

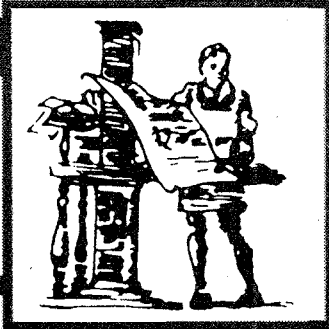
See related article, pg. 3; editorial, pg. 24

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School bond vote Saturday

3-19-97

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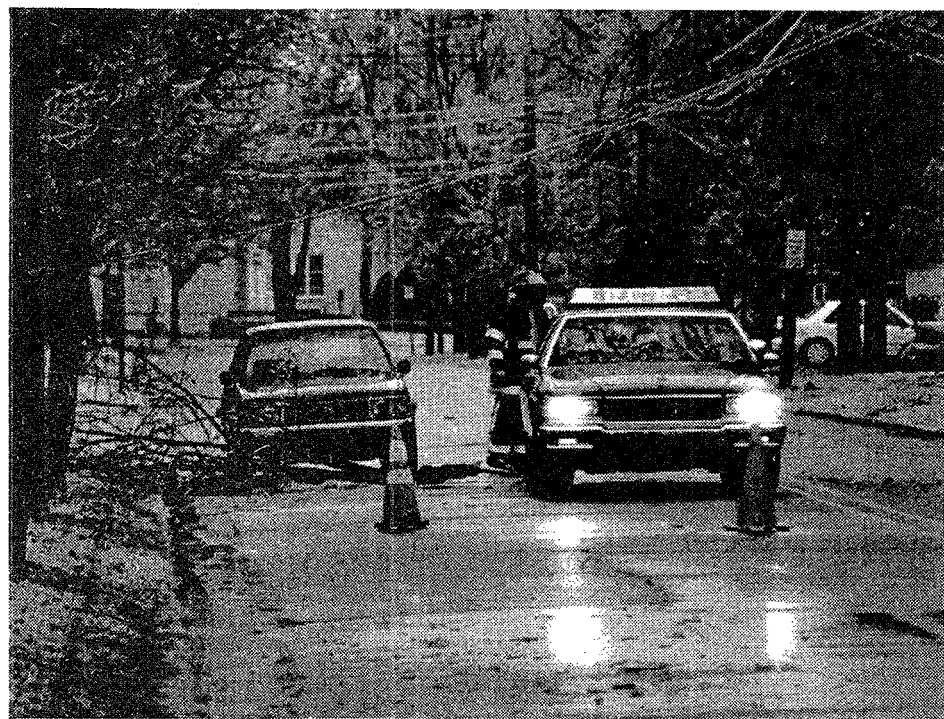
The Community Crier

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

Vol. 24 No. 7

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March 19, 1997



The Plymouth Community Fire Department made more than 100 runs in a 24 hour period as the community was hit with one of the worst storms in the past decade. Canton, City and Township municipal service crews worked around the clock to clear debris from roadways. (Crier photo by Bryon Martin)

Ice storm worst in decade

BY BRYON MARTIN

The Plymouth-Canton Community got its share, and then some.

The storm that coated most of southeastern Michigan in an icy glaze last Thursday and Friday caused accidents and power outages, and general inconvenience for several metro Detroit communities.

But Paul Sincock, director of municipal services for the City of Plymouth, wouldn't call the storm damage inconvenient.

He'd call it costly.

"As far as ice storms go, that was the worst I've seen in 10 to 12 years," Sincock said. "Obviously, there are going to be significant costs in terms of repairs and clean up."

Tree limbs, rocked by high winds, snapped under the weight of accumulated ice during and after the storm. As they fell, many took power lines with them. Some fell to block streets and sidewalks.

City firefighters and municipal workers began the clean-up in the dark hours of Friday morning.

"Our initial response began about 3:30 a.m. Friday," Sincock said. Six workers with heavy equipment were sent to clear fallen limbs from streets and sidewalks. By 8 a.m., they were done, the limbs piled along curbs. That's when the real work began.

"We began the attack on the brush piles north of Ann Arbor Trail, picking up and chipping
Please see pg. 7

City Youth Task Force suggests skating park

BY ROB KIRKBRIDE

If you build it, they will come.

That's the theory behind the creation of a skateboarding and in-line skating park in Plymouth.

The proposal for a skating park came from a Youth Task Force, created to address teen issues in the City of Plymouth.

The main focus of the Youth Task Force was the skateboarding and in-line skating problems in the City.

Del Templeton, a member of the task force, presented the group's findings to the Plymouth City Commission Monday. A steering committee, which will be made up of a city commissioner, two students, a police officer, an educator and a downtown business owner, will meet to finalize plans for the proposed skate park.

Templeton said the task force feels a temporary park is needed immediately.

"This is something that could be put together very quickly," he said.

The Youth Task Force suggested a portion of the Plymouth Cultural Center parking lot be used as a temporary site.

"That would only be a temporary fix," he said. "We would like to see a permanent skating facility put together."

Templeton said land near the Cultural Center was the first choice of the task force.

Funding for the project would come primarily through fundraising, Templeton said. "Brighton has been working on a skating park for eight months," he said. "They're spending about \$100,000 on a skating facility."

Although Templeton said the costs for a Plymouth skating park have not been tabulated, it would be significantly less than the Brighton project — probably between \$5,000 and \$10,000. "We don't feel it would cost the City much, if anything," he said.

Templeton said several service groups are interested in helping fund the project — a project the Youth Task Force feels is very important to the community.

"We got a lot of very, very good input

from the youth," he said. "They just want a place to skate, a place to hang."

In conjunction with a skating park, the Youth Task Force suggested cracking down on skating in the downtown area.

"The creation of a skating park would allow us to enforce the ordinance much more strictly," said Commissioner Joe Koch.

Templeton said the Youth Task Force feels it is important to enforce the City skating ordinance equally for youth and adults. "Really, it's the youth who are getting the brunt of the tickets," he said.

Canton plans more parks

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton board members voted unanimously last Tuesday to begin the long process of applying for state funds to add almost 218 acres of community park land.

The funds would be available through a grant with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for the acquisition of park lands.

"We've been able to secure some funds in the past," said Canton Supervisor Tom Yack. "We added to Heritage Park behind the administration building."

In order to apply for the funds, the Township is required to identify the parcel of land, estimate the cost and how much match funds Canton will provide.

"The higher the match funds," Yack said, "the more likely your request is to be moved up the ladder."

The land consists of four parcels on Napier Road between Ford and Cherry Hill Roads, totaling 218 acres. All four parcels are part of the estimated cost of \$3,054,340.

Please see pg. 9

Helping hand

Local educational sorority helps First Step shelter in Canton

See Friends & neighbors pg. 6

Top toys

POOF Products in Plymouth acquires Chasco Toy Company

See Getting down to business pg. 8

Playoff

Detroit Whalers head home for do-or-die playoff stand

See Sports pgs. 21-23

Plymouth/Canton School Bond Vote

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Please Vote Yes Saturday, March 22

Our Schools Belong to the Community

School bond vote Saturday

Polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. throughout community

BY BRYON MARTIN

After months of discussion and debate, Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' bond issue is about to be resolved.

Voters will head to the polls Saturday, March 22 for the P-C School Board's special bond election. Holding the vote on a weekend, the board hopes, will allow for a greater voter turnout.

Included in the \$80-million bond are funds for additions and repairs to the district's bus fleet, remodeling work at schools, the purchase of two computers for every classroom district-wide, and the construction of a new elementary school

and high school.

In an attempt to educate the public about the bond, the board, in cooperation with the Citizens' Election Committee, has made several presentations to public and private groups.

"We've really tried to get the word out," Susan Kopinski, citizens' election committee chairperson, said. "They've been informational, just the facts. I've said since the beginning that I wasn't going to threaten that we'd take this or that away if the bond didn't pass."

Part of the board's self-described new, open approach to bond publicity is the

Saturday vote.

Board Trustee Dave Artley first suggested the weekend vote at the board's Jan. 7 meeting.

"I know it's worked for other districts, and has increased voter turnouts. It's something we could try," Artley said.

Whether a Saturday vote will mean more voters is uncertain; this will be the district's first. Even less certain is whether a greater number of voters will translate into more "yes" votes for the bond and the board.

By Sunday, both questions will be answered.

Twp. fights Wayne County jail millage

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER

Has Wayne County picked a court-fight with Plymouth Township that is ill-advised?

The Township is the only local governmental unit of 43 in the county that has refused to pay for housing prisoners since the 1.0 millage took effect in

1989. Although Township taxpayers have paid \$5,518,946 to the county since then, the county is suing for \$68,632 over and above.

"In essence, the county is attempting to double bill the Township," said Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Plymouth Township Supervisor.

If the township wins the lawsuit, the county's other governmental units could file together to win money already paid in. There are expected to be several observers when oral arguments are presented Friday before Wayne County Circuit Court Chief Judge James Rashid.

If the Township doesn't win, will it have waged a high-legal-fee fight to prove a point? That may also be true if it does win.

"Is it going to cost \$70,000 in legal bills to prove we're right?" said Ron Edwards, Plymouth Township Treasurer.

The other danger is that by continuing to fight, Wayne County would "retaliate" against the township. "What can they hold back? They're already holding back—our roads aren't getting fixed," Edwards said.

During discovery for the lawsuit, Plymouth Township found the county denied the truth of its own compilation of Public Safety Millage Statements. "There's no accounting for costs billed to other communities," Keen-McCarthy said. It's equal mil.

Plymouth Township's fight was started by then-supervisor Maurice Breen, who went on to become a Wayne County Commissioner.

"I think he (Breen) ought to get credit for preserving the issue since every other (Wayne County) community has paid it," said Keen McCarthy.

Although this case is attracting attention, it is not the only dispute over the county's handling of its one-mil jail tax. Many critics — especially out-county — have attacked the one-tenth mil provision for a juvenile home that has never been built even though the county has collected that tax for nine years.

Strong foundation



The new Plymouth District Library building is underway. Library Director Patricia Thomas examined the footings and wall forms that are currently being constructed at the Main Street site. The library project is expected to take several years to complete. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- The Plymouth Lions Club will host a program on the Michigan Eye Bank at the Water Club Restaurant tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. Stan Daniels will speak and a video will be shown. The public is invited and questions will be answered on eye donation. The Lions Club is known for their works dealing with eyes.

WEEKEND

- Plymouth Rock Lodge No. 47, F.&A.M. will have their annual Charity Dinner for the Plymouth-Canton Clothing Bank on Friday at 7 p.m. at the Plymouth Masonic Temple, 730 Peniman Ave. The public is invited to join in supporting this worthwhile organization. The cost is \$10 per person.

UPCOMING

- 1997 Plymouth Fall Festival applications are now available. All interested groups can pick up an application at the PCFF Board Meeting, April 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Township Hall Annex (Friendly's). New groups and last year's participants are encouraged to attend.

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Got a new product or service you'd like to showcase? Call a Crier advertising professional and ask to be included in the "Wings of Spring." Call 453-6900.

Motorist struck by police disputes Canton reports

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Michigan State Police investigators are waiting to release a report on an accident involving a Canton Police Officer last week, but the motorist struck by the police car disputes early police reports.

While Canton police said witnesses reported Officer Kenneth Winkler had his lights and sirens on, the motorist struck by Winkler disagrees.

"I saw (the car) going east on Ford Road at a high rate of speed," Amy Park, the injured motorist said. "He tried to move around the vehicle in front of him. He didn't have his lights or sirens on — I didn't even know it was a police car until he hit me."

Park said she never saw the head-on collision that police reports said Winkler swerved to avoid. "I saw him go into the center lane and lose control of his car," she said. "His tires were smoking and he was spinning donuts. He headed for me and and all I could think was 'I'm dead'."

What followed was a horrific side-impact crash that deployed both of Park's air bag and flung her daughter's car seat out of the vehicle.

"The doctors said I was lucky to be alive," said Park, who was on her way to work at the time. "If my baby had been in there, she'd be dead."

Park was in the hospital for four days. She said doctors are still concerned over damage to her liver.

Canton Police said Winkler was responding to a possible child abduction call with lights and sirens on at the time of the crash Saturday morning. He was travelling east bound on Ford Road and moved into the center lane to avoid a car.

Seeing another car in the lane, reports said Winkler swerved to avoid a head on collision and collided with Park.

Michigan State Police investigating the accident refused to comment until the investigation is completed later in the week.

Calls to Winkler and Canton Public Safety Department Director John Santomaur were not returned.

Firefighters show charitable side

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Local firefighters are showing their charitable side.

Last month's Alumni charity hockey game, which featured appearances by Gordie Howe and Kirk Gibson, helped raise \$8,000 for the Mott's Hospital child life services.

"It's very nice," said Linda Drake, an assistant who has worked for Mott's for 17 years, including 15 years of volunteer work. "It's very generous."

The child life services of Mott's Hospital, a section of the vast University of Michigan hospital in Ann Arbor, is a non-revenue generating department that

tries to make children who have to stay in the hospital more comfortable.

"We try to keep life as normal as possible," Drake said. "We use teachers activity therapists and child-life specialists to try to keep children happy."

Canton firefighters have done six similar charity events since January, 1995 raising a total of \$60,000, according to firefighter Mike Caruso.

Firefighters pick a different charity each time, according to Caruso. In addition to the lump sum generated for the charity, the firefighters have a foundation account from which they can distribute to other charitable donations.



Public notices

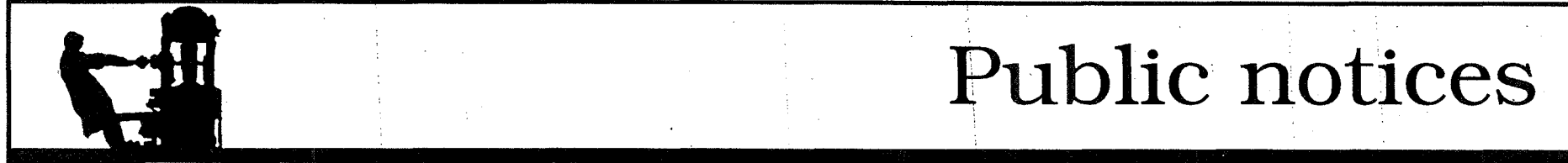
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a BID for the purchase of computer work stations. Specifications and Bid Forms can be obtained from David Rodwell in the Office of Research and Technology, Board of Education Building, 454 S. Harvey Street, Plymouth, MI during normal business hours. Bids are due on or before 10:00 A.M. Friday, March 21, 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 3-12-97 and 3-19-97



Public notices

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1997

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. and led in the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. All members were present except Mrs. Massengill who was excused.

Ms. Arnold move to approve the minutes as submitted for the February 25, 1997, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy amended the agenda by removing item J.7. Mr. David Bradshaw corrected the Resolution No. to read 97-03-11-12 under J.5. Ms. Arnold then move to approve the agenda for the March 11, 1997, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees as amended. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mrs. Mueller moved to approve the Utility Easement for Thomas W. and Carol L. Laing, Whispering Pines subdivision and Kevin R. and Janice L. Ruark, 11695 LeHigh Court. Seconded by Mrs. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Edwards moved to award the contract for the Hilltop Golf Course Cart Path Paving to Wayne Asphalt Paving Company in the amount of \$104,512.50, with up to a 25% overage contingency, and authorize the Clerk and Supervisor to execute the construction contract. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Curmi moved to award the contract for the Ann Arbor Road Sidewalk to JDS Trucking, Inc. in the amount of \$8,412.50, and authorize the Clerk and Supervisor to execute the construction contract. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

Mr. Edwards moved to authorize the Supervisor to enter into Summer Tax Collection agreements and sign contacts with: Plymouth-Canton School District; Schoolcraft College; and Wayne County RESA. Seconded by Ms. Arnold. Ayes all.

It was moved by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Ms. Arnold to approve Resolution No. 97-3-11-12 increasing the 1996 General Fun Budget as follows:

	Amendment #2	Adjustment	Final Amendment
Park	\$362,055	\$145,000	\$507,055
Grant Revenue	\$165,000	\$ 35,000	\$200,000
Grant Expense	\$130,000	\$ 70,000	\$200,000

Ayes all on a roll call vote.

Mrs. Mueller moved to authorize the purchase of recording equipment for the 911 telephone system from Lanier Worldwide of Livonia, Michigan, in the amount of \$23,327.50 with a five year maintenance

agreement at \$2,300 per year paid in advance. The total amount of the purchase order will be \$34,827.50. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Mike Richardson reported that the Plymouth Township information on Cable TV is up-to-date and the False Alarm billing is in progress.

Trustee Arnold asked if the Township is seeking bids for a new sound system for the Board Meeting Room.

Trustee Arnold asked for an update regarding the Recreation Survey.

Trustee Curmi distributed an article from Northville Records regarding Toronto Trash Coming to Plymouth and Northville and recommended a resolution be considered stating Plymouth Township is opposed.

Trustee Curmi asked the status of the Halyard traffic light installation.

Ms. Arnold move to receive and file Communications as listed. Seconded by Mrs. Mueller. Ayes all.

It was moved by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Ms. Arnold to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. Ayes all.

Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Supervisor
Charter Township of Plymouth

The foregoing is a synopsis of the Board of Trustees meeting held on March 11, 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 March 25, 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)

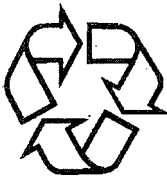
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Readers Rate

Pick-up and/or return your Community Crier Readers Rate poll at The Crier offices, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, the Plymouth Library or the Canton Library. The deadline for entry is the end of the March.

Searching for a normal boss

It's always fun to play a joke on the boss when they retire. That's just what Marion Belding's employees at the 35th District Court did to her. They all wore shirts that said, "My next boss will be normal." It was all in good fun. The court workers said they'll miss Belding as their boss. Her last day is April 7. (Crier photo by Bryon Martin)



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The Center provides education and support programs for women of all ages. Diagnostic testing like mammography, radiology, and ultrasound are also available, as well as a complete breast health clinic.

The Marian Women's Center, adjacent to the new Miracle of Life Maternity Center, provides family

services like childbirth education, a breastfeeding program, and even pre- and postnatal exercise classes. We're planning to start a family soon, and all the programs I need are now available close to home.

My mother was interested in the Marian Women's Center menopause support group, which educates women and removes some of the mystery about this time of life.

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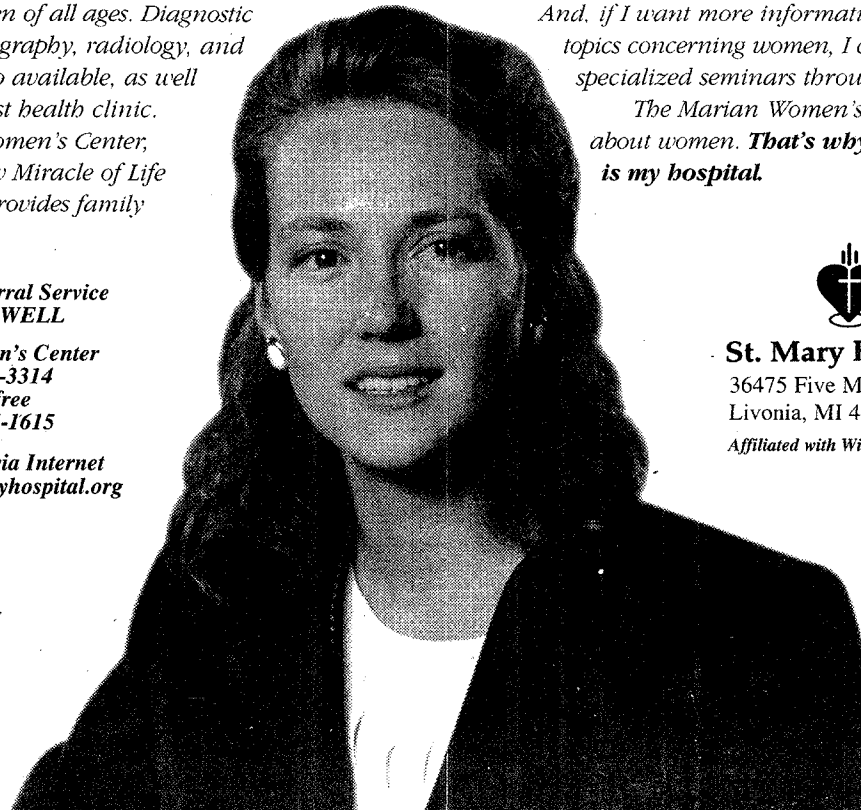
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Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

John S. Lore, of Plymouth Township, has been appointed to the board of trustees of the new independent Woman in Communications Foundation. He is president and CEO of Sisters of St. Joseph Health System.

The following students made the EMU Dean's List: from Canton: Adam Acito, Patrick Adams, Bonnie Agius, Daniel Amann, Steven Amburgy, Richard Amos, Marcella Bacon, Jennifer Banfield, Gary Bartz, Faith Bavol, Andrew Bennett, Donna Berhart, Daryl Biallas, James Blaylock, Arthur Booth, Christine Brock, Magen Brown, Tammie Cach, Jeffrey Canejo, Laura Carbone, Suzanne Carlile, David Carpenter, Nicole Caruso, Pamela Casoglos, Xin Cheng, So Ping Choi, Lisa Cimeot, Stacy Conn, Carmen Cross, Marlene Danis, Arlene Dechavez, Cheryl Dinkins, Christina Dipietro, Laura Domka, Drew Drummond, Kimberly Elder, Susan England, Leanne Gail, Linda Sue Fairchild, David Fairchild, Robert Felts, Susan Finkbeiner, Kelly Folsom, Mary French, Hiroto Fukshima, Julie Gabbeart, Kathryn Gable, Jennifer Gavala, Sabina Gibbs, Carmie Girolamo, Carolyn Glacken, David Golovoy, Mary Gumber, Crystal Gutierrez, Carrie Halahan, Karen Hanchett, Carrie Hanna, Jill Heckel, Dian Henson, Meredith Hicks, Donna Hillman, Mark Holt, Nicole Holt, Julie Hopkinson, Melissa Hopson, Su-Ling Huang, Kimberly Jensen, Melanie Jones, Daniel Kaczmarek, Susan Kanai, David Karras, Ronald Katt, Julie Kentala, Arshi Khan, Tabitha Killingbeck, Adam Kocik, Mary Koltunchik, Tracy Kravez, Kevin Kuhlman, Amy Lavrack, Jennifer Lehr, Laura Lewis, Dazhi Li, LybraAnne indke, Sharon Lindner, Helana Long, Christine Lyons, Dana Mackie, Asha Mahesh, Valarie Mailloux, Dawn Maki, Tara Mastny, Colleen McCann, Lori McDonald, Donna McMullen, Julia Meixner, Barrett Mergler, Rhonda Miller, Tracey Moon, Linda Mogielski, Troy Morrow, Michelle Mortiere, Thomas Murray, Jeffrey Musin, Julie Noricks, Stacia Norquist, Jennifer Ouelette, Patricia Pahl, Charles Parker, Marianne Patten, Justin Patterson, Anre Peltier, Gina Percy, Sarah Petrere, Smita Phaphat, Kimberly Ploucha, Christopher Posa, Jason Quay, Tracy Reardon, Patricia Ridgley, Gregory Rochford, James Ryan, Kenneth Seadeek, Sekovich, Ramy Shammass, Amie Sharer, Michael Sheppard, Daniel Simmons, Nicole Sobota, Scott Spears, Cynthia Spurlock, Debbie Sullivan, Gary Sutherland, Zachary Szyszko, Jaime Tache, Stacy Tchorzynski, Kristen Tierney, Andrea Tripp, Jennifer Tustian, Adam Wade, Shannon White, Melinda Whitteberry, Alan Wilson, Linda Witt, Coreen Wright, Kathryn Wrubel and Shadia Zayed.

Local educational sorority steps in

Local women make a shelter for victims of domestic abuse more comfortable

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The First Step shelter in Canton recently received the first step in renovation, thanks to an effort by local groups.

One such group, the Beta XI chapter of The Alpha Delta Kappa international educators sorority, refurbished and redecorated one room at the shelter.

"We do various things throughout the year," Lois Stuart, a retired school teacher and volunteer at the shelter said. "We bring things to each meeting, like toys, clothes and blankets."

The First Step shelter, which serves all of Western Wayne County, is a temporary living facility — a sort of refuge victims of domestic violence can turn to, volunteers said.

The location is confidential, and it is run primarily by volunteers.

The women painted the walls and ceiling and installed new blinds and drapes, as well as purchased new comforters, blankets and sheets with funds they raised.

The Beta XI chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa picked one room, while other groups of volunteers repainted and



Alpha Delta Kappa members Evelyn Marchio from Plymouth (foreground), Mickey Adel-Cotner from Canton (center), and Jan Lucchetti put the finishing touches on a resident's rooms at the "First Step" shelter in Canton.

remodeled other rooms to give the building a more comfortable, "homey" feeling, volunteers said.

The sorority also donates other needed items like diapers and school sup-

plies, they said.

They have furnished sweat suits for rape victims (clothes are sometimes held for evidence), and arranged for transport to the shelter, according to volunteers.

"I never dreamed there'd be as much of a need as there is," Stuart said.

"You'd be amazed at how many people have needs."

The women had some charitable help while redecorating and remodeling. Six mattresses were donated by Art Van Furniture, and Dependable Transportation of Canton furnished a truck and driver to deliver equipment to the project.

Alpha Delta Kappa is an international educators society for both current and retired teachers. The remodeling project was just the latest step in their support of the First Step shelter.

Volunteers are important to both the shelter and the sorority, which raises

all of its own funds.

"It's just a real big need," Stuart said. "It's overwhelming. Sometimes you go and it's hard. Other times you go and you feel really good."

Local manager honored as Community Achiever

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

What better place than a bowling alley to reward the achievements of school children with two strikes against them.

That's exactly what Mark Voight, manager at SuperBowl in Canton, had in mind when he decided to co-sponsor the Turnaround Achievement program in the area.

It's a program that rewards kids for a 'turnaround' of some kind in their lives," Voight said. "It's an interesting way to reward youngsters for achievements that don't usually get recognized."

The Turnaround Achievement Program, which was developed in Tampa FL, is designed to recognize and reward school children who have overcome personal tragedies or adverse situations in their lives.

"Last year we had kids who had beaten drug problems, one who lost both parents," Voight said, "everyone had a different story."

The program works like this: each school's teachers recommend someone from their class. The school's administration and counsellors then pick one student for the award, which consists of a plaque and a chance to give a small speech at the award ban-

quet, which is held at Summit on the Park.

As a sponsor of the program, Voight is responsible for introducing it to schools, explaining the selection process and arranging for and funding the banquet.

"It's nice to reward kids who've done something important with their lives other than sports," Voight said, "as well as recognize the teachers who supported them."

Although the Turnaround Achievement program can be found in about 20 bowling centers around the country, Voight said it is not very widespread.

"It's a sporadic thing in a number of bowling centers around the country where operators have decided to put it in effect," he said: "We get a lot of good feelings, but not a lot of commercial value. A lot of bowling center owners aren't interested."

But Voight, who is being honored as a Community Achiever next week, was interested and he's glad he decided to help get the program started in the area.

"It's a neat program," he said, "of all of the programs I'm involved in, it's the one I'm most proud of."

Turnaround Achievers will be honored in a award luncheon at Summit on the Park in early May.

Community still cleaning up following weekend ice storm

Continued from pg. 1

the branches," Sincoc said. Crews will be chipping branches south of Ann Arbor Trail through today or tomorrow, according to Sincoc. Then, it's back to the north side.

"We began the northside clean-up right away, before people had a chance to bring out any limbs that had fallen in their back yards," Sincoc said.

"So we'll be going back to get those, too."

Added to the cost of limb pick-up and chipping, is the cost of repairing or cutting down damaged trees in city parks and along streets.

In total, Sincoc said he estimates \$30,000 will be spent from the City's solid-waste and general funds to pay for storm clean up, more than anyone else in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community.

"I doubt we'll spend more than \$10,000 on it," Jim Gallogly, Northville public works director said. "We're still cleaning up, but compared to many in the area I think we weathered the storm pretty well."

Plymouth's clean up continues as well. "We would hope to have made the rounds and be done in the next 10 to 14 days," Sincoc said. "They've been a busy group. They definitely earned their keep over the weekend."

Included in that group are City firefighters: as municipal workers cleared brush, Plymouth's smokeaters had their hands full searching for downed power lines and fighting fires.

Fallen and crossed power lines, and exploding transformers started fires throughout Plymouth.

In a twelve-hour period from 8 p.m. Thursday, until 8 a.m. Friday, Plymouth firefighters responded to 68 alarms: eight traffic accidents, three fires and 57 fallen power lines; In the next 12 hours they ran to another eight accidents, four fires and 22 lines down.

Because of the storm, most firefighters worked 34-hour shifts, and worked hard the whole time Groth said: "Our guys would come back to the station, be there for about two minutes and the alarm would sound and out they'd go again."

"I've been with the department for 28 years, and that was the worst storm I've seen yet, easy."

Detroit Edison agrees. According to Scott Simons of the company's media relations department. "It was the worst ice storm in company history," Simons said. "425,000 customers in southeastern Michigan were affected by the storm. We

really mobilized the whole company in response."

According to Simons, by Sunday evening power was restored to 90 percent of those customers who lost it during the storm, which he found impressive considering the storm's severity.

"It was the worst Edison has seen in its 94 years," he said.

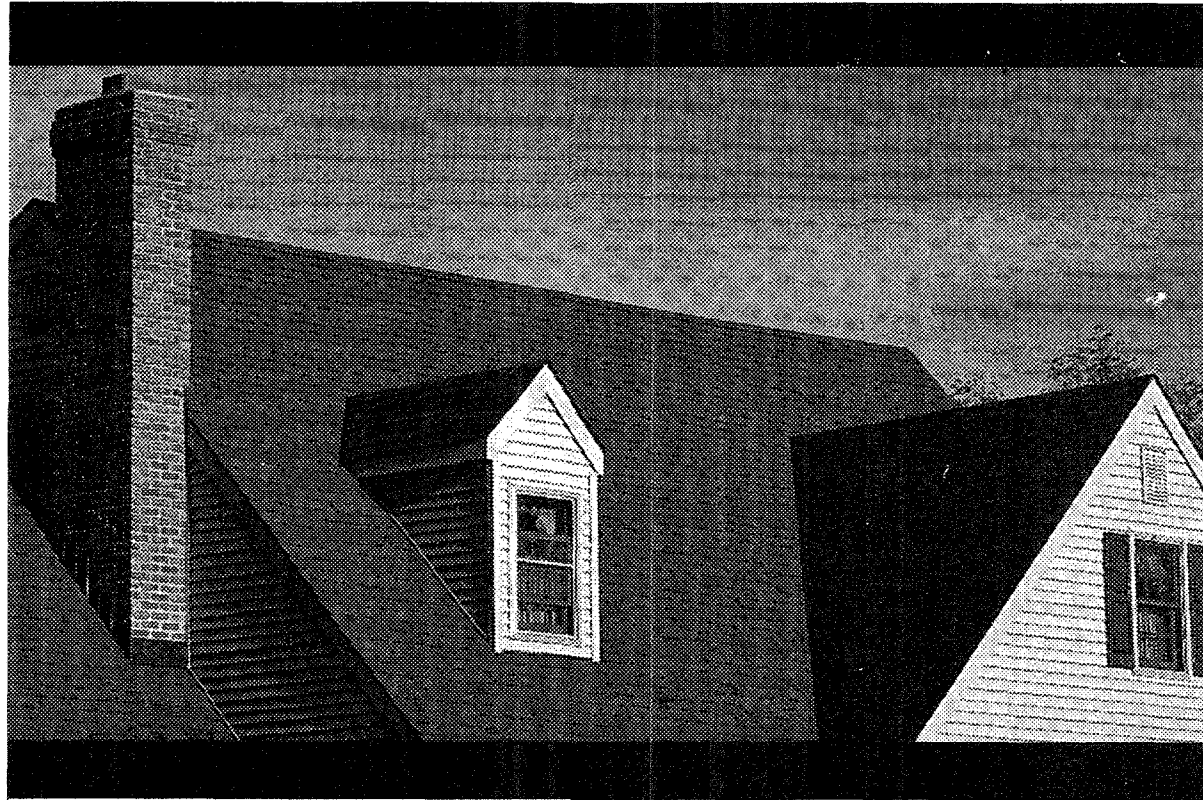
Groth has already compared this storm to "The Green Storm of '80."

Those living in the area at the time are likely to remember the summer storm when the sky turned green, and power was lost

for an extended time.

"During the green storm, we made 40 runs in a 12-hour shift. This storm more than doubled that record with a total of 102 runs," Groth said.

"We're all looking forward to a quieter week."



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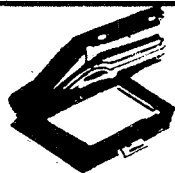
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Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

Paul Page, Principal Engineer for Air Quality and Regulatory Compliance Services at TolTest, Inc., will moderate a panel on recycling and the environment at the Michigan Plastics Summit in Lansing, April 10.

TolTest, with offices in Plymouth, provides consulting and engineering services with a specialty in environmental / geotechnical consulting and testing.

Century Rain Aid, a turf irrigation and landscape lighting distributor, has named Donna Visscher of Canton as manager of the Century's Ann Arbor branch.

Plymouth resident Ted Jordan recently joined Pyramid Systems, Inc., of Southfield as Director of Business Development.

Jordan will be responsible for the oversight and implementation of activities such as technical marketing and sales support of the new virtual reality division.

Consumers Energy increased the property tax paid to Michigan communities in 1996, a sign of growing business.

Consumers Energy paid \$138.7 million in 1996, up five percent from \$132 million in '95. Northville received \$6.91 million from Consumers in '96, while the City of Plymouth got \$1.28 million. Property taxes paid by Consumers Energy go toward school districts, road maintenance and other civic projects.



DIANE DOWNS

Diane Downs recently joined Northville's Arch Associates LLC as Professional Associate for Logistics and Information Systems.

Arch Associates provides quality, productivity and standards compliance support services for domestic and foreign organization in public and private sectors.

What's on the menu now?

The Park at The Plymouth Hilton
Luncheon at the Park
The Park Specialties

Fried Clams served with French Fries and Cole Slaw..... 2.65	Grilled Beef or Bacon Sandwich served with Cheddar and Tomato on Rye with French Fries..... 2.10
Fried Shrimp served with French Fries and Cole Slaw..... 2.95	Cheese or Sausage Pizzas..... 1.50
Mini Club Sandwich served with French Fries..... 1.95	Hamburgers on an Onion Roll served with French Fries..... 1.85
Grilled Cheese Sandwich served with French Fries and Cole Slaw..... 1.50	with Cheese..... 1.95
	with Bacon..... 2.10
	with Chili..... 2.10

Grilled Sandwiches

Ham and Cheddar on Rye with Potato Chips..... 1.85	Finger Roll Sandwiches
Shrimp Salad on Finger Roll, Potato Chips..... 1.95	Sweet or Hot Sausage with French Fries..... 2.25
Sliced Turkey on Soft Roll, Potato Chips..... 1.85	Frank and Kraut with French Fries..... 1.95
	Corn Dog on a Stick with French Fries..... 1.65

Deli Sandwiches (served on an Onion Roll)

Cornd Beef with Potato Chips..... 1.95	Park Greens	Side Orders
Pastrami with Potato Chips..... 1.85	Chef's Salad..... 2.25	French Fried Potatoes..... .50
Roast Beef with Potato Chips..... 1.95	Tossed Salad..... .75	Onion Rings..... .75
	Greek Salad..... 2.75	Old Fashioned Cole Slaw..... .50

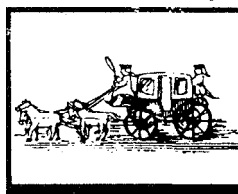
Beverages

Mug of Coffee..... .50	Ice Cream & Such
Tea or Sanka..... .50	Malts..... 1.00
Milk..... .30	Shakes..... .95
Soda..... .50	Sundae..... 1.05
	Sugar Cones..... .60

From the Bar

Assorted Hi Balls..... 1.25
Your Favorite Cocktail..... 1.25
A Bottle of Beer..... 1.00
Strawberry, Cherry, or Apple Wine..... 1.00

Everyone remembers that the Plymouth Hilton was a pretty good place to eat in its time, but what's on the menu for the former hotel today? Anyone remember who the chef was for the hotel? What years did the Plymouth Hilton operate? Send your answers to "Glimpse at yesterday," The Community Crier, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to a local restaurant. Larry Moraca correctly noted that the historic Mayflower Hotel ad shows a four-story building. Although the Mayflower was originally designed for a fourth story, it was never built. If you have a "Glimpse at yesterday" — a historic photo from The Plymouth-Canton Community, send it to The Crier. Your picture may be used in an upcoming issue.



Glimpse
at
yesterday

Soft, fluffy toys post hard-hitting numbers

BY BRYON MARTIN

POOF Products, Inc., a Plymouth-based foam toy manufacturer, will launch into new markets with its acquisition of Chasco Toy Company.

Chasco manufactures a variety of toys. Most notable are the RamRocket, a launching foam-rocket toy used as a teaching aid in science classes; and the BeamBag, a lighted playball named "Top New Action Toy," and listed among the best-selling toys at the 1996 International Toy Fair.

Chasco's products are sold in specialty toy stores across the country, like Ultimate Toys in Northville.

According to Ray Dallavecchia, Jr., POOF president, getting a share of that market was a step in company strategy.

"We were motivated by our plan to grow internally and through selective acquisition," Dallavecchia said. "We hadn't focused on the specialty toy market. Chasco has been a leader there."

RamRocket has been one of the top ten selling specialty toys for three years running, Dallavecchia said; BeamBag was strong for Christmas '96.

For POOF, whose 60 products appear in novelty and mass markets at stores like K Mart and Arbor Drugs, the plan is to ride RamRocket's success into the specialty market.

About 60 representatives will take both POOF and Chasco toys to stores nationwide. The products will also appear in Canada, New Zealand, Central America and the rest of POOF's international carriers.

Production of the RamRocket, BeamBag and the other

acquired Chasco toys has been moved to POOF's facilities in Plymouth.

Originally from Roseville, POOF opened their offices in 1981, and moved to Plymouth in 1991. The company posts \$10 million in sales, annually.

Trashing imported waste



Canton State Sen. Loren Bennett, chairperson of the Senate Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee, is fighting to keep "foreign" trash from coming into the state. The practice is currently being reviewed by the federal government.

GOOD LUCK IN THE PLAYOFFS



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Community deaths

Obituaries

For more information on listing a paid obituary notice in The Crier, contact your funeral director or call (313) 453-6900

NELLIE I. VAN OTTEN

Nellie I. Van Otten, a Canton resident, died March 11, 1997 at the age of 94.

Mrs. Van Otto was born Aug. 4, 1902 in Croswell, MI. She taught elementary school for 45 years, and was a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

She is survived by her son, Richard H. of Canton; sister, Clara Dallaire of Livonia; grandchildren, Suzanne (Jeff) Duncan of Rochester Hills, Kevin (Charlene) of Monroe, Karen of Canton; great grandchildren, Christina Duncan, Lindsay and Matthew.

Services were held at the St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton with the Rev. George Charnley officiating. Burial was at the Mt. Hope Cemetery in Croswell, MI. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home in Plymouth. Mass offerings can be made.

EVELYN M. SMITH

Evelyn M. Smith, a Detroit resident, died March 15, 1997 at the age of 49.

Mrs. Smith was born Jan. 17, 1948 in Garden City. She was a homemaker, raised in Plymouth. She was a member of the Calvary Christian Center in Ecorse, MI, and a volunteer for Harbour of Life Soup Kitchens in Detroit.

She is survived by her husband, Ralph E. of Detroit; son, David Allen Smith of Detroit; brothers Eugene (Paula) Hornback of Ann Arbor, Wayne (Kathy) Hornback of Fenton, Donald (Christine) Hornback of Harrietta; sister

Karlene (Thomas) Ouimet of Plymouth; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held at The Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with Pastor C. L. Hinson officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial tributes can be given to the American Heart Association.

ANNA TELVIN

Anna Telvin, a Canton resident, died March 13, 1997 at the age of 83.

Mrs. Telvin was born April 28, 1913 in Omaha NE. She was a homemaker, and a member of St. George Romanian Orthodox Cathedral in Southfield.

She is survived by her son, Dorell (Patricia) Faur of Northville; daughter Jo-Anne (Alan) Miller of Canton; grandchildren, Daniel Faur of Northville, Christopher Faur of Redford, Daryl Faur of Redford, Michael Miller of Canton, Kimberly Miller of Canton; sister in law, Helen Roman of FL; and niece, Diane (David) Krupski of Woodhaven. Mrs. Telvin was preceded in death by her brother, John Roman; sister Mary Hoison; Brother-in-law Paul Hoison; Niece, Nancy Carey; and grandson, Gregory Faur.

Services were held at St. George Romanian Orthodox Cathedral in Southfield with the Rev. Fr. Laurence Lazar officiating. Burial was at Evergreen Cemetery in Detroit. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to St. George Romanian Orthodox Cathedral or the American Heart Association.

FLORENCE RECKNAGEL HALLAM

Florence Recknagel Hallam, a Plymouth resident, died March 14, 1997 at the age of 74.

Mrs. Hallam was born in Detroit. She worked at the Cellar Book Shop in Detroit.

She is survived by her long-time companion, Jack F. Jones; sons Hilary and Arnold of Plymouth, and Richard of Glasgow, Scotland.

Gifts to the Salvation Army would honor her memory.

Thomas L. McInerney, 94, health inspector.

Thomas L. McInerney, a Plymouth resident, died Feb. 22, 1997.

He is survived by his wife, Rosemary V., of Plymouth; one daughter; son John T. (Cheryl) of Plymouth; five grandchildren; and one granddaughter.

Services were held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev. Fr. John Sullivan officiating. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

Maryann Trammell, 70, security analyst

Maryann Trammell, a Plymouth resident, died Feb. 28, 1997.

She is survived by her husband, Clyde E. of Plymouth; two daughters; son Thomas Charles (Diane) of Plymouth; one sister; one cousin; and three grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with the Rev. Father Leonar Pertensky officiating. Memorial tributes can be given to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia, MI 48154.

Eleanor C. Waite, 84, homemaker

Eleanor C. Waite, a Canton resident, died Feb. 27, 1997.

She is survived by her son, Patrick R. (Carol) of Canton; grandchildren Michael, Steven, Kimberly, all from Canton; great-grandchildren Tyler, Anthony, Robert, Athena, all from Canton. She is preceded in death by her husband, Les A.

Services were held an arrangements were made by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Canton. Burial was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Gerald D. Engwis, 72, Insurance Adjustor.

Gerald D. Engwis, a Canton resident, died March 10, 1997.

He is survived by dear friend, Kay Plish of Canton; one son; daughters, Joan Kenote and Jane Smith of Canton and one other daughter; one brother; one sister; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were made and services held at the McCabe Funeral Home in Canton. Memorial contributions can be made.

Robert E. Sexton, 75, owner/operator of Sexton's Lounge in Detroit

Robert E. Sexton, a Plymouth resident, died March 14, 1997.

He is survived by one son; daughters Diane (Gary) of Plymouth, Suzanne Greener of Plymouth; one sister; one brother; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Services were held at St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth with the Rev. Fr. William Pettit officiating. Burial was at Holy Sepuchre Cemetery in Southfield. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorials can be given to Angela Hospice in Livonia.



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Worship with us this week!





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).

Upcoming...

NORTHVILLE TWP PUBLIC SAFETY NIGHT

Citizens are invited to the Northville Township Public Safety Awareness Night, **March 19** from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Northville Township Civic Center. Event will offer chances to learn about and discuss public safety functions and issues. Call (810) 349-9400.

REPUBLICAN CLUB BOND DEBATE

Plymouth-Canton Schools' bond proposal will be debated at the Plymouth Republicans Club meeting, **March 20**, 6 p.m. at the Water Club Seafood Grill in Plymouth. Julie Willoughby will argue for the bond, Roland Thomas against. The public is invited; dinner is optional.

JAYCEE VEGAS NIGHT

Plymouth-Canton Jaycees will hold a Vegas Night at the Plymouth Elks Club **March 22**. Doors open 7 p.m. Pop, beer and other drinks will be for sale. The event will feature Black Jack, craps, roulette and various lotteries, all proceeds donated to the fund Jaycee-run community events. Call Tim Fedewa at 455-0446.

55 ALIVE: MATURE DRIVING CLASS

AARP driving class, sponsored by V.F.W. Post 6695 Ladies Auxiliary, **April 2 and 3**, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., at V.F.W. 6695. Cost, \$8. For info and reservations, call Barbara at (313) 538-1859.

FABERGE TRIP TO CLEVELAND

City of Plymouth Parks and Rec will offer a trip to Cleveland, OH to view the Faberge Collection. A two-day, one-night trip **April 7 and 8**, the tour will cost \$199, and includes transportation, lodging, two exhibits and a lecture and some meals. \$50 deposit required. Call 455-6620.

BLOODMOBILE SITES

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be open to the public at the following times and locations: Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, **March 22**, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., call (810) 348-3213. Tri City Christian Center, **March 26**, 3:30 - 9:30 p.m., call (313) 326-0330. St. Thomas A' Beckett Catholic Church, **March 28**, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., call (313) 844-2505.

SENIOR TAX ASSISTANCE

Free income tax assistance for seniors is available in Plymouth, Canton and Northville through **April 15th**, courtesy of the AARP Tax-Aide program. Those seniors interested should call for an appointment: 397-5444 in Canton; 349-4140 in Northville; 455-6620 in Plymouth. Information on home visits are also available at each number.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON JAYCEES

The Plymouth-Canton Jaycees have several events upcoming, including open house/orientations, meetings and activities. Call the Jaycees Hotline for times and dates: 453-8407.

Groups...

SPRING SOCCER REGISTRATION

The City of Plymouth is registering for Spring Soccer at the Plymouth Cultural Center from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Bring a birth certificate and registration fee: \$40 for City residents, \$60 for non-residents. For info, call 455-6620.

CITY WINTER CLASSES

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is offering more than 20 classes for ages ranging from tots to seniors. For a brochure and other info., call 455-6620.

Schools...

DRIVER EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Plymouth-Canton Schools will hold registration for its Summer '97 Driver Ed. program in the Canton High School Cafeteria, **March 22** at 8 a.m. This will be the only registration day. Students born before Nov. 14, 1982 are eligible.

EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Computers, tutoring, games, etc. The program runs Monday through Friday and begins after school ends and concludes at 6 p.m. \$5 per student per session with a minimum of two sessions per week. For more information, call 420-7040.

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY CHORUS SCHOLARSHIP

Each year the Plymouth Community Chorus offers vocal scholarships to aspiring young singers: \$800 to a graduating senior; \$400 to a high school student; \$400 to a junior high student (6th - 11th grade). Scholarships go toward studies in vocal music, an applied career in the field of vocal music, and academic voice studies. For info, write to: Plymouth Community Chorus, P.O. Box 700217, Plymouth, MI 48170, Attn: Scholarship Committee.

TUTOR TRAINING

The Community Literacy Council, Inc., will be conducting tutor training seminars for its reading program. Two four-hours sessions must be completed in order to become a reading tutor. Call Jean Calabrese at 416-4906.

KIDDIE KAMPUS REUNION

25th anniversary of the P-C Schools' preschool program, June 4 at the Canton High School cafeteria from 7-9 p.m. All former staff and students are invited. To make a reservation, call 416-4927.

P-C SCHOOLS NEED GUEST SPEAKERS

The P-C Business Education Partnership is looking for individuals willing to share their expertise with local students. To volunteer, call 416-4903.

WSDP, 88.1-FM REUNION

WSDP, the student-operated station of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is planning its 25th anniversary reunion for 1997. Former staff members are asked to send their current addresses to the station at 46181, Joy Rd. Canton, MI 48187 or call 416-7732.

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March 21, 22, 23

Fri. 9-9, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 11-5

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Admission \$2.00 Lunch Available. No baby strollers please

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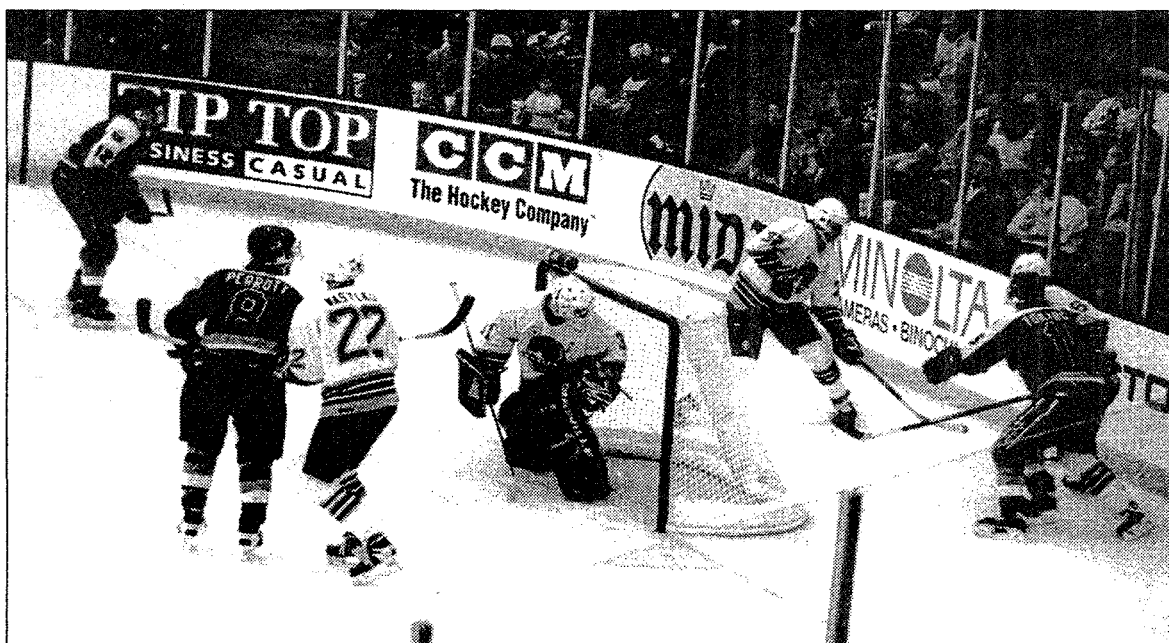
**Detroit
Whalers**

Vs.

**Sault Ste. Marie
Greyhounds**

ROUND ONE OF THE PLAYOFFS

Game A
Friday
March 21st
7:30pm



Game B
Saturday
March 22nd
7:30pm

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MOONLIGHT MADNESS

Friday, March 21st 7:00pm - 11:00pm

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NOTE: Rates are per person, based on double occupancy and apply to best available space in selected categories at time of booking. *Special airfares are available from selected U.S. cities. Airfare supplements, port charges and taxes are additional. Some restrictions apply.

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Sale is Friday, March 21st Only
From 10am to 11pm
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(313)453-6611

YOUR CHANCE TO OWN A PART OF PLYMOUTH HISTORY

Historical Mayflower Hotel RENOVATION AUCTION
 Saturday, March 22nd 11:00am
 Doors open to the Public at 10:00am
 Location: Mayflower Hotel
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Auction Items

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What's Happening

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

Volunteer...

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is always in need of volunteers, especially preparing information handout packages. For more information, call 453-1540.

CARRIAGE PARK SENIOR COMMUNITY

Those looking for a rewarding experience can contact Heather at Carriage Park: caring, energetic individuals willing to share their time and talents with residents are needed. Phone 397-8300.

HOSPICE OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

The hospice is seeking patient care, patient companion and team support volunteers in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. For more information, call 291-9700.

PLYMOUTH COURT NURSING CENTER

Plymouth Court Nursing Center in Plymouth is looking for volunteers to help with activity programs for residents. For more information, call Maralena Howard at 455-0510.

MICHIGAN CANCER FOUNDATION

The Michigan Cancer Foundation-West Region is looking for volunteers to provide transportation for cancer patients in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. For more information, call 561-8880 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

HOST-FAMILY OPPORTUNITY

The American Intercultural Student Exchange, a non-profit educational foundation, is seeking local host families for high school foreign exchange students for the 1997-98 school year. AISE exchange students live with host families and attend local high schools during their 10-month stay. For info, phone AISE at 1-800-742-5464.

RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is looking for volunteers in the Canton area to help children needing tutoring with basic math and reading skills. Training is free. For more information, call Joy Graves at 883-2100 ext. 368.

FISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FISH of Plymouth/Canton is always looking for volunteers to assist in its purpose of aiding neighbors who cannot help themselves. If you would like information on being a driver, a "caller", or just running errands, call 261-1011 and leave a message.

GUEST SPEAKERS NEEDED AT P-C SCHOOLS

The Plymouth-Canton Business Education Partnership is looking for individuals to share information about their occupation to students in classroom settings. To volunteer, call 416-4903.

DONATE PERIODICAL SUBSCRIPTION

The Plymouth District Library is seeking individuals, businesses, and community groups to donate the cost of a subscription to one of the more than 300 periodicals to which the library subscribes. Sponsor's name will appear on the front cover of the periodical. Donation is federal, state tax deductible. For more information, please call the library at 453-0750.

Health...

BLOODMOBILE SITES

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be open to the public at the following times and locations: Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, **March 22**, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., call (810) 348-3213. Tri City Christian Center, **March 26**, 3:30 - 9:30 p.m., call (313) 326-0330. St. Thomas A' Beckett Catholic Church, **March 28**, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., call (313) 844-2505.

LA LECHE LEAGUE

La Leche League of Plymouth-Canton, a non-profit, information and support group for breastfeeding mothers meets monthly the second and fourth Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., respectively. Call 397-0197.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HANDBOOKS

A 40-page handbook containing current domestic violence laws, women's rights, a list of community resources and other information is now available in Arabic. Copies can be found at the Arab-American and Chaldean Council, the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services, the Wayne County Department of Public Health clinic in Dearborn and the Wayne County Prosecutor's office. English and Spanish versions are also available. Call (313) 224-6994.

NEW BEGINNINGS GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Meets every Monday at 7 p.m. at Plymouth Church of Christ, 9301 Sheldon Rd., just south of Ann Arbor Road, in Plymouth. Anyone who is grieving a loss because of death or divorce is welcome to attend. There is no charge. For more information, call 453-7630.

MEALS ON WHEELS

The Meals on Wheels program serves a hot nutritious lunch five days a week at Tonquish Manor; activities, such as bingo and movies will take place after the lunch in the manor's redecorated community room. A \$1.50 donation is requested for the meal, but not required. For more information, call 453-9703 weekdays between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

HEALTH AT THE SUMMIT

In Feb. and March, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital is sponsoring a series of health programs at Canton's Summit on the Park. Topics include exercise, cardiac screening, stress management, nutrition for children and adults, parenting skills and cessation of smoking. A separate, Women's-health-oriented series is also planned. Registration required. For info, phone (313) 712-4106.

OAKWOOD CLASSES/SCREENINGS

Blood pressure checks, breast feeding support groups, childbirth preparation classes and infant CPR. For more information, call 454-8001.

PLYMOUTH BREATHERS CLUB

For those with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema and other respiratory disease. Meets the second Wednesday of every month from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Mercy Health Building, Plymouth. For information, call 313 712-5367.

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Sports

Sports shorts

The City of Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department is currently holding registration for the following **adult softball leagues**: Men's slow pitch, Women's slow pitch, co-ed slow pitch and Men's Modified Fast Pitch.

Registration will last through the month of March or until the league is full. Play will begin in early May. For more information, call Recreation Director Tom Willette at 455-6626.

Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth is hosting a ninth annual Angela Hospice Golf Outing May 12.

Lary Sorenson will be among the golfers participating. A Golfer package is \$150 and includes free range balls before golf, 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch on the turn, steak dinner, open bar and beverage tickets on the course. There will also be prizes. Business Partner and Corporate packages are available too. Proceeds from the outing will benefit the Angela Hospice. For more information, call 464-7810.

Kelly Holmes, a Canton resident and Canton High School graduate, is 5-3 with a 1.08 earned run average in nine games with the University of Michigan softball team. The Wolverines are 18-5-1.

Adult softball registrations are currently being held at the Canton Parks and

Please see pg. 21

Rock swimmers have gem of a season

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Bill Clinton is president, the Beatles broke up, and the Salem boys swimming team is one of the best in the state.

Tell us something we don't know.

Year in and year out, coach Chuck Olson and his squad continue to keep teams from around the state in their wake.

This year was no different. The Rocks won the Western Lakes Activities Association title for the fifth consecutive season, 11th time overall and finished 10th in the state with an 8-1 dual record.

"The guys really had an outstanding season," said Olson. "They're nice guys, nice young guys to work with. I think I had 42 guys on the team this year, and right from the start, they were enthusiastic. I mean, it wasn't like pulling teeth to get them to perform well. They all got along really well, and when you're winning, it makes it that much better."

It couldn't have got much better this year. And Olson credits his team, a well-balanced mix of underclassmen and seniors, with a dedicated offseason training regiment as the reason for the success.

A renowned state power, Salem's only road bump on the way to the WLAA title came at the right time — the first meet of the season in the conference relays. The Rocks finished second behind cross-campus rival Canton. "We had problems with our disqualifications. Canton swam really well, so we knew what he had to go against," said Olson.

The wake up call shook Salem out of their early season slumber, and the Rocks began to roll. They avenged their second-place finish at conference relays by defeating Canton, 104-82, Jan. 16. "We were probably supposed to win, but having won the relays, Canton had a lot of confidence to rely on," said Olson.

But there was no time to rejoice because another challenge, the Rock Invitational, awaited two days later. "That's a tough one because you have to have four entries in every event," said Olson.

The team listing read like a who's who in state swimming: Canton, Birmingham Groves, Birmingham Seaholm and Catholic Central. But none would be better than the Rocks on that day. "For us to do that, that was good. Our depth really showed," said Olson.

Sophomore Andrew Locke won the 50 freestyle in 23.35. Junior Tim Buchanan, senior Kyle Petrosky, junior Brent Mellis, and senior Mark Dettling also won events. Those names would become synonymous with victory in individual and relay events before the season was out.

Locke qualified for states in the 50 freestyle and the 200 freestyle team. "That was a lot to ask of him. He certainly did well," said Olson.

Buchanan qualified for states in the 200 freestyle, and was also a member of the

200 freestyle and 400 freestyle teams that qualified for states. "He had a great year. He can swim anything for us," said Olson.

Petrosky was the Rocks' freestyle specialist all season and was also a member of both state qualifying relay teams. Mellis was "another one who could swim anything," said Olson.

Nick Corden won an individual WLAA title and was a key member on the 200 and 400 freestyle relay squads, the latter shattering a school record with a time of 3:14.03. While his teammates were turning up the water, Otto Geisman did his best work from the diving board.

A seemingly unbeatable team, the Rocks did lose to Ann Arbor Pioneer, 113-73. "We scored more points on them than any other team in the state, Olson said. "You never like to lose, but if you're going to, it might as well be to a program with the kind of tradition they

Calling the shots

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Hockey is a religion for Detroit Whalers announcer Pete Krupsky — literally.

It was the 1991-92 season and Krupsky was calling an exciting tie game between the Whalers and the Guelph Storm, when he looked at his watch and noticed it was minutes before 10 p.m., the contractually obligated time he had to sign off the air so the religious radio station WLQV could begin its "Hour of Deliverance."

With the game destined for overtime, the hockey prophet Krupsky knew he couldn't betray the Whaler faithful, no matter what the punishment might be. He continued his play by play, waiting for the broadcast termination that would come only minutes later. He continued his narrative, not for his own sake, but for the rolling tape catching every word he was saying. Salvation came the next night during an intermission in Kitchener when Krupsky played the remainder of the Guelph game for his listeners. "We pulled out of that radio deal in midseason," Krupsky said. "After the WLQV fiasco, we stayed off radio for three years."

This season is a different story. There's no limit to Krupsky's game sermons, he's now preaching play-by-play on WSDS. "They've been very supportive," he said.

And the Whalers feel the same about Krupsky, whose past includes a decade worth of radio and newspaper experience.

In a league where head coaches are also general managers, assistant coaches work in the stadium pro shop and players are students, hard work is expected. And Krupsky is no different. He usually arrives at the rink by 3 p.m. for a 7:30 p.m. game. He drives himself to away games and on road trips, and regularly compiles a detailed breakdown of penalties in the league. He also updates the Whalers' player hotline and sells advertising. Call him a one man publicity machine, and this is

have."

There were a lot of reputations in the waters of the state meet, but the Rocks weren't intimidated. Buchanan was the only individual to place, taking 10th in the 200 freestyle. The 200 and 400 freestyle teams placed 10th and fifth, respectively. Olson was not disappointed with the finish, but said the Rocks were better as a dual-meet team. "I'm convinced we were probably fourth best in the state. We beat the third-ranked team; we beat the fifth-ranked team, and Grand Blanc finished fourth at states. We didn't swim against them, but I think we could've beat them," said Olson.

Positive thinking. And Olson said he feels the same way about next year.

"We're losing some pretty good swimmers, but I guess we're kind of used to losing a lot of good swimmers. We just have to pass on the information to the next group," he said.

accomplished after his daytime job is complete.

It's a lot of work, and Krupsky doesn't like it. "I don't like this, I love this," he said.

Krupsky grew up an athlete and devoted sports fan, listening to local radio legends Bruce Martyn and George Kell. But the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of his idols didn't present itself until a friend, Mark Szekely, began a broadcasting career and offered Krupsky to join him as color commentator. "I've got to tell you, I was terrible. The only reason they kept me around was because I was free and I showed up," Krupsky said.

His appearance at hockey games became as reliable as the zamboni's.

He switched from a Red Wings season ticket holder to a Windsor Spitfires fan — the OHL's sheer tenacity and desire won him over — and from color commentator to play-by-play since the former is dominated by former players. With no formal broadcast training, Krupsky practiced his routine by announcing high school hockey games. At the conclusion of each game, he would approach the coach and present a tape for use in reviewing the game. "You've got to remember, in the mid-1980s, there was no OHL in Detroit, no Vipers, no Colonial Hockey League, just the Red Wings," Krupsky said.

And Martyn had that gig. But Krupsky did replace the long-time voice of the Red Wings in 1988. That's the year Krupsky was hired as the play by play voice for the University of Michigan Dearborn hockey team, a position Martyn would handle on occasional guest appearances.

When the U-M Dearborn program folded, Krupsky got the kind of career break every success story needs: Detroit was granted an OHL franchise, the Ambassadors.

Please see pg. 23



Sports

Central blazes path past Salem in hoops

Rocks lead early in 4th quarter, but Central rallies for regional victory

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Nate Gray came streaking down side court with his eye on the clock. He stopped 25 feet from the basket, and drained a three-point shot as time expired to give Salem its first lead against Detroit Central in the first round regional match up Wednesday at Southfield Lathrup.

If it sounds like the perfect ending, it would've been. But Gray's buzzer beater

came at the end of the third quarter; there was still eight minutes left to play. The Rocks were held to seven points that final quarter and Central went on to win, 56-48, and advance to the next round of the state tournament. "Offensively, we didn't shoot particularly well," said Salem coach Bob Brodie. "We had great looks at the basket, but you've got to give Central credit too. They changed the tra-

jectory on a lot of our shots."

The Trailblazers also played a disciplined game. They were only called for seven fouls. Only six Trailblazers played, but they did a lot of damage. Albert Smith, Dante Darling and Antonio Gates each had 14 points. Jimmy Twyman surprised the Rocks with his perimeter prowess, chipping in with nine points.

Mike Korduba and Andres Lopez led Salem with 10 points a piece.

Nate Gray had six points off of two three-point shots, and Jeff McKian had four points and five rebounds coming off the bench. Lopez also had seven rebounds. Eight players scored for Salem.

"That's typical, the whole season they've been like that, a lot of balanced scoring," said Brodie. "They've been in every game. They're exciting to watch."

The game's opening minutes weren't exciting for the Salem faithful, they were a nightmare. Central pulled out to a 9-0 lead before Lopez got the Rocks on the board with a free throw. Salem's first field goal came about a minute later on an inside shot by Korduba.

The Rocks were unable to take advantage of Central's gambling pressure defense, which often left one Salem player with an open shot. But the Rocks were able to chip away at the Central lead with crisp passing underneath and clutch baskets from inside.

Central led 19-9 at the end of one, but Salem scored the second quarter's first basket to trim the lead to eight.

The teams traded baskets throughout the quarter, but a three-pointer by Andy Power with 10 seconds left in the half cut

the Trailblazers lead to 35-26.

Salem owned the third quarter by turning the tables on Central and pressuring the Trailblazers. Down 40-34, Matt Mair hit a lay up to pull within four.

Two unsuccessful Central possessions and another Salem basket set up Gray's heroic shot. "I told the coaches, 'If we can get another basket here and go up by three, then we can start doing some things,'" said Brodie.

The Rocks had several opportunities to do just that, but they couldn't capitalize. The Rocks took their last lead when Mair drove and sunk a shot in the paint for a 43-42 lead.

Then, Salem went rock, er, stone cold from the field. "We had the chances. McKian went coast to coast and missed on a lay up. We missed four shots in a row," said Brodie. "You just can't have an off night offensively against one of the best teams in the state."

Central built on its lead, and then used its quickness to avoid Salem's desperation foul attempts.

The game's outcome sent Central to the regional finals versus Birmingham Seaholm (which the Trailblazers won) and Salem to the locker room with an 18-5 record, a district title and a West Division title. "At 18-5, you've got to be satisfied," said Brodie.

The similarity of the team's roster, each had just two seniors, left many predicting a regional rematch next year. "Everyone kept saying on the way out, 'Wait 'til next year.' That's one thing you can't do is wait, because the other teams will get better," said Brodie.

Thornton in Detroit's side; Soo wins opener, 4-3

If there was any question who would be the number one pick in this summer NHL's entry draft, it was answered Sunday night.

Sault Ste Marie star center Joe Thornton scored a natural hat trick to rally the Greyhounds from a three-goal, third period deficit and defeat Detroit, 4-3, in the first game of the first round playoff series.

Detroit led 3-1 after Andrew Taylor scored shorthanded 3:39 into the second period for his second goal of the game.

But Thornton scored twice in less than one minute midway through the same period to tie the game, 3-3. Thornton's game-winner came at 12:55 of the third period.

Whalers goalie Robert Esche made 45 saves. Forward Harold Druken scored a first period, and added an assist on Taylor's second goal.

Joe Seroski opened the scoring on the

power play early in the first period.

Game two was scheduled for Monday in the Soo. Games three and four moved to Compuware Sports Arena Friday and Saturday.

London — Detroit closed out the regular season with a road victory Friday against London, 8-6. Detroit's Joe Byrne scored his first and second goals of the season after being called up last week from Tier II. Julian Smith, Luc Rioux, Taylor, Druken and Anthony Terzo also scored for Detroit, who finished the season 26-34-6 and in fourth place in the OHL's West Division.

Windsor — Thursday, Detroit ended on the losing end of a shootout with the Spitfires, 10-4.

Windsor led 4-3 after two periods before exploding for six goals in the games final 20 minutes. Terzo, Bryan McKinney, Mike Morrone, and Mark Cadotte scored for the Whalers.



WHALER WATCH



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OHL FINAL STANDINGS

East Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
Ottawa	49	11	6	8-1-1	104
Oshawa	41	18	7	7-3-0	89
Peterborough	39	25	2	5-5-0	80
Kingston	25	35	6	3-7-0	56
Belleville	22	37	7	3-7-0	51
North Bay	14	44	8	2-6-2	36
Central Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
Kitchener	34	22	10	2-4-4	78
Barrie	35	25	6	7-1-2	76
Guelph	33	23	10	6-2-2	76
Owen Sound	27	37	2	1-8-1	56
Erie	23	36	7	4-4-2	50
Sudbury	21	37	8	3-6-1	50
West Division	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts
S.S.M.	39	17	10	8-1-1	88
Sarnia	35	24	7	1-7-2	77
Windsor	29	29	8	6-4-0	66
DETROIT	26	34	6	4-5-1	58
London	13	51	2	3-7-0	26

WHALERS STATISTICS

<u>Season leaders:</u>		
Goals-Taylor (32)		
Points-Taylor (71)		
Penalty Minutes-Vodrazka (238)		
Power Play Goals-Taylor (13)		
Shorthanded Goals-three players (2)		
Game Winning Goals-Taylor, Druken (4)		
Plus/minus-Rioux (+6)		
<u>Team stats:</u>		
Home record: 17-13-3		
Away record: 9-21-3		
<u>CATCH OF THE DAY:</u>		
<u>Who?</u>	<u>When?</u>	<u>Where?</u>
S.S.M	Fri. 7:30	home
S.S.M	Sat 7:30	home
S.S.M.	TBA 7:30	away
S.S.M.	TBA 7:30	home

Have dinner before or celebrate after the game



At the Lower Town Grill
Home of The Drooling Moose Saloon
Now Open on Mondays
195 W. Liberty • Plymouth
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Sharks take bite of Mite BB U.S. championship



The Plymouth-Canton Great White Sharks got the final bite at Sunday's Sport Weekend Extravaganza Tournament. The Mite BB team, ages 8-9, beat their Alleghany, PA foes in dramatic shootout fashion following a 1-1 game in regulation and scoreless overtime. Johnny Koerl got the lone goal in regulation, and Billy Gaunther and Marco Masciulli joined him for goals in the shootout. David Carey won the MVP award for his defensive work, helping goaltender Joey Moore record his third tournament win. Front row: Marco Masciulli, Alex Auer, Brett Kavulich, Johathon Groat, Alex Lajoie and Joey Moore. Second row: Johnny Koerl, Dante Masciulli, Billy Gaunther, Ben Underwood and Tyier Staber. Third row: Derrick Schmitt, Kyle Gross, David Carey, Nathan Marderosian and Paul Stevens. Coaches: Joe Moore, Dave Knoerl and Jeff Lajoie.

Salem, Canton hoops players honored

The Canton and Salem High School basketball teams were rewarded for their outstanding seasons with several player selections to the Western Lakes Activities Association's All-Conference and All-Division teams.

Canton, who finished the season 7-4 in the WLLA and was the tournament champion, had four players honored.

Senior Nick Hurley was named to the All-Conference team.

Senior Rob Johnson was selected to the

All-Western team.

Fellow seniors Matt Ammons and Donte Scott earned honorable mention selections.

For Salem, who was 8-3 in conference play, Lakes Division and district champions, junior Andy Power was named to the All-Conference team.

Senior Andres Lopez was selected to the All-Lakes team.

Senior Nate Gray and junior Jeff McKian earned honorable mentions.

Krupsky makes the calls

Continued from pg. 21

He moved into the broadcast booth with friend and mentor, Steve Bell, and together they called Spitfire and Ambassador games.

"He was a big influence on me," Krupsky said. "He showed me everything I was doing right. It was a great way to get into the league."

Krupsky was the lead voice the next year on WLQV before Detroit went off the air for three seasons.

"I was the voice without a voice," said Krupsky, who kept busy as a hockey beat writer and cable television host.

He returned to the airwaves in 1995 on WHND, but a lack of advertising interest forced Detroit, now called the Whalers, off the air three months into the season. The

subsequent move up the dial to WSDS has allowed Krupsky to call the shots throughout this season.

Krupsky is broadcasting the playoffs, and the Whalers are reportedly considering renewing their contract with the station next year. That's good news for Krupsky, who is honing his routine for an eventual NHL position. But if there's no radio contract next season, Krupsky will still be at the games, talking up the Whalers.

"I almost feel like it's an obligation," he said. "In the last three years, they've done more than the Red Wings have — three division titles, an OHL championship — with little or no fanfare from the Detroit media."

He's made up for the dearth singlehandedly.

P-C athletes take care of opponents, grades

It's brains and brawn at Canton and Salem high schools.

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park helped set a Michigan High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Award application record by nominating 16 athletes, the third most in the state.

The Plymouth Christian Academy nominated four athletes.

The program, which has been recognizing student-athletes since 1989-90, honors 24 individuals, one in each sport.

This year a record 2,636 applicants were received from 497 schools, surpassing last year's total of 2,456 applications. In addition to the record number of applications, the number of schools participating exceeded last year's record of 484.

To be eligible for the award, students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5, and have previously won a varsity letter in the sport in which they are applying.

Students were also asked to show involvement in other school and community activities, submit two letters of recommendation and a 500-word essay on the importance of sportsmanship in educational athletics.

In the five years in which the scholarships have been awarded in all MHSAA sports, the number of applicants has more than doubled. The winners, to be named during the Class C basketball championship game, are awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.

From Salem: Lisa Bacynski, girls soccer; Jennifer Nicole Bolton, girls cross country; James Chapman, football; Katie Collins, girls swimming; Mark Dettling, boys swimming; Bryan Fox, boys golf; Kristin Kosik, girls track and gymnastics; Kristin Los, softball; Greg Mitchell, boys cross country; Kathryn Murinas, girls golf; Lawrence Nunn, boys track; Ryan Rumberger, baseball; Matt Sarkesian, boys soccer; Suzanne Theodore, girls tennis; and Laurel Weinman, girls basketball.

From Canton: Jeff Ammons, boys tennis; Matt Ammons, boys soccer; Mary Anderson, girls basketball; Rachel R. Burt, girls cross country; Sarah M. Carson, girls softball; Nathan Copenhaver, baseball; Jessica S. Dumas, girls tennis; Scott McLane, football; Jennifer Parvianen, girls soccer; Angkana Roy, girls track; David Schacht, boys swimming; Cason Donte Scott, boys basketball; Sanjay Sharma, boys cross country; Amy K. Sonnanstine, girls swimming; Jason Vergari, boys track; and Alyson Young, girls golf.

From Plymouth Christian: Kelly Hamlin, girls volleyball; Elisa Roseann Moore, girls track; Kimberly Rinzema, girls softball; and Sarah Kay Sumer, girls basketball.

None of the Plymouth-Canton nominees are finalists.

Sports shorts

Continued from pg. 19

Recreation Services. Men's team fee is \$280, Women's \$360, and Co-ed \$320. The Women's and Co-ed are jointly run with the City of Plymouth. Registration ends April 4 for Women's and March 28 for Men's and Co-ed. For more information, call 397-5110.

The Thursday Morning Golf Group plays nine holes at Hilltop Golf Course every Thursday at 8 a.m.

There are a limited number of openings. For more information, call Betty or Karen at 459-8386.

The Plymouth-Canton and Plymouth Salem High School Ice Hockey Team

Boosters are in the process of obtaining the necessary support to sponsor an interscholastic high school ice hockey team proposal before the Plymouth-Canton School Board. Mail post cards or letters of support to Plymouth-Canton and Plymouth Salem High School Ice Hockey Program, P.O. Box 6091, Plymouth, MI 48170. Website address:

<http://www.rinknet.com/dwhalers/dwhalers.htm>. E-Mail notes of support to: earzno@e.imap.itd.umich.edu

Compuware Sports Arena offers public skating

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:10-11 a.m. and 12:10-2 p.m., and Sunday from 12:40-2 p.m. in the Olympic Arena only. Admission is \$4, and skate rental is \$3.

Drop in hockey is held Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7-8:50 p.m. and noon to 1:50 p.m.

Player admission is \$7; goalies are free.



Community opinions

Vote 'yes' on school bond

This Saturday, Plymouth-Canton Schools are holding a special election for their 1997 bond issue. Although the plan is not perfect, it will help the schools cope with the district's enormous growth.

The bond plans deserves a "yes" vote.

If passed, the bond will raise about \$80 million. Annual cost to taxpayers with a \$200,000 home would be \$175 — around .48 cents a day. That half-dollar would buy:

- High School: A third high school would be built at PCEP at the corner of Joy and Beck roads. Redundant facilities such as a theater and pool would not be built, and would instead be shared with Canton and Salem.

This school is in-line with the original plans for the park. The board announced that if built, students' classes would be centralized and foot traffic between the schools would be reduced.

The district currently maintains a \$4.5 million fund balance. As each each new student enters the schools, they bring state foundation money with them. Without an increase in overhead that money is surplus, and is added to the district's fund.

By the time the high school is built, the fund balance is expected to reach \$5.4 million — a \$900,000 increase. School officials say that money would pay for one-time costs necessary to open the high school.

Among those costs should be a campus roadway to keep unnecessary traffic off of Canton Center and Joy Roads.

The high schools are already over capacity and more students are on the way. Community growth will continue. Cramming them all into two schools stifles learning and reduces important extra-curricular opportunities. The community owes its students a third high school. Cost: \$48 million.

- Elementary School: Continuing growth in the community, particularly in Canton, have filled the elementary schools beyond their capacity. Classes are spilling over into other rooms at a number of schools, including Bentley, one of the district's newest.

The bond would build a new elementary school, probably in southwest Canton; no site has yet been chosen. Although voters are being asked to sign a blank check for the elementary school — not knowing where it will be built — the school is an important element that will be used to house growth in a burgeoning district.

Without it, schools will remain overcrowded and programs, such as art and music, will continue to suffer as their specialty rooms are adapted for warehousing kids.

If a large enough parcel is bought, the

school could be built to be convertible into a middle school. This would make sense, as the current large elementary enrollment ages, and Central Middle School's usefulness wanes. Cost: \$10 million.

- Computers: With money from the 1991 Bond the schools installed the Dynacom fiber optic network, a strong computer foundation. The '97 bond would pay to build on that foundation, putting two computers in every classroom in every school.

Computers are obviously becoming the world's dominant technology. Digital literacy is, and will continue to be crucial for students. The two-computer standard is appropriate and necessary to educating students. Cost: \$10.5 million.

- Remodeling: The bond would pay for new plumbing at Smith and Gallimore schools, roofing at Central Middle School and similar projects. Cost: \$7 million.

- Buses: As The P-C Community grows, there are more students. More students means more buses. The bond would pay for repairs and additions to the district fleet. Although the 25-year bond may outlast the buses themselves, it is for a comparatively small amount and should not undermine the bond's integrity. Cost: \$3 million.

The need is evident. It can be seen at the schools, has been felt by students, teachers and parents, and has been articulated in the many public presentations made by the board and the Citizen's Election Committee.

As the community continues its rapid growth, the new schools and upgrades will add to property value, ease overcrowding and advance learning in the P-C school district.

The schools and community deserve a "yes" vote Saturday.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Your vote is important

Get out and vote!

As a Plymouth-Canton resident it's your responsibility to cast your ballot whether it's a "yea" or a "nay."

As a taxpayer, a citizen, it's your most immediate source of control in your community. Speak your mind. Raise your voice. Vote in the school election Saturday.

Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. throughout the community.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

Outcome of bond vote reflects on community

EDITOR:

This past week, the Citizens Election Committee sponsored a luncheon for Senior Citizens of the Plymouth-Canton Community at the Rock Cafe at Salem High School. This was an opportunity for these guests to see first hand the many activities and educational endeavors that take place at the Educational Park. The guests were served a delicious lunch planned and prepared by the students who participate in the Food-Service Occupations program as part of the curriculum of the high school complex. Under the direction of Carey Gary who coordinates the Culinary Arts program, the guests at the luncheon were impressed by the lunch served graciously by the student staff of the Rock Cafe. The student staff were very attentive to the guests and were great ambassadors for the students of the complex.

In addition, a saxophone quartet from the Band Program entertained everyone with some jazz tunes and Big Band selections. To add to the entertainment at the luncheon, the Madrigal Chorus sang several songs that were wonderful. The afternoon was a wonderful display of the talents and personalities of the students at our high schools. The citizens of this community should become more involved in opportunities at the high school complex, and all the community schools, as we are all part of the educational system in this community. "It takes a village" to educate our children. The community spirit that envelops the Plymouth-Canton community is often the magnet that draws people to this community. We are that village, that diverse group of people that can work together to continue to build a strong educational system.

But, many people who have concerns about this bond issue don't seem to be concerned about the community as a whole. Several people who frequently write letters complain about the bond proposal without any evidence of their presence at the community forum and bond proposal process. Their comments were delivered after many attempts were made to elicit ideas from the community. Many say the forum process is not representative of the entire community. It is however representative of those people who are truly interested in the education of the children of this community. I made the time despite three jobs, three masters classes and thesis writing to attend to the bond proposal, as it directly impacts the future education of my children. We should not be about complaining, but about participating in change. A prominent former board member continues to complain about the bond proposal, but was not at the forums or any other developmental meetings to add insight into the decision-making process and be a part of the community process for change.

Another recent letter writer believes that our children are "guinea pigs" in the integration of additional computer technology. Please wake up sir! We are soon to enter the new millennium. Computer technology is long past experimentation. I am pleased that we are looking to the future in the education of our children and preparing them to succeed in the future.

Change is very difficult for many people. The growth we see in these communities is a huge change from the small community that many of us know. The outcome we all know, is that new schools are needed. Let's support the Bond issue, then work on the process of developing the details of what we want.

The growth in this community is something we can't change. Instead of fighting it, we need to be involved and work toward the positive and planned growth in our schools. Work with it by being involved. There's a lot of work to be done in the development of new schools once the Bond is passed. Be involved in this change, make it work for you. Look to the future of education in this community and don't fight the change in population that has already taken place. Be a part of change by voting for the bond on March 22.

JOANNE LAMAR



Community opinions

McClendon: We need third high school now

EDITOR:

A recent letter from my fellow past-school-board colleague and friend Roland Thomas regarding the proposed school building bond program "cries out" for an answer. I never like to confront a friend in a disagreement, this is especially true in this instance where I can affirm the intelligence and integrity of Roland. I feel I must, however, cite evidence that challenges or at the least seriously questions some of his premises, related calculations and conclusions about the proposed buildings and supporting bond issue.

We do need to build a third high school and we need to get going on it now. Our present high schools were planned and built to house 1,600 to 1,700 students. They would be overflowing at 1,800. Two thousand would be maximum overload and would be feasible for only two or three years while we got through an unusual population bulge. We now have some 2,300 students in each of those buildings. If we had the new high school and redistributed the students we now have (which no one is proposing) we would have 1,600 in each of the present buildings and 1,400 in the third one. Does this look like over building? Using quite conservative projections by the year 2001 we would have more than 1,650 students in each building. The statement that these numbers would "flatten out" (i.e. stop growing) after that date does not agree with the evidence. Studies by competent demographers or personal observations by people who drive through the west side of the school district looking at developments already platted for early construction and houses already being built show growth will continue into the future. There will be no 38% overbuild. We need a high school not a temporary substitute.

Since I have often said that overcrowding leads to compromise in quality education, one might conclude that I would claim that quality education is already failing in our two high schools. NOT true; then why not? Many excellent things are being accomplished in those two schools. How is this contradiction explained? Some very dedicated teachers are going beyond the call of duty to maintain excellence by doing such things as using their planning time to help students with a class problem where the class was too crowded to help an individual or squeezing another chair into an already overcrowded classroom because the student needs that class and in dozens of other ways. Also some equally committed and

energetic administrators and their staffs who expend every effort to get the maximum utility from every foot of space and every hour of time by doing such things as converting a basement storage room to a computer laboratory. Never forget some superior students who understand the value of good education and a good school to their lives and careers and work hard to keep quality high. Then why not just let all this continue as is? Simple; this "beyond the call of duty" effort cannot be sustained very long. Let us not exhaust the "good works" before we take action to relieve the risk.

The arguments against the elementary school appear to be less abstract. They seem to say, "it just costs too much." Well of course, they all do, and every day we delay the cost goes up. Comparing this new school's price with the cost of Tonda and Bentley is somewhat invidious. First, it has been over six years since those were planned and cost out. In five years there has been serious inflation in building costs (some have gone up geometrically—and there are always improvements that need to be made based on experience with a given design.

The larger gymnasium and cafeteria and some other spaces will be essential if that building is later to be converted to a middle school. These larger facilities may well be needed as soon as possible to provide an organizing center for a new community. The school is often the center for younger parents to make friendships, bond relationships and establish neighborhood identities. This is especially true when all are new to the area and may have moved long distances. This may possibly be the only public building in the area. The building is needed as soon as possible and delay will cause further overcrowding and increased cost.

The matter of over building has long been of concern to me. Many may not recall that the best thing we ever did to prevent over building in Plymouth-Canton schools was the "year-round" school. This became a critical issue when the baby boomers hit our schools and as they moved on through they left vacant buildings. The present situation is not at all like that. Dr. Wendell Hough, a resident of this community and an Associate Dean of the College of Education at Wayne State University, co-chaired with me, a study committee which explored options in the overcrowding vs. overbuilding controversy and recommended the year-round school plan. The plan

was adopted and worked well. It also revealed that the year-round students did better than regular year students in learning achievement. It might be that the plan should be considered again, but only if all elementary schools are involved and a strong majority of parents support it.

I have previously addressed the idea of building a third building between the two now standing at P-CEP and found it lacking but since it has surfaced again, it may need further consideration. The human and vehicle traffic problems this would entail have already been found untenable. The glowing promises of high quality classrooms, a cafeteria, media center and gymnasium certainly cannot be built for \$1.6 million dollars. The idea that this building be the ninth grade only seems wisely to have been abandoned. I can recall no such plan being advanced or seriously considered in 1991, had this been the case surely more would know of it. A building to house a performance auditorium, a competition quality gymnasium, meeting rooms, and related facilities for school and community use and to stand near the center of the site was in the original plan for P-CEP but apparently abandoned when the large auditorium was built into Salem High School. A third building in the midst of this same segment of the Park would surely exacerbate the traffic and parking problems for buses and students, faculty, staff and visitors. Surely we can do better.

It is certainly true as Mr. Thomas has said "education in Plymouth-Canton needs to step forward by improving educational processes" and a great opportunity exists to take that step by voting to approve the bond issue.

We should remember that these building bond proposals came from citizens through surveys and forums where the people of the community were asked to express their views and their preferences about the schools. The school district has for years pledged to recognize that the schools belong to the community and to observe that by striving to follow the community's wishes in managing and operating its schools. This bond plan provides a great opportunity to act on that pledge if the voters will come out and vote for this proposal to carry it out. This is a vote for our children (our kids) including those as yet unborn and those soon to leave our schools to fulfill their life's plan. Please vote yes for them and for those whose education here was finished long ago.

E.J. MCCLENDON

Pay for P-C School improvements now, not later

EDITOR:

Glenn Kremer, who wrote a letter to the editor that appeared in the February 1, 1997 issue, is entitled to feel that the Bond issue is unnecessary. He has a right to vote against it.

He does not have the right to state as fact, misconceptions and downright misstatements.

Glenn wrote, "I am being told to cough up another \$80 MILLION in taxes." The fact is no one is telling him to cough up anything, least of all \$80 Million. The Plymouth-Canton Schools are placing a ballot proposal before the electorate in March that would increase Kremer's taxes by approximately \$88 if the value of his house is \$100,000 and \$175 if the value is \$200,000.

Glenn's proposal that only Canton residents who are moving into a new house pay a "future schools fee" is patently discriminatory. People move into new houses in each of our government areas. Everyone in the District benefits from good schools providing good education, even those with no children at all. Everyone is a stake holder; everyone should contribute financially to the educational system according to his or her means; not according to geography.

Kremer's words to the contrary, Dr. Little has never equated the building of new schools with the failure of any one child, nor for that matter with the failure of children in general. He and the staffs in Plymouth-Canton Schools are dedicated to delivering quality education whether in crowded or uncrowded conditions. It is harder to do under crowded conditions. Crowding anywhere has negative consequences. It puts a strain on resources, on commonly used areas and on people. It does not allow for as much individuality nor for as great a sense of identity.

Mr. Kremer wants contingency plans and many have been proposed. Almost all of the contingency plans proposed were tried before. I was here for modular scheduling, 9th grade school, 6th grade to elementary school/9th grade to middle school, 45/15 year round school. Some were disasters in terms of quality education; all of them took their toll in terms of the above mentioned stress on people and resources. One definition of contingency is "Not logically necessary." If a contingency plan was the best possible solution to a problem it wouldn't be a contingency plan. Let's concentrate all our energies on the best possible plan first. There is plenty of time to look at second bests.

Mr. Kremer doesn't pay Dr. Little's salary; one could as easily say that Dr. Little pays his own salary. He pays taxes just like Mr. Kremer does. Because schools operate on tax dollars, it means that educators need to take into account the taxpayers' concerns and incorporate their concerns into planning. The community survey, the forums held, the District committees participating in decision making; these were all avenues for extensive taxpayer input. More taxpayer input is gathered, considered and acted on than ever before in the 27 years I've been in this District.

The Plymouth Canton District will have more growth to come. Eventually, subdivisions will be continuous from Plymouth to Ann Arbor. We will build new schools, the question is when. Now, at today's prices, or down the road at even higher cost? Now, so our children can benefit from conditions that enhance learning, or down the road when our children are out of school?

MAUREEN MURPHY

ASST. PRINCIPAL, WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL



Community opinions

Schools need more classrooms to accommodate growth

EDITOR:

It appears that Roland Thomas and I agree on one fact; The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools need more classrooms to accommodate the growth in our community. However, Mr. Thomas' plan does not take into consideration the community's needs and desires.

Mr. Thomas' proposal to build an additional classroom building at the Canton and Salem High Schools is a short-term solution at best. We would be remiss if we failed to take into consideration the current growth as well as the buildable land still available in all our communities. I could not justify approval of the Thomas plan then turn around in another five years to ask for another building or worse, another high school. My worst fear is that voters will ask, "You knew of the vast growth, why did you not ask for more schools?"

Research exists that students learn measurably less in high schools larger than 2100 students. The PCEP student enrollment is already beyond this number. As well as our students perform now, imagine how much better they could perform in a smaller environment. By locating the third high school at the Southeast corner of Joy and Beck Road, students will be able to enjoy the many learning opportunities at the PCEP and still alleviate the concentration of students in one general area.

PCEP teachers, administrators and parents were given several opportunities to contribute to the Bond proposal. Three community forums were held and staff for the PCEP were present. An additional opportunity was given specifically to the staff and parents at the PCEP.

Mr. Thomas said that the construction cost of Tonda and Bentley was \$4.5 million

each in 1991 compared to \$9.7 million for the proposed new elementary school. In fact, the cost to build Tonda and Bentley was \$5.7 million each and the bond project includes \$7 million to build the new elementary school. Also, in the 1991 Bond, property was strategically purchased to accommodate the high growth areas similar to the 1997 bond proposal.

Thirty years ago our Board of Education had the wisdom to purchase property throughout the district for the benefit of future generations. Their wisdom has provided us with the framework we have today. The flexibility of converting the elementary school to a middle school is good planning and offers opportunities for future decision makers.

I fully and whole heartedly support the district's initiative to involve the entire community in the decision-making process surrounding the bond proposal. Experts in the finance, business and professional fields were involved in community forums and the steering committee.

Their talents have helped to develop and deliver clear and concise information to the public. These people are genuinely concerned for the community and the tax burden this proposal puts forth.

Although I have a great deal of respect for Thomas and his years of service to this community, I support the community forums, the Bond Steering Committee and the Citizens' Election Committee in their diligent efforts to bring before the voters the best solution to accommodate the students of this district. Please remember to vote on Saturday, March 22, 1997.

CARRIE BLAMER

P-C SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARY

Look at benefits versus cost when voting on P-C school bond

EDITOR:

As you are aware the date for the vote on the Bond Proposal is rapidly approaching. I believe when making an important decision, it is always beneficial to look at the benefits and costs.

First, I would like to address the benefits. Currently our schools have an overcrowding problem. Each high school was built to educate a maximum of 2,100 students. At this point in time, with the rapid growth in our community, they each have close to 2,300 students, and are still growing.

Many of the texts in the high schools are outdated and in poor physical condition. In fact, these texts are in such short supply, that many can't be taken out of the classroom. This is not a healthy situation for our children in this increasingly technological world.

The problems with the elementary schools being overcrowded are just as bad, and are best represented by the situation at Bentley Elementary School, where a number of lower level students go to a different school than their older brothers and sisters, because their isn't enough classroom space. Classes with over 30 students in each class have not been uncommon throughout the Canton-Plymouth School District. Kindergartners are forced to ride up to an hour on the bus going to school, and an hour coming home from school.

Yet even with all these problems, and at least 35 percent of Canton Township and Plymouth Township still to be developed, and new homes to be built in these communities, there are those who say: "We don't need any more schools."

Our children soon will have to compete in the work world with children educated in Grosse Pointe, Birmingham,

Ann Arbor, Northville, Novi and in Japan, German, China and the rest of the world. Will we provide them with the necessary tools to be able to compete and lead happy, productive lives, or will we relegate them to a lifetime of flipping burgers? These are the same children who will be our next taxpayers, and who will be providing for our social security payments.

Secondly, with regard to the cost of the Bond Proposal the yearly cost will be \$175 for a \$200,000 homeowner. This is approximately 50 cents a day. Do you

feel our children's education is worth giving up one can of pop per day for your family? Is giving up one happy meal a week too much to ask for the future of our children? Don't you think your parents would have given up two movie tickets per week to further your education? In fact, don't you think they did?

I know when I was a child, everyone's parents drove their cars an extra year, wore their clothes an extra season, repaired and didn't have sprinkler systems and decks.

Space, technology, equity top reasons for 'yes' vote on P-C School bond vote Saturday

EDITOR:

I am a member of the Citizen's Election Committee and a parent of two young children, and have made every effort to make sure I am very well informed about the issues surrounding the upcoming bond election on March 22, 1997.

I have read several letters regarding this issue lately that contain information and opinions that I feel are questionable. I feel it is important for me to review some of the facts.

One of the biggest arguments that I have read is that the planed new high school is a "38 percent overbuild." This statement does not take into account any possibility of future lowering of PCEP class size. Isn't lowering class-size one of the major issues this district is facing?

In addition, the community is concerned with the number of students at Canton and Salem and are not supportive of additional classroom space at this site.

There is research that says there is a measurable drop-off in learning in buildings with more than 2,100 students.

Another statement that was made was that it cost \$4.5 million to build the last two elementary schools — why \$9 million in 1997? In fact, the total cost to build the two schools was \$7 million including construction, technology, furnishings, allocation of architectural and construction fees and bond issuance costs.

Construction costs in the Detroit area increased 4.37 percent

per year from 1991-95, and in 1996 costs increased approximately 8 percent. Costs are expected to continue to increase at a high rate.

All citizens and staff were invited to participate in the planning stages of this proposal in a variety of ways including numerous notices in the newspapers, school newsletters, cable television, staff newsletters and internal and external meeting announcements.

The PCEP staff were specifically invited to their own forum and the community forum.

Building the elementary such that it could be converted to a middle school is planning for the future. The District is making an effort not to overbuild. Current projections show the elementary population leveling off and decreasing slightly before the need for a middle school develops.

Even if one doesn't have children in schools, this bond proposal needs to be carefully considered. The quality of the schools are one of the top considerations of people moving into a new area. Property values decline if the schools decline in quality.

In my opinion, this bond issue is one of space, to educate our children; technology, to give them the best possible opportunities for the future; and equity among facilities. I encourage everyone to vote "YES" on March 22, 1997.

SUZANNE DERSHEM

They took this money and put it into new schools so we, the Baby Boomers, could enjoy an era of economic prosperity that has never been equaled in this planet's history.

Please ask yourself the following question:

"Are you going to vote "yes" for the Bond Proposal and for educating our youth and maintaining our home values, or are you going to vote "no" to the future of our Plymouth Canton Schools, and our community's future?"

MARK T. SLAVENS



Community opinions

Bond vote makes sense for many reasons

EDITOR:

We are writing on behalf of the Class-Size Action Partnership Core Committee in support of the proposed school bond issue to be voted on Saturday, March 22, 1997. The Class-Size Action Partnership is a group of parents and educators working to reduce class-size in our district. We support the proposed bond issue for the following reasons:

Potential for Class-Size Reduction

In 1996, a community survey was conducted covering many education issues. A majority of those surveyed think that reducing class size is very important. While the proposed bond issue will not include new teachers, new schools will enable us to move closer to the goal of reducing class-size by increasing physical space.

Today our high schools are about 600 students over capacity. We also have several elementary buildings at capacity. For example, Bentley Elementary is currently at capacity and has closed enrollment. Hulsing Elementary which now accepts the overflow students from Bentley is about to add 4 new portable classrooms to house new students. Bird Elementary is slated to see many new students coming from the large, new Plymouth subdivision, Country Club Village. Isbister Elementary has no more classrooms available and has very large first-grade classes.

With the turnover of older neighborhoods, current construction of new homes slated for construction, the district as a whole will soon be well over capacity.

Improved Learning Environment/Improved Property Values

Recent University of Michigan research suggests "...the ideal high school, defined in terms of effectiveness (i.e., learning) enrolls between 600-900 students. Students learn less in schools smaller than this; those in large high schools (especially those over 2,100) learn considerably less."

Participants in last fall's Community Forums concurred and suggested a third high school to provide the "right-sized school" environment for our high school students. The Forums also

Let new generation of students enjoy educational opportunities with 'yes' vote on bond Saturday

EDITOR:

I look back positively on my years, 1953-1995, as a teacher, K-3, Reading Specialist, and Director, State and Federal Programs, Plymouth Canton Community Schools.

I had the experience of working with very talented and high caliber staff, who cared about kids and used all their expertise in giving instruction to fit the individual needs of their students. Many of these staff are dear friends. I feel very privileged in being part of such a great group!

Some strong points of our system over the years are:

High quality teaching staff, good kids, good parents, good leadership from administration and school boards, involvement of community in decision-making and forward planning, ability to accommodate fast-growing populations with building program and appropriate curriculum, ability to prepare for demand of leadership with administrative internship programs, curricula to serve diverse populations (programs for gifted shared facilities at

Lower class size: vote 'yes' on P-C School bond issue

EDITOR:

I am a member of the Citizen's Election Committee and a parent of two young children, and have made every effort to make sure I am very well informed about the issues surrounding the upcoming bond election on March 22, 1997. I have read several letters regarding

this issue that contain information and opinions that I feel are questionable. I feel it is important for me to review some of the facts.

One of the biggest arguments that I have read is that the planned new high school is a "38 percent overbuild." This statement does not take into account any

identified the need for neighborhood elementary schools with enrollments of approximately 500 students.

We have become complacent with the size of our schools. The two Plymouth-Canton high schools have an average enrollment of 2,270 students, and average elementary school enrollment is 530 students.

Compare this to average high school enrollment in nearby districts: Ann Arbor 1,961 students per school; Farmington, 1,118 students per school; Livonia, 1,767 students per school; Northville, 1,312 students in one high school. The average enrollment for elementary schools in these four districts is 300 students.

Certainly, school size is not the only measure of school quality and our schools have done a good job despite space constraints. However, if we allow our schools to become further crowded we risk academic outcomes and the reputation of our schools.

School quality does affect property values. The May 15, 1996 "USA Today" reported from the results of a study it conducted: "it is typical for a house to be worth at least 10 percent more than a comparable houses across the street if that street is the boundary between a highly rated school and a laggard. In some cases, house in the best districts cost almost twice as much as those nearby."

It Makes Economic Sense

Building new school is inevitable. Delaying construction would add cost. We would prolong the use (and expense) of portable classrooms.

We would incur higher building costs (they rose 8 percent last year in Metro Detroit).

We could incur higher financing costs if we miss out on the favorable interest rates that exist now.

It is for these reasons that we support the proposed bond issue. Please join us in voting to improve our schools and our community by voting YES on Saturday, March 22nd

LUCY FRENCH, KAREN PALGUT, JUDY MARDIGIAN, DARICE SCHUBATIS

Park with the two high schools strong vocational programs, remediation programs, K-12), comprehensive media centers, (libraries) K-12 —early integration of computers into systems, a model Special Education program K-12, well defined programs for parents and children from low-income areas pre-K-12 with state and federal monies (Head Start, Plus are examples of successful federal programs), strong physical education and athletic programs K-12 (good competitive teams), comprehensive music programs K-12 (excellent marching band).

We have had and continue to have an excellent school system. Our district has always involved the community in decision-making (the early school community councils were pioneers in this movement). I know the community will want to support the bond issue and let the new generation of students have the opportunities through education to make them part of an enlightened populace in our communities in the 21st century.

MARY FRITZ

possibility of future lowering of PCEP class size.

Isn't lowering class-size one of the major issues this district is facing?
DEBRA M^{AC}GREGOR

**Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday**

The Community Crier



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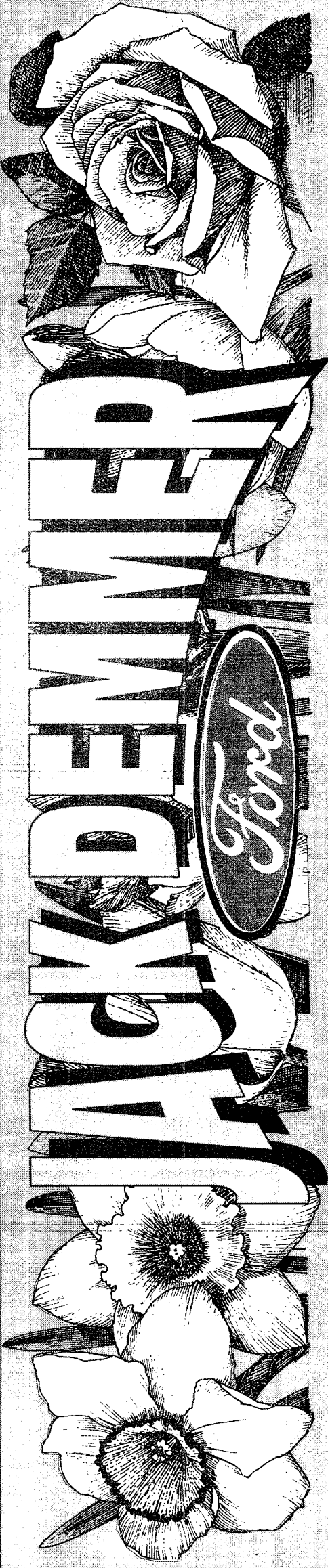
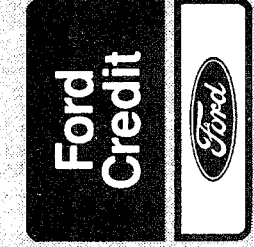
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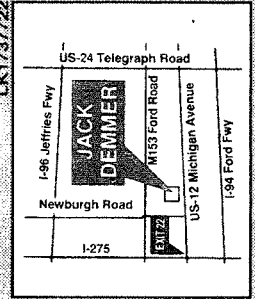
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