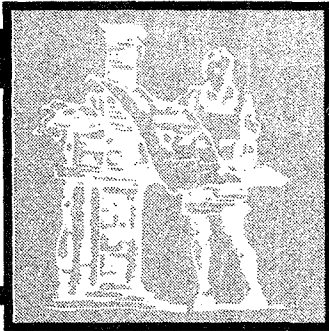


Ice Spectacular begins today — event *GUIDE* in this issue



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The Community Crier

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

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January 14, 1998

Plymouths to hear recreation plan

Plymouth YMCA brings proposal to meeting with City, Twp. representatives tonight

BY BRYON MARTIN

At a meeting of Plymouth City and Township representatives tonight, the Plymouth Community YMCA is to present its plan for joint recreation services the two municipalities would share.

The plan is the first such proposal to be publicized in what is an ongoing examination of the possibility of joint City-Township recreation.

Under the plan, the YMCA would be responsible for provision and oversight of a single program of recreation activities to be used by City and Township residents, according to Joanne McCarthy, executive director of the Plymouth Community YMCA.

The proposal is an overview of how the plan might work, she said, and contains few details.

"At this point things are still pretty general. It's more or less a framework to go by."

Basic recreation such as the seasonal sports and activities the YMCA now provides would be part of the plan, she said. It would be a continuation and expansion of the role the YMCA currently plays.

"In the last year the City has cut some of its recreation programs," McCarthy said. Enrollment in YMCA classes such as ballet and gymnastics increased following those cuts, she said. "We're in kind of a unique situation. We try to avoid duplicate services."

Tonight's meeting will center on answering questions basic to the proposal, and the joint recreation issue in general, according to

Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy.

Deciding how a shared, YMCA-run program would be funded is among them, she said. "We'll try to get a ballpark idea of what we're talking about here."

Steve Walters, Plymouth City manager, said the meeting will focus less on the program itself than on deciding "the best mechanism for providing recreation."

Other options for joint recreation could exclude a third party; the City and Township might team up as they have in using a joint fire department to serve both municipalities.

From tonight's meeting, Keen McCarthy said she and the other Township representatives will take what they learn back to the Township Board of Trustees for discussion.

The Township now has no recreation program. A survey of its residents completed late this summer found that a majority of them would want one.

The Township and City governments have been examining joint recreation services for their residents since the issue was raised last spring.

"We've been working through ideas. I'm a big fan of private enterprise. If government doesn't have to do it, it shouldn't," she said.

McCarthy said a single, YMCA-run program for both communities would bring down the current cost of recreation through municipal subsidy.

The program could also initiate a period

Please see pg. 4



Let the ice chips fly... Officially, the 16th Annual International Ice Sculpture Spectacular begins today. But Westland resident John Fitzer has already begun and completed his 6,500-lb. giraffe sculpture, now on display under The Gathering. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

Pinheads jam

Group of pinstriping artist gather to raise charity money

See *Pinheads & Pinstripes* pg. 6

Go P-C-N

The Crier launches a new GUIDE to live entertainment

See *Go P-C-N* pg. 8

Bittersweet

Canton wrestlers take 4th out of nine teams in Royal Oak tourney

See *Wrestling* pgs. 19-21



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New, 'current' church in Canton

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

It was the beginning of a beautiful friendship.

If the capacity crowds at Canton Friendship Church's first service are any indication, Canton is ready for a new kind of church.

"We had a terrific response," said Pastor Mike Norton. "We're very pleased that our idea has interest."

Canton Friendship Church (CFC) seeks to attract a younger audience by offering shorter sermons, up-beat, contemporary music and casual dress, Norton said.

"We're mainline Christians gone mainstream," he said. "It was our thought that for many younger adults, the church subculture was out of step. We want to present the message in a style people are attracted to."

"It's not an effort to believe less. We're telling the same stories and conveying the same truths, only in a current culture," he said. "We haven't compromised the teaching of the church."

CFC had its first service Sunday in the Walnut Room at Canton's Summit on the Park recreation

center. With about 540 people, including 90 children in the nursery through 5th grade, the church seems to be off on the right foot.

CFC is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and has been in the planning stages for several years, according to Norton. The final step in the process came when a church development survey recognized Canton as one of the fastest growing communities in Wane County.

Norton's first task as a "minister under

assignment" in Canton was to find out about the community and what residents would look for in a church.

Norton and staff began an extensive telephone survey, calling more than 26,000 phone calls in about two months. The survey, like CFC's ministry, was geared toward a younger audience, Norton said.

"We were trying to find out who was not involved in a church, and who among those would be interested," he said. "It wasn't like a typical telemarketing call, because we kept asking for permission to continue. We never asked anyone to commit to anything. We were looking for people who were looking for us, but didn't know it yet."

Norton found about 1,700 interested families, which he followed up with direct mailing and additional phone calls.

CFC rents space in the Summit for three hours a week, according to Norton. The agreement is good for now, while his congregation gains its sense of identity, but he said he hopes to be able to find land in the area for a permanent home.

But those plans are long in the future, he said.

Until then, Norton said he plans on distinguishing his church from other Methodist churches in the area.

"It's not like you couldn't find one, its just that they have one set format," he said. "There's a large segment of the population that is not attracted to that format. It's why GM sells Buicks and Chevys across the street from each other."

'We're telling the same stories and conveying the same truths, only in a current culture.'

**Mike Norton
Canton Friendship Church**

In today's
Crier, look
for :

**The 1998 Community
Crier's Guide to the
Plymouth Ice
Sculpture Spectacular**

WHAT IS VOLUNTARY PAY?

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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.

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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.

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821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth MI 48170

If you witness an act of kindness, if an organization you are associated with plans a good deed, and if someone is especially kind to you, please write a letter to The Kindness Editor describing the act of kindness. We will gather the reports and publish some of them on a special page on January 21st.

The Community Crier staff will choose an outstanding act of kindness and present a \$50 reward to the kind person, and \$25 each to the runners-up. So if you know somebody who deserves a reward, let us know, who knows, maybe together we can help start new habits. We need to receive your nominations by January 19th to be considered for the January page.

Elizabeth M. Johnson
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 **The
Community Crier**

Northville names Petres Chief City Manager chooses to promote from within

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Captain Jim Petres of the Northville City Police Department has been named Northville's new Chief of Police, according to City Manager Gary Word.

Petres will take over the position left by retiring Chief Rod Cannon, who was with the City for 17 years, Word said.

Cannon retires Friday, and Petres' first day as chief will be Monday.

Word said he isn't worried about a rough transition.

"Captain Petres has been with the City for longer than Chief Cannon has," he said. "I'm not anticipating any problems."

Petres has been a police officer with the city for 26 years, including more than 17 years as a senior officer. His experience, which includes much of the day-to-day operations of the department, made him the best overall candidate, Word said.

The nation-wide search for a new chief began in August with 33 applicants competing for the position. The field was narrowed to twelve, and then to three finalists, Word said.

"Jim was competitive at all levels," he said. "He wasn't necessarily the top candidate in every area, but I felt he was the best candidate overall."

Petres was chosen over the other two finalists, both of whom were chiefs of police in their respective communities, because of a combination of factors, Word said.

"I thought it was a better fit for the community, and had better promotional value," he said. "Petres has been with us a long time and he really knows the town."

"I've been very pleased with his performance and I think he'll do a great job."

Plymouth lawyer offers \$1,000 reward in hit-and-run case

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Plymouth resident Mike Gerou has offered a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the driver of the 1989 Ford Aerostar that struck and killed a 28-year old Ypsilanti man last Saturday.

"It seemed like the right thing to do," he said. "From all reports he seemed like a decent, hard working guy."

Gerou, a lawyer who practices out of his office in Plymouth, said his past leadership roles in the Canton Chamber of Commerce and Leadership Canton helped him make the decision.

Between 10:30 and 11 p.m. Jan 3, Ronald Cowans, an Eastern Michigan University student, was riding his bike to work along Michigan Avenue near Beck Road. He was struck and killed by a driver who did not report the accident.

Canton Police investigated the scene and determined that the vehicle involved was a 1989 Ford Aerostar van, according to Det. Bill Keppen.

Canton police are continuing to follow leads in the case, and are appealing to area collision shops for information on the van, which is now believed to be maroon in color, according to Keppen.

"Further investigation by the Michigan State Police crime lab leads us to believe it's maroon," he said.

Gerou is hoping his reward will help



U of M day... Plymouth Department of Municipal Services workers Jim Panos (front) and Dave Orr hoist a U of M flag Tuesday morning in front of Plymouth City Hall. Just as former Mayor Doug Miller flew the Ohio State flag and called for a Plymouth OSU day (which, it was pointed out, never officially ended), Mayor Don Dismuke called for a U of M day at the Jan. 5 City Commission meeting to recognize the football team's national championship. (OSU fans at the meeting grumbled; MSU fans bit their tongues.) (Crier photo by Bryon Martin.)

bring additional information to light.

"It stands to reason that someone knows something about this," he said. "Maybe this will be enough to get them to come forward."

Gerou said he was willing to pay the reward out of his pocket, but would solicit donations from business leaders and other

graduates of Leadership Canton.

Keppen said that, while Canton Public Safety has not offered rewards for leads in the past, other members of the community have.

"I think it's a good idea," he said. "If someone wants to be a good samaritan, it can only help us."

Spectacular ice, weather or not

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Ice melts. For most of us it's no great problem. But for those participating in this week's 16th annual Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular, it can be a serious issue.

"The unique thing about the Ice Spectacular is that not only do you get to see the art created right before you, you also know that it won't be around for very long," said Ice Spectacular Chairperson Mike Watts.

If warm temperatures like those we had last week return however, 1998's Spectacular could be reduced to puddle art.

"If it gets real warm there isn't much we can do," he said.

Watts, who has been associated with the Ice Spectacular for seven years, said that coping with the elements is just part of the game.

"We are pretty much used to dealing with all sorts of weather," he said. "Four years ago it got down to 27 degrees below zero. Then the following year, on the Sunday of the event, it hit 65 degrees."

Please see pg. 9

Spectacular weather?

According to Mike Watts, the man behind the Ice Spectacular, ideal conditions for the longevity of ice sculptures include:

- Overcast skies: sunshine causes white spots in the sculptures, like those found in icecubes.
- Weekday temps in the 'teens to 20s during the week: colder at night so the sculptures will harden; warmer during the day so the ice isn't too brittle to cut.
- Weekend temps in the low to mid 30s: ice stays frozen; spectators are comfortable..

Here's what The Weather Underground website (www.wunderground.com) forecasts through Saturday, and what it means for Ice Spectacular goers:

Today	Mostly cloudy with light snow likely. Lows in the teens, highs in the low to mid 20s. <i>Temps good, but snow can be bad for sculptures' shape.</i>
Thursday	Variable cloudiness with a few flurries. Lows in the low to mid 20s, highs in the upper 20s to mid 30s. <i>OK for viewing if temps stay near freezing.</i>
Friday	Chance of snow or rain. Lows in the low to mid 20s. Highs in the 30s. <i>Rain is almost as bad for ice as the warmer temps.</i>
Saturday	Chance of light snow. Lows in the teens to mid 20s, highs in the upper 20s to 30s. <i>Good conditions for spectators and ice, minus the snow.</i>

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Tomorrow, The Plymouth Poets, Rod Reinhart and "The Poet and the Power" present an evening of poetry at the Plymouth Coffee Bean Comany, 884 Penniman Avenue. Two one-hour shows will be taped, beginning at 7:30 p.m. and will be broadcast on Media One cable.
- Friday marks the deadline to nominate second graders in Plymouth-Canton schools for TAG programs; nominations for fourth through sixth graders are due by Jan. 30. For details on the Talented and Gifted program, call the TAG office at 416-4867.

THIS WEEKEND

- During the Ice Spectacular, musicians Betsy Beckerman and Tom Wall will perform in the lobby of the Arbor Health building, 900 W. Ann Arbor Trail. Ice fans are invited to stop by and warm up with complimentary cups of hot cider.

NEXT WEEK

- Wednesday, U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers will hold a town hall meeting in the Canton High School little Theater, from 7 - 8:30 p.m.

INDEX

Business.....	pg. 8
Friends & Neighbors.....	pg. 6
Happenings	pgs. 10 - 11
Deaths.....	pg. 15
Sports.....	pgs. 19 - 21
Opinions	pgs. 22 - 23



Crier Plus sections take an interesting and informative look at issues of interest to P-C-N residents. The Home Repair section runs Jan. 28. Call (734) 453-6900 for advertising info.

'To make a change'



After 25 years, Pendleton Shop owner explains why he's closing the doors

BY LINDA KOCHANNEK

Sale signs are up in the front windows at the Nawrot Pendleton Shop, in Plymouth. Everything is priced to move, even the store's fixtures.

After 25 years, owner Jim Nawrot said he has decided to make a career change. He will join his wife Donna as a real estate agent at the Northville office of Caldwell Banker Schweitzer.

He is closing the shop doors, he said, but not because of disappointing sales or business.

"I've been in the retail business for 35 years, and I feel that it is time for me to make a change," he said.

"Donna and I would like to thank all of our customers and clients for their support over the years," said Nawrot. "Plymouth is a great community and we hope to serve the same friends, just in real estate rather than retail."

Nawrot's store on Forest Avenue specialized in Pendleton woolens and blankets for men and women.

The shop will close its doors for good on January 31.

Jim Nawrot says that after 25 years behind the retail counter at Plymouth's Pendleton Shop, it's time for a change. Nawrot plans to become a real estate agent, joining his wife in Northville. The shop closes its doors for good Jan. 31. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)



Tree for two... Canton residents Sadie and Adam Winslow (hugging at right) were presented with a Beanie Babie Tree, as winners in the Plymouth Morning Rotary club's fundraiser raffle. Rotary President Frank Grisa (left) drew Sadie's name, who in turn gave the tree of 51 hard-to-find Beansies (they came from outstate) to her 8-year-old son, Adam. The prize was presented at Gabrielas, in downtown Plymouth, by Grisa and fellow Rotarian and Gabrielas proprietor Larry Bird (at back). Ticket sales in the raffle raised more than \$9,000 for Morning Rotary service projects. (Crier photo by Bryon Martin.)

Short-changers scam Canton stores

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Two short-change artists stole a total of about \$430 from two Canton businesses Friday, according to Canton Police reports.

The reports said that the two men, about 35-45 years of age, first struck at Baker's Square Restaurant on Sheldon Road.

The two men ordered a lemon pie, one of them paying with a \$50 bill, according to reports. Remembering he had smaller bills, he told the cashier he wanted to pay with them instead, according to reports, and repeatedly asked for different amounts of change.

The man allegedly asked for two \$50 bills in exchange for five \$20 bills, then left with the other suspect.

Reports said a customer standing in line went to the store manager and tipped him to what he saw happen. The manager counted

the cash drawer and found it was short about \$178.

A similar instance was reported a short time later at the Good Food Company on Ford Road, according to reports.

Two men matching the same description paid for a \$3 item with a \$50 bill; one man allegedly asked for different types of change while the other concealed his actions from other customers in line.

The two men allegedly became nervous and left. An employe followed them to the parking lot and wrote down the license number on their early '80s sedan, according to reports.

About \$250 was taken from Good Food Company.

The case remains open and police said they continue to look for suspects.

Recreation part of Twp. mill wishes

Continued from pg. 1

of growth for the YMCA, she said.

The YMCA could sell the house it now occupies in downtown Plymouth and use the proceeds to fund construction of an office addition to the Plymouth Cultural Center, she said, acknowledging that such a plan is still very speculative.

For the Township, any decision on the YMCA plan is also tied in with more basic questions the it now faces, Keen McCarthy said.

"We have to make some fundamental decisions. Are we going to go out for a millage, and if so, what for?"

In addition to recreation services, the Township might seek increased police and fire funding through the millage, and the construction of a new Township Hall, Keen McCarthy said.

Plymouth Township residents have not

seen a millage increase since 1986, she said, when the level was set at 3.5 mills. "Philosophically, the Township has always been about basic services.

"This issue comes back to another issue the Township has had all along: do citizens want to pay extra for recreation?"


In order to approve the YMCA plan, or any other, the Township would need to increase taxes.

But before any tax increase, the Township would need to chose what else such a millage would fund, she said. "It's a chicken-or-the-egg situation."

"My feeling is that residents will see a tax issue in 1998," Keen McCarthy said.

McCarthy said she hopes Township tax money will be directed toward her proposed program to benefit both municipalities.

"We've been here for 37 years. It's time we got together."

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Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Jennifer Lindquist of Plymouth, daughter of John and Susan Lindquist of Plymouth attended the prestigious Interlochen Arts Camp in northern Michigan the past summer as a 1997 recipient of the Weatherwax Foundation scholarship.

Air Force Airman Gary A. Steinert, Jr. has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX.

Steinert, a basic training honor graduate, is the son of Linda D. Steinert of Canton and Gary A. Steinert of Dearborn Heights.

Navy Seaman Recruit Adam R. Wolski, son of John E. and Robin E. Wolski of Canton, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL.

Wolski is a 1997 graduate of Salem High School.

The following students earned undergraduate or advanced degrees from Eastern Michigan University:

From Canton: Stephen Aumann, Shellie Avery, Suzanne Barker, Gary Bartz, Rula Bilbeisi, Magen Brown, Deanna Cater, Janice Cepela, Joseph Cody, David Demers, Christina DiPietro, Denise Gildo, Matthew Hampton, Brian Kline, Linda Luehnel, Krista Mabbott, Dean Malkiewicz, Steven Marshall, Lori McDonald, Donna McMullen, Tracey Lynn Mocon, Troy Morrow, Thomas Murray, Stacia Lynne Norquist, Jessica O'Connor, Michelle Piwko, Mark Price, Shelly Schaible, Jennifer Schwab, Tera Shamey, Lisa Snitzer, Susan Snow, Brian Sochocki, Amy VanBuhler, Daniel Wiles; From Northville: Lynn Allison, Susan Bickner, Aaron Dimitroff, Karen Herndon, Jo Ann Hurst, Jenn Martin, James McLellen, Christine Potter, Amie Van Horn, Kari Van Noord, Cathleen Webb, Amy Westerhold; from Plymouth: Cathleen Adams, Kristen Baranowski, Allison Brenny, Jeanne Cady, Jason Dimanin, Paul Faunce, Laura Filppula, Rochelle Gotts, Michael Grover, Benjamin Hendricks, Erika Hinchcliff, Nicole Laramee, Brian Muessig, Kelly Najmowicz-Landin, Jason Ray, Christina Schmidt, Sherri Siebert, Darron Tucker, Bethany Veresh, and Laura Zubatch.

Nicholas Powell recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL.

Powell was awarded the Honor Recruit Award.

Pinheads jam for charity

BY
SCOTT
SPIELMAN

For several hours Sunday, Autocraft Collision in Canton became a make-shift art studio.

Located on Michigan Avenue, the body shop hosted the 3rd annual Detroit Area Pinhead Panel Jam, where local artists and paint specialists got together to have some fun and raise money for charity.

"It's an annual thing where we all get together and paint for fun," said David Varga, a Plymouth sign-painter and Pinhead.

"We had a good turnout," said Johnny Zeleji, or Johnny Z, as his Pinhead comrades call him. Zeleji, who has

worked at Autocraft for about 15 years, helped organize the event with the help of fellow Pinhead Rudy "Dr. Ru" Kutey.

Zeleji opens the shop for professional and amateur Pinheads alike. The Pinheads — painters who do custom pinstriping and detail work for signs and automobiles, gather to show off their art and learn new techniques, Zeleji said.



The Detroit area pinheads used Canton's Autocraft Collision for the 3rd annual Panel Jam, which uses donated paints (above) to raise funds for children's charity. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

The event is called a Panel Jam because artists get together to paint their work on panels of sheet metal.

Pinheads got their name at a Letterheads International meeting in Cannesburg, PA in 1992, according to Varga. They modeled themselves after the informal, international associations of painters and detailers, he said.



Dave "Gibb" Gibbish, of Plymouth, was one of the local area Pinheads — painters who specialize in custom pinstriping and detail work — to participate in the Panel Jam. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

"We're a loose-knit group," he said. "There are no dues to pay, no organization. We all just sort of keep in touch."

Pinheads at the Panel Jam ranged in experience from artists who have had more than 20 years of experience, like Varga, to younger, less-experienced painters.

"We usually have someone who is just learning the trade and we all help with suggestions," he said. "That's how a trade is passed on; otherwise it dies."

Pinheads pay \$25 for the panel jam, which pays for food, beverages, T-shirts and door prizes, Zeleji said. Other supplies such as paint and other materials are donated paint and steel companies.

The proceeds are gathered into a fund to be distributed to various children's charities at the end of the year.

"We used to give the money away as we raised, but we decided to do donate it all in one lump sum this year," said Varga.

The Pinheads, who have other functions and fundraisers throughout the year, have collected more than \$1,600 for charity this year, according to Zeleji. They have also sold their work at events such as the Plymouth Fall Festival, and may partake in Canton's Liberty Fest this year.

"We haven't decided which charity to donate to yet," Zeleji said.

Past charities have included children's hospitals and the United Way.

GUIDE to Entertainment

Go PCN

Your GUIDE to commercial entertainment in the Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. Also note community and non-profit groups' events, listed in this Crier under What's

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 "Deconstructing Harry"; "An American Werewolf in Paris"
 "Boogie Nights"; "Pamotou Never Dies"; "Mouse Hunt"
 CENTER STAGE
 734-455-8178; Fri.: "Battle of the Plymouth-Canton Bands"
 CLUB CANTON
 734-455-8178; Fri.: Bob Smith & Satisfaction
 THE PLACE TO FIND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT IN THE PLYMOUTH-CANTON-NORTHVILLE COMMUNITIES.
 ERNESTO'S
 734-455-8178; Fri.: Jack
 "The Classical Piano"
 248-349-8178; Fri.: "Work or charge?"
 THE LOWER TOWN
 734-455-8178; Sat.: The
 Rhines
 THE MARQUIS THEATRE
 248-349-8178; Fri.: "Peter Pan"
 NORTHVILLE DOWNS
 248-349-8178
 THE MARQUIS THEATRE
 734-455-8178; Fri.: "The Rain"
 734-455-8178; Fri.: "Air Force One"
 COPPER BEAN
 734-455-8178; Fri.: "Plymouth Pools"
 PLYMOUTH WHALER
 734-455-8178; Fri.: vs. St. Mary's
 STARTING
 734-455-8178; Fri.: "Plymouth Pools"

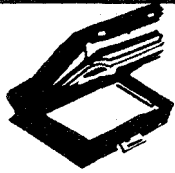
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Getting down to business



Getting down to business

Larry Martin, with Remerica in Plymouth, has been awarded the designation Real Estate Innovator (REI) by Realty Electronics Publishing.

The REI designation is given to a select group of real estate professionals who offer extraordinary service to home-sellers.

James D. Vogelsberg, president of American Glass & Metals Corp. in Plymouth, has been elected Chairman of the Board by members of the Construction Association of Michigan (CAM).

CAM is a trade association of contractors, sub-contractors, suppliers and others involved in the commercial construction industry.

Paul J. Benson, Jr., principal with the Plymouth office of Roney & Co. has been named to the All-American Team of the American Funds Group of mutual funds.

Benson was cited for outstanding service to investors in the Plymouth area and for excellence in financial counseling in mutual fund investments and variable contracts.



Caring Athletes Team for Children's & Henry Ford Hospitals (CATCH) has named Jennifer Path as Special Events Coordinator.

Catch is a children's charity founded by former Detroit Tiger Manager Sparky Anderson in 1987.

Path, a 1992 graduate of Canton High School and former head coach of Canton's Varsity Pompon Squad, will assist in the coordination of annual CATCH events.

Plymouth woman gives PC help

It started out as a hobby, then a job, and soon all of Betty Ashcraft's friends were asking for help with their PCs. She turned her know-how into a home business, and more

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

One Plymouth woman is taking her home computer-training business back into the classroom.

Betty Ashcraft is partnering her business, BetComp Services, with Computer Training Advantage in Novi to provide relief in the form of classes for confused PC-users.

Betty Ashcraft started her home business in 1993. A computer programmer and analyst for more than 12 years, Ashcraft found an increasing portion of her time eaten up by her work, which was rapidly turning into her hobby, too.

"I've always been interested in computers," she said. "I had spent a lot of



Betty Ashcraft has been sharing her computer knowledge with friends and clients for years. Now it's time to expand her business into a classroom to help would-be PC users.

time and money in them. I enjoy learning about computers, and helping others learn about them."

Ashcraft, like many modern workers, grew tired of the nine-to-five, 40-hour work-week regime of corporate America. Previously a contractor and programmer

for companies such as Ford Motor Company, Chrysler and Ameritech, she traded in her cubicle for her home business.

Until now, Ashcraft has offered private, one-on-one tutelage in computer uses and software such as Windows95, word processors and Microsoft Excel.

The lessons can be either at client's homes or in small offices, she said.

"I teach them what they want to know in an environment in which they are comfortable and on a computer they know," she said.

Ashcraft's expertise is largely self-taught. Beginning years ago with a Commodore 64 computer, she has kept track of, and upgraded along the way.

She avoids typical computer jargon when she speaks, an approach that she plans to carry into her classes. Classes are three hours long, and vary in topics from introduction to Windows 95, Advanced Windows 95 and other software programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Cost of the classes are \$75, and include a free reference book.

"We're trying to help beginners or intermediate P-C-users," she said. "It's an ideal class for someone who got a computer for Christmas and doesn't have the first idea of what to do with it."

Dogs of the Dow:

Plymouth natives give free stock-market seminar at PCAC building

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

It's a simple strategy.

If you want to make money on the stock exchange, simply buy the stocks with the highest returns.

That's the philosophy behind the Dogs of the Dow, a way of playing the stock market by buying the 10 stocks with the highest percentage yields on the Dow Jones industrial average, according to Ed McCombs, investment executive for Paine Webber.

McCombs and Paul Petroff, another investment executive with PaineWebber, will give a free seminar about how to take advantage of this fairly dependable stock market strategy at the PCAC building on Sheldon Road.

The hour-long seminar will be 7 p.m. Jan. 28, McCombs said, and will feature this unique strategy, which has proven effective for years.

Interested stockholder simply buy shares of the 10 highest yielding stocks, stocks such as Chevron, General Electric, and Texaco. These stocks are held for one year, and updated as other

stocks begin to yield higher returns.

"It's a simple strategy but it's showing compelling results," McCombs said. "It's a good thing for someone who wants to get their foot in the door to look at."

McCombs and Petroff chose Plymouth to begin their seminar because the two

grew up in the area, and graduated from Canton or Salem High Schools.

"We're very comfortable with the town and people," McCombs said.

For more information about the free seminar, call McCombs at (248) 645-7027; or Petroff at (248) 645-7035.

GUIDE to Entertainment

GO P-C-N

Your GUIDE to commercial entertainment in the Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. Also note community and non-profit groups' events, listed in this Crier under *What's Happening*.

The Community Crier introduces *Go P-C-N*, the new GUIDE to live entertainment and movies in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. It's a weekly list of all the exciting commercial entertainment available to P-C-N residents.

Kind of like Priscilla

Like the character in their new children's book, a local writer and artist had to overcome obstacles to reach their goals

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

For a writer, inspiration can strike at any time.

For Northville's Marian Nelson, it struck while driving 15 years ago. She was between classes, pursuing a second master's degree at Eastern Michigan University when she had the idea for a children's book.

"I had to jot it down on the back of a bank deposit book," she said. "It was so clear, and I liked it so much that I had to start writing it down."

Nelson's studies, combined with her job teaching, conspired to take up all of her time. It took a long time for the idea to see fruition. The idea simmered for the next 14 years, when Nelson met artist Jennifer Riopelle, of Plymouth.

Nelson was working at a bookstore in Northville when Riopelle came in, and was admiring the illustrations in children's books.

"She said she wanted to draw them and I said I wanted to write them," Nelson said. "So I said we should get together."

Nelson wrote down her ideas for her book, about a young girl, called *Priscilla's Patch*. Riopelle modeled Priscilla after Nelson's daughter, and began the first phases of art for the book.

That was when the pair encountered their first hurdle: Most publishing houses did not accept art and writing submissions together, unless on eperson does both.

"(Publishers) usually have their own illustrators to choose from," Riopelle said.

Nelson didn't want to compromise her dream.

"I wanted more control over it. I wanted it to look like it did in my head," she said.

Nelson decided to self-publish her book, giving her more control over con-



Jennifer Riopelle (left) and Marian Nelson (Right) will sign copies of Nelson's book, *Priscilla's Patch*, which Riopelle illustrated. (Crier photo by Scott Spielman).

tent, but also saddling her with the chores of promoting and selling it directly on her shoulders.

The work began in earnest last January, Nelson said. When she first saw Riopelle's drawings, she became excited and they got down to business.

Again, time would fight them.

Riopelle earns her living as a graphic artist and in art fairs such as Plymouth's Art in the Park. She could only work on the book sporadically.

"Our final deadline was in July, and I finally had to take some time off and go up north because Marion kept bugging me," Riopelle said.

"I would call her up and say: 'Tell me you're drawing,'" Nelson laughed.

Drawing, she was. The book was finished on time. Published by Proctor

Publications in Ann Arbor, *Priscilla's Patch* will be in local bookstores as soon as Nelson can get them there.

The book is about empowerment through overcoming obstacles, Nelson said. Kind of like Nelson and Riopelle.

"It's about a little girl who does what she wants without thinking about the consequences," she said. "Then she's able to make a decision and solve her problem. It's a very empowering thing for children to read."

Plymouth's Little Professor on the Park will feature Nelson and Riopelle for a book-signing Saturday, from 12 - 2 p.m. The two will also be signing books at Barnes and Noble, at Six Mile and Haggerty roads Jan. 27 at 11 a.m., and the following day at 7 p.m.

Book Signing

Priscilla's Patch

Author Marian Nelson and illustrator Jennifer Riopelle will sign copies of their children's book at Little Professor on the Park, in downtown Plymouth, Saturday from 12 - 2 p.m.

Spectacular forecast: just right

Continued from pg. 3

Although temperatures aren't expected to approach either of those extremes this year, even temperatures consistently above freezing can cause problems. "When ice melts, it melts all the way around," Watts said. "So what happens to the carvings is they'll get smaller. They can lose some of their detail."

Extremely cold temperatures can pose difficulties too, he said. When it's too cold the ice becomes hard and brittle, making it more susceptible to cracks.

Connecting blocks by applying water—a step necessary in larger sculptures—is also hampered by extreme cold. "If the ice is 20 degrees below zero and you pour on water that's 32 degrees, that's a 50 degree differ-

ence," Watts said. "That can cause fractures."

Extreme temperatures aren't the only factors that can have adverse effects on the ice. Sunlight can also do damage.

Ice is filled with thousands of tiny air bubbles. When sunlight strikes them, the air inside heats up and expands, causing the ice to fissure. "It does that layer by layer," said Watts. "It looks like paint when it's peeling."

Ice Spectacular organizers have taken steps to avoid these weather woes, according to Watts. Many of the sculptures are kept beneath the Central Parking Deck and in The Gathering, where plastic walls are hung in order to keep out sunlight. And for competitive carvings, ice is kept on refrigerated trucks

until needed.

"We do just about everything we can," he said. "Now it's up to Mother Nature to cooperate."

So what type of weather is ideal for an ice sculpting event? According to Watts, temperatures in the teens to twenties during the week, and low to mid thirties during the weekend, with mostly cloudy skies throughout. "The warmer weekend temperatures bring out the crowds," he said.

Judy Coy, from the WJR Weather Center, is returning for this year's celebrity carving competition, and said the forecast is looking good.

"They tell me what kind of weather they want and then I make it that way."

GUIDE to Entertainment

Go PCN

Your GUIDE to commercial entertainment in the Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. Also note community and non-profit groups' events, listed in this Crier under *What's Happening*.

CANTON CINEMA 6

(734) 981-1900; "Titanic" "Good Will Hunting" "As Good As It Gets" "Tomorrow Never Dies" "Wag the Dog" "For Richer or Poorer" "Scream II."

CENTER STAGE

734-981-5122; Thurs. - Sat.: Dance to mainstream music rock, alternative & more.

COFFEE STUDIO

734-416-9288; Sat.: Live Acoustic Music.

ERNESTO'S

734-453-2002; Mon. - Thur: Strolling Musicians; Tues. - Sat.: Live Music in Piano Bar.

GENITTI'S

248-349-0522; Live dinner theater: "No Refunds, No Exchanges."

KARL'S COUNTRY CABIN

734-455-8450; Thurs.: The Witchdoctors; Fri.: Karl's Roadhouse Band

THE LOWER TOWN GRILL

734-451-1213; Fri.: Detroit Blues Band; Sat.: George Beddard & the Kingpins.

LUCILLE'S TAVERN

734-397-1988; Thurs. - Sat.: Dixie Cross Road Band.

THE MARQUIS THEATER

248-349-8110; Sat. & Sun.: Alladin.

NORTHVILLE DOWNS

810-349-1000; Harness Racing.

PENN THEATRE

734-453-0870; Now Playing: "Air Force One."

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN COMPANY

734-454-0178; Thurs.: Open Poetry Night; Fri. & Sat.: Live music.

PLYMOUTH WHALERS

734-453-8400; Sat.: ; Sun.:

STARTING GATE

248-349-5660; Fri. & Sat.: Live Music w/Rick & Becky.

STATION 885

734-459-0855; Wed. - Sat.: Keyboardist Wally Gibson Fri. & Sat.: w/ special guests.

WOOLY BULLY'S

248-380-5163; Thurs. - Sat.: D.J. Rockin' Rick, Dancing and Live Music.

These listings are free of charge and are accurate as of noon Friday, prepared for Wednesday's Crier. Bookings, reservations, cover charges and capacities may change, so please call to verify information. A venue wishing to be listed or to update information should call The Crier at (734) 453-6900 by noon Friday.

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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).



Groups

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON AGING

"How and why to have more fun" will be presented by Karen LaMoria of Family Nurse Care. On Monday, Jan. 12, 1998 at 1:30 p.m. at the Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth. For more information call 453-1234.

SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY CHOIR AUDITIONS

Experienced singers are invited to audition for the Schoolcraft Community Choir on Tuesdays, Jan. 13 and 20, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27457 Five Mile Road in Livonia. To schedule an audition call Shari Clason at 248-349-8175 or 734-462-4435.

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.



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, 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.

STUDENT EXCHANGE

Families needed to host international students from "Academic Year in America," sponsored by American Institute for Foreign Study Foundation. Students range from 15-18 years, arrive from Brazil, Germany, Spain, Netherlands and other countries. Call Amy Mullen, 1-800-322-4678, ext. 5423.

GUEST SPEAKERS NEEDED AT P-C SCHOOLS

P-C Business Education Partnership in need of individuals to share occupation information to students in classroom settings. Call 416-4903.

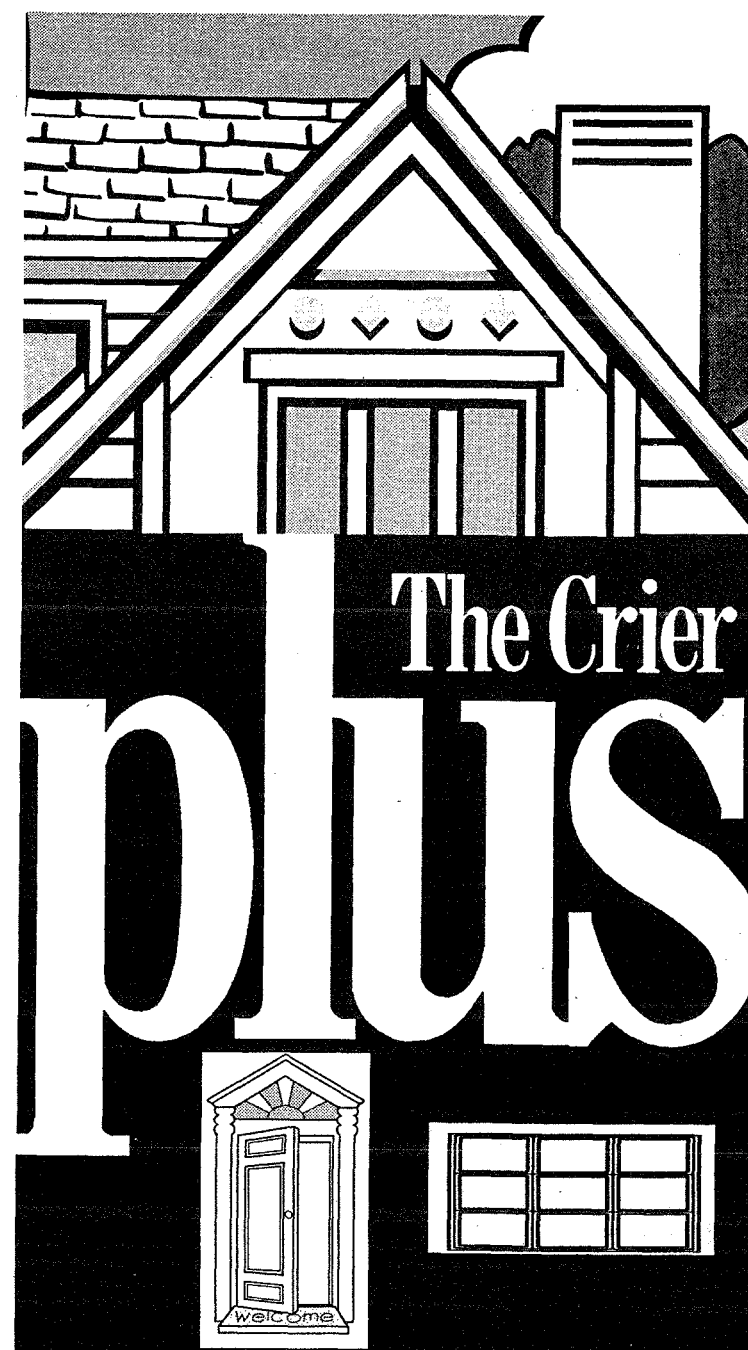
CHORE PROGRAM

Senior Alliance offers a chore referral program that puts workers in touch with seniors in need of chores and home repairs. Reasonable fee. Call (313) 722-2830.

DONATE PERIODICAL SUBSCRIPTION

Plymouth District Library seeks individuals, businesses, groups to donate the cost of a subscription to one of over 300 periodicals it subscribes to. Sponsor's name appears on front cover. Donation is federal, state tax deductible. Call 453-0750.


HOMEOWNER'S HANDBOOK




Coming January 28th

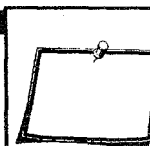
Don't miss this informative and helpful guide to home improvement.

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 **The Community Crier**

 **What's Happening**

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

 **Events**

US REPRESENTATIVE HOSTS TOWN MEETING
Lynn Rivers is hosting a town hall meeting Wednesday, Jan. 21, 1998 from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm at Canton High School. The program will consist of a brief overview of activities of the 105th Congress, followed by a question and answer period. This is a chance for the community to voice opinions, questions, and concerns directly to the Representative. For more information call Chip Silvis at (313) 741-4210 or (313) 722-1411.

MAID OF ERIN PAGEANT
We are looking for girls ages between 17 & 23 of Irish descent for the "Maid of Erin" pageant to be held Feb. 28 at the Gaelic League. For further details call Bridie Flynn at 313-464-8556 or Peggie Bolland at 313-255-5677.

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 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

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.

 **Health**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HANDBOOKS
40-page handbook contains current domestic violence laws, women's rights, community resources list, and more, in Arabic. Pick-up copies at Arab-American and Chaldean Council, Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services, Wayne County prosecutor's office and department of public health clinic in Dearborn. English, Spanish versions available. Call (313) 224-6994.

BET CHARVERIM
Blood pressure checks, breast feeding support groups, childbirth preparation classes, infant CPR. Call 454-8001.

SENIOR VAN
Ply. community seniors van available for free transport to destinations in city or township five days a week, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Take Ply. seniors to medical, dental, other appointments or planned trips to nearby malls. Call 459-8888.

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

THERAPIST REFERRAL NETWORK
People with mental health problems, call 1-800-THERAPIST to be directed to a licensed professional or mental health agency.

SMOKE STOPPERS
In combination with the "patch," or by itself, this program helps win the battle against smoking. Group, individual sessions available, St. Joseph Mercy Health Building, Plymouth and Ann Arbor. Call (313) 712-4141.

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.

CHILDREN'S BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM
Community Hospice & Home Care Services Children's Bereavement program "CONNECTIONS" is a specialized program that was designed to address the unique needs of children ages 5-16, who have experienced a loss through death. Connections is offered three times a year in a six week series format. A parent group is also offered in conjunction with the children's series in an effort to educate and support the parents of children who are grieving. For additional information call (313) 522-4244.

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at Goffredson & Ann Arbor Rd.
(From M-14 take Goffredson Rd South)
8:00am Praise & Worship Service
9:30am Lifeline-Contemporary Service
11:00 am Traditional Service
Continental Breakfast served 8-9:30am
Sunday School for all ages 8:30am
Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
Rev. Wm. Branham - Assoc. Pastor
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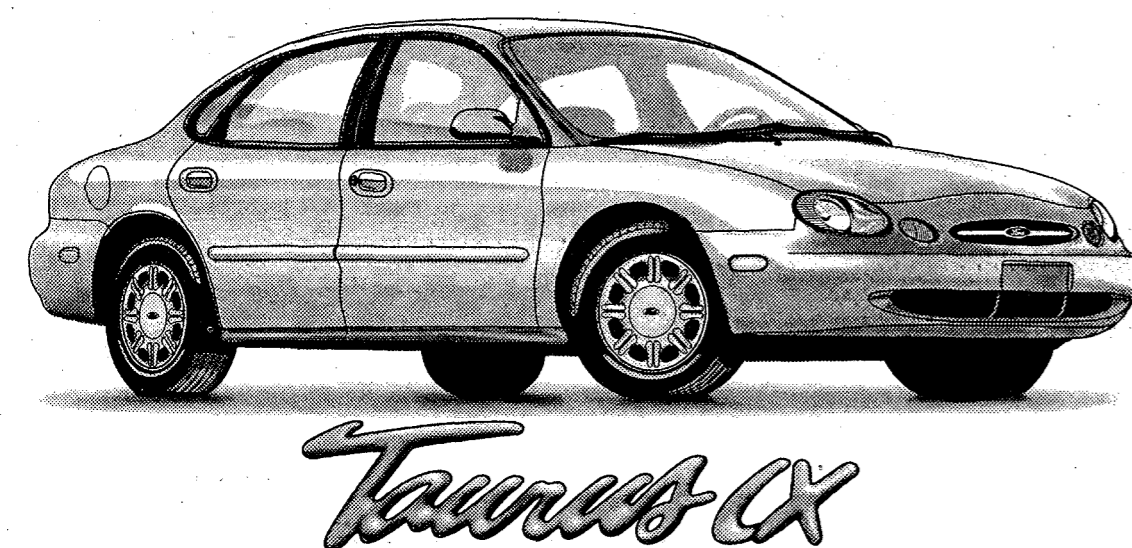
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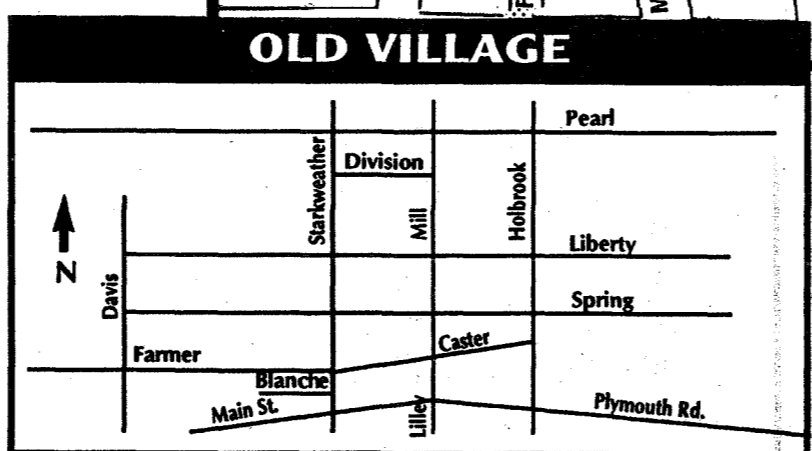
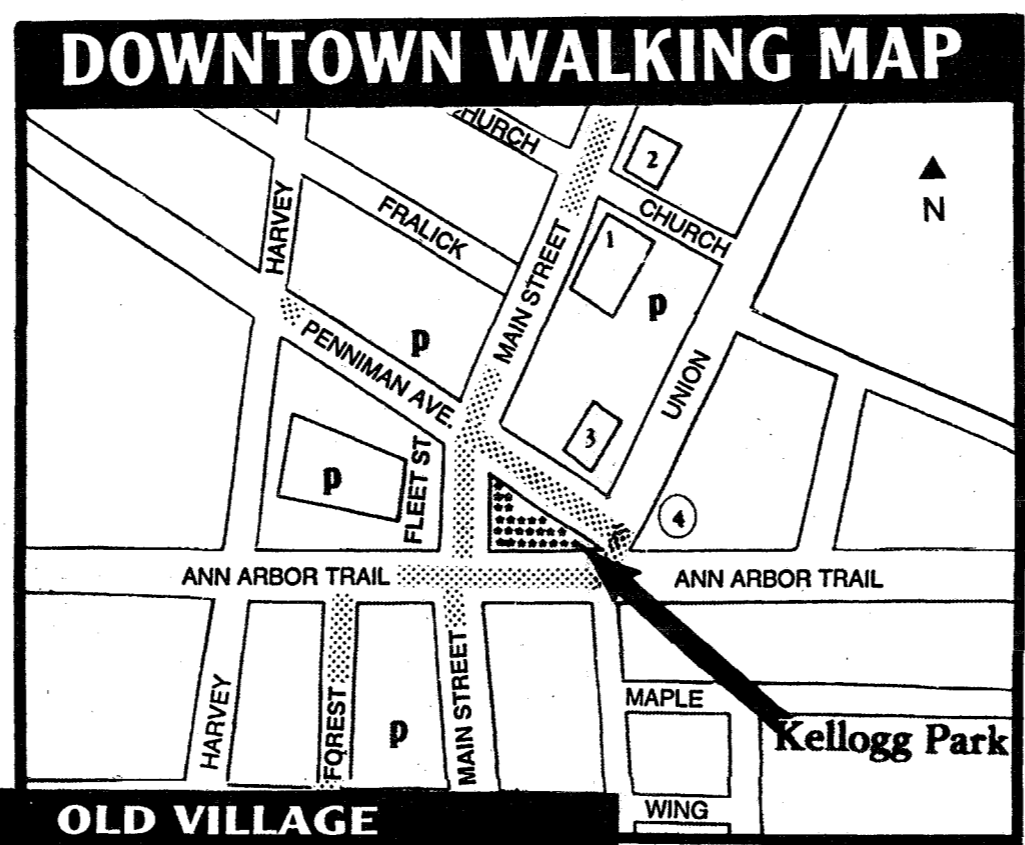


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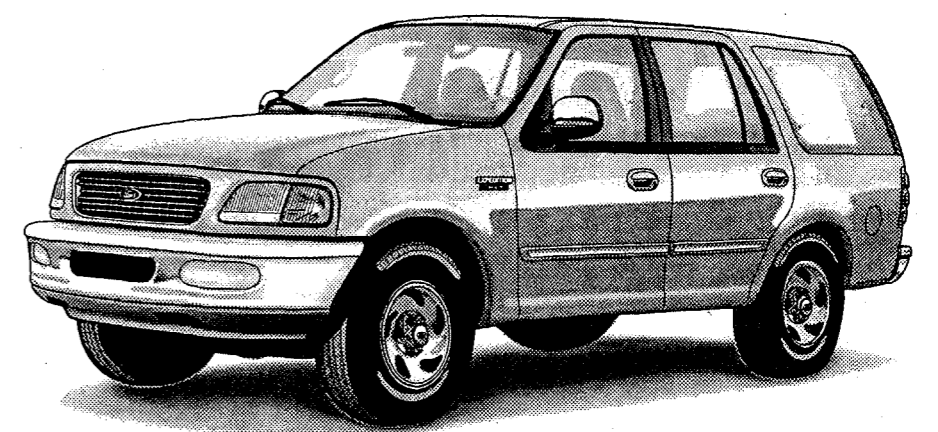
Plymouth International Ice Spectacular Schedule can be found in The Crier's 16th Annual Guide to the Festival (inserted in today's paper).

McDONALD FORD

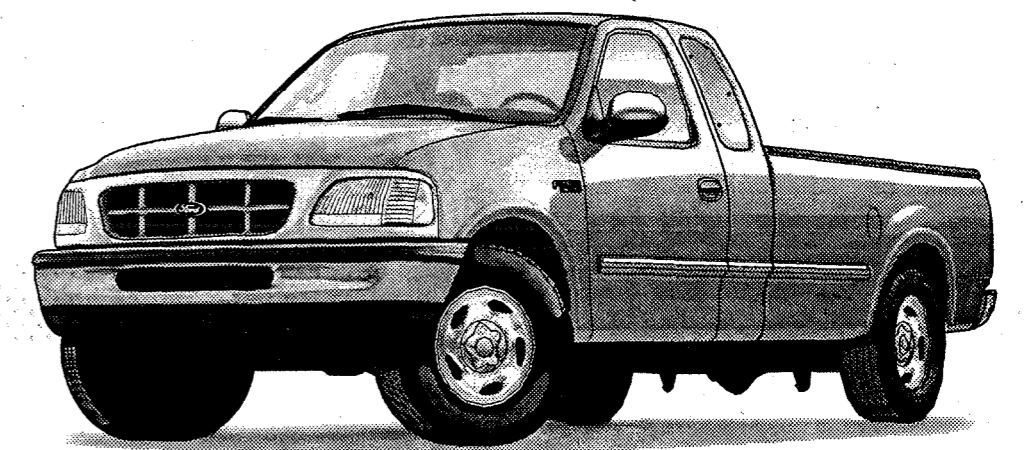
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NORTHVILLE
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**PULL
OUT MAP**



EXPEDITION



F-150

Service for Maria Ibarra, 80, tomorrow

Long-time Plymouth resident made many friends, raised families in Plymouth and Mexico

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Maria Ibarra, a long-time Plymouth resident, died Jan. 8, 1998 at the age of 80.

Mrs. Ibarra was born Nov. 14, 1917 in Michoacan, Mexico. She lived a long, colorful life and left a lasting impression with everyone who knew her.

Maria first moved to Plymouth in 1962 with her husband, Gilberto, and her daughter, Maria. She settled into a small, one-room apartment at the corner of Penniman and Harvey after her husband died.

She would remain in the apartment until October, when she returned to Mexico to be with her family.

Mrs. Ibarra always had a smile, and never had a hard word for anyone. She was often seen walking about town — to church, on errands, to any of the several homes where she worked as a maid and sitter, or for the sheer pleasure of walking.

"It seemed like everyone knew her," said her granddaughter, Juana Arcos.

"We would walk everywhere in town, and whenever anyone would drive by, they would honk and wave."

Maria helped raise several families in the area, becoming close friends with the families of Marda Benson and Patrick Woody.

"She had a gift for working with children," said long-time friend Helen Gilbert. "She spent her whole life devoted to working with others in a most kind, compassionate way.

"She worked in several households, and not always for money," Gilbert added. "Sometimes she would just volunteer."

Several fond memories of Maria remain, especially those of her father, who rode with Mexican revolutionary Francisco "Pancho" Villa.

"He came into town and gave (Maria's parents) a package and told them to guard it with their lives," Arcos said. "(Maria's mother) took it and climbed up a tree and saw that it was filled with money."

Mrs. Ibarra will be remembered by everyone who knew her as a sweet lady, a caring parent and a good friend.

Her neighbors in the Vorhies house at Penniman and Harvey plan to hang an 8 inch by 10 inch portrait of her in the lobby she once maintained, and carry on her tradition of planting flowers in the springtime.

She is survived by her daughter, Maria A. (Ibarra) Arcos; granddaughter, Juana "Joan" Arcos; grandson, Ramon Arcos II. Her extended family includes the Bensons, including her godchildren, Kirtsi and Maren; the Patrick Woody family and the many friends she made while living in Michigan.

A memorial service for Mrs. Ibarra will be held 10: a.m. Thursday at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. Memorial contributions can be sent to her family in Mexico in care of Miguel Guzman B., Calle 2a-B #80, Col. Mariano Matamoros, Morelia Michoacan, Mexico 58240.



Maria Ibarra sits in the sun with her goddaughter, Kirsti Benson at Maria's house in Mexico.



Community deaths

Obituaries

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

WILLIAM C. PARSON

William C. Parson, a Plymouth resident, died Jan. 5, 1998 at the age of 64.

Mr. Parson was born Oct. 22, 1933 in Clinton, NC. He retired from the Ford Motor Company after 33 years of services at the Ypsilanti Plant. He was a superintendent of material control. He was a member of the Shriners, the Phoenix Lodge No. 13 F. & A.M. in Ypsilanti and a member of the Hiram Lodge No. 98 in Clinton, NC. He was also a retired Lt. Col in the U.S. Army; he was in both the active and reserve services.

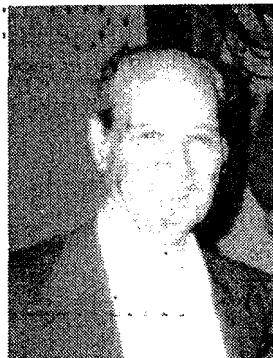
He is survived by his wife, Mary M. of Plymouth; son, Bill (Sherri) Parson of Plymouth; daughter, Mary Parson of Raleigh, NC; grandchildren, Ashley, Danielle and Aaron of Plymouth; and sisters, Amuline (Alvis) Tew of Fayetteville, NC, Nobia Coffelt of Fayetteville, NC, Redithia (Merle) Sasser of Benson, NC, Mavis (Angelo) Franculli of Torrington, CT.

Arrangements were made by and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth under the auspices of the Phoenix Lodge No. 13 F. & A.M. Memorial contributions can be given to Hospice of Michigan, Angela Hospice, or the Karmanos Cancer Institute.

A TRIBUTE TO HAL WAGGONER

Everyone who knew Hal liked him. He was a kind, caring, perfect gentleman at all times. He never had an unkind word to say about anybody. He will be sadly missed, especially by me. Thank you dear friends for all your loving cards and sympathy.

Sincerely,
Lorraine EllerHolz



EDWARD S. WESLEY

Edward S. Wesley, a Plymouth resident, died Jan. 8, 1998 at the age of 78.

Mr. Wesley was born Oct. 19, 1919 in Odanah, WI. He retired after 35 years with the Ford Motor Company in Livonia. He was a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth and the Knights of Columbus Council No. 3292. He loved golf and enjoyed hunting. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII in the South Pacific, and was a special indian code talker.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred M. of Plymouth; daughters, Sharon (Michael) Kelley of Plymouth, Maureen (Michael) Kisabeth of Plymouth, Priscilla (Gerald) Piwowar of Plymouth, Georgan (Harold) Matthews of Plymouth, Penny (Ernie) Honke of Westland; son, Brian Wesley of Plymouth; 20 grandchildren; sister, Myrtle (John) Maday of Milwaukee, WI; and sister-in-law, Irene Wesley of Michigan.

Services were held at Our lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to St Mary's Church, P.O. Box 182, Odanah, WI 54861.

WILLIAM SLAT

William Slat, a former Plymouth resident, died Dec. 22, 1997 at the age of 78.

Mr. Slat was born April 23, 1919 in East Pittsburgh, PA. He owned and operated Plymouth Television Service at 139 W. Liberty in Plymouth for more than 30 years, retiring in 1986. He served in the European Theater in the U.S. Army during WWII, and attained the rank of technical sergeant. He enjoyed boating and water-skiing.

He is survived by his wife, Hilda; sons, William A. of Brooklyn, Charles T. of LaSalle; daughter, Kathryn A. (Robert) Biehl of Johannesburg; and three grandchildren.

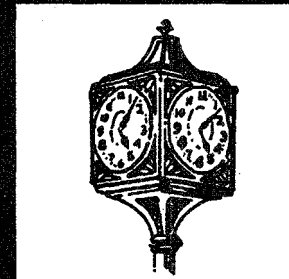
Private services were held with the Rev. Robert Freysinger officiating. Arrangements were made by the M.G. Braun Funeral Home in Brooklyn. Memorial contributions can be given to The Salvation Army.



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TIM DAVIS - The Crier Staff is thinking
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SCOTT -- is at least good for a blowgun
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Mike-Bubba-Dave: They must call them-
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Thanks Ed - the party was great - the only
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Chuck, what was the Emcee's name?
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 Spectacular '98 Guide

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Ha Ha, I got the Peace Bear.

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 Carne. (p.s. They used to call my dad
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S - Nice Glass. (I thought you were going
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Mike Carne - Glad to see you made it out
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Jack - from now on,
 I go up the stairs first.

S & B - Hope you had a nice "Walk".

Ed - Your turn. Get better soon. And
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Sports

Sports shorts

WSDP, 88.1-FM will air the Compuware Ambassador/St. Louis Sting North American Hockey League game this Saturday at 3:20 p.m.

The announcers for the game are Salem sophomore Nick Grismondi and Canton senior Sam Plymale.

Canton Parks and Recreation, in conjunction with the Wayne-Westland YMCA, is sponsoring youth floor hockey clinics and a Saturday game program. There will be six skill clinics and five games. Games will be played at the Summit on the Park Community Center. Clinics begin Jan. 26. There is no residency requirement for players.

For more information, call 397-5110.

City of Plymouth Recreation Department is taking Spring Youth Soccer Registration the entire month of January at the Recreation Office, during business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Recreation Office is located in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer St. All registrations require a birth certificate. The fee is \$40 for City residents, and \$60 for non-residents. For more information, call 455-6620.

The Plymouth Figure Skating Club will host the United States Figure Skating Association Midwestern Precision Team Sectional championship at Compuware Sports Arena Feb 6-8.

More than 145 teams and 3,000 skates are expected to compete. The highest placing teams at the Midwestern Sectional championship advanced to the USFSA Precision championships in March in San Diego.

Basketball Standings:

Women's Division — Happy Hoopsters, 20 points; All for One, 17.5 points; T-Rex, 11 points; Laurel Manor/Mr. B's, 7.5 points; Team #3, 4.5 points; Birch Construction, 2.5 points.

Men's Division — Head Graphics, 19.5 points; Clark Building Supply, 18 points; UpTempo, 16 points; McAuley Pharmacy, 14 points; American Pie, 13 points; Ludwig & Karas, 11 points; Mr. B's, 8 points; Midnight Mauraders, 7.5 points; The Sting, 7 points; SKF-NATC, 6 points; The Outlaws, 5 points; Dick Scott Dodge, 1 point.

Eagles claw way past Canton

Chiefs just miss upsetting state's No. 2 team, 130.7-127.85

BY KRISTEN VAN DUSEN

The Hartland Eagles managed to claw their way past a feisty Canton girls gymnastics team last week.

The Eagles, who are ranked No. 2 in the state, slipped away with a 130.7-127.85 dual meet win.

"Hartland was the number No. 2 team in the state. We lost by only three points," said coach John Cunningham.

Marcie Emerick was Canton's top gymnast in the vault. Her score was 8.8. Emerick also scored highest in beam with 8.35 points.

Liz Fitzgerald scored highest in bars and floor. Her scores were 8.60 and 8.65, respectively.

In the Rockford Invitational Saturday, Canton placed fourth, narrowly missing third place by a mere 0.05 of a point.

Holland won the invitational with 136.60 points.

East Kentwood was second with 134.15 points. Union/Ottawa placed third with 129.55 points. Canton finished fourth with 129.50 points.

Rockford rounded off the top five with 128.90 points.

In vault, Emerick placed fourth with 8.80 points. Fitzgerald finished 10th with 8.40 points.

On the bars, Fitzgerald placed fifth, scoring 8.70 points. Emerick placed ninth with 8.10 points.

Emerick and Fitzgerald took ninth and 10th place in beam. Their scores were 8.05 and 7.85, respectively.

For Division I floor, Fitzgerald placed 10th with 8.55 points. In Division II, Amy Driscoll took seventh place, scoring 8.45.

Canton's All-Around winners were Fitzgerald and Emerick, taking eighth and ninth place. Fitzgerald had a combined score of 33.50. Emerick's score was 33.10.

GYMNASTICS

"This was great for an early season performance," said Cunningham. "But we did have eight falls in the competition. Without those falls, our score

would've been four points higher."

"We had an excellent performance by Marcie Emerick, Liz Fitzgerald, and Amy Driscoll. We have a pretty strong team and should be one of the top contenders in states," said Cunningham.



The Salem girls gymnastics team placed 11th Saturday as host of a 15-team invitational. For Salem's results from the invitational, please turn to pg. 21 (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Canton swings to bittersweet symphony

Chiefs take 4th in tourney, but lose top wrestler for season

WRESTLING

The Royal Oak Invitational was a bittersweet day for the Canton wrestling team. With their two top seniors, Brent Buttermore and John-Peter Demsick, out of the lineup because of injuries, the Chiefs still wrestled well and took fourth place in the nine-team tourney.

"Five of our wrestlers placed in the top three in their weight class," said coach John Demsick. "The hard part to swallow is that another one of our key team leaders, Kevin Stone (140 pounds) was injured and will be out the rest of the season."

After pinning Bob Hoerauf of Clawson in 3:24 and Mike Hinz of Dondero in 5:44, Stone broke his ankle in

the finals. He was dominating the match, 4-0, when the injury occurred. "When you work so hard in practice together, you become close, like a family," said John Demsick. "We'll keep Kevin in mind through the whole season and his healing in our prayers. It's nice that he's a junior and will be back with us next year."

The Royal Oak schools, Kimball (207 points) and Dondero (147 points) took first and second place, respectively. Holly was third with 144.5 points, and Canton took fourth with 115 points.

Canton's John Popcock (130 pounds) was the star of the day, winning first place. He pinned Charlie Samsom of Clawson in 42 seconds and Dennis Herronane of Holly in 3:57. Popcock won the finals, 15-11, over Trevor Garrison of Kimball. Jared Chapman (215 pounds) took second place after receiving a bye and pinning Dan Judge of Dondero in 3:06. Robert Demsick (160 pounds) finished in third place with a 9-2 win over Matt Ostrowski of Grosse Pointe South and a pin of Peter Sherman from Clawson in 59 seconds. First-year senior Jason Farnsworth (112 pounds) took third place by pinning Eric Wood of Grosse Pointe South in 2:47.

Colts, Bulls run wild over Whalers

3rd period breakdowns reason for 3-1 loss to Bulls, 7-3 defeat to Barrie

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Maybe it wouldn't have been so bad if the Whalers' weekend games in Barrie and Belleville had been postponed.



But the immense winter storm which wreaked havoc on parts of eastern Ontario, Quebec and New England narrowly missed the Whalers' destinations, and Plymouth was

4

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

Since 1995-96, DeBoer has compiled a regular season record of 83-66-13. He is 93-78-13 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.

iced over by the Bulls and the Colts.

Barrie 7, Plymouth 3 — If you don't corral the Colts early, you might as well get out of their stable in a hurry.

Barrie took a 1-0 lead Sunday 1:29 into the opening period on a goal by Mike Christian and held off a second period challenge by the Whalers to extend its winning streak to four games.

Dave Legwand had three assists and defenseman Paul Mara, acquired in a trade last month, had two goals and one assist in his third game with Plymouth.

The Colts, who have the best record in the OHL at 29-10-2, are 15-0-0 this season when scoring first at home.

They are 12-0-0 when leading after the first period.

Plymouth nearly put a blemish on those remarkable records by tying the game twice in the second period. Taylor's power play goal at 3:07 of the second forged a 2-2 deadlock.

But Luch Nasato put Barrie back in the lead, 3-2, with a goal less than a minute later.

Mara's power play score at 13:26 tied

Please see pg. 21



Center Steve Wasylo and left wing Julian Smith prepare for a face off during in the Whalers' end during Plymouth's 3-1 loss in Belleville Saturday. The Whalers blew a 1-0 third period lead in the game. Plymouth went 1-2 on the three-game road trip which started Wednesday in Erie. Plymouth remains in second in the West Division with a 22-14-3 record and 47 points. (Crier photo by Brian Corbett)

WHALER WATCH

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OHL DIVISION STANDINGS
(Through Jan. 12)

WEST	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
LONDON	25	14	3	4-4-2	53
PLYMOUTH	22	14	3	5-5-0	47
SARNIA	19	15	8	5-3-2	46
ERIE	17	24	2	2-7-1	36
S.S.MARIE	14	22	6	5-4-1	33
WINDSOR	13	28	1	5-5-0	27
EAST	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
BELLEVILLE	25	15	2	6-4-0	52
OTTAWA	21	11	7	5-2-3	49
KINGSTON	22	15	3	5-5-0	47
OSHAWA	16	22	4	6-0-4	36
PETERBOROUGH	15	20	4	3-6-1	34
TORONTO	10	22	8	2-6-2	28
CENTRAL	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
BARRIE	29	10	2	8-1-1	60
GUELPH	28	11	3	8-2-0	59
KITCHENER	16	20	5	4-6-0	37
SUDBURY	16	24	4	3-7-0	36
OWEN SOUND	16	21	2	5-5-0	34
NORTH BAY	12	28	4	2-8-0	28

WHALER STATISTICS

Team Leaders:
Goals: Legwand (38)
Assists: Legwand (28)
Points: Legwand (66)
PIM: Boulerice (123)
+/-: Legwand (+22)
PPG: Legwand (12)
GWG: Legwand (6)
GAA: Esche (3.17)

CATCH OF THE DAY

Sunday's 7-3 loss in Barrie was the Whalers' first-ever defeat to the Colts in six games. Plymouth is 5-1-0 against Barrie in three seasons.

UPCOMING GAMES:

• Sat. (7:30) vs. Sudbury
• Sat. (6:30) vs. Windsor.

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Host Rocks place 11th at Salem Invite



The Salem girls gymnastics team placed 11th Saturday in the 15-team Salem Invitational, which included some of the top teams in the state — Troy Athens, Rochester Adams and Freeland. Athens won the invitational with 147.7 points. Salem finished with 124.15 points. The Rocks took eighth (33.0) in the vault, ninth (28.55) on the bars, 13th (29.95) on the balance beam and 10th (32.65) in the floor exercise. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Weather, losses make for nasty road trip

Continued from pg. 19

the game, 3-3, but Nasato struck again, this time on the power play at 16:53.

Mara returned the volley 27 seconds into the third period, but Barrie blew the game open with four goals in the game's final 12 minutes. Barrie outshot Plymouth in the third period, 16-5. Robert Esche made 30 saves for Plymouth.

Belleville 3, Plymouth 1 — Belleville rallied from a 1-0 third-period deficit Saturday night behind Dan Cleary's three assists to retain first place in the East Division.

Justin Papineau (power play), Jon Cheechoo and Jeff Scharf (empty net) scored for Belleville, which outshot Plymouth 12-3 in the third period and 33-20 in the game.

Former Whaler goaltender Shawn Gallant made 19 saves for the Bulls.

Plymouth took a 1-0 lead 7:58 into the second period on Jesse Boulерice's 11th goal of the season.

He charged the net and tapped in a centering pass from the left boards by Legwand. Andrew Taylor also assisted.

Esche (31 saves) worked overtime to put Plymouth in a position for a victory, including a windmill glove save in the first period on Wes Scanzano.

His shutout bid was shattered when

Papineau batted in a rebound in heavy crease traffic, tying the game, 1-1, at 8:50 of the second period.

Cheechoo scored at 18:50 on another rebound after Esche stopped Joel Dezainde's shot from the point.

With Esche off for the extra skater, Scharf fought off lone defender Paul Mara for the empty net goal at 19:52.

Plymouth 6, Erie 3 — The Whalers scored four goals in the third period Wednesday to win the first game of a three-game road trip.

Legwand, in his first game back from the World Junior Championships, scored two goals and added two assists.

Harold Druken scored his 20th goal of the season just 12 seconds into the game to give Plymouth an early 1-0 lead. Legwand, Mara (game-winner), Yuri Babenko and Boulерice scored in the third period for Plymouth.

Co-ed volleyball standings:

Blue Division: Over the Hill Gang, 26 points; We Dig, 24 points; Toe Jams, 19 points; Back Again, 17 points; Ball Busters, 11 points; Team #4, 9 points; Ward Presbyterian, 4 points; Carol's Crew, 2 points.

Chatter:

The Whalers have restored their **team hotline**, which includes post-game replays and statistics compiled by Whaler radio broadcasters, Pete Krupsky and John Bower. The number is (734) 480-3916.

...Legwand and Esche were dropped off on the way back from Barrie to attend last night's OHL Bell All-Star game in North Bay.

Next week in Sports:

Crier Sports Editor
Brian Corbett goes on
the road with the
Plymouth Whalers.

White Division: Team #13, 28 points; Buddy's, 21.5 points; Mr. B's II, 18 points; Lear Headliners, 16.5 points; SKF-NATC, 12 points; Mr. B's I, 10 points; Ward Presbyterian Church #2, 4 points; Canton Road Running Club, 2 points.

On deck

SALEM BASKETBALL

Friday at Harrison. JV begins at 5:30 p.m.

SALEM SWIMMING

Tomorrow at Canton at 7 p.m. Saturday at home for the Rock Invitational at 1 p.m.

SALEM WRESTLING

Tomorrow at Farmington at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Wyandotte Invitational at 10:30 a.m.

SALEM VOLLEYBALL

Saturday hosting the Plymouth Salem Classic at 8 a.m. Monday at Northville at 5:30 p.m.

SALEM GYMNASTICS

Saturday at the Holt Invitational. Tuesday at Hartland at 6 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Adrian Invitational at 1 p.m.

CANTON BASKETBALL

Friday at home versus Farmington. JV begins at 5:30 p.m.

CANTON BOYS SWIMMING

Tomorrow at home versus Salem at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Rock Invitational at 1 p.m.

CANTON WRESTLING

Saturday at the Romulus Invitational.

CANTON GYMNASTICS

Today at home versus John Glenn at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Holland Invitational at 11 a.m.

CANTON VOLLEYBALL

Monday at home versus Walled Lake Central at 5:30 p.m.



Community opinions

Readers return to bond issue

Voices divided over nature, effects of Jerry Vorva's continuing case against P-C Schools
As suit nears end, remember key issue: voters' rights

EDITOR,

Now that we are approaching the possible end to the long-awaited 'bond issue' fiasco, let us keep a few things in perspective.

1. Jerry Vorva represents a lot of voters in this community who believe in what he is doing. Remember, as long as we are a democracy he is within his legal rights to pursue this (case) through the courts. We still are a democracy aren't we? Sometimes I have my doubts.

2. There was a terrible mistake made when the district refused to look at the legal, moral and ethical issues in question. 740 voters is an intolerable amount of lost voters.

3. Let us remember: the voting machines did exactly what they were programmed to do. They were programmed to turn on by touch, register the vote by touch, AND to erase that vote by a second touch.

4. Here is the glitch: when I voted for approval of using the new touch screen

Remember that the issue here is not whether or not we need a new high school, etc., but whether there was a problem with the voting machines and how it affected the voting process.

system, no one told us this. The day of the vote no one told the voters about this function.

I talked to voters all across this district and asked if this function was explained and everyone, including the poll workers, said no! I am sorry, but the lost votes are not voter error. They are the mistake of the program. You do not fix something that is not broke, so why did they correct that particular function of the voting machine?

5. Voting is a part of our responsibility, duties and freedoms; it is as sacred as the Bible. To think that 740 voters were denied

that right, not because of 'voter' error, but because of programming errors and instruction oversight, is an intolerable situation.

6. For the cost of approximately \$10,000 this whole mess could have been resolved by a re-vote. What with all the court costs, legal fees and whatever, that figure is much, much higher I am sure. I am in hopes that the total cost will be documented and shared with the tax payers. They are the losers along with the kids because that money represents quite a few books.

7. Remember that the issue here is not whether or not we need a new high school, etc., but whether there was a problem with the voting machines and how it affected the voting process.

Let us not tell our children how important their votes are and how they have a responsibility to partake in this process and then say, 'TOUGH' when the system failed us.

8. One more thing, the mothers who picked Jerry Vorva were exercising their legal rights. Isn't it ironic that they were picketing a man for exercising his legal rights. I believe the mothers who were there were misinformed. The suit is not about the need for the items covered in the bond. The suit is about a much more important issue—voters' rights and who protects them.

BARBARA GRAHAM

Vorva: one man trying to thwart community's wish

EDITOR,

These are the facts about Jerry Vorva's lawsuit challenging the bond issue election:

1. Vorva's challenge of the election results has been denied by:

- The Plymouth-Canton School Board of Canvassers.
- The Wayne County Board of Canvassers.
- Secretary of State Candice Miller
- Circuit Court Judge Rashid

2. Vorva has stated that he is willing to go to the United States Supreme Court and is prepared for the process to last three or more years.

3. For every year Vorva delays the building of the new high school, the

overcrowding in the schools continues.

4. Each year, construction costs rise, making our bond money worth less. If the lawsuit continues much longer, will we be able to afford to build the desperately needed new schools?

Where is the community outrage that one man, Jerry Vorva, is trying to stop a project desperately needed by the school district? Vorva is forcing the school district to spend taxpayer dollars defending this frivolous

For every year Vorva delays the building of the new high school, the overcrowding in the schools continues.

lawsuit. He is wasting everyone's money.

Don't be fooled by Vorva's statements to the effect that he is only trying to defend the democratic process: his only goal is to try to overturn the result of the election, not to

ensure equal protection or represent the community.

That the district needs this project is clear, and no one who cares about quality education is our schools should doubt that. Our voters

realized that, and passed the bond issue. Now, our tax dollars are being wasted by every minute of the delay, and the excellent reputation for education which the Plymouth-Canton schools have always deserved is suffering.

Clearly, the people of the Plymouth-Canton school district are supporting educational excellence. That one man can thwart the will of a community is obscene, and should not be allowed to continue.

If you agree that Vorva must drop must drop the lawsuit NOW, let him know. Write or call Jerry Vorva.

If you would like to join in the effort to get Vorva to drop the lawsuit, call 455-4929.

SHERYL TRIPP KHOURY

Santa's influence in Twp. wish list for police, new hall?

EDITOR,

Maybe it's something in the water or the air at the Plymouth Township Hall. Possibly Santa Claus spent too much time in the building.

What else can explain a potential 8 mil tax proposal being considered by Township government for a discussed 'wish list' as recently rumored within the community. The identified 'wish list' in summary included a new two-story Township hall, an expanded clubhouse at Hilltop golf course and increased manpower in the police and fire departments.

Several years ago I stated that with the building of the Taj Mahal fire station at Beck

Road, the Township was taking the first step in relocating the seat of government from Ann Arbor Road to the Beck Road area. Sure looks like I was a prophet!

Having played both St. John's and Hilltop, I do not feel that they compete, with the exception they're both located in the same general area. St. John's is wide open and vast whereas Hilltop is restricted and small. The mention of banquets and weddings shouldn't be a serious consideration in this venture.

My prior law enforcement experience and training said that for every 1,000 residents there should be a police officer. Any other addition to the force is a plus. To my

knowledge, the only area police department with a ratio of 1:6 officers per 1,000 residents is the City of Plymouth; a jurisdiction of 2.2 square miles. In the event of a police crisis I'm certain that Plymouth Township has mutual aid packages with neighboring police departments. Furthermore, as identified in the newspaper and verified by visits to the 35th District Court, Plymouth Township is a 'cite and write' police agency. I'm personally unaware of any major crime concerns of the department. The discussed police increase of 18 additional officers is a potential force increase of 69 per cent. This seems excessive and hopefully is a number someone just

'pulled from their hat.'

I can't offer any knowledgeable point in reference to the possible addition of six firefighters to the Plymouth Community Fire Department which already has combined services.

I'd suggest the Township scrap any plans to expand Hilltop, put off building a new Township Hall until the residential building is well under way to the west, and more clearly identify the need for expansion of the police and fire departments. I'd also recommend that Santa Claus's future visits be limited, and a check be made of the water and air.

ROGER L KEHRER



Community opinions

'Muddy' no more?

Name, status of Twp. neighborhood may change with paving

"Muddy Meadows" is no more.

Now that Green Meadows sub-division has been paved, the residents there are facing an identity crisis.

First, they've long been affectionately called "Muddy" instead of "Green."

Now that they've paved the streets, a new name must be found.

(Crier readers are asked to join in this contest for Muddy Meadows' new name... the winner will be selected by a group of Meadows activists led by Muddy Meadows Acting Mayor Charlie Roebuck. The prize, as yet to be firmed up, will be a compiled donation from S&W Hardware, Pilgrim Party, Forest Laundry, The Trading Post, Sunshine Honda, Dr. William Ross and the other businesses along Ann Arbor Road — the business strip of the Meadows.)

Roebuck, a four-lot-owning 19-year-veteran of the neighborhood, says the move toward a new name is causing even greater awakenings in the Meadows.

Organization of a "Formation Government" — in which Roebuck was elected acting mayor — may be the prelude to a new form of government there, he says. (Roebuck comes by this naturally. His father, Harry, is Acting Mayor of New England Village sub by virtue of growing the largest zucchini ever recorded there.)

Since the 32-block neighborhood is situated between the City of Plymouth and Canton Township, it is considering three courses of action:

- Cityhood — S&W Hardware has been volunteered as temporary City Hall.
 - Annexing to the City of Plymouth — the residents get a recreation program that way.
 - Annexing to Canton Township — the residents get a 65-foot water slide that way.
- Roebuck says the bidding between the City of Plymouth and Canton has gotten fierce.

With malice toward none

By W. Edward WENDOVER



"We're having a bidding war," he explained. "Tax abatements for 10 years — like our Plymouth Township gives to every business — plus picking up the paving cost, that'd be fair."

Canton is accustomed to paving its own roads to attract development and seems to be the front-runner at the moment. Canton Supervisor Tom Yack is said to be especially thrilled since it would be the first annexation by a township in Michigan history.

But the City of Plymouth is also said to be attractive to the new acting government because it's in line for eight more liquor licenses — almost doubling its hospitality quotient.

Plymouth Township is said to be especially worried about further raids by annexation of not only the Meadows, but of the new Pulte Sub out on Ann Arbor Road too. The acting mayor of that sub, Julie Zdanek, is said to have begun negotiations with Canton as well.

As is always the case though, not every suggestion of change is met with approval.

Former Meadows resident, Teresea Wooley, says "Muddy Meadows" is just perfect as a name even though they paved the roads. She's leading the charge with her friends still there to keep the name "Muddy Meadows."

(Crier readers should use the attached coupon to vote... oh, Teresea and Charlie do have one rule: the word "asphalt" cannot be used in a new name.)

Rename Muddy Meadows!

Suggested name (or keep it Muddy): _____

Logic behind name: _____

-Optional-

Name: _____

Address: _____

Think up a name and explain why it's appropriate for the neighborhood formerly known as Muddy Meadows. (Make it a good one. It could stick for a long time.) We'll pick the name we like best, and publish it in *Community Opinions* in a coming issue. If you want, include your name and address (and a picture if you like), particularly if you're a resident of Muddy Meadows.

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PUBLISHER:
W. Edward Wendover
GENERAL MANAGER:
Mike Carne

EDITOR:
Bryon Martin
PHOTO EDITOR:
Richard Alwood
SPORTS EDITOR:
Brian Corbett
REPORTER:
Scott Spielman

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR:
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RECEPTIONIST:
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INTERNS:
Erica D'Angelo
Tim Davis
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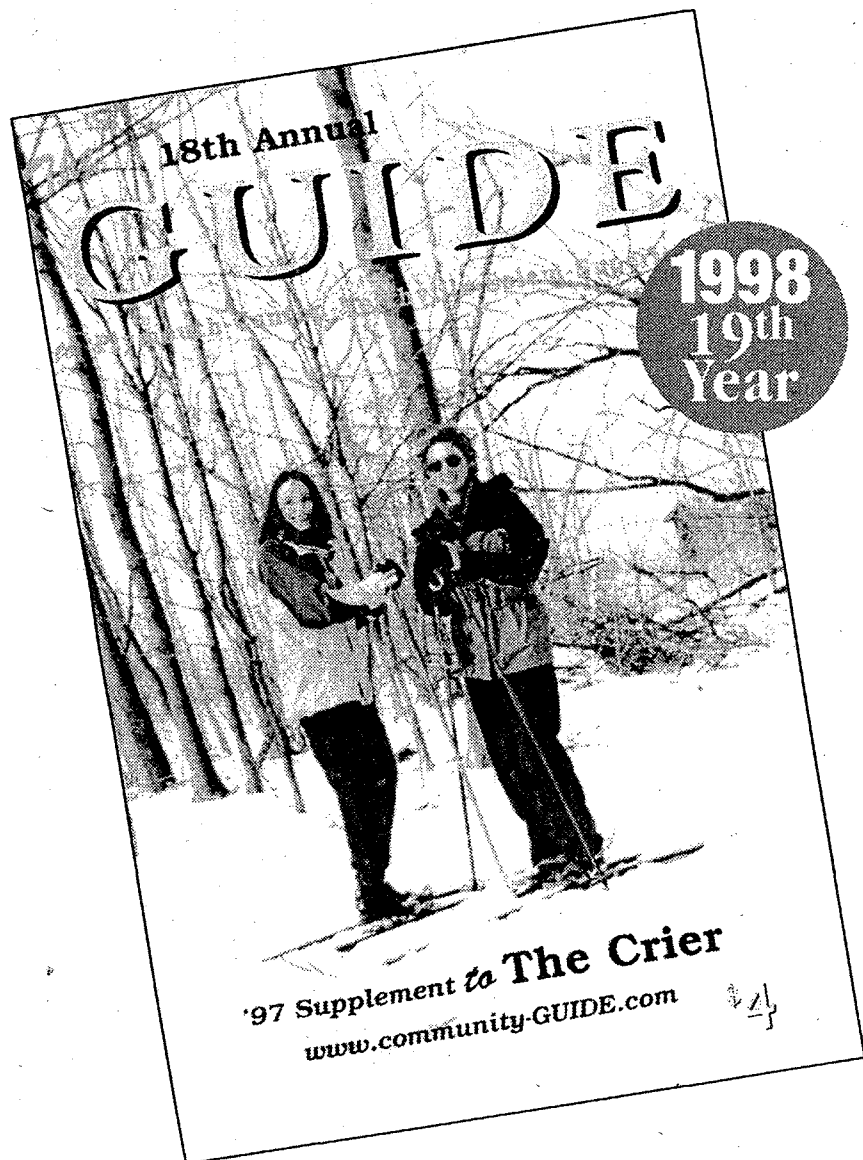
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Plymouth, MI 48170-1656
(734) 453-6860

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