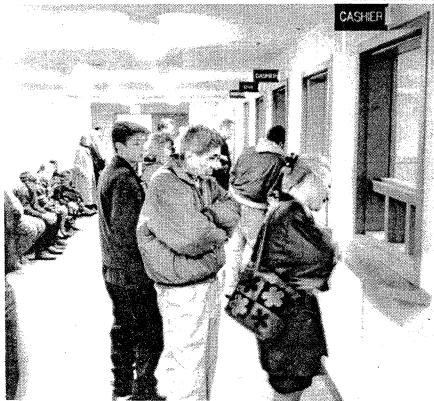


Plymouth, MI,48179-1687 Canton, Wit Community Community Crier

Vol. 24 No. 46

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December 17,1997



For the first time since it burned down July 2, residents with business at the 35th District Court can stop at one spot. The court opened its temporary location Monday, in trailers at the Unisys parking lot (above). (Crier photo R.

Twp. suspects arson in Wyckoff fire

51 firefighters battled blaze

BY BRYON MARTIN

Plymouth Township police and fire officials said they suspect arson in the fire that did \$250,000 in damage to the Wyckoff Steel building Friday.

In freezing weather that left body and gear cased in ice, thirty-seven Township firefighters battled the blaze with help from 14 reinforcements from Northville Township. Plymouth Community Fire Chief Larry Groth called it a "department-wide"

The fire destroyed the facility's office complex, but its 210,000-square foot warehouse escaped significant damage, Groth said.

Ampco-Pittsburg Corp., which owns the property, will nonetheless pursue demolition permits from the Township to raze both structures and possibly sell the land for development, according to Bill Klein, former plant controller for Wyckoff. Both buildings have been vacant since 1989 when Wyckoff declared bankruptcy, he said.

Canton industrial park underway

2.5 million sq. ft of commercial space to come

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

It's the beginning of change in a large section of what used to be rural Canton.

The first spec building in Ashley Capital's 230-acre industrial research park is under construction, according to Jeff Goulet, Canton community planner.

The 400,000-square foot building is the first of six industrial buildings planned for the research park, which will contain more than 2.5 million square-feet of commercial space when completed, Goulet said.

Ashley Capital is a development company that specializes in spec buildings for industrial firms, Goulet said. Spec buildings are built to be sold or leased after completion, without a certain firm or type of firm in mind.

The research park is located along Michigan Avenue near Beck Road, a section of Canton that had previously been zoned for agricultural uses. Goulet said.

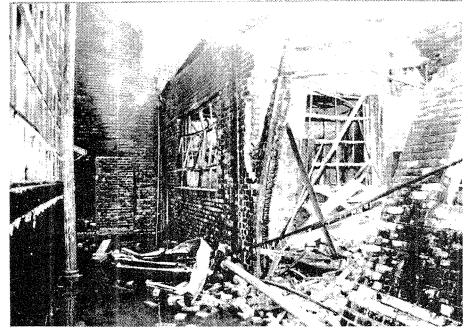
"Last summer the Township amended the master plan for the parcels to follow the patterns of development along the corridor," Goulet said.

Ashley Capita had to apply for special land use for the property, which had then been zoned for commercial uses, Goulet said.

"A research district has different landscape requirements," he said. "The township requires greater setbacks and more buffering to give it a more upscale look.

In addition to the setbacks and buffers,

Please see pg. 5



The Wyckoff Steel building, located on General Drive near Mill Street and Ann Arbor Road, suffered \$250,000 in damage in a fire Friday. Township officials suspect it is a case of arson.

Please see pg. 13

Crier deadlines

For Saturday's Crier, classified ads must be turned in by 4 p.m. Dec. 18; display ads must be in by 5 p.m.

A cut above

Canton business shares secret to aging firewood

See Getting Down to Business pg. 8

For kicks

Canton girl dances with Rockettes at Fox, stays for show See Friends & Neighbors pg. 6 Like many community

WHAT IS VOLUNTARY PAY?

newspapers, The Community Crier is a "voluntary pay" newspaper. Your carrier is paid to deliver your paper even if you choose not

to pay for it. But let's consider for a moment what happens when you DO pay. In addition to being paid for each paper delivered, your carrier keeps 25 percent of his or her collections, and 100 percent of all tips. This first job experience teaches these youngsters valuable lessons in money management and budgeting and provides them with an opportunity to develop personal motivation. Crier carriers are also eligible to earn valuable gifts and prizes.

Crier carriers strive to do their best. Your carrier will be stopping by to see you at the end of each month. They would be more than grateful if you pay, but a friendly "I'd rather not pay" will also be accepted. Either way, a valuable lesson is learned; and you can be assured of continuous delivery. As you know, The Crier contains Plymouth-Canton community information and news, local ads, valuable coupons and more.

If you choose to participate in the voluntary pay program, the cost is only \$2.25 per month. And remember, 25 percent of this amount goes to your carrier.

> The Community Crier **Circulation Department** (734) 453-6900

821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth MI 48170

Canton DDA's \$4 million question

Developers want backing for project

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

To build or not to build — that is the question developers have asked about one of Canton's premier undeveloped sites: The Ford Road-I-275 intersection.

Now, the Canton Development Authority (DDA) has a question to ask itself, too: what price is it willing to pay to develop the site?

According to Chuck DiMaggio, project manager for the Burton-Katzman Development Company, the 123-acre mixedused development proposed for the site will not happen unless the DDA is willing to contribute about \$4 million to the project.

'This is a very prime intersection with wonderful opportunities. It has excellent marketability, demographics and visibility, everything you need for a good development," DiMaggio said. "But for every good thing I can list about it, the land is equally as poor. If we're going to develop it, and develop it right, we'll need some help."

The contribution includes initial infrastructure improvements such as a road connecting Ford and Lotz roads, which will be the main thoroughfare for the development.

DiMaggio also said he would ask the DDA to acquire land for the development's

storm water management system.

The proposed development would contain 250,000 square feet of commercial space, two or three hotels, five restaurants and a 15to 20-screen movie theater, according to DiMaggio. It would also house 300,000 -400,000 square feet of residential or office

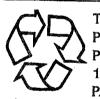
Bingham Farms based Burton-Katzman has been evaluating the site for more than two years, according to Peter Burton, presi-

"This has been a very complex project," Burton said. "There are 14 different parcels of land with different owners. There are also many environmental issues to deal with."

The site's land quality is among the projects' initial hurdles, according to Bob Leighton, a land design consultant and environmental expert with Robert Leighton Associates, Inc.

Leighton said previous attempts to develop the land have adversely affected it. Heavy machinery left trenches in the soft ground. These man-made trenches filled with water and eventually sprouted vegetation such as cattails, he said.

Please see pg. 12



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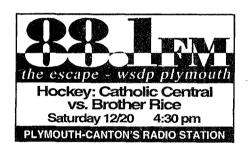


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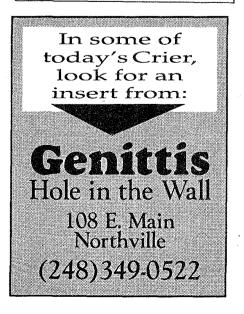
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WHERE

can you recycle? **SEE PG. 130 of**

The GUIDE to
Plymouth-Canton-Northville (734)453-6900



Dunning-Hough Library construction:

Safety tickets don't slow progress

BY BRYON MARTIN

Safety violations at the Plymouth Dunning-Hough Library construction site haven't slowed the project, according to Site Manager Gary Toney.

"The roof should be done in the next week or so," he said. Toney works for Ellis-Don, the project's general contractor. The company is one of nine working at the site that Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act (MIOSHA) inspectors ticketed

for safety code violations.

MIOSHA inspectors examined the site twice during separate visits in October. The first came Oct. 2 after a worker was injured by an overloaded crane, according to Rick Mee, who oversees construction safety investigations for MIOSHA.

Mee said the crane boom failed, dropping a load of lumber on the worker who was standing beneath it.

RCI, the Brighton-based subcontractor who operates the crane, received four "serious" citations from MIOSHA in relation to the accident,

According to Toney, the injured worker returned to work after his injuries were treated that day.

"He had a bruised ankle and a bump on the head. I think he got a couple of stitches on his head. But he was back working in the office," the same day, Toney said. "Really it said. was more of a scary situation.'

Such scary situations are on the rise in Michigan, according to Mee. Constructionsite casualties "are more than 50 per cent above last year's levels," he said.

Mee said the jump is due to an increase in the number of under-trained laborers working at construction sites, quickly hired to meet the demands of a busy building sea-

Inspectors ticketed eight companies for the violations, all of which are based on noncompliance with state and/or federal

Toney said that this due, in part, to the nature of construction sites themselves: equipment, supplies, machinery and workers in constant motion.

"Anytime you walk out you're going to find something," he said.



according to Mee. "Serious" Tickets for safety violations issued to the contractor and subcontractors at the Plymouth Dunningviolations are those that may Hough Library construction site (above) have not slowed progress. The roof may be complete as soon result in death or serious as next week. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.).

"About two-thirds of MIOSHA site inspections turn up violations," Mee said.

MIOSHA found another five "serious," and 11 "other than serious" violations when inspectors returned to the library site for a regularly scheduled visit Oct. 20, Mee

Two of the subcontractors ticketed are appealing the citations, Mee said. The rest of those ticketed have until next week to pay fines and remedy the violations.

Kolb, founder of Hines Park car dealership, dies at 70

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

George Kolb III, founder of Hines Park Lincoln-Mercury, died Friday at the age of

Kolb was born in Detroit. He founded Hines Park Lincoln Mercury at Wing and Forest streets in downtown Plymouth in

He moved the dealership to its present location in 1973 and developed it into one of the industry's largest and most prominent Lincoln-Mercury dealerships in the

In addition to his work there, he was a member of Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville, and an avid boater. He enjoyed annual runs to and from his winter home in Stuart, FL. He was the grandson of George Kolb, founder of the once-flourishing Kolb Brewing Company in Bay City, MI.



GEORGE KOLB, III

He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Dixie Kolb; sons, Michael (Cynthia) Kolb of Plymouth, David (FaithAnn) Kolb of Plymouth; brother, Ford Kolb of Grosse Pointe; and six grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his brother, Charles; and sisters, Ella Louise Miller and Barbara Donahue.

Arrangements were made by and serrices held at Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Lloyd Brasure officiating. Burial was at Bethlehem Cemetery in Ann Arbor. Memorial contributions can be given to Arbor Hospice, 3810 Packard Rd. Suite 200, Ann Arbor, Mi 48108.

DDA tickets Mayflower

External degradation inspires 'harder tack'

BY BRYON MARTIN

The Mayflower Hotel's exterior needs repairs, and its owners need a reminder, according to Plymouth's Downtown Development Authority (DDA).

DDA Director Steve Guile said the board voted unanimously Thursday to ticket the hotel for failing to meet City codes that set standards for building exteriors.

"We're taking a harder tack," Guile said. 'We wanted something concrete that said to the (Karmos) that they need to look at getting their act together, so to speak.'

The Karmos did not return calls to com-

Peeling paint, a broken window and drain, and deteriorating roof have been a 'serious" problem for four months, Guile said. At that time, the hotel had an agreement with the City to help facilitate its renovation by owners Matt and Keith Karmo.

Please see pg. 5

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Today, WSDP 88.1 FM will air People and Policy, hosted by State Sen. Loren Bennett at 10:30 a.m. The show will profile efforts to save an environmental area in Westland.
- Tomorrow, Northville's Senior Center sponsor's a trip to Ann Arbor for a holiday lights tour at Domino Farms, shopping in Kerry Town and dinner at The Gandy Dancer restaurant. Cost, \$49. To register, call the Senior Center at (248) 349-4140.

THIS WEEKEND

- Santa welcomes kids and parents to Kellogg Park. Friday 5 - 8 p.m., Sat. and Sunday 12 - 5 p.m. Guests are invited to visit, tell Santa their Christmas wishes and sign the giant Christmas card.
- Saturday, The Crier's Holiday Wishes issue hits the streets. No Crier will appear Wednesday.
- Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., The Plymouth Masonic lodge will host a Toy & Collectible show to benefit the Margaret Williams Fund. Williams was killed Nov. 26, was uninsured, and leaves behind two children. For information, call (734) 544-0050. Admission, \$3.

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The Crier's Plus sections take an interesting and informative look at issues of interest to The Plymouth-Canton Community. Next will be Year in Review Dec. 31.

We Thank You...

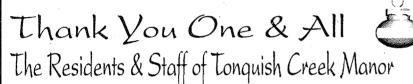
The residents and staff of Tonquish Creek Manor would like to take a moment to extend a most heartfelt thanks to everyone in the Plymouth Community who contributed in some way to the residents of this building over the past year.

Your kindness epitomizes what this community is

Being a "Good Neighbor".

Our warmest wishes to you and yours for a healthy, happy holiday season.

known for...



Curiosities

hap•py hol•i•days (hăp·ē hŏl·e-dāz·) an old expression among family and friends celebrating the cluster of several observances occurring in late November to early January. Far beyond religious, historic and cultural significances, this time period has become a more generalized event that reminds us all of the true meaning of friendship, family, community and thanksgiving. May your holidays be happy and 1998 a good year.

Love: Sally Repeck, Beauregard, Jess and Ed Wendover.

Creon - You are the greatest!
Thank you for being! Bless you,

The Pie Record has been broken! If now stands at 43.

Oh my cute Gingerbread Man! You were the highlight of the parade.

Canton P.D. seek warrants for Monday robbery

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton Police are seeking warrants for three Detroit men involved in an armed robbery Monday night, according to Canton Police Ofc. Leonard Schemanske.

Schemanske said that at about 11:45 p.m. two men in white ski masks entered the Total Gas Station at 45350 Ford Road.

"They came in, put a shotgun to his face and ordered him to open the register," Schemanske said.

Schemanske said the two suspects then pushed the employe into the bathroom and threatened to kill him if he left.

Schemanske said the employe called the police within 10 n

the police within 10 minutes but police, who responded with regular officers and the K-9 unit, were unable to locate the suspects.

"We then put out a Be On the Lookout (BOL) for nearby departments," Schemanske said. "It's a heads-up for other departments because we assume the suspects are going to hit some other places."

According to Schemanske, Livonia police spotted the suspects about an hour later and initiated a traffic stop near a gas

station at I-275 and Six Mile Road.

Livonia Police Department investigated a similar armed robbery that occurred a week earlier, Schemanske said.

"The suspects and MO matched," Schemanske said. "When they searched the car, they found the masks, the gun and the money."

'This is quite clear.
We've got matching descriptions, clothing, the gun and the money.

Ofc. Leonard Schemanske
Canton Police Dept.

We got the right guys.'

The suspects, three Detroit men aged 21, 21 and 25 years, are in custody in Livonia, Schemanske said.

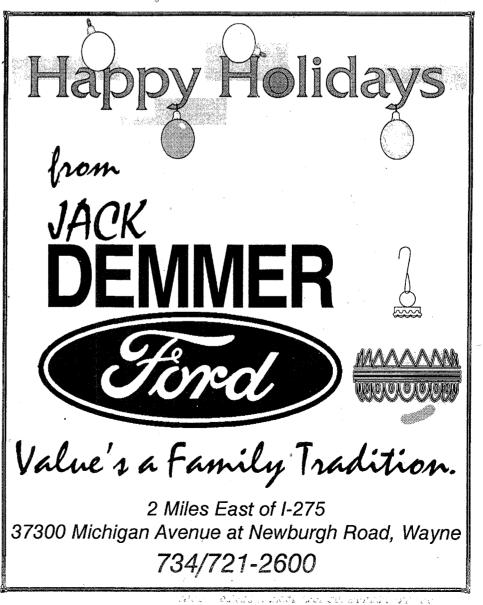
He expected them to be arraigned late yesterday afternoon or today. He wasn't sure what the three would be charged with, only that it would be some

variant of armed robbery.

"The prosecutor has control over that," he said." Many times the warrants we ask for aren't exactly what we get. We'll know by tomorrow."

Schemanske said in addition to the evidence gathered in the car, Canton Police had a video tape from the gas station.

"This is quite clear," he said. "We've got matching descriptions, clothing, the gun and the money. We got the right guys."





Pole fault... Plymouth Police ofc. Jamie Grabowski cited Thomas Black, 66, of Monroe, for toppling the lightpole on the northeast side of Main Street and Ann Arbor Trail with his semi truck. Black said he got turned around by downtown construction while turning from the Trail onto Main, and misjudged the turn. Munical Services Director Paul Sincock said the pole is a special-order item through the City's electical contractor, Harlan Electric, and estimated it's worth at a couple of thousand dollars. He said a new pole will be installed sometime this week. (Crier photo by Scott Spielman).

Industrial park

Continued from pg. 1

architects are required to add aesthetic improvements to the buildings themselves, Goulet said. Features like columns and bump-outs with glass are a part of the special zoning. Bump-outs are the corporate equivalent of bay windows, Goulet said.

"We just don't want them to be flat across the front," he said. "They won't be just putting up boxes. They will have some architectural style to them. They'll look a lot more

high-tech."

The buildings will range in size from about 60,000-square feet to 500,000, Goulet said.

Ashley Capital doesn't have a tenant lined up for the first spec building, according to Goulet.

"They'll have someone by the time they finish the building," he said.

DDA tickets Mayflower

Continued from pg. 3

Per this agreement, which included tax breaks, the project was due to have been completed last September. A variety of construction-related delays, however, have kept the project from proceeding beyond a basic stripping of the hotel's ground floor and some exterior elements.

At its Dec. 1 meeting the City Commission approved the dissolution of their agreement with the Mayflower.

The following week, the DDA board voted to cite the hotel.

Guile said the citations "have been let go as long as they have because we anticipated a construction start." After months of delays, he said, the DDA had "had enough."

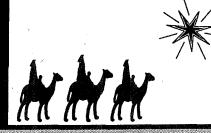
But the citations are less about a busted

window or faulty drain than about the structure's appearance in the City.

"The board is concerned about the continuing deterioration of various elements on the outside of the building," he said, "especially at a time of year when we're trying to put our best foot forward."

More attention is paid to the City's appearance during the holiday season while decorations are up. And the City's annual Ice Spectacular, an event that brought about 650,000 people to town last year from across the country and around the world, begins Jan. 14.

The Karmos will have until Jan. 5 to repaint, and repair the roof, drain and win-



Worship With Us This Christmas Season

Resurrection Catholic Church

48755 Warren Rd. Canton, MI 48187 734-451-0444

Rev. Richard A. Perfetto, Pastor CHRISTMAS EVE-Dec. 24th 4:30 & 10:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY-Dec. 25th 10:00 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE- Dec. 31st 4:30 p.m. NEW YEAR'S DAY-Jan. 1st 10:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth

Main and Ghurch Streets, Downtown Plymouth 734/453-6464

CHRISTMAS EVE

God's Gang Puppets and Handbells

Journey to Bethlehem

with Living Nativity 8:00 & 11:00P.M....Candlelight Services of

Lessons and Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

10:00A.M.... Service of Worship

Trinity Presbyterian Church

10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth 734/459-9550

Dec. 24... *5:00 Family Candlelight Service

... *7:30 Candlelight Service
... 11:00 Candlelight Service

"The Four Voices of Christmas" Dr. William C. Moore, preaching

*(Nursery, and toddler through pre-kindergarten care provided)

St. John's Episcopal Church

574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth 734/453-0190

Christmas Eve:

3:00P.M...

5:00P:M...

- ...*4:00p.m. Family Holy Eucharist ...*7:00 Festival Holy Eucharist
- of the Nativity
- ...10:30 Christmas Carols
- ...11:00 Solemn Holy Eucharist of the Nativity

Christmas Day:

...10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

* (Nursery Care Available)

Risen Christ Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod) 46250 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth 453-5252

Dec. 24... 4:30 & 7:30pm

Christmas Eve Caroling & Candlelight service

Dec. 25... 10:00am Christmas Service

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth

45201 N. Territorial Rd., Plymouth (West of Sheldon Road) (734)453-5280

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

Morning Worship Services - 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

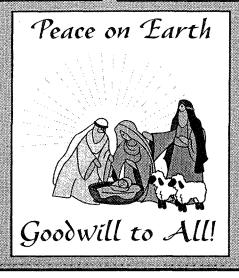
Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 4:30 p.m. - Family Worship

4:30 p.m. - Family Worship 8:00 P.M & 10:00 p.m.

Traditional Candlelight Worship

Pastors:

Dr. Dean A. Klump, Senior Minister Rev. Tonya M. Arnesen, Associate Minister





Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Marine Capt. Kerry J. Block, whose wife, Janet if the daughter of Harold B. and Dorothy Palmer of Plymouth, is scheduled to spend the holidays forward depoloyed to Okinawa, Japan with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU).

Marine 1st Lt. Douglas W. Smith, son of Nicholas and Joan E. Smith of Plymouth, is scheduled to spend the holidays deployed to the Mediterranean Sea with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU).

Smith's unit is an expeditionary intervention force with the ability to rapidly organize for combat operations in virtually any environment.



Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael S. Palmer, son of Joan Barnett of Canton, is spending the holidays at home this year.

Palmer spent the holidays deployed overseas aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Antietam last year.

He is a 1989 graduate of John Glenn High School.

Marine Pvt. Scott M. Tofil, son of Jerry G. and Barbara A. Tofil of Canton, recently reported for duty with 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine, 2nd Marine Division, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

A 1996 graduate of Salem High School, Tofil joined the Marine Corps in May of 1997.

Navy Lt. j.g. Kevin A. Jankowski, sone of Charles A. and Joyce K. Jankowski of Northville, is scheduled to spend the holidays deployed to the Mediterranean Sea aboard the destroyed USS John Rodgers.

Jankowski is a 1989 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School in Redford.

Just for kicks

Olivia Wofford of
Canton, after only
five yeas of dancing
lessons, joins the
Rockettes — for a
step or two

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

When it comes to kicking and dancing, one Canton girl has been taught by the best.

Nine-year old Olivia Wofford had a dance lesson last week with the world-famous Rockettes at the Fox Theatre.

"It was incredible," she said.

A fourth grade student at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Wofford has been dancing since she was in preschool — about five years.

"She had a friend down the street that was into dancing, so I enrolled her to try and encourage the friendship," her mother, Christine Wofford said.

Wofford normally takes lessons at Dancin' Feet dance school of Canton, which meets in Canton's Summit on the Park.

"We learn tap, ballet and jazz," she said.

The contest, sponsored Channel 2 Fox TV, gave 15 randomly selected children the dance lesson, and four tickets to the Rockettes Christmas



Olivia Wofford, at left, gets a few pointers courtesy of the Rockettes. The nine-yearold Canton resident won the lessons in a contest. (Crier photo by B. Martin.)

Olivia entered the contest by sending in a picture of her in a dancing costume, which came from a performance she was in last year, she said.

Wofford and the 14 other girls, ranging in age from about three to 14, lined up with the Rockettes and learned how to do their trademark kicks and some other steps, Wofford said.

"It was awesome," she said. "We learned kicks, kicks and more kicks. We learned waist kicks, high kicks and knee kicks. But my favorite was learn-

ing the toy soldier dance."

The toy soldier dance takes place in Santa's toy shop, with the Rockettes performing crisp, robotic movements, Wofford said.

Wofford said she loved the show, too and left with a feeling that she would not only keep dancing, but would one day like to be a Rockette, herself

"It really was phenomenal," she said. "I would love to be a Rockette because I would be famous."

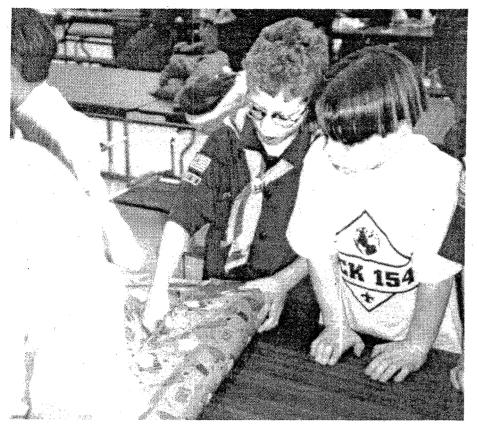
Heading for Hollywood



From left: Pat Crowe, manager of Canton Farmer Jack, Nick Bellows, CEO of United Dairy Industry of Michigan (UDIM) congratulate Clare Barwick, daughter Sabrina, husband Matt and son William for winning UDIM's Chocolate Milk Sweepstakes.

The family won a round trip air far to LA, including a convertible rental car, four-night accommodations, and a 1,500 meal allowance for the trip.

They also received one day passes to Universal Studios, Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm, along with a camcorder to record the vacation and a 20-inch TV/VCR to show their friends



'Their cake and toys too...' Cubscout pack 1540 from Plymouth raised about \$1,100 with their cake auction this year, and used the money to buy food, personal hygine products, cooking ware and — of course — toys for a needy family, according to Den Leader John Kemski. Shown here are Chris Kemski and Adam Owens, who wrap one of the presents they and their fellow scouts bought for the family, who will receive the gifts via The Salvation Army's Adopt-a-Family program. The 7- to 11-year-old cubscouts teamed up with moms and dads to bake cakes and desserts, which they auctioned off to one another at ther monthly pack meeting, John Kemski said.

Changes for CEP music, math?

BY CHERYL VATCHER

Expanded music and math classes were among the curriculum changes presented to the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education last Tuesday.

According to Mary Kay Frey, assistant principal and co-chair of the Coordinating Council, the proposed changes had been reviewed and approved by the superintendent's Cabinet earlier this month.

"The proposed deletions are American History 11 and U.S. Government 12. American History is offered in the 9th grade so students can complete the course prior to taking the High School Proficiency Test in their junior year," Frey said. "Close-Up, offered in the 10th grade, fulfills the U.S. Government requirement."

A change in the math curriculum is also on deck, according to Frey. Presently, algebra III classes are unable to complete the final three chapters of their precalculus studies, she said.

"The math department has changed its philosophy," she said. "The algebra program is very challenging, but it's a necessary part of a successful college and private life.

"This year the students are in the last year of the course and the requirement for graduation is that students have at least three years of math," Frey said. "With the proposed algebra IV class, all students would be able to complete the class whether it is in three or four years," she said.

"The algebra series will be presented in a manner that allows all students to successfully complete the content at their own pace," Frey said.

The new class would provide an introduction to precalculus that students may not get in their math studies. The class would not be an additional requirement, she said, but would be taken instead of precalculus by those students who need additional time to master math objectives.

"We felt students should be able to take four years of math instead of three years of rigorous math," Frey said. "The content is very important."

The changes will cost about \$5,400, which includes the cost of 50 additional algebra text books. Frey said.

Charles Little, P-C schools superintendent, said students must take minimum college-level math classes to succeed.

Frey said school counselors could help students chose the math curriculum suited to their abilities. Teacher recommendation would be crucial, too, she said.

Frey also said other courses would change in name to reflect their evolving curricula.

"Sometimes we need to make a title change to accurately reflect the course offered," she said. CEP presently has a guitar program; the change would expand the course definition to include stringed instruments to meet the students' needs.

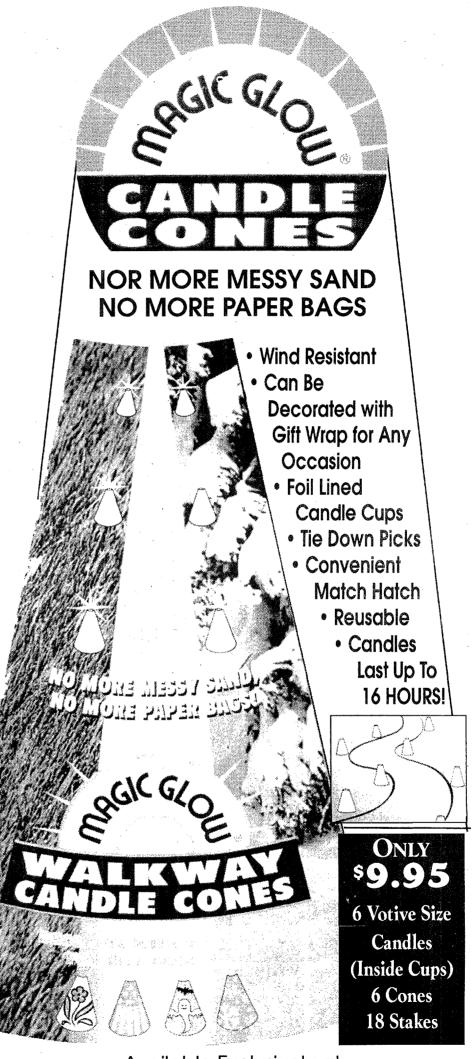
The curriculum change would also allow the class help prepare Plymouth Symphony Orchestra hopefuls.

"There's no string instruction program at the high school level. This is the first time a student can take a class on a string instrument other than a guitar," she said.

Little said part of what drives a high school curriculum are the requests made of it.

"We can't put anything down on paper right now because we don't have any way to support it," Little said.

"If we ad something, then we have to take something off," Davis said.



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Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

Absopure Water Company has received the prestigious AQUA Award from the International Bottled Water Association (IBWA) for its CAP10 brand of flavored effervescent mineral

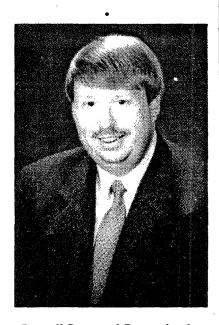
IBWA awards companies for the quality and innovation of their promotional materials, merchandising and advertising.

Absopure received the award for a radio advertising jingle that aired Nov. 15, 1997 in Baltimore.

Carolyn Arlen, of Northville, has joined the Association of Bridal Consultants.

As an Association member, Arlen joins other wedding professionals who seek to improve their business.

Carolun's Arlen operates Creations, a full service wedding florist in Northville.



Darrell Snygg, of Canton, has been named vice-president of corporate administration for Little Ceaser Enterprises, Inc., based in Detroit.

Snygg joined the company in 1988 and hasheld various positions including regional controller for the Midwest, corporate controller and director of human resources.

In his new position, Snygg is responsible for several company departments including legal, payroll, global training, human resources, information services and point-of-sale and office services.

Laurie Eissler, of Plymouth, recently passed her CPA exam.

She is employed at AE Clevite in Ann Arbor.

A cut above the rest

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN It's the busy time of year for Frank Jastrabek, but that

Jastrabek, 36, has been in business for himself for 20 years, selling what everyone needs in one way or another: warmth.

suits him just fine.

"I started selling firewood when I was 16," he said. "I had a paper route, and I would collect wood from construction sites and sell it to my customers."

Jastrabek's business grew from his parent's backyard, to friends' property and finally to Canton, where he purchased a permanent home for his business in 1988.

"The business was getting too big," he said. "I had to try and buy my own place. Canton is a good location."

Frank's Firewood has been burning strong ever since.

Jastrabek supplies firewood to communities from Canton to Plymouth,

and as far away as Birmingham and Troy, and continues to sell to some of original customers.

He attributes his success to the quality of his wood and the time he allows it to cure before selling it, splitting the wood a

full year before he sells it.

"Everyone else sells fresh cut wood,



Frank Jastrabek drys his wood for a full year before selling it from his 1.75 acre business in Canton. (Crier photo courtesy of Frank Jastrabek).

and fresh cut wood just doesn't work," he said. "You have to air it out."

Jastrabek receives wood from construction sites or purchases the tops of

Franks's Firewood

39474 Cherry Hill Rd.

Open: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon.- Fri.,

(734) 981-4630

Canton

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat.

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun.

trees that have been cut for other timber he said.

All of it is split right away and stockpiled in colorcoded piles on his nearly two-acre site to allow a year's worth of air, wind and weather to work their magic.

"It's all wood that

would have been used for something else," he said. "Nothing's being cut special. It's all recycled."

Jastrabek cuts all wood to a uniform length, although he accommodates special orders for longer or shorter pieces, he

He sells wood by the face cord, which measures 8' by 4' stacked. He also sells it by the quarter cord, bag, bundle or as kindling.

Jastrabek will deliver the wood for an extra \$10, he said.

He employs five workers during his busy season, although he works yearround on his wood. During the summer he sells a lot to campers, barbecuers or people who just like the aroma.

"There's a certain smell you get from burning real wood," he said. "It's a lot more fuss, but I think it's worth it."

Sheldon plant recognized by RRRAP

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The Ford Motor Company Sheldon Road Plant received a different kind of award last week — an environmental award.

The Rouge River Reclamation Advisement Panel (RRRAP) awarded the plant its first annual Habitat Protection and Enhancement Honor Roll Award last

The award, the first of its kind given, recognizes the work plant volunteers and staff have made in making the site more enivonmentally friendly, according to Debby Aho, wildlife committee member and aftermaket analyst for Ford.

"We were recognized for our wildlife meadows and nest boxes," she said.

Aho said the plant's wildflower meadows, part of the landscaping both in front of and in the rear of the building, had been planted in 1993 to enhance the look of the building.

In addition, 37 nest boxes were placed in the woods near the site, she said. The nest boxes provided homes for birds such as bluebirds, flickers and owls.

"Last year we even raised 10 of them," Aho said. "We didn't have as many this year because the nearby construction scared them off. We're hoping they'll be back next year."

Aho said the meadows, nest boxes and the 600 seedlings that were planted on the site were a combination effort between hour staff, salaried staff and

"Everyone pitched in," she said.

Canton DDD to seek state liquor licenses

Clerk joins same pursuit as City of Plymouth

'There are no...determin-

ing factors. They're grant-

ed without regard to who

applies first.'

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton's newly expanded Downtown Development District (DDD) means extra possibilities for Canton restaurants, according to Terry Bennett, Township Clerk.

Bennett has been researching the 50 Class C liquor licenses available from the state to communities with DDDs.

The licenses allow a restaurant to serve beer and wine, providing that restaurant meets certain qualifications, Bennett said.

"Interested parties apply first to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA)."

Authority (DDA)," she said. "They are designed to promote growth within the DDD."

In addition to promoting growth, applicants must be located within the DDD, be open to the public, provide food and be open for 10 hours a day, according to Bennett. They must also meet such requirements as seating more than 25 peo-

ple and earning more than 50 per cent of their gross sales from food.

Canton recently received seven additional liquor licenses from the state as a result of a successful mid-decade census, Bennett said. Population-based liquor licenses are granted one to every 1,500 residents, she said.

The DDD-oriented class C licenses are granted above and beyond population based licenses, she said. But there are no guarantees.

"There are no precedents, no determining factors," she said. "They're granted

without regard to who applies first."

Terry Bennet

Canton Twp. Clerk

Canton's DDA suggested that the class C licenses be suggested to restaurants that open in strip malls, while population-based licenses be considered for stand alone restaurants within the DDD.

"If a company is going to invest in a \$2 million stand-alone structure, it makes sense granting them a full license," said Canton



Case delayed... Dennis Shrewsbury (center) stands in for attorney Cyril Pessina before 35th District Court Chief Judge John MacDonald at Monday's preliminary exam for Timothy James Scott (left) and Edward William Bolden (right). The two are being charged with assault with intent to commit murder for a drive-by shooting last week in Canton. The pre-lim was adjourned until Friday at 9 a.m. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

Supervisor Tom Yack. "They're investing a lot more."

The state-offered licenses give Canton the option of spreading out their licenses, Bennett said.

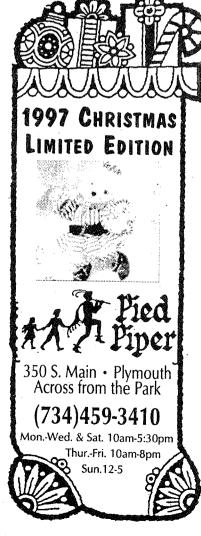
"Not a whole lot of communities know about them," she said. "The liquor control

commission isn't advertising them, but they aren't hiding them either."

In the City of Plymouth at least seven restaurants, both those in operation now and those thinking about opening a Plymouth location, have applied for the state-issued licenses











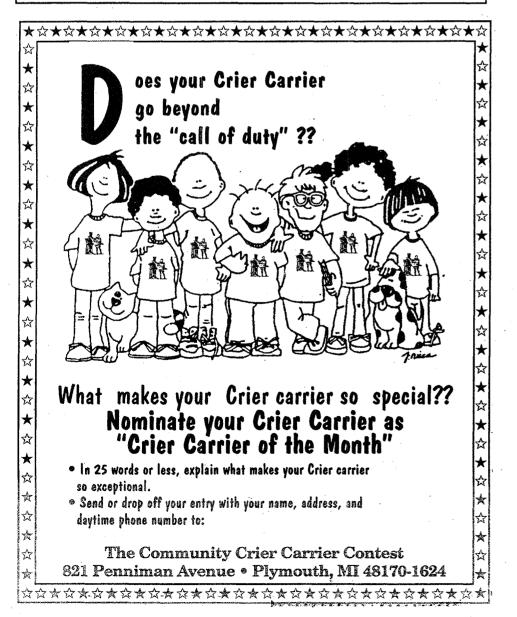


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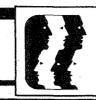
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Groups

NEW! PIONEER CLUB FOR CHILDREN

The Pioneer Club provides a good learning experience and fun skill building activities. Clubs from 6:45-8:30 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church. 459-9550.

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY WRITER'S CLUB

Second and fourth Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Writers of all experience levels are welcome. Call 416-0418.

CELIAC SPRUE SUPPORT GROUP

For people who have Celiac Sprue and Dermatitis Herpetiformis, their families and friends. Monthly meetings at Southfield Presbyterian Church. For more info call Sue Gentilia 248-926-1228 or Marcia Campbell 248-477-5953.

SUNDAY TOASTMASTERS PUBLIC SPEAKING CLUB

Ply. Twp. meeting room, Sunday nights, 7-9 p.m. Experience public speaking training, be a better listener, better thinker. Call Marc Sullivan, 455-1635.

CHRISTIAN RECOVERY

Recovery in Christ offers assistance to people needing help with addictions or dealing with addicted family members. Group meets from 7:15-9 p.m. every Tuesday, room 212 at Temple Baptist Church, 49555 N. Territorial, Plymouth.

SINGLE PARENTS

Single Parents meet at 7 p.m., first and third Tuesdays each month in the Calvin Room at Ward Presbyterian Church, Livonia. Free child care. Call 422-1854.

SMOKERS' RIGHTS MEETING

Every third Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Senate Coney Island, 34359 Plymouth Rd. Call Marc, 455-1635.



Volunteer

MICHIGAN CANCER FOUNDATION

Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute is looking for volunteers to provide transportation for cancer patients in P-C-N area. Call 561-8880, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program need volunteers in Canton to help children needing tutoring in basic math and reading. Free training. Call 883-2100 ext. 368.

FISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FISH of P-C in need of volunteers to assist in aiding neighbors who can't help themselves. To be a driver, caller, or run errands, call 261-1011, leave a message.

SUMMIT SHUTTLE

Summit on the Park, Canton, offers shuttle service from east parking lot (next to playscape) to north door of Summit. Enclosed eight-person cart provides service 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. If P-C Schools close because of bad weather, tornado or severe thunderstorm warnings, shuttle won't operate. Senior Office, 397-5444.



Health

RESPIRATORY DISEASE ASSISTANCE

For those with respiratory diseases. Second Wednesday each month, Arbor Health building, Plymouth, 2-3 p.m. Free. Call 712-5367.

SENIOR EMERGENCY PRESCRIPTIONS

Michigan Emergency Pharmaceutical Program for Seniors offers aid to seniors over 65 when: individual/couple monthly income less than \$968/\$1295, with at least 10 percent spent on prescriptions. Area MEPPS sites are Plymouth Twp. Hall, 455-7526 and Northville Area Senior Center, 349-4140.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEGAL PROGRAM

Domestic violence Legal Advocacy Program for victims of domestic violence. Call Judy Ellis at 981-9595, voice mail #203.



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Events

CANTON ECONOMIC LUNCHEON

The Canton Economic Luncheon featuring David Brandon, President and CEO of Valassis Communications, Inc. to be held Dec. 18. For more information call (313) 453-

LUMINARIA SALE

Luminaria Kits on sale for the last day of the season Dec. 20 from 10:00am- 4:00pm. The price is \$4.00 per set of 10 candles with white bags.

SPRING YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION

The Plymouth Recreation Department will be taking Spring Youth Soccer Registration the entire month of January at the Recreation Office, during business hours, Monday thru Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm. All registrations require a birth certificate. The fee is \$40.00 for residents and \$60.00 for non-residents. For more information call 455-6620.



This is the last weekend to visit Santa at his temporary home on Kellogg Park, Friday from 5:00-8:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday from 12:00- 5:00 pm, and Monday from 5:00-8:00 pm. Families are invited to come and sign Santa's card, seen here with creator Allen O' Dell. (Crier photo by Bryon Martin)

SCHOOLCRAFT CHOIR AUDITIONS

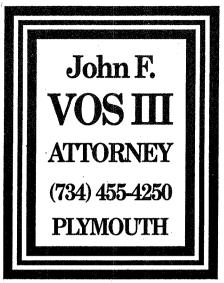
Experienced singers of all voice parts are invited to audition for the Schoolcraft College Community Choir. The choir will hold auditions for new members Tuesday, Jan.13 and Jan. 20 at 7:30 in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile Road in Livonia. To schedule an audition, contact choir President Shari Clason at (248) 349-8175 or Schoolcraft's Liberal Arts department at (734) 462-4435

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

Plymouth Symphony League Christmas Ornaments are on sale now at League Office. This is the second in a limited edition series. \$6 each. Call 451-2112.

CRAFTERS NEEDED

Crafters of every ilk are encouraged to apply for a spot in the 1998 Spring Craft Show at Schoolcraft College March 7. The show features all types of handmade crafts including painting, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, textiles, needlework, photography, glass, leather, and woodcarving. The fee for a 12' by 12' space is \$90; 10' by 10' costs \$55; 8' by 9' space costs \$40; and there is a \$40 fee for an 8' by 4' hallway space. There is an additional \$15 fee for electricity. For additional information call (734) 462-4417



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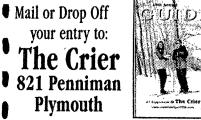
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Prime Canton property would need work

Continued from pg. 2

The site also suffers from poor-quality water that drains from subdivisions to the north. Leighton said.

"There's not a lot of resource value there," he said. "Most of the wetlands are inadvertently man-made. There's not a lot of wildlife or environmental value.'

These sporadic, low-quality wetlands cover about 72 acres, or about 60 per cent of the site, according to Leighton. The developer's proposal would include filling in the trenches and allowing them to dry out, he

The Willow Creek floodplain is also among the site's environmental issues, and Burton-Katzman plans to turn it into a more viable ecosystem, according to Leighton; a

fact that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEO) would require prior to devel-

Leighton said that Burton-Katzman has worked closely with the DEO and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) since the development company first began evaluating the land.

"We've made a lot of headway with the DNR," Leighton said. "They agree with our research and are receptive to our develop-

Burton-Katzman also proposes to redirect Willow Creek, which flows through the center of the site.

By containing the wetlands to the center of the site and installing natural filtering systems along the creek, the overall quality of the wetlands will be improved, according to Flora McCormack, an environmental consultant with Environmental Consulting & Technology Inc., (ECT).

"By reconfiguring and widening Willow Creek we can cultivate natural features to clean the water," she said. Natural features include plants which filter pollutants and sediments from water and allow them to settle to the bottom of the creek, she said.

The excessive work needed to redirect the floodplain and wetlands, coupled with the

disproportionately high price of the land are the two main reasons why Burton-Katzman asked for the \$4 million in infrastructure improvements. DiMaggio said. The funds could be raised by bonds and repaid beginning two years after initial construction, he said.

"It sounds like a lot of money, and it is a lot of money," DiMaggio said. "But bottom line, it is only a little more than one year's tax revenue from the finished pro-

development, but needed more convincing before they decided to contribute any funds, according to DDA chairman Ralph

'If they really can't do it without the funds, then we should consider it. But if they need our \$4 million to make a hefty profit, that's another story.

Dave Khoury Canton DDA

"It certainly is a very attractive and ambitious project, and we're looking at this from the point of view of how we can make it work," he said. "But I don't think anyone is ready to commit that kind of money."

"We need to take a closer look at their costs," said Dave Khoury, member and business owner. "If they really can't do it without the funds,

then we should consider it. But if they need our \$4 million to make a hefty profit, that's another story.'

The DDA asked for more information regarding the project's costs and will reconvene in a special meeting early next year, according to Shufeldt.

It was a response that DiMaggio expected.

"We didn't expect a yes or no today, we just wanted to present it," he said. "The most important thing is being able to know if we can do this project or not. The bottom line is that without help from the township this pro-

Collectibles show to benefit Margaret Williams fund

A special toy and colectible show will be held Sunday to raise funds for the children of Margaret Williams, the victim of a tragic automobile accident in November.

Williams, who had no insurance, was struck and killed by a car while crossing Ann Arbor Road in the early morning, and leaves two children behind.

The toy and collectible show will be at the Plymouth Masonic Lodge on Penniman next to the Penn Theatre.

Running from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the show will feature all kinds of toys and collectibles for exhibition and sale.

Admission is \$3, with all proceeds going to benefit the Margaret Williams Fund. For more information, or to rent a table for the show, call (313) 544-0050.

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Fire site may be developed

'We've been living if

fear of this for the last

five or six years. I've

AMPCO-Pittsburg Consultant

stamped (warming

Continued from pg. 1

Klein lives in Northville and handles issues concerning the facility for Ampcocompany of the defunct Wyckoff Steel, Ofc. SteveCoffell.

This was not the first time the facility exposed to fire, Klein said.

"We've been living in fear of this for the last five or six years," he said. In the past, trespassers have set small "warming" fires in and around the "I've building. stamped them out fires) out myself' myself."

Groth said officials have no suspects as of yet, and no leads on

why someone would have started the fire. "It's burned so bad that these investigations are hard to make," he said. "We

need someone who saw something to come forth and tell us.'

One lead officials do have are the two sets of footprints Township Sgt. Jeff Felts and Ofc. Ed Gauthier discovered, which lead into and away from the building, according to Township police reports.

PTFD Capt. Mark Wendel and Firefighter Greg Westfall found tracks Pittsburg, Pennsylvania-based parent too, and investigated the site with and

One PTFD firefighter was injured: he

fell at the site, chipped his elbow and damaged his shoulder.

"Injuries are hard to accept in an arson fire," Groth said.

Demolition of the burned office complex will begin soon, Klein said; the warehouse could comedown shortly thereafter. Plans for the site's future are subject to change, he said, but that apartments and a park

had been proposed "the last time we heard."

Klein said Steve Schaeffer, of Phoenix Development, has expressed interest in the property and outlined plans to build condominiums on now-vacant parts of the Wyckoff property. The portion where the warehouse sits would be cleared and donated to the Township for use as a



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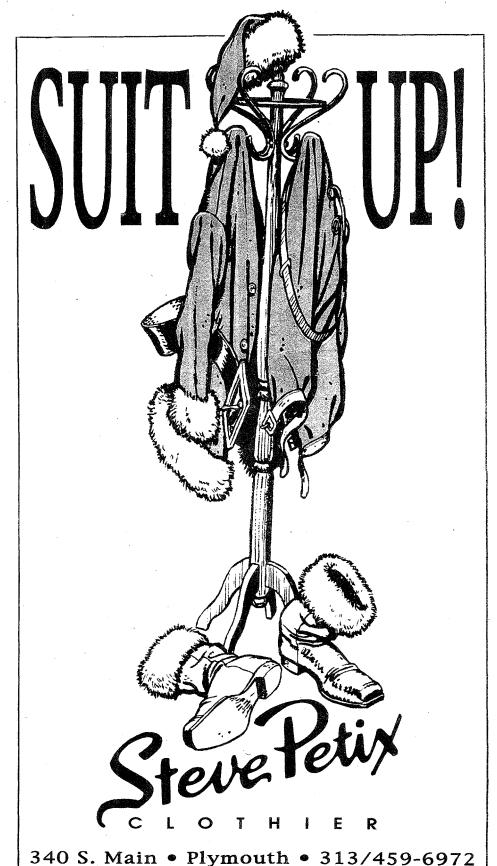
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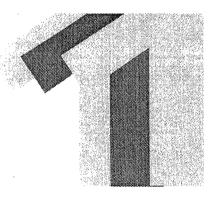
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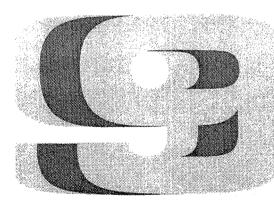
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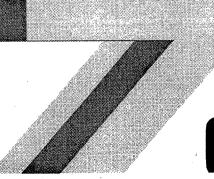
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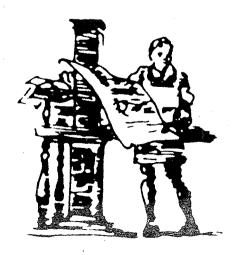
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Monday, Dec. 22 — Crier carrier collection day Wednesday, Dec. 31 — Year in Review issue

Happy Holidays!



Community deaths

Obituaries

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

GREGORY De BRINCAT

Gregory De Brincat, a Walled Lake resident, died Dec. 6, 1997 at the age of 83.

Mr. De Brincat was born Sept. 13, 1914 in Gozo, Malta. He was a senior stockman at Detroit Edison.

He is survived by his wife, Maria De Brincat of Walled Lake; sons, Larry (Kathleen) De Brincat of Plymouth, Michael (Vicky) De Brincat of Novi; daughters, Toni (Bob) Roulin of Plymouth, Lina (William) Welsh of Brighton; brothers, Anthony (Carol) De Brincat of Farmington Hills, MI, Xavier (Sylvia) De Brincat of Livonia. He is preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Victoria De Brincat.

Services were held at St. Kenneth Catholic Church with the Rev. Joseph S. Mallia officiating. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Mass offerings can be made.

MICHAEL T. TKACH

Michael T. Tkach, a Westland resident, died Dec. 6, 1997 at the age of 79. Mr. Tkach was born Feb. 8, 1918 in Tolstoi, Manitoba Canada. He was a Detective Sgt. with the Detroit Police Department. He served in the Air Force in WWII. He lived many years in the "Copper Canyon" area of Detroit and worked for a short time at Ford Motor Co. He was a member of Moose Lodge #1 of Dearborn, MI.

He is survived by his daughter, Vivian (Kevin) Hesse of Canton; sister, Mary Jones of New Baltimore, MI; brother, Wiliam Tkach of Clearwater, FL; grandson, Christopher Hesse of Canton; granddaughters, Holly Hesse and Kimberly Hesse of Canton. He is preceded in death by his wife, Helen Tkach; and his parents, Fred and Dokia Tkach.

Services were held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help with the Rt. Rev. Monsignor John Lazar officiating. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Arrangements were made by Vermeulen Funeral Home. Mass offerings can be made.

PATRICIA J. WERTANEN

Patricia J. Wertanen, a Northville resident, died Nov. 25 at the age of 56. Mrs. Wertanen was born Dec. 5, 1940 in Detroit. She was a homemaker. She came to the Northville Community in 1993 from Plymouth. She attended Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Northville.

She is survived by her daughter, Theresa (Jeffrey) Horka of Plymouth; sons, Carl (Bonnie) Wertanen of Plymouth, Eric of Redford, Kirk of Westland; grandson, Charles John; sisters, Geraldine Tinnernen of East Pointe, MI, Veronica Jazinowski of St. Clair Shores, MI; and brother, George Zielinski of East Pointe, MI.

Services were held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev. Father John Sullivan officiating. Burial was at Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia. Memorial contributions can be given to the O.L.G.C. Building Fund.

DOROTHY M. KELLEY

Dorothy M. Kelley, a Plymouth resident, died Dec. 11, 1997 at the age of 81.

Mrs. Kelley was born Oct. 11, 1916 in Detroit. She was a homemaker. She worked at Perfection Laundry in the 1940s and also worked at Daisy Air Rifle for a short time. She lived in Plymouth for 67 years, and was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church since age 14. She was a member of "Right to Life" and was formerly active with the Altar Society at OLGC. She graduated from Plymouth High School in 1933, and loved sewing and needlework.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Lavern A. of Plymouth; daughters, Barbara G, Hahn of Nashville, TN, Donna J, Kelley of Dearnborn, Ann M. (Lorne) Johnston of Singer Island, FL; grandchildren, Richard, Christine, Patricia, Michael, Becky and Matthew; seven greatgrandchildren; brothers, Jack Gearns of Dearborn, Martin Gearns of South Lyon; and sisters, Audrey Cline of Lincoln Park, Bernadine Raschke of Dearborn, Carol Raschke of Lincoln Park.

Services were held at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church with the Rev. Father John Sullivan officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to Our Lady of Good Counsel Building Fund.

ROBERT G. RICHTER

Robert G. Richter, a Plymouth resident, died Dec. 10, 1997 at the age of 74.

Mr. Richter was born Sept. 6, 1923 in Detroit. He was a Music instructor. He had studios in Dexter, Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Livonia and Plymouth. He served in the Army during WWII. He was also a professional carpenter, and built his own home. He was an avid fisher and hunter.

He is survived by his wife, Betty R. Richter of Plymouth; son, Daniel C. Richter of Plymouth; daughters, Nan (Dan) J. Tribble of Whitmore Lake, MI, Jill L. Vernal of Plymouth; sister, Carold Hegwood of Colterville, CA; and brothers, Charles Tornow of Fenton, MI, Gordon Tornow of Holloy, MI, John Tornow of Traverse City, MI.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen FUneral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Jerry Yarnell officiating. Memorial contributions can be given to VA Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI.

JOYCE E. CHUMBLEY

Joyce E. Chumbley, a Plymouth resident, died Dec. 10, 1997 at the age of

Mrs. Chumbley was born Aug. 13, 1942 in Denver, CO. She was an administrator in education.

She is survived by her husband, Donald R. of Plymouth; daughter, Elaine (Dan) Flood; son, Steven (Laurie) Willis; mother, Ada Coates; brother, Loren; and grandchild, Lindsay.

Arrangements were made by and servicesheld at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Canton with the Rev. Douglas Carson officiating. Memorial contributions can be given to Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, March of Dimes (Livingston, Monroe and Washtenaw Chapters), Children's Leukemia Foundation, Arbor Hospice or Multiple Sclerosis Society of Michigan.

ANTONINA EALOVEGA

Antonina Ealovega, a Detroit resident, died Dec. 13, 1997 at the age of 86.

Mrs. Ealovega was born Aug. 21, 1911 in Russia. She was a homemaker. She was a member of the St. Michael's Russian Orthodox Church in Redford, MI, and a member of the Russian-American Club.

She is survived by her sons, Andrei (Barbara) of Canton, George of Florida; grandchildren, Alexis, Andrew, Mark, Adam and Benjamin; and great-grandson, Eric.

Services were held at St. Michael's Russian Orthodox Church with the Rev. Fr. Michael Barka officiating. Burial was at Evergreen Cemetery in Detroit, MI. Local Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to Angela Hospice or the Charity of Choice.

David James Embury, 49, forms control for Chrysler Corporation

David James Embury, a Canton resident, died Dec. 7, 1997.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Embury of Canton; son, David Embury of Canton; daughters, Alicia Allen and Anne Ambury of Canton; and two sisters.

Services were held at Meadowbrook Congregational Church in Novi. Arrangements were made by McCabe Funeral Home Canton Chapel.



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Curiosities

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at your own risk) to Daniel Webb, 896
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All prices include shipping! Hurry! Last

week to order! Isn't It Nifty? Jim is Sixty!



Love. Betty & Tanva

Santa arrived at the mall today so I decided to go have a look...

And ask him about the list he keeps of good girls and boys in a book!

I stood in a line that wound all around and moved oh so slowly ahead,

Till I caught a quick glimpse of the "JOLLY OLD SOUL",

dressed in his Seasonal Red!
The flash bulbs were flashing as photos were taken of children who sat on his lap,
And I vowed then and there that in spite of my "age", I too would like to pose with that chap!
My turn came at last at the head of the line and I marched up and made it

quite clear,
That I'd come by myself and stood a long
time just to whisper in old Santa's ear!
Then I lowered myself down onto Santa's
right knee and snuggled up close

to his chin...

He gave me a kiss and a wink of an eye and said what a GOOD girl I'd been!

No need to look in that tattered old book, for it seemed to him, it was clear...

That I'd been so good that I certainly would, get whatever I'd asked for this year!

"What would you like, Little Girl, he then asked... perhaps my hottest new toy?" "No, I replied, not a "Sing & Snore Ernie:, just bring me more

PEACE, LOVE and JOY!
Phyllis Cox

BEAUREGARD eats Botsford Inn bread pudding.

The Whole State is now Maize & Blue -

The Whole State is now Maize & Blue - we beat #1 Duke & then took home the Heisman trophy.



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Curiosities

Dear Martha et al - I feel like shouting from the housetops the Holy Family is back in its creche, blessing all who pass on Wilcox Road. Thank you Michael Gladstone Guenther, #2 Boy in our family. As you may recall, Martha, Plymouth had a very bad storm last summer, during which, one of our big trees blew down, demolishing the creche. Thanks to Mike it has now been replaced - "stronger that our old house", he says. You remember, don't you? The creche was the Guenther family's way of saying "thank you" for Peter's extra time with us. Bless you, Martha. Geneva Stewart and Sally - "Oh to be in England now that spring is here. Just think - you'll

be there! How wonderful! The Bachelor at Large says there are some wonderful exhibits right now at the D.I.A. You shouldn't miss them

Plymouth is about to tilt with all the snowbirds leaving.
REMEMBER YOUR CRIER CARRIERS

this Holiday season. MICHELLE WILSON tried to sneak by

another birthday. PAULA keeps working on Phil.

Curiosities

"WORSE THAN RUMORS...some of them (the stories) were true." -- Jack Wilcox, 1997, on the history of his house

ANOTHER CRIER COMES OUT **NEXT SATURDAY**

Santa visited Horton Plumbing & found that





Mary was nice.

Curiosities

BROTHER AL The plants are watered

The wreath is up. I've been so busy with All this stuff

Looking forward to your Christmas Visit Certainly not your first One is it?

Season's Greeting to Lady Geneva Someday soon we hope To see ya!

FROM: SISTÉR SAL! B.B.B. That's my girl Rhonda

Bah-Humbug

Emma Rose is going to help Granpa Jack bake goodies for the holiday We finally have our Christmas Tree up. Now I have to convince her to take it down before July

MR. VACATION was

Don't forget to shop Plymouth for the Holidays. Free parking, no mall crowds, unique gifts, and the best service.

Curiosities

Lisa would love to have a pita sandwich OOPS - 10-15-97 Crier Edition stated Tom Gill's herd averaged 75 Gal. milk per cow. Should be 7.5. From a Faithful Reader CREON lights up our life.



Your Crier Carrier is collecting now for this month. His or her profits depend on your courtesy.

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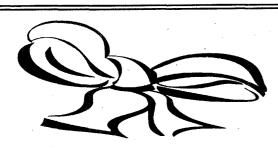
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Sports

Sports shorts

New Soccer Referee training will be held at the Canton Township Hall, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, on Jan. 31, Feb. 7, Feb. 14 and Feb. 21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day. You must attend all four sessions.

You must be at least 12 years old to take the class. To register send your name, social security number and a check for \$43 made out to the Michigan Referee Committee to: P.O. Box 700260, Plymouth, MI 48170-0945. If you have questions, please call 454-7335.

Class size is limited.

For the second consecutive year, the Gerou Softball Club won its final six fall season games to finish tied for first place with a 10-2 record in the Men's Class D League at the Canton Softball Center.

The Gerou Softball Club was defeated, 25-10, by the Red Hot Diamond Back team from Ypsilanti in a one-game championship playoff.

The Gerou Softball team members include: Jim Barr, Chris Bruce, Tom Cottrall, Tom Gerou, Mike Gerou, tom Keyes, Todd Goodwin, Lotus Jenkins, Rob Lohaus, Bill Otto, Chuck Makarov, Tom Sumner, Howard Boyer, Bill Murrell and Mike Vaught.

(Editor's note: This is a corrected version of a similar Gerou Softball club update published last month.)

Canton and Salem High School representatives to the Western Lakes Activities Association Girls Basketball All-Conference and All-Division teams include: Salem senior Amanda Abraham (All-WLAA), Canton senior Melissa Marzolf (All-WLAA), Canton senior Nkechi Okwumabua (All-WLAA), Salem junior Andrea Pruett (All-WLAA), Canton senior Kristin Lukasik (All-Western Division), Salem sophomore Tiffany Grubaugh (All-Lakes Division), Salem junior Christine Philips (All-Lakes), Canton senior Kristin Mayer (Honorable Mention), Canton juniors Elise Thornell and Janell Twietmeyer (Honorable Mention) and Salem sophomore Bree Pastalic (Honorable Mention).

Trojan trick surprises Canton

BASKETBALL

The Monroe Trojans short-circuited a late Canton surge Friday, and defeated the Chiefs, 43-41, with a three-point shot in the game's waning seconds.

Jeremy Griffin's fourth three-pointer of the game preserved the win for the Trojans, who squandered an 11-point, third quarter lead.

The loss kept the Chiefs winless at 0-2. Joe Cortellini (20 points) was the leading scorer for the Chiefs, who jumped out to a seven-point, first quarter lead.

But Canton's advantage quickly dwindled in the second quarter and the Trojans took a 20-16 lead into halftime.

The Chiefs battled back and tied the game, 35-35, in the final frame, even taking the lead 41-40 with one minute remaining.

Ann Arbor Huron 60, Salem 54 — The Rocks blew an 11-point lead at the end of three quarters in the six-point loss to the River Rats in Ann Arbor Friday. Andy Power was the leading scorer for Salem with 19 points.

Salem is 0-2



Monroe had Canton cornered with an 11-point lead in the third quarter, but the Chiefs rallied to tie the game, only lose on a three-point shot in the final seconds. (Crier photo by R.Alwood Jr.)

Chiefs battle to 5th in Allen Park tourney

BY ERICA D'ANGELO

The Canton girls volleyball team had its first tournament this weekend in Allen Park. The Chiefs placed fifth overall.

Canton played four teams: Belleville, Melvindale, Rochester, and Wyandotte. They played each team twice. Canton

VOLLEYBALL

was able to defeat Belleville in both games, but went 1-1 against the other three teams.

"It was a good way to start the season," said senior co-captain Amy Plagens.

"Serving, hitting — it was all there. We worked together as a team. We know it's all there now," she added.

Plagens, who is on the varsity team for her second year, felt the team handled its opponents well.

"Rochester was a good competitor, and the game against Wyandotte showed everything we had," she said.

Some of the teams' strongest players at the tournament included Plagens, senior co-captain Stephanie Chefan, senior Christy Even, and juniors Liz Elsner and Erica Hancz.

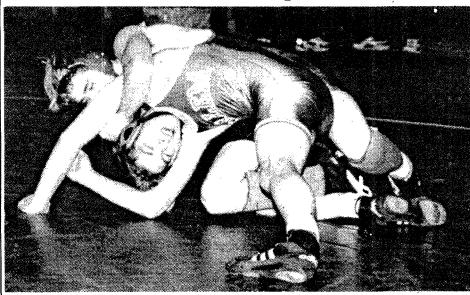
The teams' setters, Angie German and Robin Hamilton, also played a good part in the teams' success over the weekend.

Defensively, Plagens feels that there is still room to improve, and with their first game this Wednesday at home against Ann Arbor Huron, there should be plenty of time in the season for them to get where they need to be.

Upcoming Canton matches:

- Jan. 3 Portage Northern Invite.
- Jan. 10 Salem Festival Invite.
- Jan. 14 At Livonia Franklin

All wrapped up



Salem's Dan Hamblin tangles with Jared Babock of Ann Arbor Huron during the Salem 8 Invitational Saturday at Salem. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Whaler 3-game road trip bookended by wins

Whalers didn't beat the Maple Leafs (though they might be able to the way that NHL club has been playing), but the game still packed the punch of an Original Six

Plymouth second-year forward Harold Druken recorded his first hat trick of the season to guide the Whalers past the expansion St. Michael's Majors.

The matinee game opened with an overflow of offense — five goals in the first period and a 3-2 Plymouth lead and ended with a third period that featured 20 penalties and numerous scrums.

The number of wins Peter DeBoer needs to set the franchise coaching record for regular season wins.

Since 1995-96, DeBoer has compiled a record of 82-64-13. He is 92-76-13 overall.

DeBoer is chasing his predecessor and current Carolina Hurricanes Coach Paul Maurice, who was 86-38-8 in two regular seasons and 113-49-8 overall.

goals), Julian Smith and Luc Rioux also scored for the Whalers, who are two points out of first place in the West Division.

Sudbury 6, Plymouth 3 — The big, bad Sudbury Wolves sure blew the Whalers down, and out, in a 6-3 win over Plymouth Friday night at Sudbury Arena in north central Ontario.

Sudbury goalie Steve Valiquette had the Whalers huffing and puffing with frustration by making 47 saves, including 23 in the second period.

Plymouth outshot Sudbury, 50-30, in the game, but it was the Wolves who took a 2-0 lead on goals by Ryan Barnes and Jason Sands less than two minutes apart late in the first period.

Plymouth tied the score in a 45-second span early in the second period on goals by Eric Gooldy (8) and captain Andrew Taylor (15). But Sudbury twice beat Whalers goalie Robert Esche for a 4-2 lead at the second intermission.

Legwand scored his 34th goal of the season at 6:36 of the final frame to pull Plymouth within one, 4-3. Goals by Norman Milley at 15:37 and Jeremy Adduono (empty net) at 19:23 completed the scoring.

Plymouth 5, North Bay 2—The Whalers sailed into North Bay Thursday

night without their skipper at the helm, but still cruised to a 5-2 victory over the Centennials before a crowd of 1,720.

Yuri Babenko set up three, second period goals and scored another 1:37 into the third period for Plymouth, which played its first game without Head Coach/GM Peter DeBoer, who left last week to be an assistant coach for Team Canada in the World Junior Championships in Helsinki, Finland until early January. Legwand, who is scheduled to join Team USA at the junior tournament, scored his 32nd and 33rd goals of the season, and added an assist.

preseason with a shoulder injury, opened the scoring at 3:38 of the first period with his first goal of the year.

Legwand and Taylor scored goals 35 seconds apart in the second period to break a 1-1 tie and give Plymouth a twogoal lead. Esche, another Whaler on Team USA's roster, stopped 25 shots. He particularly was effective in the first period when North Bay outshot Plymouth, 11-5.

Babenko added to a 4-2 Plymouth lead 1:37 into the third period; his 10th goal of the season put the Whalers up by three, 5-

Caught up in the Web

Plymouth play-by-play voice finds Whaler Web

BY PETE KRUPSKY

I venture into cyberspace nearly every day, boldly searching for information for my articles here and my Whaler broadcasts on WSDS. I'm learning to surf around a limited group of Web sites. That's not bad, considering I'm a mechanical dufus who shouldn't be trusted with a hammer or screwdriver.

In moving around the Internet, I notice

the term "Webmaster."

Just who are these Webmasters? Are they like Darth Vader or Luke Skywalker? Do they hit like Ed Jovanovski or Mark Ridout, fight like Joe Kocur used to and skate like Dave Legwand? Do they play terrible defense like the Windsor Spitfires? Do they walk around like The Men In Black, looking for extra-terrestrial

Please see pg. 21

WHALER

JIM'S BARBER SHOP STOP IN AND ENTER TO WIN A WHALERS FAMILY 4 PACK TO A WHALERS GAME

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OFFICIAL PIZZA OF THE PLYMOUTH WHALERS

	בטום באם_		WHALER STATISTICS			
WEST LONDON PLYMOUTH SARNIA ERIE S.S.MARIE WINDSOR	W 20 18 14 15 9	L 10 9 13 16 19 23	T 1 3 6 1 5 1	Last 10 6-4-0 7-3-0 5-4-1 3-7-0 3-5-2 3-6-1	Pts: 41 39 34 31 23 17	Current leaders: Goals: Legwand (36) Asst: Legwand (23) Pis: Legwand (59) PIM: Boulerice (111) +/-: Legwand (+20)
EAST BELLEVILLE KINGSTON OTTAWA PETERBOROUGH OSHAWA TORONTO	W 20 19 18 13 12 8	L 12 12 10 17 22 18	T 2 3 4 3 0 6	Last 10 8-1-1 3-6-1 7-3-0 5-5-0 5-3-2 3-6-1	Pts. 42 41 40 29 24 22	Forward Dave Legwand (36 goals, 23 assists) has moved into the OHL rookie scoring lead with 59 points. He trails league leader Peter Samo of Windsor by one point. The
CENTRAL BARRIE GUELPH KITCHENER SUDBURY OWEN SOUND NORTH BAY	W 23 20 13 13 13 12 10	L 10 9 14 16 16	T 1 3 5 4 2 4	Last 10 6-4-0 7-3-0 5-4-1 3-7-0 3-5-2 3-6-1	Pts. 47 43 31 30 26 24	OHL record for most goals in a season is 81 by Tony Tanti of the Oshawa Generals in 1980-81 Lewand has 36 games left. UPCOMING GAMES: * Thurs. (7:30) at Windsor * Sat. (7:30) vs. North Bay

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DATE Thu., Dec. 18

SAT., DEC. 20

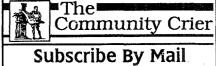
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PRE-GAME SHOW 7:30

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Second city

Chiefs runner up at season-opening Freeland tri-meet

BY KRISTEN VAN DUSEN

The Canton girls gymnastics team started their season on Saturday with a meet in Freeland. The three teams competing were Canton, Freeland, and Vasser. The Chiefs placed second with 129.30 points, finishing behind Freeland with 138 points.

Sophomore Liz Fitzgerald placed first in the Division I, all-around. Junior Marcy Emerick placed second.

Freshman Amy Driscoll placed fourth in the Division II, all-around. Driscoll had an almost perfect vault, managing to score 8.5 points out of a possible 8.6.

GYMNASTICS

The Chiefs have six really strong allaround gymnasts. Emerick, Fitzgerald, Driscoll, junior Michelle Farnsworth, freshman Kristen Schilk, and Nicole senior Vaagenes are Canton's top gymnasts.

This year's team is coached by John Cunningham and assisted by Brie Wall. The captains are Holly Graham and Kristin Brooks. There are 31 gymnasts on the team. "We have a real team this year. Everyone really gets along with

Whaler Web sites:

www.geocities.com/Loge/1551/index.html

www.plymouthwhalers.com

one another," said senior Heather Zawol.

"We're really strong this year and have improved a lot from last year," said senior Kristin Brooks. "We made it to states last year and should be able to do it again this year."

Canton's next meet is Thursday at home. It is a quad meet with Ann Arbor Huron, Ann Arbor Pioneer, and Plymouth Salem. "The other teams are good competition. Hopefully, we'll come out on top," said Brooks.

Canton 11th at Berkley

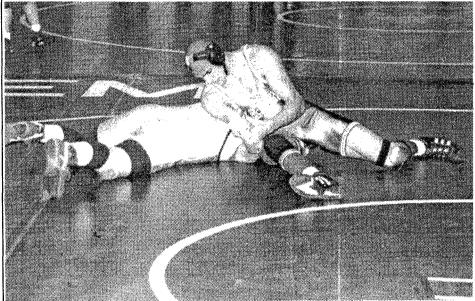
WRESTLING

They're half of the way there. The Canton boys wrestling team finished 11th out of 21 teams at the Berkley Invitational Saturday.

"I'm very happy," said first-year cocoach John Demsick, who shares duties with coach Ernie Krumm. "It's fair to say we've had a lot of changes at Canton. Coach Krumm has done a fine job the last couple of years I've seen them (Canton) wrestle, but there's still been enough changes that they often finished at the bottom of tournaments, so to finish 11th of of 21 teams is a real accomplishment."

Canton was led by three medal winners — Brent Buttermore (third place, 135 pounds), Robert Demsick (fourth place, 160 pounds) and John-Peter Demsick (third place, 171 pounds).





Salem's Teono Wilson puts an unforgiving hold on Holt's Tom Shaver Saturday at the Salem 8 Invitational. Wilson won the match. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Continued from pg. 20

life forms? Do they wear high collars like Don Cherry, or dress like Toni Braxton, RuPaul or Dennis Rodman?

I met a Webmaster the other day. It was a painless, even pleasant experience, although I choked on the food I was eating.

He came with no bright lights, force fields or lasers. He did not change into an alien life form looking to extract my brain cells. He did meet me at the Compuware Sports Arena with a smile, wearing a Whalers jersey and his wife

at his side.

Meet Marc Staubitz, a Highland resident who has designed the Web page for the Plymouth Whalers' fan club, the Whale Watchers (www.geoc-

ities.com/Loge/1551/index.html).
Along with the Plymouth Whalers' official Web page (www.plymouth-

whalers.com), these are two Web sites a hard core Ontario Hockey League fan in Detroit should bookmark. Staubitz is a relatively new Whaler fan who started following them last season. "My girl friend then, my wife now, Kristen, introduced me to them," Staubitz said.

The Whale Watchers' fan-friendly Web page has everything a Whalers fan might want — from current and historical statistics, information on upcoming club-sponsored road trips, pictures of current players, a "Where Are They Now?" listing of where old Ambassadors/Jr.Red Wings/Whalers are currently playing and other information.

Staubitz grew up in Germany and studied Web Design while going to college there.

"I've been on the net for quite a while, designing home pages for friends," Staubitz said. "A couple of my friends had them and I decided I wanted one, too. I looked around, looked at the code and pretty much taught myself."

In my opinion, the best segment is the Whalers' Forum, where fans chat freely about a variety of pertinent topics. More importantly — in the face of personal bashing and ridicule typical on other Web sites — the Whaler Watchers' Website remains, for the most part, respectful of opinions, keeping the tone passionate but

above-board. Going into December, the web page had taken 2,000 hits.

"At the beginning, there were very few posts on the board," Staubitz said. "But after the trades (Mark Cadotte, Jason Lawmaster-Joel Trottier for Nik Tselios), the hits just picked up and people are going there now. We're getting

there. It's pretty much Whaler fans posting, so there's not a lot of bashing"

As the Whalers' play-by-play voice, the Forum gives me immediate feedback as to what Whaler fans are thinking and helps me tailor my broadcasts and features to my audience. Staubitz appreciates the current Whalers' style of play. "I'm used to hockey in Germany," Staubitz said. "There's more noise in the arena (in Germany), but I like the style they play."

The easiest way to get to the Whaler Watchers' Web Page is to find it on the Plymouth Whalers Web page and click on from there. As we concluded our conversation I had this warm, fuzzy feeling. I wasn't feeling some force field from a Webmaster. I had just spilled my cappuccino.

On deck

SALEM BASKETBALL

Dec. 27-29 at the Grosse Ile Invitational. JV begins at 6 p.m.

SALEM SWIMMING

Saturday at noon at home for the WLAA Conference Relays.

SALEM WRESTLING

Saturday at the Melvindale JV Invitational. Dec. 27 at home for the Salem "B" Tournament at 9 a.m. Jan. 3 at home for the Salem Varsity Invitational at 9 a.m.

SALEM VOLLEYBALL

Dec. 27 at the Madonna Invitational (JV). Jan. 3 at the Portage Northern Invitational.

SALEM GYMNASTICS

Tomorrow at home at 7 p.m. for a quad meet with Canton, Ann Arbor Pioneer and Ann Arbor Huron. Jan. 7 at Farmington at 6:30 p.m.

SALEM BASKETBALL

Friday at Ann Arbor Huron. Tuesday at home versus Belleville. JV begins at 5:30 p.m.

CANTON BOYS SWIMMING

Saturday at Salem for the WLAA Conference Relays at noon. Jan. 6 at home versus Ann Arbor Huron at 7 p.m.

CANTON WRESTLING

Saturday at home for the Canton Invitational at 9 a.m. At the Salem "B" Tournament at 9 a.m. Dec. 27. At the Salem Varsity Invitational at 8:30 a.m. Jan. 3.

CANTON GYMNASTICS

Tomorrow at home versus Canton, Ann Arbor Pioneer, and Ann Arbor Huron at 7 p.m. Jan. 7 at home versus Hartland at 7 p.m.

CANTON VOLLEYBALL

Tonight at home versus Ann Arbor Huron. JV begins at 6 p.m. Jan. 3 at the Walled Lake Central Invitational at 9 a.m.



Community opinions

Setting a higher standard:

A new Gremlin's glory

way

I pictured the 7-11

corporation coming in,

building a new store

They took a slightly

much the

Christmas tree.

different approach.

Canton Planning Commission's aesthetic standards make for wince-free 7-11s

Who knew 7-11 had standards?

I winced when the nationwide convenience chain took over Dad's Corner Store, at Morton Taylor and crew worked on the outside.

Warren roads, in Canton. Not that Dad's Corner store was that much to look at — it was a run-down party store that occupied the corner of Morton Taylor and Warren roads since I could remember. But it did have a sense individuality, much way that Julien's store on Canton Center and Ford roads did.

I pictured the 7-11 corporation coming in, razing the structure and replacing it with their construct-by-numbers design; building a new store much the way I assembled my artificial Christmas tree.

They took a slightly different approach.

Ferlito Construction company transformed the existing structure from the inside out, with renovations that expanded outward like a ripple on a pond.

First, the company went in and completely gutted Dad's. They stripped the walls, took out shelves, even ripped up the floor. Each day as I drove by on the way to work, I watched the construction workers pulling stuff out of the tiny store, like clowns piling out of a Volkswagon. At the same time another

The store was expanded slightly. Thick, ugly cinder blocks were added in a layer on the razing the structure and western side (cinder blocks - I winced again). But when that was done, the walls assembled my artificial were covered with a uniform color of red attractive which brick. greatly enhanced the look of the building. It was like an old, beaten-

up GMC Gremlin being restored to all the glory of, well, a new Gremlin.

Ferlito also planted half a dozen additional shrubs along the south and west side of the property, cleaned up the eastern side, and even planted sod alongside the store.

There's some mollification in this, even though Canton's Planning Commission approved this 7-11 and another one on Michigan Avenue within the past few months, tripling the number of 7-11s almost overnight.

So while I still cringe when I see another convenience store, strip mall, or gas station on the agenda, I can at least

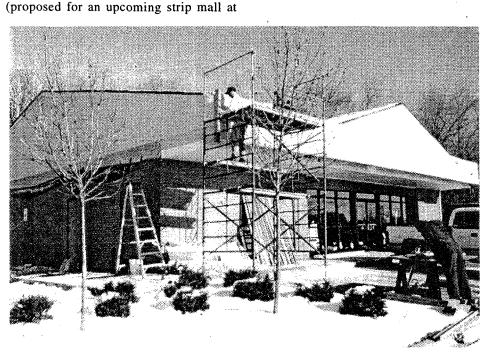
Off the cuff

By Scott Spielman

relax and know that if they are approved, Canton's planning staff will hold the developers to a higher aesthetic level. The latest Arbor Drug, for example,

Cherry Hill and Palmer roads) won't look like every other Arbor Drug.

Still though. I'd say we've seen enough 7-11s.



For some national chain businesses, such as the 7-11 replacing Dad's Corner Store at Morton Taylor and Warren roads, Canton's Planning Commission have set a higher aesthetic standard than they set for themselves (Crier photo, R. Alwood, Jr.).

Write to us!

Letters to the Editor mail to: The Community Crier, 821 Penniman Avenue, Plymouth, Michigan 48170-1624. Include your name and phone number. Email: CrierNews@aol.com. The Crier reserves the right to edit letters for style and brevity.

City employes support United Way

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter was included in the Plymouth City Commission's meeting packet and was addressed to Mayor and Commission.

Once again, City employes have demonstrated their generosity and commitment to the Plymouth community. I am pleased to report that employe contributions to the Plymouth United Way Community Fund totaled \$2,450, including a \$500 donation from the Plymouth Police Officers Association. This represents a substantial increase over the \$1,868 contributed last year.

Included in the \$2,450 are contributions raised through participation in Casual Day. For a contribution of \$1 per day to the United Way, employes can dress in casual attire on Fridays. As an added incentive, employes contributing to the fund were entered into a raffle for prizes donated by employes, including a vacation day courtesy of City Manager Steve Walters' vacation bank; movie passes contributed by PSD Joe Kelley; and Gold C Entertainment Books contributed by Linda Langmesser and Carol Stone.

For the past several years, City employes have participated in the Salvation Army Adopt-A-Family Christmas Program. This year, the employes adopted a single mother with three children. Gifts and contributions totaled over \$400 and provided our adopted family with food, clothing and the 'Christmas wish' items.

Thanks and appreciation are extended to all those employes contributing to these programs.

CAROL STONE

Administrative Services Director, Plymouth City Hall



Community opinions

Holiday events key to no-stress season

I've been 'kicking off' the holidays for almost a month now, but this pre-holiday season has been the most relaxing of my life.

Four events helped to put the Christmas holidays in perspective for me, each of them a wonderful way to start the holidays. The first was a ladies' tea held at St. John Neumann Church in Canton. Each hostess decorated her own table and invited guests to the event.

Father George Charnley led the group in prayer in the darkness then the advent wreath flame was passed among the group to light the room. There was beautiful music and a theatrical reading of "A Cup of Christmas Tea" by Val Bernacki. There wasn't a dry eye at my table. When the tea and desserts were served, we all rejoiced, "What a wonderful way to start the holidays"!

The Thanksgiving Day Parade in Detroit was an event I rarely missed as a child, but haven't had the opportunity to go for a husband was gingerbread boy in the Day Parade, in Detroit. parade this year, so my

sister and her family decided to make the trip. It was well worth it, brought back wonderful memories of times past and got to see our briefcase brigade in action again. That was the way my holiday season would always start when I was a child.

Around spring of this year, I joined the

Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.

Plymouth Garden Club. I am an avid perennial gardener and thought it would be fun to meet fellow gardeners. What I didn't know was that I would meet the most

wonderful bunch of ladies and make many new friends. Every year the Plymouth Garden

> Club donates a wreath to the Festival of Trees at Cobo Hall in Detroit. This year, I took a day off from work and a few members & I went downtown to see our wreath and enjoy the Festival. We 'did lunch' at Mario's. a great old restaurant although a bit hard to find, then made our way to The Festival of Trees, it was my first time there and - the trees and wreaths were all beautiful. Although we did not win a ribbon, we were told ours was one of the first to sell! Our feet weary, we made our way down the long corridor at COBO Hall "What a great way to

start the Holidays"! This past Sunday, my husband, a few friends and I went to The Glory of Christmas "A Holiday of Hope" at Temple Baptist Church. This broadway quality production is professional, not really what you'd expect from a church. The amount of work put into this show is unbelievable, the sets are

Traditions By Lisa Lepping

incredible, the voices like angels, and the costuming beautiful! The show focuses on what hope does for all of us, and what the world would be like without it. At the beginning of the show, you wonder how the story of Jesus' birth will be worked in with shopping for Beanie Babies, but they do it and do it well! I don't want to spoil the plot for those of you lucky enough to see the last of the productions this coming weekend, so I won't tell you the end. This show IS the way to kick off the holidays as it reminds us why we have Christmas in the first place. I am

having a hard time putting into words all the emotions this production evoked in me. I laughed, I cried, I reminisced, and most of all the true meaning of Christmas really came through. Although this 'team' does not take curtain

calls, I must identify one individual, director of the show, Mr. Paul Black. He is the Pastor of Music and Worship at Temple Baptist. I have sung in choirs all my life and have never seen a more enthusiastic director. He has as much fun directing as the audience and the people in the show.

If you're feeling out of sorts this holiday, and need your spirits lifted, take time out and enjoy the flavors of the holiday. There are several ways with all that is going on around town at the many church and community events, any of these will do wonders for you.

As I look forward to the coming week of celebrations, I find myself more relaxed and less stressed than I have ever been at this time of year. My wish is that your holidays are the best ever; my hope is that the true meaning of Christmas fills your hearts.



very long time. My Lisa's Ginger-Bob man on parade in a this year's America's Thanksgiving to our cars claiming,

Court kudos

When the gavel rapped in Chief Judge John McDonald's Courtroom Monday, it was the beginning of a one-and-half to two-year stint for the 35th District Court at its temporary trailer site. As the pink flamingos indicate, neither political issues nor the stress of running between interim locations since July 2 have killed the staff's sense of humor. Congratulations on a job well done, and on your new trailer site, flamingos and

The Community Crier

The Community



NEWSPAPER WITH ITS HEART IN THE YMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY

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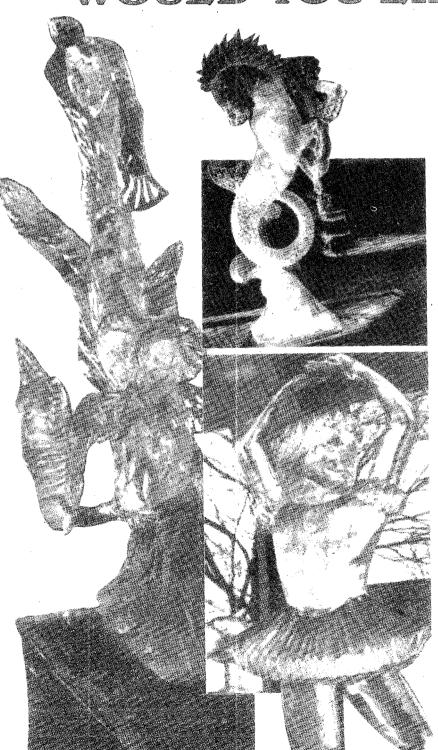
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