Need a holiday gift quick? See pg. 26 for sound local choices

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The Newspaper with its Heart in The Plymorth, MI 48170-1687 it Community Crier

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www.community-GUIDE.com

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December 2, 1998

The next logical step?

City, Twp. may study shared P.D.

BY BRYON MARTIN

It's a question that has bubbled up around the City and Township Halls for years and, according to some in both Plymouths, now is the time to ask it again — would a full merger of the City and Township police departments be worthwhile?

Most city commissioners and township trustees have only just begun to inch toward police merger on a smaller scale — a shared dispatch center.

Monday night, discussion in the City camp took a turn toward the hardline. Most commissioners said they weren't interested in shared dispatch unless the center is built in the City.

Nonetheless, other officials say that with management changes-on the way at City Hall, the time is right to move ahead and reconsider the full-merger question.

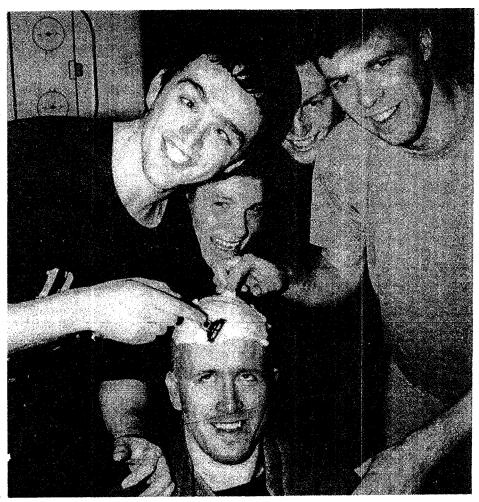
City Commissioner Colleen Pobur wants to pursue detailed answers to these questions. Pobur said she wants the City and Township to undertake a study into consolidating the two departments. She said she plans to propose such a study tonight during a joint meeting with Township officials at the Plymouth Dunning-Hough Library.

"The study should be a full report of the benefits and the drawbacks. It would have to be a financial and practical move," she said. "Now is the time to evaluate the feasibility of a merger."

Supporters say a merged police department could save tax money by sharing costs, staff and pooling resources. A bigger police department could qualify for grants each department is too small to get on its own.

Critics warn that the City and Township have different policing needs, and that a

Please see pg. 7



Holiday buzz...Cross-eyed barber and Plymouth Whaler center Harold Druken prepares to assist fellow Whaler Troy Smith in his emulation of a Christmas tree bulb Wednesday at Compuware Sports Arena. Smith agreed to the holiday head shaving tradition for the second year in a row as a team-building exercise. See the story in Sports, pg. 22 (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Botsford Inn bought

BY W. EDWARD WENOVER

The historic Botsford Inn has a "new" owner.

Until last Wednesday, Creon Smith, of Mayflower Hotel fame, was listed as owner and proprietor of the inn that saw many Plymouth-Canton functions and ties.

Please see pg. 8

Busy start

Holiday hoppers don't disappoint City retailers

See Business, pg. 10

Coup 2

SMAC lands Interlochen drama director

See Sports, pg. 6

Twp. woman killed by motorist

Police testing driver's and victim's blood for alcohol

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

A 21-year old Plymouth woman was struck by a truck and killed while walking along Ford Road early Thursday morning. Police said alcohol may have been a factor in the accident.

According to Canton Police reports, Tiffany Morante was walking west on Ford Road when a 27-year old Northville man hit her with his Jeep Cherokee.

Police are withholding the driver's name pending charges.

According to Ofc. Leonard Schemanske, three other witnesses reported dodging Morante as she walked down the road.

Morante was pronounced dead at the scene, according to reports. Police are performing blood tests on the driver and Morante to determine if alcohol was a factor in the accident. Results from the tests could take from one to three weeks.

Schemanske said both Morante and the driver of the vehicle had recently left Bailey's Sports Bar and Grille on Canton Center and Ford roads. Schemanske said it was just a coincidence that the two had left from the same location, and that they didn't know each other

Reports said the driver, also headed west on Ford, struck Morante with the left side of his vehicle.

"She just walked in front of the car," the Please see pg. 2

Canton police add car cameras

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton police have a new warning for speeders and other traffic law violators: smile, you're on camera.

The Public Safety department has ordered four in-car video cameras for their selective enforcement units.

According to Special Services Lt. Pat Nemecek, the department has tested a camera in its weighmaster vehicle this year, and it has proven a valuable tool.

"It picks up the violations on tape," he said. "We're able to use it as evidence in court. When people find out we have a tape of the incident, they don't usually pursue it

Selective enforcement unit are those vehicles sent to areas that produce a large number of traffic complaints, Nemecek said. Selective Enforcement officers generally write more tickets and have more contact with drivers than a typical patrol officer, he said.

"They go into an area where there are a lot of problems and they just take care of business," Nemecek said. "They have a lot more contact with other drivers. That's why we picked those units."

The cameras are largely automatic, and begin taping when the cruiser's overhead lights are activated, according to Nemecek. They record the exact time and date and stores the video in tapes locked in the vehicle's trunk. The camera also picks up sound from a microphone attached to the officer's lapel, providing a record of the conversation between officer and driver.

The cameras have been ordered and should be installed and functional by the end of the year, according to

The department will decide if the video cameras will be as helpful as they anticipate and consider installing the \$4,000 cameras in more cruisers next year, Nemecek said.

"We'll take a look at them at budget time to see if that's something we want to do," Nemecek said.

Meijer's thief threatens Canton officer

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton police suspect it was a 28-yearold Westland man who dodged arrest Saturday after he fled from a police

John F. (734) 455-4250 officer and nearly ran him down with his

According to police reports, Ofc. Derek Torolowski was dispatched to the Meijers store at Canton Center and Ford roads for a retail fraud in progress.

En route, he learned the suspect had allegedly stolen items from a Meijers store in Roseville, and pulled a knife on an employe there, according to reports.

When Torolowski arrived at the store, he saw the suspect quickly walking toward the parking lot, with one of Meijers' loss prevention officers running from teh store in pursuit.

Torolowski advised the suspect to stop. The man immediately fled to the north. reports said. Torolowski gave chase, but the man made it to his small red Chevy before Torolowski could close the gap.

Torolowski instead stood in front of the car, raised his left hand and ordered the man to leave the vehicle.

When the suspect started the car, reports said Torolowski drew his weapon and ordered the man to shut off the car.

Instead, the suspect punched the accelerator, driving directly at the police officer. Torolowski dodged, and the car sped through the parking lot at a high rate of speed before turning and driving east on Ford Road, according to reports.

Torolowski ran back to his patrol car to give chase, but was unable to locate the suspect. Police searched for the suspect in Westland without success, reports said.

Meijers' loss prevention said the man stole a brown leather jacket worth about

Woman dives before train

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

A 40-year old Canton woman threw herself in front of a train Sunday afternoon, according to Canton police

Witnesses reported seeing the woman, later identified as Suei Chen of Canton, park her car near the railroad tracks on

Warren Road, between Lotz and Hix

According to reports crossing gates were down, bells were clanging and a train was approaching.

Chen apparently waited for the train to get closer, then ran across the tracks and threw her self in front of the oncoming

Victim, MSU senior, 'touched people'

Canton Fire department pronounced her deceased at the scene.

The train stopped in Novi, near 12 Mile and Taft roads, according to reports. Railroad police officer Gerald Kolpacke said the engineer didn't know the train had

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driver said in the reports.

"Witnesses gave four different reports of what happened," Schemanske said. "One of them said she jumped toward the car as if asking for a ride.'

Ofc. Ken Winkler, a member of Canton's accident investigation team, said Morante was wearing dark pants and a black jacket at the time. The pavement was damp, and there was evidence that the driver tried to swerve to avoid hitting Morante, he said.

He stopped immediately and ran to a nearby house to call for help, Winkler said.

"He did everything he was supposed to do," Winkler said.

Morante was pronounced dead at the scene, according to reports. Police are performing blood tests on the driver to determine if alcohol was a factor in the accident. Results from the test could take from one to three weeks to receive.

"He has been released, but the investigation continues," Schemanske said.

Morante was a bright, energetic woman, according to her father, John Kenely.

"One of the wonderful things about her was that she was just a non-stop girl," he said. "She just kept doing whatever she wanted to do.

"She touched a lot of people," he added. "She had a gift for putting people at ease and we'll miss that terribly.'

Morante was a senior at MSU, majoring in marketing, Kenely said. She was also working 40 hours a week and was planning a career in merchandise retailing, he said.

In her free time, she enjoyed outdoor sports like waterskiing, which she did near the family's property in northern Michigan.

"She didn't have any real hobbies, because she always thought a time would come where she could relax and enjoy her hobbies," he said.

Thursday's tragedy was the sixth fatal accident in Canton this year, and the second in 10 days involving a pedestrian, according to Schemanske.

In January, 28-year-old Ronald Cowan of Ypsilanti was killed while bicycling along Michigan Avenue in a hit-and-run that remains unsolved.

Scarcely one month later 67-year old Leona Ilardi was struck and killed while crossing Lilley Road with her grandson.

Earlier this month, 57-year old Diane Alff was struck and killed while walking her dog along Sheldon Road, north of Cranberry



Santa's in the house...in the City of Homes. During the weeks that lead up to Christmas, St. Nick stays in the little house on Main Street that serves as his home away from home. Mobs of Santa fans, including the little ones above, turned out at Kellogg Park Friday to welcome the jolly old elf, and to give him a few hints on what they hope to find beneath the tree this year. Santa's house is open Fridays from 6 - 9 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays noon - 5 p.m. through Dec. 20. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

Chains gang up in City

Do big stores come at expense of local biz, charm?

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

If part of Plymouth's small-town charm is its unique, locally-owned shops and restaurants, what would happen if big chains like The Gap or Rite Aid drug stores, move in?

Some say shopping in Plymouth could become more impersonal. Others believe the larger chains could bring more money and notoriety.

That's one of the debates in Plymouth as smaller, long-established businesses move out while big names and big financial backing move in.

Mnay residents took notice this year when it was announced that Daly's Restaurant, long a staple at the corner of Main Street and Ann Arbor Road, would be replaced with a Rite Aid drug store.

Not only was Daly's an established part

Kiddie jackpot, \$1,000 for charity in Beyer raffle

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Hanging from the ceiling at Beyer Friendly Drug store on Ann Arbor Road in Plymouth is the World's Largest Christmas Stocking, or so the sign says.

Santa's face looks down from the top of the sock, packed from top to toe with games, stuffed animals, toys and goodies. It's every child's fantasy, an eight-year-old's jackpot if there ever was one

The stocking, about eight feet tall, is part of a give away through Beyer. They hope to raise \$1,000 for the Salvation Army of Plymouth just before Christmas. Tickets cost 50 cents appear

Beyer owner Bill McMullen said the drug store has a long-standing relationship with the Salavtion Army.

"We fill precriptions for them at a discount," he said. "We try to do something for them every Christmas."

In the past, Beyer has adopted a family and sent money to the Salvation Army. McMullen said he doesn't know how this year's collections will be spent, but he was leaning toward a massive toy purchase just before Christmas.

The Salvation Army of Plymouth is currently building a new facility near Beyer on Main Street. Beyer is the oldest continuous business in Plymouth, in operation the end of the Civil War.

of the Plymouth landscape, but the corner of Ann Arbor Road and Main Street is a gateway to the City. Now Rite Aid is one of the first things visitors will see as they turn toward downtown.

And it may only be the beginning. Starbucks, Max and Erma's and, yes, The Gap have all been rumored as future Downtown tenants. Many welcome the chains as lucrative additions for variety's sake; others question the need.

Fran Toney, Plymouth's Chamber of Commerce director, said chain stores generally make little effort to become a part of the community.

"Very often, they do not get involved," she said, noting K-Mart and McDonald Ford as exceptions.

This past weekend, a traffic jam of holiday shoppers clogged City streets as many downtown merchants reported increased sales during this busy retail season. Business is good for many City merchants.

But could it be better with the pull of a chain store name?

Big-budget chains could increase competition in Plymouth, as smaller, service-orientated stores struggle to retain their business. Bob Mundt, who owns several Mail Boxes Ect. stores and sits on Plymouth's Downtown Development Authority, says small businesses should be able to hold ground against the larger chains

"Independently-owned businesses should not lose their focus," he said. "As long as they keep personal service a priority, they should be all right."

Matt Cook, assistant manager at the Trading Post on Ann Arbor Road said

Please see pg. 4

Agenda

THIS WEEK

- Tomorrow at 6:30 p.m., Plymouth Twp. hall will host a nursing home group for a discussion on industry improvements with Jennifer Granholm, legislators and others. Call 248-988-7139.
- Tomorrow, Plymouth's
 Downtown Development
 Authority will meet for a
 marathon interview session
 with candidates in the DDA
 Director search. The meeting will be held at the DDA
 offices, 831 Penniman Ave.
 beginning at 3 p.m. The
 meeting is open to the public. For more information,
 call 734-453-1234 for
 details.

THIS WEEKEND

Priday and Saturday, the Plymouth Community Chorus presents its Christmas concert, "Joy" at 8 p.m. in the Salem High School Auditorium. Sunday, the show begins at 4 p.m. The chorus will sing holiday favorites. Call 734-455-4080.

NEXT WEEK

- Monday, Plymouth's City Commission meets at 7 p.m. in City Hall, 201 N. Main St.
- Thursday, Plymouth's
 Downtown Development
 Authority Board meets at 7
 p.m., in the DDA office, 831
 Penniman Ave.

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Summit takes over books, food

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

If all goes according to plan, few people will notice the change in banquet and conference services at Canton's Summit on the Park.

After three years of operation, Canton has decided to assume control of the booking and marketing of the banquet facility, tasks which had been contracted out with the Summit's food service,



the recycling loop

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according to Summit manager Debra Bilbrey-Honsowetz.

When the Summit opened in 1995, Canton contracted all banquet services from Cregar Enterprises. That firm was responsible for preparing the food at banquets and booking users for the facility, Bilbrey-Honsowetz said.

"This is an amicable situation between Cregar and Summit on the Park. They've provided excellent service," she said. "We've just been in the business for a few years now, and we're more comfortable with it. We want to drive the facility in the direction we're heading."

Restructuring the service would allow Canton to market the center more aggressively, Bilbrey-Honsowetz said. Food services would still be contracted out.

Canton will hire two full time employes to oversee the center — a banquet and conference center coordinator and a banquet center specialist — according to Bilbrey-Honsowetz. Those positions were approved by the Board of Trustees last week and haven't been filled yet, she said. They will be responsible for marketing the center and managing events, as well as working with the new food service vendor.

Bilbrey-Honsowetz said she hopes to get more use out of the banquet facility, which is rented by companies and individuals for baby showers, weddings, corporate luncheons and other events.

She said she will open the facility up to more corporate users as well as community groups.

"We haven't been able to fill it to capacity during the week," she said. "We're not sitting right off I-96 and we have to make some extra marketing efforts."

Cregar will continue to provide food service until a new vendor is found, Bilbrey-Honsowetz said. She has evaluated two potential vendors by attending functions they have catered, she said.

Vendors are evaluated by the quality and presentation of the food they prepare, quality of service and financial viability, she said.

Any approval of a contract will occur at the board level, she said.

"This won't impact anyone's event," she said. "They'll continue to get the same service as in the past."

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Survival means service

Continued from pg. 3

"service" should be placed in big bold letters as a means of survival for small businesses.

"That's the key," he said. "We talk to our customers. We ask them how their kids are doing in hockey because we're into the same things."

But is service enough to save the small stores? The first test will come next year when Rite Aid opens its doors. Only a few doors down on Ann Arbor Road, Beyer Friendly Drugs, the oldest continuous business in Plymouth, may feel the brunt most. Smaller and in a less visible spot, it faces the uphill challenge of attracting new customers in the shadow of its larger neighbor.

"With Rite Aid coming in, we're becoming more conscious of our place in the community," said Beyer Owner Bill McMullen. He said doesn't object to Rite Aid building on the corner — "this is still America," he said — but he does question the need.

"The whole thing surprises me," he said. "It's a shame because I think they are diluting the market."

But Plymouth officials admit even if they didn't want Rite Aid replacing Daly's, their isn't much they can do.

"If someone buys a site, they are free to put anything they want on it," said David Schaff, Plymouth planning commissioner.

Plymouth Mayor Don Dismuke says the makeup of the downtown's business scene will be driven from the bottom line: consumers.

"I think that generally, residents want to keep the money at home," he said. "They like to frequent established places."

But he said he isn't concerned about chains coming into Plymouth and ruining the scene.

"There is no question our character and charm is driven by our specialty shops," he said. "But these are changing economic times. National chains may bring some credibility.

"Look at Birmingham," he said. "I don't think the chains hurt them."

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Public notices

NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN WINTER TAXES

Winter taxes are due December 1, 1998 and payable through March 1, 1999 without penalty. Additional information appears on the reverse side of your tax statement. MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF PLYMOUTH. Payments can be made at City Hall during regular working hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the Treasurer's office. After hours, payments can be placed in the DROP BOX located in the City Hall lobby next to the Treasurer's office window. The DROP BOX outside the Library building, located on the east side of the building, next to the book returns, is also available. National City Bank (the former First of America Bank) Plymouth office will also accept tax payments for your convenience through March 1, 1999.

CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED during the Christmas holidays from Thursday, December 24th through Friday, January 1st. The Treasurer's office WILL BE OPEN TO ACCEPT TAX PAYMENTS and other payments on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29TH AND WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH.

Teresa Cischke, CMFA City/Treasurer

Publish: December 2, 1998

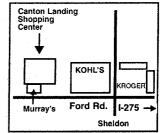
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Friends & neighbors

Neighbors in the news

Melissa Carabott, Kate Kingsbury and Danielle Voyles of Canton; and Kim Lawrence of Northville were initiated into Delta Phi Epsilon International Sorority at the University of Michigan, Dearborn.

Delta Phi Epsilon was founded in 1917 at New York University School of Law. The university of Michigan, Dearborn chapter prides itself on its commitment to serving the University and surrounding communities, while striving to achieve excellence academically, professionally and personally.

Navy Petty Ofc. 1st Class David S.Hutchinson, son of Kenneth E. and Geraldine K. Hutchinson of Northville, is scheduled to spend the holidays forward deployed to Agana, Guam aboard the submarine tender USS Frank Cable.

He is a 1983 graduate of Northville High School who joined the Navy in

Army Pfc. Michael D. Sawchuk, son of Donald M. and Rose V. Sawchuk of Canton, has graduated from the 72-day Ranger training course at the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Columbus, GA.

The training phases are conducted at Fort Benning, in the mountains of northern Georgia, in the desert at Fort Bliss, El Paso, TX, and in the Florida swamps.

Sawchuk is a 1993 graduate of Salem High School. He is a machine gunner at Fort Benning.

Navy Fireman John J. Paluchniak, a 1994 graduate of Canton High School, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Comman, Great Lakes, IL.

Air Force Airman Willaim P. Kravez, son of William P. and Christine E. Kravez of Canton, has graduated from Basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX.

Marine Lance Cpl. Nathan M. Branim, son of Debra J. Lehner of Canton, recently had the opportunity to participate in a beach clean-up project while stationed in Okinawa, Japan, with 2nd Battalion 8th Marines as part of the Unit Deployment Program (UDP).

Another coup for SMAC

Drama director Chris Guyotte has taught at Interlochen, Millenium Center

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

When drama students first meet Chris Guyotte, he asks them to find out two things: why he is wearing a safety pin, and why people call him 'Fing.'

While one can be attributed to an accident in shop class, the other isn't as easily identifiable, though Guyotte said students should be able to answer the question after their first lesson.

The idea behind the exercise is to strengthen students' observation skills, which Guyotte considers a necessity for actors.

Guyotte will bring his own unique drama teaching methods to the Southeastern Michigan Conservatory of Arts, when he assumes the full-time position as director of drama studies in January.

Guyotte holds a Masters of fine arts degree from Wayne State University, and has extensive experience with the Hilberry Repertory Company. He is currently the administrative director of the Millenium Center in Southfield and a teacher at the Interlochen Center for Performing Arts.

"If it hadn't been for the theater I would've failed high school," he said. "I just didn't find anything that peaked my interest. When I got involved in the theater I found what I wanted to do and that made me work harder in classes."

Guyotte has developed a curriculum for students aged three years, all the way up to those aged 18. With introductory courses such as story time that teach self esteem and confidence, to advanced acting which takes students through a com-



Chris Guyotte collects props from all the productions that he has been a part of. He will heaad the Drama department at the Southeastern Michigan Arts Conservatory in January. (Crier photo by Scott Spielman).

plete production.

The first production will be The Wizard of Oz, and auditions begin in January, Guyotte said.

Beginning classes help students get more comfortable with their motor skills. Other classes allow students to get more familiar with the stage and speaking in front of others, which helps develop their self esteem and confidence, Guyotte said.

"You can always tell people who have never had to speak in public," he said. "They're stiff as a board and uncomfortable with their body. They've never had to do it when they were little or it was such a horrible experience that they don't want to repeat it."

Guyotte said he hopes to break down those fears and allow the students to achieve a higher potential. By offering classes at the conservatory, Guyotte said he hopes to attract a greater number of students from the public schools.

"To see the fire light in their eyes when they're receiving applause for them is amazing for me," Guyotte said.



Award for a good cause....

Ann Musson of Plymouth, the Interior Design Consultant for Gabriala's, was awarded the gold honors for her handmade decorative wreath at the 1998 Festival of Trees in Detroit.

The wreath, which is called 'Days of Wine and Roses,' included eight handmade velvet roses, grapes pine and ivy on a grapevine wreath.

The Festival of Trees was a benefit for Children's Hospital of Michigan.

The wreath sold for \$400.

'Politics will solve it'

Continued from pg. 1

single department would mean a loss of service in both. Cost savings wouldn't outweigh a drop in policing, they say.

With City Manager Steve Walters and Police Chief Bob Scoggins set to leave City Hall in the next year, a decision on the direction of merger talks could be important to candidates interviewing for the positions.

Township Trustee Ron Griffith said the Township hasn't voted on the issue yet, but "I know no one who's opposed to it."

Griffith said he not only supports a full merger not only for the police department, but unifying the City and Township.

"I want to look at merging the whole thing and doing away with this Mickey Mouse stuff," he said. "Informally, we're one community. We've been merging piece by piece. I think we ought to look at the whole issue rather than whack away at it on piece at a time.

"We should put together a blue ribbon panel and take the issue out of the hands of the politicians," he said.

But most City and Township elected officials have shown they won't rush into the smaller dispatch merger. They are slowly considering the proposal that would shut down the aging radio system at City Hall and move City officers into the Township for a shared, centralized dispatch and record keeping center.

That might mean eliminating the police presence altogether from City Hall, a prospect that has earned a chilly reception from City Commissioners from the beginning. After they learned the consolidation could save a total of some \$160,000, commissioners began to warm to the proposal.

No decision has been made yet, but in the meantime others like Griffith and Pobur have begun to look toward "the next logical step," — total merger.

"I am absolutely advocating that we investigate this," Pobur said. "How could we not? We learned we could save \$80,000 each just from merging dispatch. It just makes sense as the next logical step."

Those same words came from the top brass at the Plymouth Township Police Department. Chief Lawrence Carey and Lt. Bob Smith have spoken favorably of investigating departmental unification.

"Shared communications is more important," Carey said. "But if dispatch works, (a full merger) would be the next logical step."

Smith, a Township officer since 1985, has studied police service mergers over the last six years. He gets visibly excited while talking about total consolidation. The reams of reports, models and studies he has collected lead him to evaluate the proposal with a simple test.

"If a merger lets you provide the same service at a cost savings, or more service at the same cost, then why not merge," he said. Blurring the lines

"Crime crosses boundaries. Investigations

should too," Smith said, explaining that Township concerns often are City concerns. "It's absurd to think that a problem in my community ends at a border."

Some say jurisdiction lines between the Plymouths are already blurred. City and Township police cover for one another during emergencies, and sometimes collaborate on investigations. Motorists frequently walk into the Township department to pay tickets given to them by a City patrol officer. Simply put, many do not even realized there are two police departments in the Plymouth community.

"Get rid of the City and Township patches," said Carey, "and when you come to the door, you're a Plymouth police officer."

That, he said, suggests a joint department would not come as a shock to most.

And according to Smith, "It's hard not to think about merger because it's been discussed before."

Past proposals, current concerns

In 1993, an independent report detailed joint dispatch services for the three township and two city police departments in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. Neither that proposal nor the revision which followed were ever pursued, though scuttlebutt about a merger occasionally returns. But there no serious talks about police consolidation have taken place between the City and Township, at least not since 1991 when Scoggins became City chief.

"There's always been speculation, but nothing like the chiefs sitting down and talking," he said.

And barring some unforeseen change, Scoggins said, he isn't much interested in a shared police force or a even a report on it. The reason for his reticence is the same today as it was in 1993, he said. The City demands a much higher level of service than the Township does. A merger would mean dropping that level.

"That's a big hurdle to overcome," he said. "Until they can talk about maintaining the same service in the City, I can't get around it."

Scoggins also cited the Township's lower officers-to-residents ratio as a deterrent.

"The Township is understaffed. And if we merge into a department that is understaffed, our service is going to be pulled out to cover them," he said, comparing the proposal to conditions in the early 80s.

Then, he said, the Township had no police force, so the City provided service from 1980 – 1985. The reduction service seen in the City then would return under a merged department, he said. "A car patrolling our city will be sent to patrol the Township."

Plymouth Township Supervisor Kathleen Keen McCarthy echoed Scoggins' concerns.

"We've if you've got two understaffed departments and you put them together, you don't get a complete police force, you get one big, understaffed department."

Mayor Don Dismuke sits on the joint services committee with Keen McCarthy, Griffith, Trustee Chuck Kurmi, Pobur, City Commissioner Dave McDonald and City Manager Steve Walters, but is less enthusiastic than some about the prospect.

"I was pessimistic at first about the dispatch merger," he said. "But I think many of us were surprised. The report on it from committee seemed very favorable."

Total consolidation, though, would be "a hard sell," Dismuke said.

"It would be very difficult for me to be convinced of a full merger. We're a separate entity. I find it absolutely crucial that we have our own police service. I think that's one of the things people who live in small towns tout.

"Dispatch is a different issue," Dismuke continued. "That's a separate, operational function. Fire was a different issue, too." A paradigm for success

Police merger supporters cite the Plymouth Community Fire Department as the example to follow. Born in 1994, PCFD is a single unit melded from City and Township fire departments. Even those who oppose police merger consider the fire merger a shining example of consolidation gone right.

But the merger is a rare one, according to Dan Gilmartin, a Michigan Municipal League specialist in consolidation. He said there haven't been many other full-scale combinations of services. Agreements for smaller-scale collaborations — like shared dispatch services — are much more common across the state.

· "It definitely fits the trend in mergers," he said. "We would applaud (The City and

Township) if they can find a better way to deliver their services."

Pobur thinks the fire department will show officials the way.

"With the fire department we have a paradigm for success," she said. "We know this can work."

Some thought sharing municipal services would work too. But earlier this year, the City and Township chose not to join DPWs. Officials say the net financial gain wasn't enough to outweigh the hassle of reorganization. Reconciling the greater variety of services offered in the City with the minimal level in the Township also proved daunting.

But Lynn Harvey, a specialist in government consolidations, said a police merger would proceed more like the PCFD merger.

Harvey is an MSU professor who has spent 25 years advising state and local governments on consolidations. He said "there's not much different between fire and police department mergers. If they can do it separately, they can do it together."

The only real difference, he said, is the emotional swaddling that residents and officials wrap around police issues.

"The police are highly politicized and visible," Harvey said. "And if they're already going to do dispatch and fire together, police would be the next logical step.

"Economics start the process, but politics will solve it."

See Community Opinions, pg. 26

ATTENTION!!

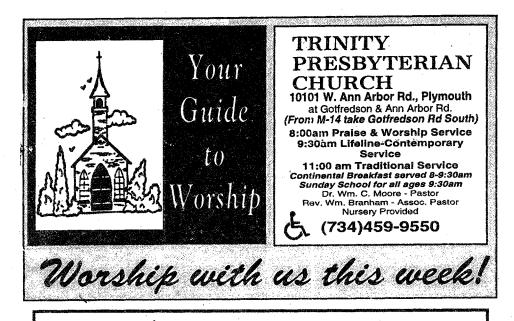
Defense Attorneys of the 35th District Court

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Plymouth Township Police Dept.

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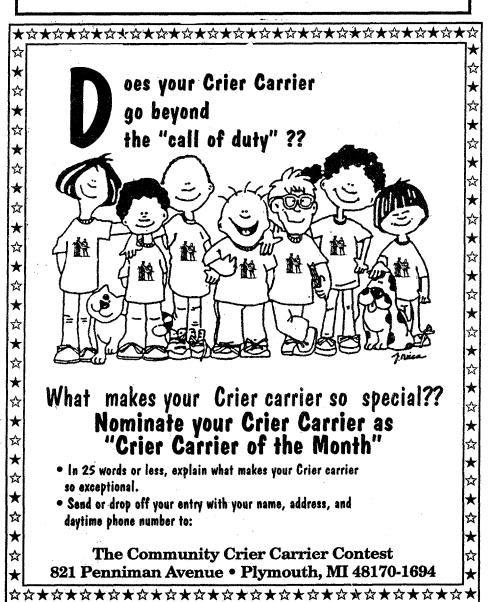


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Goodfellows gear up...Gary Opoka and Richard Nadolski, members of the AFSME Local 3860, give Canton Goodfellows president Nancy Spencer a check for \$200. The Goodfellows are in full swing of their yearly fundraiser, ensuring there will be "NoKiddie without a Christmas." Goodfellows hit the streets Saturday morning to sell copies of their Christmas paper, and raise funds to buy presents for needy children. (Crier photo by R. Alwood, Jr.)

Canton forms new preservation committee

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Canton's newest committee has roots that reach back at least three years, according to Canton Supervisor Tom Yack.

Consisting of nine Canton residents and headed by geologist Dave Thomas, the environmental committee was formed last week and will hold its first meeting Dec. 2, Yack said.

"It grew out of reaction to the industrial development along Koppernick Road," Yack said. "Mr. Thomas was part of a group that thought the whole area should be saved."

That area adjoins the William P. Holliday Nature Preserve, and was the subject of controversy in March. A group of Canton residents, along with Livonia resident Bill Craig, president of the Holliday Nature Preserve, tried to halt development of the Koppernick Corporate Park.

It was too close to the preserve, and would exacerbate the impact of development on an already fragile area, Craig said.

"I told them it wasn't likely that they could stop it. It's expensive property. It's split by the railroad tracks and they were dealing with a difficult property owner," Yack said. "I told them it made more sense to go out and find parcels we could save."

Thomas agreed, and the committee was

formed, Yack said. The committee will probably meet once or twice a month for about two years, according to Yack.

Yack said he envisions the committee working with Canton's Planning staff to identify areas of wetlands interest, plotting them out and prioritizing which would be best to preserve, he said.

They will also be charged with developing and proposing a tree planting program in 1999, Yack said, which is something that grew out of the Canton neighborhood improvement study, completed earlier this year.

Yack said the committee will help identify the areas in neighborhoods that would best be served by planting trees, and identifying public right of ways where trees are needed. Working with staff, they will then come up with a plan to plant the trees and determine where the funds will come

The first meeting will be held in the Canton Administration Building at 7 p.m. Dec. 2 in Yack's upstairs meeting room. Although the committee consists of nine residents already, Yack said there is room for

"If more people show an interest, I'm willing to consider them," he said.

A simple announcement

Continued from pg. 1

Last Wednesday afternoon — in a complete surprise to the Botsford staff preparing for 720 Thanksgiving reservations for the next day — a simple announcement appeared.

"As of today (Weds., 11/25) Anhut Hotels Co. is assuming the management of the Botsford Inn with Creon Smith as consultant. Business will continue as usual," said the note.

John Anhut, former owner of the Botsford before Smith, was unavailable for comment before presstime. Smith could not be reached.



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



Taggin' Greens... (From left) Karen Horton, Dorothy Sincock and Maureen Armstrong tag greens for the Plymouth Branch Women's National Farm & Garden Club annual holiday green sale. The club will sell wreaths, bows, arrangements and baked goods at the Plymouth Historical Museum from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4. For more information call Karen (734) 207-0563 or Pat (734) 453-1187.

POTTERS GUILD ANNUAL HOLIDAY SALE

The Village Potters Guild will host their annual holiday sale Dec. 3-5. Ceramic artist exhibiting both functional and decorative work in porcelain, stoneware, raku and pit fire at 340 N. Main. For more information call (734) 207-8807.

The Guild will also be exhibiting their work this weekend in the first floor conference room in the Dunning Hough Library. The exhibit will be open to patrons Saturday and Sunday throughout the library's hours.

BPW 70TH ANNIVERSARY

The Plymouth Business and Professional Women's Club will celebrate its 70th anniversary this year with a luncheon Saturday, Dec. 5, 1998 at noon at the Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth. For Further information or to make reservations please call (734) 455-9002 or (734) 453-8578.

SUGAR PLUM TEA

The Plymouth Symphony League will be hosting a Sugar Plum Fairy Tea following the 3 p.m. performances of the Nutcracker Ballet, Dec. 12 and 13. At the tea children have the opportunity to meet members of the ballet cast and enjoy refreshments. Tickets are \$5. For more information or tickets, call 451-2112. During intermissions of the Ballet, the League will also be selling entertainment books, Pampered Chef cook books, pewter ornaments of the Penn theatre, plus many more great ideas for Christmas.

FELICITY STRINGS ALIVE MUSICAL SHOW

The Woman's Club of Plymouth presents music for the holidays, featuring Felicity Strings Alive Musical Show Fri. Dec. 4 at 12:30 p.m. Guests are welcome, and there is no charge for the event. There will also be a mitten tree — bring mittens, scarves and hats or canned goods. Meetings are held at the Plymouth First UNited Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial.

GUIDE to Entertainment



the Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community Also note community and non-profit groups events, listed in this Crier under What's Happening

BOULDERS

734-459-4190; Fri.: Shirley Dalton and the Delta Drive

CANTON CINEMA 6

734-981-1900, "Rugrats" "Antz" "Meet Joe Black" "I'll be home for Christmas" "A Bug's Life" "Very Bad Things"

CLUB CANTON

734-722-0722; Wed. - Sat.: "Blue Sahara"

ERNESTO'S

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

GENITTI'S HOLE IN THE WALL

248-349-0522; Live Interactive Dinner Theater: "Clueless at Christmas.

KARL'S COUNTRY CABIN 734-455-8450; Wed.: "Shakin' Not Stirred"

LUCILLE'S TAVERN

734-397-1988; Wed. - Sat.: Walley Jackson

MARQUIS THEATRE

248-349-8110; Live Musical Theatre "Cinderella"

PENN THEATRE

734-453-0870; Now playing: "There's Something About Mary"

PLYMOUTH COFFEE BEAN

734-454-0178; Fri.: Lou Rye Sat.: Jim Prisaly in his firsttime performing.

PLYMOUTH WHALERS

734-453-8400; The Whalers host Windsor at 7:30 Fri. and London at 7:30 Sat.

STATION 885 RESTAURANT

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

WAGON WHEEL LOUNGE

248-349-8686; Thurs.: Open Jam; Sat.: Ben Moore and the Blues Express

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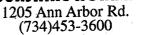
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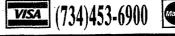
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But left's consider for a moment what happens when you DO pay. In addition to being paid for each paper delivered, your carrier keeps 25 percent of his or her collections, and 100 percent of all tips. This first job experience teaches these youngsters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

Crier carriers strive to do their best. Your carrier will be stopping by to see you at the end of each month. They would be more than grateful if you pay, but a friendly "I'd rather not pay" will also be accepted. Either way, a valuable lesson is learned; and you can be assured of continuous delivery. As you know, The Crier contains Plymouth-Canton community information and news, local ads, valuable coupons and more. If you choose to participate in the voluntary pay program, the cost is only \$2.25 per month. And remember, 25 percent of this amount-plus all of your tips-goes to your carrier. And if you don't want to receive your community newspaper, please call The Crier during business hours and we'll cheerfully stop delivery.

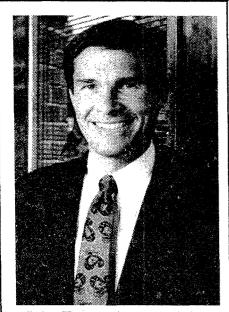
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Getting down to business

Neighbors in business



Brian Koop has been named vice president and senior executive in charge of the Johnson Controls **Institute** — a new worldwide employe training and leadership development organization for the company's Automotive Systems Group.

Barbara Wild has joined McNabnay Property Management Company, located in Bloomfield Hills, as a Condomimuim/Residential Property Manager. She will be overseeing 10 major condomimium complexes in leations including Canton.

Native West will celebrate its ninth annual Holiday Art & Jewelry Festival with the art of Michael Atkinson and jewelry of Jerry Nelson.

An opening premiere will be hled Thrusday, Dec. 3 from 3-9p.m. The show will continue through business hours Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Dr. Ouida Cash, of Northville. cheif executive officer of Starfish Family Services, was awarded the 1998 Women of Achievement Award in the professional category from the YMCA of Western Wayne County.

Under her leadership, the center was named Best Managed Nonprofit by Crain's Detroit Business in 1996.

Cash is the past president of Child and Youth Initiative of Detroit-Wayne County and of the Michigan Network of Runaway and Youth Services. She is also a member of Leadership Detroit and wasthe recipient of a Spirit of Detroit Award:

Holiday off to a good start

Shoppers don't disappoint downtown retailers during busy weekend

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

With a little help from the elements, downtown businesses had a brisk business during the first big holiday shopping weekend, according to several local

While malls and regional stores opened their doors before the first light of dawn and attracted shoppers with early bird specials, Plymouth retailers went about business as usual, knowing good things come to those who wait.

And come they did, according to Larry Bird, owner of Gabriala's.

"It was rocking," Bird said. "We had a small traffic jam downtown Saturday."

Bird said that traffic in his store was up about 25 per cent over last year, and sales increased about 15 per cent.

The store was so crowded that Bird had to make provisions to handle the flow of customers, he said. He had to purchase bank-style partitions to control the lines of customers, he said.

Likewise, Scott Smith, owner of the Penniman Gallery said he experienced an increase in sales. The holiday push did not surprise him, however.

never had a bad Christmas," Smith said. "I felt a lot of optimism."

Smith said he thought the weather contributed to the busy weekend. Saturday's temperatures topped 60 degrees and the sunshine and unseasonably warm weather could have brought more shoppers from the malls.

Retailers reported a slower day on Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, with an increase on Saturday and Sunday. That trend also was expected, according to Mack Cook, assistant manager of the Trading Post.

"The day after Thanksgiving crowds don't necessarily apply to us," he said. "It's just a normal day. Early December is when we start really getting hit."

Cook said that business had already picked up for the season. The Trading Posts back stock room is already filling up with bikes and sporting equipment — always popular gifts that customers purchase and pick up just before Christmas.

"We can already tell that are sales are going up," he said.

Smith said that Plymouth remains strong because the people who shop downtown don't usually shop in malls, preferring the "I've been in town for 16 years and I've ambience of a small-town atmosphere.

The City did its part too, providing free parking in the Central Parking Deck and covering several downtown meters with festive-looking red hoods.

The influx of shoppers downtown meant good things for restaurants as well, according to Susan Larkins, manager of The Cozy Cafe. She said the restaurant maintained a steady crowd throughout the busy weekend.

"Most of the people we spoke to said that they had traveled from all over," she said. "They said they were enjoying the changes downtown and with all the decorations, it really felt like the Christmas season.'

John Kwiecien, owner of Trader Jacks, said the out of town crowds were bolstered by people visiting relatives. The weather and overall good spirits of the customers contributed to make his first Christmas season at Trader Jack's new location busier than expected, he said.

Larkins said that the crowds coming to town were good for the entire community, not just the retailers.

"They're definitely lingering and visiting in our community, which is a good thing," she said.

Dolinski earns Master Technician award

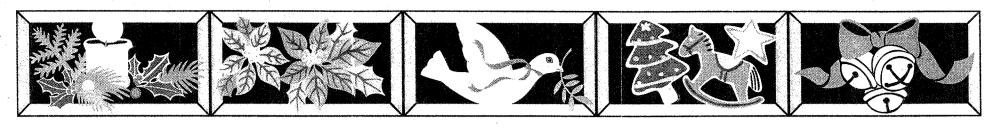


Bill Dolinski, a service technician at Blackwell Ford for more than 15 years, recently received the Ford Motor Company Master Technician

Dolinski is one of only 2807 mechanics nationwide to received the award. which requires a staggering 424 hours of classroom study and 65 hours of self study courses.

"I owe it all to my wife, Linda, who can probably fix cars as well as I can," he said. "She's really helped me over the

(Crier photo by Scott Spielman.)



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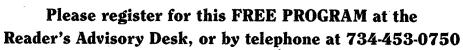
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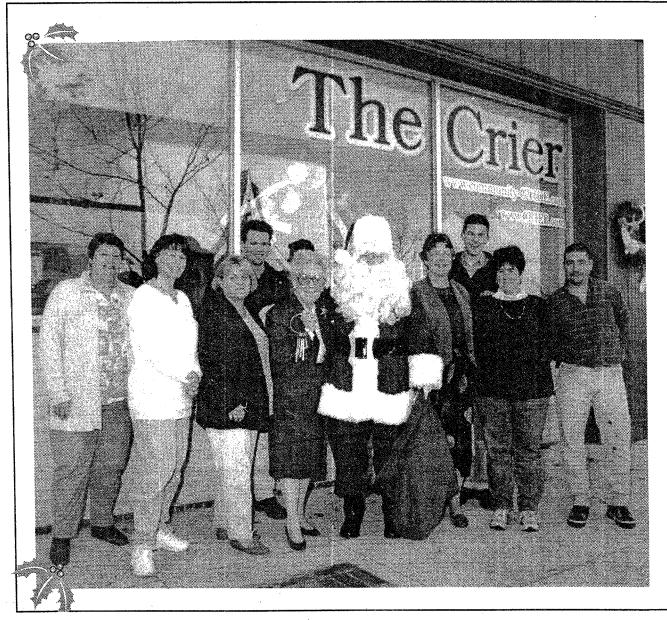
HOW TO BUY A COMPUTER

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Richard Truxall, continuing education coordinator for The Library Network, will present commercial-free computer-buying information and answer specific questions from the audience



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From the paper with its heart in the Plymouth - Canton Northville Community



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Entries will be judged on originality. A \$100 Gift Certificate will be awarded to each winner in each category. Gift Certificates may be redeemed at any advertiser in the Dec. 9 Letters to Santa Section of The Crier.

Winners will be pictured with their winning entry in the Dec. 9 issue of The Crier.

One of the winners will have his/her entry printed in FULL COLOR as the front cover of the Dec. 9 'Dear Santa' issue. Selection of cover will be made by The Crier.

Letters to Santa will be printed (space permitting) in the 'Dear Santa' section. One entry per person.

Contest closed to Crier employees, their families and relatives.

Hurry and mail your entry today! You could win a \$100 Gift Certificate. The decisions of judges will be final. Entries cannot be returned.



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Three piece antique bedroom set. Waterfall collection \$200. Pedestal end table \$50 and tapestry loveseat from Tyners \$150. (734) 981-7243

America's Budget Storage, 40671 Joy Rd., Canton, MI will sell the following units for unpaid rent to the highest bid on Dec. 3, 1998 at 1:00 p.m. J-30 Lewis: Furniture, boxes, tools. E32 Taylor: Desk, chairs, boxes, electronic parts.

G29 Hissong: Furniture, boxes, bike. F14 Buzzell: Tools, frigidaire, stove, cabinet.*

118 Anderson: Speakers, boxes, dresser, CD's.

A22 Gibson: Tools, freezer, bed, fan. F20 Sowers: Boxes, bags, TV. 112 Cuellar: Furniture, bike, boxes,

washing machine. Macintosh II Si with modem and printer \$150 or best. Also full size futon frame with mattress for \$175 or best. Contact Pete at (734)459-5270

Doll house and collectors furniture. call after 5 p.m. (734) 459-9412

Osburn woodstove insert. Works great, \$200. (734) 455-4193. Call to see. King waterbed, reading lights, mirrored headboard, 12 drawers. \$300 or best offer. (734) 453-2825.

Antique Eastlake walnut 3 piece bedroom set, \$1,800. Also old quilts, and bedspreads.

(734) 455-5346. ENTERTAINMENT CENTER \$100.00 or best offer

AE1 Camera, 70-200 lens, 50 lens

Computer - monitor - keyboard, Pentium 166MMX, 1.7 GB hard drive, 16 megabyte RAM, 4 MB, 30, 53, video. 33.4 fax modem, sound card, IBM. Windows 98, Offic e97. Call 734-354-6017 after 5 pm.

Health & Fitness

Save \$60 off your Medhealth Wellness/Fitness Center membership! Take over my membership (I'm moving) instead of joining anew. The place is wonderful! Great facilities, never crowded. If interested, call Medhealth 734-459-1800 then call me 734-454-1603, ask for Joan.

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HOME IMPROVEMENTS Roofs, decks, basement, kitchens and more. Licensed. Paul (734)451-0106

DECORATING SERVICES
PAINTING – WALLPAPERING
Molding; drywall -- plaster repairs. CALL (734)451-0987

PAINTING & DRYWALL Commercial and residential.
Call Chris at (734) 459-6620.
BRATTON PAINTING & DECORATING

Prompt professional service. Plaster & drywall repairs. Wallpaper removal. Tom (734) 482-7224

KITCHENS-BATHS Cabinets, Vanities, Formica & Corian countertops. 20 years in Plymouth area. Complete Design and Installation. Licensed Builder. Insured.

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References.
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Kitchen and Bath Remodeling, siding, additions, dormers, all home improvements.

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(734) 453-0955 YOUR PERSONAL HANDYMAN. All types of work. Repairs and

remodeling. 25 years experience. Lic. & Ins. (734)572-0859 A-1 Quality Painting. Interior and Exterior.
Seamless Gutters installed. Power Washing available. 15 years experience. Free estimates. Call John at (734)699-7924, pager 1-810-912-3526

Brian's Painting, interior & exterior, 15 years experience, 248/349-1558.

RESIDENTIAL ROOFING New construction, tear off & reroof. Licensed & insured. Free estimates. Financial assistance available. Call Scott

(313) 422-6042 REMODELING & NEW CONSTRUCTION Roofing, siding, decks, additions, and drywall. All home repairs and improvements. Licensed and insured, James Fisher, licensed builder,

(734)455-1108. JERRY'S PAINTING 1983 Salem Graduate 12 years experience in this area. Quality Work! All interior and exterior painting. (734)482-5408 RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL

Additions and new construction kitchens, baths, trimwork, basements, and decks, FLORKEN CONSTRUCTION CO. George Florken, lic. & insured builder

(734)455-0730 WALLPAPERING

Quality work. Prompt Installation. Nancy (810) 229-4907 or Barb (734) 455-1348

Housecleaning

YOU'VE TRIED THE REST, NOW TRY THE BEST. Call MRS. MOP (734) 397-4980.

Lessons

PIANO LESSONS
PIANO STUDIOS of LEIGH JENKINS and ASSOC. Now accepting new students. Call (734) 414-9844

Lost and Found

Found - Ladies caravelle watch, William Street area, Plymouth. 459-8858 FOUND: Darling silver and white long-haired female cat. Beautiful and sweet Found near Wilcox Rd. & Shadywood. Call (734) 455-5171.

Lost: black and white short hair, 20 lbs., named Peanut. Important, owner is handicapped. Call (734) 453-6900.

Girl: "Mommy, my cat ran away." Mom: "We should put an ad in The Crier." Girl: "Don't be silly. Kitty can't read."

Photography

RAWLINSON PHOTOGRAPHY Elegant Wedding Photography (734) 453-8872

Services

I can fix any VCR for less than \$50. Also, used VCRs for sale under \$50. Call Fred at (734)455-9364

DOG WALKING SERVICE and in-home pet care. Professional and bonded. Reserve now for the holidays! Plymouth only. References (734) 453-4373.

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Any household clean-up. Easy to load containers, sizes 10, 20, 30 yards All odd jobs done. (734)844-0141

Curiosities



St. Peter's Lutheran Church Own a piece of Plymouth History. 15 buildings to choose from including the Penn Theatre, Mayflower Hotel, Wilcox House, & Post Office. Stop in today or call for a complete list

Gabrialas,
322 S. Main St., PLYMOUTH,
(734) 455-8884.
ATTENTION CRIER READERS

Are you without a carrier in your neighborhood? It is now possible to receive The Paper With Its Heart In The Plymouth-Canton Community, by mail, at a SAVINGS. CALL NOW! (734)453-6900.

Do you remember Hanna Strassen? If you do and would like to hear about her and give aid and comfort to her golden years, call Joanne Osmer at 248-586-1233.

SENIOR ACTIVITY PROGRAM, 5710 McClellan, Detroit. 313-372-1653, offers meals & activities. Fee \$25.00. Dear Ed, Sally, Jess, Mike and all the Crier staff, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss -Beauregard was one of a kind. Wendy & the Journal staff (Who are going to miss all the mischief he used to get into.)
 "The first man gets the oyster, the second

man gets the shell. - Andrew Carnegie "Most of us never recognize opportunity until it goes to work in our competitor's business."

-P.L. Andarr Not "Waiting for Godot," but waiting for Allen to come home and give a special dimension to many of his friends.

Curiosities

Dear Martha. et. al.



By Geneva Guenther

Dear Martha et al:

You sounded just great last Sunday as always, Having your daughter and her husband with you is pretty special, isn't it? "How nice to have a man around the house!

One of the most unusual and nicest things happened to me the other day. The phone rang and it was a lady from Jacobson's. She and another person from Jacobson's who have waited on me over the years, were concerned because they hadn't seen me for a while; and wondered if I was all right. I was so touched almost burst out crying. What a loving and caring pair they are! I felt so honored to think they would check on my well-being. As a matter of fact, I have had a little difficulty walking and haven't ventured very far from home this summer. How dear of those women to miss me and do something about it! People are kind, aren't they?

Bless you. Geneva

Our Plymouth Santa Claus is the best I've ever seen, and believe me, I've seen many. Surprise, Jack, we made it for this

Thanksgiving. Let's have many more! JACK WILCOX:

> Put your best foot forward! --Ed

Dr. Bill and Theresa Covington, along with Bethie, Nancy and her new husband (from Philadelphia) visited me in the office Friday morning. What a nice thing to do and I appreciated their coming so much. Thank you, Geneva

Patrick Gallagher has a new table saw. (How is your mother?)

Wendover and Skene. Thank you for being such "take-action" guys. Nice muscles! -Fran & Sharon.

Fran & Sharon: What Wendover and Skene are you talking about?

There are better fish in the sea than have ever been caught." - Jenny at The Whalers

Monday, the city loses a part of its supportive landscape A face that made the place.

Walter Menard celebrates his double-nickel by attending the Canton Board meeting

Dear Santa, All I want for Christmas is LEADERSHIP IN THE PLYMOUTHS!

Only 23 shopping days left. The City of Plymouth Just isn't the same since the F.O.M.P. has left us to go throw her game in the Halls of D.C. where she learned folk walk. But they'll stop, look and listen

to hear T-Bone talk. KARL MAASS

got older

DIANE GIERA needs more grandkid photos.

Crier Classifieds

\$7.50 for the first 10 words, 20¢ each additional word. Deadline: Monday, 4 p.m. Call (734) 453-6900







Also-see Crier Classifieds on the internet at www.crier.com

Curiosities

im & Allison at the Box Ba are the Musical Entertainment. Dave & Lee are my favorite "friends"

is older

Thanks for all your many kind thoughts. -Jess. Sally, Ed

DONNIE BIDWELL says "Go Wings." BARR MILLER

(Cam said so)

Jeanine had a Dusty birthday surprise. Ask her.

Curiosities

ATTENTION CRIER READERS

Are you without a carrier in your neighborhood? It is now possible to receive The Paper With Its Heart In The Plymouth-Canton Community, by mail, at a SAVINGS. Call now! (734)-453-6900 1 year \$40.00 or send your check (or Visa/MC #) with your name and address to: The Community Crier

821 Penniman Ave.

Plymouth, MI 48170-1624

Curiosities

CONGRATS COLUMBIA DEBATE! No. 3 in the country. — Go Jess.

LISA FILAR will be older again. THE CRIER CARRIER who does the greaest job, with the greatest amount of December collections will win Whalers tix! Susanna Schonberger: Thank you for the apple pie and a II your love. We love you! Jeff, Jill, Joe and John

Kimberly F.G. - I'm so glad I went back. Happy Birthday! -Your mother Santa Claus - I'll bet I'm the only "old lady" in the world who wants a six foot replica of you for Christmas.

Curiosities

Check out

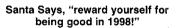
the Aluminum Christmas tree at Jill Andra Young Photography. (It's complete with the color wheel, don't you miss the '60's?)

Liam and Zak saw Santa at The Crier! Hey Jill...will those portraits be ready soon? Turkey omeletes...turkey tetrazzini....turkey soup.....turkey-zucchini bread....enough already!!

Sunday ain't the same without a REAL Sunday newspaper. Glad the Journal will be back soon.

SLOW DOWN on Haggerty, dang it!

Wanted The Crier is Now Accepting



Make 1999 the best year ever and join an organization that recognizes its employees as being the secret to success! If you deserve a work environment that is professional; yet friendly, provides a service to members who appreciate your time, and offers a flexible, weekend-free schedule, then come grow with us! We are looking for a part time credit card representative and part time lobby greeter to join our team. Competitive salary with benefits that include paid holidays, tuition assistance, and a 401k. Reward yourself for being professional in appearance, having excellent communication skills, and possessing a positive attitude along with basic computer knowledge by contacting Community Federal Credit Union today! Apply in person, mail resume or fax to: (734) 254-1237 500 S. Harvey, P.O. Box 8050, Plymouth MI

Get the help you need with an ad the The Crier! Call (734) 453-6900 today!

48170-8050.

Community Support Staff - Want to make a difference in someone's life? TTI is looking for motivated individuals to work one-on-one with children or adults with developmental disabilities. Warm working environment; flexible day, evening, after school and weekend hours, HS diploma and valid Michigan drivers license required. Please call 248-544-9354 for more

information.

Counter clerk or presser for family friendly dry cleaner. Flexible hours. Full or part time. Apply in person, Mon.-Fri., 8 to 4, S.W. corner of Ann Arbor Rd. at Sheldon. Es'Team Cleaners.

MUSIC TEACHER Someone to teach beginning band and vocal music to elementary and middle school students. Part-time position, two half days per week. Please contact new Morning School 734-420-3331

BUILDING CLEANERS needed 10 p.m. to 1a.m. Two days a we<None>k in the Plymouth area. We pay more. Call 1-800-794-1011 GOV'T POSTAL JOBS

Hiring for 1999. For info & appl., call 1-818-569-3736, x.6051.

Small: friendly company seeks person for delivery of light packages, plus light assembly. M-F, approx. 9:30-2:30. (734) 451-7300 or (248) 420-3331

HELP CHILDREN SUCCEED
consultant needed, work 20-30 hrs./wk., income
\$20,000. Training allowance, commissions, plus bonus. Homemakers, teachers and community volunteers do well in our work. Call C. Knapp (734)464-0931. EOE

CUSTOMER SERVICE/PRINT SALES Creative small company needs in-house sales, fast paced. Knowledge of print work required. Fax resume to (734) 420-3594.

BUILDING CLEANERS needed in the Plymouth area. Monday thru Friday 6-9 p.m. We pay more! Call 1-800-794-1011.

Get the help you need with an ad the The Crier! Call (734) 453-6900 today!

City of Plymouth Parks & Recreation Division SPORTS SCOREKEEPERS
GYM SUPERVISORS

The City of Plymouth is seeking minority and other qualified applicants for sports Scorekeepers/Gym Supervisors.
Apply in person at Plymouth Cultural Center,
525 Farmer Street, Plymouth, MI 48170-1392 or contact the Plymouth Recreation at (734) 455-6620 \$7.50 per hr. Games are held weeknights.

CONCESSION WORKERS

The City of Plymouth is seeking minority and other qualified applicants for Concession Workers. Apply in person at: Plymouth Cultural Center. 525 Farmer Street, Plymouth, MI 48170-1392 or contact the Plymouth Recreation at (734) 455-6620. Shifts are weeknights and week ends. \$6.50 per hr.

The City of Plymouth is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender or disability.



SLOAN KIDS U-CUT CHRISTMAS TREE FARM. Horse drawn wagon rides, campfires, food booths, petting zoo, much more. Fir, Pine, Spruce. Open week ends. Bothwell, Ontario. One hour from Port Huron, 1 1/2 hours from Detroit. Near Chatham. (519) 695-3525.

COORDINATE AN ESL PROGRAM this Summer! International student exchange organization seeking dynamic persons to organize English Language Programs - for incoming Japanese and Thai exchange students. Recruit

host families - develop curriculum - organize field trips - oversee teaching of English classes. ESL certification preferred. Good stipend for qualified coordinators! Interested? Call Sara at 1-800-333-3802, Ext. 225.

WHEELS, FACTORY ALLOY wheels, original rally wheels and stock steel wheels. World's most complete inventory. Buy, Sell. Ship Nationwide. Acker Wheel: 1-800-994-3357; www.ackerwheel.com

FOR PENNIES MORE, get latest technology in liquid wormers. HAPPY JACK LIQUI-VICT delivers actives better than older formulas. TSC Tractor Supply & Farmland Coops. (www.happyjack.com)

HOMEOWNERS! Credit Problems? We Can Help! Debt Consolidation • Income Property • Home Improvement • Quick Closings - Call 7 days, 24 hrs. Allied Mortgage Capital Corporation. 1-800-611-3766

#1 CAMPGROUND MEMBERSHIP AND TIME-SHARE Resale Clearinghouse!! Don't want yours? - We'll take it!! Buy! sell! Rent! Resort Sales Int'l 1-800-423-5967.

\$\$ WE BUY \$\$ *Seller Financed Notes *Insurance Settlements *Land Note Portfolios. Colonial Financial 1-800-969-1200 Ext. 57.

OWN A DOLLARSTORE. 1-800-227-5314. \$\$\$OVER DUE BILLS? Credit problems? Consolidate Debts! Same day approval. Cut monthly Payments up to 50%!! Become Debt Free. NO APPLICATION FEES!! 1-800-863-9006, Ext. 973.

BANKRUPTCY \$79+. Stop garnishments! Guaranteed valid since 1991. Divorce \$99+! Low cost Foreclosure Avoidance available without bankruptcy. Also fast homeowner/equity loans. FreshStart 1-888-395-8030 toll-free.

NEED CASH? Immediate cash paid for future settlement payments, lottery winnings and life insurance policies from terminally ill policyholders. Call Singer Asset 1-800-605-5007. www.singerasset.com

AVON PRODUCTS - Start your own business. Work flexible hours. Enjoy unlimited earnings. Call Toll Free 1-888-942-4053.

MEDICAL BILLING. Nationwide Company seeking billers. PC required, no experience necessary. Earn \$31,500+ potential. Call 1-800-

LAKEVIEW BARGAIN. 5+ AC \$19,900 w/boat dock! Beautifully wooded, breathtaking views, located at crystal clear Tennessee mountain lake - next to 18 hole golf course! Payed rds. utils, soils tested. Lowest financing in yrs. Lakefront also available. Call now 1-800-704-3154, ext. 514.

"CASH IMMEDIATE." \$\$\$ for structured settlements and deferred insurance claims J.G. Wentworth 1-888-231-5375.

STEEL BUILDINGS Sale: 5.000+ sizes. 40x60x14, \$8,242; 50x75x14, \$11,150; 50x100x16, \$15,522; 60x100x16, \$17,556. Mini storage buildings, 40x180, 36 units, \$17,818. Free brochures. www.sentinelbuildings.com Sentinel Buildings, 1-800-327-0790, Extension

PLACE YOUR STATEWIDE AD HERE! \$239 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.4 million circulation. Contact The Crier at (734) 453-6900 for

NEED HIELP?

FIND IT FAST WITH A CRIER CLASSIFIED



453-6900



Services for Anthony Leopardi, 36, tomorrow

Funeral mass for Anthony Leopardi, 36, of Livonia, will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Aidians on Farmington Road in Livonia.

Mr. Leopardi died Monday after years of valiant struggle against cancer. He is survived by his wife, Patti, and young daughter, Maria. He is also survived by his brother, Erimino (Earl); and his parents, Mario and Lisolina.

Visitations will be held today from 4 to 9 p.m. at the Manor's and restaurant's owner. Fred Wood Funeral Home on Five Mile Road in Livonia. Donations may be made to Angela Hospice.

Mr. Leopardi worked for Laurel Manor and Fonte D Amore restaurant for almost 20 years — rising to general manager at the Manor. "He never complained; you knew he was going through pain," said Tino Del Signore, the

"The doctors gave him weeks to live many years ago, he said he was going to beat this one too... we all believed that. The staff loved him," said Del Signore.

Mr. Leopardi worked with a number of businesses in The Plymouth-Canton Community while booking events at



Community deaths

Obituaries

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

WALTER J. KRAJEWSKI

Walter J. Krajewski, a South Lyon resident, died Nov. 20, 1998 at the age of

Mr. Krajewski was born June 19, 1920 in Detroit. He was a sales representative for Gulf Oil Company.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth J. Krajewski of South Lyon; son, Ken (Barbara) Krajewski of Canton; daughter, Marcia (James) Knott of South Lyon; sister, Julia Machowicz of Detroit; grandchildren, Tracy, Amy, Katie, Meliss and Kimberly; and great-grand children, Ja-Vaughn and Kayla.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the charity of choice.

FLORENCE G. McCOMBS

Florence G. McCombs, a Plymouth resident, died Sunday, Nov. 22 at the age

Mrs. McCombs was born July 19, 1909 in Painesville, OH. She was a homemaker. She was born and raised in Cleveland, OH. She formerly lived in the Lyndhurst and Chagrin Falls in the Ohio area.

She is survived by her son, John (Pat) McCombs of Plymouth; sisters, Dorothy Johnson of Burton, OH, Jane Bandelow of Lyndhurst, Marjorie Cjeka of Coral Gables, FL; grandsons, Edward McCombs of Farmington Hills, Tony Annas of California; and granddaughter, Betsy Freedman of California.

Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth.

SHIRLEY FAY WOOD

Shirley Fay Wood, a Canton resident, died Nov. 20, 1998 at the age of 79. Mrs. Wood was born Dec. 21, 1918 in South Lyon. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her daughters, Lois (Chalres) M. Long of Foxport, KY, Joy (Leroy) S. Simchak of Canton, Hope (James) E. Shuler of Gastonia, NC, Paula (Dannie) J. Mullins of Carleton, MI; sons, David (Vickie) E. Wood of Westland, Mark (Dorothy) W. Wood of Jackson, TN, Philip (Diana) E. Wood of Chelsea, MI; sisters, Lillian Ellenwood, Lorraine Fadiga, Beverly Valentine; and brothers, David Tapp, Keith Tapp and Jean Miller.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Vermeulen Funeral Home with the Rev. James F. Andrews officiating. Burial was at United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to the Alzheimer's Association, 17220 W. Twelve Mile Road, Suite 100 Southfield, MI 48076; ot Mott's Children Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI.

TIFFANY LYNN MORANTE

Tiffany Lynn Morante, a Plymouth resident, died Nov. 26, 1998 at the age of

Mrs. Morante was born May 26, 1977 in Richmond, VA. She was a student at Michigan State University, studying marketing. She was a 1995 graduate of Salem High School.

She is survived by her parents, John and Marcia Kenely of Plymouth; brothers, John C. Kenely of Roseville, Donald O. (Kristen) Kenely of Farmington, Kitt M. Kenely of Pleasant Ridge, MI; sisters, Kelly and Keri Morante of Plymouth; and nieces, Jessica and Molly Kenely. She is preceded in death by her father, Vincent A. Morante.

Services were held at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to MADD.

RUTH EMMA CAMERON

Ruth Emma Cameron, a Plymouth resident, died Nov. 26, 1998 at the age of 86.

Mrs. Cameron was born March 6, 1912 in Detroit. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by two sons, eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Malcolm R. Cameron.

Arrangements were made by and services held at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home in Plymouth. Burial was at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy. Memorial contributions can be given to the charity of choice.

PHILIP PENGLASE JAMES

Philip Penglase James, a Canton resident, died Nov. 25, 1998 at the age of 90. Mr. James was born Dec. 10, 190 in Detroit. He was a supervisor.

He is survived by his daughter, Marilyn (Robert) A. Barrick of Canton; son, Richard (Anita) D. James of Tulsa, OK; sister, Mary Grace Adams of Grosse Pointe, MI; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Services were held at St. Michael Lutheran Church with the Rev. Drex Morton officiating. Burial was at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Arrangements were made by the Vermeulen Funeral Home in Plymouth. Memorial contributions can be given to St. Michael Lutheran Church, 7000 S. Sheldon Road, Canton 48187; or Karmanos Cancer Institute, Plymouth Region, 744 Wing Street, Plymouth, MI 48170.

David J. Bowman, 68, Ford Motor retiree

David J. Bowman, a former Plymouth resident, died Nov. 30, 1998.

He is survied by his wife, Noreen; sons, John and Bill; daughters, Sue and Mary Ann; grandchildren, Tami, David, Sean and Kyle.

Visitation will be held at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the Oakland Hills Cemetery Chapel at 12 MIle and Novi roads. Services will follow. Arrangements were made by the Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Livonia.



Sports

Sports shorts

*** WHALER CONTEST ***

Hey kids. How would you like to have lunch with a Plymouth Whaler? Better yet, how would you like to have a Whaler bring you lunch at your school?

Well, you might have your chance, if you can get those creative juices flowing and produce a poster that shows your Whaler spirit.

The contest is open to all boys and girls in kindergarten through sixth grade.

There are three age groups and a winner will be chosen from each. The winners will receive a pair of tickets to a Whaler game and T-shirt. They will also be introduced to the crowd on the Dec. 29 game.

Plus, a Whaler will bring them lunch at their school.

So get those pens and pencils rolling. The Whalers need your help.

Entries can be dropped off either at Compuware Sports Arena on Beck Road or at The Community Crier offices in Downtown Plymouth, 821 Penniman Avenue.

Every entry should include the artist's name, school, grade and favorite Whaler.

The deadline for the poster contest is Dec. 23.

PCJBA BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

The Plymouth Canton Junior
Basketball Association will hold its
high school registration, Saturday
Dec. 5 at East Middle School in
Plymouth.

Registration will be held from 9 a.m. to noon. All girls and boys in grades 9-12 are eligible. The cost is \$100.

ALL-CONFERENCE BASKETBALL

Three area girls basketball players have been named to the Western Lakes Athletic Association All-Conference team.

They are Canton senior Janell Twietmeyer, Salem senior Andrea Pruett and Salem junior Tiffany Gruebaugh. Both teams finished the season as division champions.

Whaler holiday traditions

Shaven heads and Winnipeg

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Last year they didn't do a very good job, Troy Smith said. It got kind of messy.

When you're dealing with razors, messy isn't a good word.

In an effort to bring his team closer, Troy Smith volunteered to continue his holiday tradition this year of allowing his teammates to shave his head.

After a weekend of two losses, Smith was ready to donate his noggin in the name of team spirit.

Last Wednesday, the deed was done. Before practice defenseman Paul Mara used the clippers to get it short. After practice, Harold Druken did the honors with the razor.

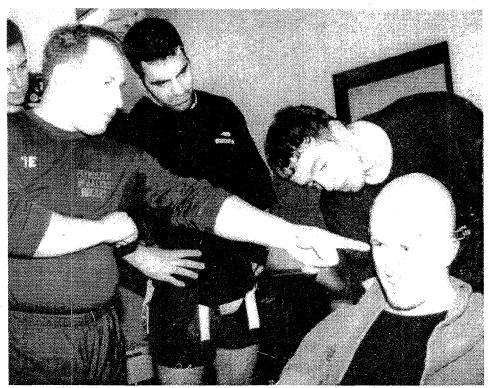
Why those two guys?

"Because I trust them," Smith said.

Unconfirmed reports say some players didn't believe Smith would go through with the shaving and made bets against him.

The added comradarie may help as the Whalers face a tough streak of games that will include the loss of several of their top players.

Mara, Druken, Nik Tselios, Dave Legwand and Tommy Valtonen all could be headed to the World Junior



Whaler Assistant Coach Steve Spott points to a missed spot on the newly shaven head of Troy Smith as Harold Druken and Adam Colagiacomo look on after last Wednesday's practice. (Crier photo by R. Alwood. Jr.)

Championships starting next week The Championships, held in Winnipeg through the New Year, pit country against country in battles that attrack many NHL scouts.

With some heading to Canada and others to the US team, some Whalers may face each other in competition.

"When you throw on your country's

sweater, everything else takes a backseat," said Coach Pete DeBoer.

DeBoer, who coached the junior Canadian team in Finland last year, said he'll be happy to be home for Christmas this year.

"It will be refreshing to spend the holidays with my wife," he said.

'Tis the season to be active

In-line skates and skiboards among this season's snow-melting items

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

Venture Outdoors in Plymouth Township is trying something different this year. It's new for them, for their customers and for most of the country.

It's called skiboarding, and it may be the latest craze in downhill winter sports.

It's sort of a snowboard-skiing combination. The boards are short and wide, but there are two of them, one for each foot.

According to Eric Spiller, manager at Venture Outdoors, skiboards first caught the public eye last year at the Winter X games, an extreme sport olympic-like competition.

"Skiboards may work for people who don't want to invest into an entire snow-board package," Spiller said.

Prices range between about \$259-\$350 for a pair of skiboards. But if you're afraid they may be the second coming of the Vegamatic, Venture rents skiboards for \$15 a day.

"Sales have been slow so far," Spiller admits. "But we're waiting for the snow. Sales should pick up them."

Snowboard sales continue to rise, Spiller said. "Pretty soon skis will be obsolete," he said. "Everybody will be riding snowboards."

Unlike most phenomenons, snowboards show no signs of slowing down. According to Spiller, snowboards are easier to learn, which is why everybody will convert.

But winter sports aren't the only items

under the Christmas tree this season. The Trading Post in Plymouth Township is reporting increased sales in their big ticket items: bikes, in-line skates and special orders.

"They use Christmas as an excuse," said Matt Cook, assistant manager at the Trading Post.

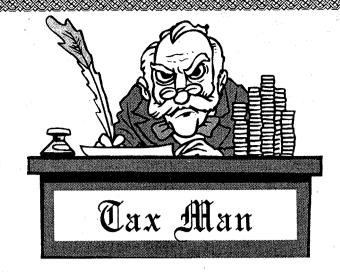
He said this year's increase for in-line skate sales is a bit of a surprise.

"Sales had dropped off a couple of years ago and we sold mostly accessories," he said. "This year people are coming back for new skates."

Cook would not confirm reports that Santa was seen buying a new pair as a replacement to his sleigh.

Tax year endeth:

Attention Business Folks Plymouth-Canton-Northville



There are many important things to consider by the end of the 1998 tax year.

And there are many tax code changes which may affect you.

Here are a few of the 32-point check-up we recommend:

• Effective for payments made after December 31, 1997, information reporting is required on all payments

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Lori D'Mello Cathy McGrath Tina Mongrain Steve Boloven

to attorneys made by a trade or business in the course of that trade or business. The gross proceeds reporting should be made on Form 1099-B. This applies to all payments made to attorneys even if the legal practice is incorporated. Payments to law firms are payments to attorneys.

• Is your computer ready to go forth into the year 2000? Computers and software need to be "Y2K compliant". This may mean you need to upgrade or replace. Your computer specialist can assist you in making determinations. A call to your software companies can also be helpful. Be careful! Some major software products which have previously claimed to be compliant have had a change of heart. Now is the time to prepare. Any programs that utilize budgeting, forecasting, or fiscal years beginning as soon as January 1, 1999

could be affected within the next several months.

- For married taxpayers filing a joint return, where one spouse participates in a company sponsored retirement plan, the non-participating spouse is now eligible to contribute to a deductible IRA, subject to AGI limitations.
- A last minute change to the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act eliminated the 18 month holding period for capital gains. The change is retroactive to the start of 1998. Most property held more than twelve months will qualify for capital gain rates.
- The 1999 earnings ceiling for Social Security is:

Age 62-64 \$9,600 Age 65-69 \$15,500 Age 70 and above No limit

For an update of year-end financial planning strategies -- at no obligation -- just fax us your business card to (734)453-9987

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Whalers fight back to win column

Victory stack back on track as Plymouth realigns its systems

BY SCOTT GOODWIN

It was about the mid-way point of the third period Saturday night that the Whalers showed why they have the potential to be a championship team.

At the beginning of the period they had a commanding 4-1 lead over the visiting Peterborough Petes. They were very mich in control, keeping their larger division rivals from too many good scoring chances and creating several themselves.

But Peterborough, who had handed the Whalers only their second loss earlier in the season, weren't going to give up. They came out of the intermission fired up and ready to play. The Whalers on the other hand, looked a little lackadaisical riding their three goal lead.

It cost them. On two quick scores, the Petes were right back in the game and looking to deliver a decisive strike.

Peterborough's scoring threats of Jason Williams, Robert Francz and Scott Barney had their sites on the suddenly porous Scott Holsinger, Whaler goaltender.

But Holsinger would disappoint them with an array of solid kick and slide saves. And the Whalers' offense

responded.

Two Whaler goals later, the first by Julian Smith and then by Jamie LaLonde, Plymouth was sporting a three goal lead again. Almost effortlessly.

"We showed some good experience out there," said Whaler Coach Pete DeBoer. "We probably wouldn't have won this game a year ago."

Harold Druken recorded yet another hat trick Saturday as he netted three of the Whalers' first four goals of the game raising his league-leading total to 33. Shaun Fisher was credited with an assist on two of Druken's goals.

Adam Colagiacomo scored his 13th goal of the season late in the third on an assist from captain Randy Fitzgerald

Smith's insurance goal in the third was his first since coming off an injury that has sidelined him for a number of games.

"I don't think people realize how important he is to us," said Assistant Coach Steve Spott. "He helps open a lot of options."

With Smith, the Whalers are able to throw a number

OHL Leading Scorers							
Player, Team	GP	G	A	Pts			
1. DRUKEN, PLYMOUTH	26	33	21	54			
2. Sarno, Sarnia	25	9	38	47			
3. Colagiacomo, Plymouth	26	13	32	45			
4. Zigomanis, Kingston	26	17	27	44			
5. Keefe, Toronto	25	22	20	42			
6. Campbell, Ottawa	26	3	39	42			

of strong offensive lines at their opponents. Many teams have had to change their defensive schemes to compete.

"We don't see aggressive forchecking," from our opponents, Spott said. "They realize the power of our team is speed, and they are trapping to slow us down."

To beat the trap, Spott says the Whalers are dumping he puck more.

"We learned that in the losses against Owen Sound and Guelph," he said.

Please see pg. 25

WHALERWANGE



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OHL STANDINGS

(Through Dec. 1)

T Last 10 Pts.

PLYMOUTH	20	4	2	6-2-2	42
S.S. MARIE	16	8	1	9-1-0	33
SARNIA	12	11	2	4-5-1	26
WINDSOR	8	15	3	3-6-1	19
LONDON	9	17	0	2-8-0	18
EAST	W	ĭ	T	Loot 10	Dea
		L	T	Last 10	Pts.
OTTAWA	22	2	2	10-0	46
PETER.	15	11	0	5-5-0	30
BELLEVILLE	13	9	4	6-3-1	30
OSHAWA	12	9	2	7-3-0	26
KINGSTON	7	18	1	1-9-0	15
MIDWEST	w	L	Т	Last 10	Pts.
GUELPH	19	8	0	7-3-0	38
ERIE	14	9	1	7-2-1	29
OWEN SOUND	12	10	3	5-4-1	27
KITCHENER	8	15	2	2-8-0	18
BRAMPTON	3	21	1	1-8-1	7
•		1649 5 16			
<u>CENTRAL</u>	W	L	T	Last 10	Pts.
BARRIE	20	4	2	9-0-1	.42
SUDBURY	9	14	3	4-5-1	21
NORTH BAY	9	15	3.	4-6-0	21
TORONTO	7	14	4	4-5-1	18
MISSISSAUGA	1	22	. 2	0-9-1	4

.

WHALER STATISTICS Team Leaders: Goals: Druken (33) Assists: Colagiocomo (32) Points: Druken (54) PIM: LaLonde (85)

GAA: Holsinger (2.25)

CATCH OF THE DAY

Rookie defenseman Andre Robichaud will be named the Whalers Academic Player of the Month this Friday. Robichaud is a senior at Plymouth Christian Academy.

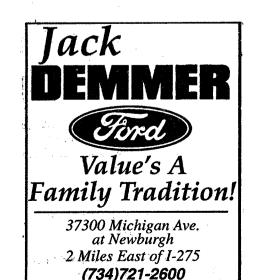
UPCOMING GAMES:

- Fri. at home versus Windsor (7:30 p.m.)
- Sat. at home versus London (7:30 p.m.)



7293 Lilley Rd, Canton (734) 455-6137

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.



Sports shorts

USED SPORTS EQUIPMENT SALE

The Canton Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring its annual Sports Equipment Sale on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Pheasant Run Golf Club clubhouse.

The public is invited to sell their sports or recreational equipment at the sale. Sellers can bring their equipment to the Pheasant Run clubhouse on Thursday, Dec. 3 between 6 - 9 p.m., where they will be priced and tagged for the Saturday sale.

You set the prices, you get the money (Canton Parks and Reckeeps 15 per cent).

Volunteers will be on-hand to do the selling, so sellers don't need to be present. You may collect your money or pick up your unsold items the day of the sale between 1-2 p.m.

For more information call Bob Dates at 397-5110.

On deck

SALEM BOYS BASKETBALL

Tuesday at home versus Monroe, 5:30 p.m.

SALEM BOYS SWIMMING Season begins Dec. 17

SALEM WRESTLING

Thursday at Farmington versus Monroe, Farmington and Canton, 5:30 p.m. Saturday at the Holt Invite, 9 a.m.

SALEM GYMNASTICS

Season begins Dec. 17

SALEM VOLLEYBALL

Season begins Dec. 12

CANTON BOYS BASKETBALL

Tuesday at home versus Wayne Memorial, 5:30 p.m.

CANTON BOYS SWIMMING Season begins Dec. 12

CANTON WRESTLING

Thursday at Farmington versus Monroe, Farmington and Salem, 5:30 p.m. Saturday at the Utica Ford Invite, 9 a.m.

CANTON GYMNASTICS Season begins Dec. 12

CANTON VOLLEYBALL

Season begins Dec. 16

Ambassadors take over first

BY NICK GISMONDI

The Compuware Ambassadors regained first place this past weekend with a pair of impressive wins over the St. Louis Sting and Team USA.

On Saturday, the Ambassadors continued their recent dominance of St. Louis with a 4-2 victory. Despite having trouble with the Sting in the finals of the Fall

Classic last month, the Ambassadors have not let the Sting hurt them since. Last weekend Compuware spanked the Sting 7-0, and although the score was not as high Saturday, the Ambassadors carried play for most of the game.

Ambassador Troy Milam opened the scoring Saturday with a mid-first period goal. J.J. Swistak, Steve Jackson, and Jack



Referees are in the unenviable position of breaking up a scuffle between the Plymouth Whalers and North Bay Centennials Friday night at Compuware Sports Arena. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Whalers fight through losing streak

Continued from pg. 24

The coaches worked to "realign the systems" during practice last week, Spott said. The hard work paid off.

"We played very disciplined," he said. "We're paying more attention to our defensive responsibilities."

Plymouth 4, North Bay 1—Plymouth ended their losing streak Friday night as David Legwand continued his recent tear with a pair of goals that helped send the North Bay Centennials packing with a lose.

Legwand's goals came in the first and third periods. Eric Gooldy scored the game-winner one minute into the second period on assists from Paul Mara and Druken. Mara also added a goal on a powerplay in the third, his eighth of the season

Three of the Whalers four goals came on the power play, including two in the third where they were outshot 10-4. North bay could not score on any of their nine powerplay chances.

Plymouth now leads the league in special teams. As of Saturday, they were scoring on an astounding 47.7 per cent of their powerplay chances at Compuware Sports Arena. Their overall average is a league-leading 36.4 per cent.

They also lead the league with an overall penalty-kill percentage of 87.5.

Chatter: The Whalers raised \$1200 for the United Way Sunday night in their annual Skate with a Whaler event.

According to Spott, all three half-hour sessions were packed as fans got the opportunity to skate with their favorite players.

Redwood also added goals and each had an assist for the Ambassadors. Craig Kowalski made 25 saves.

On Friday, the Ambassadors kicked the weekend off on the road at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube where they took on the USA under-17 National Team. In a rematch of last years NAHL playoff finals where Compuware eliminated USA in a two games to none sweep, the Ambassadors continue their success over USA with a 5-0 shutout.

Compuware scored twice in the second and three in the third. Justin Williams, John Shouneyia, Pat Brush, Milam and Swistak all notched goals for the victors. Nick Schrader, who last year played for USA, assisted on the game's first goal. Kowalski earned his third shut out of the season.

A quick Ambassador note: back up goalie Beau Fritz was released by the team this past week. The Ambassadors picked up Tom Fortunate, who started the season with the Compuware Midget Majors.

The Ambassadors record is now 18-4-1, three points ahead of the second place Soo Indians.

The Ambassadors next games are this Saturday and Sunday in Sault Saint Marie at the Big Bear Arena. You can hear those games broadcast live on 88.1 FM WSDP-Plymouth starting at 1:35 with the pregame, the puck drops at 2:00pm.





#10 CENTER Julian Smith

A third year player out of Toronto, Smith has been an integral part of the Whalers chemistry this season, according to Assistant Coach Steve Spott. This weekend he played key penalty-killing minutes and scored an insurance goal against Peter Borough Saturday Night

Whaler of the week chosen by The Crier editorial staff and Brought to you by:

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Community opinions

Bigger than government

When was the last time you swam in the Rouge River? When did you take a drink?

If your answer is 10 years or less, I hope you get those sores checked out soon.

An epitome of Industrial Age waste, the Rouge has been an ecological joke for years. You might have expected it to birth some mutant trout from its mucky waters.

It was brown. It smelled bad. The site of rotting fish along its edges made small children weep.

Over the past 50 years, while Detroit and its suburbs blossomed, the Rouge was neglected and abused. It, like many natural resources, suffered through increasing levels of industrial and residential strain.

The river's course — its fingers carve through nearly every metro Detroit community — meant pollution was inevitable. Considering that storm drains carry waste off every side street, and the brown film resting upon the Rouge isn't that surprising.

About 15 years ago, people began to recognize the problems a polluted river brings, particularly a river that runs through parks and near schools.

Organizations like Friends of the Rouge, dedicated to cleaning-up the river, were founded in the 1980s and have done an admirable job. But it wasn't enough. The river remained a noxious trough, still potentially harmful, still a badge of dishonor for our community.

When the Clean Water Act was signed into law in 1972, it promised to rid waterways like the Rouge of their manmade illness. But the process has been slow and expensive. And many have questioned its effectiveness.

According to Plymouth Township officials, the money spent by bigger cities was often wasted on studies and red tape.

Soon, the long arm of the Clean Water Act will reach into smaller communities like Write of way

By Scott Goodwin



Plymouth and Canton. Fearing costly studies themselves, many of those communities have recently banded together to proactively anticipate the EPA's demands.

Plymouth Township is one of those communities. Last month, they approved an MDEQ permit for storm water discharge. Although a storm water permit wouldn't have been required until 2001, the Township, along with several other Rouge basin communities, decided they wanted to show the federal government they could handle the problem themselves. They didn't need the intrusion of Big Brother.

The permit, the first in the nation, requires the Township to develop and implement several watershed plans, including an illicit discharge plan and a public education plan.

They don't need to do this. They could just wait. But they are taking the initiative, stepping forward to clean the river.

But what also makes this permit unique is that it requires even more localized initiative. Local governments can't do this by themselves. And that's why they have a public education plan.

The popular misnomer about water pollution is that it's caused by industry, large factories indiscriminately dumping their sludge down the drain.

While this may be partially correct, the truth is most river pollution comes from residential waste. Industry is strictly regulated, citizens are not.

That's what communities like Plymouth Township hope to change. No, they don't want to ticket you for dumping paint down a storm water drain. But they do want to convince you that its a bad thing to do.

It's a basic psychological method not usually employed by government: positive reinforcement. Do good things and good things (like a cleaner river) will happen.

Residents should welcome this with open arms. They should help prove cooperation between citizens and government is better than a heavy hand, particularly in low-tax communities such as the Township.

So when the storm water education plan falls on your doorstep, pay attention. Do your part. The chance for citizens to be bigger than government is rare. Take the option while you can.

"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



THE NEWSPAPER WITH ITS HEART IN THE PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY

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Whaddya think?

'Calling all Plymouth police'

Plymouth City and Township officials are considering the consolidation of their police department dispatch services. It might save as much as \$80,000 for each municipality, but chould change some service aspects if they do it. Should they?

They did it to the fire department

Should the City police and Township police be consolidated into a single department for all of Plymouth?

Mail your response on this form or a sheet of paper to: The Community Crier, 821 Penniman Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170-16924 • Or, email us at: EMAIL@Crier.com



Community opinions

Nix mergers; talk unification

EDITOR:

I have been following with great interest the continued issue of shared services between the City and the Township. Mostly because I was a part of it and now I get to look at it from a different prospective.

The putting together of the two communities has a great deal of history, which I won't discuss now. The sharing of services was thought to be a new method of continuing the effort of cooperation between the two, but even that has its drawbacks. Sharing of services is great as long as the two that are sharing have the same goals in mind. Fire and ambulance services and recreation are three which I believe have similar goals for both communities. Two out of three seem to be doing fine. But the third went down to defeat for a lot of different reasons, none of

which I believe the local governments truly understand. And yes, that is one of two issues that should be brought back for a vote. Money always appears to be the primary problem, but the way the service is delivered is the real issue on all of the shared services.

I believe if we are going to share services we need to take a look at which services and not piecemeal it as it currently exists. We as residents need to know why some services need to be merged, the goals, the benefits, the implementation process, along with the costs now and in the future, before the service is merged. In other words, establish a plan of action and share it with the public and then move forward.

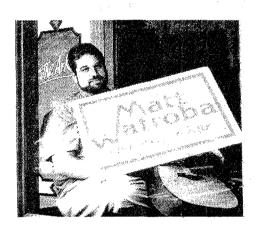
I believe it is time to get away from the sharing of services and all of the controversy it causes. It also has a possibility of dividing the communities even more, because of personal agendas. We need to either put the two governments together or they should go their separate

Don't talk about sharing services or consolidation, but let's talk abut unification. The difference is unification allows residents to choose their form of government and

Consolidation is a choice between a city or township form of government. I believe it is now time to take a serious look at unification and open it up to pubic

CARL BERRY

EDITOR'S NOTE: Berry is the former chief of police for Plymouth Township



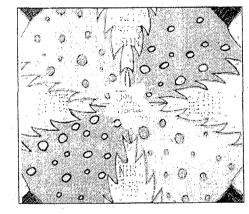
Matt Watroba



The 3 Baritones



The Chapels



NHS Choir

Sound choices in quick, local gifts

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Matt Watroba

Live at The Ark

You may hear Matt on WDET doing his "Folks Like Us," or you may know him as a teacher at the Plymouth-Canton Centennial Educational Park. When you hear this one, it's easy to see Matt's personal touches to the influence he's felt from notable folk artists like Tom Paxton. (Maybe Matt's next CD will include his version of Paxton's "1,000,000 Lawyers.")

Call (810) 750-3420 to order.

The 3 Baritones

— with The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra

This Sunday, Nov. 9, 1997 concert with The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra playing at Orchestra Hall in Detroit was one of the local symphony's liveliest, funniest performances ever. It was a great chance for the local musicians - conducted by Russell Reed - to show off with the three baritones (Pavlo Elvira, Quinto Milito, Dino Valle) to a larger Southeast Michigan audience.

A great CD crowd-pleaser.

To purchase, simply drop in to The Plymouth Symphony Orchestra offices at 819 Penniman Ave., in downtown Plymouth (next to The Crier offices).

Listen

The Chapels

Imagine! A police chief whose career is just now starting to take off as a gospel singer. Plymouth Police's Bob Scoggins resisted naming his gospel group "The Police"

With malice toward none



(besides the name was already taken). Seriously though, the vocalists (Jim Talbott, Jr., Ron Newsome and the stagenamed-chief Bobby Crumpler) have performed on TV and at numerous public stages. The chief is following in the steps of his father, a well-known gospel singer in his day.

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