

The Community Crier



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October 7, 1998

City delays decision on Walters

Commissioners agree on hard feelings, not review

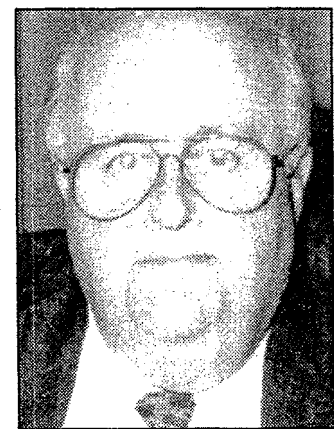
BY BRYON MARTIN

It felt as though a political thunderhead had gathered in the Plymouth City Commission chambers Monday evening. And while discussions did get stormy, the watershed audience members had come for apparently did not happen.

Plymouth City Manager Steve Walters did not resign from his duties as some had expected.

The agenda originally set for the Commission's regular meeting was wiped clean of essentially all items except for Commissioners' comments and the closed-door review of Walters' employment. After more than two hours of discussion, though, the Commission emerged from its private chambers and voted to continue Walters' review next Monday, approving the decision in a 7-0 vote.

That decision to continue the already months-long review was suprising after the Commission appeared poised to accept his resignation.



WALTERS

Mayor Don Dismuke and Commissioners Dave McDonald and Colleen Pobur choked back emotion as they read prepared statements.

Each had an individual spin. The theme common among them, though, was the Commission's failure to put personal political vendettas aside and work together to lead The City of Plymouth.

McDonald described the Commission as its own enemy in a battle that began after last year's election, and one unworthy to fight.

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It was also suprising in that the unanimous vote came from a Commission that had entered upon the private discussions visibly upset and politically disheveled.

Minutes before they retired into closed session, nearly every commissioner had publicly denounced the political back-biting they say has plagued them for nearly a year and eroded cohesion among them.



Mark Horvath (at left), chairman of the citizens committee that led the bond campaign, celebrates with a throng of schools supporters Saturday as returns come into the Board offices. Meanwhile Jerry Vorva (at right) keeps an eye on the number of undervotes reported (Crier photo by Bryon Martin).

P-C Schools:

Voters pass bond, 2 to 1

BY BRYON MARTIN

As returns from the polls began to trickle into the School Board offices Saturday night, it was quickly obvious: voters had overwhelmingly approved the bond.

Roughly 69 per cent of the 11,276 voters who cast ballots — 7,772 — voted 'yes' on the bond to build a replacement middle school and buy 10

school buses. About half as many — 3,359 — voters cast 'no' ballots.

The school will be built at Hanford and Canton Center Roads, and is scheduled for completion by September 2000. New buses should arrive by next fall, according to Mike Maloney, School Board president.

The crowd of supporters who had gathered there cheered as many

precincts reported passage of issue by a two-to-one ratio. They clapped, hooted and began singing "Hail to the victors."

But according to Jerry Vorva, much like the U of M football team's 12-9 score earlier that day, the district's win was effective but ugly.

Official returns indicate 1.65 per

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County hopefuls stump for 11th seat

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Deteriorating roads and airport expansions are among the top issues for both in the race for the 11th County Commission seat.

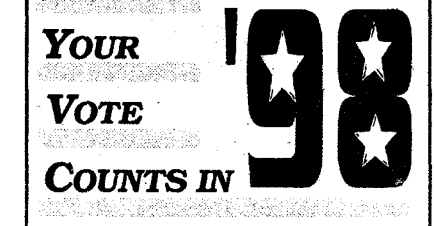
Less than four weeks before the Nov. 3 election, Democratic candidate John Sullivan and Republican Melissa McLaughlin are spending much of their time doing what every candidate needs to do: stumping.

Sullivan is a political newcomer. In a

surprisingly strong showing in the August primary, he won the Democratic nod in virtually every Canton precinct, despite minimal exposure.

Born in Detroit, the 28-year-old Wayne resident has lived his entire life in Wayne County.

After receiving his Juris Doctorate degree, Sullivan worked for two years with the United Auto Workers (UAW) legal services, providing legal counsel to union members. He recently opened his



own practice in Wayne, but spends most of his time campaigning.

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Cars clash, crash on Ford Rd.

Canton man arrested in 'road rage' wreck

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

A 22-year-old Ann Arbor man was arrested Friday after allegedly ramming his car into another vehicle in an instance of Road Rage.

According to Canton Police reports, the incident started when 39-year-old Redford resident Tim Henderson, who was traveling west in the curb lane of Ford Road, changed to the inside lane in front of a white car driven by Walter Bauer.

Henderson said in the report he heard a horn blowing behind him, and saw Bauer's car begin to swerve back and forth behind him.

Henderson slowed down and pulled over, and Bauer sped up to drive along side him and allegedly began shouting and making obscene gestures at him, according to reports.

Henderson said he then sped up to get away. Bauer allegedly rammed his car into the rear of Henderson's mini-van. Reports

said Henderson then stopped his car, and Bauer allegedly drove into the side of Henderson's vehicle, blocking the driver's side door.

Reports said Bauer allegedly exited the vehicle and began threatening Henderson.

Canton police responded to the scene, and after taking statements from witnesses, arrested Bauer for malicious destruction of property. He was taken to the Canton police department, processed and given a court date of Oct. 16.

Ofc. Leonard Schemanske said that road rage type incidents are becoming more frequent.

"They usually start with a minor infraction, like someone getting cut off," he said. "Then somebody flips the well-known finger."


Schemanske said people being harassed on the road should follow several simple steps.

First, if they have a car phone, they can dial 911. Altering your route is another good idea, as is avoiding a confrontation, he said.

"Each case is going to be different depending on where you're driving," he said. "The key is to have options available."

Schemanske said if all else fails, get a good description of the driver, the year and make of the car and the vehicle's license plate number. It is also advisable to turn into the parking lot of an open place of business and attract attention by honking the car's horn.

"Witnesses can be important," he said. "In this most recent case the witnesses accounts will make or break the case."

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New breathers for Plymouth Fire Dept.

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Plymouth Firefighters can breathe easier this month, thanks to a pair of donations from Unisys Corporation and Ford Motor Company.

Unisys has donated four new oxygen units and four new Pulse-Oxy devices, according to Fire Chief Larry Groth. Although the presentation by Unisys won't be made until Tuesday's Board of Trustees meeting, the new equipment, worth more than \$4,000, is already in use.

The oxygen units are an upgrade from previous models, Groth said. They are lighter and can carry more air for rescue squads.

The Pulse-Oxy units are designed to measure the blood oxygen levels for victims at emergency sites.

"They will really help out," Groth said.

The Ford Sheldon Road plant, in conjunction with Ford world headquarters, have donated \$10,000 to purchase a new Jaws of Life rescue device, a set that will replace one of the two already in use. Jaws of Life are designed to extract victims from wrecked automobiles during auto crash rescues.

According to Groth, the new set weighs half as much as the previous unit and will be stationed on fire engine #3, located at Beck and North Territorial roads.

"That's a good location because it's right next to the freeway where these devices are most often used," he said.

Ford was instrumental in purchasing the first Jaws of Life set for the fire department nearly 18 years ago, Groth said.

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The need to feed... Despite the chill and damp, scores of Canton Chamber of Commerce members visited Bob Boyer's farm Saturday to be thanked in the old fashion way: with a pig roast. Boyer fed the masses as a show of appreciation to volunteers, donors and sponsors of the chamber's auction and golf outing. There were door prizes, and plenty of food for friends and animals alike, as James Bandarin can attest. James fed Boyer's llama while his dad Peter and sister Danielle watched. (Crier photo by Scott Spielman.)

The Sheldon Rd. underpass:

Who's going to pay?

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Construction on a Sheldon Road railroad underpass in Plymouth could cause significant delays for motorists.

That is, if construction ever begins.

The only delays associated with the pro-

ject right now have been caused by disagreements over who is going to finance the \$8.8 million dollar project.

Before construction begins, voters in Plymouth and Plymouth Township may be asked to approve a 0.14 millage levy to

finance local share of the project.

Financial commitments have already been made by the federal government (\$5,250,000), Wayne County (\$1,525,000) and CSX Railroad (\$500,000). Who will pay the remaining \$1,525,000, however, is still of some question.

The City of Plymouth hopes they and the Township can split the costs, 50-50. The project will benefit the entire community, they said. Therefore, it is only fair that the costs be shared equally.

Township officials disagree.

Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy said the Township shouldn't have to contribute monies to the Sheldon Road underpass project because they, unlike the City, don't own their own roads.

"The county has responsibility of all our roads," Keen McCarthy said. "They collect all our gas taxes and all our weight taxes."

But City Manager Steve Walters said that argument isn't valid. Sure, both the City and the County collect gas and weight taxes, but the funds are inadequate for even minimal maintenance duties such as snow plowing and fixing pot holes, let alone large construction projects like the underpass.

"City taxpayers pay 30 per cent more (out of general funds) just to do routine road work," Walters said. The City's contribution

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Thomas bids on Mayflower

BY BRYON MARTIN

Anxious to spur development in the long-dormant redevelopment of the Mayflower Hotel, Plymouth resident John Thomas has made an offer to take over.

"As I understand it, the last suitor is out of the loop," he said. "I have attempted to make an offer."

Thomas told his fellow Plymouth landlords about the bid Wednesday at their Community Chamber of Commerce committee meeting. He said he has spoken with the hotel's owner Matt Karmo, and with John Vincenti, the last developer in a series who have walked away from the the project.

Karmo has not responded to the offer yet, according to Thomas.

N'ville sub attracts trout

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Home building is expected to get under way this month in Northville on what may amount to one of the most exclusive communities in Wayne or Oakland counties.

A unique fusion of nature and development, the Stonewater housing project, located at

Beck Road between Six and Seven Mile roads, will feature a series of water-enclosed neighborhoods, many with houses nearing the \$1 million price tag.

The 360-acre plot is highlighted by a series of lakes, six in all, that drape in and out of the

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Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Tonight, Plymouth's Goodfellows meet on the Plymouth Library main floor to form committees and take club photos.
- Thursday, Plymouth's Downtown Development Authority Board meets at 7 p.m. in the conference room at City Hall, 201 S. Main St.

THIS WEEKEND

- Saturday, Plymouth Community Fire Station No. 3, at Beck and North Territorial Rd., will hold an open house to cap off Fire Prevention Week.
- Friday & Saturday is clean-up day at Canton Waste & Recycling. Call 397-5801.

NEXT WEEK

- Tuesday, Canton's Board of Trustees meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd.
- Tuesday, Plymouth Township's Board of Trustees meets at 7:30 p.m. at Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Rd.
- Wednesday is Black Poetry Day at Plymouth's Dunning-Hough Library.
- Thursday, Plymouth's Seniors Club meets from 1 - 4 p.m. at Tonquish Manor. Call Emil or Isabell at 734-455-9076 or 734-455-8157.

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Y2K: Twp. prepares for millennium bug

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

When year 2000 strikes, Plymouth Township hopes to be ready.

Township officials have recently developed a sub-committee to deal with the possibility of a year 2000 crash.

When the millennium changes over in 14 months, it is expected that many of the

computers in use today could shut down because they are programmed to handle dates only through the end of this century. Labeled the Y2K bug, the prophesied crash could cause cataclysmic problems for government and businesses.

Township officials recognized that the problem could affect them, and are now

taking measures to prevent it. According to Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy, computer problems could affect everything from 911 dispatch to payroll.

"We're already working on our information system components," Keen McCarthy said. "Every PC we buy is Y2K-compliant."

Bob Janks, who handles computer system duties for the Township, will head the sub-committee. Members from every department will be included in the Y2K discussions in an attempt to anticipate problems.

Said Keen McCarthy, "We're using the brainpower of a lot of people to make sure we don't miss anything."

City can't pay alone

Continued from pg. 3

to the underpass project "won't come out of

gas and weight tax monies.

"We don't have some free source that the Township doesn't have," he said.

The county is under the same burden, Walters said. The county will contribute funds other than gas and weight taxes for its share of the project.

A letter has been drafted by Plymouth officials (but has not yet been approved by the City Commission) to ask the Township to reconsider their position.

According to Walters, if the Township does not have the funds within normal resources (i.e. their general fund), they should ask voters to approve a bond issue.

"The City cannot fund the entire project themselves," Walters said, adding that the City could join the Township on the bond issue.

Keen McCarthy said she doesn't know how the Township board would vote on such a proposal.

"Right now, we don't have any proposal on the table," she said.



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Please call if you would like more information, or stop by and pick up an application as soon as possible.

Linda J. Langmesser, CMC/AEE
Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth

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City battle 'an unworthy one to fight'

Continued from pg. 1

"Over the past 11 months I have continued to witness vicious attacks leveled at and by several members of this body," he said. "I want to go on record pleading with my colleagues to end this war now and to move forward with what we all were elected to do."

McDonald also responded to comments City Commissioner Dennis Shrewsbury made in a story that appeared in Sunday's Plymouth Observer.

He cited those comments as an example of the politicking that has undermined the Commission's ability to work effectively. Such statements have also confused the inspiration behind the effort he and Pobur have mounted to remove Walters from office, he said.

"I deeply resent the 'shoot the messenger'

theory presented by Commissioner Shrewsbury in the article," he said.

In that article Shrewsbury said the current move to ouster Walters after seven years with the City was begun following an investigation of Dismuke's alleged inappropriate pursuit of a City employe.

"(Shrewsbury) knows the facts as they pertain to my concerns with the performance of the city manager and knows that I had many misgivings regarding his job performance months before the incident involving the mayor ever happened," McDonald said. "To say that a discussion about terminating the services of the city manager is because of his involvement in the mayor's issue... is just plain wrong."

With a directness uncharacteristic by Commission standards, McDonald chastized Shrewsbury face-to-face.

"I believe the comment made by Shrewsbury 'We've got a scandal with the mayor trying to play footsies with an employe' are vile, viscous and without merit, and harmful to many innocent people," he said.

"I say, have you no shame sir," McDonald said, quoting from a rebuke of Sen. Joe McCarthy after the Red Scare hearings of the 1950s. McDonald went on to criticize Shrewsbury for violating confidentiality for political gain in the press.

McDonald also questioned Greene's posturing on the mayoral investigation included in the article.

Dismuke blasted Shrewsbury for the "footsies" quote and accused him of leading citizens to "believe there is a sexual scandal within City Hall when in fact this is far from the truth.

"Not only has the commissioner misled the public, I believe he has also violated his fiduciary duty to protect the employe's rights and specific requests (for privacy in) this matter."

Following the deluge of criticisms, Shrewsbury's response was comparatively

brief.

"My conscience is clear. I did what I think is right," he said.

Earlier Monday, Pobur gave her view of the various forces at play with the Commission's wellbeing.

"We've descended into a place where it's a shame that the citizens have to see this," she said. "People are so paralyzed by their own individual agendas that there's no work getting done.

"There are commissioners who won't speak to each other," she said. "One guy wants to destroy another guy. That guy wants to destroy the first guy. I mean, these are personal vendettas."

Commissioner Ron Loiselle, the longest-serving seated commissioner, said he was ashamed to be a member of the current administration.

Loiselle also spoke in defense of Walters, whom he described as "absolutely the best city manager we've had."

Commissioners Stella Greene and Joe Koch made no comment during the Commission's public catharsis.

Walters' fate

Pobur and McDonald have taken the lead in trying to dismiss Walters, alleging he has wilfully misled them, not followed through with Commission directives and taken liberties not granted to his office in the City charter, Pobur said.

"The two people who have been pushing for the straight-forward dealing with the City Manager's performance are me and Dave McDonald," she said. "We're just trying to bring it to a head."

Her comments Monday morning forecasted those McDonald made later at the meeting.

"It is absolutely not about shooting the messenger because he allegedly buried this issue," she said.

"(Walters') behavior, his performance, his whole way of doing business is not acceptable to me. And it has nothing to do with the alleged investigation of the alleged mayoral misconduct."

Pobur said Walters has given her information that has, at times, conflicted with information he gave other commissioners. In such instances she said she found herself in positions that suggested she was acting out of political motivations when she was not.

"Steve has misrepresented things to me, I believe deliberately," she said. "That has caused me to be very wary of anything that he tells me and to really scrutinize every instruction he gives us."

Monday, Walters acknowledged that communications with the Commission were more jumbled than with past administrations. The reason, he said, is that he now communicates with each Commissioner

individually, rather than through the mayor as he has in the past.

"There are a lot of messages from different commissioners. They're not consistent and some are in conflict," Walters said, responding to Pobur's charges about misleading her.

"There's a different relationship between the city manager and the commission," he said.

Walters alluded to that relationship when addressing the scores he received in areas of his performance review.

"Some were rated very strongly, some very low," he said.

A list of Walters' strengths included his knowledge and technical skills and strategic thinking.

Taken together, comments in the review of areas that need improvement suggest a micromanager: "broaden responsibilities of department heads; employe empowerment; involve others in problem solving and the entire process; more delegation."

Walters overall score in the review was a 3.4 out of 5.0 possible.

Walters attributes the review — a lower score than last year — to a difference in perception.

"I don't think I'm doing anything different now than I was at that time," he said. "It's been viewed as different by the new Commission."

Pobur disagreed.

"There have been initiatives that we have pounded, and pounded and pounded on him to bring forth," she said, citing as examples the delay in televising Commission meetings and the failure to follow through with the Commission's self-review of performance.

She also said her concerns are about more than what appears in his performance review.

"It isn't about (whether) he's doing Task A or Task B. I have to trust the people I work with," she said. "If he can mislead me about something as significant as these things, what else is he doing?"

Walters currently is working for the City on a 60-day extension of his previous contract, which includes a \$75,924 salary.

Monday, the Commission will continue its discussion of the future of his employment with the City.

Gridlocked

Regardless of what happens with Walters, the majority of the Commission made it obvious Monday that petty politics must be left behind in the interest of leadership and the City's benefit.

"We have a bigger problem on the Commission than we do with the City Manager — who trusts who," Pobur said. "And we're in a quandry on how to deal with that."

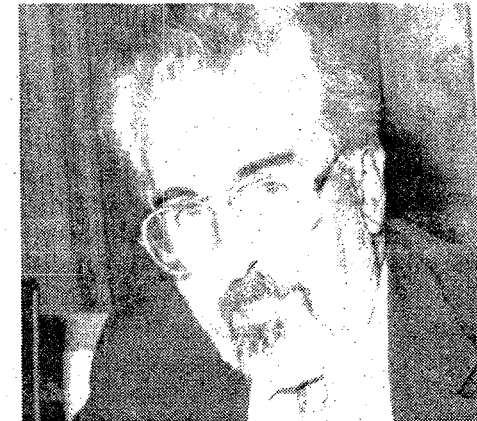
Pobur said that every commissioner, including herself, has mentioned resigning over the state of Commission affairs.

"I think there are people who absolutely should resign. Their conduct has been unbecoming anything even remotely resembling a leader."

Four former City leaders were present in



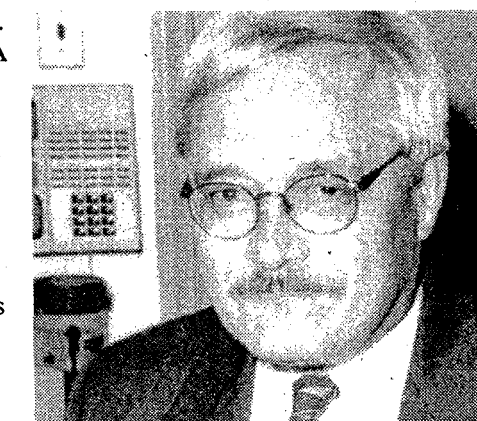
DISMUKE



SHREWSBURY



POBUR



McDONALD

the audience Monday night. Doug Miller, Dennis Bila, Dave Pugh and Bud Martin — all former mayors — were in the audience.

Bila said, "It bothers me a good deal that government is taking place in the newspapers," and admonished the Commission to treat each other with decency.

Miller castigated the Commission for "running Walters out of town.

"This is the only Commission he's had this much of a problem with," he said. "It makes me wonder where the problem is.

"How can we be sure you'll ever be able to agree on a new city manager?"



Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

The following students from Canton were named to the Walsh College President's Honor Roll for the Summer 1998 Semester: **Reid Cameron, Dawn M. DeBarr, Lila P. Gould, James M. Hejka, Shelley R. Schroeter, Daniella B. Sugg, Therese M. Tyler**; from Plymouth: **Terry C. Hoffman**; and from Northville: **David W. Armstrong, Debra L. Kirar and Vladimir N. Stecko.**

Navy Petty Ofc. 3rd Class **Aaron J. Bell**, son of **John J. and Sarah A. Bell** of Plymouth, recently participated in a large training exercise while on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf with the guided missile destroyer USS Cape St. George, home ported in Norfolk, VA.

Matthew S. Heiss of Canton and **Beth Ann Nowak** of Northville have received a \$750 scholarship for the fall semester from the Paper Technology Foundation at Western Michigan University.

Jennifer F. Barrett, daughter of **John and Carla Barrett** of Plymouth; **Joseph W. Uhl**, son of **Joseph and Mary Uhl** of Plymouth; and **Stacy A. Witthoff**, daughter of **Ronald E. and Suzanne Witthoff** of Plymouth have recently graduated from Western Michigan University.

Marine Pfc. **Tuan A. Vogue**, son of **Paul D. and Kim T. Vogue** of Plymouth, recently reported for duty with Marine Aviation Training Support Group, Naval Technical Training Center, Meridian, MS.

Gloria Tchorzynski and Lori Markiewicz of Canton will be among the crafters displaying their wares at Henry Ford Community College Alumni Craft Show Oct. 24. The show will be held at the HFCC's Student Center.

Janell Leschinger, of Plymouth, was awarded a scholarship to be used for educational pursuits at Madonna University during the 1988-1999 academic year.

Leschinger, a senior in biology, has received a \$1,000 Consumers Energy Scholarship which is administered by the Michigan Colleges Foundation.

Walk this way

The Penn Theatre premieres documentary on Northville man's life

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

When 41-year old Northville resident Ron Bachman was born, he had a congenital birth defect that left him with a pair of useless legs.

His parents decided to have them amputated when he was four, and prosthetic legs didn't suit him to well. He found them bulky and heavy, and he wanted to meet life on his own terms.

Bachman soon discarded the prosthetics and, learning to walk on his hands, he did.

Bachman has since led an interesting life, and it is the subject of a half hour documentary which will make its World Premiere at the Penn Theater Oct. 17.

Called 'Walk This Way,' the film chronicles Bachman in his everyday life, and is an extension of the talks he gives as a full-time motivational speaker. It's filmed entirely in Michigan, with the familiar backdrops of Northville and Plymouth.

In the end, his message is all about self-perception.

"It's not so important how other people see you, but how you see yourself," Bachman said. "If you look at yourself in a positive way it can affect how other people see you."

When he speaks Bachman draws on his life experiences as well as his broadcast training from the Specs Howard School of Broadcasting. He gives one-hour presentations to school children and longer talks to corporations and community groups.

Some of the speeches are featured in the film, such as Bachman's first public appearance at the Plymouth Salvation Army.

In person he is bright, outgoing and very likable. He exudes a personable warmth and self assurance, and is equally quick with a joke as he is a laugh. It's a quality that carries over into the film as well, according to director Kathy Vander.

"People have told us that it's not a documentary, it's a rock-umentary," Bachman said.

And why not? It's got all of the elements, even an interview with Bachman's long-time friend Steven Tyler, lead singer of Aerosmith.

Bachman met Vander at Specs Howard, where she was an instructor. He originally thought of writing his story as a book, but Vander had other ideas.

"I thought his story would translate better in a visual medium," she said.

It was a long process. Vander and Bachman worked for more than seven years on the film, raising the \$30,000 necessary to complete it, as well as working around the schedules of the crew, most of whom had full time jobs. Organizations such as Detroit Area Film and Television, IBM, Ford Motor Company, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan, the Detroit Council of Arts and others contributed to the film.

Although the two October showings is billed as the world premiere, the film has been shown at film festivals and has won the CINE Golden Eagle Award. It has also been screened in Los Angeles to qualify it for the Academy Awards.

Tickets for the 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. shows are \$10 and can be ordered by calling (248) 542-8935.



Ron Bachman, and the director of his film, Kathy Vander in front the Penn Theatre. (Crier photo by Scott Spielman.)

A premiere party will be held at the Box Bar following the show, according to Vander.

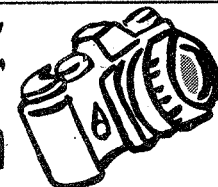
"They've been very accommodating," she said. "This will be a big event for downtown Plymouth."

And the winner...

This summer, The Crier asked readers to submit pictures of themselves in exotic vacation locales. While the response wasn't overwhelming, it's definitely hard to beat Ayers Rock, in the heart of Australia for an exotic locale. Congratualtons to Todd Vernard of Plymouth: Way to hike, mate!

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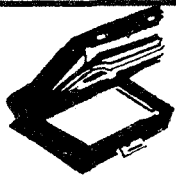
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Getting down to business

Neighbors in business

Thomas L. Patterson was elected to the Board of Directors of the Professional Services Management Association (PSMA) at their annual meeting in Nashville, TN.

Patterson has more than 20 years of experience in the professional services industry and is the executive vice-president of **Techna Corporation** in Plymouth.



William Case, of Plymouth, (above) has been named information systems administrator of the DeMattia Group.

Case holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and is a board member of the Educational Excellence Foundation, a group of volunteers who raise funds for educational enrichment programs for the Plymouth-Canton School District. He is also a member of the Fred Hill Briefcase Drill Team.

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is holding a membership mixer and business card exchange at The Coffee Studio today from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The event, which will be held at 600 W. Ann Arbor Trail, is free to chamber members. For more information call the Chamber at 453-1540.

Peter Karmanos, Jr., chairman and CEO of Compuware Corporation is the keynote speaker for "Information Technology for the 21st Century," a conference sponsored by the Eli Broad Graduate School of Management at Michigan State University.

The conference will be held at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy. For more information call (517) 353-4340.

Chamber readies for auction

Public invited to major fundraising event to be held Nov. 6

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Taking advantage of the resurgence of swing music, this year's Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce dinner and auction fundraiser will be themed "Puttin' on the Ritz."

The popular Plymouth event will be held Friday, Nov. 6, and the prizes are already coming in, according to Joyce Costanza, auction co-chairperson.

The Chamber dinner and auction is the chamber's main fundraiser, with the proceeds going to support the organization in the coming year, Costanza said. An evening of fine food, complimentary cocktails, music and a silent and live auction make up the evening.

"We had more than 750 people last year and we're expecting just as many this year," Costanza said.

The auction will feature two \$5 and two \$10 raffles. The grand raffle prize is a 1999 Harley Davison Sportster purchased from Motown Harley Davison. There will be several other goodies auctioned off as well, including airline tickets, a weekend at the Ritz Carlton in Naples, oriental rugs and visits at Bed and Breakfasts, to name a few.

The public is invited to the event, which will start at 6 p.m. A complimentary cocktail bar will be open, and the items for raffle and silent auction items will be for display, Costanza said.

"We have a special surprise planned to get things rolling and get everyone's attention, but I can't say what that is, she said."

Then the emcee will formally welcome everyone, and dinner will be served, she said. A DJ will follow, spinning a wide variety of

swing-type music.

"I think that combined with the theme it will be really hot," Costanza said.

The Chamber is looking for sponsors and donors for the event, according to Costanza. Sponsors typically get great exposure from the auction, as video footage of their business will be shown throughout the evening.

Businesses can donate products for the auction or give cash donations to help the Chamber obtain specific items for the fundraiser.

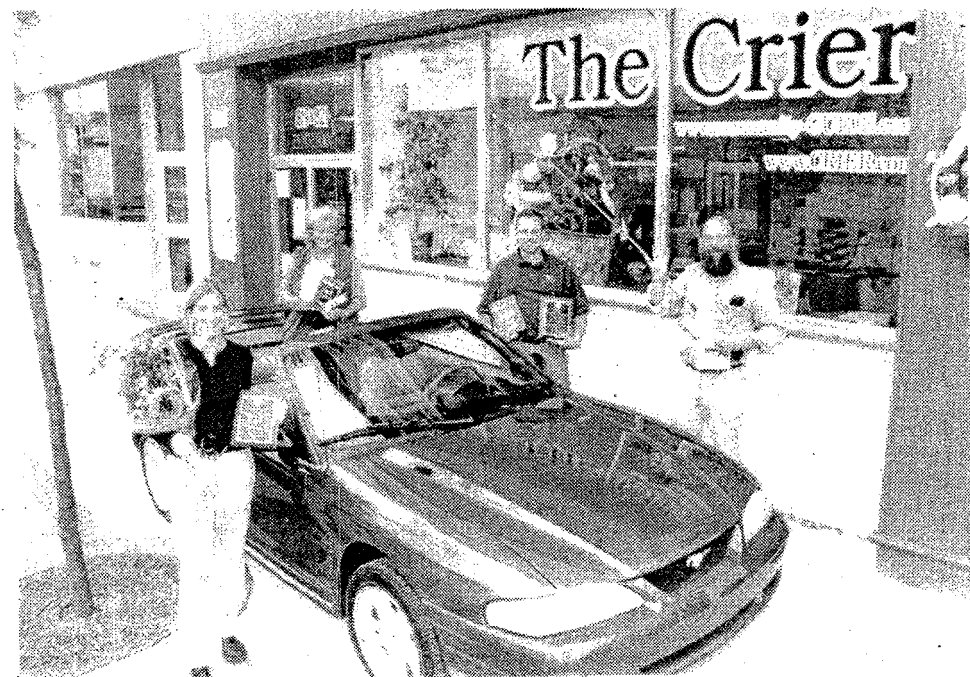
"Everyone we seem to ask is willing to cooperate," she said. "It's good to see everyone extend their hands so generously. You can't help but get involved."

For information on donating or sponsoring the event, or to purchase tickets, call the Chamber of Commerce at (734) 453-1540.

Crier ads bring home awards

"FOUR — count 'em — FOUR first place awards for advertisers in The Crier!" noted Crier Publisher W. Edward Wendover (with fishing pole at right). Judges from the Virginia Press Association picked Blackwell Ford, Heide's Flowers and Gifts and Eppinger Manufacturing Co. (Dardevle fishing lures) as best ads in the categories of large Michigan weekly newspapers.

Also celebrating the awards announcements made last Friday are: Erica Mansfield, of Heide's; Karen Eppinger, president of her 90-year-old family lure business; and Len Gossman, sales manager of Blackwell Ford, which captured two first-place awards. In addition to their recognition, Gossman won an array of Dardevle lures, Eppinger won a Heide's bouquet, and Mansfield won that brand new Mustang convertible — just kidding Erica!. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)



Fieger to speak in Canton Monday

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

The guest speaker at next week's Canton Economic Club is the man whose been garnering headlines and news footage across the state: Geoffrey Fieger.

Fieger will speak at noon Monday at Canton's Summit on the Park according to Ryan Ambrozaitis, executive director of the Canton Chamber of Commerce.

"We're trying to get both gubernatorial candidates to address the club before the election," Ambrozaitis

said. "So far we've received a verbal confirmation from Gov. Engler's party, but we're still working to finalize it. We hope to have the details finalized before the election."


Fieger will speak on his plan for Michigan's future. The program and lunch generally lasts about an hour and half, Ambrozaitis said.

The Canton Economic Club is operated by the Canton Chamber of Commerce, which represents nearly 500 Canton area


businesses. More than 200 business leaders are expected to attend the event, which is also open to the public, Ambrozaitis said.

Tickets for the event are \$15 and can be purchased for \$15 at the Canton Chamber office at 5820 N. Canton Center Road, Suite 110, or by calling the office at (734) 453-4040.

"We still have some spaces available, but they are going pretty fast, which is a good thing," Ambrozaitis said.



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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

HANDCRAFTER ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Handcrafters will be sponsoring its 17th annual Fall Arts and Crafts Show **Oct. 9-11** in Northville at the Northville Recreation Center, 303 W. Main Street. More than 70 juried artisans will display their talents with such works as florals, stained glass, baskets, seasonal items, wood products and clothing. Show hours are **9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Oct. 9; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 10; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 11.** Lunch will be available. Admission is \$2. For more information call (734) 459-0050.

CHRISTIAN CONCERT

Youth Christian recording artist Mary Rice Hopkins and Company will be performing at **6 p.m. Saturday Oct. 10** at Calvary Baptist Church in Canton, located at 43065 Joy Road. Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for a family pass and are available at Dickson's Bible Bookstores, Family Christian Bookstores or by calling (734) 416-9346.

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.

GLASS BLOWING CLASSES

Don Schneider of York Street Glassworks is offering glasses on how to blow glass beads and ornaments. The two-day bead classes will be held **Oct. 11-12; 25-26; Nov. 1-2 and 15-16.** Ornament classes on **Wednesdays, Oct. 7, 14, 21 and 28; and Nov. 4, 11, 18, 25.** For more information call (734) 459-6419.

HALLOWEEN DANCE

St John Neumann Singles will be holding a Halloween Dance **Oct. 24**, at 8 p.m. Pop, pizza and other treats will be provided, over 21 B.Y.O.B. Admission is \$8. For more information call (313) 277-6083; (734) 454-4269 or (734) 480-7830.



Schools

GED TESTING

GED testing will be offered through the Plymouth-Canton Adult Education Department. Testing will take place on **Tuesday, Oct. 6** and **Thursday, Oct. 8** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and/or 5-10 p.m. both days (it is a 2-day test). The test will be held at Starkweather Education Center, 550 N. Holbrook, Plymouth, MI. Registration fee is \$75. To register or for more information, call (734) 416-4901.

FIRE HOUSE VISIT

On **Oct. 15 at 9:15 a.m.** the Fire Safety House will pay a visit to the NW corner of the Gallimore parking lot. The fire safety professionals will teach fire safety to the 3rd grade Classes.

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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.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON HEADSTART PROGRAM

Plymouth-Canton Head Start located at Central Middle School is looking for volunteers to help in the classroom with group activities, recess and learning centers. If you have mornings or afternoons free please call 734-416-6196. Seniors and retiree's are very welcome.

Electropolitan

Huge entertainment mall would bring Las Vegas glitz to Haggerty and Ford

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

It will be called the Electropolitan, and like the name suggests, it will be a combination of Las Vegas and Disneyland.

George Marvaso, owner of The Electric Stick in Westland, unveiled a plan at Monday's Planning Commission meeting for an 80,000-square foot entertainment facility proposed for a 14-acre site on Haggerty Road just south of Ford Road.

The \$15 million entertainment complex is the first phase of a development that will eventually include two hotels as well, Marvaso said.

Although still in the planning stages, the facility will include a 24,000-square-

foot arcade, a 400-seat comedy club, a billiards hall and a 500-seat banquet facility, all under one roof, according to Marvaso. It will also have a fine-dining restaurant and a dance club, he said.

The entertainment complex will be designed so that its multi-leveled floor will be staggered, and will overlook a central eating area and water fountain, according to Marvaso.

"It will be a pretty good mix," Marvaso said. "The idea is that if you have to wait for an hour to get a pool table you can go to the arcade or have plenty of other things to do."

Marvaso said he has been planning the facility with the architectural firm Guido & Associates for about two years. He has spent that time touring similar facilities across the nation, in places such as Las Vegas and Disneyland. He has also toured several other entertainment malls to see what other organizations offered, and how to make his own project unique.

The proposed site is the southern half of a 27-acre site owned by AMC Theaters and is currently zoned as an Interchange Service District (ISD), according to Community Planner Jeff Goulet.

The ISD zoning allows for heavy-impact uses such as hotels and enclosed malls, but little else, Goulet said.

The southern portion of the site was rezoned Monday to accommodate the entertainment complex.

The northern portion of the site could eventually include two hotels, although they won't be developed in the near future, Marvaso said.

"Nothing's been decided yet," he said. "Our people are still talking to their people."

(Electropolitan) is what we're looking forward to right now."

Marvaso said the facility will be family owned and privately run, although he will sell stock in the project. He hopes to gain all the needed approvals from Canton Township this winter, and break ground in the spring.

With luck, he said he hopes to open the facility in December of 1999.

"It's an aggressive timetable," he said. "This facility is a first, and requires a lot of speciality items. You don't have a place that you can just call up and order them."

The \$15 million entertainment complex is the first phase of a development that will include two hotels as well

Gunman cleans out Canton Party Store

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton Police are looking for a man who allegedly brandished a semi-automatic handgun and robbed The Canton Party Store of a large sum of cash Saturday.

According to Ofc. Leonard Schemanske, the suspect allegedly walked into the party store, which is located on Michigan Avenue between Sheldon and Lilley roads at about 2 p.m. Saturday.

The man walked to the back of the store, then to the counter and grabbed several packs of cigarettes, according to police reports. He then allegedly pulled a silver handgun out of his black leather jacket and demanded that the employe to give him all the money.

The employe then emptied both registers and gave the suspect all of the money, according to reports.

The incident was captured on video, which has been tagged as evidence.

The suspect then fled in an unknown direction, according to Schemanske. No suspect vehicle was seen.

"The clerk didn't see which way he went," Schemanske said. "We don't know if he left on foot, but he may have had a car parked nearby."

GUIDE to Entertainment

Go P.C.N

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

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734-459-4190; Wed. and Sun.: Karaoke. Sat.: Blues Airmen

CANTON CINEMA 6

734-981-1900, "There's Something About Mary" "What Dreams May Come" "Antz" "Night at the Roxbury" "Rush Hour" "One True Thing"

CENTER STAGE

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

CROWS NEST

734-459-4020; Wed.-Sat.: D. L. Turner

ERNESTO'S

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

GENITI'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: Shaken, Not Stirred

MARQUIS THEATRE

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

PENN THEATRE

734-453-0870; Now playing: "Snake Eyes"

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

734-454-0178; Sat.: Open Mike Sun.: 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.: Karaoke

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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Vorva appeals suit to Supreme Court

BY BRYON MARTIN

Negotiations have failed, so Jerry Vorva says he and his attorney Steven Boak filed a petition Friday with Michigan's Supreme Court for a hearing on their suit against the Plymouth-Canton school district.

The 20-day deadline for filing had passed, but Vorva said an affidavit he has attached to the petition explains the delay was necessary in attempts to settle out of court first. Under such circumstances, he said, the deadline is extended to 56 days.

Monday, Vorva was to file a request for an expedited hearing in the case. His suit

originally charged the school district with using faulty voting equipment. It cites the 716 ballots miscast in the March 1997 bond election as evidence of the Unilect system's failings.

Vorva said his ongoing talks with Carl Pursell, a former U.S. Senator from Plymouth and self-appointed third-party negotiator, had progressed but failed to produce a settlement.

"I'm always open to ideas where I could walk away feeling like the (voting) system was going to be corrected," he said. "We've been as open to settlement as we can be."

Vorva did not give details on what proposed settlements would involve. In the past he has said he would drop the suit if the district voluntarily mailed out absentee ballot requests to every voter in each school election.

Vorva's case has prevented the district from selling the bonds approved in the '97 election. With those bonds, the district would build a controversial third high school at C.E.P. and an elementary school in Canton.

The suit will have "moved the schools back 2.5 or 3 years by the time this is all

over," said Superintendent Charles Little.

Nonetheless, Little said he was disinterested in negotiations with Vorva through Pursell.

"He doesn't get my attention until the bond stands unobstructed," he said. "I'm of the opinion that we should not negotiate while the bond is being held up."

Wayne County Circuit Court, the Lansing Court of Appeals and a total of four local, state and county boards have upheld the election.

Vorva said his current appeal to the state's highest court charges the schools with failing to protect all voters' constitutional right to vote by using a confusing or defective process and equipment.

Vorva added that the case also centers on "first impression" — meaning that Michigan's Supreme Court has not yet examined voting equipment as modern as the Unilect systems the schools use. His case, he said, would offer the court an opportunity to set a precedent on such technology. "The schools are under a continuing obligation to make sure the equipment is okay, and that the vendor is in compliance with the law," he said.

Undervotes

Continued from pg. 1

716 ballots cast without a 'yes' or 'no' vote in the 1997 election. That undervote led Vorva to file his first lawsuit against the schools, charging that they compromised voters' rights by using defective or equipment. The case is still pending today.

Vorva said Saturday's smaller undervote "is still unacceptable. I think this kind of instrumentation is a problem."

After the district made public official returns certified by the schools' Board of Canvassers Tuesday, Vorva said he was going to re-read the state statute that grants citizens the right to sue government bodies for flawed elections.

"I have to go back to the statute, but even at 140 spoiled ballots, in a close election this equipment is going to cause people not to trust the outcomes," he said.

More than 11,000 voters cast ballots in the election, slightly less than the number who voted in the March 1997 bond issue, the most recent single-issue ticket.

Nearly five times as many voters — 7.7 per cent — cast blank ballots in that election

The schools changed the programming on its Unilect computerized balloting systems to avoid undervotes. The program now includes a screen that will warn voters who have undervoted that their ballots are blank before the vote is finally recorded.

There was no such safeguard in the March '97 programming.

"It's 1.658 per cent now and it was 7.7 per cent then. That shows that there is something intrinsically wrong with the system. That bolsters my case," he said.



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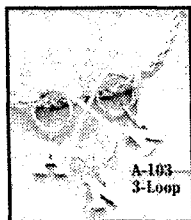


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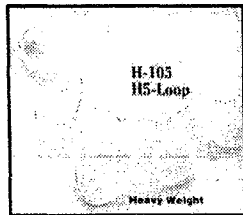
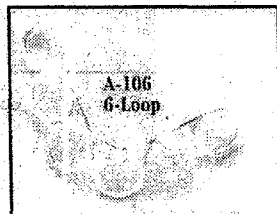
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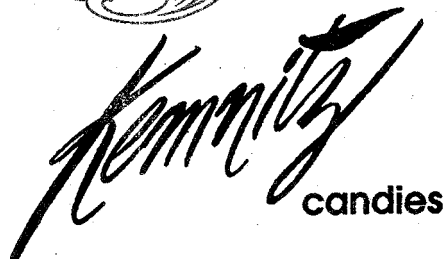
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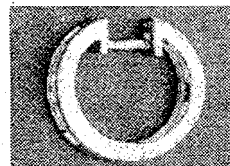
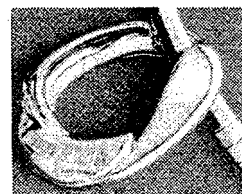


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Sullivan, McLaughlin vie for County Commission

Continued from pg. 1

Sullivan counts the state of the roads as one of the biggest problems facing Wane County, and says the best way to fix them is through cooperation with other commissioners.

"We need to get along," he said. "We have to convince other commissioners that the roads are a priority and point out how much is being spent elsewhere, and how much is being spent out here."

As a Canton Trustee who is currently working with Commissioner Bruce Patterson, McLaughlin knows the roads are a touchy subject.

"People certainly have concerns about that," she said. "I can't tell them that life is just a bowl of cherries; I'd prefer to tell them the truth. It's going to be an ongoing problem."

McLaughlin said the key to fixing the roads is working with the State Legislature for an alternative to Act 51.

That formula, which defines how road funds are spent, was supposed to have expired last month, has been extended for two years. Until that formula is reworked, local governments need more control over where the road funds go, according to McLaughlin.

"We need to let the community governments have a seat at the table," she said.

McLaughlin has learned what worked for Patterson, and is echoing some of his favorite issues: improving county government and fighting the Willow Run Tradeport.

McLaughlin also said that she will work to make County government more efficient, and will work with state officials to ensure the airport doesn't get state funds to expand its runways.

In addition to roads, Sullivan said he hopes to spur business development near Metro Airport.

"The improvements to the airport will make a big difference," he said. "Businesses will want to build up there. There should be

more hotels and restaurants."

Sullivan said he knows he faces a tough fight.

A long-time Van Buren and Canton Township resident, McLaughlin knows the district. She also serves on more Canton boards than Sullivan can shake a stick at, including the Board of Trustees, the Planning Commission, the Downtown Development Authority and the Historic Commission.

She said she isn't taking anything for granted, however.

"There are a lot of people in Canton that don't know who I am, and I want to reach them, too."



Community deaths

Obituaries

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

LORANE ELIZABETH MACK

Lorane Elizabeth Mack, a Plymouth resident, died Sept. 30, 1998 at the age of 65.

Mrs. Mack was born June 4, 1933 in Detroit. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Ronald H. Mack of Plymouth; daughters, Karen (Donald) Fabbri of Hartland, MI, Terry (William) Kerby of Ann Arbor; son, Richard (Pam) Mack of Canton; brother, Thomas P. Riley of Northville; sister, Dolores J. Kish of Westland; and grandchildren, Randall, Amy, Jason, Ryan, Courtney, Michael and Rachel.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Brian Tweedle officiating. Burial was at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Memorial contributions can be given to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburg Road, Livonia, MI 48154-5010 or Karmanos Cancer Institute Plymouth Tegen 744 Wing Street Plymouth, MI 48170-3446.

MARY JANE STEWART

Mary Jane Stewart, a Livonia resident, died Sept. 27, 1998 at the age of 66.

Mrs. Stewart was born Oct. 16, 1931. She was a homemaker. She was a member of the Women's Auxiliary of the V.F.W. in Garden City for 20 years. She enjoyed traveling and being with her children and grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Robert of Livonia; daughters, Cheri (Kirk) Mosher of Sanford, MI, Sandra (Matthew) Zaremba of Woodhaven, MI, Mary Jane (Paul) Smith of Livonia, Tracy Glombowski of Redford; son, Robert (Mary) Stewart of Livonia; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; brother, Russell Shaffer; and mother, Elvera Shaffer Nyes.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. James Skimins officiating. Burial was at Parkview Memorial Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be given to Angela Hospice.

EUNICE GRACE GUILSTORF

Eunice Grace Guilstorf, a Livonia resident, died Sept. 29, 1998 at the age of 93.

Mrs. Guilstorf was born Dec. 16, 1904 in Detroit. She was a homemaker. She was a former member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Detroit. She was very involved in the church and taught Sunday School.

She is survived by her sister, Vera Hamilton of Livonia and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by six sisters and brothers.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home with Pastor Drex Morton officiating. Burial was at Woodmere Cemetery in Detroit. Memorial contributions can be given to the charity of choice.

FRANK CHARLES DENKHAUS

Frank Charles Denkhaus, a former Plymouth resident, died Sept. 29, 1998 at the age of 43.

Mr. Denkhaus was born May 21, 1955 in Detroit. He was a self-employed test engineer for the automotive and aerospace industries. He was a Plymouth resident until moving to Palms, MI five years ago. He loved to hunt and fish.

He is survived by his wife, Mary "Mollie" Jewell Denkhaus of Palms, MI; daughters, Jeani Denkhaus of Ypsilanti, Christina Denkhaus of Livonia; son, Frank Denkhaus II of Livonia; and one granddaughter. He is preceded in death by his parents, Charles "Bob" and Dorothy Denkhaus of Plymouth.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth with the Rev. Neil Cowling officiating. Burial was at Fr. Custer National Cemetery in Augusta, MI. Memorial contributions can be given to the Veterans Administration.

JAMES R. OWENS

James R. Owens, a Martin, TN resident, died Oct. 1, 1998 at the age of 35.

Mr. Owens was born Sept. 7, 1963 in Union City, TN. He was a painter/decorator at the Methodist Healthcare Volunteer Hospital.

He is survived by his parents, Dennis and Janice Munday of Canton, Raymond Ownes of Martin, TN; grandparents, J.W. and Nadene Burrell of Westland; step-sister, Beth Alexander of Martin, TN; and caregiver, Fannie Gray of Martin, TN. He is preceded in death by his brother, David Ross Owens.

Arrangements were made by and services were held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Burial was at Riverside Cemetery in Plymouth.

EDWARD A. GRUCHALA

Edward A. Gruchala died Sept. 29, 1998 at the age of 82.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth M., sons, Frederick P. (Christine) and Thomas E. Gruchala; grandson, Dennis M. (Carol) Gruchala; granddaughters, Tina M. (Mark) Wilson, Cheryl L. Gruchala; brother of the late Jennie Opalinski, Stanley Gruchala, Alexandria Matras, Walter and Steven Gruchala.

Visitation was held at the L.J. Griffin Funeral Home in Canton. Services were held at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton. Interment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Arrangements were made by Fisher-Goodnuff Funeral Home in Redford Township. Memorial contributions can be given to Angela Hospice.



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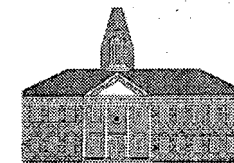
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 ish.

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 ning to turn. My mothers favorite tree is
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surprise was worth it, wasn't it?

Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair --
or was it a key in a basket?

To whom it may concern. What happened to
my favorite pie? The bananas tasted as
though the had been dipped in cement.

The MacNamaras on Penniman--

The cookies were great. Thank you for
giving them. Tis is the first time Geneva has
shared yor many gifts with the rest of us.

-The Staff

Morgan: Welcome to Plymouth. You're just
what the Crier needed, a nice little eight-
year old girl.

"Beauty is its own excuse for being." and
one of our beauties, Virginia Feileg, is hav-
ing a birthday this week. She looks not one
day older than she did when she sat on a
stool at Wiltse's soda fountain drinking her
chocolate soda.

Happy Birthday, Virginia

Beauregard

Thank you for the flowers, we ladies had a
lovely lunch.

-Jill

Lee & Dave at the WCG, do it for their
team! I'll miss you guys thanks for all

the "Luv!"

-Linda P.S Rachel too!

Shawn D.

Congrats Shawn! You're going to be a great
mommy.

-LK

Rhonda--

Things are definitely different without you
here -- the bathrooms are free! (JK) Miss
you!

-Linda

TERRI'S BACK

Beauregard eats octopus at Ginopolis
Parthenon. OPA! too.

ASK MOOSE to see his new self portrait.

THOSE PEOPLE WHO RECOGNIZE that
imagination is reality's master we call
"sages", and those who act upon it, we call
"artists". --Thomas Robbins

Beauregard Thank you for the flowers, we
ladies had a lovely lunch

Jill

Congratulations Darcy & Scott Finzell!

Zachary Adam is sure to be a Big Hit!

Zachary Adan Finzell was brought into
this world Monday, October 5, 1997 - 8
pounds, 11 ounces, 20 inches!

Welcome Zachary!

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Is she "up" for the job?

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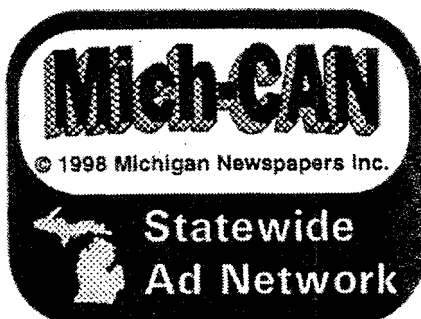
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 - grades 1-3 and 4-6
- Tours at both stations-groups call ahead or families can drop-in.
- Fire Safety House-All grade schools (public & private)
- Handouts available during tours

FOR INFORMATION
Call (734)398-5262

Plymouth Community Fire Department Fire Safety Open House at Fire Stations from 2 - 8 pm

Plymouth Community Fire Department has three locations. Fire Station #1 is located at Ann Arbor Road and Lilley. Fire Station #2 is located on Wilcox at Schoolcraft Road and Fire Station #3 is located at Beck Road and North Territorial.

(734)-453-3840 x 221

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The Community Crier
821 Penniman
Plymouth
(734)453-6900

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(734)459-6753

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The City of Plymouth is seeking minority and other qualified applicants for Rink Guards for afternoons and weekends. Must be 15 or older. Must have strong skating skills. Apply in person at Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth, MI 48170. (734)455-6620. \$5.15 to start.

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The City of Plymouth Downtown Development Authority is seeking a qualified individual to assume a Director's position in an established, aggressive downtown program.

Public relations and team building skills are a must. Other desired skills are economic development, and business recruitment, retention and assistance. This position requires public speaking ability, computer literacy and a basic knowledge of planning. Degree in public relations, marketing, public administration or related field is required. Salary is negotiable depending on qualifications and experience. Persons interested in this position should contact:

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Sports

Sports shorts

Ambassadors brawl with Freeze to remain undefeated

BY NICK GISMONDI

Two more games and two more wins for the Compuware Ambassadors over the weekend as they took on the Chicago Freeze for a two game series at Compuware Sports Arena.

Friday's match-up started quick. Just 22 seconds into the game, Ambassador veteran Steve Jackson found the net to put the Ambassadors up 1-0.

The Ambassadors increased their lead to two half way through second period when rookie Mike Falk lit the light for the first time in his Compuware career off a pass from Steve Swistak. Then just 2:50 seconds later Brad Karabelski, another rookie for Compuware scored for the first time this season.

Down 3-0, Chicago responded with two goals of their own to pull within one. A see-saw battle of goals commenced in the final minutes, but the Ambassadors held out, winning 5-3.

Saturday night, it was tough to decide whether or not the event was a boxing match or a hockey game. Tempers were flaring from the night before.

The Ambassadors had what is best described as a scoring fest in the first 7 minutes of the game. Two quick goals from Pete Broccoli and another from Steve Jackson put the Ambassadors up early.

By the end of the first Compuware led it 4-1. However, that's not where the real fun was. In the first period (which took 1 hour 15 minutes to play), 17 penalties were handed out to Chicago compared to Compuware's 10, most as a result of fighting.

In the second period, one goal scored by Chicago to make it 4-2, but again the story was the penalties 11 for Chicago, eight for Compuware.

The game totals are almost ridiculous: Chicago, 37 penalties, and 7 ejections, plus a handful of injuries, leaving them with four players on the bench at games end. For Compuware, 27 penalties and 6 ejections. As for scoring, Broccoli sank his third goal for the hat trick and the Ambassadors won the fight, and game, 5-4. The Ambassadors record stands at 6-0-0

Starting tomorrow the Ambassadors will be holding their annual Compuware Fall Classic. Listen to 88.1

'A good, close game'

Salem edges Canton, 2-1; rivals may face each other again at district tourney

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Ask Salem soccer coach Ed McCarthy what he thought the difference was in his team's victory over rival Canton on Monday, and his answer will be simple:

"Giuseppe Ianni"

The Rocks star scored both of Salem's two goals, just enough to edge the Chiefs in a match-up of two of the state's best teams.

"He played terrific," McCarthy said. "He did what we needed him to do."

On the other side of the field, the Chiefs' main scorer, Scott Wright, almost did what he needed to do, scoring Canton's lone goal about midway through the first half.

The score was tied with about six minutes left to play when Ianni netted his second and the Rocks took the lead for good.

"The game was well worth the price of

admission," said Canton Coach Don Smith. "We had plenty of scoring opportunities, but unfortunately couldn't capitalize on them."

McCarthy agrees.

"Canton created more chances against us than any other team we've faced," he said.

The two rivals could face each other again next week in the district tournament.

McCarthy didn't want to guarantee anything, but said, "You can almost count on it."

Salem's victory Monday followed another on Saturday, versus another of the state's best teams: Warren DeLaSalle.

The Rocks won the match 3-1 thanks to single goal contributions from Ianni, Jeff Harr and Aaron Rypkowski.

Salem's win was again a showcase for the tough defense, which McCarthy boasts is as "strong as there is in the state."

SOCCER

"It's no mistake we only give up less than one goal per game," he said. "We work a lot with those guys in the back."

Salem now stands at 14-2-2 but is out of the running for conference champion. They will likely play Churchill next Monday for third place.

Canton, on the other hand, needs to win its final two match-ups versus Walled Lake Western and Harrison to face Stevenson for the conference title next Wednesday.

The Chiefs are expected to beat both Harrison and Churchill, but Smith said, "We're not taking anything for granted."

Last Wednesday, Canton traveled to Churchill and gained another victory 5-2. Scott Wright and Jonny Demergis each had two goals, while Jonathan Johnson added another.

Canton is currently 10-4-1 overall.

Rock linkers set record to win WLAA tourney

BOYS GOLF

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

This is what being senior captains is all about, stepping forward when your team needs you the most.

Yesterday at Hudson Mills Golf Course, Salem golfers Adam Wilson and Eric Kruger, playing in their final conference event, stepped all the way to the front of the conference pack.

Led by their senior co-captains, the Salem boys golf team set a new conference record yesterday, leading their squad to victory in the WLAA conference tournament.

Kruger shot a 75 in the 18-hole event, the top score of the tournament. Wilson was right behind with a 76.

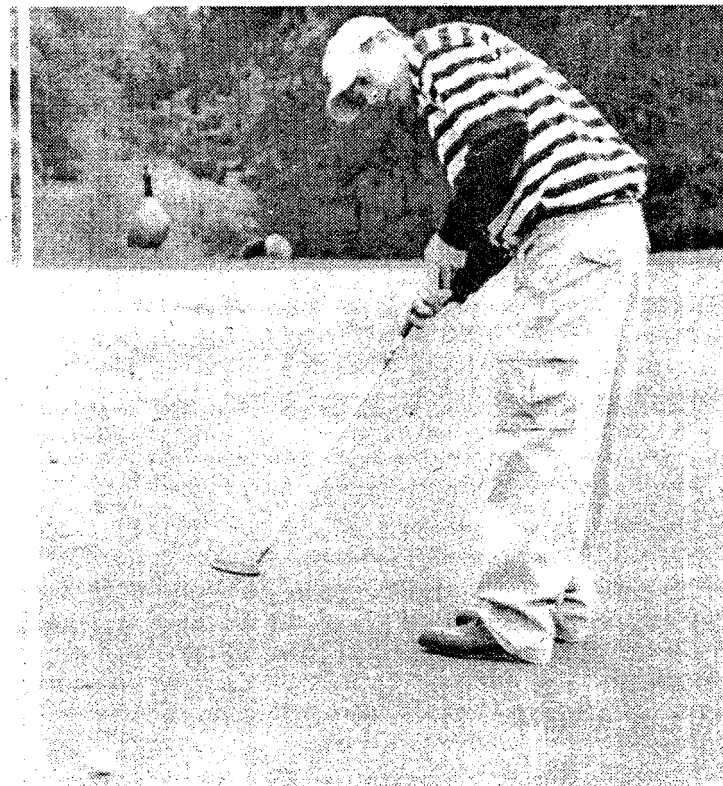
"That's what we needed those guys to do," said Coach Rick Wilson. "We knew they had to shoot great numbers if we were going to win."

Ryan Nimmerguth (81), Mark Doughty (82) and Matt Leon (84) rounded out Salem's scoring. Their final team score was 398, seven strokes ahead of second place Walled Lake Central, the regular season champion.

"I think that's the first time anybody has broken 400 (at the conference tournament)," Wilson said.

Canton placed third in the tournament with a score of 405, losing in a tie-breaker with Walled Lake.

Both Salem and Canton completed their dual-match season this past week, each posting impressive overall marks on the year.



More than a few dropped for Salem yesterday en route to a WLAA tournament victory. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Salem finished at 8-3 after defeating Franklin (200-218) and North Farmington (206-218). A one stroke loss, their second of the season, Wednesday at Harrison (199-198) eventually cost the Rocks at least a share of the overall conference title (won by Walled Lake Central).

Canton's final record of 7-4 was just as impressive since many of their top players will be returning next year. After a loss at Walled Lake Central last Tuesday, Canton dominated Franklin on Wednesday (201-243), then won in a tie-breaker with Stevenson on Thursday.

Matt Rosol, Ben Tucker, Justin Allen, Jon Johnson and Nick Lariviere led the way. Both teams travel to Temperance Bedford Friday for the regional tournament.

On deck

SALEM GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday at home versus Farmington, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Northville, 5:30 p.m.

SALEM GIRLS TENNIS

Tuesday at the Conference Meet at Stevenson, time: TBA.

SALEM GIRLS SWIMMING

Thursday at home versus John Glenn, 7 p.m.

SALEM GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday at the Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational, time: TBA.

SALEM FOOTBALL

Friday at home versus John Glenn, 7:30 p.m.

SALEM BOYS SOCCER

Today at Walled Lake Central, 7 p.m. Monday, if necessary, conference playoffs for teams placed 3rd-12th, time: TBA.

SALEM BOYS GOLF

Friday, regionals at Temperance Bedford, time: TBA.

SALEM BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday at the Ann Arbor Pioneer Invite, time: TBA.

CANTON GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday at Franklin, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at home versus Walled Lake Central, 5:30 p.m.

CANTON GIRLS TENNIS

Friday at the regionals, time and place: TBA.

CANTON GIRLS SWIMMING

Thursday at Harrison, 7 p.m. Tuesday at home versus Novi, 7 p.m.

CANTON GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday at the Ypsi Braves Invite at Ypsilanti, 9:30 a.m.

CANTON FOOTBALL

Saturday at Harrison, 1 p.m.

CANTON BOYS SOCCER

Wednesday at home versus Walled Lake Western, 7 p.m. Saturday at home versus Harrison, 1 p.m. Monday, if necessary, conference playoffs for teams placed 3rd-12th, 7 p.m. Place to be determined

CANTON BOYS GOLF

Friday, regionals at Temperance Bedford, time: TBA.

CANTON BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday at the Ypsi Braves Invite at Ypsilanti, 10 a.m.

Whalers drop Sudbury, London

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

The Plymouth Whalers unveiled their new opening program Saturday, complete with red glowing smoke, scanning spotlights and a rotating Whalers symbol at center ice, a la the Chicago Bulls.

After the professional-looking introductions, they also unveiled their powerful offense, complete with quick skating, good passing and a propensity toward scoring.

Continuing their good start, the Whalers overpowered the Sudbury Wolves, 6-3, Saturday night at Compuware Sports Arena. Before 3,686, the Whalers controlled the home-opener all night, leaving little doubt who was the better (and tougher) team.

The combination of Captain Randy Fitzgerald and Eric Goodly tortured the Wolves throughout the game. The two combined for three goals and four assists.

"That's been the story of our team this year. We have really shown our depth," said Coach Peter DeBoer. "In the past we have had to rely on one or two people. This year we have several lines that can score."

The scoring started for the Whalers on a powerplay 10:32 into the first period when Fitzgerald and Goodly relayed the puck past Sudbury goalie Mark Aggio. Goodly's 30-foot wrist shot knocked off Aggio's shoulder. The puck dropped in the crease and Fitzgerald knocked it in.

Less than 30 seconds later, the Whalers got the red light again when Goodly and Fitzgerald combined for another goal. Fitzgerald hit Goodly with a clean pass out



The Whalers knocked the Sudbury Wolves with both the force of their offence and the force of their fists during Saturday night's home opener. After the Whalers took a multi-goal lead, several frustration fights followed (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

of the corner for an easy score.

Sudbury would answer the bell with two goals of their own before the period was out. But they would never take the lead or even tie the score, because Rick Smith notched a powerplay score with 4:40 remaining in the period.

The second period was all Whalers, both in scoring (two more goals) and in fights.

Harold Druken, off to the best start of his three year OHL career, got his sixth goal in five games on a pretty give-and-go with

Fitzgerald at 2:28 of the second.

"Druken has historically gotten off to slow starts," said DeBoer. "This past summer he made a commitment to start strong and now it's paying off."

DeBoer also said Druken, who had a good camp with the NHL Vancouver Canucks, could get an NHL contract at sea-

Please see pg. 20

Chiefs get first win of Baechler era, 22-7, Salem halts Raiders, 39-20

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

When the final seconds ticked off Friday night, Canton Coach Tim Baechler could sigh relief, the goose egg that had haunted him for the first four weeks was finally gone, replaced with a victory.

Even when they led Northville 21-0 at the half, thanks to several Mustang turnovers, Baechler was surprised but not quite ready to celebrate.

He was waiting, as he describes it, for another stupid penalty or a stupid fumble, something to put his team in the hole.

But Friday, the mistakes did not come. "We finally played consistent," Baechler said.

And they ran well too.

Canton gained 303 yards on the ground. Jerry Gains (126 yards), Nick Stonerook (89 yards) and Emmanuel Etim (84) all contributed to the impressive rushing attack.

"We're sticking with what we do best," Baechler said. "And we're only going to get

FOOTBALL

better."

Canton faces a big test Saturday as they travel to number-one ranked Farmington Harrison.

The Salem football team is also looking at a challenge this Friday as they play host to the undefeated John Glenn Rockets.

"They are obviously going to be pretty strong favorites," said Coach Tom Moshimer. "But I think our kids are pretty excited about playing them."

The Rocks are coming off a victory Saturday at North Farmington were they dropped the Raiders, 39-20.

Salem had 346 yards rushing, a dominating performance, but Moshimer wasn't so quick to congratulate his team.

"We were sluggish in the first half," he said. "And we had them in several third and long situations that they got out of."

Salem is now 3-2.

WHALER OF THE WEEK



Harold Druken #19

Off to the best start of his OHL career, Alternative captain Harold Druken scored three goals in two victories this weekend against London and Sudbury, bringing his total to six. He also had two & assists

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Whalers continue sharp start, go to 4-1

Druken, Fitzgerald and Gooldy shine as Plymouth shows offensive might

Continued from pg. 19

son's end with a good year.

Eric Gooldy got his second goal of the game — and captain Fitzgerald his third assist — as the Whalers brought the lead to three, 5-2, with five minutes to play in the second period.

Besides grabbing a bundle of points, Fitzgerald also acted as one of the Whaler tough guys Saturday, engaging in two of the Whalers' several fights with the Wolves.

Most of the fights came in the second half of the game, as tempers flared and the game began to slip away from the Wolves. Jamie LaLonde, James Ramsey and Kevin Holdridge also got into scrapes with visiting Sudbury.

"This is a tough building to come into and grab two points from us," said DeBoer. "And we want to make it tough for the other teams. We want to make sure they know that."

In the third period, Plymouth increased their lead to four when European Draft pick Tomek Valtonen got his first goal as a Whaler. Nik Tselios and rookie Jared Newman got credit for assists.

Plymouth 7, (at) London 4 — Rookie goaltender Rob Zepp again got the start as the Whalers pelted division-rival the London Knights at the Ice House Friday night.

The Whalers were actually down 1-0 after the first period, but turned it on in the second, netting four.

"Because these guys were division champs last year, we went in there during the first period with a wait-and-see approach," DeBoer said. "By the second, we finally realized we got a pretty good team this year. From there on out we played pretty consistently."

Harold Druken continued his early season tear, scoring two goals and assisting on another. Adam Colagiaco, acquired in an off-season trade with Oshawa for Brian Passmore, also added two goals, his third and fourth of the season. One of the goals was an empty-netter.

"Colagiaco has been a great acquisition for us," DeBoer said. "He has the size (6'2" - 200 lbs.), but he also has the skill of a smaller player."

The Whalers out shot the Knights 42-28, including 16-6 in the final period. Five of the Whaler's seven goals came on 10 powerplay chances.

Chatter: Pete DeBoer said he plans to continue his rotation of goaltenders, since so far each has performed well. Beside Zepp and Holsinger, expect rookie Dwayne Bateman to get more time between the pipes for the Whalers.

"It's like a pitching rotation in baseball," DeBoer said. Saturday night's home opener was also the opener for

Whaler coverage on TV. The game was broadcast on MediaOne's local station (channel 11 in Canton and Plymouth).

Eric Peasley and John Bower handled the announcing and commentary duties respectively. Bower, who seconds as radio commentator, is very knowledgeable on both the Whalers and OHL. For those who are unfamiliar with the league, listening to Bower is a good introduction.

The coverage itself is very professional. Cable access television has come a long way. Intermission interviews with Coach DeBoer and Whaler star Dave Legwand were very well done, fused with play clips, music and even slow motion.

Hockey fans might be a little disgruntled on the way MediaOne covered the fights during the game, however. They didn't show replays, as the NHL often does, and at one point, during a particularly heated battle, they broke to a shot of a young girl in the audience. Many die-hard hockey fans probably flipped the switch right there.

Nonetheless, for those who are still uncertain about the Whalers and whether or not they are worth watching, the television coverage is well worth the time.

The next televised game will be this Saturday as the Whalers play host to the Windsor Spitfires.

WHALER WATCH

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OHL STANDINGS (Through OCT. 4)

WEST	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
PLYMOUTH	4	1	0	4-1-0	8
SARNIA	2	2	0	2-2-0	4
S.S. MARIE	2	2	0	2-2-0	4
WINDSOR	2	2	0	2-2-0	4
LONDON	2	3	0	2-3-0	4

EAST	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
OTTAWA	3	0	1	3-0-1	7
PETER.	3	1	0	3-1-0	6
OSHAWA	2	0	0	2-0-0	4
KINGSTON	2	2	0	2-2-0	4
BELLEVILLE	1	1	1	1-1-1	3

MIDWEST	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
OWEN SOUND	3	0	1	3-0-1	7
GUELPH	3	1	0	3-1-0	6
KITCHENER	2	2	0	2-2-0	4
ERIE	2	2	0	2-2-0	4
BRAMPTON	0	2	0	0-2-0	0

CENTRAL	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
BARRIE	2	1	0	2-1-0	4
SUDBURY	1	1	1	1-1-1	3
TORONTO	0	2	1	0-2-1	1
NORTH BAY	0	1	1	0-1-1	1
MISSISSAUGA	0	2	0	0-2-0	0

WHALER STATISTICS


Team Leaders:
 Goals: Druken (6)
 Assists: Tselios and Fitzgerald (5)
 Points: Druken (10)
 PIM: Fitzgerald (21)
 +/-: Druken (+6)
 GAA: Zepp (2.00)



CATCH OF THE DAY

On Friday, the Whalers square off with the expansion Mississauga IceDogs, owned by Hockey personality Don Cherry. Cherry has said publicly he will not have non-Canadian/American players on his team. So far this season, the IceDogs are 0-4, scoring only three goals in those games and allowing 36.

UPCOMING GAMES:

- Fri. at home versus Mississauga (7:30 p.m.)
- Sat. at home versus Windsor (7:30 p.m.)
- Sun. at Windsor (6:30 p.m.)

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Community opinions

Rite Aid, wrong move for P-C

This is the story of two corners.

Each is a prime location in the respective communities of Canton and Plymouth. Their locations — at Canton Center and Ford roads in Canton, and Ann Arbor Road and Main Street in Plymouth — are entry points into each town. At one-time, each contributed to the character of those communities.

But the similarities don't stop there. In its heyday in the 1970s, Julien's was Canton's largest employer. Before Meijers came in and other businesses began popping up along Ford

Road, it was the place where teenagers hung out. Many of them worked there, many others refueled there — back when Julien's sold gas as well as farm fresh eggs and Guernsey Dairy products — before returning to their cruising route in downtown Plymouth, where Daly's was another popular stopping point.

Julien's and Daly's may not have been the prettiest businesses around, but they had character. They were distinct. They both, in their way, spoke to a small town atmosphere rather than an every town atmosphere.

P-C-N's businesses: taking the lead

Leading businesses in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community excel for many reasons.

One of those reasons is their willingness to take the lead on reaching customers in new ways. Note that many businesses here take the cutting edge on everything from:

- Window dressing — did you see Little Professor on the Park's "Banned Books" window?

- Added events — have you heard the Penn Theatre is presenting Gemini, a musical performance for kids (and adults too) at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24?

- Community support — have you seen the page 3 coverage in today's Crier on the "Chamber Thank You" pig roast at Boyer's Meat Processing?

Last Friday night was a highwater mark for recognizing businesses in our community. Note these innovators:

BLACKWELL FORD
HEIDE'S FLOWERS AND GIFTS
EPPINGER MANUFACTURING CO.
BLACKWELL FORD
PLYMOUTH MARKETPLACE

Each of them was judged first in various advertising categories from among all

Addenda & errata

Dean Lenheiser wrote the Letter to the Editor titled, "Learn from business: jiggle finances first," which ran in last week's Crier. Through a typographical error Lenheiser's name was cut off from the end of the letter.

Michigan businesses. They were selected by judges of the Virginia Press Association from among advertising appearing in Michigan newspapers.

Five first place awards from The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community.

Four of them — the two Blackwell ads, the Heide's ad and the Eppinger ad — came from The Crier. Blackwell has won several of these over the years; Heide's Flowers and Gifts is known throughout the state and throughout the FTD family for its many advertising recognitions; Eppinger is gearing up a new marketing thrust.

The fifth first place — Plymouth Marketplace — was a full color "vegetables" ad appearing in the Observer & Eccentric, a regional newspaper chain.

As the awards were announced, the Observer's sales representatives Peg Knoespel and Char Wilson couldn't help but gloat (their papers won several other awards for businesses in Oakland and Wayne Counties) about how The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community accounted for five major awards in advertising — certainly the largest awards per community this size anywhere in the state.

Businesses here are once again honored for their innovation in serving customers and the community.

Congratulations to every business owner, manager and employe here that strives to try something better, something new! That's why shopping and doing business here is such a pleasure.

Off the cuff

By Scott Spielman



As bad as having two community entry points represented by a chain of unnecessary drugs stores is, I hope the similarities with the corners — or at least the time line with the way they are developed — ends there.

Julien's has been demolished for more than a year now. The site plan for the Rite Aid Drugstore was approved last year, and yet the corner has remained vacant. It even had a brief stint as a makeshift used car lot, (probably one of the most expensive in Detroit, since Rite Aid paid \$1.5 million for the site) when residents parked cars there that they were hoping to sell. A bulldozer and two piles of dirt solved that problem.

Since then, the only sign of activity has been that of several types of Canton's wonderful indigenous weeds trying to reclaim the corner.

I finally received a tidbit of information after weeks of call Rite Aid. They say they plan to begin building in the fall, and hope to have the cookie-cutter store open by summer. When asked if they could narrow that down a little further, they said they can probably have a more approximate date in the beginning of

November.

Translation: call us when the shovel's in the ground.

Maybe taking over every corner in Metro Detroit is a lengthy process. Maybe after spending so much on the land itself, the corporation couldn't afford any building supplies. Maybe they let the property they purchase go to seed for so long that when the buildings finally go up, the community breathes a sigh of relief that something is happening on the site, even if it is another drug store. Whatever the reason, I hope this isn't a preview of what we can expect with the Plymouth location.

The empty field in Canton isn't as bad to look at as what the Daly's site could be — either a boarded-up building abandoned by its owners, like those along Plymouth Road, or a blank slate of asphalt, should Rite Aid tear it down right away.

When the time comes for the changing of hands, we can only hope that the City of Plymouth can urge the drug store chain to not dawdle, and turn the site into something the city can accept, if not be proud of.

With malice toward none

By W. Edward Wendover



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One newspaper,

Crier readers, Letters to the Editor

Scott Spielman, *Off the cuff*

Bryon Martin, *Some might say*

Scott Goodwin, *Write of way*

W.H. Dean, *Pure speculation*

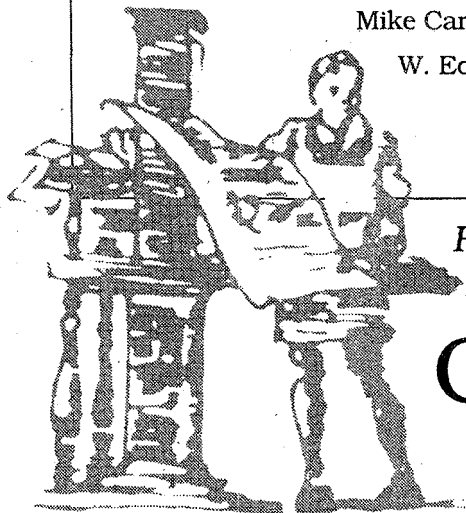
Mike Carne, *The bait shack*

W. Ed Wendover, *With malice toward none*

many voices.

Read Community Opinions in

The
**Community
Crier**





Community opinions

Vorva's appeal: Enough is enough

EDITOR:

Jerry Vorva has been a city commissioner and a state representative and knows first-hand our taxing process is not always fair. He has been parading the Statue of Liberty through this community for 18 months alleging that 700-plus voters on a school bond proposal were deliberately disenfranchised by the school board and administration and that given time, he can correct all of this country's problems.

The present trend in this country is to collect the most taxes where there are the fewest votes. In Michigan, non-homestead real estate is taxed an extra 18 mills for schools. For example, in The City of Plymouth, the homes where we reside are taxed 8.18 mills, while apartment houses, commercial and industrial real estate are taxed over three times as much, or 26.18 mills. Quite often, this real estate taxed at 26.18 mills is owned by ordinary taxpayers that choose to be self-employed and provide their own retirement from the income of real estate.

In the City of Plymouth, 35 per cent of real estate is taxed at 26.18 mills resulting in 63 per cent of the school taxes being collected from a very small number of individuals. About the same ratio applies for the remainder of the school district. This is the modern-day spin on taxation by

representation. To me, this is not fair, but it is the law and I accept it.

On the up side, Vorva is smart, tenacious and energetic. On the down side, he is vindictive, stubborn and egotistic. He has trashed the school board and administration in a Fieger-like manner, based on his paranoiac inclinations rather than fact.

Vorva's latest campaign to increase absentee votes is prompted by his feeling that absentee voters vote 'no' and would defeat Monday's bond proposal. Vorva's vindictiveness is expressed in his announcement that he plans a recall petition drive against the school board. Vorva's egotism is chronicled by his easy access to the media. The newspaper photographer just happened to be at the post office when Vorva delivered a mailing to absentee voters.

Vorva is asking school children through crowded classrooms to be part of the remedy for 700 invalidated votes. Vorva, it is time for you to look at yourself in a mirror and say to yourself — "Enough is enough. I am going to measure up and accept the latest court verdict. I am going to work within the system and try to provide the best educational possibilities for our children."

JIM McKEON



Two-bit town. . . Unlike Ann Arbor, Detroit or most of the other cities in Southeast Michigan with parking meters, people in Plymouth still have enough small-town honesty that when the meter is broken, they leave a quarter for their time anyway. (Crier photo by Bryon Martin)

Thanks: Chamber golf outing vols

EDITOR:

Tuesday, Sept. 15 the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce held its annual golf outing at Fox Hills Golf Course and Conference Center. About 200 golfers were treated to a great day of golf and to a super dinner at the Golden Fox banquet facility.

Curious about profanity?

EDITOR:

The late Janis Joplin, on her last album, made the point that the English language no longer means what it used to mean, that people no longer pay attention to the words currently in the vocabulary. She suggested that we come up with new ways to express ourselves.

The former Mayor, the late Coleman Young, often used profanity, not for titillation purposes but rather as an apt descriptive term or to bring attention to the message he wished conveyed.

The Curiosity in last week's issue of The Crier relating the use of profanity to that of having a meager mind does not put into

proper context how the profanity is or was used. Perhaps when logical arguments are laid on the table and the point being made is responded to with sophistry the only come back for purveyor of the original point is to respond with a vulgarity that matches the sophist non sequitur.

In some instances the use of vulgarity to describe an individual comes closer to reality than any other word(s) that might be available. Especially if the use of language is base, which might be the only way the messenger can understand. That way the message is delivered correctly.

And it obviously was.
MIKE JOPLIN

Earlier in the day the weatherman forecasted rain we played all 18 holes and managed to stay dry. It requires substantial effort by many committee members and volunteers to make this a successful event, so it is nice to play that day and not have to reschedule.

On behalf of our Plymouth Chamber and the Board of Directors, we want to recognize and thank everyone who helped make this a special event. Numerous volunteers served on the golf committee and on the golf prize committee. In addition, many volunteers helped with registration, setup, carrying golf bags to the carts, delivery of prizes and goodie bags, food and beverage service, games and watching the hole-in-one contest, scoring the participants and determining the winners. We could not do it without your help!

We would like to thank John Blackwell II and Blackwell Ford, our major sponsor and all of the many other significant contributors. In addition, we want to recognize the golf foursome and all the door prize donors. Finally, this would not be possible without the local support of all the participants. The proceeds from the golf outing are retained in the local community to support various activities, including:

- The Business Partnership in Education, Showcase Plymouth — spotlighting local businesses, honoring Plymouth's varied service clubs' members of the year, and student citizenship awards.

- The Chamber provides free maps, directories and informative Plymouth literature requested daily, and to the thousands of visitors during all of our festivals.

Again, a great big thank you to all who volunteered, participated and supported the Golf Outing.

DAVID SIEGRIST
TOM WILLETTE
Outing co-chairs



Community opinions

City leaders unite

Poor judgment.

A reasonable citizen might say Plymouth City Commissioner Dennis Shrewsbury exhibited poor judgement in his casual reference to the investigation of Mayor Don Dismuke's allegedly inappropriate advances toward a City employe.

In a regional newspaper chain, Shrewsbury referred to the incident as "a scandal with the mayor trying to play footsies with an employe."

Such comments might be seen as simply off-handed. In reality, though, they are something much more.

First and foremost, Shrewsbury has denigrated the employe and Dismuke. Questions about possible abuses in management-employe relations are grave and should be handled as such. Statements from both parties that the situation has been remedied to their satisfaction should put the issue to rest, but should not open it up to flippant remarks, least of all from an

elected City official.

That's reckless.

Secondly, Shrewsbury's remarks lay bare his political machinations. Passing on information to the press which he received in private phone calls from his fellow commissioners, as it is alleged, is advantageous to news gathering but betrays his colleagues' trust.

That's destructive, because right now the entire City Commission needs trust more than anything else.

There is much work waiting around the corner for City officials: closing the deal with the Township on the Sheldon Road underpass; fixing City recreation programs; advancing the Mayflower Hotel project; the search for a new City Manager which is likely to come.

Commissioners will work long hours together on resolving these vital City interests. They must be able to trust one another. The body politic must appear unified to the public if they are to perform



in the leadership roles they've been given.

There is no call for personal vendettas.

There is no time to waste on political dilly-dallying.

There is no room for free radicals to operate on their own. The City needs its leaders to unite.

Every City Commissioner must check their partisanship at the door to chambers. There is no aisle that divides the dais in reality; neither should there be one in practice.

Those commissioners who recognize this and move forward will show they possess the good judgement worthy of their office.

THE COMMUNITY CRIER

"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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It ain't easy being Jerry

It was standing room only Saturday night in the Plymouth-Canton School Board Chambers. Every spot where a person could stand or sit in the place was filled.

Every spot, that is, except for the two seats on either side of Jerry Vorva who, like the school supporters, was there for first word on returns from the district's election.

The 40-some teachers, school officials, campaign volunteers on-hand were there to find out whether voters had approved the \$18.8 million bond to build a replacement middle school and buy new buses. So was Vorva, although his eye was focused more on the number of undervotes — the motivation behind his pending lawsuit against the schools and their March 1997 bond.

As it happens in every school election after the polls close, workers at the district's 18 precincts tallied their ballots and phoned in the results to the Board room. There, the number of 'yes,' 'no,' and undervotes were then entered on a computer spreadsheet and projected for the audience onto a screen at the front of the room. About 11,000 residents cast ballot Saturday, so it was 45 minutes after the close of voting before the first totals started to come in.

It was like a hospital waiting room.

Little groups chatted in their chairs and at the back of the room, speculating on the bond's chances. They absent mindedly nibbled on the snacks and sipped at the drinks that had been set out for them. Judging from the common prognosis, chances were good that their voting operation would be a success.

Vorva sat in the front row of chairs with his back to the rest of the throng holding a pen a paper. He waited silently, alternately leaning forward on his knees, and back in his seat, legs crossed, one arm draped over the back of the chair next to him. Always he stared ahead at the screen.

I was there waiting for the numbers too. I sat between a group of three elementary school teachers and Station Manager Bill Kieth from WSDP, trading barbs about the carpetbagger TV reporters

Some might say

By Bryon Martin



who had swooped in on The Bond Story in Plymouth. I also watched Vorva.

Nobody talked to him, and he didn't talk to anybody. Nobody sat next to him. Nobody brought him snacks or a drink.

It struck me then: it ain't easy being Jerry.

Now, I know that it's hard to have sympathy for a guy who can be as incendiary as Mr. Vorva can. Pushing buttons is perhaps what he does best.

But in the times that I have talked to him while covering the lawsuit, I've learned something about him. Vorva's overly energetic manner isn't always aimed at enraging his audience. Some, especially those in the schools, may find this surprising.

But from what I can tell, Vorva truly believes in what he is doing. He truly believes that the March 1997 bond election was flawed and that some voters were aced out of their right to vote. There are people whom I respect that agree with him. If he won, his lawsuit might help prevent that from happening again.

Now, I know the district needs the high school and elementary school, etc. Vorva's case isn't about those issues per se, although his position against those schools clouds the issue.

So do rumors that he might again seek political office. (Come on, would suing the school district be a good way to build a coalition? No way.) His work against Saturday's bond also seems misguided.

But when it comes to March 1997, Jerry Vorva is fighting a good fight for the voters. And that, as he can tell you, it gets lonely.

Four Firsts For Fords, Flowers, Fishing



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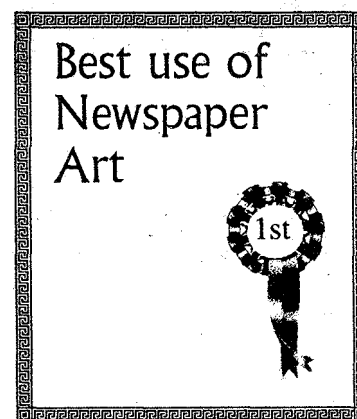
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