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The Community Crier

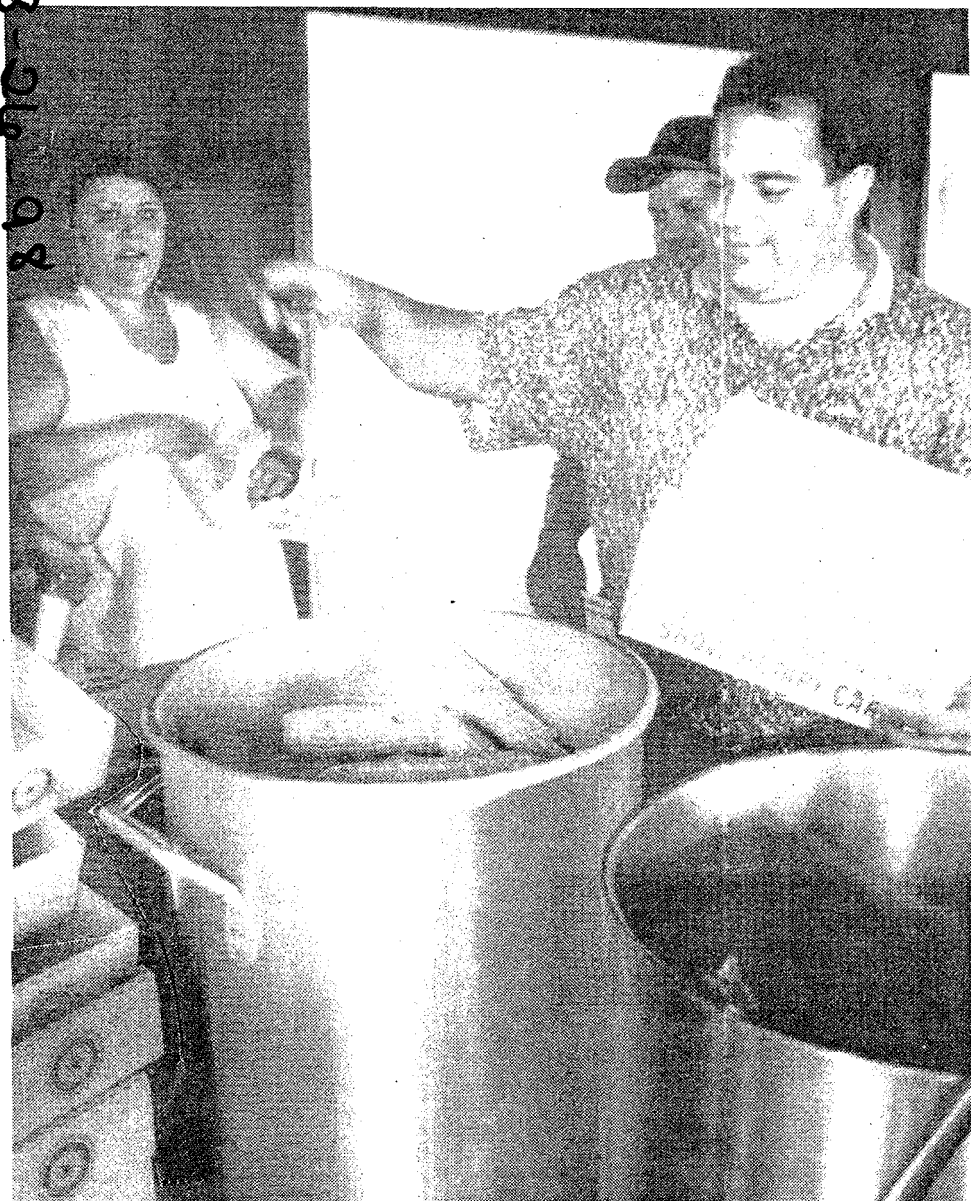
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August 26, 1998



Corn-ocopia... John Folino, Jr helps serve up corn on the cob at the Rotary's practice chicken barbecue last weekend. The Rotarians are getting ready for the Sept. 13 chicken barbecue at the 43rd Fall Festival, an all day picnic in the park. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

Vincenti deal on Wilcox site '95% there'

Could create new downtown anchor

BY BRYON MARTIN

If Novi developer John Vincenti agrees to Jack Wilcox's proposals, reconfiguration of the Wilcox house and property could shift Downtown Plymouth's heart toward Union Street and away from the Mayflower Hotel, where another renovation proposal

Mayflower Hotel: Karmo deals anew as Vincenti bails

BY BRYON MARTIN

Joining the Mayflower renovation might not be a priority for John Vincenti any more, but he wasn't the only egg in Matt Karmo's basket of interested developers.

Karmo, the hotel's owner, now says he has been in negotiations with a Michigan-based hospitality group that owns 17 hotels

has failed to gel.

Vincenti said he and Wilcox are within days of reaching an agreement on his purchase of the property. Both he and Wilcox said they expect a meeting this week.

After a meeting Friday with Matt Karmo, the Mayflower's principal owner, Vincenti said he decided his offer to join the hotel rebuild was off.

"It's not a priority for us anymore."

Wilcox plan set to sail

The more immediate concern for Vincenti is his imminent deal with Wilcox to buy and develop his property facing Kellogg Park. "It's 95 per cent there," Vincenti said.

Home to the Wilcox house and situated at the corner of Union Street and Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth Mayor Don Dismuke describes the property as "a very important site for development in Plymouth."

Please see pg. 13 for both stories

Fall Fest classified deadlines at hand

In preparation for the annual Fall Festival issue, deadlines for classified ads to appear in the Sept. 9 issue of The Community Crier will be earlier than usual. All classified ad copy must be turned in to The Crier offices by 4 p.m. Thursday.

The Crier offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 7 in observance of Labor Day.

The Crier will also be closed Friday, Sept. 11 in observance of Fall Festival.

Familiar Faces

Photo exhibit caricatures local business people & their jobs

See Friends & Neighbors pg. 6

Chamber changes

1 month into job, new Canton Chamber exec. loses staff

See Getting Down to Business pg. 8

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Moon, a fighter for the little guy, dies at 51

BY W. EDWARD WENDOVER

"He stood up for little people.

"Sure, his clients were the big clients, big companies — but Stu treated 'em all like real people."

That's what Ted Boloven, the partner of Stuart Moon said yesterday, crying.

Moon, 51, died yesterday morning — three weeks after being hospitalized and then later diagnosed with cancer.

Services for the senior CPA, a Salem resident, will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington. Visitation will be held tonight



MOON

from 6 – 9 p.m. and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. He will be buried at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville.

A highly decorated Vietnam infantry veteran, Moon came out of the war with a strong "patriot" attitude. It also gave him some fierce beliefs about the U.S. government's shortcomings that made him the tenacious fighter against the I.R.S. for his clients that he was known for, Boloven

said.

"Moonie was the perfect person to deal with the I.R.S.," he said. "He wasn't afraid of anybody."

Many of Moon's friends chuckled at his "undercover" appearance for being the co-senior partner of one of western Wayne County's largest CPA firms — he usually wore sweatshirts and owned very few suits (some of which he never wore). He was known to wear sweatshirts to high-level meetings with the I.R.S.

He represented many of the area's largest independent companies and business owners

— and some of the "smallest" ones too.

Moon formerly worked in accounting at a Livonia firm, but launched out on his own in 1981. He was a mentor of Boloven's and the two finally linked their independent CPA firms in 1997 — creating one of the largest CPA firms this side of I-275. "We'd wanted to be partners a long time," Boloven said.

One of Moon's major clients for 15 years, Charlie Cross of Cross Enterprises, praised Moon yesterday afternoon. "He was my pal. He helped me through thick and thin," Cross said.

"He was somebody you could trust. If things were going bad, he made us feel good," said the owner of North America's largest poured concrete company. "He always had an answer for us," Cross noted.

Cross also chuckled about Moon's sartorial reputation. "At the wedding, there was Stu in that yellow sweatshirt."

Moon is survived by his wife, Jayne; his daughters: Julie, an Albion College student, Kaissa, a U of M student; his son, Jeffrey, a Washtenaw Community College student; his father, Stuart, Sr.

Lower Town license OK'd by LCC

Following a recent decision by the Liquor Control Commission (LCC), The Lower Town Grill is one step closer to reopening.

Located on Starkweather Street in Old Village, the popular hangout closed earlier this year to resolve liquor license issues and complete some interior renovations.

The Lower Town Grill is owned by Kim

Guenther and Tom Prendegast, whose signatures were required together on a renewal of the tavern's liquor license. According to Sharon Martin, LCC spokesperson, the LCC recently renewed the liquor license with only one signature — Guenther's

"Apparently there had been a problem with the partnership," Martin said. Martin said

renewing the license with one signature is not something that happens often, but is allowed in special cases. LTG's license was renewed for 1998-99 year only, on the condition that it wouldn't accrue any extra value in Guenther's and Prendegast's partnership.

Guenther declined to comment about his plans to re-open the restaurant.

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not more than 1.50%. As of 8/23/98, the interest rate for this tier is set at 5.365%. The APY is 5.50%. The interest rate for the portion of your balance that is \$25,000 or more but less than \$100,000 is tied to the 13-Week Treasury Bill rate less not more than 1%. As of 8/23/98, the interest rate for this tier is set at 5.845%. The APY ranges from 4.00% to 5.50%. The interest rate for the portion of your balance below \$25,000 is tied to the 13-Week Treasury Bill rate less not more than 5%. As of 8/23/98, this interest rate is set at 3.93%. The APY is 4.00%. Offer is available to individuals only. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. For individuals with a TDD device, service is available from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., M-F at 1-800-289-4614. ©1998 First of America Bank Corporation.



C.C. and Sophie, best friends playing it cool in the August heat since Sophie came home (Crier photo by Scott Spielman).

(Not) Sophie's choice

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Screenwriters and unbelievers take heed: Homeward Bound III has happened in Plymouth.

It's the story about a little girl and her dog, Sophie, who she was very close to. She entered the dog every year in the Optimist Pet show during Plymouth's Fall Festival, and was even featured on the 1996 cover of The Crier's Fall Festival Edition.

The story started simply enough. C.C. Johnson of Plymouth had just returned from babysitting, June 29 and was walking Sophie

in front of her house.

"Sophie must've caught a whiff of a squirrel or a rabbit or something, because suddenly she was gone," said Debbie Johnson, C.C.'s mother. The Airedale, both a notorious hunter and escape artist, wiggled out of her collar and vanished into the woods, according to Debbie.

A frantic search followed. The family looked up and down their street and throughout their sizable yard. They expanded their search along nearby North Territorial Road with no results.

They called the police. The following day they called such organizations as the Humane Society and Airedale Rescue, but to no avail. As the days went by and Sophie didn't appear, they feared the worst.

Airedales are expensive dogs. Pups can go for as much as \$600-\$700. The Johnsons used her to breed, and feared their champion blood-lined dog had been stolen.

"She's gotten away before, but she always came back when we called her," Debbie said.

Please see pg. 9

Twp. audit questions remain

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

At least one member of the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees wants answers to questions raised last week by the Township's audit report.

Trustee Ron Griffith has asked the Township's administration, namely the supervisor, clerk and treasurer, to issue a written response detailing how the Township plans to deal with the issues

Twp. quiet on Harvey

One week after Township Treasurer Ron Edwards apparently asked for Finance Director Rosemary Harvey's resignation, all is quiet at Township Hall.

Few Township officials are willing to discuss Edwards alleged demands, including Harvey herself, who declined to comment. After issuing a written statement to The Crier Friday, Edwards has not returned phone calls to his office.

Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy said only, "I don't think I can comment on that," adding that the incident took place at a private meeting between Edwards, Harvey and herself.

Trustee Ron Griffith, who heard about Edwards' demands through a "rumor," said he thought "it was an inappropriate thing for (Edwards) to do at the time. He did it and it has no official clout," he said. "He isn't in a position to make that sort of demand."

Harvey works for Keen McCarthy, and only Keen McCarthy can make decisions about her employment.

Edwards apparently asked for Harvey's resignation last Tuesday before the Township's audit report was to be presented to the board. According to the audit report, disagreements between Harvey and Edwards had led to the audit's delay.

raised by the audit firm Rehman Robson.

In particular, Griffith wants to know how communication problems between the Treasurer's Office and the Finance Office will be, or have been, resolved.

"I felt compelled after the audit report that I had some obligation to speak up," Griffith said. "I think we (as a board) have a responsibility to step up and look for solutions to these problems."

While Rehman Robson did give the Township a "clean opinion" on their financial practices, a management letter that accompanied the audit report detailed several suggested improvements, including suggestions on the Township's petty cash bank account and its policy on clean-up bonds.

It is these questions that Griffith wants answered.

"I would expect something definite on every step detailed in the letter," Griffith said. "Especially any practices that border on illegal. We can't tolerate that."

Griffith also questioned the failure of the the Treasurer's Office to submit Township tax rolls to Wayne County on time.

"They are due at a certain time and they should be submitted on time," he said. "I don't know if there were any serious problems that resulted from them turning the tax rolls in late, but I think it's something we need to work to resolve."

There's no word yet from Township officials on when the Township will issue the written response, but Griffith said he expects it will be completed in time for Tuesday's board meeting.

Griffith was the only Trustee to explicitly ask for an administrative response to the audit report. When asked if he felt the other Trustees were interested in a response, Griffith said, "None of them spoke up the other night."

Please see pg. 5

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Tomorrow, Howdy Schryer and friends will host an Old Timer's picnic at Plymouth Township Park, beginning at noon. Call Howdy for reservations at 734-453-0114.

THIS WEEKEND

- Friday, Canton holds its 3rd annual "Summer's End" dance for seniors at Summit on The Park. Call 734-397-5444.
- Friday, Northville's Senior Citizens Center will take its monthly dinner trip to The Leather Bottle, at 4:30 p.m. Cost, \$4. Transportation is available from seniors homes beginning at 4 p.m. Call 248-349-414 for info.
- Saturday & Sunday are Canton Cleanup days at the Canton Waste Recycling Center. Call 734-397-5110.

NEXT WEEK

- Monday is the opening of "Familiar Faces", an exhibit of Plymouth photographer Jill Andra Young's portraiture, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 744 N. Sheldon Rd. The series of black-and-white photographs depicts Plymouth personalities in illustrations of their professions. Call 734-455-7787

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1 week to register for Oct. 3 vote

BY BRYON MARTIN

Ask Liz Adams and she'll tell you: August is to election clerks what December is to retailers.

Adams, who runs elections for the Plymouth-Canton Schools District, says her office is in its busy time of year. As next Thursday approaches — the deadline for residents to register

with municipal clerks to vote in the schools' Oct. 3 bond election — she's had her hands full accommodating requests for absentee ballots. About 100 requests have been phoned in over the last week. Write-in requests have been fewer, but more are expected.

Plymouth Chamber endorses bond

According to The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, it's simple logic that when you lose one school, you've got to build another.

The Chamber and its Education Committee has publicly endorsed the Plymouth-Canton schools' Oct. 3 bond to build a new middle school in Canton and buy buses.

"It's simple, really," said Fran Toney, Chamber executive director. "They're losing a school, so they've got to replace it."

According to Mark Horvath, former School Board president and now head of the schools' Bond Steering Committee, the Plymouth Chamber's endorsement is the only he's aware of now.

"We'll take any we can get," he said, acknowledging

that support is usually quiet, not public.

Just like any other election, school bond elections are charged with opinion and politics. Businesses and community groups often are loath to publicly support or oppose such issues.

The Chamber's endorsement comes from its Board of Directors, acting upon the recommendation of its Education Committee, according to Toney.

That committee includes E.J. McClendon, a former P-C School Board president and co-chair of the district's committee to get out the senior citizen vote in the Saturday election. Esther Hulsing, another former Board member and longtime schools supporter, also chairs the Chamber committee.

Her office also handles voters questions about other election concerns: precinct locations; how to register to vote; use of the Unilect voting machines.

Adams says she welcomes the calls, which indicate voter interest in the election.

The bond vote will be held on the first Saturday in October and, if approved, the \$19 million bond would pay to build a middle school and buy 10 school buses.

In July, 2000, the P-C district will lose Lowell Middle School to Livonia Public Schools, which will take the school back after leasing it to the district since 1981.

Roughly \$500,000 of the October bond would pay for buses officials say they need to fortify its aging fleet. Bus purchases included in the March '97 bond have never been made, as that bond continues through more than a year of delays in court.

Liz Adams can be reached at (734) 416-3095.



Public notices

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES - REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1998

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m., and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Clerk Massengill moved to approve the agenda for the Regular Meeting of August 18, 1998, as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Griffith. Ayes all.

Clerk Massengill moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Seconded by Trustee Mueller. Ayes all.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy asked for comments from the public for non-agenda items. There were none.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy opened the public hearing at 7:52 p.m., on a request to establish an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for Koyo Machinery, USA, Inc. The public hearing was closed at 7:53 p.m.

Mr. Curmi moved to approve Resolution No. 98-08-18-34 granting a five (5) year Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate to Koyo Machinery USA, Inc., for a proposed new facility on Parcel 3-E, Metro West Beck Road II. Seconded by Trustee Mueller. Ayes all on a roll call vote. The resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office for public perusal.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy opened the public hearing at 7:56 p.m., on a request to establish an Industrial Development District for Parcel 3-B, Metro-West Beck Road II. The public hearing was closed at 7:57 p.m.

Clerk Massengill moved to approve Resolution No. 98-08-18-35 declaring Parcel 3-B, Metro West Beck Road II, and Industrial Development District. Seconded by Trustee Arnold. Ayes all on a roll call vote. The resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office for public perusal.

Following a request from Trustee Mueller, Clerk Massengill moved that Trustee Mueller be allowed to abstain from voting on the following two items due to her personal interest in the Huntington Park Subdivision development. Seconded by Trustee Griffith. Ayes all on a roll call vote.

Trustee Arnold moved to approve the Residential Unit Development Agreement and Declaration of Restrictions for Huntington Park Subdivision. Seconded by Clerk Massengill. Ayes all with Trustee Mueller abstaining.

Clerk Massengill moved to approve the Final Plat for Application 1429/0498, Huntington Park, Subdivision, located on the north side of Powell Road, south of M-14, west of Plymouth Commons Subdivision and east of Napier Road, subject to the provision of financial guarantees in the form of cash or irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of \$1,084,350.00 as recommended by the Township Engineer. Seconded by Treasurer Edwards. Ayes all with Trustee Mueller abstaining.

Treasurer Edwards moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. C-98-09, amending the Charter Township of Plymouth Code by amending Chapter 71, Cable Franchise Ordinance. Seconded by Trustee Arnold. Ayes all on a roll call vote.

Clerk Massengill moved to appoint Lillian Payne (Republican) to the Board of Canvassers to fill the unexpired term of Patricia Beck. Seconded by Trustee Griffith. Ayes all.

Clerk Massengill moved to establish October 13, 1998, for Public Hearing on the request for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate from Key Plastics, Inc., for the purchase of "new" personal property, located at 40300 Plymouth Road. Seconded by Trustee Griffith. Ayes all.

Trustee Arnold moved to approve Resolution No. 98-08-18-36 to authorize the Wayne County Sheriff's Department's Municipal Enforcement Unit to issue citations and enforce laws under Charter Township of Plymouth ordinances within the corporate limits of the Township in the Wayne County Park System, M-14 and I-275, and enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement for the enforcement and the sharing of revenues from such enforcement. Seconded by Treasurer Edwards. Ayes all on a roll call vote. The Resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office for public perusal.

Clerk Massengill moved to approve Resolution No. 98-08-18-37 in which Plymouth Sheldon Garden, L.L.C.

is requesting to transfer ownership of 1995 Class C licensed business with Dance Permit, 2 bars, and new Official Permit (Food), located in escrow at 40475 Plymouth Road, Plymouth Township, from Plymouth Plaza Lanes, Inc.; transfer location to 14600 Sheldon, Plymouth Township, 48170, Wayne County, and transfer class to a B-Hotel License (Step II). Applicant also requests to cancel the currently held A-Concourse Permit and Official Permit (Bowling). Seconded by Trustee Griffith. Ayes all on a roll call vote.

Trustee Mueller moved to approve the request from R. Leone Imports Limited, Inc. to transfer stock interest in their licensed Wholesale beer/wine and Outstate Seller business and add new stockholder, John Leone. Seconded by Trustee Arnold. Ayes all.

Trustee Arnold moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for the pavement of Ridge Road between Ann Arbor Road and Powell road with the County of Wayne and authorize the Township Supervisor and the Clerk to sign on behalf of the Charter Township of Plymouth. Seconded by Clerk Massengill. Ayes all.

Trustee Griffith moved to receive and file the 1997 Financial Audit Report and Management Letter. Seconded by Trustee Arnold. Ayes all.

Trustee Griffith requested an Administrative response to the Board concerning the statements made in the management letter by the auditor.

Trustee Arnold moved to authorize the Township administration to negotiate a contract with Lucent Technologies to provide telecommunications equipment and services at the Township Hall complex and at Fire Station#2. The final contract will come back to the Board of Trustees for approval on September 8, 1998. Seconded by Trustee Griffith. Ayes all except, Trustee Curmi and Treasurer Edwards who voted no.

Clerk Massengill moved that the recommended Bylaws, as revised, Master Plan, and Staff Request of the Brownsfield Redevelopment Authority Board by approved. Seconded by Trustee Griffith. Ayes all on a roll call vote. The Resolution in its entirety is on file in the Clerk's Office.

Trustee Curmi moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. C-98-10, the Plymouth Township Telecommunications Ordinance. Seconded by Trustee Griffith. Ayes all on a roll call vote.

Trustee Griffith moved to approve the employment agreement for the position of Administrative Aide in the Supervisor's department. Seconded by Trustee Arnold. Ayes all.

It was agreed by all Board Members that a Saturday Budget Retreat Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 3, 1998, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Supervisor Keen-McCarthy reported that plans were submitted for correcting the water run-off situation in Trillium Woods Subdivision and they were being reviewed by Dietrich, Bailey and Associates.

Trustee Griffith reported that a computer run from Schoolcraft College indicated that approximately 2000 people from Plymouth Township used the recreation facilities at the college in the past year.

It was moved by Clerk Massengill and seconded by Trustee Arnold to adjourn the meeting at 10:48 PM. Ayes all.

Marilyn Massengill, CMC
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth
Kathleen Keen-McCarthy, Supervisor
Charter Township of Plymouth

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township Meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the Meetings/Hearings upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the following: Supervisor's Office, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number: (734) 453-3840 x 200. TDD users: 1-800-649-3777 (Michigan Relay Services)

Publish: August 26, 1998

Ridge paving on again

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Sometime next June, residents who live on Ridge Road between Powell and Ann Arbor roads may finally be able to breathe easy.

Five months after residents there shot down an attempt to get the dusty road paved, the project is back on the books.

According to James Anulewicz, Plymouth Township director of public services, a petition drive led by local residents to get the road paved was a success. Questions that arose when the project was first announced in February — in particular how much each resident would pay — have been answered to the majority of the residents' satisfaction, Anulewicz said.

"Sufficient petitions do exist and a public hearing has been held," Anulewicz said. "The County should go out for (construction) bids this fall. The paving will probably be done sometime around next June."

Initially, a petition objecting to the

paving had stopped the project in March. Many of those signing the petition said a letter sent to them by Township officials had confused the issue by projecting a general cost of \$1,791 to each resident.

That \$1,791 cost, however, was just a rough estimate, according to Anulewicz. Many of the residents, particularly those whose properties did not face Ridge Road, would pay a much lower price.

After the project was diffused, many living within the Special Assessment District (SAD), led by resident Henry Healy, vowed a petition to revive it.

Now, according to Anulewicz, their efforts have paid off.

The paving was, and still is, a Wayne County project. The county has agreed to pick up 80 per cent of the construction costs, with the residents paying the remaining 20 per cent.

Normally residents would pay the majority, which is why, Anulewicz has said, this project was a good opportunity.

Griffith wants resolution

Continued from pg. 3

Trustee Kay Arnold would only say she thinks Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy is "following up on it for us."

Keen McCarthy said the Township typically issues a response to the annual audit report. She also said Rehman Robson's audit letter was nothing unusual.

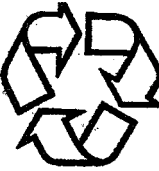
"Every management letter I've seen always make suggestions on how we can improve," she said.

Griffith said he hopes the Township can follow-up on the suggestions.

"I think we can resolve these issues," he said. "I think (asking for a written response) puts everybody on notice that we are not going to let this die."


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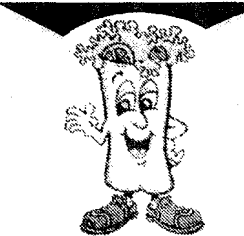
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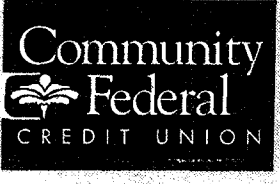
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Canton (734)455-0400
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Public notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plymouth Downtown Development Authority is looking for space to relocate the office which is currently housed at the Plymouth City Hall. Office space requirements are approximately 700 sq. feet. Prefer first floor space and a one year renewable lease. The property must be located in the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority district and be available immediately.

All responses should be directed to the Plymouth Downtown Development Authority Director at 734-455-1453 or faxed to 734-455-1892. Responses must be received by Thursday, August 27, 1998

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC/AAE
 City Clerk

Publish: August 26, 1998

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON OBJECTIONS TO FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LEVY

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Canton Board of Trustees will hold a Public Hearing pursuant to Public Acts 33 and 181 of 1951, as amended, for the purpose of hearing objections to defraying the expenses of the Fire and Police Protection Districts by a Special Assessment Levy to be spread on the tax rolls effective December 1, 1998.

DATE: Tuesday, September 8, 1998
 TIME: 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
 PLACE: Canton Township Administration Building
 Board Meeting Room
 1150 S. Canton Center Road

On May 18, 1976, a Fire Protection Special Assessment Levy was approved by the voters, and at the June 22, 1976 Public Hearing, the Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Canton unanimously approved the creation of a Fire Protection Special Assessment District for the entire Township.

On August 27, 1977, a Police Protection Special Assessment Levy was approved by the voters, and at the September 13, 1977 Public Hearing, the Board of Trustees for the Charter Township of Canton approved the creation of a Police Protection Special Assessment District for the entire Township.

The 1999 estimated Fire and Police budgets submitted by the Public Safety Director and the Administration are as follows:

FIRE DEPARTMENT		POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Salaries & O/T	\$2,441,454	Salaries & O/T	\$4,473,699
Fringe Benefits	1,203,165	Fringe Benefits	1,961,039
Capital Outlay	270,711	Capital Outlay	249,180
Operations	550,262	Operations	1,424,987
Bond Debt Service	212,063	Bond Debt Service	70,688
Total	\$4,677,655	Total	\$8,179,593

The proposed millage rates are as follows:

	1997	P.A.5 Limit	1998	increase (Decrease) over 1997
Fire Millage	3.0915	N/A	3.0915	0.0000
Police Millage	5.1508	N/A	5.1508	0.0000
Charter Millage	1.1100	1.0814	1.1100	0.0000
Total	9.3523		9.3523	0.0000

The Charter Millage is more than what the Township could levy under P.A.5, 1982 (Truth in Taxation). The property tax Charter Millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed 1999 General Fund budget will be a subject of this hearing.

This notice published by: Charter Township of Canton
 1150 S. Canton Center Road
 Canton, Michigan 48188
 (734)397-1000

Publish: August 26, 1998



Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Julia Kurtyka, of Detroit, was recently hired as the executive director of the Plymouth Symphony. Kurtyka was hired to replace Bonnie Holyoak. Read about her in next week's Crier.



Jesse Williams (above), son of **Dennis S. and Sarah A. Williams** of Plymouth, has been awarded a Medallion Scholarship to Western Michigan University. Totalling \$32,000 for four years, the scholarship is the highest honor WMU can award to an incoming freshman.

Kristin Lukasik, **Kathleen McClain** and **Laura Norgren** of Canton; and **Erin Wysocki** of Plymouth were awarded WMU Academic Scholarships of \$4,800 over four years.

Lauren Pine of Plymouth was one of five standout students at Lawrence Technological University's 30th annual Summer Science Institute.

Pine was awarded as an Outstanding Math and Computer Science Student.

Rebecca Noricks, daughter of **Willard and Joan Noricks** of Canton, received a \$2,500 Calvin Faculty Honors Scholarship from Calvin College in Grand Rapids.

She is a graduate of Salem High School.

Michelle Haines and **Stacy Hume** of Canton; and **Susan Daoust** and **Mary O'Rourke** of Plymouth have graduated from Grand Valley State University.

Exhibit shows familiar faces

Jill Andra Young is taking her role as the unofficial town photographer to a new level

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

It's not often that you can look at a work of art and see a familiar face.

But with 'Familiar Faces,' a photography exhibition that opens Aug. 31 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council Gallery, that's exactly what you can do.

The exhibition, by Plymouth's Jill Andra Young, features familiar Plymouth business types photographed in a way to say something about their profession or pursuits, Young said.

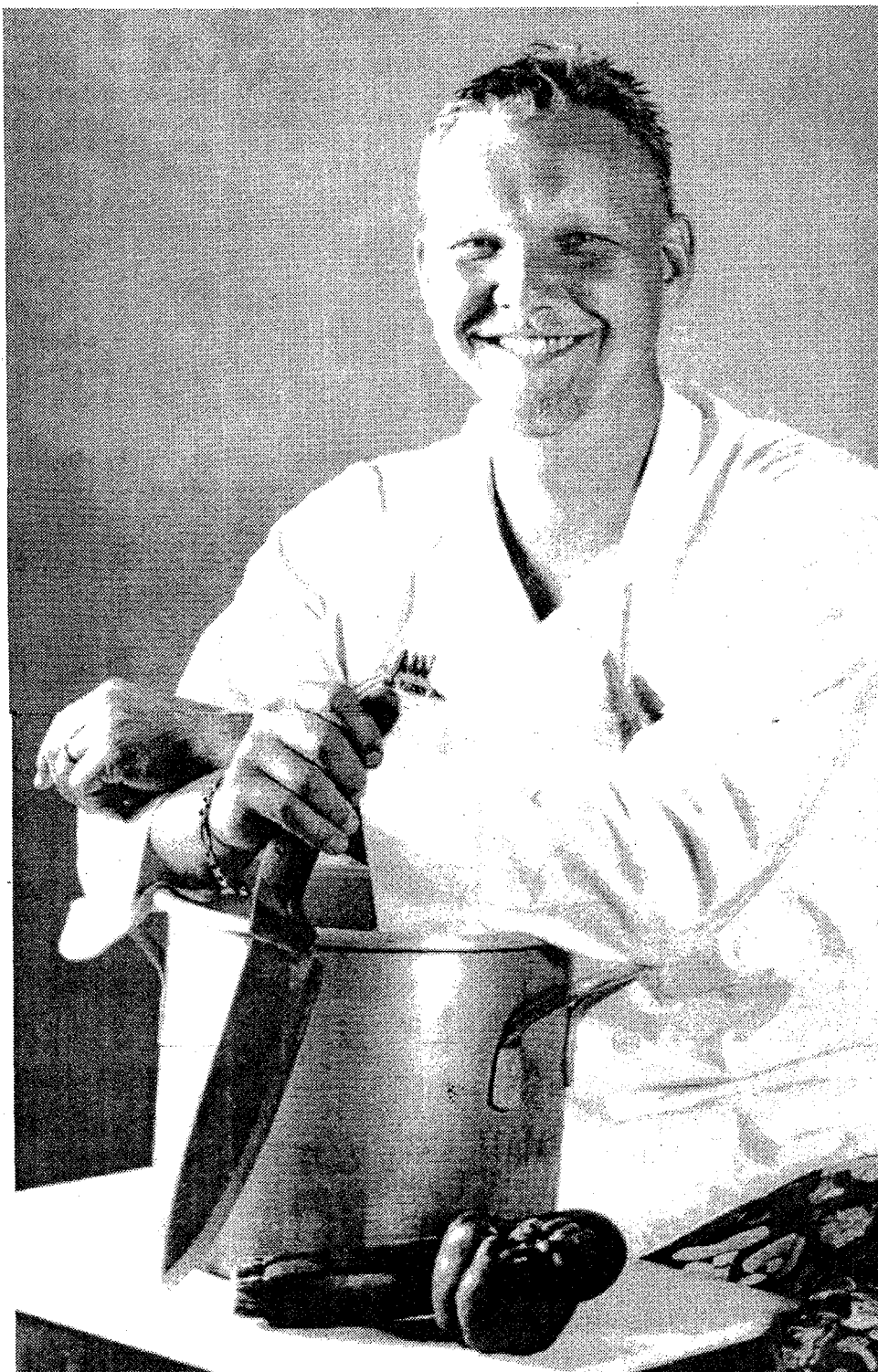
"I think it will be genuinely interesting to everyone, even if they don't know who the person in the photograph is," she said.

Young said the idea for the art exhibition — her first — came from her desire to chronicle Plymouth's history.

"I thought it was important to document something in the first person," she said. "It's easier to document history while it's happening than to go back in time."

The photographs depict local business people in a manner which shows what motivates them and what their profession is, Young said. Using props as clues, they show what they business

'Not the Soup Nazi,'
©1998 by Jill Andra Young



Pete Grybas, co-owner of the Penniman Deli, is one of the 17 local business people featured in a new photographic exhibit at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

Familiar Faces

P.C.A.C.

774 N. Sheldon Road

Open: 9 a.m. to noon Mon.-Fri.,
9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Wednesday

people do in the community.

Young said she sees the pictures as an informal duty she had, as the town's unofficial photographer. The pictures are more than just snapshots of local faces, but a section in Plymouth's history as well, she said.

Young matted and framed all the prints herself to prepare for the exhibit, which is her first.

"I'm very excited about it and hysterical about getting everything ready," she

said.

She hopes to expand the initial showing of 17 locals every year, and has thought of publishing a book of photos in the distant future.

"That's a long way away," she said.

The exhibition will be displayed at the Arts Council building on Sheldon Road, just south of M-14. Gallery hours are from 9 a.m. to noon, Monday

through Friday and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays, from Aug. 31 to Sept. 18.

Admission is free, and prints will be for sale, Young said.

"People are an important part of who we are as a small town," Young said. "Plymouth works very hard as a whole to make sure we're successful."

BACK TO SCHOOL



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Plymouth • (734)453-1100

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Canton • (734)981-5800

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Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

DEAN OF PLYMOUTH BUSINESS CELEBRATES 101ST

Dean Saxton, who founded Saxton's Garden Center 70 years ago, celebrated his 101st birthday recently.

The regular meeting of the Plymouth Chapter Business Network International (BNI) will be held 7-8:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 3 at the Water Club Seafood Grill at Ann Arbor Road and I-275. The Northville Chapter will meet at the Kerby Koney Island at 8 Mile and Haggerty. The Canton Chapter meets every Friday morning at Canton's Summit on the Park.

For more information call the BNI regional office at (734) 397-9939.

Dawn Otten-Sweeney of Canton was recently honored with the Circle of Excellence award at the Mary Kay, Inc. business seminar held July 23-Aug. 8 at the Dallas Convention Center.

The Circle of Excellence award marks a milestone for Mary Kay Independent Sales Directors who have exceeded estimated unit retail production of \$800,000 for the year-long contest period. For the honor, Otten-Sweeney received an expense paid vacation to Kauai and Maui, HA and her choice of a shopping package customized for her home or office.

Durene Brown has been named membership manager for SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. In her new position, Brown will focus on membership concerns and interests as they relate to retention, new member orientation and program development.

The 100 Hole Challenge for the Arthritis Foundation, Michigan Chapter will take place at 21 host golf courses in Michigan, including the Golden Bear Golf Club in Plymouth. Golfers play for a number of prizes, including a grandprize of airfare, a two-night stay and a round of golf for two at the Marco Island Resort & Golf Club in Florida.

All that is required to reserve a foursome's spot on the links is a pledge of a minimum of \$75 per golfer for each course played.

For more information call Lynn Mueller at (248) 424-9001, ext. 42.

Canton chamber changes again

New executive director's first task: replace entire staff

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Talk about jumping in with both feet.

Less than a month after being hired as the Canton Chamber of Commerce's executive director, Ryan Ambrozaitis has to face the possibility of replacing his entire staff.

Patti Tomb, the chamber's administrative assistant for the past four years, and Executive Assistant Gloria Janks are moving on.

"I learned Gloria was leaving on my first day on the job, but that was in the works before I came on board," Ambrozaitis said.

Janks has worked with the Chamber for the past seven years, she said. She's retiring at the end of this week.

"I've been working all of my life and I felt like it is time to slow down a bit," she said.

Tomb will work for the chamber for slightly longer, but is leaving because she is moving out of the area, she said.

Tomb said she will miss her job, and the many different aspects of it, including all of the friends she made in Canton and the fun she had at Chamber events.

"There were a wide variety of things to do in the job; it was always different," she said.

Janks agreed, saying her time in Canton has allowed her to meet everyone in the township.

Ambrozaitis is interviewing candidates for both jobs, but hasn't made any decisions yet.

"The biggest challenge is finding a good, qualified individuals to fill their shoes," he said. "They've done a wonderful job. They are always very professional and they really



Gloria Janks (left) and Patti Tomb are leaving the Canton Chamber of Commerce. (Crier photo by Scott Spielman.)

care about the organization."

Ambrozaitis began working at the Chamber last month, after a three month search for a replacement for Carleigh Flaherty, the chamber's executive director since 1996.

He said he hopes to fill the positions soon.

"Because of the great job Gloria and Patti have done they've actually made my job of replacing them harder," Ambrozaitis said. "I can't say enough good things about them."

Tomb said she will try to ease the transition for incoming staff members after Janks leaves next week.

Janks said she was looking forward to retirement, but would miss her position in the chamber.

"It's been a nice place to work, and a wonderful community," she said. "I'm going to miss too many people. But I won't be bored for long."

Ambrozaitis has interviewed seven people and has more interviews scheduled this week and next week, he said.

"I'm committed to making sure we have a solid staff to meet the challenges of providing services to our membership," Ambrozaitis said.

Redevelopment headed for downtown

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

As negotiations with the Mayflower Hotel continue, uses for two other prime Plymouth locations are taking shape.

According to Steve Guile, Downtown Development director, development may happen soon at at least one of Plymouth's long-vacant corners.

Guile said the Max & Erma's restaurant chain has all but signed a lease for the vacant NBD building on Penniman and Main.

"They're real, real close," he said.

Guile said the chain, which would locate an upscale dinner establishment at the corner, has not yet filed any permit applications yet.

"They're not required to submit any construction plans because it's an interior renovation," Guile said. "They are no

exterior renovations."

The restaurant would be an Iron Wood restaurant, a new concept developed by Max and Erma's restaurant, who also have a facility in Canton.

Scott Sansovich, spokesperson for Dr. Tom Prose, who owns the NBD building, said they were close to signing a lease, but not with a restaurant.

"We're a couple of days away from signing a lease with a Gannett newspaper," Sansovich said.

Sansovich would not comment on the name of the newspaper, only that it specialized in community journalism. He did say that they chose the location because of its high visibility downtown.

"They wanted the visibility," he said. "It's good for marketing and it's an interesting building for a newspaper."

The building has been vacant since NBD closed the branch last summer.

The Amoco station on Ann Arbor trail and Main has been vacant even longer. Although once scouted as a location for a Starbucks Coffee, the most activity on the site has been of bees transferring pollen from weed to weed.

"The developer looking at the property has since gone away," Guile said.

Guile said Amoco was investigating the possibility of donating the site to the City of Plymouth, or selling it at a discounted price.

"There have been some talk going on, but I don't know exactly what the status is."

If that were the case, it would be used for city offices, such as the Downtown Development office, which is in the process finding a new location outside of City Hall, Mayor Don Dismuke said.

Dog returns spayed

Continued from pg. 3

C.C. was devastated, according to Debbie. She had recently lost her grandmother, a loss compounded by Sophie's absence.

The days stretched into weeks, and although Debbie went through all the proper channels, calling the police and animal rescue groups, it was almost as if Sophie had vanished in thin air.

Seven weeks later, Debbie's son Andy was hitting golf balls in the yard. One of the balls went into the woods, and Sophie appeared, carrying the golf ball in her mouth.

"My husband just stared and said, when did she come home?" Debbie said. "Then we realized that she had just come back."

The family quickly reunited C.C. and Sophie, and the pair have been inseparable ever since, according to Debbie.

It was three days before C.C.'s 13th birthday.

"It was the best present she could have had," Debbie said.

But the story was not just a happy one. During her seven week absence, Sophie had been re-licensed and spayed, Debbie said.



SOPHIE AND C.C. IN 1996

The Johnsons are pursuing a civil lawsuit against those they think are responsible, she said. No police report has been filed.

"It's just a horrible thing to have done. But at least the story has a happy ending: we have our dog back."

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Secretary, Board of Education or Clerk (Ward) (Precinct)

Application for Absent Voter's Ballot

FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION
TO BE HELD ON October 3 19 98

I, _____, a duly qualified and registered
(PRINT NAME)
elector of the _____ Precinct of the PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
(Name of School District)
in the County(ties) of WAYNE AND WASHTENAW and
State of Michigan, hereby make application for an official ballot, or ballots, to be voted by me
at such election.

THE STATUTORY GROUNDS ON WHICH I BASE MY REQUEST ARE: (Check Applicable Reason)

- I expect to be absent from the community in which I am registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day.
- I am physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another.
- I cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of my religion.
- I have been appointed an election precinct inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where I reside.
- I am 60 years of age or older.
- I cannot attend the polls because I am confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

NOTE: Michigan law requires an A.V. Ballot be sent to your registered address unless you are hospitalized, institutionalized, or at an address outside of your community. Complete the following only if you want your ballot sent to an address outside of your community or to a hospital or other institution.

Send "Absent Voter's Ballot" to me at _____
(Number) (Street)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____
My registered address is _____
(Number) (Street)

(I hereby declare the foregoing statements to be true)

Date _____ X _____
(Signature of Voter)

WARNING: Any person making a false statement in this declaration upon conviction shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

INSTRUCTIONS: You must sign in TWO places (X). Do not detach Poll List Coupon from application.

TURN OVER FOR ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS

Application to Vote — Poll List
(Absent Voter)

Voter No. _____

DATE OF ELECTION _____ Precinct _____

I hereby certify that I am a registered and qualified elector in the above ward and precinct and hereby make application to vote at this election.

Print Name: _____
(Please Print Full Name)

Date of Birth _____ X _____
(Month / Day / Year) (Signature of Voter)

FILL IN THESE TWO LINES — _____
(Residents Address)

No. on Ballot(s) Issued _____ Approved — _____

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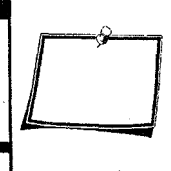
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What's Happening

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).



Events



Arts and Crafts show...The Arts and Crafts Show, and the Three Cities Art Club exhibit are just two of the popular perennial favorites at Plymouth's Fall Festival, which returns for the 43rd year next month, **Sept. 11-13**. Art will be displayed in Kellogg Park, and Central Middle School. Also, don't miss Sunday's Chicken Barbecue or your chance to support non-profit community groups. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

FITNESS WALK
 On **Saturday, Sept. 19 at 8:30 a.m.**, the annual Victorian Three Mile Fitness Walk through downtown Northville will start at the Northville Senior Center. The registration fee is a \$10 donation to the Leukemia Society of America. Registration forms are available at event sponsors: Running Fit, Northville Parks and Recreation and at the Northville Chamber of Commerce.

OLD TIMERS PICNIC
 To be held **Thursday, Aug. 27 at noon** at Plymouth Township Park. Call Howdy Schryer for reservations (734) 453-0114.

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY
 The Plymouth Symphony has announced its 1998-99 concert season. The season opens **Oct. 17, 1998 at 8 p.m.** at the Salem High School Auditorium, and will feature a performance by Flutist Deborah Rebeck Ash. **Nov. 21**, guest conductor Anthony Iannaccone will perform, as will vocal soloists Glenda Kirkland and Conwell Carrington. For more information, or to order tickets for these or other symphony events, please call the symphony office 451-2112.

FRIDAY NIGHT CLOCK CONCERTS
 Northville Arts Commission is sponsoring Friday Night Clock Concerts at the Gazebo on Main Street. This free concert begin at 7:30 p.m.

DDA'S ENTERTAINMENT ON US
 The Downtown Development Authority of Plymouth presents Pamela Ransford with singing guest Ursula Walker/Buddy Budson Trio 7-9 p.m. this **Friday** at Ann Arbor Trail and Main. She has her own special blend of jazz and R&B vocal stylings, a brand new show and lots of surprises.

PLYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL REUNION
 The class of 1937 and 1938 will be holding their 60th Class reunion **Sept. 11** at the Plymouth Elks Club. For more information call Ginny Fehlig at (734) 453-0927 or Helene Shepard at (734) 464-0384.



What's Happening

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



Volunteer

ADULT DAY CARE

Plymouth Adult Day Care is for senior citizens who require supervision and who can benefit from a program of recreation/therapeutic activities. Cost is a suggested donation for Wayne County residents. Located at 16115 N. Beck Road, Northville. For more information call (734) 451-1455.

HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The SHARE! Program still needs host families for students ages 15-18 arriving in August from over 28 countries including Germany, Japan, Brazil, China, and Poland. The students will be staying for 5 to 10 months. Interested Plymouth area families should contact Beth Schumann at the SHARE! National Office at 1-800-321-3738.

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.



Groups

PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITAN MEETING

P-C Civitan Club holds their monthly dinner meeting, on the third **Thursday** of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Water Club Bar & Grill. Call Barb Kobiela, 464-1129.

HEART CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The heart cancer support group meets the second and fourth **Monday** of each month, 7pm, at Northville's Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church. Call 422-1826.

GOD'S GOLDEN GIRLS

Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church invites women over 50 to join "God's Golden Girls." Meet third Friday of each month, noon. Free lunch with reservation. Call Pattie, 981-0286.

CANTON REPUBLICAN CLUB

Canton Republican Club meets on the third Thursday of each month at Cherry Hill School at 7 p.m. Call Melissa McLaughlin, 495-0304.

PLYMOUTH YMCA "Y" KIDS

For children ages 3-5. Openings for afternoon sessions. Age 3 meets Tuesday and Thursday, ages 4-5 meets Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Call YMCA, 453-2904.

PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCIETY

Society invites interested singers to join this year's performances, including Brahms' Liebeslieder Waltzes and the Durufle Requiem. Practices held weekly. No audition necessary. Call Clark or Karen Chapin, 453-4765.

VILLAGE POTTERS GUILD

Guild is dedicated to advancement, education of ceramic arts; 25 members share space, equipment for pottery production. Classes each semester. Call 207-8807.

PLYMOUTH OPTIMIST CLUB MEETINGS

First, third Monday of month, 6:30 p.m. at the Water Club Grill at Ann Arbor Road and I-275. Includes dinner and speaker. Call Felix Rotter, 453-2375.

60+ CLUB

Meet every first Monday of month, noon, First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Rd. Bring a dish to pass. Call Lola Schueder, 453-7999.

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.

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; "Dead Man on Campus" "There's Something About Mary" "Snake Eyes" "Wrongfully Accused" "Blade" "Dance with Me" "Air Bud 2"

CENTER STAGE

734-981-5122; Fri.-Sat.: *Dance to alternative music and more.*

CROWS NEST

734-459-4020; Tues.: *live 50's and 60's music.* Fri.: *Live Piano Bar Music.* Sat. *Karaoke*

ERNESTO'S

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

GENITT'S HOLE IN THE WALL

248-349-0522; *Live Interactive Dinner Theater: "I Do...I Think."*

KARL'S COUNTRY CABIN

734-455-8450; Thurs.: *Live music: Sun Messengers*

MARQUIS THEATRE

248-349-8110; *Live Musical Theatre "Raggedy Ann & Andy."*

MR. B'S PLYMOUTH

734-459-4190; Wed.: *Karaoke.* Thurs.: *Film Clips.* Sat.: *Live music*

PENN THEATRE

734-453-0870; Now playing: *"The Perfect Murder"*

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

734-454-0178; Thurs.: *Plymouth Poets, Open mic* Sat.: *DJ Brian spins jazz.*

STATION 885 RESTAURANT

734-459-0885; Wed. - Sat.: *Live music with Wally Gibson;*

WAGON WHEEL LOUNGE

248-349-8686; Thurs. *Open Jam,* and Sat.: *Marilyn's Bath Dance*

WEST SIDE SINGLES

734-981-0909; Every Fri.: *Friday dances at Burton Manor.*

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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(734)453-0870

Visit Us **ONLINE** at
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1205 Ann Arbor Rd.
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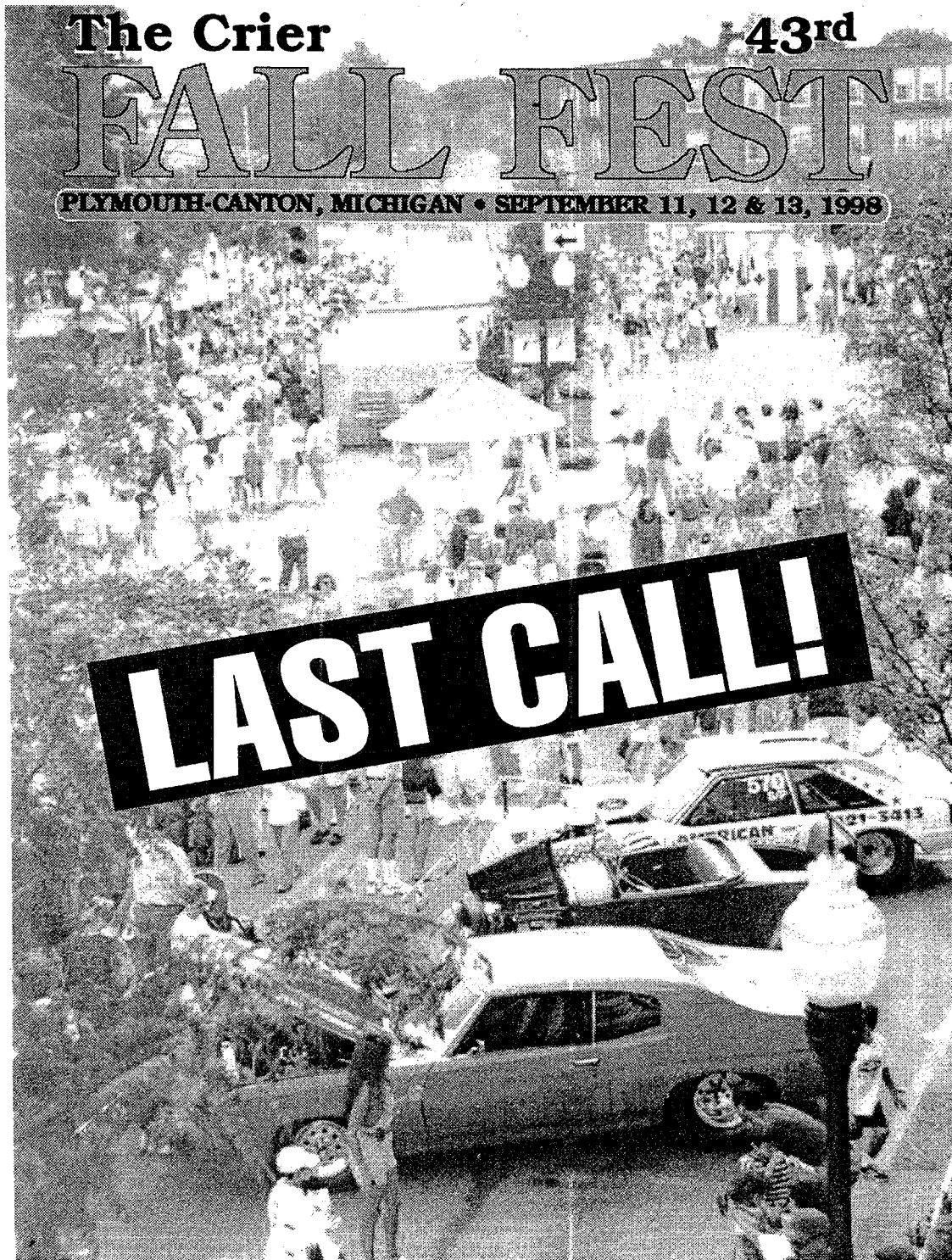
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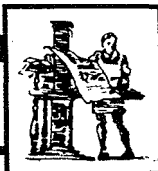


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The Crier

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or email us: email@crier.com

Wilcox proposal could reorient downtown's look

Continued from pg. 1

It was the Wilcox property that first drew Vincenti's attention to the City. He has said he plans a \$10 million mix of commercial and residential construction at the site. The specifics remain unnamed, but he said they have changed some since backing away from the Mayflower deal.

If and when he does choose what to do with the Wilcox site, he will also decide how to develop the parking lot on Penniman Avenue he has already bought from Draugelis-Ashton. He has mentioned it as a possible location for a new multi-level headquarters for his company, Tri Mount.

Vincenti has also said that if he does any work in the City, he will do it soon. He wants to break ground by next spring.

In order for the Wilcox site to be fully developed,

“The critical factor is Jack and Vincenti coming forward and saying yes.”

— Don Dismuke

though, something would have to be done with the Wilcox house, which now divides the property.

Wilcox said he suggests a remedy in the informal proposal he sent to Vincenti: pick up the house, slide it toward Ann Arbor Trail and turn it to face Kellogg Park.

A new anchor

The move would allow greater flexibility in developing the rest of the property and would create a visual anchor where none exists now on the downtown's eastern side.

Combine this increased prominence with its power as an icon for the City, Wilcox says, and the house would make a fitting home for the two agencies that promote Plymouth — the Downtown Development

Authority and the Chamber of Commerce.

Wilcox said he would be willing to donate the house — worth \$400,000 — \$500,000 he said — to the City if it

were willing to undertake such a project.

If Vincenti and the City agreed to move the house, the veterans memorials now at the front of Wilcox's property near Ann Arbor Trail would have to be moved first.

Over the last few years the City has considered plans to relocate the memorials to the property in front of Central Middle School and building a veterans park there.

Dismuke said the City is “ready to go if the funding is there.” Cost estimates figure around \$120,000, he said.

Dismuke said he is aware of Wilcox's proposal, and that while questions of cost, time and other constraints obviously must be explored, “the City would do what it could to facilitate that.

“The critical factor is Jack and Vincenti coming forward and saying yes,” on the proposal, Dismuke said.

For the City, there is more than one potential benefit to moving the house and displaying it with greater visual significance.

It would emphasize a new center of attention away from the Mayflower, long considered downtown's anchor but now equal parts liability and asset.

According to Dismuke, the shift in attention could also redirect downtown development toward Union Street, an area occasionally considered for inclusion in the DDA.

DDA Chairperson Sally Repeck was reluctant to consider the inclusion of Union Street as more than speculation at this point, and said discussions of extending and contracting the DDA come and go as they are convenient to the parties interested.

For his part, Wilcox said despite spending the preponderance of his life in the house, his attachment to it is less important to him than developing the property in a way beneficial to the City.

He said he admires Vincenti “very, very much,” and that repositioning of the house is not a deal breaker.

Ideally, though, he would like to see the property fully developed by Vincenti while the house remains standing. “We could eat our cake and have it too,” he said.

Mayflower deal sinks

Vincenti will be able to focus his attention in Plymouth on the Wilcox deal, now that his involvement in the Mayflower development is likely done. Since June, Vincenti said he has been negotiating with Karmo to decide how much of the hotel each would own.

When Vincenti first publicized his intentions to partner with Karmo in the beleaguered renovation, he proposed taking primary ownership of the project: Vincenti would own roughly 70 per cent of the hotel, Karmo would own 30 per cent.

At Friday's meeting, Vincenti said, Karmo wanted to change that split to 50 — 50.

“The project in our minds is feasible,” he said, but Tri Mount is unwilling to fully commit to the project until the structure of its business relationship with Karmo is settled.

“We're not on the same wavelength,” he said.

Karmo said it isn't ownership considerations that have sidelined his deal with Vincenti, but the level of commitment Tri Mount is willing to make.

Until the ownership puzzle is solved, Vincenti said, the rest of the project pieces can't fall into place.

Based on figures from his study, a 50 — 50 split isn't enough enticement for Vincenti, especially considering the investment he would need to make.

Vincenti said he isn't burning bridges and still could be involved with the project if Karmo reconsiders his partnership offer.

“It's strictly up to Matt,” he said. Until then, “I'm not even thinking about it.”

‘I want something to be proud of’

Continued from pg. 1

and manages another 21.

“John was one of three developers I was negotiating this project with,” Karmo said. “He was probably the leading contender, but he doesn't want to commit to the project 100 per cent. He's hesitant.”

Karmo and the Farmington investors have reached “an agreement in principle” he said.

Negotiations also continue with another Southfield-based development company. They, like Vincenti, specialize in residential work.

The Farmington investors' knowledge of hotels makes them the current front runner to join the project, Karmo said.

“They seem like people who can deliver and who know the business. When I talk about hotels, they understand.”

The deal Karmo said he is finalizing with the Farmington group centers on demolishing the existing Mayflower and building a new \$25 million mixed-use development. Primarily, it would be a historic hotel, though condominiums and retail space might also figure into the plans.

The deal was also predicated on Karmo becoming the sole owner of the Mayflower, he said, explaining that the Farmington group wanted to work with a single owner. Karmo said he acquired the remaining shares of the hotel from his two partners in May.

Partnership discussions, which may have played a part in the dissolution of the Vincenti deal, are well underway with the Farmington investors, he said.

Karmo cautions that nothing has been decided finally with anyone, not even Vincenti.

“He isn't out of the picture 100 per cent,” he said, clarifying that the Novi developer wasn't disinterested as much as he was hesitant.

He said Vincenti was willing to commit to the engineering phase of the redevelopment, the initial six-month, \$400,000 process of planning and designing the project; after the engineering was complete, Vincenti would decide whether to stay on board with the

Mayflower.

Karmo said he needs more long-term assurance than that.

If Vincenti decided to jump ship six months after starting the project, Karmo said, he would be left high and dry, with tens of millions of dollars to go without a partner. That kind of deal is too risky, he said.

His partner, whoever that turns out to be, would “need to move in and take full responsibility,” he said. “I've made a commitment to the project and to the City to build a hotel here.”

That commitment helps ease Plymouth Mayor Don Dismuke's mind, he said. Dismuke met Monday night with Karmo to receive an update on this latest turn in the ongoing Mayflower renovation.

As September approaches, so does the year anniversary of the original completion date and opening expected for the revamped Mayflower.

It was last November that the City ended its agreement with Karmo to facilitate the project. Nonetheless, officials remain watchful of progress at the hotel, largely considered the anchor for downtown and a piece of Plymouth history.

The negotiations now in the works mark the third iteration of a Mayflower deal, and according to

Dismuke, frustrations have been building at City Hall and around Plymouth.

“I keep struggling with a question: how many times can you look forward to another 60 days, or feel comfortable that negotiations are ongoing,” he said. “But you need to balance that 60-day extension with the ultimate use of the site. You have to look at what your goal is, and that's to develop the property with the biggest benefit for downtown.”

In that respect, the tentative deal with the Farmington group holds promise, according to Karmo.

“I'm probably the most excited of anyone. (The project) has been a burden and I've taken a lot of pressure,” he said. “I want to make something that will succeed, and to be proud of.”

“They seem like people who can deliver and who know the business. When I talk about hotels, they understand.”

— Matt Karmo
Owner, Mayflower Hotel

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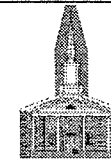
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Curiosities

Dear
Martha,
et. al.



By Geneva Guenther

Well, what do you know! I'm going to take piano lessons! My hands have been stiff and hurt for quite a long time. One morning I awakened and they were right as rain. If I can learn to play hymns, I'll be happy.

There always seems to be something, however to knock you down a bit. Liz Hartwick has moved out of Tonquish Creek after seventeen years and is going to live in Greenville near her daughter. (What a beautiful young woman she was and Liz says she is still beautiful.) What a lady to adjust to the many changes she has had to make! I think she was born here and lived in that beautiful old farm house on the corner of Liberty & Mill. She told me that she and her sister used to ride their sleds down the Wilcox Hill into the Mill at the bottom. I used to read her articles in the Plymouth Mail, and they were wonderful. For many years she has been

Curiosities

Dear Martha et. al. continued...

knitting stocking caps as Christmas presents for children - one hundred. I wish she would let me help her.

Glen Krieg was just in. Liz would remember. He had a laundry on Forest. Now he and his wife come back to Brighton for three months and spend the rest of their time in Florida. We miss all of you.

Bless you,
Geneva

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Kevin Olsen, number three Grandson was here visiting his Grandmother and Grandfather. He was cheated out of his full vacation, so came back to make it up. His two brothers each had a week with Grandma and Grandpa. Now they're all even.

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Curiosities

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Community deaths

Obituaries

For more information on listing a paid obituary notice in The Crier, contact your funeral director, or call (734) 453-6900.

SUZANNE PAGE

Suzanne Page, a Plymouth resident, died Aug. 24, 1998 at the age of 57.

Mrs. Page was born Aug. 3, 1941 in Detroit. She was a teacher in the adult education department of the Plymouth-Canton schools. She received her bachelor's degree in business and her master's degree in guidance and counseling from Wayne State University. She was a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton and the American Association of University Women. She did volunteer work with the Huron Valley Humane Society and with the Literacy Council, where she taught English as a second language.

She is survived by her husband, Gerald E. of Plymouth; and her daughter, Jennifer Page of Franklin, TN.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 28 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church with the Rev. Fr. Jack Quinlan officiating. Arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the Humane Society of Huron Valley, the University of Michigan Hospital for Cancer Research, or Our Lady of Providence School.

LILLIAN E. GREEN

Lillian E. Green, a Plymouth resident, died Aug. 7, 1908 at the age of 90.

Mrs. Green was born Aug. 6, 1908 in Calumet, MI. She was a homemaker. She came to the Plymouth Community in 1968 from Livonia.

She is survived by her daughter, Karen Silverman of Farmington Hills, Shirley Pegg of Plymouth; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Tamara J. Seidel officiating. Burial was at Oakland Hills Cemetery in Novi.

DOROTHY ELISE LOCASCIO

Dorothy Elise Locascio, a former Plymouth resident, died Aug. 22, 1998 at the age of 84.

Mrs. Locascio was born June 10, 1914 in Detroit. She was a homemaker who loved to crochet, make quilts and sew.

She is survived by her son, Kenneth K. (Dianne) Locascio of Angola, IN; and grandchildren, Karl and Kevin. She is preceded in death by her husband, Sam.

Services were held at St. Hedwig Cemetery in Dearborn Heights. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth.

Please see pg. 18

Crier Classifieds

\$7.50 for the first 10 words, 20¢ each additional word.

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Community deaths

Obituaries

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Continued from pg. 17

RODNEY J. SMITH

Rodney J. Smith, a Garden City resident, died Aug. 21, 1998 at the age of 43.

Mr. Smith was born Jan. 24, 1955 in Detroit. He was a manager at V.G.R. Systems of Westland for 17 years. He grew up in Canton, and graduated from Salem High School in 1973. He enjoyed his children and Nascar racing.

He is survived by his wife, Lynne of Garden City; children, Jennifer, Alex and Charlie; mother, Marjorie Smith; sister, Roxanne Wilson; brothers, Rodger Smith Jr, Ronald Smith, Rock Smith. He is preceded in death by his father, Rodger Smith, Sr.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Roland DeRenzo officiating. Burial was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery in Livonia.

BERTHA V. ALLEN

Bertha V. Allen, a Plymouth resident, died Aug. 21, 1998 at the age of 81.

Mrs. Allen was born July 13, 1917 in Ripley, OK. She worked at Cloverdale Dairy Farms in Plymouth for 32 years. She was a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Plymouth. She came to the Plymouth community in 1948 from Detroit. She loved to sew and socialize. She was a strong Democrat and worked on the Humphrey campaign.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Fred of Plymouth; son, Ronald Allen of Brighton; daughters, Cheryl Endicott of Wayne, Carolyn (Robert) Theisen of Wayne; 10 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren; and sisters, Mabel Scrivner of Colorado and Pauline Patten of Missouri.

Arrangements were made by and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with Felix A. Lorenz Jr, officiating. Burial was at Knollwood Cemetery in Canton Township. Memorial contributions can be given to the American Lung Association or the Hospice of Washtenaw.

ALICE FRANCES ARNOLD

Alice Frances Arnold, a Plymouth resident, died Aug. 19, 1998 at the age of 92.

Mrs. Arnold was born Jan. 30, 1906 in Plymouth. She was the bookkeeper for Arnold Auto Sales of Plymouth from 1950 to 1969. She also worked at Woolworth's, a Local 5 & 10-cent store. She was a member of the Plymouth Historical Society. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Plymouth, and the oldest living member of the church. She loved to do crafts.

She is survived by her daughter, Betty (Richard) Swanson of Rapid City, MI; son, Charles (Marilyn) Arnold of Mesa, AZ; 13 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and three great-great grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with Pastor Donald Williams officiating. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the First Baptist Church of Plymouth.

ALBERT E. NASH

Albert E. Nash, an Elk Rapids, MI resident (formerly of Plymouth) died Aug. 11, 1998 at the age of 101.

Mr. Nash was born Aug. 17, 1896 in Canada. He moved to Elk Rapids from Plymouth just prior to reaching his 100th birthday. He was an inventor and president of Ventrola Co. in Detroit prior to his retirement. In celebration of his 100th birthday, his grandsons took him to the Olympics in Atlanta, GA for the Opening Ceremonies and the first two days' events. He survived the two 10-hour days with enthusiasm and a never-ending appreciation for having been there. He was a great sports fan and regularly watched golf and baseball on television. His fondest memories of Plymouth were of his residency at Tonquish Creek Manor and lunches at the Cozy Cafe where he made many friends. He was a member of First Church of Christ, Scientist in Plymouth.

He is survived by his daughter, Shirley (Bill) Boyer of Williamsburg, MI; daughter-in-law, Lois Nash of Keowee Key, SC; grandchildren, Bill (Susan) Nash of Fort Wayne, IN, Tom (Donna) Nash of Roswell, GA, Gary Boyer of Keego Harbor, Nancy Boyer-Rachlin (Mike) of Paul Smiths, NY, Lynn (Scott) Nelles of Williamsburg, MI; and four great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by wives, Mae of 50 years; Ethel and son, Bill.

Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Burial was in Bethlehem Cemetery in Ann Arbor.

JOSEPHINE LILLIAN PONTE

Josephine Lillian Ponte, a Saline resident, died Aug. 20, 1998 at the age of 88.

Mrs. Ponte was born March 17, 1910 in Detroit. She was a homemaker. She lived in Plymouth for many years.

She is survived by her daughter, Rita K. Mincavage of Henderson, NV; sisters, Florence Buller of Dearborn, Helen Predmesky of Redford; grandsons, David Mincavage, Matthew Ponte, Stephen Ponte; granddaughter, Karen Mincavage; and great-grandson, Tyler Mincavage. She is preceded in death by her husband, William Ponte; and her son, William R. Ponte.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Leonard Partensky officiating. Burial was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens, West in Westland, MI. Memorial contributions can be given to the American Diabetes Association, Michigan Affiliate, Inc. 23100 Providence Drive, Suite 400 Southfield, MI 48075.

CHARLES B. DURANT

Charles B. Durant, a Plymouth resident, died Saturday, Aug. 15 at the age of 72.

Mr. Durant was born June 22, 1926 in Detroit. He was a plumber. He was a member of the Church of the Divine Savior.

He is survived by his wife, Joan L. Durant of Plymouth; son, Charles (Theresa) F. Durant of South Lyon, MI, David M. Durant of Plymouth; daughter, Nancy (Joseph) A. Beaudrie of Trenton; six grandchildren; and brother, Robert F. Durant. He is preceded in death by his daughter, Joan M. Sergison.

Services were held at the Church of the Divine Savior with the Rev. Alexander A. Kuras officiating. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Westland. Mass offerings can be given.



Sports

Sports shorts

Attention Soccer Players: Our Lady of Good Counsel JV Boys Soccer is looking for six additional boys to fill their roster for their fall season beginning the first week of September.

Fourth, fifth and sixth-grade boys are eligible to play. Current recreation or select players are not eligible per CYO rules.

Call Mark Seifert at (734) 454-0038 for details.

Registration for a **men's softball league in Canton** has begun and will last until it fills up or Friday, Sept. 4.

Double-headers will be held every Wednesday or Thursday for five weeks beginning Sept. 9.

The cost is \$200 per team, with each team paying \$16 per game for umpire fees.

Register in person at The Summit on the Park Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Or call (734) 397-5110 for more information.

Spots are still available for the **Plymouth Whalers Golf Outing** to be held Friday, Sept. 11 at Brae Burn Golf Club.

The \$100 golf package includes: 18 holes of golf with cart and Whalers player or coach, lunch and refreshments, free non-alcoholic beverages, barbecue dinner at Compuware Sports Arena with players and staff and a weekend pass to the Can-Am Challenge.

The format for golf is a five-man scramble, with contest holes for longest drive and closest to the pin.

Proceeds from the outing will benefit the Players' Education Fund.

Call the Whalers at (734) 453-8400 for more information.

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce will hold their golf outing Tuesday, Sept. 15 at Fox Hills Country Club.

Costs for a foursome sponsor, \$600, a twosome sponsor, \$440. Individual tickets cost \$175.

Sponsorship includes: golf with cart, meals, open bar, refreshments and a sponsor sign.

Call the Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-1540 for more information.

Maybury's suburban escape

For sports-minded enthusiasts, state park offers plenty of options

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Somewhere in the middle of Maybury State Park, amid the towering trees and strong undergrowth, there is a cement cavity in the wilderness, a basement of some long-destroyed building.

Through it vines have grown, weeds have pierced and oaks have fallen. It is a small picture of nature fighting back, reclaiming what it had once lost.

In many ways it can be seen as a microcosm of the park itself. All around Maybury's green rolling hills, developers are making their mark. Like most of Western Wayne County, Northville Township, where Maybury is located, is bustling with a building surge.

But Maybury stays strong. The Little Park that Could remains green and untarnished.

At 1,000 acres, Maybury is small by state park standards. But it makes the most of its size.

With more than 20 miles of biking, hiking and horseback riding trails, Maybury has become a haven for suburban crawlers looking for a wilderness fix.

According to Park Supervisor Anna Sylvester, the addition of the mountain biking trail four years ago quickly made it one of the most popular activities at the park.

"It's considered an intermediate trail," she said. "But from what I've heard the first half is really easy and the second half is hard. I guess that balances out to intermediate."

The two-foot wide trails winds through some of the more rolling parts of the park. At four miles in length, the trail takes most experienced bikers no more than an hour to complete.

Another popular sporting activity at Maybury, according to Sylvester, is running. For a break from normal neighborhood jogs, many park-goers prefer the paved, tree-lined paths that loop through Maybury's forest.

Every Thursday in the summer, a running club sponsored by Running Fit, collect in the park for a group jog.

On the other side of the park, a 10-15 acre pond (size depending on the time of year) stocked with blue gill and bass attracts both amateur and expert fisherman.

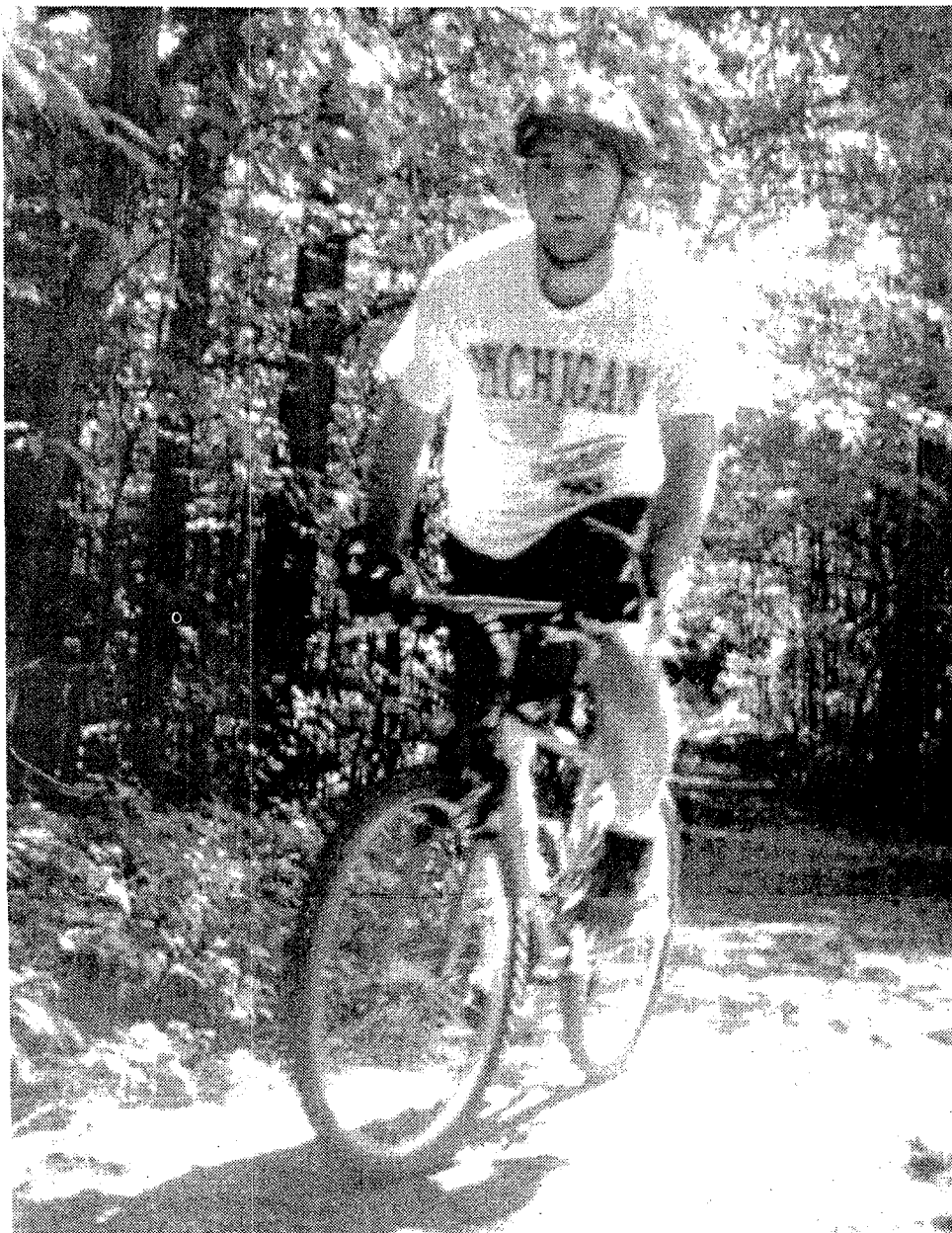
"It's great fishing," Sylvester says. "You can catch one right after another."

The pond is open to both off-shore and dock fishing.

"Some people even go out with their waders," Sylvester says.

Of course the old stand-by hiking still brings in plenty of visitors. More than six miles of trails are set aside exclusively for walking.

"Some people don't like the nuisance of



Canton resident Steve Morgan says the mountain biking trails are surprisingly challenging at Maybury State Park. Morgan, a long-time Oregon resident, says that in many ways they remind him of the trials out west. Morgan also uses the park for hiking and rollerblading. (Crier photo by Scott Goodwin)

bikes and horses," Sylvester says.

Of course, horseback riding is how many people know Maybury.

During the fall, horseback riding is at its peak popularity in the park, according to Sylvester. Those interested in setting up a ride should make reservations early.

There is a fee associated with horseback riding: \$18/hour on the weekends and \$14/hour on weekdays.

In the winter when the snow falls, Maybury becomes a wonderland for cross-country skiers. Most trails are kept open for ski access.

All sports played at Maybury needn't be individual. There are team sports facilities, for baseball and soccer, as well. According to

Sylvester, while the fields are usually reserved on weeknights, more often than not they are open for enjoyment on the weekends.

"They are a great place to put a game together or just throw the football around," Sylvester said.

Without any trees around, the fields are also great places to fly a kite.

"Even Charlie Brown would have a tough time getting caught in a tree in one of these fields," Sylvester said. "Of course he'd probably get stuck in one of the backstops."

Maybury State Park is open from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. every day through Labor Day. The park closes at 5 p.m. every day after that.

Softball purchase gets to first base

Canton Trustees authorize acquisition, contingent on bond sales

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The Canton Board of Trustees was expected to authorize purchase of the Canton Softball Center yesterday.

The purchase is contingent on the issuance of \$2.5 in building authority bonds. The remainder of the project will be financed through the Township's General Fund and Community Improvement Fund.

"We haven't heard any negative comments," said Canton Supervisor Tom Yack.

The Board of Trustees toured several of Canton's softball fields in a special study session last week. The purpose was to show board members the state of several fields used by Canton softball leagues and show the need for more facilities in the township.

That need was worsened by the loss of two softball fields from Griffin Park for the new post office, Yack said. Canton was to replace the field in Independence Park, but

the estimate to construct the six, unlighted fields came in at about \$1.5 million, according to Yack.

Before bonds can be sold for the purchase Canton must provide a 45 day refer-

endum period.

During that period any citizen can circulate a petition to hold a public vote for selling the bonds. The referendum period will expire Oct. 11, 1998.

Candidate for Salem athletic trainer may begin in late September

The Plymouth-Canton School Board was expected to approve the hiring of Richard Bowers as the new Salem High School Athletic Trainer at their meeting last night.

Bowers currently works as the coordinator of athletic training services at the Oakwood Physical Therapy Center in Southgate.

Following his Masters of Education degree from the University of Toledo in 1985, Bowers has worked extensively in the physical training field, including stints at Ferris State University and with the

Minnesota Twins baseball club.

He said he decided to make a job change because the high school was closer to home.

"It's a great commute," he said. "Plus it's a great opportunity to work with John Robinson (Salem Athletic Director)."

According to Bowers, Robinson is the president of the Michigan Athletic Trainers Society, of whom Bowers is a member.

If the board approves the hiring, Bowers would be expected to start sometime in late-September.

Get out and go . . .

The coming of fall shouldn't mean the end of your active season

Write of way
By Scott Goodwin



Running on a treadmill just isn't the same. Neither is a stationary bike.

But those aren't the only options for cold-weather exercise.

Most trails remain open through the fall. There are several fall sports leagues, including softball and soccer, open to adults. And there may even be the occasional football game for inspired adults.

But unfortunately, far too often these activities come as infrequently as a good Detroit Lions' season.

The inconvenience of winter exercise can be difficult to overcome. It seems to require a commitment that few are willing to make.

Skiing is a popular winter activity. But rare is The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community resident that skis enough to stay in shape. Plus, at \$30 a pop, lift tickets aren't exactly low-budget material.

What else is there to do?

Well, cross-country skiing is a readily available sport. Trails meander throughout the community at both state and community parks. Several area golf courses also offer space for snow-swishers.

But like downhill skiing, it requires a commitment of both patience and equipment.

The key is to mix it up.

Get out and go join an indoor volleyball league and take karate lessons on the weekend.

Get out and go make plans with a friend to play racquetball every Wednesday night.

Get out and go make a commitment to



Laura Formosa of Canton keeps active by rollerblading and biking at parks throughout P-C-N. In the winter she plans to continue working at her skiing skills and playing walleyball with her friends. (Crier photo by Scott Goodwin)

yourself this fall so that by next spring your body isn't caught off guard when the brain decides to run instead of walk.

When the temperature falls, so often does the will to stay fit. But the opportunities are there in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community.

Get out and go discover one before it's too late.

Sports shorts

The City of Wayne Firefighters and the Western Wayne County Conservation Association will host a **3-D Archery Shoot and Family Fun Day** Saturday, Sept. 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Great Lakes Burn Camp for Kids.

The shoot will take place at the Western Wayne County Conservation Association headquarters located at 6700 Napier Road in Plymouth Township.

The cost is \$8 per person. The 3-D course consists of 30 three dimensional targets that simulate actual hunting scenarios.

WSDP 88.1 FM has announced its broadcast schedule for this season's Compuware Ambassadors games.

September: Sept. 25 versus Springfield, 6:10 p.m.; Sept. 26 versus Springfield, 6:10 p.m.;

October: Oct. 3 versus Chicago, 3:10 p.m.; Oct. 8-12, Compuware Fall Classic Tournament, schedule TBA; Oct. 22 versus Cleveland, 6:10 p.m.; Oct. 31 versus Grand Rapids, 7:10 p.m.

November: Nov. 13 versus Grand Rapids, 6:10 p.m.; Nov. 14 versus Grand Rapids, 3:10 p.m.; Nov. 20 versus Danville, 6:10 p.m.; Nov. 21 versus Danville, 3:10 p.m.; Nov. 28 versus St. Louis, 3:10 p.m.

December: Dec. 5 versus Soo, 1:35 p.m.; Dec. 6 versus Soo, 1:35 p.m.; Dec. 11 versus Cleveland, 6:10 p.m.; Dec. 12 versus Springfield, 3:10 p.m.

January: Jan. 5 versus Team USA, 6:10 p.m.; Jan. 8 versus St. Louis, 6:10 p.m.; Jan. 9 versus Chicago, 3:10 p.m.; Jan. 22 versus Danville, 6:10 p.m.

February: Feb. 12 versus Cleveland, 6:10 p.m.; Feb. 20 versus Grand Rapids, 7:10 p.m.

March: Mar. 8 versus Team USA, 6:10 p.m.; Mar. 20 versus Soo, 3:10 p.m.

The broadcast team includes Nick Gismondi, Jon Keller, Dave Merrick and

On deck

SALEM BOYS SOCCER
Monday at home versus Northville at 7 p.m.

CANTON GIRLS BASKETBALL
Thursday at Bishop Borgess at 5:30 p.m.. Tuesday at home versus Flint Northern at 5:30 p.m.

CANTON BOYS SOCCER
Today at home versus Monroe at 7 p.m. Monday at Walled Lake Central



Community opinions

Joyner: 'I was an Eagle Scout'

EDITOR:

It was 1963 and I stayed up late one night for my parents to return home. They had gone to an election eve party. They had been active in the Mayor's campaign in Livonia and every night at dinner it seemed that talk centered around the election and people's responsibility to become involved. Harvey Moelke won and one of the Livonia founding fathers, Bill Brashear, was defeated. Two years later my mother was elected to the Livonia Board of Education for the first of three terms.

I was raised in a culture that felt community service included service to the political system. That good people could run for office and that, win or lose, everyone pulled together after the election was over. In between elections people pitched in and built parks, volunteered for the Boy Scouts, coached little league baseball and football and did everything necessary to create a true sense of community.

What set those days apart from the acrimonious political culture we have today is that you would often see political opponents working side by side planting trees or attending community cultural events. The winners always made sure that some of the supporters of the defeated candidates were involved so that their ideas could be put into effect.

A real synergy that we lack today.

Within this culture I watched my father serve as equipment manager for the baseball team, my mother attend school functions as President of the PTA, my dad help with my Boy Scout Troop and my mother serve on the Board of Education.

I went on to be an Eagle Scout, be selected to serve as one of eight scouts in America to attend a world-wide gathering in South America, participated in Christmas tree sales for the foreign exchange program, and generally developed my long-standing belief that service to humanity is the best work of life.

This belief held me in good stead as I left my teen years and started to use my 20s to put into practice what I had been taught as a child. Having served as Lt. Governor as Optimist International, Michigan District, and having served as executive vice president of the Michigan Jaycees, I enjoyed traveling to more than 200 cities in Michigan, giving speeches every night on the need to build better communities. The highlight was taking the Michigan Jaycees, as state membership director, to the highest membership in its history at more than 18,000 members.

This same belief guided me through my three terms as a member of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners fighting for

additional services for Plymouth-Canton and fighting budget battles before many of our current commissioners were out of high school. In each one of my races I always enjoyed the solid endorsements of The Community Crier, Plymouth and Canton Observers and the Detroit News and Free Press. The endorsements almost always concluded with the thought that they appreciated a commissioner who stood up for what was right, and was always available to the district he represented.

I took my shots from the local press. But when the articles were written we always headed out to the local bar to discuss ways to make our community better. We set aside differences, because they were not personal.

Today's culture of political involvement and community service points out a serious weakness in local news coverage, specifically this newspaper's continued printing of stories not only without justification, but without persuasive evidence to back up any allegations. Instead of searching for the truth, your owner allows the paper to stake out a position and then twist facts to support them. (This argument might sound familiar as it was recently espoused in USA Today in an article by Robert Bianco.)

I continue to take offense at comments made about individuals who in their own right are working for the betterment of our community, but who for some reason have staked out a position in opposition to the views expressed by the owner of this paper. The tendency is to attack a public official when they are down, which is always easy to do. It is more difficult to extend a hand of friendship and pick them up. You have a willingness to attack with provocation and without buildup. There generally is no article to prepare readers as to the facts, only a column that denounces and ridicules, leaving the reading public to question what this is all about. You spare no gender, no position, no party. You do provide equal opportunity in your condemnation. But that is the only generous statement that I can make.

There are stacks of letters from families that have received scholarships from programs I started, from mothers who have used counseling programs I initiated for those without funds and in need of crisis counseling, from groups that have received donations when they had nowhere else to turn. I see the smile on the faces of families that bring up cans of food at the Make a Difference Day program held each October, the happiness of a family as their mother is honored as a citizen of the year, the laughter in the voice of a young child that receives a grant to go to music camp for the summer, and the applause from an audience

appreciative of a new speaker series that brings headline speakers to the community.

Your attempt to denigrate all that I am involved in does not a disservice to me, but rather to the people who benefit from the programs I have started. You hide behind the spectre of freedom of speech in which you can write anything you want without regard to the truth.

I have chosen to work on political campaigns because I believe that all candidates should have an opportunity to win. All too often a monied campaign, or a campaign based on insiders controlling a core group of voters, discouraged opposition. I want the opportunity to help provide a level playing field for all those involved. So, as a result I often take candidates who would not even be in the race and provide them with professional advice, most of the time for free or for just enough to cover my expenses. Just a few of the candidates I have had the pleasure of working for and with include 35th District Court Judge John MacDonald in 1984 (who certainly would have won without any help), Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack in 1988 and 1992, Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy in 1992, Canton Trustee Phil LaJoy in 1992, Dennis Shrewsbury in 1991, Bill McAninch and Stella Greene in the City of Plymouth, School Board Trustees David Artley and Carl Battishill and, yes, Jerry Vorva in his defeat of Georgina Gross in 1992. Some of the candidates I continue to talk with and help on their community projects. Some, like Jerry Vorva, I no longer support politically because of their shift on issues away from the coalitions that helped elect them. But I will always sit and talk with Jerry because, even if I disagree with most of what he is saying and doing, he has the right to his opinion.

The list goes on, including Mayor Bob Bennett in Livonia (design of literature, which, by the way, I brought to this paper for printing), and Livonia City Council President Jack Engebretson (again, design of his literature).

This past year has been an exciting one for me. The establishment of the Tonquish Economic Club, the Clara Camp Plymouth Citizen of the Year Award, the Marilyn Massengill Beautification Award, K.C. Mueller Scholarship Grant Program, Plymouth Make a Difference Day, the writing of three Township newsletters (You never informed your readers last year when the Township Treasurer's Office needed a newsletter to put in with tax billings that I wrote all three and never charged the Township for the service. It was something I wanted to do as a Township resident, volunteer my time. In fact, the owner of this

paper called up the Township inquiring last December about a rumor he had heard about my writing a newsletter. When informed that I had donated my time and skills for no pay he dropped the story.), the Welcome to Town We are Glad You Are Here Program.

I take pride that I was asked to attend a citizens meeting to listen to the Township explain their need for police/fire and recreation services. I was happy to volunteer to be a member of the citizens committee that was formed to help sell these programs. I signed up without being paid and I gladly worked without being paid. I gave up my summer to help build a better community. The Township Board, when needing legally-allowed material to explain their position, asked me to help write three newsletters and would compensate me for that work which I had initially offered to do for free, just as I had done the three newsletters the year before at no cost for my professional services.

The Township Board voted unanimously to hire me. This was not done behind closed doors and was not done to hide anything, but rather was a continuation of the communication started the year before, to involve people in creating an identity for the community called Plymouth Township.

When my services were volunteered, it was a non-story because it might make Bill Joyner look good. When I am approached for my professional services and, by golly, I get paid, it suddenly becomes newsworthy. And then to call me a "failed consultant" is more than I can take.

I have lived in this town for 22 years, have paid my taxes, volunteered my time, given of myself, raised my son, supported public education, voted in every election, spent my money at local stores, donated my income to worthy causes and been pilloried because I do not wear the right political label, do not bend over and kiss the ring of those who believe they are powerful, because I do not march to the beat of the same drummer you do.

I am an independent. I am a Democrat. And at times I vote for Republicans. I am no different than the average person living and paying taxes in this town.

I challenge this newspaper as a self-proclaimed champion of the public interest to publish this letter (in full) in your next edition. I will continue to stand up for the good work that I have been involved in, in this community and others. I should not have to do so, as it sounds self-serving, however, once my reputation has been called into question I can and will do no less.

BILL JOYNER



Community opinions

The Twp. Treasurer responds:

'Pleased with the operation of my office'

EDITOR:

Over the past decade Plymouth Township has been slowly removing statutory duties from the office of the Township Clerk and Treasurer to the Accounting Office. These duties have been absorbed by the Finance Director under the authority of the Township Supervisor. At first the Supervisor was Maurice Breen, then Gerry Law, and currently Keen McCarthy.

Recognizing that these supervisors had their reasons for wanting to absorb the duties into the Accounting Office, which reported only to the supervisor, I came into office prepared to work along side and with the Finance Director. Upon taking office I became increasingly aware that many of the duties being performed by the Accounting Office were not compatible with the duties prescribed by law for my office.

I can only conclude that there were those in this Township Administration over the years that wanted Plymouth Township to work and operate like a city, complete with financial authority vested in the office of the Supervisor. Fortunately, Plymouth Township is a community that still operates under state law governing townships, which is different than city government.

I am most pleased with the professional operation of my office, which is indicated by the tremendous increase in interest income generated from an efficient management of cash reserves. Had the reporter, editor or even the owner of this newspaper been in attendance at the Board of Trustees meeting last Tuesday they would have heard the Finance Director announce "another significant item is the increase of interest from 1996 to 1997, there was a 81.5 per cent increase in interest, this was due to better management of funds and making sure the funds had been fully invested. So that is a significant increase."

In fact, if you deemed it important to report accurately, you would have attended the meeting at which the auditors made their presentation and you would have then realized that Plymouth Township's financial report was in order with a clean opinion, and that all monies were accounted for. You would have heard them make subtle changes in their management letter negating some of what you wrote.

I am pleased that the auditing firm of Rehman Robson has signed off on a financial audit that clearly indicates that our financial affairs are in order and that all money is accounted for. For this I take great pride. And I am willing to share this pride with the employees of my office and the

employees of Plymouth Township. For we surely must develop a team approach to solving the problems of a community that is nearly developed.

The Michigan Department of Treasury are concerned with all financial operations, such as purchasing, payroll, accounts payable and bank reconciliations are within one department. I agree with them.

The differences within Plymouth Township have more to do with a philosophical and interpretive outlook on how the accounting functions should work. Much of the discussion is healthy and productive. In fact, the Plymouth Township elected officials are setting aside a meeting next month to evaluate which functions should be within which department. This is positive and should be viewed as such.

I have concluded that this paper and its owner have decided to create controversy, to divide people and to create an atmosphere of distrust. Most of us in community government believe strongly in our positions and work hard to build a community of which we can all be proud.

Your paper has never reported that since I took office we have expanded our office hours, making user-friendly service available during the evening and on specific Saturdays. You have never reported that we have gone to the automatic bill payment plan for water bills. Another first. And when have you reported on the significant increase in interest income for Plymouth Township?

I cannot remember a time when a reporter, editor or owner of The Community Crier attended a meeting of the Plymouth

Township Board of Trustees. You certainly should have been there last Tuesday when we discussed the issues you wrote about.

You further do a disservice when you wait until the day of our meeting to call for comments, knowing full well that we have an office to run. But we are expected to drop everything to accommodate your schedule. Then you make up quotes and think nothing of it.

You did not interview me, the supervisor or anyone else for your stories that obviously were slanted, inaccurate and did a disservice to the Township employees; the auditing firm of Rehman Robson and not to mention misleading the residents of Plymouth Township.

Now, let me address a personal issue that was blown out of perspective by this newspaper. The management letter suggests that there had been a "practice" of requesting counter checks directly from the bank. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The Township clerk signed off on, and I requested on one occasion two counter checks to provide one of our Township residents with a tax refund. Their checks had been lost in the mail. When I asked the Accounting Office for a replacement check I was told a replacement check would not be written until the following month.

All procedures were followed, with the Clerk and myself signing off on it. The Township resident was happy and we showed that government could work to help people. If you would have been at the meeting you would have heard the auditor correcting his letter.

Another concern of mine is your reporting on the Township's petty cash account. We currently have a petty cash checking account which makes for ready and convenient auditing when needed. I do not want cash floating around this Township Hall. The only change that I made was that I sign the checks. When I told Dick Balderman, the State of Michigan auditor, about the auditor's recommendation, his response was that this account should be a checking account and that the Treasurer's office should control it.

Now is the time for this community to realize the bias that comes from your paper.

Attend our meetings, interview each of us on a timely basis, develop your story and then editorialize. Until you show responsibility we will continue to view your writings with skepticism.

RON EDWARDS
Treasurer, Plymouth Township

Foregoing the facts

In three separate instances last week Ron Edwards, Plymouth Township treasurer, refused interviews with The Community Crier to discuss the audit of his department, and its tardiness in turning in Township tax rolls.

Rather than answer direct questions about the facts, rather than get substantial comment into the news stories being written, he chose to wait. Now, rather than facts, he is telling "his side" of the story in the opinion section of this paper.

That's okay.

He could have told The Crier and its readers about the \$400,000 increase in Township interest his office is reported to have made through better money management. He could have publicly criticized the Township's expenditure for outgoing Police Chief Carl Berry's retirement party. He could have said a lot. He didn't.

Edwards wouldn't answer questions last Monday morning when The Crier's reporter went to his office. Instead, he said he would supply written answers by 8 a.m. Tuesday. He did not. Numerous calls were also necessary to have a copy of the auditor's management letter sent to The Crier. Edwards called Tuesday afternoon, requesting an opportunity to respond in person at The Crier at 4:30 that day. (He made a similar appearance months before regarding a story about bookkeeping discrepancies between his office and the Finance Director's office.) On Tuesday, he never showed. His call finally came at 7 p.m. What comment he gave appears in the stories written.

As a community news outlet, it is The Crier's responsibility to question Edwards on behalf of taxpayers about his performance, and the auditor's evaluation of it. The Crier did that. Trustee Ron Griffith also asked as much at last Tuesday's Board meeting.

As an elected official, it's Edwards' duty to respond to public questions. For all intents and purposes, he still hasn't said why he asked for Finance Director Rosemary Harvey's resignation last Monday — an ironic twist on the paragraphs in his letter which stress the importance of checks and balances between the Township's departments.

Under normal circumstances, it is against The Crier's editorial policy to address a letter to the editor in the same issue, let alone on the same page that it appears. But these are not normal circumstances. It would be unfair to let Edwards' lies lie.

His side of the story is full of untruths: when he says The Crier did not interview him, that The Crier does not attend Township Board of Trustees meetings, that The Crier made up quotes. These allegations are disinformation, wild swings at the truth.

Township residents have the right to demand accountability from the officials they employ.
THE COMMUNITY CRIER





Community opinions

P-C School bonds: '97, '98 issues don't mix

EDITOR:

This letter is in response to your question "The March '97 bond is still hung up in court. What must Plymouth-Canton Schools do to convince you to vote for the Oct. 3 bond to build a replacement for Lowell Middle School?"

Regarding part one: The '97 bond, which will build a third high school and an elementary school for our children, is

Cozy Cafe deserves a 2nd look

EDITOR:

I've visited the Cozy Cafe for many years, and each year you will find Nick and his wife, who runs the restaurant, doing something to enhance the surroundings.

They just finished having murals painted on the walls, once again brightening a quite pleasant place to dine.

Receiving a liquor license is something that would not be a mistake. I'm very much in favor of them getting one.

I hope whoever is in charge of distributing liquor licenses gives the Cozy Cafe a second look.

MEL BOLIEAU

Say it ain't so Daly's

EDITOR:

How can Daly's restaurant leave Plymouth after 50 years of service? My family have been eating there for many years, even before we moved to Plymouth. Plymouth needs restaurants, not drug stores. We have two pharmacies in town. Beyers is on Ann Arbor Road, and a mile away is Arbor Drugs on Sheldon Road.

Where will we get the best chili ever on a cold day, a foot-long hot dog, stacked ham sandwich, perfect burgers for our lunches?

I am disappointed over this decision to sell out to Rite Aid.

BETTY A. WHITE

still hung up in court because one individual has chosen to continue to challenge the election even though five different ruling bodies have determined that the election was conducted according to the law and the results are valid.

Regarding part two: The district has leased Lowell from Livonia Public Schools since 1981. Livonia now needs the space and will not renew the lease

when it expires in July, 2000. The four other middle schools in the district are at capacity. Replacing Lowell will leave our middle-school children with the same learning space they have today. The cost of the replacement is \$19.3 million.

The bond request includes \$500,000 for 10 new buses to replace aging buses in the fleet. (The \$500,000 is over and

above the \$19.3 million for the school.) Not only is the fleet aging, but busing requirements are growing. Putting new buses in the fleet will help to prevent busing delays that are troubling to parents and children.

The total cost to homeowners for the bond is 0.2 mills, or \$20 per year for a home with a taxable value of \$100,000.

I urge your readers to consider the Lowell question on its own merits and resist the suggestion that the '97 bond or the challenge to the '97 bond should have any bearing on the Lowell Middle School replacement question.

I am convinced we need to replace Lowell Middle School, and I am voting 'yes' Saturday, Oct. 3.

DARICE SCHUBATIS

Consider the Lowell question on its own merits.

Don't believe the hype

Crier loads manure spreader, headline

EDITOR:

Your publisher's euphemistic manure spreader reloaded last week at your own back door.

The front page story about the Township auditors' report was inaccurately summarized in the story's subtitle "Treasurer's work poor, says auditor." (Note that although I have quoted the subtitle, the subtitle was not a quote.) The subtitle was deceptive and defamatory.

After reading your story, I obtained copies of the auditors' management letter and report and find no such conclusion by the auditors. While there are exceptions cited in the report, which were summarized in your story, they are insignificant. The auditors, for instance, recommend that the treasurer replace a petty cash bank with a petty cash fund. Petty cash transactions during the year totaled less than \$600, all of which were fully accounted for.

If you believe such a recommendation to mean "treasurer's work poor," then that manure spreader's load must have been exchanged with your gray matter.

Please avoid writing hype. It can erode the sense of community that so many have worked so hard to maintain.

MARY ANN PRCHLIK

Taking panes to help

EDITOR:

The Northville/Plymouth Community Fire Safety House would like to thank the Northville Home Depot and manager Jeff Stallings for the donation of two replacement windows for our Safety House.

It is this kind of community cooperation and support that allows our fire departments to continue the educational programs to the children, and adults, of our communities and many surrounding communities.

Over the past seven years we have educated several thousand children and adults on procedures to take in case of fire in the home.

Again, thank you Home Depot.

ROBERT JOHNS

Secretary, Plymouth Community Fire Dept.

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

The Community Crier



THE NEWSPAPER
WITH ITS HEART IN
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COMMUNITY

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Things are happening in the community!

PLYMOUTH — August —

29: Farmer's Market - 7:30am-12:30pm

— September —

- 5:** Farmer's Market - 7:30am-12:30pm
Gathering-Plymouth Chamber (734)453-1540
- 11:** Fall Festival - Opening Ceremonies, Booths, Entertainment, Bingo, Children's Rides and Games - 6:00pm-10:00pm
- 12:** Fall Festival - Pancake Breakfast 7:00am-1:00pm, Artists & Craftsmen Show, Booths, Pet Contest, Entertainment, Children's Rides and Games - 7:00am-10:00pm
- 13:** Fall Festival - Artists & Craftsmen Show Noon-5:00pm, Flowers & Vegetables, Booths, Antique Car Show, chicken Barbeque Dinner 11:00-6:00pm, Entertainment, Children's Rides and Games - 9:00am-6:00pm
- 19:** Farmer's Market - 7:30am-12:30pm
Gathering-Plymouth Chamber (734)453-1540
- 20:** Plymouth Symphony Orchestra - "The Verdi Opera Theatre of Michigan" - 4:00pm, Italian/Amer. Banquet Center, Livonia. Call (734) 451-2112 for info.
- 25-27:** Plymouth Theatre Guild - "The Nerd" (comedy), Water Tower Theatre, Northville. Call (248)349-7110 for info.
- 26:** Farmer's Market - 7:30am-12:30pm -
Gathering-Plymouth Chamber (734)453-1540

CANTON

— September —

- 26:** Canton Parks and Recreation
Heritage Park Square Dance -
6:00-9:00pm
- 26:** 1998 Punt, Pass and Kick
Competition - 10:00am



NORTHVILLE

— September —

- 11:** Centennial Golf Outing,
(248)374-0522
- 18/19/20:** Victorian Festival,
Downtown, (248)349-7640
- 19:** Historic Home Tour,
(248)347-4299
- 19/20:** Art Market,
Northville Arts Commission,
(248)347-9664
- 25/26:** Tivoli Fair, Northville
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(248)348-1845

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