

Supervisor's Update

October 30, 2008



CANTON

Community

Canton Economic Club Luncheon

Featuring Guest Speaker Lester Robinson, CEO of Detroit Metro Airport Wednesday, November 5 - 11:30am to 1:30pm 46000 Summit Parkway Cost \$20 - Luncheon is open to everyone. To RSVP, please call 394-5185.

Development Update....

An independent/assisted living facility has submitted plans for Cherry Hill Village. Huntington Bank is under construction in the parking lot of Kohl's, Harvard Square (northeast corner of Sheldon and Ford) will see a reface. The northern portion of the center will house medical related uses.

Corkscrew convenience store has been removed to make way for three retail spaces; Canton Corners' facelift is almost complete with Home Goods, Buy Buy Baby and (rumored) Hobby Lobby locating in the last large space. The building being constructed on the southwest corner of Lilley and Ford will be

Leisure Services Department Named the Best in the US...Canton Leisure Services staff were informed early last week that they had been reaccredited by their national professional association. **The Canton department remains the only Michigan department to be accredited and one of only 70 in the United States.** More importantly, the Department was named as the best department in the 50-75,000 population classification. Canton and three other departments were nominated for this prestigious honor. Scores of applications from departments throughout the United States were screened by a panel of experts in the field of Parks and Recreation. **Canton was chosen over the other three as the best department in the United States.** This award is a tribute to the dedication, commitment and professionalism of the Leisure Services team.

FBI names Canton as safest community in Southeast

Michigan...Each year Michigan communities submit to the FBI statistics involving violent and property crime. For the 2007 year, **Canton was the safest community in the 50-100,000 resident classification.** Canton had the lowest ratio of property crimes to 1,000 residents (18/1,000). Farmington Hills had 21, Novi 21, Troy 24, Livonia 25, Westland 32, Taylor 45 and Dearborn 47. In the area of violent crimes Canton, Novi, and Troy had 1 violent crime per 1,000 residents. Farmington Hills and Livonia had 2, while Taylor had 4, and Westland and Dearborn had 5. **As a result, in total crimes Canton was lowest with 19,** Farmington Hills and Novi had 21, Troy 24, Livonia 27, Westland 38, Taylor 49 and Dearborn 52. Canton is consistently rated one of the safest communities not only in Michigan, but the United States. **Low crime is the result of solid families, good schools, outstanding leisure services, committed and dedicated police staff and vigilant and involved residents.**

Charter Schools abound....As I am sure you remember, the Heritage Academy wanted to double their size at Ridge and Ford. Because of a consent agreement on the parcel we were able to suggest they find a more suitable parcel for their second school. **They took our advice and will be locating on Denton, north of Geddes.** A third charter school is interested in building a K-12 building on a long narrow parcel (between Saltz and Ford) located between Vintage Valley and Antique Forest subdivisions. The parcel has wetlands to the north, thus the only entry to the site would be from Saltz Road. The building would be in excess of 70,000 square feet. **Canton has asserted that public schools should follow the same approval process as any other special land use**

home to Potbelly.

Comfort Inn is now open, soon to be followed by Hampton Inn. Beaumont Hospital is looking at a spring start on their new building on Haggerty, north of Michigan.

Greatest concentration of new homes in Canton continues to be in Cherry Hill Village.

The Village Theater

**Peter T. Fetter's
Memory Lane Show,**
\$10-15
11/2/2008 at 2 p.m.

We Are The World, \$8-10
The Sounds of Canton
11/7/2008 at 7 p.m.
11/8/2008 at 2 p.m.

Bill Bynum & Co., \$10
First Friday Studio
Series
11/7/08 at 8 p.m.
Studio G

**Canton's Salute to
Service,** Free
11-9-2008 at 2 p.m.

Aura of Death, \$45
Murder Mystery Dinner
Theatre
11/14/2008 at 7 p.m.
For more information,
visit the [Village
Theater's website](#)

request. As a result, the charter school will have to demonstrate that they meet the requirements for special land use. The charter school has asked that their issue be considered at the November 17 Planning Commission, not the originally planned November 3 meeting.

Wayne County Parks Millage change.... A number of years ago County residents were asked to approve a ¼ mill for parks in Wayne County. The issue was defeated in all Wayne County communities except for three (Detroit and two suburban communities). In spite of this negative response the millage passed. The millage was renewed a few years ago. Since the passage of the millage a couple of trends have emerged. First, the **County millage has not increased its general fund commitment to County parks since the passage of the millage.** As a result, the County is using more and more of the money intended for capital improvements for general park operations. Second, many communities who generate and send millions of dollars of parks millage have received very few dollars for improvements to community parks. **Instead the County CEO has used the money for political purposes.** In some cases communities receive no allocation (punishment), while other communities are “rewarded” with grant funds. The County CEO has used the funds to leverage votes on other matters of importance. **He has used the funds as a tool to influence votes of Commissioners.** During the current County budget process frustrated and irritated County Commissioners joined together in passing an ordinance which would call for 25% of the funds raised to stay in each community. **Commissioners Cox, Parker and McNamara (all members of the Ways and Means Committee) have led the way in this fight.** Since the inception of the millage Canton has sent nearly \$7 million dollars (\$1 million per year) to the County and has received less than \$500,000. If the ordinance is enacted Canton would receive approximately \$250,000/year for Canton parks and facilities. This is a necessary and long overdue change.

Roadwork nearing completion....All public road and intersection projects are complete or close to it. There are a few mast arms still being installed and Hanford and Lilley is not yet complete. Crack sealing has been completed on many roads in Canton. **All intersection and road work completed this year was done so utilizing Canton funds (except Michigan Avenue).** Canton's 2008 budget allocated over \$2.5 million dollars for Canton projects. Next year's major projects will be the widening of Canton Center between Cherry Hill and Palmer.

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