, taking extra time to cross the road. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

'Public safety, quality education top Canton quality of life issues,' says Yack

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

Canton is known for its incredible growth and \$250,000 homes. Canton Supervisor Tom Yack hopes people will think of the community for its improving quality of life as well.

That quality of life will be the focus of Yack's "State of the Township" address today at the Summit on the Park community center at noon. The event is organized by the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

Although quality of life is hard to measure, Yack said peo-



TOM YACK

ple know when it's present in a community.

"We've studied the elements that make up quality of life with the Leadership Canton program," he said. "We've attempted to come up with certain quality-of-life questions. Then we formed a steering committee."

What the committee came up with is striking, said Yack. Two issues dominate Canton residents' thoughts on quality of life: public safety and public education.

Meeting those residents' expectations is Yack's focus for 1997.

Public Safety

"Public safety had another really good year," Yack said. "They've been really innovative working with apartment com-

Please see pg. 3

Presidential

P-C students write to President Clinton with suprising results

See Friends & neighbors pg. 6

Selling history

Former Canton health club to become antique, craft mall

See Getting down to business pg. 8

So close

Salem wrestlers are strong at home, but fall short of first

See Sports pgs. 19-21

2-5-97



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The Community Crier

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Public notices

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a BID for the purchase of miscellaneous furniture and equipment, science equipment, physical education equipment, music equipment, library furniture/equipment, editing equipment and carpet. Specifications and Bid Forms can be obtained from the Purchasing Department, Board of Education Building, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, MI during normal business hours. Bids are due on or before 4:00 P.M. Monday, February 17, 1997. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the School District.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Carrie F. Blamer, Secretary

Publish 2-5-97 and 2-12-97
The Community Crier



LIVING TRUST SEMINAR

How to avoid probate; How to reduce taxes to your heirs; The advantages of a Living Trust; Question and answer session to follow.

Presented by

Paul Leduc
Financial Expert

Registered Representative Sigma Financial Corp.

PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE

Tuesday, February 18th
1 p.m.-3 p.m.

PLYMOUTH CULTURAL CENTER
525 Farmer Plymouth

CANTON

Wednesday, February 19th
1 p.m.-3 p.m.

SUMMIT ON THE PARK
(Canton Seniors)
Summit Parkway
(at Canton Center)

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HOW TO PROTECT YOUR ASSETS FROM THE HIGH COST OF NURSING HOME CARE SEMINAR

PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE

Tuesday, February 25th
1 p.m.-3 p.m.

PLYMOUTH CULTURAL CENTER
525 Farmer Plymouth

CANTON

Wednesday, February 26th
1 p.m.-3 p.m.

SUMMIT ON THE PARK
(Canton Seniors)
Summit Parkway
(at Canton Center)

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School bond vote may make March 22 ballot

BY BRYON MARTIN

At their meeting last night Plymouth-Canton School Board members were expected to call a March 22 election for their proposed bond issue.

About \$80 million would be raised through the ballot proposal to fund construction of a third PCEP high school at the corner of Joy and Beck roads, and a new elementary school to be built somewhere in southwest Canton.

Bond money would also go toward a two-computer-per-classroom goal, and the purchase of land on which the elementary school would be built.

According to John Birchler, executive director of business and operations for P-C Schools, a site for the elementary school has not yet been chosen, and may not be before the scheduled vote.

"It's not terribly uncommon for districts to have a bond vote before property

is selected," Birchler said. Although one hasn't been chosen, "there are areas we're looking into now."

The board could also choose to build the school on one of four parcels it currently owns.

If voters approve the bond, but the district chooses to not buy land for the school, the money levied for land purchase would be shifted to other areas of bond spending, Birchler said.

The board could instead spend the money on any other portion of the bond: high school construction, computers or any area, "within the language of the bond, and the scope of what voters approved" Birchler said.

Any land purchased with bond money would be used for the elementary school; according to Birchler, the land could not be used for future projects.

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Periodicals postage
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Chrysler 'engineers' Twp. move

300 engineers from sport utility group moving to Ann Arbor Rd. location

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

The Howmatt Building in Plymouth Township, 41605 Ann Arbor Rd., has two new tenants.

More than 300 engineers from Chrysler's Jeep/Truck Engineering facility in downtown Detroit will be moving to the Township location to ease overcrowding, according to Chrysler spokesperson Scott Fosgard.

Chrysler will take 78,000 square feet of the 127,000-square-foot facility. The remainder will be used by Roush Industries for engineering.

Fosgard said the Chrysler move will not be permanent. "This will be a temporary overcrowding measure until our Auburn Hills headquarters is complete," he said.

Fosgard said Chrysler has added nearly 1,000 engineers in their Jeep/Truck Engineering department because of the tremendous popularity of sport utility vehicles.

"We've gone from 2,500 to 3,400 engineers there and we've simply run out of room," he said.

Chrysler leased the building for three years, with an option for one to two more years if needed.

Fosgard said the move is expected to take place in April.

Safety, education top 1997 goals for Canton outline in 'State of Twp.'

Continued from pg. 1

plexes and providing a series of training."

The Canton Department of Public Safety also expanded their successful community policing program, working with schools, businesses and neighborhoods.

"It's also been important to us to bring the juvenile offenders back to the 35th District Court," Yack said.

Business, economy and growth

According to Yack, Canton's state equalized value (SEV) rose 115 percent in the past eight years.

"We've had a pretty good boost in property values, too," he said.

The average resale value of a home in Canton is approximately \$150,000, according to Yack, with new homes being built costing as much as \$400,000.

"Last year," he said, "we gained more in SEV than any other community in Wayne County except for Detroit."

Yack also points to commercial and industrial development in Canton. As much as \$200 million in industrial development is planned for the community this year alone.

Recreation

According to Yack, the Summit on the Park community center had more than 300,000 visits last year.

"It's been the center of social and recreational events in the community," he said. "We're going to host the 1997 North American Archery Championship at the Summit this year."

Canton is also preparing to create three new parks this year, including a massive soccer facility.

"Hockey arena discussions are continuing as well," he said.

Canton government

Yack said he's proud that Canton has one of the lowest gov-

Happy birthday, Summit



Checkers the Clown entertained the kids as Canton celebrated the Summit on the Park community center's first birthday. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Canton residents: donuts equal disruption

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Despite traffic, noise and lower property value concerns, the Canton Board of Trustees vote 6-0 to approve special land use for a new Dunkin Donuts restaurant on Geddes Road. Trustee Melissa McLaughlin was absent.

Canton residents said the restaurant does not fit in with the quiet neighborhood. "The drive-through is the number one issue," Henry Moore, a local homeowner said, noting that the restaurant would face the front yards of houses on Geddes Road, at the corner of Michigan Avenue. "We're going to have to look at these lights, and the traffic that goes through it."

Since the design of the donut shop has no on-site cooking facilities, local homeowners also worry about the noise of delivery trucks, which they fear will be

making deliveries late at night or during the restaurant's off hours.

Canton Supervisor Thomas Yack, speaking in defense of the site, said the property ends 235 feet from residential areas, far greater than the 35 feet minimum required by law. "But when it's 2 or 3 a.m., and it's quiet," Moore said, "that 235 feet just shrinks to nothing."

Lower property values was another concern brought up by Moore, who cited a nearby house that changed owners three times in the last five months. Another house has been vacant for two years. He referred to it as: "The house that can't be sold." He suggested other uses for the site, such as a professional office building.

"We have a nice, quiet neighborhood here. We'd like to keep it that way," he said.

ernment employee-to-citizen ratios. That ratio stands at one government employee to every 250 residents.

He also touts the use of technology at the Canton Administration Building as a way the community has streamlined its government.

Cultural

Yack said Canton will continue to investigate the feasibility of incorporating a community theater into the new high school plan.

"The library has a great walk-in program and is on the cutting edge of technology," he said. "Our library has a reputation for using technology and being innovative."

Human Services

Yack said 1997 will be the year the old senior citizens center at the corner of Sheldon Road and Michigan Avenue will be turned into Canton's new Social Service Center.

"It will be a chance for the social service providers in our community to share expenses and come together for some collaborative efforts," he said.

Canton's future is bright, but Yack said there are some hurdles to clear.

Roads, roads, roads

"We're going to unveil a five-year plan that will involve our citizens, government officials and Wayne County," he said. "Our plan will be to knock off projects as funds become available."

Schools

Yack said voters should look carefully at the P-C Schools' bond issue to build new schools.

"A strong school district is an indicator for the quality of life in a community," he said. "If we continue to try and shoe horn all the kids into a facility that's too small, we'll all suffer. We need to be proud of what happens in our schools."

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Canton Supervisor Tom Yack will outline the State of the Township today at noon at the Summit on the Park community center. The annual event is sponsored by the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

WEEKEND

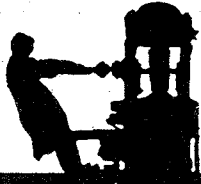
- The Plymouth Historical Museum is preparing for "Love & Lincoln" Friday at 7:30 p.m. at The Plymouth Manor. Donations of \$25 are being accepted for the event. William E. Odom of Ford Motor Credit Company is the master of ceremonies. For reservations, call 455-8940.
- The Red Wing Alumni team faces the Canton Police and Fire union team Friday at 7:30 p.m. at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township. Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased at Canton Fire Station #1 at Cherry Hill and Canton Center roads; Fire Station #2 on Warren Road between Haggerty and Lilley roads; or at Johnson's Family Restaurant at the corner of Ford and Lilley roads. Gordie Howe and Kirk Gibson will be on hand to sign autographs and a raffle will be held.

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Are wedding bells in your future? If so, check The Crier's Bridal Guide in the Feb. 19 issue. It will be full of news and information.



Public notices

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1997

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

Mrs. Massengill moved to approve the minutes as submitted for the January 14, 1997. Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all with Mrs. Mueller abstaining due to her absence.

Mrs. Massengill amended the agenda by changing under Closed Session RE: The tentative agreement between the Township of Plymouth and the Plymouth Township Police Officers Association to read "Negotiations between the Township of Plymouth and the Plymouth Township Police Officers Association". Mrs. Massengill then moved to approve the agenda for the January 28, 1997, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees as amended. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Wayne County Commissioner Thaddeus McCotter addressed the Board reaffirming his commitment to work with Plymouth Township. Trustees Mueller and Curmi expressed to Mr. McCotter their concern for the road conditions.

Mrs. Mueller moved to approve Resolution No. 97-01-28-04 adopting Permit C, to authorize the Township Supervisor to execute the Permit C and to approve the Storm Drain Agreement for Village Cove Subdivision subject to the recommendations of the Township Attorney. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. The entire resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Roll call:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

Ms Arnold moved to approve the Declaration of Restrictions for Village Cove Subdivision subject to the document being revised to reflect the changes recommended by the Township Attorney. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Mr. Curmi moved to approve the Final Plat Application No. 1333C/1096 for Village Cove Subdivision, located north of Wilcox Road, west of Shadywood Drive, east of Edward Hines Drive, subject to the provision of financial guarantees in the form of cash or irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of \$34,275 as recommended by the Township Engineer. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Griffith moved to approve the modification to reduce the number of units from 58 to 55 for Mallard's Pond located at the southeast corner of Ann Arbor Road and Hillcrest Drive. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Ms. Arnold moved to approve Application No. 1409A/1096 Tentative Preliminary Plat, for Woodlore South Subdivision located on the east side of Beck Road, north of Joy Road and west of Westbriar Subdivision No. 1 subject to the recommendation of the Planning Commission that the Rockledge connection issue be considered an outstanding issue to be resolved prior to the approval of the Final Preliminary Plat. Seconded by Mrs. Mueller. Ayes all with Mr. Edwards voting no.

Mr. Curmi moved to establish February 11, 1997, for the public hearing concerning the Community Development Block Grant funds for 1997. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Mueller moved to approve Resolution No. 97-01-28-05 amending Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for Rowe Thomas Company from \$2,536,285.00 to \$2,601,959.00. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. The entire resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Roll call:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

Mr. Edwards moved that February 25, 1997, be established for Public Hearing on the request from DeMattia Development Company that the 16 acres located on the south side of Five Mile Road and adjacent to Metro West Industrial Park be classified as an Industrial Development District. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved that February 25, 1997, be established for Public Hearing on the request from Demattia Development Company that the 16 acres located on the south side of Five Mile Road and adjacent to Metro West industrial Park be classified as an Industrial Development District. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Mr. Edwards moved to authorize the purchase of radios and support equipment from Bear Communications at a cost of nine thousand three hundred sixty-six dollars; and the purchase of programming services from Mobile Communications Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed five thousand five hundred dollars. The above expenditures will facilitate the transfer of Plymouth Community Fire Department radio combinations to a new frequency. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Curmi moved to approve Resolution No. 97-01-28-06 authorizing the establishment of a custodial account and life insurance transfer authorization. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. The entire resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Roll call:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

Ms. Arnold moved to approve Resolution No. 97-01-28-07 to create a special revenue fund to account for 911 Revenue as required by state statute and further moved to approve Resolution No. 97-1-28-08 which is the 1997 Budget for the 911 Special Revenue Fund. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. The entire resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Roll call:

Ayes: Arnold, Curmi, Griffith, Mueller, Edwards, Massengill, Keen-McCarthy
Nays: None
Resolution declared adopted.

Mrs. Mueller moved to approve Change Order No. 1 for the 1996 Paving at the Plymouth Township Recreational Park in the amount of \$41,578.85 to bring the new contract total to \$354,185.45 and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute same. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Massengill moved to authorize the engineering firm of Orchard, Hiltz & McCliment, Inc. to prepare plans showing the improvement, location and estimate of cost for the paving of Dunn Court for a cost not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) The scope of work for the above shall include: the procurement of soil borings from a qualified agent; preliminary field shots and necessary field review; prepare preliminary cost estimates; and any and all activities needed to proceed with the public hearing of necessity. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Mueller moved to adopt Resolution No. 97-01-28-09 authorizing Township Supervisor to sign Wayne County "C" Permit and approve Storm Drain Agreement with land owner and authorize Township Supervisor and Clerk to execute same. Seconded by Ms. Arnold The entire resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Roll call:

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

Resolution declared adopted.

Chief Carl Berry gave a report regarding the Johnson Controls Inc./UAW strikers.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy updated the Board members concerning the Inter-County Drainage District.

Trustee Arnold requested the total dollar amount collected on false alarms.

Clerk Massengill asked for an update regarding the towing contract.

Treasurer Edwards asked if there were any particular businesses causing most of the false alarms.

Clerk Massengill asked if the Police Department renovation is on schedule.

Mr. Kevin Lambert addressed the Board stating his concerns after reading an article in the newspaper relating to Country Club Village AKA, Country Acres. He asked Board Members to carefully look at this development and ensure that the size and price range of these homes will be comparable to the size and price range of other subdivision homes in that area of Plymouth Township.

Ms. Arnold moved to receive and file communications and reports as listed. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

CLOSED SESSION

At 9:00 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Massengill and seconded by Ms. Arnold that a closed session be called for the purpose of discussing:

RE: Negotiations between the Township of Plymouth and the Plymouth Township Police Officers Association
and
Plymouth Township VS Eastridge (Fox Pointe)
Plymouth Township VS Tartaglia
Wayne County VS Plymouth Township (County Jail Charges)
Plymouth Township VS Ciecierski

This is a permissible purpose under Michigan's Open Meeting Act. Public Act No. 267 of 1967, as amended by Act No. 256 of 1978 Article 15.268, Section 8, Paragraphs (c) and (e)

Roll call:

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

At 10:54 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Arnold and seconded by Mr. Griffith to return to open session.

Roll call:

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

No action was taken.

It was moved by Mrs. Massengill and seconded by Mr. Griffith to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 p.m. Ayes all.

Marilyn Massengill, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Supervisor
Charter Township of Plymouth

The foregoing is a synopsis of the Board of Trustees meeting held on January 29, 1997. 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 February 11, 1997.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: 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 all Township Meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the Meetings/Hearings upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the following: Supervisor's Office, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number: (313) 453-3840 x 200. TDD users: 1-800-649-3777. (Michigan Relay Services)

Publish: February 5, 1997
The Community Crier

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- *How did it come into existence?*

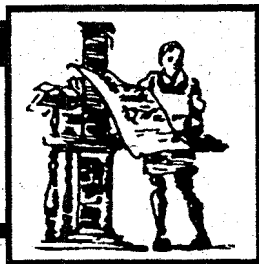
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Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Navy Seaman Recruit **Timothy J. Sully**, son of **Kathleen and Bernard Sully** of Canton, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL.

Along with his co-recruits, Sully studied a variety of standard naval classes, customs and values.

He is a 1995 graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School.

Air Force Airman **William J. Kazaleh**, son of **Nabeel and Margaret Kazaleh**, of Plymouth, has graduated from basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX.

During his six weeks of general Air Force studies and physical training, Kazaleh also completed a special program in human relations.

He is a 1995 graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School.

A list of achievements and awards recently conferred on students at Albion College included members of The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community:

English junior **Emily D'Andrea**, daughter of **Mary Garen** of Plymouth, was recently elected to the presidency of Albion College's chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

Sophomore **Claire Walton**, daughter of **Edward and Martha Walton** of Plymouth, was named to the dean's list for the 1996 fall semester.

Dean's list membership requires a 3.5 grade point average (GPA) for one semester.

History junior **Lindsay Johnson**, daughter of **Carlton and Phyllis Johnson** of Plymouth, has been simultaneously named an Albion College Fellow, and a member of the dean's list for the 1996 fall semester.

Fellowship requires at least a 3.7 GPA for three consecutive semesters.

Richard Teeple of Plymouth will be among the State's top ice carvers to compete in the 1997 Great Lakes Professional Ice Carver's Sculpting Classic, at Zehnder's Snowfest in Frankenmuth.

Winners from among the 16 two-person teams will represent Michigan at the 1997 National Championships in Fairbanks, AK.

President Clinton's response letters make P-C students feel important

BY BRYON MARTIN

The metaphor may be getting rusty from overexposure, but President Bill Clinton's office has shown that even the small supporters are important in the architecture of his "bridge to the future."

Letters back to Plymouth-Canton students who wrote to the president in December 1996 brought surprise, and a feeling of importance to people who won't vote for years to come.

Class project

As part of their current events studies, students in Deborah Barnett's third grade class followed the presidential election last fall.

They learned about the electoral college, and absentee ballots. On election day when their gym at Eriksson Elementary was used as a voting precinct, they visited the voting booths. And when Bill Clinton won the race, Barnett explained the significance of the reelection.

To wrap up their election studies, Barnett had the class write a letter to the president congratulating him on his victory.

"I didn't make a big deal out of it," Barnett said. "I just gave them a basic format to follow, a way to say congratulations. At best I thought maybe we'd get a letter back from a secretary or someone similar; I didn't want to get their hopes up."

So when a large manila envelope arrived first-class a few weeks later, return address marked, "White House, Washington," Barnett and her class were curious.

Inside, not only was there a letter to Barnett, but one to the students, a Clinton poster for the classroom and stickers for each of the 26 students, reading, "I wrote a letter to the President and he wrote me back."

"The kids were thrilled. They couldn't believe it," Barnett said.

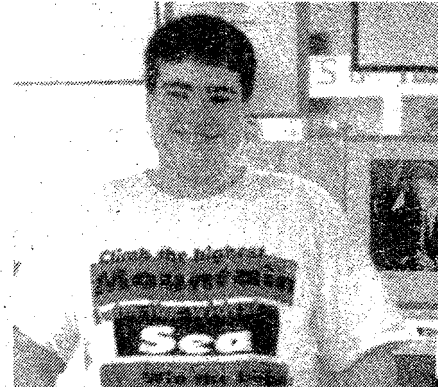
Students took turns proudly taking the letter home to show parents and siblings.

The package also included booklets about the presidency and legislature for Barnett to use in teaching future government units.

Clinton's office had seemed to express an interest in the students equal to their interest in him: Each student had asked questions or made suggestion for the upcoming term in their letters.

Comments were wide-ranging from Torrey's, "How many doors are there in the White House;" to Matt's "How old were you when you first wanted to be president?"

Jordan, Meg and several others asked for efforts to stop drug use and production, their zeal best represented by Jim's



Justin Sondergaard's portrait of President Bill Clinton won him praise from teachers, students...and the president himself. (Crier photo by Bryon Martin)

admonishment to change the name of Arbor Drugs to "Arbor Pills."

Although Clinton's letter back did not respond to individual questions, Barnett said the thank-you was more than expected, and inspired plans for future correspondence.

Barnett and colleagues are "all planning to write letters every February for President's day," she said. "It's a good way to keep the kids interested and informed."

Presidential portrait

In Jane Beaudoin's second-hour art class students were assigned a "half-art" portrait: they had to copy a frontal picture of a face from a magazine and vertically cut it in half. They then pasted down the remaining half on paper, and then completed the portrait by drawing the missing half of the face.

Most kids chose movie stars, or people from ads, Beaudoin said. Justin chose a shot of Clinton from a Newsweek cover.

"Originally I picked Michael Jordan," he said, but the picture didn't work for the assignment. "So I had to use the president instead."

Lucky thing he did.

"It turned out great," Beaudoin said, indicating that the portrait's detail was nearly photographic.

She put Justin's portrait in a hallway showcase where passing teachers and classmates remarked at its quality.

All the praise got Beaudoin to thinking. "I told him, 'This is so awesome you should send it to the president,'" she said. "Art is for show. You make it to share it, not to stick it under your couch."

Justin agreed, but first wanted to run it by his par-

ents, who voted for Dole. "They thought it was a good idea," he said, "but they asked why I couldn't have drawn someone better."

Beaudoin helped Justin write a letter to accompany the portrait, before Justin's dad sent the package off to Washington.

About a month later, Clinton's office sent Justin a package of his own.

Another manila envelope, this one with a photo of the president, and a letter that read: "Dear Justin, Thank you for sharing your wonderful artwork with me. I appreciate your hard work and creativity. Young people like you are the future of our country, and I am honored to be your president."

"I was like, 'Yes!'" Beaudoin said, pumping one arm for emphasis. "It was really exciting to see him get such a nice, personal letter."

Justin's response was more low-key: "It's pretty cool. I never expected to get a letter and a picture."

And to think he was going to do a portrait of Michael Jordan instead. Even his GOParents thought the letter was a nice, for a Democrat.

The only disappointing aspect of Justin's experience — he lost the portrait.

"I was like, 'No,'" Beaudoin said, shaking her head. "Next time I'll make a copy before I mail anything."

As a political portrait artist, there might not be a next time for Justin. He said he plans to stick with art and will enroll in art classes when he heads to Salem next fall, but he prefers to draw cartoons. And while political cartoonists get to draw plenty of presidents, the thank you letters tend to come less often.

Calling number 885



At Saturday night's drawing for the Northfield Sportsman's Association Karen Eppinger drew ticket 885. A loud uproar ensued when everyone realized the ticket had been randomly purchased by Robert Costanza, co-owner of Station 885. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)



Sports

Sports shorts

The Canton volleyball team placed second at the Romulus Invitational Saturday. Canton lost to Edsel Ford in the finals after defeating them earlier in pool play. Canton went 5-1 for the day in matches and 10-3 in games. The Chiefs closed out the tourney with a 29-5-2 overall record.

Canton went 6-0 in pool play. In the semifinals, Canton faced perennial Class B power Redford Thurston. The Chiefs won, 14-16, 15-13, 15-10. That set up the Chiefs' showdown with Edsel Ford, who defeated Canton, 2-15, 15-13, 15-2.

Nikki Kovachevich led Canton with 41 digs and 34 assists. Jessica Orleman had 65 digs; Donna Logsdon had 51 kills; Courtney Wells recorded 51 assists; Jenny Sikora had 50 digs and Stephanie Chefan had 39 kills.

The Plymouth-Canton Junior Basketball Association Standings:

Girls B League — Bulls are 6-1; Kings and Pistons are in second at 4-3; the Magic is 3-4; and the Lakers and Celtics are tied for fourth at 2-5.

Boys B League National — Pistons lead the way with a 6-1 record. The Lakers are close behind at 5-2. The Bulls, Pacers and Sonics are 4-3. The Celtics are alone in fourth place at 3-4. The Bucks are 2-5 and the Knicks are 1-6.

Boys B League American — The Hawks are in first at 6-1. The Magic are one game back at 5-2. The Rockets and Spurs are tied at 4-3. The Jazz are 3-4, and the Nets and 76ers are deadlocked at 2-5. The Kings are 1-6.

Canton High School graduate Kim Berres is a sophomore on the University of Illinois gymnastics team. The Fighting Illini are 4-1 after defeating Illinois-Chicago with a season-high 191.525 points compared to the Flames 189.475.

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department is offering a trip to the Old World Canterbury Village in the Lake Orion area. The cost is \$33 for City residents and \$34 for non-City residents. The trip includes shopping, lunch at King's Court Restaurant and a visit to the Somerset Collection. For more information, call 455-6620.

Rocks second to one

Host Salem runner-up in local wrestling meet

BY BRIAN CORBETT

The Salem wrestling team has played like a Las Vegas gambler this season: rich with success one day, poor in performance the next.

They just missed the jackpot Saturday, finishing second at the tournament they hosted. The Rocks finished just six points behind Livonia Stevenson.

"So far this season we've wrestled like a million bucks one match, and 25 cents the next. (On Saturday) we didn't do either. We were probably closer to the million bucks. So hopefully, we're ready for (this Saturday), and we'll wrestle like a million bucks," said Salem coach Ron Krueger.

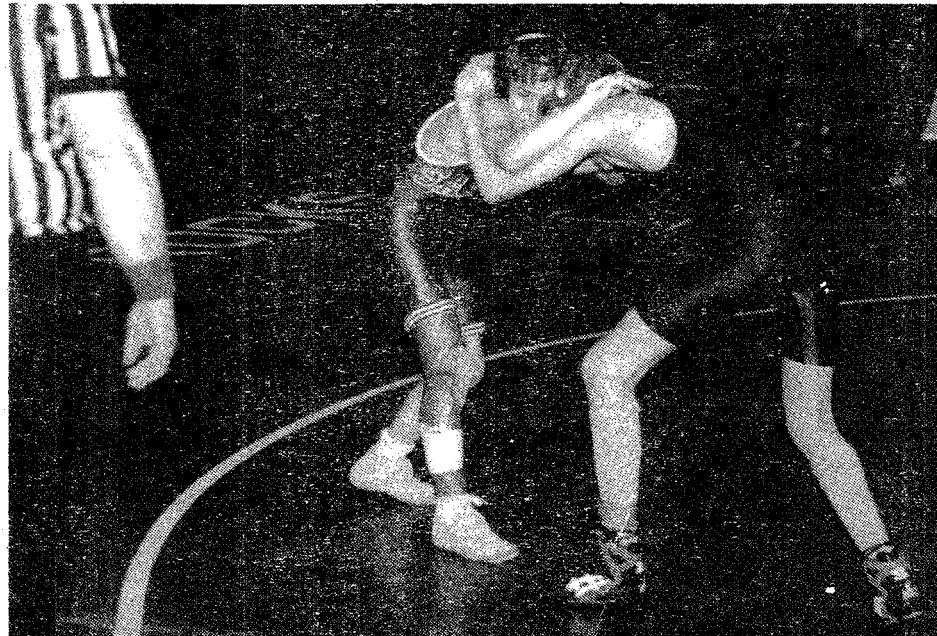
The jackpot is the Western Lakes Activities Association championship and trophy. The Rocks are hoping to trump the hands dealt by conference favorites Walled Lake Central, John Glenn and Stevenson.

Krueger is optimistic. "We've been in some really tough competition this year, and we've done really well. When you have a background like that, and it gets down to crunch, they're used to it," Krueger said.

Salem fared well against WLAA competitors Saturday. As the host, Salem finished ahead of John Glenn, Farmington, Canton, Livonia Churchill, Farmington Hills Harrison and North Farmington.

At 119 lbs., Eric Coburn gave the Rocks one of their two first-place finishes. Salem's strong performance at the lighter weights continued with 103-pound John Mervyn (fourth place) and 112-pound Dan Morgan (sixth place).

Josh Henderson (125 lbs.) and Sam Boyd (130 lbs.) placed eighth and seventh respectively. James Greene had an outstanding outing at 135 lbs. "He did a nice job. He pinned everybody on the day —



Salem just missed winning the wrestling invitational it hosted over the weekend. Conference foe Livonia Stevenson finished six points ahead of the Rocks and won the tourney. The teams will meet again at the conference tourney this Saturday. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

even in the finals," said Krueger.

At 140 lbs., Dan Hamblin, who has battled through an injury-plagued season with a separated shoulder and a cauliflower ear, took second place.

Jeremy Wolschlagier at 145 lbs. was second.

Anwar Crutchfield (152 lbs.) was seeded first, but slipped to third. Mike Poppenev (160 lbs.) grabbed sixth and Jason Dedoun (171 lbs.) placed fifth, exceeding his expectations for the day. "He wasn't seeded, and he won his first match of his career. Then he won his second, and then he won his third," said Krueger.

Teono Wilson finished fourth at 189

lbs. "We hoped he was going to do a little better than that, but it was a tough weight class," said Krueger.

The Rocks didn't place at 215 lbs. Stevenson, who tied Salem in dual competition and finished ahead of the Rocks in every tournament, benefited from a few upsets.

"We had so many kids that didn't place. If one of them would've placed, we would've won," Krueger said.

But Krueger, never one to contemplate the past, turned the second-place finish into a learning experience. "That was sort of the norm, and we didn't perform to what our expectations are, so maybe we can learn from this," he said.

Chiefs top Rocks in hoops action

You can throw out the records every time Canton and Salem meet in basketball. The heated rivalry is played more on emotion and adrenalin than skill and reality.

But when you add to that the parity in the Western Lakes Activities Association, the only safe predication to make is that there'll be a winner and a loser.

Canton was the former and Salem the latter in last week's showdown at the PCEP. The outcome dropped Salem to 9-3 overall and 4-2 in conference, and improved Canton to 8-4, 4-2. Not sparkling records, but both teams are in second place in their respective divisions. Canton and Salem then went on to Friday night — the Chiefs defeating Northville, 64-48, and the Rocks' powerful offense took care of John Glenn, 85-72.

That firepower was extinguished by the Canton defense, and was the primary factor in the Chiefs' win. "Their defense and our inability on offense (are why we lost)," said Salem coach Bob Brodie.

"We played well," said Canton coach Dan Young. "Bob Brodie runs a good program. They have a good team, and he does a good job coaching. We were just happy with our effort."

Most noticeably, the defense shined. Salem came into the game averaging 72 points a game. "We held them to 47, so that's great," Young said.

Jeff McKian led the Rocks with 14 points and six rebounds. Canton was without Dante Scott, who injured a knee in a previous game, but the Chiefs still jumped out to a 14-13 lead in the first quarter. Canton widened the margin to eight by halftime, as Salem scored just six points in the second quarter. Canton held on to that lead through the third.

"We pulled away at the end, they tried to pick up the tempo a little bit, and we scored going the other way," said Young.

"Our three-pint shooting was atrocious," said Brodie. "I think Canton came in better-prepared."

While each team had 18 field goals, Salem went to the line just nine times compared to Canton's 19. The Rock's potent transition game was held to just four baskets. "They out-hustled us; they just outplayed us in every phase of the game," Brodie said. "They put tremendous pressure on the basketball and we panicked a bit."

"We fell good. We played well. It's a fun game. We always look forward to playing them," said Young.



Sports

Whalers lose 2 of 3 during (rocky) road trip

The Detroit Whalers dropped two of three games during a road trip through central Ontario last weekend.

The 5-4 win at Barrie and losses to Belleville and Oshawa gives Detroit a record of 21-25-5 after 51 games. The Whalers are in fourth place in the OHL's West Division.

In the road-trip opener in Barrie, the Whalers took a 1-0 lead at 9:41 on a goal by Eric Gooldy, his fifth of the season. Randy Fitzgerald and Harold Druken assisted.

Druken put the Whalers up 2-0 at 12:37; Gooldy assisted. The Colts scored at 18:13, but before the first period was over, Druken had three points, assisting on a Fitzgerald goal at 14:51 with Gooldy. Detroit led, 3-1.

Steve Wasylko scored early in the second period from Mark Cadotte, and the

Whalers led, 4-1.

A power play goal midway through the second period by Andrew Taylor put Detroit up, 5-1. The Whalers held on to to win after the Colts scored three goals to close within one, the last goal coming at 19:27 of the third.

Detroit ran into some angry Bulls the next night in Belleville.

Detroit goalie Robert Esche had been pulled from the net and the Bulls led 3-0 early in the third before Cadotte scored on the power play from Julian Smith and Sergei Fedotov.

Belleville scored less than three minutes later to lead, 4-1, before Druken scored at 4:29 to close the gap to two goals once again. The Bulls secured the victory with a goal at 18:26.

In the third game in three nights, Detroit scored all of its goals on the

power play, but it wasn't enough to overcome Oshawa, who used special teams to take an early first-period lead.

Marty Woolford scored for the Generals at 7:30 of the opening period. Then teammates Ian MacNeil and Ryan Lindsay closed out the period scoring shorthanded and on the power play, respectively.

Detroit's lone first period goal went to Wasylko, who scored his 19th of the season from Julian Smith and Fedotov.

After the Generals scored on an even strength goal at 13:43 of the third, defenseman Bryan McKinney scored on the power play at 14:41; Fedotov and Taylor assisted.

John Tripp scored for Oshawa at 4:19 of the third period, and gave the Generals

a comfortable 5-2 lead. Taylor completed the game's scoring when he beat goaltender Tyrone Garner at 14:26 from Wasylko and Cadotte.

Oshawa's Dan Hinote was off for tripping.

Chatter...

Druken became the second Whaler this season to win OHL "Player of the Week" honors. Goalie Robert Esche won the award Jan. 21. Druken, an 18-year-old native of St. John's Newfoundland, lead the Whalers to an undefeated week by recording four goals and five assists for nine points.

Druken, who is eligible for this summer's NHL entry draft, has 17 goals, 23 assists and 14 penalty minutes this season.



The Belleville Bulls gave Detroit one of its two losses over the weekend. Detroit returned from the road trip in fourth place, two points behind Windsor. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Compuware Arena hosts Red Wings Alumni Friday

The Red Wing Alumni team will be in Plymouth to play the Canton Police and Fire union teams this Friday at 7:30 p.m. All proceeds from the game will benefit University of Michigan Mott Children's Hospital Child Life Program and the Canton Firefighters #2289 charity foundation.

Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased at Fire Station #1 at Cherry Hill and Capton Center roads; Fire Station #2 on Warren Road between Haggerty and Lilley roads; or Johnson's Restaurant at the corner of Ford and Lilley roads.

In addition to the special appearance by Gordie Howe and his wife Colleen, 1984 ALCS MVP and Detroit Tiger Kirk Gibson will also appear, as will

Howe's son, Murray.

Raffle items include a pair of Olympia seats, autographed by Howe and Delvecchio; a Howe autographed jersey; and a Gibson autographed jersey.

The top three bidders will be given a chance to skate with the Canton police and fire team against the Red Wing alumni team, which is scheduled to also include Jimmy Peters, Nick Libbet, Dennis Hextall and Gary Bergman, just to name a few.

A Mr. Hockey poster autographed by Howe and the book "And... Howe:" signed by the Howes are also being offered. For more information, call fire station #1 at 981-1113 or #2 at 453-4114.

WHALER WATCH

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OHL STANDINGS					
East Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
Ottawa	37	9	4	6-3-1	78
Oshawa	31	13	5	9-0-1	67
Peterborough	29	19	2	8-2-0	58
Kingston	17	25	6	4-5-1	40
Belleville	15	27	7	3-5-2	37
North Bay	12	38	6	4-4-2	30
Central Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
Kitchener	27	17	6	4-3-3	60
Guelph	27	18	4	5-4-1	58
Barrie	24	20	8	3-3-4	56
Owen Sound	24	21	1	3-7-0	49
Erie	15	29	5	4-4-2	37
Sudbury	14	26	4	3-6-1	34
West Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
S.S.Marie	28	15	8	5-5-0	64
Sarnia	28	16	5	7-2-1	57
Windsor	21	21	7	6-3-1	49
DETROIT	21	25	5	7-2-1	47
London	9	40	1	1-9-0	17

WHALERS STATISTICS		
Season leaders:		
Goals-Taylor (25)		
Points-Taylor (53)		
Penalty Minutes-Boulerice (209)		
Power Play Goals-Taylor (10)		
Shorthanded Goals-Taylor, Cadotte (2)		
Game Winning Goals-Taylor (4)		
Plus/minus-Rioux, Druken (+6)		
Team stats:		
Power play-48 for 254, 20.9%, 12th OHL		
Penalty killing-48 for 278, 84.2%, 2nd OHL		
CATCH OF THE DAY:		
Who?	When?	Where?
Erie	Thurs. 7:30	away
Sarnia	Sat. 7:30	home
Windsor	Sun. 6:00	home
Sarnia	2-12-97 7:30	home

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Canton grapplers take 8th at tourney

BY BRIAN CORBETT

An eighth-place finish at the tournament Saturday at Salem was good preparation for Canton's crossover match versus Churchill tomorrow.

But the Chiefs wrestling team is preparing for life, also.

Led by Rob Lentz, the Chiefs' 27-member team has 17 members with a 3.0 grade point average or above.

Lentz, who placed seventh in his weight class Saturday, has a 4.1.

It is a tremendous commitment to combine books and brawn, said coach Ernie Krumm.

"We finished above everyone we probably should've," Krumm said of Saturday's tournament.

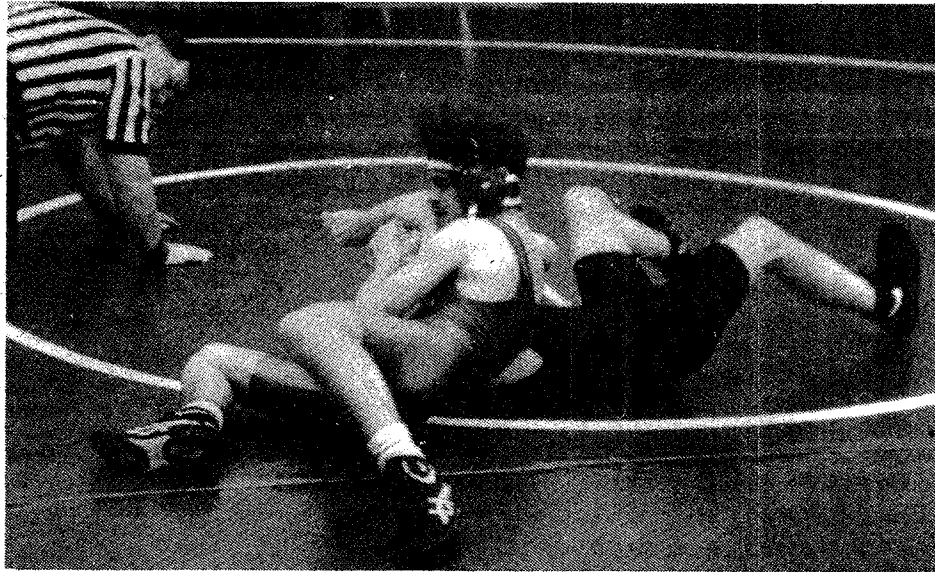
"Overall, we did a pretty good job; we had some kids place."

Derek Rumrill (125 lbs.), who has been one of the Chiefs' top wrestlers all season, was seeded fifth, but took third. "That was a nice day for him," said Krumm.

At 112 lbs, Vince St. Louis finished fourth while bringing a unique aspect to the mat.

"He's a senior that has some Judo experience, so he's really solid on his feet," said Krumm.

Brent Buttermore (130 lbs.) finished where he was seeded — fifth place. Kevin Stone (135 lbs.) lost his last match,



Going for the pin: 1-2... Canton took eighth place during the wrestling tournament at Salem Saturday. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

3-1, in overtime and took fourth. "He finished where he was expected to, but he had a chance to do better," said Krumm.

At 140 lbs. Brian Musser placed eighth and continued his season-long improvement.

"He's a solid wrestler. He's just a little off from being really good. He never gets dominated," said Krumm.

Brothers Jim (145 lbs.) and Dan (152 lbs.) Shelton, and Josh Pinion (171 lbs.)

also wrestled well in the tourney. Brian Sinshco (215 lbs.) dominated several matches before he was caught and pinned. He placed eighth.

Canton has been running in the middle of the pack all season, but Krumm said he is hoping his team can pull off the upset tomorrow at John Glenn, and gain momentum for the post-season.

"There's more in it for us than there is for John Glenn," said Krumm.

Chief tankers beat Franklin; go for West Division title tomorrow vs. Northville

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Talk about getting off on the wrong foot, or in the case of the Canton swim team, the wrong stroke.

The Chiefs have rebounded from early season dual-meet losses to Salem and Ann Arbor Huron to pull above .500. No longer in the wake of conference leaders, Canton (3-2) is looking to tomorrow's dual meet with Northville as the battle for the West Division crown.

"Northville will be for the division championship," said Canton coach Kyle Lott. "It's a little too early to say, I guess, but it really is the toughest meet we have left."

Besides dual meets versus Livonia Churchill and the Walled Lake schools, Canton will take part in the MISCA tournament before post-season play begins.

The Chiefs gave themselves a chance at the West title by stringing together wins

versus Farmington Hills Harrison, Livonia Stevenson and, most recently, an impressive victory over Livonia Franklin. "We swam really well," said Lott. "We swam a pretty good lineup, but not our best lineup."

While a solid team effort has been the primary reason for the Chiefs' resurgence, a few individual performances have lifted Canton into the upper echelon of the WLAA. Namely, Dave Schacht, who swims the 200 and 500 freestyle races. "He's dropped his times dramatically. He's become a factor at the conference level," said Lott.

Sophomore sensation Alex Rottgers has also been a team leader. "He was our best swimmer last season, and he's come along very nicely this season. He's going really well right now," Lott said.

Curtis Warnich and Donnie LeClair add to the strong sophomore class. That provides a bright future for Lott, if not immediate success. "We've got some pretty great seniors. But we've got some young kids who, in a couple of years, are going to be competing at the state level," Lott said. Senior Rob Brooks is one of the upperclassmen sprinkled into the mix. His 265-point diving performance versus Harrison made waves around the WLAA swimming circuit.

"He's doing tremendously," said Lott. "He's one of the area's top scorers." Performances such as these will be great for reflection, but Lott knows there's still a lot to play for. "Against Northville, we'll find out if we've got it or not," he said.

Home (not so) sweet home for Canton, Salem gymnasts

BY BRIAN CORBETT

It certainly wasn't a typical gymnastics meet at the PCEP.

The Canton Invitational was held Saturday, and the home teams, typically two of the best in the state, were nearly excluded from the top 10.

Canton finished 10th with 133.80, and Salem, competing without some of its gymnasts who were excused for a field trip, was 16th with 127.40. Northville-Novii won the 17-team tournament with 146.25.

"We did very well," said Canton coach John Cunningham. "It's a little different in the matter of thinking from 10th place, but performance-wise I was really pleased with the kids. And they were happy."

Canton's Marcie Emerick took eighth place on the vault, and teammate Nicole Vaagenes scored 8.4 on the bars and placed eighth. "They were the only top 10 finishers, but we had some nice scores," said Cunningham. "We had a decent meet."

Liz Fitzgerald and Holly Graham had excellent routines also, Cunningham said. "It's a step in the right direction. We're doing what I had expected us to do, at this time of the season. We're going to have another test Saturday at Freeland."

Salem will be there too, looking to improve on their second-to-last-place finish Saturday. It wasn't all bad news though. Kristan Kosik scored a 9.1 on the vault and placed fourth. She was also fourth on the vault with the same score.

The Rocks were ranked ninth in the state prior to the Canton Invitational.

On deck

SALEM BASKETBALL

Friday at Stevenson, and Tuesday at Franklin. Varsity games begin at 7:15 p.m.

SALEM BOYS SWIMMING

Tomorrow at home versus Stevenson at 7 p.m. Saturday at the 9/10 Dexter Invitational

SALEM WRESTLING

Tomorrow at Churchill at 6:30 p.m. Saturday Conference meet at Walled Lake Central.

SALEM GYMNASTICS

Saturday at the Freeland Invitational at 9 a.m. Monday versus the Farmington Schools at 7 p.m.

SALEM VOLLEYBALL

Tonight at home versus Franklin; Saturday at the Monroe JV Invitational and Monday at home versus Canton at 6 p.m. Varsity follows immediately after listed JV times.

CANTON BASKETBALL

Friday at home versus Harrison at 7:15 p.m., and Tuesday at home versus John Glenn at 7:15 p.m.

CANTON BOYS SWIMMING

Saturday at the 9/10 Dexter Invitational.

CANTON WRESTLING

Thursday at home versus John Glenn at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the WLLA conference meet at Walled Lake Central.

CANTON GYMNASTICS

Tonight at home versus Walled Lake and Saturday at the Freeland Invitational at 9 a.m.

CANTON VOLLEYBALL

Tonight at Churchill; Saturday at the Romulus Invitational at 7:30 a.m. JV begins at 6 p.m.



Community opinions

May the (art) force be with you

The 1977 George Lucas classic "Star Wars" has been rereleased at theaters nationwide. Although I've not been to see it yet, there are elements from the film that I see from day to day.

Last Friday I was invited to a meeting of the Alliance for the Arts. A group dedicated to promoting "the cultural strengths of our communities," they seek to bring together both the visual and performing arts groups in our neighborhood.

Gene Hammonds, Tom Yack, Mike Ager, Luan Brownlee, Debbie Madonna, Janet Warrick, Carol Stone and myself were witness to a bit of Lucas' *force*. Star Wars' storyline revolves around the power of good and evil, naming the power that connects all life, the *force*. It is something that the characters reference tapping into when they need guidance, or strength.

The two halves of good and evil in the film are the Empire, and the Rebel

The Abstract

By Stephanie Everitt-Kirkbride



Alliance. In my story there is an alliance as well. Even though my characters are not a faction breaking off from an evil dictatorship, they are battling funds being cut — at both the state and national level, and a community of people ignorant of the *force*.

Frankly speaking, the majority of both new and seasoned members of our Community are ignorant to what arts programs and groups are available to them.

The Alliance wants to bring the non-profit visual and performing arts groups of The P-C-N Community together to share resources and a voice. The group plans to coordinate and publish a community arts calendar that will list the groups, their

mission statements, locations, and activities occurring throughout the year.

I was proud to be included in the formation of such a worthwhile group, and excited about the possibilities that might blossom from it.

In my world, there is a force, a strong one that I witnessed at my meeting, and in many places thereafter.

You can escape "the Dark Side" by listening a little more closely for the notes of a concert in the park, watching your doorstep for the community arts calendar to arrive and speaking up and asking where your child can audition for a play. May the force be with you *everyday*.

'One-year schools' lack basic cohesiveness

EDITOR:

Recently a letter was published from my long time friend and treasured colleague on the Plymouth-Canton School Board, Dean Swartzwelter, regarding the problems of student overcrowding at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Much as I dislike disagreeing with a friend, I must question some of his observations and his proposed solution.

The idea of a "one-year school" in the secondary school years has been tried and found seriously lacking. Yes, right here in Plymouth-Canton. I do not recall with certainty, but I do not believe Dean lived here when as a part of the transition from the old high school to the PCEP we had all the ninth grades in what we now know as Central Middle School. It was a disaster. I remember well because we had a daughter in that school, that year.

There was almost no curriculum articulation between the schools housing grades seven and eight and the ninth grade at Central. Apparently, everyone felt we could just treat it like an entryway to the high school and wait for the high school to do the articulation. It did not work. Many, perhaps most, faculty saw this school as a waiting place until they could get to the high school. The students saw the school as a place where they were being stored awaiting high school. They lacked school spirit, commitment, faith in the program and interest in extra-curricular activities such as sports, music and the like. Those activities which got some student participation frequently showed lacks luster performance with little enthusiasm for what was being done. The kids often said, "It's not my school."

Faculty, staff and student acquaintance cooperation and cohesiveness did not occur. Would these matters have gotten better if the school had operated this way three, or more years? Perhaps so, probably not. The temporary

arrangement would always plague such a school. Do we dare ignore what we should have learned from our own ill-started experiment?

The assumption that if we build a third high school we will soon be over built and have a tragic surplus of space is badly overdrawn. Many of the spaces built into Salem a relatively short time ago have had to be refurbished and still do not fit the new curricula. The homes being built in Plymouth Township and Canton today are often not the kind of homes that young new families seek. They are more the kind of homes that would be built by families with children the age for middle or high schools. A third high school must be built soon or the overcrowding at the Park will become a serious constraint on quality.

The citizen pressure to put any additional high school space elsewhere has come most directly from a common belief that vehicle traffic around and in the PCEP is as bad or worse than the crowded halls within. If this be true, putting another building on that site would simply ignore or defy such concerns and compound the problem.

This letter is no doubt too long already, however I must make one final plea that we not be deluded into thinking we can find a cheap solution to the crowding problem now and guarantee quality education. Our kids do well in high school and in college. We should give them the facilities to keep it up.

With appropriate apologies to Dean.
E.J. McCLENDON

Write a letter to the editor

821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170

The Community Crier

THE
NEWSPAPER
WITH ITS
HEART IN THE
PLYMOUTH-
CANTON
COMMUNITY



821 Penniman Ave.
Plymouth, MI 48170-1624
(313) 453-6900

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PUBLISHED EACH WEDNESDAY
by The Plymouth-Canton
Community Crier, Inc.
CARRIER DELIVERED
\$2.25 monthly, \$27 yearly
U.S. MAIL DELIVERED:
\$40 yearly in U.S.A.

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Printed on
Recycled
Paper

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345 Fleet St.
Plymouth, MI 48170-1656
(313) 453-6860

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Community opinions

Mayflower Hotel closing leaves ghosts' stories

Ghosts.

For breakfast, lunch, dinner and for after-dinner drinks.

Ghosts and stories of them.

That's all that's left.

When The Mayflower Hotel closed its doors for food, banquets and libations last week, the ghosts took over.

Although the hotel will remain open for rooms, it notified customers that the food and booze were closing down — leading to several impromptu "goodbye" events at the hotel last week.

It began last Monday night when the Bar Birds gathered 'round for Bartender Bill to serve the final suds. A stream of patrons and employes stopped in to rescue the caricatures of themselves and friends that adorned the walls the past eight years.

The goodbye-sayers came from word of mouth — the patrons and some hotel staffers found out that evening was last call for the bar. A patron informed Bill it was his last night to work the antique NCR till and peddle Nest beer.

The stories poured out about the regulars, the love affairs, the "business" meetings, the Tonquish Creek Yacht Club (which held its first press conference in the Crow's Nest Pub), and, of course, Ralph Lorenz — the father of the Mayflower Hotel. "This hotel died when the old man died," said Joe.

But the old stories soon turned to optimism about the future. "It'll be a new hotel for a new century," said Larry.

"We're looking forward to the new (hotel bar)," said a woman who didn't want her name used.

"I kind of wish I'd had a little more time to tell people," admitted Bill, as he poured a Crow's Nest original: A "Rog" is the term for a half drink. (The other Crow's Nest favorite was a "Melinda" — a quarter drink.)

The last-timers exchanged phone numbers and decided to reconvene at Ernesto's bar.

By midnight (mark Jan. 27, 1997 on the calendar) the bar went quiet for Carl

With malice toward none

By W. EDWARD WENDOVER



Perkins on the Jay Leno show. Bartender Bill gave THE Last Call for Alcohol and only ghosts responded.

The next social set to be displaced was the Gloom and Doom Society. They're the tableful of men (only!) that believe they're The Plymouth-Canton Community's answer to the Trilateral Commission.

Many of town's historic events and decisions had been created and debated at the round table group — named for their Gloom and Doom by Fred Delano, a great newspaperman who spent more hours in the Crow's Nest than at the round table.

One day's notice was all the Gloom and Doomers received, but it was enough for "temporary editor" Earl Lundin to whip up a newsletter marking the event — including the cartoon of Ralph eating grapefruit.

Friday morning's breakfast drew one of the biggest crowds in recent history to the round table in the corner of the main dining room.

And like the patrons at the bar four days earlier, they began telling old stories. Bob Bake believed the most important thing ever to happen at the table (actually at its predecessor table) was learning that Fabe Mirto was selling his building. (Bob said he jumped up, ran to Fabe's office and bought the building.)

Scott Lorenz told stories about his dad; Dan Smith took some ribbing about whether his recent announcement that Peter McPherson will be speaking to Rotary on June 20 was actually an invite for lunch on him; Bake took a shot about whether that building he mentioned was the one with the signs which the city ticketed; Lundin got zapped for his constant misspelling of names ("that's why you're an artist");

Plymouth Township Police Chief Carl Berry was quizzed about the Johnson Control strike; Craig Flemming announced he might run for Plymouth Township Supervisor; and Mike Hoben quietly ate his two fried eggs.



This cartoon by Earl Lundin celebrated a famous story of Ralph Lorenz eating grapefruit during a Gloom and Doom Society meeting.

After some debate, the Gloom and Doom Society voted to meet at Daly's Restaurant until the Mayflower Hotel reopens.

The Last Supper — actually it was lunch — was served later Friday.

Stan Polak, known for wearing his unaccountant-like ties, was a regular luncher in the Crow's Nest and showed up for what

turned out to be a very quiet last meal served at the hotel. "It was uneventful, they went out with a whimper."

Ironically, Stan notes, the hotel kitchen was at its best the last few days. "The soup the last couple days was the best they ever served," he said. "Thursday's cream of cauliflower soup was superb."

One of the best Mayflower anecdotes accumulated since the hotel opened on Oct. 28, 1927 was a Crow's Nest lunch story:

During the hey-day of the hotel, the Crow's Nest lunch was packed. Contractor Austin "Woody" Lynch came in — obviously dressed for a construction job —

and sat at the last vacant two-top table.

All of a sudden...WHAM! He had taken off an unlaced construction boot to smash a cockroach on the wall next to his table. With his boot in one hand and the dead cockroach in the other, Woody stood up bellowing, "Where's Ralph? Where's Ralph!" and ran out in search of the hosteler.

That Crow's Nest lunch crowd emptied out in three minutes flat.

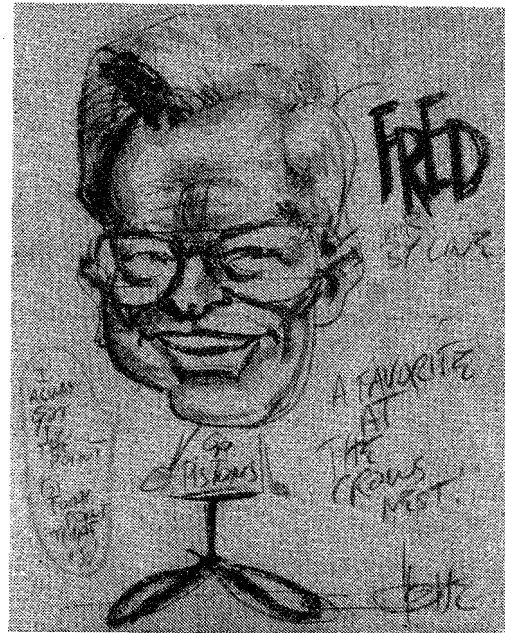
But as of Friday, there's no more lunch, no Mayflower main dining room, no Crow's Nest, no Steak House, no breakfast, no banquets or service club meetings, no dinner, no food, no drink.

Just ghosts.

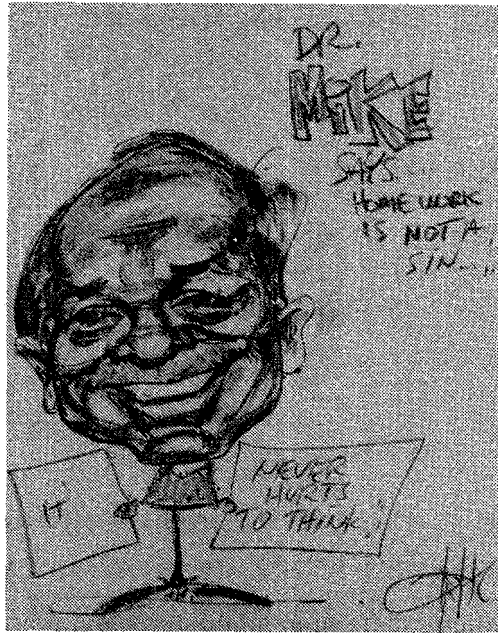
And ghost stories. For the next year or so, while the hotel renovations progress, overnight guests are being sent to other restaurants in town. Owner Matt Karmo has already been recommending other spots.

But the ghosts aren't moving. (Hope the carpenters, the plumbers, the electricians and the painters don't mind working around them.) When the patrons return — Karmo is betting a bundle they will — after the Mayflower reopens, the ghosts and the ghosts' stories will be waiting for the welcome-back party.

Meanwhile, the ghosts are in charge of keeping the Mayflower tradition.



From the Crow's Nest walls, these are two of the caricatures rescued before the bar closed. Fred Delano (left) and former Plymouth-Canton School Superintendent John "Mike" Hoben were hotel regulars.



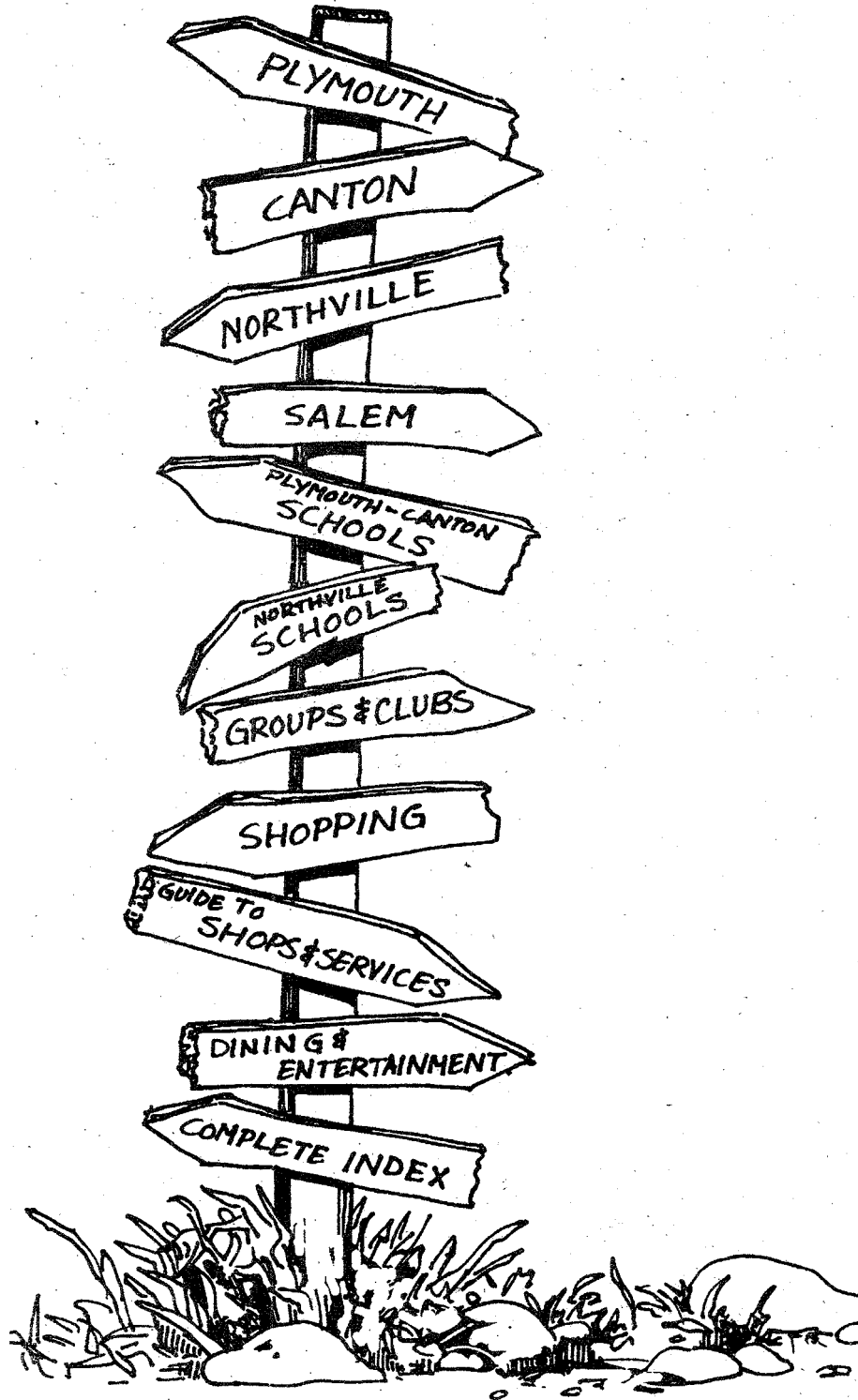
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